Wessex Archaeology

Castle Farm, Scargill
County Durham

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

Ref: 68732
January 2009

Castle Farm, Scargill, Co Durham

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Report reference: 68732.01

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Summary

In April 2008 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Castle Farm in Scargill, County Durham (NGR 405370 510727). This site is the location of the Scargill Castle, a fortified house of believed medieval origins (Scheduled Ancient Monument, No. 32730).

Restoration work on the upstanding gatehouse had already dated this building to the 15th or 16th century, and several features such as blocked-up windows and a fireplace can be seen to have been incorporated into the modern walls and farm buildings. An evaluation comprising seven trenches, as well as some further exploration of the gatehouse, confirmed two periods of use of the manor house. In the 12th-14th century the residence appears to have had a defensive function, with a large curtain wall and a barmkin (walled enclosure) to the south-east. After an apparent hiatus in occupation the manor appears to have been reoccupied and substantially modified in the 15th-16th century. During this period the gatehouse was built, portions of the curtain wall were demolished and a ground floor hall was constructed. The house seems to have fallen into disuse in the early 18th century.

No features earlier than the medieval period were found during this investigation.

This evaluation, although limited in its extent, clarified much of the plan of the fortified house, both confirming what was already known and also revealing additional features, and enabling a clearer understanding of the nature and development of the buildings within the scheduled area at Castle Farm. The results warrant further dissemination, although further detailed analysis is not considered to be necessary. An article summarising the results of the excavation will be prepared, for submission to the *Durham Archaeological Journal*.

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Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Jane Hammond (Production Manager), Jon Willers (Assistant Producer), Tom Scott (Researcher) and Emily Woodburn (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock and Emma Wood of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham and landscape survey and map regression was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Mick Aston. The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Naomi Hall, and on-site finds processing was carried out by Talla Hopper, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland, Faye Simpson, and Tracey Smith, assisted by Penny Middleton, Daniel Still, Phil Wood, Ben Westwood, Jon Welsh, Aina Pettersen and Deborah Anderson. The metal detector survey was carried out by Tom Allinson and Adam Richardson.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Naomi Hall with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mepham (finds) with Jenny Vaughan (pottery), Nicholas Cooke (coins) and Jessica Grimm (animal bone). The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mepham.

Finally thanks are extended to the owners Niall and Caroline Hardie-Hammond for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation and for their help both during the excavation and in the post-excavation stages.

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Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Castle Farm, Scargill, County Durham (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Site consists of land at Castle Farm, centred on NGR 405370 510727, and is located within the parish of Scargill. Although today this lies within the county of Durham, prior to 1974 it was in the North Riding of Yorkshire. The Site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (number 32730). The main area of scheduling covers an area of 0.008km^2 and includes the still upstanding gatehouse, associated farm buildings to the east and the barmkin (a walled enclosure). Three further areas of scheduling encompass a total area of approximately 0.018km^2 and are located to the north-west, west and south-west (**Figure 1**). The remains of a medieval chapel (also scheduled) are located to the south-east of the gatehouse, situated around 270m from the farm entrance to the east along Chapel Lane.

1.2.2 The Site lies approximately 6.4km from Bowes and 6km from Barnard Castle. It is situated on a relatively level platform with the ground sloping away to the south-east beyond the edge of the barmkin. The field to the west of the current farm track slopes steeply away to a stream, Gregory Beck. This stream runs north-west – south-east in a steep valley and divides the scheduled areas located around Castle Farm from the scheduled areas located around Scargill Farm to the west.

1.2.3 The land to the south-east of the gatehouse is a field currently under pasture, whereas the area to the north-east, directly behind the gatehouse, comprises a walled sheep pen or yard bounded by various outbuildings. The underlying geology is glacial sand and gravel (British Geological Survey, sheet 32).

1.3 Archaeological Background

Prehistoric

1.3.1 On Barningham Moor, some 2.2km to the south-east of the Site, the remains of several prehistoric settlements and associated activities can be seen.

1.3.2 A large number of rock carvings are known across the moor, many of which exhibit the classic cup-and-ring decorative pattern (National Sites and Monuments Record [NMR] numbers 24510, 30459, 30460, 30461, 30462, 30466, 30467, 30468, 30469, 30471, 30472, 30477, 30478, 30479, 30480, 30481, 30484, 30487, 30488, 30496). These carvings are thought to date from the Late Neolithic to the Bronze Age (*c.* 3000-700 BC) and are often found in close association with burial monuments; they are a common feature in the north of England. An equally large number of cairns and cairnfields are also found (NMR 30465, 30470, 30473, 30477, 30482, 30483, 30485, 30486, 30494, 30495), some in direct association with carved rocks (NMR 30472, 30477, 30480, 30488). Cairns may be either the result of field clearance or funerary monuments. While single cairns most usually contain burials, cairnfields often incorporate both kinds of monument. Clearance cairns may date from the Neolithic (*c*. 4000-2400 BC), although most appear to date from the Bronze Age (*c.* 2400-700 BC) and reflect changing agricultural practices. The funerary cairns date from the same period and may contain single or multiple inhumations, either within the mound or in a stone-lined cist. One cairnfield (NMR 30477) that includes several carved stones appears to be later in date – it also produced evidence for primitive iron smelting.

1.3.3 Two ring cairns have been found on the moor near Haythwaite (NMR 30490, 30491). These relatively rare monuments are thought to be ritual monuments of the Early to Middle Bronze Age (*c.* 2400-1100 BC) and excavation of similar features has revealed pits, possibly associated with feasting as well as burials

1.3.4 Five enclosed areas found on the moor (NMR 30474, 30475, 30478, 30480, 30484) are also likely to be prehistoric, although some of these enclosures may date from the early Romano-British period (43-200AD). They are thought to be agricultural features, either field divisions or stock pens. Enclosure 30480 also contained two burnt mounds, accumulations of fire-crazed stone, ash and charcoal dating to the Bronze Age (*c.* 2400-700BC). These features are thought to be associated with heating water. The field system at 30474 consists of long rubble banks which are particularly typical of the North Pennines. Fragments of similar rubble banks are seen at 30477, 30469 and 30474. The dating of these features is often uncertain, but they are considered to date from the Bronze Age or Iron Age (*c*. 2400-50 BC).

1.3.5 How Tallon round barrow on the southern edge of the moor still exists to a maximum height of 2.3m (NMR 24510). It was excavated in 1897 and found to contain five burials and Beaker period artefacts (*c.* 2600-1800 BC). Several cup-and-ring marked stones are also in the vicinity.

1.3.6 A prehistoric settlement with an associated stone circle (NMR 30479) has been identified just to the north of How Tallon. The unenclosed hut circles which make up the settlement may date from the Bronze Age (*c.* 2400-700 BC) into the early Iron Age (*c.* 700-400 BC). A smaller but similar settlement (NMR 30489) has been identified on the road from Haythwaite to Barningham.

Romano-British

1.3.7 Just to the south of the Haythwaite to Barningham road is a native Romano-British settlement (NMR 30487). This settlement is an example of

occupation continuing in a more traditional Iron Age pattern after the occupation.

1.3.8 At Greta Bridge, 3.9km to the north-east of the Site, a Roman fort and *vicus* have been discovered (NMR 32721). The fort was located on Greta River along a section of Roman road that ran south-east to Dere Street. Its date of construction is uncertain. Limited excavation shows it to have been in use into the 3rd century. Partial excavation of the *vicus* (a civilian settlement associated with a military fort) showed occupation into the early 4th century AD.

1.3.9 To the north-west of the Site is the Roman fort of *Lavatrae*, located in the present day settlement of Bowes (NMR DU111). Built in the 1st century AD it continued in use into the 4th century.

Anglo-Scandinavian

1.3.10 The name Scargill means 'merganser valley' (Ekwall 1960, 406-7). This may be a reference to what is today more commonly known as a goosander. These ducks are known to inhabit riverine environments though they generally prefer deep, still waters (P. Hall pers. comm.).

Medieval and Post-Medieval

1.3.11 Bowes Castle (NMR DU119) is located within the Roman fort of *Lavatrae*. The original Norman timber and earthwork defences were remodelled in the 12th century by the addition of a stone keep.

1.3.12 The soke (early English administrative unit) of Scargill was originally recorded in the Domesday Book as belonging to Count Alan's manor of Gilling, but it later became part of the honour of Richmond. The land was granted in 1137 to St. Peter's in York but in 1171 Warin de Scargill was recorded as one of the surveyors of Bowes Castle. The manor continued to be held by the Scargill family until Robert Scargill died in 1531 leaving his daughter Mary, wife of Marmaduke Tunstall, to inherit. In the early 18th century her great-great-grandson Marmaduke made Wycliffe his main seat. Wycliffe Hall lies some 7.6km to the north-east of Scargill. It is likely that after this Scargill Castle was largely abandoned, although it continued in the family and followed the descent of the Wycliffe estate in the 20th century, being listed as in the possession of Major Walter George Raleigh Chichester-Constable in the 1914 County History (Page 1914, 39-42, 138-142).

1.3.13 The single-roomed chapel that lies to the south-east of the castle on Chapel Lane (NMR 32733) is believed to be of medieval date and to have been associated with the castle.

1.3.14 The castle itself (NMR 32730) is more correctly seen as a fortified manor house, an architectural form occurring at any time from 1066 to the 15th century (Allen Brown 1976, 124). Its original date of construction is unknown but it is believed that Edward II was entertained there in 1323 (Page 1914, 39-42). Surviving elements of the building reflect a later period of construction during the 15th or 16th century. The buildings themselves are positioned on a level platform which extends out to the south-east for about 40m before falling away. This area may have originally been enclosed by a low wall, a defensive structure referred to as a 'barmkin', and encloses an area of 1672m^2. Barmkins or barnekins were associated with the troubled

northern border regions from the medieval periods onwards. Extending from this to the south-west is a slightly hollowed, banked, rectilinear enclosure with a low bank marking an internal division.

1.3.15 Also included within the scheduling are three discontinuous areas found to the north-west beyond the modern farm buildings and to the south-west around Scargill Farm (**Figure 1**). These areas represent surviving earthwork traces of the medieval settlement and include building foundations, a possible oven, enclosures, yards and ridge and furrow cultivation. Such dispersed settlement is a typical feature of the upland areas of northern England.

1.3.16 A hollow-way appears to extend from the gatehouse in a south-westerly direction towards Gregory Beck (**Figure 10, Plate 16**), to a point which, until the construction of the current road bridge after the Second World War, was the main fordable access.

Modern

1.3.17 The gatehouse itself survives as a three-storey, stone building with portions of the curtain wall projecting from its southern and northern elevations (**Figure 10, Plates 17 & 18**). On the ground floor stone piers support the timber floor of the second storey. The second and third floors are accessed from a stone spiral staircase housed in a turret on the northern side.

1.3.18 A sketch made in 1885 by Hunter Blair of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries shows it largely as it appears today, except that the currently ruined curtain wall that extends to the south-east survives to a height of around 6m, nearly its original height. This wall is thought to have collapsed in the late 1920s or early 1930s (Hammond 2001, 10). It also shows that the western entrance had already been partially infilled in order to create a rectangular opening. The current ruins along with the south-east curtain wall are shown on the 1856 OS mapping (Hammond 2001, 10).

1.3.19 A description of the gatehouse and associated ruins in the Victoria County History notes that the eastern doorway through the gatehouse was already blocked up and the northern range completely ruined. It also notes fireplaces on the southern and eastern walls of the east range and a blocked doorway in the north wall of the northern range (Page 1914, 39-42). These features, with the exception of the southern fireplace, can still be seen today.

1.3.20 Further features include a blocked window on the southern side of the south range and a square window opening in the surviving portion of the southern curtain wall around second floor height.

1.3.21 During the Second World War the Site was used for Home Guard practice manoeuvres, causing some damage to the structure (Hammond 2001, 7). A chimney stack supplying the first floor partly projects out from the southern elevation (**Figure 10, Plate 17**). During the 1980s this chimney stack collapsed through the roof, allowing the roof and upper floors to deteriorate more rapidly (Hammond 2001, 7).

1.3.22 In 1999 the gatehouse was purchased by the current owners Niall and Caroline Hardie-Hammond who started much needed consolidation and restoration works. They have currently returned the western entrance to its

original arched shape and repaired and stabilised the upper floors and the chimney stack.

1.3.23 The roof form is a copy of the 19th century roof. Observations made during the restoration work suggest that the original pitch of the roof was probably much steeper. However, the central portion of the gable appears to be in keeping with the rest of the structure and despite an inner face revealed during construction work the third storey appears to be original. Nevertheless there appears to have been substantial remodelling of much of the upper part of the gables and the stair turret. Mullion fragments recovered from the rubble core of the re-modelling appear to be of a different date and style than any of the surviving windows seen and suggest their inclusion must post-date some demolition or remodelling of the castle (Hammond 2001, 28-9).

1.3.24 Restoration work located some preserved areas of a lime-based render which suggests that the main external elevations may once have been rendered (Hammond 2001, 14)

1.3.25 Dendrochronology dates obtained from *in situ* oak timbers from the supporting elements of the first floor suggest a date range of 1552-87.

1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

1.4.1 There has been no known previous archaeological work on the Site.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Videotext Communications 2008), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

2.1.2 The aim of the project was to characterise the nature and date of the Site and place it within its historical, geographical and archaeological context. Of particular interest was the establishment and refinement of the chronology and phasing of the buildings, and the determination of the extent of their defensive character.

3 METHODS

3.1 Geophysical Survey

3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site using a combination of magnetic, resistance and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey (**Figure 1**). The survey grid was set out by Dr Henry Chapman and tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

3.2 Evaluation Trenches

3.2.1 Seven trenches of varying sizes were excavated, their locations determined in order to investigate and to clarify geophysical anomalies (**Figure 1**). A

limited investigation at the bottom of the staircase within the gatehouse was also undertaken.

3.2.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or at natural geology if this was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.

3.2.3 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated spoil was scanned by metal detector.

3.2.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

3.2.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

3.2.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated soil. A permeable geotextile membrane and shingle were laid over significant archaeological features before backfilling.

3.2.7 A unique Site code (SCF08) was issued prior to the commencement of works. The work was carried out on the 20th – 23rd April 2008. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, the full geophysical report (GSB 2008), the summary of the landscape and earthwork survey and details of artefactual and environmental assessments, are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Geophysical Survey

Magnetic survey (**Figure 2A**)

4.2.1 Anomalies at (1) coincide with a platform that is still visible on the ground and marked on the OS mapping. Within the confines of the platform a number of archaeological type responses (2) have been noted. These may represent building remains or be associated with the platform construction.

4.2.2 There is an area of increased magnetic response, along with potential archaeological anomalies, at (3). These anomalies may be associated with the former castle and, whilst there is no direct evidence to support this, demolition material was found in a trench to the east; however, the responses may simply represent former sheep pens.

4.2.3 Two prominent linear earthworks in the fields to the south are clearly visible (4), but it is uncertain whether these are garden features or the remnants of past cultivation practices. Either way, ridge and furrow can also be seen in both areas, on the same alignment as (4).

4.2.4 Large ferrous anomalies within the dataset are located on the edges of the survey grid and are due to a metal gate, fences and buildings.

Resistance survey (**Figure 2B**)

4.2.5 As with the magnetic survey, the earthworks surrounding the platform can be seen in the resistance data (a). A number of high readings, for example those at (b), may have an archaeological origin, such as former structures, or simply be associated with rubble spreads; however, a natural, geological explanation cannot be ruled out.

4.2.6 Rectangular response (c) coincides with the increased magnetic response (3) (see above) and may be an ancillary building associated with the castle.

4.2.7 An area of high resistance (d) corresponds with the results from the radar survey (see above). The response was caused by a large pit filled with stones and containing a partial cattle skeleton; this was thought to be relatively modern in origin, but the feature did contain some medieval pottery.

4.2.8 Elsewhere in the survey area, zones of both high and low resistance have been recorded. These are likely to reflect the topography although an archaeological interpretation cannot be entirely discounted.

Ground penetrating radar (**Figure 2C**)

4.2.9 The radar dataset from this site appears relatively complex and has presented some severe difficulties at the interpretation stage. It was demonstrated that significant discrepancies existed between the recorded data and the archaeological features present in the ground, specifically in the eastern sheep pen and the south-east field. These are discussed further in the relevant sections below.

<u>South-east field</u>

4.2.10 The primary anomaly in this area is a sub-circular zone of high amplitude (A). In the shallowest time-slices this appeared as a ring with greatly diminished reflections at its centre; it was initially thought that this may be a circular dwelling or large dovecote. Upon excavation the reality was somewhat different – a large pit backfilled with rubble containing cattle bones and some medieval pottery. Linear anomalies (B), flanking the edge of the platform on which the survey area was located, are assumed to be associated consolidation material. Between (A) and (B) is a faint surface, only visible in the radargrams, which may represent the original ground surface beneath the material forming the platform.

Gatehouse

4.2.11 Strong anomalies (E), immediately adjacent to the Gatehouse, are assumed to be archaeological, given their alignment with an extant wall-line in the field to the south, although the radargrams suggest that this is more likely to be disturbed or dumped material. Given the lack of direct correlation with the present gatehouse it may be that (E) relates to an earlier phase, or is merely hardcore dumped to consolidate the ground around the tower.

4.2.12 Further from the gatehouse, there is a vaguely rectilinear spread of high amplitude response (F) and (G). It seems unlikely that these directly represent substantial building remains as they appear to have relatively poor depth extent. A lack of defining form has made further interpretation impossible; this could be an *in situ* demolition spread, natural or dumped material.

Sheep Pens and East End

4.2.13 The high amplitude responses (H_1-H_4) were all confirmed as wall structures through excavation. The increased response (I) appears to correlate with a paved floor surface and it seems likely that this facet of the former castle has influenced the responses along the north of the eastern sheep pen. The difficulty with this dataset arises in the centre of the eastern pen (J); there is a distinct lack of reflections through this zone despite excavation revealing walls and paving. The reason for this may be the surface material which comprised broken concrete and hardcore – it could be that differential scattering of the radar waves has caused the noticeable lack of response and feature definition.

4.2.14 The western sheep pen has demonstrated a better depth of response, but it is unclear whether the strong reflections are *bona fide* archaeological features or simply the stone and concrete remnants of the pens, demolished just prior to survey; some of the responses show a close correlation to such features marked on the OS mapping.

4.3 Evaluation Trenches

Introduction

4.3.1 Trenches 1 and 2 were positioned just to the south-east of the surviving gatehouse building. Trenches 3 and 5 were within the old sheep pen to the east of the gatehouse, with Trench 7 on the south-east face of one of the standing buildings marking the outer perimeter of this yard. Trenches 4 and 6 were in the field to the south-east of the farm buildings. The size and shape of the trenches varied to account for the potential targets that they were sited on and the archaeology subsequently uncovered. Any substantial or significant remains were left *in situ*. Trench 6 was situated the furthest south at a height of 228.42m aOD. The eastern part of Trench 3 occupied the highest position at a height of 229.63m aOD.

4.3.2 Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 saw the removal of between 0.05m and 0.30m of overlying topsoil in order to expose the archaeology. Subsoil was only encountered in Trench 6 where its depth was increased by colluvial activity. However, Trenches 3 and 5 involved the removal of the hardcore and demolition debris surfacing of the yard. Where encountered, the natural geology was clay with sand and silt lenses.

4.3.3 The investigation within the gatehouse was limited to exposing the archaeology at the base of the staircase located within the turret.

*Trench 1 (**Figure 3**)*

4.3.4 Trench 1 was positioned on a partially collapsed wall seen extending from the south-west – north-east wall to the south of the gatehouse, still partly visible in the turf.

4.3.5 Removal of the topsoil (101) and overlying demolition debris and tumble (102) revealed two north-west – south-east aligned stone built walls, (103) and (105), at right angles to, and extending south-east from, the south-west – north-east wall. In construction these walls appears to be less substantial than the large, angular, tumbled stone blocks would suggest. The removal of three of these blocks allowed the extension of part of the trench. This showed that wall (106), to which (103) and (105) are bonded, is a secondary face bonded to the main wall. These three walls therefore form a subsidiary structure to the main building which must date to a time before the collapse of the main returning wall (see below: wall (204) in Trench 2). In the north-west corner formed by (103) and (106) remnants of a flagstone floor (115) could be seen. This may originally have extended across to wall (105), suggesting that this was the internal part of the building. There was no visible construction cut for either (103) or (105) within the trench; deposit (107) appeared to bank up against wall (105) and a similar deposit was seen banking up against (103). A possible explanation for this is that this was a fairly rudimentary structure, and the walls therefore lacked a foundation level.

4.3.6 Predating this structure were two deposits (110) and (111) which overlay a sub-circular feature (108) only partly seen in plan and not fully excavated. The feature had a diameter of over 3.7m and appeared to be directly cut into the natural geology. Its position along the southern edge of the compound wall suggests it was a pit rather than a partially revealed ditch.

4.3.7 Pottery from the upper fill of this feature, (109), dates to the 15th or 16th century. Pottery from (114), which was initially assumed to be the same deposit on the opposite side of wall (103), dates from the late 12th-13th century, suggesting that this was, in fact, a lower fill within the feature. Deposit (111), which lay directly over (109), consisted of a number of stone blocks and slabs including one large slab measuring 0.60 by 0.30m. This debris seemed to represent redeposited building material, including fragments of roof and floor tiles, and suggests that there was either some building demolition or remodelling prior to the construction of (106), (103) and (105). Deposit (111) may have been a consolidation or levelling deposit in the top of pit (108). That this was not directly associated with the construction of the later building is demonstrated by a build-up layer (110) beneath (103) and (105), representing a period of inactivity. Pottery from this layer dates to the 16th century, as is most of the pottery associated with demolition deposit (102).

*Trench 2 (**Figure 3**)*

4.3.8 Trench 2 was positioned over the main south-west – north-east wall also seen in Trench 1, at a point where it turned to the north-west.

4.3.9 After de-turfing and removal of the topsoil (201) a layer of wall tumble or demolition debris (202) could be seen, as well as an apparently late cobbled

surface (203). These were removed and the trench was extended to the south and east. This revealed that the wall (204) had been heavily robbed on its south-west and south-east faces. However, a number of very large stone blocks remained marking its north-west and north-east face, indicating that this was a substantial and well faced wall, around 1.5m wide. It may be that the north-east and north-west faces were originally covered by tumbled material and thus were not so intensely robbed for re-useable stone. Layers (205), (206) and (207) all post-date the construction of the wall, with (205) and (207) also post-dating its robbing and demolition. Layer (207) appears to be a discrete area of wall tumble while (205) seems to represent a period of inactivity and soil development, post-dated by further demolition debris (202). Finds from (205) dated to the 13th or 14th century. Layer (206), while not completely exposed, was banked up against the south-west face of (204) and may well be the fill of the construction cut. This cut was not seen within the confines of the trench but is likely to have been fairly wide, from the size of the wall. Layer (206) contained the articulated lower limb of a calf.

*Trench 3 (**Figures 4 & 5**)*

4.3.10 Trench 3 was originally targeted alongside a fireplace visible on the eastern wall of the supposed east range of the castle. This area had been used in recent times as a stock yard or sheep pen.

4.3.11 The archaeological features were covered by 0.40m of hardcore and demolition debris ((301), (302)). Removal of this revealed a mortar surface (304) on which remains of a flagstone floor could be seen (303). An area of trample or occupation debris (306) was found lying over the flagstones (**Figure 5, Plate 5**). Due to the large quantity of small artefacts and fragments of glass within it this deposit was subjected to 100% sampling for artefact recovery, a procedure which yielded a James I farthing and two bone dice as well as a variety of animal bones from a number of different species. This floor lay to the north of a south-west – north-east aligned stone built wall (314), of which only one course remained (**Figure 4, Plate 3**). This wall butted up to the wall incorporating the fireplace (327). As well as the known standing remains of the fireplace (**Figure 5, Plate 6**) this wall was shown to have continued to the south-east across the existing yard entrance and beyond the limits of the trench. The fireplace itself was seen to be an integral part of the wall rather than a separate or bonded structure.

4.3.12 The flanking wings of fireplace (327) at the lowest course were shown to be of well dressed stone with chamfered corners and there were two carved stone projections at opposite sides of the fireplace. These may well have carried andirons to support the burning logs and to create an under-draught. The flagstones of the hearth (328) did not stretch to the back of the fireplace instead a crescent shaped area of rough rubble was seen, possibly the last traces of a fireback (a lining designed to protect the masonry at the back of a fireplace and to reflect heat into the room). The flagstones were bordered at the front by a stone curb. Excavation of the fireplace and hearth revealed a dark deposit with coal inclusions and a considerable amount of glass within the back hearth itself (305). Samples taken for artefact recovery contained a large quantity of window glass, and a single sherd of pottery dating to the 16th or 17th century.

4.3.13 A brick edging (315) was seen along the northern face of (314). Although the flagstones did not extend this far it is possible that this formed a raised edging to the floor. On the northern face of (314) and the western face of

(327) traces of plaster could be seen (316). This plaster overlapped onto the brick edging (315) and stopped 0.11m above the upper surface of (303). In one area it comprised an area of stone and mortar surfacing; this appears to represent a later, higher floor level within this room.

4.3.14 To the south of wall (314) was (307). This compact deposit had distinctive, regularly spaced, shallow grooves filled with the slightly mixed deposit (331). This suggested that (307) was the bedding deposit for another flagstone floor, one with large rectangular flags and that (331) represented material that had fallen between these. Another possibility is that these were narrow timber beam slots to support a raised wooden floor.

4.3.15 A small sondage cut through (307) showed that both (314) and (327), rather than having a distinct foundation course, overlay (334), a weathered, slightly disturbed, natural sandy clay that lay directly above the natural geology itself (330).

4.3.16 Trench 3 was extended eastwards through the modern gateway into the yard (**Figure 4, Plate 4**). Beyond this it was also extended to the south and slightly to the north in order to clarify the features encountered and their relationships.

4.3.17 The gateway threshold was at the same level as the yard surface, but archaeology was encountered at a significantly shallower depth within this area than in the parts of Trench 3 to the west and east. Once the overlying deposits (301) and (302) had been removed, a large amount of loose stone rubble was visible obscuring the archaeology, as well as a concrete pad with which the gate had been anchored. Amongst the loose stone rubble some horizontally laid slabs were uncovered (323) and (325); these overlay further stone rubble deposits (326) and (323). These flat slabs are likely to represent a later levelling of the gateway.

4.3.18 The corner of a substantial stone built wall (320) was uncovered within the gateway area (**Figure 5, Plate 8**). North-west – south-east aligned with a south-west return, this wall is on a slightly different alignment to (327) which interrupts its course. A possible construction cut was seen to the east of this wall, filled with deposit (313). Pottery from (313) dates to the 13th century. This is a clear indication that (320) belongs to an early medieval phase of the building.

4.3.19 To the west of (320) was a cobbled surface (333) overlain by the occupation layer (332).

4.3.20 Layer (312) occupied most of the eastern part of the trench; this is likely to have been a general occupation layer that accumulated around the buildings, or perhaps a yard surface. Excavation showed this material to overlie a thin layer of disturbed natural (334) which in turn overlay the natural geology itself (330) as well as the possible construction cut fill (313).

4.3.21 Underneath the modern dry-stone wall (329) that formed the southern part of the gateway, a well built south-west – south-east aligned stone wall (319) was revealed. This was butted by a roughly constructed wall (318) which extended north-east, apparently butting and paralleling the course of another well-constructed stone wall (317). Wall (317) extended north-east for some 2.7m before it turned to the south-east (**Figure 5, Plate 7**).

4.3.22 A north-east facing section alongside wall (319) showed the sequence of infilling within the gateway area. A very mixed rubble deposit (324) was overlain by (321), three courses of stonework apparently designed to narrow the width of the gateway. Structure (322) also butted up against the infilling (324); this roughly built, pier-like structure was constructed from reused bricks and also butted against (320).

4.3.23 Wall (317) appeared to have been substantially robbed on its western face. Banked up against it on the western side and overlain by topsoil (308) and demolition debris (309) were layers (310) and (311). Layer (310) overlay (311), which could be the fill of a construction cut not visible within the area exposed.

*Trench 4 (**Figure 6**)*

4.3.24 Trench 4 was positioned on a circular earthwork feature consisting of a bank around a shallow depression. This earthwork form was reflected in the geophysics results (**Figure 2B & 2C**). The trench was positioned on the south-western point of this feature and extended towards the centre.

4.3.25 Removal of the turf and topsoil (401) revealed a homogenous layer of stone rubble (402) that filled the trench (**Figure 6, Plate 9**); a lower rubble layer (403) lay underneath this. Excavation showed that this rubble sloped downwards to the north-east, and suggested that the earthwork was in fact a pond (405) with a surrounding bank (406) which may well have been created from the upcast of the pond's construction (**Figure 6, Plate 10**). The pond itself had partly silted up with deposit (404) before the substantial rubble layers (402) and (403) had been deposited into it marking its disuse and a possible attempt to level the ground. Layer (404) contained some abraded medieval pottery sherds. The lower rubble layer (403) contained an articulated cow skeleton at the north-eastern end of the trench.

4.3.26 To the south-east of the bank was a linear deposit (407). Although it seemed to have a distinctive edge only a very small portion of it was seen within the trench. It was not excavated and could merely represent a change in the natural geology.

*Trench 5 (**Figure 7**)*

4.3.27 Trench 5 was positioned alongside the eastern edge of the existing yard wall, at a point where the western wall of the castle hall was believed to have been located. The trench was later extended to the north and west to trace the wall line. It was not possible to extend it further south due to the instability of the gable end wall of the building immediately to the south-west.

4.3.28 After removal of the yard surfacing (501) and subsequent demolition debris (502) the south-westerly extension of wall (314) was found (505) (**Figure 7, Plate 11**). In common with (314), traces of plaster were found on its northern face. A north-west – south-east wall (506) was also found to lie beneath and alongside the modern yard wall. Similar traces of plaster were found on its eastern face and lining (509), an alcove within it, a later modification of the wall. Wall (506) was cut through by (505) at the point of (508), which is probably the same as (505), the slight difference in width probably the result of seeking to build through the existing wall (506). Overlying part of wall (505) was fragments of a flagstone floor (507) bedded into layers (503) and (504), suggesting a doorway at this point. The plasterwork seemed to respect the level of this floor surface. Just to the north of the wall traces, of

another flagstone floor (510) were seen at a slightly lower depth. This displayed a chamfered edge where it met the wall line of (505). Compact layer (512) may represent the bedding for a floor surface at this level to the south of wall (505); it was similar to (511), the bedding layer for (510). Environmental samples taken from (504) and (511) contained coal, charcoal and, in (504), animal bristles - this is all likely to relate to the domestic activity within the building.

4.3.29 Towards the northern end of Trench 5 the wall line of (506) became more indistinct although it appeared to narrow slightly, but most of the stonework had been robbed away at this point. Abutting the wall on its western face was a possible south-west – north-east wall, buttress or pier base (515). Abutting this and (506) was the traces of another flagstone floor (516).

4.3.30 At the extreme southern end of the trench a rubble deposit (513) was discovered, which was interpreted as the deliberate blocking of a doorway.

4.3.31 Cut into (511) were three shallow scoops filled with an ashy silt (group number 514). The suggestion is that these represent the imprint of a table possibly set up to clean the re-useable stone during the later demolition.

*Trench 6 (**Figure 8**)*

4.3.32 Trench 6 was located on the south-eastern edge of the barmkin (walled enclosure). This was a defensive feature associated with minor fortifed houses and towers in the border region of northern England. Here the barmkin is a substantial earthwork feature creating a raised platform within which the buildings were located. Geophysical survey suggested the presence of a wall along the break of slope (**Figure 2A & 2B**).

4.3.33 Removal of the turf and topsoil (601) confirmed the presence of a north-east – south-west aligned revetment wall (603) (**Figure 8, Plate 13**). Although stone-built, as the rest of the walls encountered, the construction of this wall was subtly different, comprising much smaller facing blocks and a larger rubble core. Banked up against the wall on the northern side were two colluvial deposits (602) and (604); there was also a deposit (605) butting up to the southern face, i.e. downslope (**Figure 8, section**). This suggests a deliberate banking up of material and that the barmkin wall, at least in its lower courses, was within an earthen bank. Pottery from (602) dates to the 13th century.

*Trench 7 (**Figure 9**)*

4.3.34 Trench 7 was located alongside the current outbuilding positioned on the south side of the yard (**Figure 9, Plates 14 & 15**). The masonry of this outbuilding, and a blocked mullioned window within it, suggests that it utilises *in situ* standing remains of the castle. The trench comprised a small intervention alongside the southern wall.

4.3.35 Here the topsoil (701) was very thin and directly overlay a rubble layer (702) which may represent modern surfacing or hardcore. Beneath this were two relatively rubble free deposits ((703), (704)) which contained mortar and charcoal flecks and which represent either earlier levelling deposits or the fill of a construction cut which lies outside the boundary of the trench. The foundation of the wall itself (705) was seen to consist of a projecting course of stone. It appeared to be bedded into a foundation deposit of compact

sandy silt loam (706). Layer (704) contained a sherd of 15th/16th century Cistercian ware.

*The gatehouse (**Figure 10**)*

4.3.36 Limited excavation at the base of the stairwell within the gatehouse revealed flagstone fragments bedded into sand some 0.26m below the level of the threshold from the lower room into the staircase turret (**Figure 10, Plate 19**). Finds from this layer dated to the 19th century.

5 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Finds were recovered from all seven of the trenches excavated, and also from limited excavation inside the gatehouse. Overall quantities of material recovered were small. The assemblage is entirely medieval or post-medieval in date.

5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, metalwork). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.

5.1.3 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the Site in its local and regional context, with particular reference to the origins and development of the medieval castle.

5.2 Pottery

Introduction

5.2.1 A small assemblage of 72 sherds of pottery weighing 10,122g was recovered from the Site. Most of the assemblage is medieval or early post-medieval, with a date range of (possibly) late 12th to 16th/17th century, although there are a few sherds of 18th or 19th century types.

Methods of analysis

5.2.2 The material from each context was sorted into fabric types and recorded by count and weight (in grammes) in an Access database table using a system of fabric group (FG) numbers and letter codes (often brief descriptive ‘names’) which has been used for recording other pottery assemblages in the north-east of England. Form sherds (i.e. rims, bases, handles) were noted and comments made on the vessels present.

5.2.3 Some of the numbers refer to traditions or broad groupings rather than individual fabrics, and thus, in some contexts there may be more than one record with the same number. Where identifiable, vessel ‘families’ (sherds thought to be from the same vessel) will also have individual entries. The types of pottery present with their quantities are summarised in **Table 2**, and by trench in **Table 3**.

5.2.4 A few coarse gritted sherds (FG3) suggest possible activity earlier than the 13th century but sherds of light-firing fabrics (FG4) are most common amongst the medieval pottery present. The fabrics vary from soft, pink and abraded to the hard-fired rod handle which was present in Trench 3 (layer 313). This handle is most likely to be from a jug but, apart from a square jar rim in subsoil (602), no sherds give a clear indication of vessel form. Of some interest is a small fragment from layer (205); this is in a pinkish fabric and has pierced holes. It appears to be from the base of a straight-sided or perhaps oval vessel and was evidently for sprinkling or straining liquid, but it was impossible to identify the exact form.

5.2.5 Sherds of green-glazed, grey fabrics constitute most of the rest of the medieval assemblage. They are divided between the 'early' type (FG6) and the 'later' type (FG7), although when dealing with a small number of scattered fragments this distinction is often not easy to make. There are fragments of a spouted vessel of some sort in FG6 (layer 313).

5.2.6 Most numerous in the assemblage are sherds of local post-medieval coarsewares. The fabric is usually oxidised buff, orange or light red and vessels often have a greenish glaze. Two sherds catalogued as post-medieval reduced greenware (FG9) may in fact belong in this group. This type of pottery appears in the 16th century, for example at Hart (Addis 1976, 103), and in Hartlepool (Wrathmell 1987, 39), but similar pottery was being used in Durham in the later 17th/early 18th century (Ellison 1993, 96). There is a flatware rim from Trench 3 and a jar rim from Trench 2, but the largest group of sherds is from a jar or large jug with strap handle, from Trench 1. The fabric of this vessel is rather harder and coarser than usual, but the internal glaze and general appearance of the vessel suggest an early post-medieval date.

5.2.7 Other post-medieval types are present in small quantities. The decorated Cistercian ware from Trench 1 (rubble layer 102) is perhaps the most significant as it is a clear indication of 16th century date. This type did not appear earlier nor continued into the 17th century. German stoneware and Low Countries redware (both present as single sherds in Trench 3) are less easy to date precisely as both types continued into the 17th century.

Conclusions

5.2.8 The small size and limited nature of this assemblage give little scope for discussion or interpretation, its main value being in the dating evidence it provides for activity on the Site. This appears to indicate that there were two periods of site use – in the 13th century and, possibly, into the early 14th century, and then again in the early post-medieval period – and that these were not continuous. However, the small size of the assemblage and the limited extent of the areas excavated should be taken into account when drawing conclusions from the pottery alone.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and Mortar

5.3.1 The CBM consist entirely of fragments of brick, all very crudely handmade and unfrogged in coarse, irregular and poorly wedged fabrics. Two pieces from rubble layer (102) are burnt, one to surface vitrification. Two fragments from layer (311) join to form a complete brick, with the dimensions 240 x 110 x 60mm (9.5 x 4.25 x 2.25 inches), which would be within the size range of a 'Tudor' brick (late 15th/16th century).

5.3.2 A small quantity of mortar was also recovered, many fragments bearing impressions from structural features. Mortar came from rubble layers (102) and (202), wall (508), layer (704) and flagstone bedding layer (104).

5.4 Stone

5.4.1 All 20 pieces of stone recorded consist of building material. Two pieces, both architectural fragments, were recorded on site but were not removed (retained by the landowner). Both of these came from demolition debris (309), and both are in sandstone. The first is a sill or lintel from a glazed window, with plain chamfers on each side, a glazing rebate (for diamond-set glazing) and stanchion/socket hole; this piece is dated as Tudor. The second piece is chamfered on two sides but is of uncertain function.

5.4.2 With the exception of one fragment from a slate floor tile, all the remaining stone comprises fragments of roof tile. Two fragments from pit (108) join to form a complete tile, a large, thick slab, 0.6m in length, 0.25m across at the base, tapering to 0.17m at the top, with a large central peg/nail hole at the top. Other fragments vary in dimensions. Seven smaller fragments from demolition debris layer (502) appear to have been roughly trimmed to crude disc shapes, although to what purpose is uncertain. All the roof tiles are in sandstone.

5.5 Glass

5.5.1 This includes both vessel and window glass. The vessel glass includes fragments of green wine bottle (one onion bottle base, dated *c*.1680-1730, from Trench 1 topsoil; modern bottle from the gatehouse) and fine tablewares. The latter consist only of small fragments (rubble layer (102), cut (108), trample/occupation layer (306)) and cannot be ascribed to specific vessel forms (e.g. drinking vessels or jars); the three fragments from (306) are probably from a single vessel and show part of moulded rib. The likely date range for the tablewares is 16th/17th century.

5.5.2 Much of the window glass is in relatively poor condition, with heavy oxidation – many pieces appear virtually opaque, a condition typical of late medieval and early post-medieval window glass. Both grozed and flame-rounded edges are visible, although only a few fragments from layer (305) within hearth (328) could be identified as from diamond-shaped quarries. The window glass from the gatehouse is from modern frosted glass with floral designs.

5.6 Coins

5.6.1 Two coins and a probable token were recovered. All were found within Trench 3. The earliest, recovered from the topsoil (layer 301), is a heavily worn and damaged hammered silver penny. Although virtually illegible, it is possible to identify the reverse as a type in use between 1485 and 1603, although it is not possible to identify the monarch under whose authority the coin was struck.

5.6.2 The remaining two objects were both recovered from (306), a mixed deposit overlying (303) (possibly derived from occupation of the building). One of these is heavily corroded, but the form of the flan suggests that this may have been a post-medieval trader's token. These were produced in

significant numbers during the 17th century. The second is a farthing of James I, struck between 1613 and 1625. The latter suggests that this layer formed during first half of the 17th century.

5.7 Metalwork

5.7.1 Apart from coins, other metalwork comprises objects of copper alloy, iron and lead. The copper alloy includes 13 small dressmaker's pins (trample/occupation layer 306), a stud, a button, a possible bead, a ring, a disc, and three modern cartridge cases dating from the Second World War (topsoil contexts). None of these objects can be typologically dated earlier than the post-medieval period.

5.7.2 The iron consists largely of nails and other structural items (e.g. staples, figure-of-eight chain link); other identifiable objects include two boot heels (Trench 1 topsoil; rubble layer 102).

5.7.3 Most of the lead objects are waste or offcuts, but there is one shot, and one small pyramidal weight.

5.8 Animal Bone

Introduction

5.8.1 A total of 360 bones of mammals, birds, amphibians and fish was hand-recovered from the Site. Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion, so bone counts do not tally with the fragment counts given in **Table 1**. No fragments were recorded as 'medium mammal' or 'large mammal'; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category.

5.8.2 All bone fragments are in fair or good condition, but highly fragmented. A total of 44% of bones could be identified to species. At 3%, the number of loose teeth is low and thus re-working likely to be minimal. One context (206) clearly consisted of a primary deposit as it contained the articulating lower right hind leg of a calf. Gnawing marks mainly made by dogs were seen on 5% and thus canid scavenging could have led to biases. Only one bone showed signs of contact with fire and so the burning of bone waste or their use as fuel can largely be excluded.

Animal husbandry

5.8.3 The material includes horse (n=2), cattle (39%), sheep/goat (35%), pig (4%), deer (n=1; antler), bird (15%), amphibian (n=1), fish (n=3; all undiagnostic) and two rabbit bones. The bird species present are domestic fowl, mallard/duck, teal, small passerine and woodcock. It is likely that the diet of beef and mutton was supplemented by small proportions of pork, poultry and wild birds. Domestic fowl would also have supplied the people with eggs, feathers and manure. This relative richness of species is commonly encountered on medieval sites.

5.8.4 In total, 15 bones could be aged to provide insight in the population structure of the animals. The presence of foetal cattle bones in layers from the Gatehouse indicates local breeding. A total of eight bones could be measured to provide insight into the phenotype of the Scargill animals during the medieval period. Context 205 contained a complete cattle metacarpus with a GL of 185 mm resulting in a height at the withers of 114 cm (von den

Driesch and Boessneck 1974). Another cattle metacarpus from context 213 with a GL of 162 mm results in a height at the withers of 100 cm. Both values are typical of the small medieval cattle.

Consumption and deposition

5.8.5 The presence of elements of all parts of the animal body makes it likely that the animals were butchered locally. Butchery marks were seen on only two bones and were made with knives and cleavers. Apart from the lower calf hind leg in context 206, no further bone groups were found.

Worked bone

5.8.6 The assemblage contained three pieces of worked bone. Trample/occupation layer (306) yielded two bone dice. The values are marked with ring-and-dot motifs. The values are arranged in such a way that opposite faces always total seven, the convention most frequently found on post-Roman dice (MacGregor 1985, 131). Both dice are rather small with sides around 8mm and probably formed a pair. Dice of this form are relatively common post-Roman finds, especially on higher status sites such as manor houses and castles.

5.8.7 Context (502) contained what seems to be the shaft of a tarsometatarsus of domestic fowl. One side of the shaft has been tapered and just below a small hole was made on one side, perhaps to function as a small whistle.

5.9 Other Finds

5.9.1 Other finds comprise small quantities of clay pipe (all plain stems), mortar, ironworking slag (less than 50g) and marine shell (cockle and oyster).

5.10 Potential and Recommendations

5.10.1 This is a small finds assemblage with limited potential for any further exploration of site chronology or function. The finds have already been fully recorded to archive level, and no further analytical work is proposed. Any proposed publication could make use of the data already recorded.

6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

6.1 Introduction and methods

6.1.1 Three bulk samples were processed for their charred plant remains, one from the fireplace in Trench 3, and two from floors or surfaces within Trench 5.

6.1.2 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot was retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope. Any seeds or chaff were identified and quantified but not extracted. Charcoal was examined in transverse section, sufficient for the identification of *Quercus* sp. (oak). Identifications are based on morphological criteria while nomenclature follows Stace (1997). Results are summarised in **Table 4**.

6.2 Results

6.2.1 The sample from the hearth (deposit 305) produced a large flot consisting of coal and highly vitrified charcoal as well as fragmented rubble. It is assumed that the deposit represents fuel from the hearth. Coal and charcoal were also present in deposits (504) and (511) in Trench 5. Deposit (511) consisted almost entirely of coal and charcoal. Deposit (504) produced a much smaller flot with large roots and occasional waterlogged or recent seeds of *Rumex* sp. (docks and) *Carex* sp. (sedges). This deposit also contained a number of charred grains of hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oats (*Avena* sp.). Occasional grains had clearly germinated. No wheat was present (*Triticum* sp.). Weed seeds were very rare consisting of a single seed of *Chenopodium album* (fat hen). The charcoal in this deposit was less severely distorted by heating and was identifiable as oak (*Quercus* sp.). In addition a small mass of black, vitrified material containing short lengths of animal bristle was present.

6.3 Discussion

6.3.1 The coal and charcoal deposits are clearly the product of fuel presumably burnt or partially burnt in the large hearths. Layer (504) is thought to be associated with an episode of levelling within the building. It is possible that the charred grain derived from domestic or kitchen fires. While the presence of oats and barley is entirely appropriate for the medieval period (Greig 1991), the absence of wheat is of some interest. While oats and barley were important food crops for much of northern and upland Britain in the medieval period (Wilson 1984, 220; Dyer 1983, 202), at a manor house such as Scargill it is more likely that the absence of wheat as charred grain is because it tended to enter the site instead as flour. Oats and barley were spring sown crops which were either cultivated separately or together as a 'dredge' (Greig 1988). Both cereals were used for food as coarse ground or whole grain, drink (as ale) or for animal fodder. The fact that several of the grains of both species had germinated raises the possibility that they were malted on site. Generally the small number of grains present prohibits meaningful interpretation beyond suggesting that they were brought into the site in a fully processed state being cleaned of chaff and weeds.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This evaluation, although limited in its extent, clarified much of the plan of the fortified house, both confirming what was already known and also revealing additional features. In broad terms the complex appears to have had two major phases of occupation and modification, the first in the 12th to 14th centuries and the second in the 16th to 17th centuries (**Figure 11**). No traces were found for any earlier occupation or structures.

7.2 Phase 1: 12th-14th century

7.2.1 An exact date for the construction of the first manor house is unknown, although it appears that the land became a manor in its own right sometime in the late 12th century. This supposition is supported by 13th century pottery within deposits associated with the robbing and demolition of the massive

wall (204) in Trench 2. Feature (108) within Trench 1, although not fully excavated, also produced 12th-13th century pottery from its lower fill. Broadly speaking, the medieval phases of construction appear to be much more substantial, the thickness of the walls being in the region of 1.4m. This suggests a more defensive function than the thinner 16th century walls with their external windows. Walls (317), (319), (320) and (506) are examples of the thicker walls. Pottery from deposit (313), the possible construction cut fill, confirms a 13th century or earlier date of construction for wall (320). The construction of (327) would seem to render (319) redundant. Wall (506) also seems to belong to the earlier phase of building, which was subsequently disrupted by wall (505). The width and position of wall (506) correspond to the upstanding north-east wall of the adjacent building.

7.2.2 The barmkin (walled enclosure) is likely to date from the earlier phase of construction. The barmkin was normally a clearly defensive feature (e.g. Scott 1834, 68-69). Indeed, the prevalence of fortified manors and pele towers (small-scale tower keeps within enclosures or courtyards) in the northern counties in the 14th century is directly attributable to the unrest in these areas and the sporadic raids and incursions by the Scots (Allen Brown 1976, 129-31). Both forms have in common a tower structure and an enclosing wall; further elaborations such as a gatehouse or other residential blocks would depend on the wealth and status of the owner (Allen Brown 1976, 129-31). Although the comparative tranquillity of the 13th century allowed the upsurge in the construction of halls, these were likely to have been defensively enclosed from the start (Dixon 1992, 96). At Scargill the curtain wall seen in Trench 2 and along the edge of Trenches 1 and 7 appears to have been the main defensive feature. The barmkin does not appear to have had any great height originally, and seems to have enclosed an area slightly to the south-east rather than encircling the residential areas. The topography of the area seems to argue against the focus of the manor having shifted northwards at a later date, suggesting that in fact the barmkin was a secondary defensive feature, perhaps more concerned with defending livestock. The animal bone assessment supports the idea of livestock management on the Site in the medieval period.

7.2.3 The pond encountered in Trench 4 is likely to relate to the medieval period of occupation, but was not definitively dated.

7.2.4 This early period of occupation is likely to relate to the residence of the Scargill family, who were first mentioned in 1171. If the report of the visit of Edward II is to be believed then the family must have been resident here in 1323. The fortunes of the family appear to have been in the ascendant with Warin de Scargill (grandson of the original Warin de Scargill) being appointed Commissioner of Array in the wapentakes of Osgoldcross and Staincross sometime in the 1320s (Page 1914, 39-42). These are located in the West Riding of Yorkshire and it may be around this time that the family moved their main residence. We know that by Warin's marriage to Clara de Stapleton that the Scargill family now held land in the West Riding, specifically the manor of Saddleworth (Page 1914, 39-42), now located in Oldham on the outskirts of Manchester.

7.3 Phase 2: 16th-17th century

7.3.1 The gatehouse itself appears from its architectural elements to date from the 15th or 16th century (**Figure 10, Plates 17 & 18**). It also stands slightly

further east than the line of the main defensive medieval wall (204) seen in Trench 2. This wall appears to have been largely demolished or removed sometime in the 14th century. The access to the manor from the ford and up the hollow-way (**Figure 10, Plate 16**) is unlikely to have altered but it may be that if there was an earlier, medieval gatehouse, it stood further west on the line of the curtain wall.

7.3.2 In Trench 1 directly abutting the medieval curtain wall was a fairly slight structure stratigraphically above deposits containing 15th or 16th material. This rudimentary structure, a probable out-building, also clearly marks a point in time where the defensive wall was no longer needed to enclose all aspects of the manor complex. Another building appears to have been inserted into the curtain wall immediately to the south-west of Trench 7. The heavy string course can be seen to be disrupted just before the two-light mullioned window (**Figure 9, Plate 14**). Stone mullioned windows of this type tend to date to the 16th-17th century (Hall 2005, 72-4). A similar fragment was found in the demolition debris from Trench 3. From the north-east a blocked doorway can be seen and the north-east wall is seen to butt up against the heavy medieval wall (506), the line of which suggests a gable end (**Figure 9, Plate 15**). This building has obviously been later modified to function as a farm building.

7.3.3 The most obvious aspect of the later 16th-17th century remodelling is the large fireplace (327) in Trench 3. Although little remains, this is consistent with a 16th or 17th century date (Hall 2005, 173-6). Cutting across the earlier medieval wall (320) this fireplace, along with walls (314)/(505), must have belonged to one of the main rooms of the residence. The replacement of first floor halls with those on the ground floor was a 13th-15th century phenomenon that corresponded with more secure conditions and the need for less defensive structures (Wood 1994, 16). The suggestion from the position of the plaster surface (316) is that there were at least two phases of flooring within this room. The artefacts found within deposit (306), directly above the possible earlier floor, show the room to have been in use in the first part of the 17th century. This pattern of plasterwork at a slightly higher depth to the flagstones was also seen in Trench 5.

7.3.4 In 1531 with the death of Sir Robert Scargill, the Castle passed by the marriage of Mary Scargill to the Tunstall family of Thurland Castle in Lancashire (Page 1914, 39-42). With the death of her husband in 1566 it seems likely that this prompted the move to reinhabit the estate, perhaps as a dower house for Mary. In the early 18th century Thurland Castle was sold and Wycliffe became the residence of the family (Page 1914, 138-142). The Tunstall family had also acquired the nearby manor of Barningham in 1565 but they sold this in the late 17th or early 18th century (Page 1914, 39-42), suggesting a withdrawal from the area. With the two manors of Barningham and Scargill so close together it is possible that Scargill was not a permanent residence. By the mid 18th century the castle appears to have been allowed to fall into decay if not to have been intentionally dismantled.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1.1 The evaluation has enabled a clearer understanding of the nature and development of the buildings within the scheduled area at Castle Farm, and

the results warrant further dissemination, although further detailed analysis is not considered to be necessary.

8.1.2 An article summarising the results of the excavation will be prepared, incorporating finds and environmental evidence, for submission to the *Durham Archaeological Journal*. The article length is estimated at between 4000 and 5000 words, with 3-4 supporting figures. Finds and environmental information will be incorporated into the text, although some information (particularly for the pottery) may be tabulated for publication.

9 ARCHIVE

9.1.1 The project archive, including plans, photographs and written records, finds and ecofacts, and digital data, is currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 68732 and site code SCF08. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham.

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Table 1: all finds by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Material	Tr 1	Tr 2	Tr 3	Tr 4	Tr 5	Tr 6	Tr 7	Gatehouse	Total
Pottery	22/515	8/212	17/195	3/13	8/63	10/63	2/2	2/48	72/1111
Medieval (no. sherds)	*4*	*3*	*13*	*2*	*3*	*10*	-	-	*35*
Post-Medieval (no. sherds)	*18*	*5*	*4*	*1*	*5*	-	-	-	*37*
Ceramic Building Material	3/784	1/180	4/2497	2/234	8/907	-	-	-	18/4602
Mortar	4/118	2/45	6/45	1/1	5/1608	-	1/28	7/34	26/1879
Clay Pipe	2/4	-	6/17	-	-	-	-	1/1	9/22
Stone	7/19196	1/140	3/38,400	-	9/3470	-	-	-	20/61,206
Glass	17/89	1/5	70/81	2/1	5/12	-	-	27/123	122/311
Slag	-	-	34/16	2/2	43/29	-	-	-	79/47
Metalwork	22	18	25	2	15	-	-	3	85
Coins	-	-	*3*	-	-	-	-	-	*3*
Copper alloy	*1*	*2*	*16*	-	*2*	-	-	*1*	*22*
Iron	*15*	*10*	*3*	*1*	*12*	-	-	*2*	*43*
Lead	*6*	*6*	*3*	*1*	*1*	-	-	-	*17*
Worked Bone	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
Animal Bone	39/694	48/800	338/568	32/310	27/81	-	-	3/2	487/2455
Shell	3/13	-	13/28	-	-	-	-	-	16/41

Table 2: Quantification of pottery types

FG		No. sherds	Weight (g)
3	Gritty wares of later 12th – mid 13th century date	4	64
4	Buff/light firing variably quartz gritted fabrics broadly of 13th to early 14th century date. These are a common tradition across north-east England	14	132
5	Oxidised (orange and red) medieval fabrics.	1	1
6	Early green glazed wares (egw) – fabrics generally coarser than those in FG7 with 'splashed' or uneven glaze. Broadly 13th century	8	53
6.1	Iron rich unglazed fabrics – in this case dark grey with oxidized margins/surfaces. 13th century	2	15
7	Reduced green glazed wares (rg) with good glaze cover – 13th to 15th century	6	80
9	Post-medieval reduced green glazed ware	2	16
17	Frechen stoneware. 16th to 17th century	1	14
20	Red earthenware – possibly Low Countries	3	23
24	Cistercian ware – late 15th to 16th century	3	15
26	Possible early post medieval whiteware	1	15
30	Local post medieval earthenware (lpm) 16th/17th century, possibly later	22	498
31	White salt glazed stoneware. 18th century	1	3
32	Later glazed red earthenware (lgre). Produced at many sites in the region from 18th to early 20th century	2	67
33	Refined whiteware of later 18th to 19th century date	2	115

Table 3: Pottery types by trench (number of sherds)

	Fabric Groups															
Trench	3	4	5	6	6.1	7	9	10	17	20	24	26	30	31	32	33
1	2					2	2			2	2	1	10		1	
2		1				2							4			1
3	1	3		7	2				1	1			2			
4		1		1										1		
5		1				2							5			
6	1	8	1													
7											1		1			
G'house															1	1

Table 4: Charred plant remains

	Sample	1	3	4
	Context	305	511	504
	Feature	328		-
	Feature type	Hearth	Layer	Layer
	Trench	3	5	5
	Sample vol (l)	15	10	18
	Flot vol (ml)	900	700	100
	Vol charcoal 4/2mm (ml)	30/10	20/10	10/5
	Vol coal 4/2mm (ml)	250/240	180/140	10/10
Cereal grain				
Hordeum vulgare L.	Barley	-	-	17
Avena sp.	Oats	-	-	9
Cerealia indet	Indeterminate grain	-	-	1
Weeds				
Chenopdium album L.	Fat hen	-	-	1
Waterlogged? Seeds				
Rumex sp.	Docks	-	-	1
Carduus/*Cirsium* sp.	Thistle	-	-	1

Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1			Type: Hand Excavated	
Dimensions: 5.08x2.95m		**Max. depth:** 0.80m	**Ground level:** 229.38-229.68m aOD	
context	**description**			**depth**
101	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. Bioturbated. Friable. Directly under turf. Overlies (102).		0.00-0.06m bgl
102	*Layer*	Wall tumble and demolition rubble. Mid brown silty clay loam. 25% stone, sub-angular, <1-19cm. 5% degraded mortar. Randomly sorted. Medium to loose compaction. Similar to (202). Overlies (115), (107) and (106).		0.06-0.26m bgl
103	*Structure*	Stone built wall. North-west – south-east aligned. Parallel to (105). 0.68m wide. Two courses remaining. Composed of large sub-rectangular, roughly shaped stone blocks, random coursed. Light grey-brown lime mortar, white flecks. Irregular jointing. Overlies (110).		0.35m high
104	*Layer*	Moderately compact surface/levelling. Forms bedding for flagstones (115). Mid yellow-brown silty clay loam. 10% stone, sub-angular. Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Includes demolition debris, including stone tile fragments. Banked up against (105) and (103).		0.20m deep
105	*Structure*	Stone wall. North-west – south-east aligned, parallel to (103). 0.52m wide. One or two courses remaining; robbed on western face. Composed of large sub-rectangular, roughly shaped stone blocks, random coursed. Light grey brown lime mortar with white flecks. Irregular jointing. Overlies (110).		0.18m deep
106	*Structure*	Stone wall. North-east – south-west aligned, at right angles to (103) and (105). 0.52m wide. One-two courses remaining. Composed of large sub-rectangular, roughly shaped stone blocks, random coursed. Light grey brown lime mortar with white flecks. Irregular jointing. Overlies/bonded to (105). Facing bonded to more substantial wall.		0.34m
107	*Layer*	Moderately compact surface/levelling. Mid brown silty clay loam, 5% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Includes demolition debris. Banked up against (105). Similar to (104).		0.18m
108	***Cut***	**Full extent not seen in plan. Possible sub-circular pit or curving ditch, moderate concave sides. Not fully excavated. Filled with (109). Pre-dates building formed by (103), (105) and (106). Same as (113).**		**0.19m+**
109	*Deposit*	Secondary fill of feature **(108)**. Mid to dark brown silty clay loam. 2% stone, sub-angular, <1-7cm. Randomly sorted. Moderately compact. Not fully excavated. Same as (114).		0.19m+
110	*Layer*	Mixed deposit. Dark brown silty clay. 5% stone, sub-angular, <1-9cm. Occasional mortar and charcoal flecks. Medium to solid compaction. Occasional diffuse orange-brown clay mottling. Overlies (111).		0.16m
111	*Layer*	Angular stone blocks and slabs found either side of wall (103) but pre-dating this wall. Possible consolidation/sealing layer for feature **(108)/(113)**. Overlies (109)/(114). Not fully excavated.		0.08m+
112	*Layer*	Same as (110). West of wall (103).		-
113	***Cut***	**Same as 108. West of wall (103).**		**-**
114	*Deposit*	Believed to be equivalent to (109) however may be a lower fill within the feature. West of wall (103).		-
115	*Structure*	Stone floor. Composed of two horizontally laid flagstones butting walls (103) and (106). Bedded into (104)		0.04m
116	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange clay. Compact. Occasional mid orange-brown mottles.		0.62m+

TRENCH 2			**Type:** Hand Excavated
Dimensions: 4.02x2.94m	**Max. depth:** 0.40m		**Ground level:** 228.72m aOD
context	**description**		**depth**
201	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. Bioturbated. Friable. Directly under turf. Overlies (202) and (203).	0.00-0.05m bgl
202	*Layer*	Collapsed wall rubble. Mid brown silt loam. 25% stone, sub-angular. Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Randomly sorted and fairly loose. Similar to (102). Overlies (205).	0.05-0.25m bgl
203	*Layer*	Possible cobbling. Dark brown silty clay loam. 30% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Original wall collapse/tumble made into rough surface. Moderately compact. Overlies (206) and (207).	0.10m+
204	*Structure*	Stone wall. Severely robbed on southern and western faces. North-east – south-west aligned with south-east – north-west return. Only one course visible; not fully exposed; 1.6m wide. Irregular joints, bonding unknown. Large facing blocks; stone rubble core.	0.30m+ high
205	*Layer*	Mid brown silt loam. 5% stone, sub-angular – angular. Frequent charcoal flecks. Slightly mixed with occasional patches of redeposited natural. Fairly compact. Some bioturbation. Overlies (207) and (206). Not fully excavated.	0.22m+
206	*Layer*	Probable fill of construction cut for wall (204) though the cut was not visible within the confines of the trench. Mid brown silty clay with light orange-brown mottles. 2% stone, sub-angular – angular, randomly sorted. Not fully excavated.	0.17m+
207	*Layer*	Discrete area of tumble from wall (204). 40% unworked stone blocks and pieces of stone roof tile. Not excavated.	-

TRENCH 3			**Type:** Machine Excavated
Dimensions: 12.80x8.70m	**Max. depth:** 0.52m		**Ground level:** 229.50-229.63m aOD
context	**Description**		**depth**
301	*Layer*	Modern yard surface. Cobbles, soil and rubble. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. Very mixed. 60% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-20cm. Fairly compact. Overlies (302). Same as (501).	0.00-0.32m bgl
302	*Layer*	Demolition debris. Mid yellow silt loam. Contains large amounts of mortar and plaster. Compact.	0.30-0.44m bgl
303	*Structure*	Flagstone floor. Horizontally laid rectangular stone slabs. Slightly irregular sizes. Length 0.08-0.30m, width 0.05-0.21m. Laid onto (304). Robbed from northern area of trench. Left *in situ*.	0.04m deep
304	*Layer*	Mortar bedding for (303). Pale pink-white lime mortar. Compact. Flattened areas suggest that flagstones continued to the north. Area of diesel contamination has left a blue-grey stain. Left *in situ*.	-
305	*Layer*	Dark blue-grey silt. Sooty deposit but also contaminated by diesel staining. No coarse components. Common small coal flecks. Common plaster/mortar flecks. Fairly friable. Lies within the hearth (328), stones beneath heat affected.	0.06m deep
306	*Layer*	Trample/occupation layer over floor (303). Mid grey-green sandy silt loam. 1% stone, sub-rounded; friable. Frequent plaster/mortar flecks.	0.02m deep
307	*Layer*	Mid yellow-grey silty clay, compact. Faint grooves filled with (331) suggests a possible bedding for flagstones. Overlies (330).	0.25m deep
308	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-8cm. Friable and bioturbated. Overlies (309).	0.00-0.35m bgl
309	*Layer*	Demolition debris overlying eastern side of the trench. Mid brown silty clay loam. Mixed deposit. 40% stone rubble, sub-rounded – angular, randomly sorted. 5% mortar flecks. Fairly loose. Overlies (310).	0.52m deep
310	*Layer*	Mid-dark brown sandy silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular. Frequent coal flecks; redeposited natural mottles. Fairly compact. Overlies (311).	0.04m deep

311	*Layer*	Mid yellow sandy clay, no visible inclusions. Moderately compact. Some bioturbation. Butts against wall (317). Possible construction cut deposit. Not excavated.	-
312	*Layer*	Mid yellow-brown sandy clay. 1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Some bioturbation. Fairly friable. Overlies (313).	0.20m deep
313	*Layer*	Dark grey-brown silty sandy loam. 5% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Rare charcoal flecks. Some bioturbation, especially near the top of the deposit. Possible construction cut fill.	0.40m deep
314	*Structure*	Stone wall, south-west – north-east aligned. Angular stone block facing with stone rubble core; only one course remaining. Mid yellow-brown lime mortar with white flecks. 0.96m wide. Northern face is plastered, this plaster (316) continues onto (327). Left *in situ*.	0.18m high
315	*Structure*	Brick edging butting wall (314). Possibly related to floor (303). Single course. Not all bricks complete, full sizes 220x110x70mm. Wall plaster (316) lips over (315). Left *in situ*.	0.10m high
316	*Layer*	Plaster on the western face of (327) and the northern face of (314) relating to later floor level. It extends out from these walls where in places it is seen as pale yellow white lime mortar/plaster with sub-angular stones, 2-20cm laid horizontally within it. Lips over (315) and stops 0.11m above (303). Left *in situ*.	-
317	*Structure*	Stone wall, south-west – north-east aligned with south-east return. Whereas the northern south-west – north-east part of the wall has very good, well squared facing blocks the south-east return is made from much more rounded blocks though they appear to be the same build. Bonding pale yellow sandy mortar with white flecks; fairly irregular jointing. Western face of the return heavily robbed. Only one course exposed. 1.24m wide. Left *in situ*.	0.34m high
318	*Structure*	Poorly built, roughly made stone wall. South-west – north-east aligned. Two courses including a foundation course remaining. Sub-angular stones 0.14-0.30m long, 0.10-0.27m wide and 0.25-0.33m deep. Pale yellow mortar with white flecks. Irregular jointing. 0.90m wide. Butts (317) and (319). Left in situ.	0.45m high
319	*Structure*	Stone wall, south-west – north-east aligned. Squared stone blocks; no visible bonding agent; fairly regular jointing. Some galleting. Regular coursing; four courses including foundation course. 0.48m of width exposed by overlain by modern wall (329). Left *in situ*.	1.10m high
320	*Structure*	Stone wall, north-west – south-east aligned with south-west return. No mortar apparent appears to be bedded in a mid grey-green silty clay. Some sand and charcoal flecks. Fairly irregular jointing. Three courses remaining including a foundation course; unevenly coursed. 0.64m wide. Left *in situ*.	0.76m high
321	*Structure*	Three courses of stone blocks narrowing the gateway. Pale grey mortar with charcoal flecks. Regular coursed. Regular jointing. Overlies (324).	0.53m high
322	*Structure*	Roughly built brick pier. Bricks are reused and abraded with traces of pale white lime mortar from previous use. Size 140x100x60mm. No current bonding. Regular courses. Butts (320).	0.30m high
323	*Structure*	Two horizontally laid stone slabs, the smaller one of which was removed during the investigation. Laid on top of stone infilling (324). Along with (325) may represent later levelling within gateway to yard.	0.10m deep
324	*Structure*	Rubble infilling of gateway; random, uncoursed. Not bonded. Subangular – sub-rounded rubble. 0.07-0.66m long, 0.08-0.50m wide and 0.02-0.35m deep.	0.45m deep
325	*Structure*	Three horizontally laid stone slabs, one of which was removed during the investigation. Do not appear to be set into anything, overlies soil derived deposit. Along with (323) may represent a later levelling within the gateway to the yard.	0.10m deep
326	*Layer*	Stone rubble, sub-angular – sub-rounded 10-36cm. Similar to (324). Not excavated.	0.10m+ deep

327	*Structure*	Stone wall, squared, built to courses. Roughly squared stone blocks. Irregular jointing; some galleting. Mainly north-west – south-east aligned with protruding bay to east to incorporate fireplace. Some traces of mortar remaining, widely slobbered, possible render. Pale white lime mortar with fragments of pea gravel aggregate. Two carved stone projections from the fireplace surround at the level of the hearth lie immediately opposite each other, 0.18m from the back of the fireplace. In the back elevation is a small recess (0.33m long, 0.21m high) 0.75m above the hearth.	3.00m+ high
328	*Structure*	Fireplace back hearth. Horizontally laid flagstones with a stone curb edging. Some flags are slightly fragmented. There is an area of heat damage. At back of fireplace is a rough rubble area slightly crescent shaped in plan. Projecting from the wall line is a stone curb edging.	0.12m high
329	*Structure*	Modern dry-stone wall forming the southern part of the eastern boundary of the yard. Squared, built to courses. Probably utilises reused stone from earlier buildings.	2m+ high
330	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid yellow sandy clay. 5% stone, sub-rounded, 2-8cm. Frequent small mid orange and yellow-green mottles. Compact.	-
331	*Layer*	Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. Frequent coal flecks. 2% stone, sub-rounded, 2-4cm. Fairly loose. Overlies (307).	0.02m deep
332	*Layer*	Occupation debris over surface (333). Mid grey silt. Very thin layer. Fine and friable; no coarse components. Frequent charcoal and coal flecks.	0.01m deep
333	*Structure*	Sub-angular stone cobbles, bedded into mid yellow brown lime mortar with white flecks. Cobbling irregular and incomplete. Left *in situ*. Associated with wall (320).	-
334	*Natural*	Slightly modified natural geology. Mid yellow sandy clay. 5% stone, sub-rounded, 2-8cm. Frequent small mid orange and yellow-green mottles. Compact. Overlies (330).	-

TRENCH 4			**Type:** Hand excavated
Dimensions: 4.95x1.00m		**Max. depth:** 1.16m	**Ground level:** 229.14-229.32m aOD

context	**Description**		**depth**
401	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Dark brown sandy silt loam. Friable. Bioturbated. Directly under turf. Overlies (402).	0.00-0.30m bgl
402	*Layer*	Rubble backfill. Dark brown silty loam. 75% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded; very friable, unsorted. Overlies (403).	0.45m deep
403	*Layer*	Rubble backfill. Dark grey silty clay. 60% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Contained articulated cow skeleton (left *in situ*). Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Overlies (404).	0.20m deep
404	*Deposit*	Gradual silting of pond **(405)**. Mid grey-green silty clay loam. <1% stone, sub-rounded. Fairly compact. Rare charcoal and mortar flecks. Overlies **(405)**. Thought to overlie (406)	0.55m+ deep
405	***Cut***	**Cut of pit or pond. Filled with (404). Shape in plan only partially seen. Moderately slopes down from the west to the east. Bank lies on western edge. Not fully excavated. Overlies (408).**	**0.55m+ deep**
406	*Layer*	Bank. Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. <1% stone/gravel, sub-rounded, very rare charcoal flecks. Fairly compact. Reflected by positive earthwork. Thought to overlie cut of pond **(405)** and deposit (407).	0.25m+ deep
407	*Layer*	North-north-east – south-south-west aligned deposit overlain by (406). Mid yellow-orange sandy clay. Compact. 5% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Appears to have a definite edge however only a small portion of the deposit was visible making interpretation difficult. Not excavated. Overlies (408).	-
408	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange clay with lenses of silt and sand. Compact. No visible inclusions.	0.65-1.16m+ bgl

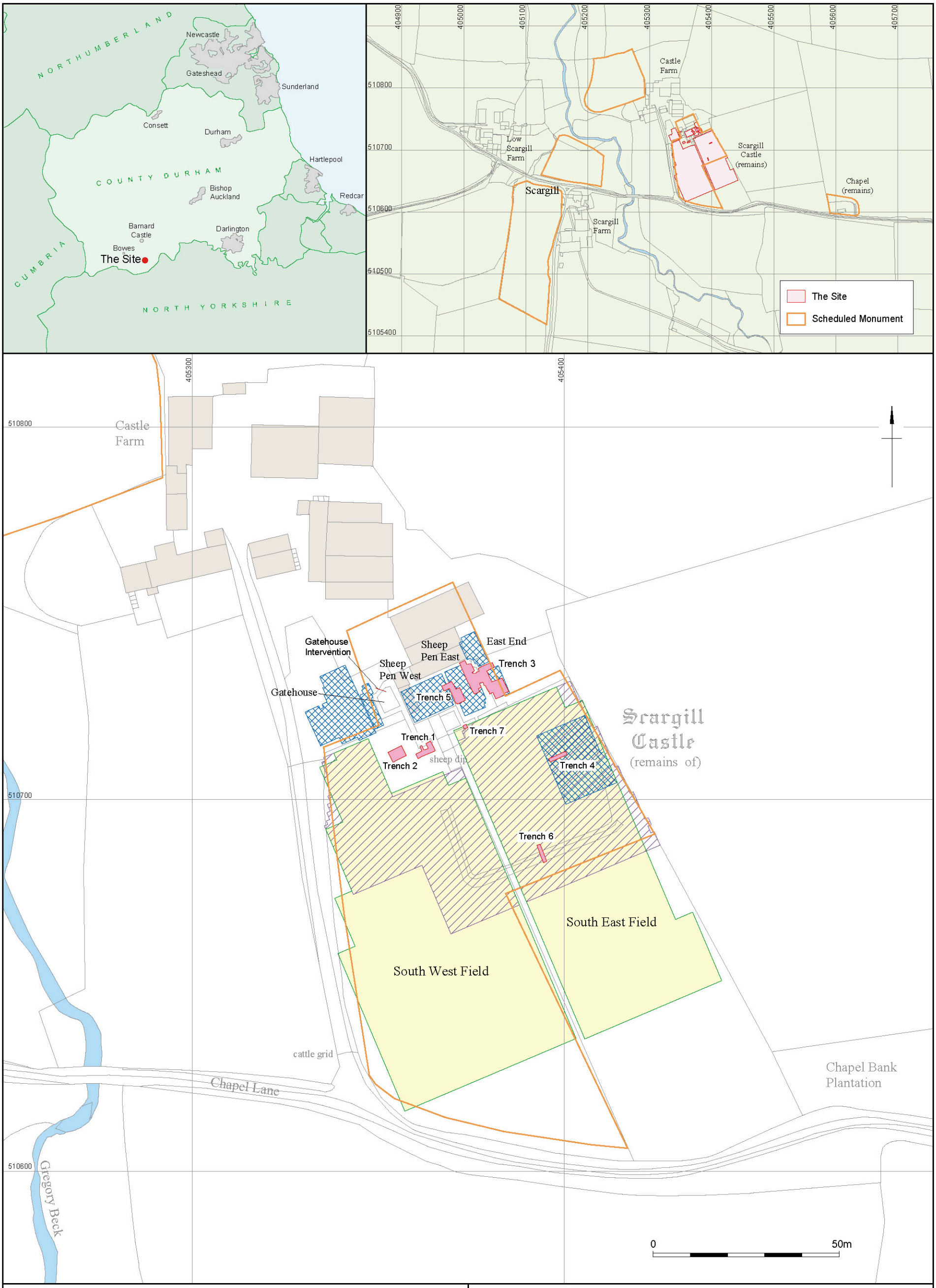
TRENCH 5			**Type:** Hand excavated
Dimensions: 6.17x4.25m		**Max. depth:** 0.60m	**Ground level:** 229.54m aOD
context	**Description**		**depth**
501	*Layer*	Modern yard surface. Cobbles, soil and rubble. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. Very mixed. 60% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Fairly compact. Overlies (502). Same as (301).	0.00-0.33m bgl
502	*Layer*	Demolition debris. Mid yellow silt loam. Contains large amounts of mortar and plaster. Compact. Overlies (509), (511), (514) and (515).	0.33-0.45m bgl
503	*Layer*	Levelling layer for flagstone floor (507). Mid brown sandy clay. Compact. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies (504).	0.13m deep
504	*Layer*	Very similar to (503). Mid grey silt. Compact. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies (505) and (508).	0.06m deep
505	*Structure*	North-east – south-west aligned stone wall. Roughly shaped facing blocks with a stone rubble core. Mid yellow-brown lime mortar with white flecks. Width of wall 0.88m. Two foundation courses surviving. Probably identical to (508). Left *in situ*.	0.22m high
506	*Structure*	North-west – south-east aligned stone wall. Roughly shaped facing blocks, only eastern face seen. Pale pink lime mortar. Three courses remaining. No evidence for a construction cut. Cut by (508) and modified by (509). Some traces plasterwork which seemed to respect the level of (507). Left *in situ*.	0.60m high
507	*Structure*	Flagstone floor. Sub-rectangular stone slabs. Length 0.25-0.50m, width 0.23-0.30m, depth 0.04m. Overlies (503) and (513). Left *in situ*.	0.04m deep
508	*Structure*	Probably identical to (505) but alignment slightly different. Only partly exposed. Cuts (506). Left *in situ*.	0.30m high
509	*Structure*	Plaster lined alcove. Not fully excavated. Modification of wall (506).	0.20m high
510	*Structure*	Flagstone floor. Sub-rectangular stone slabs. Length 0.60-0.78m, width 0.40-0.58m, depth 0.08m. Larger slab has a southern chamfered edge. Overlies (503) and (513). Left *in situ*. Overlies (511).	0.08m deep
511	*Layer*	Mid grey silty clay, gritty, compact. Occasional dark grey-black mottles. Cut by (514).	0.05m deep
512	*Layer*	Dark brown sandy silt. 5% gravel, sub-rounded. Fairly compact. Butts walls (505) and (506). Possible bedding layer for floor surface.	0.18m deep
513	*Layer*	Rubble deposit blocking doorway in (506). Composed of large sub-rounded cobbles and thin packing stones, very little mortar. Left *in situ*.	0.30m deep
514	*Group*	Group of three shallow scoops cut into (511). Only one excavated. Filled with dark grey ashy silt. Diameter 0.15m. Suggestion may be the result of an item of furniture resting on the spot after the removal of much of (510) – possibly a table used to clean the re-useable stone during the demolition.	0.03m deep
515	*Structure*	Not fully seen in plan. South-westward projection from wall (506). Possible buttress or abutting building. Rough stone blocks with a pale pink-yellow lime mortar.	0.18m high
516	*Structure*	Flagstone floor. Sub-rectangular stone slabs. Length 0.46-0.88m, width 0.22-0.80m, depth 0.07m. Left in situ. Set into sandy lime matrix.	0.07m high
517	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid yellow sandy clay. 5% stone, sub-rounded, 2-8cm. Frequent small mid orange and yellow-green mottles. Compact.	-

TRENCH 6			**Type:** Hand excavated
Dimensions: 4.95x1.00m		**Max. depth:** 0.63m	**Ground level:** 228.18-229.04m aOD
context	**Description**		**depth**
601	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Mid brown silty clay. 2% stone, sub-angular - sub-rounded. Friable. Bioturbated. Directly under turf. Overlies (602) and (605).	0.00-0.13m bgl

602	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil and colluvium. Banked up against the northern face of (603). Mid orange-brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Fairly friable. Bioturbated. Overlies (604)	0.13-0.53m bgl
603	*Structure*	Stone built revetment wall for barmkin. North-east – south-west aligned. Random uncoursed. Irregular jointing. No visible bonding agent. Stone facing blocks with a stone rubble core. 0.94m wide. Rubble core 0.05-0.25m.	0.47m+ high
604	*Layer*	Colluvium banked up against the northern face of (603). Dark orange-brown silty clay loam. Very similar to (602). No visible inclusions. Fairly friable. Very diffuse interface with (602). Some bioturbation. Not fully excavated.	0.16m+ deep
605	*Layer*	Dark brown silty clay. 5% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Humic. Some bioturbation. Topsoil derived material banked up against southern face of (603).	0.40m deep

TRENCH 7			**Type:** Hand excavated
Dimensions 0.95x0.93m		**Max. depth:** 0.73m	**Ground level:** 229.28m aOD
context	**Description**		**depth**
701	*Topsoil*	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Friable. Bioturbated. Directly under turf. Overlies (702).	0.00-0.06m bgl
702	*Layer*	Rubble directly beneath topsoil. Demolition debris. Dark brown sandy silt loam. 60% stone, sub-angular, 2-20cm. Rare concrete inclusions. Some bioturbation. Fairly compact. Overlies (703).	0.20m deep
703	*Layer*	Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Frequent mortar inclusions. Friable. Overlies (704).	0.22m deep
704	*Layer*	Dark brown sandy silt loam. Slightly gritty. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded. Occasional charcoal flecks. Friable. Not fully excavated. Banked up against (705).	0.32m+ deep
705	*Structure*	Stone wall, north-east – south-west aligned. Unevenly coursed; no visible bonding. Irregular jointing. Rough stone blocks. Width of wall unknown. Foundation consists of a horizontally laid projecting slab. Overlies (706).	3m+ high
706	*Layer*	Levelling/foundation deposit. Light yellow-brown sandy silt loam. 5% stone, sub-rounded. Compact. Not excavated.	-

THE GATEHOUSE			**Type:** Hand excavated
Dimensions 0.40x0.40mm		**Max. depth:** 0.26mm	**Ground level:** unknown
context	**Description**		**depth**
	Structure	Flagstone fragments, the largest 0.35m long and 0.25m wide. Laid horizontally onto a mid grey-green sand. Very compact. Area 0.40 by 0.40m exposed. Surface is 0.26m down from the threshold step.	-



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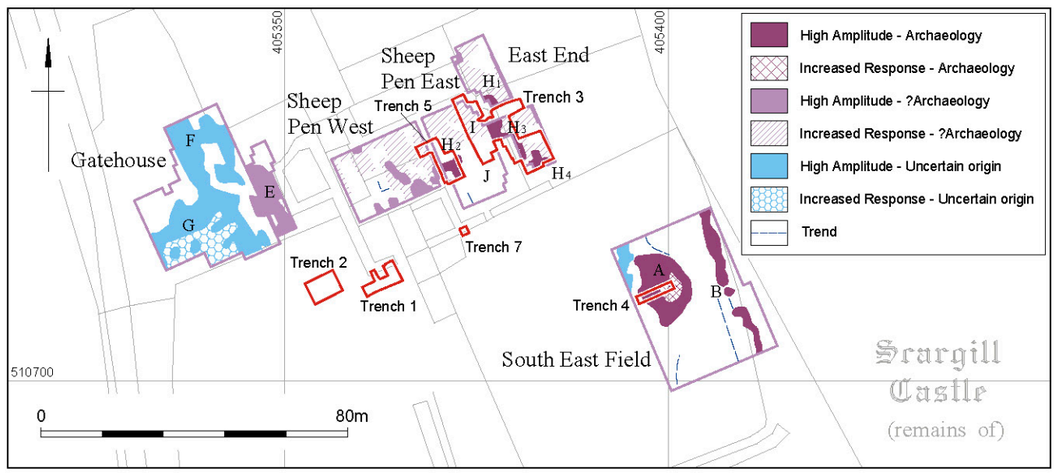
Location of site, trenches and geophysical survey areas

Figure 1

A. Gradiometer survey results

B. Resistance survey results



C. GPR survey results

Evaluation Trench
Area of Gradiometer Survey
Area of GPR Survey
Area of Resistance Survey

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Results of the geophysical survey

Figure 2

405355

405360

405365

510715

510710

Medieval wall

Wall 204

205

Wall 204

203

207

205

206

Trench 2

Wall 106

107

107

109

116

111

108

Wall 105

114

Wall 103

Trench 1

0

2m

Plate 2: Trench 2 (from the north-east)

Plate 1: Trench 1 (from the north-west)

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Evaluation Trench

Stone

Wall

Wall stone

projected wall line

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Plan of Trenches 1 and 2

Figure 3

405375

405380

510735

510730

Fireplace

Wall 327

304

328

312

Wall 320

333

316

322

303

327

323

325

324

Trench 3

326

321

Wall 319

plaster 316

315

sondage 330

Wall 318

312

Wall 317

Wall 314

sondage 330

Wall 327

307

307

307

309

Wall 329

331

331

Wall 505

311

309

Trench 5

0

2.5m

Plate 3: Western part of Trench 3, pre-excavation (from the south-east)

Plate 4: Central part of Trench 3 with gatehouse beyond (from the north-east)

Evaluation Trench

Stone

Heat effected area

Brick

Plaster

Wall

Wall stone

Upstanding building remains

Modern wall

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Plate 5: Pre-excavation view, gateway area, deposits 306 and 305 still *in situ* (from south-west)

Plate 6: Fireplace 327 (from the south-west)

Plate 7: Walls 317, 318 and 319 (from the north-east)

Plate 8: South-east facing section, wall 320, layers 312 and 313

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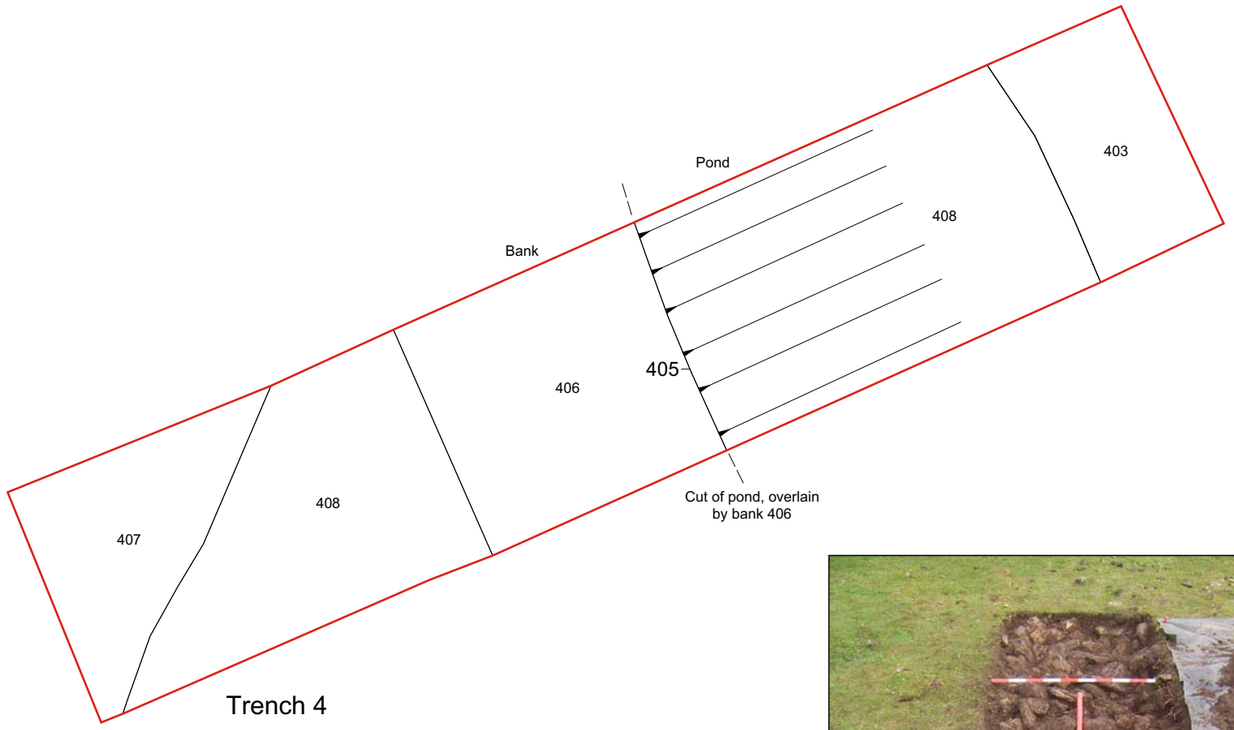
405400



510710

0 1m

Plate 9: Pre-excavation view, Trench 4 (from the south-west)

Plate 10: Post-excavation view, Trench 4 (from the north-west)

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Evaluation Trench

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Trench 4

Figure 6

405370

510730

510725

Trench 3

Trench 5

Wall 506

516

515

511

514

509

514

502

514

510

Wall 505

506

Wall 508

507

507

512

Wall 506

513

Wall 316

0

2m

Plate 11: Wall 505 (from the north-east)

Plate 12: Trench 5, view from the north-west
(image courtesy of Videotext Communications)

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Evaluation Trench
Stone
Concrete
Plaster
Wall
Wall stone
Upstanding building remains
Modern wall

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Trench 5

Figure 7

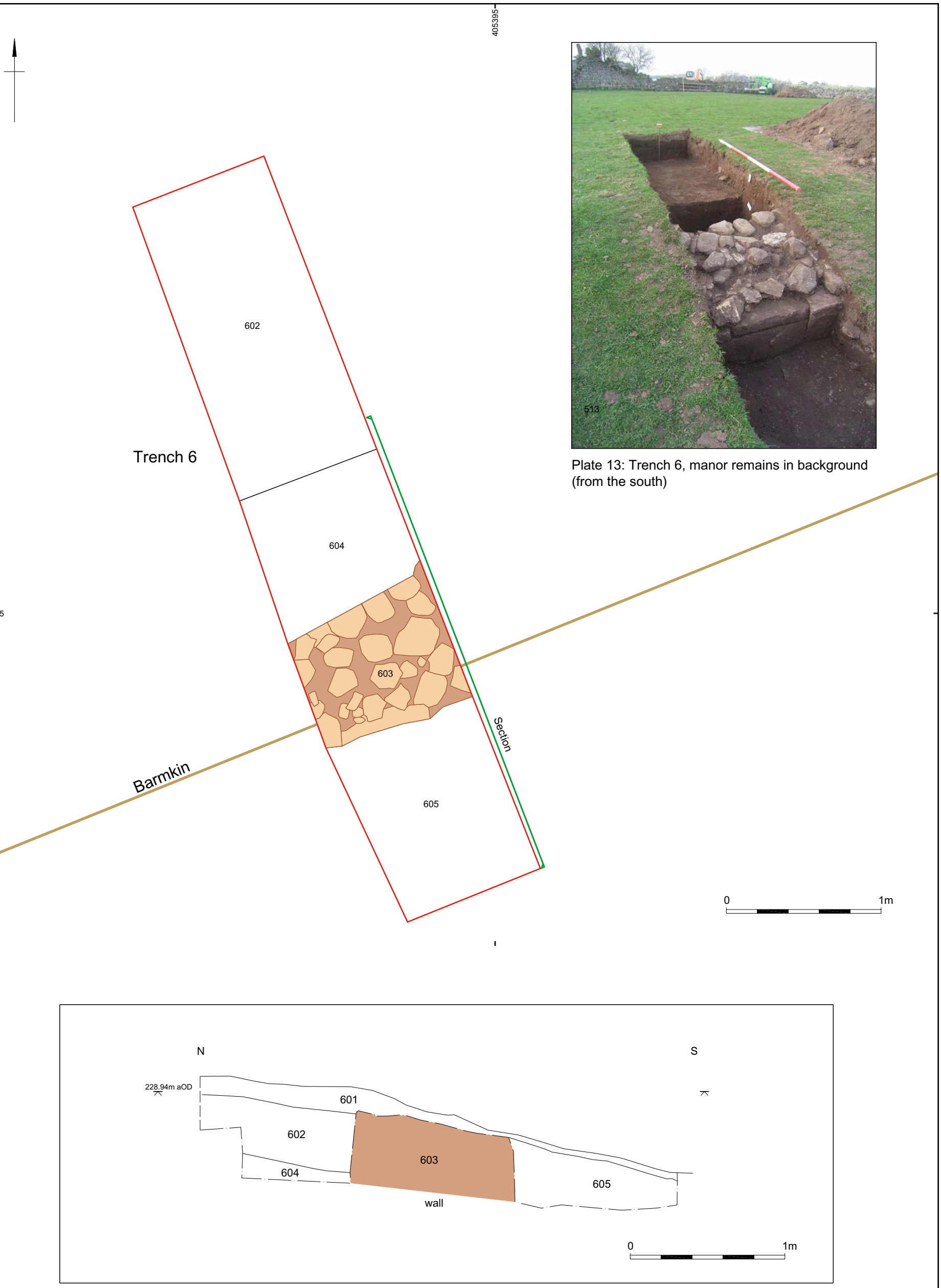

Plate 13: Trench 6, manor remains in background (from the south)

West-facing section

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Trench 6

Figure 8

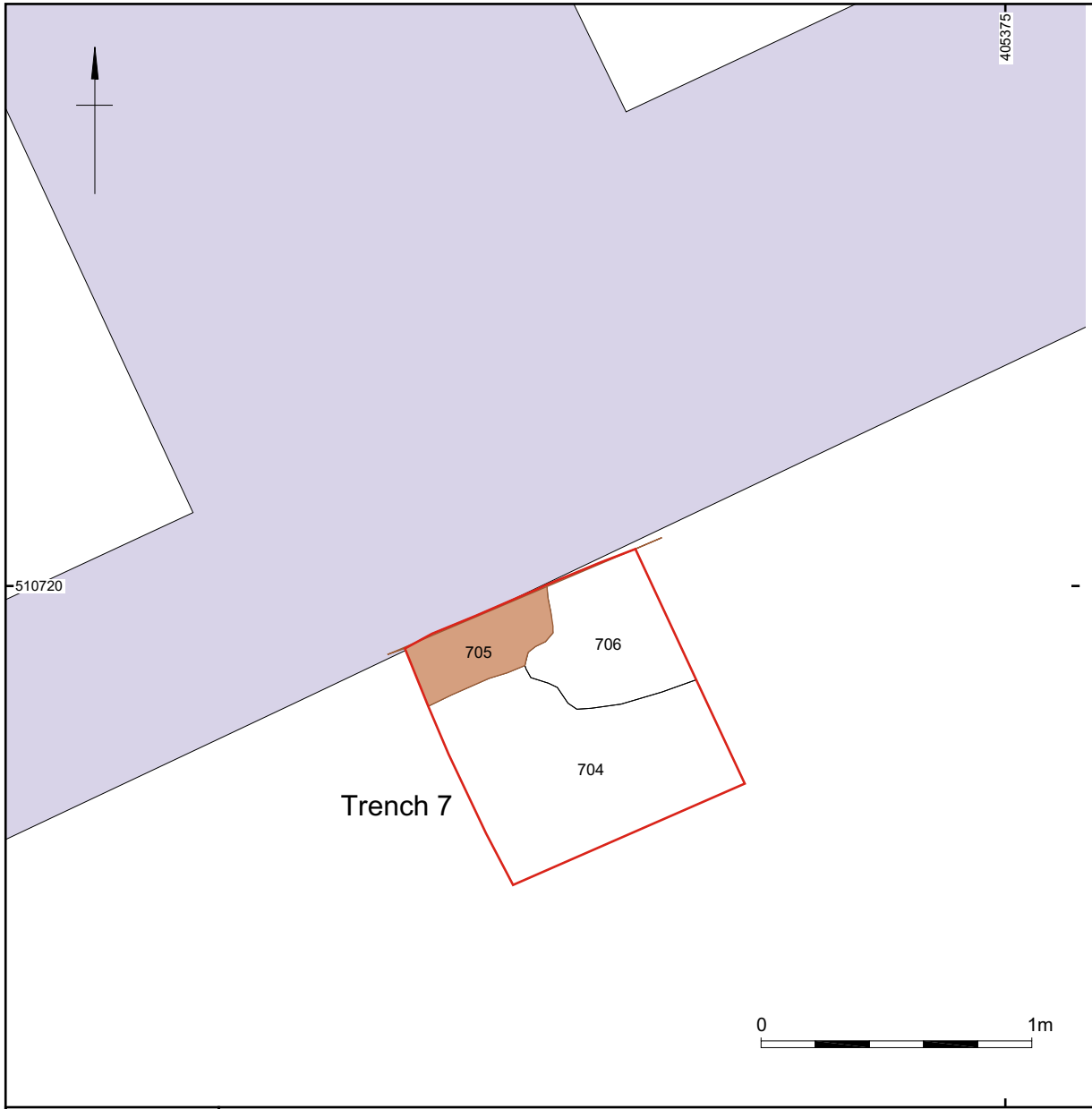

Plate 14: Position of Trench 7 and standing remains behind (from the south-east)

Plate 15: Standing remains (behind Trench 7) from the north-east

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Evaluation Trench

Wall

Upstanding building remains

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Plan of Trench 7

Figure 9

Plate 16: Holloway from Gregory Beck up to the gatehouse (view from south-west)

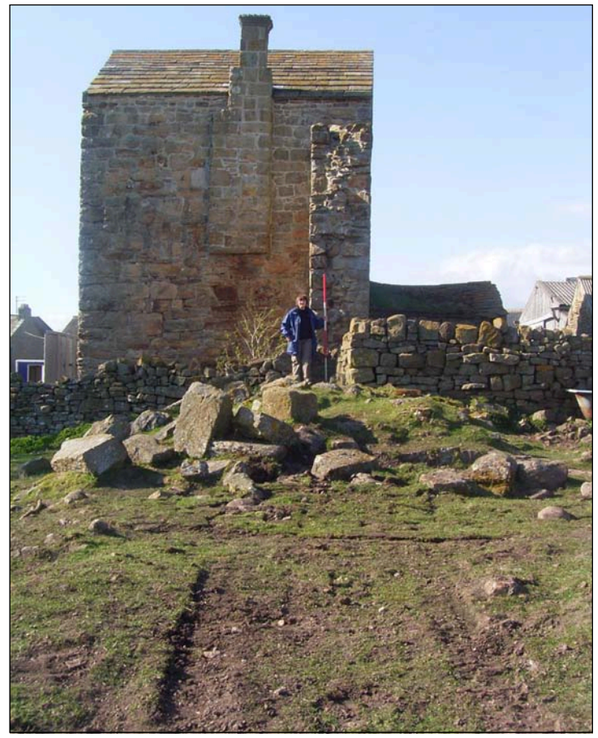

Plate 17: South-eastern elevation of gatehouse, backfilled Trench 1 in foreground

Plate 18: North-eastern elevation of gatehouse

Plate 19: Flagstones revealed in gatehouse stairwell (view from south-east)

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405350

405400

510750

510700

Plate 21: Medieval wall section

approximate position of footings said to underlie the modern barn

Plate 20: The gatehouse, from the south-east

position of wall section within modern field boundary

Fireplace

Trench 3

Barmkin

Gatehouse intervention

Gatehouse

Trench 5

Trench 7

Trench 1

Plate 22: Trench 3 under excavation

Trench 4

Trench 2

Plate 23: Trenches 1 and 2, from the north-east

Barmkin

Trench 6

0

3.5m

Evaluation Trench

12th-14th Century

16th-17th Century

Wall

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Phase plan

Figure 11

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