

# 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 off Main Street, Stenton**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Report No. 2097**

## **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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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archive assessment and archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in July 2012 at land off Main Street, Stenton, East Lothian. (NGR: NT 6209 7409) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Jed Pemberton.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 was produced by CFA on behalf of Mr Pemberton. The WSI was designed to fulfil the requirements of the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

### **1.2 Background**

Planning consent (Ref No. 10/00127/P) has been granted for the development of a dwelling house at land off Main Street, Stenton. The planning consent was subject to a condition requiring an archaeological evaluation prior to any groundbreaking works being undertaken.

The site of the proposed development is situated within the Stenton Conservation Area, adjacent to the B-Listed building of the Old School House. It is located on the eastern side of Main Street within an undeveloped plot. The plot slopes downwards from east to west and is bordered by Main Street to the west, White Briar Cottage to the north, the Old School House to the south and open farmland to the east.

The morphology of Stenton is that of a medieval village and it is schematically noted on the Blaeu Atlas (1654) and on Adair's map (1682) as being a ribbon development. The location of the proposed development within the heart of a historic village meant that it was considered to be of high archaeological potential.

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

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the programme of the evaluation were:

- To determine the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To propose mitigation measures where necessary.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, its Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork and the standard conditions of ELCAS for fieldwork in its area. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

### **2.2 Archaeological Archive Assessment**

The historic map collection held by the National Libraries of Scotland (NLS) was examined for information on pre-recent land use within the proposed development area. The maps examined included the Ordnance Survey 6" and 1:25,000 map editions, together with other readily available cartographic information.

The National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and the 'Pastmap' (<http://jura.rcahms.gov.uk/PASTMAP/Map>) website were consulted to obtain information on known archaeological sites within the proposed development area.

### **2.3 Archaeological Evaluation**

Three trenches (1 – 3) (Fig. 1) were excavated, amounting to c.60m<sup>2</sup> (c.6% of the total development area).

Topsoil and modern overburden was removed by a 360° 3CX type mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.5m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. All further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

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.

All trenches were backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

### **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

#### **3.1 Archive Assessment**

##### *NMRS Sites*

The NMRS does not list any sites within the proposed development area. However, there are a number of sites recorded within close proximity. These include the B-Listed Old School House (HB No. 14812, NMRS No. NT67SW 73) and Old School Hall (HB No.14811, NMRS No. NT67SW 74) which are situated within the adjacent south-eastern plot. To the north of the plot is the B-Listed Houses Adjoined to White Briar Cottage (HB No. 14779, NMRS No. NT67SW 79), and on the opposite side of Main Street are the Oak Inn (NMRS No. NT67SW 63) and Watts Cottage (NMRS No. NT67SW 75).

The known archaeological character of the surrounding area (within 100 metres) is post-medieval in date and primarily consists of late 18<sup>th</sup> century/early 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. However, the remains of Stenton Old Parish Church (NMRS No. NT67SW 8, Scheduled Monument No. 762) are thought to date to 1561 and Joiners House (NMRS No. NT67SW 56) is 17<sup>th</sup> century in date, indicating earlier settlement within the village.

Other evidence of early settlement within the wider area includes a possible settlement (NMRS No. NT67SW 107) to the north-east of Stenton and a cist (NT67SW 14) found at Rucklaw Mains.

##### *Cartographic Sources*

The earliest map consulted was Pont's map of 1630. This map depicts 'Stentoun' (Stenton), but there is insufficient detail to allow the proposed development area to be identified. Maps by Blaeu (1654), Adair (1682 and 1736) Roy (c.1750) Forrest (1799), Ainslie (1821), Thomson (1828) and Sharp, Greenwood and Fowler (1824 and 1844) similarly show insufficient detail to allow the area to be positively identified although a number of these maps do show a gap in the buildings at approximately the right location. The map by Blaeu has the earlier spelling of 'Stentoun', but it appears to have been standardised by the time of Adair's 1682 map, which carries the current spelling.

The earliest map to show the proposed development area in detail is the 6" First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1855. This map depicts the current plot boundaries as well as showing the current building layout immediately around the plot. There are no features depicted within the plot either on this map or on the later 25" Ordnance Survey Edition of 1894. This would imply that this particular piece of land had remained undeveloped and was probably utilised for agricultural purposes.

## 3.2 Evaluation (Fig. 1)

### *General*

The deposits throughout the proposed development area predominantly consisted of 0.3m of mid-brown silt topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m – 0.5m of slightly orange-brown sandy-silt subsoil (**002**) overlying orange/reddish-brown sandy clay natural (**003**). Within Trench 3 a small stone box-drain (**004**) was identified. Details of the individual trenches excavated are contained in the following text and a summary of the trenches excavated is contained in Appendix 4.

### *Trench 1*

Trench 1 (Fig. 3) measured 12m by 1.5m. The deposits within this trench from the top downwards consisted of 0.3m mid-brown silt topsoil (**001**) and 0.25 – 0.5m of mixed slightly orangey-brown sandy-silt subsoil (**002**) overlying reddish-brown sandy clay natural. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

### *Trench 2*

Trench 2 (Fig. 4) measured 12m by 1.5m. The deposits within this trench from the top downwards consisted of 0.3m mid-brown silt topsoil (**001**) and 0.2m of mixed slightly orangey-brown sandy-silt overlying reddish-brown sandy clay natural. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

### *Trench 3*

Trench 3 (Fig. 2, 5, 6 and 7) measured 7m by 3m, with a small extension measuring 2m by 1.5m. The deposits within this trench from the top down consisted of 0.3m of mid-brown silt topsoil (**001**) and 0.3m – 0.5m of mixed slightly orangey brown sandy clay subsoil (**002**) overlying orange-brown sandy-clay natural (**003**). A single small stone box drain (**004**) was identified within this trench.

The box drain snaked slightly, running downhill in an approximately south-east to north-west direction. It had been constructed from stones measuring up to 0.3m in length which had been cut into the subsoil/natural (**002** and **003**) and covered over with capstones. This created an internal space measuring c.0.1m wide by c.0.14m high (Fig. 6) through which the water ran.

A number of pieces of clay smoking pipe were recovered from the material that had silted up within the drain. The pieces of clay pipe are thought to date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Further pieces of glass recovered from subsoil **002** immediately around the drain are also post-medieval in date. A summary of the finds is given in the following section.

### 3.3 Finds (Christina Hills)

Context no	Find type	Number	Weight (g)	Date
005	Clay Pipe	7	14	Post Medieval
002	Iron	1	121	Post Medieval
002	Pot	1	41	Post Medieval
002	Glass	3	50	Post Medieval

*Table 1. Finds quantification*

The finds from the site were all found associated with the drain **004**. All of the finds were post medieval, dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later.

## 4. CONCLUSION

An archive assessment and archaeological evaluation were undertaken at Land off Main Street, Stenton in advance of the construction of a dwelling house. The archive assessment indicated that there had been no previous development within the proposed development area. Trial trenching identified a single stone box-drain. Material recovered from the fill of the box-drain suggests that it was 19<sup>th</sup> century in date.

Based on the results of this evaluation CFA Archaeology makes no recommendations for further work. However, it is understood that the decision regarding any further mitigation measures lies solely with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

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 East Lothian 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 5) and an online OASIS form will be completed.



## **5. REFERENCES**

### **5.1 Cartographic**

Adair, J 1682 *East Lothian / authore Johanne Adair*

Adair, J 1736 *A map of East Lothian / survey'd by J. Adair*

Ainslie, J 1821 *Ainslie's Map of the Southern Part of Scotland*

Blaeu, J 1654, *Lothian and Linlithgow*

Forrest, W 1799 *Map of Haddingtonshire*

Greenwood, C and Fowler, W 1824 *Map of the county of Haddington*

Greenwood, C and Fowler, W 1844 *Map of the county of Haddington*

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (1854) 6 inch to one mile Haddingtonshire Sheet 6

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military map of Scotland*

Thomson, J 1822 *Haddington*

## APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Topsoil: mid-brown to grey silty topsoil of a consistent depth of 0.30m.
002	Subsoil: consists of a orangey brown mixture of sandy silt ranging in depth from 0.20- 0.50m
003	Natural subsoil consisting of a reddish brown sandy-clay
004	Stone box drain
005	Fill of drain comprising grey-brown mixture of sandy silt.

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Number	Description	From	Conditions
1	Trench 1, general	WNW	Rain
2	Trench 2, general	WNW	Rain
3	Trench 3, general	NW	Rain
4	Trench 3, drain 004	NW	Rain
5	Trench 3, drain 004, close up	NW	Rain
6-7	Trench 3, general	SE	Rain
8-11	Trench 3, drain 004	W	Rain

## APPENDIX 3: Drawing Register

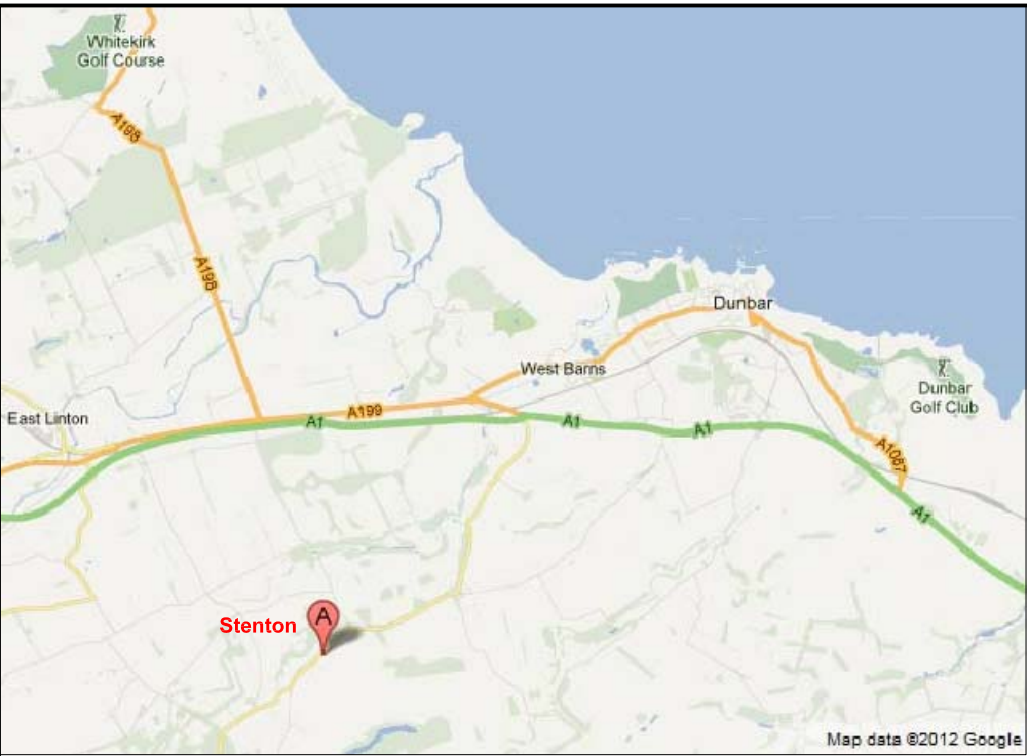
Number	Description	Section/Plan	Scale
1	Trench 3 with stone drain	Plan	1:20

## APPENDIX 4: Trench Summary

Trench No.	Area	Size (m)	Depth of Deposits (m)	Features
1	House footprint	12x1.5	0.55 - 0.8	N/A
2	House footprint	12x1.5	0.5	N/A
3	Drive	7x3 plus 2x1.5	0.6 - 0.8	19 <sup>th</sup> century box-drain

## APPENDIX 5: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	East Lothian Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Land off Main St. Stenton
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	PEMB
<b>PARISH:</b>	Stenton (East Lothian)
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Magnus Kirby; Luke Aspland
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological 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, 10 figures)</b>	NT 6209 7409
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	July 2012
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	July 2012
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	An archive assessment and archaeological evaluation were undertaken at Land off Main Street Stenton in advance of the construction of a dwelling house. The archive assessment indicated that there had been no previous development within the proposed development area. Trial trenching identified a single stone box-drain. Material recovered from the fill of the box-drain suggests that it was 19 <sup>th</sup> century in date.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Mr Jed Pemberton
<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 East Lothian Council Archaeology Service



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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:  
 Site location and trench plan

Project:  
 Land off Main Street, Stenton,  
 East Lothian

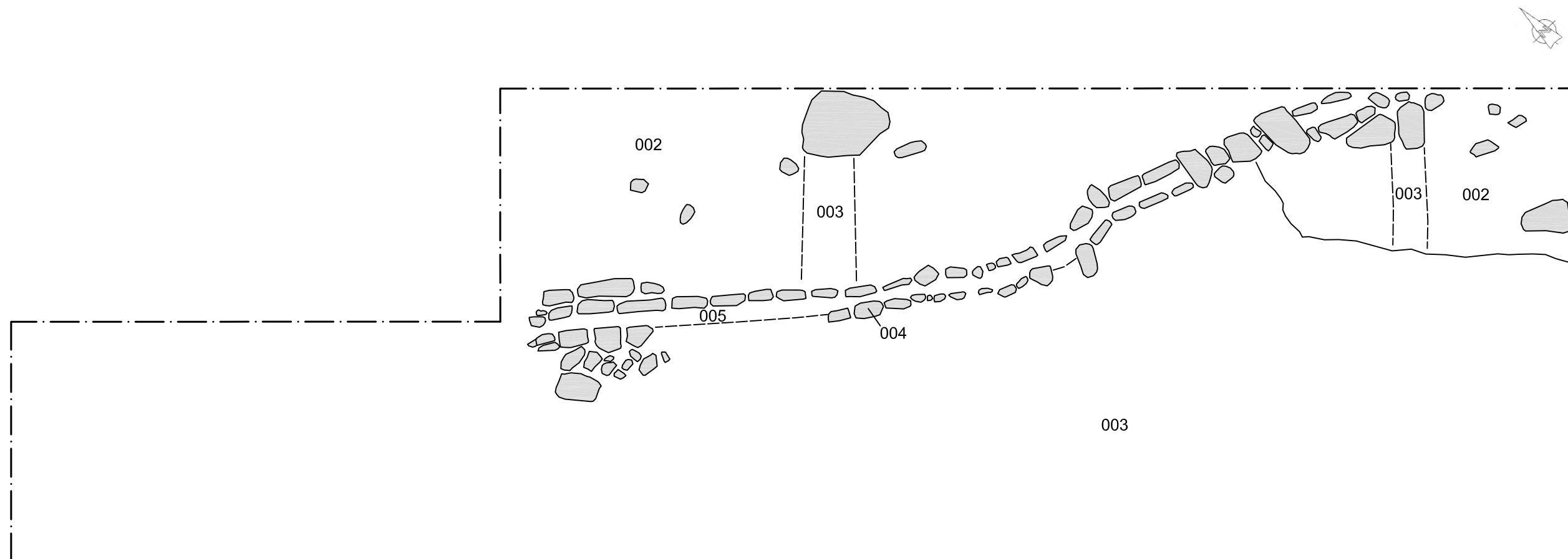
Client:  
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Scale at A3:  
 1:300





Key:



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Fig. No: 2	Revision: A
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Title:  
**Plan of trench 3 showing drain 004**

Project:  
**Land off Main Street, Stenton, East Lothian**

Client:  
**Mr J Pemberton**

Scale at A3:  
**1:30**



Fig. 3 - Trench 1 from WNW



Fig. 4 - Trench 2 from WNW





Fig. 5 - Trench 3 from NW



Fig. 6 - Trench 3 drain 004 from NW



Fig. 7 - Trench 3 from SE

Fig. No: <b>3-7</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Land off Main Street, Stenton, East Lothian</b>		
Drawn by: <b>LW</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>2097</b>	Client: <b>Mr J Pemberton</b>		
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