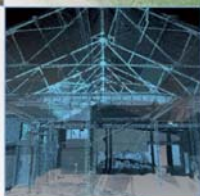


Land at Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOCarcha1-181377

AOC Project 22806

13th June 2014



Land at Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian

Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	EMA Architecture & Design Ltd
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NGR; NGR NS 937 673 (Area A), NS 941 673 (Area B), NS 942 674 (Area C) and NS 942 670 (Area D)
AOC Project No:	22806
Prepared by:	Rob Engl
Illustration by:	Kevin Paton
Date of Fieldwork:	8 th June – 12 th June 2014
Date of Report:	13 th June 2014

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

Author: Rob Engl	Date: 13 th June 2014
Approved by: Martin Cook	Date: 13 th June 2014
Draft/Final Report Stage:	Date: 13 th June 2014

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

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Abstract

AOC Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on four land parcels (A-D) amounting to approximately 6.0 ha prior to the proposed Masterplan development at Armadale, West Lothian (Planning Application No 1044/PO8.), NGR NS 937 673 (Area A), NS 941 673 (Area B), NS 942 674 (Area C) and NS 942 670 (Area D).

The four areas (6.0 ha) was subject to an 8.0% sample evaluation. The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material with the exception of rig and furrow agricultural remains located within Area C.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by EMA Architecture & Design Ltd on behalf of their client, to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the proposed Masterplan Development at Armadale, West Lothian (Planning Ref: 1044/PO8). The evaluation was undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, West Lothian Council (WLC) who are advised on archaeological matters by West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS).
- 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), and protocols set out in the West of Scotland Archaeology Service's 'Standard Conditions for archaeological fieldwork' (Appendix 28).
- 1.1.3 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material.

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The current proposed development area consists of four land parcels (A-D) amounting to approximately 6.0 ha (Figure 1). These areas are currently under arable and rough pasture. The land parcels are centred at NGR NS 937 673 (Area A), NS 941 673 (Area B), NS 942 674 (Area C) and NS 942 670 (Area D). Areas A, B and C lie to the north of the reopened Airdrie to Bathgate railway line with Area D lying to the south. Residential areas A-C are bounded to the north by residential development.
- 1.2.2 The site area is slightly undulating and poorly drained with 2.0 m deep peat deposits within Area A. The area ranges between 170.0 m OD to 190.0 m OD in height.
- 1.2.3 The proposed development consists of the construction of housing and commercial units, access roads, associated infrastructure and landscaping.

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 A prior evaluation was undertaken within the development area by CFA Archaeology Ltd (Glendinning 2011 & 2011a) on adjacent land parcels. This revealed extensive areas of 'rig and furrow' cultivation and well preserved track-way associated with Trees Farm which is probably late 18th-20th century in date. A curvilinear ditch of unknown date and function was also recorded.
- 1.3.2 An Environmental Statement (CFA 2011) was also undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd. This identified four sites and monuments within the NMRS and WoSAS Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). These sites consisted of a possible 13th century military campaign camp near Tarrareoch/Bathville, Polkemmet Brick Works, Polkemmet Rows workers cottages and Torbanehill Coal Mines (CFA 2011). Examination of cartographic sources and aerial photographs revealed a further 24 additional sites relating to 18th-20th century industrial and agricultural remains including

farmsteads, quarry scoops, mining features, field boundaries and rig and furrow cultivation. The farmsteads of Trees and Tarrareoch are both shown on Roy's map of 1747-1755. As such there is the possibility that potentially significant archaeology relating to the pre-improvement occupation of these sites may be encountered.

- 1.3.3 A single site of prehistoric date was identified in the form of a standing stone depicted on the OS Map 1st edition (1856) close to Tree House. The stone was most probably removed during mining operations during the 19th century. There remains the possibility that further prehistoric remains exist either within the development area or within the immediate area surrounding the development area.
- 1.3.4 Medieval remains within the development consist of the aforementioned military camp near Tarrareoch/Bathville and associated with William Wallace's' march to the battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297.

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 initially required the machine excavation of an 8% sample (4800 m²) within the proposed development area (6.0 ha). However, trenching was restricted due to the presence of sizeable areas of unstable ground including peat and a mine shaft, extensive top-soil bunds and areas that had been truncated by plant movement. Live services in the form of overhead power-lines, and septic tanks also reduced the scope for trenching (Figure 2). Nevertheless, a total of 2805 m² was excavated.
- 3.2 The evaluation was undertaken by a tracked 360 excavator equipped with a 2.2 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 2014). The trenches were backfilled once recording had been undertaken.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 8th – 12th June 2014. Weather conditions were good and archaeological visibility was excellent.
- 4.2 The majority of the excavated trenches appeared sterile of archaeology. A medium brown clay loam top-soil was recorded directly overlying a sub-soil of grey and yellow boulder clay. Numerous rubble and clay drains were observed.
- 4.3 The truncated remains of rig and furrow agriculture were recorded within Trenches 10, 11 and 15 (Area C). The furrows were 2.0 m in width and between 0.10 m to 0.15 m in depth. The furrows were set at 5.0 m intervals and were aligned north to south. The southern boundary of Area C appeared to have been previously stripped of top-soil, as a 0.20 m deep deposit of made ground was observed directly overlying the sub-soil. No evidence was identified for the three sites (Sites 1, 8 and 10) previously identified during the original EIA works (CFA 2010) within Area C.
- 4.4 A discussion with the current residents of Tarrareoch Farm revealed that they had found two iron cannon balls within the immediate surroundings of the farm. These artefacts may relate to the aforementioned military camp near Tarrareoch/Bathville and associated with William Wallaces' march to the battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. The artefacts remain in the possession of the residents.



Plate 1: Trench 5 Area A post-excavation from north-east



Plate 2: Trench 10 post-excavation from south-east showing 'rig and furrow'



Plate 3: Trench 2 Area D post-excavation from north

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Glendinning B 2011a Land West of Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian (Areas 4-7).
Archaeological Evaluation. CFA Archaeology Ltd, Data Structure Report, No.1891

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

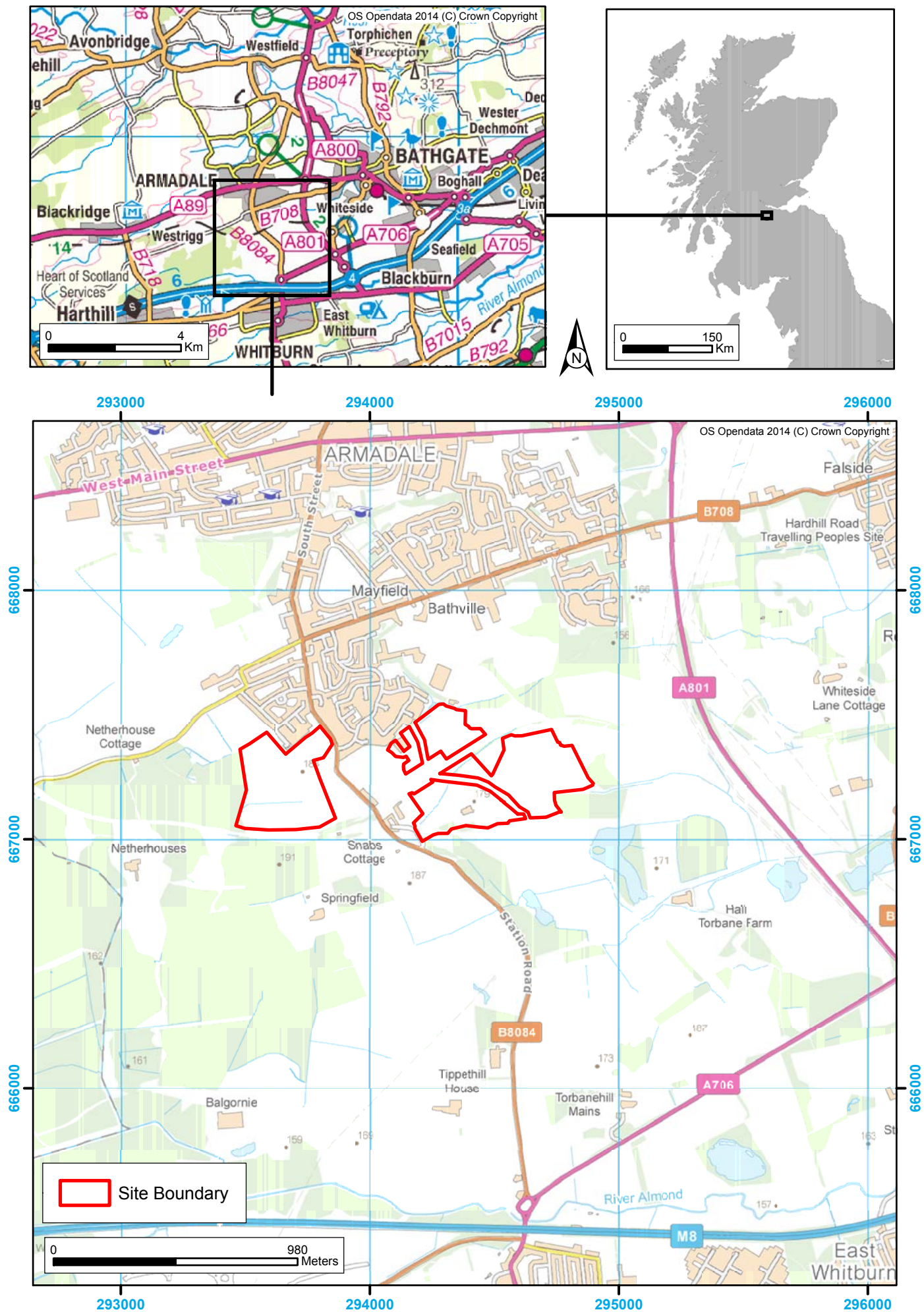


Figure 1: Site Location

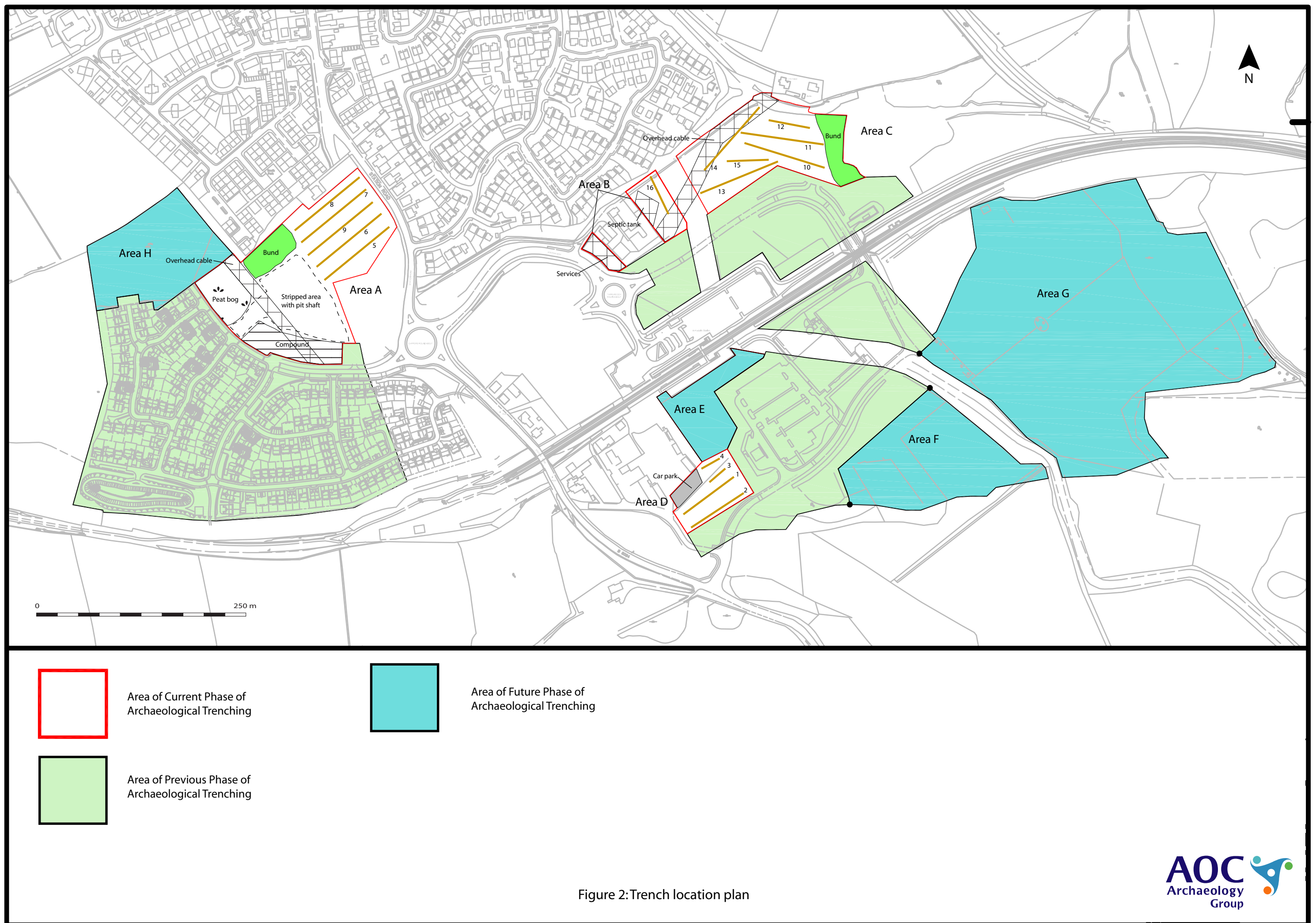


Figure 2: Trench location plan

Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	75.0 m by 2.2 m (Area D)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 – 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Rubble drain at 25.0 m intervals NW/SE
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay with some peat formation
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed in top-soil

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	75.0 m by 2.2 m (Area D)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Rubble drain at 8.0 m & 15 m NW/SE
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed in top-soil

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	25.0 m by 2.2 m (Area D)
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m – 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m – 0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed within top-soil

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	25.0 m by 2.2 m (Area D)
<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>	0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed within top-soil

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area A)
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m – 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m – 0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None

<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area A)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m – 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.20 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area A)
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Clay drains at 10.0 m intervals NE/SW
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed within top-soil

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area A)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 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>	Clay drains at 10.0 m intervals NE/SW
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area A)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 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>	Clay drains at 10.0 m intervals NE/SW
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 10

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW

<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.10 m – 0.30 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>	Remains of rig and furrow agriculture at 5.0 m intervals
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 11

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.10 m – 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	0.10 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Remains of rig and furrow agriculture at 5.0 m intervals
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 12

<i>Dimensions</i>	75.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.25 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m – 0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 13

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.25 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	0.20 m – 0.25 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m – 0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 14

<i>Dimensions</i>	100.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m – 0.50 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m – 0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None

<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 15

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2.2 m (Area C)
<i>Orientation</i>	W-E
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Rig and furrow at 8.0 m and 12.0 m
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 16

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2.2 m (Area B)
<i>Orientation</i>	S-N
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m - 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Yellow boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics observed within top-soil

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

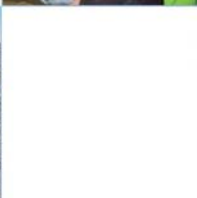
Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration	-
2	Trench 1 (Area D) post-excavation	NE
3	Trench 2 (Area D) post-excavation	NE
4	Trench 3 (Area D) post-excavation	NE
5	Trench 4 (Area D) post-excavation	NE
6	Trench 5 (Area A) post-excavation	SW
7	Trench 6 (Area A) post-excavation	NE
8	Trench 7 (Area A) post-excavation	SW
9	Trench 8 (Area A) post-excavation	NE
10	Trench 9 (Area A) post-excavation	SW
11	Trench 10 (Area C) post-excavation	NW
12	Trench 11 (Area C) post-excavation	NW
13	Trench 12 (Area C) post-excavation	NW

14	Trench 13 (Area C) post-excavation	SW
15	Trench 14 (Area C) post-excavation	NE
16	Trench 15 (Area C) post-excavation	W
17	Trench 16 (Area B) post-excavation	S

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22806
PARISH:	Bathgate
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)	NS 937 673, NS 941 673, NS 942 674, NS 942 670
START DATE (this season)	9 th June 2014
END DATE (this season)	11 th June 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	Glendinning B 2011 Land West of Station Road, Armadale, West Lothian
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on four land parcels (A-D) amounting to approximately 6.0 ha prior to the proposed Masterplan development at Armadale, West Lothian (Planning Application No 1044/PO8.), NGR NS 937 673 (Area A), NS 941 673 (Area B), NS 942 674 (Area C) and NS 942 670 (Area D).</p> <p>The four areas (6.0 ha) was subject to an 8.0% sample evaluation to comprise 2400 linear metres. However the presence of live services unstable ground, substantial bunds of top-soil and areas of previously stripped ground reduced the current works to 1275 linear metres.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material with the exception of rig and furrow agricultural remains within Area C.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	EMA Architecture & Design 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



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com