Background Evidence Report – Non-Designated Heritage Assets and Areas of Archaeological Interest – Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This paper provides the background evidence used to qualify and explain the list of Non-Designated Heritage Assets identified in the Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The Localism Act 2011 has increased the role of communities in determining how planning decisions are made at a local level, including those involving heritage assets. It advises that communities can play a key role in preparing neighbourhood plans which establish the general planning policies for development and use of land in a neighbourhood and work in preparing a neighbourhood plan may indicate buildings and sites which merit inclusion on any local list that a Local Planning Authority may have.
- 1.3 Whilst the Designated Heritage Assets are well identified, Northumberland County Council do not currently hold a 'local list' of other heritage assets. The Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan therefore proposes to provide a list of other locally significant buildings and sites as part of the Neighbourhood Plan, and this list is referred to as the list of 'Non-Designated Heritage Assets'.
- 1.4 This list is divided into two parts: Part A lists the proposed buildings and above ground structures that are considered appropriate for inclusion on the list of non-designated heritage assets in the Eglingham Neighbourhood Plan, and which will be shown on the Policies Map for clarity. Part B includes a list of areas of archaeological interest. These areas have been identified for inclusion as non-designated heritage assets but are not shown on the Policies Maps due to the difficulty in some cases of defining a boundary (for example, some mediaeval villages and areas where it is not known for certain where the remains are). It is expected that these assets will be listed as an Appendix in the Plan and cross-referenced to Policy 6 (Non-Designated Heritage Assets) in the Eglingham Neighbourhood Plan.

The Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan and the Historic Environment

- 2.1 It was clear from initial consultation with residents in the Parish, that the historic environment and historic landscapes are an important part of the area and key to the identity of the Parish and its landscapes.
- 2.2 The Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan sets out a vision that is focused on protecting heritage assets and enhancing local green spaces, landscapes and views that contribute to the distinct look and feel of the Parish. This will be delivered in part by the identification of heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Area, to help sustain or enhances their significance.

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- 2.3 Whilst designated heritage assets have statutory protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, those which are identified locally (and therefore not designated) have no statutory protection. Listed Building and Scheduled Monument status are the two statutory designations but only a proportion of heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Area are so protected.
- 2.4 The Neighbourhood Plan offers recognition and protection to the non-designated assets that are considered of local importance since being identified as a non-designated heritage asset is a material consideration for planning decisions. The non–designated heritage sites, and buildings listed in the Neighbourhood Plan all contribute to the character and sense of place of Eglingham Parish.

3 Methodology

3.1 Guidance outlined in the Historic England Advice Note 7 'Local Heritage Listing' has been used to establish a methodology for assessing non-designated heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Area. The definition set out in the NPPF states that a heritage asset is:

"A building, monument, site, place area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest."

- 3.2 The different types of "heritage interest" that define a heritage asset have been identified as historic, architectural, artistic, and archaeological. If an asset has at least one element of heritage interest it should then be judged on its significance. This can be measured in terms of how it meets any of five criteria, these being: rarity, aesthetic appeal, integrity, representativeness, or association.
- 3.3 Adherence to these criteria, as defined below, has ensured consistency in assessment of heritage assets across the parish as well as with government policy and practice guidance on heritage assets, settings and local listing.

Interest	How the interest is assessed
Historic	The asset should have importance in relation to events or people in the past, either as a direct representation of an event or group of people (such as a purpose-built building like a chapel) or by the historic use of a building/site for a particular practice.
Architectural Assets	That are of architectural interest are identified because of their design, construction, craftsmanship or decoration.

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Artistic	These assets will exhibit some degree of creative skill in their creation or design whether through sculpture, painting or other method of decoration.
Archaeological	These assets contain archaeological remains which are the primary source about the historic development of places and people.

3.4 The significance of each identified Non-Designated Heritage Asset is assessed in terms of several criteria, which are set out below.

Significance	How the significance is assessed
Rarity	The asset must exemplify a design, settlement pattern
	or other quality that is uncommon either to the locality,
	district or wider or landscape region.
Aesthetic appeal	Positive feelings of worth by reason of its architectural,
	design or artistic quality or its form or layout must be
	evoked by these assets.
Integrity	To have a degree of integrity, an asset should retain a
	sense of completeness, either as an individual building,
	structure feature or as part of a larger group.
Representativeness	Whilst the asset may not be rare, it could be
	representative of a particular historical or architectural
	trend. It may also be part of the legacy of an individual,
	architect, architectural movement, programme of work,
	company or group in the past
Association	Evidence may suggest that an asset is associated with a
	person or historic event.

3.5 The list of Non-Designated Heritage Assets in this paper has been considered using the above methodology. The list includes the name and the location of the asset, including a summary of what the special interest of the asset is based on the methodology set out above.

4 Sources

Historic Environment Record (Keys to the Past) – NCC Eglingham Conservation Area Appraisal (NCC) Local knowledge Historic England Advice Note (Non-designated Heritage Assets) National Planning Policy Framework