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Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Carcant Windfarm
Moorfoot Hills
Scottish Borders**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 1726

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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standard operating procedures.

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Moorfoot Hills
Scottish Borders**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in November 2009 at Carcant Wind Farm, Moorfoot Hills, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 360 530 centred). The work was commissioned by Airtricity Ltd (Airtricity).
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 24 November 2009 for this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf of Airtricity. The WSI was designed to meet the requirements of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Service (SBCAS).

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 Carcant wind farm occupies the application area shown on Figure 1 and comprises of three wind turbines together with associated infrastructure features. Following a reconnaissance survey undertaken by CFA in 2006 (Kirby 2006), a WSI for mitigation works dated 13 October 2006 was produced by CFA and agreed in advance by the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist. The WSI included a requirement for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during groundbreaking work at each of the three turbine locations. However, CFA were not notified of groundbreaking works for the turbines and they were not monitored. Consequently, a further mitigation measure was implemented by SBCAS requiring an archaeological evaluation at each of the three turbine locations.
- 1.2.2 The reconnaissance survey carried out by CFA in 2006 (Kirby 2006) identified 10 sites within the proposed wind farm area. These consisted of a wall and gate-pillar (1), a large irregular shaped enclosure (2), two quarry scoops (3 and 9), two cairns (4 and 5), a slightly raised circular platform (6), two further dry-stone walls (7 and 8), and an area of possible peat workings. The majority of the features are considered to relate to 19th/20th century agricultural improvements, but the raised circular platform (6) has the potential to be prehistoric in date.
- 1.2.3 Watching briefs undertaken during test-pitting at the three turbine locations (White 2006) and during soil stripping for Borrow Pit 2 (Kirby 2009) did not identify any features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

1.3 Objectives

- 1.3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were:
- To establish the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the development area.
 - To propose further mitigation measures as appropriate.

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 Evaluation.

2.2 Evaluation

- 2.2.1 The WSI required the excavation of a trench measuring c. 20m by 2m at each of the three turbine locations. Three trenches were excavated measuring 27m by 1.6m (Tr. 1), 28m by 1.6m (Tr. 2) and 25m by 1.6m (Tr. 3). The trenches were numbered according to the turbine number. The positioning of the trenches was governed by a number of health and safety issues including live cables and the need to prevent the weakening of areas of hardstanding so that they could still be used for heavy lifting operations.
- 2.2.2 Topsoil and modern overburden were removed by a JCB 3CX type mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.6m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 2.2.4 The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.
- 2.2.5 Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment and all trenches were backfilled.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 A trial trench was excavated at each of the three turbine locations. Each of the three trenches was excavated into an area of hardstanding overlying previously exposed subsoil. Ceramic field drains present within two of the trenches indicate that the area had been improved during the 19th/20th century for agricultural purposes. There were no features, artefacts or deposits of archaeological significance identified. Details of the individual trenches are given below:

- Trench 1 measured 27m by 1.8m. It consisted of 0.7m – 1m of modern hardcore overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel containing larger angular stones.
- Trench 2 measured 28m by 1.8m. It consisted of 0.5m – 0.75m of modern hardcore overlying grey clay and degraded bedrock. One ceramic field drain was identified within this trench.
- Trench 3 measured 25m by 1.8m. It consisted of 0.2m – 0.5m of modern hardcore overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel containing larger angular stones. Two ceramic field drains were identified within this trench.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 An archaeological trial trench was excavated at each of the three turbine locations at Carcant Wind Farm. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

4.2 CFA does not recommend any further archaeological work in relation to this evaluation. However the final decision on any further mitigation measures lies with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Service.

4.3 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 Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record.

4.4 A summary statement to be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2) will be sufficient to disseminate the results of this programme of works.

5. REFERENCES

Kirby, M 2009 *Carcant Wind Farm, Scottish Borders: Archaeological Works*
CFA Data Structure Report No. 1671

Kirby, M 2006 *Carcant Wind Farm, Scottish Borders: Archaeological Survey*:
CFA Data Structure Report No. 1246.

White, R 2006 *Carcant Wind Farm, Moorfoot Hills, Scottish Borders*.
Archaeological Watching Brief. CFA Data Structure Report No. 1273.

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Digital

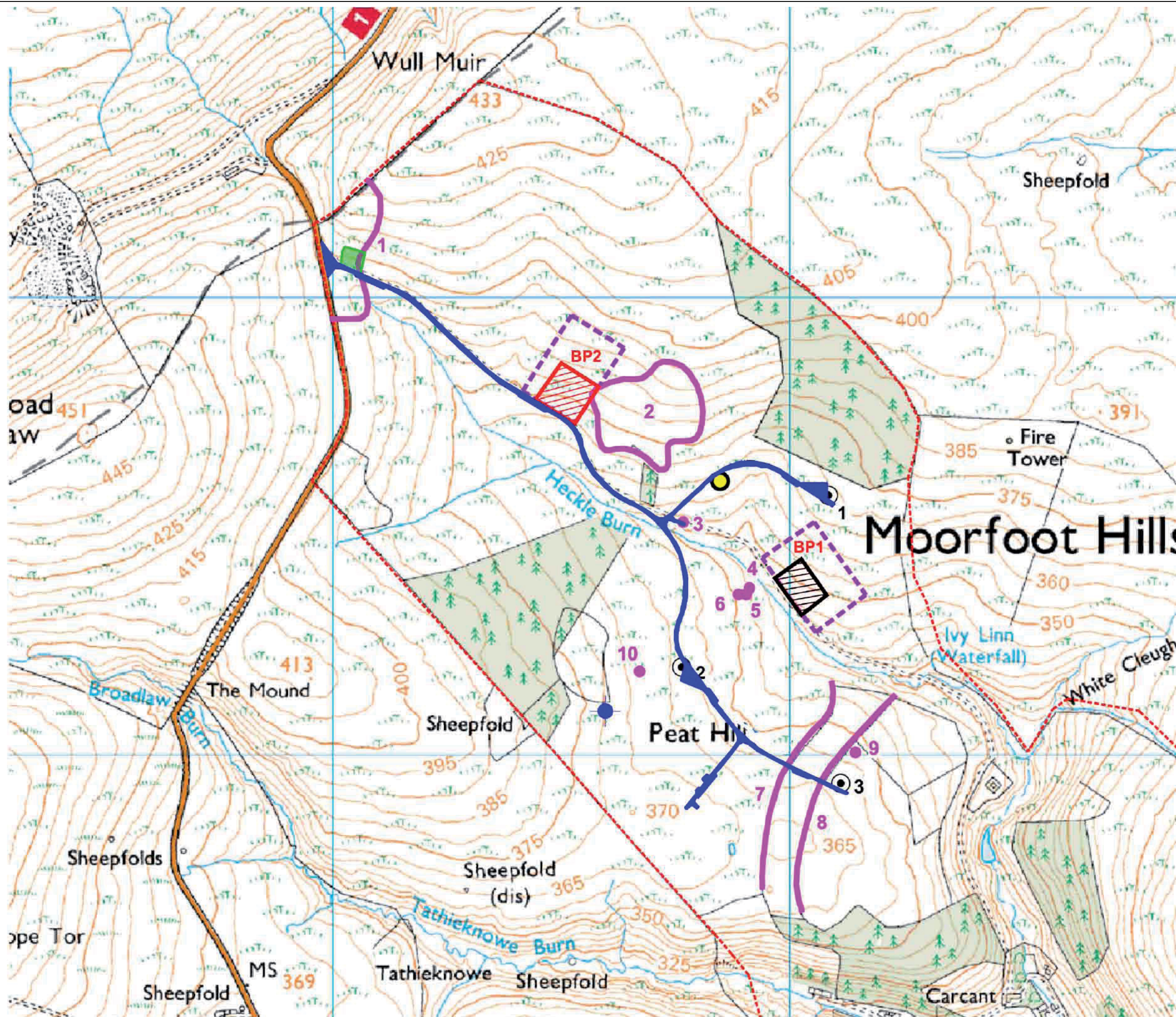
Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Trench 2 general	E	Rain
3-4	Trench 2 general	W	Rain
5-6	Trench 3 general	NW	Rain
7-8	Trench 3 general	SE	Rain
9-10	Trench 1 general	W	Overcast
11-12	Trench 1 general	E	Overcast

APPENDIX 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry


LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Carcant Wind Farm
PROJECT CODE:	CARC
PARISH:	Heriot
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Magnus Kirby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Works
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 360 530 centred
START DATE (this season)	June 2009
END DATE (this season)	December 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of archaeological works was carried out at Carcant Wind Farm. The initial phase of works was carried out in 2006 and consisted of a reconnaissance survey. The reconnaissance survey identified ten sites consisting of a wall and gate pillar, an enclosure, two quarry scoops, two cairns, a raised circular platform of possible prehistoric date, two drystone field walls and an area of probable peat workings. With the possible exception of the circular platform, the features identified are thought to relate to 19th/20th century agricultural improvements.</p> <p>Subsequent phases of work consisted of a series of watching briefs, an evaluation and a further reconnaissance survey along the proposed line of an electrical cable route. The reconnaissance survey identified a further length of dry-stone wall and the denuded remains of an enclosure, which is depicted on the First Edition 6" Ordnance Survey map of 1854. The watching briefs and evaluation did not lead to the identification of any archaeological features.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Airtricity Ltd
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, Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record

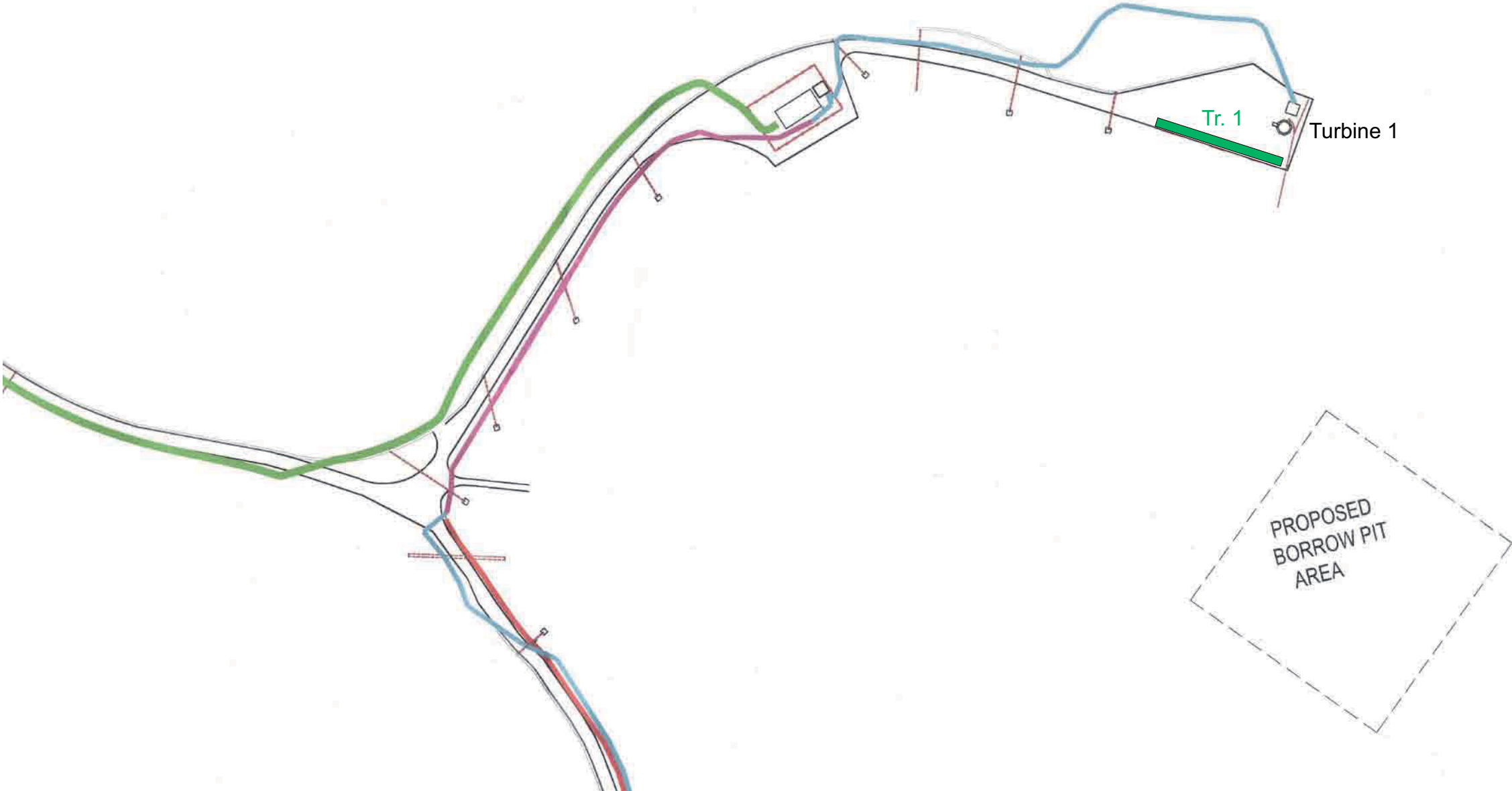
Key:

- Site boundary
- Turbine Locations
- Substation
- Built Road
- Met Mast
- Borrow Pit 2 (watching brief area)
- Borrow Pit 1 (not used)
- Borrow Pit Search Areas
- Location of Cultural Heritage Features
- Site Compound





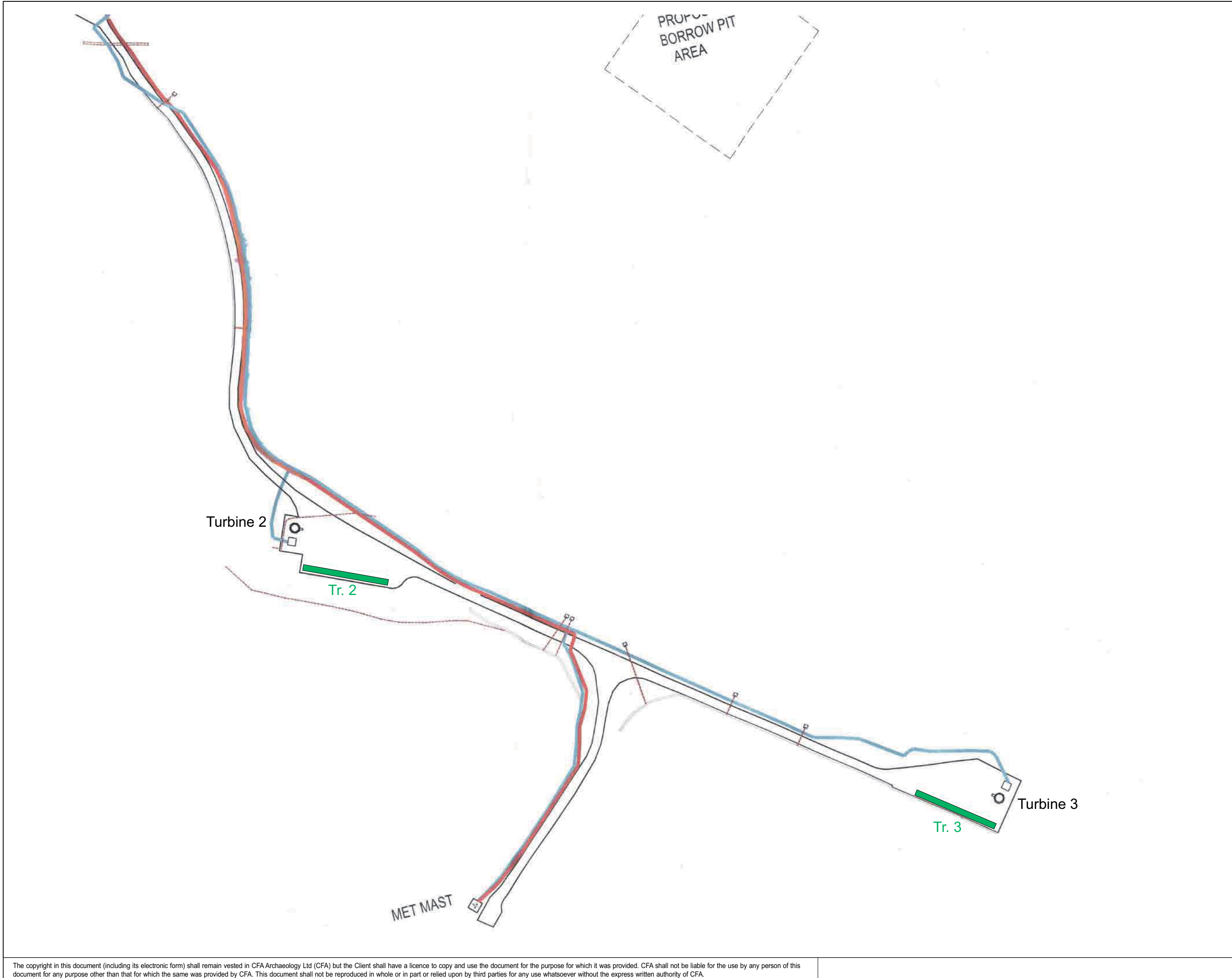
Key:
 Evaluation trench






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Fig. No:	2A	Revision:	A
Title:	Location of Trench 1		
Project:	Carcant Wind Farm, Scottish Borders		
Scale:	1:1,000 @ A3		
Client:	Airtricity		
Drawn by:	GC	Report No:	1726



Key:
 Evaluation trench



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Fig. No:	2B	Revision:	A
Title: Location of Trench 2 and Trench 3			
Project: Carcant Wind Farm, Scottish Borders			
Scale: 1:1,000 @ A3			
Client: Airtricity			
Drawn by:	GC	Report No:	1726






Fig. 3 Trench 3 from North West



Fig. 4 Trench 1 from East

Key:	Fig. No:	3-4	Revision:	A	Client:	Airtricity	 <div>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</div>		
	Title:								
	Project: <div>Carcant Wind Farm, Scottish Borders</div>								
Scale:							Drawn by: GC	Page No:	Report No: 1726