

# Technical evaluation of the future World Heritage nomination for the English Lake District

October 2013



# 1 Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)

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## **Brief synthesis of the site's nature and qualities**

The English Lake District is a self-contained mountain area in north west England whose narrow, radiating glaciated valleys, steep fells and slender lakes exhibit an extraordinary beauty and harmony. This landscape reflects an outstanding fusion between a distinctive communal agro-pastoral system that has persisted for at least a millennium with 18th and 19th century improvements of villas, picturesque planting and gardens. Together this has attracted and inspired writers and artists of global stature. The landscape also manifests the success of the conservation movement that it stimulated, a movement based on the idea of landscape as a human response to our environment; a cultural force which has had world-wide ramifications.

Lake District agro-pastoral agriculture, based on the local Herdwick sheep, has evolved under the influence of the physical constraints of its mountain setting. The stone walled fields and rugged farm buildings built from local materials, set against their spectacular natural background, form a harmonious beauty that has attracted visitors from the 18th century onwards. Picturesque and Romantic interest in this landscape comprised globally significant social and cultural forces which acted on and were influenced by the Lake District. This included the addition to the landscape of villas, gardens and formal landscapes in order to further augment its harmonious beauty. Later, threats to the Lake District led to a concern for its protection and inspired the Lake District Romantic poet William Wordsworth to propose in 1810, that the Lake District should be deemed "a sort of national property, in which every man has a right and interest who has an eye to perceive and a heart to enjoy". The development in the Lake District of the idea of the universal value of scenic landscape, both intrinsic and in its capacity to nurture and uplift imagination, creativity and spirit led directly to the development of a conservation movement which has had global impact. This has included the origin of the concept of legally protected cultural landscapes including national parks, the establishment of the international National Trust movement and the creation of the World Heritage (WH) cultural landscape category.

In this respect the Lake District gave birth to and still expresses the idea of the cultural landscape and this is evident in the existing fabric and traditions of the area. No other agro-pastoral landscape has engendered such significant ideas about the value and desirability of preserving landscape, a role which made it a globally influential model of landscape conservation.

## **Justification of criteria**

**Criterion (ii)** *...an important interchange of human values on developments in landscape design.*

The unique beauty of the Lake District's distinctive agro-pastoral landscape inspired artists and writers of both the Picturesque and Romantic movements whose work, mediated initially through a combination of the Italian classical landscape tradition, the more 'naturalistic' Northern European style of the 17th and 18th centuries, and a vivid engagement with the Swiss Alps, led to physical embellishment of the landscape through construction of villas and gardens, designed landscapes and planting schemes. The resulting harmonious beauty of the Lake District is of outstanding universal value both in its exploration of Picturesque aesthetics and in its Romantic transformation of this into a deeper and more balanced participation in landscape and place. This was, and remains, fundamental to the formation and sharing of globally important ideas of the value of scenic landscape and the need to protect it.

**Criterion (iii)** *...a unique testimony to a cultural tradition which is living.*

The unique fusion of the Lake District cultural landscape is a universally significant example of the long evolution and survival of an agro-pastoral society, influenced by its natural environment and successive globally significant social and cultural forces which acted on and were influenced by it. This resulted in the Lake District giving birth to the idea of the cultural landscape which, including an appreciation

1 of its vulnerability, encouraged the desire to preserve it. The existing cultural tradition of the Lake District incorporates all these elements and provides an on-going globally influential model of cultural landscape conservation, and is a source of continuing creativity in the arts and in land husbandry.

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**Criterion (vi)** ...*directly associated with ideas of outstanding universal significance.*

The unique fusion of the Lake District landscape, combining the physical elements with agro-pastoral farming, and Picturesque and Romantic engagement with its celebrations of beauty and the discovery of self through landscape, alongside the successes and failures of conservation, have helped shape ideas about cultural landscapes. Indeed this concept is so well expressed in the Lake District that it has inspired and guided the conservation of cultural landscapes globally in several important ways.

### **Authenticity**

The Lake District has high authenticity in all the attributes which underpin its outstanding universal value. These include the physical elements, traditions, techniques and management of the agro-pastoral farming system; the later landscape augmentation of villas, gardens and formal landscapes of the Picturesque and Romantic periods; and the evidence in the landscape for both the successes and failures of the conservation movement. The boundary of the site is also the boundary of the National Park, created in 1951, and contains all the tangible and non-tangible attributes which demonstrate the outstanding universal value of this complex landscape.

### **Integrity**

The site represents a coherent and complete whole, containing all the attributes needed to demonstrate the processes that make this a unique and globally significant property. These include the tangible and intangible elements of the unique fusion of agro-pastoral farming, Picturesque and Romantic landscape augmentation, and the existing manifestations of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District. The proposed area for the World Heritage Site (WHS) is of adequate size and will ensure the complete presentation of the processes and features which convey its significance.

### **Protection and management**

The site is well protected, by international standards, with robust existing UK and local legislative and planning protections in place, large areas of sympathetic land ownership and significant protective land management schemes. The most significant of these is the existing designation of the site as the Lake District National Park (LDNP). There is a mature and well-developed management planning system in the National Park based on statutory requirements. In recent years this has been developed further through the Lake District National Park Partnership (LDNPP), comprising 24 key organisations, which is committed to the World Heritage nomination and its protection and management.



## 2 Description of the site

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### **The Lake District**

The English Lake District comprises a diverse but compact area of high open mountains and moorland interspersed by thirteen radiating glaciated valleys (Map 1), many of which contain narrow lakes and varying amounts of broadleaf woodland. This landscape has been shaped for over a thousand years by a remarkable, surviving agro-pastoral culture. Each Lake District valley has a distinctive character based on the varied underlying geology, the presence or absence of lakes and tarns, the extent of native woodland and variations in the disposition of the physical elements of local agro-pastoral agriculture and settlement (Photographs 1 and 2). The surviving system of individual farms with their in-bye land in the valley bottom, intakes on the lower fells and open grazing on the extensive common land of the fell tops is evident in all the valleys of the Lake District but is clearer in some, such as Great Langdale (Figure 1).

Each valley demonstrates a range of tangible attributes relating to the operation of this farming system which is largely based on the indigenous breed of Herdwick sheep. These include farmhouses built in distinctive Lake District vernacular style, stone walls, bank barns, hogg houses, outgangs and pollarded trees. All are still very much in active use today. Many farming families can trace their ties to the landscape over hundreds of years and the social and cultural elements of the agro-pastoral system are still evident today in the pattern of family farm tenure with collective communal grazing, local dialect and language and traditions such as agricultural shows and distinctive local sports. Tangible evidence for former extensive but comparatively small-scale local industry including mining, quarrying and iron smelting also occurs throughout the Lake District according to the distribution of natural resources.

The compact but dramatic topography of the Lake District was regarded from the mid-18th century as particularly rich for aesthetic experience. This human-crafted landscape, located in a place of outstanding natural beauty, inspired an aesthetic and spiritual engagement with artists and writers of international standing who lived in, worked in and visited the Lake District. The idea of the Lake District as an English Arcadia and the popular enthusiasm which was generated by this artistic and aesthetic movement led to further physical reshaping of the landscape inspired by aesthetic ideals of the Picturesque. The surviving physical attributes of this process include villas, designed landscapes and viewing stations defined in tourist guidebooks of the period whose views can still be appreciated today (Photographs 3, 4 and 5).

In parallel with the aesthetic appreciation of the Lake District there also developed an understanding of its vulnerability to forces of change and the idea that valued landscapes could be nurtured and protected. Concern in the 18th century over the felling of native woodland was followed in the 19th century by battles against railways and reservoirs and in the 20th century by opposition to conifer afforestation and other threats. The various successes and failures of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District are visible today and include the open fells of the central Lake District that were saved from conifer afforestation and the Thirlmere valley that was flooded to form a reservoir. The most significant landscape conservation achievements flow from the designation of the Lake District as a National Park and the 21% of the area of the park that is owned and managed by the National Trust. As a result, a distinctive landscape of harmonious beauty survives, along with an agro-pastoral culture which is outstanding in its quality, integrity and on-going utility.

The nomination will include descriptions of each of the thirteen valleys to show how each is not only distinctive but also contributes to the value of the overall Lake District landscape as a coherent whole. The example of the Conistone valley has been selected to illustrate this approach.

## Coniston valley

The Coniston valley (Figure 2) has a long, narrow lake framed by the notable peaks of the Coniston Fells (803 metres) and in contrast with some other valleys, has extensive natural woodland. The valley contains the principle attributes of the Lake District agro-pastoral landscape, including traces of ring garths enclosing in-by-land around Coniston village and in the Yewdale valley, stone-walled intakes in the fells above and extensive areas of upland common grazing land including Torver and Bethacar.

Coniston's landscape is distributed with farmhouses dating from the late 16th century, ruggedly constructed of local slate, some rendered and lime-washed. Some of the Coniston farm houses sited around the edge of the enclosed valley bottom are much larger, earlier and elaborate than in other valleys and include Coniston Old Hall farm (built before 1580), and Yew Tree farm. The latter, dating from the 1680s, has a classic example of a barn furnished with a covered balcony known as a 'spinning gallery'. Some of the farms on the eastern side of the lake, such as Lawson Park, were established as granges of Furness Abbey, and the village of Hawkshead, the site of a sheep farm since the 12th century, developed as a small market town with an economy based on wool.

Coniston is in the heartland of Herdwick farming and 90% of all Herdwick sheep are located within 20 miles of the valley. The farms at Turner Hall, Cockley Beck, Tilberthwaite and High Yewdale breed many of the rams used in all the thirteen Lakeland valleys and hire them out for return at the Spring Twp Fairs at Keswick and Eskdale. Shepherds' meets take place in early September at Stoneside and Walna Scar and local shows are held annually at Torver, Coniston and Hawkshead (an important Herdwick summer show). The common land (18% of the Coniston valley) is managed by three Commons Associations (Blawith and Subberthwaite; Bethacar and the Duddon; Seathwaite Torver and Coniston).

The Coniston landscape bears more marks of extensive mining and quarrying than other valleys, including the vast Coniston copper mines and extensive remains of slate quarrying at Tilberthwaite. The extensive natural woodland around the lake contains evidence for charcoal burning and medieval iron smelting.

Picturesque and Romantic interest in the harmonious beauty of the Coniston valley is reflected in villas and formal landscapes that were constructed both to improve and to provide views of the area. The best example of this is the estate at Monk Coniston, at the head of the lake, bought in 1835 by James Garth Marshall. As well as enlarging and remodelling the house in neo-Gothic style, and creating a fine arboretum, Marshall's development of his property included the damming of three natural tarns and planting the surroundings with exotic conifers to form the pleasure gardens of Tarn Hows, while also supplying water to power his sawmill in Yewdale. Tarn Hows is today one of the most visited spots in the Lake District. Between 1872 and 1900 John Ruskin made Brantwood his home. His legacy includes the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum and extensive landscape and garden works on the Brantwood estate. Today Brantwood and its grounds are open to the public and attract some 30,000 visitors a year.

A number of 'viewing stations' were identified in the 18th century which provided ideal views of the harmonious beauty of the Coniston valley and still do so today. The key scenic elements in Coniston are exemplified by the view of the head of the lake from the south and include the harmonious combination of rugged mountain backdrop, narrow lake flanked by extensive woodland, prominent stone farmhouses surrounded by in-by-land, large walled intakes on the lower fells, and the villa at Monk Coniston with its garden and arboretum. Ruskin's house at Brantwood is positioned to give a spectacular view of the Coniston Fells with the village and surrounding fields at its foot. The essence of the Coniston landscape including its fells and agro-pastoral agriculture, was captured by JMW Turner in his famous painting 'Morning amongst the Coniston Fells, Cumberland' (1798).

The lake is a popular sailing venue, especially for those seeking out the features depicted in Arthur Ransome's *Swallows and Amazons* books. The National Trust run steam yacht Gondola, constructed in 1859, plies the lake in the summer as a living reminder of local industry, the longstanding tradition of local tourism and the crucial role of the National Trust in preserving this landscape and its history.

The key attributes of the conservation movement in the Coniston valley include extensive National Trust ownership based on the estate of Beatrix Potter, whose home was at Hilltop in Near Sawrey. One of Potter's purchases was the Monk Coniston estate in 1930, which was quickly transferred to the National Trust. This prevented key farms which formed part of the property, including Tilberthwaite and High Yewdale, from being purchased by the Forestry Commission and planted with conifers. Today the National Trust owns 42 square kilometres (15%) of the Coniston valley and the Torver Commons are managed by the National Park Authority on behalf of the state.

The tradition of cultural reflection and change that characterizes this area of outstanding natural and cultivated beauty continues to make dynamic interventions in the fabric of the landscape. In 1968 the large plantations of publicly owned forest in Grizedale became the location for an internationally celebrated landscape and environmental sculpture park. In 2009 the Grizedale Arts Society, in association with the Arts Council of Great Britain remodelled Lawson Park Farm and its land as a centre for artists' action-research, continuing the tradition of artists working in and reshaping the landscape of the Lake District.

### 3 Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

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The English Lake District is *the* defining cultural landscape of its type. It demonstrates OUV as the prime example of the “combined works of nature and of man” as described in Article 1 of the WH Convention and in the definition of WH Cultural Landscapes as described in Annex 3 of the WH Operational Guidelines (combining elements of categories (i), (iib) and (iii)). It provides a unique and universally significant example of the long evolution of an agro-pastoral society, influenced by physical constraints and the opportunities presented by its natural environment, and of successive globally significant social and cultural forces which acted on and were influenced by the Lake District. In this respect the Lake District gave birth to, and still expresses the idea of, the cultural landscape and this is evident in the existing fabric and traditions of the area. No other agro-pastoral landscape has engendered ideas about the value and desirability of preserving cultural landscape which became a globally influential model of landscape conservation.

The OUV of the Lake District is therefore based on three core elements which have sequentially combined over several centuries in a relatively small area. Although these can be described separately, the case for OUV for the Lake District is rooted in their unique and interdependent fusion.

#### **1. Continuity of traditional agro-pastoralism and local industry in a spectacular mountain landscape**

The traditional Lake District culture of agro-pastoral farming and local industry, interacting for over 1,000 years with a spectacular natural setting, has produced a landscape recognised to be of exceptional harmonious beauty and outstanding universal value for its direct inspiration of artistic creativity and the international conservation movement.

The unique attributes of the Lake District farming system, which is based on rearing sheep, particularly the native Herdwick breed (estimated number of fell-going flocks in 2008 was 118) and cattle, derive in part from its response to a marginal upland landscape of fells, lakes, valleys and extensive native woodland. The combination of the physical elements of farming – the stone walled fields for grain and hay in the valley bottoms (in-bye) and on the fell sides and the characteristic local farm buildings – with a compact and spectacular natural setting have produced a landscape acknowledged to be of great beauty. Both the long duration of this culture and its survival to the present day with all its key tangible and intangible attributes intact, contributes to its outstanding value. Local industries based on utilisation of the natural resources of the area have also contributed to the unique character of the Lake District through the production of local building materials in wood and stone and as a result of the physical traces of their operation that are visible in the landscape. The intangible attributes of Lake District farming culture are also a key part of its outstanding value and include the pattern of family farm tenure with relatively high owner-occupancy; a ‘hefted’ grazing system which allows communal shepherding without fences and walls on the largest area of common grazing in Europe; shepherds’ guides and breed societies; shepherds’ meets (nine in 2011) and agricultural shows; and the survival of local dialect and local place-knowledge. Herdwick sheep have wintering grounds in the lowlands and this continues an ancient tradition of transhumance. The totality of these surviving attributes forms a distinctive landscape and culture which is outstanding in its quality, integrity and on-going utility.

#### **2. Discovery and appreciation of a rich cultural landscape**

The engagement of artists and writers of international standing who lived and worked in the Lake District with both the landscape and the traditions that maintained it, gave universal currency to the defining elements and value of cultural landscapes and ultimately to the need to conserve them.

The initial Picturesque interest in the Lake District landscape derived from the influence of the Italian classical landscape tradition (exemplified by Claude Lorraine) and the more ‘naturalistic’ Northern European style of the 17th and 18th centuries and a vivid engagement with the Swiss Alps. The early picturesque interest led to physical changes to the Lake District landscape that were

designed to improve its acknowledged beauty. Key surviving physical attributes include villas, formal gardens, Picturesque tree planting and viewing stations. The Picturesque movement influenced the development of Romantic thought, principally through the writings of William Wordsworth and other 'Lakes Poets', producing a new and influential view of the relationship between humans and landscape. Over time this was associated with and expressed through early cultural tourism provision (writers' and artists' houses and museums), burial places, and places and landscapes associated with works of art. The Age of Revolution in Europe (1789 - 1848) was expressed in the Lake District through the discovery and embedding of a modern sense of self in its experience of landscape. This cultural shift was a precursor to recognition of the worth of individual freedom of action, thought and speech and the emergence of democracies in Britain and Europe. Wordsworth's sense of the dependence of individual awareness and sensitivity on landscape led him to propose in his *Guide to the Lakes* of 1810 that the Lake District should be deemed "a sort of national property, in which every man has a right and interest who has an eye to perceive and a heart to enjoy". The key ideas of outstanding universal value which derived from this Romantic engagement with the Lake District included the possibility of a sustainable relationship between humans and nature, the value of landscape for restoring the human spirit and the universal, intrinsic value of scenic and cultural landscape. These key ideas were infused with an appreciation of the vulnerability of the Lake District landscape and, as the threats to it increased during the 19th and 20th centuries, underpinned the later conservation battles over the Lake District landscape and ultimately inspired the protection of landscape through the designation of national parks and the model of protection through inalienable ownership represented by the National Trust movement. The increasing national and international enthusiasm for visiting the area stimulated by this discovery, appreciation and conservation has been supported by traditional open access to the extensive common land of the fells for walking and climbing. This has resulted in the Lake District becoming a globally acknowledged and genuinely inclusive site for outdoor recreation, personal development and spiritual refreshment.

### 3. Development of a model for protecting cultural landscape

The Lake District directly inspired the idea of the universal value of scenic and cultural landscape which transcends traditional property rights and thus demonstrates OUV as the origin of protected landscapes.

In parallel with the aesthetic appreciation of the Lake District there also developed an understanding of its vulnerability to forces of change, sourced in the 18th century with emerging industrialisation, tree-felling, and landscape enclosures. This combination gave rise to the idea that valued landscapes could be nurtured and protected. This influence was not confined to the UK but also extended to the United States in the mid-19th century where it influenced American thinkers such as Emerson, Thoreau and Muir. The early conservation battles to protect the Lake District, although sometimes unsuccessful as in the case of the Thirlmere reservoir, began a chain of events which established the Lake District as the birth-place of an innovative conservation movement committed to the defence of its landscape and community. One strand of this movement led directly to the creation of the National Trust and protection of the Lake District agro-pastoral landscape through the acquisition of key farms (the National Trust is responsible for 94 hill farms in 2013) fell land and historic houses, and has influenced similar models of landscape protection elsewhere in Britain and abroad. Another strand of conservation action to emerge from experience in the Lake District was the formal designation of protected landscapes at both national and international levels; the Lake District was at the origin of UK national parks, and influenced the idea of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Category V Protected Landscapes. It was also instrumental in bringing about a third strand: the creation of the WH cultural landscape category.

In conclusion, the extraordinary beauty and harmony of the narrow valleys and steep fells of the Lake District landscape reflect an outstanding fusion between a distinctive communal agro-pastoral system that has persisted for at least a millennium and 18th with 19th century improvements of villas, picturesque planting and gardens. Together, these have inspired writers and artists of global stature. The landscape also manifests the success of the conservation movement that it inspired, a movement based on the idea of landscape as a human response to our environment; a cultural force which has had world-wide ramifications.



## 4 Criteria for Outstanding Universal Value

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The Lake District is proposed as a cultural landscape of outstanding universal value under Criteria (ii), (iii), and (vi).

### **Criterion (ii)**

The Lake District is proposed under Criterion (ii) as exhibiting an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design.

The unique beauty of the Lake District's distinctive agro-pastoral landscape inspired artists and writers of both the Picturesque and Romantic movements whose work, mediated initially through a combination of the Italian classical landscape tradition, the more 'naturalistic' northern European style of the 17th and 18th centuries, and a vivid engagement with the Swiss Alps, led to physical embellishment of the landscape through construction of villas and gardens, designed landscapes and planting schemes. The resulting harmonious beauty of the Lake District is of outstanding universal value both in its exploration of Picturesque aesthetics and in its Romantic transformation of this into a deeper and more balanced participation in landscape and place. This was and remains fundamental to the formation and sharing of globally important ideas of the value of scenic landscape and the need to protect it.

The combination of compact mountain and lake scenery with physical elements of agro-pastoral agriculture in the Lake District produced a landscape of great harmonious beauty which attracted early proponents of the Picturesque movement in the 18th century. Their high esteem for the landscape was influenced by an aesthetic derived from both the Italian classical landscape tradition exemplified by the paintings of Claude Lorraine and the more 'naturalistic' Northern European style of the 18th century. This led initially to physical additions and improvements to the Lake District landscape according to the prevailing Picturesque aesthetic. This can be traced as early as 1668 to the building by Sir Daniel Fleming of a summerhouse in the grounds of Rydal Hall to frame a view of a waterfall on the Rydal Beck. This was followed in the 18th century by the building of villas, the creation of designed gardens and landscapes, and the designation of viewing stations.

The Picturesque notion of scenic beauty, complemented by a vivid engagement with the Swiss Alps by writers and artists, was rapidly assimilated in the Lake District by the development of Romantic ideas about the relationship between humans and nature, the importance of landscape for personal discovery and ultimately the high intrinsic value of cultural landscape. The development of this last idea, rooted in understanding and appreciation of the Lake District landscape, has had global influence as the basis for concept of cultural landscape and the development of the early conservation movement as described under Criterion (vi).

### **Criterion (iii)**

The Lake District is proposed under Criterion (iii) as bearing a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared.

The unique fusion of the Lake District cultural landscape is a universally significant example of the long evolution and survival of an agro-pastoral society, influenced by its natural environment and successive globally significant social and cultural forces which acted on and were influenced by it. This resulted in the Lake District giving birth to the idea of the cultural landscape which, including an appreciation of its vulnerability, encouraged the desire to preserve it. The existing cultural tradition of the Lake District incorporates all these elements and provides an on-going globally influential model of cultural landscape conservation, and is a source of continuing creativity in the arts and in land husbandry.

The living cultural landscape of the Lake District is an outstanding example of the “combined works of man and nature” that has survived for hundreds of years and has adapted to changes in the natural environment as well as social and economic pressures. This unique landscape has been shaped by a tradition of agro-pastoral farming which has developed for over 1,000 years to work within the limits imposed by the marginal upland environment. This was made feasible because of the traditional and surviving shepherding of hefted Herdwick flocks on open common land. The interest deriving from the Picturesque aesthetic in the 18th century led to additions and improvement to the Lake District landscape, while the value placed on the Lake District through the ideas and writings of the Romantic poets led directly to the birth of the landscape conservation movement. The early battles to protect the Lake District landscape led to the concept of protected landscapes and to the National Trust model of landscape conservation, described under Criterion (vi), which have had global reach. The landscape which inspired them is thus of outstanding universal value. The present day Lake District landscape displays all the physical attributes of this unique cultural tradition which comprises a unique fusion of agro-pastoral farming, a surviving Picturesque and Romantic overlay of villas, gardens and formal landscapes, designation and management as a National Park and extensive ownership of the property by the National Trust.

### **Criterion (vi)**

The Lake District is proposed under Criterion (vi) as being directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

**The unique fusion of the Lake District landscape, combining the physical elements with agro-pastoral farming, and Picturesque and Romantic engagement with its celebrations of beauty and the discovery of self through landscape, alongside the successes and failures of conservation, have helped shape ideas about cultural landscapes. Indeed this concept is so well expressed in the Lake District that it has inspired and guided the conservation of cultural landscapes globally in several important ways.**

Concerns over threats to the Lake District landscape were articulated two hundred years ago by Wordsworth and later by Ruskin. These developed over time into a conservation movement of truly global significance. Landscape appreciation and concern for its protection and survival found wider expression from the 1870s as a result of the battle over the construction of the Thirlmere reservoir. The outcome was the eventual emergence of three globally significant models of landscape protection, all which had their roots in the fight to protect the Lake District’s cultural landscape:

#### **1. The National Trust model**

The main feature of this approach is the acquisition of key properties and landscapes in order to hold them in perpetuity for the benefit of the nation. The first expression of this was in the Massachusetts Trustees of Public Reservations, which was one of the inspirations for the founding of the National Trust in 1895, an organisation that was to have a far greater influence. The Trust came about when a group of campaigners, inspired by Ruskin and engaged in a fight to protect the Lake District, came together to create a body to acquire and protect places of natural beauty and historic interest. In 1907 the UK parliament passed the National Trust Act which granted the Trust the unique statutory power to declare land ‘inalienable’. Inalienable land or property cannot be sold or mortgaged. Where inalienable land is threatened by compulsory purchase order, the National Trust may invoke a special parliamentary procedure involving a joint select committee of both Houses of Parliament. The National Trust has gone on to be the leading landscape and heritage conservation body in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and has also been the model that has inspired the establishment of National Trusts or similar non-government organisations in over seventy countries. This growing worldwide network of similar trusts has found a global voice through the establishment of the International National Trusts Organisation in 2007.

## **2. The Protected Landscapes model of a protected area:**

This model involves the formal designation of lived-in, working landscapes for protection. Following Wordsworth's proposal of the Lake District as "a sort of national property" (1810), the Lake District became central to the movement to create national parks in the UK; indeed, it represented the UK national park ideal. This became reality through the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and the designation of the Lake District as a national park in 1951. Although there are of course earlier examples of national parks internationally, the UK parks were the first to comprise complex, inhabited cultural landscapes, and the national system of protected landscapes established through the 1949 Act in the UK was the first such system to be developed to give them recognition and protection. The international significance of the category of protected cultural landscape represented by the Lake District was underlined through the adoption by IUCN of the Lake District Declaration (1987) which reinforced the importance within IUCN of its Category V Protected Area (known as Protected Landscapes or Seascapes). This approach to conservation is now widely promoted by IUCN and adopted in many parts of the world, both complementing other more strict forms of nature protection and recognising the importance of cultural influences in landscapes that are rich in natural values.

## **3. The World Heritage Cultural Landscape model**

It was the nominations of the Lake District as a World Heritage Site in 1986 and 1989, both of which were deferred, which led directly to a debate within the committee about how to recognise cultural landscapes with outstanding universal value. From this review eventually emerged the adoption by the WH Committee in 1992 of the WH Cultural Landscape category of cultural sites. The World Heritage Convention is now the only international legal instrument which recognises and protects cultural landscapes. Again there is a direct link back to the Lake District.

## 5 Authenticity

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As an evolving cultural landscape, the Lake District conveys its OUV not only through individual attributes but also the ways in which these combine to produce an over-arching pattern and system of land use. The key attributes relate to a unique fusion of the system of agro-pastoral agriculture, the later overlay of villas, gardens and formal landscapes influenced by the Picturesque and Romantic movements, the resulting harmonious beauty of the landscape and the physical legacy of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District.

### **Form and design**

The Lake District has great authenticity in form and design because the physical elements of the agro-pastoral farming system, including the buildings (in a distinctive local vernacular form and style), walls and pattern of in-bye, intake and open fell grazing, which has developed for over a millennium, survive in a clearly defined and easily recognisable pattern that still operates today (see Figure 1 – The agro-pastoral landscape in Great Langdale). In many of the narrow valleys the remains of the medieval ring garth – the wall separating the common grazing of the valley bottom from the open fell – can still be traced. The form of local industries including mining and quarrying, iron smelting and charcoal production is evident both through the survival and maintenance of archaeological remains and modern operations such as slate quarrying.

The form and design of the villas, gardens and formal landscapes of the Picturesque and Romantic period are also still manifest in the landscape. Many of the views of scenic beauty which were identified in the 18th and 19th centuries in the Lake District incorporate these elements, be it the spectacular panorama of the fields and farms at the head of Great Langdale or the picturesque view of Tarn Hows framed against the Coniston Fells. The survival of all these attributes is assisted by the policies and management of the National Park Authority and the National Trust which seek to maintain the significance of the overall landscape pattern of the Lake District.

### **Materials and substance**

The Lake District has high authenticity in materials and substance because of the on-going use of local materials and traditional techniques of building and maintenance of the landscape. The stone and slate used in the construction of farm buildings and walls varies according to the local geology, and is still quarried locally, while techniques such as riving slate to produce the traditional roofing materials for local housing are still practised. Both privately owned villas, designed landscapes and gardens and those managed by the National Trust survive and their authenticity is preserved through good management and application of planning controls by the National Park Authority. Examples include the repairs to the house on Belle Isle which was damaged by fire in the 1990s and restored using authentic materials and traditional techniques according to the original design.

### **Use and function**

The Lake District has high authenticity in use and function because the pattern of agro-pastoral farming, utilising the three-tiered system of in-bye, intake and open fell grazing can be found in each of the Lake District's thirteen principal valleys and is readily visible today. It demonstrates a genuine persistence of function as part of a surviving tradition of farming and managing the land which is a rare survival in Northern Europe in terms of its quality, density and on-going utility.

Some of the villas and designed landscapes of the Lake District are privately owned and still fulfil the use and function for which they were constructed. Those in the ownership of the National Trust also demonstrate continuity of use through their management for maintenance and appreciation of the harmonious beauty of the Lake District landscape, in this case by visitors. Economic pressures on agriculture are a factor that could affect use and function of the Lake District landscape and may need to be addressed through mechanisms including encouraging farm diversification and agricultural subsidy.



## Traditions, techniques and management systems

The Lake District has high authenticity in traditions, techniques and management systems because the physical agro-pastoral system is underpinned by the survival of unique social and cultural processes which survive largely intact. While the Lake District has one of the largest percentages of common land of any farming landscape in Northern Europe, Lakeland farms have a distinct historic form of land and stock tenure that gave small farmers greater independence and security than in most other Northern European landscapes. However, the common land requires them to work collaboratively to manage the shared resources. 'Landlord flocks' of 'hefted' sheep are tied to the farms and are part of the tenure, providing continuity rare elsewhere. Other traditional practices such as the winter grazing of Herdwicks on the lower land towards the coast still survive.

There is also a high degree of continuity of people in this landscape and some farming families can trace their tenure over 400 years. The landscape pattern and key elements of the socio-cultural-economic system that Wordsworth observed in the early 19th century in his *Guide to the Lakes* still exist in remarkably good condition today in a way that is rare in an international context. The tangible OUV attributes of agro-pastoral farming are the physical manifestation of an intangible culture of shepherds' meets, shepherds' guides, smit and lug marks, and collective gathering practices that remain very much alive. The continuity and consistency of traditional farming practices and land management methods as a form of local knowledge has effectively maintained the landscape the same way for over 400 years. The survival and authenticity of this agro-pastoral landscape has in large measure been facilitated by the sympathetic management of farms and land owned by the National Trust together with the statutory function of the National Park Authority to preserve the special qualities of the area.

The values of conservation which have developed to protect this landscape have ensured its survival and authenticity for over 200 years and both the successes and failures of the early conservation battles are written into the landscape. The early movement to prevent railways and reservoirs, although unsuccessful in the case of Thirlmere and areas of commercial afforestation, were more widely successful in preserving the Lake District from major change, so preserving the cultural landscape that survives today. The farms and land purchased by concerned conservationists, including GM Trevelyan and Beatrix Potter, in order to preserve the traditional agro-pastoral system still survive in authentic operation as part of the wider National Trust estate in the Lake District. The conservation ethic enshrined in public policy in the Lake District and embodied in the establishment of the National Park Authority to preserve the special qualities of the area, has underpinned the survival and authenticity of the landscape. This has been achieved through the protection of craft skills, the use of local materials and the encouragement of traditional techniques of land management including the local agro-pastoral agriculture and woodland management. It has ensured that there is a high degree of authenticity across the whole of the landscape. Without intervention from the pioneers of the conservation movement, without the embodiment of a conservation ethic into public policy, and without the active preservation of local skills and indigenous knowledge, the authenticity of the Lake District would have been seriously compromised.

### Spirit and feeling

The Lake District has high authenticity in spirit and feeling because its harmonious beauty has and continues to inspire the human spirit. The Lake District has a strong sense of place and the distinctive local system of agro-pastoralism is underpinned by a robust sense of local identity and pride which is necessary for the operation and maintenance of a hand-built landscape in a marginal setting. The Lake District landscape has also inspired visitors from the 18th century until the present and its authenticity of spirit and feeling is intimately bound with the Romantic ideas of self-discovery, inner response and the inspiration of cultural landscape that developed in the Lake District. This has resulted in the Lake District becoming a globally acknowledged and genuinely inclusive site for outdoor recreation, personal development and spiritual refreshment. Vulnerabilities include proposals for wind turbines close to the boundary of the National Park which could impact on specific views. These can be addressed through the planning process.

The extraordinary beauty and harmony of the narrow valleys and steep fells of the Lake District landscape reflect an outstanding fusion between a distinctive communal agro-pastoral system that has persisted for over a millennium, with 18th and 19th century improvements of villas, picturesque planting and gardens. Together this has inspired writers and artists of global stature. The landscape also manifests the success of the conservation movement that it inspired, a movement based on the idea of landscape as a human response to our environment; a cultural force which has had world-wide ramifications.

### **Does the property contain all the attributes for OUV?**

The site represents a coherent and complete whole, containing all the OUV attributes needed to demonstrate the processes that make this a unique and globally significant property. These include:

- The tangible and intangible elements of the agro-pastoral farming system based on the local Herdwick sheep (distinctive buildings, walls, land use comprising in-bye, intake and open fell grazing, communal management of grazing and other social organisation and traditions that underpin the functioning of the system).
- The elements of the Picturesque and Romantic overlay of landscape augmentation (villas, gardens and formal landscapes).
- ideas that led from an appreciation of the harmonious beauty of the Lake District landscape to the concept of cultural landscape, its value and the need to protect it (the conservation management of the Lake District).
- The existing manifestations of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District (farms, villas and formal landscapes owned and managed by the National Trust, the work of the Friends of the Lake District and the establishment and operation of the National Park).

The proposed area for the World Heritage Site is of adequate size and will ensure the complete presentation of the processes and features which convey its significance. The boundary of the National Park is shown to be extremely accurate in delineating not only the physical features that characterise the area, but also the key characteristics of the cultural landscape. As a result it demonstrates all of the elements of a unique fusion of traditional agro-pastoralism, later landscape augmentation, harmonious beauty, and the manifestations of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District. The evidence for this cultural tradition is not evident beyond the boundary of the National Park, which is also the proposed boundary for WH inscription. It should also be noted that the boundary of the Lake District National Park as defined in 1951 represents the culmination of a historic cultural and political process that sought to define the most appropriate area for protecting a landscape for both its natural and human processes. The relevant tangible and intangible attributes demonstrating OUV are demonstrably whole and complete with regard to nomination under Criteria (ii) (iii) and (vi).

### **Are the attributes of OUV sufficiently intact to convey the OUV?**

The attributes that define the OUV of the Lake District display a remarkable intactness across this unique landscape. The physical features of the agro-pastoral farming system have developed and survived for over 1,000 years. Some of the field walls in use today can be traced back to the 13th century and the majority were constructed by the end of the 17th century. They have been maintained through continued use and the practice of traditional skills such as dry stone walling. Many of the farmhouses date from the 17th century and have been maintained with their original features intact through a combination of tradition, National Trust ownership and planning controls applied by the National Park Authority. More recently agri-environment grant schemes have provided funds for maintenance of traditional and historic landscape features. For example between 1994 and 2004, 650 agricultural buildings were conserved under the Lake District Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme at a cost of over £10 million.

Most of the villas, gardens and formal landscapes of the Lake District are intact and in good condition either through private ownership and investment or ownership by the National Trust and National Park Authority. Major schemes of conservation and restoration have been funded, often through the Heritage Lottery Fund, including those at Monk Coniston, Allan Bank and Lowther Castle.

The essence of the harmonious beauty of the Lake District landscape, combining natural and agro-pastoral features and later designed landscape has also been maintained through traditional management, conservation management and planning control. The Lake District Landscape Characterisation Assessment (LCA) and Guidelines (2008) underpin management planning and development control. The LCA defines the individual characteristics of the different areas of the Lake District and assists with making judgements about the inherent sensitivities of the different landscape character units, their capacity to accommodate change and future management needs.

The Lake District is actively managed by the National Park Authority in partnership with a wide range of other organisations (the Lake District National Park Partnership) which include the National Trust (which owns 21% of the Lake District National Park) and other major landowners such as United Utilities and the Forestry Commission. All these are party to a Partnership Plan which aims to maintain the special qualities of the Lake District. The Lake District, like other landscapes, has certainly changed over the last two hundred years. However here, more than in most other places, a special effort has been made to protect the key characteristics of the landscape and to resist unwelcome intrusions.

### **What are the threats and are they under control?**

Potential threats to the integrity of the Lake District's OUV attributes can be identified at different levels. Local threats to the physical attributes and landscape beauty include inappropriate development (for example unsympathetic alteration to historic buildings, wind turbines) which can be influenced through planning policy and control. Other potential threats such as extensive conifer plantation have now receded, partly through strategies and agreements between the National Park Authority and its partners. Integrity of the agro-pastoral system rests in large measure on the continuity of generational succession which can be affected by economic factors such as the cost of local housing. The National Park Authority is working with partners through policy development and other mechanisms to identify sites for local needs housing.

Economic depression affecting the local economy and particularly the farming sector is a larger scale threat to maintenance of the physical attributes of the Lake District cultural landscape which is more difficult to counter. However, the success of the Lake District National Park Partnership, with its emphasis on development of the local economy as part of the means of protecting the special qualities of the area, is a major step forward. Other potential large scale threats include disease (Herdwick flocks were badly affected by Foot and Mouth disease in 2001) and the effects of climate change, including flooding. The latter is being tackled locally through a major effort to reduce carbon consumption in the Lake District. This may lead to conflicts between policies for carbon capture and water retention and the need to sustain the cultural landscape and traditional uses but these will be managed in keeping with the tradition of innovative conservation that is a key part of the Lake District's case for OUV.

## 7 Comparative Analysis

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The Outstanding Universal Value of the Lake District – see Section 4 (Criteria for Outstanding Universal Value) – is a weave of three strands each of which is an integral and inseparable part of the whole. Firstly the Lake District is a working, functional agro-pastoral landscape that has evolved a unique identity over a thousand years. Secondly this particular blend of people and place has inspired writers and poets of both the Picturesque and the Romantic movements who have recognised and successfully communicated an appreciation of the beauty, harmony and social value of the Lake District as a cultural landscape. Thirdly the public appreciation of the value of the Lake District as a cultural landscape has given rise to a conservation movement that has not only influenced the Lake District as an evolving landscape but has promulgated a universal understanding of the need to conserve the value of working cultural landscapes.

This comparative analysis therefore looks to compare the Lake District with other sites – World Heritage Sites (WHS), Tentative List Sites (TLS) and other sites (OS) – within a comparable geo-cultural region that equally displays a fusion of ideas and place which have had an equivalent influence on the conservation of cultural landscapes. Europe has been selected as a comparable geo-cultural region with similar geo-physical conditions out of which comparative functional, working cultural traditions could evolve and be associated with the development of ideas, beliefs and artistic and literary works.

Since, fundamental to this fusion of ideas and landscape is the Lake District's roots as an agro-pastoral landscape (the first strand) this comparative study begins with an examination of upland agro-landscapes in Europe. Within Europe's four physiographic regions of the Alpine System, the Central Plateaus, the North-Western Uplands and the North European Lowlands, the first three contain upland landscapes.

### **Agro-pastoral comparison**

The Alpine System occupies a vast area of Europe, stretching eastward for nearly 800 miles (1,290 kilometres) across the southern part of Europe from the Pyrenees through the Alps and the Dolomites – which rise to 4,000 metres – and on to the Carpathians, the Dinaric Alps, the Balkan Peninsula, the Apennines of Italy and the Pindus Mountains of Greece. The historic working landscapes that embraced the Alpine pastures and which had evolved a close working relationship with the villages on the lower plateaus, are now lost. They were pastoral landscapes, exemplified in the landscape of the Haute Maurienne (OS), where the communities moved in annual local migrations called *remues*. The flocks and herds of today, bells round their necks, range the lower alpine pastures in an adaptation of the traditional working landscapes made to accommodate the present principal industry of the Alpine region of skiing and tourism.

As Alpine Europe stretches down the Balkan Peninsula, the Apennines of Italy and the Pindus Mountains of Greece, it is increasingly affected by the Mediterranean climate which influences the nature of the working landscape that evolved in these areas. The result is a distinctive natural landscape of dry terrain which makes agriculture a challenge. The crops that prosper best include olives, figs, almonds, vines, oranges, lemons, wheat and barley. Animal husbandry is a component of these mixed farming regimes but the poor quality of pastureland necessitates vast untillied areas being left for flocks of sheep and herds of goats that travel nomadically, and precludes the form of pastoralism found in the Lake District, dependent as it is on high rainfall and a temperate climate favouring grass growth.

Between the Alpine System and the North-Western Uplands are the landscapes of the North European Lowlands and the Central Plateaus. The latter are characterised by rolling hills, steep slopes and dipping vales, and deeply carved river valleys. Working landscapes developed to reflect the distinct combination of climate, geology, relief, landforms, soils and vegetation. In the south, in the summer, these high plateaus saw the arrival of large flocks of sheep. In the hot, dry summers of the south the grass in the low lying lands was soon exhausted. Consequently shepherds drove sheep from their winter pastures in the plains to summer pastures, alpages, in the Massif Central, the Pyrénées and the Alps and up to the Meseta of Spain. This ancient practice of transhumance, often meaning journeys



of some 300 miles (480 kilometres), carved a pattern of drove roads into these landscapes. Modern road systems and the growth of traffic have largely made transhumance a thing of the past and this has changed the character of the working landscapes that had been shaped by this centuries-old practice. Some remnants of the system are still to be found in the Causses and Cévennes (WHS) and the Volcans d'Auvergne (OS) in the Massif Central, and in Madru-Perafita (WHS) and Monte Perdu (WHS) in the Pyrénées, and The Transhumance: The Royal Shepherd's Track (TLS) in Italy. These Mediterranean influenced agro-pastoral systems, now largely lost, were a response to physical conditions very different from those experienced in the Lake District.

To the north of this central plateau, the Black Forest presents a mass of fir forests. To the west and north the River Rhine has cut deep, scenic gorges through the higher plateau lands, including the Upper Middle Rhine Valley (WHS) which is recognised as a cultural landscape. However the slopes of the river valley are covered with vines and agro-pastoral systems play only a minor role in the traditional farming systems that evolved.

Further north and west the North-Western Uplands are covered by forests. In the far north the forest gives way to an open landscape of tundra and to the most northerly working cultural landscape in Europe inhabited by the Sami (Laponian Area WHS and OS) – people noted for their semi-nomadic pastoral system of reindeer herding. In the less mountainous parts of Scandinavia, as in much of Baltic Europe, with their short growing season and cold, acid soils, agriculture supports only a low density of settlements. Working landscapes hug the coast or occupy the many islands which enabled a mixed farming system, including fishing and animal husbandry, to develop. These landscapes are typified by that of the Swedish island of South Oland (Sodra Oland WHS) in the Baltic Sea where human beings have uniquely adapted their way of life to the physical constraints of the island for over 5,000 years. These are agro-pastoral and silvi-pastoral systems quite distinct from that operated in the Lake District.

### **Comparison of the Lake District with other UK upland landscapes**

In the United Kingdom and Ireland more comparable upland agro-pastoral systems have evolved developing particular breeds of sheep, cattle, deer and indeed ponies, adept at coping with their particular physical conditions. Exmoor (OS), Dartmoor (OS), Connemara (OS), Mid Welsh Uplands (OS), Yorkshire Moors (OS), Yorkshire Dales (OS) and North Pennines (OS) are all examples. Most are afforded legislative protection as Category V (1994 IUCN Guidelines) protected landscapes/seascapes, having been occupied by humans since at least the Stone Age. All are otherwise distinct from one another displaying particular physiographic characteristics of geology, relief, landforms, soils and vegetation overlaid by differences in climate which when manipulated by people of differing traditions, skills and lifestyles has resulted over time in highly individual working landscapes with distinct vernacular styles of building and farming.

The distinctiveness of the Lake District as an upland agro-pastoral landscape lies firstly in the fact that it is a mountainous area: a characteristic it shares with the Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons, Cairngorms, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, and Connemara National Parks (OS) and with the Mountains of Mourne (OS) in Northern Ireland – an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. However within this context the Lake District is distinct in being a mountainous agro-pastoral landscape that held communities within the mountains; within its thirteen radiating valleys. This gave a character and a form of self-sufficient agro-pastoralism, including the breeding of the Herdwick sheep hefted to the fells for over 600 years, not found in the mountain ranges of Wales, Scotland and Ireland. This and the other unique characteristics of the Lake District are well set out in this document. However, the OUV of the Lake District doesn't lie solely in its unique identity as a working, functional agro-pastoral landscape that has evolved over a thousand years, but in the fusion of this strand with the second and third strands of its OUV – the blend of ideas and place that instigated the movement towards the recognition and protection of cultural landscapes.

## Artistic and conservation inspiration in the UK

The particular uniqueness of the Lake District lies in the fact that its managed human quality as an agro-pastoral landscape was valued by writers and poets of the Picturesque and Romantic movements of the 18th and 19th centuries. The Lake District was not the only upland landscape recognised and valued by artists and poets in the United Kingdom over this period. Exmoor (OS) was equally a source of inspiration for William Wordsworth (1770-1850) and Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834) and the Wye Valley (OS) on the English/Welsh border and the Derwent Valley in the Peak District (OS) were also described as sources of the Picturesque by William Gilpin (1724-1804). Among many other examples Snowdonia (OS) inspired the painter Richard Wilson (1714-1782) and the Surrey Hills (OS) drew the artist George Lambert (1700-1765). But they and other artists of the period saw British landscape from the perspective of a European classical tradition of landscape painting. Uniquely the Lake District was valued by writers and poets for itself; for its inherent qualities of beauty and harmony as a working landscape that was the physical expression of the interaction between man and nature developed over a thousand years. The Lake District led the way in turning that appreciation into a desire to conserve cultural landscapes which had a universal resonance. The Lake District was rightly among the first of four English landscapes designated as national parks.

## Artistic and conservation inspiration in mainland Europe

In contrast, the Romantic Movement in mainland Europe of the same period valued untamed nature and their cultural associations with myths, legends and folklore – Watzmann (OS); Naturpark-Harz (OS), associated with Goethe's Faust, and Naturpark-Siebengebirge (OS) in Germany. And later with painters – Montagne Sainte-Victoire et Sites Cézannien (TLS) in France. The working landscapes of mainland Europe were not threatened with radical change in the 18th and 19th centuries as they had been in Britain with the enclosure movement between 1750 and 1850 and the agricultural and industrial revolutions. Indeed the working cultural landscapes of mainland Europe remained largely unchanged until after the First World War. Therefore no movements grew up to regret loss – there was no William Wordsworth (1770-1850), to oppose change and to seek the protection of these landscapes. There is no comparative landscape to the Lake District in mainland Europe of which it can be said, as it can be said of the Lake District, that it stimulated – not least through writers, poets and painters – both a concern for cultural working landscapes and a movement for their conservation.

The travellers and artists that, between 1660 and the advent of the wars with France in 1889, undertook the Grand Tour in the belief that it would expose them to the cultural legacy of classical antiquity and the Renaissance, equally took no interest in the agro-pastoral landscapes of the Alps or in any other working landscapes through which they passed as they travelled from one cultural city to another on their way to Rome. The exception was the Roman Campagna (OS), which is now largely lost to the urban expansion of Rome, but which was an essential part of the Grand Tour because of its associations with Roman antiquity. The artists they collected, and which strongly influenced the development of the designed landscapes in rural estates in Britain, represented the two aspects to landscape they admired – the classical aspect as painted by Claude Lorrain (1600-1682) and Nicolas Poussin (1594-1665) and the sublime as painted by Salvatore Rosa (1615-1673). The landscape ideals of writers, painters and poets were essentially given expression in the designed landscapes created in the 18th and 19th centuries. These were mostly estate-sized landscapes such as Muskaur Park (WHS) in Germany/Poland and Blenheim (WHS), Stowe (OS) and Hawkstone (OS) among others in England. Occasionally some larger scale landscapes were created, such as the Val d'Orcia (WHS) in Italy, together with designed parks and gardens within a landscape, such as Lake Maggiore D'Orta (TLS) and the Loire Valley (WHS).

This fundamental difference between the Romantic Movement in Britain and the Romantic Movement in mainland Europe, had developed during the long period of separation brought about by the wars with France between 1789 and 1815. In mainland Europe the concern was to conserve their remaining natural sites where the hand of man was least evident, including forested land in northern Europe, especially where such land could provide opportunities for recreation and for coming face to face with nature for an increasingly urban population. During the first decades of the 20th century

7 continued a number of European countries, notably Sweden (1909), Spain, Switzerland, and Italy followed this approach. It was pioneered in the United States with the designation of National Parks – Yosemite (WHS) in 1864, Yellowstone (WHS) in 1872 – in safeguarding ecosystems that were seen as completely natural. This approach eventually led, in West Germany and the Netherlands, to the protection of the wooded settings to cities and spa towns and eventually in 1956 to the establishment of 25 Nature Parks (Naturpark).

### **The international influence of the Lake District**

The Romantic Movement that developed in the Lake District radically changed the perception of landscape. At a time when mainland Europe was recognising the value of natural sites untouched by man, the Lake District led the way in developing the means – the National Trust, the designation of national parks and protected areas – of recognising and protecting the value of functional, working, cultural landscapes.

With the opening up of Europe following the end of the Napoleonic war in 1815, this concept, which valued working cultural landscapes, crossed the channel and over the rest of the century successfully gathered strength in Europe. This complemented Europe's concern to protect natural sites and was promoted by men like John Ruskin (1819-1900), the leading English art critic and prominent social thinker of the Victorian era who admired by Tolstoy (1828-1920) and translated by Proust (1871-1927). Other artists and writers who were influenced by this included John Constable (1776-1837), William Morris (1834-1896) and Walter Scott (1771-1832). This valuing of cultural landscapes was readily adopted by the emerging style of Realism led by France, in literature with Honoré de Balzac (1799-1850) and Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880) and in painting by Gustave Courbet (1819-1877).

This successful promulgation of an English concept, whose origins can be traced to the Lake District in the 18th century, bore fruit in the 20th century with the recognition of cultural landscapes as Category V National Parks; as World Heritage Sites and as the basic fabric of nations by the European Landscape Convention.

### **Conclusion**

The Lake District is incomparable. As an upland agro-pastoral, working landscape it has forged a highly distinctive relationship between humans and nature. As a landscape that nurtured writers and poets who didn't just take from but also gave to the landscape and who could communicate their emotional engagement – and change perceptions of landscape – it is unique. As a landscape that 'democratised' tourism and stimulated a public concern to protect cultural landscapes from damaging change and development, it is unique. As a landscape that led the way to the international recognition and protection of cultural landscapes, it stands alone. But as a landscape that is the living embodiment and fusion of all these attributes, it is incomparable.

We believe that the protection already existing in the proposed site is more than adequate when compared to many other World Heritage Sites in the UK and elsewhere. The Lake District has exceptionally strong protection through:

1. Designation as a National Park, plus other cultural heritage and natural environment designations.
2. Effective spatial planning policies with conservation as a key objective.
3. Common land legislation.
4. An exceptionally high level of ownership, 35 per cent of area, by organisations with conservation as a principal aim.
5. A high level of financial support for traditional agricultural management through agri-environment schemes targeted on conservation and covering over 70 per cent of the National Park.

### **1. National Park and other designations**

The proposed World Heritage property is a National Park under UK legislation and by international standards is thus very well protected from damaging and irreversible change and inappropriate development. Under UK legislation, National Parks have two purposes:

1. To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of National Parks.
2. To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Parks by the public.

The legislation requires all relevant authorities and public bodies, such as District Councils and the utilities companies, to take National Park purposes into account when they make decisions or carry out activities that might affect the National Park. Authorities and public bodies must show they have fulfilled this duty. The legislation also makes clear that if National Park purposes are in acute conflict, greater weight should be attached to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of National Parks.

The Lake District National Park Management Plan is the key statutory document for protection of the site. Full details about the Lake District National Park Management Plan and the Lake District National Park Partnership are given in section 9, Management.

In addition to National Park designation, 42,026 hectares of the Lake District is classified as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), 633 hectares is classified as Special Protection Areas, 36,419 hectares is classified as Special Areas of Conservation, 772 hectares are classified as RAMSAR sites, and 1,763 hectares are classified as National Nature Reserves. The protected heritage includes 283 Scheduled Monuments, 23 Conservation Areas, 1,768 Listed Buildings (of which 31 are Grade I listed, 120 Grade II\* listed, and 1,617 Grade II listed). There are also 121,066 hectares of Open Access Land, and more than 3,000 kilometres of Public Rights of Way. This in totality represents a remarkable degree of protection of key features in this landscape, by international standards, and makes damaging interventions extremely unlikely in most contexts. However, there are some OUV attributes that are somewhat taken for granted (field boundaries and some of the vernacular buildings for example), and unprotected in terms of legislation, and these will be investigated for the need for additional protective measures.

### **2. Spatial planning policies**

Whilst the National Park Management Plan is the key statutory document which puts in place the overall management and protection of the National Park, the Lake District Local Plan sets out the long-term spatial planning policies that help protect the National Park from harmful development and encourage beneficial development. The Local Plan provides a major advantage for the proposed World Heritage property as it provides policies for protection that cover the whole site and control development. The first strategic objective of the Local Plan is as follows: "Ensure development protects



and enhances the environment, its biodiversity, culture and heritage, and the special qualities of the Lake District". This strategic objective offers a powerful degree of protection for many of both the tangible and intangible OUV attributes. Section 3.1.4 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) acknowledges that the Lake District National Park is on the Government's tentative list for WH nominations. At present, the Local Plan does not contain a detailed policy for the WHS, but there are policies that protect the National Park's special qualities from adverse effects of development, that ensure that development is of a scale and nature that is appropriate to the character of its proposed location, and that maintain the traditional settlement pattern in the National Park. There are also specific policies to protect the spectacular landscape and the historic environment.

The National Park Authority monitors the Local Plan policies annually, and publishes the results in its Annual Monitoring Report. WH status would be a material consideration when determining planning applications. The weight given to this would depend on the nature, scale and type of development proposal. The Local Plan provides sufficient focus on landscape character and the special qualities of the landscape that it should prevent unsympathetic or damaging developments to the OUV attributes. In short, the planning legislation covering the Lake District is still the "highest status of protection" available in the UK. Indeed the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects have both separately concluded that there will be no need for any additional planning legislation if the Lake District is inscribed as a World Heritage Site.

### **3. Common land legislation**

The 104,250 hectares of unenclosed land makes up 45.5% of the Lake District and is protected by legislation and custom from irreversible change to ownership or changes in management. 64,544 hectares (28% of the National Park area) of this are registered Common Land. Commons have been protected against encroachment and development within UK statutes since the nineteenth century. The rights attached to individual holdings are registered with Cumbria County Council under the provisions of the Commons Registration Act 1965. There is a powerful body of UK legislation to protect the integrity of the commons. The Federation of Cumbrian Commoners is leading on the consideration of establishing a Commons Council for Cumbria which would have powers to make legally binding rules for individual commons on all those using the common for agricultural purposes. Individual commons or groups of commons are currently managed through local commons associations.

### **4. Land Ownership**

The Lake District has another advantage over many other comparable cultural landscapes in terms of protecting the OUV attributes; namely the control that comes with significant areas of land being under the management of organisations that are committed to conserving its special qualities. Thirty-five per cent of the Lake District National Park is owned or leased by four organisations that aim to conserve the special qualities and promote public access and use of the countryside for enjoyment and education. The National Trust owns 21% of the National Park area, United Utilities 5%, the Forestry Commission 5% and the Lake District National Park Authority 4%.

The National Trust owns around 46,000 hectares of land within the property, the majority of which is inalienable. 22,500 hectares is registered common land. This land is managed through around 90 farm tenancies with whole farmsteads being leased to tenants. The National Trust owns 21,000 sheep in the Lake District, the vast majority of them the native Herdwick breed. These sheep form Landlord's Flocks and form part of the tenancy agreement on 55 farms. The tenant is obliged to return these sheep to the landlord at the end of their tenancy at the same number, quality, and age classes they took on at the start of their tenancy. This is a fundamental part of maintaining the unique 'hefting' and acclimatisation of the region's common-grazed, fell-going sheep, ensuring continuity of sheep flocks and shepherding management beyond the span of the individual farm tenures.

The National Trust is the most prominent of several landowners with conservation as a principal aim, and demonstrates that the pattern of ownership is critical to future management because

the tenancies of these properties place obligations on tenants to manage this landscape and its OUV attributes through farming and land management of a traditional kind. This is one of the key characteristics that make this the outstanding example of this kind of upland pastoral landscape, and makes it the most appropriate landscape of its kind to be inscribed on the WH list because the degree of protection is so strong.

## 5. Agri-environment schemes

More than 70% of the land in the Lake District National Park is in a national land management scheme, managed by Natural England. 169,441 hectares of the National Park is committed to land management schemes which encourage and sustain the management of the natural and cultural landscape, and that explicitly prohibit land management actions that might damage the OUV attributes.

## The buffer zone question

The boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site is coterminous with the boundary of the Lake District National Park with no buffer zone proposed. After extensive research, consultation and analysis we believe that this is appropriate and that sufficient statutory protection exists for the setting of the OUV attributes in existing planning policies beyond the boundaries of the National Park. Had this property not been a National Park, and had it lacked the legislative protection that this entails for the actions of other neighbouring local authorities then a strong argument could have been made for a buffer zone. But as it is, we believe that there is no compelling case for a buffer zone. The local authority strategies and plans for the area around the property are already relatively robust in protecting the special qualities and setting of the National Park in line with UK legislation. For example, the National Park Authority is consulted on planning applications that may affect the setting of the National Park and its views are taken very seriously by the neighbouring Local Planning Authorities. This is in line with Section 62 of the Environment Act (1995) which places a duty on all public bodies and public utilities to have regard to the purposes of designation in carrying out their work. Circular 12/96 explains that *'This ensures that they take account of Park purposes when coming to decisions or carrying out their activities relating to or affecting land within the Parks. ... It may sometimes be the case that the activities of certain authorities outside a National Park may have an impact within the Park. In such cases it will be important to ensure mutual co-operation across Park boundaries, particularly in planning and highway matters.'*

There is no universally adopted definition of 'setting' in the context of National Parks. However the current working definition agreed by the UK National Park landscape professionals is that: *'The landscape setting for a National Park is the area whose landscape character compliments that of the National Park itself, either through similarity or contrast, and in some way supports or enhances its landscape through views into or out of the National Park. The setting is also defined by the intervisibility of the landscapes on either side of the park boundary.'*

Beyond the legislation, it should be noted that the neighbouring local authorities are all members of the Lake District National Park Partnership and have a shared commitment to implementing the Partnership's Plan. Should the Plan embed protection for the OUV attributes in a future World Heritage Site then, by definition, this would become part of their approaches to development control (cf. Local Plan (Core Strategy) Policy CS01 which refers to the setting of the National Park).

## Protection and change in the future

We believe that the descriptions above demonstrate that the site is well protected, by international standards, with robust legislative and planning protections in place, large areas of sympathetic land ownership and significant protective land management schemes. However, the proposed World Heritage status places a slightly different emphasis on what is valued and protected than that covered by existing systems and legislation. The partners understand that new mechanisms may be necessary to protect the full range of the OUV attributes that lie at the heart of the proposed World Heritage Site. The WH partners are committed to exploring further the potential need for new protective approaches

8 as part of developing the nomination document and management plan. Some actions that might be appropriate for a World Heritage Site are long-term processes and would not be achieved without the stimulus of the designation process.

continued

The Partnership believes that WH inscription will allow for further evolution of the site, including improvements to the natural environment, provided the OUV attributes remain protected. The management of potentially conflicting demands of the proposed site, for example between agricultural activities and environmental qualities, is dealt with in more detail in section 9 – Management.

### **Background**

The means of managing the Lake District as a World Heritage Site is already underpinned by a mature and well-established strategic framework, supported by significant professional and technical expertise and the collective commitment of the Lake District National Park Partnership, geared towards providing proactive management of both change and the tensions that can arise between different aspirations and opportunities in a living, working cultural landscape with an existing national designation.

Indeed, effectively managing change and these tensions in order to achieve the optimum outcome for the Lake District National Park is the expertise of both the Lake District National Park Authority and the Lake District National Park Partnership combined, guided by a shared Vision. It is this Vision which is at the forefront in guiding decision-making, facilitation and mediation to ensure change is positive and to reconcile inevitable tensions, whether these are the demands of visitors tempered by the needs of communities, the balance between agricultural productivity and environmental qualities, or the economic benefit of a development which depends on being sensitively assimilated into the landscape.

There is a long-standing and well-established process for managing the Lake District National Park which also comprises the proposed World Heritage Site property. The Local Government Act (1972) included provision for National Park Management Plans subject to a five-yearly review. This requirement was carried forward in the 1995 Environment Act (Section 66). The Government's Circular 2010 'English National Parks and the Broads' advises that National Park Management Plans should:

- Be the overarching strategic document for National Parks, setting the vision and objectives for the next 10-20 years.
- Reflect National Park purposes, the duties of National Park Authorities, and the need to engage others in their preparation and implementation.
- Provide statements of the relevant policies for managing the National Park and set the context for the Development Plan.

### **Management through the Lake District National Park Partnership and the Partnership's Plan**

A series of National Park Management Plans have been produced since 1978 in response to legislation and in consultation with stakeholders. These have set out evidence-based management policies to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Lake District National Park including its 'celebrated social and cultural heritage'. They have helped provide continuity in managing natural and built environments, and have enabled the National Park Authority to build up a wealth of management expertise with partner organisations.

However, at the time of the National Park Management Plan review in 2004, the Lake District National Park Authority became concerned that there was insufficient commitment of partners and stakeholders to the National Park Management Plan. Management approaches were fragmented with many partners adopting individual strategies. In 2006, in order to strengthen working relationships and to improve management of the Lake District, the National Park Authority established the ground-breaking Lake District National Park Partnership. The Partnership is made up of twenty four bodies from public, private, community and voluntary sectors, representative of all interests in the National Park. The Partnership operates under a Memorandum of Understanding that has been agreed by the all partners in the Partnership. The first action the Partnership took in 2006 was to agree a shared Vision for the National Park to 2030. The Partnership then focussed on developing the first 'Partnership's Plan' in 2010, which is the National Park Management Plan for 2010-2015. The Plan summarises the Partnership's awareness of current issues and, based on the Vision, prioritises areas for collective action where it agrees that a breakthrough is needed. The Partnership agrees responsibilities for lead partners for all actions on the Partnership's Plan. Progress is monitored at quarterly intervals. A 'State of the Park' report is updated

annually that measures achievement against a set of key outcome indicators and other data. The Partnership reviews the Plan annually, including the priorities and action plan.

### Working towards management of the World Heritage Site

The Lake District WH Project Management Group (comprising Cumbria County Council, English Heritage, Forestry Commission, Lake District National Park Authority, Natural England and the National Trust) has actively engaged the National Park Partnership throughout the WH nomination process. The Partnership has confirmed its continuing commitment to the WH initiative, and partner organisations have a thorough and shared understanding of the universal significance of the proposed WHS.

The Partnership agreed formally to *'remain committed to progressing the Lakes WH bid through considering at a future date a revised Technical Evaluation bid prior to its submission in autumn 2013.'*

In 2009 the Partnership commissioned analysis of the economic potential of WH inscription which has been updated in 2013. The results of this work are particularly encouraging and have been well received by all partner organisations, including the Lake District Business Task Force, the business 'think tank' for the National Park Partnership. These economic reports have served to strengthen the case for pursuing WH nomination.

The Partnership's high level of commitment to a future WHS is reflected in the latest iteration (October 2013) of the Partnership's Plan by including Valley Planning and Cultural Tourism as two of the priority areas for action. Valley Planning is developing the Partnership's approach to improving the integration of communities and partners aspirations and actions in the 13 valleys identified by Wordsworth (Map1) and can also be the means of identifying and sustaining the OUV attributes for each of the valleys. The Partnership's intention is that each 'Valley Plan' will, ultimately, feed in to the Partnership's Plan. Cultural Tourism will focus on the Partnerships' actions to enhance the reputation and offering of the area as a cultural destination for visitors. A key strand of this approach is based around the World Heritage nomination process and implementation of the Economic Action Plan. The Partnership is working with the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to identify cultural tourism as a key strategic priority for the whole of Cumbria, as well as the Lake District National Park. There is no doubt that WH inscription for the Lake District would bring economic benefits to much of Cumbria outside the WHS boundary.

### Integrating the WHS Management Plan and the Lake District National Park Partnership's Plan

It is the intention of the Lake District National Park Partnership to fully integrate the WHS Management Plan with the Partnership Plan, which is due to be revised in 2015. One of the key aims of the integrated Plan will be to sustain the OUV attributes of the Lake District. The justifications for an integrated approach are:

- **The Vision** – a vision has already been adopted for the Lake District which would meet the requirements of a WHS management plan to sustain the attributes of OUV.
- **Special qualities of the Lake District** – these have been identified, as required by the provisions of the Environment Act 1995, and the Partnership considers that the attributes of OUV provide a more detailed expression of these special qualities.
- **Delivery Aims** – the broad 'Main Delivery Aims' of the Partnership's Plan (namely Prosperous Economy, World-Class Visitor Experiences, Vibrant Communities and Spectacular Landscapes) reflect the Lake District National Park Vision. These provide an appropriate basis for the development of WHS-specific policies. Six of the 24 key delivery aims make direct reference to the cultural heritage and special qualities of the LDNP.
- **Management actions** – the Partnership's Plan actions, which are reviewed annually, provide an opportunity to include actions specific to the WHS.
- **Monitoring and review** – the Partnership's Plan actions are monitored and can incorporate key indicators to measure the status of OUV attributes. The Partnership has already indicated its wish to see an integrated LDNP / WHS approach to monitoring and review (Minutes of LDNPP 18 June 2012).



The current Partnership's Plan covers the period 2010-2015. A review of the Plan will be undertaken in 2014 which means that, in the event of the WH nomination being successful, the policy framework will be in place to enable immediate protection and management of the resource. Management of the proposed WHS will also be informed by the National Park Authority's adopted Local Plan policies, in particular Core Strategy Policy CS27 (The acclaimed historic environment) and Policy CS25 (Protecting the spectacular landscape).

### **Management of continuity and change**

The Lake District National Park Partnership is confident that, based on its current approach to land use planning and management, it can implement effective management systems that will sustain the attributes that demonstrate OUV, their authenticity and integrity. The identification and promotion of change that conserves and enhances the special qualities of the LDNP is fundamental to the Partnership's strategic approach and is enshrined in policy (LDNPA Core Strategy Strategic Objective 4). The Partnership's policies are also concerned with the modification of change, or mitigation of change, that might damage the special qualities of the Lake District. Integrity of the agro-pastoral system rests in large measure on the resilience of the local farming community, with its traditional skills and knowledge, and the health of the local economy. The Partnership therefore seeks to achieve the sustainable development of the site to sustain the OUV attributes and the cultural and natural special qualities with benefits for the local population, visitors and its economy. The Partnership's Plan includes delivery aims to maintain traditional skills, help people within the National Park have a sense of belonging and pride and appreciation of the distinctiveness of the natural and cultural heritage of their area, and to contribute to its future well-being.

## The financial commitment of stakeholders to date

The Lake District's enthusiasm to secure World Heritage designation has been sustained since the 1980s and over the past decade has been demonstrated by significant financial and in-kind contributions from an impressively wide partnership of public, third and private sector organisations and businesses. The WH partners are fully aware of the potential costs of the nomination process (as identified by the PricewaterhouseCoopers study). The partnership has already raised and spent significant sums to develop and finesse their nomination.

To date £400,000 worth of financial and in-kind contributions have been made by a range of stakeholder organisations including £35,000 from private businesses. Some other examples of partners' financial commitments to date include: North West Regional Development Agency, £129,000; Lake District National Park Authority over £30,000; National Trust over £15,000; Friends of the Lake District, over £20,000.

In addition to the cash contributions a significant amount of specialist support has been offered by almost every significant cultural and heritage organisation in Cumbria. The partners and supporters of the initiative demonstrate a remarkable commitment which illustrates the depth of the stakeholder commitment.

This financial commitment has resulted in an advanced body of research, providing evidence and analysis for the nomination. This includes a number of specific studies, namely: *Study into the Principal Settlements of the Lake District & World Heritage Status*, Atkins 2008; *World Heritage Status: Is there opportunity for Economic Gain?*, Rebanks Consulting 2009; *How the Lake District (and Cumbria) can benefit from World Heritage status*, Rebanks Consulting 2013; Lake District Comparative Studies 2011 and 2013; and a study of the Thomas West viewing stations in the Lake District. The economic research in particular has attracted international attention (from UNESCO, World Bank and others) and has led to a vision for the property that is about using the designation as a catalyst for progressive interventions to sustain the OUV attributes by supporting its underlying socio-economic system.

## Resources for preparing the nomination

Whilst there is still work to be done to develop the nomination and to build on the approach outlined in this technical evaluation, the partnership is confident of securing the necessary resource in both cash and in-kind contributions to complete the remaining tasks. The financial budget is held by the Lake District National Park Authority on behalf of the partnership. The partners have shown a willingness to make additional financial contributions once they have the certainty of a nomination slot. The Partnership also has a significant staff resource already involved that will contribute to the preparation of the nomination. The Project Management Group (PMG) consists of the strategic leadership representatives of Cumbria Tourism, Cumbria County Council, English Heritage, Forestry Commission, Lake District National Park Authority, National Trust and Natural England. This group meets at regular intervals to steer the nomination process and commission work from partners and consultants. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is the practitioner group that deliver the work programme of the PMG. The Lake District National Park Authority's Senior Archaeology and Heritage Advisor leads and coordinates the document drafting process supported by other LDNPA staff resources, in particular mapping and design support. Other partners on TAG contributing to the document writing include Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT) and Brantwood. The Lake District National Park Partnership fully supports these partner groups from the Chair, Lord Clarke of Windermere to the Business Task Force's support for the development of the WHS economic action plan. The final additional costs are likely to be for the development of the nomination document, and finalising the basic case made in this technical evaluation. Other costs will include developing and strengthening the protection of the OUV attributes by making progressive additions to existing strategies and policies. This would be part of the statutory role of a number of the organisations and would be resourced accordingly. We estimate that

the costs are limited and that much, if not all, of this is possible with the specialist in-kind contributions of the core partner organisations. The core partners are confident that if they are allocated a slot for the nomination process that the Partnership collectively will meet the challenge of resourcing the work required. The track record suggests that this is a reasonable solution because of the scale of the partnership and the resources available to the major organisational partners.

### **Levels of resource for future management of the site**

Unlike many small potential World Heritage Sites there is no simple way of establishing future management costs for the Lake District that can inform the establishment of a management budget. Because of the scale of the National Park and the complexity of its landscape and communities, a wide number of statutory and non-statutory organisations resource different elements of its management. It is probably useful to separate this into those cost elements that are about routine management that would happen anyway and those elements that would happen directly as a result of the World Heritage inscription:

#### **Existing management resources**

The complexity of the Lake District means that there is no simple cost figure for annual maintenance and repair, and no simple budget to fund the on-going management. The Lake District National Park Partnership has a large collective existing resource available to it for management of the area, through the partners, in both cash and staff resources. For example, the Lake District National Park Authority has a £10 million per year budget, the National Trust has an annual budget of around £7 million and current national agri-environment scheme agreements have a total lifetime value of about £99 million. At the other end of the scale hundreds of small farmers have very modest annual budgets of cash and time for management of the OUV attributes, but collectively these add up to an economy of many tens of millions of pounds per annum.

#### **Future additional management resources to protect and sustain the OUV attributes**

Much of the management of the OUV attributes in the Lake District is part of the remit of the existing organisations and businesses, and is covered in the previous paragraph. But there is also potential for a future World Heritage Site to require additional investment for specific projects to protect and sustain its OUV attributes. As we outlined in section 9, the Partnership's Plan is the means of collective management of the area. The World Heritage Site Management Plan will be integrated with this plan. The Partnership has got a proven track record of drawing down external funding in addition to its own cash and staff resources referred to above. The Partnership has an External Funding sub-group specifically for this purpose. Examples of current externally funded projects include the 'Go Lakes' sustainable transport project, funded with £4.9 million of UK Government funding. Another current example is the 'Fell Futures Apprenticeship Scheme' as outlined below:

*The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has recently awarded £449,000 to the Lake District National Park Authority for apprenticeship training for practical rural heritage skills such as dry-stone-walling and hedge maintenance. The project will also raise awareness about traditional local skills that have helped shape the Lake District over many centuries. The bid was made in partnership with United Utilities, National Trust, Forestry Commission and the Environment Agency who together have a vast array of practical opportunities in the area.*

The Lake District National Park Partnership is now working with the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to help it develop its Growth Strategy for Cumbria. This will draw down UK Government funds and EU Structural Funds for priority actions in the LDNP Partnership's Plan. The LDNP Partnership is also working with Cumbria County Council and the two LEADER Local Action Groups in Cumbria to get the best possible deal for Cumbria from the next round of the Rural Development Programme for England 2015-20 and to ensure that Cumbria has a clear set of strategic priorities and integrated delivery. Securing adequate funding is crucial for sustaining the Lake District's OUV attributes.

The LDNP Partnership and its Plan is supported within the LDNPA by a Partnership team of 3.6 full time equivalent staff. These provide the facilitation and coordination functions for the LDNP Partnership and producing the Partnership's Plan/WHS Management Plan. This resource will also become the facilitation

and coordination resource for World Heritage Site management through the Partnership. In addition the Partnership, through the LDNPA, will provide cultural heritage specialist capacity to support WHS management. Through these mechanisms we will deliver the requirements of the role of WHS coordinator.

At its simplest, if the Partnership identifies works that are needed to sustain the site's OUV attributes (as has happened with the above project) then partners will work together to secure investment to address the issues. The Partnership contains expertise across a range of relevant skill sets from fundraising to project development, and is more than capable of securing investment for sustaining this landscape.

### **Major capital expenditure**

There is no expectation of major additional capital expenditure items associated with the future of the Lake District's cultural landscape. Sustaining this cultural landscape has rarely, if ever, been about major capital investment projects; it is, instead, a landscape sustained largely by hundreds of small farms and local businesses. The primary issue in terms of future resources to sustain the landscape will be about sustaining the socio-economic system that underpins the cultural landscape and using the resources of partners to support communities in continuing to manage and sustain the OUV attributes.

# Glossary

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**Bank Barn**

Barn built into a slope with accommodation for animals on the ground floor and an upper floor for threshing grain.

**Commons Association**

A voluntary association to encourage the beneficial management of common land.

**Coppicing**

A traditional form of woodland management involving repetitive felling of trees (usually every 10 to 20 years). The resulting coppice poles were used for a variety of purposes including charcoal production and bobbin production.

**Fell**

Hill or mountain (derived from Norse).

**Hogg house**

Small stone walled building for storing fodder and housing young sheep in the winter.

**Herdwick**

Name for local breed of Lake District sheep.

The term is derived from the Old English name for sheep farm.

**Heaf**

Area of open fell in which a flock of Herdwick sheep will stay and graze (ie. are heafed or hefted).

**Hogg**

Male or female lamb before first shearing.

**In-bye land**

Cultivated land in the valley bottom, around the farmstead.

**Intakes**

Stone-walled fields enclosing land on the fell side of the ring garth.

**Outgang**

Track through the in-bye and intake fields for leading animals to the open fell.

**Pollarding**

Cutting trees (usually ash trees) to provide fodder for sheep and for timber.

**Ring garth**

Medieval term for the stone wall separating a common field in the valley bottom from the open fell. The field was cultivated communally, in strips.

**Riving slate**

Splitting slate into thin sheets for roofing material.

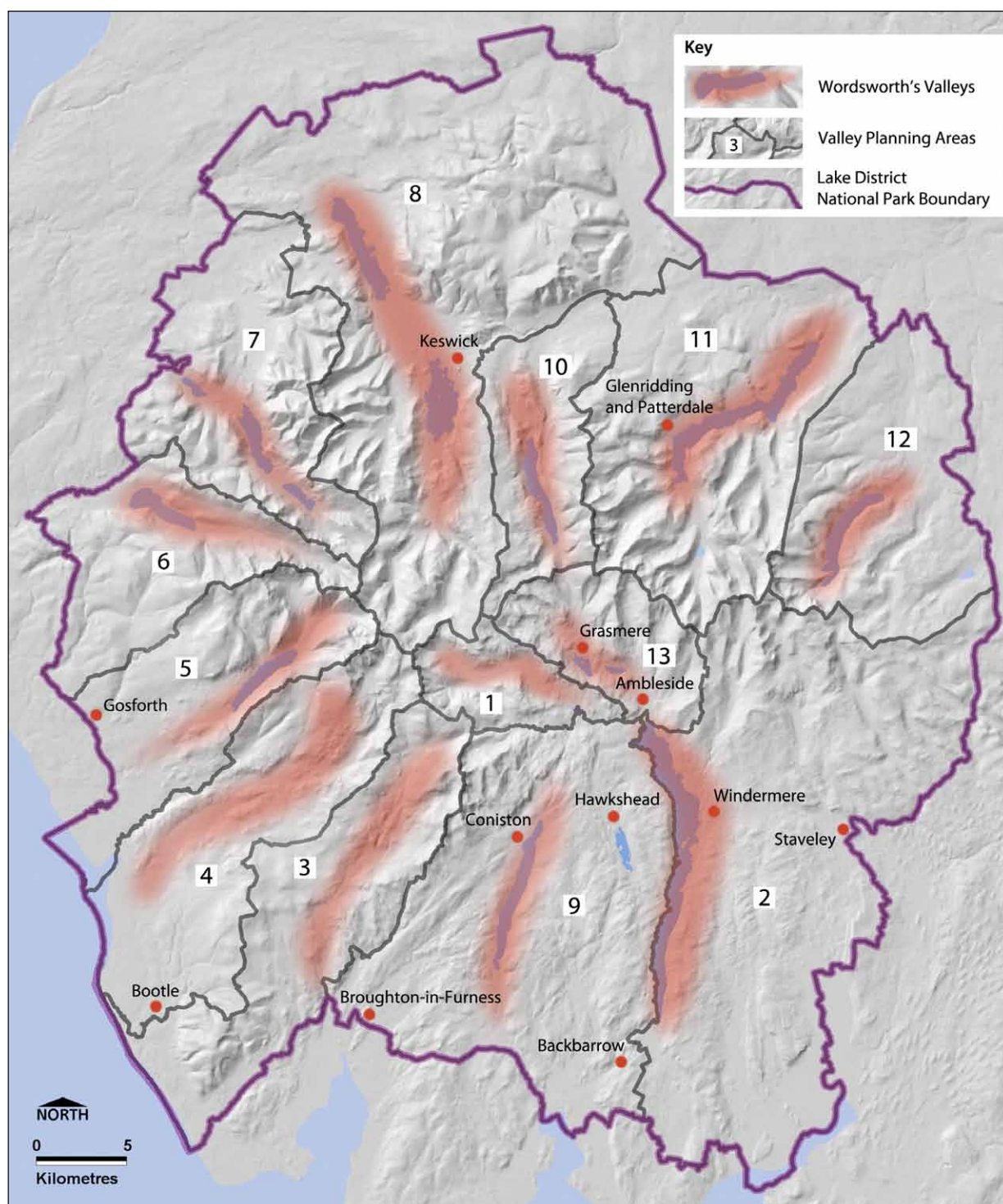
**Smit and lug marks**

Coloured marks on the fleece and removal of a piece of ear indicating ownership of sheep.

**Tup**

Ram, male sheep.



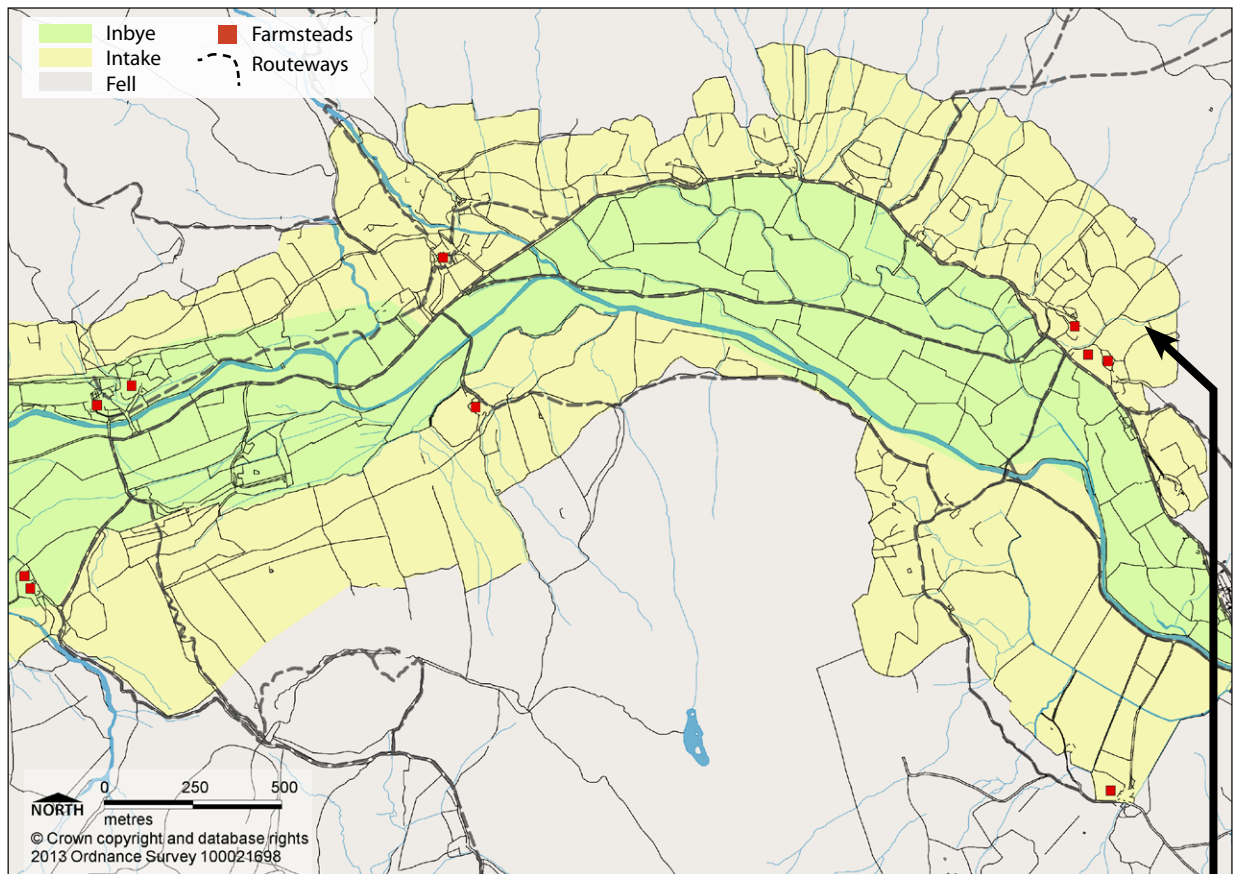


### Wordsworth's Valleys and Valley Planning Areas

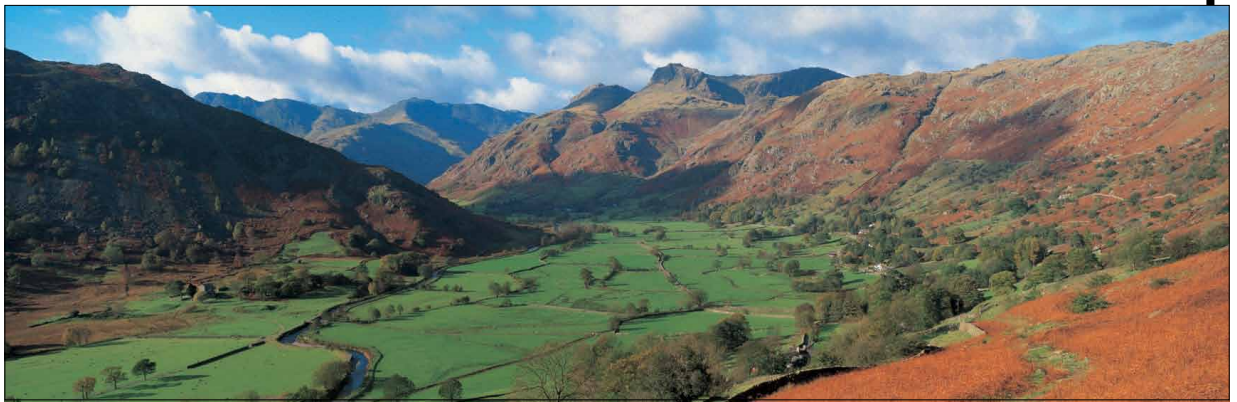
- |              |                                |                         |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Langdale   | 6 Ennerdale                    | 10 Wythburn (Thirlmere) |
| 2 Windermere | 7 Buttermere                   | 11 Ullswater            |
| 3 Duddon     | 8 Borrowdale and Bassenthwaite | 12 Haweswater           |
| 4 Eskdale    | 9 Coniston                     | 13 Grasmere/Rydal       |
| 5 Wasdale    |                                |                         |

The 13 valleys are taken from Wordsworth's description of the Lake District in his *Guide to the Lakes* (1810) and they form the basis for the Valley Planning Areas.

Figure 1 The agro-pastoral landscape in Great Langdale



Photograph shows the view looking north west.

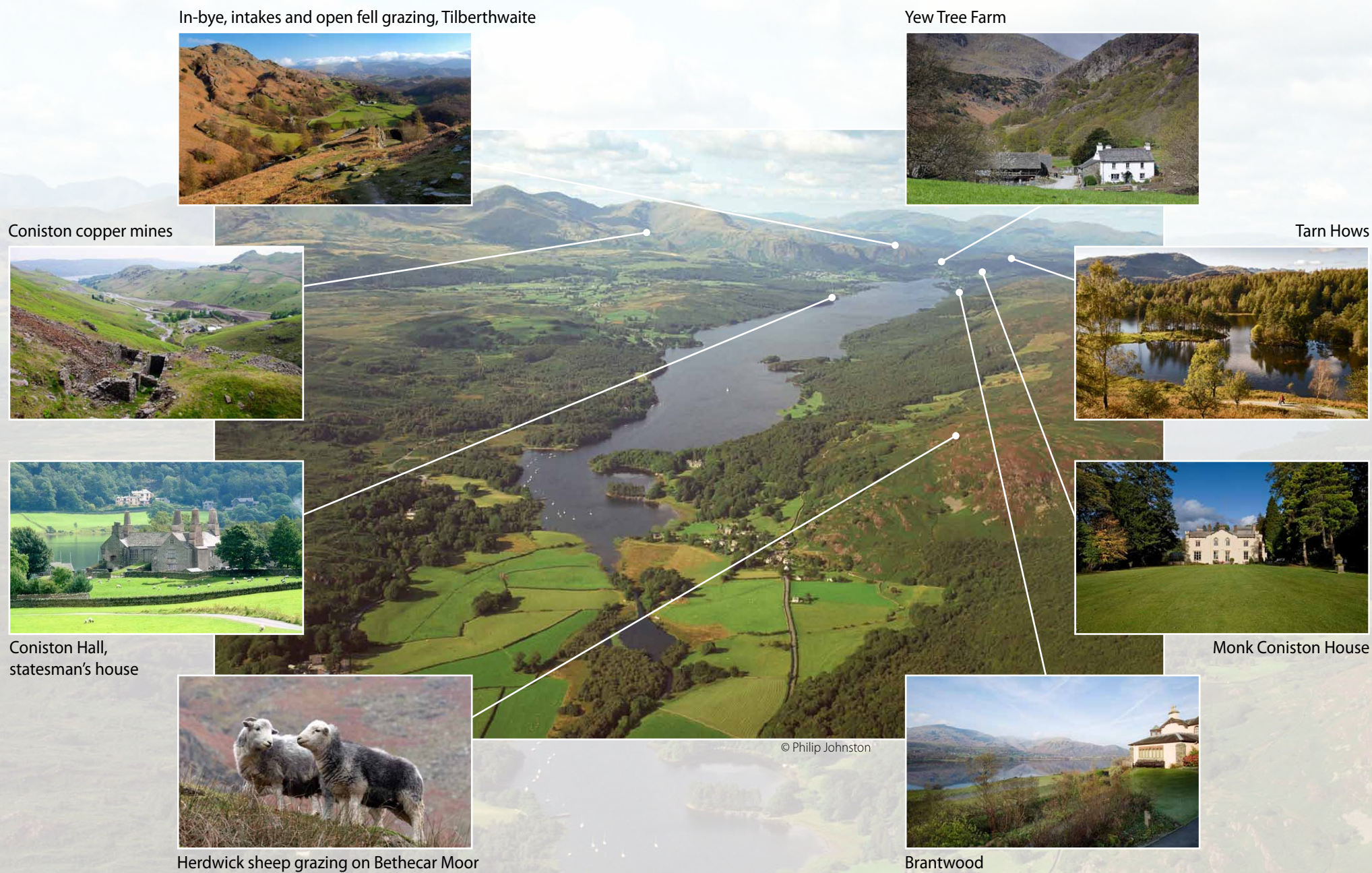


The green in-by-e fields in the valley bottom have been sub-divided from the former medieval common field which was enclosed by the ring garth at least as early as 1216 AD.

The intakes on the valley sides were created between the medieval period and the end of the 17th century. The relatively few straight field boundaries in the valley bottom date from the 19th century.



Figure 2 OUV attributes in the Coniston valley





Photograph 1 Borrowdale from Castle Crag



The green in-bye fields in the bottom of the S-shaped glacial valley of Borrowdale are surrounded by wooded fellsides with extensive remains of slate quarrying. The hamlet of Rosthwaite in the centre of the view was purchased by Furness Abbey in 1209. Photo: Nick Bodle, [nickbodlephotography.com](http://nickbodlephotography.com)



Photograph 2 Wasdale Head from Sty Head Pass



The distinctive in-bye fields at Wasdale, which have been subdivided from the former common field which may date from the Norse period (10th century). The stone walls here are particularly substantial as they are used to store the vast quantities of stone washed down from the surrounding fells. Photo: Dave Willis



Photograph 3 Ullswater from Gowbarrow Hill



The view includes the enclosed in-bye land of Glencoyne Park, the woodland surrounding the celebrated waterfall at Aira Force and the Gothic hunting lodge of Lyulph's Tower (centre left), built in 1780 for the Earl of Surrey and one of the earliest picturesque houses in the Lake District. The daffodils in the Glencoyne woodlands inspired Wordsworth's poem 'The Daffodils' and large parts of this landscape are owned and managed by the National Trust. Photo: John Robinson



Photograph 4 Windermere from the south



The view includes Storrs Hall, built in the mid-1790s and later re-modelled, with its surrounding parkland and octagonal 'temple' at the end of a jetty (built after 1797) which reflects and complements the octagonal Claife viewing station on the opposite shore. Belle Isle, the site of a cylindrical house which was the first house built in the Lake District for picturesque reasons (1774), can be seen in the distance opposite the town of Bowness-on-Windermere. Photo: Joan Bryden Photography



Photograph 5 Derwentwater and Bassenthwaite Lake from the south east



Derwentwater, in the foreground, is surrounded by villas, built in the 18th and 19th centuries, and their parkland landscapes. Extensive in-bye fields can be seen in the valley bottom together with intakes and open fell grazing on the flanks of the Skiddaw massif in the distance. The medieval market town of Keswick is visible to the right.

Photo: Charlie Hedley

## **Technical evaluation of the future World Heritage nomination for the English Lake District**

October 2013

### **Produced by :**

The Lake District World Heritage Project Partnership

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### **Photographs courtesy of:**

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