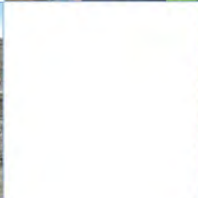
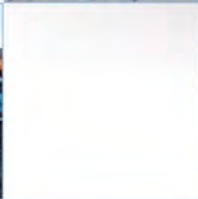


Jericho Bridge (Area 2b) Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

20584

April/May 2008



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Jericho Bridge (Area 2b) Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Tarmac Limited, PO Box 5, Fell Bank, Birtley, Chester le Street, County Durham DH3 2ST
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NX 9909 8197
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Abstract

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Tarmac Ltd to undertake a phased programme of archaeological works within the site of a proposed quarry extension at the Jericho Bridge site, Locharbriggs, north of Dumfries. The work required is in response to a planning condition set by Dumfries and Galloway Council. An 8% sample of the 2.2 ha area equated to trenching totalling 1760 m². In total eighteen trenches totalling 1800 m² were opened. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile with no features or artefactual material uncovered by the evaluation works.

0. Non Technical Summary

- 0.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Tarmac Ltd to undertake a phased programme of archaeological works within a proposed quarry extension at the Jericho Bridge site, Locharbriggs, north of Dumfries. The work was required in response to a planning condition set by Dumfries and Galloway Council.
- 0.2 The Dumfries and Galloway Council is advised on archaeological matters by Ms. Jane Brann. Ms. Brann recommended an intrusive archaeological evaluation of the proposed quarry extension. The work was required in accordance with NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a), in order to determine the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

1. Introduction

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The '2b' site (Figure 1) at Jericho Bridge is centred on NGR: NX 9909 8197 and is bounded by to the east south and north by existing agricultural land. Kilblane Quarry lies to the west (see Figure 1). The site lies within an area of existing agricultural land, most recently in use as rough pasture for sheep.

1.2 Archaeological background

- 1.2.1 In 2005 an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed for the area in and around the proposed quarry extension (Toolis and Thompson 2005). The EIA identified no sites of cultural or historical sites within this part of the proposed quarry extension, but revealed a series of monuments relating from the prehistoric period to the modern within close proximity (Toolis and Thompson 2005).
- 1.2.2 Indistinct linear cropmarks (*NMRS NX98SE 48*) were identified in the south-eastern portion of the wider development site on aerial photographs held by RCAHMS. Much of this area may have been previously quarried. Documentary evidence suggests the existence of a post-medieval farmstead in the north-east of the site. A dismantled railway line and embankment, believed to be a remnant of the Dumfries to Lockerbie line, 'skirts' the western site boundary. Here there is the potential that across the quarry extension lie the remains of temporary branch lines feeding from the quarry to the main line.
- 1.2.3. Several prehistoric funerary sites remains are located within a 1 km radius of the overall development site including a number of cists and cairns. There are also isolated findspots of significant artefactual material recorded in the vicinity of the site, such as a stone axe and a flint flake discovered near Amisfield village. Cropmarks to the west of Hazelrig Farm and a short distance to the north of the site appear to form a multivallate enclosure, indicative of later prehistoric settlement. Cropmarks at Townhead and Tinwald may also indicate prehistoric settlement or other activity.
- 1.2.4 Tinwald Motte, on the edge of the village of Tinwald, appears to date from the 12th century. Despite being reduced by cultivation there is evidence from aerial photographs for a surrounding ditch around the motte and what may be a palisade to the south-east, defining an oval bailey associated

with the motte. Settlement at Tinwald during the medieval period clearly continued though, as a church situated slightly further north of the motte survived until the 18th century when the new church was built on its foundations.

- 1.2.5 The field to the immediate south of the proposed area of evaluation has previously been topsoil stripped under archaeological supervision. The works identified four un-dated negative features, comprising two small pits and two possible postholes (AOC 2007).

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works are:
- i) to determine the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the development area;
 - ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

3. Method

- 3.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation (Dunbar 2007) proposed the excavation of trenches equating to at least an 8% sample of the 2b area. The site covered 2.2 ha resulting in an evaluation requiring investigation of 1760 m². The proposed trench location as agreed prior to the works beginning with Mr. Andrew Nicholson (on Jane Brann's behalf) required a slight modification in the field in light of existing overhead services along the western site boundary.
- 3.2 In total eighteen trenches were excavated totalling 1800 m² which equates to just over the required 8% sample. Figure 1 shows the location of each trench.
- 3.3 All trenches were excavated with a JCB 3CX wheeled excavator using a 2.0 m wide ditching bucket. The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through the made ground to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits.
- 3.5 At all times the evaluation trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures detailed with the WSI (Dunbar 2007).

4. Results

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The works were conducted between 30th April and 2nd May 2008. The weather conditions during the evaluation were predominantly dry with occasional short showers in the early part of the evaluation. Overall archaeological visibility was good.

4.1.2 The various data gathered from the excavation are presented as a series of appendices:

Appendix 1 contains trench summaries;

Appendix 2 contains the photographic register;

Appendix 3 reproduces the *Discovery & Excavation in Scotland* entry.

4.2 Overview

4.2.1 No archaeological significant features, deposits or artefacts were encountered during the evaluation. Examination of the spoil from trenches did not lead to the recovery of any unstratified artefacts.

4.2.2 The topsoil was of a consistent depth across the site between 0.21 m and 0.33 m. No drainage features or land improvement features were encountered in any of the trenches. A single small diameter plastic pipe feeding a cattle water feeding trough crossed the site from SE to NW, at very shallow depth, within the topsoil.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1. The evaluation trenching provided comprehensive coverage across the site and the trenches were adjusted in the field to ensure the most suitable topographic features were examined. However no archaeology was encountered. The lack of finds from the spoil would also suggest that no significant archaeology lies within the development area.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 We recommend that given the scale of the evaluation undertaken and the complete absence of any sort of archaeological material that no further works are required.

7. REFERENCES

Dunbar, L. 2007 Jericho Bridge (Area 2b) Evaluation Written of Investigation AOC Archaeology Client Report

SOEnD 1994 National Planning Policy Guideline NPPG 5. Archaeology and Planning. The Scottish Office Environment Department.

SOEnD 1994a Planning Advice Note 42. Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled Ancient Monument Procedures. The Scottish Office Environment Department.

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Total Area	100 m ²
Orientation	E-W
Depth to Subsoil	Between 0.24 m at E end and 0.26 m at W end
Significant Features	No archaeological features.
Finds	No unstratified material.

Trench 2

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Total Area	100 m ²
Orientation	E-W
Depth to Subsoil	Between 0.23 m at E end and 0.24 m at W end
Significant Features	No archaeological features.
Finds	No unstratified material.

Trench 3

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Total Area	100 m ²
Orientation	E-W
Depth to Subsoil	Between 0.24 m at E end and 0.26 m at W end
Significant Features	No archaeological features.
Finds	No unstratified material.

Trench 4

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Total Area	100 m ²
Orientation	N-S
Depth to Subsoil	Between 0.21 m at N end and 0.29 m at S end
Significant Features	No archaeological features. Trench crosses over the top of a glacial mound.
Finds	No unstratified material.

Trench 5

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Total Area	100 m ²
Orientation	N-S
Depth to Subsoil	Between 0.27 m at N end and 0.31 m at S end
Significant Features	No archaeological features.

Finds A single unstratified sherd of 19th/20th Century glazed ceramic.

Trench 6

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.25 m at E end and 0.26 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds Two unstratified sherds of 19th/20th Century glazed ceramic.

Trench 7

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation N-S
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.23 m at N end and 0.21 m at S end.
Significant Features No archaeological features. Trench crossed by plastic waterpipe.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 8

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.24 m at E end and 0.26 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 9

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation N-S
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.23 m at N end and 0.21 m at S end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 10

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.23 m at E end and 0.24 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features. Trench crossed by plastic waterpipe.

Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 11

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation N-S
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.26 m at N end and 0.24 m at S end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 12

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.27 m at E end and 0.31 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 13

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.29 m at E end and 0.33 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 14

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation N-S
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.24 m at N end and 0.24 m at S end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 15

Dimensions 45 m by 2 m
Total Area 90 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.29 m at E end and 0.33 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features. Trench crossed by plastic waterpipe.

Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 16

Dimensions 45 m by 2 m
Total Area 90 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.28 m at E end and 0.31 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features. Trench crossed by plastic waterpipe.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 17

Dimensions 45 m by 2 m
Total Area 100 m²
Orientation E-W
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.28 m at E end and 0.31 m at W end
Significant Features No archaeological features. Trench crossed by plastic waterpipe.
Finds No unstratified material.

Trench 18

Dimensions 65 m by 2 m
Total Area 130 m²
Orientation N-S
Depth to Subsoil Between 0.29 m at N end and 0.27 m at S end
Significant Features No archaeological features.
Finds No unstratified material.

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Colour Slide and Black & White Print – FILM No.1

Shot No.	Area	Description	From
1-2	-	Registration shots	-
3	Tr7	View of Trench 7	N
4	Tr4	View of Trench 4	S
5	Tr5	View of Trench 5	S
6-7	Tr6	View of Trench 6	E
8	Tr9	View of Trench 9	S
9	Tr10	View of Trench 10	N
10-11		General View of site	N
12	Tr12	View of Trench 12	E
13	Tr14	View of Trench 14	S
14		General view of Site	S

APPENDIX 3: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Jericho Bridge (Area 2b) Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 20584
PARISH:	Tinwald
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Lindsay Dunbar & Alan Duffy
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)	NX 9909 8197
START DATE (this season)	30 th April 2008
END DATE (this season)	2 nd May 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	AOC Archaeology Group undertook an evaluation within the 'Area 2b' part of a proposed quarry extension at the Tarmac Jericho Bridge site, Locharbriggs, north of Dumfries. An 8% sample of the 2.2 ha area equated to trenching totalling 1760 m ² . In total 18 trenches totalling 1800 m ² were opened. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile with no features or artefacts unearthed by the evaluation.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Tarmac Limited
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Lindsay.Dunbar@aocarchaeology.com

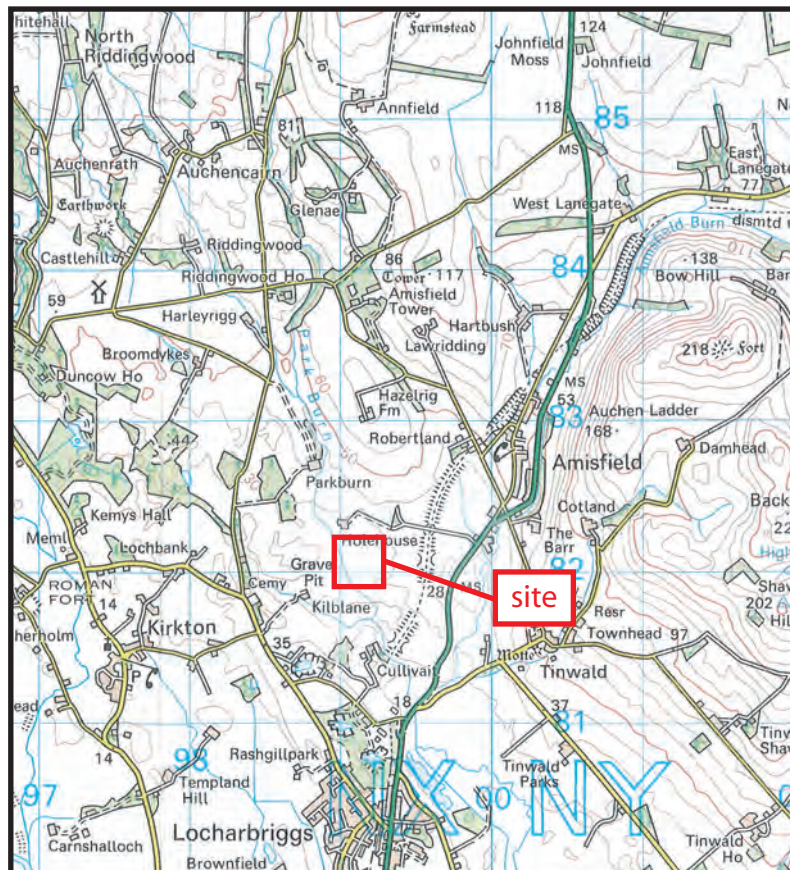
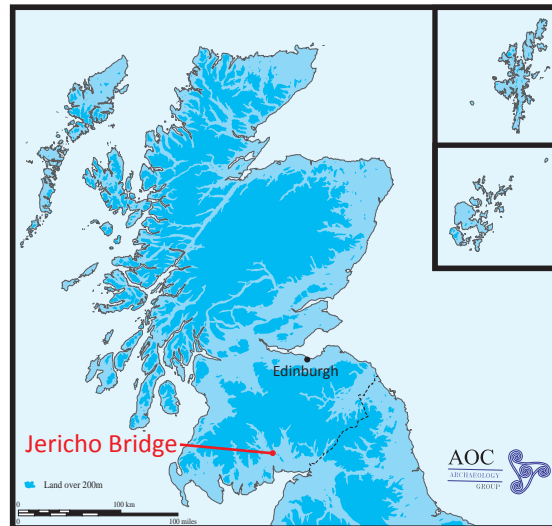


Figure 1: Site location

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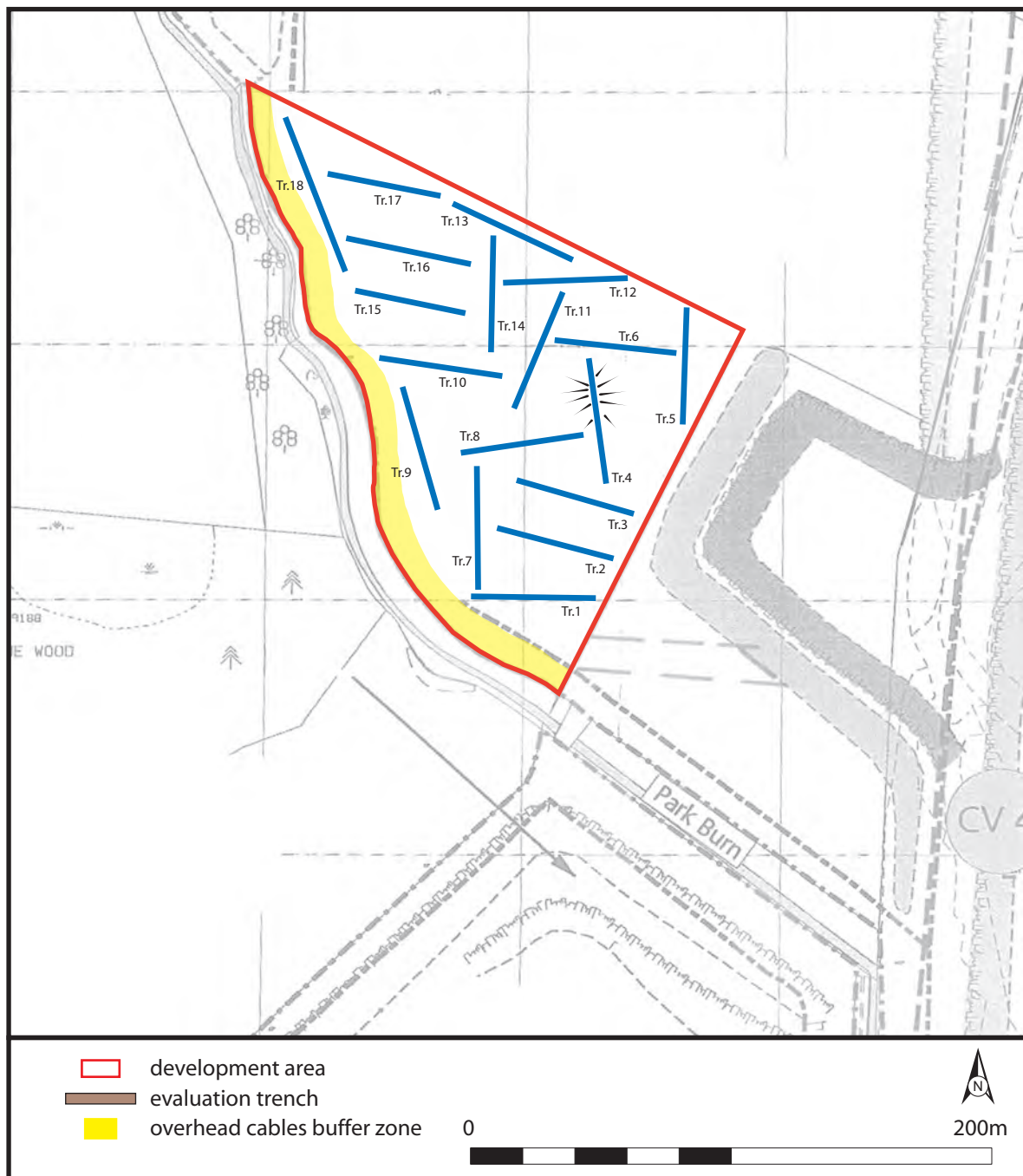
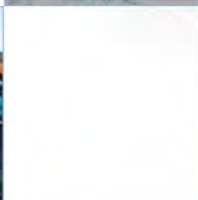


Figure 2: Plan showing position of evaluation trenches within the evaluation area



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