

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Project Designs and Client Reports No. CP/331/06



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Darren Ward of Red Raven Design on behalf of his client to undertake an archaeological desk study and site visit in advance of a proposed redevelopment of land at Middle Farm, Tallentire, Cumbria (NGR NY 1070 3522).

The study involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the County Records Office in Carlisle, and the consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) of Cumbria County Council 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 and several relevant web sites.

The desk-based assessment located 20 sites from the HER and other sources within a 1km radius of Middle Farm. These include several examples of ridge and furrow earthworks, probably connected to the medieval village, four limekilns and numerous listed houses and other buildings, which include Tallentire Hall (Site 1) and Middle Farmhouse (Site 20).

The results of the desk-based assessment indicate a fairly typical spread of sites for the area. The Roman roads which pass the site, the A594 to the south-west and the A595 to the south-east could be foci for settlement, however, an evaluation on the A595 Roman road by NPAL at Wharrels Hill, just to the south-east of Tallentire, failed to find any archaeological evidence for this. Several other archaeological works have been carried out by NPAL at other close Roman locations such as Papcastle and Maryport but as yet no Roman archaeology has been proven to be in the immediate vicinity of Tallentire village. Any medieval archaeology is almost wholly represented by the village itself and associated field systems, to which the development area is central. Remnants of medieval field systems survive to the east, south and west of the village, which is likely to have its origins in the period following the Norman Conquest, however, the most significant remains will probably date to the post-medieval period, a time when the village underwent some expansion and rebuilding. Any increase in the size or structure of the village may have been made possible by the quarries and lime kilns (Sites 3, 5 and 10), that were extant in the area, local stone being utilized for local buildings and fertilizing the local fields.

The proposed scheme of development will have a significant impact, and will probably destroy any sub-surface remains of the buildings that once stood on the study location. The site visit noted that a number of barn buildings had been demolished and was designed to establish the full extent of this. Extensive areas of rubble were visible overlying the footprint of the demolished buildings, and a number of spoil heaps containing other debris, such as the rusted interior of a car and other household waste were observed during the visit. Evidence, does however, point to possible sub-surface remains of the buildings, perhaps in the form of the floor or foundation layers or trenches, and individual artefacts of archaeological interest that relate to the previous usage of this area.

It is therefore recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation be undertaken within the development area; this will involve the excavation of strategically positioned trenches to assess any building remains on the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Jo Mackintosh of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), Jeremy Parsons, Assistant Archaeologist, Cumbria County Council, and all the staff at the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle for their help during this project.

The desk-based assessment and site visit was undertaken by Nicola Gaskell. The report was written and the drawings produced by Nicola Gaskell. The project was managed and the report edited by Matt Town, BA.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) were consulted by Red Raven Design, regarding a planning application submitted for a proposed scheme of land redevelopment. The site is located at Middle Farm, Tallentire, Cumbria (NGR NY 1070 3522) (Fig 1). The development will involve the construction of four houses on land in the centre of the village. This land was originally the location of barn buildings, which were taken down by the previous owner without the consent of the council. These were believed to date to at least the 19th century. The proposed work would destroy any archaeological remains that may be present within the development footprint. Consequently, CCCHES advised that a programme of archaeological works would be necessary prior to the proposed development. North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPAL) were commissioned by Red Raven Design to undertake the required archaeological desk-based assessment of the general area around Middle Farm, and a site visit within the development area itself.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Historic Environment Record (HER) in Kendal, the Cumbria County Record Offices in Carlisle (CCRO), and the archives and library held by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd. The principal objective of this assessment is to undertake sufficient work in order to identify and characterise the archaeological constraints associated with the development area, in order to assess the archaeological and historical potential of the development site.
- 1.1.3 A Site Visit was carried out on the proposed development, in order to assess the condition of any archaeological features present.
- 1.1.4 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area, an assessment of the impact of the proposed development, and recommendations for further work. This report also contains the results of the rapid identification survey carried out in conjunction with the desk-based assessment.

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 Red Raven Design for an archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey of the study area, in accordance with a brief prepared by CCCHES. 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, 1994), 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 1km radius centred on the proposed development area. The principal sources of information were the Historic Environment Record (HER), maps and secondary sources.
- 2.2.2 ***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. Aerial photographs of the area were also studied.
- 2.2.3 ***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 ***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 and any undeposited archives of the sites themselves were examined. 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.

2.3 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 area of archaeological potential.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design, and in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The village of Tallentire lies 5.5km northwest of Cockermouth and 1km northwest of Bridekirk, Cumbria and is located within the parish of Bridekirk. The development area is situated on sloping land located immediately to the south of the central road through the village, at a height of around 130m above Ordnance Datum (OD).
- 3.1.2 Tallentire sits at the edge of the North Cumbrian Plain, where it meets the foothills of the northern extent of the Lake District. To the immediate north of Tallentire lies the Solway plain, which forms the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Land-use around Tallentire consists predominantly of both pasture and arable land.
- 3.1.3 The solid geology of the area to the north of the wide valley of the River Derwent is mainly of Carboniferous rocks that extend from the neighbourhood of Tallentire Hill eastwards past the north of Binsey to the River Ellen, with summits lying between 210m and 275m OD (Eastwood *et al*, 1968). Throughout the area around the River Ellen, well-drained loams of the Wick Association overlie the solid geology. Away from the river valley the solid geology is masked by Devensian tills upon which are soils chiefly of the Clifton and Brickfield Associations (Hodgkinson *et al*, 2000)
- 3.1.4 Presently, the area is a grassed wasteland with mounds of dumped rubble obscuring any extant remains of the demolished buildings located within the development site.

3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments around the study area.
- 3.2.2 **Prehistoric:** The earliest defined prehistoric period is the Palaeolithic and it 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 northwest region, (Hodgson and Brennand 2004). For over 99 per cent of that time, 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 after the retreating ice sheets. 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 & Williams 2001). No Palaeolithic material has yet to be located within a 1 km radius of Middle Farm, Tallentire, Cumbria.

- 3.2.3 Around 8,000 BP, the last of the major ice sheets covering northern Britain had retreated. Rising sea levels then submerged the land bridge between Britain and continental Europe, this event traditionally denotes the beginning of the Mesolithic, or middle stone age period. Mesolithic populations were active on the Cumbrian coast, for example at Eskmeals, and St Bees, and it is likely that the Kent valley was occupied at this time. Earlier and Later Mesolithic material has been identified from cave sites on the southern Cumbrian limestone (Salisbury 1997; Young 1992) but again, as yet, no Mesolithic material has been located within a 1 km radius of Middle Farm, Tallentire, Cumbria.
- 3.2.4 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 from this period within Cumbria appears to suggest a shift in the emphasis of activity away 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 to the south of Tallentire were possibly first utilized in the late Mesolithic and were traded extensively throughout the British Isles. It is likely that by the 3rd millennium BC, Neolithic inhabitants of Cumbria were part of an extensive trans-European trading network (Brennand and Hodgson 2004).
- 3.2.5 By the Later Neolithic and Bronze Ages, the distribution of artefacts such as stone axes, arrowheads and axe-hammers indicates widespread settlement throughout the North Cumbrian Plain. Studies into the distribution of Stone Axes suggest that both wetlands/coastal areas and the plain itself were occupied at this time (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). The later Neolithic and earlier Bronze ages are also characterised by increasing social sophistication best reflected by the construction of large monuments, like the stone circles of Elva Plain six kilometres north-east from Cockermouth, or Castlerigg near Keswick. The function or purpose of these monuments is still under continuing analysis and debate, and are probably best viewed as large-scale achievements of group endeavours central to social, religious or spiritual practices.
- 3.2.6 Into the Bronze Age, human society continued to change. Early metalwork finds are rare in Northern England, and metal production and ownership may have been the sole province of a privileged few. Settlement sites dating to the Bronze Age are seldom identified, although aerial photography of the coastal plain has identified a number of sites that are yet to be tested by excavation (Bewley 1986). One of those sites may include that at New Cowper Farm, 11km to the north of Tallentire. Recent excavations undertaken by NPAL in 2005, uncovered an early cist burial containing a charcoal rich fill that was radiocarbon dated to 2400-2380 cal BC and 2360-2140 cal BC (Davies forthcoming). This feature may have been associated with a number of undated ditched boundary features and the dating falls into the early Bronze Age period. Environmental studies have identified cereal pollen dating from c2000 BC, which demonstrates the presence of agriculture in the North Cumbrian Plain in the Bronze Age (Hodgkinson *et al*, 2000). Although Bronze Age material has been uncovered within the region, no

artefacts or sites ascribable to the Bronze Age have been located within a 1 km radius of Middle Farm, Tallentire.

3.2.7 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 types of settlements, for example hillforts compared to small farmsteads. In Cumbria, however, settlement sites and burials attributable to the Iron Age are hard to identify. There may have been certain elements of the pre-Roman native population that were encouraged to settle in the vicinity of roads and forts built by the Romans in order to supply food, including cereals, for the garrisons (Blake 1959), thereby showing a change in settlement patterns. A number of unexcavated settlement sites identified by aerial photography may date to this period (Bewley 1994) and two hillforts are known at the southern end of the northern coastal plain at Carrock Fell and Swarthy Hill (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). Possible Iron Age crouched burials have been excavated at Crosby Garrett (Brennand and Hodgson 2004). Although settlements are hard to locate, environmental studies for lowland Cumbria have shown a dramatic drop in tree pollen during the Iron Age, suggesting that large tracts of forest were cleared for agricultural activity. However, no Iron Age material has been located within a 1 km radius of Middle Farm, Tallentire.

3.2.9 **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 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 this focus (Breeze and Dobson 1976). Until recent decades, the Roman military sites of Cumbria were those that received the most attention from archaeologists and as a result the nature of rural settlement during the Roman period is poorly understood (Philpott 2004). Although this is the case, environmental studies suggest that woodland clearances begun in the Iron Age continued apace, implying large-scale cultivation of land (*ibid*). As with preceding periods, a large percentage of the potential Romano-British rural sites around Maryport and Papcastle have only been identified by aerial photography; rectangular field systems have also been identified (Bewley 1994). Where rural sites have been excavated, the traditional Iron Age building form of the roundhouse continues in use into the Roman period, for example at Silloth Farm (Higham and Jones 1985). By the late third century roundhouses were being superseded by rectangular timber buildings, for example at Crosshill (Higham and Jones 1983).

3.2.10 Tallentire lies 6.5 kilometres to the north of the town of Cockermouth in the Derwent Valley. Its position is slightly to the north-east of the A595, Carlisle to Whitehaven road and slightly to the north-west of the A594 (CHER 10721), Cockermouth to Maryport road. Both of these roads have Roman origins, the A595 connecting the forts of Old Carlisle and Papcastle (*Derwentio*), while the A594 joins Papcastle to the Roman coastal defence fort at Maryport (*Alauna*). Maryport is eleven kilometres to the

west of Tallentire, and this particular fort, along with those at Beckfoot and Moresby, served as a major focus on the northwest extension of Hadrian's Wall (Wilson 1997). Excavations conducted in 1976 established that the fort was constructed during the early Hadrianic period and continued in use until approximately 400AD (Jarrett *et al* 1987). Although the route of the road has not been intensively examined archaeologically, it is suggested that the road served as part of the second century AD frontier defence system. It is unclear whether any Roman period settlement was situated around the road in the Tallentire area, and archaeological watching brief conducted by NPAL along the line of the road at Bothel, just to the east revealed no Roman archaeology (Mounsey and Gaskell 2006). The Roman Road which leaves Carlisle in a southwesterly direction and runs past Old Carlisle to Papcastle must have been an important line of communication, providing a direct link between three large forts (Bellhouse 1956). The land behind the coastal fortifications was densely populated, and the prosperity of the Solway Plain may have been significant in supplying the Roman frontier army. The coastal fortifications played a role in protecting this developing prosperity from threat from across the Solway. The fortified road from Carlisle to Maryport through Old Carlisle may well have offered similar protection from the upland inhabitants of the Lakeland hills (Shotter 1996).

- 3.2.11 It has been noted that the Solway Plain agricultural land was provided with protection by the road that ran southwestwards from Carlisle through Papcastle to Maryport. It is thought that Papcastle, because of its size and location (central to the area) may have been the 'control fort' for northwest Cumbria. Papcastle probably exercised a key role in the management of security in the interface between the northern Lake District and the high quality land of the Solway Plain (Shotter 2004).
- 3.2.12 **Medieval:** Evidence for Early Medieval activity in North 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 Early Medieval, with such examples of histories as the Northumbrian monk, The Venerable Bede's, *Historia Ecclesiastica* written in the early eighth century.
- 3.2.13 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 7th 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 7th or 8th centuries AD (Newman 2004). In addition environmental studies focussing on pollen remains have indicated a continuing arable economy in Cumbria during the Early Medieval period (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 3.2.14 In the 11th 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 and drove out one Dolfin.

3.2.15 Evidence for the beginnings of the village arise from just after the Norman Conquest. There are references to Waldeof, a lord of Allerdale, gaining ownership of Tallentire Manor and passing it to Odard son of Lyulph, the descendants of who carried the local name of Tallentire for a long period (Bulmer 1883). Activity in Tallentire is further evidenced during the centuries following the establishment of Norman control over Carlisle and its environs; the first recorded reference to the village coming from the early 1200's in relation to farming methods employed at that time, meaning that the village is firmly established at that point. REF

3.2.16 The name Tallentire, first documented in 1200's, probably means '*edge of the land*' (Ekwall 1947). Clues to the general pattern of medieval settlement in Cumbria can be gleaned from place-name evidence, although some names were still not fossilised until the twelfth century (Newman 2004). Names ending in *-tir* (such as Tallentire) are British in origin, and are possibly more common in Cumbria, Wales and Cornwall when compared to southern England. Tallentire is a name thought to be given by people who spoke a Celtic language akin to Welsh, Cornish, Breton and Pictish (Todd 2005). It may have been a language spoken in northwest England and southwest Scotland, with just enough that distinguishes it from Welsh to deserve a separate title, Cumbric. Place-names with Cumbric elements occur all over northern Cumbria and they tend to cluster. It has been ventured that Cumbric as a language itself '*can scarcely have outlasted the eleventh or the early twelfth century at the latest*' (*ibid*). This could help to place a date for the emergence of Tallentire village, meaning that it was already established as a place name by the 1200's.

3.2.17 The present layout of the village is typical of medieval planned and nucleated settlements in Cumbria. Villages like Tallentire show a rectangular plan sometimes around a green but often apparently based around a narrow street (Roberts 1993). Two possibilities have been advanced for their distinctive morphology; the first is that they developed along the outgang or narrow fan of land leading from an existing farmstead to the unenclosed common, the second that they were new and deliberate creations, and represent evidence for planning (*ibid*). These villages have been tentatively dated to the early post-Conquest period, particularly from the twelfth century onwards in Cumbria (*ibid*), relating to the establishment of Norman settlements. It has also been suggested that the settlements may have been deliberate plantations by landlords as a result of the widespread destruction caused by the 'Harrying of the North' by William the Conqueror in 1069-71, and were intended to attract free tenants to the area (Taylor 1983); however, the main focus of the devastation is thought to have occurred predominantly to the south and east, in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Co. Durham (Muir 1989), and it is debatable to what extent Cumbria was affected.

3.2.18 The village is arranged along a narrow street projecting north-east from Tallentire Hall, with two 'back lanes' running parallel to the main street, one to the north and one to the south, which allow access to the tofts beyond. It is possible that the main east-west road through Tallentire may have medieval origins, although modern detached houses now line this street. Evidence for this comes in the form of possible medieval ridge and furrow fields immediately to the northeast of Middle Farm, (Site 7). Other

examples for possible medieval ploughing activity can be seen in Sites, **2**, **4** and **8**, which are to be found situated to the east, south and west of the development area.

- 3.2.19 **Post Medieval and Modern:** Cumbria experienced its agricultural revolution later than most regions, but even so there was a noticeable and notable quickening in the pace of land and stock improvement with the late 18th century and above all in the decades between 1800-1840 when the pioneers like Howard of Corby and Curwen of Workington were innovating so extensively. Enclosure was required before most improvements could be put into effect, and Tallentire was covered by an enclosure act in 1838 (CRO(C).....). A report into agriculture in the north of England in the 1790's showed the county to be backwards: people took a long time in generally improving land by manuring, introducing new root and clover crops, getting better strains of livestock and above all investing in land drainage (Burgess 1989). Other post medieval features include several lime-kilns, (Sites **3**, **4**, **5** and **10**), with associated small quarries. The lime kilns were constructed to make use of the local limestone beds, and the low number points to local production of lime as fertiliser for the fields. Kilns were usually placed adjacent to paths for ease of transportation both of the raw material in and the quicklime, out (Williams 1989). An increase in farm buildings within the village proper is also apparent for this period, (Sites **9** and **11**).

- 3.2.20 From the eighteenth century onwards, Tallentire does not become any more prolific. Through a combination of documentary and cartographic evidence, the village continues as a small working settlement with its population changing relatively little. In 1801, the population of Tallentire was 182. This figure had increased by 1811 to 213 and in 1821 it was 244, but had decreased by 1881 to 217 (Parson and White, 1829). Sites that are listed in the HER for Cumbria seem to concur that the area around Tallentire was a quiet, industrious one. No wealth was brought upon the village through mineral extraction, although, a final search for copper around the village was made in approximately 1829 despite the fact that '*former trails have been unsuccessful*' (*ibid*). Tallentire kept its Hall, and after the descendants of Odard held ownership, it transferred into the possession of the Fletchers of Cockermouth. From there it was carried by marriage into the Partis family. It was subsequently purchased by a Henry Hopper before being sold to William Browne (Bulmer, 1883). William Browne, esq. and his son of the same name appeared to have been generous benefactors to the village, constructing a school in 1863 and continuing to support it (*ibid*). Tallentire Hall once boasted a Pele Tower, (Site **1**), although it is no longer standing as the present buildings were erected in 1863.

- 3.2.21 Although there is no mention of Middle Farm in the trade directories its position in the centre of the village could be an indication of its age. The farmhouse, which is still in existence, is noted in the HER entries as dating to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century (Site **20**), yet there is no reason to assume that no earlier building may once have stood on the site. As there are very few documentary sources pertaining to Middle Farm more information and interpretation of this plot of land will therefore have to be derived from cartographic analysis, which in itself is only as early as 1838.

4. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

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 is one site recorded by the HER located within the development area, being that of Middle Farmhouse (Site 20). Extra information was gathered for 11 HER records located in an immediate study area, defined as a 1km radius centred on the site. A full list of the sites identified by the assessment is given in *Section 4.2*. A list of 9 Listed Buildings is also provided in that section. The website ADS was also consulted, the nearest listed site was 3km away.

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)

- 4.2.1 **HER:** There were 11 HER records within the study area, which is defined as a 1km radius around the site (Fig 2). None of the sites will be directly affected by the development. The sites are summarised in Table 1.
- 4.2.2 **Listed Buildings:** the listed building records shows nine buildings within a 1km radius of the site, none of which will be affected by the development area. The buildings are also summarised in Table 1.

4.3 CUMBRIA RECORD OFFICE (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 search at the Cumbria Record Office in Carlisle (CRO(C)), an in-depth scan of the early maps for Tallentire was undertaken. A cartographic date range of between 1838 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 Apportionment Map for Tallentire, c1838 (CRO(C)):** the earliest available source is the Tithe Apportionment Map of 1838 (Fig 3), which illustrates a similar field layout to that seen today. The buildings on the site are not labelled, and it is interesting to note that the buildings shown on this map have been altered, or even replaced, since. The long building that is aligned north-east south-west is possibly the barn building that was illegally demolished and therefore the structure of most interest. The square building situated immediately to the east of this is still present today and probably functioned as the farmhouse. The access to these buildings appears to be along a lane from the south, this has now been altered so that there is more immediate access from the road to the north, as the southern route now contains a new housing development. This particular plot is not numbered although the pieces of land to the

east, south and west are. Plot 320, to the east, was owned by Barbara Walker and known as Nether Garth Pasture. Plot 321, to the south was described as ‘*Houses and Garden*’ and inhabited by a Mr. Peter Kiven, whilst plot 329 to the east of Middle Farm was known as Nether Garth and owned by Elizabeth Fletcher. It is unknown as to how these plots relate to the piece of land that centred between them and now known as Middle Farm.

- 4.4.3 ***First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1865 – 25” to 1 mile:*** the first edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 4) is the first map that shows the development area in detail. It highlights the fact that access has now been made available from the northern road and it notes the position of a well next to the farmhouse. The development site has been split by the edges of two map sheets but still shows the farm building that is under investigation as a long and narrow barn running parallel to the farmhouse in a northwest southeast direction.
- 4.4.4 ***Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1900 – 25” to 1 mile:*** the second edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 5) also shows the development site over two sheets, and the well that was observed on the first edition map is not shown on the second. The barn building is still present but the land to the northwest of it that fronts onto the road appears to have been cleared of the trees that are indicated on the first OS map.
- 4.4.5 ***Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1925 – 25” to 1 mile:*** the third edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 6) is almost a carbon copy of the second edition map, the fields and land use around Middle Farm have stayed the same and the barn is still standing next to the farmhouse.

4.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- 4.5.1 No aerial photographs directly relating to the development site exist. Around Tallentire however, a number of archaeological sites have been catalogued through the examination of aerial photography. These comprise:
- HER 6921: Bridekirk Ridge and Furrow Earthworks
 - HER 13512: Tallentire Earthworks
 - HER 13513: Tallentire Ridge and Furrow Earthworks
 - HER 19925: Earthworks South West of Tallentire Hall.
- 4.5.2 These sites lie at a maximum of 1km from the development area and will not be impinged upon by the development of the site.

4.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

- 4.6.1 In April 2003, North Pennines Heritage Trust undertook an archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation on land at Craika Road, Dearham. The work was undertaken prior to the construction of a residential development. A series of linear evaluation trenches were excavated, but the work found no significant archaeological features within any of the trenches (Jones 2003). In October 2005, North Pennines Archaeology Limited undertook a watching brief alongside the A595 at Wharrels Hill,

Bothel, just to the east of Tallentire. This work was conducted during the excavation of a trench for a high voltage underground cable and as it ran along the line of the Roman road the observations were deemed necessary by CCCHES. No significant archaeological deposits were noted within the areas observed (Mounsey and Gaskell, 2006).

5. SITE VISIT RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The site was visited on the 9th of May 2006, in order to complete a walkover survey of the area with the purpose of relating the existing landscape to research findings (Figure 7). The main section of the development area is that which is closest to the road and is a moderately flat expanse of rough grassland, currently in use as a dumping ground for various pieces of debris including parts of a burnt out car and other domestic refuse such as windows and frames, timber, breeze blocks and waste gas canisters. Heading south away from the road the land slopes up to its highest point where it is demarcated by the path that leads from the road, and skirts along the edge of the development site to the converted barn which marks the southern limit. This area too has been dumped on with various items of rubbish, which makes it somewhat awkward to walk through. The western side is delineated by brick walls, with the scrubby remains of a hedge towards the northern limit, which separates it from the bungalows to the west. The access path footpath forms the southeastern boundary.
- 5.1.2 No archaeological features were identified from the investigation of the surface during the site visit, although a building is clearly marked on both the second and third edition OS maps and so is discussed below.

5.2 RESULTS

- 5.2.1 Significant remains were not easily visible in the scrubland type growth of vegetation, which is the development area. A rapid inspection noted an upstanding wall, which survived to over 1.5m in height marking the south-western limit of the site (Plate 2). The walls were built of brick and covered with whitewash. Though it was not possible to discern the exact position and layout of the demolished building, the fact that they are shown on OS maps will aid the positioning of the evaluation trenches. Large quantities of rubble also obscured the ground, this rubbish had been piled into mounds around the development area, some were partially overgrown and can be observed in Plates 2 and 3.
- 5.2.2 The north-western limit of the development area fronts onto the road, and is defined by a dry stone wall that is in need of repair and is largely overgrown by vegetation; two stone gateposts mark the entrance into the development area, they too are overgrown and almost hidden from view. The north-eastern limit is bounded by other buildings, including Middle Farmhouse. The south-eastern extent is marked by a barn conversion with a rough track in front of it. This track will provide the access to the site from the road.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 6.1.1 The potential for prehistoric archaeology is fairly low. Though there was almost certainly prehistoric activity in the area, there is no definitive evidence for this. The potential for Roman archaeology is equally low, despite the close proximity of a Roman road (HER 10721) to the development area. The nearest evidence for Roman activity is the Roman stonework, which survives in the twelfth century phase of the church of St Mungos at Dearham, although this quite probably originates from the Roman coastal defences and activity at Maryport. An evaluation undertaken by NPAL at Craika Road failed to uncover any evidence for settlement immediately adjacent to the line of the Roman road (Jones 2003), and a watching brief undertaken by NPAL close to Bothel, just to the east of the development also failed to record any Roman archaeology (Mounsey and Gaskell, 2006).
- 6.1.2 The early and later medieval remains are entirely represented by the medieval village of Tallentire itself. The village, though now fairly modern in terms of housing, appears to have originally taken the form of crofts-and-tofts, which were aligned back from the central village road which runs approximately north-east, south-west. The Grade II listed building of Tallentire Hall (HER 5645, LBSMR 23005) lies to the south-west of the village. Aerial photographs have succeeded in identifying a series of ridge and furrow medieval field systems near Tallentire and Bridekirk (HER 13513+6921), but these lie to the south and east of the present-day village. The development area is fairly central to the medieval village, and as such the potential for medieval remains to survive is moderate, any remains from the medieval have the possibility to have been disturbed or removed by later activities.
- 6.1.3 The post-medieval archaeology of the development area shows the greatest potential. Although the walkover survey did not identify any surviving remains of a building in the southern end of the site, a building has been demonstrated by cartographic sources to relate to the eighteenth century farmhouse of Middle Farm (LB SMR 23013). The area has been cleared of this building, and there is a very high potential for sub-surface remains to survive. The proposed development of this area will directly impinge on this site.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 On the evidence presented above there is a high potential for the survival of archaeological deposits on the site, however, the proposed redevelopment of the area will probably remove any remaining sub-surface evidence of the demolished barn building.
- 6.2.2. In light of this, it is recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation be undertaken in the area. This will involve the mechanical excavation of strategically placed trenches in order to assess the quality and extent of any sub-surface remains.

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APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF HER SITES

Site No.	Source	Name	Type	Period	NGR
1+12	HER 5645 LB SMR 23005	Tallentire Hall Pele Tower	Pele Tower	Medieval	NY 10400 35200
2	HER 6921	Bridekirk Ridge & Furrow	Earthworks	Unknown	NY 11500 34600
3	HER 11120	Bridekirk Quarry	Lime Kiln/Quarry	Post Medieval	NY 11460 34920
4	HER 11122	Bridekirk Quarry	Lime Kiln/Quarry	Post Medieval	NY 11170 34830
5	HER 11124	Tallentire Quarry	Lime Kiln/Quarry	Post Medieval	NY 10900 34750
6	HER 13512	Tallentire Earthworks	Trackway	Unknown	NY 11300 35400
7	HER 13513	Tallentire Ridge & Furrow	Ridge & Furrow/Village	Medieval	NY 10800 35150
8	HER 19925	Tallentire Hall West Earthworks	Ridge & Furrow	Unknown	NY 10000 34850
9	HER 40211	High Croft Farm	Barn	Post Medieval	NY 10680 35120
10	HER 40239	Tallentire Quarry	Lime Kiln/Quarry	Post Medieval	NY 11249 35164
11+19	HER 40850 LBSMR 23012	Midtown Farm	Farmhouse/ Stable/Barn	Post Medieval	NY 10800 35340
13	LB SMR 23006	Lamp-post Tallentire Hall	Lamp Post	Post- Medieval	NY 10450 35216
14	LBSMR 23007	Lamp-post Tallentire Hall	Lamp Post	Post- Medieval	NY 10465 35186
15	LBSMR 23008	Bush Inn Tallentire	Public House	?Medieval	NY 10846 35400
16	LBSMR 23009	Burton House Tallentire	House	Post- Medieval	NY 10838 35393
17	LBSMR 23010	The Chestnuts Tallentire	Farmhouse	Post- Medieval	NY 11018 35527

18	LBSMR 23011	Dale House Tallentire	House	Post- Medieval	NY 10815 35339
20	LBSMR 23013	Middle Farmhouse Tallentire	Farmhouse	?Medieval	NY 10720 35231

APPENDIX 2 - FIGURES

APPENDIX 3 - PLATES



Plate 1: Looking up the site from the gateway, facing south.



Plate 2: Looking down slope towards entrance, facing north-west



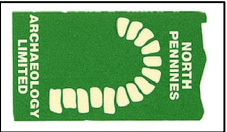
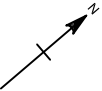
Plate 3: Area of the site closest to road, showing rubble and overhead cables, facing southwest.



Plate 4: Area of site furthest from road, showing debris and telegraph pole, facing west.



Plate 5: Electricity pole on the northeastern edge of development area, facing northwest.

	
<p>North Pennines Archaeology Ltd 2006 Middle Farm, Tallentire</p>	
DRAWING No:	1
SCALE:	1:300
DRAWN BY:	NG
DATE:	June 2006
LOCATION:	
	
KEY	
TITLE:	Trench Locations
COMMISSIONED BY:	Red Raven Design Ltd

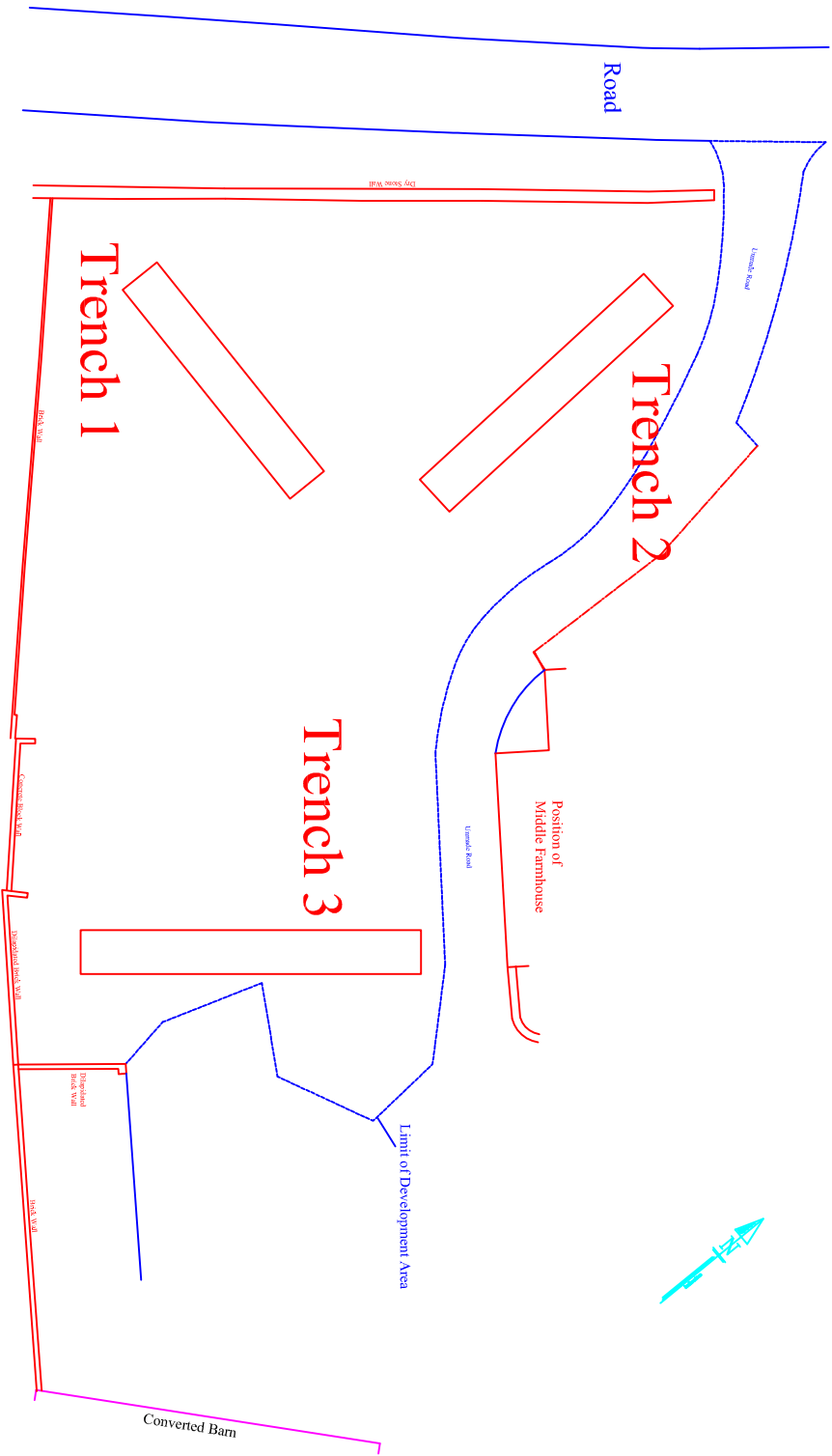


Figure 1 : Final Positions of Evaluation Trenches

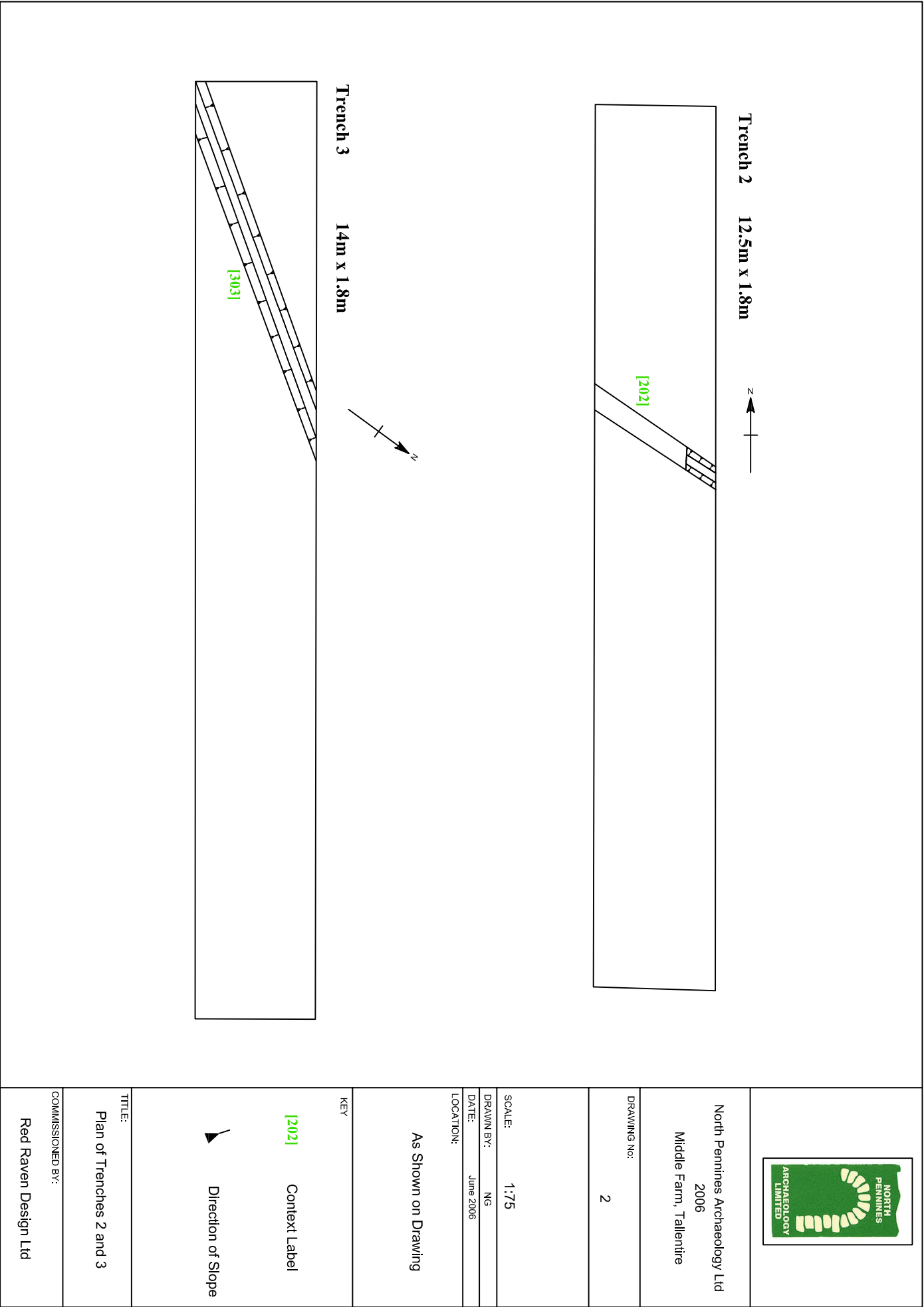


Figure 2 : Plan Drawings of Trenches 2 and 3