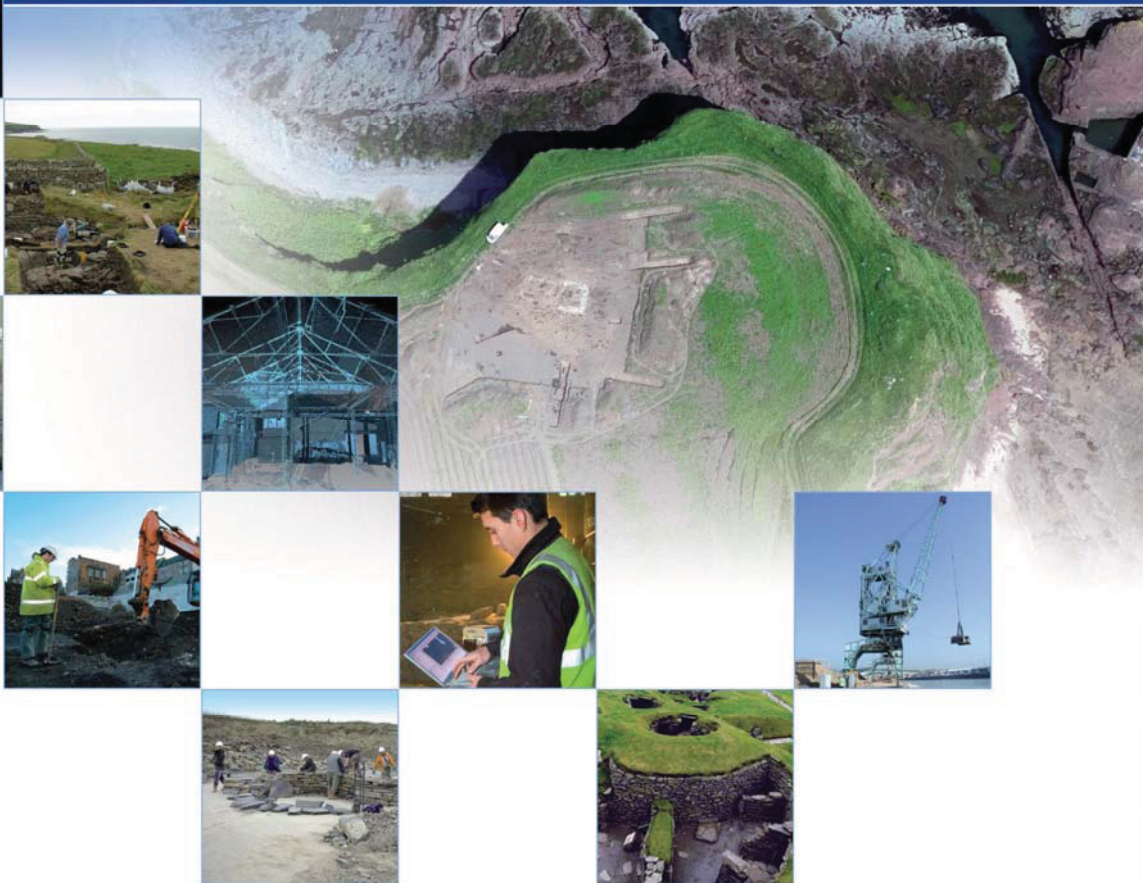


Plot 2, Bell House, Dunbar

Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

AOC 21409

18th December 2009



Plot 2, Bell House Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Mr & Mrs Hastie 9 Summerfield Park Dunbar East Lothian EH42 1PY
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 6864 7847
AOC Project No:	21409
Prepared by:	Lindsay Dunbar
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Date of Fieldwork:	9th December 2009
Date of Report:	18th December 2009

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

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Date: 14th December 2009

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Date: 18th December 2009

Draft Report Stage: draft

Date: 18th December 2009

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was required prior to a proposed residential development (a single house plot) at Plot 2, Bell House, Dunbar. Three trenches comprising a basal area of 27 m² were opened across the development area.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.

0 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 0.1 A programme of archaeological works comprising an archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Hastie at Plot 2, Bell House, Dunbar, East Lothian.
- 0.2 The proposed development lies within the administrative area of East Lothian Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). The work was carried out in accordance with SPP23 (2008) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994), in order to determine the nature, extent, condition and significance of any archaeological material within the development area.
- 0.3 Three trenches comprising a basal area of 27 m² were opened across the development area. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development proposal

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Hastie to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Plot 2, Bell House, Dunbar, East Lothian (Figure 1). The work required was in response to a planning condition set by East Lothian Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). The archaeological works undertaken were in accordance with SPP23 (2008) and PAN42 (1994), in order to determine the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area. ELCAS have required an archaeological programme of work consisting of a 5% sample evaluation of the development area.
- 1.2.1 The proposed development involves the construction of a single detached residential dwelling house.

1.2 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 The development area lies on Roxburghe Park on the south-east side of Dunbar close to the designed landscape of Broxmouth Park. A number of existing buildings within Roxburghe Park are Listed 19th century properties and whilst nothing of archaeological significance is noted within the immediate development area, the proximity to the medieval core of Dunbar means this development could disturb hitherto unknown remains of archaeological significance.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- i) to determine the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the development area by means of an intrusive field evaluation;
- 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 (AOC 2009) proposed an evaluation consisting of a minimum 5% sample of the development area, which equated to trenching with a minimum total basal area of approximately 24.3 m² of the 486 m² development area.

3.2 Trenches were excavated with a three tonne tracked mini-digger using a 1.25 m wide ditching bucket (Figure 2). The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits. The evaluation trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed within the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009).

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted on the 9th December 2009. The weather conditions during the evaluation were overcast but dry. Overall archaeological visibility within all trenches was good.

4.1.2 The various data gathered from the excavation are presented as a series of appendices: Appendix 1 contains the trench summary descriptions; Appendix 2 contains the photographic register and Appendix 3 reproduces the '*Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*' entry.

- 4.1.3 The area exposed by the three trenches totalled 26.8 m². This work found the development area to be covered in a layer of rich black silty topsoil, which varied in depth from 0.31 m to 0.60 m. The topsoil contained occasional sherds of 19th/20th century white glazed ceramics. The subsoil was consistent across the site and comprised an orange/brown silt, with few stone inclusions. No evidence was identified for plough scarring or man-made disturbance of the natural subsoil. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefactual material was unearthed by the evaluation.

5 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The evaluation has revealed that the site directly impacted upon by the development is apparently free from any significant archaeological material. The significant balance of probability is that the house plot development area is archaeologically sterile.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

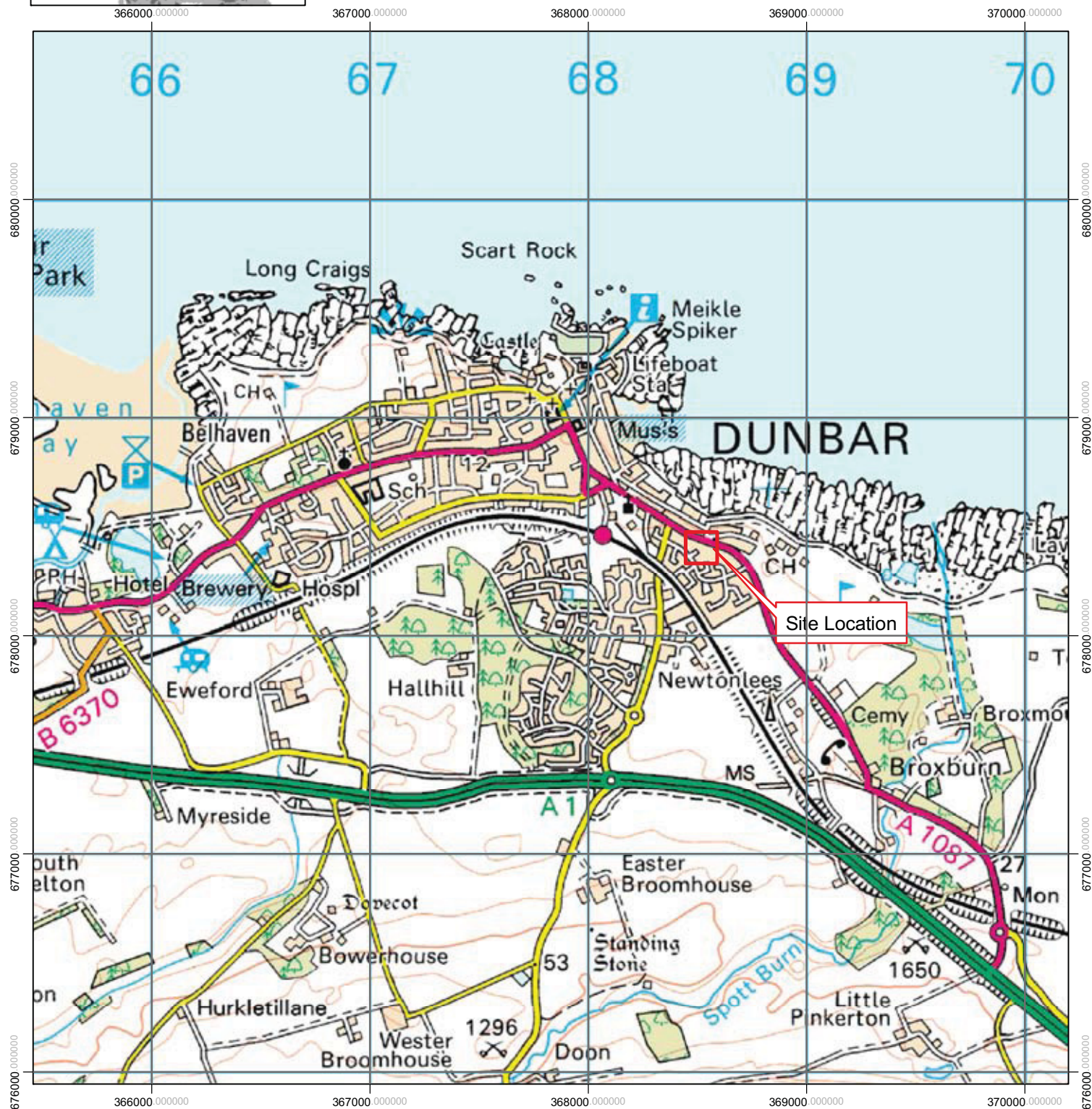
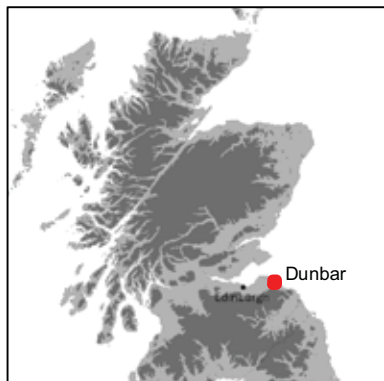
- 6.1 We would consider any further archaeological investigation, should the development proceed, as unnecessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by East Lothian Council as advised by ELCAS.

7 REFERENCES

AOC 2009 5 *Cramond Glebe Terrace Archaeological Works: Written Scheme of Investigation* AOC Archaeology Client Report

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

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



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 km

Figure 1: Site Location



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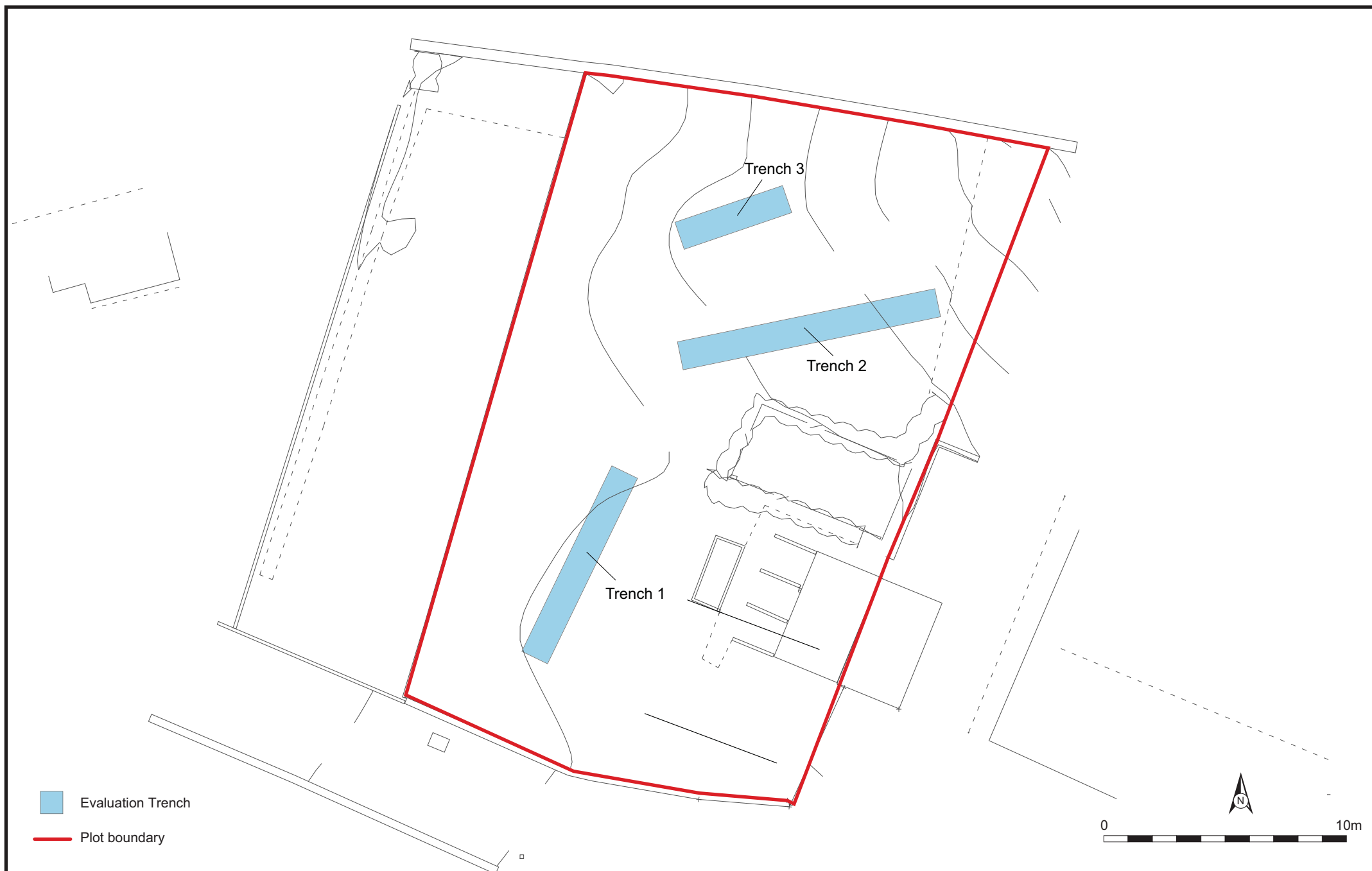


Figure 2: Trench Locations

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

Dimensions	8.25 m by 1.25 m
Total Area	10.30 m ²
Orientation	North - South
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.40 m
Features	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown silt
Finds	19 th /20 th century white glazed ceramics in topsoil

Trench 2

Dimensions	9.25 m by 1.25 m
Total Area	11.50 m ²
Orientation	NE - SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.40 m to 0.60 m
Features	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown silt
Finds	19 th /20 th century white glazed ceramics in topsoil

Trench 3

Dimensions	4.00 m by 1.25 m
Total Area	5.00 m ²
Orientation	NE - SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.42 m
Features	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown silt
Finds	19 th /20 th century white glazed ceramics in topsoil

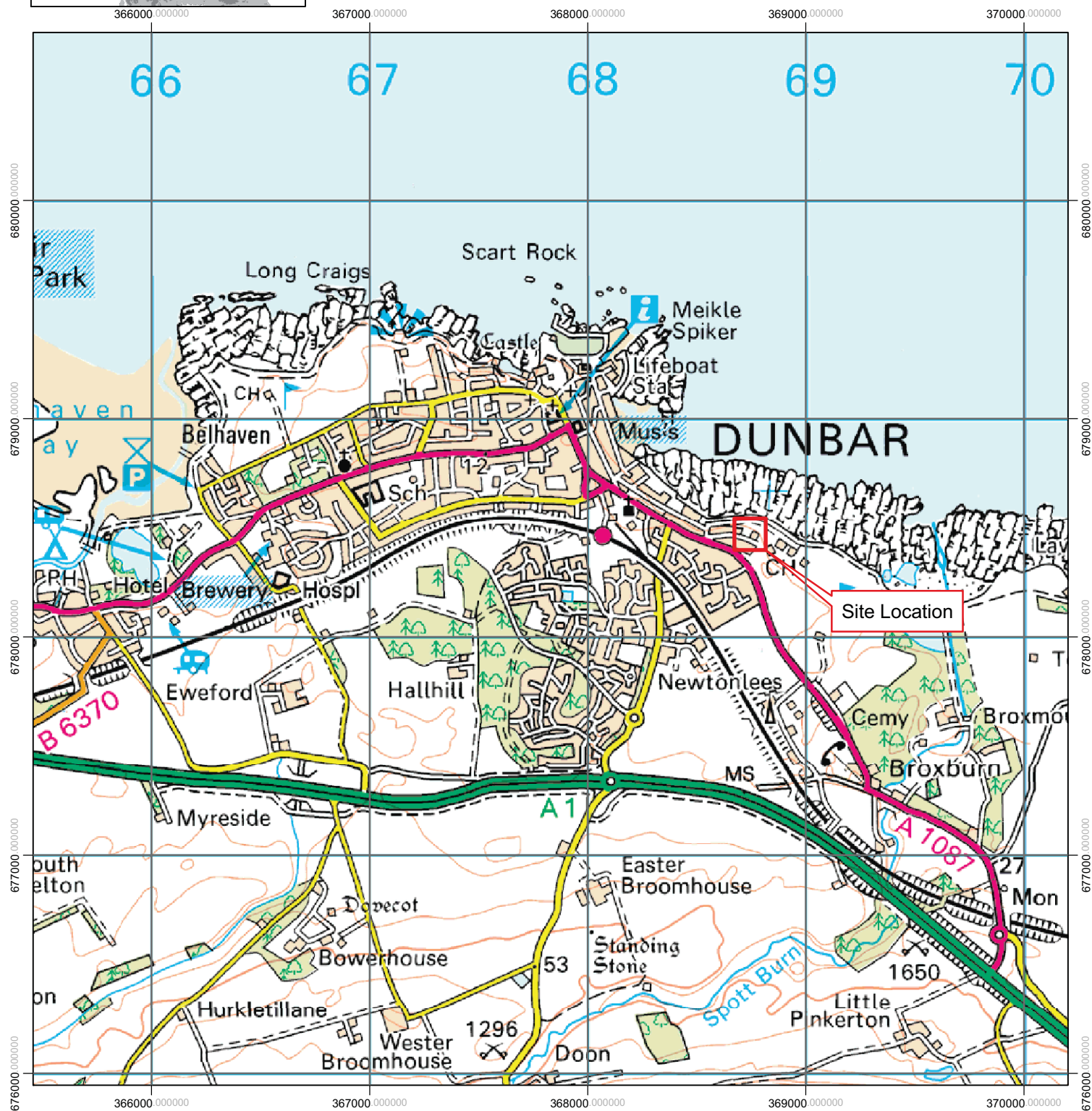
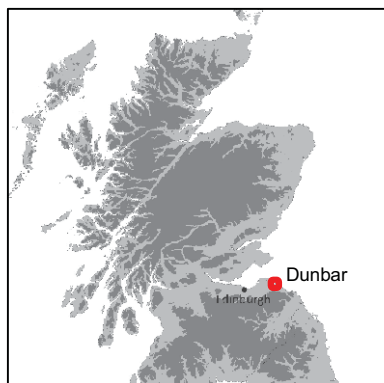
APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Digital Record

Frame	Detail	From
1	Tr.1 - general view	SW
2	Registration	
3-4	Tr.1 - general view	NE
5-6	Tr.2 & Tr.3 general view	NE
7-8	Tr.2 general view	NE
9-10	Tr.3 general view	NE
11-12	Tr.3 section	SE
13-14	Tr.2 section	SE
15-16	Tr.1 section	E
16-17	Tr.1 back-filled	SE

APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Plot 2, Bell House, Dunbar Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21409
PARISH:	Dunbar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Lindsay Dunbar
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)	NT 6864 7847
START DATE (this season)	9th December 2009
END DATE (this season)	9th December 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken within the proposed development site of a single house plot. Three machine-excavated trenches with a total basal area of 27 m ² were opened. Neither significant features nor artefacts were identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr & Mrs Hastie
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Lindsay.Dunbar@aocarchaeology.com



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 km

Figure 1: Site Location



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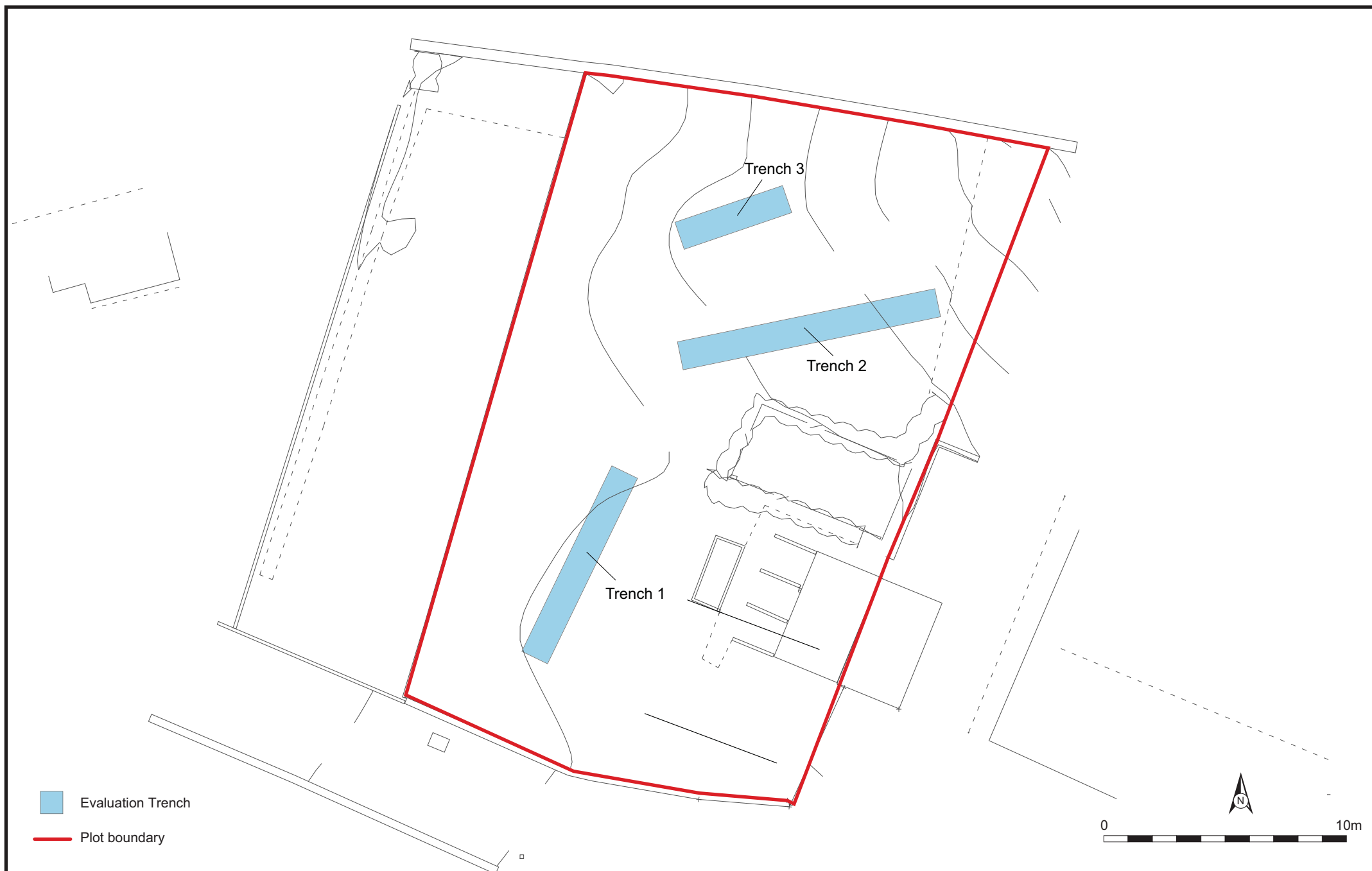
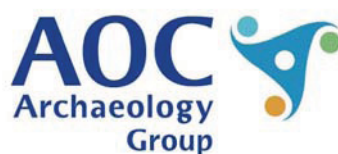
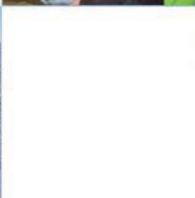


Figure 2: Trench Locations



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