

**LAND ADJACENT TO
ST NINIAN'S CHURCH,
HORNBY HALL,
PENRITH,
CUMBRIA**



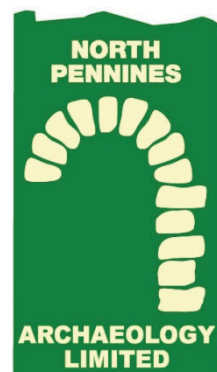
**RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

CP. No: 1356/10

07/06/2011

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
NENTHEAD MINES HERITAGE CENTRE,
NENTHEAD,
ALSTON,
CUMBRIA,
CA9 3PD

TEL/FAX: (01434) 382045/043
WWW.NPARCHAEOLOGY.CO.UK



NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

DOCUMENT TITLE: St Ninian's Church, Brougham, Penrith, Cumbria
DOCUMENT TYPE: Rapid Desk-Based Assessment and Watching Brief Report
CLIENT: Electricity North West
CP NUMBER: 1356/10
SITE CODE: SNC-A
OASIS REFERENCE: northpen3-102717
PRINT DATE: 07/06/2011
GRID REFERENCE: NY 5605 2998

Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

REVISION SCHEDULE			
	01	02	03
PREPARED BY:	Fiona Wooler and Kevin Mounsey		
POSITION:	Project Supervisors		
DATE:	03/06/2011		
EDITED BY:	Frank Giocco		
POSITION:	Technical Director		
DATE:	03/06/2011		
APPROVED BY:	Martin Railton		
POSITION:	Project Manager		
DATE:	03/06/2011		

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd is a wholly owned company of North Pennines Heritage Trust (Company Registration No. 4847034; VAT Registration No. 817 2284 31). All rights reserved.

Disclaimer

No part of this report may be copied or reproduced, stored or transmitted by any means without prior written permission from North Pennines Archaeology Ltd, or the client for whom the work was carried out. The report has been produced specifically for the client's usage, and no other party may use, make use of or rely on the contents of the report; any person or party using or relying on this document for such purposes agrees, and with such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement, to indemnify NPA Ltd for all loss or damage resulting from their action. No liability is accepted by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd for any use of this report other than the use and purpose for which it was originally intended. Information contained in this report is provided by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd using due care and diligence and no explicit warranty is provided as to its accuracy. No independent verification of any information provided to North Pennines Archaeology Ltd has been made.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	6
1 INTRODUCTION	7
2 METHODOLOGY	8
2.1 Project Design	8
2.2 Rapid Desk Based Assessment.....	8
2.3 The Watching Brief.....	8
2.4 The Archive.....	9
3 BACKGROUND	11
3.1 Location and Geological Context	11
3.2 Historical Context	11
3.3 Historical Mapping	16
3.4 Aerial Photographs	17
4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF	18
4.1 Introduction	18
4.2 Archaeological Monitoring.....	18
4.3 Archaeological Finds and Environmental Sampling.....	18
5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	21
5.1 Conclusions.....	21
5.2 Recommendations.....	21
6 BIBLIOGRAPHY	22
6.1 Secondary Sources.....	22
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE	24
APPENDIX 2: FIGURES	25

ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES (APPENDIX 2)

FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION

FIGURE 2: LOCATION OF WATCHING BRIEF

FIGURE 3: EXTRACT FROM A REPRODUCTION OF JOHN SPEED'S MAP OF CUMBERLAND 1610

FIGURE 4: EXTRACT FROM THOMAS JEFFERYS MAP OF WESTMORLAND 1770

FIGURE 5: EXTRACT FROM HODGSON'S MAP OF WESTMORLAND 1828 (SURVEYED 1823-25)

FIGURE 6: EXTRACT FROM BROUGHAM TITHE MAP 1839

PLATES

PLATE 1: ELECTRIC POLE TO BE REPLACED WITH ST NINIAN'S CHURCH IN THE BACKGROUND (FACING SOUTH-WEST)19

PLATE 2: EXCAVATED TRENCH TO THE EAST OF THE EXISTING ELECTRIC POLE (FACING WEST).....19

PLATE 3: FINE GRAVELLY/SAND (100)20

PLATE 4: COARSE GRAVEL/STONES (101).....20

SUMMARY

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Electricity North West to undertake a rapid desk-based assessment and archaeological watching brief during the installation of a new electric pole on land to the north-east of St Ninian's Church, Brougham, Penrith, Cumbria (NGR NY 5605 2998). The work is required as the site lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument, consisting of the site of St Ninian's pre-Conquest monastic site, site of a nucleated settlement, St Ninian's Church and Churchyard (SM No. 23678).

The rapid desk-based assessment involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the County Records Office in Kendal, the local studies section at Carlisle Library, and the consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Cumbria based in Kendal. The HER includes the locations and settings of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens and other, non-designated archaeological remains. In addition, a number of published sources were consulted to provide background information, including the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken over one day on 19th May 2011. The watching brief monitored the excavation of one trench, by mechanical excavator, in order to remove an existing wooden electric cable pole and replace it with a new one. Excavation of the trench revealed two distinct layers of river gravels along with the level of the water table. No archaeological remains were noted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Gregg Davies of Electricity North West, for commissioning the project. NPA Ltd would also like to thank Jo Mackintosh, Historic Environment Record Officer, Cumbria County Council, and Stephen White, Carlisle Library Local Studies. Further thanks are extended to staff at the County Record Office in Kendal for their help during this project.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to all the Electricity North West site staff, for their help during this project.

The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken by Fiona Wooler. The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Kevin Mounsey. The report was written by Fiona Wooler and Kevin Mounsey. The project was managed and edited by Frank Giecco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 North Pennines Archaeology were commissioned by Electricity North West to maintain an archaeological watching brief on land to the north-east of St Ninian's Church, Brougham, Penrith, Cumbria (NGR NY 5605 2998; Figure 1), during groundworks associated with the installation of a new electricity pole. The proposed works lie within the immediate vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument consisting of St Ninian's pre-Conquest monastic site, site of a nucleated settlement, St Ninian's Church and Churchyard (SM No. 23678). As a result, Andrew Davison, Inspector of Ancient Monuments Team Leader (North), English Heritage requested that all intrusive groundworks be subject to a programme of archaeological observation and investigation. This is in line with government advice as set out in Planning Policy Statement 5 (Planning for the Historic Environment) 2010.
- 1.2 All groundworks associated with the removal of an old and erection of a new electric pole had to be excavated under full archaeological supervision and all stages of the archaeological work were undertaken following approved statutory guidelines (IfA 2008a), and were consistent with the specification provided by NPA Ltd (Giecco 2010) and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.3 This report outlines the monitoring work undertaken on-site and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd in response to a request by Electricity North West, for an archaeological watching brief of the study area. Following acceptance of the project design by Andrew Davison of English Heritage North West Region, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake the work. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 RAPID DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The rapid desk-based assessment involved the consultation of the County Historic Environment Record in Kendal in the first instance. This included the collection of all available information held within the HER database, in order to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site. Aerial photographs for the area were also examined in order to gain an adequate understanding of the context of the archaeological fieldwork.

2.2.2 Following this the County Records Office at Kendal and the local studies section of Carlisle Library were consulted in order to study maps and documents relevant to the study area. This included the collection of historic maps, including Tithe or Enclosure maps and early Ordnance Survey maps, and other 18th and 19th century mapping. Several secondary sources and journals, such as the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, were also consulted.

2.2.3 The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (IfA 2008b).

2.3 THE WATCHING BRIEF

2.3.1 The works involved a structured watching brief to observe, record and excavate any archaeological deposits from the electric pole replacement site. A watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons, on a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where

there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed (IfA 2008a).

2.3.2 The aims and principal methodology of the watching brief can be summarised as follows:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record them;
- to carry out further excavation and recording work in adequate time, if intact archaeological remains are uncovered during the project;
- to accurately tie the area watched by the archaeologist into the National Grid at an appropriate scale, with any archaeological deposits and features adequately levelled;
- to sample environmental deposits encountered as required, in line with English Heritage (2002) guidelines;
- to produce a photographic record of all contexts using colour digital, and monochrome formats as applicable, each photograph including a graduated metric scale;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful of dating purposes;
- to produce a site archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and MoRPHE standards (English Heritage 2006).

2.3.3 A trench measuring 2.50m in length, 0.50m in width and 1.80m in depth was excavated on the eastern side of an existing electric cable pole (Figure 2) revealing a series of river gravels. Archaeological monitoring and supervision of groundworks was carried out over a single day on 19th May 2011. A summary of the findings of the watching brief is included within this report.

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2007). The archive will be deposited within an appropriate repository, with copies of the report sent to the County Historic Environment Record at Kendal, where viewing will be made available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA10, SNC-A, CP 1356/10.

2.4.2 North Pennines Archaeology, and Cumbria County Council, support the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)**

project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 St Ninian's Chapel is located to the south-east of the market town of Penrith, on the south side of the River Eamont and to the north side of the modern A66 trunk road (Figure 1). The site of the electric cable pole, within the scheduled area, consists of a series of flat, grassed fields forming part of the River Eamont flood plain. The river forms a meandering loop just north of the site forming steep, red sandstone cliffs on the north bank.
- 3.1.2 The underlying geology is Permian basal breccias, sandstone and mudstone (British Geological Survey North Sheet, Third Edition Solid 1979) with overlying Moraninic Drift, glacial sand, gravel and Alluvium (British Geological Survey North Sheet, First Edition Quaternary, 1977). The overlying soils are known as Wick 1 soils, which are typical brown earths. These consist of glacio-fluvial or river terrace drift.

3.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area.
- 3.2.2 **Prehistoric (pre-AD71/72):** St Ninian's Chapel is situated within an area which is rich in archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric period. Located approximately 4km to the west of the chapel is the village of Eamont Bridge, where the remains of Mayburgh Henge and King Arthur's Round Table are clearly visible, and to the south of the village is the now lost Little Round Table.
- 3.2.3 Approximately 3km to the south of the Chapel is the remain of a prehistoric barrow, located on the south side of Leacet Plantation, which in 1936 consisted only of seven stones forming part of a circle. The barrow was excavated in 1880 when three additional stones were found north of the plantation wall. In the middle of the feature were the remains of a burnt burial, and at the base of four of the stones were burial urns ("five cinerary urns, one food vessel and one incense cup") dating to the Bronze Age (RCHME 1936, 1963).
- 3.2.4 Writing in 1959, W Douglas Simpson refers to a Beaker pot from Brougham being in the collection of the Society of Antiquities at Burlington House. The Beaker pot was believed to have been found in a 'short cist along with a food vessel. In this burial we have certain evidence of the presence of man at Brougham at least as early as c.1500BC' (Simpson 1959, 69). The exact location of this 'short

- cist' is not given, however the HER records 'Brougham Beaker Burial', a cist discovered while quarrying for sand in the 19th century, on the south side of the A66 close to the site of the Countess Pillar (HER No. 2865); this may be the cist described by Simpson.
- 3.2.5 Located to the south-west of St Ninian's Church, on the opposite side of the River Eamont, but to the north side of the A66, the HER records a site described as 'Brougham Enclosure', where aerial photographs have revealed an irregular sub-rectangular feature, as well as other indeterminate cropmarks within the field (NY 3553 5293). These cropmarks have been suggested to potentially date to the Iron Age, or possibly the later Romano-British period (HER No. 2861). Further cropmarks have been noted on aerial photographs to the south-west of St Ninian's Church, beneath what is now the line of the A66 trunk road. Here, sherds of Peterborough Ware pottery were found whilst a trench was excavated suggesting a Bronze Age date for the cropmarks (HER No. 2864).
- 3.2.6 In 1966 and 1967, rescue excavations were undertaken at the site of the Roman cemetery in advance of extensive alterations to part of the A66, to the south-west of St Ninian's Church. During these excavations, four worked flints and an utilised pebble were discovered at approximate grid reference NY 545 290, which suggested that there had been some prehistoric occupation of the site. Two sherds of Peterborough-type Neolithic pottery was found at NY 544 290, and more flints were collected near the same location. These finds have indicated that the site was utilised 2000 years or more before the Roman occupation (Fell 1972, 36).
- 3.2.7 **Roman (c.AD71/72-410):** located to the west of St Ninian's Church, and immediately to the south of Brougham Castle, is the site of the Roman fort and settlement of *Brocavum*. The HER records this site as a classic fort platform with ditches preserved on three sides, and the fourth side (north) is the south moat of Brougham Castle. The fort covers an area of approximately 4.5 acres. Pottery, coins and inscriptions suggest the fort to have been built or rebuilt in the 2nd century AD and occupation continued into the 4th century. It has been suggested that there may have been an earlier, smaller 1st century fort on the site (HER No. 2888). The site of the associated settlement, or vicus, is recorded in the HER to be located at NY 354 529, on the north side of the modern A66 to the east. Nothing is now visible on the ground of the vicus (HER No. 2990).
- 3.2.8 Located to the south-west of St Ninian's Church, on the line of the modern A66 trunk road, is Brougham Roman Cemetery, where excavations in the 1960s in advance of road works revealed over 200 burials, mostly cremations, ranging in date from the 2nd to the 4th century. Among the

objects found were inscribed and sculptured stones, stone cists, bone objects, glass, pottery, jewellery and an enamelled bronze cup (HER No. 2843). The cemetery was in use during the 3rd century AD. The dead were cremated, and their remains were interred primarily in the form of urned cremation burials accompanied by other pottery vessels and sometimes by ones of glass. A range of other funerary features were revealed during excavations on the site in 1966 and 1967, including deposits of pyre debris (Cool 2004).

- 3.2.9 The site of the Roman fort, vicus and cemetery at Brougham are located approximately 2km to the west of St Ninian's Church. There is, however, some evidence for Roman activity closer to the church site. A hoard of 3rd century date coins was discovered when digging a grave in the churchyard in 1914 (HER No. 2856). This hoard consisted of 23 tiny coins of a type known as '*barbarous radiates*'. There was a suggestion that these coins dated to the 'dark age' (6th century) (see Bouch 1956, 108), however further analysis has confirmed a 3rd century date (Greenwood 2007, 4). A possible Roman altar stone was also found in the churchyard (HER No. 2860; RCHME 1936, 56), although it is, of course, possible that a Roman altar stone could have been brought to the site from further to the west, and its presence, if it is indeed Roman in date, does not necessarily suggest Roman activity close to the site of St Ninian's Church.
- 3.2.10 The HER also records possible Romano-British field systems and trackways located on the north side of the River Eamont, opposite the St Ninian's Church site, close to Highbarn Cottage. These features were revealed as cropmarks on aerial photographs and include a sub-circular/D-shaped feature (HER No. 3412).
- 3.2.11 **Early Medieval (c.AD410-1066):** the church at Brougham is dedicated to St Ninian, and is often referred to as 'Ninekirks'. It is a widely held view that the name 'Ninekirks' refers to St Ninian, who was born on the Solway, travelled to Rome, and returned to Britain in 397AD, some years before the Romans left Britain. St Ninian was apparently in Rome at the same time as St Martin of Tours, who founded a monastery on the River Loire in France, where he lived alongside cave-dwellers. Greenwood notes that this may have been significant with regard to the site of St Ninian's Church, as there are a set of caves on the opposite side of the river known as the 'Giants Caves' or more obscurely as '*Isis Parlis*' (Greenwood 2007, 4) (HER No. 2918).
- 3.2.12 Located immediately to the east of the enclosure in which St Ninian's Church is situated is the site of cropmarks noted from aerial photography. These cropmarks are believed to reveal the site of a monastic settlement of apparent early medieval Irish influence. A similar site in Scotland was

occupied from the 7th century onward, which is later than St Ninian himself, however as Greenwood notes this *'doesn't preclude the Ninekirks site dating from the end of the 4th century and being found by St Ninian in person'* (Greenwood 2007, 7). The site of the cropmarks to the east of St Ninian's Church has not been archaeologically excavated therefore it is, as yet, not known if these relate to an early medieval monastic site.

- 3.2.13 There is some evidence for settlement in the area around St Ninian's Church in the early medieval period. Trial excavations in 1990 and 1991 located traces of a settlement site at Fremington, located to the south-west of the church site, on the south side of the A66 and to the east of the site of Brougham Castle (see Figure 1). Three sunken structures were identified as buildings with a post hole at the centre of the gable ends; one of the buildings had a sandstone hearth. Finds from the excavations indicated occupation in both the Roman and early medieval periods, although most dated to between the 7th and 9th centuries. According to Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, who undertook the excavations, this work had conclusively demonstrated the existence of post-Roman settlement, with sunken buildings, in the north-west of England (HER No. 16791).
- 3.2.14 **Medieval (c.AD1066-1540):** writing with reference to a charter between Gilbert de Brougham and Robert de Veteripont c.1230AD, Rev. Bouch refers to a 'town of Brougham' believed to have been located beside the parish church, which during the medieval period was dedicated to St Wilfred not St Ninian (Bouch 1951, 83). It has been suggested that the town or village of Brougham was 'flattened' in the 13th century when the de Veteripont's enlarged their hunting grounds in Whinfell Forest (Thomas 1992, 3). Documentary evidence appears to support this suggestion, as Rev. Bouch noted that *'in the bounder of the barony, dated 1284, the "town" or village is not mentioned, but only the "walled church of Brougham"; and the wording of the document suggests that these lands were now within the forest of Whinfell'* (Bouch 1951, 83).
- 3.2.15 There is some evidence for the church to have been in existence in the 12th century in the form of a fragment of moulded-stone built into the east wall of the chancel, and there are 13th century coffin lids on the site (Bouch 1951, 87; Lees 1880, 421).
- 3.2.16 It is not known when or by whom Brougham Castle, which occupies the northern side of the Roman fort, was founded. It may have been built by Gospatric, son of Orm, to whom an estate here was granted by Henry II after he recovered Cumbria from the Scottish kings. The keep is assumed to date from the 1170s or 80s and soon afterwards the castle passed to the Vipont family who erected a block east of the keep. In the mid-13th century a

Vipont heiress married Roger de Clifford, their son inherited Brougham and built the castle walls, whilst his son constructed the tower in the south-west corner (Salter 2002, 25).

- 3.2.17 **Post-medieval (c.AD1540-1900):** the present St Ninian's Church was built in 1660 by Lady Anne Clifford '*built bigger and better*' than the church which had existed before that date (Burbury 1970). In June 1649, Lady Anne returned to the north of England following the English Civil War to claim her estates. It has been suggested that she found her castles in the estates in varying states of disrepair and neglect, and her churches at Brougham, Kirkby Thore, Mallerstang and Appleby damaged and desecrated by the parliamentarians (Clifford 1990, 97). In Lady Anne's diaries, an entry in the year 1659 included '*And the beginning of this summer, a little before my coming out of Westmorland, did I cause the Church of Nine Kirke to be pulled down and new built up againe in the same place, larger and bigger than it was before, which was finished the latter end of the summer. And this church of Nine Kirke would in all likelihood have fallen downe it was soe ruinous, if it had not bin repayred by mee*' (ibid, 141). It must be noted that Lady Anne was responsible for not only rebuilding what is now known as St Ninian's Church, but also the chapel known as St Wilfred's which is located immediately west of Brougham Hall (Pevsner 2002, 235). Brougham Castle was also subject to a programme of restoration by Lady Anne Clifford, Dowager Countess of Pembroke, Dorset and Montgomery (Salter 2002, 25).
- 3.2.18 Writing in 1973, Frank Carruthers noted that the interior of St Ninian's Chapel still retained many features which dated to the Lady Anne's rebuilding in the 17th century. The font is dated 1662; there is a 1661 date on one of the pews and the poor box is dated 1662 (Carruthers 1973).
- 3.2.19 Thomas Denton, in his observations during his perambulations of Cumberland 1680s referred to St Ninian's Church being called 'Nine Church'. He also described the Countess Pillar located on the south side of the modern A66 to the south-west of the church: '*This Ann, countess of Pembrok, erected a four square pillar in the highway from Penreth to Appleby, in memory of the last parting there with her mother, the countess of Cumberland, and a stone close by it, whereon every Lady Day 20 nobles is payd to 20 poor widows. Two miles further on the road, by the park wall, stands a tree called the Harts-horn Tree, where there yet stands part of a deers-horn and a place in the next adjoining tree where a greyhounds head was fixed*' (Winchester 2003, 401). There is mention of this 'Hartshorne Tree' in Lady Anne's diaries, in which she refers to a tree where the horns of stags hunted in the park were nailed '*groweing as it were naturally in the Tree, and have remained there ever since [1333] till that in the year 1648 one of these Hornes was broken downe by some of the Army*' (Clifford 1990, 139).

- 3.2.20 Hornby Hall located to the east of St Ninian's Church is believed to date to the middle of the 16th century, probably by Edward Birkbeck. The porch was built in c.1584 and alterations were made in the early 17th century (there is an inscribed lintel with the initials and date T.I.B 1602) (RCHME 1936, 62).
- 3.2.21 St Ninian's Church underwent a programme of alteration in the mid-19th century when it *'was considerably altered at the expense of the parish when the Brougham Vaults were built in 1841'*. Burbury referred to a vault belonging to the Byrd family being in existence and that the skeletons of 13 bodies in the Byrd vault were *'shovelled into one corner and sealed off'* when the Brougham Vault was created. One of the stones which covered the Byrd Vault was noted in 1970 to have been located outside the church; this cover was dated 1648 and was to Isabella, the wife of Emmanuel Byrd (Burbury 1970).
- 3.2.22 Writing in 1860, Whellan described Brougham Church: *'Brougham Church, dedicated to St Ninian, stands on the borders of a meadow, close to the River Eamont, at a point where there is a ford. It is about two miles from the nearest village, called Woodside, and still further from the place where the town of Brougham formerly stood; there is no trace of any habitations having ever existed near it. It is generally called Ninekirks, and is best known in the neighbourhood by that name'* (Whellan 1860, 789).

3.3 HISTORICAL MAPPING

- 3.3.1 A limited range of cartographic sources were consulted as part of the rapid desk-based assessment in order to obtain some information on the historical character of the area around St Ninian's Church. The following maps were consulted and have been reproduced as figures in Appendix 2:
- 3.3.2 ***Reproduction of John Speed's Map of Cumberland 1610 (Figure 3):*** although this map is largely concerned with Cumberland, rather than Westmorland in which Brougham parish was historically located, it does show sites of interest along the border between the two counties. A small vignette of a church is shown and annotated *'Nynechurches'* to the east of *'Penreth'*, indicating that there was a church at the site prior to the rebuilding of the structure by Lady Anne in the 17th century. To the east of *Nynechurches* is *'Hornby'* indicating that there was a notable property in the location of the modern Hornby Hall at this date. Brougham Castle is labelled, set on the edge of what appears to be shown as a fenced-in *'Whinfeld Forest'*.
- 3.3.3 ***Thomas Jeffery's Map of Westmorland 1770 (Figure 4):*** Jeffery's map clearly shows *'Nine Churches'* located to the east of Brougham Castle, Brougham Hall and the site of the Roman fort of *Brovomacum*. The location of the small settlement of Woodside, which was referred to by Whellan in 1860 (see 3.2.22 above) is shown to the east of the church site, and to the east again is

the site of the hart Horn Tree' which was referred to by Lady Anne Clifford in her diaries (see 3.2.19).

- 3.3.4 ***Hodgson's Map of Westmorland 1828 (Surveyed 1823-25) (Figure 5):*** this small-scale map labels the site as 'St Ninian's or Nine Church' with a small vignette of the building, located within a loop of the River Eamont. A track runs from Hornby Hall in a south-westerly direction to join another track or footpath to the south of the church. The sites of Brougham Castle, Countess Pillar and the Hart Horn Tree are all annotated on this map.
- 3.3.5 ***Brougham Tithe Map 1839 (Figure 6):*** this Tithe Map and accompanying Award indicate that in 1839 St Ninian's Church, or 'Nine Church' as it is labelled, was located on land which was associated with Hornby Hall, a farm which was owned by the Earl of Lonsdale and occupied by Thomas Nelson at this date. Plot 88, in which the church was located, was described in the Award as 'Nine Church Holme and Wood', an arable field which totalled approximately 53 acres.

3.4 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

- 3.4.1 Several aerial photographs housed at the HER in Kendal were consulted for any information on potential features located close to the site of the electric cable pole. Six aerial photographs were viewed, each of which were taken from different directions. These showed a sub-circular enclosure to the east of the church, with what appears to be a rectangular feature within its interior, to the southern side. This cropmark is what has been interpreted as an early medieval monastic site (for example aerial photographs NY5529/N and NY5529/R).
- 3.4.2 Several photographs clearly show cropmarks immediately to the north of the church enclosure in the form of a series of parallel lines, three orientated north to south, and one orientated roughly east to west (for example NY5529/S and NY552/P).
- 3.4.3 Although less distinct, some of the photographs appeared to show possible features within the Scheduled area, and on one view a possible former field boundary or track was noted running north to south to the east of the church (NY5529/Q)

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The watching brief monitoring was undertaken over one day on 19th May 2011. One small trench was excavated immediately adjacent to, on the eastern side, of an existing electric cable pole in order to remove it and replace it with a new one (Figure 2). The pole was situated within a Scheduled Ancient Monument consisting of St Ninian's pre-Conquest monastic site, site of a nucleated settlement, St Ninian's Church and churchyard (SM No. 23678).

4.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

4.2.1 The location of the pole was within a meandering loop of the River Eamont, on its southern flood plain (Plate 1). A small rectangular trench measuring 2.50m in length, 0.50m in width and 1.80m in depth was excavated by a tracked mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket. Coarse river cobbles (101) measuring 0.60m in depth were overlain by 1.20m of fine gravelly sand (100) (Plates 2-4). At a depth of c.1.50m an ingress of water indicated the level of the water table. No significant archaeological features were observed.

4.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

4.3.1 No archaeological finds were recovered, and no environmental samples were retained during the groundworks.



Plate 1: Electric Pole to be replaced with St Ninian's Church in the background (facing south-west)



Plate 2: Excavated trench to the east of the existing electric pole (facing west)



Plate 3: Fine gravelly/sand (100)



Plate 4: Coarse gravel/stones (101)

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 The site of the electric pole that was replaced is situated on an area of flood plain on the south side of the River Eamont. The excavated trench revealed that the electric cable pole, which had been inserted into the ground to a depth of 1.80m, was enveloped by layers of graded river gravels. No significant archaeological features were disturbed by the replacement of the old pole with a new one.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 As this watching brief was conducted as a condition of groundworks associated with the erection of a new electric cable pole, no further archaeological work is deemed necessary. However, given the site's location within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM No. 23678) consisting of St Ninian's pre-Conquest monastic site, a site of a nucleated settlement and St Ninian's Church and Churchyard, it is recommended that any work conducted in the future be subject to a similar programme of archaeological investigation.

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

6.1 SECONDARY SOURCES

Bouch, Rev. C.M.L, 1951, *Ninekirks, Brougham*, Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Second Series, Volume L

Bouch, Rev. C.M.L, 1956, *A Dark Age Coin-Hoard from Ninekirks, Brougham*, Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Second Series, Volume LV

British Geological Survey, 1977, *North Sheet, First Edition (Quaternary)*

British Geological Survey, 1979, *North Sheet, Third Edition (Solid)*

Brown, D.H, 2007, *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum

Burbury, T.E.T, 1970, *Brougham Chapel: Ninekirks, Westmorland* [copy housed at Carlisle Library Local Studies]

Carruthers, F, 1973, *A Chapel Built by a Countess*, Article in the Evening News and Star Newspaper, Wednesday May 2nd 1973 [copy housed at Carlisle Library Local Studies]

Clifford, D.J.H (Editor), 1990, *The Diaries of Lady Anne Clifford*, Stroud: Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd

Cool, H.E.M, 2004, *The Roman Cemetery at Brougham, Cumbria*, Britannia Monograph Series No. 21, London: Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies

DCLG, 2010, *PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Policy HE6)*. Department for Communities and Local Government

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, London, English Heritage

English Heritage, 2002, *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recording to Post-Excavation*, London, English Heritage

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, London: English Heritage

Fell, C, 1972, *Neolithic Finds from Brougham*, Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Second Series, Volume LXXII

Giecco, F.O. 2010, *Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief on Land Adjacent to St. Ninian's Church, Hornby Hall Cumbria*. North Pennines Archaeology Ltd, Unpublished Project Design.

Greenwood T, 2007, *Ninekirks "An Old Renovated Church in a Curious Spot": A Brief History of Ninekirks, Brougham* [copy housed at Kendal Record Office]

IfA, 2008a, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*, Reading: Institute for Archaeologists

IfA, 2008b, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments*, Reading: Institute for Archaeologists

Lees, Rev. T, 1880, *St Ninian's Church, Brougham*, Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, First Series, Volume IV

Pevnsner, N, 2002, *The Buildings of England: Cumberland and Westmorland*, London: Yale University Press

RCHME, 1936, *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Westmorland*, Royal Commission on Historical Monuments England, London: His Majesty's Stationery Office

Salter, M, 2002, *The Castles and Tower Houses of Cumbria*, Malvern: Folly Publications

Simpson, W.D, 1959, *Brocavum, Ninekirks and Brougham: A Study in Continuity*, Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Second Series, Volume LVIII

Thomas, M, 1992, *A History of Brougham Hall and High Head Castle*, Phillimore

UKIC, 1990, *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage*

Whellan, W, 1860, *History and Topography of Cumberland and Westmorland*, Pontefract: W Whellan & Co

Winchester, A.J.L, 2003, *Thomas Denton: A Perambulation of Cumberland 1687-1688*, The Surtees Society and Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, Woodbridge: The Boydell Press

Maps

Reproduction of *John Speed's Map of Cumberland 1610*

Reproduction in Four Sections of *Thomas Jefferys Map of Westmorland 1770*

Hodgson's Map of Westmorland 1828 (Surveyed 1823-25) (Kendal Record Office Ref: WDX/103)

Brougham Tithe Map and Award 1839 (Kendal Record Office Ref: WDRC/8/19)

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Context Type	Description
100	Deposit	Gravelly/Sand Topsoil
101	Deposit	Coarse Gravel/River Rounded Stones

List of Contexts issued during Watching Brief

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES
