

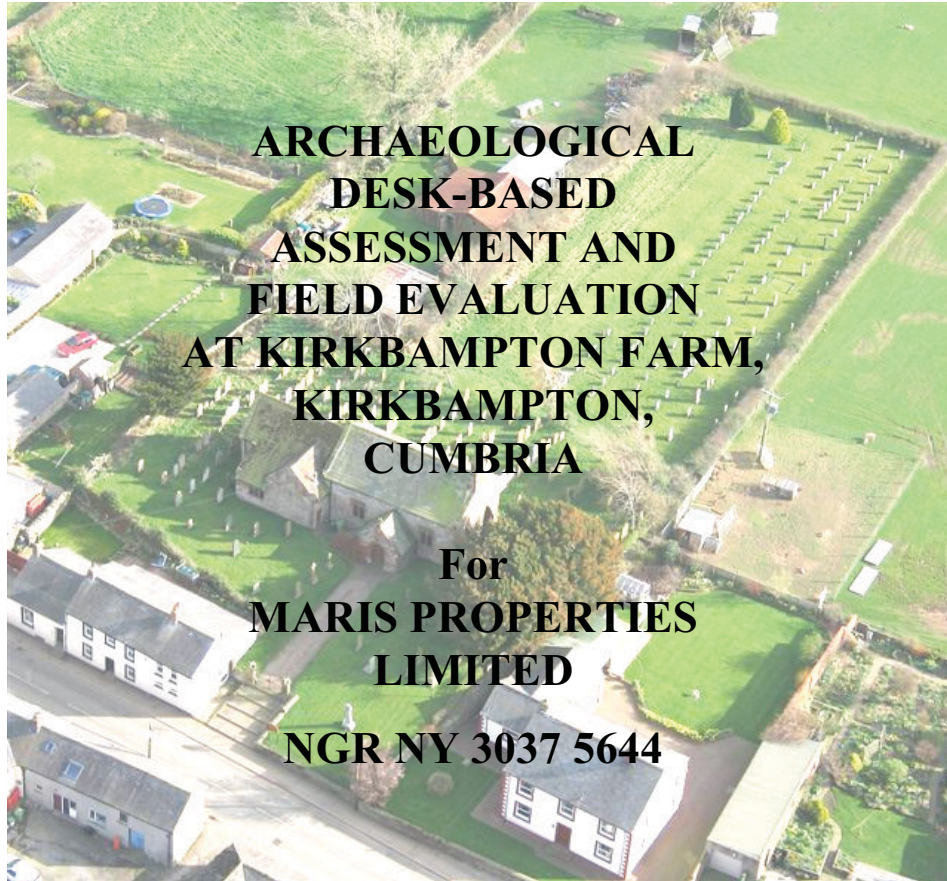
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# **NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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**Client Report No. 379/06**

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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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In October 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation on land at Kirkbampton Farm, Kirkbampton, Cumbria (NY 3037 5644). Stephen Lavery of Maris Properties Limited had submitted a planning application for the re-development of redundant farm buildings into residential dwellings. As a result, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) recommended a programme of archaeological works be undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation submitted to and approved by CCCHES. The initial stage of work consisted of a rapid desk-based assessment, followed by the excavation of a series of linear trial trenches.

The results of the desk-based assessment indicated the possibility of some Roman activity in the area. Hadrian's Wall and the fort at Burgh by Sands are just less than 2 miles to the north. Evidence shows that the village and the associated field system were in existence during the medieval period. At that time the village was known as Banton or Bampton. Construction of a church saw the village name evolve into Kirkbampton. Linear in nature, along the north and south sides of what is now the B5307 road, the village continued in existence into the post medieval period. Present day Kirkbampton has seen relatively little modern, peripheral development. Kirkbampton Farm is situated at the western end of the village on the south side of the road. The village and some of the surrounding fields, still retain what is essentially a medieval layout.

The desk-based assessment located 26 sites from the HER and other sources within a 1km radius of the development area. These include: Bronze Age findspots (Site **16**); numerous Iron Age/Romano-British settlement sites, such as Oughterby Settlement (Site **01**); medieval ridge and furrow (Site **25**); post-medieval listed houses, such as Croft House (Site **09**); and a modern WWII military camp (Site **26**).

The evaluation identified archaeological features in only one of the four trenches excavated. Three trenches investigated the farmyard whilst the remaining trench was placed inside a redundant cattle shed. Several features of post-medieval date consisting of a late 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century rubbish pit that presumably related to agricultural activities and a shallow linear cut for a field drain were revealed.

The results of the evaluation indicate that the proposed re-development will not directly impact on significant archaeological remains, and as such the present programme of works should be sufficient to allow the development to continue.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPAL) would like to thank Steven and David Lavery of Maris Property Consultants for commissioning the project and for their assistance during the fieldwork.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Jo Mackintosh of the Cumbria County Historic Environment Record (HER) in Kendal, and Jeremy Parsons, Assistant Archaeologist, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Kevin Mounsey. The evaluation was undertaken by Kevin Mounsey under the supervision of NPAL Supervisor, Jo Beaty. The report was written by Martin Sowerby and the drawing were produced by Nicola Gaskell. The project was managed by Frank Giocco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Juliet Reeves.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) were consulted prior to a planning application to be submitted regarding the re-development of redundant farm buildings at Kirkbampton Farm, Kirkbampton, Cumbria (NGR NY 3037 5644). This will leave the current farmhouse buildings still standing, whilst the barn, slurry area and cattle shed will be demolished. Consequently, CCCHES advised that a programme of archaeological works would be necessary prior to any proposed development application. North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPAL) were commissioned by Maris Properties Limited to undertake the required archaeological desk-based assessment of the general area around the village of Kirkbampton, and an evaluation within the development area itself.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Cumbria County Record Offices in Carlisle (CRO(C), and the Cumbria Historic Environment Record Office in Kendal (CHER), as well as the archives and library held by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd. The principal objective of this assessment was to undertake sufficient work in order to identify and characterise the archaeological and historic potential of the site.
- 1.1.3 The field evaluation comprised the excavation of a series of linear trial trenches in order to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains. The principal objective of this evaluation was to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of any archaeological remains and to record these were they were observed. In total four trenches were to be excavated, comprising a 5% sample of the area.
- 1.1.4 This report presents the results of the desk-based assessment and field evaluation, outlining the findings of the work, followed by a statement of archaeological potential for the area, an assessment of the impact of the proposed development, and recommendations for further work if required.

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## 2 METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd in response to a request by Alan Lavery of Maris Properties Limited for a desk-based assessment and field evaluation within a complex of farm buildings at Kirkbampton farm, Kirkbampton, Cumbria and in accordance with a brief prepared by CCHES (Parsons 2006). Following acceptance of the project design, 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 of Field Archaeologists (IFA), and generally accepted best practice.

### 2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted, in accordance with the project brief and project design. The study area consisted of a 1 kilometre radius centred on the proposed development area (see Figure 2). The principal sources of information were the Historic Environment Record (HER), maps and secondary sources.

2.2.2 ***Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER):*** the HER in Kendal, a database of archaeological sites within the county, was accessed. This was in order to obtain information on the location of all designated sites and areas of historic interest and any other, non-designated sites within the study area, which included monuments, findspots, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. A brief record including grid reference and description was obtained for the various sites within the study area, and was examined in depth.

2.2.3 ***Cumbria County Record Office, Carlisle:*** the County Record Office in Carlisle (CRO(C)) was visited to consult documents specific to the study area. Historic maps of the study area, including surveys, Tithe and Enclosure Maps, Acts of Parliament and early Ordnance Survey maps, were examined. A search was made for any relevant historical documentation, particularly regarding the use of the area, drawing on the knowledge of the archivists. Several secondary sources and relevant websites were also consulted.

2.2.4 ***English Heritage NMR and Archaeology Data Service:*** an electronic enquiry was also made of English Heritage's National Monuments Record and the website of the Archaeology Data Service. This was in order to enhance and augment the data obtained from a search of the appropriate repositories.

2.2.5 ***North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPAL):*** various publications and unpublished reports on excavations and other work in the region are held within the North Pennines Archaeology library.

### 2.3 SITE VISIT

2.3.1 The site was visited in order to assess the survival, nature, extent and potential significance of any upstanding archaeological remains on the site, to determine any



constraints to archaeological site survival, and to provide a detailed assessment of areas of archaeological potential.

## **2.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION**

2.4.1 The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of four linear trial trenches measuring 20m by 1.60m, in order to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relevant importance against known development proposals.

In summary, the main objectives of the evaluation were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed,
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover paleoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.4.2 Each trench was mechanically excavated by a JCB 3CX backhoe loader equipped with a toothless ditching/grading bucket and a hydraulic breaker. The trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision, to either the top of any archaeological deposits, or the natural substrate, whichever was observed first.

2.4.3 Trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features investigated and recorded according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd standard procedure as set out in the Excavation manual (Giecco 2001).

## **2.5 ARCHIVE**

2.5.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design, and in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991). The archive will be deposited within an appropriate repository and a copy of the report given to the County Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be available on request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA 06 KIR-A.



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## 3 BACKGROUND

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### 3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.1.1 The village of Kirkbampton lies 9 kilometres west of Carlisle on the north Cumbrian Plain (Fig 1). It is situated on low-lying land, 29m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The B5307 road bisects the village in an east west direction. It is surrounded to the immediate north and south by an agricultural landscape consisting of arable fields and pastureland. The network of field boundaries still clearly retains some vestiges of the previous medieval, open field system.

3.1.2 The underlying solid geology of the area consists of undifferentiated mudstones, forming part of the Triassic Sherwood Sandstone group (Moseley 1978). The solid geology of the area is, however, masked by drift deposits. Two soil associations, the Clifton and Brickfield, dominate the soils of the North Cumbrian Plain (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).

### 3.2 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

3.2.1 **Palaeolithic:** the Palaeolithic period represents a time span covering almost the last half million years. Early material from the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic is uncommon on a national scale, and there are no known sites from the north-west region (Brennand and Hodgson 2004). For over 99 per cent of that time, the human communities in Britain were hunting and gathering, activities which were the mainstay of a subsistence economy. Naturally, such a lifestyle involved a high degree of mobility and the minimum of equipment and possessions, which in turn leaves behind very little trace in the archaeological record (Darvill 1987). Some time after 13,000 BP, Late Upper Palaeolithic societies returned to Britain. Evidence of occupation in the north-west at this date is extremely scarce, but the discovery of Late Upper Palaeolithic blades at Lindale Low cave, near Grange-over-Sands, and at Bart's Cave, Aldingham, on the Furness peninsula, mean that the existence of a Cumbrian Palaeolithic can no longer be entirely dismissed (Chamberlain and Williams 2001). However, as of yet no Palaeolithic material has been located within the area of Kirkbampton.

3.2.2 **Mesolithic:** by around 6,000 BC, the last of the major ice sheets had retreated. Rising sea levels submerged the land-bridge between Britain and continental Europe, an event that traditionally marks the beginning of the Mesolithic, or middle stone age period. With climatic amelioration the landscape became colonised with deciduous woodland and herbaceous plants. Rivers and estuaries attracted reeds and sedges along with an increasing wildlife population that created an ecosystem similar to the present day. Archaeological evidence left by nomadic, hunter-gatherer communities in Cumbria is scarce. The evidence for their intervention in the landscape is often hard to differentiate from natural causes. It has been suggested that charcoal found in peat deposits in the Solway area may be evidence of deliberate land clearance and management. At Solway Moss near Longtown there are many records of fires from the 6<sup>th</sup> millennium BC onwards. Around Scaleby Moss there is some of the earliest evidence for substantial clearance taking place around 4520-3990 BC. Fieldwork on both the limestone uplands and west Cumbrian coast has produced scatters of small stone tools known as microliths. These are diagnostic of the late Mesolithic period, between 6000 to 4000 BC

(McCarthy 2002, 35). The west Cumbrian coastal site of Eskmeals is perhaps the only major archaeological work to have been carried out on a Mesolithic site in the county (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 66-71, 151). Here surface scatters of geometric microliths and scrapers were recovered perhaps representing a single family or hunting unit (*ibid*, 69-70). Despite increasing palaeoecological evidence for Mesolithic activity in Cumbria, no Mesolithic material has been located close to Kirkbampton.

- 3.2.3 **Neolithic:** the Neolithic period has been traditionally associated with the adoption of farming in Britain. New types of sites appear, including permanent settlements and large ceremonial monuments. Civil engineering projects and communal works became a part of everyday life, and time and energy were invested in dividing and utilizing landscape resources on an unprecedented scale. The archaeological evidence currently available suggests considerable technological and sociological changes too (Darvill, 1987). The location of monuments of this period within Cumbria appears to suggest a shift in the emphasis of Neolithic activity from the coastal plain to the edge of the Lake District hills and the Eden Valley (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). Polished stone axes from the mines of the Langdale valley in the Cumbrian mountains were possibly first utilized in the late Mesolithic and were traded extensively throughout the British Isles. It is likely that by the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC, Neolithic inhabitants of Cumbria were part of an extensive trans-European trading network (Brennand and Hodgson, 2004).
- 3.2.4 The later Neolithic and earlier Bronze Ages are also characterised by increasing social sophistication and the emergence of hierarchical structures in human society. This is best reflected by the construction of large monuments, like the stone circles of Long Meg and Her Daughters near Penrith, Castlerigg near Keswick, and Swinside near Ulverston. These monuments have no obvious practical explanation, and are probably best seen as public works central to complex religious or spiritual practices.
- 3.2.5 The potential of the north Cumbrian plain for Neolithic material is demonstrated by recent work at Plasketlands near Mawbray. The excavation here revealed the first early Neolithic domestic structure to be found in Cumbria. It took the form of a large sub-rectangular ditched enclosure and was dated between 4032 BC and 3525 BC. This site and over 100 Neolithic stone axe finds from the Solway Plain area (Hodgkinson *et al*, 2000, 111) clearly suggests human intervention in the landscape during this period. Axe finds are often casual discoveries but several have been found during excavations in Carlisle. Close to Carlisle, at High Crosby, Neolithic activity in the form of pottery and stone tools, have been found during excavations (McCarthy, 2002, 37). Neolithic pottery was also discovered at Scotby Road, Carlisle (*ibid*, 37). Excavations adjacent to Carlisle airport, 8 kilometres north-east of Carlisle, have uncovered traces of a series of stones buried in pits forming part of an arc, perhaps a circle. Activity here has been dated between the Early Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (*ibid*, 39). No substantial Neolithic activity has been located close to Kirkbampton.
- 3.2.6 **Bronze Age:** in the Bronze Age (*c.* 2100BC to 700BC), human society continued to change and develop. Early metalwork finds are rare in Northern England, and metal production and ownership may have been the sole province of a privileged few. At Edderside, near Mawbray, a fine example of a Bronze Age rapier was discovered during ploughing (Hodgkinson *et al*, 113). Recent finds of Bronze Age metalwork in Cumbria include a Mid Bronze Age dagger blade from the south Lakeland area discovered by a metal detectorist in June 2004 (Frascarelli 2004). As well as Neolithic activity Bronze

Age activity was also discovered at High Crosby, near Carlisle (McCarthy 2002, 37). Scotby Road, Carlisle, has produced finds of Bronze Age pottery in the form of Beaker ware (*ibid*, 37). Close to this site, in Botcherby, Carlisle a small Bronze Age timber pit circle (9.5m in diameter) was excavated (*ibid*, 38). Aerial photography west of Carlisle has revealed two circles, approximately 110m and 60m in diameter, near to a number of ring ditches, perhaps ploughed out barrows (*ibid*, 39). Settlement sites dating to the Bronze Age are seldom identified, although, during the 1980's and 1990's, a programme of large scale upland surveys were undertaken by Lancaster University Archaeology Unit and more than thirteen thousand individual features were recorded on the western, southern and eastern Cumbrian fells (Quartermaine 2002). At Thurstonfield, 500m from the development area, a Bronze Age axe, a dagger, and a spearhead were found in or before 1891. It is not clear if they were found together, or on separate occasions at different locations (Site 16).

- 3.2.8 **Iron Age:** during the Iron Age the impression nationwide is of a major expansion in population as evidenced by an abundance of settlement sites. There is also clear evidence for a growing social complexity and hierarchy, as demonstrated by high status burials and contrasting settlement sites, for example hillforts compared to small farmsteads.
- 3.2.9 In Cumbria, however, settlement sites and burials that can be attributed to the Iron Age are hard to identify. Bewley contends that the North Cumbrian lowlands were sparsely populated during the first part of the Iron Age (quoted in Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 117). However aerial photographs of cropmarks on the North Cumbrian Plain have revealed a substantial number of enclosures (e.g. Sites 20-24 adjacent to the area), and it is quite possible that many of these are Iron Age in origin. Examples of these enclosures on hilltops, have been found at Scotby Road, Carlisle and Burgh-by-Sands (McCarthy 2002, 46). Swarthy Hill, near Mawbray is an example of a multivallate enclosure dating to the fifth century BC (*ibid*, 46). In the Kirkbampton area (all less than 3 kilometres from the development site) research and excavation has been carried out at three enclosures, Oughterby (Site 01), Fingland and Boustead Hill (Bewley 1986, 19-40). Although multi-period sites, Fingland and Boustead Hill were occupied during the Iron Age (*ibid*, 33).
- 3.2.10 **Romano-British:** the Roman advance on the northwest during the 70s and 80s AD may have been launched from bases in the northwest Midlands such as Wroxeter and Little Chester, proceeding north via the valleys of the Eden and Lune. By 72 AD the earliest timber fort was constructed at Carlisle (Philpott ed. 2004), and the campaigns of Agricola, governor of Britain AD 78-84, consolidated the Roman hold on the North. During the Roman period, there was certainly a heavy military presence in Cumbria. Hadrian's Wall, perhaps begun in 122 AD, was built to define the northern limit of the Roman empire and a network of military roads, forts and settlements soon sprung up around the focus of Hadrian's Wall (Breeze and Dobson 1976). Initiated by the Emperor Hadrian, the Wall was 4.2m high, 1.8m wide and eventually 117 kilometres long (*ibid*, 30-31). In front of the Wall ran a wide defensive ditch. The Wall stretched from Wallsend, on the River Tyne in the east, to Bowness on Solway in the west. A defensive line of forts, fortlets and watchtowers continued down the West Cumbrian coast to Ravenglass.

- 3.2.11 The nearest Roman fort is that of *Abballava*, the fort at Burgh-by-Sands. It is situated just under 3 kilometres to the north-west of Kirkbampton. Burgh by Sands was in an area west of the River Irthing where the Wall was initially constructed of turf to a thickness of 6m. Before completion of the frontier system, there was a major change in plan. It was decided to add much larger forts at regular intervals and to rebuild the turf section of the Wall in stone. Later a wide earthwork ditch known as the Vallum was constructed on the south side of the wall (Shotton 1996). At least three Roman forts were constructed at different sites at Burgh by Sands during the Roman occupation. They were probably built to defend two Solway fords, which could have been used by raiders at low tide.
- 3.2.12 In 1843, a small Roman altar was found in the vicinity of Kirkbampton at Foldsteads (Site **14**). Birley describes it as, “*one of the smallest inscribed altars ever found, only 3 7/8in. high by 2 7/16 in. across with the simple dedication deae Lati Lucius Ursei- that is to say, ‘To the goddess Latis, Lucius (son) of Urseus (dedicated this)’*” (Bellhouse 1961, 46). A Roman stone was found in the walls of Kirkbampton church during its restoration in 1870-71 (Site **04**). Measuring 0.35m by 0.27m it is now built into the south wall of the chancel. It bears the following inscription: - VEX. LEG. VI. P.F. FEC (refers to a vexillation of the sixth legion). It is believed to have originated from Hadrian’s Wall (Martindale 1913, 254). In 1915, what is believed to be a Roman spindle-whorl was recovered in Kirkbampton village (Site **07**). Plano-convex with decoration on the convex shape in the form of ten incised dots, it was recovered from garden soil, “*brought down from the pastures near the Roman site above the village*” (quoted in Richardson 1990, 27).
- 3.2.13 “*The site above the village*” refers to an earthwork known as Foldsteads (Site **15**). Sub-rectangular in form it is situated approximately 1.25 kilometres immediately to the south of the centre of Kirkbampton. The Roman altar stone mentioned above was found in a field adjacent to the earthwork, also called Foldsteads. Antiquarians in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, because of the altar find, the rectilinear shape, and the name “steads” suggesting a Roman fort, believed the site to be Roman (Wilson 1902, 414-415). However, after excavations carried out on the site by Canon James Wilson in 1901, he concluded that, “*in fact, everything that the spade revealed went counter to a Roman origin*” (1902, 416). He concluded that the site was probably, as local tradition stated, used as a place of safe retreat for the cattle during the time of the ‘*moss-trooping*’ (*ibid*, 417 and Harrison and Co’s 1861, 61). This statement probably refers to local and cross border raids by bands of lawless horsemen, sometimes referred to as ‘*reivers*’, intent on plundering and stealing what they could. This would date the site to the Later Medieval period. At present, without further excavation, no satisfactory date can be ascribed to the site. Bellhouse states, “*I can give no opinion on local the question of the age and purpose of this site, but certain features of it remind me of the enclosures on Aughtertree Fell*” (1961, 44).
- 3.2.14 The enclosure at Boustead Hill, although a multi-period site providing similar (farming) functions in all periods, perhaps became more specialised in the Roman period. The same can be said for the site at Fingland (Bewley 1986, 33). However, the enclosure at Oughterby seems to represent a Romano-British farmstead with pottery finds dating it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> century (*ibid*, 34-35).

- 3.2.15 **Early Medieval:** evidence for Early Medieval activity in Cumbria is extremely limited, the end of the Roman economy depriving the archaeologist of diagnostic artefactual evidence on all but a small minority of sites (Higham 1986). Work in recent decades has shown that the Romans did not leave behind them a cultural vacuum, and archaeology has begun to fill the gap between the 'Dark Ages' and the illuminated histories that followed, such as the *Historia Ecclesiastica* written by the Northumbrian monk, the Venerable Bede, in the early 8<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3.2.16 Once the Roman administration ended in 410AD, the native Britons gradually reverted to their own autonomy. Angles had begun to enter eastern Cumbria by the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD, but the west of the county appears politically more stable (Crowe 1984). The discovery of early medieval settlement sites in the region is rare, but a number of putative Romano-British rural sites excavated more than forty years ago may have had late phases that could have been observed with the use of radiocarbon dating. Recent excavations at Stainmore in Cumbria have produced evidence for rectangular post-built buildings and sunken-feature buildings perhaps dating to the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (Newman ed. 2004). Environmental studies focussing on pollen remains have indicated a continuing arable economy in Cumbria during the Early Medieval period (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 3.2.17 To interpret early medieval society, archaeologists have often been forced to look at other classes of evidence beyond the traditional domain of excavation and field survey data, including place-name evidence, stone sculpture and early stone buildings. Clues to the general pattern of Early Medieval settlement in Cumbria can be gleaned from place-name evidence, although some names were still not fossilised until the 12<sup>th</sup> century (Newman ed. 2004).
- 3.2.18 Carlisle continued to be a place of some significance after the Roman withdrawal. Documentary evidence refers to activity within the area of the Roman town in the later 7<sup>th</sup> century, including the foundation of a nunnery (McCarthy, 2002, 135). Excavations at Carlisle support the conclusion that the Roman town and fort continued to be occupied into the 5<sup>th</sup> century (McCarthy, 2002, 136). A similar scenario has been revealed Birdoswald Roman fort. Here, excavations have revealed that the functions of buildings began to change in the immediate post-Roman period. At least one substantial timber framed hall was constructed and it is believed that the site continued in use at least into the 6<sup>th</sup> century (*ibid*, 2002, 134).
- 3.2.19 The adoption of Christianity is perhaps the most significant event of this period. This is reflected in the large volume of related stone sculpture recovered in Cumbria. Those of Northumbrian origin cluster around Carlisle while those containing Scandinavian motifs have a wider distribution (Hodgkinson *et al*, 2000, 135).
- 3.2.20 **Later Medieval:** in the 11<sup>th</sup> century the political situation in Cumbria was volatile, with the emergent kingdom of Strathclyde to the north and the growing power of England to the south competing for political control (Kirkby 1962). Much of the modern county of Cumbria remained outside Norman control (thus not being included in Domesday Book of 1086) until 1092 when William II marched north to Carlisle. William divided this newly acquired land into baronies, and Kirkbampton was allotted to the barony of Burgh. The village was divided into the two manors of Brampton Magna and Brampton Parva, the latter surviving today as Little Brampton (McIntire, 1937, 11). The name



Kirkbampton has its origins in the Early Medieval period. *Banton* is first documented in c.1185 and is old English meaning ‘*Farmstead made of beams or by a tree*’. The prefix of *kirkja* is old Scandinavian meaning church (Mills 2003, 281). The village has a layout typical of medieval ribbon development along a roadside, with the village fields (tofts) laid out at right-angles to the houses (crofts), which have the fossilised remains of a former ‘open-field’ system (Butlin 1993, 173) around them. The ‘open-field’ system consisted of large open arable fields in varying combinations of three or four, which were communally managed and rotated in terms of produce grown, grazing use or lying fallow, and which were laid out at right angles to the main village axis. The characteristic features of this landscape are the long narrow, reversed ‘S’-shaped strips within the large fields, which represent individual working plots within the field. The ridge and furrow undulations within the fields result from the use of animals, mostly oxen, to plough the land and the necessarily long turning circle for these animals. Where areas which were in use in this way have been subsequently used as grassland, the ridge and furrow and field layouts remain fossilised in the landscape, with later activity superimposed on the landscape. When the open fields were eventually enclosed, the field boundaries followed the lines of the internal cultivation strips, and so the resultant strip fields often fossilise the sinuous (aratal) shape of the oxen-ploughed ridge and furrow (*ibid*). The lynchets identified to the south of the village (Site **25**) may represent remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation.

- 3.2.21 In the reign of Henry II, Kirkbampton was the principal seat of a knight, Hildred of Carlisle, whose son Odard and whose grandsons; Richard and Robert were benefactors of Wetheral Priory. In 1180, Adam, the elder son of Robert, who was patron of the living of Kirkbampton, granted a moiety of the rectory of that parish to the hospital of St. Nicholas of Carlisle. Attached to this gift was the condition that two places in the hospital should always be reserved for inhabitants of Kirkbampton as almsmen (McIntire, 1937, 11). This is the earliest reference to a church at Kirkbampton. In 1777 this moiety of the rectory was still in held by a Mr. John Liddale of Moorhouse (Nicholson and Burn, 1777, 210).
- 3.2.22 The dedication of the church to St. Peter (Site **04**) potentially associates it with an early date. St. Peter was a saint held in particularly high esteem by the Angles after the decision of the Synod of Whitby to adhere to the Roman form of worship in preference to the Celtic church (McIntire, 1937, 11). Remains of the 12<sup>th</sup> century church were uncovered during the 19<sup>th</sup> century restoration of the building. The architectural character of the chancel arch and the north doorway is consistent with the Norman period (Martindale 1913, 252 and McIntire, 1937, 11). The capitals on the chancel arch are carved in a grotesque fashion, the northern one displaying a demons head with protruding tongue. The arch is decorated with double-billet, chevron and cable mouldings. The northern doorway arch displays chevron and cable mouldings below which is a tympanum. On this are carved, in bas-relief, two animals along with a figure holding a shepherd’s crook in one hand and a sling in the other. This has been compared to the Norman tympana at Bridekirk, Long Marton and St. Bees. Tympana are generally dated between 1080 and 1200 (Martindale, 1913, 253 and McIntire, 1937, 11). One of the original narrow round-headed Norman windows remains in the chancel.
- 3.2.23 The manor of Kirkbampton was to suffer further sub-division. By the reign of Edward II, William de Montacute and Elizabeth his wife held a moiety of the manors of

Kirkbampton and Oughterby and the advowson of the church, though the lord of whom they held this property was William of Carlisle, the latter losing his lands in 1317 due to treason. Another part of Kirkbampton, Little Bampton, was conveyed by Odo of Carlisle to a family who had taken the name Bampton, from which it passed to the Musgraves of Crookdake (Graham, 1931, 39-47 and McIntire, 1937, 11).

- 3.2.24 ***Post Medieval and Modern:*** the moiety held by the Montacutes was purchased by the Stapletons of Bedale in Yorkshire, who sold it on in the reign of Henry VIII to Thomas Dacre of Lanercost, illegitimate offspring of the Dacres of Gilsland (McIntyre 1937). His son, Christopher, sold on the manor as individual parcels of land to its inhabitants (*ibid*). In the Border Muster of 1580-1, twenty-one men answered the call (*ibid*).
- 3.2.25 Following the union of the English and Scottish Crowns with the accession of James I to the English throne in 1603, a programme of pacification of the borderlands began. This saw a modernisation of tenureships of great benefit to northern landowners and a breakdown of the traditional forms of Border service (Spence 1984; 64). During the period of economic growth in the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries there was enough capital available in Cumbria for the rebuilding of towns, villages and farmsteads in stone, and as a result there are few remaining examples of domestic architecture dating from before 1610, other than large houses built by wealthy families (Rollinson 1996).
- 3.2.26 The late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries witnessed the enclosure of much of the common land. Land instead of being shared was given over to single ownership; only small areas of woodland still remained. Many of the field boundaries visible today conform to those on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1867 and were probably enclosed during this period of reform. The population of Kirkbampton increased steadily from 149 in 1801, to 175 in 1811, and 193 in 1821 (Parson and White 1829). In 1851, the population was 220 (Harrison and Co 1861), and by 1891, it had risen to 446 (Kelly 1897). The lord of the manor in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the Earl of Lonsdale (*ibid*). In 1826, a chalybeate spring was found at Fingland Rigg, said to be '*used by people to cleanse sores*' (Parson and White 1829). In 1871, stained glass by William Morris and Co was installed in the church (Hodge 1976), and in 1882, the church was restored at the cost of £2000 (Kelly 1897).



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## 4 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

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### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The assessment results are based on primary documents, most notably maps, and on the secondary sources used in *Section 3.2*. The results are presented according to the archive from which they were consulted. There are **12** HER records and **14** ADS sites located within a 1km radius of the development area. A full list of the sites identified by the assessment is given in *Appendix 2* in table form.

### 4.2 GAZETTEER SITES

4.2.1 **CUMBRIA HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD:** there were **12** HER records within the study area, which is defined as a 1km radius around the site (see Figure 2). None of these sites will be directly affected by the development. Sites **(08)** and **(09)** (White House Clay Building, and Croft House Farmhouse) may be visually affected, and the development should take into account the visual impact on these sites, particularly as the latter is Grade II Listed.

4.2.2 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA SERVICE (ADS):** there were **14** sites discovered through a search of the Archaeology Data Service website. None will be impacted upon by the development. The remaining sites are summarised in *Appendix 2*.

### 4.3 COUNTY RECORD OFFICES CARLISLE

4.3.1 The Cumbria Record Office in Carlisle (CRO(C)) was consulted to collate maps for regression analysis of the study area. Information from primary and secondary sources, including archaeological or historical journals, has been incorporated into the historic background (*Section 3.2*).

### 4.4 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

4.4.1 As part of the documentary searches at the Cumbria Record Office in Carlisle (CRO(C)), an in-depth scan of the early maps for Kirkbampton was undertaken. A cartographic date range of between 1839 and 1925 was obtained. The development area will now be discussed with reference to these early sources, noting any changes to the development area within this period.

4.4.2 ***Tithe Map of 1839 (Figure 3):*** the proposed development area is shown with three buildings on the plot, broadly conforming to those that survive today, though the eastern building no longer appears extant, and building to the rear (presumably a barn) has now been replaced by more modern cattle sheds. The rest of the village is shown as schematic blocks of buildings, with fields radiating off from them, and the church is shown.

4.4.3 ***First, Second and Third Edition Ordnance Survey Maps, 1867 to 1925 – 6” to 1 mile:*** the First (Figure 4), Second (Figure 5) and Third (Figure 6) Edition Ordnance Survey maps are the first maps that show the development area in detail. The layout of the buildings are entirely unchanged throughout that period from those shown in 1839,

though by 1925, the southern building has a number of small extensions against its northern side.

#### **4.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

4.5.1 No aerial photographs directly relating to the development site exist.

#### **4.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

4.6.1 No other archaeological work appears to have been conducted in the immediate vicinity of Kirkbampton previous to this investigation.

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## 5 EVALUATION RESULTS

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### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The machine stripping of the trenches, which were subsequently cleaned by hand down to the natural subsoil, permitted an examination of the archaeological remains within the development site. Due to the entire area being covered with modern concrete, a mechanical pecker attached to the rear of the machine was utilised to break the concrete. All trench locations are depicted in Figure 7 whilst a detailed plan and section drawings for Trench 2 are depicted in Figure 8.

### 5.2 TRENCH 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 was 17.60m long by 1.60m wide and was orientated in an east-west direction. The trench was positioned parallel with the cattle shed (see Figure 7). The maximum depth of the trench was approximately 0.90m. The natural subsoil **(101)**, was encountered at a depth of 0.60m, which consisted of a very mixed mid greyish orange sandy clay, with frequent poorly sorted gravels.

5.2.2 The natural subsoil was overlain by up to 0.15m of mixed reddish brown sandy clay mixed with occasional stones **(103)**, presumably derived from natural subsoils mixed with disturbed topsoil. This was overlaid by **(102)**, which has been interpreted as buried topsoil up to 0.25m deep and consisting of dark brown sandy silt mixed with frequent brick and stone inclusions. Up to 0.24m of modern concrete, **(100)** representing the yard surface made up the remaining depth of the trench.

5.2.3 No evidence of any archaeological features was found in the base of Trench 1.

### 5.3 TRENCH 2

5.3.1 Trench 2 was 18.70m long by 1.80m wide and was excavated on an east-west alignment. The trench was situated inside the former cattle shed (see Figure 7) and ran parallel with an internal north-facing wall. The natural subsoil **(101)**, was encountered at a depth of 0.40m, which consisted of a very mixed mid greyish orange sandy clay, with frequent poorly sorted gravels.

5.3.2 In the south-eastern corner of the trench the natural subsoil was cut by a large rubbish pit **[104]**, measuring 4m in length by 80cm wide in section. Its primary fill **(110)** consisted of a compacted yellowish orange sand, which produced several sherds of post-medieval pottery. The secondary fill **(105)**, which also yielded post-medieval pottery sherds consisted of a loose black silty material which filled the remaining depth of the feature. Within this cut was a large deposit of modern concrete **(111)**, which had been used as a base for a wooden post (see Figure 8).

5.3.3 A linear feature **[106]**, subsequently interpreted as a post medieval field drain, was observed cutting across the western end of the trench, aligned approximately north-south. It measured 0.35m wide and survived to a maximum depth of 0.08m. The nature of the single fill **(107)**, suggested that this ditch filled in naturally rather than being deliberately backfilled. No finds were recovered.

5.3.4 Up to 0.40m of concrete, **(100)** and **(106)**, made up the remaining depth of the trench.

**5.4 TRENCH 3**

- 5.4.1 Trench 3 was 20m long by 1.60m wide and was orientated in an east-west direction. The natural subsoil, **(101)** was encountered at a depth of 0.40m, and which consisted of reddish orange clay.
- 5.4.2 The natural was overlain by up to 0.15m of dark brownish red silty sand, **(109)**, which appeared almost identical to the buried topsoil layer recorded in Trench 1. A single sherd of late post-medieval pottery was recovered from this layer. This layer was sealed by **(100)**, a thick band of modern concrete.
- 5.4.3 No evidence of any archaeological features was found in the base of Trench 3.

**5.5 TRENCH 4**

- 5.5.1 Trench 4 was 20m long by 1.6m and was excavated on a north-south by east-west alignment. The natural subsoil **(101)**, was exposed at a maximum depth of 0.55m and was overlain by up to 0.40m of a dark brownish red silty sand, **(109)** and up to 0.15m of modern concrete **(100)**.
- 5.5.2 No evidence of any archaeological features was found in the base of Trench 3.

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## 6 FINDS

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### 6.1 FINDS REPORT

- 6.6.1 **Introduction:** The pottery and other artefactual material was cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines, and was recorded under the supervision of F Giecco (NPA Ltd Technical Director). The metalwork has been placed in a stable environment and will be monitored for corrosion.
- 6.1.2 **Post Medieval Pottery:** The excavation produced a small assemblage of post medieval pottery, which predominately dates from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The fills, (105) and (110) of a small rubbish pit [104], located in Trench 2 produced the largest amount.
- 6.1.3 In total, 45 sherds (weighing 0.778 kg) were recovered from the evaluation, from a total of two contexts (105) and (110). All the sherds were examined and recorded by sherd numbers and weight, in order to determine relative proportions of vessel form and type. No formal attempt has been made to subdivide the assemblage by fabric, although a basic survey of the types of ceramic was undertaken.
- 6.1.4 The assemblage represents domestic activity, the majority consisting of glazed red earthenwares. Some of these were plain brown or black glazed though the largest number were slip coated internally. The rest of the assemblage consisted of refined earthenwares, mainly whitewares. These included plates with transfer printed decorations.
- 6.1.5 **Glass:** Approximately 19 fragments (weighing 0.346 kg) of vessel and window glass was recovered during the evaluation, predominantly from rubbish pit [104].
- 6.1.6 **Iron Objects:** In total 16 objects of iron (weighing 0.994 kg) were recovered during the evaluation. The majority of the group comprises modern nail and screw fragments. A significant proportion came from fill (105), which is the secondary fill of pit [104].

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## 7 CONCLUSIONS

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### 7.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 7.1.1 The initial desk-based assessment revealed the surrounding area was relatively high in archaeological potential, however the results of the evaluation have shown there is little evidence of definite archaeological material of interest.
- 7.1.2 The features investigated during the evaluation consisted of a post medieval rubbish pit **[104]** and a single linear feature **[106]**, which has been interpreted as a cut for a field drain. The related artefactual material from these features consisted of late 19<sup>th</sup> century to early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds.
- 7.1.3 The results of the programme of evaluation trenching appears to demonstrate a low potential for archaeological remains. Therefore no further archaeological work is recommended prior to the development of the site.

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**APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT LIST**

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<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
100	All	Layer	Modern Concrete
101	All	Layer	Natural
102	1	Layer	Buried Soil horizon
103	1	Layer	Subsoil
104	2	Cut	Possible Rubbish Pit
105	2	Fill	Fill of [104]
106	2	Cut	Field Drain
107	2	Fill	of [106]
108	2	Layer	Modern Concrete
109	3	Layer	Buried soil Horizon
110	2	Fill	of [104]

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**APPENDIX 2: GAZETTEER OF SITES**


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<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>NGR</b>
<b>1</b>	HER 2970 EHNMR-645896 NMR_NATINV-10776	Oughterby Settlement	Romano-British	330300 555800
<b>2</b>	HER 3384 NMR_NATINV-1372619	Kirkbampton Enclosure	Unknown	329800 556700
<b>3</b>	HER 3388 NMR_NATINV-10775	Kirkbampton Settlement	Unknown	330900 556400
<b>4</b>	HER 4546 LBHER 21423 (GD I) NMR_NATINV-10688	St Peter's Church	Medieval	330520 556460
<b>5</b>	HER 5118 EHNMR-649824	Thurstonfield Enclosure	Unknown	331000 557000
<b>6</b>	HER 6890 NMR_NATINV-1372567	Oughterby Ditched Enclosure	Unknown	329950 555650
<b>7</b>	HER 15481	Kirkbampton Spindle-Whorl Find	Roman	330710 556600
<b>8</b>	HER 16769	White House Clay Building	Post-Medieval	330440 556500
<b>9</b>	LBHER 21422 (GD II)	Croft House Farmhouse	Post-Medieval	330427 556513
<b>10</b>	LBHER 21424 (GD II)	Laurel House	Post-Medieval	330583 556480
<b>11</b>	LBHER 21425 (GD II)	Post office and Adjoining House	Post-Medieval	330712 556495

<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>NGR</b>
<b>12</b>	LBHER 21426 (GD II)	Solway View	Post- Medieval	330737 556498
<b>13</b>	EHNMR- 1061741  NMR_NATINV- 1120932	Farnhill Watch Tower	Roman?	330000 557000
<b>14</b>	NMR_NATINV- 10682	Altar Find	Roman	330450 555200
<b>15</b>	NMR_NATINV- 10685	Enclosure	Unknown	330450 555200
<b>16</b>	NMR_NATINV- 10769	Thurstonfield Axe, Dagger and Spearhead finds	Bronze Age	331000 556000
<b>17</b>	NMR_NATINV- 10774	Cropmarks	Unknown	331300 555000
<b>18</b>	NMR_NATINV- 510066	SHEPHERDS HILL FARM	Post- Medieval	331600 556600
<b>19</b>	NMR_NATINV- 542686	HIGH BEECHES	Post- Medieval	331500 556600
<b>20</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1372551	Cropmark	Iron Age / RB	329060 555830
<b>21</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1372557	Cropmark	Iron Age / RB	329310 555830
<b>22</b>	NMR_NATINV- 927152	Cropmark	Iron Age / RB	329650 555660
<b>23</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1372608	Cropmark	Iron Age / RB	329150 557400
<b>24</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1372717	Cropmark	Iron Age / RB	328980 557290
<b>25</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1372789	Ridge and Furrow	Medieval	328900 556000
<b>26</b>	NMR_NATINV- 1377960	Military Camps	WWII	330830 555150

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## **APPENDIX 3: FIGURES AND PLATES**

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