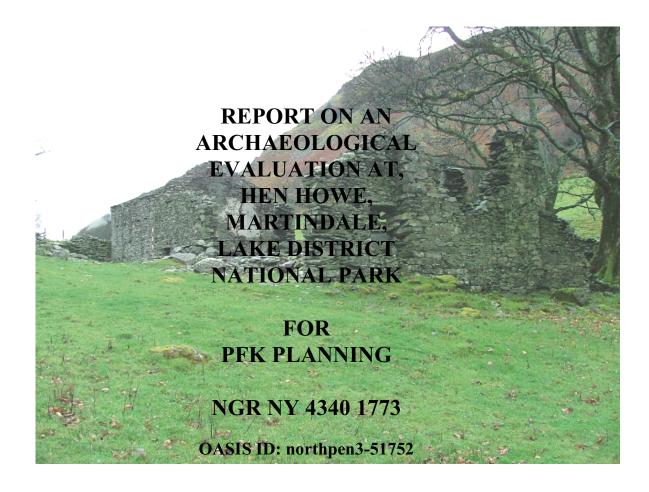
NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Client Report No. CP/742/08



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04 March 2009



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 2008, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by PFK Planning on behalf of Martin Robinson (the Client) to undertake an archaeological rapid desk-based assessment and field evaluation at Hen Howe, Martindale, in order to provide information to support an application to the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) for the redevelopment of a ruined farmhouse (HER 33185) (NGR NY 4340 1773).

Prior to the archaeological evaluation a rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site. The desk-based assessment involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the County Records Office in Kendal, the local studies section at Carlisle Library, and the consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) of the Lake District National Park Authority based in Kendal. The HER includes the locations and settings of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens and other, non-designated archaeological remains. In addition, a number of published sources were consulted to provide background information, including the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society.

The rapid desk-based assessment revealed that Hen Howe is believed to be a property which dates to the 17th century, and was an example of a statesman's house consisting of a firehouse (living room), downhouse (service area), and buttery and parlour, with a staircase set in a semicircular outshut to the rear. The property was operating as a working farm certainly between the 1880s and 1920s, but by 1936 it was described as 'ruined'. There was no evidence for earlier archaeology on the site from historical mapping or published material; this does not however indicate that this area was not populated in earlier periods. Prehistoric activity is known in Martindale at 'Howtown Hut Circle' located to the east of Winter Crag, and to the north of Howtown itself are three cairnfields of prehistoric date. To the east of the How Grains valley is the line of the Roman road of High Street.

During the site visit it was noted that the house at Hen Howe was largely ruined with a central section now gone, although the byre or stable to the south survives. The surviving walls of the house were examined for any information regarding the form of the original building. It was possible to observe that the most recent plan of the house consisted of a single-pile, two-storey property, with at least three rooms at ground level, a staircase to the east (housed in an extension which was possibly partly semi-circular), and a lean-to against the north wall, which possibly housed a privy, store or pig sty. The barn to the south continues to be utilised for agricultural purposes and was in a good state of repair.

To the north of remaining walls of the former house a rectangular enclosure measuring c.14.40 metres wide, c.29.5 metres long and c.0.70 metres wide survives as stone-built foundations. This feature appears to be the remains of a garden wall which is shown on historical mapping. From the results of the rapid desk-based assessment and the visual site inspection - there was potential for archaeological remains to be encountered associated with the remains of the 17^{th} century house.

The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of four trial trenches which were strategically located in order to obtain the maximum amount of information possible. The evaluation trenches comprised a 5% sample of the 0.15ha site as agreed with the LDNPA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Trench 1 was excavated across the remains of the west wall of the farmhouse revealing a well-preserved floor surface within the central living area (or firehouse) comprised of regular, rectangular sandstone slabs at a height of c.193.55 m OD.

Trench 2 was located towards the northeast corner of the farmhouse exposing the foundations of the east wall of the main building at a height of $c.193.29 \,\mathrm{m}$ OD. To the west of the main wall, an excessively worn sandstone floor surface was exposed, which was flanked to the north and south by two east-west aligned partition walls. It is probable that this area represented a central cross-passage (or hallan) within the building allowing access through the house and into a small room to the north, which may have served as a washhouse or brewhouse. Trench 2 also exposed the floor surface of the lean-to to the east of the main building which was comprised of large slabs of sandstone and local volcanic stone. An irregular cobbled yard was also exposed further east.

Trenches 3 and 4 were both located within the large rectangular feature to the north of the main house. However, these two trenches failed to locate any additional archaeological features, supporting the previously suggested idea that this area was a walled garden.

As one of the aims of the evaluation was to investigate the possibility of earlier activity on the site, it was deemed appropriate to partially remove the firehouse floor surface, the lean-to floor surface, and the cobbled yard, and to completely remove the exposed cross-passage floor surface and the partition wall to the north. However, all of these further investigations failed to obtain any evidence for earlier archaeological activity. Furthermore, all of the finds retrieved during the evaluation date to the 19th century or later. This suggests that prior to the post-medieval period, human activity was extremely limited within the immediate area, or that evidence of such activity has since been destroyed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to offer thanks to Peter Winter of PFK Planning and Mr Martin Robinson for commissioning the project and for their assistance during the fieldwork.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Eleanor Kingston of the Lake District National Park Authority; Stephen White, Local Studies Librarian at Carlisle Library, and staff at the County Record Offices in Carlisle and Kendal for their help during this project.

The rapid desk-based assessment and site visit was undertaken by Fiona Wooler, the archaeological evaluation was undertaken by David Jackson and Kevin Mounsey. The report was written by David Jackson and Fiona Wooler. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Project Manager for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Martin Railton.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In November 2008 North Pennines Archaeology Limited were commissioned by PFK Planning to undertake a rapid desk-based assessment and an archaeological evaluation to provide information to support an application to the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) for the redevelopment of a ruined farmhouse at Hen Howe (NGR NY 4340 1773). Hen Howe is recorded on the LDNPA Historic Environment Record (HER 33185).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon archaeological remains, through the redevelopment of the existing buildings and the provision of services. The Lake District National Park Authority therefore recommended that a programme of archaeological work be implemented in order to provide further information regarding the nature and extent of archaeological remains on the site, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that was submitted to and approved by the LDNPA (Railton 2008).
- 1.1.3 The rapid desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Lake District National Park Authority Historic Environment Record (LD HER) in Kendal and the records held by the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record (NT SMR); as well as the County Record Office in Whitehaven (WRO), the local studies collection at Carlisle Library, 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.
- 1.1.4 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 9th February and the 13th February 2009, and comprised the excavation of four trial-trenches, comprising a 5% sample of the 0.15ha site. Following the results of the rapid desk-based assessment and initial site visit, the four evaluation trenches were strategically placed in order to gain the maximum amount of information possible within the sample area. The work was undertaken according to IfA guidelines (2002a) and generally accepted best practice. This report outlines the results the archaeological works.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd to LDNPA in response to a request by PFK Planning for an archaeological rapid desk-based assessment and evaluation at Hen Howe (Railton 2008). 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 for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted, in accordance with the 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) held by the Lake District National Park Authority, historical maps and secondary sources.
- 2.2.2 **LDNPA Historic Environment Record (LD HER):** the HER in Kendal, a database of archaeological sites within the national park, 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; these are listed in *Appendix 1*.
- 2.2.3 County Record Office (Kendal and Carlisle): the County Record Offices in Kendal (KRO) and Carlisle (CRO) were visited to consult documents specific to the study area. Historic maps of the study area, including surveys, Tithe and Enclosure Maps, and early Ordnance Survey maps, were examined. Several secondary sources, in particular the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, were also consulted.
- 2.2.4 *Carlisle Library Local Studies (CL):* the local studies collection at Carlisle Library was consulted for any information from publications regarding the area around Hen Howe, Martindale.
- 2.2.5 **North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPAL):** various publications and unpublished reports on excavations and other work in the region are held within the North Pennines Archaeology library 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.

2.2.6 All work relating to the desk-based assessment was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2002b).

2.3 VISUAL SITE INSPECTION

- 2.3.1 The site at Hen Howe was visited in order to note any surface features of potential archaeological interest and areas of potential significant disturbance. The principal aim of the site inspection was to identify previously unrecorded surface remains within the proposed development area. This information supplements the results of the rapid desk-based assessment.
- 2.3.2 The desk-based study and visual site inspection have provided an assessment of archaeological potential based on the above research. The site visit also noted any hazards and constraints in undertaking further archaeological work on the site.

2.4 FIELD EVALUATION

- 2.4.1 The location of the four trial trenches on the site was dictated by the results of the desk-based assessment and visual site inspection. The total area of excavation comprised a c.5% sample of the 0.15ha site, equating to 82m^2 in total (or 50m of trenching). All work was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2002a).
- 2.4.2 In summary, the main objectives of the field evaluation were:
 - to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and sate of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they are observed;
 - to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
 - to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
 - to recover paleaoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- 2.4.3 Turf and topsoil was removed by machine excavator under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features were investigated and recording according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2003).
- 2.4.4 All finds encountered were retained, including those from excavated topsoil, and were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines, and recorded under the supervision of F.Giecco (NPA Ltd Technical Director).
- 2.4.5 All relevant deposits were deemed unsuitable for environmental sampling.
- 2.4.6 The four evaluation trenches were scheduled to be backfilled at the discretion of the client, following excavation and recording.

2.4.7 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd Edition, 1991).

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 The archive arising from the evaluation will be deposited in The Kendal Museum. The Lake District National Park Authority will be notified of the arrangements made for the deposition of the archive.
- 2.5.2 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd and the Lake District Historic Environment Record support the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the project is to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. Details of this project will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd as part of this national project under the unique identifier **northpen3-51752**.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 Martindale is located on the south side of Ullswater approximately 1km from the settlement of Howtown, and c.11km to the south-west of the market town of Penrith (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 Hen Howe is situated on east side of the single-track road which runs from Howtown southwards to Dale Head, where the road terminates. Hen Howe is one of several properties which line this road down the valley of the Howe Grain, a beck formed from Bannerdale Beck and Rampsgill Beck. The ground rises steeply to a height of *c*.510 metres above sea level at Beda Head to the southwest above Allen Crag, Raven Crag, Thrang Crag and Ewe Crag. To the east, the ground rises to a height of approximately 444 metres above sea level at Brownthwaite Crag. Hen Howe is located at a height of *c*.190 metres above sea level.
- 3.1.3 The solid geology of the area consists of two geographical formations, Skiddaw Slates and Borrowdale Volcanic Series, which are found closely intermingled as a result of faulting and thrusting. This is seen in the interwoven pattern of bare crags and gaunt plateaux in the areas around Ullswater. Added to this are the effects of glaciation which have sharpened up some features and yet cast a covering blanket over other areas. The character of the volcanic geology is best seen on Hallin Fell (to the north of Martindale), where beds of hardened tufts give rise to a succession of broken and weathered crags, which rise steeply above the lakeside path from Sandwick round by Kailpot Crag to Howtown (Millward and Robinson 1972, 121).

4. RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The assessment results are based on primary documents, most notably historical maps, and on secondary sources such as publications. The study area consisted of a 1km radius of Hen Howe, Martindale.

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)

- 4.2.1 **Lake District National Park HER (LD HER):** there are 3 LD HER records within the study area, which is defined as a 1km radius around the site. A brief description of the relevant HER records can be found in *Appendix 1*.
- 4.2.2 *Listed Buildings:* the LD HER records three listed buildings within a 1km radius of Hen Howe; the grade II* Church of St Martin, the grade II Christy Bridge and Thrang Crag Farmhouse, which is also grade II listed.
- 4.2.3 **Scheduled Ancient Monuments:** there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 1km radius of Hen Howe.
- 4.2.4 The lack of HER sites within a 1km radius of Hen Howe does not indicate a lack of archaeology. There is evidence for prehistoric activity at Howtown where there are three cairnfields known (HER No's 1597, 1598 and 1599), and on the eastern side of How Grains opposite Winter Crag, is the site of 'Howtown Hut Circle', also believed to be of prehistoric date (HER 1235). Roman activity in the area is known from the presence of the Roman road of High Street which runs along the high ground to the west of the How Grains valley.
- 4.2.5 There has been very little archaeological work undertaken in Martindale and it is likely that new sites will be discovered, such as the recent observation of an enclosure on Hallin Fell, and the rumour of prehistoric rock art in the vicinity (Peters 2007).

4.3 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

4.3.1 The earliest, readily available map consulted during the rapid desk-based assessment was Thomas Jefferys Map of Westmorland dating to 1770 (Figure 3). Martindale is clearly annotated with many of the properties along the valley named, including 'Thrang Cragg', 'Thrang Head', 'Elm Tree', 'Bengreen' and 'Dale Head'. No property appears to be shown in the general location of Hen Howe; if the building was in existence at this date then it would perhaps be expected that it would be shown, although not necessarily named. It must, however, be considered that not all houses may have been shown on this map; Hen Howe may have been uninhabited at this date, or it may not have been deemed a significant enough property. Jeffreys map was funded by subscription, and some subscribers paid more to have their names inserted, consequently some properties may not have attracted the attention of the surveyor, or it is possible a property could have been missed.

- 4.3.2 Enclosure maps and awards were produced from *c*.1770 as land which had previously been common or waste was taken into cultivation. The Enclosure (or Inclosure) map for Martindale dating to 1824 does not extend as far north as Hen Howe, although it does show and name the property at Dale Head, as well as showing buildings in the general location of Bengreen, Elm Tree and Thrang Head as already noted on Jefferys map. The fields that were the subject of enclosure at this date were on the east side of the road down the valley, a majority of which were owned by Edward Hasell Esq (Figure 4).
- 4.3.3 Cary's Map of Westmorland dating to 1829 interestingly also does not show a property in the general location of Hen Howe, although 'Thrang Cragg', 'Thrang Head', 'Elm Tree', 'Bengreen' and 'Dale Head' are all annotated. It is possible that Cary used Jefferys map, or another earlier source, to produce his map (Figure 5).
- 4.3.4 Tithe maps and awards were produced following the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836, and are useful for providing details of land ownership, occupiers, field names, acreage and state of cultivation. The Tithe map for Martindale clearly shows two buildings at Hen Howe, a small structure to the north (possibly only the house of Hen Howe and not the attached byre) and a longer building to the south (Figure 6). The accompanying award lists Henry Wilkinson as owner of Thrang Crag, here described as 'Crag and Homestead', along with fields to the east. John Robinson is listed as owner of Field No's 274, 275, 276, 277 and 278, along with other fields, which at this date were described as being under either pasture or arable.
- 4.3.5 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map (6" scale) was surveyed in 1860 and published in 1863 (Figure 7). Two buildings are shown at Hen Howe, the northernmost is shown to have a projection to the rear (east side), and to the west of the buildings are small enclosures bounded by trees, as well as an enclosure to the north, which were possibly gardens. This map clearly shows the field boundaries around Hen Howe and on the opposite side of the road at Thrang Crag; these field patterns are still retained as shown on readily available modern online satellite photography.
- 4.3.6 The Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map (25" scale) clearly shows the buildings at Hen Howe in 1898 (Figure 8). The buildings consist of two separate structures; the northernmost is presumed to have been a house due to the slight projections to the rear, whilst the building to the north may be agricultural in nature. This map shows internal divisions within the house although it is not known if these represent different functions of rooms or possibly separate dwellings.
- 4.3.7 By 1956 one of the buildings at Hen Howe appears to have either been demolished or has fallen into ruin. The Ordnance Survey map of that date shows a gap between two smaller buildings where the former house once stood, whilst the presumed agricultural building to the south remains extant (Figure 9).

4.4 PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS

- 4.4.1 The name 'Martindale' is believed to derive from 'St Martin's valley'; Lee notes that a cross dedicated to St Martin stood in the valley before 1266 (Lee 1998, 56). The English Place Name Society concur that the name refers to the chapel of St Martin, although they do note that the chapel could have been named after the valley (Smith 1967, 215). Writing in 1777 Nicolson and Burn, however, suggested that the name derives from the animal 'the martern' (martins) which were known for their valuable fir (Nicolson and Burn 1777, 410). The earliest reference to the place name Hen Howe appears to be in 1588 (Smith 1967, 219). Thrange cragge-head is also referred to in documents in 1588; the earliest reference to Thrang Crage appears to be 1636. The word Thrang is Old Norse¹ for 'narrow' (ibid, 218).
- 4.4.2 One of the earliest works consulted during the rapid desk-based assessment was Thomas Denton's 'A Perambulation of Cumberland' which was compiled for Sir John Lowther in 1687-68 and recently published in 2003. On describing Martindale, Denton noted that 'the township is a chapelry lying under the forest (stored with red-deer) near Ulswater. The customary tenants here are comprehended in the same decree with the tenants of Dacre and Kirkoswald etc. They have liberty to dispose of their woods within this barony, which they have in great plenty' (Denton 2003, 396).
- Writing at the end of the 18th century, Nicolson and Burn noted that Martindale had a small chapel located about five miles to the south-west of the church, the curate of which had a small house with around 4 acres of land. The manor of Martindale, like that of Barton, came from the Multon family by marriage to the Dacres, and was subsequently purchased by Edward Hassel who owned the manor in 1777. In Martindale at this date there was a 'kind of forest replenished with red and fallow deer and there are tenants who are bound to assist the lord in hunting and turning the red deer on the tops of the mountains to the forest, whom they call strones and they have for their pains 8d for every four of them in ale or other liquor. They are to appear upon summons and if they do not, they are finable for it at the court baron' (Nicolson and Burn 1777, 410).
- In their 'History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland 1829' Parson and White noted that Martindale township and chapelry included the 'romantic glens' of Boredale, Fewsdale [Fusedale], and How Grain, along with the hamlets of Howtown and Sandwick 'and many scattered houses lying between the higher reaches of Ullswater and the streams flowing from several tarns'. E W Hasell was described as the lord of the manor and owner of the soil, and they refer to the former presence of a large forest home to red and fallow deer (Parson and White 1829, 580). Hen Howe is not listed in the trade directory section of this publication, although one farmer, John Jackson, is listed without a farm name in the Howe Grain valley (see Appendix 2 for list of farmers given in this directory).

¹ Old Norse = The language spoken by the Norwegians who colonised Iceland, Ireland, the Isle of Man and northwest England from the 9th to the 12th centuries (Source: Lee 1998).

- 4.4.5 Several other trade directories dating to the 19th and 20th centuries were sampled for any references to Hen Howe. There were entries from directories dating to between 1885 to 1921, after which date Hen Howe is not listed. This possibly suggests that it was no longer a farm or no longer inhabited. A list of the trade directories sampled and relevant entries are provided in *Appendix 2*.
- 4.4.6 The first mention of sheep farming in Martindale is in a directory from 1849, in which it was noted that 'the chain of hills [to the east of Martindale] afford herbage to several thousand sheep' (Directory of Westmorland 1849, 207).
- 4.4.7 Writing in 1860, Whellan noted that agriculture was the main employment of the population of Martindale Chapelry. Population figures from decades in the first half of the 19th century show that there was a steady rise in people in the township throughout that period compared to urban areas where population levels rose dramatically due to industrialisation, although the figures did rise noticeably between the 1820s and 1840s. In 1801 the population of Martindale Chapelry was 165; in 1811, 159; in 1821, 155; in 1831, 182; in 1841, 198 and in 1851, 208 (Whellan 1860, 783).
- 4.4.8 A Charter dating to between 1220 and 1247, by William de Lancaster the last baron of Kendal, to his half-brother Roger, when describing his land and 'forest' at Martindale refers to the chapel there as well as 'woodland and cleared land sward and pasture and soil' (Ragg 1910, 437). The upper reaches of virtually all the Lake District valleys and the western moors of the Pennines were described as forest in the medieval period. The forest in Westmorland barony, mentioned in 1247, appears to have consisted of the various peripheral pieces of the Lake District and Pennine hills to which the term 'forest' was applied, which included Martindale, Grisedale and Glencoyne on the Westmorland side of Ullswater (Winchester 1987, 20). By 1300 there can have been few colonised valleys anywhere in the region: there were farming communities in Martindale and the other valleys in Barton parish by 1291 (*ibid*, 39).
- 4.4.9 The use of shielings or 'scalings', which were temporary dwellings occupied during the summer months when a herdsman and his family drove their stock to pasture away from the permanent residence several miles away. There is documentary evidence for shielings in the Martindale area in the 1260s and 1270s, although by the 15th and 16th centuries this practice appears to have declined almost to the point of extinction (Winchester 1987, 95). There is archaeological evidence for shielings on Martindale Common, located about 1km to the west of Dale Head (HER 6592).
- 4.4.10 Up until the middle of the 17th century the Lake District fells afforded a harsh, uncompromising environment of small subsistence farms where capital rebuilding was hard to come by. The second half of the 17th century saw relative peace, stability and prosperity after the threat of Scottish attacks dissipated. This allowed for the emergence of the so-called 'statesmen', who were small freeholder or customary tenant yeoman farmers, to become the most powerful social group within Cumbria, and for the rebuilding of many farms in stone (Rollinson 1974, 20). Millward and Robinson suggest that three of the farms in Martindale; Wintercrag, Hen Howe and Dale Head, belong to this period of

rebuilding in the 17th century. Dale Head is described as 'the last inhabited farm in Bannerdale where the slopes of the open fell sweep up into a relic of a medieval deer forest; [it] still has the stone pillars that once supported a spinning-gallery. A dated stone on the house suggest that the rebuilding took place in 1666' (Millward and Robinson 1972, 133-134).

- 4.4.11 The rise of a new rural middle class, the 'statesmen', and the massive rebuilding of their homesteads was accompanied by changes in the organisation of farming which is reflected in field patterns. Most of the farm clusters of the Lake District's valleys had common open fields made up of strips. This was known as the in-field which was given over to arable crops, and was heavily fertilised in the autumn with manure from the animals. These open fields gradually became enclosed and are now visible as parallel, rectangular enclosures (Millward and Robinson 1972, 134). This pattern of parallel rectangular enclosures is visible on the Enclosure Map of 1824 (Figure 4) and the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 7) to the south of Hen Howe and Thrang Crag.
- 4.4.12 Many of the properties in Martindale were included in the Royal Commission's Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Westmorland, published in 1936. All of the secular buildings were noted to date to the 17th century (unless otherwise stated), were of two storeys, walls of rubble and roofs covered in slate. Some of the buildings had exposed ceiling beams. The information from this survey reveals that the house at Hen Howe was ruined in 1936. What is interesting about the information gathered from the RCHME survey is that clearly a majority of the properties in Martindale date to the period known as the 'Great Rebuilding' of the 17th and 18th centuries, and that many still retained original features in the 1930s. The following table reproduces some of the information gathered from the survey in 1936:

Property	Description	Condition (as it was in 1936)
Hebscrag	House, now outbuilding, 100 yards N of the old church, retains an original window	Poor
Wintercrag	House and barn 150 yards SW of the old church. The house contains an original panelled spice-cupboard and a fireplace and oven of c.1700. The barn is of 7 bays	Poor
Nicklethorn	House now outbuilding, 140 yards SSW of Wintercrag, has 2 original windows with wooden mullions	Not given
Henhow	House and barn 700 yards S of the old church. The house has remains of a semicircular staircase at the back. The barn S of the house is of 7 bays	House - ruined
Thrangcrag	House 200 yards S of Hen Howe has some original moulded ceiling beams	Not given
Nettleslack	House has large stone quoins set projecting	Poor

Property	Description	Condition (as it was in 1936)
	alternatively on the 2 sides of the angle	
House immediately E Nettleslack	Has a byre added in 1742 at S end. House has an original panelled spice-cupboard	Poor
Howsteadbrow	House 700 yards WNW of the old church	Not given
Hallinbank	House contains some original muntin and plank partitions, panelled door and a spice-cupboard	Not given
Bridgend	House at Sandwick retains some original windows and a panelled cupboard of the local type	Not given
Daw (Doe) Green	Has been much altered but retains one original panelled cupboard of the local type	Not given
Dale Head	House about 1 ½ miles S of the old church, has a series of piers on the E side, formerly supporting a gallery; one of these piers has the date 1666. Some original windows remain on the W side. IN side the building is a panelled cupboard of the local type, with cock's head hinges, inlaid panels and a fluted freeze	Not given

Table 1: Information Gathered from the RCHME Survey (1936)

- 4.4.13 In his book *The Buildings of England*, the only two structure referred to by Pevsner in Martindale are St Peter's Church, constructed 1880-2 and St Martin's, built in 1633 with a Jacobean pulpit dated 1634 (Pevsner 2003, 276).
- 4.4.14 Hen Howe is described by Denyer as an example of a typical statesman's house of the Lake District; i.e. a three-bay house with a firehouse in the centre, a buttery and parlour at the upper end, and at the lower end a downhouse separated from the firehouse by a cross-passage (or hallan). Glencoyne Farm, Ullswater and Causeway Farm, Windermere are given as other examples. Thrang Crag and Dale Head, both in Martindale, have a modified version of the plan with the downhouse undivided from the hallan and with doors in opposing walls (Denyer 1991, 65).
- 4.4.15 Writing in relation to the enclosure of land in the early 19th century, Whyte notes that both drainage and flood protection was required for the valley-floor allotments, with material being dredged from the stream bed and pile into protective banks in Martindale (Whyte 2003, 77).

² The provision of a downhouse was not the norm; only the more prosperous farmhouses seem to have had a separate kitchen/brewhouse. The firehouse was the core of the house, the main living space (Source: Denyer 1991)

4.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

- In 2007, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook a rapid desk-based assessment and walkover survey of land at Martindale prior to proposed undergrounding of an electricity line between Maudslack and Dale Head. The work suggested that habitation of the valley of Martindale could be traced back to the Neolithic period, with on discernable breaks in settlement since then. It suggested that the present landscape of dispersed small farms surrounded by rectilinear fields in the base of the valley, and surrounded by open fellside to the south, east and west, can be traced back to the early 17th century when the present farm buildings were constructed, possibly on the site of earlier, medieval longhouses (Peters 2007).
- 4.5.2 During the undergrounding of an electricity cable, an archaeological watching brief was conducted during groundworks in the vicinity of Hen Howe and Dale Head during July and August 2008. The watching brief was undertaken at the request of the Lake District National Park Authority as the nature and state of preservation of archaeological features in Martindale is, as yet, not well understood due to lack of archaeological investigation. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the excavation of the trench for the electricity cable, although the majority of the trench was situated within agricultural land (Peters and Clark 2008).
- 4.5.3 A recent aerial photographic survey undertaken by English Heritage has revealed evidence for a stone-banked enclosure on Hallin Fell, located to the north of Hen Howe. A full survey is due to be undertaken (Peters 2007).
- 4.5.3 It is believed that an example of prehistoric rock art has recently been discovered within Martindale (Peters 2007) highlighting the potential for archaeology dating to that period, although there is, as yet, no evidence for prehistoric archaeology within the immediate environs of Hen Howe.

4.6 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

4.6.1 No suitable aerial photographs were located at either the LDHPA HER or Cumbria County Council HER at Kendal (Peters 2007). Online, readily available satellite photography, although not taken for archaeological purposes, is useful however for showing the landscape around Hen Howe. It was noted that the field patterns that exist today are generally the same as those shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping (Figure 7). Interestingly, parallel lines characteristic of plough marks are visible in the field immediately to the east of Hen Howe as well in fields on the opposite side of the road at Thrang Crag, indicating that arable production formed part of the agricultural economy at some point. The buildings at Hen Howe are shown as an extant, roofed structure to the south, presumed to be agricultural in nature, whilst to the north is a ruined building which appears to originally have been a house. The satellite photography is useful for showing the difference in land use between the fertile valley floor of the Howe Grain and the open fells of the higher ground either side of the valley.

5. VISUAL SITE INSPECTION

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The site of Hen Howe was visited on 24th November 2008 in order that surface features of potential archaeological interest and areas of potential significant disturbance could be noted. The principal aim of the inspection was to identify previously unrecorded surface remains within the proposed development area. Digital photographs were taken for illustrative purposes within this report, as well as 35mm black and white photographs for archival purposes, showing the property and its surroundings as it was in November 2008. The barn to the south of the proposed development site, although historically forming part of the property known as Hen Howe, is under separate ownership, is still in use as an agricultural building, and does not form part of the present project.

5.2 RESULTS

- 5.2.1 Hen Howe is a partly ruined house located on the east side of the single-track road which runs from Howtown to the north, towards Dale Head to the south (Plate 1). To the south of the ruined house is a barn which is in a good state of repair and is still utilised for agricultural purposes (Plate 2). The ground to the east of the property is undulating grassland towards the Howe Grain (Plate 3), whilst to the west on the opposite side of the road, the ground level rises steeply towards Raven Crag. It was possible to observe in the field on the opposite side of the road to Hen Howe, shallow linear earthworks characteristic of ridge and furrow (as already noted on modern satellite mapping) (Plate 4).
- 5.2.2 The former house at Hen Howe is constructed of rubble masonry, is two-storeys in height and single-pile in plan (i.e. one room deep). At the south end of the building a byre or stable survives relatively intact, although it has lost its roof (Plates 5 and 6). It is suggested that this was a byre or stable (or even a loose box) due to the lack of windows, the presence of a ventilation slit in the east wall, the pitching door at first floor level over the main entrance for transferring hay to the loft and the niche in the internal west wall, close to the doorway, which would have held a candle or oil light. The central portion of the property is now largely gone apart from a section of the rear (east) wall which has a window or low doorway at ground level and a small blocked window at first floor level (Plate 7).
- 5.2.3 To the east side of the former house there is evidence for a former extension to the main body of the dwelling, which although now largely ruined, may be semi-circular in plan at the south end, which may be the outshut for the extension referred to in the RCHME survey in 1936 (see 4.4.11 above) (Plates 8 and 9).
- 5.2.4 The interior of the central section of the building retains evidence for two former fireplaces, one in the south wall (which has the byre on the opposite side of the

wall), and one to the north side, although the entire wall that it was against has now gone (Plates 10 and 11).

- 5.2.5 To the north side of the central section of the house are the surviving walls of, what may have been the downhouse (kitchen) or buttery and parlour. There is a doorway and blocked windows in the west wall; the doorway has a row of projecting slates above which presumably kept rainwater from the door (Plates 12 and 13).
- 5.2.6 The north end of the property largely survives at ground level, but most of the gable from first floor level has collapsed (Plate 14). There is evidence for a former lean-to against this wall, which may have housed a privy, fuel store or even a pig sty. The vertical line of the lean-to against the east wall can be clearly seen along with a blocked doorway which has steps leading to it (Plate 15).
- 5.2.7 To the east side of the house is a drystone wall built onto a rise in ground level (Plate 16); this raised area of ground appears to be natural as shown by exposed rock, and this may have been utilised when the house was constructed to act as some form of protection against the weather To the west of the surviving wall is a small ledge which may have acted as a form of revetment for the main boundary wall (Plate 16).
- 5.2.8 To the north of the ruined house of Hen Howe are the stone footings for a large rectangular feature clearly visible against the wall which separates the field from the road (Plates 17 and 18). This feature measures c.14.40 metres in width, c.29.5 metres long and c.0.70 metres thick. Historical mapping indicates that this was a separate enclosure certainly in the 1860s as shown by the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 7), where it is shown as tree-lined. It is possible that this was a walled garden for Hen Howe, and it has been suggested locally that this was the case (pers.comm. Mr Robinson).
- 5.2.9 In conclusion, the features observed at the time of the site inspection where the ruined remains of the house at Hen Howe, a boundary wall to the east, a large rectangular feature to the north, possibly the remains of a former garden, and shallow ridge and furrow earthworks in the field on the opposite side of the road to the property.



Plate 1 – View looking south showing the ruined house at Hen Howe with the barn in the background



Plate 2 – View looking south showing the barn at Hen Howe



Plate 3 – View looking north showing the grassland to the east of Hen Howe



Plate 4 – The field opposite Hen Howe with Raven Crag in the background. Note the shallow earthworks of ridge and furrow in the foreground



Plate 5 – View looking north showing the intact byre/stable at south end of Hen Howe



Plate 6 – View looking south-east showing the intact byre/stable at south end of the ruined house (Scale = 2m)



Plate 7 – View looking east of surviving section of house wall with window/low door, blocked first floor window and two large holes for former beams (Scale = 2m)



Plate 8 – View looking north showing the possible remains of a semi-circular outshut to rear (east) side to house staircase (Scale = 2m)



Plate 9 – View looking south showing possible location of former staircase and detail of drystone wall construction (Scale = 1m)



Plate 10 – View looking south of the south gable of house showing remains of fireplace at ground level, joist holes for former first floor, areas of mortared wall and support for the chimney at apex of gable (Scale = 2m)



Plate 11 – Remains of fire surround, north side of house showing the possible downhouse or pantry and parlour beyond (Scales = 1m each)



Plate 12 – View looking west from house interior showing surviving lintels of doorway and window, west wall, north end of house (Scale = 2m)



Plate 13 – View of doorway at north end of west wall showing extant wooden lintel, and rebated jambs constructed from a mix of slate and red sandstone. Note the slates over the lintel which kept rainwater from the doorway



Plate 14 – View looking south of north end of house showing vertical line between main building and extension to the east, as well as the remains of a further extension against the north wall (possible privy/store/pig sty) (Scale = 2m)



Plate 15 – View looking south showing the vertical line of a construction break between main house and outshut which contains a blocked doorway (Scale = 2m)



Plate 16 – View looking south down east side of house showing drystone wall and 'ledge', with north gable of the barn in background (Scale = 2m)



Plate 17 – View of the stone-built rectangular feature located to the north of the ruined house of Hen Howe, Martindale



Plate 18 – View looking south of the rectangular feature on the north side of Hen Howe

6. EVALUATION RESULTS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The field evaluation took place between the 9th February and the 13th February 2009 and comprised the excavation of four trial trenches comprising a c.5% sample of the 0.15ha site, equating to 82m² in total (or 50m of trenching). The locations of the trenches were informed by the preceding rapid desk-based assessment and site inspection (Figure 10).
- 6.1.2 The trial trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator down to the level of either the first encountered archaeological deposit or the natural substrate. All trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all archaeological features and deposits were recorded fully. The results of the evaluation are outlined below.

6.2 RESULTS

- 6.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was located at the south end of the firehouse within the ruined farmhouse, and was extended from the east wall of the building in a west-southwest direction, across the foundations of the building's west wall for c.9.5m, before turning north-northeast for a further c.2.5m (Figure 10). The trench, which measured c.1.5m in width, was excavated to a maximum depth of c1.3m and was located in such a way as to cover an area both inside and outside the firehouse.
- 6.2.2 The foundations of the western wall of the farmhouse were located c.3.5m west of the eastern limit of Trench 1 (Figure 11). The foundation wall (103) was aligned north-northeast to south-southwest and measured c.0.75m in width and c.0.4m in height. This comprised 2-3 courses of irregular shaped stone of local volcanic type. Although there was no evidence of mortar bonding, the remains of wall plaster were still present, adhered to the eastern elevation of the wall (103) (Plate 19). The cut of the wall foundation trench for the wall (103) was also noted within the north facing section of the trench, immediately west of the wall (103). The cut [108] measured c.0.6m in width and c.0.4m in depth, and was filled by c.95% sub-rounded/angular stones interleaved with c.5% topsoil (106) (Plate 20).
- 6.2.3 Within the easternmost c.3.5m of the trench, situated east of the wall (103), the well-preserved floor surface of the firehouse was located below a c.0.25m thick demolition layer (102), which was below c.0.1m of topsoil (100) (Plate 21). The floor surface (104) was comprised of regular, rectangular red sandstone slabs, which averaged c.1m in length x 0.6m in width (Figure 11). The flagged surface (104) displayed very little wear or damage suggesting that it may have only been laid down shortly before the building went out of use. It is also highly likely that the entire floor surface of the firehouse remains *in-situ*.



Plate 19 – East facing elevation of wall (103) showing wall plaster



Plate 20 – Trench 1 looking east-southeast showing backfill (106) of wall cut [108]



Plate 21 – Trench 1 looking west-northwest showing floor surface (104)

- 6.2.4 The western section of Trench 1, which extended outside of the building was excavated to a depth of c.1.3m at which point the natural substrate (101) was reached (Plate 22). The natural orange clayey silt (101) was below a c.0.8m thick deposit of mid-brown/orange sandy clay hill wash material (105), which was in turn below c.0.3m of topsoil (100) (Plate 23). Immediately west of the wall cut [108], a north-south aligned modern ceramic drain was noted within the hill wash material (105), c.0.5m below the surface. However, no archaeological features were noted within Trench 1 outside of the building.
- 6.2.5 Further work in Trench 1 included the removal of several sandstone flags within the firehouse which revealed that the floor surface (104) had been laid directly above a c.0.02m thick bedding layer, comprised of fine river gravel (107) (Plate 24). A slot was excavated through the river gravel (107) to a depth of c.0.18m to expose the hill wash material (105) noted within the western half of the trench. A section of the foundation wall (103) was also removed down to this deposit (105) (Plate 24). No archaeology was observed below the floor surface (104) or wall (103).



Plate 22 – Trench 1 looking north-northeast showing natural substrate (101)



Plate 23 – North facing section of Trench 1 showing hill wash material (105)



Plate 24 – Trench 1 looking west after removal of floor surface (104) showing gravel bedding (107) and investigation slot



Plate 25 – Trench 1 looking east-southeast showing natural substrate (101)

- 6.2.6 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was located at the northeast corner of the ruined farmhouse in order to investigate the room north of the firehouse, the adjoining lean-to, and an area outside of the building further east. The trench was L-shaped and measured c.9m in length x c.2m in width east-southeast to west-northwest, and c.5m in length x c.1.5m in width north-northeast to south-southwest (Figure 10). The section of Trench 2 within the building had to be cleared of c.1.5m of rubble (210) before any archaeological deposits were reached.
- After the rubble (210) was cleared, Trench 2 exposed a section of the east wall foundation of the main building. The wall foundation (207) measured c.0.9m in width and was comprised of blue/grey irregular shaped local volcanic stone (Plate 28, Figure 12). No mortar bonding was present. Trench 2 also exposed a floor surface immediately southwest of the main wall foundation (207). The floor surface (203) measured c.2.1m in length and c.1m in width and was comprised of rectangular red sandstone flags (Plate 27, Figure 12). However, unlike the well-preserved flagged surface (104) observed in Trench 1, the floor surface (203) in Trench 2 was much more irregular and worn.





Plate 26 – Trench 2 looking west-northwest

Plate 27 – Trench 2 looking east-southeast

- 6.2.8 The floor surface (203) was flanked to the north by the foundations of a wall, which abutted the southwest corner of the main wall foundations (207) (Plate 27, Figure 12). The wall foundations (204) measured c.1.7m in length and c.0.4m in width, and were comprised of sub-rounded and angular stones bonded by lime mortar. The floor surface (203) was also flanked to the south by a further east-southeast west-northwest aligned wall separating this area from the firehouse to the south. However, this wall was beyond the southern limit of the trench and could not be accurately recorded. The eastern limit of the floor surface (203) was demarcated by a stone threshold formed from a single piece of blue/grey stone (206) which measured c.1.2m in length and c.0.22m in width. The stone threshold (206) was slotted at either end to facilitate a doorframe (Plate 29, Figure 12).
- 6.2.9 It is probable that the floor surface (203) flanked by the two east-southeast west-northwest aligned walls would have once formed a cross-passage through the main building, with access being gained through the doorway (206) from the adjoining lean-to to the east, and probably from the west via the surviving doorway within the west wall of the building (Plate 12). It is also possible that access would have been gained into the room(s) at the northern end of the house via the cross-passage, although no evidence of this was observed. It is likely that the rooms within the northern end of the building followed the natural slope of the underlying geology, as the floor surfaces within Trench 2 were c.0.2m lower than the floor surface (104) observed in Trench 1.



Plate 28 – Trench 2 looking west-northwest across wall foundations (207)



Plate 29 – Trench 2 looking west-northwest across door threshold (206)

6.2.10 The area north of the cross-passage was comprised of a fine river gravel (205) which measured c.1.6m in length and c.0.36m in width, and probably acted as a bedding layer for a flagged surface which has since gone (Plate 30, Figure 12). The exact function of this area remains uncertain at present, although it may have

served as a small washhouse or brewhouse as the base of a cast-iron set-pot of unknown origin was noted within the immediate area.



Plate 30 – Trench 2 looking west-northwest across lean-to surface (208) with wall (207), door threshold (206), and cross-passage (203), (204) further west

- 6.2.11 A further floor was exposed within Trench 2 immediately east of the main foundation wall (207) and cross-passage which would have formed the surface of the lean-to adjoining the northeast corner of the main building (Figure 12). The floor surface (208) measured c.2.8m in length and c.2m in width, and was comprised of irregular red sandstone slabs which continued along the same alignment as the cross-passage with blue/grey rectangular stone slabs, probably of local volcanic type, to the north and south (Plate 30). The floor (208) also retained a small area of cobble patching. It would appear that the lean-to was left 'open' on its eastern side as no wall foundations were observed. It is possible that the structure had additional timber supports which have not survived, although no evidence of this was observed during the evaluation.
- 6.2.12 The lean-to floor surface (208) was bound by a c.4.2m x c.2.2m external cobbled yard to the east which was partially destroyed during excavation (Plate 31, Figure 12). The cobbled surface (209) was below c.0.3m of topsoil (200) and was comprised of c.95% rounded river cobbles set in a c.0.03m thick deposit of fine river gravel (211). Several larger stones had also been set on their edge forming divisions within the cobbled area. Interestingly, the cobbled yard (209) followed the natural sloping geology westwards towards the lean-to, which would have carried rainwater into the structure (Plate 31, Figure 12).



Plate 31 – Trench 2 looking west-northwest across cobbled yard (209)

6.2.13 The north-northeast to south-southwest aligned section of Trench 2 was excavated to a maximum depth of c.0.9m exposing c.0.6m of natural light-brown/orange sandy gravel (201) (Plate 32, Figure 12) below c.0.3m of topsoil (200). No archaeological features or deposits were observed within this section of Trench 2.



Plate 32 – Trench 2 looking south-southwest across natural substrate (201)

- Two test-pits were hand excavated in Trench 2 in order to locate evidence for earlier archaeological activity. The first test-pit (Test-pit A) was located at the western end of the trench and involved the removal of the floor surface (203) and north partition wall (204) of the cross-passage, and the partial removal of the gravel-bedding layer (205) (Plate 33). Test-pit A measured c.1.8m x c.1.7m, and was excavated to a depth of c.0.5m exposing the natural substrate (201) below a c.0.25m deposit of brown sandy silt containing large irregular stones (213), which probably represented backfill material (Plate 33). At the southern edge of Test-pit A, the backfill deposit (213) was replaced by a c.0.18m thick stoney deposit (214), possibly marking the location of the foundation trench for the south wall of the cross-passage (Plate 33). Both of the backfill deposits (213) and (214) were below a c.0.11m thick bedding layer comprised of dark-brown/black silt (212) which was directly below the cross-passage floor surface (203).
- 6.2.15 Test-pit B was located at the eastern extent of the lean-to structure and involved the removal of several floor slabs (Plate 34). Test-pit B measured c.1.3m x c.0.6m, and was excavated to a depth of c.0.3m exposing the natural substrate (201) below a c.0.2m layer of the backfill deposit (213) which was directly below the lean-to floor surface (208) (Plate 34). No earlier archaeological features or deposits were observed in either Test-pit A or B.



Plate 33 – View south-southwest across Test-pit A showing backfill (213) (northwest corner) and backfill (214) (southwest corner)



Plate 34 – View south-southwest across Test-pit B showing natural substrate (201)

- 6.2.16 Trench 3: Trench 3 was located within the southern end of the rectangular walled enclosure north of the farmhouse (Figure 10). The trench measured c.11m in length and c.1.5m in width, and was aligned east west partially exposing the north south aligned eastern wall of the rectangular structure. The wall (304) was comprised of two courses of un-mortared large irregular stone of local volcanic type (Plate 35). Trench 3 was excavated to a maximum depth of c.1.3m exposing the compact orange/grey natural silty gravel (301) below a c.0.4m deposit of orange silty sand (303), which was further below a c.0.6m deposit of light-brown silt (302) and c.0.3m of dark brown topsoil (300) (Plate 36, Figure 13).
- 6.2.17 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was located within the walled enclosure north of Trench 3. Trench 4 was aligned north south and extended from the northeast corner of the enclosure parallel with the enclosure's east wall (Figure 10). The trench measured c.13m in length and c.1.5m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of c.1.3m exposing a very compact natural orange/grey silty gravel (401) below a c.0.4m deposit of orange silty sand (403), which was further below a c.0.6m deposit of light-brown silt (402) and c.0.3m of dark brown topsoil (400) c.0.6m (Plate 37, Figure 14).

³ The deposits observed within Trench 4 were the same as the deposits within Trench 3. However, they have been numbered differently for ease of description.



Plate 35 – View west across Trench 3 showing wall (304)



Plate 36 – View east across Trench 3



Plate 37 – View south across Trench 4

No archaeological features were noted within Trench 3 or Trench 4 (excluding the east wall (**304**) of the rectangular enclosure).

7. FINDS ASSESSMENT

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 A total of 136 finds from 7 different contexts were retrieved during the archaeological evaluation. All finds were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines, and recorded under the supervision of F.Giecco (NPA Ltd Technical Director).

7.2 POTTERY

7.2.1 A total of 71 sherds of post-medieval pottery were retrieved during the evaluation from contexts (102), (202), (212), (213), (300), and (400). The pottery assemblage was largely comprised of examples of lead glazed red earthenware with either a white or brown slip, with a lesser number of cream/green stoneware and porcelain with a blue transfer print. Several sherds of miscellaneous 20th century pottery were also present and were discarded.

7.3 GLASS

7.3.1 A total of 27 fragments of post-medieval and modern glass were retrieved during the evaluation. The glass assemblage included 6 shards of window glass from contexts (202) and (212), 17 green/clear bottle glass fragments from contexts (202) and (400), as well as a largely complete green bottle with the cork still present from context (102). Also, 3 decorated fragments were recovered, including the elaborately decorated base of a purple glass object from context (202).

7.4 METAL

7.4.1 A total of 29 iron objects were retrieved during the evaluation. The metal assemblage including 15 nails from contexts (202) and (212), 2 sash window weights from context (102), 1 horseshoe from context (212), 1 bolt and a metal component of a shoe outsole, both from context (202), and 9 iron objects of unknown function from contexts (202) and (212).

7.5 CLAY PIPE

7.5.1 A total of two clay pipe fragments were retrieved during the evaluation including a largely complete stem from context (103), and a stem fragment from context (202).

7.6 BONE

7.6.1 A total of 6 animal bones were retrieved from context (202), including the partial mandible and vertebrae of a sheep (*Ovis aries*) or goat (*Capra aegagrus hircus*). It is probable that the remaining un-diagnostic bone fragments belonged to a similar domesticated animal.

7.7 OTHER

7.7.1 A single ceramic floor tile fragment was retrieved from context (202).

7.8 DISCUSSION

- 7.8.1 All artefacts recovered during the evaluation can be assigned to the post-medieval period. Whilst the pottery assemblage can be dated to the 19th/20th century with a relative degree of certainty, it is much more difficult to assign a date to the glass and metal assemblages without specialist advice. Similarly, clay pipe fragments are notoriously difficult to date without any distinguishing features. However, given the context that the artefacts were recovered from, it would not be unreasonable to also assign them a 19th/20th century provenance.
- 7.8.2 No further work is recommended on the finds assemblage.

Context	Trench	Material	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Period
102	1	Pottery	1	0.008	Post Medieval
102	1	Glass Bottle	1	0.685	Post Medieval
102	1	Fe Sash Weights	2	4.294	Post Medieval
103	1	Clay Pipe Stem	1	0.008	Post Medieval
202	2	Pottery	36	0.296	Post Medieval
202	2	Glass	17	0.204	Post Medieval
202	2	Fe Objects	19	1.138	Post Medieval
202	2	Clay pipe stem	1	-	Post Medieval
202	2	Bone	6	0.086	Post Medieval
202	2	Floor Tile	1	0.014	Post Medieval
212	2	Pottery	4	0.072	Post Medieval
212	2	Window Glass	5	0.023	Post Medieval
212	2	Fe Objects	8	0.192	Post Medieval
213	2	Pottery	1	0.002	Post Medieval
300	3	Pottery	1	0.140	Post Medieval
400	4	Pottery	28	0.440	Post Medieval
400	4	Glass	4	0.159	Post Medieval

Table 2: Finds Index

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The desk-based assessment revealed little in the way of prehistoric, Roman and early medieval evidence in the immediate vicinity of Hen Howe. Prehistoric activity is known from around Howtown and the east side of the How Grains valley, and the Roman road of High Street is located to the east on high ground. The lack of evidence from these periods does not indicate lack of activity, as very little archaeological work has been undertaken in the area. It is possible that there has been continuity of sites, and that the dispersed farmsteads have much earlier origins.
- 8.2 The earliest documentary evidence for the habitation of Martindale dates to the medieval period; from which it is known that farming communities were established in the area by 1291. The buildings in which these early farmers live would presumably have been constructed of timber which consequently may have left little in the way of archaeological evidence except post holes and/or beam slots.
- Documentary evidence suggests that Hen Howe dates to the 17th century, with 8.3 the property being an example of a 'statesman's house', along with many other present dwellings in Martindale. This is an interesting feature of the area, showing that the period of 'Great Rebuilding' in the 17th century, when farmers rebuilt their farmsteads in stone following the decline in Border warfare, manifested itself prominently in and around Martindale. The fact that many of these 17th century farmsteads survive indicates that the landscape has been relatively untouched by the changes of the 19th and 20th century; and Martindale is a region of widely scattered statesman-farms and wide unfenced commons (Millward and Robinson 1972, 135). Hen Howe is noted to have been an example of a 17th century statesman's house consisting of a living room, service area and buttery and parlour at ground level, with a byre or stable attached to the south end of the house, reminiscent of the medieval long house. A separate building to the south was used as a byre and barn, and still retains that agricultural function today.
- During the field evaluation, several well preserved floor surfaces and wall foundations associated with the ruined farmhouse were exposed. The sandstone surface within the firehouse was exceptionally well preserved with very little ware or damage evident, suggesting that the floor may have only been laid down shortly before the building was abandoned. It is also highly probable that the entire floor surface of the firehouse remains *in-situ*.
- North of the firehouse, the evaluation revealed several separate floor surfaces and wall foundations associated with a central-cross passage (or hallan) which would have allowed access through the building and possibly into the room to the north, which may have served as a washhouse or brewhouse. The cross-passage may have been a modified version with doors in opposing walls similar to that seen at Thrang Crag and Dale Head, both in Martindale (Denyer 1991, 65). This

particular cross-passage led out to a lean-to which was probably partially 'open', and then out to a cobbled yard further east.

- 8.6 Two evaluation trenches located within the rectangular enclosure to the north of the ruined farmhouse failed to locate any additional archaeological features, supporting the suggestion that the enclosure was used as a walled garden.
- 8.7 Further investigations within the farmhouse failed to obtain any evidence for earlier archaeological activity. Furthermore, all of the finds retrieved during the evaluation date to the 19th century or later, suggesting that either human activity was limited within the immediate area prior to the post-medieval period, or that evidence of such activity has been destroyed.

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CRO = Carlisle Record Office

CL = Carlisle Library

9.1 MAPS

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Martindale Tithe Map 1838 (KRO Ref: WORC/8/170)

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APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF SITES

HER NO.	SITE NAME	PERIOD	GRID REF	LOCATION IN RELATION TO HEN HOWE
1235	Howtown Hut Circle	Prehistoric	343850 518250	c.1km to NE
6592	Martindale Common Huts	Unknown	342500 516900	Just over 1km to the SW
12641	Brownthwaite Crag Quarry	Probable Post Medieval	344100 517390	c.1km to SE

Table 3: Gazetteer of Sites

APPENDIX 2: DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland, Parson and White, 1829

'Martindale township and chapelry includes the romantic glens of Boredale, Fewsdale and How-grane, with the hamlets of How-town and Sandwick, and many scattered houses lying between the higher reaches of Ullswater and the streams flowing from several tarns. E.W Hasell, Esq. is lord of the manor, and owner of a great part of the soil. There was formerly a large forst here replenished with red and fallow deer. The chapel stands in the valley of How-grane, 5 miles SSW of Pooley Bridge. It is a neat building with one bell and a burial ground. John de Whelpdale, Esq. has the tithes of the chapelry and is patron of the perpetual curacy, of which the Rev. Wm. Poore King is incumbent. The living in 1682 was augmented with £100 left by the Rev. Richard Birket, and has since received five lots, amounting to £1000, from Queen Anne's Bounty, all of which except £115, has been laid out in land and the erection of a new parsonage house built in 1818. The land belonging to the chapel consists of 30 acres in Martindale, and 11 acres in Salkeld in Cumberland. The free school is endowed with 13l. a year, the rent of an estate left by the relict of the above-mentioned Richard Birket, who was curate here in the 17th century'.

Trade Directory for Martindale:

James Atkinson, bobbin maker, Howtown John Chapelhow, shoe maker, Winter Crag

Rev. W Poore King, curate, Howe John Mounsey, schoolmaster, Coat Howe

John Thompson, Star Inn, Coat Howe Thomas Wood, grocer, Sandwick

Farmers:

Harrison Clark, Coat John Green, Garth head

H Hodgson, Howstead Brow John Jackson

John Jackson, jun, Thrang Crag Wm Jackson, Howtown

William Johnson, Sandwick William Kirkpatrick, Dale Head

Richard Mounsey, Howtown Thomas Nicholson, Dow Green

John Robinson, Knicklethorn John Sisson, Swaith Beck

Edw Sisson, Swarth Beck John Walker, Water Nook

Robert Wilkinson, Bonscal Richard Wood, Dow Green

Directory of Westmorland with Furness and Cartmel 1849

'Martindale township and chapelry comprises the romantic glens of Boredale, 11½ miles SSW of Penrith; Fewsdale, a fertile district, 5 miles SSW of Barton; and Howgraane, about 5 miles SSW of Pooley Bridge, with the hamlets of Howtown, pleasantly situate at the SW angle of the lower reach of Ulswater, and Sandwick, near the head of Boredale, one mile and a half SW from Martindale chapel. It lies on the western side of Ulswater and is surrounded on the east by a chain of hills which afford herbage to several thousand sheep, and is supposed to have derived its name from the Marten, a large kind of weasel with which animals the dale is said to have formerly abounded. Edward William Hasell, Esq. is lord of the manor and owner of a great part of the soil; but Messrs Richard Mounsey, Wm Jackson and several others have estates here. There was anciently a forest here in which were a considerable number of red and fallow deer'.

Farmers listed in Martindale:

W Armstrong, Bridge End Richard Atkinson, Daw Green

John Green, Sandwick

John Greenhow Francis Hebson

Hy Hodgson, Howsteads John Jackson, Winter Craig

Wm Jackson, Howtown John Kirkpatrick

John Lattons, Coat Richard Mounsey, Howtown

Richard Mounsey, Bank John Robinson

Jas Rotthery, Dale Head John Sisson, Swath Beck

Wm Simpson George Thompson

Henry Wilkinson Hy Wilkinson, Bouscale

Joseph Wood, Daw Green

[No reference to Hen Howe although one of the above named farmers with no farm name given could have lived there]

Slater's Directory of Cumberland, Westmorland, Durham and Northumberland 1884

No entry for Hen Howe, does include farms such as Thrang Crag and Dale Head etc

Directory of Westmorland 1885

Thomas Waugh, Hen House

Jonathan Wilkinson, Thrang Cragg

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1897

William Armstrong, farmer, Hen How Farm

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1914

John Fleming, farmer, Hen How Farm

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1921

John Fleming, farmer, Hen How Farm

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1925

No entry for Hen Howe

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1929

No entry for Hen Howe

APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT INDEX

Context Number	Category	Co-ords.	Above	Below	Interpretation
100	Deposit	Tr.1	102/105/106	/	Topsoil
101	Deposit	Tr.1	/	105	Natural Substrate
102	Deposit	Tr.1	104	100	Demolition Layer
103	Structure	Tr.1	108	106	West Foundation Wall of Central Section of House
104	Structure	Tr.1	107	102	Flagged Surface of Central Room
105	Deposit	Tr.1	101	100/107/108	Hill Wash Material
106	Deposit	Tr.1	108	100	Backfill of Wall Cut [108]
107	Deposit	Tr.1	105	104	Gravel Bedding for Surface (104)
108	Cut	Tr.1	105	103/106	Silty Clay/Rubble Backfill of (106)/(111)
200	Deposit	Tr.2	201/209	1	Topsoil
201	Deposit	Tr.2	1	200/211/ 213/214	Natural Substrate
202	VOID	Tr.2	VOID	VOID	VOID
203	Structure	Tr.2	212	210	Flagged Surface of Corridor
204	Structure	Tr.2	213	210	Internal E-W Partition Wall
205	Deposit	Tr.2	213	210	River Gravel
206	Structure	Tr.2	212/213	210	Door Threshold
207	Structure	Tr.2	/	210	East Wall of Main Building
208	Structure	Tr.2	213	210	Flagged Surface of Extension
209	Structure	Tr.2	211	200	External Cobbled Surface
210	Deposit	Tr.2	203/204/205/ 206/207/208	1	Building Rubble
211	Deposit	Tr.2	201	209	River Gravel
212	Deposit	Tr.2	213/214	203/206	Black Bedding Layer for Corridor Slabs (203)
213	Deposit	Tr.2	201	204/205/206/ 208/212	Brown Sandy Silt Deposit
214	Deposit	Tr.2	201	212	Backfill Material
300	Deposit	Tr.3	302	/	Dark Brown Topsoil
301	Deposit	Tr.3	/	303	Natural Substrate
302	Deposit	Tr.3	303	300/304	Brown Silt (Hill Wash)
303	Deposit	Tr.3	301	302	Orange Silty Sand
304	Structure	Tr.3	302	1	North-South Wall
400	Deposit	Tr.4	402	1	Dark Brown Topsoil
401	Deposit	Tr.4	1	403	Natural Substrate
402	Deposit	Tr.4	403	400	Brown Silt (Hill Wash)
403	Deposit	Tr.4	401	402	Orange Silty Sand

Table 4: Context Index

APPENDIX 4: FIGURES