

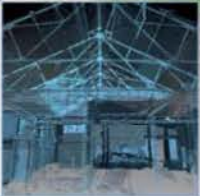
Land at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian: Archaeological Excavation Data Structure Report

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Land at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian:

Archaeological Ex Data Structure Report

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken in respect to a proposed development at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian (centred on NGR: NT 37745 73175).

The excavation follows the findings of an initial archaeological metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology in September 2016.

The archaeological evaluation sought to target the crop-marks of a number of features (HER MEL2552) recorded within the site area. The evaluation successfully revealed a trapezoidal enclosure and the survival of a possible barrow, both of these features were thought to be of probable prehistoric date.

The archaeological excavation revealed two significant structures lying in close proximity. At the south of the excavation area lay a large barrow ditch of probable Bronze Age date. The ditch enclosed five internal sub-circular pit features. Two small finds consisting of a piece of carved shale and a flint chunk were retrieved from the Barrow ditch fill.

A second structure was located to the immediate north of the Barrow. This consisted of the remains of a trapezoidal structure formed by several beam slots. The Structure was aligned east to west and divided into two. The larger westernmost of these revealed the remains of a south facing entrance. Two paired postholes were excavated within the center of the structure. These were placed directly opposite to the entrance. Though appearing sterile of dateable small finds, the structure can possibly be identified on morphological grounds as a possible Early Historic period 'Timber Hall'.

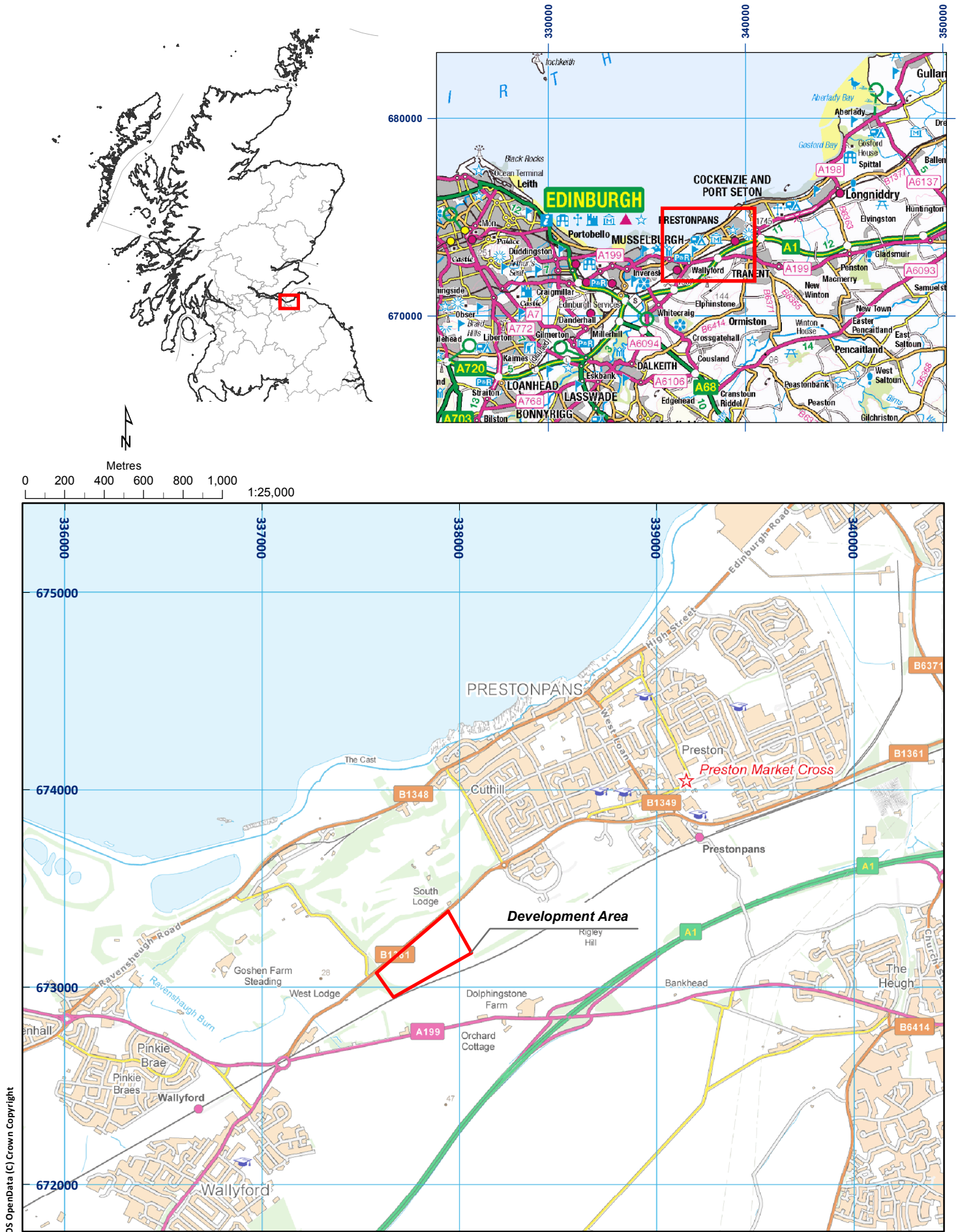


Figure 1: Site location plan

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological excavation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology on a land parcel at Dolphinstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian. The works were commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hallam Land Management Ltd and Barratt East Scotland. The works were undertaken in advance of the proposed development of the site involving residential, commercial and retail units and a cemetery with associated open space and infrastructure.
- 1.1.2 The site lies within the administrative area of East Lothian Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Mr Andrew Robertson of the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). The archaeological excavation was conducted in accordance with the principles as set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011* (2011) and consisted of the excavation of a series of crop-marks initially investigated through archaeological evaluation in September 2016. The works were undertaken in response to a Planning Condition (15/00473/PPM) produced by the Council and in accordance with an updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs (2016) and agreed with Mr Robertson.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development area (centred on NGR: NT37807 73172; Figure 1) measures 6 ha in total. The topography of the site consists of a single gently undulating fallow field.
- 1.1.4 The archaeological excavation sought to expose and excavate the crop-marks of a number of features (HER MEL2552) recorded within the site area and partially exposed during the archaeological investigation undertaken by AOC Archaeology in September 2016.
- 1.1.5 The archaeological excavation revealed two significant archaeological structures lying in close proximity. The first of these structures consisted of a large round Barrow ditch of probable Bronze Age date. The ditch enclosed five internal sub-circular pit features. Two small finds consisting of a piece of carved shale and a flint chunk were retrieved from the Barrow ditch fill.
- 1.1.6 A second structure was located to the immediate north of the Barrow. This consisted of the remains of a trapezoidal structure formed by several beam slots. The Structure was aligned east to west and divided into two areas. The western compartment was the larger of the two and had a southern entrance. A pair of post-holes lay in the centre of the compartment, directly opposite the entrance. Though appearing sterile of dateable small finds the structure can possibly be identified on morphological grounds as a possible Neolithic or Anglian 'Timber Hall'.

1.2 Location

1.2.1 The site lies to the immediate south of the B1361 between Wallyford and Prestonpans (Figure 1, centred on NS 419 642). The site is bounded by railway embankments to the south, by a farm track to the east and by mature woodland to the west.

1.3 Archaeological Background (Based on CgMs DBA Report)

1.3.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared in as part of the EIA submitted in support of the application (CgMs 2014) and metal detecting and trial trenching was undertaken post-consent (AOC 2016). Presented below is a brief summary of the relevant findings.

1.3.2 The Site lies within the Inventory Boundary of the Battle of Pinkie, near to its eastern limit. The battle was fought in 1547 between English and Scottish armies in the area east of Inveresk.

1.3.3 There is no indication that any action took place within the Site, the battle took place well to the west though clashes also took place on Falside Hill. Nor is there any concrete indication that associated remains may be present within the Site; the English camp on the eve of the battle, which contemporary sources indicate was entrenched, is generally thought to have been located to the north, near the coast. There is therefore limited potential for assets relating to the battle to be present within the Site. The metal detecting survey did not recover any artefacts thought to relate to the battle.

1.3.4 Crop-marks of a number of features (HER MEL2552) have been recorded within the Site. These comprise a circular feature, thought to represent the ploughed out remains of a Barrow, a trapezoidal enclosure, which were thought to possibly represent a settlement or be related to the Barrow, fragments of rig and furrow and several un-diagnostic features. Trial trenching established that the crop-marks of the trapezoidal enclosure relate to surviving archaeological features. The external gully of the trapezoidal enclosure was found to be 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep, an internal gully that appears to have formed an internal partition was shallower at 0.1m. A gully with a maximum depth of 0.17m was recorded. This was thought to relate to the barrow and it appeared that some features visible as crop-marks had not survived. No artefacts or datable material was recovered from the sampled features, either on site or from environmental samples.

1.3.5 In the surrounding area, crop-marks of a circular enclosure were recorded immediately to the east of the Site in 1995. These were investigated by a programme of archaeological work and found to represent an enclosed settlement with a substantial ditch, containing waterlogged deposits at its base, and the remnants of roundhouses, including paved areas. Artefactual evidence indicated that the enclosure was in use from the early to mid first millennium AD, though a radiocarbon assay yielded a date in the early first millennium BC, possibly indicating earlier use. There is no indication that the enclosure extended into the Site and the part of the site closest to it appears to have been disturbed by previous works.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological excavation were:
- i) to provide an appropriate level of archaeological excavation, recording and reporting related to those features identified by the evaluation to be potential sources of additional productive archaeological data.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The details of the archaeological excavation, laid out below, were designed to meet the requirements of East Lothian Council as advised by Mr Andrew Robertson, and agreed through the submission of an amended Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CgMs 2016).
- 3.2 Following the results of the evaluation an Area of Archaeological Interest (AAI) was identified. This was drawn to define the maximum extents of the excavation.
- 3.3 Topsoil stripping was to proceed from the recorded features and work outwards until an area extending 10m from exposed archaeological features was stripped of topsoil.
- 3.4 A mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove the topsoil in advance of hand excavation. Mechanical excavation proceeded under direct archaeological supervision and was undertaken in controlled spits. Machine excavation terminated at the top of clean natural geology or when the first significant archaeological deposit or feature was encountered. The natural geology was cleaned to allow for the identification of further archaeological features.
- 3.5 All spoil was removed to the limit of excavation and plant movements controlled so as to avoid tracking over cleared areas.
- 3.6 All archaeological features were marked, cleaned and investigated.
- 3.7 Following the monitored top-soil strip the archaeological features were characterized and an initial site review meeting was held between CgMs, Mr Robertson (ELCAS) and AOC Archaeology in order to agree an excavation strategy. It was agreed that 50% of the Barrow ditch was to be excavated alongside 100% of the internal features. A total of 75% of the 'Timber Hall' was excavated alongside 100% of all internal features. The Linear Ditch was excavated to 25%. All excavated materials were sampled according to current AOC Methodology

4 RESULTS

4.1 The various detailed data gathered from the excavation is presented as a series of appendices:

- Appendix 1 Context Register;
- Appendix 2 Finds Register;
- Appendix 3 Drawing Register;
- Appendix 4 Photographic Register;
- Appendix 5 Sample Register;
- Appendix 6 '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' (DES)

4.2 The excavation was undertaken on the 10th – 23rd January 2016. The weather conditions during the excavation were consistently clear and dry and overall archaeological visibility remained good.



Plate 1 The Barrow [06] being cleaned before excavation

4.3 The Round Barrow [06] (Barrow Ditch [02] Pits [04-07-09-011-015-018]) (Fig 3)

4.3.1 The topsoil stripping undertaken in the south of the Area of Archaeological Interest (AAI) revealed the full extent of the 'Barrow' feature. This consisted of a large, continuous circular ditch feature [02] 15.0 m in diameter. A total of 10 two metre wide slots were excavated through the Barrow ditch revealing moderate to steeply sloping sides and a generally flat base. The ditch though truncated ranged from between 1.08 m to 1.85 m in width, with a depth of between 0.20 m to 0.35 m.

- 4.3.2 The Ditch was filled by single deposit of seemingly sterile red/brown silty sand (003) and some initial slumping. However, two small finds were retrieved during the excavation of Slot 3. These consisted of a carved shale fragment (SF01) and a flint chunk (SF02). No further small finds were identified.
- 4.3.3 The Linear Ditch [013] crossed the barrow. The ditch which was aligned north-east to south-west and appeared to cut across the Barrow Ditch at Slots 1 and 10, though the relationship could not be demonstrated conclusively (Plate 5). At its south-west, the Barrow Ditch's outside edge was cut by a shallow oval pit [015].
- 4.3.4 The stripping of the interior of the Barrow Ditch revealed five circular/sub-circular pit features [07-04-09-011-018] which were positioned within the north-west quadrant of the Barrow. The pits ranged from 0.54 to 1.10 m in plan, with depths of 0.13 m to 0.37 m. The largest of the internal pits [07] was located within the central part of the Barrow. The fill of this feature (08) produced small amounts of charcoal. The remainder of the pits appeared relatively sterile and no small finds were recovered. There were no stratigraphic relationships between the pits with the exception of pit [011] which was observed cutting the smaller pit [018].



Plate 2 The Barrow [06] under excavation



Plate 3 The Barrow [06] post excavation from the west



Plate 4 NE facing section of interior Pit [07]



Plate 5 E facing section of Slot 10 showing relationship between Barrow Ditch [02] and Linear Ditch [013]

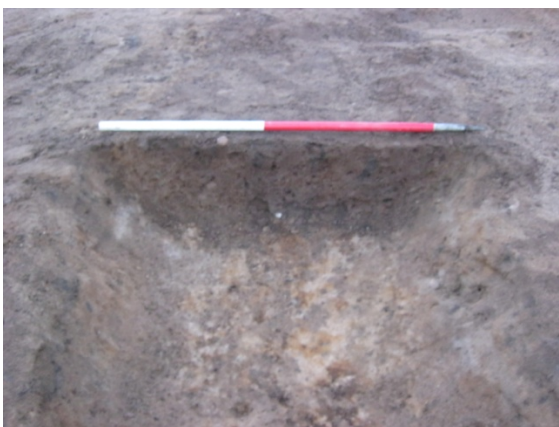


Plate 6 Barrow Ditch [02] Slot 2 NE facing section



Plate 7 Barrow Ditch [02] Slot 9 NE facing section

4.4 The Linear Ditch [013]

4.4.1 A truncated linear ditch was observed running for 50.0 m across the AAI aligned north-east to south-west. Three 2.0 m wide slots were excavated across the feature revealing a shallow cut with steep sloping sides and a flat base. The cut ranged between 0.40 m and 0.50 m in width with a depth between 0.05 m where it crossed the barrow to 0.25 m. The linear feature appeared to cut the Barrow Ditch [02] within Slots 1 and 10, becoming more ephemeral as it crossed the Barrow and ran out-with the area to the south. However, the exact relationship was relatively unclear. The ditch appeared to be filled by a single sterile deposit of medium brown silty sand (014) and no small finds were recovered.

4.4 The Timber Hall [020]

4.4.1 The top-soil stripping of the AAI revealed a second structure located five metres to the north of the Round Barrow. This trapezoidal structure was formed by three beam slots [021-022-023]. The structure was aligned on an east-west axis and had total dimensions of 20.0 m in length by 8.0 m in width. A total of 15 two metre wide slots were excavated through the beam slots revealing a series of profiles showing relatively steeply sloping sides and flat, gently concave bases. The beam slots ranged from 0.30 m to 0.60 m in width and from 0.12 m to 0.30 m in depth. However, such wide discrepancies are undoubtedly the result of modern truncation. The beam slots were filled with a single homogenous, sterile fill of red/brown sandy silt (024-025-026), with no sign of post packing stones.

4.4.2 The structure comprised two divisions (A & B). Division A was rectangular in plan with a length of 13.50 m and a width of 7.0 m. A two metre wide entrance gap was visible on the southern side of this division separating the terminus of beam slots [021] and [022]. A slightly wider gap occurred to the north-west of the structure. However, this was almost certainly the result of plough truncation. Two substantial, circular postholes [027-029] were located within Division A. These had been placed two metres apart and were situated directly opposite the entrance, at the centre of the structure. Posthole [027] contained a single cobble (Plate 12), but aside from this there was no evidence of post-packing.

4.4.3 Division B formed the eastern end of the structure and was approximately 6.0 m square. The division was formed by the north-south alignment of beam slot [022] and beam slot [023]. Division B appeared offset against the main rectangular part of the structure. Whilst beam slots [022-023] were in direct alignment along the northern side of the structure, the southern part of the beam slot [023] was placed a metre to the north of the southern, east-west alignment. The exact relationship between Divisions A and B is unclear. To the north the intersection between beam slots [022-023] appeared to show a single cut continuing east to west. However, the intersection to the south shows [023] to have a much shallower cut. This is probably a vagary of technique and it would appear that the building represents a single phase of construction.



Plate 8. The 'Timber Hall' under excavation from SW



Plate 9. The 'Timber Hall' post excavation from SW



Plate 10. The northern intersection between beam slots [022-023]

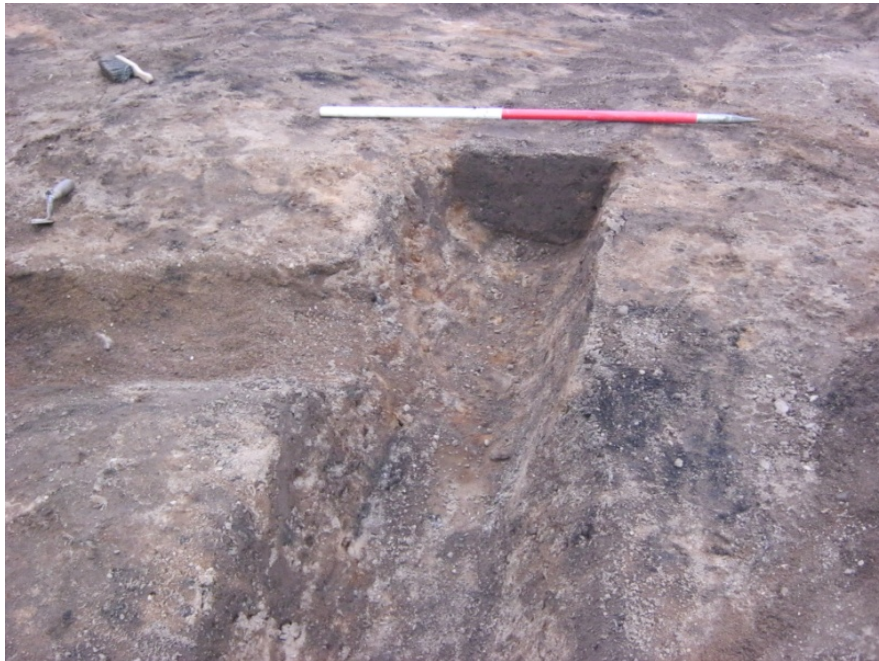


Plate 11. The southern intersection between beam slots [022-023] showing the shallower cut of [023]



Plate 12. Interior post-hole N facing section

5 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT (Jackaline Robertson)

5.1 Factual Data

5.1.1 A total of 14 bulk samples were submitted for environmental analyses from the archaeological works undertaken at Land at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian. The bulk samples were collected from a series of features associated with a trapezoidal 'Timber Hall' of uncertain date and a barrow ditch believed to date to the Bronze Age period. The environmental finds were composed of a small number of carbonised macroplant, charcoal and bone fragments.

5.2 Methodology

5.2.1 The bulk samples were processed in their entirety in laboratory conditions using a floatation method designed to retrieve charred macroplant remains and artefacts (cf. Kenward *et al.* 1980). The sediment consisted of a silty sand which did not require any pre-treatment. All plant macrofossils were subsequently examined at magnifications of x10 and up to x100 where necessary to aid identification. Identifications were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases stored at AOC Edinburgh (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006). Taxonomic and nomenclature for plants follows Stace (2010).

5.2.2 The recovery of charcoal from Scottish sites tends to be limited and this is true of the assemblage from Land at Dolphingstone Farm. To ensure as much information as possible was obtained from this small charcoal assemblage the conclusions presented in the discussion can only be described as interpretive assumptions. The interpretation of the charcoal evidence is therefore arbitrary.

5.2.3 The bone assemblage was composed of small unidentifiable fragments and was therefore quantified by size and weight.

5.3 Results

- 5.3.1 The results are presented in table 1 the charred macroplant, table 2 the charcoal, table 3 the burnt bone and table 5 the retent finds.
- 5.3.2 The charred macroplant assemblage was small and preservation was generally poor. A total of four cereal caryopses were recovered along with two indeterminate seeds from five samples recovered from the 2017 excavation. There were no charred macroplants noted in any of the samples from the 2016 evaluation phase. The only cereal species identified was one barley (*Hordeum* sp) caryopsis. The remaining three cereal caryopses could not be identified further due to poor preservation. These remains were scattered throughout the site with no evidence of deliberate or selective disposal.
- 5.3.3 The charcoal assemblage totalled 21.7g and fragments suitable for species identification were recovered from seven samples from the 2017 excavation. Charcoal fragments were noted in one sample from the evaluation and four from the excavation but this material was not collected as the remains were either smaller than 4mm or badly vitrified. The species identified were alder (*Alnus glutinosa* L) which accounted for 67% followed by oak (*Quercus* sp) 27%, hazel (*Corylus avellana* L) 4% and cherry (*Prunus* sp). Preservation of the charcoal assemblage was generally poor with some evidence of vitrification.
- 5.3.4 The bone assemblage was composed of three fragments recovered from two samples from the evaluation phase. These fragments were smaller than 20mm and were completely burnt. No attempt was made to identify them to element and species and they were instead catalogued by size and weight.
- 5.3.5 A small assemblage of artefactual finds were recovered from the retents. These included a single piece of post medieval ceramic, glass, metal and industrial waste. These finds should be analysed by the appropriate specialists.

5.4 Discussion

Evaluation 2016

- 5.4.1 Synopsis: The only environmental material recovered from the evaluation was two fragments of burnt bone smaller than 20mm from context [1605] and [1803]. Contexts [1605] and [1803] were interpreted as deriving from an interior partition beam slot for a rectilinear building [1606] and from a barrow structure [1802]. This material was of little archaeological value in understanding the nature of these deposits especially as [1803] had experienced plough damage and subsequent bioturbation.

Excavation 2017

5.4.2 Circular barrow ditch [002] contexts [003 slot 1], [003 slot 3], [003 slot 5], [003 slot 7]

Macroplant: One barley caryopsis was recovered from [003 slot 7] along with a poorly preserved seed in [003 slot 1].

Charcoal: Charcoal was present in all four slots from the barrow ditch and totalled 9.1g. The species identified was alder, oak, hazel and cherry.

Synopsis: There is evidence to suggest that this ditch had been truncated and it is likely that the charred macroplant and charcoal have experienced some degree of re-deposition and bioturbation. The charred cereal and charcoal is representative of domestic food and fuel waste which has been reworked into

these slots within the ditch. The charcoal was scattered throughout the ditch with no evidence to suggest deliberate or selective disposal of material within specific areas.

5.4.3 Pit [007] context [008]

Macroplant: There was no evidence of any charred plant remains within this pit.

Charcoal: A small quantity of charcoal (3.3g) was identified as alder.

Synopsis: It is possible that this small concentration of a single wood species derived from an alder post or stake but given the small number of fragments recovered this interpretation must remain inconclusive.

5.4.4 Barrow ditch associated pits

Pit [011] context [012]

Macroplant: Two poorly preserve cereal caryopses were recovered from this pit.

Charcoal: This pit had 9.0g of charcoal which was the largest concentration noted within a single feature. The only species identified was oak.

Synopsis: During excavation it was observed that pit [011] cut pit [018] but the relationship between them is unclear. It is possible that the relatively large number of oak fragments in context [011] is from the burning of an oak stake or post but this material could also be re-deposited debris from a separate feature. The charred macroplant remains are of little archaeological significance.

5.4.5 Features within the Timber Hall [020]

Post hole [027] context [028]

Macroplant: One poorly preserved cereal caryopsis was present in post hole [027]

Charcoal: There was no charcoal suitable for species identification.

Synopsis: This material was of little archaeological value.

Post hole [029] context [030]

Macroplant: There was one poorly preserved seed recorded in this feature

Charcoal: A single fragment of alder charcoal (0.3g) was noted within this post hole.

Synopsis: This material was of little archaeological value.

5.4.6 Conclusion

5.4.6.1 The charred macroplant and bone assemblage was too small and poorly preserved to obtain any pertinent information concerning diet, food storage and domestic waste disposal at this site. Nor is this material suitable for dating given its small size and poor condition. The charcoal assemblage while small is still similar to other Scottish prehistoric sites in Scotland. This community were able to exploit local grown woodland species such as alder, oak, hazel and cherry to satisfy demand for fuel and building materials. If environmental material is required for dating the charcoal from six contexts [003 slot 1], [003 slot 3], [003 slot 5], [003 slot 7], [008] and [030] is suitable. The oak charcoal from [012] is a slow growing species and is unsuitable for dating.

5.4.7 References

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Stace, C. 2010. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge University Press

Feature			Ditch	Ditch	Pit 011	P/H 027	P/H 029
Context			3 Slot1	3 Slot 7	12	28	30
Sample Vol (l)			20	20	20	10	10
% Sort			100	100	100	100	100
Species	Name	Part					
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	Barley	Caryopsis/es		1			
Cereal	Cereal	Caryopsis/es			2	1	
Indet	Unknown	Seed/fruit	1				1

Feature	Context	Species	Name	Frag	RW	Weight (g)
Ditch 2	3 Slot 1	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	7		
Ditch 2	3 Slot 1	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak	3		3.1
Ditch 2	3 Slot 3	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	4		
Ditch 2	3 Slot 3	<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Hazel	2		3.4
Ditch 2	3 Slot 5	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	3		2.1
Ditch 2	3 Slot 7	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	3		
Ditch 2	3 Slot 7	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Cherry	1		0.5
Pit 7	8	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	15		3.3
Pit 11	12	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak	10		9
Post hole 29	30	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> L.	Alder	1		0.3

Context	Area	Element	Species	Number	Pres	Size	Stain	Burnt	Weight(g)
1605	T16	Indet	I/M	1	Poor	A	4	Yes	*(N/A)
1803	T18	Indet	I/M	1	Poor	A	4	Yes	*(0.4g)

Key: I/M= indeterminate mammal, Indet=Indeterminate, N/A=not applicable
Size: A=<10mm, B=10-50mm, C=50-100mm, D=100-150mm, E=150-200mm, F=>250mm
Surface staining= 0= no staining, 1<30%, 2=30-50%, 3=50-75%, 4 = 75-100

Table 4 retent finds

Feature	Context	Sample Vol (L)	% Sort	Ceramic(g)	Glass (g)	Metal (g)	Indust(g)	Bone (g)	Charcoal(g)
St 1606	1603	20	100						<4mm
St 1606	1605	20	100		*(N/A)			*(N/A)	
B ditch									
1802	1803	20	100				*(0.3g)	*(0.4g)	
Ditch 2	3 SLOT 1	20	100						** (3.1g)
Ditch 2	3 SLOT 3	20	100			1 (1g)			*(3.4g)
Ditch 2	3 SLOT 5	20	100						*(2.1g)
Ditch 2	3 SLOT 7	20	100		1 (2.9g)				*(0.5g)
Pit 4	5	20	100						<4mm
Pit 7	8	20	50						*(3.3g)
Pit 9	10	10	100						<4mm
Pit 11	12	20	100				1 (17.8g)		** (9.0g)
	025 Slot								
Structure	10J	20	100						<4mm
P/H 27	28	10	100	1 (0.6g)					<4mm
P/H 29	30	10	100				1 (1.6g)		*(0.3g)

Key: *=<10, **=10-29, ***=30-99, ****=>100, weight given in grams in (g)

6 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The proposed development site was subject to an archaeological excavation as per the agreed WSI amendment (CgMs 2017) and on-site discussions with Mr Andrew Robertson of ELCAS. The excavation revealed the survival of several crop-mark features initially investigated during the archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2016. The excavation identified two archaeologically significant structures including a large round Barrow ditch of probable Bronze Age date. This structure consisted of a continuous circular ditch and several internal pit features. A trapezoidal beam slot structure was also fully revealed. This is tentatively identified on morphological grounds as a possible Neolithic or Early Historic 'Timber Hall'. A narrow, ephemeral, linear boundary ditch was also recorded. All of the recorded features had undergone significant truncation through modern farming practices.

6.1.1 Little artefactual evidence was produced during the excavation or within the previous evaluation. Therefore any discussion of the site must be restricted to morphological parallels. Several bulk samples were processed as a result of the evaluation. These represented deposits associated with the Barrow ditch, the linear boundary ditch and the trapezoidal enclosure.

6.1.2 Paleo-environmental analysis revealed a small and poorly preserved charred macroplant and bone assemblage. The charcoal assemblage while also limited was still similar to other Scottish prehistoric sites and will enable the dating of both the barrow and 'timber hall'.

- 6.1.3 Circular Barrows with similar and larger dimensions have a strong association with the Early Bronze Age, although they are not period specific. Smaller examples ranging from five metres to ten metres are usually of Late Iron Age date and associated with Pictish activity. The recovery of the small finds of carved canal coal and flint also suggests a Bronze Age date for the feature.
- 6.1.4 The Barrow is one of a number of such features identified within East Lothian. A possible prehistoric Barrow (NT37SE 58) of similar dimensions has been identified through aerial photography to the immediate west of the excavation area at Dolphingstone. This now underlies the current road. A much smaller round Barrow (NT67SE 111) has been recorded at Halls in East Lothian. Crop-marks shown on oblique aerial photographs (RCAHMSAP 2009) show a circular plan defined by a ditch about 1.4m wide enclosing an area 6.3m in diameter.
- 6.1.5 The 'Timber Hall' is another feature with a wide temporal range. The first example was excavated at Doon Hill, East Lothian during the 1960's (Hope-Taylor 1980). Considerable confusion has previously occurred between halls of Neolithic date such as Balbridie (Ralston 1982) and later structures such as Doon Hill which relate to the Early Historic Period. Morphologically the Dolphingstone structure has strong parallels with Building C excavated at Thirlings, Northumberland (O'Brien & Miket 1991). At Thirlings, the 6th-7th century Building C had almost identical dimensions to that of the Dolphingstone example with timber walls set in continuous beam slots, and an entrance facing south. The structure was also aligned east to west and divided into two compartments, the smaller one again positioned to the east.
- 6.1.6 The only other currently known hall site situated within East Lothian occurs at Whitekirk (Brown 1983). Here two unenclosed halls again undated and with similar ground plans and dimensions to the Dolphingstone example are associated with several small, rectangular enclosures. At Dolphingstone, it is possible that the shallow linear ditch feature found running across the site to the east of the hall and the undated ditch recorded to the west during the evaluation may be part of an associated enclosure.
- 6.1.7 Given the nature and significance of the archaeological material, it is recommended that further mitigation in the form of a post-excavation research design will be prepared for approval by the planning authority's archaeological advisor. This will describe all necessary and appropriate assessment processes and consequent post-excavation analyses together with publication proposals for the final report. This report will integrate the stratigraphic, contextual and descriptive data from the excavation with specialist post-excavation analyses covering dating, palaeo-environmental and economic issues, culminating in an article fit for academic publication.

7 REFERENCES

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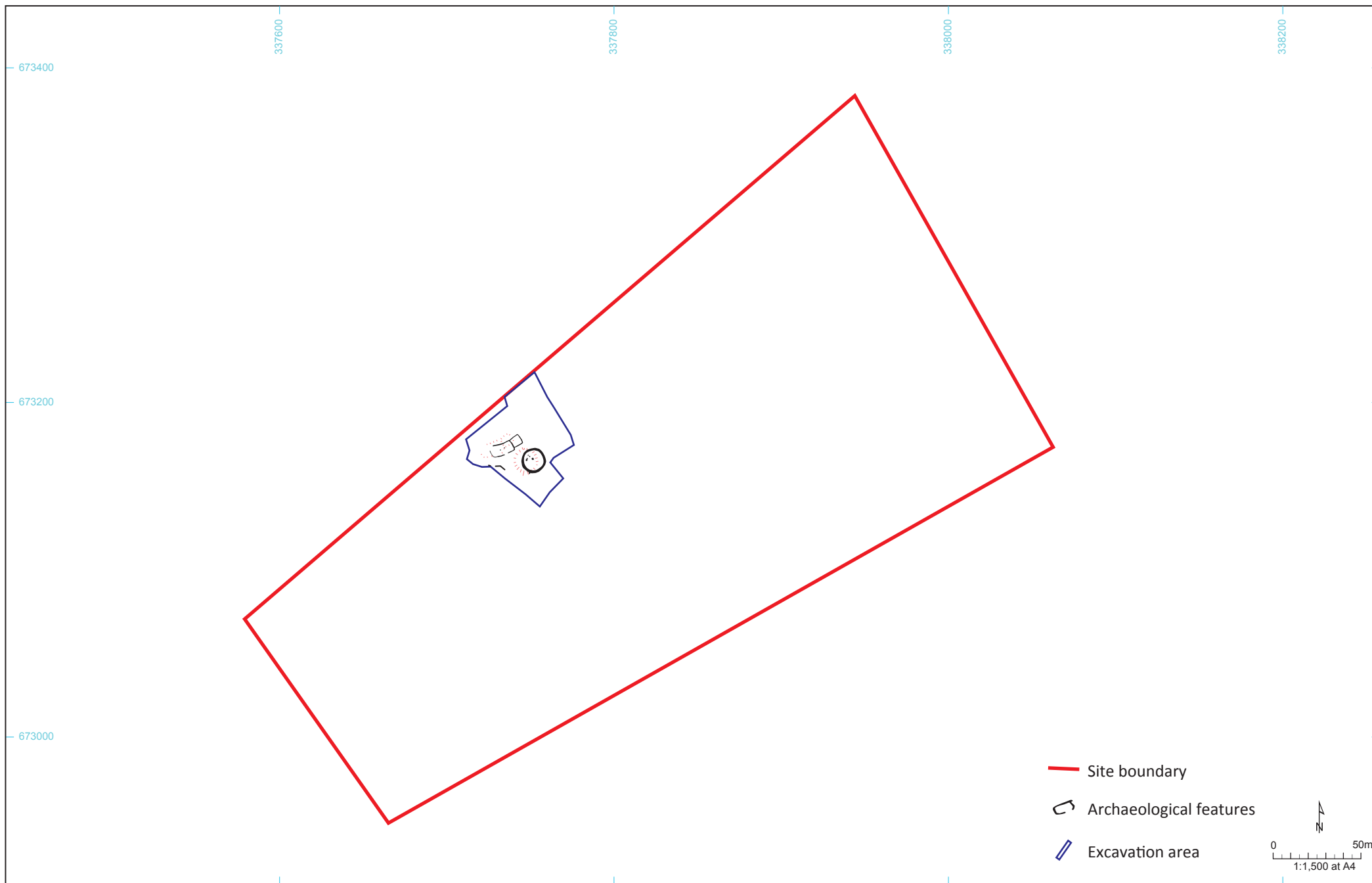


Figure 2: Trench Location plan

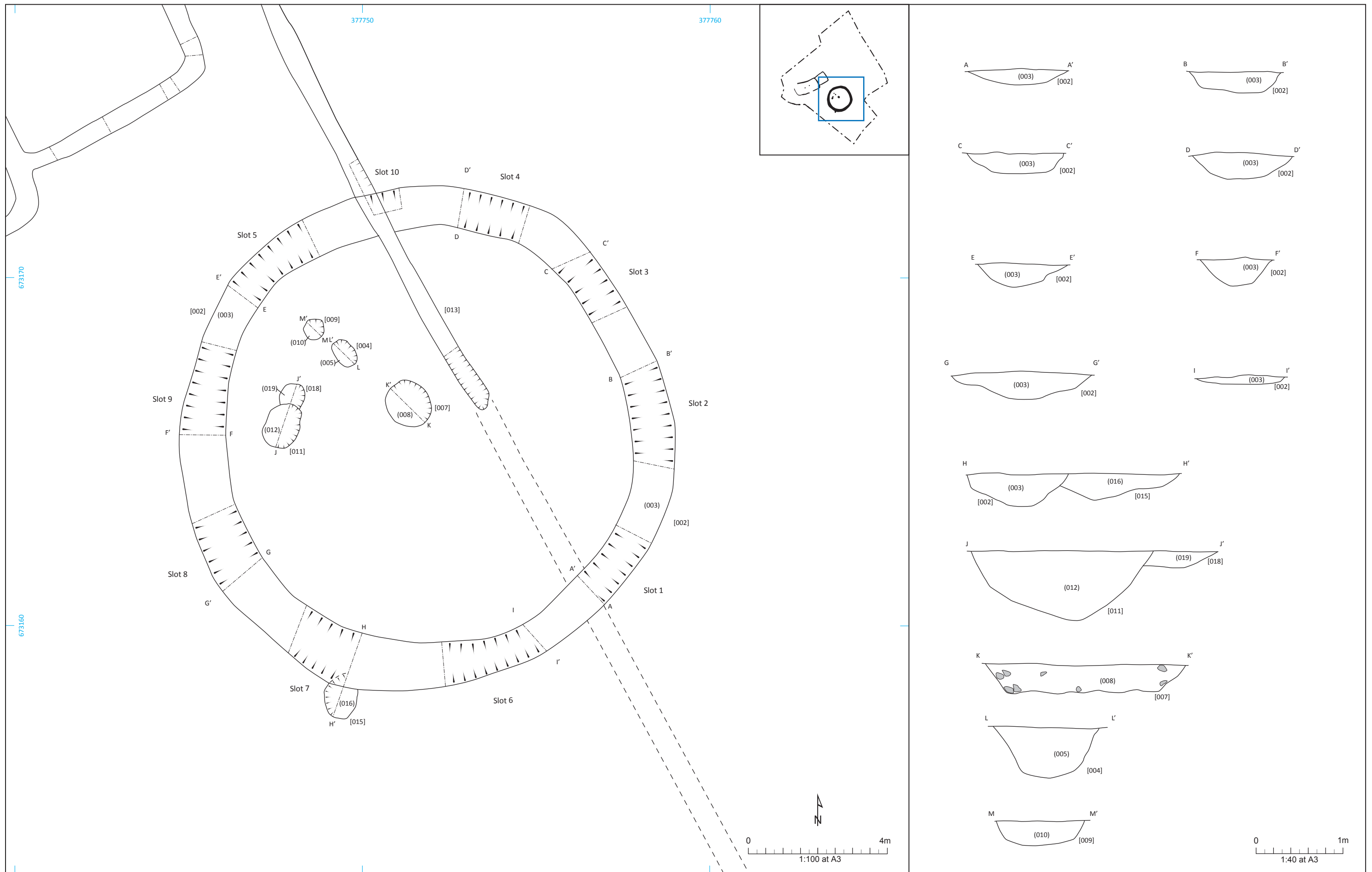


Figure 3: Barrow [006], plan and sections

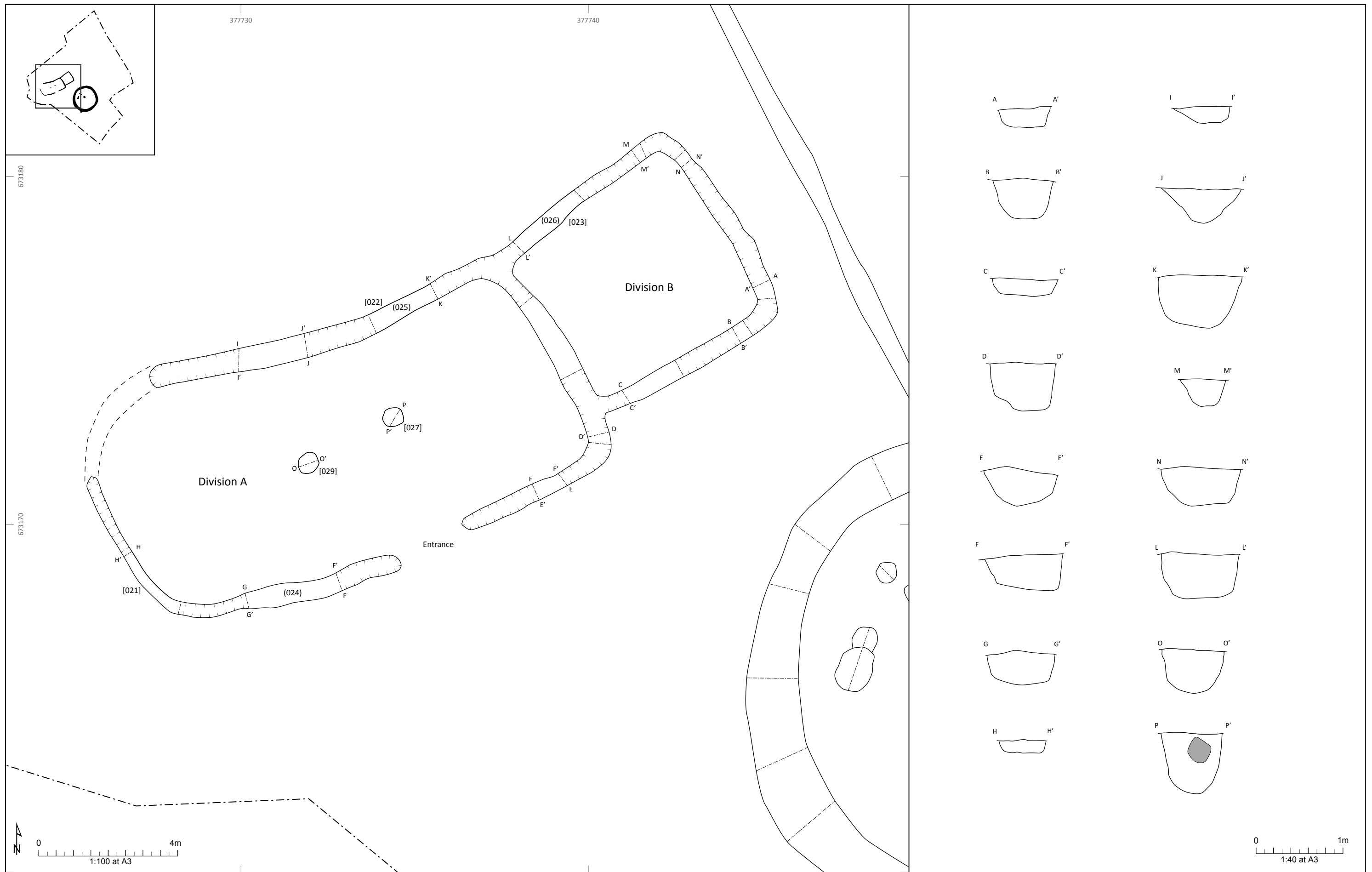


Figure 4: 'Timber Hall' [020], plan and sections

**Land at Dolphingstone Farm,
Prestonpans, East Lothian:
Archaeological Works
Data Structure Report
Section 2: Appendices**

APPENDIX 1: Context Descriptions

Context	Description
01	Top-soil – Improved dark grey/brown sandy plough soil. Well sorted with occasional 19 th century ceramics, stoneware and glass. 0.35 m – 0.55 m in depth
02	Circular Barrow Ditch – Continuous circular cut with a diameter of 15.0 m. The cut ranged between 1.08 m to 1.85 m in width, with a depth between 0.20 m to 0.35 m. The cut had moderate to steeply sloping sides and a generally flat base. Filled by single deposit (003) and some initial slumping. Ten 2.0 m wide slots were excavated through the cut. The feature is cut on both its northern (Slot 10) and southern edges (Slot 1) by the Linear Ditch [013] and by an oval pit [015] within Slot 7. The Barrow Ditch encloses five circular/sub-circular pit features [07-04-09-011-018]. Probable Round Barrow of Bronze
03	Fill of [02] – Single fill of Circular Barrow Ditch [02]. Sterile, dark red /brown silty sand with friable, loose compaction. Contains occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones (<3%). Cut by [015] (Slot 7) and by [013] (Slots 10 & 1). A flint chunk [SF 01] and a carved shale fragment [SF 02] were retrieved from Slot 3.
04	Pit –Sub-circular cut with steep sloping sides and a concave base. The cut measured 0.54 m by 0.62 m in plan and had a maximum depth of 0.30 m. Situated within the interior of [06]. Filled by (05)
05	Fill of [04] – dark red /brown silty sand with friable, loose compaction. Contains occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones (<5%). Some bioturbation evident in the form of root activity.
06	Structure - Round Barrow – Comprised of continuous circular ditch [02] 15.0 m in diameter. The feature is cut on both its northern (Slot 10) and southern edges (Slot 1) by the Linear Ditch [013] and by an oval pit [015] within Slot 7. The Barrow Ditch encloses five circular/sub-circular pit features [07-04-09-011-018]. Barrow is positioned approximately 5.0 m to the south of the Rectangular Structure [020]. Probable Round Barrow of Bronze Age date.
07	Pit –Circular cut with steep sloping sides and a flat uneven base. The cut measured 1.10 m in diameter with a depth of 0.20 m. Bioturbated by extensive animal burrowing around the edges. Situated within the interior of [02]. Filled by (08)
08	Fill of [07] – Dark brown silty sand with numerous inclusions of small sub-rounded stones (<30%). Contains flecks of charcoal. Fill of Pit [07] set within the interior of Round Barrow [06].
09	Pit – Truncated, sub-circular cut with steep sloping sides and a broad concave base. The cut measured 0.56 m by 0.48 m in plan and had a maximum depth of 0.13 m. Situated within the interior of [06]. Filled by (010)
010	Fill of [09] – Medium brown silty sand with inclusions of small sub-angular stones throughout <1%.
011	Pit – Sub-circular cut with steep sloping sides and a concave base. The cut measured 1.10 m by 0.90 m in plan and had a maximum depth of 0.37 m. Situated within the interior of [06]. Cuts smaller Pit feature [018] on the western edge. Filled by (012).
012	Fill of [011] – Medium grey/brown silty sand with inclusions of small sub-angular stones throughout <2%.
013	Linear Ditch Feature – Truncated linear cut observed running for 50.0 m NE/SW. Three 2.0 m wide cuts were excavated across the feature revealing a shallow cut with steep sloping sides and a flat base. The cut ranged between 0.40 m and 0.50 m in width with a depth between 0.05 m to 0.25 m. The Linear feature appears to cut the Barrow Ditch [02], however the exact relationship is unclear. Filled by (014). Linear feature of unknown date
014	Fill of [013] – Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with very occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <2%.
015	Pit – Sub-circular cut with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The cut measured 1.30 m by 1.40 m in plan and had a maximum depth of 0.18 m. The pit cuts the western edge of the Barrow Ditch [02] (Slot 7). Filled by (016).
016	Fill of [013] - Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <30%.
017	Void
018	Pit –Circular, shallow cut with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The cut measured 0.70 m in diameter and had a maximum depth of 0.12 m. The pit cuts the western edge of Pit [011]. Filled by (019). Situated within the interior of [02].

019	Fill of [018] – Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.
020	Trapezoidal Structure – ‘Timber Hall’ – Structure formed by three curvilinear beam slots [021-022-023]. The Structure is aligned on an east-west axis and has total dimensions of 20.0 m in length by 8.0 m in width. The Structure is comprised of two divisions (A & B). Division A is rectangular in plan with a length of 13.50 m and a width of 8.0 m. A two metre wide entrance is visible on the southern side of the structure separating the terminus of beam slots [021] and [022]. A slightly wider gap occurs to the north-west. However this is most probably a result of plough truncation. Two postholes [027-029] are located within the interior. These have been placed two metres apart directly opposite the entrance and within the center of the structure. Division B is square in plan with a diameter of 7.0 m. The division is formed by the north-south alignment of beam slot [022] and beam slot [023]. Division B appears offset with the main part of the structure. Whilst beam slots [022-023] are in direct alignment along the north of the structure, the southern part of the beam slot [023] is placed a metre to the north of the southern east-west alignment. The exact relationship between Divisions A & B is unclear. To the north the intersection between beam slots [022-023] appear to show a single cut continuing east to west. However, the intersection to the south shows [023] to have a much shallower cut. The beam slots were filled with the deposits (024-025-026).
021	Trapezoidal Structure – ‘Timber Hall’- Beam Slot – Curvilinear cut aligned east-west and then north south. The feature ended in a rounded terminus in the east (Slot 5) and was Truncated to natural in the north (Slot 7). The Beam Slot was 10.5 m in length and ranged from 0.25 m to 0.60 m in width. The feature had steep sides and a flat to gently concave base. The feature was 0.12 m to 0.20 m in depth. Filled by (024).
022	Trapezoidal Structure – ‘Timber Hall’- Beam Slot – Curvilinear cut aligned east-west for 10.5 m, north to south for 8.0 m and then west to east for 4.5 m. The feature ended in a rounded terminus in the west (Slot 4) and was truncated to natural in the north (Slot 8). The Beam Slot ranged from 0.30 m to 0.50 m in width. The feature had steep sides and a flat to gently concave base. The feature was 0.16 m to 0.50 m in depth. Two intersections were excavated (Slots 10 & 3) between the beam slots [022-023]. These showed a continuation between Divisions A & B. However a much shallower cut was shown in Slot 3. Filled by (025).
023	Trapezoidal Structure – ‘Timber Hall’- Beam Slot – Curvilinear cut forming Division B aligned west-east, north-south and east to west each section at 7.0 m. The Beam Slot ranged from 0.30 m to 0.50 m in width. The feature had steep sides and a flat to gently concave base. The feature was 0.15 m to 0.25 m in depth. Two intersections were excavated (Slots 10 & 3) between the beam slots [022-023]. These showed a continuation between Divisions A & B. However a much shallower cut [023] was shown in Slot 3. Filled by (025).
024	Fill of [021] – Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.
025	Fill of [022] – Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.
026	Fill of [023] – Medium, sterile red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.
027	Posthole – ‘Timber Hall’- Posthole – ‘Timber Hall’ - Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. Posthole is 0.40 m in diameter with a depth of 0.35 m. Situated within Division A of the ‘Timber hall’ [020]. Filled by (029). Paired with Posthole [029].
028	Fill of [027] – Dark red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.
029	Posthole – ‘Timber Hall’- Posthole – ‘Timber Hall’ - Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. Posthole is 0.40 m in diameter with a depth of 0.25 m. Situated within Division A of the ‘Timber hall’ [020]. Filled by (029). Paired with Posthole [027].
030	Fill of [029] – Dark red/brown silty sand with occasional inclusions of gravel and sub-rounded stones <0.01%.

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

Frame	Context	Description	From
1		Registration	-
2-5	[06]	Pre-excavation shots of round Barrow [06]	W
6-10	[06]	Working shots of round Barrow under excavation	W
11-12	[07]	NE facing section of Pit [07]	NE
13-14	[04]	NE facing section of Pit [04]	NE
15	[09]	NE facing section of Pit [09]	NE
16-17	[011]	SE facing section of Pit [07]	SE
18	[02]	Barrow. E facing section Slot 1	E
19	[02]	Barrow. W facing section Slot 1	W
20	[02]	Barrow. NE facing section Slot 2	NE
21	[02]	Barrow. SW facing section Slot 2	SW
22	[02]	Barrow. NW facing section Slot 3	NW
23	[02]	Barrow. SE facing section Slot 3	SE
24	[02]	Barrow. NW facing section Slot 4	NW
25	[02]	Barrow. SE facing section Slot 4	SE
26	[02]	Barrow. W facing section Slot 5	W
27	[02]	Barrow. E facing section Slot 5	E
28	[02]	Barrow. NE facing section Slot 6	NE
29	[02]	Barrow. SW facing section Slot 6	SW
30	[02]	Barrow. S facing section Slot 7	S
31	[02] – [015]	Barrow. NW facing section Slot 7 showing Pit [015]	NW
32	[02]	Barrow. W facing section Slot 8	W
33	[02]	Barrow. N facing section Slot 8	N
34	[02]	Barrow. SW facing section Slot 9	SW
35	[02]	Barrow. NE facing section Slot 9	NE
36	[02] – [013]	Barrow. NE facing section Slot 10 showing Linear cut [013]	NE
37	[02]	Barrow. SW facing section Slot 10	SW
38	[06]	S facing section through Pit [018]	S
39	[020-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 1 S facing section	S
40	[020-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 1 N facing section	N
41	[020-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 2 W facing section	W
42	[020-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 2 E facing section	E
43	[020-022-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 3 W facing section intersection with [022]	W
44	[020-022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 3 N facing section	N
45	[020-022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 3 S facing section	S
46	[020-022-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 3 showing intersection with [022]	N

47	[020-022-023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 3 showing intersection with [022]	S
48	[020-022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 4 W facing section	W
49	[020-022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 4 Terminus	E
50	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 5 E facing section	E
51	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 5 Terminus	E
52	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 6 NW facing section	NW
53	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 6 SE facing section	SE
54	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 7 N facing section	N
55	[021]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 7 general shot	N
56	[022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 8 W facing section	W
57	[022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 8 E facing shot	E
58	[022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 9 E facing section	E
59	[022]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 9 W facing section	W
60	[022 - 023]	Trapezoidal Structure. Slot 10 W facing section	W
61-69	[06-020]	General post-excavation shots	W
70	[013]	Linear Feature Slot 1 S facing section	S
71	[013]	Linear Feature Slot 2 S facing section	S
72	[013]	Linear Feature Slot 3 S facing section	S
73	[027]	Pit [027] N facing section	N
74	[029]	Pit [029] S facing section	S
75-85	[06-020]	Overhead general shots of structures	-

APPENDIX 3: Drawing Register

No.	Description	Scale
1	Plan of Barrow Structure [06] showing Slots 1-10 & internal pit features [04-07-09-011-018]	1:50
2	Barrow Ditch [02] E facing section Slot 1	1:20
3	Barrow Ditch [02] NE facing section Slot 2	1:20
4	Barrow Ditch [02] S facing section Slot 2	1:20
5	Barrow Ditch [02] N facing section Slot 3	1:20
6	Barrow Ditch [02] S facing section Slot 3	1:20
7	Barrow Ditch [02] NW facing section Slot 4	1:20
8	Barrow Ditch [02] SE facing section Slot 4	1:20
9	Barrow Ditch [02] E facing section Slot 10	1:20
10	Barrow Ditch [02] W facing section Slot 5	1:20
11	Barrow Ditch [02] E facing section Slot 5	1:20
12	Barrow Ditch [02] SW facing section Slot 9	1:20
13	Barrow Ditch [02] N facing section Slot 9	1:20
14	Barrow Ditch [02] S facing section Slot 8	1:20
15	Barrow Ditch [02] N facing section Slot 8	1:20

16	Barrow Ditch [02] S facing section Slot 7	1:20
17	Barrow Ditch [02] & Pit [015] N facing section Slot 7	1:20
18	Barrow Ditch [02] E facing section Slot 6	1:20
19	Barrow Ditch [02] W facing section Slot 6	1:20
20	SE facing section Pits [011-018]	1:10
21	NE facing section Pit [07]	1:10
22	NE facing section Pit [07]	1:10
23	SW facing section Pit [09]	1:10
24	Plan of Trapezoidal Structure [020]	1:50
25	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] S facing section Slot 1	1:10
26	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] N facing section Slot 1	1:10
27	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] W facing section Slot 2	1:10
28	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] E facing section Slot 2	1:10
29	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] W facing section Slot 3	1:10
30	Trapezoidal Structure [020] N facing section Slot 3 intersection of [022-023]	1:10
31	Trapezoidal Structure [020] S facing section Slot 3 intersection of [022-023]	1:10
32	Trapezoidal Structure [020-022] W facing section Slot 4	1:10
33	Trapezoidal Structure [020-021] E facing section Slot 5	1:10
34	Trapezoidal Structure [020-021] W facing section Slot 6	1:10
35	Trapezoidal Structure [020-021] E facing section Slot 6	1:10
36	Trapezoidal Structure [020-021] N facing section Slot 7	1:10
37	Trapezoidal Structure [020-022] W facing section Slot 8	1:10
38	Trapezoidal Structure [020-022] E facing section Slot 9	1:10
39	Trapezoidal Structure [020-022] W facing section Slot 9	1:10
40	Trapezoidal Structure [020] E facing section Slot 10 intersection of [022-023]	1:10
41	Trapezoidal Structure [020] W facing section Slot 10 intersection of [022-023]	1:10
42	Trapezoidal Structure [020] N facing section Slot 10 intersection of [022-023]	1:10
43	Trapezoidal Structure [020] NW facing section Posthole [027]	1:10
44	Trapezoidal Structure [020] S facing section Posthole [029]	1:10
45	Trapezoidal Structure [020-023] S facing section Slot 13	1:10
46	Linear Feature [013] S facing section Slot 1	1:10
47	Linear Feature [013] S facing section Slot 2	1:10
48	Linear Feature [013] S facing section Slot 3	1:10

APPENDIX 4: Small Finds Register

No.	Description	Context	Material
1	Carved shale fragment	(003)	Shale
2	Flint chunk	(003)	Flint

APPENDIX 5: Sample Register

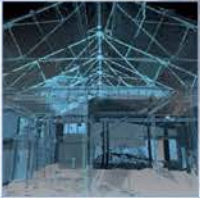
Sample	Structure	Context
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 1
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 2
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 3
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 4
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 5
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 6
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 7
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 8
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 9
20 litres	[06]	Barrow Ditch fill (03) Slot 10
20 litres	[06]	Pit fill (05)
20 litres	[06]	Pit fill (08)
20 litres	[06]	Pit fill (010)
20 litres	[06]	Pit fill (012)
20 litres	[06]	Pit fill (019)
20 litres	[013]	Linear cut fill (014) Slot 1
20 litres	[013]	Linear cut fill (014) Slot 2
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 1 (026)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 2 (026)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 3 (025)
10 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 4 (025)
10 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 5 (024)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 6 (024)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 7 (024)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 8 (025)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 9 (025)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 10 (025)
20 litres	[020]	Trapezoidal Structure Slot 11 (026)
20 litres	[020]	Posthole fill (028)

20 litres	[020]	Posthole fill (029)
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APPENDIX 6: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Land at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian: Archaeological Excavation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23520
PARISH:	Prestonpans
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rob Engl
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Excavation
NMRS NO(S)	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Trapezoidal 'timber hall', Round Barrow with internal Pit features, Linear Ditch.
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Carved shale fragment, Flint chunk
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 37745 73175
START DATE (this season)	10 th January 2017
END DATE (this season)	23 rd January 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	AOC Archaeology 2016 Land at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian: Archaeological Evaluation. Unpublished Client Report.
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken in respect to a proposed development at Dolphingstone Farm, Prestonpans, East Lothian (centred on NGR: NT 37745 73175).</p> <p>The excavation follows the findings of an initial archaeological metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology in September 2016.</p> <p>The archaeological evaluation sought to target the crop-marks of a number of features (HER MEL2552) recorded within the site area. The evaluation successfully revealed a trapezoidal enclosure and the survival of a possible Barrow, both of these features were thought to be of probable prehistoric date.</p> <p>The archaeological excavation revealed two significant structures lying in close proximity. At the south of the excavation area lay a large Barrow ditch of probable Bronze Age date. The ditch enclosed five internal sub-circular pit features. Two small finds consisting of a piece of carved shale and a flint chunk were retrieved from the Barrow ditch fill.</p> <p>A second structure was located to the immediate north of the Barrow.</p>

	<p>This consisted of the remains of a trapezoidal structure formed by several beam slots. The Structure was aligned east to west and divided into two areas. The larger westernmost of these revealed the remains of a south facing entrance. Two paired postholes were excavated within the center of the structure. These were placed directly opposite to the entrance. Though appearing sterile of dateable small finds, the structure can possibly be identified on morphological grounds as a possible Early Historic period 'Timber Hall'.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Post Excavation Research
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CgMs Consulting
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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