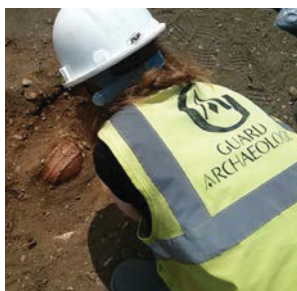


# GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**East Overton Farm, Strathaven  
Data Structure Report  
Project 3925**

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## **East Overton Farm, Strathaven**

### **Data Structure Report**

**On behalf of:** Barratt Homes West

**NGR:** NS 7101 4539

**Project Number:** 3925

**Report by:** Christine Rennie

**Illustrations:** Fiona Jackson

**Project Manager:** John Atkinson

**Approved by:**



**Date:**

01/09/2014

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

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Figure 1:  
Site location.

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## Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Barratt Homes West to carry out an archaeological evaluation on an area proposed for residential development at East Overton Farm, Strathaven, South Lanarkshire. The evaluation was required in order to comply with a planning condition attached to the application to develop (Planning Application EK/12/0003). The trial trench evaluation consisted of 8% of the total area of the Phase 1 development of the site.
- 1.2 While the remains of rig & furrow cultivation were encountered in every trench, no other significant archaeological features were uncovered during the evaluation. The work was undertaken over eight days between 28th July and 6th August 2014.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Limited, on behalf of Barratt Homes West on a site proposed for the construction of residential dwellings at East Overton Farm, Strathaven, South Lanarkshire. This represents Phase 1 of a projected three phase development.
- 2.2 A total of 5800 square metres of trenching was undertaken, spread over 58 individual trenches distributed evenly across the site (Figure 1).
- 2.3 During the evaluation, it was discovered that the eastern field boundary had been moved westwards by between 22 m and 25 m, reducing the available area by approximately 7832 m<sup>2</sup>. As a result, the number of trenches was reduced from 65 (as indicated in the Written Scheme of Investigation) to 58.

## Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The proposed development is located to the north-east of Strathaven, South Lanarkshire and is centred at NGR: NS 7101 4539. The Site is bounded by an industrial estate to the west, Glassford Road to the south, and open fields to the north and west. The current land use of the fields within the proposed development is agricultural.
- 3.2 Phase 1 of the proposed development comprises parts of two enclosed agricultural fields that cover approximately 73,605 square metres and sit between 208 m and 216 m AOD. The northern field contained two small ridges and sloped down from north-west to south-east, while the southern field sloped down from north to south.
- 3.3 Over all of the site, the bedrock is Clyde Plateau Volcanic Formation, an igneous bedrock formed in the Carboniferous Period by eruptions of felsic (silica-poor) magma. The superficial deposits over the site are Devensian - Diamicton Till, formed up to 2 million years ago at a time when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions (British Geological Survey 1993 and 1995).

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A desk-based assessment (DBA) carried out by GUARD Archaeology in June 2014 identified eight cultural heritage sites within the proposed development or immediately adjacent to it, including Strathaven Conservation Area. The Scheduled Monument known as Avendale Castle (SAM 2619) lies within the Conservation Area, about 1 km to the south-west of East Overton (Rennie 2014).
- 4.2 The single cultural heritage site that lies within the Phase 1 boundary is a cropmark recorded by aerial photography in 1966 (sortie OS66-165, frame 252). Cropmarks are the result of

differential growth or ripening of a crop caused by underlying soil conditions. The positive cropmark at East Overton has formed over a localised spot that has retained more moisture than the surrounding area.

- 4.3 The DBA indicates that the sole land-use since at least the mid-eighteenth century has been agricultural. Cartographic regression work noted one area of historic tree planting within the wider development and a further one within the 100 m Buffer Zone around the proposed development. Although these cultural heritage sites do not have statutory or non-statutory protection, such features are covered by Scottish Planning Policy paragraph 151, which indicates that *in-situ* preservation of such assets is the preferred option.

## Aims and Objectives

5.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation were to:

- investigate and sample and archaeological features within the Phase 1 area of the proposed development.

5.2 The objectives were therefore to:

- Conduct an archaeological evaluation and to sample excavate and record any archaeological remains that survive within the development area;
- Submit a report to data structure level for agreement to the client and the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) on completion of the investigations;
- Submit, if post-excavation work is required, an accompanying project design and costing alongside the data structure report, which will outline arrangements for further post-excavation and publication works.

## Methodology

6.1 Prior to the commencement of ground-breaking works, the development area was photographed, and briefly described in the site day-book (see Paragraph 3.2).

6.2 Topsoil was removed from each trench by machine that was supervised at all times by Christine Rennie, the on-site archaeologist. The back-acting machine was fitted with a 2 m wide flat-bladed (toothless) ditching bucket. The topsoil was removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the natural subsoil.

6.3 All deposits encountered were described on *pro forma* record sheets, and were recorded by digital photography. All of the archaeological/agricultural features revealed during the fieldwork were photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections were drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All trenches were accurately located with the National Grid using a Leica Smart Rover DGPS with sub-centimetre accuracy.

6.4 A representative section of each trench was recorded denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information was logged on *pro forma* record sheets together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.

6.5 Agricultural features were investigated by hand-excavated slots, and were recorded by written description, by digital photography and by measured drawing at an appropriate scale.

6.6 All elements of the fieldwork were undertaken in line with the policies and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) of which GUARD Archaeology Ltd is a *Registered Organisation*.

## Results

- 7.1 A total of 58 trenches were excavated, totalling 5800 square metres, the results of which are set out in Appendix B. In the south field, the topsoil was loose mid brown to grey/brown silt that was between 0.17 m and 0.36 m thick, while that in the north field was loose grey/brown or pink/brown silt, the depth of which varied from 0.22 m to 0.33 m. In every trench, the topsoil lay directly above the natural subsoil.
- 7.2 During the course of the evaluation, no features of archaeological significance were encountered, although every trench contained the remains of linear cultivation furrows. In the south field and the southern part of the north field, these were aligned north-west to south east, and were found to be regularly spaced, being about 2.5 m to 3 m apart. Over most of the northern field, the furrows were aligned WSW by ENE, with the spacing between furrows also being about 2.5 m to 3 m. These were best seen in Trench 9, where a sequence of five furrows was uncovered, two of which were investigated further in order to record their depth and examine the nature of their fills (Figure 2).
- 7.3 The cut for Furrow 1 (context 9003) was very shallow, being only 64 mm deep, with a fill of mottled orange/grey/brown sandy silt and pea gravel (context 9004) that was virtually indistinguishable from the topsoil (Plate 1). Furrow 2 (Figure 3) was found to be double cut (contexts 9005 and 9006), both cuts being filled with mottled orange/grey/brown sandy silt (context 9007) that was also very similar to the topsoil. It was not possible either to distinguish separate fills for these two cuts, or to establish which of the two was the earlier. The fill of both of the furrows was very sterile, containing no discernible botanical remains. No evidence that could date these features was retrieved from any of the excavated trenches.



Plate 1: South facing section of furrow 1.

- 7.4 A positive cropmark noted on a 1966 aerial photograph of the site (sortie OS66-165, frame 252) was specifically targeted in order to establish its nature, extent and possible archaeological significance. The cropmark was located at the south-east of the north field, at the lowest point of that field. Although three trenches were excavated over the cropmark, no archaeological remains, features or deposits were uncovered. This south-east corner was one of the very few places within the site where the subsoil was clay, and where field drains were uncovered. From the alignment of the rubble field drains (south-west to north-east), water appears to have been deliberately channelled away from this corner of the field, possibly indicating that flooding or water retention in the topsoil had been a significant problem in this particular area. As no archaeological remains had caused its development, it is likely that the cropmark was caused by an accumulation of moisture above the clay subsoil that allowed the crop in this area to ripen more slowly than that in the rest of the field, giving rise to a positive cropmark.
- 7.5 It was noted that the topsoil throughout the proposed development area contained remarkably little ceramic, with the few pieces observed dating from the nineteenth or twentieth century. None of the pieces were of particular note, and none were retained for further analysis.

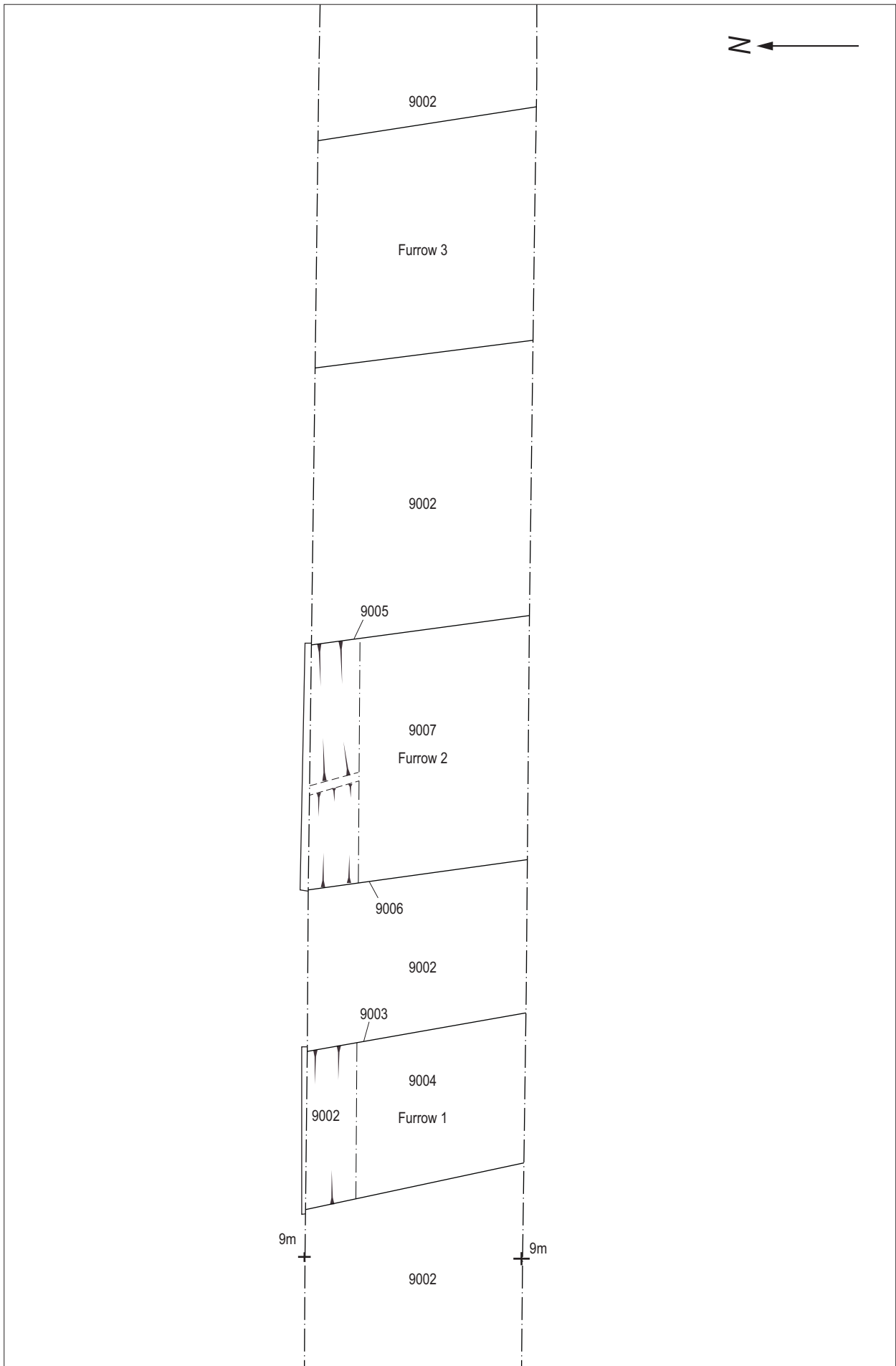


Figure 2: Plan of part of Trench 9 showing cultivation furrows. Scale is 1:20.



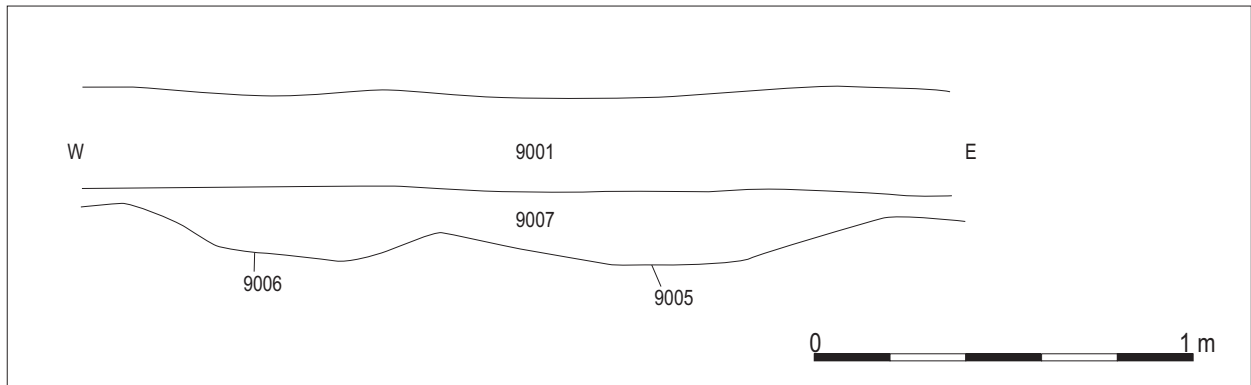


Figure 3: South facing section of cultivation furrow 2. Scale is 1:10.

## Discussion

- 8.1 The evaluation identified cultivation furrows relating to the use of the site during the Medieval and/or Post-Medieval periods. The rig and furrow method of cultivation involved digging a channel (the furrow) for drainage and depositing the excavated soil between two furrows to create a linear platform on which crops would be grown (the rig). Later ploughing of the fields has removed the rigs, but the associated furrows were found in every trench.
- 8.2 Although no datable evidence was found during investigation of the furrows at East Overton Farm, they are illustrated on Roy's mid-eighteenth century military map (Figure 4), albeit the alignment of the furrows is not that encountered during the evaluation. While this method of cultivation has a lengthy period of use, 'the surviving surface features in most areas of rig and furrow are the results of the final episode of cultivation' (Barber 2001,2); this final episode could have been as late as the nineteenth century.



Figure 4. Excerpt from Roy's 1747-55 Military Map of Scotland. Reproduced by permission of the Trustees of The National Library of Scotland.

- 8.3 Evidence from the investigation of two of the furrows in Trench 9 indicates that at least one of these was re-cut, although the furrow retained its north-west to south-east alignment. This superimposition of one set of furrows on another 'is evidence of repeated use of the landscape that may not be detectable from any other source' (Barber 2001,2).
- 8.4 The trenches excavated across the positive cropmark did not contain any archaeological remains or deposits. A combination of localised subsoil composition and topography appears to have allowed moisture to collect in the south-east corner of the north field which, when climatic conditions allowed, led to the formation of a cropmark.
- 8.5 No other archaeological features or deposits were uncovered during the evaluation

## Recommendations

- 9.1 The archaeological evaluation indicates that although there was abundant evidence for earlier agricultural use of the land in the form of cultivation furrows, no archaeologically sensitive deposits or features were uncovered within Phase 1 of the proposed development. In consequence, it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required within the land allocated for Phase 1 of the development.
- 9.2 GUARD would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. While the recommended mitigation strategy was developed following consultation with Martin O'Hare of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, who also carried out a monitoring role, final decisions on the nature and extent of any future archaeological work rest with the planning authority.

## Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD would like to thank Barratt Homes West and Mr Jardine Patterson for their assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by Brown Plant Hire. Technical support was from Aileen Maule and John Kiely. A survey of trench locations was conducted by Fiona Jackson, who also produced the illustrations. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan and the project was managed for GUARD Archaeology by John Atkinson.
- 10.2 The paper and digital archive for the fieldwork will be deposited with the National Monuments Record for Scotland, held at the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, Edinburgh.
- 10.3 The OASIS reference for this project is guardarc1-186971.

**East Overton Farm, Strathaven  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**



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## Appendices

### Appendix A: References

#### Documentary sources

Barber J 2001 *Guidelines for the Preservation of Areas of Rig and Furrow in Scotland*. Scottish Trust for Archaeological Research

Institute for Archaeologists 2013 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

Rennie, C 2014 *East Overton Farm, Strathaven: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*. GUARD Archaeology unpublished report 3903.

The Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

#### Cartographic sources

Roy, W 1747-55 Military Survey of Scotland.

British Geological Survey 1993 Hamilton (D). 1:50,000.

British Geological Survey 1995 Hamilton (S). 1:50,000.

### Appendix B: List of Trenches

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
1	50	2	0.44	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
2	50	2	0.48	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
3	50	2	0.48	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
4	50	2	0.38	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
5	50	2	0.31	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown gravel and silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
6	50	2	0.32	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown gravel and silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
7	50	2	0.32	Loose mid-brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown gravel and silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
8	50	2	0.44	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Loose mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
9	50	2	0.35	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
10	50	2	0.34	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown gravel and silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
11	50	2	0.32	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
12	50	2	0.29	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
13	50	2	0.32	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
14	50	2	0.34	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
15	50	2	0.37	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles and gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
16	50	2	0.37	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
17	50	2	0.3	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
18	50	2	0.36	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
19	50	2	0.38	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
20	50	2	0.27	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt clay with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
21	50	2	0.32	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
22	50	2	0.27	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
23	50	2	0.41	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
24	50	2	0.41	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
25	50	2	0.36	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
26	50	2	0.39	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
27	50	2	0.39	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
28	50	2	0.42	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
29	50	2	0.33	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
30	50	2	0.32	Loose pink/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
31	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
32	50	2	0.39	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
33	50	2	0.35	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
34	50	2	0.37	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running SE to NW
35	50	2	0.39	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Loose yellow/orange sandy silt with pebbles	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
36	50	2	0.28	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
37	50	2	0.32	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
38	50	2	0.37	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
39	50	2	0.38	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Loose to medium compaction orange silt	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
40	50	2	0.38	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
41	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
42	50	2	0.32	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
43	50	2	0.34	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silt with gravel patches	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
44	50	2	0.34	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
45	50	2	0.34	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
46	50	2	0.39	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown sandy silt	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
47	50	2	0.34	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
48	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
49	50	2	0.32	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
50	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
51	50	2	0.38	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
52	50	2	0.34	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
53			0.32	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
54			0.25	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
55			0.35	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
56			0.37	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
57	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay and silty clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE
58	50	2	0.36	Loose grey/brown silt with pebbles	Medium compaction mottled orange/grey/ brown clay	Cultivation furrows running WSW to ENE

### Appendix C: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
9003	Trench 9	Linear cut	Cut of cultivation furrow
9004	Trench 9	Medium compaction orange/brown silt	Fill of cut 9003
9005	Trench 9	Linear cut	Cut of cultivation furrow
9006	Trench 9	Linear cut	Cut of cultivation furrow
9007	Trench 9	Medium compaction orange/brown silt	Fill of cuts 9005 and 9006

### Appendix D: List of Drawings

Drawing No.	Area	Sheet No.	Subject	Scale
1	Tr 9	1	Plan of cultivation furrows in part of Trench 9	1:20
2	Tr 9	1	South facing section of furrow 1	1:10
3	Tr 9	1	South facing section of furrow 2	1:10

**Appendix E: List of Digital Photographs**

Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	ID shot	-
2	South field	1002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
3	South field	1001-2	South facing section of trench	S
4	South field	2002	Post-excavation view of trench	NE
5	South field	2001-2	South facing section of trench	S
6	South field	3002	Post-excavation view of trench	NE
7	South field	3001-2	West facing section of trench	W
8	South field	4001-2	North facing section of trench	NE
9	South field	4002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
10	South field	5002	Post-excavation view of trench	NE
11	South field	5001-2	East facing section of trench	E
12	South field	6002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
13	South field	6001-2	South facing section of trench	SE
14	South field	7002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
15	South field	7001-2	South facing section of trench	S
16	South field	8002	Post-excavation view of trench	NE
17	South field	8001-2	East facing section of trench	E
18	South field	9002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
19	South field	9001-2	North facing section of trench	NE
20	South field	10002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
21	South field	10001-2	East facing section of trench	E
22	South field	11002	Post-excavation view of trench	NE
23	South field	11001-2	East facing section of trench	E
24	South field	12002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
25	South field	12001-2	North facing section of trench	NW
26	South field	13002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
27	South field	13001-2	East facing section of trench	E
28	South field	14002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
29	South field	14001-2	North facing section of trench	N
30	South field	15002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
31	South field	15001-2	South facing section of trench	S
32	South field	16002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
33	South field	16001-2	South facing section of trench	S
34	South field	29002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
35	South field	29001-2	East facing section of trench	E
36	South field	30002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
37	South field	30001-2	West facing section of trench	W
38	South field	20002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
39	South field	20001-2	East facing section of trench	E
40	South field	21002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
41	South field	21001-2	North facing section of trench	N
42	South field	22002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
43	South field	22001-2	East facing section of trench	E
44	South field	24002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
45	South field	24001-2	North facing section of trench	N
46	South field	23001-2	East facing section of trench	E
47	South field	23002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
48	South field	25002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
49	South field	25001-2	East facing section of trench	E
50	South field	26002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
51	South field	26001-2	East facing section of trench	E
52	South field	19002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
53	South field	19001-2	East facing section of trench	E
54	South field	18001-2	East facing section of trench	E

Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
55	South field	18002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
56	South field	17002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
57	South field	17001-2	North facing section of trench	N
58	South field	27002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
59	South field	27001-2	West facing section of trench	NW
60	South field	28001-2	East facing section of trench	E
61	South field	28002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
62	South field	Tr9	Cultivation furrows after cleaning	W
63	South field	Tr9	Pre-excavation view of furrow 1	N
64	South field	Tr9	Pre-excavation view of furrow 2	N
65	South field	Tr9	Post excavation view of slot through furrow 1	W
66	South field	Tr9	South facing section of furrow 1	S
67	North field	31002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
68	North field	31001-2	East facing section of trench	E
69	North field	32002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
70	North field	32001-2	North facing section of trench	N
71	North field	33002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
72	North field	33001-2	East facing section of trench	E
73	North field	34001-2	East facing section of trench	E
74	North field	34002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
75	North field	42002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
76	North field	42001-2	North facing section of trench	N
77	North field	37002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
78	North field	37001-2	East facing section of trench	E
79	North field	35002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
80	North field	35001-2	North facing section of trench	N
81	North field	46001-2	South facing section of trench	S
82	North field	46002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
83	North field	43002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
84	North field	43001-2	East facing section of trench	E
85	North field	44002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
86	North field	44001-2	South facing section of trench	S
87	North field	45002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
88	North field	45001-2	North facing section of trench	N
89	North field	47002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
90	North field	47001-2	West facing section of trench	W
91	North field	51002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
92	North field	51001-2	South facing section of trench	S
93	North field	52002	Post-excavation view of trench	N
94	North field	52001-2	West facing section of trench	W
95	North field	Tr52	Rubble field drain in trench 52	W
96	North field	58002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
97	North field	58001-2	South facing section of trench	SW
98	North field	Tr57	Rubble field drain in trench 57	SW
99	North field	Tr57	Rubble field drain in location context	SW
100	North field	57002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
101	North field	57001-2	North facing section of trench	N
102	North field	50002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
103	North field	50001-2	East facing section of trench	SE
104	North field	49002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
105	North field	49001-2	North facing section of trench	N
106	North field	41002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
107	North field	41001-2	East facing section of trench	NE
108	North field	36002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
109	North field	36001-2	North facing section of trench	NE



Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
110	North field	39002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
111	North field	39001-2	West facing section of trench	NW
112	South field	Tr9	Post-excavation view of slot through furrow 2	W
113	South field	Tr9	South facing section of furrow 2	S
114	North field	48002	Post-excavation view of trench	S
115	North field	48001-2	East facing section of trench	SE
116	North field	40002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
117	North field	40001-2	North facing section of trench	N
118	North field	39002	Post-excavation view of trench	E
119	North field	39001-2	North facing section of trench	S
120	North field	56002	Post-excavation view of trench	NW
121	North field	56001-2	South facing section of trench	S
122	North field	5502	Post-excavation view of trench	W
123	North field	55001-2	South facing section of trench	S
124	North field	54002	Post-excavation view of trench	NW
125	North field	54001-2	South facing section of trench	SE
126	North field	53002	Post-excavation view of trench	W
127	North field	53001-2	South facing section of trench	S

## Appendix F: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	South Lanarkshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	East Overton Farm, Strathaven: Archaeological Evaluation, Phase I
PROJECT CODE:	3925
PARISH:	Avendale
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Christine Rennie
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 7101 4539
START DATE (this season)	28th July 2014
END DATE (this season)	6th August 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	GUARD Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Barratt Homes West to carry out an archaeological evaluation on an area proposed for residential development at East Overton Farm, Strathaven, South Lanarkshire. The evaluation was required in order to comply with a planning condition attached to the application to develop (Planning Application EK/12/0003). While the remains of rig & furrow cultivation were encountered in every trench, no other significant archaeological features were uncovered during the evaluation. A cropmark noted on aerial photographs of the site was investigated, but was found to be non-archaeological in origin.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Phases II and III
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Barratt Homes West
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	GUARD Archaeology, 52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	christine.rennie@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/ deposited)	NMRS

**Appendix G: Written Scheme of Investigation****EAST OVERTON FARM, STRATHAVEN,  
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 3925



Figure 1:  
Site location.

## Executive Summary

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) forms the archaeological method statement for the proposed housing development at East Overton Farm, Strathaven, South Lanarkshire (Planning Ref: **EK/12/0003**). This document will require to be approved by the local authority prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This WSI sets out the methodology for the archaeological mitigation works required for the multi-phase housing, leisure and commercial development proposed at East Overton Farm, Strathaven, South Lanarkshire in accordance with a specification agreed by West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). The agreed scope of work is for archaeological evaluation of each phase of the development and specifically in relation to phase 1 of the site. Other phases will be accompanied by an addendum to this WSI detailing any specific further mitigation that may be required.
- 2.2 This document outlines the programme of archaeological works that may be needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed development. It details the methodology to be employed in implementing Stage 1 archaeological evaluation, Stage 2 archaeological excavation (should this be required) and Stage 3 post-excavation analysis and publication (should this be merited). If required, stages 2 & 3 will be specified in detail within an addendum to this WSI. This addendum, if required, will be submitted for the agreement of WoSAS, prior to the commencement of any work. All phases of work will be funded by the developer, in this case Barratt West Scotland as required by the Planning Authority.

## Site Location

- 3.1 The proposed housing development area is located to the north-east of Strathaven and is centred at NGR: NS 7101 4539. The Site is bounded by an industrial estate to the west, Glassford Road to the south, and open fields to the north and west. The current land use of all of the fields within the proposed development is agricultural.

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A recent desk-based review of archival resources suggests that the proposed development at East Overton Farm is not particularly archaeologically sensitive. However, the sole land-use since at least the mid-eighteenth century has been agricultural, and the presence of prehistoric sites within the wider locale indicates some prehistoric activity in the general area of Strathaven. Therefore, despite the low archaeological potential of this greenfield site, it is possible that previously unrecorded archaeological remains or deposits survive buried within the subsoil. The proposed development site also lies within 1 km of the Scheduled Monument known as Avondale Castle, a fifteenth century castle that was the focal point of the Medieval burgh of Strathaven. In addition, cartographic regression work noted one area of historic tree planting within the Site and a further one within the 100 m Buffer Zone around the Site. Although these cultural heritage sites do not have statutory or non-statutory protection, such features are covered by Scottish Planning Policy paragraph 124, which indicates that in-situ preservation of such assets is the preferred option.

## Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological works is to:
  - investigate and sample excavate any archaeological features within the development area.
- 5.2 The objectives are therefore to:
  - Conduct an archaeological evaluation and to sample excavate and record any archaeological remains that survive within the development area;

- Submit a report to data structure level for agreement to the client and WoSAS on completion of the investigations;
- Submit, if post-excavation work is required, an accompanying project design and costing alongside the data structure report, which will outline arrangements for further post-excavation and publication works.

## Methodology

- 6.1 The GUARD Archaeologists will photograph the development area and make a brief written description prior to the commencement of ground-breaking works.
- 6.2 Each phase of works will include an 8% trial trench evaluation of the development area. In the case of Phase 1 this will amount to 6,515 m<sup>2</sup> of trenching focused through approximately sixty five (65) 50 m long by 2 m broad trenches distributed evenly across the area.
- 6.2 Topsoil will be removed from each trench by machine that will be supervised at all times by an experienced GUARD Archaeologist. The back-acting machine excavators will be fitted with a c 2 m wide flat-bladed (toothless) ditching bucket.
- 6.3 The topsoil will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand and mapped to determine their character and extent.
- 6.4 Potential archaeological features encountered will be sampled by the on-site Archaeologists. All significant features including negative-cut features will be, at a minimum, 25-50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function.
- 6.5 In the event that groups of significant features or complex remains are revealed, further archaeological staff may be deployed in order to assist in the evaluation of these features. WoSAS will be the final judge of significance for any archaeological remains and may well insist upon full excavation for any remains to be destroyed by the proposals.
- 6.6 A full record of all excavated features will be made using a single context planning system using pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs. All archaeological features will be photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections will be drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum and the trenches accurately located with the National Grid.
- 6.7 All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site Archaeologists. Finds and animal bone will be collected as bulk samples by context. Significant small finds will be three dimensionally located prior to collection. All finds will be processed to MAP2 type standards and subject to specialist assessment. Palaeo-environmental samples will also be taken where appropriate. If necessary, conservation of finds will be appraised to allow for specialist study.
- 6.8 All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled, using bulk soil samples, for palaeo-environmental evidence (samples will be a minimum of 20 litres where sediment volume allows).
- 6.9 A representative section of each trench will be recorded denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information will be logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.
- 6.10 Archaeological features will be accurately surveyed using a Total Station or GPS and will be related to the Ordnance Survey Grid. A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits as revealed in the investigation will be made, either digitally or by hand, and related to the OS grid. In addition to archaeological features this will include recent agricultural features and changes in the subsoil. Where digital planning is used, the project archaeologist will ensure that a sufficient number of points are taken on each feature to ensure an accurate representation of the site.
- 6.11 Should human remains be revealed by the excavation, the local police, the client and WoSAS will be informed immediately. Any human remains will be left *in situ*, pending the agreement of the police, the client and WoSAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy.

- 6.12 All elements of the fieldwork and any subsequent post-excavation work will be undertaken in line with the policies and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) of which GUARD Archaeology Ltd is a *Registered Organisation*.

## Report Preparation and Contents

- 7.1 A report detailing the results of the archaeological investigations will be submitted to the client and, subject to client approval, then submitted to WoSAS. The report will take the form of a Data Structure Report and will contain an analysis of the results of the archaeological investigations. The report will include a full descriptive text that will characterise any archaeological features encountered. It will also include plans and photographs at an appropriate scale showing the archaeological features encountered and archiving lists of all drawings and photographs.
- 7.2 The report will include the following:
- executive summary
  - a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 8 figure central grid reference
  - OASIS reference number; unique site code
  - Planning application number
  - contractor's details including date work carried out
  - nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details
  - description of the site history, location and geology
  - a site plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid so that features can be correctly orientated
  - context & feature descriptions
  - features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format
  - plans and section drawings of the features drawn at a suitable scale
  - initial assessment of relevant finds/samples if appropriate
  - discussion of the results of the archaeological investigations
  - recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work, such as post-excavation analysis and publication
  - bibliography
- 7.3 The Data Structure Report will be completed within four weeks of the completion of the site investigations.
- 7.4 Any PERD to be submitted for agreement will be presented within 3 months of WoSAS agreement to the DSR. Any final publication to be completed within one year of WoSAS agreement to the PERD (subject to variation if required depending on availability of specialists etc).
- 7.5 At least two copies of the report will be prepared for the client and a further one including a digital PDF copy sent to WoSAS.
- 7.6 The report will be presented in an ordered state and contained within a protective cover/sleeve or bound in some fashion. The report will be page numbered and supplemented with section numbering for ease of reference.

## Copyright

- 8.1 Unless otherwise agreed copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of GUARD Archaeology Limited.

## Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. In the event of minor archaeological remains being encountered during the work, it is proposed that a comprehensive report submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, will form the final publication of the site. A copy of this will be included in the Data Structure Report. However should significant remains be encountered (as determined by WoSAS) a full post-excavation project and publication in an archaeological journal may be necessary.

## Archive

- 10.1 The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within three months of completion of all relevant work.
- 10.2 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be completed within 1 month of completion of the work. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, WoSAS will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.
- 10.3 A copy of the archive contents will be included in the Data Structure Report which will be provided to WoSAS for inclusion in the planning file and HER archive in order that the condition can be discharged.

## Finds Disposal

- 11.1 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work, will be deposited in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia* in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent Data Structure Report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the fieldwork. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD Archaeology until a decision has been made by the panel.

## Personnel and Liaison

- 12.1 The GUARD Archaeology team will comprise the following qualified and experienced GUARD archaeologists:
- Project Director (on-site Lead Archaeologist): Christine Rennie
  - Additional field staff, if required, will be drawn from our team of experienced field staff
  - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Ms Aileen Maule
  - Illustrator: Ms Fiona Jackson
  - Project Manager: John Atkinson
- 12.2 The GUARD Archaeology Managing Director, John Atkinson, will be the point of contact for the archaeological works. A full CV for individuals concerned can be made available on request.

## Monitoring

- 13.1 The proposed start date for the archaeological works will be notified to WoSAS as soon as it has been agreed. WoSAS will also be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged. It is envisaged that the archaeological works may take approximately 8-10 days to complete.

## Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down in the Institute for Archaeologists approved Health and Safety in Field Archaeology document. It is standard GUARD Archaeology policy, prior to any fieldwork project commencing, to conduct a risk assessment and to prepare a project safety plan, the prescriptions of which will be strictly followed for the duration of all archaeological fieldwork. Copies of the resultant project safety plan and of GUARD Archaeology Limited's Fieldwork Safety Policy Statement may be viewed upon request.
- 14.2 GUARD Archaeology Limited also possesses all necessary insurance cover, proofs of which may be supplied upon request.



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