

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Geophysical Survey*

**Arches Business Park  
Napier Road  
Wardpark North, Cumbernauld**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Report No. 2056**

 0131 273 4380

 0131 273 4381

 [info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

 [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://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	Magnus Kirby MA FSA Scot AIfA
Illustrator	Leeanne Whitelaw BSc MIfA
Editor	Bruce Glendinning BSc PgDip MIfA
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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

**Arches Business Park  
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Wardpark North  
Cumbernauld  
North Lanarkshire**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in April and May 2012 for the proposed development of the Arches Business Park, Napier Road, Wardpark North, Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire (NGR: NS 7714 7712 centred) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Gladman Developments Ltd (Gladman).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covering this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf Gladman. This WSI was submitted to and approved by North Lanarkshire Council.

### **1.2 Background**

Gladman Developments have been granted planning permission from North Lanarkshire Council (N/07/01848/FUL) for an office development at OKI Way, Wardpark, Cumbernauld. The terms of the planning consent required that a programme of archaeological trial trenching be undertaken prior to any development work on the site.

The proposed development area lies on waste ground immediately to the south-west of the OKI factory. It is bounded by Napier Road to the south and west, OKI Way to the north and the OKI factory to the east. In total the area measured 3.09ha, but the area available for trial trenching was reduced to 2.24ha due to the presence of a shelterbelt and an area of naturally regenerated semi-mature trees.

A desk-based assessment undertaken by CFA in 2007 (Kirby 2007) identified a concentration of Roman military sites within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area. These consisted of Tollpark Fortlet (NMRS No.NS77NE 41), Netherwood Signal Station (NMRS No.NS77NE 28), Tollpark Temporary Camp (NMRS No.NS77NE 13), Arniebog Roman Alter (NMRS No.NS77NE 12) and the Antonine Wall (NMRS No.NS77NE 62).

No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the development area prior to this evaluation.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the project are to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the development area; to establish the survival, character, extent and complexity of archaeological features within the proposed development area; and to establish their significance and vulnerability to the proposed development.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

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

### **2.2 Evaluation**

The development area was 3.09ha and an 8% evaluation (2472m<sup>2</sup>) was requested. However, only 2.24ha of the site was available due to the presence of a shelter belt of mature trees and another area of semi-mature trees. Therefore, 1792m<sup>2</sup> of trenches were excavated to provide an 8% sample of the available area.

Topsoil and modern overburden was removed by a tracked 360° mechanical excavators equipped with a 2m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was 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.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment and all trenches were backfilled.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

### **3.1 General**

Numbers in bold refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 2. A summary of the trenches excavated is contained in Appendix 3.

### **3.2 Trial Trenches**

Twenty-one trenches (Tr1 – TR21) were excavated amounting to 8% of the area that was available for trenching. The deposits throughout the area measured between 0.2m and 2m in depth and predominantly consisted of made-ground (**002**). The shallow deposits were mainly located at the northern end of the site where the underlying natural (**004**) had been truncated to a level where only the very bases of the field drains survived. Further down-slope towards the central southern and south-eastern part of the site, the deposits became considerably deeper with evidence of made-ground (**002**) overlying buried topsoil (**003**). This would indicate that the northern end of the site had been levelled with the material being pushed down-slope towards the southern end of the site. Consequently, the natural north to south fall of the ground level turned out to be considerably more pronounced than that indicated

from the surface topography. Topsoil (001) directly overlying natural (004) was encountered towards the south-west corner of the site where the area appeared undisturbed by modern activity. The topsoil measured in the region of 0.3m in depth. Throughout the development area the underlying natural (004) subsoil consisted of poorly draining mottled orangey-brown and grey sandy clay.

Numerous field drains, predominantly of the field clearance rubble type, but also of the ceramic cylinder type were identified indicating 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century agricultural improvement, but there were no features deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

An archaeological trial trenching evaluation was carried out in advance of the development of the Arches Business Park. The deposits within the trial trenches suggest that the area had been extensively landscaped with the northern end of the site having been truncated whereas the southern end had been built up with a considerable depth of made ground. This landscaping is likely to relate to the construction of the OKI factory and surrounding industrial units. Numerous field drains were identified indicating 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century agricultural improvements, but there were no features deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

The extent of the modern disturbance combined with the lack of archaeological features or deposits and the poorly draining nature of the natural subsoil indicate that the site has very low archaeological potential. Furthermore, the area that was unavailable for evaluation due to tree cover will have been disturbed by root action and will similarly be of low archaeological potential and therefore, CFA does not recommend any further work in relation to this development. However, it is understood that the decision regarding any further mitigation lies with North Lanarkshire Council.

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 North Lanarkshire Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4).

## 5. REFERENCES

### **Bibliographic**

Kirby, M, 2007 *Arches Business Park, Napier Road, Wardpark North, Cumbernauld, Desk-Based Assessment*, Unpublished CFA Technical Report 1378

## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

*Digital*

Shot	Description	From
1	Trench 1, general	E
2	Trench 2, general	NE
3	Trench 3, general	SE
4	Trench 4, general	SE
5	Trench 5, general	SW
6	Trench 6, general	SW
7	Trench 7, deep sondage	SE
8	Trench 7, general	SE
9	Trench 8, general	SE
10	Trench 9, general	SE
11	Trench 10, general	SW
12	Trench 11, general	SW
13	Trench 12, general	SW
14	Trench 13, general	SE
15	Trench 14, general	NE
16	Trench 15, general	NE
17	Trench 16, general	NE
18	Trench 17, general	NE
19	Trench 18, general	SW
20	Trench 19, general	SE
21	Trench 20, general	SE
22	Trench 21, general	NE
23-34	General post-ex shots	Various

## APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context No.	Area	Trench	Description
001	N/A	1-3, 21	Topsoil
002	N/A	4-20	Made ground
003	N/A	4 – 9, 19, 20	Buried topsoil
004	N/A	All	Natural subsoil



### APPENDIX 3: Summary of Excavation Results

Trench No.	Area No.	Size (m)	Depth of Deposits (m)	Features
1	N/A	50 x 2	0.35	Seven rubble field drains and one ceramic field drain
2	N/A	50 x 2	0.3	Two rubble field drains
3	N/A	50 x 2	0.3 – 0.6	Three rubble field drains
4	N/A	50 x 2	0.8 – 1.2	Two rubble field drains
5	N/A	50 x 2	0.6 – 0.8	Four rubble field drains and two ceramic field drains
6	N/A	50 x 2	0.7 – 0.9	Five rubble field drains and three ceramic field drains
7	N/A	50 x 2	1.3	No features, but modern disturbance noted
8	N/A	50 x 2	1.2 – 1.6	No features, but modern disturbance noted
9	N/A	20 x 2	1.3	N/A
10	N/A	50 x 2	1.5	One rubble field drain
11	N/A	50 x 2	0.5 – 0.7	One rubble field drain, modern disturbance noted
12	N/A	50 x 2	0.4 – 1.6	One rubble field drain, modern disturbance noted
13	N/A	50 x 2	0.4 – 2	No features, but modern disturbance noted
14	N/A	50 x 2	0.25 – 0.45	Two rubble field drains and two ceramic field drains, modern disturbance noted
15	N/A	50 x 2	0.2 – 0.3	One rubble field drain, modern disturbance noted
16	N/A	50 x 2	0.2	No features, but modern disturbance noted
17	N/A	30 x 2	0.3	No features, but modern disturbance noted
18	N/A	20 x 2	0.3 – 0.5	No features, but modern disturbance noted
19	N/A	25 x 2	1 – 1.5	No features, but modern disturbance noted
20	N/A	16 x 2	1.7	N/A
21	N/A	35 x 2	0.5	Four rubble field drains and plough scores

## APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	North Lanarkshire Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Arches Business Park, Napier Road, Wardpark North, Cumbernauld
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	NARO
<b>PARISH:</b>	Cumbernauld
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Magnus Kirby
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NS 7714 7712 (centred)
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	April 2012
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	May 2012
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological trial trenching evaluation was carried out in advance of the development of the Arches Business Park, Wardpark North, Cumbernauld. The deposits within the trial trenches suggest that the area had been extensively landscaped with the northern end of the site having been truncated whereas the southern end had been built up with a considerable depth of made ground. This landscaping is likely to relate to the construction of the OKI factory and surrounding industrial units. Numerous field drains were identified indicating 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> century agricultural improvements, but there were no features deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Gladman Developments Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	National Monuments Record of Scotland North Lanarkshire Council Sites and Monuments Record





Fig. 2 - Trench 1 from East



Fig. 3 - Trench 7 from Southeast



Fig. 4 - Trench 13 from Southeast





Fig. 5 - Trench 17 from Northeast



Fig. 6 - General shot of Shelter Belt



Fig. 7 - Area of naturally regenerated trees

Fig. No: <b>2-7</b>	Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Arches Business Park</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>LW</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>2056</b>			

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