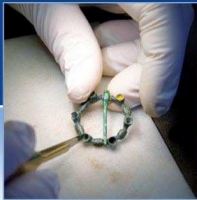


Gilsland, North Berwick, East Lothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

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AOC Project 22221

29th January 2013



Gilsland, North Berwick, East Lothian

Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: CALA Management Ltd,
Cairnlee House,
Callendar Business Park,
Callendar Road,
Falkirk
FK1 1XE

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 5428 8441

AOC Project No: 22221

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Date of Fieldwork: 22nd January 2013 - 23rd January 2013

Date of Report: 29th January 2013

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

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken prior to the construction of a residential development at Gilsland, North Berwick East Lothian (Planning Application No. 12/00339), (NGR: NT 5428 8441).

It was initially proposed that the site be subject to a 5% evaluation, equating to a minimum of 1935 m² (3.87 ha). However, the existence of numerous live services, established trees/shrubs screens and roadways across the site has meant that the area available for evaluation was reduced to 1.4 ha. An 8% sample of this smaller area equated to a minimum of 1130 m² of trenching, equivalent to 565 linear metres with a machine bucket of 2.0 m.

The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by CALA Management Ltd (trading as CALA Homes (East) Ltd) to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the construction of a residential development, at Gilsland, North Berwick, East Lothian (Planning Application No. 12/00339), (NGR: NT5428 8441). The evaluation was undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, East Lothian Council (ELC) who are advised on archaeological matters by Mr. Andrew Robertson, Archaeology Officer, of East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy (2010) & Planning and Archaeology 2/2011 (2011)*.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material.

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area comprises an existing caravan park on the south-west outskirts of North Berwick, East Lothian (NGR: NT 5428 8441, Figure 1). The development is bounded by an existing residential development to the east, Grange Road to the south and agricultural land to the west (see Figure 1).
- 1.2.2 The site area is relatively flat and is 40.0 m OD in height.

1.3 Development background

- 1.3.1 The proposed development area comprises 3.87 ha of land, currently occupied by the Gilsland Caravan Park (Figure 1). It was initially proposed that the site be subject to a 5% evaluation, equating to a minimum of 1935 m² (3.87 ha). However, the existence of numerous live services, established trees/shrubs screens and roadways across the site has meant that the area available for evaluation was reduced to 1.4 ha. An 8% sample of this smaller area equated to a minimum of 565 linear metres (1130 m²) of trenching.

1.4 Archaeological background

- 1.4.1 There are neither known archaeological features nor find-spots recorded within the proposed development and no previous archaeological investigations have taken place. However, previous archaeological works to the north of the site (NMRS: NT58SW 156; NGR: NT 5455 8495) have identified evidence for medieval activity including walls, linear ditches and a culvert (Suddaby 2007). The archaeological remains identified include structural and artefactual remains dating in the main to the latter part of the medieval period, contemporary with the floruit of the Priory.

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 through evaluation trenching;
- ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of archaeological mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, should significant archaeological remains be encountered that cannot be preserved *in situ*.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The evaluation comprised machine trenching of an 8% sample of the available land excluding areas containing live services. It was initially proposed that the site be subject to a 5% evaluation, equating to a minimum of 1935 m² (3.87 ha). However, the existence of numerous live services, established trees/shrubs screens and roadways across the site has meant that the area available for evaluation was reduced to 1.4 ha. An 8% sample of this smaller area equated to a minimum of 1130 m² equivalent to 565 linear metres with a machine bucket of 2.0 m.
- 3.2 As mentioned evaluation trenches were positioned in order to avoid the numerous existing services associated with the Caravan Park and to comply with Healthy and Safety.
- 3.3 The evaluation was undertaken by a tracked 360 excavator equipped with a 2.0 m wide bladed ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures, and as per the methodology within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2013). The trenches were then immediately backfilled.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 21st January 2013 – 22nd January 2013. Overall weather conditions were poor, however archaeological visibility remained good.
- 4.2 The excavated trenches were sterile of significant archaeology. A medium brown clay loam top-soil [001] directly overlay a sub-soil [002] of orange clay. Occasional tile and rubble drains were observed across the site. Numerous sherds of modern white ceramics were observed within the top-soil. Drainage was fairly poor within many of the trenches.

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified during the evaluation. No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by East Lothian Archaeology Service (ELCAS) on behalf of East Lothian Council.



Plate 1 Trench 1 post-excavation from north-east

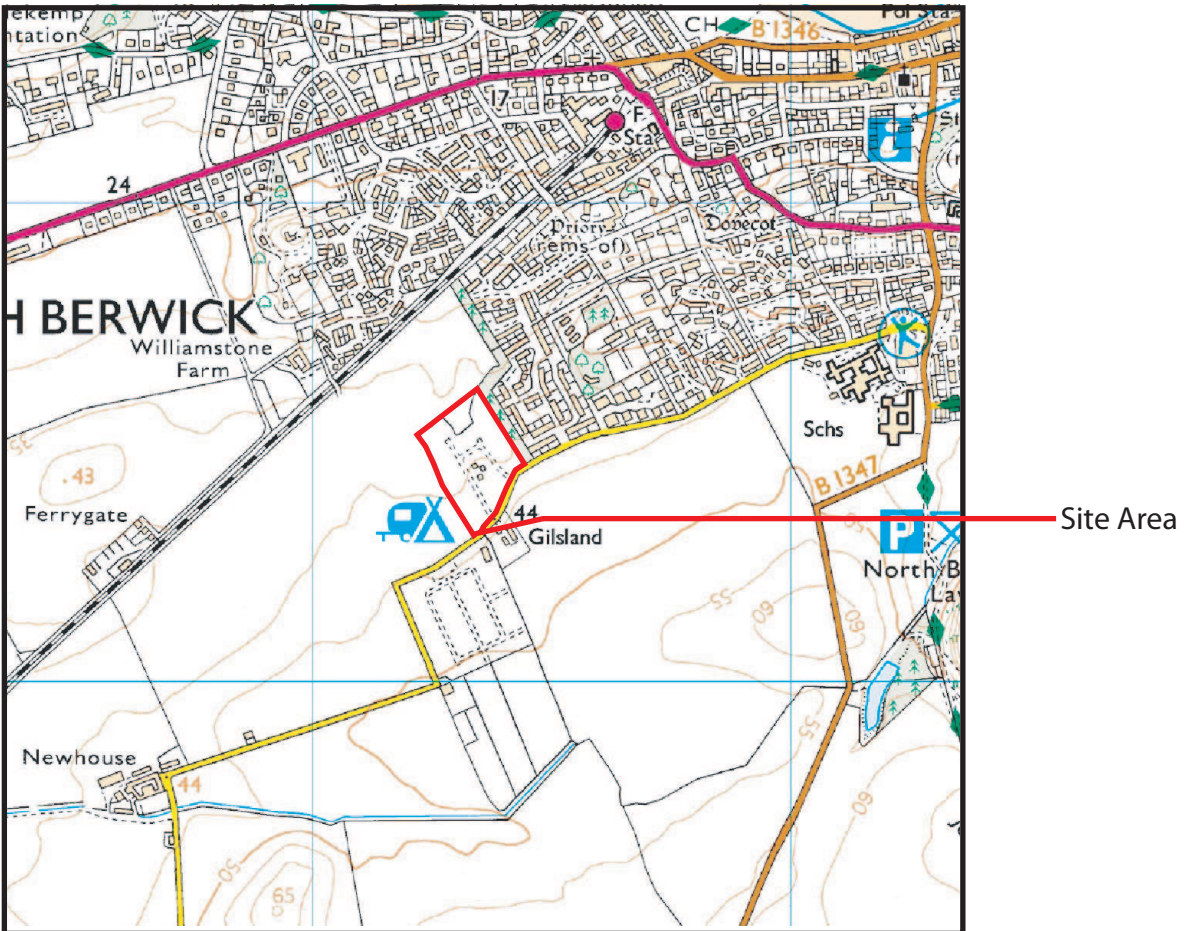
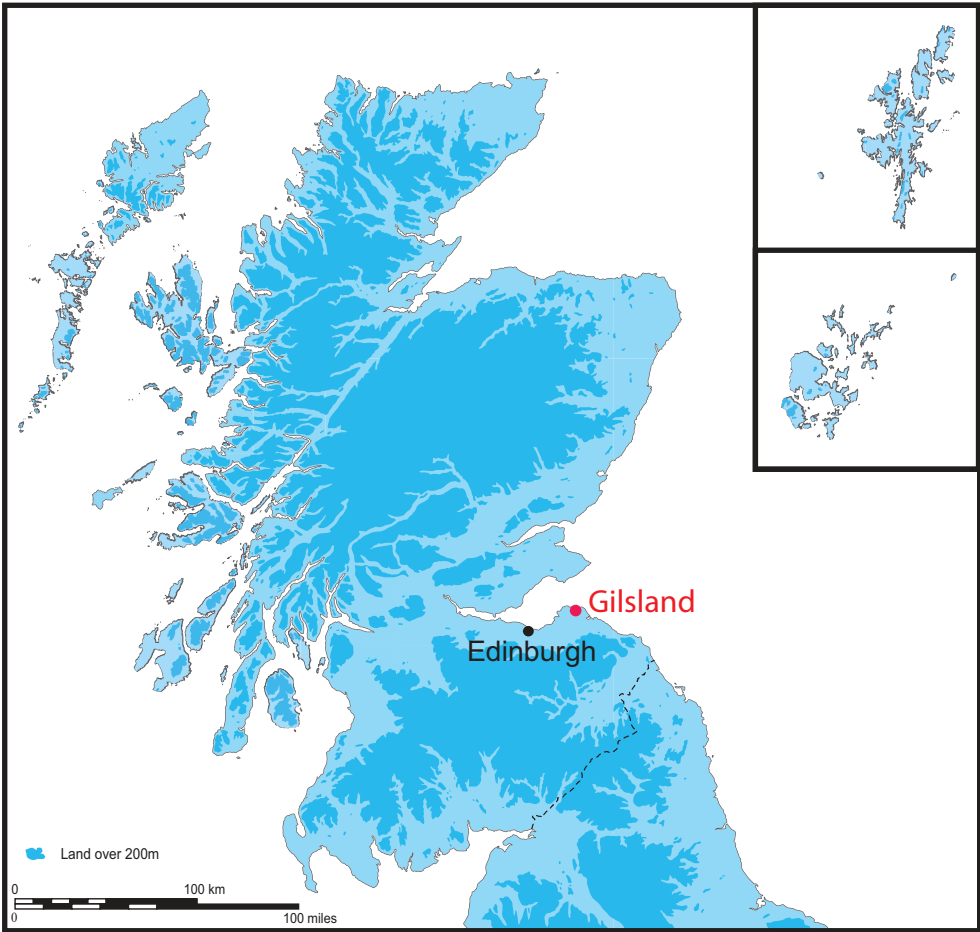
6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*, February 2010.

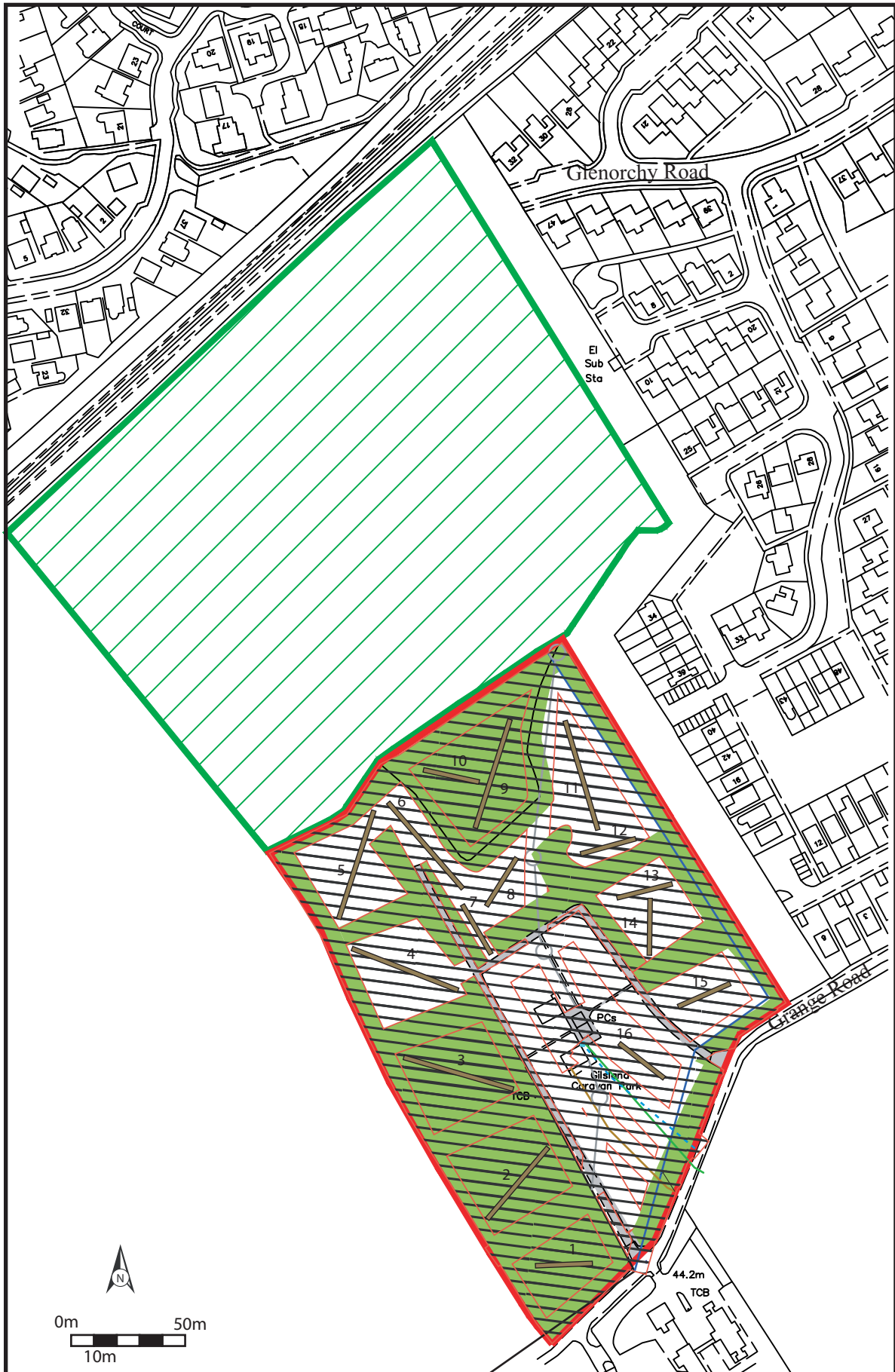
Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*.

Suddaby, I 2007 'Old Abbey Road, North Berwick, East Lothian (North Berwick parish), post-excavation archive report', *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol.8.



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Figure 1: Location of the site at Gilsland



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- Site Boundary
- Buffer zone
- Trial Trench

Figure 2: Evaluation trench layout, Gilsland

Gilsland, North Berwick, West Lothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 – 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Tile drain at 5.0 m east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 m -40.0 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Clay and rubble drains at 5.0 m intervals east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Clay and rubble drains at 5.0 m intervals east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NNW-SSE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Unmarked service at 49.0 m
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NNW-SSE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Rubble and clay drains at 5.0 m intervals north to south
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 10

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NW-SE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 11

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NNW-SSE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 12

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	W-E
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 13

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 14

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 15

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

Trench 16

<i>Dimensions</i>	30.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	60.0 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NW-SE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Un-marked service at 5.0 m
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sandy boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed

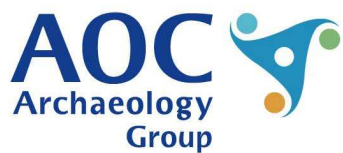
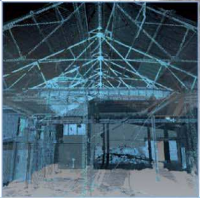
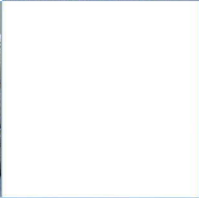
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration	-
2	Trench 1 post-excavation	NE
3	Trench 2 post-excavation	NW
4	Trench 3 post-excavation	NW
5	Trench 4 post-excavation	SE
6	Trench 5 post-excavation	NE
7	Trench 6 post-excavation	N
8	Trench 7 post-excavation	N
9	Trench 9 post-excavation	NE
10	Trench 10 post-excavation	E
11	Trench 11 post-excavation	N
12	Trench 12 post-excavation	E
13	Trench 13 post-excavation	E
14	Trench 14 post-excavation	E
15	Trench 15 post-excavation	S

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Gilsland, North Berwick, East Lothian
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22221
PARISH:	North Berwick
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rob Engl
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 5428 8441
START DATE (this season)	21 st January 2013
END DATE (this season)	22 st January 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation prior to the construction of a residential development at Gilsland, North Berwick East Lothian (Planning Application No. 12/00339), (NGR: NT 5428 8441).</p> <p>It was initially proposed that the site be subject to a 5% evaluation, equating to a minimum of 1935 m² (3.87 ha). However, the existence of numerous live services, established trees/shrubs screens and roadways across the site has meant that the area available for evaluation was reduced to 1.4 ha. An 8% sample of this smaller area equated to a minimum of 1130 m² of trenching, equivalent to 565 linear metres with a machine bucket of 2.0 m.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CALA Homes (East) Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Rob.Engl@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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