

# MERLEWOOD, GRANGE OVER SANDS, CUMBRIA



## Draft Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



**Oxford Archaeology North**

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**JMP Architects**

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## SUMMARY

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JMP Architects are submitting a planning application for the development of a holiday centre at Merlewood, Windermere Road, Grange over Sands, Cumbria (SD 4095 7960). The proposed development affects an area considered to have archaeological potential and, accordingly, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) issued a brief for a programme of preliminary archaeological investigation, comprising a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey. Following production of a project design to meet CCCHES requirements, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were commissioned by JMP Architects to conduct the work, which was undertaken in October 2006.

Merlewood comprises a complex of buildings lying on steeply-sloping ground within a rural location, roughly 1km to the north of Grange over Sands and centred on a Grade II listed mansion built in 1853 for a wealthy cotton family. The development proposals cover an area of approximately 1.4 ha and intends to utilise a number of the existing buildings of the Merlewood complex, as well as replace others. Other features, such as an original tennis court, will be restored within their present locations.

The archaeological programme identified 31 archaeological sites of prehistoric to twentieth century date located within a 1km radius study area focused on Merlewood. Twelve of these sites, including parts of the Grade II listed mansion and its associated structures (Site 1), a set of Grade II listed gateposts (Site 2), a ha-ha (Site 20), a walled garden and related features (Site 21), an area of coppiced woodland (Site 22), a derelict building (Site 24), a rubbish tip (Site 25), an ancient enclosure (Site 26), various garden features (Site 29), a series of buildings associated with the use of Merlewood as a Second World War training camp, and also a quarry (Site 31), would/may be affected by the development proposals.

Following the granting of planning permission, it is recommended that a programme of further archaeological investigation be undertaken prior to development actually taking place; such works might form the basis of planning conditions proposed by CCCHES. Many of the sites form integral elements of the Merlewood estate, a group value that enhances their significance beyond their individual status, and a survey should be undertaken of the Merlewood estate in order to preserve by record the relationships of the individual elements within their present setting. All buildings of historic or architectural merit to be demolished or to be internally altered as part of the development should be subject to an archaeological buildings survey at an appropriate level. It is also recommended that presently undeveloped areas within which building will take place, particularly within the walled garden, to the north of the house and also to its south-east, should be the subject of a programme of archaeological trial-trenching in order to establish the presence or absence of previously unknown archaeological features in these areas. Should significant archaeological remains be discovered, further mitigation may be required. Some areas of the site, particularly those where demolition will need to take place before rebuilding, would need to be monitored during groundworks associated with the development as part of an archaeological watching brief.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Ian Nicholson of JMP Architects for commissioning the project, and are particularly grateful to the staff of Merlewood for supervising the walkover survey. Thanks are also due to Jo Mckintosh at the Cumbria Historic Environment Record, Kendal, and all the staff of the Cumbria County Archives, Kendal, the Lancashire archives, Preston, and the Grange over Sands Library, for their assistance with this project. OA North are especially grateful to John Beckett, who supplied much useful information on the architectural and military history of Merlewood.

The desk-based assessment and walkover survey was undertaken by Jeremy Bradley, with the drawings produced by Marie Rowland. The project was managed by Stephen Rowland, who also edited the report.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 As part of preliminary proposals for a holiday development at Merlewood, Windermere Road, Grange over Sands, Cumbria (SD 4095 7960; Fig 1), JMP Architects (hereafter the 'client') requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) undertake an appropriate scheme of investigation to inform the planning process. The proposed development affects an area considered to have archaeological potential and, accordingly, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) issued a brief for a desk-based assessment and walkover survey (*Appendix 1*). Following submission of a project design (*Appendix 2*) to meet this brief, OA North were commissioned by the client to undertake the work. Merlewood comprises a complex of buildings lying on steeply-sloping ground within a rural location, roughly 1km to the north of Grange over Sands. The development proposals cover an area of approximately 1.4 ha and intend to utilise a number of the existing buildings of the Merlewood complex, as well as replace others. Other features, such as an original tennis court, will be restored within their present locations.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER), Kendal, both the Cumbria and Lancashire County Record Offices, respectively in Kendal and Preston, the Grange over Sands library and also the archives and library held at OA North. In addition, a walkover survey was carried out on the site of the proposed development, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment. This report sets out the results of this programme of work in the form of a short document, outlining the findings and presenting a statement of the archaeological potential and significance of the site, utilising the criteria detailed in PPG 16 (DoE 1990). The report concludes with an assessment of the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource, together with an outline programme for the mitigation of this impact.

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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 The project design (*Appendix 2*) submitted by OA North in response to the CCCHES brief (*Appendix 1*) was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

### 2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 Because of the rural location, the study area covered a wide, 1km radius around the proposed development site, encompassing the site itself and its immediate locale. Relevant information from the wider area was summarised in order to place the results of the assessment into an archaeological and historical context. All known archaeological sites within the study area and its environs have been included in the Site Gazetteer (*Section 4*) and were analysed using the set of criteria for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument (DoE 1991). The following resources were routinely consulted for information pertaining to the site:
- 2.2.2 ***Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER)***: the CHER, held in Kendal, consists of a database of known archaeological sites within the county, and is maintained by CCCHES. All sites recorded in the study area were accessed and an entry, including grid reference, sources and brief description, was added to the gazetteer (*Section 4*).
- 2.2.3 ***Cumbria (CCRO) and Lancashire (LCRO) County Record Offices***: due to the reorganisation of the local government boundaries in 1974, involving the transfer of Lancashire North of the Sands to the newly-created county of Cumbria, it was necessary to consult both the County Record Offices for Cumbria and Lancashire, held in Kendal and Preston respectively. Some material, particularly the map bases, are still held by the LCRO, but both offices hold a large number of original documents and maps for the Grange over Sands area, allowing the post-medieval development of the site to be traced.
- 2.2.4 ***Grange over Sands Library***: Grange over Sands local library has a fairly extensive collection of secondary sources relevant to the study area, which were consulted where necessary.
- 2.2.5 ***Oxford Archaeology North***: OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out within the region, both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.



## **2.3 WALKOVER SURVEY**

- 2.3.1 A walkover survey of the site and its immediate surroundings was undertaken to relate the existing landscape to any research findings and to determine the presence of any potential features of archaeological interest. The survey was also undertaken to identify any areas of potentially significant disturbance to archaeological remains and to highlight any hazards or constraints to the undertaking of the subsequent fieldwork. All accessible areas within the development area, both internally and externally, were traversed on foot, with hand-written notes and photographs taken where appropriate. The location of newly-identified sites were marked on a plan of the development site.

## **2.4 ARCHIVE**

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 2*), and with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the CCRO on completion of the project and a copy of the report will be lodged with the CHER where it will be publicly accessible.

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## 3. BACKGROUND

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### 3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.1.1 The development site at Merlewood is located south-west of the village of Lindale and approximately 2km north-north-east of Grange over Sands (SD 40960 79606; Fig 1). The study area is situated in the north of Eggerslack Woods, on the lower slopes of the uplands of Hampsfell. The site lies within the area defined by the Countryside Commission as the Morecambe Bay Limestones, typified in this instance by conspicuous Carboniferous (Urswick) limestone hills, semi-natural coppice woodland and stately homes set in parkland landscapes (Countryside Commission 1998, 69). The local soils are generally shallow, base and rich, although in the study area deposits of glacial drift give rise to heavier, sticky soils (*ibid*, 71; Allen 2003, 3, 8-9).

### 3.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.2.1 **Introduction:** this historical and archaeological background is based principally on secondary sources and is intended to give a general overview of the area to allow greater understanding of the context of the site and the results of the assessment. Where relevant, sites from the Gazetteer (*Section 4*) are referred to, but will be discussed in greater detail in *Section 5*.

3.2.2 **Prehistoric Period:** the study area is situated in a wider landscape of significant prehistoric activity, comprising evidence of human habitation dating from the Upper Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age. The earliest known activity within the area comes from Kirkhead Cave near Allithwaite and Lindale Low Cave, both of which revealed Upper Palaeolithic remains and represent the most north-westerly contemporary sites in the country (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 33; Sites **5** and **7**). Evidence of Mesolithic activity is attested by a flint assemblage from Levens (Wild 2003, 23) and a stone hammer from Bogrells Farm (North 1936; Site **13**), while evidence of Neolithic activity is largely dependant on finds of stone tools, several of which have been discovered in or around the study area (Sites **9**, **14** and **15**; Dickinson 1935; North 1934;).

3.2.3 Bronze Age activity within the area is more prolific, with a cremation cemetery being excavated in 2001 at Allithwaite, and Bronze Age beaker burials known from Levens (Wild 2003, 23). Other undated prehistoric sites included possible hut circles (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000) and numerous cairns, including a possible burial cairn on nearby Hampsfell (*ibid*).

3.2.4 Iron Age sites and remains are notoriously difficult to identify in the North West, in part due to a lack of distinct material culture (Haselgrove 1996, 64) and there is thus little artefactual or settlement evidence for contemporary activity in the area. Most Iron Age finds are restricted to areas such as Furness and it is thought that most upland settlement may have been abandoned during this period (Hodgkinson *et al* 2001).

- 3.2.5 **Roman period:** there is almost no evidence of Roman activity within the locality, with the only significant find comprising a tombstone from Eller How, near Low Newton, about 4km to the north-west of the development site. The tombstone may imply a Roman presence in the area, but may have been a secondary deposit from elsewhere. Within the study area, Roman pottery including Samian, was recovered from Merlewood Cave (Salisbury 1992; Site 5), indicating that the immediate area was certainly not bereft of activity at that time.
- 3.2.6 **Early medieval period:** little is known of the history of the region immediately following the cessation of Roman authority in the fifth century AD. Considering the limited evidence for Romano-British activity in the area, it is possible that life, of a rather tribal nature, continued in a similar manner to that of late prehistory. By the seventh century AD the area probably fell within the westward expansion of the Kingdom of Northumbria. Cartmel, about 8km to the south-west, is mentioned in AD 677 when it was granted to St Cuthbert by King Ecgfith of Northumbria (Dickinson 1991, 9). Although politically influential, it is unlikely that Anglian immigration into the area was extensive and Ecgfirth indicates that the area still an enclave of indigenous Britons (*ibid*).
- 3.2.7 A strong Scandinavian influence can be detected toponymically within the local area, forming part of a dense concentration of Scandinavian place names North of the Sands. Elements such as *-slack* in Eggeslack Wood derive from the Old Norse *slakki*, a shallow valley (Gelling 1984, 123), whilst the *-thwaite* element in Allithwaite derives from Old Norse *thveit*, meaning a clearing or pasture (Gelling 1984, 210; Kenyon 1991, 127). Many such names in the local area, together with a number of ‘wood’ names, which are thought to be indicative of ancient woodland, rather than more recent plantations (Rackham 1976), suggest that then, as now, the area was well-wooded.
- 3.2.8 **Late medieval period:** in the medieval period it is likely that the area around Merlewood belonged to the Cartmel Priory Estate. The priory itself was never rich; the surrounding area, particularly around Hampsfell, was quite barren, and communications were poor until the nineteenth century (Dickinson 1991, 15; Stockdale 1872, 371). To the north-east of the study area were the lands belonging to Hampsfield Manor, the only sizeable private estate (Dickinson 1991, 16; Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 278-9). The name ‘Grange’ (later Grange over Sands) denotes an outlying farm run by the Priory, but it is also known that by the end of the medieval period the place served as a port, with records of sea coal being landed there in the sixteenth century (Dickinson 1991, 114).
- 3.2.9 **Post-medieval period:** the post-medieval period saw great changes in the way the landscape was managed and utilised. The Dissolution of the Monasteries overturned almost 500 years of centralised land management, whilst the early nineteenth-century Enclosure Award for Cartmel, which included lands within the study area, not only reshaped the landscape through the enclosure of the wastes and commons but brought about improvements in communication and farming practice (Stockdale 1872, 371; Marshall 1958, 67-8). Elements of the enclosure landscape can be seen to the west of the Merlewood estate as

rectilinear fields still known as Bishop's Tithe Allotment on the present OS 1:25,000 map, recording the name given in the 1809 award (WPR 89 Z3).

- 3.2.10 Lime kilns, quarries and ancient coppice stools all attest to post-medieval industry in the area. Two limekilns were recorded in the study area at Limekiln Wood (Site 6) and Cockle Wood (Site 8), while to the west of Merlewood House the lower slopes of Hampsfell show clear indication of having been coppiced (Site 22) to provide fuel for the kilns and perhaps for the bloomery at Lindale church (Site 11). Indeed, platforms associated with charcoal production are known elsewhere in Eggerslack Woods.
- 3.2.11 In the Victorian period the village of Grange over Sands was transformed into a fashionable resort town. The advent of the Furness Railway in the 1850s brought more visitors, with wealthy merchants building grand houses (Countryside Commission 1998, 69, 72). Merlewood House was no exception and was built in 1853 by Alfred Binyon, a partner in the Manchester calico printing firm of Thomas Hoyle and Sons. The estate comprised the house (Plate 1), stables (Plate 2) and gardens. Additions to the house included a tower and other features which were added in 1881 (Beckett 2006). The house passed through several owners and remained in private hands until 1930. After several years it was converted into a Hotel, until it was requisitioned by the War Office for use as a training centre in 1940. It reverted to a Hotel in 1947, before being bought by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1951 and subsequently converted into laboratories known as the Merlewood research centre (Beckett 2006).

### 3.3 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.3.1 *Yates' map of Lancashire, 1787*: this shows the study area, but does not have much in the way of detail. The areas of high ground to the east and west of the site are depicted, as well as the main north/south road connecting Grange to Lindale and the north, but there is nothing to indicate any activity at the present site.
- 3.3.2 *Plan of the ancient Inclosures in the division of Broughton, 1809*: this shows the study area in some detail for the first time. Although topographical features such as woods (including Eggerslack Wood, which is assumed to be ancient, semi-natural woodland), or gradients are not shown, it does clearly depict the road network, the series of small irregular fields and various buildings. The road network comprises the main north/south road, then known as Slack road, with Eggerslack Road branching off. The location of the future Merlewood house and the land to the north and south was occupied by the said "Ancient Inclosures" mentioned in the map title. These are irregular enclosures, several of which display aratral ('S'-shaped) borders typical of boundaries aligned on earthworks caused by medieval ox ploughing. The map also shows those parts of the Broughton division that were formerly waste and had been enclosed. Various dispersed settlement are depicted, mainly isolated farmsteads such as Blawith Farm, Hampsfield and Slack. The north-eastern part of the study area, which lies outside of Broughton Parish, is omitted from the map.

- 3.3.3 ***Plan of Holker, Allithwaite, Broughton, Staveley and Cartmel Fell, c 1809*** (Fig 3): this map is effectively the same map as the “Inclosure” plan, but with more topographical information and a broader geographical extent. The village of Lindale is marked and is quite dispersed in its spatial organisation. However, of note are the ancient enclosures; a good proportion of them, particularly in the study area, have detail added in the form of trees and shading, apparently denoting scrubland. These shaded areas, with their sinuous boundaries typical of patches of ancient woodland (Rackham 1974), accord with small areas of woodland shown on later maps and may have been worked on an individual basis. Eggerslack Road is marked as Slackwell Road on this map. The enclosed areas have the names of those who benefited from the apportionment.
- 3.3.4 ***Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition 6”:1 mile, 1848*** (Fig 4): the OS map shows topographic features in much greater detail. All the areas of woodland are shown as well as relief in the form of contour lines. The road system shows little change. The main difference, however, is the replacement of the small irregular fields depicted on earlier maps by extensive rectilinear field boundaries typical of nineteenth-century Parliamentary Enclosure and it is notable that these newer boundaries are not depicted with hedgerow trees as are the older, less rectilinear, fields, perhaps denoting drystone construction. It is also of interest that wooded areas depicted on the older maps are unaffected by the enclosure programme. The two limekilns noted in the study area (Sites 6 and 8) are both marked on the map, as well as Site 16, Eggerslack Quarry. A name in Eggerslack Woods, Greasy Barrow, is of note and may refer to the presence of a prehistoric barrow (but might equally derive from the Old English *bearu*, meaning a grove - Gelling 1984, 127).
- 3.3.5 ***Ordnance Survey 25”, 1891*** (Fig 5): this map shows further reorganisation of the landscape since the 1848 survey. Firstly, Merlewood House (Site 1) is depicted, along with the 1881 extensions, the gardens (Site 21) and an extensive plantation of trees around the house itself. The enclosure field boundaries noted on the first edition OS map of 1848 have also disappeared, presumably as part of the landscaping associated with Merlewood House. Blawith Farm has been replaced by Merlewood Farm, which, from the ground plan, would appear to be a completely new build. Further new building includes Hazel Bank to the south of Merlewood House and Lynwood to the east. The Lime Kilns (Sites 6 and 8) are still shown, but Eggerslack Quarry (Site 16) is no longer depicted. The road network is also much better defined, with what was known as Slack Road now being named Windermere Road and clearly the principal northward route from Grange.
- 3.3.6 ***Ordnance Survey 6”, 1911***: this map shows very few changes from the 1891 edition. Within the immediate development area, there is evidence to suggest that a small independent structure has been added within the garden area to the south-west of the west extension of the house. Beyond the environs of the house, there would appear to have been very little change.
- 3.3.7 ***Ordnance Survey 1:10,000, 1979***: (note: no map coverage pertinent to the study area was located for the period between 1911 and 1979); remarkably, it would appear that very little has changed between 1911 and the late 1970s in

the immediate vicinity of the study area. The main differences are the structures located immediately to the east of Merlewood House. These are likely to be buildings erected during the Second World War when the site was used as a training camp. Sites **23**, a terrace north of the walled garden, and **24**, a now-derelict stone structure, are shown for the first time. South-west of Merlewood, in Eggerslack Wood, a structure marked “Tanks” is depicted, as well as a covered reservoir. To the east of Merlewood can be seen a small housing development, located south of Lime kiln Wood.

### **3.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS**

3.4.1 Archaeological excavations have taken place on two sites within the study area. The earliest was in the late nineteenth century at Merlewood Cave (Site **5**), where human and animal remains were recovered, as well as Northumbrian coins and Roman pottery, all now missing (Salisbury 1992, 1). More recent excavations took place within the study area at Lindale Low Cave (Site **7**), from where flints attributed to the late Upper Palaeolithic period were recovered (Salisbury 1992, 3).

### **3.5 WALKOVER SURVEY**

3.5.1 The walkover survey was undertaken within the area of the proposed development around Merlewood House and identified several sites of archaeological interest. To the south of the house, features relating to the landscaping of the estate were noted, including paths (Site **29**) and a ha-ha (Site **20**; Plate 3). Within the walled garden (Site **21**) there has been quite a lot of disturbance caused by recent development, including ephemeral structures such as glass houses and sunken features of unknown usage. However, there are still the remnants of what appear to be structures contemporary with the original garden, including a north/south aligned terrace (Plate 4). Although probably not contemporary with the construction of the garden, a range of stone-built sheds (Plate 5) butting the external face of the north wall are shown on the 1891 OS map and a contemporary painting by Charles Henry Mitchell, who died in 1883 (Beckett 2006). The overgrown nature of the interior of the garden itself might suggest that there are more features to be revealed.

3.5.2 Extending north of the garden was a stone-revetted terrace (Site **23**) and a derelict stone structure (Site **24**; Plate 6), which was probably used as a stock pen. Beyond these features were a quarry (Site **31**) and a collapsed boundary wall and small ruinous enclosure (Sites **27** and **28**, respectively).

3.5.3 The survey also revealed that there had been quite a lot of building, both post- and pre-war, in the immediate vicinity of the house, both adjoining the east and west sides of the house and also slightly further afield. It is likely that the more substantial of these buildings, particularly the block adjoining the west of the house, would have fairly deep foundations and services associated with them. Other structures, particularly the “H”-shaped building to the west of the house, were less substantial and would have less impact below ground. Four buildings (Site **30**) east of the house, not only have a tarmac road connecting

them to the rear carpark, but appear to have been terraced into the east-facing slope (Plates 7 and 8). These buildings are associated with a series of terraced foundation slabs that line the scarp east of the house and are likely to be connected with use of the site as a training camp in the Second World War.

- 3.5.4 Between the house and the ha-ha there is an area of lawn contemporary with the construction of the house. Two areas to the rear (north) of the house are used as a carpark and have tarmac surfaces. Between these two carparks is an area of grass that has a sign indicating that services are buried below it.

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## 4. GAZETTEER OF SITES

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood, Grange over sands
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40960 79606
<b>Site type</b>	House
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>24185</b>
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	Grade II
<b>Sources</b>	Beckett 2006; Beckett and Gardner 1987; walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	A large house built for Alfred Binyon in 1853, by the architects Thompson and Webster and extended in 1881. The house remained in private hands until about 1930, whereafter it was converted into a hotel before and after the Second World War, during which it was requisitioned by the War Office. It was bought by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1951, with its final use being the Merlewood Research Station, but has on occasion been used by the Police for dog training.

The house, of irregular plan, is built from limestone, with ashlar dressings. The north facade has a gabled wooden porch, three unequal gables with ornamental barge boards and a timber oriel window. The south front is more symmetrical, with two-storey bay windows, a gabled centre attic window and flanking gables. The east wing has a two-storied bay window, while the west wing connects to an oblong tower with a pyramidal roof.

The porch to the rear of the house is surfaced with glazed tiles (Plate 9). Above the doorway, there are four lights, each containing a stained glass shield. The interior of the house has some features of note. Ornate moulding was noted in the lobby and above the staircase. The grandest room is located at the front and east of the house on the first floor. Features of note are the tiled fireplace, with moulded surround and mirror, while the ceiling is ornately decorated (Plate 10). Other rooms on the first floor have moulded architraves, but nothing as ornate as the previously described room.

Adjoining the tower is a north-east/south-west aligned wing on the west side of house. This wing, although composed of artificial, rusticated stone, has an interesting partially glassed ceiling and ornate wooden beams. The structure may date to the house's use as a hotel in the 1930s. Buildings adjoining the tower on the west side of the house are quoin-constructed in stone. The H-block structures on the west side of the house are constructed from concrete walls, up to window height, with weather-boarding above and asbestos roofs. Separate from the house and lying immediately to the north-west is a stone-built stable block or carriage house.

<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Field gate between Merlewood Gardens and Farm
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41066 79671
<b>Site type</b>	Gate and piers
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>24186</b>
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	Grade II
<b>Sources</b>	Beckett and Gardner 1987
<b>Description</b>	Gate and piers comprising mid- to late nineteenth-century wrought iron piers, which are square in plan and capped by pyramidal tops. The gate is iron and divides into horizontal rails, which are divided into panels.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.



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<b>Site number</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood Lodge
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41123 79350
<b>Site type</b>	Standing building
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>24187</b>
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	Grade II
<b>Sources</b>	Beckett and Gardner 1987
<b>Description</b>	Lodge to Merlewood built in 1853, comprising a two-storey building, which is rough-cast with limestone dressing.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood Enclosure
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41100 79200
<b>Site type</b>	Earthwork
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>4137</b>
<b>Sources</b>	OS 1848
<b>Description</b>	Stone enclosures, which are not thought to be ancient.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood Cave
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41150 78920
<b>Site type</b>	Cave and archaeological intervention
<b>Period</b>	Undated, Romano-British, early medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2449</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Fell pers comm; Salisbury 1992
<b>Description</b>	The cave was discovered in 1892 and contained human (recovered from the front of the cave) and animal remains. Other finds included seven Northumbrian <i>stycas</i> of Eanred, Ethelred and Archbishop Vigmund. Several fragments of (probably Roman) red and black pottery, glass fragments, Samian ware and fragments of iron, possibly fibulae, were also recovered.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Lime Kiln Wood
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41520 79900
<b>Site type</b>	Disused Lime kiln
<b>Period</b>	post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>12830</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Keates 1985b
<b>Description</b>	A typical larger draw kiln dating from pre-1846 and now partially derelict. It is massively constructed and the pot is lined with very large fire bricks. There are signs of an inclined plane to the kiln head from the right side.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Lindale Low Cave, Upper Allithwaite
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41730 80140
<b>Site type</b>	Cave and archaeological intervention
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric - Upper Palaeolithic
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>6506</b>

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<b>Sources</b>	Salisbury 1988 and 1992
<b>Description</b>	Excavation revealed a substantial and intact stalagmite floor throughout the cave system. Three unassociated late Upper Palaeolithic flint tools were found in separate contexts within the cave; the largest of these falls within the range of angle-backed blades known from Upper Palaeolithic contexts in northern British cave sites. Its presence in the Lindale Low site complements the evidence for Late Pleistocene human occupation of the Morcambe Bay area discovered at Kirkhead Cave, which extended the known distribution of Upper Palaeolithic sites from North Lancashire into Cumbria.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Cockle Wood Lime Kiln
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40420 78930
<b>Site type</b>	Lime Kiln
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>16807</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Keates 1985a
<b>Description</b>	A small field kiln in reasonable condition dating from pre-1846.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Grange over Sands/Cartmel Stone Implement find
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41000 79000
<b>Site type</b>	Artefact/find spot
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2447</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Cowper 1892
<b>Description</b>	A Neolithic implement found in the late nineteenth century, the present whereabouts are unknown.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Grange over Sands adze
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41000 79000
<b>Site type</b>	Artefact/find spot
<b>Period</b>	Bronze Age
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2448</b>
<b>Sources</b>	North 1934
<b>Description</b>	A broken adze found near Grange over Sands; the present whereabouts of the artefact are unknown.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Lindale Church Bloomery
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41420 80410
<b>Site type</b>	Bloomery
<b>Period</b>	Unknown
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2454</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Farrer and Brownbill 1914; Stockdale 1872
<b>Description</b>	Remains of a bloomery found when Lindale Church was extended in 1912. Although no datable material was found, the structure was very well-preserved and appeared to have been built in the west side of a mound of pinnel on which the church stands. A furnace is mentioned by Stockdale, c1742 and this is the only record of iron smelting in Lindale itself. The original church in Lindale is said to be Tudor in date (see Site 12).

<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
<b>Site number</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Site name</b>	St Paul's Church, Lindale
<b>NGR</b>	SD 4142 80410
<b>Site type</b>	Chapel
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2455</b>
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	Grade II Listed Building
<b>Sources</b>	Farrer and Brownbill 1914
<b>Description</b>	The present church is constructed of roughcast stone, with slate roof and is an 1828 rebuilding of an earlier church. The exact date of the original building is unknown and, although it is mentioned in 1627 and 1770, it is thought that there was a chapel in Lindale before the reformation. Part of the present church lies over the Lindale church bloomery (Site 11).
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Bogrells Farm stone hammer
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41000 80000
<b>Site type</b>	Artefact/Findspot
<b>Period</b>	Mesolithic
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2456</b>
<b>Sources</b>	North 1936
<b>Description</b>	A stone hammer with hour glass perforation, found at Bogrells Farm at a depth of c 8 feet. The whereabouts of the find are unknown
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
<hr/>	
<b>Site number</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Lindale axe
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41000 80000
<b>Site type</b>	Artefact/Findspot
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>2457</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Dickinson 1935
<b>Description</b>	An early Neolithic stone axe found at Lindale, possible when constructing a sewer. The axe is a rare type for the district.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Lindale axe
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41000 80000
<b>Site type</b>	Artefact/Findspot
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>4136</b>
<b>Sources</b>	Dickinson 1935
<b>Description</b>	A stone axe of pointed butt type, probably found at Lindale prior to 1935, but the exact date and provenance are unknown. Dated by the British Museum to c 2500 BC.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Eggerslack Quarry
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40470 79630
<b>Site type</b>	Quarry
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>15483</b>

<b>Sources</b>	OS 1848
<b>Description</b>	Site of quarry depicted on 1848 OS map.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Hampsfield Quarry
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40410 80150
<b>Site type</b>	Quarry
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>15484</b>
<b>Sources</b>	OS 1848
<b>Description</b>	Site of quarry depicted on 1848 OS map.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Broca Hill Saw Mill
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41680 80100
<b>Site type</b>	Saw mill
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>30311</b>
<b>Sources</b>	OS 1848
<b>Description</b>	Site of saw mill depicted on the 1848 OS 6" map
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Eggerslack Wood Gravel Pit
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40630 78940
<b>Site type</b>	Gravel pit
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	<b>16806</b>
<b>Sources</b>	OS 1977
<b>Description</b>	Disused gravel pit depicted on OS 1:10,000 map (1977).
<b>Assessment</b>	The site does not lie within the development area, and will not be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood Ha-ha
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40973 79522
<b>Site type</b>	Architectural feature
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	Sinuou ha-ha, located to south of Merlewood house. Stone-revetted on north side, 1m deep, with slight bank to south.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.
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<b>Site number</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Merlewood Walled garden
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40896 79643
<b>Site type</b>	Garden
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey; OS 1891
<b>Description</b>	Sub-rectangular walled garden to north-west of Merlewood house. The boundary wall is composed, in the main, of limestone, with parts of the north and south wall constructed from brick in Rat Trap bond. Several internal features, such as the terrace and stairway in the northern part of the garden, would appear to be original.

Other internal features include a glass house and ephemeral structures of no great age. A series of stone out-houses located externally along the north wall do not appear to be contemporary with the original construction but are depicted on the 1891 OS map and a late nineteenth-century painting by Charles Henry Mitchell.

**Assessment** The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.

**Site number** 22  
**Site name** Eggerslack Wood  
**NGR** SD 40753 79741  
**Site type** Coppiced Woodland  
**Period** Post-medieval  
**SMR No** None  
**Sources** Walkover survey  
**Description** The area of woodland immediately west of the house and gardens exhibits clear indication of having been coppiced, in the form of ancient coppice stools. These appear to be mainly mature sycamore, interspersed with mature ash timber trees.

**Assessment** The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected.

**Site number** 23  
**Site name** Terrace, north of walled garden  
**NGR** SD 40909 79702  
**Site type** Artificial terrace  
**Period** ?Nineteenth century/modern  
**SMR No** None  
**Sources** Walkover survey  
**Description** North-north-west/south-south-east aligned terrace, revetted with stone, which extends approximately 40m from close to the walled garden toward Site 24. At the southern end of the terrace is an east/west aligned concrete trough. The structure was not depicted on the 1891 OS map.

**Assessment** The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.

**Site number** 24  
**Site name** Derlict building, Merlewood  
**NGR** SD 40894 79721  
**Site type** Building  
**Period** ?Nineteenth century/modern  
**SMR No** None  
**Sources** Walkover survey  
**Description** Rectangular semi-derelict building of quoin construction and roughcast stone. The building was open-fronted, formerly with a sloping roof and with the southern half divided into pens by concrete up-rights. To the east of the structure was a levelled area, fronted by an artificial terrace.

**Assessment** The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected.

**Site number** 25  
**Site name** Rubbish Tip, Merlewood  
**NGR** SD 40946 79780  
**Site type** Rubbish Tip  
**Period** Nineteenth century  
**SMR No** None  
**Sources** Walkover survey  
**Description** A household rubbish tip which lay on the levelled area and down the side of the terrace at Site 24. The finds, none of which were retained, were characterised by plant pots, glass bottles and pottery, none of which need be earlier than the second half of the nineteenth century.

<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies in the development area, and may be affected.
<b>Site number</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Slack Road field system
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41076 79837 (Northern half); SD 41040 79286 (Southern half)
<b>Site type</b>	Field system
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	1809 Enclosure plan
<b>Description</b>	Irregular field system extending northwards from the centre of the study area indicative of ancient and piecemeal enclosure
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected.

<b>Site number</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Stone wall north of Merlewood
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40865 79852
<b>Site type</b>	Boundary wall
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	Sinuuous, collapsed stone wall north of quarry, which is aligned north-west/south-east. The wall measures 1m across and stands to a height of approximately 0.5m
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected

<b>Site number</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Enclosure adjacent to Site <b>27</b>
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40871 79898
<b>Site type</b>	Stone enclosure
<b>Period</b>	Unknown
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	Small, ruinous stone enclosure adjacent to Site <b>27</b> . The enclosure measured approximately 5m square, with the wall being approximately 1m wide and 0.5m high.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected

<b>Site number</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Garden features, south of house
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40925 79523 (Western part); SD 41053 79478 (Eastern part)
<b>Site type</b>	Garden Features
<b>Period</b>	Nineteenth century
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	Two sets of garden features located in woodland on either side and south of the house. On the east side is a north/south aligned path, which the turns to the south-east, passing through a partially-landscaped area to the south of the house. The western side of the path is edged with stone. The path descends along the side of a north/south aligned rocky spur, situated south and east of the house. The wooded area contains mature coppice stools, scattered amongst which are exotics such as rhododendron, Horse Chestnut and London Plane.  On the west side and south of the tennis court is a short stretch of garden path, which curves round toward the ha-ha. South of the path are several east/west orientated alignments of stone, which are possible associated garden features. Standing within the midst of these features is a large horse chestnut tree of large and ancient proportions.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies within of the development area, and may be affected

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Military buildings
<b>NGR</b>	SD 41043 79608
<b>Site type</b>	Military buildings
<b>Period</b>	1940s
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	A collection of whitewashed brick buildings and concrete foundation bases. Four of the buildings lie together adjacent (east) to the modern east wing of the house. The buildings are single-storey and brick-built, with two having chimneys and all exhibit the same construction technique, with indented walls interrupted by buttresses. The structures are, in the main, orientated north/south, with a single example aligned north-east/south-west. These buildings are associated with a series of flat concrete foundations that are terraced into the hillside, usually in groups of three and four, which extend both to the north and south of the standing buildings. A single, but larger, extant building stands at the foot of the slope, adjacent the drive to the south. The buildings date to the Second World War, when the estate was use as a training camp.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies within the development area, and may be affected

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Site name</b>	Quarry north of rubbish tip
<b>NGR</b>	SD 40913 79765
<b>Site type</b>	Disused quarry
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>SMR No</b>	None
<b>Sources</b>	Walkover survey
<b>Description</b>	Rectangular disused quarry situated north of rubbish tip (Site 25). The quarry is cut into the hillside with an approximately 2m high vertical face to the west and rubble to the east. Mature trees and coppice stools surround the quarry; within the interior the trees and coppice stools are younger.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies on the edge of the development area, and may be affected

## 5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The assessment has identified a total of 31 sites of archaeological interest within the study area, of which 19 (Sites **1-19**) were recorded in the Cumbria HER, with an additional 12 (Sites **20-31**) identified during the walk-over survey, and from cartographic sources. Fourteen of these sites lie within or close to the proposed development area, two of which are Grade II listed buildings: Merlewood House itself (Site **1**), and a field gate (Site **2**). All the sites identified south-east of and including the walled garden area fall within a designated conservation area.

5.1.2 The types of sites identified are summarised by period in the Table 1, below:

Period	No of sites	Sites
Palaeolithic	1	Cave (Site <b>7</b> )
Mesolithic	1	Stone tool (Site <b>13</b> )
Neolithic	5	Stone tools (Sites <b>9, 14, 15</b> )
Bronze Age	1	Stone tool (Site <b>10</b> )
Romano-British	1	Cave (Site <b>5</b> )
Early Medieval	1	Cave (Site <b>5</b> )
Post-medieval	11	Ancient enclosures (Site <b>26</b> ), coppiced woodland (Site <b>22</b> ), gravel pit (Site <b>19</b> ), Saw mill (Site <b>18</b> ), quarries (Sites <b>16, 17</b> ), church (Site <b>12</b> ), Lime kilns (Sites <b>6, 8</b> ) Enclosure (Site <b>4</b> ), Boundary wall (Site <b>27</b> )
Nineteenth century	7	Merlewood (Site <b>1</b> ), Gate post (Site <b>2</b> ), Merlewood lodge (Site <b>3</b> ), rubbish tip (Site <b>25</b> ), walled garden (Site <b>21</b> ), ha-ha (Site <b>20</b> ), Garden features (Site <b>29</b> )
Modern	3	Building (Site <b>24</b> ), terrace (Site <b>23</b> ), WWII buildings (Site <b>30</b> )
Unknown	3	Bloomery (Site <b>11</b> ), quarry (Site <b>31</b> ), enclosure (Site <b>28</b> )

Table 1: Number and types of sites by period

### 5.2 CRITERIA

5.2.1 There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of sites; that to be used here is the 'Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments' which is included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990). Using these criteria, the significance of sites and



monuments is defined as National, Regional or Local, and Table 2 (*Section 5.3*) indicates examples of site-types which might be expected to fall within each category. The sites previously listed (*Section 4*, above) were each considered using the criteria, with the results presented below.

- 5.2.2 **Period:** in terms of period, the most significant site is the Lindale Low Cave (Site 7), as it is considered to be the most northerly Pleistocene exploitation site in Britain (Salisbury 1992, 3); it can be argued to be of national significance in such terms. The Roman and early medieval use of Merlewood Cave (Site 5) can be seen to be of more regional significance; the exploitation of caves for any purpose in these periods is of importance in itself, despite the difficulties of interpreting the provenience of these finds. Several structures associated with the Merlewood estate can be considered to be of regional significance, as they pertain to a period of emergent tourism and leisure within the area, enabled by improving communications, particularly the expansion of the rail network. These include Merlewood house, the associated gateposts, the lodge, the ha-ha and the walled garden (Sites 1 - 3, 20 and 21, respectively). High status estates, such as Merlewood, are considered part of the key characteristics of the area (Countryside Commission 1998, 69).
- 5.2.3 Sites representing the industrial heritage of the area can also be seen to reflect a specific period of industrial and agricultural expansion, and can again be considered to be of some regional significance; such sites include the lime kilns (Sites 6 and 8), the quarries (Sites 16, 17 and 31) and also the areas of coppiced woodland (Site 22). The ancient enclosures, Site 26, represent the survival of earlier land management systems, but their current broad dating means that they can presently be considered to be of little other than local significance in terms of period. Other sites, such as the chance finds of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age tools (Sites 9, 10 and 13-15) are of more local significance given that most are of uncertain provenience and do not appear to be associated with any specific activity. Structures associated with the Second World War (Site 30) are again quite period-specific, and can be argued to have some local significance as a result.
- 5.2.4 **Rarity:** the cave sites (5 and 7) can both be considered rare and, therefore, of national significance. The Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains from Merlewood Cave are of particular interest, not least because contemporary sites are rare in the immediate region. The prehistoric stone tools finds (Sites 9, 10 and 13-15), although not rare finds in themselves, are not commonplace and suggest that the study area has high potential for prehistoric activity. Many of the other sites, including those associated with industry, agriculture, and those of the Merlewood estate, cannot be considered to be rare either nationally or regionally.
- 5.2.5 **Documentation:** a number of those finds made in the nineteenth and earlier twentieth century, such as those from Merlewood Cave (Site 5) and the various prehistoric findspots (Sites 9, 10 and 13-15) now exist only as documentary records of contemporary observations, several of which are vague at best. Although a number of the post-medieval sites, particularly those associated with enclosure, appear on cartographic sources and the 1809 Enclosure Award, and are covered by various general sources, such as Stockdale's 1872 history of the area and the 1914 Victoria County History

(Farrer and Brownbill), very few have any specific documentation. The main exception comprises the buildings of the Merlewood estate, for which a number of primary and well-researched secondary sources survive (Beckett 2006).

- 5.2.6 **Group value:** significant local group value can be attributed to the varying and temporally diverse elements of the Merlewood estate, including the principal buildings (Sites **1** and **3**), but also those features associated with the gardens and landscaping (Sites **2**, **20**, **21** and **29**) and those with the Second World War use of the site (Site **30**). Within the context of its association with the other elements of the site, even the rubbish tip (Site **25**) acquires some significance in that it is likely to contain refuse from high and low status occupants of the house.
- 5.2.7 Within the study area, it is possible to recognise an integrated and managed post-medieval agricultural and industrial landscape, the separate elements of which, such as the field systems (Site **26**); the coppiced woodland to provide charcoal (Site **22**); the lime kilns to provide a base for fertiliser, amongst other purposes (Sites **6** and **8**); the quarries (Sites **16**, **17** and **31**) and the bloomery (Site **11**), form an inter-related group of local significance. Although it can be argued that the caves (Sites **5** and **7**) and chance finds of prehistoric date (Sites **9**, **10** and **13-15**), combined with the presence of cairn fields and possible settlement sites just outside of study area, such as those on Hampsfield Fell (CHER 2407, 2445 and 2388) have some group value, there is no evidence to suggest that they are closely related as part of a definable group.
- 5.2.8 **Survival/condition:** the principal feature of the Merlewood estate (Site **1**) would appear to survive in good condition and has various internal and external features of architectural merit. The presence of more modern extensions to the east and south-west, although not as sympathetic as they could be, does not affect the survival of the house but might be considered to detract from its original condition. Other features within the development area such as the gateposts (Site **2**) survive well, whilst others are either overgrown, like the ha-ha, walled garden and garden features (Sites **20**, **21** and **26**), partially dilapidated/demolished, such as the Second World War buildings (Site **30**) or now in a very poor state of repair, as in the case of the Site **24** building and the Site **28** enclosure. The presence, extent and survival of any buried archaeological remains within the development area is unknown, but in particular the chance finds from the study area may suggest that there is the potential for the recovery of similar finds from the development site.
- 5.2.9 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** a number of sites within the development area are likely to be vulnerable to development. Although the present development plans would retain Merlewood house and the associated stable and tower (Site **1**), this may not necessarily be true of several of the associated buildings. However, the east and south-west extensions appear to be fairly modern, and must be considered of limited significance. Of greater importance is the block between the tower, south-west extension and the stable block, which, although not contemporary with the original construction of the house, could well be nineteenth century in origin (Plate 11). Those elements of Site **1** to be retained would be most vulnerable to visual impact through the alteration of their

setting and to any modification to surviving internal features, with the stable particularly vulnerable to the latter, according to the development plans. Many of the components of the walled garden (Site 21) are vulnerable to development; however, the majority of these are late in date and are of no historic or architectural significance. Older elements of the walled garden, such as the northern terrace and associated steps, seem likely to be retained, as will the external wall, but would be vulnerable to any modification. The long outhouses along the northern wall of the walled garden would be demolished as part of the development proposals; as indicated (Section 4), although not original, they are nineteenth century in date and form a significant element of the estate group. The remains of the Second World War buildings (Site 30) would again be vulnerable to the development.

- 5.2.10 Any find spots similar to the chance finds of prehistoric tools within the study area (Sites 9, 10 and 13-15), would also be considered vulnerable to any development. In the unlikely event that further cave sites are revealed within the development area, it is possible that their entrances, and any remains therein, would be vulnerable, although the subterranean nature of the sites would suggest that there would be little threat from development. The remainder of the sites that lie within the study area are away from the development site and cannot presently be considered vulnerable.
- 5.2.11 **Diversity:** the house at Merlewood and its adjoining structures have had quite a diverse history, with several changes in use over time. However, there is little evidence to suggest that a wide range of activities was carried out at any one time at any particular site. Outside of the development area, although it can be argued that there is a diverse range of sites within the study area, individually these do not display a great deal of diversity, either in terms of period or function.
- 5.2.12 **Potential:** the significance of Merlewood is increased by the good potential for furthering an understanding of the site. Not only should it be possible to gain an understanding of the changing social and economic uses of the house itself, there is also the potential to examine temporally the relationships between the component elements of the nineteenth century buildings (Site 1), the walled garden (Site 21), and of the Second World War structures (Site 30). The number of findspots of prehistoric artefacts in the area, as well as those associated with cave activity across a number of periods (Site 5), indicate that there is good potential for the discovery of similar artefacts within the development area and, if recovered in a scientific manner, could further an understanding of contemporary human activity within the area.

### 5.3 SIGNIFICANCE

5.3.1 Table 2 summarises the levels of significance attributed to generic site-types, together with guideline recommendations for appropriate mitigation strategies in each case.

Significance	Examples of Site-type	Mitigation
National	Scheduled Monuments (SMs), Grade I and II* Listed Buildings	To be avoided
Regional/County	Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens (Statutory Designated Sites), Grade II Listed Buildings  Historic Environment Record	Avoidance recommended
Local/Borough	Sites with a local or borough value or interest for cultural appreciation  Sites that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade	Avoidance not envisaged
Low Local	Sites with a low local value or interest for cultural appreciation  Sites that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade	Avoidance not envisaged
Negligible	Sites or features with no significant value or interest	Avoidance unnecessary

Table 2: Summary of significance according to site-type and appropriate mitigation

5.3.2 In consideration of each of the criteria in *Section 5.2*, of those sites identified within the present study area, only Site **7**, the Lindale Low Cave site can be considered to be of national significance. The principal buildings of Merlewood (Site **1**), the gateposts (Site **2**) and the lodge (Site **3**), as well as Lindale Church (Site **12**) can be considered individually to be of regional significance, as recognised by their Grade II listing. Many of the other sites that appear on the CHER (Sites **4-6**, **8 11** and **16-19**) can be argued to be of regional significance, particularly given their group value within an integrated landscape, but there is good reason to argue that the prehistoric findspots are of more local significance, because of their uncertain provenience and present location. Conversely, whilst the remainder of sites (ie, those not appearing on the CHER) are individually of local significance, those associated with the Merlewood landscaping and gardens, Sites **20**, **21** and **29** in particular, might be considered to be of regional significance, in recognition of the shared relationship with the listed buildings of Sites **1-3**. The importance of landscape parks of the eighteenth and nineteenth century has been highlighted in the *North-West Archaeological Regional Framework* (Newman and McNeil 2006).

## 6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 IMPACT

6.1.1 In its Planning Policy Guidance *Note 16*, the Department of the Environment (DoE) advises that archaeological remains are a continually diminishing resource and ‘*should be seen as finite, and non-renewable resource, in many cases, highly fragile and vulnerable to destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed*’. It has been the intention of this study to identify the archaeological potential of the study area, and assess the impact of redevelopment, thus allowing the advice of the DoE to be enacted upon. Assessment of impact has been achieved by the following method:

- assessing any potential impact and the significance of the effects arising from redevelopment;
- reviewing the evidence for past impacts that may have affected the archaeological sites;
- outlining suitable mitigation measures, where possible at this stage, to avoid, reduce or remedy adverse archaeological impacts.

6.1.2 The impact is assessed in terms of the sensitivity or importance of the site to the magnitude of change or potential scale of impact during future redevelopment scheme. The magnitude, or scale of an impact is often difficult to define, but will be termed as substantial, moderate slight, or negligible, as shown in Table 3.

Scale of Impact	Description
Substantial	Significant change in environmental factors; Complete destruction of the site or feature; Change to the site or feature resulting in a fundamental change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Moderate	Significant change in environmental factors; Change to the site or feature resulting in a significant change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Slight	Change to the site or feature resulting in a small change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Negligible	Negligible change or no material changes to the site or feature. No real change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.

Table 3: Criteria used to determine scale of impact

- 6.1.3 The interaction of the scale of impact (Table 3) and the importance of the archaeological site (Table 2) produce the impact significance. This may be calculated by using the matrix shown in Table 4:

Resource Value (Importance)	Scale of Impact Upon Archaeological Site			
	Substantial	Moderate	Slight	Negligible
<b>National</b>	Major	Major	Intermediate/ Minor	Neutral
<b>Regional/County</b>	Major	Major/ Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
<b>Local</b>	Intermediate	Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
<b>Local (low)</b>	Intermediate / Minor	Minor	Minor/ Neutral	Neutral
<b>Negligible</b>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 4: Impact significance matrix

- 6.1.4 The extent of any previous disturbance to buried archaeological levels is an important factor in assessing the potential impact of the development scheme. Within the study area this is largely unattested, although it seems probable that firstly the nineteenth century landscape reorganisation beginning with the enclosure of the locality after 1809, would have had some limited impact, although it is likely that little in the way of intensive farming was ever practised within the area.
- 6.1.5 The construction of Merlewood itself and the landscaping of the immediate surroundings will have had a substantial impact on any buried archaeological remains. It is particularly noticeable that the house is positioned on a projecting spur across the valley floor (Fig 4), which may have offered the most attractive settlement location in the prehistoric and subsequent periods. In the twentieth century the site was affected most notably by the construction of the World War Two buildings on the eastern side of the house, and the buildings associated with the site's use as a research establishment. All these building episodes and their associated services are likely to have impacted on any potential buried archaeological remains.

## 6.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 6.2.1 Following on from the above considerations, the scale of impact on the present condition of the cultural heritage and archaeological assets has been determined based on an assumption that the development will include varying amounts of earth-moving, structural alteration and demolition works. The results are summarised in Table 5, although these will require review once detailed design proposals are known.

Site	Site Name/Type	Nature of Impact	Significance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
1	Merlewood House and associated structures	Structural alterations and selected demolition	Regional/county	Substantial	Major
2	Field Gate	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
3	Merlewood Lodge	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
4	Merlewood Enclosure	Disturbance of below-ground remains	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
5	Merlewood Cave	None	Regional	Negligible	Neutral
6	Lime Kiln Wood Lime Kiln	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
7	Lindale Low Cave	None	National	Negligible	Neutral
8	Cockle Wood Lime Kiln	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
9	Grange/Cartmel Stone Tool	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
10	Grange over Sands Adze	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
11	Lindale Church Bloomery	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
12	St Paul's Church, Lindale	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
13	Bogrells Farm Stone Hammer	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
14	Lindale Axe	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
15	Lindale Axe	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
16	Eggerslack Quarry	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
17	Hampfield Quarry	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
18	Broca Hill Sawmill	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
19	Eggerslack Wood Gravel Pit	None	Regional/county	Negligible	Neutral
20	Merlewood Ha-ha	Disturbance of below-ground remains	Regional/county	Substantial	Major
21	Merlewood Walled Garden	Disturbance of below-ground remains and selected demolition	Regional/county	Substantial	Major
22	Eggerslack Wood Coppices	Disturbance of below-ground remains	Local	Substantial	Intermediate /minor
23	Merlewood Terrace	Disturbance of below-ground remains	Local	Substantial	Intermediate /minor

Site	Site Name/Type	Nature of Impact	Significance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
24	Merlewood Derelict Building	Disturbance of below-ground remains and demolition	Local	Substantial	Intermediate /minor
25	Merlewood Rubbish Tip	Possible disturbance	Local/low	Low	Minor
26	Slack Road Field System	Disturbance of below-ground remains	Local	Substantial	Intermediate /minor
27	Stone Boundary Wall	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
28	Stone Enclosure	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral
29	Merlewood garden Features	Potential disturbance of below-ground remains	Regional/county	Substantial	Major
30	Military Buildings	Demolition and disturbance of below-ground remains	Regional/county	Substantial	Major
31	Merlewood Quarry	None	Local	Negligible	Neutral

Table 5: Assessment of the impact significance on each site within the study area during development



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## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

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### 7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.1.1 In terms of mitigation, it is necessary to consider only those sites that will be affected by the proposed development. Current legislation draws a distinction between archaeological remains of national importance and other remains considered to be of lesser significance. Those perceived to be of national importance may require preservation *in situ*, whilst those of lesser significance may undergo preservation by record, where regional or high local significance can be demonstrated.

7.1.2 No sites have been identified within the proposed development area that may be considered as being of national importance and therefore meriting preservation *in situ*. However, the development area does contain *in situ* standing remains of regional/county and local importance, and has potential to contain previously unknown buried features of similar significance. Such remains would require preservation by record should they be directly affected by future development proposals. The scope and details of any archaeological investigation and recording required as part of planning conditions in advance of redevelopment would be devised by CCCHES, once design proposals are finalised. However, in general terms, it may be anticipated that in the first instance, a programme of archaeological building recording and survey will be required. It is also envisaged that archaeological trial trenching should take place within selected areas of the development site and that below ground works in areas of archaeological potential may require a watching brief as an appropriate means of mitigation. The mitigation strategy is outlined below (*Sections 7.2-7.4*), with site-specific recommendations for further investigation summarised in Table 6.

### 7.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING AND GARDEN SURVEY

7.2.1 A programme of archaeological building recording would be required to record the exterior and interior of Merlewood (Site **1**) and its associated later nineteenth- and early twentieth-century alterations. This would include the house itself, the range of buildings adjoining the west of the house and the separate stable block. Rooms of note within the house include the easternmost first floor room with ornate ceiling and fireplace, whilst other areas of the house contain mouldings and original features that would need to be recorded. The diagonal wing also contained interesting features of note, such as the roof beams, despite probably only being of c 1930s date. This programme of recording should be extended to investigate the Second World War standing buildings and foundation platforms. These structures, together with the contemporary use of Merlewood as a training camp would also benefit from further documentary work.

7.2.2 The walled garden (Site **20**) and its older internal features, such as the terrace, as well the nineteenth-century stone buildings adjoining the north side of the

garden wall, are all worthy of further recording, perhaps following the clearance of vegetation. Such activity may highlight the presence of further original features within the garden. Further survey work would also be required to examine the wider nineteenth century landscape features, such as the ha-ha and paths within the woodland areas to the south-east and south-west of the house (Sites **21** and **29**). If redevelopment should impact on areas of woodland, then further survey would be needed to highlight any features that might pertain to woodland management and charcoal burning within Site **22**.

### **7.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

- 7.3.1 Although it is apparent that much of the proposed development site has suffered some degree of disturbance since the mid-nineteenth century, there is at present very little knowledge of the extent of this disturbance and of the nature of any buried archaeological remains within the site. Sites within the study area demonstrate that there is potential for buried archaeological remains, particularly those of prehistoric date, within the development area, and it is, therefore, recommended that a programme of limited trial-trenching be undertaken in those parts of the development site within which the construction of new buildings would take place. The aim of the trial-trenching would be to establish the presence, extent, date and state of preservation of any archaeological features. The evaluation is not necessarily an end in itself and, should significant archaeological features be identified within areas of impact, it is likely that CCCHES would recommend a programme of mitigation.
- 7.3.2 The most appropriate areas for trial trenching would be the eastern and south-western parts of the walled garden and the area just to the south-west of the military buildings to the east of the house (Site **30**) as disturbance in these areas would appear to be slight at present. Similarly, the area to the north of the house, in the region of the new access road, would seem to be relatively undisturbed and, dependent upon the depth of impact of the access road and associated services, this area might also benefit from trial-trenching. The programme of building to the south-west of the house is quite extensive, but construction would take place within the area of demolished structures. Although it would be possible to excavate evaluation trenches between the demolition and construction phases, it may be more appropriate to investigate this area as part of a watching brief (*Section 7.4*).

### **7.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

- 7.4.1 Dependent upon the suitability of varying areas and the results of any evaluation trenching, it is likely that under certain circumstances, an archaeological watching brief would be an appropriate form of mitigation. This would involve monitoring ground works associated with the development within areas of archaeological potential in order to record the extent, character and date of any buried remains in order to provide sufficient information to fully mitigate the impact of the development.

<b>Site No</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
<b>1</b>	Grade II listed standing buildings	Nineteenth century	Likely to be affected	Building recording
<b>2</b>	Grade II listed gate-post	Nineteenth century	Likely to be affected	Building recording
<b>20</b>	Ha-ha	Nineteenth century	Likely to be affected	Survey and record
<b>21</b>	Walled garden	Nineteenth century	Likely to be affected	Survey and record
<b>22</b>	Coppice woodland	Post-medieval	May be affected	Survey
<b>23</b>	Terrace	Modern	Likely to be affected	Survey
<b>24</b>	Derelict building	Modern	May be affected	Building recording
<b>25</b>	Rubbish tip	Nineteenth century	May be affected	Watching Brief
<b>26</b>	Ancient enclosures	Post-medieval	May be affected	Watching Brief
<b>29</b>	Garden features	Nineteenth century	Likely to be affected	Survey
<b>30</b>	World War Two buildings	Twentieth century	Likely to be affected	Building recording and survey
<b>31</b>	Quarry	Post-medieval	May be affected	Survey

Table 6: Summary of site-specific recommendations for further archaeological recording and investigation

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## 8. ILLUSTRATIONS

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### 8.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Plan of Gazetteer Sites

Figure 3: Extract from the *c* 1809 Plan of Holker, Allithwaite, Broughton, Staveley and Cartmel Fell

Figure 4: Extract from the 1848 OS first edition 6":1 mile map.

Figure 5: Extract from the 1891 OS first edition 24":1 mile map

### 8.2 PLATES

Plate 1: The rear (south-facing) aspect of Merlewood (Site **1**), illustrating the later tower and extension on the western side

Plate 2: View of the stables and associated courtyard (Site **1**), part of the original estate fabric

Plate 3: The ha-ha running to the south of Merlewood (Site **20**)

Plate 4: Terrace and steps within the walled garden (Site **21**)

Plate 5: Nineteenth-century building against exterior of walled garden (Site **21**)

Plate 6: Derelict building (Site **24**) to the north of Merlewood

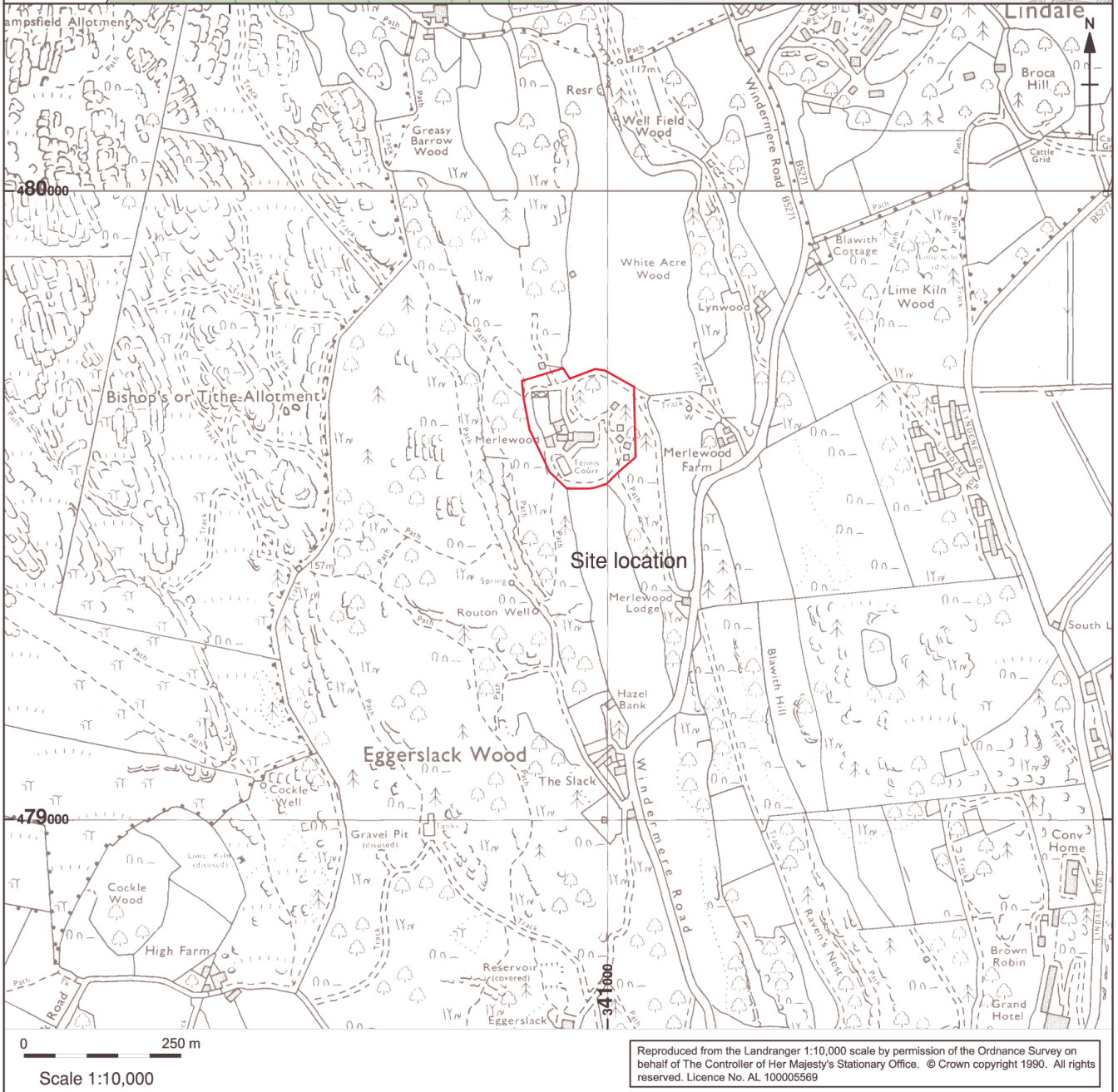
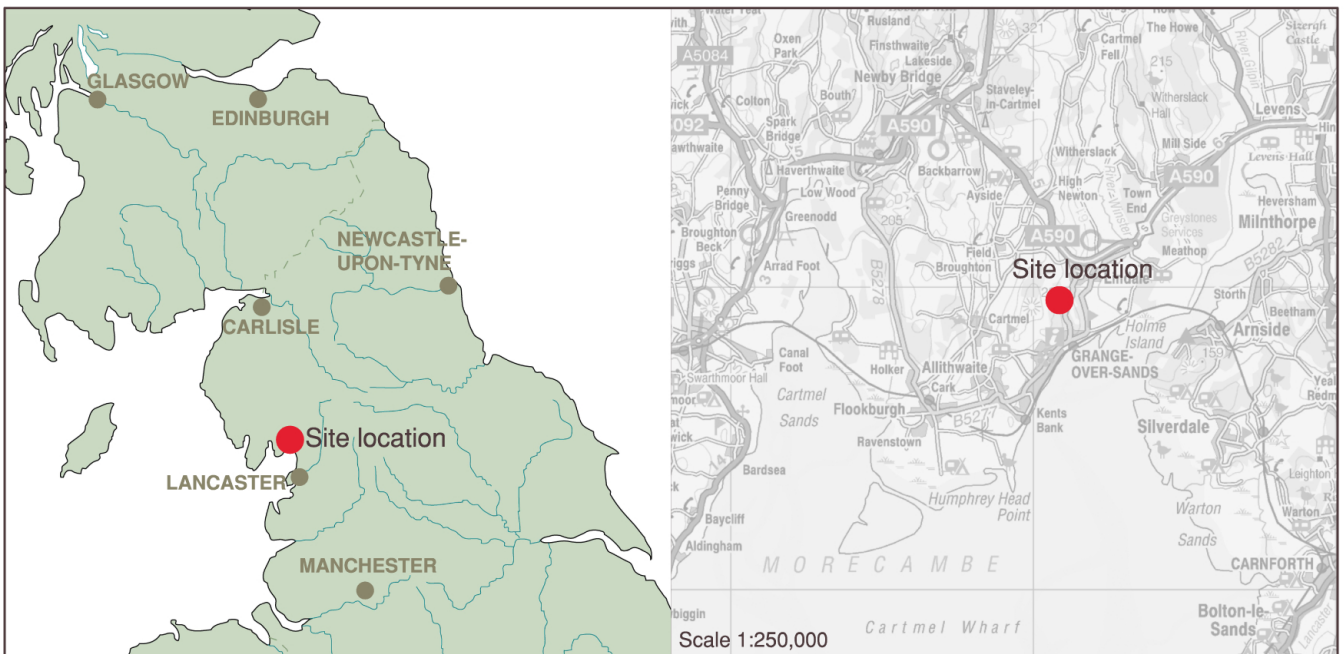
Plate 7: Brick-built structure (Site **30**) likely to relate to the Second World War use of Merlewood

Plate 8: Another of the Site **30** World War Two structures

Plate 9: Detail of glazed tiles in the rear porch (Site **1**)

Plate 10: Detail of ceiling moulding within the first floor eastern room

Plate 11: Range of buildings situated between the house, stable and tower



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Figure 1: Site Location

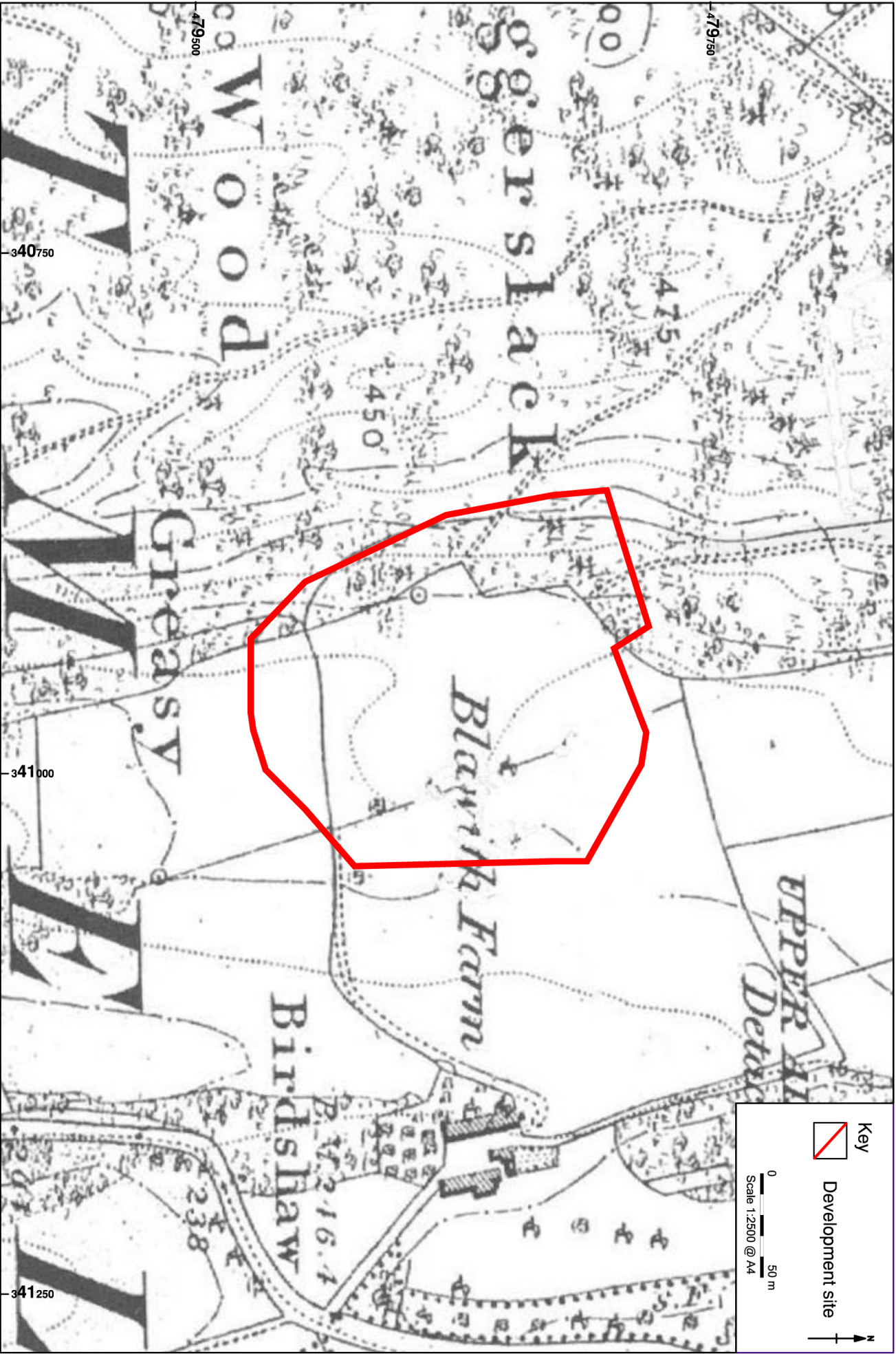


Figure 4: Extract from the 1848 Ordnance Survey First Edition, 6" : 1 mile, map





Figure 3: Extract from the circa 1809 plan of Holker, Allithwaite, Broughton, Staveley and Cartmel Fell

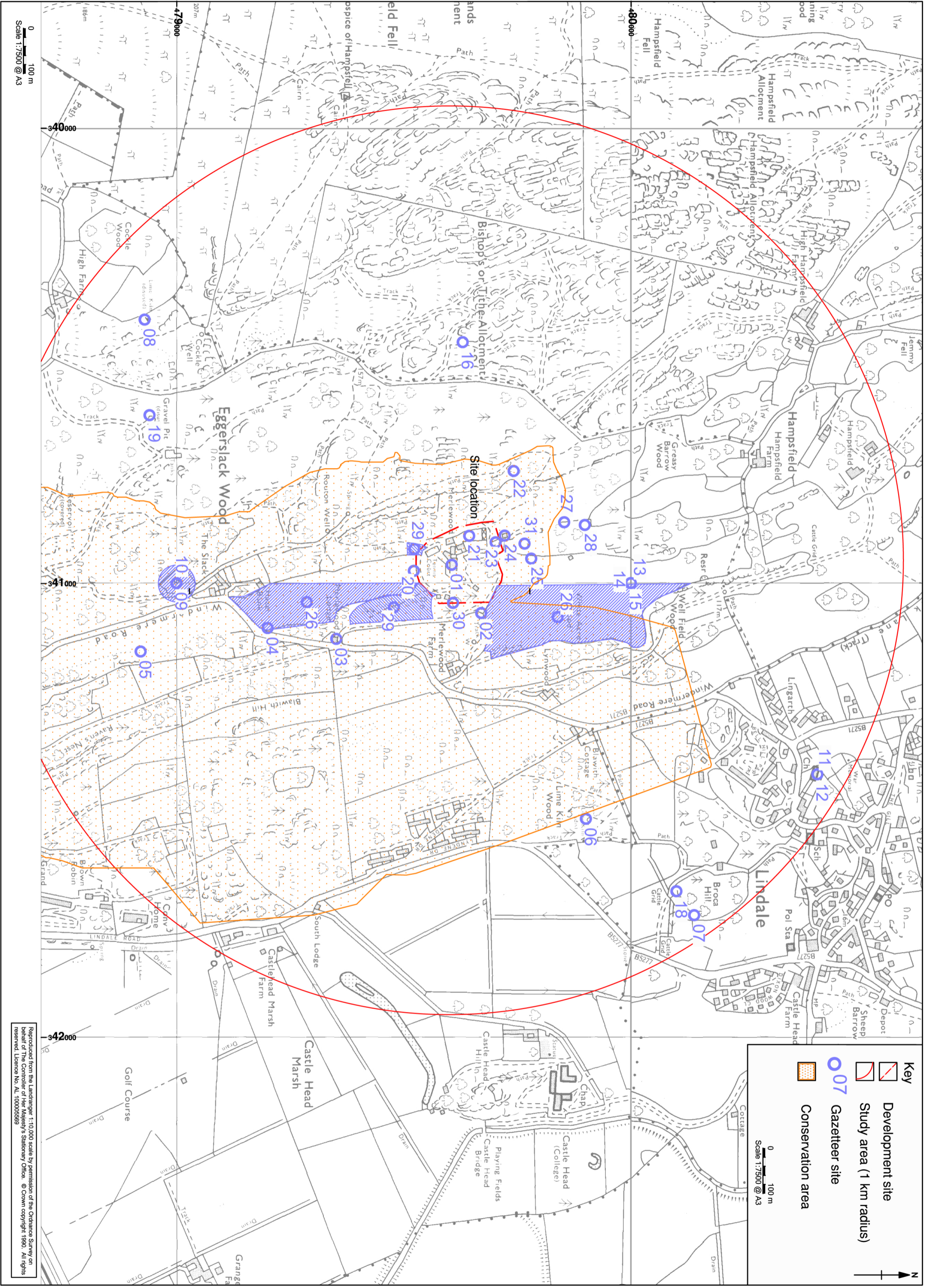


Figure 2: Gazetteer of Sites

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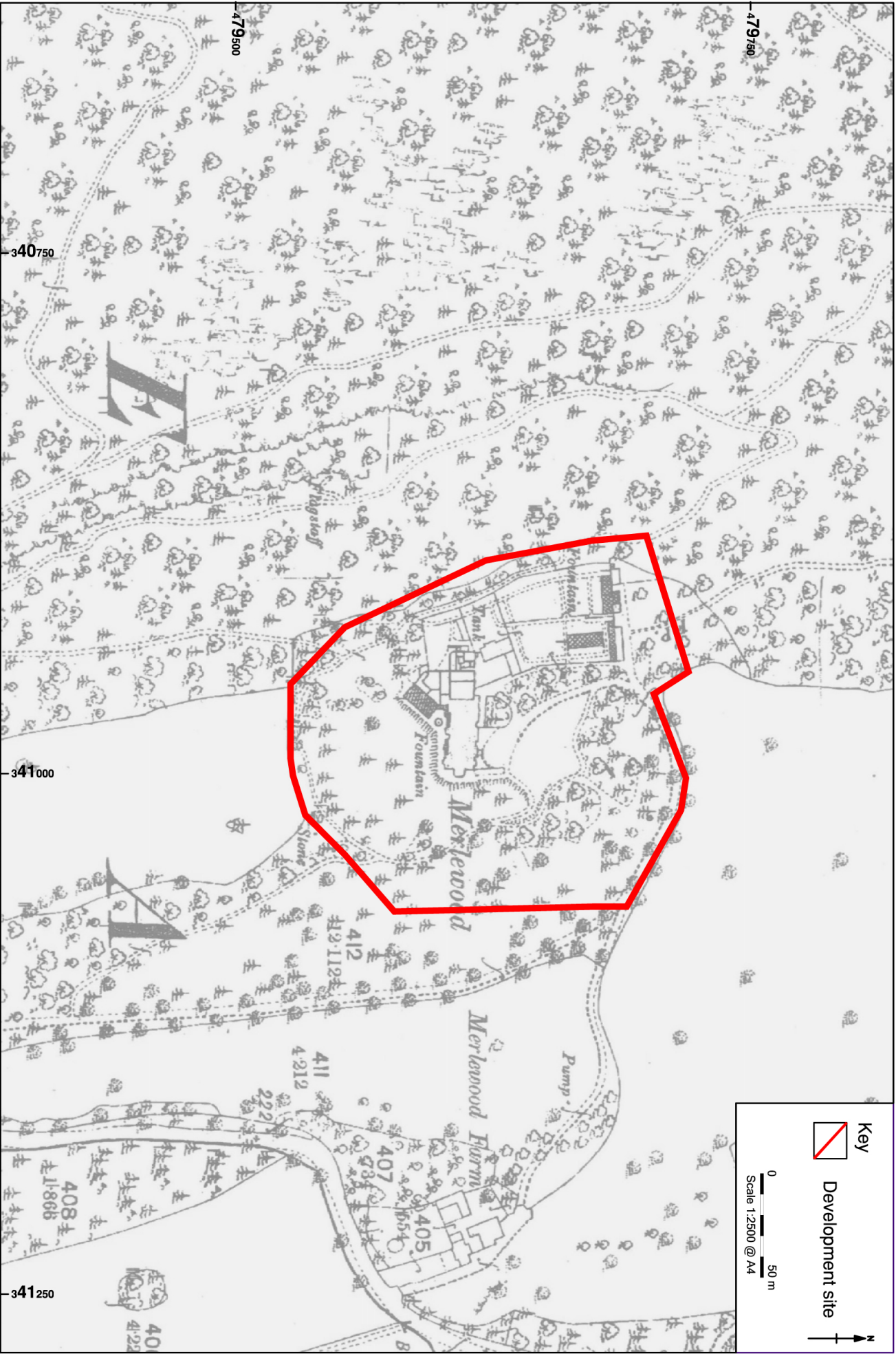


Figure 5: Extract from the 1891 Ordnance Survey, 25" : 1 mile, map



Plate 1: The rear (south-facing) aspect of Merlewood (Site 1), illustrating the later tower and extension on the western side



Plate 2: View of the stables and associated courtyard (Site 1), part of the original estate fabric



Plate 3: The ha-ha running to the south of Merlewood (Site 20)



Plate 4: Terrace and steps within the walled garden (Site 21)



Plate 5: Nineteenth-century building against exterior of walled garden (Site 21)



Plate 6: Derelict building (Site 24) to the north of Merlewood



Plate 7: Brick-built structure (Site 30) likely to relate to the Second World War use of Merlewood



Plate 8: Another of the Site 30 World War Two structures



Plate 9: Detail of glazed tiles in the rear porch (Site 1)



Plate 10: Detail of ceiling moulding within the first floor eastern room





Plate 11: Range of buildings situated between the house, stable and tower

## APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

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**BRIEF FOR A DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**  
**AT MERLEWOOD, WINDERMERE ROAD, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS**  
**CUMBRIA**

Issued by the

**County Historic Environment Service**

Environment Unit, Economy, Culture and Environment



**COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Date of Brief: 21 September 2006**

This Design Brief is only valid for 1 year after the above date. After this period the County Historic Environment Service should be contacted. Any specification resulting from this Brief will only be considered for the same period.

## 1. SITE DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY

**Site:** Merlewood, Windermere Road, Grange-over-Sands

**Grid Reference:** SD 4095 7960

**Area:** approximately 1.4ha

*Detailed specifications and tenders are invited from appropriately resourced, qualified and experienced archaeological contractors to undertake the archaeological project outlined by this Brief and to produce a report on that work. The work should be under the direct management of either an Associate or Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, or equivalent, and any response to this Brief should follow IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments, 1994. The project should not commence until approval of a specification has been issued by the County Historic Environment Service.*

## 2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council's County Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has been consulted by Oxford Archaeology North on behalf of JMP Architects regarding a proposed scheme for a holiday development at Merlewood, Windermere Road, Grange-over-Sands
- 2.2 Further information concerning the potential impact of the proposed development upon the historic environment is required. This Design Brief sets out the requirements for an archaeological desk-based assessment. Further assessment of the buildings or an archaeological field evaluation may be required, depending upon the results of the desk-based assessment, and will necessitate the production of a separate Design Brief from this office.
- 2.3 This advice is in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning) and with policy C19 of the South Lakeland Local Plan.

## 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Merlewood (HER no. 24185) is a grade II listed mansion built in 1853 and extended in 1881. Other grade II listed structures on the estate comprise Merlewood Lodge (HER no. 24187) and the gate and gate piers between Merlewood Farm and gardens (HER no. 24186), both which are contemporary with the mansion. They lie within a conservation area that extends across Grange-over-Sands.
- 3.2 Merlewood Cave (HER no. 2449), situated to the south of the site, was the subject of an archaeological investigation that revealed undated human bones and Roman early medieval finds. The site is located in a wider landscape of significant prehistoric activity and settlement with, for example, the hut circles (HER no. 2407 & 19244) and cairnfields on Hampsfell (HER nos. 2388, 2445 & 19243).

## 4. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- 4.1 *Objectives*
  - 4.1.1 To collate and assess existing information about the historic environment of the site and to determine as fully as possible from the available evidence the nature, survival, quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains within the development area.
  - 4.1.2 To provide an assessment of the impact of the proposed development upon the listed structures and conservation area in terms of the physical effect upon the historic fabric of the structures and the impact upon their settings.
  - 4.1.3 To assess the potential state of preservation for any archaeological deposits that may exist on the site, and where possible to model those deposits.

- 4.1.4 To assess the extent of any ground disturbance associated with any previous intrusive development and the potential archaeological implications of any potential development proposal.
- 4.1.5 To assess the potential for the use of particular investigative techniques in order to aid the formulation of any necessary mitigation strategy, including further evaluation, excavation, building recording and/or preservation of archaeological remains.

#### 4.2 *Work Required*

- ❖ An objective assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the listed structures and conservation area to determine the significance of the effects.
- ❖ A reassessment of aerial photographic evidence and, where relevant, a replotting of appropriate archaeological and topographical information by a suitably qualified specialist at a scale of 1:2500.
- ❖ The collation and assessment of any relevant information held in the County Historic Environment Record.  
  
to identify important sites  
to assess the potential of *known* sites
- ❖ An assessment of relevant published sources including articles in national, regional and local journals. A useful directory of the major archive, museum and library collections in Cumbria can be found in Winstanley, M & David, R, 2006, *A Guide to Cumbrian Historical Sources*, Lancaster University.
- ❖ An assessment of relevant unpublished documents including, where appropriate, reports compiled by heritage conservation professionals and students theses.
- ❖ The collation and assessment of all cartographic information relevant to the area.  
  
to identify historic landuse  
to identify any early buildings  
to provide an assessment of the potential extent of disturbance to the archaeological resource caused by cellars and other intrusive features
- ❖ Assessment of available geotechnical data (e.g. bore holes, test pits): relevant logs must be included as appendices  
  
to assess the condition and status of buried deposits  
to identify local geological conditions
- ❖ Assessment of the topography and landuse of the area through maps and site visits.  
  
to assess the **archaeological potential** of areas not identified through the County Historic Environment Record
- ❖ Site visit.  
  
to determine any constraints to archaeological site survival.
- ❖ Provision of a detailed assessment of areas of archaeological potential and survival based on the above research.

## 5. SPECIFICATION

- 5.1 Before the project commences a project proposal must be submitted to and approved by the County Historic Environment Service.
- 5.2 Proposals to meet this Brief should take the form of a detailed specification prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1991, and must include:

- ❖ A description of the methodology to be employed
- ❖ A description of the report that will be produced
- ❖ Details of key project staff, including the names of the project manager, supervisor and any other specialist sub-contractors to be employed
- ❖ Details of project staffing, expressed in terms of person days
- ❖ A projected timetable for all work including the production of the report

5.3 Any significant variations to the specification must be agreed by the County Historic Environment Service in advance.

## 6. REPORTING AND PUBLICATION

6.1 The archaeological work should result in a report, this should include as a minimum:

- ❖ A site location plan, related to the national grid
- ❖ A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
- ❖ A concise, non-technical summary of the results
- ❖ A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and the results obtained, including maps and other illustrations, as appropriate
- ❖ A discussion of the implications of the proposed development to the historic environment
- ❖ Recommendations for further assessment, evaluation or mitigation work.
- ❖ The dates on which the project was undertaken

6.2 Three copies of the report should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within two months of completion of fieldwork. This will be on the understanding that the report will be made available as a public document through the County Historic Environment Record.

6.3 The involvement of the County Historic Environment Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

6.4 Should further archaeological work result from the desk-based assessment, the results may need to be made available for inclusion in a summary report to a suitable regional or national archaeological publication.

6.5 Cumbria HER is taking part in the pilot study for the *Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> must therefore also be completed as part of the project. Information on projects undertaken in Cumbria will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

## 7. THE ARCHIVE

7.1 An archive must be prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1991, and arrangements made for its deposit with an appropriate repository. A copy shall also be offered to the National Monuments Record.

7.2 The County Historic Environment Service must be notified of the arrangements made.

## 8. PROJECT MONITORING

8.1 One weeks notice must be given to the County Historic Environment Service prior to the commencement of the project.

## 9. FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 9.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to establish safe working practices in terms of current health and safety legislation, to ensure site access and to obtain notification of hazards (eg. services, contaminated ground, etc.). **The County Historic Environment Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this Brief or subsequent specification.**
- 9.2 The Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists must be followed.

## 10. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding this Brief, contact

Jeremy Parsons  
Assistant Archaeologist  
Cumbria County Council  
County Offices  
Kendal  
Cumbria LA9 4RQ  
Tel: 01539 773431  
Email: [Jeremy.Parsons@cumbriacc.gov.uk](mailto:Jeremy.Parsons@cumbriacc.gov.uk)

For further information regarding the County Historic Environment Record, contact

Jo Mackintosh  
Historic Environment Records Officer  
Cumbria County Council  
County Offices  
Kendal  
Cumbria LA9 4RQ  
Tel: 01539 773432  
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*As part of our desire to provide a quality service to all our clients we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this Design Brief. Please address them to the Assistant Archaeologist at the above address.*

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APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

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**MERLEWOOD,  
WINDERMERE  
ROAD,  
GRANGE OVER  
SANDS,  
CUMBRIA**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-  
BASED ASSESSMENT  
PROJECT DESIGN**



**Oxford Archaeology North**

October 2006

**JMP Architects**

Grid Reference: SD 4095 7960  
OA North Tender No: t2862



## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.2.1 JMP Architects (hereafter the 'client') have requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals for an archaeological desk-based assessment as part of a planning application for a holiday development at Merlewood, Windermere Road, Grange over Sands, Cumbria (SD 4095 7960). The proposed development affects an area considered to have archaeological potential, and accordingly Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) have issued a brief, to which the following project design adheres. Merlewood comprises a complex of buildings lying on steeply sloping ground within a rural location, roughly 1km to the north of Grange over Sands. The development proposals cover an area of approximately 1.4 ha and intends to utilise a number of the existing buildings of the Merlewood complex, as well as replace others. Other features, such as an original tennis court, will be restored within their present locations.

### 1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 Within the Merlewood estate, several buildings are considered to be of historic and architectural interest, not least because they form contemporary elements of the original estate in 1853. These include the principal mansion of the Merlewood complex, Merlewood Lodge, and the gate and associated piers between Merlewood farm and gardens; all are grade II listed. The area of Grange over Sands, including that of the proposed development site, falls within a conservation area. Within the wider area, a number of sites are known from the surrounding limestone, ranging in date from prehistoric activity at Merlewood Cave (where finds of Roman and Early Medieval date were also made) to post-medieval lime kilns and quarries. It is finds of prehistoric date that are particularly significant to the area, however, including cairnfields and hut circles at Hampsfell, and also the Bronze Age cemetery at Allithwaite, where well-preserved cremation urns were excavated from a natural crevice within the limestone (Wild 2003).

### 1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.3.1 Oxford Archaeology North has considerable experience of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 25 years. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables.

1.3.2 OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to identify any known surviving archaeological deposits in and immediately around the development area in order to model the likely presence, nature, date and significance of any unknown archaeological deposits within the development area and to assess the impact of the proposed development upon the historic environment. To this end, the following programme of archaeological work has been designed. The results of each stage will influence that which ensues and will provide information as to whether further mitigation works are required prior to, or during, ground

works associated with the development. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

- 2.2 **Desk-based assessment:** to provide a desk-based assessment of the site to identify the archaeological potential prior to any development (in accordance with the IFA standards (1999)).
- 2.3 **Visual Inspection:** to conduct a walkover of the development site in order to identify surface features of potential archaeological interest, areas of disturbance, hazards and constraints.
- 2.4 **Report and Archive:** a written report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. It will present the results of the evaluation and would make an assessment of the archaeological potential of the area, and any recommendations for further work.

### 3 METHOD STATEMENT

#### 3.1 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 3.1.1 **Introduction:** a desk-based assessment is usually undertaken as the first stage of a programme of archaeological recording. Prior to development of the site, further intrusive investigation may be required. The desk-based assessment is not intended to reduce the requirement for evaluation, excavation or preservation of known or presumed archaeological deposits, but it will provide an appraisal of archaeological constraints and a guide to any requirement for further archaeological work. As stated on page 3 of the CCCHES brief, it will also be necessary to undertake a reassessment of aerial photographic evidence, any results of which would need to be replotted by a suitably qualified specialist at a scale of 1:2500.
- 3.1.2 The following will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of source material. The level of such work will be dictated by the time scale of the project.
- 3.1.3 **Documentary and Cartographic Material:** this work will include consultation of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER, formerly the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)) in Kendal, as well as the County Record Office, also in Kendal. Data from these sources will inform a review of all known and available resources of information relating to a study area comprising a 1 km radius centred on the site of the proposed development. The aim of this is to give consideration not only to the application site, but also its setting in terms of historical and archaeological contexts. These include:
  - published and unpublished documentary sources
  - data held in local and national archaeological databases
  - printed and manuscript maps
  - place and field-name evidence
  - evidence for township, ecclesiastical and other ancient boundaries
  - aerial photographs in both national and local collections
  - other photographic/illustrative evidence
  - local museum catalogues and artefactual evidence

- engineering/borehole data where applicable
- geological/soil surveys

3.1.4 **Cumbria HER, Kendal:** the CHER is a database of known archaeological sites within the County. It also holds an extensive library of published materials and aerial photographs for consultation.

3.1.5 **Cumbria County Record Office, Kendal:** the office in Kendal holds the main source of primary documentation; both maps and documents for Carlisle and its immediate surroundings.

3.1.6 **Map regression analysis:** a cartographic analysis will be undertaken as it has the potential to inform the post-medieval occupation and land-use of the area and its development through to its modern-day or most recent use. This provides one method of highlighting areas of potential archaeological interest. Particular emphasis will be on the early cartographic evidence and will include estate maps, title maps, and Ordnance Survey maps, through to present mapping, where possible.

3.1.7 **Geological/Soil Surveys:** a rapid desk-based compilation of geological (both solid and drift), pedological, topographical and palaeoenvironmental information will be undertaken. It will be based on published geological mapping and any local geological surveys in the possession of the County Council or the client.

## 3.2 SITE VISIT

3.2.1 Following the desk-based assessment, the site will be visited in order to relate the existing topography and land use to research findings, and assess evidence not available through documentary sources. It will also provide an understanding for areas of impact by the proposed redevelopment.

3.2.2 The survey will note present land use, the condition and visibility of features identified in the documentary research and any features of potential archaeological interest, any areas of potentially significant disturbance, and hazards and constraints to undertaking further archaeological work on site.

## 3.3 REPORT AND ARCHIVE

3.3.1 **Report:** one bound and one unbound copy of the final report will be submitted to the client within two months of completion of fieldwork. Should the client require a draft report, or a separate copy of the desk-based assessment report, bound and unbound copies of such reports can be provided on request, within three weeks of the completion of each stage of the programme of work. Three copies of the report will be submitted to the CHER. The report will include:

- a site location plan related to the national grid
- a front cover to include the planning application number and the NGR
- the dates on which each phase of the programme of work was undertaken
- a concise, non-technical summary of the results
- an explanation to any agreed variations to the brief, including any justification for any analyses not undertaken

- a description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and results obtained
  - an interpretation of the desk-based assessment results and their significance, using the ‘Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments’ included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990)
  - plans at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of sites identified during the desk-based assessment
  - monochrome and colour photographs as appropriate
  - a summary of the impact of the development on any archaeological remains and, where possible, a model of potential archaeological deposits within as-yet unexplored areas of the development site and also pertinent recommendations concerning any subsequent mitigation strategies and/or further archaeological work
  - a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
  - the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived.
- 3.3.2 This report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on CD, if required.
- 3.3.3 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision.
- 3.3.4 **Archive:** the results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). The project archive will include summary processing and analysis of all features, finds, or palaeoenvironmental data recovered during fieldwork, which will be catalogued by context.
- 3.3.5 The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is essential and archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the Cumbria HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the appropriate Record Office.

#### 4. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 4.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
- 4.2 Full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the fieldwork as well as to all Health and Safety considerations.

#### 5 PROJECT MONITORING

- 5.1 Whilst the work is undertaken for the client, CCCHES will be kept fully informed of the work and its results, and will be notified a week in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork. Any proposed changes to the project design will be agreed with CCCHES in

consultation with the client. Fieldwork will be monitored by the CCCHEs Assistant Archaeologist on behalf of the developer.

## 6 WORK TIMETABLE

### 6.1 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND SITE VISIT

6.1.1 Approximately six days will be required for this stage of the programme.

### 6.2 REPORT

6.2.1 Copies of the report, as outlined in *Section 3.3.1*, will be issued to the client and other relevant parties within two months of the completion of fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

### 6.3 ARCHIVE

6.3.1 The archive will be deposited within six months following submission of the report, unless otherwise instructed.

## 7 STAFFING

7.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Stephen Rowland** (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. Current time-tabling precludes the allocation of specific members of staff at this juncture, but OA North can guarantee that the desk-based assessment and walkover survey will be undertaken by an OA North Project Officer or Supervisor experienced in such work and capable of carrying out projects of all sizes.

## 8 INSURANCE

8.1 OA North has a professional indemnity cover to a value of £2,000,000; proof of which can be supplied as required.

## 9 REFERENCES

English Heritage, 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*, second edition, London

SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers), 1997 *Health and Safety Manual*, Poole

UKIC, 1990 *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage*, London

Wild, C, 2003 'A Bronze Age Cremation Cemetery at Allithwaite, Cumbria', *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*