SPRINGHILL SPITTAL NORTHUMBERLAND

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT & HERITAGE STATEMENT



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Archaeological Assessment & Heritage Statement

Prepared by

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Frontispiece: View of a trench excavated during archaeological evaluation in the south-west corner of the site in October 2019, revealing suspected remains of post-medieval mining activities.

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SUMMARY

This report constitutes a desk-based cultural heritage and visual impact assessment with respect to a proposed development site at Springhill, south-west of Spittal in north Northumberland. The report incorporates an audit of both discrete and more extensive historical landscape components and presents a synthesis of the overall chronology of the defined area. It identifies cultural heritage constraints within the area of the proposed development and makes recommendations regarding further work required to mitigate the impact of the scheme. The report also includes consideration of cultural heritage sites adjacent to the development site with particular consideration given to those sites considered in the context of visual impact constraints.

It is not considered likely that any significant archaeological remains survive within the boundary of the current proposed development site, although the scale of evaluation sample trenching, and neighbouring presence of the Scheduled site of Springhill Roman Camp, means that this possibility cannot be discounted altogether. Since there remains reasonable, or residual potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site, potentially associated with the Scheduled enclosure site occupying the elevated ground, it is recommended that groundworks carried out within 30 metres of the boundaries of the Scheduled site should be monitored archaeologically. The preferable means of carrying out such monitoring is by means of a 'strip, map and sample' process, but the final decision in this regard will be made by the assistant county archaeologist when details of the working methods involved in site preparation and foundation works are agreed. The purpose of this will be to mitigate the impacts of groundworks by recording any previously unknown archaeological remains, including unstratified artefacts, that may appear as a result of excavation.

As well as the direct impact upon the site, the visual impacts of the proposed development scheme upon the wider rural and maritime landscape, including the impact of the proposed works programme, have also been assessed. It is concluded that, while the visual impact of the development scheme on other heritage assets and the wider landscape is likely to be neutral, its impact on the neighbouring protected Springhill Enclosure 'cropmark' site is potentially high. The potential for impact could be reduced, however, through a sensitive landscaping design and setting back from the boundary of the monument buildings within the development plots, as well as associated roads, lighting, garages and other amenities. Specifically, this might involve redesigning the course of the internal roadway currently shown running alongside the eastern boundary of the Scheduled site, as well as some repositioning of structures within the plots, in order to achieve an effective buffer bordering the Scheduled monument to the rear of the plots. The aim of such limited redesign would be to achieve an effective and permanent buffer of several metres – sufficient for an earthen bund and/or tree planting, between the new development and the protected area of the monument.

In addition to the potential visual impacts on the setting of the monument, there is potential for physical harm to occur to the protected area during construction programme, which should be mitigated by erection of temporary fencing outside the boundary of the monument, ideally encompassing the buffer area suggested above, prior to the commencement of works.

In the context of the National Planning Policy Framework, with its emphasis on sustainability and potential for new development to make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness, it is suggested that the indirect impact on the wider landscape, specifically the Springhill Enclosure site, would be counterbalanced, assuming implementation of the suggested mitigation measures, through improvements made in terms of visibility and local awareness of the monument, through marking out on the ground by means of a visible buffer, and to its preservation by change of land-use from arable to amenity.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Assessment

The following archaeological and cultural heritage assessment of a site at Springhill, Spittal, was undertaken by The Archaeological Practice Ltd at the request of Michael Guthrie. Its purpose is to address the potential impact of the proposed construction of a new housing development on land adjacent to the Scheduled site of a supposed Roman or iron age enclosure.

1.2 Planning Background

Historic England advice (Application No. 19/01095/REM) provided on 14th by the Inspector of Ancient Monuments in response to a consultation request by Northumberland County Council under T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 & Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990 provided information on the protected status of a Scheduled site bordering the west side of the development site known as "Springhill Camp" (National Heritage List for England HA 1003655). This is a cropmark site which has had no previous archaeological investigation and is tentatively identified as a possible "Roman camp". This clearly has significance through its potential to yield archaeological information about the Romano-British period in the Tweedmouth area of Northumberland. Evaluation works done in 2009 in support of the outline application did not find significant archaeological remains in the areas outwith the monument; however, the monument itself was not evaluated.

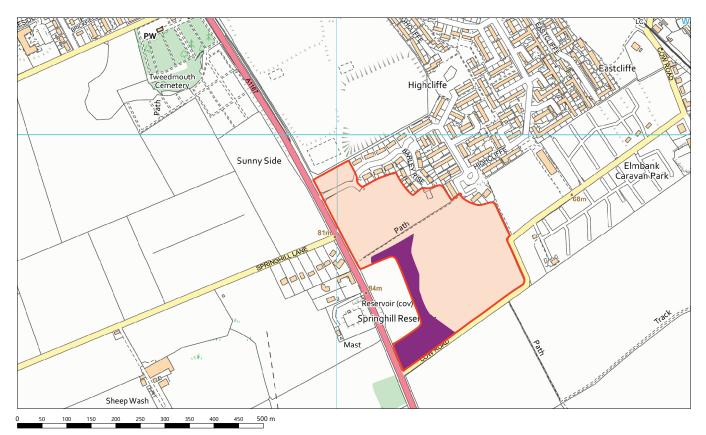
It was noted in this response that Historic England guidance on an earlier outline application (13/00589/FUL), that the proposed development " should not ... have an impact on the significance of the monument .. " has been compromised by the current, revised proposed layout, (see Site Layout Plan Drawing No. A 103), which proposes development right up to the boundary of the scheduled monument with no buffer. It was suggested that this will cause a negative impact on the current tranquil rural setting of the eastern part of the monument, thereby affecting the significance of the monument.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that heritage assets are " ... irreplaceable and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance ... " (para. 184). Further, the NPPF requires local authorities to " ... identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) ... " (para. 190) and to take account of the fact that clear and convincing justification is required for " ... any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (...from development within its setting) ... " (Para 194). Where a designated heritage asset will be subjected to less than substantial harm to its significance, the NPPF advises that " ... this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal. ... " (para 196).

Historic England expressed concerns regarding the application and determined that an Environmental Statement (ES) should be produced to contain an assessment of the likely effects the proposed development might have upon those elements which contribute to the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings in the area around the site. The assessment should also highlight the regional and local significance of the known designated asset adjacent to the development site and should also take account of the potential impact which associated activities, such as construction, servicing and maintenance, and associated traffic might have upon perceptions, understanding and appreciation of the heritage assets in the area.



Illus. 01: Regional view, showing the location of the evaluation site (circled in red), south of Berwick-upon-Tweed near the Anglo-Scottish Border.



Illus. 02: Street view, showing the location of the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red), immediately to the east of Springwell Reservoir.

The National Planning Policy Framework – NPPF (MHCLG 2019) enables planning authorities to request assessments of archaeological potential in order to ascertain the nature and extent of any remains likely to be impacted by development, and inform upon appropriate mitigation measures. At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development (NPPF – see MHCLG 2019, 5), which effectively means that local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area; and will tend to favour granting planning permission to developments which meet this criteria, unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits.

NPPF states that:

"Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal" (MHCLG 2019, Note 190).

The NPPF makes it clear that the significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence and historic fabric but also from its setting. Although consideration of setting is somewhat subjective and necessarily a matter of informed judgement, guidance is provided to assist decision-making by ensuring it takes place within a clear framework and is as transparent and consistent as possible.

Points to be considered include the following:

• Intervisibility - Some archaeological or historic landscape features were intended to be seen from other historic sites, and any modern development should respect this intervisibility

• *Vistas and sight-lines* - designed landscapes often involve key vistas, panoramas and sight-lines which have a bearing on their significance and interpretation.

1.3 Methodology of Assessment

The assessment will:

• Define the principal sources of information available for archaeological assessment (Section 3).

• Present a catalogue (Section 4) and chronological synthesis (Section 5) of archaeological data derived from various sources. Accompanying base maps will locate established structures and features within, or in close proximity to, the assessment area.

• Provide an assessment of archaeological potential and likely direct and indirect impacts upon the proposed development site and with respect to the setting of other heritage assets in its wider environs (Section 6).

• Provide conclusions with respect to the known and potential archaeological significance of the assessment area (Section 7).

• Recommend further work to define more clearly the nature of the archaeological record and facilitate management or mitigation of this resource (Section 8).

2. ASSESSMENT CONTEXT

2.1 Location and Extent of the Assessment Area (*Illus. 01-02*)

The site of investigation lies on the east side of the A1167 between Scremerston and Tweedmouth, abut 1.5 km south-east of the historic centre of that town and 1 km west south-west of Spittal village centre. The ground on which the site of investigation sits is the highest in the area, commanding good views to the south, south-east (towards Lindisfarne and Bamburgh) and over the coast and North Sea to the east. Although formerly moorland (labelled 'Spittle Common' on Armstrong's map of 1969), the site now sits on the edge of the Highcliffe settlement extending continuously from Spittal to the north-east.

The total area of the proposed development site is c 9 hectares, the majority of which was archaeologically investigated in 2009. Since then, a revised scheme of development has been developed to include an area of c 0.6 ha, formerly left as a buffer around the site of a Scheduled suspected Roman or Iron Age camp bordering the road on the west side of the development area. This area was evaluated in October 2019.

With respect to the direct impact of development upon archaeological remains within the site area, as well as the [potential indirect impact upon other sites in the vicinity, this report considers the larger (9 hectare) site rather than the smaller area on the west side recently subject to invasive evaluation.

2.2 Nature of Proposed Developments

It is proposed to develop the site for housing, with 110 dwellings and associated roads, footpaths, services and landscaping.

3. SOURCES FOR ASSESSMENT

3.1 Archival Material and Secondary Sources

The report collates evidence from a wide range of published, documentary and cartographic sources consulted in the following archival repositories:

- The Archaeological Practice archive (AP)
- Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- Northumberland Archives, Woodhorn (NRO)
- National Monument Record (NMR)

3.2 Types of Information

Included amongst the various kinds of information used from each of the above sources to assess the significance of the assessment area are the following:

3.2.1 Protected Sites and Monuments and those listed in the County HER

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

The scheduling of a site by the Secretary of State denotes it is of at least national significance and provides statutory protection over a defined area. There is one Scheduled Monument within or immediately adjacent to the development area, namely Springhill Roman fortlet (see Gazetteer, Site 01). A large number of other sites of importance lie relatively close to the site, but are not visible from it - notably the medieval and later fortifications at Berwick upon Tweed, or within visual range but at such as distance to render such a relationship insignificant in terms of the current enquiry, notably Lindisfarne and Bamburgh castles, some 15 and 25 km to the south-east, respectively.

Listed Buildings

Particularly well represented in the Gazetteer are Listed Buildings, defined as buildings of special architectural or historic interest in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Act states that *"the planning authority, in determining any application for planning permission for development that affects a listed building or its setting, is required to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses."* With respect to 'setting', Section 66 of the Act states (in part):

"In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting".

The listing of structures by the Secretary of State denotes historical or architectural interest but does not necessarily include all buildings of significance or local importance. There are no Grade I listed structures close to or within potential visual range of the proposed development site. There are 6 Grade II listed buildings (Site nos. 10, 19-22 & 38 – see Gazeteer), none of them clearly visible from the proposed site of development, all of them over 500 m from the site and all but one of them within

Spittal village core on the east side of the main line railway track.

Sites Appearing on the Northumberland Historic Environment Records (HER)

The Northumberland HER has been interrogated for entries within and in close proximity to the assessment area that may be impacted by proposed developments. The record comprises 47 entries which lie within a 1 km radius of the study area (see Section 4, below), including the six listed buildings noted above and single Scheduled site on the west side of the proposed development area (see *Illus*. 22).

3.2.2 Primary documentary sources

No primary documents of significance to the present assessment were used in compiling the present report.

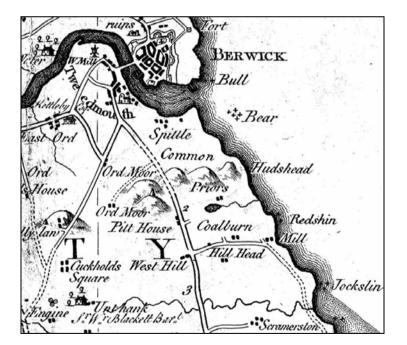
3.2.3 Secondary and Published Information

Published works which shed general contextual light upon the assessment area or upon particular aspects of its archaeology or history were consulted, and cited where relevant in the synthesis included in the full assessment report.

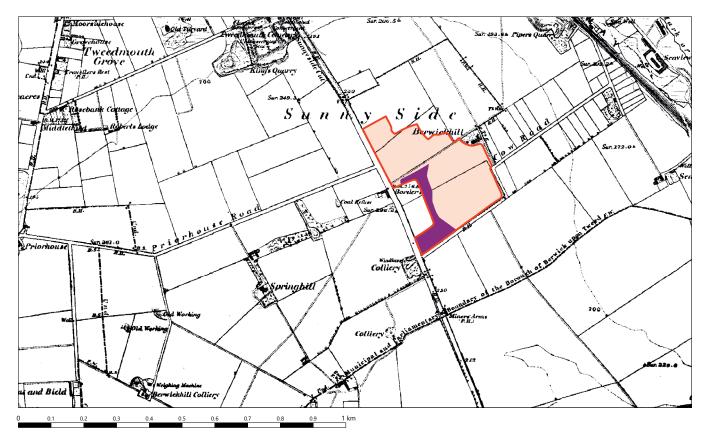
3.2.4 Map Evidence (see Illus. 03-08)

The study of early maps provides invaluable evidence for the historical development of the area. The first edition Ordnance Survey plan provides the first reliable map evidence for the site, but earlier maps were consulted due to their potential to indicate sites of importance removed prior to the 1860s. Thus, the following maps were consulted in compiling the present report:

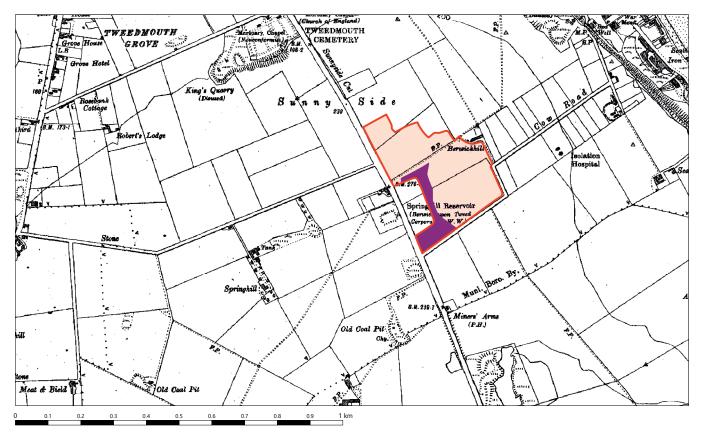
> Armstrong's Plan of Northumberland, 1769 (*Illus. 03*, below)



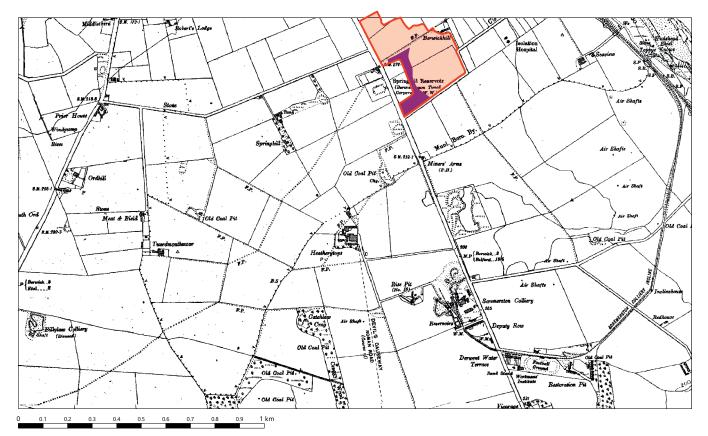
- Fryer's Plan of Northumberland, 1820
- > Greenwood's Plan of Northumberland, 1828
- > The Ordnance Survey Northumberland Series from c 1860 to the present.



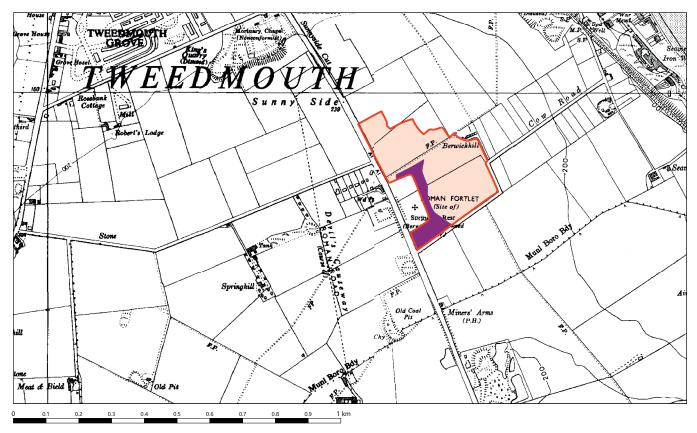
Illus. 04: Extract of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1860s, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red).



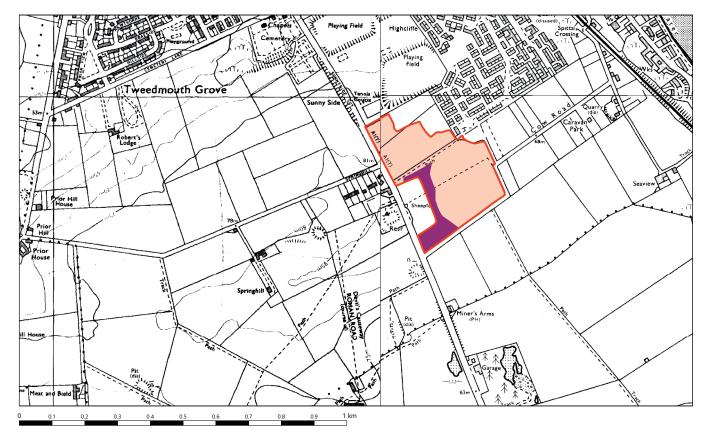
Illus. 05: Extract of the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1920s, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red).



Illus. 06: Additional extract of the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Plan c.1920s, showing a wider area, including the route of the Devil's Causeway Roman Road.



Illus. 07: Extract of the c.1950s Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red).



Illus. 08: Extract of the c.1970s Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, showing the evaluation site (purple area) within the broader proposed development area (bound in red).

3.2.5 Historic Photographs and Images

Historic images of the site were sourced during research for the present report in secondary sources and from Berwick Record Office, but none provides information additional to that available from other sources.

3.2.6 Aerial Photographs

The NMR was consulted for aerial photographs covering the area, but none provided information additional to that derived from other sources (see below and *Illus. 09-11*). Cambridge University Map Library produced a number of useful images from the following:

Catalogue ID	type	Photo Date	Photo Time	subject	Easting s (assem bled)	Northin gs (assem bled)	Longitude (looked up)	Latitude (looked up)
<u>AAI47</u>	Oblique	1959- 07-17	p.m.	Native settlement, Springhill, 1 mile S of Tweedmouth	400200	650600	-1.998381	55.748775
<u>AAI48</u>	Oblique	1959- 07-17	p.m.	Native settlement, Springhill, 1 mile S of Tweedmouth	400200	650600	-1.998381	55.748775
<u>ACJ44</u>	Oblique	1960- 07-24	p.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, Tweedmouth	399900	650600	-2.003160	55.748775
<u>ACJ45</u>	Oblique	1960- 07-24	p.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, Tweedmouth	399900	650600	-2.003160	55.748775
<u>ACJ46</u>	Oblique	1960- 07-24	p.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, Tweedmouth	399900	650600	-2.003160	55.748775
<u>ACJ47</u>	Oblique	1960- 07-24	p.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, Tweedmouth	399900	650600	-2.003160	55.748775
<u>B40</u>	Oblique	1945- 07-20	p.m.	Cropmarks, ?Roman fort, at Springhill	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>B41</u>	Oblique	1945- 07-20	p.m.	Cropmarks, ?Roman fort, at Springhill	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>B42</u>	Oblique	1945- 07-20	p.m.	Cropmarks, ?Roman fort, at Springhill	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>B43</u>	Oblique	1945- 07-20	p.m.	Cropmarks, ?Roman fort, at Springhill	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>BG17</u>	Oblique	1948- 07-10	p.m.	Native settlement, Springhill, Tweedmouth	400200	650600	-1.998381	55.748775
<u>BSD12</u>	Oblique	1975- 03-17	p.m.	Springhill House, 3 miles SE of Broadway	412700	234000	-1.816403	52.004295
BSD13	Oblique	1975- 03-17	p.m.	Springhill House, 3 miles SE of Broadway	412700	234000	-1.816403	52.004295
<u> 778</u>	Oblique	1947- 07-13	a.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, S of Tweed mouth	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u> 779</u>	Oblique	1947- 07-13	a.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, S of Tweed mouth	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>T80</u>	Oblique	1947- 07-13	a.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, S of Tweed mouth	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875
<u>T81</u>	Oblique	1947- 07-13	a.m.	Cropmarks, Springhill, S of Tweed mouth	400200	650500	-1.998381	55.747875



Illus. 09 (above) & 10: 1940s aerial views of the site showing possible Cropmark directly opposite (east of) Springhill water tower (CU B40 1945, above and CU B42 1945, below).





Illus. 11: Modern Google Earth aerial view of the site showing no archaeological features but prominently displaying the bedrock outcrop spur extending from adjacent to the north-east corner of the water tower enclosure.

3.2.7 Archaeological Fieldwork Reports

In 2009 a programme of archaeological evaluation was carried out by sampling 6% of the current proposed development site, excepting the small area in the west that was subsequently subjected to sample excavation in 2019 (see below). Apart from a small semi-circular feature defined by a relatively shallow gully, the 2019 evaluation did not reveal significant archaeological remains (Rathmell Archaeology RA9041 – copy retained by the County HER).

The excavation of a further thirteen evaluation trenches in October 2019 immediately adjacent to the site of the protected Enclosure (Gaz. Site no. 01) revealed no archaeological features of high importance and only one of any real note, namely a circular feature of likely modern industrial origin, perhaps an in filled bell pit, in the north-west corner of the site adjacent to the Cow Road and A 1167.. Another circular feature, too wide to be a bell pit, so perhaps the result of subsidence (like a feature still visible in the field to the east) was exposed some 50 metres to the south.

It was notable that, while most trenches encountered shallow deposits of top-soil above natural boulder clay, bed-rock was encountered in several trenches as well as outcropping in the form of a ridge in the north part of the site. Topsoil deposits overlying natural boulder clay and bedrock were universally shallow, except at the northern and southern edges of the field, where deeper deposits were encountered, partly made up of mixed deposits which may have been deliberately deposited as infill.

The remains encountered through excavation at Springhill did not suggest that significant archaeological remains survive there, other than those of coal-mining and related activities which are known to have been practiced in Tweedmouth, Spittal, Scremerston and surrounding areas from the medieval period to 20th century. Most significant was the absence of any trace of features potentially related to the Scheduled late prehistoric or Roman enclosure site occupying the hill top. Whilst it was cautioned that the absence of finds or features associated with this purported settlement site does not conclusively prove its absence, the presence of bedrock close to the surface in several trenches, some of it clearly lying in stepped or ridged profile, suggests the possibility that the features interpreted in the 1950s as cropmarks of a Roman or iron age camp, may instead have been derived from geological or later industrial activity.

3.2.8 Site Inspection and Local Information

Site visits were made by the author of this report during November, 2019. The area was inspected closely and photographs taken of all features and structures of potential cultural heritage significance (see *Photographs 12-21*), as well as general views showing the context of the site.

No additional sites of major cultural heritage significance were identified during these visits, but some additional observations were made, in particular with respect to sites or landscapes of cultural heritage value visible from the site, the setting of which could be impacted as a result of the proposed development.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

The following views of the site were recorded in October and November, 2019 in order to aid the assessment and interpretation of visual impact of the development upon neighbouring and other intervisible heritage assets.

The views include three elevated view from the site - to the north at Berwick and Tweedmouth, to the west and to the south and south-east – which do not represent views experienced by the observer at ground level, but suggest physical and proximal relationships between sites and heritage assets which are not apparent at ground level. Three further views (Illus. 15-17) provide views of or from the east part of the site while Illus. 18-20 give views across the hill-top site of the Scheduled enclosure site, with the latter also highlighting views to the south and south-east which extend for up to 25 km along the coast and coastal lowlands, although views to local potential cultural heritage assets are restricted by topographical constraints and a lack of such assets in the near vicinity. Finally, a view s provided from Duns Road on the north side of the Tweed which shows that the proposed development site, sitting on high ground above Tweedmouth (Illus. 21), is visible for some considerable distance to the north (est. min. 8 km) although, due to the nature of local topography, the sensitive Berwick and Tweedmouth urban cores are not intervisible with the site.



Illus. 12: Elevated view from the site to the north at Berwick and Tweedmouth.



Illus. 13: Elevated view from the site to the north.



Illus. 14: Elevated view from the site to the south and south-east.



Illus. 15: View NW from the north side of the development site towards the protected enclosure site and Springhill reservoir.



Illus. 16: View from the west end of an E-W field boundary within the site towards modern housing developments to the north-east.



Illus. 17: View eastwards along internal E-W field boundary.



Illus. 18: View SW across the hill-top on which the Scheduled enclosure site sits.



Illus. 19: View NW over the Schedules site area towards Springhill reservoir.



Illus. 20a: View SE over the Scheduled site towards Borewell Farm, Scremerston with Lindisfarne and Bamburgh beyond (see magnified insets 20b & 20c, below).







Illus. 21a: View SE from Duns Road north of the Tweed, with the proposed development site on high ground above Tweedmouth at centre of view (see inset 21b, below)



4. CATALOGUE

Archaeological assessment requires consideration both of the area likely to be materially affected by developments and sites in the immediate vicinity which may be visually affected. The course of investigation outlined above identified 47 assets of known cultural heritage significance in the vicinity of the site identified from HER records and Historic England Listings, although many more sites lie within a 1 km radius, principally within the historic core of Berwick-upon-Tweed. The site numbers catalogued below are keyed to *Illus*. 22.

A Cultural Heritage Asset is defined as "A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority." Cultural heritage assets listed in the following Gazetteer include man-made features included in the Northumberland County Heritage Environment Record (HER) and Historic England lists of Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings. Some are upstanding, visible structures such as houses, churches, bridges and quay walls, while others are represented by the sites of such structures which appear on historic maps and may survive in physical form as foundations, while others are known only from documentary records of buildings, isolated finds or events.

4.1 Monuments and Features on and adjacent to the Springhill site.

The following includes cultural heritage assets inside the assessment area and others within approximately one kilometre of the area which may be regarded as closely associated with it and may be visually impacted by any development there and/or provide pertinent contextual information.

The following includes sites and monuments in visual association with the assessment area and will be impacted to some degree by any development there. The following list also provides information of a contextual nature about the nature of historical settlement and activities in the area.

Site no. 01: Springhill Roman camp; Grid Reference NU 0011 5064; HER ID 4131.

Scheduled as a Roman marching camp. An Iron Age/Roman enclosed settlement or hillfort is visible as a cropmark on air photographs. It appears to have been formed by two, roughly concentric, circular ditches. Each measures a little over 3 m wide and they are separated by a gap of approximately 10 m. The A1167 and a covered reservoir truncate the site to the west. Were the ditches extrapolated to form a circle the internal area would measure approximately 0.98 ha.

Source: English Heritage: Till Tweed NMP, Air Photograph Interpretation, 27 Mar 2003 to 29 Sep 2003 (UID 6554)

Note on field observation carried out in November, 2019: No earthwork remains survive of the putative monument, the protected area of which encloses a hill-top site now partially occupied by the Springhill water tower and reservoir and a building on the site of the former Border Arms P.H., with a cutting for the A1167 dividing the protected site into two parts. While the hill-top site certainly seems appropriate for such an enclosure site, the parallel marks appearing on St Joseph's aerial photographs, which are presently the only basis for designating the site as archaeologically important could, alternatively, be interpreted as crop marks of industrial-period trackways or reinterpreted as wind damage in a ripe cereals crop. Corroboration of their authenticity as late prehistoric or Roman period ditches could be advanced through limited east-west trenching orthogonal their course, for which Scheduled Monument Consent would be required.

Site no. 02: Leper Hospital of St Bartholomew; Grid Reference NU0051; HER ID 4135.

In 1238 an ordinance was passed banning lepers from entering the town gates of Berwick, and that alms would be collected from them 'in a proper place outside the burgh'. In 1369 a Pele tower was built to protect the hospital from Scottish raiders. The hospital survived until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1535. The tower was still standing in 1612 and was last mentioned in 1753. *Source:* Clay, R M, 1909. 1 The Medieval Hospitals of England. (312)

Site no. 03: **Possible field system cropmark**; Grid Reference NU004503; HER ID 4147. Aerial photographs show cropmarks of a number of ditches possibly forming a field system. *Source:* AP 20/7/1982 1 NU0050 D-G Mus Antiq Newcastle

Site no. 04: Scremerston Old Level; Grid Reference NU012508; HER ID 4152.

The exit of the Old Level is clearly visible near Hud's Head. It originally drained the Scremerston Main Seam and later the Cooper Eye Seam. The level is 18 inches square, cut through solid rock. *Source:* IRIS ND/AIA/1 ECS 222 25/3/1996 (E C Salthouse)

Site no. 05: *Berwickhill Colliery*; Grid Reference NU00055030; HER ID 4154.

The site of Berwickhill Colliery, part of the Scremerston coalfield, on the eastern fringe of the current investigation area, survives as a spoil heap which probably lies south of the shaft. *Source:* IRIS ND/AIA/1 ECS 220 25/3/1996 (E C Salthouse)

Site no. 06: **'Old' Berwickhill Pit**; Grid Reference NU003508; HER ID 4155. 'Old' Berwickhill Colliery identified from Greenwood's map, who shows an 'Engine'. It is identified as Berwickhill on 2nd edition OS 6-inch map of 1899. Part of the Scremerston coalfield. *Source:* IRIS ND/AIA/1 ECS 220 25/3/1996 (E C Salthouse)

Site no. 07: **Engine Pit**; Grid Reference NU00895002, NU01165008; HER ID 4156. Engine Pit, Scremerston. 19th C colliery, disused. Consists of disturbed ground adjacent to an old railway and opposite the site of a winding engine house. Other activities may have taken place here, e.g. brickworks noted by local farmer.

Source: IRIS ND/AIA/1 ECS 221 24/3/1996 (E C Salthouse)

Site no. 08: Circular cropmark enclosure; Grid Reference NU00485101; HER ID 4217.

Visible on aerial photographs c.1960. Possible ring ditch. Geophysical survey revealed a curving anomaly, but subsequent trial trenching in 2008 revealed no evidence of this and it was concluded that the boundaries and internal elements of this feature had been largely truncated.

Sources: AP BKS/522471 1960; Oxford Archaeology North, 2008. Elmbank Caravan Park, Cow Road, Spittal. Archaeological evaluation. Unpublished

Site no. 09: Devil's Causeway Roman road; Grid Reference NZ10358915, NZ0308275815, NZ0480578822; HER ID 12394.

Five evaluation trenches c.2001 by TWMAS found remains of the Devil's Causeway near Netherwitton. It comprised a central spine of worked blocks, on either side of which were laid water worn cobbles forming the road base. No evidence of a gravel surface, drainage ditches or quarry pits, and no artefacts were found.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd c.2017 during renewal of a telephone cable duct and construction of two inspection chambers at a site opposite

Buekley Farm, near Great Whittington. Limestone bedrock was recorded along the length of the cable trench. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

A watching brief and strip map & record exercise in c.2015 by AAG Archaeology observed possible remains of the spine of the Roman road at Kearsley Farm, Kirkheaton. It is also possible the remains were those of a field boundary or dyke.

Part of the Devils Causeway at Brandy Well Hall, west of Belsay, is visible on air photographs and lidar. It is defined by an embanked agger and overlain in parts by medieval and post medieval ridge & furrow. It is extant on the latest 2007 lidar. (Historic England, research report series 48-2017).

A walkover survey at Thornton Moor by The Archaeological Practice Ltd. in 2018 found no surface indication of the Roman road, although a scatter of stones in the north part of the site may represent its ploughed-out remains. Its route was roughly marked by a meandering trackway. However, the line on the first edition OS map of the 1860s appears to represent the true course of the road.

A subsequent evaluation trench (Tr4) revealed a stone surface of mainly rounded boulders and patches of smaller cobbles, with no sign of a finer metalled surface. A possible central spine was observed but the area was not wide enough to confirm the presence or absence of roadside kerbs or ditches. Road remains of probable Roman origin was concluded.

Site no. 10: Wilson Terrace, Main Street, Spittal Nos 202-206; Grid Reference NU0072351217; HER ID 14240.

Semi-detached pair of houses, divided into 6 flats. Built c.1878 by William Wilson, local architect. This imposing terrace is very ornate and individual, a fine example of the late Victorian love of decoration and ostentation, executed to a very high standard and well preserved. An excellent advertisement for Wilson's skills and an idiosyncratic piece of design.

Source: 19th Amendment of the 3rd List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, District of Berwick upon Tweed, 3 March 2004

Site no. 11: Spittal School and surrounding walls and railings, Main Street; Grid Reference NU0053751590; HER ID 14381.

This school replaced the old Spittal Council School which itself replaced the former British School and Spittal National School. It was opened in 1908. The original building consisted a large central hall, 7 classrooms, teacher's rooms, and cloakrooms, bookstores, etc. Extensive playgrounds, with covered sheds, to the rear. All of the classrooms faced S or SW for maximum sunshine and there was central heating from ventilating radiators throughout. The whole site was built on the footprint of the early-19th century Helen Ironworks and reuses many of its pink sandstone walls.

Source: Walsh, J, 2015. Heritage Statement 2015, Spittal County First School, Main Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 1RD

Site no. 12: *Milepost in Tweedmouth*; Grid Reference NT9965551394; HER ID 16759.

A milepost is noted mounted in asphalt on the eastern side of the former A1, now the A1167, near a wall. The inscription records the distances to Berwick, Belford and London. *Source:* Pers. Comm., I Davison, Milestone 1 Society, March 2005

Site no. 13: Milepost by the former A1 (Scremerston area); Grid Reference NU0035249984; HER ID 16760.

A milepost is noted mounted in the hedge on the eastern side of the former A1, now the A1167. The inscription records the distances to Berwick-upon-Tweed (BER 2), Belford (BEL 12) and London (L332).

Source: Pers. Comm., I Davison, Milestone 1 Society, March 2005

Site no. 14: Scremerston Tileworks; Grid Reference NU0033049807; HER ID 18664.

Named site as "Scremerston Brick and Tile Works" in a general review of clay-based manufacturing sites in the NE of England; operated 1850-1943 by a number of owners - Carr & Company in 1855, Shoreswood & Scremerston Coal Company in 1873, Scremerston Coal Company in 1894, and Hartley Main Collieries in 1940. Four large double-ended Newcastle kilns noted as built 1930s. Produced bricks marked SMC with two types produced in the later period of working.

Source: Davison, P J 1986. Brickworks of the North East, Gateshead: Gateshead Libraries & Arts Service, & Portcullis Press (27)

Site no. 15: Piper's Quarry quarry and coal workings; Grid Reference NU0053351260; HER ID 20802.

Coal workings noted here in a general review of coal mining in the north of the county - but type and dates of such working unknown. Said to be 6 fathoms deep. Quarry specifically named and active in early OS mapping of the area - but apparently inactive from 1925 map+.

Source: Bainbridge, J W 1994. Coal Mines of North Northumberland II - Scremerston Triangle, History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club 46(2), 137-78 (163)

Site no. 16: **Well at Tweedmouth Moor Tilery**; Grid Reference NT9938851236; HER ID 20836. Well noted 1st Ed OS c.1866; no medical or other properties known, nor indicated by a specific name. *Source:* Ordnance Survey, 1866, 1st edition

Site no. 17: Cropmarks at Elmbank Caravan Park; Grid Reference NU0055951064, NU0059451086; HER ID 22911.

A cluster of what appear to be three separate cropmarks is visible on aerial photographs taken in 1947 and in 1961. They are incomplete circular shapes and measure about 10m to 12m across.

Source: Oxford Archaeology North, 2008. Elmbank Caravan Park, Cow Road, Spittal. Archaeological appraisal and geophysical survey. Unpublished (site a/site 1)

Site no. 18: **Possible sub-rectangular enclosure on land south of Cemetery Lane, Tweedmouth**; Grid Reference NT9948750914; HER ID 23579.

An archaeological assessment for land at Tweedmouth identified a cropmark of a possible subrectangular enclosure of unknown date and function on aerial photographs of fields to the south of Cemetery Lane.

Source: Archaeological Services Durham University, 2008. Land at Tweedmouth. Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Report 1946)

Site no. 19: **Former Spa Well, Main Street, Spittal**; Grid Reference NU0070751233; HER ID 24032. Well head structure of late 18th century date with later additions, in dressed sandstone blocks with a stone slate roof.

Source: Amendment to the 3rd List of Buildings of Special Architectural 1 or Historic Interest, 09-DEC-2009

Site no. 20: **Nos 178-180 Main Street, Spittal**; Grid Reference NU0069851294; HER ID 24033. Pair of semi-detached houses, 1880s, built by William Wilson, local architect, builder and funerary sculptor.

Source: Amendment to the 3rd List of Buildings of Special Architectural 1 or Historic Interest, 09-DEC-2009

Site no. 21: War Memorial, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0073551251; HER ID 24034.

First World War memorial with Second World War additions. Three-stepped granite stone base surmounted by pedestal and obelisk. Inscription in relief on three bronze plaques on the front face. The whole monument is set in a small garden with low metal railings around the edge. *Source:* North East War Memorials Project, no. S47.02

Site no. 22: Pair of chapels, lodge, wall and gate piers at Tweedmouth Cemetery; Grid Reference NT9966651233; HER ID 24035; Listed building Grade II.

Pair of mortuary chapels and lodge, 1858.

Source: Amendment to the 3rd List of Buildings of Special Architectural 1 or Historic Interest, 09-DEC-2009

Site no. 23: **Spittal possible deserted medieval village**; Grid Reference NU00375169; HER ID 24074.

The plan form of Spittal village is suggestive of a medieval two-row village with central green. There are long narrow property strips running at right angles off the main streets, and a back lane divides the plots from the fields behind. The suggested village green has been infilled with later development along Middle Street. Little is known about medieval Spittal apart from an association with fishing.

Source: Scott, J, 2010. Spittal Point, Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland: archaeological desk-based assessment. (Unpublished TWM Archaeology report 1047)

Site no. 24: Cropmarks of ditches and possible grubenhaus; Grid Reference NU00335044; HER ID 24720.

Cropmarks of a ditch and several possible extractive pits of medieval or post-medieval date, as well as a possible grubenhaus of early medieval date. The ditch is narrow and orientated north-east/south-west. To the east are three possible extractive pits measuring up to 7.7m in diameter and a possible grubenhaus measuring about 5m by 4m.

Source: http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1385153

Site no. 25: **Ditches and possible ring ditch**; Grid Reference NU00475054; HER ID 24721. Several ditches and a possible ring ditch are visible as cropmarks on air photographs taken in 1989. The ditches may form part of an elongated oval enclosure, of which only the western end is visible. A few metres to the north is a possible ring ditch, about 4.6m in diameter, formed by a 2m wide ditch with entrances to the north and south.

Source: http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1384219

Site no. 26: **Possible ring ditch and ditches**; Grid Reference NU0070350242; HER ID 24722.

Cropmarks of a possible ring ditch and two ditches, of prehistoric or Roman date, are visible on air photographs taken in 1989. The ring ditch measures about 8m by 6m and on the west side there is a narrow ditch forming a right-angle, perhaps evidence of an enclosure. Some 50m to the southeast there is another right-angled ditch, which may also be part of an enclosure. *Source:* http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1384222

Site no. 27: West Sunnyside House; Grid Reference NT9954451421; HER ID 24723.

A mid- to late 19th century villa, of two storeys and built of sandstone ashlar with pitched slate roofs. It has a number of gabled dormer windows, decorative barge boards, tall banded chimneys and mullioned windows.

Source: http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1506923

Site no. 28: World War Two road block; Grid Reference NU00645099; HER ID 24724.

A World War Two road block is visible on aerial photographs taken in 1941. The main obstruction consists of a structure blocking the southern half of the road and at least two drums that could be

manoeuvred to block the remaining half. There is possibly a third drum lying on the grass verge 15m to the north-east.

Source: http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1384276

Site no. 29: World War Two radio station, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0037850791, NU0022851181; HER ID 24725.

A World War Two radio station is visible as structures and a trackway on aerial photographs taken in 1948. They are probably part of an RAF wireless station where one site was the transmitter and the other the receiver. There would have been a VHF mast at each site with a diagnostic platform at the top. The two sites lie about 400m apart on Cow Road and under the Highcliffe Estate Spittal. *Source:* http://www.pastscape.1 org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=1384281

Site no. 30: Hudshead Shiel; Grid Reference NU0115450817; HER ID 24762.

The site of a shiel associated with a fishery. The shiel, or hut, provided accommodation for the fishermen and their gear during the season. Shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of about 1860.

Source: First 1 edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch c.1860

Site no. 31: Martin's the Printers (Sea View Works) at Spittal; Grid Reference NU0084851121; HER ID 24839.

The Sea View Iron Works were constructed in the mid-19th century for the production of tools by the Black Family. The forge was later taken over by A & F Parkes from the early-20th century, before closure in 1953 and conversion to a printing works in 1955. The conversion work has led to the demolition of the furnaces and chimneys and the works has been altered to such an extent that the iron working processes they were designed to house are no longer readable.

Source: Saxton, H, 2010. Former Sea View Iron Works, Main Street, Berwick upon Tweed, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 12-May-2010 (reference 169263)

Site no. 32: **Pillbox northwest of Engine Pit, Ancroft**; Grid Reference NU0079450174; HER ID 25079. Pillbox recorded between October 2009 and January 2010 to the northwest of Engine Pit within Ancroft parish.

Source: Burn, A & Knight, D, 2010. A Rapid Survey of Second World War remains within the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Archaeological Research Services Ltd unpublished report (36)

Site no. 33: **Trench earthwork northwest of Engine Pit site, Ancroft parish**; Grid Reference NU0079650175; HER ID 25101.

Remains of an earthwork trench located northwest of the Engine Pit site, within Ancroft parish, recorded between October 2009 and January 2010. The trench is associated with the entrance to the pillbox present. Both are thought World War II in date.

Source: Burn, A & Knight, D, 2010. A Rapid Survey of Second World War remains within the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Archaeological Research Services Ltd unpublished report (37)

Site no. 34: Radar station north-west of the site of the Engine Pit, Ancroft parish; Grid Reference NU0081950189; HER ID 25106.

Large World War II military buildings identified as a Chain Home (Low) radar station, located during a field visit 2009-2010 to the northwest of the Engine Pit site, Scremerston.

Source: Burn, A & Knight, D, 2010. A Rapid Survey of Second World War remains within the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Archaeological Research Services Ltd unpublished report (38)

Site no. 35: Series of pits at Elmbank Caravan Park, Spittal; Grid Reference NU00555101; HER ID 25326. A series of large, but shallow, pits were seen partly excavated and recorded during a watching brief carried out by Oxford Archaeology (North) during September 2011 at the Elmbank Caravan Park. They are of uncertain date – sample excavation revealed 19th century stoneware pottery, modern carpet fragments and a residual prehistoric (probably Neolithic or Bronze Age) flint side scraper.

Site no. 36: **Tweedmouth Cemetery, Tweedmouth**; Grid Reference NT9968851177; HER ID 25439. Municipal cemetery opened in 1858 in a Neo-Norman style to relieve overcrowding in the nearby churchyard of Saint Bartholomew's Church. Enclosed by stone walls and laid out as a series of parallel avenues, well planted with trees. Mostly 19th century gravestones and overall little altered. *Source:* Menuge, A, 2009. First sift of Tweedmouth buildings. Unpublished English Heritage document (Cemetery Lane, Tweedmouth Cemetery)

Site no. 37: Former mill to rear of No 60 Middle Street, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0041551575; HER ID 25446.

Located to the rear of Middle Street. This is a 3-storeys high rectangular building of rubble sandstone and quoins. It has lost its pitched roof and pantile covering. The building has numerous windows, many are boarded and others blocked. Although identifiable as a mill, it no longer retains significant evidence of its original function and none of the original machinery. It is considered to be the mill referred to in 1799 as 'Davidson's Blue Mill' and was powered by a stream which passed through the site. The building is present on the Board of Health plan of 1852, described as a corn mill.

Source: Saxton, H, 2010. Former Mill to rear of 60, Middle Street, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 04-Feb-2010 (reference 1691737)

Site no. 38: Former National School and master's house, North Greenwich Road, Tweedmouth; Grid Reference NU0060851601; HER ID 25448.

School constructed in 1872, altered and added to in 1899 by the architect William Gray of Berwick, including the addition of an infant's schoolroom and moving the entrances, before becoming a church hall. The former Master's house is attached to the rear.

Source: Saxton, H, 2009. Former National School and Masters House, North Greenwich Road, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 30-Nov-2009 (reference 168503)

Site no. 39: **St John the Evangelist, Main Street, Spittal**; Grid Reference NU0056551566; HER ID 25450. 19th century church in a sturdy Victorian Gothic style. The interior is mostly plain with the exception of a modest scissor-braced roof structure and two figurative capitals of angels on the chancel arch. *Source:* Saxton, H, 2009. St John the Evangelist, Main Street, Spittal, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 07-Dec-2009 (reference 168504)

Site no. 40: **Nos 182 to 192 Main Street, Spittal**; Grid Reference NU0071751274; HER ID 25451. Mid- to late 19th century short terrace of 5 houses. The terrace is shown on the Board of Health plan for Berwick as Spawell Terrace. *Source:* Saxton, H, 2009. 182-192, Main Street, Spittal, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 07-Dec-2009 (reference 168510)

Site no. 41: Nos 137 to 139 Main Street, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0077751287; HER ID 25453.

A pair of semi-detached town houses recorded by later 19th century Ordnance Survey mapping of the area. Situated in the area of the New Town of Spittal.

Source: Saxton, H, 2009. 137-139, Main Street, Berwick upon Tweed, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 07-Dec-2009 (reference 168511)

Site no. 42: Nos 1 and 2 James Place, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0047251595; HER ID 25455.

The building is a mid- to later 19th century town house.

Source: Saxton, H, 2010. 1 & 2, James Place, Spittal, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 10-Mar-2010 (reference 169175)

Site no. 43: **Promenade shelter, Spittal**; Grid Reference NU0069151547; HER ID 25459.

Roughly T-shaped range of buildings, now known as Marlin Buildings, constructed in 1901.

The former Coastguard House appears to have been constructed in 1901 and was extended and converted to residential and commercial use after 1932, probably after a 1931 enquiry which had predicted the increased usage of radio eliminating the need for visual watches.

Source: Saxton, H, 2012. Promenade Shelter, Promenade, Berwick upon Tweed, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 21-Dec-2009 (reference 168925)

Site no. 44: Former Venetian Café, Promenade, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0070551489; HER ID 25461.

The building is a one-storey, multi-phased building, in a mix of Classical and Spanish mission style with a central tower with a clay tile ogee roof. This replaced the original Venetian Café which was a corrugated iron building of the local ice cream manufacturers Carlo and Silviano Forte, which is now the WC.

Source: Saxton, H, 2009. The Former Venetian Café, Promenade, Spittal, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. Unpublished English Heritage correspondence to the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team 07-Dec-2009 (reference 168760)

Site no. 45: Scremerston Wagonway; Grid Reference NU0032149842, NU0092349599, NU0063949556; HER ID 27139.

19th century wagonway linked to the Scremerston Incline and Wagonway; operated till 1938. *Source:* Salthouse, E C, n.d. Coal to Berwickshire, in The Scottish Industrial Heritage Society website [http://sihs.co.uk/features-coal.htm], accessed 30-Jun-2014

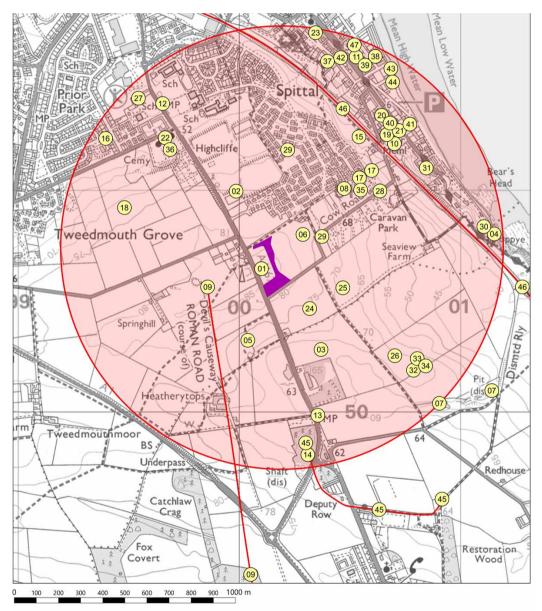
Site no. 46: **Newcastle to Berwick Railway Line**; Grid Reference NT9782457430, NZ2572374489; HER ID 27519.

The section between Newcastle and Tweedmouth was opened on 1 July 1847, with the Tyne and Tweed later to be bridged. The Newcastle and Berwick Railway changed in 1854 to become the York, Newcastle and Berwick Railway and then through merger again to form the North Eastern Railway. *Source:* Curtis, J, 2014. The Report: Design, Access, Heritage Statement prepared for Morpeth Railway Station on behalf of the Greater Morpeth Development Trust. Unpublished Napper Architects report

Site no. 47: Helen Ironworks, Spittal; Grid Reference NU0053551619; HER ID 27577.

Robert Guthrie started the Helen Ironworks and the Berwick & Tweedmouth Gaslight Company in the early-19th century, it is thought to have closed on 20 June 1845 although it is shown on later maps. The site is now occupied by Spittal First School. Many of the pink sandstone walls of the ironworks survive in the grounds of the school, particularly the wall with many blocked windows along the NE side of the playing fields.

Source: Walsh, J, 2015. Heritage Statement 2015, Spittal County First School, Main Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 1RD



Illus. 22: Plan showing the distribution of sites of known cultural heritage significance within 1 km of the study area (purple area at centre) - keyed to site Catalogue, Section 4.1.

5. SYNTHESIS

5.1 Prehistoric

There is no known artefactual evidence for human activity within the bounds of the assessment area from the Mesolithic or Neolithic periods (c 8000-4000BC and c 4000-2500BC, respectively), but it should be assumed that some level of activity, whether involving periods of permanent settlement or sporadic land-use for hunting and low-intensity farming occurred within the assessment site over the several millennia of known human presence in the area dating from the recolonisation of northern England after the last Ice Age. The lack of evidence for such activity is not unexpected, since it is not usually marked by substantial structures or dense scatters of material and, in this case, the site is heavily developed with deep medieval and later overburden over any earlier remains, which have not been explored by archaeological field investigation in the area. The earliest attested indication of early landuse in the vicinity of the assessment include a possible circular cropmark enclosure (Site no. 08), cropmarks and a series of large pits excavated at Elmbank Caravan Park (Sites no. 17 & 35) and possible ring ditches SE of the site (Site nos. 25 & 26), while the site of a possible later prehistoric subrectangular enclosure has been identified on land south of Cemetery Lane (Site no. 18). Several HER entries are listed for prehistoric features and artefacts in the wider area, notably a Bronze Age cist (HER no. NT 95 SE 17) excavated in 1927 close to the southern end of Berwick bridge, earthworks SW of the site (NGR NT968515) and a cup marked stone in the same vicinity (NGR NT965504).

The nature and density of landholding within this lowland area during the later prehistoric and Roman periods is unknown and settlement within the assessment area undocumented, although it may be assumed that the immediate locality, as an agriculturally resource-rich environment, was farmed, and that the seasonal exploitation of wild resources continued. Aerial photographs provide evidence of discrete late prehistoric or Romano-British farmsteads locally, representative of a class of settlement found in the coastal lowlands of north-east England and the Borders (Jobey 1982, 1- 23). Surviving remains of enclosures at Halidon Hill (SAM no.591; NGR NT 968 548) and Camphill (SAM no. 592; NGR NT 975 547) provide evidence for larger, defensible late prehistoric settlements in the vicinity, while smaller sites may include Springhill and the sub-rectangular enclosure noted above, and in the site Catalogue, as Site no. 18.

5.2 The Roman Period

The enigmatic question of Roman occupation, or at least a Roman military presence in the area, has remained a matter of some debate since MacLauchlan (1864a & 1864b) mapped the course of the Devil's Causeway Roman Road to a point within two kilometres of Tweedmouth (ending at NGR NU 9985 5060), west of Scremerston, where Springhill 'Roman Camp' (SAM no.341; NGR NU 000 506) lies in close association.

Springhill Camp, an enclosed site, previously thought to be a Roman fortlet and scheduled as a marching camp (Scheduled Monument 1003655), is known only from historic aerial photographs, on which basis it appears to comprise the subsurface remains of two large and roughly concentric ditches c. 3 m wide, separated by c. 4 m. It has been noted that if the line of the ditches, photographed in 1945 by J K S St Joseph (see *Illus. 00*), are extrapolated, they define the top of a rise. However, the enclosure, if real, is more likely to represent an Iron Age or Romano-British defended settlement rather than a Roman marching camp.

It is interesting to note that different historic editions of the Ordnance Survey map series show the Devil's Causeway extending northward to varying degrees. Until the 1920s it was shown extending as far at Heathertops, some 300-400 m south-west of Springhill, but by the 1950s, when the Scheduled 'Roman Camp' had been found at Springhill, the projected course of the Devil's Causeway had been extended northwards by some 600 m to Sunnyside on the southern outskirts of Tweedmouth. By the 1970s, however, its northernmost extent had retreated back to a point adjacent to the Springhill water tower. Thus, it appears that the discovery of the 'Roman Camp' in the 1940s came about as a result of the positive desire to find sites on the projected course of the Devil's Causeway (which in the area north of Lowick is difficult or impossible to trace as a cropmark). And, having been discovered, it was immediately assigned a Roman date because of its presumed association with the road. The later realisation that many native settlements lie on the course of this and other Roman roads in Northumberland – notably around the Devil's Causeway crossing of the Hartburn further south in Northumberland – perhaps caused rethinking about its possible origins which, in turn, led to the retreat of the Devil's Causeway on Ordnance Survey mapping from the 1970's.

It is often assumed that the Devil's Causeway continued its course towards the present Berwick Bridge (Margary 1973, 480), site of earlier, medieval bridges of wooden construction, but it is uncertain whether the river was bridged in the Roman period or if the road continued north of the Tweed, as suspected by Bishop (2014 and pers. com.). The balance of evidence suggests that a Roman road ran towards the mouth of the Tweed at or east of the current Tweed Dock, where landing facilities and perhaps a bridge may have been provided, or just around the coast at Spittal, from where the ascent and descent to and from the waterfront would have been more manageable. Supporting artefactual evidence for a Roman presence at Tweedmouth is limited to the find of a single coin.

Springhill Camp has not been subject to any archaeological investigation but, in 2009, Rathmell Archaeology carried out a 6% field evaluation of the area to the west, incorporating a large part of the current development site. Apart from a small semi-circular feature defined by a relatively shallow gully discovered in Trench 2, the evaluation did not reveal significant archaeological remains. However, the evaluation did not include the area immediately adjacent to the Scheduled Monument, or the southern corner of the development site, between the Scheduled Monument, Cow Road and trial trench 37 (see Figure 3b, Rathmell Archaeology RA9041 – copy retained by the County HER).

5.3 The Medieval Period

No direct archaeological evidence of early medieval (Anglo-Saxon or Viking) activity has been found within or close to the evaluation site, but it is likely that the area was farmed at this time, and several important early medieval settlement sites associated with Bernicia, or the Kingdom of Northumbria are known in what is now north Northumberland and southern Scotland. Cropmarks of possible features of early medieval date have been suggested in the form of pits, ditches and possible *grubenhaus* at NGR NU 00335044 (Site no. 24), while. Further evidence for pre-Conquest activity in the vicinity may be inferred on the basis of place-name evidence and several important early medieval settlement sites associated with Bernicia, or the Kingdom of Northumbria, notably at Lindisfarne.

The name, Spittal, derives from a shortened form of a documented "hospital", dedicated to St Bartholomew, built to take care of lepers sometime before 1234 – its location is not yet known, but was presumably some distance from the main centre of medieval population, possibly somewhere near Spittal Hall, with lands extending eastwards along the Tweed Estuary. Further references suggest that a tower was built for the protection of the hospital in 1369 and that it was still visible in 1612. The first documentary evidence of settlement within, or close to, the south bank of the Tweed is earlier than

that of the hospital, however, dating to the 12th century foundation of the Norman church of St Boisilius at Tweedmouth in 1143, probably on the site of an earlier Saxon church. It is likely that settlement grew up around this church site from an early period, probably extending the short distance to the riverside. Throughout most of its history the village has been inhabited mainly by families of fishermen; Sand-stell and Hallowstell – the "fishery of the Holy Man" (St Cuthbert) were mentioned as early as 1122. Trading activity documented at Tweedmouth from 1292 is of a nature suggesting that it was by this time already high in volume and well-established. Bridges linking Tweedmouth with Berwick are attested on or around the present site of Berwick bridge from the twelfth century but much earlier structures may have existed; one of the predecessors of the present bridge was swept away in a flood of 1199 in the reign of Malcolm IV of Scotland. The site of Spittal medieval village (*Site no. 23*), suggestive of a medieval two-row village with central green, is on or close to the current village and it is unlikely that medieval settlement spread as far as the Springhill site, which Armstrong's map (1769) labels 'Spittle Common'.

5.4 Post-Medieval and Modern

Until the middle of the nineteenth century it is reasonable to regard Berwick and Tweedmouth – the latter free from the physical constraints of defensive walls - as separate entities, socially, administratively and economically. In 1657, however, the Corporation of Berwick purchased the manors of Tweedmouth and Spittal from the Earl of Suffolk for the sum of £570 and remaining parts of Spittal were formally absorbed into the borough of Berwick under the Corporation Act of 1835. Although until the Counties (Detached Parts) Act of 1844, Spittal and Tweedmouth remained part of the detached portion of County Durham called Islandshire within the County Palatine of Durham.

In broad terms, Tweedmouth village and parish, which included Spittal, while smaller than Berwick was by no means insubstantial and accounted for 32% of the total population of the three settlements in 1801, rising to 38% by 1911. Tweedmouth evolved as a separate village with different character to its larger neighbour, its residents engaged principally in fishing and farming, later becoming attractive to those wishing to set up large, noisy or polluting industrial enterprises, a tendency accentuated in the 19th century as the scale of industrial activities grew and the developing railway and port infrastructure was concentrated on the Tweed's southern bank. More recently, Tweedmouth and Spittal absorbed much of Berwick's physical expansion as overcrowding within the walls was relieved by the building of housing estates, many of them on the south side of the Tweed.

Extensive deposits of coal lie south of the Tweed, notably on the outskirts of Tweedmouth opposite Berwick, where mining took place continuously from around 1500-1900. While references to the use of sea coal exist from as early as the 14th century, the earliest record of mining as a source of coal is from 1491; indeed, Tweedmouth's Berwick Hill Colliery was probably the earliest and certainly most-long lived of all the collieries in north Northumberland. Early use of coal was principally for domestic fires and the supply of salt pans, but it is notable that as early as 1560 coals were being brought in from Newcastle to supplement local coals in the supply of fuel to lime kilns during the repair of Berwick Castle walls. Amongst numerous sites of coal-mining activity shown on historic Ordnance Survey maps, including Berwickhill pit on the eastern fringe of the site and others on and immediately west and south of the current Springhill water tower, the following are included on the county HER within 1 km of the Springhill site: Scremerston Wagonway (Site no. 45) which operated until 1938, Scremerston Old Level (Site no. 04) Berwickhill Colliery (Site no. 05), 'Old' Berwickhill Pit (Site no. 06) and Engine Pit (Site no. 07), which may also have been the site of a brickworks.

Other brickworks and sites of wider ceramic production, including tiles and earthenware pottery manufactories such as Scremerston and Borewell tileworks a kilometre or so south of the site, operated

on a small-scale at several locations in and around Tweedmouth, particularly during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Associated with these sites in what was, during the 19th century, a heavily industrialised landscape, were a number of pubic houses on what is now the A1167 road, including the Border Inn on the site of the Springhill water tower and the Miner's Arms a little to the south, between Springhill and Scremerston tileworks.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL & IMPACTS

6.1 Archaeological Potential

There are no known sites of cultural heritage significance within or adjacent to the site other than those related to Scheduled site of Springhill Roman Camp, which is considered of national importance.

Many sites of national, regional and local importance lie within visible range of the site and may be impacted by it. However, the Berwick and Tweedmouth riverside areas, considered to be crucial to the setting of the cultural assets of Berwick-Upon-Tweed, are not visible from the site.

6.2 The survival of potential archaeological remains

It is not considered likely that any archaeological remains, other than those integral or closely-related to the Scheduled site of Springhill Roman Camp, survive within the boundary of the current proposed development site, although the scale of evaluation sample trenching means that this possibility cannot be discounted altogether.

With respect to the Scheduled site, the excavation of 13 evaluation trenches close to the site of the Scheduled Springhill Camp in 2019, added contextual information regarding the potential of the site to date retrieved from an evaluation of the remainder of the proposed development site in 2009. Neither episode of evaluation reported any surviving archaeological remains of high significance from the site.

The 2019 trenches revealed only one feature of any real note, namely a circular feature of likely modern industrial origin in Trench 13. Another circular feature, perhaps the product of subsidence, appeared in Trench 12 and the possible, ploughed-out remains of rig and furrow cultivation features were reported in Trench 11. Likewise, the more extensive 2009 excavations revealed only one feature of potential significance, also likely related to relatively modern mining activity in the area.

It was notable that, while most trenches encountered shallow deposits of top-soil above natural boulder clay, bed-rock was encountered in several trenches (trenches 1-3 in the north part of the site and Trench 8 on the south) and the character of a linear mound projecting north-east from close to the western boundary of the site, visible as an area of rough ground and appearing on historic aerial views, was ascertained as a ridged outcrop of bedrock rising up to a metre or so from the surrounding farmland. Topsoil deposits overlying natural boulder clay and bedrock were universally shallow, except at the northern and southern edges of the field, seen in trenches 1 and 13, where deeper deposits were encountered. Mixed deposits found underlying the topsoil in trench 1, in particular, hint at deliberate deposition in the modern period.

Thus, the remains encountered through excavation at Springhill do not suggest that significant archaeological remains survive there, other than those of coal-mining and related activities which are known to have been practiced in Tweedmouth, Spittal, Scremerston and surrounding areas from the medieval period to the 20th century, leaving abundant records on historic maps and plans as well as traces on the ground.

Most significant, in terms of potential cultural heritage constraints to the current planning process pertaining to the site, was the absence of any trace of features potentially related to Scheduled site of a suggested enclosure late prehistoric or Roman enclosure occupying the hill top immediately adjacent to

the evaluation area. The absence of finds or features associated with this purported enclosure does not conclusively prove its absence, however, since late iron age settlements do not produce copious amounts of small finds and not all are associated with field systems, traces of which might have been found in evaluation trenching, while Roman sites may not have been occupied for long enough to generate large number of finds or associated outlying features. However, the presence of bedrock close to the surface in several trenches, some of it clearly lying in stepped or ridged profile (including a large outcropping spur) suggests the possibility that the features interpreted in the 1950s as cropmarks of a Roman or iron age camp, which led to the protection of the site as such, may be derived from geological or later industrial activity rather than early settlement.

6.3 The Impact of the Development

The proposed works will have negligible impact on any archaeological structures or deposits within the neighbouring, Scheduled area of Springhill Roman Camp, and it remains unproven that any other features or finds of cultural heritage significance survive within the proposed area of development. Any remains of significance surviving there, which have not been revealed by evaluation, are likely to be negatively impacted by the works as proposed, since foundation and service trenching works have a destructive impact on features surviving on or cut into the sub-soil.

6.4 Visual Impacts

In addition to the potential direct impact upon archaeological remains (or other kinds of heritage assets) of carrying out a development, the potential non-material impact of such a development must also be considered in terms of the effect it has upon the setting of a heritage asset, and the potential for a negative change in the visitor experience of the heritage asset through such a change to its setting. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – *MHCLG* 2019) makes it clear that the significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence and historic fabric but also from its setting – the surroundings in which it is experienced, the extent of which is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve (HE 2017). Thus, 'Setting' embraces all of the surroundings from which the heritage asset can be experienced that can be experienced from or with the asset. However, it is a somewhat subjective and flexible concept, since it does not have a fixed boundary and cannot be definitively described as a spatially-bounded area or as comprising an area within a set distance of a heritage asset.

The importance of setting with regard to upstanding remains is perhaps easier to appreciate that those lacking such remains, since it is easier to engage in the rationale for the positioning of a standing building or upstanding defensible earthwork if it can be viewed within its wider landscape context. Heritage assets that comprise only buried remains may not be readily appreciated by a casual observer, but nonetheless retain a presence in the landscape and, like other heritage assets, have a setting which enhances their significance as cultural heritage sites and their potential for appreciation by the observer (HE 2019).

Clearly, as noted above, consideration of setting is somewhat subjective and necessarily a matter of informed judgement, but Historic England has provided guidance to assist decision-making by ensuring it takes place within a clear framework and is as transparent and consistent as possible. In order to assess the implications of developments affecting setting, a systematic and staged approach to assessment is recommended, enabling all interested parties to understand whether the development proposal is in accordance with relevant planning policies. The following broad approach is recommended by Historic England (EH 2011ii):

1: identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;

2: assess whether, how and to what degree these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s);

3: assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance;

4: explore ways of avoiding or minimising harm.

The area of assessment for a large or prominent development can often extend for a distance of several kilometres and should, as in this case, be guided by relevant planning control officers. While a proposed development may affect the setting of numerous heritage assets, it may not impact on them all equally, as some will be more sensitive to change affecting their setting than others. In the case of the current assessment, a 1000 m radius from the site was identified within which it was considered that the setting of cultural heritage assets were most likely to be impacted, although it was not considered that all sites within this area would necessarily be impacted or, indeed, that no sites outside it would not be impacted. In order to carry out the first stage of the assessment identified above, a search of the county HER provided base-line information on heritage assets within 1 km of the proposed development site, while further map study and observation from the site itself indicated whether any sites outside the 1 km zone would be affected. The following summarises the results of this first stage of enquiry.

Amongst the sites potentially impacted, only one of the highest designated cultural heritage value -Scheduled Monuments and Grade I or Grade II* Listed Buildings – namely the *Springhill Enclosure (Gaz. Site no. 1)* is included, the remainder being six Grade II listed buildings and undesignated sites of significance listed on the HER or seen on historic maps. Although such sites are not in themselves significant enough from a cultural heritage perspective to warrant consideration of visual impact upon them, they each contribute collectively to a wider cultural ensemble, or historic landscape.

Although a total of 7 sites of significance have been identified in with regard to potential visible impact, 6 are Listed Buildings lying more than 500 m from the closest point to the development site and not visible from it, therefor are not considered to be impacted by the proposed development.

Therefore, only significant site of major cultural heritage importance which merit close attention from the perspective of the potential impact of the proposed development upon its setting is the Springhill Enclosure site (Gaz Site no. 01), considered to be of national importance to the Secretary of State and the key receptor with regard to the present assessment.

Visits to the site and its wider environs have been used to view it from the perspective of the potential visual impact of the development upon other sites of recognised cultural heritage significance as well as upon the neighbouring, Scheduled Enclosure site. A variety of views to and from the site are provided above (Section 2.3.7) in order to provide some of the visual context to the investigation.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Historical development

The Springhill site is likely to have been subject to some level of activity, whether involving periods of permanent settlement or sporadic land-use for hunting and low-intensity farming, over the several millennia of known human presence in the area dating from the recolonisation of northern England after the last Ice Age. That much is assumed on the basis of prehistoric finds in the wider vicinity, but the only known or suspected remains of such activity on or immediately adjacent to the site itself are those of a suspected late prehistoric enclosure site, Scheduled as a protected monument of national importance. Suring the medieval period the site lay on moorland south-east of Spittal, but was probably used for grazing and accessed by the current 'Cow Road' bounding the south side of the assessment site. The latter, along with current A1167 road between Scremerston and Tweedmouth, also became important at an early date in relation to coal mining and associated industrial activities which flourished on the moorlands south of Spittal and Tweedmouth from as early as the later medieval period into the early 20th century. By that time the current site had been turned over to arable farming within the semiindustrial landscape of coal-mining and coal transport, which also supported public houses along the main carriageways. The decline of coal-mining in the later 19th century was accompanied by the construction, on a former coal-mining site, of the Springhill water tower at the highest point above Spittal and Tweedmouth. In the later 20th and 21st centuries, the expansion of settlement southwards from Tweedmouth and south-westwards from Spittal has now reached as far as Springhill.

7.2 Significance of known or potential archaeological remains

There are no known sites of cultural heritage significance within the development site, but the site of a Scheduled Roman or late prehistoric enclosure (Gaz. Site no. 01), regarded as of national importance, lies immediately adjacent to the west of the investigated area. In addition, many other sites of national, regional and local importance lie within visible range of the site, but none within sufficiently close range to be considered at risk of being indirectly impacted by developments upon it.

7.3 The survival of potential archaeological remains

It is not considered likely that any significant archaeological remains, other than those integral to or closely-related to the Scheduled site of a possible iron age or Roman enclosure, survive within the site boundary.

7.4 The Impact of the Development

7.4.1 Direct Impacts

Whilst sample trenching within the assessment area, outside the protected area of the Scheduled monument, suggests that significant archaeological remains are unlikely to survive there, in view of the officially recognise presence of a nationally protected monument adjacent to the site and in view of the limitations of sample trenching, there remains some reasonable potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site which would be be impacted negatively by groundworks associated with the development process.

Therefore, with regard to the potential for direct impact on surviving, presently unknown archaeological remains, archaeological monitoring of groundworks in the vicinity of the protected site would be a reasonable and proportionate way to mitigate this potential impact. The preferred means to carry out this monitoring, should it be required as a condition of planning consent, would be by means of a 'strip, map and sample' process, or a combination of 'strip, map and record' and monitoring of deeper excavations by 'watching brief'. In addition, there is potential in this case for physical harm to occur to the protected area during the construction programme, which could effectively be mitigated by erection of temporary fencing outside the boundary of the monument.

7.4.2 Visual Impacts of Works Programme

As well as the direct impact, the visual impacts of the proposed construction works have been assessed. The visual presence of the development will have an effect on the setting of heritage assets in the vicinity, with the principal heritage assets affected being Springhill Enclosure site (Gaz. Site no. 01). With due regard to recent government policy statements (MHCLG 2019) and Historic England Guidance on the matter (EH 2015 & 2017), it is concluded that the extent of the indirect negative impact upon heritage assets visible from the site will not be as significant as the positive impact on the setting of the site by taking it out of arable farming regime and enclosing it, thereby highlighting its presence to residents and visitors.

The National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019) is relevant to this discussion in terms of determining overall impact, with its emphasis on sustainability (op. cit. 5), bearing in mind the desirability to conserve heritage assets most at risk through neglect or decay, sustaining and enhancing their significance, whilst putting them to viable uses and considering the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. In this context, it may be considered that the negative impact upon the character of the designated asset caused by the visual impact of neighbouring development, and indirect impact on the wider landscape, is counterbalanced, subject to a number of suggested mitigation measures, by the educational potential and economic viability of the site and wider context.

Regarding mitigation measures, the potential for impact could and should be reduced by a sensitive landscaping design and setting back, from the boundary of the protected monument, buildings within the development plots, as well as associated roads, garages and other amenities, street furniture and related infrastructure. With regard to the current proposals, therefore, this would specifically involve redesigning the course of the internal roadway currently shown running alongside the eastern boundary of the Scheduled site, as well as some repositioning of structures within the plots, in order to achieve an effective buffer bordering the Scheduled monument to the rear of the plots. The aim of such a limited redesign would be to achieve an effective and permanent buffer of several metres – sufficient for an earthen bund and/or tree planting, between the new development and the protected area of the monument.

In the context of the National Planning Policy Framework, with its emphasis on sustainability and potential for new development to make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness, it is suggested that the indirect impact on the wider landscape, specifically the Springhill Enclosure site, could be counterbalanced, assuming implementation of certain mitigation measures, through improvements made in terms of visibility and local awareness of the monument. Marking it out on the ground by means of a visible buffer, as well as a change of land-use from arable to amenity, would protect it and improve awareness of it amongst the local community, who would also have improved physical access to it.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the potential for direct impact on surviving archaeological remains, despite sample trenching there remains some reasonable potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site, potentially associated with the Scheduled enclosure site occupying the elevated ground. Therefore, it is recommended that groundworks carried out within a 30 metres of the boundaries of the Scheduled site should be monitored archaeologically. The preferable means of carrying out such monitoring is by means of a 'strip, map and sample' process, but the final decision in this regard will be made by the assistant county archaeologist when details of the working methods involved in site preparation and foundation works are agreed. The purpose of this will be to mitigate the impacts of groundworks by recording any previously unknown archaeological remains, including unstratified artefacts, that may appear as a result of excavation.

With regard to the potential indirect, visual impacts upon the setting of the Scheduled site, the potential for impact could be reduced through a sensitive landscaping design and setting back from the boundary of the monument buildings within the development plots, as well as associated roads, lighting, garages and other amenities. With regard to the current proposals, therefore, this would specifically involve redesigning the course of the internal roadway currently shown running alongside the eastern boundary of the Scheduled site, as well as some repositioning of garage structures within the plots, which may, in turn, entail a redesign of the relative position of houses and garage structures, in order to achieve an effective buffer bordering the Scheduled monument to the rear of the plots. The aim of such limited redesign would be to achieve an effective and permanent buffer of several metres – sufficient for an earthen bund and/or tree planting, between the new development and the protected area of the monument.

In addition to the potential visual impacts on the setting of the monument, there is potential for physical harm to occur to the protected area during construction programme, which should be mitigated by erection of temporary fencing outside the boundary of the monument, ideally encompassing the buffer area suggested above, prior to the commencement of works.

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