

**Shewington OCCS Extension** Roswell, Midlothian, **Archaeological Evaluation** 

Report 1688

### **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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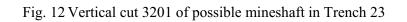
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Shewington OCCS Extension, Rosewell, Midlothian, Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 1688

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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 September and October 2009 within the area of a proposed extension to the existing Shewington Opencast Coal Mine, to the SW of Rosewell, Midlothian (centred on NGR NT 2950 6065, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by the Scottish Resources Group.
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA prior to the evaluation. The WSI was approved in advance by the Archaeology Officer for Midlothian Council.
- 1.1.3 A desk-based assessment of the proposed extension was previously carried out (Wardell Armstrong 2009), with Chapter 8 dealing with cultural heritage issues. A single cultural heritage site, that of a colliery tramway (Midlothian Sites & Monuments Record (SMR) No. MEL9523), lies within the site. This was used to transfer coal from the now disused Barley Dean Colliery to Gourlaw. It also identified a dark circular area from aerial photographic evidence which may be the site of a pit (ibid, 8.8).
- 1.1.4 No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the proposed development area prior to this evaluation. A previous evaluation of the existing opencast site (Kirby & White 2007) revealed no features of archaeological significance.

#### 1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The aims of the evaluation were:
  - To determine the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development and to propose mitigation measures where necessary;

#### 2. WORKING METHODS

#### 2.1 General

2.1.1 Work was conducted with regard to the relevant Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) guidance.

### 2.2 Evaluation Strategy

- 2.2.1 The total site area is 13.3ha with 6.7ha being either woodland or previously woodland which was not considered suitable for evaluation. Based on this, 6.6ha was available for a 5% evaluation (3300m²). Forty-one trial trenches (Fig. 1) were opened these had a combined basal area of 3796m² which is slightly over 5% of the total area.
- 2.2.2 The trenches were excavated by machine under direct archaeological supervision to remove topsoil and modern deposits down to subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first.
- 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 colour slide and digital photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.
- 2.2.5 Trench locations were surveyed using industry standard equipment and trenches were backfilled on completion of recording.

#### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

#### 3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The site varied considerably in terms of topography. To the N of the disused mineral line it was a pasture grass field (Trenches 7-17) with a small portion of an arable field (Trenches 1-6). The grass field was, in the main, steeply sloping, with more level areas being present at the top and bottom of the slope. An isolated knoll (Trenches 7-9) was a prominent feature. To the S of the mineral line it was an arable field (Trenches 18-20), with a steep scarp leading up to a second arable field (Trenches 21-41).
- 3.1.2 Appendix 1 contains a tabulated summary of trench dimensions and a list of the features encountered. Context numbers appear in bold, and a full description of these can be found in Appendix 2. Other site records form Appendices 3-4.
- 3.1.3 In general, the soil profile within the site consisted of 0.3m topsoil (**001**) which varied between a brown silty sand and a brown clay-silt. In the field to the immediate S of the mineral line (Trenches 18-20) they was a notable coal content in the topsoil and deposits of coal-rich clay-silt (**002**) were present overlying the natural subsoil. The undisturbed natural (**003**) in Trenches 1-6 consisted of sandy gravels, with sand being in Trenches 10 and 17. Trenches 7-9 had a stiff clay subsoil with all remaining trenches having a firm or compact clay-silt with small stones.

#### 3.2 Results

- 3.2.1 Only those trenches that contained archaeological features are described in any detail below, the others are described in Appendix 1, details of any drains etc identified in the trenches are also described in Appendix 1 and 2.
- 3.2.2 In Trench 2 (Figs. 2-4), a sub-rectangular pit (201) was partially revealed and the trench was extended to fully reveal the feature. This pit was 2.1m long by 1m wide by 0.3m deep. It was aligned NE-SW and was filled with small and medium sized cobbles in a matrix of brown silty sand (202). No finds were recovered.
- 3.2.3 In Trench 7 (Figs. 5-8), the edge of a circular feature (701) was identified and the trench was enlarged to fully reveal the feature. This also revealed a second smaller feature (702). Pit 701 was 1.75m in diameter by 0.25m deep and contained an upper fill of brownish clay silt containing numerous stone inclusions and iron slag (703). A primary fill of charcoal-flecked dark brown clayey silt (706) was also identified and the base of the pit was reddened, presumably through heat.
- 3.2.4 The nearby smaller feature (**702**) was circular and 0.6m in diameter by 0.1m deep. It contained two fills, an upper fill of black clay-silt (**705**) and a lower fill of brown clay-silt (**704**). No finds were recovered

- 3.2.5 In Trench 16, the edge of a large circular feature (1601) (Fig. 9) with a projected diameter of 5.5m was revealed. The cut was vertical and it was filled with a mixture of grey clay and small stones (1602). It is likely that this is the large circular feature identified from aerial photos and described in the ES. From previous extensive experience in the area this feature was identified as mining related, possibly an old working so extensive excavation was not undertaken.
- 3.2.6 In Trench 18 a large circular feature (1803) (Fig.10) was identified in the middle of the trench. Trench 19 was positioned to further investigate this feature which had a total diameter of 6.5m and was filled with a mixture of clay, coal and stones (1804). From previous extensive experience in the area this feature was identified as mining related, possibly an old working so extensive excavation was not undertaken.
- 3.2.7 In Trench 27, the edge of a large circular feature (2701) (Fig. 11) was identified. The trench was extended to further reveal the feature which was 10.25m in diameter. The cut was vertical and it was filled with a brownish-grey clay-silt with coal flecks and layers of orange-brown redeposited subsoil (2702). No finds were recovered. From previous extensive experience in the area this feature was identified as mining related, possibly an old working so extensive excavation was not undertaken.
- 3.2.8 In Trench 32, the edge of a large circular feature (3201) (Fig. 12) was identified. The trench was extended to further reveal the feature which was 3.5m in diameter. The cut was vertical and it was filled with a mixture of yellow clay, grey clay with lumps of coal and black silt (3202). No finds were recovered. From previous extensive experience in the area this feature was identified as mining related, possibly an old working so extensive excavation was not undertaken.
- 3.2.9 In Trench 38, the edge of a large circular feature (3801) with a diameter of circa 6m was identified. The cut was vertical and it was filled with a mixture of grey clay, black clay and stones (3802). No finds were recovered. From previous extensive experience in the area this feature was identified as mining related, possibly an old working so extensive excavation was not undertaken.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Two undated small pits (201, 702) and a small possible hearth (701) containing fragments of Iron slag were identified no dating evidence was recovered from this feature so its date is unknown. The only other features identified were drains and the remains of 5 in-filled shafts probably related to earlier mining activity on this site.
- 4.2 As a result of this evaluation CFA recommend that no further work in mitigation is required, however, the responsibility for deciding whether further work is required lies solely with the archaeological advisor to Midlothian Council.
- 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 Midlothian Council.
- 4.4 A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2009* (Draft as Appendix 5). The online OASIS record will also be completed

#### 5. REFERENCES

Kirby, M & White, R 2007 *Shewington Opencast Site, Rosewell, Midlothian, Archaeological Survey.* CFA Unpublished Technical Report 1305.

Wardell Armstrong 2009 Environmental Statement for Proposed Shewington OCCS Extension.

## **APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF EVALUATION TRENCHES**

Trench	Length	Width	Depth of	Features
No.	(m)	(m)	overburden (m)	1 44441 43
1	40	2	0.3	
2	50	2	0.3	1 sub-recatngular pit (201)
				1 drain
3	42	2	0.3	
4	50	2	0.3	1 field drain
5	34	2	0.3	1 field drain
6	50	2	0.3	1 field drain
7	50	2	0.2	1 circular pit (701)
				1 small pit (702)
8	50	2	0.25/ 0.2	1 field drain
9	50	2	0.3	1 field drain
10	40	2	0.4/0.25	1 modern cattle burial at SE end
11	50	2	0.85/ 0.6	6 field drains
12	30	2	0.3	1 field drain
13	50	2	0.5/ 0.3	
14	50	2	0.3	7 field drains
15	50	2	0.3	
16	30	2	0.2	1 mineshaft (1601)
17	30	2	0.3	,
18	50	2	0.3	1 large drain (1801)
				1 mineshaft (1803)
				2 field drains
19	41	2	0.4/ 0.3	1 mineshaft (1803)
				1 Box Drain (1901)
				1 large drain (1904)
				1 field drain
20	61	2	0.3	1 large drain (2001)
				3 field drains
21	45	2	0.35	
22	50	2	0.35	2 field drains
23	50	2	0.3	5 field drains
24	50	2	0.3	5 field drains
25	50	2	0.3/0.25	5 field drains
26	50	2	0.25	4 field drains
27	50	2	0.3	1 mineshaft (2701)
				4 field drains
28	30	2	0.3	3 field drains
29	50	2	0.3	7 field drains
30	50	2	0.3	-
31	50	2	0.3	5 field drains
32	50	2	0.3	1 mineshaft (3201)
33	50	2	0.3	5 field drains
				Modern plough scores
34	50	2	0.3	6 field drains
35	50	2	0.3	8 field drains
36	50	2	0.3	7 field drains
37	50	2	0.3	1 field drain
38	50	2	0.3	1 mineshaft (3801)
39	50	2	0.3	8 field drains
40	50	2	0.3	4 field drains
41	30	2	0.3	3 field drains

### **APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER**

Context	Trench	Fill of	Type	Description
201	2		Cut	Cut for sub-rectangular pit
202	2	201	Fill	Soil with charcoal flecks and stones
701	7		Cut	Cut for circular pit
702	7		Cut Cut of small pit	
703	7	701	Fill Soil, stones and iron slag	
704	7	702	Fill Grey clay silt	
705	7	702	Fill	Black clay silt with charcoal flecks
706	7	701	Fill	Grey clay silt and charcoal
1601	16		Cut	Circular cut for mineshaft
1602	16	1601	Fill	Grey clay, stones and soil
1801	18		Cut	Cut for linear drain
1802	18	1801	Fill	Sandstone rubble below yellow-brown clay silt
1803	18		Cut	Circular cut for mineshaft
1804	18	1803	Fill Grey clay, stones and soil	
1901	19		Cut	Linear cut for Box Drain
1902	19	1901	Structure	Box Drain
1903	19	1901	Fill	Laminated silt and sand in Box Drain
1904	19		Cut	Linear cut for drain
1905	19	1904	Fill	Mixed fill
2001	20		Cut	Linear cut for drain
2002	20	2001	Fill	Mixed fill soil, clay and stones
2701	27		Cut	sub-circular cut for mineshaft
				Brown clay silt with orange-brown redeposited
2702	27	2701	Fill	subsoil lenses
3201	32		Cut	circular cut for mineshaft
				Mixed grey clay, black silt and organic remains
3202	32	3201	Fill	and stones
3801	38		Cut	Probable circular cut for mineshaft
3802	38	3801	Fill	Mixed grey clay, black silt, orange-brown redeposited subsoil and stones

### **APPENDIX 3: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER**

Slide No.	Digital No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
FILM 1	•	•	•	
		General views/panorama from crest of hill in N		
	1-5	of site	NW-SE	Overcast
		General views from E of site looking NW to		
	6-8	SW		Overcast
	9-11	General views of field in base of valley	S	Overcast
	12	Trench 1 general view	W	Overcast
	13-14	Trenches 1-4 area. General view	N	Overcast
	15	General view, trench 1	Е	Overcast
	16	Trench 3, general view	S	Overcast
	17	Trench 3, general view	N	Overcast
	18	Trench 4, general view	NNW	Overcast
	19	Trench 4, general view	SSE	Overcast
	20	Trench 6, general view	SSE	Overcast
	21	Trench 6, general view	NNW	Overcast
	22	Trench 7, general view	NE	Overcast
	23	Trench 7, pits 701 and 702 in trench extension	W	Overcast
		Trench 8, general views, with trench 7 to right		
	24-25	and trench 9 under excavation to left	NE	Overcast
	26	Trench 8, general view	SW	Overcast
	27	Trench 9, general view	WSW	Overcast
		Trench 5 working shot, with trench 4 to right		
	28-29	and trench 2 to left	S	Overcast
1-2	30	Trench 2, general view	NNW	Overcast
3-4	31-32	Trench 2, view of trench extension with pit 201	N	Overcast
5-6	33-35	Trench 2, pit 201 section	SW	Overcast
		Trench 2, ceramic field drain, with pipe		
	36	extracted		Overcast
7-8	37	Trench 2, general view	SSE	Overcast
	38	Trench 2, views of pit 201	S	Overcast
	39	Trench 2, views of pit 201	ESE	Overcast
9-10	40-42	Trench 7, pit 701 pre-ex	NNW	Overcast
11-12	43	Trench 7, pit 702, pre-ex	NNW	Overcast
13-14	44	Trench 7, pits 701 and 702, pre-ex	NNE	Overcast
15-16	45-46	Trench 7, general view	NNE	Overcast
	47	Trenches 7-9, general view	NNE	Overcast
17-18	48-49	Trench 7 extension	SSW	Overcast
19-20	50	Trench 7, pit 701, NW facing section	NW	Overcast
21-22	51	Trench 7, pit 701, SW facing section	SW	Overcast
	52	Trench 7, pit 701, plan view of W quarter	W	Overcast
	53-54	Trench 7, pit 701, general views	W	Overcast
	55	Trench 10, general view	SE	Overcast
		Trench 10, section at NW end and outline of		
	56-58	mineral line	NE-NNE	Overcast
	59	Trenches 11-13, general view	S	Overcast
	60	Trench 11, general view	SSE	Overcast
	61-62	Existing opencast mine		Overcast
	63	Trench 11, general view	NNW	Overcast
	64	Trench 12, general view	SW	Overcast
	65	Trench 13, general view	N	Overcast
	66	Trench 13, general view	S	Overcast
	00	11011011 13, gollotul view	5	O vorcasi

Slide No.	Digital No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
	67	Trench 14, general view	N	Overcast
	68	Trench 14, general view	S	Overcast
	69	Trench 115, general view	N	Overcast
	70	Trench 15, general view	S	Overcast
22.24				
23-24	71-72	Trench 16, general view	SSE	Bright
25-26	73	Trench 16, mineshaft 1601	S	Bright
	74	Trench 16, mineshaft 1601	NW	Bright
	75.70	Panorama N to W from trench 2 and trench 7, through valley showing trenches 18 and 19	CE NE	
	75-78	under excavation	SE-NE	Overcast
	79-80	Trench 17, general view	SSE	Overcast
	81	Trench 18, general view	WNW	Overcast
		Trench 18, coal deposits cut by culvert drain 1801 in NNE facing section near WNW end of		
	82-84	trench	NNE	Overcast
	85-86	Trench 18, probable mineshaft 1803 at trench 18/trench 19 junction	S	Overcast
	87	Trench 18, mineshaft 1803	ESE	Overcast
	88-89	Trenches 18 and 19, general view	ESE	Overcast
	90	Trench 19, coal deposits cut by ceramic field drain	W	Overcast
	91-92	Trench 19, general view	N	Overcast
	93	Trench 19, general view of culvert 1901	S	Bright
	94	Trench 19, culvert fill 1903 section	NNE	Overcast
	95	Trench 19, general view of culvert structure 1902	N	Overcast
	96-97	Trench 20, ENE section at NNW end showing drain 2001 cutting coal deposits	ENE	Overcast
	98-99	Trench 20, general view	SSE	Dull
	100	General view of trenches 18.19 and 20 area	S	Sun
	101	Trench 22, general view	SSW	Sun/shade
	102-103	Brick buildings in trees	E	Sun
	104	Trench 21, general view	SSW	Sun/shade
			NW	+
	105	Trench 23, general view		Sun
	106	Trench 24, general view	SE	Sun
	107	Trench 25, general view	SE	Sun
	108	Trench 25, soil section at NW end	SE	Sun
	109	Trench 26, general view	NW	Shade
	110	Trench 27, general view	NNW	Sun/shade
		Trench 27 on left, with trenches 25 and 26 on		
	111-112	right, general views	W-NW	Sun/shade
	113	Trench 27, extension showing extent of mineshaft 2701	S	Sun
		Trench 27, extension, E facing section showing		
	114-115	cut dipping increasingly steeply	Е	Sun
	116	Trench 27, general view of mineshaft Trench 27, extension showing extent of	ESE	Overcast
	117	mineshaft 2701 Trench 27, extension, E facing section showing	S	Overcast
	118	cut dipping increasingly steeply	Е	Overcast
		Trench 27, close-up of sondage showing	T	
	119	dipping layers	Е	Overcast
	120	Trench 27, general view	E	Bright
		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		1211511t

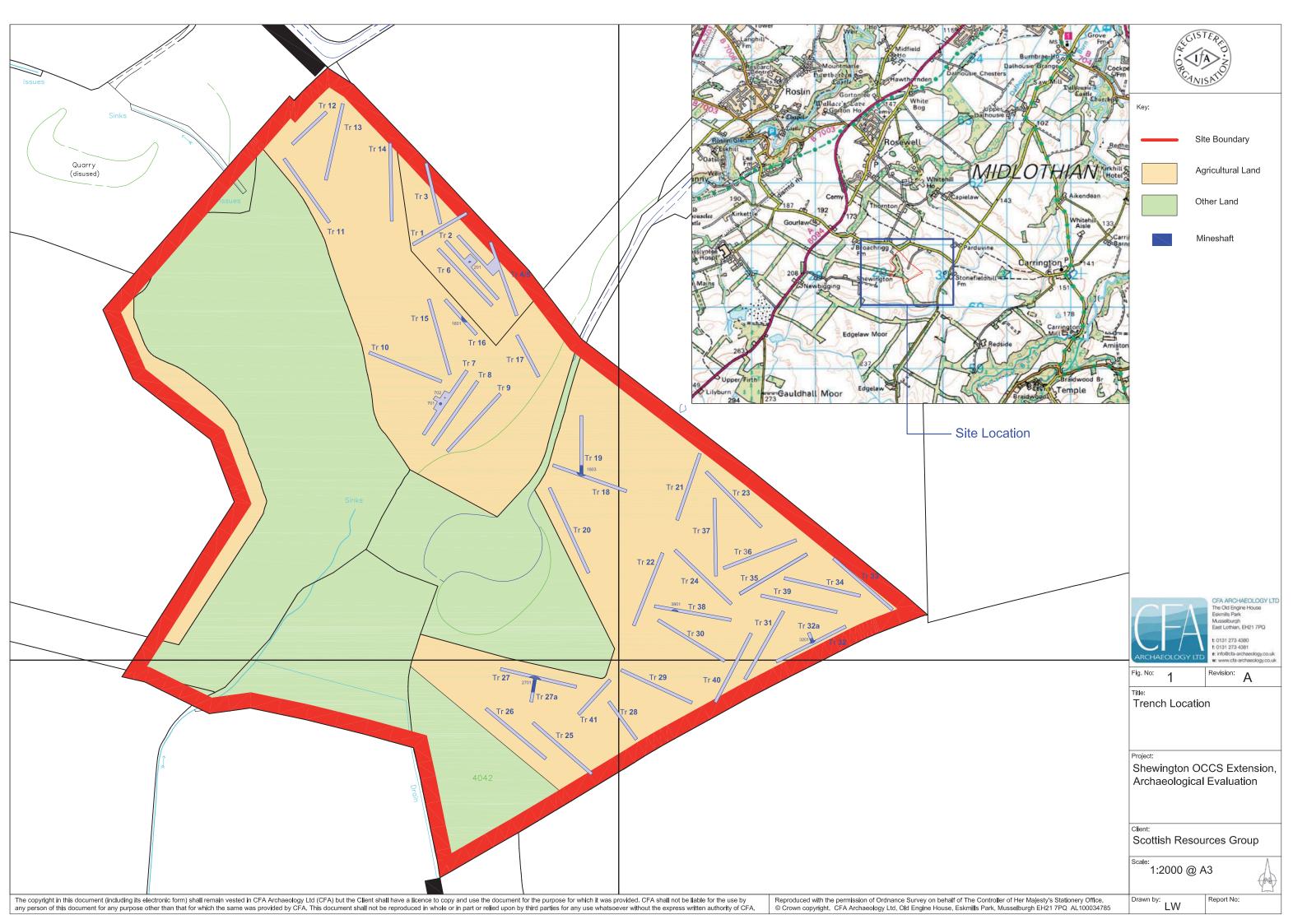
Slide No.	Digital	Contexts/description	Taken	Conditions
	No.	T 1.20 1 :	from	C / 1 1
	122	Trench 29, general view	NW	Sun/shade
	123	Trench 30, general view	SE	Sun/shade
	124	Trench 31, general view		Bright
	125	Trench 32, general view	WSW	Sun/shade
	126-127	Trench 32, general view	ENE	Sun/shade
	128-130	Trench 32, organic matter in fill 3202		
		Trench 32, extension, WSW facing section	NW, W,	
	131-133	showing vertical cut 3201 for mineshaft	S	Sun/shade
	134	Trench 33, general view	SE	Sun/shade
	135	Trench 34, general view	ESE	Overcast
	136	Trench 35, general view	WSW	Overcast
	137	Trench 36, general view	WSW	Overcast
	138	Trench 37, general view	S	Overcast
		Trench 32, extension, WSW facing section	NW, W,	
	139-142	showing vertical cut 3201 for mineshaft	S	Overcast
	143	Trench 38, general view	WNW	Overcast
		Trench 38, mineshaft 3801, views of sondage,	NNE,	
	144-146	and general view	NE, E	Overcast
	147-148	Trench 39, general view	NW	Overcast
	149-150	Backfilling		
	151	Trench 40, general view	NNE	Overcast
	152	Trench 41, general view	NE	Overcast
	153	Trench 41, general view	SW	Overcast
	154-156	Panorama NE to NNW from trench 25	SW	Overcast

## **APPENDIX 4: FIELD DRAWINGS REGISTER**

Dwg	Sheet	Scale	Plan /	Description/contexts
No.	No.		Section	
1	1	1:50	Plan	Trench 2 plan. Contexts 201, 202
2	1	1:10	Section	Trench 2, pit 201 section
3	2	1:50	Plan	Trench 7 plan. Contexts 701-706
4	2	1:10	Section	Trench 7, pit 701 SW facing section
5	2	1:10	Section	Trench 7, pit 701 NW facing section
6	1	1:50	Plan	Trench 16 plan, including mineshaft 1601
7	3	1:50	Plan	Trenches 18 and 19 plan. Contexts 1801-1804
8	3	1:50	Plan	Trench 19 plan. Contexts 1901-1905
9	3	1:10	Section	Trench 19, NNE facing section of culvert 1901
10	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 3 plan
11	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 4 plan
12	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 6 plan
13	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 11 plan
14	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 12 plan
15	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 13 plan
16	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 14 plan
17	Daybook	1:200	0 Plan Trench 20 plan	
18	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 21 plan
19	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 22 plan
20	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 23 plan
21	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 24 plan
22	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 25 plan
23	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 26 plan
24	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 27 plan. Contexts 2701-2702
25	4	1:50	Plan	Trench 27 plan. Contexts 2701-2702
26	4	1:20	Section	Trench 27 extension. ESE facing section 2701-2702
27	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 28 plan
28	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 29 plan
29	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 30 plan
30	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 31 plan
31	Daybook	1:200	Plan	Trench 33 plan
32	5	1:50	Plan	Trench 38 plan. Contexts 3801-3802
33	6	1:20	Section	Trench 38, NNE facing section 3801
34	5/6	1:50	Plan	Trench 32, plan. Contexts 3201-3202
35	5/6	1:20	Section	Trench 32, section 3201

# **APPENDIX 5: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Midlothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Shewington OCCS Extension, Rosewell, Midlothian
PROJECT CODE:	SHEW2
PARISH:	Carrington
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ian Suddaby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 2950 6065
START DATE (this season)	September 2009
END DATE (this season)	October 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out an invasive evaluation of an extension to the Shewington OCCS near Roswell, Midlothian. Three small undated features including a possible hearth were identified along with five in-filled shafts probably related to earlier mining activity on the site.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Resources Group
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Old Engine House, Eskmills Business Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	isuddaby@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	NMRS / Midlothian SMR





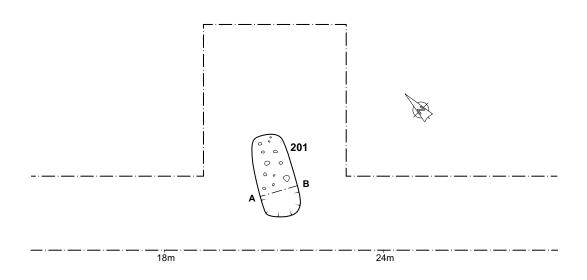


Fig. 2 - Trench 2 plan showing feature 201

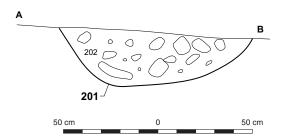


Fig. 3 - South-facing section through feature 201



Fig. 4 - Pit 201 southwest-facing section

Key:	Fig. No:	2-4	Revision:	Α	Client: Scottish Resources Group		The	ARCHAEOLOGY LTD Old Engine House
	Title:						Mus	nills Park selburgh Lothian, EH21 7PQ
	Shewington OCCS Extension,  Archaeological Evaluation					ARCHAEOL	f: 01 e: int	31 273 4380 31 273 4381 o@cfa-archaeology.co.uk ww.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
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5 m

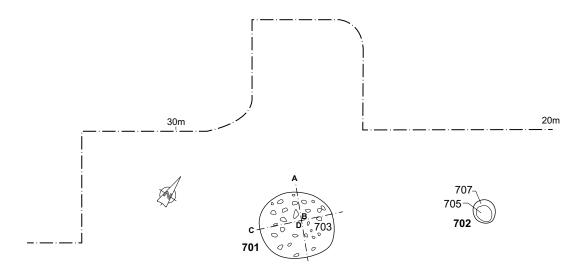


Fig. 5 - Trench 7 plan showing pit 701 and 702



Fig. 6 - Trench 7, pits 701 and 702 pre-excavation

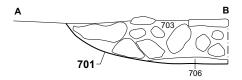
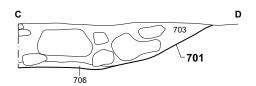


Fig. 7 - Southwest-facing section through pit 701



50 cm

Fig. 8 - Northwest-facing section through pit 701

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Fig. 9 - Trench 16, possible mineshaft 1601



Fig. 10 - General view of possible mineshaft 1803



Fig. 11 - General view of possible mineshaft 2701 in Trench 27



Fig. 12 - View of the vertical cut 3201 of possible mineshaft in Trench 32

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