

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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**Scalesceugh Hall,  
Carleton, Carlisle,  
Cumbria**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Report No. Y218/16**

 0113 271 6060

 0113 271 3197

 yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

# **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

Offices C1 and C2  
Clayton Business Centre  
Midland Road  
Leeds  
LS10 2RJ

Tel: 0113 271 6060

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	Phil Mann BA ACIfA
Illustrator	Graeme Carruthers MA MCIfA
Editor	Phil Weston BSc MA
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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard procedures.

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## SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by CFA Archaeology on land at Scalesceugh Hall, Carleton, Carlisle during March 2016. Three trenches were excavated across the site in order to evaluate any potential surviving archaeological remains. The trenches proved blank of any surviving features with heavy landscaping/terracing of the area apparent.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during March 2016 at Scalesceugh Hall, Carleton, Carlisle (Fig. 1, NGR NY 44723 49677). The work was commissioned by The Bruno Herdeiro and was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by CFA Archaeology (CFA 2016). The work was in advance of the proposed construction of a 47 bed residential care home with six associated close care cottages within the grounds of Scalesceugh Hall (Planning Ref 13/0798).

#### 1.1 Site Location and Description

The site is located to the west of the A6 road and to the south-east of the village of Carleton, Carlisle, within the grounds of Scalesceugh Hall. The site is currently terraced grass lawns of varying height.

The site was bounded by the A6 road to the east, by open grass fields and farmland to the west, by existing residential properties to the north, and by the river Petteril to the south.

The underlying solid geology of the site is Penrith Sandstone Formation, with superficial deposits of glacioacustrine clays and silts (BGS 2016). The overlying soil is described as 'slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils' (Landis 2016).

#### 1.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

Scalesceugh Hall itself is a Grade II listed building, first listed in 2005. The Hall is a large country house built in 1913-1914 in a Neo-Georgian style with strong vernacular influences and survives in remarkably good condition with an unaltered exterior and a good level of survival of internal features of very high quality. The house is connected to an earlier farmhouse of 1746 date. There are also references to an earlier 1684 date building, although no physical evidence of this survives (BLB 2016).

To the immediate south of the house are the site of a Roman milestone and the site of a number of Roman tile and pottery kilns. The A6 road that lies to the immediate east of the Hall and its grounds is a former Roman road, and in the wider area a Roman signal station was identified by aerial photography at Barrock Fell, near Low Hesket to the south.

### **1.3 Previous Archaeological Work**

No previous archaeological work had been undertaken on the proposed site or within the grounds of Scalesceugh Hall.

### **1.4 Project Aims**

In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation, the primary aim of the archaeological works was to;

‘...undertake a trial trench evaluation in order to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits and to establish their vulnerability to the proposed development and to allow mitigation measures to be proposed, where appropriate’.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

CFA Archaeology Ltd is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa). CFA Archaeology follows all relevant Cifa and Historic England Standards and Guidance (Cifa 2014a-c and EH 2008 and 2011).

Linear features (ditches and gullies) were to be sample excavated at a minimum of 10% of their length and a minimum of 1m per section at regular intervals where encountered. Intersections were to be investigated to establish relationships between features. Pits and post holes were to be sampled at a minimum of 50%.

Archaeological remains were to be recorded by means of photographs, drawings and written records conforming to Cifa standards (Cifa 2014b) and CFA’s quality manuals. All features were to be planned and drawn in section at appropriate scales. The trenches, section lines and drawing points were to be surveyed using an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish levels above Ordnance Datum for the trenches.

All finds were to be treated in accordance with relevant guidance (CIFA 2014c). Modern finds were recorded and then discarded.

A summary of the results of archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS. The OASIS reference is cfaarcha1-244432.

### **2.1 Trial Trenching**

Three trial trenches, one measuring 9 x 1.8m, one measuring 12 x 1.8m and one measuring 22 x 1.8m were excavated (Fig.1). Deposits were removed in even, shallow spits by a 360° excavator equipped with a 1.8m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All mechanical excavation work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

### 3. RESULTS

A summary of all contexts from the evaluation forms Appendix 1 whilst the complete site archive is listed in Appendix 2. The following results should be read in conjunction with figures 1-2.

Descriptions of the three trenches appear in the summary table below.

Topsoil on the site consisted of mid brown, silty clay (100) and varied in depth across the site from 0.25-0.35m. No obvious subsoils were recorded within the trenches, with extensive landscaping apparent across the site (see trench descriptions below). The natural substrate for the area consisted of a firm red-pink clay with some small stone inclusions (103).

No.	Size (m)	Description
1	12.0 x 1.8	<p>The trench was orientated north-west/south-east and sloped downhill slightly from south-east to north-west (Fig. 2.1). The trench was located on a terraced area to the south-west of the existing house.</p> <p>Topsoil measured 0.30-0.35m in depth. Layers of made ground/leveling layers formed the rest of the trench stratigraphy (Fig. 2.2). Sealed by the topsoil was a layer of redeposited natural clay (101) 0.15-0.2m in depth which overlaid a layer of compacted stone and clay (102) 0.25-0.3m in thickness. Underlying this was the natural substrate for the trench, a red-pink firm clay.</p> <p>No archaeological features were recorded within the trench.</p>
2	9.0 x 1.8	<p>The trench was on a north-west/south-east orientation and formed a 'T' with Trench 3 at the north-western end of Trench 3 (Fig. 2.3). The trench was flat and waterlogged at time of excavation.</p> <p>Topsoil in the trench measured 0.25-0.30m in depth and directly overlay the natural substrate.</p> <p>Three relatively modern rough stone filled land drains were visible within the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological features were recorded within the trench.</p>
3	22.0 x 1.8	<p>The trench was orientated north/south and formed a 'T' with Trench 2 at its eastern edge (Fig. 2.4). The trench was flat, although the area was waterlogged at time of excavation.</p> <p>Topsoil in the trench measured 0.30m in depth and directly overlay the natural substrate.</p> <p>One rough stone land drain was recorded within the trench, a continuation of the same feature recorded within Trench 2.</p> <p>No archaeological features were recorded within the trench.</p>

**Table 3.1: Trench Summaries**

#### **4. DISCUSSION**

No archaeological features were recorded within the trenches excavated, and it appears likely that the site around Scalesceugh Hall has been heavily landscaped in the past. This landscaping, including the formation of terraced areas saw made ground being added to the area around Trench 1, and accounts for the layers of redeposited natural and layers of compacted stone recorded in this trench.

The area around Trenches 2 and 3 appeared to have been levelled flat during landscaping at some point in the past with the shallow layer of topsoil, and the absence of any subsoils suggesting material here had been removed, and most likely utilised in forming other terraced areas within the Hall's grounds. The stone land drains recorded here appeared modern and are likely a garden feature added to aid water drainage through the thick natural clays.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

The trenching successfully addressed the aims of the evaluation; no evidence for any surviving pre-modern archaeological remains were located in the trenches excavated across the site, with extensive landscaping related to the construction of terraces likely to have truncated any surviving earlier archaeological features or deposits.

## 6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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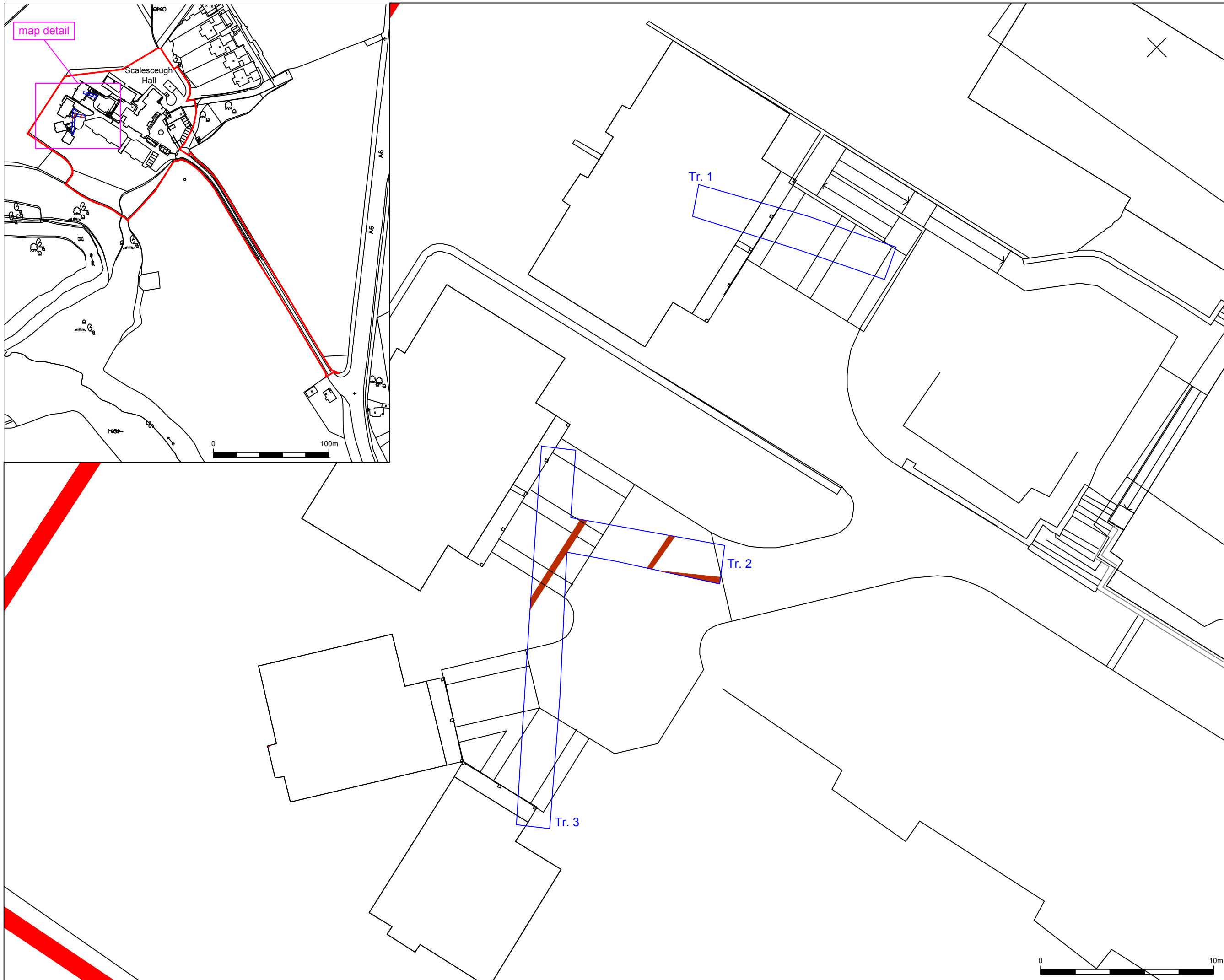


## APPENDIX 1: Context Summary

Context no.	Type	Length (m)	Max Depth (m)	Description
100	Layer		0.25-0.35	Topsoil for all trenches. Consisted of mid brown silty clay with some small stone inclusions.
101	Layer		0.15-0.20	Layer of likely redeposited natural substrate within Trench 1. Consisted of red silty clay with some stone inclusions in places. Likely made ground for terracing in this area of the site.
102	Layer		0.25-0.30	Layer of grey-brown silty clay with compacted stone throughout. Appeared to form the base of a terraced area in this part of the site. Overlay natural substrate.
103	Layer			Natural substrate for area. Consisted of red-pink clay, very compact in form.

## Appendix 2: Inventory of Primary Archive

<b>Phase</b>	<b>File/Box No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Evaluation	File no. 1	Context register sheets	1
		Context sheets	4
		Trench record sheets	3
		Digital photographic register sheets	1



Key:

- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Field drain



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**CFA** ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
 Offices C1 & C2  
 Clayton Business Centre  
 Midland Road  
 Leeds, LS10 2RJ  
 T: 0113 271 6060  
 F: 0113 271 3197  
 yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Title:  
**Site Location and Trench Layout**

Project:  
**Scalesceugh Hall, Carleton, Carlisle, Cumbria: Archaeological Evaluation**

Client:  
**Bruno Herdeiro**

Scale at A3:  
**1:200**

Drawn by: GC	Checked: SW	Date: 16/03/2016
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Report No: Y218/16	Fig. No: 1
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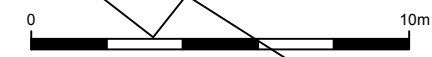




Fig. 2.1 Trench 1, general shot facing north-west



Fig. 2.2 North-east-facing section of Trench 1

Project:  
Scalesceugh Hall, Carleton, Carlisle, Cumbria: Archaeological Evaluation



**CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**  
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Leeds, LS10 2RJ  
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F: 0113 271 3197  
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Client:  
**Bruno Herdeiro**

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Report No: <b>Y218/16</b>		Fig. No: <b>2.1 - 2.2</b>





Fig. 2.3 Trench 2, general shot facing north-east



Fig. 2.4 Trench 3, general shot facing south

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**CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**  
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F: 0113 271 3197  
yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Client:  
**Bruno Herdeiro**

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