



Glenboig Masterplan Area Phase 1, Croftfoot Farm, Glenboig, North Lanarkshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report No. 3902

Author(s): Magnus Kirby MA FSA Scot ACIfA











CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

The Old Engine House Eskmills Business Park Musselburgh East Lothian EH21 7PQ

Tel: 0131 273 4380 Fax: 0131 273 4381

email: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Authors	Magnus Kirby MA FSA Scot ACIfA
Illustrator	Shelly Werner
Approver	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MCIfA
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Archaeological Evaluation

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in September 2019 for a residential development at Croftfoot Farm, Glenboig, North Lanarkshire (NGR: NS 71100 68700) (Fig. 1). The work is the Phase 1 Development of the Glenboig Masterplan Area and was commissioned by Persimmon Homes North Scotland (Persimmon).

A Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) dated 24 May 2019 was produced by CFA on behalf of Persimmon. The WSI was designed to fulfil the requirements of Stirling Council Archaeology Service (SCAS) (archaeological advisers to North Lanarkshire Council) and was agreed by SCAS in advance of works.

1.2 Background

Planning Permission in Principle (14/01594/PPP) for a residential development at Croftfoot Farm has been approved subject to the Matters Specified in Conditions (MSC). This development (19/00595/MSC) will consist of eighty-five terraced, semi-detached, and detached houses. One of the conditions specified was for an archaeological trial trenching evaluation to be undertaken.

The Glenboig Masterplan Archaeological Assessment (GMAA), which was produced by CFA in 2014, identified two sites within the proposed development area. These consisted of a mill and a farmstead at Croftfoot (Sites 4 and 5 respectively in the GMAA). The mill first appears on Forrest's map of 1816 and is shown in more detail on the Ordnance Survey (OS) First Edition 25" map of 1864. It lay adjacent to the current B804 immediately to the north of the turn-off into Croftfoot Farm. The farmstead of Croftfoot is first depicted on Roy's Military map of c.1750, where it is shown lying immediately to the north of an area of NNW to SSE aligned rig-and-furrow cultivation. On the 1864 OS First Edition it is depicted as a small complex of buildings, with further buildings having been added when the 1898 Second Edition OS map was produced. The current buildings on the site appear modern in date and are thought to be replacements for those depicted on the early map editions.

When this trial trenching evaluation was undertaken in September 2019, the site largely consisted of former improved land which had not been cultivated in recent years and was largely overgrown with rough grass and vegetation (Fig. 2-3). There was a complex of buildings (Croftfoot Farm) towards the northern end of the area along with an access track and areas of hard-standing. Piles of demolition debris within close proximity to the standing buildings probably relate to the demolished remains of farm buildings depicted on the early OS map editions. A watercourse along the eastern edge of the area follows the line of a mill-lade depicted on the First Edition OS map, but there was no surviving evidence of the mill building. Modern service maps depict a ruin relating to part of a line of buildings depicted on the Second Edition OS map, but this was now completely overgrown and the location was unavailable for trial trenching due to ecological constraints and the location of a water main. Early map editions suggest that the area to the north of Croftfoot Farm had been enclosed cultivated land, but this was now completely overgrown with dense tree cover. This

dense tree cover meant that the northern part of the area was largely unavailable for trial trenching. Other factors affecting the area available for trial trenching in the northern part of the area included the aforementioned ecological constraints, standing-buildings, track and areas of hard-standing, piles of demolition debris, water pipeline, and an area of waterlogged ground, while the presence of a high pressure gas main and electricity cables meant that the south-western part of the site was also unavailable for trenching.

Topographically, this area predominantly sloped downwards from SW to NE, with a bit of a step towards the centre of the area where it levelled out slightly.

1.3 Objectives

The project's aims and objectives were:

- To establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development area through trial trenching evaluation.
- To establish the vulnerability of any archaeological features to the proposed development;
- 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 as necessary.

2.2 Evaluation

Twenty-four trenches (Tr. 1-24, Fig. 1) were excavated with a total combined area of c.1918.5m² (c.6.75% of the 28400m² site). This was less than the 8% (2272m²) required because a significant part of the site was unavailable for trial trenching (see Section 1.2, paragraph 3).

Modern overburden was removed by 8 and 13 tonne tracked mechanical excavators equipped with 1.5m and 1.8m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket respectively. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by 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 at the end of each working day.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

Numbers in bold refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 2.

3.2 Trial Trenching

The deposits across the area had depths varying between 0.25m and 0.6m and predominantly consisted of grey-brown clayey-silt topsoil (001) and orange-brown silty sandy-clay subsoil (002) overlying mottled orange-brown and orangey-cream sandy-clay natural (003) (Fig. 4-7). Weather conditions during this trial trenching evaluation were predominantly wet and although the topsoil felt heavily waterlogged, flooding only occurred in Tr.1 within the lowest part of the site. The natural within this trench consisted of heavy grey clay whereas elsewhere it consisted of sandy-clay.

Cultivation furrows were identified across the entire area to the south of Croftfoot Farm (Fig. 9-10). These were all on the NNW to SSE alignment indicated on General Roy's map of c.1750. They predominantly measured between 1 and 2m in width and had a depth of <0.05m. The furrows generally tended to be c.4m apart, but spacing of as little as 2m in some places may indicate a possible second phase of cultivation.

Evidence of more recent agricultural improvements was identified in the form of field drains. These consisted of early ceramic horseshoe drains as well as later ceramic cylinder drains (Fig. 8). There were also a number of drains containing industrial ash and cinders. The majority of these drains, particularly the earlier ones, tended to follow the alignment of the cultivation furrows.

Due to various ecological and other constraints, it was not possible to test any of the locations where structural features were indicated on early map editions.

4. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological trial trenching evaluation was carried out in advance of a residential development at Croftfoot Farm Glenboig. Early map editions suggest that Croftfoot Farm pre-dates c.1750 and that there was a mill constructed on the site prior to 1816. These features are depicted in greater detail on the First Edition OS map. However, onsite constraints meant that the locations of these features could not be tested for any surviving remains.

The area available for trial trenching contained extensive evidence of pre-improvement agriculture in the form of cultivation furrows. These furrows followed the same alignment as an area of rig-and-furrow cultivation depicted within this location on General Roy's Military Map of c.1750. Numerous field drains of the horseshoe and cylinder type indicate agricultural improvements during the 19th century.

There were no features, deposits, or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

The decision regarding further mitigation lies with North Lanarkshire Council as advised by SCAS.

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 the North Lanarkshire Council Sites and Monuments Record.

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

5. REFERENCES

Cartographic

Forrest, W (1816) The county of Lanark from actual survey

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition (1864) Lanark, Sheet VII.3 (Combined), 25 inch to 1 mile

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition (1898) Lanark, Sheet VII.3, 25 inch to 1 mile

Roy, W (1747-55) Military Survey of Scotland

Bibliographic

CFA, 2014 Glenboig Masterplan Archaeological Assessment

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Shot	Summary description of subject	Facing
No.		
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 3, vestigial traces of cultivation furrow	SSE
6	Trench 5, general shot	NNW
7	Trench 6, general shot	NNW
8	Trench 7, general shot	NNW
9	Trench 8, general shot	NE
10	Trench 9, general shot	NE
11	Trench 10, general shot	NE
12	Trench 11, general shot	NE
13	Trench 11, cultivation furrow	NNW
14	Trench 12, general shot	NE
15	Trench 12, ceramic horseshoe and cylinder drains	NW
16	Trench 13, general shot	NE
17	Trench 14, general shot	NE
18	Trench 15, general shot	SE
19	Trench 16, general shot	NW
20	Trench 17, general shot	NW
21	Trench 18, general shot	NW
22	Trench 18, general shot of cultivation furrow	NNW
23	Trench 18, SSE facing section of cultivation furrow	NNW
24	Trench 19, general shot	NE
25	Trench 20, general shot	SW
26	Trench 21, general shot	SW
27	Trench 22, general shot	SW
28	Trench 22, cultivation furrow	NNW
29	Trench 23, general shot	SE
30	Trench 24, general shot	ENE
31	General shot of area	NE
32	General shot of area	SW

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context	Fill of	Type	Description	
no.				
001	N/A	Topsoil	Grey-brown clayey-silt	
002	N/A	Subsoil	Orange-brown silty sandy-clay	
003	N/A	Natural	Mottled orange-brown and creamy orange sandy-	
			clay, and grey clay (grey clay in Trench 1 only)	

APPENDIX 3: Summary Trench Records

Trench	Size (m)	Total Depth (m)	Depth of Topsoil (m)	Depth of Subsoil (m)	Features
1	14 x 1.5	0.5	0.25	0.25	Field Drains (not surveyed as trench flooded)
2	46 x 1.5	0.25-0.35	0.25	0-0.1	Three field drains
3	55 x 1.5	0.25	0.25	N/A	Three cultivation furrows Four field drains
4	54 x 1.5	0.4	0.25	0.15	Five field drains
5	49 x 1.8	0.35-0.4	0.3-0.35	0-0.1	One furrow running length of trench
6	48 x 1.8	0.45	0.3	0.15	N/A
7	49 x 1.8	0.4-0.45	0.3	0.1-0.15	One cultivation furrow running length of trench
8	48 x 1.8	0.45-0.55	0.3-0.4	0.15	Six cultivation furrows Four field drains
9	49 x 1.8	0.45	0.3	0.15	Six cultivation furrows Five field drains
10	49 x 1.8	0.45-0.5	0.3-0.35	0.15	Six cultivation furrows Seven field drains
11	49 x 1.8	0.35-0.6	0.3-0.35	0.05-0.25	Six cultivation furrows Eight field drains
12	52 x 1.8	0.35-0.45	0.3	0.05-0.15	Ten cultivation furrows Five field drains
13	47 x 1.8	0.35-0.4	0.3	0.05-0.1	Ten cultivation furrows Five field drains
14	47 x 1.8	0.35-0.5	0.3-0.35	0.05-0.15	Eight cultivation furrows One field drain
15	46 x 1.8	0.4-0.5	0.3	0.1-0.2	One cultivation furrow One field drain
16	48 x 1.8	0.3-0.4	0.3	0-0.1	One cultivation furrow One field drain
17	46 x 1.8	0.3-0.4	0.3	0-0.1	Two cultivation furrows Three field drains
18	45 x 1.8	0.3-0.35	0.3-0.35	N/A	Three cultivation furrows One field drain
19	42 x 1.8	0.4	0.25	0.15	Five field drains
20	48 x 1.8	0.3-0.45	0.3	0-0.15	Seven cultivation furrows Three field drains
21	48 x 1.8	0.3-0.4	0.3	0-0.1	Six cultivation furrows Six field drains
22	46 x 1.8	0.3	0.3	N/A	Six cultivation furrows Eight field drains
23	45 x 1.8	0.3-0.4	0.3	0-0.1	Three cultivation furrows Two field drains
24	24 x 1.8	0.35-0.5	0.3	0.05-0.2	Three cultivation furrows Two field drains

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	North Lanarkshire Council		
PROJECT TITLE/SITE	Glenboig Masterplan Area Phase 1, Croftfoot Farm, Glenboig,		
NAME:	North Lanarkshire		
PROJECT CODE:	CROG		
PARISH:	Cadder (Monklands)		
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Magnus Kirby		
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd,		
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation		
NHRE NO(S):	N/A		
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A		
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 711 687		
START DATE (this season)	September 2019		
END DATE (this season)	September 2019		
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES	N/A		
ref.)			
MAIN (NARRATIVE)	An archaeological trial trenching evaluation was carried out in		
DESCRIPTION:	advance of a residential development at Croftfoot Farm		
(May include information from	Glenboig. Early map editions suggest that Croftfoot Farm predates c.1750 and that there was a mill constructed on the site		
other fields)	prior to 1816. These features are depicted in greater detail on the		
	First Edition OS map. However, on-site constraints meant that		
	the locations of these features could not be tested for any		
	surviving remains.		
	The area available for trial trenching contained extensive		
	evidence of pre-improvement agriculture in the form of		
	cultivation furrows. These furrows followed the same alignment		
	as an area of rig-and-furrow cultivation depicted within this		
	location on General Roy's Military Map of c.1750. Numerous		
	field drains of the horseshoe and cylinder type indicate agricultural improvements during the 19 th century. There were no		
	features, deposits, or artefacts of archaeological significance		
	identified.		
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None		
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None		
SPONSOR OR FUNDING	Persimmon Homes North Scotland		
BODY:			
ADDRESS OF MAIN	Old Engine House, Eskmills Business Park, Musselburgh, EH21		
CONTRIBUTOR:	7PQ		
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk		
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Report Lodged with North Lanarkshire Council SMR. NHRE		
(intended/deposited)	intended archive		

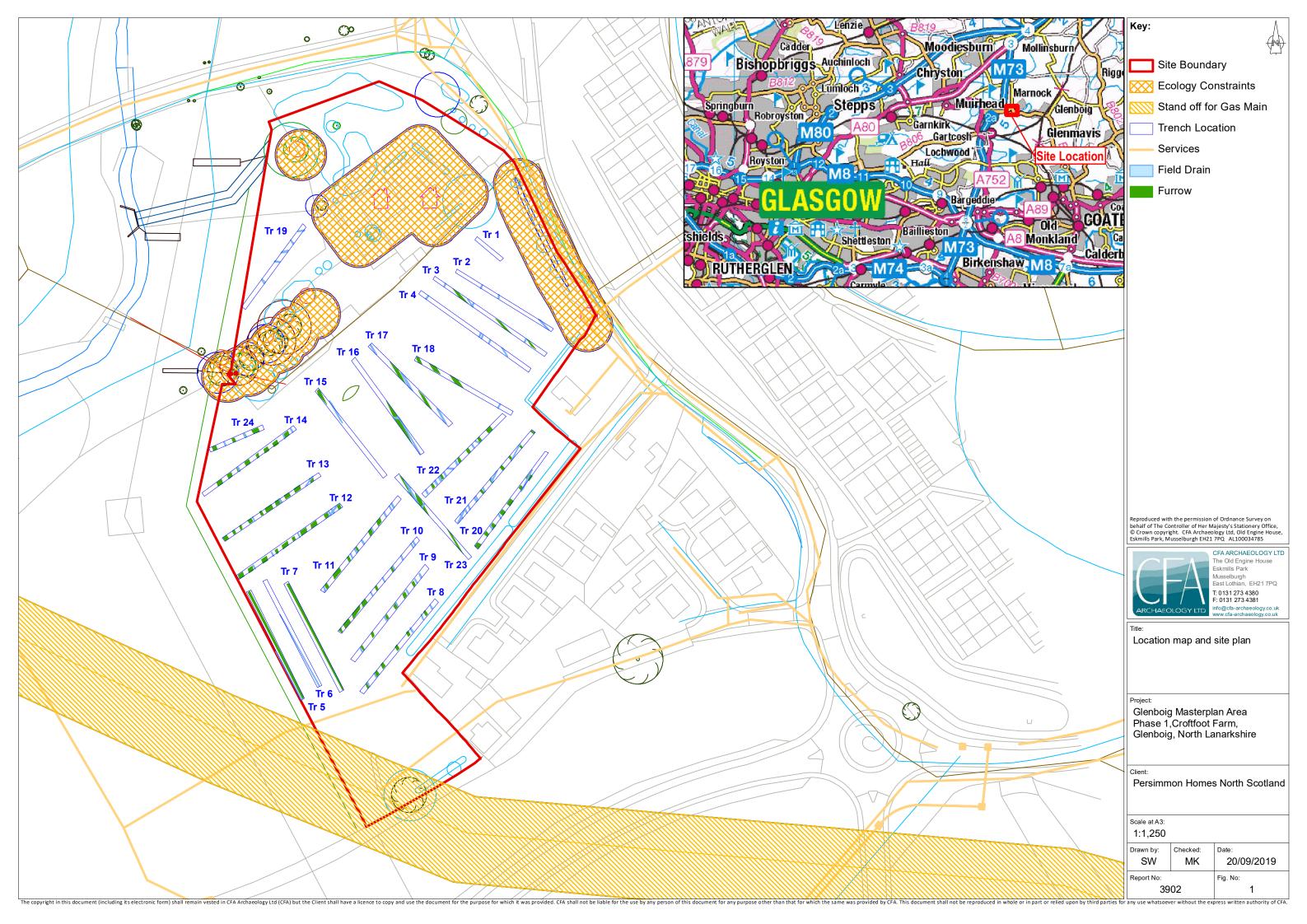




Fig. 2: General shot of development area looking NE



Fig. 3: General shot of development area looking SW

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CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
The Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
T: 0131 273 4380
F: 0131 273 4381
info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

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Fig. 4: Trench 5, general shot looking NNW



Fig. 5: Trench 11, general shot looking NE

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CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
The Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
T: 0131 273 4380
F: 0131 273 4381
info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

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Fig. 6: Trench 17, general shot looking NW



Fig. 7: Trench 23, general shot looking SE

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CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
The Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
T: 0131 273 4380
F: 0131 273 4381
Info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

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Fig. 8: Horseshoe and cylinder drains in Trench 12



Fig. 9: Cultivation furrow in Trench 18

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CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
The Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
T: 0131 273 4380
F: 0131 273 4381
Info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

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Fig. 10: Cultivation furrow in Trench 22

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CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
The Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
T: 0131 273 4380
F: 0131 273 4381
info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Persimmon Homes North Scotland

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HEAD OFFICE - Musselburgh

Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ

t: +44 (0) 131 273 4380

e: enquiries@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Leeds

Clayton Works Business Centre Midland Road Leeds, LS10 2RJ

t: +44 (0) 113 271 6060

e: yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Milton Keynes

Suite 11, Letchworth House Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall Milton Keynes, MK6 1NE

t: +44 (0) 1908 226 124

e: miltonkeynes@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Carlisle

Warwick Mill Business Village Warwick Bridge, Carlisle Cumbria, CA4 8RR

t: +44 (0) 1228 564 531

e: cumbria@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Sheffield

Office 5, Ecclesfield Business Centre 46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield Sheffield, S35 9YT

t: +44 (0) 114 327 1108

e: sheffield@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Leicester

Business Box 3 Oswin Road, Brailsford Industrial Estate Leicester, LE3 1HR

t: +44 (0) 116 279 5156

e: leicestershire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Hertfordshire

Amwell House 9 Amwell Street, Hoddesdon Hertfordshire, EN11 8TS

t: +44 (0) 845 017 9847

e: herts@cfa-archaeology.co.uk



