

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Advice on Archaeology & Planning*

*Environmental Impact Assessment*

*Interpretation, Design & Display*

*Finds/ Environmental Analysis*

*Field Evaluation & Excavation*

*Historic Building Recording*

*Site & Landscape Survey*

*Geophysical Survey*

## **Land to the east of 5a Lamberton Holdings, Lamberton, Scottish Borders Archaeological Evaluation**

### **Data Structure Report No. 1924**

## **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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

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Lamberton, Scottish Borders  
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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) at land to the east of 5a Lamberton Holdings, Lamberton, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 9682 5731, Fig. 1) during July 2011. The work was commissioned by Edwin Thompson Ltd.

The evaluation was required prior to the development of a housing plot. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA. The WSI was based on documents sent to CFA by Edwin Thompson and discussions with Chris Bowles, the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer, and agreed by Chris Bowles.

### **1.2 Background**

The site of the proposed development is opposite the 12<sup>th</sup> century Lamberton church and churchyard, which is a Scheduled Monument. It seems likely that an associated settlement was also present from this date. The settlement is present on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century maps as Lammertoun. Later maps indicate a diminishing village with buildings to either side of the road falling into disuse.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The project's aims were:

- To establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development area through trial trenching evaluation
- To establish the vulnerability of any archaeological features to the proposed development
- To propose any mitigation measures.

## **2. METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

CFA follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance and Code of Conduct.

### **2.2 Trial Trenching**

Trial trenches were to be focussed on the proposed footprint of the building and other areas of ground breaking, covering a minimum of 70m<sup>2</sup> of the development site. Trenches were not to be excavated within the area of mature trees.

All trenches were to be excavated by mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth bladed ditching bucket under direct archaeological supervision to remove topsoil and modern deposits down to subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded.

The locations of all trenches were recorded using industry standard electronic surveying equipment.

Trenches were backfilled on completion of excavation and recording.

### **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

#### **3.1 General**

The proposed development area occupies the corner of a pasture field. The house plot occupies part of a raised platform between a stone-built field bank and the road. The house plot is cut by a drain from the opposite house, and a further drain runs along the base of the field bank (Fig. 2-4). A group of large mature trees occupies the NE of the site. The site surface comprised rough grass and topsoil (**001**) at 0.3m to 0.4m thick. Natural subsoil (**000**) across the site was reddish sandy clay to the west and north and loose angular gravel to the south and east.

#### **3.2 Trial Trenches**

Five trial trenches totalling 75m<sup>2</sup> were excavated. While their positioning was restricted by the presence of live drainage services, the house plot and potential site for the septic tank and associated drainage were extensively evaluated (Fig. 2).

Trenches 1 and 2 were placed to target the house plot and driveway. Trench 3 was placed to evaluate part of the house plot and a potential route for external drainage. Trench 4 was cut through the field bank and Trench 5 was placed to evaluate the site of the septic tank. Only Trench 2 contained archaeological remains and is described in the narrative below. Trench 4 is also described as it cut a section through the extant field bank. Full descriptions of all trenches are contained in Appendix 1.

##### *Trench 2*

Topsoil (**001**) was 0.4m thick and overlay sandy silt subsoil (**005**) which was 0.3m to 0.5m thick, increasing in depth to the south.

A shallow linear ditch, aligned roughly SW-NE, was cut into the natural subsoil and sealed by the subsoil. The cut (**003**) of the ditch was 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep with shallow sloping sides and a flattish concave base (Fig. 6). The fill comprised clayey sandy silt (**004**) which was barely discernible from the overlying subsoil (**005**), being slightly darker grey and having a higher clay content. Several loose sub-angular stones measuring up to c.0.2m in diameter were contained within the upper fill. Exploratory investigation of the section revealed no further stones. A single sherd of glazed post-medieval pottery was recovered from the base of the fill.

##### *Trench 4*

Trench 4 was excavated across the upstanding field bank. Due to the presence of a live drainage service running close to the base of the bank, the extent of the trench was limited to the base of the bank and not beyond. The bank was c.0.6m high and comprised a boulder-faced bank facing south, forming a rough retaining wall for the raised platform running parallel to the road (Fig. 5). The bank continues to the west though several other fields. It fades out close to the group of trees to the east of the house plot.

Topsoil (001) was 0.3m thick across the top of the bank. The bank (008) was built from piled large stones and boulders c.0.7m high with soil filling the voids. It was set onto the surface of the natural subsoil (000) without evidence of any foundation. No clear horizon was discernible between the soil component of the bank and the continuation of the subsoil (007) to the north. A fragment of glazed post-medieval pottery and a bottle fragment were recovered from the voids between the stones.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The evaluation covered 75m<sup>2</sup> targeting areas of the site which were to be subject to ground breaking work for the development. One archaeological feature was revealed by the trial trenching programme, the remains of a shallow linear ditch which may have been for drainage or was a small boundary ditch, of likely post-medieval/recent date. The ditch is located outwith the footprint of the proposed house plot and crosses the area where an entrance driveway is proposed. A section was also cut through the field bank which crosses the site, which showed the bank to be roughly built of large boulders set onto the surface of the natural subsoil but without any dug foundation. No other archaeological remains or deposits were revealed.

It is recommended that no further work is required: however, the final decision rests with Chris Bowles, Archaeology Officer for Scottish Borders Council.

A summary statement of the results of the evaluation, to be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2011* (Appendix 5) and OASIS, will be sufficient to disseminate the results of the work.

In line with the Written Scheme of Investigation, copies of the report will be lodged with the Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record and the National Monuments Record of Scotland.

## APPENDIX 1: Trial Trench Register

Trench No.	Dimensions (m)	Depth to natural (m)	Description	Archaeological Remains
1	10 x 2	1.2	0.4m of topsoil. 0.8m of sandy silt subsoil. No archaeological remains	N/A
2	11 x 2	0.7-0.9	0.4 m of topsoil. 0.3-0.5m of sandy silt subsoil.	Single linear ditch (003) with dark clayey silt fill (004) containing large floating stones. Potsherd recovered.
3	11 x 1.5	0.6-0.7	0.35m of topsoil. 0.25-0.35m of subsoil.	N/A
4	4 x 1.5	1.0	0.3m of topsoil.	Stone built bank (005).
5	7 x 1.5	0.3	0.3m of topsoil. No subsoil.	N/A

## APPENDIX 2: Context Register

No.	Trench No.	Description	Same as
000	All	Geological subsoil	
001	All	Topsoil	
002	1	Subsoil	005, 006, 007
003	2	Cut of linear ditch	
004	2	Fill of 003	
005	2	Subsoil	002, 006, 007
006	3	Subsoil	002, 005, 007
007	4	Subsoil	002, 005, 006
008	4	Stone built bank	

## APPENDIX 3: Digital Photographic Register

Photo No.	Description	From
1-6	Pre-ex views of site	Various
7-9	Trench 1, working shots	W
10	Trench 1	W
11	Trench 1, section showing soil profile	N
12-13	Trench 2, section of linear ditch (003)	SW
14	Trench 2	NW
15	Detail of field bank	S
16	Trench 4, working shot	S
17-18	Trench 4, section of field bank	E
19	Trench 3	E
20	Trench 5	W

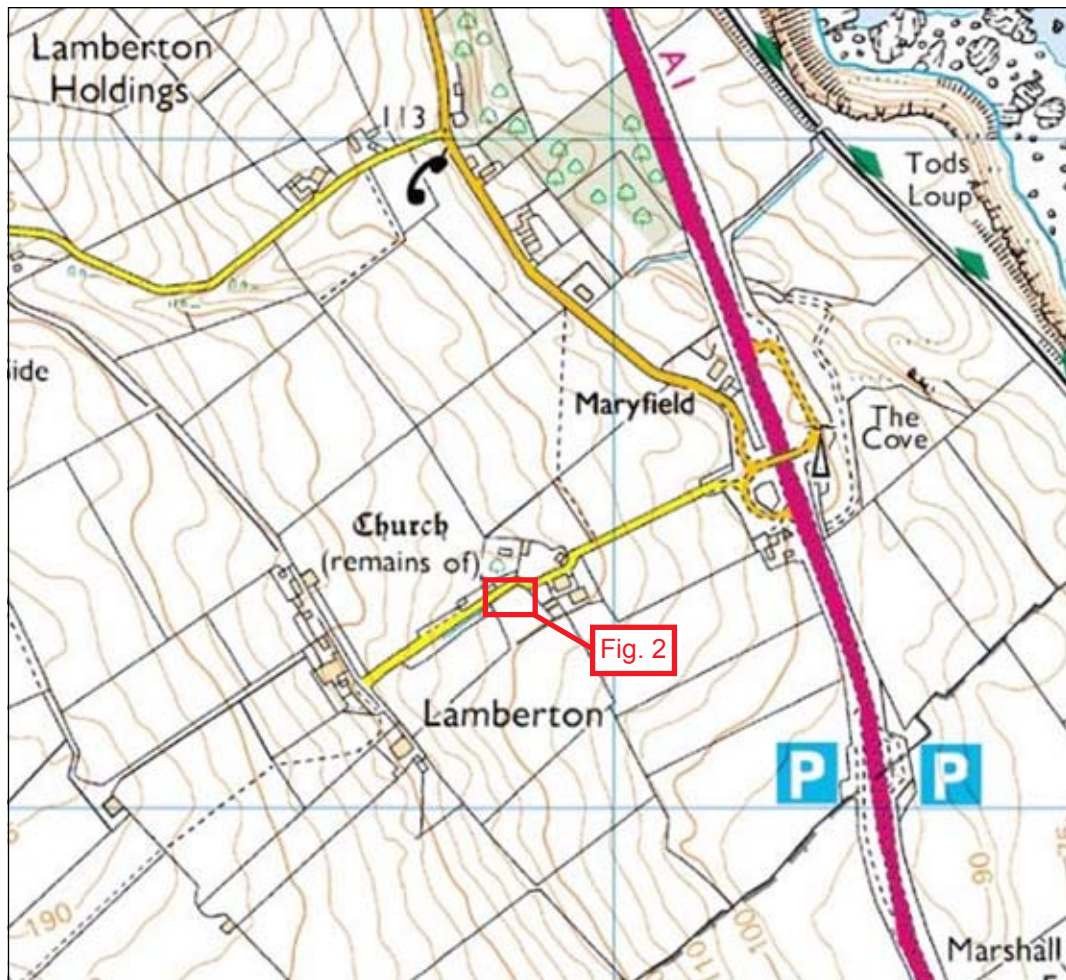
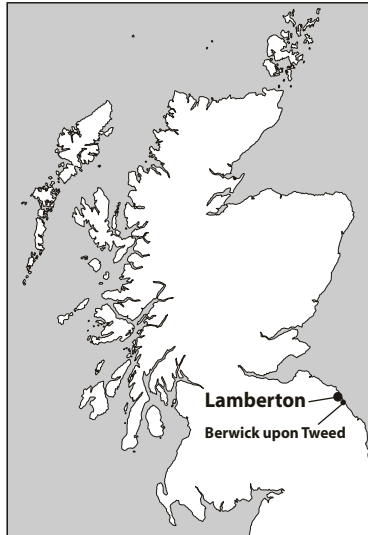
## APPENDIX 4: Field Drawings Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Contexts	Description	Scale
1	1	Trench 2, 003/004	Plan	1:20
2	1	003/004	Section	1:10



## APPENDIX 5: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Scottish Borders Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Land east of 5a Lamberton Holdings, Lamberton
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	BERT
<b>PARISH:</b>	Mordington
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	S Mitchell
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 9682 5731
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	July 2011
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	July 2011
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A Trial Trenching evaluation was carried out in advance of a construction project. The site lies close to Lamberton Old Parish Church and Graveyard and is set on a raised platform formed by a field bank running parallel to the road. A total of 75m <sup>2</sup> was excavated, targeting areas of the site which were to be subject to ground breaking work. The trial trenches revealed a single shallow linear ditch which contained several large loose stones. A section was cut through the field bank which showed the bank to be roughly built of large boulders set onto the surface of the natural subsoil but without any dug foundation. No other archaeological remains or deposits were revealed.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Edwin Thompson Ltd.
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	smitchell@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.



Key:

Fig. No: 1      Revision: A      Client: Edwin Thompson

Title: Site location

Project: Land east of 5a Lambertton Holdings, Lambertton

Scale at A4:

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Drawn by: GC      Checked: LW      Report No: 1924



Key:

- trial trench
- footprint of proposed building



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Fig. No: 2	Revision: A
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Title:  
**Trial trench locations**

Project:  
**Land east of 5a  
Lamberton Holdings,  
Lamberton**

Client:  
**Edwin Thompson**

Scale at A3:  
**1:200**



Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 1924
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Fig. 3 General view of site prior to evaluation, from the SW



Fig. 4 General view of site prior to evaluation, from the SE


Key:	Fig. No:	3-4	Revision:	A	Client:	Edwin Thompson	 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		
	Title:								
Scale at A4:	Project:								
	Land east of 5a Lamberton Holdings, Lamberton								
Drawn by:					GC	Checked:	LW	Report No:	1924



Fig. 5 Tr. 4, NE-facing section through field bank

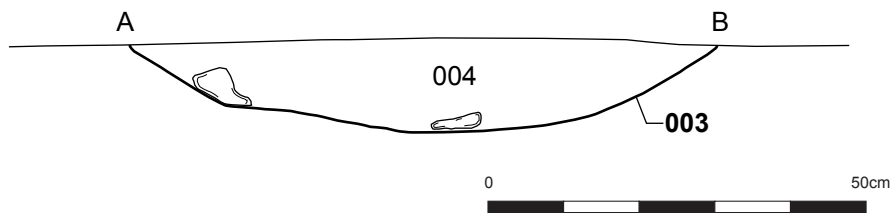


Fig. 6 Section of linear feature 003

Key:	Fig. No:	5-6	Revision:	A	Client:	Edwin Thompson	<p>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</p>				
	Title:										
	Project:	Land east of 5a Lamberton Holdings, Lamberton									
Scale at A4:	Fig. 6 1:10					Drawn by:	GC	Checked:	LW	Report No:	1924