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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Intpretation, Design & Display

Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Clyde Windfarm Southern Cable Route,
Elvanfoot, South Lanarkshire**

Evaluation

Report No. 1790

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

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 This report presents the results of an Evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in June 2010 prior to the construction of the grid interconnection for the Clyde Windfarm at Elvanfoot, South Lanarkshire, (NGR: NS 9545 1690 to NS 9575 1675, Figs. 1-2). The work was commissioned by Scottish Power EnergyNetworks.

1.1.2 A Project Design (PD) covering archaeological Mitigation for the project was produced by CFA on behalf of Scottish Power EnergyNetworks. The PD was agreed in advance by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS).

1.2 Background

1.2.1 This development is covered by Scottish Power EnergyNetworks General Permitted Development Rights and is not covered by the Section 36 Agreement for Clyde Windfarm.

1.2.2 A baseline report was undertaken during the design and planning for the grid connection and the mitigation is based on the findings of this work. Where site numbers are used on Fig. 1 and in the text these relate to the study specific numbers used in the baseline report and the accompanying maps.

1.2.3 The cable route crosses the supposed alignment of a Roman Road (Site 20) which runs from Torwood to Dalswinton to Crawford (RR4; National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) No. NS91NE 31; WoSAS Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) No. 12129).

1.3 Aims and Objectives

1.3.1 The aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- To strip the entire route of the cable trench where it crossed the proposed line of the Roman Road (Site 20). The objective of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the defined areas and undertake mitigation measures where necessary.

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 Evaluation

2.2.1 The evaluation was required where the cable route crossed the proposed line of the Roman Road (Site 20).

2.2.2 A single continuous trench measuring c.400m by 2m was excavated. The trench was excavated using a tracked 360° mechanical digger equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket (Fig. 3). The topsoil was removed down to the natural subsoil or the first archaeological horizon.

2.2.3 The PD envisaged that the width of the cable trench would be 5m and that this would include a running track. The Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions staff on site stated that no running track would be used and that the 2m width of the trench would be sufficient for their needs.

2.2.4 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 below refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The trench ran through pasture fields and Fig. 2 shows the excavated trench from the north-west by Glengeith Farm. It ran from the A702 close to Glengeith Farm south-east to the River Clyde at a point just south-west of the railway bridge. The route was bisected by a field wall (**005**, Fig. 4) which was dismantled prior to the trench excavation by employees of Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions.
- 3.3 The topsoil (**001**) across the area was 0.15m – 0.3m deep and in places overlay an orange-brown sandy silt (**002**) with a depth of around 0.1m. The natural subsoil (**003**) varied widely, with a creamy-yellow clay-silt close to the A702 changing to either a mottled orange sandy silt or mottled sandy gravels towards the River Clyde.
- 3.4 Clay-piped field drains (**008**) and the trenches for two large diameter water mains (**006**) were located close to the A702.
- 3.5 A small area of possibly laid stones (**004**, Figs. 1, 5) was recorded. The stones lay directly on to the natural subsoil and covered an area measuring 1.4m by 0.8m. It was contained entirely within the trench and no stones were present in either section. This feature was of uncertain date and function but was not considered to be of archaeological significance.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 An evaluation was carried out at Elvanfoot on the route of the grid interconnection for Clyde Windfarm.
- 4.2 The cable crossed the supposed alignment of a Roman Road (RR4, NMRS No. NS91NE 31, SMR No. 12129), which runs from Torwood to Dalswinton to Crawford. No traces of any such remains were found.
- 4.3 Previous archaeological work in the area (CFA 1991) associated with the Shell North-West Ethylene Pipeline also failed to locate this road and the investigated features that were visible on aerial photographs were either of recent origin or resulted from natural variations in the subsoil. It is proposed that this is also the case with the Clyde Windfarm Southern Cable Route.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4).

5. REFERENCE

CFA 1991 'Elvanfoot (Crawford Parish). Linear features', *Discovery & Excavation in Scotland* 1991, 62.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Subsoil, orange-brown clayey-sand
003	Yellow plastic drain
004	Small area of laid stones. Local greywacke
005	Drystone field wall
006	General context for the trenches of the water mains
007	Mixed fills of 006
008	General context for the trenches of clay-piped field drains
009	Assorted pipes & mixed fills of 008

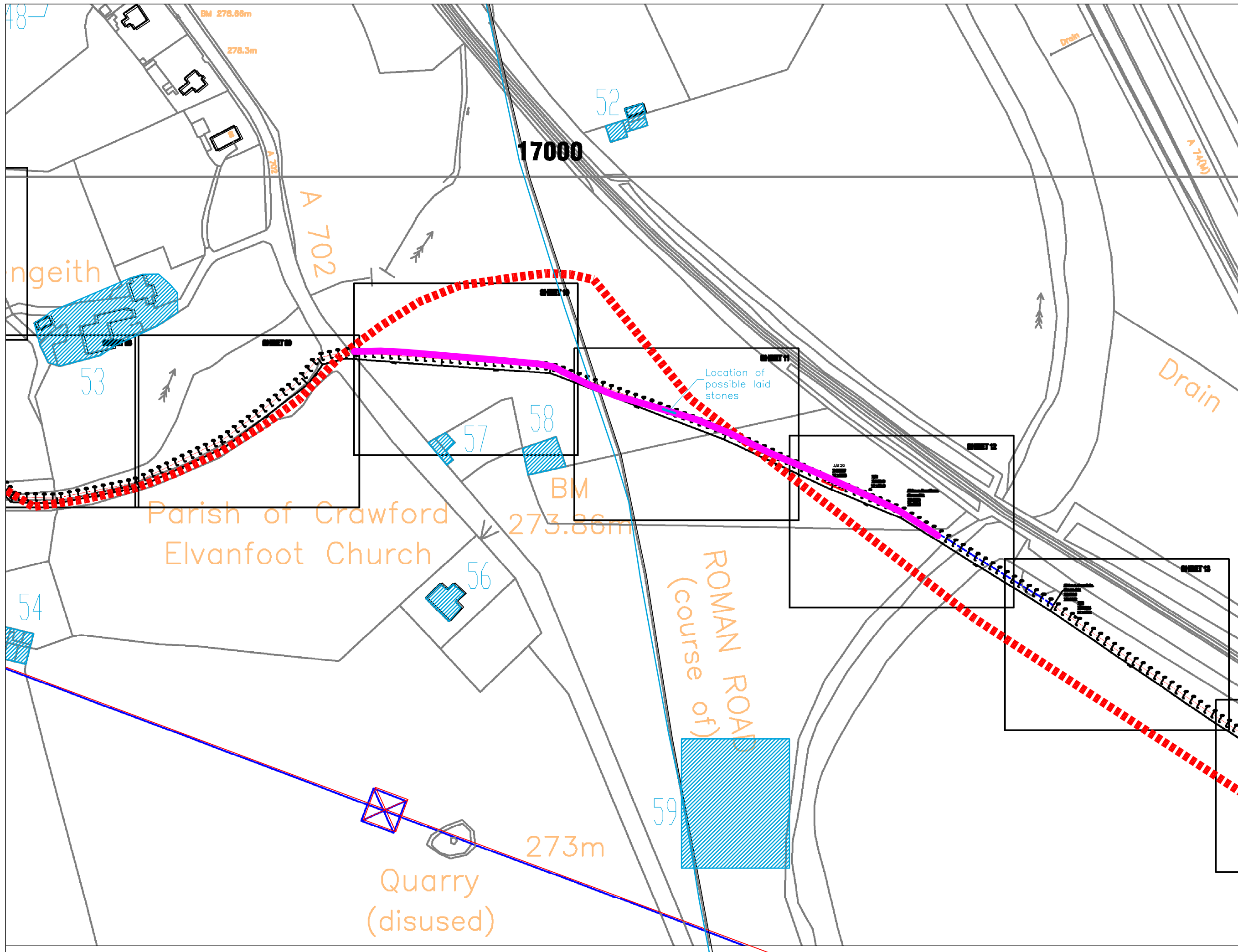
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital & SLR Images

Digital	SLR	Description	From	Conditions
1-3		Pre-ex views NW to E from S of the cable route	S & SW	Sunny
4-5		Pre-ex views looking SE from the field wall 005	NW	Bright
6-7		Pre-ex views looking NW from the field wall 005	SE	Bright
8-9		Unusual waxed fabric field drain 009 leading east from water mains 006	SSE & NE	Overcast
10-12		Views of clay-piped field drains 008-9	Various	Overcast
13		Topsoil 001 section, 0.25m deep	N	Overcast
14-16		General views of the trench excavation	SE & NW	Overcast
17-19		Field wall 005 , south facing elevation	S	Sunny
20		General view of the trench route pre-ex from the River Clyde	SE	Bright
21		General view of the trench route pre-ex looking towards the River Clyde	NW	Bright
22-24		Field wall 005 , north facing elevation	N	Bright/shade
	1	Registration Shot	-	-
25-26	2-3	Views of the laid stones 004 resting on the subsoil surface	NNE	Bright
27-28	4-5	Trench section by 004 showing layers 001-2 & subsoil 003	NNE	Bright
29-31	6-7	General view of area around 004 showing slot to ensure deposit under stones 004 is natural	NNE & ENE	Bright
32	8-9	View of the trench base & section hand cleaned for 80m to inspect for evidence of road structure	ESE	Dull
33	10-11	View of the trench base & section hand cleaned for 80m to inspect for evidence of road structure	WNW	Dull
34-39	12-17	Panorama of the site from above the old church	S to NW	Overcast
40-41	18-19	General & close-up views of the site from Glengeith Farm	WNW	Overcast

APPENDIX 3: Drawings Register

No	Description / Contexts	Sec / Plan	Scale
1	Plan of laid stones 004	Plan	1:20
2	Typical trench section 001-003	Section	1:10



Key:
 PROPOSED CONNECTION ROUTE
 EVALUATION TRENCH

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
 Location Map

Project:
 Clyde Windfarm Cable Route
 Controlled Topsoil Strip

Client:
 SP EnergyNetworks

Scale:
 1:2000 @ A3

Drawn by: GC Report No: 1790



Fig 2. General View of the excavated trench from the north-west



Fig 3. Working view of the trench excavation



Key:	Fig. No:	2-3	Revision:		Client:	SP EnergyNetworks
	Title:					
	Project:	Clyde Windfarm Cable Route, Controlled 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>
						Drawn by: GC Page No: Report No: 1790



Fig 4. View of the field wall pre-removal



Fig 5. View of the small area of laid stones 004

Key:	Fig. No:	4-5	Revision:		Client:	SP EnergyNetworks
	Title:					
Scale:	Project:	Clyde Windfarm Cable Route, Controlled Topsoil Strip				
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