

**A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project  
TR010062**

**3.4 Environmental Statement  
Appendix 8.1 Archaeological and  
Historical Background**

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**3.4 ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT  
APPENDIX 8.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL  
BACKGROUND**

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## **8.1 Archaeological and Historical Background**

### **8.1.1 Purpose of this document**

8.1.1.1 This document provides an overview of the general archaeological and historical background across the route and wider region identifying key trends and changes over time. The overview focuses on the geographic region of the A66 route connecting Penrith to Scotch Corner through the Stainmore Pass but also discusses archaeology and historic development relevant to the A66 region from the wider north, including significant changes within Cumbria, North Yorkshire and County Durham. The archaeological and historical background document supports but is separate to the detailed archaeological and historical baseline in the main chapter text which provides detailed discussion of specific assets from the site and study area described in the gazetteer and with reference to the individual schemes.

### **8.1.2 Introduction**

8.1.2.1 The northern Pennines have been the site of human activity since the re-occupation of the British land mass at the end of the last Ice Age. The landform, climate and ecology of the area have influenced how the area has been settled and utilised. This has led to distinctive themes in the archaeological and historic record.

8.1.2.2 The most striking and, perhaps in terms of the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine (NTP) project, most relevant theme is the function of the Stainmore Pass and its approaches as an east-west transit route. Commencing in the prehistoric period with trade in stone tools and their raw material it became formalised in the landscape with the establishment of the Roman road network. This network long survived the end of the Romans and formed the basis of the turnpike roads of the eighteenth century and to a substantial degree forms the basis of the existing trunk road system. A variation on the theme arrived in the nineteenth century with the building of the railways.

8.1.2.3 A second major theme is the militarised nature of the landscape. Although notably devoid of major prehistoric defensive sites a key element of the Roman impact on the area is the establishment of a series of forts which, with some variation, remained in use for much of the period of the Roman presence. The sites of these forts maintained a military purpose throughout much of the medieval period as the area lay within the zone of Anglo-Scottish conflict. The pacifying effect of the union of the crowns de-escalated conflict in the border region and the militarised landscape declined to insignificance in the post-medieval period before re-emerging in a small way with the widescale militarisation of the British Isles during the conflicts of the twentieth century.

### 8.1.3 Prehistoric (500,000 BC - AD 43)

- 8.1.3.1 Although the current earliest evidence for occupation of Britain is around 900,000 years old, from Happisburgh in Norfolk (Stringer, 2006)<sup>1</sup>, early material from the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic is nationally very rare and there are no known sites from the North West (Brennand, 2006a)<sup>2</sup> and East (Petts and Gerrard, 2006a)<sup>3</sup>. For the majority of this time period, the region would have been inhospitable due to glaciation, although intermittent occupation by hunters and gathers in the interglacial and interstadial periods is likely (Brennand, 2006a).
- 8.1.3.2 There is sparse archaeological evidence from the Late Upper Palaeolithic period (approximately 11,000 - 8,000 BC (Brennand, 2006)) covering the late stages of the Devensian glaciation. In the north of England successive ice-sheets removed or disturbed evidence of earlier events. Evidence from Kirkhead Cave, Lower Allithwaite (Historic England, 2022)<sup>4</sup>, dated to approximately 10,000 BC, has been taken to indicate that the north-western limit of exploitation of tundra fauna by Late Upper Palaeolithic hunting groups lay at the Lancashire Coastal Plain (Higham, 1986a)<sup>5</sup>. Evidence for Palaeolithic activity in the North East is likewise sparse and again limited to coastal areas, although probable Palaeolithic flints have been recovered at Towler Hill in Lartington (west of Barnard Castle), together with possible Creswellian points and blades (Petts and Gerrard, 2006a).
- 8.1.3.3 The lack of evidence for early prehistoric activity in the Pennines may under-represent the true level of past human activity and instead reflect the relatively low intensity of archaeological fieldwork across the region although there is potential for seasonal movements in the region, possibly across the Stainmore Pass (Higham, 1986b)<sup>6</sup>.
- 8.1.3.4 As the ice-sheets retreated and the climate warmed in the Late Devensian interstadial period, vegetation on drier land developed into an open birch, juniper and willow scrub which was eventually replaced by more open grassland (Brennand, 2006a).
- 8.1.3.5 At the start of the Mesolithic period (approximately 10,000–4,000 BC (Brennand, 2006a)) with so much water still locked in the northern ice sheet, the sea level was lower than it is today (Higham, 1986c)<sup>7</sup>. Britain was connected to Europe and what were to become the Irish Sea and the North Sea were low-lying plains, but as the ice melted, they became inundated, and by no later than 5,800 BC the land bridge to Europe had

<sup>1</sup> Stringer, C. (2006) *Homo Britannicus*. London, Penguin Books. (p.43)

<sup>2</sup> Brennand, M. (2006a) *The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment*. CBA North West (p.23)

<sup>3</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006a) *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham, Durham County Council. (p.14)

<sup>4</sup> Historic England (2022) Kirkhead Cave NHLE entry

<sup>5</sup> Higham, N. (1986a) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.13) noting however that Brennand, M. (2006) p.24 notes that “the close dating of artefacts from lower stratigraphic contexts” remains unresolved.

<sup>6</sup> Higham, N. (1986b) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.23)

<sup>7</sup> Higham, N. (1986c) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.17)

been submerged (Higham, 1986c). The coastline of northern Britain reached roughly its modern extent between 5,000 BC and 3,000 BC (Higham, 1986d)<sup>8</sup>. Initial vegetation recolonisation was first of the lowland zone and eventually the uplands by shrub species, such as juniper, followed by tree birch and then the formation of deciduous woodland, dominated successively by hazel and pine, oak and elm, and mainly in the west, alder species. Pine was not ubiquitous in Cumbria and lime appears relatively late in the sequence, focused on the limestone areas fringing Morecombe Bay (Higham, 1986c).

- 8.1.3.6 Mesolithic communities in what is now the north of England exploited a range of resources concentrated largely in coastal and estuarine locations, along river valleys and a small number of seasonal upland hunting sites (Higham, 1986e)<sup>9</sup>.
- 8.1.3.7 Evidence for Mesolithic activity in the North Pennines is much sparser than in the Central and Southern Pennines (Higham, 1986f)<sup>10</sup>. This distribution, as with the late Upper Palaeolithic period, may under-represent the true level of past human activity and instead reflect the relatively low intensity of archaeological fieldwork across the region (Higham, 1986b).
- 8.1.3.8 The Mesolithic period is better attested within Cumbria with numerous lithic artefacts found through fieldwalking and through survey along the western coast and throughout Eden Valley (02-0028, 03-0035, 03-0039, 03-0048, 03-0049)<sup>11</sup>.
- 8.1.3.9 The Neolithic period (4,000–2,200 BC) that followed is usually characterised by the arrival of farming in Britain about 4,000 BC, although the transition from a transitory hunting and gathering lifestyle of Late Mesolithic groups to an increasingly settled agricultural communities throughout the Neolithic period varied considerably across regions (Brennand, 2006b)<sup>12</sup>. The arrival of the Neolithic is commonly defined by the appearance of ceremonial and funerary monuments such as long barrows and stone and timber circles and henges, together with a set of common artefacts, including pottery and distinctive lithic forms (Brennand, 2006b). Evidence for the earliest agricultural landscapes are indicated by the presence of cairnfields and field systems, both of which generally only survive within upland areas (Petts, 2006b)<sup>13</sup>.
- 8.1.3.10 On a regional scale, evidence for Late Neolithic (2,900 BC-2,200 BC) and Early Bronze Age (2,200 BC-1,600 BC) settlement or activity can be split into two broad topographic areas; uplands and lowlands. Upland

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<sup>8</sup> Higham, N. (1986d) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.18)

<sup>9</sup> Higham, N. (1986e) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.29)

<sup>10</sup> Higham, N. (1986f) *The Northern Counties to AD1000*. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.25)

<sup>11</sup> Eden District Council Museum's 'Living Among the Monuments' community fieldwalking programme has been ongoing since its first fieldwalking season in 2006, with results and findspots of prehistoric flints regularly added to the HER.

<sup>12</sup> Brennand, M. (2006b) *The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment*. CBA North West (p.29)

<sup>13</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (eds) (2006b) *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham, Durham County Council (p.25)



areas, such as much of the study area, tend to provide evidence in the form of upstanding monuments while in lowland areas archaeological remains more often survive as cropmarks or are recovered as artefact deposits (Petts, 2006c)<sup>14</sup>.

- 8.1.3.11 Cumbria is well known for distinctive Neolithic polished axeheads that originated from the Langdale area in the Lake District that have subsequently been discovered throughout Britain and Ireland (Higham, 1986g)<sup>15</sup>. Research on the Langdale 'axe factories' has largely focused on the national importance and the context of axe production while circulation within the local region is still little understood (Evans, 2005)<sup>16</sup>. Group VI artefacts are present in significant concentrations to the exclusion of other artefact groupings in southern lowland Cumbria, and as a scatter with occasional concentrations on either side of the Pennines along river valleys, which may indicate strong connections along the Stainmore Pass (Higham, 1986h)<sup>17</sup>.
- 8.1.3.12 Early Bronze Age monuments are typically associated with funerary and mortuary practices although stone circles, four-posters and isolated standing stones of Bronze Age date have been identified in County Durham (Petts, 2006d)<sup>18</sup>. Like those of the Late Neolithic, Early Bronze Age funerary and mortuary behaviours are equally diverse and include the construction of stone cists, stone cairns, and round barrows (Petts, 2006b).
- 8.1.3.13 As with the monuments and sites of the Early Bronze Age, archaeological evidence dating from the Middle Bronze Age (1,600 BC-1,200 BC) and Late Bronze Age (1,200 BC – 700 BC) tends to survive as upstanding features in upland areas. The available archaeological evidence suggests that settlement sites were commonly surrounded by an enclosure but, when compared to other regions, particularly in the south of England, were small in scale.
- 8.1.3.14 Unlike the Early Bronze Age, the construction and use of funerary and mortuary monuments and sites is uncommon during the latter parts of the Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age (800 BC-300 BC) transition. There is some evidence for the inhumation of the deceased within barrows during the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age transition, although the rarity of these instances suggests that "the majority of bodies were disposed of in an archaeologically invisible way" (Petts, 2006e)<sup>19</sup> examples of which include excarnation, the scattering of ashes, or the deposition of un-urned cremation remains.

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<sup>14</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (eds) (2006c) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.21)

<sup>15</sup> Higham, N. (1986g) The Northern Counties to AD1000. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.58)

<sup>16</sup> Evans, I. (2005) Prehistoric Landscapes of Cumbria. Unpublished DPhil thesis. University of Sheffield.

<sup>17</sup> Higham, N. (1986h) The Northern Counties to AD1000. London, Longman Group Ltd. (p.59)

<sup>18</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006d) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.28)

<sup>19</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006e) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.39)

- 8.1.3.15 The Penrith henges including Mayburgh (01-0002), King Arthur's Round Table (01-0003) and Little Round Table (01-0004) are all likely to be of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age dates. Collectively they form an extensive monumental complex within the area of the confluence of the rivers Lowther and Eamont, along with the standing stone at Skirsgill (01-0001) (Brennand, 2006e). The distribution of Cumbrian henge sites on a regional scale has often been seen as significant as many are situated close to the natural routeways thought to be utilised for the transportation of stone axes from the central fells to the world beyond (Evans, 2005). An approximately circular enclosure was detected by geophysical survey in 2020 at Chapel Dub near Crackenthorpe which may be a previously unknown hengiform monument from the Late Neolithic (0405-0456).
- 8.1.3.16 Unenclosed settlements occur in the North East region from at least the Mid to Late Bronze Age and overlap with enclosed settlements defended by timber palisades or one or more ditches and banks which belong mainly to the Iron Age (Haselgrove, 2016)<sup>20</sup>. Cropmarks and aerial photographic evidence indicate the number of unenclosed settlements across the region is far higher than previously realised (Mason, 2021a)<sup>21</sup>. A 'scooped settlement' site on north bank of the River Greta near East Mellwaters (07-0083) may be Late Bronze Age or Iron Age in origin (Mason, 2021b)<sup>22</sup>. An excavated site of pits and postholes which included Bronze Age finds is located near Temple Sowerby (0405-0137).
- 8.1.3.17 An undesignated series of ring ditches have been reported at Brougham (03-0050)<sup>23</sup>; a Beaker burial including a distinctive Beaker pottery vessel was also discovered at Brougham (03-0055), as was a cairn at Skirsgill (01-0113).
- 8.1.3.18 Three scheduled round barrows are located near Brackenber Moor (06-0001), while three further undesignated round barrows and a ring cairn are recorded at Sandford Moor (06-0079, 06-0080 and 06-0081). Around Bowes there were discoveries of barrows, a cist and a hoard of bronze objects (07-0035, 07-0036, 07-0037, 07-0038 and 07-0039), whilst urns and a ring ditch were discovered around Crackenthorpe.
- 8.1.3.19 Near west Layton, there were discoveries of two objects, of bronze and gold (09-0011), while a Late Bronze Age penannular gold bracelet was found near Greta Bridge (08-0100).
- 8.1.3.20 The Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43) is marked by the transition from iron to bronze metalwork, especially for blades like swords, sickles and knives, although bronze was still used for many less functional items.

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<sup>20</sup> Haselgrove, C. (2016) *Cartimandua's Capital? The late Iron Age royal site at Stanwick, North Yorkshire, fieldwork and analysis 1981-2011*. York: CBA Research Report 175

<sup>21</sup> Mason, D. (2021a) *Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall*. Durham: Durham County Council (p.10)

<sup>22</sup> Mason, D. (2021b) *Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall*. Durham: Durham County Council (p.12)

<sup>23</sup> Aerial Photographic report gazetteer



- 8.1.3.21 The available archaeological evidence suggests that, regionally, settlement sites of an Early Iron Age (700 BC - 300 BC) date were small when compared to those from other parts of Great Britain. Interestingly, despite the naturally defensible terrain and the importance of the Stainmore Pass as a routeway through the Pennines, there appears to be very little evidence for the presence of hillforts; there is one possible promontory fort at Dike House, to the east of the settlement at Stainmore. It is possible, therefore, that settlements were more transitory (and archaeologically more difficult to identify) or, where remains have been identified, occupied on a seasonal basis for much of the period, perhaps only becoming permanent during the Late Bronze Age (1,200 BC - 700 BC).
- 8.1.3.22 Because of the inherent uncertainty contained within radiocarbon dates, and the extent to which the north-eastern region has been surveyed and assessed in this way, it is difficult to distinguish between landscape clearance for arable farming that occurred before and immediately after the Roman invasion. Tipping (Tipping, 1997)<sup>24</sup> has suggested that the increase in agriculture and permanent arable farming sites within the region during the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British (AD 43-AD 410) transitional period was not related to Roman occupation and influence but was already underway. This opinion has also been supported by the work of McCarthy (McCarthy, 1995)<sup>25</sup> and Huntley (Huntley, 2002)<sup>26</sup>.
- 8.1.3.23 The 'Brigantian' landnam (land-taking) is visible within the pollen record as a period of exceptional woodland loss and rapid conversion to farmland among the uplands of western Cumbria occurring from 400 BC (Tipping, 2018a)<sup>27</sup>. Stainmore Pass appears, however, to be an area with no farming activity during the Brigantian land take and is instead an area where woodland had been largely lost in the Bronze Age (Tipping, 2018b)<sup>28</sup>. The lack of woodland in the Iron Age makes farming activity harder to detect through the pollen record but may also indicate the use of uplands for low intensity grazing to maintain the dominant heath vegetation (Tipping, 2018b). Elsewhere, the complete woodland clearance essentially denuded the landscape in order to make way for

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<sup>24</sup> Tipping, R. (1997) 'Pollen analysis and the impact of Rome on native agriculture around Hadrian's Wall' in A Gwilt and C Haselgrove (eds), *Reconstructing Iron Age Societies: New approaches to the British Iron Age*. Oxford: Oxbow Monographs 71, 239-47

<sup>25</sup> McCarthy, M. R. (1995) Archaeological and environmental evidence for the Roman impact on vegetation near Carlisle, Cumbria. *The Holocene*, 5(4), 491-495

<sup>26</sup> Huntley, J. P. (2002) 'Environmental archaeology: mesolithic to Roman period.', in *Past, present and future: the archaeology of Northern England*, proceedings of a conference held in Durham in 1996. Durham: Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland, pp. 79-96. Research report.

<sup>27</sup> Tipping, R. (2018a) 'Exploring the Geography of the 'Brigantian' Land-Taking in Central Britain and the Roles of Natives and Romans' in Martlew, R. D. (p.61)

<sup>28</sup> Tipping, R. (2018b) 'Exploring the Geography of the 'Brigantian' Land-Taking in Central Britain and the Roles of Natives and Romans' in Martlew, R. D. (p.62)

agriculture, which may also have destabilised slopes and led to significant soil erosion in areas (Tipping, 2018c)<sup>29</sup>.

- 8.1.3.24 Once again, the evidence available varies throughout the region. Iron Age field systems identified in lowland areas are often poorly preserved whereas systems within upland regions tend to be better preserved and more easily identifiable.
- 8.1.3.25 One of the group of sites at East Mellwaters, near Bowes, is likely to be a farmstead with several circular structures and a curvilinear enclosure, in a non-defensive position at the base of an escarpment (Mason, 2021a). A second rectangular enclosure lies just outside. East Mellwaters has been given a Romano-British date, but the curvilinear form may indicate an earlier earth and timber phase and a purely Iron Age origin may be possible (Mason, 2021a).
- 8.1.3.26 Stanwick was the site of a vast Iron Age settlement, where massive earthworks enclosed an area of c. 300 hectares and with further associated settlement outside this perimeter (Mason, 2021c)<sup>30</sup>. This is considered to be a power centre of the Brigantes which continued to be occupied into the Roman period, with evidence of high-quality Roman goods (Mason, 2021c).
- 8.1.3.27 Earlier duelling of sections of the A66 carriageway produced evidence that the substantial bank and ditch earthwork known as Scot's Dyke and previously understood to be medieval in origin is actually an Iron Age construction (Mason, 2021d)<sup>31</sup>. Considered to be a territorial boundary, the dyke originates at the River Swale near Richmond, passes Stanwick and continues northwards to the Tees, possibly linked to the earliest known crossing of the Tees, also thought to be of Iron Age date (Mason, 2021d).
- 8.1.3.28 Iron Age sites around the Project route include the Druidical Judgement Seat, an oval enclosure on a natural headland with a surrounding bank and ditch, and access across the ditch by a causeway at the western end (06-0002), a large-scale settlement at Scotch Corner excavated in 2006 and 2007 which dates from the Late Iron Age and continued to be occupied into the Romano-British period (11-0024 and 11-0025), and a find of six gold penannular rings or armlets near Bowes (07-0095).
- 8.1.3.29 The Scheduled Monument at Carkin Moor includes both the Roman Fort and a prehistoric enclosed settlement visible on aerial photographs and provisionally dated to the Iron Age (09-0001) with additional prehistoric features and cropmarks identified by the aerial photographic and LiDAR survey undertaken in 2020 (09-0012).

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<sup>29</sup> Tipping, R. (2018c) 'Exploring the Geography of the 'Brigantian' Land-Taking in Central Britain and the Roles of Natives and Romans' in Martlew, R. D. (p.66)

<sup>30</sup> Mason, D. (2021c) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.23)

<sup>31</sup> Mason, D. (2021d) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.28)

## 8.1.4 Romano-British (AD 43 - AD 410)

- 8.1.4.1 The Roman army landed in Kent in the summer of AD 43 and quickly established direct control or rule via client kingdoms using treaty relationships; for the north of England, the Romans had to deal with a single tribe or confederation of tribes known as the Brigantes, whose territory covered the area stretching from Derbyshire to the Scottish Lowlands (Mason, 2021e)<sup>32</sup>. The leader of the Brigantes at the time of the Roman invasion, Cartimandua, was based at Stanwick, and that high status individuals at Stanwick clearly benefitted from the relationship with Rome is indicated by a range of Roman imports including an obsidian cup and pottery types rarely found across all of north-western Europe (Mason, 2021d).
- 8.1.4.2 The roadworks at the A1 Scotch Corner junction have identified a further extensive settlement originating in the late Iron Age but continuing in use into the Roman period (11-0024 and 11-0025), with the appearance of exotic goods such as Samian ware, glass vessels and amphorae for wine and olive oil, similar to the developments at Stanwick (Mason, 2021f)<sup>33</sup>.
- 8.1.4.3 After Cartimandua's deposition and the revolt of the Brigantes sometime around AD 69, the 'year of the four emperors', Vespasian began a campaign to conquer the Brigantian territory. The Stainmore Pass is thought to be on the main route of advance into the west from York, with the marching-camps at Rey Cross, Crackenthorpe, Plumpton Head, Cow Cross and Rokeby/Greta Bridge are thought to date to this early stage in the occupation of Brigantia (Mason, 2021g)<sup>34</sup>.
- 8.1.4.4 Although more common in neighbouring Northumbria, several temporary camps of a likely Flavian date (AD 69-AD 96) were built along the Stainmore Pass. Temporary camps are typically square or rectangular defensive sites which may have been used on campaign and when troops were in transit. They were designed to both protect the resting soldiers and their baggage trains as well as act as a point for military command and control when in the field.
- 8.1.4.5 Permanent forts were constructed along the route of The Street (00-001) at Carkin Moor (09-0001), Greta Bridge (08-0002) and Bowes (07-0002). The Street changes direction at Rokeby/Greta Bridge, and is orientated not on the river crossing but on the marching camp; many of the earthwork remains are remarkably well preserved (pers comm: Mike Haken).

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<sup>32</sup> Mason, D. (2021e) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.27)

<sup>33</sup> Mason, D. (2021f) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.29)

<sup>34</sup> Mason, D. (2021g) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.31)

- 8.1.4.6 Construction of the roads needed for the rapid movement of troops and supplies followed (Mason, 2021h)<sup>35</sup>. The Street (00-001) was one of the region's main west-east routes, a strategically important route between York (*Eboracum*) and Carlisle (*Luguvalium*) and is largely preserved in the route of the A66 and recorded as RR82 in the Roman Road catalogue numbering scheme developed by the historian Ivan Margary (Margary, 1955)<sup>36</sup>. Breaking westward from Dere Street (11-00023) at Scotch Corner, The Street (00-001) passes through Carkin Moor, Rokeby and Bowes, continuing through the Stainmore Pass and into the Eden Valley beyond (Petts and Gerrard, 2006f)<sup>37</sup>. A link road between Bowes and Barnard Castle (approximately 5km north-east of the Bowes scheme) has also been identified (07-0066). Evidence for river crossings, such as the bridge at Greta Bridge (08-0001) and a possible fording point on the River Tees at Barnard Castle (outside of the study area to the north), have also been identified.
- 8.1.4.7 After the withdrawal from Scotland under Domitian in AD 87, the Roman Army spent the next several decades consolidating their positions and improving the infrastructure in the North by expanding the road networks and port facilities and making Forts more permanent with stone-built structures (Mason, 2021)<sup>38</sup>. This includes the forts and associated 'vici' (villages) of *Brocavum* at Brougham (02-0002), *Bravoniacum* at Kirkby Thore (0405-0003), *Verteris* at Brough under Stainmore (06-0004), *Lavatrae* at Bowes (07-0002), and the Roman fort and vicus at Greta Bridge (08-0002), connected by a road over which the A66 itself now runs and which were occupied until the late fourth century. There were smaller marching camps and fortlets at Redlands Bank (0405-0004), Castrigg (0405-0005), Warcop (06-0003), Greta Bridge (08-0050) and Carkin Moor (09-0001), as well as small settlements, enclosures and farmsteads around the forts and 'vici' and near Frenchfield (02-0001), Sceugh Farm (03-0002), Winderwath (03-0003), and Redlands Bank (0405-0001).
- 8.1.4.8 The woodland clearances recorded in the Late Iron Age continued and intensified during the Roman period, and cereal pollen is frequently identified from this period (Brennand, 2006i)<sup>39</sup>. The climate of this period was potentially warmer and drier than the present day, making arable cultivation more suitable on marginal upland areas (Brennand, 2006i). Grain storage facilities within military forts suggest cereals were an essential food for people and livestock (Brennand, 2006j)<sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>35</sup> Mason, D. (2021h) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.32)

<sup>36</sup> Margary, I (1955) Roman Roads in Britain. London, Phoenix House.

<sup>37</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006f) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council

<sup>38</sup> Mason, D. (2021h) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.35)

<sup>39</sup> *The Archaeology of North West England: An archaeology research framework for North West England. Volume 1: Resource Assessment* (Brennand, M (ed), 2006), p.61

<sup>40</sup> Mason, D. (2021j) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.69)



- 8.1.4.9 Excavated Roman cemetery sites are limited within the region, with Binchester near Bishop Auckland being the site of a significant cemetery excavation (Mason, 2021k)<sup>41</sup> in 2008, while the publication of the 1960s excavations at Brougham cemetery highlights the importance of the site while otherwise indicating there is limited information on cemeteries at Roman military sites in the area (Cool, 2004)<sup>42</sup>.
- 8.1.4.10 Typical occupational and structural sequences for farming and agricultural activity in the Roman period are known from the east of County Durham but are less well known in the west of the county (Mason, 2021l)<sup>43</sup>. Weardale and Teesdale are suggested to have evidence of continuity of form in rural settlements (Taylor, 2007)<sup>44</sup> (Oakey and Knight, 2012)<sup>45</sup>, which is shown by the sites at Brignall and East and West Mellwaters (07-0003). This continuity of form presents a challenge in identifying sites active in the Roman period as the lack of change and the limited material culture recovered can limit accurate dating of extended occupation. Earthwork sites are more common in the uplands in Cumbria, with extensive survival of both enclosures and field systems, sometimes in association (Brennand, 2006c)<sup>46</sup>. Villa sites, however, are almost entirely absent from the North West (Brennand, 2006d)<sup>47</sup>.
- 8.1.4.11 The presence of the Roman Army is likely to have been a major driver for the economic and industrial activities in the region, as well as the civilian settlements outside the forts and their relationship to the surrounding agricultural hinterland (Mason, 2021m)<sup>48</sup>. Evidence for commercial scale industrial activity, such as supplying brined meat for the military in bulk, has been identified from the Cheshire plain but not within the region (Brennand, 2006e)<sup>49</sup>. However, there is evidence for extractive industries in the region and other industrial activities have been identified at excavated sites. This includes a pottery kiln at the Roman vicus at Carkin Moor representing the only evidence of pottery making on the entire length of the Stainmore Pass between Catterick and Penrith (09-0020) and copper workings and a possible coin workshop recorded at Scotch Corner (11-0024). Evidence for iron

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<sup>41</sup> Mason, D. (2021k) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.522)

<sup>42</sup> Cool, H. E M. (2004) The Roman Cemetery at Brougham, Cumbria. Malet Street: Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies.

<sup>43</sup> Mason, D. (2021l) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.458)

<sup>44</sup> Taylor J. (2007) An Atlas of Roman Rural Settlement. CBA ReS Rep 151

<sup>45</sup> Oakey, M, Radford S. & Knight D. (2012) English Heritage Research Report: Miner-Farmer Landscapes of the North Pennine AONB. Research report

<sup>46</sup> Brennand, M. (2006c) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.74)

<sup>47</sup> Brennand, M. (2006d) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.77)

<sup>48</sup> Mason, D. (2021m) Roman County Durham: The Eastern Hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Durham: Durham County Council (p.517)

<sup>49</sup> Brennand, M. (2006e) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.73)

working was recorded at Greta Bridge (08-0002), a Roman lead cast plug was found near Brougham (03-0075) and a circular lead disc was found near the south bank of the River Eamont downstream from Brougham Castle (03-0080).

- 8.1.4.12 There are numerous finds of Roman coins, vessels and personal ornaments such as brooches and bracelets around the scheme route, particularly in the west around Brougham (e.g. 03-0064, 03-0065, 03-0066, 03-0069) and near Kirkby Thore (e.g. 0405-0139, 0405-0141, 0405-0142, 0405-0407).

### 8.1.5 Early medieval (AD 410 - AD 1066)

- 8.1.5.1 During the sixth century, County Durham (and Northumberland) were part of the Kingdom of Bernicia. The Kingdom of Bernicia stretched from the River Tees in the south to the Firth of Forth (now in Scotland) to the north (Rollason, 2003)<sup>50</sup>. South of the River Tees lay the Kingdom of Deira and, between them, both Bernicia and Deira held overlordship over several smaller quasi-independent kingdoms scattered throughout the north of England and modern southern Scotland, along with the Kingdom of Strathclyde in modern Scotland whose territory extended southwards into modern Cumbria. Bernicia and Deira were often in conflict. The political heartlands of Bernicia were divided by the Pennines, with centres to the east present in the areas around Bamburgh and Lindisfarne, Monkwearmouth and Jarrow, and around Carlisle to the west, neighbored by the Kingdom of Strathclyde to the north (Rollason, 2003). The political heartlands of Deira were, by contrast, concentrated on the areas around the historic East Riding of Yorkshire (now commonly East Yorkshire) which included York, the North York Moors, and the Vale of York (Rollason, 2003).
- 8.1.5.2 From the seventh century to the mid-ninth century the Kingdom of Northumbria was one of the most powerful and influential, as well as geographically the largest, of the seven kingdoms of Early Medieval Britain (known as the heptarchy). The waning of Northumbria's power and influence is linked with the commencement of the Viking raids, the first of which was at Lindisfarne in AD 793. By AD 878, the kingdom had been split in two by the creation of the Danelaw, which included the study area.
- 8.1.5.3 The Vikings gave the area many of its distinctive place names. Streams are termed becks, from the Norse 'bekr'; waterfalls are forces from the Norse 'foss'; a hamlet or village often included the word 'thorpe'; fell derives from "fjall" which is the Norse word for hill; small lakes are termed tarns which derives from 'tjorn'; 'thwaite' means clearing; and 'saeter' refers to summer pastures.
- 8.1.5.4 By AD 954 Northumbria finally ceased to exist entirely following its annexation to the Kingdom of England, which was established by

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<sup>50</sup> Rollason, D. W. (2003) Northumbria 500-1100: creation and destruction of a kingdom. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



Æthelstan in July of AD 927, following the unification of the Danelaw and the surviving kingdoms of the heptarchy.

- 8.1.5.5 The current understanding of long-term landscape change between the Roman and Early Medieval periods in the North East and North West is mainly based on available pollen analysis which is limited by the general lack of sites identified from the period (Petts and Gerrard, 2006f). Palynological evidence suggests that areas of the northern uplands which had experienced widespread woodland clearances either remained open or experienced woodland regeneration from the sixth century onwards (Brennand, 2006f)<sup>51</sup>. Periods of wetter and/or cooler weather have been indicated around AD 450 and AD 800-1000, which may have impacted land-use and the survival of crops, and greater potential for soil erosion (Brennand, 2006f).
- 8.1.5.6 Archaeological evidence from the Early Medieval period, including evidence for rural settlement, is incredibly variable throughout the North East, with such evidence being particularly scarce in County Durham (Petts and Gerrard, 2006f) but also in Cumbria (Brennand, 2006g)<sup>52</sup>. However, at Fremington to the east of Brougham Roman fort, a rare discovery of four sunken-featured buildings or Grubenhäuser were identified during pipeline construction in 1991 (03-0081) and rectangular post-built structures were identified at a site on the edge of the Whinfell Forest and on the outskirts of Shap village (Brennand, 2006g). In the uplands, a tradition of stone-built settlements appears to have endured from the Roman period, as well as reoccupation of Roman forts across the study area which may indicate a continuity of land-use (Brennand, 2006g).
- 8.1.5.7 Given the general lack of archaeological evidence from the Early Medieval period along the A66 route, it is not surprising that evidence for industry and trade during this period is also lacking. However, traces of brown seaweed identified at Fremington and possibly used as packaging for goods along the trans-Pennine route suggest long-distance trade (Brennand, 2006h)<sup>53</sup>.
- 8.1.5.8 At the west of the scheme route is Eamont Bridge (01-0005); although the current bridge is a 15th-century structure, it was recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles as the site of a meeting of royals in AD 927. This royal meeting may indicate the extent of English territory at this point and indicate the importance of Penrith as a result of its border location (Brennand, 2006i)<sup>54</sup>. The importance of Penrith during the early medieval period is supported by the presence of the group of richly carved tenth century monuments within St Andrew's churchyard,

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<sup>51</sup> Brennand, M. (2006f) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.94)

<sup>52</sup> Brennand, M. (2006g) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.98)

<sup>53</sup> Brennand, M. (2006h) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.110)

<sup>54</sup> Brennand, M. (2006i) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.114)

consisting of the Giant's Grave group of two crosses and four hogback stones (01-0006) and the Giant's Thumb high cross (01-007).

- 8.1.5.9 Early monastic sites in the north are linked to the Northumbrian ecclesiastical 'Golden Age' typified by Lindisfarne, and monasteries are known at both Dacre and Carlisle (Brennand, 2006j)<sup>55</sup>. Although the current structure dates from the seventeenth century, St Ninian's church or Ninekirks is situated on an original Anglo-Saxon ecclesiastical site (03-0005) and the parish church of St Margaret and St James at Long Marton also retains some pre-Conquest material in its current structure (0405-0006). At Ninekirks, a silver gilt cup mount found within a stone cist burial within the church was dated to the eighth century (Brennand, 2006k)<sup>56</sup>. Aerial photographic evidence indicates an unusual, ditched enclosure surrounding the Ninekirks site and may indicate even earlier activity predating the early medieval period at the site (Brennand, 2006k).

## 8.1.6 Medieval (AD 1066 - AD 1540)

- 8.1.6.1 The Medieval period commenced with the arrival of the Normans and their conquest of England in 1066. Commonly a useful source for political, social and economic history, the Domesday Book of AD 1086 offers little indication as to the settlement of the region. The eastern half of the study area, along with much of the Stainmore Pass, is recorded by the time of Domesday as being under the control of the castlery of Count Alan of Brittany<sup>57</sup>. The study area may also have suffered as a result of the Harrying of the North, conducted between AD 1069 and AD 1070, which is thought to have caused extensive damage to the manorial economy of the region (Hull Domesday Project, 2021)<sup>58</sup>. Early Norman development in the region was focused on the construction of timber strongholds and enclosures (mottes and baileys), such as at Kendal, which were later replaced by stone castles, such as at Carlisle, Penrith (01-0009) and Bowes (07-0005).
- 8.1.6.2 Settlement of the uplands areas of the North East and North West during the Medieval period was predominantly rural and focused on a pastoral regime supported by extensive areas of common land for pasture and the use of shielings for rearing cattle and sheep, in contrast to the arable lowlands (Winchester, 2000)<sup>59</sup>. However, crops were still cultivated in the uplands and evidence for agricultural activity can be seen through the survival of relict cultivation terraces, areas of ridge and furrow, and recovered environmental deposits (Petts, 2006f). Ridge and furrow earthworks are formed through the Medieval system of ploughing strips of land using teams of oxen pulling a single-sided plough. The

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<sup>55</sup> Brennand, M. (2006j) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.104)

<sup>56</sup> Brennand, M. (2006k) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.101)

<sup>57</sup> Open Domesday (2021) Open Domesday website

<sup>58</sup> Hull Domesday Project (2021) Domesday Survey, Land of Count Alan. Hull Domesday Project.

<sup>59</sup> Winchester, A. J. L. (2000) The harvest of the hills: rural life in northern England and the Scottish Borders, 1400-1700. Edinburgh : Edinburgh University Press, 2000.

necessity of ploughing to the end of each row resulting in turning teams of oxen first to the left before turning right and then down the opposite furrow, creating the distinctive reverse 's' shape pattern of medieval ridge and furrow. The strips of land were common to medieval open field or strip field systems, where a selion (a strip of land) was used for growing crops, and usually owned by or rented to peasants; monasteries often derived an income by letting selions. AP and LiDAR interpretation indicate extensive areas of broad ridge and furrow visible across the study area, particularly around Crackenthorpe and Kirby Thore (Wessex Archaeology, 2022)<sup>60</sup>.

- 8.1.6.3 This contrast between uplands and lowlands landscape is visible in the surviving historic landscape character of the region. The historic landscape of the Eden Valley from Penrith to Brough (00-0003) is a large area of enclosed fields and nucleated settlements, which contains traces of medieval agricultural activity in surviving medieval field boundaries and lynchets. The nucleated villages at Brough (06-0102), Kirkby Thore (0405-0156) and Appleby-in-Westmoreland (0405-0109) are unusual for Cumbria and may reflect the good quality agricultural land which was able to support larger settlements than is typical in the region. Farther east, the historic landscape of the Greta and Upper Tees valleys also has traces of medieval strip fields fossilised within later boundaries and areas of well-defined medieval ridge and furrow around Bowes and to the west and north of Greta Bridge. In contrast to these lowland areas, the area around Stainmore (00-0005) is almost entirely characterised by ancient, enclosed fields and there are no areas of former common arable fields and a lack of ridge and furrow, reflecting a historic land use of stock rearing rather than crop growing.
- 8.1.6.4 Areas of shrunken villages are also visible as earthworks in the form of building platforms, banks, ditches and holloways. Deserted or shrunken medieval villages are former settlements which were abandoned during the medieval period, for reasons ranging from depopulation due to plague, natural events which impacted the viability of the settlement such as changes to river courses, or to change in land use by landowners often as a result of enclosure which increased from the fifteenth century onwards. Shrunken villages have been observed at Crackenthorpe (0405-0152), Kirkby Thore (0405-0156), Warcop (06-0161), Flitholme (06-0085, 06-0086), Bowes (07-0069) and Rokeby Grange (08-0065) (Wessex Archaeology, 2021).
- 8.1.6.5 Fortified settlements or defensive structures dating from the Medieval period are also visible within the study area. Bowes and its environs had strategic importance, originally to exert control over the local populace following the Norman conquest and then as a result of the area's proximity to the changing border with Scotland and the strategic importance of the Stainmore Pass. The area was subject to dispute between the kingdoms of Scotland and England, with control of the region changing hands multiple times before being settled in the favour

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<sup>60</sup> Wessex Archaeology (2022) A66 Northern Transpennine Upgrade: LiDAR and Aerial Photo Interpretation

of English control via the Treaty of York in 1237. Nevertheless, raids and skirmishes would continue to feature along the border throughout the centuries that followed.

- 8.1.6.6 Bowes Castle (07-0005) was the first of the three castles, followed by Brough Castle (06-0004) and Brougham Castle (02-0002), to be built along the Stainmore Pass between 1171 and 1187. All three of the castles were built close to a river or a beck, along the route of The Street (00-001) and within or close to the ruins of the Roman Forts of *Lavatrae* (07-0002), *Verteris* (06-0006) and *Brocavum* (02-0002). Market towns or villages were established in close proximity to these castle locations, such as Church Brough and Market Brough near to Brough Castle, in order to support the castle economy (Jones, 1989)<sup>61</sup>. Market Brough was granted a charter in 1330 for a market and fair (Jones, 1989).
- 8.1.6.7 A variety of lesser castles were located in the area including a fourteenth century pele tower and a fifteenth century castle at Penrith (01-0009), a fortified house at Scargill, a motte and bailey castle at Appleby which was later replaced by a stone keep in 1170 (0405-0292) and a motte and bailey castle at Ravensworth (09-0002). The closest major regional castle was Barnard Castle to the north-east, which began as a Norman ringwork which developed into a shell keep (08-0085).
- 8.1.6.8 Medieval moated sites are also found within the study area, such as at Eastfield Sike which had an associated fishpond and adjacent woodbanks and ditches at Burtergill Wood and Kiln Hill (06-0006). Moated sites consist of wide ditches, often water filled, which enclose an island of dry ground which was the site of domestic or religious buildings and which often served as prestigious aristocratic and seigneurial residences. They sometimes had associated landscape features to support a high status household such as fishponds or managed woodlands, as at Eastfield Sike. Medieval fishponds were an artificially created slow moving freshwater pool used to cultivate, breed and store fish. Fishponds were maintained by a complex water management system including inlet and outlet channels, sluices and leats.
- 8.1.6.9 An extensive deer park was created at Whinfell Park during this period (03-0089). Generally, deer parks were large enclosed areas containing deer, often marked by a boundary ditch and bank topped by a pale or a stone wall. Deer parks were considered prestigious and it is possible that a deer park may also have been associated with the medieval manor at Rokeby; the presence of a holloway to the west of Rokeby may indicate the possible location for a medieval deer park (08-0065). An area of medieval enclosed fields east of Appleby-in-Westmoreland may also indicate the possible location of Flakbridge Park deer park (00-0003). Deer parks were a popular and extensive high status feature across the medieval landscape and it is notable that there are so few

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<sup>61</sup> Jones, M. J. (1989) Archaeological work at Brough under Stainmore II: the medieval and later settlements (fieldwork and excavations). Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society (TWAAS), 89(2), 141-180



known within the study area. The lack of deer parks within the region may be the result of social, economic or environmental factors; for example, it may indicate the local population lacked enough suitably rich people to support a greater number of deer parks.

- 8.1.6.10 Great religious institutions of religious communities within monastic houses were established in the North East and North West region, including those of the Augustinians (e.g. Cartmel and Conishead), Benedictines (e.g. St. Bees and Weatherall), Cistercians (e.g. Calder and Furness, originally Sauvignac) and Dominicans (e.g. Blackfriars, Carlisle), often becoming wealthy and powerful landowners in their own right and exerting monastic control over large-scale landscapes and via outlying landholdings of monastic granges. Smaller religious sites were also spread throughout the region but there are very few large or small medieval religious houses within the study area. An exception is Egglestone Abbey (08-0004), founded at the end of the twelfth century for Premonstratensian canons, ‘the White Canons’, combining Augustinian and Cistercian rule. The endowment of the abbey was small, so much so that the possibility of demoting the abbey to a priory was discussed in the thirteenth century and despite retaining its status, the abbey remained impoverished until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s. The Dissolution of the Monasteries was a such a significant transformative event that it commonly marks the close of the medieval period.
- 8.1.6.11 The timber and stone churches of the Anglo-Saxons were mostly rebuilt after the arrival of the Normans, obliterating most of the original Saxon features, such as at the scheduled sites at St Ninian’s, east of Penrith (03-0005), St Michael’s near Rokeby (08-0003), and St Margaret and St James’ Church at Long Marton (0405-0006).
- 8.1.6.12 Medieval coal mining is known from County Durham and lead working from the North Pennines, but not from within the study area. There may also have been a medieval silver industry in the North Pennines, associated with the lead working, although no archaeological evidence has been found as yet to support this (Petts, 2006g)<sup>62</sup>.

## 8.1.7 Post medieval (AD 1540 - AD 1901)

- 8.1.7.1 The Reformation marked the start of a period of intense social, economic and landscape changes as a result of the redistribution of land from church to secular ownership (Brennand, 2006)<sup>63</sup>. Transformations during the post medieval period in the North include the transition from an agricultural to an industrial economy, primarily rural to urban settlement, and the rise of capitalism and consumerism, as well as the rise of religious non-conformity (Petts, 2006h)<sup>64</sup>.

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<sup>62</sup> *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (Petts and Gerrard, 2006), p.79.

<sup>63</sup> Brennand, M. (2006j) *The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment*. CBA North West (p.145)

<sup>64</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006h) *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham, Durham County Council (p.85)

- 8.1.7.2 The continuing political and military unrest at the beginning of the Post Medieval period and the change from large invading armies to smaller faster raids led to the abandonment of large, defended establishments such as castles and a move to smaller defended homesteads. These distinctive homestead structures were known as Bastle Houses and were commonly built during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.
- 8.1.7.3 Substantial changes in farming and agricultural practice took place throughout the Post Medieval period. By the late seventeenth century, many shielings were no longer in use and the practise of seasonal transhumance in the uplands came to an end, although in some cases temporary shielings became the basis for settled farmsteads and permanent upland settlement (Petts, 2006i)<sup>65</sup>. Upland settlements were also impacted by the changes in tenure during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with the transition from the long-established customary tenure to the more structured leasehold tenure, leading to consolidation and the formation of larger farms. Eventually this resulted in the division of common land, initially by private agreement between landowners and then subsequently, from 1773 until the mid-nineteenth century, through the Enclosure Acts (Petts, 2006i).
- 8.1.7.4 Parliamentary enclosure in the North West uplands was primarily characterised by large regular square or rectangular fields, with straight access roads and uniform walls or hedges (Brennand, 2006j)<sup>66</sup>. Large-scale tree planting and reforestation also took place during this period, with both ornamental and commercial planting, especially within the Lake District (Brennand, 2006j).
- 8.1.7.5 Planned enclosure is visible in the historic landscape across the region but took place at different times, with the lower lying areas in past agricultural use tending to be enclosed earlier and retaining some of the earlier curved and irregular medieval field boundaries, while the higher upland areas formerly used as pasture or open moorland were often enclosed later in the process using large regular boundaries. Within the Eden Valley (00-0003), fields formerly used as common pasture were mostly enclosed from the late eighteenth century. The low fell areas of Lazonby Ridge (00-0004), much of which were formerly covered by the Inglewood and Whinfell Forests, were not enclosed until the nineteenth century with areas of recent woodland plantation. Areas of the open moorland of the Pennines on either side of the Stainmore Pass (00-0006) were enclosed in the latter part of the post medieval period, while the previously uncultivated areas of the Pennine fringe above the Greta and Tees Valleys (00-0007) were enclosed into regular fields in the eighteenth century. The Greta and Tees Valleys themselves (00-0008) have a patchwork of narrow fields indicating the survival of medieval strip field boundaries within later post-medieval enclosure, while the

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<sup>65</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006i) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.90)

<sup>66</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006j) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.167)



area of Lowland Fields (00-0010) to the east consists of a very large area of intensively farmed and often very large post-medieval and modern fields.

- 8.1.7.6 The mid-eighteenth century saw a decline in the extent of the region's agricultural villages, those where the predominant form of employment was farm work, and a rapid increase in industrial villages, which were specialised settlements with the majority of inhabitants working within the same industry. The predominant type of industrial villages within the region were associated with coal mining or, particularly in the Pennines, lead mining. Lead mining in the North Pennines reached its peak in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries before rapidly declining during the 1880s (Petts, 2006f). In contrast to the shrinkage of rural villages, urban centres grew in the later post-medieval period. Penrith grew by two thirds in the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, although it retained its Medieval layout (Brennand, 2006k)<sup>67</sup>.
- 8.1.7.7 The quarrying of stone was also prevalent throughout the region. Small quarries local to villages or farmsteads were established for use as building material or the production of quicklime from limestone quarries; quicklime was used to reduce the acidity of the soil, making it more suitable for crops. During the nineteenth century, the need for increased amounts of stone suitable for road building was met by the quarries of the North Pennines. Unlike the smaller local quarries which supplied building material and limestone, these quarries were often large enterprises that were connected to the rapidly growing railways. Limestone quarries are known from the area near Bowes (07-0053, 07-0054 and 07-0055) and near Carkin Moor (09-0015, 09-0050, 09-0051 and 09-0053). Additional quarries for sandstone and sand and gravel aggregate are visible across the region such as Yanwith Hall quarry (01-0131), Sandford Mire gravel pit (06-0093) and the sandstone quarry at Clint Bowes Moor (07-0059), with some continuing in use today such as Hulands Quarry (07-0074).
- 8.1.7.8 The growth of industrial mines and quarries also led to the development of railway infrastructure to better transport goods and materials. The origins and growth of railways is distinctly regionally North-East and initially strongly linked to the growth of coal mining. The expanding coal mining industry faced difficulties in moving its products in bulk, over great distances and cheaply. Horse-drawn waggonways were originally developed in the seventeenth century to move coal short distances overground from pit heads to canals or navigable rivers using wooden or metal rails allowing bigger loads to be transported using the same horsepower. In common use until the early nineteenth century, the horse-drawn waggonways were supplemented and eventually replaced by incline and rope-hauled railways. Rapid developments in steam power and engine technology in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries allowed for the replacement of horses. The Stockton and Darlington Railway Company (SDR) established several subsidiary

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<sup>67</sup> Brennand, M. (2006k) The Archaeology of North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region. Volume 1: Resource Assessment. CBA North West (p.154)

railway lines within the area, including the Eden Valley Railway Company (EVR) in 1856 (06-0100) and the South Durham & Lancashire Union Railway Company (SD&LUR) in 1861 (07-0061). The EVR and SD&LUR lines were created to transport iron ore from Cumberland and Lancashire to Teesdale for processing and to return with coke and coal. Although primarily intended for freight, provision was made for an accompanying passenger service resulting in the construction of passenger stations along the route such as Bowes Railway Station (07-0052). In 1863, both the EVR and the SD&LUR were amalgamated into the North Eastern Railway Company (NER).

- 8.1.7.9 Road networks were also expanded and improved during this period and enabled faster communication and travel (Petts, 2006f). The emergence of the Industrial Revolution led to an increasing movement of people and materials which resulted in efforts to mark roadways, improve their quality, and connect the mills and mines with the towns and villages where they sold their products and sourced their workers. Toll roads, known as Turnpikes, were established during the eighteenth century and often transformed informal routes into formal, primary highways (Petts, 2006f). Between 1555 and 1835, the maintenance of roads was the responsibility of the local parish but by the late seventeenth century, many parishes struggled to maintain their roadways as a result of the increased damage caused by larger volumes of wheeled traffic and greater use brought about by the changing economic profile of the region. In order to address the issue, the responsibility for managing and maintaining many of the major roads was assumed by Turnpike Trusts. Turnpike Trusts were either established under the general Turnpike Act of 1773 or under private Acts of Parliament. Echoing the earlier arrangement of parish responsibility for roads, the Turnpike Trusts were still commonly based upon parish boundaries and so a single road, such as The Street (00-0001), could be maintained by several trusts along its length or, by a single entity which oversaw several parishes. The route of The Street from Scotch Corner to the western boundary of Bowes parish was managed by the Middleton Tyas Lane to Greta Bridge and Bowes Turnpike Trust (00-0002) following its establishment in 1744 (Rosevar, 2017)<sup>68</sup>. Turnpike roads were a dominant feature of the transport network until the arrival of the railway, with which they could not compete when it came to moving volumes of material and people quickly over long distances. Gradually, the road network was 'dis-turnpiked' throughout the nineteenth century and the Turnpike Trusts wound up. The responsibility for maintaining the local road network then moved to local Highway Boards (created in 1835) and eventually to County Councils following their establishment in 1889 (Cumbria County Council)<sup>69</sup>.
- 8.1.7.10 The eighteenth century was the height of architectural and landscape design at grand country houses, with extensive designed garden and

<sup>68</sup> Rosevar, A. (2017) Turnpike Roads in England and Wales

<sup>69</sup> Cumbria County Council (no date) Turnpike Trusts.

parkland landscapes laid out around grand architectural buildings, such as at Rokeby Park (08-0011). Sir Thomas Robinson built Rokeby Park, including both the neo-Palladian country house and surrounding parkland, between 1725 and 1730 (Petts and Gerrard, 2006k)<sup>70</sup>. The principal building of Rokeby Park has a central block with projecting colonnade at ground floor, with projecting wings and pavilions on either side stepping back from the main façade (Arup, 2021)<sup>71</sup>. The parkland was enclosed in walls and included planted woodland cut through with rides with intentional views created along lines aligned on Mortham Tower to the east and towards the rising edge of the Pennines and the Stainmore Pass to the west (Arup, 2021). Gardens and pleasure grounds were laid out around the house, including romantically inspired features along the steep sides of the River Greta (Arup, 2021). A plan of the park from 1741 shows a long open space inspired by a Roman hippodrome laid out to the south of the house. It is not clear, however, if this was ever executed (Worsley, 1987)<sup>72</sup>.

8.1.7.11 During the nineteenth century, the ‘picturesque’ qualities of Rokeby Park drew many visitors and both Rokeby Park and Barnard Castle became sites of early tourism. Sir Walter Scott wrote an epic poem, ‘Rokeby’, inspired by a romantic vision of the medieval history of Rokeby while other artists, including Cotman and Turner, created artworks based on the park (Petts and Gerrard, 2006k).

8.1.7.12 The religious dynamics of the North East and North West were highly influenced by the rise of non-conformity. Old Dissent non-conformity, mainly consisting of the Society of Friends or Quakers and Baptists, arose in the seventeenth century while the Methodist movement grew in the eighteenth century from John Wesley’s Anglican reform movement which split into two groups in 1810, the Primitive Methodists and Congregationalists (Petts, 2006j)<sup>73</sup>. The non-conformist movements were attractive to the working classes of the north-east and north-west regions, and Quakers especially were widespread in the North Pennines. Originally a largely working class phenomenon, non-conformity eventually spread through all levels of nineteenth century society (Petts and Gerrard, 2006f). Important non-conformist families were resident in the region, and non-conformist chapels and meeting houses are found within the area, such as the tin tabernacle at Crackenthorpe (0405-0424), the Methodist Chapel and Sunday School at Temple Sowerby (0405-0432) and former Wesleyan Chapel at Bowes (07-0078).

8.1.7.13 A medieval borough fair held at Appleby at Whitsuntide ran from the medieval period until 1885 (Cumbria County History Trust, 2022a)<sup>74</sup>. A

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<sup>70</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006k) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.91)

<sup>71</sup> Arup (2021) A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project: Rokeby Park Setting Study

<sup>72</sup> Worsley, G. (1987) Rokeby Park, Yorkshire – I. Country Life, 19 March 1987

<sup>73</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006j) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.104)

<sup>74</sup> Cumbria County History Trust (2022a) Draft Township Histories: Appleby

'New Fair' began in 1775, held in early June on Gallows Hill, which was then unenclosed land beyond the borough boundary (Cumbria County History Trust, 2022a). The New Fair was for sheep and cattle drovers and horse dealers to sell their stock. This would evolve into the Appleby Horse Fair which by the close of the nineteenth century had become a major Gypsy, Roma and Traveller gathering which continues to the present day. The medieval market and fair traditionally held at Market Brough in late September also grew during the post medieval period into a large horse fair (Cumbria County History Trust, 2022a). The Brough Hill Horse Fair was initially larger than the fair at Appleby but since declined.

### **8.1.8 Twentieth century (AD 1901 - AD 2000)**

- 8.1.8.1 The early twentieth century in the region is marked by war memorials, starting with those of the Second Boer War of 1899 to 1902. There is a Boer War memorial at Penrith (01-0110) and another at Eamont Bridge (02-0026).
- 8.1.8.2 The two World Wars had a more direct impact on the region, especially the Second World War, with the requisition of country houses, the building of military camps and the transformation of Barnard Castle into a garrison town. Rokeby Hall was requisitioned to become a rehabilitation centre for service personnel while by 1941, six new military camps had been built in the area. The extensive Warcop Training Area was established during World War Two initially as a tank gunnery range, and now part of the Defence training estates. An RAF satellite landing ground was located at RAF Hornby Hall near Brougham. A spitfire crash site from 1942 is known near Dent House (08-0052).
- 8.1.8.3 The local heritage legacy of the two World Wars can be seen most obviously in the remains and sites of defensive structures, such as the site of the Second World War pillbox east of Crackenthorpe (0405-0168), and local war memorials in villages and towns, such as the Canal Defence Light Tank Project plaque at Brougham Hall, the First World War memorial at Appleby (0405-0107) and the Warcop War Memorial (06-0067). Larger local war memorials also include the recently rebuilt Appleby War Memorial Swimming Pool, originally built by public subscription, and the village hall at Kirkby Thore.
- 8.1.8.4 The development and expansion of the railways during the nineteenth century was fundamental to the industrial growth of the region during the Post Medieval period but the twentieth century saw railways in decline, culminating in the cuts of the 'Beeching Axe' in 1963 (Petts and Gerrard, 2006f). Many railways were closed and dismantled. As a result, often the only surviving elements of the original, expansive branch and local lines which once connected the villages of the region with its collieries, mainlines and cities, are the cuttings, embankments, bridges and viaducts along which the railways once ran. These remnants are sometimes preserved as public rights of way or managed as a conservation area, such as the Settle to Carlisle Railway Conservation Area (0405-0110) or the restored sections of the Eden Valley Railway at



Warcop Station. Other elements of historic railway are being restored and managed as railway heritage, such as the Eden Valley Railway Trust based at Warcop Station.

- 8.1.8.5 The modern road network grew in the twentieth century from a combination of expansion of existing routes and creation of new ones, and classification of roads into major, minor and high-speed roads. A-roads are classed as major roads linking regional towns and cities, also known as trunk roads. When road numbers were first designated in the 1920s as part of the Great Britain road numbering scheme, the A66 was assigned to the existing route between Penrith and Hull via Scotch Corner and York. Since the early 1970s, various bypasses and upgrades have been constructed along the historic A66 route resulting in a mix of single and dual-carriageway sections. Motorways, a controlled-access highway designed for high-speed vehicular traffic and regulated traffic flow, became widespread in the second half of the twentieth century, with the M6 Preston Bypass, the first motorway in England, built in 1958. The Lancaster to Penrith section of the M6, at the western end of the A66, was completed in 1970. The Scotch Corner diversion on the A1(M), at the eastern end of the A66, originally opened in 1971 and was upgraded to a three-lane motorway in 2018.
- 8.1.8.6 By the close of the twentieth century the Appleby Horse Fair was recognised as the largest Gypsy and Traveller gathering in Britain (Cumbria County History Trust, 2022a). The Brough Hill Horse Fair, however, had declined over the twentieth century as horses were replaced by the automobile and with the growth of the nearby Appleby Horse Fair. The reduced Brough Hill Horse Fair eventually moved from its historic location on Brough Hill to the current site at the Warcop Training Area (Cumbria County History Trust, 2022b)<sup>75</sup>.
- 8.1.8.7 Housing and settlement patterns also shifted during the twentieth century as slums were cleared in large urban areas, but also as industry and employment changed in rural areas. For example, in 1951 Durham County Council published its development plan tackling the problems of c. 350 small mining villages, which had grown up around uneconomic coal mines now threatened with closure, with the recommendation that many of these colliery villages should be allowed to die with no further economic assistance. By contrast, a series of new towns were developed to house those who were fleeing the colliery villages and seeking employment elsewhere in the 1950s and 1960s (Petts and Gerrard, 2006k)<sup>76</sup>.
- 8.1.8.8 Despite the overall decline in industry in the twentieth century after the rapid growth over the preceding centuries, some mining and manufacturing activity continued within the region. Alabaster or Gypsum (hydrated calcium sulphate) used in the creation of Plaster of Paris and Portland Cement has been quarried or mined at Kirkby Thore since at

<sup>75</sup> Cumbria County History Trust (2022b) Draft Township Histories: Brough under Stainmore

<sup>76</sup> Petts, D. and Gerrard, C. (2006k) Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment. Durham, Durham County Council (p.111)

least the early nineteenth century. The British Gypsum plaster and plasterboard plant at Kirkby Thore has manufactured 'Thistle brand' plasters continuously since 1910 although the production of plasterboard is a comparatively recent development, the first line being installed during the 1960's (Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area, 2022)<sup>77</sup>. In the 1980's environmental concerns saw the introduction of measures to reduce the emissions of coal fired power stations, which resulted in the offering of limestone converted to gypsum as a by-product which became available in 1994 and was both plentiful and cheaper than mined Gypsum (Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area, 2022). The largest source of what was known as Desulfogypsum was Drax power station in North Yorkshire and this supplied upwards of 250 tons per day by rail to Kirkby Thore (Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area, 2022). Both the mining and manufacture of Gypsum based products continues at Kirkby Thore today although only the Birkshead Mine remains in use (Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area, 2022).

## 8.1.9 Conclusion

- 8.1.9.1 Evidence of changing past human activity from prehistory to the modern period has been recorded in the landscape, monuments, buildings and settlements along the route of the A66 from Penrith to Scotch Corner. The ceremonial megalithic and funerary landscapes of the prehistoric period characterised by extensive henge monuments, standing stones and barrow mounds transitioned into a strongly militaristic landscape visible in the survival of Roman military camps and fortifications and medieval castles and fortified sites. A rural landscape of agriculture and pastureland surviving from at least the early medieval and medieval periods experienced a rapid rise in industrial and extractive activities supported by the extensive and expanding modern road and rail networks in the post medieval period, before a contraction in regional industries in the twentieth century. There is a deep continuity in settlement in the region, with many of the modern villages and towns dating from the early medieval and medieval periods and often located close to earlier Roman and Iron Age sites.
- 8.1.9.2 A consistent element in the landscape from the prehistoric period to the modern day has been the use of the Stainmore Pass as a transport and communication route. An early routeway for prehistoric trade and travel, the route of The Street (00-0001) was formalised by the Roman Road network, retained through the medieval period and formed the basis of the turnpike roads of the eighteenth century to the modern trunk road system. The route of the A66 through the Stainmore Pass reflects the journeys of humans carrying the earliest flint artefacts recovered by the Eden Valley Fieldwalking Group, the arrival of the Roman Army and consolidation of their occupation, the route of raiding parties between the Kingdoms of the heptarchy, the Danelaw and, later, between

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<sup>77</sup> Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area (2022) Settle Carlisle Railway Conservation Area: Gypsum Production in the Kirkby Thore Area



England and Scotland, and the method of transport for raw materials and manufactured goods of the mining and extractive industries of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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