

Friardykes Steading, Crystal Rig, Scottish Borders. **Archaeological Watching Brief**

> **Data Structure Report** No. 1615 v2







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Friardykes Steading, Crystal Rig, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Watching Brief

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between January and April 2009 at Friardykes Steading, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 6618 6805, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Natural Power Consultants Ltd to fulfil a planning condition (Ref: 08/00330/FUL). A Written Scheme of Investigation for this work was approved by the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. Digital elevations and site plans were made available to CFA by Natural Power.
- 1.1.2 A site visit carried out by CFA's historic building specialist on 17 November 2008 confirmed the presence of four derelict structures comprising three agricultural buildings and a farm cottage. The three agricultural buildings were to be demolished prior to the construction of a control depot as part of the Crystal Rig windfarm infrastructure works. The farm cottage does not form part of this planning condition. CFA and the Borders Archaeologist conducted a second site visit on 19 November 2008 to agree the appropriate level of recording for the three buildings (1-3) and to agree on the methodology for mitigating the groundbreaking required during construction.
- 1.1.3 A Standing Building Survey (Levels 1-2) and Desk-based Assessment was undertaken by CFA in December 2008 prior to building demolition (Cressey 2009). A watching brief was carried out around the upstanding building remains and across the area required for the construction of the control depot (Fig. 1 inset). The buildings were then demolished down to floor level and a watching brief was undertaken in March 2009 during the final removal of the building foundations. In April 2009 a further watching brief was undertaken in the field to the south of the buildings during work to insert a drain for the control depot buildings (Fig. 1 inset).
- 1.1.4 Friardykes is depicted on Blaeu's map of 1654 and subsequent historical maps thereafter (Fig. 2). The 1855 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map shows the farm to comprise a single detached building situated on the north side of a rectangular range. On the west side of the range there is an L-shaped structure. The style and character of the present buildings places them within the late 18th or early 19th century.

1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The objectives of the watching brief were:
 - To determine the location, character, extent and quality of any features or objects of archaeological importance that may survive within the development area, and which may be damaged or destroyed by this development and associated works.

• To determine if earlier building remains lie beneath the current agricultural buildings.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
- 2.2 The removal of soil deposits and building foundations was carried out using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. This work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. All further works required to fulfil the terms of the brief were carried out by hand.
- 2.3 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.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The area monitored consisted of a roughly rectangular shape approximately 100m by 40m running N-S, with the Friardykes buildings located in the northern part of the development area.
- 3.1.2 Topsoil (**001**) was 0.3-0.5m deep and consisted of a dark brown clay silt. This overlay a natural subsoil (**000**) of compact gravelly mid-orange silt clay.
- 3.1.3 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

3.2 Watching Brief: January phase

3.2.1 The collapsed and overgrown remains of a possible retaining garden/yard wall, running east from the north-western gable end of Building 3 (Fig. 1), were visible during the January phase of the watching brief. A trench was excavated around the north-west corner of Building 3, revealing intact structural remains of a mortar-bonded wall (004) (Fig. 3a & 3b). This wall was approximately 1.2m in width at the base, and upstanding to a height of 0.6m above the foundation. The wall consisted of roughly dressed angular sandstone blocks overlying a rubble base. It was revetted into a vertical cut (005) into the natural subsoil of 0.4m depth, against which the wall was constructed, suggesting the ground level occupied by the current Friardykes buildings has been reduced. The wall had been reduced in height prior to the installation of an electricity cable and water pipe for Building 3, and the majority of the southern face had collapsed. Machining to the east of Building 3 during the March Watching Brief phase revealed that (004) was completely collapsed and

- that the area had been severely disturbed by modern services and rubbish dumping.
- 3.2.2 A 3m section of a curvilinear wall footing (**002**) was revealed immediately to the east of Building 1 at the south-eastern corner. Two slots were excavated through the wall remains, showing it to consist of mortar-bonded sandstone blocks aligned roughly E-W, set within a cut (**003**) measuring 0.5m wide by 0.15m deep dug into natural subsoil. Further traces of (**003**) could be seen forming what originally may have been a U-shaped enclosure associated with Building 1. (**002**) and (**003**) are likely to be the remains of the semi-circular part of the building at the south-western corner of Building 1 visible on the 1855 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 2d).
- 3.2.3 Two adjacent pits (Fig. 3c) and a curvilinear feature (Fig. 3d) were identified to the south of the Friardykes buildings. The first pit consisted of a subcircular cut (006) with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 1.75m by 1.6m by 0.4m deep. It was filled with (007), a dark grey clayey silt containing occasional sub-angular stones. The second pit (008) was largely disturbed and not investigated but consisted of a sub-circular cut measuring 1.7m by 1.6m, filled with (009), a material similar to (007). The curvilinear feature was located 3m to the south of (006) and (008). A single slot was excavated through the feature revealing a cut (010) with shallow sloping sides and a concave base measuring 8m by 4m by 0.3m deep. It was filled with a firm, dark grey-brown clayey silt (011) containing occasional sub-angular stone inclusions. Neither the pits nor the curvilinear feature contained any finds and the function and date of these is unclear.
- 3.2.4 The remains of three large rubble field drains running N-S and NE-SW were also revealed during groundworks. These were an average of 0.3m wide by 0.2-0.3m deep and contained large sub-rounded cobbles.

3.3 Watching Brief: March phase

- 3.3.1 The Friardykes buildings were demolished down to the lower two to three courses (Fig. 4a) prior to the second phase of the watching brief. Removal of the remaining upstanding walls under archaeological supervision revealed that all three buildings had been built directly onto natural subsoil (Fig. 4b), rather than any earlier building remains which pre-date the current 18th-19th buildings.
- 3.3.2 This phase of watching brief also showed that construction of the buildings involved cutting into the slope of the land to provide a level platform of natural subsoil on which to build. Walls were then revetted into these cuts, as first identified in the January phase with wall (004). Building 3 had a cut of up to 1m into natural subsoil, levelling off to 0.3m for Building 2. Building 1 appears to have been built directly onto natural, with a level platform created within by backfilling the interior to a maximum height of 0.4m at the southern end.

3.3.3 One circular red ceramic field drain was identified running along the field boundary bordering the western edge of the development area. No other features of archaeological importance were identified during this phase of work.

3.4 Watching Brief: April phase

- 3.4.1 A Watching Brief was undertaken in the field to the south of the now-demolished Friardykes buildings, up to the Tay Burn, during drainage works associated with the new control depot (Fig. 1 inset). Topsoil was removed from an 'L' shaped trench within which were to be placed an access road, septic tank and drain.
- 3.4.2 The trench measured 145m by 4-6m. Topsoil (**001**) with a depth of 0.2-0.3m was removed and this revealed the truncated remains of parallel cultivation furrows (**012-3**) and stone-filled field drains (**014-5**).
- 3.4.3 The furrows (012) were aligned N-S and were 2-4m apart. Individual furrows measured 0.5-1.2m in width and, where sectioned, were less than 0.1m deep. No finds were recovered from the grey-brown clay-silt fills (013). The field drains (014) did not intersect the furrows and were aligned NE-SW. These were 0.5m in width and 0.35m in depth. They were filled (015) with medium to large cobbles and a matrix of grey clay-silt.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Friardykes Steading during work to construct a control depot for the windfarm development at Crystal Rig. This work represents the final phase of the archaeological fieldwork at Crystal Rig.
- 4.2 Three agricultural buildings dating to the late 18th-19th century were removed during the course of this work, but they did not overlie any earlier building remains.
- 4.3 Part of a highly disturbed wall was revealed at the north-western gable end of Building 3. This appears to be part of the same construction phase as the building and probably represents the remains of a yard/enclosure wall. A small section of curvilinear wall footing and foundation trench cut were also uncovered on the south-eastern side of Building 1. This is likely to be the remains of the semi-circular wall that formed the south-eastern corner of Building 1 visible on the 1855 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map.
- 4.4 Two pits and a curvilinear feature were excavated to the south of the buildings. No finds or other dating material were recovered from these features and their function remains unclear.
- 4.5 Traces of rig and furrow cultivation and several field drains were noted during the watching brief. No other features of archaeological importance were identified.
- 4.6 Rig and furrow cultivation is shown in the fields around Friardykes on Roy's 1747-55 map (Fig. 2c). Research into the agricultural history of marginal land in the Lammermuirs has been conducted by Bowen (1961) and Parry (1976) with their findings being summarised by Dixon (1994). The traces of rig and furrow recorded at Friardykes conform to those of 'Type 2' which are less than 4.5m in wavelength and are dated to the 18th century.
- 4.7 Once the programme of post-excavation and publication is completed, the project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monument Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Scottish Borders Sites and Monuments Record.
- 4.8 A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4)

5. REFERENCES

Bibliographic

Bowen, H C 1961 Ancient Fields: A tentative analysis of vanishing earthworks and landscapes. London.

Cressey, M 2009 Friardykes Steading, Crystal Rig, Scottish Borders, Standing Building Survey. CFA Report No. 1582.

Dixon, P J 1994 Field-Systems, Rig and Other Cultivation Remains in Scotland: The Field Evidence, in Foster, S & Smout, T C, (eds) The History of Soils and Field Systems, 26-52. Scottish Cultural Press.

Halliday, S 2003 Rig-and-furrow in Scotland', in Govan, S (ed) Medieval or Later Rural Settlement in Scotland: 10 years on. Historic Scotland, Edinburgh.

Parry, M L 1976 'A typology of cultivation ridges in Southern Scotland', *Tools and Tillage* 3.1, 3-19.

Cartographic

Adair, J 1682 East Lothian

Ordnance Survey 1855 First Edition 1:10,560 Haddingtonshire Sheet 16

Ordnance Survey 1894 Second Edition 1:25,000 Haddingtonshire Sheet XV1.4

Ordnance Survey 1907 Third Edition 1:25,000 Haddingtonshire Sheet XV1.4

Pont, T and Blaeu, J 1654 The Blaeu Atlas of Scotland

Roy, W 1747-55 Roy's military Survey of Scotland

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Type	Description
000	Natural	Compact gravelly mid-orange silt clay with 5-10% sub-angular medium
	Subsoil	inclusions
001	Topsoil	Mid-dark brown clay silt with occasional sub-rounded inclusions
002	Structure	Remains of wall footing associated with Building 1
003	Cut	Cut for (002)
004	Structure	Remains of possible yard wall keyed in to Building 3
005	Cut	Cut for (004)
006	Cut	Cut for sub-circular pit
007	Fill	Fill of [006]
008	Cut	Cut for sub-circular pit
009	Fill	Fill of [008]
010	Cut	Cut for curvilinear feature
011	Fill	Fill of [010]
012	Cuts	Parallel cuts (N-S) for furrows associated with ridge and furrow cultivation
013	Fills	Grey-brown clay-silt
014	Cuts	Parallel cuts (NE-SW) for field drains
015	Fills	Cobble fill of the drains and matrix of grey clay-silt

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Colour Slide: Film 1

Shot	Description	Taken	Conditions
		from	
1	Registration Shot	=	
2-5	General working shots	=	Bright
6-7	Shots of (002)	W	Bright
8-11	General working shots	=	Bright
12-13	General shot of (002)	N	Bright
14-15	N facing section of (002)	N	Bright
16-17	Plain drain between buildings	S	Bright
18-19	Drainage system between buildings	N	Bright
20-21	General view of Building 3 continuation/yard wall	W	Bright
22-23	General view of Building 3 continuation/yard wall	N	Bright
24-25	Pits [006] & [008]	W	Snowy
26-27	N facing section of [006]	N	Snowy
28-29	General view of [010]	NW	Snowy
30-31	S facing section of [010]	S	Snowy
32-33	General view of (002)/[003]	N	Bright
34-35	W facing section of [010] terminus	W	Bright

Digital

Shot	Description	Taken	Conditions
		from	
1	General shot of Building 1 without shed	S	Bright
2	General working shot	=	Bright
3	General working shot	=	Bright
4	General working shot	=	Bright
5	General working shot	-	Bright
6	Drain between buildings	W	Bright

Shot	Description	Taken from	Conditions
7	N facing section of drain	N	Bright
8	Main drain	S	Bright
9	Main drain	N	Bright
10	Working shots at Building 3	-	Bright
11	Working shots at Building 3	_	Bright
12	Working shots at Building 3	_	Bright
13	Working shots at Building 3	_	Bright
14	Working shots at Building 3	_	Bright
15	Working shots at Building 3	_	Bright
16	Collapsed drystone revetment wall (004)	S	Bright
17	Continuation of Building 3 NW wall	SW	Bright
18	Continuation of Building 3 NW wall	SW	Bright
19	Building 3 continuation of wall	N	Bright
20	Building 3 continuation of wall	N	Bright
21		W	Bright
22	General view of N end of Building 3	N	
	Building 3 continuation of wall		Bright
23	Building 3 continuation of wall	N	Bright
24	Building 3 continuation of wall	N	Bright
25	Building 3 continuation of wall	N	Bright
26	Building 3 continuation of wall	W	Bright
27	General working shot of lower field	N	Bright
28	General working shot of lower field	N	Bright
29	General working shot of lower field	N	Bright
30	General working shot of lower field	N	Snowy
31	Pits [006] & [008]	W	Snowy
32	S facing section of [006]	S	Snowy
33	Section of [006]	S	Snowy
34	Shot of [010]	NW	Snowy
35	Shot of [010]	NW	Snowy
36	Site of Friday morning	_	Snowy
37	S facing section through [010]	S	Snowy
38	S facing section through [010]	S	Snowy
39	S facing section through [010]	S	Snowy
40	S facing section through [010]	E	Bright
41	General view of site	-	Bright
42	General view of site	-	Bright
43	General view of site	-	Bright
44	General view of site	-	Bright
45	General work shot	-	Bright
46	(002) continuation	W	Bright
47	General view of Buildings 1& 3	SW	Bright
48	General view in front of Building 1	NW	Bright
49	W facing section of [010] terminus	W	Bright
50	General post-ex of [010]	NW	Bright
51	Building 1 with lower courses still upstanding	NW	Sunny
52	Building 1 with lower courses still upstanding Building 1 with lower courses still upstanding	SSE	Sunny
53	Building 1 after wall and floor removal	SSE	Sunny
54	General site shot	NW	Sunny
55	Building 1 after area levelled by machine	NW	Sunny
56	Mortared wall on E side of Building 2	WSW	Sunny
57	Area after Building 2 and mortared wall removed	SSW	
58		WSW	Sunny
20	Building 3 area after wall removed at N end, showing cut	VV S VV	Sunny
59	into natural subsoil-probably [005]	CW	Cummer
39	Building 3 area after wall removed at N end, showing cut	SW	Sunny
60	into natural subsoil-probably [005]	N	Carrent
60	General site shot	N	Sunny

Shot	Description	Taken	Conditions
		from	
61	General site shot post stripping and building demolition	NW	Sunny
62	General site shot post stripping and building demolition	WNW	Sunny
63	General site shot post stripping and building demolition	W	Sunny
64-5	Area of April WB pre-ex (between Friardykes and Tay	W	Bright
	Burn)		
66-7	Access Road topsoiled (N part of area)	E & ENE	Overcast
68	Drain route topsoiled (S part of area)	NW	Overcast
69	General view of furrows (012-3) in access road area	SW	Bright
70-1	Furrow on drain route (012-3) general view and section	SSE	Bright
72	Field drain (014-5) section	WSW	Overcast
72-5	General view of the watching brief area, Friardykes and	SE	Bright
	Beltondod from the slopes of Crystal Rig to the SE		

APPENDIX 3: Drawing Register

Drawing	Sheet	Description	Section/	Scale
No.			Plan	
1	1	General site plan showing walls (004)/(002) and field	P	1:200
		drains		
2	1	S facing section of [006]	S	1:20
3	1	S facing section of slot through [010]	S	1:20
4	1	W facing section of terminal end of [010]	S	1:20
5	1	Post-ex plan of [006] & [008]	P	1:20
6	1	Post-ex plan of [010]	P	1:50
7	DB	Sketch plan of the April watching brief trench	P	-
8	DB	Example of furrow (012-3) section	S	1:10
9	DB	Example of field drain (014-5) section	S	1:10

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2009 Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Friardykes Steading, Crystal Rig, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Watching Brief
PROJECT CODE:	MONY4
PARISH:	Spott
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	H Gray
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NT66NE 28
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Farmstead
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 figures)	NT 6618 6805
START DATE (this season)	December 2008
END DATE (this season)	April 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	Standing Building Survey, Cressey, M. 2009
MAIN (NARRATIVE)	A Level 2 standing building survey was carried out at

DESCRIPTION:	Friardykes Steading in advance of its demolition to make way
(May include information from other fields)	for a wind farm control centre. The survey was confined to three farm buildings. A fourth building, a bungalow, was not included in the survey. Building 1 was a small domestic dwelling with a byre which was later converted to a lofted barn with byre. Building 2 was a series of animal sheds under a single roof. Building 3 was a byre and stable. All roofs had been altered or replaced. The byre floors were original cobble and stone setts. The buildings all date to the late 18th or early 19th century with alterations occurring in the early 20th century but not affecting the 19th-century layout. The alterations included conversion of domestic quarters into a lofted barn and re-roofing. A farm bungalow which is part of the complex was not included in the survey.
	A watching brief was then undertaken during groundworks for the construction of the control depot. Following the Standing Building Survey, three agricultural buildings of 18 th -19 th century date were demolished during the course of the work, but these did not overlie any earlier building remains. Topsoil stripping around the buildings exposed the remains of a curvilinear wall footing and a largely destroyed section of yard wall continuing from the north-west gable end of Building 3. Further stripping to the south of the buildings revealed two sub-circular pits and a curvilinear cut feature, all of unknown date and function. Several rubble drains were identified running N-S across the stripped area.
	A second watching brief was undertaken during drainage works in the field to the south of the Friardykes buildings. This revealed the truncated remains of rig & furrow cultivation with a wavelength of 2-4m. Stone filled field drains were recorded.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Natural power
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
EMAIL ADDRESS:	hgray@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.

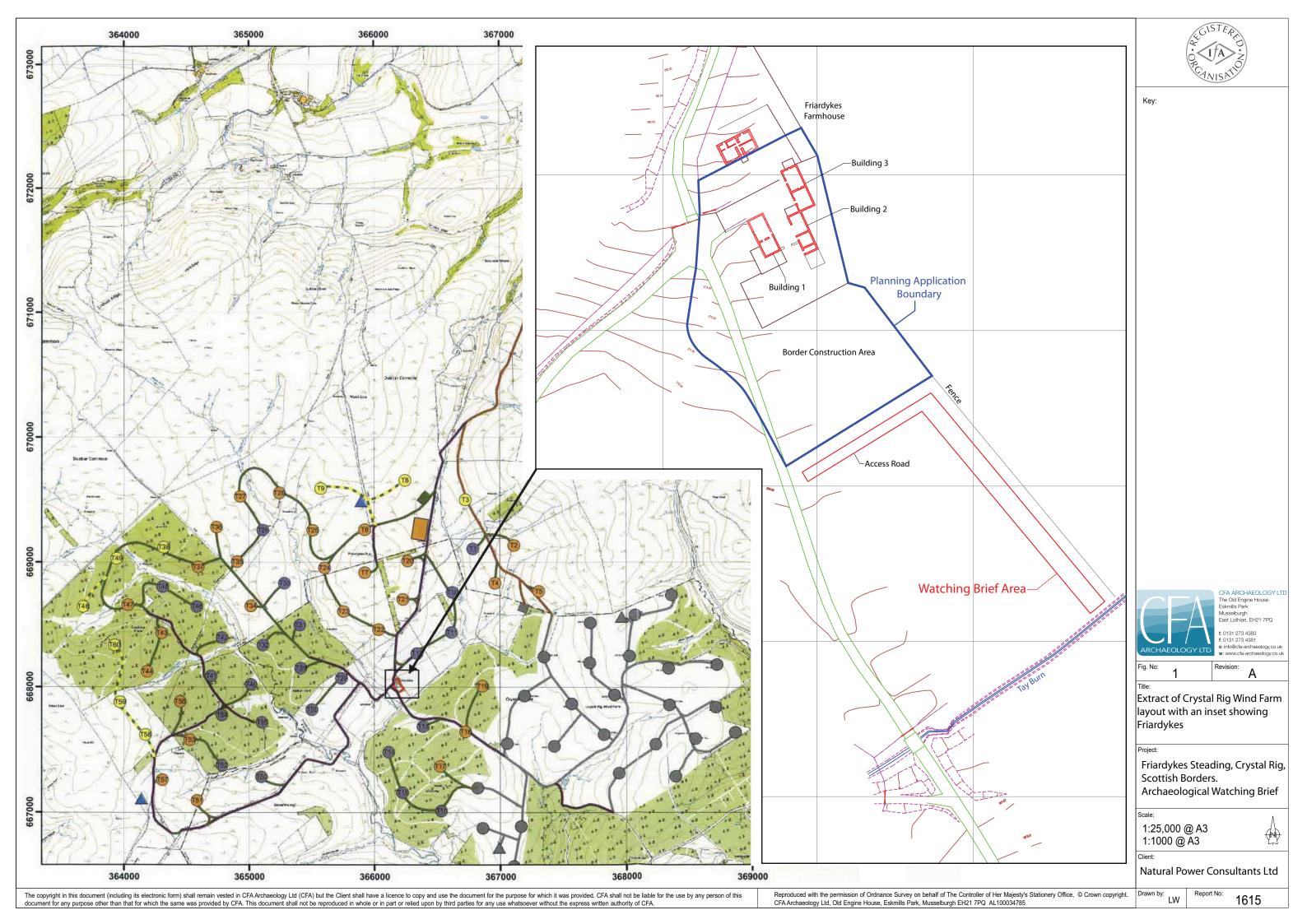






Fig 2a - Blaeu's 1654 Map



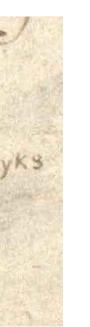


Fig 2b - Adair's Map,1682

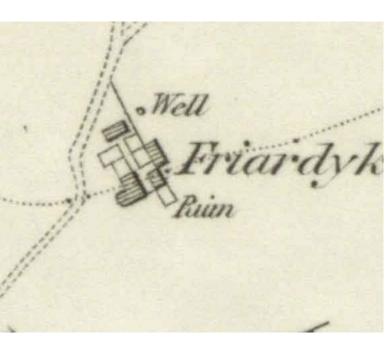


Fig 2d - 1855 First Edition Ordnance Survey

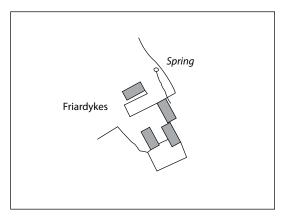


Fig 2e - Ordnance Survey 1894 1:25000 Edition

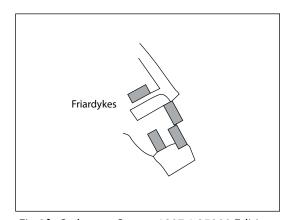


Fig 2f - Ordnance Survey 1907 1:25000 Edition



Fig 2g - Satelite image showing present building layout



Key:



Historical Map Regression

Friardykes Steading, Crystal Rig, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Watching Brief



Natural Power Consultants Ltd





Fig. 3a General view of wall (004) from SW



Fig. 3c General shot of pits [006] & [008] from W



Fig. 3b N facing section through wall



Fig. 3d General shot of slot through [010] from E

Key:	Fig. No:	3	Revision:	Client: Natural Power Consultants Ltd		The C	ARCHAEOLOGY LTD Did Engine House
	Title:					Muss	nills Park selburgh Lothian, EH21 7PQ
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	Friard	ykes St	eading, Cryst	al Rig, Scottish Borders.		W: W	ww.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
Scale:			cal Watching		Drawn by: NK	Page No:	Report No: 1615





Fig. 4a General shot of Building 1 with lower courses still upstanding, from NW



Fig. 4b General shot of Building 1 area after removal of walls and floor, from SSE

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