

GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Ayr Road, Newton Mearns
Data Structure Report
Project 3388**

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Ayr Road, Newton Mearns

Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Stewart Milne Homes

NGR: NS 5310 5506

Project Number: 3388

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Date:

08/02/2012

*This document has been prepared in accordance
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

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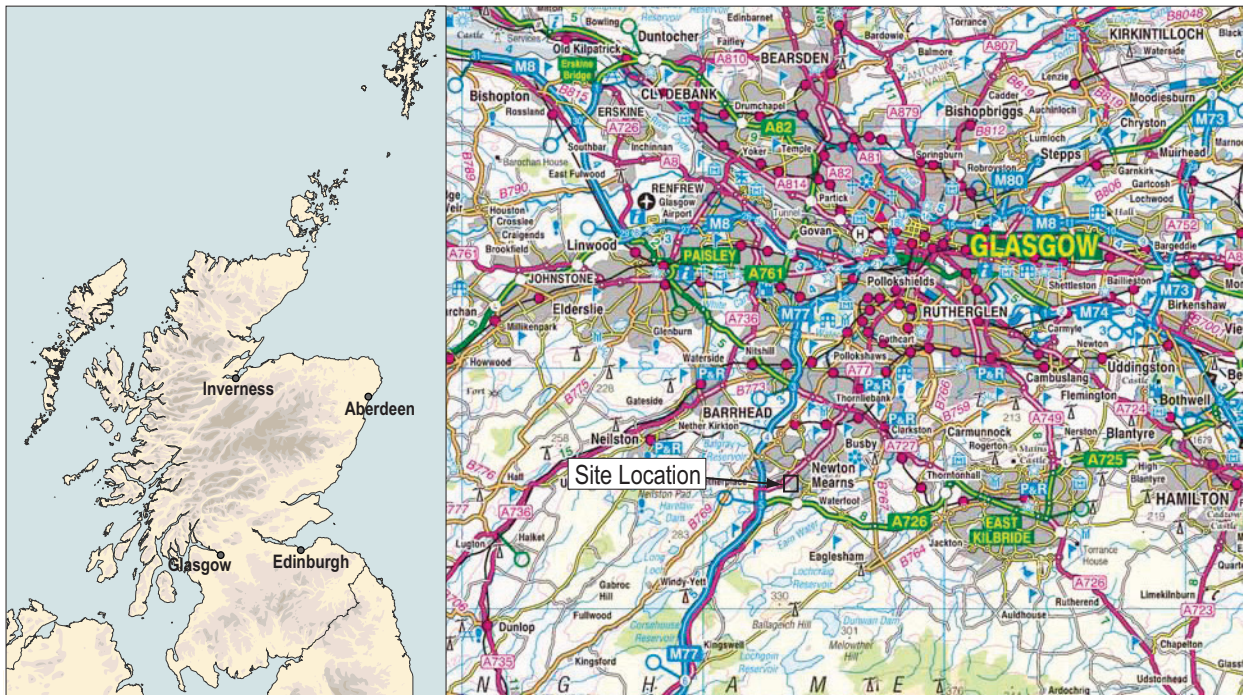
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Figure 1:
Site location.

0 100 m

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Executive Summary

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited, on behalf of Stewart Milne Homes, on an area proposed for development at Ayr Road, Newton Mearns. A trial trench evaluation of 8% of the development area (2698 m²) was conducted. One significant archaeological feature, a pit of unknown date, was encountered during the evaluation. The work was undertaken between 25 and 31st January 2012.

Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by GUARD Archaeology, on behalf of Stewart Milne Homes on a site proposed for the construction of housing at Ayr Road, Newton Mearns. During the course of the evaluation a total of 2,698 square metres of trenching was undertaken, spread over 36 individual trenches arranged in an interrupted grid pattern although several of the trench placements were dictated by the on-site terrain which was often very wet and soft.

Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The proposed development location lies to the south-west of Newton Mearns (NGR NS 5310 5506).
- 3.2 The site is bounded by the A77 road to the north, a housing estate to the east, an access road to Faside House to the west and agricultural fields to the south and currently consists of a roughly rectangular shaped scrubby grass covered field. The field contains slightly higher ground at its western side and two fairly low mounds as well as a very steep slope along its southern boundary. The central and eastern areas of the site are located within a natural dip in the topography and as a result comprise of very wet, marshy ground and peat. Several drainage channels have been dug into the peat deposits at the eastern end which drain into a culvert. A further small culvert is also found in the western wall which openly drains into the field adding to the wet conditions on site. (Figure 1).
- 3.3 The underlying drift geology is not recorded, while the solid geology consists of Clyde Plateau Volcanic formation (British Geological Survey 1:50,000, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A review of desk-based sources undertaken in advance of the trenching revealed a total of seven known cultural heritage sites within a kilometre of the centre of the proposed development (Shaw 2011). Two of these sites, a possible enclosure on the southern slope and a cistern are located within the boundary of the development site. Sites recorded within the study area include the B-Listed Faside House and a disused quarry to the south-west, an archaeological event in the form of a desk based assessment to the north of Ayr Road and the town of Newton Mearns to the immediate east whose origins date from the twelfth century AD.

Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological work were to:
- establish the presence or absence of archaeological resources within the area of development under targeted archaeological evaluation conditions
 - determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
 - excavate and record any significant archaeological remains should they be encountered;
 - undertake funded post-excavation analysis and publication of the results on the archaeological works should they be warranted.

Methodology

- 6.1 Topsoil was stripped using a mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. The topsoil was removed in linear trenches to the surface of the subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon. The trenches were in general approximately 30 m to 50 m long by 2 m wide although those positioned on the steep southern slope were 20 m in length. Trenches were located to provide an 8% sample (2,698 square metres) of the development area and were predominantly arranged in an interrupted grid pattern (Figure 2). When necessary, trenches were located to investigate topographic features, such as several low mounds located at the western area of the site and a putative road and tree lined enclosure on the steep slope at the southern end of the site. This slope also contained several terraces which were also targeted during the evaluation.
- 6.2 All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, was to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork. Trenches were surveyed and located within the National Grid using a sub-metre DGPS Magellan Mobilemapper CX. Weather conditions for the evaluation were predominantly dry although cold with ground frost and occasional snow.

Results



Plate 1.

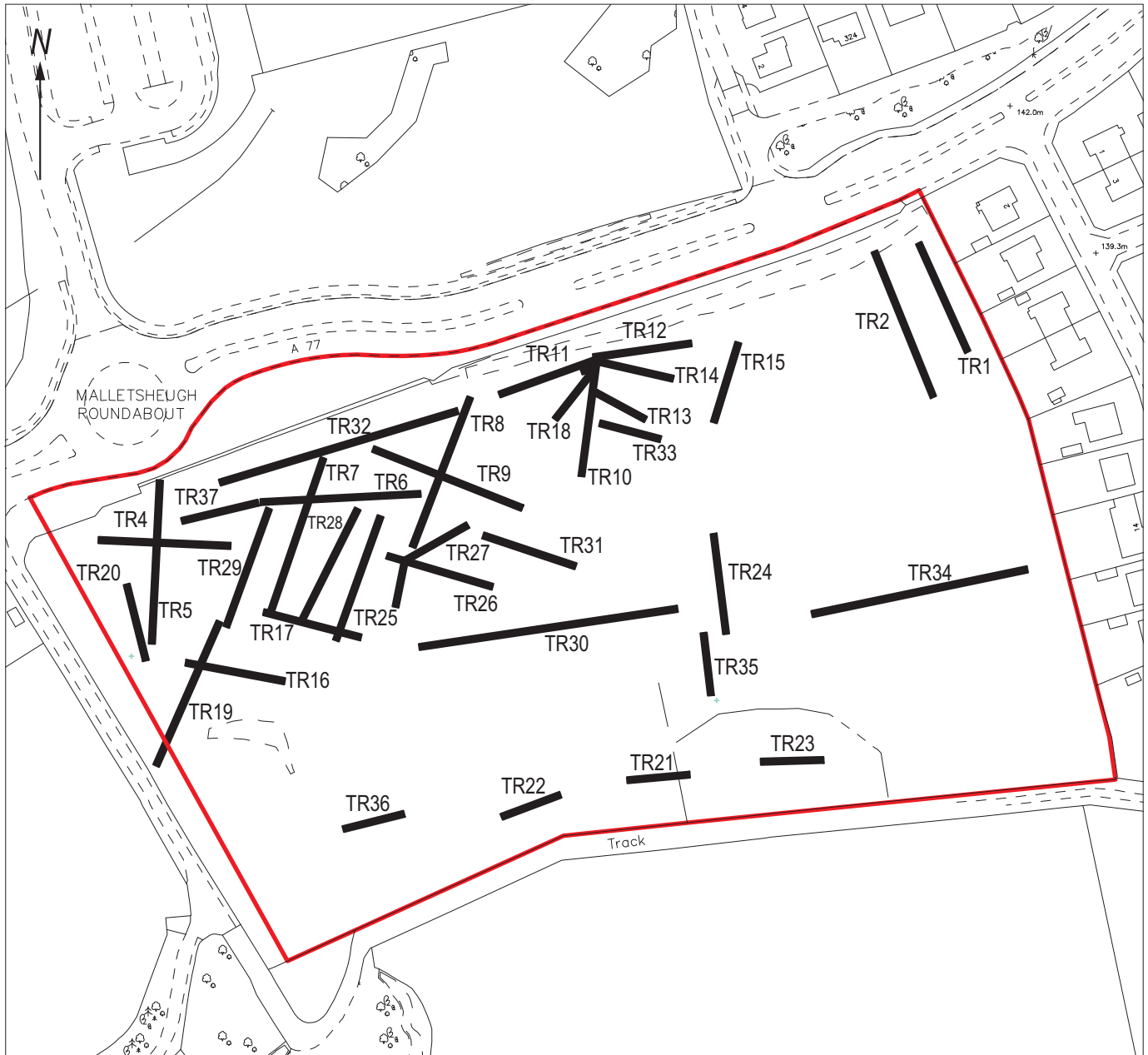


Plate 2.

- 7.1 During the course of the evaluation only one feature of archaeological significance was encountered. This feature, an oval shaped pit, was found in trench 10 on slightly raised ground close to the northern boundary. The pit (10004) measured 1.3 m in length by 0.7 m in width. The base was fairly flat with a maximum depth of 0.2 m. The fill (10003) consisted of a moderately compacted black-brown sand silt which contained charcoal flecks and a large amount of sub-angular pebble and cobble sized stones. One stone which was located on the surface of the feature appeared to be halved in two. No artefacts were excavated to provide a possible date (plates 1 and 2). The trench was extended around the location of the pit although no further features were encountered.
- 7.2 Thirty-six trenches were excavated, totalling 2,698 square metres, the results of which are set out in Appendix B. For the majority of the area trenches revealed a topsoil comprising a mid brown clay silt (0.27 m to 0.48 m thick), which lay over a grey-brown silt clay natural subsoil, which contained inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded cobbles and boulders (plate 3).
- 7.3 In the lower-lying central and eastern areas peat deposits were located which reached depths in excess of 0.7 m. Due to the very soft ground conditions, unstable trench edges and the inability of the plant to sit on the surface deposits excavation was constricted in this area of the site.



Plate 3.



<p>GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY</p>	<p>Figure 2: Trench locations.</p>	<p>0 100 m</p>	<p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. All rights reserved. Licence number 100050009.</p>
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7.4 Several trenches were also located over the low mounds located in the western area of the site (trenches 16, 17, 18 and 29) although these proved to be natural in origin. Three trenches (21, 23 and 35) were also located in, or in close proximity, to the tree lined putative enclosure on the steep southern slope and two trenches were positioned over terraces (22 and 36). No archaeological deposits were encountered.

7.5 During the evaluation very few artefacts were recovered from topsoil deposits across the area. These comprised of only a few sherds of modern glazed pottery which were not retained.

Discussion

8.1 The evaluation trenching identified only one feature of possible archaeological significance. This feature, a pit, was located on slightly raised ground next to the northern site boundary and the A77 road. Although no artefacts were recovered to provide a possible date for the feature and its function remains elusive, the nature of the remains suggest a possible prehistoric date for the feature.

- 8.2 Most other trenches contained field drains probably relating to attempts to drain and improve the field in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries AD.

Recommendations

- 9.1 The evaluation work has indicated that a single archaeological feature is present on an area of raised ground on the northern side of the development area. In consequence, it is recommended that expansion of the trench 10 area to take in the rest of the raised area is conducted, so that the pit and any other associated features can be preserved by record.
- 9.2 A short phase of post-excavation analysis and publication of the results of the additional fieldwork is recommended in addition to the fieldwork requirement. This work will also help elucidate the function of the feature and its possible date.
- 9.3 Given the lack of evidence of any other archaeological activity within the rest of the development area it is recommended that no further work is necessary here.
- 9.4 GUARD Archaeology would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. While the recommended mitigation strategy was developed following consultation with Mr Paul Robins of West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS), final decisions on the nature and extent of any future archaeological work rest with the planning authority.

Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology would like to thank Stewart Milne Homes for their assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by Blackwood Plant. Technical support was from Aileen Maule and John Kiely. A survey of trench locations was conducted by Maureen Kilpatrick. The illustrations were produced by Gillian McSwan & Fiona Jackson. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD by John Atkinson.

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Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: Bibliography

British Geological Survey, Geology Maps <http://www.bgs.ac.uk> (accessed 1st February 2012)

Shaw, C 2011 Ayr Road, Newton Mearns Desk Based Assessment, Unpublished Guard Archaeology Report Project 3388

Appendix B: Trench Details

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
1	38	2	0.65	Dark brown redeposited topsoil and turf (depth 0.60m)	Light grey-brown silt clay with boulder sized stone inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Two ceramic field drains in subsoil deposit
2	50	2	1.25	Dark brown clay silt (depth 0.31m). Below were two deposits of black-brown and orange-brown peat (depths 0.23 and 0.6m)	Medium compacted grey silt clay with cobble sized stone inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Three ceramic field drains in subsoil deposit
4	42	2	0.52	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.47m)	Moderately compacted orange-brown clay silt with inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles and several large boulders	No archaeological features or finds located. One ceramic field drain and two rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
5	52	2	0.39	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.32m)	Moderate compaction mid orange-brown clay silt	No archaeological features or finds located. Small corroded cast iron pipe in south-west corner of trench
6	51	2	0.38	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.22-0.31m)	Firm grey-brown silt clay with occasional sub-rounded cobble inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Three rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
7	51	2	0.41	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.15-0.32m)	Firm grey-brown silt clay with occasional sub-rounded cobble inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Two rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
8	51	2	0.41	Moderately compacted grey-brown clay silt with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles and plant roots (depth 0.32m)	firm grey-beige silt clay with occasional cobble inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Five rubble field drains and five ceramic field drains in subsoil deposit
9	51	2	0.35-0.42	Moderately compacted grey-brown clay silt with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles and plant roots (depth 0.31m)	firm grey-beige silt clay with occasional cobble inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located. Two rubble field drains and four ceramic drains in subsoil deposit
10	38	2	0.41	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.28-0.36m)	Moderately compacted brown-grey clay silt with sub-rounded cobble inclusions with outcrop of natural bedrock	One pit located in northern end of trench. Also two rubble drains and one ceramic drain in subsoil deposit
11	32	2	0.39	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.28m)	Very firm grey-beige silt clay with sub-rounded cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located.
12	31.5	2	0.37	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.26m)	Very firm grey-beige silt clay with sub-rounded cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located.
13	18	2	0.43-0.56	Moderately compacted grey-brown clay silt with pebble and plant root inclusions (depth 0.35m)	Very firm grey-beige silt clay with sub-rounded cobbles at NW end. At SE end a shallow layer of peat present (0.13m depth) onto a mid grey-brown clay silt	No archaeological features or finds located.

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
14	24	2	0.46	Moderately compacted grey-brown clay silt with pebble and plant root inclusions (depth 0.28-0.35m)	Very firm grey-beige silt clay with sub-rounded cobbles with several sub-rounded boulders	No archaeological features or finds located.
15	26.5	2	0.46-1.09	Loosely compacted light brown clay silt with plant root inclusions (depth 0.38m)	Brown-black peat deposit (0.61m) onto a firm grey-white silt clay. At ENE end subsoil is a eibe-brown gravel silt with inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located. Four ceramic field drains in trench
16	32	2	0.43-0.51	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.29m)	Orange-brown silt with outcropping bedrock	No archaeological features or finds located.
17	32	2	0.41	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.29-0.36m)	Very firm orange-brown silt clay with inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles and boulders	No archaeological features or finds located.
18	20	2	0.31	Moderately compacted beige-brown clay silt with plant root inclusions (depth 0.26m)	Firm orange-brown silt clay with sub-rounded boulder inclusions at SW end	No archaeological features or finds located.
19	50	2	0.58	Moderately compacted grey-brown silt clay with plant root inclusions (depth 0.51m)	Orange-brown-grey clay with inclusions of cobble and boulders	No archaeological features or finds located. Four ceramic field drains in trench
20	25	2	0.69	Moderately compacted grey-brown silt clay with plant root inclusions (depth 0.47m)	Orange-brown-grey clay with inclusions of cobble and boulders	No archaeological features or finds located. Two ceramic field drains in trench
21	20	2	0.21	Loosely compacted grey-brown silt clay (depth 0.21m)	Bedrock	No archaeological features or finds located.
22	20	2	0.39	Loosely compacted grey-brown silt clay (depth 0.25m)	At E end of trench bedrock below topsoil. Western end has a subsoil of an orange-brown clay	No archaeological features or finds located.
23	20	2	0.26	Fairly loose red-brown silt clay with inclusions of plant roots and cobbles	Bedrock	No archaeological features or finds located.
24	32	2	1.2	Mid-brown clay silt (depth 0.47m)	Black-brown peat at northern end (not bottomed due to trench side instability and ground softness) Southern end has grey-light brown clay with inclusions of boulders	No archaeological features or finds located.
25	42	2	0.32-0.5	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.32m)	Firm grey-brown silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. Three rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
26	35	2	0.32-0.41	Dark brown clay silt with inclusions of plant roots and pebbles	Firm grey-brown silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. Four rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
27	38	2	0.47	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.32m)	Firm grey-brown silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. Three rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
28	40	2	0.32-0.49	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.28-0.39m)	Firm grey-brown silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. One rubble field drain in subsoil deposit

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
29	40	2	0.4	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.31m)	Bedrock at SW end and orange-brown silt clay at NE end	No archaeological features or finds located. One cast iron pipe in trench
30	83	2	0.42	Moderately compacted grey-brown clay silt with grass root inclusions (depth 0.31-0.35m)	Brown-grey silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. One rubble field drain in subsoil deposit
31	31	2	0.42-0.56	Moderately compacted mid brown clay silt with inclusions of pebbles and cobbles (depth 0.32-0.48m)	This peat deposit (0.02-0.04m depth) found above a very firm grey-brown silt clay	No archaeological features or finds located. One rubble field drain, one cast iron pipe and five ceramic drains in subsoil deposit
32	79	2	0.38	Mid-brown clay silt (depth 0.27-0.31m)	Very firm brown-grey silt clay with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located. Two rubble field drains in subsoil deposit
33	20	2	0.39-0.72	Mid-brown clay silt (depth 0.29m)	Peat deposit found at ESE end of trench (0.04-0.52m) above a firm orange-brown silt clay with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located. Rubble and ceramic field drains and a cast iron pipe in trench
34	70	2	0.48-0.52	Moderately compacted orange-brown clay silt with inclusions of plant roots and pebbles	Dark brown/black peat deposit (depth 0.02m) above a firm orange-brown silt clay with inclusions of sub-angular pebbles and cobbles	No archaeological features or finds located. Two rubble field drains and two ceramic field drains in subsoil deposit
35	20	2	0.38	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with inclusions of plant roots and pebbles (depth 0.28m)	Firm orange-brown silt clay with sub-angular pebble and cobble inclusions	No archaeological features or finds located.
36	20	2	0.31	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with plant root and pebble inclusions (depth 0.27m)	Moderately compacted orange-brown clay silt with inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles and pebbles	No archaeological features or finds located. One rubble field drain in subsoil deposit
37	25	2	0.27	Moderately compacted mid-brown clay silt with grass turf covering (depth 0.26m)	Moderately compacted orange-brown clay silt with inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles and several large boulders. Bedrock encountered at western end	No archaeological features or finds located.

Appendix C: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
10003	T10	Moderately compacted black/brown silt with charcoal flecks and a large amount of sub-angular stone inclusions	Fill of pit 10004
10004	T10	Oval shaped pit measuring 1.3 m x 0.7 m with a maximum depth of 0.2 m and orientated east-west	Cut of pit

Appendix D: List of Finds

Find No.	Area	Context No.	No. of Pieces	Material	Description
1	T10	10003	2	Stone	Possible worked stone

Appendix E: List of Samples

Sample No.	Area	Context No.	Size	Reason for Sampling				Application/Comments
				Pot	Bone	Lithics	Botanics	
1	T10	10003	L				x	Fill of pit 10004, for flotation

Appendix F: List of Drawings

Drawing No.	Area	Sheet No.	Subject	Scale
1	T10	1	South facing section of pit 10004	1:10
2	T10	1	Post-excavation plan of pit 10004	1:20

Appendix G: List of Photographs

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken From
1	-	-	Low impact plant	-
2	-	-	Disturbed ground at east of site	N
3	-	-	Disturbed ground at at north-east of site	E
4	-	-	Disturbed ground at at north-east of site	NE
5	-	-	Draiage gully at east of site	N
6	-	-	ID shot	-
7	TR 1	1001, 1002	WNW facing section	NW
8	TR 1	1002	Post-excavation	NW
9	TR 2	2004	Post-excavation	N
10	TR 2	2001-2003	W facing section	NW
11	-	-	Pre-excavation of main field	NW
12	-	-	Pre-excavation of main field	NW
13	-	-	Pre-excavation of main field	NW
14	TR 4	-	ID shot	-
15	TR 4	4001, 4002	East facing section	E
16	TR 4	4002	Post-excavation	S
17	TR 5	-	ID shot	-
18	TR 5	5001, 5002	North facing section	N
19	TR 5	5002	Post-excavation	E
20	TR 6	-	ID shot	-
21	TR 6	6001, 6002	North facing section	N
22	TR 6	6002	Post-excavation	E
23	TR 7	-	ID shot	-
24	TR 7	7001, 7002	South-east facing section	SE
25	TR 7	7002	Post-excavation	SW
26	TR 9	-	ID shot	-
27	TR 9	9001, 9002	North-east facing section	NE
28	TR 9	9002	Post-excavation	SE
29	TR 8	-	ID shot	-
30	TR 8	8001, 8002	North-west facing section	NW
31	TR 8	8002	Post-excavation	S
32	TR 10	-	ID shot	-
33	TR 10	10001, 10002	South-east facing section	SE
34	TR 10	10002	Post-excavation	NE
35	TR 10	10002, 10004, 10005	Oval feature	W
36	TR 10	10002, 10004, 10005	Oval feature	W
37	TR 10	10004, 10005	Close-up of broken stone	NE
38	TR 10	10004, 10005	Close-up of broken stone	NE
39	TR 11	11002	Post-excavation	W
40	TR 11	11001, 11002	South facing section	S

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken From
41	-	-	Ginger cat on wall	-
42	TR 12	-	ID shot	-
43	TR 12	12002	Post-excavation	W
44	TR 12	12001, 12002	South facing section	S
45	TR 13	13002	Post-excavation	NW
46	TR 14	-	ID shot	-
47	TR 14	14001, 14002	South-west facing section	SW
48	TR 15	15001-15003	South-west facing section	SW
49	TR 15	15004	Post-excavation	NE
50	TR 16	-	ID shot	-
51	TR 16	16001, 16002	North-west facing section	NW
52	TR 16	16002	Post-excavation	NW
53	TR 17	-	ID shot	-
54	TR 17	17001, 17002	South-west facing section	SW
55	TR 17	17002	Post-excavation	SE
56	TR10	10002, 10003, 10004	Half section of pit	S
57	TR10	10002, 10003, 10004	Half section of pit	S
58	TR10	10002, 10003, 10004	Post-excavation (half section only)	E
59	TR10	10002, 10003, 10004	Post-excavation (half section only)	E
60	TR 18	-	ID shot	-
61	TR 18	18001, 18002	SE facing section	SE
62	TR 18	18001, 18002	Post-excavation	NE
63	-	-	Post-excavation at southern end	SE
64	TR 19	19002, 19003	Post-excavation at northern end	N
65	TR 19	19002	North-east facing section	N
66	TR19	19001, 19002	North-east facing section	N
67	TR20	20001, 20002	Post-excavation	SE
68	TR20	20002	Water culvert on west wall	E
69	-	-	Post-excavation	W
70	TR21	21001, 21002	Location context	NE
71	TR22	-	View of NE of site	SW
72	-	-	View of north centre of site	SW
73	-	-	View of NW of site	SE
74	-	-	View of west of site	SE
75	-	-	Bedrock	S
76	TR 22	22002	Post-excavation	W
77	TR 22	22003	North facing section	NW
78	TR22	22001, 22003	South-west facing section	SW
79	TR23	23002	View of slope and trees	N
80	-	-	Post-excavation at east end	E
81	TR23	23002	North facing section	NE
82	TR23	23001, 23002	Post-excavation of west end	W
83	TR23	23002	West facing section	NW
84	TR24	24001, 24002	Post-excavation	S
85	TR24	24002, 24003	ID shot	-
86	TR25	-	South-east facing section	SE
87	TR25	25001, 25002	Post-excavation	SW
88	TR25	25002	ID shot	-
89	TR26	-	South-west facing section	SW
90	TR26	26001, 26002	Post-excavation	SE
91	TR26	26002	ID shot	-
92	TR27	-	South-east facing section	SE

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken From
93	TR27	27001, 27002	Post-excavation (NE end)	NE
94	TR27	27002	Post-excavation (SW end)	SW
95	TR27	27002	ID shot	-
96	TR28	-	South-east facing section	SE
97	TR28	28001, 28002	Post-excavation	SW
98	TR28	28002	ID shot	-
99	TR29	-	South-east facing section	SE
100	TR29	29001, 29002	Post-excavation	S
101	TR29	29002	ID shot	-
102	TR30	-	North facing section	N
103	TR30	30001, 30002	Post-excavation (east end)	E
104	TR30	30002	Post-excavation (west end)	W
105	TR30	30002	ID shot	-
106	TR31	-	South-west facing section	SW
107	TR31	31001, 31002	Post-excavation	SE
108	TR31	31002	ID shot	-
109	TR32	-	North facing section	N
110	TR32	32001, 32002	Post-excavation (west end)	W
111	TR32	32002	Post-excavation (east end)	E
112	TR32	32002	ID shot	-
113	TR33	-	Post-excavation	NW
114	TR33	33002, 33003	ID shot	-
115	TR34	-	South facing section	S
116	TR34	34001, 34002	Post-excavation	E
117	TR34	34002	Post-excavation	W
118	TR34	34002	ID shot	-
119	TR35	-	East facing section	E
120	TR35	35001, 35002	Post-excavation	S
121	TR35	35002	Eastern end of site	S
122	-	-	Eastern end of site	S
123	-	-	Central area of site	SE
124	-	-	ID shot	-
125	TR36	-	North facing section	N
126	TR36	36001, 36002	Post-excavation	W
127	TR36	36002	Site location	W
128	TR36	-	Western area of site	SE
129	-	-	Central area of site	S
130	-	-	Central area of site	SW
131	-	-	Eastern and central areas of site	SW
132	-	-	Eastern area	SW
133	-	-	Cistern	S
134	-	-	Extension onto TR32	W
135	TR32	32002	ID shot	-
136	TR37	-	North facing section	N
137	TR37	37001, 37002	Post-excavation	W
138	TR37	37002	Site location	NW
139	TR37	-	Northern area of site	S
140	-	-	Western side of slope	N
141	-	-	Western slope	NE
142	-	-	North-west corner	E
143	-	-	Eastern side of site	NW
144	-	-	Eastern side of slope	NW
145	-	-	Northern area of site	W
146	-	-	Southern slope	N
147	-	-		-

Appendix H: Discovery And Excavation Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Renfrewshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Ayr Road, Newton Mearns
PROJECT CODE:	3388
PARISH:	Mearns
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Maureen C Kilpatrick
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	--
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	--
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	--
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 5310 5506
START DATE (this season)	25th January 2012
END DATE (this season)	31st January 2012
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Guard Archaeology Limited, on behalf of Stewart Milne Homes, on an area proposed for development at Ayr Road, Newton Mearns. The trial trench evaluation of 8% of the total area proposed for development (2698 m ²). One significant archaeological feature, a pit of unknown date, was encountered during the evaluation. The work was undertaken between 25th and 31st January 2012.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Stewart Milne Homes
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Bob.will@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.

Appendix I: Method Statement

GUARD 3388: Ayr Road, Newton Mearns Trial Trenching Method Statement

1.0 *Introduction*

This document sets out GUARD Archaeology's trial trenching methodology. This method may be varied dependant upon knowledge and understanding of the site and the needs and requirements of the client and/or regulating body. The trial trenching strategy will include the removal of topsoil and/or over-burder deposits by machine any feature encountered will be hand excavated and recorded.

On completion of all excavation works a report to data structures level and an accompanying post-excavation research design (PERD) and costing will be submitted for agreement with the client/regulatory body. The PERD will also outline arrangements for final publication of the site.

2.0 *Aims and Objectives*

The aims and objectives of archaeological trial trenching are dependent upon the requirements and nature of the project. All projects aim and objectives are to:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains, and their character, date and extent if surviving.
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered at the site.
- excavate an 8% sample (agreed by client and planning authority) of the available and accessible land within the site to determine its archaeological potential (Figure 1).

In those areas where no specific targets are to be addressed by the trenches, locations are determined in order to provide adequate random coverage of the area and to sample the various topographical zones within the site.

3.0 *Methodology*

The strategy to be employed during the evaluation will consist of the following:

- Trial trenches will be placed to investigate and characterise the nature of the site. If no areas are to be targeted then trenches will be randomly placed throughout the development area to gain as wide coverage as possible.
- Trench location will be based approximately on the locations as outlined in the attached drawing however may be modified to avoid services or obstructions.
- All trenches will be scanned for services using a CAT and Genny prior to excavation.
- Excavation will initially be by machine working under the close supervision of a member of the archaeological team. Trenches will be opened using a back actor fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket.
- Trenching areas will be demarcated by road irons and hazard tape to restrict public access and reduce the likelihood of accidents.
- The topsoil will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none is found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to determine the date of the deposits, their character and extent. Such features will be recorded by written descriptor on *pro forma* recording sheets, by photograph and by measured drawing.
- All archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site archaeologists. Should negative-cut features be encountered they will be 50% sample excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. In the event that they are deemed to be important discoveries, they will be fully excavated. Recording will include *pro forma* sheets, drawings and photographs.
- All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeological team. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context which date from the later phases of occupation. Should

finds be encountered from the earlier occupation phases of the site they will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to up-lifting.

- All excavated feature fills and horizons may be sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence. This will also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues on soil development at the site.
- The trench locations will be surveyed using a sub-centimetre or sub-metre GPS or total station EDM. This information will inform any mitigation strategies for any further work that may be required.
- All trenches will be backfilled on a daily basis on completion of recording and no trench will be left open unless archaeology is revealed. If a trench is left open it will be demarcated with hazard tape to restrict access overnight.

On completion of the excavation phase of work, a report suitable for submission to the Planning Authority and the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) will be produced. This report will be accompanied by the post-excavation research design and costing in order to bring the results forward for analysis and publication.

4.0 **Products**

The products of a programme of work will be:

- a preliminary data structure report, after completion of all fieldwork suitable for submission to the Planning Authority, the NMRS and the local Sites and Monuments Record;
- a brief summary of results of the fieldwork will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* and included within the OASIS online database;
- Post-excavation and publication of the results of the entire project within an academic journal;
- Preparation and disposal of the site archive and finds.

5.0 **Archive Arrangements**

Once all fieldwork is completed, all materials from the programme of work will be prepared to the appropriate archive standard. GUARD Archaeology will undertake to deposit the resultant archive to the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) on completion of the report for publication.

All finds will be reported to the Treasure Trove Advisory Panel, and GUARD Archaeology will undertake to ensure their safe deposition within the designated museum at the appropriate time.

6.0 **Timetable**

GUARD Archaeology aims to undertake projects as soon as possible after they have been commissioned. In this case works are due to commence on Wednesday 25 January 2012 and last for a maximum of five working days.

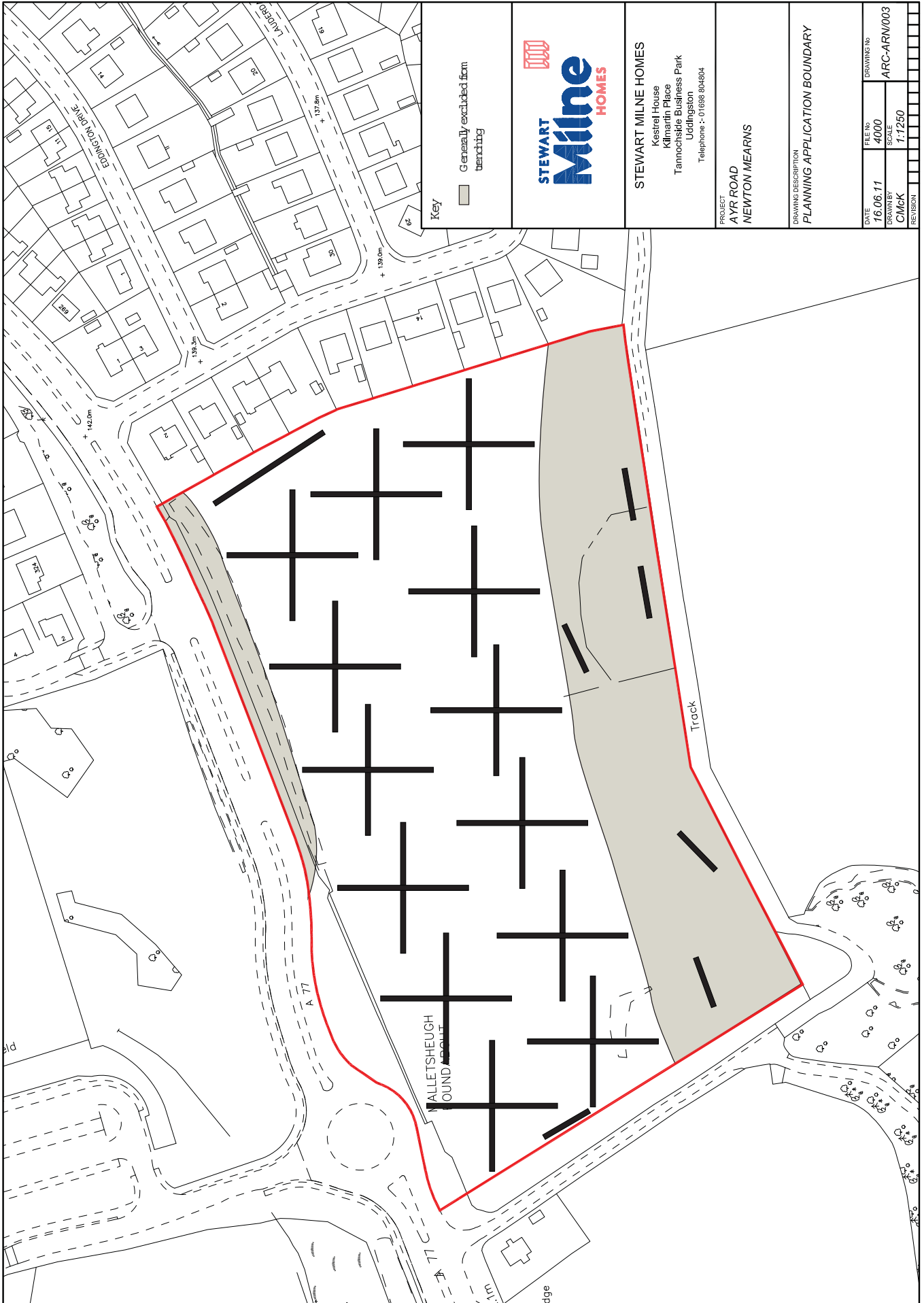
7.0 **Staffing**

This project will be directed by Maureen Kilpatrick, one of GUARD Archaeology's experienced Project Officers. A full CV for Maureen can be made available on request.

8.0 **Health and Safety and Insurance**

All archaeological working practices will be subject to a risk assessment prior to commencement of the work where likely health and safety issues associated with the site will be highlighted.

GUARD Archaeology adheres to all standard Health and Safety regulations governing fieldwork projects. We also possess appropriate insurance cover, proof of which may be supplied upon request.



<p>Key</p> <p>Generally excluded from trenching</p>			<p>STEWART MILNE HOMES</p> <p>Kestrel House Kilmarin Place Tannochside Business Park Uddingston Telephone - 01698 604604</p>	
			<p>PROJECT</p> <p>AYR ROAD NEWTON MEARNS</p>	
<p>DRAWING DESCRIPTION</p> <p>PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY</p>			<p>DATE</p> <p>16.06.11</p>	<p>FILE NO.</p> <p>4000</p>
			<p>DRAWN BY</p> <p>CMCK</p>	<p>SCALE</p> <p>1:1250</p>
			<p>REVISION</p>	<p>DRAWING NO.</p> <p>ARC-ARN/003</p>

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