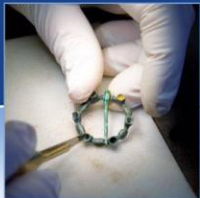


# Sandersdean Bothy Haddington: Monitored Topsoil Strip: Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21379

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-106029

29<sup>th</sup> July 2011





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## Abstract

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This report presents the results of a monitored topsoil strip undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on ground subject to redevelopment at Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington.

The remains of a 19th/20<sup>th</sup> century pit and the foundations of an old boundary wall (possible 18<sup>th</sup> century) were the only features found during these works.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group were commissioned by Coast Craft Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological works prior the construction of a residential building and driveway at Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington, East Lothian. The development lies within the administrative area of the East Lothian Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by the East Lothian Council Archaeological Service (ELCAS). The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principals set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2011) and *Planning Advice Note 42* (SOEnD 1994) and in accord with East Lothian 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 that may be revealed during the removal of the topsoil. A Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009a) outlining the entire programme of archaeological works was agreed with ELCAS in advance of the evaluation being undertaken.

## 1.2 Location

1.2.1 The proposed development area is centred on NGR NT 53444 71721 (Figure 1) in a rural location to the south of Haddington in East Lothian. At present the bothy is in a derelict state and the ground under development is over grown and contains a small orchard.

## 1.3 Archaeological and Historical background

1.3.1 Sandersdean Bothy was one of a former larger row (possibly two buildings of 18<sup>th</sup> century cottages to the south of Haddington) which now survives as one out-building. An enclosure associated with this building has been identified as cropmarks; being roughly circular measuring 15 m in diameter within a 4 m wide ditch.

1.3.2 Prior to the topsoil strip a *standing building assessment* was carried out on the bothy itself together with a programme of archive research comprising a simple map regression (AOC 2009b). It concludes that the bothy was built between sometime 1802 and 1820. The report suggested that the farm began life during the 18<sup>th</sup> century with a single farmhouse and once the farm had become established by the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was then that the bothy was built.

# 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

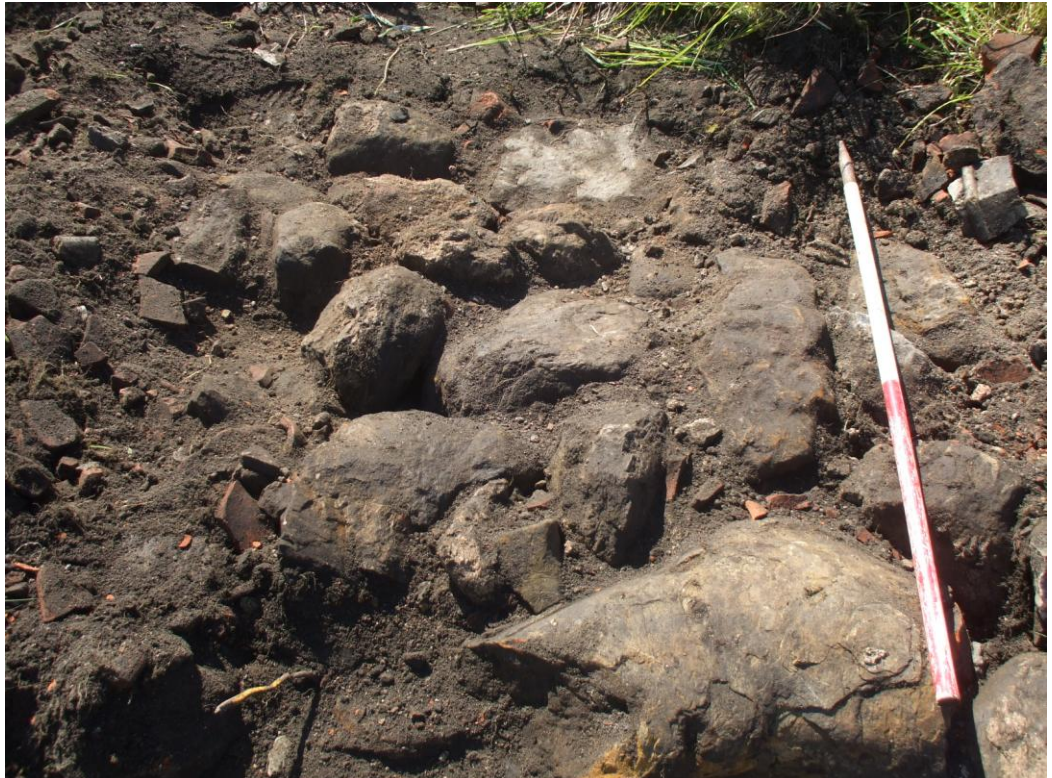
- 3.1 The topsoil was removed using a tracked mechanical excavator (360) equipped with a 2 m wide toothless ditching bucket. The area affected by the development amounted to approximately 500 m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 2). Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist. All works were undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures.

### 3 RESULTS

- 4.1 The various data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices
- i) Appendix 1 contains the context register
  - ii) Appendix 2 contains the photographic register
  - iii) Appendix 3 contains the drawing register
  - iv) Appendix 4 reproduces the *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* entry
- 4.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2001 in bright clear weather conditions making for good archaeological visibility throughout. The topsoil (01) comprised moderately compact dark grey/black silt, roughly 0.3 - 0.4 m deep, with few inclusions but from which 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery was observed but not retained. It overlay a natural subsoil of compact mid brown clay containing frequent small angular stones.
- 4.3 A single circular pit (03) was found below the topsoil cutting the underlying clay. It had a diameter of 1.1 m and reached a depth of 0.5 m. The sides of the pit were vertical with a rounded break of slope at the bottom leading to a flat base. Three fills were identified within the pit. The bottom fill (06) was comprised of a loose deposit of medium-sized angular stones and contained many voids with a depth of 0.4 m. This was overlain by a compact layer of brown clay (05) approximately 0.12 m deep. The uppermost fill (04) was similar to the topsoil being a dark grey/black silt and it was from this deposit that 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery was noted (Figures 2 and 3; Plate 1).
- 4.4 The remains of an old boundary wall foundation (07) were visible along the western edge of the main area of excavation and were again found during the removal of topsoil for a new drive/road toward the northern end of the site. The remains were constructed from a mix of large rounded and angular stones, laid in an irregular fashion forming the base of a wall aligned north to south. The remains had a width of 1.4 m and were laid directly on to the natural subsoil. No construction cut was noted for these remains for which the projected length would be over 39 m (Figure 2; Plate 2).



*Plate 1: Pit (03) south-facing section*



*Plate 2: Wall (07)*



## 5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Pit (03) is clearly of 19<sup>th</sup> /20<sup>th</sup> century date and of little archaeological significance. Although no dating evidence was found in the field that reveals the construction of wall (07), it is possible that it can be traced on early maps. William Forrest's map of 1802 (Plate 3) clearly defines a drive leading into Sandersdean from the north and it is possible that the wall marked the eastern edge of this drive. The final map which shows this possible wall is Greenwood and Fowlers map of 1844 (Plate 4).
- 5.2 No other features, deposits or unstratified residual artefacts were found that may relate to the nearby enclosure cropmark.
- 5.3 No other features, deposits or unstratified residual artefacts were found that may relate to any other form of archaeologically significant find.



Plate 3: Extract from William Forrest's Map of Haddingtonshire 1802

## 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by ELCAS on behalf of East Lothian Council.



Plate 4: Extract from Greenwood and Fowler Map of county of Haddington 1844

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AOC 2009a *Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington, Archaeological Watching Brief (on topsoil strip) and Standing Building Appraisal: Written Scheme of Investigation (5<sup>th</sup> June 2009)*. Unpublished AOC Method Statement.

AOC 2009b *Sandersdean Bothy: Standing Building Assessment Report (30<sup>th</sup> June 2009)*. Unpublished AOC Archive Report.

SOEnD 1994 *Planning advice Note 4:; Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled monument Procedure. January 1994*. The Scottish Office Environment Department.

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy* (February 2010).

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**Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington:  
Monitored Topsoil Strip  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**

**APPENDIX 1: Context register**

Context	Description	Interpretation	Stratigraphic relationships		Dimensions as exposed (m)		
			Above	Below	Length	Width	Depth
01	Moderately compact dark grey/black silt. No inclusions. Covers whole site. Contains 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> century ceramics (not retained)	Topsoil	06,07				0.3
02	Compact brown silty clay. Frequent small angular stones. Covers whole site.	Natural Subsoil	03				
03	Circular cut with vertical sides and flat base. Filled by (04), (05), and (06). Cuts (02).	Cut of pit	02	06	1.1		0.5
04	Moderately compact dark grey/black silt. No inclusions. 19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery noted but not retained.	Upper fill of pit (03)	04	01			0.12
05	Moderately compact brown clay. No inclusions or finds.	Middle fill of pit (03)	05	04			0.12
06	Deposit of loose medium to large angular stones. Many voids.	Bottom fill of pit (03)	03	05			0.3
07	Linear alignment of large and angular stones. Stone individually measure up to 0.6 m x 0.4 m x 0.2 m and are unworked. Single course of stones laid in no particular pattern directly onto the natural subsoil (02) with no bonding material. Feature aligned north to south. No construction cut noted	Boundary wall	01	02	>39.0	1.4	0.2

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic record

### Digital Film 1

Frame	Feature	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	03	South facing section of pit	S
3	03	South facing section of pit	S
4		Working shot	N
5	07	Shot of wall section	E

### Black and White Film 1

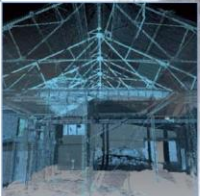
Frame	Feature	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	03	South facing section of pit	S
3	03	South facing section of pit	S
4		Working shot	N
5	07	Shot of wall section	E

## APPENDIX 3: Drawing reister

No.	Description	Scale
1	Plan of stripped area	1:100
2	South-facing section of pit (03)	1:10

**APPENDIX 4: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	East Lothian Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington: Monitored Topsoil Strip
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 21379
<b>PARISH:</b>	Haddington
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Erlend Hindmarch
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Monitored topsoil strip
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Modern pit and 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> century wall
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 53444 71721
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	Sproat, D
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>A monitored topsoil strip was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on ground subject to redevelopment at Sandersdean Bothy, Haddington, East Lothian.</p> <p>A single pit of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century date and the remains of a boundary wall (possible 18<sup>th</sup> century) to the Sandersdean Farm were located during the monitoring works.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	---
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Coast Craft Ltd.
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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