

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Interpretation, Design & Display

Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

Glendevon Steading, Winchburgh

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 3197

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Grid Ref	NT 0781 7487

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

Glendevon Steading, Winchburgh

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 3197

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in August 2014 at Glendevon Steading (Planning ref: 035/FUL/13) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Sigma Capital Group Ltd on behalf of Regenco Ltd.

No condition was secured against the planning consent for a watching brief: however, following discussion with West Lothian Council, the developers, Regenco Ltd, agreed to provide a watching brief in the field to the south of the Steading. A Project Design (PD) describing the watching brief methodology, dated 07 August 2014, was produced by CFA and distributed to the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) and West Lothian Council.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the project were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Watching Brief) to monitor topsoil stripping.
- 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 Watching Brief

Topsoil and subsoil were removed by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket.

All on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by digital photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

Due to the depth and inherent instability of the cut for the culvert no access to this was available and all excavation of the fill was undertaken by machine. Only general photographic recording was possible.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

In the text below, context number are given in bold and these are further described in Appendix 1.

The watching brief took place in a small, south-facing grass field measuring approximately 60m by 60m (Figs. 1-2).

The topsoil (**001**) was generally 0.2m deep and it overlay a stony subsoil (**002**) with a depth of around 0.3m. The natural subsoil (**003**) below was very varied, consisting mainly of sandy gravels with bands of sandy silt. There was none of the boulder clay which is prevalent elsewhere around Winchburgh.

3.2 Watching Brief

Upon arrival on site, CFA were informed by the contractors that a culvert ran through the field where the watching brief was to take place. This culvert reportedly emanated from a mill-pond located to the north-west of the site. An exit into a canalised stream to the south of the watching brief area was identified and this is shown in Fig. 3.

The cut for the culvert (**004**) was around 2.5m wide at the top, tapering to around 1.5m wide at the base. The culvert (**005**) itself was built from roughly dressed local sandstone and was located in the base of the cut at a depth of around 4m below the level of the natural. The cut for the culvert was filled with angular crushed quarried stone (**006**).

A series of parallel features were identified in the sides of the cut for the culvert (Figs. 4-6) and these were interpreted as post-holes for shoring used during its construction. Several roughly hewn logs, probably the remains of the shoring, were seen within fill **006**.

No other archaeological remains were recorded within the watching brief area. No finds were recovered.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The watching brief at Glendevon Steading was successfully completed.

The steading was built in the first half of the 19th century. Both the steading and the mill-pond to the north of Glendevon House are present on the Ordnance Survey First Edition 25 inch map (1854). It is probable that the culvert also dates to the first half of the 19th century.

Based on the results of the watching brief, CFA recommend no further work be undertaken.

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

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 entry submitted on completion of the project.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

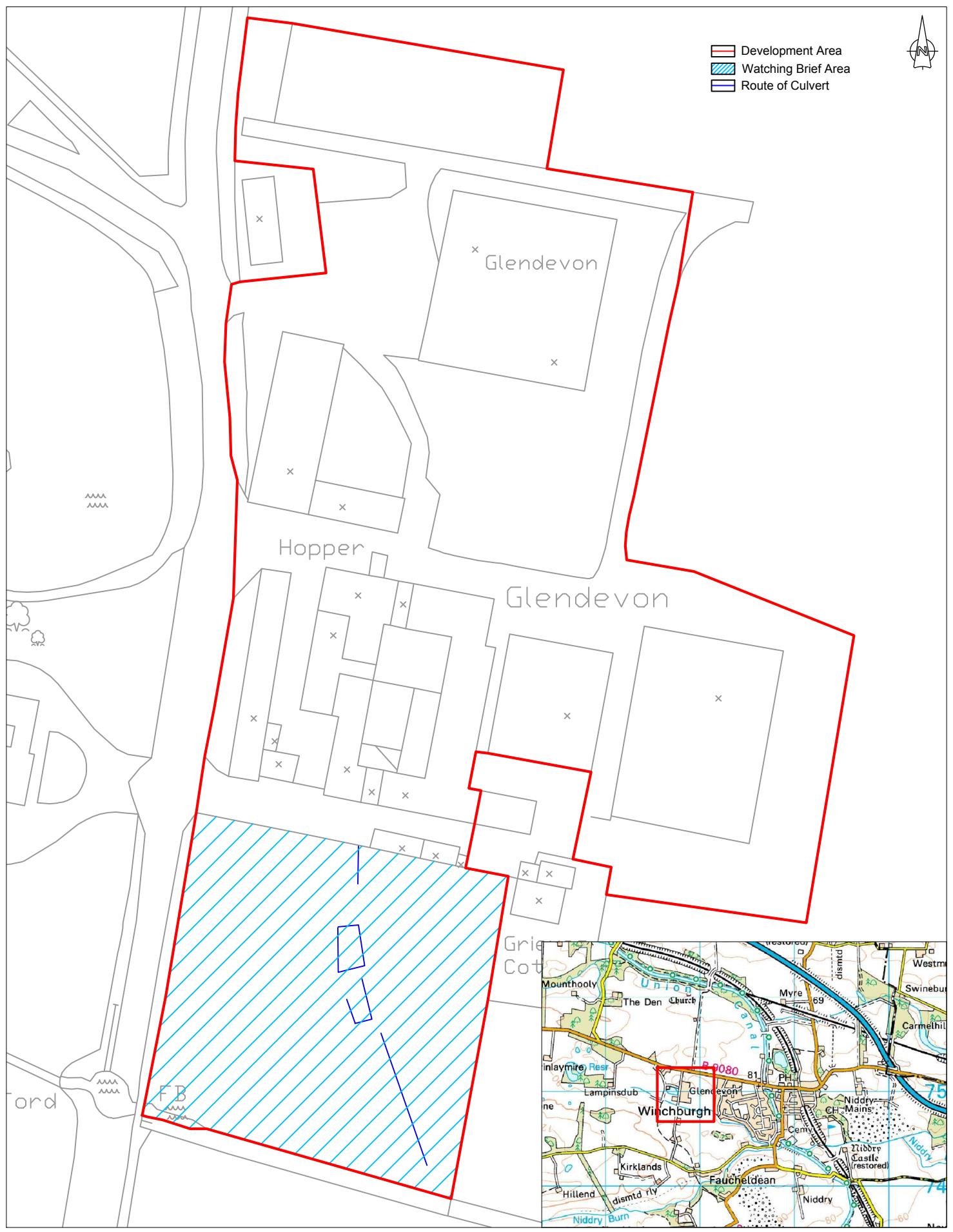
Context	Fill of	Description
001		Topsoil. Mid-brown sandy silt
002		Subsoil. Mid-brown silty sand and small gravel
003		Natural subsoil. Layers of sandy gravels, sandy silts, silts and sandy clays
004		Cut for the culvert and associated post-holes
005	004	Culvert structure. Unbonded sandstone slabs
006	004	Fill of culvert 004 over 005. Mostly small crushed stone but some redeposited sandy silt natural subsoil

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Photo No.	Contexts/Description	Taken From	Conditions
1-5	Panorama from the north of the watching brief area pre-excavation	N	Overcast
6-8	Panorama from the south-west corner of the watching brief area pre-excavation	SW	Overcast
9-11	Panorama from the south-west corner of the watching brief area topsoil removed	SW	Overcast
12-15	General views of the outflow from the culvert	S	Overcast
16-17	Working shots showing the depth of the culvert structure	-	-
18-21	General views of the watching brief area from the field to the south	S	Overcast
22	General view of the outflow from the culvert	S	Overcast
23-24	Site views from the north-west corner	NW	Bright
25-27	Site views from the south-west corner	SW	Bright
28-30	Site views from the east	E	Bright
31-33	Working shots	N	Overcast
34	Working shot showing the gravel fill of the culvert and the yellow silt forming the natural subsoil	N	Overcast
35-36	Crushed and structural stone from the culvert	-	-
37-38	Working shots	-	-
39-40	View of the side of the culvert trench showing post-holes	SE	Overcast
41	Structural stone from the culvert	-	-
42-44	Working shots	-	-
45	Structural wood from the fill of the culvert trench	-	-
46	Structural stone from the culvert	-	-
47-51	Working shots showing the post-holes in the sides of the culvert trench	-	-
52	View from the north showing the pairs of post-holes in the sides of the culvert trench	N	Overcast

APPENDIX 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Glendevon Steading, Winchburgh
PROJECT CODE:	WINC5
PARISH:	Kirkliston
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ian Suddaby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 0781 7487
START DATE (this season)	August 2014
END DATE (this season)	August 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief took place to the south of Glendevon Steading. The work recorded part of a deep culvert that reportedly ran from a mill-pond to the northwest of the site through the steading and into an unnamed burn to the south of the steading. The culvert itself was contained in a cut around 4m deep. A series of post-holes were revealed in the sides of the cut for the culvert and these are presumed to have housed shoring used during its construction. No finds were recovered but the culvert is presumed to date to the first half of the 19 th century.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Regenco Ltd
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 WoSAS Sites and Monuments Record



- Development Area
- Watching Brief Area
- Route of Culvert



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Title:
Location map and plan showing the area of the watching brief

Project:
Glendevon Steading, Winchburgh

Fig No:	1	Report:	3197	Drawn by:	LW	CKD:	LW	Date:	12/09/14
Client: Sigma Capital Group Ltd per Regenco Ltd									
Scale: 1:1000									



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Fig. 2 - View of the watching brief area from the south



Fig. 3 - The outflow from the culvert



Fig. 4 - Working shot showing the removal of the culvert structure



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Title:
Site Photographs

Project:
Glendevon Steading, Winchburgh

Fig. 2-4	Report: 3197	Drawn: LW	CKD: LW	Date: 12/09/14
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Fig. 5 - View of the post-holes in the sides of the culvert trench



Fig. 6 - View from the north showing the parallel pairs of post-holes in the culvert



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Fig. 5-6	Report: 3197	Drawn: LW	CKD: LW	Date: 12/09/14
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Client:
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