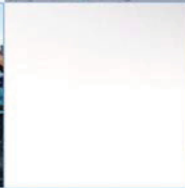
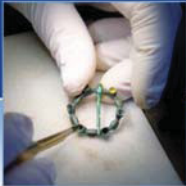


# Plot 5, Newbridge: Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21889

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-102223

31<sup>st</sup> May 2011



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

## Plot 5, Newbridge: Evaluation Data Structure Report

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<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>John Clark Holdings Ltd</b>
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NT12283 72934</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>21889</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25th May 2011</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> May 2011</b>

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

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<b>Approved by: John Gooder</b>	<b>Date: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011</b>
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## **Abstract**

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This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of a new vehicle showroom and workshop at Newbridge, Edinburgh.

The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 510 m<sup>2</sup>. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group were commissioned by John Clark Holdings Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological works prior the construction of a new vehicle showroom and workshop on Plot 5, Newbridge, Edinburgh. The development lies within the administrative area of the City of Edinburgh Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principals set out in Scottish Planning Policy (Scottish Government, February 2010) and Planning Advice Note 42 (SOEnD 1994) and in accord with City of Edinburgh Council requirements as advised by CECAS.
- 1.1.2 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 CECAS in advance of the evaluation being undertaken.

## 1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area is centred on NGR NT 12283 72934 (Figure 1) and is located within the fragmented remains of a prehistoric landscape centred on Huly Hill (NMRS NT17SW 8) an upstanding prehistoric barrow and stone circle and a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This landscape includes cists and the location of Scotland's first chariot burial. The site's location stands, as it did in the past on the main east west axis to and from Edinburgh.

## 1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 An evaluation carried out in 2003 (Heawood 2003), within the wider overall development area, identified fragmentary remains of a field system and roundhouse settlement, likely dating to the first millennium BC located across Newbridge Plots 2 and 3.
- 1.3.2 Most recently an archaeological excavation carried out within parts of the Phase 1 development area (encompassing parts of Plot 5) recorded a variety of archaeological features. Numerous ditches and pits which appear to form part of a medieval field system occupied the northern part of the excavation site together with two associated corn drying kilns. In the central area numerous pits including a group of prehistoric pits, probably forming a timber structure, surrounded a stone-built hearth. In the southern part of the excavation area were four possible roundhouse structures each defined by a combination of ring grooves, ring-ditches and internal postholes. A substantial linear stone structure, which is probably a road, crossed the southern end of the excavation area (Engl & Hunter Blair 2008).

## 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 evaluation was achieved by means of the excavation of linear trenches using a mechanical excavator (JCB) equipped with a 2 m wide ditching bucket. The trenching covered a 20% sample (510 m<sup>2</sup>) of that part (2550 m<sup>2</sup>) of the development area that would be subject to significant ground impacts (between 300-500 mm). The trenches were 2 m wide, between 30 m to 45 m in length, and set on varying orientations (Figure 2).
- 3.2 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 various data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices

- i) Appendix 1 contains the trench summaries
- ii) Appendix 2 contains the photographic register
- iii) Appendix 3 reproduces the *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* entry

4.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Overall the weather conditions consisted of showers and sunny spells. Good archaeological visibility was present throughout the evaluation. Neither archaeological features nor unstratified artefacts were found in any of the trenches. However it was noted that the overburden consisted of modern madeground directly above the natural subsoil geology of sand and gravels with a depth of 0.1m toward the south increasing up to 0.9 m in the north suggesting that the topsoil had recently been disturbed and has previously been striped and redeposited (Plates 1-4).



*Plate 1: North facing section of Trench 5 showing depth of made ground*



*Plate 2: West facing section of Trench 9 showing depth of made ground*



*Plate 3: General view of Trench 3 from the west*





*Plate 4: General view of Trench 7 from south*

## **5 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 Neither significant features nor unstratified artefacts were encountered by the evaluation. The significant balance of probability is that the remainder of Plot 5 is archaeologically sterile.

## **6 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by CECAS on behalf of Edinburgh City Council Council.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

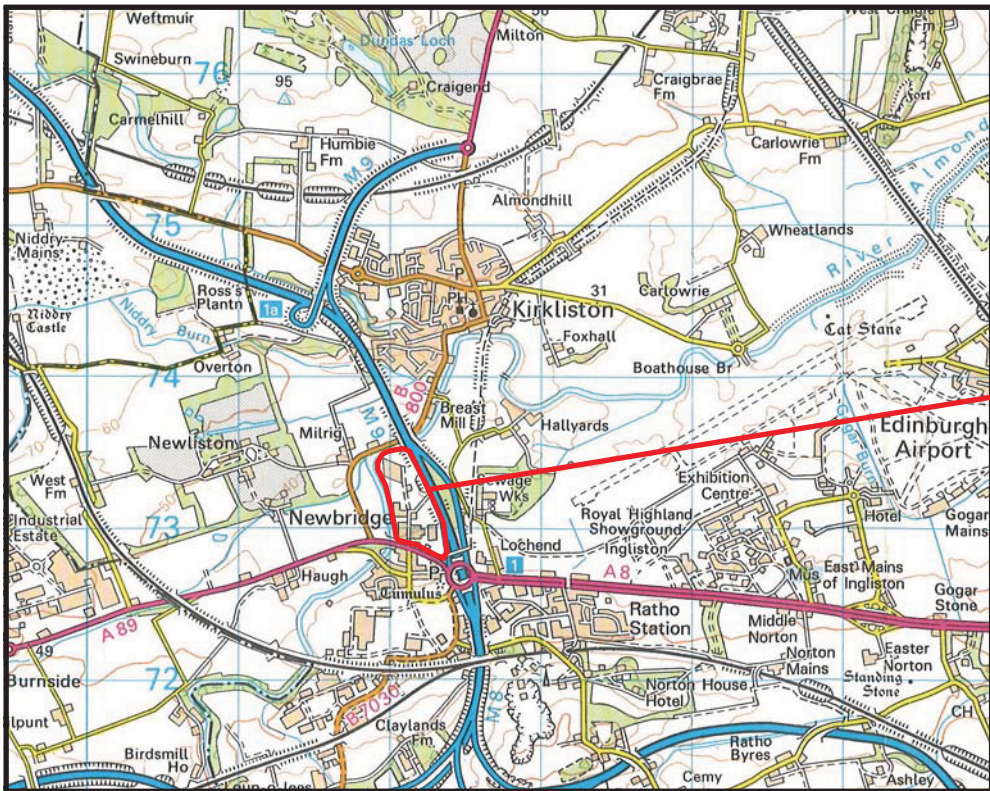
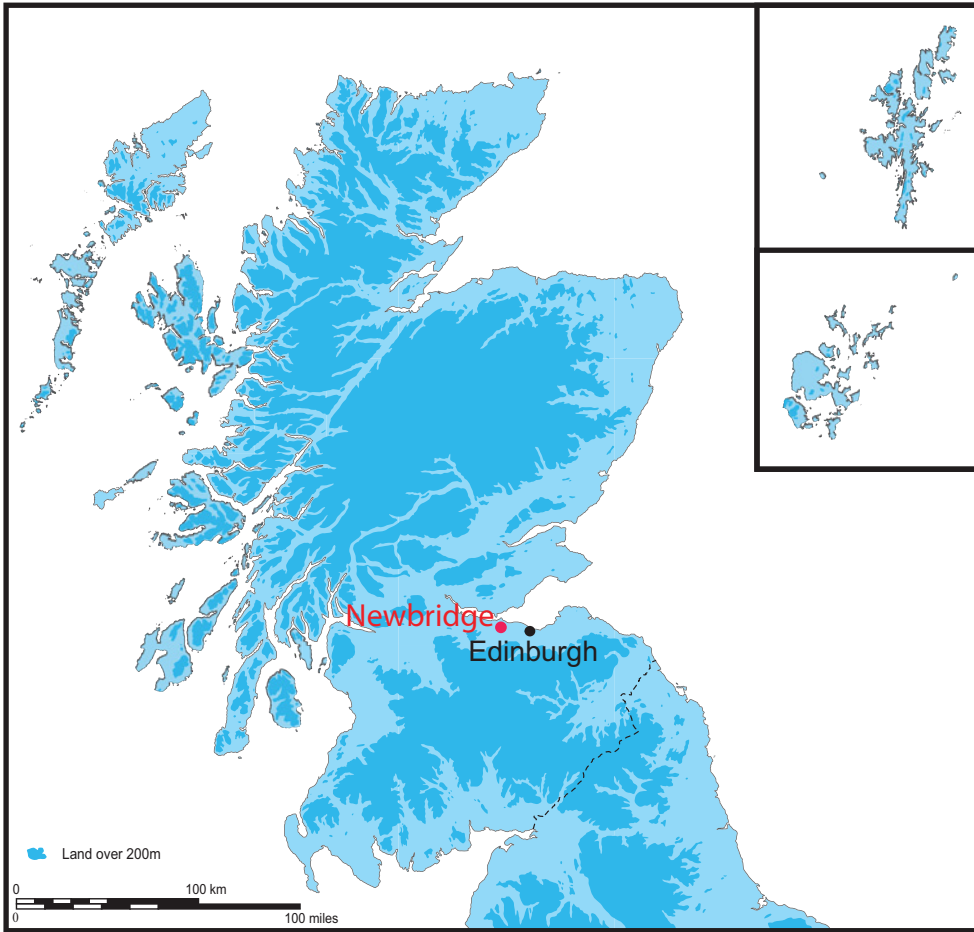
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Figure 1: Location of the site at Newbridge, Plot 5

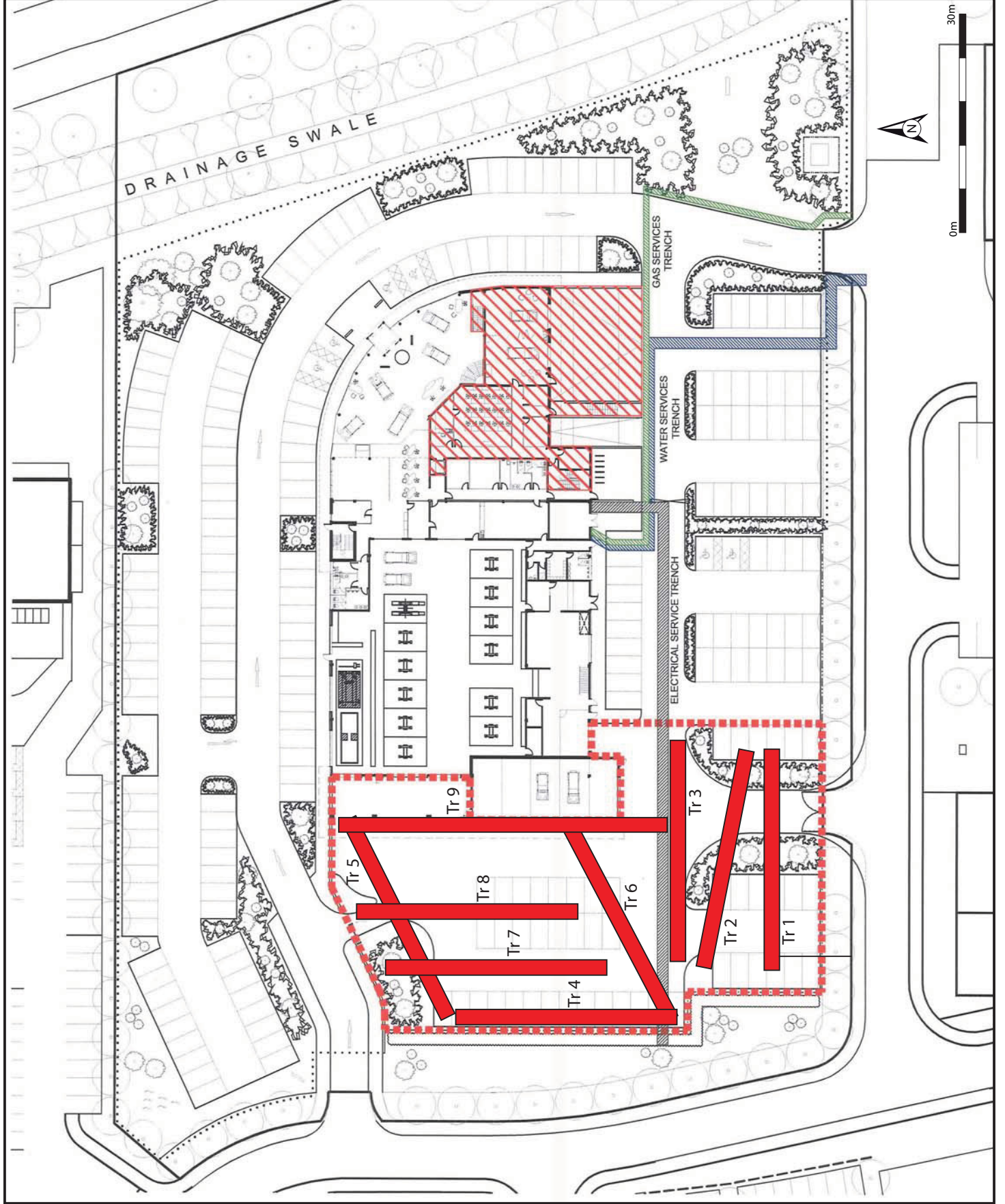


Figure 2: Evaluation trench locations at Newbridge, Plot 5

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# **Plot 5 Newbridge: Evaluation Data Structure Report**

## **Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

### Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.2 m at W; 0.5 m at E
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.2 m at W; 0.5 m at E
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	sand and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	WNW-ESE
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.1 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.2 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sand and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.1 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.1 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sand and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	N-S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.1 m at S; 0.5 m at N
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.1 m at S; 0.5 m at N
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.2 m at NE; 0.9 m at 15 m from NE; 0.75 m at SW
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.2 m at NE; 0.9 m at 15 m from NE; 0.75 m at SW
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None

*Subsoil* Sand and gravels  
*Finds* None

**Trench 6**

*Dimensions* 30 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 60 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* NE/SW  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.15 m at SW; 0.3 m at NE  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.15 m at SW; 0.3 m at NE  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Sand and gravels  
*Finds* None

**Trench 7**

*Dimensions* 30 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 60m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* N-S  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.4 m at S; 0.5 m at 15 m from S; 0.6 m at 25 m from S; 0.1 m at 30m from S  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.4 m at S; 0.5 m at 15 m from S; 0.6 m at 25 m from S; 0.1 m at 30m from S  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Sand and gravels  
*Finds* None

**Trench 8**

*Dimensions* 30 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 60 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* N-S  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.1 m at S; 0.3 m at 15 m from south to end of trench  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.1 m at S; 0.3 m at 15 m from south to end of trench  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Sandy clay  
*Finds* None

**Trench 9**

*Dimensions* 45 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 90m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* N-S  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.3 m at N; 0.5 m at 25 m from N; 0.2 m at S  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.3 m at N; 0.5 m at 25 m from N; 0.2 m at S  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Sand and gravels  
*Finds* None

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

### Digital Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	1	Post Excavation General View	W
3	3	Post Excavation General View	W
4	5	Post Excavation General View	SE
5	7	Post Excavation General View	S
6	5	North-facing section	N
7	9	West-facing section	W
8	9	Post Excavation General View	N

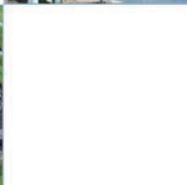
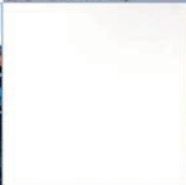
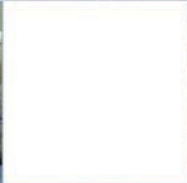
### Black and White Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	1	Post Excavation General View	W
3	3	Post Excavation General View	W
4	5	Post Excavation General View	SE
5	7	Post Excavation General View	S
6	5	North-facing section	N
7	9	West-facing section	W
8	9	Post Excavation General View	N



**APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Plot 5, Newbridge
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 21889
<b>PARISH:</b>	Kirkliston
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Erlend Hindmarch
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 12283 72934
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2011
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2011
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to the development of a new vehicle showroom and workshop at Plot 5, Newbridge.</p> <p>The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 510 m<sup>2</sup> equating to a 20% sample of the development area.</p> <p>Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	---
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	John Clark Holdings Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@aocarchaeology.com">admin@aocarchaeology.com</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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