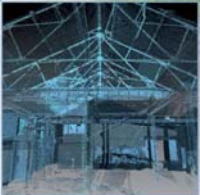


# Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension, Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 20584

Oasis No. aocarcha1-146013

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013



# Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension, Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>Tarmac Ltd.</b> Jericho Bridge Quarry Locharbriggs Dumfries DG1 1QS
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NX 992 822</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>20584</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> March 2013</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013</b>

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

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**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013

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**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** Draft

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013

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## Contents

	Page
List of Illustrations .....	3
List of Plates .....	3
List of Appendices .....	3
Abstract.....	4
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1 Background .....	5
1.2 Location .....	5
1.3 Archaeological Background .....	5
<b>2 OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3 METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4 RESULTS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6 REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>APPENDIX 3: Photographic Record .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>APPENDIX 3: ‘Discovery and Excavation in Scotland’ Report.....</b>	<b>12</b>

## List of Illustrations

- Figure 1 Site location plan  
Figure 2 Trench locations

## List of Plates

- Plate 1 General shot of Trench 5

## List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 Trench Descriptions  
Appendix 2 Photographic Record  
Appendix 3 *'Discovery and Excavation Scotland'* Report

## Abstract

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This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in relation to a proposed quarry extension at Jericho Bridge Quarry, Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway.

The evaluation required an 8% trenching sample of the 1.77 hectare development area. A total of 8 trenches of varying lengths and alignments were excavated totalling 1420 m<sup>2</sup> (total basal dimensions).

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Tarmac Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a proposed quarry extension on land adjacent to the existing Jericho Bridge Quarry, Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway. The evaluation was undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, Dumfries & Galloway Council who are advised on archaeological matters by Ms. Brann. The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2013) approved on behalf of Dumfries & Galloway Council by Ms. Brann and in accordance with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2010) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

## 1.2 Location

1.2.1 The quarry is situated to the north of the town of Locharbriggs, immediately west of the A701 south of Amisfield. The proposed extension (centred on NGR NX 992 822) is a triangular shaped parcel of land within fields to the west and south of Langlands Road, with Holehouse farm a few hundred metres further west. The site slopes from the northern edge to the centre of the site and to the south west as well as sloping from the southern edge to the centre of the site and the north-west. The fields are currently used as agricultural land for pasture.

## 1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed for the area in and around the proposed quarry extension (Toolis and Thompson 2005). The EIA identified no sites of cultural or historical sites within this part of the proposed quarry extension, but revealed a series of monuments relating from the prehistoric period to the modern within close proximity (Toolis and Thompson 2005).

1.3.2 Several prehistoric funerary sites remains are located within a 1 km radius of the overall development site including a number of cists and cairns. There are also isolated findspots of significant artefactual material recorded in the vicinity of the site, such as a stone axe and a flint flake discovered near Amisfield village. Cropmarks to the west of Hazelrig Farm and a short distance to the north of the site appear to form a multivallate enclosure, indicative of later prehistoric settlement. Cropmarks at Townhead and Tinwald may also indicate prehistoric settlement or other activity.

1.3.3 Tinwald Motte, on the edge of the village of Tinwald, appears to date from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Despite being reduced by cultivation there is evidence from aerial photographs for a surrounding ditch around the motte and what may be a palisade to the south-east, defining an oval bailey associated with the motte. Settlement at Tinwald during the medieval period clearly continued though, as a church situated slightly further north of the motte survived until the 18<sup>th</sup> century when the new church was built on its foundations.

1.3.4 The field to the immediate south of the proposed area of an evaluation conducted in 2007 identified four un-dated negative features, comprising two small pits and two possible postholes (AOC 2007). Further evaluation works in 2008 (AOC 2008) uncovered no features of archaeological significance even though there were indistinct linear cropmarks (*NMRS NX98SE 48*) identified on aerial photographs held by RCAHMS.

1.3.5 The identification of a few negative features in the area to the immediate south in 2007 as well as the occurrence of prehistoric and medieval sites within close proximity indicates that there is a possibility of encountering similar sites in the proposed quarry extension area.

## 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 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 comprised machine trenching of an 8% sample of the available development area which equated to 1416 m<sup>2</sup>. The evaluation was undertaken by a 45 tonne tracked excavator with 2 m wide ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon. 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).

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Weather conditions were fair allowing for good archaeological visibility throughout the evaluation. In total, 712 m of trenching was opened varying in alignment and length (Figure 2).
- 4.2 The topsoil throughout the majority of the development area was light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions varying in depth from 0.2m to 0.45m, overlying orange sands and gravels (Plate 1). Where trenches 6 to 8 excavated through a low lying area in the centre of the site, an alluvial deposit of pale grey sandy clay up to 0.5 m thick under a thin clayey topsoil was revealed providing evidence of a possible small pond existing here prior to the quarry.



Plate 1 - General shot of Trench 5

- 4.3 No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered within any of the evaluation trenches.

## 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 From the trenches excavated within the Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension area, it has been demonstrated that the area is archaeologically sterile with no archaeological features or artefacts revealed throughout the evaluation.
- 5.3 No further archaeological works are deemed necessary within the development area. These recommendations will have to be approved by Ms. Brann on behalf of Dumfries & Galloway Council.

## 6 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2007 *Jericho Bridge: Data Structure Report*, Unpublished Client Report

AOC Archaeology 2008 *Jericho Bridge, Area 2b: Data Structure Report*, Unpublished Client Report

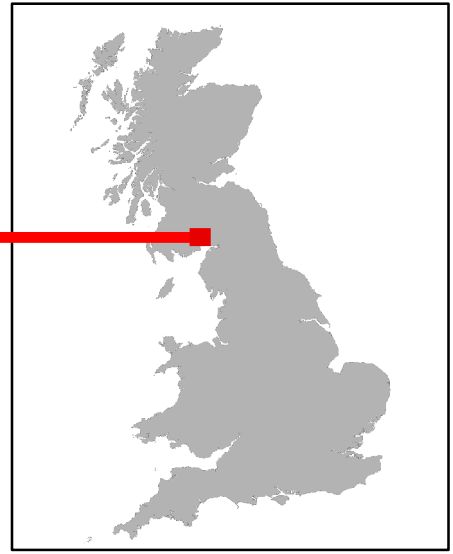
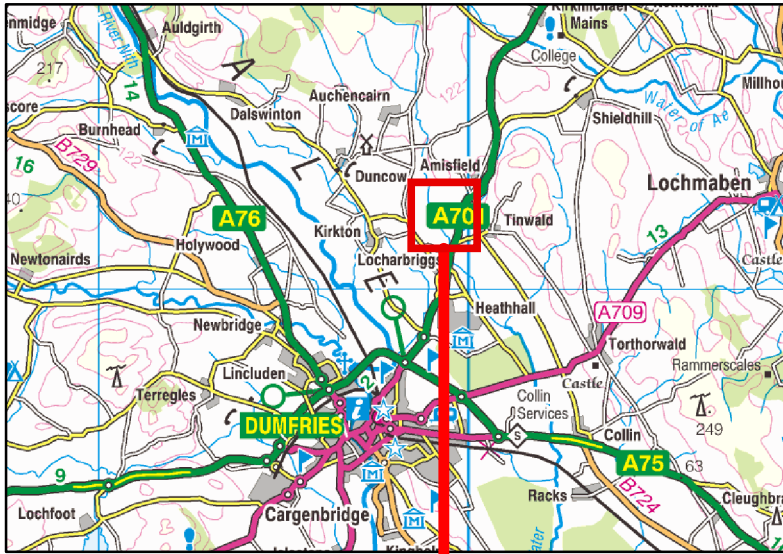
AOC Archaeology 2013, *Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension, Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway: Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation* Unpublished AOC project design

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*, February 2010

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*

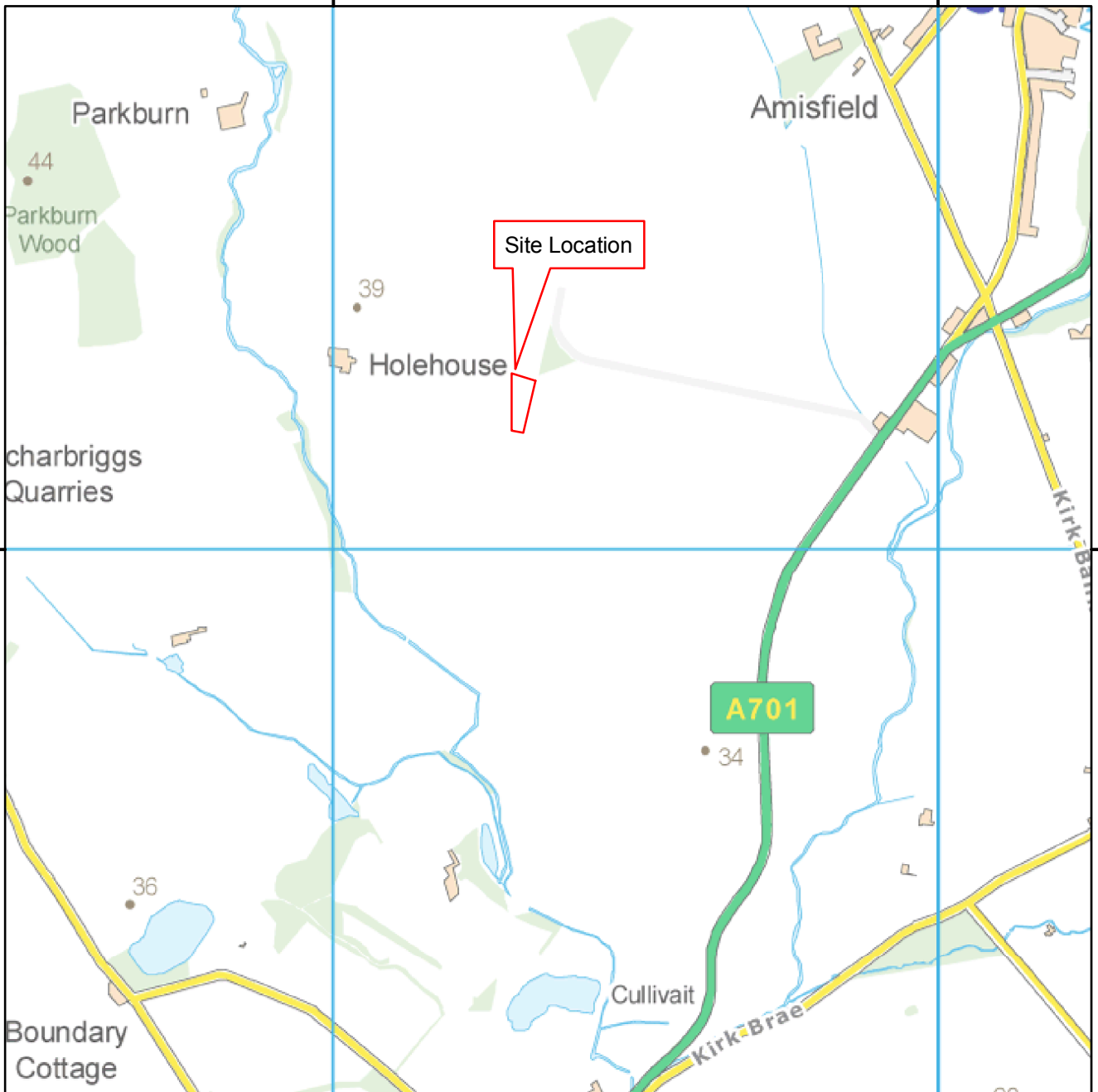
Toolis, R & Thompson, L 2005 *Jericho Bridge: An Environmental Impact Assessment*, Unpublished Client Report.





299000

300000



582000

582000

299000

300000



0 125 250 375 500 Meters

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

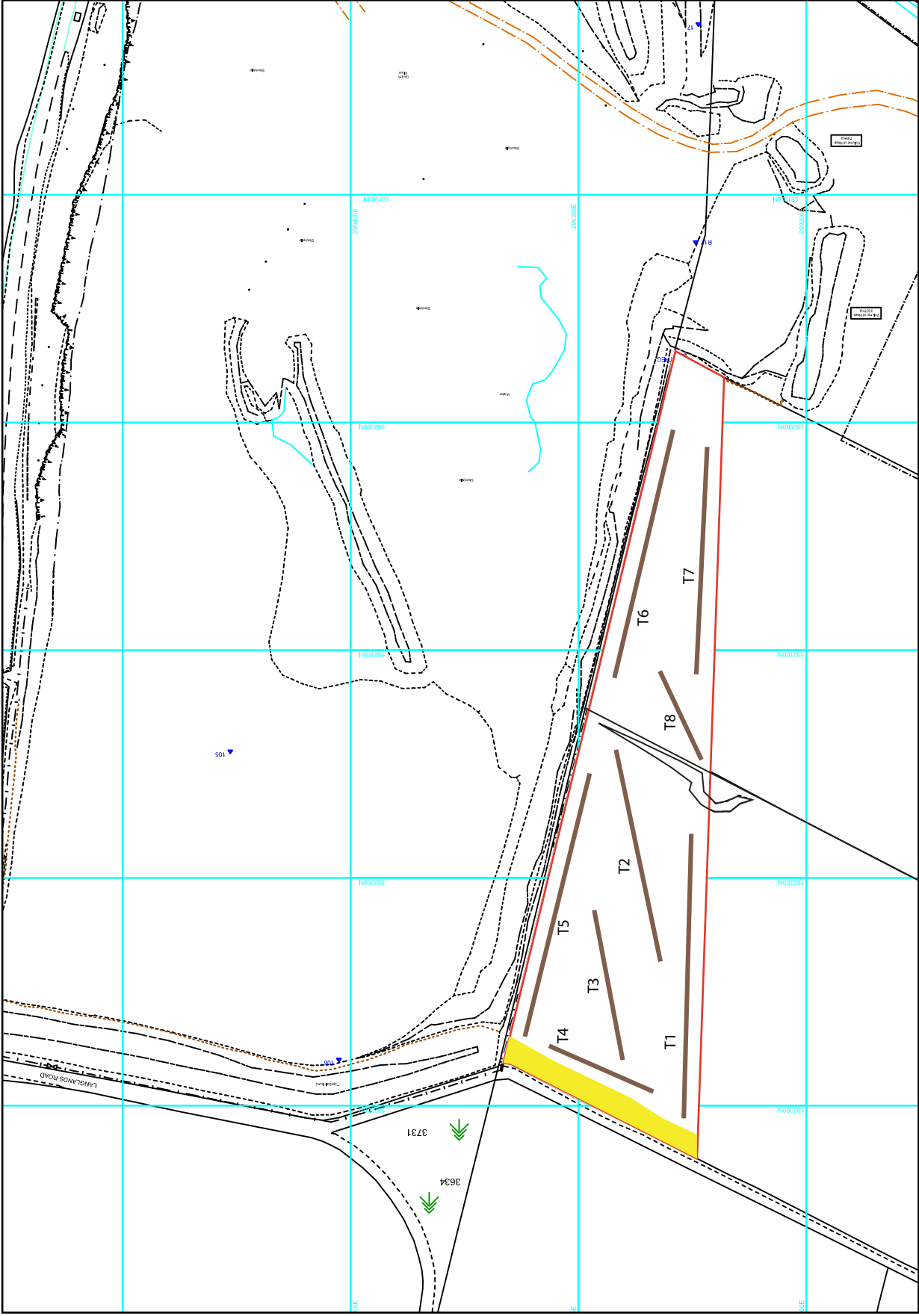


Figure 2: Trench locations



**Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension,  
Locharbriggs, Dumfries & Galloway:  
Archaeological Evaluation  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

### Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	125 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	250 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	N to S
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.3 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.3 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Orange sands and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	95 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	190 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	SE to NW
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.32 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Orange sands and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	67 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	134 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	SE to NW
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.3 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.3 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Orange sands and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	W to E
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.35 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Orange sands and gravels
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	119 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	238 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	NNW to SSE
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.4 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.4 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None

*Natural Subsoil* Orange sands and gravels  
*Finds* None

#### Trench 6

*Dimensions* 112 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 224 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Excavated Orientation* NNW to SSE  
*Soil Make-up* Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.45 m  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.45 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Natural Subsoil* Pale grey sandy clay to 11.8 m then orange sands and gravels  
*Finds* None

#### Trench 7

*Dimensions* 101 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 202 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Excavated Orientation* S to N  
*Soil Make-up* Topsoil – light brown sandy silt with abundant rounded gravel inclusions – max depth 0.32 m;  
Alluvial deposit under T/S from 50.3 m – pale grey and orange sandy clay – 0.5 m  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.6 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* Rubble drain aligned SW-NE at 56.2 m; Ceramic tile field drains aligned SW-NE at 73 m and 84.3 m  
*Natural Subsoil* Orange sands and gravels until 54 m then orange sandy clay and gravel  
*Finds* None

#### Trench 8

*Dimensions* 43 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 86 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Excavated Orientation* NW to SE  
*Soil Make-up* Topsoil – light grey silty clay with thin layer of mossy grass – max depth 0.08 m;  
Alluvial deposit – Pale grey and orange sandy clay – max depth 0.52 m  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.6 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* Ceramic tile field drain aligned NW-SE running up SE edge of trench from 0 m to 15 m;  
Rubble drain aligned N-S at 16 m; 2 ceramic tile field drains aligned N-S at 26.3 m and 39 m.  
*Natural Subsoil* Bands of orange and purple sandy clay and gravels  
*Finds* None

## APPENDIX 3: Photographic Record

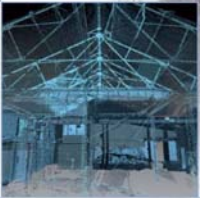
### Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From	Date
1-2	General shots of area to be evaluated	Var	19/3/13
3	Overheads at edge of site	ESE	19/3/13
4	Possible service track (water)	ESE	19/3/13
5	Probable quarry area (on maps)	SE	19/3/13
6	T1 post-ex	N	19/3/13
7	T2 post-ex	SSE	19/3/13

8	T3 post-ex	SSE	19/3/13
9	T4 post-ex	ESE	19/3/13
10	T5 post-ex	NNE	19/3/13
11	General view of T1-T5	S	19/3/13
12	T6 post-ex	SSE	19/3/13
13	T7 section showing alluvial deposits	SW	19/3/13
14	T7 post-ex	N	19/3/13
15	T8 post-ex	SE	19/3/13
16	General view of T6-T8	N	19/3/13

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

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Dumfries & Galloway Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Jericho Bridge Quarry Extension
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 20584
<b>PARISH:</b>	Tinwald
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Kevin Paton
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NX 992 822
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
<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 in relation to a proposed quarry extension at Jericho Bridge Quarry, Locharbriggs, Dumfries &amp; Galloway.</p> <p>The evaluation required an 8% trenching sample of the 1.77 hectare development area. A total of 8 trenches of varying lengths and alignments were excavated totalling 1420 m<sup>2</sup> (total basal dimensions).</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>	Tarmac Ltd.
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	Kevin.paton@aocarchaeology.com
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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