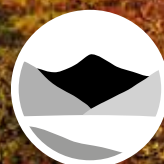


Nomination of
THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT

For inscription on the
World Heritage List



Lake District
National Park
Partnership

Front Cover: View of Ullswater from Gowbarrow Park. This includes the enclosed inbye 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 'I wandered lonely as a cloud' and large parts of this landscape are owned and managed by the National Trust.

THE LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK PARTNERSHIP 2015-2016

Action with Communities in Cumbria	Lake District Local Access Forum
Allerdale Borough Council	Lake District National Park Authority
Copeland Borough Council	Lake District National Park Partnership's Business Task Force
Country Land and Business Association	Local Enterprise Partnership, Cumbria
Cumbria Association of Local Councils	National Farmers' Union
Cumbria County Council	National Trust
Cumbria Tourism	Natural England
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Nurture Lakeland
Eden District Council	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Environment Agency	South Lakeland District Council
Forestry Commission	United Utilities
Friends of the Lake District	University of Cumbria
Historic England	



Lake District National Park Partnership's
Business Task Force



NOMINATION FORM

Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

Under the terms of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, called 'the World Heritage Committee', shall establish, under the title of 'World Heritage List', a list of properties forming part of the cultural and natural heritage which it considers as having Outstanding Universal Value in terms of such criteria as it shall have established.

The purpose of this form is to enable States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Committee nominations of properties situated in their territory and suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List. This Nomination Document has been prepared in accordance with the 'Format for the nomination of cultural and natural properties for inscription in the World Heritage list' issued by UNESCO.

The form has been completed in English and is sent in three copies to:

The Secretariat
World Heritage Centre
UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France

FOREWORD

Her Majesty's Government is fully committed to the protection, conservation and celebration of each of its World Heritage Sites, and to the preservation of these exemplars of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage. With this in mind, I am pleased to offer the UK Government's full support to the nomination for the English Lake District for inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The English Lake District has long been renowned in the United Kingdom as a landscape of great beauty. However, its outstanding significance as a cultural landscape is less well recognised, particularly beyond the shores of the British Isles. The UK Government firmly believes that the English Lake District merits recognition as a cultural landscape of the highest order – one which is of outstanding value to the world heritage of humankind as a whole.

The importance of the English Lake District is based on three intertwined strands, each one of which is significant in its own right, but which together present a powerful case for Outstanding Universal Value.

The topography of the English Lake District is highly distinctive, with thirteen valleys radiating from its mountainous core like the spokes of a wheel, the lakes in the valleys ensuring that each spoke shines brightly. This naturally beautiful scenery has been modified by hundreds of years of sheep farming which has created a landscape of enclosed fields, farms and modest settlements in the valleys and open grazing on the fells.

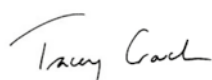
In the late eighteenth century the beauty of this agro-pastoral landscape became a source of inspiration for artists and writers seeking picturesque views, and their work introduced the English Lake District to a new audience from outside the area. The picturesque aesthetic also inspired many landowners to further enhance the beauty of the landscape through the construction of harmonious villas and gardens. This initial artistic interest was quickly followed by the development of the English Lake District as the cradle of British Romanticism, epitomised by the writings of William Wordsworth and his fellow Lake Poets.

In addition to the beauty of the English Lake District's agro-pastoral landscape, Wordsworth was also inspired by the distinctive local farming, society and culture. The ideas which developed from Romantic engagement with the English Lake District, including the universal value of landscape and its capacity to stimulate human emotion, have had a global impact. Wordsworth's exhortation that the English Lake District 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" is often taken as the first expression of the idea of protected landscapes and national parks.

In the nineteenth century, increasing numbers of visitors were able to utilise improving transport networks to experience the wonders of the English Lake District for themselves. While this made the area more accessible, it also posed a threat to the integrity of the landscape, as did the growing demands for water from the burgeoning industrial towns of the north of England. These threats led to the birth of the conservation movement in Britain, which in turn exerted a significant influence on the way in which conservation philosophy and practice developed in many other parts of the world. Initially, threatened parts of the landscape were protected by acquisition to ensure the continuation of the traditional farming practices which shape and sustain the special qualities of the English Lake District. The National Trust, which was directly inspired by the early conservation battles in the English Lake District, is now the largest voluntary conservation charity in Europe and provided a catalyst for similar organisations around the world. Subsequently landscape management, protection and provision for quiet enjoyment was enshrined in legislation that allowed for the designation of national parks, a status that the English Lake District has enjoyed since 1951.

This summary description of the three strands of Outstanding Universal Value could perhaps suggest that the communities that have created the landscape that we appreciate today, and whose wellbeing is fundamental to its future, have been overlooked. The Lake District National Park Partnership has worked hard to ensure that this is not the case. The World Heritage Site nomination enjoys the active participation and support of a wide cross section of people, including those whose stewardship of the land is essential to the future of the English Lake District as a living, vibrant cultural landscape that can be enjoyed by all.

I am therefore delighted to submit this nomination dossier for the consideration of the World Heritage Committee, which I hope will find the case for inscription on the World Heritage List as compelling as I do.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Tracey Crouch'.

Tracey Crouch MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport, Tourism and Heritage

PREFACE

The United Kingdom has a deep history and diverse heritage with 29 World Heritage Site inscriptions at the time of writing. The English Lake District is the defining Cultural Landscape of its type. Following its consideration by the World Heritage Committee in the 1980s, the English Lake District was used as a test case to define UNESCO's new and additional theme 'Cultural Landscape' within the cultural category.

The Lake District is an evolving masterpiece, shaped and modified by people, culture, farming and industry for thousands of years. It is this combination of endeavour and culture that has created a landscape of spectacular beauty. And in turn, this spectacular landscape has inspired artists and writers of the Picturesque and Romantic movements and has generated ideas about the relationship between humans and landscape that have had global influence. In fact, we can trace the beginning of the international conservation movement – from the concept of legally protected landscapes to the National Trust and UK National Parks – to the inspiration and ideas stimulated in the English Lake District.

The Lake District's landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage can only be sustained and protected if our communities and businesses are able to thrive. World Heritage Site inscription and its Management Plan will have a crucial role to play in ensuring the objectives of conservation, protection, transmission and preservation are achieved in the English Lake District.

On behalf of the Lake District National Park Partnership I wish to thank all the contributors to the Dossier on producing this excellent and comprehensive Nomination. I hope in due course the World Heritage Site status will allow Cumbria to share the English Lake District even more effectively with the international community.



Rt Hon Lord Clark of Windermere DL, PC
Chairman of the Lake District National Park Partnership

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- Volume 1 Nomination Document for the English Lake District
- Volume 2 Valley Descriptions and History
- Volume 3 Appendices – Section 7.b texts
- Volume 4 The Partnership's Plan – The Management Plan
for the English Lake District 2015-2020

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The fells at the head of Wast Water



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

State Party

United Kingdom

State, Province or Region

North West England

Name of Property

The English Lake District

Geographical Coordinates

54° 28' 35.8" N; 03° 04' 56.7" W

Textual description of the boundary of the nominated Property

The nominated Property comprises the area of the English Lake District National Park which was established in 1951 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949).

CRITERIA UNDER WHICH PROPERTY IS NOMINATED

CRITERION (II)

Exhibit 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

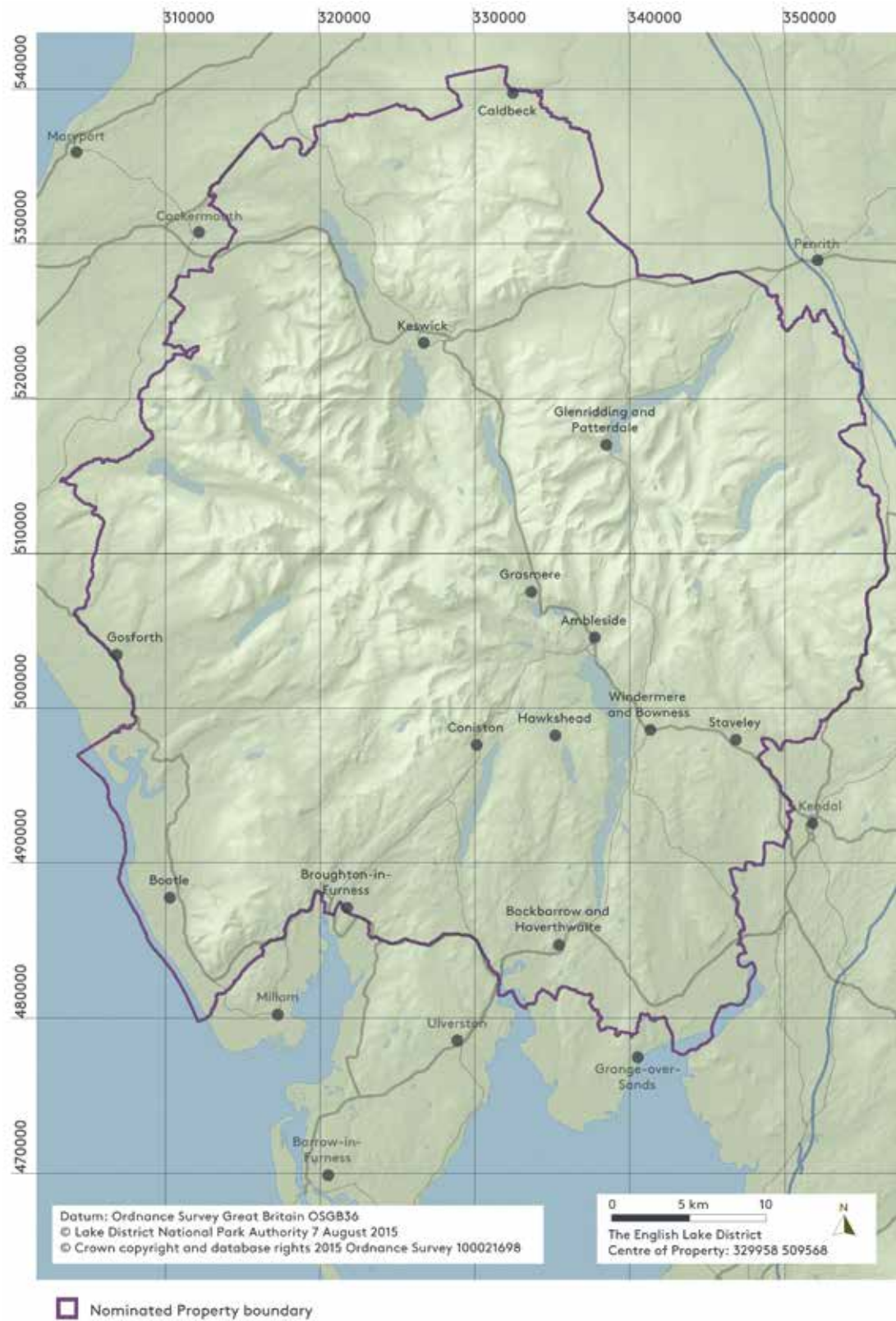
CRITERION (V)

Be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

CRITERION (VI)

Be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria)

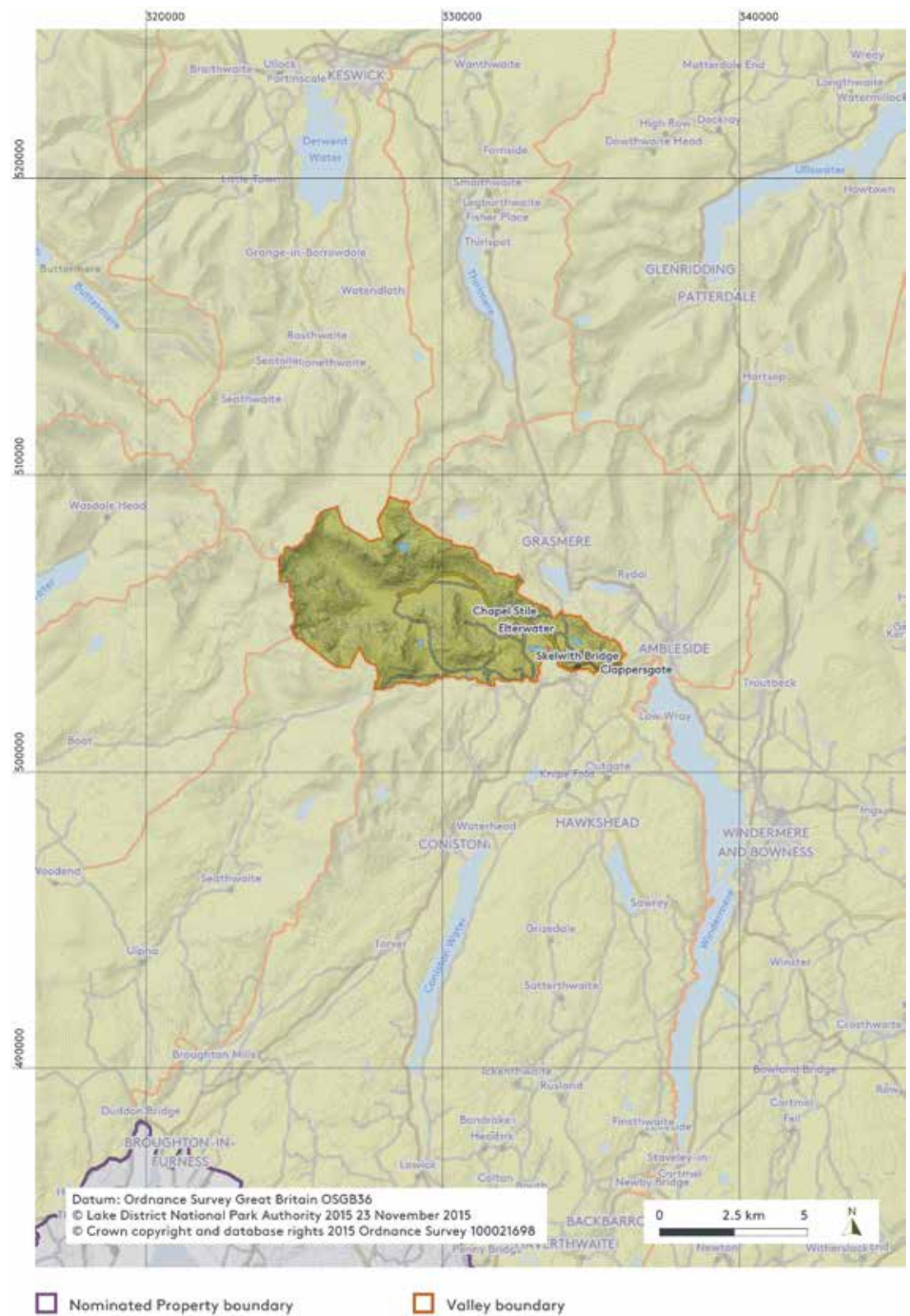
ES.1 The English Lake District, showing the whole nominated Property and the site boundary



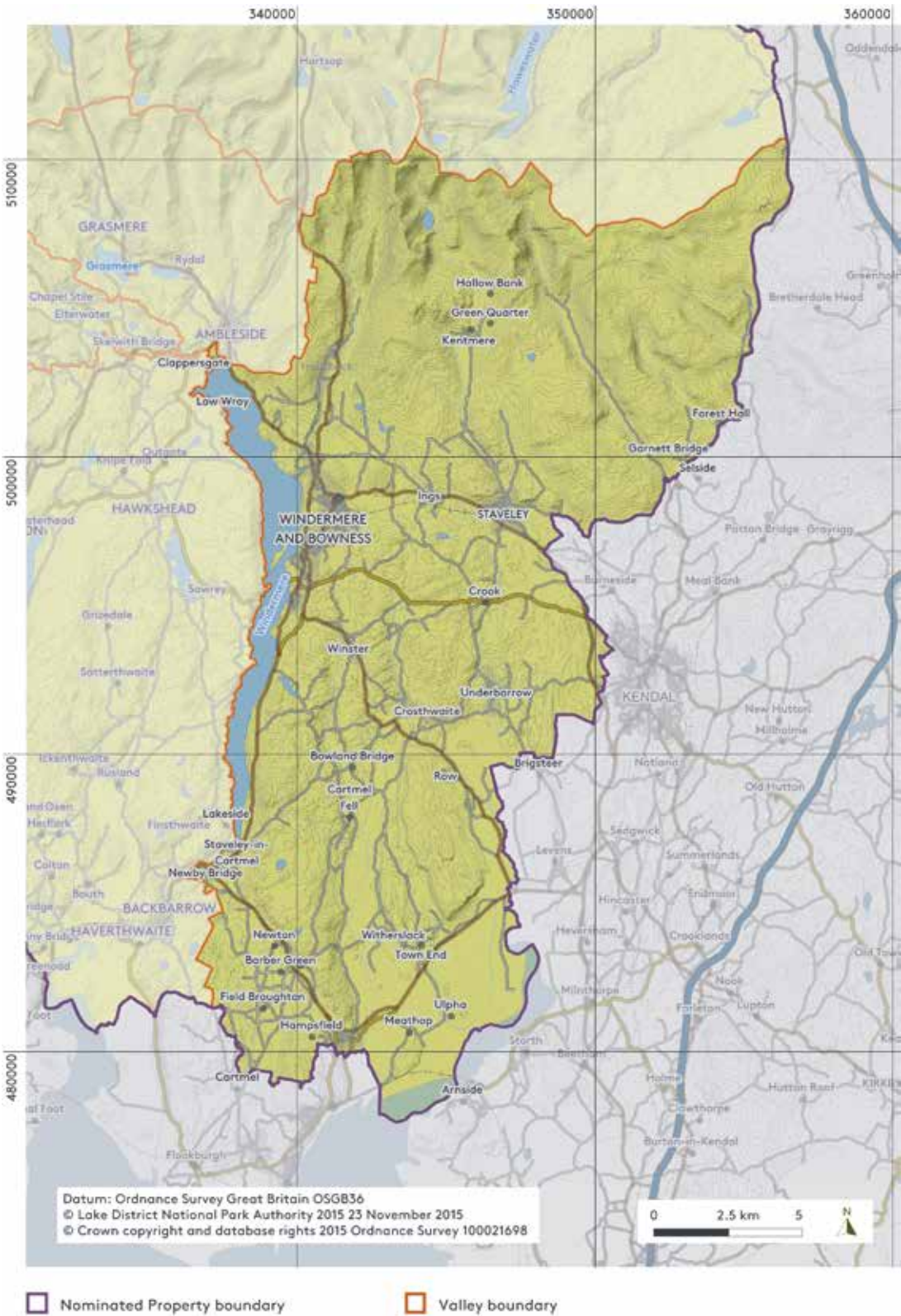
ES.2 The English Lake District as divided into 13 Valleys



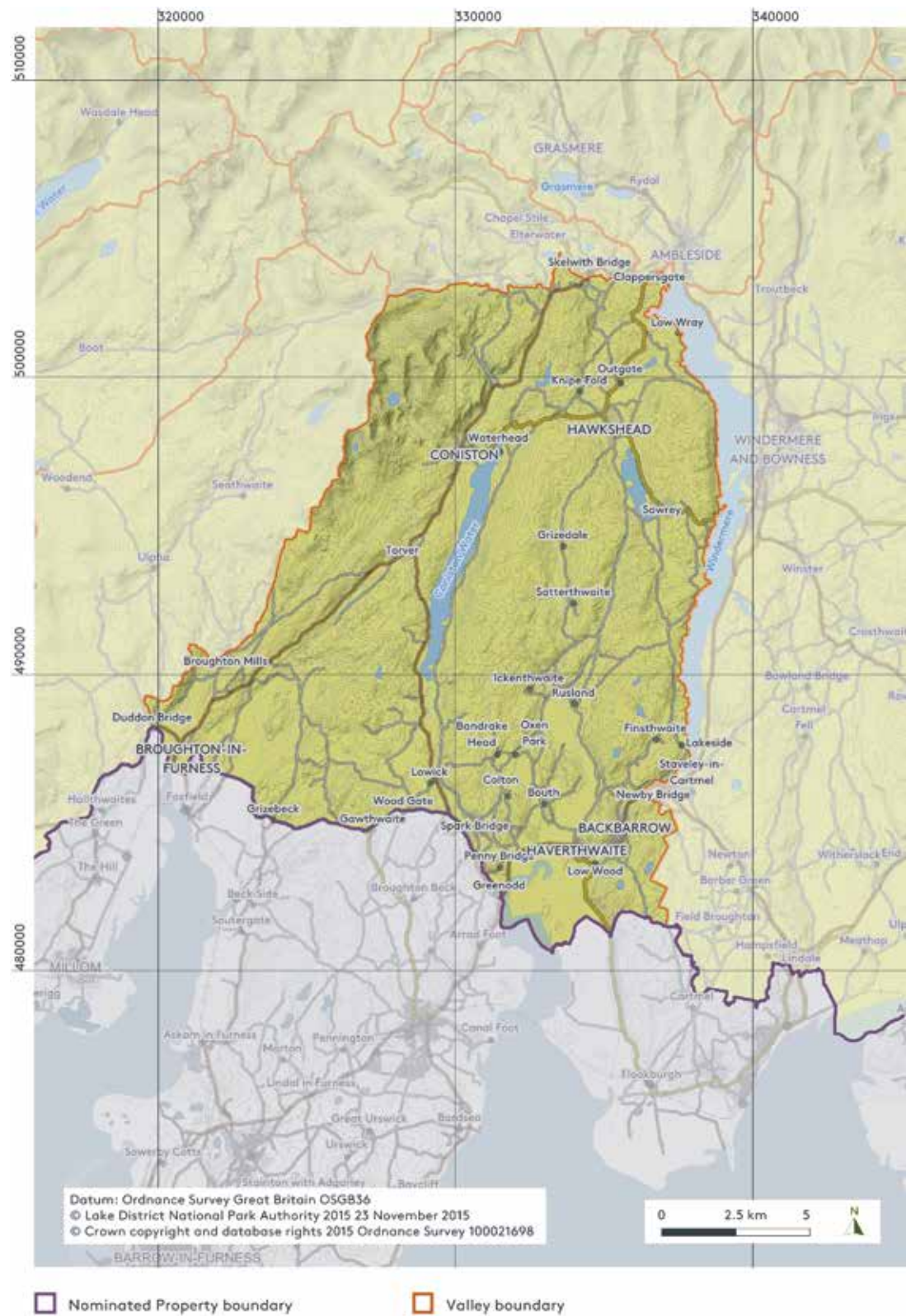
ES.3 The Langdale Valley



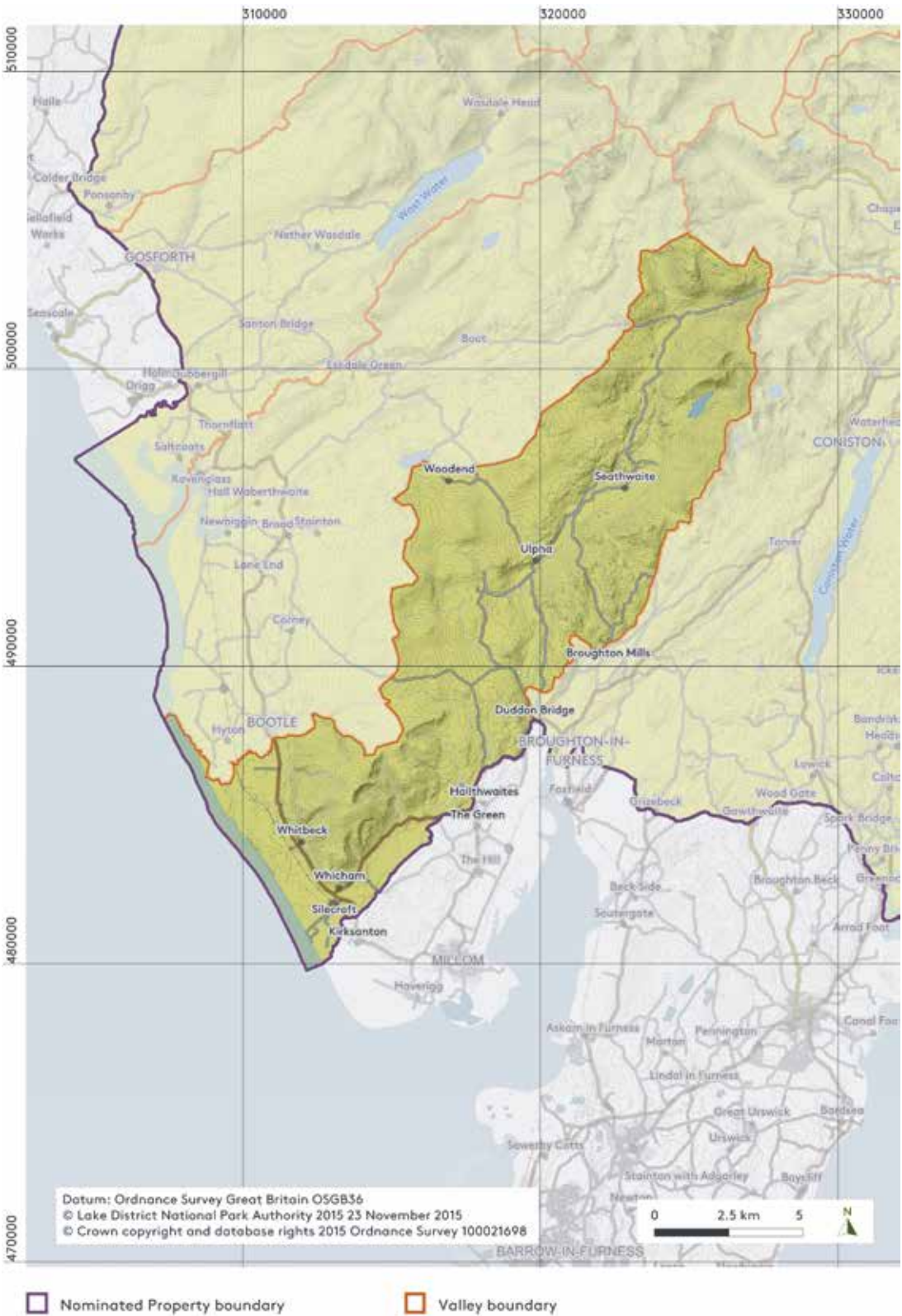
ES.4 The Windermere Valley



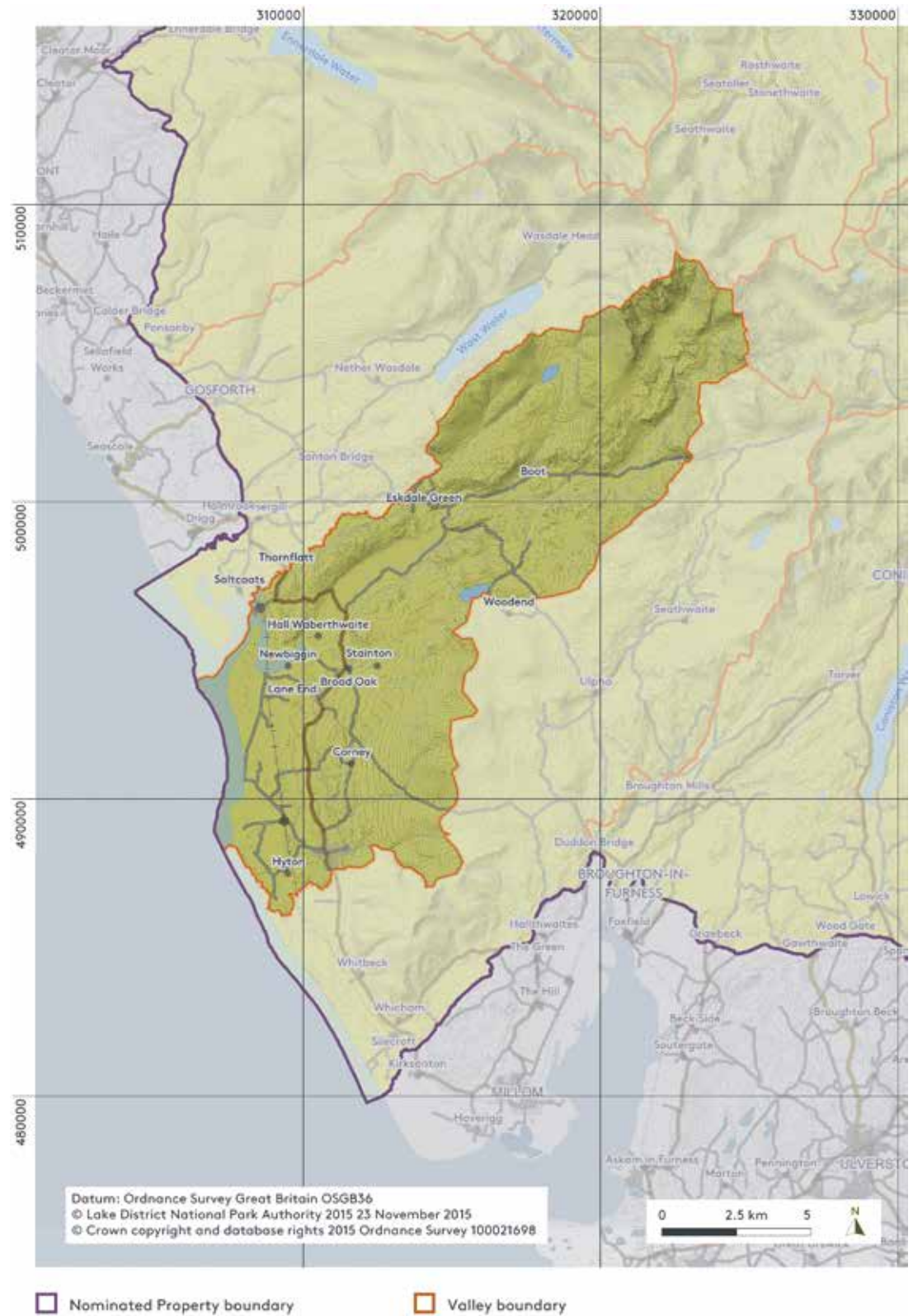
ES.5 The Coniston Valley



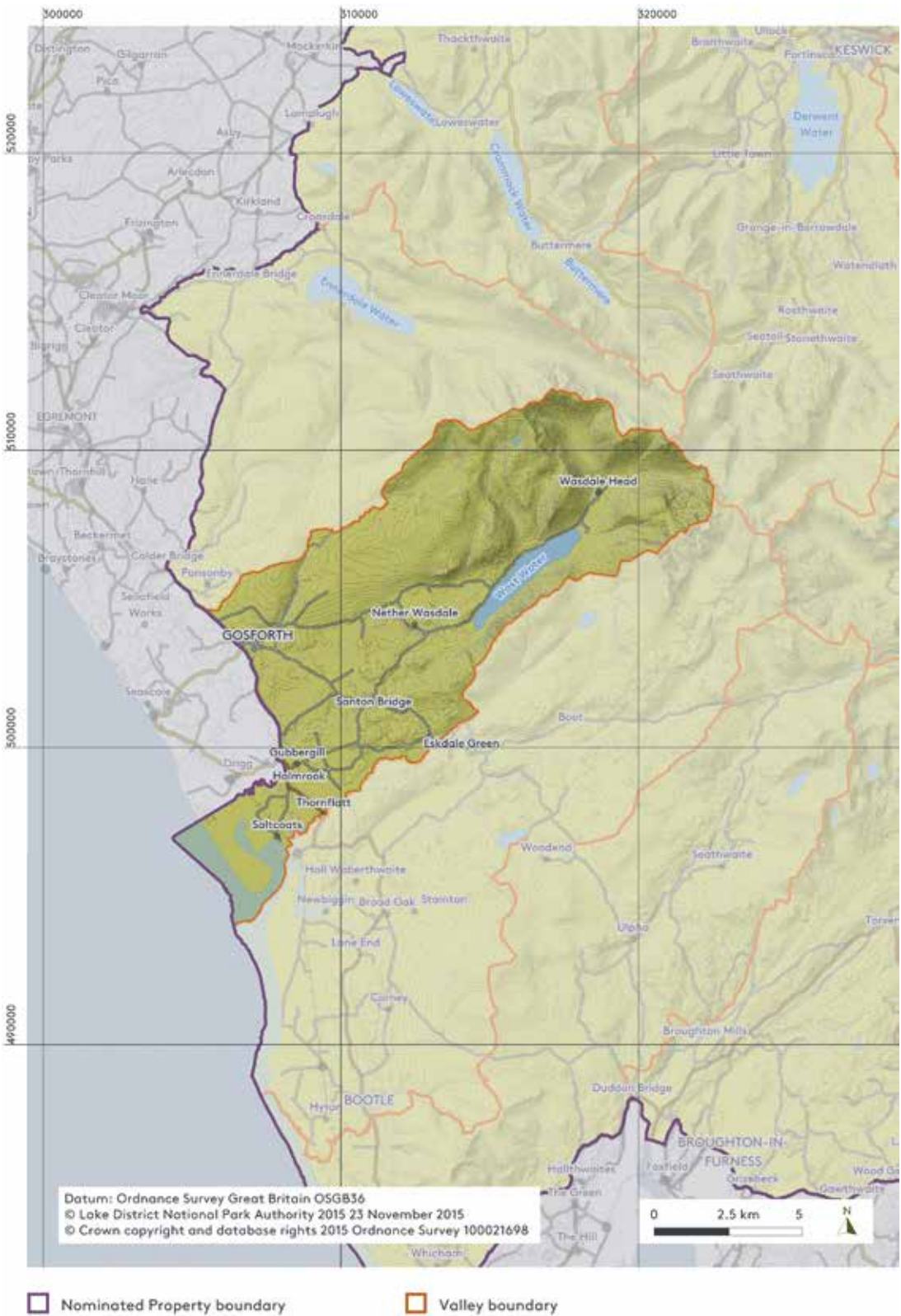
ES.6 The Duddon Valley



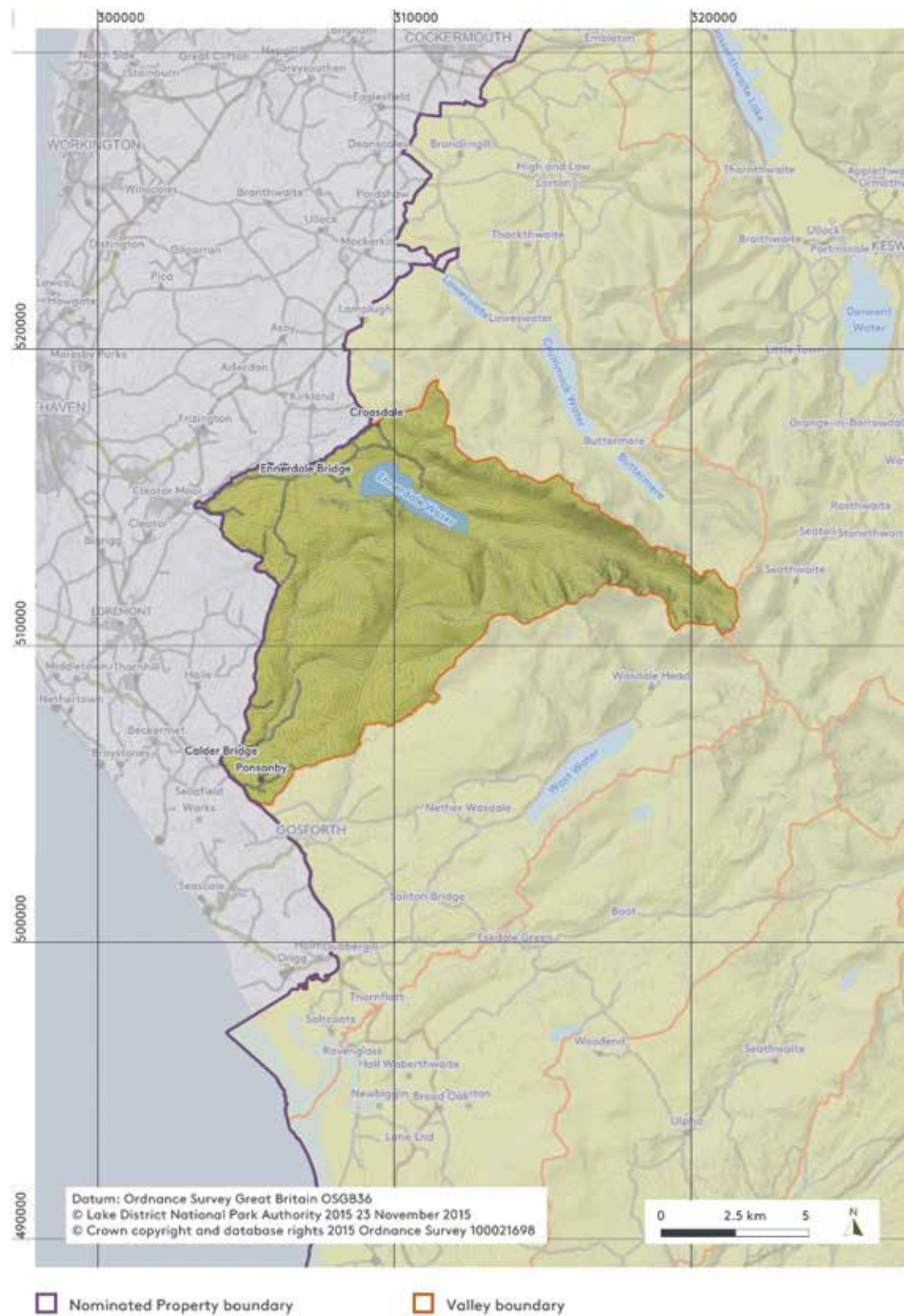
ES.7 The Eskdale Valley



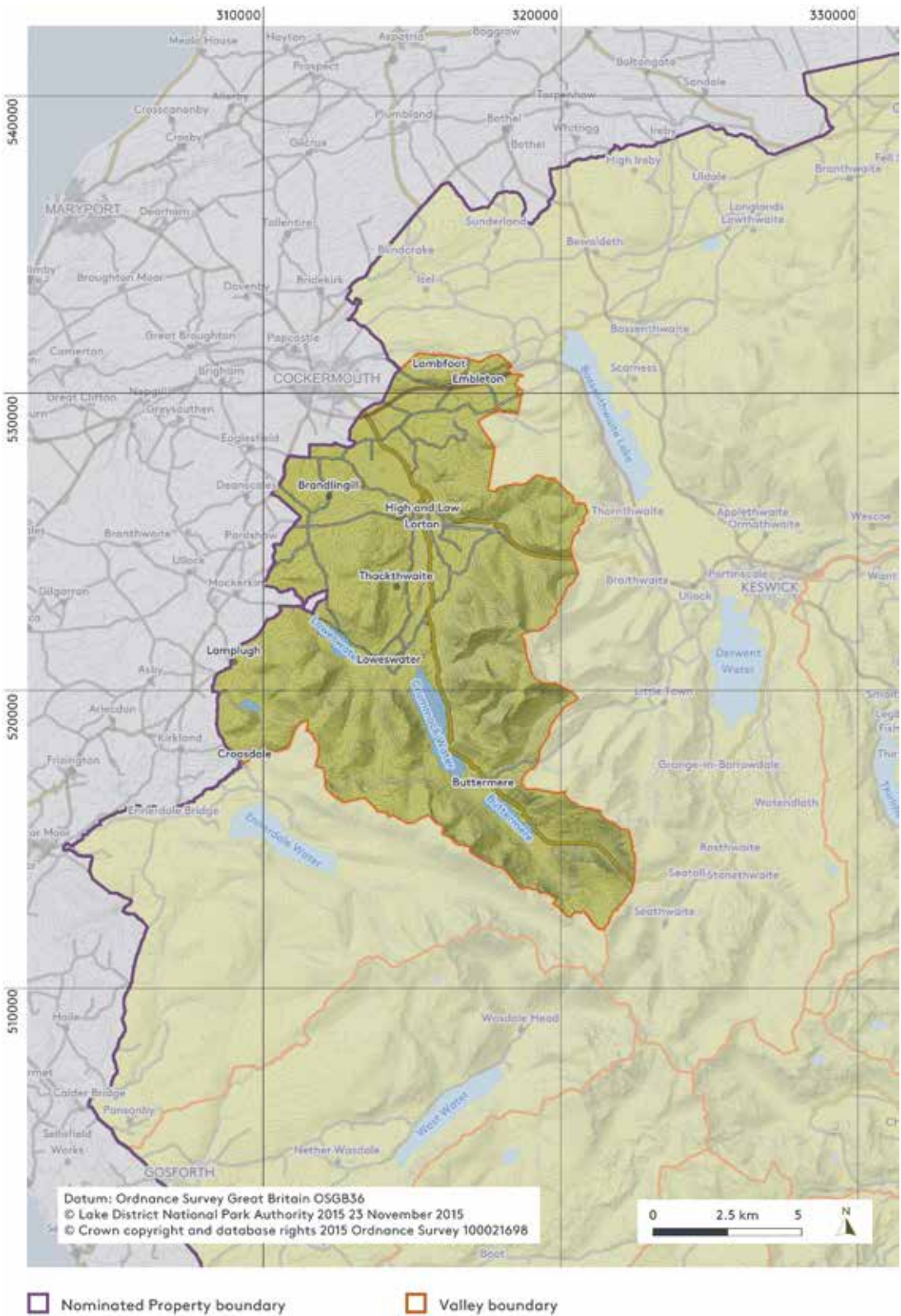
ES.8 The Wasdale Valley



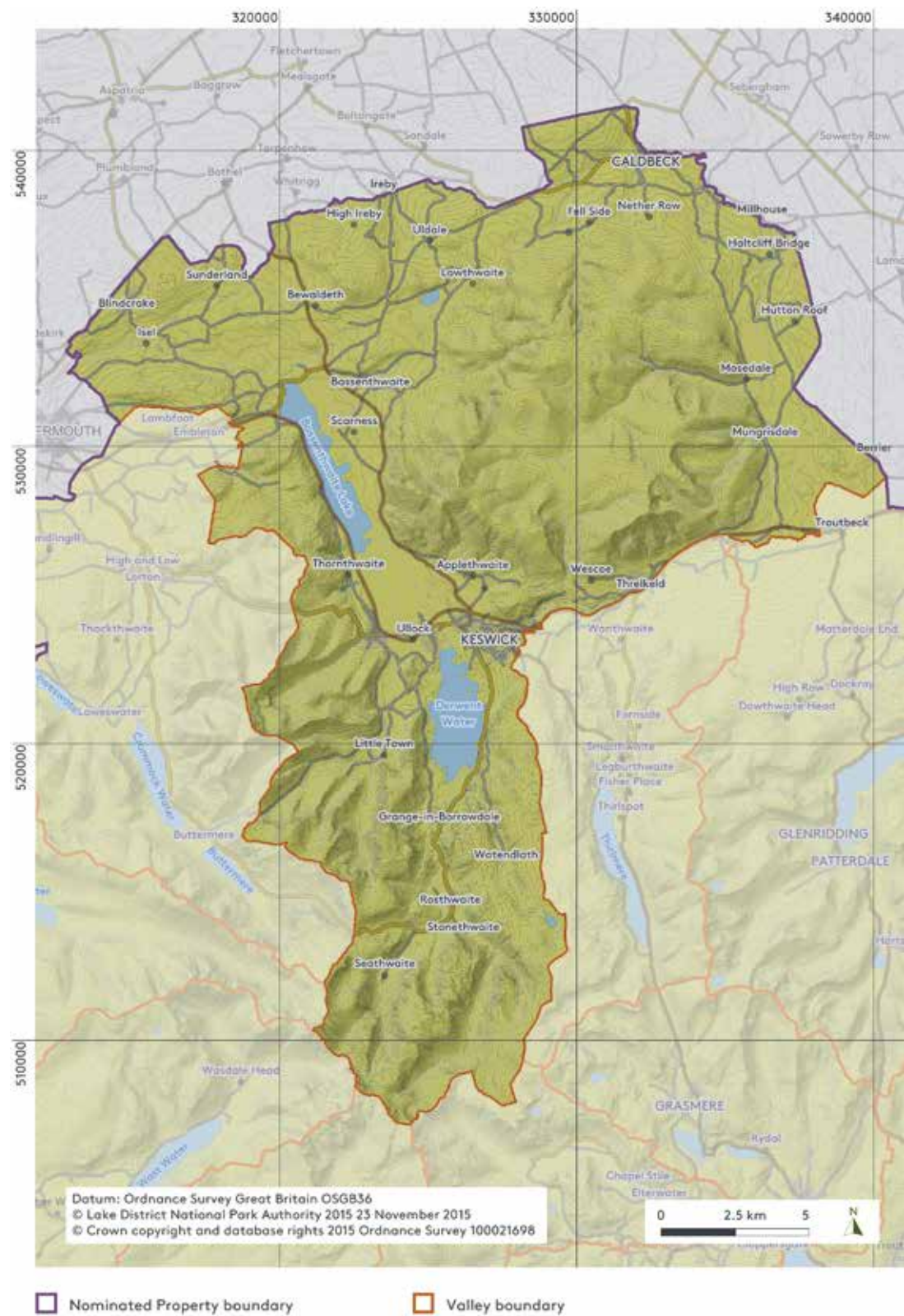
ES.9 The Ennerdale Valley



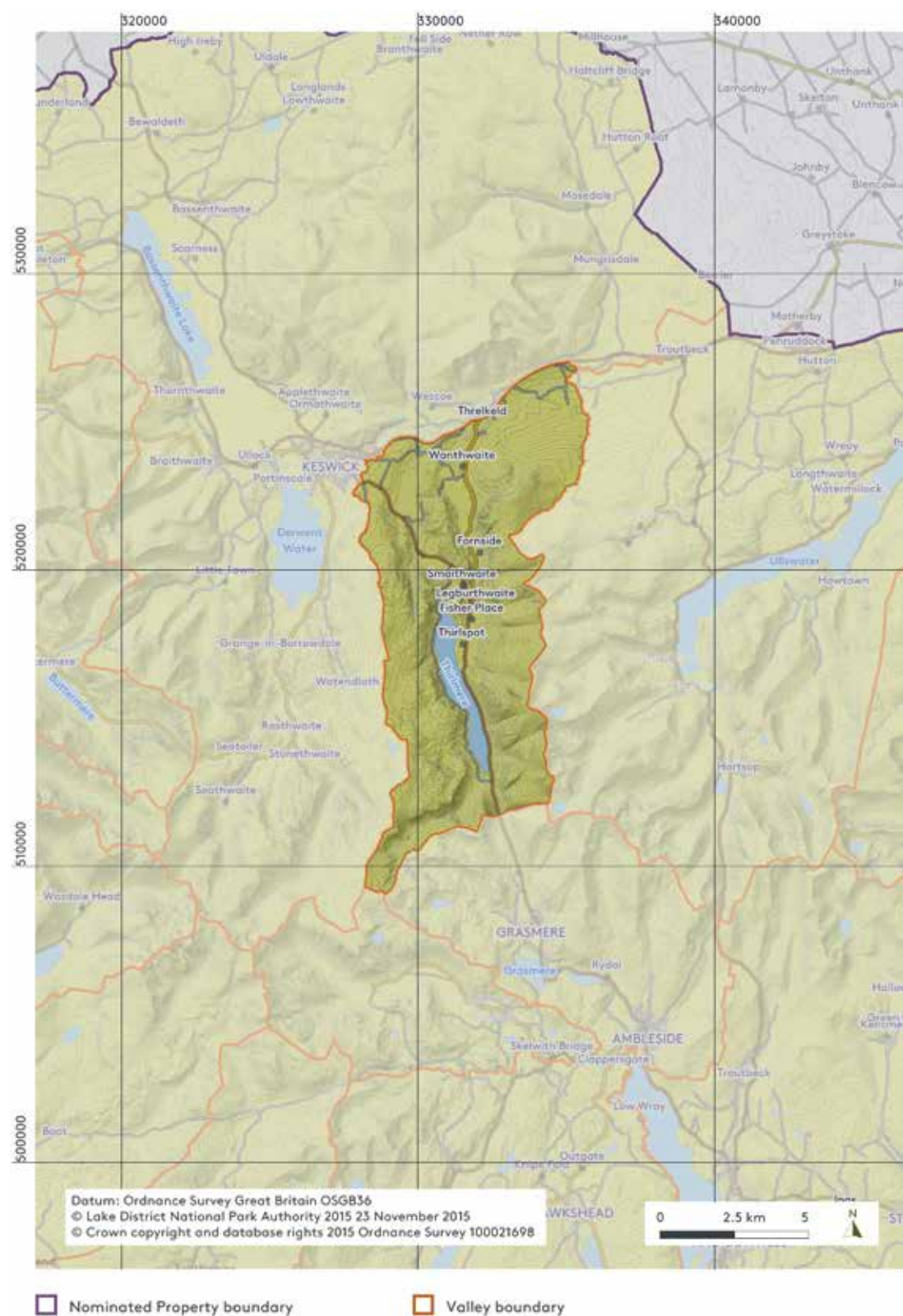
ES.10 The Buttermere Valley



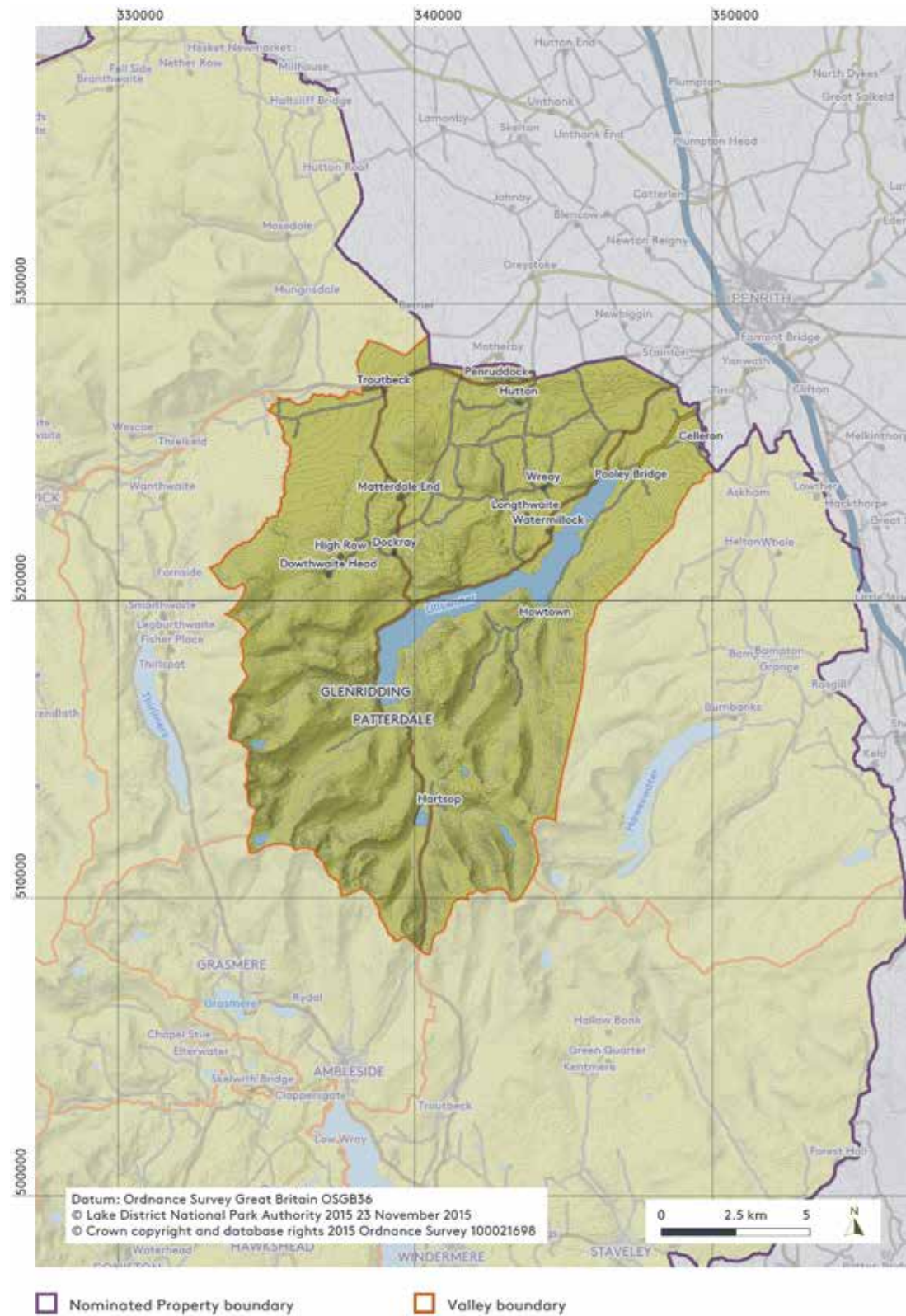
ES.11 The Borrowdale and Bassenthwaite Valley



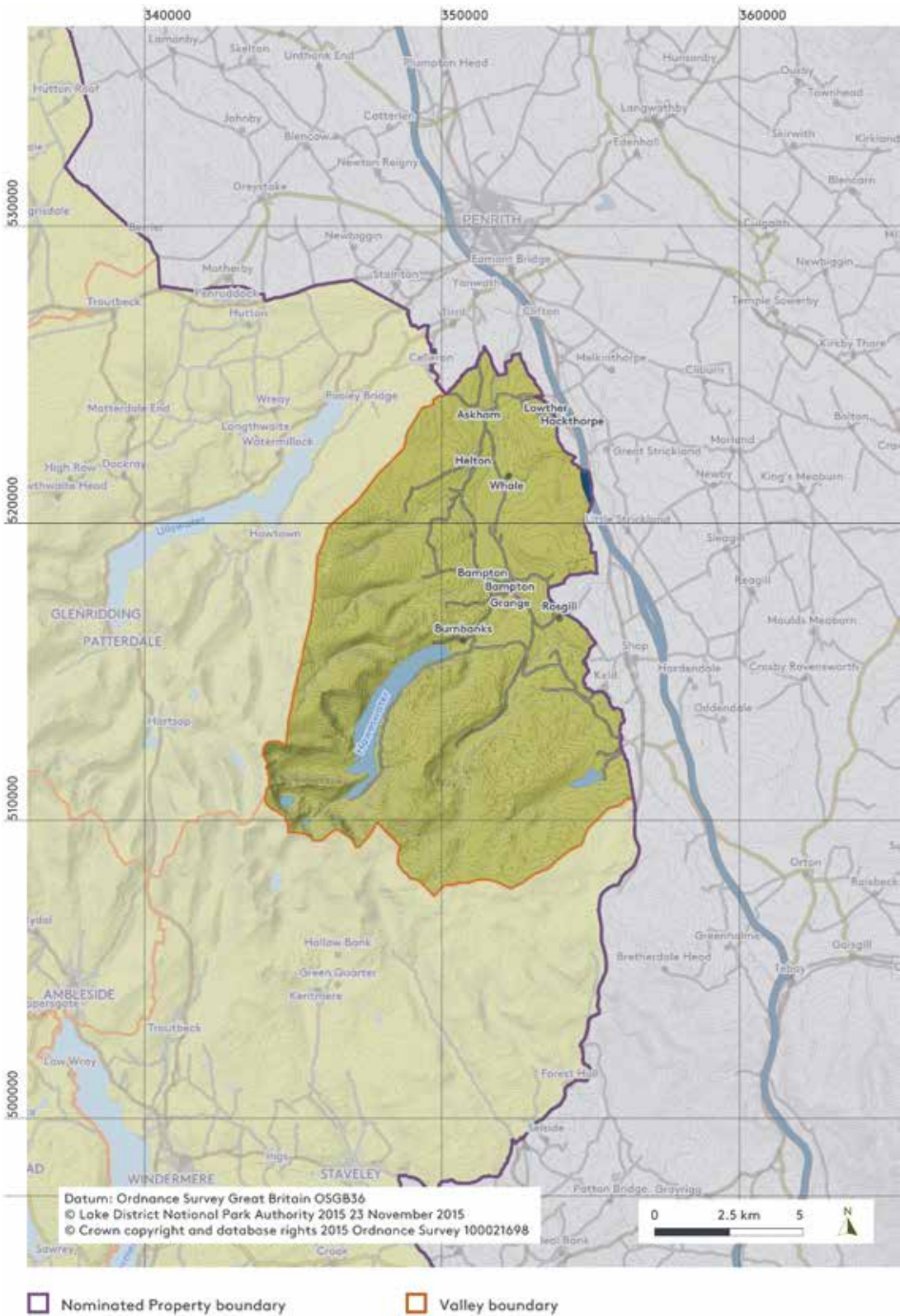
ES.12 The Thirlmere Valley



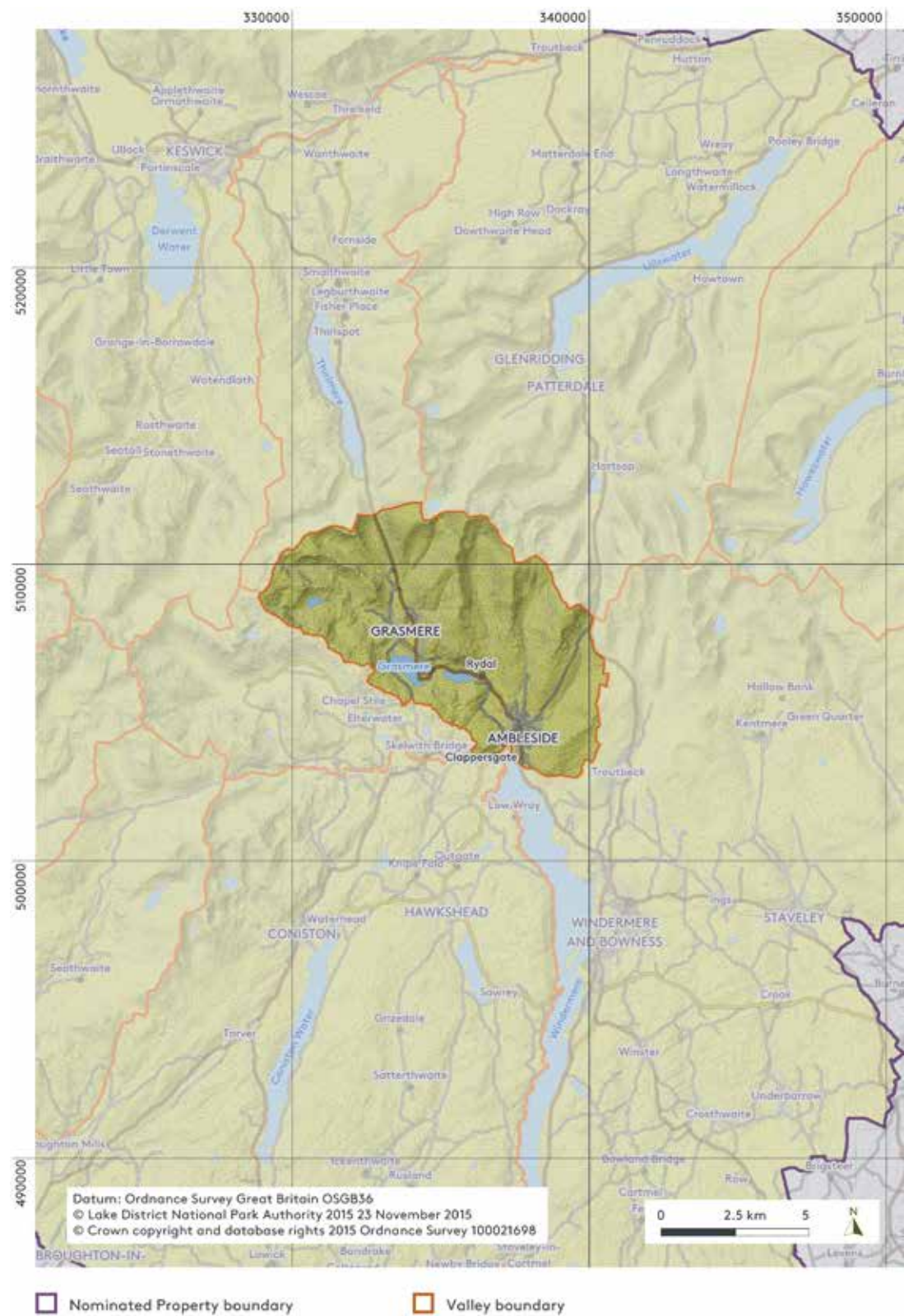
ES.13 The Ullswater Valley



ES.14 The Haweswater Valley



ES.15 The Grasmere, Rydal and Ambleside Valley



DRAFT STATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

A. BRIEF SYNTHESIS

The English Lake District is a self-contained mountainous area in North West England of some 2,292 square kilometres. Its narrow, glaciated valleys radiating from the central massif with their steep hillsides and slender lakes exhibit an extraordinary beauty and harmony. This is the result of the Lake District's continuing distinctive agro-pastoral traditions based on local breeds of sheep including the Herdwick, on common fell-grazing and relatively independent farmers. These traditions have evolved under the influence of the physical constraints of its mountain setting. The stone-walled fields and rugged farm buildings in their spectacular natural background, form a harmonious beauty that has attracted visitors from the 18th century onwards. Picturesque and Romantic interest stimulated globally-significant social and cultural forces to appreciate and protect scenic landscapes. Distinguished villas, gardens and formal landscapes were added to augment its picturesque beauty. The Romantic engagement with the English Lake District generated new ideas about the relationship between humanity and its environment, including the recognition of harmonious landscape beauty and the validity of emotional response by people to their landscapes. A third key development was the idea that landscape has a value, and that everyone has a right to appreciate and enjoy it. These ideas underpin the global movement of protected areas and the development of recreational experience within them.

The development in the English Lake District of the idea of the universal value of scenic landscape, both in itself and in its capacity to nurture and uplift imagination, creativity and spirit, along with threats to the area, led directly to the development of a conservation movement which has had global influence. This influence includes the establishment of the international National Trust movement, the origin of the concept of legally-protected landscapes and the creation of the World Heritage cultural landscape category.

B. JUSTIFICATION FOR CRITERIA

CRITERION (II)

The harmonious beauty of the English Lake District is rooted in the vital interaction between an agro-pastoral land use system and the spectacular natural landscape of mountains, valleys and lakes. In the 18th century the quality of the landscape was recognised and celebrated by the Picturesque Movement, based on ideas related to both Italian and Northern European styles of landscape painting. These ideas were applied to the English Lake District in the form of villas and designed features intended further to augment its beauty. The Picturesque values of landscape appreciation were subsequently transformed by Romantic engagement with the English Lake District into a deeper and more balanced appreciation of the significance of landscape, local society and place. This in turn inspired the development of a number of powerful ideas and values including a new relationship between humans and landscape based on emotional engagement, and the universal value of scenic and cultural landscape which transcends traditional property rights. In the English Lake District these values

led directly to practical conservation initiatives to protect its scenic and cultural qualities which continue today. These values and initiatives, including the concept of protected areas, have been widely adopted and have had global impact as an important stimulus for landscape conservation.

CRITERION (V)

Land use in the English Lake District derives from a long history of agro-pastoralism. The landscape which has developed is now also a focus for land management for conservation purposes. This landscape is an unrivalled example of a northern European upland agro-pastoral system based on the rearing of cattle and native breeds of sheep, shaped and adapted for over 1,000 years to its spectacular mountain environment. This land use continues today in the face of social, economic and environmental pressures. From the late 18th century a new land use developed in parts of the Lake District designed to augment its beauty through the addition of villas and designed landscapes.

Conservation land management in the Lake District developed directly from the early conservation initiatives of the 18th and 19th centuries. The primary aims in the Lake District have traditionally been, and continue to be, to maintain the scenic and harmonious beauty of the cultural landscape; to support and maintain traditional agro-pastoral farming; and to provide access and opportunities for people to enjoy the special qualities of the area and have developed in recent times to include enhancement and resilience of the natural environment.

Together these surviving attributes of land use form a distinctive cultural landscape which is outstanding in its harmonious beauty, quality, integrity and on-going utility and its demonstration of human interaction with the environment. The Lake District and its current land use and management exemplify the practical application of the powerful ideas about the value of landscape which originated here and which directly stimulated a landscape conservation movement of global importance.

CRITERION (VI)

A number of ideas of universal significance are directly and tangibly associated with the English Lake District. These are the recognition of harmonious landscape beauty through the Picturesque Movement; a new relationship between people and landscape built around an emotional response to it, derived initially from Romantic engagement; the idea that landscape has a value and that everyone has a right to appreciate and enjoy it; and the need to protect and manage landscape. Three conservation models of international significance for the establishment of the international conservation movement have developed in the Lake District: the origin of the National Trust movement; the origin of the concept of legally-protected cultural landscapes including national parks; and influence on the creation of the World Heritage cultural landscape category.

These interrelated ideas all emerged from a human response to the English Lake District landscape. Many have left their physical mark contributing to the harmonious beauty of a natural landscape modified by a persisting agro-pastoral system (and supported in many cases by conservation initiatives); villas and Picturesque and later landscape improvements; the extent of, and quality of land management within, the National

Trust property in the Lake District; the absence of railways and other modern industrial developments as a result of the success of the conservation movement. All these ideas that have derived from the interaction between people and landscape are manifest in the English Lake District today.

C. STATEMENT OF INTEGRITY

The English Lake District World Heritage property is a single, discrete, mountainous area. All the radiating valleys of the English Lake District are contained within it. The property is of sufficient size to contain all the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value needed to demonstrate the processes that make this a unique and globally-significant property. The boundary of the property is the English Lake District National Park boundary as designated in 1951 and is established on the basis of both topographic features and local government boundaries. The attributes of Outstanding Universal Value are in generally good condition.

Risks affecting the site include the impact of long-term climate change, economic pressures on the system of traditional agro-pastoral farming and development pressures from tourism. These risks are managed through established systems of land management overseen by members of the English Lake District National Park Partnership and through a comprehensive system of development management administered by the National Park Authority.

D. STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

As an evolving cultural landscape, the English Lake District conveys its Outstanding Universal Value not only through individual attributes but also in the pattern of their distribution amongst the 13 constituent valleys and their combination to produce an over-arching pattern and system of land use. The key attributes relate to a unique natural landscape which has been shaped by a distinctive and persistent system of agro-pastoral agriculture and local industry with the later overlay of distinguished villas, gardens and formal landscapes influenced by the Picturesque Movement; the resulting harmonious beauty of the landscape; the stimulus of the Lake District for artistic creativity and globally influential ideas about landscape; the early origins and ongoing influence of the tourist industry and outdoor movement; and the physical legacy of the conservation movement that developed to protect the Lake District.

E. REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

As a National Park, designated under the 'National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949' and subsequent legislation, the English Lake District has the highest level of landscape protection afforded under United Kingdom law. Over 20 per cent of the site is owned and managed by the National Trust which also has influence over a further two per cent of the site through legal covenants. The National Park Authority owns around four per cent of the site and other members of the English Lake District National Park Partnership, including the Forestry Commission and United Utilities Ltd, own a further 16 per cent. A substantial number of individual cultural and natural sites within the English Lake District are designated and have legal protection.

The English Lake District National Park Partnership has adopted the bid for World Heritage Inscription. This provides long-term assurance of management through a World Heritage Forum (formally a sub-group of the Partnership). The National Park Authority has created a post of World Heritage Coordinator and will manage and monitor implementation of the Management Plan on behalf of the Partnership. The Management Plan will be reviewed every five years. A communications plan has been developed in order to inform residents and visitors of the World Heritage bid and this will be developed and extended if the site is inscribed. The Management Plan seeks to address the long term challenges faced by the property including threats faced by climate change, development pressures, changing agricultural practices and diseases, and tourism.

NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF OFFICIAL LOCAL INSTITUTION/AGENCY

The English Lake District National Park Partnership is the locally responsible organisation for the management of the property.

Address:

c/o John Hodgson

Lead Strategy Adviser Historic Environment and World Heritage Site Coordinator

English Lake District National Park Authority,

Murley Moss,

Oxenholme Road,

Kendal,

Cumbria,

United Kingdom LA9 7RL

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Crummock Water at dawn



SECTION 1

—

Identification of the Property

SECTION 1 IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY

1.a Country

United Kingdom

1.b State, Province or Region

North West England

1.c Name of Property

The English Lake District

1.d Geographical Coordinates

54° 28' 35.8" N; 03° 04' 56.7" W

1.e Maps and Plans showing the boundaries of the nominated Property

The nominated Property comprises the area of the Lake District National Park (see Figures 1.1-1.4) which was established in 1951 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949).

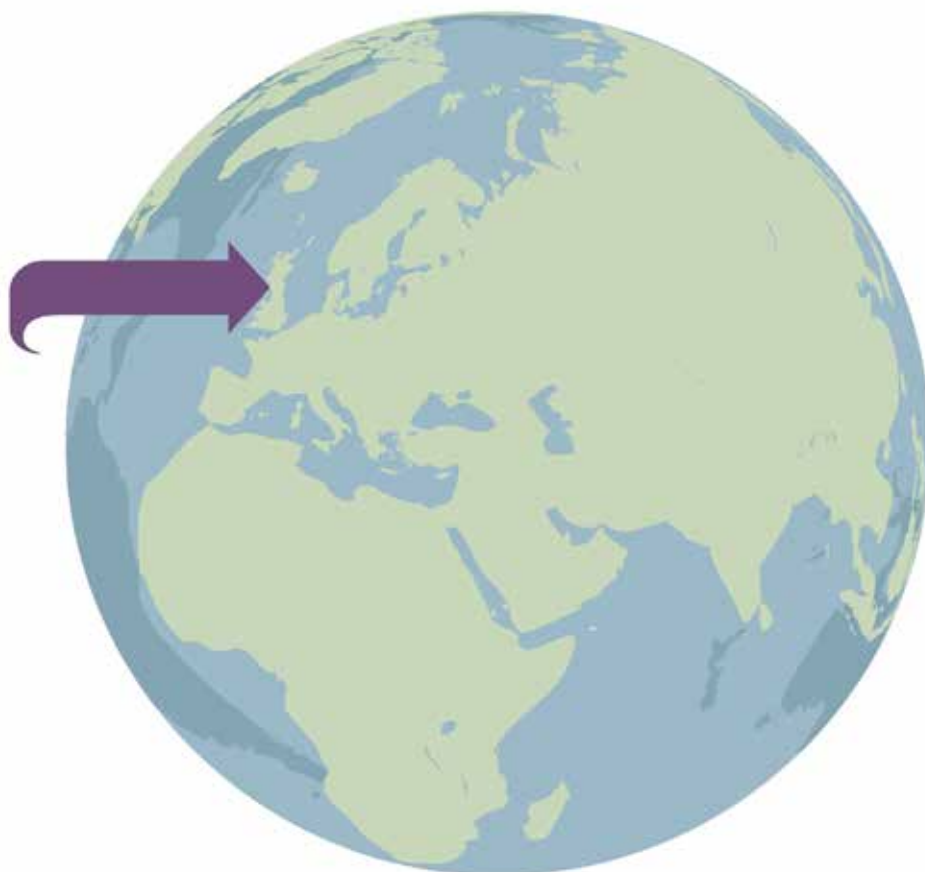


FIGURE 1.1 The location of the English Lake District within the State Party and its global position

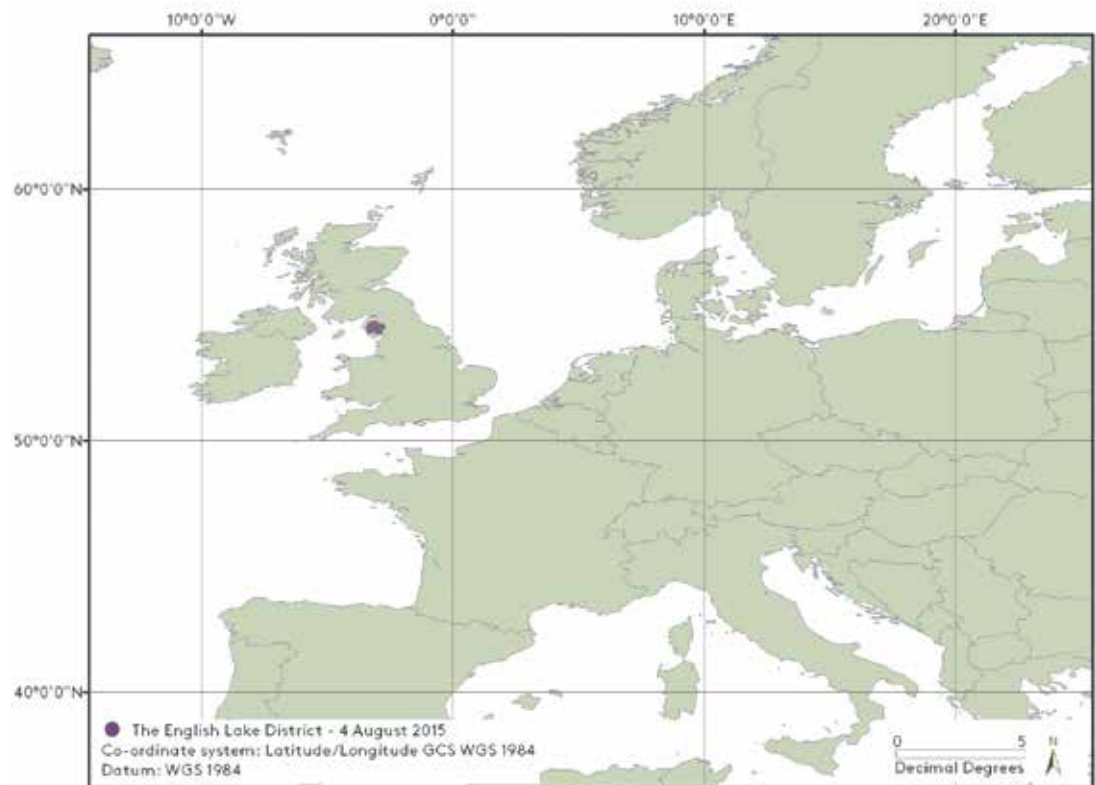


FIGURE 1.2 The English Lake District, showing the whole nominated Property and the site boundary

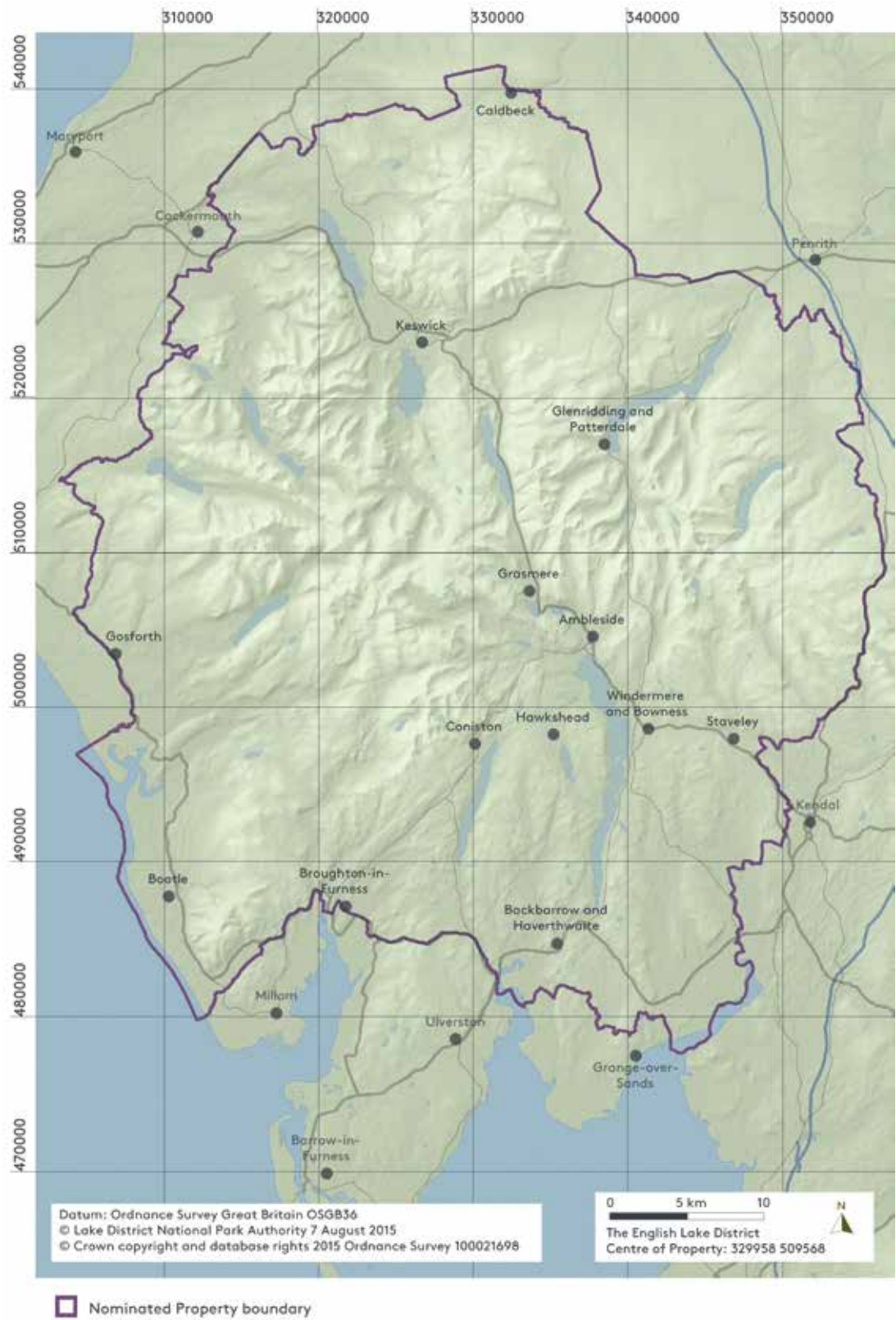


Figure 1.3 The English Lake District – North Sheet
Definitive topographic map showing the property boundary (reduced version of A0 1:50,000 map)

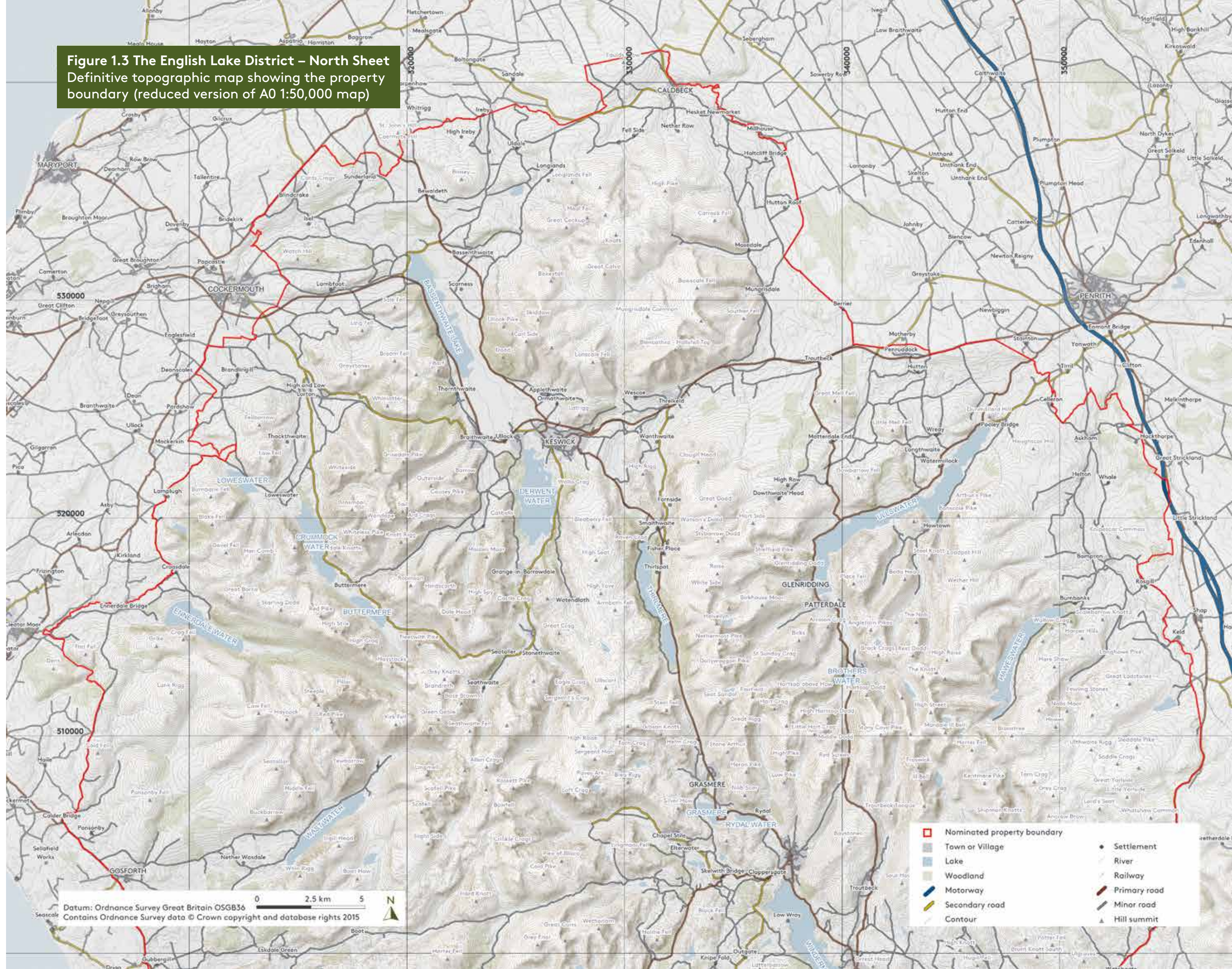
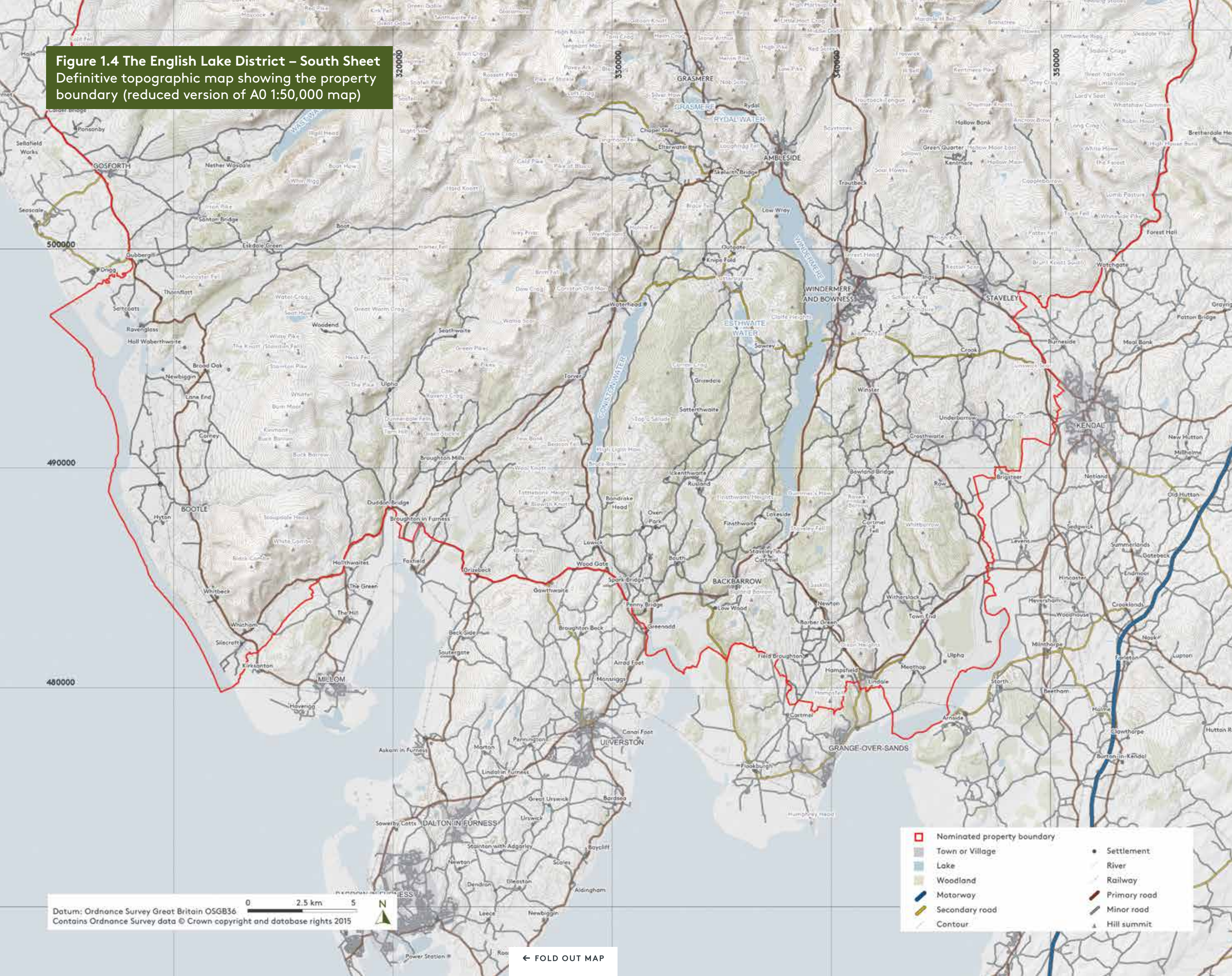


Figure 1.4 The English Lake District – South Sheet
Definitive topographic map showing the property boundary (reduced version of A0 1:50,000 map)



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1.f Area of nominated Property

Area of nominated Property: 229,205.19 hectares

Buffer zone: 0 hectares

Total: 229,205.19 hectares

Buffer Zone – The Operational Guidelines (paras 103 – 106) say that wherever necessary for the proper protection of the property, an adequate buffer zone should be provided. It should contribute to the protection, management, integrity, authenticity and sustainability of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

It is not proposed to create a buffer zone around the nominated Property for two main reasons.

First, like many other IUCN Category V Protected Areas, the nominated Property is in itself of sufficient size to act as its own buffer. Because the nominated Property follows the boundaries of the National Park, it will itself be big enough to prevent development that will have an adverse impact on the attributes of its proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

Second, National Parks are the highest level of landscape protection within the UK planning system and this is recognised in national spatial planning policy (see section

5.c). Legislation (the 1995 Environment Act) requires all relevant authorities (including adjoining local planning authorities) to have regard to the purposes of National Park designation when exercising or performing and functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in the National Park.

This means that the neighbouring planning authorities must take into account, inter alia, of the need to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park when considering development proposals outside the Park boundaries. If such proposals are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park (together encompassing the attributes of proposed Outstanding Universal Value) then they should be refused. In the six decades since the creation of the Lake District National Park, these arrangements have worked effectively to protect it, and there is no need to change them by introducing a buffer zone as well.

In addition, all the neighbouring planning authorities are members of the Lake District National Park Partnership and are collectively committed to the project for inscription and appropriate management of the proposed English Lake District World Heritage Site.



FIGURE 1.5 View of Borrowdale and the village of Rosthwaite in Autumn



Hartsop village in the Ullswater Valley, with Brothers Water and Dovedale beyond