

# **BAMBURGH RESEARCH PROJECT**

## **ELIZABETH LANDMARK**

### **LAND AT COLD LAW NORTHUMBERLAND**



## **DESK BASED ASSESSMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Compiled for the Devonport Estate by The Bamburgh Research Project: Commercial Projects Section

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## SUMMARY

*This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for The Devonport Estate during December 2018 and January 2019 and comprises a desk-based assessment and archaeological visual impact assessment of a site at Cold Law, Northumberland selected as the location for a new landmark monument that has been proposed as a celebration and tribute to Queen Elizabeth II. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in November 2018. The OASIS reference number is bamburgh1-339892. This report provides an assessment of the archaeological evidence in the vicinity of the site and considers the potential for encountering and impacting on archaeological material that might result from the proposed construction of the landmark, together with an assessment of its visual impact on the heritage environment. The present study represents the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence with which to assess the need for additional work to be conducted, prior to the submission and determination of an application.*

*The proposed new landmark is to be set on the summit of Cold Law Hill, 200 m to the north of an unclassified road between Ridsdale, on the A68, and Knowesgate, on the A696. It lies some 6 km to the west of the village of Kirkwhelpington and is centred on grid reference NY 9296 8514 (Figures 1 and 2).*

*The site of the proposed new landmark and its associated car park and access routes lie within a single field of rough fell grass, with reeds and stone outcrops increasing towards the summit. The landmark itself would lie on the summit of Cold Law hill, that rises to some 281 m AoD. A modest car park is planned for the south of the area on the lower ground adjacent to the unclassified road together with a footpath access to the landmark is planned from the car park. In addition there will be some ground disturbance associated with access to the summit for construction of the landmark that will need to be considered (Figure 2).*

*There are fourteen entries on the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER) for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1.5 km. One item is Mesolithic in date, one of Bronze Age date, one later prehistoric and three of uncertain date. The remaining eight items are of post-medieval date (Figure 3). The summary of the archaeological and historical background to the landmark site also contains information regarding scheduled ancient monuments out to a radius of 3 km intended to more widely inform the archaeological visual impact assessment.*

*The earliest human activity in the Kirkwhelpington parish area dates from the Mesolithic period (8,000 BC to 4,000 BC) that followed the end of the last ice age. The presence of two flints found during evaluation close to Meggies Burn, 1.6 km to the south-east of Cold Law, are likely of this date (HER 23680). Evidence of activity of Bronze Age date (2,000 BC to 800 BC) within the general area comprises the presence of a round cairn (HER 9574), on a ridge north-north-west of Fernyrigg. The univallate hill fort at Great Wanney Crag (HER 9500), a scheduled monument, lies 1.77 km to the south of Cold Law and almost certainly represents a site of Iron Age date (800 BC to 1<sup>st</sup> century AD). It is sited on the edge of the crag and semi-circular in shape, defended on three sides by a bank and ditch and by the crag itself on the fourth. In addition the presence of hut circles on Middlerigg (HER 9533), 1.7 km to the south-east of Cold Law, are likely to be of Iron Age or Romano-British date but could possibly be Bronze Age as well. Further to this copper vessels (HER 9372) found 1.1 km to the west of Cold Law are thought to be ancient British and therefore likely to be Iron Age or Romano-British in date.*



*Robin of Risingham, which lies 2.9 km to the west of Cold Law, is a figure cut in relief in a slab of rock removed from Woodburn Quarry. Originally some 1.2 m in length the carving was identified by an antiquarian called Horsely in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and was damaged in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by the landowner who wished to discourage visitors keen to view the sculpture from trespassing on his land. It was described before the damage as a figure in a tunic holding a bow in the right hand and an animal, thought to be a hare, in the left. It represents the only example of rock sculpture of Roman date in Northumberland and is likely to represent a hunter deity such as Silvanus. Only the lower half of the carving survives today and is a scheduled ancient monument (HER 9368). A well preserved Romano-British farmstead, a scheduled monument, is present at Middlerigg, 2 km to the south-east of Cold Law, and is recorded as a ditched enclosure (HER 9499). A second Roman-British farmstead (HER 9542), comprising a multi vallate earthwork, hut circles and a field system located on a gently sloping southward spur is also a scheduled ancient monument. The third such farmstead, also scheduled (HER 9543), lies some 2.7 km south east of Cold Law at Ferneyrigg.*

*Four fish ponds are present at the Hall Yards site (HER 9370), 3.2 km to the north-west of Cold Law. They represent a scheduled monument, due to their well preserved nature, and are part of a medieval settlement of the de Lisle family. A socket for a wayside cross (HER 9371) of almost certainly medieval date is present 2.6 km to the north-west of Cold Law is a scheduled monument.*

*Ridsdale Iron works lies some 2.2 km to the south-west of Cold Law and comprises a series of features and structures. The furnace and engine house, erected in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, is Grade II listed. The iron works also comprises coke ovens, tramway and furnace yard and is collectively a scheduled monument. A limekiln is present on Stiddlehill (HER 9381). The remains of coal workings are known from Stiddlehill (HER 9399), Ray Tongue (HER 9396) and Stiddlehill Commons (HER 9400). A colliery is also present at Stiddlehill (HER 9399) and is further indication of coal working in the area. The Wansbeck Valley Railway was constructed between 1862 and 1865 running from Morpeth to Redesmouth (HER 24493). The line can be traced on the ground as an earthwork with some features still present and passes close by the Cold Law site, only 440 m at its closest point. The 18<sup>th</sup> century mansion at Ray Tongue (HER 9402) lies some 1 km from Cold Law.*

*Armstrong's map of AD 1769 (Figure 5) is the first to depict the area with any detail, but only depicts the area as upland between the Rede and Wansbeck river valleys and is rather stylised and lacks detail. Neither Fryer's map of AD 1820 nor Greenwood's map of AD 1828 adds any significant further detail. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, of c. AD 1870, is the first to depict the area in clear detail and to an accurate scale. Stiddlehill limekiln (HER 9381) is noted on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition depicts the Stiddlehill coal workings and an adjacent quarry around 400 m west of Cold Law and a quarry a similar distance to the south together with a further quarry just beyond the railway to the east. The sheepfold at the base of Cold Law is depicted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition and the overgrown quarry, noted on the site walkover, is also present from this addition (Figures 6 and 7).*

*The site was examined on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Cold Law is a relatively isolated and distinctive topographical mound located within an upland landscape. A series of small rock outcrops are exposed from mid height, up to, and including the summit and a small cairn of stones, 1.5 to 2 m across, is present on the north side of the summit, which is a relatively flat plateau of modest area. The exposed stones are weathered and show many cup-like*

small depressions, none of which appear to be good candidates for deliberately sculpted cup marks. One of the stones has a distinct linear rill running down the west side from its top in a manner reminiscent of some standing stones in the county. In this case, as with most others, it appears to be a natural phenomenon and the result of weathering of a weakness in the stone. A shallow scoop-like feature is present just off the summit to the north-east. It was not well defined and appears a little on the small side to be characteristic of a roundhouse. There are no earthworks visible on the flat areas of the summit. A rocky depression at the base of the mound, at its southern side, is almost certainly the site of the quarry noted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey. A well preserved stiel lies at the base of the mound to the south-west with an entrance that faces south.

The visual impact assessment will assess the effect of the proposed development on the landscape surrounding the development area with regard to the potential for the landmark and its car park and associated features to impact on the setting of the historic landscape associated with the monuments in the area out to a radius of 3 km. The assessment will concentrate on the scheduled monuments within the 3 km study area as these represent sites that have both significance and the potential to attract visitors, particularly so as most are present close to roads and rights of way. The nature and level of potential impact and their landscape effects, that various elements of the proposed landmark will have will be discussed with particular reference to identified view points. Reference will also be made to the significance of the heritage asset in question.

View Point 1 was chosen as a good representation of the sight-line back to Cold Law from the Romano-British farmstead (Scheduled Monument 9542) and the Round Cairn (Scheduled Monument 9574) at Ferneyrigg. The sight line is currently obscured by the forestry plantation such that no part of Cold Law is visible.

View Point 2 looks back from close to the site of a medieval cross base at Woodburnhill farm (Scheduled Monument 9371) and shows no clear views back to the proposed landmark.

View Point 3 is from the medieval fish ponds at Townfoot Farm (Scheduled Monument 9370). These represent a feature not uncommon for high status medieval estate centres. The view point lies immediately east of the site of the medieval fish ponds and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site of the ponds.

View Point 4 is from the vicinity of Robin of Risingham is a Roman era sculptural fragment (Scheduled Monument 9368) and represents a rare survival of religious sculpture from this period. The view point, which itself does not show a clear sight line, was selected as a compromise as the replica itself can only be accessed via footpath on the west side of the road and is in a low lying area of spoil with no views to the east towards the proposed new landmark.

View Point 5 lies immediately to the east of the site of the iron works engine house (Scheduled Monument 9505 and also a Grade II Listed Building) on the A68, close to the line of Dere Street Roman road and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site. It is also of significance that as the building lies to the west of the road its significant views from the highway are in the opposite direction to the proposed new landmark.

*View Point 6 lies immediately to the south of the Romano-British farmstead at Ferneyrigg (Scheduled Monument 9499) and demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site.*

*View Point 7 lies immediately to the south-west of the site of the Romano-British farmstead and later steading at Ferneyrigg (Scheduled Monument 9543) and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site.*

*View Point 8 lies at the site of the uni-vallate hillfort on Wanney's Crag (Scheduled Monument 9500) and demonstrates clear sight lines back to Cold Law that may include the proposed car park, depending on its precise location, and access routes as well as the law itself. Hill forts are clearly within a category of monuments that have a distinct relationship with their wider landscape, being built in no small part to be seen from afar and to have an impressive effect on those observing them. As such their location within the landscape and the sight lines to and from them are relevant. In the case of the proposed new landmark the attraction of visitors to this new site within the sight lines of the hillfort can be argued as a positive contribution to its understanding and as an opportunity to add to the audience that may enjoy this feature for its heritage. The new development will represent just one more incremental stage in how the landscape in the area has changed over time and does not represent a particularly intrusive or obscuring feature.*

*As a substantive thoroughfare over at least 2000 years the Dere Steet/A68 line represents an important route way through the landscape and as such represents a dynamic view of the vicinity as experienced by travellers as they pass through this part of Northumberland. The general topography shields Cold Law from view for much of this route, but as the road rises to the north of the study area towards the Northumberland National Park some clear sight lines are present. The distance and the relative scale of the new landmark and its associated car park and access routes will substantially mitigate against this development having anything more than the most minimum effect on the perception of this landscape for those passing along this historic communication route.*

*Overall it is clear that the proposed new landmark does not lie within an area of high archaeological potential. The presence of a cairn and a scooped feature on or close to its summit are worthy of some additional investigation along with the general investigation of the areas that will be subject to disturbance and alteration by the construction process.*

*A study of the visual impact of the new monument on the wider heritage landscape, including a series of view points associated with the scheduled monuments and listed building within its 3km study area suggests only a very modest potential for impact. The individual nature of most of the features and their siting within the landscape aids in diminishing the potential for impact. The one clear exception being the hillfort at Wanney's Crag which is clearly located with inter visible sight-lines. In this case the proposed role of the new landmark and it being a modern continuation of a long tradition of publicly visible monuments, that includes the hillfort itself, can be seen as adding to, rather than detracting from, the wider heritage landscape. The cumulative effect of the addition of the new landmark, with regard to the pre-existing heritage landscape, will therefore be of modest impact and could be seen as, to a degree, beneficial rather than harmful.*

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NORTHUMBERLAND  
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND  
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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.0.1 This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) for The Devonport Estate during December 2018 and January 2019 and comprises a desk-based assessment and archaeological visual impact assessment of a site at Cold Law, Northumberland selected as the location for a new landscape monument that has been proposed as a celebration and tribute to Queen Elizabeth II. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by the BRP in November 2018. The OASIS reference number is bamburgh1-339892.
- 1.0.2 This report provides an assessment of the archaeological evidence in the vicinity of the site and considers the potential for encountering and impacting on archaeological material that might result from the proposed construction of the new landmark, together with an assessment of its visual impact on the heritage landscape. The present study represents the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence with which to assess the need for additional work to be conducted, prior to the submission and determination of an application.

## **1.1 Location**

- 1.1.1 The proposed new landmark is to be set on the summit of Cold Law Hill, 200m to the north of an unclassified road between Ridsdale, on the A68, and Knowesgate, on the A696. It lies some 6km to the west of the village of Kirkwhelpington and is centred on grid reference NY 9296 8514 (Figures 1 and 2).

## **2.0 THE SITE**

### **2.1 Geology**

- 2.1.1 The landscape provided the economic resources that made settlement possible and topographic features, were significant in determining the situation of sites, which would have been placed along main arteries of communication, on fertile soils or at locations where different ecological niches could easily be reached, or in defensive positions that offered good visibility.
- 2.1.2 The solid geology of the Cold Law area is Tyne Limestone Formation of Limestone, Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone of Visean age Carboniferous group laid down between 299 and 359 million years ago during a transition from the marine conditions of the Limestone series and the deltaic lagoon-swamp conditions of the Coal Measures (Taylor *et al.* 1971, 52-54).

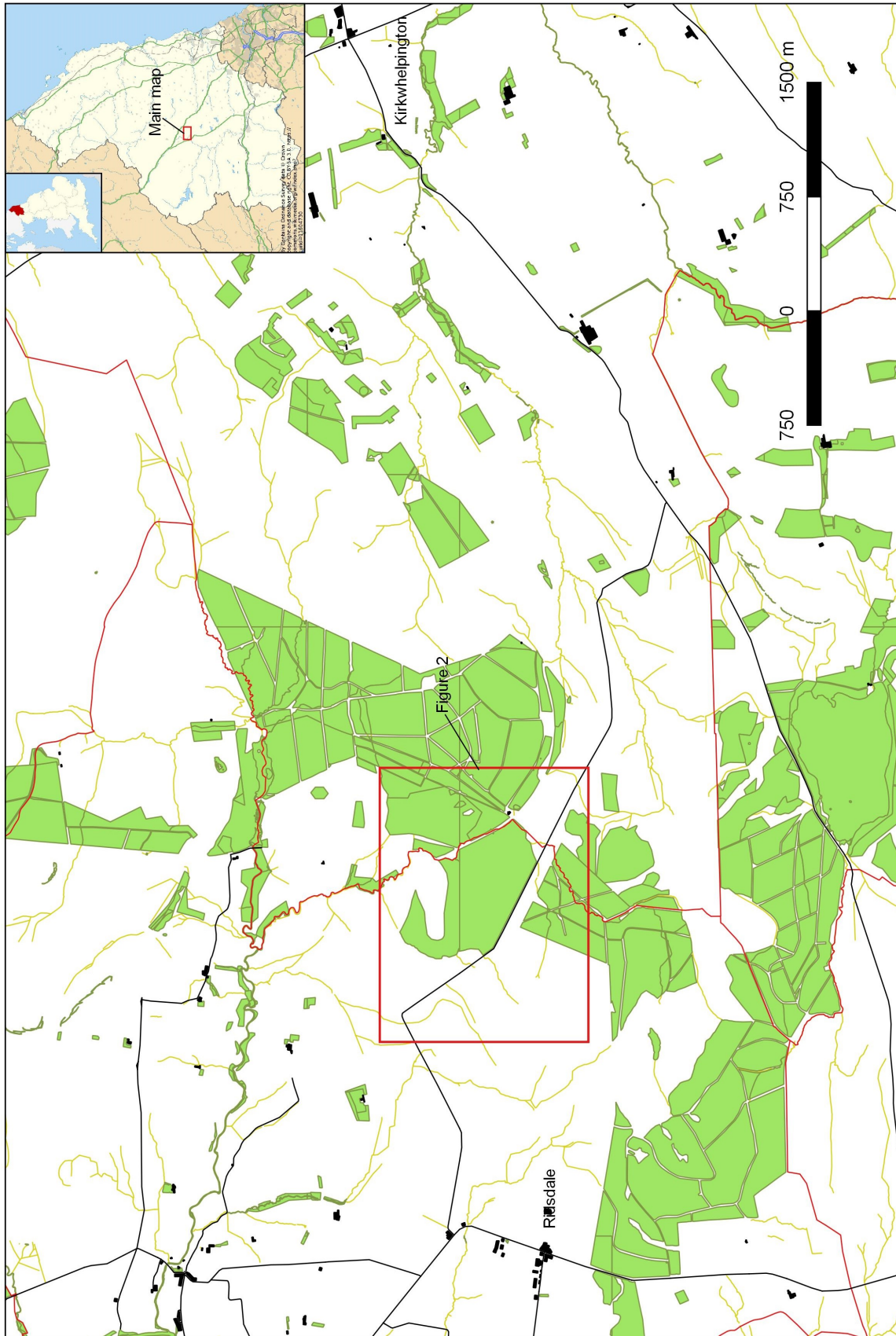


Figure 1: Location plan

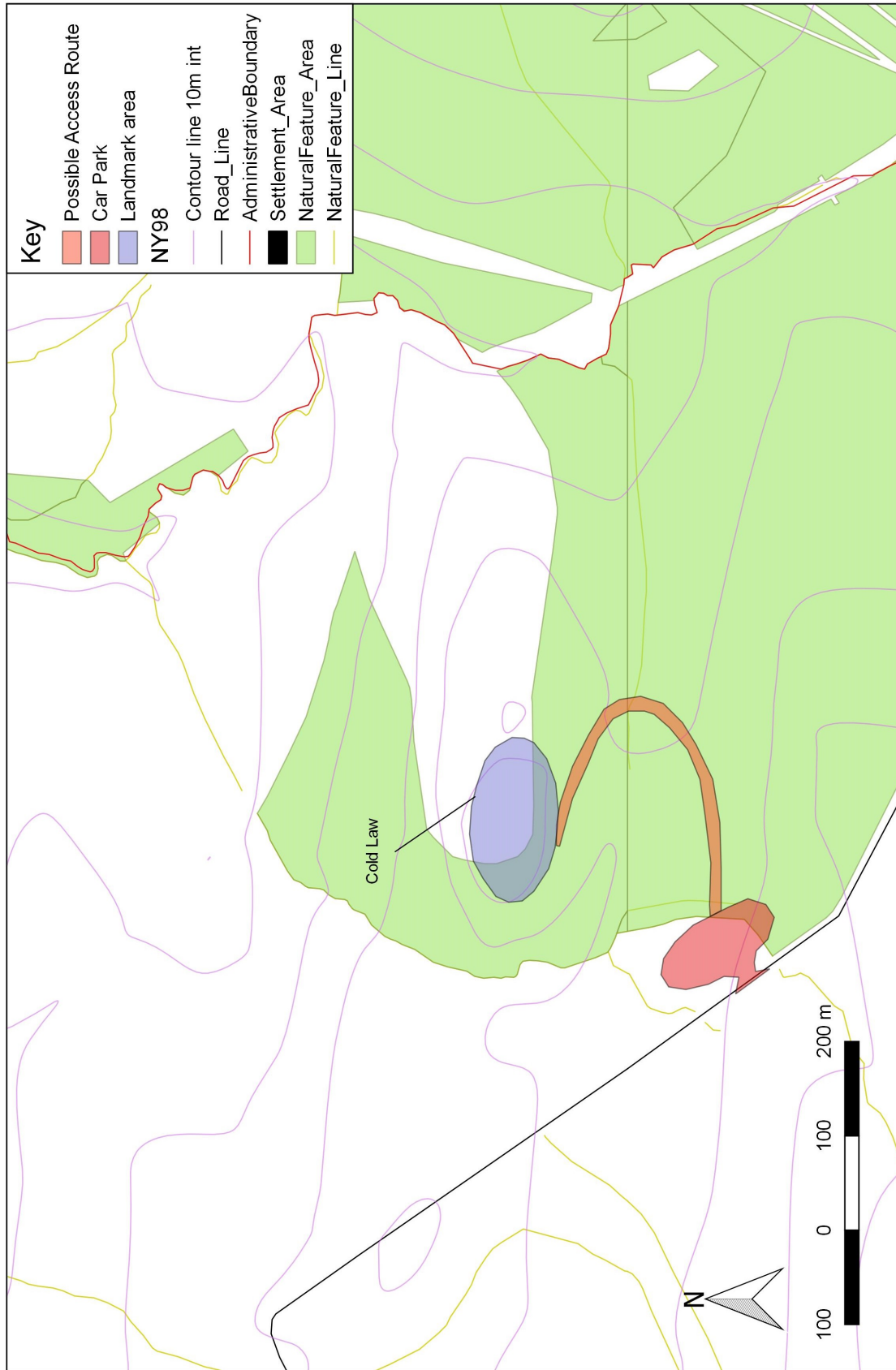


Figure 2: Site area and proposed Location for the car park and working areas

2.1.3 The advance and recession of the glacial ice-sheets in the Pleistocene profoundly transformed the appearance of the landscape. Nevertheless, it was the final glacial cycle of the Devensian that has left the most significant legacy for us in as much that it moulded the landscape and effaced almost all evidence of previous glacial episodes. The ice-sheets scoured the landscape removing the soil and exposing bedrock; however, the weight of the ice and the friction caused by its movement crushed the rock into a clay with fragments of rock and gravel, forming till. In places where no further sediment deposition occurred, this till formed the basis of later soil development.

## **2.2 Description**

2.2.1 The site of the proposed new landmark and its associated car park and access routes lie within a single field of rough fell grass with reeds with stone outcrops, increasing towards the summit of Cold Law. The landmark itself would lie on the summit of Cold Law hill, that rises to some 281m AoD. A modest car park is planned for the south of the area on the lower ground adjacent to the unclassified road together with a footpath access to the landmark from the car park. In addition there will be some ground disturbance associated with access to the summit for construction of the landmark that will need to be considered (Figure 2).

2.2.2 In the wider landscape, Cold Law is a lesser peak in an area of varied upland topography that combines to be a complex and fascinating visual landscape that has been occupied and altered by human activity from prehistoric times.

## **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

3.0.1 The evaluation comprised a desk-based assessment of the land within the development area, with the site itself studied in detail, and the surrounding 1.5km area assessed for archaeological potential. In addition an archaeological visual impact assessment will be undertaken on the landscape and the setting of the site out to 3km.

3.0.2 All work was carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Certified Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and followed the CIfA Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessments (CIfA 2014) and Historic England's, the Setting of Heritage Assets, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning, Note 3 (Second Edition) 2017.

### **3.1 Desk-based assessment**

3.1.1 The desk-based assessment will undertake the evaluation of the archaeological potential for the development area based on information derived from:

- A site visit and field inspection of the landscape, structures and any associated groundworks and features.
- Study of the development area and the surrounding 1.5 km radius beyond the site boundary based on:



- i) The location of known archaeological sites and landscapes within the proposed development area
- ii) The potential for palaeo-environmental samples within the proposed development area
- iii) The density of archaeological sites in the surrounding area and the potential that comparable sites may continue into the site
- iv) Previous disturbance on the site, which may have affected archaeological remains, including any significant change in levels from those indicated on old Ordnance Survey maps, and truncation by existing services on or adjacent to the site.
- v) Where the information is available, the physical impact of the proposed development including:
  - a) Building foundations
  - b) Services
  - c) Access roads
  - d) Ground reduction
  - e) Increased vibration
  - f) Change in ground conditions on waterlogged or environmentally rich sites
- vi) The impact of the proposed development on the setting of the following sites or monuments within the wider study area:
  - a) Scheduled Ancient Monuments
  - b) Listed Buildings
  - c) Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Battlefields
  - d) Non-designated heritage assets
  - e) Any other heritage assets specifically identified in the brief as requiring assessment

## **3.2 Sources**

3.2.1 The sources consulted will include:

3.2.2 Maps, as a minimum (where available)

- i) 1716 Warburton
- ii) 1753 Horsley and Cay
- iii) 1769 Armstrong
- iv) 1808 Smith
- v) 1820 Fryer
- vi) 1828 Greenwood
- vii) 1829 Pigot
- viii) Tithe, apportionment and parish maps
- ix) Estate maps of the area
- x) Ordnance Survey maps from the First Edition onwards
- xi) Service providers maps and databases (Water, Electricity, Telecoms and Gas as a minimum)
- xii) Other available maps

3.2.3 Aerial Photographs will be consulted for the specific site and the immediate surrounding area.

- i) English Heritage, National Monument Record, Swindon (NMR)
- ii) Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- iii) Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives

3.2.4 If, for any reason, the assessor was not able to access any of the above resources, this will be noted within the text of the report.

3.2.5 Northumberland Historic Environment Record will be consulted for the following sources:

- i) A comprehensive record of all the known archaeological sites in the County
- ii) Copies of the Scheduled Ancient Monument designations
- iii) Copies of the Listed Building designations
- iv) Conservation Area Boundaries
- v) Complete digital aerial photographic coverage of the county
- vi) Selected LiDAR data, if available

3.2.6 Other Sources to be consulted where appropriate will include:

- i) Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- ii) Historical documents held in local museums, libraries, record offices and archives
- iii) Unpublished material held by local archaeological organisations (amateur and professional)
- iv) All available borehole, trial pit and geotechnical data from the site and its immediate environs held by the developer
- v) Geomorphological information may be obtained from the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre or the Geography Department at Newcastle University
- vi) Existing utility and service information which may help to inform on constraints to future work.

### **3.3 Written account**

3.3.1 A written account of features and structures of interest will be compiled on site during the site visit on pro-forma sheets.

### **3.4 Photographic record**

The photographic record compiled will include:

- General views of the study area
- General views of the landmark setting, from all angles
- Record of any significant features identified during field inspection

### **3.5 Archaeological Visual Impact Assessment**

- 3.5.1 The visual impact assessment will comprise the assessment of the effect of the proposed development on the landscape surrounding the development area. This will be assessed with regard to the potential for the landmark and its car park and associated features to impact on the setting of the historic landscape associated with the monuments in the area out to a radius of 3km.
- 3.5.2 According to the Landscape Institute: 'Setting' is an established concept that relates to the surroundings in which a place is experienced, its local context, embracing present and past relationships to the adjacent landscape. Definition of the setting of a significant place will normally be guided by the extent to which material change within it could affect (enhance or diminish) the place's significance' (Landscape Institute 2014, pg 39) Such a definition will inform the basis of the present assessment.
- 3.5.3 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CifA 2014) and will follow the Historic England, The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice in Planning Note 3 Second Edition (HE 2017) and the IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CifA 2014).
- 3.5.4 The visual impact assessment will undertake the evaluation of the potential for impact of the development on the historic landscape in its vicinity out to a radius of 3km and will take into consideration the following issues during the assessment:
- the extent of the study area to be used for assessment of landscape and visual effects
  - available sources of information
  - the nature of the possible landscape and visual effects that might occur
  - identify the main receptors of the potential landscape and visual effects that need to be addressed including viewpoints that should be assessed
  - methods to be used in assessing the significance of the effects that may be identified
  - the requirements with respect to the assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects.
- 3.5.5 Sources to be consulted will include:
- Map evidence for the setting of the new landmark, including current and historical maps identified as significant in the DBA
  - Limited aerial photography of the new landmark as identified by the DBA

### **3.6 Views and setting**

- 3.6.1 The contribution of setting to the significance of a heritage asset is often expressed by reference to views, a purely visual impression of an asset or place which can be static or dynamic, including a variety of views of, across, or including that asset, and views of the surroundings from or through the asset, and may intersect with, and incorporate the settings of numerous heritage assets.

3.6.2 In the current case the views in question that need to be assessed are based on an assumed height and location of the finished landmark and its visibility from an existing heritage landscape and the monuments within it. The views to be addressed on this basis will include:

- The extent to which the proposed development will be visible within the wider heritage landscape area, based on a basic viewshed analysis
- Whether the proposed development will be visible from any scheduled monuments, and if so what the effect of the impact will be on the understanding of the landscape setting and how this has varied over time

### **3.7 Written account**

3.7.1 A written account of the visual impact assessment will be made and discuss the impact of the proposed development on the views of and to the monuments in the historic landscape in line with Historic England guidelines.

### **3.8 Photographic record**

3.8.1 A full photographic record will be compiled including:

- General views of the study area
- General views of the proposed landmark from the designated monuments in the study area
- Selected views towards the proposed development site that are considered worthy of consideration to its setting and impact

### **3.9 Discussion of mitigation**

3.9.1 The assessment of the visual impact of the proposed landmark and its design will have regarding impact in the heritage landscape. Reference will be made in particular to the potential impact on and the views from monuments in the study area. The cumulative effect of the addition of the new landmark with regard to pre-existing heritage landscape, whether beneficial or harmful.

## **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.0.1 The table below (Table 1) summarises the fourteen entries on the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER) for the vicinity of the site, to a radius of 1.5km. The full report will be included within the archive. One item is Mesolithic in date, one of Bronze Age date, one later prehistoric and three of uncertain date. The remaining eight items are of post-medieval date (Figure 3). The summary of the archaeological and historical background to the landmark site also contains information regarding Scheduled Ancient Monument out to a radius of 3km intended to more widely inform the archaeological visual impact assessment but also of archaeological significance.

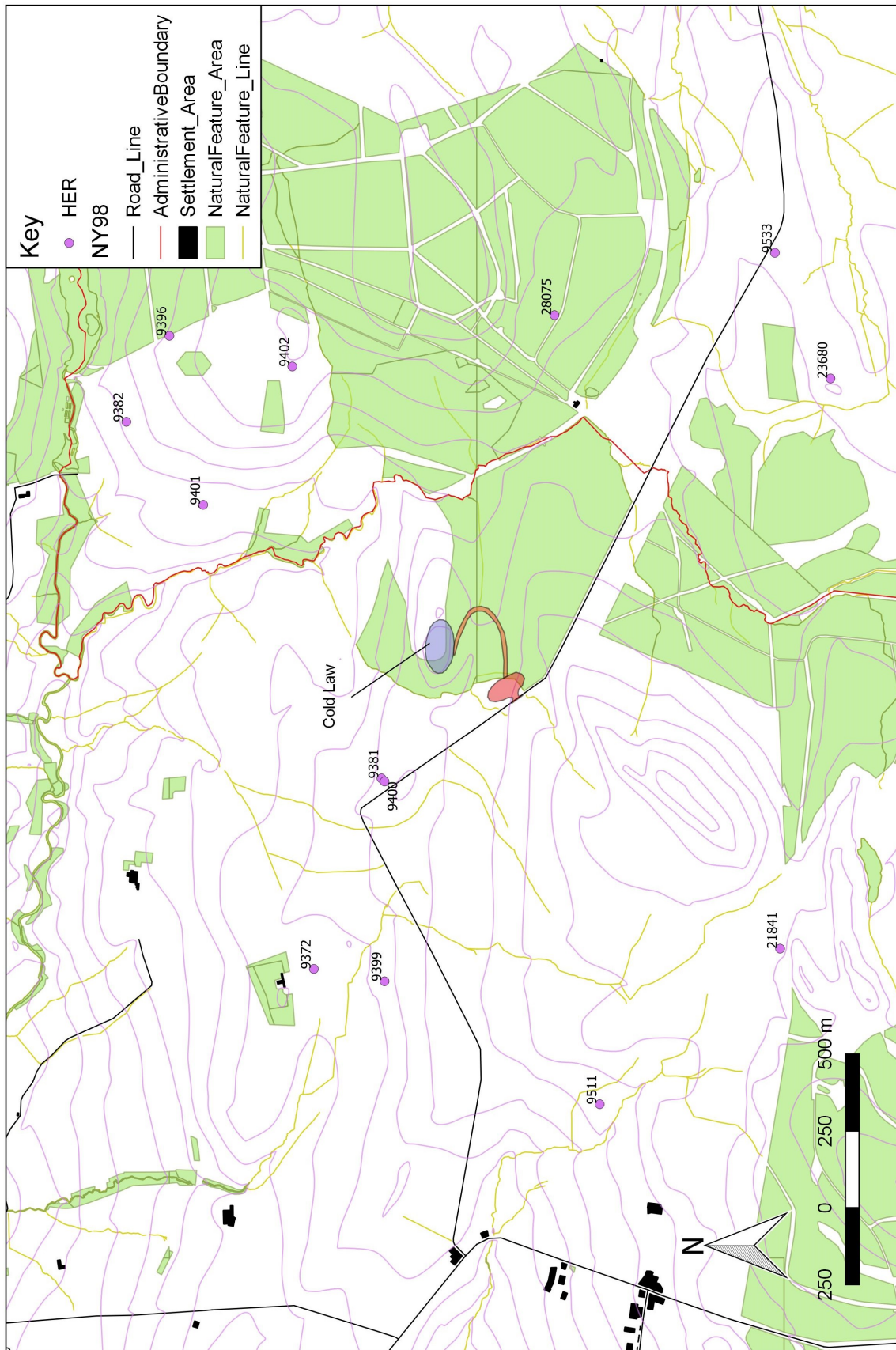


Figure 3: Heritage Environment Record

**Table 1: HER Sites**

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Period	Grid Ref.
9372	Copper vessels	Copper vessels thought to be ancient British	Uncertain	NY91948553
9381	Stiddlehill Quarry lime kiln	Partly collapsed lime kiln. One kiln pot, full. Two draw arches of brick with masonry above. Mound is still visible	Post medieval	NY92568531
9382	Ray Tongue, possible settlement and field system	Ray Tongue, stone-built settlement(?) at NY 937861 with an associated field system visible on unploughed land to the west and south. Some field walls may extend into ridge and furrow ploughed land beyond the fence to the north.	Uncertain	NY93728614
9396	Ray Tongue coal workings	18 <sup>th</sup> century coal workings are mentioned by Hodgson in this area. They have not been located on the ground.	Post medieval	NY9486
9399	Stiddlehill Colliery	<p>The remains of coalworkings at Stiddlehill comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) NY 91928536. Site of shaft, now in an area of rough ground and surrounded by a stone wall;</li> <li>ii) NY 91948530. Blocked drift mine entrance;</li> <li>iii) NY 91988516. Stone chimney, presumably for ventilation. It measures c.1.5m diameter externally and stands up to 1.7m high;</li> <li>iv) A short length of railway running northward to the north east of the present farm.</li> </ul> <p>The site retains no trace of associated buildings or pit machinery. The colliery is marked on early Ordnance Survey maps (6 inch). It apparently operated between 1873-1920; however, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey (1895) marks the colliery as closed.</p>	Post medieval	NY919853

9400	Stiddlehill Common, coalworkings	An 'old coal shaft' is depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Today the site is covered with rubbish and fenced off.	Post medieval	NY92558530
9401	Pit house	A linear building, 20m east-west by 6m north-south, is in two parts. The eastern part appears to be later in date and is used as a barn. On the north and west are remains of stone walls enclosing small fields. Greenwood's map of 1828 and the Ray Tithe Map of c.1840 show the building as Herd's House. The 1 <sup>st</sup> and later edition Ordnance Survey maps mark it as Pit House. The history of occupation is unknown.	Post medieval	NY93458589
9402	Ray Tongue 18th century mansion	The foundations of a rather small building lie at NY 939856 and are surrounded by a ruinous stone wall with blocked entrances. Documentary evidence refers to a building at Ray Tongue in Kirkwhelpington Parish Register for 1740 and 1788. Hodgson refers to a mansion at Ray Tongue, built in the 18 <sup>th</sup> century by a Mr Jobling, but in ruins by 1827. The mansion is also recorded on Greenwood's map of 1828. The remains visible today may have formed part of the mansion or an outbuilding.	Post medieval	NY939856
9511	Possible cord rig	Possible cord rig site	Bronze Age	NY 915846
9533	Middlerigg hut circles	Three probable and three possible hut circles have been noted, along with two stone banks to the west and south. One of the hut circles is clearly visible and measures 8m external diameter with walls 1.5m wide and up to 0.4m high and an east facing entrance. Traces of another hut circle lie at c. NY 94248395 and is of similar diameter.	Later Prehistoric	NY94278403



21841	Coal shaft	A coal shaft is marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map.	Post medieval	NY9200684013
23680	Two unstratified mesolithic flint artefacts close to Middlerigg Burn, Kirkwhelpington	In 2006, an archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of a proposed wind farm. Two unstratified Mesolithic flint artefacts were revealed in Trench 100 which are likely to be from the same assemblage due to their close spatial association. It is possible that there may have been a ploughed-out prehistoric occupation zone in this area. This is backed up by the local topography and the close proximity of wet low-lying marginal areas which have been shown to be typically associated with hunter-gatherer activity in other parts of Northumberland.	Mesolithic	NY9386183849
24493	Wansbeck section of the North British Railway	<p>The Wansbeck Section of the North British Railway was constructed in 1863 and was in operation until the 1960s. It now forms part of a seasonal permissive footpath walk from the National Trust office at Scot's Gap - The Wannie Line Walk. Some of the lineside infrastructure remains and should be preserved where practical.</p> <p>The Wansbeck Valley Railway was constructed between 1862 and 1865 running from Morpeth to Reedsmouth. This was operated by the Wansbeck Valley Railway, after 1874 by the North British Railway and its successors between 1865 and September 1952 for passengers and November 1963 for goods services. The line was operated into sections from Morpeth to Rothbury via Scots Gap and Scots Gap to Reedsmouth being worked separately. A final excursion train –</p>	Post medieval	NY86528196 NZ03538664

		<p>the Wansbeck Piper - ran along the line on 2 October 1966. (2)                  The eastern terminus of the line was with the Blyth and Tyne Railway at Alnwick between 23 July 1862 and May 1872. This led to a line to the south of the Blyth and Tyne railway's station at Morpeth. The need for this portion of the line disappeared when a new section was laid joining directly to the East Coast mainline which opened in May 1872.</p>		
28075	<p>Potential burnt mound recorded during mitigation works for the Ray wind farm grid connection</p>	<p>The archaeological mitigation works carried out as part of the Ray wind farm grid connection recorded the site of a potential burnt mound. It was identified in the section of the cutting for the existing forestry track north-east of Summit Cottages and was 4m in diameter and comprised blackened peaty topsoil with possible heat affected/fire-cracked stone. This feature was discovered, exposed in the section adjacent to the track. The remaining parts of the feature lay outside the area of construction works for the wind farm and grid route access. It was therefore recorded and preserved <i>in situ</i>.</p>	Uncertain	NY9406884749

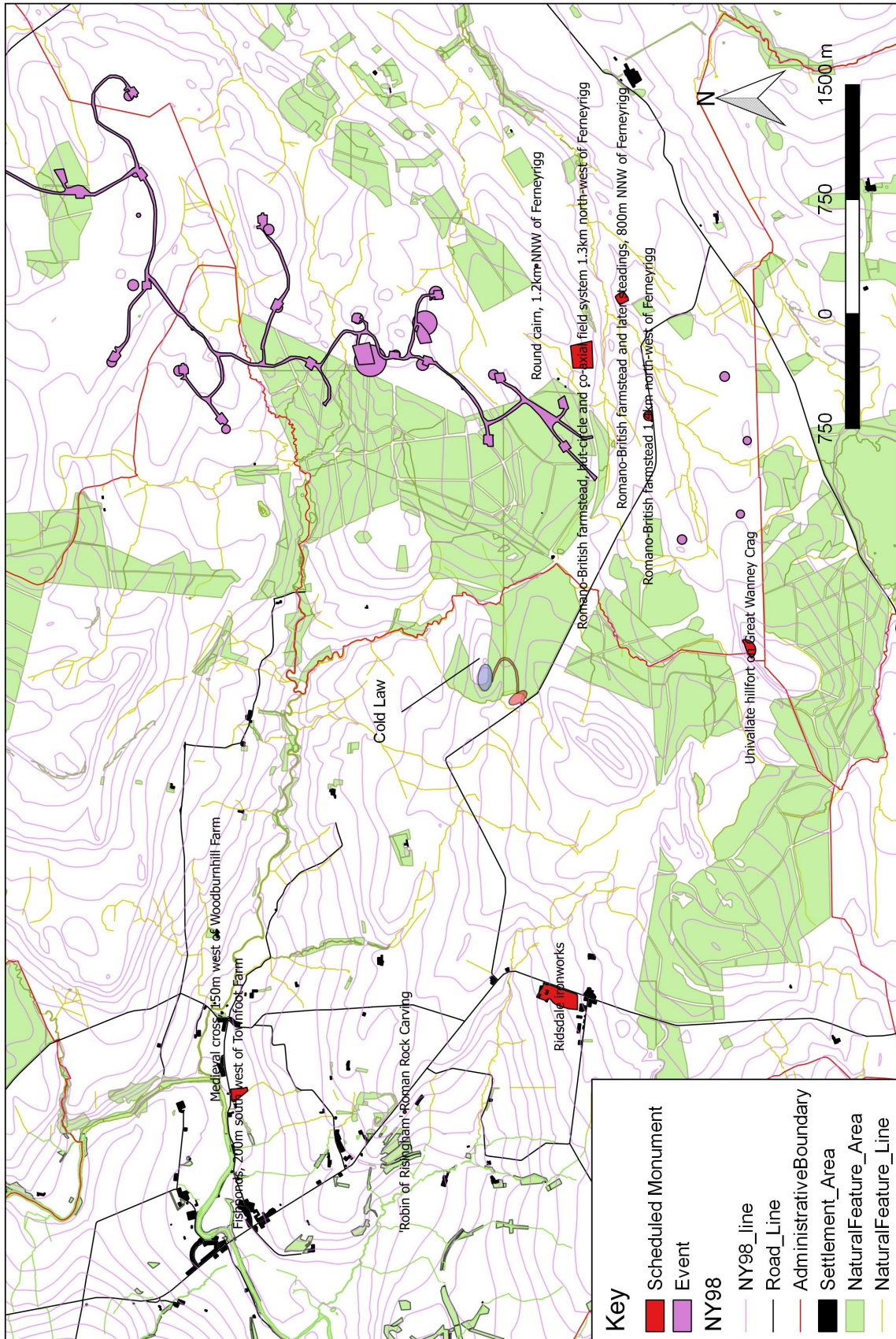


Figure 4: Location of Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the 3km radius study area and events

**Table 2: Scheduled Ancient Monuments**

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Period	Grid Ref.
9368	Robin of Risingham	Robin of Risingham, a figure cut in relief on a rock detached from a quarry cliff. Before mutilation, shortly before December 1819 (3), the figure, wearing a tunic and holding a bow in its right hand and a hare in its left, stood to a height of approx 4ft. There was a panel above it and a rectangular block, probably an altar, to its right.	Roman	NY90148564
9370	Fishponds, 200m south-west of Townfoot Farm	Hall-Yards, the residence of the De Lisle family (first mentioned 1293) is still marked (in 1827) by ruins. There are remains of two fish-ponds, with a strong embankment on either side, divided by a bank which terminates in a rectangular platform	Medieval	Y90268673
9371	Medieval cross, 150m west of Woodburnhill Farm	The much weathered socket-stone of a probable medieval wayside cross, standing in a field known locally as 'The Crosses.'	Medieval	NY91148688
9499	Romano-British farmstead 1.4km north-west of Ferneyrigg	A well-defined ditched enclosure, with no internal remains. The work is unclassified by Jobey, but it compares with his type 'C' (Homesteads consisting of one or two huts within a rectangular enclosure expected to have been occupied at some stage of the Roman period).	Roman	NY94698404
9500	Univallate hillfort on Great Wanney Crag	An irregular-shaped enclosure formed by a denuded stone rampart and slight outer ditch, well defined except on the south west side, it has a causewayed entrance on the south east side, but no internal remains. Its siting, on the edge of Great Wanney Crag on the 1000ft contour is clearly defensive and an Iron Age origin is probable.	Iron Age	NY93178338
9605	Ridsdale	Ridsdale Ironworks established	Post	NY909847

	Ironworks	1836 and closed c.1848. Three blast furnaces with a double-beam blowing engine. Site dismantled c.1865, engine house remains (listed building Grade II) with coke oven and roasting kiln earthworks to south. Tramway alignments to coal and ironstone workings.	medieval	
9542	Romano-British farmstead, hut circle and co-axial field system 1.3km north-west of Ferneyrigg	A well-preserved sub-rectangular enclosure, double banked with medial ditch, and entrance in the south east. There are two internal hut circles, and one external to the north east side. Contemporary field banks emanate from north west and south west angles into a fragmentary system. The work is unclassified by Jobey but it compares with his type 'C' (homesteads consisting of one or two circular stone huts within a rectangular enclosure, expected to have been occupied at some stage of the Roman period).	Roman	NY95098448

#### 4.1 The prehistoric period (8,000 BC to 1<sup>st</sup> century AD)

- 4.1.1 The earliest human activity in the Kirwhelpington parish area dates from the Mesolithic period (8,000 BC to 4,000 BC) that followed the end of the last ice age. The population during this early period is usually perceived as small numbers of hunter-gatherers occupying temporary camps, often to be found by the sea and along river or stream courses. The presence of two flints found during evaluation close to Meggies Burn, 1.6km to the south-east of Cold Law, fits into such a pattern (HER 23680). The present study area with a mix of wetter low lying areas and the distinctive mound at Cold Law itself could well have proved an attractive site to hunter gatherers.
- 4.1.2 The Neolithic period (4,000 BC to 2,000 BC) marked the introduction of farming together with the production of pottery and many more permanent settlements. Finds of Neolithic date are not common and it is far from certain that a settlement would have existed in the study area at this early time, but problematic nature of identifying settlement evidence of this period means that the present lack of evidence cannot be seen as too indicative of an absence of such material.
- 4.1.3 Evidence of activity of Bronze Age date (2,000 BC to 800 BC) within the general area comprises the presence of a round cairn (HER 9574), of earth and stone, 7.5m in diameter, on a ridge north-north-west of Ferneyrigg, some 2.78 km east of Cold Law. The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and a rock with a cup marking was

recorded but Beckensall, but subsequently disturbed or covered.

- 4.1.5 The univallate hill fort at Great Wanney Crag (Scheduled Monument HER 9500), lies 1.77km to the south of Cold Law and almost certainly represents a site of Iron Age date (800 BC to 1<sup>st</sup> century AD). It is sited on the edge of the crag and semi-circular in shape, defended on three sides by a bank and ditch and by the crag itself on the fourth. The enclosure is 97m north-east to south-west by 50m north-west to south-east and its single rampart of earth and stone 7m wide with a 3m wide external ditch. The entrance is funnel shaped, on the south-east side and carried across the ditch on a causeway (Jobey, G. 1965, 48). The enclosure is very well preserved, adding to its value, and has a cup marked stone present, alongside five other potential such features, that are very worn, on the edge of the cliff within the enclosure. In addition the presence of hut circles on Middlerigg (HER 9533), 1.7km to the south-east of Cold Law, are likely to be of Iron Age or Romano-British date but could possibly be Bronze Age as well. Further to this copper vessels (HER 9372) found 1.1 km to the west of Cold Law are thought to be ancient British and therefore likely to be Iron Age of Romano-British in date. In addition cord rig (HER 9511) is present 1.6 km south-west of Cold Law and is indicative of settlement activity in the general area.
- 4.1.6 The upland areas of Northumberland appear to have been farmed to a higher altitude during periods of prehistory than has been common in the last two thousand years. A deteriorating climate during the Bronze Age seems to have led to a collapse of some upland settlements above 300m AoD from around 3000 BP, but occupation appears to continue at relatively high levels until the after the Roman period (Eiriksson. 2000 573–580). It has been noted that the density of prehistoric sites known in the region very much clusters in the upland areas and this has been referred to as an area of survival with less intensive use of the land, in later periods, leading to excellent preservation of early agricultural activity. This would suggest that field survey and assessment should give a good understanding of the likely archaeological material that could be effected by the monuments construction.

## 4.2 The Roman period (1<sup>st</sup> century AD to 5<sup>th</sup> century AD)

- 4.2.1 Robin of Risingham, which lies 2.9km to the west of Cold Law, is a figure cut in relief in a slab of rock removed from Woodburn Quarry. Originally some 1.2m in length the carving was identified by an antiquarian called Horsely in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and was damaged in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by the landowner who wished to discourage visitors, keen to view the sculpture, from trespassing on his land. It was described before the damage as a figure in a tunic holding a bow in the right hand and an animal, thought to be a hare, in the left. It was originally cut in relief in the cliff face with a panel above it, likely for an inscription, and an altar adjacent to the figures right knee. It represents the only example of rock sculpture of Roman date in Northumberland and is likely to represent a hunter deity such as *Silvanus*. It is thought that this would synchronize with the native deity *Cocidius* and be a classic example of the identification between native and classical religious practice. Only the lower half of the carving survives today and is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (HER 9368).
- 4.2.2 Risingham (Habutancum) Roman fort lies to the west of the study area at some 4.7 km from Cold Law, and whilst clearly beyond our set study area is noted here as part of the wider ancient landscape in which the current study is set. It lies on the line of



the main Roman Road north, from the fortress and administration centre at Corbridge, into Scotland and represents an important communications route from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD through the medieval period to the present day (Petts and Gerrard. 2006, 46, 47 and 52).

- 4.2.3 A well preserved Romano-British farmstead, is present at Middlerigg, 2km to the south-east of Cold Law, and is recorded as a ditched enclosure (Scheduled Monument HER 9499). Sub-rectangular in shape with rounded corners it measures 25m east to west by 32m north to south with a well demarked ditch some 6m wide with an internal bank some 2m wide and a modest counterscarp bank externally. An entrance 3m wide is carried through the centre of the eastern side on a causeway. Two roundhouses are present internally, close to the western wall, with diameters of 6m and 7m.
- 4.2.4 The landscape north of Hadrian's Wall does appear to be well settled at this time Tynedale and Redesdale display a number of settlements of this period, often with continuity, or even expansion, from the Iron Age. Settlements tend to be rectilinear compared with the more irregular settlements to the north. Three such settlements are noted in the study area below (Petts and Gerrard. 2006, 53).
- 4.2.5 A second Roman-British farmstead (Scheduled Monument HER 9542), comprising a multi-vallate earthwork, hut circles and a field system located on a gently sloping southward spur. It lies some 2.2 km south-east of Cold Law. The farmstead is rectangular in shape, measuring 48 m by 35 m defined by double earth and stone ramparts with a 7 m wide medial ditch and an outside ditch some 5 m across. An 8 m wide entrance is sited in the centre of the south rampart and within the enclosure are two roundhouses, the better preserved of which is 7.5 m in diameter with traces of an associated yard to its eastern side. The second roundhouse is 6 m in diameter and located near the north wall. A third roundhouse lies some 22 m to the east, outside the enclosure, and has a south facing entrance that is well defined with traces of a yard surface beyond. A series of stone walls forms a field system beyond the settlement and a series of clearance cairns, that may be of later date, are also noted, including one large one 35 m to the west of the farmstead.
- 4.2.6 The third such farmstead (Scheduled Monument HER 9543), lies some 2.7 km south east of Cold Law at Ferneyrigg. The enclosure is roughly square in shape and measures 44 m east to west by 43 m north to south with a stone and earth bank up to 1.5 m wide, with an entrance in the south-west corner. Within the enclosure there was a single rectangular building steading, measuring 7 m by 4 m against the western rampart. Immediately beyond the enclosure to the south are two further building steadings similar in size to the one within the farmstead. The rectangular steadings are thought to represent the re-use of the enclosure in the medieval period and are likely associated with traces of ridge and furrow cultivation in the vicinity.

### **4.3 The early medieval period (5<sup>th</sup> century AD to 12<sup>th</sup> century AD)**

- 4.3.1 No specific finds of early medieval date are known from the HER. It seems likely that the patterns of land-use and agriculture seen in the general area during the later medieval period would have developed at this time when a more sedentary kind of agriculture based on small units was replaced by estates that practiced a more varied agriculture including transhumance. This may in part explain the difficulty of



identifying early medieval activity as it tends to merge with later Roman practice or be overwritten by the later medieval.

#### **4.4 The medieval period (12<sup>th</sup> century AD to 16<sup>th</sup> century AD)**

- 4.4.1 Four fish ponds are present at the Hall Yards site (HER 9370), 3.2 km to the north-west of Cold Law. They represent a scheduled monument, due to their well preserved nature, and are part of a medieval settlement of the de Lisle family. The site was occupied in AD 1293, from documentary evidence, and although little trace of the building for the settlement themselves have been identified some evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation can be seen in the fields around.
- 4.4.2 A socket for a wayside cross (HER 9371) of almost certainly medieval date is present 2.6 km to the north-west of Cold Law and not far from the fish ponds at Hall Yards and is a scheduled monument. It is sub rectangular in shape and measures 0.74 m by 0.53 m externally and 0.3 m by 0.24 m internally with the socket some 0.11 m deep. Its siting suggests it was placed to be seen from west and east, the orientation of the old road which means it is almost certainly in its original position.

#### **4.5 The post medieval period (16<sup>th</sup> century to the present)**

- 4.5.1 Ridsdale Iron works lies some 2.2 km to the south-west of Cold Law and comprises a series of features and structures. The furnace and engine house, erected in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, is Grade II listed. The iron works also comprises coke ovens, tramway and furnace yard and is collectively a scheduled monument. The iron works was established in 1836, Messrs Bigge, Cargill and Johnson, and closed c. 1848. It used local sources of ironstone, limestone and coal brought to the site via tramways and is part of an increase in such activity once the issues around smelting with coal were overcome (McCord and Thomson, 1998, 215). The isolation of the site very likely contributed to its closure as the Border Counties Railway did not arrive at the site until 1862. W.G. Armstrong acquired the furnaces for his Elswick Works in 1864.
- 4.5.2 A limekiln is present on Stiddlehill (HER 9381), it is a partially collapsed with two draw arches and built of brick and stone and lies some 470 m west of Cold Law.
- 4.5.3 The remains of coal workings are known from Stiddlehill (HER 9399) and comprise the site of a shaft surrounded by a stone wall, a blocked drift mine entrance, a stone chimney, 1.5 m in diameter and 1.7 m tall and a short length of railway and the site lies some 1.1 km west of Cold Law.
- 4.5.4 The presence of 18<sup>th</sup> century coal workings (HER 9396) are noted in the area of Ray Tongue but have not been located on the ground by inspection
- 4.5.5 Stiddlehill colliery (HER 9399) was located some 1.14 km west of Cold Law. It retains no trace of associated buildings or pit machinery but a chimney, shaft, currently surrounded by a wall, and a blocked drift mine are present at the site. The colliery is marked on early Ordnance Survey maps (6 inch) and is said to have operated between 1873-1920.
- 4.5.6 Stiddlehill commons coal working site (HER 9400) lies some 400 m west of Cold Law and is represented on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map but is currently covered

by waste.

- 4.5.7 A Pit house (HER 9401) that lies some 840 m north of Cold Law. It comprises a linear building, 20 m east-west by 6 m north-south, in two parts. The eastern part appears to be later in date and is used as a barn and on the north and west are remains of stone walls enclosing small fields. Greenwood's map of 1828 and the Ray Tithe Map of c.1840 show the building as Herd's House. The 1<sup>st</sup> and later edition Ordnance Survey maps mark it as Pit House. The history of occupation is unknown.
- 4.5.8 The Wansbeck Valley Railway was constructed between 1862 and 1865 running from Morpeth to Reedsmouth (HER 24493). This was operated by the Wansbeck Valley Railway, after 1874 by the North British Railway and its successors between 1865 and September 1952. The eastern terminus of the line was with the Blyth and Tyne Railway at Alnwick between 23 July 1862 and May 1872. This led to a line to the south of the Blyth and Tyne railway's station at Morpeth. The need for this portion of the line disappeared when a new section was laid joining directly to the East Coast mainline which opened in May 1872. The line can be traced on the ground as an earthwork with some features still present and passes close by the Cold Law site, only 440 m at its closest point.
- 4.5.9 The 18<sup>th</sup> century mansion at Ray Tongue (HER 9402) lies some 1 km from Cold Law. Its foundations are those of a rather small building and are surrounded by a ruinous stone wall with blocked entrances. Documentary evidence refers to a building at Ray Tongue in Kirkwhelpington Parish Register for 1740 and 1788 and Hodgson refers to a mansion at Ray Tongue, built in the 18th century by a Mr Jobling, but in ruins by 1827. The mansion is also recorded on Greenwood's map of 1828. The remains visible today may have formed part of the mansion or perhaps more likely an outbuilding.
- 4.5.10 A coal shaft is marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map is present some 1.5 km south-west from Cold Law (HER 21841).

#### **4.6 Sites of uncertain date**

- 4.6.1 Ray Tongue settlement and field system (HER 9382) is a stone built field system and settlement with the field system appearing to extend into cultivation ridge and furrow to the north. It lies 1.42 km north of Cold Law and was identified from aerial photographic evidence and no archaeological dating evidence is currently available.
- 4.6.2 A potential burnt mound (HER 28075) was identified 1.18 km to the east of Cold Law during the assessment phase of the Ray wind farm. If the form of the feature is correctly identified this would likely be an early prehistoric feature of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date given the evidence from similar burnt mounds in the region. The distance of the feature from the small burn might bring this identification into some question as proximity to a water supply is a near constant for burnt mounds. This raises the possibility that some other interpretation is possible and its date therefore remains obscure.

#### **4.6 Cartographic evidence**

- 4.6.1 Speed's map of AD 1610 depicts the area in a stylised fashion and is unable to

contribute any information for such a rural area as it lacks any real detail. Armstrong's map of AD 1769 (Figure 5) is the first to depict the area with any detail, but only depicts the area as upland between the Rede and Wansbeck river valleys and again is rather stylised and lacks detail. It does however depict the unclassified road that extends from Dere Street (the general line of the modern A68) and Kirkwhelpington, that passes by the south of the proposed development. Neither Fryer's map of AD 1820 nor Greenwood's map of AD 1828 adds any significant further detail.

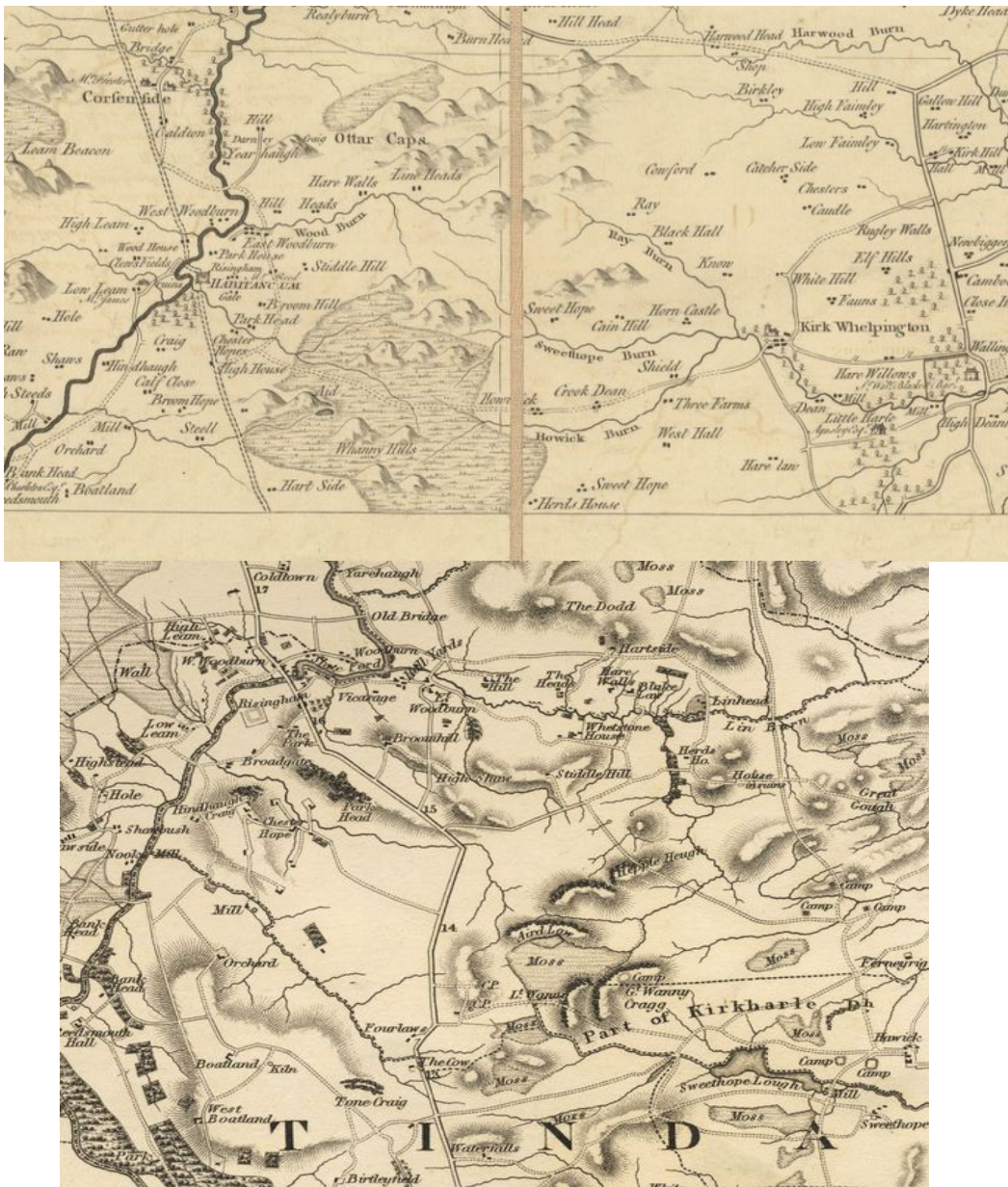


Figure 5: Armstrong's Map of Northumberland AD 1769 (top) and Greenwood's Map of 1828 (bottom)

4.6.2 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, of c. AD 1870, is the first map to depict the area in clear detail and to an accurate scale. Stiddlehill limekiln (HER 9381) is noted on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition depicts the Stiddlehill coal workings and an adjacent quarry around 400 m west of Cold Law and a quarry a similar distance to the south



and a further quarry just beyond the railway to the east. The sheepfold at the base of Cold Law is depicted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition and the overgrown quarry, noted on the site walkover, is also present from this addition (Figures 6 and 7).

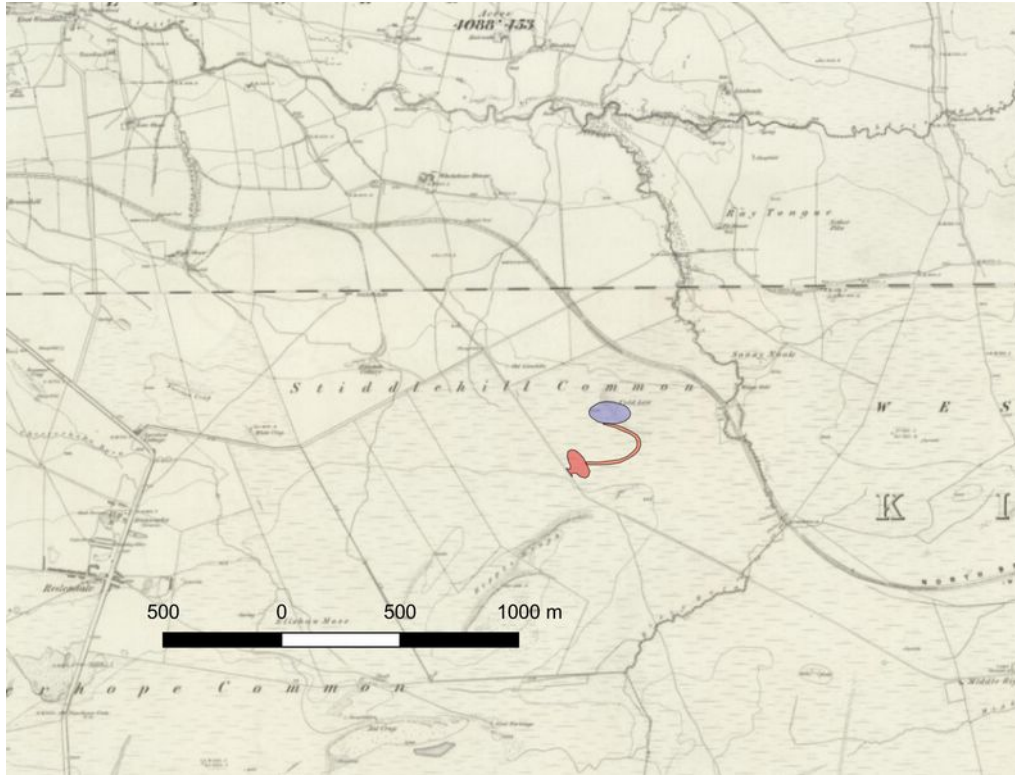


Figure 6: 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map of c. AD 1870 (geo-rectified)

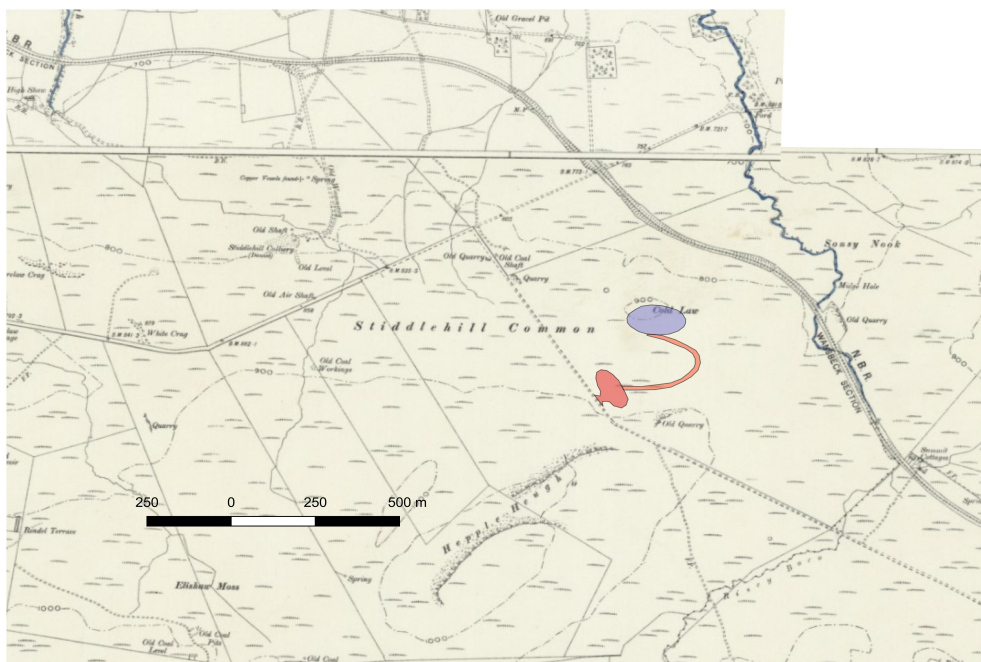


Figure 7: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, (geo-rectified)

## **4.7 LiDAR and aerial photographs**

- 4.7.1 LiDAR available to view online (<https://houseprices.io/lab/lidar/map>) shows coverage of Cold Law and the land immediately to the north. Although limited it is sufficient to demonstrate that the immediate area shows no indication of cultivation evidence. Land drainage does show up in the area to the immediate south-east of the Law in an area of low lying ground clearly prone to waterlogging.
- 4.7.2 Aerial photographic evidence is limited and the Northumberland County Council hold no relevant images nor did any show up in the National Records Office archive, for the immediate area, when searched.

## **4.8 Archaeological interventions**

- 4.8.1 An extensive survey was undertaken in advance of the Ray Wind farm (HER 14248). This comprised extensive trenching that revealed a complex deposit model including identifying environmental peat deposit, though few archaeological features. A watching brief was carried out during the erection of a fence for this site (HER 16078). A Mesolithic scatter was identified along with some cairns but the majority of features encountered were post medieval (Figure 4).
- 4.8.2 In addition a desk-based assessment was undertaken as part of the evaluation for a wind farm at Steadings (HER 14584) and as part of the evaluation for green Rigg wind Farm (HER 14601) when appraising the line for underground cabling. A heritage assessment was undertaken on the impact of a single wind turbine at High Shaw (HER 15907). A desk-based assessment was carried out at Hetton Hall (HER 16161), it involved a document and cartographic search.

## **5.0 SITE WALKOVER**

- 5.0.1 The site was examined on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Cold Law is a relatively isolated and distinctive topographical mound located within an upland landscape. Lower than much of the surrounding topography, its location and shape nevertheless combine to make it rather stand out. A series of small rock outcrops are exposed from mid height, up to, and including the summit and a small cairn of stones, 1.5 to 2 m across, is present on the north side of the summit (Plate 2), which is a relatively flat plateau of modest area. The exposed stones are weathered and show many cup-like small depressions, none of which appear to be good candidates for deliberately sculpted cup marks. One of the stones has a distinct linear rill running down the west side from its top in a manner reminiscent of some standing stones in the county (Plate 3). In this case, as with most others, it appears to be natural phenomenon and the result of weather of a weakness in the stone. A shallow scoop-like feature is present just off the summit to the north-east (Plate 4). It is not well defined and a little on the small side to represent a roundhouse, it nevertheless may be a suitable candidate for later investigation. A distinct plateau below the summit is also present on the north-east side. There are no earthworks visible on it and its orientation would be against it as a settlement site. Elsewhere the mound is relatively steep and not at all suitable for settlement activity.

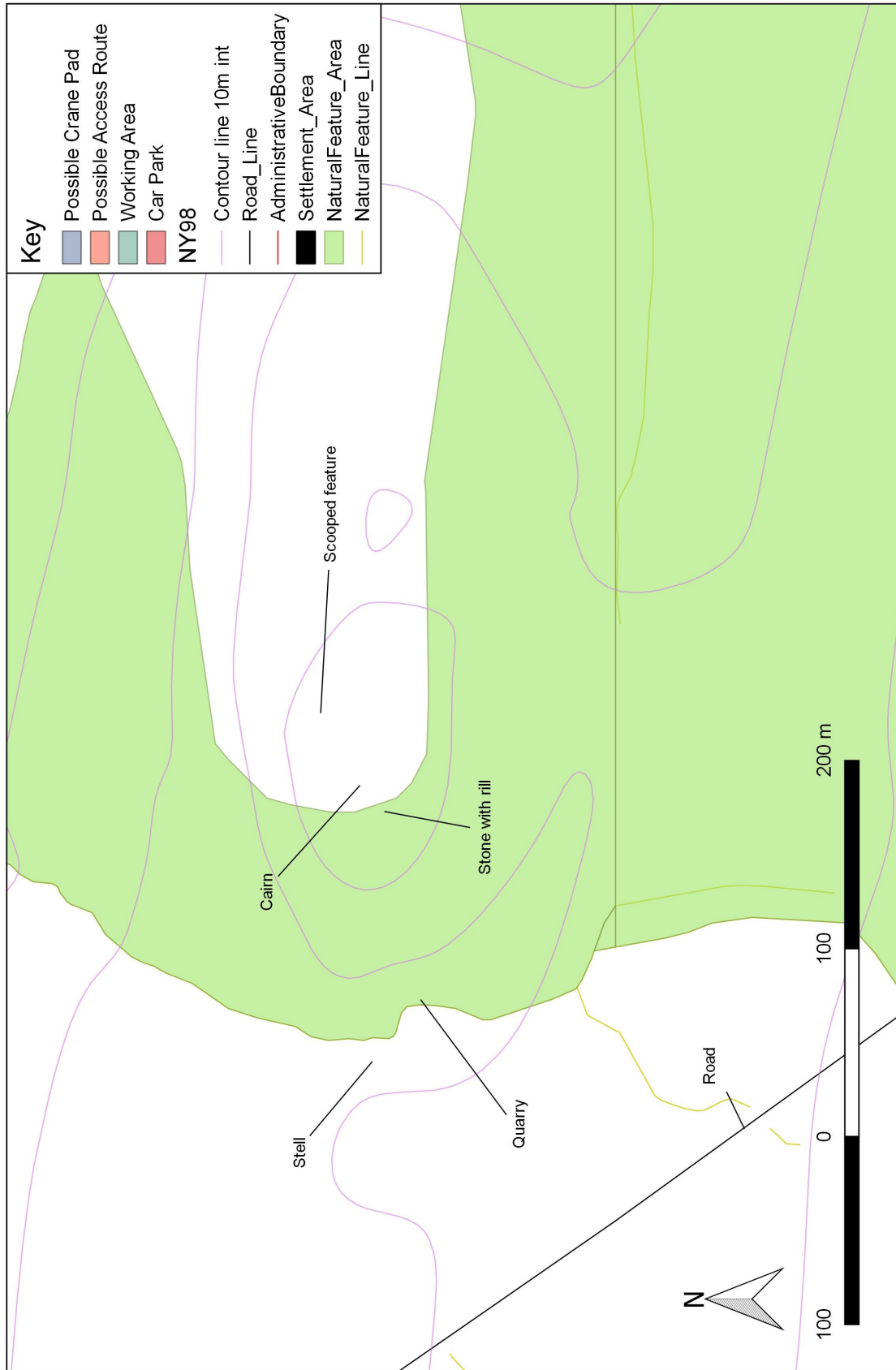


Figure 8: Site Area Depicting Features Discussed in the Site Walkover





*Plate 1: Cold Law looking north from the road*



*Plate 2: The stone cairn on the summit, facing south-west*





*Plate 3: Stone with a linear rill feature, facing east*



*Plate 4: Shallow scoop depression close to the summit of Cold Law, facing north*



- 5.0.2 A rocky depression at the base of the mound, at its southern side, is almost certainly the site of the quarry noted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey. It appears to be quite wet today due to water draining from the wet area immediately to its south (Plate 5). This area contains a number of linear drain cuts that drain into to a culvert under the road. It is not clear from superficial inspection if the area represented a more pronounced wetland in the past or even held occasional standing water. As part of the environmental assessment by Ecology Limited a basic investigation by crude penetrometry was undertaken. It appears that depth of the wetland area with some peat deposits is in the main 0.25 m to 0.5 m with the deeper areas to the south increasing to a depth of 0.75 m.
- 5.0.3 A well preserved stiel lies at the base of the mound to the south-west with an entrance that faces south. It has one area of partially collapsed wall but is otherwise intact (Plate 6). In addition a small quarry for stone is present, immediately north of the road and some 140 m to the south-west of the base of the mound.



*Plate 5: Site of the quarry also depicted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map, facing north*



*Plate 6: The sheep stall at the base of Cold Law, facing north*

## **6.0 IMPORTANCE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY**

6.0.1 The known archaeological and historical material related to the study area has the potential to span a number of key periods in history, which have been highlighted by English Heritage in their Research Agenda (EH 1997). These include:

- NB1 Rock art
- NB4 Cairns
- NB5 Roundhouses, settlements and field systems
- Riv Native and civilian life
- Rvii Religion
- Mdi Landscape
- PMi Early coal industry and coal use
- PMii Industrialisation
- PMviii Industrial intensification 1790-1830

- 6.0.2 The mound has a distinctive shape and it is quite conceivable that it could have been of significance as landscape feature to prehistoric communities. The layout and orientation of the plateau areas on the mound make them unlikely sites for settlement activity, despite what may have been a readily available water source at its base. There appears to be some potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material in the wetter areas, but impact on this is likely to be mitigated by the design of the landmark and its associated features to enhance, rather than impact upon, the environment.
- 6.0.3 The upland areas of Northumberland and the Borders have been called a zone of survival, based on the relative absence of intensive agricultural and settlement activity of medieval and post-medieval date leading to the continued survival of prehistoric settlements and features as earthwork features visible to survey. As such we can be reasonably secure in concluding that the absence of such features from field observation means that it is unlikely that any major settlement activity was present.

## **7.0 PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT**

- 7.0.1 It is clear from the plans for the proposed development that construction activity would be relatively extensive within the site area and have a high chance of impacting on any archaeological features, should they be present. The car park area, likely to also site the construction compound, would be a permanent impact and is likely to be located on the south side of the site adjacent to the road. The access routes for construction machinery would be of issue, although temporary and would be replaced by relatively low impact public access routes to the landmark. The current proposal envisions an access route curving around Cold Law from south to north, with possible crane access platform on the west side of the summit. The landmark itself will require a considerable degree of construction activity and have a substantial impact on the summit of Cold Law (Figure 2).

## **8.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 8.0.1 The visual impact assessment will assess the effect of the proposed development on the landscape surrounding the development area with regard to the potential for the landmark and its car park and associated features to impact on the setting of the historic landscape associated with the monuments in the area out to a radius of 3km.
- 8.0.2 According to the Landscape Institute: ‘Setting’ is an established concept that relates to the surroundings in which a place is experienced, its local context, embracing present and past relationships to the adjacent landscape. Definition of the setting of a significant place will normally be guided by the extent to which material change within it could affect (enhance or diminish) the place’s significance’ (Landscape Institute 2014, pg 39). Such a definition will inform the basis of the present assessment.
- 8.0.3 The assessment will concentrate on the scheduled monuments within the 3 km study area as these represent sites that have both significance and the potential to attract visitors, particularly so as most are present close to roads and rights of way. Thought will also be given to the wider heritage landscape, including listed buildings. The nature and level of potential impact and their landscape effects, that various elements of the proposed landmark will have will be discussed with particular reference to identified view points. Reference will also be made to the significance of the heritage asset in question.
- 8.0.4 Sources to be consulted have included:
- Map evidence for the setting of the new landmark, including current and historical maps identified as significant in the DBA
  - Contours available from open source digital terrain models and LiDAR
  - Google Earth Views
  - The site walk over and visits to the relevant monuments



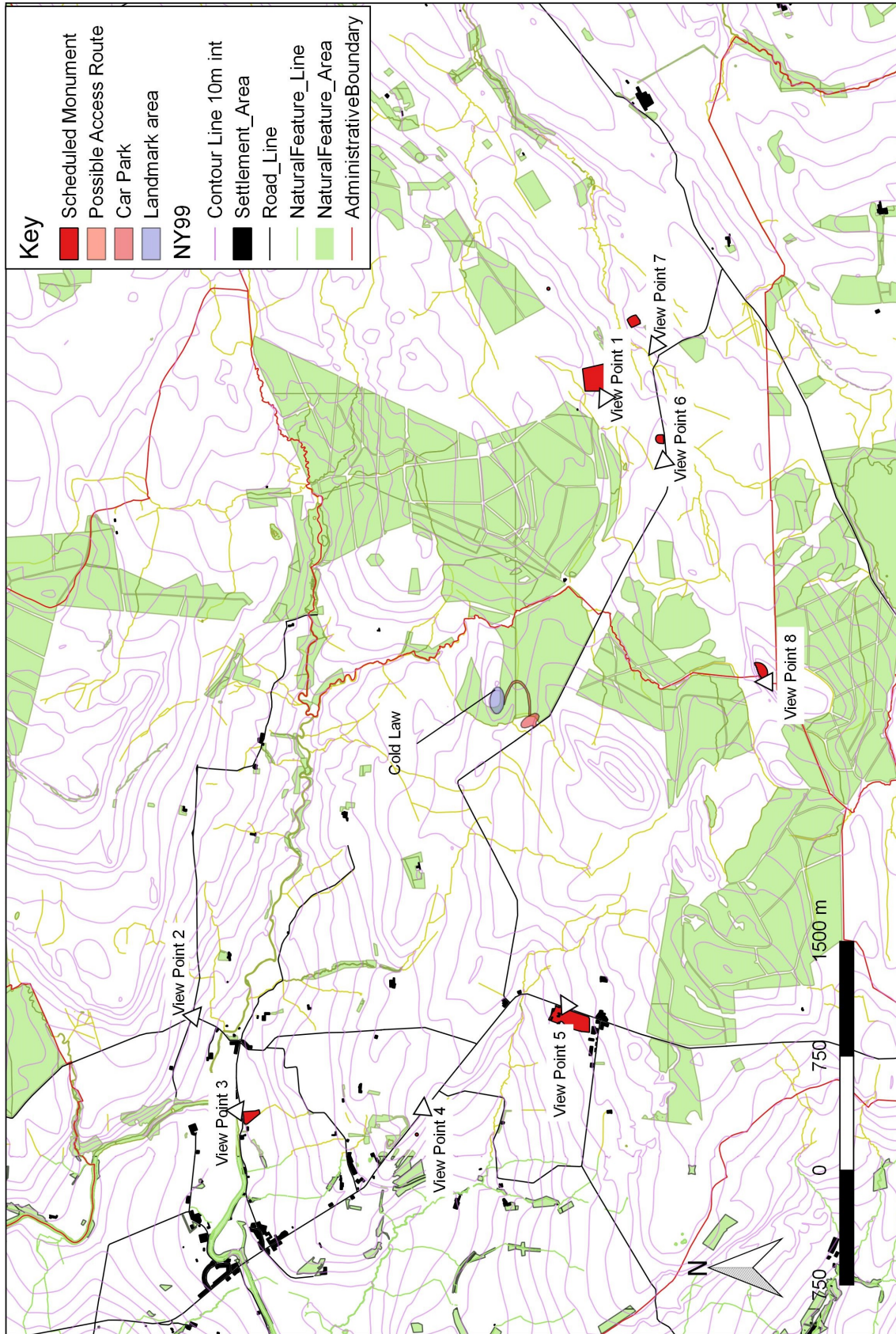


Figure 9: View Points for Archaeological Visual Impact Assessment

## **8.1 VIEWS AND SETTING**

- 8.1.1 The contribution of setting to the significance of a heritage asset is often expressed by reference to views, a purely visual impression of an asset or place which can be static or dynamic, including a variety of views of, across, or including that asset, and views of the surroundings from or through the asset, and may intersect with, and incorporate the settings of numerous heritage assets.
- 8.1.2 In the current case the views in question that need to be assessed are based on an assumed height and location of the finished landmark, which is predicted to rise some 55 m above the summit of Cold Law, but will be of modest width and scale to the extent that although it intrudes to a significant height it does not represent an obscuring feature. The associated features such as the car park and the visitor elements are more significant in size but are also much more low lying and are therefore visible but not obscuring features. There are therefore a number of factors to be taken into account in assessing their visibility from an existing heritage landscape and the monuments within it. Whether the proposed development will be visible from any scheduled monuments, and if so what the effect of the impact will be on the understanding of the landscape setting and how this has varied over time. The views to be addressed concentrate around eight selected view points based on the scheduled monuments (Figure 9 and Table 3 below).
- 8.1.3 In addition to the more static view point assessment of the proposed landmark's impact on the setting of the heritage assets within the study area some consideration will also be given to the impact of the new landmark on the more dynamic views associated with the significant route-way of Dere Street/A68 which passes within the assessment area to the west.

## **8.2 View point 1**

- 8.2.1 The view point was chosen as a good representation of the sight-line back to Cold Law from the Romano-British farmstead (Scheduled Monument 9542) and the Round Cairn (Scheduled Monument 9574) at Ferneyrigg. These monuments are characteristic of numerous such monument types within Northumberland and have few unique properties. It is reasonable therefore to suggest that these are important but not particularly significant monuments. It is also of significance that they do not lie close to rights of ways and are not easily accessible.
- 8.2.2 The sight line is currently obscured by the forestry plantation such that no part of Cold Law is visible. The forestry must however be seen as a temporary obscuring factor in terms of heritage, which must recognise the changing nature of the landscape and its use compared to the base topography. In the future in the absence of the trees some elements of the higher parts of Cold Law are potentially visible but would even then represent only the most modest impact on the two monuments overall sight lines. The landmark itself would be visible over the tree line but is such a modest size that it would not obscure the wider views to the west.





Plate 7: View point 1

### 8.3 View point 2

- 8.3.1 The cross base at Woodburnhill farm (Scheduled Monument 9371) represents a poorly preserved example of an external free standing cross, not uncommon in medieval England and therefore is a poorly preserved example of a monument of only regional significance.
- 8.3.2 The view point lies close to the site of the medieval cross base and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site of the cross base. The landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines.



Plate 8: View point 2 (with thanks to Southern Green)

### 8.4 View point 3

- 8.4.1 The medieval fish ponds at Townfoot Farm (Scheduled Monument 9370) represent a feature not uncommon for high status medieval estate centres. They represent an investment in fish husbandry to enable a supply of fish to inland sites and fulfil a need, generated by the dietary rules of the medieval church intended to limit the consumption of red meat. The present example represents a set of ponds of modest scale, though quite well preserved as earthworks.



*Plate 9: The Medieval Fish Ponds at Townfoot Farm, looking west*

- 8.4.2 The view point lies immediately east of the site of the medieval fish ponds and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site of the ponds. The landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines. It is of significance though that good views of the monument, from the public road (see Plate 9), are only possible from the east of the monument with the new landmark behind you and to the left. The new landmark would therefore not be visible within the same field of view as the ponds themselves.



*Plate 10: View point 3*



## 8.5 View point 4

- 8.5.1 Robin of Risingham is a Roman era sculptural fragment (Scheduled Monument 9368) and represents a rare survival of religious sculpture from this period. The carving, which has been identified as a native hunting god, was recorded in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century by Horsley and other antiquarians before being partially destroyed by the then landowner. The monument consists of the lower half of a figure cut in relief on a rock outcrop. It is located in an alcove formed by a retaining wall on a steep incline immediately below a south-westerly spread of spoil from Woodburn Quarries. A scale replica was erected by the Redesdale Society in 1983 (<https://historicingland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1012133>).



Plate 11: Replica of the Robin of Risingham monument replica (Creative Commons)

- 8.5.2 The chosen view point lies immediately to the east of the site of the Robin of Risingham sculptural fragment on the A68, on the line of Dere Street Roman road, and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from this site although the landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines. The view point was selected as a compromise as the replica itself can only be accessed via footpath on the west side of the road and is in a low lying area of spoil with no views at all to the east towards the proposed new landmark (Plate 11).



Plate 12: View point 4

## **8.6 View point 5**

8.6.1 The Ridsdale Iron works (Scheduled Monument 9505) comprise a series of earthworks to the west of the A68 just north of Ridsdale. The most prominent feature is the engine house, a Grade II listed building, clearly visible from the road. The Iron works itself are of regional significance representing one of a number of extraction industries set up early in the industrial revolution and have a significance in that their relatively short period of operation means that the preserved features were not subject to later re-working, nor built over. The industrial revolution is of great significance to the North East Region, but it is relevant that the Ridsdale Iron Works do not play a significant part in this regional story.



*Plate 13: The Engine House at the Ridsdale Iron Works, facing north-west*

8.6.2 The view point lies immediately to the east of the site of the site of the iron work's engine house on the A68, on the line of Dere Street Roman road and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site of the iron works. The landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines. It is also of significance that as the building lies to the west of the road it its significant views from the highway (Plate 13) are in the opposite direction to the proposed new landmark.



Plate 14: View Point 5

## 8.7 View point 6

- 8.7.1 The Romano-British farmstead at Ferneyrigg (Scheduled Monument 9499) is characteristic of numerous such monument types within Northumberland and has no unique properties. It is reasonable therefore to suggest it does not represent a particularly significant monument.
- 8.7.2 The view point lies immediately to the south of the Romano-British farmstead and demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site. The landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines.



Plate 15: View point 6

## 8.8 View point 7

- 8.8.1 The Romano-British farmstead and later steading at Ferneyrigg (Scheduled Monument 9543) is characteristic of numerous such monument types within Northumberland and has no unique properties. It is reasonable therefore to suggest it does not represent a particularly significant monument.



- 8.8.2 The view point lies immediately to the south-west of the site of the Romano-British farmstead and later steading and clearly demonstrates that there are no clear views back to Cold Law from the site. The landmark itself would be tall enough to be seen but would not obscure sight lines.



*Plate 16: View point 7*

## **8.9 View point 8**

- 8.9.1 The viewpoint lies at the site of the uni-vallate hillfort on Wanney's Crag (9500) and demonstrates clear sight lines back to Cold Law that would include the proposed car park and access routes as well as the landmark itself. The hillfort is one of a large number of such hillforts and enclosures in the region and is not likely widely visited, though access agreements are in place, so changes that impact on the wider setting of this site are relevant. The hillfort lies just short of 2 km south of Cold Law and as a result it represents a part of a wider landscape vista visible from the hillfort to the north. As a result the new landmark and associated features will represent a relatively modest change in the visible landscape but will not be an obscuring feature.



*Plate 8: Cold Law visible from the monument just to the left of the centre of the image (with thanks to Southern Green)*

8.9.2 Hillforts are within a category of monuments that have a distinct relationship with their wider landscape, being built in no small part to be seen from afar and to have an impressive effect on those observing them. As such their location within the landscape and the sight lines to and from them are relevant. The hillfort at Wanneys Crag was constructed on this high point to be seen by those living in the immediate landscape. Views to the hillfort are as relevant as those from it. In the case of the proposed new landmark the attraction of visitors to this new site within the sight lines of the hillfort can be seen as a positive contribution to its understanding and as an opportunity to add to the audience that may enjoy this feature for its heritage. The new development will represent just one more incremental stage in how the landscape in the area has changed over time, since the erection of the hillfort, and does not represent a particularly intrusive or obscuring feature.

Viewpoint	HER ID	Monument	Description	Impact
1 (6)	9542	Romano-British farmstead, hut circle and co-axial field system 1.3km north-west of Ferneyrigg	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
1 (6)	9574	Round cairn 1.2km NNW of Ferneyrigg	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
2 (10)	9371	Medieval cross, 150m west of Woodburnhill Farm	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
3	9370	Fishponds, 200m south-west of Townfoot Farm	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
4	9368	Robin of Risingham	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by a landscape ridge but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
5 (9)	9505	Ridsdale Iron Works	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
6 (4)	9499	Romano-British	The mound of Cold Law is	Slight/Minor



		farmstead 1.4km north-west of Ferneyrigg	obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	
7 (5)	9543	Romano-British farmstead and later steadings, 800m NNW of Ferneyrigg	The mound of Cold Law is obscured from view at this site by the forestry plantation but the upright for the landmark will be visible	Slight/Minor
8	9500	Univallate hillfort on Great Wanney Crag	Cold Law and the area of the proposed car park, access way up to the landmark, and the landmark itself will be visible from the viewpoint, but will not be obscuring.	Moderate

Viewpoint number in bracket from main Visual Impact Assessment

*Table 3: Viewpoint Assessment with impact criteria listed below*

Major/profound	An impact which obliterates sensitive characteristics on a noticeable scale.
Significant/substantial	An impact which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.
Moderate	An impact that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with emerging trends. Consistent with a pattern of change that is already taking place.
Slight/minor	An impact which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
Imperceptible	An impact capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences. The definition implies that the development would be visible, capable of detection by the eye, but not noticeable.

## **8.10 THE WIDER HERITAGE LANDSCAPE**

8.10.1 The immediate site of Cold Law lies within an area of upland and adjacent to an unclassified road and so not in an area of high traffic. Hadrian's Wall World Heritage site lies many kilometres to the south and as much upland lies between the new landmark and the World heritage site it should have no measurable impact on views along the wall area and its hinterland. The Roman Road of Dere Street lies just over 3 km to the west of the site at its closest point. The road linked a number of Roman

forts and lookout posts that remained in use for numerous generations. The fort at West Woodburn (*Habitnacum*) is noted just beyond the 3 km study area to the west-north-west of Cold Law. This route, as with many Roman roads may have had a prehistoric forbear, given the importance of routes over the Cheviots into Scotland and the Tweed Valley and the limited number of passes, but no clear evidence for this is presently known (Bishop. 2014, 7). The Roman route continued in use in the medieval period as a means of communication and in general is preserved today in the line of the A68, though the present line of the A68 deviates substantially in the area of Cold Law.

- 8.10.2 As a substantive thoroughfare over at least 2000 years the Dere Steet/A68 line represents an important route-way through the landscape and as such represents a dynamic view of the landscape experienced by travellers as they pass through this part of Northumberland. The general topography shields Cold Law from view for much of this route, but as the road rises to the north of the study area towards the Northumberland National Park some clear sight lines are present. The distance and the relative scale of the new landmark and its associated car park and access routes will substantially mitigate against this development having anything more than the most minimum effect on the perception of this landscape for those passing along this historic communication route. In the case of the highly visible Grade II listed Engine House that is part of the Ridsdale Iron Works, a noticeable historic landmark along this stretch of the road, it is of significance that the sight lines to this structure lie to the west of the road and that the new landmark will not form part of the background

## **9.0 DISCUSSION OF VISUAL IMPACT AND MITIGATION**

### **9.1 Contribution of views to the significance of the heritage assets**

- 9.1.1 In the case of the views to and from the various Romano-British settlement and the cairn at Ferneyrigg, Viewpoints 1, 6 and 9, they form part of a tradition of landscape use that have been subject to continuous change for centuries and their appreciation and understanding is not particularly linked to the wider landscape beyond them. In these instances the proposed new landmark is very limited by design to a modest intrusion on the skyline and therefore its impact should be considered minor.
- 9.1.2 The medieval cross base and fishponds at Woodbunhill Farm and Townfoot Farm (View Points 2 and 3) were originally part of a settlement landscape that was substantially lost during the reduction of rural populations caused by trends in farming and land-use in the later medieval period and accelerated in the post-medieval period. The understanding of these monuments is therefore not dependent on the preservation of the wider setting, but their appreciation can be. In both instances the distance of the proposed new landmark and its very modest impact on the skyline should not be seen as significant. In the case of the fishponds that are best seen from the road to the north-east, the landmark would not be visible in the background.
- 9.1.3 The sculptural fragment of Robin of Risingham (View Point 4) is an important and rare instance of Roman era sculpture of its kind in the region. Sadly its partial destruction and siting within an area of former quarrying mean that it can only be viewed within a relatively narrow setting that obscures sight of the wider landscape.

The appreciation of its original setting, can to a degree, be experienced from the road, as its original siting is likely linked to the presence of the Roman Road of Dere Street. In this instance the actual line of this earlier road c. 200 m to the west, somewhat diminishing this appreciation and the very modest scale of the proposed landmark again makes its impact very minor indeed.

- 9.1.4 The Ridsdale Iron Works and its Grade II listed engine house are a highly visible heritage feature within the landscape and something of a landmark feature for those passing north and south along the A68 (View Point 5). Unlike a monument, or fortification, the siting of the iron works was driven by the accessibility of raw materials and was not located due to topography or views. Its current appreciation however does link to its wider landscape and the dynamic views of the monument from the A68. The fact that the monument lies to the west of the road and the new landmark to the east does mean that these sight-lines are not impacted by the new landmark which will only have a very modest impact on the views of the wider landscape setting.
- 9.1.5 The hillfort in Wanney's Crag will have a clear view of the new landmark and its associated car park and access routes (Viewpoint 8). The sympathetic design of the landmark and these features will therefore be significant regarding their impact and perception with the landscape as visible from the hillfort. It has long been accepted that the siting and purpose of hillforts has as much, or more, to do with their being visible and impressive features within their landscape than their military aspects and that this may be a more important driver to their location than simple defensibility. As such it is the visibility of the hillfort from its hinterland that aids our understanding of its original role rather than the views from it. In fact the new landmark will play a role in adding to the appreciation of this hillfort by attracting viewers into its hinterland and can then be seen as benefiting rather than detracting from its setting.
- 9.1.6 It is clear from the study of the heritage landscape within the study area and even beyond in the vicinity of the Dere Street/A68 corridor that the varied topography of this upland environment means that the new landmark will have limited visibility. The new car park and access route will have a very modest visual impact indeed as they will lie at a sufficiently low level within the area to quickly be obscured in most directions. Even from the higher ground to the north-west along the Dere Street/A68 corridor the scale of the new landmark and the distances involved will very substantially reduce any visual impact.
- 9.1.7 The landmark itself represent a much taller intrusion, but is of very modest cross section. As such it will be visible from much further afield than the features at its base, and is indeed designed to be so visible, but will not at all represent an obscuring feature and will have a very limited impact on the perception of the heritage landscape in the round.

## **10.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 10.0.1 The proposed new landmark does not lie within an area of high archaeological potential. The presence of a cairn and a scooped feature, on or close to its summit, are worthy of some additional investigation along with the general investigation of the areas that will be subject to disturbance and alteration by the construction process. It seems unlikely though that below ground archaeological features of real significance will be encountered.
- 10.0.2 A study of the visual impact of the new landmark on the wider heritage landscape, including a series of view points associated with the scheduled monuments and the listed buildings within its 3 km study area suggests only a very modest potential for impact. The individual nature of most of the features and their siting within the landscape aids in diminishing the potential for impact. The one clear exception being the hillfort at Wanney's Crag which is clearly located with inter visible sight-lines. In this case the proposed role of the new landmark and it being a modern continuation of a long tradition of publicly visible monuments, that includes the hillfort itself, can be seen as adding to rather than detracting from the wider heritage landscape. The cumulative effect of the addition of the new landmark with regard to the pre-existing heritage landscape will therefore be of modest impact and could be seen as to a degree beneficial rather than harmful.

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### Cartographic evidence

- Speed's Map of 1610 Ref: ZAN M16 B21
- Armstrong's map of 1769
- Fryer's map of 1820
- Greenwood's map of 1828
- Horesly and Cay's map of 1753
- Warburton's map of 1716
- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile

### Websites

- <https://houseprices.io/lab/lidar/map> (consulted 28/11/2018)
- <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1012133> (consulted 02/12/2018)

## **APPENDIX I**

### **ELIZABETH MONUMENT LAND AT COLD LAW NORTHUMBERLAND**

#### **WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A DESK BASED ASSESSMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.0.1 This document has been compiled by The Bamburgh Research Project for The Devonport Estates during November 2018. The document sets out the written scheme of investigation for a desk-based assessment and archaeological visual impact assessment of a proposed new landscape monument at Cold Law, Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland.
- 1.0.2 The desk-based-assessment and archaeological visual impact assessment will be undertaken by The Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) in November and December 2018 as part of a wider series of documents compiled in support of the planning application. The written scheme of investigation details the proposed scheme of work to be undertaken as the first phase in a process of archaeological assessment. It will provide evidence that will allow the need for additional work to be adjudged, prior to the submission and determination of an application.

## **1.1 Location**

- 1.1.1 The proposed new monument is to be set on the summit of Cold Law Hill, 200m to the north of an unclassified road between Ridsdale, on the A68, and Knowesgate, on the A696. It lies some 6km to the west of the village of Kirkwhelpington and is centred on grid reference NY 9296 8514 (Figures 1 and 2).

## **2.0 METHODOLOGY**

- 2.0.1 The evaluation will comprise a desk-based assessment of the land within the development area. The site itself will be studied in detail and the surrounding 1.5km area assessed for archaeological potential. Listed buildings that are not immediately relevant to the development area will be listed as an appendix. In addition an Archaeological Visual Impact Assessment will be carried out to a distance of 3km.
- 2.0.2 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CiFA 2014) and will follow the CiFA Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CiFA 2014) and Historic England's, the Setting of Heritage Assets, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning, Note 3 (Second Edition) 2017.

## **2.1 Desk-based assessment**

- 2.1.1 The desk-based assessment will undertake the evaluation of the archaeological potential for the development area based on information derived from:
- A site visit and field inspection of the landscape, structures and any associated groundworks and features.
  - Study of the development area and the surrounding 1.5 km radius beyond the site boundary based on:
    - i) The location of known archaeological sites and landscapes within the proposed development area
    - ii) The potential for palaeo-environmental samples within the proposed development area
    - iii) The density of archaeological sites in the surrounding area and the potential that comparable sites may continue into the site
    - iv) Previous disturbance on the site, which may have affected archaeological remains, including any significant change in levels from those indicated on old Ordnance Survey maps, and truncation by existing services on or adjacent to the site.

- v) Where the information is available, the physical impact of the proposed development including:
  - a) Building foundations
  - b) Services
  - c) Access roads
  - d) Ground reduction
  - e) Increased vibration
  - f) Change in ground conditions on waterlogged or environmentally rich sites
- vi) The impact of the proposed development on the setting of the following sites or monuments within the wider study area:
  - a) Scheduled Ancient Monuments
  - b) Listed Buildings
  - c) Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Battlefields
  - d) Non-designated heritage assets
  - e) Any other heritage assets specifically identified in the brief as requiring assessment

## **2.2 Sources**

2.2.1 The sources consulted will include:

2.2.2 Maps, as a minimum (where available)

- i) 1716 Warburton
- ii) 1753 Horsley and Cay
- iii) 1769 Armstrong
- iv) 1808 Smith
- v) 1820 Fryer
- vi) 1828 Greenwood
- vii) 1829 Pigot
- viii) Tithe, apportionment and parish maps
- ix) Estate maps of the area
- x) Ordnance Survey maps from the First Edition onwards
- xi) Service providers maps and databases (Water, Electricity, Telecoms and Gas as a minimum)
- xii) Other available maps

2.2.3 Aerial Photographs will be consulted for the specific site and the immediate surrounding area.

- i) English Heritage, National Monument Record, Swindon (NMR)
- ii) Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- iii) Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives

2.2.4 If, for any reason, the assessor was not able to access any of the above resources, this will be noted within the text of the report.

2.2.5 Northumberland Historic Environment Record will be consulted for the following sources:

- i) A comprehensive record of all the known archaeological sites in the County
- ii) Copies of the Scheduled Ancient Monument designations
- iii) Copies of the Listed Building designations
- iv) Conservation Area Boundaries
- v) Complete digital aerial photographic coverage of the county
- vi) Selected LiDAR data, if available

2.2.6 Other Sources to be consulted where appropriate will include:

- i) Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- ii) Historical documents held in local museums, libraries, record offices and archives
- iii) Unpublished material held by local archaeological organisations (amateur and professional)



- iv) All available borehole, trial pit and geotechnical data from the site and its immediate environs held by the developer
- v) Geomorphological information may be obtained from the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre or the Geography Department at Newcastle University
- vi) Existing utility and service information which may help to inform on constraints to future work.

### **2.3 Written account**

- 2.3.1 A written account of features and structures of interest will be compiled on site during the site visit on pro-forma sheets.

### **2.4 Photographic record**

The photographic record compiled will include:

- General views of the study area
- General views of the exterior of the building, from all angles
- Record of any significant features identified during field inspection

### **2.5 Archaeological Visual Impact Assessment**

- 2.5.1 The visual impact assessment will comprise the assessment of the effect of the proposed development on the landscape surrounding the development area. This will be assessed with regard to the potential for the monument and its car park and associated features to impact on the setting of the historic landscape associated with the monuments in the area out to a radius of 3km.

- 2.5.2 According to the Landscape Institute: 'Setting' is an established concept that relates to the surroundings in which a place is experienced, its local context, embracing present and past relationships to the adjacent landscape. Definition of the setting of a significant place will normally be guided by the extent to which material change within it could affect (enhance or diminish) the place's significance' (Landscape Institute 2014, pg 39) Such a definition will inform the basis of the present assessment.

- 2.5.3 All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (CifA 2014) and will follow the Historic England, The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice in Planning Note 3 Second Edition (HE 2017) and the IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CifA 2014).

- 2.5.4 The visual impact assessment will undertake the evaluation of the potential for impact of the development on the historic landscape in its vicinity out to a radius of 3km and will take into consideration the following issues during the assessment:

- the extent of the study area to be used for assessment of landscape and visual effects
- available sources of information
- the nature of the possible landscape and visual effects that might occur
- identify the main receptors of the potential landscape and visual effects that need to be addressed including viewpoints that should be assessed
- methods to be used in assessing the significance of the effects that may be identified
- the requirements with respect to the assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects.

- 2.5.5 Sources to be consulted will include:

- Map evidence for the setting of the new monument, including current and historical maps identified as significant in the DBA
- Limited aerial photography of the new monument as identified by the DBA

### **2.6.0 Views and setting**

- 2.6.1 The contribution of setting to the significance of a heritage asset is often expressed by reference to views, a purely visual impression of an asset or place which can be static or dynamic, including a

variety of views of, across, or including that asset, and views of the surroundings from or through the asset, and may intersect with, and incorporate the settings of numerous heritage assets.

3.4.2 In the current case the views in question that need to be assessed are based on an assumed height and location of the finished monument and its visibility from an existing heritage landscape and the monuments within it. The views to be addressed on this basis will include:

- The extent to which the proposed development will be visible within the wider heritage landscape area, based on a basic viewshed analysis
- Whether the proposed development will be visible from any scheduled monuments, and if so what the effect of the impact will be on the understanding of the landscape setting and how this has varied over time

### **2.7.0 Written account**

2.7.1 A written account of the visual impact assessment will be made and discuss the impact of the proposed development on the views of and to the monuments in the historic landscape in line with Historic England guidelines.

### **2.8.0 Photographic record**

2.8.1 A full photographic record will be compiled including:

- General views of the study area
- General views of the proposed monument from the designated monuments in the study area
- Selected views towards the proposed development site that are considered worthy of consideration to its setting and impact

### **2.9.0 Discussion of Mitigation**

2.9.1 The assessment of the visual impact of the proposed monument and its design will have regard to impact in the heritage landscape. Reference will be made in particular to the potential impact on and the views from monuments in the study area. The cumulative effect of the addition of the new monument with regard to pre-existing heritage landscape, whether beneficial or harmful.

## **3.0 REPORT COMPILATION**

3.0.1 The report will be compiled in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2008).

3.0.2 The report will include:

- Northumberland County Council Conservation Team reference, planning reference number and the OASIS reference number and an 8 figure grid reference
- A description of the site and its underlying geology
- A description of the site in its setting
- Period-based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites
- Where possible an assessment of the impact on the visual setting of scheduled monuments, listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields and scheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance
- Discussion of the site and its setting with regard to the views from the known monuments in the study area
- Appendices listing:
  - i) All archaeological sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens and historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study
  - ii) All aerial photographs within the detailed study area and immediate environs, quoting the reference number and date (cross-referenced to the gazetteer where appropriate)

appropriate

iii) A copy of the specification and its checklist

### **3.1 Illustrations**

- A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000 will be included
- A location plan of the extent of the proposed development area at a recognisable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid
- Copies of all maps described in the text with the extent of the proposed development area marked on each map. Where copyright prevents the inclusion of a map in the report, a hand-drawn copy will be provided. Where possible historic maps will be transcribed either by hand or digitally, as an overlay on to the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey to allow details to be assessed in relation to recent features.
- A plan with the extent of the proposed development area and showing the location of all archaeological sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens and historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study area will be included
- A location plan of the setting of the proposed development in relation to the monuments in the study area
- Photographs appropriate to the assessment of the site including copies of all relevant aerial photographs on which features have been identified or failing this a transcription of the identified feature in an appropriate modern basemap.
- Photographs appropriate to demonstrate the visual impact of the development from the monuments in the study area
- Location of the photography points and views on an appropriate basemap.

### **3.2 Site archive**

- 3.2.1 An archive containing a copy of the report and original illustrations and tracings that are not included in the report together with digital copies of the report and illustrations will be deposited at the Northumberland Record Office and its reference number included in the report.
- 3.2.2 An online OASIS form will be completed for the project as part of the post-excavation assessment process.
- 3.2.3 The site archive will be deposited within six months of the completion of the report.
- 3.2.4 A summary of the assessment report will be submitted to the County Council Conservation Team for inclusion in 'Archaeology in Northumberland' by December 2019.

#### **4.0 PERSONNEL**

- 4.0.1 The designated project manager Graeme Young, is one of the four directors of the Bamburgh Research Project. A graduate of Newcastle University, with 30 years of experience in field archaeology that has included sites dating from the Mesolithic to modern and including directing a number of excavations of urban medieval sites in Newcastle and Durham.
- 4.0.3 Additional field staff, with appropriate archaeological experience, will be engaged as required.

#### **5.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 5.0.1 The Bamburgh Research Project complies with the 1974 Health and Safety Act and its subsequent amendments in all its operations. The SCAUM manual and the Bamburgh Research Project Health and Safety Policy Document is followed for all site works. A designated and appropriately trained first aider is present at all times during working hours. A First Aid kit, Accident Book and telephone are provided for each project. Safety footwear is mandatory on all excavation sites. Where required safety helmets and reflective jackets are provided.
- 5.0.2 All staff undergo a safety induction prior to commencing work on site. A written risk assessment is undertaken specific for each site. The safety assessment is reviewed on a daily basis and changes to the working conditions monitored continually during adverse weather conditions.