

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Interpretation, Design & Display

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Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording


Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

**St Martins, Victoria Road, Haddington,
East Lothian**

**Archaeological Archive Assessment
& Monitored Strip**

Report No. 3125

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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 archaeological monitored strip and archive assessment undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on a new house development on Victoria Road, Haddington, East Lothian (NT 51187 73670) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Liam Hughes and was carried out on 31 January 2014 and 01 February 2014.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 11 October 2013 was produced by CFA Archaeology Ltd. The WSI was approved by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

1.2 Background

Planning permission was granted, subject to an archaeological condition, for the construction of a new house and associated parking areas within the garden (Fig. 2) of an adjacent property.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works are

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (monitored strip) to monitor remaining groundbreaking works such as topsoil removal, excavation of foundations, hardstandings driveways, service tracks etc to ensure works are cleared of topsoil and other modern overburden to identify either undisturbed natural subsoil or archaeological features (whichever comes first).
- 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. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

2.2 Archive Assessment

A desk-based assessment was conducted to put this work within the local context.

2.3 Monitored Strip

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

The ground breaking works consisted of a vegetation strip of the parking and access areas. Following that this area was to be built up and was not to be reduced further. The footprint of the house was stripped but natural subsoil was not revealed so monitoring of the excavation of the foundations was also undertaken.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Archive Assessment

General

The proposed development site is located at the south-western edge of the town of Haddington, outwith the historic medieval core of the town. The location of the proposed development is within an area considered to be the location of the fortifications of the Siege of Haddington. In the summer of 1548, the English troops built fortifications around Haddington, to use as a military base close to Edinburgh during the Rough Wooing. The Scottish forces, with their French allies, laid siege to Haddington for 19 months. The English were eventually forced to leave because of starvation and plague. The fortifications were then pulled down and little or no trace remains to be seen. Accordingly the area is regarded as being of potential archaeological significance (Jones, 2013).

Bibliographic

A plan of the possible fort layout is presented in Cooper, J, 2008, *Whitecoats and Rascals: In Search of the Fortifications and Siege Works from the Siege of Haddington 1548 – 1549*. This shows the western ditch of the inner defences extending from the west port (the present crossroads at Station Road and Court Street) southwards to The Butts, crossing the proposed development site (Jones, 2013).

Historic Maps

John Wood's town plan of c. 1819 shows the general area as undeveloped and records it as Town's Property. The Great Reform Act Plan of 1832 shows the general area as undeveloped.

The Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1853 shows the area as undeveloped ground next to the bowling club. The later 1893 town plan is the same.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map surveyed in 1853 shows the site as belonging to a garden nursery. The Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map edition of 1895 which was surveyed in 1893 shows the site as an undeveloped area next to the bowling club. The Edition of 1908 which was revised in 1906 shows that the area is now part of the garden of the large house from which the current development area has been subdivided. The edition of c. 1948, that was revised in 1938 is the same.

3.2 Monitored Strip

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

The driveway and parking area was stripped of vegetation but natural deposits were not exposed as this area was to be built up.

The footprint of the house was stripped of topsoil down on to the subsoil and following this the foundations (Figs. 3-7) which were 600mm wide were excavated down on to the natural undisturbed subsoil.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified. The stratigraphic sequence was simple with topsoil (**001**) overlying a garden subsoil (**002**) which in turn overlay undisturbed natural clay subsoil (**003**).

4. CONCLUSION

A monitored strip was carried out during ground breaking works for the foundations of a new house and the creation of associated hardstandings and carparking.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified. The stratigraphic sequence was simple with topsoil (**001**) overlying a garden subsoil (**002**) which in turn overlay undisturbed natural clay subsoil (**003**). However, only a small part of the development area concentrated around the western end of the site was subject to soil stripping the remainder of the site is to be retained as garden and will not be affected by the development.

No further work is recommended: however, it is understood that the final decision rests with the planning authority as advised by ELCAS.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, plans and reports, will be deposited with the RCAHMS and copies of reports lodged with ELCAS.

The results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3). An *OASIS Scotland* entry will also be completed and these will be sufficient for the dissemination of this information.

5. REFERENCES

Bibliographic

Jones, E 2013 East Lothian Council Archaeology Service, Culture and Community Development, Internal Memorandum

Cartographic

Great Reform Act Plans and Reports, 1832, Map 31

Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile Haddingtonshire Sheet 10, Survey date: 1853,
Publication date: 1855

Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Haddington Surveyed: 1853 Scale: 1:1056

Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile Haddingtonshire Sheet X.NW, Publication date: 1895,
Date revised 1893

Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Haddington Surveyed: 1893 Scale: 1:500

Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile Haddingtonshire Sheet X.NW, Publication date: 1908,
Date revised: 1906

Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile Haddingtonshire Sheet X.NW, Probable Publication
date: ca. 1948, Date revised: 1938

Wood, J, 1819 Plan of Haddington and Nungate

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Topsoil: greyish black clayey silt
002	Subsoil: greyish brown clay
003	Natural: mottled orange clay

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

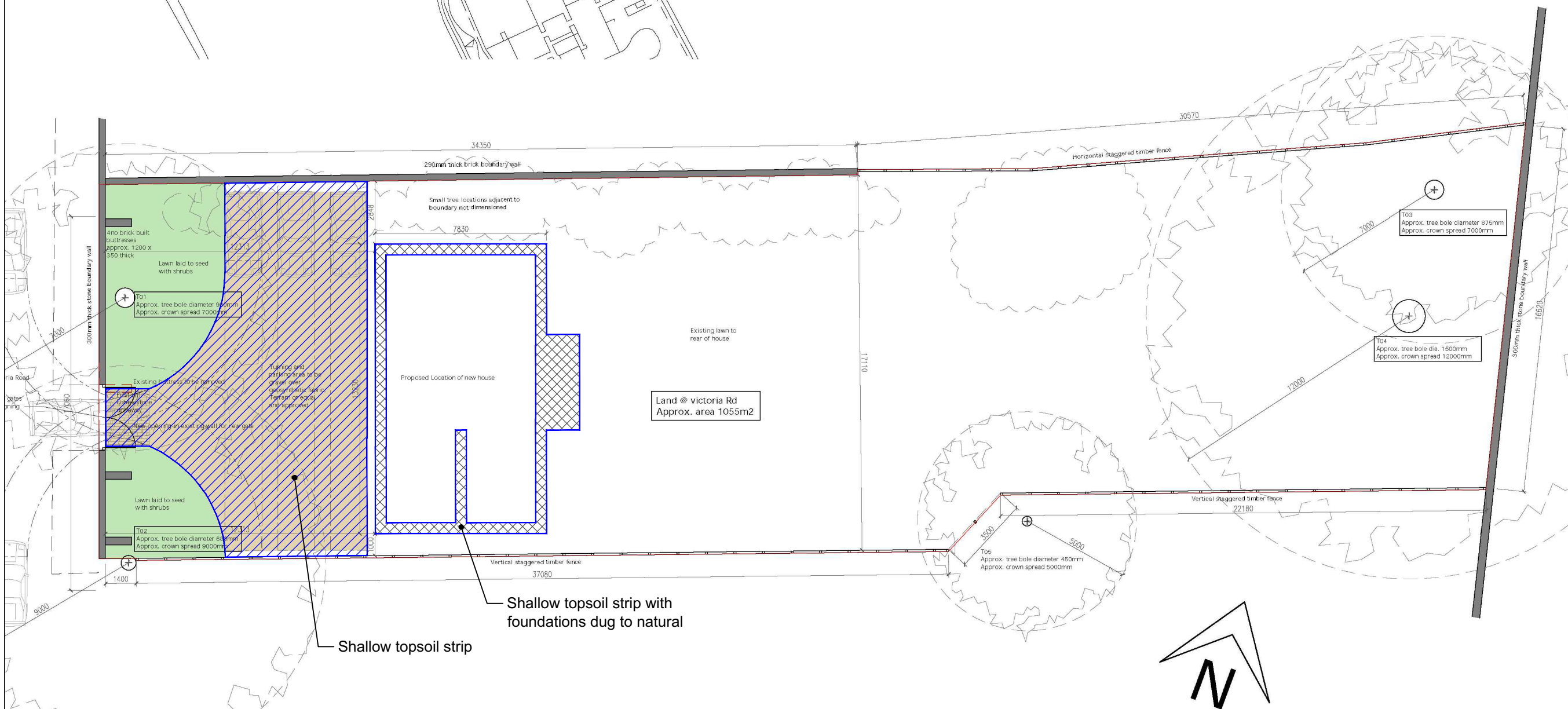
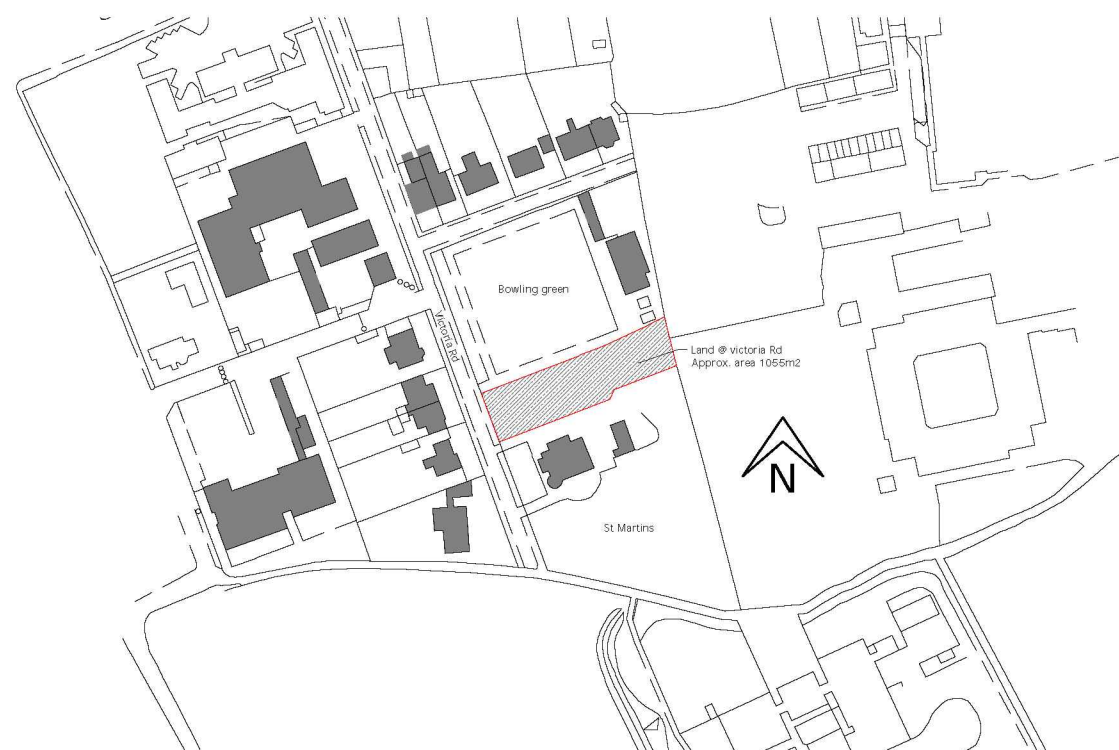
No.	Description	From
1	General view of site	E
2	Driveway following vegetation clearance	E
3	Footprint of house following removal of topsoil	E
4	Easternmost foundation trench following excavation	S
5-6	Northernmost foundation trench following excavation	E
7	Southernmost foundation trench following excavation	E
8	Westernmost foundation trench following excavation	S

APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Victoria Road, Haddington, East Lothian
PROJECT CODE:	VICH
PARISH:	Haddington
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Bruce Glendinning
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Monitored Strip
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	-
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 51187 73670
START DATE (this season)	31 January 2014
END DATE (this season)	01 February 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A monitored strip was carried out during groundbreaking works for the construction of a new house. The proposed development site was located at the south-western edge of the town of Haddington, outwith the historic medieval core of the town. However, the western fortifications erected during the Siege of Haddington were believed to be located within the site. Accordingly the area was regarded as being of potential archaeological significance. Groundbreaking works were limited and no archaeological features were revealed.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Liam Hughes
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (report)

Key:

Foundations



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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
Location and site plan

Project:
St Martins, Victoria Road,
Haddington, East Lothian
Archaeological Archive
Assessment & Monitored Strip

Client:
Liam Hughes

Scale at A3:
Location - 1:2,500
Site plan - 1:200



Fig. 2 - General view of the site looking west



Fig. 3 - Easternmost foundation from the south

Fig. No: 2-3	Revision: A	Project: St Martins, Victoria Road, Haddington, East Lothian
Drawn by: KH	Checked: BG	Report No: 3125
		Client: Liam Hughes



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Fig. 4 - Northernmost foundation from the east



Fig. 5 - Southernmost foundation from the east

Fig. No: 4-5		Revision: A	Project: St Martins, Victoria Road, Haddington, East Lothian
Drawn by: KH	Checked: BG	Report No: 3125	Client: Liam Hughes



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Fig. 6 - Westernmost foundation from the south

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