

MILL ROAD, GLEASTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Watching Brief



Client: Stephen Morrison
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Non-Technical Summary

Following a planning application for the construction of two dwellings on land at Mill Road, Gleaston an archaeological evaluation was carried out in 2006. This revealed well-preserved evidence of a former building on the site, probably a farmhouse of 17th century origin, residual medieval pottery, and features thought to be medieval in date. As a result of this, further work was requested comprising a watching brief to be undertaken on the west part of the site (Plot 1), which was thought likely to have the higher potential for having surviving medieval remains. The area in general has a high potential for archaeological remains, with evidence of activity dating back to the prehistoric period recorded from the vicinity of the village. Several medieval finds have also been made, the site is relatively close to Gleaston Castle and mill, both of which are medieval in origin, and the general morphology of the site suggests a similar date.

The results of the watching brief largely confirmed those of the evaluation, with further remains of the post-medieval building, evidence for later and contemporary activity, and additional dating evidence for some features. This revealed that at least one of the features previously thought likely to be medieval, a shallow stone filled ditch, is in fact more likely to be post-medieval in origin, and that any preserved evidence for medieval activity is likely to be closer to the road on the south of the site, and therefore undisturbed by the present development. It is evident that the site has been extensively terraced from quite an early date, which may also have removed traces of medieval activity from a large part of the site.

The majority of the features identified are therefore most likely to relate to the earliest recorded building on the site, which was probably constructed in the 17th century, and represent attempts to clear and improve the ground as part of this development. The medieval material discovered during the evaluation and watching brief is therefore undoubtedly residual and relates to truncated features.

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The watching brief was carried out by Daniel Elsworth who also wrote the report. The illustrations were produced by Sam Whitehead and the project was managed by Jo Dawson, who also edited the report and identified the finds.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 An application (5/06/0353) was made by Stephen Morrison to construct two dwellings on plot of land on Mill Road, Gleaston, Cumbria (SD 25790 70825). After a recommendation by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), South Lakeland District Council placed a condition on planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological assessment. After consultation with the Assistant Archaeologist at Cumbria County Council this was confirmed as an archaeological evaluation of 5% of the total site area (900m²), which was carried out in August 2006 (Greenlane Archaeology 2006). Following the discovery of remains relating to an earlier farmhouse and evidence of medieval activity, particularly on the west side of the site, further work, comprising a watching brief to be undertaken during the excavation of the footings for the building in Plot 1, comprising the west half of the development area, was recommended. A project design was produced for this work based on discussions with CCCHES (*Appendix 1*).

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 The site is situated on the north-east side of the village of Gleaston, within a plot thought to be of medieval origin (see *Section 3*; Figs 1 and 2). The plot comprises a small parcel of land divided into two halves by a retaining wall cut into the slope. The southern half (upon which it is proposed to build the two dwellings) is mainly level, with a slight slope down to the road along its southern edge, and is adjoined on the east and west sides by neighbouring buildings. The northern half comprises a steep slope, and has some large trees on it, and in the north-east corner it allows access to the back lane running to the rear of the plots to the east (Fig 3). The site is situated at approximately 12m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2002). Gleaston is within the West Cumbria coastal plain, a landscape generally made up of pastoral land in an '*undulating or rolling topography*' (Countryside Commission 1998, 27). The solid geology is typically made up of Carboniferous limestone (Moseley 1978, plate 1), and this is overlain by a drift geology made up of glacially-derived tills comprising boulder clay, sands, and gravels (Countryside Commission 1998, 27).

1.3 Site History

1.3.1 **Gleaston:** there is considerable evidence for prehistoric activity from the general area around Gleaston in the form of casual finds such as stone and bronze axes and axe hammers dating from the Neolithic and Bronze Age (Gaythorpe 1898, 161-4; Spence 1935, 180; Fell 1971, 11). The extent of any associated settlement is, as yet, uncertain, however. Excavations carried out at Gleaston water mill between 1992 and 2001 claimed to have discovered a Mesolithic lake-side settlement (Salisbury and Coupe 1993; 1995), potentially pushing back the dating of the known occupation of the area, but the evidence supporting this suggestion is at best slight. However, other remains of a similar date have been discovered close to this site (HER No. 40439) and scatters of flint artefacts have been found in the general vicinity (HER No 40435), and more specifically to the north of the site (Evans 2005, 27).

1.3.2 There is little evidence for Roman remains from the area, although a coin dating to AD 140-143 was discovered near Gleaston castle in c1985 (Shotter 1988,

241; 1989, 42; 1990, 281) and other coins have been found around Beacon Hill to the east (Elsworth 2007). While there have been numerous other finds of coins, pottery, and other remains from this period from across Furness dating to the entire Roman period (*ibid*), there has, as yet, been no conclusive evidence of Roman forts or military structures from the region. However, a new study of the evidence is suggests that there was a road (or roads) across the peninsula during the Roman period, and that these are likely to have connected to forts or civilian settlements (*ibid*).

1.3.3 The settlement at Gleaston is certainly of medieval date and is mentioned in the Domesday Book (LUAU 1998, 8), although this in itself is not necessarily indicative of a village and may relate to a single farmstead (Taylor 1983, 126). However, the place-name demonstrates an earlier origin combining the native British word for a stream, '*glas*', and the Anglo-Saxon '*tun*' meaning farmstead or village (Gambles 1994, 59; Lee 1998, 36). Much of the village of Gleaston retains many other features of medieval date, typical of a village of this type, including a castle, mill, cross, and well. The castle is thought to have been built in the early to mid 14th century by John de Harrington, the Harringtons having inherited an estate including Gleaston in the late 13th century (LUAU 1998, 8). The Harringtons owned the manor and the castle until 1458, after which date it is possible that the castle was dismantled (*ibid*). The mill is thought to have its origins in the 12th or 13th century (Anon n.d.), which is supported by archaeological evidence due to the excavation of part of the mill leat (Salisbury and Coupe 1995, 4). However, the exact location of the early mill is not known (*ibid*), and a reference from 1523 refers to two mills, Hert Mill and New Mill, under the same roof, the reason for which is uncertain (Anon 1948, 12). The current mill building is thought to relate to the New Mill (*ibid*), although the majority of the structure is probably 18th century in date (Anon n.d.).

1.3.4 The cross formerly stood in the centre of the village, where the sign post now stands, the base of which comprised several large blocks of limestone (Tweddell 1870, 11). The well, known as St Michael's Well or Micklewell, is known to be of some antiquity, although it is considered more likely to have been named after Sir Michael le Fleming who owned much of the land in the area during the medieval period (Anon 1948, 13). It is also reputed to have been used during droughts in the 20th century because it never dried up, and it is claimed that it was where Oliver Cromwell took his last drink (McNichol c2000, 162). There are few other finds or features of medieval date recorded from the Gleaston area, although a lead *ampulla* dated to between 1200 and 1500 was discovered near to the mill and recorded as part of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (HER No. 19429), a silver medieval pendant was discovered in 1995 in the Gleaston area (Enticott 1996, 10), and medieval pottery has been discovered during field walking around Leece, to the south-west (HER Nos. 40435 and 40436).

1.3.5 During the post-medieval period Gleaston probably changed very little and by the beginning of the 20th century it was still described as comprising only a few houses (Bulmer c1910, 41). A congregational chapel and school, built in 1882 (*ibid*), was probably one of the major additions to the village at this time, although the village has grown a little during the later 20th century. The area has remained dominated by rural activities, and this is reflected by the type of sites recorded on the HER from this period, which include a smithy (HER No. 18071) and the mill (HER No. 2331), which continued in use into the 20th century (Anon n.d.).

1.3.6 **The Site:** the site is situated on the north-east edge of the village. The form of the plot with its long strip fields and back lane suggests that it is medieval in date,

with the back lane providing access from the tofts to the fields beyond (Daniels 2002, 194). However, there is little documentary evidence relating to the early development of Gleaston that can add to this interpretation. It is perhaps likely that the original core of the village was further west, and that Mill Road represents a subsequent expansion. Many of the properties in the adjoining plots, and those elsewhere in Gleaston, appear to be 17th century in origin (for example No 5 Duke Street is dated 1686; English Heritage 2001), and Fernleigh, immediately to the east of the site, is dated 1697. While the earlier maps are unable to reveal any details about the arrangement of the site and any buildings that were situated within it (see below) it is likely that there was a building or buildings on the plot prior to the late 18th century. A brief examination of directories and other documents revealed a succession of owners and occupiers from the mid 19th century onwards (Tables 1 and 2 below), although the difficulty of identifying the location of the site precluded the use of the earlier census returns.

1.3.7 The documentary sources reveal that the earliest recorded occupiers and owners of the site were the Kendalls (see Table 1 below). Thomas Kendall Jnr owned and occupied the property from at least 1848. A Thomas Kendall Snr (who died in 1848), perhaps his father, owned a number of other properties in Gleaston (CRO(B) BD HJ 189/1/66 1848), which may have included the development site. Members of the Kendall family, not all of whom are necessarily related, are common in Gleaston during this period, and a Christopher Kendall, perhaps Thomas Snr's father, is recorded as dying sometime before 13th August 1831 (CRO(B) BD HJ 189/1/65 1831). In the 1851 census Thomas Kendall Jnr is referred to as a farmer of 19 acres, living with his wife Margaret and two sons John and Thomas (HO 107/2275 Folio 54 1851). Curiously a directory of 1866 makes no mention of Thomas Kendall Jnr, although there are several other Kendalls living in Gleaston (Mannex and Co 1866). In 1869 several surrenders of land in Gleaston were made by John and Thomas Kendall, presumably Thomas Kendall Jnr's children, who had presumably inherited the estate from their father by this date (CRO(B) BD HJ 192/Bundle 5/88-92 1869). By the census of 1881 John and Thomas Kendall are both described as retired farmers living together in Gleaston, presumably in the house on the proposed development site (RG 11 4280/18, page 7 1881).

Date	Occupier	Property	Source
1848	Thomas Kendall Jnr	Homestead	CRO(B) BPR 21 1848
1869	Thomas and John Kendall	-	CRO(B) BD HJ 192/Bundle 588-92 1869
1881	Thomas and John Kendall	-	1881 Census (RG 11 4280/18, page 7)
1910	Richard Swaddle	Cottages (Plots 128-130)	CRO(B) BT/IR 1 1910, page 13
1910	JH Kneale	Cottage (Plot 131)	CRO(B) BT/IR 1 1910, page 13
1910	Lawson	Cottage (Plots 132-134)	CRO(B) BT/IR 1 1910, page 13
1948	JC Steele	4 Croft Terrace	CRO(B) BSRD/NL Ulverston RDC Building Plans 3/2278 1948

Table 1: Recorded occupiers of the site

Date	Owner	Property	Source
1848	Thomas Kendall Jnr	Homestead, Stackyards, Orchard and Garden (plots 712-714 and 717)	CRO(B) BPR 21 1848
1869	Thomas and John Kendall	-	CRO(B) BD HJ 192/Bundle 5/88-92 1869
1910	John Frankland	Cottages (Plots 128-134)	CRO(B) BT/IR 1 1910, page 13
1948	JC Steele	4 Croft Terrace	CRO(B) BSRD/NL Ulverston RDC Building Plans 3/2278 1948

Table 2: Recorded owners of the site

1.3.8 The map evidence shows that by 1890 the original house had been demolished and replaced with a row of cottages, so these are likely to have been built between 1881 and this date (see below). The Inland Revenue valuation of 1910 (CRO(B) BT/IR 1 1910, page 13, Plots 128-134) gives details of the majority of the occupiers, although not all of the properties seem to have been used at the time (see Table 1 above), and states that the entire block was owned by John Frankland (see Table 2 above). Curiously, three of the cottages (132-134) are occupied by someone called Lawson, and an Eliza Lawson, perhaps the same person, also owned the adjoining Fernleigh House at this time (*ibid*).

1.3.9 **Cartographic sources:** a number of early maps of the site were examined, ranging from county maps of the late 18th century, to the earliest plans of the town, dating to the early 19th century, and Ordnance Survey maps of the 20th. These were able to reveal a number of pieces of information, although the earliest did not provide were not detailed enough to be useful. The first plan to adequately depict the site was the Tithe Map of 1848 (CRO(B) BPR 21 1848), which demonstrates not only several boundaries and divisions within the plot, but also the presence of a large building, presumably a farmhouse, divided into two parts (Plate 1). The accompanying schedule (CRO(B) BPR 21/I/20 1846) states that the plot is owned and occupied by Thomas Kendall Jnr and includes an orchard (No. 712), stackyards (No. 713) and homestead (No. 714). By the time of the production of the Ordnance Survey map of 1890 this original building has been removed and a row of seven cottages with associated outbuildings had been constructed along the north edge of the southern half of the site, associated with the construction of a retaining wall (Plate 2). These cottages lasted until the 1970s when they were demolished and the entire site was left empty.

1.4 Results of the Evaluation

1.4.1 The evaluation of 2006 discovered a variety of remains, some of which could be directly associated with what was recorded in the historical and cartographic sources. The remains of part of one wall of the earlier house, that first shown in 1848, were identified, associated with which was a cobbled surface to the south, below which was a stone-lined drain containing a variety of well-preserved plant remains including plum and hawthorn stones. To the west more ephemeral remains were encountered; nothing relating to the earlier house was apparently present, but a linear feature filled with stones orientated approximately east/west was revealed. This was thought to be a palisade trench or ditch, and was considered to be medieval in date based on the evidence of a single piece of pottery. Beneath an apparent sub-soil to the south of this a small pit was also revealed; this contained no finds but

charred grain and daub fragments were present in the environmental sample. The presence of medieval pottery, albeit residual, in many contexts demonstrated that there had probably been activity on the site from at least the 14th century, although it was difficult to associate it with certainty to any of the features.

1.5 Discussion

1.5.1 Gleaston is named in the Domesday Book and there is evidence for even earlier settlement from the general area, particularly to the north and west. It would appear that Mill Road forms part of a planned street of medieval date, with a row of tofts, comprising buildings and associated gardens, connected via a back lane to large strip fields beyond. This is a common form found throughout the country (Taylor 1983), which has been surveyed in detail in several places in Cumbria where the outline of the original field system is preserved as earthworks (Roberts 1993; 1996; 2001). Accurately dating this type of settlement pattern is difficult, however, although it is thought in general to have developed in the centuries following the Norman Conquest (Roberts 1996, 48-49). Narrow strip fields like those to the rear (north) of the development area are also thought to represent early elements of the developed landholding, although perhaps forming part of a later phase of enclosure (Clare 1996, 174). In many cases, particularly as a result of plague and raids from Scotland during the 14th century, settlements like Gleaston suffered a considerable decline in population and were partially or totally abandoned, although this was preceded in many areas by a continuous population growth (Newman 1996, 117). There is, however, no documentary evidence relating to the site from before the 19th century, although it is likely, based on the adjoining plots, that there was a building present on it from at least the late 17th century. During the 19th century it was evidently home to a family of farmers, who were undoubtedly established in the village at a much earlier date, and continued to reside at the site until the late 19th century. After this date their house was demolished and replaced by a row of cottages, which remained until the 1970s when the site was cleared.

1.5.2 The results of the evaluation demonstrated that there were several well-preserved features present on the site and that there were finds of medieval and later date, although it was difficult to be certain whether any of the features belonged to the medieval period. The remains of the early house were, however, well preserved while there was virtually nothing remaining of the late 19th century cottages.

2. Methodology

2.1 Watching Brief

2.1.1 **Introduction:** the watching brief can be divided into three distinct elements, although in each the same methodology was employed. Although only Plot 1 was to be observed the nature of elements of the work, specifically the removal of topsoil and reduction in ground level, which were carried out across the entire site as a single event, meant that in some cases features in Plot 2 were also exposed. The elements of work on the site comprised:

- the initial stripping of loose topsoil and overburden across the whole site;
- the reduction of the level of the north side of the site;
- the excavation of the foundation trenches for the dwelling in Plot 1.

2.1.2 During each element of work any features of archaeological interest observed were recorded on a measured sketch plan of the site at a scale of 1:100 or 1:50, as appropriate, based on local topographic features (Fig 4). The stratigraphic relationships of features, particularly the fill of any negative features, were examined by hand and additional measured section drawings produced as necessary (Fig 5). Written records of all deposits and features were produced on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets, and photographs were taken in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format. Finds were collected from all negative features and from several other deposits as appropriate, and these were processed and catalogued (see *Appendix 3*) following the completion of the watching brief.

2.2 Archive

2.2.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design, and current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Ferguson and Murray n.d.; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B)) on completion of the project. Three copies of this report will be deposited with the Cumbria Historic Environment Record, one with the client, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a digital copy will be offered to the NMR and a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.

3. Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.2 The watching brief was carried out between 5th and 12th December 2007. Initially the results will be discussed as the three separate blocks mentioned in the methodology (*Section 2.1*). These results will then be brought together in *Section 4* and discussed with reference to the known site history as laid out in *Section 1.3*. Several features were observed during the various phases of the watching brief and these are shown in Figure 4, with additional detail of some features in Figure 5.

3.2 Topsoil stripping

3.2.1 Prior to the excavation of foundation trenches and the preparation of the site for this, the entire area was stripped of any overburden, topsoil, and the remains of vegetation. Prior to the watching brief beginning a section of the topsoil had already been removed alongside the road to the south and replaced with rubble hardcore in order to provide hard standing for vehicles; this was therefore not observed. At the same time that the topsoil was being removed the steep area on the north side of the site was being terraced; the retaining wall had already been largely removed and considerable amounts of soil were being taken away from the north side of the site (Plate 3). Although this area of the site was not monitored the removal of the retaining wall revealed large amounts of 19th century pottery and food waste, including bone (many showing butchery marks) and marine shell such as cockle, mussel, and oyster, were evident in the area behind the retaining wall. This had evidently either been dumped there during the construction of the retaining wall or accumulated following its construction, although the depth, quantity and un-abraded condition would suggest the former. A vertical-sided feature 1m wide and 0.65m deep and filled with a firm mid grey-brown silty clay with 20% sub-angular and rounded cobbles was also evident cut into the natural behind the retaining wall. This probably represents the position of a toilet associated with the row of cottages that formerly stood on the site, and another, slightly shallower cut containing a ceramic pipe was evident some distance to the west behind the retaining wall.

3.2.2 The stripping of the topsoil proper revealed that on the east side of the site the overburden (**1001**) comprised a mixed deposit of loose sandy clay with 50% sub-angular cobbles and the occasional piece of red brick and ceramic pipe. Beneath this, in the north-east side of the site, the remnants of a cobbled surface were recorded (**1002**), which comprised 90% rounded cobbles with the occasional piece of red brick in a matrix of sandy clay, covering an area 6.6m wide roughly situated between the remains of the early house to the south (see below) and the retaining wall to the north. The position of the early house was revealed as a line of larger boulders (mostly local limestone but including some sandstone) and gritty lime mortar orientated east/west on the north side (**1004**) and a line of more obvious large boulders of similar material on the same orientation to the south (**1005**; Plate 4), with a possible return linking the two. Between them was an apparent demolition layer (**1006**), largely made up of loose gritty lime mortar, and with considerable amounts of grey roof slate; this layer was only 0.05m thick. A further dump of mortar-rich material (**1007**), covering an area 1m wide by 2.5m long and probably resulting from demolition was also present immediately south of wall **1005**. All of these features were laid on top of the natural (**1003**), a firm mid orange-brown clay with 10% angular and sub-angular cobbles. Along the north side of the cobbled surface (**1002**) the

ground had been extensively disturbed by the installation of an iron water pipe, which was orientated east/west, partially housed in a ceramic pipe, and was apparently truncated at the west end, although it continued for some distance in this direction.

3.2.3 On the north-west side of the site the natural was exposed immediately beneath the overburden. To the south the linear feature discovered during the evaluation was revealed (**1009**; Plate 5). This was orientated approximately east/west, although it was not parallel with the road to the south or the retaining wall to the north, and was filled with a silty clay comprising 60% rounded and sub-angular cobbles, 60% of which were limestone and 40% of which were red sandstone (**1008**). This feature was 0.4-0.5m wide and up to 0.3m deep, with a vertical north side and approximately 45° south side (Fig 5). The soil to the south of **1009** comprised a mid orange-brown sandy clay with infrequent rounded pebbles (**1010**).

3.3 Reduction of ground level

3.3.1 Because the north side of the site was slightly raised relative to the south side this part was reduced in height by approximately 0.5m. This was taking place from a line approximately coinciding with linear feature **1009**, and no additional features were uncovered on the north side of the site, where the natural had already apparently been reached. However, the area around the west end of the linear feature was more clearly exposed and the terminal of **1009** was revealed. Immediately west of the west end of **1009** two shallow oval pits were revealed. The largest of these (**1012**) may have been formed by two conjoining features, but was heavily disturbed by root action so this was difficult to ascertain. It was approximately 1m wide and 2m long, orientated roughly north-west/south-east, and filled with a loose deposit comprising 70% rounded and sub-rounded cobbles in a dark brown sandy clay matrix approximately 0.15m deep (**1011**). The smaller feature (**1015**) was orientated approximately east/west and was 1m long, 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a loose dark grey-brown silty clay with 60% angular cobbles (**1014**; Plate 6). A short distance to the north of **1012** a ceramic pipe (**1013**) was revealed orientated north/south and running in the direction of **1012**; no cut was apparently visible for this, but it was clearly within the natural (**1003**).

3.4 Excavation of Plot 1 building foundation trenches

3.4.1 The excavation of the foundation trenches for the building in Plot 1 extended to a depth of between 0.6m and 0.9m below the ground level following the reduction in level of the north side of the site. The foundation trenches were generally 1.2m to 1.5m wide. In addition, a raised area of ground formerly covered by rubbish was also cleared and reduced in level in the north-west corner of the site, and further soil was removed from the area behind the west end of the retaining wall. The former piece of clearance revealed the brick footings of a building, presumably a shed or greenhouse covering an area of approximately 1.5m by 2.1m, and evidently of 19th century or later date. Behind the west end of the former retaining wall a brick built drain junction 1m² and 1.2m deep internally was revealed, which was capped with a large slab of slate (Plate 7). The walls were built of a single skin of brick, with three courses evident externally, laid as one row of headers and two of stretchers. This evidently connected to the iron pipe running east/west along the line of the retaining wall, and within the foundation trench a ceramic drain was revealed orientated north/south and presumably connected to the junction. The cut for this pipe was not readily apparent, but it is likely that it was backfilled with the same material it was cut into and was therefore difficult to identify. Within the remainder of the foundation trench few of the

features previously identified were easily identifiable, the majority having already been substantially truncated. The position of linear feature **1009** was generally discernable, and was in some cases fairly obvious in section; in one area it contained a considerable quantity of charcoal flecking.

3.4.2 Prior to the excavation of the foundation trenches part of the boundary between the site and the property to the west was demolished as it was considered unsafe and liable to be undermined. Where the site was cleared against this wall a large pit feature was revealed beneath the line of the property boundary. This was evident only as a U-shaped negative feature, 2m long north/south and 0.5m deep (**1017**) and filled with a mid grey silty clay and 10% sub-angular cobbles (**1016**; Plate 8). The position of this feature meant that it could not be properly investigated, and was only visible in section (Fig 5); if it originally extended to the west it is likely to have been substantially truncated by the construction of a garage on that side of the boundary. The clearance of the area against the boundary also revealed the nature of the natural deposits and showed that beneath the topsoil was a layer of subsoil (the same as **1010**, perhaps hillwash?) that had been truncated on the north side of the site as buildings were constructed.

3.5 Finds

3.5.1 A large collection of artefacts was collected from the site during the evaluation and although 102 finds were recovered during the watching brief these add little to the interpretation of the site. They will therefore largely be utilised in terms of dating features (see *Section 4.2*), but the details are presented in *Appendix 3*.

4. Discussion

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The watching revealed many of the features previously identified during the evaluation, as well as several others. Some of these were clearly directly related to the known structures, while others were not and their purpose was less certain. In addition, further information about the date and function of some of the features originally recorded was also acquired, which provides a more detailed understanding.

4.2 The watching brief

4.2.1 It is apparent from the finds recovered during the watching brief that the majority of features, deposits, and structures are of post-medieval date, and no features of definite medieval origin were identified. The walls (**1004** and **1005**), demolition material (**1006**), and cobbles (**1002**) evidently relate to the building first shown on the Tithe Map of 1848. It was concluded during the evaluation that this probably represented a farmhouse, perhaps of 17th century origin like those to the east and west along Mill Road, many of which have datestones belonging to this period. The finds from the overburden (**1001**) and the demolition rubble (**1006**) certainly fit with the map evidence, which shows that this building was demolished in the late 19th century.

4.2.2 The pipes, ceramic drains, and brick drain junction, although not easily dateable in themselves, clearly relate to the row of late 19th century cottages. The iron pipe evidently cuts through cobbles **1002** and so must be later. These features also closely correspond with the position of the retaining wall, which the map evidence shows was clearly constructed at the same time as the cottages. The copious amounts of late 19th century finds (which were not retained) from the area behind this wall and the cuts, probably for water pipes and toilets, also confirm this.

4.2.3 The stone filled hollows (**1012** and **1015**) and ditch (**1009**) are also evidently post-medieval in date and, although the finds do not easily allow close dating, it is evident that a 17th - 18th century date is common throughout, although the fill of **1012** (**1011**) has 19th - 20th century finds suggesting it was filled later or that these are intrusive. The medieval pottery recovered from **1008** during the watching brief is clearly residual, although pottery of this type made at Silverdale regularly occurs in 17th century contexts (White 2000, 290). These features are likely, therefore, to relate to the construction of the early house, or immediately thereafter, and were probably connected to attempts to improve and drain the ground; it is notable that this area is described as a 'stackyard' on the Tithe Map of 1848 (plot 713; Plate 1), which would indicate an area that it was desirable to keep dry.

4.2.4 The subsoil (**1010**) also contained some early finds, and had evidently been truncated leaving only a small area south of **1009** and its line visible in section against the western boundary of the site (Fig 5). This perhaps indicates that this deposit represents the original ground surface, prior to the construction of the earlier house in the 17th or 18th century, which was largely removed during the initial and subsequent periods of building; it is notable that the majority of medieval pottery found during the evaluation came from this deposit. It perhaps partially represents hillwash collected on top of a sterile layer (suggested as resulting from a flooding episode based on the results of the evaluation) hence it was able to bury the small pit revealed on the southern edge of the site.

4.3 Conclusions

4.3.1 Any medieval occupation that was present on the site is likely to have been either entirely removed by subsequent terracing associated with the building of post-medieval houses or is at some depth and so relatively well protected along the extreme southern edge of the site against the road. In this area a thick deposit of subsoil, perhaps caused in part by material washing down slope, is also likely to have covered features and deposits, although it is also possible that changes in the position and organisation of the road could have truncated deposits in this area.

4.3.2 The evaluation and watching brief have been able to reveal quite extensive remains relating to the earlier building on the site. This was most probably a farmhouse with attached outbuildings to the east; the structural remains identified during the evaluation and confirmed during the watching brief even indicate that the far east end of this building was a slightly later extension. Remarkably, a considerable amount of this structure survived despite the construction of the row of cottages, of which, by comparison, virtually nothing survived, with the exception of water pipes and related features.

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Appendix 1: Project Design

MILL ROAD, GLEASTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Watching Brief Project Design



Client: Stephen Morrison

November 2007

Planning Application Ref. SL/2007/0910

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following a proposal by Stephen Morrison (hereafter 'the client') to erect two dwellings on land at Mill Road, Gleaston, Cumbria (NGR SD 25790 70825), a programme of archaeological work was recommended by South Lakeland District Council. The first phase of work, comprising an evaluation, was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology in August 2006. This identified a number of features of medieval date in Trench 1, the westernmost of the evaluation trenches. These included a linear feature, probably a boundary ditch or palisade trench, a small pit, a small assemblage of pottery, and charred cereal grain.

1.1.2 Following the submission of the resulting report (Greenlane Archaeology 2006), the Assistant Archaeologist at Cumbria County Council required an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the excavation of the foundations for the proposed western dwelling (Jeremy Parsons pers comm.). This watching brief will be carried out as a result of Condition 10 of the permission for planning application SL/2007/0910.

1.2 Greenlane Archaeology

1.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology is a private limited company based in Ulverston, Cumbria, and was established in 2005 (Company No. 05580819). Although a relatively new company, its directors, Jo Dawson and Daniel Elsworth, have a combined total of over 14 years continuous professional experience working in commercial archaeology, principally in the north of England and Scotland. Greenlane Archaeology is committed to a high standard of work, and abides by the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) Code of Conduct. The watching brief will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001).

1.3 Project Staffing

1.3.1 The project will be managed by **Jo Dawson (MA (Hons), AIFA)**. Since graduating from the University of Glasgow in 2000 with a joint honours degree in Archaeology and Mathematics, Jo has worked continuously in commercial archaeology. Her professional career started at Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division (GUARD), for whom she worked for six months, following which she worked for Headland Archaeology, in Edinburgh, for two years, and for Oxford Archaeology North, in Lancaster, for three years. During this time she has been involved in a range of different archaeological projects, and, over the past few years, has concentrated on desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments, as well as finds reports. She has extensive experience of both planning and pre-planning projects, and has undertaken assessments of all sizes. She has managed projects in Cumbria, including several recent watching briefs.

1.3.2 The watching brief will be carried out by **Sam Whitehead (BSc (Hons), MA)**. Sam graduated from the University of Liverpool in 1994 with an honours degree in Archaeology, and has more than seven years continuous professional experience in commercial archaeology, much of which was in a supervisory capacity. He has extensive experience of excavations, evaluations, and watching briefs, as well as report writing and illustration production.

1.3.3 All artefacts will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology, and it is envisaged that they will initially be examined by Jo Dawson, who will fully assess any of post-medieval date. Finds of earlier date will be assessed by specialist sub-contractors as appropriate, and in this case it is envisaged that medieval pottery will be examined by Ian Miller at Oxford Archaeology North. Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) will be notified of any other specialists, other than those named, who Greenlane Archaeology wishes to engage, before any specialist contracts are awarded, and the approval of CCCHES will be sought.

1.3.4 Environmental samples and faunal remains will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology. It is envisaged that charred plant remains will be assessed by Scott Timpany of

Headland Archaeology Ltd, and faunal remains by Steve Rowland or Andy Bates, both at Oxford Archaeology North. CCHES will be informed and their approval will be sought for these arrangements.

2. Objectives

2.1 Watching Brief

2.1.1 To identify any surviving archaeological remains and to investigate and record any revealed archaeological remains or deposits.

2.2 Report

2.2.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the watching brief.

2.3 Archive

2.3.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the watching brief.

3. Methodology

3.1 Watching Brief

3.1.1 The groundworks are to be monitored, with one archaeologist on site.

3.1.2 The watching brief methodology will be as follows:

- Foundation trenches and/or trenches for services will be excavated by machine under supervision by staff from Greenlane Archaeology;
- All deposits of archaeological significance will be examined by hand if possible in a stratigraphic manner, using shovels, mattocks, or trowels as appropriate for the scale;
- The position of any features, such as ditches, pits, or walls, will be recorded and where necessary these will be investigated in order to establish their full extent, date, and relationship to any other features. If possible, negative features such as ditches or pits will be examined by sample excavation, typically half of a pit or similar feature and approximately 10% of a linear feature;
- All recording of features will include detailed plans and sections at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 where practicable or sketches where it is not, and photographs in both colour print and colour digital format;
- All deposits, drawings and photographs will be recorded on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- All finds will be recovered during the watching brief for further assessment as far as is practically and safely possible. Should significant amounts of finds be encountered an appropriate sampling strategy will be devised;
- All faunal remains will also be recovered by hand during the watching brief as far as is practically and safely possible, but where it is considered likely that there is potential for the bones of fish or small mammals to be present appropriate volumes of samples will be taken for sieving;
- Deposits that are considered likely to have preserved environmental remains will be sampled. Bulk samples of between 10 and 40 litres in volume, depending on the size and potential of the deposit, will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (gullies, pits and ditches) and occupation deposits such as hearths and floors. An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of samples of suitable deposits by specialist sub-contractors (see *Section 1.3.4* above), who will examine the potential

for further analysis. All samples will be processed using methods appropriate to the preservation conditions and the remains present;

- Any human remains discovered during the watching brief will be left *in situ*, and, if possible, covered. The CCCHES will be immediately informed as will the local coroner. Should it be considered necessary to remove the remains this will require a Home Office licence, under Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, which will be applied for should the need arise;
- Any objects defined as 'treasure' by the Treasure Act of 1996 (HMSO 1996) will be immediately reported to the local coroner and secured stored off-site, or covered and protected on site if immediate removal is not possible;
- Should any significant archaeological deposits be encountered during the watching brief these will immediately be brought to the attention of the CCCHES so that the need for further work can be confirmed. Any additional work and ensuing costs will be agreed with the client and according to the requirements of the CCCHES, and subject to a variation to this project design.

3.2 Report

3.2.1 The results of the watching brief will be compiled into a report, which will include the following sections:

- A front cover including the appropriate national grid reference (NGR);
- A concise non-technical summary of results, including the date the project was undertaken and by whom;
- Acknowledgements;
- Project Background;
- Methodology, including a description of the work undertaken;
- Results of the watching brief including descriptions of any deposits identified, their extent, form and potential date, and an assessment of any finds or environmental remains recovered during the watching brief;
- Discussion of the results;
- Bibliography;
- Illustrations at appropriate scales including:
 - a site location plan related to the national grid;
 - a plan showing the location of the study area in relation to nearby structures and the local landscape;
 - copies of early maps, plans, drawings, photographs and other illustrations of elements of the site, as appropriate;
 - a plan showing the location of the ground works;
 - plans and sections of the watching brief ground works, as appropriate, showing any features of archaeological interest;
 - photographs of the watching brief, including both detailed and general shots of features of archaeological interest and the trenches;
 - illustrations of individual artefacts as appropriate.

3.3 Archive

3.3.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the watching brief, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness (CRO (B)). A copy will also be offered to the National Monuments Record (NMR). The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the IFA (Ferguson and Murray n.d.), and in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). In addition details of the project will be submitted to the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public.

3.3.2 A copy of the report will be deposited with the archive at the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness, one will be supplied to the client, and within six months of the completion of fieldwork, three copies will be provided for the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition, Greenlane Archaeology Ltd will retain one copy, and digital copies will be deposited with the NMR and OASIS scheme as required.

3.3.3 The client will be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to a suitable museum. Any finds recovered during the watching brief will be offered to the Dock Museum in Barrow-in-Furness. If no suitable repository can be found the finds may have to be discarded, and in this case as full a record as possible would be made of them beforehand.

4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project on **7th December 2007**, or at another date convenient to the client. It is envisaged that the non-fieldwork element of the project will take 3.75 person days to complete (excluding all post-excavation time, and excluding watching brief on-site time), spread over the following tasks and including any necessary management time:

- **Task 1:** watching brief;
- **Task 2:** post-excavation work on archaeological watching brief, including processing of finds and production of draft report and illustrations;
- **Task 3:** feedback, editing and production of final report, completion of archive.

5. Other matters

5.1 Access

5.1.1 Access to the site for the site visit will be organised through co-ordination with the client and/or their agent(s).

5.2 Health and Safety

5.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology carries out risk assessments for all of its projects and abides by its internal health and safety policy and relevant legislation. Health and safety is always the foremost consideration in any decision-making process.

5.3 Insurance

5.3.1 Greenlane Archaeology has professional indemnity insurance to the value of **£250,000**. Details of this can be supplied if requested.

5.4 Environmental and Ethical Policy

5.4.1 Greenlane Archaeology has a strong commitment to environmentally and ethically sound working practices. Its office is supplied with 100% renewable energy by Good Energy,

uses ethical telephone and internet services supplied by the Phone Co-op, is even decorated with organic paint, and has floors finished with recycled vinyl tiles. In addition, the company uses the services of The Co-operative Bank for ethical banking, Naturesave for environmentally-conscious insurance, and utilises public transport wherever possible. Greenlane Archaeology is also committed to using local businesses for services and materials, thus benefiting the local economy, reducing unnecessary transportation, and improving the sustainability of small and rural businesses.

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Appendix 2: Context List

Context	Type	Area	Description	Interpretation
1001	Deposit	Site	Dark brown, loose sandy clay with 50% sub-angular cobbles	Overburden
1002	Deposit	Plot 2	Mid-dark brown sandy clay, 90% rounded cobbles	Cobbled surface
1003	Deposit	Site	Mid orange-brown firm clay, 10% cobbles	Natural
1004	Structure	Plot 2	Pale buff white gritty lime mortar and boulders	Wall
1005	Structure	Plot 2	Row of boulders	Wall
1006	Deposit	Plot 2	Loose pale buff-brown with gritty mortar and sandy clay, 5% grey slate	Demolition
1007	Deposit	Plot 2	Loose mid yellow-white with large amounts of gritty lime mortar	Demolition
1008	Deposit	Plot 1	Dark brown silty clay, 60% cobbles	Fill of 1009
1009	Cut	Plot 1	Linear feature, 0.4m-0.5m wide, 0.3m deep, orientated east/west	Palisade trench/ditch
1010	Deposit	Plot 2	Mid orange brown sandy clay, 2% rounded pebbles	Subsoil/hill wash
1011	Deposit	Plot 1	Dark brown sandy clay, 70% cobbles	Fill of 1012
1012	Cut	Plot 1	Oval pit, 1m by c2m, 0.15m deep, orientated north-west/south-east	Pit
1013	Cut	Plot 1	Cut for ceramic drain orientated north/south	Drain
1014	Deposit	Plot 1	Dark grey-brown silty clay, 60% cobbles	Fill of 1015
1015	Cut	Plot 1	Oval pit, 1m by 0.9m, 0.3m deep	Pit
1016	Deposit	Plot 1	Mid grey silty clay, 10% cobbles	Fill of 1017
1017	Cut	Plot 1	2m long, 0.5m deep, shallow U-shaped pit	Pit

Appendix 3: Finds

Context	Find type	Quantity	Description	Date range
1001	Pottery	11	Coarse black-glazed red earthenware, including five refitting crock base fragments, and two refitting high-fired jar body fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	1	Coarse red earthenware, surface missing	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	4	Refitting coarse self-glazed red earthenware pancheon base fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	2	Fine black-glazed red earthenware body fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	1	Coarse red slip-coated glazed buff-coloured earthenware body fragment	Late 17 th – early 18 th century
1001	Pottery	1	Fine self-glazed buff-coloured earthenware cup (?) base fragment, probably slip decorated elsewhere on vessel	Late 17 th – early 18 th century
1001	Pottery	1	Fine glazed black earthenware tea pot (?) body fragment with sprigged flower band	19 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed grey stoneware colander body fragment	Late 18 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	21	Glazed white earthenware, including two 'Broseley' transfer-printed, five 'Willow' transfer-printed, two painted with blue stripes, two factory-produced blue-banded slipware, one lilac geometric transfer-printed pattern, one marmalade jar rim, one marked base, one lined hollow-ware rim	19 th – early 20 th century
1001	Pottery	5	Bone china, including green transfer-printed cup rim, gold lined saucer rim and hollow-ware	19 th – 20 th century
1001	Ceramic building material	2	Glazed white earthenware tile rim, and glazed white earthenware sanitary ware (e.g. toilet)	Late 19 th – 20 th century
1001	Glass	1	Thin, flat, very light turquoise fragment	Not closely dateable
1001	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Plain stem, medium bore	Mid 18 th – mid 19 th century
1001	Fe	1	Nail (corroded)	Not closely dateable

Context	Find type	Quantity	Description	Date range
1006	Pottery	3	Refitting coarse brown-glazed red earthenware hollow-ware base with internal white slip coating	19 th – early 20 th century
1008	Pottery	18	Coarse black-glazed red earthenware, including 16 partially refitting from hollow-ware vessel base	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1008	Pottery	1	Coarse orange earthenware crock (?) base, glazed internally over red slip coating	Late 17 th – 18 th century
1008	Pottery	2	Coarse self-glazed red earthenware body fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1008	Pottery	1	Reduced greyware jar body fragment	15 th – 16 th century
1008	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Plain stem with medium bore	Mid 18 th – mid 19 th century
1008	Stone	2	Refitting black chert	Naturally occurring
1010	Pottery	2	Coarse black-glazed red earthenware body fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1010	Pottery	1	Fine(ish) brown-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1010	Pottery	1	Reduced greyware jar body fragment	15 th – 16 th century
1010	Pottery	1	Creamware fragment	Late 18 th – early 19 th century
1010	Pottery	1	Pearlware (?) blue-painted shell-edge plate (?) rim	Late 18 th – early 19 th century
1011	Pottery	2	Refitting coarse black-glazed red earthenware crock fragments	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1011	Pottery	2	Refitting white earthenware handle fragments	19 th – 20 th century
1011	Pottery	1	Blue transfer-printed bone china cup (?) rim	19 th – early 20 th century
1014	Pottery	1	Fine mottledware body fragment	Late 17 th – early 18 th century
1016	Pottery	2	Coarse black-glazed red earthenware from single vessel	Late 17 th – early 20 th century
1016	Animal bone	7	Large mammal, partly refitting, some butchery marks	Not closely dateable
U/S	Pottery	1	High-fired black-glazed red earthenware	Late 17 th – early 18 th century

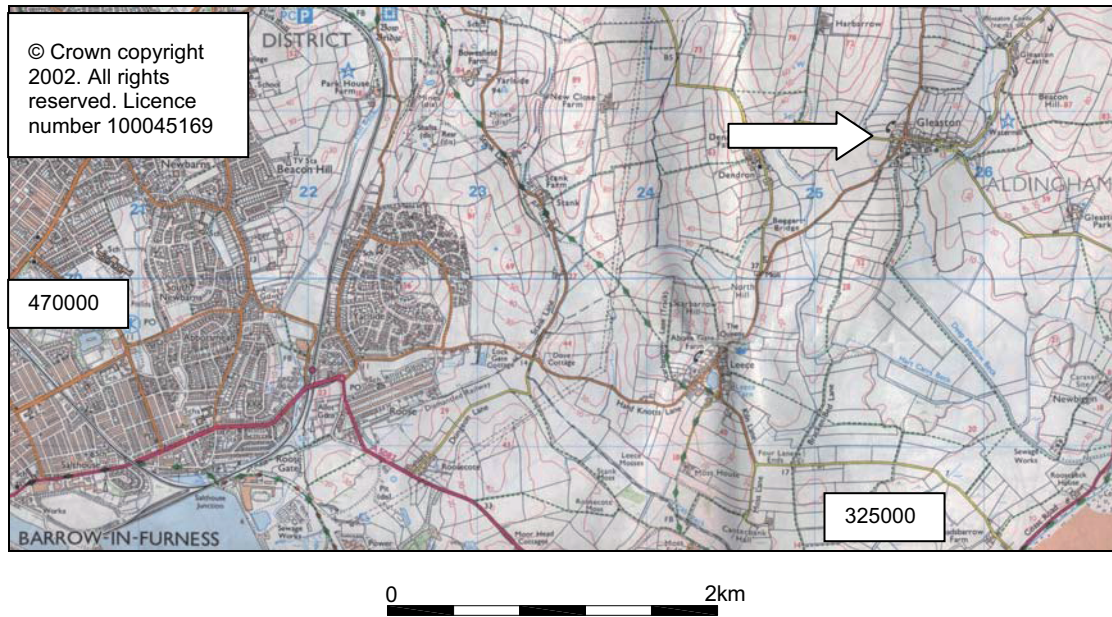


Figure 1: Site location, showing Gleaston (indicated by arrow) in relation to Barrow-in-Furness

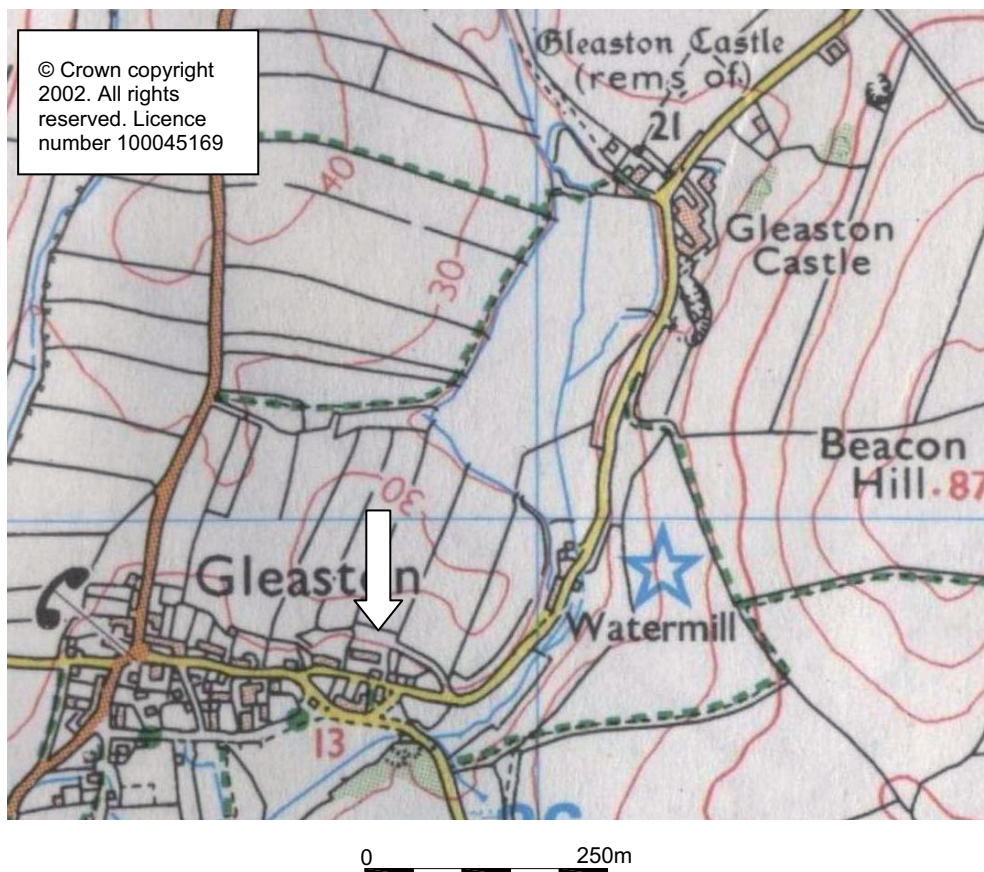
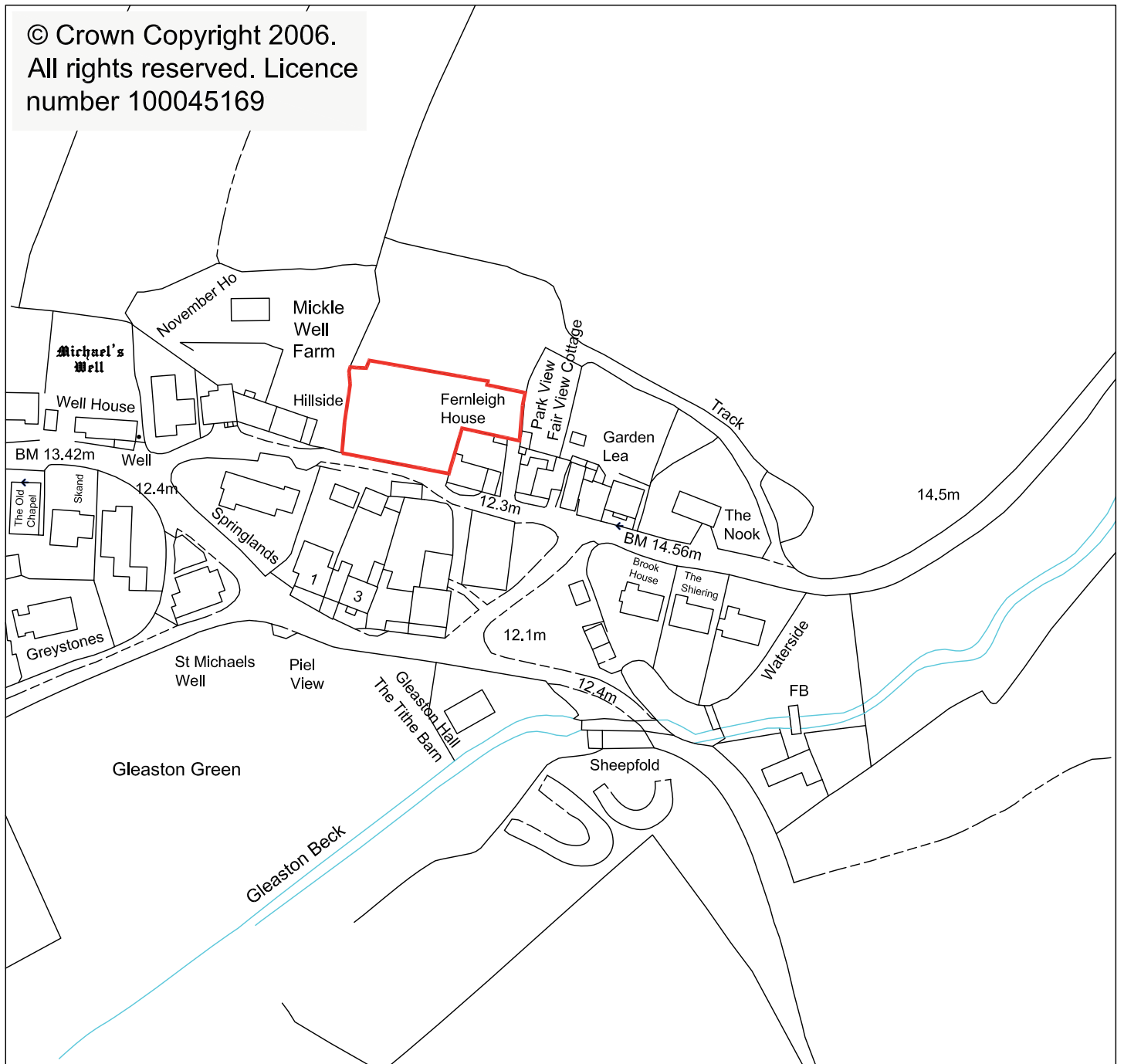
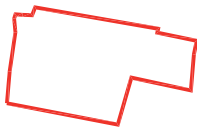


Figure 2: Site location (indicated by arrow) in relation to the rest of Gleaston, also showing watermill and Gleaston Castle

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number 100045169



Key:



Proposed development site



0

150m



Figure 3: Site location showing immediate environs

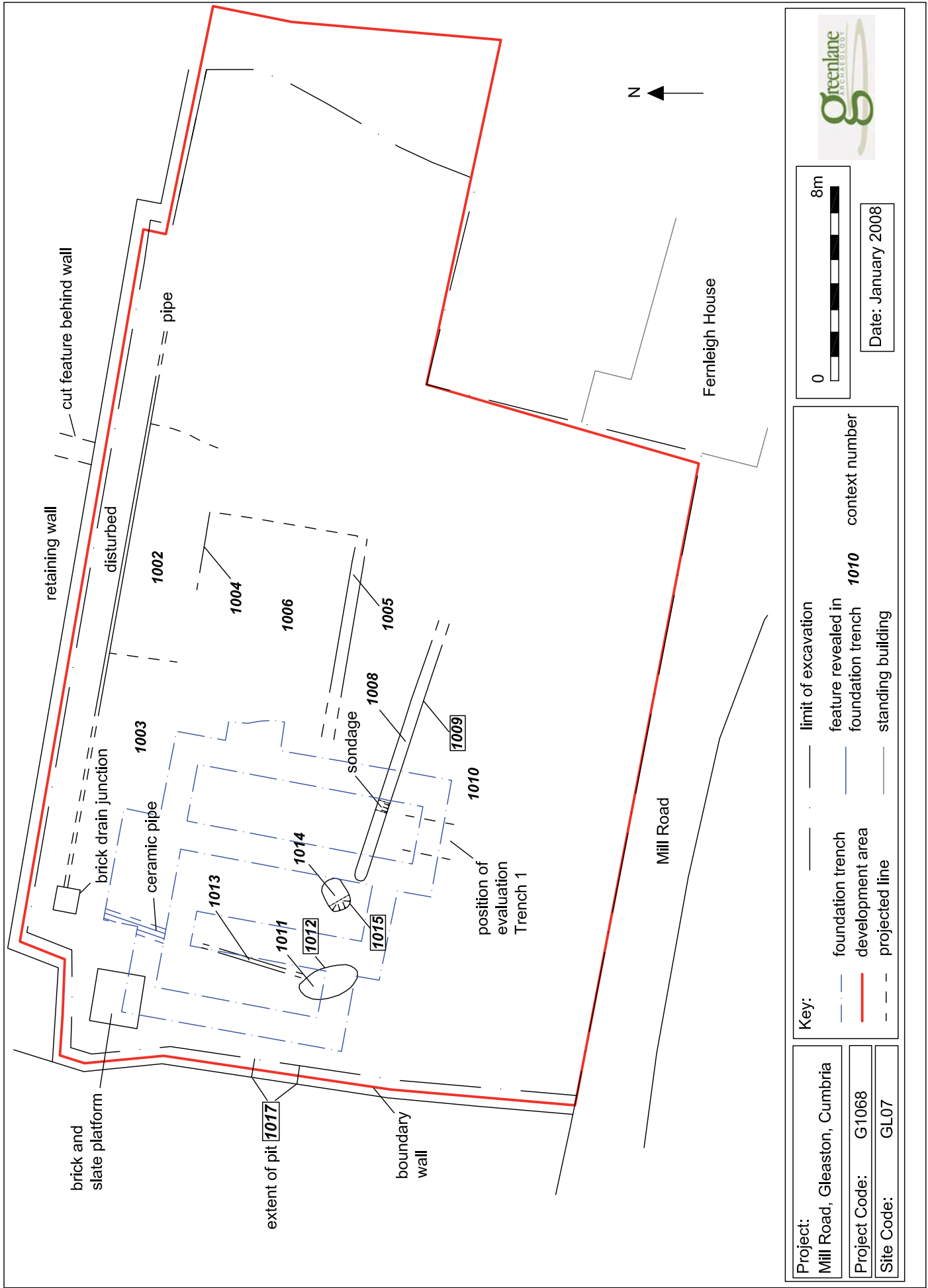
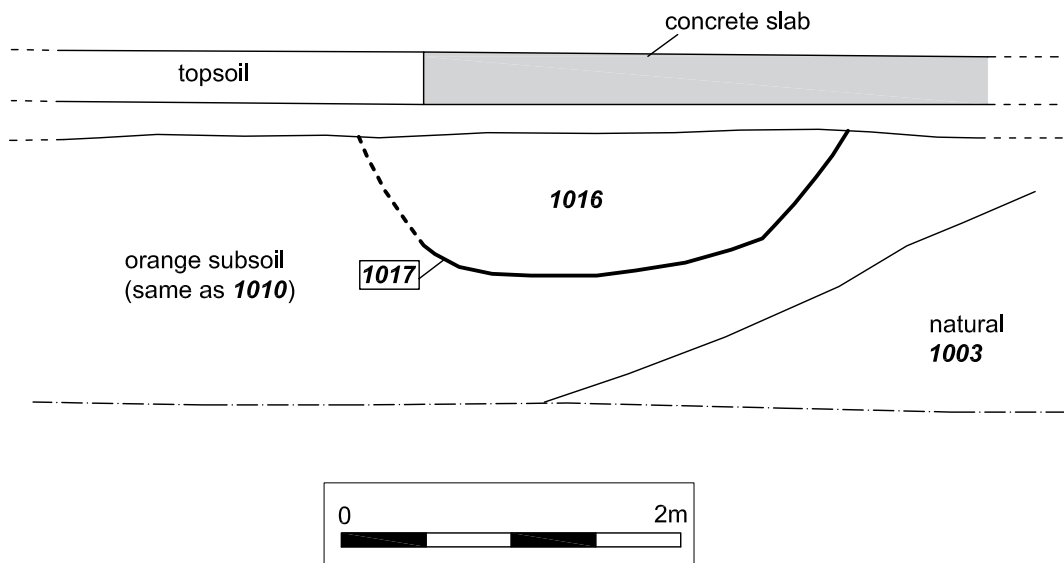
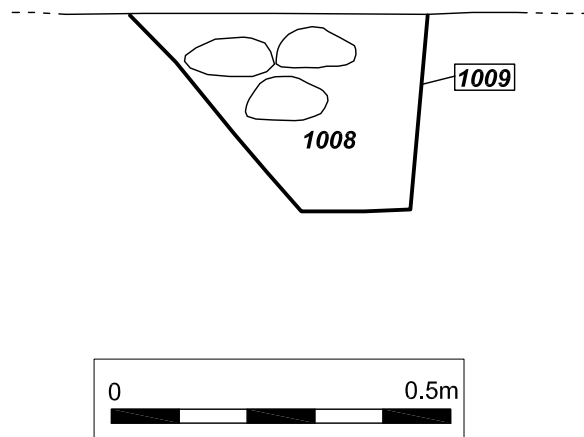


Figure 4: Plan of features identified during the watching brief

East-facing section through **1017** and deposits beneath the west property boundary



East-facing section through **1009**



Project:
Mill Road, Gleaston, Cumbria

Project Code: G1068

Site Code: GL07

Key:

- extent of excavation
- cut feature **1003** context
- projected line

Date: January 2008



Figure 5: Measured sketch sections through **1009** and **1017**

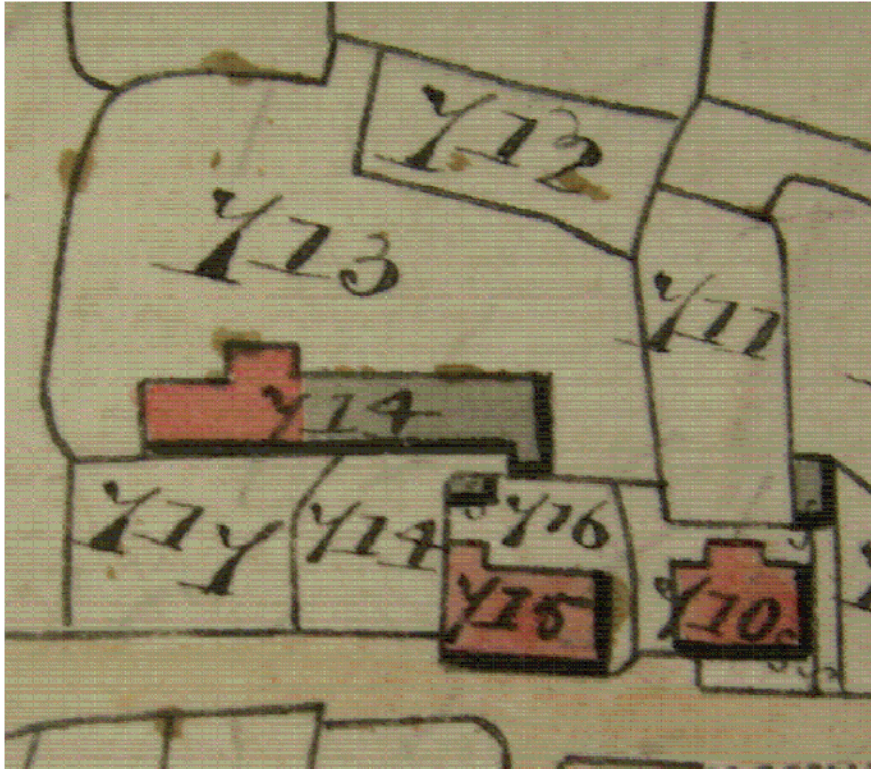


Plate 1: Part of the Tithe Map showing the plot and the earliest building recorded on the site (714) and stackyards (713) (CRO(B) BPR 21 1848)



Plate 2: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of 1890 showing the row of cottages built on the plot replacing the earlier building



Plate 3: General view of the site during the removal of topsoil



Plate 4: Large boulders making up part of wall **1005**



Plate 5: Linear feature **1009** as revealed during the watching brief



Plate 6: Pit **1015** and the adjacent end of **1009** (to the right) as revealed during the watching brief



Plate 7: Brick drain junction capped with slate revealed behind the retaining wall during the watching brief

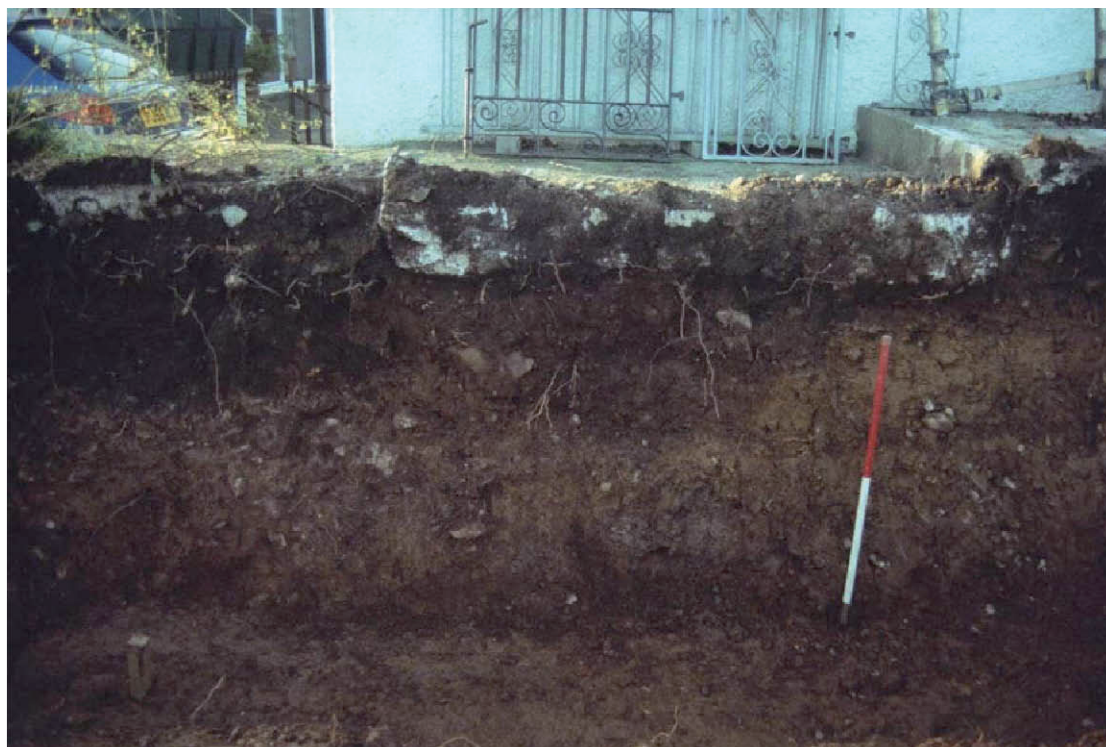


Plate 8: Large pit **1017** as revealed beneath the property boundary during the watching brief showing the slope of the natural and subsoil deposits beneath