

LAND AT WATERFALLS FARM, BIRTLEY, NORTHUMBERLAND



DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

CP. No: 974/09

14/09/2010

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

In July 2009, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Mr. Sherod Walker of Waterfalls Estate, to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Waterfalls Farm, Birtley, Northumberland (NGR NY 9126 8128). This work will be used in support of a planning application for alterations to the farmhouse at Waterfalls Farm as well as the conversion of outbuildings and the development of ancillary tourism facilities.

The site is located within a wider archaeological landscape that contains a number of archaeological sites that date to the prehistoric and later periods. Waterfalls Farm is also located directly off of the present day A68, the former Dere Street Roman Road. Therefore, there is the possibility that comparable, previously unidentified archaeological remains could survive on the site.

As a result of this, and in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning), Northumberland Conservation advised GWK Architects and the Waterfalls Estate that a programme of archaeological work, a desk-based assessment, was required in order to ascertain the potential for archaeological deposits on site and assess the impact on those deposits by construction work associated with the proposed development.

The study involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the Northumberland Museum and Archives at Woodhorn and as well as the consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) of Northumberland, held at County Hall, Morpeth. The HER includes the locations and settings of, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and other, non-designated archaeological remains. In addition, an on-line search was undertaken of records held by the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), managed by York University. A number of published sources and several relevant web sites were also consulted to provide background information.

The desk-based assessment has shown that the site boundary lies within a prehistoric landscape that contains Neolithic henges, Bronze Age cairns and tumuli, and Iron Age hillforts. The site boundary is also located immediately off of the A68, the former Dere Street Roman Road. Slightly north of the site boundary is a Roman Milestone that at one time marked the 12th Roman mile from Corbridge. Waterfalls Farm was recorded within the documentary record in 1715 when the Earl of Derwentwater met Jacobite troops on the hill above the farm. The farmhouse has been in existence since at least the First Edition Ordnance Survey map and has retained its present day shape since the 1920s.

It is therefore recommended that, at a minimum, an archaeological watching brief be undertaken prior to the construction of the new development. A definitive decision on

the level and extent of archaeological mitigation will be decided by Northumberland County Council.

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North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to offer thanks to Mr. Sherod Walker of Waterfalls Estate and GWK Chartered Architects for all assistance throughout the work.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Liz Williams, Northumberland Historic Records Officer, and staff at Northumberland Museum and Archives at Woodhorn as well as the staff at Hexham and Morpeth Local Libraries for their help during this project.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Jocelyn Strickland. The report was written, and the drawings were produced, by Jocelyn Strickland. The project was managed by Frank Giecco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd, who also edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd (NPA) in response to an outline specification provided by the Northumberland County Council Assistant County Archaeologist (Derham 2009). It is proposed that land at Waterfalls Farm, Birtley, Northumberland will be developed upon to include the conversion of outbuildings and the development of ancillary tourism facilities.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised two distinct phases of investigation: a search of both published and unpublished records and a site visit. A search was made of records held at Northumberland Museum and Archives at Woodhorn and local libraries in the vicinity, holding local historical information, as well as a search of the archives and library held by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd. The aims of the site visit were to identify any previously unrecorded surface archaeological features and to make an assessment of the condition of individual historic features. For the purpose of this assessment, a study area of a three kilometre radius around the site boundary has been defined to allow for the study of the wider area and to set the site into context. This radius is distinct from the site boundary, which only refers to the area of the proposed development.
- 1.1.3 The principal objective of this assessment was to undertake sufficient work in order to identify and characterise the archaeological constraints associated with the development area. This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake a desk-based assessment of land at Waterfalls Farm, Birtley, Northumberland (NGR NY 9126 8128). All work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists, as set out in Standards and Guidance For Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments (IfA 2008) and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted, in accordance with accepted best practice and local council requirements. The study area consisted of a broad overall history of this area of Birtley, with an additional detailed three kilometre radius, centred on the proposed development area, which was studied in more depth. This was done in order to help assess the possible impact of the proposed development on archaeologically sensitive areas. The principal sources of information were the Historic Environment Record (HER), historical maps and secondary sources.

2.2.2 *Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)*: the HER housed at County Hall, Morpeth, a database of archaeological sites within the county, was accessed. This was in order to obtain information on the location of all designated sites and areas of historic interest and any other, non-designated sites within the study area, which included monuments, findspots, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. A brief record including grid reference and description was obtained for the various sites within the study area, and was examined in depth. The HER also contained details of previous archaeological work undertaken in the area. Aerial photographs of the area were studied in order to identify the presence or absence of any archaeological remains in the vicinity of the study area.

2.2.3 *Northumberland Museum and Archives at Woodhorn*: the archives at Woodhorn were searched for information on the study area. In particular, the First, Second, Third and Fourth Editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping were checked, and a search was made of the local history books and pamphlets held within their collections.

2.2.4 *Hexham and Morpeth Local History Reference Library*: the collection of historical engravings, plans, local history books, pamphlets, and

photographs held within the local studies at Hexham and Morpeth Libraries were consulted for any relevant information regarding the area.

2.3 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 A final bound copy and one digital PDF copy of the report will be deposited with the Northumberland HER, where viewing will be available on request.
- 2.3.2 North Pennines Archaeology and Northumberland County Council support the **Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological fieldwork. As a result, details of the results of this study will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project. This project has the unique identifier of **northpen3-61818**.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 Birtley lies within the moorland communities and plantations of coniferous woodland of the Northumberland Sandstone Hills, 15 miles north of Hexham. The Northumberland Sandstone Hills extends from the border moors and forests to run in a wide arc of high ground across the centre of the county separating to the vales of the Cheviot Fringe and the Northumberland Coastal Plain (Countryside Commission 1998). The site lies at a height of approximately 290 AOD and lies to the east of the A68. The area of the site boundary measures a total of 6.697 hectares (ha). The area is shown in Figures 1 and 2.
- 3.1.2 The Northumberland Sandstone Hills is formed of the Carboniferous Fell Sandstone. The geology of the Fell Sandstone is a sequence of sandstones that were deposited during the Carboniferous times. The sandstones contain evidence of their deposition in the inclined bedding planes (*ibid*).

3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 *Introduction:* this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments around the study area. The location of known sites within the three kilometre study area is depicted in Figure 3 and summarised in Appendix 2.
- 3.2.2 *Prehistoric (up to 43AD):* two not easily forded rivers, the Rede and the Tyne, environmentally circumscribed the area in and around Birtley. This, combined with the pastoral occupation of many of the people living in the area, has preserved many archaeological remains (Hall 1876).
- 3.2.3 The parish of Birtley with the adjacent district between the North Tyne and Watling Street has a number of existing prehistoric sites most of which were identified in antiquity. Hall (1880s) identified a number of hillforts, terraces and cairns (Hall 1886).
- 3.2.4 A Neolithic Henge (Figure 3: Site 9) was found 550 metres southwest of Tone Hall. This henge consisted of a central platform surrounded by a ditch, berm, and weak external bank.
- 3.2.5 A Bronze Age barrow at Low Shields Green Crag (Site 1) was a raised mound on the brow of a line of freestone crags. This was circular in shape and measured 18 metres aligned east/west and 16 metres aligned

north/south. An excavated trench revealed several large flatstones set up on edge towards the centre. A worked flint scraper, dated to the Bronze Age, was found on the surface of these flatstones. Under one of the flatstones was a cinerary urn, another of which was found in a trench towards the west. An inner circle of stones that measured 3x3 metres was also found (*ibid*). Another Bronze Age barrow (Site 3) was found to the northeast of Lowshield Green. This cairn was located in an area that was heavily occupied during the medieval period. The agricultural and settlement remains in the area are thought to be contemporary with the medieval period and not the cairn.

- 3.2.6 To the northeast of Lowshield Green, near Four Laws Inn on Watling Street, a cairn similar in style revealed a necklace of gold beads (*ibid*).
- 3.2.7 At Pitland Hills, to the west of the site boundary, were areas that were worked during the prehistoric to medieval periods for ore. The surrounding land was covered in ridge and furrow. Groups of stone were on this ridge and furrow that on closer inspection was identified as being a barrow, the largest of which measured 14x10 metres with an undisturbed height of 12-15 centimetres. A trench on the south side of the barrow revealed two sandstone slabs with cup and ring markings as well as a quern. In total 17 cup and ring marked stones were found in this barrow mound. A second trench was made at a right angle to the first that revealed a cinerary urn, a food vessel, and an inhumation. Another trench revealed a cist thought to be that of a child. The stone of this cist also had cup and ring markings. A second barrow to the south of the first contained sherds of pottery and a cinerary urn. A third barrow contained an inhumation of an adult male (*ibid*).
- 3.2.8 Prehistoric remains within Thockrington Parish include the rim of a Bronze Age cinerary urn (Site 21) as well as an iron spearhead to the south of an unburnt cist burial were found at Sweethope. At Cocklaw Walls (1841) a small urn containing bones as well as two inhumations were found. Quarry House, at Sweethope was also the site of hut circles or stock enclosures (Dodds 1940).
- 3.2.9 To the northeast of the site boundary is the univalliate hillfort on Great Wanney Crag (Site 19). This Iron Age hillfort was semi-circular in shape and was defended on three sides by a rampart.
- 3.2.10 **Romano-British (43 AD- 410 AD):** during the Roman period the first settlements were established in Birtley. There may have been twelve farmsteads dating to this period found mainly within the river valley and along its tributaries. A Romano-British settlement was located at Whitfield (Site 8). To the south of this was a Romano-British farmstead near High

- Cowden Cottage (Site 10). This farmstead survives as a rectangular-shaped earthwork with traces of a counterscarp bank outside of the ditch.
- 3.2.11 Ironstone workings (Site 5) in the area of Birtley are thought to date to the Roman period. Military workshops in Corbridge during the 3rd and 4th centuries were using iron ore that was brought in as smelting from local hearths. The source of this material was from the Redesdale deposits south of *Habitancum* (Richmond 1955).
- 3.2.12 The Roman army was responsible for the first roads in England and constructed more than 6000 miles of roads in Britain. Roman roads would have been a direct route between two points, as the native land was considered; natural obstacles were avoided (Rowland 1974).
- 3.2.13 Dere Street runs from York to the Firth of Forth and the Antonine Wall (*ibid*). Dere Street is an old name for Watling Road between Corbridge and Melrose. It appears in the Black Book of Hexham (1479) as a land boundary to the north of Corbridge and was mentioned as the western limit of the territory between the Wear and the Tyne given to St. Cuthbert (Codrington 1928).
- 3.2.14 An uninscribed Roman milestone (Site 14) is located to the north of the site boundary. The milestone was found when the modern road, superimposed on Dere Street, was being lowered. This milestone marks the 12th Roman mile from Corbridge and is where the road changes direction. This milestone has been re-erected and is thought not to be in its original location (Sedgley 1975).
- 3.2.15 Near Furlaws, to the north of the site boundary, was a Roman temporary camp (Site 18) located on top of a hill known locally as Swine Hill. This fort was 82 metres west of Dere Street. This camp was the smallest of its group in the vicinity of Dere Street, measuring 165 metres north/south by 160 metres east/west.
- 3.2.16 Also on Dere Street, near Four Laws farm, north of the site boundary, were seven circular stances that measured three metres in diameter thought to have been used as Roman signaling stations (Site 17); however, excavations showed that these were erected after this part of Dere Street went out of use and are most probably cornstack platforms (Rowland 1974).
- 3.2.17 **Early Medieval (410 AD-1066 AD):** not much is known regarding this part of Northumberland during the early medieval period. There is evidence that Anglo-Saxon settlements were present. The church at Birtley has an 8th century grave marker built into the walls. Thockrington Church also dates back to Norman times (File of historical notes published as *Discovering Northumberland* 1970).

- 3.2.18 **Medieval (1066-1485):** Birtley was first mentioned within the documentary record when the Lord Bishop of Durham, Ranulph Flambard, gave the manor of Birtley to his nephew in 1099. Birtley was next mentioned in the Boldon Book (1188) in which it was recorded '*Birtley and Tribley pay 20 shillings and attend the Great Chase with two Greyhounds.*' Again, Birtley was recorded in Bishop Hatfield's Survey (between 1318-1334) that stated, '*Lord Neville and Gilbertus Eglyne hold the tenancy of Birtley, and they go into the Great Chase with three hare hunters and return after a year to collect 20 shillings*' (Letch 1970).
- 3.2.19 Each of these documents records the name differently: the *Registrum Palatinum Dunelmense* recorded Birteley; Chollerton gave Bartley; the Callender of Patent Rolls gave Bertleye; and the Assize Roles for the County of Northumberland (1255) gave Bruteleg. Birtley was derived from the Old English *beorhtleah* meaning bright meadow (*ibid*).
- 3.2.20 Even though Thockrington was the neighbouring parish to Birtley, it was a prebend of the Archbishop of York. Thockrington was recorded in the registers of Walter Giffard, the Archbishop of York in 1274 as *Thokerington*. It is thought that the first element of this place name is a personal name associated with the Old English word *pocerain* meaning '*to move to and fro, run up and done*' used with the agent noun *pokari* used as a nickname. Hence Thockrington is thought to mean '*farm of Thocker or his sons*' (Maver 1920).
- 3.2.21 During the medieval period, Thockrington was held by the Umfraville family as part of the barony of Prudhoe. In 1226, as a result of a dispute between Richard de Umfraville and the Prior of Hexham, the vill and the church of Thockrington were appropriated by the Archbishop of York (Papers relating to Hodgson's History of Northumberland relating to Thockrington, c. 1830 Ref. No. SANT/BEQ/18/2/10 located at Woodhorn; Collcutt 2007).
- 3.2.22 In 1335 Thockrington was recorded by William Hedwin, the Coroner of Tindale (present day Tynedale), when John Calhind of Thockrington and Robert Nikson stole two oxen that belonged to John Fossour at Thockrington (Papers relating to Hodgson's History of Northumberland relating to Thockrington, c. 1830 Ref. No. SANT/BEQ/18/2/10 located at Woodhorn).
- 3.2.23 **Post-medieval to Modern (1485-present):** the parish of Thockrington was bounded by Watling Street to the west, the parishes of Corenside and Kirkharle to the north, the parishes of Kirkharle and Kirkwhelpington on the east, and the chapelry and parishes of Kirkheaton, St. John Lee and Chollerton on the south. Thockrington Parish was divided into four townships: Carrycoats, Sweethope, Thockrington, and Little Bavington.

- The parish was described as consisting of almost entirely that of grazing and pastureland (Hodgson 1897).
- 3.2.24 Carrycoats (Sites 12-13), a township within Thockrington Parish, was mentioned in a Survey of the Borders in 1522 made by Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Ellerker. It was said that within the waste grounds was a pasture called Filton Moor, the manor of which was granted to Newminster Abbey by the Lordship of Prudhoe during the 13th century. Filton Moor became the King's inheritance from the suppressed Monastery of Newminster. The moor was divided into four farmholds. Two of these were owned by Cuthbert Shafto, whose father built a bastle called *Carrycotts* (Site 12) and another called *Whyte House* that was only occupied by herds at this time. John Heron, on which he was reported to build a stone house, tenanted another quarter of the moor. The remaining quarter was owned by Ralph Wetheryngton that was leased from the Crown for 50 years. Wetheryngton, or Widderington, had six years to build a bastle house on the land (Hodgson 1897). The border regions of England, during the medieval and early post-medieval periods had numerous raids and skirmishes with the Scottish. The presence of bastles in the area attests to the insecurities of the people living in this area during this time.
- 3.2.25 Carrycoats was not mentioned in the 1538 Muster Rolls, but the two bastle houses built by Cuthbert Shafto's father, Carry Coates and White House, were mentioned in the list of fortalices made in 1541 (*ibid*).
- 3.2.26 In 1685 King Charles II was succeeded by his brother James, a convert to Roman Catholicism. For more than a century the people of England had been Protestant and were determined to remain so. The new Roman Catholic King James went out of his way to affront his Protestant subjects. James eventually fled to France to ease the pressure. James was succeeded by his daughter Mary, who jointly ruled with her husband. After her death, Mary's husband ruled alone as the Dutch William III. He was succeeded by his wife's sister, Queen Anne, who died childless. The throne then passed to the great grandson of James II, a German Prince who spoke no English and did not care much for the country. Soon the people felt that a Roman Catholic native would be better at ruling the country than a Lutheran foreigner. Many of the nobility and gentry looked to James Francis Edward Stuart for this (Peel 1971).
- 3.2.27 On October 6, 1715 Thomas Forster, a Member of Parliament for Northumberland, and a small party of Jacobites assembled on the hill at Waterfalls (where Hodgson (1897) said was now represented by a single cottage) where they were joined by the Earl of Derwentwater before marching to Penrith. From Penrith they proceeded to Preston where

- General Willis attacked the town. Thomas Forster was secretly sent to surrender (Hodgson 1897; Dodds 1940; Peel 1971).
- 3.2.28 A sale particular dated July 31st 1756 listed Whitehouse, Whiteside Craig, and Waterfalls [farm] that had a combined total of 2,327 acres were to be let. Another sale particular from 1816 listed Waterfalls Farm as containing 500 acres. At this time Waterfalls Farm was to be let along with Carrycoats Hall, Whiteside, Whitehouse and Craigback (Papers relating to Hodgson's History of Northumberland relating to Thockrington 1830).
- 3.2.29 Thockrington was listed in the Escheats of 1821. It was stated that, '*Thockrington unum tenemetum cum common' pasture in campo*' (Hodgson 1828).
- 3.2.30 Also from 1821 was a newspaper clipping regarding Thockrington Tithes. It stated: '*To be let, for the years 1821, 1822 and 1823, The Easter Dues, Lamb, Wool, Hay, Corn, Potatoo [sic], Turnip, and small tithes of the Mount, in the township of Little Bavington, the Hall Lands, Whiteside, Whitehouse-dean, Craigback, and Waterfalls Farm in the Township of Carrycoats...Proposals for the same will be received until 13th May, 1821 by William Prybus, of Chester-le-Street, Durham, and by Richard Prybus, Porter-merchant, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle*' (Papers relating to Hodgson's History of Northumberland relating to Thockrington 1830).
- 3.2.31 Hodgson mentioned that it was ordered that two watchmen were to keep watch nightly in every town to give warning to the township if they saw or heard any '*outcrye fraye or cause of fraye*' in the county. Nightwatchmen were to be placed between Swinburne and Thockrington and between Thockrington and Sweethope (Hodgson 1828).
- 3.2.32 In 1897 Carrycoats Township, in Thockrington Parish, was comprised of 1,721 acres in one estate. The estate was divided into Whiteside, that consisted of 480 acres; Whitehouse, 850 acres; Craigback, 100 acres, and Waterfalls, that consisted of 500 acres. During this time the population of Carrycoats Township was 37 (Hodgson 1897). *Kelly's Directory of Northumberland* from the same year stated that Thomas Sample Esq. was the owner of the Township as well as Carrycoats Hall. At this time Waterfalls Farm was occupied by John Hardman, a farmer (Kelly 1897).
- 3.2.33 Kelly's 1902 and 1906 directories stated that the population of Carrycoats Township had risen to 63. John Hardman was still the occupier of Waterfalls Farm (Kelly 1902; Kelly 1906). Kelly's 1910 directory listed the occupier of Waterfalls Farm as Issac and Jn Herdman (Kelly 1910). The 1025 directory recorded that Carrycoats Township was still owned by Thomas Sample, the township occupied an area of 1,720 acres at a rateable value of

- £966. The population in 1921 was 40. At this time, Waterfalls Farm was occupied by Douglas Lancelot, farmer (Kelly 1925).
- 3.2.34 In 1942, sales particulars of the Freehold Agricultural Estate for Carrycoats listed the Township as covering 1,677.225 acres. Within the township were Cragback, Whitehouse, Whiteside with High Pit House and Waterfalls, which contained 536.050 acres. These properties were to be sold at auction on October 19, 1942. Waterfalls Farm was listed as comprising of a dwelling house with a sitting room, kitchen, two bedrooms, pantry, outbuildings and garden. The farm buildings included an implement shed, cartshed, three stall stable with loft over, a covered fold, calf house, byres for 28 and a large hay shed as well as over 536 acres of good grazing land and meadow. Waterfalls Farm was let on an annual May Term Tenancy to Messrs. J and W Armstrong at the rental of £170 (Sales Particulars provided by Mr. Walker of Waterfalls Estate).
- 3.2.35 In 1954 Mr. Albert Taylor submitted an application (Ref. No.: LBG/6/1/A/440) for the addition of a scullery, bathroom, water supply and drainage to the dwelling house that was already present at Waterfalls Farm. The present building was described as brick with a concrete flat roof covered with felt. There were four habitable rooms and had a total floor area of the non-habitable part measuring 234 square feet. The Bellingham Rural District Development Control requested that the new brick walls to the addition should be of grey roughcast as *'the work would look conspicuous and ill-matched if the brickwork were not treated in this manner, particularly on account of the isolated position and the fact that the farm house is clearly visible from the main road'* (Plate 1).

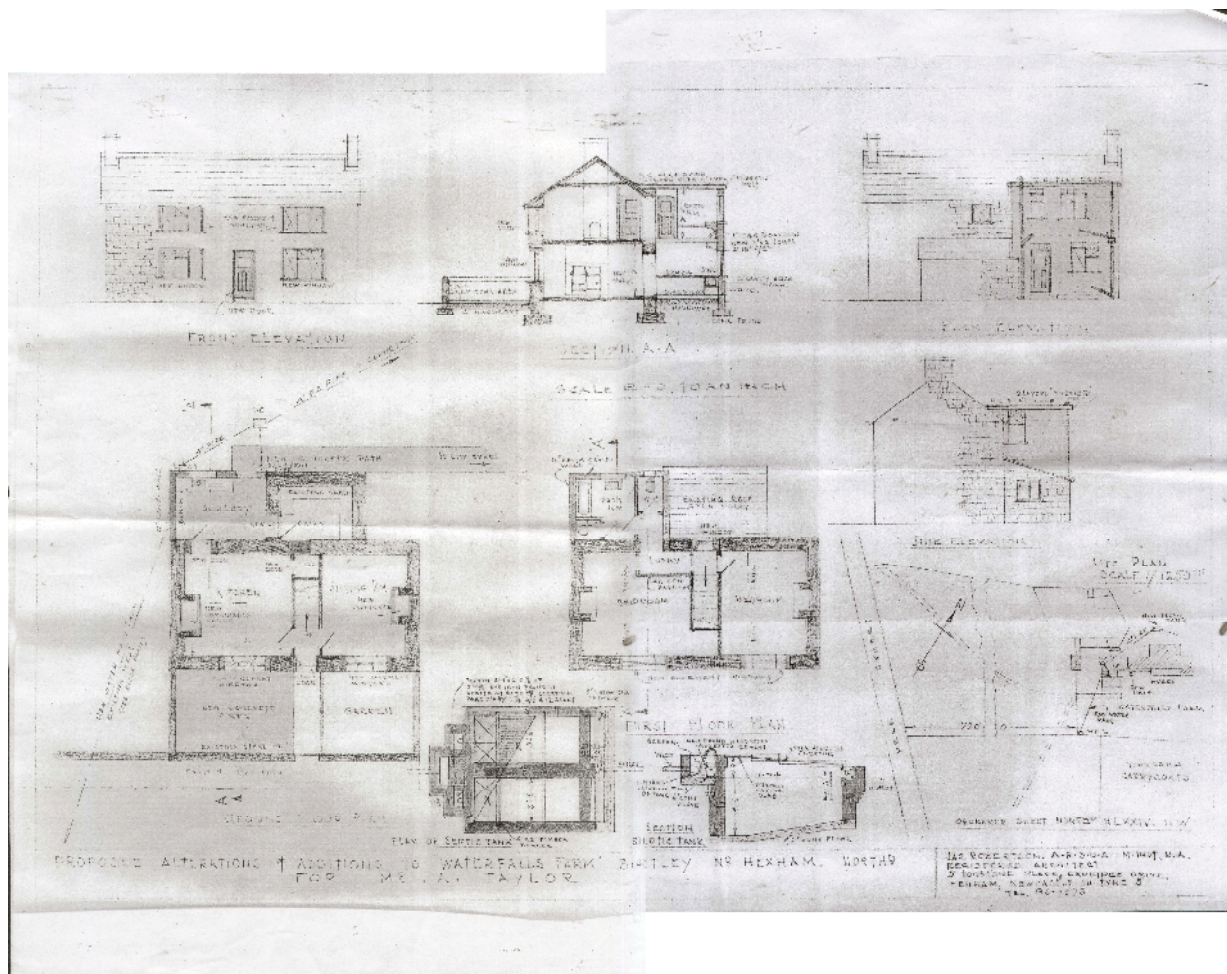


Plate 1: Proposed alterations to Waterfalls Farm, 1954

3.2.36 In 1971 Peel described this area of Dere Street as curving from the west, northwest to north, northeast through an area of Burns. There was Prestwick Burn, Holywell Burn, Curtis Burn, Blackbog Burn and Broomhog Burn all ‘baptizing’ Waterfalls Farm. The farm was described by Peel as ‘a derelict farmhouse, typical of its North Country kind, stone-built and made-to-measure for a man whose wife and children snuggled unhygienically in four rooms without anything that a Roman soldier would have accepted as any kind of convenience, either modern or ancient...I peered inside the house, saddened by the relics of good husbandry, domestic happiness, inevitable sorrow, the whole cycle of human life.’ Peel goes on to describe the farmstead as laying under a spur of high land (Peel 1971). Obviously by the 1970s Waterfalls Farm was once again derelict.

4 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The assessment results are based on primary documents, most notably maps, and on the secondary sources used in Section 3.2. The results are presented according to the archive from which they were consulted. At the request of the Northumberland County Archaeologist all Listed Buildings and buildings related to the post-medieval period have been excluded. There were 37 HER records for the study area defined as a three kilometre radius, centred on the site. A list of the HER sites identified by the assessment is given in Appendix 2 and illustrated in Figure 3.

4.2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)

4.2.1 **HER:** there were a total of 37 HER records within the study area that has been defined as a three kilometre radius around the site. Of these nine are of prehistoric date, six are from the Roman period, six are from the medieval period, 12 are from the post-medieval period, and four are of unknown date.

4.2.2 **Conservation Areas:** Waterfalls Farm is not located within a Conservation Area.

4.2.3 **Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM):** there were seven Scheduled Ancient Monuments located within the three kilometre radius of the proposed development area. There was also one site that was within a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The Scheduled Ancient Monuments were two cairns within the vicinity of Lowshields Green (National Monument Number (NMR) 25167 and 25168), a henge 500 metres southwest of Tone Hall (NMR 20966), a Romano-British farmstead 650 metres west of High Cowden Cottage (NMR 20967), a Roman temporary camp 350 metres southwest of Furlaws (NMR 21036), and a Hillfort on Great Wanney Crag (NMR 20997). Directly north of Waterfalls Farm is the Waterfalls Roman Milestone, also a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NMR 358). Ironstone Workings near Steele farmhouse are located within a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

4.2.4 **Aerial Photography:** the aerial photograph collection held by the Northumberland Historic Environment Record Office was checked for any relevant photographs to the development site and study area. There were no aerial photographs that included the site boundary. There was one aerial photograph to the south of the site boundary. This aerial photograph

taken by the RAF in April 1946 (RAF 106G.UK 1393 number 5310) was to the south of the site boundary and included Whiteside and Felton Hill. The area surrounding Whitehouse had extensive narrow rigg ridge and furrow indicative of post-medieval agricultural practices, as well as field drains. Other aerial photographs within three kilometres of the site boundary include land to the southeast of Buteland, land near Lowshield Green and Tone Hall.

- 4.2.5 **Archaeological Investigations:** most of the archaeological investigations within the study area were undertaken by the Reverend G.R. Hall during the late 19th century. In 1884 Reverend Hall excavated the round cairn 300 metres south of Lowshield Green (HER No. 7760, see 3.2.5 above). This excavation yielded two Bronze Age cinerary urns containing cremations and a flint scraper (Figure 3, Previous Archaeological Event, Site 1). Also in 1884 it is thought that Hall excavated the round cairn 800 metres to the northeast of Lowshield Green (HER No. 8054, see 3.2.5 above), when the cairn was known as Dan's Cairn (Previous Archaeological Event, Site 2). Dan's Cairn is included in a group of 19 small cairns constructed of earth and stone. Dan's Cairn appears to be the only genuine round cairn in the area.
- 4.2.6 There was also an excavation in the 1970s that proved that the alleged Roman signaling stations were most probably the bases of cairns, robbed for building adjacent field walls. Although it has also been suggested that these were cornstack platforms (see 3.2.16 above) (Previous Archaeological Event, Site 3).
- 4.2.7 Trial trenching in 2006 at Green Rigg Farm, 800 metres to the northeast of the site boundary, found archaeological features in six of the 14 evaluation trenches excavated (Previous Archaeological Event, Site 4). No artifacts were recovered from any of the trenches. Most of the features were post-medieval or modern in date with the exception of a stone boundary that was of probable prehistoric date. This stone boundary formed part of a probable Bronze Age enclosure that was formed during clearing of stone from the land for facilitating and demarcating cultivation area (NAA 2006).

4.3 NORTHUMBERLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES AT WOODHORN

- 4.3.1 The archives at Woodhorn holds a comprehensive series of Ordnance Survey Mapping of Birtley as well as a good library of books based on the local history of Birtley and the surrounding area. All of these were checked whilst undertaking the research for this report.

4.4 HEXHAM AND MORPETH LIBRARIES

4.4.1 The Local Studies Sections at Hexham and Morpeth Libraries hold a wealth of historic and geographic information on the area and its holdings were checked as part of the research for this report. The relevant information and sources found within the collection are referenced within the text of this report.

4.5 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

4.5.1 Waterfalls Farm was located in the Parish of Thockrington prior to being incorporated with Birtley. A search of maps recording Thockrington and Birtley was carried out at Woodhorn as well as the libraries at Hexham and Morpeth. Only those that reveal the area around the development site and of direct relevance have been included (Appendix 3). Many of the maps listed below could not be reproduced due to copyright.

4.5.2 *Warburton's Map of Northumberland, 1716*: this early map of Northumberland illustrated Thockrington with a picture of a church as well as *Carry Coats* Hall that was represented as a manor house. Nothing was depicted near the vicinity of Waterfalls Farm.

4.5.3 *Cay's Map of Northumberland, 1753*: at this time Thockrington was still depicted with a church. To the north of this was Carrycoats Hall annotated as *Cary-cotes* and Sweethope, both depicted with houses. To the north of these was Whitehouse. Waterfalls Farm was not shown.

4.5.4 *Armstrong's Map of Northumberland, 1769 (Figure 4)*: Waterfalls Farm was now shown on the map as Water Falls and depicted as a small house to the east of Watling Street. To the south of this were White Side and White House and the larger manor of *Cary Cotes*.

4.5.5 *Smith's Map of Northumberland, 1801*: to the east of Dere Street, now annotated as *New Road to Edinburgh by Jedburgh* was Waterfalls Farm. Next to the name were two dots presumably representing the number of buildings present on the farm at the time. To the south of this was *Carry Coates* and to the east was *Sweet Hope* and *Herds House*.

4.5.6 *Greenwood's Map of Northumberland, 1831*: this map was similar in style to Smith's map but now there was a path south of Waterfalls Farm from Dere Street, headed westward. Waterfalls Farm was still depicted as two dots, presumably two buildings.

4.5.7 *Tithe Apportionment Map of the Plan of Carry Coats Township in the Parish of Thockrington in the County of Northumberland, 1849*: Carrycoats township consisted of *Carry Coats* Manor, Whiteside, Craggback,

Whitehouse, and Waterfields. Waterfields or Falls as the apportionment stated was owned by Percy and Thomas Robson and measured 547 acres. This plot of land was separated from Whiteside by a dry burn on the south. Corenside Parish was to the north of Waterfalls Farm. At this time Waterfalls Farm consisted of two standing buildings. Halfway across this area of land was a track that led from Bellingham to Kirkwhelpington.

- 4.5.8 *First Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1866 (Figure 5)*: the First Edition Ordnance Survey map had Waterfalls Farm within *Carry Coats*, part of the parish of Thockrington. The farm was located to the east of Watling Street and comprised of two standing buildings with a spring to the west. Two paths led from the farmhouse, one leading west, northwest toward the quarry and the other south, southwest toward Watling Street. Open fields, with the occasional sheepfold, surrounded the site boundary. To the north of Waterfalls Farm was Comb Hill. In the northern aspect of Comb Hill was marked a stone, the Roman milestone. On the northeast boundary of Comb Hill was a *currick*, a small enclosure made of stone that was often used by shepards as lookout points.
- 4.5.9 *Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1898 (Figure 6)*: at this time Waterfalls Farm had a new building present to the east of the buildings on the First Edition map. The farm now consisted of three buildings. There was a rectangular shaped plantation present on the eastern boundary of Comb Hill. The Roman milestone, quarry and two footpaths leading off of the farmhouse toward the quarry and Watling Street were still present as was the currick, however this was not annotated.
- 4.5.10 *Third Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1922 (Figure 7)*: the present day buildings at Waterfalls Farm, have retained the same shape since the Third Edition Ordnance Survey map. It is possible that the main dwelling house is the original building from the First Edition Ordnance Survey map that had the gabled end altered and the surrounding outbuildings being destroyed and rebuilt in various locations around the site. Waterfalls Farm now consisted of six buildings. The footpaths were still present. The spring on the aforementioned maps was no longer depicted on this map, however a well was present due south of the farm buildings. Comb Hill was still present to the north and not there was a path that cut through the plantation to the currick. Watling Street was now labelled as Dere Street.
- 4.5.11 *Ordnance Survey map, 1957 (Figure 8)*: the site boundary retained the same shape as the Third Edition Ordnance Survey map. North of the site, on the west side of Dere Street, was Swine Hill Roman Camp.

4.6 SITE VISIT

- 4.6.1 The site was visited on July 6, 2009 to assess whether any as-yet unknown archaeological features were visible within the boundaries of the proposed development area, and to assess the impact any development may have on known archaeological, historical, or cultural features in the vicinity.
- 4.6.2 The proposed development site, presently extant buildings as well as a plantation, was situated to the east of the A68, the former Dere Street Roman Road. The site was accessed by a single-track road off of the A68. This appeared to be the only entry point (Plates 2-3).



Plate 2: Access road leading toward Waterfalls Farm, looking east



Plate 3: Access road looking west toward the A68, the former Dere Street Roman road

- 4.6.3 The development site consisted of the main dwelling house, a two-storey house constructed of yellow sandstone blocks (Plates 4-5). The building in its present day form appeared on the Third Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1922 (see 4.5.10 above). The western gable end of the house displayed no evidence of a previous structure adjoining the house. There was a conservatory present on this gable end.



Plate 4: Main dwelling house at Waterfalls Farm, looking northeast



Plate 5: Rear of the main dwelling house at Waterfalls Farm, looking south

- 4.6.4 To the right of the doorway was a 'T.H' carved into one of the sandstone blocks (Plates 6-7). The earliest name associated with the property was from the Tithe Apportionment (1849). The owners of the farm at this time were Percy and Thomas Robson. The 1897, 1902 and 1906 historical directories listed John Hardman and sons as occupying the farm. In 1910 Issac Herdman lived on the farm. The 'T' could be a relation to the

Hardman or Herdmen's that occupied the farm, but what this name was could not be found. In 1925 Douglas Lancelot occupied Waterfalls Farm.



Plate 6: 'T.H' etched into the sandstone blocks to the right of the front door of the dwelling house



Plate 7: Closer view of the 'T.H' etched into the sandstone blocks of the main dwelling house

- 4.6.5 To the west of the main farmhouse was a dilapidated one-roomed outbuilding also constructed of sandstone blocks. A building was present on this location since the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1866. Whether or not this is the same building from 1866 was not known. At one point this building had a door on the eastern aspect, that has since been blocked up. Slit windows were on the north and south walls. The western wall of this building was a ruin (Plates 8-10).



Plate 8: Outbuilding to the north, northwest of the main dwelling house, looking northwest



Plate 9: Outbuilding to the north, northwest of the main dwelling house, looking north



Plate 10: The interior of the outbuilding, looking east

- 4.6.6 To the east of the main house was a granary with a cartshed to the rear. Access to the loft was by stairs located on the western aspect of this building (Plates 11-12). Abutting this building to the east, were stables that are presently being used as kennels. Around the stables was a cobbled walkway (Plates 13-14). Both of these buildings were constructed of yellow sandstone blocks with the stables appearing to be of a later date. To the rear of this building was a modern open fronted steel-framed barn (Plate 15).



Plate 11: Sandstone granary with cartshed to the rear, located to the east of the main dwelling house, looking east



Plate 12: Granary to the east of the main dwelling house, looking northeast



Plate 13: Stables abutting granary, looking north, northeast



Plate 14: Cobbled area to the front of the stables, looking east



Plate 15: Modern open fronted, steel-framed barn

4.6.5 To the north and east of the farm buildings was the rectangular-shaped plantation aligned north/south that was enclosed by a barbed-wire fence (Plates 16-18). The field to the west of this contained the unimpressive Roman milestone, although this present location is not thought to be the original location (Plate 19). The western aspect of the plantation was walked over; the eastern aspect was a field of cattle that was not entered just in case there was a bull. The field to the west of the plantation and the plantation itself did not appear to have any earthworks present. The currick that was present on the Ordnance Survey maps was not present.



Plate 16: Plantation to the north and east of Waterfalls Farm. The arrow is pointing to the Roman milestone, looking north



Plate 17: Western boundary of the plantation, looking north, northeast



Plate 18: Western boundary of the plantation with the Roman milestone in the foreground, looking southeast



Plate 19: Roman milestone to the north of Waterfalls Farm. Waterfalls Farm is in the background on the right hand side of the photo and the plantation to the left

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING BACKGROUND

5.1.1 Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Notes 15 and 16 stress the importance of preserving archaeological sites and deposits of national significance *in situ*. The preservation of archaeologically sensitive material is preferable to their disturbance by whatever means.

5.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

5.2.1 The area around Birtley is used primarily for farming that was intrinsic in the survival and preservation of prehistoric and medieval archaeological remains. Within a three kilometre radius of the site boundary there were nine sites that date to the prehistoric period. Of these one was Neolithic, six were from the Bronze Age, one was Iron Age and one was classified as Later Prehistoric. To the southwest of the site boundary, 500 metres southwest of Tone Hall was a Neolithic Henge (HER No. 9180, Site 9). The Bronze Age sites within the study area consisted of cairns, tumuli and cord rig. Closest to the site boundary, 800 metres to the north, was a possible cord rig site (HER No. 9509, Site 25). To the northeast of the site boundary was the Iron Age Hillfort on Great Wanney Crag (HER No. 9500, Site 19). In 2006, trail trenching, 800 metres to the northeast of the site boundary, found a stone boundary bank thought to have been part of a Bronze Age enclosure. The potential for the survival of remains dating to the prehistoric period is therefore considered moderate.

5.2.2 During the Roman period, the first settlements can be found around Birtley. Within the search radius were the Romano-British settlement near Whitfield (HER No. 8080, Site 8), 2.5 kilometres northwest of the site boundary; the Romano-British farmstead near High Cowden Cottage (HER No. 9181, Site 10), 1.8 kilometres south of the site boundary; and the Roman temporary camp near Fowlaws (HER No. 9498, Site 18), 1.2 kilometres northwest of the site boundary. Closest to the site boundary was the Roman milestone (HER No. 9494, Site 14), 71 metres north of Waterfalls Farm. Waterfalls Farm is also located off of the A68. This was originally Dere Street Roman Road that ran from York to Scotland. Therefore, the potential for the survival of remains dating to the Roman period is considered moderate.

5.2.3 The only evidence of possible Anglo-Saxon occupation is at Thockrington church that dates back to the early medieval period. Built into the walls of Birtley church was an 8th century gravestone that indicates early medieval

occupation in the area. The potential of archaeological remains surviving sub-surface from the early medieval period is considered slight.

- 5.2.4 During the medieval period, Thockrington was held by the Umfraville family as part of the barony of Prudhoe. In 1226, as a result of a dispute between Richard de Umfraville and the Prior of Hexham, the vill and the church of Thockrington were appropriated by the Archbishop of York and held by the Archbishop for more than 600 years. Carrycoats was the chief portion of a manor and estate of Filton that was granted by Odinell de Unframvill to the abbot and convent. This township was divided into four farmholds. On two of these farmholds the Shafto family built bastles known as Carrycoats and Whitehouse. To the north of Carrycoats and Whitehouse is Waterfalls Farm. The earliest reference to Waterfalls within the documentary record was in 1715 when the Earl of Derwentwater met Thomas Forster and a party of Jacobites to the north of the farmhouse before marching to Penrith. A farmhouse has been present on the site since at least this period and has retained its present day shape since the Third Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1922, although it is possible that the main dwelling house is much earlier. Therefore, the potential for deposits dating from the medieval to the post-medieval periods surviving sub-surface is high.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.3.1 Despite the isolated location of Waterfalls Farm it lies within a landscape that has a varied history dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period. The site boundary is also located off of the former Roman road of Dere Street. There is a Roman Milestone slightly north of the site boundary evidence of Roman occupation within the immediate vicinity. Waterfalls is recorded within the documentary record as being the place where the Earl of Derwentwater met with Jacobite troops before marching to Penrith in 1715. It is therefore recommended that, at a minimum, an archaeological watching brief be undertaken prior to the construction of the new development. A definitive decision on the level and extent of archaeological mitigation will be decided by the Northumberland County Archaeologist.

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APPENDIX 1: SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Agent ref: ENQ/00615/2008

NC ref: T6/1; 9593

LAND AT WATERFALLS FARM, BIRTLEY, NORTHUMBERLAND

Brief for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Introduction

Northumberland Conservation has been consulted by GWK Chartered Architects and the Waterfalls Estate at a pre-application stage concerning the archaeological potential of a proposed development at Waterfalls Farm, Birtley (Fig 1). The site is located in a wider archaeological landscape containing a number of archaeological sites from the prehistoric period onwards. There is therefore the possibility that comparable, previously unidentified archaeological remains could continue onto this site.

Northumberland Conservation has advised GWK Chartered Architects and the Waterfalls Estate that the archaeological potential of the site would need to be further investigated prior to the determination of a future application on this site.

Northumberland Conservation has therefore advised that a staged programme of archaeological work is carried out as soon as possible so that the planning process is not slowed down unduly. The first stage of archaeological work should comprise a desk-based assessment which should help to formulate a more appropriate trial trenching strategy.

This brief constitutes Northumberland Conservation's justification for the investigation, its objectives and the strategy and procedures to apply to the desk-based assessment. The brief is intended to establish the project parameters to enable an archaeological consultant or contractor to tender for the work.

The appointed archaeological consultant or contractor must confirm in writing to the Assistant County Archaeologist that they accept all the requirements of the brief and confirm the extent of the development and the nature of the works following discussions with the developer. Any variations must be discussed with the Assistant County Archaeologist before the commencement of work. No work should commence prior to the receipt of that letter.

The Study Area

The assessment will require a detailed assessment of the proposed development area as defined in Figure 1, and a less detailed study of the surrounding area including at least a 3km radius of the site, excluding listed buildings and buildings of post-medieval date.

All work should be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA)¹ and will follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment².

¹ Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2008, Code of Conduct

² Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994 (revised 2001 and 2008), Standard and Guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment

Potential impacts

- i) The location of known archaeological sites and landscapes within the proposed development area
- ii) The potential for palaeo-environmental samples within the proposed development area
- iii) The density of archaeological sites in the surrounding area and the potential that comparable sites may continue into the site
- iv) Previous disturbance on the site, which may have affected archaeological remains, including any significant change in levels from those indicated on old Ordnance Survey maps, and truncation by existing services on or adjacent to the site.
- v) Where the information is available, the physical impact of the proposed development including:
 - a) Building foundations
 - b) Services
 - c) Access roads
 - d) Ground reduction
 - e) Tree planting
 - f) Change in ground conditions on waterlogged or environmentally rich sites
- vi) The results of any previous test pit or borehole surveys on the site
- vii) If possible, the impact of the proposed development on the visual setting of the following sites within the wider study area:
 - a) Scheduled Ancient Monuments
 - b) Listed Buildings
 - c) Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Battlefields
 - d) Unscheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance

Sources

Maps

As a minimum (where available)

- i) 1716 Warburton
- ii) 1753 Horsley and Cay
- iii) 1769 Armstrong
- iv) 1808 Smith
- v) 1820 Fryer
- vi) 1828 Greenwood
- vii) 1829 Pigot
- viii) Tithe, apportionment and parish maps
- ix) Estate maps of the area
- x) Ordnance Survey maps from the First Edition onwards
- xi) Service providers maps and databases (Water, Electricity, Telecoms and Gas as a minimum)
- xii) Other available maps

Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs should be consulted for the specific site and the immediate surrounding area. These are listed in descending order, with the most comprehensive collections listed first.

- i) Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER)
- ii) English Heritage, National Monument Record, Swindon (NMR)

Northumberland Historic Environment Record

Northumberland HER holds copies of the following sources

- i) A comprehensive record of all the known archaeological sites in the County
- ii) Copies of the Scheduled Ancient Monument designations
- iii) Copies of the Listed Building designations
- iv) Conservation Area Boundaries
- v) Complete digital aerial photographic coverage of the county

Other Sources

- i) Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- ii) Historical documents held in local museums, libraries, record offices and archives
- iii) Unpublished material held by local archaeological organisations (amateur and professional)
- iv) All available borehole, trial pit and geotechnical data from the site and its immediate environs held by the developer
- v) Geomorphological information may be obtained from the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre or the Geography Department at Newcastle University
- vi) Existing utility and service information, which may help to inform on constraints to future work.

Report

The desk-based assessment is the first stage in a potential multi-staged programme of archaeological work. The assessment and any subsequent trial trenching will need to be completed prior to the determination of a future planning application for the proposed development on this site

The archaeological contractor or consultant should submit copies of the report to Northumberland Conservation and their client within 15 working days of being commissioned to carry out the work, unless agreed in advance with all relevant parties.

Northumberland Conservation requires two copies of the report (one bound and one unbound). Each page and paragraph should be numbered within the report and illustrations cross-referenced within the text.

Text

The text should include:

- i) Northumberland Conservation reference, OASIS reference number and an 8 figure grid reference
- ii) A description of the geology on the site
- iii) The nature and extent of the proposed development and client information
- iv) Period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- v) Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites
- vi) Discussion of the potential impact of previous disturbance on the site associated with the farm and tree planting
- vii) Impact on the visual setting of Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields and unscheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance

- viii) Appendices listing:
 - i) All archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study area. **This should include all known sites and sites identified during the desk-based assessment, numbered and cross-referenced in the text with sites marked on an appropriate plan (see section 4.6)**
 - ii) All aerial photographs within the detailed study area and immediate environs, quoting the reference number, date and cross-referenced to the gazetteer where appropriate
 - iii) A copy of the specification

Illustrations

- i) A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000
- ii) A location plan of the extent of the proposed development area. This must be at a recognisable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid, to allow the results to be accurately plotted on the Historic Environments Record
- iii) Copies of all maps described in the text **with the extent of the proposed development area marked on each map**. Where copyright prevents the inclusion of a map in the report, a hand-drawn copy should be provided. **NB Some maps can be included in unpublished reports with the copyright included at the base of the map**. Where possible historic maps should be transcribed either by hand or digitally, as an overlay on to the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (or earliest OS Map) to allow details to be assessed in relation to recent features.
- iv) Copies of aerial photographs (AP) showing archaeological sites or plans with the cropmarks drawn in the correct location. Where copyright prevents the inclusion of an AP in the report, a hand-drawn/computer rectified transcription of any interesting features should be provided. Where possible transcriptions should be made on to a modern map base.
- v) A plan with the extent of the proposed development area and showing the location of all known archaeological sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields in the proposed development area and the wider study area and **all new sites identified during the desk-based assessment**, labelled and cross-referenced to a gazetteer and the text.
- vi) **Any variation to the above requirements should be approved by Northumberland Conservation prior to work being submitted**

Site Archive

A limited archive will need to be deposited in the appropriate local museum, once the report is produced. This should comprise:

- i) A copy of the report
- ii) Original illustrations and tracings that are not included in the report
- iii) A digital copy of the report and illustrations, where appropriate

Before the commencement of the work, contact should be made with the local museum to make the relevant arrangements. Details of the appropriate museum can be provided by the Assistant County Archaeologist.

The archive should be completed within six months of the report being completed

Northumberland Conservation will need confirmation that the archive had been submitted to the museum.

OASIS

Northumberland Conservation and HER support the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork.

The archaeological consultant or contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. If the contractors are unfamiliar with OASIS, they are advised to contact Northumberland HER prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, Northumberland HER will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website. The archaeological consultant or contractor must indicate that they agree to this procedure within the specification/project design/written scheme of investigation submitted to Northumberland Conservation for approval

Publication

A summary should be prepared for 'Archaeology in Northumberland' and submitted to Liz Williams, Northumberland Historic Records Officer, by December of the year in which the work is completed.

A short report of the work should also be submitted to a local journal if appropriate.

Further Guidance

Any further guidance or queries should be directed to:

Karen Derham
Assistant County Archaeologist
Northumberland Conservation
Northumberland County Council
County Hall
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE61 2EF

Tel: 01670 534057
Fax: 01670 533409
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25/6/09

FOR COPYRIGHT REASONS, ALL MAPS SUPPLIED BY NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL MUST BE RETURNED TO THEM ON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Report Check List**Site name:****Archaeological Contractor:**

Check List	Contractor	Northumberland Conservation (NC)
Copy of report checklist		
Planning ref.		
NC ref.		
OASIS ref.		
Confirmation that all OASIS sections completed incl. submission of grey literature		
8 figure grid reference		
Less detailed study area – correct radius		
Plans viewed		
Maps predating tithe map		
Tithe maps and Ordnance Survey maps		
Aerial photographs viewed (where required)		
Aerial photographs from each source listed in brief		
Aerial photographs with reference number and date, cross-referenced to gazetteer		
Results		
Description of geology		
Nature and extent of the proposed development and client information		
Period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development		
Physical impact on known and potential archaeology		
Nature, extent and location of any later groundworks that may have impact on earlier remains		
Visual impact on designated sites		
HER records and designated sites/buildings		
Numbers cross referenced in text and appendix		
Sites marked on appropriate plan		
Illustrations		
Location plan at scale of at least 1:10000		
Plans showing location of development area at recognisable planning scale		
Plans showing location of development area with reference to national grid		
All maps described in the text with the extent of the proposed development area marked on each map		
Maps overlain on 1 st Edition OS Map		
Copies of aerial photographs showing archaeological sites or plans with the cropmark drawn in the correct location		
Plan showing the location of HER sites and designated sites and new sites identified in dba		
Any variation approved by NC prior to work commencing		

Contractor checked:**NC Officer checked:****Date:****Date:**

APPENDIX 2: GAZETTEER OF SITES

Table 1: List of HER events within a 3 km search radius of the site boundary

ID	HER #	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period
1	7760	Round Cairn, 300 m south of Lowshield Green	A mutilated cairn with traces of a retaining circle and a ditch on the south side	388870	579740	Prehistoric: Bronze Age
2	8053	Buteland Plantation	Site of an earthwork, half a mile southeast of Buteland within an enclosure between two plantations	388630	581130	Unknown
3	8054	Round Cairn, 800 m northeast of Lowshield Green	Remains of a round cairn. Cairn is visible as the disturbed remains of a stone and earth mound.	389320	580450	Prehistoric: Bronze Age
4	8055	Cultivation Terraces	Two groupings of Cultivation terraces one that consist of seven or eight lines, and the other of 13 cultivation terraces part of the area is covered by a stone-dyke-enclosed rectangular-shaped plantation within which the terraces are undisturbed.	388800	581100	Medieval/Post-medieval
5	8061	Ironstone Workings	Located beneath the limestone escarpment near the Steele farmhouse. These are rounded shallow pits, with heaps of slag, indicative of old ironstone workings.	388980	584100	Roman
6	8063	Cultivation Terraces	Cultivation terraces of a single front facing the west, and of considerable extent. Located on the limestone escarpment near Steele farmhouse.	389000	583000	Medieval/Post-medieval
7	8070	High Shields Green	Listed as a rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosure containing circular stone-founded huts and sometimes enclosed courts. The only enclosures at High Shields Green are the remains of cottages and yards as well as the partially quarried remains of a range of recent rectangular buildings and associated garths.	389200	580600	Post-medieval

ID	HER #	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period
8	8080	Whitfield, Romano-British Settlement	A Romano-British settlement of Cheviot-type, containing stone built houses. This site is close to an old ironstone workings.	389620	583370	Roman
9	9180	Henge, 500 m southwest of Tone Hall	A henge of Neolithic date located on an elevated and exposed position in a small plantation. It includes a raised oval central platform within a broad shallow ditch. Outside the ditch there is a narrow flat space surrounded by an external bank.	390660	579940	Prehistoric: Neolithic
10	9181	Romano-British Farmstead, 650 m west of High Cowden Cottage	A rectangular earthwork with a single rampart.	391230	579340	Roman
11	9225	Cowden, monastic grange settlement	The lords of Prudhoe granted Cowden to Hexham Priory before the end of the 13th century. Only a single farmstead is present today. No earthworks seen.	391800	579400	Medieval
12	9226	Carrycoats, monastic grange settlement	No evidence found of the medieval settlement.	392400	579900	Medieval
13	9493	Carrycoats deserted medieval village	No trace of the medieval village found in the vicinity and nothing visible on aerial photographs. The reference is thought to imply merely to the name.	392000	581600	Medieval
14	9494	Waterfalls Roman Milestone	Uninscribed Roman milestone found when the modern road was being lowered 150 yards south of the 12 th modern milestone from Corbridge.	391210	581590	Roman
15	9495	Earthwork	In a detached plantation 350 yards to the northwest of Tone Inn were the remains of a rectangular earthwork about 3/4 acres in area.	391130	580100	Unknown
16	9496	Cairn and Tumulus	The site of a tumulus that has now disappeared. It was reported that gold ornaments were discovered here about 60 years ago. The tumulus contained two cremations, urns, a necklace of gold beads, a flint scraper and two bronze bracelets.	390930	583060	Prehistoric: Bronze Age

ID	HER #	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period
17	9497	Roman signal station	The only indications of the station are the possible remains of the two southernmost platforms, consisting of arcs of protruding stones. Excavation of the supposed signaling platforms were clearly not Roman. What these platforms are is not clear.	390490	583030	Unknown
18	9498	Roman temporary camp, 350 m southwest of Fowlaws	Monument includes a Roman temporary camp that is located on tip of a local hillock known as Swine Hill. It is 82 m west of Dere Street. This camp is the smallest of a group in the vicinity of Dere Street. Dates from the 1st century AD.	390460	582530	Roman
19	9500	Univallate hillfort on Great Wanney Crag	An irregular earthwork with a single rampart.	393190	583380	Prehistoric: Iron Age
20	9501	Roman Bronze Vessel	Found in 1885 above Risingham near Wanney Crag.	393000	583300	Roman
21	9502	Bronze Age urn	Cinerary urn found at the west end of Sweethope Lough. No suggestion of a barrow was seen in the area.	393600	582500	Prehistoric: Bronze Age
22	9504	Enclosure on Green Rigg	Located on the southwest of a small knoll in a cultivated field. These are the mutilated remains of a circular enclosure. There is no evidence of any internal features.	391870	581870	Unknown
23	9506	Tollund, monastic grange settlement	Tolland has been identified with the present farm of Tone. The grange may have been near the present far, or be represented by earthworks.	390300	580400	Medieval
24	9507	Carrycoats Limekilns	Site of two possible limekilns shown as grassy mounds on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.	390200	581400	Post-medieval
25	9509	Cord Rig	Possible Cord rig site	390800	582300	Prehistoric: Bronze Age
26	9511	Cord Rig	Possible Cord rig site	391500	584600	Prehistoric: Bronze Age
27	9515	Chesterhope coal workings	Coal shaft marked on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. Marked as disused by the Second Edition map.	390250	583830	Post-medieval

ID	HER #	Site Name	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)	Period
28	9516	Fourlaws coal workings	Coal levels shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. A colliery was shown on Fryer's map of 1820. Hodgson mentioned a colliery working since c. 1800.	391000	583300	Post-medieval
29	9517	Wanney Byre	A house called Great Wannehouse was mentioned by Hodgson as in existence in 1722. House was apparently abandoned by 1827.	393000	583000	Post-medieval
30	9518	Tone Hill Head farm	This farm appears on maps from 1769-1895. The site is now a plantation and visible remains of the farm survive with the exception of a few banks.	390700	580650	Post-medieval
31	9519	Carrycoats brick and tile works	Marked on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, and marked as disused on the 1925 map. The site is now a saw mill.	391250	580600	Post-medieval
32	9520	Felton Hill coal workings	Mounds and spoil heaps related to coal workings are visible in the area around Felton Hill. Coal pits are marked on Armstrong's map (1769) and Hodgson mentioned coal working here in 1814.	392057	581183	Post-medieval
33	9531	Limekiln	Marked on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map, but not on later editions. No remains are visible today, most probably destroyed by quarrying.	391220	584440	Post-medieval
34	9534	West Davey Crag Settlement	Settlement site, that has been robbed, found during aerial reconnaissance in 1992.	390500	581400	Later Prehistoric
35	9535	Chesterhope Common quarries	Described as one of the best preserved of the iron ore quarries around Ridsdale created during the 19th century, Originally used to supply the Ridsdale ironworks, then Armstrong's furnaces on the Tyne.	390300	584100	Post-medieval
36	21841	Coal shaft	Marked on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.	392006	584013	Post-medieval
37	23721	Earthwork enclosure 620 m east of Waterfalls	Traces of a large irregular earthwork enclosure are visible on aerial photographs. It measures about 200 m east/west by 160 m north/south.	392002	581205	Post-medieval

Table 2: List of Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 3 km of the site boundary

ID	HER No.	National Monument Number	Description	NGR (N)	NGR (Y)
1	7760	25167	Round Cairn, 300 m south of Lowshield Green	388870	579740
2	8054	25168	Round Cairn, 800 m northeast of Lowshield Green	389320	580450
3	9180	20966	Henge, 550 m southwest of Tone Hall	390660	579940
4	9181	20967	Romano-British farmstead, 650 m west of High Cowden Cottage	391230	579340
5	9494	358	Waterfalls Roman Milestone	391210	581590
6	9498	21036	Roman temporary camp, 350 m southwest of Fourlaws.	390460	582530
7	9500	20997	Univallate hillfort on Great Wanney Crag	393170	583380
8	8061	Site of Special Scientific Interest	Ironstone Workings	388980	584100

Table 3: Previous Archaeological Events within a 3km radius of the site boundary

ID	Archaeology Firm and Year	Site	Type	NGR (NY)	Results
1	Hall, G.R. 1884	Round Cairn, 300 m south of Lowshield Green	Excavation	388870 579740	Excavation yielded two Bronze Age cinerary urns containing cremations and a flint scraper.
2	Hall, G.R. 1870	Round Cairn, 800 m northeast of Lowshield Green	Excavation	389320 580450	Thought to have been investigated by Hall in 1884 when the cairn was known as Dan's Cairn. There is a group of 19 small cairns constructed of earth and stone. Dan's Cairn appears to be the only genuine round cairn in the area. Dan's Cairn is visible as a much robbed and mutilated turf covered mound of stones.

ID	Archaeology Firm and Year	Site	Type	NGR (NY)	Results
3	Binns, M. 1970	Roman Signal Station	Excavation	390490 583030	Excavation of alleged Roman signalling platforms on Dere Street showed that they were not Roman. What the platforms are is not clear. It has been suggested that these are stack bottoms, the bases of sow kilns or the remains of post-Roman cairns. The platforms proved to be surface features and were constructed after Dere Street had gone out of use and had become overgrown.
4	Northern Archaeological Associates, 2006	Green Rigg Wind Farm, Tynedale	Trial Trenching	392000 582000	A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated. Out of these six contained archaeological features. No artefacts were recovered from any of the trenches. The features largely dated to the post-medieval or modern periods, with the exception of a stone boundary that is most probably prehistoric in date.

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES
