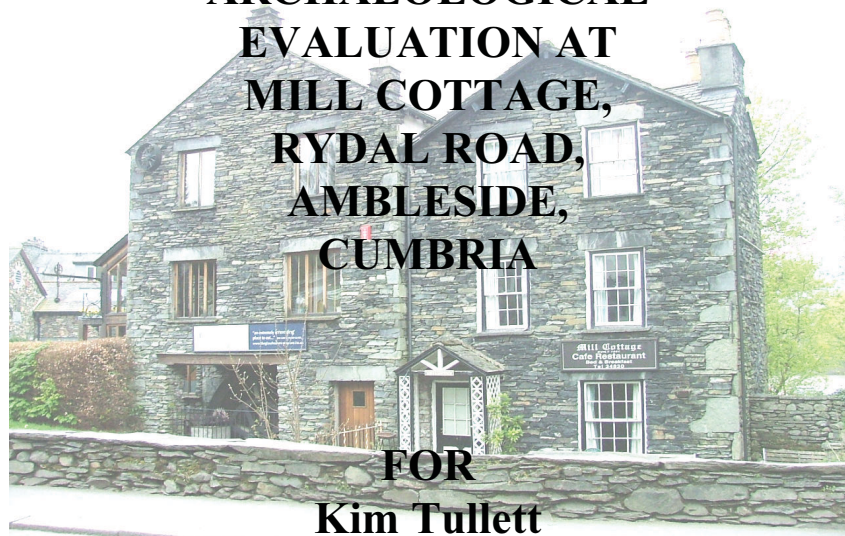


NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Client Report No. CP/905/09

May 2009

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT MILL COTTAGE, RYDAL ROAD, AMBLESIDE, CUMBRIA



FOR
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14 May 2009



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2009, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Kim Tullett of Hough Tullett Planning Management Engineering to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in the form of a rapid desk-based assessment, evaluation of the historic fabric of the standing buildings and a field evaluation at Mill Cottage, Rydal Road, Ambleside, (NGR NY 337588 504653), prior to the redevelopment of the property which consists of part demolition, alterations and extension (Planning Application Ref: 7/2009/5062).

The rapid desk-based assessment involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the Cumbria Record Offices at Kendal and Carlisle, as well as the local studies collections at Carlisle Library and the consultation of the Lake District National Park Historic Environment Record (LDHER). The LDHER includes the locations and settings of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens and other, non-designated archaeological remains. In addition, an on-line search was undertaken of records held by the Archaeology Data Service, managed by York University. A number of published sources and several relevant web sites were also consulted to provide background information.

The rapid desk-based assessment revealed that there may have been a fulling mill on the site in the 15th century, which continued into the 17th and 18th centuries, and was run by the Robinson family. A tannery is also noted to have existed in close proximity to the proposed development area in the 17th century. In the early 18th century, the famous landmark 'Bridge House' is believed to have been constructed as a summer house for Ambleside Hall located on higher ground to the east of the Mill Cottage site, suggesting that land to the west may have formed part of the grounds. In 1795 the old wool mill was demolished and a new building constructed by Rowland Suart. It has been suggested that this consisted of a woollen mill to the south (now the Glass House Restaurant) and a flax mill to the north (Mill Cottage), each with a separate water wheel. A tannery close to the site closed in 1833, when the road on the east side of Stock Ghyll was constructed. From the middle of the 19th century the mill was used as a saw mill with saw pits located immediately to the south. By the end of the 19th century the saw mill appears to have ceased to function and the site was in use as a coach builders, with Mill Cottage itself used as 'apartments'. The coach building business continued into the 1950s, and Mill Cottage continued as bed and breakfast accommodation with a tearoom.

The building recording project revealed that Mill Cottage appears to consist of at least two phases; a single-pile three-storey building to the east side, fronting Rydal Road, and a three-storey phase to the rear which may incorporate part of a mill building. The eastern section fronting the road did not contain any evidence that it may have originally been an industrial structure; instead it is domestic in character and possibly dates to the mid-19th century. Due to the presence of external render and internal wall coverings of the western section it was also not possible to note features relating to an industrial structure, however it does not appear to be contemporary with the front section and its strange alignment along the northern boundary does suggest that it incorporates an earlier structure or that there were boundary constraints when it was built. Internally, Mill Cottage has been adapted to provide bed and breakfast facilities, as well as a former tearoom, and is currently in use as student accommodation. There were no features of note within the interior apart from a blocked window and a possible blocked doorway at ground floor level. The remainder of the former saw mill buildings to the south of Mill Cottage, now housing the Glass House Restaurant, were remodelled approximately ten years ago and consequently the fenestration and floor levels no longer reflect the original industrial building. It is therefore difficult to assess the relationship between Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant building.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The archaeological field evaluation consisted of the excavation of two trial trenches which were strategically located following the results of the first stage of archaeological investigation. The evaluation trenches comprised a 5% sample of the 235m² site as agreed with the LDNPA.

Trench 1 was located to the southwest of Mill Cottage within a tarmac parking area to the rear of the Glass House Restaurant. The trench measured *c.*2m x 2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of *c.*0.7m revealing a modern soak-away and services, and associated modern backfill below the tarmac surface. Several 19th century artefacts were recovered during the excavation of Trench 1. However, all of the artefacts were retrieved from the modern backfill deposit.

Trench 2 was located to the north of Mill Cottage within a landscaped area at the southeast corner of a municipal car park. The trench measured *c.*4m x 2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of *c.*1m revealing a coarse river gravel and fluvial silt below a *c.*0.45m deposit of subsoil and topsoil. No archaeological finds were recovered from Trench 2.

The results of the archaeological evaluation would suggest that there has either been only limited archaeological activity immediately north of Mill Cottage or that any such activity has since been destroyed by modern development. It is possible that the lack of any archaeological evidence within Trench 1 may result from a water course which could have once flowed eastward across this area towards the existing Stock Ghyll Beck. However, no map of the site from 1770 onwards depicts such a feature.

It is difficult to assess the archaeological potential of the area to the southwest of Mill Cottage as it is likely that most of this area has been subject to recent disturbance, possibly to a depth of *c.*2m. This disturbance makes it impossible to assess whether any significant archaeological activity once occurred to the southwest of Mill Cottage as it is probable that any evidence for such activity will have since been destroyed.

Based upon the results of the archaeological evaluation, it is unlikely that the proposed development will impact upon any significant archaeological remains.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Kim Tullett of Hough Tullett for commissioning the project on behalf of their client, Mr Adrian Sankey. We would also like to thank Mr Sankey for his assistance during all aspects of the fieldwork.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to John Hodgson, Senior Archaeology and Heritage Adviser, and Eleanor Kingston, Archaeology and Heritage Adviser, Lake District National Park Authority; and staff at the Cumbria Record Offices in Kendal and Carlisle, and Carlisle Library Local studies.

The rapid desk-based assessment and building recording was undertaken by Fiona Wooler. The LDHER was consulted by Jocelyn Strickland. David Jackson and Rachel Horn undertook the archaeological evaluation. The report was written by Fiona Wooler and David Jackson. The project was managed by Frank Giecco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Matthew Town, Project Manager for NPA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In April 2009, North Pennines Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Kim Tullett of Hough Tullett Planning Management Engineering on behalf of their client, Mr Adrian Sankey, to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation at Mill Cottage, Rydal Road, Ambleside, prior to the redevelopment of the property (Planning Application Ref: 7/2009/5062).
- 1.1.2 The range of buildings on the site and the land comprising the development area represent an important part of the industrial history of Ambleside. A fulling mill is believed to have been present on the site since at least the 15th century. Later a wool and flax mill were established with the current buildings being erected in 1795. The site then converted to a saw mill, with the buildings used as stores. To the south, the wider mill site was used as a tannery and in the 19th century as a carriage works, operating until the 1950s. The mill site at Mill Cottage is recorded in the Lake District Historic Environment Record as No.33556. The later saw mill is recorded as No.17174. Mill Cottage and the adjacent Glass House Restaurant (the former woollen mill) are Grade II Listed Buildings (Hodgson 2009). The listed building description refers to the property as: *'Mill Cottage. Mill Stream. Grade II. On the stream to the north of Bridge House. Early 19th century. Slate rubble with slate quoins and slate roof, 3 storeys with gable end to stream. Glazed and flush-panelled door with gabled lattice timber porch, a 16-paned sash window on ground floor, two on first floor and two on the top floor, all with slate lintels'*.
- 1.1.3 The scheme of archaeological works required prior to the redevelopment of the site were set out in a brief issued by John Hodgson, Senior Archaeology and Heritage Adviser, Lake District National Park Authority; this involved the visual inspection of the site, a rapid desk-based assessment of the published and unpublished information relevant to the site and its immediate surroundings; an evaluation of the surviving historic fabric of Mill Cottage and the adjacent structures, and a programme of trial trenching in order to establish the extent, nature and preservation of archaeological deposits (Hodgson 2009).
- 1.1.4 The rapid desk-based assessment involved the consultation of a number of existing datasets in order to achieve an understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, historical and archaeological context of the site. The main sources of information were derived from the collation and assessment of information held in the Lake District National Park Authority Historic Environment Record (LDHER), and the study of relevant cartographic, published and unpublished material held at Kendal Record Office. The principal objective of this assessment was to undertake sufficient work in order to identify and characterise the archaeological constraints associated with the proposed development area. Following the rapid desk-based assessment a visual inspection of the proposed development site was undertaken in order to note any surface features of potential archaeological interest, and areas of potential significant disturbance.

- 1.1.5 The evaluation of the historic fabric of Mill Cottage and the adjacent structures corresponded to a Level 2 Building Survey as described by English Heritage (2006). The object of this evaluation was to record the building prior to the commencement of redevelopment works, and to observe any features of historical and archaeological interest within the fabric of the structure and within its immediate environs.
- 1.1.6 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 11th and 12th May 2009, and comprised the excavation of two trial trenches, comprising a 5% sample of the 235m² site as agreed by the LDNPA. Following the results of the first phase of archaeological work, the two 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 (2008c) and generally accepted best practice. This report outlines the results the archaeological works.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 Ambleside is located at the north end of Windermere Lake, in the Lake District National Park (Figure 1). Mill Cottage is situated at the north end of the town, on the west side of Rydal Road and the Stock Ghyll Beck, at a height of *c.*54 metres above mean sea level. The Glass House Restaurant, converted from the former saw mill approximately 10 years ago, adjoins Mill Cottage to the south (Plate 1).
- 1.2.2 The land to the north of Mill Cottage is currently in use as a municipal car park, to the west of the Mill Cottage site is terraced housing known as Millans Park. Immediately to the south of Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant is the famous Bridge House, sitting astride Stock Ghyll Beck (Plate 2).
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology of the site is Borrowdale Volcanic Series. This is a complex sequence of volcanic rocks of Ordovician age, composed of lavas and volcanic sediments. All have suffered some alteration or metamorphosis as a result of the intrusion of a large underlying body of granite (Countryside Commission 1998, 33).



Plate 1 – East elevations of Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant (former woollen mill)



Plate 2 – View looking south showing Bridge House over the Stock Ghyll Beck, with the former woollen mill building to right of photograph

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation at Mill Cottage, Rydal Road, Ambleside. All work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standard and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a, 2008b and 2008c), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted, in accordance with accepted best practice. The study area consisted of a broad overall history of Ambleside, with an additional detailed 0.5 km radius centred on the proposed development area, which was studied in more depth. The principal sources of information were the Lake District National Park Historic Environment Record (LDHER), historical maps and secondary sources.

2.2.2 ***Lake District National Park Historic Environment Record (LDHER):*** the LDHER for the Lake District, 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 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. A brief record including grid reference and description was obtained for the various sites within the study area, which are listed in *Table 1* in *Appendix 1*. Aerial photographs of the area were also studied. The LDHER also contains details of previous archaeological work undertaken in the area.

2.2.3 ***Cumbria Record Office Kendal (KRO) and Carlisle (CRO):*** Kendal and Carlisle Record Offices were consulted for historical mapping, published and unpublished material relating to Ambleside, the site itself and any information on industries within the town throughout its history.

2.2.4 ***Carlisle Library Local Studies:*** the local studies section of Carlisle Library was consulted for any publications, historical engravings, photographs or sketches relating to Ambleside which may have been pertinent to the site of Mill Cottage.

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

2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING SURVEY

2.3.1 The building survey involved the examination of the exterior and interior of the building, as well as its setting, for evidence of original construction materials, form and function of the building, as well as the use of internal space. Digital photographs were

taken of the main elevations, architectural details, features of archaeological interest, and of the interior rooms, and these are included within this report for illustrative purposes.

- 2.3.2 The Level 2 Building Survey was undertaken following English Heritage guidelines (2006), the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings and Structures* (2008b), and guidelines for the evaluation of historic buildings included in the ALGAO publication *Analysis and Recording for the Conservation and Control of Works to Historic Buildings* (1997).

2.4 FIELD EVALUATION

- 2.4.1 The size and location of the two trial trenches on the site were agreed with the LDNPA following the results of stage 1 of the archaeological works. The total area of excavation comprised a c.5% sample of the 235m², equating to 12m² of trenching. All work was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2008c).
- 2.4.2 In summary, the main objectives of the field evaluation were:
- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state 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 paleoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- 2.4.3 Topsoil and modern overburden was removed by mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand, and investigated and recorded 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 Both trial trenches were backfilled immediately 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 An archive for the archaeological work will be prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Brown 2007). The archive will be deposited in an appropriate local institution, in a format agreed with that institution.
- 2.5.2 North Pennines Archaeology and the Lake District National Park Authority support the **Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological fieldwork. As a result, details of this study will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project under the unique identifier **northpen3-58302**.

3 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 The assessment results are based on primary documents, most notably maps, and on the secondary sources such as publications which will be referred to in section 3.4 below.

3.2 LAKE DISTRICT HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (LDHER)

- 3.2.1 **LDHER:** there were a total of 15 HER records within the study area that has been defined as a 0.5 km radius around the site. Of these only one is of prehistoric origin (HER 1875), six are of post-medieval date, and the remaining eight are of unknown date. A list of the HER sites identified by the assessment is given in *Table 1* in *Appendix 1*. Of particular interest in relation to the Mill Cottage site, is HER 17174 Bridge House Sawmill, described as the site of a saw mill (a factory in which logs are converted to timber by running them through a series of saws) of post-medieval date, HER 30727 Woollen Mill described as the site of a woollen mill (a factory where short wool is spun into woollen yarn to produce cloth) of unknown date, and HER 33556 Stock Beck Flax Mill, a flax mill recorded as the previous use of the named Mill Cottage (post-medieval but may have earlier origins).
- 3.2.2 **Listed Buildings:** there are approximately 33 Listed Buildings located within a 0.5 km radius of the development. A list of each of these listed buildings is provided in *Table 2* in *Appendix 1*. Of particular reference to the proposed development site is Mill Cottage itself which is a Grade II Listed Building, described as early 19th century in date (LDHER Ref: 545/1/37). Bridge House is a Grade I Listed Building, described as a late 17th/early 18th century summer house for the former Hall.
- 3.2.3 **Conservation Areas:** Mill Cottage is located in Ambleside Conservation Area, at its western edge¹.
- 3.2.4 **Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM):** there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments located within a 0.5 km radius of the development area.
- 3.2.5 **Previous Archaeological Work:** no previous archaeological work was identified as having been undertaken in close proximity to the proposed development area during the consultation of the LDHER.

3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- 3.3.1 The earliest cartographic source consulted which provided any information on the historical character of the town of Ambleside was Thomas Jeffrey's Map of Westmorland 1770 (Figure 3). This map is presently available in four sections, as reproductions of the original engravings, and unfortunately Ambleside is situated at the bottom of one of these map sections. It is possible, however, to note the general layout

¹ http://www.lake-district.gov.uk/lake_district_docs95/ambleside_conservation_area_240708.pdf - Accessed 20/04/2009

of the town at this date. A church appears to be shown in the centre of the town, and a small vignette of a house indicates the site of a notable property, possibly Ambleside Hall. The roads to Kirkstone and Rydal are clearly visible, as well as the Stock Beck flowing into the town from the east and the River Rothay to the west. Jeffrey's uses a circular symbol to show the location of water mills; however none appear to be shown at Ambleside although the scale of the map needs to be considered.

- 3.3.2 Hodgson's Map of Westmorland 1823-25, like Jeffrey's map, does not show the town of Ambleside in any great detail, although it does provide additional information. Stock Ghyll Force is clearly labelled along with properties such as Low Nook End, Green Bank and Covey Cottage. An 'Inn' is marked in the centre of the town, possibly the site of the Salutation Hotel which is annotated on later mapping (Figure 4).
- 3.3.3 Tithe Maps and Awards were produced following the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836. These are a useful source as they generally provide information on land ownership, occupiers, state of cultivation, acreage etc. For Ambleside, there are two Tithe Maps which relate to the town; the townships of 'Above Stock' and 'Below Stock', the dividing line for these townships is the Stock Ghyll, and a marker showing this division remains on the bridge over the Stock Ghyll opposite Mill Cottage (Plate 3). Figure 5 is an extract from the 'Above Stock' Tithe Map which apparently dates to 1843. This map does not show the Mill Cottage site, although it does provide some information regarding existing buildings within the vicinity, on the north side of Stock Ghyll. The Tithe Map for 'Below Stock' dates to 1838 although it appears to be contemporary with the 'Above Stock' map. Buildings in the location of Mill Cottage appear to be shown on this source, although no detail is given (Figure 6).
- 3.3.4 The earliest cartographic source to provide accurate information regarding the buildings on the site of Mill Cottage is the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps, published in the 1860s. The 6" version of this map is reproduced here as Figure 7; it provides information regarding the extent of the town of Ambleside as it was surveyed in 1859 (Figure 7). 'Stockgill Mill' is annotated to the east of the town as a bobbin mill, and the site of Mill Cottage is labelled as a saw mill, with saw pits shown immediately to the south.
- 3.3.5 The 25" version of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map provides a clearer indication of buildings and features in close proximity to the Mill Cottage site in the 1860s (Figure 8). The buildings which make up the Stockgill Mill (bobbin) site are shown to the east of the town; further mills may be located to the west of High Stockgill Bridge as a mill race appears to be represented, although these are not labelled. The Mill Cottage site is labelled as a 'Saw Mill', with what appears to be the buildings which now make up the Glass House Restaurant and Mill Cottage shown above Low Stockgill Bridge. Two saw pits are drawn immediately to the south of these buildings. A small building is shown to the west of the Saw Mill. The land to the north and to the west is shown as undeveloped, with the area immediately to the north of Mill Cottage seemingly wooded at this date.
- 3.3.6 A Plan of Ambleside dating to 1906 is housed at Kendal Record Office (Figure 9). By this date housing has been constructed to the west of the Mill Cottage site, labelled as Millans Park and Millans Park Road, with a Wesleyan Church shown central to this housing. The Saw Mill is no longer annotated, although the buildings appear to have

been extended slightly to the south and to the west. A mill just to west of Bridge (High Stock) is referred to as 'old' by this date, although the bobbin mill appears to still be operating at this date. The land immediately to the north of the Mill Cottage site remains undeveloped.

- 3.3.7 The Third Edition Ordnance Survey map, published in 1913, provides a clearer indication of the buildings on the Mill Cottage site (Figure 10). No saw pits appear to be shown on this map which may suggest that the saw mill had ceased to function by this date, possibly converted to another use. Small buildings have been constructed to the west side of the Mill Cottage site. 'Stockghyll Mills' (bobbin) remains to the east, possibly now converted to steam power as a chimney is labelled, and part of the site is annotated as a 'Laundry'.



Plate 3 – Marker stone on the bridge over Stock Ghyll Beck showing the division between the historical townships of 'Above Stock' and 'Below Stock'

3.4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.4.1 This historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources (published and unpublished material), and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments around the study area.
- 3.4.2 The place name Ambleside is believed to mean ‘*shieling by the river-sandbank*’ and derived from *á melr, sáetr* (Smith 1967, 182). Lee suggests it means ‘*amal’s summer hut or dairy farm*’, the first element being a personal name and the second element being derived from the Old Norse² *sáetr* (Lee 1998, 2). Ambleside is first recorded as *Amdeseta* in 1090-7, with other variations during the medieval period such as *Hamelesete* (1292) and *Hambilsede* (1437) (Smith 1967, 182). Within the vicinity of Ambleside, place names such as Scandale may possibly mean ‘*limited valley*’ from the Old Norse *skamt* and *dalr*, Sweden Bridge from the Middle English³ *swidden* and the Old English⁴ *sviða* and *brycg*, and Rothay meaning ‘*loud sounding river*’ from the Old Norse *rautand* (Lee 1998, 70, 73 and 82).
- 3.4.3 There is very little known about the Ambleside area during the prehistoric period, prior to the arrival of the Roman army who established a fort to the south of the town, at the north end of Windermere Lake. The only prehistoric site recorded in the LDHER within a 1km radius of the Mill Cottage site, is a bronze palstave found at Millans Park (LDHER 1875). It is clear, however, that this area was far from unpopulated up until the 1st AD, as shown by the Neolithic axe factories of Great Langdale, and the rock art of Chapel Stile, located to the west of the town.
- 3.4.4 Located on a flat area at the north end of Windermere Lake, and to the south of Ambleside, are the remains of the Roman fort of *Galava*. The site was excavated between 1913 and 1920 by Professor R.G. Collingwood, during which it was revealed that two forts occupied the site, an earlier turf and timber fort which was later covered by an artificially-built platform on which the stone-built fort of the 2nd century was constructed, safely above flood level. According to Rollinson recent research and excavation has suggested that a Roman road ran north from *Galava*, over Kirkstone Pass; another road may have branched north-eastward along Stock Ghyll to meet the road over the High Street range (Rollinson 1996, 25 and 27). No Roman sites or findspots are recorded on the LDHER within a 1km radius of the Mill Cottage site, however it is possible that the power of the Stock Ghyll may have been utilised by the Roman army up until its withdrawal in the 4th century.
- 3.4.5 Evidence of occupation of the area in and around Ambleside during the early medieval period (c.AD 400-1066) comes mainly from place names, as already referred to in 3.4.2 above. Carnie notes that the general lack of remains from any of the Celtic, Anglian and Norse settlements makes it difficult to gain any impression of the weight of occupation by these groups in any particular part. He notes that the analysis of place names gives some indication of possible settlement locations, but does not provide evidence of population density; consequently a gap exists in the knowledge of the side of the three main populations which have influenced Cumbria’s history (Carnie 2002,

² Old Norse = This was the language spoken by Norwegians who colonised Iceland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Hebrides and the north-west of England from the 9th to the 12th centuries (Source: Lee 1998)

³ Middle English = The language spoken in England between the 12th and 15th centuries

⁴ Old English = The language spoken by the Anglo-Saxons from the 6th to the 12th centuries

- 40). He does suggest, however, that early medieval settlement may have existed in the area around How Head, to the east of Mill Cottage, on higher ground which later formed the Ambleside Hall complex (*ibid*, 44). No sites or findspots dating to this period are recorded in the LDHER within a 1km radius of the Mill Cottage site.
- 3.4.6 Writing in 1906 Mary Armit্ত refers to the Ambleside area following the Norman Conquest; *'Early Norman documents give no place-names within the twin valleys of Rothay and Brathay, which meet at the great lake. It is only forest and park and deer that we read of hereabouts. We hear by later deeds that Ambleside lay in the forest of Troutbeck, and that it belonged to the manor of Windermere and consequently to the Barony of Kendal'* (Armitt 1906, 2). No fulling mill, or corn mill, at Ambleside is mentioned in documents prior to 1324, possibly because the community was too small. The first recorded mill at Ambleside in 1324 refers to Ingram de Gynes receiving rent of eight shillings for a water mill on Stock Ghyll from 11 customary Hamalsete tenants. The de Gynes also owned an adjacent fulling mill and a brewery (Carnie 2002, 58).
- 3.4.7 In a document dating to 1453, a fulling mill is referred to at Ambleside for the first time *'Amelsette: Of 24.7. 8¼ of two parts of rents and farms of all tenants there are 16.5.1½ p. an. At terms aforesaid, whereof farm of water corn mill 13s. 4d, farm of Walkynsilver 6s.8d, farm of the fulling mill there constructed anew 13½ d (ibid, 18)*. In the 15th century documents refer to three fulling mills and two corn mills in Ambleside. Tradition suggests that two mills (at least one of which was a corn mill) were located on Stock Beck, above the site of the bobbin mill; this is substantiated by the place names Mill Doors and Long Coats (suggestive of sheds or wooden shelters) shown on historical mapping (see Figure 7 for example). The medieval fulling mills may have been located on the site of later mills; therefore the bobbin mill may have been one site, with another on the opposite side of the Stock Ghyll (the later Bark Mill). The third, Armitt suggests, *may* have stood on the left bank of the Stock Ghyll where the saw mill would eventually be located, and consequently on the Mill Cottage site (*ibid*, 23). According to Susan James, Sir William Parr of Kendal built a new fulling mill and refurbished two existing mills in Ambleside in the 15th century. Parr was an extensive landowner, and he appears to have invested heavily in the wool market. Wool and woollen cloth were the chief marketable commodities in Westmorland and both depended on the welfare of the local sheep owners' flocks. Kendal was famous for a coarse, heavy-weight woollen cloth known as Kendal green. William Parr built up his sheep flocks but he was also concerned with the whole process of manufacturing cloth, which fulling was a vital part of; hence the investment in fulling mills (James 1993, 103).
- 3.4.8 From the 15th to the 17th century, the manufacture of wool cloth was an important industry in Ambleside, however it was a small-scale operation compared with the regional centre of Kendal. Despite this, Ambleside's Clothiers, at the height of the industry, saw to its organisation across an area extending from Sawrey through Hawkshead, and the two Langdale's to Grasmere. Consequently, several Clothiers whose families built up teams over the centuries, such as Robert Braithwaite, became rich men (Carnie 2002, 59). At the start of the 16th century the three Ambleside fulling mills were worked by *'Thomas Brathwayte, by three members of the family Jackson, and by John and Gilbert Brathwayte'*; this information from a document dated 1506-

07 is the earliest known to refer to a family which were destined to play an important part in the milling industry, and would not only increase in wealth but also in number. According to Mary Armit, three-quarters of a century had barely elapsed before the Braithwaite's were found to be occupying estates or customary tenants on almost every stream in the district outside Ambleside capable of turning a mill (Armit 1908, 141).

- 3.4.9 In the 16th century the Braithwaite's had a virtual monopoly of the flour and fulling mills in Ambleside. All of their mills were on the north side of Stock Ghyll, where the annual rents payable to the manor of Grasmere were lower than if the mills had been on the south bank. The first Braithwaite at Ambleside appears to have been Robert, who worked a new fulling mill on the north side of the beck by Upper Stock Gill Bridge from some time before 1453; by 1508 the family owned four mills. Richard Braithwaite occupied Ambleside Hall, which was probably one of the several buildings down Smithy Road, which included a blacksmiths and at some point two inns. It was never large and even at the height of the Braithwaite's prosperity had no more than 13 rooms. 'The Old Hall' on Smithy Brow marks the site of the hall. Part of the estate located to the south-west of the hall was known as Shaw Wife's Orchard in the 16th century; in order to provide access to this area the Braithwaite's constructed Bridge House in 1723. Carnie notes that Bridge House was an entirely functional structure, being a bridge at the lower level, and an apple store above (Carnie 2002, 111). Plate 4 is a drawing of Bridge House as it may have appeared in 1834, although artistic licence needs to be taken into consideration. Up until the 18th century, therefore, it is possible that the Mill Cottage site may have formed part of the Ambleside Hall estate. The break-up of the Ambleside hall estate began in the 18th century when John Benson purchased substantial parts of the estate in Ambleside; the Hall itself, the brewery and the grounds right across to and including Shaw Wife Orchard (*ibid*, 109). Bridge House, following the break-up of the estate, is believed to have been used as a counting house for the Linsey-Woolsey mills alongside. Although by 1819, William Green noted it had already formed part of the tourist industry, as a tearoom in the summer and small weaving premises for the rest of the year (*ibid*, 112).
- 3.4.10 The lowest mill in Ambleside was constructed before 1454, in the area of what is now the Mill Cottage site. This fulling mill had its tenterfields on the site to the south, where the shopping centre is now located (Carnie 2002, 78). According to '*The Mills of Ambleside*' the fulling mill on the site of Mill Cottage was run by the Robinson family, and later in its history it was partly taken up by Cooper's Flax Mill (the Glass House Restaurant) and partly by the Partridge family for the production of Linsey-Woolsey cloth (Mill Cottage) (Kelly 2003).
- 3.4.11 After leaving the loom, woollen cloth had to be 'fulled' in order to clean and thicken the cloth to cause the fibres to stick together and to obliterate gaps in the weave. The process had been undertaken by stamping on the cloth in vats for centuries (walk mills), however the mechanisation of fulling using water power allowed for the more direct involvement in the textile industry by seigniorial lords, who had the capital to set up fulling mills, and so control an essential part of the woollen cloth production, usually by making it compulsory for their tenants to bring their cloth to be fulled at the lord's mill (Roberts 1998, 3). Associated with the fulling mills were 'tenter -banks, -hey, -field, -ground' where the cleaned and thickened cloth was stretched and hung on frames to dry and return to shape following the fulling process, and potash kilns, where

wood or bracken was burned to produce potash for the soap used in the cleaning process (*ibid*, 4). Bracken was also used as a fertiliser, as part of the glass-making process, and to make bleach when flax was being prepared to produce fine linens. Given that the Mill Cottage site may have historically housed a fulling mill, then a later flax mill, access to bracken would presumably have been essential, and the Lake District fell-sides would have provided plentiful amounts of this crop. According to Carnie, there were at least 40 potash kilns in the area of Ambleside, Grasmere, Langdale and Rydal (Carnie 2002, 61).

- 3.4.12 For two centuries the making of Linsey-Woolsey's dominated working life in and around Ambleside, and was therefore a central part of the town's history. The weaving of this particular cloth involved the production of thread from flax to provide the strong linen warp of the material on to which the woollen thread was woven (Carnie 2002, 61). The growing of flax and hemp had almost disappeared in the central Lakes by the end of the 18th century, however prior to this period both crops were widely grown. Flax was used for weaving linen cloth, whilst hemp was used for making ropes, sacks and coarse fabric for use in winnowing cloths for example. Unlike wool, hemp and flax appear to have been produced in the central Lakes mainly for domestic use, but any surplus would have been sold to Kendal weavers to be woven into 'linsey'. To extract the usable fibres from both hemp and flax, the stems, after separation from the seeds after threshing, had to be 'retted' to break down the tough outer covering and release the supple fibres. Retting was undertaken by soaking the stems in a pond or dammed stream known locally as a 'dub' for up to three weeks, or by laying them out on the grass to catch the dew and rain for between four and six weeks (Denyer 1991, 123). As part of the Mill Cottage site is believed to have been a flax mill in the past, possible associated features such as retting ponds, or storage for the dry fibres needs to be considered.
- 3.4.13 As well as housing a 15th century fulling mill, and later woollen and flax mills, the area around Mill Cottage was used as a tannery in the 17th century; a further tannery was located at Fisherbeck to the south of the town. A bark mill was established in the old fulling mill on Rattle Gill (part of Stock Ghyll to the east of Mill Cottage), which was powered by surplus water from the opposite corn mill via a wooden conduit. It supplied bark to the tanneries of Ambleside. The bark mill closed in 1880 and became part of the Rattle Gill slum area (Kelly 2003). The procedure of turning the soft sinews of animal hides into the tough fibres of leather took some 24 months and involved a sequence of pits. The dried bark was soaked in water to give tannin of carrying strengths. The animal hides were stripped of hair by being burnt with lime, and the lime then removed by soaking the skins in a solution of animal excrement (Carnie 2002, 77).
- 3.4.14 In the 17th century Ambleside appears to have been prosperous based on its woollen industry. In 1650 the town was granted a market charter, with wool and yarn being the principal commodities. The general phase of building in stone that transformed the villages of England after the mid 1600s reached Ambleside in the later years of that century and continued into the 1700s. Most of the rebuilding took place *in-situ* and the huddled character of the original village was retained. By the early 18th century, however, Watson refers to an industrial 'crisis' with several houses in the town standing empty. The decline in handloom weaving stopped the fulling mills, and

writing at the start of the 19th century William Green referred to some of the older houses having become dilapidated, with *'many having already been cleared away'* (Watson 1979, 2 and 4).

- 3.4.15 During the 17th and into the mid-18th century the Robinson's ran the fulling mill on the site of Mill Cottage with the aid of the Partridge's. In 1772 the mill was put in the charge of Joseph Cooper of Dunnerdale, who continued to run it for wool though really wishing to specialise in Linsey-Woolsey. In 1795, the old mill was demolished, and apparently replaced by the double building which exists today. The mill to the north (Mill Cottage) became Cooper's Flax Mill with its own bleaching ground on the site of the present municipal car park to the north, and the woollen mill to the south (Glass House Restaurant) was put in the charge of the Partridge's. The wool mill and the flax mill each had its own waterwheel, with the wool mill's wheel running upstream of that of the flax mill, but separately. By the late 18th century, Partridge's had turned to the manufacture of Linsey-Woolsey, with linen making the warp and wool the weft (Carnie 2002, 78). In 1819 William Green noted that the principal trade in Ambleside was the manufacture of 'linsey's' by Messrs Partridge and Cooper, and he also alluded to economic problems in the town by noting that the firm provided employment *'in the worst of times to a numerous body of mechanics'* (Green 1819, 154). The woollen mill located on the Mill Cottage site was noted by Green to have been constructed by Rowland Suart in 1795, and worked by Messrs Partridge and Cooper. Other mills along the Stock Ghyll in 1819 included the corn mill (which adjoined the bridge) and the bark mill, located between the corn mill and the *'summer house'* [presumably Bridge House]. He noted that this section of the beck was called *'Rattle-gill, perhaps on account of the turbulence of its waters in a wet season'* (*ibid*, 156). The Parish Register Transcripts for Ambleside were consulted to see if there was any reference to the death of Rowland Suart who is known to have constructed the woollen mill in 1795. The burial of a Row?[land?] Suart, aged 82, is recorded in March 19, 1829. If this was the same Rowland Suart, then he would have been 48 when the mill was constructed (Bishop, undated).
- 3.4.16 In 1790, Ambleside was described as a small market town, with a market on a Wednesday, and two annual fairs (Whitsun-Wednesday and the 29th of October). The Universal British Directory of this date noted that there was no principal manufacture undertaken in the town, with goods being mainly made in Kendal. It does refer to the town being known for the manufacture of cloth, *'and for a considerable waterfall'*. This directory lists the occupations of the residents of Ambleside in 1790; these included eight individual weavers, masons, victuallers, and shoemaker. Edward Partridge is listed as a 'linsey manufacturer' (The Universal British Directory 1790). In 1829, Parson and White refer to a large woollen mill at Ambleside, where Linsey and coarse woollen goods were manufactured by Mrs A Cooper. *'Near it is a tannery and corn mill, and some of the inhabitants are employed at the slate quarries, and in working up the coppice wood into corves and other baskets called swills'*. In the trade directory section of this publication, Mrs Agnes Cooper is listed as a *'linsey and woollen manufacturer'* (Parson and White 1829, 615 and 618).
- 3.4.17 In 1833 the old road through the area 'Above Stock' was incapable of carrying the increase in traffic through the town. The break-up of the old hall estate enabled the level land by the river to be utilised, and North Road was bypassed by a link from the

Market Place to Rydal Road (Watson 1979, 5). Consequently, the modern road which passes Mill Cottage and Bridge House is a relatively recent feature. The drawing of Bridge House dated 1834 (Plate 4) may have been sketched prior to this road being laid out. The tannery on the Mill Cottage site was closed '*by order of the townsfolk*' in the same year as this road was constructed (Kelly 2003). Plate 5 is a pencil and wash drawing dated 1837 of the Partridge-Cooper Linsey-Wolsey works, showing a site much different from what stands today. As with any sketches, engravings and paintings, it is difficult to know how accurate this drawing is regarding the buildings which stood on the site at this date. Clearly this does not show Mill Cottage, therefore there is the possibility that the cottage was not constructed by this date, or this drawing represents what may have been on the site before. Plate 6 shows Bridge House as it was in c.1900.

- 3.4.18 By 1849 the woollen mill and the tannery on the opposite side of the road was described as '*for some years discontinued. There is still, however, a bobbin mill and a corn mill and the joiners and stone masons of the town give employment to several hands*' (Mannex 1849, 259). According to Carnie, old Mr Cooper of the linen mill (on the site of Mill Cottage) had died in 1824 and his widow Agnes (who is named in the 1829 trade directory, see 3.4.16) struggled to keep 'Cooper's Flax Mill' going. The Partridge's extended their ownership of the wool mill to the flax mill but by the 1830s they were also in difficulty. By 1844 the mills and the yards were all in use as store sheds and a sawmill for carpentry and a carriage works, with the premises of John Barrow 'joiner, carpenter and builder' next door. The tan pits had all been filled in and the tanner's yard developed for the carriage works. This business thrived through the remaining years of the 19th century and into the 20th century, as the demand for carriages, chaises, wagonettes etc grew steadily with the tourist trade. The site then formed part of the Carriage Company and was soon manufacturing luxury coaches for the Lake District's foremost operator Riggs of Windermere Hotel. The carriage business ran until the 1950s (Carnie 2002, 80). Plates 7 and 8 show the forecourt of Garside's Garage and Coach Works located to the western side of the Mill Cottage site, possibly in the location of the present stone-built 'Biketreks' shop.
- 3.4.19 Writing in 1860, Whellan includes a description of Ambleside: '*Many of the inhabitants are engaged in bobbin manufacture. From its central situation, the town is frequently made the head quarters of tourists for considerable time, as within the compass of seven miles are the following lakes:- Windermere, Esthwaite Water, Elter Water, Coniston, Rydal Water, Grasmere and Ullswater*' (Whellan 1860, 877). Whellan does not appear to refer to the woollen industry in the town; suggesting it was either relatively small-scale or it was no longer in existence. What he does refer to however is a different industry in the town, that of tourism.
- 3.4.20 The earliest reference to 'Mill Cottage' as a property is in Kelly's Directory 1894, when Richard Jackson is listed there, and it is described as 'apartments' (Kelly 1894). In 1905, Thomas Garside is listed as a coachbuilder, Rydal Road, with another coachbuilder, Stephen Metcalf, listed at Race Cottage (Bulmer 1905). The 1921 trade directory lists 'Miss Edith Clarke, apartments, Mill Cottage, Rydal Road', and 'Thomas Garside, Smallwood House, private hotel, Compston Road' and as a 'coach, carriage and motor car builder, painter, plumber and sign writer, Rydal Road' (Kelly

1921). The trade directories provide evidence of the move to the tourist industry for the Mill Cottage site at the end of the 19th century in the form of ‘apartments’.

3.4.21 In the Royal Commission of Historic Monuments survey of Westmorland undertaken in the 1930s, the following properties in Ambleside were identified as well as the Roman fort (RCHME 1936):

- *Market Cross, in the market-place, is an octagonal tapering shaft of stone, perhaps of medieval date, set on a modern base. Condition – good.*
- *House on Bridge over Stock Gill. The bridge is a rubble structure of one span with a segmental arch. On the middle of this is set the small square house, projecting slightly on two sides over the stream. It is a rubble building of two storeys with a slate-covered roof and has exposed ceiling-beams. Both house and bridge are probably of late 17th or early 18th century date, and the house is said to have been built as a garden house. Condition – good.*
- *Low Sweden Bridge, over Scandale Beck, is a rubble structure of one span with a roadway about 10ft wide. The arch is segmental and the bridge may perhaps date from the 17th century. Condition – good.*
- *High Sweden Bridge, over Scandale Beck, is of similar construction to that just described. It is about 6ft wide and has no parapets. Condition – good.*
- *Nook End Farm was built perhaps early in the 18th century and contains a moulded batten and plank partition of the local type.*
- *House on the west side of Nook Lane, 650 yds NNE of the church, has been much altered. On the south front is a tablet with the date 1661 and a second tablet bears the initials and date MH 1818.*
- *House, 100 yards SW of St Anne’s Chapel was built perhaps early in the 18th century.*
- *Chapel Hill, house, 25 yards SW of St Anne’s Chapel, has a cross-wing at the NE end and a second wing on the NW side. A door on the NW front is panelled and has a scutcheon-plate dated 1693. Several windows in the building retain their solid frames with mullions. The chimney-stacks have original cylindrical shafts. Inside the building is an original newel staircase with solid steps and there are some old battened doors.*
- *Oaks Farm, house, two tenements, 120 yards ESE of St Anne’s Chapel, has a wing on the N side. In it is an original window with solid frame and mullions. Inside the building is a partition of the local type with moulded muntins and planks; there are also two old panelled doors.*
- *Two warehouses, SE of the market place, were built perhaps early in the 18th century. The eastern one has two original windows of four lights with mullions and diamond-shaped bars.*
- *House and shop at the NE corner of Church Street, has an added kitchen at the back and a separate block still farther to the west. The shop is mainly modern. The original north chimney-stack has a cylindrical or oval shaft.*

- *House, two tenements, on the west side of Old Road 730 yards SSE of the church, retains an original window with solid frame and mullion.*
- *Low Fold, cottage, 30 yards S of the above.*
- *Wateredge Hotel, south of church, has been much altered and added to. It contains two old panelled doors.*
- *High Skelgill, house, nearly 1 ½ miles SE of the church, is of late 17th or early 18th century date.*

3.4.22 In the gazetteer of ‘*The Industrial Archaeology of the Lake Counties*’ (Davies-Shiel and Marshall 1969) only three of the mills at Ambleside are included:

- *Bobbin Mills. Horrax’s mill, Stock Beck, is a four-storey building with a large wheelpit inside the southern end wall abutting the beck. One of the former coppice barns, to the east, has been converted to holiday flats. The original dam is still in situ. Flourishing in 1839, this was one of the most important mills in south Westmorland. Most of the bobbin machinery was sold in 1964.*
- *Corn Mill. The 17th century manorial corn mill on Stock Beck had its machinery removed in 1945, and the former headrace is now the entrance footpath to a modern craft shop. All that remains of the overshot wooden waterwheel is the octagonal axle. When this wheel was not in use the water was carried across the beck on a high trestled trough to the wheel of the Bark mill, also 17th century, of which the building and name only remain. The wheelpit can, however, be traced. This mill ground bark for the Fisherbeck tannery, now a large barn.*
- *Fulling Mill. Standing in the grounds of the Horrax’s mill, this mill may have been late medieval. It was probably one of three early fulling mills in the locality. Now only the upper workroom remains, and this has been made into a holiday chalet.*

3.4.23 In summary, the documentary and cartographic evidence for the site of Mill Cottage, as could be gained from a rapid assessment, is as follows:

Approximate Date	Site Use	Source of Evidence
15 th century	Fulling mill (possible site of) Site of fulling mill prior to 1454 Three fulling mills in Ambleside	Armitt 1906 Carnie 2002 James 1993
17 th century	Site of tannery	Kelly 2003
17 th and 18 th centuries	Fulling mills run by the Robinson family	Carnie 2002
1723	Bridge House supposedly constructed, suggesting land to west side of Stock Ghyll was part of Ambleside Hall estate (consider proximity of supposed tanneries to this ‘summerhouse’)	Carnie 2002

Approximate Date	Site Use	Source of Evidence
	RCHME suggest Bridge House constructed in the late 17 th /early 18 th century	RCHME 1936
1772	Wool mill put in the charge of Joseph Cooper	Carnie 2002
1795	Old mill demolished. Cooper's Flax Mill built to north, woollen mill to south, each with separate water wheel, manufacture of linsey-woolsey Built by Rowland Suart	Carnie 2002 Green 1819
1819	'Linsey's' was the principal trade in Ambleside	Green 1819
1829	Mrs A Cooper listed as 'linsey-woollen' manufacturer	Parson and White 1829
1833	Tannery closed. Road to east side of Mill Cottage and Stock Ghyll constructed	Kelly 2003 Watson 1979
1837	Pencil and wash drawing of buildings at Mill Cottage	Plate 5
1844	Mills and yards in use as sawmill and stores	Carnie 2002
1849	Woollen mill and tannery described as ' <i>for some years discontinued</i> '	Mannex 1849
1865	Site annotated as 'Saw Mill' with saw pits	First Edition OS (Figure 8)
1894	Mill Cottage listed as 'apartments', Richard Jackson	Kelly's Directory 1894
1905	Thomas Garside listed as coach builder, Rydal Road	Bulmer 1905
1913	Site no longer annotated as a saw mill	Third Edition OS (Figure 10)
1921	Mill Cottage listed as 'apartments', Miss Edith Clark Thomas Garside listed as coach builder	Kelly's Directory 1921
19 th and 20 th centuries	Part of site operating as coach building works up until the 1950s	Carnie 2002
c.1999	Part of former saw mill converted to the Glass House Restaurant	<i>Pers.comm.</i> Mr Adrian Sankey
2009	Mill Cottage in use as student accommodation	Site visit

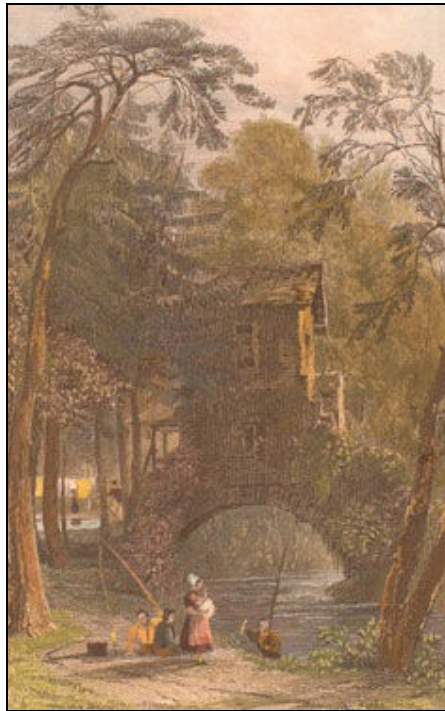


Plate 4 – Bridge House, dated 1834⁵

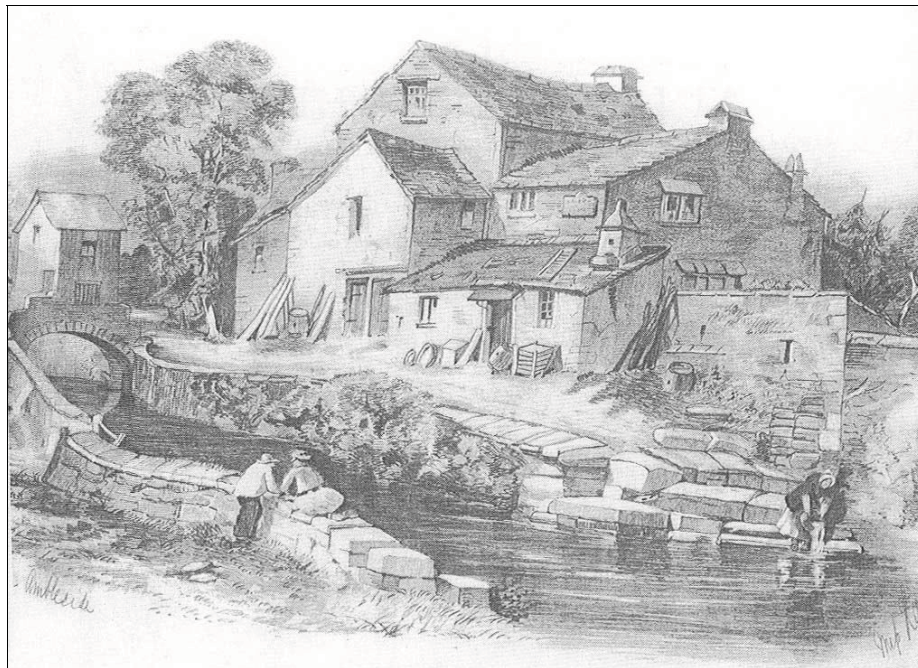


Plate 5 – Pencil and wash drawing dated June 1837 of the Partridge-Cooper, Linsey-Wolsey establishment⁶

⁵ Cumbria Image Bank (<http://www.cumbriaimagebank.org.uk/>)

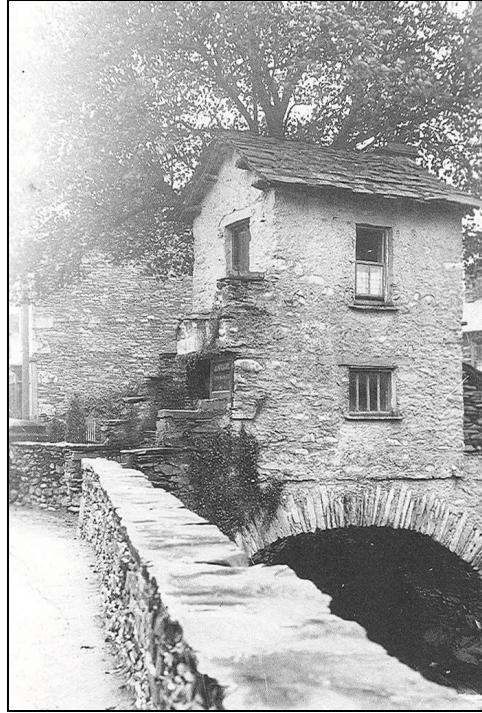


Plate 6 – Bridge House c.1900⁷



Plate 7 – Garside's Coach and Motor Painting site, c.1900. The starting point of the May Queen Float

⁶ Source: Carnie 2002

⁷ Cumbria Image Bank



Plate 8 - Garside's Coach and Motor Painting site, c.1900

4 VISUAL SITE INSPECTION

- 4.1 The Mill Cottage site was visited by Fiona Wooler on 21st April 2009 in order to note any surface features of potential archaeological interest and areas of potential significant disturbance.
- 4.2 The main elevation of Mill Cottage and the adjacent Glass House Restaurant face Rydal Road, separated from it by the Stock Ghyll (Plates 1 and 2). A footpath is located along the west side of the Stock Ghyll, closest to Bridge House, providing access to the reinstated water wheel beneath the Glass House Restaurant. A hedge separates this footpath from the seating area of the restaurant to the west. A metal footbridge allows access to the front door of Mill Cottage. Beneath the western end of the bridge a square aperture was noted at the level of the Stock Ghyll; this is presumably the exit for the former mill race (Plate 9).
- 4.3 To the north of Mill Cottage is the municipal car park which has vehicular access from Rydal Road. The south-east corner of the car park consists of landscaping, planted with trees and shrubs defined by a stone wall to the east, and by the wooden footbridge to the north (Plate 10). It is in this location that the proposed addition to part of Mill Cottage will extend. No archaeological features were noted within this area.
- 4.4 The south side of the Mill Cottage site consists of a landscaped area relating to the Glass House Restaurant which was created from the former saw mill building approximately 10 years ago. The building work at this time also involved the construction of an extension to the south (shown on Plate 11 with the pitched roof with skylights). Prior to the conversion of the former mill building, and the new builds, 10 years ago, no archaeological work was requested; therefore it is not known what, if any, archaeological features survived below ground.
- 4.5 The western boundary of the Mill Cottage site consists of buildings now in use as retail units. These buildings appear to be located on the site of the former workshops for the coach building business which was on the site in the 19th and early 20th centuries (see Plates 7 and 8) (Plate 12). The area between Mill Cottage and the buildings to the west consists of hard standing with some landscaping. At the north end of the site, immediately to the west of Mill Cottage, is a small cottage orientated east-west (Plate 13).
- 4.6 To the west of the Mill Cottage site, a footpath separates the buildings shown on Plate 12 from housing at Millans Park (Plate 14).
- 4.7 During the site visit no archaeological features were noted apart from the presumed mill race exit below the footbridge at the north side of Mill Cottage. The site has already largely been redeveloped from the former saw mill building and coach works.



Plate 9 – Metal footbridge to Mill Cottage, with a square aperture at its base possibly relating to the former mill race



Plate 10 – View looking east showing the planted area on the boundary of the municipal car park, and immediately to the north of Mill Cottage



Plate 11 – View looking north showing the Glass House Restaurant located to the south of Mill Cottage



Plate 12 – View looking north-west showing the buildings on the western side of the Mill Cottage site



Plate 13 – View looking north showing the small cottage, landscaping and hard standing to the west of Mill Cottage



Plate 14 – View looking south showing the rear (west) elevations of the buildings to the west of Mill Cottage and the lane separating them from houses on Millans Park

5 BUILDING RECORDING RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The building survey was undertaken on 21st April 2009 by Fiona Wooler. The exterior and interior of the building was examined for evidence regarding original features, construction materials, and use of internal space. At the time of survey Mill Cottage was in use as student flats.

5.2 MILL COTTAGE - EXTERIOR

- 5.2.1 Mill Cottage is located to the north side of the present Glass House Restaurant, with its main façade facing the Stock Ghyll and Rydal Road; it is the first building to be observed by tourists from the main car park on the right-hand side of the road (Plate 1).
- 5.2.2 Mill Cottage is a three-storey building constructed from coursed slate with slate roof, typical of the town (Plate 15). The building, although it adjoins what is now the Glass House Restaurant, is not flush with it and does not share the same roofline, suggesting it was built separately. In the main east elevation there is a doorway to the south side, set beneath a timber porch with slate roof. To the north of the doorway is a window with slate lintel and sill, and 16-pane sash. At first floor level there are two further 16-pane sash windows, with two at second floor level lighting the roof space. The sash windows are all set back from the wall face and are characteristic of the 19th century, although they are domestic in style rather than industrial (Plate 16). Set above the ground floor window is a sign which reads '*Mill Cottage built 1501 Café Restaurant Bed and Breakfast Tel 34830*' (Plate 1). The north corner of the east elevation has alternating pieces of slate making up the quoins (Plate 17).
- 5.2.3 The north elevation of Mill Cottage provides evidence of two phases of construction. The eastern section of the north elevation is a continuation of the main facade, and is only one-room deep (single-pile), with no horizontal construction break noted suggestive of a building which had been heightened. This section of the north facing elevation projects slightly beyond the rest of Mill Cottage (Plates 18 and 19) and contains no features such as windows, although there is a rectangular chimney stack at the apex of the gable with three chimney pots and projecting string course, similar to other properties nearby. The western part of the north elevation is set back slightly from that already described (Plate 19). This part of the elevation is rendered therefore it is not possible to note if the wall has been heightened, or extended, or indeed if there are any blocked features such as earlier windows, or doorways. It is interesting to note that the render may have been applied to conceal such features deliberately. The part of the north elevation is intriguing, as it is not constructed in a straight line; instead it consists of two orientations, with the turn located to the east of the ground floor doorway (Plate 19). It is possible that this is due to some constraints on the site boundary when this building was erected, or that there has been some form of remodelling which is now hidden by the render. At ground floor level there is a doorway, with a 16-pane sash window to the left-hand side (similar to those on the east elevation already noted) (Plate 20), with a possible blocked window to the right-hand side with a small ventilator now inserted. A section of the wall projects beyond the

face of the wall in this location, suggestive of a possible former chimney (Plate 21). The doorway, sash windows and blocked aperture all have projecting slate lintels.

- 5.2.4 At first floor level of the north elevation there is a 4-pane casement window, with a similar window at second floor level which has two 8-pane casements, with top halves that open (Plate 22). The quantity of pipe work around these windows on this elevation provides evidence for the location of bathrooms within the property. At the apex of this section of the north elevation is a rectangular masonry chimney stack with three chimney pots, similar to that already noted over the eastern section. The western corner of the wall has alternating quoins exposed (Plate 23). The roof structure over the whole of what is now known as Mill Cottage appears quite complicated, with the main façade being gabled, as well as each of the sections which make up the north elevation. This does suggest that there are at least two phases of building within the fabric.
- 5.2.5 The west elevation of Mill Cottage is largely obscured at ground level by a modern link building between it and the small cottage (Plate 24). It was possible, however, to note two relatively modern windows, one at first floor and the other at second floor level. No vertical construction break was noted between the main body of the mill building, which now forms the Glass House Restaurant, and the west elevation of Mill Cottage, suggesting that there may be contemporary. It must be noted, however, that the Glass House Restaurant was created from the former mill approximately 10 years ago, and this work involved the insertion of new windows, the addition of an extension to the south, and the changing of internal floor levels, therefore it needs to be considered that parts of these walls may have been rebuilt as part of the redevelopment.



Plate 15 – Main (east) elevation of Mill Cottage



Plate 16 – Detail of first floor sash window, east elevation of Mill Cottage



Plate 17 – Detail of quoins at the corner of the north and east elevations (Scale is in 20cm graduations)



Plate 18 – North elevation of Mill Cottage



Plate 19 – Part of the north elevation showing the different phases of building (Scale = 2m)



Plate 20 – Detail of ground floor sash window, north elevation (Scale = 2m)



Plate 21 – Possible blocked window or chimney, north elevation (Scale = 2m)



Plate 22 – Detail of first floor window, north elevation



Plate 23 – Detail of quoins, north elevation



Plate 24 – West elevation of the Glass House Restaurant with the two windows left of the drainpipe located in the west elevation of Mill Cottage (Scale = 2m)

5.3 MILL COTTAGE – INTERIOR

- 5.3.1 The interior of Mill Cottage could be accessed via either the main doorway in the east elevation, or via the single-storey link building which now houses a kitchen for the student accommodation (Figure 2).
- 5.3.2 At ground floor level, Mill Cottage consists of a single room, with a modern inserted porch way for the main entrance leading to the staircase (Plate 25). The only features of note were a blocked window in the west elevation (Plate 26), and possible blocked doorway in the east wall, which would suggest some past connection with the mill building to the south (Plate 27). There was no evidence of a former wall relating to an earlier building, for example an external wall against which the eastern section of Mill Cottage may have been constructed.
- 5.3.3 The first floor of Mill Cottage was accessed via the staircase from the main entrance (Figure 2). The modern balusters of the staircase are plain, although the newels are slightly decorative (Plate 28). The first floor consists of two bedrooms, a bathroom and two WC's (Figure 11). The second floor consists of three en-suite bedrooms. The second floor rooms are set partly within the roof space; consequently this is reflected in the ceilings (Plates 29 and 30).
- 5.3.4 Only part of the roof space could be accessed, however it was possible to note that at least part of the roof structure is constructed from machine-sawn timber (Plate 31). The

underside of part of the slate roof has been torched, i.e. a mixture has been applied to reduce draughts (Plate 32). A sample of this torching was examined and it appeared to consist of a mixture of lime and fine animal hair.

- 5.3.5 As the property is still occupied as student accommodation, consequently the internal division reflect this with modern stud walling. It was therefore not possible to assess any original or historical internal floor layouts, as the property has been greatly remodelled. It is possible that during the proposed redevelopment, features may be exposed which provide some insight into the historical use of the internal space.



Plate 25 – View looking east of the ground floor of Mill Cottage (Scale = 2m)



Plate 26 – View looking west of the ground floor of Mill Cottage showing a blocked window
(Scale = 2m)



Plate 27 – Possible former doorway in east wall (Scale = 2m)



Plate 28 – Detail of staircase, interior of Mill Cottage



Plate 29 – Covered purlin, second floor of Mill Cottage



Plate 30 – Sloping ceiling, second floor of Mill Cottage (Scale = 2m)



Plate 31 – Detail of part of the roof structure



Plate 32 – Underside of slate roof showing sections of ‘torching’ applied to reduce draughts

5.4 THE SMALL COTTAGE

- 5.4.1 The small cottage is located to the west of Mill Cottage, separated from it by a single-storey link, part of which presently houses the kitchen for the student accommodation. The proposed development would involve the construction of an extension to the south elevation of this building, and the demolition and removal of sheds and the privy to the west. A footpath linking the car park with the site is also proposed to the west of this cottage. The small cottage is currently rented accommodation, and was still occupied at the time of survey.
- 5.4.2 This two-storey cottage is constructed of roughly coursed slate, with alternating long and short quoins, and a slate roof (Plate 33). In the south elevation there are two windows at ground floor level, although there are not the same in proportion. The main entrance is to the west side of the south elevation. At first floor level there are two windows, which are of the same proportion.
- 5.4.3 The west elevation of this cottage has a small building with pitched roof, which may be a privy. This building appears to have replaced an earlier structure as the line of a former roof is still visible in the wall (Plate 34). Both the cottage and the former building to the west appear to be shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c.1865 (Figure 8).
- 5.4.4 The north elevation of the cottage faces the municipal car park, and forms part of the boundary wall (Plate 35). It was possible to note a first floor window in the cottage

which has been blocked (Plate 36). To the east of this blocked window is a vertical line in the masonry indicating that the wall (between Mill Cottage and the small cottage) has been heightened at some point. Set below the blocked window is a square iron plate, with the makers name 'Bowerbank Penrith' (Plate 37). Joseph Bowerbank was an ironmonger in Penrith, and Carlisle Record Office has records relating to the firm dating from 1887 to 1968⁸. This plate presumably allowed access to an internal flue (a fireplace is located internally at this point, see Plate 38 below), in which case the window and fireplace could not have been in operation at the same time, as the blocked window is in line with the fireplace that now exists.

- 5.4.5 Internally, the small cottage has a kitchen upon entering, with the remainder of the ground floor space used as a living room. A fireplace is located in the north wall, the flue of which is presumably accessed by the iron plate on the north elevation (Plate 39). It is possible that the fireplace may not have been in this location originally, given the presence of a former first floor window in the north elevation. It may have been located in the east gable, although there is now a doorway inserted into this elevation providing access to the link building. To the right-hand side of the fireplace is a circular recess in the wall (Plate 39). This may have been the location of a former set-pot, sometimes known as a wash-boiler or copper, in which laundry was boiled in a metal pot set in a brick base, which was heated from below. It is interesting to note that Carnie provides a plan of the Mill Cottage site on which the small cottage is labelled 'Laundry' although no date is given when it operated as such. The drying ground for the laundry was located to the south, against the western boundary of the site when the store is now located (Carnie 2002, 79). It may originally have been constructed as a dwelling, and then converted to a laundry in the early 20th century to serve the 'apartments'.
- 5.4.6 The first floor was accessed via a staircase against the north wall (Plate 40). A further blocked window was noted in the north wall from the top of the staircase (Plate 41). It was also possible to observe that the first floor is partly set within the roof space, presumably to provide sufficient head height. The first floor is presently occupied by a single bedroom and a small bathroom.
- 5.4.7 It is possible that the original layout of this cottage may have been a central main doorway, hence the reason why the two ground floor windows are different, leading to a central staircase with one room either side at both ground and first floor level; this is suggested by the fenestration (blocked and unblocked). This cottage may have been constructed for a mill owner or proprietor.

⁸ <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=023-db49&cid=0#0> – Accessed 24/04/2009



Plate 33 – View looking north of the small cottage and link building to the right (Scale = 2m)



Plate 34 – West elevation of small cottage showing line of a former roof (Scale = 2m)



Plate 35 – North elevation of the small cottage facing the car park, and partly hidden by trees
(Scale = 2m)



Plate 36 – Blocked window, north elevation of small cottage (Scale = 2m)



Plate 37 –presumably used to access the flue of a fireplace (Scale is in 20 cm graduations)



Plate 38 – Fireplace in the small cottage (Scale is in 20cm graduations)



Plate 39 – Circular recess in north-east wall of small cottage, possible former set-pot? (Scale =2m)



Plate 40 – Staircase, small cottage (Scale = 2m)



Plate 41 – Former window at first floor level, small cottage

5.5 ANCILLARY BUILDING

- 5.5.1 The only other structure to be affected by the proposed development is a store at the north end of the west range of buildings. A modern extension against the north elevation is to be demolished. Although this building did not form part of the former saw mill, it has been photographed and included within this report for completeness (Plates 42 and 43).



Plate 42 – East elevation of store to west of Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant (Scale = 2m)



Plate 43 - East elevation of store to west of Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant (Scale = 2m)

6 EVALUATION RESULTS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1 The field evaluation took place between the 11th May and the 12th May 2009 and comprised the excavation of two trial trenches comprising a c.5% sample of the 235m² site as agreed with the LDNPA. The locations of the trenches followed the results of the first stage of the archaeological investigation (Figure 2).
- 6.1.2 Topsoil and modern overburden were excavated by a Komatsu PC15R mechanical excavator. Both trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and fully recorded. The results of the archaeological evaluation are outlined below.

6.2 RESULTS

- 6.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was located to the southwest of Mill Cottage within a tarmac parking area to the rear of the Glass House Restaurant (Figure 2). The trench measured c.2m x 2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of c.0.7m revealing a modern soak-away and services (Plate 44, Figure 13). The soak-away (**103**) was comprised of large boulders and concrete slabs covered by plastic sheeting. It is possible that the soak-away may have reached a depth of c.2m. The soak-away (**103**) was covered by a c.0.5m deposit of dark brown silty clay backfill (**102**). The backfill deposit (**102**) was further below a c.0.14m deposit of modern hardcore (**101**) and c.0.1m of tarmac surface (**100**) (Plate 44, Figure 13).
- 6.2.2 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was located immediately north of Mill Cottage within a landscaped area at the southeast corner of a municipal car park (Figure 2). The trench measured c.4m x 2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of c.1m revealing a coarse river gravel with frequent river worn cobbles and occasional larger sub-rounded stones (Plate 45, Figure 14). The river gravel (**107**) measured over 0.3m in depth and was directly below a c.0.24m deposit of fine yellow/grey fluvial silt with frequent pebble inclusions (**106**). The fluvial silt (**106**) had also been extensively disturbed by root activity. The fluvial deposit (**106**) was below a c.0.2m deposit of mid-grey/brown silty clay subsoil (**105**) and a c.0.26m deposit of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**104**) (Figure 14), both of which had been extensively disturbed by root action (Plate 46). It is apparent that both the river gravel (**107**) and fluvial silt (**106**) represent water action immediately north of Mill Cottage. However, it is not clear at this time whether deposition resulted from the flooding of Stock Ghyll Beck further east, or whether the deposits represent an additional beck or small stream which may once have flowed eastward towards the existing beck.
- 6.2.3 A total of three 19th century artefacts were recovered during the evaluation including two sherds of lead glazed red earthenware and one fragment of green bottle glass. However, all of the finds were recovered from the modern backfill deposit (**102**) within Trench 1, rendering them ineffectual dating indicators.



Plate 44 – View east of Trench 1



Plate 45 – View west of Trench 2



Plate 46 – East facing section of Trench 2

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 RESULTS OF THE RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 7.1.1 The rapid desk-based assessment has revealed that a fulling mill supposedly stood on the site of Mill Cottage and the Glass House Restaurant in the 15th century. In the 17th century a tannery is believed to have existed on or close to the site. A fulling mill was operating in the 17th and 18th centuries by the Robinson family.
- 7.1.2 Bridge House, which it has been suggested was built as a summer, or garden house, for Ambleside Hall located on higher ground to the east, has been noted to have been constructed in 1723, although the RCHME have suggested a date range of between the late 17th and early 18th century for construction. It is interesting to note the presence of a summer house in such close proximity to the site of a tannery, and to the fairly unattractive process of fulling. It is perhaps necessary to consider what the land to the west of the Stock Ghyll was used as; documentary sources have suggested it was an orchard known as Shaw Wife's Orchard for Ambleside Hall.
- 7.1.3 In 1795 the old wool mill was demolished and rebuilt by Rowland Suart, with two mills supposedly on the site, one as a woollen mill and the other as a flax mill, each with its own water wheel. The Glass House Restaurant is believed to have been the woollen mill, with Mill Cottage being Cooper's Flax Mill, which had its bleaching grounds to the north.
- 7.1.4 In 1833 the tannery on the Mill Cottage site was closed, and the road past the property was constructed. A pencil and wash drawing of the site in 1837 may provide some evidence for the buildings at that date, although it is necessary to be cautious about such an historical source.
- 7.1.5 By the middle to the 19th century, the wool trade appears to have diminished and the site was operating as a saw mill with two saw pits located to the south of the mill buildings by the 1860s. By the end of the 19th century Mill Cottage was in use as 'apartments' and Thomas Garside was operating as a coach builder on the site. The coach building continued until the 1950s, however Mill Cottage continued providing for the tourism industry until recently, although it now provides accommodation for students. The remainder of the former saw mill was converted to the Glass House Restaurant approximately 10 years ago, during which time no requirement for archaeological investigation was made, therefore the survival of archaeological remains on the site below ground was untested.
- 7.1.6 Cartographic sources show Mill Cottage, the Glass House Restaurant building and the small cottage as being extant in the 1860s; no earlier map was readily available to provide any information on the site prior to this period.

7.2 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THE HISTORIC FABRIC

- 7.2.1 The archaeological investigation of the historic fabric of Mill Cottage has revealed that the property appears to consist of at least two different phases, with the eastern portion facing Rydal Road being a single-pile (i.e. one room deep), three storey structure seemingly constructed for domestic purposes, or possibly as ‘apartments’. There was no evidence within the fabric of this section of Mill Cottage to indicate that it was formerly an industrial building relating to the flax mill.
- 7.2.2 The western portion of Mill Cottage, however, may have formed part of the earlier mill complex, although there was no evidence for an industrial function either externally or internally, although external render on the north elevation may conceal features. The presence of a possible former doorway between this part of Mill Cottage and the former saw mill to the south may indicate a connection between the two at some point. It is possible that any future work on the interior of the property, such as the removal of plaster, may reveal features of archaeological interest. The proposed development works involve the extension of the whole of the north elevation of the eastern section of Mill Cottage towards the car park, providing retail space at ground level and accommodation on the first and second floors. As the present elevation is to be demolished and extended, there is little opportunity for the removal of internal and external wall coverings to potentially reveal earlier features.
- 7.2.3 Internally, the whole of Mill Cottage has been adapted to accommodate bed and breakfast facilities, with the insertion of stud walls to create bedrooms, consequently there were no features observed which provide evidence of any former use. There is also a lack of architectural features which may aid in dating the different phases, although the sash windows appear to be 19th century in date.
- 7.2.4 From the available archaeological evidence it is possible to suggest that the eastern section of Mill Cottage may have been constructed around the middle of the 19th century as domestic accommodation, possibly for a mill owner or proprietor, or to serve as ‘apartments’ for visitors. The western section may relate to the former mill on the site, although without the removal of external and internal wall coverings this is a tentative interpretation. The former saw mill has already been converted to the Glass House Restaurant, with modifications to the window openings and floor levels; therefore it would now be difficult to relate any exposed industrial features in Mill Cottage with the whole site.

7.3 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 7.3.1 The evaluation failed to locate any archaeological features or deposits associated with any industrial activity or otherwise which may have taken place on the site. There was also a general lack of artefacts within the excavated trenches.
- 7.3.2 It is possible that the absence of archaeological activity immediately north of Mill Cottage is a result of a possible water course which may have once flowed across this area. However, no map of the site from 1770 onwards depicts such a feature, suggesting that the fluvial deposits noted within Trench 2 may have resulted from the

flooding of Stock Ghyll Beck to the east. It is also possible that any archaeological activity immediately north of Mill Cottage has since been destroyed.

- 7.3.3 It is much more difficult to make an accurate archaeological assessment of the area southwest of Mill Cottage as it is highly probable that much of this area has been heavily disturbed in recent years, possibly to a depth of *c.*2m. Whilst this disturbance certainly suggests that much of the area to the rear of the Glass House Restaurant is devoid of any archaeological features, it also makes it impossible to assess whether there was ever any archaeological activity within this area, and to the nature and extent of any such activity.

7.4 SUGGESTIONS FOR MITIGATION

- 7.4.1 With regard to the historical fabric of Mill Cottage, the largest area of impact is to the western section of the north elevation, which will involve the demolition of the entire wall, with a new build extending northwards. It has already been noted that this section is rendered externally and consequently any earlier features may be hidden. It is possible that during the demolition works, features of interest may be revealed such as construction breaks or blocked apertures. A programme of site visits during the building works could yield information on the presence of an earlier structure within the existing fabric.
- 7.4.2 A small extension is to be constructed to the south of the small cottage. As this building has been photographed and described as part of the building survey it is not deemed necessary for any further work to be undertaken.
- 7.4.3 The results of the archaeological evaluation suggest that the proposed development is unlikely to impact upon any significant archaeological remains. Therefore, it is unlikely that a further programme of archaeological investigation will be needed in association with the current works. However, it is strongly recommended that archaeological advice be sought prior to any future invasive work within the area.

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KRO = Kendal Record Office

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APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF SITES

The locations of the sites listed below are the HER Sites within 0.5 km radius of the development site.

Table 1: *HER sites within the 0.5 km radius around the site boundary*

HER No.	Site Name	Monument Type	Description	NGR	Period
1875	Millans Park, Ambleside Palstave Find	Findspot	Bronze palstave (a bronze axehead in which the side flanges and the bar-stop on both faces are connected, forming a single hafting aid. Some types feature a side loop to further assist hafting) find of Bronze Age date	E:337260 N:504630	Bronze Age
3134	Horrax's Mill, Stock Beck	Bobbin Mill	Site of a bobbin mill (a mill manufacturing bobbins for the textile industry) of Post Medieval date. Horrax's Mill is a 4-storey building with a large wheelpit inside the south end wall abutting the beck. The original dam is still in situ. It was already flourishing in 1839 and was one of the most important mills in south Westmorland. Most of the bobbin machinery was sold in 1964. Some of the mill has been converted to holiday flat. Recorded by Davies-Shiel as a bobbin mill and a fulling mill	E:338000 N:504600	Post Medieval
17174	Bridge House Sawmill	Saw Mill	Bridge House Sawmill lies beside Stock Ghyll not far from Bridge House. It seems to be the same mill which is marked on Hodgson's Map of 1828. Saw pits are marked beside it on the OS 6" 1 st Edition map of Westmorland. A weir, probably for this mill, is marked on the 1 st Edn at NY3763-0458	E:337595 N:504645	Post Medieval
17175	Ambleside Quarries	Quarry	Ambleside Quarries lie on the south side of Ambleside	E:337815 N:504290	Post Medieval
17266	Nook Lane Quarries	Quarry	Nook Lane Quarries lay near Nook Lane at the north side of Ambleside	E:337745 N:505500	Post Medieval
17273	Scandale Bridge	Bridge	Scandale Bridge crosses Scandale Beck on the north side of Ambleside. See the OS 6" 1 st Edition map of Westmorland	E:337180 N:505145	Post Medieval
30656	Potash Kiln, Thistly Wood	Potash Kiln	Site of a potash kiln (a kiln used for the slow burning of vegetable matter to produce potassium carbonate) of unknown date	E:338110 N:505000	Unknown
30722	Fulling Mill, Scandale Bridge	Fulling Mill	Site of a fulling mill (a mill for beating and cleaning cloth, using	E:337190 N:505090	Unknown

HER No.	Site Name	Monument Type	Description	NGR	Period
			soap or fullers earth)		
30727	Woollen Mill	Woollen Mill	Site of a woollen mill (a mill where short wool was spun into woollen yarn to produce cloth) of unknown date	E:337580 N:504700	Unknown
30728	Cotton Mill, Stock Ghyll Park	Cotton Mill	Site of a cotton mill (usually a cotton spinning factory)	E:338040 N:504530	Unknown
30729	Corn Mill	Corn Mill	Site of a corn mill of unknown date	E:337690 N:504620	Unknown
30730	Fulling Mill, Stock Ghyll	Fulling Mill	Site of a fulling mill of unknown date	E:337930 N:504540	Unknown
30731	Fulling Mill, Stock Ghyll	Fulling Mill	Site of a fulling mill of unknown date	E:337840 N:504560	Unknown
30732	Tannery	Tannery	Site of a tannery (a manufacturing complex where the hides of animals re turned into leather) of unknown date	E:337600 N:504500	Unknown
33556	Stock Beck Flax Mill	Flax Mill	One of the many mills of the town of Ambleside, this has been recorded as a flax mill (for the northern half of the building) and since converted into a house; the southern half of the mill was previously a woollen mill and has since been converted to a restaurant. The mill building is the lowest of the town and has a specific mill leat leading to it, abstracting the water from elsewhere. The extant building is recorded as Post Medieval but the site may have earlier origins	E:337048 N:503996	Post Medieval

Table 2: *Listed Buildings Sites within the 0.5 km radius around the site boundary*

Site Name	Description and Grade	Approximate Date
2-11 Church Street	Terrace of late 17 th century cottages, roughcast over stone rubble, flag roofs stepped down the hill, 2 low storeys. Grade II	Late 17 th century
Old Stamp House, Church Street	Corner of Church Street and Lake Road, mid 19 th century, stuccoed, slate roof, 2 storeys. Grade II	Mid 19 th century
Premises occupied by T & J Glen, Church Street	Built on hillside in irregular plan, probably 18 th century, 2 storeys. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
Royal Oak Hotel, Church Street	Corner of Church Street and Lake Road, late 17 th century and later. Roughcast stone rubble, slate roof, two low storeys. Grade II	Late 17 th century and later
The Little Bookshop, 1 Cheapside	Roughcast stone walls and slate roof, 4 storeys. Grade II	18 th century
2 Cheapside	Adjoins No.1 but on a lower level. Grade II	18 th century
3 & 4 Cheapside	Stone, 3 storeys. Grade II	18 th century
2 & 3 Bridge Street	Two cottages which continue the rear wing of Stock Cottage on North Road. Probably 18 th century, 2 storeys, local stone. Grade II	18 th century
4 Bridge Street	Set on the river bank opposite the Old Mill Studios and was once probably a mill building. Roughcast slate building, mainly 3 storeys. Grade II	No date given
5 & 6 Bridge Street	Now 2 cottages, originally a low wing at uppermost level of No.4. Grade II	No date given
Ghyll Side, Bridge Street	Probably 18 th century, white-washed stone rubble, irregular plan. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
Old Mill Studios, Bridge Street	Probably 18 th century, built on the rock of the river bed. Slate rubble with slate quoins and slate roof with deeply overhanging eaves. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
Stock Cottage, North Road	Colour-washed stone rubble walls with slate roof, 2 storeys. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
Ash Tree Cottage, Chapel Hill	Very thick walls of stone rubble, slate roof, 2 low storeys. Grade II	Possibly 16 th century
Chapel Hill House, Chapel Hill	Formerly known as St Anne's Church. Built as a church in 1812, now a private house. Stone rubble, slate roof. Grade II	19 th century
Old School House, Chapel Hill	No's 1 -5. Barn attached to old School House. Once a manor house now divided internally into 4 tenements. Grade II	Probably mid-17 th century
Raesbeck, Fair View Road	Raesbeck, Little Beck, Ashton Cottage. Small stone cottages with old flag roofs. Grade II	Late 17 th century
The Cottage, Fair View Road	No's 3 to 6, row of cottages in a terrace up the hill. 'The Cottage' has dry slate walls, the others are now colour-washed. All are of two storeys. Grade II	No date given
Bridge House, Rydal Road	Late 17 th /early 18 th century. National Trust property. The minute house was built to link the house and gardens of the former hall with the orchards on the other side of the stream, and the house was built on top of the bridge as a summer house. Tiny square rubble house with slate roof and small chimney, 2 very low storeys, 1 tiny room each floor at each side (facing the stream) with timber lintels and slate sills. Grade I	Late 17 th /early 18 th century
Mill Cottage, Rydal Road	On the stream to the north of Bridge House. Slate rubble with slate quoins, 3 storeys. Grade II	Early 19 th century

Site Name	Description and Grade	Approximate Date
Corbrig, Rydal Road	Pair of houses to south-west of Bridge House. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
North Syke, North Road (off)	A small cottage dated 1741 I and MB. White-washed stone rubble, slate roof, two very low storeys. Grade II	18 th century
1-3 Smithy Brow	Cement-rendered over stone rubble, flag roof with 3 slate chimneys, 2 storeys. Grade II	No date given
Golden Rule Hotel, Smithy Brow	Circa 1683, 2 storeys, pebble-dashed over stone rubble, slate roof. Grade II	17 th century
North View, Smith Brow	Sited in front of The Old House and at right angles to it, lime-washed roughcast over stone rubble on front façade. Grade II	No date given
The Old House, Smithy Brow	Roughcast over stone rubble, flag roof, 2 low storeys. Grade II	Probably early 18 th century
The Haven, The Green	Detached house on a corner, roughcast over stone rubble. Grade II	No date given
1-4 Tom Fold	Row of small cottages probably 18 th century. Grade II	Probably 18 th century
Kirkstone Foot Cottage, Tom Fold	Cottage adjoining Kirkstone Foot Cottage, 3 adjoining cottages of dry stone rubble and 2 storeys. Grade II	No date given
Nook End Farmhouse and attached arm building, Nook Lane	Late 17 th century, roughcast over stone rubble, flag roof, 2 storeys. Grade II	Late 17 th century
Scale How (part of Charlotte Mason College), Nook Lane	Early 19 th century, scored stucco with stone quoins, moulded eaves with dentils, 3 storeys Grade II	Early 19 th century
Cross in front of the Salutation Inn, Rydal Road	Date uncertain, octagonal stone shaft (head broken off) set on new stone steps. Grade II	Unknown
Church of St Mary	By Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in Early Decorated Style. Grade B	1850-54
Premises occupied by Browns Booking Office, Market Place	Low proportions, 2 storeys. Grade II	18 th century

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context Number	Category	Trench	Above	Below	Interpretation
100	Deposit	1	101	/	Tarmac Surface
101	Deposit	1	102	100	Hardcore Packing
102	Deposit	1	103	101	Modern Backfill
103	Structure	1	/	102	Modern Soak-away
104	Deposit	2	105	/	Topsoil
105	Deposit	2	106	104	Subsoil
106	Deposit	2	107	105	Fluvial Silt
107	Deposit	2	/	106	River Gravel

Table 3: *Context Index*

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES



North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
2009

PROJECT: Mill Cottage, Ambleside
 SCALE: 1:50 000 at A4
 REPORT No: CP905/09
 CLIENT: Kim Tullett
 DRAWN BY: FW
 DATE: April 2009
 FIGURE: 1

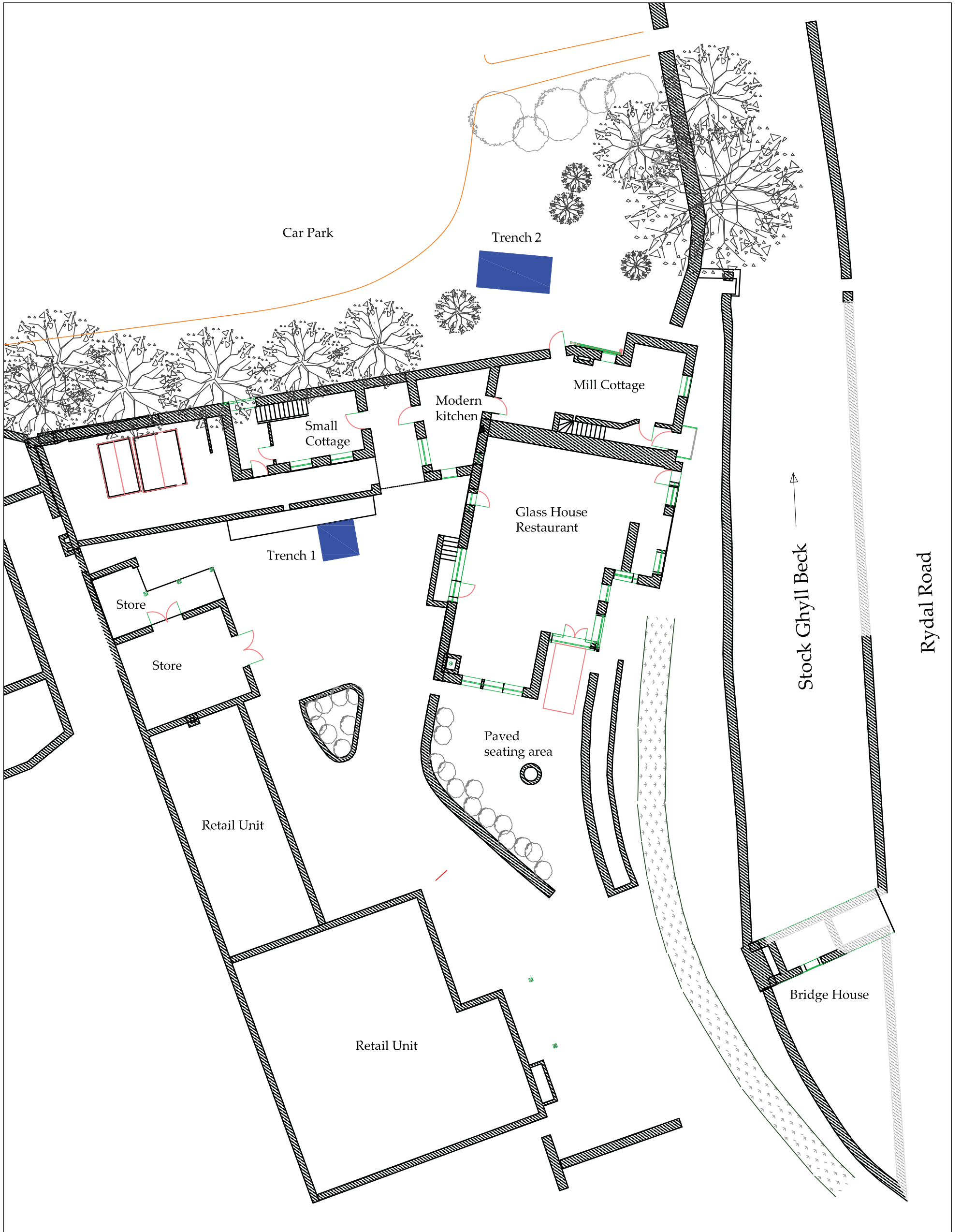
KEY:

 Site Location



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Figure 1 : Site Location






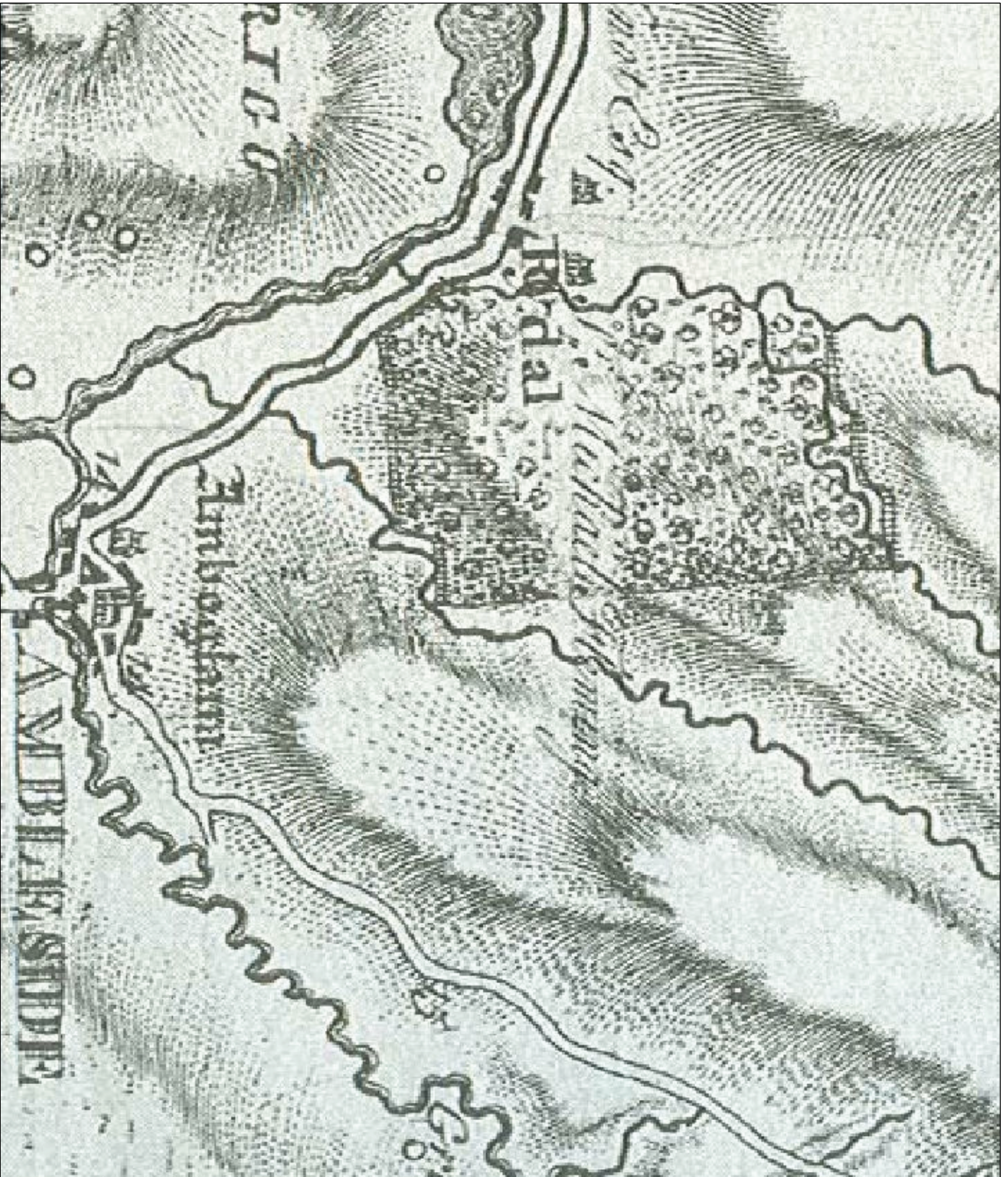
 <p>North Pennines Archaeology Ltd 2009</p>	<p>PROJECT: Mill Cottage, Ambleside SCALE: 1:200 at A3 REPORT No: CP905/09 CLIENT: Kim Tullett DRAWN BY: FW/DJ DATE: May 2009 FIGURE: 2</p>	 <p>Trench locations</p>	 <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100014732.</p>
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Figure 2 : Site & Trench Location Plan



North Pennines Archaeology Ltd

2009

Mill Cottage, Ambleside

CLIENT:

Kim Tullett

SCALE:

Not to Scale

DRAWN BY: FW

DATE: April 2009



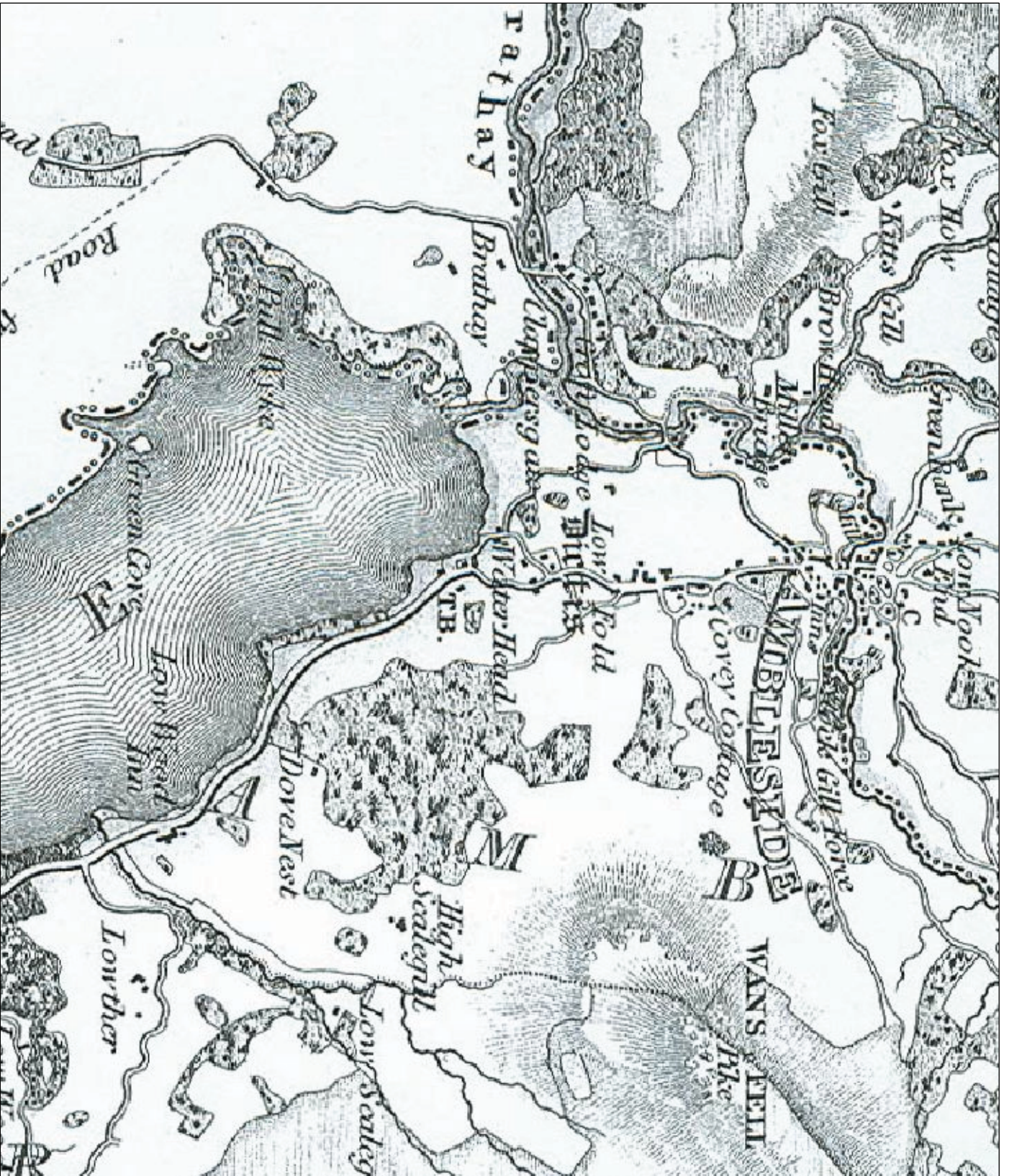
REPORT No:

CP905/09

FIGURE:

3

Figure 3 : Extract from Thomas Jeffrey's Map of Westmorland 1770



North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
2009

Mill Cottage, Ambleside

CLIENT:

Kim Tullett

SCALE: Not to Scale

DRAWN BY: FW

DATE: April 2009



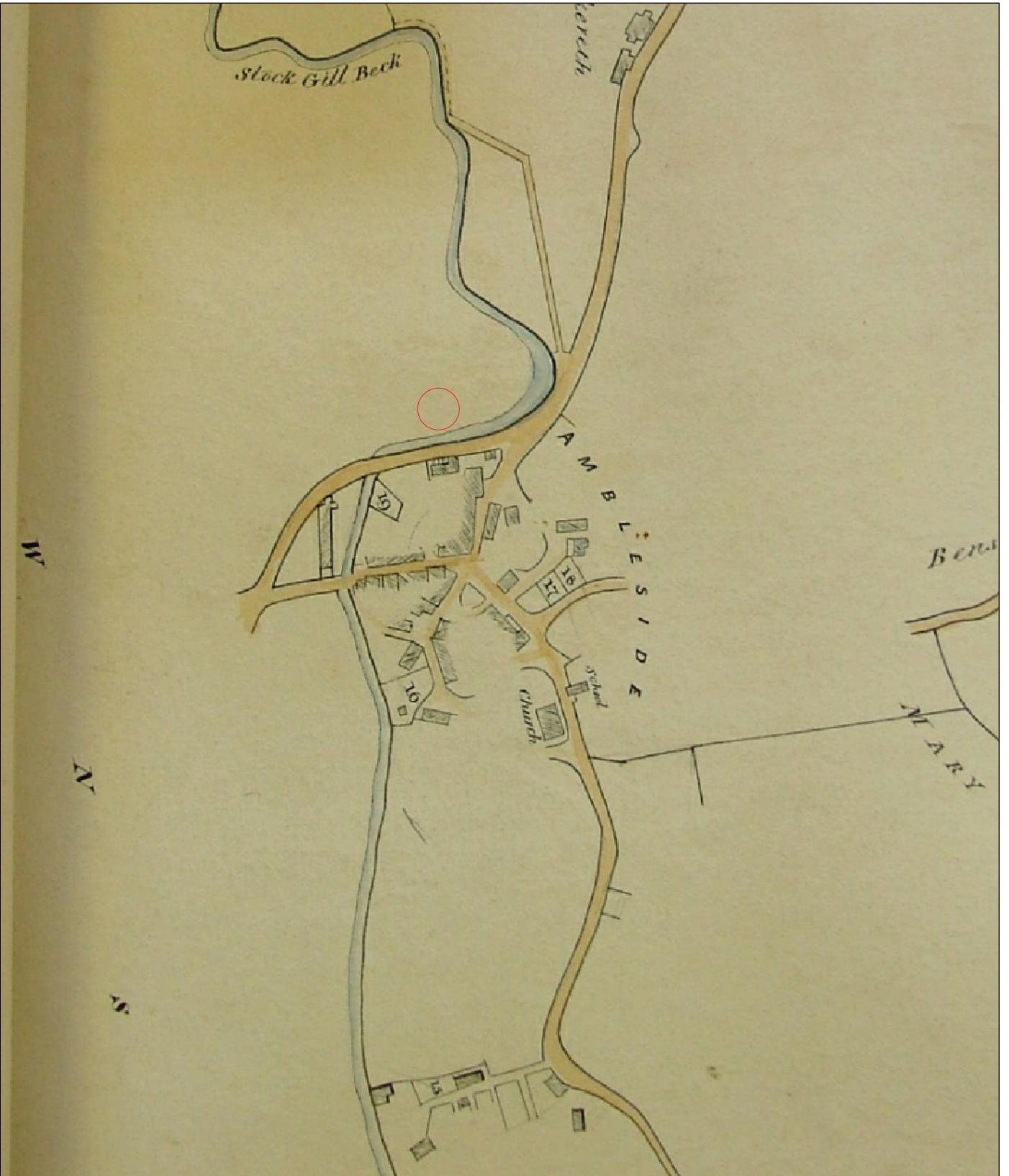
REPORT No:

CP905/09

FIGURE:

4

Figure 4 : Extract from Hodgson's Map of Westmorland 1823 to 1825



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2009
Mill Cottage, Ambleside

CLIENT:
Kim Tullett

SCALE: Not to Scale

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DATE: April 2009

KEY:



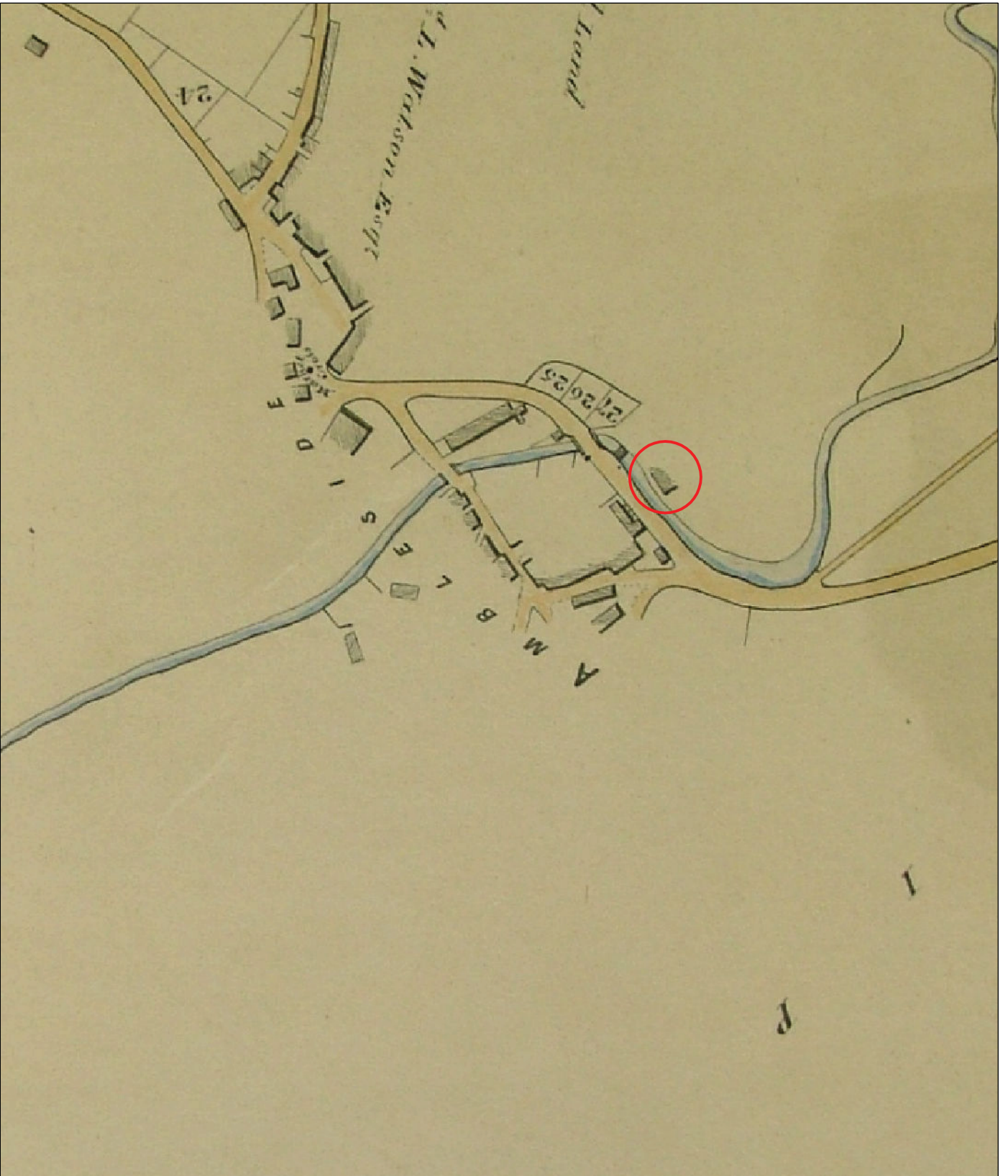
Approximate location of site



REPORT No:
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FIGURE:
5

Figure 5 : Extract from Above Stock Tithes Map 1843



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SCALE: Not to Scale

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DATE: April 2009

KEY:

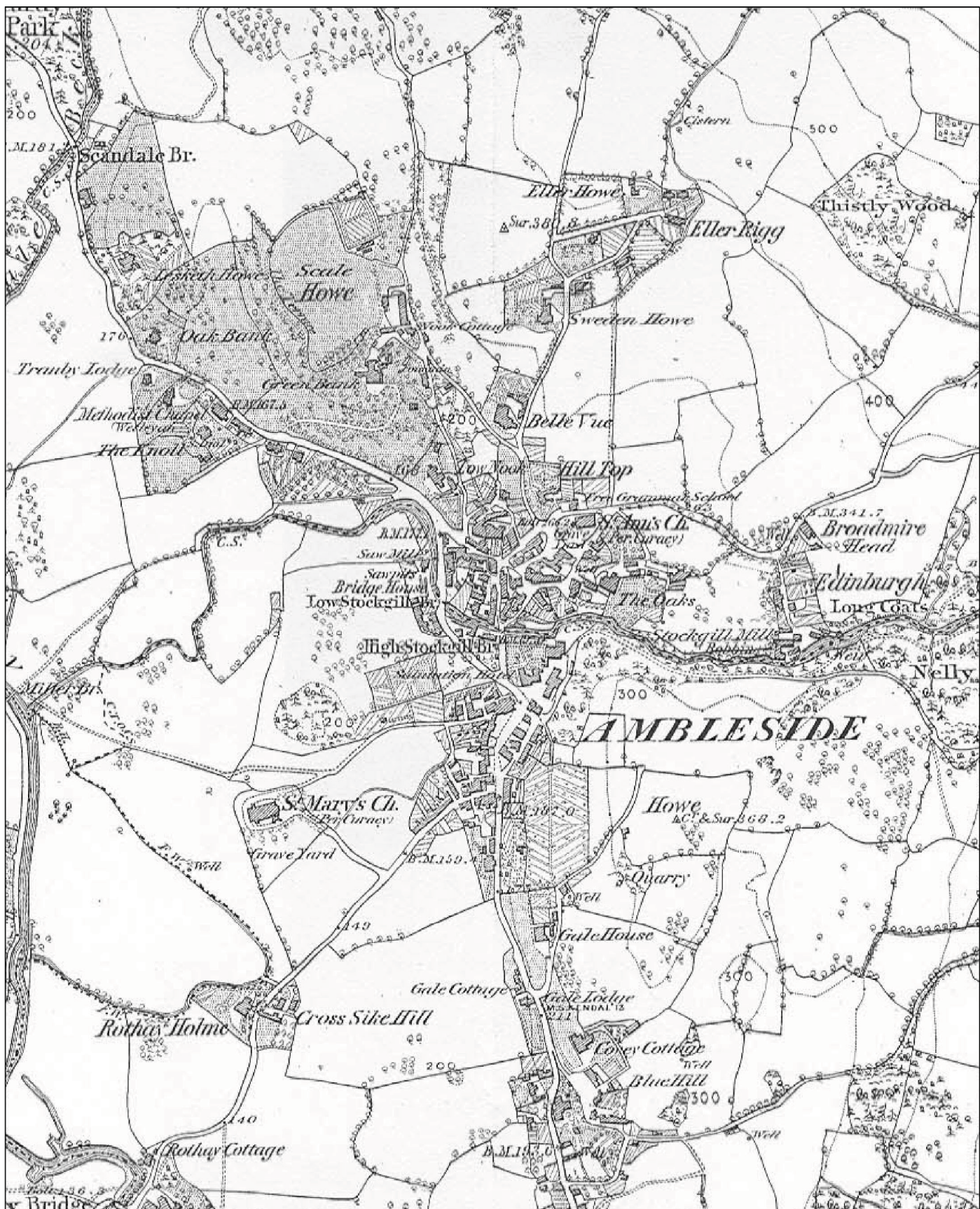
 Site Location



REPORT No:
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FIGURE:
6

Figure 6 : Extract from Below Stock Tithing Map 1838



North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
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PROJECT: Mill Cottage, Ambleside
 SCALE: Not to Scale
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 CLIENT: Kim Tullett
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 DATE: April 2009
 FIGURE: 7



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Figure 7 : First Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1863



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Mill Cottage, Ambleside

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Kim Tullett

SCALE: Not to Scale

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DATE: April 2009

KEY:



Site Location



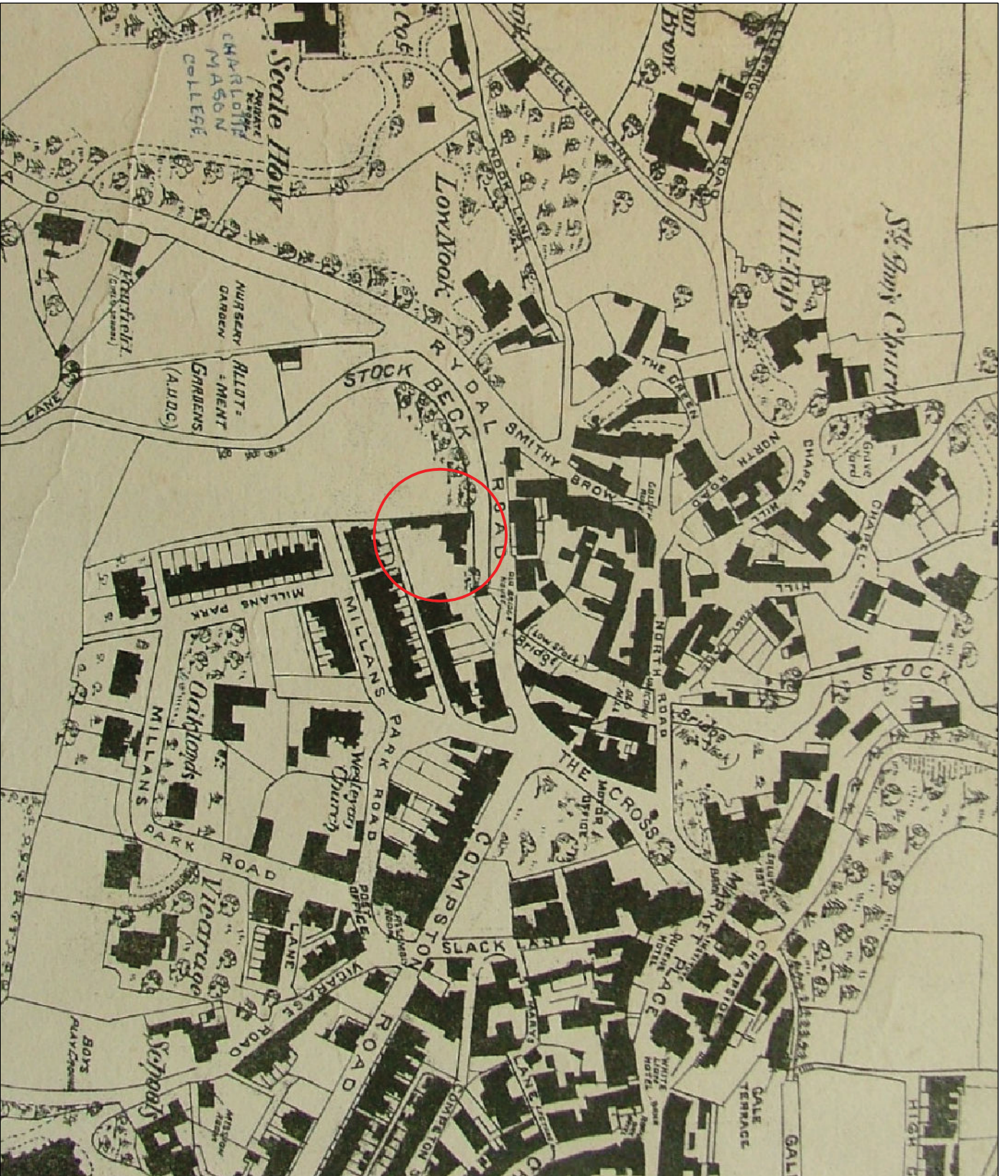
REPORT No:

CP905/09

FIGURE:

8

Figure 8 : First Edition Ordnance Survey Map c.1865 (25" scale)



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Mill Cottage, Ambleside

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SCALE: Not to Scale

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DATE: April 2009

KEY:



Site Location



REPORT No:

CP905/09

FIGURE:

9

Figure 9 : Plan of Ambleside 1906



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Mill Cottage, Ambleside

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SCALE: Not to Scale

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DATE: April 2009

KEY:
 Site Location



REPORT No:
CP905/09

FIGURE:
10

Figure 10 : Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1913 (25" scale)



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SCALE: 1:75 at A4

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DATE: April 2009



REPORT No:
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FIGURE:
11

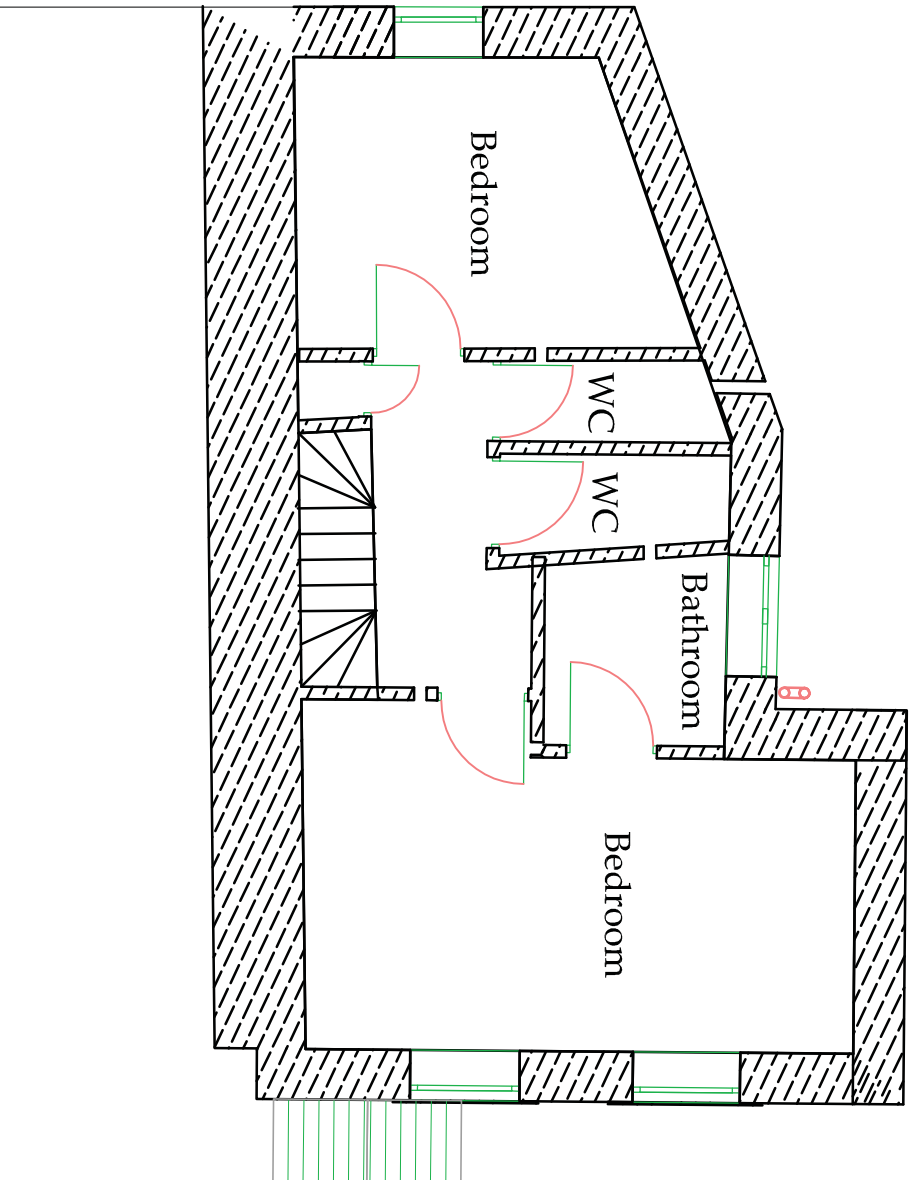
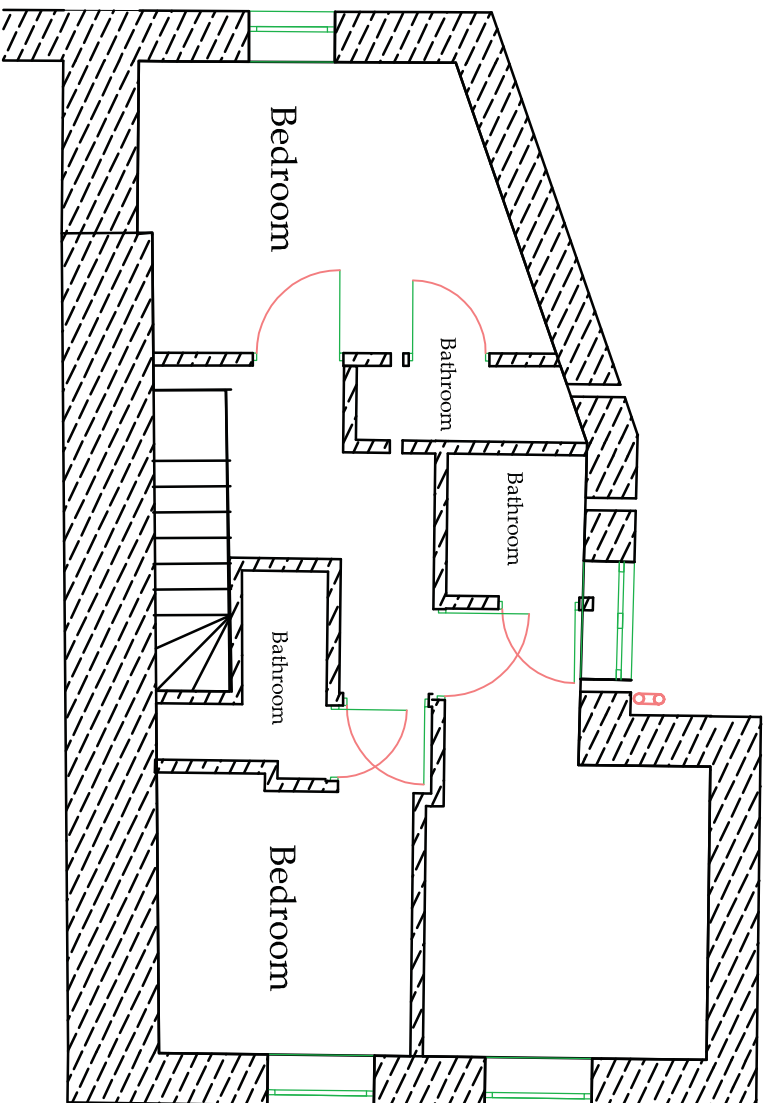


Figure 11 : First Floor Plan of Mill Cottage



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SCALE: 1:75 at A4

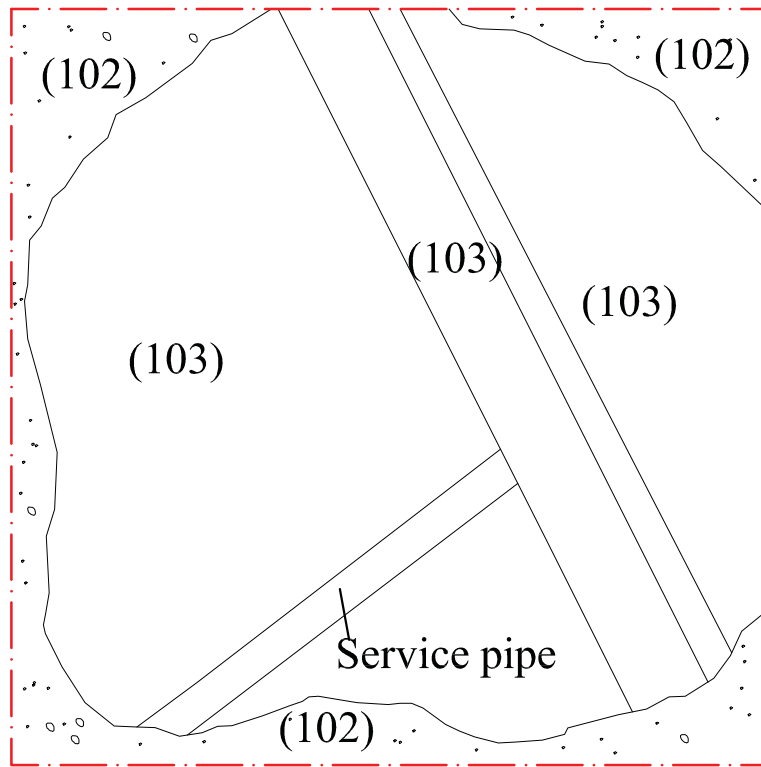
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DATE: April 2009



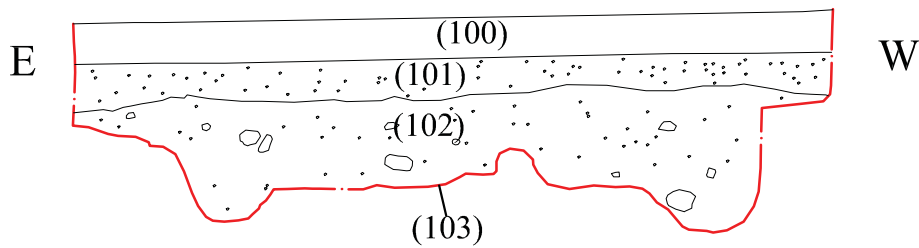
REPORT No:
CP905/09

FIGURE:
12

Figure 12 : Second Floor Plan of Mill Cottage



Plan of Trench 1



North Facing Section of Trench 1



North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
2009

PROJECT: Mill Cottage, Ambleside
 SCALE: 1:20 at A4
 REPORT No: CP/905/09
 CLIENT: Kim Tullet
 DRAWN BY: DJ
 DATE: May 2009
 FIGURE: 13



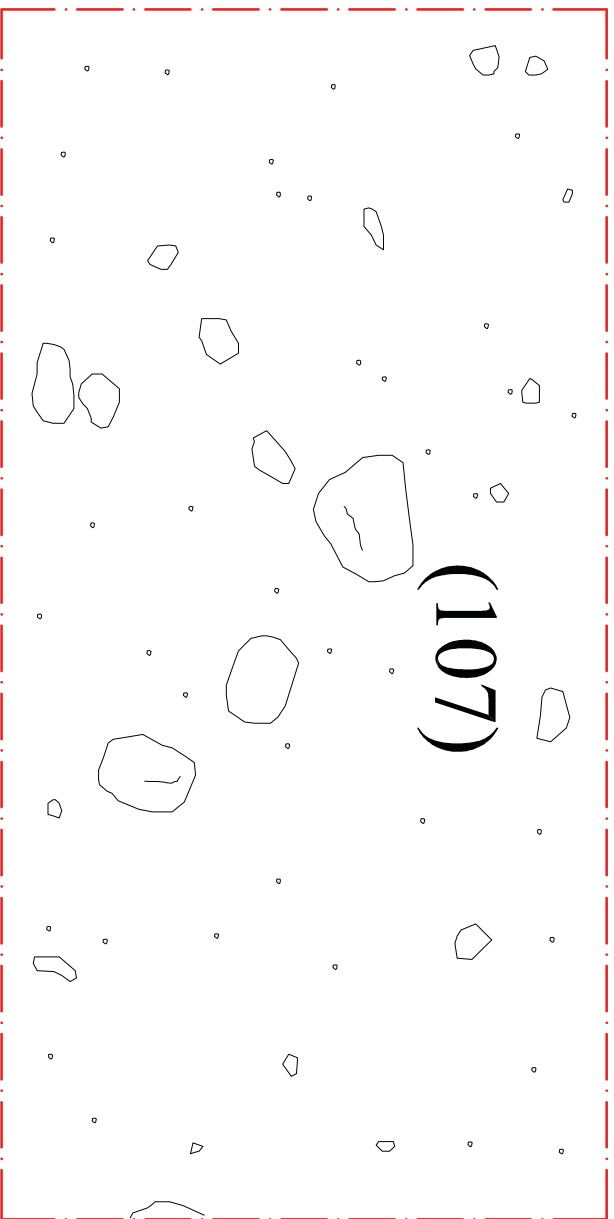
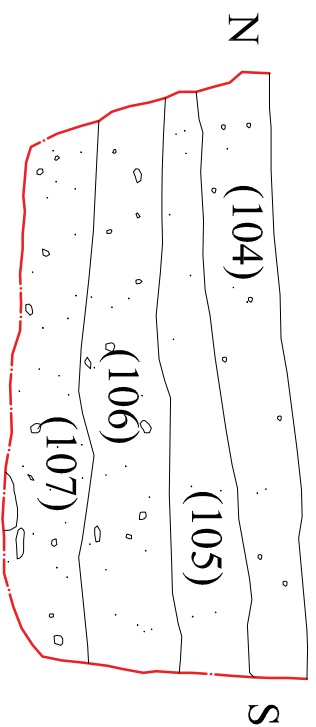
KEY:
 Limit of Excavation
 Context Number



Figure 13: Plan and North Facing Section of Trench 1



Plan of Trench 2



West Facing Section of Trench 2





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2009
Mill Cottage, Ambleside

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Kim Tullet

SCALE: 1:25 at A4

DRAWN BY: DJ
DATE: May 2009

KEY:

-  Limit of Excavation
-  Context Number



REPORT No:
CP/905/09

FIGURE:
14

Figure 14: Plan and West Facing Section of Trench 2