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Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

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Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill
Yetholm
Kelso
Scottish Borders**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 1750

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

**Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill
Yetholm
Kelso
Scottish Borders**

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CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	4
3.	Archaeological Results	5
4.	Conclusion and Recommendations	6
5.	References	6

Appendices

1.	Photographic Register	7
2.	Context Register	7
3.	Summary of Excavation Results	7
2.	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	8

Illustrations (bound at rear)

Fig. 1	Site location map and trench plan
Fig. 2	General pre-excavation shot of area
Fig. 3	Pit 003 containing modern horse burial
Fig. 4	Trench 4, 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 February 2010 at Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm, Kelso, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 8194 2710). The work was commissioned by Aitken Turnbull Architecture on behalf of David Welsh.
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 23 November 2009 for this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf of Aitken Turnbull Architecture. The WSI and trench plan was designed to meet the requirements of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist.

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 Planning consent (Ref No. 09/01423/FUL) has been granted for the construction of a dwelling house at Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm. The planning consent was subject to a condition requiring an archaeological evaluation prior to any groundbreaking works being undertaken.
- 1.2.2 Information provided by the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist suggests that lands at Duncanhaugh have been occupied since at least the late medieval period. The earliest identified reference to Duncanhaugh is on Blaeu's map of 1654. At this period, it is not labelled as a mill, and may have been a small farmstead or some other form of settlement.
- 1.2.3 On General Roy's map of c. 1750, Duncanhaugh is depicted as a group of four structures. The south-eastern building in this group appears to correspond with the current mill building to the south of the development area. This would seem to indicate that there was a building of 18th century date or earlier within the proposed development area. The buildings that currently exist at Duncanhaugh were constructed in the late 18th and early 19th century.
- 1.2.4 The proposed development area occupies an elevated position on a bend in the road, overlooking the Bowmont Water. Immediately to the south, there is a steeply sloping bank dropping down sharply onto the river flood plain. The current mill buildings are situated at the base of this bank. At the time of the evaluation, the proposed development area (Fig. 2) consisted of rough grass and scrubby overgrowth, surrounded by a combination of fences, hedges and newly planted trees. The proposed development area measures 860m² and the footprint of the proposed dwelling measures 130m².
- 1.2.5 No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the proposed development area prior to this evaluation.

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 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 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 four trenches within pre-determined locations. These were positioned to target the footprint of the proposed dwelling, the driveway, and the location of the septic tank and soakaway. The two trenches excavated within the footprint of the proposed dwelling measured 15m and 6m in length, the trench along the driveway measured 10m in length and the trench within the location of the septic tank and soakaway measured 12m in length. All the trenches measured 1.6m in width, giving a total area of 68.8m² (c. 8% of the total development area).

2.2.2 Topsoil and modern overburden were removed by a JCB 3CX type mechanical excavator equipped with 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 Trial Trenches (Fig. 1)

General

- 3.1.1 The deposits throughout the proposed development area predominantly consisted of 0.4m to 1m of dark silt topsoil overlying orange-brown sandy gravel natural. The deeper deposits were encountered at the top of the steeply sloping bank at the southern end of the site where the ground had been made up to level the area. Details of the individual trenches are contained in the following text.
- 3.1.2 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts (Appendix 2) and a summary of the trenches excavated is contained in Appendix 3.

Trench 1

- 3.1.3 Trench 1 measured 15m by 1.6m and was excavated to target the footprint of the proposed dwelling. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.5m to 1m of dark silt topsoil mixed with modern building rubble (**001**) overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). There were no features of archaeological significance identified.

Trench 2

- 3.1.4 Trench 2 measured 6m by 1.6m and was excavated to target the footprint of the proposed dwelling. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.8m of dark silt topsoil mixed with modern building rubble (**001**) overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). There were no features of archaeological significance identified.

Trench 3

- 3.1.5 Trench 3 measured 12m by 1.6m and was excavated to target the location of the septic tank and soakaway. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.4m of dark silt topsoil (**001**) overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). Circa midway along the trench a pit (**003**) was uncovered containing a recent horse burial (Fig. 3). There were no features of archaeological significance identified.

Trench 4

- 3.1.6 Trench 4 (Fig. 4) measured 10m by 1.6m and was excavated to target the location of the driveway. The deposits within this trench consisted of 0.4m of dark silt topsoil (**001**) overlying orange-brown sandy-gravel natural (**002**). There were no features of archaeological significance identified.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm in advance of the construction of a dwelling house. Cartographic evidence suggests that this area has been occupied since at least the late 16th century and Roy's military survey of c.1750 depicts four structures within the approximate location of the proposed development. Trial trenching identified a recent horse burial, but 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 development. 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 4) will be sufficient to disseminate the results of this programme of works. The project will also be reported on through *OASIS Scotland*.

5. REFERENCES

Blaeu, J 1654 *Atlas of Scotland*

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland*

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Digital

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-5	General pre-excavation shots of site	Various	Sun
6	Registration shot		
7-8	Trench 3, general	NE	Sun
9-10	Trench 3 showing modern horse burial	SW	Sun
11-12	Trench 4 general	West	Sun
13-14	Trench 2 general	South	Sun
15-16	Trench 1 general	East	Sun
17-18	Trench 4, south facing section	South	Sun
19-20	Trench 1 general	West	Sun
21-23	General site shot showing open trenches	Various	Sun

Colour Slide

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Registration shot		
2-3	Trench 3, general	NE	Sun
4-5	Trench 3 showing modern horse burial	SW	Sun
6-7	Trench 4 general	West	Sun
8-9	Trench 2 general	South	Sun
10-11	Trench 1 general	East	Sun
12-13	Trench 4, south facing section	South	Sun
14-15	Trench 1 general	West	Sun
16-17	General site shot showing open trenches	Various	Sun

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context	Area	Trench	Description
001	N/A	All	Topsoil
002	N/A	All	Natural subsoil
003	N/A	3	Cut for modern horse burial

APPENDIX 3: Summary of Excavation Results

Trench no.	Size (m)	Depth of deposits (m)	Features
1	15 by 1.6	0.5-1	
2	6 by 1.6	0.8	
3	12 by 1.6	0.4	Modern horse burial
4	10 by 1.6	0.4	

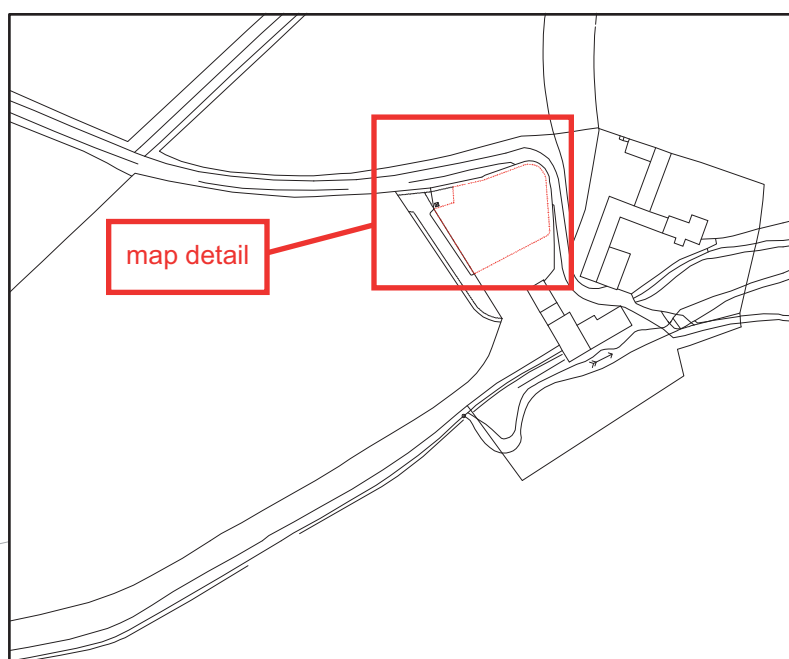
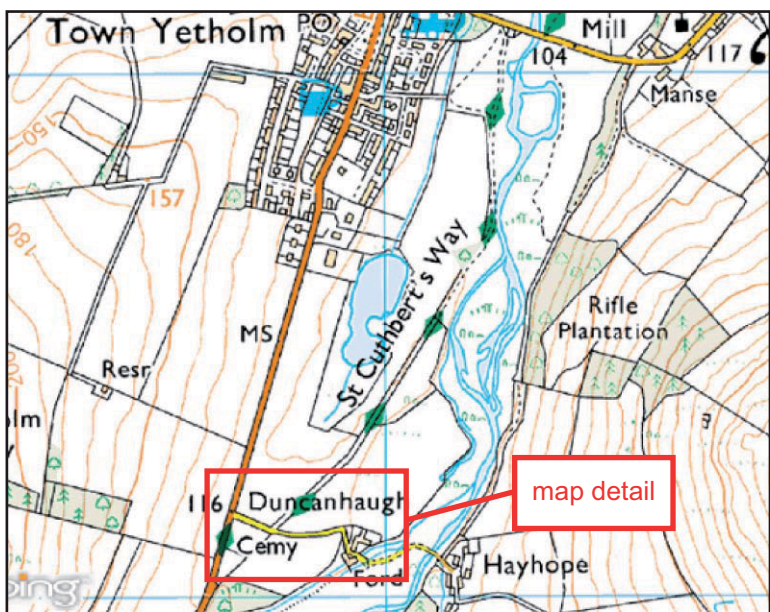
APPENDIX 4: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm, Kelso
PROJECT CODE:	DOLM
PARISH:	Yetholm
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Magnus Kirby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 8194 2710
START DATE (this season)	February 2010
END DATE (this season)	February 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Land North of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm in advance of the construction of a dwelling house. Cartographic evidence suggests that this area has been occupied since at least the late 16 th century and Roy's military survey of c.1750 depicts four structures within the approximate location of the proposed development. Trial trenching identified a recent horse burial, but there were no features deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	David Welsh
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:

- development area
- evaluation trenches



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Fig. No: **1** Revision: **A**

Title:
Site location map and trench plan

Project:
Land north of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm, Kelso, Scottish Borders

Scale:
1:200 @ A3

Client:
David Welsh

Drawn by: **GC** Report No: **1750**





Fig. 2 General pre-excavation shot of area



Fig. 3 Modern horse burial within Trench 3

Key:	Fig. No:	2-3	Revision:	A	Client:	David Welsh
	Title:					
	Project:	Land north of Duncanhaugh Mill, Yetholm, Kelso, Scottish Borders				
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>
						Drawn by: GC Page No: Report No: 1750



Fig. 4 Trench 4 general shot

Key:

Fig. No: **4** Revision: **A** Client: **David Welsh**

Title:

Project: **Land north of Duncanhaugh Mill,
Yetholm, Kelso, Scottish Borders**

Scale:



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Page No:

Report No: **1750**