

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Environmental Impact Assessment*

*Field Evaluation & Excavation*

*Finds / Environmental Analysis*

*Geophysical Survey*

*Historic Building Recording*

*Site & Landscape Survey*

*Interpretation, Design & Display*

**Beech House  
54 Westgate  
Tickhill  
Doncaster**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. Y265/17**

 0113 271 6060

 0113 271 3197

 yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

# CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Offices 5  
Ecclesfield Business Centre  
46 Stocks Hill  
Ecclesfield  
Sheffield  
S35 9YT

Tel: 0114 327 1108

email: [Yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:Yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)  
web: [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

Author	Rebecca Hunt BA MA ACIfA
Illustrator	Graeme Carruthers MA MCIfA
Approval	Martin Lightfoot BA MA MCIfA
Commissioned by	Matthew Rowbotham
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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd quality procedures.

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## **CONTENTS**

1. INTRODUCTION .....	3
2. WORKING METHODS.....	4
3. RESULTS.....	4
4. CONCLUSION .....	5
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	6

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Context Summary

Appendix 2: Inventory of Primary Archive

Figure 1: Site location and trench location

Figure 2: Site Photographs

## Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by CFA Archaeology the Beech House, Tickhill; during February 2017. A single trench was excavated for the foundations of an extension to the property at 54 Westgate, Tickhill. No archaeological features or finds were discovered.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on behalf of the Matthew Rowbotham in February 2017. The CFA code and number for the project is BEHT/2322.

All work was undertaken in accordance with a method statement produced by CFA (CFA 2017).

#### 1.2 Site Location and Description

The proposed site is currently used as a patio area in the garden of the private residence at 54 Westgate, Tickhill and includes the remains of a smaller conservatory. The proposed site is located at the north-east corner of the main residential building against the north-facing elevation (Fig. 1, NGR SK 5885 9293).

The underlying geology is Brotherton Formation; grey, dolomitic limestone (BGS 2017). Soils are described as freely draining lime-rich loamy soils (Landis 2017).

The site was located at c. 25m above the Ordnance Datum.

#### 1.3 Previous Archaeological work and Historical Background

The site is located at Beech House on the north side of Westgate within the town of Tickhill, Doncaster. During the middle ages, Tickhill was the second most important town, after Doncaster, in what is now South Yorkshire. Tickhill is an old English name meaning either “hill where young goats are kept” or “hill of man named Tica” The village was not recorded in the Domesday Book but was recorded as *Tikehill* sometime in the 12th century (Mills 2011).

Information from the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS) had suggested that development on the site has potential archaeological implications. The site was adjacent to the Clarel Hall, the manor house of the Clarel family, an important noble family of Tickhill. It is known to have been occupied from 1356 and as such there was the potential for previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains to exist within the site such as ancillary buildings or middens.

#### 1.4 Aims

The general aim of the evaluation was to ensure that any archaeological remains present, whether buried or part of a standing building, were investigated and a proper

understanding of their nature, date, extent and significance gained, before those remains were damaged or destroyed and that knowledge gained is then disseminated.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

All work was undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, and relevant Standards and Guidance documents (Cifa 2014), and the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation (CFA 2017).

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

The excavation of the trench was carried out using a mechanical 'Bobcat' mini-excavator, under constant archaeological supervision. Had any archaeological remains been present, excavation would have ceased to allow for hand excavation. Spoil resulting from the trenching and the surrounding plough soil was stockpiled or taken away on a mini dumper to an allocated skip and was checked for finds.

The foundation trench measured 5.75m by 3m and 0.9m in width, offset from the north-facing elevation of the existing building was excavated around a previous smaller conservatory (Fig. 1).

### **2.1 Standards and Guidance**

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant Cifa Standards and Guidance documents (Cifa 2014), Historic England guidance (EH 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2011), and CFA's standard methodology.

### **2.2 Archiving**

The project archive, comprising all CFA records will be ordered according to the Written Scheme of Investigation, to nationally recognised standards (Cifa 2014) deposited with the appropriate repository. A summary of the results of archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS (cfaarcha1-275789).

### **2.3 Monitoring**

The project was monitored by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS) who was informed in advance of the works taking place and on behalf of the client.

## **3. RESULTS**

A foundation trench measuring 5.7m by 3m and 0.9m in width, offset from the north-facing elevation of the existing building was excavated. Figure 1 shows its location. Figure 2 comprises of selected photographs of the excavation.

The ground surface consisted on paving stones for a garden patio (001), overlying a degraded tarmac surface and associated hardstanding (0.37m thick) for a car park that previously occupied the site (002). This overlay mid red-brown silty clay subsoil (003) with frequent sub-angular fragments of limestone inclusions (Fig. 2). A ceramic drain and brickwork was recorded in the south-west corner of the extension. The natural geology was not exposed in this excavation. Formation level was reached at 0.5m.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

A trench for a rear house extension was excavated for its footings. Apart from a drain, no archaeological remains were recorded. However, the excavation to the depth of the foundations did not expose the natural geology so the possibility of archaeological remains surviving at greater depth, or outside the footprint of the current building cannot be discounted.

## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## **APPENDICES 1-2**



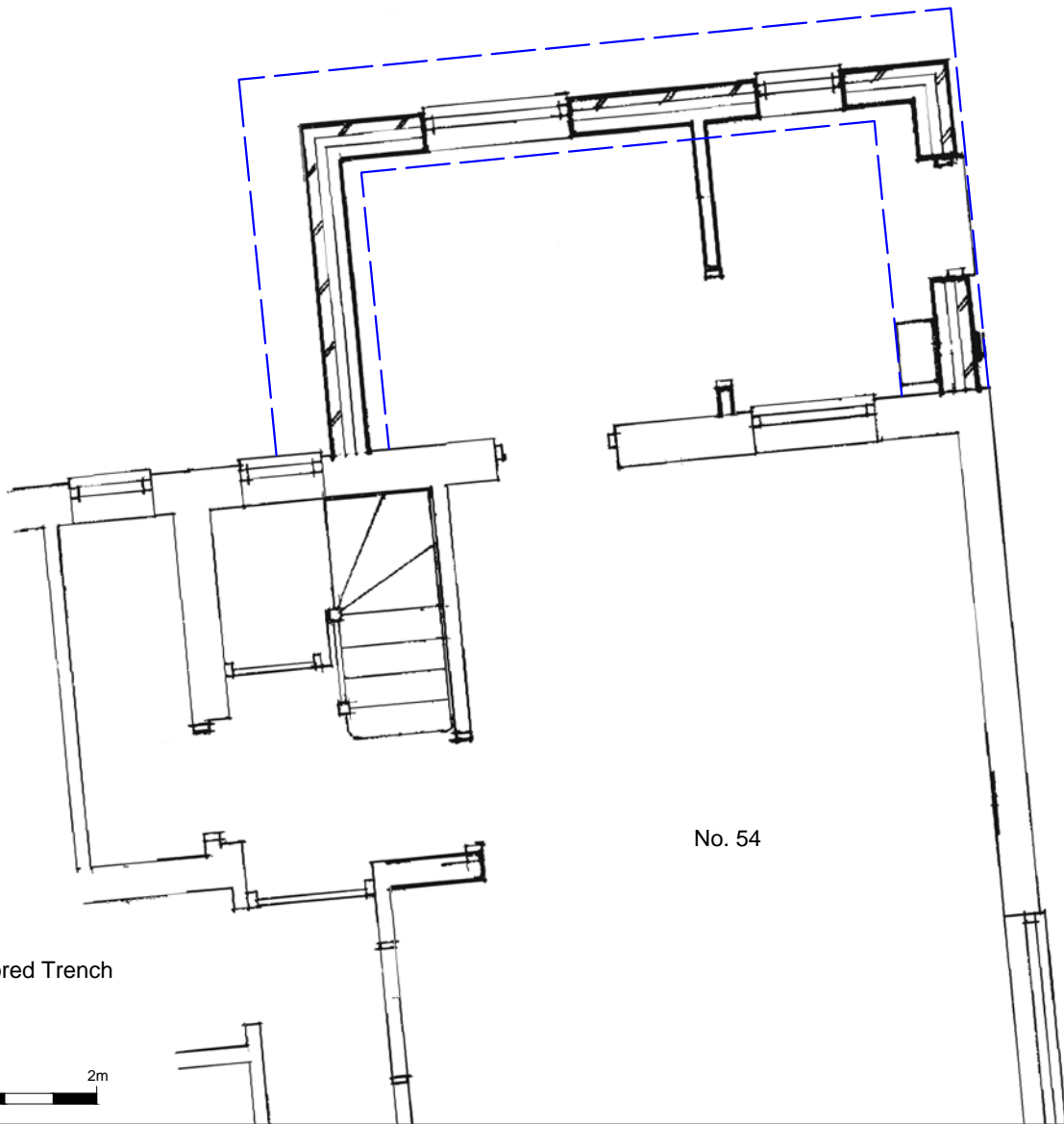
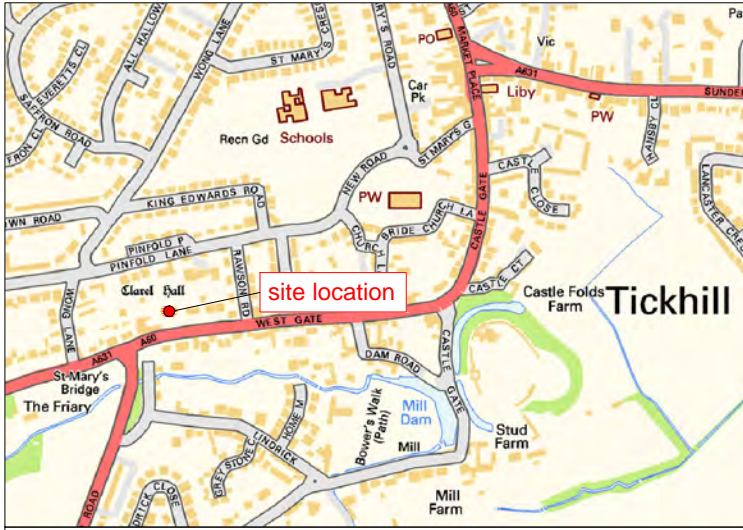
## Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	Dimension	Depth (m)	Description
001	Across Trench	0.03	Flagstones forming a pation area in the rear garden of Beech House.
002	Across Trench	0.37	Tarmac and Hardstanding: mix of tarmac overlying crushed stone and brick to form a level platform for a previous car parking area.
003	Across Trench	>0.13	Subsoil: moderately loose, mid red-brown silty clay with purple hue and frequent small-medium sub-angular limestone inclusions. Contained considerable number of roots from the garden plants. Full depth was not excavated.

## Appendix 2: Inventory of Primary Archive

Phase	File/Box No.	Description	Quantity
Watching Brief	File no. 1	Site record sheets	1
		Digital photographic register sheets	1
		Site Plan	1

**FIGURES 1-2**



**Key:**  
 Monitored Trench



Title:  
**Site location and Trench Plan**

Client:  
**Matthew Rowbotham**



**CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**  
 Office 5  
 Ecclesfield Business Centre  
 46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield  
 Sheffield, S35 9YT  
 T: 0114 327 1108  
 M: 07469 853 850  
 sheffield@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Project:  
**Beech House, 54 Westgate, Tickerhill, Doncaster**

Scale at A4:  
**1:60**

Drawn by:  
**GC**

Checked:  
**SW**

Date:  
**09/02/2017**

Report.No:  
**Y265/17**

Fig. No:  
**1**



Fig. 2.1 Sample section of trench, facing south-west



Fig. 2.2 Excavated foundation trench, facing south-west

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Beech House, 54 Westgate, Tickhill, Doncaster



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
Office 5  
Ecclesfield Business Centre  
46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield  
Sheffield, S35 9YT  
T: 0114 327 1108  
M: 07469 853 850  
sheffield@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Client:  
Matthew Rowbotham

Drawn by: GC	Checked: SW	Date: 09/02/17
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