

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Intpretation, Design & Display

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Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording


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Geophysical Survey

Whitslaid Farm Wind Turbines, Lauder, Scottish Borders.

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 1890

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

**Whitslaid Farm Wind Turbines,
Lauder, Scottish Borders,
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Report No. 1890

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Fig. 1 Site location map and wind turbine locations

Fig. 2 Turbine Base 1 from the north

Fig. 3 Turbine Base 2 from the north-east

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 13th April 2011 at Whitslaid Farm, Lauder, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 5647 4470) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Maden Design and Build.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 12 April 2011 for this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf of Maden Design and Build. The WSI was designed to meet the requirements of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer.

1.2 Background

Planning consent (Ref No. 10/01382/FUL) has been granted for the construction of two 30kw wind turbines; the planning consent was subject to a condition requiring a programme of archaeological works.

The proposed turbine locations are located on the eastern side of Whitslaid Farm and lie c.300m to the east of the scheduled area associated with Whitslaid Tower (SAM No. 8880). Other archaeological remains identified within the area include NT54SE.32 a sub-circular settlement identified as a crop mark from oblique aerial photography, and NT54SE.26, a worked flint currently in the collection of the National Museum of Scotland.

No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the proposed development site prior to the archaeological watching brief.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the project were

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Watching Brief) to monitor the excavation of ground breaking that is required.
- to mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified, through excavation and recording and production of a report.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance.

2.1 Watching Brief

A watching brief was conducted during the removal of topsoil from the areas of the two wind turbine bases.

All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. All further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the watching brief was carried out by hand.

The stratification of all excavation areas was recorded, whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The two turbines were to be situated next to the farm track which exits Whitslaid Farm and travels east into the adjacent fields (Fig. 1). The northern field is pasture while the southern field was under a crop.

Two trenches for the turbine bases, each measuring 5.4m by 5.4m, were dug by a tracked mini digger using a flat bladed ditching bucket. The topsoil was removed under constant archaeological supervision exposing pink/orange sandy gravel natural geology (Fig. 2-3).

The removal of the topsoil exposed the natural subsoil, and no deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.

4. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at Whitslaid Farm, Lauder during construction works associated with the erection of two wind turbines.

No archaeological features were uncovered and no further works are recommended.

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.

A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2).

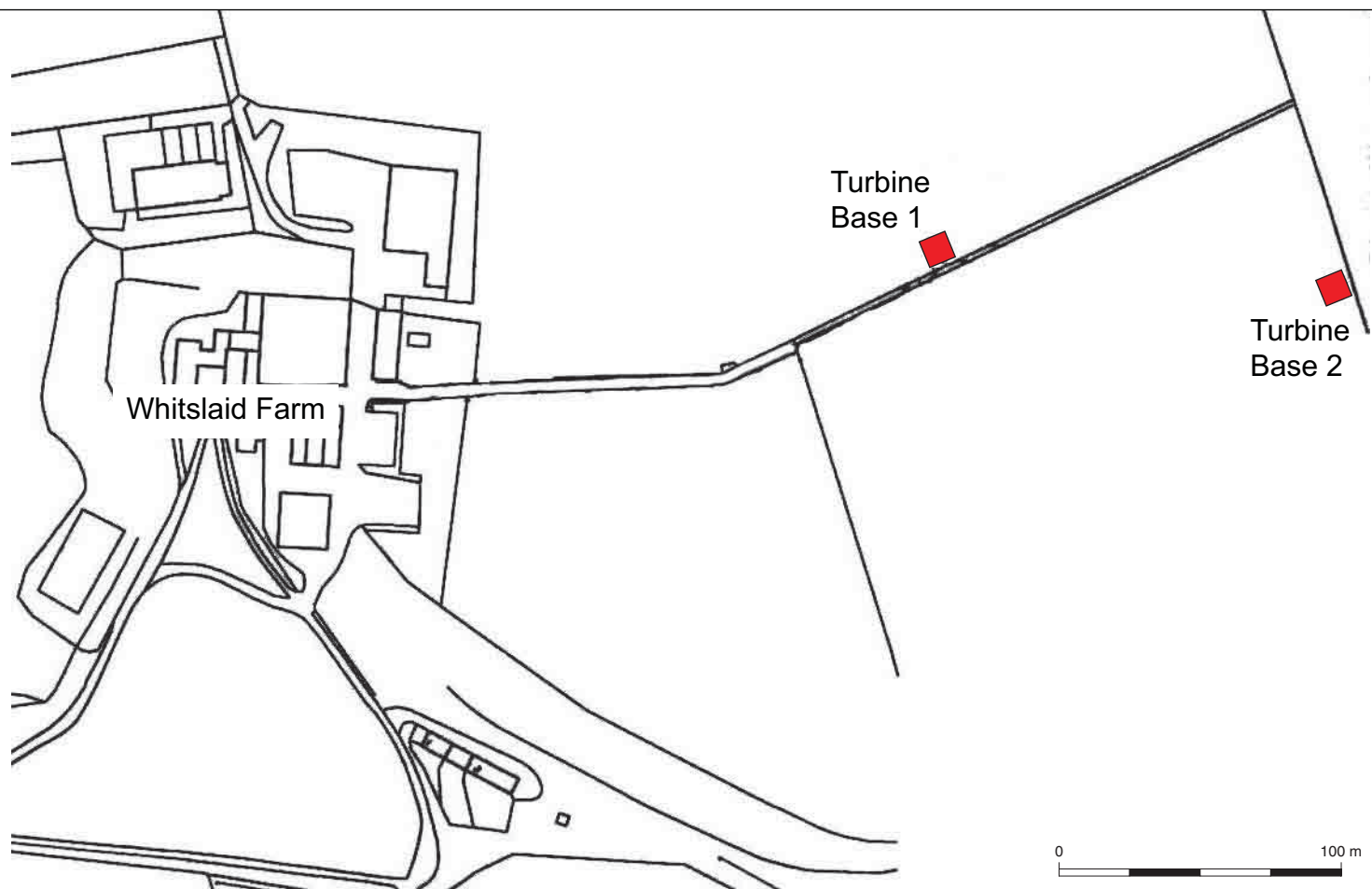
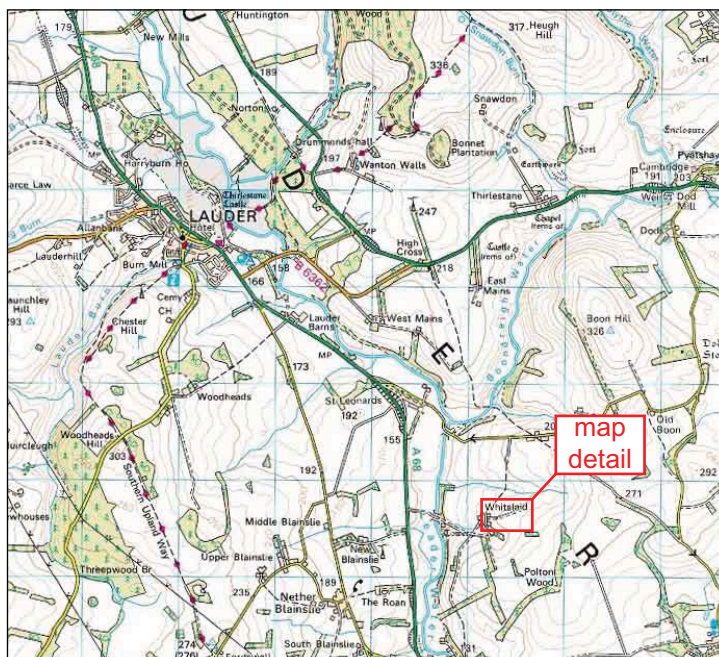
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Digital

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Turbine Base 1	N	Overcast
2	Turbine Base 1	E	Overcast
3	Turbine Base 1 detail of exposed natural		Overcast
4	Turbine Base 2	NE	Overcast
5	Turbine Base 2 detail of exposed natural		Overcast

APPENDIX 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Whitslaid Farm Wind Turbines, Lauder
PROJECT CODE:	WFLA
PARISH:	Legerwood
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Graeme Carruthers
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 5647 4470
START DATE (this season)	13 April 2011
END DATE (this season)	13 April 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during ground breaking works for two wind turbine bases at Whitslaid Farm, Lauder. No artefacts, deposits or features of archaeological significance were encountered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Maden Design and Build
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:
 Turbine Base



Fig. No: 1 Revision: A Client: Maden Design and Build

Title: Location map

Project: Whitslaid Farm Wind Turbines, Lauder

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Fig. 2 Turbine Base 1 from the north



Fig. 3 Turbine Base 2 from the east

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