

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Client Report No. CP/344/06



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
FOR A PROPOSED HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT ON LAND
ADJACENT TO SMITHY
HOUSE,
TEMPLE SOWERBY,
CUMBRIA**

**FOR
CUMBRIAN HOMES LTD**

NY 6126 2694

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Ian Blackett of Cumbrian Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological desk study and site visit in advance of a proposed redevelopment of land adjacent to Smithy House, Temple Sowerby, Cumbria (NGR NY 6126 2694).

The study involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the County Record Offices in Carlisle and Kendal, 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 including Access to Archives and Archaeological Data Services.

The desk-based assessment located 1 Scheduled Ancient Monument, 13 other sites from the HER and 33 Listed Buildings within a 1km radius of Smithy House. The HER sites include: examples of undated cropmarks (Site 4); prehistoric flint finds (Site 13), a Roman road (Site 1), and a Roman Milestone (Site 2); the medieval village of Temple Sowerby itself (Site 5, and medieval rubbish pits (Site 12); a post-medieval train station (Site 7), and associated viaduct (Site 8). Numerous listed houses and other buildings lie in the village, which include Temple Sowerby House (Site 17) and Edendale Cottage, the nearest such site to the development area (Site 16).

The results of the desk-based assessment indicate a fairly typical spread of sites for the area. The Roman road (A66), which passes the site, immediately to the southwest, and onto which the site fronts has recently been examined in advance of a by-pass project by Oxford Archaeology North in April 2006. Work has also been carried out by North Pennines Heritage Trust in the area of Temple Sowerby in 2003, this consisted of a watching brief along a cable trench that ran from Temple Sowerby to Culgaith. The archaeology encountered by NPHT consisted of structural remains, possibly relating to buildings associated with Mill Rigg Farm, three worked flint flakes in the vicinity of Mill Rigg Farm and a single fragment of hand made ceramic, possibly Bronze Age in date. Any medieval archaeology is almost wholly represented by the village itself and associated field systems, to which the development area is positioned slightly to the southeast. Remnants of medieval field systems survive to the north-east of the village (Site 4), which possibly has its origins in the period preceding 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, possibly connected to improvements in agricultural practices, the mining of gypsum in the area and the arrival of the railway network to the village.

The proposed scheme of development will have a significant impact, and will probably destroy any sub-surface remains in the study location. The site visit noted a number of barn buildings, some of which are to be demolished. The concreted area in between these buildings was quite narrow and overgrown with scrub vegetation. The structures were of coursed sandstone blocks, roughly dressed with sandstone window lintels, and timber frames for the roofs that carried either slate tiles or in some cases corrugated iron panels. These buildings appeared to have been used as storage areas, animal byres and barns (Plates 3-7). The buildings sit in the south west corner of a larger field on relatively flat land. There is the possibility that because these structures do not have substantial foundations and that the ground surface has been covered

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with concrete that there may be possible sub-surface remains, perhaps in the form of an earlier surface, or individual artefacts of archaeological interest that relate to the previous usage of this area and to a lesser extent the possibility Roman archaeology.

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 County Council Historic Environment Record (HER); Jeremy Parsons, Assistant Archaeologist, Cumbria County Council, and all the staff at the Cumbria County Record Offices in Carlisle and Kendal 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, MA.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) were consulted by Eden District Council, regarding a planning application submitted for a proposed scheme of land redevelopment. The site is located next to Smithy House, Temple Sowerby, Cumbria (NGR NY 6126 2694) (Fig 1). The development will involve the construction of five homes on land towards the southeast of the village. This land is currently the location of barn buildings, which date to the latter half of the 19th century and are to be taken down. 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 Cumbrian Homes Limited, to undertake the required archaeological desk-based assessment of the general area around Smithy House, 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 (CRO(C)) and Kendal (CRO(K)), and the archives and library held by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd as well as relevant web sites. 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.

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 Cumbrian Homes Limited 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 Offices (Carlisle and Kendal):*** the County Record Offices in Carlisle (CRO(C)) and Kendal (CRO(K)) were 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 Temple Sowerby lies 11.5km southeast of Penrith and 14.5km northwest of Appleby-in-Westmorland, Cumbria and is located within the civil parish of Temple Sowerby in the part of Cumbria that used to be known as the county of Westmorland. The development area is situated on flat land located immediately to the north of the main road through the village, (the A66), at a height of around 110m above Ordnance Datum (OD).
- 3.1.2 Temple Sowerby sits on Permian basal breccias, which comprise of sandstones and mudstones (British Geological Society web site) in the base of the Eden Valley. This solid geology is overlain with soils of the Clifton Association, which are fine reddish, loamy till soils (Countryside Commission, 1998). The Eden Valley is a landscape of enclosed, agricultural land and woodland. Most of the area is mixed dairy and livestock farming with some arable towards the north, or on the river soils of the River Eden floodplain (English Nature web site). Land-use around Temple Sowerby consists predominantly of both pasture and arable land.
- 3.1.3 Presently, the development area is a courtyard, surrounded on three sides by relatively modern barn buildings. These buildings are due to be taken down, and the concrete surface removed before the redevelopment will take place. The development area is within the boundaries of the Temple Sowerby Village Conservation Area.

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 the Palaeolithic period, human communities in Britain were hunting and gathering, activities that 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 Smithy House, Temple Sowerby, 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) and Mesolithic flints have also been collected from the limestone uplands around the area of Shap (Cherry and Cherry 1987), but again, as yet, no Mesolithic material has been located within a 1 km radius of Smithy House, Temple Sowerby, 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 west of Temple Sowerby 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 (Hodgson and Brennand 2004).
- 3.2.5 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 Glassonby, 17km northeast of Temple Sowerby, King Arthur's Round Table and Mayburgh Henges 10.5km to the northwest, Leacet Hill 10km to the west or at Grey Yauds, Newbiggin, only 3.5km to the east (Burl, 1995). 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. In Cumbria, both circles and henges were often situated at the confluence of valleys or near important breaks in the Pennines, like Long Meg and her Daughters stone circle at Little Salkeld, 13km to the northeast of Temple Sowerby (Edmonds, 1999).
- 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, close to Aspatria in northern Cumbria. 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). Several items that have come from find spots in the vicinity of Temple Sowerby have been described as Bronze Age, and many of these now reside in the Tullie House Museum in Carlisle. These finds include an Early Bronze Age flanged and decorated bronze axe head (Site 47), a bronze palstave (Site 50) and a Late Bronze Age bronze socketed axe head (Site 51), (Archaeology data Service web site). What is unfortunate is that these items do not have a secure context and their exact discovery location is not known. A piece of putative Bronze Age pottery was also found during a watching brief, just to the north of Temple Sowerby in 2003 by North Pennines Heritage Trust (Miller and Giecco, 2003). The amount of material is impressive and may be indicative of a settlement, burial mound or a hidden hoard.

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 (Hodgson and Brennan 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. In Temple Sowerby ‘a stone hammer of the pre-Roman period’ was found (Kelly, 1894), this could be evidence that land management in whichever form was taking place around the area, as the villages current location at the confluence of two rivers would provide ample good ground for crop growing as well as resources from the river.

3.2.8 **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*). 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).

- 3.2.9 Temple Sowerby lies 9 kilometres to the east of the Roman fort at Brougham (*Brovacum*) near Penrith and 4 kilometres to the west of the fort at Kirkby Thore (*Bravoniacum*). Less than 2 kilometres to the east of the village is a Roman milestone, one of only two in the country that are still in their original position, and although the inscription has now been largely eroded due to cattle using the stone as a scratching post, it was once recorded as reading '*For Imperator Caesar Marcus Casianius Latinianus Postumus Augustus Pius Felix [Erected by] the public works of the Carvetian State*', and has been dated to approximately AD260-269. (Roman Britain web site).
- 3.2.10 The existence of the fort at Kirkby Thore means that the area around it was probably busy with human activity endeavouring to supply the fort and its population with food and other resources. Temple Sowerby is well connected to the fort by the Roman road (now the A66), and this road could have provided a focal point for a native settlement in close proximity to their 'trade'. Again, the two rivers would also provide ample opportunity for both transport and food. Excavations at Kirkby Thore were first recorded to have happened in 1687, followed in 1961 by more structured work and since then work has occurred more regularly. Fieldwork has uncovered that the Roman fort had an attached *Vicus* of approximately 30 acres (Gibbons, 1989), a considerable size, suggesting the importance of the fort in the surrounding area. It is probable that this influence would have extended to the area of Temple Sowerby, although there has been no definitive evidence for settlement at Temple Sowerby during the Roman period.
- 3.2.11 **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 Early Medieval, with such examples of histories as the Northumbrian monk, The Venerable Bede's, *Historia Ecclesiastica* written in the early eighth century.
- 3.2.12 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 the name of Temple Sowerby; it being a dual one, the Sowerby aspect deriving from '*sourebi*' meaning 'a farmstead on boggy ground' of Old Scandinavian origin, which is first encountered in 1179. The full name of '*Templessoureby*' was first recorded in 1292 and comes from the early possession of the village by the Knights Templars (Mills, 2003).
- 3.2.16 The village is situated at the confluence of the Eden and Crowdundle Beck, a favourable position, in the shelter of the west side of the Pennines, close to a plentiful water supply which is useful for both food and transport, and an old Roman road. Observed on the cartographic sources is a sub-rounded enclosure, which may be pre-Norman in origin, but there is still the likelihood that it depicts open field enclosure of the late 18th century. There is evidence for 7th and 8th century occupation at Fremington 9km to the west of Temple Sowerby. Where excavations uncovered four *grubenhauser* or grub huts, built down into the ground, the first examples from a rural context in this region. These features were situated beside the Roman road and were found in association with loomweights, a pit, remains of a kiln and over 100 sherds of a crude handmade pottery (James *et al*, 1984). With a site such as this in the locality of Temple Sowerby, it cannot be completely ruled out that Temple Sowerby itself does not have origins of pre-1066.
- 3.2.17 The present layout of the village is typical of medieval planned and nucleated settlements in Cumbria and is registered as such with the HER (Site 5). Villages like Temple Sowerby show a rectangular plan sometimes around a green or 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 was once in the possession of the Knights Templar, although by whom the Manor of Temple Sowerby was given, or at what date, remains uncertain. The Manor, now a structure and estate known as Acorn Bank (Site 6), remained in their ownership until the order of the Temple was suppressed in 1312, and eleven years later their possessions were, by Acts of Parliament, given to the Knights of St. John (Knights Hospitallers), who continued to hold Temple Sowerby until the dissolution of the religious houses by Henry VIII in 1543 (Kelly 1934). The manor was then granted to Thomas Dalston Esq. by the King. In 1656 the house was altered by John Dalston when a substantial walled garden was created. The final major rebuilding took place in

the 1740's when the house was made symmetrical by the addition of the south-east wing, this final touch creating the building that can be seen today (Tyler, 2000).

- 3.2.19 Other buildings in the village that have histories reaching back to the medieval period include Swan House and Cottage (Site 31) and a building now utilized as an antiques shop (Site 42). Swan House and Cottage both make up the former Black Swan Inn, now divided into two private houses. The building dates to 1616, and the fact that it was still a functioning Public House depicted on the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1912 has probably helped its longevity. The main body of the building is coursed rubble that has been lime washed and it now has a Welsh slate roof, which replaced an earlier thatched one. Internally a cruck-truss survives in Swan House and a late 17th century corniced fireplace survives in Swan Cottage. The Cottage now used as an antiques shop is possibly 17th century or earlier with 18th and 19th century alterations, and again, it is constructed by coursed rubble that has been lime-washed, and contains a beamed interior with original panelled door (Kendal HER). Rose Cottage may also be considered as a medieval building with its origins being in the early 1700's (*ibid*).
- 3.2.20 **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 in 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 Temple Sowerby was covered by an Enclosure Act in 1838. 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). But a contemporary author of the late 18th century, an A Pringle writing in 1794, described at length the quality of the soil in the Temple Sowerby area, exactly what crops were grown and favoured, why, and how much the returns were indicating that it was well organised and keeping up with the ideas of the revolution.
- 3.2.21 Another major activity in Temple Sowerby that arose in the late 18th century was gypsum extraction, a soft mineral, which has uses in plaster. The mining of gypsum has been a major employer in the region for many years and is still a worldwide industry in which Cumbria has played a major role (Tyler, 2000). It was around 1790 that some surface extraction of gypsum was carried out at Acorn Bank, but there are no details to be found regarding the company or partners who worked there. It was Henry Boazman who started the first mine in Temple Sowerby in 1880 after seeing the remains of the 1790's surface exploration. The work force consisted of local men from Temple Sowerby and Newbiggin, and by 1890 the work had to continue underground, the surface sources having been exhausted. By 1892 figures record 3,600 tons of gypsum had been blasted out by black powder and in 1925, after struggling through the Great war years, the Boazman Mining Company was bought by the Gotham Company of Nottingham. The Acorn Bank mine (Site 6), closed in 1937, despite all the gypsum not being extracted and worked commenced instead at Kirkby Thore (*ibid*).
- 3.2.22 Post medieval features in the village are largely represented by buildings constructed during the late 18th and 19th centuries, which include Temple Sowerby House (Site 17), which was once one of the principal residences in the village, being built by the

Atkinson family, wealthy local yeomen farmers and owners of sugar plantations in the West Indies. The core of the house dates from the 16th century and was originally a farmhouse, with the Georgian front wing being added in the early 19th century (Temple Sowerby website). The church dedicated to St. James is also late 18th century, being constructed in 1754 and enlarged by an aisle in 1770, with the west tower being of 1807 (Pevsner, 1967). All the other listed building ascribable to this date and period are shown in Table 1.

- 3.2.23 This expansion in building within the village may be in part due to the gypsum extraction and the fact that in the middle of the nineteenth century Temple Sowerby gained a railway station (Site 7), (Plate 1), as part of the Eden Valley Railway, which ran from Kirkby Stephen to Penrith. The Skygarth Viaduct (Site 8), (Plate 2), just to the west of the station was completed in 1861 but because it required strengthening due to the length of its arches the first passenger train could not run until Saturday 7th June, 1862 (Western 1997). This train passed over the line from Kirkby Stephen to Clifton and back again, a return journey of 44 miles. It stopped at all the intermediate stations and all passengers were treated to free seats (British History web site). This station closed to passengers on 7th December 1953 but remained open for freight transportation until 1962, 100 years on from its opening date.
- 3.2.24 Although there is no mention of Smithy House in the trade directories there is in the village in 1834 a blacksmith by the name of William Sisson (Kelly 1834). This person is also noted on the Tithe Map of 1838, and the building in which he resided may have been called Smithy House after his occupancy. This is the building directly adjacent to the development area. There is no record as to where Mr. Sisson had his blacksmithing workshop, and again there was no mention of a forge in the trade directories but the building adjoining Smithy House to the north is now called Old Forge, possibly indicating the location. The buildings that presently stand on the development site are only visible on cartographic sources after 1899. They are not on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1865 and therefore they must have been constructed in the latter half of the 19th century.

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 are no sites recorded by the HER located within the development area. Extra information was gathered for another **13** 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 32 Listed Buildings is also provided in that section.

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)

4.2.1 **HER:** There were **13** 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 show **32** buildings within a 1km radius of the proposed development site. The nearest is Edendale Cottage (Site **16**), situated approximately 100 metres away on the other side of the road and as a statutory designated site there may be a visual impact on the building from the proposed development, which needs to be considered. The buildings are also summarised in Table 1.

4.2.3 **Archaeological Data Service Web Site:** ADS listed 10 sites within a 1km radius of Temple Sowerby, 4 of these were repeated in other searches but 6 provided new information, which was incorporated into Table 1 and Figure 2.

4.3 CUMBRIA RECORD OFFICES (CARLISLE AND KENDAL)

4.3.1 The Cumbria Record Offices in Carlisle (CRO(C)) and Kendal (CRO(K)) were 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 Kendal (CRO(K)), an in-depth scan of the early maps for Temple Sowerby was undertaken. A cartographic date range of between 1838 and 1912 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 Temple Sowerby, c1838 (CRO(K)):** the earliest available source is the Tithe Apportionment Map of 1838 (Fig 3), which illustrates the village quite clearly. The building labelled 174 appears to be Smithy House, although it is not named as such, and it is owned by a Jane Atkinson and is occupied by a William Sisson, who by profession is a blacksmith and farmer. The fields that lie immediately to the southeast have been numbered 175 and 176 and are both owned by the same

Jane Atkinson and are described as being pasture and arable respectively. These fields are only one field or division away from the Peat Moss (Site 3), possibly indicating that they are 'improved' areas, drained to become workable during the agricultural revolution.

- 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. This map also shows a large sub-rounded enclosure to the north of the development area. The village buildings are all clustered at the south side of the 'enclosure', a path defines its northwestern limits while field boundaries complete the enclosure on the northern and eastern sides. This may be indicative of the earliest form of settlement at Temple Sowerby, possibly Scandinavian in origin, when migrants were settling in the north of England in the centuries preceding the Norman Conquest or it may represent the open field enclosures that occurred in the late medieval period. Medieval tofts are shown radiating north-east from the village centre and possibly to the south-west as well. The tofts to the north-east are made accessible by a lane that runs through the middle of them and which dissects the rounded enclosure in two. The development area is shown as an empty plot of land immediately to the southeast of the building now known as Smithy House. The north-east boundary of the field in which the development is taking place is forms the edge of a piece of land called the Moss, this is the same patch of land described at 'Peat Moss' on the earlier Tithe Map of 1838.
- 4.4.4 ***Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1899 – 25” to 1 mile:*** the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 5) shows the village in slightly better detail than the First Edition map and depicts that there are by this time, buildings on the development area. On appearance these seem to be the same buildings that are still standing today. The field boundaries all appear to have remained the same and no major development seems to have occurred within the village in the intervening 34 years.
- 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. Many aspects remain the same, most importantly, there is no change to the field boundaries around, or the buildings on the development site.

4.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- 4.5.1 No aerial photographs directly relating to the development site exist. Around Temple Sowerby however, a number of archaeological sites have been catalogued through the examination of aerial photography. These include:
- HER 4717: Kirkby Thore Settlement Cropmarks
 - HER 6178: Temple Sowerby Cropmarks
 - HER 2801: Spitals Roman Milestone, Temple Sowerby
- 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 Between April and July 2003, North Pennines Heritage Trust undertook an archaeological watching brief on ground works associated with the laying of a cable between Temple Sowerby and Culgaith. This investigation recovered three undiagnostic worked flint flakes and one weathered fragment of possible Bronze Age pottery, although these came from unsecured contexts (Miller and Giecco 2003).
- 4.6.2 On a wider scale, the neighbouring village of Kirkby Thore has attracted a great deal of archaeological attention because of the presence of the Roman fort of *Bravoniacum*, the civilian settlement that grew up around the fort and the remains of the Roman road. The amount of work that has been concentrated around Kirkby Thore is rather extensive given the significance of the remains in that area.
- 4.6.3 The most recent and possibly the most extensive scheme of works to take place in Temple Sowerby is the A66 by-pass road, which began construction in early 2006. Oxford Archaeology North undertook a desk-based assessment of the area followed by a strategic evaluation by trial trenching and the digging of test pits. The entire evaluation provided nothing more than one piece of medieval pottery and some ephemeral structural remains pertaining to Field House (Site 11), as marked on the 1838 Tithe Map (Gajos and Hughes, 2006).

5. SITE VISIT RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The site was visited on the 8th of June 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 development area is next to the northern side of the road and is a moderately flat expanse of land, seemingly no longer in use but previously used for storage, animal byres and barns, judging from what is still visible within the structures. Behind the area to the northeast, away from the road the land remains fairly level to the point where it is demarcated by a fence that separates it from the next field. The area of the development has at present, a concrete ground surface, which is to be removed, this has been overgrown by grasses since it went out of use. The northwestern limit is delineated by the boundary with Smithy House and the southwestern limit is the A66 road.
- 5.1.2 No archaeological features were identified from the investigation of the surface during the site visit.

5.2 RESULTS

- 5.2.1 Any archaeological remains were impossible to see because of the concrete surface and the extant buildings, within the development area. A rapid inspection noted that sandstone was used in the construction of the buildings, for both the walls and window lintels, and that timber was used for the doorway lintels (Plate 4), as well as the framing inside that upheld the roofs. Some roofs had been dismantled and the slate tiles were stacked inside the buildings, while others were still in position. Others had more modern replacements of corrugated iron
- 5.2.2 The building that was situated at the southeastern extent of the site appears to be a later addition, made from timber planks and corrugated iron (Plate 5). It is not shown on the Third Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1912, and so is less than 100 years old. The interior of some of the buildings had divisions that were constructed from brick which had been whitewashed (Plate 7). Some had wooden divisions to separate animal stalls, the building to the north had a stable door on the front and a high level door on its northern face, which was accessible by steps on the exterior of the building (Plate 4).

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, the only evidence is stray finds, mostly relating to the Bronze Age. Although the area known locally as The Moss is situated just to the east of the site and contains a rounded enclosure with ditches there is no certainty as to the date of this feature, but its proximity must be noted. The potential for Roman archaeology is equally low, despite the close proximity of the Roman road, the A66, and Kirkby Thore fort. No Roman material has been described as being retrieved from Temple Sowerby, and although the possibility of it cannot be excluded, the chances must still be thought of as relatively low. No evidence was uncovered of the Roman Road during the recent evaluations conducted by Oxford Archaeology North on the same side of the road as the site.
- 6.1.2 The early and later medieval remains are entirely represented by the medieval village of Temple Sowerby itself, which appears to have originally taken the form of crofts-and-tofts, which were aligned back from the central village road, which runs approximately northwest-southeast. The earliest references to the village, both in terms of its name and the activities taking place there, date back to the 12th century. The majority of the buildings now date to the post medieval period although there are a few remaining that date to the 17th century such as the former public house of the Black Swan Inn (Site 31) and the cottage now used as an antiques shop (Site 42). Aerial photographs have succeeded in identifying areas of crop-marks near Temple Sowerby (Sites 3 and 4), but these lie to the northeast and southeast of the present development area. The development area is just on the southeast edge of the medieval village, and as such the potential for medieval remains is moderate, anything that did remain from the medieval period has 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 on the site, there is still the potential for sub-surface remains to survive. The proposed development of this area will have a considerable effect with direct interventions into the ground, possibly disturbing any extant remains.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 On the evidence presented above there is a potential for the survival of archaeological deposits on the site; these are in the form of the sub-surface remains of either the medieval or Roman period.
- 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. The positioning of these trenches will be carefully considered so as to avoid any

overhead or sub-surface services; the proposed locations of these trenches are shown on Figure 7.

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APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF SITES

Site No.	Source	Name	Type	Period	NGR
1	HER 1809	High Street Roman Road	Road	Roman	NY 70000 19900
2	HER 2801 SMR 263	Spitals roman Milestone	Milestone	Roman	NY 61990 26440
3	HER 4717	Kirkby Thore Settlement	Settlement	Unknown	NY 61900 26760
4	HER 6178	Temple Sowerby Cropmark	Site	Unknown	NY 61700 26500
5	HER 6778	Temple Sowerby Medieval Village	Village	Medieval	NY 61000 27000
6	HER 15538	Acorn Bank	Industrial Works	Post-Medieval	NY 61760 27750
7	HER 15551	Temple Sowerby Railway Station	Railway Station	Post-Medieval	NY 61320 25995
8	HER 15552	Skygarth Viaduct	Viaduct	Post-Medieval	NY 60700 26125
9	HER 40214	Methodist Chapel and Sunday School	Chapel Building	Post Medieval	NY 61250 27041
10	HER 40281 LB SMR 20611	Linden House Farm	Grade II Farmstead	Late 18 th Century	NY 61120 27020
11	HER 41450	Field House	Farmstead	Post Medieval	NY 60520 27030
12	HER 41451	Rubbish Pit	Rubbish Pit	Medieval	NY 61040 26665
13	HER 41453	Flint Finds	Findspot	Prehistoric	NY 60900 26775
14	LBSMR 20604	Edendale House	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61259 26872
15	LBSMR 20605	Edendale House	Low Walls and Piers	19 th Century	NY 61270 26879
16	LBSMR 20606	Edendale Cottage	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61254 26887

17	LBSMR 20607	Temple Sowerby House	Grade II House	?1727	NY 61154 26981
18	LBSMR 20608	Temple Sowerby House	Low Walls and Piers	18 th Century	NY 61181 26994
19	LB SMR 20609	Park House	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61145 27004
20	LB SMR 20610	Park House	Low Walls and Piers	Late 18 th Century	NY 61163 27018
21	LB SMR 20612 NATINV 960880	Maypole	Grade II Maypole	19 th Century	NY 61187 27020
22	LB SMR 20613	Woodbine House and Warehouse	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61162 27087
23	LB SMR 20614	Woodbine House	Low Walls and Piers	Late 18 th Century	NY 61155 27076
24	LB SMR 20615	Kings Arms Hotel	Grade II Building	18 th Century	NY 61110 27136
25	LB SMR 20616	The Grange	Grade II House	1817	NY 60985 27319
26	LB SMR 20617	The Grange	Low Walls and Piers	19 th Century	NY 61013 27321
27	LB SMR 20618	The Grange	Low Walls and Piers	19 th Century	NY 60953 27291
28	LB SMR 20619	West View Farmhouse	Grade II House	1801	NY 60942 27353
29	LB SMR 20620	West View Farmhouse	Low Walls and Railings	19 th Century	NY 60930 27342
30	LB SMR 20621	Countess Farmhouse	Grade II House	18 th Century	NY 61227 27070
31	LB SMR 20622 NATINV 509684	Swan House and Swan Cottage	Grade II House	1616	NY 61226 27170
32	LB SMR 20623	Rose Cottage	Grade II House	Early 18 th Century	NY 61183 27251

33	LB SMR 20624	Sheriff House	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61157 27276
34	LB SMR 20625	Beech Cottage	Grade II House	Mid 18 th Century	NY 61149 27290
35	LB SMR 20626	Beech House and Stables	Grade II House	Late 18 th Century	NY 61140 27302
36	LB SMR 20627	Sheriff and Beech House and Beech Cottage	Low Walls, Gate Piers and Railings	18 th and 19 th Centuries	NY 61138 27280
37	LB SMR 20628	Threshing Barn, Tannery's Dovecote	Grade II Building	Late 18 th Early 19 th Century	NY 61111 27379
38	LB SMR 20629	Mountain View	Grade II House	Late 18 th Early 19 th Century	NY 61044 27263
39	LB SMR 20630	Mountain View	Walls and Gate Piers	19 th Century	NY 61049 27268
40	LB SMR 20631	The Cedars	Grade II House	Late 18 th Early 19 th Century	NY 61196 27051
41	LB SMR 20632	The Cedars	Low Walls, Piers and Railings	19 th Century	NY 61188 27043
42	LB SMR 20633	Antique Shop	Grade II Building	17 th Century or earlier	NY 61132 27160
43	LB SMR 20634	West View Farmhouse Barn	Grade II Building	Late 18 th Early 19 th Century	NY 60997 27368
44	LB SMR 20635	Tannery's Dovecote	Grade II Structure	Late 18 th Early 19 th Century	NY 61111 27407
45	LB SMR 25013	Telephone Kiosk	Grade II Structure	Early 20 th Century	NY 61143 27093
46	NATINV 13581	Stone Hammer	Stone Tool	? Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000
47	NATINV 13583	Flanged and Decorated Bronze Axe	Metal Tool	Early Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000
48	NATINV 13584	Bronze Age Butt	Metal Tool	Early Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000

49	NATINV 13585	Bronze Axe	Metal Tool	Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000
50	NATINV 13586	Bronze Palstave	Metal Tool	Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000
51	NATINV 13587	Socketed Axe	Metal Tool	Late Bronze Age	NY 61000 27000
52	NATINV 509676	St. James'	Church	Post- Medieval	NY 61200 27170

APPENDIX 2 - FIGURES

APPENDIX 3 - PLATES



Plate 1: Temple Sowerby Station (Site 7). Looking west in 1959. Photo by John Mallon



Plate 2: Skygarth Viaduct (Site 8), to the west of Temple Sowerby village. Photo by John Mallon



Plate 3: Looking northwest along the range of buildings towards Smithy House.



Plate 4: The most northerly building with exterior steps to high-level entrance and stable door at the front.



Plate 5: Looking southeast down the range of buildings to the later addition of the plank and corrugated roof barn at the end.



Plate 6: Looking southwest down the range of buildings, showing the overgrown concrete yard and the slate roofs on the buildings that front the road.



Plate 7: Interior of one of the buildings showing brick partition walls and timber roofing frame, with a modern addition of a corrugated iron barn behind.

