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Summary

The field-walking and metal detecting survey provided only negative evidence for any past cultural activity, that essentially there was none of any major significance.

An area totalling approximately 2.6 hectares was investigated but only 36 cultural artefacts were recovered. The majority of these artefacts were from historic periods, largely from the late Medieval period onwards.

Possibly, occupation and settlement occurred during earlier periods but only minimal traces of material culture either existed or survived and were not readily visible to this survey.

Based only on the assemblage recovered, the study areas yielded no significant archaeological remains of any great antiquity or importance. It remains highly probable therefore, that past settlement and associated activities did not occur in the areas under direct investigation.

1. Introduction

The author of this report, Gerry Martin, has been commissioned by Mrs Alistair Wannop (the client) to enact an archaeological metal detecting and field-walk survey relating to the ground works for a nine hole golf course at Eden Golf Course, Crosby-on-Eden CA6 4RA. The planning application reference is 1/05/0434.

The development of the site will involve the creation of a new nine-hole golf course necessitating the excavation and casting of bunkers and low-level terrain around the greens and fairways. Three holes (1, 5 and 6) have been evaluated as to their archaeological potential, known as Areas 1-3 described below.

The action requested by the County Historic Environment Service, Cumbria County Council suggested potential and significant archaeological remains could be encountered.

The field survey will determine the archaeological response as part of any future planning condition whilst the archaeological survey presented below was also a condition of the planning consent with Cumbria County Council.

The survey took place on Monday and Tuesday October 17th and 18th 2005 at three locations, national grid references NY 345600 554100, NY 346700 559500 and NY 346700 559200.

All projects are carried out in accordance with PPG 16 and PPG 15 (DoE, 1990) and the guidelines and recommendations issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists and English Heritage.



Figure 1. Site location (Crown copyright Licence no. 100044205)

2. Site history

The study area lies within an agricultural landscape associated with Hadrian's Wall and the River Eden.

In the proximity of hole 1 (NY 345600 559100), the Historic Environmental Record has identified a stray find comprising of the surviving half of a Roman rotary quern, (SMR 19220) discovered during ploughing.

In closer proximity to the hole, two bone harpoon heads (SMR 4538) were found in a boggy field. According to the British Museum, these finds emanate from Terra Del Fuego, Argentina and therefore must be of relatively recent date rather than any greater antiquity.

Finally, an extant Grade II listed building, Crosby Lodge, (LB SMR 20070) is situated approximately 700m to the northwest of the study area. This sandstone building dates from 1807-1810 and is currently a hotel and restaurant.

Holes 5 and 6 lie to the east of an extant track and in the case of hole 6, just to the north of Black Wood, an area of mixed woodland.

Both greens lie approximately 500m to the west of a broadly north-south aligned small ditched boundary bank (SMR 482). This feature probably represented a medieval boundary dating from at least 1295, separating the barony of Gilsland from the Bishops Manor of Crosby. This earthwork consists of a double rampart with a central ditch approximately 3.00m in width and an overall width of circa 10.00m.

Approximately 300m to the west, Crosby Enclosure (SMR 6022) is situated. This field system, as identified by aerial photography (photo 2526,28), consists of a square plan enclosure equally divided into four quadrants located on a spur of higher ground overlooking a flat plain.

The northern sector displays faint vestiges of ridge and furrow and unidentified "bumps" that could represent tofts.

Within the enclosure, an extant ditch has truncated the southern area, whilst agricultural action appears to have truncated any upstanding archaeological deposits.

A provisional interpretation has suggested that this enclosure is of Celtic origin, possibly of Early Medieval date (pre-Norman Conquest). However, this remains an interpretation based on spatial form rather than any material culture.

3. Methodology

3.1 Objectives

The objective of the metal detector and field-walk investigation was to carry out a formal programme of archaeological observations that will suggest the location of previously unknown archaeological features denoted by the clustering or concentration of metallic objects and other artefacts.

- The metal detector survey will recover individual metallic objects and their location will be accurately logged.
- The field-walk survey will recover individual objects such as flint, pottery, glass, metal objects and ceramic building material and their location will be accurately logged.
- Plot the finds from both surveys and thereby derive patterns of clustering that may suggest and identify human settlement and occupation.

3.2 Methodology

In order to achieve these objectives, a record of all archaeological finds encountered during the field survey was made according to the protocols set out in the GMAF manual.

The field-walk and metal detector surveys were undertaken simultaneously.

Barry Wright an experienced metal-detectorist undertook the metal detector survey, Sophie Ebeling conducted the field walk with Gerry Martin who also logged all the finds and oversaw the management of the fieldwork.

The study areas comprised:

- Area 1, 70m x 150m, 1.05 hectares
- Area 2, 80m x 70m, 0.56 hectares
- Area 3, 100m x 100m, 1.00 hectares

Each area was divided into columns at 10m intervals. Columns were suffixed by letter e.g. A, B, C, etc.

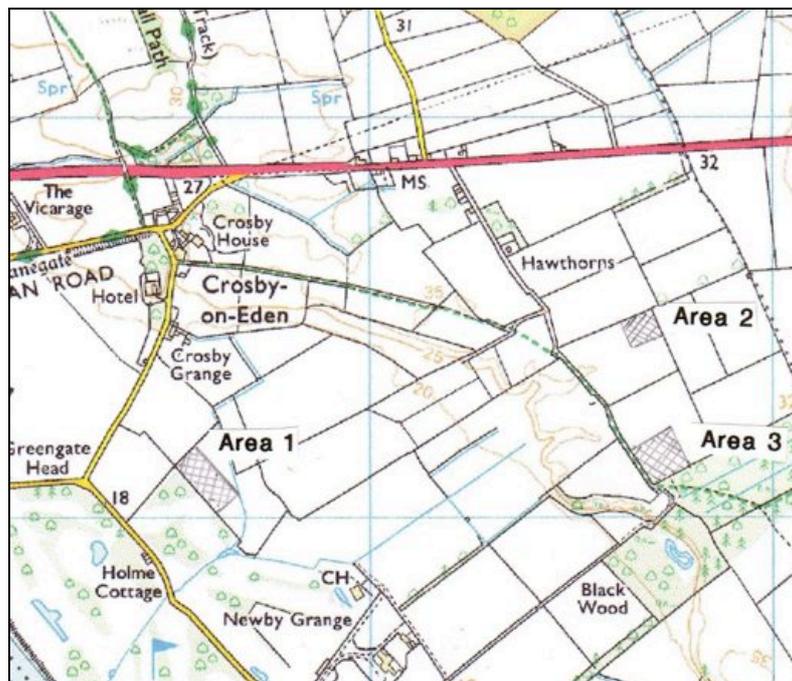


Figure 2. Location of study areas, (Crown copyright Licence no. 100044205)

The study area was “set out” by tapes and ranging poles to form a grid that was then walked by the metal detectorist and the two field-walkers. Each corner of the grid was located in real space by hand-held GPS.

When an individual find was discovered, it was located by its column letter e.g. A, and then measured from a baseline beginning at 0m. Therefore, a find may have the location Area 1 C/32 meaning that its provenance is within Area 1, in column C and 32 metres north of the base-line. These objects were individually bagged with their provenance clearly marked on the bag with a sequential small finds number (SF) attributed to the object.

In addition, a hand-held GPS apparatus logged the object at its given Ordnance Survey grid reference and this was marked on the bag.

3.3 Metal detector survey

The finds discovered by the metal detector survey were logged according to the protocols described above.

A discard policy for metal detector finds was as follows:

- Non-collection of silver paper
- Non-collection of ring-pulls, cans, bottle tops etc
- Non-collection of plough shears and modern agricultural equipment

The metal-detectorist engaged for this task was Mr Barry Wright. He is currently a Committee Member of Leicester Search Society and affiliated to the National Council for Metal Detectors and Federation of Metal Detectorists.

The specification required 2,940 metres to be walked as a metal detector survey.

3.4 Field-walk survey

The finds discovered by the field-walk survey were logged according to the protocols described above.

A discard policy for field-walk finds was as follows:

- Modern brick and tile
- Plastic
- 20th Century pottery and glass
- Modern tins, ring-pulls, bottle tops etc
- Heavy agricultural equipment

The finds were identified and where appropriate, washed before being packed and stored in environmentally stable conditions.

The finds remain the property of the landowner, but provision will be made to donate the finds to Tullie House Museum, Carlisle at the discretion of the landowner.



Figure 3. The survey in practice

4. Results

During the metal detector and field walk surveys a total of 36 objects were recovered of which 50% were discovered by metal detecting.

Area 1, agricultural land on a natural terrace, proved to be the most productive source for cultural artefacts producing 18 items over a distance of 1,120 metres (0.12 ha) walked and detected.

Out of 1.05 hectares available for study, 0.425 hectares was not tilled as it was either set-aside or beyond the immediate development area. The plough depth was between 0.10 and 0.15m and deemed light by agricultural standards. However, this probably was only a slight impediment to the field walk survey as 50% of the total finds recovered (9) were from the non-ploughed area.

Of the 18 finds recovered from Area 1, ten were recovered by metal detector and eight through field-walking.

These finds have been provisionally attributed to the temporal periods and functions described below.

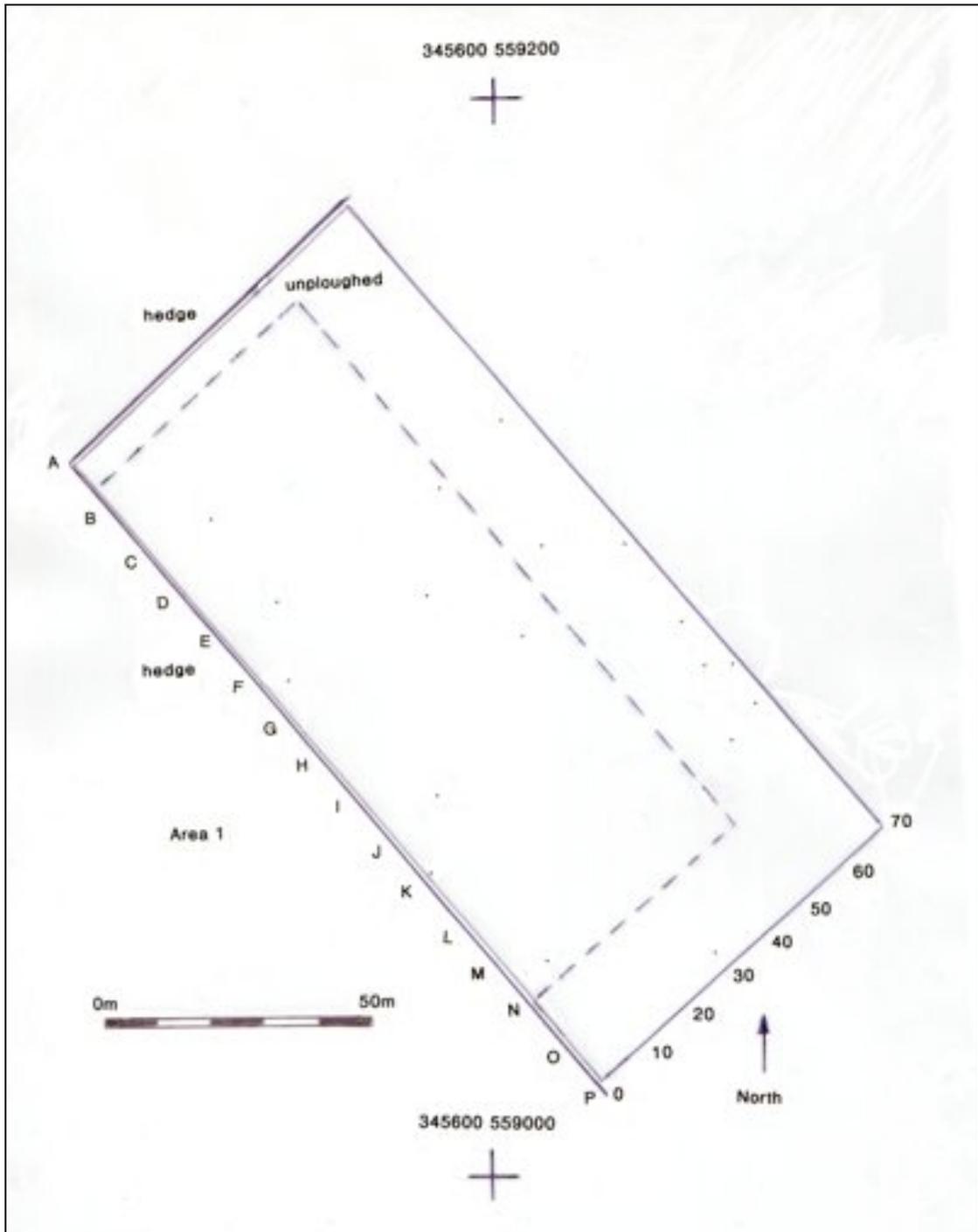


Figure 4. Finds distribution in Area 1

Finds SF 28, 31-34 clustered together within an area 25m in diameter. However, the four metal objects SF 31-34 could not be identified, merely representing scraps of waste lead and copper alloy.

Elsewhere, the finds appeared to be randomly distributed attributable to chance loss or “manuring” of farmland.

PERIOD	TOTAL	SF NO.	FUNCTION
Prehistoric	1	22	Tool
Medieval	5	25-28, 36	60% pottery, 20% coinage, 20% tool
Post-Medieval	3	20, 21, 35	67% pottery and 33% personal artefact
18 th Century	2	24, 29	50% coinage and 50% pottery
Modern	1	19	Tool
Unknown	6	23, 30-34	83% unidentified and 17% personal artefact

Table 1. Finds grouped by period and function, Area 1

Four finds however, had some significance and intrinsic interest.

- Dark grey/black plano-convex shale? (possibly of the Pendleside series) blade SF 22 measuring 35mm x 5mm x 3mm with evidence of retouch on the cutting and distal edges. The lack of clear definition of form suggests a late neolithic date when a general impoverishment of stone tool manufacturing resulted in cruder flakes/blades such as is represented by this artefact. It would be erroneous to ascribe specific function to the tool as many flakes of the period were produced and used in the context of a variety of activities and discarded with little formality (Edmonds 1995 p. 96). Larger scatters may indicate settlement in the vicinity of the find spot although as this was an isolated specimen this case appears unlikely.

Edmonds, M. Stone Tools and Society, London, Batsford 1995.

- Lead loomweight SF 26 measuring 20mm in diameter of which less than half survives. Undecorated but possibly Medieval.
- Silver coin SF 27 measuring 22mm in diameter was heavily worn and bent due to plough damage. Sufficient inscription remained to identify this coin as belonging to the reign of Elizabeth I and probably the value of a groat (4d).
- Copper alloy, possibly a candelabra remnant SF 35, measuring 38mm in diameter and 63mm in height. This artefact comprises of a round bowl 33mm in height with a decorated serrated lip, attached to two flanges that presumably were inserted into a larger piece. Possibly, post-medieval or later in date but this interpretation remains open.

Area 2, open and elevated, well-drained sandy ground, yielded a relatively low cultural assemblage producing 13 items over a distance of 640 metres (0.064 ha) detected and an area approximately 0.12m hectares intensively walked.

In this area, a variation on the field-walking methodology was required. As only a relatively small area was tilled (0.12m ha), walking 10m wide transects would produce a miniscule finds assemblage. These transects were reduced to 1m apart and produced eight artefacts.

Of the 13 finds recovered from Area 2, five were recovered by metal detector and eight through field-walking.

These finds have been provisionally attributed to the following temporal periods and functions.

PERIOD	TOTAL	SF NO.	FUNCTION
Medieval?	2	3, 4	100% pottery?
Post-Medieval	4	8-10, 12	75% building material, 25% musket ball
Modern	4	1, 2, 5, 6	50% tools, 25% weaponry, 25% clothing
Unknown	3	7, 11, 13	33% lead shot, 33% building material, 33% slag

Table 2. Finds grouped by period and function, Area 2.

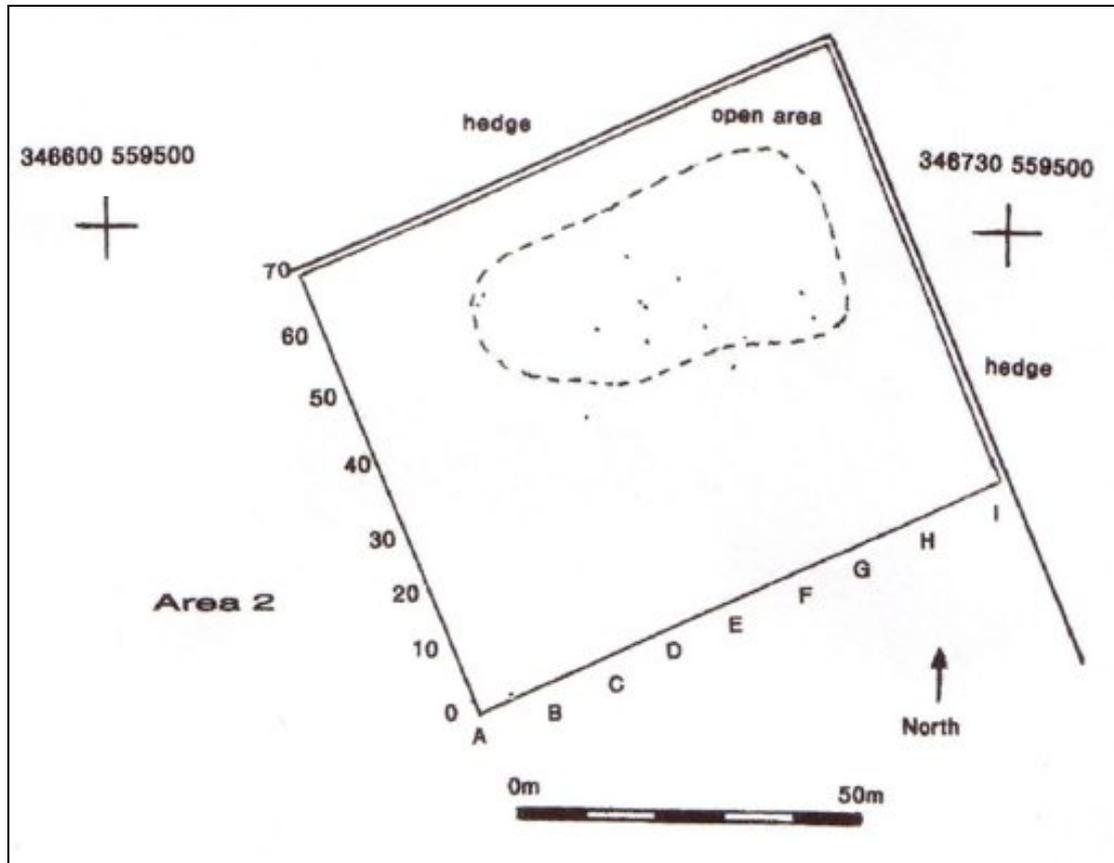


Figure 5. Finds distribution in Area 2

The clustering in Area 2 was attributable to the intensive survey conducted in a relatively small area. Only two crude pottery sherds (one of which is of uncertain fabric) appeared to possess any antiquity (Medieval?), and these were probably deposited during “manuring” of farmland.

Area 3, enclosed and heavily waterlogged clayey ground, provided a very poor return of artefacts for an area encompassing 1.00 hectare of which 1,100 metres (0.11m ha) was walked. A sample size of five artefacts was insufficient to draw any valid conclusions. This was in part due to the poor ground conditions caused by an earlier potato crop and inclement weather. Moreover, 0.1 hectare was set-aside and another 0.11m hectare was stripped of topsoil.

Of the 5 finds recovered from Area 3, three were recovered by metal detector and two through field-walking.

These finds have been provisionally attributed to the following temporal periods and functions.

PERIOD	TOTAL	SF NO.	FUNCTION
Late Roman	1	17	100% coinage
Medieval?	2	14, 16	50% pottery, 50% personal artefact
Post-Medieval	1	18	100% pottery
Modern	1	15	100% clothing

Table 3. Finds grouped by period and function, Area 3.

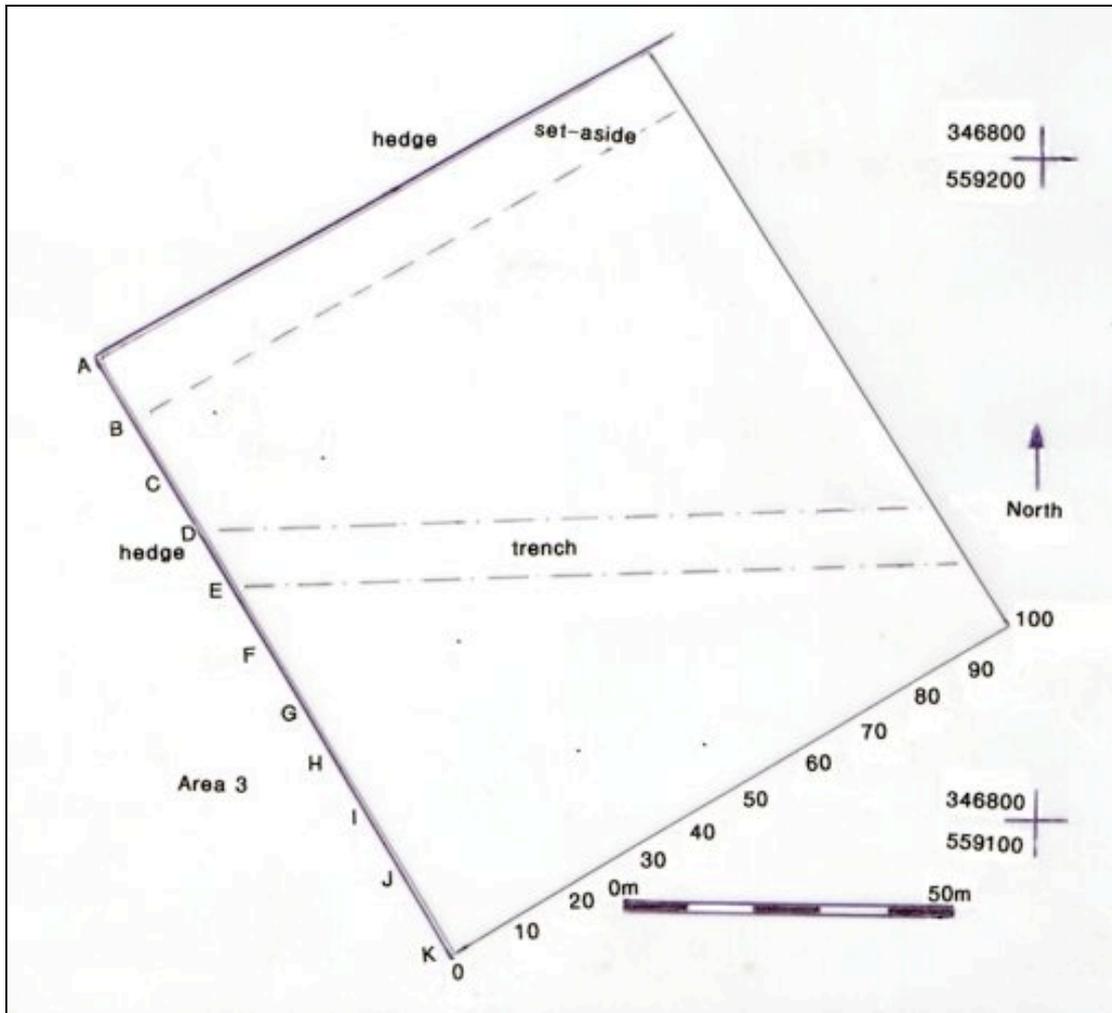


Figure 6. Finds distribution in Area 3

The assemblage was probably attributable to chance loss although finds of intrinsic interest were the following:

- A possible pewter spoon-end SF 16, measuring 22mm x 18mm. Possibly of Medieval date but open to re-interpretation.
- A copper alloy coin SF17, measuring 18mm in diameter. The coin is a probable *minima*, of late Roman date but all relief that may identify the coin has been lost. The artefact is heavily recorded being little more than a copper alloy disc and is not worthy of further conservation.

CATALOGUE OF ALL FINDS RECOVERED

SF NO.	AREA	FABRIC	INTERPRETATION	DATE (PROV)	GRID REF	OS REF	SURVEY TYPE
1	2	Brass	End of key	Modern	D38	346671 559472	MD
2	2	Iron	Nail	Modern	D58	346664 559427	FW
3	2	Pottery?	Sherd?	Med?	C55	346654 559488	FW
4	2	Pottery/CBM	Sherd?	Med?	Random	346671 559485	FW
5	2	Lead	22 Bullet	Modern	E49	346679 559484	MD
6	2	Cu alloy	Button	Modern	E45	346679 559488	MD
7	2	Residue	Slag	Unknown	Random	346675 559495	FW
8	2	Lead	Musket ball	Post-Med	F41	346691 559480	MD
9	2	CBM	Tile	Post-Med	Random	346683 559492	FW
10	2	CBM	Horseshoe land drain	Post-Med	Random	346703 559487	FW
11	2	Slate	Tile?	Unknown	Random	346701 559491	FW
12	2	CBM	Tile	Post-Med?	Random	346687 559486	FW
13	2	Lead	Shot	Unknown	Random	346678 559489	MD
14	3	Pottery	Sherd	Medieval	D37	346712 559127	FW
15	3	Cu alloy	Button	Modern	D14	346730 559110	MD
16	3	Pewter	Spoon?	Medieval	F7	346749 559111	MD
17	3	Cu alloy	Coin	L.Roman	C60	345675 559161	MD
18	3	Pottery	Salt glaze sherd	Post-Med	E62	345691 559144	FW
19	1	Composite metal	Penknife	Modern	F47	345590 559129	MD
20	1	Pottery	Tin glaze sherd	Post-Med?	F63	345601 559141	FW
21	1	Pottery	Tin glaze sherd	Post-Med?	F14	345559 559108	FW
22	1	Stone	Blade	Prehistoric	D13	345547 559123	FW
23	1	Cu alloy	Handle strap	Unknown	G4	345562 559093	MD
24	1	Cu alloy	Coin, very worn	18 th C?	G32	345587 559109	MD
25	1	Pottery	Sherd	Med	H59	345608 559118	FW
26	1	Lead	Loomweight?	Med?	I38	345605 559101	MD
27	1	Silver	Elizabeth I groat	16 th C	J9	345589 559072	MD

28	1	Pottery	Sherd	Med	I64	345634 559104	FW
29	1	Pottery	Glazed sherd	18 th -19 th C	J1	345589 559059	FW
30	1	Stone	Chipping	Unknown	I67	345627 559118	FW
31	1	Lead	Object	Unknown	L64	345639 559095	MD
32	1	Cu alloy	Object	Unknown	L68	345644 559096	MD
33	1	Lead	Fragment	Unknown	M65	345648 559088	MD
34	1	Lead	Fragment	Unknown	M59	345644 559083	MD
35	1	Cu alloy	Candelabra?	Post-Med?	N9	345610 559041	MD
36	1	Pottery	Sherd	Med	P28	345641 559043	FW

FW = Field-walk

MD = Metal-detected

Table 4. Catalogue of all finds recovered.

5. Discussion

Due to the low artefact yield, it is presumptuous to draw too many conclusions from such a small assemblage. The breakdown by period is as follows.

PERIOD	TOTAL	SF NO.	PERCENTAGE
Prehistoric	1	22	2.77
Late Roman	1	17	2.77
Medieval	9	3, 4, 14, 16, 25-28, 36	25.00
Post-Medieval	8	8-10, 12, 18, 20, 21, 35	22.22
18 th Century	2	24, 29	5.55
Modern	6	1, 2, 5, 6, 15, 19	16.66
Unknown	9	7, 11, 13, 23, 30-34	25.00

Table 5. Proportion of finds by period

Evidence for prehistoric and Roman occupation remains slim. In Area 1, a single worked stone blade or flake is indicative of proximity settlement albeit of unknown scale and date. The location of this particular study area on a terrace close to the river would suggest that this locality was probably farmed in prehistory. However, a possible late Roman coin in Area 3 is probably attributable to chance loss.

Medieval finds comprise of a quarter of the assemblage but with nine artefacts spread over three areas, it is almost certain that no direct settlement impacted upon the study area. Chance loss and “manuring “ would probably account for these items.

The Medieval pottery (4 sherds identified, 2 sherds uncertain but possible) was fairly abraded, worn, undecorated and without glaze. Three sherds were probably orange sandy reduced ware, local to the area, whilst the other was a grey, gritty ware. One sherd represented part of a rim but no form or function could be grasped from such small fragments.

Within Area 2, Post-Medieval tile and an early horseshoe-type land drain may reflect agricultural improvements in the vicinity. Elsewhere, finds of this date within the assemblage are probably attributable once more, to chance loss.

Material from the 18th Century and onwards is again attributable to chance loss and is not indicative of settlement within the study area. Enclosure and extant modern settlement as well as documentary sources suggest that the study area was farmland or woodland. Recreational hunting may have been enjoyed as a small number of bullets and musket balls were recovered.

The recovered assemblage confirms a number of functions though there remains no overriding or single activity occurring within the study area. This concurs with the notion that these artefacts are the result of chance loss rather than discarded material from any specific function.

Multi-functional pottery is the largest single material from the assemblage but the sample size is once more, too small to discern any spatial and temporal pattern or clustering.

FUNCTION	TOTAL	SF NO.
Building materials	4	9-12
Clothing	2	6, 15
Coinage	3	17, 24, 27
Industrial residue	1	7
Weaponry	3	5, 8, 13
Other and unidentified	5	30-34
Personal artefacts	5	1, 16, 19, 23, 25
Pottery	10	3, 4, 14, 18, 20, 21, 25, 28, 29, 36
Tools and implements	3	2, 22, 26

Table 6. Proportion of finds by function

Somewhat surprisingly, modern material that was not collected e.g. silver paper, cans, ring-pulls and tubes was slight, and if collected would only have brought the total of artefacts up to approximately 50. This suggests that the fields have been either kept free of rubbish by good husbandry or the area has remained largely secluded and dormant.

In conclusion, based on the metal detecting and field –walking surveys, no significant cultural remains of any great antiquity appear to exist within the three study areas.

6. Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with the appropriate archaeological curator, Tullie House, Carlisle. This archive has been assembled in accordance within the protocols of Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP 2).

7. Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mr Alistair Wannop of Eden Valley Golf Club for the opportunity to undertake this investigation and briefing me on this development. My thanks are also due to Barry Wright and Sophie Ebeling for their help in the field survey and to Arran Ferguson for post-excavation research on the lithics.

Thanks are also due to the County Historic Environment Service for providing much of the background information for this survey.