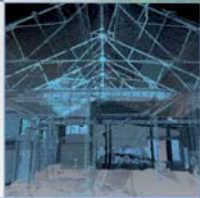
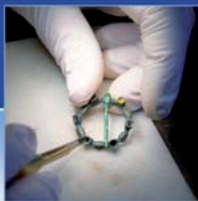


King's Park Road and Roundabout, Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC 21251
January 2008



King's Park Road and Roundabout Evaluation

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Environmental Services Stirling Council Viewforth Stirling FK8 2ET
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 78743 93691
AOC Project No:	AOC 21251
Prepared by:	Martin Cook
Illustration by:	Graeme Carruthers
Date of Fieldwork:	6th-8th January 2009
Date of Report:	19th January 2009

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

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Report Stage: Draft	Date:

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Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group in advance of the proposed upgrade of the roundabout together with carriageway widening in relation to land at the A811 and B8051, Stirling (NS 7874 9369). The scope of the works was determined by the Stirling Council as advised by Ms Lorna Main, the council's Archaeology Officer.

The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of a 10% sample of a 6015 m² land parcel. The work was carried out during January 2009 and was conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2008) approved by Ms Lorna Main.

The evaluation identified a fragment of a linear ditch feature thought to be part of the Queen's Knot, an 18th century designed landscape. The results of the evaluation are such that further phase of watching brief will be required prior to the discharging of the planning condition and prior to any development being undertaken on site.

0.0 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 0.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Environment Services, Stirling Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed upgrade of Kings Park Road Roundabout and associated widening of the A811 and B8051, Stirling. The need for, and scope of archaeological works has been determined by Ms Lorna Main, Stirling Council's Archaeology Officer and detailed in a '*Terms of Reference for an Archaeological Field Evaluation*' written by Ms Main. The work required is in accordance with SPP 23 (2008) 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 and has been attached as a condition to planning consent (06/00917/NID)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The proposed development area comprises a 6015 m² land parcel between the Fire Station roundabout and the King's Knot roundabout, Raploch Road, Raploch, Stirling (Figure 1; NS 7874 9369).
- 1.1.2 The land to be developed comprises agricultural land currently under pasture and comprises combination of flat and steep ground.

1.2 Curatorial control

- 1.2.1 The need for, and scope of archaeological works was determined by Ms Main, Stirling Council's Archaeology Officer and detailed in a '*Terms of Reference for an Archaeological Field Evaluation*' written by Ms Main. The work was required is in accordance with SPP 23 (2008) 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 and has been attached as a condition to planning consent (06/00917/NID)
- 1.2.2 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2008) outlined the entirety of the archaeological programme of work which may have been needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed development. It detailed principally the methodology to be employed in implementing the archaeological evaluation.

1.3 Archaeological Background (Main, L 2008)

- 1.3.1 There is no record of any previous archaeological work on this site.
- 1.3.2 It is clear from old maps, aerial photographs and from the remains which still survive today, that the formal gardens, known collectively as the King's Knot, at one time extended under and to the west of the B8051. Buried remains of the north-west corner of the sunken parterre of the Queen's Knot, which lies to the north west of the raised earthworks of the King's Knot may therefore still survive in the field to the west of the road. Evidence of earlier gardens here, as suggested by Laye's map of Stirling of 1725, may also be recoverable.

- 1.3.3 A road on the line of the present B8051 is not shown on Roy's map of Stirling of 1747-55 but it does appear on the Stirling inset into Thomson's map of Stirlingshire of 1819 accredited to John Grassom. Similarly the A811 Dumbarton Road does not appear on the 18th century maps but is shown on later maps. This suggests that the severance of the north-west corner of the Queen's Knot and the removal of the southern edge of the King's Knot took place in the late 18th/early 19th century.
- 1.3.4 The proposed position of the new roundabout and the lengths of carriageway to be widened/relocated lie outside the area of the King's Knot which is scheduled as a monument of national importance and also outwith the garden area included in the Inventory of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes. They also lie outside the King's Park Conservation Area boundary.
- 1.3.5 As the majority of the development area is presently farmland the potential persists that as yet unknown subsurface archaeological remains may survive within the application site's boundaries.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:
- i) to determine 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 archaeological mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, should significant archaeological remains be encountered that cannot be preserved *in situ*.

3 METHOD

- 3.1 All excavations were undertaken by an excavator utilising a bladed ditching bucket operating under the constant supervision of an experienced field archaeologist. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil/overburden to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 6th and 8th January 2009, with cold and dry weather conditions yielding good archaeological visibility throughout. The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Appendices 1 – 5 and Figures 1 & 2.

- 4.1.2 Twelve trenches totalling 602 m² were excavated across the site (Figure 2). The location and orientation of the trenches was altered in the field from those illustrated in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2008) due to the presence of a steep gradient.
- 4.1.3 Despite comprising a relatively small area, the proposed development site varied greatly. The south-eastern fragment of the site comprises a relatively flat plateau, which falls steeply to the north and west. The western fragment of the site comprises a flat area, but wet area. The site had clearly been the subject of various stages of development and subsequent truncation resulting in the existing topography.
- 4.1.4 Twelve trenches were excavated across the site at various lengths and orientations (Figure 2). Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 12 were excavated across the top of the plateau; Trenches 3, 6, 7 and 11 across the slope and Trenches 8, 9 and 10 in the flat area to the west of the development area. The trenches were generally excavated through between 0.20-0.40 m of topsoil, overlying the natural orange sands and gravel (Plate 1).



Plate 1: General view of Trench 12

- 4.1.5 A north-west to south-east aligned ditch [201] was identified and excavated within Trench 2 (Plate 2). The ditch was linear in plan, with shallow sides sloping in to a flat base. The ditch, measuring approximately 3 m in width by up to 0.35 m in depth, was filled by two deposits [202] and [203]. A single piece of white ceramic was identified from the base of the fill [202].
- 4.1.6 A small cut [401] was identified at the eastern edge of Trench 4. The feature was only partially uncovered, but measured at least 0.50 m by 0.80 m in size.
- 4.1.7 Two the features identified in Trenches 2 and 4 lie on the same approximate alignment as each other and the north-western edge of the Queen's Knot (Figure 2). Although truncated, it seems likely that the two features [201] and [401] form the fragmentary remains of the designed landscape. Unfortunately no other remains of the Queen's Knot were identified in either Trench 2 or 4 or any of the other excavated trenches.



Plate 2: West facing section through Ditch [201]

- 4.1.8 No other evidence was identified for features relating to either the Queen's Knot or any other archaeological features.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The evaluation provided a comprehensive intrusive survey of the area to the specification agreed with Stirling Council (AOC 2008).
- 5.2 The evaluation was successful in identifying two separate features thought to represent the fragmentary evidence for the north-western boundary of the Queen's Knot designed landscape, dating to the 18th century. No evidence was identified for features relating to the earlier designed landscape that was superseded by the Queen's Knot. The possibility however remains that further evidence for the designed landscape exists within the areas unaffected by trenching.
- 5.3 Under normal circumstances the identified features could be preserved *in situ*, and remain unexcavated, under either an area of garden or parkland. However, as the proposed development will have a severe impact across the evaluation area, the features need to be *preserved by record* through excavation and subsequent post-excavation analyses/publication where applicable. This can be achieved under a phase of watching brief.

6 REFERENCES

AOC 2008 *King's Park and Roundabout, Stirling, Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*, Unpubl AOC Archaeology Client Report

Main L. 2008 '*Kings Park Road and Roundabout, Stirling : Terms of Reference for Archaeological Field Evaluation*' Stirling Council Environmental Services, 27/10/2008

Scottish Planning Policy SPP23. Archaeology and Planning. Nov.2008.

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

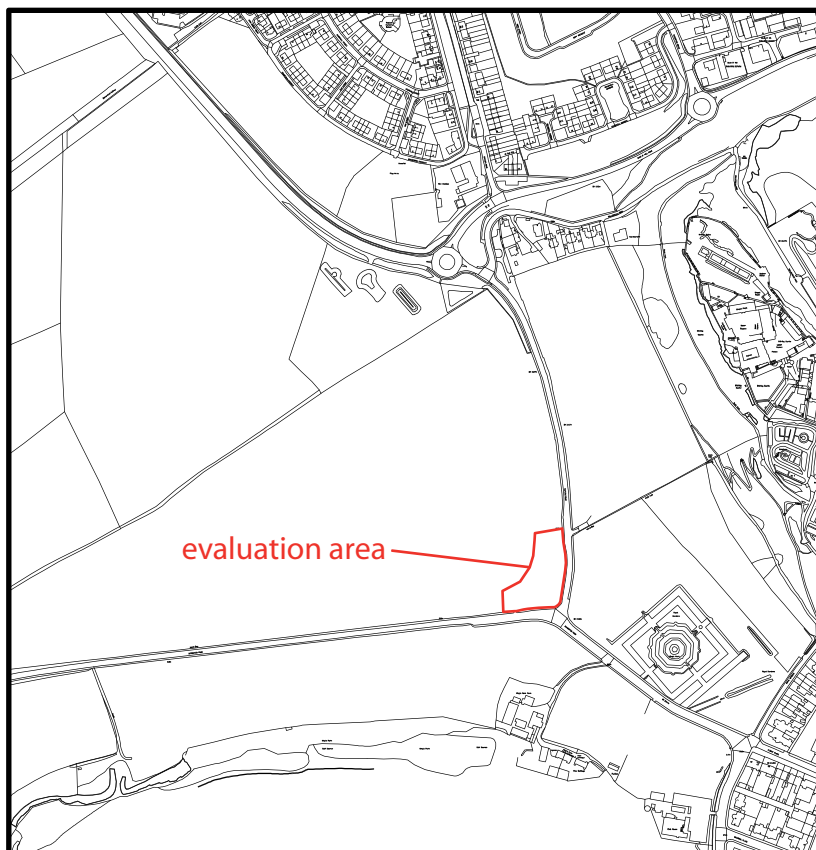
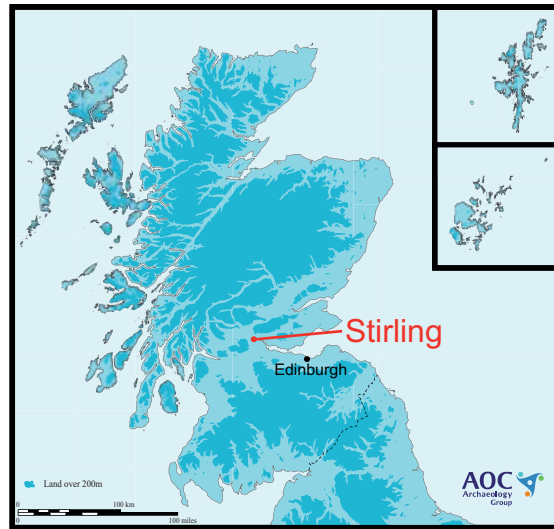


Figure 1: site location

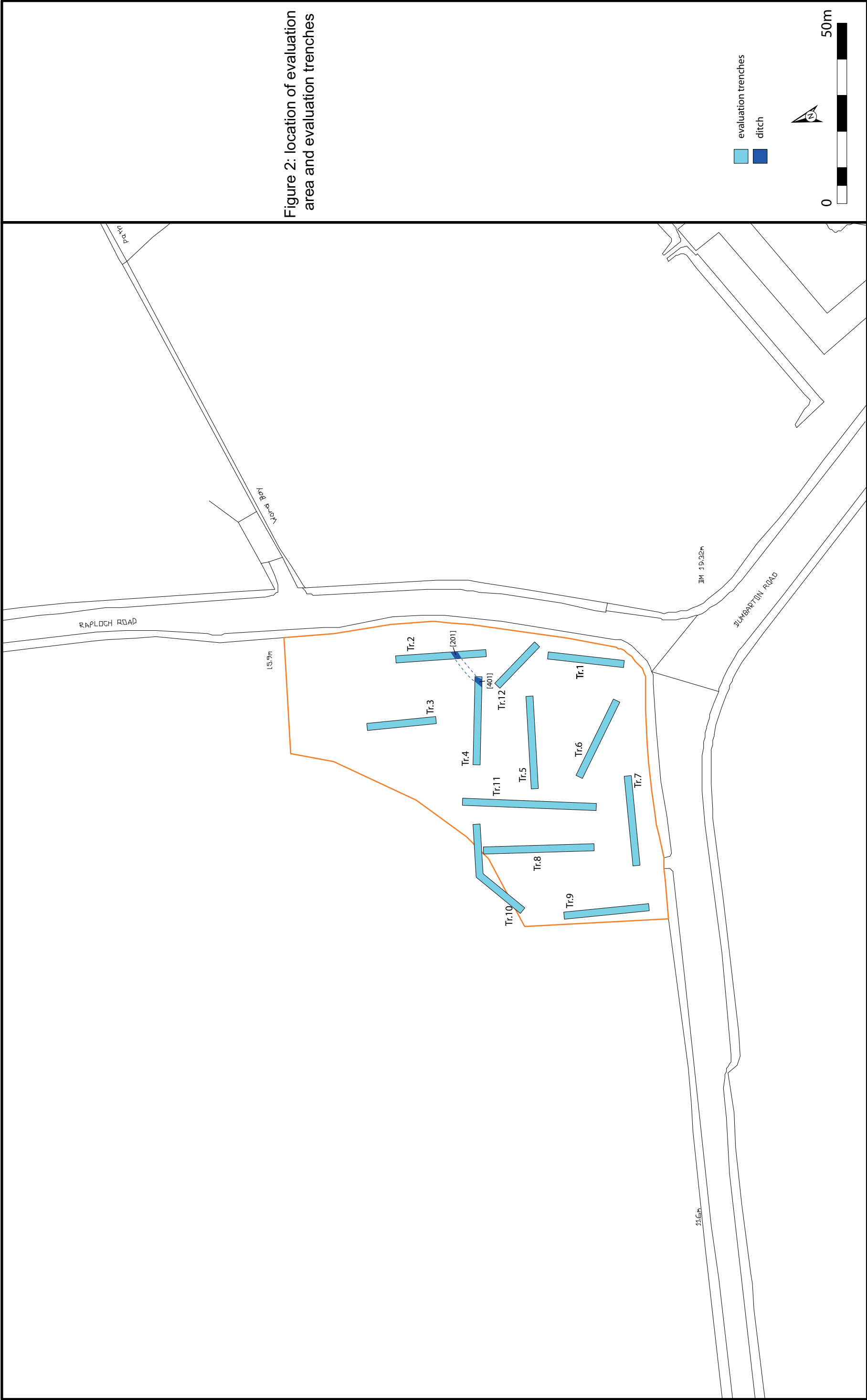


Figure 2: location of evaluation area and evaluation trenches

King's Park Road and Roundabout, Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Black & White Print and Colour Slide Film 1

Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration	
3-4	Detail of cut [201]	W
5-6	Detail of cut [201]	N
7-8	West facing section through cut [201]	W
9-10	General post-excavation shout of cut [201]	W
11-12	General shot of Trench 4, post-excavation	E
13-16	Working shots of site	Various

APPENDIX 2: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.40 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m average
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	Ditch [201] aligned east to west across the trench, filled by [202] and [203]
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	Modern white ceramic

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	East to west
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.25 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	Possible ditch feature [401]
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	East to west
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.80 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.90 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2.00 m
<i>Orientation</i>	East to west
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.22 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 1.80 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North to south
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.22 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 10

<i>Dimensions</i>	30 m by 1.80 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North-east to south-west
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 11

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 1.80 m
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<i>Orientation</i>	East to west
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 12

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 1.80 m
<i>Orientation</i>	North-west to south-east
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m (average)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m (average)
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Modern Features</i>	Clay drains
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 3: Context Record

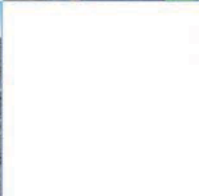
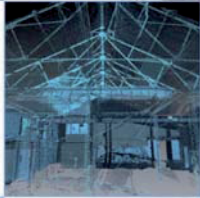
Context	Type	Description
200	N/A	Topsoil comprising a mid-dark brown sandy silty with few inclusions. Overlying [202] and [203].
201	Cut	Cut of ditch feature, linear in plan, with gently sloping sides running in to flat, but uneven base. Measuring approximately 3 m in width by up to 0.35 m in depth. Filled by [202] and [203].
202	Fill	Lower fill of cut [201], comprising a light brown loose sandy silt, with occasional inclusions of small pebbles and a small piece of white ceramic. Underlying [203].
203	Fill	Upper fill of cut [201], comprising a loose mid brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of small stones. Overlying [202].
204	Natural	Natural subsoil, comprising orange brown silty sand. Cut [201] was excavated through this.
401	Cut	Cut of possible ditch feature running east to west through trench. Possibly related to cut [201]. Filled by [402]. Unexcavated.
402	Fill	Fill of cut [401], comprising a light brown sandy silt. Unexcavated.

APPENDIX 4: Drawing Register

Dwg No	Scale	Description
1	1:20	West facing section through cut [201] and fills [202] and [203]
2	1:50	Plan of cut [201]

APPENDIX 5: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Stirling Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	King's Park and Roundabout
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21251
PARISH:	Stirling
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Martin Cook
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	NS79SE7
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Fragment of 18 th century designed landscape
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NS 7874 9369
START DATE (this season)	6 th January 2009
END DATE (this season)	8 th January 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken advance of the proposed upgrade of the roundabout together with carriageway widening in relation to land at the A811 and B8051, Stirling (NS 7874 9369). The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of twelve trenches totalling 602 m ² representing a 10% sample of the area. Two features identified within the evaluation area represent fragments of the southern edge of the Queen's Knot, part of an 18 th century designed landscape. No other features of archaeological significance were identified. As the proposed development will destroy the identified features, a secondary phase of excavation will be required to record the full extent of the features.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Watching brief phase
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Stirling Council
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