

**CRAIG WOODLAND
CREATION PROJECT,
LANGHOLM,
DUMFRIES AND
GALLOWAY**



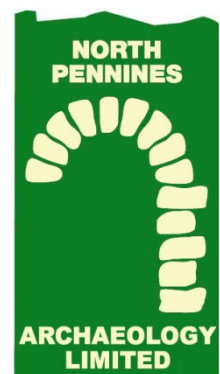
**DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND
WALKOVER SURVEY**

SP. No: 1308/10

16/11/2010

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

In October 2010, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Edwin Thompson Chartered Surveyors, to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey of Craig Hill, Langholm, Dumfries and Galloway (NGR NY 330 882). This work will be used in support of a planning application for the creation of a woodland in the area of Craig Hill and Black Knowe.

The survey area is located within the vicinity of a number of features, including two Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Craig Hill and Little Hill, and prehistoric burnt mounds. There are also records of an old field bank adjacent to the road as well as the yet unconfirmed route of the Roman Road on the eastern slope of Craig Hill. In the 1980s the RCAHMS surveyed the area, however they were selective in what was recorded.

As a result of this archaeological potential, and in accordance with guidance given in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 (Archaeology and Planning), Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service recommended that an archaeological walkover survey be carried out in order to locate and confirm recorded sites. An archaeological desk-based assessment was also recommended in order to inform the walkover survey.

The desk-based assessment involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources in the Ewart Library Local Studies Library and the consultation of the Dumfries and Galloway Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Dumfries. The HER includes the locations and settings of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and other, non-designated archaeological remains. In addition, the holdings at Langholm Local Library were also referred to. A number of published sources and several relevant web sites were also consulted to provide background information.

The desk-based assessment has shown that the area of land between Black Knowe and Craig Hill is known to have been a focus of prehistoric activity. The land within the site boundary has remained largely undeveloped throughout the course of history, mainly being used as grazing land and in more recent times as small-scale quarries.

The archaeological walkover survey recorded 14 sites, 11 of which were identified from early cartographic sources, one site that was recorded during a 2007 archaeological walkover survey, and two previously unrecorded sites.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Edwin Thompson, Chartered Surveyors, for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Jane Brann, Archaeology Officer and Andrew Nicholson, Historic Environment Record Officer, both with Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service and staff at the Ewart Local Studies Library and the Langholm Library for all their assistance throughout the project.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Jocelyn Strickland. The archaeological walkover survey was conducted by Angus Clark and Jocelyn Strickland. The report was written, and the drawings were produced, by Jocelyn Strickland. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Project Manager for NPA Ltd, who also edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPA) in response to an outline brief provided by the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service. This report will be used in support of a planning application for the creation of a new woodland.
- 1.1.2 The project comprised two distinct phases of investigation: a search of both published and unpublished records and an archaeological walkover survey. A search was made of records held by the Historic Environment Record (HER) at Dumfries and Galloway Council, the Ewart Library Local Studies Reference Collection, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and libraries in the vicinity holding local historical information. The aims of the walkover survey were to identify any previously unrecorded surface archaeological features and to make an assessment of the condition of individual historic features.
- 1.1.3 The principal objective of this assessment was to undertake sufficient work in order to identify and characterise the archaeological constraints associated with the development area. This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake a desk-based assessment and an archaeological walkover survey, of land between Craig Hill and Black Knowe, Langholm, Dumfries and Galloway (NGR NY 330 882). All work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists, as set out in Standard and Guidance For Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments (IfA 2008) and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted in order to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site.

2.2.2 The desk-based assessment included the following:

- the collation and assessment of any relevant information held in the Dumfries and Galloway Historic Environment Record (HER) in order to identify important sites and to assess the potential of known sites;
- the consultation of documentary collections including trade directories, miscellaneous records, and histories;
- an assessment of relevant published sources including articles in national, regional and local journals;
- an assessment of relevant unpublished documents including, where appropriate, reports compiled by heritage conservation professionals and student theses;
- collation and assessment of cartographic information relevant to the area in order to identify historical land use, boundaries, trackways and early buildings and to provide an assessment of potential extent of disturbance to the archaeological resource caused by intrusive features;
- an assessment of the topography of the area through maps to assess the archaeological potential of areas not identified through the Historic Environment Record, and to determine any constraints to archaeological site survival;

- the assessment of all available aerial photographs that show the proposed development area.

2.2.3 The study area consisted of a broad overall history of this area of Langholm, with an additional detailed 1.5 kilometre radius, centred on the proposed development area, which was studied in more depth. This radius is distinct from the site boundary, which only refers to the area of the proposed development. The principal sources of information were the Historic Environment Record (HER), historical maps and secondary sources. The following resources were consulted:

- *Historic Environment Record*: the HER, a database of archaeological sites within the county was accessed. This was in order to obtain information on the location of all designated sites and areas of historic interest and any other, non-designated sites within the study area, which included monuments, findspots, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. A brief record including grid reference and description was obtained for the various sites within the study area, and are listed in *Appendix 1*;
- *Ewart Library Local Studies Reference Collection*: the archives at Ewart Library were searched for information on the study area. In particular, the First, Second, Third and Fourth Editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping were checked, and a search was made of the local history books and pamphlets held within their collections;
- *Langholm Library*: the collection of historical engravings, plans, local history books, pamphlets and photographs held within the local studies section of Langholm Library was consulted for any relevant information regarding this area of Langholm;
- *Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)*: the RCAHMS maintains extensive and detailed holdings on the historic environment of Scotland. CANMORE, an archive and database maintained by RCAHMS, forms a record of the historical environment in Scotland that was also accessed during this project. Aerial photographs of the area were also held within the RCAHMS and studied in order to identify the presence or absence of any archaeological remains within or near the vicinity of the study area;
- *Online Sources*: an online search was undertaken of records held by the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), managed by York University to look at sites within a wider search radius.

2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WALKOVER SURVEY

2.3.1 The objectives of the archaeological walkover survey were to:

- identify and record the nature and extent of any archaeological remains known to exist within the site boundary;
- identify and record any unknown archaeological features that may be encountered during the walkover survey;
- to recommend, in conjunction with the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service, further archaeological mitigation, if necessary.

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2007). Copies of the report will be sent to the Dumfries and Galloway Council HER, where viewing will be available upon request.

2.4.2 North Pennines Archaeology supports the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project under the unique identifier **northpen3-84718**.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 The proposed woodland site consists of 185 hectares (ha) of land located to the northwest of Langholm and the A7. Craig Hill is situated on the southern side of the River Esk and consists mostly of undeveloped, open grazing land. The height of the proposed woodland site varies between 150 to 310m AOD (Figures 1 and 2).
- 3.1.2 The solid geology of the area consists of sedimentary shales, siltstone, sandstone and impure limestone of the Silurian period. The solid geology was modified by glacial action during the last glaciation when Dumfries and Galloway was covered by southern upland ice. The predominant underlying geology of the area is of stony, loamy drift over higher elevations with clay till in the valleys. The high rainfall and humidity in the area is conducive to peat growth, with peat being extracted above Langholm (Land Use Consultants 1998).

3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 *Introduction:* this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area. The location of known sites within and immediately around the site boundary that may be impacted on are depicted in Figures 3 and 8 and summarised in Appendix 1.
- 3.2.2 *Prehistoric:* the earliest evidence of prehistoric activity within the immediate area of the site boundary was dated to the Bronze Age in the form of a cist found on Carlesgill Farm in 1862 (NGR NY 330 880). There was evidence that this was once an interment, however no remains were found within the cist. The cist was constructed of local stone and contained the only Food Vessel known from a cist burial in Eastern Dumfriesshire (Hyslop and Hyslop 1912, RCAHMS 2007). Other evidence of Bronze Age activity was from the numerous burnt mounds within the area. Burnt mounds have become one of the most common types of monument encountered by survey. These are generally thought to be cooking places with the majority dating to the Bronze Age. Burnt mounds have been found at Craigcleuch (NY 3430 8655), two at Craig Burn (NY 3240 8691 and 3256 8712) and Green Sike (NY 3394 8623). Specifically within the site boundary were the two burnt mounds found at Craig Burn (HER Reference # MDG10328 and MDG10329, Figure 3 Sites 9-10). These burnt mounds could not be identified at the time of the walkover survey and may have been ploughed out or truncated when plantations were planted.

- 3.2.3 There were two Iron Age forts located within close vicinity to the site boundary. Little Hill (HER # MDG 7953, Site 1) was one of the biggest forts recorded in Eskdale, and Craig Hill (HER # MDG7951, Site 7) one of the smallest, located 250 metres southwest of Little Hill. It is thought that the two forts were not contemporary. The fort at Little Hill encloses the summit of a low hill in the bottom of the valley. It was the only fort in Eastern Dumfriesshire where vitrification has been recorded; several shallow house platforms also survive within the interior. The vitrification recorded here indicates that the rampart was constructed with an internal timber framework. The timbers caught fire and with the intense heat stones in the core of the rampart fused together. There were a further six later prehistoric defended settlements within the vicinity of the survey area: Clark Fell (NY 348 864), Burnfoot Hill (NY 3347 8886), Burnfoot (NY 3366 8891), Golf Hill (NY 3464 8815 and NY 3476 8825), and one at Craighcleugh (NY 3450 8722) (*ibid*); however, none were located within the site boundary.
- 3.2.4 The *Statistical Accounts* of 1791-99 state that on land between the Esk and the Megget, on part of Westerker Farm, a stone circle was present (Little 1791).
- 3.2.5 *Romano-British*: the Romans invasion of Southern Scotland began in 80 AD as Agricola pushed northwards. Fortification continued in this period, with a network of roads being built to connect the Roman forts. It is said that a Roman road (HER # MDG11257, Site 3) ascended the valley of the River Esk that connected the Roman fort of Netherby with that at Broomholm; however, no traces of this road have been found (Land Use Consultants 1998). It is thought that the course of the road would have been located on the left bank of the river within the narrow middle reaches of the valley.
- 3.2.6 The *Statistical Accounts* of 1791-1799 stated that there were a number of Roman outstations within Westerkirk Parish, along the banks of the River Esk (Little 1791).
- 3.2.7 In 1912 Hyslop wrote that to the north of Netherby Roman occupation was entirely military and only in a few instances was there evidence of a permanent or civil settlement, not so much as a bath, villa or inscribed altar had been found within Eskdale (Hyslop and Hyslop 1912). Jobey also noted that there was an absence of known Romano-British homesteads and settlements in Eastern Dumfriesshire - especially when compared to the numerous sites in the uplands and to the east in the Tyne-Forth Province. He suggested that this might be attributed to the difference in building materials used in this area (Jobey 1974).

- 3.2.8 Within the valleys of Eastern Dumfriesshire are a number of small, embanked enclosures with scooped interiors located in river terraces or hillslopes. These were referred to as *barrens* or *burians* in the *Dumfries Inventory*, and were thought to be of medieval origin or later, possibly used as corrals for cattle during the times of border conflict. In 1971 these various earthworks were re-surveyed and it became apparent that many of these embanked and scooped enclosures contained round, timber built houses with some of them possessing frontal yards. One such structure was recorded at Boonies, one kilometre west of Bentpath. Analysis of this area revealed that throughout its length of occupation, much of the time the site was a homestead consisting of only one house. The site at Boonies is important as it revealed that there was settlement within this area within the Roman period. This site also suggested that there was no evidence of change in building materials from timber to stone and that the scarcity of stone-built houses is possibly due to the plentiful supply of timber in the area and the comparative unsuitability of the locally available greywacke stone as a material for dry-stone buildings (*ibid*). Although there are no known finds within the survey area that date to the Roman period, it needs to be taken into consideration that timber structures from this period may have been more proficient in the area.
- 3.2.9 *Early Medieval*: early medieval occupation of the area is evident reflected in the place names of the surrounding area. Westerkirk was originally recorded as *Watsterker* in 1322. This is derived from three Norse words *Wat-ster-ker* meaning stronghold in a cleared space. From the end of the 13th century to the middle of the 17th century the name of the parish was *Westerker*. It is thought that the parish takes its name from Westerkirk mains, a farm about a mile from the present church, originally known as *Westerker* (Robertson-McIssac 1967). Although it has also been suggested that the name originated from the Gaelic *Caer* meaning fortlet which was allegedly located on the Megget, but it has also been said that the place-name is derived as it was the most westerly of the five kirks of Eskdale that belonged to Melrose Abbey (Green 1834).
- 3.2.10 Craig is a Gaelic root meaning a rock. Nearby Carlesgill may originate from the Gaelic *Caer* or from *carle* meaning a man of low social class or a husbandman. Although it is thought that it is most probably derived from *Carl*, the name of a Scottish hero and *-gil* meaning a ravine (Hyslop and Hyslop 1912). This first appeared within the historical record as *Carlowsgyl* in the 1376 *Registrum de Morton* (Johnson-Ferguson 1935).
- 3.2.11 *Medieval*: in the 4th and 5th centuries Christianity arrived in Scotland at Whithorn on the Solway Coast. During the 6th century the Parish of *Westerker* belonged to the community of Whithorn.

- 3.2.12 At the end of the conquest (1066), grants of land in Eskdale were made by King David and given to his Norman allies. The valley came under the jurisdiction of different landowning Barons, one of the baronies being Westerkirk (Robertson-McIssac 1967).
- 3.2.13 During the reign of Edward I Eskdale land, that included Westerkirk, was considered to be part of England. The lands were later recognised as included in the lands of the Melrose monks therefore belonging to Scotland (*ibid*).
- 3.2.14 Langholm, meaning the 'long holm,' first appears within the historical record in 1249 in the Kelso Charters as *Langeholme*. It then appears in the *Registrum de Morton* (1376) as *Langholme* (Johnson-Ferguson 1935). In 1260 Sir William de Kunyburg of Staplegortoun granted a carucate of land in *Langholme* to Herbert de Maxwell. This land was resigned to Sir John of Lyndsay in 1281. In 1465 the Battle of Arkinholm was fought on the land that is now occupied by the town. During the battle the army of the Earl of Douglas, known as the Black Douglas, was defeated by the Royal forces under the command of the Earl of Angus, also known as the Red Douglas (Gilchrist 1969).
- 3.2.15 *Post-medieval to Modern*: the ruins of Langholm Castle stood at the meeting of the Ewes and Esk. This was a very important location during the 16th century as it was located at the junction of the routes into Eskdale, Ewesdale and Wauchopdale. The origin of the castle is unknown; however, one of the towers may have been built by the Armstrong clan in the beginning of the 16th century. In 1544 the castle was seized by Lord Wharton and held by the English until 1547 when it was recaptured by the Scottish. In 1581 the castle was burned by the Armstrongs (*ibid*). Another indication of continuous border warfare is the mention of stone peel towers in the parish of Bombie, Watsterker, and Bankburnfoot (Robertson-McIssac 1967).
- 3.2.16 In 1621 a charter was granted to a Lord Maxwell giving him the lands of Langholm, Ewesdale and Wauchopdale, as well as the rights to build a public hall and market cross and hold two fairs annually. In 1628 Maxwell granted some of his land to family, where he stipulated that they had to build '*a sufficient stone house on the forestreet, builded [sic] with stone and lyme, of two houses height at least, containing 40 foot within the walls of length, 18 foot of breadth, 12 foot of height.*' With this example of town planning, Langholm came into existence as a town (Gilchrist 1969).
- 3.2.17 In 1791 the Parish of Westerkirk consisted of 27,307 acres of which a twentieth was arable. The surrounding area was described as '*hilly; and the hills in general are high. Some of them are covered with heath, but they are mostly*

green and dry, and afford excellent pasture for sheep' (Little 1791). At this time there were 27 farms listed within the parish. There were a total of 16 stone bridges within the parish. These were mostly built on a small scale, none of them having more than one arch, with the exception of the bridge near the parish church that contained three arches. Five of the bridges were located over burns on the south side of the River Esk, while ten were located on the north side of the river. In 1775 Sir James Johnstone built a bridge over the Esk at Langholm, providing the tenants of Westerkirk Parish easy access to the lime kilns and coal fields in Cannobie. The 1791 *Statistical Accounts* also stated that Westerkirk Parish was much more wooded "fifty years ago", although there was still a quantity of natural wood along the banks of the Esk as well as the thriving plantations on Craigs Estate (*ibid*).

- 3.2.18 The description of Westerkirk Parish had changed little by the time of the 1834-1845 *Statistical Accounts* of the Parish. An antimony mine, the only one in Britain at the time, that was discovered at Glendinning in 1760 was mentioned. This mine was regularly worked from 1793 to 1798, producing 100 tons of antimony. It was stated that since 1793 great improvements to agriculture had been accomplished. This was achieved by draining pasture ground and building dykes that resulted in drying of the sheep walks as well as affording shelter that prevented certain diseases.
- 3.2.19 In 1955 Westerkirk Parish was linked with the Parish of Ewes and in 1968 formed a triple linkage with Langholm (Beattie 1900).

4 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The assessment results are based on primary documents, most notably historical maps, and on the secondary sources that are referred to in Section 3.2 above. The results are presented according to the archive from which they were consulted. There were 11 HER records for the study area defined as a 1.5 kilometre radius, centred on the proposed development area. A list of the HER sites identified by the assessment is given in Appendix 1 and illustrated in Figure 3.

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)

4.2.1 *HER*: there were a total of 11 HER records within the study area (defined as a 1.5 kilometre radius around the site). Of these, four were prehistoric, one was Roman in date, one post-medieval, and the remaining five modern in date.

4.2.2 *Listed Buildings*: there were no Listed Buildings within the present site boundary

4.2.3 *Conservation Areas*: the site boundary was not located within a Conservation Area.

4.2.4 *Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)*: there were two Scheduled Ancient Monuments located within the 1.5 kilometre search radius around the site boundary. These were the prehistoric hillforts at Little Hill and Craig Hill, both outside of the site boundary.

4.2.5 *Aerial Photography*: two aerial photographs were housed at the RCAHMS that pertained to the area within the site boundary (Sortie #ASS_622_88 Frames 0103 and 0104). Both of these aerial photographs were of the Whitecleuch Fell area, to the southwest of the site boundary. No earthworks were identified. Satellite imagery from Bing also provided good coverage of this area of Eskdale. This revealed the various sheepfolds within and around the site boundary, however no new earthworks were identified.

4.2.6 *Historic Land Use Assessment*: according to the RCAHMS the majority of the land within the present site boundary had been used as rough grazing/moorland interspersed with woodland ranging in dates from the prehistoric to present. The plantations noted on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping were present from the late 20th century.

4.2.7 *Archaeological Investigations:* In 2007 AOC Archaeology undertook an archaeological walkover survey of the Langholm Pipeline. Here they recorded a turf clad field bank and stone wall on the eastern slope of Craig Hill (AOC Archaeology 2007). This was also noted at the time of the present archaeological walkover survey (Site 33).

4.3 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

4.3.1 A search of maps recording Westerkirk Parish was carried out at Ewart Library. Only those that reveal the area around the development site and of direct relevance have been included (Appendix 2).

4.3.2 *Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland, 1654 (Figure 4):* this early map of the area depicts the *Castle of Langhoome* with a road to the north of this aligned southeast/northwest. To the northwest of Langholm, in the area of the present site boundary, was an area of open and largely undeveloped land. There was a small settlement or farm at *Cairlsgill* (present day Carlesgill).

4.3.3 *Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-1755 (Figure 5):* Roy's map accurately showed roads, rivers, terrain and the location of villages and hamlets. However there was no indication of property ownership and the red dots, used to show man-made structures and buildings, did not necessarily show the number of buildings. Many of the farms and smaller hamlets were missing entirely. The area within the present site boundary was shown as being undeveloped elevated terrain with a road and the River Esk running to the north of it. *Carylesgill* was depicted with two of the red dots, indicating that some structure, most probably a farm house was present at this time.

4.3.4 *Thomson's Atlas of Scotland, 1832 (Figure 6):* Thomson's map shows that there was a road running to the south of the River Esk. The majority of the present survey area was undeveloped. Craig Hill was shown as an elevated area, there was one small building present at Carlesgill and Bombie and Craig. The large Westerkirk Hall was depicted, outside of the site boundary. The area south of Carlesgill was depicted as a wooded area around three tributaries of the River Esk. The remainder of the survey area was open land.

4.3.5 *First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1862 (Figure 7):* the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping shows the survey area in more detail. The remains of settlements on Little Hill and Craig Hill were shown, with a quarry and a trough around Little Hill. On the eastern side of Craig Hill a gravel pit and trough were annotated. Slightly northwest of the trough is an area that appears to have been a quarry. The western aspect of the survey area shows the agricultural nature of the land with the presence of

sheepfolds and shelters. Three springs were also annotated on this mapping. On the west banks of the Craig Burn were two areas that appear as if they may have been quarries. Outside of the present survey area was the Carlesgill area surrounded by Carlesgill Cottage, Camra Cottages, and Craighburn Tile Works (HER # MDG10341, Site 11).

- 4.3.6 *Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1900:* by the time of the Second Edition mapping the area to the northwest of the trough, noted on the First Edition mapping, was now labelled as a quarry. Interestingly Craighcleuch (HER # MDG18364, Site 5) was also built by this time, which was not at the time of the earlier mapping, with a footpath leading from Craighcleuch to this quarry. It is possible that this was the quarry used to build Craighcleuch. The gravel pit and all of the springs annotated on the First Edition mapping, were no longer annotated by this time. Sheepfolds and shelters were still visible on the map as circular or rectangular enclosures but these too were no longer annotated. The remainder of the map retained the same shape as the First Edition mapping.
- 4.3.7 *1957 Ordnance Survey Map:* the 1957 mapping retained the same shape as that of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey mapping.
- 4.3.8 *1983 Ordnance Survey Map:* by the time of the 1983 mapping the quarry connected by a footpath to Craighcleuch was marked as disused, and the trough to the south was no longer present. Sheepfolds and shelters were once again annotated and retained the same shape as on previous mappings. The main difference between this mapping and all of the previous Ordnance Survey mappings can be seen in the western aspect of the survey area where three quarries were now in existence. This mapping also marked the location of fords that crossed tributaries of the Partridge Gill and Craig Burn. A few plantations had also been planted within and around the present survey area.

5 WALKOVER SURVEY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 A walkover survey was undertaken by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd over October 25th-27th, 2010. The survey area was systematically walked in transects, the widths of which were determined by visibility, terrain, safety considerations and archaeological sensitivity. The survey covered the whole of the proposed planting area. In addition, any sites lying within the survey area uncovered by the desk-based research were assessed as to their visible survival. A photographic record was made using digital photography.
- 5.1.2 A Thales Mobile Mapper handheld GPS was used in order to obtain the coordinates of the individual sites as well as an elevation. There was, on average, a six metre margin of error from the handheld GPS.
- 5.1.3 For purposes of this report and for easier understanding of the analysis of the archaeological walkover survey, the area is referred to as separate compartments of land. Compartment 1 refers to the eastern most aspect of the survey area, directly west of the A7, southwest of the Craig Hill prehistoric settlement and northwest of the Little Hill prehistoric settlement. Compartment 2 is the largest area of land within the survey area due south of Carlesgill Farm, that is located around the Craig Burn, and Compartment 3 is the westernmost aspect of the survey area located just south of the Partridge Gill, to the east of Black Knowe and north of Clagberry Hill (Figure 8).
- 5.1.4 The survey area consisted of 185 hectares of open fields used for agricultural grazing. There were areas of newly planted and more mature plantations intermixed with bracken and wild grasses. The Partridge Gill and Craig Burn were located just outside of the survey area, but tributaries of the Craig Burn intersected across the survey area in the west. Aspects of the Coomb Sike and the Redgill Sike were located within Compartments 2 and 3. Most of the waterways were covered by wild grass and bracken and no archaeological features were noted along the course of these waterways. The banks of the Craig Burn were also walked, again without noting any archaeological features.
- 5.1.5 The geography of the site consisted of rolling hills that ranged in elevations from 150m to 290m AOD.

5.2 SURVEY RESULTS

- 5.2.1 During the archaeological walkover survey 11 sites were identified that had been identified on earlier Ordnance Survey mapping, in addition to 3 potential archaeological features that were not depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping. One of these features subsequently turned out to be the turf covered wall identified during a 2007 archaeological walkover survey. The results of the archaeological walkover survey are listed within Appendix A, Table 2, and illustrated in Figure 8.
- 5.2.2 *Site 12*: this site was located at central grid reference NY 32756 87262 within Compartment 2. This site was noted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1862 as a sheep shelter and was still present at the time of the walkover survey as a curvilinear drystone wall, made from locally sourced stone, aligned southeast/northwest. Both termini consisted of tumbled stone that curved toward the south. A more modern wire fence intersected the northeastern aspect of the drystone wall. This sheep shelter measured 36 metres in length, 0.85 metres in width and stood to a height of 1.5 metres (Plate 1).



Plate 1: Site 12, Sheep shelter, looking northeast

- 5.2.3 **Site 13:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32197 86800, within Compartment 2 in a shallow sloped field to the south of the windfarm trackway. This was another sheepfold located on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping, also still present at the time of the walkover survey. This sheepfold was circular in plan with an opening at the southern end. A small windbreak was constructed at the opening that was aligned toward the south. The walls stood at 1.5 metres in height, 0.30 metres wide and measured 12 metres in diameter. The windbreak measured five metres in length. The sheepfold was drystone constructed using local stones (Plate 2).



Plate 2: Site 13, Circular sheepfold, looking northwest, features running parallel across the landscape were watercourses

- 5.2.4 **Site 14:** site 14 was identified as a gravel pit at the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. This site was determined to be just east of the site boundary of Compartment 1.
- 5.2.5 **Site 15:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 34247 87163, within Compartment 1. These quarries were in use at the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping, but not annotated as a quarry until the time of the Second Edition Mapping in 1900. All that was visible of these former quarries were two scars within the slope (Plates 3-4). Bare rock was visible in the landscape that was otherwise covered with bracken and wild grass. At one time this may have been one large quarry but at the time of the walkover survey appeared to be two separate quarries located 10

metres from each other. The larger of the two quarries measured 12 metres in length by eight metres in width and was *c.* 10 metres deep. The second scar, located to the north of the aforementioned scar, measured nine metres in length by five metres wide, also *c.* 10 metres deep.



Plate 3: Site 15, Former quarry, looking west



Plate 4: Site 15, Former quarry, located to the north of one featured in Plate 3, looking west

5.2.6 **Site 16:** this site was identified as a trough on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping and remained so until the 1983 edition when it was no

longer present. At the time of the archaeological walkover survey this feature was no longer present.

- 5.2.7 **Site 17:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32897 86225, not within the site boundary of Compartment 2, but abutting the site boundary. This was a sheepfold annotated on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping that appeared to contain a small structure in the southwestern corner. The rectangular sheepfold measured 41 metres in length and 28 metres wide. This sheepfold had drystone constructed walls that stood at a height of 1.2 metres and 0.45 metres in width. The drystone walls surrounded almost the entire structure with the exception of the western wall where a small area had been replaced by fencing. Internally there was a small timber framed shelter overlaid with corrugated metal sheeting in the southwestern corner (Plate 5). There was also a small fenced run in the northern aspect of the sheepfold. It is not known if the small structure in the southwestern corner was the same as that noted at the time of the First Edition mapping. A small, modern structure constructed of corrugated metal sheeting was present outside the southwest corner of the sheepfold. This appeared to be a modern day shelter for the grazing livestock. This measured six metres long by three metres wide and two metres in height (Plate 6).



Plate 5: Part of Site 17, Small timber shelter with corrugated metal sheeting, looking northeast



Plate 6: Site 17, Sheepfold, looking northwest

- 5.2.8 **Sites 18-19:** both of these sites appeared as circular depressions at the time of the First and Second Editions of the Ordnance Survey. It was thought that based on the shape of the features on the earlier maps that these could have been early quarries. The walkover survey identified the sites to be natural shearing of the western bank of the Craig Burn.
- 5.2.9 **Site 20:** this sheep dip was located just outside the northern site boundary of Compartment 3 at central grid reference 32674 87430. This was annotated as a sheepfold at the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping, and labelled as a sheep dip by the time of the 1983 mapping. This sheep dip consisted of cast concrete walls and flooring with a dividing wall of the same material, resembling an hourglass in shape with the northern end being of similar shape but slightly smaller than the southern end. At the eastern end of the dividing wall, at the southern end of the sheep dip, was a wooden gate that would have controlled which holding pen the sheep came out of to go into the dip. The dip aspect was a long narrow chute constructed of cast concrete and corrugated metal sheeting. This structure measured 28 metres in length and 5 metres wide (Plate 7).



Plate 7: Site 20, Sheep dip, looking west

- 5.2.10 **Site 21:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32618 87238, within Compartment 2. This was the remains of a disused trackway and ford crossing annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Both the trackway and the ford were linear crossing each other at 90°. This track was no longer in use and the stream had heavily corroded the trackway as there was a visible hollow where the track was only partially visible (Plate 8).



Plate 8: Site 21, former ford and trackway, looking west

- 5.2.11 **Sites 22-24:** these sites were identified as fords on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. At the time of the walkover survey these fords no longer existed and neither did the tracks that they once crossed.
- 5.2.12 **Site 25:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32315 87067, within Compartment 3. This was a former quarry annotated at the time of the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. This quarry was located to the north of the modern day trackway. The excavated area measure c. 30 square metres and had been excavated to a depth of c. 20 metres. Large amounts of spoil/waste stone were still visible (Plate 9).



Plate 9: Site 25, Former quarry, looking north

- 5.2.13 **Sites 26-27:** again these sites were identified as fords on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping that were no longer present, nor was the trackway, at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
- 5.2.14 **Site 28:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32556 86581, within Compartment 3. This was a former quarry at the time of the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. This sub-circular quarry was located to the west side of a track and measured 18 metres in length by eight metres in width and to a depth of 3.5 metres. It was thought that this quarry was older than the quarry just northwest of here (Site 32) as the majority of stone was overgrown with moss and grass (Plate 10).



Plate 10: Site 28, Former quarry, looking northwest

- 5.2.15 **Site 29:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32848 86212, within Compartment 2. This was a ford annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping and was still noted as a ford at the time of the archaeological walkover survey (Plate 11). The ford was at a 90° angle from the trackway. There was a timber board in place at the eastern aspect of the ford possibly to prevent the trackway from subsiding (Plate 12).



Plate 11: Site 29, Ford, looking south



Plate 12: Timber board located on eastern aspect of the ford (Site 29)

- 5.2.16 **Site 30:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32991 86479, within Compartment 2. This quarry was present at the time of the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Cut into the slope, located to the east of the trackway, this quarry was semi-circular in plan and measured 20 metres in length by 15 metres in width to a depth of five metres (Plates 13-14).



Plate 13: Site 30, Former Quarry, looking southeast



Plate 14: Close up view of Site 30, looking northeast

5.2.17 **Site 32:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 32515 86618, within Compartment 2. This was a quarry, referred to as a borrow pit by Mark Seed, forest manager, located to the west side of the modern trackway. This feature has not been noted on any previous Ordnance Survey mappings, but was used as extra road surface material. This feature measured 11 metres in length by nine metres in width with a depth of two metres (Plate 15).



Plate 15: Site 32, Quarry, looking southwest

5.2.18 **Site 33:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 34298 87007, within Compartment 1. This was an L-shaped feature that had been constructed of drystone walling, now overgrown with moss and grass, aligned east/west (Plate 16). This feature measured 30 metres in length curving at the westernmost end to the north, running for a further five metres. The eastern aspect of this feature was truncated by the modern road, but did not seem to run into the adjacent field. About eight metres from the eastern end was another drystone wall running southward that measured six metres in length. This drystone wall was not overgrown like the remainder of the wall but did seem to be contemporary with the remainder of the wall (Plate 17). This feature is not noted on any of the earlier Ordnance Survey maps and is most probably a boundary wall or former sheepfold. In 2007 this feature was identified as a possible field boundary during an archaeological walkover survey.



Plate 16: Site 33, possible boundary wall or sheepfold, looking southeast



Plate 17: Site 33, former boundary wall or sheepfold, looking southwest

- 5.2.19 **Site 34:** this site was located at central grid reference NY 34159 87710, within Compartment 1. This was a sub-circular depression cut into the side of a slope. Loose stone was visible at the base of the feature, but the entire area was heavily overgrown in bracken, moss and grass. This feature measured three metres in length by two metres in width and had a depth of c. two metres. A modern trackway passed this feature to both the east and west. It is thought that this was most probably a test pit for stone extraction or a small-scale quarry. This feature has not been previously noted on any Ordnance Survey maps (Plate 18).



Plate 18: Site 34, Circular depression, looking northwest

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 6.1.1 National Planning Policy Guideline 5: Archaeology and Planning states that *'the preservation of ancient monuments and their setting is a material consideration in determining planning applications and appeals.'* Many of the sites recorded within the HER do not qualify under the criteria of national importance but are nevertheless important in a regional or local context. These sites should be defined and justified through development plan policies with priority given to their preservation. Where preservation improves impossible, provision must be made for the recording of any part of the site that would be affected.
- 6.1.2 Policy E12 of the Dumfries and Galloway Local Plan states that *'there will be a presumption against development that would destroy or adversely affect the appearance, fabric or setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, sites of national importance and other areas of significant archaeological interest.'* When there is no overriding case for preservation, archaeological recording of the site can be undertaken prior to redevelopment.

6.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 6.2.1 There is direct evidence of prehistoric activity within the survey area and the wider search radius. There were two prehistoric burnt mounds located within the site boundary. The prehistoric settlements at Little Hill and Craig Hill are located to immediately adjacent to the survey area (Compartment 1). The presence of these settlements indicates that this was a focus of prehistoric occupation. Therefore the potential for prehistoric archaeological remains surviving subsurface within the survey area is high.
- 6.2.2 It is thought that a Roman road was located on the left bank of the Rover Esk within the narrow middle reaches of the valley. This road would have linked the fort at Netherby with that of Broomholm and possibly continuing as far as Raeburnfoot. However no traces of this road have been found to date. Evidence of Roman occupation has also been recorded at Boonies, one kilometre west of Bentpath, in the form of a timber built house. Based on this, it is thought that the potential for archaeological deposits dated to the Roman period surviving sub-surface within the survey area is medium.
- 6.2.3 References to the land within the survey area could not be found within the historical record. It is known that the area of Langholm first appeared within the historical record in 1249 and was therefore established during

the medieval period. However it is thought that the area within the site boundary was largely used as agricultural grazing land throughout history. Therefore, it is thought that the potential for remains dating to the medieval period surviving subsurface within the proposed development area is low.

- 6.2.4 This area continued to be used as agricultural grazing land throughout the post-medieval and modern periods. Sheepfolds and now disused quarries were found throughout this landscape during the walkover survey and are indicative of its agricultural past. It is thought that the potential for remains dating to the post-medieval and modern periods surviving subsurface within the proposed development area is high.

6.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.3.1 The archaeological walkover survey recorded a total of 14 previously unrecorded archaeological features mostly relating to quarrying or agricultural practices. Ten of these sites were annotated on earlier cartographic sources, one of these sites was identified and recorded during a 2007 archaeological walkover survey, and two of these sites were previously unknown. It is recommended that all of these features be avoided during planting. A corridor surrounding these features should be established in order to allow for non-visible outlying material as well as to better protect the visible aspect as well.
- 6.3.2 Known archaeological features listed within the HER, should also be avoided during planting. Again a corridor should be established surrounding the sites in order to better protect them. A 50 metre 'buffer zone' has already been established around the Nationally Recognised prehistoric sites of Little Hill and Craig Hill. The buffer zone around Craig Hill may affect the northwestern area of planting within Compartment 1.
- 6.3.3 As no traces of the Roman road, HER # MDG 11257, have yet to be found. It may be suggested that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during planting in order to determine the presence, nature and extent of any subsurface features associated with the Roman Road, the extent of which would be decided upon by the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service.
- 6.3.4 As the prehistoric settlements at Little Hill and Craig Hill are located on the summit of hills outside of the site boundary, and the areas within the adjacent site boundary are lower lying than the locations of the prehistoric settlements, the views to and from these sites would not be obstructed following the planting.

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APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF SITES

Table 1: Known HER events within and immediately around the site boundary

ID	HER Reference	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period	Significance Grade
1	MDG7953	Little Hill, Craig	Later Prehistoric hillfort, the largest in the Eskdale region.	333830	588160	Prehistoric	National
2	MDG10812	Craigcleuch House, South Lodge	Late 19 th century lodge, thought to have been built around 1875.	334272	586689	Modern	N/A
3	MDG11257	Roman Road, Netherby to Bentpath	No known traces have been found of this Roman Road to date that is said to have ascended the valley of the River Esk, linking the fort at Netherby with that at Broomholm and possibly continuing as far as that at Raeburnfoot.	334028	587209	Roman	Unknown

ID	HER Reference	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period	Significance Grade
4	MDG18365	Craigcleuch House, North Lodge and Gatepiers	Thought to have been built around 1875. Single storey gate lodge and octagonal gatepiers with caps, cast-iron railed low quadrants, decorative timber and iron gate.	334297	586880	Modern	C(S) Listed
5	MDG18364	Craigcleuch House	Built in 1875 in the style of William Burn's 1840s work.	334406	586822	Modern	B Listed

ID	HER Reference	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period	Significance Grade
6	MDG7903	Milnholm/Henwell Fortification; Earthwork	Earthwork situated 200 metres west of Milnholm Farmhouse. This feature was noted by Feachem (1956) as an earthwork, by Jobey (1971) as a defended settlement and as a Roman Camp according to an ONB entry. These descriptions have been cancelled and replaced with <i>'This is said to have formed a pond from which a threshing machine was supplied with water.'</i>	335280	587280	Later Prehistoric-19 th century	National
7	MDG7951	Craig Hill	Remnants of an unfinished hillfort.	333850	587820	Prehistoric	National
8	MDG2204 3	Craig Hill	A turf clad field bank and stone wall observed on the eastern slope of Craig Hill in 2007.	334250	587010	Post-medieval	Other
9	MDG1032 8	Craig Burn Burnt Mound	Bronze Age burnt mound	332400	586910	Prehistoric	Regional/ Local
10	MDG1032 9	Craig Burn Burnt Mound	Bronze Age burnt mound	332560	587120	Prehistoric	Regional/ Local
11	MDG1034 1	Carlesgill, Craigburn Tile Works	Tileworks	333300	587890	Modern	Regional/ Local

Table 2: Archaeological features identified during the walkover survey

Site #	Easting (N)	Northing (Y)	Elevation (m)	Period	Description
12	332756	587262	159	Pre-1862	Sheep shelter annotated on First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Not annotated by the time of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey Mapping. Drystone Wall construction.
13	332147	586800	234	Pre-1862	Sheepfold shown as a circular feature, annotated on the First Edition mapping, present but not annotated on the Second Edition. Still visible on aerial photographs. Drystone Wall constructed with a windbreak off of the south opening.
14	334241	587481		Pre-1862	Annotated as a gravel pit on the First Edition mapping. Shown as a small circular depression on the Second Edition and 1951 mapping. Located outside of the site boundary.
15	334247	587163	185	Pre-1862	Small circular depression shown on the First Edition mapping. By the time of the Second Edition this feature is annotated as a Quarry with a path leading from the quarry to Craigcleuch to the south. Same on 1951 OS mapping. Marked as disused by 1983. Still visible as two separate scars in the slope of the landscape.

Site #	Easting (N)	Northing (Y)	Elevation (m)	Period	Description
16	334285	587154		Pre-1862	Trough annotated on First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. By the time of the Second Edition mapping the trough is on the line of the path leading to Craigcleuch where it remains on all other Ordnance Survey maps until 1983 when it is no longer present. Could not be located at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
17	332897	586225	213	Pre-1862	Large rectangular sheepfold, abutting the site boundary. Shown but not annotated at the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping, until 1983 when it was annotated as a sheepfold. Still present with a small structure in the southwest corner of the sheepfold and a larger shelter outside of the southwest corner.
18	332662	586936		Pre-1862	Possible Quarry located on the west bank of the Craig Burn. Shown but not annotated on First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey mappings, as well as the 1951 and 1957 mappings. Not shown at the time of the 1983 mapping. During the archaeological walkover survey this was identified as natural sheering of the river bank.
19	332644	587051		Pre-1862	see Site No. 18

Site #	Easting (N)	Northing (Y)	Elevation (m)	Period	Description
20	332674	587430	183	Pre-1862	Rectilinear sheepfold enclosing a smaller rectilinear area shown and annotated on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Shown but not annotated on later mappings. By 1983 was still being used as a sheepfold but had changed shape and was now smaller. The archaeological walkover survey identified this as a disused sheep dip.
21	332618	587238	183	1957-1983	Group of fords aligned east/west. Not annotated prior to 1983 mapping. The archaeological walkover survey identified this as a disused trackway and ford.
22	332694	587361		1957-1983	Group of fords aligned east/west. Not annotated prior to 1983 mapping. Could not be found at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
23	332485	587261	183	1957-1983	Group of fords aligned east/west. Not annotated prior to 1983 mapping. No longer a ford at the time of the archaeological walkover survey although the disused trackway was still visible.
24	332607	587367	183	1957-1983	Group of fords aligned east/west. Not annotated prior to 1983 mapping.
25	332315	58067	226	1957-1983	Quarry shown and annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Disused at the time of the archaeological walkover survey. A modern dump of hay and manure blocked the entrance of this quarry.

Site #	Easting (N)	Northing (Y)	Elevation (m)	Period	Description
26	332840	586767		1957-1983	Ford annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Neither the trackway nor the ford was visible at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
27	332859	586659		1957-1983	Ford annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Neither the trackway nor the ford was visible at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
28	332556	586581	220	1957-1983	Quarry annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Disused at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
29	332848	586212	204	1957-1983	Ford annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Still present at the time of the archaeological walkover survey.
30	332991	586479	242	1957-1983	Quarry annotated on the 1983 Ordnance Survey mapping. Disused at the time of the archaeological walkover survey. Located to the east side of the modern trackway.
32	332515	586618	226	Unknown	Disused quarry at the time of the archaeological walkover survey. Located to the west of the modern trackway.
33	334298	587007	169	Unknown	Possible boundary wall or sheepfold aligned east/west.
34	334159	587710	126	Unknown	Circular depression, possible a test pit for stone extraction or small quarry.

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES
