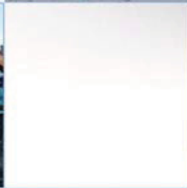


Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders: Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21875

10th May 2011



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton: Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Mr. J Marshall
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 1100 3371
AOC Project No:	21875
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Date of Fieldwork:	9th May 2011
Date of Report:	16th May 2011

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft **Date:** 16th May 2011

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of a proposed residential and agricultural development at Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders

The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 880 m² equating to a 10% sample of the development area.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. John Marshall to undertake an archaeological evaluation within a development area for a new steading and stockman's' house at Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders.
- 1.2 Scottish Borders Council is advised on archaeological matters by Dr. Chris Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government February 2010) and *PAN 42* (SOEnD 1994) and in accord with Scottish Borders Council requirements as advised by Dr Bowles.
- 1.3 The objective of the archaeological works was to determine the existence of any buried archaeological remains within the development area by means of a programme of trial trenching. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2011) outlining the entire programme of archaeological works was agreed with Dr Bowles in advance of the evaluation being undertaken.

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area (NGR: NT 1100 3371; Figure 1) is located within a greenfield site adjacent to the western side of a minor road approximately 600 m to the south of Rachan Mill, near Broughton, Scottish Borders The development area comprises undeveloped farmland.

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 There were no known sites, nor any known prior archaeological interventions, within this greenfield development area prior to the evaluation. However, immediately to the east lies Wrae Hill enclosure (NMRS NT13SW 2; NT 1142 3363). This circular enclosure lies on almost level ground and measures approximately 90 m by 77 m within a ditch about 7.7 m wide. The site survives as either a slight earthwork or as a cropmark in aerial photographs. There is a well defined entrance-causeway on the east, and the fact that the gap is no less than c 15 m in width suggests that the enclosure may be a henge, rather than a member of the group of low lying earthworks in the vicinity as these have entrances measuring not more than c. 3m wide. The enclosure is listed by Burl as a possible Class 1 henge (RCAHMS 1967, Burl 1969). The enclosure is plotted on a distribution map of henge monuments and pen-annular ring ditches covering southern Scotland (RCAHMS 1997, 116, fig. 111).

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:
 - i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area;

- ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as, excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The trenching was designed to establish the extent, condition, character, quality, significance and date of any archaeological features present within the site area. The evaluation comprised machine trenching of a 10% sample of the development area. Overall the development area amounted to 0.88 ha; thus trenching consisted of 880 m² (total basal trench dimensions). Trenches were 2 m wide, and 40 m in length and set on varying orientations (Figure 2).
- 3.2 Stripping of the overburden was by means of a single tracked excavator equipped with a 2 m wide toothless ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.3 All trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures. The trenches were carefully backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 9th May 2011. Overall weather conditions were generally fair, and good archaeological visibility was present throughout the evaluation. Neither archaeological features nor unstratified artefacts were found in any of the trenches.



Plate 1: Trench 7 from SE



Plate 2: Trench 11 from N

- 4.2 The excavation of the trenches revealed topsoil comprising of mid brown sandy clay silt containing frequent small to medium sized rounded and angular stones. This topsoil varied in depth from 0.25 m to 0.35 m. Natural subsoil consisted of a light to mid orange sandy clay with varying amounts of medium sized gravels and occasional large rounded boulders.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Neither significant features nor unstratified artefacts were encountered by the evaluation. The significant balance of probability is that the development area is archaeologically sterile.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by Dr Bowles on behalf of Scottish Borders Council.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AOC 2011 *Rachan Mill Farm: Written Scheme of Investigation (18th April 2011)*. Unpublished AOC Method Statement.

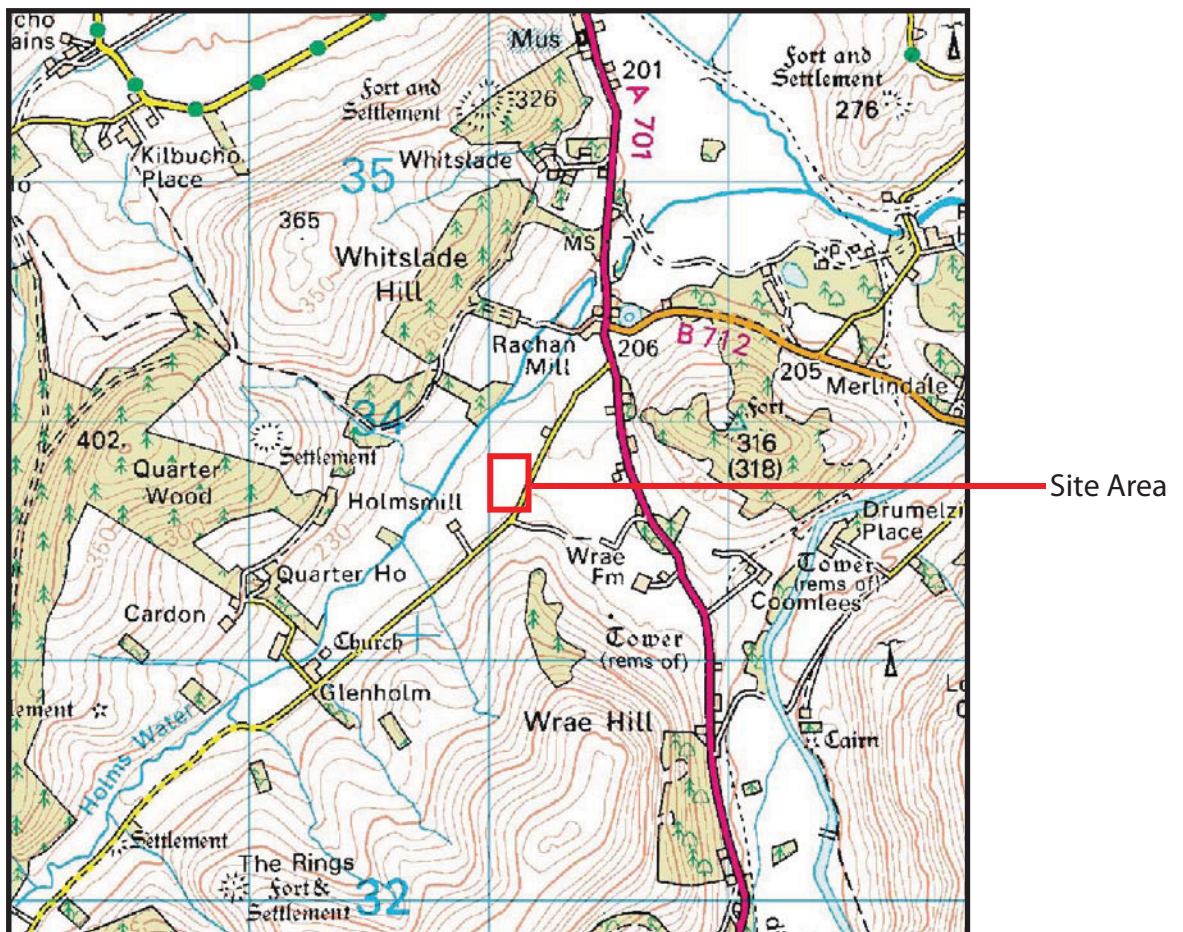
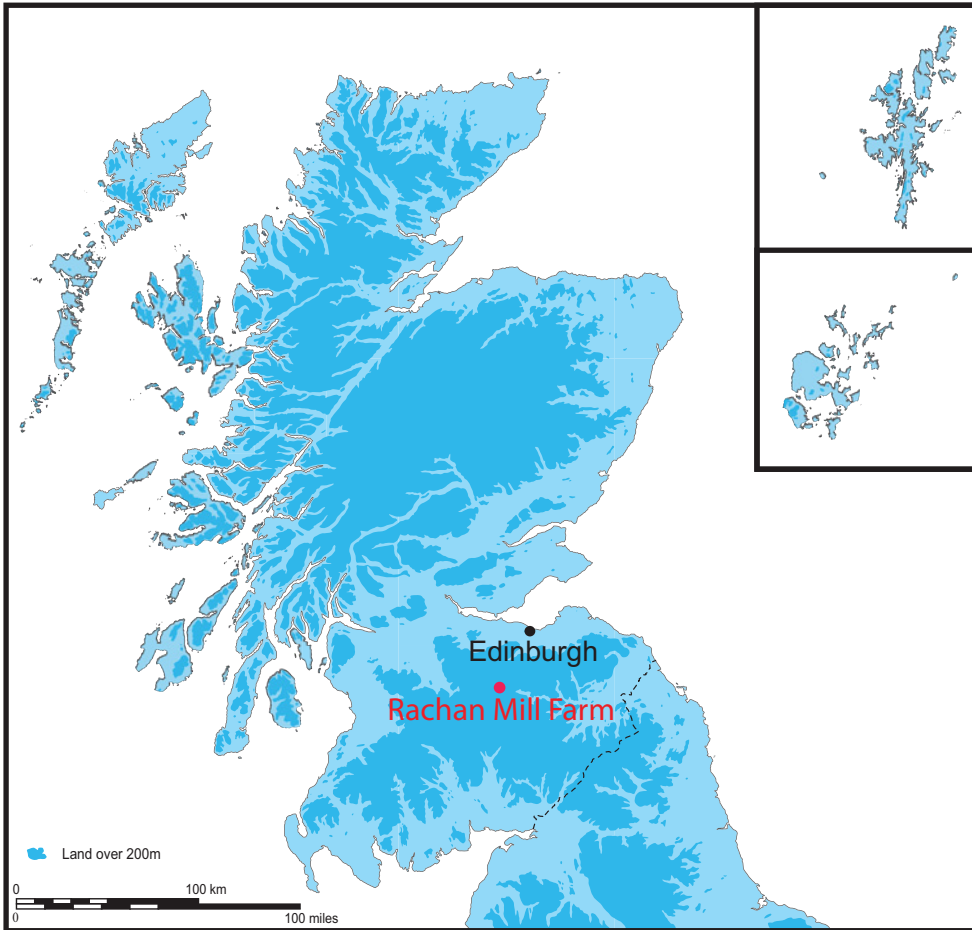
Burl, HAW 1069 'Henges: internal features and regional groups', *Archaeol J*, vol. 126, page 27

RCAHMS 1967 *The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Peeblesshire: an inventory of the ancient monuments*, 2v Edinburgh. Page(s): 191-2, No 456 Plan, fig 208

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Figure 1: Location of the site at Rachan Mill Farm

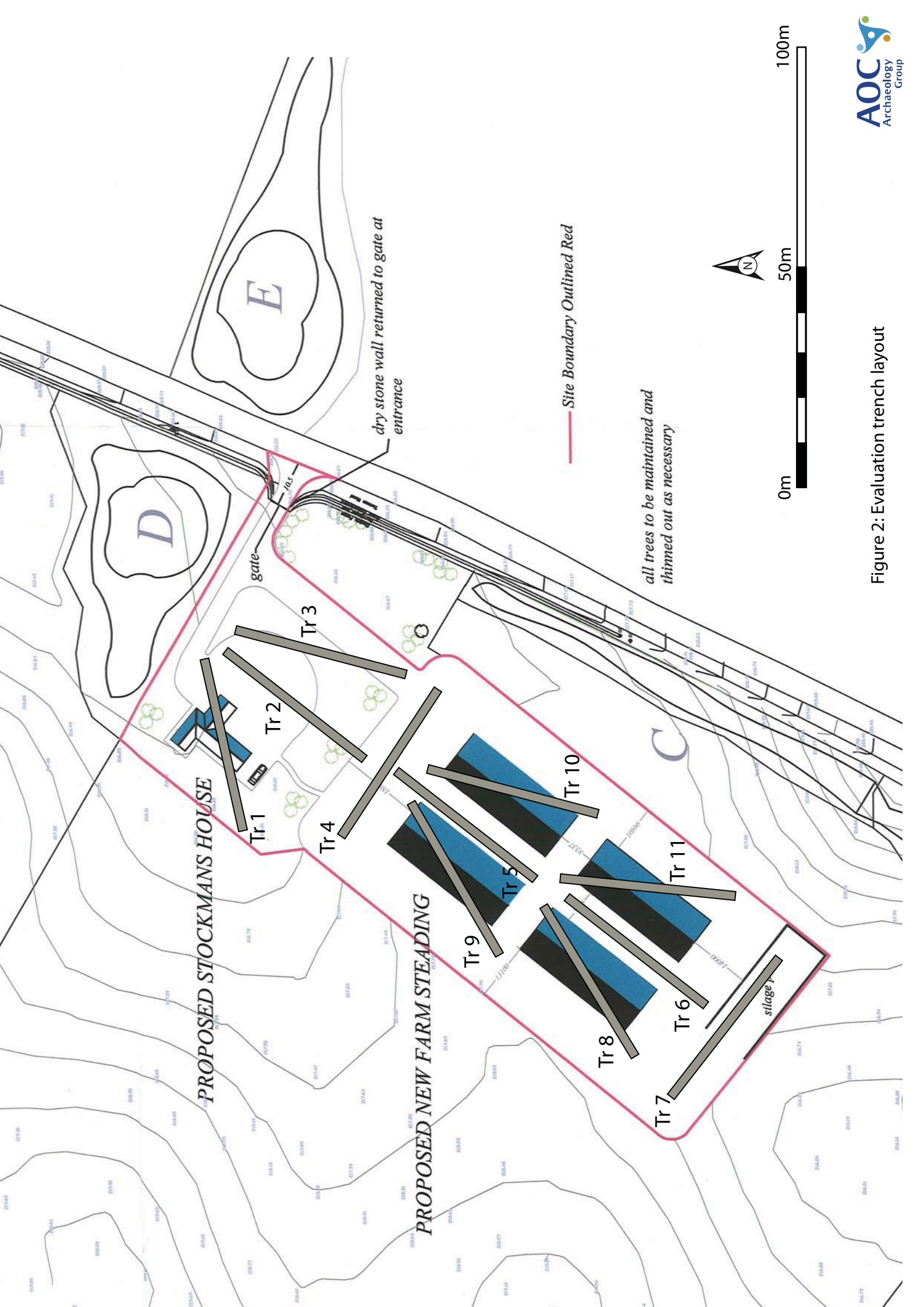


Figure 2: Evaluation trench layout

**Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders:
Evaluation Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.25 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.25 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.3 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	N/S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m – 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.4 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NW/SE
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.4 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.3 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None

Subsoil Sandy clay
Finds None

Trench 6

Dimensions 40 m by 2 m
Total Area 80 m²
Orientation NE/SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m
Depth of Excavation 0.3 m – 0.4 m
Significant Features None
Other Features None
Subsoil Sandy clay
Finds None

Trench 7

Dimensions 40 m by 2 m
Total Area 80m²
Orientation NW/SE
Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m at SE, 0.4 m at NW-0.4 m
Depth of Excavation 0.3 m-0.4 m
Significant Features None
Other Features None
Subsoil Sandy clay
Finds None

Trench 8

Dimensions 40 m by 2 m
Total Area 80 m²
Orientation NE/SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m at NE – 0.3 m at SW
Depth of Excavation 0.35 m
Significant Features None
Other Features None
Subsoil Sandy clay
Finds None

Trench 9

Dimensions 40 m by 2 m
Total Area 80m²
Orientation NE/SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m
Depth of Excavation 0.3 m
Significant Features None
Other Features None
Subsoil Sandy clay
Finds None

Trench 10

Dimensions 40 m by 2 m
Total Area 80 m²
Orientation N/S
Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m
Depth of Excavation 0.3 m – 0.4 m
Significant Features None

<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 11

<i>Dimensions</i>	40 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	N/S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.25 m at N– 0.3 m at S
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.3 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Film 1

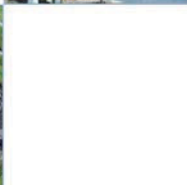
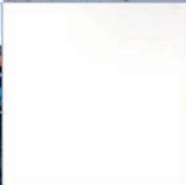
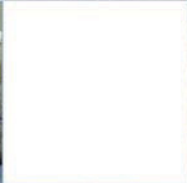
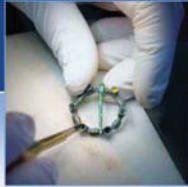
Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	1	Post Excavation General View	NE
3	3	Post Excavation General View	S
4	5	Post Excavation General View	NE
5	7	Post Excavation General View	SE
6	9	Post Excavation General View	SW
7	11	Post Excavation General View	N

Black and white Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	1	Post Excavation General View	NE
3	3	Post Excavation General View	S
4	5	Post Excavation General View	NE
5	7	Post Excavation General View	SE
6	9	Post Excavation General View	SW
7	11	Post Excavation General View	N

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21875
PARISH:	Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Erlend Hindmarch
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 1100 3371
START DATE (this season)	9 th May 2011
END DATE (this season)	9 th May 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to a proposed residential and agricultural development at Rachan Mill Farm, Broughton.</p> <p>The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 880 m² equating to a 10% sample of the development area. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr. J Marshall
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EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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