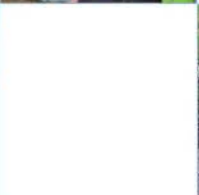


Strathleven Phase 5, Dumbarton, West Dunbartonshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report

AOC Project 23195

18th August 2015



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Strathleven Phase 5, Dumbarton: Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of:	Taylor Wimpey West Scotland Cirrus Building Marchburn Drive Paisley PA3 2SJ
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 39625 76770
AOC Project No:	23195
OASIS No:	220720
Prepared by:	Rob Engl
Illustration by:	Jamie Humble Diana Sproat
Date of Fieldwork:	11 th – 12 th August 2015
Date of Report:	18 th August 2015

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

Author: Rob Engl

Date: 13th August 2015

Approved by: Diana Sproat

Date: 18th August 2015

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft

Date: 18th August 2015

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

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



Contents

	Page
List of Figures.....	1
List of Plates	1
List of Appendices.....	1
Summary	2
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Site Background.....	3
1.2 Site Location	3
1.3 Archaeological background	3
2 OBJECTIVES.....	3
3 METHODOLOGY	4
4 RESULTS.....	4
5 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS.....	5
6 REFERENCES.....	5
APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions	7
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record.....	10
APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report	11

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site Location plan

Figure 2: Site plan showing location of archaeological evaluation trenches

List of Plates

Plate 1: Trench 1, general post-excavation view from the south-west

Plate 2: General view showing area of standing water to the south-east of the site

Plate 3: Trench 7, general post-excavation view from the south-east

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Trench Descriptions

Appendix 2: Photographic Record

Appendix 3: *'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'* Report

Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of Taylor Wimpey West Scotland, on a land plot located at Strathleven, Dumbarton. The works were required as a condition of the planning consent for the development.

The evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 860m², 8% of the available development area. A total of 1,760m² was originally required, although the presence of an encroaching site compound, areas of standing water and a large bund of re-deposited material reduced the area that could feasibly be evaluated.

The proposed development was situated in an area of former woodland, which had been recently removed.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered, and no further archaeological works are recommended, although this will have to be confirmed by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, advisors to the Dunbartonshire Council.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey (West Scotland) to carry out a programme of archaeological works prior to the construction of a residential development Strathleven, Dumbarton (NGR: NS 39625 76770). The proposed development lies within the administrative area of West Dunbartonshire Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principals set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *Planning & Archaeology* (2011) and in accordance with West Dunbartonshire Council as advised by WoSAS.
- 1.1.2 No formal application has been submitted with regards to the development as yet, although the archaeological condition has been anticipated via discussions with WoSAS with respect to the archaeological requirements prior to any development taking place.

1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area lies to the south of the A82, north of Dumbarton Golf course and to the immediate east of the River Leven. The site is relatively low lying at 8.0m OD and was formerly wooded. It is currently part of a pasture field system and is centred on NGR: NS 39625 76770 (Figure 1).

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 No known archaeological sites are recorded by the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) database within the immediate development area.
- 1.3.2 To the north-east of the site lies an old military road which follows the same route as the Dumbarton to Inverary road (NMRS Ref: NS47NW 26), located from NGR: NS 4000 7816 to NS 4017 7500. Previous evaluations have encountered little in the way of archaeological features, although there is still potential for archaeology, possibly relating to early Industrial works or other features pre-dating known records. To the east of the site there are two farmsteads, Hangingheugh Farm (NMRS No. NS26SW 18) and Cauld Rocks (NMRS No. NS26SW 30). Both are described as being abandoned farmsteads with Cauld Rocks marked on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. Also listed in the NMRS is a hut circle at Wooy Hill (NMRS No. NS26SW 11) located at the south-west foot of the hill.

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 (Phase 2), post-excavation analyses and publication (Phase 3) given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

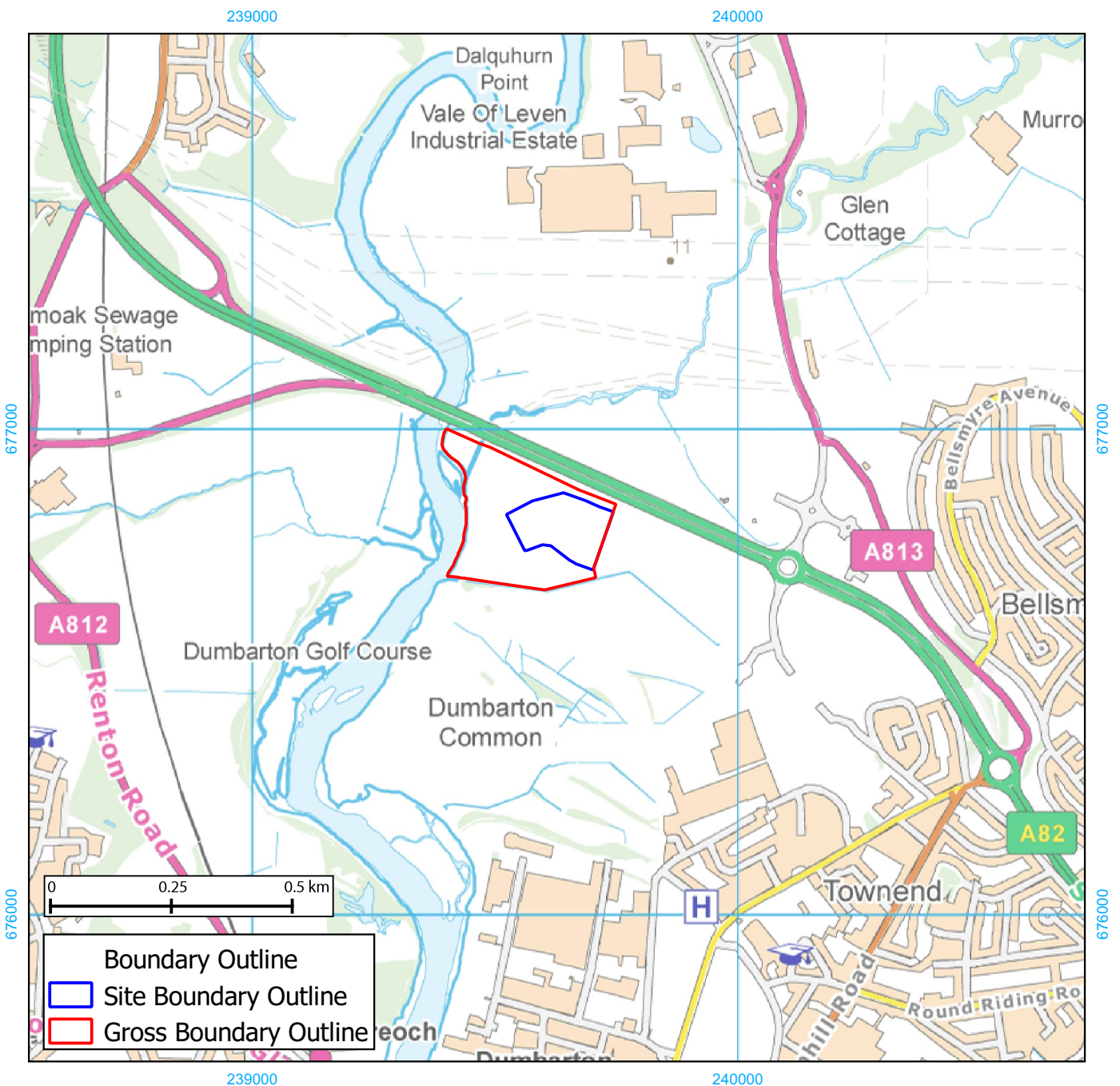
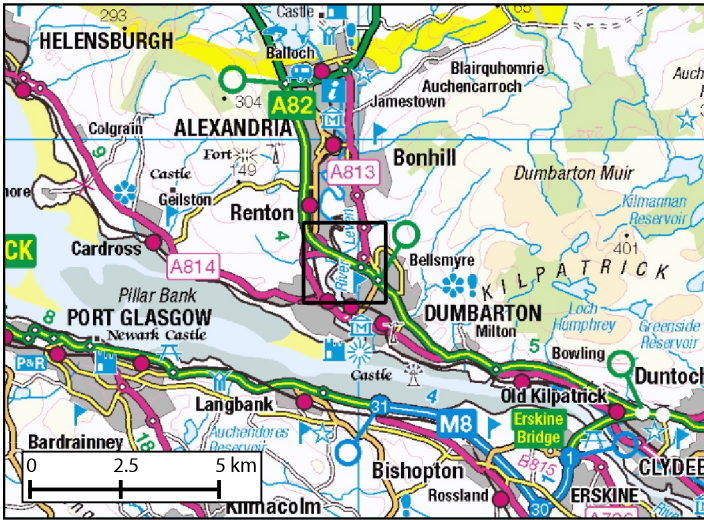


Figure 1: Site location

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 11th – 12th August 2015 using an excavator fitted with a 2.0m wide toothless ditching bucket. An 8% evaluation of the site was originally required, which would have equated to a total evaluation area of 1,760m². However, the presence of an encroaching site compound, areas of standing water and a bund of made ground reduced the area available for evaluation. Nevertheless a total of 860m² was excavated and good coverage of the available area was achieved (Figure 2). The evaluation was undertaken in dry, clear conditions with good archaeological visibility. Trenches were recorded and subsequently backfilled and tracked-over by the machine.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 A site plan showing the location of trenches can be found in Figure 2. The site had suffered considerable truncation through the creation of a working compound within the eastern end of the development area and from the removal of the woodland which formerly covered the site. Where present, the topsoil consisted of a pale, poorly drained, clay loam ranging from 0.10m to 0.30m in depth. It contained almost no anthropic material, with only very occasional fragments of white glazed ceramics or bottle glass. No field drains were observed and it would appear that no agricultural improvement of the development area has been undertaken. The topsoil lay directly over a natural sub-soil of compact grey/brown boulder clay (Plates 1 & 2).
- 4.2 A large bund of made ground approximately 1.75m height was located along the south-western boundary of the development area bordering an existing pond. This material directly overlaid natural boulder clay with no evidence of buried top-soil.
- 4.3 No significant archaeological features or artefacts were found during the evaluation.



Plate 1: Trench 1, general post-excitation view from the south-west

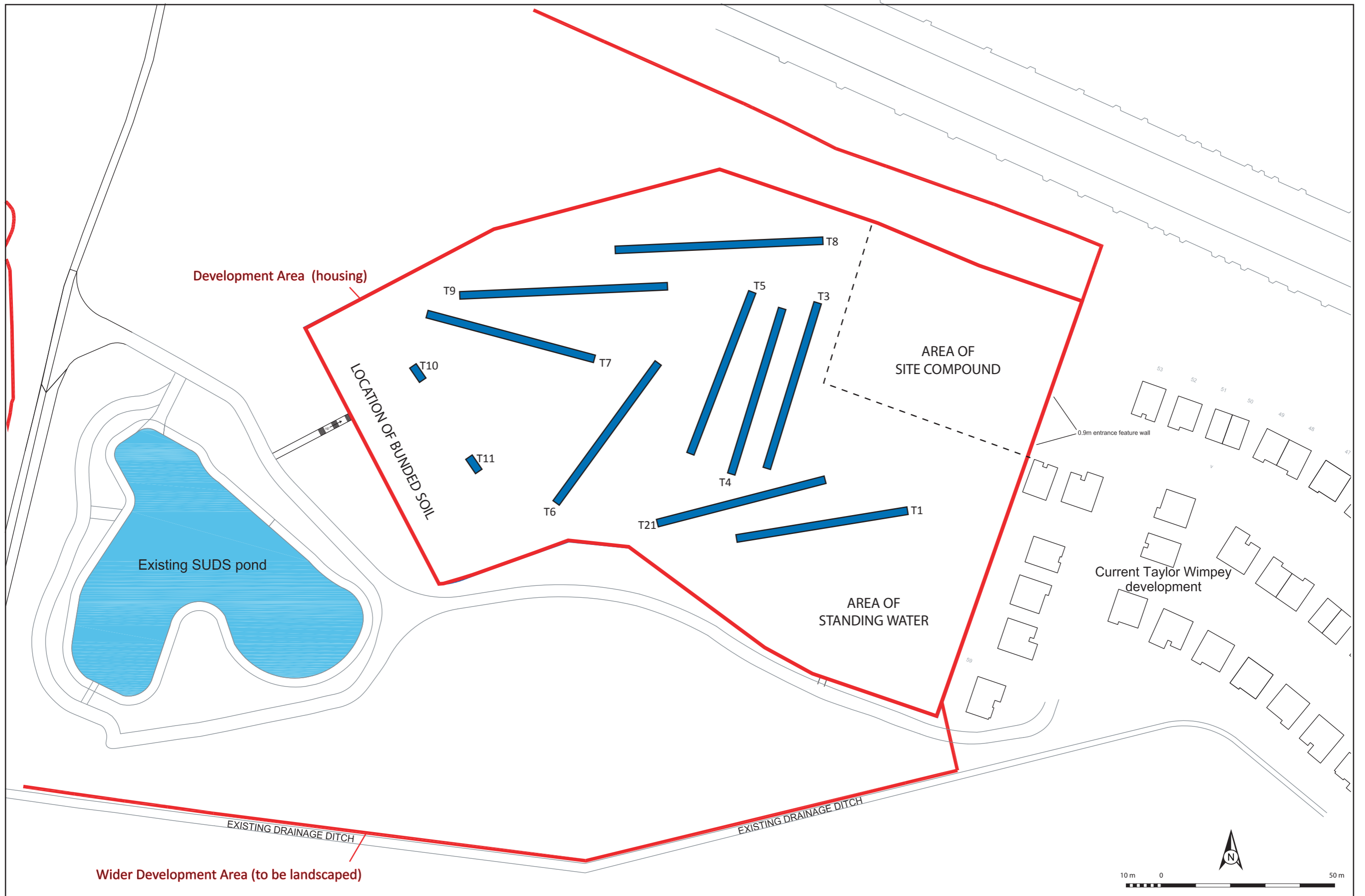


Figure 2: Site plan (as provided by client) showing the position of archaeological evaluation trenches



Plate 2: Trench 7, general post-excavation view from the south-east

5 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 No significant archaeological finds or features were encountered and the area appears archaeologically sterile.
- 5.2 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by WoSAS on behalf of West Dunbartonshire Council.

6 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology (2015) *Strathleven Phase 5, Dumbarton. Archaeological Evaluation: Written scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished Client Report.

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

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

Strathleven Phase 5, Dumbarton Archaeological Evaluation Report

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.10 m - 0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Pale brown compact boulder clay.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Pale brown compact boulder clay.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	S/N
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Colluvium</i>	0.20 m to 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	N/S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	S/N
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.20 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.20 m to 0.25 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	SE/NW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.15 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.10 m to 0.20 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	60 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NW/SE
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey/brown boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	60 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	W/E
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m
<i>Finds</i>	Occasional modern white ceramic/glass

Trench 10

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	N/S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	None
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	1.75 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.80 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 11

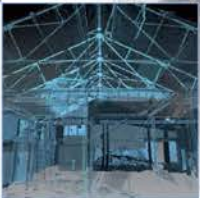
<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	N/S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	None
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	1.00 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.00 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Grey boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	Tr.1	Post excavation shot	W
3	Tr.2	Post excavation shot	W
4	Tr.3	Post excavation shot	N
5	Tr.4	Post excavation shot	S
6	Tr.5	Post excavation shot	N
7	Tr.6	Post excavation shot	NE
8	Tr.7	Post excavation shot	NW
9	Tr.8	Post excavation shot	SE
10	Tr.9	Post excavation shot	W
11	Tr.10	West facing section	W
12	Tr.11	West facing section	W

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Dunbartonshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Strathleven Phase 5, Dumbarton
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23195
PARISH:	Dumbarton
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	NS 39625 76770
START DATE	11/8/2015
END DATE	12/8/2015
PREVIOUS WORK	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of Taylor Wimpey (West Scotland), on a land plot at Strathleven, Dumbarton. The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 860 m ² . A total of 1,760m ² was originally required, although the presence of an encroaching compound, areas of standing water and a large bund of made ground restricted the several live services curtailed the area available for evaluation by approximately a third. The proposed development was situated in an area of low lying ground formerly covered with trees. The removal of the trees had severely truncated large areas of the development. No agricultural improvement of the area appeared to have been undertaken. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Taylor Wimpey (West Scotland)
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION	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