

**Stage 1B (Residential Works),
Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire
Archaeological Evaluation
Data Structure Report**

Oasis Report No. 1-176520

14th April 2014

AOC22471



ARCHAEOLOGY

| HERITAGE

| CONSERVATION

Stage 1B (Residential Works), Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: Elsick Development Company (EDC)
c/o Turnberry Planning Limited
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AOC Project No: 22471

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Summary

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Turnberry Planning Limited on behalf of the Elsick Development Company (EDC) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Stage 1 of the large scale mixed use development at Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire. The development encompasses a large area with the Stage 1 split into two separate phases, Stage 1A (Infrastructure) and Stage 1B (Residential). This report details the evaluation results from the Stage 1B (Residential) works.

In total a 5% evaluation was required totaling some 3,250 m² of evaluation trenches. A total of 2,800 linear metres was achieved. A further 3,200 m² were observed within a monitored top-soil strip associated with the placement of a gas pipe. Thirty-five trenches were opened with only two inter-cutting, stone filled pits, being identified. Two unstratified lithics were recovered including a well made endscraper of Neolithic date. The area had suffered extensive plough scarring with numerous stone drags and visible outcrops of bedrock.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Turnberry Planning Limited on behalf of the Elsick Development Company (EDC) to undertake an archaeological evaluation ahead of a large scale mixed use development at Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire. The proposed development lies within the administrative area of Aberdeenshire Council which are advised on archaeological matters by the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, ACAS. A programme of archaeological works had been specified by ACAS on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2010) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning And Archaeology* (2011) in order to record the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the development area.

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 outlining the entire programme of archaeological works was agreed with Aberdeenshire Council in advance of the evaluation being undertaken (AOC Archaeology 2013a). In August 2013 the Stage 1A (Infrastructure Works) Evaluation was undertaken (AOC Archaeology 2013b). The works undertaken and reported on within this report are on the Stage 1B (Residential Works).

1.2 Development Proposal

1.2.1 The EDC have gained 'Permission in Principle' from Aberdeenshire Council for up to 4,045 units with associated retail, commercial and community development (reference APP/2011/3100) and also Full Permission for 'Phase 1a' which comprises 802 residential units and associated infrastructure including main roads and SUDS basin (reference APP/2011/3103).

1.2.2 Phase 1a permission will be brought forwards in development 'stages'. Stage 1 comprises the first 255 units and associated infrastructure. Stage 1 will be further subdivided into the 'Infrastructure Works' (Stage 1A), which were completed in Autumn 2013 (AOC Archaeology 2013b), and 'Residential Works' (Stage 1B).

1.3 Site Location

1.3.1 The development area occupies mostly agricultural land located to the immediate west of the A90, opposite Newtonhill (Figure 1). The overall development is focused around Elsick House and the Stage 1 works are located within the south-east corner, centred on NGR NO 89498 93508 (centre). It is focused around the farms of Cairnhall, Nether Cairnhall and Windyledge.

1.4 Site & Archaeological background

1.4.1 The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) lists only one site that is within the boundaries of the Phase 1a Permission. Upper Cairnhill Cairn, (NMRS No.NO89SE 8) is the site of a large stone cairn recorded in the 1864 Name Book as the '...base of a cairn (which) can be traced on the ground and a large quantity of stones remains...'. Unfortunately nothing now remains and the area of the cairn's location is now under cultivation.

1.4.2 The local Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) list a further two sites within the Stage 1 development area. Firstly there is the old Aberdeen to Edinburgh road (SMR No: NO99SW0007) which dates from 1684 and runs along the eastern edge of the Stage 1 area. It is still in active use as a road. Secondly, there is Auchnahar Farmstead (SMR No: NO99SW0078) which is depicted on the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps as two buildings neither of which now exist.

- 1.4.3 A final site is Nether Cairnhill Farmstead which was identified by an EIA. This site is a farmstead which is depicted on the 1st Edition map and elements of this structure are believed to be present within existing farm of Nether Cairnhill.
- 1.4.4 In the larger environment around the development area (some 250m) there are a further three possible sites, all farms, including Windyedge Farm (NMRS No. NO89SE 61), Wester Cairnhill Farm (SMR No. NO89SE0077) and Rockhead Farm, all on First Edition Ordnance Survey map. There is also a single site of a possible archaeological monument in the form a standing stone at Cairnhill (SMR No. NO89SE0085). The First Edition map shows a standing stone but no trace now exists.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area;
 - 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 *Written Scheme of Investigation* proposed the excavation of trenches equating to a 5% sample of the development area thus requiring the excavation of trenching up to 3,300 linear metres (AOC Archaeology 2013a). A further 3% contingency was available should the initial 5% evaluation uncover significant archaeological remains.
- 3.2 As part of the ongoing infrastructure works being carried out concurrently with the evaluation, a way-leave for a gas main was to be excavated (Figure 2). This measured 150.0 m by 20.0 m and incorporated Trenches 7 and 35. It was decided to allow this to be top-soil stripped under archaeological supervision. The evaluation area was curtailed due to boundary changes and spoils heaps, relating to the infrastructure works.
- 3.3 In total the area evaluated through trial trenching totalled 2,800 m² with a further 3,200 m² provided by the monitored top-soil strip. This was over the 5% figure specified within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC Archaeology 2013a).
- 3.4 All trenches were excavated with a 17 tonne excavator using a 2.0m wide ditching bucket. The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil/overburden to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits. The evaluation trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2013a).

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The various detailed data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices:
- Appendix 1 trench summaries;
 - Appendix 2 context register;
 - Appendix 3 finds register
 - Appendix 4 photographic register
 - Appendix 5 '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' (DES) entry.
- 4.2 Figure 2 identifies the position and orientations of all excavated trenches and areas of monitored top-soil stripping. The works were conducted between 31st March and 3rd April 2014. The weather conditions during the evaluation were very favourable with sunshine prevalent and only a few rain short showers. Overall archaeological visibility was good.
- 4.3 The site was covered by agricultural topsoil varying in depth from 0.20 m to 0.50 m. The natural geology was predominantly orangish-brown mottled fine-medium sandy clay subsoil with occasional patches of gravel and clay. The thin topsoil meant that in many trenches there was evidence of plough scarring, both in a north/south and east/west orientation. There were also areas where the natural bedrock was close to the surface and exposed by the evaluation trenching. The majority of the trenches within the northern up-slope area of the site contained bedrock outcrops of granite.
- 4.4 Land drains were present in the southern part of the development area. Two drain types were encountered - the narrow cut with a ceramic drain and the larger stone filled 'rubble' drains.



Plate 1: Post-excitation view of Trench 21



Plate 2: View of expanded Trench 7 under monitored top-soil strip

- 4.5 Two inter-cutting sub-circular pit features [2601] and [2603] were found in Trench 26 (Plate). The larger pit [2601] measured 0.70m by 0.50m and cut the smaller pit [2603] to the north-west. In profile the pit was u-shaped and well-defined with a maximum depth of 0.23m. The single fill [2602] consisted of a dark brown medium sandy matrix with some charcoal flecking and numerous sub-angular and sub-rounded stones which accounted for 30% of the fill. No small finds were noted.



Plate 3: View of pits [2601] and [2603], south-west facing section, located in Trench 26

- 4.6 The smaller of the two pits [2603] measured 0.60m by 0.30m with a depth of 0.13m. The pit was identical in profile to [2601] and had an identical fill (2604).

- 4.7 Two finds were recorded during the evaluation. Both finds were found within the topsoil and are as such unstratified. Both are flint, one a fresh flint chunk and the other a large end-scraper of probable Neolithic date.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The pits, though undeniably archaeological in nature, are difficult to interpret. As with the similar feature recorded during the infrastructure phase of the evaluation (AOC Archaeology 2013b), they are at present undated. Stony charcoal rich pits are a regular feature of Neolithic activity within the north-east of Scotland. Together with the Neolithic scraper and other unstratified lithics retrieved during the evaluations the pits present an ephemeral body of evidence for early prehistoric activity within the immediate locale. Given the numerous plough-marks and shallow top-soil recorded during the evaluation it is likely that other features have probably been removed by modern farming practices
- 5.2 The recovery of only two unstratified lithics suggest more background activity than the presence of a significant site.
- 5.3 A combination of evaluation and monitored top-soil stripping was able to examine a significant and representative sample of the site. The significant balance of probability is that the development area is now archaeologically sterile.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. The recommendation will require confirmation by ACAS on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council.

7 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2013a *Stage 1, Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire: Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. AOC Archaeology Project Design.

AOC Archaeology 2013b *Stage 1A (Infrastructure Works), Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report*. AOC Archaeology Project Design.

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

Scottish Government 2011 *PAN 2/2011 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology*.

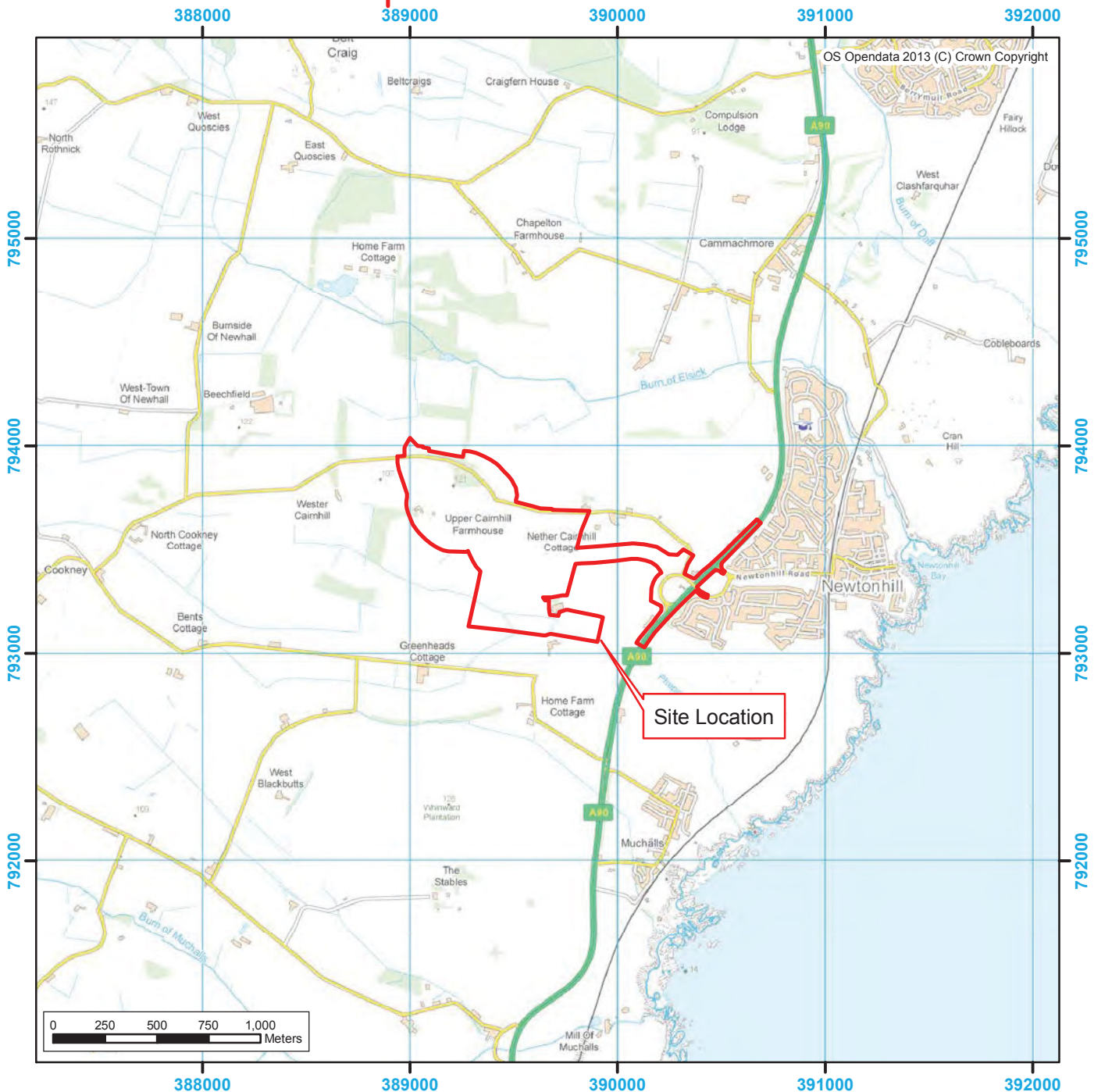
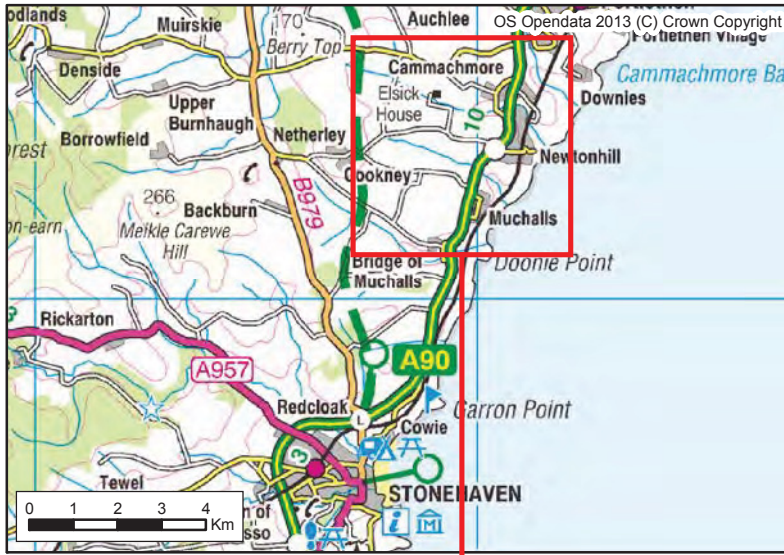


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

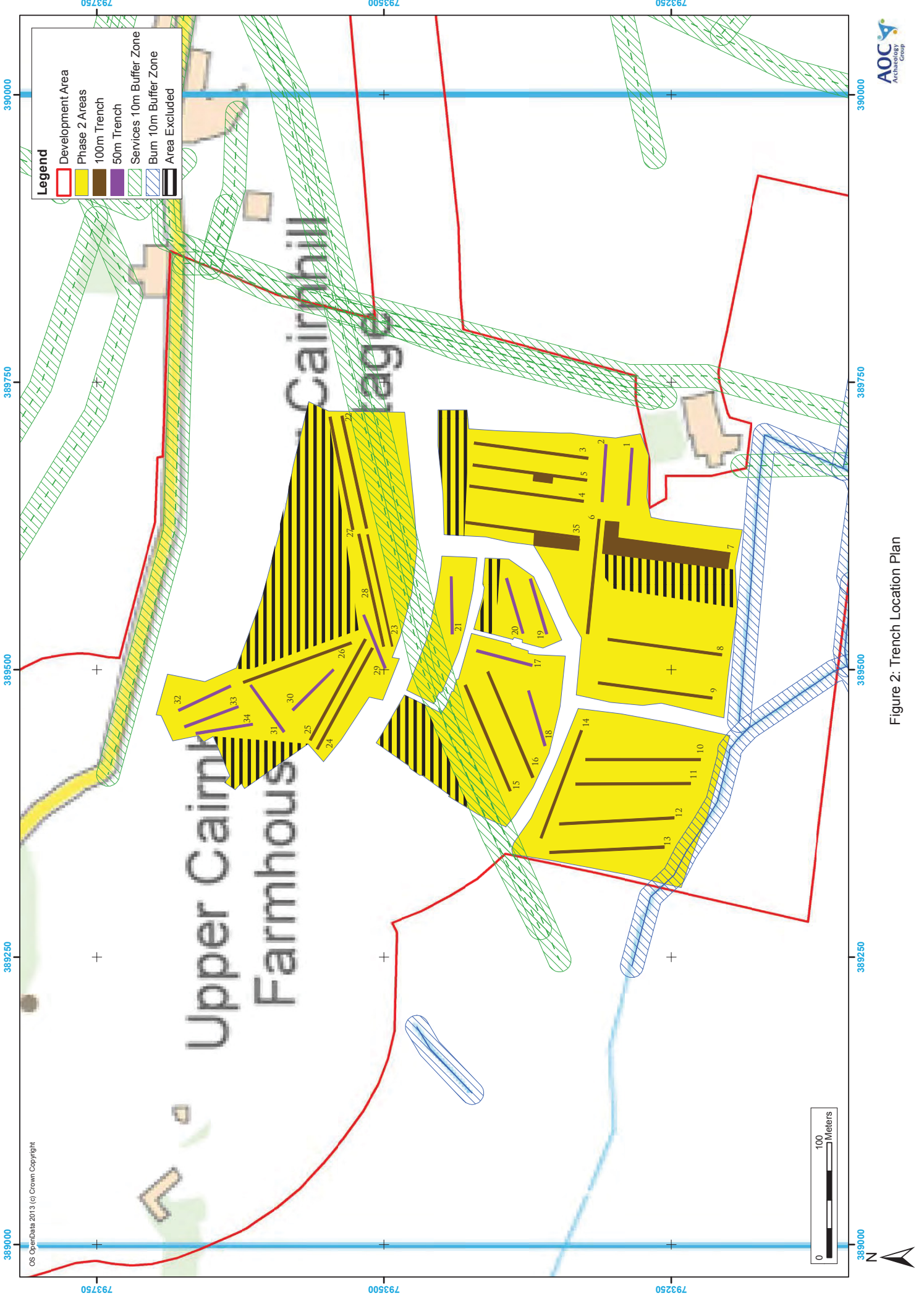


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan

**Stage 1B
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Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.40m to 0.50m
Features	Some N-S and E-W plough scarring
Drains	Rubble drain at 0.0m & 30.0m running E/W and N/S
Subsoil	Yellow sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars
Finds	None

Trench 2

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.40m to 0.50m
Features	Some N-S and E-W plough scarring
Drains	Rubble drain at 0.0m & 30.0m running E/W and N/S
Subsoil	Yellow sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars
Finds	None

Trench 3

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m also top-soil stripped area 12 m by 6.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	Rubble drain at 80.0m running NE/SW
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars
Finds	None

Trench 4

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Also outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 5

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 6

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m and 20.0m by 10.0m top-soil strip area
Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	Clay drain at 10.0m N/S
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 7

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m and 100m by 20.0m top-soil strip
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.30m
Features	None
Drains	Clay drain at 10.0m N/S
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 8

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.30m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Also outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 9

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.30m
Features	None
Drains	Clay drain at 10.0m NW/SE
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars..
Finds	None

Trench 10

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NNW-SSE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Also outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 11

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NNW-SSE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Also outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 12

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NNW-SSE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	Clay drain at 30.0m NNE/SSW
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 13

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NNW-SSE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 14

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.25m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 15

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	SW-NE
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 16

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	SW-NE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 17

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.25m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 18

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.25m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 19

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.35m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 20

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.25m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 21

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m to 0.25m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars. Outcroppings of granite.
Finds	None

Trench 22

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.40m to 0.50m
Depth of Colluvium	0.10 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 23

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.40m to 0.50m
Depth of Colluvium	0.10 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 24

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Depth of Colluvium	0.10 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 25

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Depth of Colluvium	0.10 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 26

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	Two intercutting circular pits [2601-2603]
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	Neolithic flint scraper (SF 01). Unstratified

Trench 27

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 28

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 29

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	SW-NE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 30

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	SW-NE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 31

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None

Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 32

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	SE-NW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 33

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	SE-NW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 34

Dimensions	50m by 2.0m
Orientation	SE-NW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.50m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

Trench 35

Dimensions	100m by 2.0m and 40.0m by 20.0m top-soil strip
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m to 0.40m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Yellow/orange sandy boulder clay with numerous stone drags & plough-scars.
Finds	None

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No	Trench	Description
[2601]	Tr.26	Cut of pit. Sub-circular pit measuring 0.50m by 0.70m. Well defined with single fill [2602]. Pit u-shaped in profile with maximum depth of 0.23m. Prehistoric pit cuts pit [2603] to NW.
[2602]	Tr.26	Fill of pit [2601] – medium dark brown sandy matrix with organic burning, charcoal flecking and numerous sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.
[2603]	Tr.26	Cut of pit. Sub-circular pit measuring 0.60m by 0.30m. Well defined with single fill [2604]. Pit u-shaped in profile with maximum depth of 0.13m. Prehistoric pit cut by pit [2601] to SE.
[2604]	Tr.26	Fill of pit [2601] – medium dark brown sandy matrix with organic burning, charcoal flecking and numerous sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.

APPENDIX 3: FINDS REGISTER

Find No.	Trench	Type	Description
1	Tr.6	ST	flint chunk
2	Tr.26	ST	Flint end-scraper

APPENDIX 4: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Digital

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	Tr.1	PX view of Trench 1	W
2	Tr.2	PX view of Trench 2	W
3	Tr.3	PX view of Trench 3	S
4	Tr.3	Top-soil strip area Trench 3	SW
5	Tr.4	PX view of Trench 4	S
6	Tr.5	PX view of Trench 5	S
7	Tr.6	PX view of Trench 6	W
8	Tr.6	Top-soil stripped area Trench 6	NW
9	Tr.7	PX view of Trench 7	E
10	Tr.7	Top-soil stripped area Trench 7	N
17	Tr.8	PX view of Trench 8	S
18	Tr.9	PX view of Trench 9	S
19	Tr.10	PX view of Trench 10	SSE
20	Tr.11	PX view of Trench 11	SSE
21	Tr.12	PX view of Trench 12	SSE
22	Tr.13	PX view of Trench 13	NW
23	Tr.14	PX view of Trench 14	E
24	Tr.15	PX view of Trench 15	NE
25	Tr.16	PX view of Trench 16	NE
26	Tr.17	PX view of Trench 17	NE
27	Tr.18	PX view of Trench 18	S
28	Tr.19	PX view of Trench 19	SW
29	Tr.20	PX view of Trench 20	NE
30	Tr.21	PX view of Trench 21	NE
31	Tr.22	PX view of Trench 22	E
32	Tr.23	PX view of Trench 23	W
33	Tr.24	PX view of Trench 24	NE
34	Tr.25	PX view of Trench 25	SW
35	Tr.26	PX view of Trench 26	NE
36	Tr.27	PX view of Trench 27	E
37	Tr.28	PX view of Trench 28	S
38	Tr.29	PX view of Trench 29	N
39	Tr.30	PX view of Trench 30	S
40	Tr.31	PX view of Trench 31	NE
41	Tr.32	PX view of Trench 32	N
42	Tr.33	PX view of Trench 33	NW
43	Tr.34	PX view of Trench 34	NW
44	Tr.35	PX view of Trench 35	NW
45	Tr.26	South west facing section through pits [2601-2603]	SW
46	Tr.26	PX view of pits [2601-2603]	SW

APPENDIX 5: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Stage 1B (Residential Works), Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22471
PARISH:	Fetteresso
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):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NO 8970 9346 centrepoint
START DATE (this season)	31 st August 2014
END DATE (this season)	3 rd April 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	2013 DES forthcoming
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (NARRATIVE) (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Turnberry Planning Limited on behalf of the Elsick Development Company (EDC) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Stage 1 of the large scale mixed use development at Chapelton of Elsick, Aberdeenshire. The development encompasses a large area with the Stage 1 split into two separate phases, Stage 1A (Infrastructure) and Stage 1B (Residential). This report details the evaluation results from the Stage 1B (Residential) works.</p> <p>In total a 5% evaluation was required totaling some 3,250 m² of evaluation trenches. A total of 2,800 linear metres was achieved. A further 3,200 m² were observed within a monitored top-soil strip associated with the placement of a gas pipe. Thirty-five trenches were opened with only two inter-cutting, stone filled pits, being identified. Two unstratified lithics were recovered including a well made endscraper of Neolithic date. The area had suffered extensive plough scarring with numerous stone drags and visible outcrops of bedrock.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Elsick Development Company
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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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