

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

*archaeological consultants*

*Advice on Archaeology & Planning*

*Environmental Impact Assessment*

*Interpretation, Design & Display*

*Finds/ Environmental Analysis*

*Field Evaluation & Excavation*

*Historic Building Recording*

*Site & Landscape Survey*

*Geophysical Survey*

**Abbey Walk, St Andrews  
Fife**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 2148**

 0131 273 4380

 0131 273 4381

 info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

## **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

The Old Engine House  
Eskmills Business Park  
Musselburgh  
East Lothian  
EH21 7PQ

Tel: 0131 273 4380  
Fax: 0131 273 4381  
email: [info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)  
web: [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

Author	Jamie Lewis MA
Illustrator	Graeme Carruthers MA MifA
Editor	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MifA
Commissioned by	Robertson Group Ltd
Date issued	December 2012
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-137023
Planning Application No.	10/03316/FULL
Grid Ref	NO 51256 16331

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

**Abbey Walk, St Andrews  
Fife**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 2148**

## **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	3
3.	Archaeological Results	4
4.	Conclusion	5

## **Appendices**

1.	Context Register	6
2.	Photographic Register	6

## **Figures**

Fig. 1 Site Location

Fig. 2 Site plan showing new development, areas of watching brief and location of features

Fig. 3 Haul Road after topsoil removal

Fig.4 Drain showing capstones

Fig.5 Post strip, Trench 11 showing Ditch 010

Fig.6 South-east-facing section of Ditch 010

Fig.7 Wall 008

Fig.8 Wall 008 south-facing section

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of a watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during April and May 2012 on enabling works at Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife (NGR:51256 16331, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by the Robertson Group Ltd. The enabling works were undertaken to service the wider masterplan development area.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2012 was produced by CFA and agreed by the Fife Council Archaeologist.

### **1.2 Background**

Planning consent (Ref No.10/03316/FULL) has been granted for the construction of new residential housing at Abbey Walk, St Andrews. Due to its location within an archaeologically sensitive area, a condition for an archaeological watching brief was attached to the consent.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (watching brief) to monitor all groundbreaking works.
- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording and produce a report on them.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.

### **2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief**

The removal of soil deposits was carried out using a tracked excavator with a flat-bladed bucket.

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

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The watching brief observed the excavation of the spoil heap area, haul road, attenuation tank and service trenches (Fig. 2). Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts (Appendix 1).

#### *The Soil Heap Area*

This area was located in the south-west part of the site and measured approximately 50m by 20m. The stratigraphy consisted of between 0.3-0.6m of topsoil (**000**) overlying natural geology (**001**) which consisted of yellow-brown sandy clay. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were found in this area.

#### *The Haul Road (Fig. 3)*

The haul road was aligned east-west and measured approximately 120m long and 8m wide. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.5m of topsoil (**000**) overlying the natural geology (**001**).

A single stone-lined drain (**002**, Fig.4), cut into the natural subsoil (**001**), was recorded. The drain was aligned north-west/south-east, measured 10m long and extended beyond the edges of the haul road. The top (**003**) was built of a number of roughly rectangular sandstone capstones, which each measured about 0.9m long by 0.4-0.6m wide and 0.2m thick. The sides (**005**) and base were constructed of rectangular sandstone blocks. The void of the drain measured 0.9m deep and 0.5m wide. The bottom 0.25m was filled with drain refuse (**006**) which consisted of dark brown sandy clay with loose sandstone chip (from the drain) inclusions. The drain was backfilled with a mixture of topsoil and natural (**004**).

#### *Attenuation Tank and Service Trenches*

The excavation of the attenuation tank and a considerable portion of the pipe trench network (trenches 10, 11 and 12) was observed. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying made ground. Only to the west of the attenuation tank area, where the pipe turned north, did the excavation uncover natural subsoil; this was devoid of any archaeological deposits.

Trench 10 was aligned NW-SE and measured 40m long, 2.5m wide and 0.5m deep. In the base of the pipe trench was a small linear ditch, aligned NNW-SSE (**012**, Figs. 5 & 6). It measured 28.5m long, 0.3m wide and 0.13m deep. The stratigraphy comprised of dark grey clay (**014**) with animal bone, mussel shell and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery inclusions. Below **014** was brown sandy loam (**013**), no inclusions.

Trench 11 was aligned NNW-SSE and measured 0.7m wide and 0.5m deep. Within the topsoil was observed animal bone, mussel shells and pieces of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery. The formation level was not deep enough to expose the natural subsoil.

Trench 12 was located in the northern part of the site and aligned initially NW-SE before turning N and measured 3m wide and 0.9m deep. At the northern end of the trench an L-shaped wall (**008** & **009**, Figs. 7 & 8) was found. The wall was aligned N-

S and then turned E and measured 3.3m long, 0.4m wide and 0.4m high. It was constructed of rough hewn masonry blocks and positioned within a foundation cut (007), which was then backfilled (010 & 011). It extended beyond the northern limit of excavation and was truncated by a modern pipe at its eastern end.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The watching brief observed the enabling works required to service the wider masterplan development area. Several archaeological features were recorded including a stone-lined drain, a shallow ditch and a wall. All these features appear to date from the later post-medieval period, probably the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Further watching briefs will be required on the individual building plots within the masterplan area.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* along with the results of any future watching briefs in the area.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Fife Council Sites and Monuments Record.

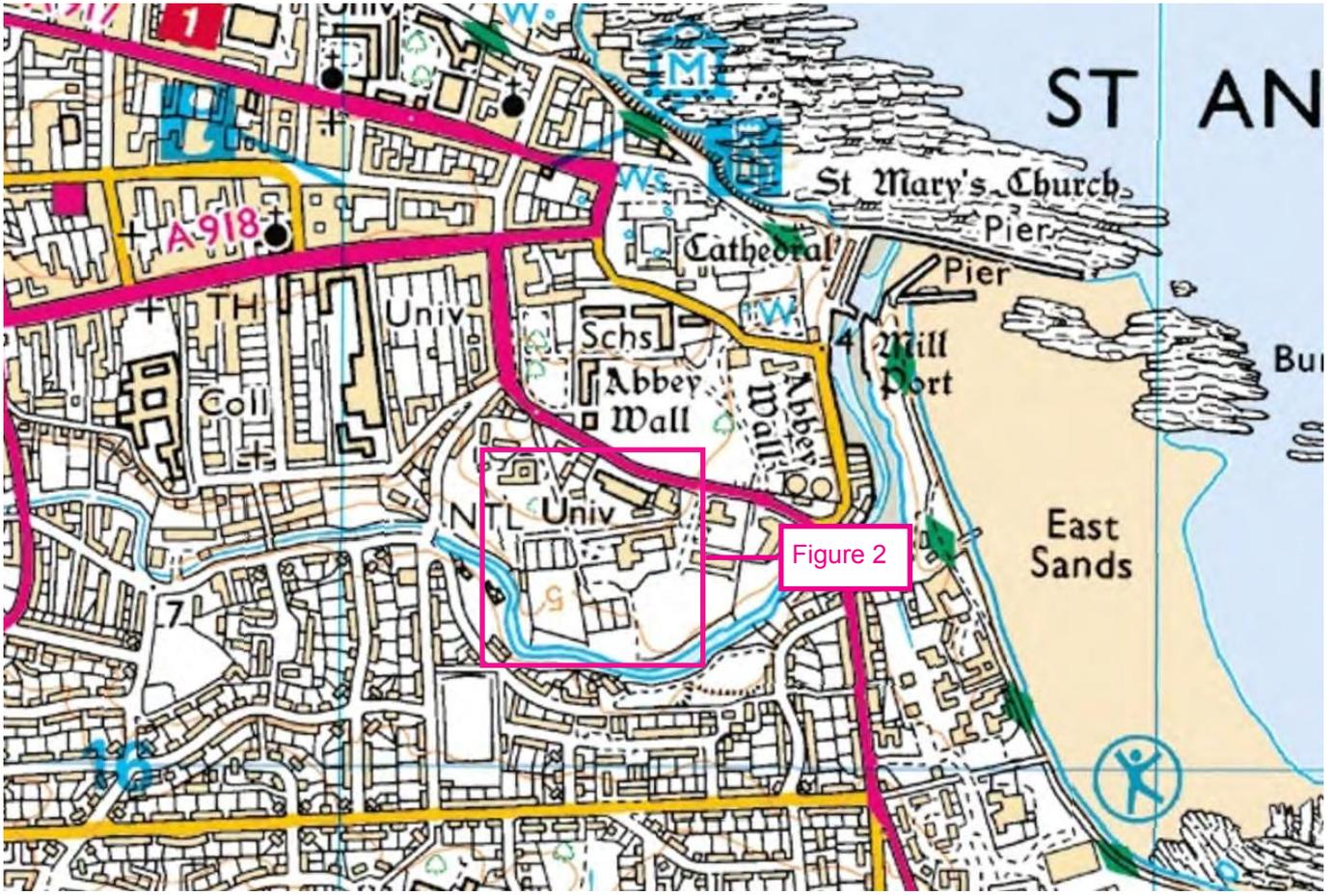
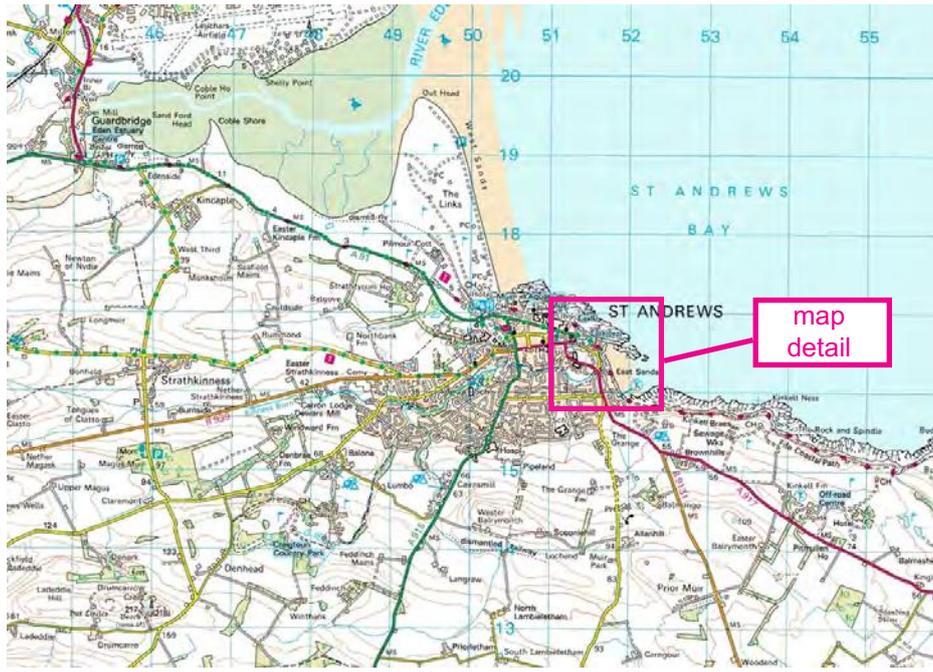
## APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
000	Topsoil
001	Natural geology
002	Cut of drain
003	Capstone of drain
004	Back fill of 002
005	Blocks forming the sides and base of the drain
006	Fill of the drain
007	Foundation trench for wall 008
008	N-S wall
009	E-W wall (same as 008)
010	Fill of 007
011	Fill of 007
012	Ditch
013	Base fill of 012
014	Upper fill of 012

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	Excavated area for the attenuation tank	NE	OC
2	Pipe trench running from the collection tank	E	OC
3	East end of haul road	W	OC
4	Showing disturbed ground	NNE	OC
5	Extension of tank showing extension of made ground	NE	OC
6	Pipe trench west of tank	ENE	Sun
7	Manhole cover	WSW	Sun
8-12	Shot from manhole looking north along the pipe trench	S	Sun
13-19	General site shots	Various	Sun
20	Shot of second parallel pipe trench at S end of site	NW	Sun
21	Excavation around the manhole cover	ENE	Sun
22	Pre-strip shots of access track (trench 10)	S	Sun
23	Post strip shots of the path (trench 10)	SSE	Sun
24	Pre-strip shots area stripped for drainage (trench 10)	N	Sun
25	Post strip shots of area drainage (trench 11)	N	Sun
26	Ditch 010 looking south to tennis court	N	Sun
27	Ditch 010 looking south to existing building	S	Sun
28	Ditch 010 SSE-facing section	S	Sun
29	Ditch 010 SSE-facing section general photo	S	Sun
30-34	Wall 008	Various	Sun
35-36	South-facing section of wall, 007, 008 and 009	S	Sun
37	Site being cleared of vegetation	E	Sun
38	Scar on garden wall		Sun
39	Garden wall scar marks for a frame		Sun
40-41	Area of removed topsoil for car park		Sun
42-45	Shots of Haul road	Various	Sun
46	Shot of S-facing section after topsoil removal	S	Sun
47	Drain showing capstones	N	Sun
48	Drain extending beyond the excavation area	N	Sun
49	Drain with capstone removed		Sun
50	Looking north inside the drain	N	-
51	Looking south inside the drain	S	Sun
52	Drain after hand removal of capstone		Sun
53	Section showing drain and the height of the south-facing	S	Sun

	gable building		
54	Drain after capstone removal by machine	S	Sun
55	Looking north into drain showing blocked off end at the house	N	-
56	Depth of topsoil at east end of the drain	E	Sun
57	Eastern end of haul road	E	Sun
58	West-facing front of the building that cuts the drain.	W	Sun



Key:

Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A	Client:	Robertson Group Ltd
Title:	Site location				
Project:	Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife				

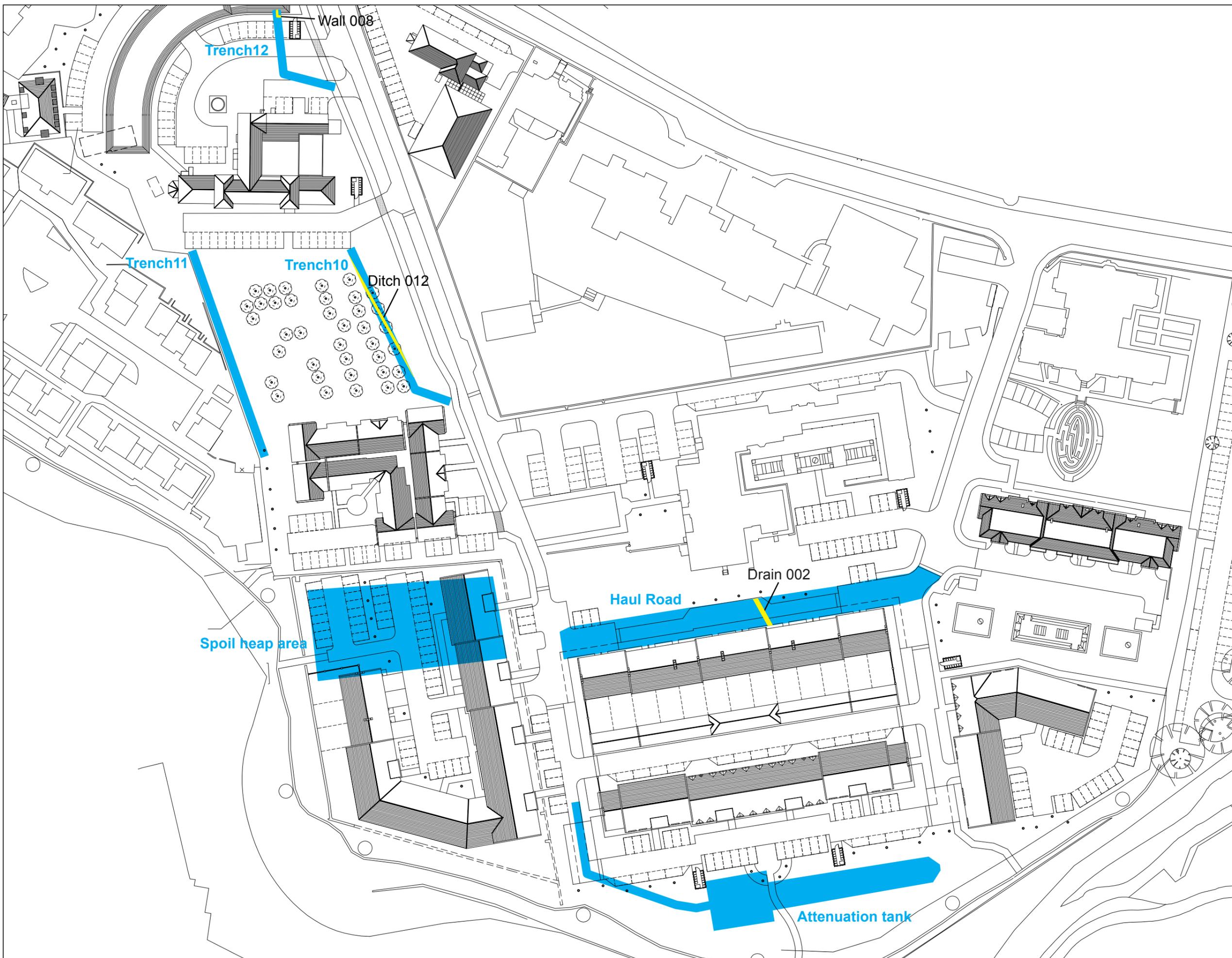
CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
The Old Engine House  
Eskmills Park, Musselburgh  
East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ

T: 0131 273 4380  
F: 0131 273 4381  
e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:
GC	LW	2148

Scale at A4:

Key:  
 Watching Brief areas  
 Archaeological features



**CFA** ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
 The Old Engine House  
 Eskmills Park  
 Musselburgh  
 East Lothian, EH21 7PQ  
 t: 0131 273 4380  
 f: 0131 273 4381  
 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Fig. No: 2 Revision: A

Title:  
 Site plan showing new development, areas of Watching Brief and location of features

Project:  
 Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife

Scale at A3:  
 1:1000

Client:  
 Robertson Group Ltd



Fig.3 : Haul road after topsoil removal



Fig.4 : Drain 002 showing capstones

Fig. No: <b>3-4</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife</b>			<b>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b> The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ
Drawn by: <b>GC</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>2148</b>	Client: <b>Robertson Group Ltd</b>			T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) but the Client shall have a licence to copy and use the document for the purpose for which it was provided. CFA shall not be liable for the use by any person of this document for any purpose other than that for which the same was provided by CFA. This document shall not be reproduced in whole or in part or relied upon by third parties for any use whatsoever without the express written authority of CFA.



Fig.5 : Post strip, Trench 11 showing Ditch 012



Fig.6 : South-east-facing section of Ditch 012

Fig. No: <b>5-6</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife</b>			<b>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b> The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ  T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
Drawn by: <b>GC</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>2148</b>	Client: <b>Robertson Group Ltd</b>			
<small>The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) but the Client shall have a licence to copy and use the document for the purpose for which it was provided. CFA shall not be liable for the use by any person of this document for any purpose other than that for which the same was provided by CFA. This document shall not be reproduced in whole or in part or relied upon by third parties for any use whatsoever without the express written authority of CFA.</small>						



Fig.7 : Wall 008



Fig.8 : Wall 008, south-facing section

Fig. No: <b>7-8</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Abbey Walk, St Andrews, Fife</b>		
Drawn by: <b>GC</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>2148</b>	Client: <b>Robertson Group Ltd</b>		
<small>The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) but the Client shall have a licence to copy and use the document for the purpose for which it was provided. CFA shall not be liable for the use by any person of this document for any purpose other than that for which the same was provided by CFA. This document shall not be reproduced in whole or in part or relied upon by third parties for any use whatsoever without the express written authority of CFA.</small>					

**CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**  
 The Old Engine House  
 Eskmills Park, Musselburgh  
 East Lothian, EH21 7PQ  
 T: 0131 273 4380  
 F: 0131 273 4381  
 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk