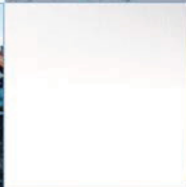


Stirkfield Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders:

Watching Brief Data Structure Report

21st June 2010



Stirkfield Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders Watching Brief: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: **Mr. & Mrs. Cockburn,**
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Scottish Borders
EHML12 6HL

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 1019 4066

AOC Project No: AOC 21404

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Date of Fieldwork: 10th May 2010

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

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Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft **Date:** 21st June 2010

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during topsoil stripping for the foundations and services of a new build property at Stirkfield Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders. The watching brief comprised the topsoil strip of an area of some 15 m by 10 m and the cutting of an associated narrow service trench. Neither significant features nor artefacts were uncovered during the works.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 An archaeological Watching Brief was required during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a new dwellinghouse at Stirkfield Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders (Planning App. 09/00362/FUL). The development area lies within the administrative jurisdiction of Scottish Borders Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by Dr Christopher Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. The archaeological works were required with regard to consent granted on a planning application and are in accordance with planning policies in respect to archaeology as set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government, February 2010) and *PAN 42* (SOEnD 1994).

1.2 Archaeological Background

- 1.2.1 The development at Stirkfield included demolition and the building of a new dwelling house (Figure1). Cartographic evidence suggests that there has been settlement at Stirkfield since at least the mid-18th century and it is entirely possible that settlement at this site predates these early maps extending back into the late medieval period or earlier.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The archaeological works took the form of a Watching Brief on the development's ground-breaking works. The objectives of the archaeological Watching Brief were:
- i) to safeguard the archaeological resource from any adverse impacts created by groundworks associated with the development;
 - ii) to liaise with Scottish Borders Council and the client, in the event of significant archaeological features and/or small finds being unearthed, as to the most appropriate response in safeguarding these features either by preservation *in situ*, if at all feasible, or by archaeological recording.
 - iii) to report on the results of the Watching Brief.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF METHOD

- 3.1 The watching brief was designed to establish the extent, condition, character, quality, date and significance of any archaeological features present. Ground reduction was undertaken by machine down to the first significant archaeological horizon or formation level. All machine excavation was monitored by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.2 The watching brief was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures. The archaeological features were recorded photographically (black

and white print film and digital format Appendix 1). Appendix 2 contains a copy of the *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* entry.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The work was undertaken on 10th May 2010 in fine weather conditions. Archaeological visibility was good. The watching brief area is shown in Figure 2.
- 4.2 The watching brief area comprised the front garden of the existing house. An area approximately 15.0 m by 10.0 m was carefully machine stripped under constant archaeological supervision. This work was followed by monitoring the excavation of a narrow service trench.
- 4.3 The topsoil across the watching brief area comprised a medium brown gritty, silty sand matrix with few inclusions and up to 0.40 m deep. It directly overlay an orange/brown clay rich subsoil with occasional gravel areas. Modern 19th/20th century white glazed ceramic sherds and occasional bottle glass sherds were observed throughout the topsoil.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The watching brief did not unearth any significant archaeological remains. Careful examination of the excavated topsoil did not recover any unstratified artefacts.

6 REFERENCES

Scottish Planning Policy Scottish Government February 2010.

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

**Stirkfield Farm Watching Brief, Broughton,
Scottish Borders:**

Data Structure Report

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

<i>Shot no.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From</i>
-	Registration	-
1	North-west corner of watching brief area showing subsoil and depth of excavation	SW
2	North-west corner of watching brief area showing subsoil and depth of excavation	SW
3	Post-excavation view of watching brief area	W
4	Post-excavation view of watching brief area	SW
5	View of service trench	N
6	View of service trench	N

APPENDIX 2: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' ENTRY

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Stirkfield Farm Watching Brief, Broughton, Scottish Borders
PROJECT CODE:	21404
PARISH:	Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Lindsay Dunbar
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 1019 4066
START DATE (this season)	10 th May 2010
END DATE (this season)	10 th May 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during the topsoil strip for the foundations and services of a new build property at Stirkfield Farm, Broughton, Scottish Borders. The watching brief comprised the topsoil strip of an area of some 15 m by 10 m and the cutting of an associated service trench. Neither significant features nor artefacts of were uncovered during the works.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr. & Mrs. Cockburn, Stirkfield Farm, Broughton
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.

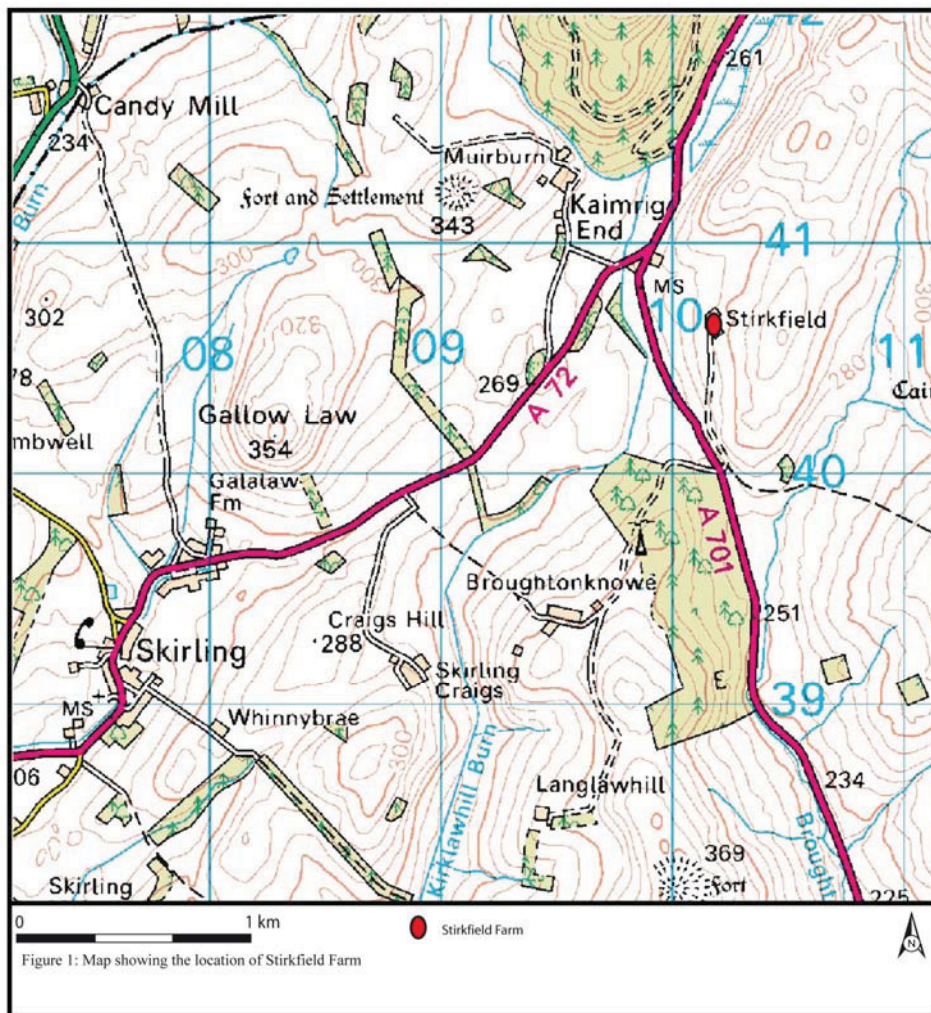
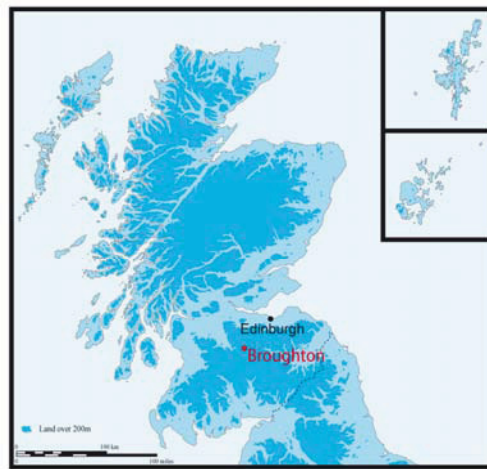
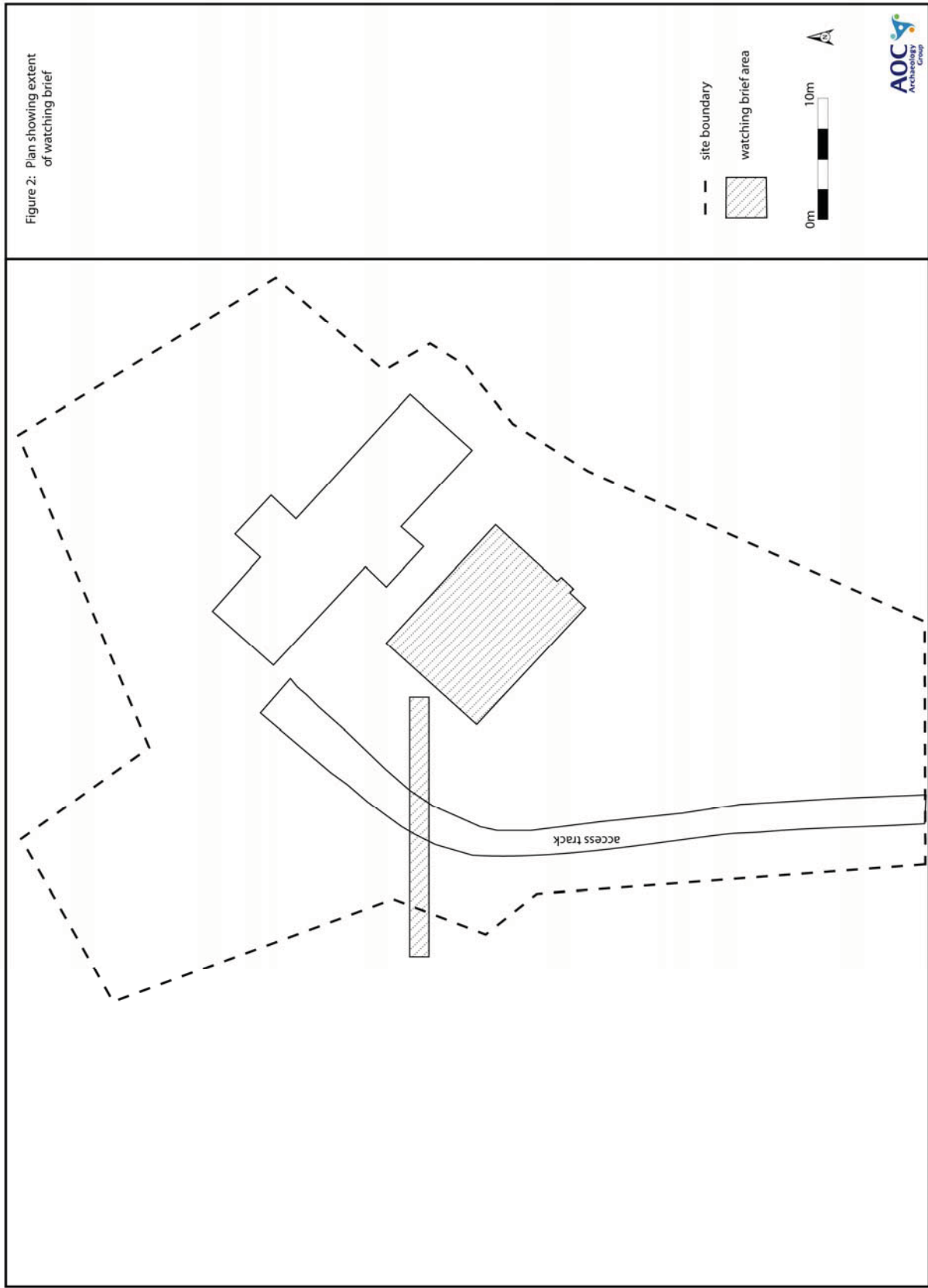
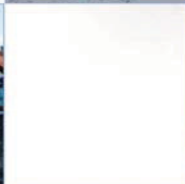


Figure 2: Plan showing extent of watching brief





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