GRANGE GILL QUARRY. LIME KILN AND HEN HOUSE, SKELLGILL LANE, LOW ABBOTSIDE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2008, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) to undertake a programme of archaeological survey at Grange Gill Quarry, Skellgill Lane, Low Abbotside, Wensleydale, North Yorkshire (NGR SD 9303 9147). In summary, the project involved a survey of a quarry, lime kiln and hen house, and their surrounding environs, augmented by a detailed descriptive record and report. The survey was intended to provide sufficient accurate information to assist with the formulation of management proposals, and to advise in the preparation of consolidation proposals for some of the surviving structures on the site. A total of 31 sites were identified by the survey.

Although the majority of the archaeological features recorded within the survey area are of 18th, 19th and 20th century date, as might be expected they are set within the remains of a multiphase landscape which developed over an extended period. The earliest features recorded within the survey area were a series of prominent scarps and banks, possibly the remains of a field system laid out on an approximate north-west/south-east alignment. Some of these scarps were apparently topped with walls, either originally or at a later date. Probable building platforms, likely to be of medieval date, may be associated with this field system, although without a wider survey over a much larger area, it is difficult to place these remains within any wider context.

The earliest evidence for lime-burning within the survey area was a sow kiln, which generally conformed to the dimensions and form of similar examples excavated by the Ingleborough Archaeology Group in the Craven district of North Yorkshire. Where these features could be dated, a broad range of 17th century dates was obtained, although it was acknowledged that some could be earlier. The sow kiln within the Grange Gill survey area could also be 17th century in date, and it is unlikely to have existed in isolation, although its wider landscape context is at yet uncertain. It is not at present possible to identify any quarries within the survey area that are definitely associated with the sow kiln, although several possibilities are proposed. The precise function of the sow kiln is similarly uncertain; if it was associated with the production of lime for agricultural improvement, and it is of 17th century date, it would likely have been located within or very close to enclosed land, which in turn would have implications for the development of the survey area.

It is clear from the evidence of the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map that limestone quarrying was well underway at the site by the mid 19th century, and the main quarry had assumed the plan dimensions, if not the actual depth, of that which survives today. Initially, the quarry may have been used to provide walling material, as no lime kiln is shown on the site in 1856, although the stone could have been taken away for burning elsewhere. However, cartographic evidence shows that a lime kiln had been built adjacent to the quarry by 1892. The construction and form of this kiln are what might be expected of a mid-late 19th century structure, although the lime shed to the front, the provision of a poking hole, and the "shoe" to the draw-hole mark it out as a better planned or designed kiln than the usual; the provision of the lime shed in particular is associated with a commercially-operated kiln.

A hen house on the southern edge of the survey area was also recorded in detail. This is a well-preserved example of this type of building, and the cartographic evidence appears to suggest that a smaller attached eastern kennel-like structure was a slightly later addition to the main house.

1 INTRODUCTION

Reasons and Circumstances for the Project

- 1.1 In January 2008, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) to undertake a programme of archaeological survey at Grange Gill Quarry, Skellgill Lane, Low Abbotside, Wensleydale, North Yorkshire (NGR SD 9303 9147). In summary, the project involved a survey of a quarry, lime kiln and hen house, and their surrounding environs, augmented by a detailed descriptive record and report. The survey was intended to provide sufficient, accurate information to assist with the formulation of management proposals, and to assist in the preparation of consolidation proposals for some of the surviving structures on the site.
- 1.2 The scope of the work was defined following discussions between EDAS and the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of the YDNPA, based on a brief prepared by the Historic Environment Countryside Adviser of the YDNPA (see Appendix 3). Further amendments were agreed between EDAS and the YDNPA following observations made during a site visit on the 4th March 2008.

Site Location and Description

- 1.3 Grange Gill Quarry and its associated remains are located approximately mid-way between the hamlets of Helm and Skell Gill, on the south side of Skell Gill Lane, c.1.5km to the north of Bainbridge in upper Wensleydale (see figure 1). The quarry occupies an elevated position at c.270m AOD on the south-facing slope of the valley, just to the south of Spen House (see figure 2). The site is accessed via Skellgill Lane, an unclassified road running north off the main Askrigg road on the north side of the river Ure.
- 1.4 The main survey area was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring a maximum of 120m long (east-west) by 80m wide (north-south). The majority of the area is represented by the disused quarry, which is now used mainly as an outward bounds facility by children participating in adventure classes run by the Low Mill Outdoor Centre in Askrigg. However, a strip of ground around the east, west and south sides of the quarry, forming part of larger fields, is in permanent pasture and subject to limited sheep grazing. The site is bounded to the east, west and south by enclosed permanent pasture, and to the north by Skellgill Lane.
- 1.5 The site lies within the Yorkshire Dales National Park but currently has no statutory protection. It is owned by Low Abbotside Parish Council, and is publicly accessible under the terms of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. It consequently receives a number of regular visitors, including both walkers and children participating on adventure courses run by the Low Mill Outdoor Centre, a non-profit making charitable trust set up in 1976 and run by a management committee elected from the local community. There is an aerial ropeway/slide set up in the quarry above the lime kiln.

Aims and Objectives

- 1.6 The aims of the survey work can be summarised as follows:
 - to record, interpret and accurately map the extent of the earthwork remains within the survey area;

- to provide more a detailed record of the lime kiln and adjacent hen house;
- to provide a photographic record of the key earthwork and structural remains.

Survey Methodologies

1.7 As noted above, the scope of the archaeological survey work was defined by a brief produced by the Historic Environment Countryside Advisor of the YDNPA (see Appendix 3), with amendments subsequently agreed between EDAS and the YDNPA following a site visit in March 2008. Four main elements were involved.

Documentary research

1.8 No documentary research was required to be undertaken as part of the project. However, readily available material, including historic map coverage and aerial photographs was consulted, some of which was made available to EDAS by the YDNPA. A full list of the sources consulted, together with their references, is given in the bibliography below.

Site survey

- 1.9 A detailed topographic survey of the whole of the survey area was undertaken, to record the position and form of all features considered to be of archaeological and/or historic interest. The survey was carried out using EDM total station equipment. Sufficient information was gathered to allow the survey area to be readily located through the use of surviving walls, wall junctions, and other topographical features. The survey recorded the position at ground level of all upstanding buildings and other structures, wall remnants and revetments, earthworks, paths, spoil and waste tips, stone and rubble scatters, floors, wooden structures and timbers, ironwork, and any other features considered to be of archaeological or historic interest. On completion of the EDM survey, the field data was plotted at a scale of 1:200 and then re-checked on site as a separate operation, with detailed amendments and additions being made using hand-measurement techniques.
- 1.10 The site survey was integrated into the Ordnance Survey national grid by resection to points of known co-ordinates. Heights AOD were obtained by reference to Ordnance Survey maps and integrated into the site survey. Two temporary bench marks were established and left on Skellgill Lane using small nail-type ground markers approved by the National Park Authority. Control points were observed through trigonometric intersection from survey stations on a traverse around and through the site. The maximum error in the closure of the traverse was less than +/- 25mm. The locations, descriptions and values of the temporary bench marks and control points are stated in the final survey data.
- 1.11 The initial EDM site survey was undertaken on 31st March 2008, with the enhancement being carried out on 1st April 2008. The more detailed earthwork survey of the sow kiln (Site 23) was undertaken on 4th March 2008.

Building survey

1.12 Discussion with the YDNPA Senior Conservation Archaeologist determined that detailed building recording would be confined to a lime kiln (Site 19) and a hen house (Site 28) within the survey area. This work was carried out on 4th and 19th March 2008.

- 1.13 A ground floor plan of the lime kiln was produced at a scale of 1:50, and a plan and section of the hen house were produced at a scale of 1:20. The drawn record was undertaken using a combination of EDM survey and hand survey techniques, augmented with scaled photographs where appropriate. The resulting plans show all significant details such as openings (blocked or unblocked), inserted doorways, fittings, joist sockets etc.
- 1.14 Further recording of the lime kiln was undertaken on 21st May 2009, after a programme of clearance and consolidation had been carried out.

Photographic record

- 1.15 General photographic recording of the site and its significant earthworks, together with close-up photography of significant details, was undertaken. The photographic guidelines produced by English Heritage (2006, 10-12) were followed and each photograph was provided with a scale where appropriate. Photographic recording concentrated on the structures and features not recorded by the building survey. Photographs were taken using both digital and 35mm colour print film, and a selection have been reproduced for illustrative purposes in this report. A catalogue of the photographs appears as Appendix 2.
- 1.16 All photographs were clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and are cross referenced to film and negative numbers. All photographic film was exposed and processed to ensure high quality definition, and was processed to archival standards according to the manufacturer's specifications.

Written account

- 1.17 The written account of the site included in this report is based on a structured gazetteer of numbered components using pro forma record sheets compiled from an Access database (see Appendix 1). The pro forma includes a summary description and preliminary interpretation of extant remains (e.g. location, dimensions, plan, form, function, date, sequence of development), mention of relevant documentary evidence, and an assessment of current condition and threats. Pro formas and keywords similar to those used by EDAS on previous recording projects for the YDNPA have been used, so as to achieve a level of consistency between various surveys (e.g. Dennison & Richardson 2007).
- 1.18 Information relating to condition, vulnerability and management issues was also collected, again using methodologies already applied by EDAS on other historic landscape surveys previously undertaken in the Yorkshire Dales. The existing boundaries of the survey area were also examined, and any items of wall furniture noted and recorded as archaeological sites. The field boundaries themselves were also recorded, using the methodology and typology previously employed by EDAS on other walling surveys in the Yorkshire Dales (Dennison 2004, 34).

Report and Archive

1.19 This report forms a detailed written record of the site, prepared from the sources of information set out above, and analyses its form, function, history, and sequence of development, as far as is possible using the previously gathered information. The site is also placed within its historical, social and industrial context, where possible.

1.20	The full archive, comprising paper, magnetic and plastic media, relating to the project has been ordered and indexed according to the standards set by the National Archaeological Record (EDAS site code GGQ 08). It was deposited with the YDNPA on the completion of the project.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Introduction

2.1 The following chapter provides a brief account of the history and development of the site and surrounding area, drawn from published and secondary sources.

Prehistoric to Early Post-medieval Periods

- 2.2 There is a scarcity of published material relating to the prehistory of the survey area and its immediate environs. However, fieldwork elsewhere in Wensleydale has identified numerous Bronze Age burnt mounds on ground located at or above 250m AOD, including some to the north of Askrigg. These mounds are usually circular or crescentric in plan; interestingly, some surveyed examples are of a form that might be confused at first glance with a mutilated sow kiln (see below). As of 2003, no fieldwork had been undertaken in Low Abbotside, and so no sites of burnt mounds had been identified within this area (Laurie 2003, 243-246 & 251).
- 2.3 During the medieval period, the survey area fell within the township or vill of Ingelby, which was absorbed into the unit known as the Forest of Wensleydale in the medieval period; the term "forest" perhaps originates in the pre-Conquest period, and by the later medieval period it formed an administrative unit rather than a large block of woodland. Large areas of the Forest to the north of the Ure, including the survey area, were owned by Jervaulx Abbey as part of its extensive grazing grounds (Moorhouse 2003a, 304, 322, 334 & 341). The occurrence of the name "cote" as a field or place name element to the west of Helm (for example at Brockhill Cote and Cote Pasture) may point to the presence of monastic or seigneurial sheephouses (Moorhouse 2003a, 329), while to the east, detailed measured survey and aerial photography in and around Askrigg has revealed complex multi-period landscapes (Moorhouse 2003a; Horne & Macleod 1995). Finally, Moorhouse also notes that both Helm and Skell Gill, very close to the survey area, appear in documents which list monastic farms belonging to Jervaulx Abbey from 1301 onwards; both these holdings had multiple tenants by the beginning of the 16th century (Moorhouse 2003a, 295).

Post-medieval Period

- 2.4 Direct evidence for the agricultural use of lime begins to appear in the historic West Riding of Yorkshire (then including part of what is now the Yorkshire Dales) from the early 17th century, and some workings of this date have been identified, together with their attendant lime kilns. Changes in agricultural practices gathered pace slowly throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. However, from the early 19th century, the use of lime to help improve the land, particularly the newly-enclosed moorland, increased significantly, and there was a proportionate increase in the number of working quarries and the number of lime kilns that were built (Johnson 2002, 14-24).
- 2.5 Small-scale quarrying for limestone to be used for agricultural improvements would certainly have been taking place in the Grange Gill and Skelgill areas by the early 19th century, and probably for some time before this. The survey area includes the remains of a sow kiln, which may be 17th century in date (see below), and it is assumed that there would have been associated quarries in the immediate area. The area was probably enclosed during the early 19th century, when the field walls would have been constructed. The 1893 Ordnance Survey 25" map marks an "Old Quarry" in the field immediately to the east of the survey area, which appears to

have been continuous with quarry workings running along the southern edge of the survey area (see figure 3); some of these might have been sandstone quarries, to provide roofing material (Miles Johnson, YDNPA, *pers. comm.*). The latter quarries are not shown on the earlier editions, but they had had a hen-house built in them by the time that the 1893 map was published, and so they were presumably part or fully disused by this date. It is possible that these workings may pre-date the main area of quarrying within the survey area, and they might have been disused by the early 19th century, although this is not certain.

2.6 The main area of quarrying within the survey area was well established by 1856, when it is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as an enclosed "Limestone Quarry" with a working face of a similar length to that which survives today (see figure 3). It remained in use in 1893, by which date a "lime kiln" is marked to its south. A new area of quarrying had also been opened up to the south between 1856 and 1893. Both quarries and the lime kiln were labelled as "disused" by 1977, and they had presumably been abandoned for some time before that.

3 DESCRIPTION OF IDENTFIED SITES

Introduction

3.1 A summarised description of the 31 identified sites within the survey area is given below, based on the detailed information contained within the gazetteer of numbered components (see figure 5 and Appendix 1). For ease of description, the sites have been grouped into several basic categories, and site numbers are given in bold type, e.g. 25.

Pre-quarrying Features

Scarps and boundaries

- 3.2 A number of earthworks were recorded within the survey area which appear to predate the major phase of quarrying activity on the site. These earthworks are probably the remains of an earlier field and cultivation system, although as yet their date remains uncertain (see Discussion and Conclusions chapter below). The remains are characterised by a series of scarps, with a general north-west/south-east alignment, in contrast to the general north-east/south-west alignment of many of the quarrying features.
- The earlier features comprise a series of scarps, principally west and south-west facing, standing up to 1.50m in height but generally spread. These enter the survey area in its south-eastern corner, where they are cut by a later trackway (25). Here, the main scarp (26) is a spread but prominent feature, aligned north-west/south-east, with a possible buried wall line running along the top on a similar alignment; the latter may once have been continuous with another buried wall line (24) visible on a different alignment to the north. The main scarp runs north for c.12m before curving around to the west, to run west for a further 20m. At the change in angle, a smaller scarp continues the north-west alignment above it.
- The main scarp may once have been continuous with other similar features to the west (22). Again, these scarps are generally south-west facing but contain several gentle breaks of slope and are badly burrowed by rabbits in places. The lower scarp curves north-west, eventually terminating at a structure (18), but it may once have been continuous with a similar feature visible to the north-west of a lime kiln (19). Where rabbits have burrowed into the upper scarp, the resulting upcast is rather shaley in nature, and it may be that the scarp is actually made up of the remains of tipping from the main area of quarrying (10) in the north part of the site, although the form of the earthworks and the nature of the rabbit upcast do not resemble spoil heaps recorded at other quarry sites. Alternatively, it may be that the scarp represents the tipping of earth overburden which was removed before the working of the stone could commence.
- In the south-west corner of the survey area, there is another scarp (17). In contrast to the other features described above, this is more curvilinear, east-facing and aligned north-south, although it may still be of an early date. At its northern end, the scarp is spread and stands only 0.5m high, but it becomes more prominent as it moves south, rising to c.1.0m in height. Close to the point where the south end of the scarp meets an adjacent field boundary, the wall incorporates a large sub-rectangular upright stone, 0.75m high and 0.5m wide. It is not clear whether this is a natural feature or perhaps an earlier boundary marker of some kind which has been enclosed by a later field wall.

Possible building platforms

3.6 To the immediate west of scarp **26**, in the south-east part of the survey area, there is at least one possible building or building platform (**27**), positioned at the bottom of the scarp's western arm. This platform appears to be aligned virtually east-west, and is rectangular in plan, c.5.0m long and 2.5m wide. The north, east and west walls are defined by very slightly-raised banks which appear to contain at least some stone rubble and which, when viewed from a distance, were slightly yellower at the time of the survey than the grass to either side. The south side of the structure may once have been open, but this is not certain. There may be another structure of similar dimensions and on the same orientation to the immediate south (although very difficult to see), and it is tempting to see both as being contemporary with the scarp, perhaps placed here to take advantage of the limited shelter offered by the position. A third similar structure may exist to the north of a former hen house (**28**).

Early Lime Burning and Quarrying Activity

- The principal evidence for early lime burning within the survey area is the well 3.7 preserved remains of a sow kiln (23), located on the south side of a field wall (31). The kiln is represented a horse-shoe shaped earthwork, open to the south, with maximum dimensions of 8.5m east-west by 6.5m north-south (see figure 6 and plate 4). The earthwork was created by excavating a bowl, now just over 0.5m in depth, into the natural slope. This bowl is sub-oval in plan, measuring 5.0m long (north-south) by 3.5m wide (east-west), and there is a flue/stoke-hole opening on the south side that is c.0.5m wide at the base. The interior base of the bowl slopes down from north to south. The north end of the bowl appears to still be formed by the natural slope, but the east and west sides are flanked by curvilinear banks, at least partly formed by the upcast from the bowl excavation. Both banks are of broadly similar form, with steeply sloping sides and flattened tops, thickest towards the centre but then narrowing again as they curve inwards to their southern ends. However, they are not identical, the west bank having a slight raised linear mound along its top, while the east bank contains a higher proportion of visible stone rubble. There is some erosion and slippage to the northern edge of the bowl, partly caused by rabbit burrowing, with further rabbit activity immediately to the east.
- 3.8 Pioneering excavation work carried out by the Ingleborough Archaeology Group (Johnson *et al 2006*; Johnson 2007) has demonstrated that the surviving earthworks of a sow kiln may only hint at the structure which lies beneath, including stone-lining to the bowl and stone-built stoke holes and flues. Some of the examples excavated by the Group were dated broadly to the 17th century, with some apparently having gone out of use in the later 17th century. The example recorded by the current survey may be of broadly similar date. It is possible that other features recorded by the current survey also relate to the sow kiln, and this is discussed further in the Discussion and Conclusions chapter below.

Later Limestone Quarrying and Burning

The main quarry and related features

3.9 It is clear from the evidence of the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map (see figure 3) that limestone quarrying was well underway on the site by the mid 19th century, and that the main quarry area had assumed dimensions similar to those which survive today. This suggests that working had been taking place here since at least the early 19th century, and most probably for some time before this.

- 3.10 The principal feature of the main quarrying area is the limestone working face on the north side of the survey area (10). This face is aligned approximately eastwest, is over 100m in length and stands up to between 4.0m to 5.0m in height (see plate 1). It retains evidence for almost horizontal bedding planes within the rock, varying between 0.5m to 1.5m in height. The working face is near vertical in some places, but along much of its length it has a shallowly stepped profile, stepping backwards from the base to the top in a series of shallow benches, sometimes coinciding with the horizontal bedding planes. This is most pronounced at the eastern and western ends of the working face. The form of the guarry is of the "hillside type", as defined by the English Heritage Step 3 MPP report for the quarrying industry, with the vertical scale being benched (Richardson & Trueman 1997, 8-9). The benches were not only created for ease of working, but also to avoid dangerous overhangs (Hartley 1939, 121). No drill marks or other similar features are visible in the working face, and so it is assumed that the limestone was extracted using hand tools and wedges to split the rock. The progressive northern movement of the working face can be seen on the historic maps (see figures 3 and 4), and this working face may once have continued further to the west, into an area of earthworks (20) recorded on the western edge of the survey area.
- The area around the base of the quarry is not flat, but rather undulates gently and contains a number of more distinct features. At the very west end of the quarry are the fragmentary remains of a building (14); the date of this building is uncertain, and it does not appear to coincide exactly with a structure added by a later hand to the 1912 and 1977 Ordnance Survey mapping (see figure 4). The building has now almost completely disappeared above ground, with only a short length of wall footings visible in plan on the former line of its north wall. Otherwise, it is represented by a shallow sub-rectangular depression, aligned almost east-west, c.6m long and 2.5m wide. There is another smaller possible structure or platform (13) just to the east, although this may just be a result of quarry working. Both the building and the possible structure are contained within an area defined by a steep north-facing scarp, up to 2.0m high.
- 3.12 The central part of the guarry base area is formed by a series of low spread and poorly defined linear and curvilinear scarps, possibly overlooked by another platform or structure (12) on the slightly higher ground to the south. This platform is sub-rectangular in plan, aligned almost east-west and c.5.0m long by 2.5m wide. with the scarps forming the sides standing no more than 0.3m in height. There is a second more definite and better defined ruined building (9) at the very east end of the guarry base, again depicted by a later hand on the 1912 and 1977 Ordnance Survey mapping (see figure 4 and plate 3). It is now very ruinous but was once rectangular in plan, aligned virtually east-west and measuring 6.0m long by 2.5m wide. Only the south side retains any standing masonry, formed by a part-buried wall 0.4m high and 0.4m wide; the other sides are all defined by low scarps. The 1912 Ordnance Survey map shows that the main access track (7) branches off towards this building. A prominent sub-angular depression (11) to the south-west most probably represents a former area of working which was pursued to a slightly greater depth than the surrounding parts of the main quarrying area's base.

Access trackway

3.13 The quarry was accessed by a trackway (7), shown as leaving the south side of Skellgill Lane on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map and running into the quarry area, although at this date it did not continue as far as the western side. By 1893, the trackway had been extended to the south-west, continuing through the field

- wall forming the western boundary of the quarry and then turning sharply to the south-east before looping back on itself to enter another quarry (21) (see figure 3).
- This trackway leaves the south side of Skellgill Lane and enters the survey area 3.14 through a gateway at its north-east corner (see plate 2). Both sides of the gateway have been rebuilt, and it appears that it was once considerably wider, at c.4.5m rather than the existing 2.5m. After passing through the gateway, the trackway is aligned north-east/south-west and can be followed for c.45m as a 2.0m wide flattened linear strip. The trackway is defined by a 0.5m high south-east facing scarp on the north side, where it is terraced into the natural slope of the field. The east end of the south side of the track is similarly defined, but the scarp here gradually rises to become a bank. This bank thickens out to measure a maximum of 2.0m across the flattened top and up to 1.2m in height, the sides sloping steeply if somewhat unevenly downwards. It then becomes substantially narrower again, but maintains a similar height, and can be traced as far as the point where the track fades out. This distance appears to equate approximately with the extent of the trackway as shown on the 1856 map, although it may once have curved slightly to the north-west into a slightly raised sub-rectangular area.
- The course of the trackway is then very poorly defined for c.20m, at which point it resumes again as a flattened linear strip of the same dimensions as previously noted. The trackway runs above a sharply sloping south-facing scarp, standing over 1.2m in height, to the south, past a lime kiln (19) and then above another south-facing near vertical scarp partly revetted by a low limestone rubble wall (18). The trackway then passes through another gateway in a field wall (31) which, like that leading from Skellgill Lane, was formerly 4.5m wide but has been substantially narrowed since.
- 3.16 The trackway may once have been continuous with another trackway (25) running into the area from the east. The latter can be seen crossing the field immediately to the east of the survey area as a shallow linear depression on a north-east/southwest alignment. At the point where it enters the east side of the survey area, there appears to be an area of rebuilding to the field wall, 1.80m wide. This may represent a blocked gateway, but it could also be an area of rebuilding caused by the wall being built across the trackway and then slowly collapsing into it. Within the survey area, the trackway assumes a more east-west alignment, although it remains locally sinuous. At its east end, it is a holloway, c.3.4m wide and 0.7m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a relatively flat base. It then narrows and becomes shallower, eventually forming a flattened linear strip which runs west along the north edge of an area of former quarrying. Its route is difficult to follow immediately to the north of a former hen house (28) but it can be seen again to the west, as a flattened linear strip with a 0.5m high south-facing scarp on the north side.

Lime kiln (see figure 6)

- 3.17 At least part of the limestone extracted from the quarry was burnt in the lime kiln present on site (19). The cartographic evidence suggests that the lime kiln was built between 1856 and 1893 (see figure 3), and it stands to the south of the main quarrying area (10), on the north side of a trackway (7).
- 3.18 The lime kiln has been built into a steep south-facing scarp, and stands up to 3.0m in height (see plate 5). The upper part is formed by the circular mouth of the pot or bowl, c.1.5m in diameter and with walls standing up to 0.8m high; the thinly coursed interior stonework is heavily vitrified, particularly on the north and south sides, while the uppermost two courses of stone are decayed and have partly

- fallen into the interior. The mouth may have been approached by a loading ramp surviving as an earthwork to the east.
- The main visible element of the body of the kiln is the south face of the outer shell, 3.19 which is built of squared rubble, roughly coursed. The south face contains the 1.9m wide draw-hole arch (see plate 6). The arch is 1.9m wide and has a broad but shallowly arched head of narrow rubble voussoirs. From the draw-hole arch, the internal walls of the kiln taper inwards in gentle curves towards the flat backsection of the interior, which is some 0.95m wide; the east internal wall contains a small recess, some 0.20m square in plan and standing 0.15m high, set c.0.60m above floor level, perhaps once housing a candle or lamp. The flat-back section of the kiln contains the single draw-hole or eye at its base; the draw-hole is 0.43m wide and 0.36m high, and is filled with a wrought-iron "shoe". Above the drawhole, the back wall of the interior is corbelled inwards as it rises to a maximum height of c.1.0m; there is a second smaller opening, a poking hole, located directly above the draw-hole at between 0.66m and 0.80m above the current internal ground level. The interior of the draw-hole arch was choked with rubble during the initial survey work, but it was later cleared during consolidation works which took place early in 2009. This clearance revealed that the interior of both the draw-hole arch and the associated lime shed (see below) retained traces of a flagstone floor. The south-face of the kiln rises for a further 1.0m above the draw-hole arch; it once rose slightly further, although the very upper part has now collapsed. At either end, the south face returns to the north, the returns splaying outwards to either side of the pot, although they are now visible largely in plan only.
- 3.20 The draw-hole arch in the south face of the kiln was once covered by a small shed with a single-pitch stone slated roof; the pitch of the roof, sloping downwards from east to west, is still visible above the draw-hole arch. Both walls of the structure are built of coursed squared rubble (with alternating deeper and shallower courses), apparently originally set with a lime mortar, and they splay outwards in plan towards their southern ends. The west wall stands to maximum height of 0.88m (and appears to be close to its original height), while the east wall is much taller at 2.30m. Like the kiln interior, the former interior of the shed was choked with rubble during the initial survey work, but was cleared early in 2009. During the 2009 consolidation works, some cement pointing was noticed on the higher wall, which might suggest that the slated roof was a 20th century addition or (more likely) that the structure was maintained for an agricultural use into the 20th century (Miles Johnson, YDNPA, pers. comm.); a structure is shown in front of the kiln on the 1893 Ordnance Survey map.

Other quarries

- In addition to the main area of quarrying (10), the earthwork survey recorded evidence for a number of smaller quarrying areas, although some of these are still substantial. Above and to the north of the main quarrying area, there are two smaller shallower areas of working, both marked on the Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map (see figure 3).
- 3.22 The western area (1) is sub-oval in plan, measuring c.20m long (east-west) by a maximum of 10m wide (north-south). The north side is formed by a vertical limestone working face, with an average height of 0.8m. In the centre of the face, there is a c.2.6m wide gap, the limestone returning to the north on either side towards the adjacent field wall. The sides of both returns are relatively straight, but the gap is now filled with angular stone rubble. Where the sides of the gap meet the field wall, the wall appears disturbed or altered. It may possibly preserve the

- outline of a single pitch gable, suggesting that a small building may once have covered the gap in the working face, utilising the returns as the base of its walls.
- 3.23 The eastern area of quarrying (2) is slightly larger, but of a similar overall form. At its eastern end there are several depressions (3) in its base, as well as a number of iron bars projecting from the ground here (4). The smaller eastern depression is sub-oval in plan; it bears a passing resemblance to a number of chopwood kilns recorded in Grass Wood near Grassington (Dennison & Richardson 2007) and could be interpreted as a very truncated example. However, this is considered unlikely, as it lies close to a blocked stock underpass (5) (see below). Given that the latter probably dates to the 18th or 19th century, it is more likely that the earthwork depressions (3) result from stock passing through the underpass, and they were then partly backfilled when the underpass itself was blocked up. The iron bars (4) are all of wrought-iron; two have a T-section, while the other two have a flattened section and are looped around at the head, but none are re-used tramway rails. The latter, used to revet spoil heaps or support temporary wooden structures, are reasonably common survivals at larger quarrying sites (Dennison & Richardson, forthcoming) and the iron bars recorded here may once have performed a similar function, although there was no clear evidence for this.
- 3.24 On the southern edge of the survey area, there is another substantial area of quarrying (21). Based on cartographic evidence, quarrying here was started between 1856 and 1893, and the trackway (7) accessing the main quarrying area (10) was extended to it. A c.16m long remnant of the drystone wall shown around the top of the guarry in 1912 still survives (see figure 4), erected to prevent stock straying over the working face; it contains several straight joints, presumably where it was extended as the quarry below was expanded. To the south of the wall, there is a near vertical drop, forming the working face of the guarry, which stands between 5m to 6m in height. There is a flow of water emerging from near the base of the working face, perhaps between sandstone and limestone beds, perhaps representing that which formerly flowed across this area in a watercourse shown in 1856 (see figure 3). The east and west sides of the guarry are of a similar height to the working face at their north ends, but they gradually decrease in height as they run towards the entrance on the south side. The entrance itself is formed by a 2.50m wide linear depression with steeply sloping sides standing up to 1.5m high: the west side is revetted with stone rubble.

Agricultural Features

3.25 A number of features were recorded by the survey that were associated with the agricultural use of the site, typically minor field structures and wall furniture.

Stock underpass

3.26 A stock underpass (5) survives in the field wall adjacent to Skellgill Lane forming the north boundary of the survey area. It is represented by an archway, now partly buried, but is c.0.80m wide and stands 0.30m high in the centre. The arch is made from roughly shaped limestone rubble voussoirs and it springs on either side from a large limestone block (or unworked outcrop) that projects slightly beyond the face of the wall above. The underpass opening is loosely blocked with limestone rubble. There is a slight rise in the level of Skellgill Lane here, in line with the underpass, which runs under the full width of the road, suggesting that the passage once ran to the field on the immediate north side of the lane. It was not possible to gain access into this field to see the northern entrance of the passage.

3.27 A number of stock underpasses have previously been recorded as part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's "Feature of the Season" project (www.yorkshiredales.org.uk - see Bibliography below). Stock underpasses are generally thought to have been created during the period of extensive parliamentary enclosure in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. They usually comprise narrow tunnels beneath walled trackways or roads, built to allow stock, mainly sheep but sometimes also cattle, to move from one field to another in safety, often to allow access to water. The recorded examples are concentrated in Wharfedale and Ribblesdale, which tends to reflect the overall distribution; a stock underpass near Malham was also recorded in 1994 (AWP 1995).

Hen house

3.28 A well preserved hen house (28), located on the southern edge of the survey area, was subject to a more detailed survey (see figure 7), and so it is described more fully in Chapter 4 below.

Field walls and wall furniture

- 3.29 As part of the survey work, a brief description was also made of the field walls within and immediately adjoining the survey area, including any surviving wall furniture. The walls are all of dry stone construction, with no significant areas of fencing, apart from the occasional wire patching or heightening where a stone wall has partly collapsed; all are also shown on the 1856 Ordnance Survey 6" map (see figure 3).
- 3.30 The field wall (29) forming the north boundary of the survey area, running east-west along the south side of Skellgill Lane, is of two distinct parts. The western half stands up to 1.8m high, although the average height is closer to 1.4m, and it has a slightly battered profile, being 0.8m wide at the base and 0.5m at the top. It is built of thinly coursed limestone rubble, with a single course of slightly projecting throughstones set at 0.6m above ground level and the remnants of slant coping. This section of the wall contains a single narrow gateway without stoops towards its centre. The gateway is now 1.2m wide but it was originally some 4.2m wide, having been substantially reduced in width in recent years. Towards the eastern end of this section, the wall line incorporates a stock underpass (5) (see above).
- 3.31 The eastern half of the wall is slightly lower, with an average height of 1.5m, but it also has a slightly battered profile, being 0.9m wide at the base and 0.5m wide at the top. It is built of limestone rubble, with three slightly projecting courses of throughstones set at 0.6m, 1.0m and 1.3m above ground level and slant coping. At the east end of the wall, it contains a gateway forming the principal entrance to the survey area and the quarry. As noted above, this gateway was also once substantially wider but has been narrowed by the use of coursed squared stone jambs (originally c.4.5m wide, now 2.5m).
- 3.32 The alterations to this gateway have obscured any relationship that the wall may once have had with the field wall running along the very east end of the north side and also along the east side of the survey area (30). Despite some local variations, the two main sections of this field wall appear to be of a contemporary build. The shorter east-west section running along Skellgill Lane stands up to 1.3m in height, and has a slightly battered profile, narrowing from 0.6m wide at the base to 0.4m at the top. There are three projecting courses of throughstones at 0.9m, 1.15m and 1.3m above ground level, with slant coping set directly onto the top of the uppermost throughstone course. The north-south section of wall running

along the east side of the survey area is slightly taller at 1.50m, and has throughstone courses at 0.5m, 1.1m and 1.4m above ground level. It runs down a steep natural slope, and appears to have at least one staggered joint along its course, in line with the base of a spread south-facing scarp. Towards the southern end of the survey area, the wall incorporates a blocked gateway c.1.8m wide in line with an east-west aligned trackway (25).

- 3.33 The wall surrounding the main area of quarrying within the survey area (31) butts the north boundary wall (30) on Skellgill Lane. On average, it stands up to 1.4m in height, although there are sections that reach 1.8m, and it is 0.7m wide at the base, narrowing to 0.45m at the top. The southern part has an intermittent course of shallowly projecting throughstones at 0.9m above ground level and slant coping. There are few throughstones to the western part, although this incorporates a sheep creep (15; see below) and has a gateway at its south end which, like all others noted within the survey area was once substantially wider (originally c.4.5m wide, now c.2.7m).
- Just beyond the south-west corner of the survey area, the field wall towards which a scarp (17) runs, was noted both in terms of its overall plan and also locally, to be generally more sinuous than the other lengths of recorded field walls. It stands 1.4m high on average, with a battered profile and measuring some 0.8m across at the base. It is built of random stone rubble, with no throughstones, but incorporates some thin flat pieces of stone; slant coping survives in some sections. The rubble within the wall decreases in size from the base to the top. Close to the point where the south end of the scarp meets the wall, the wall incorporates a large sub-rectangular upright stone, 0.75m high and 0.50m wide. It is not clear whether this is a natural feature or perhaps an earlier boundary marker of some kind which has been enclosed by a later field wall.
- 3.35 A single piece of wall furniture, a sheep creep (15), was recorded within the wall forming the west side of the survey area (31). It is located towards the southern end of the wall, c.17m north-west of the gateway for a trackway (7); it may be a later insert, rather than an original feature. It is 0.5m high and 0.3m wide. The jambs are formed by coursed squared limestone rubble, neatly laid and with a flat lintel. The wall face above the lintel has partly collapsed, and the creep is now crudely blocked with stone rubble.
- 3.36 On the same wall alignment (31), and immediately to the north of the gateway noted above, is Gill Keld Well (16). This appears on maps from at least 1856 onwards (see figures 3 and 4) and it is now formed by the partly rubble-choked remains of a rectangular trough, c.1.60m long and 1.0m wide, made from several upright stone flags. The flags butt the adjacent field wall (31), although it appears that the trough may once have passed beneath it, as there is an area of collapse above it; there is however no sign of the trough on the opposite (east) side of the field wall. Below the stone flag trough, there is an old metal trough of slightly smaller dimensions, and above it, a short section of drystone wall.

Other Features

3.37 A small number of other features, principally low-level earthworks of uncertain function, were recorded within the survey area. Above the east end of the main trackway (7), there is an earthwork platform (6), slightly terraced into the natural slope. The earthwork is approximately L-shaped in plan, aligned east-west, and measures 8.0m in length before returning sharply to the south for 2.0m at its east end. It may represent an area of quarrying, although its sharp definition, plan form

and position above the adjacent trackway could suggest that it represents the site of a former structure.

3.38 To the south of this feature, there are other earthworks (8), on either side of the angled field wall (31) on the south side of the main trackway (7). The easternmost earthwork is formed by a sub-oval linear depression, aligned north-east/southwest, measuring 9.0m long and 3.4m wide. The north side of the depression passes beneath the field wall, which has partly collapsed at this point. It reemerges to the west, where it is continuous with a 0.7m high south-facing scarp. This scarp has a concentration of stone along its upper edge, as well as one larger piece of limestone that may have been laid flat, suggesting that there was once a structure or wall line here. Some 5m to the west of the larger piece of limestone. the scarp splits into two. One branch continues west for a further 16m, eventually running into the line of the field wall (31). The other angles around to the north, west and south again to define a shallow sub-rectangular depression, some 4.0m long (north-south) by 2.5m wide (east-west). As noted above, there is a similar concentration of stone rubble in the sides of the depression, again perhaps suggesting that it may form the remains of a structure. Alternatively, some of these earthworks may be associated with a number of trees which are shown in this area on the 1893 and 1912 Ordnance Survey maps (see figures 3 and 4).

4 DETAILED SURVEY OF THE HEN HOUSE

Introduction

4.1 A well preserved hen house (28) is located on the southern edge of the survey area, set into a steep south-facing scarp. It was decided that this structure should be the subject of a more detailed survey. The historic maps suggest that the main structure of the hen house was built between 1854 and 1895 (when the relevant Ordnance Survey maps were surveyed - see figure 3), and it was presumably formerly associated with the farm at Spen House to the north of Skellgill Lane, although it lies at some distance from it.

Historical Background to Poultry Keeping

- 4.2 There would have been poultry kept on farms and in settlements during the medieval period within the Dales, but as yet, published information on the subject is limited. Hen houses are sometimes detailed as separate structures in medieval manorial complexes in West Yorkshire (Moorhouse 2003b, 193) and, given the scale on which large aristocratic and ecclesiastical households consumed such meats (some households had a sub-division of the kitchen known as the poultry, responsible for fowl and young animals of all kinds Woolgar 1999, 236), it would be surprising if such households within the Dales, such as the Scrope household at Bolton Castle, had not obtained at least some of their poultry requirements locally. Hens appear as "pullans" in 17th century Wensleydale and Swaledale inventories (Hartley & Ingilby 1981, 97).
- 4.3 Even in the later post-medieval and modern periods, detailed published references to poultry keeping in the Dales remain relatively uncommon in both early and more recent farming literature. For example, in Marshall's *Rural Economy of Yorkshire*, published in 1796, poultry merited only a single paragraph, considerably less than bees:
 - "Poultry. Nothing sufficiently striking has occurred to me, in this District, respecting the management or the breeds of poultry to excite particular notice. The different species and the management of them, are on a par with those of the island in general." (Marshall 1796, 228).
- 4.4 Poultry do not appear at all in Tuke's overview of agriculture in the North Riding (Tuke 1794); the equivalent survey for the East Riding does include plans of a goose and duck house and a poultry yard, but again these are done very much in the spirit of late 18th century model practice, rather than being typical of what one might have encountered in Wensleydale during the same period (Leatham 1794, 64-67, plate 1). Even over 150 years later, a study of farming in Swaledale also barely mentions poultry (Long & Davies 1948).
- 4.5 The paucity of detailed references is almost certainly due to the near universal presence of a small number of poultry on every farm, and their economic unimportance when compared to sheep and cattle; very large commercial poultry farms appear to be have been a relative rarity in the Dales even into the modern period, with most poultry serving either domestic needs or local markets. The economic unimportance of poultry was forcefully stated by Brown in 1793 in his overview of agriculture in the West Riding (then including some parts of what are now the Dales), although it must of course be remembered that his statements were made in the context of a drive for wider agricultural reform, as the following extract makes clear:

"Poultry. The profits arising from this article, are of no importance in an agricultural point of view; for it may be questioned, whether the expence of supporting them, when added to the damage they do to houses, and the depredations they commit on corn, both at feed time and harvest, does not far exceed any benefit which maybe drawn from keeping them. We allow it is very convenient for a farmer, to keep a few for his own table, and to supply his family with eggs; but any greater quantity we maintain to be prejudicial to his interest.

It is really diverting to read the modern declamations against inclosures, and the increased size of farms. The authors alluded to, take it for granted, that these measures lessen the number of poultry, and that the only way of getting the markets plentifully supplied with that article, is to lessen the size of the farms, and to keep the waste lands of the kingdom in their present unproductive state. At this time we shall not enter upon these topics, being convinced that such a discussion is wholly unnecessary. We may only say, that where poor people, labourers or others, get poultry supported at the expence of the farmer, it may be a material object to them, seeing that they are fed by others; but considering the question, do far as respects public advantage, the breeding and feeding of poultry ought never to be ranked as an object deserving the farmers attention.

It might also be a question, whether the benefit said to be derived by poor people is not in many cases imaginary. We have heard, that in some places, (not in the West Riding), a man would spend a day in going to market to sell a pair of chickens, the value of which did not compensate for the loss of time spent in disposing of them." (Brown 1793, 197-198).

4.6 Whether "prejudicial to his interests" or not, almost all farmers in the Dales would have kept some poultry on their farms and, although they might have been of lesser economic importance than sheep and cattle, poultry could still provide an important income for the farmer's wife or another female farm labourer. Contemporary agricultural manuals and encyclopaedias give details as to how the ideal hen or poultry house should be organised. One such example, dating from 1849, states that:

"It should have a full exposure to the south, and comprise an open shed for shelter from either rain or sunshine, and contain supplies of dry sand, ashes, small gravel and chalk for the uses of the birds. It should be continguous to a meadow or a common, and have a small opening in its enclosure, through which the birds can pass at will to the grass.

The poultry houses, or fowl-houses, or dormitories, should be lofty, and securely closed in the lower part, and as thoroughly open in the upper part as will merely comport with due shelter from rain. One, if very roomy, will generally be found enough for even a very numerous stock; yet two or more are useful in the case of great diversity in the habits of some of the stock, or for the purposes of separating the healthy from the diseased at the appearance of infectious disorders. The floor should consist of some material which will cause it to be dry and even, and allow it to be frequently washed; and it should be formed with a gradual slope towards the middle or towards one side, where a drain may carry off the liquid after washing and scrubbing; and this drain should terminate either in a general reservoir for liquid manure, or in a special reservoir for its own reception. The poultry house should be lime-whited every spring. The roosting poles should be a different heights and farther apart than the length of the largest birds. A rude ladder, or sloping-board with transverse bars, should extend from the floor to the lowest pole

to facilitate the ascent of the chickens who have left their coops and are beginning to roost. The boxes for nests should be constructed of unplaned boards, and fastened to the walls about 3 feet from the ground; and may be placed in an outside building devoted to the purpose, but must never, in any case, be placed in the poultry-house. Clean short-straw must be coiled round the nests; but hay, on account of both its smell and of its harbouring insects, is always unsuitable.

A stock of fowls should consist of pullets and hens of from one year to four years, and of no larger a proportion of cocks than one to every 24 or 30 hens. A large number of laying fowls is quite as easily attended to as a very small number. But the woman who has charge of them must have a mild temper, and a kindly disposition, and watchful and careful habits; and she may mightily repress or powerfully improve the whole establishment; and even though she be ever so good a servant, she ought to be somewhat sharply looked after by the master. Daily, when the fowls are in the field or elsewhere, she should wash the floors, nests and roosts, renew the supply of dry sand and gravel in the poultry yard, and attend to all other matters which affect the general health of the stock." (Wilson 1849, 933).

- 4.7 The same source then goes on to criticise those who handle newly hatched poultry too roughly, noting that such a person:
 - "... may possibly prove as great a foe by his ignorance and lubberliness, as the fox and the polecat and the gled and the raven all together by their voracity; and just as in a well managed poultry establishment, these foes are kept away by a proper construction of the building, or with the aid of a good terrier, so ought every barbarous human impertinent to be kept aloof by the most stringent commands of the master." (Wilson 1849, 934).
- 4.8 It appears that not all involved in poultry rearing took notice of the best practice laid out in contemporary manuals, as slightly later in c.1880, another commentator wrote of poultry houses that:
 - "Poultry keeping is a branch of farming that is generally too much neglected in England, the accommodation given to poultry stock being mostly limited in extent and of the most makeshift character. But if it is desired to turn poultry properly to best account, they should have a good spacious fowl-house allotted to them, with yard and shed attached, the house being moderately warm and perfectly dry. Warmth may be ensured by placing the fowl house in the neighbourhood of the boiler, or some flue that is in constant use, where fires are always kept up for the purpose of preparing the food of the general stock." (Beeton c.1880, 287-88).
- 4.9 By the early 20th century, there had been a move away from stone and brick poultry houses, towards a greater use of more portable timber structures, some of which were pre-fabricated (Wright c.1910, 42-43; Barron & Leigh 1922, 1-17; Blount c.1930, 37-39). Contemporary catalogues (for example, Cooper c.1910; Sutcliffe 1927) list an enormous variety of such structures; William Cooper Ltd devoted over 70 pages of their catalogue to poultry houses (Cooper c.1910, 151-222), varying from their most modest model, the "Favourite", described as the "Cheapest House in the Trade", to the far more grand and larger "Invicta" and "Renown" house. Many of the larger models were mounted on either wheels or sledge-like runners so that they could be moved.
- 4.10 An important mid 20th century account of poultry keeping using such moveable wooden houses survives for Brick House Farm at Askwith in lower Wharfedale.

The practices described there probably differed little from those undertaken across the Dales for many years before:

"In the 1940s, when two hundred hens would earn nearly enough to provide a living for one man, most Dales farms kept poultry and Brick House was no exception. There were one or two hen huts in the garth (a small paddock of about half an acre immediately below the garden), holding up to two hundred birds. Usually the farmer's wife looked after the fowls, whilst the farmer saw to the repair and cleaning out of the huts, which he would move to fresh ground from time to time.

The birds were a mixture of Rhode Island Reds, White Leghorns, or Buff Orpingtons, breeds scarcely heard of today. They were fed on cooked kitchen scraps, some meal from the Corn Merchant's (if there were enough coupons), and corn. Oystershell and limestone grit were available so that the eggs had good, strong shells. The 'pop-hole' in the hen hut was opened in the morning to let the hens out, and closed at sunset to protect them from foxes or other predators. Sometimes the last one or two would not go into the hut at night, and it was very frustrating, at the end of a long, tiring day, to have to turn out at dusk and spend the next half an hour at the mercy of their whims. They would jump onto the ramp leading to the hole but, just when you thought they were about to go in, jump down again and run round the back of the hut, so that you had another frustrating ten minutes to spend out in the dark.

Sometimes the hen huts were moved into the wood adjacent to Brick House Farm to give the grass garth a good rest. The hens loved scratching about in the woods, and found all sorts of interesting and juicy extras to supplement their diet. The eggs, particularly those of the Rhode Island Reds, were large and had rich golden yolks, mainly due to the greenery eaten by the hens.

In the spring a cockerel was sometimes run with the hens, and when one became broody she was given a clutch of fertile eggs and fastened into a brooding box, filled with hay for a nest. Twice a day she was let out to exercise and to feed. At other times the farmer might purchase day-old chicks for rearing under heat, or four to eight week old pullets which were housed in wooden arks on the clean grass or in the wood. These arks were triangular in shape, with roofs sloping down to the ground and a floor consisting of slats on which the birds could perch. A triangular run of netting, attached to the ark, meant that the birds could scratch the earth but not wander away or be exposed to foxes and rats. The arks were moved on to fresh ground every day or two, and were light enough to move by hand when the birds were young.

As they became older, they were moved into a clean henhouse, away from the other birds, so that they did not pick up any infection. This house would have been brushed free of dust, dirt and cobwebs, had its perches and dropping boards soaked, scraped and cleaned, and its roof re-felted, if necessary. If time permitted it may have been creosoted inside and out to destroy parasites and germs, but raw creosote had to be avoided as it would have burnt the birds' feet and claws.

When the arks were no longer required by the pullets, perhaps fifty or so cock chicks would be bought in June and reared in them. Where corn had been grown the arks were carried out on to the stubble. Eventually the young birds were let out and fattened on the cornseed which had dropped out of the sheaves, or been shed out of the standing corn. As autumn approached, and after threshing, they were

brought into the empty stackyard to clean up the split corn and other leftovers from Threshing Day.

As the older birds stopped laying, the big ones were killed, plucked and sold for the table. The cockerels, now fattened on the corn and household scraps, were killed and plucked against orders received for Christmas, and delivered a day or so beforehand. Traditionally the profits from the sale of eggs and poultry belonged to the farmer's wife, and provided a healthy additional source of income. It is hard to believe now that chicken, and poultry meat in general, was regarded as luxury meat, only to be eaten as a treat on special occasions." (Watkinson 1997).

4.11 The mixed flocks of old and young birds described above are stated by Hartley and Ingilby as being the usual practice in the Dales (Hartley & Ingilby 1981, 97), and the account also supports the more general observation that poultry keeping on farms remained a largely female preserve (Brunskill 1999, 88).

Hen Houses in the Yorkshire Dales and Elsewhere

- 4.12 A number of hen houses have been recorded as part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's "Feature Season" of the project (www.yorkshiredales.org.uk - see Bibliography below). Sometimes hen houses and piggeries were combined into a single building known as a "poultiggery" or a "hennery-piggery", with pigs housed on the ground floor and hens in a loft overhead. Both animals were thought to benefit from this arrangement; the pigs kept away predators such as foxes and the heat generated by them encouraged laying, while the hen loft over helped to keep the pigs warm. Many of the recorded examples are of a similar form to that recorded by the current survey, of a single storey with single-pitch stone-flag roofs (see below), but many are located within or close to the main farmstead.
- 4.13 Such structures clearly had a distribution outside of the Dales, both regionally and nationally; a hennery-piggery of a very similar form was recorded by the Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group (YVBSG) at Low Birkwith, on the Lancashire/North Yorkshire border (Armstrong *et al* 1996, 4-11), and Armstrong makes reference to a limited number of other examples in the Pennine Dales (Armstrong 2000, 47-48). The association of pigs and poultry was also common in Cheshire and Lincolnshire, although here the poultry houses were usually located close to the farm house (Barnwell & Giles 1997, 62 & 143-144).

Structural Description (see figure 7)

- 4.14 The hen house is of a single storey and almost square in plan, with a single pitch stone-slated roof sloping downwards from west to east; the sandstone roofing slates or flags are large, being up to 1.0m long by 0.75m wide, and they form impressive examples of their type. The hen house itself is built of neatly squared and coursed sandstone and limestone, with two slightly projecting bands or courses to the east and west elevations (see plate 7).
- 4.15 The main access to the interior is through a doorway in the south elevation. This doorway is lined with thin stone slabs, with a thin flat lintel; there are two small circular holes in the slab forming the west jamb of the doorway, one towards the foot and one towards the base, which would have housed the pintles or other fittings supporting the door. The doorway is flanked by a window to the west; the sill has a series of small dowel holes placed towards the exterior, which would have held wooden uprights preventing access by foxes and other predators. The

east elevation contains a narrow "pop-hole" with a ramp which leads onto the top of an adjacent structure (see below); the pop-hole provided the access into the hen house for the hens. The west and north elevations (the latter almost completely hidden by the adjacent former quarry face) are both blank.

- 4.16 The interior of the hen house is crossed by a single large scantling timber some 0.20m square supporting the large roof slates above. There are four nesting boxes each in the north and west internal elevations, set 0.75m above the internal floor level. There are a further two recesses in the internal east wall, but these are of a slightly different form to the nesting boxes described above. They flank the pop-hole with the ramp leading to the exterior (see plate 8). The ramp and base of the pop-hole are formed from a single piece of slate, which slopes downwards from west to east. The slate also projects 0.18m into the interior of the house, and at its internal end are the remains of the wooden and stone slate shutter used to close it up at night. There is a small recess or socket set at a higher level over the pop-hole, while in the west wall there is a line of intermittent projecting stones, also at a high level. The function of these features is uncertain, but they may have been used to secure roosting poles, although they do seem quite close to the roofing slates. There are traces of limewash to the interior.
- 4.17 There is also a small structure on the east side of the hen house. At 1.20m in height, it is considerably lower than the main house, and is rectangular in plan, measuring 2.00m in length (east-west) by 1.60m in width (north-south) (see plate 7). There is a 0.90m wide opening at the west end of the south wall, with a much smaller and lower opening to the east. The interior has a low ceiling height, only 0.80m, and it is corbelled downwards internally towards the east end of the structure. It is possible that this structure may once have been used to accommodate ducks or perhaps a few geese, but the distance of the hen house from the farm, together with some of the comments made by the agricultural commentators (see above), might suggest that it was in fact a dog kennel. The dog would have performed a similar function in keeping away any predators, much as pigs were supposed to do in the combined hennery-piggeries. The cartographic evidence suggests that this smaller structure was added to the main hen house at a slightly later date, after 1893 (see figures 3 and 4).

5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Although the majority of the archaeological features recorded within the survey area are of 18th, 19th and 20th century date, as might be expected they are set within the remains of a multi-phase landscape which has developed over an extended period of time.
- 5.2 The earliest features recorded within the survey area are a series of prominent scarps and banks (17, 19, 22, 24 and 26), which possibly represent the remains of a field system laid out on an approximate north-west/south-east alignment. Some of these scarps were apparently topped with walls, either originally or at a later date. The probable building platforms (27) noted to the north-east of the hen house may be associated with this field system; a detailed measured survey at Town Head in Askrigg, to the east of the survey area, has recorded numerous building platforms within the field system there (Moorhouse 2003a, 307). The building platforms within the Grange Gill survey area are likely to be medieval in date, as are parts of the field system, although without additional survey over a much larger area, it is difficult to place them within any wider context.
- 5.3 The earliest evidence for lime-burning within the survey area is the sow kiln (23). As stated above, excavation and research on these kinds of kilns has been undertaken by the Ingleborough Archaeology Group in the Craven district of North Yorkshire (Johnson 2006; Johnson 2007). The example within the survey area conforms broadly to the dimensions and forms of the sites researched and excavated by the Group. Some kilns occurred singly, whereas at one site there were six in a row; excavation revealed that some had well-constructed stone-built internal stoke-hole arrangements, and differences recorded in the bowl lining suggested a progression from clay to full stone cladding. Evidence for the use of coal, charcoal or wood as a fuel was also recovered at some sites. Two of the excavated kilns contained partially disarticulated horse burials, strongly suggestive of post-abandonment ritual activity. Where the kilns could be dated, a broad range of 17th century dates was obtained, although it was acknowledged that some could be earlier (Johnson 2006, 6 & 25).
- 5.4 The Grange Gill sow kiln could also be 17th century in date, although it evidently did not exist in isolation, and its wider landscape context is at yet uncertain. The placing of such kilns within their wider landscape settings is an ongoing process. Some examples in Craven have been found to be built within earlier prehistoric or Romano-British settlements, so as to re-use stone from their banks to build the kilns; in one case, the proximity to a stone supply suitable for construction appeared to be more important than proximity to the source of limestone guarrying (Johnson 2006, 11 & 19). At Newby Cote, a line of six sow kilns were tentatively associated with a quarry some c.40m to 100m to the north, although it was considered unlikely, given the volume of the quarry, that all the stone removed from it had been fired in the kilns. The Newby Cote kilns may have been used to produce lime for agricultural improvement during the later medieval or early postmedieval periods (Johnson 2006, 9, 17 & 33-34), although a 17th century sow kiln excavated at Kilnsey may have provided lime for the mortar used in the mid 17th rebuilding of the nearby Kilnsey Hall (Johnson 2007).
- 5.5 It is not at present possible to identify any quarries within the survey area that are definitely associated with the sow kiln. One possible early area of quarrying may exist on the very southern edge of the survey area, where the hen house is now located. This quarrying is not shown on the 1856 or later Ordnance Survey maps, but in 1893, an earthwork to the immediate east of the survey area which appears

to be continuous with these quarries is marked as an "Old Quarry". Alternatively, the early quarrying may have lain to the north of the kiln, and perhaps been removed by later working, or it may lie completely outside the current survey area. The function of the kiln is similarly uncertain. If it was associated with the production of lime for agricultural improvement, and it is of 17th century date, then this would suggest that it lay either within or very close to land already enclosed by this period, which would in turn have implications for the development of the survey area.

- It is clear from the evidence of the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map that limestone quarrying was well underway by the mid 19th century, and that the main quarry area (10) had assumed the plan dimensions, if not actual depth, similar to those surviving today. This suggests that working had been taking place here since at least the early 19th century, although possibly not much earlier. The gradual northward progression of the working face can be seen in the various historic maps (see figures 3 and 4), and the wall (31) surrounding the quarry butts the wall (29) running along the south side of Skellgill Lane.
- 5.7 Initially, the main guarry may have been used to provide walling material, as no lime kiln is shown on the site in 1856, although of course lime could have been taken away for burning elsewhere. However, by 1892 (when the 1893 map was surveyed), a kiln (19) had been built at a convenient point to the south of the main quarry. The construction and form of the kiln are what might be expected from a mid-late 19th century example, although the lime shed to the front, the provision of a poking hole and the "shoe" to the draw-hole mark it out as a better designed kiln than the standard (Johnson 2002, 46); the provision of the lime shed in particular is associated with a commercially operated kiln where lime was produced for sale, to take advantage of newly-enclosed farm land (Johnson 2002, 46-47). The 1893 Ordnance Survey map suggests that the kiln was sourcing stone from a second, new, quarry (21) to the south as well as the main quarry to the north (10), and a well graded access track (7) allowed the finished product to be removed from the site; perhaps this also allowed additional stone to be brought in when necessary. There are documentary references to the building of a lime kiln in Grange Gill in 1836 (Johnson 2002, 23), but the cartographic evidence seems fairly convincing that this was not the one in the present survey area.
- 5.8 The stock underpass (5) in the north boundary wall of the survey area is also likely to have been created during the period of parliamentary enclosure which took place here in the early 19th century. Although it would seem illogical to create an underpass directing stock into an area very close to the quarry edge, this 1856 map shows that the working face lay further to the south at this time (see figure 3). Perhaps the underpass was blocked once the terrace above the quarry had been reduced in size, i.e. around 1912.
- 5.9 The hen house (28) on the southern edge of the survey area is a well-preserved example of this type of building. The cartographic evidence appears to suggest that a smaller attached eastern kennel-like structure, possibly used for geese, ducks or possibly a dog, was a slightly later addition, i.e. after 1892. This might explain the slight differences noted in the form of construction of the recesses and pop-hole on the east side of the main hen-house. Comparisons with other recorded examples in the Dales, together with further oral and documentary research in the area, would allow a more detailed history of domestic poultry keeping in the Yorkshire Dales to be constructed.

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1893	Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile map sheet 66/3 (surveyed 1892)
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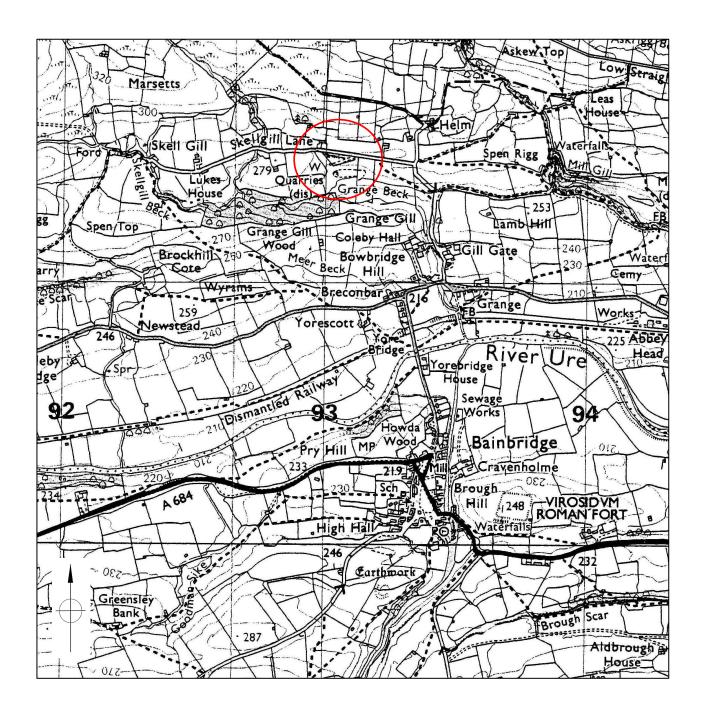
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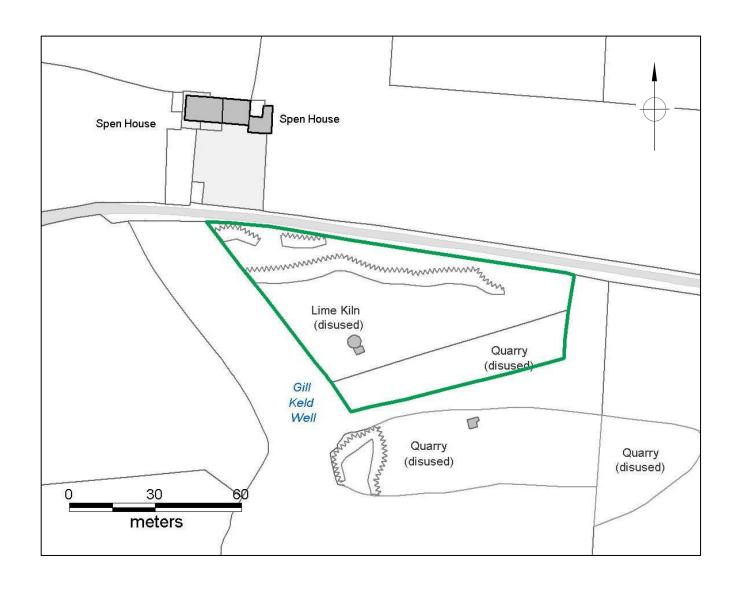
7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1 The archaeological recording at Grange Gill was commissioned by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. EDAS would like to thank Robert White and Miles Johnson of the YDNPA for their assistance and co-operation in carrying out the survey.
- 7.2 The on-site earthwork survey was undertaken by Shaun Richardson (EDAS) and Dave Kempley (Benchmark Surveys), while the more detailed surveys of the sow kiln, lime kiln and hen house were undertaken by Shaun Richardson, Ed Dennison and Richard Lamb. Shaun Richardson produced the site archive and a draft report. Robert White and Miles Johnson kindly provided comments on the draft report. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison of EDAS, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



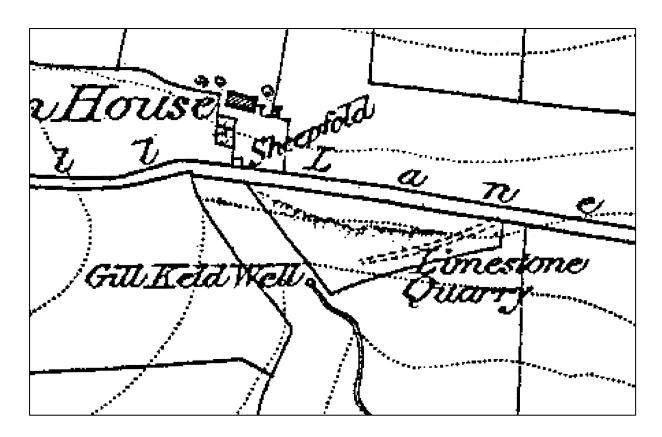
Reproduced from the 1:25,000 scale map by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright 1995. All rights reserved. Licence AL100013825

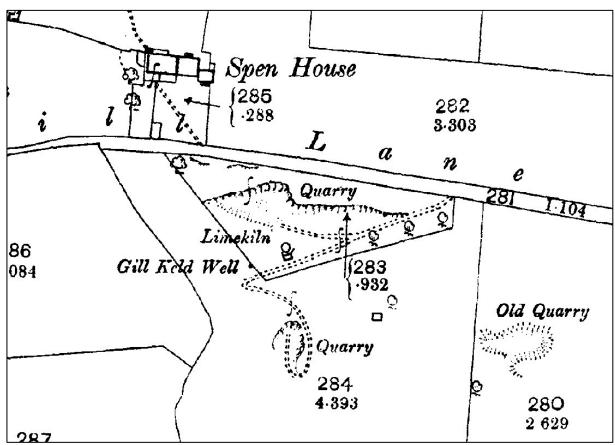
GRANGE GILL QUARRY		
GENERAL LOCATION		
NTS	OCT 2009	
EDAS	FIGURE 1	



Plan provided by YDNPA, reproduced with permission.

GRANGE GILL QUARRY		
GHANGE GILL GOAHITT		
TITLE		
SURVEY AREA		
SCALE	DATE	
AS SHOWN	OCT 2009	
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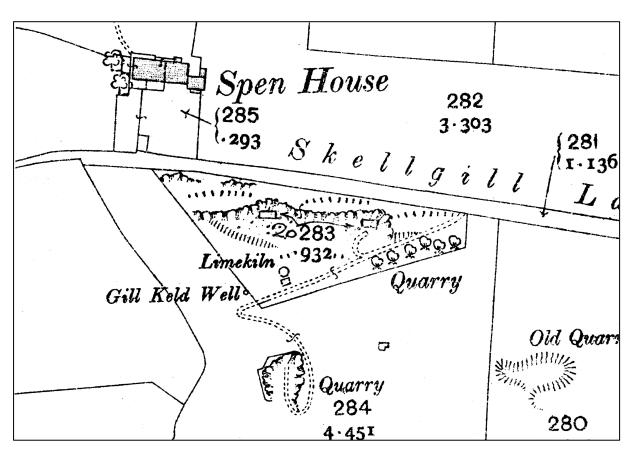


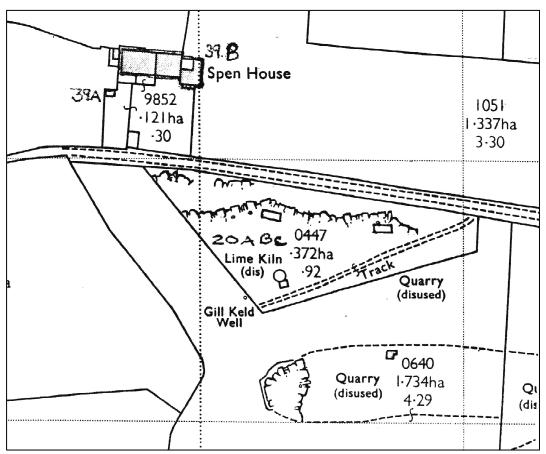


Top: Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map (sheet 66) (surveyed 1854).

Bottom: Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map (sheet 66/3) (surveyed 1892).

GRANGE GILL QUARRY	
HISTORIC MAPS	
NTS	OCT 2009
EDAS	FIGURE 3

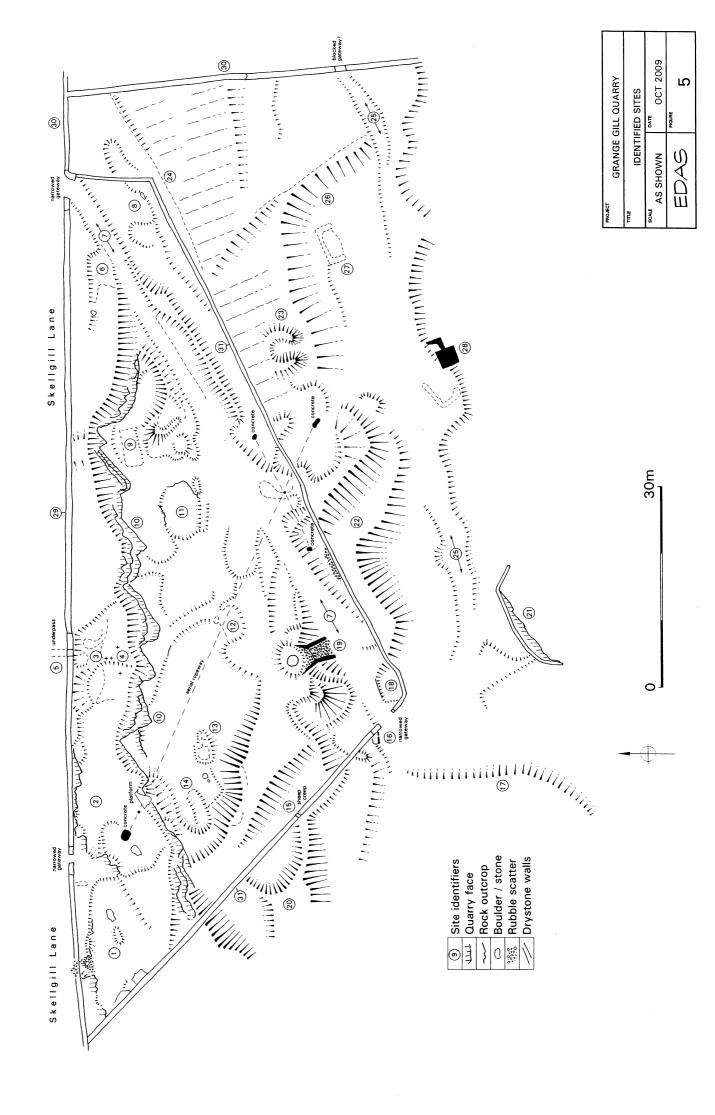


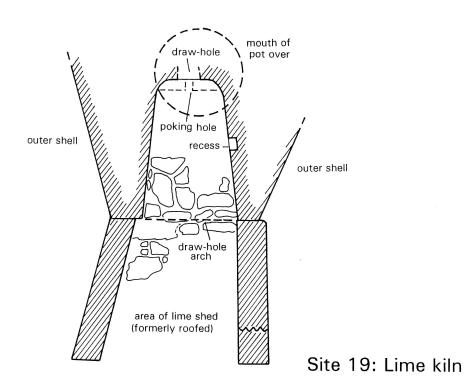


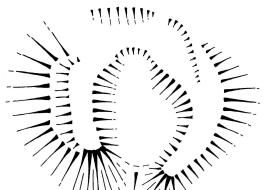
Top: Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map (sheet 66/3) (revised 1910).

Bottom: Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map (sheet SD9299).

GRANGE GILL QUARRY	
HISTORIC MAPS	
NTS	OCT 2009
EDAS	FIGURE 4





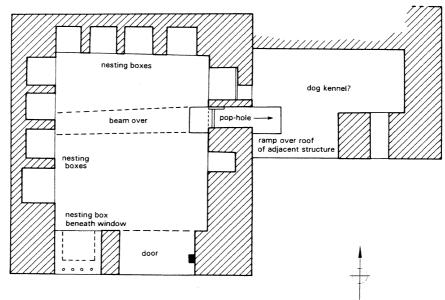


Site 23: Sow kiln

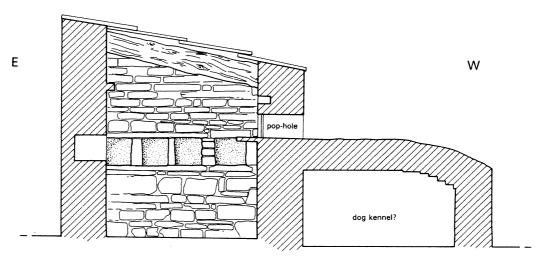


GRANGE GILL QUARRY	
SITES 19 & 23	
AS SHOWN	OCT 2009
EDAS	FIGURE 6

Old quarry face



Plan



East-west section

0_____3m

GRANGE GILL QUARRY	
HEN HOUSE	
AS SHOWN	OCT 2009
A S STICKIN	001,2003
EDAS	Figure 7



Plate 1: West end of main quarry (Site 10), looking NW.



Plate 2: Access track (Site 7), looking NE.



Plate 3: Building platform (Site 9), looking E.



Plate 4: Sow kiln (Site 23), looking NE.



Plate 5: Lime kiln (Site 9), before consolidation, looking N.

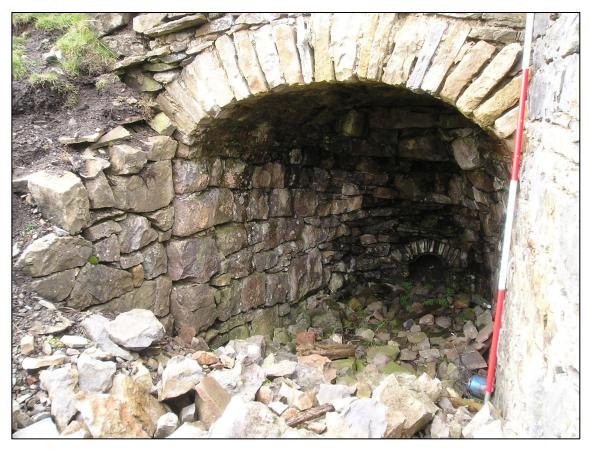


Plate 6: Draw-hole arch and interior of lime kiln (Site 9), before consolidation, looking NW.

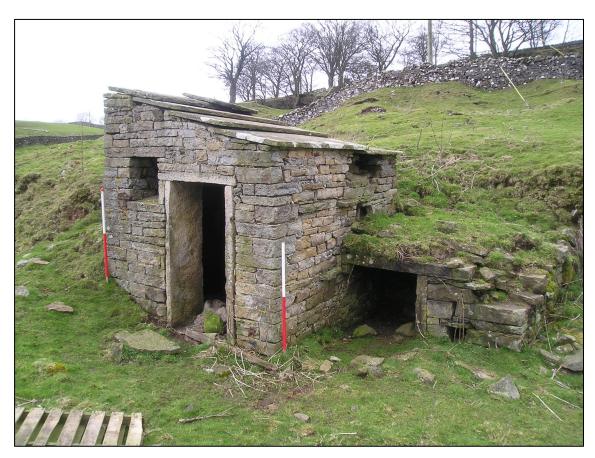


Plate 7: General view of hen house and attached structure (Site 28), looking NW.



Plate 8: Internal east wall of hen house (Site 28) showing recesses and pop-hole, looking NE.

APPENDIX 1

Site No: 01 Site Name: Quarrying, north-west corner of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9299091490 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Quarries Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site: Woodland

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

An area of quarrying, located in the north-west part of the survey area. An outcrop or quarry face is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1893 and 1912 25" maps [1] [2].

The area of quarrying is sub-oval in plan, measuring c.20m long (east-west) by a maximum of 10m wide (north-south). The north side is formed by a vertical limestone working face, with an average height of 0.8m. In the centre of the face, there is a c.2.6m wide gap, the limestone returning to the north on either side towards the adjacent field wall. The sides of both returns are relatively straight, but the gap is now filled with angular stone rubble. Where the sides of the gap meet the field wall, the wall appears disturbed or altered. It may possibly preserve the outline of a single pitch gable, suggesting that a small building may once have covered the gap in the working face, utilising the returns as the base of its walls.

At its eastern end, the north side of the quarry curves around to the south-west, to become a shallow and spread north-west facing scarp. On the west side of the quarry, there is a short length of exposed limestone running parallel to the adjacent field wall, and roughly bisected by a large ash/sycamore tree. The base of the quarrying area is relatively level, with a low oval mound towards the centre and some exposed limestone, the surface of which is now worn quite smooth [3].

The form of the quarry is of the hillside type, as defined by the English Heritage Step 3 MPP report for the quarrying industry, with the vertical scale being either unbenched or outcropping [4]. No tool marks or other similar features are visible in the working face, and so it is assumed that the limestone was extracted using hand tools and wedges to split the rock [5].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [4] Richardson, S & Trueman, M 1997 "MPP Quarrying Industry: Step 3: Introduction to Site Assessments", 8-9

[5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 02 Site Name: Area of quarrying, north-west part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301591485 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Quarries Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08Vegetation cover: GrassPhotographed by:S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08Film/Frame No: 2/6

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

An area of quarrying, located in the north-west part of the survey area. An outcrop or quarry face is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1893 and 1912 25" maps [1] [2].

The area of quarrying is sub-rectangular in plan, measuring c.36m long (east-west) by a maximum of 13m wide (north-south). The western half of the north side is formed by a vertical limestone working face, stepping in and out in plan, with an average height of 1.2m. The eastern half is of a similar height, but is formed by an even south-facing scarp set beneath the adjacent field wall. The east side of the quarrying area is defined by a 0.5m high west-facing scarp, which appears to be truncated by the much larger quarry face (Site 10) to the south. The west side of the quarry is similarly defined.

The majority of the base of the quarrying area is not level, but is formed by a series of very shallow depressions and mounds. There is a slightly more prominent sub-oval depression at the west end, curving around to meet the concrete anchor block for the rope slide; the telegraph pole supporting the upper end of the slide stands close by on the southern edge of the quarrying area, with an adjacent plank ramp projecting over the edge of the larger quarry face (Site 10) below. There are a number of better defined depressions at the east end of the quarrying area's base (Site 3), as well as a number of pieces of iron projecting from the ground here (Site 5) [3].

The form of the quarry is of the hillside type, as defined by the English Heritage Step 3 MPP report for the quarrying industry, with the vertical scale being either unfenced or outcropping [4]. No tool marks or other similar features are visible in the working face, and so it is assumed that the limestone was extracted using hand tools and wedges to split the rock [5].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [4] Richardson, S & Trueman, M 1997 "MPP Quarrying Industry: Step 3: Introduction to Site Assessments", 8-9

[5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance. The site is not suffering any significant damage through the use of the rope slide.

Site No: 03 Site Name: Earthworks, north edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9302591490 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthwork Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/4-5

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Earthworks, on the north edge of the survey area. Two earthwork features, located at the east end of the base of a larger area of quarrying (Site 2). The western feature is the larger of the two, and is represented by a shallow (0.5m deep) sub-oval or "eye-brow" shaped depression, aligned east-west, measuring c.6.0m long by a maximum of 2.5m wide across the centre. The depression narrows markedly at either end, with the west end perhaps forming a neck or opening into the interior, although there are old vehicle tracks to the south of the depression, and so the "neck" may be no more than a worn rut. The north face of the quarrying area slopes steeply upwards on the north side of the depression.

The smaller eastern depression is sub-oval in plan, and aligned north-south, measuring some 2.0m long by 1.0m wide; like the western depression, it is rather shallow, measuring a maximum of 0.5m deep in the centre. The eastern side is either partly defined by or cut out of limestone, although there is nothing resembling a built structure or artificial edging. A shallow linear depression curves around the south-east of the main body of the feature, while there is a second similarly sized depression to the immediate north-west [1].

The smaller eastern earthwork bears a passing resemblance to a number of chopwood kilns recorded in Grass Woods, Grassington and could be interpreted a very truncated example of one of these [2]. However, this is considered unlikely, as it lies close to a blocked stock underpass (Site 4) in the adjacent field wall. Given that this probably dates to the 18th or 19th centuries, it is more likely that the earthwork was created by stock passing through the underpass, and then it was partly backfilled when the underpass itself was backfilled [3].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

[2] Dennison, E & Richardson, S 2007 "Grass Wood, Grassington, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Survey" (EDAS report 2006/280.R01)

[3] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by: Vehicles

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance or rutting by vehicles.

Site No: 04 Site Name: Iron bars, north edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9302491484 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Iron bars Form: Ruined structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Iron bars, north edge of survey area. Four iron bars project up to 0.2m above the ground surface at the eastern end of the base of a larger quarrying area (Site 2). All of the bars are made of wrought-iron; two have a T-section, while the other two have a flattened section and are looped around at the head. None are formed by re-used tramway rails [1].

Re-used lengths of tramway rail, used to revet spoil heaps or support temporary wooden structures, are reasonably common survivals at larger quarrying sites [2]. The iron bars recorded by the survey may once have performed a similar function, although there was no clear evidence for this [3].

References:

- [1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [2] Dennison, E & Richardson, S forthcoming "Burtersett Quarry Stone Mines, Burtersett, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Survey"
- [3] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Above average Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 05 Site Name: Stock underpass, north edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9302691490 Qualifier1: Exact Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Stock underpass Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/3

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Stock underpass, north edge of survey area. The underpass is set to the west of centre of the field wall forming the north boundary of the survey, and is located towards the wall's base. It comprises an archway, now partly buried, but is c.0.8m wide and stands 0.3m high in the centre. The arch is made from roughly shaped limestone rubble voussoirs and springs on either side from a large limestone block (or unworked outcrop) that projects slightly beyond the face of the wall above. To the south of the underpass, there are a number of earthwork features (Site 3), one of which may be associated. The underpass opening is loosely blocked with limestone rubble. Due to the raised ground level on the north side of the field wall, the top of the underpass cannot be seen in the north face of the field wall. However, there is a slight rise in the level of Skellgill Lane here, which runs the full width of the road, suggesting that the underpass once ran to the field on the immediate north side of the lane [1].

A number of stock underpasses have been recorded as part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's "Feature of the Seasons" project. Stock underpasses are generally thought to have been created during the period of extensive parliamentary enclosure in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. They usually comprise narrow tunnels beneath walled trackways or roads, built to allow stock, mainly sheep but sometimes also cattle, to move from one field to another in safety, often to allow access to water. The recorded examples are concentrated in Wharfedale and Ribblesdale, although it is not known if this reflects the area in which recording has taken place rather than any overall distribution [2].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

[2] www.yorkshiredales.org.uk

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 06 Site Name: Earthwork, north-east part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9308391476 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval

Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/1

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Earthwork, north-west part of survey area. An earthwork, slightly terraced into the natural slope above a trackway (Site 7). The earthwork is approximately L-shaped in plan, aligned east-west, measuring 8.0m in length and returning sharply to the south for 2.0m at its east end; beyond this point, it is continuous with the scarp defining the north side of a trackway (Site 7). The earthwork is formed by a well-defined near vertical scarp, with a large piece of limestone set at its western end, although it may continue slightly beyond this as spread feature [1].

The earthwork may represent an area of quarrying, although the sharp definition, the plan form and its position above the adjacent trackway could suggest that it is actually a former structure [2].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

[2] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Above average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance. Unlikely to decay any further through natural weathering.

Site No: 07 Site Name: Trackway, crossing central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9310591476 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 250m

NGR 2: SD9302291444 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Trackway

Period general: Post medieval

Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture

Inspected by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08;

Film/Frame No: 1/18; 2/21

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Trackway, crossing central part of survey area. A trackway is shown leaving the south side of Skellgill Lane on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map and running into the area of quarrying (Site 10) [1]. By 1893, the trackway had been extended to the south-west, continuing through the field wall marking the western boundary of the quarry and then turning sharply to the south-east before looping back on itself to enter another quarry (Site 21). A second track branches off the main alignment towards the main quarry face [2]. The main alignment is similarly depicted in 1912, although there is now another branch curving around to the north-east corner of the main working area [3]. The main trackway only continues as far as the western boundary of the quarry in 1977 [4].

The trackway leaves the south side of Skellgill Lane and enters the survey area through a gateway at its north-east corner. Either side of the gateway have been rebuilt, and it appears that it was once considerably wider, being c.4.5m rather than the existing 2.5m. After passing through the gateway, the trackway is aligned north-east/south-west and can be followed for c.45m as a 2.0m wide flattened linear strip. The trackway is defined by a 0.5m high south-east facing scarp on the north side. The eastern end of the south side is similarly defined, but the scarp here gradually rises to become a bank. The bank thickens out to measure a maximum of 2.0m across the flattened top and stands up to 1.2m in height, the sides sloping steeply if somewhat unevenly downwards. It then becomes substantially narrower again, but maintains a similar height, and can be traced as far as the point where the track fades out. This appears to equate approximately with the extent of the trackway as shown on the 1856 map, although it may once have curved slightly to the north-west into a slightly raised sub-rectangular area.

The course of the trackway is then very poorly defined for c.20m, at which point it resumes again as a flattened linear strip of the same dimensions as previously noted. The trackway runs above a sharply sloping south-facing scarp, standing over 1.2m in height, to the south, past a lime kiln (Site 19) and then above another south-facing near vertical scarp (Site 18), partly revetted by a low limestone rubble wall. The trackway passes through another gateway which, like that leading from Skellgill Lane, was formerly 4.5m in width but has been substantially narrowed. Beyond this point, the south-west continuation of the trackway towards the quarry (Site 21) shown in 1893 and 1912 survives as an earthwork to the immediate north of the quarry's boundary wall. The trackway may once have been continuous with another trackway (Site 25) running into the area from the east [5].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by: Vehicles

Specific management recommendations: Avoid deliberate disturbance. Some minor rutting by vehicles.

Site No: 08 Site Name: Earthworks, north-east part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9309191467 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthworks Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 3/9

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Earthworks, north-east part of survey area. A series of earthwork features, either side of a field wall on the south side of a trackway (Site 7). The easternmost earthwork is formed by a sub-oval linear depression, aligned north-east/south-west, measuring 9.0m long and 3.4m wide. It is a maximum of 0.8m deep, the north side being slightly deeper than the south. The north side of the depression passes beneath a field wall, and the field wall has partly collapsed at this point. It re-emerges to the west, where it is continuous with a 0.7m high south-facing scarp. This has a concentration of stone along its upper edge, as well as one larger piece of limestone that may have been laid flat, suggesting that there was once a structure or wall line here. Approximately 5m to the west of the larger piece of limestone, the scarp splits into two. One branch continues west for a further 16m, eventually running into the line of a field wall. The other angles around to the north, west and south again to define a shallow sub-rectangular depression, measuring some 4.0m long (north-south) by 2.5m wide (east-west). As noted above, there is a similar concentration of stone rubble in the sides of the depression, again perhaps suggesting that it may form the remains of a structure. Alternatively, some of these earthworks may be associated with a number of trees which are shown in this area on the 1893 and 1912 Ordnance Survey maps [1]-[3].

References:

- [1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Destroyed Vunerability: Low

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 09 Site Name: Ruined building, eastern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9306891475 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Building Form: Ruined structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site: Pasture

Inspected by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08;

Film/Frame No: 1/25; 2/14

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Ruined building, eastern part of survey area. No building is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" and 1893 25" maps, but one is marked here in 1912, although in a later hand which is not part of the original map, at the end of a branch of a trackway (Site 7) [1]-(3]. A building, apparently ruined and again in a later hand, is also shown here in 1977 [4].

The building is located in the base of the east end of the main quarry (Site 10) within the survey area, at the bottom of the working face. It is now very ruinous but was once rectangular in plan, aligned east-west, measuring 6.0m long by 2.5m wide. Only the south side retains any standing masonry, formed by a part-buried wall 0.4m high and 0.4m wide; the other sides are all defined by low scarps. No doorways, windows or other features are visible, although there was presumably once an opening in the west wall to allow access from the trackway branch. The former interior of the building is partly filled with rubble, including some modern material and broken glass [5].

The function of the building is unclear. It may once have been used for dressing, but there is marked lack of dressing waste around the survey area, indeed of spoil heaps of any kind. It may therefore have served a shelter or storage function [6].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [6] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Poor Vunerability: Low

Damaged by: Other disturbance/intrusion Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance or modern dumping into this area.

Site No: 10 Site Name: Quarry, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9299591475 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: SD9308091470 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: MYD29165 NMR No: SAM No: Other: Monarch 596078

Description

Type: Quarries Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08 Film/Frame No: 1/20-21, 23 & 26

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Quarry, central part of survey area. A "Limestone Quarry" is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map, with a working face of a similar length to that now existing [1]. It is similarly deposited in 1893 and 1912, although the working face has moved further to the north, and is named as a "Quarry", by which date a lime kiln (Site 19) is also shown [2] [3]. The same working face is shown in 1977, when the quarry is marked as "Disused" [4].

The quarry area occupies most of the northern half of the survey area. The principal feature is the limestone working face on the north side. The face is aligned approximately east-west, is over 100m in length and stands up to between 4.0m to 5.0m high. It retains evidence for almost horizontal bedding planes within the rock, varying between 0.5m to 1.5m in height. The working face is near vertical in some places, but along much of its length it has a shallowly stepped profile, stepping backwards from the base to the top in a series of benches, sometimes coinciding with the horizontal bedding planes. This is most pronounced at the eastern and western ends of the working face. In several places, the face has had numerous pegs knocked into it so that it can be used as a climbing wall.

The base of the quarry is not flat, but rather undulates gently and contains a number of more distinct features. At the very west end of the quarry are the fragmentary remains of a building (Site 14), with another possible structure (Site 13) to the east; both have a steep north-facing scarp, up to 2.0m high, running along their south sides. To the east of the possible structure, there are a number of small modern campfires formed by circles of stone; only one of these is shown on the survey plan. The central part of the quarry base is formed by a series of low spread and poorly defined linear and curvilinear scarps, possibly overlooked by another structure (Site 12) on the slightly higher ground to the south. There is a second ruined building (Site 9) at the very east end of the quarry base, with a prominent sub-angular depression (Site 11) to the south-west. The former is set into the narrow V-shaped eastern end of the quarry base, with the quarry face to the north and a very steep north-facing scarp over 2.0m high to the south. There are several small linear or sub-rectangular mounds and banks above the scarp, between it and an adjacent trackway (Site 7); these appear to relate to quarrying activity, rather than being the remnants of structures or other features [5].

The form of the quarry is of the hillside type, as defined by the English Heritage Step 3 MPP report for the quarrying industry, with the vertical scale being benched [6]; this was not only done for ease of working, but also to avoid dangerous overhangs [7]. No drill marks or other similar features are visible in the working face, and so it is assumed that the limestone was extracted using hand tools and wedges to split the rock [8].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [6] Richardson, S & Trueman, M 1997 "MPP Quarrying Industry: Step 3: Introduction to Site Assessments", 8-9

[7] Hartley, D 1939 "Made in England", 121 [8] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Above average Vunerability: Low

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance. The climbing pegs have caused some minimal damage to the quarry face, but this is not considered to be a problem meriting any further action.

Site No: 11 Site Name: Depression, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9305091470 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Depression Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Quarry

Inspected by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08

Photographed by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08

Film/Frame No: 1/24

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Depression, central part of survey area. A marked depression, set into the eastern end of a larger quarry base (Site 10). The depression is aligned east-west, c.8.0m long and 4.0m wide, with sloping sides up to 1.0m in height. The base is relatively flat. The east ends of the north and south sides are formed by vertical working faces, standing up to 0.4m in height. The working faces are mostly aligned north-east/south-west, parallel to those exposed in the working face of the main quarrying area (Site 10), although there is a north-south aligned face forming the east end of the depression. It is possible that the working faces may once have been used as the bases for walls of a small quarry structure, although the depression is more likely to represent a former area of working which was pursued to a slightly greater depth than the surrounding parts of the main quarrying area's base [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 12 Site Name: Possible platform or structure, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9303591464 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Platform Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Quarry

Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Possible platform or structure, central part of the survey area. The platform is located on the edge of an area of slightly raised ground to the south of the main quarrying area's base (Site 10). It is sub-rectangular in plan, aligned east-west, c.5.0m long by 2.5m wide and shallow, with the scarps forming the sides standing no more than 0.3m in height. The east side comprises a spread curvilinear bank that appears to contain a higher proportion of stone rubble than the other sides. The earthwork may represent the denuded remains of a structure or platform, but could also have resulted from quarry working [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 13 Site Name: Possible structure or platform, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301191470 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Platform? Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Quarry

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Film/Frame No: 2/9

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Possible structure or platform, central part of survey area. A possible structure or platform, located at the eastern end of the base of the main quarrying area (Site 10). The site is formed by a low sub-oval mound, aligned east-west, c.5m long, 3m wide and standing up to 0.5m in height. The western half of the upper surface of the mound is more sharply defined than the rest, and may form the remains of a small structure, c.2.0m square, and apparently containing a higher proportion of stone rubble than the rest of the earthwork. It may of course be the result of quarry working [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 14 Site Name: Ruined building, western end of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301591465 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Building Form: Foundations

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Quarry

Inspected by: E Dennison EDAS 04/03/08

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08;

Film/Frame No: 1/22; 2/9

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Ruined building, western end of survey area. No building is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" or 1893 25" maps, but one is marked just to the east of here in 1912, although in a later hand and not part of the original map [1]-(3]. A building, apparently ruined and again in a later hand, is also shown to the east of here in 1977 [4].

The building is located in the base of the west end of the main quarry (Site 10) within the survey area, at the bottom of the working face and bounded by a steep east-facing scarp to the west. The building has now almost completely disappeared above ground, with only a short length of wall footings visible in plan on the former line of its north wall. Otherwise, it is represented by a shallow sub-rectangular depression, aligned east-west, c.6.0m long and 2.5m wide. As noted above, the ruined building stands a short distance to the west of those shown on the later Ordnance Survey maps, but nothing resembling a building is now visible in the latter area, and so it may perhaps be shown in the wrong location on the map [5].

The function of the building is unclear. It may once have been used for dressing, but there is marked lack of dressing waste around the survey area, indeed of spoil heaps of any kind. It may therefore have served a shelter or storage function [6].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [6] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Poor Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 15 Site Name: Sheep creep, western boundary of the survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301091460 Qualifier1: Exact Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Sheep creep Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/8

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08

Description:

Sheep creep, western boundary of the survey area. A sheep creep, set into the wall forming the western boundary of the survey area (Site 31). The sheep creep is located towards the southern end of the wall, c.17m north-west of the gateway for a trackway (Site 7), and may a later insert rather than an original feature. It is 0.5m high and 0.3m wide. The jambs are formed by coursed squared limestone rubble, neatly laid and with a flat lintel. The wall face above the lintel has partly collapsed, and the creep is now crudely blocked with stone rubble [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Above average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance. Will probably collapse further in the future, damaging the adjacent sections of the wall.

Site No: 16 Site Name: Gill Keld Well, western boundary of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301791447 Qualifier1: Exact Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: MYD29164 NMR No: SD99SW44 SAM No: Other: Monarch 596077

Description

Type: Well / trough Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/22

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Gill Keld Well, western boundary of survey area. A "Gill Keld Well" is marked here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map, and is depicted as a circular feature with an open drain or watercourse leaving on the south-east side and following a sinuous route to the south-east [1]. The site is similarly depicted in 1893 and 1912, although the circle is marked closer to the adjacent field boundary wall than in 1856, and the watercourse formerly running south-eastwards had gone, almost certainly because another quarry (Site 21) had been excavated to the south [2] [3]. The site is marked and named in a similar fashion in 1977 [4].

The site is situated immediately adjacent to a gateway through which a trackway (Site 7) passes. The upper part of the site is formed by a short section of drystone revetment wall, L-shaped in plan and standing up to 0.5m in height. Below this are the partly rubble-choked remains of a rectangular trough, c.1.6m long and 1.0m wide, made from several upright stone flags. The flags butt the adjacent field wall (Site 31), although it appears that the trough may once have passed beneath the field wall, as there is an area of collapse above it; there is however no sign of the trough on the opposite side of the field wall. Below the stone flag trough, there is an old metal trough of slightly smaller dimensions. A small amount of water was still flowing out of the troughs at the time of the survey.

To the south, on the north side of the drystone wall preventing stock from falling into a deep quarry (Site 21), a sinuous east-facing scarp is visible, standing up to 0.7m in height. Its shape in plan suggests that it may be a remnant of the watercourse shown crossing this area in 1856. There is a second scarp to its west; however, this has an L-shaped plan, is west-facing and is generally also steeper and better-defined. It stands up to 0.5m high and has a short return to the west at its north end; there appears to be a concentration of stone rubble within the scarp at this point [5].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299

[5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Above average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 17 Site Name: Scarp, south-west part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9301091425 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 255m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Scarp Form: Earthwork
Period general: Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 2/24-25; 3/1

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 01/04/08

Description:

Scarp, south-west part of survey area. A curvilinear east-facing scarp, aligned north-south and running for c.30m from a point immediately south-west of a trough/well (Site 16), towards a drystone field wall. At its northern end, the scarp is spread and stands only 0.5m high, but it becomes more prominent as it moves southwards, rising to c.1.0m in height. It then begins to fall again as it curves around to the south-west.

The field wall towards which the scarp runs lay outside of the survey area, but it was noted that both in terms of its overall plan and also locally, it is generally more sinuous than the field walls recorded within the survey area. It stands 1.4m high on average, with a battered profile and measuring some 0.8m across at the base. It is built of random stone rubble, with no throughstones, but incorporates some thin flat pieces of stone; slant coping survives in some sections. The rubble within the wall decreases in size from the base to the top. Close to the point where the scarp meets the field wall, the wall incorporates a large subrectangular upright stone, 0.75m high and 0.50m wide. It is not clear whether this is a natural feature or perhaps an earlier boundary marker of some kind which has been enclosed by a later field wall [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 18 **Site Name:** Structure, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9302491442 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Structure Form: Ruined structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Quarry

Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 31/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Structure, central part of survey area. The structure lies on the south side of the lower half of a trackway (Site 7), next to the point where it passes through a gateway in the wall forming the western boundary of the survey area. The north side of the structure is formed by a drystone limestone rubble wall, c.3.5m long and standing up to 0.4m high; this length of walling is also depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map but not on earlier or later editions. At the west end, a low east-facing scarp returns to the south for a short distance towards the field wall, while to the east, a more prominent south-facing scarp passes beneath an adjacent field wall to form part of a group of similar features (Site 22).

The structure could be interpreted in one of two ways. Firstly, it may form the remains of a small rectangular building that pre-dates the adjacent trackway, standing at the west end of a prominent south-facing scarp which pre-dates the adjacent field wall. On the basis of the cartographic evidence, this part of the trackway may have been created between 1893 and 1912. The back (north) wall of an earlier structure may have been retained as a revetment for the trackway; it is noticeable that there are no traces of a revetment anywhere else along the track's route. Alternatively, and perhaps more likely, the south-facing scarp to the east of the structure may once have continued northwards to join with a similar feature to the west of the lime kiln. When the trackway was extended through this area between 1893 and 1912, a depression at the base of the scarp needed to be backfilled to carry the trackway across it, and so the revetment wall was built [1] [2].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

[2] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 19 Site Name: Lime kiln, central part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9303091454 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: MYD36965 NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Lime kiln Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site: Quarry

Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 04/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08; **Film/Frame No:** 1/8-17 & 19; 2/16;

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08;

21/05/09

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Richard Lamb 04/03/08; 19/03/08

Description:

Lime kiln, central part of survey area. No lime kiln is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map, but a "Limekiln" does appear in 1893 and 1912, depicted as a circular feature with a small square feature to the south. It is similarly depicted in 1977, although by this date is it marked as "Lime Kiln (dis)" [1]-[4]. The kiln was previously visited and surveyed by David Johnson [5]. A kiln was known to have been built in this area in 1836: James Willis, a farmer at Yorescott just north of Bainbridge, paid John Atkinson 10 shillings towards the building of a new kiln in Grange Gill as well as 8 shillings for burning a pre-determined quantity of lime. This may have been the kiln near Spen House, or the one in Grange Gill Wood [6].

4/19-24

The lime kiln stands to the south of the west end of the main quarrying area (Site 10), on the north side of a trackway (Site 7). The lime kiln has been built into a steep south-facing scarp, standing up to 3.0m in height. The upper part is formed by the mouth of the circular pot, c.1.50m in diameter and with walls standing up to 0.80m high; the thinly coursed interior stonework is heavily vitrified, particularly to the north and south sides, while the uppermost two courses of stone are decayed and have partly fallen into the interior. The pot mouth is set within a raised sub-oval mound, c.4.0m long and 3.0m wide, and standing up to 1.0m in height. The south side of the mound is badly eroded, exposing the rubble core of the lime kiln body which is now falling away due to the partial collapse of the kiln's south face.

The main visible element of the body of the kiln is the south face of the outer shell, which is built of squared rubble, roughly coursed. The south face contains the 1.90m wide draw-hole arch. The arch is 1.90m wide and has a broad but shallowly arched head of narrow rubble voussoirs. From the draw-hole arch, the internal walls of the kiln taper inwards in gentle curves towards the flat back-section of the interior, which is some 0.95m wide; the east internal wall contains a small recess, some 0.20m square in plan and standing 0.15m in height, set c.0.50m above floor level, perhaps once for housing a candle or lamp. The flat-back section of the kiln contains the single draw-hole or eye at its base; the draw eye is 0.43m wide, 0.36m high and is filled with a wrought-iron "shoe". Above the draw-hole, the back wall of the interior is corbelled inwards as it rises to a maximum height of c.1.0m; there is a second smaller opening, a poking hole, located directly above the draw-hole at between 0.66m and 0.80m above the current internal ground level. The interior of the draw-hole arch is choked with rubble.

The south-face of the kiln rises for a further 1.0m above the draw-hole arch; it once rose slightly further, although the very upper part has now collapsed. At either end, the south face returns to the north, the returns splaying outwards to either side of the pot, although they are now visible largely in plan only. The draw-hole arch in the south face of the kiln was once covered by a small lime shed with a single-pitch stone slated roof; the pitch of the roof, sloping downwards from east to west, is still visible above the draw-arch. Both walls of the structure are built of coursed squared rubble (with alternating deeper and shallower courses), apparently originally set with a lime mortar, and they splay outwards in plan towards their southern ends. The west wall stands to maximum height of 0.88m (and appears to be close to its original height), while the east wall is much taller at 2.30m. At c.0.77m in from its south end, the east wall contains a ragged joint rising through its full height. The stonework to the south of the crack has been repointed or re-built using a relatively modern mortar, perhaps representing an attempt to preserve the ruin. Like the kiln interior, the former interior of the shed is choked with rubble.

As noted above, the lime kiln is set into a steep south-facing scarp rising to a maximum of 3.0m in

height. To the east of the kiln, the scarp gradually decreases in height as it runs eastward. There is a slightly flattened area to the north of it, with a lower scarp on its north side, perhaps the remains of a loading ramp to reach the mouth of the kiln's pot? To the west of the lime kiln, the scarp is less even, incorporating a number of breaks of slope. It curves around to the north, and then eastwards, apparently disturbing the line of an earlier west-facing scarp; there is a noticeable concentration of stone rubble in the former where it crosses the latter. The earlier scarp is aligned north-west/south-east, stands up to 1.5m high and continues northward for c.16m. It may once have been continuous with similar features (Site 22) to the south, but was later disturbed both by the construction of the limekiln and the adjacent trackway (Site 23) [7].

A further visit was made to the lime kiln in May 2009, following the clearance of rubble from the interior and conservation works. The rubble clearance revealed that both the interior of the draw arch and of the lime shed retained traces of flagstone paving. Following clearance, it could be seen that the small recess in the east internal wall of the draw arch was set between 0.60m and 0.78m above the internal floor level. The base of the draw eye was set 0.10m above ground level and 0.85m above the base of the poking hole [8].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Yorkshire Dales Lime Kiln Survey (LOW ABB9)
- [6] Johnson, D 2002 "Limestone Industries of the Yorkshire Dales", 23
- [7] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [8] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Above average

Damaged by: Environmental cause/neglect **Specific management recommendations:**

Avoid deliberate disturbance. Carry out consolidation works (subsequently completed in 2009).

Site No: 20 Site Name: Earthworks, western edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9300091456 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 265m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthworks Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Description:

Earthworks, western edge of survey area. A number of earthworks on the western edge of the survey area, immediately adjacent to a field wall and to the north of a trough/well site (Site 16). Described from north to south, the northernmost feature is a very steep south-facing scarp over 2.0m high, that appears to be a continuation of the main working face of the main area of quarrying (Site 10). There is a smaller north-facing scarp to the south, and then a curving east-facing scarp, standing up to 1.5m in height. This may pre-date the adjacent field wall and might perhaps have once been open to the east, perhaps forming another area of quarrying? The southernmost feature is a south-facing scarp, steeply inclined and standing up to 2.0m in height. It is aligned east-west but at the east end angles to the south-east to run parallel to the adjacent field wall for c.9.0m [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 21 Site Name: Quarry, southern edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9303091410 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: MYD45172 NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Quarry Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site: Quarry

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Film/Frame No: 3/3 & 25

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 01/04/08

Description:

Quarry, southern edge of survey area. No quarry is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map [1]. By 1893 and 1912, a substantial U-shaped quarry is depcited. A wall is also shown running around the top of the north and west sides of the quarry face, with a trackway (Site 7) running to the east side and then curving around to enter the south end of the quarry [3]. The site is similarly depicted in 1977, although by this date the quarry is marked as being disused and is no longer accessed by the track [4].

Only the northern edge of the quarry fell within the survey area, although enough notes were taken to allow a brief description to be made. A c.16m long remnant of the drystone wall shown around the top of the quarry in 1912 still survives; it stands up to 0.5m in height and is built of heavily mossed stone rubble. The wall is on average 0.6m wide but retains no coping. It contains several straight joints, presumably where it was extended as the quarry below was expanded. The wall would have been erected to prevent stock falling into the quarry.

To the south of the wall, there is a near vertical drop, comprising the working face of the quarry, which stands between 5.0m to 6.0m in height. There is a flow of water emerging from near the base of the working face, perhaps between sandstone and limestone beds, and is presumably that which formerly flowed thought the watercourse shown in 1856 pre-dating the quarry. The east and west sides of the quarry are of similar height to the working face at their north ends, but gradually decrease in height as they run towards the entrance on the south side. The entrance is formed by a 2.5m wide linear depression with steeply sloping sides standing up to 1.5m in height; the west side is revetted with stone rubble [5].

References:

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3
- [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 22 Site Name: Earthworks, southern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9305091440 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthworks Form: Earthwork

Period general: Unknown period Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Description:

Earthworks, southern part of survey area. A series of scarps, largely south-west facing, lying in the area between a field wall and a trackway (Site 25). Described from west to east, the westernmost feature is a spread south-facing scarp, standing up to 1.5m in height but containing several breaks of slope and badly burrowed by rabbits in places. This curves around to the south-east before becoming shallower and gradually fading out; it has a total length of some 35m. It may once have been continuous with other similar features to the north (see Site 19) and to the south-east (Site 26).

Above and to the north, there is a second scarp, also spread and badly rabbit burrowed but south-east rather than south facing. It curves around to the east, entering an area of disturbed ground containing poorly defined hollows and mounds. Where the rabbits have burrowed into the scarp, the resulting upcast is rather shaley in nature. It may be that the scarp and associated features are the remains of tipping from the main quarrying area (Site 10), although the form of the earthworks and the nature of the rabbit upcast do not resemble spoil heaps recorded at other quarry sites. It may be that the scarp represents the tipping of earth overburden which was removed before working of the stone could commence [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by: Burrowing animals

Specific management recommendations:

Control rabbits?

Site No: 23 **Site Name:** Sow kiln, southern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9307591450 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: MYD52636 NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Sow kiln Form: Earthwork

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 17th century

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08; **Film/Frame No:** 1/1-7 & 37; 3/5-7

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/R Lamb 04/03/08

Description:

Sow kiln, southern part of survey area. A sow kiln, to the south a field wall and now surviving as an earthwork. It is formed by a horse-shoe shaped earthwork, open to the south side, with maximum dimensions of 8.5m east-west by 6.5m north-south. The earthwork was created by excavating a bowl, now just over 0.5m in depth, into a natural slope. The bowl is sub-oval in plan, measuring 5.0m in length (north-south) by 3.5m in width (east-west), and has a flue/stoke-hole opening on the south side that is c.0.5m in width at the base. The interior base of the bowl slopes downwards from north to south.

The north end of the bowl appears to still be formed by the natural slope, but the east and west sides are flanked by curvilinear banks, at least partly formed by the upcast from the bowl excavation. Both banks are of broadly similar form, with steeply sloping sides and flattened tops, thickest towards the centre but then narrowing again as they curve inwards to their southern ends. However, they are not identical, the west bank having a slight raised linear mound along its top, while the east bank contains a higher proportion of visible stone rubble. There is some erosion and slippage to the northern edge of the bowl, partly caused by rabbit burrowing, with further rabbit activity immediately to the east [1].

Excavation work carried out by the Ingleborough Archaeology Group has demonstrated that the surviving earthworks of a sow kiln may only hint at the structure which lies beneath, including stone-lining to the bowl and stone-built stoke holes and flues. Many of the examples excavated by the Group were dated broadly to the 17th century, with some apparently having gone out of use in the later 17th century. The example recorded by the current survey may be of broadly similar date [2] [3].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

[2] Johnson, D et al 2006 "The Sow Kiln Project: Excavation of Clamp Kilns in the Yorkshire Dales"

[3] Johnson, D 2007 "Report on the Excavation of a 17th century Lime Kiln at Town's Piece, Kilnsey, North Yorkshire"

Management

Site importance: Regional Condition: Above average Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by: Environmental cause/neglect **Specific management recommendations:** Avoid deliberate disturbance. Control rabbits?

Site No: 24 Site Name: Possible wall line, eastern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9308291456 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: SD9310891465 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Wall line? Form: Earthwork

Period general: Unknown period Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 01/04/08

Description:

Possible wall line, eastern part of survey area. The possible wall line is aligned north-east/south-west, and runs for a distance of c.28m. It is formed by a narrow linear bank, between 0.3m to 0.4m across but standing only 0.2m high. It appears to contain a high proportion of stone rubble, and at the time of survey the grass along its line was distinctly yellow in colour in comparison with that to either side. It is possible that the wall line may once have joined with a similar feature visible running along the top of a scarp (Site 26) to the south.

The natural ground level slopes steeply downwards to the south of the possible wall line for over 20m, but in several places it has been broken by spread earthwork features, most now only poorly defined. The northernmost of these are two small sub-circular hollows. Below these, the natural slope appears to broken by a spread south-facing scarp, aligned east-west and up to 1.2m in height, although only faintly visible within the larger slope. It may form the remains of a denuded terrace, and it may be significant that there is a ragged joint in the adjacent field wall in line with the east end of the base of the feature. There is a much smaller scarp on a similar alignment positioned approximately half-way between the latter and a trackway (Site 25) to the south [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 25 Site Name: Trackway, southern edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9302891428 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: SD9311691425 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Trackway

Period general: Unknown period

Period specific:

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 3/13

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Description:

Trackway, southern edge of survey area. The trackway can be seen crossing the field immediately to the east of the survey area as shallow linear depression on a north-east/south-west alignment. At the point where it enters the survey area, there appears to be an area of rebuilding to the field wall, 1.8m wide. This may represent a blocked gateway, but could also be an area of rebuilding caused by the wall being built across the trackway and then slowly collapsing into it. Within the survey area, the trackway assumes a more east-west alignment, although it remains locally sinuous. At its eastern end, it is formed by a holloway, c.3.4m wide and 0.7m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a relatively flat base. It then narrows and becomes shallower, eventually forming a flattened linear strip which runs westwards along the north edge of an area of former quarrying. Its route is difficult to follow immediately to the north of a former fowl house (Site 28) but it can be seen again to the west, as a flattened linear strip with a 0.50m high south-facing scarp on the north side. The trackway curves to the north beyond a quarry (Site 21); it may then have joined with another trackway (Site 7) or perhaps have curved around to the west of some other earthworks (Site 20) [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate infilling.

Site No: 26 Site Name: Earthworks, eastern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9308891438 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Earthworks Form: Earthwork

Period general: Unknown period Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 Film/Frame No: 3/8

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Description:

Earthworks, eastern part of survey area. A spread but prominent west-facing scarp, standing up to 1.2m in height, with a possible buried wall line running along the top. Like the southern end of the scarp, the possible wall line is aligned north-west/south-east, and comprises a low linear bank, averaging 0.4m wide and 0.2m high. It appears to contain a high proportion of stone rubble and the grass along its length is distinctly yellowier than that to either side; it may once have been continuous with a similar feature (Site 24) visible to the north. The scarp runs northwards for 12m before curving around to the west, to run westwards for a further 20m. At the point where it curves round, a smaller scarp continues north-westwards above it on a similar alignment to its southern part. The main scarp may once have been continuous with other similar features (Site 22) to the west [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 27 Site Name: Possible buildings, south-eastern part of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9309091445 Qualifier1: Centered Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Platform? Form: Earthwork
Period general: Unknown period Period specific:

Land use on site:PastureLand use around site:Inspected by:S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08Vegetation cover: GrassPhotographed by:S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08Film/Frame No: 3/14

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS 01/04/08

Description:

Possible building, south-eastern part of survey area. A possible building or building platform, set at the base of a south-facing scarp (Site 26). It appears to be aligned just off east-west, rectangular in plan, c.5.0m long and 2.5m wide. The north, east and west walls are defined by very slightly-raised banks which appear to contain at least some stone rubble and which, when viewed from a distance, are slightly yellowier than the grass to either side. The south side of the structure may once have been open, but this is not certain. There may be another structure of similar dimensions and on the same orientation to the immediate south. A third similar structure may exist to the north of a former fowl house (Site 28) [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Below average Vunerability: Below average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

Site No: 28 Site Name: Hen house, southern edge of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9307091422 Qualifier1: Exact Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: Qualifier2: Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Fowl house Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site: Pasture Land use around site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 04/03/08 Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: E Dennison/S 04/03/08; Film/Frame No: 1/27-36 & 38-44;

Richardson EDAS 01/04/08 3/12, 15 & 21

Surveyed by: S Richardson/E Dennison EDAS/Richard 04/03/08

Lamb

Description:

Hen house, southern edge of survey area. Nothing is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map but by 1893 a small isolated and unnamed square structure is depicted. By 1912 it is an L-shaped building [1]-[3]. It is similarly depicted in 1977 [4].

The hen house is located on the southern edge of the survey area, and set into the steep south-facing scarp which marks the northern extent of another area of quarrying. At the time of the survey, the structure was in good condition, roofed and with part of wooden pallet used to block the doorway; the interior was largely empty, with the exception of a number of dead rabbits and the partial remain of a dead sheep. It was not possible to determine what the original flooring material was.

The hen house is of a single storey and sub-square in plan, measuring 2.74m in length (north-south) by 2.45m in width (east-west), with a single pitch stone-slated roof sloping downwards from west to east; the sandstone roofing slates or flags are large, being up to 1.0m long by 0.75m wide, and form impressive examples of their type. The hen house itself is built of neatly squared and coursed sandstone and limestone, with two slightly projecting bands or courses to the east and west elevations. The walls are on average 0.45m wide. The main access to the interior is through a doorway in the south elevation. The doorway is lined with thin stone slabs, and also has a thin flat lintel; there are two small circular holes in the slab forming the west jamb of the doorway, one towards the foot and one towards the base, which would have housed the pintles or other fittings supporting the door. The doorway is flanked by a window to the west; the window sill has a series of small dowel holes placed towards the exterior, which would have held wooden uprights preventing access by foxes and other predators. The east elevation contains a narrow pophole with a ramp formed by a single stone slate, which leads onto the top of an adjacent structure (see below); the pop-hole provided the access into the hen house for the hens. The west and north elevations (the latter almost completely hidden by the adjacent former quarry face) are both blank.

The interior of the hen house is crossed by a single large scantling timber some 0.20m square supporting the roof slates above. There are four nesting boxes each in the north and west internal elevations, set 0.75m above the internal floor level. Each box is c.0.3m square and 0.3m high, although there are some minor variations in their size, the southernmost example in the west wall is noticeably larger than the others. There is a single box in the south wall beneath the window. There are a further two recesses in the internal east wall, but these are of a different form to the nesting boxes described above. At 0.2m in width, the southern recess is somewhat narrower, while the northern recess is of the same general proportions but has a back formed by an upright stone slate, blocking a small opening running through the width the wall. The recesses in the east wall flank the pop-hole with the ramp leading to the exterior. The ramp and base of the pop-hole are formed from a single piece of slate, which slopes downwards from west to east. The slate projects 0.18m into the interior of the house, and at its internal end are the remains of the wooden and stone slate mechanism used to close it up overnight.

As stated above, there is a small structure on the east side of the hen house. At 1.2m in height, it is considerably lower than the main house, and is rectangular in plan, measuring 2.00m in length (east-west) by 1.60m in width (north-south). There is a 0.90m wide opening at the west end of the south wall, with a much smaller and lower opening to the east. The interior has a low ceiling height, only 0.80m, and is corbelled downwards internally towards the east end of the structure [5].

A number of hen houses have been recorded as part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's "Feature of the Seasons" project. Sometimes hen houses and piggeries were combined into a single building known as a "poultiggery", with pigs housed on the ground floor and hens in a loft overhead. Both were though to benefit from this arrangement; the pigs kept away predators such as foxes while the hen loft helped to keep the pigs warm. Many of the recorded examples were of a similar form to the that recorded by the current survey, of a single storey with single-pitch stone-flag roofs but were located within or close-by to the main farmstead. There is another recorded example in Apersett, near Widdale Beck, Wensleydale [6]. The example recorded by the current survey was presumably formerly associated with the farm at Spen House to the north of Skellgill Lane, although it lies at some distance from it. The structure at the east end of the hen house might have once housed a pig, although it is perhaps more likely to have accommodated a dog, ducks or perhaps a few geese. The cartographic evidence suggests that the eastern structure was a slightly later addition [7].

- [1] Ordnance Survey 1856 6" map sheet 66
- [2] Ordnance Survey 1893 25" map sheet 66/3
- [3] Ordnance Survey 1912 25" map sheet 66/3 [4] Ordnance Survey 1977 25" map sheet SD9299
- [5] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit
- [6] www.yorkshiredales.org.uk
- [7] Shaun Richardson EDAS, pers. comm.

Management

Site importance: Regional Condition: Good Vunerability: Medium

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

First compiled by: SR 05/08 Last updated: ED 06/09

Site No: 29 Site Name: Length of drystone wall, south side of Skellgill Lane

Location

NGR 1: SD9297991498 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 270m

NGR 2: SD9310291478 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Wall Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 04/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

The field wall forming the north boundary of the survey area, running east-west along the south side of Skellgill Lane, is of two distinct parts. The western half stands up to 1.8m high, although the average height is closer to 1.4m, and it has a slightly battered profile, being 0.8m wide at the base and 0.5m at the top. It is built of thinly coursed limestone rubble, with a single course of slightly projecting throughstones set at 0.6m above ground level and the remnants of slant coping. This section of the wall contains a single narrow gateway without stoops towards its centre. The gateway is now 1.2m wide but it was originally some 4.2m wide, having been substantially reduced in width in recent years. Towards the eastern end of this section, the wall line incorporates a stock underpass (Site 5).

The eastern half of the wall is slightly lower, with an average height of 1.5m, but it also has a slightly battered profile, being 0.9m wide at the base and 0.5m wide at the top. It is built of limestone rubble, with three slightly projecting courses of throughstones set at 0.6m, 1.0m and 1.3m above ground level and slant coping. At the east end of the wall, it contains a gateway forming the principal entrance to the survey area and the quarry. This gateway was also once substantially wider but has been narrowed by the use of coursed squared stone jambs (originally c.4.5m wide, now 2.5m). The alterations to this gateway have obscured any relationship that the wall may once have had with the field wall running along the very east end of the north side and also along the east side of the survey area (Site 30) [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Good Vunerability: Above average

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

First compiled by: SR 05/08 Last updated: ED 06/09

Site No: 30 Site Name: Length of drystone wall, east side of survey area

Location

NGR 1: SD9310591476 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: SD9311591400 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Wall Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 04/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

Despite some local variations, the two main sections of this field wall appear to be of a contemporary build. The shorter east-west section running along Skellgill Lane stands up to 1.3m in height, and has a slightly battered profile, narrowing from 0.6m wide at the base to 0.4m at the top. There are three projecting courses of throughstones at 0.9m, 1.15m and 1.3m above ground level, with slant coping set directly onto the top of the uppermost throughstone course.

The north-south section of wall running along the east side of the survey area is slightly taller at 1.50m, and has throughstone courses at 0.5m, 1.1m and 1.4m above ground level. It runs down a steep natural slope, and appears to have at least one staggered joint along its course, in line with the base of a spread south-facing scarp. Towards the southern end of the survey area, the wall incorporates a blocked gateway c.1.8m wide in line with an east-west aligned trackway (Site 25) [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Low

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

First compiled by: SR 05/08 Last updated: ED 06/09

Site No: 31 Site Name: Length of drystone wall, around main area of quarrying

Location

NGR 1: SD9310591476 Qualifier1: Linear Height (AOD): 260m

NGR 2: SD9297991498 Qualifier2: Linear Parish: Low Abbotside

Concordance

YDNPA HER No: NMR No: SAM No: Other:

Description

Type: Wall Form: Extant structure

Period general: Post medieval Period specific: 19th century

Land use on site:

Inspected by: S Richardson EDAS 04/03/08

Vegetation cover: Grass

Photographed by: Film/Frame No:

Surveyed by: S Richardson EDAS/Dave Kempley BM 31/03/08

Description:

The wall surrounding the main area of quarrying within the survey area (Site 10) butts the north boundary wall (Site 30) on Skellgill Lane at both ends. On average, it stands up to 1.4m in height, although there are sections that reach 1.8m, and it is 0.7m wide at the base, narrowing to 0.45m at the top. The southern part has an intermittent course of shallowly projecting throughstones at 0.9m above ground level and slant coping. There are few throughstones to the western part, although this incorporates a sheep creep (Site 15) and has a gateway at its south end which, like all others noted within the survey area, was once substantially wider (originally c.4.5m wide, now c.2.7m) [1].

References:

[1] Shaun Richardson EDAS, site visit

Management

Site importance: Local Condition: Medium Vunerability: Low

Damaged by:

Specific management recommendations:

Avoid deliberate disturbance.

First compiled by: SR 05/08 Last updated: ED 06/09

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Film 1: Digital colour prints taken 4th March 2008 Films 2 & 3: 35mm colour prints taken 1st April 2008 Film 4: 35mm colour prints taken 21st May 2009

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
1	1	Sow kiln [23], looking NE	1m
1	2	Survey underway at sow kiln [23], looking SE	1m
1	3	Survey underway at sow kiln [23], looking SE	1m
1	4	Survey underway at sow kiln [23], looking E	1m
1	5	Sow kiln [23], looking E	1m
1	6	Sow kiln [23], looking NE	1m
1	7	Sow kiln [23], looking W showing stone to E arm	1m
1	8	Lime kiln [19], S face, draw-hole arch and shed, looking N	2m
1	9	Lime kiln [19], S face, draw-hole arch and shed, looking N	2m
1	10	Lime kiln [19], draw-hole arch interior and draw eye, looking N	2m
1	11	Lime kiln [19], draw arch interior and draw eye, looking NW	2m
1	12	Lime kiln [19], draw arch interior and draw eye, looking N	2m
1	13	Lime kiln [19], internal face of E shed wall, looking NE	2m
1	14	Lime kiln [19], detail of draw eye and shoe with recess over, looking N	2m
1	15	Lime kiln [19], internal face of W shed wall, looking W	2m
1	16	Lime kiln [19], looking NW	1m
1	17	Lime kiln [19], looking W	-
1	18	Trackway [7], looking NE	-
1	19	Pot or mouth of lime kiln [19], showing internal vitrification, looking SE	1m
1	20	Working face of quarry [10] (east end), looking NE	-
1	21	Working face of quarry [10] (west end), looking NW	-
1	22	Building [14], looking W	1m
1	23	Working face of quarry [10], looking E	-
1	24	Depression [11], looking E	1m
1	25	Building [9], looking E	1m
1	26	Working face of quarry [10] showing climbing points, looking N	-
1	27	Hen house [28], looking SE	1m
1	28	Hen house [28], looking NW	2 x 1m
1	29	Hen house [28], looking NW	2 x 1m
1	30	Hen house [28], looking W	2 x 1m
1	31	Hen house [28], looking W	2 x 1m
1	32	Hen house [28], looking SW	1m
1	33	Internal N wall of hen house [28], looking N	-
1	34	Internal E wall showing pop hole, hen house [28], looking E	-
1	35	Interior of hen house [28], looking N	-
1	36	Quarrying to E of hen house [28], looking E	-
1	37	Sow kiln [23], looking N	1m
1	38	Detail of doorway of hen house [28], looking NW	1m
1	39	S elevation of hen house [28], looking N	1m
1	40	Hen house [28], looking NE	1m
1	41	N internal wall of hen house [28], looking N	-
1	42	Hen house [28], internal E wall, looking NE	1m

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
1	43	Hen house [28], looking NE	1m
1	44	Hen house [28], dowel recesses to window sill, looking N	-
2	1A	Earthwork [6], looking W	1m
2	2A	N boundary wall of site [29], looking W	1m
2	3A	Arch of stock underpass [5], looking N	1m
2	4A	Earthwork [3], looking NW	1m
2	5A	Earthwork [3], looking W	1m
2	6A	Area of quarrying [2], looking E	1m
2	8A	Sheep creep [15], looking SW	1m
2	9A	Building [13] and [14], looking W	1m
2	14A	Building [9], looking E	1m
2	16A	Pot or bowl of lime kiln [19], looking SE	1m
2	21	Gateway at SW end of trackway [7], looking NW	1m
2	22	Trough/ well [16], looking NE	1m
2	24	Scarp [17], looking SW	1m
2	25	Large stone in wall close to SW end of scarp [17], looking SW	1m
3	1A	Scarp [17], looking NE towards lime kiln [19]	1m
3	3A	Wall around top of quarry [21], looking SE	1m
3	5	Sow kiln [23], looking N	1m
3	6	Sow kiln [23], looking SW	1m
3	7A	Sow kiln [23], looking NW	1m
3	8	Scarp [26], looking E	1m
3	9	Earthworks [8], looking W	1m
3	10	E end of N boundary wall of survey area [30], looking NW	1m
3	11	E boundary wall to survey area [30], looking E	1m
3	12	Hen house [28], within earlier quarries, looking SW	1m
3	13	E end of trackway [25], looking E	1m
3	14	Building [27], looking E	1m
3	15	Hen house [28], looking SW	1m
3	21	Hen house [28], looking E	1m
3	25	Quarry [21], looking N	1m
4	19A	Lime kiln [19] interior after clearance, looking N	1m
4	20A	Lime kiln [19] interior after clearance, looking N	1m
4	21A	Lime kiln [19] interior, detail of draw-hole eye after clearance, looking N	1m
4	22A	Lime kiln [19] and lime shed after clearance and consolidation, looking N	1m
4	23A	Lime kiln [19] and lime shed after clearance and consolidation looking N	1m
4	24A	Lime kiln [19], pot or bowl after clearance, looking SE	1m

Helm Green quarry and Lime Kiln SD 9303 9147 Low Abbotside, Wensleydale

DRAFT BRIEF: Earthwork and Photographic Survey



1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Helm Green lime kiln is situated adjacent to an associated limestone quarry, just to the south of Spen House in Low Abbotside. The kiln and quarry complex lie on a small parcel of land owned by Low Abbotside Parish Council. The land parcel has the unusual status within inbye areas of being CRoW access land. It consequently receives a number of regular visitors, including both walkers, and children participating on adventure courses run by the Low Mill Outdoor Centre in Askrigg. There is an aerial slide set up in the quarry above the lime kiln. The kiln, a good example of a characteristic feature of the Yorkshire Dales landscape, has started to deteriorate rapidly over the last three years. The deterioration is as a consequence of both stock and visitor erosion, and structural failure of the kiln itself. Low Abbotside Parish Council, in association with the National Park Authority are proposing a project to consolidate and interpret the kiln. In order to inform that process, the archaeological survey outlined below is required.
- 1.2 The kiln is important both as an historic structure, and as part of a larger industrial complex that includes several quarry faces, ramps and trackways. Quarrying is likely to have occurred over many years in the area around the lime kiln, and there is a possible documentary reference to a kiln being built at this location in 1836 (Johnson 2002). The area is shown as a Limestone Quarry on the first edition 6" map but the standing kiln itself is not shown. Whether this is an omission by

the surveyor, or the standing kiln is a post-1854 structure remains to be confirmed. The standing kiln appears to have been preceded by an earlier lime kiln, as the earthwork remains of a smaller and typically earlier type of lime kiln, commonly called a 'sow kiln', have been recognised in the adjacent field to the south. The drystone wall that separates the main quarry from the sow kiln appears to have been present on the OS 6" map, suggesting that some of the earlier quarrying and lime burning activity predates the enclosure of Helm Green.

1.3 The successful Contractor should inform archaeological staff at the Yorkshire Dales National Park before any survey works commence on site.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The quarry complex is centred at NGR SD 9303 9147, in the Parish of Low Abbotside, directly to the south of Helm Green lane. The core of the earthwork complex is enclosed by a standing drystone wall, although some workings clearly extend to the south beyond this. The survey area is defined on the attached map and covers an area measuring 4886 m2 in plan.

3.0 PROPOSED WORK

- 3.1 The key aims of this project are to:
 - i) Record, interpret and accurately map the extent of earthwork remains within the project area.
 - ii) Provide a photographic record of both the key earthwork remains and the standing structure of the lime kiln
- 3.2 It is recommended that contractors make a preliminary visual inspection of the area to familiarise themselves with the extent of the archaeological remains and the scope of the work. It is expected that the on-site work will consist of the following approaches:
- 4.0 Earthwork Survey
- 4. 1 A detailed, hachured, earthwork survey of the identified area (see attached plan) accurate at a scale of 1:500, (or 1:200/250 if detail requires) showing all archaeological activity within the project area linked into Ordnance Survey mapping. An accompanying written gazetteer should provide an analysis of the earthworks, their function and significance. The survey should clearly show any earthwork phasing, if complex, the phasing can be indicated on separate plans.
- 4.2 Photographic Record
- 4.3 Any key earthwork remains should be photographed from more than one viewpoint and under suitable lighting conditions. Photographs should be annotated and tied in to the Gazetteer. Annotated photographs are also required of the lime kiln and any significant views of the quarry.

5.0 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

5.1 Drawn survey records should be presented as wet ink plots on standard 'A' size matt surface polyester film sheets, (minimum thickness 75 microns) with appropriate grid marks, height values, compass points and information panel incorporating title, drawing number, keys, credits etc. Drawing conventions should follow the guidelines set out by the RCHME in *Recording*

Archaeological Field Monuments: A Descriptive Specification (RCHME (now English Heritage) 1999).

- 5.2 The general photographic guidelines given in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage, 2006) should be followed. Each photograph should normally be provided with a scale and the use of an identifier is recommended for detailed views. Coverage should be black and white in the main with selected colour transparency views for presentation use. All photographic film should be exposed and processed to ensure high quality definition. Processing must be to archival standards in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All photographs should be clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken, photographer's name and cross referenced where applicable to film and negative numbers. All photographic material should be suitably stored to archival standards.
- 5.3 A structured gazetteer of numbered site components should be made to include a summary description and preliminary interpretation of extant remains (e.g. location, dimensions, plan, form, function, date, and sequence of development), mention of any relevant documentary evidence and assessment of current condition and threats. Proforma record formats should be used. Data recorded should be compatible with the English Heritage *Thesaurus of Monument Types* and the YDNPA's exeGesIS HBSMR database.

6.0 The Report

- 6.1 The project report will include the following based on the processes outlined in 4.0 5.3
 - i. Name of client.
 - ii. An outline of the project plan and objectives.
 - iii. A brief summary of any previous works on the project area and immediate background.
 - iv. A hachured earthwork survey of the project area.
 - v. A plan of the site showing position tied into the OS grid.
 - vi. A gazetteer of recorded archaeological features providing an analysis of their function and significance.
- vii. A photographic record of the features recorded.
- viii. Statement of methods used with reasoned explanation of any departure from standard procedures and details of any particular constraints under which the work was carried out.
- ix. A concise interpretation of the earthwork and lime kiln remains. This section should highlight any inferences that can be made concerning the date and phasing of the standing kiln and associated earthworks.
- x. Summary of significance of findings/executive summary
- xi. Notes and bibliography.
- xii. List and key to drawings and photographs.
- xiii. Names of staff involved and the parts played by each with the dates of fieldwork.
- xiv. Acknowledgements
- 6.2 Two copies of the report must be deposited with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority no later than eight weeks after the end of on-site work or such longer period as may be agreed in writing with the National Park Authority, a further copy will be supplied to Low Abbotside Parish Council.
- 6.3 The Yorkshire Dales National Park HER is taking part in the *Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/. If the archaeological

contractor does not have internet access a paper copy of the form can be obtained from the National Park Authority. Contractors are advised to contact the YDNPA HER prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by forming part of a planning application or being otherwise submitted to the YDNPA HER in response to a statutory duty or requirement the NPA may place the information on a website.

7.0 SITE ARCHIVE

- 7.1 The long term care of the project archive must be provided for in accordance with Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991), and the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage UKIC Archaeology Section (1990).
- 7.2 The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority will maintain and incorporate the paper archive produced by this project as part of the Historic Environment Record.

8.0 COSTS

- 8.1 A breakdown of costs should include:
 - i) Total staff costs
 - ii) Total non staff costs to include, mileage, accommodation, equipment/materials, report production and overheads.
 - iii) All quotations should include allowance for the preparation and publication of a synopsis of the work undertaken, material archive, and research potential of the site, in an archaeological journal in a form which is relevant and appropriate for the information recovered from the site.

9.0 QUOTATIONS

- 9.1 Quotations should include:
 - i) Outline method statement or schedule of works
 - ii) Date when archaeological works can commence on site
 - iii) Maximum number of days to undertake the works on site
 - iv) Details of professional personnel, including any subcontractors, who will be undertaking the archaeological works. The Contractor will be required to demonstrate, by providing CV's if requested, that the staff appointed to direct, supervise and work on this project have relevant experience of working on sites of this nature and are able to carry out survey and analysis to a professional standard. The Contractor, his staff and any subcontractors will be expected to comply with relevant Codes of Practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
 - v) Date by which the report would be complete
 - vi) Evidence of awareness of relevant Health and Safety legislation.

10.0 VARIATIONS OF WORK PROGRAMME

10.1 The Archaeological Contractor has the right to modify the programme of archaeological work in accordance with their professional judgement insofar as the provisions and objectives of this brief are not changed.

10.2 All variations in the approved programme of work shall be agreed and approved in writing by the Senior Conservation Archaeologist of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

11.0 MONITORING

11.1 The contractor may be subject to monitoring visits by the Archaeological Staff of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The contractor is to inform archaeological staff at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority of the start date prior to the commencement of the survey.

Miles Johnson
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15/10/07

REFERENCES

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