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Field Evaluation & Excavation


Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey


**Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House
Walled Garden, Nenthorn,
near Kelso, Scottish Borders
Archaeological Evaluation**

**Data Structure Report
No. 1645**

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standard operating procedures.

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Illustrations (bound at rear)

Fig. 1 Trench Location Map and Trench Plan

Fig. 2 General Pre-ex Condition Shot of Site

Fig. 3 Trench 2 General Shot

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in June 2009 at the site of a proposed dwelling house and garage at Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn near Kelso, Scottish Borders (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Niall Young Architects.
- 1.1.2 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA in consultation with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer (SBCAO) for two trenches 30m long by 1.8m wide to be excavated across the footprint of the new building, and based on documents sent by Mr Young.
- 1.1.3 There are no known sites within the development area but there is a high potential for the recovery of archaeological remains. The walled garden is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1858. The remains of Old Nenthorn Church and burial ground (NT63NE 4.2) lie to the north of the walled garden; the church has a medieval origin and its location cannot be identified with certainty. The burial ground contains graves from the 17th century and is now disused. Oyster shells held in Wilton Lodge Museum, possibly representing midden material, are presumed to have been recovered from close to the church site (NT63NE 4.1).
- 1.1.4 Old Nenthorn House (NT63NE 8), to the west of the development site, it is early 18th century in date and fell into disrepair in the late 19th century. It was home to members of the Roy family, who owned the estate of Nenthorn in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A standing building survey and archaeological evaluation were undertaken in May 2006 by CFA Archaeology Ltd (McKee, K 2006 *Standing Building Survey & Archaeological Evaluation at Old Nenthorn House, Nenthorn, Scottish Borders*. CFA Report no. 1195).

1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The project's aims and objectives are:
- 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.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

2.1.1 Work was conducted with regard to the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards. Recording of all elements was done following established CFA methods.

2.2 Trial trenching

2.2.1 Two trenches were excavated across the footprint of the proposed development to a length of 30m and a width of 1.8m totalling 108m².

2.2.2 The trenches were excavated by a back-acting machine with a smooth bladed ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision, to remove topsoil and modern deposits down to subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first. The trenches were backfilled at the end of the evaluation on completion of recording.

2.2.3 Samples of all features of archaeological interest were hand excavated in order to establish their likely date, nature, extent and condition.

2.2.4 All hand excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by 35mm and digital photography and by completing standard CFA record forms. Trench locations were surveyed using industry standard surveying equipment.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Evaluation

3.1.1 Two trenches amounting to 108m² were excavated (Fig. 1). Trench dimensions are given in Appendix 1. Topsoil consisted of a mid grey-brown sandy loam and continued to a maximum depth of 0.5m and overlay a dark orange-brown stony gravel, containing a high percentage of large sub-rounded stones and cobbles (Fig. 2-3). No archaeological remains were uncovered.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 Two trenches amounting to 108m² were excavated across the footings of the proposed dwelling house and garage at Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn, near Kelso, Scottish Borders. No archaeological features were revealed, and the topsoil directly overlay undisturbed natural.
- 4.2 The responsibility for deciding whether further work is required lies with SBCAO.
- 4.3 The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS).
- 4.4 A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2009* (Appendix 4).

APPENDIX 1: Trench Summary

Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Trench area (m ²)	Trench depth (m)	Features
1	30	1.8	54	0.45	None
2	30	1.8	54	0.50	None

APPENDIX 2: Colour Slide Film

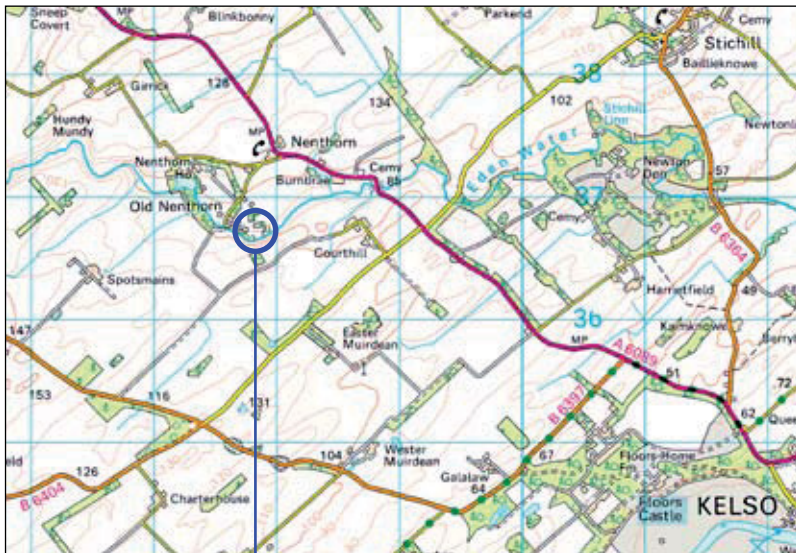
Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Registration shot		
3-4	General Pre-ex shots of site	NW	O/C
5-6	General Pre-ex shots of site	NE	O/C
7-8	General Pre-ex shots of site	SE	O/C
9-10	General Pre-ex shots of site	SW	O/C
11-12	Trench 1 general shot	W	Sun
13-14	Trench 2 general shot	WNW	Sun

APPENDIX 3: Digital Photograph Register

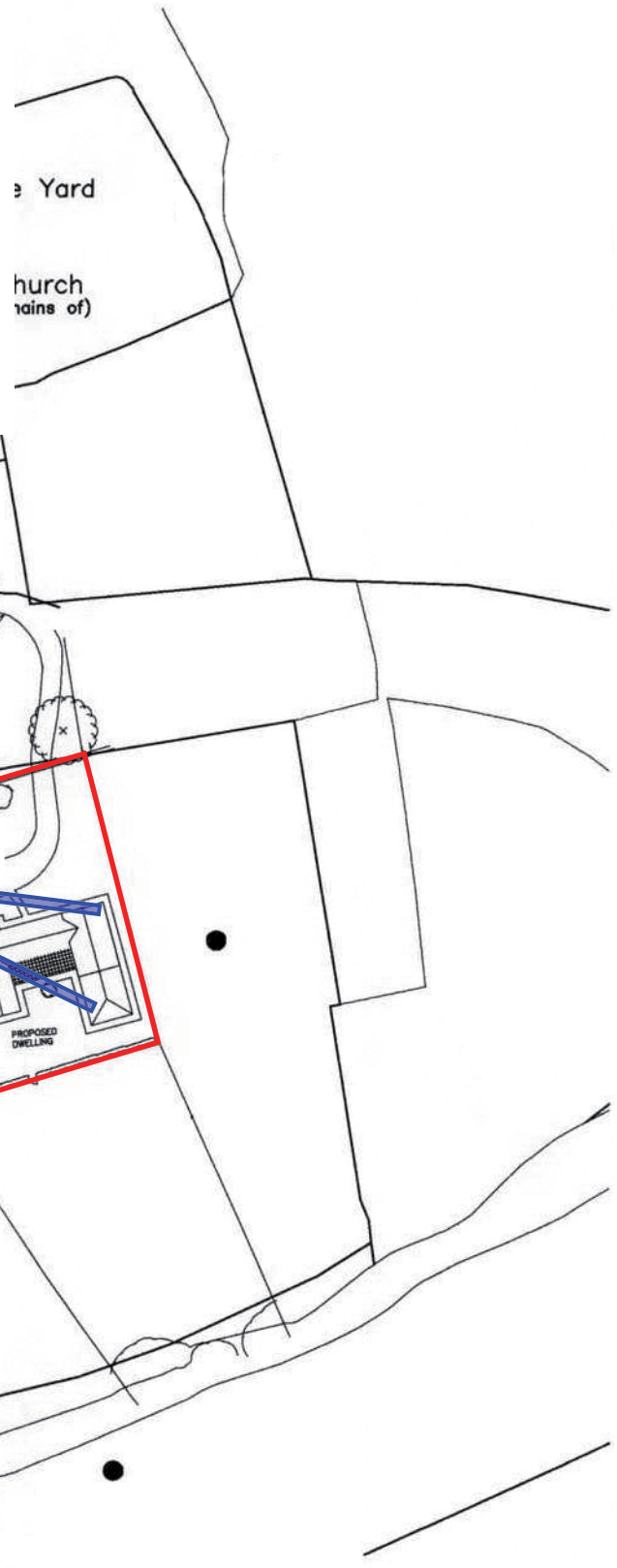
Photo No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
1	General Pre-ex shots of site	NW	O/C
2	General Pre-ex shots of site	NE	O/C
3	General Pre-ex shots of site	SE	O/C
4	General Pre-ex shots of site	SW	O/C
5	Trench 1 general shot	W	Sun
6	Trench 2 general shot	WNW	Sun

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn, near Kelso, Scottish Borders, Archaeological Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	KELS
PARISH:	Nenthorn
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ian Hill
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Walled Garden
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 6782 3675
START DATE (this season)	15/6/09
END DATE (this season)	15/6/09
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn, near Kelso, Scottish Borders prior to the development of a proposed dwelling house and garage. Two trenches were excavated across the footings of the proposed development, to a length of 30m and a width of 1.8m, totalling 108m ² . No archaeological remains were discovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Niall Young Architect
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
EMAIL ADDRESS:	ihill@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.



Site Location



Key:	 Site Boundary  Archaeological Trench
Scale:	1:1250 @ A4

Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A	Client:	Niall Young Architects
Title: Trench Location Map					
Project: Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn, near Kelso, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Evaluation					

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		1645	



Fig 2 - General pre-ex condition shot of site



Fig 3 - Trench 2 general shot

Key:

Fig. No: **2-3** Revision: **A** Client: **Niall Young Architects**

Title:

Project:
Plot 1, Old Nenthorn House Walled Garden, Nenthorn, near Kelso, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Evaluation

Scale:



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