

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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**Wind Turbine  
Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor,  
East Ayrshire  
Archaeological Mitigation  
Report No. 3108**

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standard operating procedures.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological mitigation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on the 3 December 2013 on land at Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by 3R Energy Solutions Ltd on behalf of their client Mr John Raeside.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 26 September 2012 was produced by CFA on behalf of 3R Energy Solutions Ltd. The WSI was approved by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS).

### **1.2 Background**

Planning permission has been granted for the construction of one wind turbine on land at Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire (Fig. 1). The planning permission was subject to a condition requiring a programme of archaeological mitigation on those areas of ground breaking work associated with the turbine construction and infrastructure.

The access to the turbine runs across the site of a farmstead that is recorded by the WoSAS SMR and by the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) (WoSAS Ref: 47368; NMRS No. NS45SW 21; NGR: NS 4338 5406) as a 'farmstead annotated Knockmade (Ruin) and comprising one unroofed long building and one enclosure, [which] is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Renfrewshire 1863, sheet xv), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10560 map.' The site is also mapped by Roy in 1755, where it is named as 'Knockmed'. Other medieval and some prehistoric features have been recorded in the wider landscape surrounding the application site and it was, therefore, considered possible that the watching brief could encounter archaeological remains of medieval or later date.

### **1.3. Objectives**

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation in the areas of ground associated with the turbine construction and infrastructure.
- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording, and produce a report on them.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

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

### **2.2 Archaeological Fieldwork**

The terms of the WSI required an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation to monitor ground breaking works. Excavation was undertaken with a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.

All discoveries, including soil profiles and subsoil characteristics, were recorded using standard CFA recording forms and digital photography.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

The location of the turbine is in an open pasture field towards the summit of Tennoch Hill which lies to the north-west of Linnhead Farm (Fig 2). An area around the proposed turbine base measuring 9m by 13m turbine base was stripped of turf and topsoil **(001)** to reveal an underlying whinstone rock outcrop, natural sandy gravels and clay. In places a thin subsoil was visible **(002)**.

The route of the 4m wide access track running south-west from the turbine to the main road was also stripped of topsoil / subsoil down to natural bedrock, gravels and clays. This route partly ran along an existing track made of crushed stone **(004)** which was left in situ. Where the access track joined the main road the ground was stripped down to natural clay and a turning circle created for the turbine crane. This necessitated the partial demolition of a tumbled drystone dyke on the N side of the road **(005)**. A single ceramic field drain in a rubble filled trench was revealed under the turning circle **(006/007)**.

No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified, despite the fact that the access track route runs close to the former location of Knockmade Farmstead, which is shown as a ruin on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (Fig 3).

## **4. CONCLUSION**

A programme of archaeological mitigation was carried out during ground works for the erection of a wind turbine on land at Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS).

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3) and an online OASIS form will be completed.

## APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Topsoil – Mid to dark brown loam. 10-40cm thick.
002	Subsoil – Light beige brown silty sand, mainly visible at crest of hill. <5cm thick.
003	Natural Ground – Outcrops of crumbly whinstone, sandy gravels and beige clay.
004	Track Surface – Compacted angular crushed rock, type 1, black to reddish.
005	A section of drystone wall running along the N of the road. Constructed from rounded to sub-angular boulders (c.25 x 25 x 18cm). Badly tumbled, but survived up to 3 courses in places, <55cm high, up to 80cm wide.
006	Ceramic field drain and rubble fill
007	Cut for 006

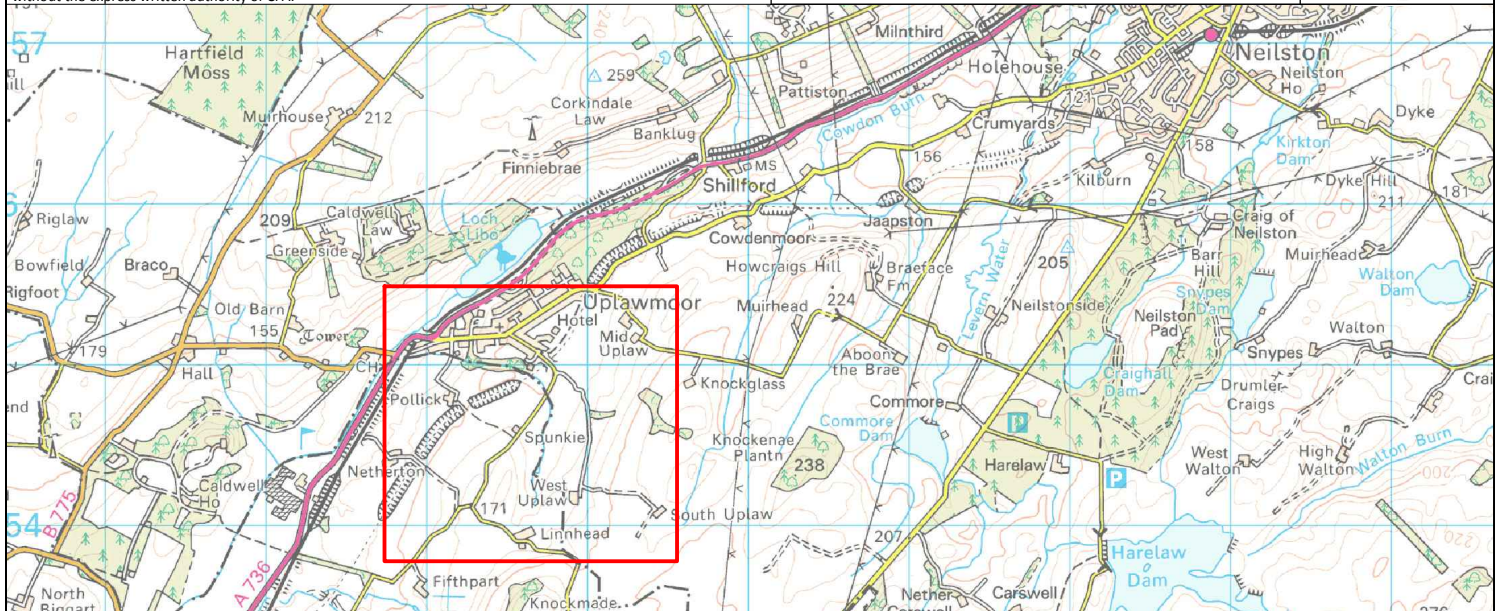
## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Number	Description	From	Conditions
LINN_001	Shot scraping back road surface 004	SW	Overcast
LINN_002	Shot removing topsoil next to 004	S	Overcast
LINN_003	Shot showing stripping towards turbine location	SW	Overcast
LINN_004	General shot of stripping for access road	SW	Overcast
LINN_005	Stripping of area for turbine base	W	Overcast
LINN_006	Shot of turbine base area stripped	E	Overcast
LINN_007	General shot of access track stripped	NE	Overcast
LINN_008	Shot of wall 005 before demolition	SE	Overcast
LINN_009	Shot of wall 005 before demolition	SE	Overcast
LINN_010	Shot of turning circle stripped to natural clays	S	Overcast
LINN_011	Shot of wall 005 before demolition	NE	Overcast
LINN_012	Shot of section through wall 005	NW	Overcast

### APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	East Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Wind Turbine, Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	LINN
<b>PARISH:</b>	Dunlop
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Barton, T
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NS45SW 21
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Farmstead
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	-
<b>NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)</b>	NS 43429 54127
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	03 December 2013
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	03 December 2013
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A programme of archaeological mitigation was carried out during ground works for the erection of a wind turbine. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	3R Energy Solutions 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</b> (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) West of Scotland Archaeology Service (report)





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Key:



Fig No: 1 Revision: A Client: 3R Energy Solutions Ltd

Title: Site Location

Project: Wind Turbine, Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire, Archaeological Watching Brief

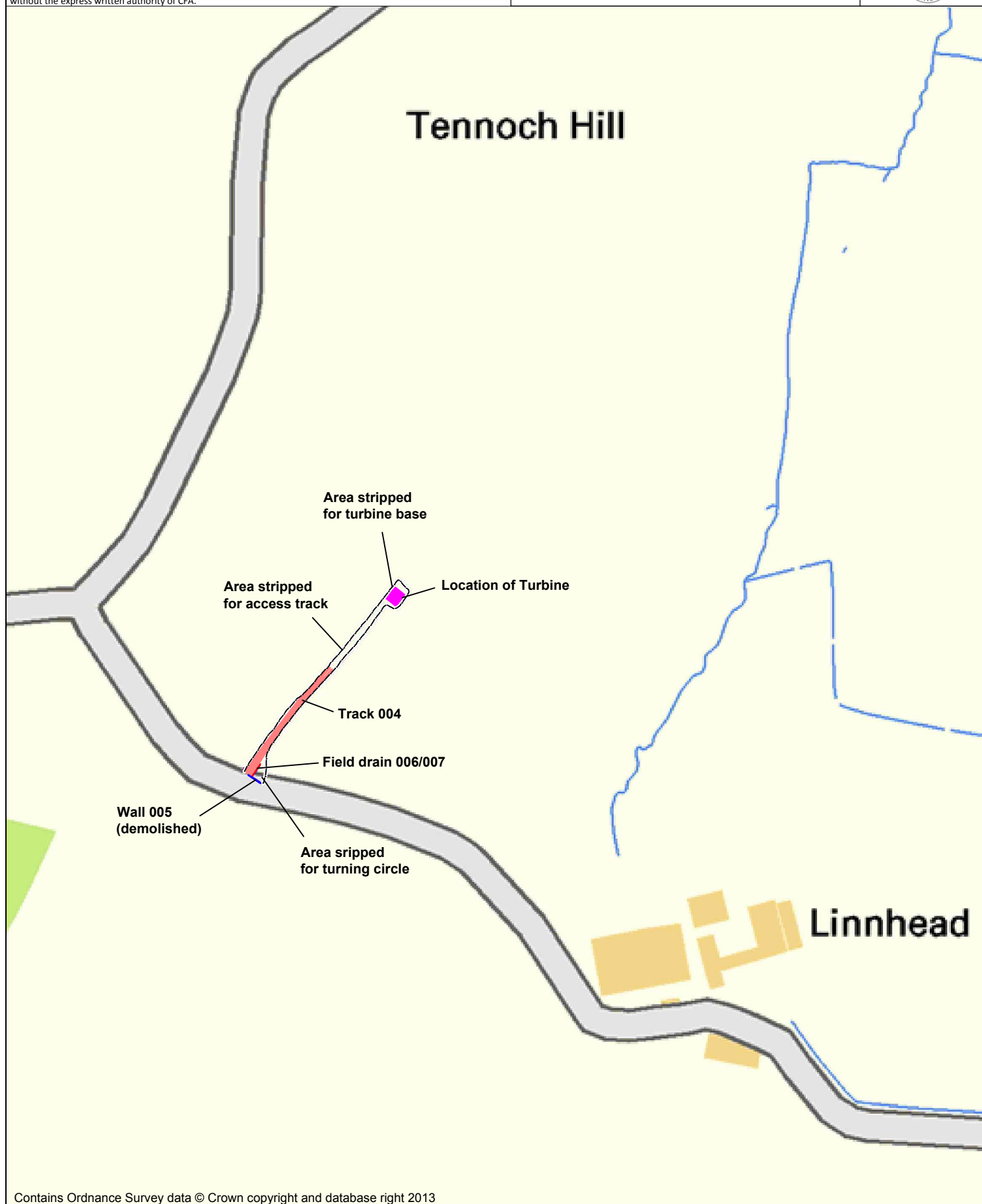
Scale at A4: 1:10,000



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Key:



Stripped Area



Fig No:

2

Revision:

A

Client:

3R Energy Solutions Ltd

Title:

Plan of stripped area for turbine development

Project:

Wind Turbine, Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire, Archaeological Watching Brief

Scale at A4:

1:10,000



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Key:



Stripped Area



Fig No:

3

Revision:

A

Client:

3R Energy Solutions Ltd

Title:

Stripped area shown on the 1st edition 25 inch OS map, 1858

Project:

Wind Turbine, Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire, Archaeological Watching Brief

Scale at A4:

1:10,000



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*Fig. 4 - Photo of the area around the turbine base being stripped, from the SW*



*Fig. 5 - Photo of stripping the turning circle and revealing field drain 006/007, from the S*

Fig. No: <b>4-5</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: Wind Turbine, Linnhead Farm, Uplawmoor, East Ayrshire, Archaeological Watching Brief			<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
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