

WINDERMERE

—

Summary Description

2.c.2 THE WINDERMERE VALLEY



'First we note, lying to the south-east, the vale of Langdale, which will conduct the eye to the long lake of Winandermere, stretched nearly to the sea; or rather to the sands of Morcamb, serving here for the rim of this imaginary wheel'

William Wordsworth, 'Guide to the Lakes' (1835)

DESCRIPTION AND DEVELOPMENT

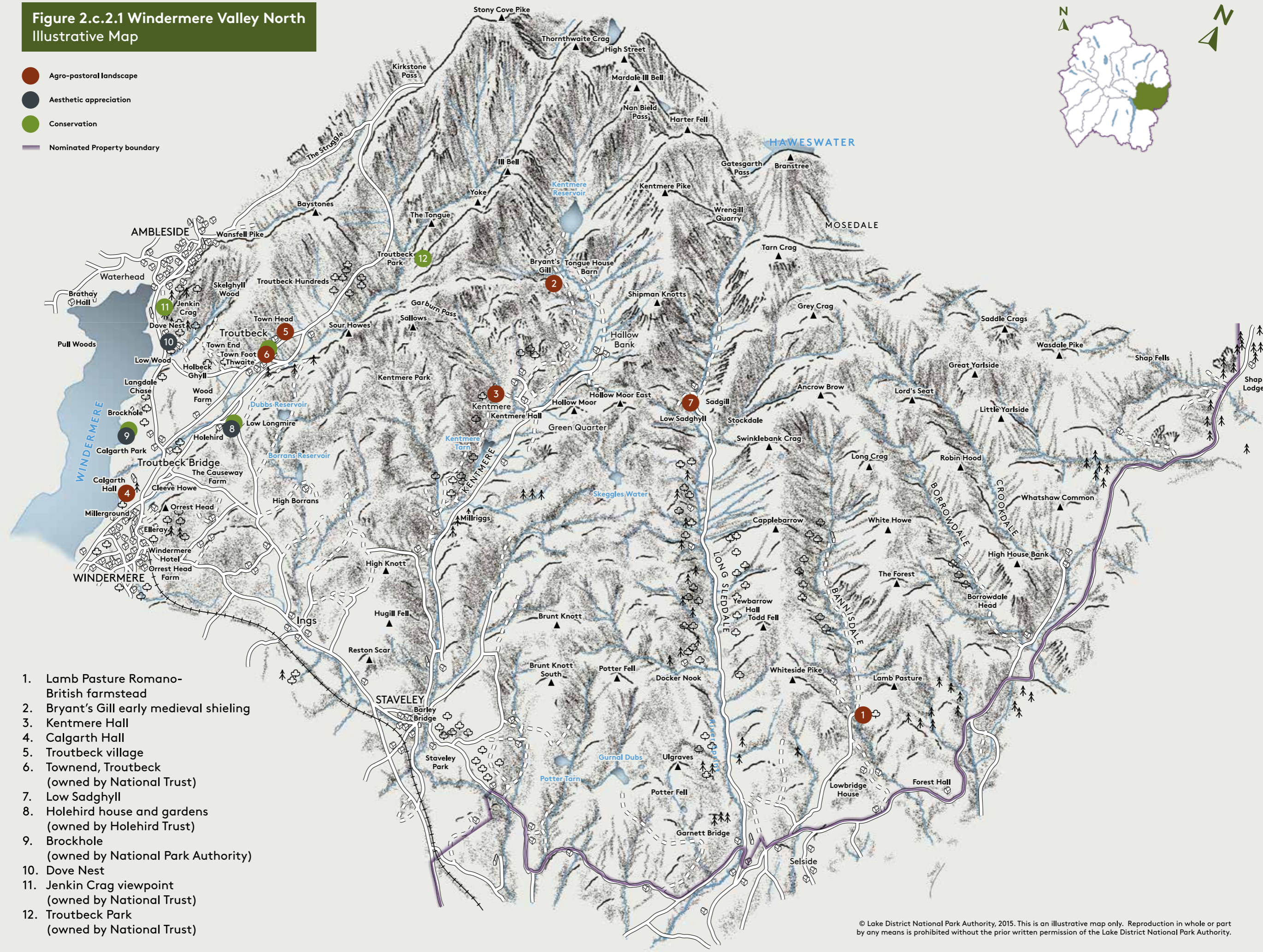
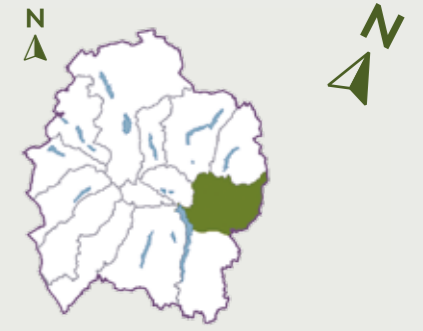
Windermere, located in the south east of the English Lake District is the largest natural lake in England, 18 kilometres long in a north-south glacial trough formed after the retreat of the ice some 12,000 years ago. It contains 18 islands, most heavily wooded, and its outflow, the River Leven, passes through the narrow course of the Leven Valley over many weirs, built for the plentiful water-powered industries past and present, to Morecambe Bay at Greenodd. The lake itself has two distinct basins, north and south, which differ in character owing to a change in the underlying geology from the hard and erosion resistant volcanic rocks in the north to softer shales in the south. There is also a distinct change in landscape character between the more settled east shore and the densely wooded, less accessible west.

The wider Windermere area encompasses other smaller valleys such as Troutbeck to the north of the area, Winster and Lyth to the south and the Kentmere, Longsleddale, Bannisdale, Borrowdale and Crookdale valleys in the east. The landscape of these valleys and the higher land between them varies significantly but the general trend is for more rugged, unenclosed fell grazing in the north of the area changing to a lower altitude, more settled, wooded, enclosed and intimate landscape south of the A591/Kendal-Windermere railway corridor. The landscape is one of great diversity and scenic beauty. The Lake District, and in particular the east shore of Windermere, has been one of England's most popular destinations for holidays and summer homes since the early 19th century. The result is an attractive mix of agricultural land with parkland and designed landscape associated with Victorian villas constructed by the new industrialists.

The Windermere valley includes the busiest location in the Lake District of Bowness-on-Windermere, but also the quietest in the valleys and hills of the Shap Fells in the east. It contains the excesses of modern tourism alongside a farming system that has changed little in the last few centuries and modern industries often located in buildings adapted from redundant former uses. The landscape today would still be wholly familiar to the 17th century yeoman farmer or the Victorian tourist and retains a reputation today,

Figure 2.c.2.1 Windermere Valley North Illustrative Map

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



1. Lamb Pasture Romano-British farmstead
2. Bryant's Gill early medieval shieling
3. Kentmere Hall
4. Calgarth Hall
5. Troutbeck village
6. Townend, Troutbeck (owned by National Trust)
7. Low Sadghyll
8. Holehird house and gardens (owned by Holehird Trust)
9. Brockhole (owned by National Park Authority)
10. Dove Nest
11. Jenkin Crag viewpoint (owned by National Trust)
12. Troutbeck Park (owned by National Trust)

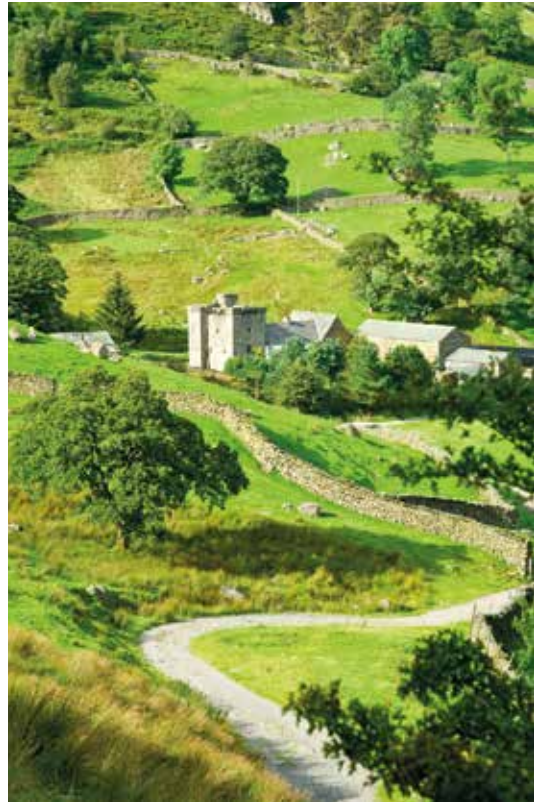
EXAMPLES OF KEY ATTRIBUTES: As shown on the Windermere Valley North illustrative map



NO. 1 FIGURE 2.c.2.2 Lamb Pasture Romano-British farmstead



NO. 2 FIGURE 2.c.2.3 Bryant's Gill early medieval settlement (spindle whorls found during excavation)



NO. 3 FIGURE 2.c.2.4 Kentmere Hall (pele tower)



NO. 4 FIGURE 2.c.2.5 Calgarth Hall



NO. 5 FIGURE 2.c.2.6 Troutbeck village



NO. 6 FIGURE 2.c.2.7 Townend, Troutbeck (owned by National Trust)



NO. 7 FIGURE 2.c.2.8 Low Sadghyll



NO. 8 FIGURE 2.c.2.9 Holehird house and gardens (owned by Holehird Trust)



NO. 11 FIGURE 2.c.2.12 Jenkin Crag viewpoint (owned by National Trust)



NO. 9 FIGURE 2.c.2.10 Brockhole (owned by National Park Authority)



NO. 10 FIGURE 2.c.2.11 Dove Nest



NO. 12 FIGURE 2.c.2.13 Troutbeck Park (owned by National Trust)

Figure 2.c.2.14 Windermere Valley South Illustrative Map

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



1. Cunswick Hall Romano-British settlement
2. Cowmire Hall
3. Hampsfield Hall
4. Hodge Hill Hall, Cartmel Fell
5. Plumgarths Cottages
6. Belle Isle house
7. Storrs Hall
8. Broughton Lodge
9. Broad Leys
10. Moor Crag
11. Blackwell
(owned by Lakeland Arts Trust)
12. Cockshot Point
(owned by National Trust)



EXAMPLES OF KEY ATTRIBUTES: As shown on the Windermere Valley South illustrative map



NO. 1 FIGURE 2.c.2.15 Cunswick Hall Romano-British settlement



NO. 2 FIGURE 2.c.2.16 Cowmire Hall



NO. 3 FIGURE 2.c.2.17 Hampfield Hall



NO. 4 FIGURE 2.c.2.18 Hodge Hill Hall, Cartmel Fell



NO. 5 FIGURE 2.c.2.19 Plumgarths Cottages



NO. 6 FIGURE 2.c.2.20 Belle Isle house



NO. 7 FIGURE 2.c.2.21 Storrs Hall



NO. 8 FIGURE 2.c.2.22 Broughton Lodge



NO. 9 FIGURE 2.c.2.23 Broad Leys



NO. 10 FIGURE 2.c.2.24 Moor Crag



NO. 11 FIGURE 2.c.2.25 Blackwell (owned by Lakeland Arts)



NO. 12 FIGURE 2.c.2.26 Cockshott Point (owned by National Trust)



FIGURE 2.c.2.27 View of the southern reaches of Windermere, with its heavily wooded shores

as it has done since the 18th century, of being one of the most scenically beautiful areas of the world.

Hill sheep farming is the dominant land use in the upland valleys running north-south (Troutbeck, Kentmere, Longsleddale, Bannisdale); a classic landscape of single farms, occasional hamlets, inbye, intakes and open fell grazing. The area between Kendal and Lake Windermere has its own farming character: more woodland and less open fell grazing and lots of planned enclosure fields and straight-walled boundaries. In the south of the Windermere valley area, towards the Lyth Valley there is more planned enclosure and emphasis on cattle rather than sheep. The character of the field boundaries also varies, with rugged stone walls of volcanic rock in the valleys of Troutbeck, upper Kentmere and Longsleddale and a mixture of stone walls, and hedges in the low fells to the east of Lake Windermere and limestone walls on the southern and eastern edges.

The Windermere valley area is outside the Herdwick breed's historical stronghold in the central and western Lake District, but it still has a tradition of Herdwick sheep farming and two farms in particular stand out: Kentmere Hall and Troutbeck Park. On the eastern side of the Lake District, Swaledale and Rough Fell breeds tend to predominate. There are 32 farms with fell-going flocks in the Windermere valley area (see Figure 2.c.2.37), but only 2 per cent of the total area is registered open land. The valley has a number of fine Statesmen farmhouses dating from the 16th to the 17th centuries. The finest example in the area and probably the entire Lake District is Townend at Troutbeck. This passed down through 12 generations of the Browne family until 1943, when it was acquired by the National Trust. The farming community is served by

agricultural shows at Troutbeck and Cartmel. The 'Rough Diamonds' show is the annual show and sale for Rough Fell sheep from the area, held near Kendal.

The settlement pattern over this large area is very varied and ranges from small farming hamlets in the narrow valleys and low fells to the large (in Lake District terms) conjoined towns of Bowness and Windermere with their tourist facilities. The earliest surviving domestic structures are the remains of defended pele towers of the 14th century. The significant settlements around the lake are Waterhead at its northern end, Bowness-on-Windermere roughly at the midpoint of the east shore, Windermere, set back from the lake behind Bowness, and the smaller Lakeside and Newby Bridge at the south end.

East of the lake, settlement north of the A591 route from Kendal to Windermere is limited to small agricultural communities of vernacular buildings such as Troutbeck with its numerous listed buildings, Kentmere Village with its prominent church and fine, fortified, Kentmere Hall, and Sadgill in Longsleddale.

The A591 road links a number of communities including the busy working village of Staveley, prosperous since medieval times as a result of water-powered industries such as bobbin manufacture and textiles, with impressive mill buildings and 19th century stone terraced houses. South of the A591 the Winster and Lyth valleys and the low fell farmland between them are densely settled with scattered farms, small villages and hamlets including Crook, Winster, Underbarrow and Crosthwaite and further south in the locality of the busy A590 trunk road Witherslack, Lindale and High Newton.



FIGURE 2.c.2.28 The cylindrical house at Belle Isle, Windermere. One of the earliest Picturesque mansions in Britain.

Many picturesque woodlands were established on the Windermere shoreline throughout the late 18th and early 19th centuries. As a result, the shores of Windermere have been described as 'probably the most exciting piece of artificial picturesque planting in existence' (J. M. Robinson, 1991). The valley is also rich in designed landscapes and gardens, mostly 19th century in date, and substantial numbers of mansions and villas. Windermere has a greater concentration of nationally-important buildings than any other of the Lake District valleys. The earliest house, built in 1774 on Belle Isle, has iconic status as both the first house in the Lake District to be built for Picturesque reasons and is also the first cylindrical building of the Picturesque Movement in England. The Arts and Crafts style at the end of the 19th and start of the 20th centuries was significant in this part of the Lake District. Moor Crag and Broad Leys are two of the finest houses of their date in Europe.

This valley is the cradle of the conservation movement; it was here that key figures whose activities would lead to the founding of the National Trust met in the late 19th century. The National Trust holdings in the Windermere area are very substantial and form the core of the Trust's Lake District Estate. There have been numerous proposals over the years which have brought development, tourism and industry into conflict with the conservation movement. Today the lack of a reservoir which would have inundated Bowland Bridge, the lack of a seaplane factory and a limited access by train, are all a result of battles won or partially won by the conservation movement.

The valley has also been a test case for planning decisions; the recognition of the Sandford Principle (Section 5) was applied here in the 1970s. This provided that in the event of irreconcilable conflict between the two national park purposes, the first, conservation of the environment, should prevail over the promotion of recreation. This has helped to inform other difficult conflicts over vehicular access to the fells and the use of speed boats on the Lake.

The evolution of land use in the valley goes back to Mesolithic times. The earliest evidence of human activity c. 8000 BC is represented by the finding of Mesolithic flints beneath the Roman fort at Waterhead. There are also probable burial cairns of Bronze Age date on the Tongue (Troutbeck), on Cunswick and Scout Scars. The Romans constructed a fort at Waterhead which was surrounded by a large civilian settlement. There are a small number of native settlements of this period with a concentration in Kentmere. Evidence for post-Roman and early medieval land use is scarce in this valley. After the Norman Conquest in 1092, much of Windermere appears to have been administered as 'forest' with no freeholds except the Fleming estate in Rydal and Loughrigg, monastic land such as the Conishead Priory estate at Baisbrown, and a freehold at Lickbarrow.

There are examples of what appear to be colony farms, set apart from the open field settlements, which represent 12th-13th century settlement expansion at Wasdale Head; Hause, Foot in Crookdale; Borrowdale Head and Bannisdale Head. Deer parks were also located in the valley and in some instances their outlines can still be discerned in present day field boundaries as at Troutbeck Park.

Present day settlements with medieval and agricultural origins include Bowness, Sadgill and Stockdale, Staveley, Bradleyfield, Crosthwaite, Thorfinsty possibly Troutbeck.

Each retains some evidence of former open fields. Although much of the medieval farmland was under the control of secular lords, there were also monastic holdings. Shap Abbey had a sheep farming interest and a mill at Longsleddale in 1263. The hamlets of Addyfield, Hartbarrow, Birket Houses, Ludderburn, Rosthwaite and Gill Head and the northern end of Cartmel Fell were held mostly by customary tenants of the Prior and canons of Cartmel. A great deal of it was common land, although by 1577 after the end of the authority of Cartmel there were disputed encroachments onto the fell.

The 16-17th centuries were a period of agricultural reorganisation and expansion brought about by increasing prosperity and the dissolution of monastic holdings which were transferred into lay hands. As a result, the valley is rich in farm-related buildings of this period, all of which are nationally-important. Indeed the majority of vernacular architecture in the valley area dates from the 17th century. For example, the surviving housing stock shows that Troutbeck in the 17th century contained up to 50 statesmen families rather than being dominated by two or three squires as was typical in other parts of England. The rights accrued through customary tenure enabled successive generations of some families, for example the Birketts and the Brownes, to live in Troutbeck from the 14th century to the 19th century, and from the 16th century to the 20th century respectively, and thereby to accumulate wealth and become very influential families in the area.

This period of reorganisation and expansion is relatively well-documented compared to the other Lake District valleys and suggests small episodes of piecemeal enclosure, developed over long periods. In the south of the valley area, intakes occurred at the edges of inbye, probably occupying easily accessible slopes on former common



FIGURE 2.c.2.29 Low Fold Farm, Troutbeck. A typical farm house of the Statesman period (17th/18th centuries).

land adjacent to existing holdings, around Staveley-in-Kendal, for example. While the wealthier landowners sought to increase their holdings and profitability, the result was the wholesale removal of more humble farming communities, such as at Kentmere Park where George Gilpin sought to acquire the land as his own pasture, or at Troutbeck where farm holdings doubled in size and the number of tenants fell.

The ease of access to Windermere by coach from the south, combined with its undoubted grandeur as England's largest lake with a stunning mountain backdrop, led to an early interest from visitors seeking picturesque landscapes. The earliest description of Windermere in Picturesque style appears to be an anonymous piece in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1748 and by 1778 Thomas West had identified seven viewing stations around the lake in his 'Guide to the Lakes'. Peter Crosthwaite, the late 18th century Keswick-based tourist entrepreneur, included Windermere as one of the lakes he mapped, selling the maps, which included West's stations and various other attractions and accommodation, as tourist guides. The increasing popularity of Windermere ensured that it would feature in many of the poems and other writings of the Lakes poets. Staveley was where William and Dorothy Wordsworth first returned to the Lakes in 1794. William Wordsworth's 'Michael' was inspired by the story of a native of Ings, Robert Bateman.

Windermere also inspired the Romantic artists and aspects of its picturesque beauty were captured by Farington, Turner, Girtin and Allom. The valley was to provide many other literary associations. Longsleddale is 'Long Whindale' in Mrs Humphry Ward's great Victorian novel 'Robert Elsmere' (1888). W. G. Collingwood, lived at the Cottage, next to what is now Ghyll Head Outdoor Education Centre, until 1889. Beatrix Potter stayed at Holehird for the summers of 1889 and 1895 and the novelists Charlotte Bronte and Elizabeth Gaskell met for the first time at Briery Close, near Troutbeck, in August 1850 and became friends.

Modification of the landscape around Windermere resulting from Picturesque interest began with the creation of new woodland. The Reverend Braithwaite is reported to have planted over 40,000 different plants or trees in Station Scar Wood in 1797. Belle Isle Estates' woodlands transformed the local landscape around the turn of the 18th century, whilst also forming part of the broader movement of Picturesque planting in the English Lake District. The planting here was also intensively managed for charcoal from oak coppice and timber from larch plantations on the higher ground. A great many other picturesque woodlands were established on the Windermere shoreline throughout the late 18th and early 19th centuries near Troutbeck, over Birk Fell, Gummer's How (now one of the most popular viewpoints in the Lake District) and in Bishops Wood, abutting the Curwen estate just north of Cunsey. The landscape impact of these plantations was unrivalled in the Lake District.

In addition to the woodland planting schemes inspired by the Picturesque aesthetic, the shores of Windermere were also the focus for a rash of mansion and villa building by wealthy incomers which continued well into the 19th century. The influx of visitors to the lake from the end of the 18th century soon resulted in the character of Bowness changing and there were grumbles of protest. The first steam boats with paddle wheels appeared on Windermere in 1845 to much opposition. They were coal-fired, smokey and noisy, with brass bands. The first influx of visitors had been the wealthy, then, following the coming of the railway in 1847, the working classes from Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow and Liverpool.

Wordsworth's campaign against the railway began in 1844 with his letters to newspapers and the publication of two sonnets. Engineering and financial constraints and vociferous opposition to the scheme caused the railway company to amend its plans and terminate the line at Birthwaite rather than extend it to the shore as planned. The proposal for the extension of the Windermere line to Ambleside was resurrected in 1876 and again attracted a famous opponent in the form of John Ruskin who wrote regarding the tourists "I don't want to let them see Helvellyn while they are drunk". The proposal was again defeated by the opposition of landowners and a lack of investment.

Within months of the opening of the railway, buildings began to appear around the terminus to accommodate and serve the needs of the incoming tourists. By 1855 Harriet Martineau could write of the renamed Windermere "Now there is a Windermere railway station and a Windermere post office and hotel – a thriving village of Windermere and a populous locality". By the end of the 19th century over 100 lodging houses had been built and a further three large hotels created to take advantage of views over Windermere – The Belsfield, The Hydro and The Old England.

While the landscape of Birthwaite and Bowness was being transformed, significant changes were also being made to the wider farming landscape in the 19th century, driven by agricultural improvement rather than the Picturesque. Numerous Parliamentary Enclosure Awards took place between 1815 and 1868, although Cartmell Fell was enclosed earlier between 1796 and 1809.

Industrial processes were transformed by new technology and the arrival of the railway. In the late 17th and early 18th centuries water power was introduced into the iron smelting process to create a more efficient smelt. The availability of the railway meant that local production at the Shap Pink Granite quarry was able to move to a more commercial scale in 1868 and went on to be used extensively in Euston railway station, Waterloo Bridge and the Albert Memorial, all in London. Slate quarries were required throughout the 18th and 19th centuries to provide building materials for houses, farms and enclosure walls at Wrengill, Stockdalebank, Kentmere and Troutbeck and in the process transformed the appearance of buildings in the villages. At Troutbeck, the railway created the prosperity and materials so that additional houses and The Institute were built (or rebuilt) causing Troutbeck to acquire the combination of vernacular and Victorian buildings seen today. Along with the alterations and extensions to the properties came the widening and levelling of some of the roads.

While parts of Windermere were changing through the influences of tourism and industry, sheep farming remained a serious business. From 1868 to 1875 the Troutbeck Herdwick and Other Sheep Association played a significant role in improving the standard of Herdwick sheep. Its annual show had 14 classes for Herdwick sheep for getting cross-bred lambs from older ewes. In 1850 William Dickinson, the West Cumberland farmer and agricultural writer, had noted that cross-bred lambs sold for 50 per cent more than true mountain stock.

In the first half of the 20th century a movement began amongst wealthy individuals with a concern for the maintenance of the English Lake District's cultural landscape and traditions, to purchase key farms in order to conserve them and their tenants' way of life. This development was particularly effective in Windermere and formed the



FIGURE 2.c.2.30 Troutbeck Park, Troutbeck valley. The farm at Troutbeck Park was bought and managed by Beatrix Potter who developed a prize-winning Herdwick flock with her shepherd, Tom Storey.

basis for the National Trust's substantial land ownership in this area (2,286 hectares of land in the valley owned, of which 2,193 hectares is inalienable). The most famous personality involved in the purchase and protection of farms which were later donated to the National Trust was Beatrix Potter, better known in the Herdwick world as Mrs Heelis. By the early 1920s she had developed a concern for the loss of fell farms and of the traditional Herdwick sheep systems. She acquired and transformed Troutbeck Park which was one of the largest fell and Herdwick farms in the Lake District. In the 1940s, in the bequest of her fell farms to the National Trust, she stipulated that the Herdwick fell-going flocks should "continue to be of the pure Herdwick breed".

Beatrix Potter was also active in protests against developments that she felt would damage the special qualities of the Lake District. These included a campaign against the construction of a seaplane factory at Cockshot Point on Windermere in 1911 which she fought with the assistance of Canon Rawnsley. In World War II another seaplane factory was established on Windermere, at Calgarth Park. The Friends of the Lake District opposed this development from the start, and although a substantial factory and workers village was built and operated through the war years, the Friends obtained an agreement from the government that the factory would be removed after the war.

Between the 1960s and 70s there were several campaigns in response to proposals from the Manchester Corporation to harvest Windermere's plentiful rainfall in order to supply Manchester's population with water. The conservation movement succeeded in limiting the impact of these proposals, but consents were granted for limited abstraction of water and an aqueduct at Shap.

The Lake District Special Planning Board was also at the forefront of conflicts between the conservation of the environment and the promotion of recreation (see also Section 5); both aspects of the National Park's purposes. Ultimately, with the backing of the Minister, the Sandford Principle was applied whereby preference was given to protecting the environment over the promotion of recreation. Similar conflicts have required delicate resolution by the Board with the regard to access to tracks over the fells by motorised four-by-four vehicles and growing conflicts between different lake and lakeshore users where noise and shore erosion from boat wash has become an issue.

The valley continued to attract a variety of literary and cultural associations throughout the 20th century. Arthur Ransome was born and bred here and the Windermere landscape provided his inspiration for books written while staying in the valley including 'Swallows and Amazons' (1930), 'Swallowdale' (1931), 'Winter Holiday' (1933), 'Coot Club' (1936), and most of 'Pigeon Post' (1936). In 1930 Alfred Wainwright at the age of 23 came for the first time to the Lake District on a walking holiday. He arrived at Windermere and climbed nearby Orrest Head, where Wainwright saw his first view of the Lake District Fells. This moment marked the start of his love affair with the Lake District leading to his iconic seven-volume 'Pictorial Guide to the Lakeland Fells' published between 1955 and 1966. More recently, Longsleddale has been the inspiration for Postman Pat's fictional valley of Greendale in the 1980s children's books subsequently made into a TV series which has had global success.

QUALITIES

The Windermere Valley is one of the largest in the English Lake District and it is therefore not surprising that it includes many attributes related to the three identified and intertwined themes of Outstanding Universal Value.

The characteristic English Lake District field pattern of inbye fields surrounded by intakes on the lower fells is particularly evident in the long narrow valleys of Troutbeck, Kentmere and Longsleddale and there are a high number of farm houses dating from the late 16th and early 17th centuries. Examples of ancient field systems include the former common field by Kentmere Hall at the Head of Kentmere, while the area of low, wooded fells to the south of the A591 road displays a more widespread pattern of small, irregular fields. These are complemented by many examples of larger, late 18th and 19th century planned enclosures on the fells, including part of the Troutbeck Hundreds. Many of the settlements in the Windermere reflect the importance of its agro-pastoral agriculture including the classic farming hamlet of Troutbeck with its string of important Statesmen's farms.

This is the principal area for Rough Fell sheep in the Lake District and there are 16 flocks in the valley registered with the Rough Fell Sheep Breeders' Association, alongside nine registered Swaledale flocks and rather fewer Herdwicks than in the central and western valleys. However, there are two important Herdwick farms at Troutbeck Park and Kentmere Hall.

The evidence for early land use in Windermere is extensive and includes early prehistoric stone circles and burial monuments, well-preserved examples of Romano-British enclosed settlements, and medieval shielings. There are good examples of medieval pele towers at



FIGURE 2.c.2.31 View of the northern reaches of Windermere from Queen Adelaide's Hill. This is the likely position of one of Thomas West's viewing stations.

Kentmere Hall and Yewbarrow Hall in Longsleddale and former deer parks at Troutbeck and Kentmere. Past industries include slate quarrying and lead mining, although on a smaller scale than in other areas of the Lake District, but in the 19th century water-powered processes including bobbin manufacture became important for example in the large village of Staveley.

Windermere, with its spectacular Picturesque views at the head of the lake, framed against a backdrop of high mountains, and its relatively easy access by coach from the south, was one of the principal attractions in the English Lake District for early visitors in the 18th century. The lakeside town of Bowness developed to provide facilities for this and the adjacent town of Windermere developed directly as a result of the arrival of the railway in 1847. The early development of villas and designed landscapes around the lake and on its islands has produced one of the most important Picturesque landscapes in Europe. Key buildings include the cylindrical house on Belle Isle, Storrs Hall and the Station at Claife, constructed on one of the viewing stations identified by Thomas West. The western shore of Windermere, around Claife, was the location of the some of the earliest Picturesque tree planting in the Lake District. The tradition of villa construction continued into the early 20th century with the building of a small group of houses which are considered to be some of the best examples of the Arts and Crafts style.

Although none of the Romantic poets and writers lived in the Windermere valley, they were frequent visitors to its villas and mansions and the area was featured in many of Wordsworth's works including 'The Prelude' and 'Michael'. It was perhaps more inspirational for the visual arts and many important artists including P. J. de Louthembourg, Joseph Farington and J. M. W. Turner sketched and painted scenes in the valley.

Windermere was the setting for one of the earliest and best known environmental campaigns in the Lake District, against the construction of the railway from Kendal to Windermere (and, it was feared, beyond). William Wordsworth was one of the most vocal critics of this scheme, and although he was unsuccessful, this set an important precedent for later campaigners including John Ruskin and Canon Rawnsley. Further campaigns in Windermere included a successful battle by Rawnsley, Beatrix Potter and others to prevent the construction of a seaplane factory on the lake. Windermere also has examples of farms and land that were purchased by private individuals in order to preserve the traditional agro-pastoral way of life. The most famous of these was the purchase and management of Troutbeck Park farm by Beatrix Potter, which was later

gifted to the National Trust. The Lake District Farms Estates Ltd also purchased farming land in Longsleddale which was covenanted to the National Trust. The National Trust's property in the Windermere Valley is substantial and includes early purchases such as Ambleside Roman Fort and significant gifts including Wray Castle. The Trust also owns the classic Statesman's farm at Townend, Troutbeck, which is one of the best-known farm houses in the Lake District.

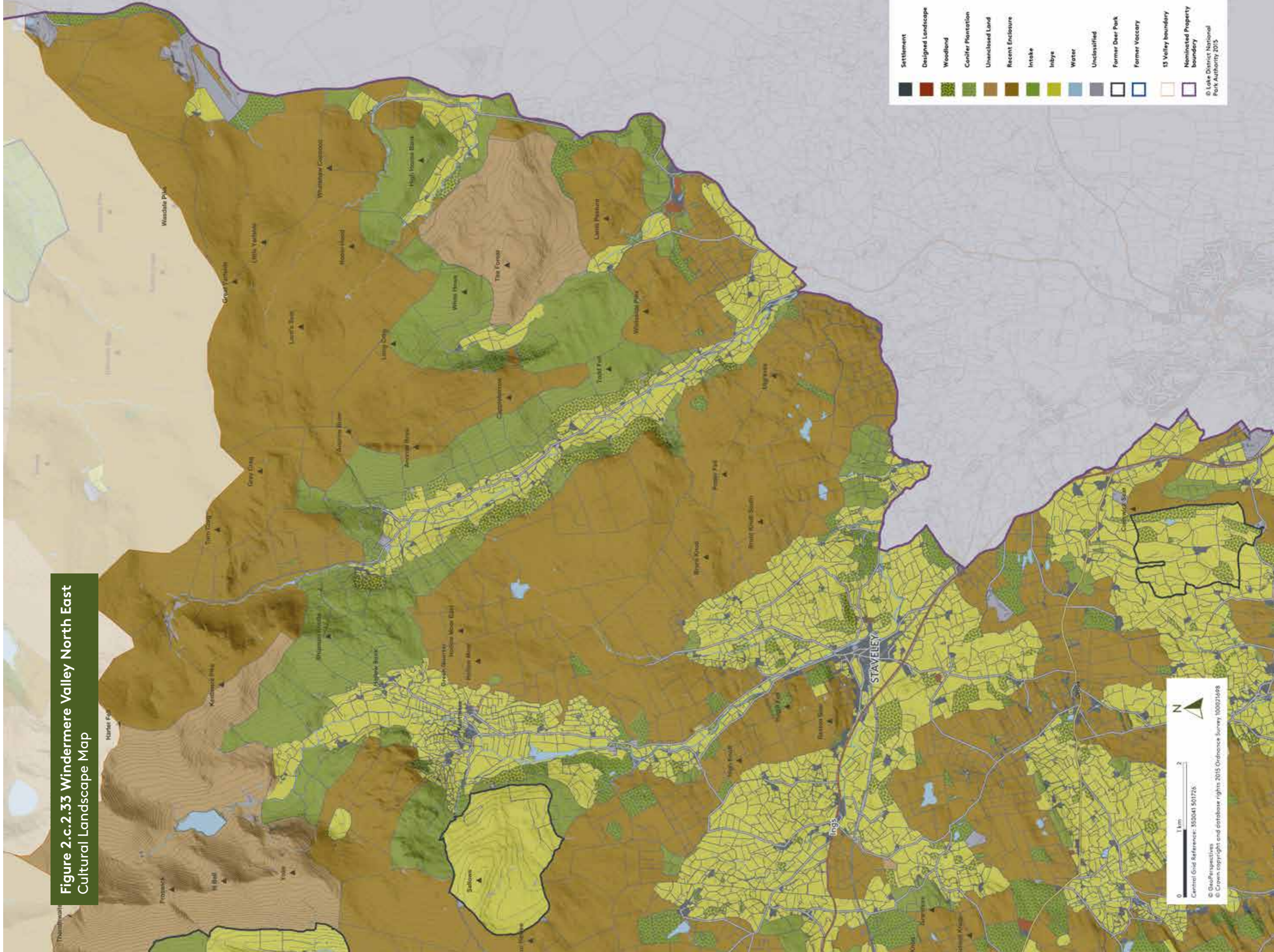
Battles to preserve the scenic beauty of Windermere continued into the later 20th and early 21st centuries and have included successful actions to prevent the construction of a reservoir in the Winster Valley and a tunnel from the Haweswater reservoir to carry water through Longsleddale. The latest significant conservation initiative was the introduction by the National Park Authority of a 10 miles per hour (now 10 nautical miles per hour) speed limit for boats on Windermere.

The Windermere Valley clearly demonstrates important attributes for all the three intertwined themes of Outstanding Universal Value in the Lake District. The evidence for the long development and persistence of agro-pastoral farming is strong. The valley is particularly important for aesthetic inspiration and it is of key significance for the development of the early conservation movement.



FIGURE 2.c.2.32 The central park of Windermere, with Belle Isle lying opposite the towns of Bowness and Windermere

Figure 2.c.2.33 Windermere Valley North East 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

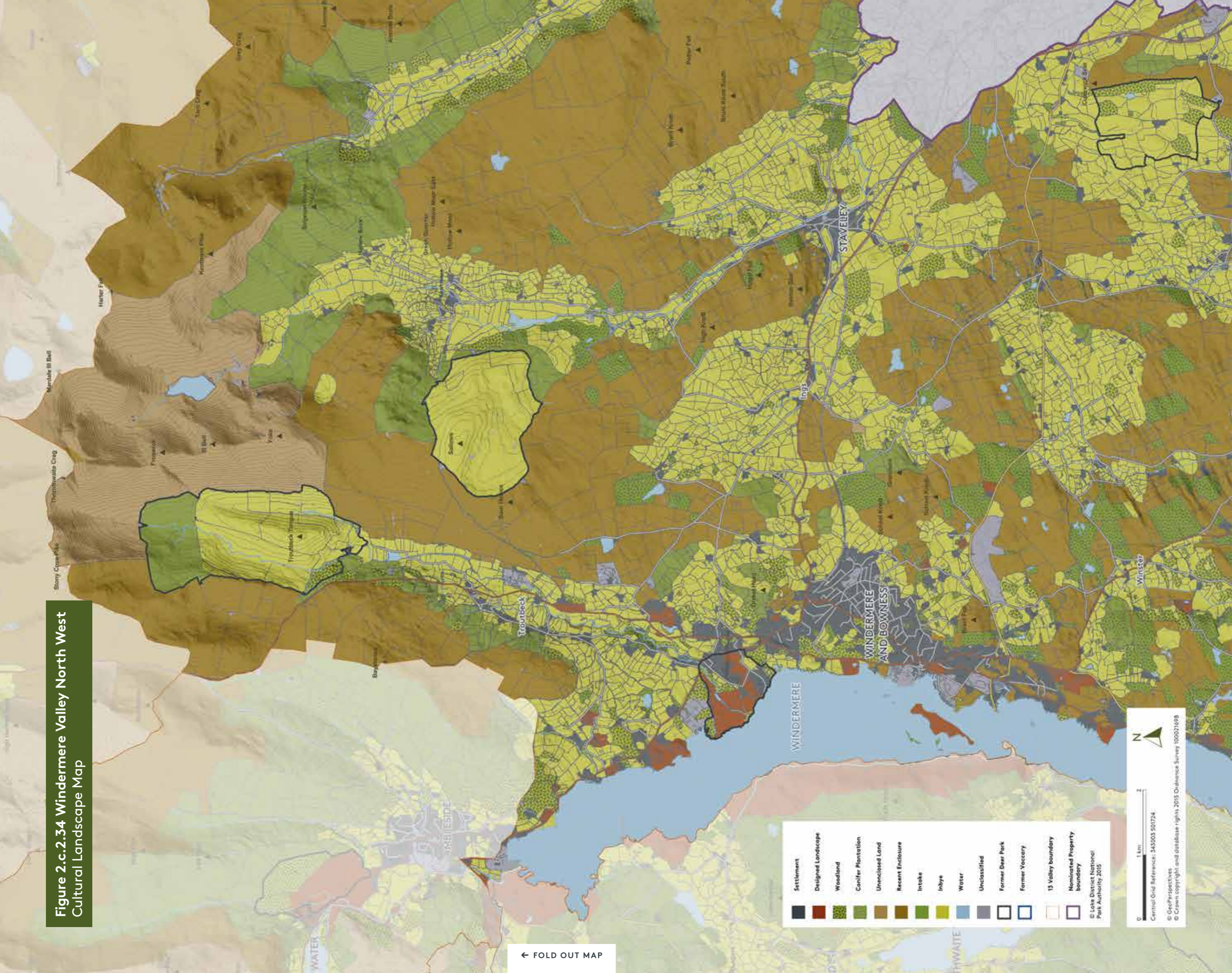
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Central Grid Reference: 505041 501726

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Figure 2.c.2.34 Windermere Valley North West 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
[Dark Blue Swatch]	[Red Swatch]	[Green Swatch]	[Light Green Swatch]	[Brown Swatch]	[Dark Green Swatch]	[Light Blue Swatch]	[Yellow Swatch]	[Blue Swatch]	[Grey Swatch]	[White Swatch]	[Blue Swatch]	[Light Blue Swatch]	[Dark Blue Swatch]

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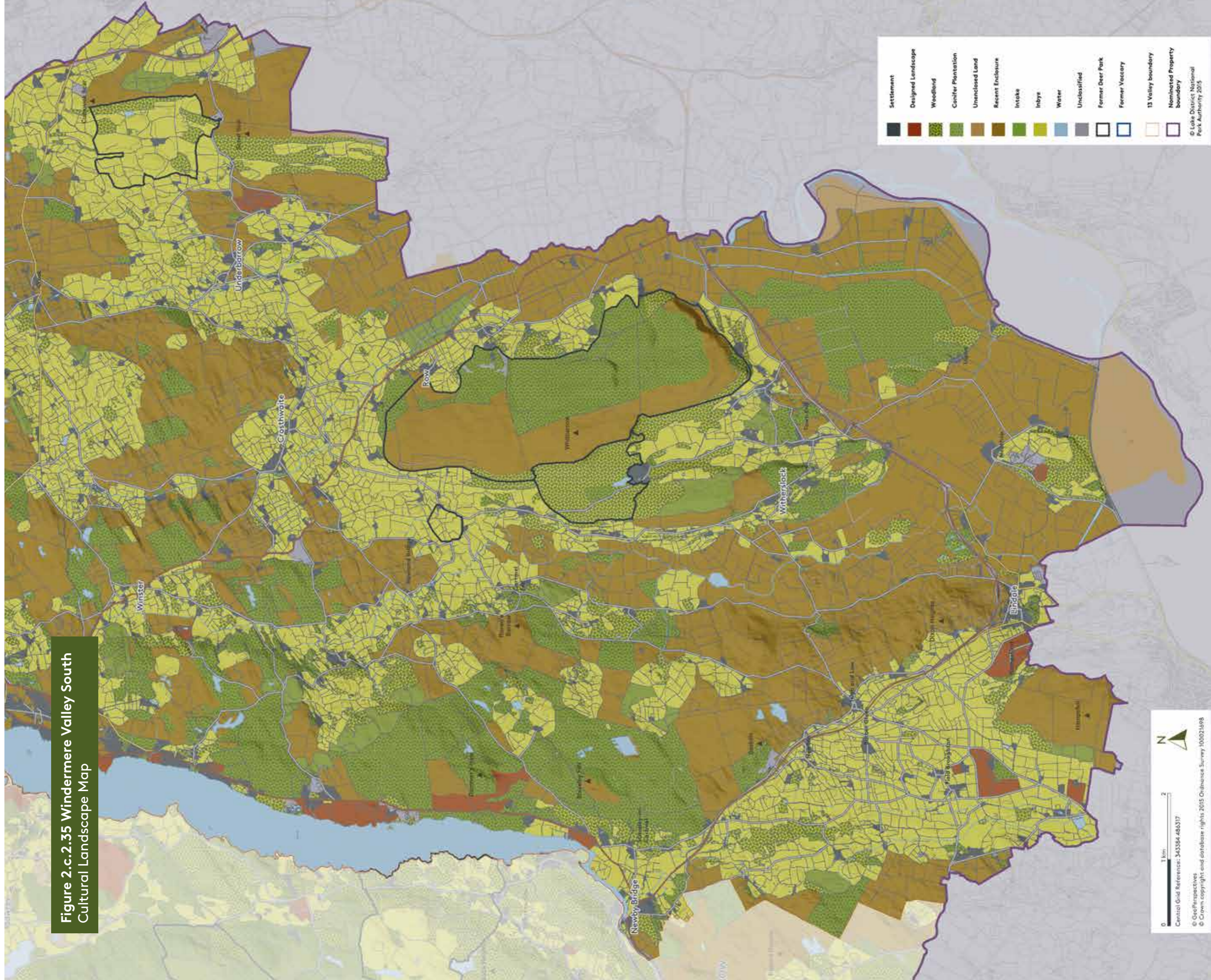
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Central Grid Reference: 345003 50724

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← FOLD OUT MAP

Figure 2.c.2.35 Windermere Valley South Cultural Landscape Map



Settlement	Designed Landscape	Woodland	Conifer Plantation	Unenclosed Land	Recent Enclosure	Intake	Inbye	Water	Unclassified	Former Deer Park	Former Yockery	13 Valley boundary	Nominated Property Boundary
[Dark Grey]	[Red]	[Green]	[Light Green]	[Brown]	[Dark Brown]	[Light Green]	[Yellow]	[Blue]	[Grey]	[White]	[White]	[White]	[White]

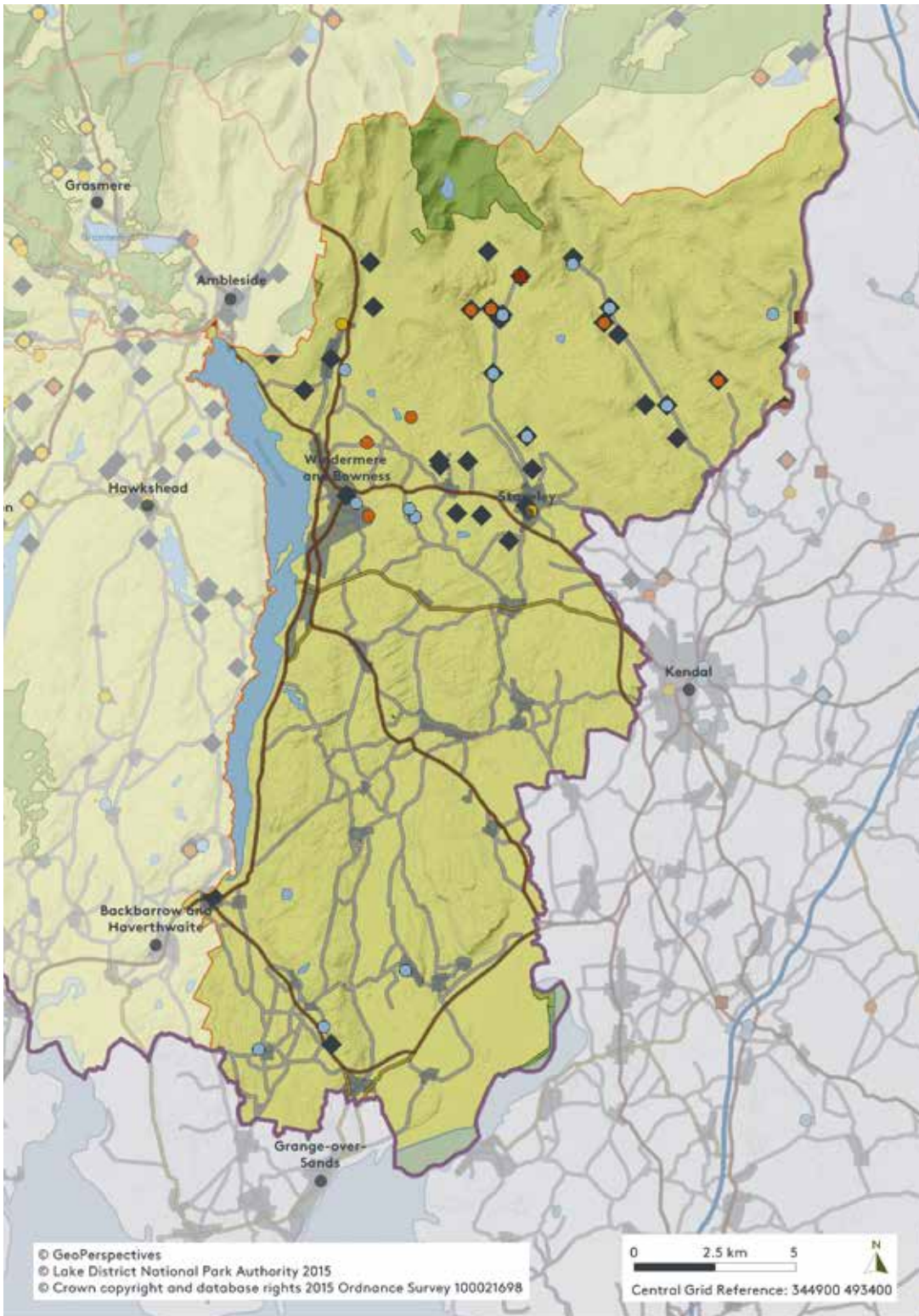
© Lake District National Park Authority 2015

0 1 km 2
 Central Grid Reference: 343364 486317
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FIGURE 2.c.2.36 The contribution of the Windermere Valley to the cultural landscape themes identified

WINDERMERE		
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	
	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 2.c.2.37 Shepherds' flocks and native sheep breeds in the Windermere Valley



- 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.



FIGURE 2. c. 2. 38 The Arts and Crafts style house at Broad Leys, designed by C. F. A. Voysey, built in 1899-1900 for Arthur and Helen Currer Briggs