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Land 138m West of 103 Curriehill Road **City of Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation** 

Report No. 3544

## **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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

## Land 138m West of 103 Curriehill Road City of Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 3544

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 General

This report presents the results of archaeological evaluation carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in April 2017 within a proposed development area, land 138m west of 103 Curriehill Road, City of Edinburgh (NT 17701 68230, centred) (Fig. 1 and 2). The work was commissioned by Miller Homes and CALA Management Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA Archaeology Ltd and was designed to fulfil the requirements of the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) on behalf of the local planning authority.

## 1.2 Background

A planning application (16/01515/FUL) has been approved for the development. The development area amounted to 2.75ha and was bounded on the north by Curriehill Railway Station and on the east by Curriehill Road.

A Desk-based Assessment (DBA) was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (Neighbour 2015).

#### 1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the project were:

- 1. To establish the presence/absence, extent, condidtion, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development area through trail trenching evaluation;
- 2. To establish the vulnerability of any archaeological features to the proposed development;
- 3. To propose mitigation measures where appropriate to avoid, reduce or offset any predicted negative impacts on the archaeological resource.

## 2. WORKING METHODS

#### 2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods.

#### 2.2 Evaluation

The work comprised a 10% trial trench evaluation  $(2750m^2)$  of the application area (2.75ha).

Topsoil and subsoil were removed by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the excavation was carried out by hand.

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

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment and all trenches were backfilled.

## **3.** ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

A live service ran across the southern end of the site and a trees were present on the north, east and west sides of the site. Therefore no trenching was possible in these areas.

A total of 29 trenches of varying sizes were excavated within the development area which amounted to 2737.8m<sup>2</sup> (or c. 10% of the development area). A trench summary can be found in Appendix 1. Numbers in bold refer to contects contained within Appendix 2.

The topsoil (001) across the site mostly consisted of approximately 0.3m of greyish brown, slightly clayey sand overlying a subsoil (002) which varied between an orangey brown clayey sand to a sandy clay. The natural (003) generally consisted of orangey brown clayey sand with pockets of grey clay.

The only archaeological features which were identified during the evaluation were cultivation furrows in Trenches 12 and 13 (Figs 3 and 4). The furrows (**004**) were aligned approximately east-south-east to west-north-west. In Trench 12 the furrows were 1.2m wide and 0.07m deep, with a single greyish brown silty sandy clay fill (**005**). In Trench 13 the cultivation furrows were 0.9m wide and 0.05m deep.

## 4. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd, on behalf of Miller Homes and CALA Management Ltd ahead of a residential development. The area evaluated by trenching amounted to 2737.8m<sup>2</sup> (c.10% of the 2.75ha development area). The only remains of archaeological significance were east-south-east to west-north-west aligned cultivation furrows (**004**) identified in Trenches 12 and 13. No other archaeological features were identified.

No further mitigation is recommended. However, the final decision regarding any further mitigation lies with the City of Edinburgh Council as advised by CECAS.

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

A summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4) and will also be reported on through *OASIS Scotland*.

## 6. **REFERENCES**

Neighbour, T. Proposed Residential Development at Curriehill Road, Currie, Edinburgh: Desk-based Assessment. CFA Report No. 3345.

# **APPENDIX 1: Trench Summary**

Trench	Size/Orientation	Trench Depth	Description
1	55m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.4m	0.3m of greyish brown clayey silt topsoil overlying mottled grey and orangey-brown sandy clay natural. N-S clay pipe field drains
2	55m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.4m SE to 0.7m NW.	0.3m greyish brown clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying an orangey brown clayey sand subsoil at NW end. Natural consisted of mottled orangey brown sandy clay. One N-S field drain
3	55m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.4m SE, 0.8m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.4m of orangey brown clayey sand at the NW end. Natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Two rubble- filled field drains aligned E-W.
4	51m x 1.8m	0.4m SE, 0.8m NW	0.3m greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil. 0.4m of orangey brown clayey sand slopewash at the NW end. Natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay or grey sand. Three rubble-filled field drans aligned E-W
5	52m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.4m SE, 0.6m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil at the NW end. Otherwise, the natural consisted of grey slightly sandy clay at the SE end changing to orangey brown clayey sand/sandy clay at the NW end. 3 x rubble-filled field drains aligned E-W
6	54m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.4m SE, 0.8m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil over natural SE end or 0.4m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil (slopewash) NW end. The natural consisted of greyish brown mottled, slightly sandy clay at SE end changing to orangey brown sandy clay/clayey sand at NW end. One rubble field drain aligned E-W. One ceramic field drain N- S
7	54m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.7m SE, 0.8m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.3-0.4m orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of grey slightly sandy clay at SE end changing to orangey brown sandy clay/clayey sand at the NW end. One rubble field drain (E-W aligned) and one ceramic field drain (N-S aligned)
8	60m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.6m SE, 0.7m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2-0.3m of orangey brown clayey subsoil. The natural consisted of mottled grey and orange brown slightly sandy clay at SE end changing to orangey brown sandy clay and clayey sand at NW end. One ceraminc field drain (N-S aligned) and one rubble drain (aligned E-W).
9	56m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.6m SE, 0.7 NW	0.3m greyish brown slightly clayey topsoil overlying 0.2-0.3m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey

Trench	Size/Orientation Trench Depth Description		
			brown sandy clay. One ceramic field drain (N-S aligned) and one rubble field drain (E-W aligned)
10	54m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.8m SE, 0.6m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2m to 0.5m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Three rubble drains (E-W aligned) and one ceramic drain (N-S aligned).
11	47m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.6m SE, 0.7m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2-0.3m of slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. Natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One ceramic drain (N-S aligned), one rubble field drain (E-W aligned) and one ceramic field drain (E-W aligned)
12	28m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.6m NE, 0.7 SW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2m slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One rubble drain (E-W aligned) and one clay pipe (N-S aligned) Two E-W aligned cultivation furrows, 1.2m
13	50m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.7m NE, 0.6m SW	wide by 0.07m deep 0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2m of slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of mottled orange, brown or grey sandy clay. Four rubble drains (one E-W, one NE-SW and two N-S) One cultivation furrow aligned E-W, 0.9m
14	46m 1.8m NE- SW	0.5m NE, 0.7m SW	wide and 0.05m deep 0.3m greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.2m of slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of mottled orangey brown and grey sandy clay. Four rubble field drains (1xNE- SW, 2xN-S and 1xE-W)
15	34m x 1.8m N-S	0.5m S, 0.4m N	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1m of slightly orangey clayey sand subsoil. Natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One ceramic NE- SW aligned field drain and one E-W aligned rubble drain.
16	54m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.3m NE, 0.9m centre, 0.8m SW	0.2-0.4m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.4m slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted orangey brown sandy clay. Three NW-SE aligned rubble field drains, one N-S aligned rubble drain and four NW-SE aligned ceramic drains
17	52m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.8m Ne, 0.7m SW	03m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.3-0.4m of slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Six roughly aligned NW-SE ceramic

Trench	Size/Orientation	Trench Depth	Description		
			field drains and four NW-SE aligned rubble drains.		
18	54 x 1.8m NE- SW	0.9m NE, 0.6m SW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2-0.5m slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Three NW-SE aligned ceramic field drains, four NW-SE aligned rubble drains and one N-S aligned rubble drain.		
19	54m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.7m Ne, 0.3m SW	0.2-0.3m greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0-0.3m overlying slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Two N-S aligned rubble drains, one NW- SE rubble drain, one NW-SE aligned ceramic drains.		
20	52m 1.8m NE- SW	0.8m Ne, 0.6m SW	0.3m-0.5m of mid greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.2m of slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One N-S aligned rubble drain, one SE- NW aligned rubble, 2 NW-SE clay drain.		
21	46m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.5m SE, 0.6m NW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.2m slightly orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Oner N-S aligned rubble drain.		
22	45m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.5m NE, 0.7m SW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.3m orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay with patches of grey clay. One N-S aligned rubble drain and one NE-SW aligned rubble drain		
23	48m x 1.8m NE- SW	0.6m NE, 0.5m SW	0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.2m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. Two SE-NW aligned ceramic drains, one N-S aligned ceramic drain and one NE-SW aligned rubble drain		
24	63m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.7m SE, 0.3m NW	0.2-0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0-0.3m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay and grey clay. One NE-SW aligned rubble drain and one N-S aligned ceramic drain.		
25	61 x 1.8m NW- SE	0.6m SE, 0.3m NW	0.2-0.3m of mid greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0-0.2m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One NW-SE alignerd rubble drain, one NW-SE aligned ceramic drain and one NE-SW aligned rubble drain.		
26	65m x 1.8m NW-SE	0.7m SE, 0.3m NW	0.2-0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt topsoil overlying 0-0.3m of orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of orangey brown sandy clay. One NE-SW aligned rubble drain and one N-S		

Trench	Size/Orientation	Trench Depth	Description
			aligned rubble drain
27	58m x 1.8m NE-	0.35m SW, 0.8m NE	0.25-0.3m of grey brown slightly clayey sandy
	SW		topsoil overlying 0-0.4m orangey brown
			clayey sand subsoil. The natural consisted of
			orangey brown sandy clay. Three NW-SE
			aligned ceramic drains.
28	58m x 1.8m NE-	0.4m SW, 0.6m NE	0.25-0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey
	SW		sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.2m of
			orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The
			natural consisted of orangey brown sandy
			clay. One N-S aligned rubble drain and three
			NW-SE aligned ceramic drains.
29	60m x 1.8m NE-	0.4m SW, 0.65m NE	0.25-0.3m of greyish brown slightly clayey
	SW		sandy silt topsoil overlying 0.1-0.25m of
			orangey brown clayey sand subsoil. The
			natural consisted of orangey brown sandy
			clay. Three SE-NW aligned ceramic drains
			and one N-S aligned rubble drain.

## **APPENDIX 2: Context Register**

Context no.	Fill of	Trench	Туре	Description	
001		all		Topsoil – greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt	
002		All		Subsoil – orangey brown clayey sand	
003		all		Natural – orangey brown clayey sand	
004		12/13	Cut	Cultivation furrows	
005	004	12/13	Fill	Greyish brown silty clay	

## **APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register**

Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Taken from
1	Trench 1, general shot	SE
2	Trench 2, general shot	SE
3	Trench 3, general shot	SE
4	Trench 4, general shot	SE
5	Trench 5, general shot	SE
6	Trench 6, general shot	SE
7	Trench 7, general shot	SE
8	Compound for machine	NE
9	Trench 8, general shot	SE
10	Trench 9, general shot	SE
11	Trench 10, general shot	SE
12	Trench 11, general shot	SE
13	Trench 12, general shot	NE
14	Trench 12, cultivation furrow (004)	W
15	Trench 13, general shot	NE
16	Trench 13, cultivation furrow (004)	W
17	Trench 13, cultivation furrow	Above
18	Trench 14, general shot	NE

Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Taken from
19	Trench 15, general shot	S
20	Trench 16, general shot	NE
21	Trench 17, general shot	NE
22	Trench 18, general shot	NE
23	Trench 19, general shot	NE
24	Trench 20, general shot	NE
25	Trench 21, general shot	SE
26	Trench 22, general shot	NE
27	Trench 23, general shot	NE
28	Trench 24, general shot	SE
29	Trench 25, general shot	SE
30	Trench 26, general shot	SE
31	Trench 27, general shot	SW
32	Trench 28, general shot	SW
33	Trench 29, general shot	SW
34-37	Sequence of general site shots taken from railway bridge at Currie Station	NW-NE

# **APPENDIX 4: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land 138m West of 103 Curriehall Road, Cityof Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	CURT2
PARISH:	Currie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Gary Savory
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
RCAHMS Site No.	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 17701 68230 (centred)
START DATE (this season)	April 2017
END DATE (this season)	April 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd, on behalf of Miller Homes and CALA Management Ltd ahead of a residential development. The area evaluated by trenching amounted to c.10% of the 2.75ha development area. The only remains of archaeological significance were east-south-east to west-north-west aligned cultivation furrows identified in Trenches 12 and 13.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Miller Homes and CALA Management 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)	Historic Environment Scotland (archive) City of Edinburgh Sites and Monuments Record (report)





Fig. 2 - Development site with trial trenches, looking from north-west edge of site



Fig. 3 - Trench 12, cultivation furrow (004)



Fig. 4 - Trench 13, cultivation furrow (004)

Project: Land 138m West of 103 Curriehill Road, City of Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation						
CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	Client: Miller Homes and CALA Management Ltd	Drawn by: SW	Checked: BG	Date: 21/04/17		
		Report No: 35	544	Fig. No: 2 - 4		

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