

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

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Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording


Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

**Site adjacent to Spott Road,
Dunbar, East Lothian**

**Archive Assessment and
Archaeological Evaluation**

Data Structure Report No. 1960

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Fig. 1 Location map and trench layout

Fig. 2 Trench 5

Fig. 3 Trench 9

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an Archive Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) at land off Spott Road, Dunbar, East Lothian (NGR: NT 6826 7766; Fig. 1) during September 2011. The work was commissioned by Berwick-upon-Tweed Garden Centre Limited.

The work was required as part of a planning condition prior to the proposed erection of a garden centre and restaurant development. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA and was approved by Andrew Robertson, East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

1.2 Background

The work was required as the site lies within an area of high archaeological potential.

Two cist burial sites are located within 500m of the proposed development and a number of stray finds have been recovered from nearby which indicate the likelihood of prehistoric and medieval remains in the area. The 1802 Forrest map shows the settlement of Good Speed in close proximity to the development area and, though its exact location is not known, it possibly lay to the immediate east of the development area.

The site also lies within the boundary of the Battle of Dunbar II (1650), which is listed in Historic Scotland's Inventory of Historic Battlefields, a list of nationally important battlefields in Scotland.

1.3 Objectives

The project's aims and objectives were:

- To determine the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To establish whether any remains associated with any cist burials extend into the development site.
- To establish whether any remains of the 18th century settlement of Godspeed survive within the development site.
- To establish whether any metal artefacts of historical significance, particularly in relation to the Battle of Dunbar II, survive within the development site.
- To propose mitigation measures where necessary.

2. METHODS

2.1 General

CFA follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance and Code of Conduct.

2.2 Desk Based Assessment

Historic map coverage for the area was examined together with any other readily available cartographic information on pre-recent land use in the development area.

The National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS), the East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest and the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes (through Pastmap), and any other readily available bibliographic sources related to the area were consulted as appropriate.

A range of aerial photographs held by the NMRS were consulted.

2.3 Trial Trenching

Trial trenches totalling an area of 1000m² were excavated, representing 5% of the available site (1.97ha). A narrow corridor around the margins of the site was not evaluated as it had been deeply ploughed to deter the establishment of traveller's camps.

All ground breaking work was monitored by an archaeologist down to natural subsoil. All excavation was undertaken by a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth bladed ditching bucket. All excavation of archaeological features and deposits was undertaken using hand tools.

Trenches and spoil heaps were metal detected during the evaluation in order to detect and recover artefacts of archaeological or historical origins. All metal finds, especially those potentially associated with the Battle of Dunbar II and any significant earlier or later artefacts, were to be recovered. All finds were bagged according to which trench they came from.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms. The positions of trenches were recorded using industry standard electronic surveying equipment.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Desk Based Assessment

The National Monuments Record of Scotland does not record any sites within the development boundary.

An evaluation was carried out in 2007 by AOC Archaeology Group on the new supermarket site immediately to the south of the proposed development site (NMRS no. NT67NE 534) (Gooder 2007). This evaluation did not uncover any archaeological features or deposits.

Archaeological works carried out in 2003 and 2005 in two areas c.500m to the west of Spott Road (Glendinning & Mitchell 2004, Johnson & Curtis 2005) revealed significant remains. In one area, a number of long cists were found, along with the inner and outer ditch of an apparently double-ditched semi-circular enclosure. The remains of a square ditch-defined enclosure were also identified. The second area revealed the remains of a rural medieval settlement dating to the 12th-14th centuries.

Historic map evidence shows that the site has been open fields since at least the 1750s. Maps prior to this date, including Blaeu (1654) and Adair (1682), do not show sufficient detail for the development site to be accurately located. The first map to show the site in detail is the Ordnance Survey First Edition (1854). The site does not change from this date through to the 1980s, when development begins to encroach along the site boundary to the north. The aerial photographic coverage from 1944 to 1992 gives the same information.

The Battle of Dunbar II took place on 3 September 1650 between the English (under Oliver Cromwell) and the Scots (under David Leslie). The development site lies to the north of one of the lines of the Scots' rout back towards Dunbar.

3.2 Trial Trenches

Ten trial trenches were excavated totalling an area of 1000m² (Fig. 1-3). The evaluation area was situated to the immediate east of Spott Road on an area of formerly cultivated ground. The topography of the site was largely flat and devoid of any distinct irregularities. The entire area was covered in small weeds up to 1m high.

Topsoil (**001**) was 0.3-0.4m deep across the site. Subsoil (**002**) was present in Trenches 5, 7, 8 and 10 and comprised reddish-brown sandy silt which merged with the topsoil and was 0.2-0.3m thick. Natural (**000**) was variable, comprising bands of pink-red boulder clay, red coarse sand and occasional pale grey gravel seams. Occasional plough marks were noted in some trenches.

Full descriptions of the trial trenches are contained in Appendix 1. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were uncovered.

Trenches and spoil heaps were metal detected during the evaluation but the only items recovered were modern, for example ring pulls and galvanised nails; therefore, these finds were not retained.

4. CONCLUSION

A programme of metal detector survey and trial trenching was carried out on land adjacent to Spott Road, Dunbar. Ten trenches covering 1000m² (5% of the development site) were excavated. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were uncovered.

A summary statement of the results of the watching brief, will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2011* (Appendix 4) and OASIS.

In line with the Written Scheme of Investigation, copies of the report will be lodged with the East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record and the National Monuments Record of Scotland.

5. REFERENCES

Bibliographic

Glendinning, B and Mitchell, S 2004 'Halhill Farm, Dunbar (Dunbar parish), evaluation', *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol. 5, p43.

Gooder, J 2007 'Spott Road, Dunbar, East Lothian (Dunbar parish), evaluation', *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol. 8, p71.

Johnson, M and Curtis, A 2005 'Halhill Farm, Dunbar (Dunbar parish), long cist cemetery', *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol. 6 p51.

Kirby, M 2009 'Lochend Avenue / Brunt Place, Dunbar, East Lothian (Dunbar parish), evaluation', *Discovery Excav Scot, New*, vol. 10, p65.

Historic Scotland Inventory of Battlefields <http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2500:15:0::NO::BATTLEFIELD:dunbarii>

Cartographic

Adair, J 1682 *Map of Midlothian*.

Ainslie, J 1821 *Ainslie's Map of the Southern Part of Scotland*.

Blaeu, Joan 1654 *Lothian and Linlithgow* / Joh. et Cornelius Blaeu exc.

Forrest, W 1802 *Map of Haddingtonshire*.

Greenwood, C., Fowler, W. & Sharp, T. 1844. *Map of the county of Haddington*.

Moll, H 1745 *Lothian : contains The Shire of Linlithgow or West Lothian. The Shire of Edinburgh or Midlothian. and Haddington or East Lothian*.

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1854 *Haddingtonshire*. Sheet 6. 6" to 1 mile.

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland*.

Thomson, J 1822 *Haddington*.

Aerial Photographs

Sortie Number	Survey Date	Scale
541/A/0595	1944	1:10000
106G/UK/0979/4029	1948	1:5000
OS62-031	1962	1:7500
OS65-002	1965	1:7500
106G/UK/0014	1968	1:10000
106G/UK/0014	1968	1:10000
OS71-051	1971	1:7000
58/0773	1976	1:10000
OS80-074	1980	1:8000
106G/UK/0979	1980	1:5000
OS81-017	1981	1:7800
58/3262	1984	1:10000
58/3262/272	1984	1:10000
CPE/UK/0257	1992	1:10000
CPE/UK/0257/3055	1992	1:10000

APPENDIX 1: Trench Register

Trench No.	Dimensions (m)	Depth to Natural Subsoil (m)	Archaeological Contexts
1	50 x 2	0.4	N/A
2	50 x 2	0.4	N/A
3	50 x 2	0.4	N/A
4	50 x 2	0.4	N/A
5	50 x 2	0.4-0.7	N/A
6	50 x 2	0.4	N/A
7	50 x 2	0.4-0.7	N/A
8	50 x 2	0.4-0.9	N/A
9	50 x 2	0.4-0.7	N/A
10	50 x 2	0.4-0.6	N/A

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context No.	Trench No.	Description
000	All	Natural: sandy clay and gravel
001	All	Surface topsoil
002	All	Subsoil: sandy silt

APPENDIX 3: Photograph Register

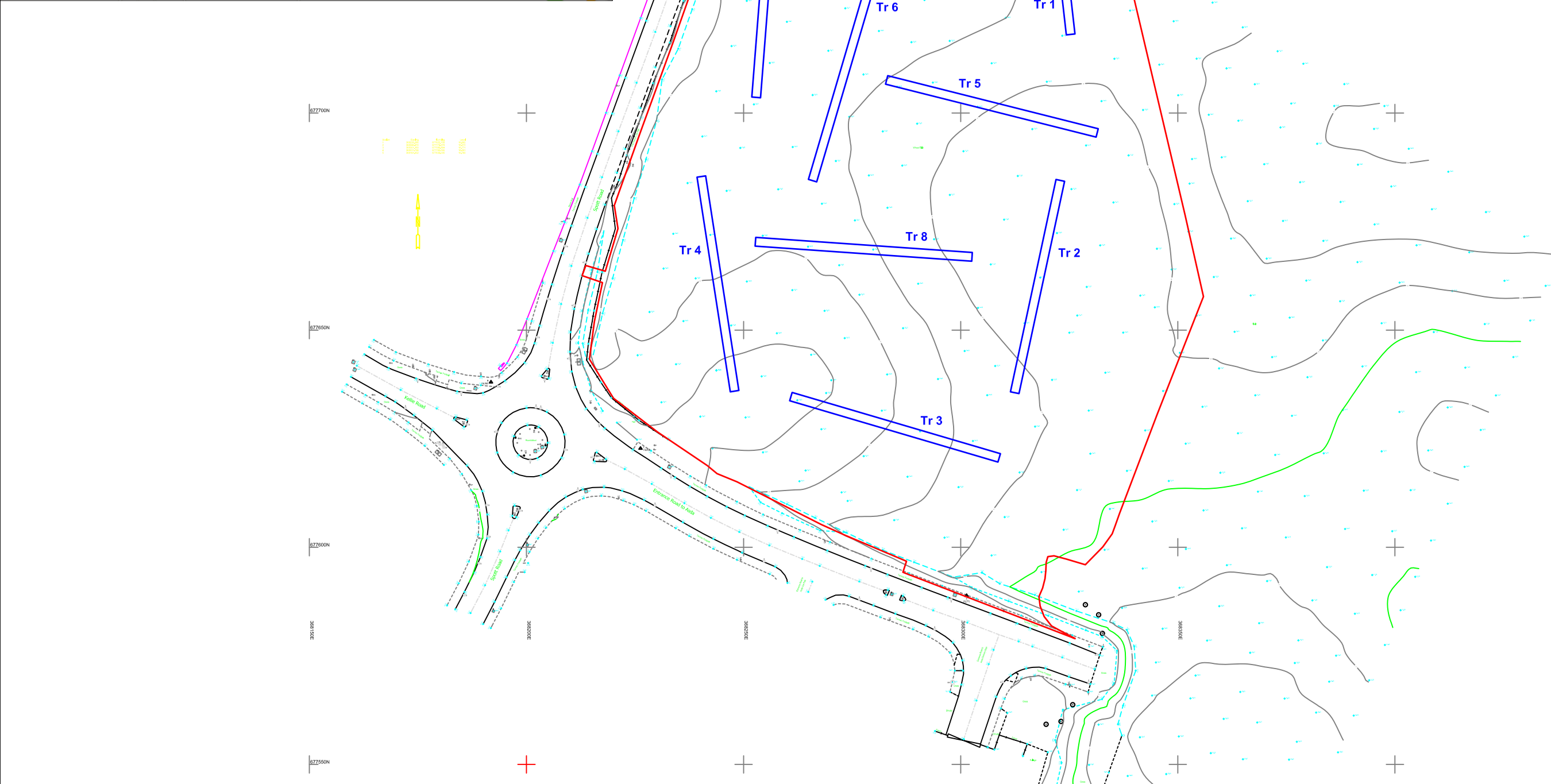
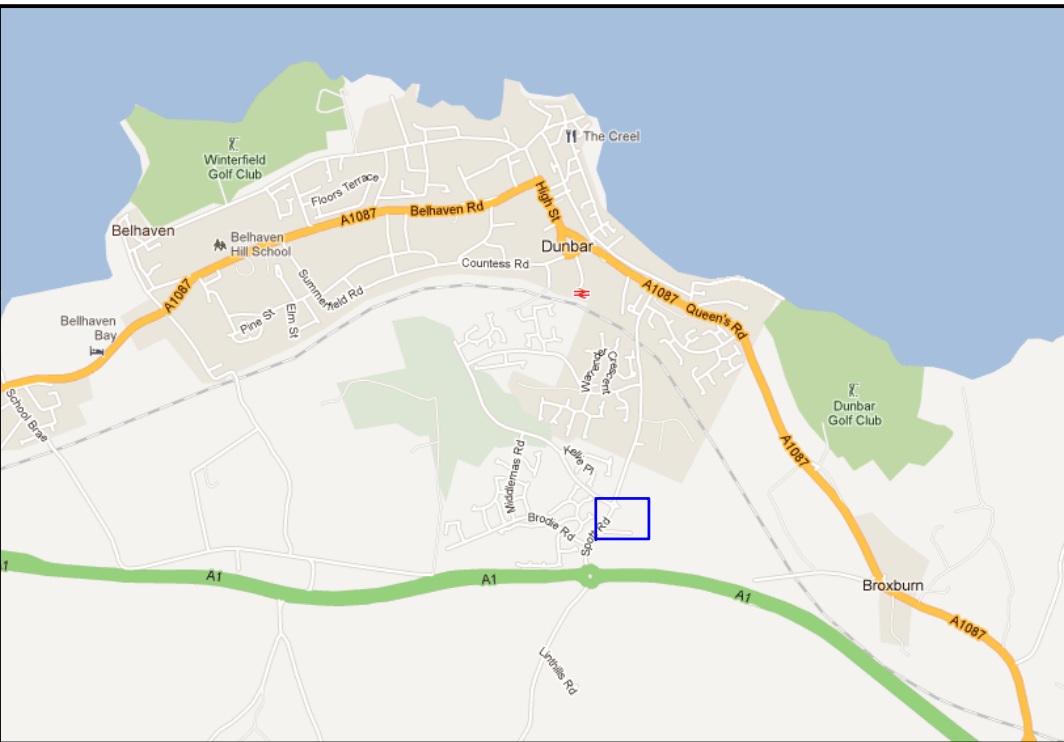
Photo No.	Description	From
1-3	General views of site pre-excavation	Various
4	Working shot, Trench 1 sondage	N
5	Trench 1	N
6	Trench 2	N
7	Trench 3	W
8	Trench 4	SE
9	Trench 5	W
10	Trench 6	N
11	Trench 7	W
12	Trench 8	E
13	Trench 8 soil profile	N
14	Trench 9	SE
15	Trench 10	E

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land adjacent to Spott Road, Dunbar
PROJECT CODE:	BERG
PARISH:	Dunbar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	S Mitchell
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 6826 7766
START DATE (this season)	26-09-11
END DATE (this season)	27-09-11
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A programme of trial trenching was carried out on land adjacent to Spott Road, Dunbar. Ten trenches covering 1000m ² (5% of the development site) were excavated. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were uncovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Berwick-upon-Tweed Garden Centre Limited
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
EMAIL ADDRESS:	smitchell@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.



Key:



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Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A
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Title:
Location Map and trench layout

Project:
Site adjacent to Spott Road, Dunbar

Client:
Berwick-upon-tweed Garden Centre Ltd


Scale at A3:
1:1000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:
LW	LW	1960



Fig. 2 - Trench 5

Fig. 3 - Trench 9

Key:	Fig. No:	2-3	Revision:	A	Client:	Berwick-upon-Tweed Garden Centre Ltd					
	Title:										
	Project:	Site adjacent to Spott Road, Dunbar									
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