

# CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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**Carcant Wind Farm,  
Moorfoot Hills, Scottish Borders.  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 1273**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of twelve test pits carried out as part of ground investigation works in advance of the construction of a wind farm. Planning consent has been granted for the construction and operation of the wind farm at Carcant, Moorfoot Hills, Scottish Borders.
- 1.2 The Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist required an archaeological watching brief on all ground breaking works associated the wind farm development. The archaeological work was required because of the high archaeological potential of the surrounding area as identified in a previous survey carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) (Kirby 2006), and because no invasive archaeological work has previously been conducted on the site. Fig. 1 shows the location of the proposed turbines and substation and identified archaeological sites in the vicinity. The work was commissioned by AMEC Wind Energy and carried out by CFA in November 2006.
- 1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the watching brief was produced by CFA. The WSI was agreed in advance of fieldwork by the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

- 2.1.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs. This states that watching briefs are intended to allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits that could not be established in advance of development, and to provide an opportunity for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties if an archaeological find is made before its destruction.
- 2.1.2 Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, principally by drawing, photography and completion of standard recording forms.

### **2.2 Test Pits**

- 2.2.1 Three test pits were excavated at each of the three turbine locations and also at the substation location. The test pit numbers were prefixed by the turbine numbers or 'SS' for the substation.
- 2.2.2 The test pits were excavated using a mechanical excavator. The topsoil was removed using a smooth-bladed bucket to reveal the subsoil surface in order to identify any archaeological remains. A toothed bucket was used to excavate below the sub-surface. The test pits all measured approximately 2m x 2m in plan and were dug to a maximum depth of 3m.

### **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

- 3.1 A summary of the results of the excavation of the test pits is presented in Appendix 2.
- 3.2 The isolated groundbreaking work for the test pits revealed no sub-surface archaeological features. A record was made of the subsoil encountered in each pit, together with its depth below topsoil.

### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 No archaeological finds or features were encountered during the excavation of the test pits.
- 4.2 The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, plans and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland.

### **5. REFERENCES**

Kirby, M. 2006 *Carcant Wind Farm, Moorfoot Hills, Scottish Borders. Archaeological Survey*. CFA Archive Report 1246. Commissioned by AMEC Wind Energy

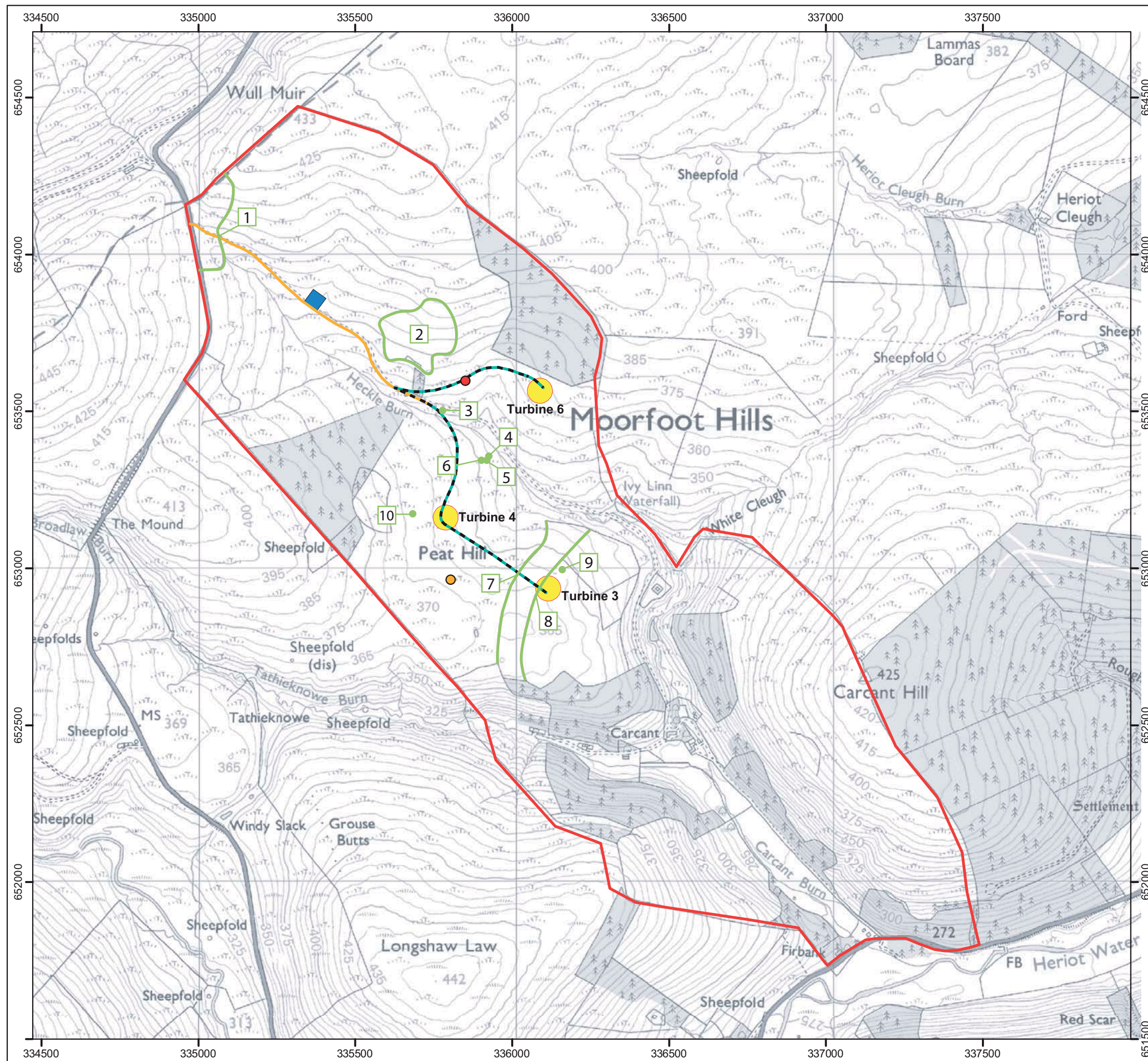
## APPENDIX 1: Photograph Register

Photo No.	Test Pit No.	Description	Conditions	Taken From
1	3.2	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	NE
2	3.2	SE facing section of test pit	Bright	SE
3	3.1	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	E
4	3.1	N facing section of test pit	Bright	N
5	3.3	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	S
6	3.3	NW facing section of test pit	Bright	NW
7	4.1	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	SW
8	4.1	NW facing section of test pit	Bright	NW
9	4.2	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	SW
10	4.2	NW facing section of test pit	Bright	NW
11	4.2	NW facing section of test pit after removal of clay	Bright	NW
12	4.3	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	NE
13	4.3	NW facing section of test pit	Bright	NW
14	6.3	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	NW
15	6.3	SW facing section of test pit	Bright	SW
16	6.1	SW facing section of test pit	Bright	SW
17	6.1	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	NW
18	6.2	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	SW
19	6.2	SE facing section of test pit	Bright	SE
20	SS1	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	W
21	SS1	SE facing section of test pit	Bright	SE
22	SS2	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	W
23	SS2	SE facing section of test pit	Bright	SE
24	SS3	Plan shot of test pit	Bright	SW
25	SS3	SE facing section of test pit	Bright	SE

## APPENDIX 2: Summary of Test Pits

Test Pit ID	Test Pit Co-ordinates		Dimensions (l x w)	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Description	Comments
	Easting	Northing				
3.1	52943	36115	2m x 2m	0.39m	Orange sandy glacial till with 50-60% inclusions of sub-rounded and angular pebbles to small boulders	No archaeology
3.2	52929	36108	2.1m x 2m	0.33m	Orange sandy glacial till with 50-60% inclusions of sub-rounded and angular pebbles to small boulders	No archaeology
3.3	52929	36122	2m x 2m	0.34m	Orange sandy glacial till with 50-60% inclusions of sub-rounded and more angular pebbles to small boulders than other test pits	No archaeology
4.1	53155	35795	2m x 2m	0.38m	Very boggy ground. 0.2m of fine grey silty clay, well compacted. This sits on firmer greenish grey pebble-rich clay and gravel	No archaeology
4.2	53155	35768	2m x 2m	0.3m	0.3m deep firmly compacted grey silty clay that in turn sits on bluish and orange mixed gravelly silty clay.	No archaeology
4.3	53168	35774	2m x 2m	0.4m	Loose compacted orange sandy clay with 60% inclusions of sub-angular gravelly pebbles	No archaeology
6.1	53573	36088	2m x 2m	0.2m	0.2m of dark brownish grey, moderately compacted silty sand with 40% inclusions of sub-rounded large pebbles. This sits on light orange silty sand natural with 30% inclusions of sub-rounded large pebbles	No archaeology
6.2	53559	36081	2m x 2m	0.2m	0.15m deep deposit of orange fine-grained, poorly compacted sand. This sits on light orange silty sand natural with 30% inclusions of sub-rounded large pebbles	No archaeology
6.3	53559	36095	2m x 2m	0.2m	0.2m of dark brownish grey, moderately compacted silty sand with 40% inclusions of sub-rounded large pebbles. This sits on light orange silty sand natural with 30% inclusions of sub-rounded large pebbles	No archaeology
SS1	53604	35851	2m x 2m	0.24m	0.11m deep deposit of loose orange sand. This sits on a greyish orange sand, loosely compacted, with 50% inclusions of angular and sub-angular large pebbles	No archaeology
SS2	53590	35844	2m x 2m	0.3m	0.15m deep deposit of loose orange sand. This sits on a greyish orange sand, loosely compacted, with 50% inclusions of angular and sub-angular large pebbles	No archaeology
SS3	53590	35858	2m x 2m	0.3m	0.13m deep deposit of loose orange sand. This sits on a greyish orange sand, loosely compacted, with 50% inclusions of angular and sub-angular large pebbles	No archaeology



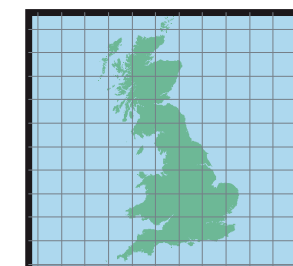


# Carcant Wind Farm

Figure 1  
Site Layout Showing  
Archaeological Features

## Legend

- Wind Turbine (including foundation and hardstanding)
- Monitoring mast location
- Substation location
- Site boundary
- Temporary Compound
- Indicative cable route running alongside road
- Existing Road (requires upgrading)
- New Roads
- Location of cultural heritage features referred to in Kirby (2006).



Layout:  
Monitoring\_mast\_v2\_ab0537,  
Carcant\_substn\_v6\_ab0637\_PT,  
Carcant\_cable\_v4\_ab0637,  
CARCANT\_SRd\_v05\_ab0637,  
Carcant\_substn\_v6\_ab0637\_Area,  
LCAR021\_80ROTOR,  
Carcant\_site\_bdry\_v1\_ab0407\_1to25k,  
CARCANT\_TempCompound\_v2\_ab0519

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0 0.25 0.5 0.75 km

Scale  
1:12,500

Date	By	Paper	Layout	Drg No	Rev
12/09/06	AB	A3	LCAR 021	6125 - 700 - CA - 003	A