

ALTOGETHER ARCHAEOLOGY

HOLWICK UPPER TEESDALE COUNTY DURHAM

Community Archaeological Survey

NORTH PENNINES
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



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SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was invited by Paul Frodsham of the North Pennines AONB Partnership to provide supervision and enablement for a community archaeology project at Holwick, Upper Teesdale (approximate centre NY 906 272) as part of the Altogether Archaeology project, financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and Natural England. The Holwick project formed Module 6 of the Altogether Archaeology project and was largely funded by Natural England through the Strathmore Estate Higher Level Stewardship scheme.

The project provided for supervision and guidance of volunteer groups for landscape and detailed topographic survey at Holwick, as well as detailed desk-based analysis within local record offices. Documentary research was undertaken initially on a supervised visit to Durham Record Office on 12th February 2011, and fieldwork at Holwick was undertaken with four groups of volunteers on Fridays and Saturdays between 18th February and 3rd May 2011.

The documentary study examined the historical background of the study area, and concentrated on cartographic sources that would provide an insight into its development. The project benefited from specially-flown low-level oblique aerial photography which provided a valuable perspective particularly on the detailed survey sites. LiDAR data was available for the whole of the study area and provided a detailed Digital Terrain Model (DTM) for the landscape, which was used to reproduce the earthwork character of the sites and, in particular, was to record, in considerable detail, the medieval cultivation terraces. The whole survey area was examined by close field walking, and identified sites were located and mapped in outline by GPS. Twenty-nine unduplicated sites were identified from the Durham Historic Environment Record and these were visited in the course of the walkover. The survey identified 292 new sites: Wynch Bridge Iron Age / Romano-British settlement (NY 904278); Middle Farm, Holwick (NY 906269); Greenhouse Farmstead (NY 902270); Barney Byre / Longrigg Head Farmsteads (NY 893278); and Holwick Head prehistoric settlement (NY 892283).

The area of the Holwick township presents a remarkable survival of past settlement because it has been, to an extent, cut off from the surrounding region by the river, by the crags and scarp slopes and by an area of parkland to the south-east. Despite this relative isolation the area has good quality agricultural land that favours both pastoral and arable economies. The effect of this topographic quirk of fate has been a community that has been intensively conservative in character, which has ensured some degree of long term continuity but, conversely, also discouraged more intensive exploitation.

The earliest known activity within the study area was from Staple Crag, where there was a Mesolithic working site, probably representing a temporary hunting camp, rather than any more established settlement. Subsequent activity from the Neolithic period is represented by artefact finds, such as a Group VI Langdale axe from Simy Folds (Coggins 1986, 18) and indications of a clearance episode from a pollen core at the site (Coggins *et al* 1983). Bronze Age remains are indicated by a round cairn near the Wynch Bridge settlement, **5000**, and there is the possibility that the settlement itself has Bronze Age origins. The settlement continued through to at least the Roman Period, and elements of its field system have been incorporated into those of the present day, which could suggest that some of these boundary lines, though not the markers themselves, have been in use for over 3000

years. An adjacent medieval rectilinear settlement, **5001**, may imply continuity or reuse of a favoured place. The simplistic form of the rectilinear house and settlement is reminiscent of shielings, and its possible date range extends from the early medieval through to the medieval period.

The township of Holwick was a clearly defined, indeed constrained area and, as such, would have formed a cohesive community, but the settlement was initially dispersed with settlements forming along the southern, arable / waste interface, including the Well Head (**1153**) and the Addison Pasture / Eel Beck (**3043**) farmsteads. Settlements further within the ring garth, such as the farmsteads at Middle Farm (present day Holwick Village) and Longrigg Head would have latterly formed and, significantly, these developed into slightly self contained, almost nucleated settlements.

The agricultural economy of the Holwick medieval settlements was mixed, but to judge by the scale of the extant cultivation terraces, the emphasis was more on the arable than the pastoral side. This, however, changed at some stage towards the end of the medieval period and there was a shift to pastoral farming and former arable cultivated fields were put over to grazing animals. The decline of Holwick from its heyday in the medieval period seems to have been gradual. In some instances, the abandonment of medieval farmsteads reflects a movement of the farm location rather than the loss of the settlement. Examples of this include those at Hield House, East Pikestone, and Middle Farm.

The current survey has highlighted a rich archaeological resource surrounding Holwick, and there is plenty of scope for further archaeological and documentary work that can be undertaken as part of a volunteer-orientated research project. This could entail geophysical survey, test pitting, and also key-hole excavation of significant monuments. A full landscape survey needs to be undertaken for the wider area in order to fully understand the chronology and development of the landscape. Further targeted documentary research is needed particularly within early tenorial documents to understand the medieval settlement and cultivation in Holwick. The relationship between upland and lowland zones has not been touched upon during the present project, which focussed on the valley bottom resource; Coggin's work, of the 1950s-80s, was primarily associated with the identification of the rich (now Scheduled) upland resource on Holwick Fell. The survey area should be extended either down the valley floor into Crossthwaite parish in order to understand the relationship between Holwick, Crossthwaite and the squatter settlement at Unthank, or up the valley to record complex settlements already identified near the river Tees on the unenclosed valley bottom.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North would like to thank both North Pennines AONB Partnership for commissioning the project as part of the larger Altogether Archaeology community project, and Natural England for providing the funding for the project under the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. In particular, thanks must go to Paul Frodsham and Tom Gledhill for their considerable involvement and support. We would also like to thank William Salvin of the Strathmore Estate, and the current farmers/tenants Peter Raine, Andrew Robinson, Brian Scott and Richard Walton, for allowing us to undertake the survey. We would also like to thank Nick Boldrini and Lee White at Durham County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) for providing relevant data, and to the staff of the County Record Office, Durham, for their assistance during supervised volunteer visits.

In particular, the volunteers taking part in the survey as part of the Altogether Archaeology Community Project (Plate 1), too numerous to mention individually, must all be thanked for their considerable help and boundless enthusiasm and for all their assistance throughout the project. However, we must mention Greg Finch who has undertaken some remarkable documentary work and research for the project and provided an assimilation of medieval communication routes, which we have utilised in the present report.



The primary documentary research was undertaken by Alastair Vannan. The survey was undertaken by local volunteers who were aided by Jamie Quartermaine, Peter Schofield, Paul Frodsham and Alastair Vannan. The report was written by Peter Schofield, Alastair Vannan and Jamie Quartermaine, and the illustrations were by Anne Stewardson. The report was edited by Jamie Quartermaine, who also managed the project.

Plate 1: Volunteers at work in Holwick

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was invited by Paul Frodsham of the North Pennines AONB Partnership to provide supervision and enablement for a community archaeology project at Holwick, Upper Teesdale (approximate centre NY 906 272) as part of the Altogether Archaeology project, financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and Natural England. The Holwick project formed Module 6 of the Altogether Archaeology project and was largely funded by Natural England through the Strathmore Estate Higher Level Stewardship scheme.
- 1.1.2 The project provided for supervision and guidance of volunteer groups for landscape and detailed topographic survey at Holwick, as well as detailed desk-based analysis within local record offices. Documentary research was initially undertaken on a supervised visit to Durham Record Office on 12th February 2011, and fieldwork at Holwick was undertaken with four groups of volunteers on Fridays and Saturdays between 18th February and 3rd May 2011.

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.2.1 **Aims:** the primary purpose of the project was to provide training and supervision to undertake both a desk-based historical survey of information pertinent to the Holwick area, including historical maps, the HER, and aerial photographic plotting, and field surveys entailing both Level 1 identification surveys of the whole study area and also detailed Level 3 surveys of five selected sites (OA North 2002):
- Wynch Bridge Iron Age / Romano-British settlement (NY 904278);
 - Middle Farm, Holwick (NY 906269);
 - Greenhouse Farmstead (NY 902270);
 - Barney Byre / Longrigg Head Farmsteads (NY 893278);
 - Holwick Head prehistoric settlement (NY 892283).
- 1.2.2 The proposed study was intended as an initial exploration of the archaeological and historical resource, rather than being a definitive and comprehensive landscape study of Holwick. The principal aim was to involve the local community as widely as possible, to provide training for volunteers at Holwick in archaeological recording techniques as one part of the larger Altogether Archaeology project. This was undertaken by providing slide presentations and guided talks to make the volunteer groups aware of the rich cultural heritage in the area and then, most importantly, entailed getting them directly involved in the identification of historical records, undertaking field surveys and to ultimately disseminate that information in reports, and updated records for the Durham County Historic Environment Record.
- 1.2.3 **Objectives:** the project encouraged a legacy of skills within the community to allow the volunteers to undertake more detailed surveys and further research in the future.

The project forms a base line of archaeological information about Holwick village and the surrounding area, and, through recommendations generated by the present report, provides guidance for future archaeological and historical research in the area.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 The project provided a programme of survey training for local volunteers within the defined study area at Holwick (Fig 1). This entailed undertaking a desk-based study, followed by identification and detailed field surveys. In the course of the documentary and survey work the volunteers worked closely with professional archaeologists, who provided training and on-the-job experience. The volunteers undertook survey work under close supervision from the OA North project staff, to learn how to identify documentary sources, how to use the various survey instruments, and to understand the character and significance of the archaeological resource and landscape. The training introduced the volunteers to techniques that were easily understandable and that can be achieved with the limited resources available to volunteer groups (Plate 50).

2.2 DESK-BASED STUDY

- 2.2.1 The documentary study sought archaeological information pertinent to the study area, such as earlier investigations of the site or aerial photography that may provided a valuable insight into the character of the study area. This element of study obtained pertinent background information, and drew upon historical mapping and database sources. These included an appraisal of the information held in the Durham County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), as well as appropriate sections of County histories, early maps, primary documentation, such as tithe and estate plans, and published documentary sources. The work accessed the following repositories: Durham County Council HER; Durham Record Office; Durham University Library; and the OA North library.
- 2.2.2 The core repository in terms of the collation of information for the desk-based assessment was the Durham Record Office, which, in addition to holding historic maps relating to the study area, holds the Strathmore archive. This is an extensive archive of hundreds of documents relating to Holwick from the sixteenth century, at which time the estate was acquired by the Bowes family. Historical documents pre-dating the tenure of the Bowes are considerably more limited. The desk-based research comprised a key element of the volunteer involvement within the community project. Therefore, in addition to research undertaken by OA North, two day-long tutored sessions were held at Durham Record Office in order to provide training for volunteers in the use of the resources of the record office and the specific use of historical documents in the context of archaeological research. The tutored sessions were held during February and March and were instructed by Alastair Vannan, of OA North, Paul Frodsham of North Pennines AONB Partnership, and Liz Bregazzi, of Durham Record Office.
- 2.2.3 The relevant documents held by the record office were collated by broad themes and the volunteers were encouraged to engage in independent research that was collated to form a research archive. Numerous documentary types were consulted during the research, with a particular emphasis on the inspection of historic mapping.

- 2.2.4 **Aerial Photographic and LiDAR plotting:** 1m resolution LiDAR mapping was available for the study area, which is very detailed terrain modelling data produced by laser scanning the ground from an aircraft. The data was initially provided as Raster images, but following discussion with the AONB Archaeologist it was agreed to obtain the LiDAR data in ASCII format which allows considerable manipulation of the model, including exaggeration of the vertical axis to enhance the earthwork remains. The LiDAR has provided a basis for the interpretation and recording of the landscape (Plate 62).
- 2.2.5 Two aerial photographic sorties were undertaken using a motorglider to provide oblique detailed aerial photographs of the study area. The first was undertaken in advance of the survey and provided coverage of the detailed study areas. The second was undertaken after the identification survey and concentrated on significant features and farmsteads identified by the survey. Selective images from these sorties illustrate the present report.

2.3 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

- 2.3.1 The initial survey of the 2.35 km² study area at Holwick was undertaken as a GPS identification survey, and the results were combined and superimposed with the historic mapping within a GIS system. The survey examined all land in the study area where access was available, and was undertaken in four stages: reconnaissance, mapping, photography and description. The survey examined and recorded all designed elements and any archaeological monuments within the landscape, using a GPS to map locate the features for mapping.
- 2.3.2 **Reconnaissance:** the reconnaissance consisted of close field walking, varying from 20-30m line intervals dependant on visibility (as affected by tree density and general vegetation cover), terrain and safety considerations. The survey aimed to identify, locate and record all surface archaeological features and sites. Those sites already identified by the documentary study were checked against their entry and this was enhanced, if appropriate.
- 2.3.3 **GPS Survey:** the locations of archaeological sites were recorded by hand-held GPS survey, and also by high accuracy backpack GPS, and the data was digitally superimposed with the OS mapping within a GIS.
- 2.3.4 **Photography:** in conjunction with the archaeological survey a photographic archive was generated, which recorded significant features, as well as aspects of the general landscape. This digital photographic archive was maintained using a camera with at least 8 mega pixel resolution.
- 2.3.5 **Description:** the site descriptions were written into a *pro-forma* format. The recording of the archaeological sites incorporated a written description, including an accurate ten figure National Grid Reference. The description also assessed and interpreted the monuments and included the following fields:
- HER number;
 - Form;
 - Site Name;
 - NGR;
 - Site Description;
 - Monument Type;

- Period;
- Interpretation;
- Dimensions;
- Condition;
- Surveyor;
- Date of survey;

2.3.6 The descriptions incorporate a provisional interpretation of the function and chronology of the individual sites and are linked to the historical records for individual features obtained through the documentary review.

2.4 DETAILED SURVEY

2.4.1 Detailed topographic survey was undertaken at five complex earthwork sites using the methodology equating to the level of survey detail defined as English Heritage Level 3 survey (Ainsworth *et al* 2007) (Fig 2). It was intended this survey to serve primarily as a training exercise for the volunteers, so the survey techniques were devised to be easy to understand, to allow for plotting in the field, and to use equipment that can be acquired at low cost by the volunteers for follow on work. Initially the following survey techniques were demonstrated to the volunteers as part of an introductory survey day:

- **Plane Table:** the technique produces drawings in the field and because of the use of stadia tacheometry on the alidade can cope well with sloping sites and has an effective distance measurement capability of 150m (assuming moderate accuracy);
- **Theodolite and Disto:** the project used a theodolite with a Disto distance measurement device mounted on top. The combined value of both elements can be purchased for £250.00 and so was considered to be within the financial range of potential volunteer groups. The range of the Disto is 130m and was suitable for detailed recording. The survey data was plotted onto draughting film using a large protractor and allowed for the production of survey drawings in the field;
- **Total Station:** a modern total station was demonstrated, which provides digital output to a pen computer allowing views of the graphic output as they are produced. While the technique was efficient and effective it was not within the means of volunteer groups and was not considered for the remaining survey;
- **High Accuracy GPS:** the use of a Leica 1200 differential GPS was demonstrated which can achieve accuracies to $\pm 0.02\text{m}$. It provides graphic output of the survey results on its LCD screen and allowed the volunteers to visualise the survey results in a meaningful way.

2.4.2 Following the introductory day, it was agreed to proceed with a combination of the theodolite and Disto to record the primary elements of the landscape and also with the GPS to record the outlying elements of the landscape. It was decided against using the plane table as it was difficult to get volunteers familiar with the use of stadia distance measurement, and was, as a result, slow to progress with.

- 2.4.3 **Survey Control:** survey control was introduced to the sites by means of a high accuracy survey-type differential GPS, ensuring the internal accuracy of the survey and also its location with respect to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 2.4.4 **Detail Survey:** the detail survey was primarily undertaken using the theodolite and Disto and the plotting of the survey data was graphical onto field survey drawings using a large A3-sized paper protractor. The topographic survey recorded all structural and earthwork components, which were drawn by hachure survey. Survey points were marked on the ground using spray paint and the survey drawing was manually drawn up with respect to them. On completion of the survey the field drawings were digitised into a CAD system and was combined with survey data obtained from the Leica 1200 GPS.
- 2.4.5 **Description:** the final stage was the production of a descriptive record of all features, incorporating a provisional interpretation of the function of the feature, where possible. A provisional interpretation of the site's chronology was provided where possible. The digital gazetteer was collated and edited, and output as an Access Report and input directly into a Microsoft Word format.
- 2.4.6 **Photographic Record:** a digital photographic archive was generated in the course of the field project, undertaken using a digital SLR camera with 8 megapixel resolution. The photographic record comprises landscape and detailed photography, and detailed photographs were taken of the archaeological features using a scale bar. All photography was recorded on photographic *pro-forma* sheets showing the subject, orientation and date.

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 **Archive:** the results of the management programme form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Central Archaeological Services format. A synopsis (normally the index to the archive and the report) should be placed in the Durham County Historic Environment Record. The archive will include the raw survey digital data in AutoCAD 2004 format. A summary of the work will be provided for OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS) and also the AONB website.

3. DESK-BASED ANALYSIS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 This section sets out the historical background of the wider geographic region centred on Holwick Village. The general history of the study area is presented in *Section 3* and the archaeological character of the area in *Sections 4 and 5*.

3.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.2.1 Holwick is situated *c* 5 km to the north-west of Middleton in Teesdale, within the Upper Teesdale valley in County Durham. The study area encompasses 2.35 km² and comprises the area of enclosed lands between the River Tees to the north-east and the upland areas of Holwick Fell to the south-west. The area is tightly constrained by the topography, with the fast flowing river that is difficult to cross even in periods of low water, constraining access to the north-east. The pedestrian bridge at Wynch Bridge and one at Holwick Head presently provide access across the river, but in antiquity it would have presented a formidable natural barrier. To the south-west, Holwick Fell is edged by the sheer and dramatic Holwick Scars crags, which have severely restricted settlement and access in that direction (Plate 2).



Plate 2: Holwick Scars which constrain the Holwick enclosed lands, viewed from the east

- 3.2.2 The river merges with the steep scarp slope of Holwick Fell at Holwick Head House, and without the relatively recent bridge, would have restricted further communications along the valley. Slightly further up stream from this point is the dramatic High Force waterfall that would have restricted any movement along the river. Communications along the Tees valley historically have been along the north-eastern side of the river, coinciding with the present day B6277 road. The effect of this is to leave the area, and settlement, of Holwick as a fairly inaccessible cul de sac, which has been somewhat removed from settlement

pressures and historic activity that have been prevalent elsewhere in the Tees Valley and County Durham. This goes a long way to explaining the uniquely fossilised historic character of the Holwick area that contrasts with other areas of the region.

- 3.2.3 The topography of the area comprises the lower flood plain, which has had little historic activity on it because of its propensity to flood, above this is a series of terraces leading up to a low ridge upon which Holwick village is located. The general topography is an area of undulating terrain, with a series of round profiled ridges and terraces orientated along the line of the river, and by the steep scarp slopes of the Holwick Scars. The area is generally well drained, and streams extend between the north-west/south-east orientated ridges.
- 3.2.4 **Geology:** the North Pennines coincide with the geological area known as the Alston Block, which is a structural unit consisting of a succession of Carboniferous sedimentary rocks (Countryside Commission 1998, 45-7). Older, mainly Ordovician, mudstones and volcanic rocks underlie the Carboniferous rocks and outcrop along the foot of the Pennine escarpment and in a very small inlier in Upper Teesdale.
- 3.2.5 A large horizontal body of igneous dolerite rock known as the Whin Sill intrudes into the Carboniferous rock. The dolerite is extremely resistant to erosion and the outcrops are marked by striking sombre, dark, columnar-jointed crags, such as those at Holwick Scars (*ibid*). The resistance of the dolerite to erosion means that, where crossed by the river Tees, the Whin Sill gives rise to well-known and spectacular waterfalls, such as High Force.
- 3.2.6 The intrusion of the hot Whin Sill altered the adjacent rocks and locally in Upper Teesdale, wide areas of limestone were baked to form a coarse-grained marble, known today from its highly distinctive weathering as ‘sugar limestone’. The rocks of the North Pennines also host numerous mineral veins which carry ores of lead, zinc and, in a few places, a little copper (*ibid*). These ores are also associated with minerals, such as fluorite, baryte and witherite. The bedrock, ores, and minerals have all been historical foci of extraction (*ibid*).

3.3 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 3.3.1 The following section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the general area. This is presented by period, and has been compiled in order to provide a general context within which to understand the results of the landscape survey. The historic background has been compiled following an initial review of published and documentary sources and considerable further information relating to the study area is available within the archives of Durham County Record Office. A comprehensive study of this extensive archive lies beyond the scope of the current work, although the examination of these sources by project volunteers has been instigated as part of the current project.

Period	Date Range
Palaeolithic	30,000 – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 – 3,800 BC
Neolithic	4000 – 2,500 BC

Bronze Age	2,500 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval	AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval	AD 1540 – c1750
Industrial Period	cAD1750 – 1901
Modern	Post-1901

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

- 3.3.2 **Prehistory:** the earliest archaeological evidence recovered was for several lithic findspots and a few larger assemblages recovered as lithic scatters. The only excavated site revealing Mesolithic evidence was located in the uplands to the west of the study area at Middle Hurth. It consisted of a low irregular mound located on a limestone shelf below Teesdale Cave and contained 350 late Mesolithic flints including a whetstone, perforated stone hammer and microliths (Coggins 1986, 10 and 108). The site to reveal the largest amount of Mesolithic lithics in the region without excavation is a probable temporary hunting camp located at Staple Crag (Site 1) which is on the river Tees 200m downstream of Wynch Bridge. A combination of river erosion, rabbit burrowing and picnickers at a location on the south bank exposed a section through the alluvium into the gravels and sand below, measuring 14m long by 1.5m high. The sand layers contained charcoal and over 200 flint and chert flakes with some microliths recovered from the erosion scar, possibly from the gravel layer (*op cit*, 118). Little evidence was identified in the region for later prehistoric monuments, with the majority of evidence consisting of findspots. Several hand axes of Langdale tuff (including one reused example recovered at the Middle Hurth excavations), and two flanged axes, have been recovered over the years from a band of elevated ground, the ‘high forest edge zone’, in the valley.



Plate 3: Site of Kirkcarrion tumulus, Teesdale

- 3.3.3 A putative Neolithic enclosure was identified near Strands Gill on Holwick Scars (*op cit*, 119) and a destroyed putative Early Bronze Age round barrow was once

located on a knoll at Kirk Carrion nearer the head of the valley (Plate 3). In 1804 the barrow was used as a source of stone to construct enclosure walls on the Strathmore Estate (*op cit*, 27). Inside the mound was a stone-lined grave with an urned container (NHER 3105 entry). A single putative burial cairn, or more likely a natural knoll, was identified just outside of the study area to the west of Barney Byre outside of the enclosed lands, and several flints were recovered from molehills at this location (*op cit*, 80 and 126).

- 3.3.4 **Early Medieval Period:** although archaeological evidence relating to the early medieval period is often sparse, Viking and Anglo-Saxon influence in the north of England is evident from place-name evidence. However, it should be remembered that linguistic continuity, including otherwise incongruous colloquialisms, might be responsible for the introduction of certain place-names in much later periods than the initial arrival of immigrant groups (Newman 2006, 95). For example, the use of the word *thwaite*, denoting areas of clearance, became part of the Cumbrian dialect and continued to be used in reference to new clearings into the thirteenth century (Winchester 1987, 41). Place-names can not, therefore, automatically be equated with the settlement of ethnic groups in the absence of accompanying historical or archaeological evidence.
- 3.3.5 Several place-names of Old English origin occur within the local area, which demonstrate Anglo-Saxon influence that might have resulted from linguistic and cultural exchange, or from population incursions. Holwick derives from *hol* or *holegn*, meaning hollow or holly respectively, and *wic*, which refers to a dairy farm (Ekwall 1966, 247). Unthank is also of Old English derivation and literally means 'without leave', which is likely to refer to squatters' farms (*op cit*, 486). The place-name element of *thwaite* occurs within the study area, although this could relate to woodland clearance during the early or later medieval periods.
- 3.3.6 **Medieval Period:** the nature of the documentary holdings relating to the study area mean that historic references relating to Holwick, prior to the acquisition of lands by the Bowes family in 1561, are extremely limited. Conversely, the presence of the extensive archives of the Strathmore Estate mean that the potential exists for detailed historical analyses of the area from the sixteenth century through to the present day.
- 3.3.7 Holwick was not recorded in the Domesday survey but, similar to Crosthwaite, has been suggested to have been part of the fee of Bodin as a result of later ownership by Ranulf, son of Henry, prior to 1235 (Page 1914, 117-27). It had apparently been divided into moieties, or portions of landholdings that have been divided between heirs, by this date, each of which descended though differing tenurial paths to eventually fall under the ownership of the Bowes family and thence became part of the Strathmore Estate (*ibid*).
- 3.3.8 A moiety of Holwick was granted to Thomas, son of William, in 1235 to hold with his lands in Crossthwaite. This moiety of Holwick subsequently descended with the manor of Crossthwaite, of which the Fitz Hughs were mesne overlords. Under the Fitz Hughs, Crossthwaite was held by the lords of Greystock and was associated with the barony of Greystock between 1299-1300 and 1305-6, at which time it followed the descent of the manor of Henderskelfe, which was the chief Yorkshire seat of the lords of Greystock (*ibid*).

- 3.3.9 The Fitz Hughs retained a second moiety of the manor of Holwick, and this was sold with Mickleton and Lune, by the Marquess of Northampton, to Sir George Bowes in 1561 (*ibid*). This moiety included the forest, parks, and tenements of Holwick (DRO D/HH/4).
- 3.3.10 The area within which Holwick lies was the scene of several violent episodes during the medieval period, although the extent to which Holwick itself was impacted is not known. Upper Teesdale was recorded as being laid waste by the Scots in 1070, when an 'infinite multitude' entered Yorkshire from Cumberland under King Malcolm (Page 1914, 117-27). Further violent stress was visited on the region when Romaldkirk village was laid waste in 1086 by William I and a battle occurred in this year at 'Hundredskelde', which was probably the hamlet Hunderthwaite that lies to the south-west of Romaldkirk (*ibid*). Holwick lies within the parish of Romaldkirk and it has been suggested that this parish suffered considerably as a result of border warfare, with 40 carucates being said to have been wasted by Scots in 1340-1 (*ibid*). Romaldkirk formerly lay within the county of Yorkshire and the boundary between Yorkshire and Westmorland may have been fixed during the mid-fourteenth century, as a consequence of cattle raids and assizes of novel disseisin, which are legal actions to repossess lands following their dispossession, and entailed a boundary perambulation made by the lords of Mickleton in Teesdale, Yorkshire, and Brough and Stainmore in Westmorland in 1335-8 (*ibid*).
- 3.3.11 Analyses of historic maps, as well as aerial photographs and the results of the recent field survey, demonstrate that the lower land adjacent to the Tees, but not the flood plain, was a focus of settlement and associated arable agriculture throughout the medieval period, with numerous lynchets and ridge and furrow earthworks attesting to the widespread use of well-organised ploughlands throughout the area. The adjacent upland area of the Holwick Fells would have provided grazing, as would any low-lying land that was not incorporated into stock-proof closes. In the medieval period, when arable farming was most intensive, an intake boundary wall or ring garth, defined the edge of the arable lands and kept the grazing stock on the land beyond, which included the wastes of the Holwick Fell. In later periods, the lower land was also used for pasture, and there is an example of a funnel-shaped outgang extending westwards from Middle Farm into these lower pasture lands (*Section 4.6.5*), which would have included the flood plain of the river.
- 3.3.12 ***Post-Medieval and Industrial Period:*** precisely defining the extents of each of the Holwick moieties is challenging and uncertainty over the unmarked boundaries dividing lordships in open moorland in the uplands of England resulted in numerous boundary disputes during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Winchester 2000b, 21; Plate 51). Such disputes occurred during the sixteenth century in relation to the boundaries between the landholdings of the manor of Crossthwaite, with one of the moieties of Holwick, and the forest of Lune, with the second moiety of Holwick, which were in the hands of the Howard and Bowes families respectively (*op cit*, 21-2).
- 3.3.13 The Howard's tenants claimed common rights from Crossthwaite and Holwick extending as far west as Fisher Syke (*op cit*, 22). However, an award of 1593 limited the common rights of Holwick tenants to a smaller area of common lying to the east of Blea Beck, and those of the tenants of Crossthwaite to an area east of

Rowton Beck (*ibid*). These streams marked the boundaries of Holwick and Crossthwaite by the time that an estate map of the manors of Mickleton and Lune was produced in 1793 (DRO D/st/P4/1/2; Plate 4), suggesting that the legal award of 1593 was taken to imply that the combined extent of the Holwick estate lay between Rowton and Blea Becks and was bounded by the forest of Lune to the south and the River Tees to the north (Winchester 2000b, 23). It should, however, be considered that this legal dispute was instigated by the enclosure of 200 acres of moorland by Lady Jane Bowes and that, although the dispute was ostensibly related to agricultural rights, it might have represented a pretext for attempts to gain control of mineral rights to valuable lead mines (*op cit*, 22). Therefore, it would have been in the interests of the Bowes estate to suggest that the portion of the Holwick moiety that they held, to which common tenant's rights were claimed, comprised only a small portion of the land parcel that was associated with the forest of Lune. Although we can not state definitively whether the Holwick estate occupied additional land to the west of Blea Beck prior to 1593, it appears that this was consolidated as the western boundary from this date onwards; in 1596 it was recorded that the boundaries of Crossthwaite were ridden yearly on St Mark's Day, which is the 25th of April (PRO E178/2772).

- 3.3.14 In 1766, Crosthwaite passed into the possession of the Bowes family, who had owned one portion of the Holwick estate since 1561, and the separated moieties of Holwick once more became part of a single land holding. The unified Holwick estate subsequently descended to the Earl of Strathmore (Page 1914, 117-27); however, it is unclear where the boundary between the divided moieties lay before they were re-conjoined in 1766.

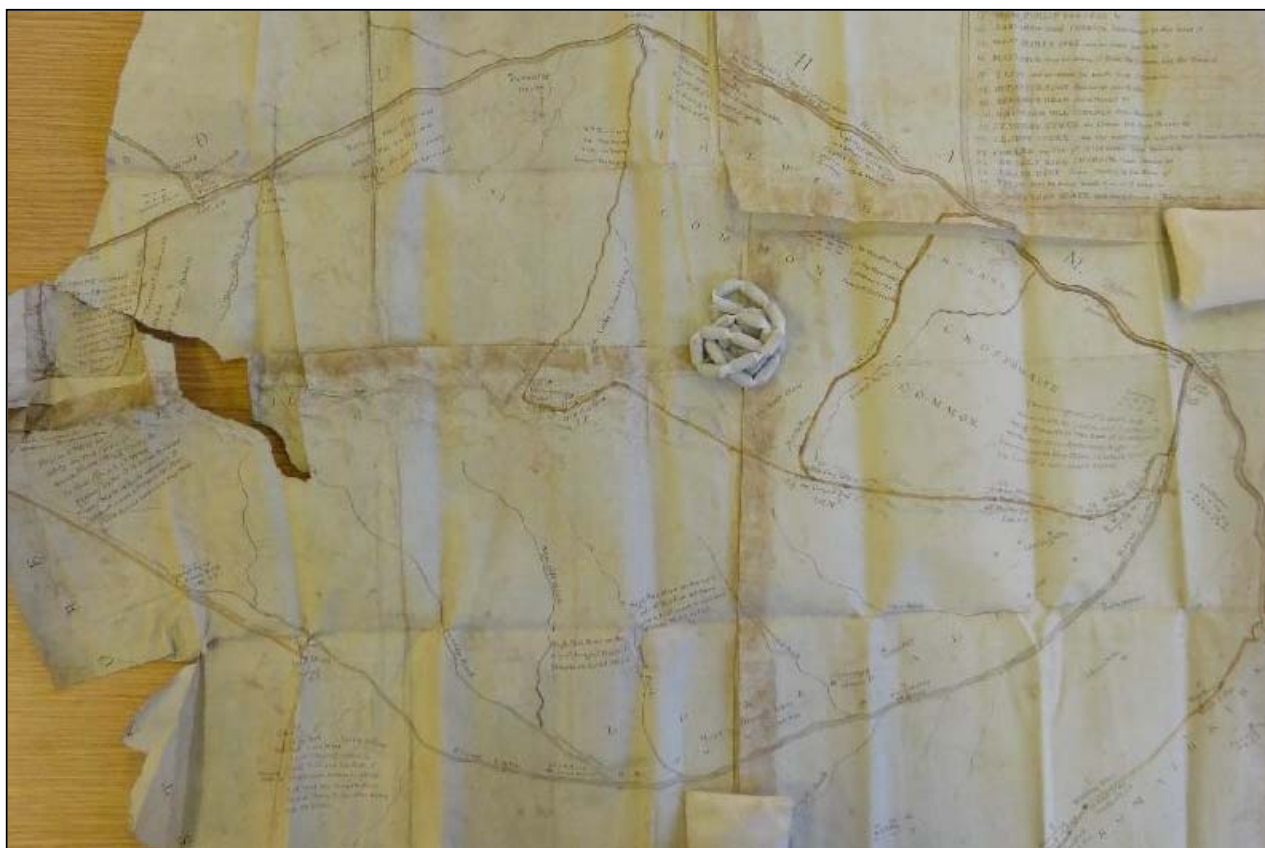


Plate 4: Estate map of the manors of Mickleton and Lune of 1793 (DRO D/st/P4/1/2)

medieval period may be suggested by the discovery, during the field survey, of clustered medieval longhouses in the vicinity of Holwick village within fields that had subsequently reverted to agricultural use.

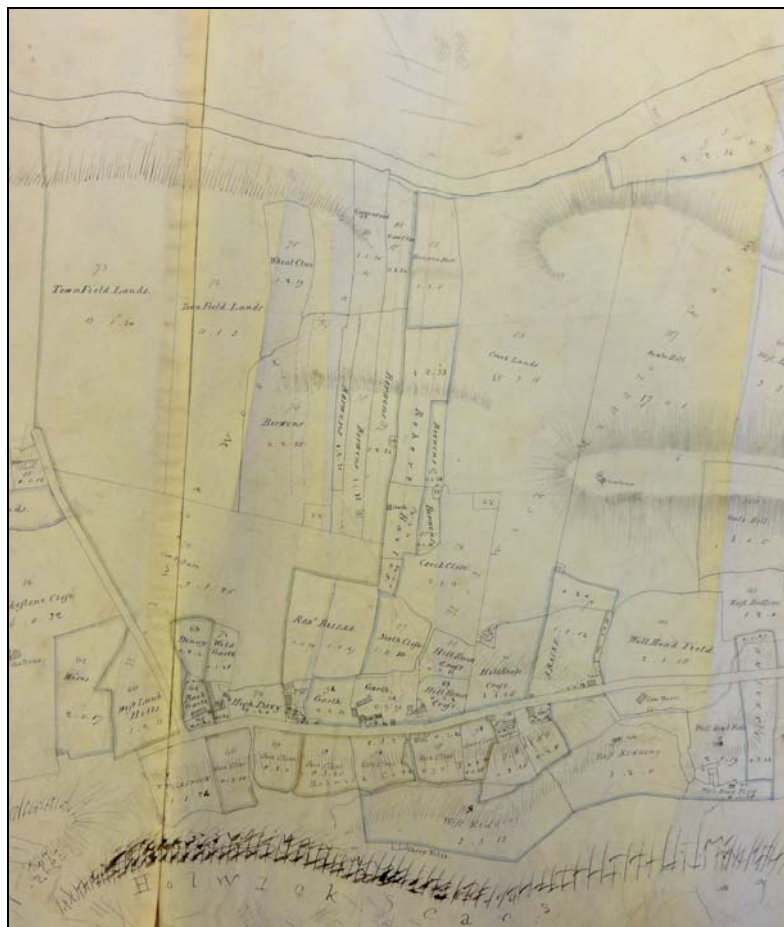


Plate 6: The central part of Holwick, as depicted on a plan of 1820 (DRO D/Wat P/88)

- 3.3.17 The presence of detailed estate plans dating to *c* 1800-20 (DRO D/St/P4/4/11) and *c* 1820 (DRO D/Wat P/88; Plate 5), as well as plans detailing proposals for enclosure from 1826 (DRO D/St/P4/7/8; Figs 3 and 4, and DRO D/HH/2/14/153), following the Lune, Holwick and Romaldkirk Inclosure Act of 1811 (DRO D/HH/2/14/104), and the Ordnance Survey map showing the area in 1857 (Figs 5 and 6) allow comparisons of the landscape immediately prior to, and following, the instigation of enclosure. These maps demonstrate that the common land lying within the enclosed field system of Holwick, which was labelled as Town Field Lands on the plan of *c* 1820 (Plates 5 and 6), lay immediately to the north-west and north-east of the lane that ran northwards from the western end of Holwick village. This area was depicted as a series of wide strips on the map of *c* 1820s, but was shown as a largely open space on the proposed enclosure plan (Figs 3 and 4) and annotated as the 'devises of the late John Bowes, Earl of Strathmore's twenty-seventh allotment'. By the time of the production of the OS map of 1857 (Figs 5 and 6) this area had been sub-divided into numerous geometric fields based on the earlier strips. The removal of the strip boundaries that was implied by the enclosure proposals does not appear to have been enacted.

- 3.3.18 Indeed, this pattern of the gradual sub-division of fields between 1820 and 1857 appears to have been repeated at numerous locations across the fields in the Holwick valley-bottom, rather than there having been any dramatic boundary changes as a direct result of the enclosure proposals. The only major change to the landscape from the proposal plan and appears to have been enacted was the construction of the new road to Holwick village, which is currently in use. This road replaced and consolidated the prior network of small trackways (*Section 4.6.2, Plate 7*) that allowed access to the farms and fields and improved the accessibility, and therefore property value, of the farms at the head of the valley, such as Holwick Head.



Plate 7: Proposed enclosure of Holwick Fell depicted in 1826 (DRO D/HH/2/14/153)

- 3.3.19 The pattern of unrealised enclosure proposals is even more conspicuous in relation to the development of upland enclosure on Holwick Fell. The enclosure proposal plan for this area of 1826 (DRO D/HH/2/14/153; Plate 7) depicted considerable changes to the extent of enclosed land, with the creation of numerous geometric strips extending to either side of a new 'moor allotment road', which would have replaced the old Bridle Road. Once more, the OS map of 1857 (Figs 5 and 6) demonstrates that these proposals were never enacted and the Holwick Fells have remained unenclosed to the present day.
- 3.3.20 One reason for this apparent lack of conspicuous changes to the character of enclosure in the vicinity of Holwick, following the enclosure act of 1811, might be that the act enabled the validation of some of the piecemeal enclosure and intrusion into the common fields that had already occurred prior to 1811 and that this, rather than large-scale landscape reorganisation, represented one of its primary functions from the perspectives of local land owners. The detail that the maps do not provide, however, and which might be elucidated by further documentary research and an examination of the Holwick tithe map, is whether

fields that remained morphologically identical following enclosure were subject to changes of tenurial rights. Such changes in ownership are very likely to have occurred.

- 3.3.21 Holwick remained part of the parish of Romaldkirk until 1844, when it was formed into the district chapelry of Lune, along with the townships of Mickleton and Lunedale, and, subsequently, into the separate ecclesiastical parish of Laithkirk in 1845 (Page 1914, 117-127). It remained within the North Riding of the County of York until 1967 when boundary changes led to its incorporation within County Durham.
- 3.3.22 **Unthank:** Unthank is a relatively small area that lies between Mill Beck Wood and Park End Wood, to the south-east of Holwick. The word derives from old English and means ‘without leave’, suggesting that, as a place-name, it relates to squatter’s farms (Ekwall 1966, 486; Mills 1998, 358). This might explain the rather peculiar appearance of the area on maps, such as that of Jeffreys’ map of 1771 (Plate 8), 1793 (DRO D/st/P4/1/2); and 1794 (DRO D/St/P4/1/3, Plate 9), which show it as a named dispersed settlement between the well-defined boundaries of Easter and Wester Becks, but within the township of Crossthwaite and without any clear independent status. The Easter and Wester Becks correspond with the current Unthank Beck/Easter Beck and Rowton Beck/Mill Beck and appear to have defined the eastern and western limits of the Unthank settlement. If the old English root of the place-name is representative of the Anglo-Saxon establishment of settlement in this area then this might have been a particularly long-lived ‘unofficial’ settlement that was not necessarily well-defined or described in terms of tenurial status, but which may have been accepted through ongoing customary settlement practice. It was not mentioned as a place in the Victoria County Histories (Page 1914), or in Lewis’s Topographical History (Lewis 1848), although records relating to the Unthank boundaries include court rolls of 1666 (D/St/E3/1/33) and it appears to have been referred to within the records as a place, rather than simply as a farm. Further research may elucidate any administrative or legal status held by the hamlet. It was held as four separate tenements in 1666 according to a summary of the rentals of the Bowes family and Earls of Carlisle (D/St/E3/1/11), but was shown as a single farm by c 1810 (DRO D/Wat P/60; Section 4.3.12, Plate 16).

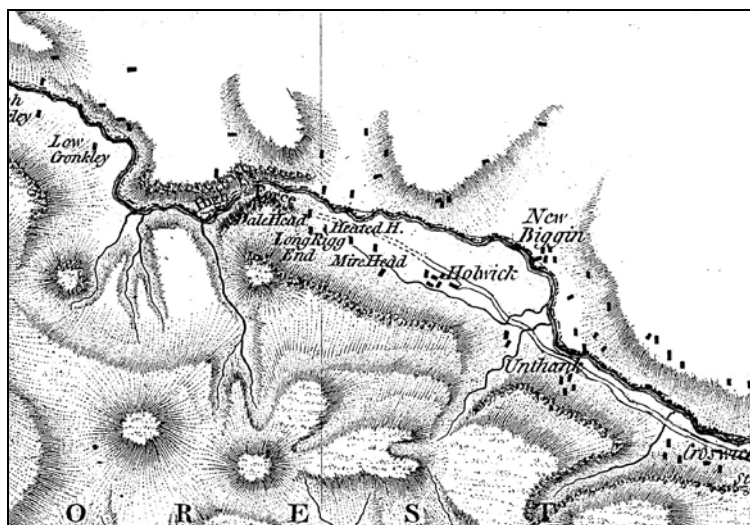


Plate 8: Holwick and Unthank on Jeffreys’ map of Yorkshire, 1771

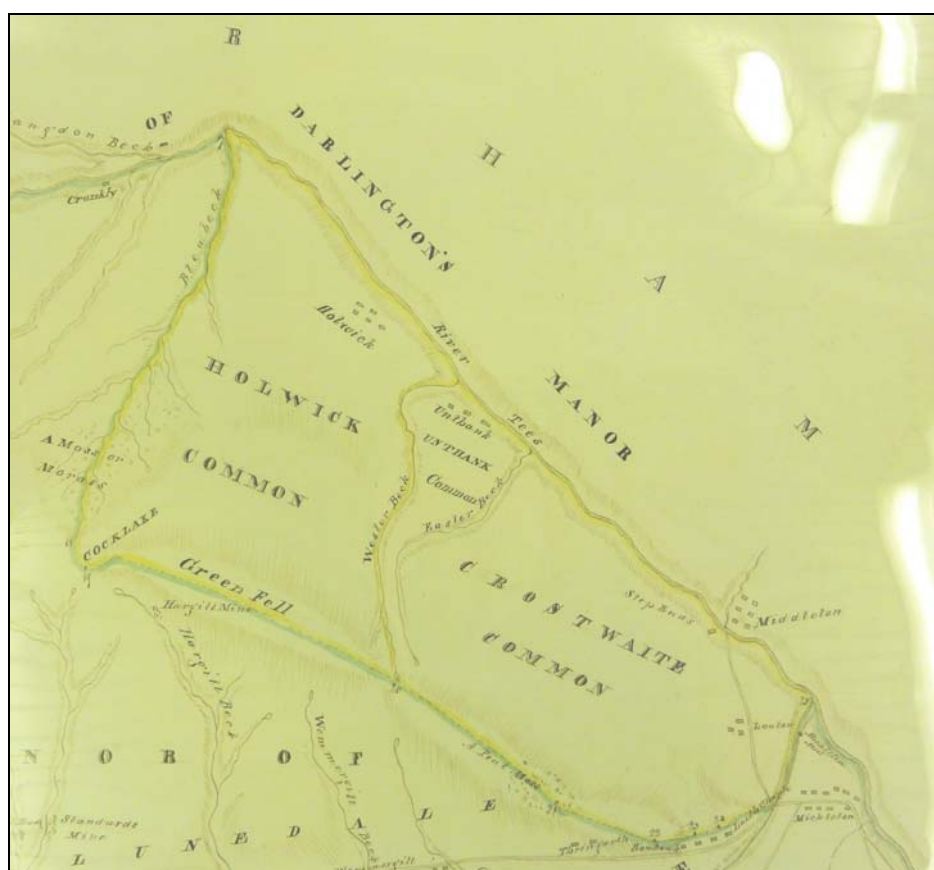


Plate 9: Plan of the manors of Mickleton and Lune showing the distance between one boundary mark and another, with a view of Holwick and Crossthwaite commons, 1794 (D/St/P4/1/3).

3.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.4.1 Archaeological investigation in the study area and the upper reaches of Teesdale, a hitherto unexplored valley is dominated by the work of Denis Coggins undertaken in the 1950s-1980s (Coggins 1986). His work identified a dense multi-period landscape of archaeological sites extending from the Mesolithic period through to the medieval period and reflects a remarkable survival for a remote valley on the very edge of the historic North Riding of Yorkshire.
- 3.4.2 Coggin's work in the region identified earthwork remains for multi-period field-systems (including cairnfields and burnt mounds) and settlements on both the elevated commons of Holwick Fell and to a lesser extent within the valley floor itself. A lack of extensive excavations and archaeological dating has meant that, unsatisfactorily, the dating of sites has been left to morphological indicators alone. A putative palisaded hilltop enclosure was identified on Harter Fell, consisting of an irregular-shaped enclosure occupying a pair of rocky knolls and the saddle of ground between them (*op cit*, 38 and 100). There are examples of both enclosed and unenclosed round house settlements and associated field-systems in the region, such as those at Wynch Bridge (Site 2 and 5000), and a pair of settlements further north outside of the study area at Force Garth, both of which have been excavated (*op cit*, 97).

- 3.4.3 Later settlement of rectilinear huts, in both permanent settlements of longhouses with attached field-systems and isolated groups of transhumant shieling settlements, were identified surrounding the study area in relatively large quantities. Only one settlement, that at Simy Folds, has been excavated in the region and was found to contain rectilinear building foundations that were radiocarbon-dated to the mid-eight century and is the only known early-medieval site in the region (Coggins *et al* 1983; Coggins 2004). The rectilinear settlement became more complex in form through the medieval period and into the post-medieval period with longhouses, and later farmhouses and attached barns, being evident throughout the study area.
- 3.4.4 Evidence for metalworking has been identified during excavations of both round house settlements and rectilinear settlements. This evidence reflects further widespread evidence for elements of industrial extraction and working of iron resources in the Upper Teesdale valley, dating from prehistory into the medieval period. The raw iron ore was sourced on Holwick Fell in two adjacent areas; the first at 'Ore Carr', a flat boggy area where conditions were suitable for the formation of 'bog-iron', and further to the south an area named 'Ore Pit Holes' which unsurprisingly contains lines of extractive shafts (Coggins 1986, 57). The area of Force Garth Pasture, and the immediately surrounding fields, contained surviving remains of at least five (as yet undated) bloomery sites, located along water courses where the raw iron ore was smelted down into purer material for future smithing. The place-name evidence for 'Smithy Sike' near Holwick is indicative of bloomery sites in many upland rural areas in the north of England (OA North 2003). A scattered heap of iron slag was identified in the study area at Holwick Head located on a north-south lynchet in the field to the east of the house (Site 3) and a further scatter was recovered at Hungry Hall (Site 13). Smithing evidence was retrieved both in the excavation of the hearths within the round houses at Force Garth (Coggins 1986, 46) and in a single slag heap adjacent to the Simy Folds settlement (Coggins *et al* 1983, 14).

4. WALKOVER SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The landscape survey was conducted across 2.35 km² of the study area in order to check the survival of features and structures highlighted by the documentary study and to identify new, previously unrecorded, monuments (Fig 1). At the outset, the historic maps were investigated for additional features and to provide a chronological context. The field survey augmented the documentary sources and drew upon the results of the earlier surveys, aerial photography, HER information, and extensive LiDAR coverage, as appropriate.
- 4.1.2 Twenty-nine unduplicated sites identified from the Durham HER were visited in the course of the walkover, and the survey identified 292 new sites. Of the new sites, the majority consisted of medieval and post-medieval agricultural monuments, comprising field-systems, cultivation lynchets, sheepfolds, barns and stock enclosures. There were also numerous instances of abandoned farmsteading in the form of building platforms at both Holwick and Unthank. Because there were so many strip-lynchets surviving in the valley (at least 702 identified examples; Fig 9) these were not recorded individually, but were grouped together as complexes. The sites are discussed thematically below, and are shown on Figures 10-12. The detailed survey areas (Fig 2; *Section 5*) were omitted from the walkover survey, as these were comprehensively recorded during the secondary process.

4.2 PREHISTORIC EVIDENCE

- 4.2.1 Relatively few definite prehistoric period archaeological sites were identified during the present survey (Fig 13), given the abundance of known prehistoric settlement and funerary sites both upon the unenclosed uplands and the lower valley bottom in Upper Teesdale (Coggins 1986; *Section 3.5*). Vast swathes of settlements and field-systems on the upland commons, particularly on Holwick Fell, have been statutorily protected by scheduling, whilst in the study area only the Wynch Bridge settlement has been scheduled (Site 2; Fig 2). The multi-phased settlement, including hut circles and field-systems with adjacent burial mound at Wynch Bridge, along with the Iron Age settlement and enclosure at Holwick Head, have both been subject to detailed archaeological survey and are discussed elsewhere (*Sections 5.2 and 5.6*). The putative single hut circle at Middle Farm is also discussed elsewhere (*Section 5.3*).
- 4.2.2 The earliest archaeological evidence in the study area is that of a flint scatter identified at Staple Crag (Site 1). Over 200 flakes representing worked material containing both waste flakes and tools, including Mesolithic microliths, were recovered; the site is probably a temporary hunting camp. The only other known prehistoric sites consist of three further findspots; a microlith was retrieved from the riverbank near Low Force (Site 5), and a spindle whorl and pair of decorated jet beads were both found in the general locality of Holwick village in the nineteenth century (Site 4). The jet beads, held in the British Museum, were the

only survivors from a now dispersed necklace retrieved from a barrow near Holwick in 1867 (Coggins 1986, 25).

- 4.2.3 Surviving evidence for prehistoric sites in the study area is focussed on the northern end of the area (Fig 13), a distribution that is perhaps unsurprising as there seems to be a correlation to land outside of the dense cultivation lynchets of later periods that cover much of the valley floor. Other than adjacent to the farmstead of Holwick Head, the northern edge of the enclosed lands in the valley was only cultivated, and then enclosed from open common, relatively late. This is seen in particular on the western half of the Wynch Bridge settlement and the adjacent burial cairn where the fields are currently under rough and barely improved pasture. The intensive open field cultivation on the rest of the valley floor may have obliterated surface evidence for settlements and field-systems of earlier periods and the evidence of artefact findspots remain scanty for the study area other than the lithic scatter exposed by erosion at Staple Crag. It is known elsewhere in northern England, in particular areas around Wharfedale and Swaledale in Yorkshire (Muir and Muir 1989, 90), that cultivation lynchets have considerable longevity of use and were often first employed for cultivation in late prehistoric contexts. It is possible that this is the case in the study area although there is, as yet, no evidence for such use at present.

4.3 SETTLEMENT

- 4.3.1 The surviving pattern of historic settlement in Holwick is quite pronounced, with the majority of historic farmsteads (pre-eighteenth to nineteenth century) located on the southern edge of the valley, and these are in a band of dispersed settlement running along raised ground and ridges at the interface between the open commons and the intensively ploughed lands running towards the River Tees (Fig 14). There are at least nine groups of deserted farmstead features across the length of the study area, which include dispersed settlements in Holwick township at Longrigg Head and Barney Byre, Mizzes Garth, Green House, Well Head and Addison Pasture/Eel Beck, and Holwick village. Each have a medieval foundation, and contain numerous building platforms reflecting desertion and a reduction in population. There are also two areas of dispersed settlements at Unthank, relating to squatter settlements on common land between Holwick and Crossthwaite townships.
- 4.3.2 **Holwick Village:** the morphology of the village has a typical medieval plan of a single main road flanked by settlement, and at least on the north side of the road there are toft enclosures containing buildings with croft enclosures behind them. There is no evidence for either a manorial seat or church/chapel surviving in the earthworks surrounding the village, reflecting the relative isolation of the settlement, away from the ecclesiastical centre of Romaldkirk parish to the south-east, and that there was an absentee lord.
- 4.3.3 At some point in the past the village has suffered from a reduction in population and several toft plots within the village (between modern farms) contain evidence of relict building foundations. On the north side of the road at Middle Farm there is evidence for at least two tofts containing later farmstead foundations, including one latterly called Hill House Croft (*Section 5.3*). On the south side of the road, an extant sheepfold, **1159**, may also relate to footings of a domestic structure. There

is further evidence of building platforms on the north side of the road of at West Farm (**1139**: Plate 52), and on either side of the road at Cross Houses (**1139**, **1167** and **1168**).

- 4.3.4 **Well Head settlement:** the most complex settlement recorded in the present survey consisted the remains of a small hamlet located c250m to the south-east of Holwick village. The settlement surrounds both the north and south sides of what was called the 'East watering place' on the 1826 map of Holwick. A farmstead, named as Well Head is depicted on a map of the area dated c1800 (Plate 10). The only other available direct documentary evidence of the settlement found so far is the thousand year Mickleton Lease, dated 1607. In it, the tenant John Jordan of Well Head paid 7 /- rent for the land he held in Holwick. The Well Head settlement is similar in size and morphology to examples of deserted medieval period hamlets found elsewhere, such as that at Hound Tor I, on Dartmoor (Beresford 1979, 102-3).

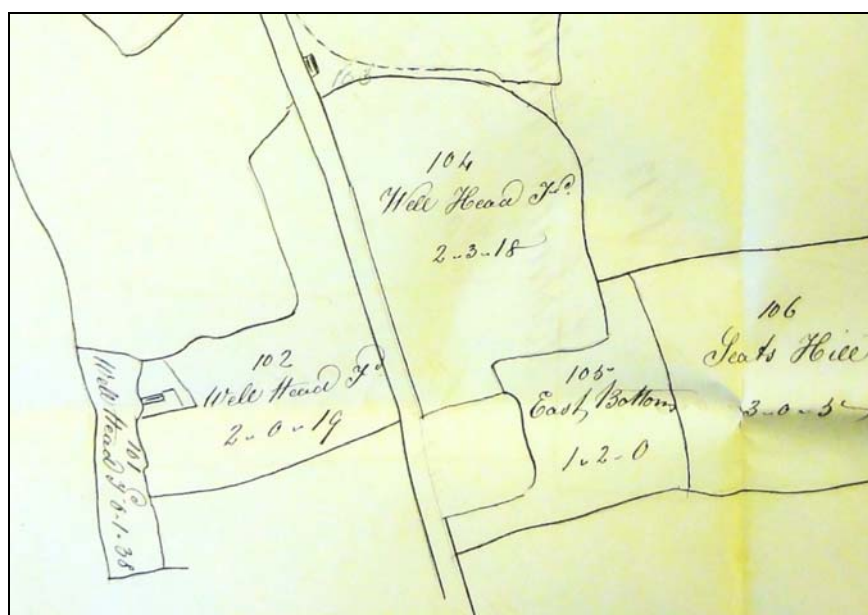


Plate 10: Detail of extant structures at Well Head settlement in c1800-1820 (D/St/P4/4/11)

- 4.3.5 The largest cluster of buildings in the settlement site (**1153**) lay on the south side of the watering hole, near the spring head (Plate 11). It consists of the foundations of least three multi-celled longhouses (Plates 53 and 54), with complex inter-connecting yards and paddocks, and with four further ancillary structures that were probably barns/byres. The watercourse running down from the spring has been walled forming a green lane that descends to the watering place to the north and to the south continues as a peat track up onto the open common (out of the study area).
- 4.3.6 The green lane also ascends from the bottom of the stream gully to the north of the 'East watering place' past a further part of the settlement (**1156**), which consists of two multi-cellular longhouse foundations and a single-celled ancillary structure. A building, probably a cow house, was depicted in this location on the 1826 mapping (Fig 4).



Plate 11: Well Head settlement **1153**, looking south-west

- 4.3.7 ***Dispersed Settlement in Holwick township:*** other relict dispersed settlement can be found along the elevated band of land running on the south side of the valley. At the top end of the valley intake is a large longhouse with a well-defined hood wall, **2000**, (Plate 12), which was located just to the north of Barney Byre farmstead; although the site clearly related to the Barney Byre complex it was not part of the detailed topographic survey area (*Section 5.5*) and was not recorded beyond that for the identification survey .



Plate 12: Longhouse with a hood wall for drainage **2000**, north of Barney Byre

- 4.3.8 In the field directly to the west of Mizzes House was a well-defined multi-cellular longhouse, with an attached barn/byre (**1100**), and they were attached to elements of

a field-system radiating to the north of the farm (**1101**). The site may either be part of a sub-divided farmstead (including the extant Mizzes Farm) or is the precursor to the modern farm (Plate 13). The longhouse may relate to the tenement of 'Mizzes' recorded in the Mickleton Lease of 1607, from where John Tinckler tenanted land in Holwick for 6/6d. The farmstead of Green House, another relict dispersed settlement located directly to the west of Holwick village, has been subject to detailed topographic survey (*Section 5.4*).



Plate 13: Building platforms of a farmstead **1100**, located to the west of Mizzes House, Holwick

- 4.3.9 At the south-eastern edge of the Holwick township are two adjoining areas of longhouse settlement at Addison Pasture/Eel Beck, located on the upper edge of enclosed land, above and to the south of Hungry Hall. Neither to date has been linked to any documented farmstead. The north-western farmstead, **3044**, consists of a large four-celled longhouse surrounded by two smaller structures, one of which is a platform set against a field wall that links this steading with another example to the south-east. This south-eastern steading (**3043**; Plate 14) consists of the foundations of a large three-celled longhouse that is partly overlain by the modern intake wall, outside of which are well-preserved peat tracks running upslope onto Crag Scar. The longhouse has an adjacent associated byre structure and is connected to a group of both linear -and sinuous-walled boundaries that form a field-system running downslope to the north. Within this field-system is a probable contemporary stock enclosure, **3040**.



Plate 14: Part of the Addison Pasture / Eel Beck farmstead **3043**, near Hungry House

- 4.3.10 **Settlements at Unthank:** the land at Unthank consists of a small area of enclosed valley bottom on the south end of the study area, sandwiched between the townships of Holwick and Crossthwaite (Fig 14) (Plate 15). The place-name of the area probably came from the Old English word '*unthanc*' the etymology of which suggests land held without consent or specifically a 'squatters holding' (Mills 1998, 358). The area probably reflects medieval period squatter settlement on land that would have originally been lowland common on the outer limits of the two established townships.

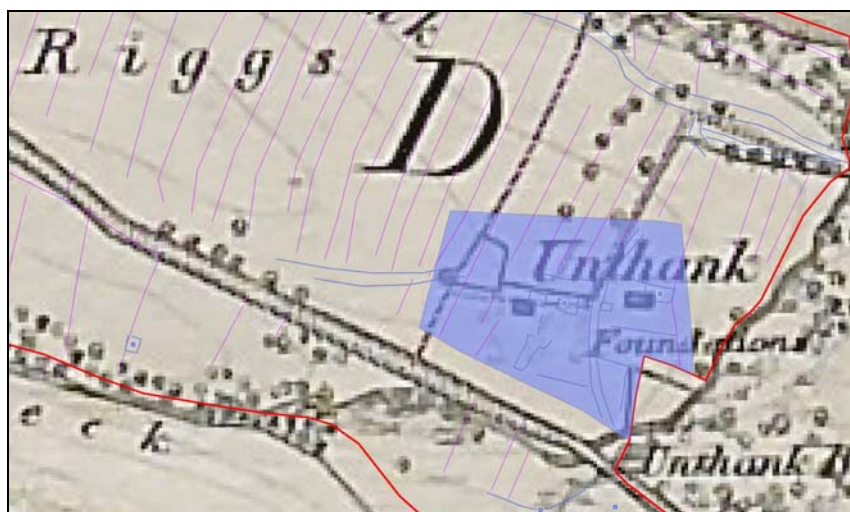


Plate 15: Detail of extant structures at Unthank Croft settlement in 1857

- 4.3.11 There are two settlement areas at Unthank, one located below and to the east of the new road and one to the west on the upper limits of elevated enclosed land at High

Side. The eastern settlement was named as 'Unthank Croft' on an estate plan dated c1810 (Plate 16), and had two extant cow houses standing in the area; both cow houses and an area of 'foundations' were also recorded on the 1857 OS mapping (Plate 15).

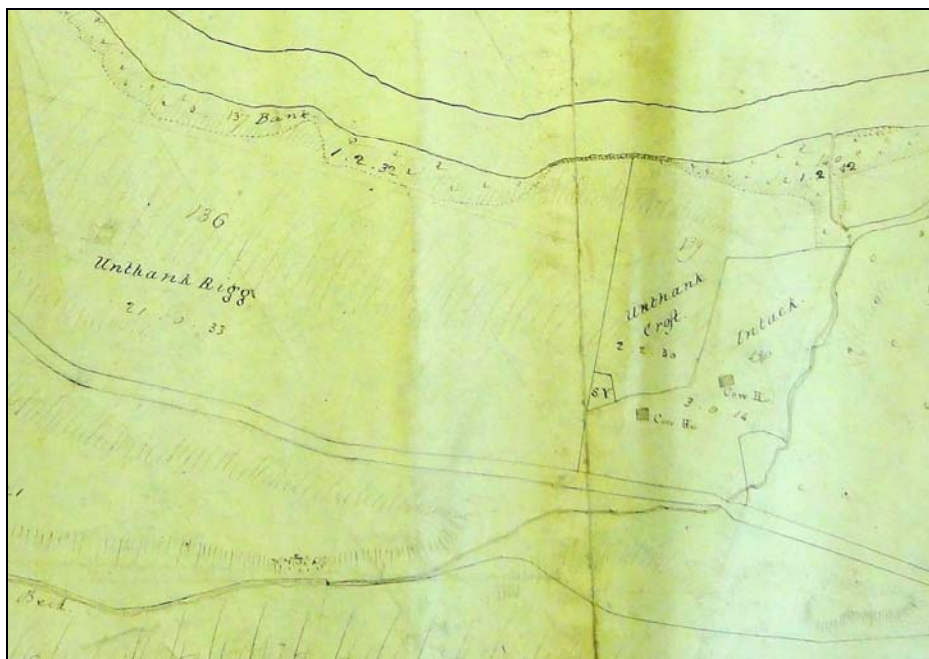


Plate 16: Detail of Unthank Croft settlement in c1810 (D/Wat P/60)

4.3.12 The early origins of Unthank Croft is uncertain, but the earthwork evidence suggests that the final phase of habitation at the site was a single farmstead rather than a larger agglomeration, or nucleated settlement, akin to a hamlet (such as that at Well Head; *Section 4.3.5*) (Plate 17). cursory inspection of the documentary record has highlighted that the farmstead was still occupied in 1732 when Thomas Watson of Unthank was married at Romaldkirk. Unthank, as part of Holwick, is named as a place of birth in baptisms and marriages recorded in the Romaldkirk parish records into the late eighteenth century (Familysearch.com).



Plate 17: Unthank Croft settlement 3024, looking south-west

- 4.3.13 The surviving remains are badly disturbed on the ground surface and are covered in places by dumped stone. The settlement consists of at least two well-constructed longhouses (3023) with associated areas of small cultivation plots and a surrounding field-system (3024) (Plate 55). In addition, there are two possibly pollarded veteran ash trees, each of approximately 500 years old that are sat on top of a field boundary running downslope away from the settlement.



Plate 18: High Side farmstead 3028-3032, at Unthank, looking north-east

- 4.3.14 The settlement at High Side has the surviving remains of two adjoining farmsteads. These each consist of a single longhouse, the east example (3028) is surrounded by a field system of flattened paddocks contained within four prominent 'consumption' banks (Plates 18, 19 and 56). The banks, of considerable size, are masonry-faced and are constructed of cleared field stone (3029). The adjacent two-celled western longhouse (3030) was defined by prominent walls and was surrounded by two rectilinear stock pounds on the north side.



Plate 19: Surface evidence of structures and embanked lynchets at High Side farmstead 3028-3032, at Unthank

4.3.15 **Standing Structures:** the majority of the historic farmsteads surrounding Holwick survive to the present day and are occupied either by tenant farmers or estate workers. The Strathmore estate is evident in the housing stock as there is a large Victorian era shooting lodge and many of the tenant farms have had modern uPVC windows inserted at roughly the same time. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, across many parts of the country, earlier more rudimentary and impermanent farmhouses were rebuilt in stone, this was undertaken as a consequence of farmers becoming more prosperous; this was called the ‘great rebuild’. At least one of the farmhouses dates from this period, Hungry Hall has a date stone of 1753 on a door lintel and a possibly re-set date stone of 1744; it has been protected by Grade II Listing (Site **15**). Subsequently, particularly during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, many of these farm houses became deserted, and were either abandoned completely, such as those at Longrigg Head/Barney Byre, and more recently at Mire House (Plate 20), or the farmhouse has been rebuilt in a different location and the old farmhouse left to decay, such as those at Green House and Mizzes Garth. At Hield House the farmhouse was rebuilt on top of Long Rigg and the old farmhouse range in its more sheltered position by Stony Beck was left to decay; only the barn on the west end of the range was retained as it is still a useful agricultural structure (Plate 21). Many of the abandoned historic farmhouse sites were depicted as having cow houses on them on the 1826 mapping (Figs 3 and 4); some may have been new constructions sat atop of old building foundations, or more likely they were earlier structures that had been re-used.



Plate 20: Abandoned farmhouse **1063**, at Mire House farm



Plate 21: A barn surviving within the original range of farm buildings
1055, at Hield House

4.4 AGRICULTURE

- 4.4.1 **Medieval open field cultivation:** the study area contained large-scale evidence of probable medieval period open field cultivation in the form of a profusion of large strip lynchets; a total of 702 strip lynchets were recorded across the area (Fig 9; Plates 22 and 23). The lynchets are typically set parallel to each other and are nearly all orientated on a south-west/north-east alignment, perpendicular to the orientation of the valley and river. Typically, the lynchets formed narrow linear, or slightly sinuous, strips with flat or shallow sloping tops with a single steeper banked side measuring anywhere up to 1.5m in height. In places, it is evident that the lynchets have been used to absorb surface stone from what once was rough ground. The lynchets were identified through a combination of field survey and digital transcription of LiDAR plots where the earthworks were too ephemeral to record on the ground (Plate 62). In other parts of the country, open-field cultivation is identified with patterns of broad ridge and furrow cultivation, in order to facilitate drainage, but within the study area the general topography and narrow band of cultivation in the valley lent itself to lynchet cultivation. The medieval villein typically farmed arable land (using ox-plough) of a virgate holding of 12-16 acres which was divided into unhedged strips called selions or lands, which would be spread throughout the open fields of the settlement. Strips would be grouped in clusters called furlongs, the basic unit of cropping, and the furlongs in turn were grouped into larger blocks called fields with two or three fields for each settlement. Each field formed the basic unit for fallowing so that in a single year one field remained unsown (Williamson 2005, 65).



Plate 22: Example of strip lynchets **3048**, at Mill Beck, Unthank

- 4.4.2 The surviving distribution of lynchets reflects extensive open-field cultivation surrounding both Holwick and Unthank settlements and, in the case of the latter, is particularly uniform in plan at Unthank Riggs (Site **3022**: Plate 23). The constricted nature of the thin band of cultivable land in the valley bottom precludes an easily identifiable pattern of three separate open-fields. There are several areas, in particular on the east side of Holwick village, where lynchets run at right-angles to the majority of cultivation, but it is uncertain whether this forms earlier or later phases of lynchet cultivation or is evidence for lateral boundaries running across earlier lynchets. In the medieval period, pasturing of livestock on the valley floor would have been constrained by a ring garth boundary to the areas outside of the strip cultivable land. Only one area, to the north of Mire House, was not improved until relatively late and was probably rough pasture. The proximity of open moorland grazing on the valley top would have negated the need for pasture land in the valley bottom.

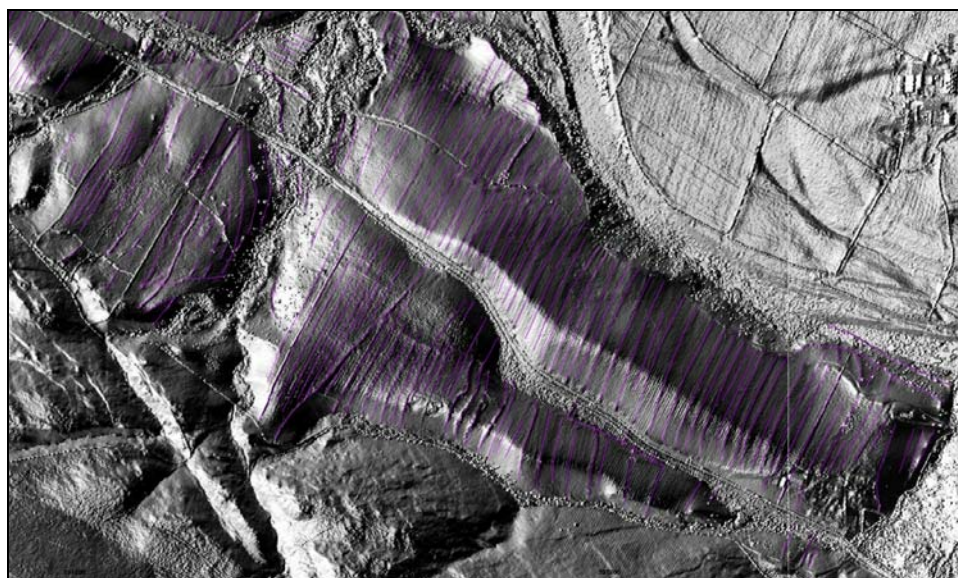


Plate 23: LiDAR coverage of strip lynchets **3022**, at Unthank Riggs

- 4.4.3 **Other field-systems:** there was no surviving evidence for early field-systems in the form of cairnfields or associated monuments such as burnt mounds that reflect prehistoric agriculture and settlement in the study area, which is seen nearby on the elevated land of Holwick Fell. The only definitive early field-systems were associated with Wynch Bridge settlement (*Section 5.2*), the eastern portion of which was clearly overlain by later strip lynchets cultivation. Part of the field-system to the west of the settlement lay in a recently enclosed block of land (north of Mire House) and had formerly remained as rough pasture; here the early field-systems survived in a better state as they had not been truncated by medieval cultivation. The block of rough pasture also contained ephemeral remains of lateral field boundaries and enclosures that often utilised or augmented the edges of the flood terraces running along the valley. These may form fragmentary remains of earlier field-systems associated with (and between) the prehistoric settlements of Holwick Head and Wynch Bridge (including Site 7). Their survival may on the other hand reflect the complete obliteration of prehistoric field-systems elsewhere in the valley bottom by strip lynchets cultivation.
- 4.4.4 The surviving walled enclosed fields surrounding Holwick today reflect a period of piecemeal enclosure in the post-medieval period. Fields were enclosed to be used solely by individual landowners and can reflect consolidation of landholdings by both large estates (such as the Strathmore estates) and farmers who increasingly became freeholders and were no longer under the yoke of the manorial lord. Land held by freeholders often had a high turnover in ownership where land swaps and acquisitions were made in order to consolidate the disparate holdings from the open common fields into larger plots that could then be inclosed to be farmed as a single entity (Muir and Muir 1989, 91-2). These enclosed fields may initially have had fenced boundaries, to demarcate pasture lands in open fields. Later on, stone-banked hedged boundaries were used which often followed the alignment of earlier strip lynchets'; in the early post-medieval period tenant farmers were obliged through feudal dues to maintain hedged boundaries around each of their tenements and their particular part of the head garth boundary wall surrounding the valley side. The final phase of development consisted of stone-walled boundaries, which followed the alignment of earlier boundaries but parliamentary enclosure in the nineteenth century cut across all other field-systems.
- 4.4.5 **Agricultural Structures:** unsurprisingly, the landscape survey identified a suite of rural agricultural structures within the study area. There are widely dispersed examples of sheepfolds, small stock enclosures, stack stands and field barns in various states of survival (Plate 24). The majority of the structures are of post-medieval date, they are located within the walled enclosures that were constructed after the open fields were enclosed and arable farming was no longer pursued. Each farmstead had at least one ancillary structure, probably a barn/byre, located adjacent to the farmhouse and each had a field barn located at some distance from the farmstead within their enclosed farmland. A single potential shieling structure or sheepfold was identified in the rough grazing land west of Rose Cottage (Site 1084). It consisted of a sub-oval, orthostatic stone walled foundation set on top of a rocky ridge, presumably for drainage purposes, and may be associated with pasturage in this area where there is a lack of defined medieval arable agriculture (Fig 14).



Plate 24: An example of the typical state of survival of field barns in Holwick
(1033)

- 4.4.6 A single building platform was found adjacent to Mill Beck and located east of Hungry Hall and adjacent to the 'old' road through the valley (Site **3046**) (Plate 25). It is possible that this was once the location of a water-powered mill although no documentary or cartographic evidence has been found for it. Mill Beck kinks around this location, but there is no surface evidence for a millrace heading to and from the building platform.



Plate 25: A building platform **3046**, possibly the remains of a corn mill near Mill Beck, Unthank

4.5 INDUSTRY

- 4.5.1 The study area contained a small, but significant, resource of industrial features consisting of quarries and associated limekilns, possible bloomery sites and metal mining sites. Ore extraction and metal mining was a major concern in the region in

the post-medieval period with widely distributed, often extensive monuments. The identified sites within the study area, however, only reflect small-scale disparate workings.

- 4.5.2 **Bloomeries and smithing:** there is widespread evidence of industrial extraction and working of iron resources in the Upper Teesdale valley, documented from at least the sixteenth century but with apparently earlier exploitation, with evidence ranging from prehistory into the medieval period. The raw iron ore was sourced on Holwick Fell at 'Ore Carr', and is a flat boggy area where conditions were suitable for the formation of 'bog-iron'; further to the south an area named 'Ore Pit Holes' contains lines of extractive shafts. The raw iron ore was presumably processed at bloomery sites where the ore was smelted down into purer material for future smithing. Bloomery sites often consist of small mounds of ore and working debris but have often been flattened when fields have been improved. A scattered heap of iron slag had previously been identified in the study area to the east of Holwick Head farm located on a north-south lynchet (Site 3) and a scatter of ore was recovered on the west side of Hungry Hall (Site 13). The walkover survey revealed a further scatter of ore exposed in an erosion scar on the north side of Holwick Head farm (Site 1000).
- 4.5.3 **Limekilns and quarries:** several limestone quarries of various sizes, often paired with associated limekilns, were identified in the study area. The process of lime burning to produce lime for fertiliser was a key post-medieval industry in this geological area. The lime was often produced commercially to provide fertiliser for the wider region but the majority of exploitation occurred locally where poor moorland soils were brought under the plough for the first time during an 'Age of Improvement' in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Williamson 2005, 120-25). Examples of limekilns were identified at Barney Byre 5022, Scorberry 1178 (Plate 26) and 1179, Hungry Hall 3061 and a possible example at Holwick Head 1002 and 1003. Quarries were also established for building and walling stone, and were in some instances (outside of the study area) worked on an industrial scale, but also on a small scale, as local examples can be found adjacent to farm buildings and areas of walling.



Plate 26: Example of denuded lime kiln 1178, at Scorberry

- 4.5.4 **Mining:** mining and extraction was undertaken in the study area for both lead and ironstone. Lead mining flourished in Teesdale and the London Lead Company held many leases in Teesdale from the eighteenth century (NHER H6832: Holwick entry). A series of originally five levels/adits and an open cut were used to explore the Wynch Bridge Vein **3019-3021** and there is surface evidence surviving for at least two open adits associated with large spoil heaps (Plates 27 and 28).
- 4.5.5 Ironstone was extracted at Scorberry levels, located further south-east and downstream from the Wynch Bridge lead mines **2008** and **2009**. These consisted of two separate nineteenth century trial levels/adits each driven south-west for over 20m with associated spoil heaps outside. A small amount of ironstone was recovered and when they were investigated in the early 1990s there was evidence for horizontal roof supports and sleepers. There was a further trial level/adit recorded on the edge of a plantation on the north side of Holwick Lodge **1086**, that had a small miners' shelter built into the east side of the adjacent spoil heap **1087**.



Plate 27: An open adit running into Wynch Bridge lead mine **3019**



Plate 28: Spoil heaps outside of Wynch Bridge lead mine **3019**

4.6 COMMUNICATION ROUTES

- 4.6.1 Communication routes have linked the disparate elements of the township and provided the limited links with the world beyond, and these are preserved well in the landscape; however, the present road through Holwick is very much a later feature, and was constructed between 1820 (when it was proposed) and 1857 when it is shown on the OS first edition mapping. It was intended to provide communications between Holwick and Middleton in Teesdale rather than provide internal communications, and can be seen to cut through many of the earlier lynchets (Fig 15).
- 4.6.2 Prior to that, the main communication line extended along the base of the ridge upon which Holwick is located and is appropriately called Low Lane (Plate 29). It provided a south-western boundary for many of the cultivation terraces to the north and demonstrates that this was an ancient route line. It is this Low Lane that was recorded during the detail survey in Holwick village and, significantly, does not extend directly to many of the early settlements, instead there are offshoots from this that provide communication links to the settlements, including Holwick village and Well Head. One offshoot extended up to the line of the present road through Holwick, while another extended into a back lane for the village, and marked the northern limits of the tofts.

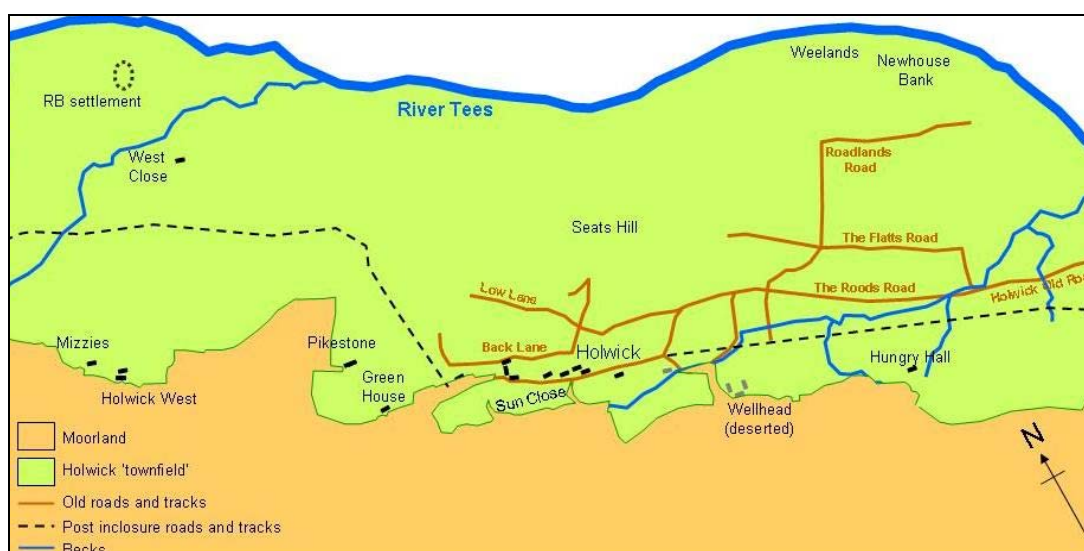


Plate 29: Historic routes in and around Holwick township (© Greg Finch)

- 4.6.3 In addition to the east/west communications along the valley there were a series of routes that extended broadly north/south across the line of the valley and were intended to accommodate the movement of animals from the grazing lands of the upland waste and the flood plain to the farms, but specifically keeping them out of the arable lands. In the original layout of the township there were very few stock proof boundaries apart from the primary intake boundary (or Ring Garth) which kept stock out of the arable fields (Plate 30). As a consequence, the early farmsteads were on the boundary between arable and waste, and the Well Head and Addison Pasture / Eel Beck farmsteads were typical examples, whereby the only routeway was a break in the external wall leading to the farmhouses. At the Addison Pasture farmstead (3043) there is a terraced trackway leading up the steep scarp slope directly out from the farmstead. While it clearly related to the settlement it is likely to have been a peat track for winning fuel from the top of

Holwick Fell, though it may have also served for the movement of stock. Similar peat tracks extend up the steep slope behind the Well Head settlement.

- 4.6.4 One of the more interesting north/south roads is one called Roodlands Road which leads to the area of flood plain. The flood plain had little value for arable farming but would have served as water meadow and for grazing animals. As such, the road would have provided access for stock through the area of arable lands.

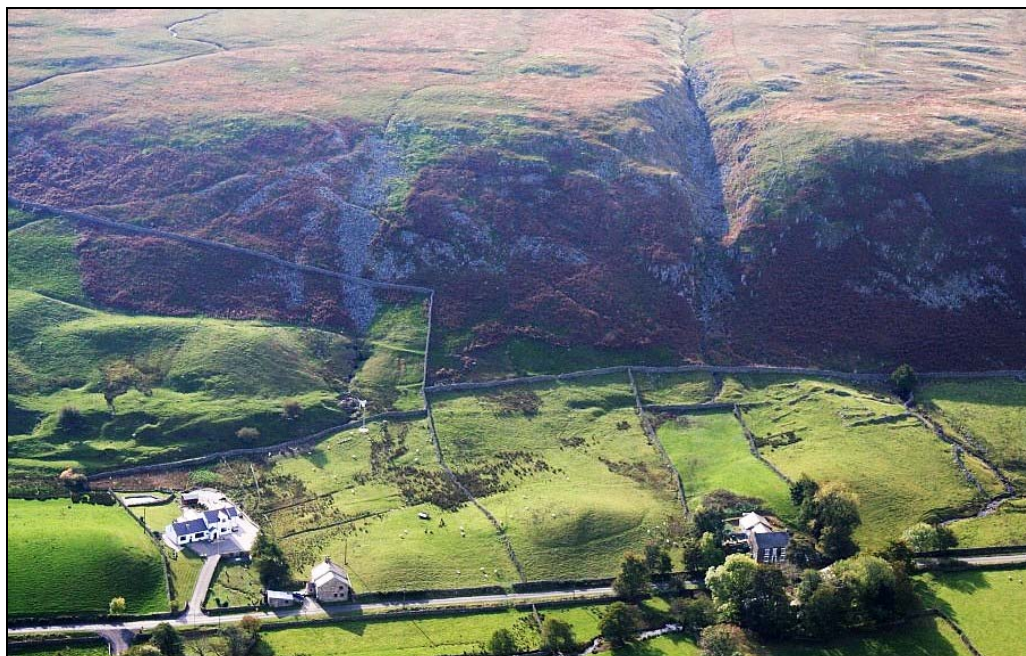


Plate 30: Peat tracks running behind Well Head settlement *1153*, towards shielings located on the open common at Holwick Scars (HER 6568)

- 4.6.5 Subsequently, settlement was established not just on the line of the ring garth but within the interior of the arable lands, notably Holwick Village, and this presented challenges for the movement of stock off the waste lands to the farmsteads. At Holwick village the solution was two north/south drove routes, edged between the walls of the arable fields that led up to Middle Farm and West Farm, and these walled corridors were able to keep the stock off the cultivated land. The westernmost of these walled tracks had a funnel arrangement to capture the stock off the fell and to guide them into the drove route. Another example of a funnel feeder is at the approach towards the Middle Farm farmsteads and is on the line of Low Lane. Here the approach is very sunken, in the manner of a hollow-way, and it opens out to the north as a feeder funnel for capturing stock off grazing ground. This is significant because the land immediately north of it is not upland waste, but is characterised by former cultivation terraces, so if this was used for taking stock off the land then it can't have been used for arable at that stage. The indications, therefore, are that in a later phase of use the arable land reverted to pasture and became common land, and the drove route had by then superseded its use as the Low Lane road.
- 4.6.6 **Wynch Bridge:** one of the more important post-medieval improvements to Holwick's communications was the construction of Wynch Bridge. It was first built about 1741, and was the earliest of all European suspension bridges with iron chains and a handrail on only one side. It crossed the Tees at its narrowest and roughest point so that lead miners could cross the river to work on the fells above

Newbiggin. It was later rebuilt in *c* 1830, and was wider with a handrail on each side. The present bridge is the third on the spot, and has large iron columns supporting the iron chains, and was strengthened in 1993.

5. DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The following sections set out summary descriptions of the groups of archaeological monuments found within each of the topographic survey areas at Holwick (Fig 2). The descriptions are also synthesised, with an appraisal of the general monument character for each specific type of archaeological site recorded across the surveyed areas.

5.2 SURVEY AREA 1: WYNCH BRIDGE SETTLEMENT (FIGS 16 AND 17)

- 5.2.1 The survey area contains a discrete complex of archaeological features located approximately 200-300m west of Wynch Bridge (Plate 31). The site is statutorily protected as a Scheduled Monument (SM 35953). The complex includes remains of two settlement sites, comprising a round house settlement and a rectangular domestic structure, as well as associated multi-phased field-systems and a funerary cairn. The majority of the complex is located on top of the river terrace *c* 50m south of the River Tees at Low Force waterfall. Most of the land has not been subject to intensive medieval strip-field cultivation, and has remained unenclosed up to the nineteenth century, which has aided survival of the archaeological features (Fig 13). The complex was initially recorded and briefly described by Denis Coggins (1986, 123, Fig 25; HER 474 and 2448). The settlement is described chronologically by relative phasing of the various groups of features.



Plate 31: Wynch Bridge settlement looking south

- 5.2.2 ***Prehistoric Funerary Cairn - Phase 1:*** a single well-preserved sub-circular funerary cairn, **5006**, is located *c* 70m to the west-south-west of the main settlement. The cairn is located prominently with good views down the valley towards Kirk Carrion (Plate 9), and is on the end of a shallow spur of land, which is one of a series of four spurs that are interspersed with boggy channels. It is

evident that the survival of the cairn reflects that area has not been subject to intensive cultivation/improvement in the medieval or post-medieval periods, indeed it is the only example of this type of site recorded in the study area.

- 5.2.3 It is partly turf-covered, and is constructed of densely packed sub-rounded stones; it measured 7.9m long by 7.5m wide and is up to 0.6m in height. The cairn contains a central depression where local antiquarians have investigated the site in the past. There is no clear evidence for contemporaneity between the funerary cairn, which is typical on morphological grounds to those constructed in the Bronze Age, and the round house settlement, although this cannot be ruled out on current evidence. The earliest phase of settlement at the round house group may potentially be of Bronze Age foundation (*Section 5.2.6*), but could also be later and therefore its earliest components are defined here as Phase 3.
- 5.2.4 **Field-System - Phase 2:** the settlement features within the complex are surrounded by a series of field-system elements which are clearly multi-phased in nature, and, by morphological grounds, can be associated with the different settlements (Plate 31) that are present at the site. The probable first phase of field-system includes a series of north-west/south-east field boundaries which are associated with the round house settlement. They potentially form a series of long oval fields, though it is not certain to what extent the precise form of these fields reflects subsequent phases of development. The principal element of the field system is a north/south boundary (**5002.3**), with two fields to its east (**5002.1/5002.2** and **5002.5**), and one to its west (**5002.7**). All of the field plots have utilised the natural topography and have enclosed level land on top of successive river terraces. The original form of the boundaries and fields is fairly uncertain because they have continued to be used and modified for thousands of years, but in their present state the downslope sides of the eastern fields have large scarped banks, which are modified natural terraces enhanced by soil movement through plough cultivation (**5002.2** and **5002.5**). The western field plot survives in a very ephemeral state but encloses an oval field sitting between boggy areas on the north and south, and with the southern boundary **5002.7** running along a ridge of a higher sloping ground.
- 5.2.5 The field to the east of the round house settlement has been improved, as part of the landholding of West Close Farm (presently Rose Cottage), but more ephemeral sections of the field-system survive within it. One interesting feature is an east/west aligned stone wall **5002.10** which runs along the top of a scarp slope; the boundary is clearly keyed into the system running into the round house settlement and is of some antiquity in origin. The boundary, however, has been adopted into the extant present day field system and reflects a marked indicator of continuity, whereby the line of a prehistoric field boundary has continued in use through to the present. This boundary may form the northern edge of a long banana-shaped field plot that runs to the east out of the study area towards Staple Crag (**1073**), but it is not known at what period that this long-lived plot was established.
- 5.2.6 It would appear that the *Phase 2* field-system may slightly pre-date the earliest visible phase of construction at the round house settlement (*Section 5.2.5*), where the round house was placed outside of the field plots at the corner junction of two boundaries.
- 5.2.7 **Round house Settlement – Phase 3:** the earliest visible habitation site in the group is the round house settlement **5000**, which comprises potentially two sub-circular round houses and a stock pound. The round houses and pound were probably

originally un-enclosed, consisting of settlement activity located at the corner of two field plots **5002.1/ 5002.3** and **5002.7**. The eastern end of the settlement was built against an earlier sinuous bank which clearly relates to an early (*Phase 2*) field plot and the north end of the settlement is butted against a lateral field bank forming the south side of an early field plot. It is important to note that if this initial habitation was un-enclosed it would, therefore, have been constructed at a time prior for the need to enclose and protect settlement sites from outside aggressors. The enclosure of such settlements typically occurred in the Iron Age, at a time of climactic deterioration and population pressure on resources, which would tentatively imply that the *Phase 2* field-system and the *Phase 3* unenclosed round house settlement built against it could potentially date back to the Bronze Age. The probable Bronze Age funerary cairn **5006** lay a little distance away from the settlement and field-system, probably at the limits of cultivable land, and is a typical place for such activity to occur in this period on the fringes or territorial boundaries of settled land.



Plate 32: Enclosure of the round house settlement **5000**

- 5.2.8 The northern round house, **5000.2**, measured 11.1m by 9.1m, and has an entrance on the east side facing into the largest yard. The southern round house, **5000.5**, is set against a pre-existing field boundary and measured 10.5m by 9.6m, and has a possible entrance on the north side. The stock enclosure **5000.1** is on the east side of the settlement, and also set against the field boundary; it measured 14m long (north/south) by 13.4m wide, and is slightly scooped in the centre.
- 5.2.9 **Enclosed Settlement – Phase 4:** at a later date, possibly in the Iron Age or even Roman periods, the round house settlement was protected with the construction of an embanked boundary (**5000.6**) on the west side that enclosed the right-angled junction between field boundaries **5002.1/5002.3** and **5002.7**. The overall enclosure surrounding the round houses, as it survives today, is roughly pentagonal in plan and measured 41.4m long (north/south) by 40.4m wide (Plate 32). The structure survives as densely packed turf-covered earth and stone banking interspersed in places with large orthostatic stones. The enclosure is split into two sections, with a large yard on the east side, **5000.3**, that contains both round houses and stock pound facing into it. The main entrance to the settlement is

visible on the north side of this yard, cutting through the line of field boundary **5002.7**. The smaller yard is on the north-west corner **5000.4**, and is divided from the large yard by a curving sub-dividing wall attached to one of the round houses **5000.2**.

- 5.2.10 **Structure – Phase 4:** the survey area included a rectangular domestic structure **5001.1**, located roughly 30m to the north of the enclosed settlement. On morphological grounds this settlement structure is of a later date than the round house settlement and is probably medieval in origin. It consisted of a single-celled earth and stone-banked foundation measuring 13.1m long (east/west) by 9.6m wide, with banks up to 2m wide by 0.5m high (Plate 33), and is internally levelled. It may originally have been the site of a simple, single-storey turf-walled hut constructed on dwarf stone-walled foundations, probably with a heather or bracken-thatched roof.
- 5.2.11 A sub-rectangular stock pound, **5001.2**, was constructed against the west side of the rectangular structure as a second phase of construction; it measured 12.9m long by 5.9m wide and has a possible entrance on the south side. The stock pound has a slightly scooped interior that suggests a reduction in ground level from trampling by stock and the removal of manure. To the south of the settlement are the ephemeral remains of a further possible stock pound, **5001.3**, which if it was a pound would have enclosed an area measuring 16.3m by 12.4m. The west stock pound **5001.2** is attached to, and clearly associated with, the east side of a large flat rectangular paddock **5001.4**.

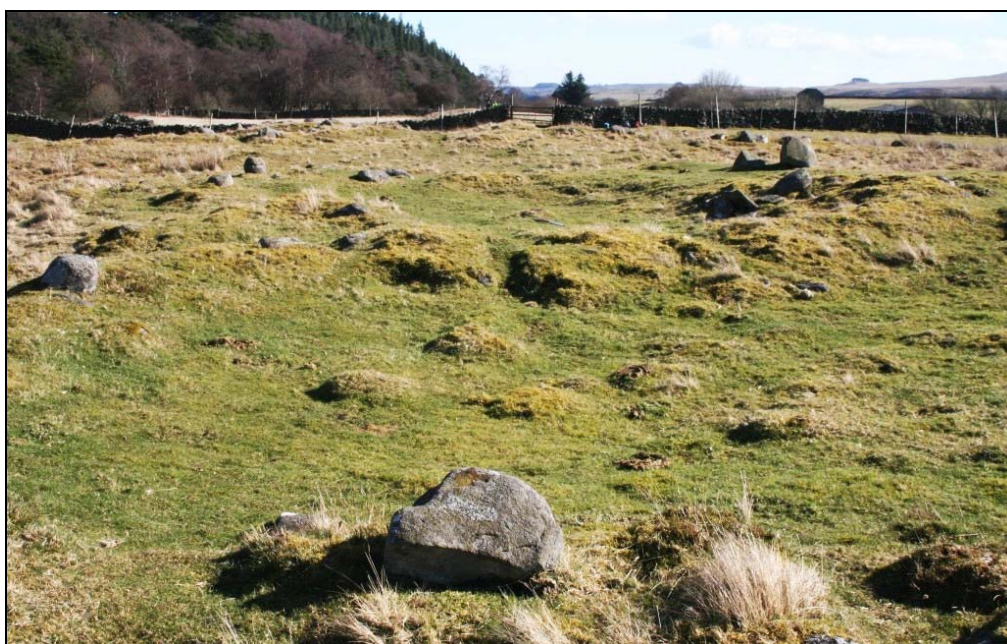


Plate 33: Medieval domestic structure and adjoining stock pound **5001**

- 5.2.12 The closest parallel to this type of rectangular structure is that of a shieling settlement where a system of transhumant farming practices was undertaken in the medieval period (Ramm *et al* 1970). Livestock would be herded in the spring/summer months to distant grazing lands on common ground removed from the permanent farmstead and members of the family would stay in temporary accommodation to tend to them. There are many examples of shieling grounds

surrounding the survey area at Holwick, in particular, on common land on the scars above Holwick and Unthank. One of the shielings recorded at Unthank closely resembles the morphology of the rectangular structure with attached stock pound **5001.1** and **5001.2** (Coggins 1986, 192, Fig 51).

- 5.2.13 **Field-System – Phase 5:** the latest phase of (non-modern) landscape dividing mount, equates to a remodelling and re-use of the earlier field-system rather than a new construction. A rectangular paddock/field, **5001.4**, was constructed on the west side of the rectangular house site, **5001.2**, and there is no clear distinction between the boundaries of the plot and the possible larger, and earlier oval field, **5002**, so phasing is difficult. The plot is keyed into the stock pound **5001.2** so is associated with this settlement. The plot clearly demarcates an area of cultivated grassland that has been improved to a greater degree than the surrounding scrubby land (Plate 31 and 59), and it contains slight traces of cultivation ridges orientated south-west/north east **5001.5**.
- 5.2.14 The *Phase 2* field plot to the east of the rectangular domestic structure **5002.5** has been sub-divided by linear embanked boundaries **5002.9** in *Phase 5*. Two small sub-circular/oval sheepfolds have been constructed on the end of this field plot, **5002.4** and **5002.6**, measuring 10.8m by 10.3m and 9m by 8.2m respectively, although there exists the possibility that **5002.4**, was an earlier domestic structure set into the corner of the enclosure. The **5002.6** enclosure has a further cell on the south end which possibly functioned as a shepherd's shelter.
- 5.2.15 This phase of field-system is clearly related to the rectangular domestic structure **5001**. While a field-system would seem to be at odds with the rectangular structure being a temporary shieling-type dwelling, it is often the case that transhumant structures, over time, became more permanent and functioned as farmsteads in their own right. The location of the shieling in the lower reaches of the valley (on the edge of the historically cultivable land in the medieval period) may imply this area was better suited for permanent occupation/cultivation, as opposed to those shielings located on the commons above the valley. The presumed turf house with dwarf-walled foundations was never rebuilt as a stone-walled farmstead in the post-medieval period, but West Close Farm, a post-medieval imposition, lay nearby, and could potentially have been its successor.
- 5.2.16 **Other Cultivation and Agricultural Features:** the complex contains several other undated cultivation features that are associated with the field-systems. There is an area of narrow ridge and furrow cultivation, **5005**, on the east end of the survey area. It is orientated west-north-west/east-south-east and measured 3m in width. The cultivation is probably post-medieval in date and relates to the enclosure and cultivation of land for West Close Farm (now Rose Cottage) to the south.
- 5.2.17 There is a further band of cultivation features **5003** located in the rough ground on the lowest river terrace, approximately 40m to the south of Low Force waterfall. The cultivation consists of a slightly curving band of orthostatic, double-thickness stone-walled foundations measuring 94m long by 22m wide. The cultivation band is sub-divided into small roughly triangular plots, each measuring up to 5-10m in area with walls up to 1m wide. The features are possibly lazy bed plots, hand-dug cultivation areas for vegetables, and due to the longevity of this type of cultivation practice could relate to any phase of field-system in the survey area. They are most likely, however, to relate to either post-medieval activity associated with West Close Farm or to cultivation associated with the medieval shieling **5001**. A family

temporarily occupying a shieling in the spring/summer months could plant relatively fast-growing vegetable crops for their own consumption whilst they were away from their home farmstead.

- 4.2.18 Two further probable cultivation features are of particular note, both are sub-oval flat-topped platforms, **5004.1** and **5004.2**, measuring 7.2m by 6.6m and 9.9m and 7.3m respectively. **5004.1**, is located on the edge of boggy rough grazing 36m to the north of the rectangular domestic structure **5001** whilst **5004.2** is located on the south of field **5002** adjacent to the north bank of Stony Beck. The features are most likely to be stack stands, providing relatively dry and elevated places to store winter fodder, and would suggest more permanent occupation.

5.3 SURVEY AREA 2: MIDDLE FARM, HOLWICK VILLAGE (FIGS 18-20)

- 5.3.1 The site complex consists of earthwork settlement remains in the form of one or two farmsteads immediately adjacent to the east side of the current Middle Farm, and located on the eastern edge of the Holwick medieval village core. In addition, there are features associated with strip fields, trackways running into the village and a series of stock management features. The farmsteads are depicted as extant but are unnamed in 1826 (Plate 34). The eastern half of the settlement was recorded as Hill House Croft in 1820 (Plate 35) but had fallen out of use and been removed by 1857 (Fig 6).

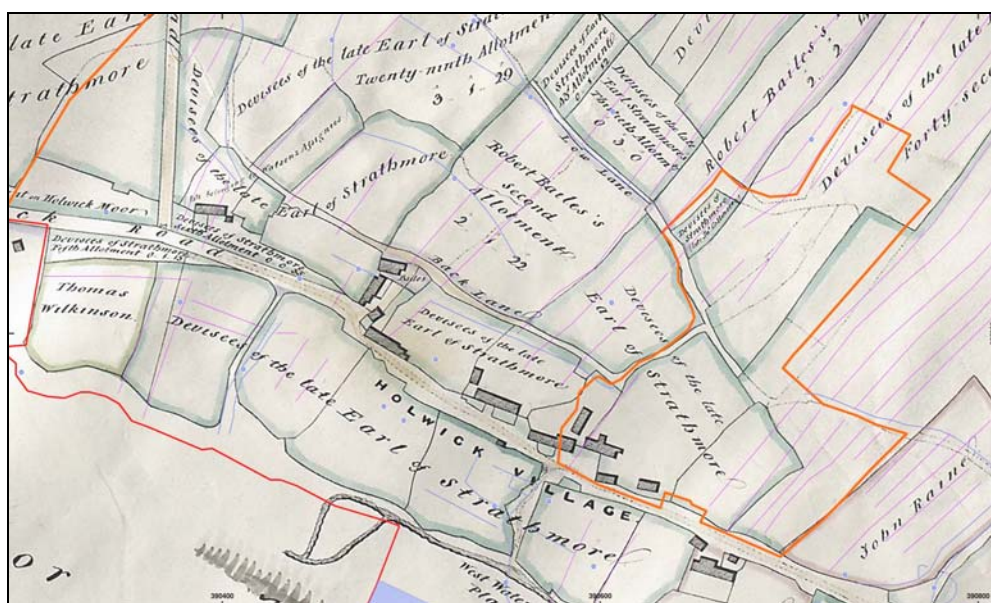


Plate 34: Detail of extant structures at Holwick – Middle Farm in 1826

- 5.3.2 The farmsteads are located on top of the ridge of land which runs north-west/south-east containing the main linear street of Holwick village. Strip fields are evident running downslope both to the south (outside of the detailed survey area) and to the north. The farmsteads contain at least six closely related rectangular earth and stone-founded structures, all orientated along a roughly north-west/south-east axis, in an area measuring 68m by 39m.

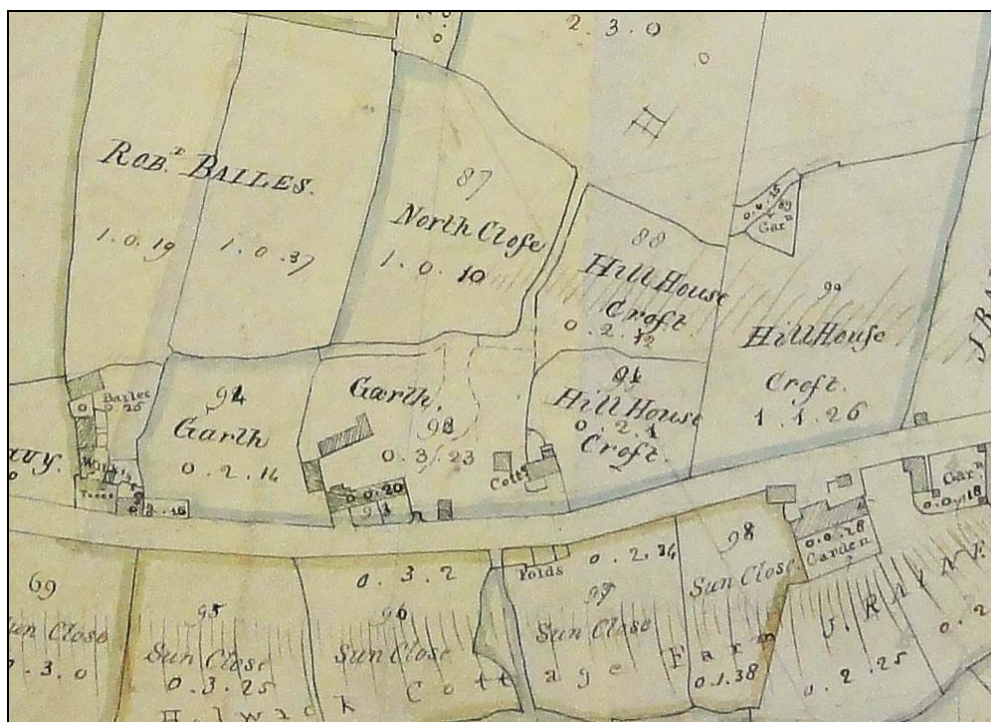


Plate 35: Detail of Hill House Croft in 1820 (5007, 5029-5030)

- 5.3.3 **Building Platforms in the Farmsteads:** the site consists of at least two heavily truncated domestic longhouses, **5007** and **5031**, surrounded by ancillary agricultural structures. Although set closely together, the structures form two distinct groupings laying either side, to the east and west, of a well preserved wall foundation (**5013.3**) that may separate two separate medieval toft and croft landholdings on the south-east side of the medieval village.
- 5.3.4 **East Group:** the group of structures are contained within a single toft strip running roughly north/south between walls **5013.3** and **5013.4**. The group included the turf-covered wall foundations of a main rectangular longhouse structure, **5007**, measuring up to 18m long by 7m wide (Plate 36). The longhouse had been severely truncated and is cut across diagonally by a small sunken trackway. Originally, there would have been at least two equal-sized main cells to the structure, along with smaller annex cells on the east side (5.2m square) and in the centre of the north side (5.4m x 5.3m). The form of the structure is very uncertain and there is a lot of collapsed stone, which would suggest that it had been rebuilt at some stage as a stone walled structure (as opposed to the dwarf-walled timber structures common elsewhere), and subsequent to its collapse the stone material was largely removed for reuse.
- 5.3.5 To the south of the longhouse is a further rectangular-platformed structure, **5008**, measuring 15.1m long by 7.7m wide, and containing two equal-sized cells; this by contrast with **5007** was a dwarf-walled building. The structure had been overlain by the modern wall running along the 'New' road through Holwick village and clearly pre-dates this imposition.
- 5.3.6 An additional well-preserved single-celled, dwarf-walled, structure. **5009**, lay to the east, adjacent to the east corner of the modern field, and measured 12.4m long by 6.7m wide.



Plate 36: Building platforms at Hill House Croft **5007** and **5008**

- 5.3.7 **West Group:** the western group of structures is in part overlain by a modern fenced boundary and consisted of a diagonal line of buildings with a longhouse on the southern end, **5031**. The longhouse is three-celled, measured at least 25.5m long by 6.4m wide, and was internally sub-divided into two equal cells with a smaller central cell. There is an entrance on the south side of the central cell, which possibly hints that the foundations form a 'passage house'-type of structure. Just to the north of the longhouse, separated by a gap, is a further slightly smaller two-celled rectangular structure **5030**. The latter measured at least 20.4m long by 6.4m wide, it had a collapsed internal sub-dividing wall and the western end was truncated by a trackway. The final structure of this grouping is on the north side and consists of a small single-celled sub-rectangular structure measuring 7.9m long by 6.7m wide.
- 5.3.8 The building platforms in this survey area form at least two small farmsteads, each set within earlier toft/croft plots extending westwards out from the surviving medieval core of Holwick village. There are at least two domestic longhouses, **5007** and **5031**, and it is likely that the majority of the rest of the structures reflect agricultural use as barns/byres. It is possible that some of the smaller structures may have been used for human habitation, such as modest cottages for farm workers who did not own their own land. The pattern of settlement here is made more complicated by its proximity to the main historic routeways funnelling into the village, and various ribbons of trackway and later farm vehicle activity have cut through the area. These have disturbed and truncated the features, and, in particular, have impacted upon structures **5007** and **5030**. The distribution of paddocks and small yards surrounding the structures have also been disturbed, and, in addition, the imposition of the later 'New' road / former road into the village has probably truncated the southern end of the farmsteads. The surviving buildings only form the final upstanding and visible phase of domestic development here prior to their abandonment. Where medieval toft and croft plots have been extensively excavated in this part of the country a complex pattern of multi-phased use and re-use of the plots has been recognised. Buildings were

replaced over the centuries, often on different alignments and were not necessarily located on the same building footprints (Andrews and Milne 1979; Austin 1989).

- 5.3.9 **Field-System:** the pattern of surviving medieval open field cultivation, consisting of extensive strip lynchets surrounding Holwick village, is particularly striking (Plate 60; Fig 9). The pattern is continued within the survey area at Middle Farm where the distribution of south-west/north-east oriented strips are evident running downhill away from the village towards the River Tees. The strips measure between 8m and 13m in width and survive as a series of earthen lynchets, particularly on the east side of the area, **5013.1**, and to a lesser extent in the central/north area, **5013.2**. Modern field walls overlay the alignment of strip lynchets and, particularly on the northern end of the survey area, the strip fields are re-used as the footings for now part-collapsed walled boundaries **5012.4**.
- 5.3.10 **Stock Management:** in the earliest form of the medieval settlements, the emphasis would have been to enable the arable farming of the lands to the north. But of course these farms had a mixed economy and their stock was grazed on the waste uplands to the south. The arable fields were open, so there was need to provide stock-proof access for the animals between the waste lands and the farms, which are located within the arable lands. This was accommodated by two walled outgangs on the southern side of the present road, of which the easternmost led directly to the western farmstead. These provided stock access through the arable lands to the south and typically had a funnel aperture off the fell to encourage the movement of stock down the narrow corridor. These are now cut off from the farms by the New Road, and its former predecessor.
- 5.3.11 At some stage in the medieval period, most probably coincident with the Black Death in the fourteenth century, there was a change from a predominantly arable economy to one with a greater emphasis on pastoral farming. At this stage, a number of stock related features were introduced within the extent of the former arable lands to the north. The survey area coincides with a focal point of activity on the eastern edge of the village, which was used as the location of a complex multi-phased stock enclosure, **5011.2** (Plate 37). The initial enclosure was formed at the junction of two green lanes, **5015** and **5016**, and survives for the most part as turf-covered earth and stone banking. It is rectangular and measured 21m long by 17m wide and the banks are up to 0.6m high (Plate 37). At a later date, the enclosure was extended with an outer enclosure on the north and west sides, **5011.4**, and the overall enclosure then measured 51m long by 45m wide. Evidence for the larger enclosure is limited to a linear bank on the north side, which, as it crosses to the east of the modern field wall, possibly returns back to the south. The western corner of the enclosure may also be evident at the junction of two lanes, **5014** and **5015**, but this may be a continuation of the former lane across the junction. At a later date, the larger enclosure was removed and a newer walled enclosure, **5011.1**, was constructed on the south-east side of the original enclosure **5011.2**. The enclosure took in land on what is now the east side of the modern wall boundary, and measured 26.6m long by 19.2m wide. The new enclosure was built over and slighted the route of a green lane, **5016**, and walled in an area on the north side of green lane **5015**.
- 5.3.12 The green lane, **5016**, at this juncture had an open funnel arrangement, which was intended to gather stock off open pasture land, and would indicate that the land to the immediate north was at the stage in use for grazing and the cultivation strips

had gone out of use. This would also explain the purpose for the stock enclosures **5011.1** and **5011.2** as they would have accommodated the stock brought in off the common grazing land.



Plate 37: Stock enclosure at the junction of old lanes to the east of Holwick medieval village **5011**

- 5.3.13 Other agricultural features observed in the central/north part of the survey area included a well-defined circular structure, measuring 12.3m long by 11.m wide, **5012.1**. It was constructed of turf-covered earth and stone banks up to 3m wide; internally, the circle has been slightly scooped out and there is an entrance on the east side. The structure adjoins with a less well-defined feature on the north-east side, **5012.2**, which is D-shaped in plan and measured 15.4m long by 7.5m wide. It is tempting to attribute the circular structure to a domestic round house; however, the site is located on top of a medieval strip lynchet and clearly post-dated this episode of agricultural activity. The feature, with attached D-shaped structure, may reflect a small hut/shelter with attached circular stock pound, or even perhaps reflects agricultural activity, such as a stack stand or possibly as a corn drying kiln.
- 5.3.14 There is a spring, **5012.5**, running into a boggy area, that consists of a series of interlinked bath tubs set in a linear cascade, the chronologically oldest of the bath types lay at the top of the slope with successively more modern baths further down (Plate 38). This forms a clear post-medieval focal point for stock watering, but may not relate to earlier exploitation, as the main watering places for the village lay on the south side of the village at the ‘east’ and ‘west’ watering places (Fig 4). One consequence of the siting of the spring has been the trampling and truncation of surrounding archaeological features which has made them difficult to discern.



Plate 38: Spring and boggy area **5012.5**

- 5.3.15 **Green Lanes:** the survey area contains the remains of a series of interconnecting green lanes which give access around the east side of Holwick village (Plate 39), and is best illustrated on the 1826 map of the valley (Fig 4). The original access route into Holwick village ‘the roods road / Holwick old road’ **5016** runs up the valley from the south-east and survives as an alignment of modern walled boundaries (Plate 57). The lane turns west towards the village just as it enters the survey area, it curves around the south side of the original stock enclosure **5011.2**, (which lends some support to them both being of some antiquity), it crosses a junction with another lane, **5015**, and funnels upslope towards the village. This route evidently went out of use after 1826 as the new sheepfold **5011.1** was built over its alignment, reflecting that it had been superseded by the New Road.
- 5.3.16 Low Lane **5015** junctions diagonally across the ‘old road’ **5016** by the time of the earliest phase of stock enclosure **5011.2**. It survives as part-collapsed walls on its southern side; it is both cut into the slope on the south and platformed by a slight lynchet on the north side and is up to 5m wide in places. The south-east end of the trackway is denuded and disappears where it runs across an area of strip lynchets, **5013.1**. The south-east end of Low Lane had clearly gone out of use by the time of the 1826 mapping (Fig 4), but may originally have formed a boundary for croft landholdings on the north side of the medieval village.
- 5.3.17 A ‘back lane’ **5014** runs parallel to the north side of Holwick village (Plate 58). On the west edge of the survey area it curves away from the village, runs downslope to the north-east and junctions onto Low Lane **5015**. Lane **5014** is flanked by two large earth and stone-constructed banks; it is slightly hollowed in the centre and measured up to 3m wide internally. The back lane may have demarcated the boundary between enclosed tofts and the open fields beyond.
- 5.3.18 Fragmentary evidence of a further curving lane, **5012.3**, was identified on the north edge of the survey area, measuring 3-4m wide, and running roughly

west/east, consisting of small sections of banking on the south side and fossilised in the alignment of modern field walls on the north side. The lane was shown as an access trackway on the 1826 mapping (Fig 4).



Plate 39: Middle Farm, Holwick Village, looking south-east

5.4 SURVEY AREA 3: HOLWICK VILLAGE – GREEN HOUSE FARMSTEAD (FIG 21)

- 5.4.1 The site complex consists of the earthwork remains of a derelict farmstead called Green House, which is located just over 100m to the immediate west of Holwick village. It was shown as extant on the 1826 map (Plates 40 and 61), and was roofed in 1857, but had by then been replaced by a farmhouse built to the south outside of the enclosed lands. The farm was not depicted on the 1897 mapping. The farmstead included stone-founded rectilinear structures with attached yards and surrounding sections of associated field-system in the enclosed lands to the north (Plate 40).
- 5.4.2 **Farmhouse:** the structure consisted of a disturbed rectangular longhouse structure, **1116.1**, with earth and stone-constructed dwarf wall foundations and was at least 11.9m long (east/west) by 5.4m wide (Plate 41). There is no definitive evidence for internal sub-division within the structure, although it has been disturbed/denuded by the construction of a later sheepfold on top of it, **1127**, and is straddled in the centre by a modern field wall. There is evidence for two small yards/paddocks on the north side of the longhouse that are set slightly below the height of the farmhouse, **1116.2** and **1116.4**, which measure 15.3m by 12.1m and 10.2m by 8.5m respectively. The longhouse is separated from the ancillary barn/byre structure **1117** on the west side by an L-shaped raised area **1116.3**, measuring 17.8m by 14.2m. It is uncertain if this area formed a yard or contained a further turf-covered building platform on the south end, as it is orientated along the same axis as the longhouse. The feature has been disturbed by the modern farm trackway that enters the field at this point.



Plate 40: Detail of extant structures at Green House in 1826



Plate 41: Green House farmstead, looking south-west

- 5.4.3 **Ancillary Structure:** the north-west corner of the farmstead complex contains a rectilinear three-celled structure that potentially functioned as a barn/byre, **1117.1**, although given that it is three-celled there is the possibility that it had a domestic function. It is located 17m to the north-west of longhouse **1116.1** and consists of partly turf-covered foundation dwarf walls for a large rectangular-platformed building that is orientated east/west (Plate 42) and is 11.6m long by 7.4m wide, with 1.5m wide walls. There is a smaller annex cell on the east side, which is constructed lower than the height of the main structure. There is an entrance in the centre of the north side and another entrance near the south-eastern corner where there is slight evidence for an internal sub-division. The small eastern annex has an entrance on the south side and measured 5.2m by 4.6m. The building is bounded on the south side by a small platformed yard (13.3m by 5.5m) which is

cut into the north-facing slope behind it and has a sub-rectangular paddock (20.5m by 8m), **1117.2**.



Plate 42: Barn/byre at Green House farmstead **1117.1**

- 5.4.4 The farmstead was constructed against the inside of the north side of the intake wall **1127.2** that bounds the enclosed farmland in the valley, and ensured easy access for the movement of stock from the farmstead to the grazing lands to the south. A series of small sub-rectangular brick-pattern fields are attached to the intake wall and form a band of land on the north side of the farmstead **1118.1**. Turf-covered remains of wall foundations for three sub-divided fields are evident in a north-west/south-east axis and measure 103m long by 28m wide in total. The band of fields continue to the east outside of the current detailed survey area, **1185**. Remains of surviving sub-divisional walls of further larger rectangular fields, **1118.2**, are evident to the north of the farmstead. They also survive beneath the modern field walls and continue as a third band of rectangular fields adjacent to the south side of East Pikestone Farm, **1118.3**.
- 5.4.5 The intake wall (ring garth) **1127.2** to the east of the farmstead runs parallel and to the north of the modern intake wall **1127.3** and measured 48m long. It has been maintained as a walled boundary to act as a drove wall on the east side of a walled sheepfold **1127.1** that overlays the longhouse structure **1116.1**. The sheepfold is sub-rectangular and measured 14.5m by 11.4m. It has a large cell on the west side and a smaller eastern cell that has possibly been maintained as a shepherd's shelter; one gable end of the shelter remains intact. The sheepfold was first depicted on the 1897 mapping (Fig 7).
- 5.4.6 The farmstead of Green House forms one of a disparate number of farmsteads located on the ridge of land at the southern edge of the medieval open strip-field-systems in the valley surrounding Holwick village. The farmstead may have early origins although it is slightly removed from the focal centre of the village. The site may alternatively have formed part of a system of small early post-medieval tenements with enclosed fields on the edge of the village that have subsequently encroached on the open field to the west of the village.

5.5 SURVEY AREA 4: BARNEY BYRE/ LONGRIGG HEAD FARMSTEADS (FIGS 22-4)

- 5.5.1 **Introduction:** this a small settlement at the head of the extended Holwick ridge, and is remote from the main part of Holwick village; it comprises three farmsteads (5017-8; 5019-21; 5023-4), within which are the individual remains of seven rectilinear structures. It is located on a long rolling ridge, set between the flood plain of the Tees, and the higher ground of the Bands, hence the settlement was called Longridge Head on the 1826 inclosure map (Plate 43). It is an area of generally well-drained ground, but fairly undulating and the settlements are located on the margins of the higher waste land to the south-west, providing moorland grazing to the south-west and potential arable land on the lower Tees plain to the north-east. The 5023-4 (Longrigg Head) and 5017-8 (Barney Byre) farmsteads are set on the top of the ridge, but the 5019-21 farmstead is at the base of the ridge and is within a presently dry gully. Its location may have been intended to exploit a former water supply within the gully, but would potentially have been susceptible to inundation during any extreme flooding events.
- 5.5.2 The earliest record for the Longrigg settlement is from the 1000 year 1607 Mickelton lease (Anon 2007), which also refers to Holwick Head; however, these settlements are likely to have a much greater antiquity than the lease date. By the time of the 1826 inclosure map (DRO D/HH/2/14/153), Longrigg Head farm was still roofed and extant, and an unnamed structure was shown in the location of the present Barney Byre and may correspond with the post-medieval barn constructed on the site of an earlier building. The farmstead to the south-west of Barney Byre (structures 5019-21) is not depicted on this map, but it had evidently been abandoned by this date.

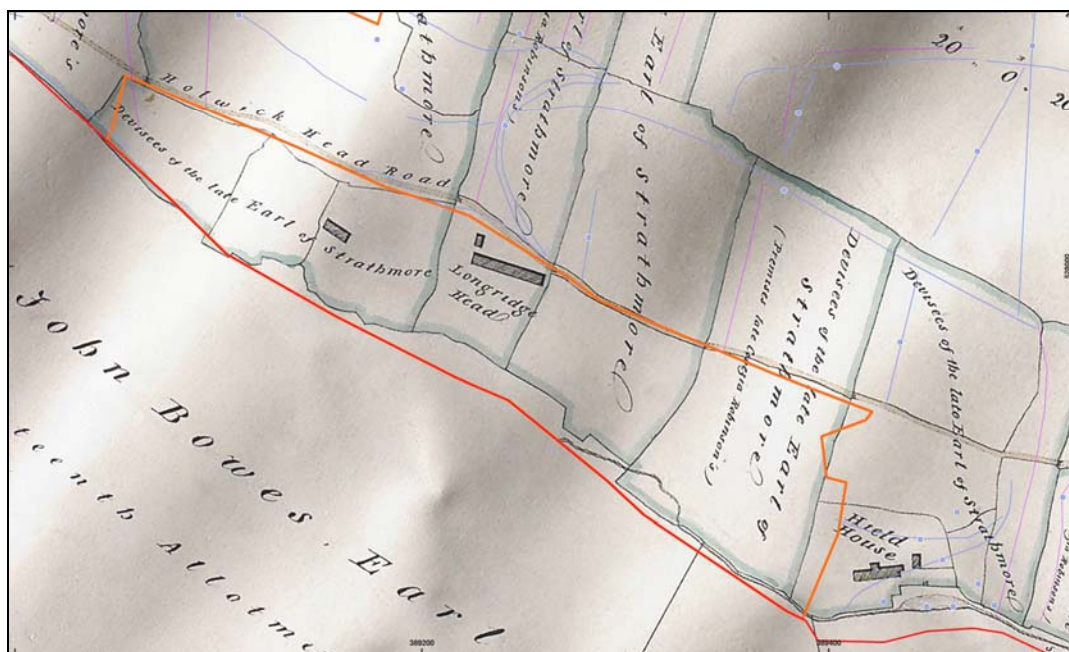


Plate 43: Detail of extant structures at Barney Byre / Longrigg Head on the 1826 inclosure map

- 5.5.3 **Farmstead Buildings:** within the overall settlement there are three groups of buildings each corresponding with the farmsteads and each comprise a primary longhouse and associated outbuildings (Plate 44). The main road for the settlement

extended along the top of the ridge and corresponds with the present day access track, and two of the farmsteads, Barney Byre and Longrigg Head, are adjacent. At the southern end of the settlement area is an intake boundary following an irregular line and is fairly faithfully represented on the 1826 inclosure map. This boundary defined the boundary between the upland waste to the south and the arable lands to the north. Each farmstead would have needed to have access to both areas, and the movement of stock would have had to be kept separate from the areas of arable; this fundamental requirement has largely determined the form and configuration of the farmsteads and their associated field boundaries.

- 5.5.4 **Western Farmstead (5019-21):** this farmstead group is at the base of the dry gully, and comprises three rectilinear buildings each set on a levelled platform. Building **5019** has an internal partition, and a butted extension to the west, whereas the other two have no partitions. It has relatively little collapse associated with it and the present structures comprises dwarf walls for a timber superstructure. Overall this building is the best candidate of the three for being the main domestic longhouse (size 18.5m by 8.1m); unfortunately, a later nineteenth century enclosure wall was constructed over the top of the building and this has confused the interpretation of the structure. The main entrance to the longhouse was in the northern wall, and there was no evidence of an entrance into the western extension. Internally, the area is levelled, but the adjacent ground is relatively level and the structure has, therefore, not required much terracing. Extending from its north-western and south-eastern corners are the walls of the intake boundary that marked the interface between the arable land to the north and the upland waste to the north. Significantly, the entrance to the building extends through to the north, arable side. Also extending from the north-eastern corner is an internal field boundary bank that is orientated north-east / south-west.
- 5.5.5 Building **5020** is a single-celled structure (size 13.1m by 8.3m), orientated north-west/south-east which is internally terraced, and has entrances through each gable end. The southern intake wall of the settlement extends from the north-east corner of **5019**, to just north of the western entrance of **5020**. Similarly, the boundary bank / wall extends from the north-eastern corner through to structure **5021**, and in a wide loop so that there is a partial enclosure formed adjacent to both structures. There is no evidence of an entrance through the northern wall of the **5020** building so the only access to the structure was very deliberately only from the southern side of the intake wall. This afforded access for stock off the adjacent moorland, but not for people coming off the arable lands to the north, and would confirm that the building was a winter byre for stock and not a domestic longhouse.
- 5.5.6 Building **5021** was comparable to the adjacent **5020** building, being a single-celled, internally-terraced structure of comparable size (size: 14.1m by 6.3m). An extension of the intake boundary wall led from building **5020** to the southern wall of building **5021**, forming a 3.6m long stub of wall that was parallel to the southern building wall. This formed a probable funnel that fed stock in towards a wide (1.7m wide) entrance in the southern wall of building **5021**. The intake wall then continued out from the south-eastern corner of the building to form the partial enclosure referred to previously (*Section 5.5.5*). In addition, there are two narrower entrances through the northern wall of the building. Like, **5020**, this would appear to have provided storage for stock taken off the fell, which were temporarily corralled in the partial enclosure, before being fed via a funnel into building **5021** or directly into **5020**. Although the building also had pedestrian

access from the northern side of the intake wall, the primary function of this, and building, **5020** was as byres.

- 5.5.7 North of building **5021** is a rectilinear sub-enclosure defined by earthen banks (size 15m by 11m) with an entrance to the north facing towards the Barney Byre farmstead. This small enclosure is on the arable side of the intake wall and was probably a small area of kitchen garden.

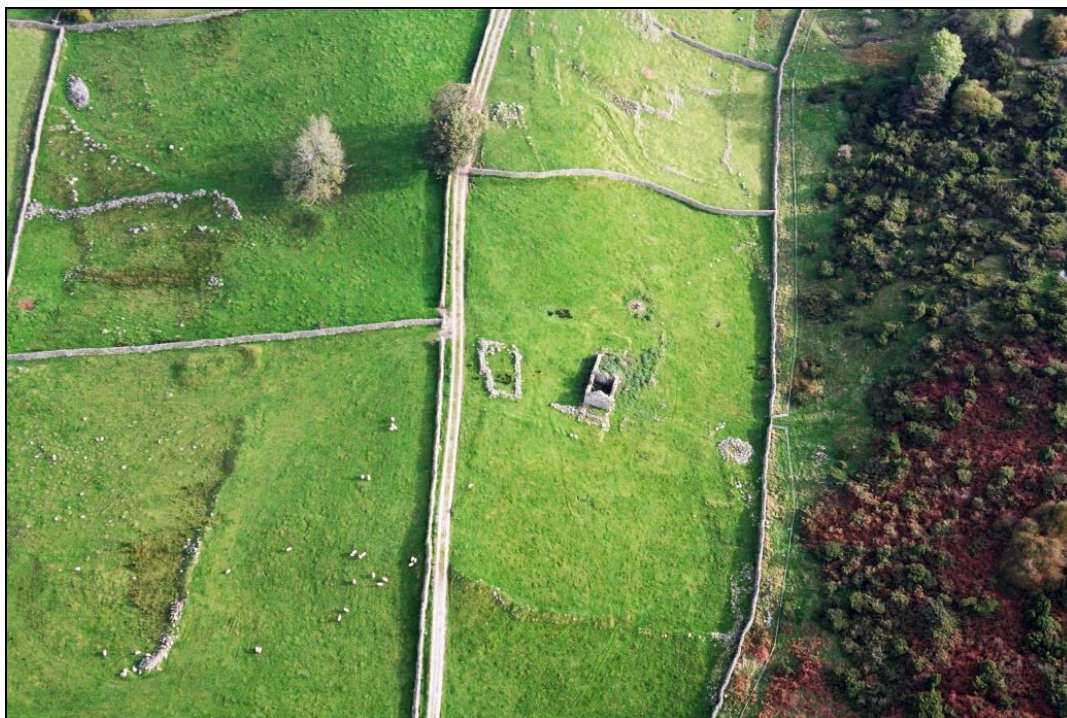


Plate 44: West end of Barney Byre/Longrigg Head farmstead, looking south-east

- 5.5.8 **Barney Byre Farmstead (5017-8):** the farmstead comprises two longhouse structures, **5017** and **5018**, the largest of which was **5017** and is currently occupied by a dry-stone-constructed field barn which is unroofed, but otherwise fairly intact. The barn is on top of an earlier, internally-terraced, dwarf-walled structure, which extends north-west / south-east from the ends of the barn, and is overall 31m long (Plate 45). While this appears to be a very long structure it needs to be set in context with the adjacent Longrigg Head longhouse that is 45m long overall. The length of the structure depicted here on the 1826 map (DRO D/HH/2/14/153) corresponds with the walled barn rather than the earlier longhouse, and the implication is that the barn had replaced the longhouse by this date. Because of the later barn, there is some uncertainty as to the internal structure of the longhouse, but there is the possibility that the building had four cells, with one underneath the western part of the barn that is 11m long, and another to the east, underneath the eastern part of the barn that is 9.9m long and at the ends are cells 5.4m long (to the west) and 4.9m long to the east. Assuming this interpretation of the internal structure, the two end cells would have provided storage, and the western long cell would have been domestic.



Plate 45: Barney Byre overlaying an earlier longhouse, **5017**

- 5.5.9 Extending through the main southern intake wall was an aperture, leading into a walled corridor (**5017.5**) towards the main longhouse (**5017**). There is seemingly an access point from this corridor onto the platform of the eastern long cell (**5017.3**), and the implication is that this corridor provided access for stock off the upland waste to the south through the arable lands and then led into the eastern long cell. On this basis, it would seem to confirm that the eastern long cell was a byre, although its form is somewhat confused given the post-medieval barn on top.
- 5.5.10 The other building, **5003**, of the farmstead has a slightly unusual shape, being two-celled, but the eastern one is slightly offset to the north, so it is not the normal parallel-sided linear longhouse seen elsewhere at Holwick (Fig 46). While this could perhaps be considered as a smaller square addition to an existing square building, the internal partition is very slight and was evidently never an external wall; therefore it must have been constructed at the outset with this layout. It has very substantial dwarf walls, and there is dry-stone masonry still extant within the structure suggesting that these provided a relatively high base for any timber superstructure. There are two pedestrian entrances, one on the eastern side into the eastern cell and the other from the north into the western cell. It is adjacent to the ridge top access track and there is no provision within the landscape for affording access for stock from the other side of the intake wall; indeed there is no entrance facing south. There is no indication that any part of the structure was intended to accommodate animals.



Plate 46: Ancillary building foundations at Barney Byre **5003**

- 5.5.11 Its location, its slightly unusual design, and its purely domestic function would suggest that it was not a conventional longhouse, comparable to the others within the settlement, and indeed elsewhere at Holwick, and probably did not relate to that period when the settlements had a mixed economy. As such, it would appear to be a later domestic structure, and perhaps reflects a later expansion of the Barney Byre farmstead.
- 5.5.12 **Longrigg Head Farmstead (5023-4):** this farmstead has two principal elements: a longhouse, **5024**, and a small associated outbuilding, **5023** (Plate 47). Both buildings were depicted on the 1826 map and were roofed at that date. The longhouse is extremely long, up to 45m long, comprising multiple cells, as identified from the surface evidence and this corresponds with the extent and length shown on the 1826 inclosure map (DRO D/HH/2/14/153). The walls were all dwarf walls, and there was very little collapse evident that would suggest dry-stone wall construction. It comprises five cells (**5024.1-5**), but the principal ones and earliest were cells **5024.2** and **5024.3**, which are in the centre of the structure, suggesting that in its earliest form the structure would have been 19m long. It was extended to the west and east by structures **5024.1** and **5024.4** that had very insubstantial foundations and are only just evident from the surface evidence; more evident from the platforms upon which they were constructed. A further cell (**5024.5**) was added to the southern side of cell 3, and entailed the construction of a substantial terraced platform. The main entrance is a pedestrian one in the north side of the structure; there is no evidence of an entrance to the south, and the south side is characterised by the steep scarp slope of the terraced platform upon which the building is set. The building would appear to be a medieval type of longhouse that has been substantially modified and extended to turn it into a post-medieval farmhouse.
- 5.5.13 There are two lines of routeway leading up to the farmstead from the southern, lower part of the site, and these are both associated with an aperture through the main intake wall. The earliest is a deep and wide hollow-way (**5024.6**) which extends past structure **5025** towards an aperture in the south-western corner of the field associated with structure **5025**. At the top of the hollow-way, immediately below the longhouse, the approach is extremely steep. This hollow-way was superseded by a terraced track (**5024.7**) which curved around the western side of

the hollow-way, and, despite the very steep slope up the side of the ridge, could potentially have allowed the passage of a wheeled vehicle. Both these routeways led up to below the southern side of the **5024** building, but there is no sign of an entrance through the southern wall and the steep slope of the platform would have impeded the movement of stock. There exists the possibility that the hollow way provided access for stock from the southern side of the intake wall to an earlier former phase of the longhouse, which, in that guise, would have had accommodated stock. In a later (probably post-medieval) modification of the farm, however, the building was adapted as a domestic farmhouse, and did not require the same stock access, hence the hollow-way now seemingly leads nowhere.

- 5.5.14 To the north-west of the longhouse is a small rectangular structure, **5023** (sized 7.4m by 4.9m), which has considerable amounts of collapse and was evidently formerly of dry-stone construction. It is set at the eastern end of a wall revetted platform that has an irregular shape and is 19m by 14m in maximum extent. The implication is that the dry-stone walled building was a later, post-medieval, structure, probably an outhouse store belonging to the Longrigg Head farm; however, it was constructed on the platform of an earlier building which is no longer extant.
- 5.5.15 Below the Longrigg Head farmstead, and set into the steep hillslope, is a walled enclosure, **5025**, (size: 7.7m by 7.5m), which is located against the western edge of the hollow-way **5024.6**. It has a substantial amount of stone within the walls and may, in part, have been of dry-stone construction. The internal area has been slightly terraced and it has an entrance facing west into the area of the hollow-way. This would have accommodated stock brought in off the upland waste to the south via an aperture through the intake wall and the animals would have been led into the hollow-way and thence the enclosure. Walls extend out from the enclosure, down to the intake boundary, and provide a corralling area for the stock, preventing the in-stock escaping onto the adjacent arable lands. The wall to the west of the enclosure cuts across, and post dated, the hollow-way, and at that later stage the farmstead no longer provided accommodation for stock. It is possible to suggest that, in the original design, the stock would have led directly to the Longrigg Head farmstead via an uninterrupted hollow-way, and this arrangement would have continued for a considerable period to judge by the depth of the hollow-way. At an unspecified date, the role of the longhouse changed; it ceased to have a stock accommodation function and instead an enclosure, **5025**, was constructed further down the slope to take the animals. At this juncture, walls were constructed to encourage the movement of stock into the enclosure and, in effect, blocked off the hollow-way. Instead, access to the farmstead was afforded by the adjacent terraced track (**5024.7**). The enclosure **5025** clearly accommodated stock and it is possible that it was a roofed structure, given its size, but this can not be confirmed on the present evidence. A small, terraced structure (size 4.5m by 3.5m) is set against the eastern wall of the main enclosure, and is open to the south; the function of this element is uncertain.
- 5.5.16 **5026 Stock enclosure and putative farmstead:** in the adjacent field to the Longrigg Head farmstead is a stock enclosure, **5026**, which has marked similarities to the nearby **5025** stock enclosure. The enclosure has large amounts of masonry and was evidently of dry-stone construction, and is on the side of a deep hollow-way (**5026.1**) which extends from the main intake wall and extends up to what is now a large pile of masonry (**5026.2**) with little discernible character.

The hollow-way is edged by a low bank which may have served to keep stock within it. The only access to the large stock enclosure is via the hollow-way, and walls extending out from the stock enclosure link either to the intake wall or into the bank edging the hollow-way confirming the relationship between these components.

- 5.5.17 Given the similarities with Longrigg Head, it is possible that the pile of collapsed masonry (**5026.2**) was a former longhouse, with access for stock from the upland waste via hollow-way **5026.1**. Either the farmstead was abandoned or it was no longer required to accommodate stock, and this warranted the construction of a stock enclosure (**5026**) further down the slope, but using the established access routes.

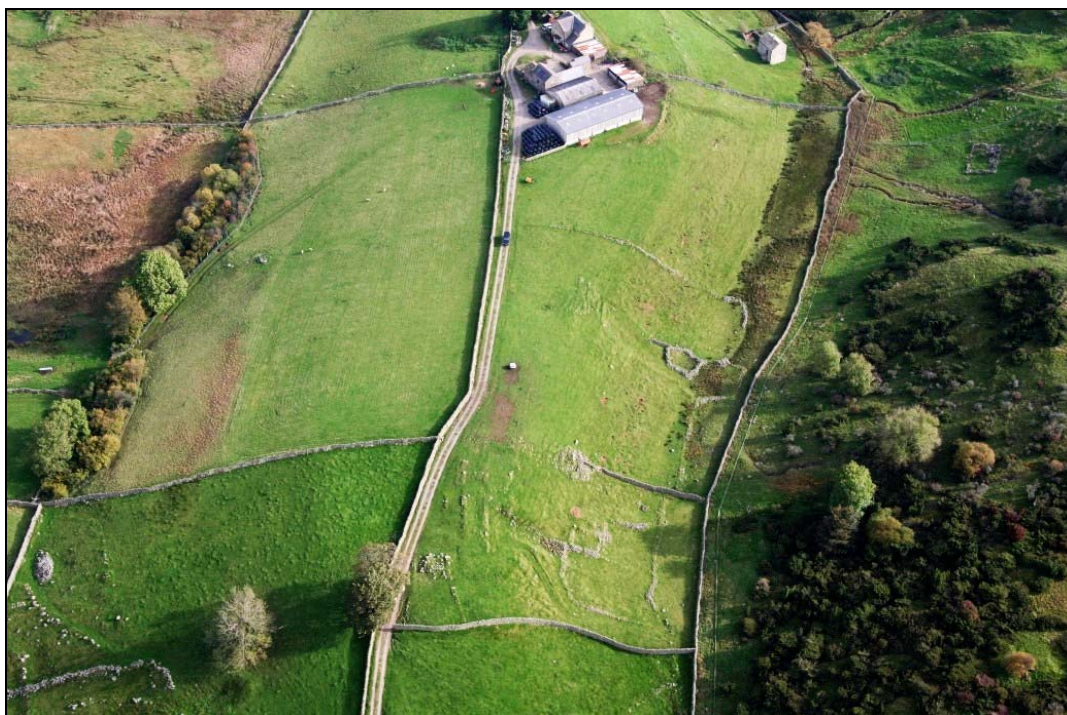


Plate 47: East end of Barney Byre/Longrigg Head farmstead, looking south-east

5.6 SURVEY AREA 5: HOLWICK HEAD SETTLEMENT (FIG 25)

- 5.6.1 The site consists of a single visible round house contained within a small platformed area that is attached to a larger scarp'd enclosure. The site is located within pasture land near the head of the enclosed lands 180m east of Holwick Head Farm. It is on the edge of a well-defined raised river terrace, some 70m upslope from the river (Plate 48). The site has previously been interpreted as a small Iron Age homestead (HER 3103; Coggins 1986, 104).



Plate 48: Holwick Head settlement, looking west

- 5.6.2 **Round house and platform:** the settlement site consists of the turf-covered foundations of a single sub-circular structure, **5028.1**, sat upon a slightly larger D-shaped platform, **5028.2**. The levelled platform is set within the edge of the northern scarp slope of the large enclosure (**1022** and **2003**) and measured 21.3m by 9.2m. The round house is constructed on the western half of the larger platform and measured 8.3m long by 8m wide. The foundations of the walls vary in thickness from 1.2-1.5m in width and are up to 0.4m high. There are two small opposing curved wall foundations attached to both the western and eastern sides of the round house (4.2m and 2.3m long respectively), they both follow the northern edge of the levelled platform and may have once formed an outer boundary on the platform. No obvious entrance was observed within the round house during the present survey, although earlier records suggest possible evidence for one on the east side of the structure; in addition, a flat stone located on the northern edge of the levelled platform outside of the round house, was identified as a possible entrance (HER 3103).
- 5.6.3 **Scarped Enclosure:** during the present survey a possible large scarped enclosure (**1022** and **2003**) was identified attached to the south side of the round house and levelled platform (Plate 49). The enclosure was initially identified by aerial photography and its description was augmented by further detailed survey; it had not hitherto been identified during previous investigations as it is difficult to discern the whole of the feature from ground level. The scarped enclosure is sub-oval in plan, measuring 121m long (north-west/south-east) by 84m wide. The northern scarp edge, **1022**, has modified the edge of a natural river terrace and is well defined, surviving to 1.5m high. The east side of the enclosure continues into the next field as a more denuded feature and curves to the south-east where it is obscured by extensive rabbit burrowing. The west side of the enclosure straddles either side of a field wall and runs beneath a large tree, the structure of the enclosure boundary gradually changes from a scarped feature into a curving earthen bank as it turns to the south away from the natural river terrace scarp. The south side of the enclosure, **2003**, is denuded and survives as intermittent sections of curving earth bank, with slight evidence of a negative scarp cut into the hillside.

There is no evidence for any structures or settlement remains surviving within the scarped enclosure.



Plate 49: Detail of the oval enclosure adjoining Holwick Head settlement **1022/2003**

- 5.6.4 The round house and adjoining enclosure are probably both contemporary features forming a single phase of construction. The site is most likely to have been a simple domestic structure with an attached agricultural enclosure that either functioned as a stock corral or small field for arable farming. Elsewhere in the country these type of site are typically dated to the Iron Age or Romano-British period.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1 The area of the Holwick township presents a remarkable survival of past settlement because it has been, to an extent, cut off from the wider region by the river, by the crags and scarp slopes and by an area of medieval parkland to the immediate south-east of the study area. Despite this relative isolation the area has good quality agricultural land that favours both pastoral and arable economies. The effect of this topographic quirk of fate has been a community that has been intensively conservative in character, which has ensured some degree of long term continuity and conversely discouraged more intensive exploitation. As such, it has allowed the fossilisation of historic landscapes, but because of the intensely conservative character of the remains, there are concerns about relying too heavily upon typological dating. The settlements may have been in use for very extended periods and monument types may continue to have been constructed long after they had gone out of fashion in other parts of the county. This highlights the need for robust radiocarbon dating to be able to assess the development of this complex landscape.

6.2 PREHISTORIC / EARLY MEDIEVAL

- 6.2.1 The earliest known activity within the study area was from Staple Crag, where there was a Mesolithic working site, probably representing a temporary hunting camp, rather than any more established settlement. Subsequent activity from the Neolithic period is represented by artefact finds, such as a Group VI Langdale axe from Simy Folds (Coggins 1986, 18) and indications of a clearance episode from a pollen core at the site (Coggins *et al* 1983). Other significant Neolithic finds include a Jadeite axe from further afield to the west at Cauldron Snout (*op cit*, 19). While the artefacts do not necessarily denote permanent settlement, the clearance evidence would suggest that man was having a greater impact on the landscape during this period.
- 6.2.2 Bronze Age remains are reflected by the existence of a round cairn near the Wynch Bridge settlement, **5000**, and there is the possibility that the settlement itself has Bronze Age origins. An assessment of the morphological form and development of the enclosed settlement, would suggest that it was originally an unenclosed settlement that was subsequently enclosed by the addition of an external bank to close the corner of two field boundary banks. The enclosure of a settlement would be understandable within a period of tension, such as during the early part of the Iron Age, a period characterised by climatic decline, and on that tentative assumption could suggest that the unenclosed phase of activity was earlier, ie Bronze Age. If this was the case then the settlement continued through to at least the Roman Period; elements of its field system have been incorporated into the present day field system, which could suggest that some of these boundary lines, though not the markers, have been in use for over 3000 years.
- 6.2.3 The adjacent medieval rectilinear settlement, **5001**, may imply either reuse of a favoured place or continuity. The simplistic form of the rectilinear house is

reminiscent of shielings, and its possible date range extends from the early medieval through to the medieval period. Certainly, there are the very significant early medieval radiocarbon dates afforded to the nearby Simy Folds settlement (Coggins *et al* 1983), which provides an indication of upland settlement activity during the period, and which strongly suggests that the adjacent, lower, and better agricultural land was also in use to some extent during this period.

6.3 MEDIEVAL

- 6.3.1 The township of Holwick was a clearly defined, indeed constrained, area and as such would have formed a cohesive community, but the settlement was initially dispersed with settlements that were located along the southern, arable / waste interface, including the Well Head (**1153**) and the Addison Pasture / Eel Beck (**3043**) farmsteads. Settlements further within the ring garth, such as the farmsteads at Middle Farm (present day Holwick Village) and Longrigg Head, would have formed latterly and, significantly, these developed into slightly self-contained, almost nucleated, settlements. Unthank, by virtue of it being formerly a squatter settlement, must have had a later origin than the adjacent Holwick township (it is first documented in 1666; *Section 3.3.20*), but, from the archaeological evidence, there is little to indicate this as the identified remains of the farmsteads and fields have the same medieval character as those within the Holwick township.
- 6.3.2 The medieval agricultural economy of the settlement was mixed, but, to judge by the scale of the extant cultivation terraces, the emphasis was more on the arable than the pastoral side. This, however, changed at some stage towards the end of the medieval period and there was a shift from arable to pastoral and former arable cultivated fields were put over to grazing animals. It is tempting to relate this change to the episode of the Black Death (1347-50, but recurring episodes throughout the fourteenth century), when the loss of a significant proportion of the population, meant that there was insufficient manpower to enable labour-intensive arable farming and there was a move to a more pastoral economy. There are a number of abandoned medieval-type farmsteads, but many of these were documented to some extent in the post-medieval period and it is not evident as to how many (or if any) were abandoned in the medieval period. The decline of Holwick from its heyday in the medieval period seems to have been gradual. In some instances the abandonment of medieval farmsteads reflects a movement of the farm location rather than the loss of the settlement; examples of this include those at Hield House, East Pikestone, and Middle Farm.

6.4 SURVIVAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

- 6.4.1 The Holwick landscape has seen activity or been occupied since the Mesolithic period; the remains from this extended period are represented across both the lowland and upland zone and there are clear indications of interaction between the two zones. Because of its remote and secluded character the land has not been subject to intensive modern agricultural exploitation or development and the historic remains survive as surface features not only within the upland zone, but importantly also within the lowland zone. It is interesting to note that the greatest impact upon the survival of prehistoric remains was medieval, rather than post-

medieval or modern, cultivation. The landscape has changed gradually over time and there is often repeated reoccupation of favoured sites, and elements of prehistoric field system have continued in use into the present day field system. Because of the continuity and the survival of early remains, as well as those from the heyday in the medieval period, there is a remarkable opportunity to examine the development of settlement and landscape, and is comparable to that provided by the very closed radial valleys of the Lake District.

- 6.4.2 The limitations of the present study to date, however, has been that it has not had the opportunity to examine in detail the associated upland resource, and the links between the two zones; this is an area that should be redressed in future phases of the project. Also, while continuity of settlement is a remarkable opportunity for study, there are considerable restrictions in relying upon morphological dating because settlements of an early type have a long life, and because monuments continue to be built here long after they have ceased to be fashionable elsewhere. There is a need for absolute dating, typically from radiocarbon assay, that will provide a chronology for the landscape.

6.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

- 6.5.1 The current survey has highlighted a rich archaeological resource surrounding Holwick. There is plenty of scope for further archaeological and documentary work that can be undertaken as part of a volunteer-orientated research project. It is recommended that specific detailed investigations be tailored towards key research themes identified within the North East Regional Research Framework (Petts and Gerrard 2006). There should be two strands to this approach: firstly, further investigation to answer specific questions regarding dating/phasing of archaeological monuments and secondly, to compile and synthesise a full landscape survey of the study area. Volunteers could be trained in a further range of investigative archaeological techniques.
- 6.5.2 **Key Research Themes:** specific themes identified in the North East Research Framework are primarily associated with our lack of precise dating and understanding of settlements in the region.
- There is a perceived lack of excavated examples of later prehistoric settlements lending too much emphasis to the morphology of settlements as an indicator as to their age. Establishing firm chronologies through trial excavations and scientific dating is needed (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 137)
 - Focus of archaeological work has been on individual settlements in the Bronze Age and Iron Age, there is a need to look further at dating and understanding the landscape surrounding them, including field plots, cairnfields, boundaries and droveways etc (*ibid*).
 - The landscape and settlement hierarchies of the medieval period are poorly understood. Detailed work is needed to test conventional chronologies and morphologies of settlements. Extensive survey and excavation in medieval villages is needed to test their establishment and development over time (*op cit*, 169).

- Environmental sampling is needed particularly from low-status rural sites to balance the environmental evidence already collected in the region which has predominantly been undertaken in upland contexts (*ibid*).
 - There are well preserved areas of medieval field-systems, including strip lynchets, in the region, their formation processes and use over time is poorly understood (*op cit*, 170).
- 6.5.3 **Geophysics:** investigation of sub-surface remains could be undertaken particularly on complex monuments where the surface evidence is disturbed or poorly surviving. This approach could be employed at Unthank Croft farmstead, the north end of Middle Farm survey area, and to search for bloomery deposits around Holwick Head Farm. In addition, it could be employed on both Holwick Head and Wynch Bridge settlements to identify significant features for keyhole excavation.
- 6.5.4 **Test Pitting:** as the land remains under pasture, a scheme of gridded shovel test pitting could be employed rather than fieldwalking in the areas immediately surrounding the identified prehistoric sites in order to identify background distributions of artefacts.
- 6.5.5 **Excavation:** investigation by trial trenching, and small keyhole excavations, could provide evidence to be used for dating to enable accurate phasing of certain archaeological monuments. A trial trench should be placed through the junction of the field banks and into the interior of Wynch Bridge settlement, to test the hypothesis that the round houses post-date the field system, and that the settlement was originally unenclosed but then enclosed at a later date. The site is a Scheduled Monument and any exploratory work would need to be restricted in extent and would require Scheduled Monument Consent.
- 6.5.6 It is also recommended that a trench be excavated through the stock enclosure at Holwick Head settlement (**5028**) and across the circular feature (**5012**) at Middle Farm. The medieval strip lynchets surrounding Holwick should be investigated in order to provide dating evidence from beneath them to establish their formation dates. The key to the investigations is to retrieve dating evidence in the form of artefacts and environmental samples from secure archaeological contexts.
- 6.5.7 **Landscape and Detailed Surveys:** a full landscape survey needs to be undertaken for the entire study area in order to understand fully the chronology and development of the landscape, Further targeted documentary research is needed particularly within early tenurial documents. Following the themes highlighted in the North East Research Framework further work is needed to understand the medieval settlement and cultivation in Holwick, in particular, detailed surveys need to be undertaken at the Well Head settlement.
- 6.5.8 The relationship between upland and lowland zones and their interaction has not been touched upon during the present project. The present project has only looked at the valley bottom resource, whilst Coggin's work was primarily associated with identification of the rich (now Scheduled) upland resource on Holwick Fell. It is important that the survey area be extended onto the valley side fringes in order to understand the relationships between lowland and upland, and survey should be undertaken of peat tracks/outgangs, shieling grounds and industrial remains that are clearly associated with nearby lowland settlements. The survey area could also be extended either down the valley floor into Crossthwaite parish in order to understand the relationship between Holwick, Crossthwaite and the squatter

settlement at Unthank, or up the valley to record complex settlements already identified near the River Tees on the unenclosed valley bottom.

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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

North Pennines AONB Partnership

ALTOGETHER ARCHAEOLOGY Project

Brief for a Community Archaeology Survey at Holwick, Upper Teesdale



Brief prepared by Tom Gledhill (Natural England)
& Paul Frodsham (North Pennines AONB Partnership), July 2010.

1. Introduction.

This brief has been prepared to facilitate quotations by suitably experienced and qualified archaeological contractors for archaeological survey involving community volunteers at Holwick, Upper Teesdale.

The project will be funded by Natural England under the Higher Level Stewardship agreement with the Strathmore Estate. The project will be managed on behalf of the Strathmore Estate by the North Pennines AONB Partnership as part of the Altogether Archaeology project (a community archaeology initiative involving some 200 volunteers, of whom it is thought several will want to participate in this survey). The project is to be completed in full accordance with IFA Standard Guidance and archaeological best practice.

2. Background

The area of Upper Teesdale around the hamlet of Holwick includes one of the most archaeologically rich landscapes of the North Pennines. The out-by of Holwick Fell and Crossthwaite Common has extensive remains of prehistoric and early medieval settlement, field-systems and widespread evidence of a medieval iron industry. Much of this was initially mapped by Dennis Coggins and Ken Fairless and was published in Coggins D, 1986: *Upper Teesdale the Archaeology of a North Pennine Valley* (BAR150). Large areas of the archaeology of the out-by have since been designated as Scheduled Monuments. The in-by land extending from Holwick Head to Lonton Road End is considerably less well studied. A number of settlements of various periods are known to exist, including the late prehistoric settlement at Wynch Bridge (Scheduled Monument No: 35953). Although extensive remains of medieval and earlier field-systems are known to survive these have never been systematically mapped.

A set of oblique aerial photographs of the Holwick area, including parts of both the in-by and out-by land, taken in low sun by Blaise Vyner, is available for use by the project. Further air photography may also exist, but none has yet been located for the project.

In addition to the archaeological interest, the area is also of exceptional ecological interest. This includes botanically rich grasslands on the sugar limestone and whinstone, and some of the most floristically rich hay meadows of the North Pennines. In recognition of this a large proportion of the area falls into the Moorhouse Upper Teesdale National Nature Reserve. A high proportion of both the in-by and out-by at Holwick has recently entered into Higher Level Stewardship agreements with Natural England.

Natural England has agreed to fund an archaeological survey of the area shown on the attached map under a Higher Level Stewardship agreement between Natural England and the Strathmore Estate. This is both to inform the future archaeological and ecological management of the area, and to play a role in providing information for interpretation of this exceptional landscape. This project will be integrated within the *Altogether Archaeology* project, a wider AONB managed project encouraging community participation in archaeological research throughout the North Pennines. It is envisaged that community volunteers will be involved at all stages of the Holwick survey project.

The survey will take place on land managed by the Strathmore Estate and a number of farming businesses for its ecological and historic interest as well as for food production and sporting interests. It is therefore imperative that the contractors undertaking the survey liaise closely with land managers, the Strathmore Estate, and Natural England to ensure that the work does not disturb stock, ground nesting birds or game, or damage hay crops or important plants. In order to minimise the potential for such damage it is envisaged that the bulk of the fieldwork will take place from autumn 2010 – spring 2011. Note that work in woodland areas must be avoided between July and February to avoid disturbance to pheasant poults.

3. Submission of Quotations.

Quotations must be submitted via Durham County Council's E-Tendering system. Any questions relating to the project must be submitted via the Q&A facility within the E-Tendering system. None of the contacts named in this document are at liberty to discuss any aspect of the project with potential contractors prior to the submission of quotations, other than via the E-Tendering Q&A facility.

- Quotations must be based on the requirements set out in each section of this brief. Each item of work must be costed separately and the costs entered onto the relevant section of the electronic quotation documentation.

- Quotations must allow for any statutory responsibilities arising as a result of the proposed works.

Submissions from potential contractors must also include:

- A method statement demonstrating how the work will be undertaken, including details of equipment to be used and recording methodology.
- Details of any similar survey projects undertaken over recent years that involved community volunteers.
- Identification of who will undertake the work and an outline of their professional expertise in archaeological survey, training and working with volunteers.
- A draft project timetable for the completion of the work, including consideration of any key consultation/discussion stages and outputs

Details of how the quotations will be scored and the successful contractor appointed are contained within the attached E-Tendering documentation.

4. Scope of Project.

- To map archaeological features appearing in the aerial photographic coverage of the study area (see attached map).
- To survey archaeological features in the study area.
- To encourage and enable community participation in archaeological research.
- To provide members of the community with the observational and technical skills necessary to conduct archaeological survey.
- To provide information, in a suitable format, to underpin future management and interpretation of the area.
- To provide feedback to the local and academic communities.
- To liaise with land managers, the Strathmore Estate and Natural England to ensure that the work respects stock and hay crops and does not damage the ecological interest of the land.

5. Detailed requirements.

5.1 Preparatory work.

Prior to the commencement of fieldwork, the contractor (working with volunteers as appropriate) will:

- Collate existing information relating to the survey area.
- Undertake sketch transcription of existing, limited Aerial Photographic coverage to inform field survey.
- Agree with the Durham County Council HER officer the exact form in which data will be supplied to ensure the smooth incorporation of results into the Durham HER upon completion of the project.
- Partake in a one-day field visit to walk over the project area with Natural England and North Pennines AONB Partnership staff to examine archaeology on the ground and finalise project methodology.
- Lead a preparatory evening meeting with volunteers to explain the purpose of the project and discuss methodology, ideally to include a field visit to part of the project area. North Pennines AONB Partnership staff will help to facilitate this, but the contractor will play the main role in introducing local archaeology to volunteers and explaining the survey methodologies to be employed.

5.2 Liaison:

The contractor will:

Liaise with Natural England at the start of the project to ensure awareness of the areas and times of year which are likely to be ecologically sensitive, and agree a methodology for addressing these issues. Particular areas of concern are likely to be disturbance to ground nesting birds in spring, disturbance to hay meadow flora in spring/early summer, and disturbance to the particularly rich flora along the Tees river bank at any time of year.

Liaise with land managers and the Strathmore Estate to ensure no damage to crops and stock and minimise any disturbance to the farming businesses. Particular care should be exercised to avoid disturbance to lambing ewes in spring, and hay meadows in late spring/early summer. As the hay crop is dependent on weather, it

will not be possible to give an accurate date in advance when individual fields will be cut and become available for survey.

5.3 Survey of Archaeological Features

Landscape survey (to English Heritage Level 1) of the area from Holwick Head to Park Wood as shown on the attached map using hand held GPS. Features should be recorded in sufficient detail to allow publication at a scale of 1:2500. It is suggested that features are also recorded in the field on a 1:2500 map overlay. The resulting survey will clearly depict the pattern of field boundaries, settlements, and other features within the survey area. (The contractor will need to supply OS base maps in digital form for use during the project).

Detailed survey (to English Heritage Level 3) of five specific settlement sites surviving largely as earthworks. These sites (as shown on the attached map) are:

1. Wynch Bridge Iron Age/Romano-British settlement (cNY904278).
2. Medieval /post-medieval settlement (cNY906269).
3. Medieval/post-medieval settlement (cNY904272).
4. Medieval long house settlement (cNY893278).
5. Presumed Iron Age/Romano-British roundhouse and terraces (cNY892283).

These detailed surveys must record all visible surface detail with enough of the surrounding area to show their relationship with the adjacent field-systems, allowing them to be used in association with the Level 1 landscape survey. Survey methodology must employ techniques (such as chain survey and plane table) that produce a drawing on site and which can subsequently be used independently by participating volunteers.

An inventory of all features, recorded to a standard format, will be produced. As a minimum this will record the names of the survey team producing the record, the location, form, interpretation, probable date and dimensions of each feature, each numbered with a unique feature reference which is recorded on the survey map. Each feature must be described and mapped individually but multiple features that form a group, such as a coherent settlement or field-system, must be designated with a single number to facilitate entry onto the HER. All information must be provided to the Durham HER to an agreed format to facilitate the transfer of data.

5.4 Provide training and encourage community participation in archaeological research.

At least 75% of survey work will be conducted by volunteers. The North Pennines AONB Partnership *Altogether Archaeology* project will lead in the provision of volunteers.

An initial start-up meeting will be held to explain the project to participating volunteers and land managers. Volunteers will be involved in the research for the desktop survey and will be instructed in standard techniques of transcription of aerial photographic evidence using the available aerial photographic coverage.

The survey will be conducted using groups of at least two volunteers mapping and recording features. Each group will be supervised and trained by a suitably experienced professional, with the ultimate aim of giving the volunteers the skills and confidence to work with minimal supervision.

All work produced by the volunteers will be quality assessed, and where necessary corrected, by a suitably experienced professional

A final summing up meeting will be held for participating volunteers and land managers. Results will be passed to the Durham HER, and will be available to volunteers or others wishing to undertake further research in the area and this further enhance the HER.

5.5 Reporting & Dissemination

A comprehensive (morphe compliant) report will be produced at the end of the survey which will include:

- i. An introduction describing the survey area, the methodology employed, the date of fieldwork, and details of staff involved.
- ii. A summary of the project aims and results.

- iii. An analysis of the results including phase plans which illustrate the development of the landscape as far as possible on the basis of the survey results
- iv. Discussion.
- v. Clear maps at appropriate scales showing the survey results.
- vi. A copy of the inventory.
- vii. A record of the volunteers who participated in the project and the time they contributed.

Five hard copies of this report will be produced and delivered to the North Pennines AONB Partnership (3 copies), Natural England (1 copy), and the Durham HER (1 copy). High- and low-res pdf versions will also be supplied to the AONB Partnership.

A shorter version of the report will be given to each of the tenants on whose land the survey will take place, and to the Strathmore Estate. This will consist of parts i to v above.

Dissemination to the local community will be by an evening talk at a suitable venue at Holwick or Middleton, and a guided walk forming part of the *Natural Links* and *Altogether Archaeology* event programmes.

Dissemination to the wider archaeological community will be via a presentation at Durham Archaeology Day and a conference organised as part of the *Altogether Archaeology* project, and an article in Durham Archaeological Journal

A non-specialist summary will also be provided to the North Pennines AONB Partnership, suitable for publication on the AONB website.

The Durham County Council Historic Environment Record supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> within 3 months of completion of the work.

6. Access to the land.

Much of the project area can be viewed from roads and other public rights of way. Contractors requiring access to the area on foot during preparation of quotes should obtain permission from Mr WHT Salvin at the Strathmore Estate Office (contact details below). Access during the project must similarly be cleared with Mr Salvin and also the relevant tenants; AONB Partnership and Natural England staff will help facilitate this.

7. Timetable.

This work will form a module within the North Pennines AONB Partnership's *Altogether Archaeology* project which runs through until December 2011. Timetabling of fieldwork will require a degree of flexibility to tie in with the demands and availability of volunteers. In practice this will necessitate some weekend working, though it is anticipated that the bulk of the work will be done during normal working hours. Fieldwork should probably be timetabled for 2 or 3 days per week over an extended period rather than completed as a single block. Most fieldwork should be undertaken between autumn and spring when vegetation is low, enabling earthworks to be seen and recorded to best effect. Although it is recognised that satisfactory completion of fieldwork is subject to the vagaries of North Pennines weather, especially over the winter months, it is expected that all fieldwork will be completed and reports submitted by no later than the end of June 2011. Full payment will be made retrospectively upon submission and approval of the final project report.

8. Contact Details.

Landowner :

Strathmore Estate
FAO WHT Salvin MRICS
The Estate Office
Egglestone Abbey

Barnard Castle
Co Durham
DL12 9TN
Tel: 01833 690100. Fax: 01833 637004. Mob: 07860 605760.
WilliamSalvin@whtsalvin.co.uk

Tom Gledhill
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Dr Rob Young Historic Environment Advisor
English Heritage NE Region
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41-44 Sandhill
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NE1 3JF
Tel: 0191 2691239 rob.young@english-heritage.org.uk

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

1.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) has been invited to provide supervision and enablement for a community archaeology project at Holwick, Upper Teesdale, NY 905 268 (centre) which is to be undertaken on behalf of the North Pennines AONB and financed by Natural England under the Higher Level Stewardship; it is a part of the Altogether Archaeology project. OA North will provide supervision and guidance for a survey of an area of out-by around Holwick village, and which has a rich archaeological resource.
- 1.1.2 OA North is also required to provide training and supervision to undertake a desk top historical survey of information pertinent to the area. This will include historical maps, and existing database sources such as the HER and the NMR, and also aerial photographic plotting. Field surveys will entail both Level 1 identification surveys of the whole study area and also detailed level 3 surveys of five selected sites:
- Wynch Bridge IA/RB settlement (NY 904278)
 - Med / PM settlements (NY 906269 and 904272)
 - Med long house settlement (NY 893278)
 - IA/RB round house and terraces (NY 892283)
- 1.1.3 A principle aim of the project is to involve the local community as widely as possible, and to provide new information on the wealth of archaeological remains in the area. This will entail providing slide shows and guided talks to the various groups to make them aware of the rich heritage in the region and will also entail getting them directly involved in the identification of historical records, undertake field surveys and to ultimately disseminate that information in reports, and updated records for the Durham County Historic Environment Record.

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

- 1.2.1 **Outreach:** OA is committed to outreach. As an educational charity, OA seeks to promote an active public relations policy in relation to archaeology, and has a publications department that is experienced and fully equipped to provide general interest text and graphics for release to the press and general public in a wide variety of forms including display boards, leaflets and popular books. In certain circumstances it is possible to hold open days or install public viewing galleries on major sites. OA has considerable experience in the establishment of community based projects, and includes numerous training surveys and excavations. OA North has been providing the professional support for a programme of archaeological investigation into Lathom Park, nr Ormskirk, funded by Local Heritage Initiative. This involved the provision of expertise, training, and resources for surveys, excavations and documentary studies into the landscape associated with the major fourteenth century palace Lathom House. OA North has also been involved providing the consultancy and supervision for the excavation and survey of a complex enclosed settlement at Ingleton in conjunction with the Ingleborough Archaeology Group, and the supervision and of a survey of a nineteenth century designed landscape at St Catherine's Park, Windermere, on behalf of the National Trust, and the local community (See also Appendix 3 on OA North Community projects)
- 1.2.2 employs an experienced and qualified archaeological land surveyor who has considerable experience in ranging survey techniques. He has the expertise to train local teams in a broad and diverse range



of low tech survey techniques that will be appropriate for the volunteers who do not have access to modern equipment.

- 1.2.3 **Landscape Archaeology:** OA North has considerable experience in the field of landscape survey work, particularly in the uplands of Northern England and Wales. Numerous surveys have been undertaken across the region and North Wales, and has taken the form of rapid identification surveys of large areas of unimproved land as well as detailed surveys of specific landscapes.

2.1 AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

2.1.1 The primary aims of the project are as defined within the project brief and are summarised as follows:

- To map the archaeological resource from aerial photographic coverage
- To undertake a field survey of the study area
- To encourage community participation in the archaeological research
- To provide training for community volunteers in archaeological survey techniques
- To provide information for the future management and interpretation of the area
- To provide feedback to local and academic communities
- To liaise with land managers, Strathmore estate and Natural England to ensure that the work does not impact on the ecological or agricultural aspects of land usage.

Community Aims: the project aims to seek a wide community involvement in the research and investigation of areas within the North Pennines AONB, and to foster a wider community awareness of the rich cultural heritage in the local landscapes. It is intended to use the present project as a means of training members of the groups, and others in the wider community, in archaeological recording techniques. Great emphasis will be placed on the virtue of survey techniques and to encourage a legacy of skills within the community. The project will therefore provide a capacity for further archaeological and historical research in the area.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 PROJECT PREPARATION

- 3.1.1 At the outset there will be a process of liaison between OA North, Durham County Council HER officer, Natural England, and North Pennines AONB staff. This will entail defining the output formats for incorporation into the HER, and having a field visit to examine the known archaeology and refine the project methodology. OA North will liaise with Natural England to develop a strategy to minimise impact on ecologically sensitive areas, and will liaise with Strathmore Estate to minimise impact to crops and agricultural operations.

3.2 SURVEY TRAINING / OUTREACH

- 3.2.1 It is proposed to undertake a programme of survey training for members of the public within the defined study area. This would entail undertaking a desk-based study, followed by identification and detailed field surveys. In the course of the documentary and survey work the volunteers would work closely with professional archaeologists, who would provide training and on-the-job experience. The volunteers would undertake survey work under close supervision from the OA North project supervisor, and learn how to identify documentary sources, and how to use the survey instruments and the hand held GPS, the character and significance of the archaeological landscape will be explained.
- 3.2.2 The first stage of the project will be a general, widely publicised, launch event at a venue central to the Holwick area. This would introduce the project and would also provide a general talk on the archaeology and history of the wider area. It will provide an introduction to the project, and highlight the potential archaeological resource that may be discovered during the survey. It will include, as a separate field based session, some training in survey techniques and will also take them round some of the known archaeological sites. The survey training will introduce them to techniques

that are easily understandable and can be achieved with the limited resources available to a volunteer group.

- 3.2.3 The detailed survey will provide training in survey techniques and these will be adapted to the aptitudes of the volunteers. The results of all elements of work undertaken by the volunteers will be quality assessed.
- 3.2.4 On completion of the project a final presentation will be established for all the volunteers and land managers, and dissemination to the community will be through an evening talk. There will also be a presentation to a conference organised as part of the Altogether Archaeology project, culminating in an article for Durham Archaeological Journal.

3.3 DESK-BASED STUDY

- 3.3.1 A desk-based study will be undertaken by volunteers and members of wider community, but will be directly supervised and guided by staff of OA North. It is intended that training be provided for as many members of the local community as possible in the use of desk-based techniques, and how and where to obtain documentary sources pertinent to the study.
- 3.3.2 The documentary study will seek archaeological information pertinent to the study area, such as earlier investigations of the site or aerial photography that may provide a valuable insight into the character of the study area. It will seek to reconstruct, primarily through mapping sources, how the landscape has developed within the last two or three hundred years. The data generated during the desk-based study will provide the basis for an assessment of the nature and significance of the known surface and subsurface remains. It will also serve as a guide to the archaeological potential of the study area. This work will obtain background information pertinent to the present study, and will draw upon historical mapping and database sources. It will include an appraisal of the Durham County Council Historic Environment Record, as well as appropriate sections of County histories, early maps, and such primary documentation (tithe and estate plans etc.) as may be reasonably available. Published documentary sources will also be examined and assessed. This work will access the following repositories: Durham County Council HER, Durham Record Office, Local studies library, Durham University Library and the OA North library.
- 3.3.3 **Aerial Photographic and LiDAR plotting:** oblique aerial photography is available for the area and will be examined as part of the pre-survey preparation. LiDAR at 1m resolution is also available, which is of sufficient resolution to be able to inform the survey, and it is proposed to purchase a tile of data as part of the project. The aerial photography will be examined in conjunction with the LiDAR and, if features are shown on both, then plotting will be undertaken from the LiDAR as it is the more accurate. As far as possible the transcription work will be undertaken by volunteers and the information will be superimposed on the modern and historic mapping within a CAD system.

3.4 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

- 3.4.1 It is proposed that a survey of Holwick be undertaken as a general GPS identification survey extending across the study area, which is 2.3 sqkm in extent. The results would be superimposed onto a 1:2500 base OS map. The survey will be combined and superimposed with the historic mapping within a CAD system (AutoCAD). The local group will be involved in the undertaking of the survey and the report drawings will be produced by OA North. Members of the group will be involved in the production of the final reports under the guidance and editorship of OA North staff
- 3.4.2 The survey will examine the study area, where access is available, and will be undertaken in four stages: reconnaissance, mapping, photography and description. The survey would be intended to examine and record all designed elements and any archaeological monuments within the landscape, a GPS will be used to map features identified.
- 3.4.3 **Reconnaissance:** the reconnaissance will consist of close field walking, varying from 20m - 30m line intervals dependant on visibility (as affected by tree density and general vegetation cover), terrain and safety considerations. The survey will identify, locate and record all surface archaeological features and sites. Those sites already identified by the documentary study will be checked against their entry and this will be enhanced, if appropriate. Training in site recognition and interpretation will be provided by an experienced landscape surveyor from OA North.

- 3.4.4 **GPS Survey:** the locations of archaeological sites will be recorded by hand held GPS survey and the data will be digitally superimposed with the OS 1:2,500 mapping. The method will record the location, and extent of the identified monuments. The GPS survey data will be output directly into the CAD system and the plots will then be brought back into the field for enhancement by means of manual survey. The survey will include relict field boundaries to enable a reconstruction of the development of the field-system.
- 3.4.5 **Photography:** in conjunction with the archaeological survey a photographic archive will be generated, which will record significant features as well as aspects of the general landscapes. This photographic archive will be maintained using black and white 35mm film and also a digital camera with at least 8.0mega pixel resolution. The majority of the photography will be undertaken by the group and archiving of the results will be the responsibility of OA North staff.
- 3.4.6 **Description:** the site descriptions will be written into a proforma format and will incorporate all pertinent details. The recording of the archaeological sites will incorporate a written description, including an accurate ten figure National Grid Reference. The description will assess and interpret the monument and will include the following fields:
- HER number
 - Form
 - Site Name
 - NGR
 - Site Description
 - Monument Type
 - Period
 - Interpretation
 - Dimensions
 - Condition
 - Surveyor
 - Date of survey
- 3.4.7 The description will incorporate a provisional interpretation of the function and chronology of the individual sites. The descriptions will be linked to the historical records for individual features obtained through the documentary review.

3.5 DETAILED SURVEY

- 3.5.1 It is proposed that a detailed topographic survey of five earthwork sites be undertaken, at EH Level 3 (Ainsworth *et al* 2007).
- Wynch Bridge IA/RB settlement (NY 904278)
 - Med / PM settlements (NY 906269 and 904272)
 - Med long house settlement (NY 893278)
 - IA/RB round house and terraces (NY 892283)
- 3.5.2 It is intended that this primarily serve as a training exercise for the volunteers, so the survey techniques will be devised to be easy to understand, will allow for plotting in the field, and will use equipment that can be acquired at low cost by the volunteers for follow on work. This will inevitably mean the use of more outdated technologies, and will have a significant impact on productivity. There is a broad range of survey options that can be achieved by volunteers with access to non-expensive equipment, and it is proposed to introduce the volunteers to a range of techniques and then, subject to discussion with the Natural England / North Pennines AONB partnership staff and the volunteers, concentrate the survey with just one of the techniques below:

- **Chain survey:** traditionally this is done with survey chains, however, survey chains are difficult to come by now and so surveys would typically be undertaken using fibron tapes. The technique has the advantage that it can be drawn up on site and is easy to understand, but is error prone on sloping sites and is very time consuming.
 - **Plane Table:** the technique has the advantage that it produces the drawing in the field and because of the use of stadia tacheometry on the alidade can cope well with sloping sites and has an effective distance measurement capability of 150m (assuming moderate accuracy). It is also effective in allowing volunteers to understand the principles of surveying. OA North has access to a plane table, but nowadays generally the equipment is difficult to come by. Alidades, for example, attract antique prices because of their rarity and one may be outside the financial reach of a volunteer group. As such it may not be an appropriate technique for the volunteers to continue with beyond the proposed survey.
 - **Automatic Level Survey:** surveying can be achieved using a low cost automatic level, which has horizontal circles and typically has low level accuracy's of 15' to 30'. The distance measurement would be by stadia tacheometry and the survey data would be hand plotted on site using an accurate film based protractor and ruler. The advantage is that the equipment is cheap (less than £100 for a second hand level), but the angular accuracy is relatively poor and it struggles with a steeply sloping site.
 - **Theodolite Survey:** a theodolite is a very versatile piece of survey equipment and has considerable advantages over a level in terms of accuracy and in its ability to provide reliable surveys over larger distances. Distance measurement would be again with stadia tacheometry, but with the option of being undertaken on the level (setting vertical circle to 90degrees) which requires simple computation, or on steeper slopes where the distances are reduced using a simple calculator / PDA based programme. Again the data would be drawn up in the field using an accurate film based protractor and ruler. The disadvantage is that the equipment is more expensive for volunteer groups, although older examples can be purchased for c £200.00; alternatively OA North can lend a theodolite to the volunteer group.
- 3.5.3 **Survey Control:** it is proposed that survey control be introduced to the sites by means of a high accuracy survey type differential GPS, which can achieve accuracy's of +- 20mm, and will ensure that the survey is accurately located onto the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Thereafter the control will be established on site by traditional techniques, which typically will be triangulation using a theodolite and will allow training for the volunteers in survey control methods. Plotting of the survey control will again be graphical onto the field survey drawing, although a portable computer / PDA will be available on site to compute up the triangulation and to check the accuracy of the graphical plotting. If the adopted survey method is to use an automatic level then more survey control will need to be established over the site to offset the accuracy limitations of the levels horizontal circle.
- 3.5.4 **Detail Survey:** the detail survey will be by whatever is the preferred survey technique (see above). The topographic survey will record all structural and earthwork components, which will be drawn by hachure survey. Survey points will be marked on the ground using spray paint and the survey drawing will be manually drawn up with respect to them. On completion of the survey the field drawings will be digitised into a CAD system.
- 3.5.5 The survey will record all archaeological features, earthworks and elements. The survey will aim to identify, locate and record all designed elements of the landscape. The final stage is the production of a descriptive record of all features, which will incorporate a provisional interpretation of the function of the site / feature, where possible, and similarly will provide a provisional interpretation of the site's chronology where possible. Once the digital gazetteer has been collated and edited, it will be output as an Access Report and input directly into a Microsoft Word format. This data will then be formatted and topped and tailed within word to produce the gazetteer volume for the survey project.
- 3.5.6 **Photographic Record:** a photographic archive will be generated in the course of the field project, comprising landscape and detailed photography. Detailed photographs will be taken of the archaeological features using a scale bar. All photography will be recorded on photographic pro-forma sheets which will show the subject, orientation and date. The photography will be undertaken using a digital SLR camera with 8 megapixel resolution.

3.6 POST-SURVEY WORK AND REPORT PRODUCTION

- 3.6.1 **Archive:** the results of the management programme will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Central Archaeological Services format. A synopsis (normally the index to the archive and the report) should be placed in the Durham County Historic Environment Record. The archive will include the raw survey digital data in AutoCAD 14 format.
- 3.6.2 **Report:** elements of the report will be compiled by volunteers under the guidance of staff of OA North, but for the most part it will be written by OA North staff. It will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed in Stages 3.1-3.5 above, and will include a full index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project. The reports will consist of an acknowledgements statement, lists of contents, summary, introduction summarising the brief and project design and any agreed departures from them, a methodology and a statement of the project aims. The report will include a record of all the volunteers who have contributed to the project. The report will identify the significance of the archaeological and architectural evidence and will include the following:
- An historical background of the study area, examining its origins and development
 - Results of the identification survey, presented in conjunction with survey mapping
 - Results of the detailed survey work
 - Analysis of the landscape development utilising phase plans
 - A discussion presenting an interpretative account of the archaeological resource and landscape.
- 3.6.3 The report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which the data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work. An appendix gazetteer of sites which will be based directly upon the project database and will be compatible with the Durham County HER.
- 3.6.4 The report will incorporate appropriate illustrations, including copies of the site plans, detailed survey plans, map regression, and phased plans of the landscape, all reduced to an appropriate scale. The site mapping will be based upon the CAD base. The report will be accompanied by photographs and historic illustrations illustrating the principal elements of the landscape.
- 3.6.5 **Editing and submission:** the report will be subject to the OA North's stringent editing procedure; then a draft will be submitted to the North Pennines AONB partnership for consultation. Following acceptance of the report, five bound copies of the report (and digital copy) will be submitted to the North Pennines AONB partnership, one to Natural England and one to the HER. In addition a reduced version of the report will be submitted to the Strathmore Estate.
- 3.6.6 A summary of the work will be provided for OASIS and also the AONB website.

3.7 OTHER MATTERS

- 3.7.1 **Access:** it is assumed that full access to the study area will be made available for team members, and this will be obtained via Mr Salvin of the Strathmore Estate and in discussion with the tenants.
- 3.7.2 **Health and Safety:** full regard will be given to all constraints during the survey, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. The OA North Health and Safety Statement conforms to all the provisions of the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Unit Managers) Health and Safety manual. Risk assessments are undertaken as a matter of course for all projects, and will anticipate the potential hazards arising from the project.
- 3.7.3 **Insurance:** insurance in respect of claims for personal injury to or the death of any members of the public in the course of the project will be obtained by Forest of Bowland AONB prior to the start of the fieldwork; the costs for the insurance cover is covered within the costings. OA North in any case has insurance cover which complies with the employers' liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 and any statutory orders made there under. For all other claims to cover the liability of OA North in

respect of personal injury or damage to property by negligence of OA North. The insurance cover is as follows:

- £10 million public liability
- £10 million employers liability
- £5 million professional indemnity

4. WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 The fieldwork should ideally be undertaken at periods of vegetation optimum. It is anticipated that the work will be undertaken over an extended period to fit in with the volunteers. The submission deadline for the report is June 2011, and the draft report will be submitted by the end of April 2011.

5. RESOURCES

5.1 OA NORTH PROJECT TEAM

- 5.1.1 The survey will be undertaken by Peter Schofield (Project Officer), under the guidance of the project manager, Jamie Quartermaine. The reports will in part be written by members of the society, and part by staff of OA North. The OA North element of report production will be split between Peter and Jamie.
- 5.1.2 **Project Management:** the project will be under the project management of **Jamie Quartermaine, BA Surv Dip MIFA** (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. Jamie is a very experienced landscape surveyor, who has undertaken or managed literally hundreds of surveys throughout Northern England since 1984, and has considerable experience of working on similar projects to that proposed. He has managed a major recording programme of Lyme Park, Cheshire, and very detailed surveys of the South West Fells including areas such as Barnscar and Burnmoor. He has also undertaken surveys of Lowther Park, Cumbria, Rufford Park, Lancashire and has also managed the recording programme of Lathom Hall and Park, Lancashire and the survey of the Forest of Bowland for United Utilities. He has been a project manager since 1995 and has managed over 250 very diverse projects since then, which are predominantly survey orientated, but of all periods from the Palaeolithic to the twentieth century.
- 5.1.3 Jamie is a qualified land surveyor (Topographic Sciences Diploma Glasgow University) and has an exhaustive knowledge and understanding of surveying techniques. He regularly runs training courses in survey techniques and has the expertise to devise a variety of low tech survey techniques for training volunteers.
- 5.1.4 **Project Surveyor:** the survey will be directed by **Peter Schofield** (OA North project Supervisor) who works full time on landscape surveys across the north-west. He has undertaken surveys at Hardknott Forest, Cumbria, Hartley Fold Estate, Cumbria, Ennerdale Valley, West Cumbria, a major programme of landscape survey across six upland areas in North Wales, Little Asby Common for the Friends of the Lake District, and a survey at Lowther Park. With the exception of Jamie Quartermaine, he is our most experienced landscape archaeologist.

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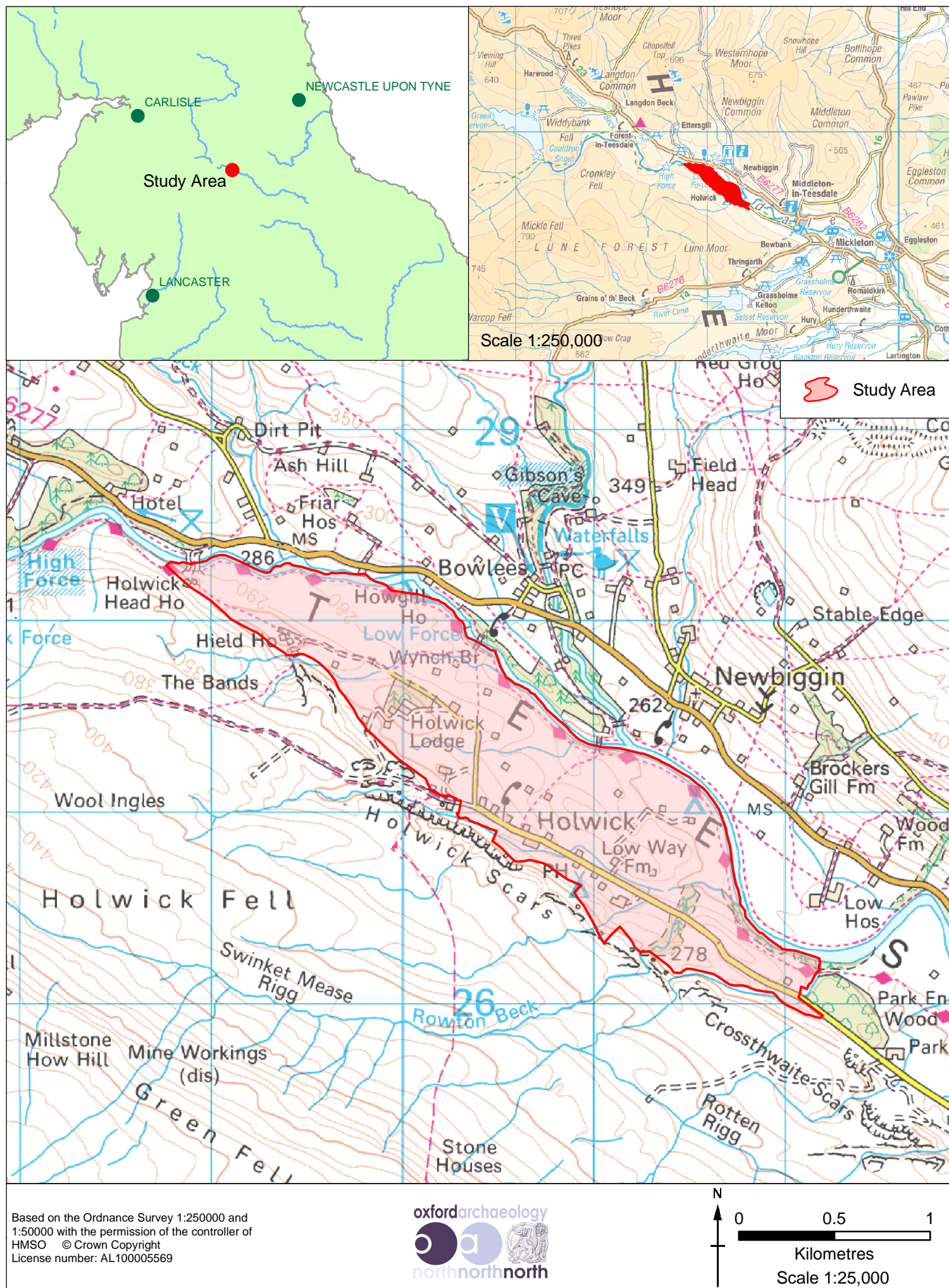
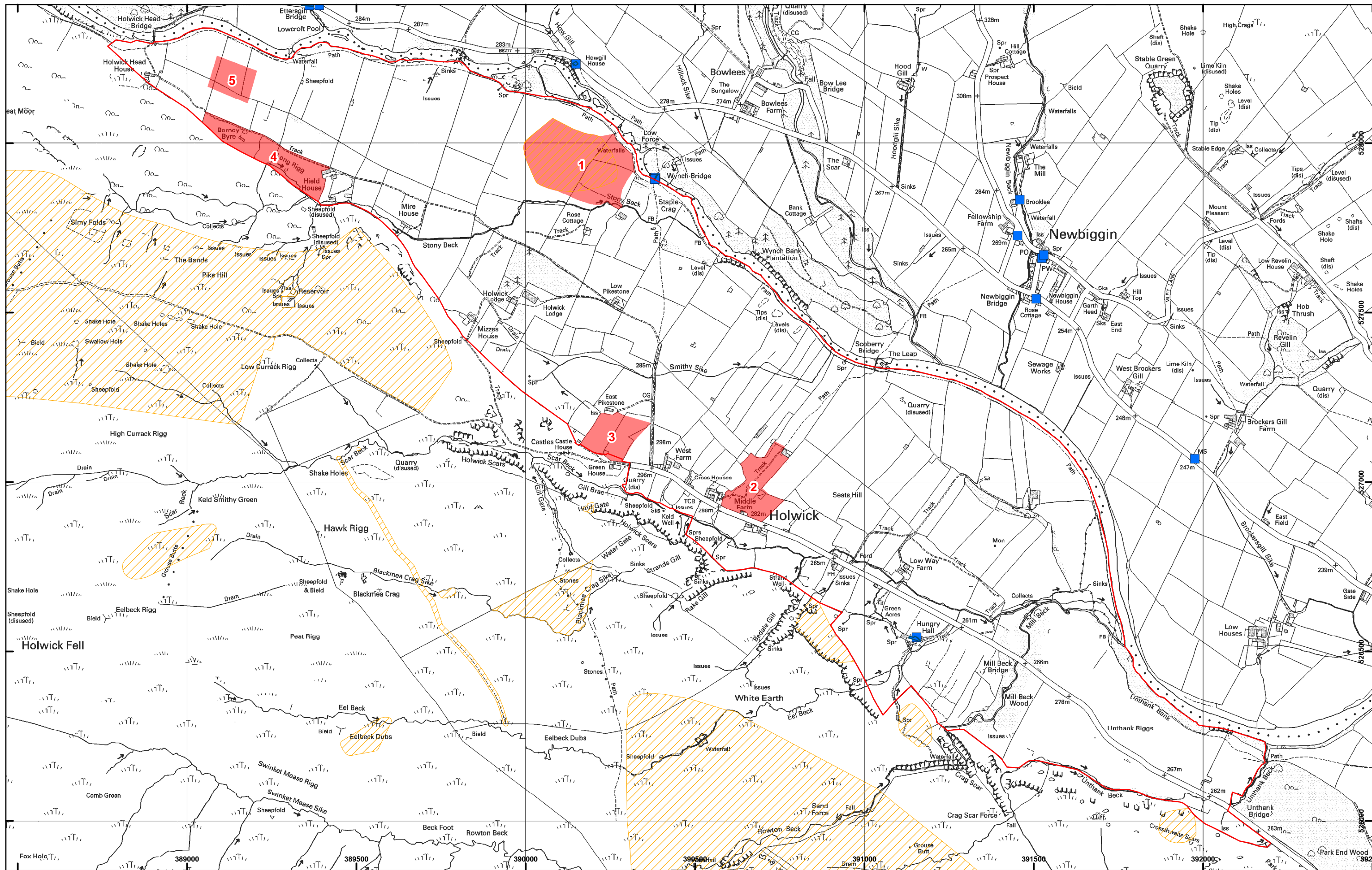


Figure 1: Location of Study Area



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-  Walkover Survey Area
-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Topographic Survey Areas
-  Listed Buildings

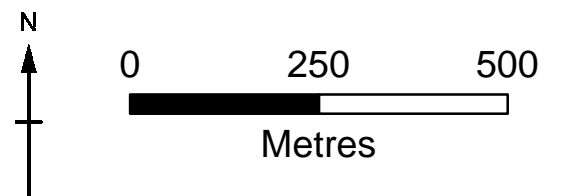




Figure 2: Location of Holwick Survey Areas



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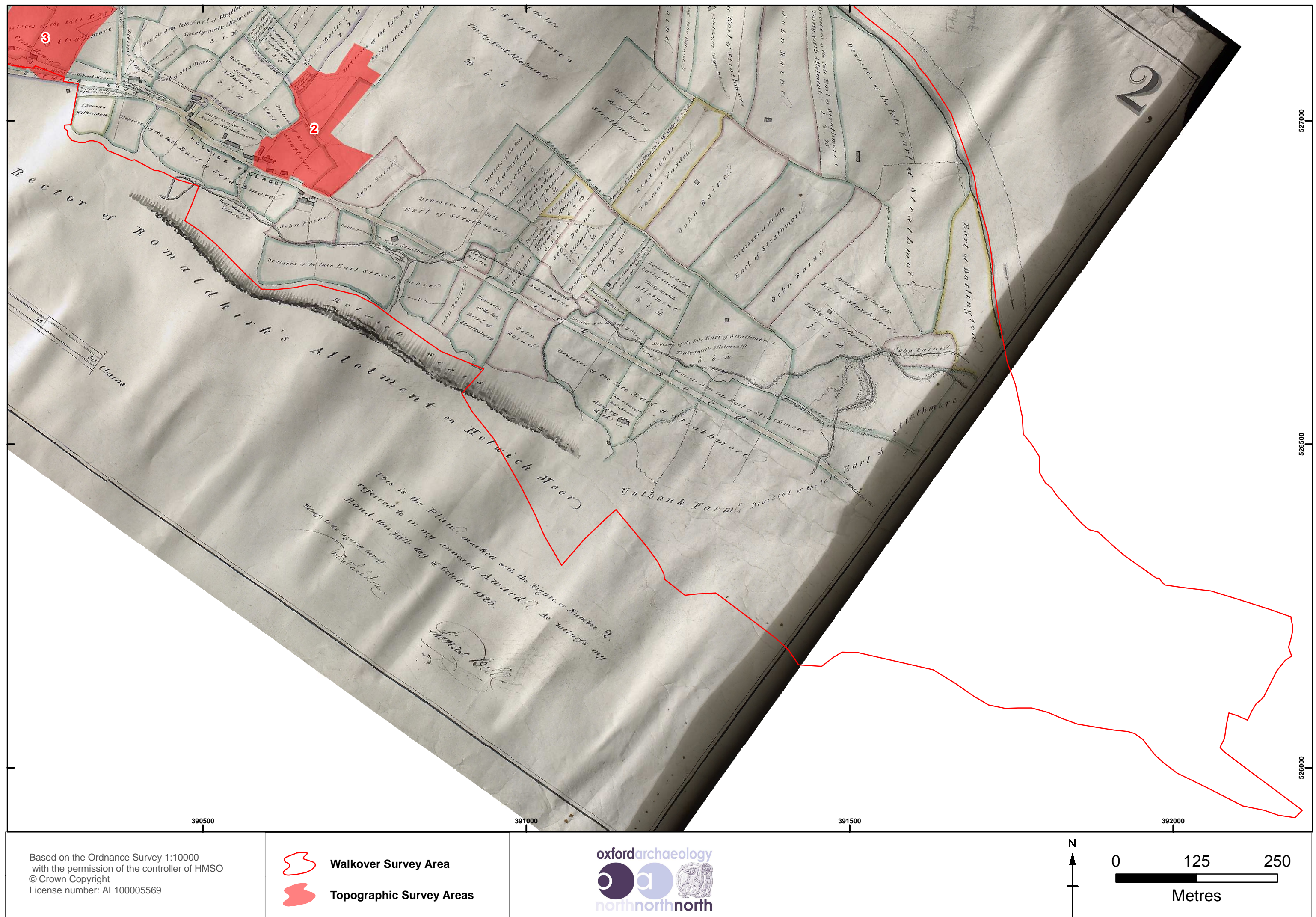
 Walkover Survey Area
 Topographic Survey Areas

oxfordarchaeology

northnorthnorth

N
0 125 250
Metres

Figure 3: Plan of Holwick Town Fields and part of Holwick Moor in the County of York, dated 5th October 1826 - North



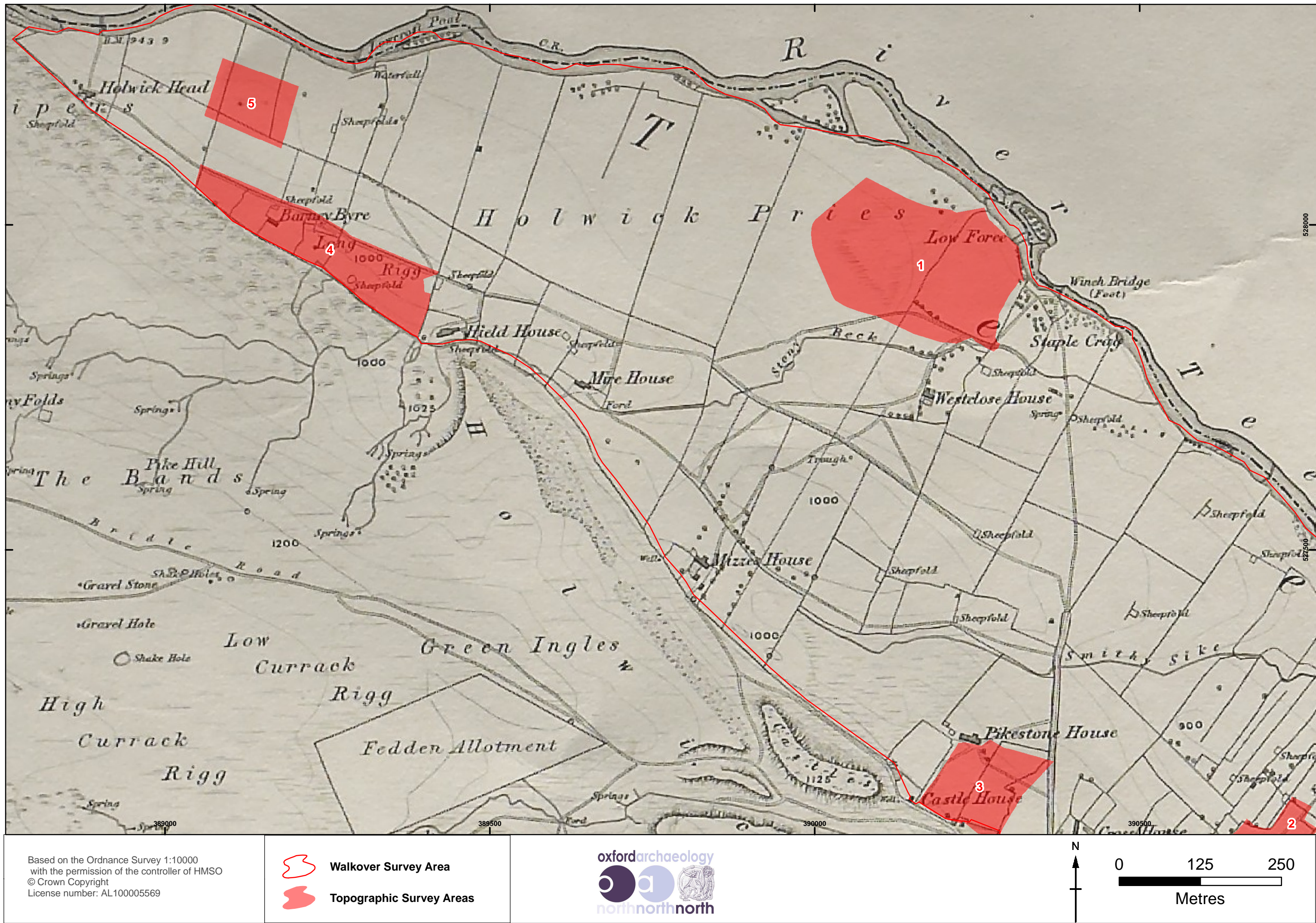
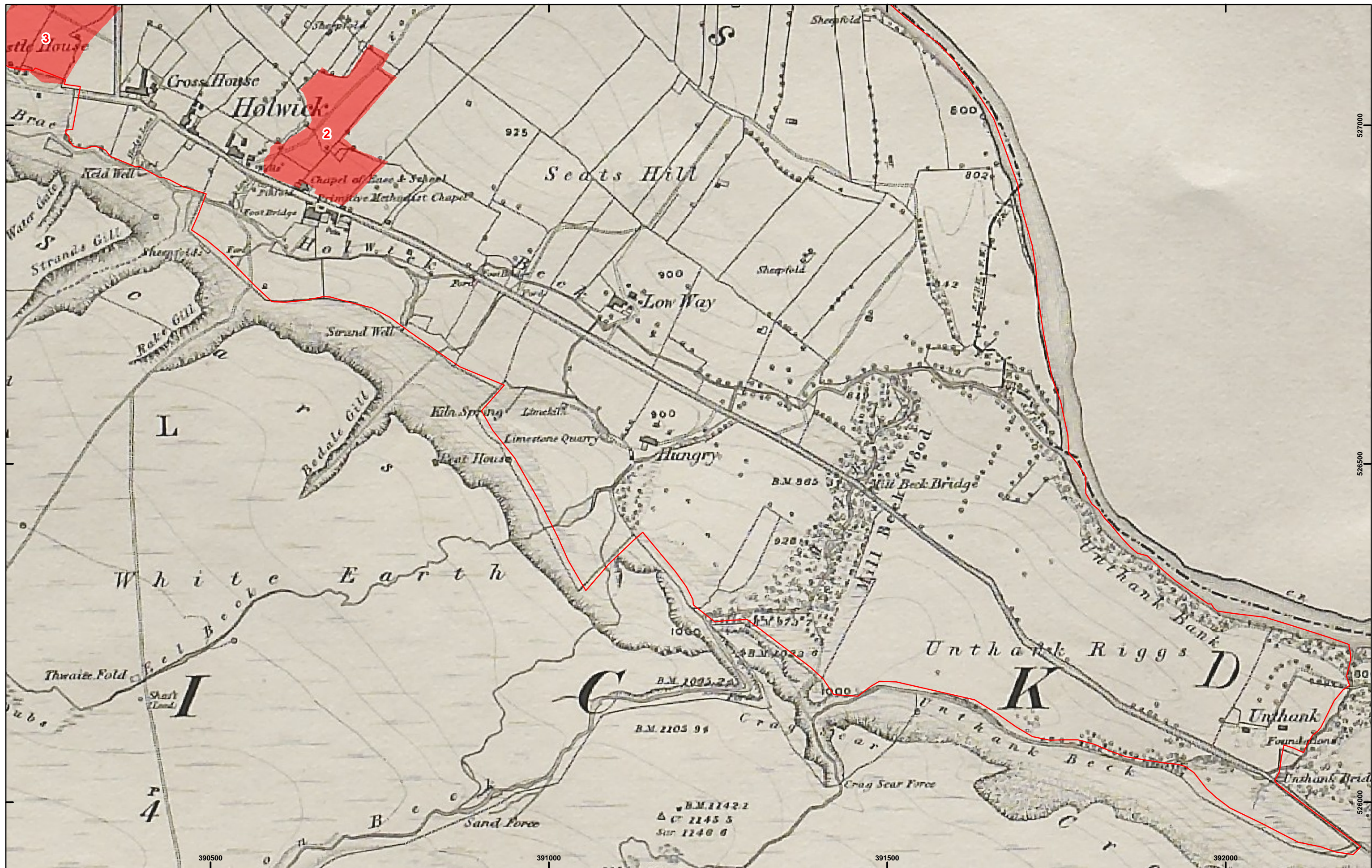




Figure 5: Ordnance Survey, 6 Inch to 1 Mile Map, dated 1857 - North



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N
0 125 250
Metres

Figure 6: Ordnance Survey, 6 Inch to 1 Mile Map, dated 1857 - South

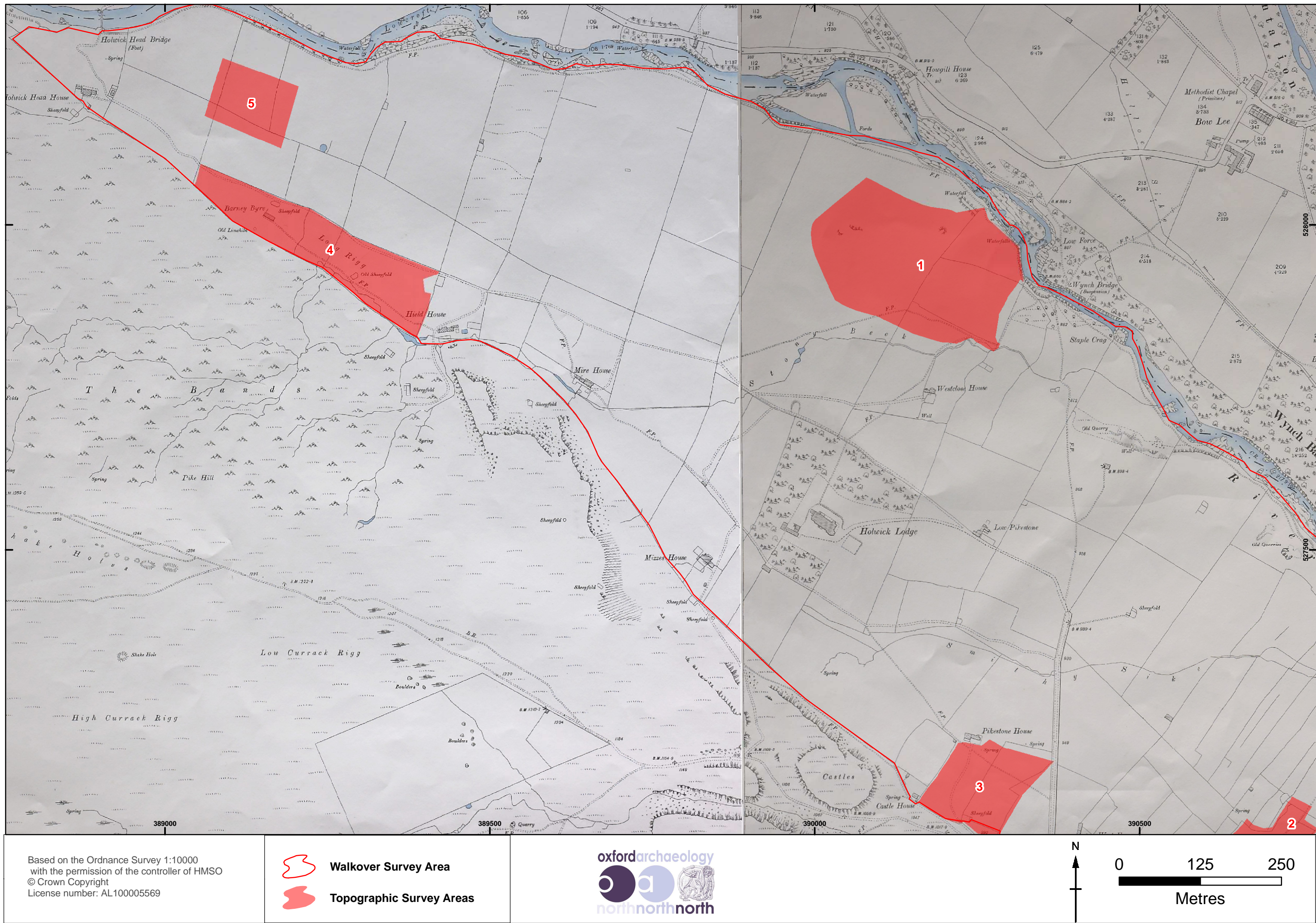
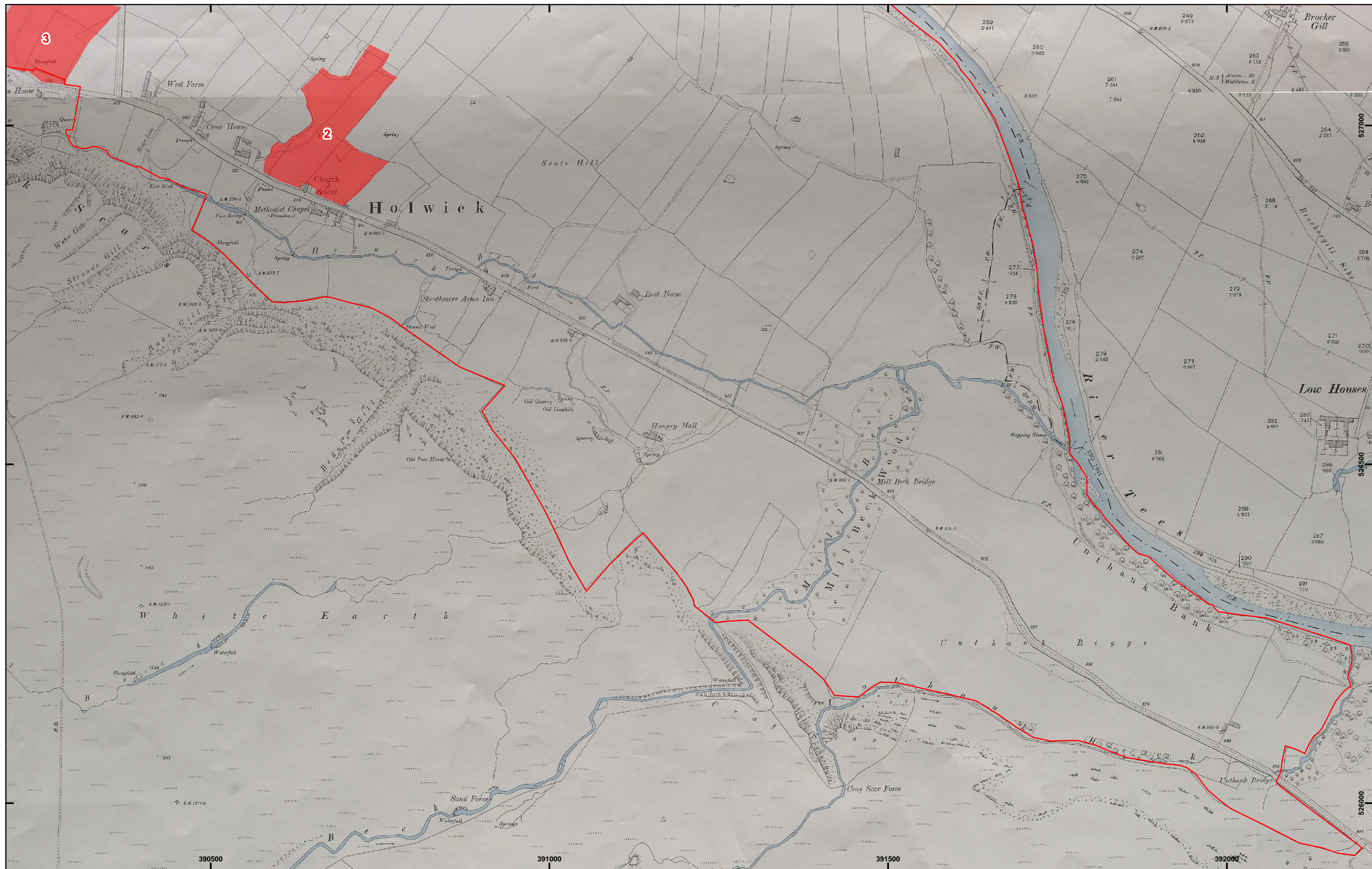




Figure 7: Ordnance Survey, 25 Inch to 1 Mile Map, dated 1897 - North



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N
0 125 250
Metres

Figure 8: Ordnance Survey, 25 Inch to 1 Mile Map, dated 1897 - South

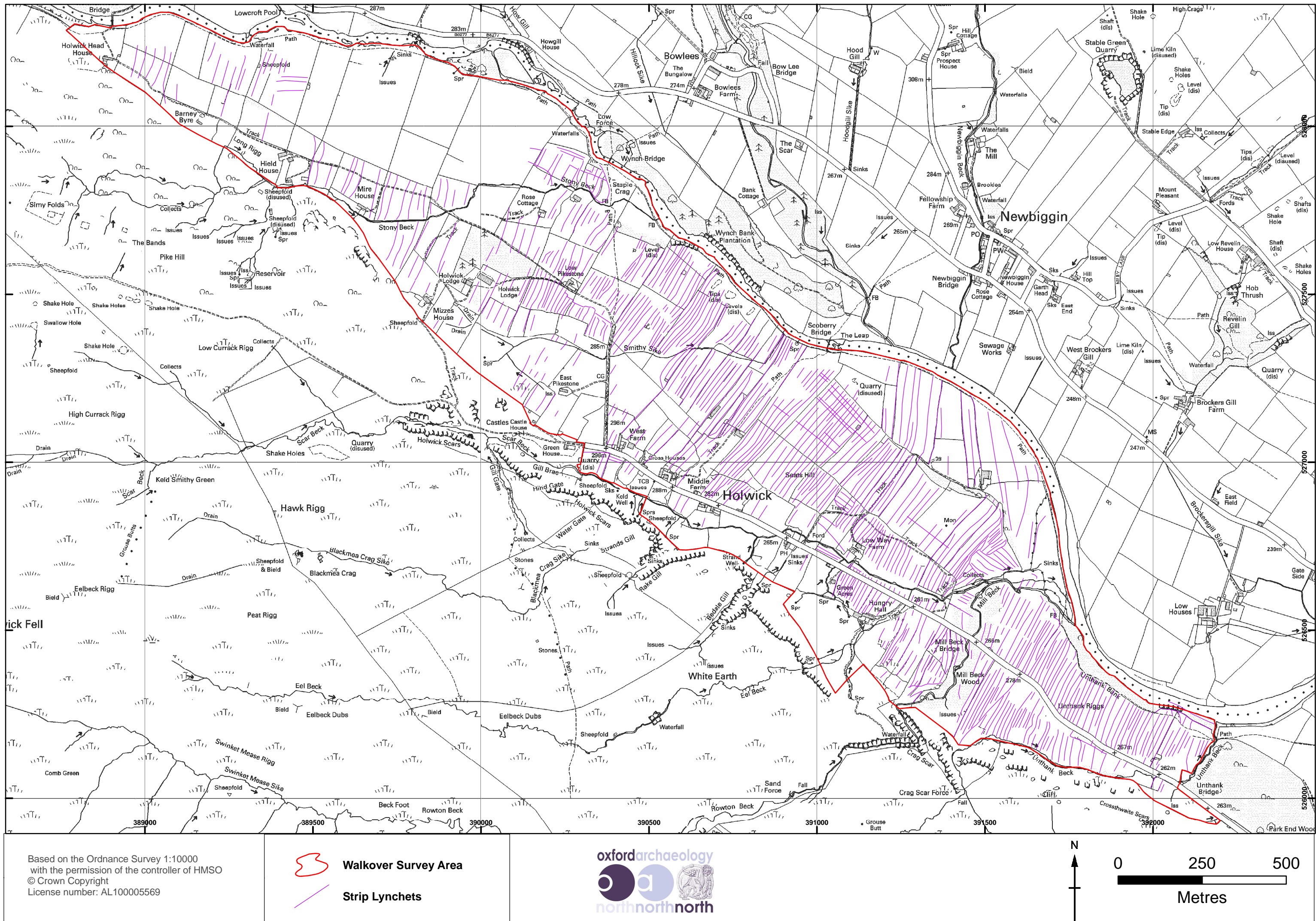
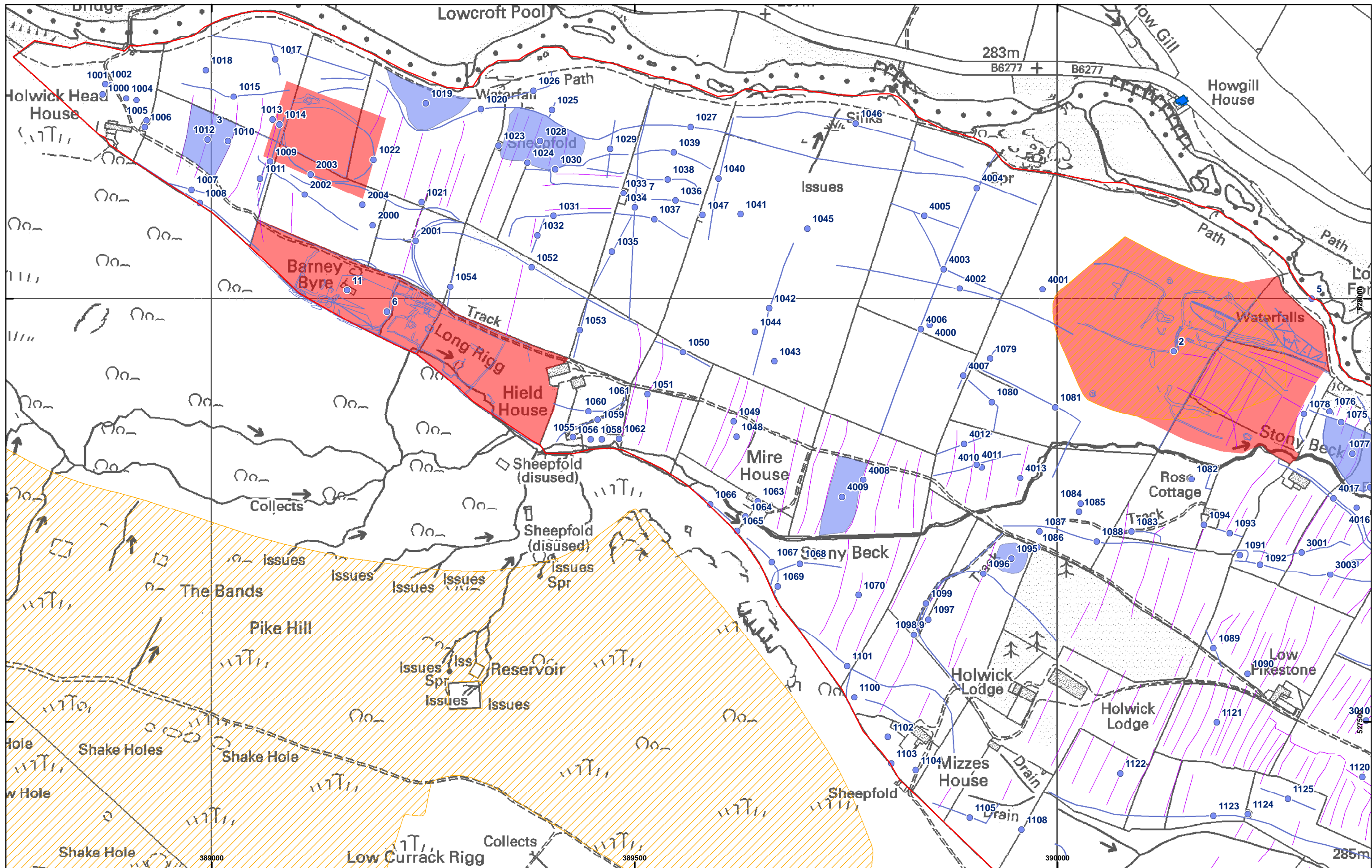


Figure 9: Evidence of Medieval cultivation identified from LiDAR coverage



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- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Walkover Survey Area | Listed Buildings | OA North Site - Polygon |
| Topographic Survey Areas | OA North Site - Point | Strip Lynchets |
| Scheduled Monuments | OA North Site - Line | |

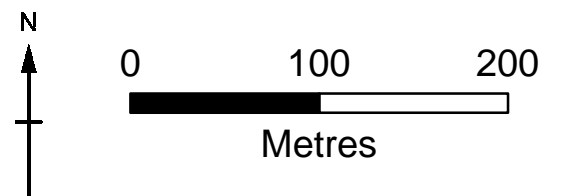
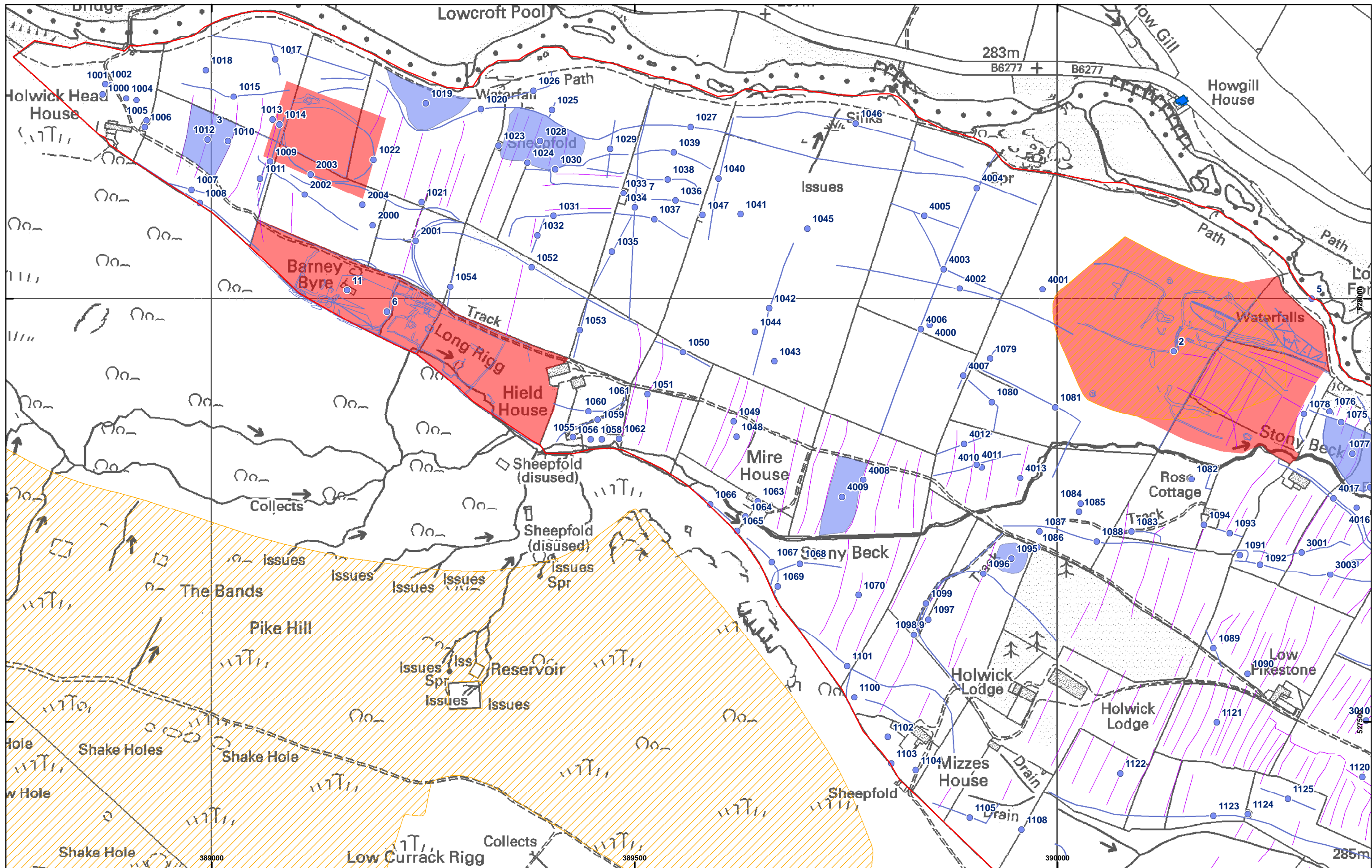


Figure 10: Distribution of archaeological sites at Holwick - North



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- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Walkover Survey Area | Listed Buildings | OA North Site - Polygon |
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| Scheduled Monuments | OA North Site - Line | |

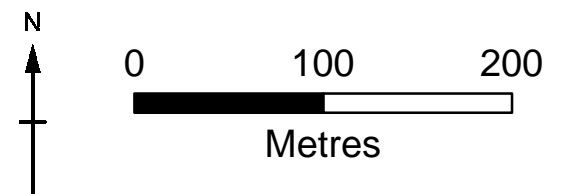


Figure 10: Distribution of archaeological sites at Holwick - North

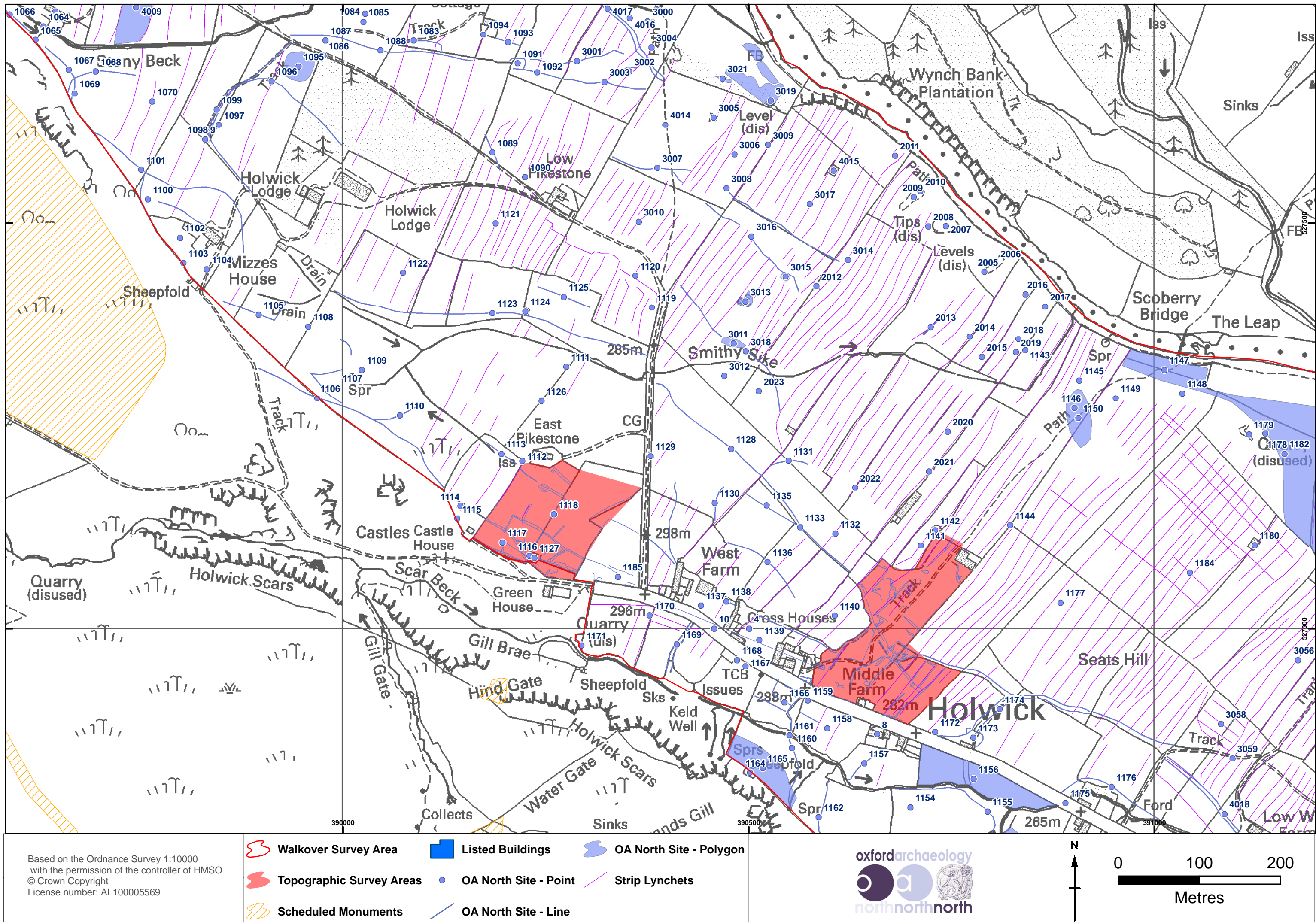


Figure 11: Distribution of archaeological sites at Holwick - Centre

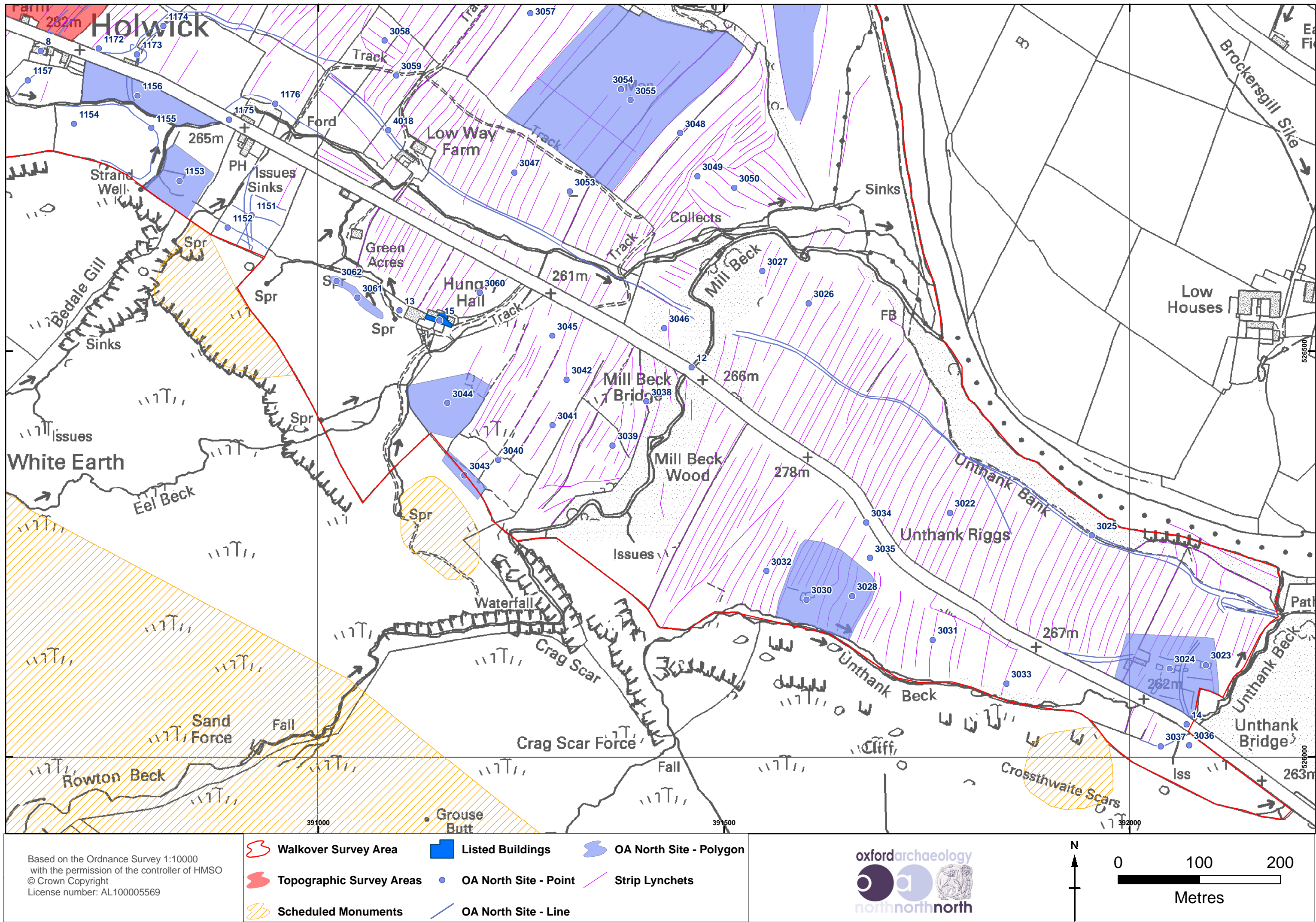
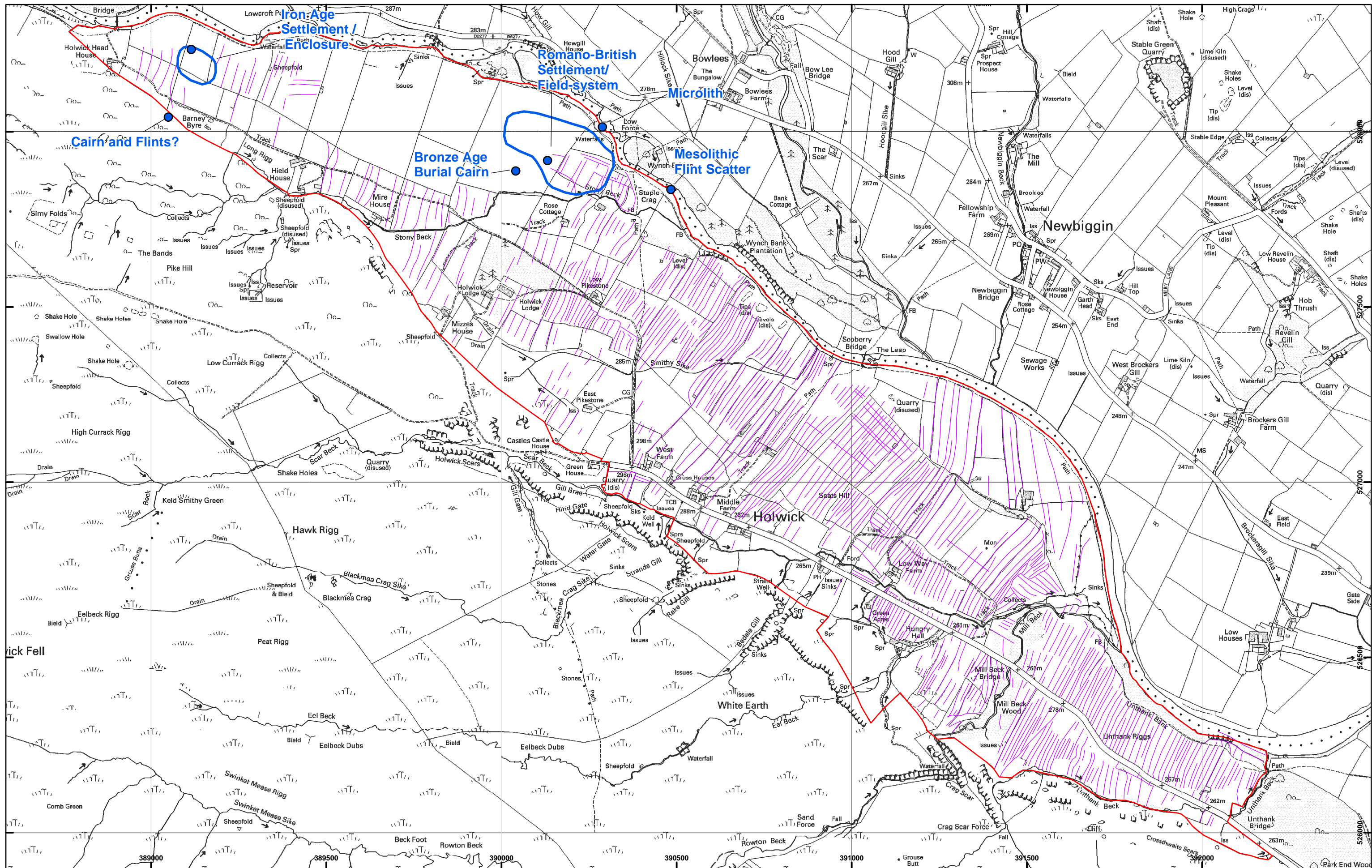


Figure 12: Distribution of archaeological sites at Holwick - South









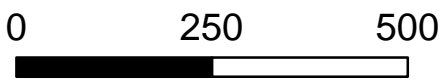
<p>Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:10000 with the permission of the controller of HMSO © Crown Copyright License number: AL100005569</p>	<div>  Walkover Survey Area  Prehistoric Site </div> <div>  Strip Lynchets  Prehistoric Field-System </div>	<div>   </div> <div>  <p>0 250 500 Metres</p> </div>
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Figure 13: Distribution of surviving Prehistoric sites in relation to later intensive agricultural cultivation

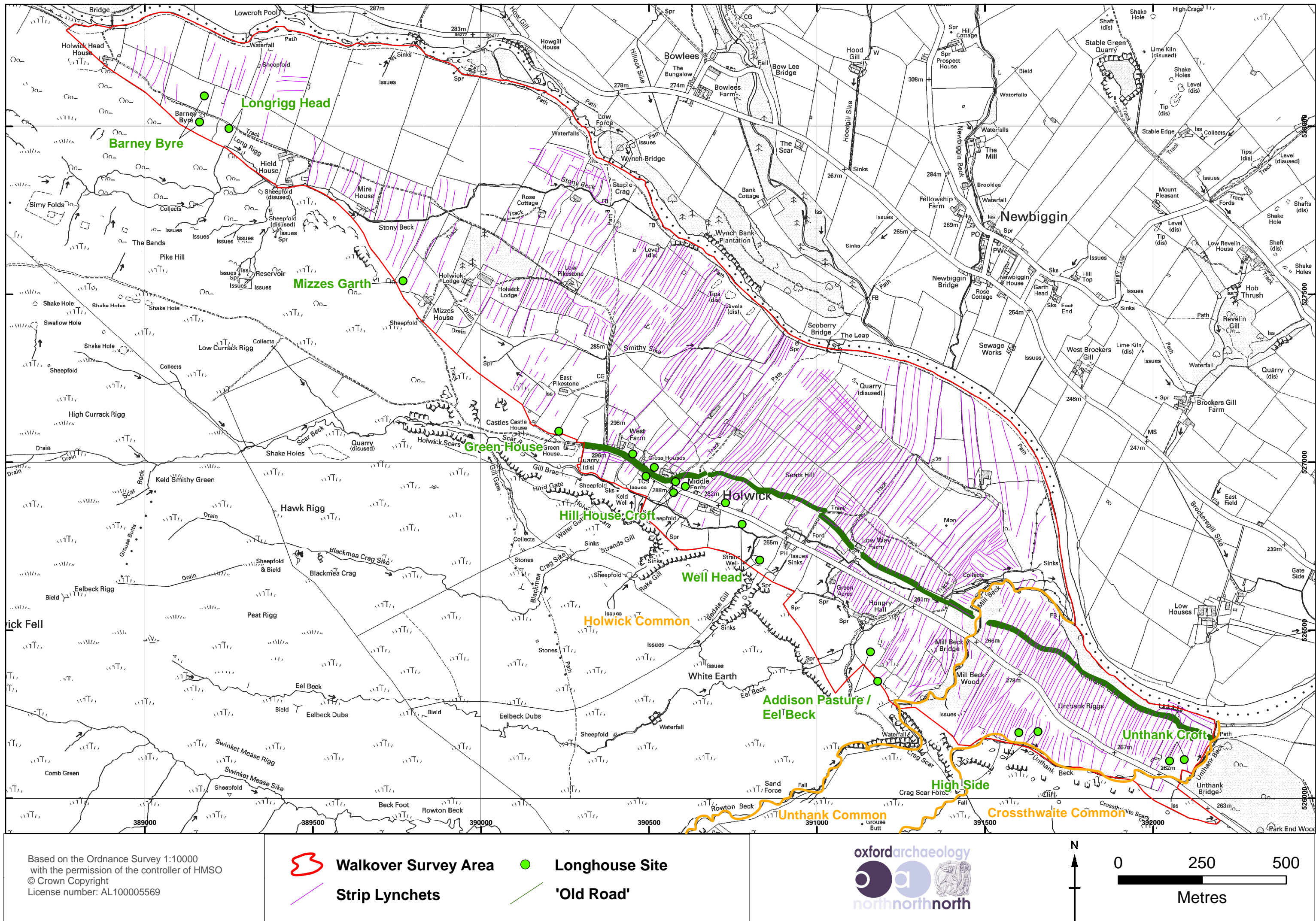


Figure 14: Distribution of longhouse sites in relation to intensive medieval agricultural cultivation



— Communication route

Figure 15: Historic communication routes in Holwick village, superimposed on Google Earth air photographic imagery

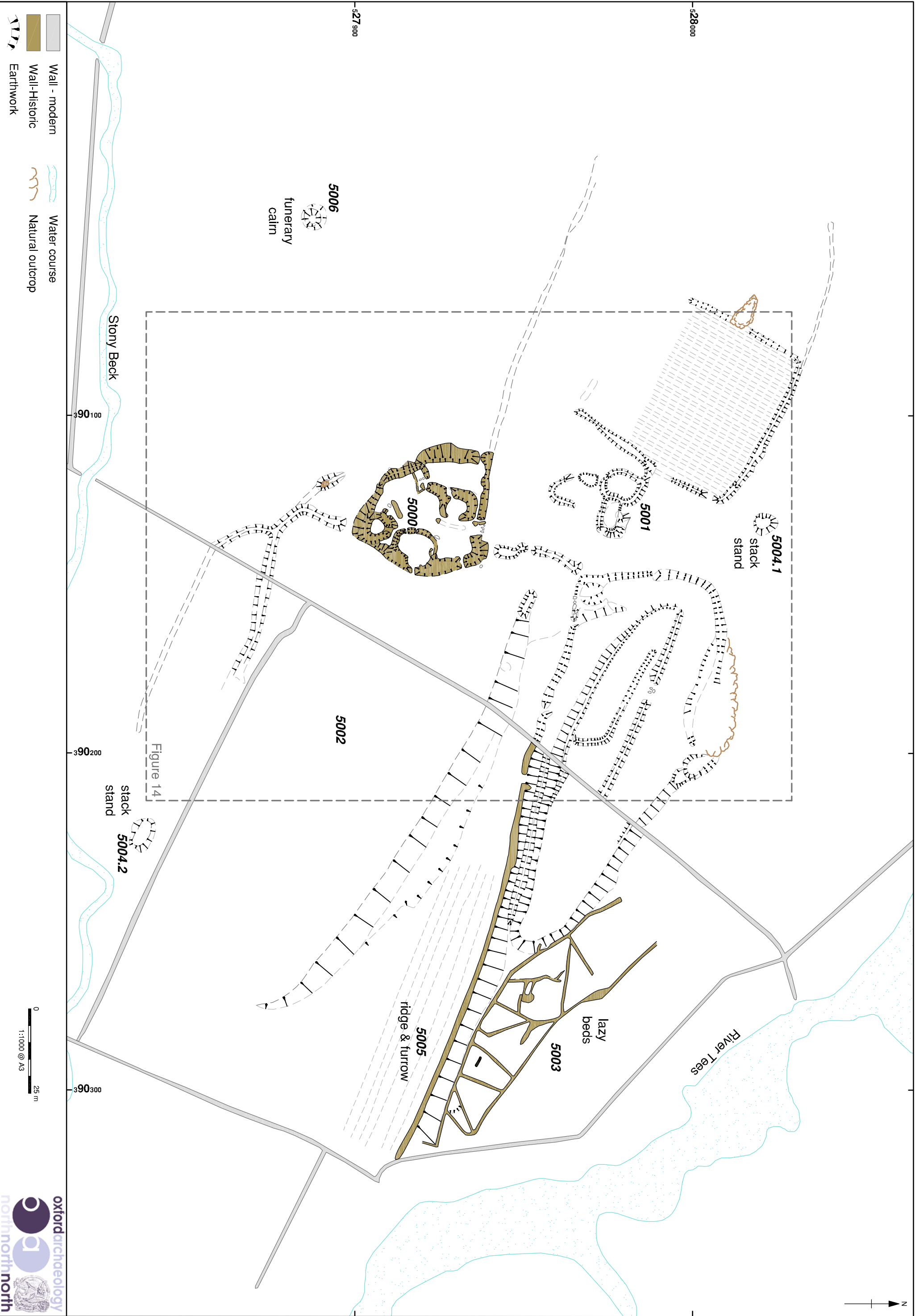


Figure 16: Topographic Survey Area 1 - Winch Bridge Settlement



Figure 17: Detail of Topographic Survey Area 1 - Winch Bridge Settlement

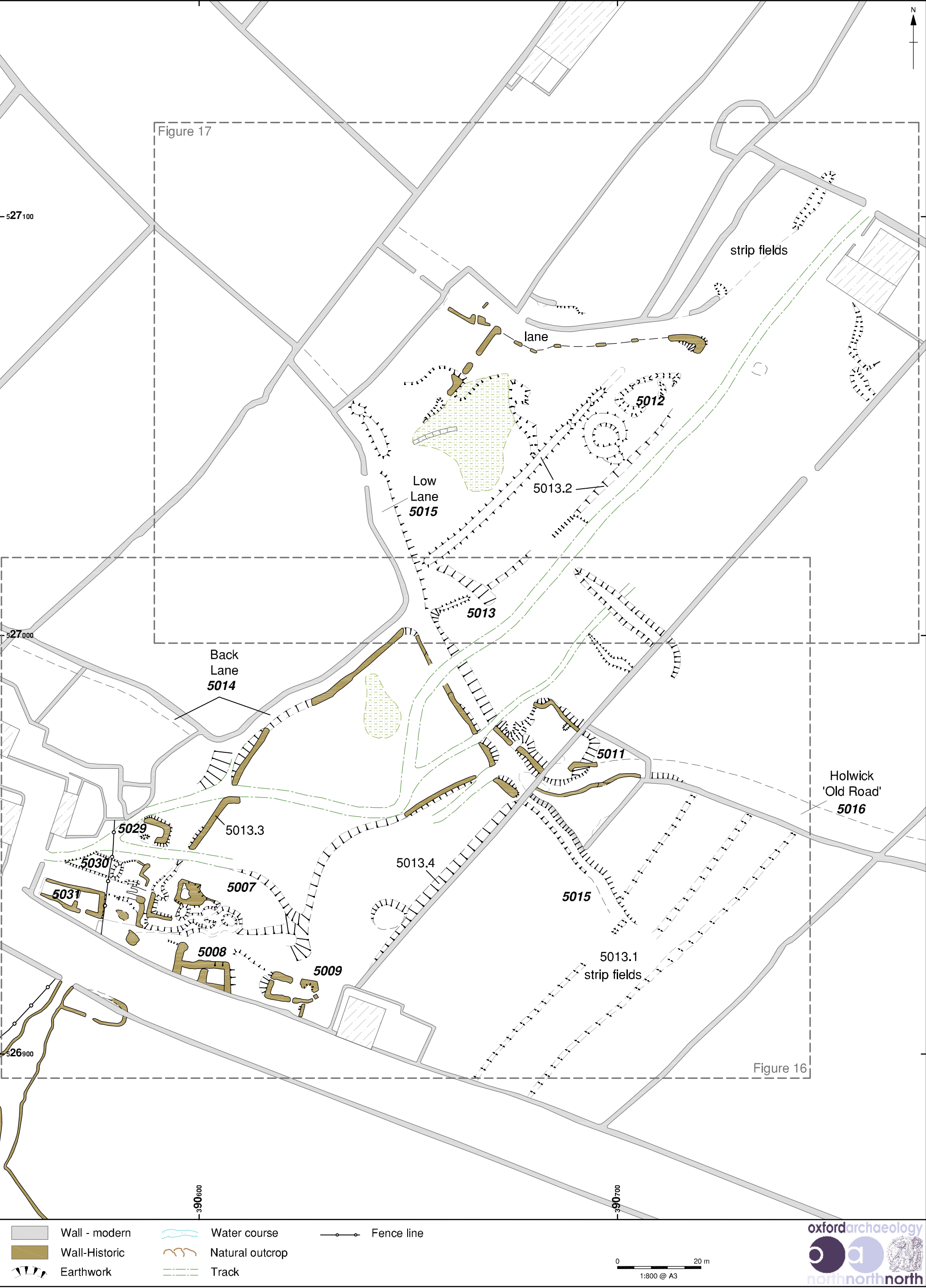


Figure 18: Topographic Survey Area 2 - Middle Farm, Holwick Village

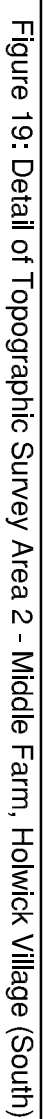




Figure 20: Detail of Topographic Survey Area 2 - Middle Farm, Holwick Village (North)

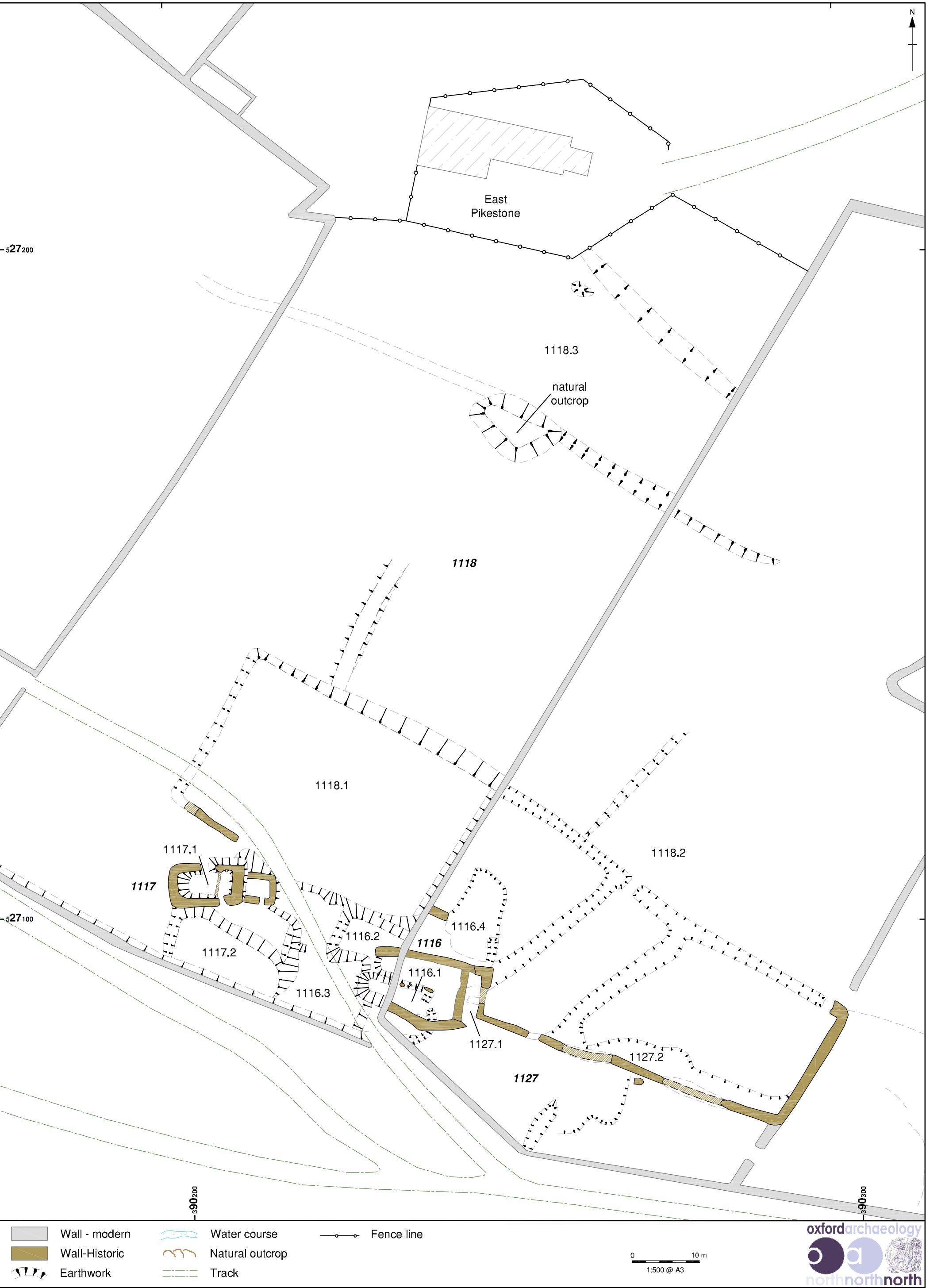
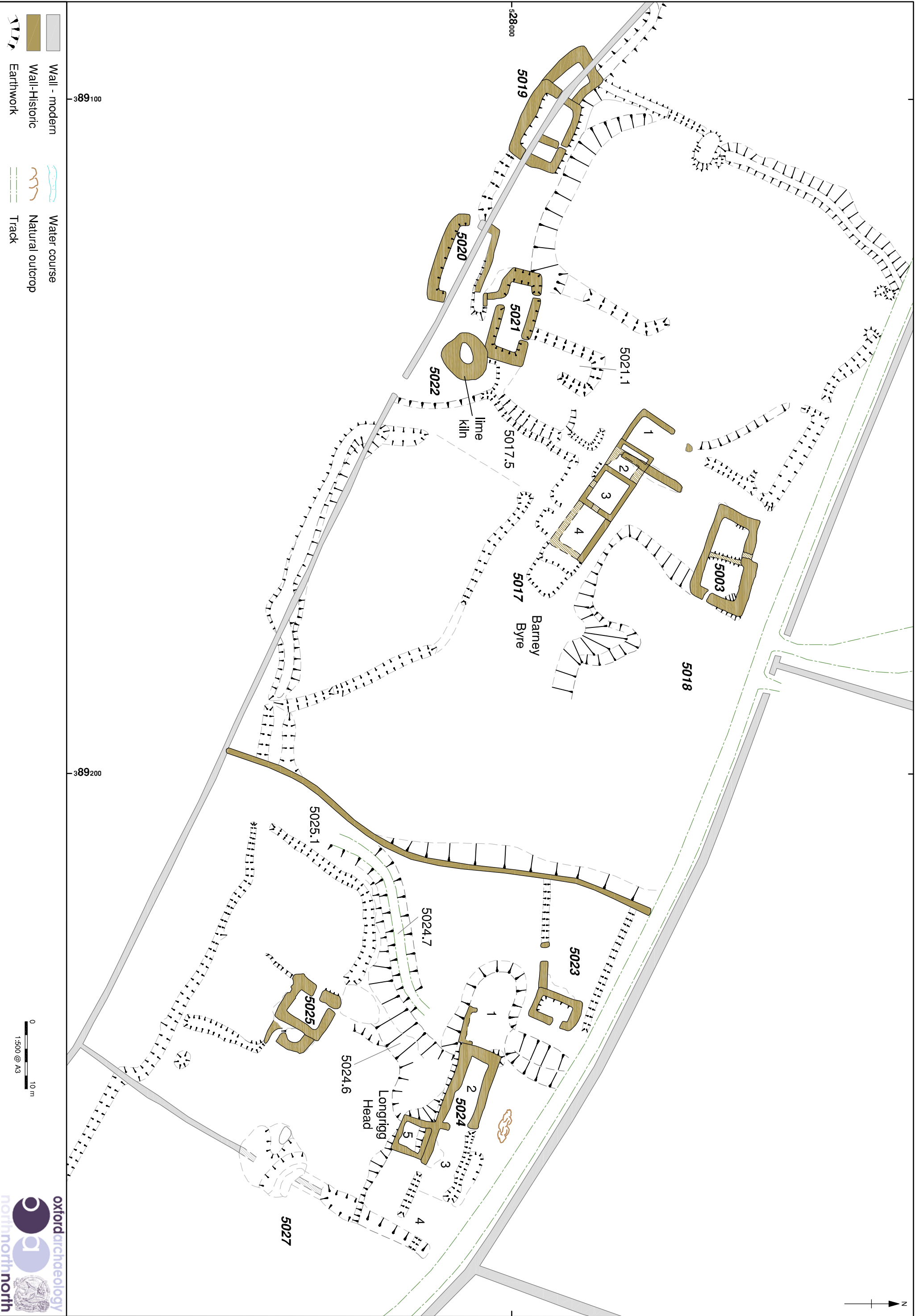


Figure 21: Topographic Survey Area 3 - Green House Farmstead



Figure 22: Topographic Survey Area 4 - Barney Byre / Longrigg Head Farmstead



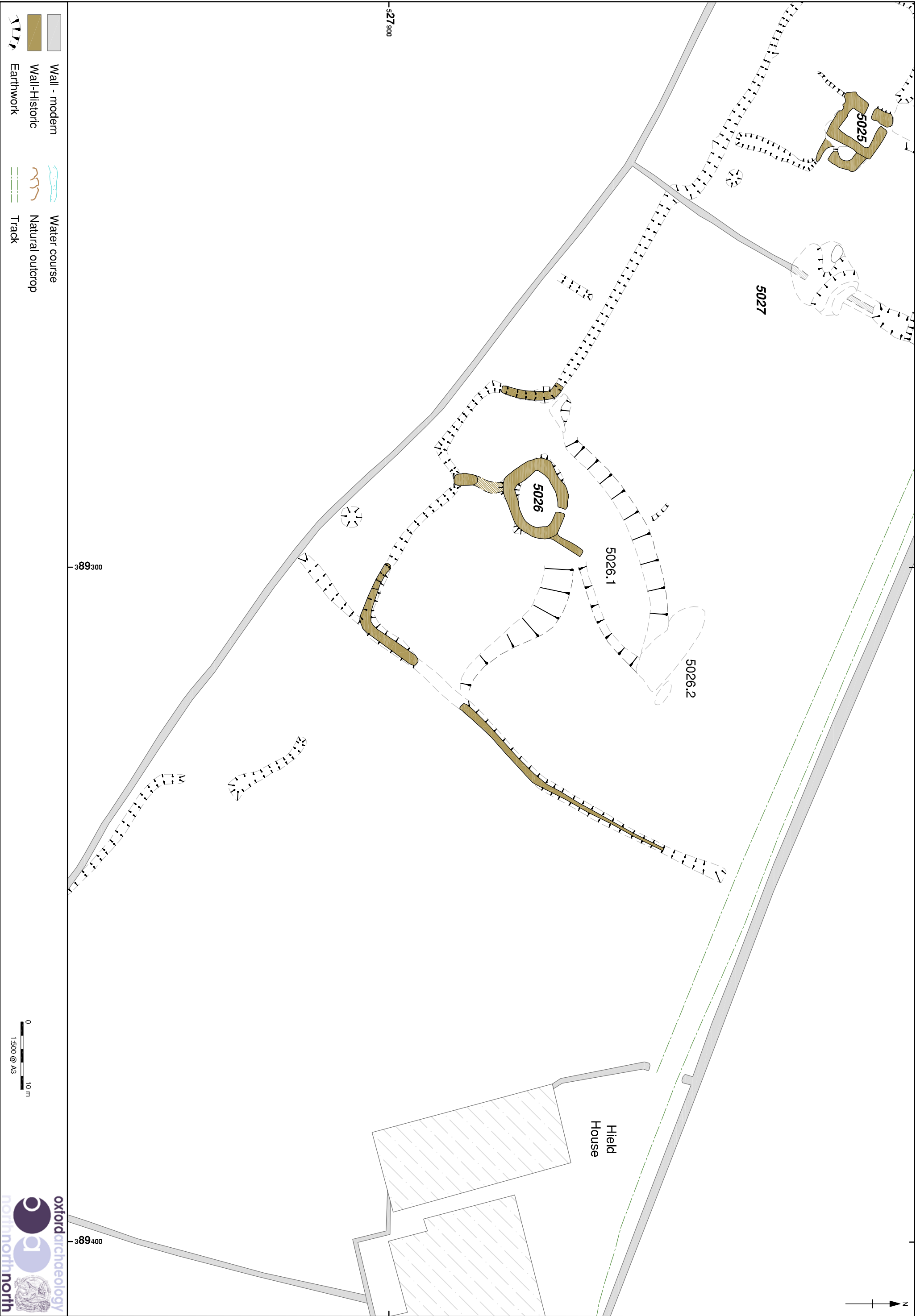


Figure 24: Detail of Topographic Survey Area 4 - Barney Byre / Longrigg Head Farmstead (East)

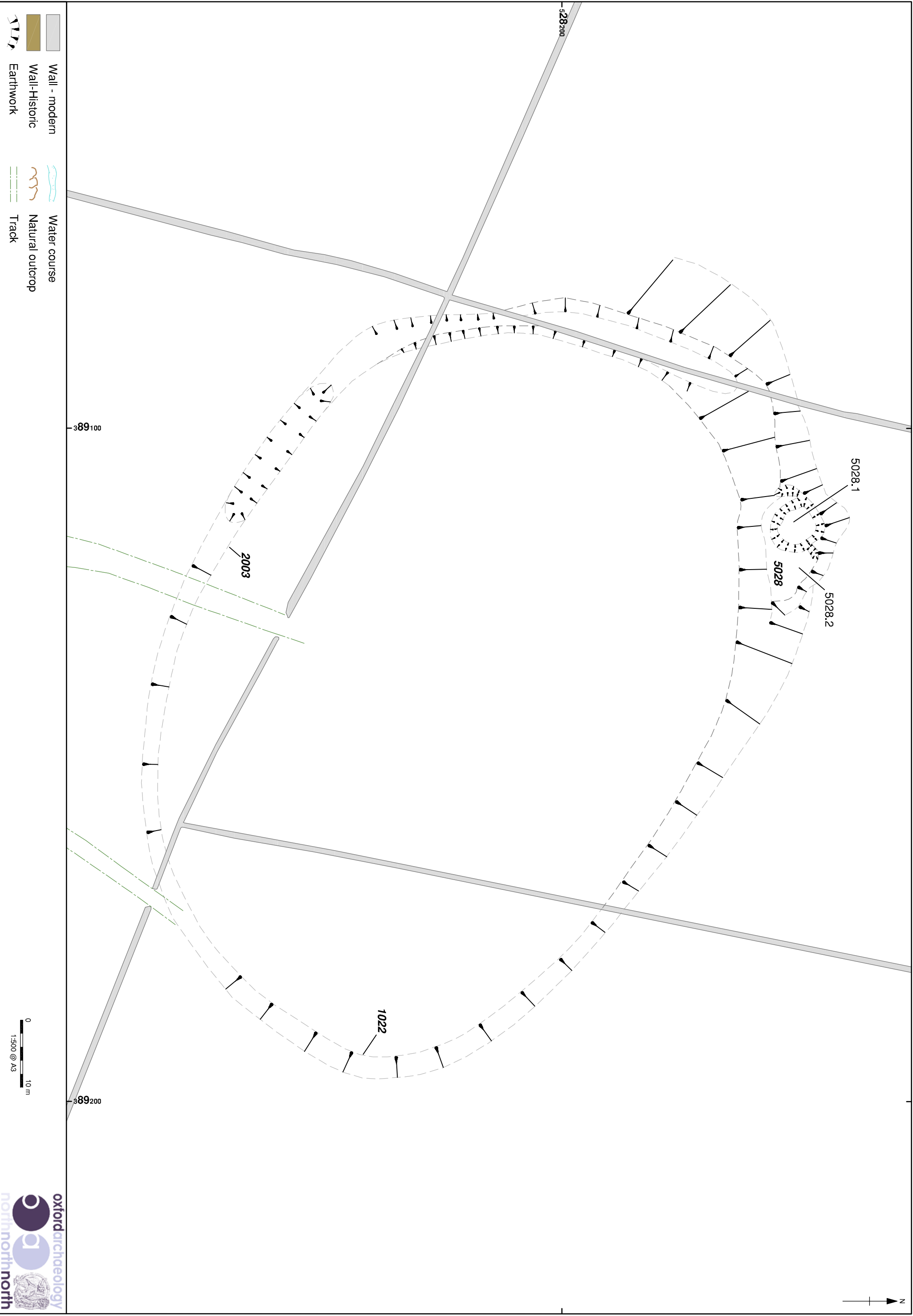


Figure 25: Topographic Survey Area 5 - Holwick Head Settlement

PLATES



Plate 50: Volunteers researching in Durham Record Office

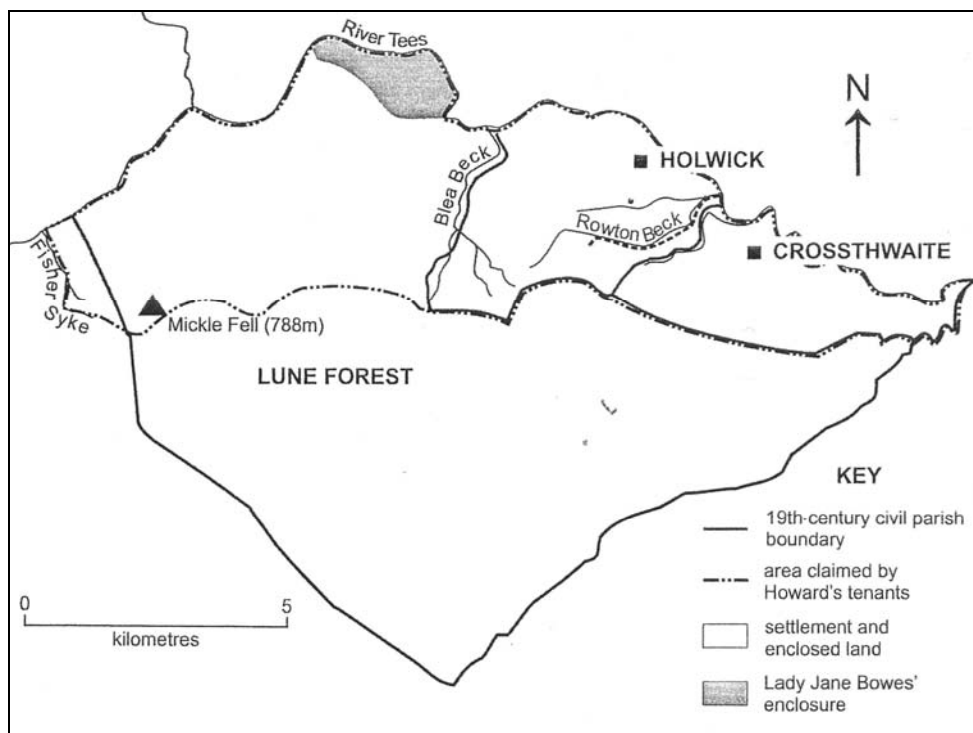


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(Winchester 2000, 23)



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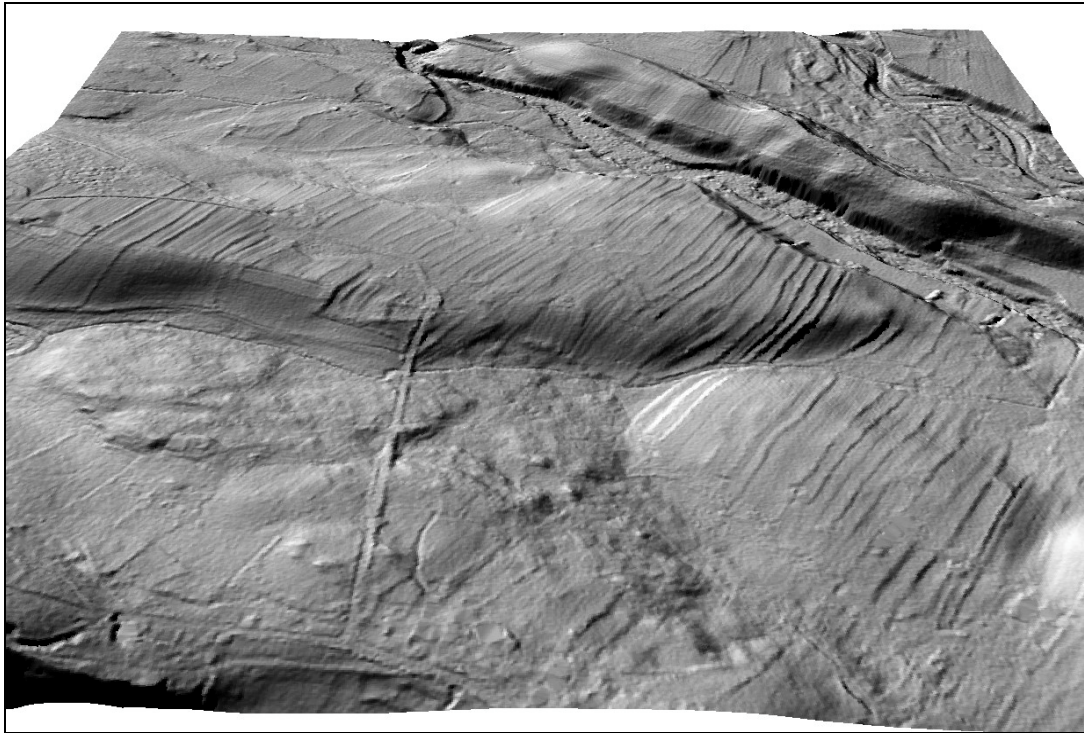


Plate 62: LiDAR 3D isometric view of strip lynchets to the north of Holwick village