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**The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road,
Dalkeith, Midlothian**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 3079

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in November 2012 and September 2013 at The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Dalkeith (NGR: NT) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 02 October 2012 was produced by CFA Archaeology Ltd. The WSI was designed to fulfil the requirements of the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS) on behalf of Midlothian Council.

1.2 Background

Planning permission has been granted for renovation of the old mill house and garage and to erect new extensions to the existing building. A condition for an archaeological monitored strip was applied to the development.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works are

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (monitored strip) to monitor all groundbreaking works to ensure works are cleared of topsoil and other modern overburden to identify either undisturbed natural subsoil or archaeological features (whichever comes first).
- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording and produce a report on them.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

2.2 Archive Assessment

A desk-based assessment was conducted to put this work within the local context. The NMRS and Historic Environment Record site databases were consulted. Readily available historical mapping was also consulted. Sites with statutory designations were identified, including consultation of the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest and the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

2.3 Archaeological Watching Brief

The terms of the WSI required an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (watching brief) to monitor ground breaking works. Excavation was undertaken with a small mechanical excavator with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.

The ground breaking works consisted of the excavation of a series of trial pits and topsoil stripping from an area for the new extension on the west side of the building.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 2.

3.1 Test Pits

The excavation of six test was monitored, TP02, TP03, TP05, TP08, TP10 and TP11 (Fig. 1). These measured between 0.3m and 1.2m in size (Fig. 2-3).

TP05, TP08 and TP11 were excavated adjacent to the garage foundations and exposed up to 1m of topsoil over sand natural.

TP02 and TP03 were excavated adjacent to the Old Mill House foundations and exposed made ground to a depth of 0.3m over bedrock.

TP10 was excavated in the garden area adjacent to the proposed new extension to a depth of 1m and exposed 0.3m of topsoil over sandy gravel natural.

3.2 Extension area

An area measuring 8m by 9m was excavated down to natural sandstone bedrock on the west side of Old Mill House. Topsoil measuring up to 0.4m thick overlay up to 0.4m of gravel which overlay bedrock (Fig. 4-5). Two modern drainage cuts were exposed, one containing a plastic pipe.

3.3 Archive Assessment

The building lies in a loop of the River South Esk called Bowman's Pool. A weir (RCAHMS no. NT36NW 433.02) spans the River South Esk on the ESE side of Dalkeith and immediately south-west of Newmills Bridge (NT36NW 154). The river here forms the boundary between the parishes of Dalkeith (to the west) and Newbattle (to the east). A disused lade (RCAHMS no. NT36NW 433.01) from Woodburn Saw Mill is associated with this weir, and lies to the north of the development site. Woodburn Saw Mill lay on the north side of Newmills Bridge and no longer exists, but dated to the early 20th century.

The Old Mill House is recorded in the RCAHMS under number NT36NW 93 but there is no associated description.

The mill is depicted on Wood's map of 1822 as New Mills (Fig. 7a). Bowman's Pool is named and the land on which the mill sits is described as being the Marquis of Lothians property, with the name Mr Stevens beside the New Mills complex. The standing building of Old Mill House corresponds to a rectangular building in the south-west of the complex. A mill lead is depicted running through the centre of the complex (to the east of the existing Old Mill House), from a point at the Newmills Bridge, beyond which it appears to continue to the north side of the road to a complex named as *Snuff & Spinning Mills*.

The Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1852 depicts the New Mills complex with largely the same layout as the 1822 map and it is described as a flour mill (Fig. 7b). The standing building of Old Mill House still corresponds to a rectangular building in the south-west of the complex. This map shows the area to the west of Old Mill House as wooded: the regular linear arrangement of the trees suggests that this could have been an orchard, and there is a path passing close to the west gable of the Old Mill House. The mill on the north side of the road is now described as *Carding & Spinning Mill (wool)*.

The Town Plan of 1893 does not extend to this part of Dalkeith. The 6 inch map of 1895 shows that the mill complex has been demolished and that the only standing building (still roofed) is the Old Mill House, sitting in the south-west corner of an irregular enclosure (Fig. 7c). The mill lead is no longer visible running through the former complex, but stops just south of Newmills Bridge and the weir is now depicted.

A small square building appears to the east the Old Mill House on the 1915 Ordnance Survey map: this is not in the location of the existing garage building and so appears to have subsequently been demolished.

4. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was carried out during groundbreaking works for trial pits and a new extension to the Old Mill House, Dalkeith. No archaeological features were identified. The area of ground breaking for the extension appears to have always been an area of undeveloped land and may have been an orchard in the mid 19th century.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, plans and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland and copies of reports lodged with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3).

5. REFERENCES

Wood, J 1822 Plan of Dalkeith.

Ordnance Survey 1852 Town Plan Sheet 2.

Ordnance Survey 1895 Edinburghshire Sheet VIII.NE. 6 inch to the mile.

Ordnance Survey 1915 Edinburghshire Sheet VIII.NE. 6 inch to the mile.

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

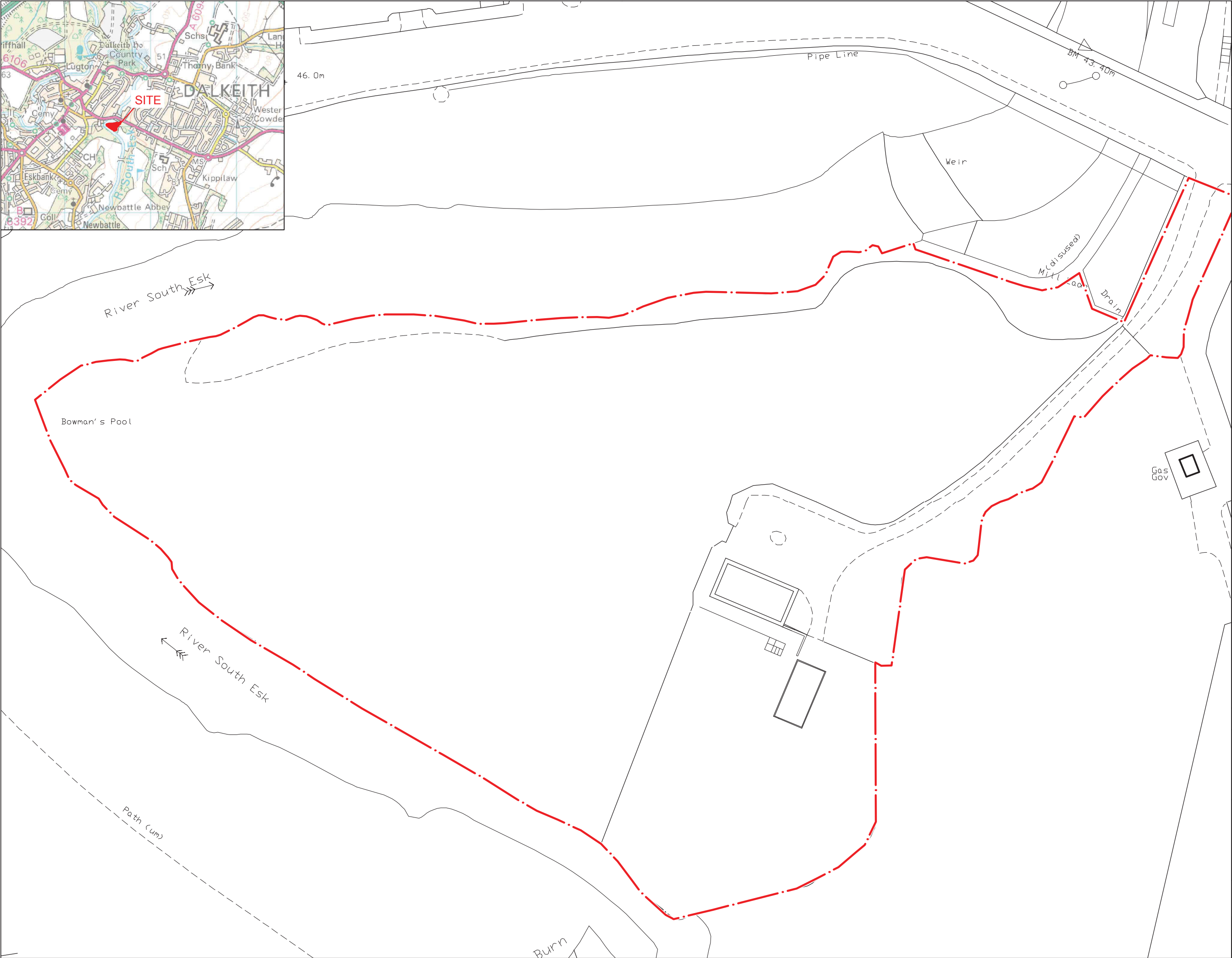
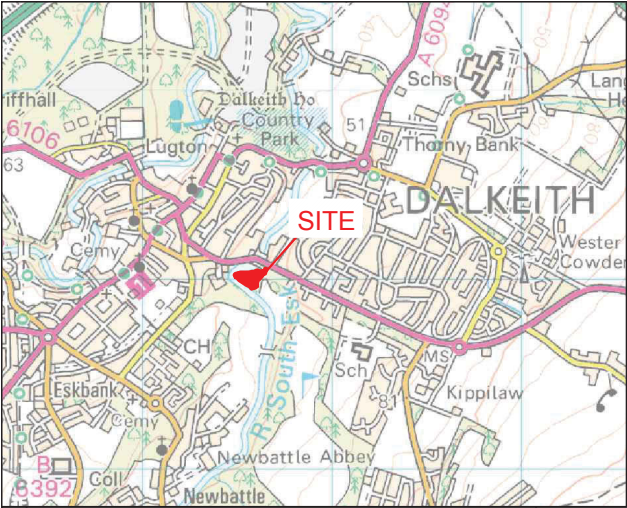
No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	Test pit 10 post-excavation	S	Overcast
2	Test pit 2 post-excavation	N	Overcast
3	Test pit 3 post-excavation	N	Overcast
4	Test pit 5 post-excavation	W	Overcast
5	Test pit 11 post-excavation	S	Overcast
6	Test pit 8 post-excavation	S	Overcast
7	Test pit 2 post-excavation	N	Overcast
8	Area prior to excavation	N	Bright
9	Topsoil and modern drain infill	SE	Bright
10	Modern infill of drainage trench	S	Bright
11	Topsoil removal partially completed	S	Bright
12	Topsoil over river gravels	S	Bright
13	Sandstone natural and disturbed ground	S	Bright
14	Sandstone natural and disturbed ground	NE	Bright
15	View of completed area	S	Bright
16	View of completed area	N	Bright
17-20	Sections of stripped area	Various	Bright
21	General view	E	Bright
22	Modern drainage cut	N	Bright
23	Modern drainage cut	E	Bright
24	Modern drainage cut	W	Bright
25	Modern drainage cut	S	Bright

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context No.	Description
000	Topsoil
001	River gravels
002	Fill of modern drain cut (004)
003	Fill of modern drain cut (005)
004	Cut of modern drain
005	Cut of modern drain

APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Midlothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Dalkeith
PROJECT CODE:	MIHO
PARISH:	Newbattle
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rebecca Hunt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	-
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 33567 66980
START DATE (this season)	November 2012
END DATE (this season)	September 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during groundbreaking works for trial pits and a new extension to the Old Mill House, Dalkeith. No archaeological features were identified. The area of ground breaking for the extension appears to have always been an area of undeveloped land and may have been an orchard in the mid 19th century.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr T Walker & Ms S deWaard
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (report)




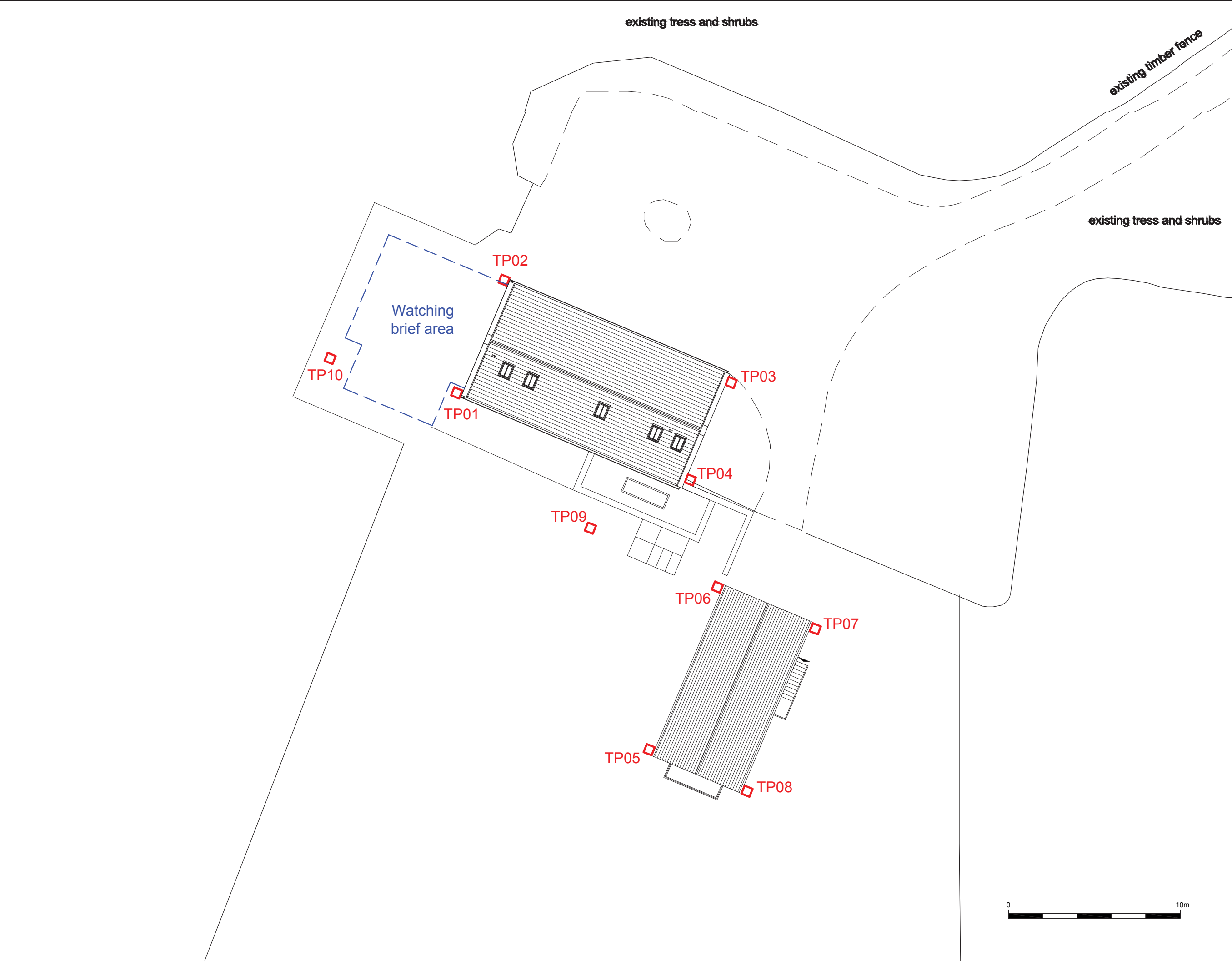
Key:

Site Boundary



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Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A
Title: Site Location Map			
Project: The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian			
Client: Mr T Walker and Ms S DeWaard			
Scale at A3: 1:600			
			



Key:



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Fig. No:	2	Revision:	A
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Title:
Location of test pits and
watching brief area

Project:
The Old Mill House, 40
Newmills Road, Dalkeith,
Midlothian

Client:
Mr T Walker and Ms S DeWaard

Scale at A3:
1:200





Fig. 3 - Test pit 05



Fig. 4 - Test pit 10

Fig. No: 3-4		Revision: A	Project: The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Midlothian
Drawn by: TB	Checked: MJ	Report No: 3079	Client: Mr T Walker and Ms S DeWaard
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Fig. 5 - Full extent of stripped area seen in relation to the existing building



Fig. 6 - Detail of area stripped to natural

Fig. No: 5-6		Revision: A	Project: The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Midlothian
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Fig. 7a - John Wood, 1822

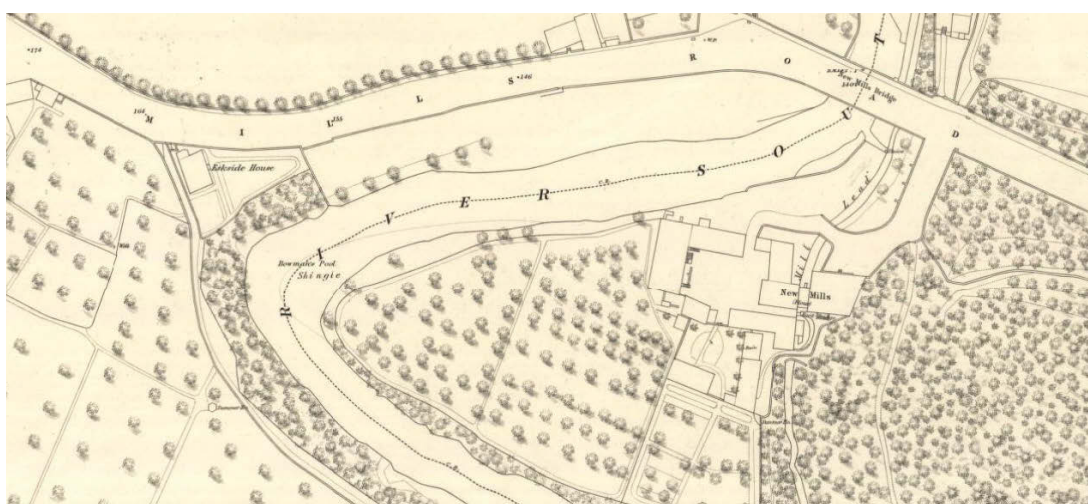




Fig. 7b - OS Town Plan of Dalkeith, 1852



Fig. 7c - 6 inch OS, 1895

Fig. No: 7a-c		Revision: A	Project: The Old Mill House, 40 Newmills Road, Midlothian			CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
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