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Geophysical Survey

**Lauder Primary School (Old School)
2 Crofts Road,
Lauder, Scottish Borders**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 2162

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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 a archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on the 5th December 2012 at lauder Primary School, 2 Crofts Road, Lauder, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 53028 47468, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Eildon Housing Association Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 14th May 2012 was produced by CFA and agreed by Dr Christopher Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist.

1.2 Background

Planning permission (11/01337/FUL) for housing has been granted for the construction of new housing at Lauder Primary School, 2 Crofts Road, Lauder.

There is an indication that Lauder was a medieval walled town, and that the defensive wall extended underneath the site of Lauder Primary School. This is indicated by the configuration of Crofts Road which is at least 18th century, but likely an older feature of the town. Due to the archaeologically sensitive nature of the area and the possible presence of a medieval town wall in this location, a programme of archaeological works was attached to the consent.

1.3 Objectives

The project's aims and objectives 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 mitigation measures.

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 Evaluation

Three trial trenches were excavated and this was done to a strategy agreed with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. The trenches covered 6% (150m²) of the development site (0.25ha).

All trenches were excavated by machine 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, whether or not significant archaeological deposits have been identified.

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

Trenches were backfilled on completion of excavation.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Three trenches were excavated during the evaluation (Fig. 1). The numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts (Appendix 1). No archaeological deposits or artefacts were found.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned north-south and measured 17 long, 3m wide and 0.55m deep (Fig. 2). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.5m of demolition rubble (**001**) directly overlying natural gravel (**000**).

Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned north-south and measured 17 long, 3m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 3). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.6m of demolition rubble (**001**) directly overlying natural gravel (**000**).

Trench 3

Trench 3 was aligned north-south and measured 16 long, 3m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig. 4). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of demolition rubble (**001**) directly overlying natural gravel (**000**).

4. CONCLUSION

The evaluation comprised of three trenches covering 150m². These were positioned in order to focus upon the area most likely to contain any evidence for the existence of a medieval town wall. The evaluation showed that the area here had been completely scarped during the building of the school and its subsequent demolition.

No archaeological deposits or artefacts were found during the evaluation.

A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3).

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

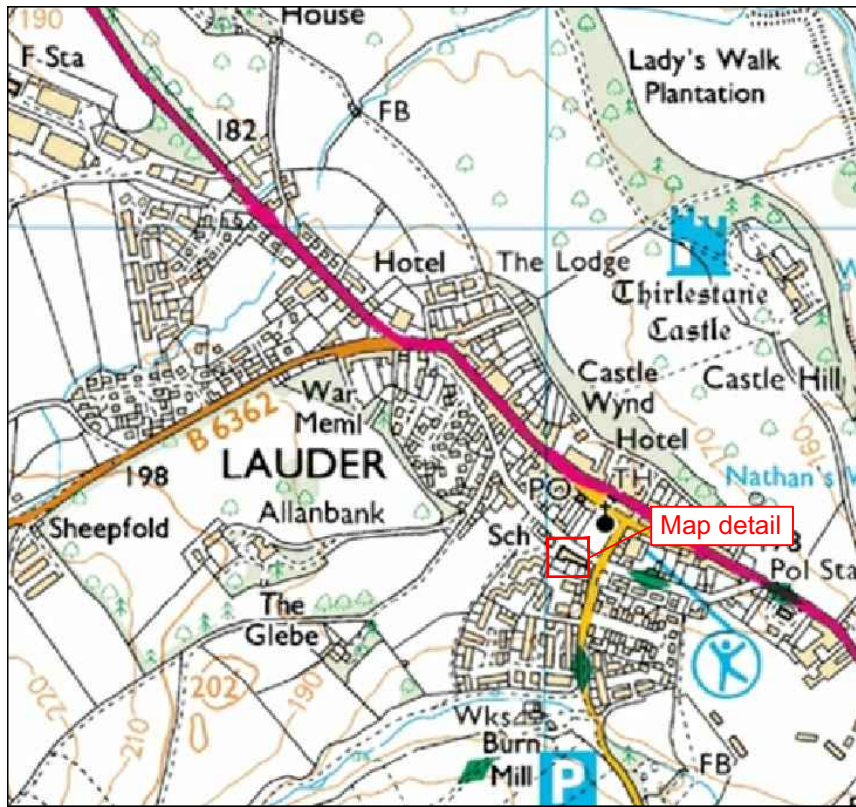
Context No.	Description
000	Natural geology
001	Demolition rubble

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register (Digital)

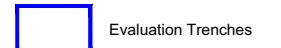
No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	Trench 1 looking north	S	Overcast
2	Trench 2 looking north	S	Overcast
3	Trench 3 looking north	S	Overcast

APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Lauder Primary School, 2 Crofts Road, Lauder
PROJECT CODE:	CROL
PARISH:	Lauder
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	James Lewis
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 53026 47468
START DATE (this season)	5 th December 2012
END DATE (this season)	5 th December 2012
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Three trenches were excavated to attempt to find evidence for a medieval town wall. No archaeological deposits of artefacts from any period were found.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Craig Fotheringham
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record



Key:



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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
 Site location and position of
 evaluation trenches

Project:
 Lauder Primary School

Client:
 Eildon Housing Association Ltd

Scale at A3:
 1:200







Fig.2 - Trench 1, looking north





Fig.3 - Trench 2, looking north

Fig. No: 2-3	Revision: A	Project: Lauder Primary School			CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ
Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2162			Client: Eildon Housing Association Ltd

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Fig.4 - Trench 3, looking north

Fig. No: 4		Revision: A	Project: Lauder Primary School			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
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