

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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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*

**New Cattle Shed, Colmslie Farm, Langshaws,  
Galashiels,  
Scottish Borders**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 1796**

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## **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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

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## **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	4
3.	Archaeological Results	4
4.	Conclusions	5

## **Appendices**

1.	Photographic Register	6
2.	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	7

## **Illustrations (bound at rear)**

Fig. 1	Location map showing the new shed with the area of topsoil stripped around it
Fig. 2	Photograph from the south-east of the location of the new shed prior to topsoil stripping
Fig. 3	Photograph from the north of the stripped area. A stone-filled field drain runs just to the right of the scale

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in July 2010 on the site of a new cattle shed at Colmslie Farm, Langshaws Scottish Borders (Fig. 1, NGR: NT 513 397 centred). The work was commissioned by the farmer, William Montgomery.
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 02 July 2010 for this watching brief was produced by CFA on behalf of Mr Montgomery. It was designed to meet the requirements of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist.

### **1.2 Background**

- 1.2.1 Permission (Ref: 10/00792/FUL) has been granted to erect a new cattle shed at Colmslie Farm. A 16-century tower house (National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) No. NT53NW 4) lies derelict on the southern side of the existing farm buildings. A chapel, or more likely a grange (NT53NW 7), may have been present in the field to the north of the farm. It is in this field that the new cattle shed was to be erected. A condition for an archaeological watching brief on ground breaking work has therefore been secured against the permission.

### **1.3 Objectives**

- 1.3.1 The objectives of the project were:
- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Watching Brief) to monitor the removal of topsoil from the footprint of the new cattle shed and any other groundbreaking that is required.
  - To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording and produce a report on them.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

- 2.1 The removal of topsoil was carried out using a tracked excavator equipped with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.
- 2.2 All on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, in this case by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

- 3.1 The new cattle shed was to be situated in the pasture grass field (Fig. 2) immediately to the north of the existing farm buildings. Its location is at the base of a slight natural hollow which continues beyond the field to the north-west.
- 3.2 Topsoil was removed from an irregular area (Fig. 1) measuring between 37m and 52m north to south and between 16m and 30m east to west. The depth of the topsoil was 0.35m. It overlay an intensely stony natural subsoil (Fig. 3) consisting of medium and large sub-rounded boulders with an iron stained sandy matrix.
- 3.3 Stone filled field drains were recorded, aligned both NNE-SSW and NW-SE. No archaeological features or deposits were identified and no finds were recovered.

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 A watching brief was carried out at Colmslie Farm, Langshaws during the removal of topsoil prior to the erection of a new cattle shed. No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 Summary statements of this work will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2) and for inclusion on the OASIS website.

## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

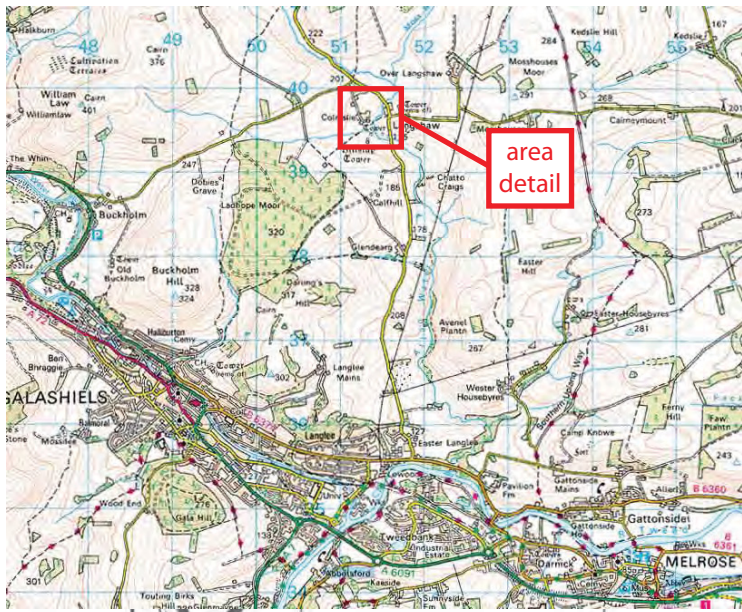
*Digital*

<b>Shot</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
1-3	The site of the new shed pre-excavation	SE	Overcast
4-6	The site of the new shed pre-excavation	N	Bright
7-8	Views of the existing farm buildings with Colmslie Tower beyond from the site of the new shed	N	Bright
9-11	Site of the new shed with topsoil removed	SSE	Sunny
12	Stone filed field drain poorly visible against the very stony and dry natural subsoil	NNE	Sunny
13	General view of the stony subsoil	-	Sunny
14	Topsoil section	E	Sunny
15-17	Site of the new shed with topsoil removed	NNW	Sunny

## APPENDIX 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Scottish Borders Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	New Cattle Shed, Colmslie Farm, Langshaws, Scottish Borders
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	COLM
<b>PARISH:</b>	Melrose
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Ian Suddaby
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b>	NT 513 397 centred
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	July 2010
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	July 2010
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was undertaken during the removal of topsoil from the site of a new cattle shed at Colmslie Farm, Langshaws. A chapel or grange (NT53NW 7) may once have been present in this field. No features other than field drains were identified and no finds were recovered.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	N/A
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	William Montgomery
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	National Monuments Record of Scotland Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record





- Key:
- Footprint of new shed
  - Area of topsoil removal



Fig. No: **1**      Revision:      Client: **William Montgomery**

Title: **Location map showing the new shed with the area of topsoil stripped around it**

Project: **New cattle shed, Colmslie Farm Langshaws, Galashiels, Scottish Borders**



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Scale: **1:2500@A4**


Drawn by: **GC**      Page No:      Report No: **1796**



Fig. 2 Photograph from the south-east of the location of the new shed prior to topsoil stripping



Fig. 3 Photograph from the north of the stripped area. A stone filled filed drain runs to the right of the scale

Key:	Fig. No:	2-3	Revision:		Client:	William Montgomery	 <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>				
	Title:										
	Project:	New cattle shed, Colmslie Farm Langshaws, Galashiels, Scottish Borders									
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