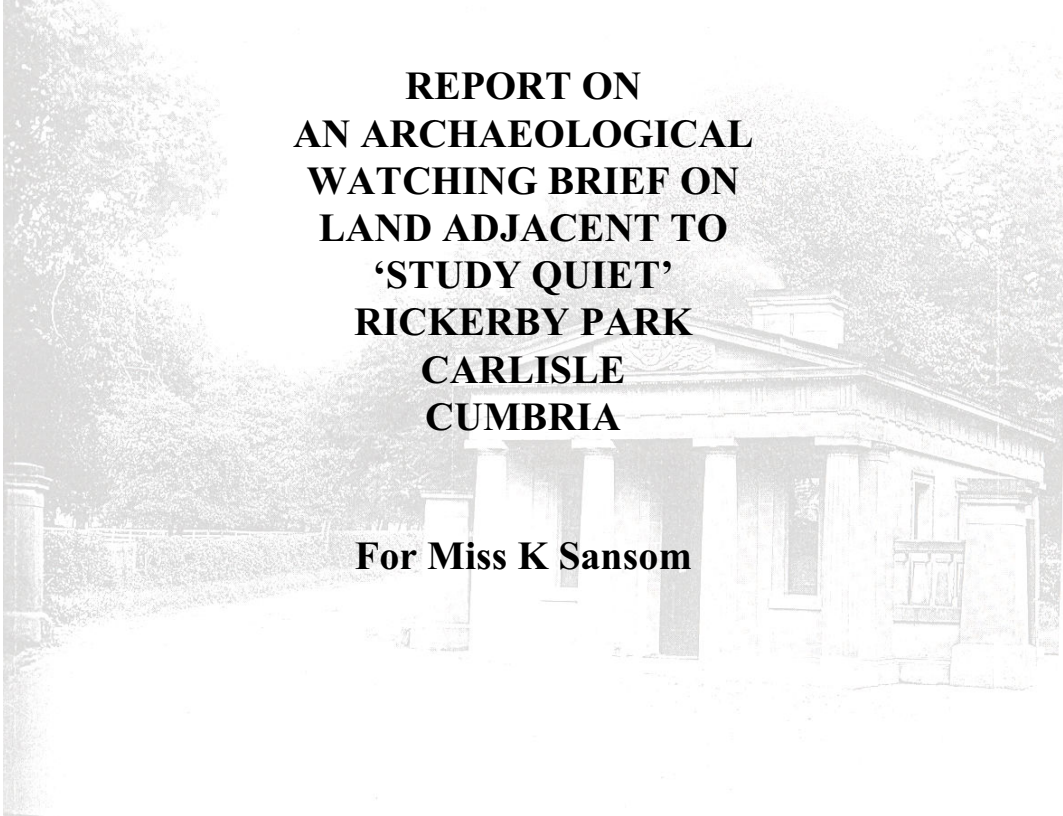

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Project Designs and Client Reports No. CP/120/04



**REPORT ON
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF ON
LAND ADJACENT TO
'STUDY QUIET'
RICKERBY PARK
CARLISLE
CUMBRIA**

For Miss K Sansom

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1 INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

- 1.1 In April 2004 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was invited by Miss K Sansom to maintain a watching brief of works adjacent to Study Quiet, Rickerby Park, Carlisle, in response to a planning application for a residential development involving the conversion of the existing North Lodge of Rickerby House.
- 1.2 The site is located at the north end of the village of Rickerby, approximately 0.5km east of Carlisle city centre. The village is situated on the north bank of the River Eden and is of medieval origin.
- 1.3 Rickerby House is an early 19th century Mansion House, formerly in the ownership of George Head, a Banker who owned the former bank at the north end of Botchergate, Carlisle. Head acquired the property in 1835 and built the north lodge, which forms part of the development. Head's motto was 'Study Quiet', which can be seen next to his coat of arms above the entrance to the lodge (Perriam, D. 1992).

2 PREVIOUS WORK

- 2.1 There has been no previous archaeological work on the site.
- 2.2 In 2000 Carlisle Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological field evaluation within the grounds of Rickerby House (Giecco 2001). This revealed evidence of significant archaeological activity, closely dated to the late twelfth/thirteenth century and associated with a small rural settlement, characterised by beam slots, post holes and cobble spreads (Ibid.).

3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 According to a map produced by Godwin in 1990, the site of Rickerby House prior to 1770 appears to have been to the rear of a series of crofts which backed onto Rickerby Beck, a tributary of the River Eden, with brick kilns and a tithe barn to the east of the settlement (Giecco, F. 2001).
- 3.2 The creation of the estate of Rickerby House c.1810 can be seen as an obvious change of land use, as the earlier crofts are dismantled and became land or gardens belonging to the estate.
- 3.4 The tithe map of 1839 shows that the grounds of Rickerby House was covered with large, vaguely circular or rounded features, generally presumed to be garden features. The present site consisted of the north lodge and driveway into the house itself.

4 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

4.1 The work undertaken consisted of a watching brief.

4.2 Watching Brief

4.2.1 The aims of the watching brief were as follows:

- to supervise all topsoil stripping and excavation for footings and/or service trenches and clean and record any putative archaeological features and produce a stratigraphic record;
- to record archaeological deposits;
- to establish, wherever possible, the depth of archaeological remains;
- to establish, wherever possible, the condition of the remains;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover paleoenvironmental material where it survives.

5 RESULTS

5.1 No archaeological features or deposits were observed within the foundation trenches. A layer of glacially deposited boulder clay (101) was observed at a depth of c. 0.50m sealed by a mixed layer of slightly humic topsoil (100) c. 0.45m thick.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 No archaeological structures or deposits could be observed and no anthropogenic material recovered from within the foundation trenches.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

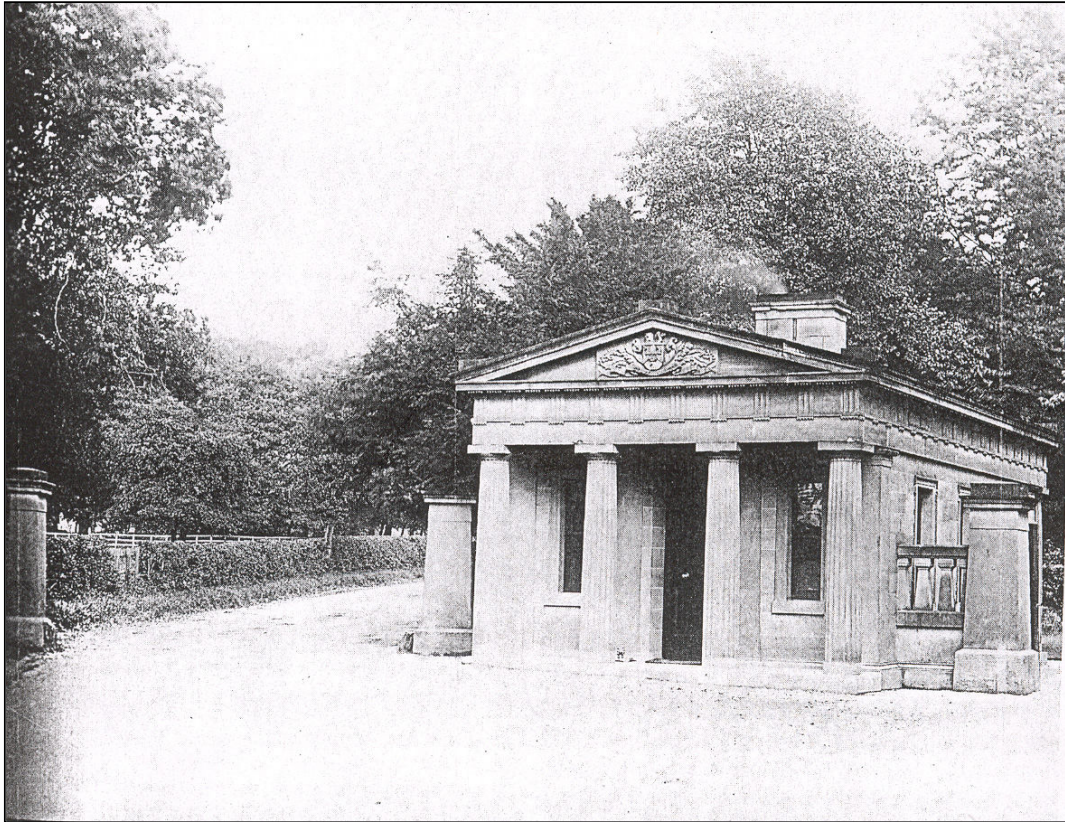
Primary Sources

Rickerby Tithe Map (1839)
Ordnance Survey 1st Edition (1865)
Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition (1901)
Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition (1925)
Ordnance Survey 4th Edition (1938)

Secondary Sources

Giecco, F.O. et al (2001) *Report on an Archaeological Field Evaluation at Rickerby House, Carlisle, Cumbria*. Carlisle Archaeology Ltd. Unpublished Report.

Perriam, D. R. (1992), *Carlisle: An Illustrated History*. Carlisle: Bookcase, Cumbria Library and Tullie House Museum.



The north lodge of Rickerby House in 1895. (Perriam, D. 1992)