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Aikengall II Community Windfarm East Lothian (Planning Ref. 09/00001/SGC)

**Archaeological Watching Brief** 

Report No. 3281

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#### Illustrations (bound at rear)

Fig. 1: Site plan showing turbine bases, access tracks, and buffer zones around possible aircraft wreckage

Fig. 2: Area of heather moorland at supposed site of aircraft wreckage

Fig. 3: Final removal of subsoil from Turbine 5 area to reveal archaeologically sterile natural.

Fig. 4: Access track between Turbines 10, 14 and 16 stripped

Fig. 5: Final topsoil stripping at Borrow Pit C

Fig. 6: Final topsoil and subsoil stripping at Turbine 10

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 General

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological mitigation works carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during the construction of nineteen turbines and associated infrastructure at Aikengall II Community Windfarm, East Lothian (Fig. 1). The work was carried out between September 2014 and January 2015 and was commissioned by Community Windpower Ltd.

#### 1.2 Background

A Written Scheme of Investigation, dated 22 September 2014, was agreed in advance of works starting with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). The WSI and this report use Site reference numbers which refer to gazetteer entries in the Environmental Statement for the wind farm.

A desk based assessment and walkover survey of the grid connector route carried out in 2009 (Johnson 2009), identified a number of archaeologically sensitive sites. A subsequent evaluation of two of these features (Sites 6 and 8) was undertaken in 2013 (MacFadyen, Cameron and Turner 2013).

A World War II RAF aircraft crash site at Yearn Gill Knowe (Site 5) is recorded close to the development area. The remains of all aircraft which crashed whilst on military service are protected by the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986. It is an offence to tamper with, damage, move or unearth any remains, until such time as a License of Excavation has been granted by the Ministry of Defence (MoD); a MoD licence was obtained by CFA prior to the works in the vicinity of Site 5. A 100m buffer was set up around the supposed crash site; a walkover survey took place to explore the possibility that aircraft debris was present that was proud of the ground surface; and ground breaking works in the vicinity was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.

#### 1.3 Objectives

The objectives were:

- to demarcate a 100m buffer around the location of the World War II aircraft crash site;
- to conduct a walkover survey of the parts of the proposed infrastructure closest to the aircraft crash site to allow identification of any surviving remnants of aircraft wreckage visible on the ground surface;
- to conduct a targeted watching brief during ground breaking works around the crash site and other archaeologically sensitive areas;
- to propose mitigation measures as necessary depending on the findings.

Written guidelines were issued for use by all construction contractors.

## 2. WORKING METHODS

## 2.1 General

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

## 2.2 Walkover survey

A targeted walkover survey was carried out within the 100m buffer zone for the crash site, and along the proposed route of the intra-site access roads within the vicinity of the crash site, as well as the access route to Turbine 14 (Figs 1 & 2). Any archaeological remains or aircraft debris were to be recorded and mitigation measures were to be put in place should the need arise. The ground cover at the time of the survey consisted of dense heather and unimproved upland pasture.

## 2.3 Watching Brief

A targeted watching brief was undertaken during groundbreaking works near to archaeologically sensitive areas, including in the vicinity of the location of the crash site. This required the watching brief to be maintained at the locations of Turbines 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 16 and the access tracks between these turbines, and at Borrow-Pits A, C and D. During groundbreaking works that was subject to archaeological monitoring, mechanical excavators were fitted with smooth-bladed ditching buckets.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

## 3.1 Walkover Survey

No archaeological features or traces of aircraft wreckage were discovered during the targeted walkover survey which was undertaken over the 100m buffer zone surrounding the location of the crash site and along the proposed route of the intra-site access roads within the vicinity of the crash site.

## 3.2 Watching Brief

Topsoil (001) across the development site is firm black peaty material varying from 0.1 to 0.2m in depth (Figs 3 to 6), which overlay a dark grey/brown gravel/silt subsoil (002), which contained occasional sub rounded stones up to 0.1m in diameter. The subsoil (002) directly overlay the natural substrate (003) which varied from orange to brown/pink gravelly silts and clays across the site (Figs 3 to 6). No archaeological remains and no traces of a crashed aircraft were uncovered during the watching brief.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

A programme of archaeological mitigation works, consisting of a walkover survey and a targeted watching brief, was carried out at Aikengall II Community Windfarm, East Lothian. No archaeological remains were uncovered during the watching brief and no traces of the crashed World War 2 aircraft were discovered in the vicinity of the location for the crash site.

The project archive, comprising all CFA digital data, record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with RCAHMS and copies. of reports will be lodged with the East Lothian Council Historic Environment Record.

The project will be reported through the online OASIS portal and a summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (See Appendix 3).

#### 5. **REFERENCES**

- Johnson, M 2009 Aikengall II Wester Dod Community Windfarm, Middle Monynut, East Lothian and Scottish Borders: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Field Survey, CFA Report No. 1660.
- Macfadyen, K, Cameron, R and Turner, L 2013 Aikengall II Windfarm, Innerwick, East Lothian. Archaeological Evaluation. Addyman Archaeology unpublished report.

Photo No.	Description	Taken From				
001	Stripping road from junction nr T5 looking towards T9	Ν				
002	Stripping road from junction nr T5 looking towards T9	Ν				
003	Stripping road between T5 and T9	Ν				
004	Road to T9 largely stripped	S				
005	Start of spur to T13 and T15 stripped	W				
006	Shot of stripping along road passing T6 and T10	SE				
007	Shot of stripping along road passing T6 and T10	SE NW				
008	Shot of stripping along road passing T6 and T10	NW				
009	Shot of stripping along road passing T6 and T10	NW				
010	Shot of stripped road towards T10, T14, T16	WNW				
011	Enlargement at Spur 2	Е				
012	Enlargement at Spur 2	N				
013	Enlargement at Spur 2	SW				
014	Enlargement at Spur 2	S				
015	Topsoil stripping at T9	W				
016	Topsoil stripping at T9	NW				
017	Topsoil stripping at T5	Ν				
018	Topsoil stripping at T5	N				
019	Topsoil stripping at T5	Е				
020	Looking towards Site 5 (WW2 plane crash)	W				
021	Looking towards Site 5 (WW2 plane crash)	NW				
022	Looking towards Site 5 (WW2 plane crash)	SW				
023	Looking towards Site 5 (WW2 plane crash)	WSW				
024	Topsoil stripping at T5	Ν				
025	Topsoil stripping at T5	Ν				
026	Topsoil stripping at T5	NW				
027	Topsoil stripping at T5	W				
028	Topsoil stripping at T5	SW				
029	Topsoil stripping at T5	S				
030	Topsoil stripping at T5	SW				
031	Deeper topsoil stripping at T5	W				
032	Deeper topsoil stripping at T5	W				
033	Deeper topsoil stripping at T5	Ν				
034	Partial topsoil strip at T9	W				
035	Topsoil stripping at T9	W				
036	Topsoil stripping at T9	W				
037	Topsoil stripping at T9	NW				
038	Topsoil stripping T9	NW				
039	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	NW				
040	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	NW				
041	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	W				
042	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	W				
043	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	Е				
044	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	NW				
045	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	SE				
046	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	W				
047	Topsoil stripping at T16	Ν				
048	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	NW				
049	Topsoil stripping at borrow pit C	Е				

# **APPENDIX 1: Digital Photograph Register**

Photo No.	Description	<b>Taken From</b>			
050	Topsoil stripping at T16	S			
051	Topsoil stripping at T16	SN			
052	Topsoil stripping at T14	Ν			
053	Topsoil stripping at T14	Е			
054	Topsoil stripped, road to T10	S			
055	Subsoil stripped off at T14	NE			
056	Subsoil stripping at T14	Е			
057	Subsoil stripping at T14	NE			
058	Subsoil stripping at T14	Е			
059	Subsoil stripping at T10	NE			
060	Subsoil stripping at T10	SW			
061	Subsoil stripping at T10	S			
062	Subsoil stripping at T10	SE			
063	Subsoil stripping at T10	NE			
064	T14 fully stripped	NW			
065	T14 fully stripped	SE			
066	T14 fully stripped	SE			
067	T14 fully stripped	Е			
068	T14 fully stripped	SE			
069	T14 fully stripped	SE			
070	Working shot at T14	NW			
071	Working shot at T14	Ν			
072	Topsoil stripping at T16	NW			
073	Topsoil stripping at T16	NE			
074	Working shot at T16	NW			
075	Working shot at T16	Ν			
076	Working shot at T16	NW			
077	Working shot at T16	W			
078	Working shot at T16	NW			
079	Looking towards area to be floated at T12 access road	NE			
080	Access road to T12 post-ex	SW			
081	T12 junction with access track completed	NW			
082	T12 turning point outwith WB area	SW			

# **APPENDIX 2: Context Register**

Context	Fill of	Trench/Area	Description
001			Topsoil & Heather
002			Subsoil consisting of grey gravels and unsorted stones
003			Natural red/brown gravel sand and silts

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Aikengall II Community Windfarm
PROJECT CODE:	AIKE4
PARISH:	Innerwick
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ewan MacNeilage
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Walkover survey and watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 371 668
START DATE (this season)	September 2014
END DATE (this season)	
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A programme of archaeological mitigation works, consisting of a walkover survey and a targeted watching brief, was carried out, including in the vicinity of the recorded location of a crashed Word War 2 aircraft. No archaeological remains were uncovered and no traces of the crashed aircraft were discovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Community Windpower Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.

# **APPENDIX3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry**

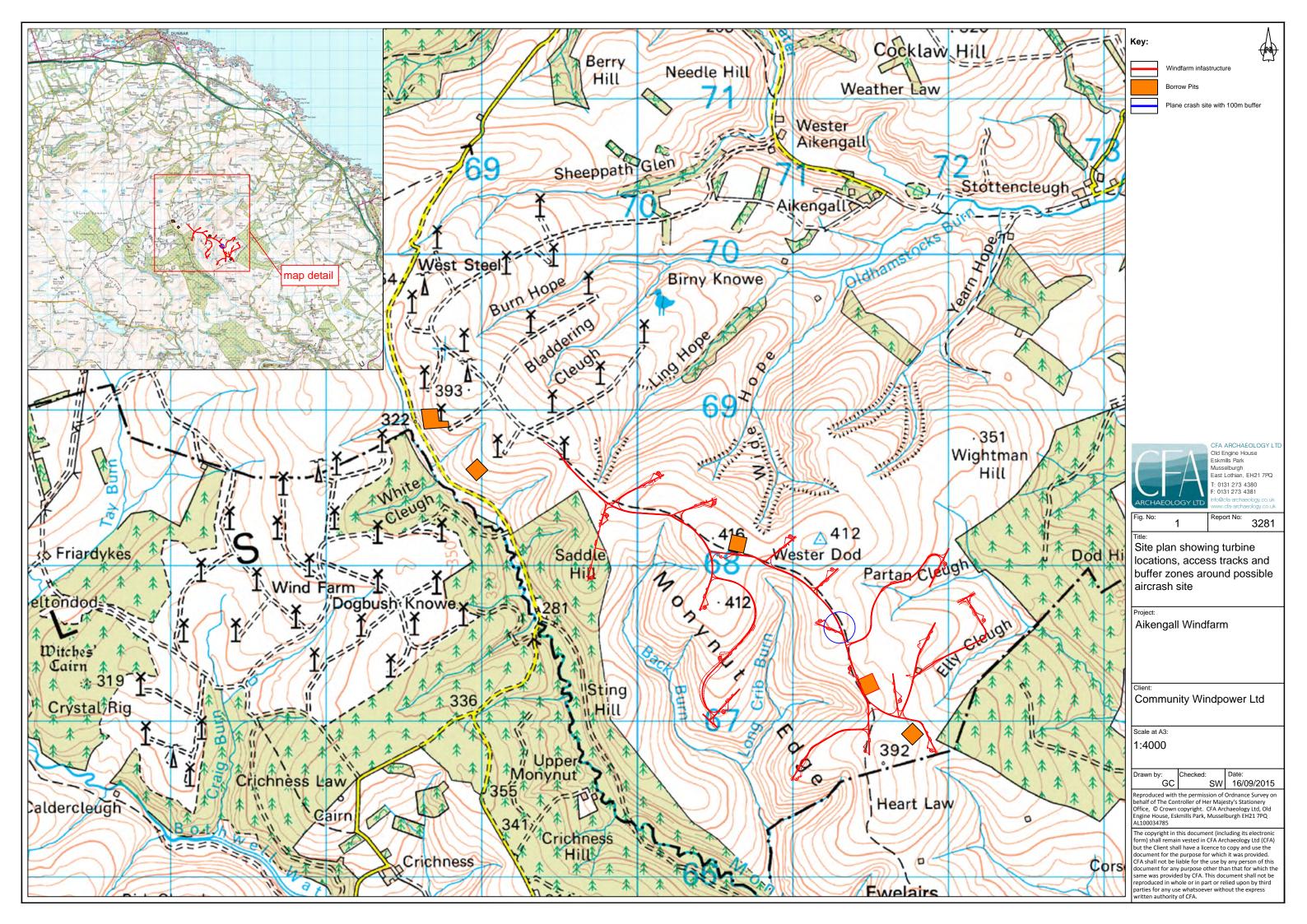




Fig. 2 Area of heather moorland at supposed site of aircraft wreckage



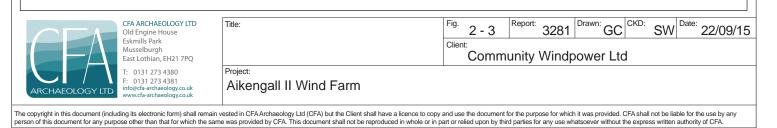




Fig. 4 Access track between Turbines 10, 14 and 16 stripped



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Fig. 6 Final topsoil and subsoil stripping at Turbine10

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