

Woodland Management Plan

Woodland Property Name	LANCASTER CASTLE	
Case Reference		
Plan Period: 2016 - 2026	Approval Date:	To:
Five Year Review Date	2021	

Revision No.	Date	Status (draft/final)	Reason for Revision
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland			Yes

User Support

The functionality in this version of the management plan template has been downgraded to ensure compatibility with Word 2003.

This document is not protected and as such rows can be added & deleted from tables where needed.

UKFS Management Planning Criteria

Approval of this plan will be considered against the following UKFS criteria, prior to submission review your plan against the criteria using the check list below.

No.	UKFS Management Plan Criteria	Approval Criteria	Applicant Check
1	Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how the appropriate balance between economic, environmental and social objectives will be achieved.	Have objectives of management been stated? Consideration given to economic, environmental and social factors (Section 2.2)	✓
2	Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Does the management strategy (section 6) take into account the forest context and any special features identified within the woodland survey (section 4)	✓
3	In designated areas, for example national parks, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	Have appropriate designations been identified (section 4.2) if so are these reflected through the work proposals in the management strategy (Section 6)	✓
4	At the time of felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS Requirements.	Felling and restocking are consistent with UKFS forest design principles (Section 5 of the UKFS)	✓
5	Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	Has consultation happened in line with current FC guidance and recorded as appropriate in section 7	✓
6	Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve structural diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	✓
7	Forests characterised by a lack of diversity due to extensive areas of even-aged trees should be progressively restructured to achieve a range of age classes.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve age class diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	✓
8	Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	Has a 5 year review period been stated (1st page) and where relevant achievements recorded in section 3	✓
9	New forests and woodlands should be located and designed to maintain or enhance the visual, cultural and ecological value and character of the landscape.	When new planting is being proposed under this plan is it consistent with UKFS and FC guidance on woodland creation	N/A

1. Property Details

<u>Woodland Property Name</u>		LANCASTER CASTLE	
Name	Helen Ryan	Owner ✓	Tenant
Email	hryan@lancaster.gov.uk	Contact Number	01524 582822
Agent Name: David Brackley			
Email	brackley@btinternet.com	Contact Number	01772 451276
County	Lancashire	<u>Local Authority</u>	Lancaster City Council
Grid Reference	SD 473 621	Single Business Identifier	107336547
Management Plan Area (Hectares)		3.15 Ha	
Have you included a Plan of Operations with this management plan?		No	
List the maps associated with this management plan		1. Location of Lancaster BTC 2. Overview of Woodlands 3. Woodland Compartment Boundaries 4. Scheduled Monument	
Do you intend to use the information within the management plan and associated plan of operations to apply for the following		Felling Licence	No
		Thinning Licence	No
		Woodland Regeneration Grant	No
Declaration of management control and agreement to public availability of the plan		Yes	

2. Vision and Objectives

To develop your long term vision, you need to express as clearly as possible the overall direction of management for the woodland(s) and how you envisage it will be in the future. This covers the duration of the plan and beyond.

2.1 Vision

Describe your long term vision for the woodland(s).

The owner wishes to see the woodlands develop to meet the needs of residents and visitors to the urban green space that is situated within the Castle Hill and Quay Meadow Conservation Area and ancient scheduled monument site.

Overall the vision aims to provide a sustainable broadleaved forest component within the mosaic of diverse habitats that constitute the property.

The woodlands will be managed for recreation and biodiversity and to support regeneration and management that is sensitive of, and enhances the historic and cultural values of the site.

Internal landscaping and the management of trees and woodlands to provide views and vistas will also shape woodland management policy and practice.

Local residents and communities will be encouraged to participate in woodland management planning and the implementation of tree and woodland management works where appropriate.

The provision of access within the site and linkages to the surrounding city of Lancaster are crucial to the concept and development of the area as a key urban green space and significant heritage site.

Woodland management will be sympathetic to the creation and maintenance of safe and attractive footpath and cycle routes as part of an adopted access strategy.

2.2 Management Objectives

State the objectives of management demonstrating how sustainable forest management is to be achieved. Objectives are a set of specific, quantifiable statements that represent what needs to happen to achieve the long term vision.

No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations)
1	Maintain woodland cover as an integral component of a mosaic of diverse habitats and land-use zones within an urban setting.
2	Manage trees and woodlands in sympathy with the archaeological, heritage and landscape values of the site.
3	Increase woodland biodiversity.
4	Manage trees and woodlands in the vicinity of paths and roads to provide safe and attractive access.
5	Explore opportunities to engage with local communities and volunteers so that people become more involved with woodland management activities.

3. Plan Review - Achievements

Use this section to identify achievements made against previous plan objectives. This section should be completed at the 5 year review and could be informed through monitoring activities undertaken.

TO BE COMPLETED AT PLAN REVIEW IN 2020.

This plan forms part of a comprehensive design/master planning and regeneration strategy for the 14 Ha of urban green space and heritage site that stretches from Lancaster Castle to St George's Quay. The site has been identified as a key site ('City Park opportunity site') through Lancaster City Council's urban regeneration framework 'Lancaster Square Routes'.

This ambition is facilitated through the 'Beyond the Castle' project, a partnership led by Lancashire County Council and Lancaster City Council in collaboration with local communities and stake holders.

Since its inception in 2012 Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council have initiated and coordinated research & development, restoration works and extensive community engagement and collaboration with local partners.

The project started in 2012 with an innovative co-design phase led by Lancaster University's design research laboratory 'Imagination'. A series of public events were held involving more than 700 people aged between 3 and 92. The events generated hundreds of creative ideas, drawings, stories, models and proposals for the future of the area around Lancaster's historic castle and priory (for more information see: http://imagination.lancaster.ac.uk/outcomes/Beyond_Castle_Imagining_Future).

The 'Beyond the Castle – Imagining the Future' report is recognised as an important source of ideas and opinions gathered that helped to shape the direction for the Beyond the Castle Project; it includes specific references to woodland management (see Appendix 3).

Following the report a number of training days and events were organised for local communities and volunteers, focusing on the site's archaeology, history, biodiversity and future management proposals. These included the following woodland themed events:

- 25 June and 9 July 2014 – An Introduction to Community Woodland Assessment and Management.
- 9 January 2015 – Introduction to Woodland Management Plans
- 14 March 2015 – Woodland Management Planning: Values and Objectives for Lancaster Beyond the Castle

Learning from this early engagement translated into a successful Heritage Lottery funding bid aimed at research and engagement/ sharing of heritage, restoration and management planning (2014/15).

The closure of Lancaster Castle as a prison in 2012 and its development as a heritage visitor attraction by the Duchy of Lancaster provides a much needed anchor development to unlock heritage, landscape and leisure potential of this significant 14 Ha urban heritage site.

4. Woodland Survey

A walk over survey to assess woodland composition and condition was carried out during May 2015 and a photographic record of the compartments saved to DVD.

The basic characteristics of the compartments are summarised in Appendix 2.

4.1 Description

Brief description of the woodland property:

Location

The woodlands are located approximately 500 m. to the north-west of Lancaster city centre, on the public open space land to the north of Lancaster Castle and to the south of St. George's Quay (see Map 1).

Landscape

The woodlands comprise 8 no. compartments occupying a rectangle of land measuring 0.35 km. (east-west) by 0.45 km. (north-south). Map 2 shows an aerial photograph overview of the woodlands.

The total area of woodland is 3.15 ha within a total site area for Lancaster Beyond the Castle of approximately 14 Ha. The woodlands are broadleaved plantations derived from amenity landscape planting and some natural regeneration. Map 3 shows the woodland compartment boundaries.

The National Character area is NCA 31: Morecambe Coast and Lune Estuary and the Natural Area is 13: Lancashire Plain and Valleys.

The site lies within the 'Sub-urban' (centre of site) and 'Historic Core' (north and south of site) landscape character types according to the Lancashire Landscape Strategy (Lancashire County Council, 2001).

History

The Roman fort at Lancaster was constructed on Castle Hill around AD 80 and the Scheduled Monument extends to 4.74 Ha (see Map 4) and includes the upstanding and buried remains of the northern part of the fort, together with the buried remains of a pre-Norman conquest monastery and a Benedictine priory founded in 1094.

An extract from the Historic England (formerly English Heritage) record of the Scheduled Monument is included at Appendix 1.

The current woodlands are a recent addition relative to the long history of the site, having been planted during the 1960's – 1980's, or have developed from the natural regeneration of older trees associated with the former glebe land of the Priory Church or those growing alongside the Castle Branch railway (built in 1860).

The Priory Church glebe land was gifted to Lancaster City Council in 1946 as open space for recreational use.

Compartment 1 was formerly an allotment area with windbreak rows of sycamore and privet. Compartments 2 and 4 are screen plantings adjacent to the West Coast Main Line railway and residential and commercial properties, which enclose Quay Meadow and sports ground. Compartments 3 and 5 are derived from trees growing alongside the former Castle branch railway line, which is now a cycle path.

Access

The Lancaster Castle woodlands are accessed via the principal site access points off St. Mary's Parade and Long Marsh Lane to the south and St. George's Quay to the north.

A tarmac surfaced cycle path bisects the site east-west, connecting St. George's Quay and Damside Street to Long Marsh Lane; and Vicarage Lane is a tarmac surfaced Public Right of Way (FP26) crossing the south eastern corner of the site from St. Mary's church to the cycle path (see Map 3). Elsewhere there is unrestricted pedestrian access and a number of unsurfaced paths and desire lines provide access to all the woodlands except compartment 7.

Steep slopes limit access to and within some parts of compartments 3, 5 and 8.

Geology and Soils

The bedrock comprises siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Roeburndale Member.

In the north and west of the site the bedrock is overlain by superficial deposits of clay and silt (Raised Tidal Flat Deposits). Sand and gravel Glaciofluvial Sheet Deposits originally covered the central part of the site, and Till to the south.

Soilscape classifies the native soils as predominantly Soilscape 6: freely draining slightly acid loamy soil, and to the north, Soilscape 23: loamy and sandy soils with naturally high groundwater and a peaty surface.

However the natural condition of the soils has been greatly modified over time by anthropogenic influences resulting from historical phases of construction, excavation and compaction.

Altitude and Topography

The altitude range of the woodlands is from approximately 7 m. to 25 m. above sea level.

The topography of the site is determined by Castle Hill, with the woodlands located on the west and north facing slopes. Within the woodland compartments overall the topography is highly variable and includes level areas and slopes ranging from gentle to very steep.

Climate

The average annual rainfall is approximately 1044 mm. (483 mm in the summer half year and 561 mm in the winter).

The annual accumulated temperature (day-degrees above 5 degrees Celsius) is approximately 1666, and the average annual temperature 10.0 degrees Celsius.

There are approximately 20 days of air frost and 60 days of ground frost on average per year, although the actual durations experienced within the woodlands is less due to the microclimate.

Windiness as measured by DAMS (detailed aspect method of scoring) falls within the range of 10.0 to 12.0 for the woodland areas, i.e. mostly 'sheltered'.

Ecological Features

The woodlands have a moderately wide range of broadleaved tree species which are predominantly honorary native or native (see Appendix 2: 'Summary of Compartment Characteristics').

There are currently low levels of standing and fallen deadwood, due to the relatively young age of most of the stands and the removal of timber in the interests of safety

and amenity, although recent pruning and thinning work has provided some habitat piles.

Stored coppice and a small number of old trees provide deadwood habitats and if retained (where safe to do so) will develop ancient tree characteristics over time.

Variation in tree spacing and the presence of small canopy gaps have allowed the development of a herb and shrub layer. There is abundant and widespread natural regeneration of sycamore and ash where light conditions allow.

Land Use

The woodlands have been used for visual amenity and screening. However the Beyond the Castle Project has resulted in considering the woodlands for the delivery of a wider range of benefits, particularly in relation to visitor enjoyment of the site, education and biodiversity.

On the Scheduled Monument site there is concern that existing trees may be damaging to the archaeology in the event of windthrow. New tree planting is not permitted on this area and natural regeneration is controlled.

Within the site land use adjacent to the woodlands is predominantly amenity grassland. Residential and business properties, including car parking areas, are located adjacent to compartments 4, 5, 7 and 8.

The West Coast Main Line railway is on an embankment adjacent to the western boundary of compartment 2.

A Forestry Commission (FC) 'Land Information Search' viewed on the internet on 29/05/15 lists the following land designations located fully or partially on the property:

- Objective 2 (DEFRA)
- Woods Close to People (FC)
- Priority Places for England (FC)
- Scheduled Monument (Historic England) – National Monument No. 34987
- Countryside Stewardship Biodiversity (FC) – Priority Habitat Network, high spatial priority
- Countryside Stewardship Biodiversity (FC) – Priority Habitat Proximity – broadleaved woodland
- Countryside Stewardship Water (FC) – Flood Risk – high spatial priority

4.2 Information

Use this section to identify features that are both present in your woodland(s) and where required, on land adjacent to your woodland.

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Adjacent to Woodland(s)	Map No
<u>Biodiversity - Designations</u>				
Site of Special Scientific Interest	No		No	
Special Area of Conservation	No		No	
Tree Preservation Order	Yes	All	Yes	
Conservation Area	Yes	All	Yes	
Special Protection Area	No		No	
Ramsar Site	No		No	
National Nature Reserve	No		No	
Local Nature Reserve	No		No	
Other (please Specify):	No		No	
Notes				

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
<u>Biodiversity - European Protected Species</u>				
Bat Species (if known): Pipistrelle	Yes	All		
Dormouse	No			
Great Crested Newt	No			
Otter	No			
Sand Lizard	No			
Smooth Snake	No			
Natterjack Toad	No			
<u>Biodiversity - Priority Species</u>				
<u>Schedule 1 Birds</u> Species: Treecreeper	Yes			
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)	No			
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)	No			Slow worm is reported to be present nearby (Galgate area).
Plants	No			
Fungi/Lichens	No			
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)	No			
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			A Bioblitz event was

				held in 2013 which recorded 389 No. taxa, including 326 spp. of flowering plants.
<u>Historic Environment</u>				
Scheduled Monuments	Yes	5 and 6	4	National Monument No. 34987
Unscheduled Monuments	No			
Registered Parks and Gardens	No			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees	No			
Listed Buildings	No			
Other (please Specify): Conservation Area	Yes			Lancaster Conservation Area: Castle and Quay character areas
<u>Landscape</u>				
<u>National Character Area</u> (please Specify) - NCA 31: Morecambe Coast and Lune Estuary				
National Park	No			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
<u>People</u>				
CROW Access	No			
Public Rights of Way (any)	Yes			FP26 adjacent to cpts 3, 5 and 6.
Other Access Provision	Yes			Permissive footpaths, de-facto open access to woodlands.
Public Involvement	Yes			See Section 3 above.
Visitor Information	Yes			Dedicated web and Facebook pages.
Public Recreation Facilities	Yes			Benches and mown grass picnic areas.
Provision of Learning Opportunities	Yes			Training courses and volunteer work days.
Anti-social Behaviour	Yes			Littering, drug-use.
Other (please Specify):	Yes			Vagrancy.
<u>Water</u>				
Watercourses	No			
Lakes	No			
Ponds	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			

4.3 Habitat Types

This section is to consider the habitat types within your woodland(s) that might impact/inform your management decisions

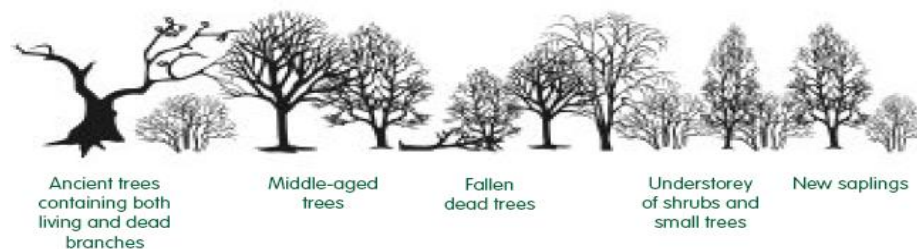
Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Woodland Habitat Types				
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	No			
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	No			
Semi-natural features in PAWS	No			
Lowland beech and yew woodland	No			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Yes	All		
Upland mixed ash woods	No			
Upland Oakwood	No			
Wet woodland	No			
Wood-pasture and parkland	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
Non Woodland Habitat Types				
Blanket bog	No			
Fenland	No			
Lowland calcareous grassland	No			
Lowland dry acid grassland	No			
Lowland heath land	No			
Lowland meadows	No			
Lowland raised bog	No			
Rush pasture	No			
Reed bed	No			
Wood pasture	No			
Upland hay meadows	No			
Upland heath land	No			
Unimproved grassland	No			
Peat lands	No			
Wetland habitats	No			
Other (please Specify):	Yes	1		Amenity grassland adjacent to cpts 1, 2, 3,4,5 and 6.

4.4 Structure

This section should provide a snapshot of the current structure of your woodland as a whole. A full inventory for your woodland(s) can be included in the separate Plan of Operations spreadsheet. Ensuring woodland has a varied structure in terms of age, species, origin and open space will provide a range of benefits for the biodiversity of the woodland and its resilience. The diagrams below show an example of both uneven and even aged woodland.

Woodland Type (Broadleaf, Conifer, Coppice, Intimate Mix)	Percentage of Mgt Plan Area	Age Structure (even/uneven)	Notes (i.e. understory or natural regeneration present)
Broadleaved Plantation	100%	Even-aged	<p>Some variation of age classes provided by the range of planting dates and the presence of old specimen trees and stored coppice.</p> <p>Tree and shrub natural regeneration widespread but patchy, surviving where light levels allow.</p>

Uneven-aged woodland – many wildlife habitats because of high diversity



Even-aged woodland – tidy but of low diversity



5. Woodland Protection

Woodlands in England face a range of threats; this section allows you to consider the potential threats that could be facing your woodland(s).

5.1 Risk Matrix

The matrix below provides a system for scoring risk. The matrix also indicates the advised level of action to take to help manage the threat.

Impact	High	Plan for Action	Action	Action
	Medium	Monitor	Plan for Action	Action
	Low	Monitor	Monitor	Plan for Action
		Low	Medium	High
Likelihood of Presence				

5.2 [Plant Health](#)

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	Ash dieback
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low - ash is a relatively minor component.
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor for presence. Avoid reliance on ash natural regeneration for restocking.

5.3 [Deer](#)

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	None (although roe deer occasionally sighted in the locality)
Impact (high/medium/low)	n/a
Response (inc protection measures)	n/a (Monitor for potential future presence)

5.4 [Grey Squirrels](#)

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low - in relation to landscape and visual amenity; Medium for nature conservation.
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor and consider control methods if damage levels become unacceptable.

5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Rabbit and Voles
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	High - for unprotected natural regeneration and young trees planted in restock areas. Low - overall.
Response (inc protection measures)	Provide individual tree guards for young trees.

5.6 Water & Soil

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Soil erosion or compaction associated with desire line footpath routes.
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Consider surfacing new access routes, or using passive control measures e.g. dead-hedging or shrub planting as a deterrent.

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Pollution from chemical spills associated with machinery or vegetation control.
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium – in localised areas only.
Response (inc protection measures)	Ensure safe working practice, including the provision of chemical spill kits.

5.7 Environmental

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Wind
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low – sheltered according to DAMS category but coastal site location.
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Timely respacing and thinning to improve tree rooting and stability.

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Fire
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Vigilance and early reporting of fire outbreaks to the emergency services.

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Anti-social behaviour: dog-fouling, littering, vandalism to trees, drug-use.
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Education and signage. Peer pressure from responsible dog-walkers and other visitors. Monitoring/patrolling by Lancaster City Council rangers and volunteers.

5.8 [Climate Change](#) Resilience

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Small Scale of Woodlands
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	The very limited opportunity to significantly increase woodland area on the site is acknowledged. Increase the number of appropriate tree and shrub species used in restock areas, to adapt to potential future climate change impacts.

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Uniform Structure
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Continue to provide structural diversity through thinning or selective felling to create transient open ground conditions and the phases of woodland development.

6. Management Strategy

This section requires a statement of intent, setting out how you intend to achieve your management objectives and manage important features identified within the previous sections of the plan. A detailed work programme by sub-compartment can be added to the Plan of Operations.

Management Objective	Management Intention
1. Maintain woodland cover as an integral component of a mosaic of diverse habitats and land-use zones within an urban setting.	<p>Overstocked areas will be thinned to ensure the survival of an intimate mixture of light demanding tree species and to promote the growth, health and quality of the remaining trees.</p> <p>In the long term the group selection system will be used to ensure that older stands are gradually replaced through coupe fellings and restocking.</p>
2. Manage trees and woodlands in sympathy with the archaeological, heritage and landscape values of the site.	<p>Tree and scrub regeneration will be cleared from the Scheduled Monument designated area.</p> <p>Tree felling to maintain or create views, both internal and external to the site, will be undertaken as part of an agreed landscape management plan.</p> <p>The woodland is within a Conservation Area and section 211 notifications will be required for the proposed thinning and individual tree fellings. This will be achieved by the review of felling proposals by the Lancaster City Council Tree Protection Officer and signing off by the council's Regeneration and Planning Department. This removes the need to submit an 'Application for Tree Work' for each item of tree works.</p> <p>Tree felling operations will be considered on a case by case basis and stand-alone Felling Licence applications made to the Forestry Commission when necessary.</p>
3. Increase woodland biodiversity.	<p>Thinning intensity and cycles will vary to create a diversity of tree spacing, crown density and woodland floor light conditions. Recommendations have been made for priority areas for thinning (see Appendix 2) and these are included in the plan of operations and 10 year Felling Licence application.</p>

	<p>Standing and fallen deadwood will be left in situ where it is safe to do so. After thinning or felling operations the opportunity will be taken to leave some of the harvested timber to decay.</p> <p>Woodland and ride edges will be managed to allow for the development of ecotones i.e. the transition zone between closed canopy high forest and open ground, representing scrub and herbaceous plant communities.</p> <p>In the long term opportunities will be taken to increase the tree species diversity in restock areas. This will include the introduction of more native species, and some exotics in the interest of climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Invasive plant species e.g. Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed will be controlled.</p>
4. Manage trees and woodlands in the vicinity of paths and roads to provide safe and attractive access.	<p>Thinning and pruning, including crown-raising, will be used to manage trees in the interests of safety and visual amenity.</p> <p>Regular inspections will identify potentially hazardous trees.</p>
5. Explore opportunities to engage with local communities and volunteers so that people become more involved with woodland management activities.	<p>The public and stakeholder engagement, initiated by the Beyond the Castle Project, will be utilised to maintain contact with interested groups and individuals.</p> <p>Tree and woodland related themes arising from the public consultations are summarised and recorded in Appendix 3.</p> <p>The owners intend to encourage the formation of a Friends Group for the site.</p> <p>The owners intend to continue to facilitate woodland based educational and social events and information sharing via social media.</p>

7. Stakeholder Engagement

There can be a requirement on both the FC and the owner to undertake consultation/engagement. Please refer to [Operations Note 35](#) for further information. Use this section to identify people or organisations with an interest in your woodland and also to record any engagement that you have undertaken, relative to activities identified within the plan.

Work Proposal	Organisation/ Individual	Date Contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
Plan document – Statutory consultation re: Scheduled Monument	Historic England (Emily Hrycan, Planning Adviser & Andrew Davinson, Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments, North West)	1/10/15	27/10/15	'As far as the scheduled monument is concerned, Management Objective 2 and the related Management Intention set out at section 6 of the Plan ('Management Strategy') would be an appropriate basis for managing the areas of woodland within the boundaries of the scheduled monument. If thinning trees or removing scrub, providing that trees and shrubs are cut off close to ground level, and the stumps left in situ to rot, there will be no need to obtain Scheduled Monument Consent. This will only be required if you wish to grub up the stumps or otherwise disturb the ground within the scheduled monument. <i>Contd.</i>	Noted, particularly the guidance regarding Scheduled Monument consent.

				Recent archaeological survey and excavation has demonstrated that Roman archaeology extends outside the area which is scheduled as an ancient monument. It would therefore be sensible to adopt the same methods for tree thinning and scrub removal as used within the scheduled area, so as to avoid potential damage to nationally important but undesignated archaeological remains’.	
Plan document	Lancaster City Council (Richard Kirkby, Conservation Officer)	1/10/15	29/10/15	‘From the Conservation and Historic heritage perspective, the work proposed would enhance the historic and cultural values of the site and complement the work and development on the adjacent Castle site. It would also add to the general local and heritage interest for residents and visitors’.	Noted.
Plan document	Lancaster City Council (Maxine Knagg, Tree Protection Officer)	1/10/15	6/11/15	‘I note the five management objectives of the plan. Perhaps my greatest concern is with objective no.2: Manage trees and woodlands in sympathy with the archaeological, heritage and landscape values of the site. I am aware of the areas	Noted – accept the need to consider any tree felling on a case by case basis, and this has been stated in the Management Strategy (p. 17).

				<p>designated as Scheduled Monuments, and that works are proposed to clear fell trees from within their vicinity. There are a range of trees within these areas that currently make an important contribution to landscape value, which is also an important element of objective (no.2).</p> <p>The management plan identifies a proposal to clear the Scheduled Monument areas of trees because of a "potential" risk of wind throw and the potential for uprooted trees to damage the underground monuments. Whilst, I entirely appreciate these concerns, I think it is important to recognise there is no history or incidence of wind throw actually occurring within these areas. As such, it does seem to be a bit of a "sledge hammer" approach to managing a perceived problem that in reality has an extremely small chance of occurring. There would be a loss of trees that in my view make a</p>	<p>Whilst there is no explicit mention of windthrow with regard to the proposed clearance of tree and shrub natural regeneration on the SM area, this is a valid comment in relation to the overall risk of windthrow on the site. This is supported by a DAMS score indicating the site is in the 'sheltered' category. Therefore the 'wind damage – likelihood of presence' has been changed to 'Low' in the table at 5.7 (p. 15)</p>
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				<p>positive contribution to the landscape amenity in these areas, their loss would seem excessive. It would be more appropriate to assess individual trees against their risk of uprooting and damage to scheduled monuments, rather than a blanket approach to mass removal of trees because of a perceived concern, when in fact the risk may be minimal. Further to the matter of wind throw. There will of course be significant potential to induce wind throw in trees that have grown in the shelter conditions created by adjacent trees. This must of course be carefully assessed before undertaking tree removals to ensure this situation is avoided’.</p>	<p>Noted – it will be important to agree any tree felling proposals as part of a landscape management strategy, taking into account the potentially conflicting interests, particularly those concerned with archaeology and landscape values.</p> <p>Noted – for the younger stands of trees the early initiation of low intensity thinning, with subsequent thinnings on a ‘little and often’ basis is recommended.</p>
Plan document	Beyond the Castle Project (Lucia Marquart, Senior Project Officer, Lancashire County Council)	1/10/15	26/10/15	<p>‘The plan sets out the key issues for the site and provides a flexible framework that will allow the negotiation of potentially conflicting interests. I am satisfied with the document’.</p>	Noted

8. Monitoring

Indicators of progress/success should be defined for each management objective and then checked at regular intervals.

Management Objective	Indicator of Progress/Success	Method of Assessment	Frequency of Assessment	Responsibility	Assessment Results
1. Maintain woodland cover.	Woodland regeneration and creation by planting or natural regeneration.	Woodland Survey	5-years	Owner/agent	n/a until after plan review (Baseline provided by this plan)
2. Manage trees and woodlands in sympathy with the archaeological, heritage and landscape values of the site.	Tree removals, retention and new planting in accordance with the Landscape Management Plan.	Site Survey	5-years	Owner	n/a
3. Increase woodland biodiversity.	Woodland composition and structure. Habitats and species.	Woodland Survey	5-years	Owner/agent	n/a until after plan review
		Ecological Survey	5-years	Owner/ecologist	
4. Manage trees and woodlands in the vicinity of paths and roads.	Hazard trees.	Routine Inspections Tree Risk Assessment	3 months or after extreme weather events Annual	Owner	n/a
5. Explore opportunities to engage with local communities and volunteers.	Stakeholder engagement events and activities.	Register at events and feedback	Per event or project	Owner	n/a

FC Approval – FC Office Use Only

UKFS Management Plan Criteria	Approval Criteria	Achieved	Notes
Forest management plans should state the objectives of management, and set out how the appropriate balance between economic, environmental and social objectives will be achieved.	Have objectives of management been stated? Consideration given to economic, environmental and social factors (Section 2.2)	Yes/No	
Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential, and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Does the management strategy (section 6) take into account the forest context and any special features identified within the woodland survey (section 4)	Yes/No	
In designated areas, for example national parks, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	Have appropriate designations been identified (section 4.2) if so are these reflected through the work proposals in the management strategy (Section 6)	Yes/No	
At the time of felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS Requirements.	Felling and restocking are consistent with UKFS forest design principles (Section 5 of the UKFS)	Yes/No	
Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	Has consultation happened in line with current FC guidance and recorded as appropriate in section 7	Yes/No	
Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve structural diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Yes/No	
Forests characterised by a lack of diversity due to extensive areas of even-aged trees should be progressively restructured to achieve a range of age classes.	Do the felling and restocking proposals create or improve age class diversity (refer to the plan of operations)	Yes/No	
Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	Has a 5 year review period been stated (1st page) and where relevant achievements recorded in section 3	Yes/No	
New forests and woodlands should be located and designed to maintain or enhance the visual, cultural and ecological value and character of the landscape.	When new planting is being proposed under this plan is consistent with UKFS and FC guidance on woodland creation	Yes/No	
Approving Officer Name		Plan approved	Yes/no

MAPS

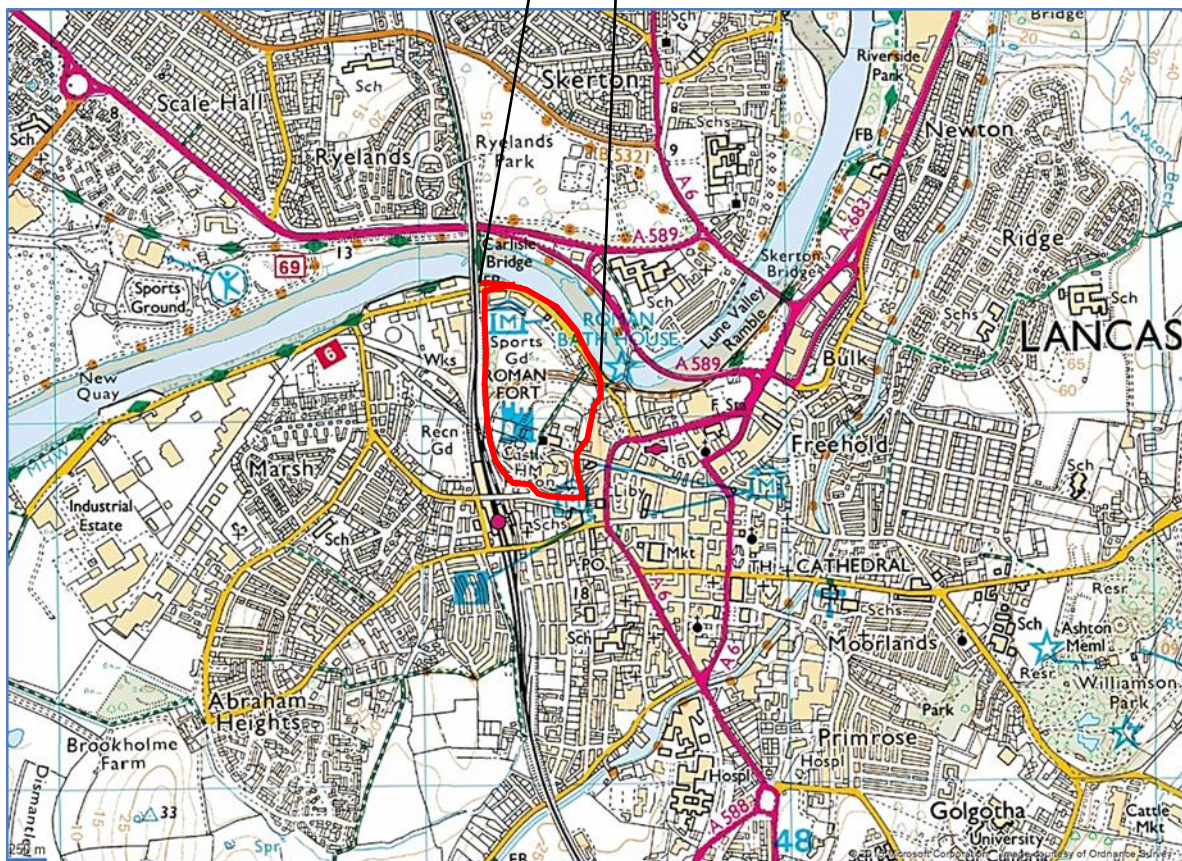
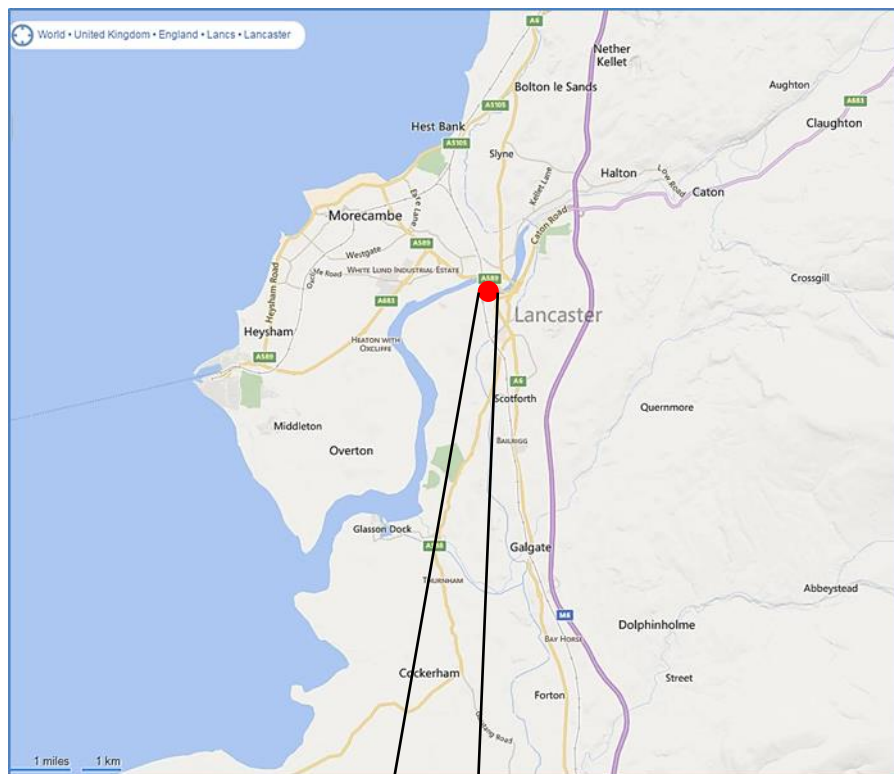
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MAP 1: LOCATION OF THE LANCASTER CASTLE SITE	26
MAP 2: OVERVIEW OF WOODLANDS	27
MAP 3: WOODLAND COMPARTMENT BOUNDARIES	28
MAP 4: SCHEDULED MONUMENT	29

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: EXTRACT FROM HISTORIC ENGLAND'S RECORD OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	30
APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF COMPARTMENT CHARACTERISTICS AND RECOMMENDED INTERVENTIONS	35
APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF WOODLAND THEMES AND SUGGESTIONS ARISING FROM PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS	36

MAP 1: LOCATION OF THE LANCASTER CASTLE SITE



MAP 2: OVERVIEW OF WOODLANDS



MAP 3: WOODLAND COMPARTMENT BOUNDARIES



MAP 4: SCHEDULED MONUMENT

Shown as yellow hatched area





APPENDIX 1:

EXTRACT FROM HISTORIC ENGLAND'S RECORD OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

MONUMENT: Part of a Roman fort and its associated vicus and remains of a pre-Conquest monastery and a Benedictine priory on Castle Hill

PARISH: LANCASTER

DISTRICT: LANCASTER

COUNTY: LANCASHIRE

NATIONAL MONUMENT NO: 34987

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE(S): SD47356200

DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT

The monument includes the upstanding and buried remains of the northern parts of Lancaster Roman fort and its associated civilian settlement or vicus, together with the buried remains of a pre-Conquest monastery and a Benedictine priory. It is located on the top and the northern slopes of Castle Hill and extends beneath the present Priory Church of St Mary and its churchyard, the modern and former vicarages and their gardens, the garden of No. 2, St Mary's Gate, the garden of No. 100 Church Street, and north into Vicarage Fields. The buried remains of the pre-Conquest monastery are considered to lie beneath the priory church, while the buried remains of the Benedictine priory and its associated precinct and precinct wall are considered to lie beneath the priory church and within land to the north and west.

Lancaster Roman fort, the Roman name of which is unknown, was constructed during the latter quarter of the first century AD and, apart from occasional periods of abandonment, it remained in military occupation until the early years of the fifth century. The fort was strategically located to command the lowest bridging/fording point of the River Lune and was connected by a series of Roman roads with forts to the north, south, north east and south east. A combination of chance finds and 20th century limited excavations have revealed that the first Roman fort was constructed about AD 80. It was rectangular in shape with rounded corners and was defended on its north, west and east sides (its south side not yet having been ascertained) by a clay-and-turf rampart and two 'V'-shaped ditches. The north wall of the rampart ran east-west a little to the north of the Old Vicarage and measured about 187m long. Inside the rampart excavation found an intervallum road and remains of timber buildings thought to be barrack blocks. Later in the first century the fort was remodelled by extending the northern defences some 37m further north and rebuilding the timber barracks. An inscription from a tombstone discovered in the late 18th century suggests that the fort may at this time have been garrisoned by the Ala Augusta, a cavalry unit. Following the first century development there appears to have been a short period of abandonment which may have coincided with Roman military policy to develop the Stanegate road as a northern frontier of the province. The fort was reoccupied very early in the second century and an inscription found beneath the priory



church and dated to about AD 102 records building work here. The enlarged late first century fort formed the basis for the reoccupation, and a stone revetment wall almost 2m thick was added to the front of the clay-and-turf rampart with at least one new ditch with a timber palisade on the inner lip of the ditch being located outside the wall. Traces of the intervallum road were found adjacent to the new fort's north west corner as were traces of internal buildings of an unspecified nature. The buried remains of a ditch running north-south through Vicarage Field is thought to be a drainage ditch associated with a Roman road running north from the fort to a crossing of the River Lune. If so, this would suggest that the fort's north gate may be located a short distance east of Vicarage Lane. Coin-loss evidence suggests that the fort was abandoned during the mid-second century coinciding with a military advance into Scotland. However, coin-loss figures also suggest activity within the vicus during this period indicating some form of occupation. Further coin-loss figures suggest that the fort was briefly reoccupied in the latter half of the second century only to be again abandoned by the end of the century. By the mid-third century a building inscription indicates that the fort was again in use and occupied by a cavalry garrison, the Ala Sebosiana, whilst an altar found a short distance up the Lune valley in the late 18th century suggests that a Numerus Barcariorum or 'unit of boatmen' may also have formed part of the garrison at this time and may even have formed the entire garrison during the remainder of the fort's lifetime. About AD 330 a major new military fort was constructed here on a different alignment from the earlier forts. A surviving upstanding fragment of this structure, a masonry stub known as The Wery Wall which formed the defensive wall, is located in the eastern Vicarage Field and represents the core of a polygonal external bastion, presumably situated at the northern angle of the wall's circuit. This wall, which was about 3m thick, ran in a south westerly direction and has been located by limited excavations in the former vicarage grounds and was also reported in the late 18th century at a point south west of the priory church and in part running west of the castle. A fragment of the south wall of this fort, which is noticeably not parallel to the north wall, was also noted in the 18th century and a further fragment was located at the southern end of Mitre Yard in the 1970s. Overall the structural fragments of this fourth century defensive wall suggest that the fort was a Saxon Shore Fort construction wherein the bastions were used for mounting pieces of heavy defensive artillery, thus indicating a new phase of static defence to which Roman military philosophy had moved. The fort's north wall was protected by at least one ditch. The abundance of fourth century pottery and coins suggests a well-used site extending into the early years of the fifth century, at which point the Roman occupation of Britain ceased. Excavation and chance finds in the area of the vicus in Vicarage Fields include remains of a large stone-built courtyard building complete with a bath-house range of buildings which is thought to have been the residence and offices of an important regional official or, alternatively, a 'mansio' or official inn. It is located in the eastern Vicarage Field and remains partly exposed after excavation and consolidation. This building overlay two earlier phases of timber buildings of uncertain function dated to the late second century. Construction of the fourth century Wery Wall and its defensive ditch necessitated the destruction of the bath-house and associated large courtyard building as part of the vicus area was taken in within the boundaries of the new fort. Nearby are the buried remains of a Roman building of uncertain function lying parallel to the courtyard building, whilst further west a number of Roman strip buildings were found flanking the road leading from the north gate of the pre-fourth century fort. Chance finds located during construction of a railway line on the northern edge of Vicarage Fields in 1849 suggest the existence of a shrine or holy well towards the northern edge of the vicus.



Little is known of the history of the fort and vicus areas after the withdrawal of Roman forces from Britain until the founding of a Benedictine priory in the late 11th century. However, the finding of a number of fragments of early Christian carved stone crosses from beneath the priory church offers clear evidence of Christianity on the site and this, taken with the discovery of numerous early ninth century coins from the priory's immediate environs, has led to the belief that here stood one of the numerous unnamed monasteries founded under St Wilfred between the seventh and ninth centuries. Documentary sources indicate that Lancaster Priory was founded in 1094 by Roger, Earl of Poitou, who bestowed upon the Benedictine Abbey of St Martin of Seez in Normandy the Church of St Mary of Lancaster. The priory stood on the same site as its present-day successor but little above-ground fabric is left of the original structure due to major rebuilding work, particularly during the 15th and early 20th centuries. Buried remains, however, survive well as indicated in 1911 when reflooring of the present chancel revealed Roman walls and the apsidal presbytery of the Norman priory church. Remains of the domestic buildings associated with the priory have not yet been located but due to space limitations they are expected to lie to the north of the priory in the space now occupied by the King's Own Memorial Chapel and the garden of the vicarage. There is evidence that the priory had its own precinct with a wall and gatehouse. Leland, writing in the early 16th century mentions ruined walls of the suppressed priory being visible, and in 1928 limited excavation in western Vicarage Field next to Vicarage Lane found the well-preserved remains of a room or turret. A map dated 1610 depicts a gatehouse-like building in this vicinity and this evidence, taken with the results of examination of one of a series of nearby linear earthworks in 1971 which appears to be the remains of the precinct wall or bank, revetted with stone, suggests that the priory had a precinct wall and gatehouse controlling an access route from the medieval bridge across the River Lune to the north. During the 15th century the status of the priory changed gradually from a monastery to that of a parish church.

St Mary's Parish Church and Priory is a Listed Building Grade I; a 19th century chest tomb and effigy, an 18th century funerary memorial and an 18th century sundial in the priory churchyard are each Listed Grade II; the 19th century former Vicarage in Priory Close is a Listed Building Grade II, as is the 18th century summerhouse in the garden of No. 2, St Mary's Gate.

A number of features are excluded from the scheduling. These include St Mary's Parish Church and Priory, its present floor, its churchyard wall and all in-situ and relocated gravestones and funerary memorials; the walls and floor of an open-air theatre together with the reused gravestones forming the seating of the theatre; a sundial and its surrounding steps; the timber pole supporting a beacon; the former vicarage; the present vicarage; the summerhouse in the garden of No. 2, St Mary's Gate; all modern walls, fences, fenceposts and railings; the surfaces of all paths, steps, yards and access drives; all telegraph poles, lamp posts, information boards, signposts, gates and gateposts; all floodlights and their bases, and a bridge abutment at the north of Vicarage Lane. The ground beneath all these features is, however, included.



ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE

Roman forts served as permanent bases for auxiliary units of the Roman Army. In outline they were straight sided rectangular enclosures with rounded corners, defined by a single rampart of turf, puddled clay or earth with one or more outer ditches. Some forts had separately defended, subsidiary enclosures or annexes, allowing additional storage space or for the accommodation of troops and convoys in transit. Although built and used throughout the Roman period, the majority of forts were constructed between the mid first and mid second centuries AD. Some were only used for short periods of time but others were occupied for extended periods on a more or less permanent basis. In the earlier forts, timber was used for gateways, towers and breastworks. From the beginning of the second century AD there was a gradual replacement of timber with stone.

Roman forts are rare nationally and are extremely rare south of the Severn Trent line. As one of a small group of Roman military monuments, which are important in representing army strategy and therefore government policy, forts are of particular significance to our understanding of the period. All Roman forts with surviving archaeological potential are considered to be nationally important.

Saxon Shore Forts were heavily defended later Roman military installations previously thought to be located exclusively in south east England to combat the threat from sea-borne Saxon raiders. Latterly it has come to be recognised that these distinctive fortifications are more widely spread and examples are now known from the coasts of France, Belgium, Anglesey and at Lancaster in north west England. Their most distinctive features are their defences which comprise massive stone walls, normally backed by an inner earth mound, and wholly or partially surrounded by one or two ditches. Wall walks and parapets crowned the walls, and the straight walls of all sites were punctuated by corner and interval towers and/or projecting bastions. Saxon Shore forts are rare nationally. As one of a small group of Roman military monuments which are important in representing army strategy and government policy they are of particular significance to our understanding of the period and all examples are considered to be of national importance.

The attached vicus would have comprised a cluster of buildings such as domestic residences, workshops, shops and temples, together with roads, trackways, enclosures and garden plots. Such vici were similar to contemporary small towns although they lacked the planned street grid normally evident in the latter. Normally they also lacked the defences surrounding the small towns. Unlike other towns vici were probably administered by the military authorities rather than being self-governing. The juxtaposition of fort and vicus allows the civilian communities to be investigated.

From the time of St Augustine's mission to re-establish Christianity in AD 597 monasticism formed an important facet in both religious and secular life in the British Isles. The main components of pre-Conquest monasteries might include two or three small timber or stone churches, a cemetery and a number of small domestic buildings, contained within an enclosure or vallum. The earliest sites were not dissimilar from contemporary secular settlements, although their ecclesiastical role may be indicated by the existence of objects indicating wealth and technological achievement as only the church and leading secular figures are thought to have had access to the skills and trade networks which produced such goods. Later monastic foundations in the 10th and 11th centuries generally had one major stone church and a cemetery. By this time other domestic buildings were more regularly aligned, often ranged around a cloister. Documentary sources



indicate the existence of about 65 early monasteries. As a rare monument type and one which made a major contribution to the development of pre-Conquest England all those which exhibit survival of archaeological remains are considered worthy of protection.

It is estimated from documentary evidence that about 700 post-Conquest monasteries, abbeys and priories were founded in England belonging to a wide variety of different religious orders, each with its own philosophy. As a result they vary considerably in the detail of their appearance and layout, although all possess the basic elements of church, domestic accommodation for the community, and work buildings. Benedictine monasticism had its roots in the rule written about 530 by St Benedict of Nursia for his own abbey at Monte Cassino, and the Benedictine monks, who wore dark robes, came to be known as 'black monks'. Over 150 Benedictine monasteries were founded in England and as members of a highly successful order many Benedictine houses became extremely wealthy and influential, this wealth frequently seen in the scale and flamboyance of their buildings. Benedictine monasteries made a major contribution to many facets of medieval life and all examples exhibiting significant surviving archaeological remains are worthy of protection. Despite being partly overlain by the priory church, a former vicarage and a modern vicarage, limited archaeological excavation has revealed that the buried remains of the Roman military and civilian occupation of Castle Hill are extensive and survive well. Additionally excavation has also revealed the existence of what is considered to be evidence for a pre-Conquest monastic settlement on Castle Hill, together with well-preserved remains of part of the Benedictine priory known to have been constructed here late in the 11th century. Further buried remains of these features are expected to survive on Castle Hill and its environs.

SCHEDULING HISTORY

Monument included in the Schedule on 12th November 1928 as:

COUNTY/NUMBER: Lancashire 14

NAME: Wery Wall

Scheduling amended on 10th October 1973 to:

COUNTY/NUMBER: Lancashire 14

NAME: Wery Wall and Roman Settlement on Castle Hill

The reference of this monument is now:

NATIONAL MONUMENT NUMBER: 34987

NAME: Part of a Roman fort and its associated vicus and remains of a pre-Conquest monastery and a Benedictine priory on Castle Hill

SCHEDULING REVISED ON 24th April 2002

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF COMPARTMENT CHARACTERISTICS AND RECOMMENDED INTERVENTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (Ha)	Age class	Tree species (principal components in bold type)	Recommended Interventions
1	0.98	Semi-Mature	SYC, FM , NOM, GWL, CWL, HOL, HTH, HAZ, Privet, Elder	Thin overstocked areas (within Years 3-5). Candidate for future Selective Felling (group selection felling) centred on existing canopy gaps or understocked areas. Future scrub cutting on W and N boundaries to maintain woodland edge.
2	0.85	Immature	SYC, ASP , AH, SOK, ASA, NOM, LI, POK, ROW, SBI, LP, HL, HOL, HTH, HAZ, GWL	Thin overstocked areas in N (within Years 1-3). Litter picking.
3	0.45	Mature	SYC, PBI, SOK , POK, AH, ROW, SBI, GWL, HOL, EM, GAR, HAZ, YEW	Thin to maintain tree species diversity and ground flora (within Years 1-2). Prune selected path-side trees (crown raising). Dismantle and remove derelict concrete post and wire fence on S boundary.
4	0.25	Immature	NOM, AH, SOK, WCH , ASP, FM, CAR, HTH, PSP, ASA, WWL, CWL, GWL, CAP, EM, WHI	Thin overstocked areas (within Years 1-3). Monitor trees adjacent to car parking areas.
5	0.19	Mature	SYC, CAR , GWL, ROW, EM, Elder, Privet	Monitor tree health and structural stability, particularly with regard to basal decay in sycamore.
6	0.15	Mature	SYC , LI, GWL	Control Japanese knotweed. Monitor health of specimen trees, potential arb works to prolong useful life in a zone where new tree planting is denied due to buried archaeology.
7	0.22	Mature	BE , SYC, AH, ROW	Inspect trees adjacent to retaining wall and fell and stump treat if required. Investigate options to improve access.
8	0.06	Semi-Mature	SYC , BE, HTH, Elder	Thin (within Years 1-2) and/or consider conversion to coppice.
Total Area	3.15			

KEY to tree species: AH=ash; ASA=silver maple; ASP=aspen; BE=beech; CAP=crab apple; CAR=common alder; CWL=crack willow; EM=elm; FM=field maple; GAR=grey alder; GWL=goat willow; HAZ=hazel; HL=hybrid larch; HOL=holly; HTH=hawthorn; LI=lime; NOM=Norway maple; PBI=downy birch; POK=pedunculate oak; PSP=blackthorn; ROW=rowan; SBI=silver birch; SOK=sessile oak; SYC=sycamore; WCH=wild cherry; WHI=whitebeam; WWL=white willow

APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF WOODLAND RELATED THEMES AND SUGGESTIONS ARISING FROM THE 'BEYOND THE CASTLE' PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

The 'Beyond the Castle – Imagining the Future' report utilised a wide range of events in the co-design process. These are summarised in the table below:

Event No.	Date	Title	No. of participants	Format
1a	23/4/12	Turning Consultation into Co-design	15	Workshop (2½ hrs) – aims, themes and priorities.
1b	20/6/12	City Park Strategic Workshop	24	Workshop (3 hrs) – future planning, strategy, problems and solutions.
1c	25/7/12	Volunteer Recruitment and Development	22	Workshop (3 hrs) - core team of volunteers, advertising and promotion, event delivery.
2	4/8/12	Beyond the Castle brings the Park to Market Square	226	Full day pop-up event – public participation, model building and visioning.
3	8/9/12	Just Imagine...All The Stories	59	Site-based Public Engagement Workshop (4 hrs) – site usage, interpretation and safety.
4a & 4b	22/9/12	Just Imagine...The Shape of the Park	28 102	Public Engagement Workshops (2x6 hrs) – interactive mapping and model building.
5	22/9/12	Visioning Workshop	28	Public Engagement Workshop (6 hrs) – visioning by themes and priorities.
6	15/11/12 to 21/11/12	Co-Design Exhibition	219	Public Exhibition of outcomes from all the workshops and consultations including interactive displays.
7	14/1/13	Vice-Chancellors Reception	42	Reception - advocacy through meeting of local stakeholders, project board and international partners.

Co-design ideas were grouped into 5 major themes:

- Culture and Leisure
- History and Heritage
- Environment
- Accessibility and Way-finding
- Other Perspective



A review of the ideas and observations from the public consultations, which highlight tree and woodland related topics, indicates the following:

CULTURE AND LEISURE

Better views
Maps and signage
Fitness routes
Develop cultural activities – open air sculptures

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Preserve open space and woodland
Learning landscape (short story boards or something interactive)
Food and produce
Interactive experiences/trails

ENVIRONMENT

Nature trails
Leave it alone
Grow fruit trees
Grow flowers
Blackberry and elderberry picking areas
Light up dark areas
Improve pathways
Nettles versus wildlife
A viewing platform
Preserve woodland
Natural shelter
Playground facilities
Provide bins
Tidy up rubbish
Woodland management
Wood fuel/commercial opportunities
Control sycamore overgrowth and other invasive non-native species
Encourage native trees – oak etc. or hawthorn along the cycle path
Deal with knotweed and Spanish bluebell
Opening up paths for visibility, light and safety
Leave grassed areas for wildlife (insects=swift food) and create pathways through the site
Explore natural paths through the woods and long grass

ACCESSIBILITY AND WAY-FINDING

Better paths and grit in winter
Slippery, dark and muddy paths
Provide seating and open up views
Covered picnic areas
Better signage/information

The multitude of ideas was prioritised using a 'core values pyramid', based on consideration of the question: 'When creating a vision for the area beyond the castle, please don't forget to...?'

Tree and woodland related core values highlighted by this exercise are:

TOP TIER

- Realise the sites historic importance
- Keep involving people in a meaningful way in the process

SECOND TIER

- Without signs of progress on the ground people will continue to be cynical – Action!
- Keep a natural environment when doing any development
- Safety, lighting, paths, undergrowth – but keep natural
- Keep the quality high even if it means doing less more slowly
- Consider the needs of people with disabilities
- Cherish and enhance the viewpoints and vistas
- Keep it tranquil

MIDDLE TIER

- The residents!
- The maintenance
- The vistas are amongst the best from any city anywhere. Cherish them, find ways to let more people enjoy them, but don't over-manufacture them
- Lancaster is wet – we need shelters that fit into the landscape
- Refrain from over-stuffing the park – less is more.
- Assess the issue of accessibility
- Use the whole process as a catalyst to solve anti-social behaviour issues
- Consider the need for open natural space that shouldn't be spoiled
- Keep people safe
- Make it future proof
- Access for all
- The needs of families, especially children
- Keep history at the forefront
- Work with relevant agencies to reach out to 'campers', homeless etc.

LOWER TIER

- Keep it tidy, clean up rubbish
- Remember the dog walkers
- Develop 'wild' open spaces which can be used
- The parks existing environs/surroundings and how to keep/enhance connections
- Remember it's a historic space
- Communicate regularly about progress
- The paths really do need to be looked at
- Feed body and mind
- The wildlife
- Make it accessible
- Create employment
- Protect against the weather
- The regular and long term maintenance needs of the park
- Use clear directive and informative signage
- To make it feel safe
- Provide shelters and hang out space for kids and teenagers
- Make it family friendly
- Keep on co-designing with communities
- Remember the unexcavated site
- Give people shelter from the weather