

Data Structure Report
AOC 21151





Nunholm Road, Dumfries, Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: Robert Potter & Partners

National Grid Reference (NGR): NX 9715 7765

AOC Project No: AOC 21151

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Contents

	Page
List of illustrations	2
List of appendices	2
Abstract	3
1 INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Development Background	4
1.2 Site Location	4
1.3 Archaeological Background	4
2 OBJECTIVES	4
3 METHOD	5
4 RESULTS	5
4.1 Introduction	5
4.2 Trenching	5
5 DISCUSSION	
6 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORKS	12
7 REFERENCES	12
APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions	14
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register	16
APPENDIX 3: Context Register	
APPENDIX 4: Drawing Register	19
APPENDIX 5: Finds Register	19
APPENDIX 6: Sample Register	19
APPENDIX 7: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT	

List of illustrations

- Figure 1: Site location and location of evaluation areas
- Figure 2: Plans of features in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Figure 3: Sections of features
- Plate 1: West facing section of enclosure ditch [101]
- Plate 2: South-west facing section of pit [203]
- Plate 3: Cobbled area [207] with possible pit [208] and layer [209] from SW
- Plate 4: Possible truncated posthole [305]
- Plate 5: South facing section of ring gully [307]
- Plate 6: South-west facing section of ditch [401]
- Plate 7: Postholes [405] and [407] from SE

List of appendices

Appendix 1: Trench Descriptions

Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Appendix 3: Context Register

Appendix 4: Drawing Register

Appendix 5: Finds Register

Appendix 6: Sample Register

Appendix 7: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on a proposed residential development at Nunholm Road, just north of Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway. The evaluation was commissioned by Robert Potter & Partners. The works consisted of an 8% intrusive evaluation on two land parcels with a combined area of 0.42 ha. Archaeological trenching amounted to a total of some 391 m². The site was centred on NGR: NX 9715 7765.

The work was carried out in April/May 2009 and was conducted according to the terms of a Written Scheme of Investigation (Dunbar 2008) which was agreed by Dumfries and Galloway council.

The evaluation revealed features of archaeological significance including several linear features, a large enclosure ditch, a cobble spread and several pit and post-hole features of possible prehistoric date. A single sherd of black glazed ceramic was the only artefact recovered.

As required by Dumfries & Galloway council, a mitigation strategy to deal with these findings will be prepared compliant with PAN 42 and SPP 23.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development Background

- 1.1.1 An intrusive archaeological evaluation was required by Robert Potter & Partners on a proposed residential development at Nunholm Road, Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway (centred NGR: NX 9715 7765). The proposed development lies within the administrative area of Dumfries & Galloway Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Ms Jane Brann. The evaluation was recommended by Ms Brann in keeping with the policies outlined in PAN 42 & SPP23. The work was designed to assess the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the development area.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation works were undertaken between the 28th and 30th April 2009. The works consisted of linear trenching totalling 391 m² (8%) excavated by machine under constant archaeological supervision. The trenching was focused solely on Plots 3 and 4 of the development which have a combined area of 0.42 ha (Figure 1)

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The evaluation area lies to the immediate north of Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway (Figure 1) (NGR: NX 9715 7765) it is bounded to the north, south and west by existing agricultural land, with Nunholm Road forming the eastern boundary.

1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The proposed development area lies within a flat plateau of well established agricultural land above a floodplain on a bend on the River Nith. The plateau contains a large crop-mark site (NMRS NX97NE 172). This was identified from aerial photographs taken in 1965.
- 1.3.2 The crop-mark is described by the RCAHMS as consisting of an 'irregular shape with an internal diameter of about 50 m with a gap in the West side' and that there are 'roughly circular and indeterminate crop-marks that may represent internal structures' (RCAHMS 1999). It is possible that the crop-mark remains are those of prehistoric enclosed settlement.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
 - to determine the character, condition, extent, quality, date and significance of any as yet undiscovered archaeological remains within the proposed development area;

ii) should significant archaeological features/deposits be discovered to prepare and implement an appropriate mitigation strategy compliant with PAN 42 and SPP 23.

3 METHOD

- 3.1 The evaluation was achieved through the excavation of linear trenches using a tracked 360° excavator equipped with a 2 m wide ditching bucket. The trenches covered an 8% sample Plots 3 and 4 as shown in Figure 1. These two plots have a total area of 0.42 ha and therefore required no less than 336 m² of trenching.
- 3.2 The trenches were of varying lengths and set on varying orientations. The precise location of the trenches was determined following consultation with Ms Jane Brann.
- 3.3 Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural drift geology was reached. Trial trenches were extended around specific archaeological features to determine their lateral extent (while remaining within the development area). All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.4 All significant archaeological features were cleaned and defined. Approximately 50% of all significant features were sampled and recorded.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted between 28th and 30th April 2009. The weather conditions during the evaluation and overall archaeological visibility was good. Seven trenches were excavated with the majority being approximately 30 m in length. The trenches had a combined basal area of 391 m². The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Appendices 1-7, Figures 1-3 and Plates 1-7.

4.2 Trenching

4.2.1 Introduction (Figure 1)

The excavation of the trenches revealed soft, medium brown silty topsoil which ranged from 0.30 m to 0.60 m in depth across the development. The topsoil contained occasional small sub-rounded stones and small amounts of modern ceramics and glass. The topsoil overlay a natural subsoil of orange sands and gravels. No modern field drains were encountered.

Features of archaeological significance were observed within Trenches 1-4. These were all located within the southern development plot (Plot 4).

4.2.2 Trench 1 (Figures 1-3) (Plate 1)

4.2.2.1 Trench 1 revealed two linear features, [101] and [103]. Feature [101] appears to be a large enclosure ditch which is aligned south to north and appears to curve around to the west. A one metre wide slot was excavated through this, revealing a steeply sided concave cut with a slightly rounded base. Within the trench the feature was visible for 2.4 m with a width of 5.32 m and a maximum depth of 1.52 m. The feature was filled by two deposits (102) and (105). The upper fill (102) consisted of dark brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones which became more frequent towards its base. This in turn overlay the primary fill (105) which consisted of pale brown gravel sand. This deposit also contained occasional, large sub-rounded cobbles especially towards the base and occasional flecks of charcoal. The feature was also observed in Trenches 2, 3 and 4.



Plate 1: West facing section of enclosure ditch [101]

4.2.2.2 A smaller linear cut feature [103] was also observed running north to south. This had shallow concave sides and a slightly rounded base. The feature had a visible length of 3.4 m and a width of 0.67 m. a maximum depth of 0.25 m was recorded. The feature contained a single fill (104) which was a heavily bioturbated brown sandy silt. The feature appears to respect the outer edge of [101] and would appear to be itself some form of boundary ditch.

- 4.2.3 Trench 2 (Figures 1-3) (Plates 2 & 3)
- 4.2.3.1 This trench contained five features including a sub-circular pit feature [203], a post-hole [205], a cobble spread [207] and the recurring boundary ditch from Trench 1 [201]. This feature was not excavated but had a similar visible length and width and a similar fill (202). The pit feature [203] had steep gradually sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. It had a length of 2.60 m and a width of 1.10 m. The feature was 0.51 m in depth, and was filled by a single deposit (204), a dark brown silty sand which produced occasional flecks of charcoal and a single body sherd of black glazed ceramic. Feature [205] was a truncated oval feature with steep sides and a rounded base. The feature was 0.46 m in length, 0.36 m in width and 0.16 m in depth. The fill (206) was very similar to (204).



Plate 2: South-west facing section of pit [203]

4.2.3.2 An area of cobbles [207] was revealed at the south-east end of Trench 2. This was irregular in shape and possibly truncated with variously shaped cobbles possibly overlying the pit [208] although this was not proven during the evaluation as [207] was not excavated. The cobbled area was approximately 4.9 m in length with a width of 2.25 m. Pit [208] was 3.7 m in visible length and 2.4 m in width. It had a fill (209) of pale brown silty sand. A thin patch of black silty sand with possible charcoal (210) appeared to overlie the cobbles [207] in its south-west corner.



Plate 3: Cobbled area [207] with possible pit [208] and layer (210) from SW

4.2.4 Trench 3 (Figures 1-3) (Plates 4 & 5)

4.2.4.1 Trench 3 revealed another section of the large enclosure ditch [301] observed in Trenches 1 and 2. The feature had a visible length of 2.60 m and a width of 4.10 m. The fill (302) was again similar to those observed in Trenches 1 and 2. A narrow linear feature [303] 1.70 m in width was observed within the interior edge of [301]. This appeared to run north-east to south-west and was filled by a friable sandy silt (304). A possible truncated post-hole [305] was also recorded. This was sub-circular in plan with shallow concave sides and a slightly rounded base. The feature had a length of 0.50 m, a width of 0.47 m and a depth of 0.07 m. It was filled with a charcoal rich sandy silt (306). A possible ring gully feature [307] also appears running north to south. This feature had a visible length of 3.40 m, a width of 0.55 m and a depth of 0.32 m. The sides of the feature were steep and concave with a rounded base. Its fill (308) is a brown sandy silt with occasional pebbles and frequent large stones in areas which are probably packing stones.



Plate 4: Possible truncated posthole [305]



Plate 5: South facing section of ring gully [307]

4.2.5 Trench 4 (Figures 1-3) (Plates 6 & 7)

4.2.5.1 Trench 4 appeared to show the same linear feature observed in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. It is roughly V shaped and has sharp, steep, slightly irregular sides and a slightly rounded base. The feature has a visible length of 2.80 m, a width of 6.42 m and a depth of 2.04 m from the top of the top-soil. A one metre wide slot was excavated by machine. The feature was filled by (402), a light orange sandy silt with a lens of charcoal towards the middle of the deposit. This fill had a maximum depth of 1.24 m and extended across the width of the feature. Underlying (402) was a more compact and friable sandy silt (409). This was 0.42 m in depth and had a width of 3.20 m. A second linear feature [403] was aligned north-east to south-west across the trench. This feature had shallow concave sides and a generally flat irregular base. The feature had a visible length of 2.0 m, a width of 1.35 m and a depth of 0.26 m. The single fill of this feature (404) was a grey brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones and fragments of charcoal.



Plate 6: South-west facing section of ditch [401]

4.2.5.2 Two post-hole features [405] and [407] were revealed within Trench 4. Feature [405] was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a gently rounded base. It had a diameter of 0.30 m and a depth of 0.19 m. feature [407] was more oval in plan with a length of 0.67 m, a width of 0.33 m and a depth of 0.32 m. Its sides were steep and concave and a rounded base. Both post-holes were filled with a friable silty gravel (406-408) with frequent large sub-rounded stones pressed against the edge of feature [407] which are probable packers.



Plate 7: Postholes [405] and [407] from SE

- 4.2.6 Trenches 5, 6 & 7
- 4.2.6.1 No significant archaeological features were observed in Trenches 5, 6 and 7.

5 **DISCUSSION**

- 5.1 The evaluation indicated that significant archaeological features exist in Plot 4 of the proposed development area. The clusters of posthole features and ditches along with the cobbled area and ring-groove are suggestive of Bronze Age/Iron Age later prehistoric settlement comprising a ditched enclosure and timber post-built structures. Identifying the full pattern of the archaeological distribution of non-nucleated groups of features, and their chronology, by evaluation trenching alone can only have limited success. Further archaeological works would be necessary to further elucidate the archaeology present in Plot 4.
- 5.2 The evaluation trenching in Plot 3 proved entirely negative. However, given its location in the centre of the flat plateau above the flood plain and its close proximity to the significant archaeology in Plot 4, there is still a possibility of further archaeological remains in both this plot and Plots 1 & 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORKS 6

6.1 Given the significant archaeological features uncovered during the evaluation, it is recommended that a mitigation strategy be prepared compliant with PAN 42 and SPP 23. In line with current planning policy the preservation in situ of the archaeological material is the preferred option. However if the preservation of the archaeology in situ proves infeasible a further programme of archaeological mitigation works (preservation by record) comprising excavation fieldwork and any necessary post-excavation works will be required. The full scope and scale of these works would be defined by Dumfries and Galloway Council, with the detailed methodology for their undertaking set out in further Written Schemes of Investigation.

7 **REFERENCES**

AOC Archaeology Group 2008 Nunholm Road, Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway Written Scheme of Investigation AOC unpublished report.

The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994. National Planning Policy Guideline NPPG5. Archaeology and Planning. January 1994.

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

SSP 23 2008 Scottish Planning Policy SPP 23: Planning and the Historic Environment: Consultative Draft. The Scottish Government.

Nunholm Road, Dumfries, **Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices



APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Area A

Trench 1

Dimensions 20 m by 2 m Total Area 40 m² Orientation NE/SW Depth of Topsoil 0.40 m Depth of Excavation 0.50 m

Significant Features Large ditch feature [101] 7.5 m - 12.5 m from NE end.

Small linear feature [103] at 2.0 m

Subsoil Light-mid orange sandy gravel with occasional patches of coal.

Finds None observed

Trench 2

Dimensions 33.5 m by 2 m

Total Area 67 m² NE/SW Orientation 0.40 m Depth of Topsoil Depth of Excavation 0.40 m

Significant Features Sub-circular feature [203] at 7.0 m from NE end.

Linear feature [201] at 10.0 m - 13.5 m.

Post-hole [205] at 18.4 m

Cobbled spread at 27.0 m - 33.5 m

Subsoil Light-mid orange sandy gravel with very occasional larger sub-rounded stones.

Finds None observed

Trench 3

Dimensions 32 m by 2 m Total Area 64 m² Orientation NNE/SSW Depth of Topsoil 0.40 m Depth of Excavation 0.50 m

Significant Features Post-hole [305] at 22.0 m

Enclosure ditch [301] at 1.5 m - 6.5 m

Linear feature [304] at 11.0 m Linear feature at 24.0 m

Subsoil Light yellow orange clay silt and sandy gravel

Finds None observed

Trench 4

Dimensions 30 m by 2 m Total Area 60 m² Orientation NW/SE 0.40 m Depth of Topsoil Depth of Excavation 0.50 m

Significant Features Post-holes [405], [407] at 0.5 m - 1.0 m from SE

Linear feature [401] at 21.0 m - 26.0 m same as Trenches 1 & 2

Linear feature [403] at 2.5 m

Subsoil Light orange sand with gravels.

Finds None observed.

Trench 5

Dimensions 30 m by 2 m

60 m² Total Area SW/NE Orientation Depth of Topsoil 0.55 m Depth of Excavation 0.70 m Significant Features None

Subsoil Light-mid orange sandy gravel with very occasional larger sub-rounded stones.

Finds None observed.

Trench 6

Dimensions 30 m by 2 m

Total Area 60 m² Orientation E/W Depth of Topsoil 0.50 m Depth of Excavation 0.70 m Significant Features None

Subsoil Light-mid orange sandy gravel with occasional larger sub-rounded stones.

Finds None observed.

Trench 7

Dimensions 20 m by 2 m

Total Area 40 m² Orientation SW/NE Depth of Topsoil 0.60 m Depth of Excavation 0.60 m Significant Features None

Subsoil Light-mid orange sandy gravel with very occasional larger sub-rounded stones.

Finds None observed.

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 1

Frame	Area/Trench	Description	From
1-2		Registration shots	
3-4	Tr 1	Post-excavation shot	NE
5-6	Tr 2	Post-excavation shot	NE
7-8	Tr 3	Post-excavation shot	NNE
9-10	Tr 4	Post-excavation shot	NW
11-12	Tr 5	Post-excavation shot	SW
13-14	Tr 6	Post-excavation shot	Е
15-16	Tr 1	Linear feature [103] pre-ex shot	Е
17-18	Tr 1	Enclosure ditch [101] pre-ex shot	NW
19-20	Tr 2	Irregular pit [203]	NW
21-22	Tr 2	Large enclosure ditch [201]	SE
23-24	Tr 2	Post-hole pre-ex	E
25-26	Tr 2	General shot of cobbles [207] and pit [208]	SW

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 2

Frame	Area/Trench	Description	From
1-2		Registration shots	
3-4	Tr 3	Large enclosure ditch [301]	SSW
5-6	Tr 3	Linear feature [303]	SSW
7-8	Tr 3	Post-hole [305] pre-ex	W
9-10	Tr 3	Possible drip gully/field drain [307] pre-ex	SW
11-12	Tr 4	Post-holes [405]-[407] & linear [403] pre-ex	SE
13-14	Tr 4	Enclosure ditch [401] pre-ex	SE
15-16	Tr 4	Post-holes [405]-[407] half sectioned	SE
17-18	Tr 4	SW facing section of linear [403]	SW
19-20	Tr 3	South facing section of gully [307]	S
21-22	Tr 3	NW facing section of feature [305]	NW
23-24	Tr 2	N facing section mid excavation of post-hole [205]	N
25-26	Tr 2	N facing section of post-hole [205]	N
27-28	Tr 1	N facing section of linear [103]	N
29-30	Tr 1	W facing section of ditch [101]	W
31-32	Tr 4	SW facing section of ditch [401]	SW
33-34	Tr 7	General shot	W
35-36	Tr 2	SW facing section of pit [203]	SW

APPENDIX 3: Context Register

Context	Type	Description
Number	Type	Description
101	Cut	Very large linear feature in plan; observed in trenches 1-4.Steep sided and slightly concave with a slightly rounded base. Feature seems to be the same width in all trenches. Feature appears to run north before curving to
		the west. Visible length = 2.4 m, width = 5.32 m, depth = 1.52 m. possible enclosure boundary ditch. Underlies (105), filled by (102) & (105). Same as [201], [301] & [401]
102	Fill	Very dark brown, loose sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stones these become more frequent and densly packed towards base. One metre wide slot excavated by machine. Visible dimensions length = 2.4 m, width = 3.34 m, depth = 0.76 m. Secondary fill of [101]. Overlies (105).
103	Cut	Narrow linear feature running north to south in plan. Shallow, concave
104	Fill	sides with a slightly rounded base. Visible length = 3.4 m, width = 0.67 m, depth = 0.25 m. Filled by (104). Linear feature on the outside of enclosure ditch [101]. Mid brown firm sandy silt with moderate small sub-rounded stones/gravel.
		Heavily bioturbated by root action. Visible length = 3.4 m, width = 0.67 m, depth = 0.25 m. Primary fill of [103].
105	Fill	Pink brown gravel sand with occasional stones and occasional large sub-
		rounded cobbles seen towards base. Small flecks of charcoal. One metre
		wide slot excavated by machine. Visible length = 2.4 m, width = 5.32 m,
		depth = 0.79 m. Primary fill of [101].
201	Cut	Linear feature as in trenches 1, 3 & 4. Not excavated. Filled by (202).
202	F:::I	Visible length = 2.60 m, width = 4.0 m.
202	Fill	Light brown sandy silt, poorly defined against natural. Unexcavated. Fill of [201]
203	Cut	Irregular sub-oval cut feature. Steep sided with a rounded base. Visible
		length = 2.60 m, width = 1.10 m, depth = 0.50 m. filled by (204). Pit feature.
204	Fill	Dark grey brown silty sand with occasional stones and occasional large
		sub-rounded cobbles seen towards base. Small flecks of charcoal. Single
		sherd of probable 19 th century ceramic. Visible length = 2.60 m, width =
205	Cut	1.10 m, depth = 0.51 m. primary fill of [203]. Small sub-oval feature in plan with slightly irregular steep sides with
200	Out	rounded base. Visible length = 0.46 m, width = 0.36 m, depth = 0.16 m. possible truncated post-hole. Filled by (206).
206	Fill	Grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded stones. Visible length = 0.46 m, width = 0.36 m, depth = 0.16 m. Fill of [205].
207	Structure	Area of cobbles at south-east end of Trench 2. probably truncated and laid
		in irregular fashion . Possibly laid over pit [208]. Some overlain by layer
		(210). Not excavated. Visible length = 4.9 m, width = 2.25 m, depth =
_		unknown.
208	Cut	Irregular possible pit feature. Not excavated. Possibly truncated by cobbles (207). Visible length = 3.7 m, width = 2.4 m, depth = unknown. Filled by
209	Fill	(209). Light brown silty sand possible fill of [208] but could be discoloration
200		associated with cobbles (207). Not excavated or fully defined. Visible length = 3.7 m, width = 2.4 m, depth unknown.
210	Spread	Thin irregular patch of dark brown silty sand with possible charcoal
210	Opieau	overlying cobbles in south-west corner. May represent burning near or
301	Cut	associated with cobbles (207). Not excavated or fully defined. Linear feature same as [101], [201] & [401]. Visible length = 2.60 m, width=
301	Cut	4.10 m, depth = unknown.
		4. 10 m, deput – unknown.

302	Fill	Light grey brown sandy silt. Fill of [301].
303	Cut	Narrow linear feature lying within enclosure [301]. Not visible in other
		trenches. Poorly defined. Not excavated. Visible length = 2.80 m, width =
		1.70 m, depth = unknown. Filled by (304).
304	Fill	Brown sandy silt with small rounded stones. Not excavated. Fill of [303]
305	Cut	Shallow sub-circular feature with shallow concave sides and slightly
		rounded base. Possible truncated post-hole. Filled by (306).
306	Fill	Charcoal rich black sandy silt. Visible length = 0.50 m, width = 0.47 m,
		depth = 0.07m. Fill of [305].
307	Cut	Gently curving linear feature with steep concave sides and rounded base.
		Probable gully feature running north to south. Visible length = 3.40 m, width
		= 0.55 m, depth = 0.32 m. Filled by (308). Probable ring gully.
308	Fill	Dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent large sub-rounded stones. Visible
		length = 3.40 m, width = 0.55 m, depth = 0.32 m. Fill of [307].
401	Cut	Linear feature same as [101], [201] & [301]. Steep irregular sides, slightly V
		shaped with rounded base. Visible length = 2.80 m, width = 6.42 m, depth =
		1.62 m. Filled by (402) & (409).
402	Fill	Pale orange sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded stones towards base.
		Occasional flecks of charcoal. Max depth 1.24 m. overlies (409).
403	Cut	Linear feature running north-east to south-west with shallow concave sides
		and irregular flat base. Visible length = 2.0 m, width = 1.35 m, depth = 0.26
		m. Filled by (404).
404	Fill	Grey brown sandy silt with occasional fragments of charcoal. Max depth
		0.26 m. Fill of [403].
405	Cut	Circular feature with steep concave sides and gently rounded base. Visible
		length = 0.30 m, width 0.29 m, depth = 0.19 m. post-hole possibly related
		to [409]. Filled by [406].
406	Fill	Dark brown silty gravel with occasional sub-rounded stones. Half
		sectioned. Depth 0.19 m. Fill of [405].
407	Cut	Irregular sub-oval feature with steep concave sides and rounded base.
		Visible length = 0.67 m, width = 0.33 m, depth = 0.32 m. Post-hole feature
		Filled by [408].
408	Fill	Dark brown silty gravel with frequent large sub-rounded stones probably
		used as packers and found around edges of feature. Half sectioned. Depth
		0.32 m. Fill of [407].
409	Fill	Orange sandy silt with small to medium sub-rounded stones and very
		occasional flecks of charcoal. Depth 0.42 m. primary fill of [407].

APPENDIX 4: Drawing Register

Drawing	Area	Feature Number	Description	Scale
Number				
1	Tr 1		Plan of features in Trench 1	1:50
2	Tr 2		Plan of features in Trench 2	1:50
3	Tr 3		Plan of features in Trench 3	1:50
4	Tr 4		Plan of features in Trench 4	1:50
5	Tr 4	407	South facing section of post-hole [407]	1:10
6	Tr 4	405	South-east facing section of post-hole [405]	1:10
7	Tr 4	403	South-west facing section of posthole [403]	1:10
8	Tr 3	307	South facing section of Gully [307]	1:10
9	Tr 3	305	North-west facing section of feature [305]	1:10
10	Tr 2	205	North facing section of post-hole [205]	1:10
11	Tr 1	103	North facing section of linear [103]	1:10
12	Tr 2	203	South-west facing section of pit [203]	1:10
13	Tr 1	101	West facing section of ditch [101]	1:10
14	Tr 4	401	South-west facing section of ditch [101]	1:20

APPENDIX 5: Finds Register

Find	Context	Description	Material
Number			Code
1	(204)	1 body sherd of black glazed post medieval pottery	CE

APPENDIX 6: Sample Register

Area	Context	Sample Type	Volume (Litres)
Tr 1	102	SBS	10
Tr 1	104	SBS	10
Tr1	105	SBS	10
Tr 2	204	SBS	10
Tr 2	206	SBS	10
Tr 3	306	SBS	10
Tr 3	308	SBS	10
Tr 4	402	SBS	10
Tr 4	404	SBS	10
Tr 4	406	SBS	20
Tr 4	408	SBS	10

APPENDIX 7: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Nunholm Road, Dumfries, Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21151
PARISH:	Dumfries
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Victoria Clements
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Several large linear ditch features, post-holes and pits of probable prehistoric date.
NGR:	NX 9715 7765
START DATE (this season)	28 th April 2009
END DATE (this season)	30 th April 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	n/a
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	This report represents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on a proposed residential development at Nunholm Road, just north of Dumfries, Dumfries & Galloway. The evaluation was commissioned by Robert Potter & Partners Prime Contracting Ltd. The works consisted of an 8% intrusive evaluation on two land parcels with a combined area of 0.42 ha. Archaeological trenching trenching amounted to a total of some 336 m². The site was centred on NGR: NX 9715 7765. The work was carried out in April/May 2009 and was conducted according to the terms of a <i>Written Scheme of Investigation</i> (Dunbar 2008) which was agreed by Dumfries and Galloway council. The evaluation revealed features of archaeological significance including several linear features, a large enclosure ditch, a cobble spread and several pit and post-hole features of possible prehistoric date. A single sherd of black glazed ceramic was the only artefact recovered. As required by Dumfries & Galloway council, a mitigation strategy to deal with these findings will be prepared compliant with NPPG 5, Pan 42 and SPP 23. As required by Dumfries & Galloway Council, a mitigation strategy to
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	deal with these findings will be prepared compliant with NPPG5 and SPP 23.
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Robert Potter & Partners

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