

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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**Burton Wold Windfarm extension, Burton  
Latimer, Northamptonshire:**

**Archaeological Strip, Map and Record Report**

**No. MK063/16**

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

### **Burton Wold Windfarm extension, Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Record Report No. MK063/16**

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Fig. 3 - Overview of crane pad, taken from NW

Fig. 4 - Overview of the turbine base taken from NW

Fig. 5 - Floated access road built past central turbine, from the W

## **1. SUMMARY**

*CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out an archaeological strip, map and record for The Environmental Dimension Partnership on behalf of Infinergy during an extension to Burton Wold Windfarm, Northamptonshire, centred on SP 917 738 to discharge Condition 14 on planning application KET/2014/0861. The site is located in arable fields south-east of Burton Latimer and east of the A6. The work, which took place between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016, involved monitoring the stripping of topsoil and subsoil for a crane pad and turbine base near to anomalies identified during an earlier geophysical survey. No archaeological features were found probably due to successive truncation of features by ploughing.*

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1. General**

This document presents the results of a strip, map and record undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016 on an extension to Burton Wold Wind farm which lies to the south-east of Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire. The work was commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership on behalf of Infinergy to discharge Condition 14 on planning application KET/2014/0861. This strip, map and record targeted the central wind turbine and crane pad (Figs. 1 and 2). The turbine tracks were also to be monitored but after examining the portion adjacent to Turbine 2 it was established that they were designed to be of floating construction and laid straight onto the grass/topsoil, and in agreement with Northamptonshire County Council's archaeologists no further monitoring was undertaken.

The work was carried out in accordance with a WSI produced by CFA dated 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and approved by Northamptonshire County Council's archaeologists on behalf of the local planning authority.

### **2.2. Background**

The site (Fig. 1) is currently in arable cultivation and lies within a gently undulating landscape, at the edge of a boulder clay plateau. A small stream rises at the western edge of the survey area and flows westwards. This joins another stream which flows northwards towards Burton Latimer. The elevation of the site ranges from approximately 90m AOD in the east to approximately 75m AOD in the north. The geology of the site comprises Great Oolite and Upper Estuarine Limestone capped by a drift of boulder

clay, except within the main stream valley where no significant drift is mapped.

### **2.3. Archaeological Background**

A geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation have been carried out on the proposed wind farm extension by Northamptonshire Archaeology and are summarised below.

Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) records three cropmark sites within about 500m of the wind farm extension (HER 666, HER 1984 & HER 4072). Each comprises a small group of Iron Age or Romano-British enclosures. Somewhat further north, at SP 915 751, a more extensive complex of Iron Age to Romano-British settlement remains occurs (HER 5319). This site was investigated by geophysical survey (Butler 2003) and excavation (Evans 2003, Edgeworth 2008) prior to the original phase of wind farm development. Another HER record (HER 4397) relates to an undated long mound approximately 150m west of survey area 3, at SP 9145 7353. This appears to have been flattened since it was recorded in 1925 (pers obs). The first edition Ordnance Survey shows that several changes have occurred to the proposed development area since the late nineteenth century. A number of field boundaries have been removed and, more significantly, Glendon Farm (which formerly stood at SP 915 737) has been entirely demolished.

The (geophysical) survey revealed three enclosures of probable Iron Age or Romano-British date and several other archaeological features, including a possible Iron Age triple ditch system. These remains occur across the central and southern parts of the proposed development area, in survey areas 3, 4 and 5. Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation has also been detected and is present across all of the areas surveyed. Two unusually large ferrous anomalies were detected in survey area 4, suggesting the presence below ground of very substantial iron or steel objects. A ditch system and circular enclosure were located on the north side of the micro-siting area for the central turbine.

The trial trenching evaluation confirmed the earlier geophysical survey which showed features in the areas of Trenches 4 and 7 and no archaeological features present in the other areas of trenching. Trench 4 revealed the remains of a palaeochannel running east-west across the field as recorded on the geophysical survey. Drains directly to the south of the feature on the same alignment ran into a field boundary ditch to the west. To the south of the palaeochannel there is a sub-rectangular ditched enclosure of probable Iron Age to Romano-British date

measuring approximately 22m x 26m. Trench 7 revealed three gullies aligned north-west to south-east which the geophysical survey recorded for a length of 130m and continuing beyond this in both directions. Triple ditch systems are found across the East Midlands, and further afield, and are generally believed to be boundary features of Iron Age date (eg RCHME 1981, 182; Mackie 1993, 7). Beside the triple ditches in Trench 7, no major archaeological features were exposed in the evaluation and no finds were present.”

A further archaeological evaluation was carried out by CFA Archaeology in November 2016, which discovered no archaeological features on the proposed site of the 3 turbines for the wind farm extension.

#### **2.4. Objectives**

The objectives of the project were to record any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development at and around the central turbine (turbine 4) which is close to a geophysical anomaly, and also along the southern access track (Fig. 1).

The Research Objectives were to:

- Investigate the evidence for and origins of the different phases of land use and enclosure within the area, including any evidence for pre-Roman, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity.
- Place the results of the investigation within the wider landscape context and contribute to an understanding of the pattern of land use.
- Use a spectrum of environmental techniques appropriate for this aspect of investigation to attempt to model the landscape and its transformation brought about by the settlement’s inhabitants and due to natural events.
- Enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures to be undertaken either in advance of and/or during development.

### **3. WORKING METHODS**

#### **3.1. General**

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

#### **3.2. Strip, map and record**

All topsoil and overburden at the central turbine and associated crane pad was removed under direct archaeological supervision. The turbine tracks were laid on geotextile placed on to the grass except where they joined to the turbine base.

#### **3.3 Recording Strategy**

Stripping was recorded by means of photographs, drawings and written records conforming to Cifa standards (2015) and CFA's quality manuals. The area monitored was related in height to ordnance datum and positioned using RTK initialised GPS equipment accurate up to 8mm horizontally and 12mm vertically. The photographic record comprised high resolution digital photographs supplemented by 35mm B&W film.

### **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

The area monitored included the turbine base, the lay-down area and the crane pad (Figs. 2, 3 and 4). The access tracks were floated and did not necessitate monitoring (Fig. 5).

In the monitored areas, a thin loamy clay-silt topsoil, 0.1-0.25m thick (**001**) overlay light brown clays, 0.3-0.45m thick (**002**) which represented plough-damaged natural deposits: a subsoil. Below this layer was natural drift geology - heavy grey-blue clays mixed with occasional patches of ginger-brown sands and occasional limestone and flint fragments - glacial till (**003**). Field drains (gravel, limestone rubble and ceramic) were encountered in the base of the turbine (Fig. 4), but no significant archaeological finds or features were discovered.

### **5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

No archaeological remains were exposed in monitored areas showing that the locations of the central turbine, crane pad and lay-down areas have avoided any significant archaeology.

## 6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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**7. APPENDIX 1 SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS**

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
001	Topsoil, loamy clay-silts	
002	Subsoil, light brown clays	
003	Natural, heavy grey-blue clays mixed with occasional patches of ginger-brown sands and occasional limestone and flint fragments	

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**OASIS ID: cfaarcha1-263948**

### Project details

Project name	Burton Wold Windfarm extension, Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Record
Short description of the project	CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out a strip, map and record archaeological for The Environmental Dimension Partnership on behalf of Infinergy during an extension to Burton Wold Windfarm, Northamptonshire, centred on SP 917 738 to discharge Condition 14 on planning application KET/2014/0861. The site is located in arable fields south-east of Burton Latimer and east of the A6. The work, which took place between the 15th and 22nd of September 2016, involved monitoring the stripping of topsoil and subsoil for a crane pad and turbine base near to anomalies identified during an earlier geophysical survey. No archaeological features were found probably due to successive truncation of features by ploughing.
Project dates	Start: 15-09-2016 End: 22-09-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BWBL - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE KETTERING BURTON LATIMER Burton Wold Wind Farm Extension
Study area	2673 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 917 738 52.354166666667 -0.653333333333 52 21 15 N 000 39 12 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	CFA Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	The Environmental Dimension Partnership
Project	Mark Roberts

director/manager  
 Project supervisor James Williamson  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
 Digital Archive recipient CFA Archaeology Store  
 Digital Archive ID BWBL  
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey", "Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient CFA Archaeology Store  
 Paper Archive ID BWBL  
 Paper Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"  
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Map", "Plan", "Report", "Survey "

### Project bibliography 1

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**Key:**

- Site Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Locations
- 50m Micro-Siting
- Anemometer Mast
- Crane Pads
- Substation Compound
- Construction Compound
- Access Roads
- Temporary Lay Down Areas
- Intended Area of Watching Brief

Basemap from:  
**INFINERGY**

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Title:  
**Site Location Plan**

Project:  
**Burton Wolds Windfarm Extension, Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Record**

Client:  
**The Environmental Dimension Partnership on behalf of Infinergy**

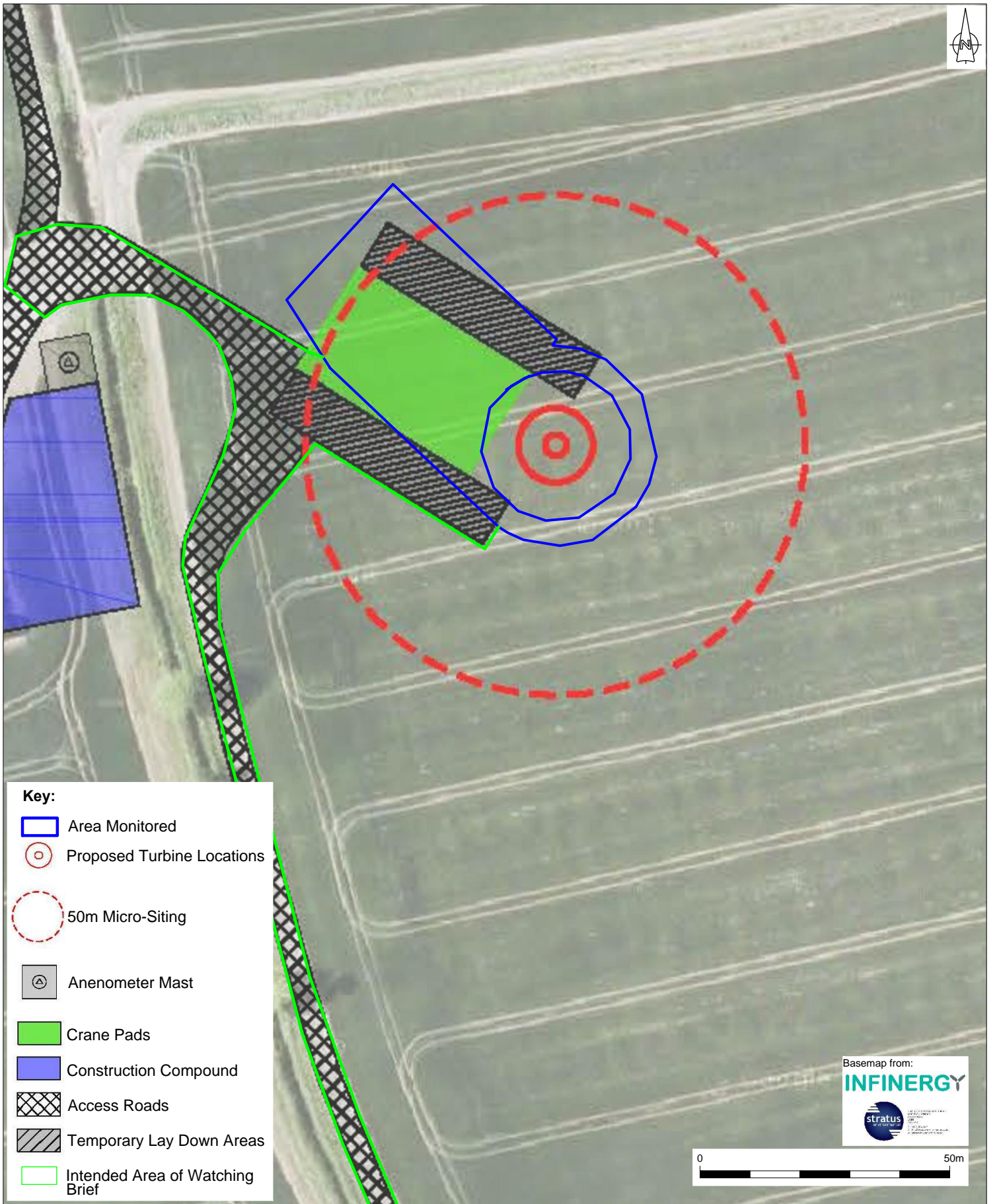
Scale at A3:  
**1:3000**

Drawn by: MP	Checked by: SW	Date: 26/09/2016
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Report No.: MK063/16	Fig. No.: 1
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**Key:**

- Area Monitored
- Proposed Turbine Locations
- 50m Micro-Siting
- Anemometer Mast
- Crane Pads
- Construction Compound
- Access Roads
- Temporary Lay Down Areas
- Intended Area of Watching Brief



Title:  
Area Monitored

Client:  
The Environmental Dimension Partnership on behalf of Infinergy

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1:1000

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SW

Date:  
26/09/2016

Report.No:  
MK063/16

Fig. No:  
2



Fig. 3 - Overview of the crane pad taken from NW



Fig. 4 - Overview of the turbine base taken from NW

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Fig. 5 - Floated access road built past central turbine, taken from W

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