

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

*archaeological consultants*

*Advice on Archaeology & Planning*

*Environmental Impact Assessment*

*Intpretation, Design & Display*

*Finds/ Environmental Analysis*

*Field Evaluation & Excavation*


*Historic Building Recording*

*Site & Landscape Survey*

*Geophysical Survey*

**Mark Hill Windfarm,  
Barrhill, South Ayrshire.**

**Archaeological Recording of Parish Boundary,  
Report No. 1628**

 0131 273 4380

 0131 273 4381

 [info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

 [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

## **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](mailto:info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)  
web: [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

Author	Ian Suddaby MA FSA Scot MifA
Illustrator	Neil Kinnaird MA
Editor	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MifA
Commissioned by	Scottish Power Energy Networks
Date issued	May 2009
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-58662
Planning Permission No	07/01263/FUL
Grid Ref	NX 2373 8600

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

**Mark Hill Windfarm,  
Barrhill, South Ayrshire.**

**Archaeological Recording of Parish Boundary,  
Report No. 1628**

## **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	3
3.	Archaeological Results	4
4.	Conclusions	5

## **Appendices**

1.	Context Register	6
2.	Digital Photographic Register	6
3.	Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry	7

## **Illustrations (Bound at Rear)**

- Fig. 1 The location of the substation and the route of the Parish Boundary
- Fig. 2 The Parish Boundary ditch running south from the substation site
- Fig. 3 The Parish Boundary to the south of the site showing where the walled boundary changes to a ditched boundary where it crosses the deep peat

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

1.1.1 This report presents the results of a project undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in April 2009 to record the boundary between Colmonell and Barr parishes at the substation serving Mark Hill Windfarm, Barrhill, South Ayrshire (NGR: NX 2373 8600, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN).

### **1.2 Background**

1.2.1 Planning permission has been granted by South Ayrshire Council (ref 07/01263/FUL) for the erection of a substation to serve the Mark Hill Windfarm. As part of this project, SPEN requested that the Parish Boundary which bisects the site of the substation be recorded.

1.2.2 The Parish Boundary is shown on both the Ordnance Survey (OS) First and Second Edition maps but it is thought to date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century as both parishes are mentioned in the Statistical Account of Scotland dating to 1791-9.

### **1.3 Objectives**

1.3.1 The objectives of the project were to record the character of the Parish Boundary where it is affected by the development.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

2.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork.

2.2 All on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures.

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

- 3.1 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a list of which is contained in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 An overview of the Parish Boundary in the wider area shows that, moving from north to south, the boundary runs from the Muck Water just south of Bellamore Farm (Bellmore on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps) up the unnamed stream to the south-east before turning south as far as NX 2385 8555 before running south-east to Loch Farroch (Fig. 1). In addition to being shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century OS maps, the course of the boundary is shown on the modern OS 1:25,000 map (2006).
- 3.3 In the immediate area of the substation, the Parish Boundary runs through fire breaks in the commercial woodland. From north to south, it consists of a drystone wall (**01**) which follows the unnamed stream south-east up to NX 23726 86284. An open linear ditch (**02**, Fig. 2) then runs south up to NX 23738 85902 from which point a second drystone wall (**03**, Fig. 3) resumes the boundary. The ditch (**02**) forming the Parish Boundary is within the substation site from NX 23725 86254 to NX 23730 85998.
- 3.4 Both drystone walls (**01**, **03**) are at most 1m in height and 0.6m in width. They are formed from medium and large quarried angular cobbles and boulders of the local bedrock. The walls are in poor condition, with frequent areas of collapse. A post and wire fence (**05**), also now in poor condition, has been placed against the wall, and this fence also runs alongside the ditch (Fig. 2). The ditch (**02**) links the alignment of the walls (Fig. 3) and is 1.5m-2m in width and is presently 0.5m deep. No sections could be recorded within the development site due to health and safety considerations but the nature of the feature is shown in Figs. 2-3.

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 The Parish Boundary was successfully located and recorded on either side of the substation as a stone wall, which was unaffected by the development. Within the substation area, it consisted of an open ditch with an adjacent post and wire fence. The extent of this ditch is indicated on the 1857-8 Ordnance Survey First Edition map (Ayrshire Sheets 62, 67).
- 4.2 Sections within recently excavated drainage ditches associated with the substation development indicate a peat depth of at least 1.5m under the course of the boundary ditch and it would appear that either the ground conditions were unsuited to the construction of a wall, or that there was insufficient stone available in the area.
- 4.3 The project archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of the report will be lodged with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.
- 4.4 A summary statement of the results of this recording work (Appendix 3) will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, and will be sufficient to disseminate the results of this project.

## APPENDIX 1

### Context Register

Context	Description
01	Drystone wall to the north of the sub-station site
02	Linear ditch cut
03	Drystone wall to the south of the sub-station site
04	Fill of 02. Vegetation over firm peat
05	Post and wire fence alongside walls and ditch

## APPENDIX 2

### Digital Photographic Register

Photo No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
1-2	View S from NX 23730 86001 where the main road through the site crosses the Parish Boundary ditch 02.	N	Overcast
3	View N from NX 23730 86001 where the main road through the site crosses the Parish Boundary ditch 02.	S	Overcast
4-5	View N from the terminal of wall 03 at NX 23738 85902 showing ditch 02 on the same alignment	S	Overcast
6-7	View S showing ditch 02 and the terminal of wall 03 at NX 23738 85902 s	N	Overcast
8	As 6-7	NE	Overcast
9-11	Wall 03 elevations	E	Overcast
12	As 6-7, from further N along ditch 02	N	Overcast
13	As 3, from S of the access track	S	Overcast
14	View N from NX 23731 86058 showing ditch 02 excavated to allow on-site drainage	S	Overcast
15	As 14	N	Overcast
16	View N from NX23733 86218 showing the extent of the SPEN sediment trap on the alignment of ditch 02 and the extent of wall 01	S	Overcast
17	Terminal of wall 01 at NX 23726 86284	S	Overcast
18	Wall 01 elevation	W	Overcast
19-20	Wall 01 running N down-stream valley	W	Overcast
21-22	View S of wall 01 terminal and the sub-station site	N	Overcast
23-25	General views of wall 01 and the area to the N of the sub-station	W	Overcast
26-28	General view of the alignment of ditch 02 where it ran through the sub-station site. Now completely excavated	N & NW	Overcast

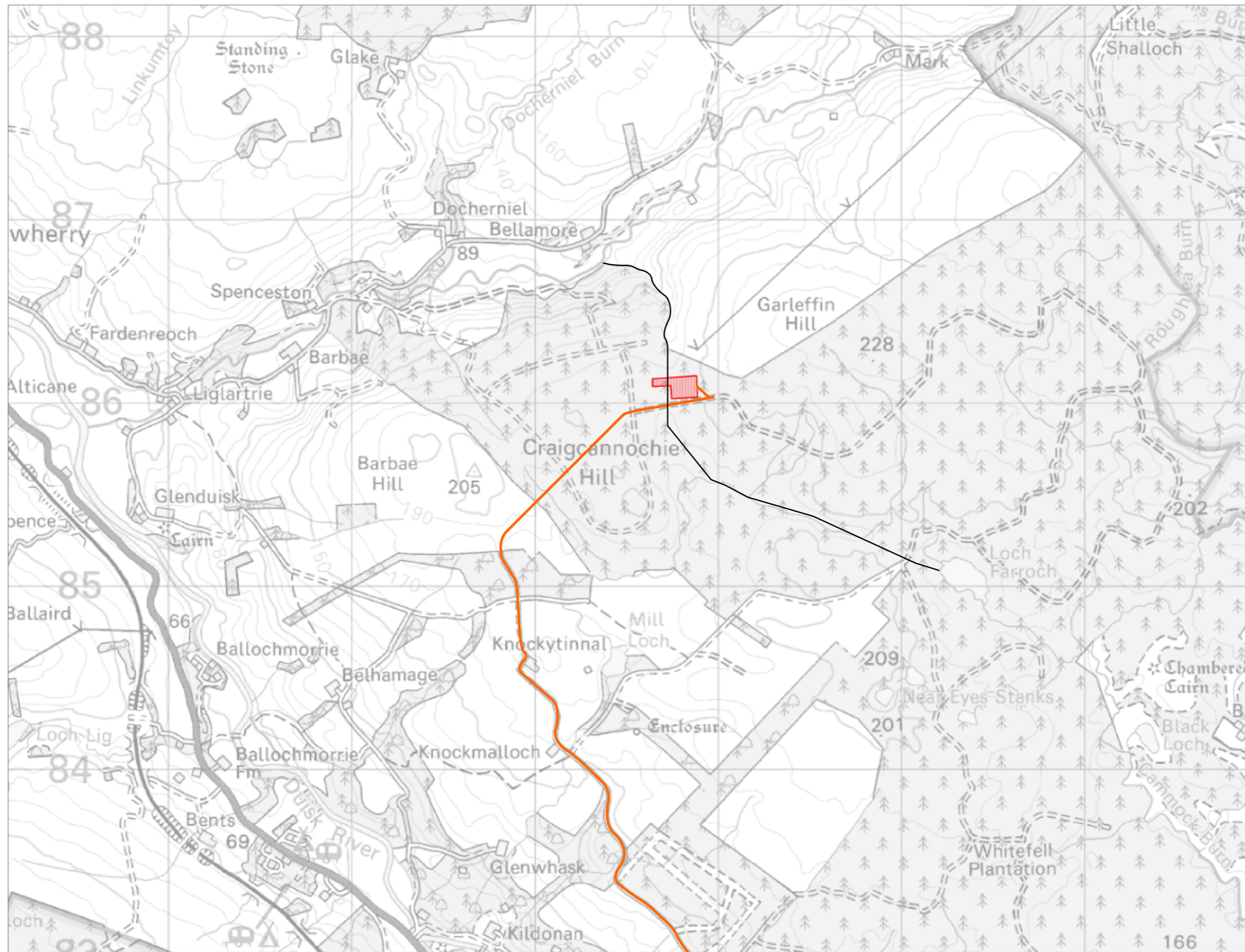
## Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	South Ayrshire Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Mark Hill Windfarm, Barhill, South Ayrshire. Parish Boundary Recording
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	MALL
<b>PARISH:</b>	Colmonell and Barr
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Ian Suddaby
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Recording
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Administrative Boundary
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 Figures)</b>	NX 23730 86001
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	23 April 2009
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	23 April 2009
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	The boundary between Colmonell and Barr Parishes was recorded where it was affected by the substation development associated with the grid connector for the Mark Hill Windfarm. At this point, the boundary was seen to consist of an open ditch with a width of 1.5m – 2m and a current depth of 0.5m. To the north and south of the ditch, and unaffected by the development, the boundary consisted of a drystone wall. The changing nature of this boundary is shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map (1857-8).
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Scottish Power Energy Networks
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	The National Monuments Record of Scotland West of Scotland Archaeology Service








IFA-registered archaeological organisation



Key:

-  Proposed Substation
-  Access Track
-  Parish Boundary

**CFA** ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
 The Old Engine House  
 Eskmills Park  
 Musselburgh  
 East Lothians EH21 7PQ  
 t: 0131 275 4380  
 f: 0131 275 4381  
 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Fig. No: 1 Revision:

Title:  
Location of substation and route of parish boundary

Project:  
Mark Hill, substation boundary

Scale:  
0 0.5 1km

Client:  
Scottish Power Energy Networks

Drawn by: NK Page No:

The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) but the Client shall have a licence to copy and use the document for the purpose for which it was provided. CFA shall not be liable for the use by any person of this document for any purpose other than that for which the same was provided by CFA. This document shall not be reproduced in whole or in part or relied upon by third parties for any use whatsoever without the express written authority of CFA.

Reproduced with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright. CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh EH21 7PQ AL100034785






Fig. 2: The Parish Boundary ditch running south from the sub-station site.



Fig. 3: The Parish Boundary to the south of the site showing where the walled boundary changes to a ditched boundary where it crosses the deep peat.

Key:	Fig. No:	Revision:	Client: <b>Scottish Power Energy Networks</b>	 <b>CFA</b> ARCHAEOLOGY LTD CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ t: 0131 273 4380 f: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
	Title:			
	Project: <b>Mark Hill, substation</b>			
Scale:				Drawn by: <b>NK</b>   Page No:   Report No: