

PWCW11



PEPPERWOOD COTTAGE, WHEATLANDS, EDINBURGH

Archaeological watching brief

for William Marshall

10/02958/FUL

September 2011

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HA Job no.: PWCW11

NGR: NT 14334 74910

Parish: Kirkliston

Council: City of Edinburgh

OASIS ref.: headland1-105570

Archive will be deposited with: RCAHMS

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Fieldwork

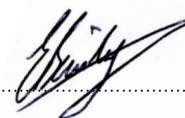
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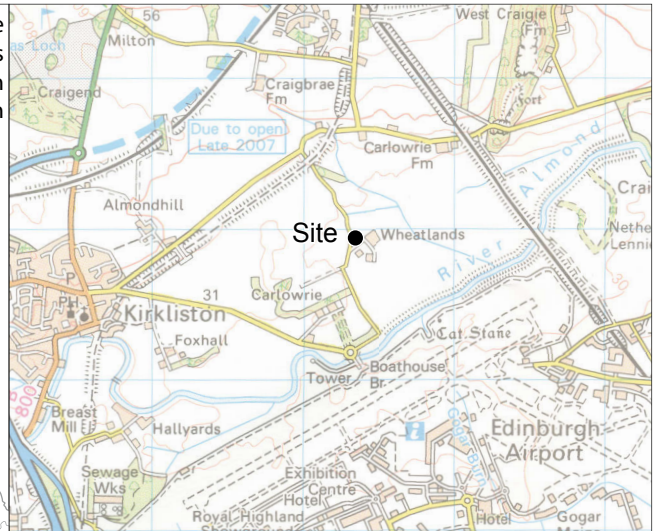
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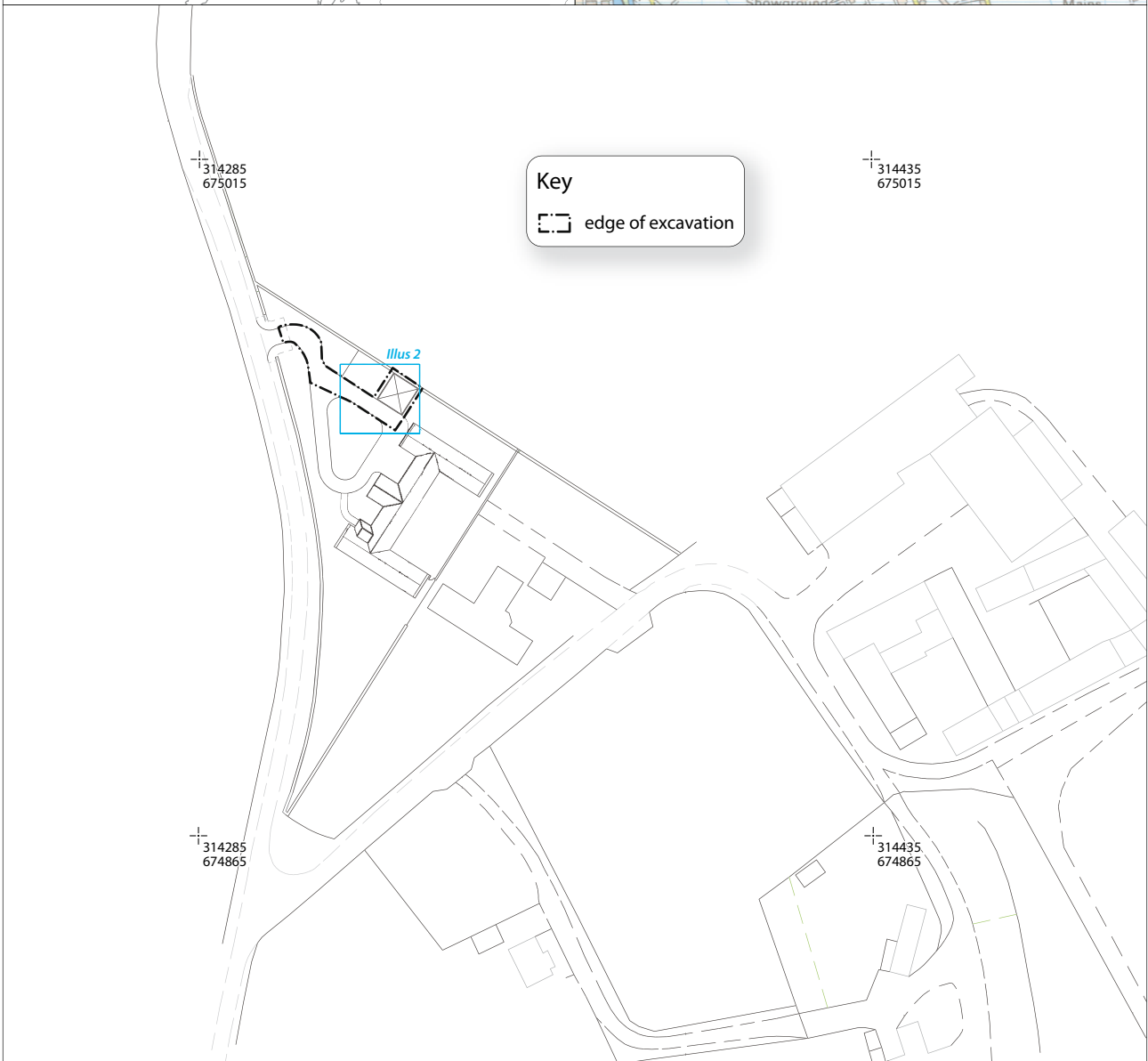


Pepperwood Cottage
Wheatlands
Kirkliston
Edinburgh



0 100km

viii



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Scale 1:1,500 @ A4



0 75m

Illus 1
Site location

PEPPERWOOD COTTAGE, WHEATLANDS, EDINBURGH

Archaeological watching brief

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Wilson Marshall to undertake a Watching Brief on a development at Pepperwood Cottage, Wheatlands, Edinburgh. The work was undertaken in response to a planning condition placed on the development by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) and comprised archaeological monitoring of groundworks during the construction of a new access road and garage. The site was considered to have high archaeological potential because of the presence of two cropmarks in the field to the west and other significant prehistoric activity recorded in the area.

The monitoring recorded three furrows, orientated north to west across the site, spaced 3–4m apart. These are likely to relate to medieval or later agriculture, although no finds were recovered from the furrows to date them.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Wilson Marshall to undertake a Watching Brief on a development at Pepperwood Cottage, Wheatlands, Edinburgh (Illus 1; NT 1433 7495). The work was undertaken in response to a planning condition placed on the development by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) and comprised archaeological monitoring of groundworks during the construction of a new access road and garage.

There are two cropmarks in the fields to the west of the site, suggesting prehistoric occupation in the immediate vicinity of Pepperwood Cottage, indicating the potential for the discovery of prehistoric remains in the area.

2. OBJECTIVES

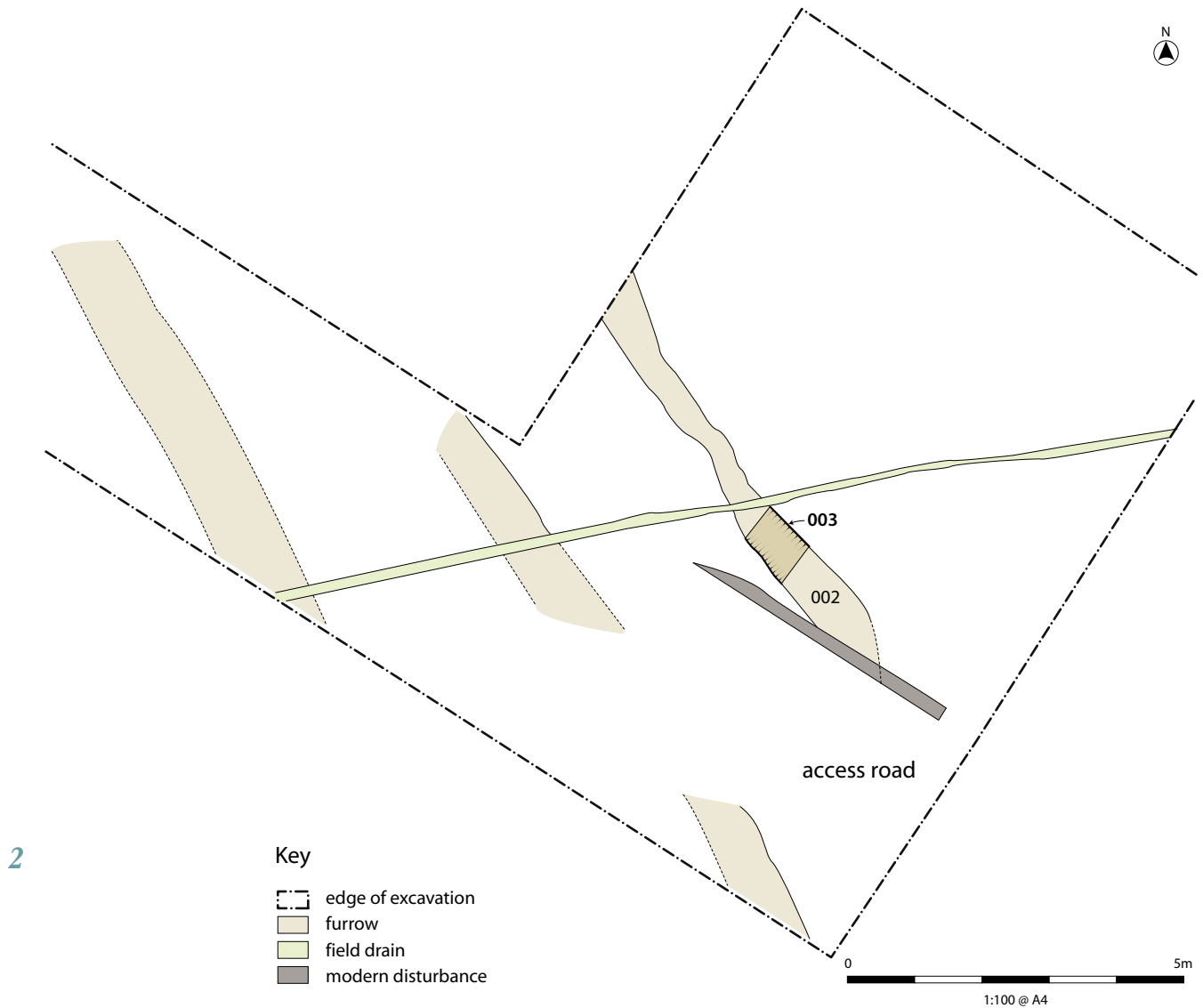
The objectives of the work were to record any archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development and to report on the results of the work.

1.1 Project Background

The development covers an area to the north-west of the existing Pepperwood Cottage and is currently grassland. The site is located to the east of the village of Kirkliston in the River Almond Valley and north of Edinburgh Airport. This area of the valley has been extensively occupied since the Neolithic period, with significant prehistoric activity identified near Carlowrie and therefore the site was considered to have a high archaeological potential.

3. METHODOLOGY

A JCB 3CX with back actor and equipped with a flat bladed ditching bucket was used to remove turf and topsoil down to the top of the natural subsoil under archaeological supervision. An area 7m by 7m was stripped for the garage and subsequently the 4m wide access road was stripped.



Illus 2
Site plan

4. RECORDING

All recording was according to IfA standards and guidance. All contexts were given unique numbers and all recording was undertaken on pro-forma record cards.

Features were added to the overall site plan using hand drawn plans and sections of individual features were drawn at 1:10. The site has been related to the National Grid.

Colour transparency and digital photographs were taken and recorded in a photographic register. Record shots of archaeological contexts included a metric scale. A full photographic register can be found in Appendix 1.

A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES) a copy of which is found in Appendix 2 and the work has also been recorded on the OASIS database (headland1-105570).

5. RESULTS

Topsoil [001] 0.4m in depth was removed directly onto natural clay subsoil [004]. The watching brief recorded three furrows orientated north to south across the garage and access road areas (Illus 2). These were 3–4m apart and very shallow; a section excavated through one of the furrows [003] was 0.09m in depth and was filled with mid brown silty clay [002], Illus 3 & 4. No finds were



Illus 3
View of furrows

recovered from the furrows. No other features were recorded.

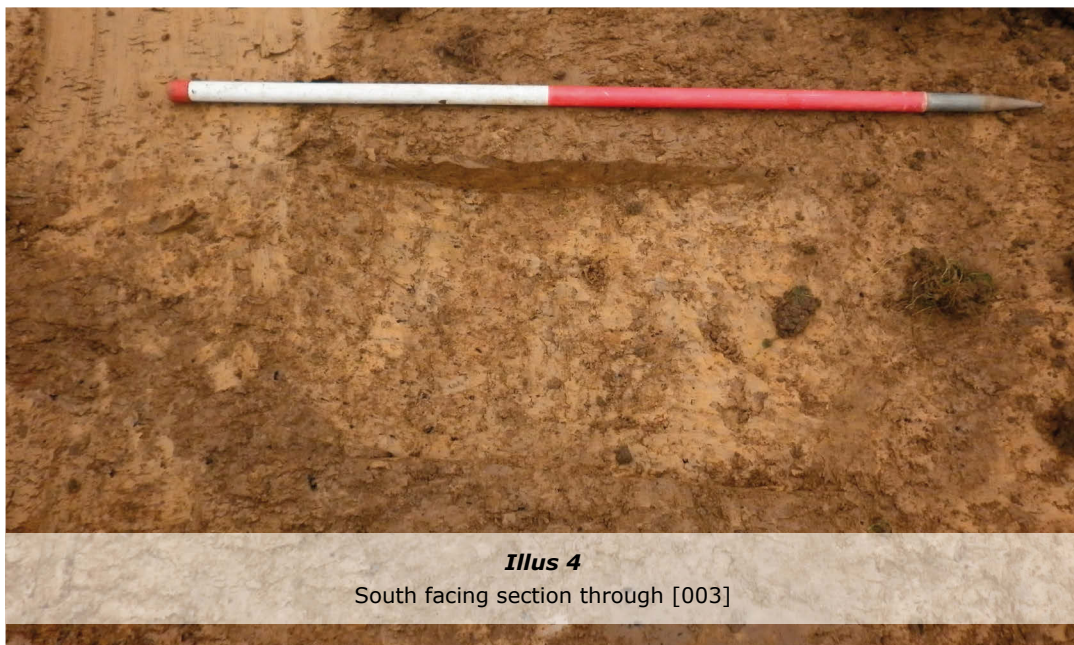
6. CONCLUSION

The spacing of the furrows found during the watching brief suggests they are likely to relate to medieval or later agriculture. Trial trenching by Headland Archaeology in advance of the construction of the new Forth Road Crossing recorded numerous furrows across fields to the west and north of Kirkliston (e.g. Humble 2011, Jones 2011), demonstrating the ubiquity of these features in the local landscape.

7. REFERENCES

- Humble, J, 2011, *The Results of an Archaeological Field Evaluation by Trial Trenching near Overton Farm, Kirkliston (Land Parcel 19)*, Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd, unpublished client report.
- Jones, E, 2011, *The Results of an Archaeological Field Evaluation by Trial Trenching at Humble Farm, Kirkliston (Land Parcel 15)*, Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd, unpublished client report.

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Illus 4
South facing section through [003]



8. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Context register

Context no.	Area	Description
001	All	Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay. D: 0.4m.
002	Garage	Fill of [003]. Mid brown silty clay.
003	Garage	Cut of furrow. Linear, N-S, gradually sloping sides, uneven base. W: 0.6m, D: 0.09m.
004	All	Natural. Orange brown clay.

Appendix 2 – Photographic register

Photo no.	Direction facing	Description
001	SE	Garage area strip.
002	N	Furrow [003].
003	N	Section through [003].
004	SE	View of furrows.
005	W	Septic tank strip.
006	Se	Access Road strip.
007	NW	Access Road strip.
4 008	NW	Entrance through field.
009	NW	Access Road strip.
010	SE	Access Road strip complete.

Appendix 3 – Drawing register

Drawing no.	Plan	Section	Description
001	1:50	-	Plan of garage area strip and furrow [003].
002	-	1:10	South facing section through furrow [003].
003	1:100	-	Plan of garage area and access road showing furrows.

Appendix 4 – DES entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Pepperwood Cottage, Wheatlands, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	PWCW11
PARISH:	Kirkliston
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Elizabeth Jones
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 1433 7495
START DATE (this season)	20 July 2011
END DATE (this season)	20 July 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	-
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a Watching Brief on a development at Pepperwood Cottage, Wheatlands, Kirkliston, Edinburgh. Groundworks were archaeologically monitored during the construction of a new access road and garage. The site was considered to have high archaeological potential because of the presence of two cropmarks in the field to the west and other significant prehistoric activity recorded in the area. The monitoring recorded three furrows, orientated north to west across the site and spaced 3–4m apart. These are likely to relate to medieval or later agriculture, although no finds were recovered from the furrows to date them.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/ deposited)	Archive to be deposited at RCAHMS. Reports to be deposited at RCAHMS and CECAS.
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Wilson Marshall
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	-
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