

Whitehaugh, Peebles:
Evaluation Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Taylor Woodrow Developments

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT2667 3939

AOC Archaeology Project No: 20442

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Timing: Excavation February 2007
Report February 2007

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0 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

0.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on ground subject to redevelopment at Whitehaugh Farm near Peebles, Scottish Borders.

0.2 The evaluation revealed no deposits or features of archaeological significance

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Developments Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation and a metal detector survey on ground prior to a proposed development at Whitehaugh Farm Peebles. The evaluation works were carried out in accordance with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2007) which was designed to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, and was agreed by Mr. Rory McDonald, Archaeology Officer for the Scottish Borders Council. The evaluation works were in accordance with the principles inherent in NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a).

1.1.2 This work follows on from the completion of an earlier Desk Based Assessment, DBA (Oleksy 2006) and Archaeological Evaluation (Dunbar 2006) undertaken by AOC Archaeology on behalf of the client on the site immediately to the west.

1.2 Site location

1.2.1 The proposed development site is centred on NGR: NT 2667 3939 (Fig. 1). It is bounded to the north by the B 6392 and to the East and West by pasture. The southern boundary is marked by the Hoystoun Burn. The area of investigation is currently under pasture and occupies an area of relatively flat ground.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The DBA (Oleksy 2006) demonstrated that there were no known archaeological sites within the proposed development area but that there was the potential for prehistoric remains. While the previous evaluation (Dunbar 2006) failed to identify any archaeological remains it did recover an early 3rd Century AD Roman coin. Additionally a Roman copper-alloy statuette of Jupiter was previously found in the immediate vicinity of the site (NMRS NT 23 NE 51).

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to:

- i) determine the character, condition, date, extent and quality of any archaeologically significant remains within the development area;
- ii) formulate an appropriate mitigation strategy, compliant with NPPG 5, and PAN 42, in discussion between the client, AOC Archaeology Group and CECAS, should significant archaeology be discovered.

4. METHOD

4.1 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2007) stated that a total of 11 trenches would be dug but owing to the northern part of the investigation being occupied by dense wood land and the site being split into two fields alterations had to be made on site to the trenching plan. This resulted in a total of 18 trenches being excavated (Fig. 1) of varying lengths covering an area of 7638 m² representing an 8% sample of the total area of the site. All trenches were excavated with a 360° excavator fitted with a 2.0 m wide toothless ditching bucket. The overburden was removed in shallow spits until the first archaeological sediments, deposits, features or natural geology were encountered. All machine excavation was carried out under the direct supervision of an experienced field archaeologist.

4.2 The fieldwork was undertaken between 14th February 2007 and 22nd February 2007. The weather conditions during the evaluation were mixed dry and wet.

4.3 The metal detector survey was carried out with the assistance of the Scottish Artifact Recovery Group (SARG). The bases of excavated trenches and spoil heaps were scanned for any artefacts plus the undisturbed ground by means of transects along the fields. The survey was carried out on 18th February 2007.

5. RESULTS (Figs. 3 and 4)

5.1.1 The various data gathered from the evaluation are presented as a series of appendices:

- i) Appendix 1 contains trench summaries;
- ii) Appendix 2 contains the photographic register;
- iii) Appendix 3 contains the small finds register;
- iv) Appendix 4 reproduces the *Discovery & Excavation in Scotland* entry.

5.1.2 The evaluation trenches were all similar in that moderately compact topsoil of dark grey/black silty clay with a depth of between 0.25 m and 0.35 m overlay

Whitehaugh, Peebles: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

the natural geology. Fragments of modern pottery were noted in this topsoil but were not retained. The underlying natural of the site varied between sands and gravels located along the northern, southern and eastern fringes of the site to sandy clays occupying the rest of the site. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed within any of the trenches.

- 5.1.3 No artefacts of any archaeological significance were recovered from the metal detector survey

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The evaluation has shown that no features or deposits of archaeological significance exist within the confines of the proposed development.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- AOC 2007 *Whitehaugh, Peebles, Written Scheme of Investigation*, Unpublished Client Document
- Dunbar, L. 2006 *Kingsmeadow Road, Peebles, Evaluation data Structure Report*. Unpublished AOC Client Report.
- Oleksy, V 2006 *Kingsmeadow Road, Peebles, Desk Based Assessment*. Unpublished AOC Client Report.
- The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994. *National Planning Policy Guideline NPPG5. Archaeology and Planning*. January 1994.
- The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994a. *Planning Advice Note 42. Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled Ancient Monument Procedures*. January 1994.

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	274	Width (m)	2	Depth (m)	0.35-0.45
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	548					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Alternates between orange brown gravels and mid brown clay					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 2						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	288	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.35-0.7
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	576					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.3-0.7

Whitehauge, Peebles: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A	Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Orange/brown clay sand and gravels		
<i>Significant features</i>	None		
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained		

Trench 3						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	273	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.5
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	546					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Sand and gravels at north changing to mid brown sandy clay toward south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 4						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	272	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	544					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Orange/brown sand and gravels					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 5						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	265	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	530					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sand and gravels in north changing to orange/brown sandy clay towards south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 6						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	232	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	468					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.3-0.35
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sand and gravels in north changing to orange/brown sandy clay towards south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 7						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	200	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.37
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	400					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.2-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sand and gravels in north changing to orange/brown sandy clay towards south					

Whitehauge, Peebles: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<i>Significant features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained

Trench 8						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	110	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	220					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Orange/brown sandy clay					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 9						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	285	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.25-0.7
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	570					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately compact dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sand and gravels in north changing to orange/brown sandy clay towards south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 10						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.38
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.28-0.35
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Orange/ brown sand and gravels					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 11						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.25-0.43
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.35
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 12						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.33-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.28-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Whitehauge, Peebles: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Trench 13						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.26-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Orange/brown sandy clay					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 14						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.3-0.4
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.28-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 15						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.25-0.36
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.2-0.28
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 16						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.29-0.5
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.28-0.4
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 17						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.28-0.35
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.25-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	
<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay changing to dark brown clay sand and gravels in south					
<i>Significant features</i>	None					
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained					

Trench 18						
<i>Dimensions</i>	Length (m)	180	Width (m)	2.0	Depth (m)	0.27-0.34
<i>Total Area (m²)</i>	360					
<i>Orientation</i>	North-South					
<i>Topsoil</i>	Moderately dark grey/black silty clay				Depth (m)	0.24-0.3
<i>Subsoil</i>	N/A				Depth (m)	

Whitehaug, Peebles: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<i>Natural</i>	Mid brown sandy clay
<i>Significant features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	19 th 20 th century pottery noted within topsoil but not retained

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Colour slide Film No.1

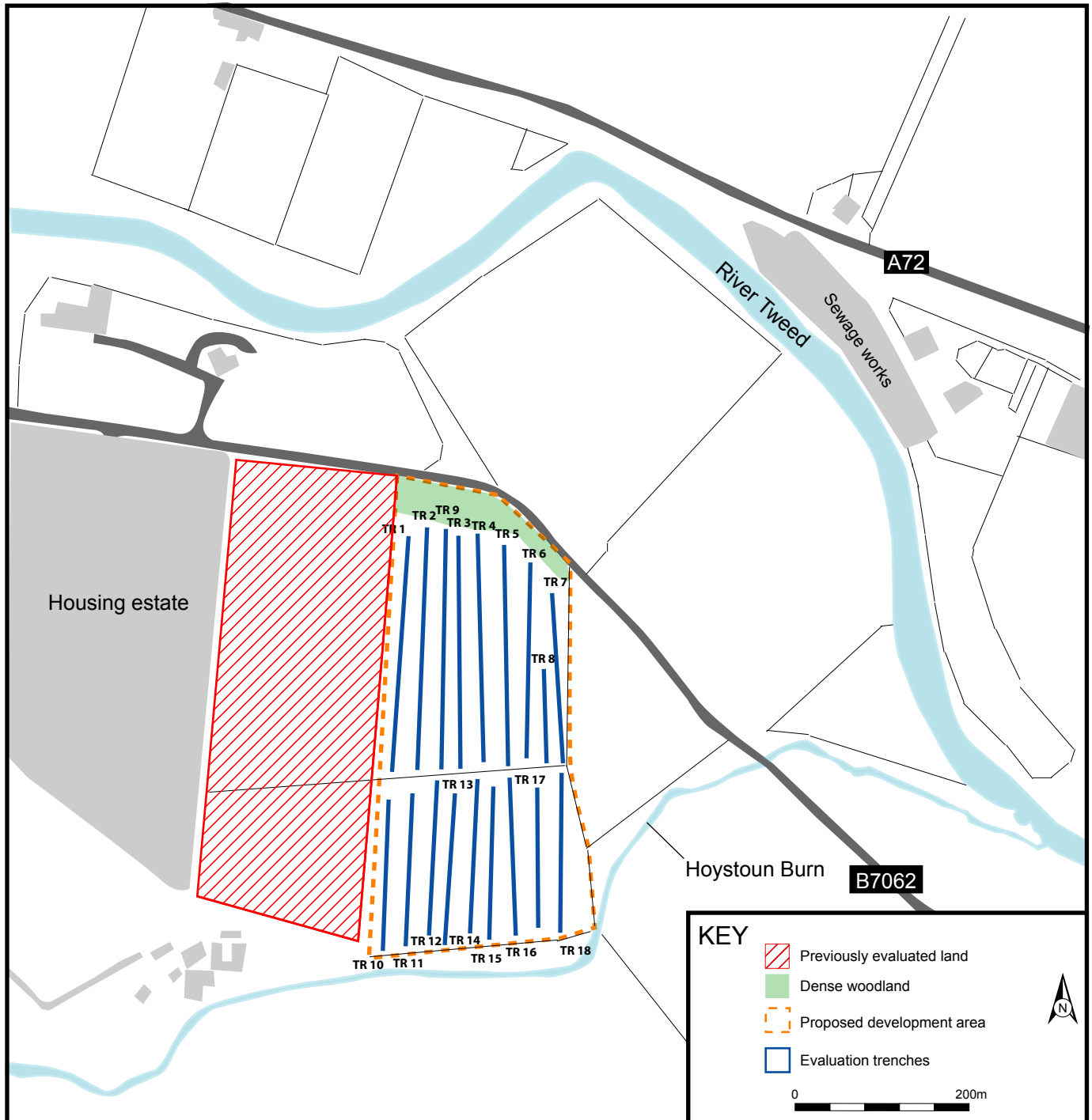
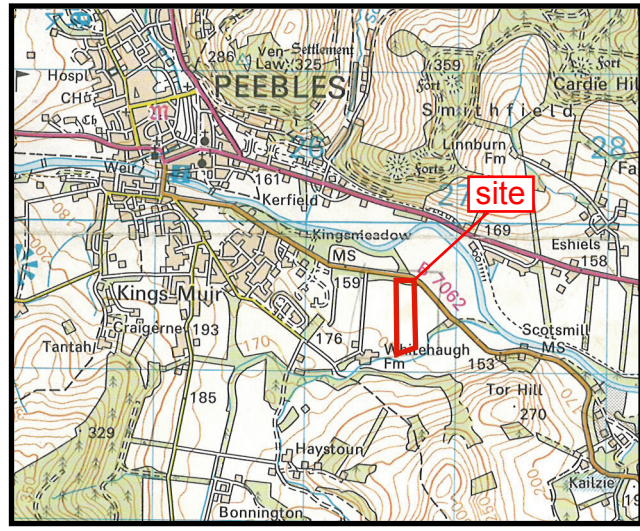
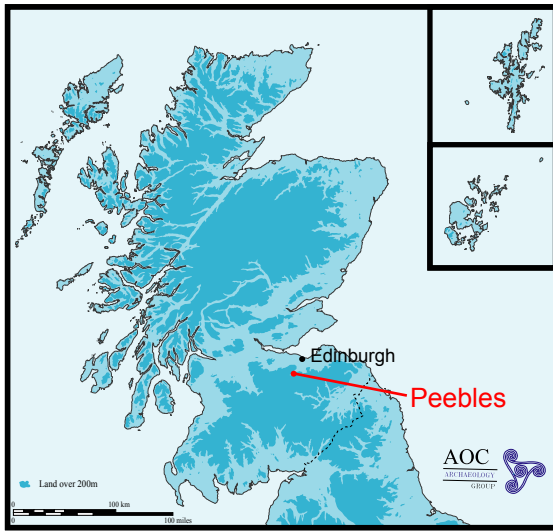
No.	Trench	Description	From
1		Registration shot	
2	1	General shot	S
3	1	General shot	S
4	1	General shot	S
5	2	General shot	S
6	2	General shot	S
7	1	General shot	N
8	1	General shot	N
9	2	General shot	N
10	2	General shot	N
11	4	General shot	N
12	4	General shot	N
13	7	General shot	N
14	9	General shot	N
15	10	General shot	N
16	13	General shot	N
17	16	General shot	N

Black and White Print Film No.1

No.	Trench	Description	From
1		Registration shot	
2	1	General shot	S
3	1	General shot	S
4	1	General shot	S
5	2	General shot	S
6	2	General shot	S
7	1	General shot	N
8	1	General shot	N
9	2	General shot	N
10	2	General shot	N
11	4	General shot	N
12	4	General shot	N
13	7	General shot	N
14	9	General shot	N
15	10	General shot	N
16	13	General shot	N
17	16	General shot	N

APPENDIX 4: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Whitehaugh, Peebles
PROJECT CODE:	20442
PARISH:	Peebles
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Hindmarch
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 2667 3939
START DATE (this season)	14/02/2007
END DATE (this season)	22/02/2007
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	Desk Based Assessment: Oleksy, V 2006 Kingsmeadow Road, Peebles, Desk Based Assessment. Unpublished AOC Client Report. No DES entry
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An evaluation took place on 9.5 ha of ground subject to development. The evaluation covered an 8% sample of the total area. No deposits, features or artefacts were seen or recovered during the evaluation.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Taylor Woodrow Developments Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group Edgefield Road Industrial Estate Loanhead Midlothian EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocscot.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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Figure 1: Site location plan