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Geophysical Survey

**Kirkhouse Farm
Dolphinton
South Lanarkshire
Monitored Topsoil Strip
Report No. 1648**

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Date issued	July 2009
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-61985
Planning Application No	CL/08/0348
Grid Ref	NT 097 462

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

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Fig. 2 Stripped area, looking north

Fig. 3 Stripped area, looking south

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 This report presents the results of a monitored topsoil strip undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in May 2009 at Kirkhouse Farm, Dolphinton, South Lanarkshire, (NGR: NT 097 462) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Deborah Benson.

1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the project was produced by CFA on behalf of Ms Benson. The WSI was agreed in advance by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 Planning permission has been granted by South Lanarkshire Council (Ref No. CL/08/0348) for an equestrian arena (Fig. 1), subject to a condition requiring an archaeological investigation.

1.2.2 A desk-based assessment carried out previously by CFA Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Ms Benson was intended to assess the archaeological potential of the development site and find the most suitable location for the new arena (Richardson & Kirby 2007).

1.2.3 The site is located on Kirkhouse Farm (Fig. 1), which is situated at the eastern edge of Dolphinton. The farm has been built within the western corner of Kirkhouse Roman Temporary Camp (NT04NE 47). The camp was first identified from aerial photographs and limited excavation of the camp ditch was undertaken in the 1980s. The excavations showed that the camp extended around the farm and encompassed Logiebank, with its southern edge running along the A702 road which is the presumed line of a Roman road. The Camp covers an area measuring 435m by 360m. The location of the proposed arena is situated within the interior of the camp.

1.3 Objectives

1.3.1 The aims of the monitored topsoil strip were:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological features or deposits and to mitigate any impact on those features or deposits as identified during the watching brief.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

2.1.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork.

2.2 Watching Brief

2.2.1 A topsoil strip was undertaken on an area measuring 25m by 40m, immediately to the south-east of the main farm buildings. The area was excavated using a 360° mechanical digger equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. The topsoil was removed down to the natural subsoil.

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

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

3.2 The topsoil (**001**) across the area measured 0.15m – 0.3m in depth and overlay orange-brown clayey-sand natural subsoil (**002**).

3.3 One modern yellow plastic drain (**003**) was uncovered 4m from the south-eastern end of the stripped area. The drain was orientated NW-SE and ran the full width of the stripped area.

3.4 No archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the topsoil strip of the area.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 A monitored topsoil strip was carried out at Kirkhouse Farm on the proposed site of an equestrian arena. The farm is located within the interior of a Roman Temporary Camp. No archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the topsoil strip. One modern plastic drain (**003**) was recorded at the SE end of the stripped area.

4.2 The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service Sites and Monuments Record.

4.3 A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3).

5. REFERENCES

Richardson, P & Kirby, M 2007 *Kirkhouse Farm, Dolphinton. Proposed Equestrian Riding Arena. Desk-based Assessment*. CFA Report No. 1375.1.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Subsoil, orange-brown clayey-sand
003	Yellow plastic drain

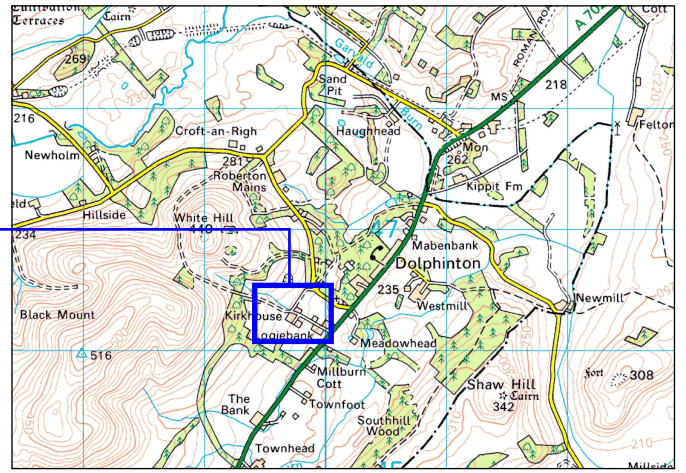
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital Images

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Beginning of topsoil stripping	North	Sun
2	View of area to east of shed	South-east	Sun
3	Mid excavation, view across site	South	Overcast
4	Mid excavation, view across site	North	Overcast
5	Plastic drain (003)	N/A	Overcast
6	End of excavation, view across site	South	Overcast

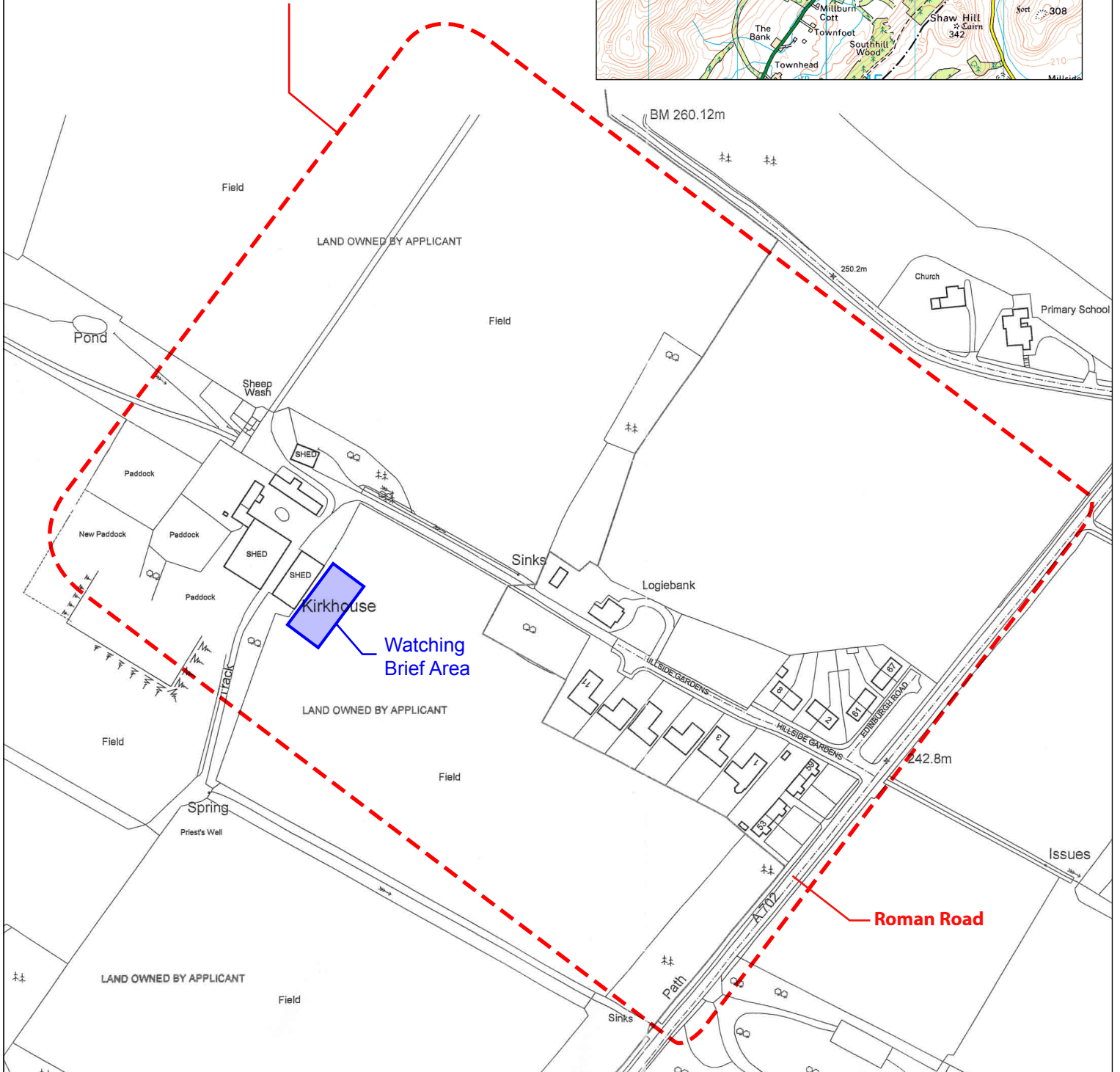
APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	South Lanarkshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Kirkhouse Farm
PROJECT CODE:	KIFA2
PARISH:	Dolphinton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Kieran Haines
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NT04NE47
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Kirkhouse Roman temporary camp
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 097 462
START DATE (this season)	May 2009
END DATE (this season)	May 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A topsoil strip was undertaken on the proposed site of an equestrian arena at Kirkhouse Farm. The farm is located within the interior of a Roman temporary camp identified during the 1980's from aerial photographs and limited excavation of the camp ditch. The proposed development area measured 25m by 40m, immediately to the south east of the main farm buildings. The area was excavated using a 360° mechanical digger equipped with a smooth bladed ditching bucket. The topsoil was removed down to the natural. No archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the topsoil strip.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Ms Deborah Benson
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland West of Scotland Archaeology Service Sites and Monuments Record



Site Location

Outline of Roman Camp



Key:

- Area of stripped topsoil
- Outline of Roman Camp. Based upon RCAHMS Aerial Photograph Transcript

Scale: 0 100 m

Fig. No: 1 Revision: A Client: Deborah Benson

Title: Location Map

Project: Kirkhouse Farm, Dolphinton, South Lanarkshire Monitored Topsoil Strip

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Fig. 2 - Stripped area, looking north



Fig. 3 - Stripped area, looking south

Key:	Fig. No:	2-3	Revision:	A	Client:	Deborah Benson
	Title:	Plates				
	Project:	Kirkhouse Farm, Dolphinton, South Lanarkshire Monitored Topsoil Strip				
Scale:						 <p>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</p>
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