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Geophysical Survey

**Sandbank Street, Maryhill,
Glasgow,**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 2131

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 archaeological watching brief on Site Investigation works undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in September 2012 at Sandbank Street, Maryhill, Glasgow, (NGR: NS 256715 668911) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Scottish Canals.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the project was produced by CFA. The WSI is designed to fulfil the requirements of the Scottish Canals Senior Heritage Advisor and other Stakeholders including Historic Scotland (HS) and the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS).

1.2 Background

The site is the proposed location for eight new town houses each with individual moorings. The land belongs to Scottish Canals and lies adjacent to the Scheduled Forth and Clyde Canal. It is located on the former line of the Canal (unscheduled) which was re-routed when a new aqueduct was built to its current line in *c.*1882. The original route of the Forth & Clyde Canal passed through the site and carried over Maryhill Road by an older aqueduct constructed in 1784-5.

The post-1893 maps do not show any structures on the development site but there has been fairly intensive development around the site in general. Photographs dating from 1946 photograph show allotments in the immediate vicinity of the site and these may have extended on to it. The canal was originally 8ft deep, deepened to 9½ft, *c.*60ft wide at the surface and *c.*30ft wide at the bottom. The composition of the fill for the previous canal was unknown (Stevenson 2012).

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the project were:

- To agree with the site investigator contractors the best location of the site investigation works. The investigation needed to achieve the engineering results required from the study whilst taking into account the presence of subsurface archaeological features associated with the canal.
- To prevent damage to the scheduled area associated with the Forth & Clyde canal by demarcating its extents within the area for Site Investigation.
- To provide a report on the results of the watching brief.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

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

Consultation between Woolgar Hunter and CFA lead to a revised layout of the Site Investigation locations designed to avoid the Scheduled Area associated with the Forth & Clyde Canal.

The line of the Scheduled Area was surveyed in by CFA and marked out with canes and bunting to prevent any works being carried out in the Scheduled Area as well as to prevent any accidental damage to the area caused by contractors plant entering the area.

2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

Seven test-pits (TP1-7) and the starter pits for three boreholes (BH1-3) were excavated. An assessment of the Site Investigation locations concluded that TP1, TP2, TP4, TP5, TP6, BH1 and BH2 could provide useful information of the line, depth and construction of the former canal and that TP3, TP7 and BH3 may provide evidence of canal side features such as hardstandings and loading areas.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Test-pit 1 (Fig 2)

Test-pit 1 (NGR NS 256721 668919) was aligned north-south and located on the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 2.6m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.1m of topsoil, over 0.4m of industrial ash and broken brick. This overlay unconsolidated grey brown clay which was excavated to a depth of 2.6m. The nature of the clay suggested it was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Test-pit 2 (Fig 3)

Test-pit 2 (NGR NS 256737 668928) was aligned northeast-southwest and located on the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 2.6m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of brown silt, over 2.2m of unconsolidated grey brown clay. The clay included pieces of brick and rubble debris indicating that it was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Test-pit 3

Test-pit 3 (NGR NS 256706 668921) was aligned northeast-southwest and located to the northwest of the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 2.7m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of dark brown silt with industrial ash inclusions which overlay 1m of dark grey industrial ash. At 1.4m orange

brown clay was encountered and excavated to a depth of 2.7m below the site surface where excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation. The lack of modern inclusions and the compacted and unmixed nature of the clay suggested it represented the natural underlying geology.

Test-pit 4 (Fig 4)

Test-pit 4 (NGR NS 256734 668917) was aligned north-south and located on the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 2.9m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.1m of topsoil over 0.5m of shattered brick and stone. This overlay 2.3m of unconsolidated dark grey brown clay. The nature of the clay suggested it was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Test-pit 5

Test-pit 5 (NGR NS 256719 668909) was aligned northwest-southeast and located on the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 3.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.9m of dark grey brown silt which overlay unconsolidated mottled grey brown clay and orange brown clay which contained plastic. The nature of the deposit and the inclusion of plastic fragments indicated that this material was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Test-pit 6

Test-pit 6 (NGR NS 256714 668902) was aligned north-south and located on the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long, 0.6m wide and 3.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 1.1m of grey brown silt containing occasional grey clay. This overlay unconsolidated orange brown clay. The nature of the deposit indicated that this material was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Test-pit 7(Fig 5)

Test-pit 7 (NGR NS 256706 668905) was aligned northeast -southwest and located to the west of the proposed line of the former canal. It measured 2m long by 0.6m wide by 2.9m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.7m of brown silt overlying 0.8m of redeposited mottled orange brown clay. Below this was grey clay which was at least 1.5m thick a wooden sleeper was identified in the clay at a depth of c 2m below the current site surface suggesting that the entire clay deposit was re-deposited, however, it was not bottomed before excavation ceased at the depth required for the ground investigation.

Borehole 1

Borehole 1(NGR NS 256733 668923) was located on the proposed line of the former canal and the starter pit was excavated to a depth of 0.8m. The stratigraphy comprised of topsoil overlying sandy clay with brick, concrete and plastic.

Borehole 2

Borehole 2 (NGR NS 256714 668917) was located on the proposed line of the former canal and the starter pit was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. The stratigraphy comprised of 0.5m of topsoil and this overlay grey brown sandy clay which was at least 0.7m thick and extended beyond the base of the borehole.

Borehole 3

Borehole 3 (NGR NS 256707 668913) was located to the west of the proposed line of the former canal and the starter pit was excavated to a depth of 0.8m. The stratigraphy comprised 0.4m of dark brown silt overlying dark grey brown clay which was at least 0.4m thick and extended beyond the base of the borehole.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The watching brief investigated 7 test-pits and the starter pits for 3 boreholes. No structural remains of the canal or any associated features were identified. The test-pits indicate a deep feature filled with silts, ash and crushed brick and re-deposited clay running along the projected line of the former canal. The known depth of the canal was 9.5 feet or 2.89m, however, at least 2 test-pits (TP5 and TP6) were significantly deeper than this and no trace of the canal structure was found. This could indicate that as well as the canal being in-filled the site has also been built up.

The results from TP7 suggest that there are greater depths of made ground than would normally be expected if this area of the site was simply a canal side area where natural could be expected quite close to the surface. So there is the potential that the former route of the canal was wider at this point than expected or that this part of the site was built up in the past during the creation of the cutting for Maryhill Road.

The test-pitting has provided only a limited evaluation of the site so recommendations are difficult to make. However, the canal does appear deeply buried and there is currently no evidence to show that shallow buried features survive alongside it. To limit any damage to the remains of the canal consideration should be given to a piled foundation design which would prevent extensive excavations. Consideration should also be given to further limited evaluation on the site to test the area to the west of the former line of the canal where canal side features might be expected within 1m or so of the current site surface and hence be more susceptible to damage or disturbance from construction.

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

5. REFERENCES

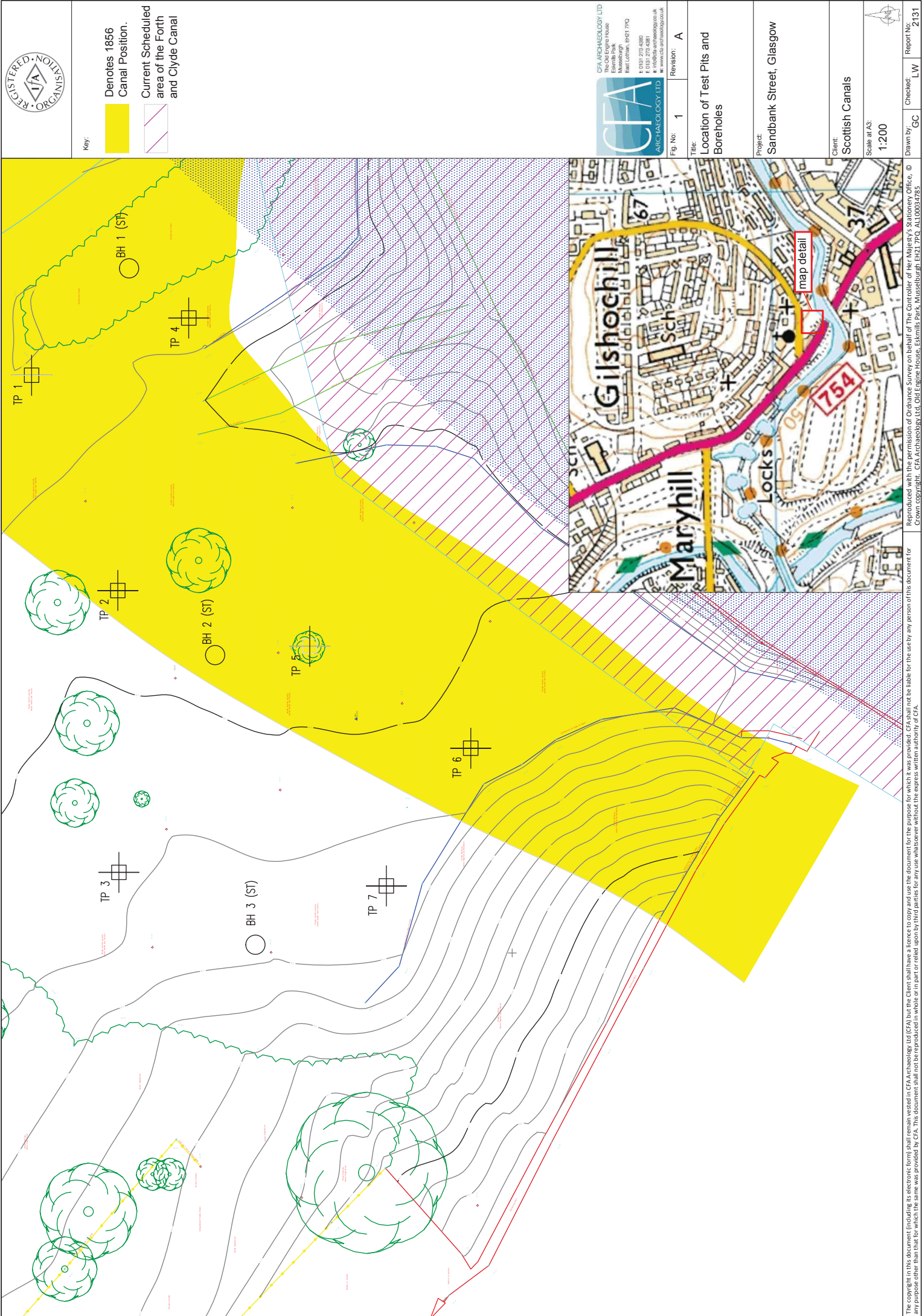
Stevenson, A, 2012. Archaeological Input, Sandbank, Glasgow. Archaeological Brief Version 1, Scottish Canals

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	Test-pit 4- mid ex	S	Dull
2	Test-pit 4- full ex	S	Dull
3	Test-pit 1- mid ex	S	Dull
4	Test-pit 1- full ex	S	Dull
5	Test-pit 2- mid ex	SW	Dull
6	Test-pit 2- full ex	SW	Dull
7	Test-pit 5- mid ex	SE	Dull
8	Test-pit 5- full ex	SE	Dull
9	Test-pit 3- mid ex	SW	Dull
10	Test-pit 3- full ex	SW	Dull
11	Test-pit 7- mid ex	SW	Dull
12	Test-pit 7- full ex	SW	Dull
13	Test-pit 6- full ex	S	Dull
14	Borehole 1- plan	S	Dull
15	Borehole1 - oblique	S	Dull
16	Borehole 2- plan	S	Dull
17	Borehole 2- oblique	S	Dull
18	Borehole 3- plan	S	Dull
19	Borehole 3- oblique	S	Dull
20-26	General view of the site	various	Dull

APPENDIX 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Glasgow City
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Sandbank Street, Maryhill, Glasgow
PROJECT CODE:	BWSF2
PARISH:	Glasgow (City of Glasgow)
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Jamie Lewis
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NS 25671 66891
START DATE (this season)	September 2012
END DATE (this season)	September 2012
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was carried out on site investigation works at Sandbank Street, Glasgow. The work was instigated by Scottish Canals because map evidence indicated that a former line of the Forth & Clyde Canal ran through the site. The watching brief did not identify any structural features associated with the canal but the presence of a deep in-filled area on the projected line of the canal was proven.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Canals
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





Key:

- Denotes 1856 Canal Position.
- Current Scheduled area of the Forth and Clyde Canal

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title: Location of Test Pits and Boreholes

Project: Sandbank Street, Glasgow

Client: Scottish Canals

Scale at A3: 1:200

Drawn by: GC

Checked: LW

Report No: 2131

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Fig. 2 Photograph of Test Pit 1



Fig. 3 Photograph of Test Pit 2

Fig. No: 2-3		Revision: A	Project: Sandbank Street, Glasgow			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
Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2131	Client: Scottish Canals			



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Fig. 4 Photograph of Test Pit 4



Fig. 5 Photograph of Test Pit 7

Fig. No: 4-5		Revision: A	Project: Sandbank Street, Glasgow			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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