



Ullswater from above Glenridding



11. ULLSWATER

—

Description, History and Development

11. THE ULLSWATER VALLEY



“...take a flight of not more than four or five miles eastward to the ridge of Helvellyn and you will look down upon... Ullswater, stretching to the east...”

William Wordsworth, ‘Guide to the Lakes’ (1835)

“I wandered lonely as a cloud, That floats on high o’er vales and hill, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze”.

William Wordsworth, ‘I wandered lonely as a Cloud...’ (1807)

11.1 DESCRIPTION

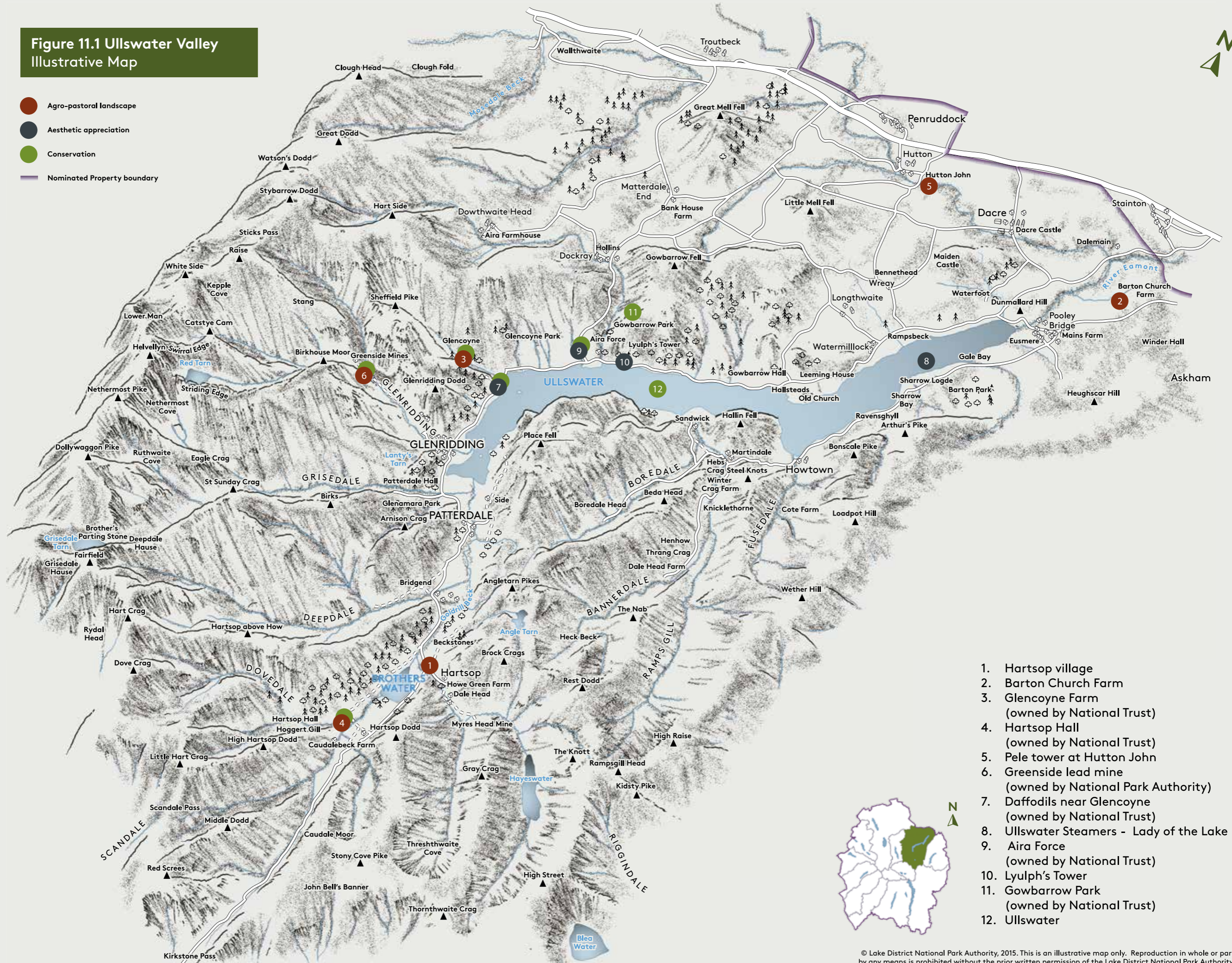
11.1.1 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Like the other spokes in Wordsworth’s figurative wheel, the Ullswater Valley begins in the high central fells, in this case draining the Helvellyn and High Street massifs. It carves a uniquely curved path running generally north-eastwards. Ullswater is the second largest of the lakes (after Windermere) and has a distinctive dog-leg shape, with three distinct reaches over its 14.5 kilometre length. This pattern is a result of glacial scouring of the valley bottom which now forms the bed of the lake, leaving three discrete basins. The uppermost stretch of Ullswater, around Patterdale, is oriented north-south. The middle section, from Silver Point to Kailpot Crag is oriented east north east to west south west and the lower section of the lake, to its outflow into the River Eamont, is aligned north east to south west.

The lake connects to the River Eden in the broad Eden Valley via the River Eamont which flows from the foot of the lake at Pooley Bridge. Unlike most of the larger valleys the character of the landscape does not change as the valley morphs from its upland beginnings into a more substantial lowland river. But the valley has a different character on its north/west and south/east sides. The latter has a more enclosed, steep-sided, upland feel whereas the north and west side has a more open, lowland character as the containing mountains (in places equally high) are set further back from the lake and

Figure 11.1 Ullswater Valley Illustrative Map

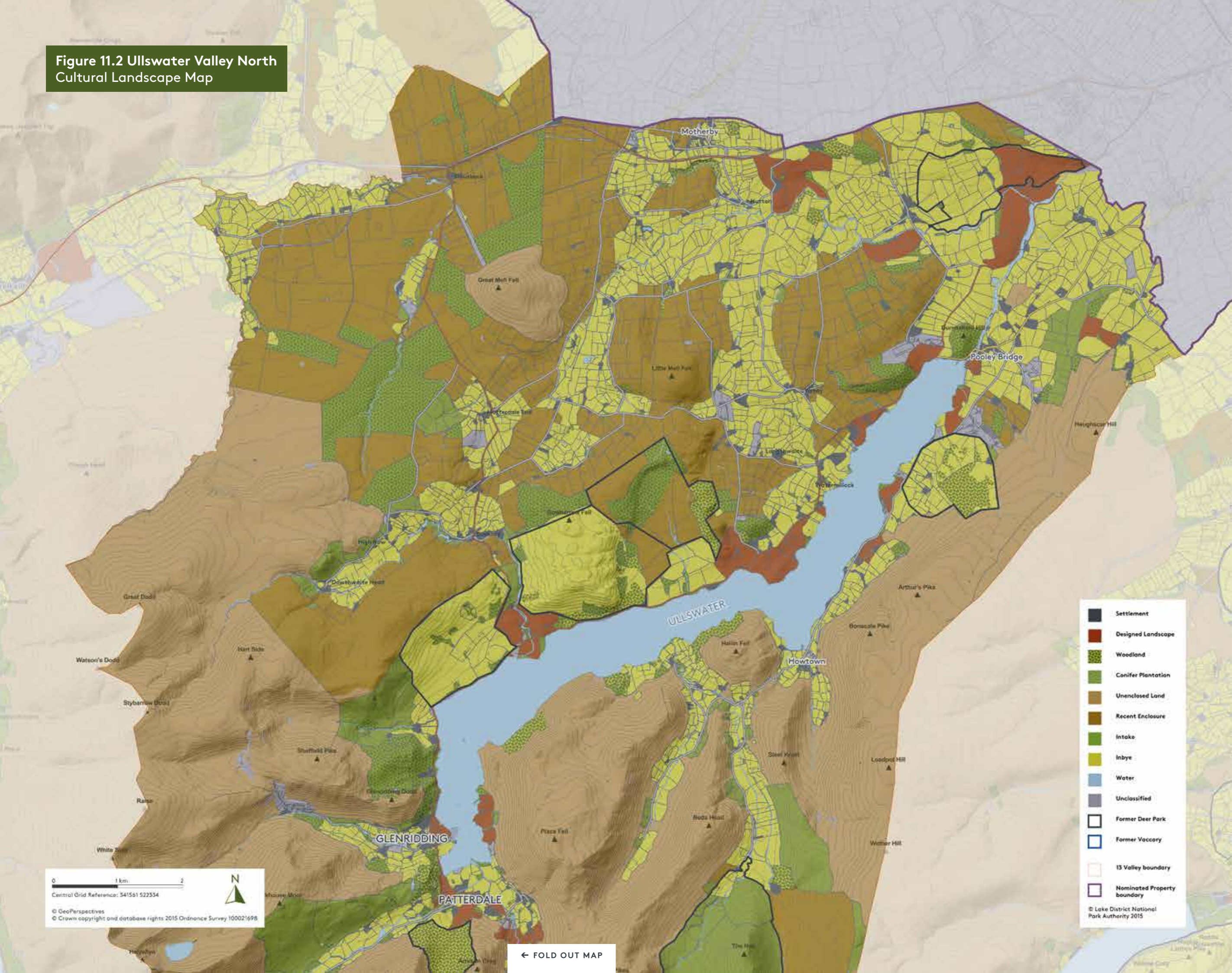
- Agro-pastoral landscape
- Aesthetic appreciation
- Conservation
- Nominated Property boundary



1. Hartsop village
2. Barton Church Farm
3. Glencoyne Farm (owned by National Trust)
4. Hartsop Hall (owned by National Trust)
5. Pele tower at Hutton John
6. Greenside lead mine (owned by National Park Authority)
7. Daffodils near Glencoyne (owned by National Trust)
8. Ullswater Steamers - Lady of the Lake
9. Aira Force (owned by National Trust)
10. Lyulph's Tower (owned by National Trust)
11. Gowbarrow Park (owned by National Trust)
12. Ullswater

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Figure 11.2 Ullswater Valley North Cultural Landscape Map

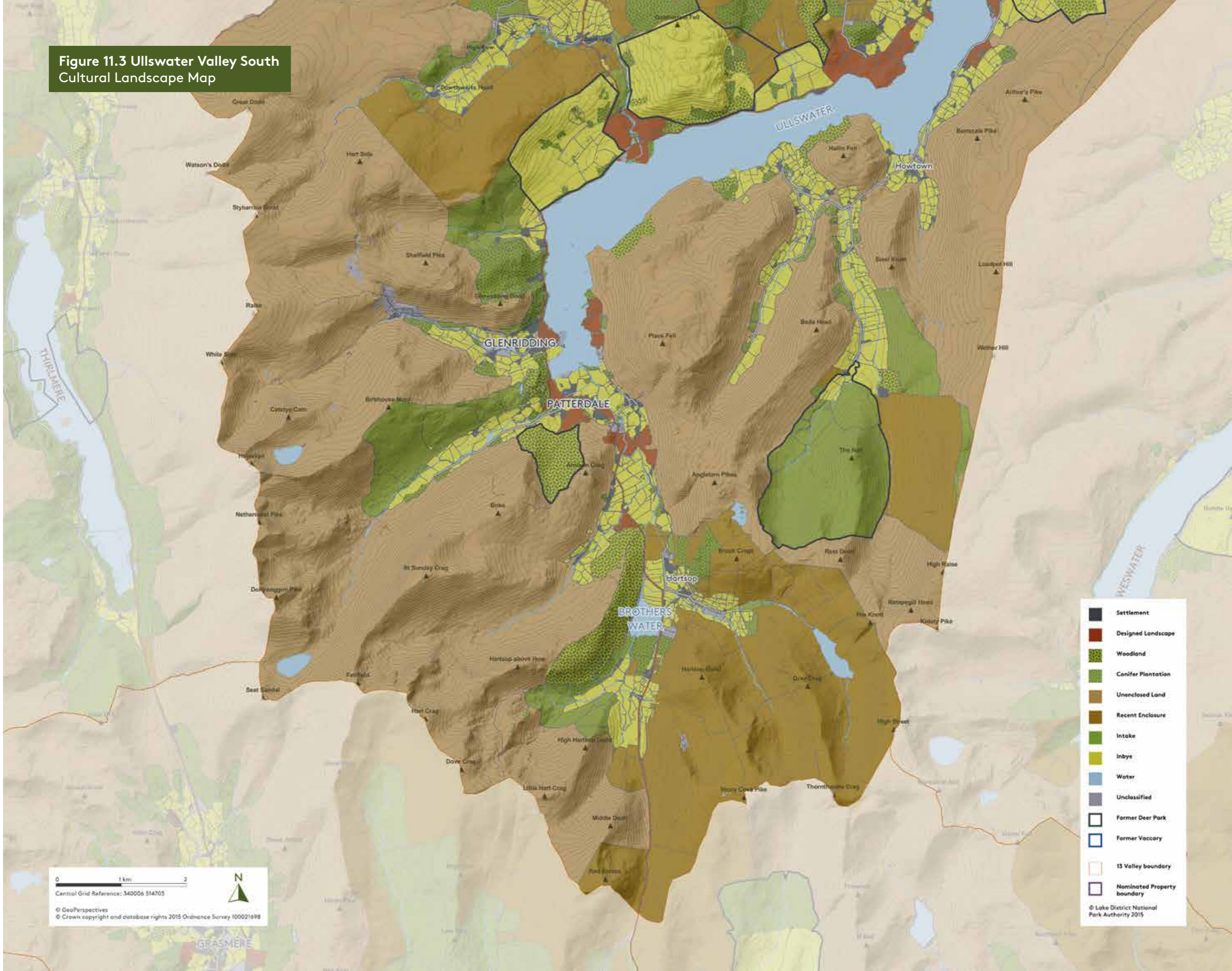


- Settlement
 - Designed Landscape
 - Woodland
 - Conifer Plantation
 - Unclosed Land
 - Recent Enclosure
 - Intake
 - Inbye
 - Water
 - Unclassified
 - Former Deer Park
 - Former Vaccory
 - IS Valley boundary
 - Nominated Property boundary
- © Lake District National Park Authority 2015

0 1 km 2
 Central Grid Reference: 541551 52334
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← FOLD OUT MAP

Figure 11.3 Ullswater Valley South Cultural Landscape Map



- Settlement
- Designed Landscape
- Woodland
- Conifer Plantation
- Unenclosed Land
- Recent Enclosure
- Intake
- Inbye
- Water
- Unclassified
- Former Deer Park
- Former Vaccary
- 13 Valley boundary
- Nominated Property boundary

0 1 km 2
 Central Grid Reference: 340006 514705
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FIGURE 11.4 The contribution of the Ullswater Valley to the cultural landscape themes identified

ULLSWATER		
THEME	COMPONENTS OF ATTRIBUTES	SIGNIFICANCE
Continuity of traditional agro-pastoralism and local industry in a spectacular mountain landscape	Extraordinary beauty and harmony	
	Evidence of pre-medieval settlement and agriculture	
	Distinctive early field system	
	Medieval buildings (e.g. churches, pele towers and early farmhouses)	
	16th/17th century farmhouses	
	Herdwick flocks	
	Rough Fell flocks	None
	Swaledale flocks	
	Common land	
	Shepherds' meets/shows and traditional sports	
	Woodland industries	
	Mining/Quarrying	
	Water-powered industry	
	Market towns	
Discovery and appreciation of a rich cultural landscape	Viewing stations	
	Villas	
	Designed landscape	
	Early tourist infrastructure	
	Residences and burial places of significant writers and poets	None
	Key literary associations with landscape	
	Key artistic associations with landscape	
	Key associations with climbing and the outdoor movement	
	Opportunities for quiet enjoyment and spiritual refreshment	
Development of a model for protecting cultural landscape	Conservation movement	
	National Trust ownership (inalienable land)	
	National Trust covenanted land	
	Other Protective Trusts and ownership including National Park Authority	



FIGURE 11.5 The lower reaches of Ullswater from Hallin Fell. Dunmallard Hill is in the centre of the frame and the Pennine hills can be seen in the far distance.



FIGURE 11.6 View of Hartsop and Deepdale from Place Fell

valley floor with a transitional landscape of lower fells. Most of the settlements within the valley is along the northern shoreline.

The topography of the valley is varied in relation to the underlying geology. The land surrounding the lower lake, from Howtown to Pooley Bridge and along the northern shore from Glencoyne to Watermillock, comprises gentle slopes down to the lake, with good soils which form the basis of the rich lakeside pastures. This reflects the more easily eroded geology of the Eycott Group and contrasts with the harder, jagged mountain scenery of the Borrowdale Volcanic Group surrounding the upper lake, including the high ridges of Helvellyn and High Street and iconic features such as Striding Edge. Here, a series of small glacially formed valleys splay out like fingers to the west (Glencoyne, Glenridding, Grisedale, Deepdale), to the south (Dovedale) and on the east (Boredale, Bannerdale, Ramps Gill and Fusedale). The small and picturesque lake of Brotherswater covers part of lower Dovedale.

The northern end of the valley opens out into more rolling open country which also includes a number of small but prominent and shapely fells such as Dunmallard Hill, Great Mell Fell and Little Mell Fell. The last two are formed from a localised conglomerate geology.



FIGURE 11.7 Brothers Water from Kirkstone Pass. The effects of glaciation can be seen here in the steep valley sides and sinuous valley bottom.

Ullswater is a major access route into the central Lake District from the north, with the road from Penrith (to the north-east) following the lake's northern shore southwards from Pooley Bridge to Patterdale at the head of the lake. The road then rises over the heights of Kirkstone Pass to Ambleside and on to Troutbeck in Windermere. The main road running due north out of the valley joins the natural east-west route of communication between Penrith and Keswick. There are

minor routes out of the northwest of the valley into Dacre Beck and Matteredale areas and a minor route on the eastern shore accesses the small valleys and settlements south of the lake. See Figures 11.2 and 11.3 for an illustrative map of the valley. Also see Figure 11.4 for an overview of the cultural landscape of the Ullswater Valley.

11.1.2 THE INHERITED LANDSCAPE'S CHARACTER

The Ullswater Valley is contained to the west by the Helvellyn range which provides panoramic views from an irregular and jagged eastern profile including the arêtes of Striding Edge and Swirral Edge. Along with Red Tarn nestling in the combe below the edges, the landscape is textbook glacial scenery. The substantial side valleys of Grisedale and Glenridding Beck run east from these fells to the south end of Ullswater where the main valley continues up to the fells above Hartsop and further dramatic mountain scenery. To the south-east and east the fells continue to frame the valley visually and

seem to plunge directly into the lake from the ridges. Although the fells become less high, less craggy, more rounded and more wooded at the north end of the lake, there is no significant widening of the valley until it almost leaves the Lake District and passes into the Eden Valley.

The lake dominates the character of the valley. The north/west shore of the lake contains the settlements of Patterdale and the large village of Glenridding. The woodlands gradually peter out towards the northern end of the lake where a gentler, pastoral landscape is punctuated by large Victorian houses (now mostly hotels), with surrounding parkland and gardens containing striking non-native trees. Parkland running down to the lake and substantial boathouses are strong features of the lakeshore landscape. In contrast, the steep slopes to the southern shore preclude easy vehicular access and there are few buildings. The distinctive, conical Dunmallard Hill and the village of Pooley Bridge mark the north end of Ullswater and the rolling, pastoral hills roll out towards the Eden Valley and the limestone countryside fringing the Lake District.

As with many of the Lake District valleys, contrasts abound in Ullswater. The fells to the south of the lake are as quiet and tranquil as any in the Lake District but Helvellyn is probably the busiest summit of them all. The large, dark, brooding expanse of the lake can appear almost menacing on a dark day when the wind is funnelling down the valley, gusting wildly due to the effects of the mountains. But on a sunny day with brightly coloured yacht sails and steamers quietly navigating the lake there is a genteel atmosphere. The rugged, wild fell tops with few signs of human influence contrast with the designed landscape and businesses of the settlements and northern lakeshore, providing diverse experiences on a grand and accessible scale.



FIGURE 11.8 The summit of Helvellyn seen from the air with Red Tarn below, the sharp ridge of Striding Edge and St Sunday Crag to the right

The Ullswater Valley contains most of the landscape ingredients which typify the essential character of the Lake District. It exemplifies the fusion of an ancient farmed landscape with Picturesque landscape improvement, including tree planting, villas and parkland, particularly on the northern/western shore of Ullswater, but also on the southern and eastern side. The environment of Lyulph's Tower, Aira Force and Glencoyne Park is a prime example. The landscape has also been modified by industry in places. In its lower sections, Ullswater has relatively wide vistas but these quickly reduce towards the valley head where high crags surround the lake and the smaller side valleys.

In the upper valley a number of large becks flow down the fell sides via the side valleys to feed Ullswater. The River Eamont exits from the northern end of Ullswater to join the River Eden east of Penrith. Other notable natural features include the waterfall at Aira Force on the north side of the lake and the various small tarns in the corries of the surrounding fells, including Angle Tarn above Hartsop, Grisedale Tarn, Red Tarn below Helvellyn and Hayeswater (dammed to form a small reservoir).

The Ullswater Valley also has extensive areas of native woodland, much of it in former medieval parkland on the northern shore. These include the north facing slopes of Glenamara Park at the head of Ullswater, which provides a spectacular view of the lake, and the ancient parkland around Glencoyne. There is also significant native woodland at Low Wood opposite Hartsop on the western side of Dovedale and on the southern shore below Birk Fell, Hallinhag Wood and in Barton Park. To the north-west of the main valley lies an area of high, but more gently sloping ground, large areas of which are planted with conifers, known as Matterdale Forest. There are also areas of conifer plantation around Pooley Bridge, at Swinburn's Park and around Patterdale Hall.

11.1.3 FARMING TODAY – THE AGRO-PASTORAL LANDSCAPE

The pattern of agriculture in the Ullswater Valley varies according to the potential afforded by the topography and this is reflected in the character of the field systems and enclosures throughout the valley. On a broad scale, the better soils on the gentle slopes on the north shore between Gowbarrow Park and Pooley Bridge supported the development of extensive arable fields in the past which are now under pasture. This contrasts markedly with the opposite lakeshore where the proximity of steep crags for much of its length has always reduced the opportunities for anything other than rough grazing. Exceptions to this are the small areas of flatter land at Sandwick and Howtown where fields have been created.

Evidence for the enclosure of former medieval common fields can be seen in the existing pattern of walls around the villages of Hartsop, Patterdale, Pooley Bridge and around Sandwick on the eastern shore. However, the pattern of medieval intakes on the fellside of the open fields, so common in other Lake District valleys, is restricted here to the smaller side valleys such as Grisedale and Boredale. Later enclosures have developed around single ancient farms on both sides of the lake and within former medieval parkland such as Glenamara, Glencoyne and at the head of Martindale. There are large regular fields resulting from parliamentary enclosure around the lower lake. This is

interspersed with stands of native woodland and ornamental parkland on the lake shore, particularly on the north side at Aira Point and Oldchurch.

In the north of the Ullswater Valley area, around Penruddock and Hutton/Hutton John is what looks like a system of open fields, with strips enclosed from former open arable fields. The name Town Head farm suggests the location of its former extent. The pele tower at nearby Hutton John was possibly built after the Scots invasions to provide some security. Dockray and the strip of inbye north-west of Hutton are clearly also ancient with some tentative evidence of former open fields enclosed as strips. Probable strip fields can be seen in Barton extending well beyond the National Park boundary at Stainton, where the pattern is striking.

At Patterdale possible strip fields lie at the southern end of the inbye and also astride the road at the southern tip of Ullswater. Patterdale Hall occupies a position with clear views north along Ullswater, perhaps originally to warn of invasion from the north. Parts of Low Hartsop are clearly former open fields and research by the National Trust has established a closely-phased sequence of development for this layout running into the late 18th century. There appear to be some strip fields at Sandwick, Bridgend and Hollinbank. Townhead at Sandwick is perhaps the capital message, in a medieval lakeshore colony. However, at Martindale there are strip fields which do not appear to be associated with any settlement centre.

The settlement at Dacre seems to have a different character, and there is clearly a separate lord's holding at the Castle with a moat. It is possible that arable inbye here may have originated as common open field but it does not appear to have been enclosed in strips.

By the late 18th or 19th century Soulby and Sockbridge (just outside the Park Boundary) were rife with strip-fields extant today. At Soulby the strips are larger, and Soulby seems to be a rich agricultural landscape beholden to the Mains House above Pooley Bridge (as the Demesne House on the 1787 map). The Sockbridge complex extends just slightly into the National Park immediately north-east of High Winder. Winder Hall seems to sit in its own system, perhaps as a lord's holding. From this 1787 map Dalemains seems to be located within its own preserve, perhaps a deer park.

Watermillock and Bennethead occupy a curiously-large circular enclosure. Watermillock may have been at the centre of a medieval open-field settlement subservient to Gowbarrow Hall located at the furthest end of the enclosed area. Bennethead may represent later colonisation of the edge of the ring garth, probably also during the medieval period.

Hay meadows were required to provide fodder for overwintering of cattle and other stock. Therefore the enclosure and management of the valley bottom land would have been a basic requirement for any early farming system. It is clear from field evidence that the valley bottom in Hartsop was enclosed by a single wall or ring garth. However, it is not clear when this enclosure took place.

The best-preserved sections of ring garth are located to the south of Brothers Water where a substantial wall can be seen running from the south-west corner of Brothers Water down into Dovedale and enclosing land on either side of Dovedale Beck. The boundary then runs around the base of High Hartsop Dodd, before moving south

once more to enclose land on either side of Kirkstone Beck. The ring garth then heads north-east, before coming to a halt at a point close to the south-east corner of Brothers Water where it is truncated by the present A592. This section of wall once ran alongside Sower Wood Lane, the original routeway linking Low and High Hartsop. Many sections of the ring garth incorporate large orthostats, presumably gathered together during a phase of early land clearance and improvement. The ring garth reappears after being truncated by the modern A592, and continues on in a north-easterly direction alongside Brothers Water towards Low or Nether Hartsop. There is no evidence for the continuation of the ring garth in the north-west of the village. It is possible that the ring garth has been modified, rebuilt and lost within the pattern of small irregular shaped fields that developed during the medieval and post-medieval periods. There appears to have been no attempt to enclose the valley bottom in a ring garth along the northern edge of the Manor of Hartsop. The existence of Angle Tarn Beck appears to have cancelled out the need for any additional obstacle. Goldrill Beck appears to have served a similar function on the western side of the valley bottom.

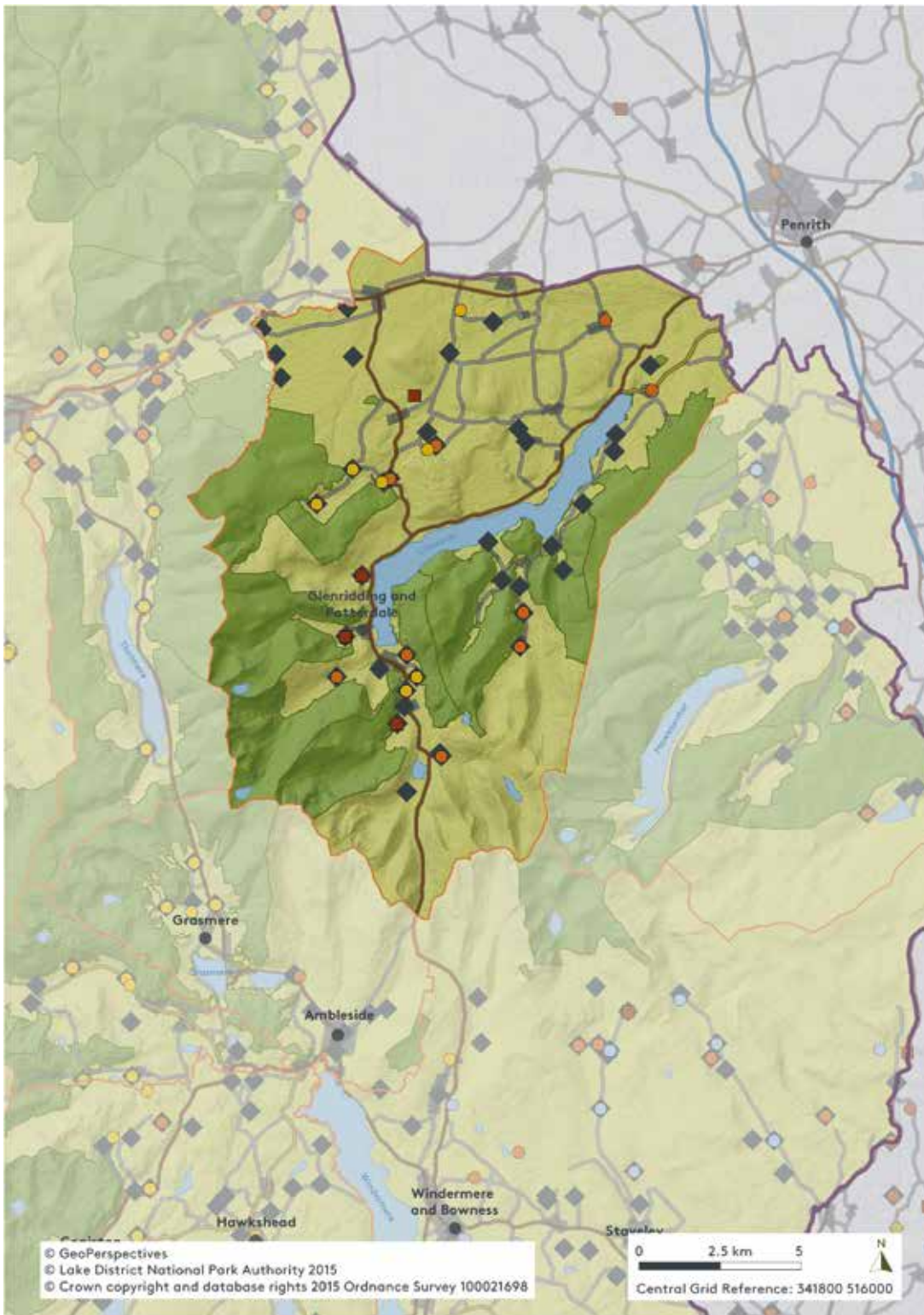
Other possible ring garths exist around the inbye at Watermillock and Bennethead, although these have not been confirmed by field survey. There are still others at Sandwick and Howtown, with intake extensions added later along the shoreline north-east of Howtown.

There has been relatively little landscape change here during the 20th century with an unaltered enclosure pattern for the last hundred years. The only new boundaries to be erected are fences alongside collapsed walls and field drains. However, the 20th century has witnessed a continued decline in the number of separate farms. With this has followed a decline in the rural labour force, with fewer farms meaning more work for those who remain. As a consequence there has been less maintenance of walls, buildings and other landscape features that are no longer in agricultural use. However, this situation has been rectified to a great extent in recent years with funding from agri-environment grant schemes for repairs to barns and walls.



FIGURE 11.9 Glencoyne Farm from the opposite shore of Ullswater

FIGURE 11.10 Shepherds' flocks and native sheep breeds in the Ullswater Valley



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0 2.5 km 5
 Central Grid Reference: 341800 516000

- Nominated Property boundary
- Valley boundary
- Registered Common Land
- Fell-going Flocks
- Flocks registered with Breed Associations:
- Herdwick
- Rough Fell
- Swaledale
- Multiple Breeds

Registered Common Land © Natural England 2015. Attribute data for Fell-going flocks: Lakeland Shepherds' Guide 2005.
 Attribute data for flocks: Herdwick Sheep Breeders Association 2014, Rough Fell and Swaledale Sheep Breeders' Associations 2013.

WORKING FARMS AND FLOCKS

Herdwick farming features strongly in Ullswater today and the valley contains a number of significant Herdwick farms, including Hartsop Hall and Glencoyne. Traditionally some of these have had the largest flocks in the area. William Green included a list of the largest Lake District Herdwick flocks in his 'The Tourist's New Guide' of 1819 and noted that Patterdale Hall had a flock of 1,700, Glencoyne had 900, and Hartsop Hall had 800. The farm at Glencoyne is one of the largest current Herdwick farms in the Lake District due in part to its large area of enclosed land as well as open fell.

There are 38 fell-going flocks in the Ullswater Valley area. There are 12 Herdwick flocks and 14 Swaledale flocks registered with the relevant Sheep Breeders' Associations. There are no registered Rough Fell flocks. There are three National Trust landlord flocks listed in the 'Lakeland Shepherds' Guide' (2005).

The sheep graze on 6,917 hectares of Registered Common Land in the Ullswater Valley area, one third of the total valley area. The Common Land is located on the Helvellyn range north of Dovedale on the west and on the fells north of Hartsop on the east side of the valley. The following registered Commons fall wholly or partly within the Ullswater Valley: Barton Fell (693 hectares), Martindale Common (1,635 hectares) and Patterdale Common (388 hectares) on the east; and Deepdale Common (772 hectares), Grisedale Forest (912 hectares), Glenridding Common (1,085 hectares), Watermillock Common (376 hectares) and Matteredale Common (1,056 hectares) on the west. Small additional areas of common include Binks Moss, Mill Moor and parts of Lake Ullswater and its foreshore.

CONTINUING FARMING CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

From the very early 20th century there has been a tradition of agricultural shows in the valley. The Matteredale and St John's Sheep Show started in 1901 when three local men, Joe Bowman, Joe Wilkinson and J. R. R. Allen, decided to organise Sheep Dog Trials at Patterdale initially called 'Ullswater Sheep Dog Trials' and later, 'Patterdale Dog Day'. In those early days, late August would see a large number of horses and traps carrying farmers' families, shepherds and dogs, coming over Kirkstone Pass, heading for Patterdale. They would often stop at the Inn on the top to let the horses get their wind, and of course for refreshment for themselves. The takings on the very first day amounted to nineteen pounds three shillings and sixpence (£19.17 in current money) and the committee was so delighted that it bought a bottle of whisky costing three shillings and sixpence (17 pence today) to celebrate. The oldest programme the current committee have found dates back to 1938 and was priced at sixpence (2½ pence). In it Ullswater is described as 'the English Lucerne' after its similarity to the lake in Switzerland.

Today a number of these long-running agricultural shows are still held by the Ullswater farming community. The Dockray and Matteredale Shepherds' meet is held alternately at Dockray and Threlkeld Cricket Club on the first Thursday after the 22 November, every year. Patterdale Dog Day is held at the end of August every year, in the King George V playing field, apparently described by Wordsworth as 'the prettiest field in England'. The show includes the Matteredale and St John's Sheep Show which has classes for Herdwick and Swaledale Sheep. The show has stayed faithful to the original format and content and, having resisted commercialisation, is proud to claim to be a genuinely traditional

Lakeland event. As well as the sheep classes the show includes sheep dog trials, a terrier show, a gundog show, a children's pets class, a show of traditional sticks and crooks, the Ullswater Foxhound show, a fell race, a children's fell race, hound trails, and a craft tent.

FARMSTEADS

Most of the surviving stone buildings in the Ullswater and its side valleys date from the 'Statesmen' period of the 17th and 18th centuries. A few are earlier (Barton Church Farm for example) and some later; the good range of historic dates is reflected in the 165 listed buildings in the valley. Most are likely to have re-occupied sites which were already old in the 17th century, and which may have medieval origins. The historic building stock also includes mills such as the small corn mill between Hartsop village and the junction of Hayeswater Beck and Pasture Beck. The building has a datestone inscribed 1706, although it is not clear whether this is the date of the first construction or a later phase. Two sets of grinding stones were linked to a single pit wheel driven by the waterwheel positioned against the eastern wall. A head race brought water from higher up Hayeswater Gill along an open leat or mill race and to a wooden launder to power the wheel.

TABLE 11.1 Key farm buildings in Ullswater Valley



THRANG CRAG

Farmhouse. Probably early 18th century.

DATE 18th century

OWNERSHIP Private

PROTECTION Listed

GRID REFERENCE 343428 517530



DALEHEAD

Probably 17th century. Stone rubble, slate roof with stepped gables and two oval chimneys. 2 storeys, with slate dripstone over whole ground floor.

DATE 17th century

OWNERSHIP Private

PROTECTION Listed

GRID REFERENCE 341024 513081



HARTSOP HALL

Typical larger Lakeland farmhouse in magnificent setting. Original 16th century house faced north to Brothers Water, a west wing added 17th century, and a south wing in 18th century. It was originally owned by the Lancaster family then the Lowthers. It is known for its 'priest holes' designed to conceal visiting members of the catholic clergy from detection. The Hall is thought to have been converted to use as a farmhouse in the late 17th century and the associated farm buildings date from the 17th century onwards.

DATE 16th – 18th century

OWNERSHIP National Trust

PROTECTION Listed

GRID REFERENCE 339835 512031

**COTE FARM, MARTINDALE**

The house in Martindale adjacent to Cote with a reused cruck shows how earlier sites were re-occupied and buildings replaced and reused opportunistically.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 344634 518834

**AIRA FARMHOUSE**

Former house and two barns at Dowthwaitehead are probably late 17th century with later additions.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 337034 520788

**MAINS FARMHOUSE**

Mains farmhouse and barns, near Pooley Bridge includes an early to mid-18th century house with 18th and early 19th century barns and gin gang (wheel-house for horse-powered engine or mill).

DATE 18th – 19th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 347590 524599

**GLENCOYNE**

One of the best farmhouse groups in the valley at Glencoyne; dates from the early 17th century and features typical white-washed walls, slate roof with stepped gables and two massive circular chimneys. It has fine internal wooden fittings and a plaster panel dated 1629.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP National Trust
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 338466 518685

**BANK END**

Date 1627 with three re-set cruck-trusses indicating reuse of an earlier building on the site.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 340730 513001



HOWE GREEN FARM

A mid-17th century farm on the north side of Hartsop village with many original internal features. It is a virtually unaltered example of the cross-passage and byre plan. Of note is the intact huge fireplace and stone chimney hood, a rarity of its kind. Close by is a 16th or early 17th century corn drying kiln, a small two storey crow stepped building built into the hillside with access to both floors. It has been heavily restored and is a good example of what would have been a common building type that fell out of use across the Lake District in the late-17th century.

DATE 16th – 17th century
OWNERSHIP National Trust
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 340897 513125



HOLLINS FARMHOUSE AND ATTACHED BARN, DOCKRAY

Farmhouse and barn – court cupboard dated 1736 but house probably earlier.

DATE 18th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 339373 521685



TOWNHEAD, INCLUDING TOWNHEAD COTTAGE AND BARN

Two houses and bank barn – 1720.

DATE 18th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 342337 519616



BARTON CHURCH FARM

West wing late 16th century; north wing dated 1628, porch 1693.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 348524 526433



WINDER HALL, NEAR BARTON

Farmhouse dated 1612, but mostly later 17th century.

DATE 17th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 349167 524521

11.1.4 INDUSTRY



FIGURE 11.11 Miners' cottages in Glenridding

The principal industries in the Ullswater Valley were lead mining and slate quarrying, and some of the archaeological remains of these are of national significance and have left their mark on the landscape. Important remains survive at Hartsop Hall mine and Myers Head, the latter being a well-preserved example of a late 19th century mine (it was rapidly abandoned due to flooding). However the largest mine was at Greenside, west of Glenridding, which operated from the 1820s until 1961.

The impressive remains of adits, wheelpits, processing floors and spoil tips at Greenside provide testimony to a long period of sustained and innovative lead extraction. Waste from the mine dominates the approaches to Helvellyn from the east up Glenridding Beck.

11.1.5 SETTLEMENTS

PATTERDALE AND GLENRIDDING

The north/west shore of the lake contains the settlements of Patterdale and the large village of Glenridding, expanded in the 19th century by the Greenside Mining Company to house workers from the lead mine. Between the mine and Glenridding are rows of typical miners' cottages, still in residential use. Lower down this valley the strong identity of a mining village contrasts with grander houses and the hotels, guest houses and shops associated with Victorian and present day tourism. Glenridding Pier is a tourist honeypot where traditional launches provide pleasure trips on the lake as they have done since Victorian times – a timeless quality characteristic of the place. Glenridding House is a good example of a Regency villa on the lakeshore and was visited by Charles Darwin in the 19th century. It was empty for many years, but has now been restored. Nearby Glencoyne Farm is one of the finest vernacular farmhouses in the Lake District.

Sited to the south of Ullswater, on the Kirkstone Pass A592 road, and very close to Glenridding, is the settlement of Patterdale. Patterdale Hall was originally built in the 17th century, but it is now mainly a 19th century rebuild. St Patrick's Church, was built in 1853, designed by the London Architect, Anthony Salvin. The recently-built Mountain Rescue base, in its wooded setting beside the A592, was given a Civic Trust Award in 2001 for its design based on Tudor/Arts and Crafts style in stone and timber.

POOLEY BRIDGE

At the northern end of Ullswater, at a main bridging point over the River Eamont, seven miles from Penrith, is Pooley Bridge. The stone bridge is a fine 16th century construction.

There is a cluster of houses, two hotels and shops. It is a busy little gateway tourist centre on route from the M6 and Penrith to the Ullswater area and the whole Lake District. Opposite the 19th century church is an excellent continuous group of 17th/18th and 19th century dwellings, showing good use of limestone, sandstone, slate and render. Mains Farm is a particularly impressive group of farm buildings, especially the rounded horse engine house.

In addition a number of small hamlets are located at strategic positions around the lake, including Sandwick and Howtown on the eastern shore, Dockray, Watermillock and Dacre on the northern side and Hartsop at the southern end of the Valley.

HARTSOP

The valley is rich in examples of early vernacular architecture, with a particular concentration in the hamlet of Hartsop; this is reflected in its status as a Conservation Area. Wordsworth described Hartsop as "remarkable for its cottage architecture", however Celia Fiennes, travelling through the valley in 1698 describes coming to "villages of sad little huts made up of drye walls, only stones piled together and the roofs of same slat". Hartsop is a fine collection of farmsteads constructed from local slate and positioned along the western end of an ancient route from the Kirkstone-Patterdale road up on to High Street. The hamlet developed as 'Low Hartsop' in the medieval period, with the principal period of settlement growth dating from the late 16th and 17th centuries. Most of the buildings date from the 'Statesmen' period of the 17th and 18th centuries and are classic examples of Lake District vernacular buildings. These are typically constructed from massive stone and slate rubble walls, often white-washed, and roofed in slate with squat chimneys.

At least four buildings originally had 'spinning' galleries, of which two survive today, at Thorn House and Mireside. There is some doubt that these galleries were ever used for spinning – it seems more likely that they were used for drying flax or hemp; or were areas to prepare yarn for the loom; or even simply to give covered access to grain stores. With the exception of a few houses which were added during the 20th century and which are clearly in the style of that period (Cherry Garth, Holt House and Townhead), the settlement still survives much as it was after the 17th century development; although there are seven quite recently-built houses which are difficult to distinguish from the 17th century ones. Otherwise the street pattern and buildings are as shown on the First Edition of the Ordnance Survey Map of 1863. The village lacks any of the large Victorian villas, a reflection of its remote and harsh location.

HOWTOWN

Howtown is only a small cluster of buildings, near the shore of Ullswater, at the foot of the steep road over The Hause to Martindale. In the 19th century it had a large bobbin mill, and worker's housing, a later tourist hotel and some houses. It is a good place to start or finish fell walks with the steamer service on the Lake linking it to Glenridding and Pooley Bridge.

DACRE



FIGURE 11.12 Dacre Castle

Dacre is a small attractive village tucked away between Pooley Bridge and the busy A66. It is a quiet area with a very important historic church, St Andrew's, with its four early medieval stone carved bears, and Dacre Castle. The latter is a 14th century pele tower with projecting corner turrets, originally surrounded by a moat which has now been filled in.

The license to crenellate at Dacre was given in 1307; and the structure was substantially modernised in 1675 by Sir Thomas Dacre. It subsequently passed to the Dalemain Estate and was restored from dereliction in the 1960s. The village has several good 18th century houses, with hardly any 20th century development. It receives surprisingly few visitors.

The license to crenellate at Dacre was

Nearby, is Dalemain mansion, with Elizabethan origins and fine Georgian frontage. At the heart of the mansion are the remains of a medieval building, possibly comprising a hall with towers at each end, dating from the late 15th/early 16th century. A very elegant frontage to the house was added in 1747, constructed in fine ashlar masonry. The mansion is surrounded by parkland and a garden with features from the 17th and 18th centuries including a huge terrace wall of 1688.

Another fine example of a medieval fortified building is the pele tower at Hutton John. A 14th century tower is located at the angle of an L-shaped, three-story building whose wings were built in the 15th and mid-16th centuries. The whole house was given a Georgian makeover in 1730 and was modernised again in the 19th century when the third storey was added. It is surrounded by an important 17th century garden with terrace, large, shaped yew trees and a dovecote.

11.1.6 PICTURESQUE BUILDINGS AND LANDSCAPE

Although the Ullswater Valley does not have an extensive array of early villas and Picturesque landscapes, Lyulph's Tower and Aira Force is one of the best examples of this phenomenon in the Lake District. Constructed c. 1795 as a hunting lodge for the Duke of Norfolk, Lyulph's Tower was one of the first Lake District houses to be built for the view. It is an early example of Romantic Gothic style, with a castellated screen wall forming three sides of an octagon, and with four towers, one at each of the angles. This makes the most of the views up and down Ullswater, from its position beneath the slopes of Gowbarrow Park. Lyulph's Tower was the focus for a Picturesque parkland scheme which incorporated designed approaches connecting the house with the waterfall at Aira Force.

The waterfall at Aira Force had been noted by writers describing the Picturesque qualities of the Ullswater Valley, including William Gilpin and James Clarke. Clarke described the best way for the Picturesque tourist to view the waterfall, including strenuous physical and emotional experiences the journey was likely to evoke:

“The traveller should descend pretty low into the dark vale through which the water flows; but as this requires both courage and agility, many decline the attempt: the oblique rays of an evening sun, and the swelling of the waters by rain, likewise contribute not a little to the terrible beauties of this place. If however, the spectator can summon up resolution to descend, he will see such a scene as will amply repay the terrors of the attempt”.

James Clarke, ‘Survey of the Lakes’ (1787)

Clarke’s map of 1787 also provides the first evidence for the layout of the park which included informal features enclosed by a wall or fence. In the mid-1840s a pinetum was developed along with the earlier designed landscape for the 13th Duke of Norfolk. This project included a complex network of paths, bridges and viewing features together with a collection of exotic conifers. Further planting in the pinetum continued in the 19th century and the upper water fall bridge was re-built in stone c. 1900.

The Aira Force gorge and most of the park, except Lyulph’s Tower and its immediate environs, were acquired by the National Trust in 1906 and have since been altered to accommodate high visitor numbers. Although the setting of this important landscape remains intact, the stimulating Picturesque quality of the valley had become blurred by the late 20th century and important views obscured. In 2007 the National Trust produced a conservation plan for Aira Force with a view to restoring the quality of the landscape. The inherent natural beauty of Aira Force provides its main attraction for visitors but the site has tended to be managed as a countryside property rather than as a pleasure ground. The designed landscape has a strong impact on the experience, and the developments enhance the site and give it a unique character – much in keeping with the Picturesque and Victorian taste for landscape. Current and future management is focusing on informing visitors of this significance and giving due regard to the designed aspects of the site which combine well with the natural elements and add greatly to its quality.

11.1.7 VILLAS AND ORNAMENTAL LANDSCAPING

Conventional villas began to be constructed during the 1790s, although a number replaced earlier buildings on the same site, such as Eusemere Hall. Some of the earliest villas developed from modest ‘cottages’ including Goldrill Cottage and Gillside Cottage, both in Patterdale and both occupied in the first decade of the 19th century by friends of the Wordsworths. Designed landscapes often included woodland walks and formal gardens with exotic and newly discovered trees from abroad and can be found around Gowbarrow Hall and Gowbarrow Bay, Waterfoot Hotel, Rampsbeck and the shoreline east of Horrock Wood Farm on the north shore; and Ravensghyll, Sharrow Lodge and Gale Bay on the south shoreline. However, a number of gardens are now dominated by native and invasive species – Portuguese laurel, rhododendron, sycamore, oak and birch. Boathouses began to appear on maps of the lake at Horrock Wood Farm and Pooley Bridge by 1783 and today there are at least 16.

TABLE 11.2 List of key villas in the Ullswater Valley

	<p>EUSEMERE HALL</p> <p>Eusemere Hall is post-1795, but replaced an earlier site which appears on the 1783 map. Built by the anti-slavery campaigner Thomas Clarkson (1760-1846) on an estate acquired in 1795. Situated close to the lake foot, its elongated main front looks directly up the lake towards the distant mountains.</p> <p>DATE 18th century OWNERSHIP Private PROTECTION Listed GRID REFERENCE 346958 524160</p>
	<p>GLENRIDDING</p> <p>Built by the Revd Askew, Rector of Greystoke, sometime between 1798 and 1817, and is associated with an attractive lakeside walk.</p> <p>DATE 18th – 19th century OWNERSHIP Private PROTECTION Listed GRID REFERENCE 338701 517269</p>
	<p>LEEMING HOUSE</p> <p>Leeming House is an early to mid-19th century villa with iron veranda and clock tower with bell. Now a hotel.</p> <p>DATE 19th century OWNERSHIP Private PROTECTION Listed GRID REFERENCE 344183 521618</p>
	<p>LYULPH'S TOWER</p> <p>Lyulph's Tower/Aira Force arboretum. The house was built in the 18th century for the Duke of Norfolk. An early example of the Romantic Gothic castellated style; referred to by Wordsworth, Southey and Scott. Picturesque tree planting Aira Force Arboretum – planted by the Howard family (Lyulph's Tower) in 1846.</p> <p>DATE 18th century OWNERSHIP Private PROTECTION Listed GRID REFERENCE 340412 520196</p>
	<p>HALLSTEADS</p> <p>Charmed by the area, and the proximity to their friends the Wordsworths, in 1815 the Marshalls built Hallsteads as a summer residence, capitalising on a point of land (Skelly Nab) benefiting from views along two of Ullswater's three reaches.</p> <p>DATE 17th – 18th century OWNERSHIP Outward Bound Trust PROTECTION Listed GRID REFERENCE 343791 521133</p>

**DALEMAIN**

Large country house. 15th century with 16th century additions, 17th century alterations and extensive mid-1730's extensions, the initials E.H. over the entrance (Edward Hasell). Associated with a Registered Park and Garden – Grade II*. A 17th century terrace and a walled garden of the 17th century and 18th century, laid out or improved by Sir Edward Hasell; 18th century parkland with woodland probably planted in the late 18th century by Williams Hasell and a walled deer park, probably of 17th century or 18th century date.

DATE 15th – 18th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 347712 526876

**PATTERDALE HALL**

Patterdale Hall has obscure origins, with a date of 1677 over a doorway which is an extension to the earlier middle part, which is 17th century. First record of ownership of Patterdale Hall dates back to 1624, when the Lordship of Patterdale was purchased from the Threlkeld Family by Joan Mounsey of Greystoke for her son John, a miner. The Threlkelds were said to have had a house present on the site for many hundreds of years before this.

DATE 17th – 19th century
OWNERSHIP Young Men's Christian Association
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 338854 516163

**WATERMILLOCK HOUSE**

In the summer of 1810 John Marshall, flax-spinner of Leeds, and his wife Jane rented Watermillock House, formerly the seat of the Robinsons, for the first of a number of summer visits. Late 17th century with late 18th century addition.

DATE 17th – 18th century
OWNERSHIP Private
PROTECTION Listed
GRID REFERENCE 344594 522459

11.2 HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

11.2.1 ARCHAEOLOGY AND EARLY SETTLEMENT

The remains of prehistoric settlement in Ullswater are extensive and span the period from the Neolithic to the Iron Age. The earliest evidence for human activity in the area comprises significant examples of rock art at the head of the valley near Patterdale, which date to the Neolithic or early Bronze Age. Sites of similar date are also found on the high ground of Askham Fell, south east of Pooley Bridge, including stone circles, a stone alignment and burial cairns.

The evidence for later prehistoric activity is even more extensive and includes an important series of enclosed hut circle settlements and two hillforts at Maiden Castle and Dunmallard Hill. The relatively high number of later prehistoric settlements around Ullswater is a higher density of occupation than in other valleys in the Lake District, possibly due to the importance of Ullswater as a route of communication and the good agricultural soils around the lower lake.

Perhaps for the same reason, the Romans sought to control this communications route by constructing marching camps and a fort at Troutbeck, just to the north-west of Ullswater, together with roads to connect these with the forts at Penrith and Ambleside. The Roman road from Ambleside, known as High Street, was probably constructed along the route of an earlier prehistoric trackway and runs along the tops of the fells on the south-eastern side of Ullswater.

An enclosed farmstead at the foot of High Hartsop Dodd is thought to be Romano-British in date, and there is also a Romano-British hut circle settlement at Heck Beck above the head of Upper Bannerdale. Often with several phases of occupation these sites present the possibility that there is perhaps at least some continuity in settlement or population from the prehistoric period into the Roman and subsequent periods.

11.2.2 THE ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CURRENT SETTLEMENT PATTERN

Place-name evidence suggests a mixture of linguistic influences in the valley. Hartsop probably derives from the Old English 'valley of the deer'. The name Kirkstone derives from Old Norse 'kirkja steinn' meaning 'church stone'. 'Ulueswater' first appears in 1220, deriving either from an Old Norse proper name or perhaps from a Celtic word 'uille', meaning elbow, referring to the curve of the lake.

The occurrence of Old English place-names may suggest that the early medieval population was connected more closely to the Anglian kingdom of Northumbria rather than to the Scandinavian settlement along the coastal areas. Archaeological evidence does not seem to support Scandinavian settlement at Hartsop or elsewhere in the Ullswater Valley as a whole. Nor is the effect of shifting land ownership amongst various British and Anglian polities evident using the archaeological data, although the occurrence of place-names with elements of 'British' (Penruddock) or Scots heritage (Glencoynes, Glenridding) provide some clues.

The names Sandwick and Borwick are typically Old English (the 'wick' element can mean both 'town' and 'bay') and these perhaps indicate a pre-conquest date; a deserted settlement at Watermillock may indicate a similarly early origin. In some cases, there is archaeological evidence of such early settlements, for example, Cross Dormant, Deepdale, Deepdale Bridge, Glenamara Park, Glencoynedale, Old Kirk Watermillock, and High Hartsop Dod; although some of these were abandoned long before the Norman conquest. Other similar sites elsewhere have seen long intermittent sequences where sites were occupied, abandoned and then re-occupied long after and this may also be the case at the examples around Ullswater.

In the early medieval period a monastery at Dacre (as Dacore) is mentioned by Venerable Bede writing in the 8th century. Archaeological investigations have found traces of timber buildings – one associated with metalworking – and a covered drain in the present churchyard. Dacre was apparently still a significant location in the early 10th century, as William of Malmesbury recorded that King Constantine of Scotland and King Eugenius of Cumberland paid homage to King Athelstan (first king of all England, reigned 925 to 938) at Dacre in 927, although other writers prefer Eamont Bridge. Although the present Dacre church dates from the 12th century, it contains fragments of carved stone crosses of 8th to 10th century date and the enigmatic 'Dacre Bears', an unusual group of carved stone animals.

11.2.3 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FARMING LANDSCAPE

There is no written evidence for the Ullswater Valley area during the 11th and 12th centuries, and only a handful of documentation for the 13th and 14th centuries which provides scant information on the appearance of the landscape at that time. Approximate dates for the establishment of churches, and their values in the Crusading Tithes of the late 13th and early 14th century are the best evidence for the early centuries following the conquest. Most of the Ullswater Valley area lay within the barony of Westmorland. The parish of Patterdale was sub-divided from the much larger Barton parish, within the medieval barony of Kendale, which confirmed its boundaries in 1189. The barony of Westmorland was confirmed soon after in 1203 and included the land south of Ullswater, including Hartsop.

In the Manor of Hartsop there is no surviving documentary evidence from the immediate post-conquest period. The earliest documentary references appear in the mid-13th century, by which time the Manor was in the hands of the de Lancaster family. It is not clear if a manor hall existed within the demesne before this time, although it would seem likely, given Hartsop's status as a manor.

There are a number of land uses referred to in the historical source material and in some cases we can see evidence of this in the landscape today, or extrapolate their existence from 19th century Ordnance Survey maps. The Ullswater shoreline seems to have been a favoured location for medieval and later deer parks. On 19th century maps there are three parks – two straddling Lyulph Tower and Aira Force, and a third called Swinburn's Park adjacent to Gowbarrow Hall. Clarke's map of 1787 shows a single enormous deer park belonging to the Earl of Surrey. It may be that the detail provided in the Ordnance Survey maps suggests that originally a deer park (later known as Swinburn's Park) was attached to Gowbarrow Hall; this may have been accessed via a corridor which is an arrangement seen at Irton Hall. The deer park was then extended twice – once to the natural boundary of the Aira Beck, when Lyulph Tower was perhaps built as a lodge for enjoyment whilst out hunting (the house was built c. 1795 for the Duke of Norfolk), and then the park was extended further to encompass what is now Glencoyne Park. Barton Park was presumably a relatively small park, perhaps for the benefit of the lord of Barton Hall, although this is not certain; and the name William Hassel on the 1787 map is associated with the lordship of the manor of Patterdale. Already the park – especially its western edge – seemed to have been sub-divided and sub-enclosed by that date,

and the deer park turned over to pasture and plantation woodland. The house at Dalemain appears to have had a deer park attached, although when this was enclosed as a deer park is not known. A designed landscape attached to Dacre Castle is called 'Park'; although this may be a former deer park, it may also indicate that it is part of the lord's holding.

There is good documentary evidence to suggest that from the 12th century many upland demesnes were farmed as cattle ranches or vaccaries on behalf of the Lord of the Manor. Documentary evidence to support the existence of a vaccary in Dovedale appears in a complaint brought against Gilbert de Lancaster in 1255. He was ordered to prevent his cattle in the Hartsop demesne, and also cattle belonging to his tenants within the Manor, from roaming free in the surrounding forest in the possession of Roger de Lancaster. The valley head in Dovedale with its large areas of wooded fellside and well-watered hay meadow was ideal for farming as a vaccary. The wall that encloses the head of the valley in Dovedale is likely to have been set up in the 12th or 13th century to enclose an area for use as a cattle pasture. This wall abuts the ring garth suggesting that the enclosure of the valley head post-dates the enclosure of the valley bottom. It is not known how the vaccary in Dovedale was organised; it may have been overseen by the Lord of the Manor or placed in the hands of a tenant. The early hall at Hartsop is likely to have been built in the 12th or 13th century and may have functioned as the administrative centre for the vaccary. Source materials suggest that by the 14th century many vaccaries in the Lake District had been let to farming tenants rather than being managed directly by the Lord of the Manor. It is not known if this was the case at Hartsop, but the remains of a medieval longhouse within the demesne may be evidence that the vaccary was placed in the hands of a tenant at some point or that the Lord has some assistance in managing the demesne farm. There is less evidence here of vaccaries managed by the monasteries. The Hospital of St. Nicholas, York, appears to have had an interest in at least two bovates (usually c. 30 acres (12 hectares)) in the early 12th century, and the place-name Brothers Water at High Hartsop could relate to a monastic interest, although there are other explanations. However, there is currently insufficient definitive evidence to support the presence of a monastic-run medieval vaccary at High Hartsop.

Some additional evidence of medieval farming practices can be obtained from the surviving field patterns. Clear strips carved from former open fields or hints of strips, plus place-names like Town Head, and the association of early settlements with capital messuages such as pele towers or halls are abundant and easily recognisable on modern and historic mapping. The road from Pooley Bridge to Penrith quite clearly shows a largely unaltered medieval pattern; these common field settlements probably date from the 11th/12th century, although they may have earlier origins.

The 11th/12th century pattern seen elsewhere in Lake District Valleys of common open field separate and subordinate to a lord's holding at the head of the valley or similarly 'superior' position, is also prevalent in the Ullswater Valley area. For example, the valley bottom in Hartsop is divided into two parts by Brothers Water. West of Kirkstone Beck there is a lord's holding with Hartsop Hall, presumably occupied by the Lord of the Manor from the 12th or early-13th century given the status of Hartsop as a separate medieval manor. The common fields proper were located on the east side of the beck and to the north of Brother's Water. This separation meant that two separate

common fields developed in the medieval period, each supporting a small group of farming tenements. A marriage agreement of 1456 mentions a 'William de Lancaster of Hartsoppe', suggesting that the Lord of the Manor was still resident in the demesne at that time. The Manor of Hartsop is frequently mentioned in connection to the de Lancaster family in the period between 1300 and 1600, although there is unfortunately little information regarding numbers of tenants or land-use.

The ecclesiastical evidence suggests that settlement in the Ullswater Valley area spread out from the north-east, first occupying Barton and the relatively level areas to the north of Pooley Bridge. This early settlement perhaps extended all the way to Barton Park and Thwaite Hill on the south of Ullswater, and to Gowbarrow Hall and Watermillock on the north side. Martindale was perhaps then settled, and perhaps the other isolated settlements along the south-east side at Sandwick and Howtown.

Archaeologically, there are some abandoned settlements of unknown date, such as Lanty Tarn, Martindale and an obscure medieval site at Cross Dormant. Generally, these suggest a broad picture of linear development, with settlement continually expanding throughout the historic period until the 20th century when agriculture and the rural population began to contract.

Other significant medieval sites include the 14th century 'pele', or fortified, towers at Dacre Castle and Hutton John (see above). These pele towers are amongst the earliest surviving examples of domestic architecture in the north-west. The defensible towers are particularly concentrated on the north-eastern fringe of the Lake District from Skiddaw and Ullswater to the Eden Valley. It would be here that the threats of Scottish raids were at their greatest on the route southwards from Carlisle; for example the 'capital messuage' of Robert de Swynburn was previously burnt down by Scots raiders shortly before 1326. It was also here that the wealthier landowners could afford to fortify their houses. Other fortified houses or 'pele' towers in the Ullswater Valley area include Barton Kirke (late 15th century), Hartsop Hall, 15th century but presumably occupied by the Lord of the Manor from the 12th or early-13th century, and Patterdale Hall (of unknown date).

Late 16/17th century farms are distributed throughout the valley; some grouped in hamlets (e.g. Hartsop and Sandwyck) and others located individually. The location of such farms is generally between the inbye and intakes, on the edge of the former medieval common field. Farming at this time was increasingly dominated by sheep rearing to supply the burgeoning wool trade. The earliest reference to the communal management and 'stinting' on the fells appears in 1640, although the system of management is likely to have been long established by this time.

The enclosure and intake of what had been common fellsides for pasture, whether to enclose stints associated with specific farms or to extend the holdings of individual farms is a process which is rarely documented, taking place as private agreements between individuals and agreed in manorial courts. Farms grew and were consolidated whilst less-preferred sites were abandoned. The former common fields were enclosed as strips which were themselves progressively consolidated into larger parcels; early onset of this or perhaps relatively rapid change may be why around Dacre there are no strip fields evident. It may be that the extremely rural mountain parishes of Ullswater were relatively slow to consolidate the open-field strips.

From the 16th to 18th century, we can only see the changing tenurial arrangements in the available maps and field evidence, and this only exists in a limited form for Hartsop in the Ullswater Valley. The earliest surviving rental for the Hartsop tenements is dated 1574 and although in a poor state, suggests that there existed around 30 rent paying tenements at that time. The first private enclosure of land on the valley bottom took place in the late-17th or early-18th century. A number of fences are shown in Brother Field to the north of Brothers Water in the survey of the Manor of Hartsop from 1764. Despite this the majority of land on the valley bottom continued to be managed as common. Some fell walls had also been established prior to 1764. The cow pasture known as 'Hull and Side' north of Low Hartsop was enclosed so that it could be stinted separately from the surrounding fell. During the 18th century more intakes appeared on the higher fellsides, often enclosing quite marginal areas that required extensive improvement.

There was some additional enclosure which seems to date to this period, associated with development and consolidation of larger farm units. Enclosure of Matterdale Beck at Matterdale End may be extension of cattle enclosures associated with a single farm. North west of Aira Beck, along Glenridding, at Boredale Head, and at upper Bannerdale Beck there are piecemeal enclosures taken from the common to supplement the meagre fields below. Very large parcels above Grisedale on Patterdale Common and around Hartsop and Martindale, as well as smaller extensions between Scrog's Head and Rowhead near Pooley Bridge, appear to divide up common stints of pasture amongst the landowners and tenants without the need to record it for posterity in any other way than in stone.

The Ullswater Valley area contains large, regular fields resulting from parliamentary enclosure in and around Watermillock and Matterdale. Watermillock, a manor within the Barony of Greystoke, belonged to absentee owners, the Howard family, Dukes of Norfolk. Watermillock (1829) and Matterdale (1879) had Parliamentary Awards for Enclosure. Other instances of planned enclosure without Parliamentary Awards also occur, principally on Soulby Fell, Hartsop and Martindale, with some minor episodes south-east of Pooley Bridge, and adjacent to Dalemmain.

An 18th century survey of High Hartsop shows the individual tenements clustered around a gap or gate in the medieval ring garth. This area was presumably used to gather stock belonging to the local farms as they were shifted between the valley bottom and the fell. The land on the valley bottom belonging to the tenants of High Hartsop was referred to as High Hartsop Field or the Overdale. It is likely that the majority of land within the Overdale was utilised as meadow. Only in the extreme south are there signs that the ground was ever ploughed and cultivated.

Industry made a larger impact on the landscape from this period. Lead mining in the valley had probably taken place from at least medieval times but the earliest dated feature is a lead smelting site at Hoggett Gill of the late 17th century. Large-scale lead mining began in the late 18th century and reached peaks of production in the 19th and early 20th centuries. However, the largest lead mine in the valley was at Greenside, west of Glenridding, which operated from the 1820s until 1961. The impact of the mine on the valley was significant. The population of Patterdale Parish increased from 261 in 1801 to 686 in 1851. Between the mid-1870s and the end of the 19th century the dam network

was expanded and the water was used to generate electricity for powering winding gear, fans, pumps, lights and eventually electric locos. Greenside was the first metal mine in the UK to adopt electricity for tramping and winding (moving the lead ore in small trucks or sledges) and it adopted the best technology of the time for smelting and silver refining. In the 111 years between 1825 and 1935 the Greenside Company produced over 106,000 tons of lead and the Basinghall Mining Syndicate produced 50,000 tons from 1936 to 1961.

The earliest documented slate working at Caudale Moor appeared in a series of leases between James Lowther and other parties in the mid-18th century. The leases stated that all existing levels should be kept in good order indicating that underground workings had already been established. The slate at that time was taken to a jetty at the head of Ullswater for transportation northwards. Slate mining continued throughout the 19th century and into the 1930s. The mines remained unworked during the Second World War years before they were finally abandoned and all the equipment stripped and sold off in 1945.

11.2.4 DISCOVERY AND APPRECIATION OF A RICH CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

EARLY TOURISM

Unlike some of the other major valleys in the Lake District, early tourist interest in Ullswater did not lead to the threat (as then perceived) of a railway link into the valley. However, the vast potential of Ullswater to supply water for the needs of the growing cities of north west England in the 19th century did attract attention. In the second half of the 19th century the City of Manchester began to assess the potential of the various lakes for supplying the needs of its growing population and expanding industries and Ullswater was initially considered as the principal supply. Ullswater was eventually discounted in favour of Thirlmere and the threat receded.

Ullswater was not the subject of any formal stations in West's 'Guide to the Lakes' (1778) although he did recommend visiting it via a couple of different routes in order to see:

“The bold winding hills, the intersecting mountains, the pyramidal cliffs, the bulging, broken, rugged rocks, the hanging woods, and the tumbling, roaring cataracts, are parts of the sublimer scenes presented in this surprising vale”.

These dramatic views contrasted with the more cultivated areas “intersected by hedges, decorated with trees”. Finding the correct viewpoints was difficult for West. Too high and the lake lost its ‘dignity’; too low and the winding path of the lake could not be appreciated. Thomas Gray had already visited in 1769 and he approached the lake via “a spongy meadow or two”, and found an elevated point from which he viewed Ullswater “majestic in its calmness, clear and smooth as a blew mirror” but West felt that he had missed some of the lakes most picturesque places by not travelling to the south end of the lake which had more curved bays and rocky islands. At the north

end, West recommended Dunmallard, an ancient monument, as a good viewing point. He then recommended the middle reach of the western shore and Gowbarrow Park which he considered to be the finest part of the lake. Patterdale Hall formed his next recommendation, then Watermillock for the echo of firing canon. Early tourists were also directed to the ancient deer park at Gowbarrow, which extended along nearly half of the north western lake shore and included the celebrated waterfall of Aira Force. Among the houses that attracted attention were the magnificently isolated farmhouses at Glencoyne, and Patterdale Hall, home of the Mounsey family, so-called 'Kings of Patterdale'.

Promoted by the writings of Gray and West, Ullswater was enjoyed by visitors seeking Picturesque scenery for some decades before the first villas were built along its shores. Peter Crosthwaite's map of the lake, first published in 1783, showed Lyulph's Tower, the Gothic hunting lodge of the Earl of Surrey (later Duke of Norfolk) in Gowbarrow Park, as well as boat houses belonging to the Robinsons of Watermillock, the Hasells of Dalemain, the Earls of Surrey and the Dukes of Portland. Although Lyulph's Tower perpetuated an age-old aristocratic use of the Lake District for hunting grounds (as did some of the boathouses, which were there to assist in conveying hunting parties), its form reflected the new taste for the picturesque: the elevated site and faceted front elevation were calculated to make the most of views up, down and across Ullswater, and the delights of Aira Force were only a stone's throw away.

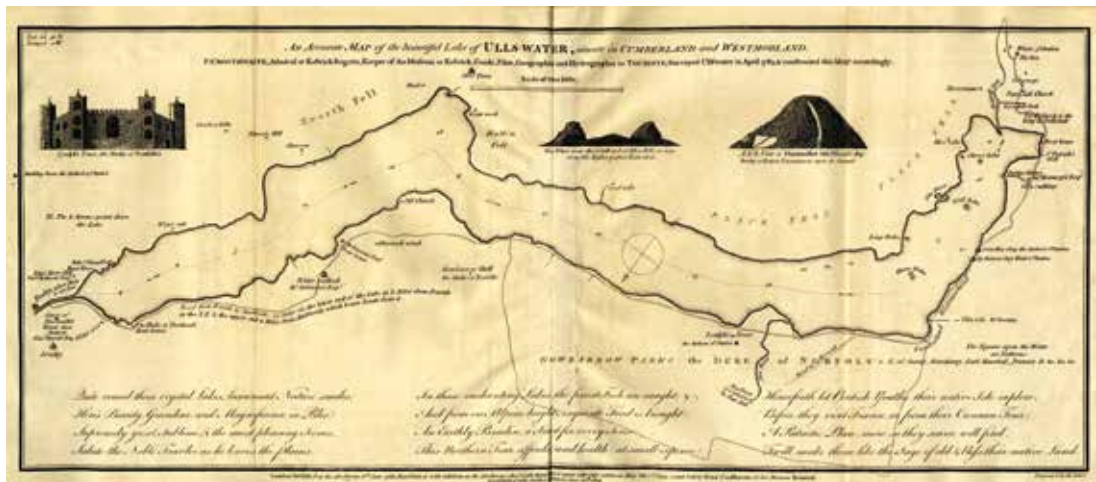


FIGURE 11.13 Crosthwaite's map of Ullswater, first published in 1783 and re-published in 1809

Ullswater was one of the Lake District valleys most highly regarded by lovers of picturesque scenery as its winding course gave rise to a theatrical succession of views. This was undoubtedly enhanced for some by the popular mid-18th century pastime of firing a canon on the lake to listen to the echoes. In addition, it was easily accessible to the vast majority of visitors due to its close proximity to Penrith, yet its upper reach penetrated deep into some of the most formidable mountain scenery that the Lake District could afford. From an early date, therefore, it formed an essential ingredient of a Lake District tour.

Early commentators regretted the poor accommodation encountered by travellers to Ullswater. Clarke's 'Survey of the Lakes' (1787) noted that the Sun Inn had boats for hire, but lacked a dining room fit for gentlemen, while the little inn at Patterdale

was simpler still. The accessibility of Ullswater to outsiders improved with the opening of a station at Penrith on the Lancaster to Carlisle railway in 1846, and the opening of the Kendal and Windermere Railway in 1847. Ullswater, in contrast to the other major lakes (Windermere, Derwent Water, Bassenthwaite Lake, Coniston Water), never acquired a direct rail link but coaches, often operated by hotel proprietors, offered regular services to and from the stations, and from the mid-19th century they were augmented by lake steamers, two of which, now restored, still operate on the lake between Pooley Bridge and Glenridding. The *M.Y. Lady of the Lake* was built in 1877 and is believed to be the oldest working passenger vessel in the world. Substantial hotels were built at Patterdale and Glenridding, both of which acquired an increasingly resort-like character despite continuing mining activity above Glenridding.

In the 20th century the Ullswater Valley's easy accessibility has resulted in new activities such as outdoor education and recreation centres. This has created new uses for many of the valley's historic building stock such as Hallsteads, the Georgian villa, built by John Marshall and now used by The Outward Bound Trust. Patterdale Hall is the residential and adventure learning centre owned and managed by Bolton School. The Hall was acquired, in 1950, by Rowland Lishman, a Tyneside businessman and long serving member of the North Shields (Young Men's Christian Association). He placed the whole estate in trust of the then Tynemouth YMCA. His aim was to provide holiday accommodation at a reasonable price, with the emphasis on young people from towns and cities, to enable them to experience the unique qualities of the Lake District. In 1988 the management of the trust transferred to the North Shields YMCA, with whom it rests today.

11.2.5 ROMANTIC SITES, BUILDINGS AND ASSOCIATIONS

In the summer of 1810 John Marshall, flax-spinner of Leeds, and his wife Jane rented Watermillock House, formerly the seat of the Robinsons, for the first of a number of summer visits. Their stays here were to have significant impacts on the valley and the wider Lake District. Charmed by the area, and the proximity to their friends the Wordsworths, in 1815 they built Hallsteads as a summer residence, capitalising on a point of land (Skelly Nab) benefiting from views along two of Ullswater's three reaches. The Wordsworths were frequent visitors and a nearby house known as Old Church was also acquired to accommodate the overflow when guests were numerous.



FIGURE 11.14 Patterdale Hall

As the century advanced the Marshall family acquired a huge presence in the English Lake District, with all of John Marshall's surviving sons being settled in properties of their own. The eldest, William, purchased Patterdale Hall from the Mounseys in 1824, and in 1836 financed the building of the local school. On John Marshall's death in 1845 his youngest son Arthur inherited Hallsteads while William embarked on a lavish rebuilding of Patterdale Hall to Italianate

designs by Anthony Salvin. The retention of the Mounsey house within the new building may owe something to Salvin's typically respectful treatment of earlier fabric, but it may also be connected with Wordsworth's urgings: a number of other houses with which Wordsworth was associated about this date retain a vernacular core. Salvin nevertheless transformed Patterdale Hall into a 'palazzo' befitting one of the great industrialists of the age, set in extensive gardens designed by William Andrews Nesfield and commanding the head of the lake. Although Patterdale Hall remained unsurpassed by other villa builders on Ullswater its star faded within a generation; by the 1870s the Leeds flax-spinning business was in difficulties and the family's ambitions were increasingly circumscribed.

Ullswater has many other associations with the Wordsworths. William and Dorothy made regular excursions to Ullswater to visit their friends the Clarksons at Eusemere Hall, the Marshalls at Hallsteads and the Luffs at Side in Patterdale. In 1806 Wordsworth himself purchased a nearby plot of land at the southern end of the lake with the intention of building a house, but the project was abandoned and it was a subsequent owner who erected the present Broad How in the 1830s, shortly after Wordsworth relinquished the land.

Most famously, Glencoyne Wood at the southern end of the lake was the place where, on 15 April 1802, William and Dorothy Wordsworth saw daffodils by the lakeshore. The encounter is described in detail in a celebrated entry in Dorothy's 'Grasmere Journal':

"I never saw daffodils so beautiful they grew among the mossy stones about & about them, some rested their heads upon these stones as on a pillow for weariness & the rest tossed & reeled & danced & seemed as if they verily laughed with the wind that blew upon them over the lake, they looked so gay ever glancing ever changing."

This later inspired Wordsworth's most famous poem. 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' (1807):

**"Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance."**

Ullswater is also the setting for one of the most celebrated passages in Wordsworth's great autobiographical poem 'The Prelude'. In Book I, he describes how, as a schoolboy, he stole a boat – "an act of stealth / And troubled pleasure" and rowed it out onto the lake. Although the location of the boat – a willow tree "Within a rocky cave" – no longer exists, it is suggested that Glenridding Dodd is the "huge Cliff", which, "As if with voluntary power instinct / Upreared its head", to seemingly admonish the young poet and trouble his dreams.

Coleridge first encountered Ullswater on a walking tour with Wordsworth in November 1799. In his Notebook he recorded his impressions:

“I have come suddenly upon Ullswater, running straight on the opposite Bank, till the Placefell, that noble Promontory runs into it, & gives it the winding of a majestic River, a little below Placefell a large Slice of calm silver.”

Later, in ‘A Guide Through the District of the Lakes’ (1835), Wordsworth recalled, from that same visit, witnessing a natural phenomenon, “deep within the bosom of the lake, a magnificent Castle, with towers and battlements”. This of course was the reflection of Lyulph’s Tower, which, at that moment was “altogether hidden from my view by a body of vapour stretching over it.”

Lyulph’s Tower, and Aira Force, on the western side of the lake, are celebrated in Wordsworth’s poem ‘The Somnambulist’. Aira Force (or more specifically the valley in which it lies) is also the subject of a delightful, late-published poem by Wordsworth, rejoicing in the tranquillity of the valley, where an ash tree makes “A soft eye-music of slow-waving boughs”. Coleridge, however, has mixed views of this celebrated waterfall, describing the chasm in his Notebook as “very fine”, but the waterfall as looking like “a long-waisted Lady-Giantess slipping down on her Back”.

At Grisedale Tarn, there is the Brothers’ Parting Stone, which marks the place where, in September 1800, Wordsworth (accompanied by his sister) bid farewell to his brother John. Kidsty Pike was also the scene of the two springs, likened by Wordsworth to two parted brothers in his poem ‘The Brothers’. In her ‘Grasmere Journal’, Dorothy wrote poignantly: “poor fellow my heart was right sad – I could not help thinking we should see him again because he was only going to Penrith”. Sadly, it was indeed the last time that they saw each other, as John drowned off the Dorset coast in 1805. Following his death, Wordsworth wrote ‘Elegiac Verses in Memory of my Brother, John Wordsworth’, which recalled that 1800 leave-taking.

In August 1805, Wordsworth climbed Helvellyn in the company of Walter Scott and Humphry Davy, and told them the story of a local artist, Charles Gough, who fell to his death from Swirral Edge in the spring of that year. His faithful dog, Foxie, remained watching over its master’s body for three months until it was discovered by a shepherd near Red Tarn. Both Wordsworth and Sir Walter Scott later wrote poems about the incident, extracts from which appear on a memorial erected near the summit by Canon Rawnsley in 1890.

Wordsworth’s description in ‘Musings Near Aquapedante’, one of the ‘Memorials of a Tour of Italy’ (1837) gives a visionary sketch of the view east from Helvellyn’s summit:

**“...–hills multitudinous,
(Not Appenine can boast of fairer) hills
Pride of two nations, wood and lake and plains,
And prospect right below of deep coves shaped
By skeleton arms, that, from the mountain’s trunk
Extended, clasp the winds, with mutual moan
Struggling for liberty, while undismayed
The Shepherd struggles with them. Onward thence
And downward by the skirt of Greenside fell,**

And by Glenridding-screes, and low Glencoign,
Places forsaken now, though loving still
The Muses, as they loved them in the days
Of the old minstrels and the border bards."

In 1802, a walk along Barton Fell in a despondent mood, inspired Wordsworth to write 'Resolution and Independence'. In his Guide, Wordsworth describes in detail a walk through nearby Martindale in 1805 with Dorothy and his friend Charles Luff. This secluded valley remains little changed from Wordsworth's day, and buildings, including the church and Dale End farm, still exist.

Joseph Wright of Derby (1734-97) was one of the greatest British painters of the 18th century. He visited the Lake District in the summer of 1793, and again in July 1794. Ullswater is one of a small number of Lakes paintings he completed in the mid-1790s. The scene depicted of the southern reaches of Ullswater is the same setting as that used by Wordsworth for his description in 'The Prelude' of the stealing of the boat while staying at Patterdale as a schoolboy.



FIGURE 11.15 'Ullswater, Cumberland' by J. M. W. Turner (c. 1835)

Ullswater is also the subject of paintings by J. M. W. Turner. In 1797 he produced a water colour of Ullswater with Patterdale Old Hall which is now in the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Another watercolour 'Liber Studiorum' of between 1807- 19 is thought to be of Ullswater viewed from Gowbarrow Park. His sketchbook also contains seven consecutive views of Ullswater, taken along the western shore of the lake and one of Aira Force. A watercolour of Ullswater was derived from these sketches and John Ruskin

enthused about this work, "The blocks of stone which form the foreground of the Ulleswater [sic] are, I believe, the finest example in the world of the finished drawing of rocks which have been subjected to violent aqueous action."

11.2.6 EARLY CONSERVATION – THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MODEL FOR PROTECTING LANDSCAPES

The 20th century also saw the consolidation of the conservation movement and the Friends of the Lake District. In particular, the Friends achieved the undergrounding of the electricity line along the southern and eastern shoreline of Ullswater between Sandwick Bay and Glenridding, protecting views once appreciated by Wordsworth and Turner. This was carried out by the Westmorland and District Electricity Company following negotiations. The Friends also took a lead from 1938 in the attempt to resolve the problem of the pollution of Ullswater by the effluent from Greenside lead mine. In 1942 The Friends instigated legal action and pollution had been substantially reduced by 1944.

However, the increasing need for water abstraction throughout the 20th century led to renewed pressure on Ullswater. In the 1960s Manchester revived its ambition to abstract water from the lake, but now the environmental movement in the Lake District was organised and able to act. The Friends of the Lake District was prominent in a vocal campaign against the proposals, including petitions and important interventions in the national press. Opposition to Manchester's Private Bill in the House of Lords was headed by Lord Birkett of Ulverston who pleaded that Ullswater should not suffer the same fate as Thirlmere and Haweswater. As a result the House of Lords rejected various key clauses in the Bill in 1962. Birkett Fell is named after Lord Birkett in memory of his fight to protect Ullswater. There is also a plaque to his memory on Kailpot Crag and he is also honoured by the Lord Birkett Regatta, a sailing event on Lake Ullswater.

In 1965 Manchester returned to the issue and sought a Statutory Order to permit water abstraction at Gale Bay. The proposals were put to a public inquiry in Kendal at which a large number of amenity bodies with a concern for the protection of the Lake District landscape gave evidence, including the National Trust and the Council for the Protection of Rural England. This time consent for water abstraction was given, although the strong opposition managed to modify substantially the proposal in order to prevent construction of a tunnel through Longsleddale and to ensure that the lake would not be drawn down below its natural level. Although water is now abstracted from Ullswater, it is effected in a manner that does not damage the visual amenity of the lake and its surrounding cultural landscape.

The significance of the Ullswater Valley was recognised by the National Trust very soon after its establishment with one of its early and key Lake District acquisitions in 1906 being the purchase of 750 acres (300 hectares) of Gowbarrow Park, following a public appeal, to safeguard it from proposed house building. This property included the scene of daffodils recorded by Dorothy Wordsworth and later by William in his famous poem and also included the picturesque waterfall of Aira Force. The appeal leaflet made the suggestion "Why not nationalise the English Lake District?". The later planting of

conifers to the east of Gowbarrow Fell by the Forestry Commission was regarded as an unacceptable infringement of the 1936 Agreement.

Another early acquisition by the National Trust was Stybarrow Crag in 1913, but a number of Ullswater farms were purchased from the 1940s including Hartsop Hall, which was the first to be acquired by the Trust from the state under National Land Fund procedures in 1947. This fund was created to secure culturally significant property for the nation as a memorial to the dead of World War II. The major property of Glencoyne was given to the National Trust by the Scott family in 1948. Howe Green Farm, Hartsop, was bought by Lake District Farm Estates in 1956 and came to the Trust when Lake Farm Estates Limited was wound up in 1976. Caudalebeck Farm was purchased by the National Trust in 1965 and amalgamated with Hartsop Hall Farm. Beckstones Farm was purchased in 1986, Grove Farm in 1992 and amalgamated with Howe Green Farm (both in Hartsop) in 2000. The Trust now owns 5,402 hectares of land in the valley, of which 5,345 hectares is inalienable. It does not have any leased land but does have 387 hectares of covenanted land.

The Lake District National Park Authority also purchased land in order to protect it. Glenridding Common was acquired by the Lake District Special Planning Board in April 1977 with the object of preserving nature conservation interests and providing access land. They also acquired Glenridding Common and Ullswater lake bed.

Conservation in the valley is still very active. The Environment Agency, Natural England and the Lake District National Park Authority are working together to decommission the remote Hayeswater Reservoir and return it to its natural state. This reservoir was constructed in 1908 to provide local people with drinking water and it is intended that it will be restored to a tarn, as it was prior to 1908. As a consequence of removing the weir, natural ecological processes – such as eel migration – will return. Steps will be taken to protect wildlife and the environment while work is under way, including Hayeswater's population of brown trout.

11.3 CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT'S OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

Ullswater is one of several valleys in the English Lake District which exhibits attributes of all three identified themes of Outstanding Universal Value. The predominant activity in the valley is agro-pastoral farming and the typical field pattern of inbye and surrounding intakes on the adjacent fells is present, particularly in the side valleys of Hartsop, Deepdale, Grisedale, Boredale and Martindale. Ullswater is one of the key Herdwick farming areas in the Lake District and there are extensive areas of Common Land on the high fell land. The Valley contains a very large number of early farm buildings, some dating from the 16th century but mostly of 17th to 19th century date. The group of early farms clustered in the village of Hartsop is outstanding, and other settlements in the valley also have an agricultural character.

There is extensive and important evidence for early land use in the Ullswater Valley. Of particular importance are the comparatively high number of enclosed Romano-British settlements in the valley, indicating a very long history of relatively permanent settlement and agriculture. The Valley also includes a Neolithic stone circle, Roman marching camps and a fort, and significant medieval churches and pele towers. Rich lead veins are present in the rocks in the southern part of Ullswater and in the past the valley was an important centre of lead mining with the main workings at Greenside which operated from the 18th century until 1961. The settlement of Glenridding owes its size and character to the need for housing for miners.

Ullswater, with its beautiful sinuous lake, was of major importance as a source of aesthetic inspiration from the very earliest period of the Picturesque interest in the Lake District. Ease of access into the valley from the route between Penrith and Keswick helped to attract the first tourists and the valley features in guidebooks including that of Thomas West, who identified a number of viewing stations around the lake. The beauty of the lake and its mountain backdrop stimulated the construction of a number of villas and designed landscapes including the early and important Lyulph's Tower and Aira Force.

Romantic interest in Ullswater was also strong and it was the location that inspired some of the best-known poetry of the period – William Wordsworth's 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' and parts of 'The Prelude'. A number of important artists were also attracted to Ullswater, including J. M. W. Turner and John Glover.



FIGURE 11.16 'Paper Bridge' by Steve Messam (2015). The Lake District landscape continues to inspire artists and this temporary installation was located in the Grisedale valley as part of the Lakes Ignite festival in 2015.

The landscape importance of Ullswater was acknowledged very early in the life of the National Trust with the purchase in 1906 of Gowbarrow Park and in 1913 of Stybarrow Crag, the former through a prominent public appeal and donations. Over the 20th century the National Trust gradually acquired further key properties, including iconic farms such as Glencoyne, and now owns and manages a large portion of the valley. Ullswater was also the scene of a hard-fought and successful battle in the 1960s to prevent the Manchester Corporation from damaging abstraction of water from the lake.

Ullswater is thus rich in attributes for all the three themes of Outstanding Universal Value for the English Lake District.



FIGURE 11.17 The Ordnance Survey's triangulation pillar on the summit of Gowbarrow Fell, with plaque recording ownership by the National Trust