

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

Wanlip Wind Energy Scheme: Site Investigations

Wanlip: Leicestershire

Report No. Y025/11

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd during geotechnical investigation works prior to the construction of a wind turbine at Wanlip, Sewage Treatment Works Leicestershire.

The watching brief monitored the excavation of 10 test pits and recorded topsoil deposits which were generally 0.4-0.5m in depth. In some cases, deposits indicated made ground and contained modern detritus including plastics, tarmac and modern building debris. The maximum depth of the made ground was 1m in depth. The depth of the made ground and occurrence of modern materials suggested the site had been used as a dumping ground in recent times. No significant archaeological finds or deposits were recorded.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during October 2011, for the proposed development of a wind turbine at Wanlip Sewage Treatment Works, Leicestershire. The work was commissioned by Wind Prospect, Ltd. The CFA code and number for the project is WANL/2032.

The scheme of works included the monitored removal of topsoil deposits for site investigation works in advance of the proposed development, which includes a turbine base, crane pad and access and service infrastructure excavation.

All work was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by CFA (2011) on behalf of Wind Prospect Ltd. The WSI was approved by the Conservation and Design Officer for Charnwood Borough Council.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The development site is adjacent to an operational sewage treatment works which forms its southern boundary. The site is bounded to the west by the A6 and immediately to the north by arable farmland. The River Soar forms the boundary to the east (Fig. 1).

1.3 Background

An environmental statement (TNE1 2009) was completed in advance of the proposed development. The cultural heritage chapter concluded that there were no known sites within the proposed development area and that the archaeological potential of the site was probably low.

2. OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the project were to:

- Establish the presence / absence of archaeological remains;
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered;
- Establish the nature of the activity on the site, and;
- Identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.

3. WORKING METHODS

3.1 General

All work was undertaken according to the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, and relevant Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996, 2001), and CFAs standard procedures and method statement.

The removal of soil deposits was carried out using a 360° tracked excavator under constant archaeological supervision. All further excavation required to fulfil the terms of the brief were carried out by hand.

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.

3.2 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 1996, 2001), English Heritage guidance (EH, 2005, 2006, 2008a, 2008b, 2008c and 2011), and CFA's standard methodology.

3.3 Monitoring

The archaeological works were open to monitoring by the Conservation and Design Officer for Charnwood Borough Council, who was informed in advance of the works taking place.

3.4 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be deposited with the relevant museum according to an agreed timescale. The work will be ordered according to current guidelines and to nationally recognised standards (UKIC 1990, 2001, MGC 1994, SMA 1995, Ferguson and Murray 1997 and Brown 2007). A summary of the results of archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in OASIS.

4. RESULTS

Generally, the topsoil was 0.4-0.5m in depth and comprised a reddish-brown, silty-clay, with occasional grey mottling (Fig. 3). However, the topsoil/ overburden in Test Pits 1 and 2 indicated substantial made-ground deposits with depths of up to 1m being recorded (Fig. 2). All topsoil deposits contained a degree of modern detritus which included plastic, tarmac, slate and other mixed building debris. The depth of the made ground and occurrence of modern materials suggested the site had possibly been used as a dumping ground in recent times. The natural substrate was mixed sands and gravels, rounded to sub-rounded cobbles and flint pebbles. The maximum excavated depth was 3.5m recorded in Trench 8, but typically, the limit of excavation was on average between 2-3metres in depth.

No archaeological significant finds or deposits were recorded during the archaeological works.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological works recorded topsoil and made ground up to 1m in depth containing modern debris suggesting the site had probably been used as a dumping ground in recent times. The results of the watching brief support the conclusions of the cultural heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement that the potential for archaeological remains on the site is low.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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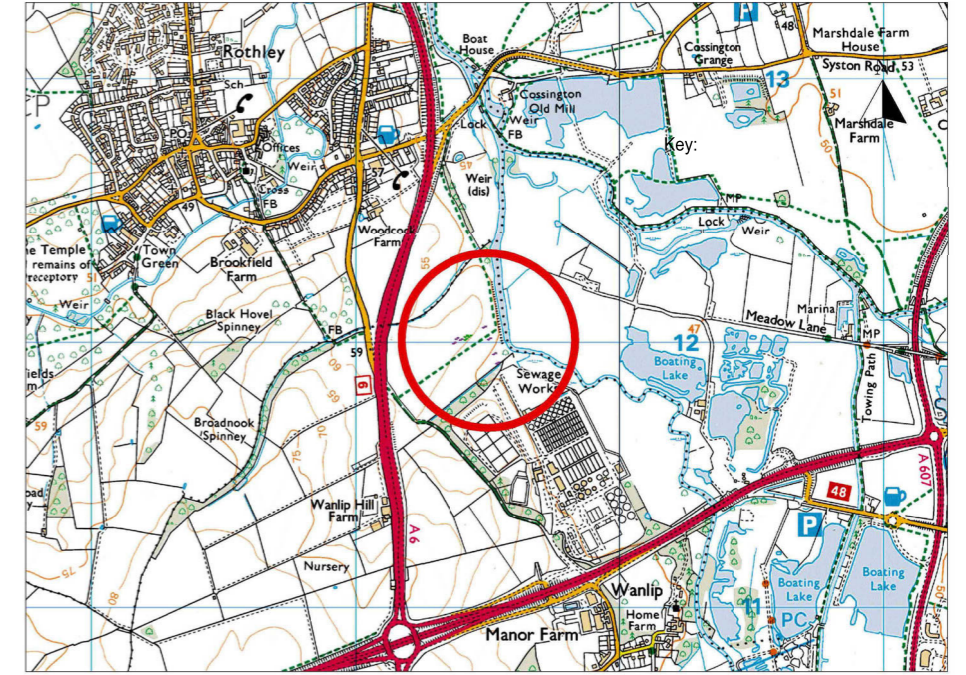
APPENDIX

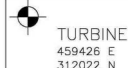
Digital Photographic Register


Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Conditions
1	General shot of site	Bright
2	General working shot of site	Bright
3	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 1	Bright
4	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 2	Bright
5	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 3	Bright
6	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 4	Bright
7	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 5	Bright
8	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 6	Bright
9	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 7	Bright
10-11	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 8	Bright
12	General shot across site	Bright
13-14	Post excavation shot of Test Pit 9	Bright
15-17	Post excavation shots of Test Pit 10	Bright




TRIAL PIT NO.	EASTING	NORTHING
WP-S-TP01	459538	311921
WP-S-TP02	459526	311956
WP-S-TP03	459507	312012
WP-S-TP04	459488	312057
WP-S-TP05	459408	312014
WP-S-TP06	459392	312018
WP-S-TP07	459382	312001
WP-FD-TP08	459419	312022
WP-FD-TP09	459433	312022
WP-FD-TP10	459428	312015



TURBINE POSITION  TURBINE
459426 E
312022 N

WIND PROSPECT TRIAL PITS - SHALLOW  WP-S-TP01
459538 E
311921 N

WIND PROSPECT TRIAL PITS - FULL DEPTH  WP-FD-TP08
459419 E
312022 N

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Fig. No: **1** Revision: **A**

Title:
Site Location and Trial Pit Locations

Project:
**Wanlip Wind Energy Scheme:
Site Investigations
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Scale at A3:
1:1500 

Client:
WIND PROSPECT



Fig. 2 - Test Pit 2 looking north



Fig. 3 - Test Pit 8 looking east

Key:

Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A	Client:	WIND PROSPECT
Title:	Photographic plates				
Project:	Wanlip Wind Energy Scheme: Site Investigations Archaeological Watching Brief				



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