

Mace

HMP Haverigg **Historic environment** **opinion**

Final report

Prepared by LUC

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HMP Haverigg
Historic environment opinion

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Project background

1.1 LUC was commissioned by Mace in December 2020 to provide advice on the historic environment in relation to a proposed ground mounted solar farm on a site located within HMP Haverigg, Millom, Cumbria, LA18 4NA.

1.2 The development proposal¹ consists of a roughly triangular array of ground-mounted solar panels, each panel a maximum of c.3m high, surrounded by a fenced enclosure. This enclosure is sited in a field on the south side of the prison site and abuts its existing outer fence ('the site' hereafter). The proposed cable connection runs northward into the existing prison site.

1.3 This report provides a high-level appraisal of the likely changes to the historic environment associated with the proposed development on the site and its surroundings.

Purpose of the assessment

1.4 This assessment provides a proportionate understanding of potential historic environment impacts at the site. The assessment focuses on identifying the heritage assets in and around the site and drawing broad conclusions on the likely level of risk of harm to the historic environment from the development proposal.

1.5 The output consists of a short report summarising the process and findings of the assessment, and conclusions on the potential for harm to the significance of the historic environment at and around the site.

Method and scope

Task 1: Data gathering and asset identification

1.6 This included collating readily available information on the historic environment around each proposed site from sources including the National Heritage List for England, conservation area appraisals, historic mapping and Google Earth imagery.

1.7 From this review we have identified designated and non-designated heritage assets falling within a reasonable search

¹ Refer to Mace, Site Location Plan XXXXX-XXX-MAC-XX-XX-DR-A-1600 and Proposed Ground Mounted PV Generation Layout, XXXXX-XXX-MAC-XX-XX-DR-A-1601

area of the site, including on the site itself, with the range influenced by site context / topography. A search area radius of 1km was used for Haverigg.

Task 2: Asset scoping

1.8 Once a list of assets within the search area was established it was then subject to a scoping exercise. This identified the heritage assets within the search area which are likely to have their significance affected by the installation of a solar array (either physically affected or by changes in their setting).

1.9 We have also taken a broader look around the search area to identify any other assets that are likely to experience potentially harmful setting change. This part of the assessment was carried out using professional judgement, based on our understanding of asset types and their relationship with the surrounding landscape – for example, a registered park or garden 10km away may be affected by the reflectivity of an array, depending on orientation and relationship between the sites, but a single listed building at that distance would be unlikely to experience harm.

Task 3: Summary of potential effects

1.10 The report highlights:

- the main historic environment issues likely to be encountered.
- where further assessment of individual assets would be recommended to fully understand the likely nature and scale of harm.
- where further scoping work is required to address gaps in the coverage (e.g. if HER data is not publicly available)
- each site is given a rating using a 'traffic light' approach to categorise the potential effects to the historic environment.

Task 4: Reporting

1.11 The remainder of the report is set out as follows:

- **Chapter 2** sets out the assessment of heritage assets on and around the site.
- **Chapter 3** summarises the historic environment issues and potential effects.

1.12 A 'traffic light' approach has been used to categorise the likely level of effects to the historic environment in relation to the proposed development as follows:

Table 1.1: Potential level of effects to the historic environment

	Major – likely to have significant negative effects to the historic environment
	Moderate - may have some negative effects to the historic environment, but unlikely to be significant
	Minor – unlikely to have effects to the historic environment
	Uncertain – level of effect cannot be estimated without further research

1.13 A rating level is applied to each heritage asset, then a judgment is formed on the overall, cumulative level of effect across all the assets within the conclusions. There may also be instances where potential effects cannot be assessed under the remit of Stage 1 (e.g. because a site visit would be required) and these are rated 'Uncertain'.

1.14 The following guidance documents have been taken into account in the preparation of this report:

- Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. 2019. *Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)*.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA). 2017. *Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*.
- Historic England. 2015. *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2 (GPA 2)*.
- Historic England. 2017. *The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (GPA 3)*.
- Historic England. 2019. *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets*.

Limitations and exclusions

1.15 The assessment is based on an indicative location and design of the solar PV panels and associated infrastructure only. Therefore, only 'in-principle' potential issues and risks can be highlighted.

1.16 There is no detailed analysis of impact on individual assets and, as a result, no recommendations on avoidance, minimisation or mitigation of harm can be made at this initial stage. This would form part of any stage 2 detailed assessments.

1.17 Heritage assets identified include those designated and non-designated assets which can be reasonably identified from publicly available sources including Historic England's National Heritage List (NHLE), online HER and local council online information sources including conservation area appraisals and local lists.

1.18 The scope of the brief at this stage is only to identify high-level issues and risks to the historic environment. Detailed Historic Environment Record (HER) data has not been obtained given the high-level nature of this report. Data has not been interrogated in detail to form an in-depth understanding of asset significance. This would be required if further stages of more detailed assessment were carried out.

1.19 The work in this report is based entirely on desk review of information. No site visits have been undertaken at this stage.

Chapter 2

Historic environment assessment

The Site

2.1 HMP Haverigg is a Category D men's prison located just over 1km to the northwest of Haverigg a coastal town just outside the Lake District. The prison is built on the site of an old RAF airfield training centre and opened in 1967. It provides accommodation to 300 men and includes library, IT training centre and gym facilities. While some of the prison's workshops and offices are housed in buildings date form the 1960s, most of HMP Haverigg has been extensively modernised over the years. The site is currently undeveloped land that forms part of the extant RAF airfield that extends to the south and west of the prison. An extant perimeter trackway, runs immediately past the western edge of the site.

Baseline data

Designated assets

2.2 There are no designated heritage assets – world heritage sites (WHS), scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, registered parks or gardens or historic battlefields – in the Site. Nor are there any in the study area that would be sensitive to setting change. However, it should be noted that the Lake District World Heritage Site lies just over 2km to the northwest of the Site. This WHS has been inscribed due to the outstanding universal value of the cultural landscape and its illustration of a unique farming system and local industries, along with its role in the Picturesque movement and development of Romantic thought. Given its location and scale, the proposals should not be experienced from the WHS unless as a distant part of very long-distance views in which it will be read as part of the existing development beyond the WHS.

Non-designated assets

2.3 Review of Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER) data online has identified six non-designated heritage assets within the 1km study area. HMP Haverigg/ RAF Millom is also identified as a heritage asset in itself.

Aerial imagery and historic mapping

2.4 Google Earth aerial imagery (present to 2004) and a selection of online historic OS maps were reviewed. The earliest maps from the mid-19th century showed the site lying

within an area of enclosed agricultural fields called 'Haverigg Haws', just south of Middle Lane. Early 20th century maps shows no change, but indicates that the area is rough pasture and furze. The 1956 map shows the site as part of an airfield, but due to its military use only the extent is shown and there is no detail. The 1969 OS map does detail the layout of the airfield and shows the Site as being undeveloped.

evidence for remains of an earlier date, but this reflects the absence of investigations in the area and is not evidence of the absence of archaeology.

Site development and context

2.5 A scatter of Neolithic flints has been recorded outside of the study area, approximately 1.5km west of the site in the vicinity of Kirksanton Haws. There is some evidence that the surrounding area was occupied during the Neolithic to Bronze Age as the scheduled Sunkenkirk Stone Circle (NHLE ref. 1007226)² is located approximately 10km north of the site.

2.6 Millom is a small coastal town to the south of the Lake District National Park. It is mentioned in the Domesday book as one of the townships of the Manor of Hougau.³ The discovery of iron ore at Hadbarrow (approximately 2.5km to the east of the Site) led to industrial activity and increased prosperity in the area from the 1850s to the 1960s.

2.7 The area of the site was undeveloped agricultural fields up until the Second World War, when land was requisitioned from Layriggs Farm, Hemplands Farm and Bankhead Farm⁴ to build RAF Millom. This airfield was established in 1941 as a No.2 Bombing and Gunnery School. It had three runways with eight Bellman Type hangars as well as 'blister' type hangars around its dispersal points.⁵ It also provided accommodation for up to 2,350 RAF personnel. It became a No. 2 Air Observer School in the summer of 1941 and then a Polish Resettlement Depot in 1944. At the end of the Second World War it was closed and then reopened in 1952 as an Officer Cadet Training Unit. Eventually the HM Prison Service took over the site in 1967.

Archaeological potential

2.8 A geophysical survey is recorded as having been undertaken within the prison, near to the perimeter of the existing Weavers Shop. No further information is provided through the Archaeology Data Service except that 20th century remains were identified.⁶

2.9 Based on the evidence reviewed there is the potential for hitherto unknown low value medieval and post-medieval remains of agricultural character alongside remains relating to the sites former use as an RAF facility. There is no known

² Historic England. <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1007226> [retrieved 19/03/21]

³ The Domesday Book Online. <http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/cumberland1.html> [retrieved 19/03/21].

⁴ <http://johnnixonauthor.co.uk/haverigg-airfield/>

⁵ <http://johnnixonauthor.co.uk/haverigg-airfield/>

⁶ Archaeology Data Service.

<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record?titleId=1893522> [retrieved 19/03/21]

Table 2.1: Heritage assets

Heritage asset	Designation NHLE/HER ref.	Summary/key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
HMP Haverigg/RAF Millom	Non-designated 1107992	A 20 th century prison and the site of a 20 th century RAF base active during the Second World War.	Setting/physical	<p>Minor – The current prison complex is constructed on part of the former RAF base which has been extensively modernised since its use during the Second World War. The addition of the proposed development may physically affect RAF-era or later remains. However, ground intrusive works should be minimal given that the proposed solar arrays are ground mounted. The only intrusive works relate to the connection route to the existing switchboard, fencing and the access route which are mostly located in the area of existing, later development towards the north, where remains may already have been truncated or removed. The development is likely to have a very low to negligible level of effect on the significance of the asset.</p> <p>In terms of setting, the development will result in a minor change to the legibility of the remains of RAF Millom with its surrounding associated infrastructure, including the airfield and firing range. In the context of the existing change wrought by the widespread development of the prison, as well as a windfarm across the runways to the west, the proposed development would not cause any significant additional harm.</p>
Second World War Military Buildings	Non-designated 1490662	A group of Second World War military buildings and associated trackway are visible as structures on air photographs. Elements are extant on the latest 1989 Ordnance Survey vertical photography, but review of Google Earth imagery suggests that none are extant.	Physical	<p>Minor – The level of survival or condition of these assets is uncertain. The 1969 OS maps indicates that there was no built development relating to the airfield on the Site. However, it is possible that there was development that had simply been removed by that time. Review of online aerial photography has cast no</p>

Heritage asset	Designation NHLE/HER ref.	Summary/key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
				<p>light on the matter and further research would be needed to confirm whether the Site has features of archaeological interest relating to RAF Millom.</p> <p>If they do survive, development could cause harm to them. However, ground intrusive works should be minimal given that the proposed solar arrays are ground mounted. The only intrusive works relate to the connection route to the existing switchboard, fencing and the access route which are mostly located in the area of existing, later development towards the north, where remains may already have been truncated or removed. The significance of the asset would therefore be unlikely to be affected by the proposals.</p>
Second World War Firing Range	Non-designated 1490637	A Second World War firing range is marked on maps to the south of RAF Millom (centred at SD 1414 7832). It is also visible as structures and earthworks on historic aerial photographs and is still discernible on modern Google Earth imagery. The site has a historical and functional association with RAF Millom to the north.	Setting	<p>Minor -The remains of the firing range lie a short distance to the south of the remains of RAF Millom. Due to the flat undeveloped character of the intervening terrain, there is likely to be intervisibility between the two. The two assets' spatial relationship and intervisibility aids in the understanding of their history and function, and their illustrative value. However, in the context of the existing change wrought by the development of the prison and the windfarm across the runways, the proposed development would not cause any significant additional harm.</p>
Second World War Pillbox	Non-designated 1490527	A probable Second World War pillbox is visible as a structure on air photographs centred at SD 1500 7900, to the east of RAF Millom. No surface features are visible on the latest 1989 Ordnance Survey vertical photography. The pillbox would likely have had a functional and historical relationship with RAF Millom.	Setting	<p>Minor – This asset is not extant and therefore is primarily of evidential value. The location given for this asset is to the east of HMP Haverigg and due to intervening development RAF Millom – and the Site - would not be seen from the location of this asset.</p>

Heritage asset	Designation NHLE/HER ref.	Summary/key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
Post-medieval ridge and furrow	Non-designated 1490483 and 1490623	Post medieval ridge and furrow (earthworks created by ploughing activity) are visible as on-air photographs at SD 151 788 and SD 149 784, to the east and southeast of the prison respectively. None appears to be extant on the latest 1984 Ordnance Survey vertical photography.	Setting	Minor – These assets are of historical illustrative value and have a historical and functional relationship with the surviving agricultural landscape and Middle Lane, which was created to provide access to the fields in which these earthworks were created. The proposed development is situated on land that forms part of RAF Millom/ HMP Haverigg and is read as part of these complexes, not the agricultural landscape.

Chapter 2

Historic environment assessment

HMP Haverigg Solar Farm

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Chapter 3

Conclusions

Likelihood of effects to the historic environment

3.1 This high-level assessment has identified no known assets of archaeological interest within the Site, with the exception of the prison itself. The site may contain non-designated archaeological assets relating to the former RAF base, but it has not been possible to establish whether these are still extant. If these remains are present, they could be affected by the proposals. However, ground intrusive works should be minimal given that the proposed solar arrays are ground mounted and the only intrusive works relate to the connection route to the existing switchboard, fencing and the access route.

3.2 Two non-designated assets – HMP Haverigg/RAF Millom itself and a Second World War Firing Range – may experience change as a result of the proposals. However, given the relatively small scale nature of the proposals, their location and the level of change already experienced as a result of later 20th century development, the assets are unlikely to experience significant additional change to their significance, equating to no or negligible harm (NPPF para. 196).

3.3 Taking an overall view of the likelihood of harm to the significance of the historic environment, a **Minor** overall level of effect has been identified.