

R9 and R10 Elgin, Moray: Evaluation Data Structure Report

15th December 2010



R9 and R10 Elgin, Moray: Evaluation Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Springfield Properties Pentland House, Grampian Road, Elgin, IV301XJ
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NJ 8608 3217
AOC Project No:	AOC 21721
Prepared by:	Martin Cook
Illustration by:	Stefan Sagrott
Date of Fieldwork:	22nd November to 7th December 2010
Date of Report:	15th December 2010

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

Author: Martin Cook

Date: 15th December 2010

Approved by: John Gooder

Date: 15th December 2010

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft

Date: 15th December 2010

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com



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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on a proposed residential development on the southern outskirts of Elgin, Morayshire. The works consisted of a 10% sample intrusive evaluation of two individual areas, R9 and R10, with a combined landtake of a 10.78 ha situated on rough pasture centred at NGR: NJ 8608 3217. Given the presence of live services and buildings associated with Glassgreen Farm, approximately a third of the development area, total trenching (basal dimensions) amounted to 7,760 m².

The proposed development contained a series of possible cropmark sites identified from aerial photographs (NMRS NJ26SW 158). The evaluation trenching was designed to determine the presence and/or nature of these cropmarks. No features were found in area R10, although four pits were encountered in R9; they contained only a few charcoal fragments and trench expansion around the pits did not reveal further features. No significant artefacts were recovered from either the four pit features or topsoil.

No further works are considered necessary.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development Background

1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by Springfield Properties PLC in respect to a proposed housing development at the R9 and R10 sites, to the south of Elgin, Moray (centred NGR: NJ 8608 3217). The proposed development consists of two greenfield sites R9 covering c.3.1 ha and R10 covering c.7.68 ha. The proposed development sites lie within the administrative area of Moray Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS). A programme of archaeological works was required in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2010) and PAN 42 (SOEnD 1994a) in order to record the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the development area.

1.2 Archaeological Background

1.2.1 Elgin, centred on the fertile plain of the Laigh of Moray, was chartered as a Royal Burgh by David 1 in 1136. The development area lies almost 2 km beyond the boundaries of the medieval Burgh of Elgin. Cartographic regression has shown that the development area has been part of an established agricultural landscape for many centuries. The farm south-west of the site at Glassgreen is marked on Pont (c.1580), Blaeu (1654), Dorrett (1750), Arrowsmith (1807) and Thomson (1820). These maps are an inadequate scale to provide any indication of the use of the proposed development area during these centuries, but its proximity to the farm at Glassgreen would suggest that it was part of the wider farming landscape.

1.2.2 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map (1874) clearly shows the farm at Glassgreen. The proposed development area is unoccupied and again, the Second Edition OS map (1906) similarly shows the proposed development area to be unoccupied. There are no changes visible on recent OS mapping (1978, 1984 & 2007).

1.2.3 The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) has identified a series of cropmark sites lying within the development boundaries, *NMRS* No. NJ26SW158, named 'Glassgreen'. The record describes this site as comprising a possible ring-ditch, pits, linear cropmarks and field boundaries on a gentle south-east facing slope. The Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) further suggests that the site may contain possible souterrains (Moray SMR: NJ26SW0129).

1.2.4 Previous archaeological investigation undertaken on land immediately north of the proposed development area (*SMR NJ26SW0155*) revealed six parallel linear features that appear to be the remnants of rig and furrow agriculture (Dunbar 2001). This style of arable agriculture is found across Scotland in the latest phases of recorded sequences and can be seen as a manifestation of improvement (Barber 2001). The remains of a quarry and associated quarry pits were also reported. No other features of archaeological significance were encountered during these investigations (Dunbar 2001).

1.2.5 Previous archaeological investigation undertaken on land immediately east of the proposed development area (*NMRS: NJ26SW 570*) revealed evidence of pre-improvement farming in the form of pits and ditches (Cook 2007). No evidence was identified for the prehistoric features identified from cropmark evidence (*NMRS: NJ26SW 570*).

1.2.6 The presence of known cropmarks on the site and in the immediate area suggests that the site could contain significant archaeological features. Experience from recent evaluation and

excavation within Moray indicates that hitherto unknown and unrecorded prehistoric features may survive within this landscape. However, the two archaeological investigations completed to the immediate north and east of the site failed to identify any significant archaeological features. As with the cropmarks described above there has been a number of years of continued ploughing since the photographs were taken, in this case more than fifteen years, so any archaeological features present may have been further truncated or even totally eradicated.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the evaluation were:

- i) to assess the character, condition, extent, quality, date and significance of any as yet undiscovered archaeological remains within the proposed evaluation areas;
- ii) should significant archaeological features/deposits be discovered to prepare and implement an appropriate mitigation strategy compliant with *Scottish Planning Policy* and *PAN 42*.

3 METHOD

3.1 The evaluation was achieved through the excavation of linear trenches using two tracked 360° excavators equipped with 2 m wide ditching buckets. The trenches covered a 10% sample of the development area (Figure 2).

3.2 The trenches were of varying lengths and set on varying orientations. The distribution of the trenches was determined by the location of the known cropmarks sites, topographic advantage, and random distribution. In total 44 trenches with a combined total basal area of 7,760 m² was achieved (Figure 2) with approximately one third of the development area unavailable for trenching due to live services and buildings associated with Glassgreen Farm.

3.3 Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural drift geology was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist. All potentially significant archaeological features were cleaned and defined prior to sample excavation to determine their significance.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Evaluation results

4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted between 22nd November and 7th December 2010. The weather conditions during the evaluation were mixed, with the works being partially delayed due to adverse conditions; although overall archaeological visibility was good.

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

- Appendix 1: trench descriptions;
- Appendix 2: photographic register;
- Appendix 3: context register;
- Appendix 4: sample register;
- Appendix 5: drawing register;
- Appendix 6: reproduces the '*Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*' entry.

4.1.3 The development area was divided into two main areas, R9 and R10 (Figure 1). The topsoil depth across the site varied hugely, between 0.20 and 0.60 m deep, depending on the local topography. It overlay natural subsoil comprising orange/yellow sands and gravels with occasional large boulders.

4.1.4 The evaluation comprised both targeted trenches across the known cropmarks (NMRS Nos.NJ05NW 72 and NJ05NW 116) and randomly positioned trenches.

4.2 Site R9

4.2.1 Eleven trenches were opened in Site R9; two were found to contain pit features. In both instances 10 m by 10 m areas were opened around the pits to uncover any associated features. In Trench 37, the pit was isolated and in Trench 39 there was small discrete cluster of three pits. In both locations the pits were shallow though well defined and without artefacts. The fills contained occasional charcoal pieces and flecking.



Plate 1 – E-facing section of pit [3701]

4.2.2 No further features were encountered In the remaining nine trenches and no unstratified artefacts were identified within the topsoil.

4.3 Site R10

4.3.1 A series of cropmark sites, NMRS No. NJ26SW158, named 'Glassgreen' lay within the Site R10 development area. The record describes these cropmarks as comprising a possible ring-ditch, pits, linear cropmarks and field boundaries on a gentle south-east facing slope. The Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) further suggests that the site may have contained possible souterrains (Moray SMR: NJ26SW0129). A number of evaluation trenches were positioned so as to investigate these possible features and in all cases no archaeological features were encountered. Slight variations in subsurface geology may account for some of the cropmarks whilst the recent agricultural history of the site may have led to the truncation and erasure of previously extant features.



Plate 2 - Post excavation view of Trench 24

- 4.3.2 No archaeologically significant features were uncovered in any of the thirty-three trenches opened in R10. No unstratified artefacts were identified within the topsoil.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The archaeological remains uncovered by the evaluation was limited to four un-dated pit features found in R9; an isolated pit in Trench 37 and small discrete cluster of three pits in Trench 39. In both cases expansion of the evaluation trench with a 10 m by 10 m excavation area centred around the pit features did not expose wider spread of features. The features did not relate to any of the cropmark evidence and contained no artefacts.
- 5.2 Despite the presence of cropmark evidence the archaeological evaluation identified no features that related to the cropmarks. The evaluation therefore raises questions regarding the lifetime of a cropmark once it has been initially recorded and further subjected to ploughing and further highlighted the confusing cropmark anomalies caused by slight variations in subsurface geology.
- 5.2 In conclusion the evaluation has shown the sites R9 and R10 to have limited archaeological potential as demonstrated by the general lack of features and artefacts recovered during the evaluation. The lack of archaeological parent features related to the cropmark evidence is either due to underlying geological variations or to the archaeological features being eradicated by plough truncation in the years since the aerial photographs were taken.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No archaeological features of confirmed significance, as determined by the presence of diagnostic artefacts or structural typology, nor unstratified artefacts were identified by the evaluation. No further works are considered necessary.

7 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology Group 2010, *R9 and R10, Elgin, Moray, Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished client report

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Ordnance Survey 1874, *Elginshire*, Sheet No. XII 1:10560

Ordnance Survey 1906, *Elginshire*, Sheet No. XII. NE 1:10560

Ordnance Survey 1959 NJ26SW 1:10000

Ordnance Survey 1971 NJ26SW 1:10000

Ordnance Survey 1978 NJ26SW 1:10000

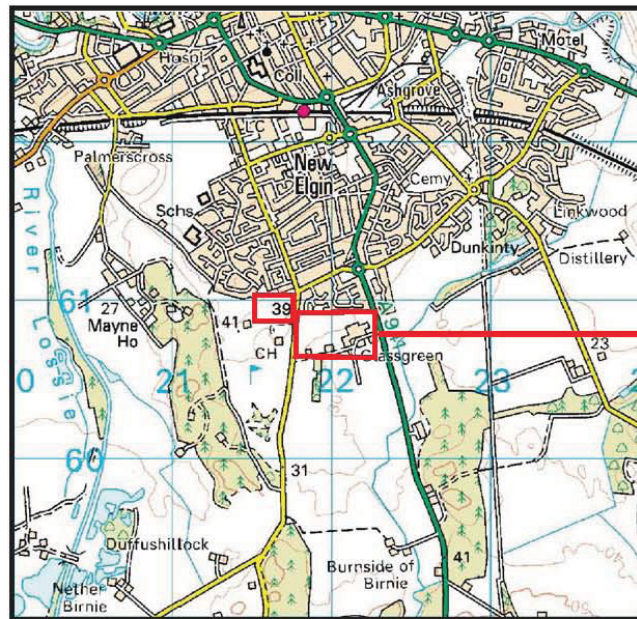
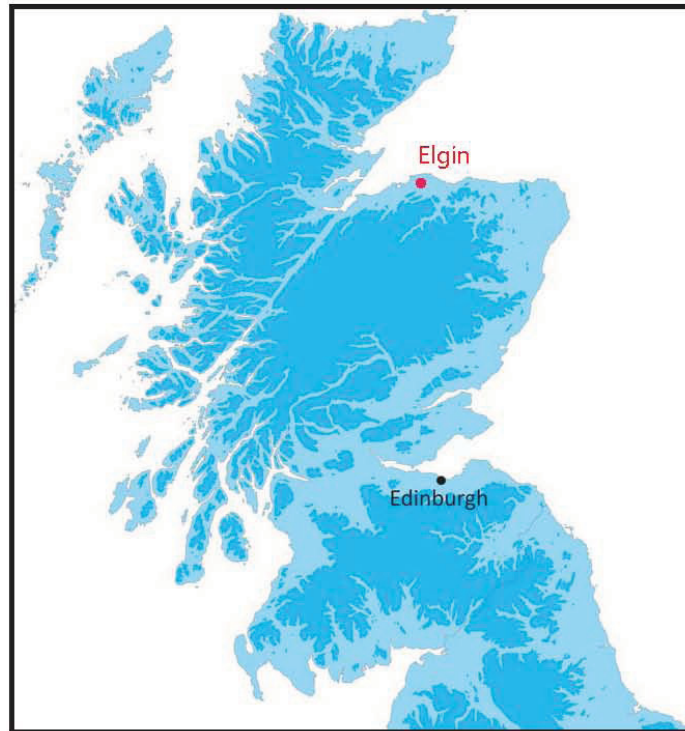
Ordnance Survey 1984 NJ26SW 1:10000

Ordnance Survey 2007 NJ26SW 1:10000

Pont, T 1580 *Map of Scotland*

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*. (February 2010)

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



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OS License No.: 100016114

Figure 1: Location of the site at R9 and R10, Elgin





Figure 2: Trench Layout

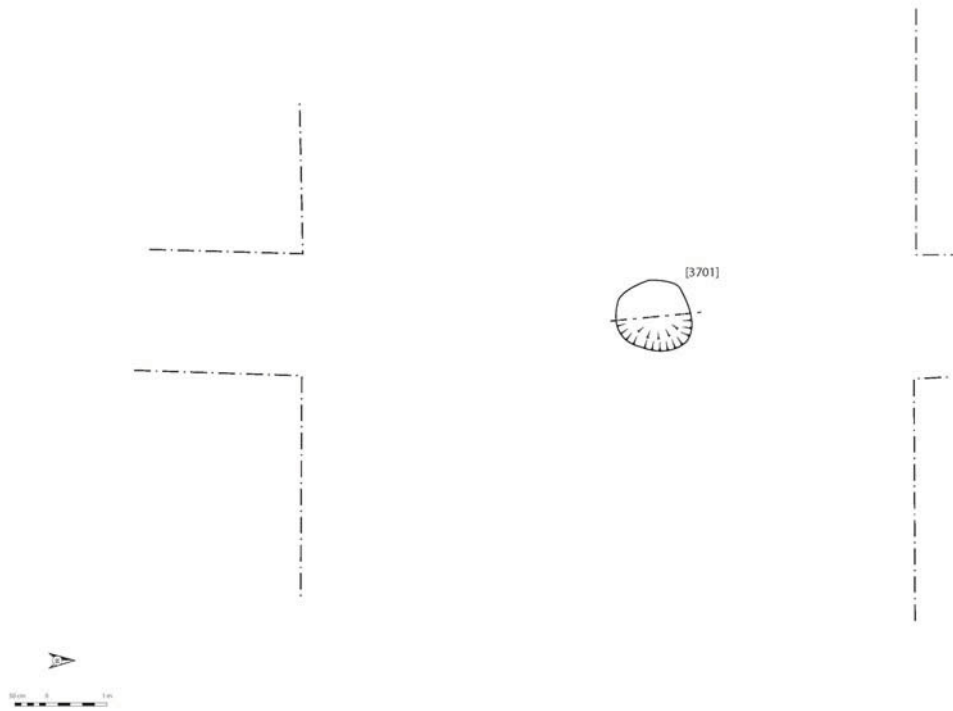


Figure 3: Plan of trench 37



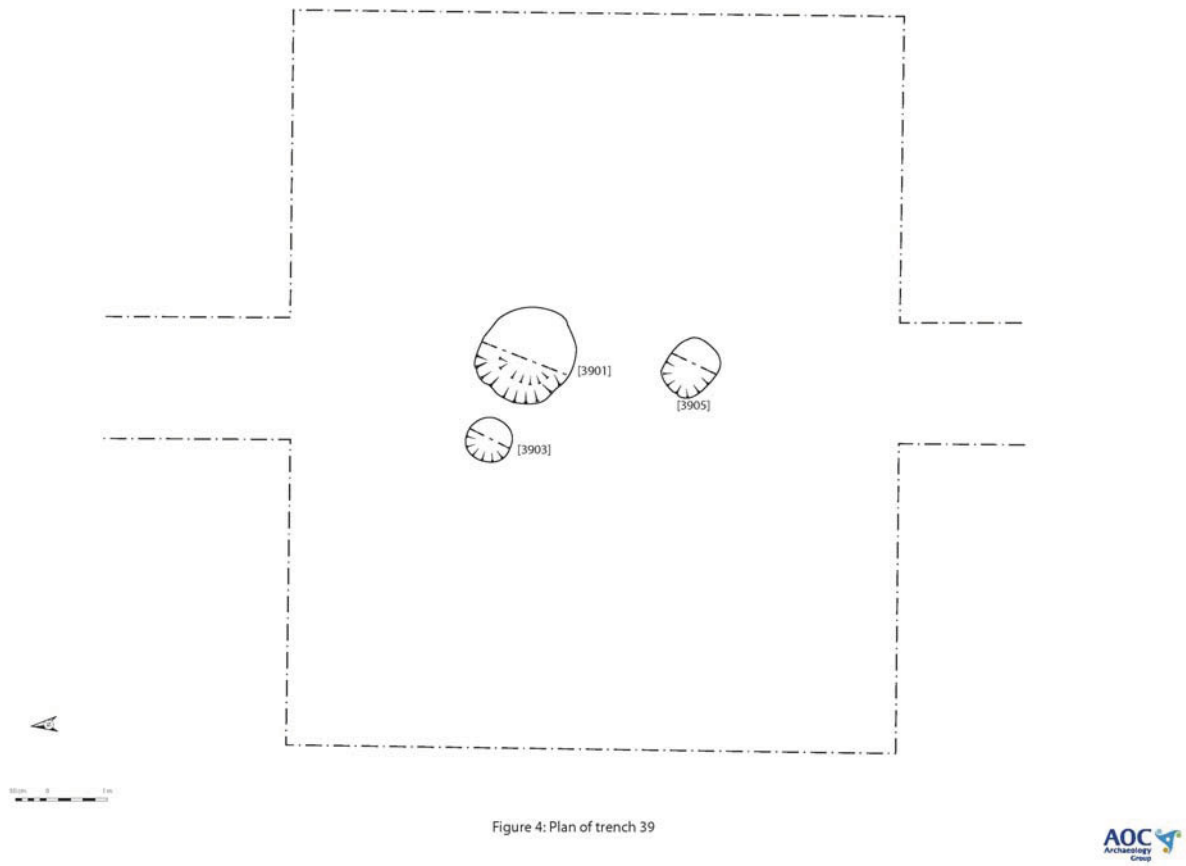


Figure 4: Plan of trench 39

R9 and R10 Elgin, Moray: Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.35 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.50 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.60 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.50 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.60 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand and gravel
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m x 2.0 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20 m to 0.50 m
<i>Features</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 7

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.60 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 8

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.40 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 9

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 10

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 11

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 12

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 13

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.50 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 14

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 15

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 16

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 17

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 18

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 19

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 20

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 21

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.40 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 22

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 23

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 24

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 25

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 26

Dimensions 75 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 27

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 28

Dimensions 80 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 29

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 30

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 31

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 32

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 33

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil 0.20 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 34

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m to 0.35 m
Features E-W aligned field drain
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 35

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.40 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 36

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m with 10 m by 10 m extension
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 37

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features Circular pit [3701]
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 38

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.40 m to 0.45 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 39

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m with 10 m by 10 m extension
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.35m
Features None
Significant Features Cluster of circular pits [3901], [3903] and [3905]
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 40

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.40 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 41

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation N-S
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.45 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 42

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.35 m to 0.40 m
Features None
Significant Features None

Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 43

Dimensions 100 m x 2.0 m
Orientation E-W
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

Trench 44

Dimensions 50 m x 2.0 m
Orientation SE-NW
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Significant Features None
Subsoil Orange sand and gravel
Finds None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Evaluation Colour Print & Digital Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1-2	-	Registration	-
3	Tr.1	Post excavation view of Trench 1	E
4	Tr.3	Post excavation view of Trench 3	W
5	Tr.6	Post excavation view of Trench 6	E
6	Tr.8	Post excavation view of Trench 8	N
7	Tr.10	Post excavation view of Trench 10	W
8	Tr.13	Post excavation view of Trench 13	E
9	Tr.14	Post excavation view of Trench 14	E
10	Tr.18	Post excavation view of Trench 18	W
11	Tr.20	Post excavation view of Trench 20	N
12	Tr.22	Post excavation view of Trench 22	W
13	Tr.24	Post excavation view of Trench 24	N
14	Tr.26	Post excavation view of Trench 26	N
15	Tr.27	Post excavation view of Trench 27	N
16	Tr.29	Post excavation view of Trench 29	N
17	Tr.32	Post excavation view of Trench 32	N
18-19	Tr.39	W-facing section pit [3901]	W
20-21	Tr.39	W-facing section pit [3903]	W
22-23	Tr.39	W-facing section pit [3905]	W
24-25	Tr.37	E-facing section pit [3701]	E

APPENDIX 3: Evaluation Context Register

Context	Trench	Description
[3701]	Tr.37	Cut of pit circular in plan. Well defined, 1.01 m in diameter with steeply sloping sides onto a rounded base and with a maximum depth of 0.23 m. Single fill [3702].
[3702]	Tr.37	Fill of cut [3701]. Dark brown sandy silt matrix almost black in places with no notable inclusions barring some charcoal pieces and flecking.
[3901]	Tr.39	Cut of large pit circular in plan. Well defined, 1.40 m in diameter with irregular sloping sides onto a rounded base and with a maximum depth of 0.28 m. Single fill [3902].
[3902]	Tr.39	Fill of cut [3901]. Dark brown sandy silt matrix almost black in places with no notable inclusions barring some large charcoal pieces and flecking.
[3903]	Tr.39	Cut of large pit circular in plan. Well defined, approximately 0.60 m in diameter with gently sloping sides onto a rounded base and with a maximum depth of 0.10 m. Single fill [3904].
[3904]	Tr.39	Fill of cut [3903]. Pale brown sandy silt matrix with some occasional charcoal pieces and flecking alongside some gravel sized sub-rounded stones.
[3905]	Tr.39	Cut of large pit sub-circular in plan. Well defined, measuring 0.65 m by 0.55 m with moderately sloping sides onto a rounded base and with a maximum depth of 0.16 m. Single fill [3906].
[3906]	Tr.39	Fill of cut [3905]. Medium brown sandy silt matrix with no notable inclusions.

APPENDIX 4: Sample Register

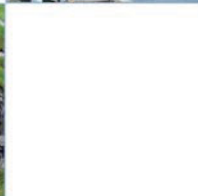
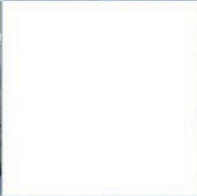
Context	Quantity
[3702]	20 litres
[3902]	20 litres
[3904]	20 litres
[3906]	20 litres

APPENDIX 5: Drawing Register

Drawing Number	Scale	Description
1	1:50	Plan of pit features [3901], [3903] and [3905] in Trench 39
2	1:10	W-facing section of pit [3901]
3	1:10	W-facing section of pit [3903]
4	1:10	W-facing section of pit [3905]
5	1:10	E-facing section of pit [3701]
6	1:50	Plan of pit feature [3701] in Trench 37

APPENDIX 6: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Moray Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	R9 & R10 Evaluation, Elgin
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21721
PARISH:	Forres
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Martin Cook & Lindsay Dunbar
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation
NMRS NO(S):	NJ26SW 158
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Cropmarks
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR:	NJ8608 3217
START DATE (this season)	22 nd November to 7 th December 2010
END DATE (this season)	15 th December 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES)	None
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>A 10% sample intrusive evaluation was undertaken prior to the development of two residential plots, R9 and R10, with a combined landtake of a 10.78 ha situated on rough pasture on outskirts of Elgin, Morayshire.</p> <p>The proposed development areas contained a series of possible cropmark sites identified from aerial photographs (NMRS NJ26SW 158). The evaluation trenching was designed to determine the presence and/or nature of these cropmarks. No features were found in area R10, although four pits were encountered in R9; they contained only a few charcoal fragments and trench expansion around the pits did not reveal further features. No significant artefacts were recovered from either the four pit features or topsoil.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Springfield Properties Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Admin@aocarchaeology.com



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com