CFA Archaeology Ltd

archaeological consultants

Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Finds / Environmental Analysis

Geophysical Survey

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Interpretation, Design & Display

Laithes and Catterlen FTS
Penrith
Cumbria

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. Y156/14

t 0113 271 6060 f 0113 271 3197 e yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Clayton Works Business Centre
Midland Road
Leeds
LS10 2RJ

Tel: 0113 271 6060

email: yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Author	Rebecca Hunt BA MA
Illustrator	Graeme Carruthers MA MIfA
Editor	Martin Lightfoot BA MA MIfA
Commissioned by	United Utilities
Date issued	June 2014
Version	1.0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-178585
Grid Ref	NY 46765 32957

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard procedures.

Laithes and Catterlen FTS
Penrith
Cumbria

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. Y156/14

CONTENTS

APPENDICES

Figures

Plates

Summary

CFA Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief on land to the north side of the village of Catterlen, Cumbria, during the excavation for the installation of a new wastewater pumping station in Catterlen. The excavation revealed no archaeological remains and no finds were recorded.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 6 and 7 May 2014, on land to the north of the village of Catterlen, Cumbria, 643m from the B5305. The CFA code for the project was LAIT/2138.

A written scheme of investigation was prepared by CFA on the behalf of United Utilities prior to the groundworks commencing and was agreed with the Cumbria Archaeological Officer

1.2 Site Location and Description

The site was in the south of a field, on the north side of the main road through the village Catterlen which is 5.8km northwest of Penrith (Fig. 1, NY 46765 32957). Bounded by a stream to the northwest and a row of trees to the northeast, it covered an area of c. 2000m^2.

The land sloped significantly downwards from the northeast before rising again slightly to level off towards the northwest.

The underlying geology of the area is part of the Stainmore Formation made of cyclical sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, thin limestones and some coals, with superficial deposits of Devensian Till (BGS 2014).

1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

The following information is largely taken from the Written Scheme of Investigation, the English Heritage National Heritage List (EH 2014) and Pastscapes (EH 2007).

The village of Catterlen has medieval origins. The remains of a 12th-century tower house, characteristic of the borderlands of England and Scotland, lies 1.3km southwest of the site. Its construction reflects the unsettled and warlike conditions of the borderlands during the medieval period, and would have been an important centre in medieval life. Associated earthworks, possibly ponds, were situated on the southern bank of the nearby stream leading to the River Petteril.

This tower house was replaced during the 15th century by a pele tower, which, though added to and maintained, retains its medieval form.

1.4 Objectives

In general the project objectives were to:

- determine the form and function of any archaeological features encountered;
- determine the spatial arrangement of any archaeological features encountered;
- as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and;
- establish the sequence of any archaeological remains present on the site.

Specific objectives were to record, were possible, archaeological remains associated with the medieval and post-medieval history of the village and landscape

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

As agreed with United Utilities, the watching brief consisted of a phase of archaeological monitoring during the creation of the access road, turning head and pumping station. The removal of topsoil and sub-soil deposits was monitored across the footprint of the spine road, the access road, turning head and pumping station down to the natural substrate, and down to subsoil in the surrounding area. The work was carried out by a mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket.

2.2 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant IfA Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1994, 2001), the WSI and CFA's standard methodology.

2.3 Monitoring

The project was monitored by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) on behalf of the local planning authority, who were informed in advance of the works taking place.

2.4 Archiving

The archive will be ordered, indexed and conform to the requirements of the depositing museum and to all relevant professional guidance (Brown 2011). Appropriate forms for prior notification of the project and for transfer of title will be procured from the relevant museum authority. A summary of the results of the archaeological work will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS (Ref: cfaarcha1-178585).

3. RESULTS

A full list and description of contexts comprises Appendix 1. Tables listing all photographic and drawn records form appendices 2 and 3.

Topsoil (001) consisted of grey, firm, mid-brown clay soil, across the site. On higher ground it was 0.07m thick increasing to 0.27m on lower ground. Subsoil (002) consisted of moderately loose clay silt mix with infrequent stone inclusions. On high ground it was 0.2m thick increasing to 0.3m on lower ground. The natural substrate (003) was a mixture of sands on the higher ground and clay to the southwest. The interface between natural deposits was mixed and unclear.

The footprint of the access road, turning head and pumping station were excavated down to the natural substrate (Plate 1), using a mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed bucket. Elsewhere only the topsoil was removed.

Modern disturbance was identified at the southwest entrance to the site but no archaeological remains were identified.

4. CONCLUSION

Despite quite an extensive area being stripped, no archaeological remains were recorded and no finds were recovered.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

EH 2005, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, English Heritage

EH 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE): Project Managers' Guide, English Heritage

IfA, 1994, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, Institute for Archaeologists, Revised October 2008

IfA, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*, Institute for Archaeologists, Revised October 2008

Online Resources

BGS, 2014, http://www.bgs.ac.uk British Geological Survey, (Accessed 09/05/14)

EH, 2007, http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/ The National Heritage List for England, (Accessed 09/05/14)

EH 2014, http://www.pastscape.org/default.aspx Pastscape (Accessed 09/05/14)

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Context Summary

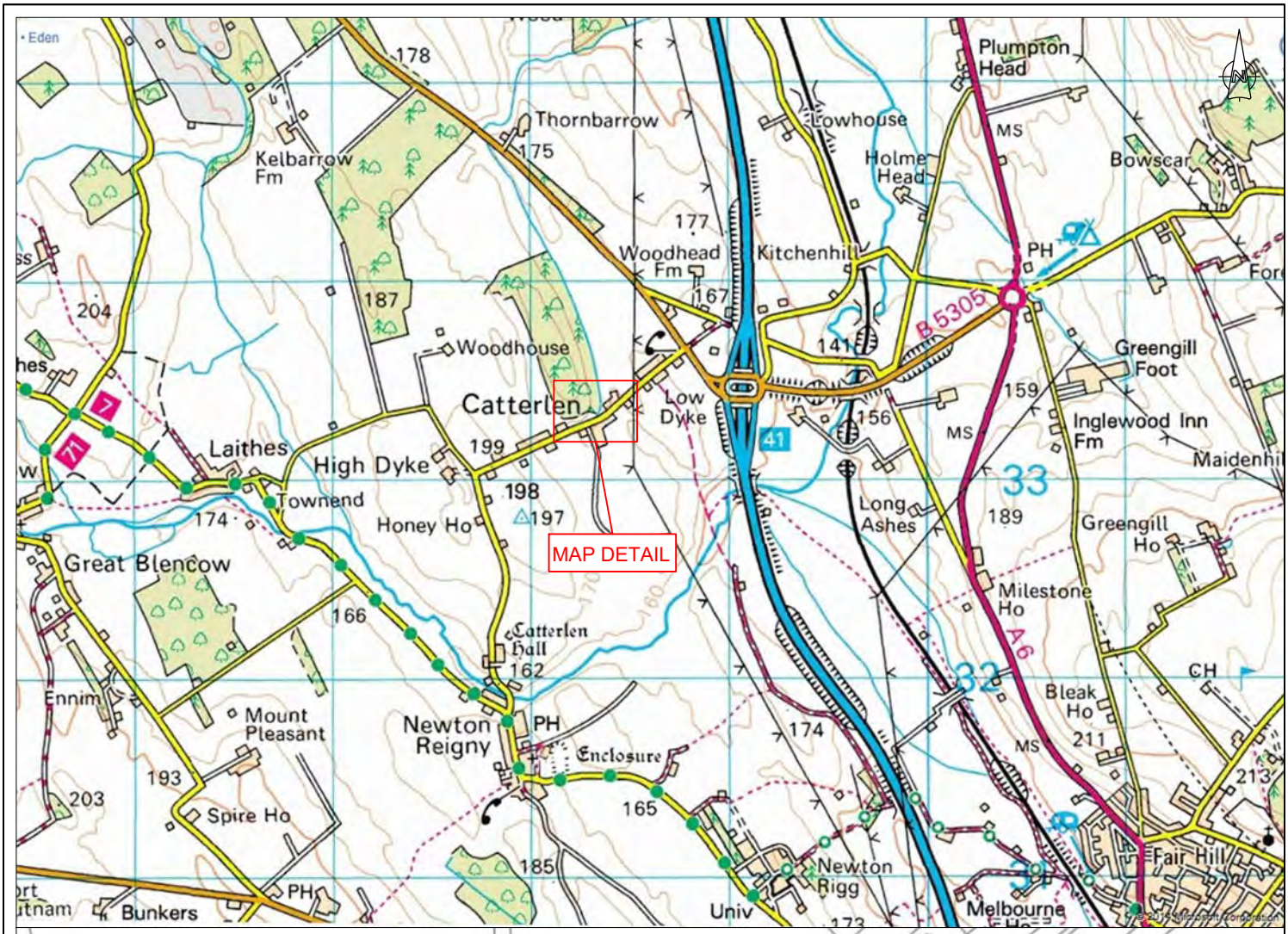
Context no.	Type	Description
001	Deposit	Topsoil: firm, mid brown grey clay soil, present across the site, 0.07m on high ground, 0.27m lower ground
002	Deposit	Subsoil: moderately loose clay silt mix with infrequent stone inclusion, 0.2m on high ground, 0.3m on low ground
003	Deposit	Natural: firm, mid brown red, clayey fine grained sands with sub-rounded, irregular stone inclusions measuring 0.14-0.21m and gravel channels running north to south, and boulder clay
004	Deposit	Modern spread: firm, mid red grey silty clay with infrequent green/grey small, sub-rounded, irregular stones containing ceramic tile and animal bone, existing under modern hardstanding/subsoil mix at the southwest entrance to field, at >1.7×1.3×0.08.

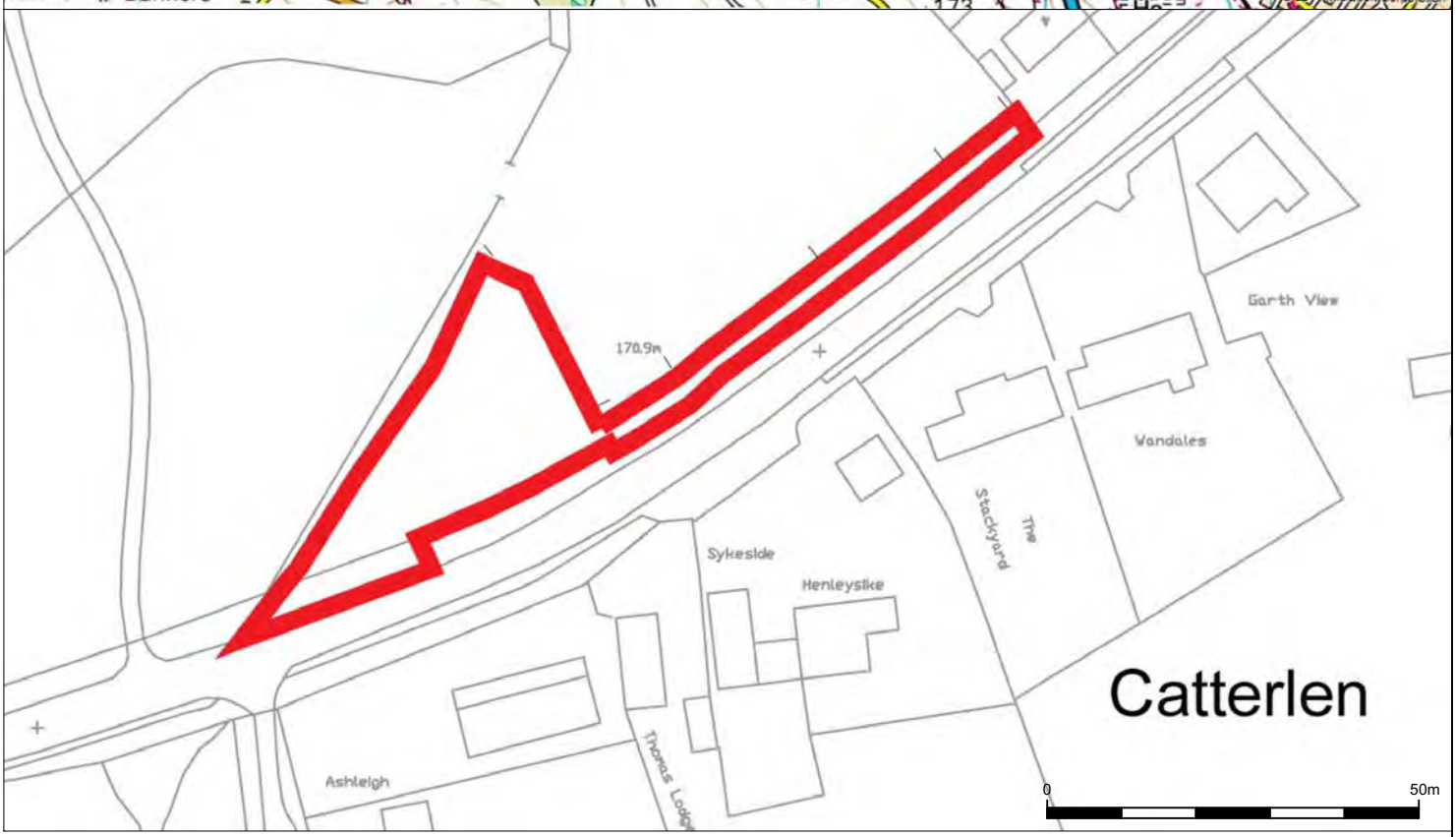
Appendix 2: Photographic Register

No	Contexts/description	Facing	Conditions
1	Northeast Access Road	E	Moderate/Sunny
2	Sample section of stratigraphy on higher ground.	SE	Poor/Sunny
3	Northeast Access Road	NE	Poor/Sunny
4	Northeast Access Road	NE	Moderate/Overcast
5	Main Compound Area (stripped to subsoil)	E	Moderate/Overcast
6	Working Shot	S	Moderate/Overcast
7	Sample section of stratigraphy on lower ground/boulder clay (right-hand side) and level area stripped to (left-hand side)	ENE	Moderate/Overcast
8	Working Shot	NNW	Moderate/Overcast
9	North Area of the Compound and Southwest Access Road	N	Moderate/Overcast
10	North Area of the Compound and Southwest Access Road (stripped to natural)	N	Moderate/Overcast
11	Plant bole	NW	Moderate/Overcast
12	Northeast-facing section of modern spread	SW	Moderate/Overcast
13	Location shot of modern spread	NW	Moderate/Overcast
14	Southwest access road, main compound and tank area	NNE	Moderate/Overcast
15	Southwest access road, main compound and tank area	SSW	Moderate/Overcast

Appendix 3: Drawing Register

Drawing Number	Scale	Description
1	1:20	Plan of modern spread (004)
2	1:10	Northeast-facing section through 004.





CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Offices C1 & C2
Clayton Business Centre
Midlands Road
Leeds, LS10 2RJ
t: 0113 271 6060
f: 0113 271 3197
yorks@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Title: Site location	Fig No: 1	Report: Y156/14	Drawn by: GC	CKD: LW	Date: 21/05/14
	Client: United Utilities				
Project: Laithes and Catterlen FTS, Archaeological Watching Brief	Scale: 1:1000@A4				

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
Offices C1 & C2
Clayton Business Centre
Midlands Road
Leeds, LS10 2RJ

T: 0113 271 6060
F: 0113 271 3197
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Title: Southwest access road, main compound and tank area stripped to natural	Fig. No: 2	Report: Y156/14	Drawn: GC	CKD: LW	Date: 23/05/14
	Client: United Utilities				
Project: Laithes and Catterlen FTS, Archaeological Watching Brief	Scale:				