

# 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*

## **A9 Dualling: Southern Section Advanced Ground Investigation Tay Crossing to Ballinluig**

### **Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 3377**

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### **A9 Dualling: Southern Section Advanced Ground Investigation Tay Crossing to Ballinluig**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on the excavation of selected borehole starter pits during the advanced ground investigation, for the A9 Dualling. The section monitored was on the southern section, Tay Crossing to Ballinluig.

A written Scheme of Investigation was prepared (Appendix 1) to describe how the requirements of Schedule 5, Clause 3.30AR of the site investigation contract would be met. This was forwarded to the employer's consultant for approval.

The selection of the boreholes for monitoring was undertaken by the employer's consultant.

### **1.2 Objectives**

The objectives of the project were:

- To avoid any negative impacts on the known archaeological resource through a targeted archaeological watching brief during site investigation works, and where this was not possible to propose and carry out mitigation measures where appropriate to avoid, reduce or offset any negative impacts.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

Work was conducted with regard to the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Standards and Guidance.

### **2.2 Watching Brief**

The selected borehole starter pits were excavated under archaeological supervision. Initially a check of the borehole location was undertaken to ensure that the site investigation operations would not damage or disturb any upstanding archaeological remains. Following this the excavations were monitored to ensure that no archaeological features or deposits were disturbed without prior recording in line with the WSI (Appendix 1).

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Seven borehole starter pits were monitored on this section of the site investigation works. The following table presents the results:

Borehole	Size	Depth	Depth of Topsoil	Comments
27600	0.25m x 0.25m	1.20m	0.35m	No Archaeology
27700	0.25m x 0.25m	1.20m	0.35m	No Archaeology
28400	0.30m x 0.30m	1.30m	0.30m	No Archaeology
29100	0.30m x 0.30m	1.30m	N/A	No Archaeology. No topsoil as this TP was in to a tarmac road
29400	0.40m x 0.40m	1.20m	0.30m	No Archaeology
29900	0.30m x 0.30m	1.20m	0.30m	No Archaeology
30500	0.30m x 0.30m	1.20m	0.25m	No Archaeology

Table 1 – Starter pit excavation results

Photographs of all the starter pits are provided at the end of this report.

### 4. CONCLUSIONS

A watching brief was undertaken on the excavation of seven borehole starter pits. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the works. No upstanding archaeological features were affected by the works.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports will be deposited with Historic Environment Scotland.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **A9 Dualling: Southern Section, Advanced Ground Investigation - Archaeological Watching Brief**

#### **Written Scheme of Investigation**

##### **1. Introduction**

An Archaeological Watching Brief is required during the forming of access to exploratory boreholes and excavation associated with the geotechnical works planned for the investigation. The works shall be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance on Archaeological Watching Briefs.

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is prepared by CFA Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Fugro Seacore Ltd who will be undertaking the advance ground investigations for the A9 Dualling Southern Section. It is based on the specification detailed in Volume 2 Tender Document, Specification Additions, Schedule 5, Clause 3.30AR.

##### **2. Methodology**

Excavations will be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist from CFA Archaeology Ltd. Sufficient archaeologists shall be provided to ensure that all relevant works can be properly monitored. The actual coring work will not be monitored.

Where any remains are identified in the course of monitoring work the archaeologist shall notify the Contractor and the Employer's archaeological clerk of works (ACoW) and shall investigate and record the remains by the methodology set out below, to the extent possible within the constraints set out below. Archaeological investigation and recording shall be undertaken in such a manner as to minimise the delay and disruption to the general works; however, if necessary the archaeologist may instruct short suspensions of excavation to allow recording work to be undertaken.

Where archaeological deposits are identified, in the judgement of the Contractor's Archaeologist and Employer's ACoW in attendance, if the completion of the excavation would cause an unacceptable impact to the archaeological remains, the Contractor's Archaeologist or Employer's ACoW may instruct the abandonment of the investigation. Where there is any doubt or dispute about the need for this, the Contractor's Archaeologist shall seek advice from the Employer or from the Employer's ACoW.

A record shall be made of the location, layout, depth and general stratigraphy of excavations, irrespective of whether archaeological remains are identified. Where remains are identified, they will be investigated by hand-excavation of samples of the deposits where appropriate and possible, and where this is not possible by the examination of the excavated materials. Where sample excavation takes place, all excavated contexts shall be fully recorded by a descriptive written context record for

each stratigraphic unit, giving details of location, composition, dimensions, relationships, textual description and interpretation, sketch (if appropriate) and cross-referencing to other parts of the site records such as drawings, photographs, artefactual and other finds, and soil or other samples.

Plans and sections of any archaeological features identified and, where possible, of individual features shall be produced at appropriate scales.

All finds of archaeological interest shall be retained and removed from the site and cleaned, catalogued and appropriately packaged.

Soil samples shall not be collected except as part of any more detailed investigations instructed by the Engineer.

If any human remains are encountered, the appropriate procedures shall be adhered to, including notification to the local Police and if appropriate Historic Scotland.

### **3. Reporting**

The records taken by the monitoring archaeologist shall be collated in to a data structure report and included within the Final Factual Report. The format of the report shall be agreed with the Engineer, prior to printing.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, plans and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland within six months of completion of fieldwork and any relevant post-excavation analyses. Finds will be subject to the Scots law of Treasure Trove and Bona Vacantia, and will be reported to the Crown Agent for disposal. Appropriate conservation of finds will be conducted before disposal.

However, where the watching brief forms part of a larger archaeological project, post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting and archiving shall be integrated with that of the larger project and shall be undertaken to the same standards.

### **4. Project Personnel**

**Bruce Glendinning BSc PgDip MCIfA** will manage the watching brief. Mr Glendinning graduated from the University of Glasgow in 1993 with a BSc in Archaeology. Since then he has worked as a professional archaeologist with many units throughout Scotland and England. He has extensive experience of managing large-scale archaeological projects in both rural and urban environments. In addition to project management he has acted as a consultant for Morrison Homes, Robertson Residential, Apex Hotels, Wimpey Homes and Stewart Milne Homes amongst many others. He most recently managed the invasive mitigation works for the Balmedie to Tippetty section of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

**Project Archaeologist** for the watching brief will be selected from CFA's pool of Project Officers all of whom have appropriate experience.

We can supply a full CV for all staff upon request.

## APPENDIX 2 Photographic Register

<b>Photo No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Bore Hole BH 29400
2-3	Bore Hole BH 30550
4-5	Bore Hole BH 29900
6-7	Bore Hole BH 28400
8-9	Bore Hole BH 29100
10-11	Bore Hole BH 27700
12-13	Bore Hole BH 27600





Fig. 1 Borehole BH 27600



Fig. 2 Borehole BH 27700



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Title:	Fig. 1 - 2	Report: 3377	Drawn: GC	CKD: SW	Date: 06/01/16
	Client: Fugro GeoServices Limited				
Project: A9 Dualling: Southern Section, Advanced Ground Investigation, Tay Crossing to Ballinluig: Archaeological Watching Brief					





Fig. 3 Borehole BH 28400



Fig. 4 Borehole BH 29100



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Fig. 5 Borehole BH 29400



Fig. 6 Borehole BH 29900



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Fig. 7 Borehole BH 30500



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Title:	Fig. 7	Report: 3377	Drawn: GC	CKD: SW	Date: 06/01/16
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