

HOLBECK PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA, LEECE LANE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



Client:
Holker Estates Co Ltd

NGR: 323121 469835

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Non-Technical Summary

Prior to the potential development of an area of land at Holbeck, off Leece Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site. The known and unknown archaeological potential of the area has been assessed using various sources, including the Cumbria Historic Environment Record and early maps and a site visit was carried out in order to make a brief assessment of the site. The work was undertaken in April and May 2015.

The potential development area comprises an area of open fields to the east of the centre of Barrow-in-Furness, adjoining a recent housing development to the west, Leece Lane to the south, and the line of a former mineral railway leading to Stank. The HER records a total of nine sites of archaeological interest nearby, including a possible Neolithic settlement remains recorded during an archaeological evaluation carried out in advance of the construction of the new housing estate, a Bronze Age axe, a net sinker of uncertain age, and a number of remains of post-medieval date. In addition, a crop mark of uncertain date and a potentially interesting place-name were revealed in documentary sources during the desk-based assessment and two small areas of probable quarrying were revealed during the site visit.

Based on the results of the desk-based assessment it is considered that, although the two sites of known archaeological interest identified within the proposed development area are of low significance, the site has some potential for previously unknown archaeological remains to be present. More specifically the work carried out in the adjoining field to the west, which identified finds and features of Neolithic and possibly Mesolithic date, and the presence of a range of finds and other evidence of prehistoric and perhaps early medieval activity from the wider area demonstrate that there is potential for remains from these periods being present within the proposed development area.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank the Holker Estates Co Ltd for commissioning the project, in particular Duncan Peake for his assistance and information. Additional thanks are due to the staff of Cumbria Archive Centre in Barrow-in-Furness (CAC(B)) for help with accessing their archives, and Mark Brennand and Jeremy Parsons at the Historic Environment Service at Cumbria County Council, for enabling access to the Historic Environment Record.

The desk-based assessment and site visit were carried out by Dan Elsworth who also wrote the report. The illustrations were produced by Tom Mace who also contributed to the report, the project was managed by Dan Elsworth, and the report was edited by Jo Dawson.

1. Introduction

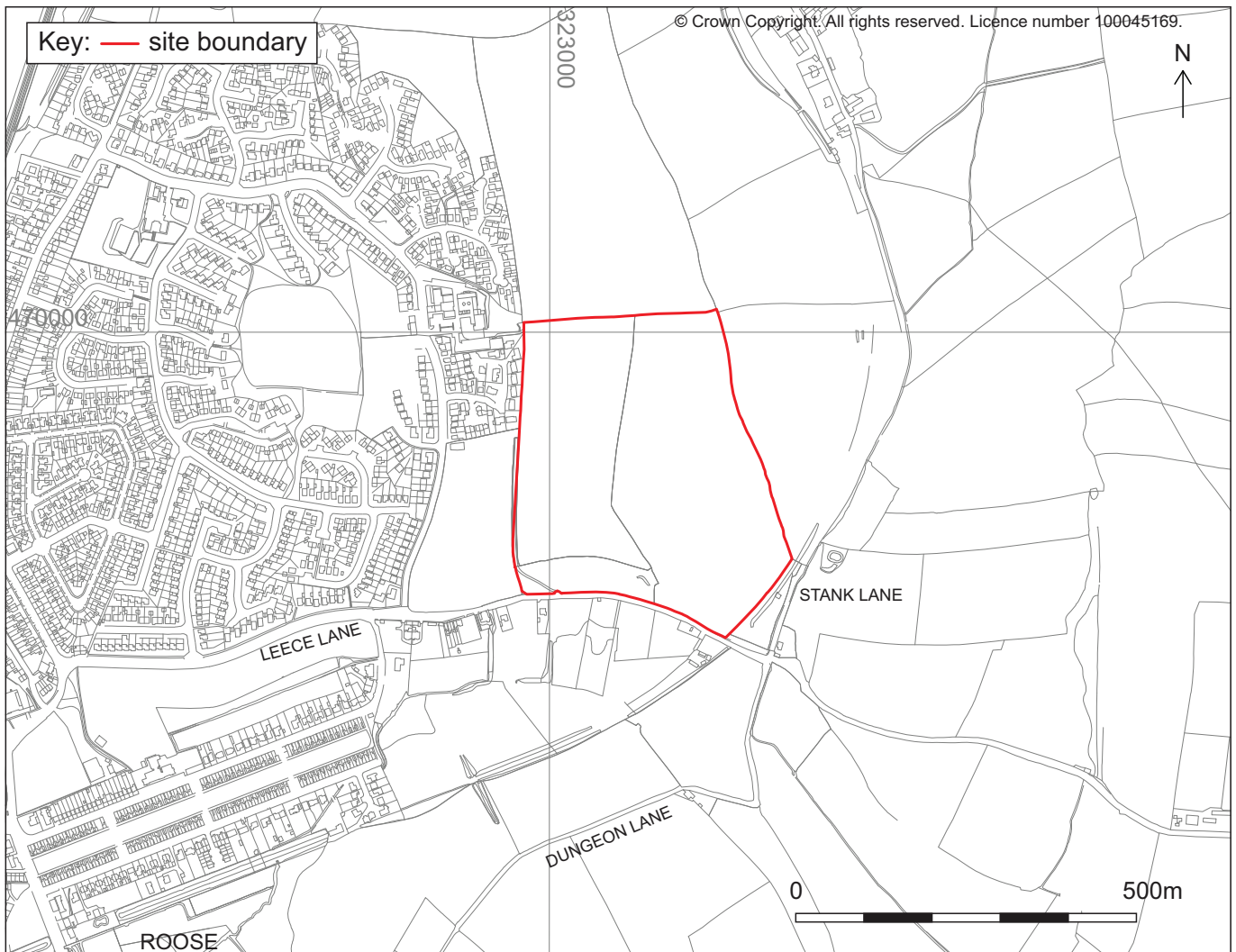
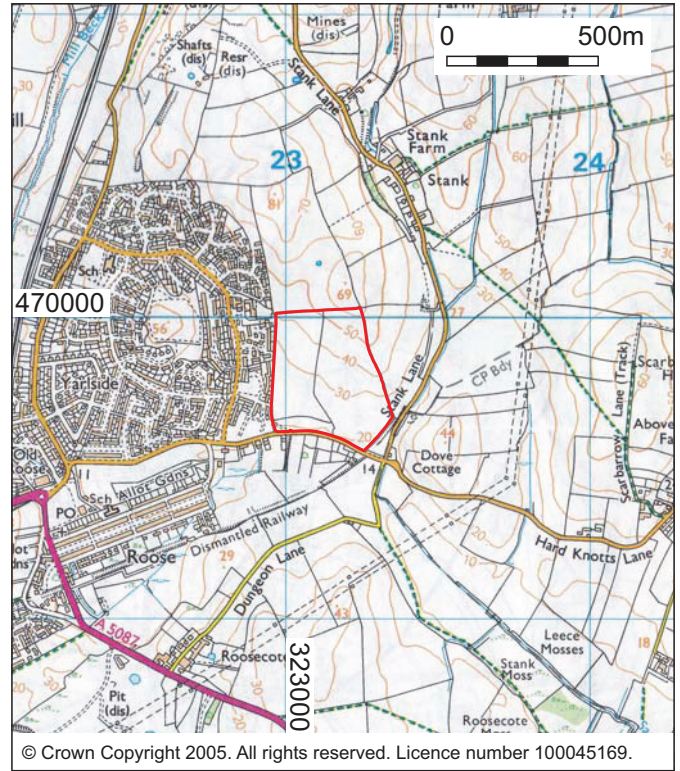
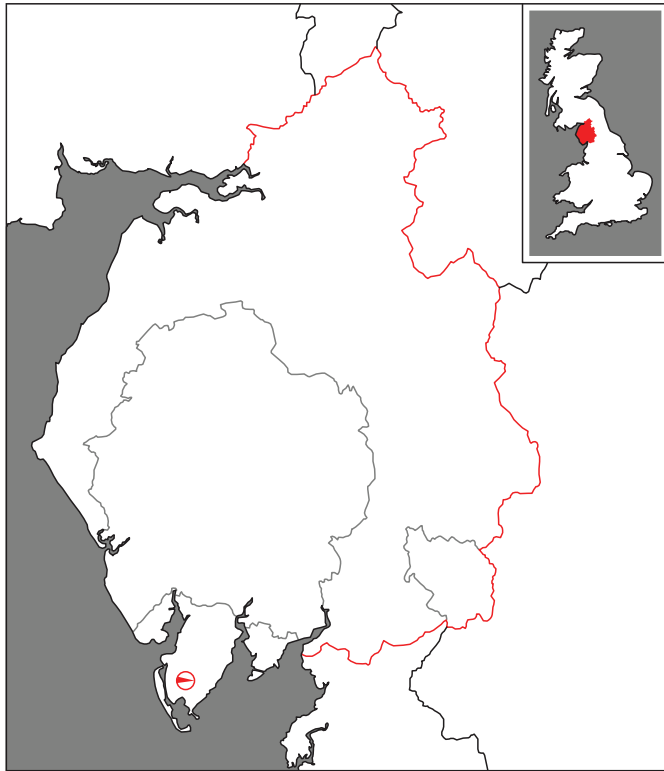
1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Prior to the potential development of land at Holbeck, Leece Lane, Barrow-in-Furness (NGR 323121 469835), Greenlane Archaeology was contacted by Duncan Peake from the Holker Estates Co Ltd (hereafter 'the client') and asked to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment. The work was carried out in April 2015.

1.2 Location, Topography, and Geology

1.2.1 The site is situated on the south-east edge of Barrow-in-Furness (Figure 1) in an area bordering open fields adjacent to the villages of Stank and Leece. The site ranges from approximately 20m above sea level at the south end to 50m at the north (Ordnance Survey 2011). The landscape is predominantly rural, but with suburban development encroaching from the west, dominated by undulating pasture bounded by hedges and fences (Countryside Commission 1998, 27).

1.2.2 The solid geology of the area comprises a mixture of Mercian mudstones and red sandstones of the Triassic period (Moseley 1978, plate 1). This is likely to be covered by a thick glacially-derived till (Countryside Commission 1998, 27), which will have been affected by alluvial activity.



Client: Holker Estates Co Ltd

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Figure 1: Site location

2. Methodology

2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 A desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site and published secondary sources. A number of sources of information were used during the desk-based assessment:

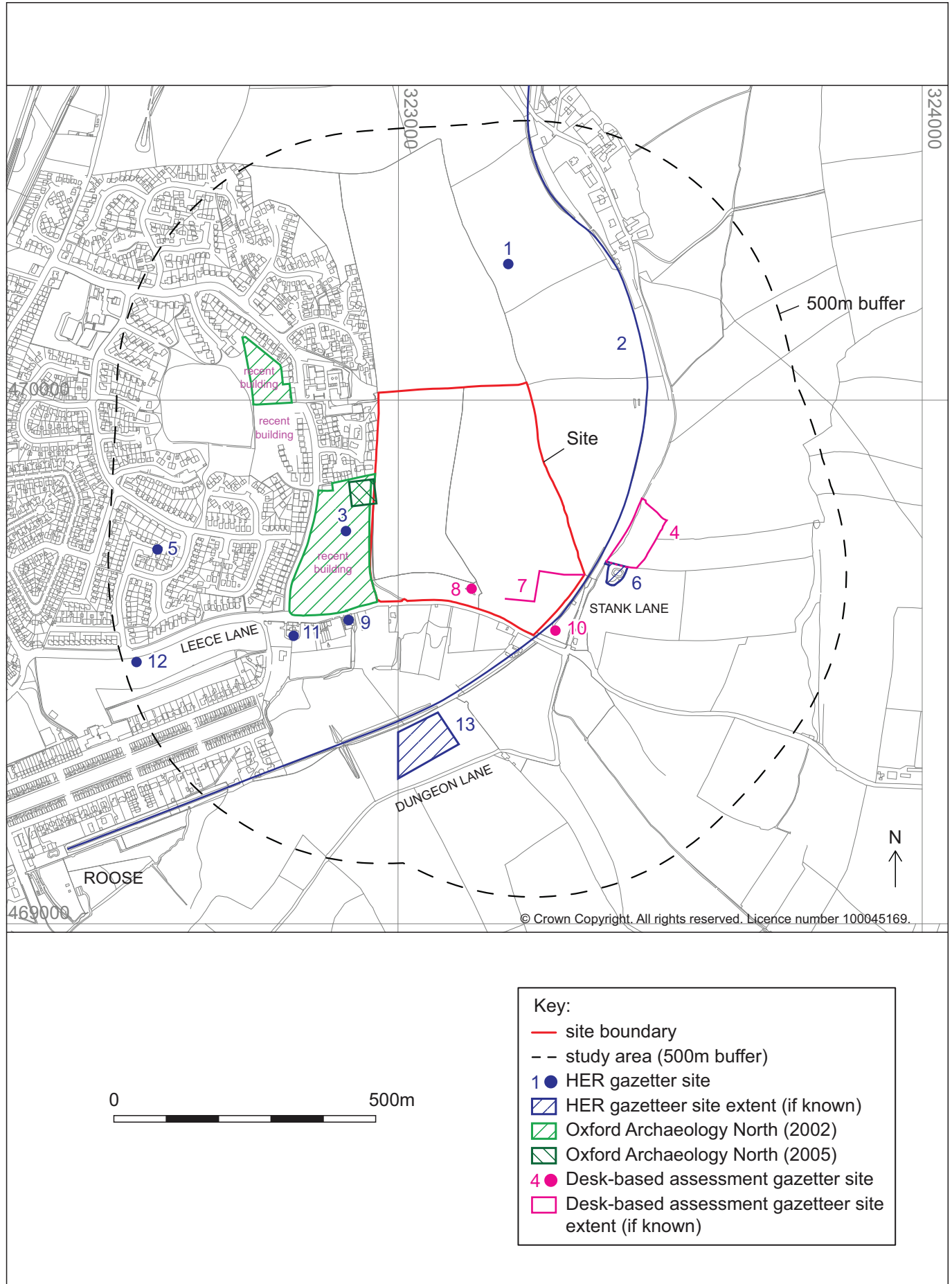
- **Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER):** this is a list of all the known sites of archaeological interest within the county, which is maintained by Cumbria County Council and is the primary source of information for an investigation of this kind. All of the known sites of archaeological interest within approximately 500m of the site perimeter were examined; each identified site comes with a grid reference, description and source and any additional information which was referenced was also examined as necessary. In addition, unpublished reports of archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site and aerial photographs were examined;
- **Cumbria Archive Centre, Barrow-in-Furness (CAC(B)):** primary sources, in particular early maps of the site, were consulted here, as well as secondary sources such as local histories;
- **Greenlane Archaeology library:** additional original maps held by Greenlane Archaeology and secondary sources, used to provide information for the site background, were also examined.

2.2 Site Visit

2.2.1 A site visit was carried out on 21st April 2015, primarily with the intention of better understanding the development of the site, but also to inform documentary evidence revealed during the desk-based assessment. In addition, the presence of any features, finds, or deposits of possible archaeological interest was noted. Digital photographs of areas of interest were also taken, primarily for use as illustrations in this report.

2.3 Archive

2.3.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design, and current CIfA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Archive Centre in Barrow-in-Furness after the completion of the project. Within one month of the completion of the fieldwork/data collection a copy of this report will be provided for the client and a copy will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition a digital copy will be provided to the Historic Environment Record at Cumbria County Council, and a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.



Key:

- site boundary
- - study area (500m buffer)
- 1 ● HER gazetteer site
- ▨ HER gazetteer site extent (if known)
- ▨ Oxford Archaeology North (2002)
- ▨ Oxford Archaeology North (2005)
- 4 ● Desk-based assessment gazetteer site
- ▨ Desk-based assessment gazetteer site extent (if known)

Figure 2: Site gazetteer

3. Results

3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

3.1.1 A total of nine sites of archaeological interest are recorded within the study area on the HER, two were revealed in documentary sources during the desk-based assessment (**Sites 4** and **7**), and two were revealed during the site visit (**Sites 8** and **10**; Figure 2; summarised in Table 1 below). These cover a range of dates, from the Neolithic (**Site 3**) and Bronze Age (**Site 11**), to the possibly early medieval (**Site 4**), but most are definitely or probably post-medieval (**Sites 1-2, 6, 8-10, and 12**). In addition, three sites are essentially of unknown date (**Sites 5, 7, and 13**). Sites included in the gazetteer that relate to periods of the study area’s history are individually mentioned in the site history (see *Section 4* below).

Site No.	Type	Period	Site No.	Type	Period
1	Lime kiln	Post-medieval	8	Quarry	Post-medieval
2	Mineral railway	Post-medieval	9	Wesleyan chapel	Post-medieval
3	“Settlement”	Neolithic	10	Quarry	Post-medieval
4	Well or spring?	Early medieval	11	Flanged axe	Bronze Age
5	Net or line sinker	Prehistoric or early medieval?	12	Weight	Post-medieval
6	Limestone quarry	Post-medieval	13	Crop mark enclosure	Unknown
7	Linear crop mark	Unknown			

Table 1: Summary of sites of archaeological interest within the study area

3.1.2 The results of the desk-based assessment have been used to produce two separate elements. Firstly, all sites of archaeological interest recorded within the study area were compiled into a gazetteer (*Appendix 1* and shown in Figure 2). The gazetteer is used to assess the general type of historic landscape that makes up the study area, contribute to the compilation of the general history of the site (see *Section 4*), and, more importantly, identify sites that are likely to be affected by the proposed development. The significance of each of these sites and the degree to which they are likely to be affected is considered in *Section 5* and from this a discussion of the site potential is produced in *Section 6*.

3.1.3 The second purpose of the desk-based assessment is to produce a background history of the site. This is intended to cover all periods, in part to provide information that can be used to assess the potential of the site (particularly for the presence of remains that are otherwise not recorded in the study area), but more importantly to present the documented details of any sites that are known (see *Section 4*).

3.2 Map and Image Regression

3.2.1 **Introduction:** although there are early, typically county-wide, maps that include the area, they are generally very small scale and so the first useful maps of the area do not appear until the early 19th century. As a result, it is only maps from that date onwards that are discussed below.

3.2.2 **Chatsworth plan, 1806:** an estate plan held at Chatsworth House (Chatsworth House 4130 1806) includes the proposed development area. It cannot be reproduced for copyright reasons but is of interest because it gives names of the three fields making up the proposed development area: ‘Great Brier Edge’ to the west and ‘Barn Close’ to the east, while the small strip along the southern edge is called ‘Green’ and has a single building shown on the east side. A trackway is marked running through the southern field and across the western to its north-west corner. Also notable is the fact that that this area was evidently part of a park, presumably of medieval origin and originally belonging to Furness Abbey, given the name of the plan and the presence of a number of field names containing the element ‘park’. At this time Holbeck Farm, immediately to the north-west of the proposed development site, had also not been constructed.

3.2.3 **Tithe map, 1842:** the tithe map, in this case for the Yarlside division of the parish of Dalton (NA IR 30/18/97 1842), apart from being the earliest detailed map produced at parish level, typically gives details of all the land owners, occupiers, field names, and uses. However, in this case the majority of the area was clearly not subject to tithes as no information is given in the accompanying apportionment (Plate 1). The most relevant piece of information that this map provides is showing Holbeck Farm for the first time, proving that this had been constructed by that date. In addition, the name of a small field to the east of the proposed development area, 'Kellhead Bottom' (**Site 4**), is also of interest.

3.2.4 **Ordnance Survey 1851:** the site is shown much as it now is, as comprising three open fields in an otherwise rural and undeveloped area, with contours denoting the relatively steep slope of the ground from north to west (Plate 2).

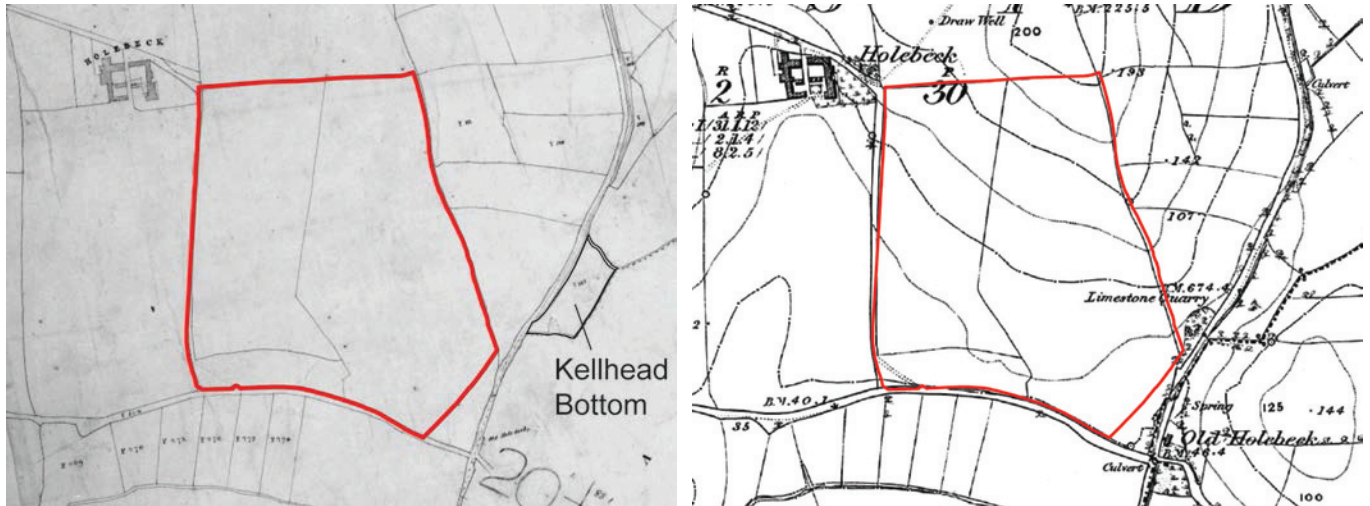


Plate 1 (left): Extract from the tithe map of 1842 showing the proposed development area and 'Kellhead Bottom'

Plate 2 (right): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1851 showing the proposed development area

3.2.5 **Ordnance Survey 1891:** the site is split over two map sheets (Ordnance Survey 1891; nd), although these show the same arrangement of fields as the 1851 edition (Plate 3; cf. Plate 2). However, the Stank branch mineral railway (**Site 2**) has been constructed by this date and passes by to the east and south sides of the site.

3.2.6 **Ordnance Survey 1913:** this map is also split over two sheets (Ordnance Survey 1913a; 1913b), which show the same arrangement as the 1891 edition (Plate 4; cf. Plate 3), although a small scooped feature is shown on the east side of the small field in the south-west corner, which clearly corresponds with the area of quarrying identified during the site visit (**Site 8**).



Plate 3 (left): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 showing the proposed development area

Plate 4 (right): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1913 showing the proposed development area

3.2.7 **Ordnance Survey 1933:** the site is unchanged.

3.3 Aerial Photographs

3.3.1 Aerial photographs, both vertical and oblique, held by the HER were consulted but these did not reveal any further sites of archaeological interest; unfortunately, the photograph in which a crop mark enclosure is apparently visible (**Site 13**) is not available for consultation at the HER. Further aerial photographs, again both vertical and oblique, held in the Cumbria Archive Centre in Barrow-in-Furness, were also examined. One of these (CAC(B) LC 265/CX/ROO/15 1946) revealed what appeared to be a large zig-zagging linear feature in the eastern field (**Site 7**; Plate 5). The nature and date of this is not known; it is possibly the result of the parching of crops but could simply be have been caused by vehicles moving across the area, something that is often visible at the corners of fields.



Plate 5: Cropmark feature visible in an aerial photograph taken in 1946

3.4 Previous Archaeological Work

3.4.1 Two previous pieces of archaeological work have been carried out within the study area, both of which were connected to the development of the adjoining field to the west. The first of these comprised an initial archaeological evaluation carried out in 2002, which revealed a small number of features of archaeological interest (OA North 2002). Of these one, a probable tree-throw, contained a substantial amount of Neolithic pottery, some worked flint, and charred cereal grains. A further phase of archaeological investigation comprising a watching brief was subsequently carried out (OA North 2005), and although this revealed a number of features of possible archaeological interest no further work was carried out.

3.5 Site Visit

3.5.1 **Site Arrangement and Character:** the proposed development area comprises three fields, the two largest filling much of the area with a smaller one forming the south-west corner (Figure 1). At the time of the site visit the eastern field had been ploughed and rolled (Plate 6), while it was evident that the western field had seen some disturbance, having recently been used as a golf course (Figure 1) and partially planted with trees (Plate 7). The smaller field making up the south-west corner has seen some disturbance due to the track which cuts across it east/west from Leece Lane (Plate 8), and there was also evidence for small-scale quarrying in the south-east corner (**Site 8**) (Plate 9) as well as similar remains in the adjoining field, outside of the proposed development area (**Site 10**).



Plate 6 (left): The eastern field viewed from the south-west

Plate 7 (right): The western field viewed from the south



Plate 8 (left): The track in the south-western field, viewed from the west

Plate 9 (right): The quarrying in the south-western field, viewed from the north-east (Site 8)

3.5.2 **Constraints:** the whole area has clearly seen some disturbance due either to relatively recent development, the quarrying (**Site 8**) and the golf course, or because of ongoing ploughing as evident in the eastern field. The south-east corner of the site also borders the line of a former railway (**Site 2**), which may have caused some disturbance, and there is evidence for further quarrying in the adjoining field (**Site 10**), as well as a small electricity sub-station. The line of a gas pipe is also marked in the hedges either side of Leece Lane, apparently running on an approximately north/south alignment alongside the former railway line. All of these factors may have impacted on any remains of archaeological interest that might be present within the site area.

4. Site History

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 In order to place the proposed development site in its historical and archaeological context a brief discussion of the earlier history of its environs is necessary. Information relating to specific sites recorded during the desk-based assessment (see *Section 3* above) is included where relevant.

4.2 Prehistoric Period (c11,000 BC – 1st century AD)

4.2.1 While there is limited evidence for human activity in the county in the period immediately following the last Ice Age, this is typically found in the southernmost part on the north side of Morecambe Bay. Excavation of a small number of cave sites has found the remains of animal species common at the time but now extinct in this country and artefacts of Late Upper Palaeolithic type (Young 2002).

4.2.2 The county was clearly more densely inhabited during the following period, the Mesolithic (c8,000 – 4,000 BC), as large numbers of artefacts of this date have been discovered during field walking and eroding from sand dunes along the coast (Cherry and Cherry 2002). Coastal areas and river valleys are notably places where such material is frequently found in the wider region (Middleton *et al* 1995, 202; Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 151-152; Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 26) and in the area around Morecambe Bay there is generally quite plentiful evidence for activity in this period (Elsworth 1998).

4.2.3 In the following period, the Neolithic (c4,000 – 2,500 BC), large scale monuments such as burial mounds and stone circles begin to appear in the region and one of the most recognisable tool types of this period, the polished stone axe, is found in large numbers across the county, having been manufactured at Langdale in the central Lake District (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 45). Remains other than monumental structures or stray finds are generally rare but the site is significant in having had finds perhaps relating to a settlement found in the adjoining field to the west (**Site 3**; see *Section 3.4* above). In addition, other finds and features have also been found during archaeological work associated with Roose quarry to the south-east (Headland Archaeology 2001) and flint finds of various dates have been found during ploughed field walking from the wider area around the site (Evans 2008). A possible net sinker also found from within the study area (**Site 5**) is perhaps also of prehistoric date, but this is difficult to say with any certainty.

4.2.4 During the Bronze Age (c2,500 – 600 BC) monuments, particularly those thought to be ceremonial in nature, become more common still (see Barrowclough 2010, 105-191), although settlements start to become more readily identified during this period, many of which probably continued to be occupied into the following Iron Age and beyond. Stray finds of Bronze Age date are found throughout the county, often deliberately deposited in wetland areas (*op cit*, 169-191), including a flanged axe found within the study area (**Site 11**).

4.2.5 As mentioned above, it is likely that settlement sites thought to belong to the Iron Age have their origins in this period, although few have been studied in enough detail to ascertain this with any certainty. Sites of this type are recorded typically as crop marks revealed in aerial photographs but they are typically undated and little understood (eg **Site 13**). The classic type of the Iron Age is the hillfort, and while these are not well represented in the area around the site there are others recorded in the local area, for example on Hoad hill near Ulverston (Elsworth 2014), and Skelmore Heads near Urswick, although evidence for activity in the Neolithic was also associated with the latter (Powell *et al* 1963). There is likely to have been a considerable overlap between the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of the Romano-British period and it is evident that in this part of the country, initially at least, the Roman invasion had a minimal impact on the native population in rural areas (Philpott 2006, 73-74). A cropmark enclosure recorded within the study area (**Site 13**) may belong to this period but it has not been excavated and the aerial photograph through which it was identified was not available to examine.

4.3 Romano-British to Early Medieval Period (1st century AD – 11th century AD)

4.3.1 There have been occasional finds of Roman coins from the general area (e.g. Shotter 1989), but evidence has yet to be confirmed of settlement in the area from the period. There has been discussion about the likelihood of Roman military occupation in the Cartmel and Furness Peninsulas for some time, and although a good case can be made for a Roman presence the evidence for it is limited and not yet totally convincing (see Elsworth 2007).

4.3.2 The early medieval period is not well represented in the area in terms of physical archaeological remains, which is a common situation throughout the county. The local area as a whole has a complex mixture of place-names of Celtic British, Anglian (Old English), and Norse type suggesting that the early medieval period was a time of dynamic and rapid population change (Edmonds 2013). However, physical evidence for settlement of this date is very limited. Local place-names such as Holbeck, Yarlside, and perhaps Kellhead (**Site 4**) denote a Norse influence but further afield names such as Roose and Leece suggest the late survival of British people (Ekwall 1922; Coates and Breeze 2000, 317). The net sinker found within the study area (**Site 5**), although possibly prehistoric, could also be a spindle whorl of early medieval date.

4.4 Medieval Period (11th century AD – 16th century AD)

4.4.1 The earliest written reference to the settlement that became Barrow is in fact probably to Barrow Island ('*Barrai*'), which is named in 1190 as a grange of Furness Abbey (Barnes 1968, 30). The site where the modern town of Barrow first developed was originally known as Barrow-Head ('*Barrayhead*'), and does not appear to be recorded until the beginning of the 16th century; in c.1509 'Barrayhead', 'Barraie' and 'Old Barraie' are all mentioned (Beck 1844, 304), perhaps suggesting the original grange had been supplemented by additional holdings by this time (Thompson 2005, 17-18). Closer to the study area Leece and Roose are both recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Ekwall 1922). It is considered possible that Old Holbeck, immediately to the east of the site, can be equated with the earlier settlement of Fordbodele, which is recorded in the Domesday survey but disappears from the available documentation by the end of the 14th century, the name perhaps changing as a result of the marshes being drained (Rollinson 1963, 161).

4.5 Post-medieval Period (16th century AD – present)

4.5.2 During the 18th century Barrow's importance as a port for the shipping of iron grew (Barnes 1968, 87) and as a consequence the town grew rapidly in size, eventually consuming several of the surrounding villages within it. Of these, Holbeck remained relatively isolated from the growing town until quite late in the 20th century, with new housing being constructed in the area in several phases in the 1970s (CAC(B) BA/S/BC/250 1971).

4.5.5 Despite its more rural location the industrial dominance and growth of the local area has left some evidence within the study area, including a lime kiln (**Site 1**), the Stank Branch of the Furness Railway line, which served the mines of Stank (**Site 2**), a limestone quarry (**Site 6**) and other small quarries (**Sites 8 and 10**), and a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (**Site 9**). In addition, a stray find of late 18th century date – a half guinea weight (**Site 12**), indicates slightly earlier activity in the post-medieval period.

5. Discussion

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The desk-based assessment is in part intended to determine the archaeological significance and potential of any known remains and the potential for any as yet unidentified remains being present (above or below ground). The system used to judge the significance of the remains identified within the site limits, or those thought to have the potential to be present within the area, is based on the criteria used to define Scheduled Monuments (DoE 1990, Annex 4; *Appendix 2*). Of the 13 known individual sites of archaeological interest identified within the study area, only two are situated within the boundary of the proposed development area (**Sites 7 and 8**).

5.2 Significance of Known Resource

5.2.1 No sites of archaeological interest previously recorded by the HER will be affected by the proposed development. However, two sites of possible archaeological interest were identified within the study area (**Site 7** and **Site 8**) during the desk-based assessment, both of which would be likely to be affected by any proposed development of the site. The level of significance of these sites is categorised, according to each criterion, as high, medium, or low, and an average of this has been used to produce an overall level of significance for the site (see Table 2 below: H=high, M=medium, L=low).

Site	Site 7 – linear crop mark	Site 8 – quarry
<i>Period</i>	-	L
<i>Rarity</i>	M	L
<i>Documentation</i>	L	L
<i>Group value</i>	L	M
<i>Survival/condition</i>	L	M
<i>Fragility/Vulnerability</i>	M	L
<i>Diversity</i>	L	L
<i>Potential</i>	M	L
Significance	L-M	L

Table 2: Significance by site

5.3 Potential for Unknown Archaeological Remains

5.3.1 Details of the archaeological remains present within the study area around the proposed development area are presented in the results of the desk-based assessment (*Section 3*; Figure 2; *Appendix 1*). The potential for as yet unidentified archaeological remains to be present, however, is based on the known occurrence of such remains elsewhere in the study area and local environs (see *Section 4*). Where there are no remains known within the study area the potential is based on the known occurrence within the wider local area. The degree of potential is examined by period and the results are presented in Table 3 below; in each case the level of potential is expressed as low (L), medium (M), or high (H):

Period	Present in study area?	Potential
Late Upper Palaeolithic	No	L
Mesolithic	No	M
Neolithic	Yes	M
Bronze Age	Yes	M
Iron Age	No?	L
Roman	No	L
Early Medieval	No?	L
Medieval	No	L
Post-medieval	Yes	M

Table 3: Degree of potential for unknown archaeological remains by period

5.3.2 In consideration of Table 3 it is worth noting that the possibility of finding Mesolithic to Bronze Age remains can be assessed as medium because remains from the later part of that range have been found nearby, while Mesolithic remains are often found in areas that are broadly coastal or near water courses (Middleton *et al* 1995, 202; Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 151-152).

5.3.3 In addition, while potentially Iron Age (**Site 13**) and Early Medieval (**Site 4**) remains have been identified within the study area finds of these periods are generally very rare within the wider area and so the possibility of more substantial discoveries being made is low.

5.4 Disturbance

5.4.1 The area has clearly seen some disturbance as a result of agricultural activity (ploughing), industrial activity (the construction of the railway and local quarrying), and the creation of the golf course. As such the site is likely to have been heavily disturbed in some places.

5.5 Impact

5.5.1 Given the sloping nature of the site any proposed development would be likely to need to modify existing ground levels and so any deposits, features, or structures of archaeological interest that might be present on site might be adversely affected.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Discussion

6.1.1 The results of the desk-based assessment have demonstrated that while the known sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area are of low (**Site 8**) or uncertain significance (**Site 7**) there have been archaeological discoveries within the wider study area from various periods that are of considerably greater significance, and demonstrate the potential for the presence of previously unknown remains of archaeological interest to be present within the site.

6.1.2 Of these, the previous pieces of archaeological work carried out in the adjoining field to the west (**Site 3**) have shown the potential for remains of Neolithic, and possibly Mesolithic, date to be present within the proposed development area. In addition, important single finds of Bronze Age (**Site 11**) and possibly early medieval date (**Site 5**) have been made nearby, and other sites of more uncertain significance within the study area potentially provide evidence for settlement in the general area from the late prehistoric to the early medieval periods (**Sites 4 and 13**).

6.1.3 In addition, although there is likely to be some disturbance across the site to any below ground remains that might be present, caused by a variety of factors such as agricultural and industrial activity and the creation of a golf course, finds and features could still survive as they have been found to do so in nearby areas that have been affected in similar ways.

7. Bibliography

7.1 Primary and Cartographic Sources

CAC(B) BA/5/BC/250, 1971 *Holbeck Park Estate Phase 4 and 5 Extensions*

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Appendix 1: Site Gazetteer

Site Number: 1

NGR: 323210 470260

HER No: 16186

Sources: HER; Ordnance Survey 1851

Designation: none

Description: site of lime kiln. No trace on Ordnance Survey map of 1891.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 2

NGR: 323400 470000

HER No: 5584

Sources: HER; Marshall and Davies-Shiel 1969; Martin 1996

Designation: none

Description: former mineral railway(s) opened between 1851-91, SD 215688 – SD232707, Furness Railway [Stank Branch], SD232707 – SD237720 (mineral railway). This line served Stank [SMR 5585], North Newton [SMR 16202] and Yarlside Iron Mines [SMR 16185]. Stank Mine was opened between 1871 and 1896. The mineral railway servicing North Stank Iron Mines opened between 1851 and 1891 and was dismantled by 1913 (SD23347034 – SD23697198). The railway was still very obvious as an earthwork in many places in October 2001 (Hopkins).

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 3

NGR: 322900 469750

HER No: 19865

Sources: HER; OA North 2002; 2005

Designation: none

Description: a desk-based assessment and field evaluation conducted in advance of a housing development off Holbeck Park Road located several pits, two possible pits or ditch terminals, and three irregular features of uncertain origin (OA North 2002). The evaluation also identified a probable tree throw, which contained 106 sherds of early Neolithic pottery together with 40 fragments of struck flint, a single seed of carbonised grain, carbonised hazelnut shells, and a considerable quantity of charcoal (*ibid*). A watching brief during soil stripping of the area was conducted in July 2005. 24 features were identified as having archaeological potential and were investigated to establish their two-dimensional extents. These features were provisionally classified as including four ditch termini, a possible linear feature, three pits/tree throws, 13 tree throws and three other unidentified features (OA North 2005). Further excavation was recommended (*ibid*).

Period: Neolithic

Site Number: 4

NGR: 323450 469746

HER No: –

Sources: NA IR 30/18/97 1842

Designation: none

Description: a plot on the 1842 tithe map of Yarlside (NA IR 30/18/97 1842) is named 'Kellhead Bottom' in the accompanying apportionment. This field name is of potential archaeological interest because 'kell'

is likely to derive from the Norse word '*kelda*' meaning spring or well (Ekwall 1922, 9) or perhaps less plausibly '*skali*' or '*scale*' meaning a temporary settlement (*op cit*, 16).

Period: early medieval

Site Number: 5

NGR: 322540 469715

HER No: 18965

Sources: HER; Robinson and Richardson 1985

Designation: none

Description: a small net or line sinker was found by Mrs S Smith whilst digging in the garden at 39 Ashdown Road. The weight is grey sandstone, measuring 48mm by 46mm. It is oval in section and one side is thicker (15mm) in section than the other (13mm). An hourglass-shaped hole has been bored through the centre of it. Horizontal wear marks appear on the upper and lower surface and there are matching lines on the reverse side. These wear marks appear to indicate that a cord passed through the hole of the weight in an upward and downward motion.

Period: prehistoric or early-medieval?

Site Number: 6

NGR: 323410 469660

HER No: 16249

Sources: HER; Ordnance Survey 1851

Designation: none

Description: site of a limestone quarry.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 7

NGR: 323270 469650

HER No: –

Sources: aerial photograph: CAC(B) LC 265 CX/ROO 15 1946

Designation: none

Description: apparent crop mark comprising a linear feature with an acute bend mid-way along so that it is essentially V-shaped in plan with a small projection to the west from the west end. Not clear what it derives from but potentially just caused by vehicle movement across the field.

Period: unknown

Site Number: 8

NGR: 323140 469640

HER No: –

Sources: site visit; Ordnance Survey 1913b

Designation: none

Description: site of a small quarry, comprising a scoops cut into the slope.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 9

NGR: 322905 469580

HER No: 41365

Sources: HER; Ordnance Survey nd

Designation: none

Description: former Wesleyan Methodist chapel on Leece Lane, built some time between 1851 and 1889. The building still survives but is now disused and in a fairly poor state of repair.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 10

NGR: 323300 469560

HER No: –

Sources: site visit

Designation: none

Description: site of a small quarry, comprising a small scoop cut into the slope.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 11

NGR: 322800 469550

HER No: 2603

Sources: HER; Gaythorpe 1896; Clough 1969

Designation: none

Description: an Early Bronze Age axe with hammered flanges, 3 7/8 inches wide across the widest part and 11/16 inches at the base of the stem was found at a depth of 12 to 13 inches below the grass surface when digging foundations of houses of Moss Field, Roose, in 1872. Now held at the Barrow Museum (Accession number 5041).

Period: Bronze Age

Site Number: 12

NGR: 322500 469500

HER No: 42276

Sources: HER; PAS LANCUM-245E03

Designation: none

Description: a copper alloy coin weight for half guinea c.1750-1800, found in 2006.

Period: post-medieval

Site Number: 13

NGR: 323060 469350

HER No: 13290

Sources: HER

Designation: none

Description: crop marks shown in an aerial photograph, comprising the north side and lengths of the east and west sides of a possible, roughly rectangular, enclosure. It is quite faint and may be 'grubbed out' field boundaries. The British Gas aerial photograph is not available to view in the HER.

Period: unknown

Appendix 2: Significance Criteria

After DoE 1990, Annex 4: '*Secretary of State's Criteria for Scheduling Ancient Monuments*'

- i) *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation;
- ii) *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context;
- iii) *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of record of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records;
- iv) *Group Value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement and cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group;
- v) *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features;
- vi) *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection which scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed historic buildings;
- vii) *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute;
- viii) *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.