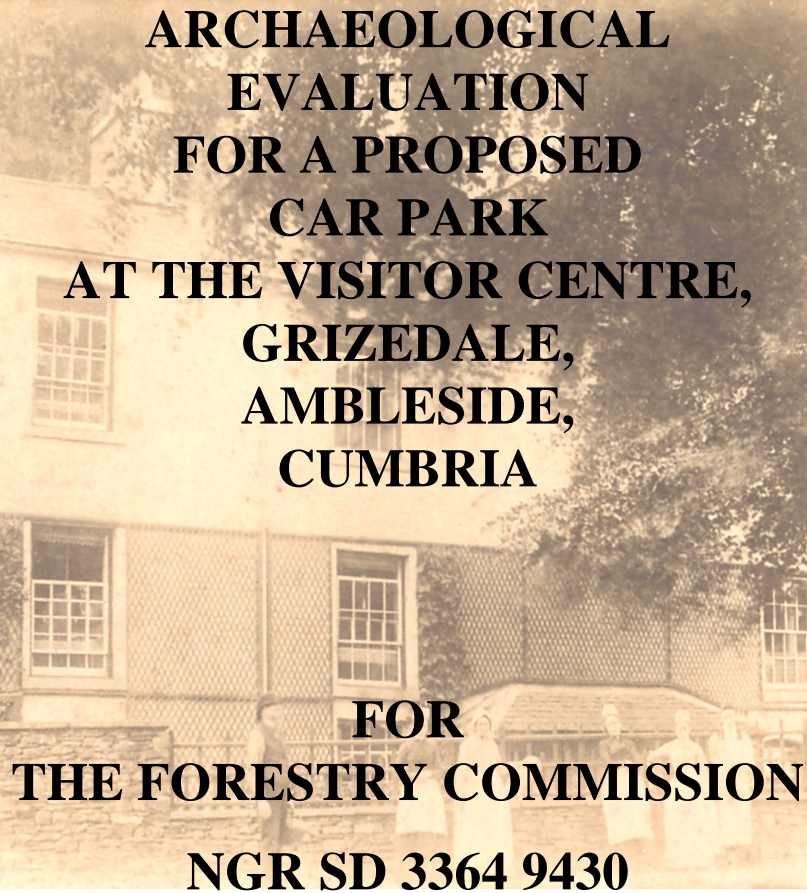

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Client Report No. CP316/06



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
FOR A PROPOSED
CAR PARK
AT THE VISITOR CENTRE,
GRIZEDALE,
AMBLESIDE,
CUMBRIA**

**FOR
THE FORESTRY COMMISSION**

NGR SD 3364 9430

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
LIST OF TABLES, FIGURES AND PLATES	II
NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	III
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	IV
1. INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION.....	1
2. AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	2
2.1 PROJECT DESIGN	2
2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.....	2
2.3 PROJECT ARCHIVE.....	2
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
4. EVALUATION RESULTS.....	5
4.1 TRENCH 1	5
4.2 TRENCH 2	5
5. FINDS RESULTS	7
5.1 INTRODUCTION	7
6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	8
7. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	9
8. APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF CONTEXTS.....	10
9. APPENDIX 2 – FIGURES AND PLATES.....	11

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

TABLES

TABLE 1: INDEX OF CONTEXTS APPENDIX 1

FIGURES

FIGURE 1: EVALUATION TRENCH LOCATION APPENDIX 2
FIGURE 2: TRENCH 1 SECTION..... APPENDIX 2

PLATES

PLATE 1: TRENCH 1, LOOKING NORTH.....APPENDIX 2
PLATE 2: WEST FACING SECTION, IN TRENCH 1 SHOWING TIP LAYERS..... APPENDIX 2
PLATE 3: TRENCH 2, LOOKING NORTH APPENDIX 2
PLATE 4: EAST FACING SECTION, IN TRENCH 2 SHOWING RUBBLE DEPOSITS..... APPENDIX 2
PLATE 5: MASONRY REMOVED FROM TRENCH 2, PROBABLY FROM THE LAST NEW HALL
..... APPENDIX 2

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

In August 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological field evaluation on land at the Visitor Centre, Grizedale Forest, Ambleside, Cumbria, (centred on SD 3364 9430). This work was requested by the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) in advance of a planning application from the Forestry Commission for a proposed redevelopment scheme, which would affect an area considered to have a high archaeological potential, as identified by a previous desk-based assessment (Gaskell 2006).

The field evaluation consisted of the excavation of two linear trial trenches, one measuring 10m by 1.7m the other, 5m by 1.7m. These trenches were positioned strategically, each aiming to locate a building shown on the 1890 Ordnance Survey map. One was known as South Lodge and was positioned just to the east of the main road through the village while the other building was situated just to the north of Grizedale New Hall. The area of the site is approximately 0.15ha. The main aim was to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing their character, condition, and significance, which would enable the commission's proposed redevelopment of the land to proceed in a highly informed way.

The results of the trial trenching indicated that the buildings that previously stood on the site had been thoroughly demolished and any below ground remains were not present in either of the trenches. The layers observed within Trench 1 were solely made up of demolition material that may have been landscaped, at a depth of 1.2m down the natural was not observed. In Trench 2 the rubble layers were positioned directly above the natural sub-strata but no evidence of a building was observed within the trench. Because of the limited nature of the evaluation it should not necessarily be surmised that there is no evidence anywhere within the proposed development zone of the buildings that were once present and it may prove worthwhile to maintain archaeological observations in the form of a watching brief to ascertain the full extent of this.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Ian Blake of the Forestry Commission for commissioning the project. Thanks also go to Mr MPA Ainslie, Mr Brian McMullen and Mr David Threlkeld, for their information, assistance and enthusiasm throughout the works. Finally, thanks go to Richard, for diligent and professional machining of the trenches.

North Pennines Archaeology would also like to thank Eleanor Kingston, Archaeologist, Lake District National Park Authority, for her help during this project.

Matthew Town managed the project. The fieldwork was undertaken by Nicola Gaskell and Martin Sowerby. Nicola Gaskell wrote the report and Martin Sowerby produced the illustrations. Frank Giocco, Technical Director for NPA LTD, oversaw the project. Matthew Town edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

1.1 *Circumstances of the Project*

- 1.1.1 In August 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Ian Blake of the Forestry Commission to undertake a targeted archaeological field evaluation on land at the Visitor Centre, Grizedale Forest, Ambleside, Cumbria, (SD 3364 9430; Figure 1). The work was a requirement of the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) to inform the determination of a planning application for the proposed redevelopment of the site, which is currently in use as a car park and leisure area, and which is located across the road from the main area of the visitor centre.
- 1.1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment (Gaskell 2006) had shown that the proposed scheme affects an area considered to have a very high archaeological potential, as it is the site of two lodges (South and Ford), other ancillary buildings and two Halls intrinsic to the history of Grizedale as a whole, the last hall having played a role in the WWII internment of some of the most elite German officers at the time. The result of the evaluation would therefore inform decisions to be taken regarding any application for planning permission for the redevelopment, and would suggest mitigation measures designed to preserve any archaeological remains in-situ or by record. This process is in line with current government advice contained within Planning Policy Guidelines: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16; DoE 1990).
- 1.1.3 North Pennines Archaeology Limited (NPAL) accordingly produced a project design, detailing the aims, objectives and methodology of the evaluation, in accordance with a Project Brief produced by the LDNPA (Kingston 2006). The evaluation was undertaken from 7th to the 9th August 2006 and was monitored by Eleanor Kingston, Archaeologist, Lake District National Park Authority.
- 1.1.4 The proposed development site is part of a redevelopment that involves the construction of a car park, this was the area targeted for evaluation. It consists of a plot of land 0.15ha in size, positioned across the road and to the southeast of the main visitor complex and partially covering the footprint of the first Grizedale New Hall built in the 19th century as well as extending to the north to cover an area where other buildings were once sited, that possibly date from the late 18th century onwards. The site lies at a height of approximately 100m AOD and is bounded on the east by the north-south aligned Hawkshead to Satterthwaite road, and on the north, east and south by the grounds of the former Grizedale Hall. The plot currently includes a levelled tarmac car park and grassed areas with outdoor tables and a wooded area at the northern extent.
- 1.1.5 The forest of Grizedale, which surrounds the site is currently 2,445 hectares, of which 65% is coniferous plantations accounting for 20,000 cubic meters of wood harvest, while approximately 10% is under agricultural (pasture and arable) use. The solid geology of the area consists of Silurian slates and shales with the drift geology being made up of Quaternary glacial tills and clay deposits (Gaskell 2006).
- 1.1.6 This document sets out the result of the archaeological evaluation in the form of a short report.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 *Project Design*

2.1.1 A project design was prepared in response to a brief prepared by the Lake District National Park Authority for an archaeological field evaluation. This included a detailed specification of works to be carried out, which consisted of the excavation of trial trenches and a programme of post excavation analysis and reporting.

2.2 *Archaeological Evaluation*

2.2.1 The field evaluation consisted of the excavation of two linear trial trenches, the first measuring 10m x 1.7m, and the second 5m x 1.7m which provided a targeted sample within the 0.15ha area. Deposits and features of archaeological interest identified within the trenches were investigated and recorded in order to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing their character, condition, and significance.

2.2.2 In summary, the main objectives of the excavation 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 palaeoenvironmental material where it survived in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.2.3 The trench was mechanically excavated by a 5 tonne tracked mini-digger equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision, to the natural substrate. The trench was then manually cleaned and any putative archaeological features were investigated. Archaeological features were recorded using NPA standard *pro-forma* recording sheets utilising guidelines set out in the NPA Excavation Manual (Giecco 2001).

2.2.4 Photography was undertaken using Canon EOS 100 and EOS 300V Single Lens Reflex (SLR) cameras. A photographic record was made using digital photography, 200 ISO Colour Slide and 400 ISO Black and White film.

2.2.5 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (IFA 1994).

2.3 *Project Archive*

2.3.1 The full archive has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with the current English Heritage guidelines set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 2nd Ed. 1991). The archive will eventually be deposited within an appropriate repository and a copy of the report given to the Lake District National Park Authority Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be available

on request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA 06 GRZ-A.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 *Summary of Desk Based Assessment*

- 3.1.1 Documentary evidence for Grizedale during the medieval period is seemingly scarce, however, it is possible that the road running north-south through the village from Hawkshead to Satterthwaite may have medieval origins, as on early cartographic sources, it retains the same alignment as today and most of the buildings in the village both past and present seem to respect this line.
- 3.1.2 The original Grizedale Hall stood to the west of the village and was probably constructed in the 1600's. The plot of land under investigation with this evaluation lies on the east side of the village and was the site of Ford Lodge, built by the Newlands Company owner Richard Ford in approximately 1737-1740 (Ainslie 2006, *pers comm.*). Another building in this area was South Lodge, which may have been contemporary with Ford Lodge or built later alongside the first Grizedale New Hall constructed in approximately the 1840's (*ibid*) by Montague Ainslie, the husband of Richard Ford's granddaughter. South Lodge may have been used as servants' quarters for those employed within the Hall.
- 3.1.3 It is during this period of history that Grizedale becomes more visible in the documentary record, from the late eighteenth century onwards, due to its connections with those people running the iron industry in south Cumbria and their penchant for building new residences, like Montague Ainslie and the first Grizedale New Hall.
- 3.1.4 The late nineteenth and early part of the twentieth century are of equal interest in the history of Grizedale starting with the demolition of the first New Hall and the erection of the second one by the shipping magnate Henry Brocklebank in 1904, who had bought the land from Ernest Ainslie, the grandson of Montague. The utilisation of the final building on this site as a POW camp for the most elite German officers is no small incident, and the fact that the building was never again used after the Second World War until its demolition adds a certain poignancy to the story of Grizedale as a village now that it attracts so many visitors each year.
- 3.1.5 There were 12 HER records within the study area identified from the desk-based assessment (Gaskell 2006), which was defined as a 1.2km radius around the site. The only site to be listed on the HER that could be directly affected by the development is that of Grizedale Hall itself although any remains of other buildings that did lie within the development zone and are not listed on the HER (such as South Lodge, Ford Lodge and the WWII police hut) may also be impacted upon by the construction of a new car park.

4 EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 The evaluation trench was 1.7m wide by 10m long, and was orientated north-north-west by south-south-east (Fig 2). The trench was positioned towards the western extent of the site, approximately parallel with the north-south, Hawkshead to Satterthwaite road, which divides the main visitor area from the area under investigation.

4.1.2 The trench was mechanically excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m. Layer **(107)** comprised of pale, moderately well compacted, yellow coarse silty sand with numerous inclusions of poorly sorted, small to medium sub-rounded stones. Directly overlying the natural substrate, were two distinct deposits **(106)** and **(105)**, which may represent an earlier phase of demolition on site as occasional pieces of white mortar were noted within them. Layer **(104)** had a very different nature to those that both preceded it and followed it. It was loose dark-brown slightly loamy sandy silt with approximately 30% small sub-rounded stones and was consistent throughout the trench. This layer has been interpreted as a naturally accumulating layer of humic debris after the first phase of demolition. Layers **(103)**, **(102)**, and **(101)** all appear to be further demolition layers or attempts at landscaping demolition rubble as they all contain building debris in varying degrees. **(103)** was pale yellowish-grey loose silty sand with up to 40% inclusions and has been interpreted as possible evidence of the demolition of Henry Brocklebank's hall (the second and final New Hall built in 1904), in the 1950's. Layer **(102)** was very loose, mid greyish-brown, coarse silty sand and again thought to be evidence of landscaping after the final demolition process and consequently affected by root action. Layer **(101)** was pale yellowish-brown moderately compacted silty sand and probably formed in a similar way to the two layers below. It too was affected by root action. The uppermost layer **(100)** was a loosely compacted dark brown humic layer, gradually accumulated from leaf debris.

4.1.3 No evidence of any cut archaeological features was found in the base of Trench 1, despite the considered positioning of the trench to be in the area of the building known as South Lodge.

4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 Trench 2 was 5m in length by 1.70m wide and was orientated approximately north-south. It was positioned close to the centre of the proposed redevelopment area and was located 20m to the south-east of Trench 1. The maximum depth of the trench was 1m.

4.2.2 The natural **(201)** at the base of the trench was seen for a depth of approximately 0.1m and consisted of a pale yellow, sandy silt with numerous inclusions of small to medium sub-angular stones. The machining removed an overburden 0.9m thick of very mixed building rubble. The inclusions of brick, masonry and drainpipe accounted for approx 90% of layer **(200)**. The soil material within this rubble was loosely compacted, mid brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of small to medium sharp angular stones (probably smaller fragments of the rubble).

4.2.3 No evidence of the building that Trench 2 was positioned to locate was observed during the evaluation process. At a depth of 0.9-1m the natural sub-state was encountered and no features were seen to cut this. This does not preclude the possibility of any remains being present elsewhere.

5. FINDS RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Only five datable artefacts from the evaluation were recovered. These pieces were identified and noted but they were not retained. They were all 20th century ceramic pieces, either domestic wares or drainage pipes. The finds were retrieved from the spoil and so were classed as unstratified (U/S).
- 5.1.2 Ceramic Building Materials were also in evidence from the trenches. The bricks were of a 20th century date and stamped 'Claughton and Co, Caton, Lancaster'. This company was established in 1898 and now trades as Hanson, 5 miles from Lancaster. The pieces of masonry that were retrieved from Trench 2 were most likely to be from the final New Hall built by Henry Brocklebank in 1904 as they were of the black slate stone that he chose to build the hall with.

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The results of the evaluation failed to locate any significant archaeological features even though the trenches were positioned to target buildings that were shown on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890. Further cartographic sources illustrate the development of this part of Grizedale throughout the twentieth century, reflecting the changes of ownership and the building of a new hall. From these sources it is clear that the land has seen many alterations, and this is best highlighted by the sections observed in Trench 1, various layers of deposited rubble varying in the amount of brick, masonry or mortar contained within them.
- 6.2 The potential for post-medieval archaeology within the area was thought to be high, however, because of the limitation of Trench 1 only being able to go to a depth of 1.2m for health and safety reasons it is possible that any extant building remains that may survive could have been masked by the overlying rubble and so were not visible.
- 6.3 The redevelopment of the site may still directly impinge on any surviving archaeological remains and as such it is recommended that any significant groundworks that are to be undertaken in the vicinity should be observed by an archaeologist in the form of a watching brief. With regards to the 20th century building present on the site, its direct associations with WWII activities at Grizedale is of local, if not regional, significance and therefore should be thoroughly recorded before its removal. Its connections to the POW camp at Grizedale Hall is of great interest from a recent social history point of view and should not be dismissed as purely a modern structure.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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8 APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF CONTEXTS

Context	Type	Trench	Description
100	Layer	1	Topsoil/Leaf debris
101	Layer	1	Pale yellow silty sand
102	Layer	1	Mid greyish brown silty sand
103	Layer	1	Pale yellowish grey silty sand
104	Layer	1	Brown humic layer (possible original ground surface)
105	Layer	1	Pale yellowish grey
106	Layer	1	Pale yellowish grey
107	Layer	1	Pale yellow silty sand
200	Layer	2	Demolition rubble spread
201	Layer	2	Natural

Table 1: Index of Contexts

9 APPENDIX 2 – FIGURES AND PLATES



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking North



Plate 2 : West Facing Section in Trench 1 Showing Tip Layers



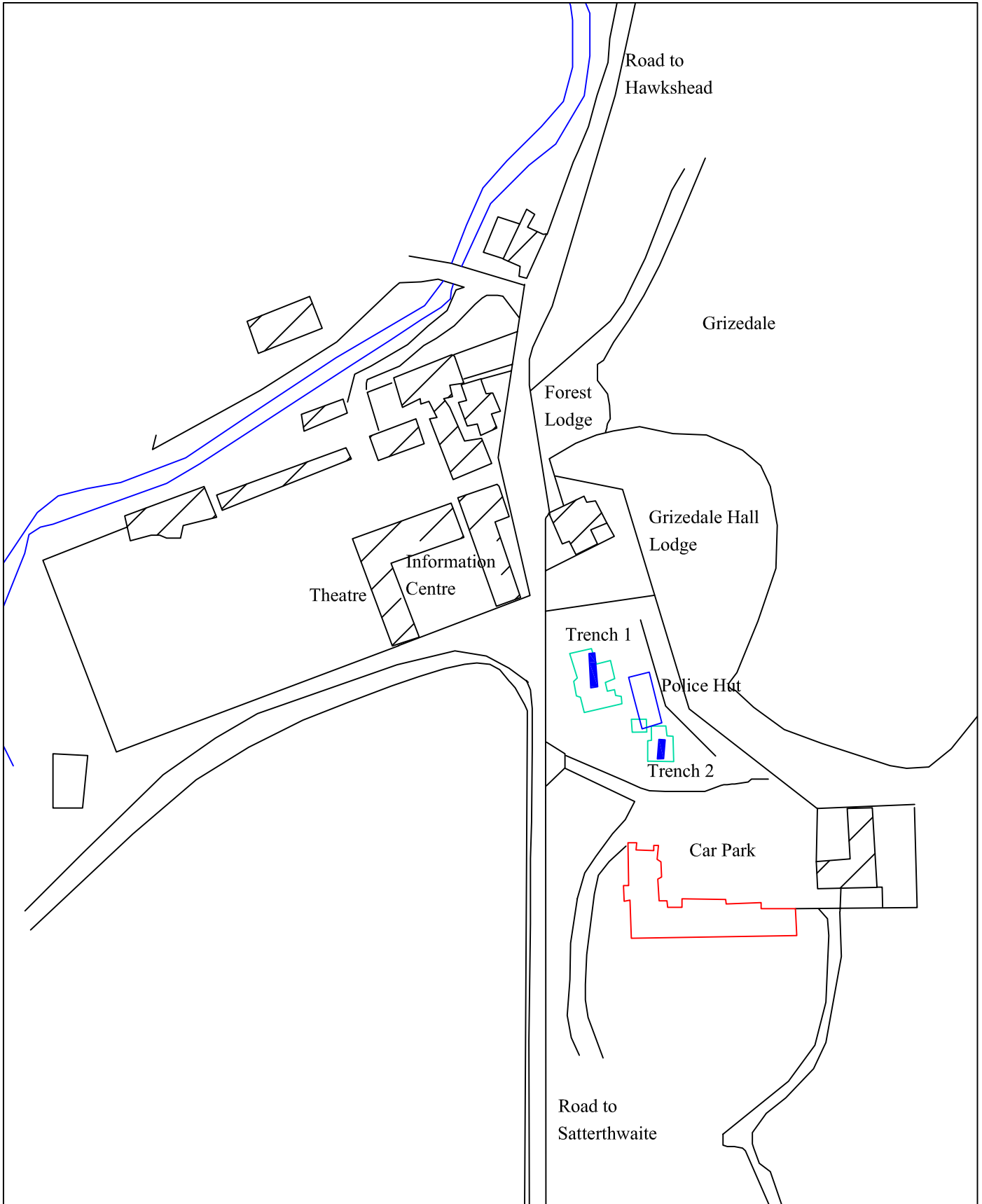
Plate 3 : Trench 2 Looking North



Plate 4 : East Facing Section in Trench 2 Showing Rubble Deposits



Plate 5 : Masonry Removed From Trench 2, Probably From the Last New Hall








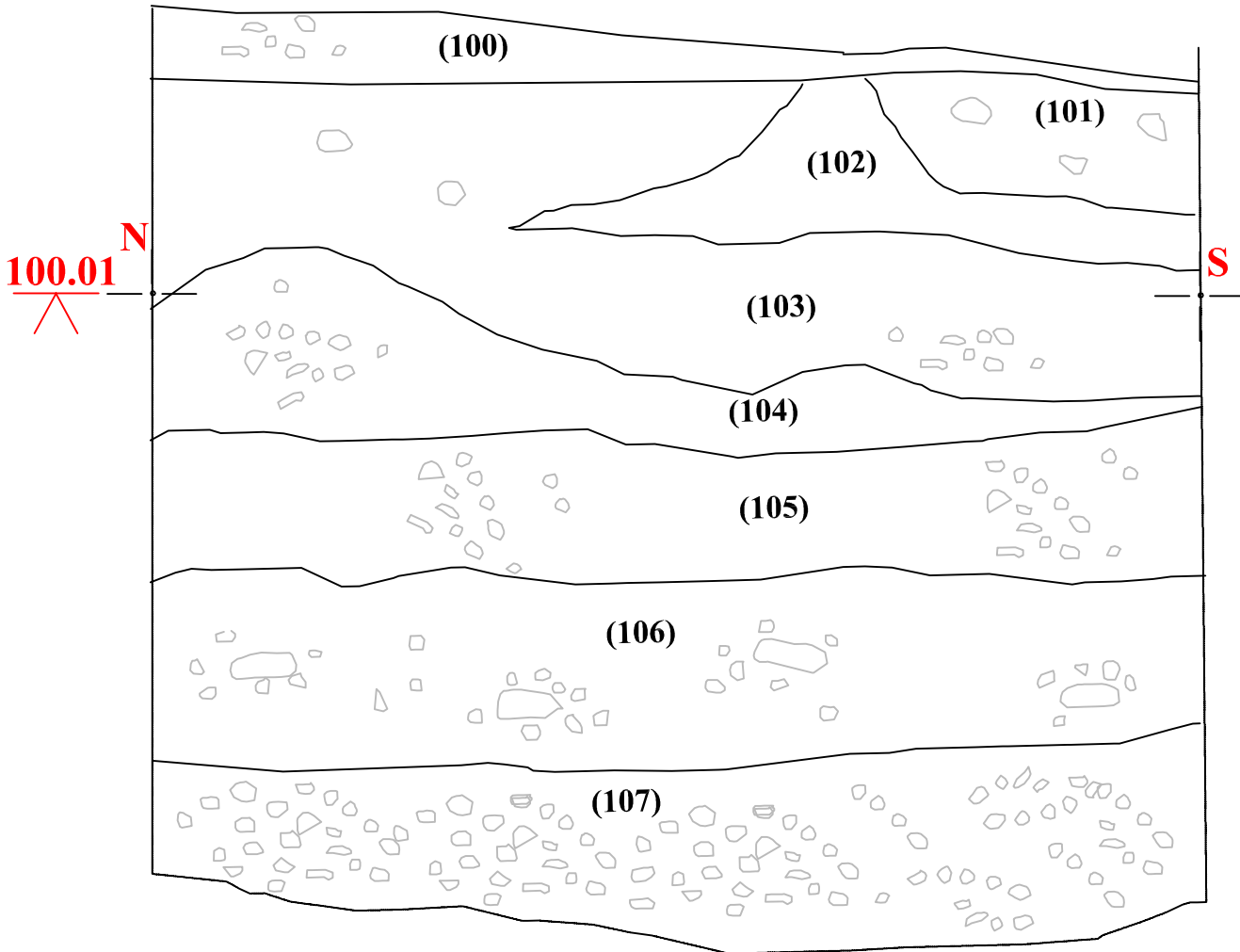
 <p>North Pennines Archaeology Ltd Nenthead Mines Heritage Centre Nenthead, Alston Cumbria CA9 3PD Tel: (01434) 382045 Fax: (01434) 382294 Email: Info@nparchaeology.co.uk</p>	<p>PROJECT: Grizedale Project</p> <p>DRAWING No: 1</p> <p>SCALE: 1:1500</p> <p>TITLE: Evaluation Trench Location</p> <p>CLIENT: The Forestry Commission</p> <p>DRAWN BY: NG</p> <p>DATE: August 2006</p>	<p>LOCATION:</p> 	<p>KEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Trench Locations  Buildings Shown on 1890 OS Map  Surveyed Location of Police Hut
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Figure 1 : Evaluation Trench Location

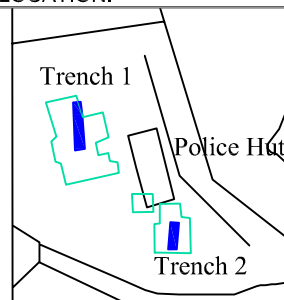


LOCATION:



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PROJECT: Grizedale Project
 DRAWING No: 2
 SCALE: 1:10
 TITLE: Trench 1 West Facing Section
 CLIENT: The Forestry Commission
 DRAWN BY: NG
 DATE: August 2006




KEY
 Stones
 (100) Context Number

Figure 2 : Trench 1 West Facing Section