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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

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Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording


Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

**Ground to the rear of 51A/51B High Street
Jedburgh
Scottish Borders**

Archaeological Monitored Strip

Report No. 3179

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Commissioned by	Borders Low Carbon Developments Ltd
Date issued	August 2014
Version	1
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1 -184886
Planning Application No	14/00471/FUL
Grid Ref	NT 6515 2070

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological monitored strip undertaken in June and July 2014 during ground-works for a residential development on garden ground to the rear of 51A and 51B High Street, Jedburgh, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Borders Low Carbon Development Ltd

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 23 June 2014 for this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf of Borders Low Carbon Development Ltd. The WSI was designed to meet the requirements of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist.

1.2 Background

Planning Permission (14/00471/FUL) has been granted for the construction of a dwelling house on garden ground to the rear of 51A and 51B High Street, Jedburgh. The planning permission was subject to an archaeological condition. This condition was secured against the development because an archaeological watching brief undertaken in relation to a previous planning consent (Ref.13/01426/FUL) identified the remains of a medieval or early post-medieval building within the southern and eastern part of the site. These remains were subject to a limited archaeological excavation by GUARD Archaeology Ltd (GUARD) (GUARD 2014) before a change in the development proposals was agreed that would allow the building remains to be preserved in situ within a garden area, sealed beneath a layer of geotextile membrane and soil deposits. Consequently, the scale of the development was reduced as per the current application confining any further ground-breaking works to the north-western end of the site.

The current development area consisted of deep deposits of garden soil, which had been disturbed by later development. A portion of this area had already been reduced during the earlier works. This phase of works involved the controlled excavation of the deposits to formation depth/natural in order to determine if the medieval remains extended into the current development area.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Monitored Strip) to monitor topsoil stripping and all other groundbreaking associated with the construction of the new property.
- 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.

2.2 Monitored Strip

The monitored strip was conducted by first cleaning and then recording the existing north-east to south-west and south-east to north-west sections, which were exposed during the earlier phase of works (GUARD 2014). The north-east to south-west section was then extended to the south-west side of the site by excavating a single-bucket width trench. This operation was then repeated for the south-east to north-west section, extending it to the rear of the house footprint. All groundbreaking work was carried out using a 360° excavator equipped with a smooth bladed ditching bucket.

When the WSI was prepared it was envisaged that the deposits were a sequence of garden soils / midden deposits and that each identified stratigraphic deposit would be cleaned by hand and then test-pitted for environmental sampling and the recovery of finds. The layer would then be removed by machine and the process repeated until natural/formation level was reached. However, the sequence of deposits was not as early or clearly defined as originally envisaged so only 2 test pits were excavated, both through a recent deposit. However, all deposits identified were excavated for artefacts, just not by test-pitting.

At the request of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist, the south-east-facing section along the edge of Smiths Wynd was cleaned and recorded following the reduction of the deposits within the site boundary.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

The area that was stripped to formation depth measured 8.7m north-east to south-west by 6m north-west to south-east. Natural was identified within the south-west part of the site but was not present within the north-east part of the site where a modern cut had truncated the natural deposits. A service trench measuring 5m long by 0.4m wide by 0.8m deep which connected to a length of service trench monitored by GUARD was also monitored.

3.2 Footprint of proposed house

The earliest phase of archaeological remains identified was represented by an elongated pit (**020**) (Figs 2, 3 7, 8, 10 & 11), which had been cut through a deposit of reddish pink silty clay (**014**) into reddish clay natural (**000**) beneath. It was aligned north-west to south-east and was 3.4m long x between 0.9m and 1.3m wide x 0.4m deep. The fill (**021**) consisted of grey-brown silty-clay containing numerous stones. Towards the north-western end of this pit there was a concentration of flat stones (**022**) (Fig.9) overlying the fill. Sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill (**021**) of this pit.

This pit also cut through the extreme north-eastern edge of a clayey gravel deposit (**028**) that contained numerous small stones (Figs 6 and 12). It was considered that this deposit might represent a medieval street surface of Smiths Wynd. It measured up to c.0.5m thick and sat directly on the natural (**000**). The edge of this surface ran parallel with the current edge of Smiths Wynd, extending out by a further 0.2m into the development area (Fig.7, 10 and 11).

Above these features a sequence of three deposits (**010, 024 & 029**) were present (Figs 3,4,5 & 6). It is not clear what these were but they were sterile and may simply have been deposits of made ground laid to raise the level of the surface of the site. These deposits were cut by a sequence of later cut features. More than the entire north-east half of the area had been dug out at sometime during the 20th century as a large cut (**008**) (Fig 3) was present across this area and it had been filled with alternating layers of dark-grey silty-clay and orange-brown sandy clay (**009**) and within these deposits frogged "Niddire" bricks were present. In turn this pit had been cut by another large pit (**006**) (Fig 3). This was filled with 007 which contained a number of recent finds. This pit was cut by another recent pit (**015**) which was in turn cut by a pit (**017**) containing a metal fuel tank (**019**) (Figs 3 & 4) which was located in the south-west corner of the footprint of the house.

In the north-east facing section a cobbled street surface (**030**) was identified directly below the current tarmac street surface of Smiths Wynd (**031**) (Figs 6, 10, 11 & 12)

Other more recent features/deposits included: a test-pit (**032**) (Fig 4) excavated during the current programme of development; a drain (**002**) (Fig 3); cut features (**004 &**

012) (Fig 3); A small square post-hole (**023**) (Fig 2) and a deposit of rubble (**025**) on the surface of the site that was more than likely laid down during these construction works (Figs 3 & 5).

3.3 Service Trench

The proposed line of the service trench ran through the footprint of the possible medieval house identified in the earlier excavations by GUARD. In consultation with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeologist this was moved to the north-east of the remains to be preserved in situ. It was thought that this trench might uncover more of a deposit of cobbles which had been identified during the earlier excavations (GUARD context 121) and which was thought to represent part of an earlier street surface. However, The deposits within the service trench consisted of modern made-ground. Natural was not reached and there were no features of archaeological significance identified.

3.4 Finds (Christina Hills)

Find Type	Sum of No.	Sum of Wt (g)
Animal Bone	17	208
Clay Pipe	21	59
Copper Alloy	2	10
Glass	12	160
Iron	3	68
Pottery	63	598

Table 1: Summary of finds

The majority of artefacts recovered on site were found in context **007**. These consisted mainly of glass, pottery, animal bone and clay pipe. Other finds from this context include three iron finds, two of which were unidentified and one which is a nail, and one copper alloy button. The finds have all been identified as modern.

Similar finds were retrieved from context **009**, with animal bone as well as small sherds of pottery, clay pipe and glass. A coin was also found in **009**, from the reign of George III (1760-1820) although this is a residual find.

Six sherds of pottery were found in **021**, these are probably medieval in date. All are white gritty ware, and one has a green glaze.

4. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological monitored strip was carried out during ground-works for a residential development at garden ground to the rear of 51A/51B High Street, Jedburgh, immediately to the north-west of a recently identified medieval/early post-medieval building (GUARD 2014). While the majority of the deposits proved to be recent two archaeological features were identified. These were a possible medieval street surface (028) which only just encroached in to the site and an elongated pit (020) containing sherds of medieval pottery.

It is likely that the large pit (006) identified during this phase of work is the same pit or associated with the pit (108) described in the GUARD report (GUARD 2014). It is now clear that the re-deposited clay surface (124) described in the GUARD report (GUARD 2014) and the grey sand below it that was identified in their Sondage E were actually fills of the large modern cut (008). It is also now clear that the boundary wall (117) in the GUARD report (GUARD 2014) is unlikely to be medieval in date as the medieval horizon lies at a lower depth than this wall survived at.

The portion of the site to the north-west of the house footprint required no further monitoring as the planned development in this area was a parking area which would have required the site to be built up from the level it was at when the monitoring of the footprint of the house took place. A planting bed was also proposed for this area but this would not require any further significant excavation.

It is recognised that the final decision regarding any further mitigation measures such as post-excavation lies with the Scottish Borders Council as advised by the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Service. If further work is required this will be agreed with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Service and described in a Post Excavation Research Design.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the RCAHMS and copies of reports will be lodged with the Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* and an OASIS Scotland entry will also be completed.

5. REFERENCES

GUARD 2014, *Queen Street, Jedburgh, Archaeological Watching Brief and Excavation: Data Structure Report* (Project Number 3769)

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

No.	Description	From
1-2	SE facing section B-C	SE
3-4	NE facing section B-D	NE
5-6	NE facing section B-F	NE
7	SE facing section B-G	SE
8	Plan view of stones 022	SE
9	Plan view of stones 022	NW
10	NW facing section E-H	NW
11	Test-pit 001, context 007	N
12	Context 007 after removal of 0.5m	NNE
13-14	Test-pit 002 context 007	various
15-18	NE-facing section below Smiths Wynd (J-I)	various
19-20	SE-facing section across pit 020	SE
21-24	Pit 020	SE
25-26	Pit 020	above
27-31	SE facing section of Pit 008 showing fill 009	various
32	Excavated service trench	NW
33-35	NE facing Section I-J beneath Smiths Wynd	NE

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

No	Description
000	Natural
001	Modern rubble leveling deposit
002	Cut of modern drain
003	Type 1/rubble fill below pipe
004	Cut of sub rectangular pit
005	Fill of pit 004 – dark grey silt
006	Modern cut feature
007	Fill of 006
008	Modern cut feature
009	Fill of pit 008, layers of orange-brown/grey material
010	Re-deposited red/orange clay
011	Upper fill of drain 002 – Dark brown/grey sandy silt
012	Shallow modern cut
013	Fill of modern test pit 032
014	reddish pink silty clay deposit (Redeposited natural?)
015	Cut of modern pit
016	Fill of pit 015
017	Cut for pit containing petrol tank
018	Backfill of 017 covering petrol tank
019	Petrol tank
020	Cut of elongated possible medieval pit
021	Fill of pit 020, grey-brown silty-clay containing medieval pottery
022	Flat stones overlying 021
023	Cut of square post hole (modern)
024	Red/brown clay silt deposit
025	Modern mixed rubble deposit
026	Fill of modern post-hole 023
027	Red/brown sandy clay lens within 010

No	Description
028	Possible medieval street surface consisting of slightly clayey gravel
029	Mixed mottled made-ground
030	Earlier cobbled surface for Smiths Wynd
031	Current surface of Smiths Wynd
032	Cut of modern test pit
033	Fill of modern cut 012

APPENDIX 3: Drawings Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Section/Plan	Description
1	1	1:20	Section	SE-facing section B-C
1	2	1:20	Section	NE-facing section D-F
1	3	1:20	Section	SE-facing section G-B
1	4	1:20	Section	NW-facing section E-H
2	5	1:50	Plan	Plan of excavated trenches
2	6	1:20	Plan	Plan of stones 022
3	7	1:20	Plan	Plan of pit 020
3	8	1:20	Section	SE-facing section across pit 020
3	9	1:20	Section	NE-facing section I-J

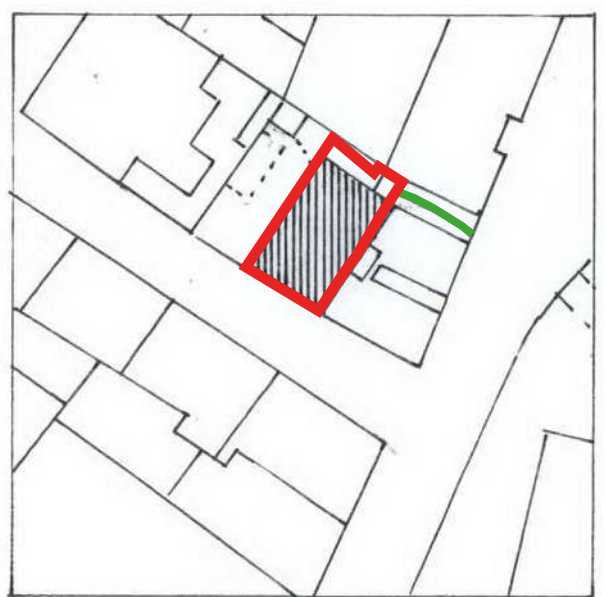
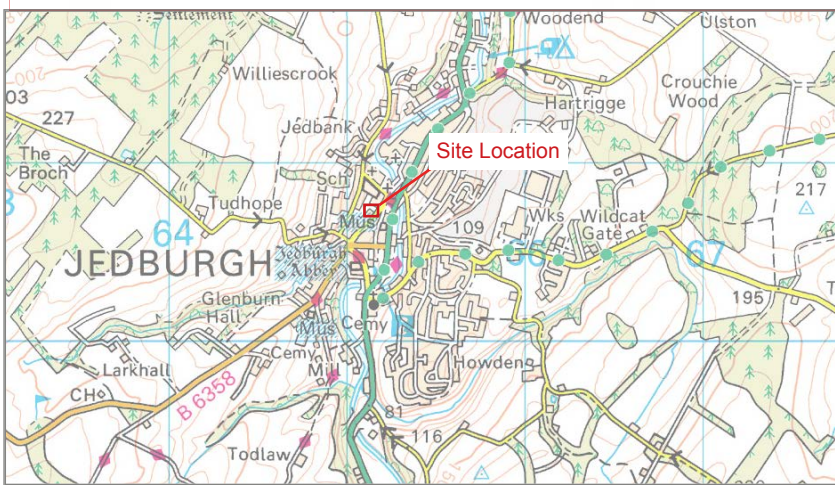
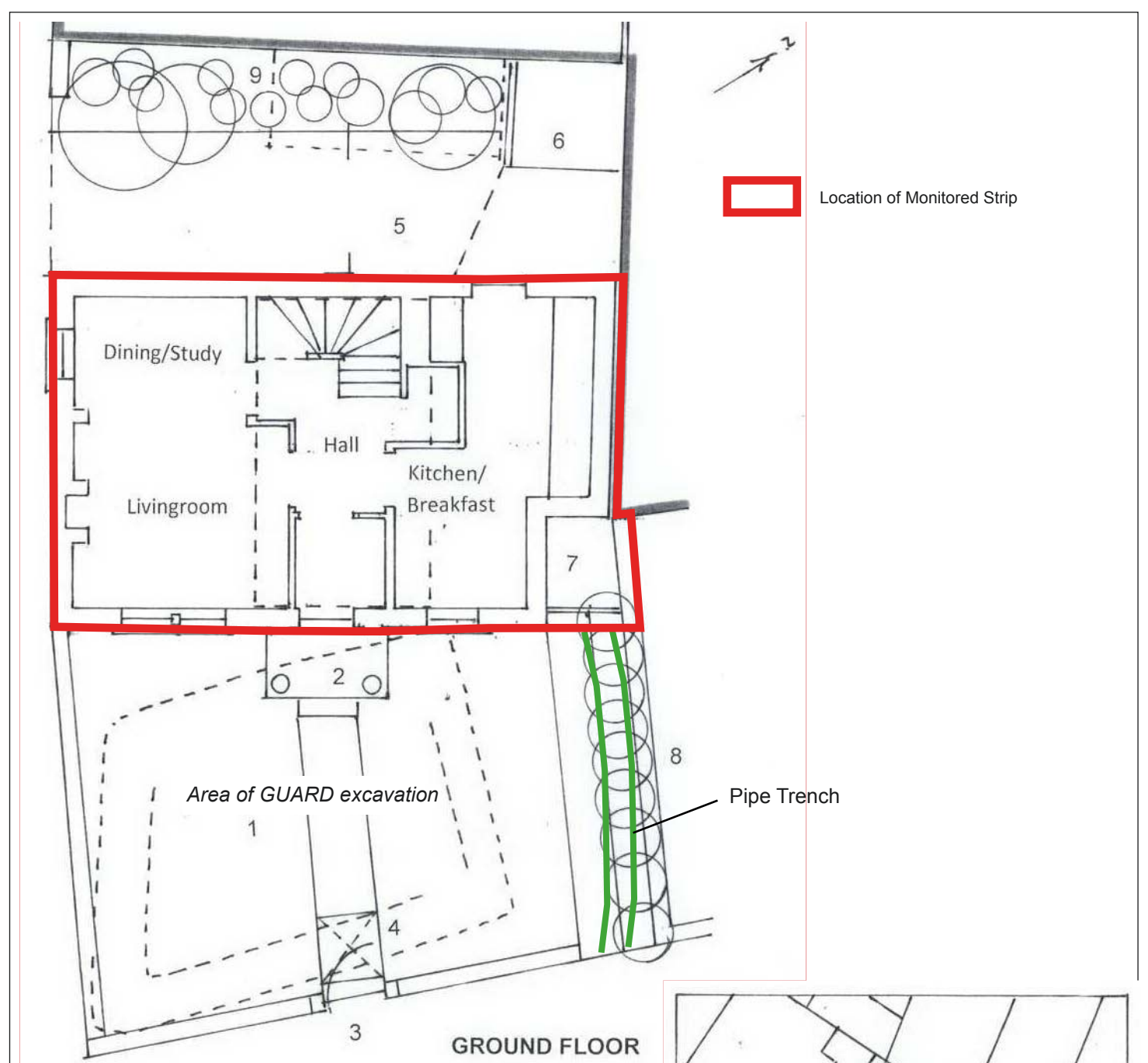
APPENDIX 4: Samples Register

Sample No.	Sample type	Context	Description	Volume
1	Deposit	007	Fill of pit 006 (modern)	20L
2	Deposit	007	Fill of pit 006 (modern)	20L
3	Deposit	009	Fill of pit 00608 (modern)	40L
4	Deposit	009	Fill of pit 00608 (modern)	10L
5	Deposit	007	Fill of pit 006 (modern)	20L
6	Deposit	007	Fill of pit 006 (modern)	20L
7	Deposit	021	Fill of pit. Contains medieval pottery	30L
8	Deposit	023	Fill of modern post-hole	3L

APPENDIX 5: Finds Register

Test Pit	Context	Find Type	No.	Wt (g)	Notes	Spotdate
	007	Iron	3	68	1 nail and 1 unknown	Modern
	007	Animal Bone	3	59		Modern
	007	Pottery	3	31		Modern
	007	Clay Pipe	9	21		Modern
001	007	Copper Alloy	1	3	Button, circular with wire back	Modern
001	007	Glass	7	133		Modern
001	007	Animal Bone	6	34		Modern
001	007	Pottery	42	402		Modern
001	007	Clay Pipe	6	16		Modern
001	007	Glass	1	4		Modern
002	007	Pottery	11	76		Modern
002	007	Animal Bone	2	70		Modern
002	007	Clay Pipe	5	20		Modern
002	007	Glass	3	22		Modern
	009	Animal Bone	6	45		Modern
	009	Pottery	1	5		Modern

Test Pit	Context	Find Type	No.	Wt (g)	Notes	Spotdate
	009	Clay Pipe	1	2		Modern
	009	Glass	1	1		Modern
	009	Copper Alloy	1	7	Coin- George III	1760-1820
	021	Pottery	6	84	1 glazed	Medieval



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Title:
Location Map showing area monitored

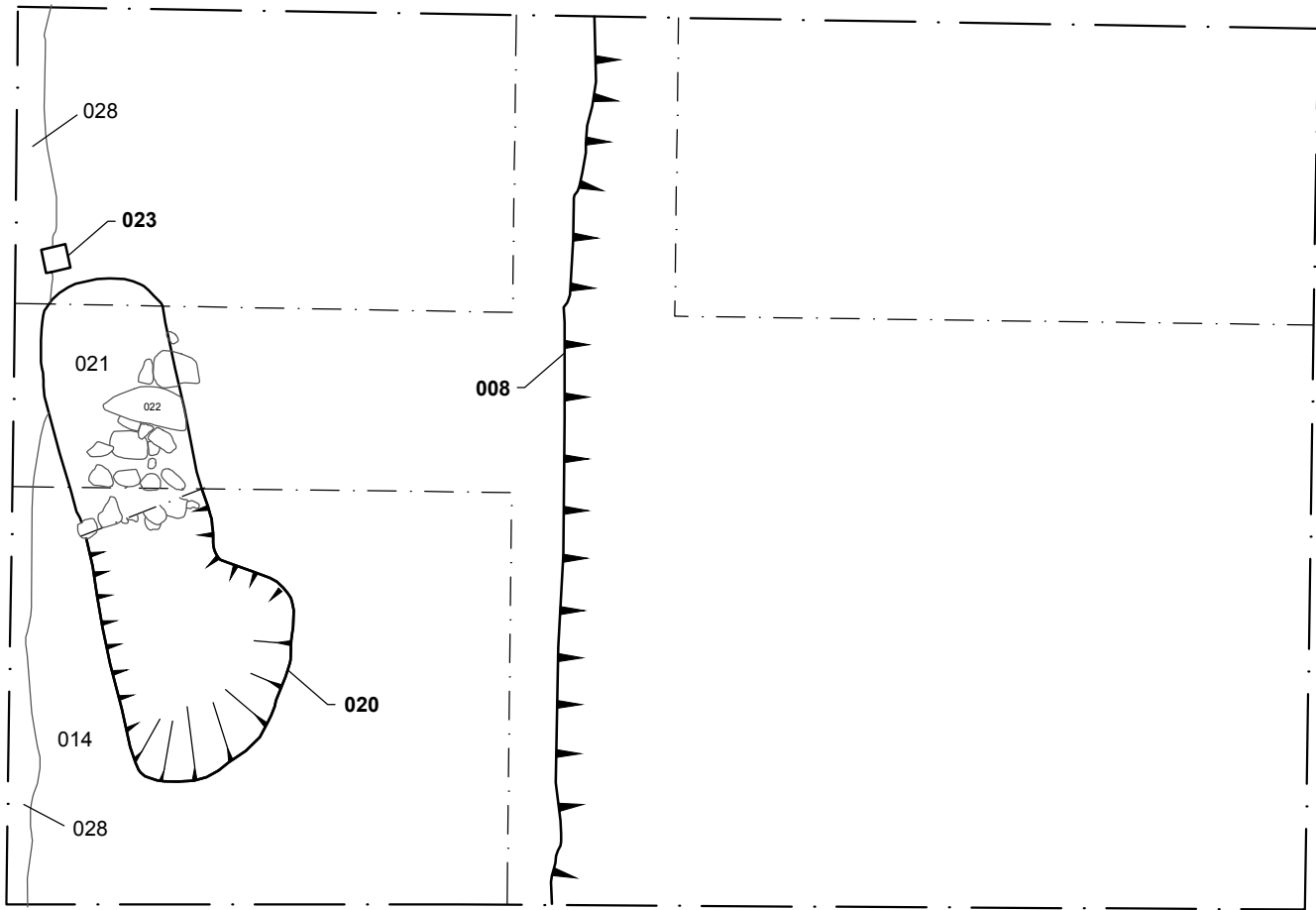
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Archaeological Monitored Strip

Fig. No:	1	Report:	3179	Drawn:	TB	CKD:	MK	Date:	14/07/14
Client:	Borders Low Carbon Developments Ltd								
Scale:	Main map, 1:125								

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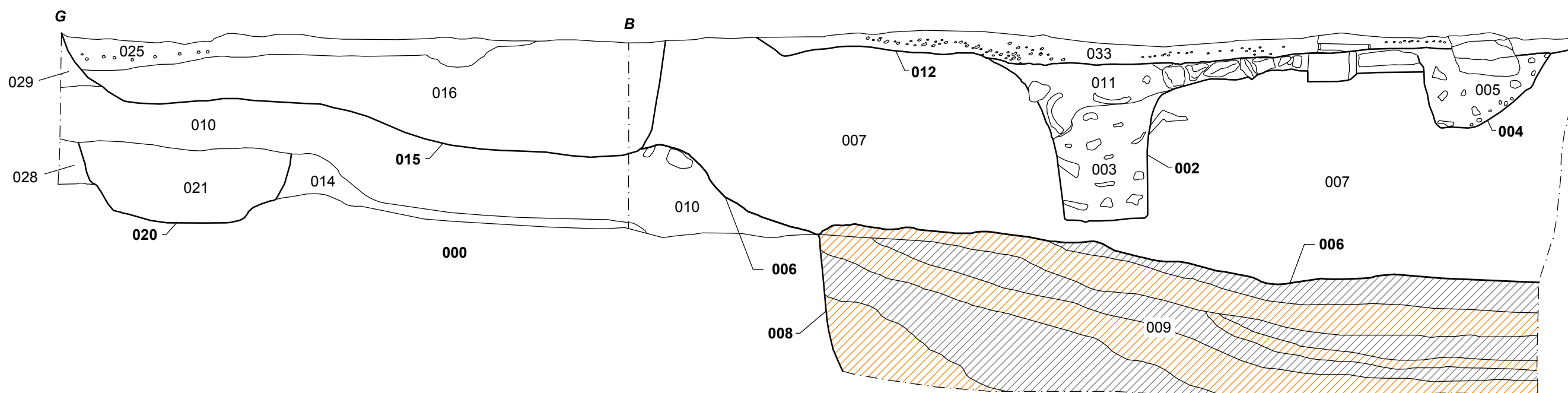
Title: Features present at base of trench	Fig No:	2	Report:	3179	Drawn by:	TB	CKD:	BG	Date:	04/08/14
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Project: Ground at 51A/51B High Street Jedburgh Archaeological Monitored Strip	Scale: 1:50									
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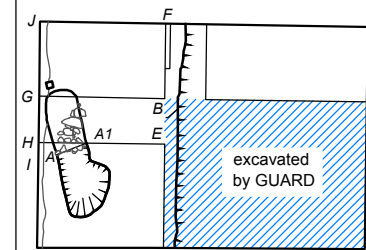
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Fig. 3 - SE-facing section G-C



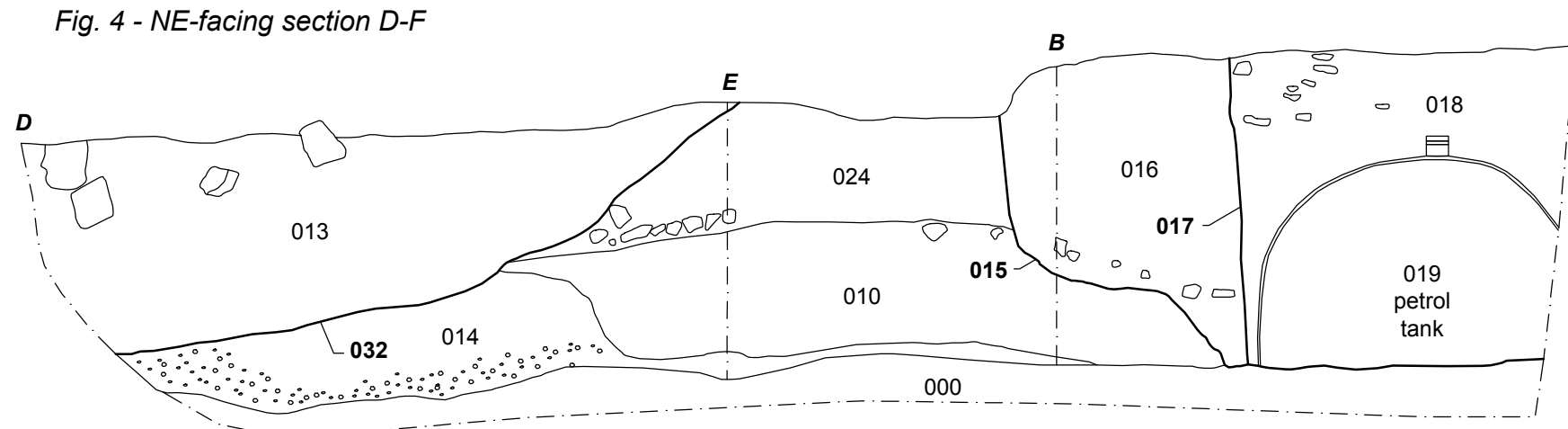
Key:



Location of sections

- dark-grey silty clay
- orange-brown sandy clay

Fig. 4 - NE-facing section D-F



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Fig. No: 3-4 Revision: A

Title: Sections

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Scale at A3: 1:25



Fig. 5 - NW-facing section E-H

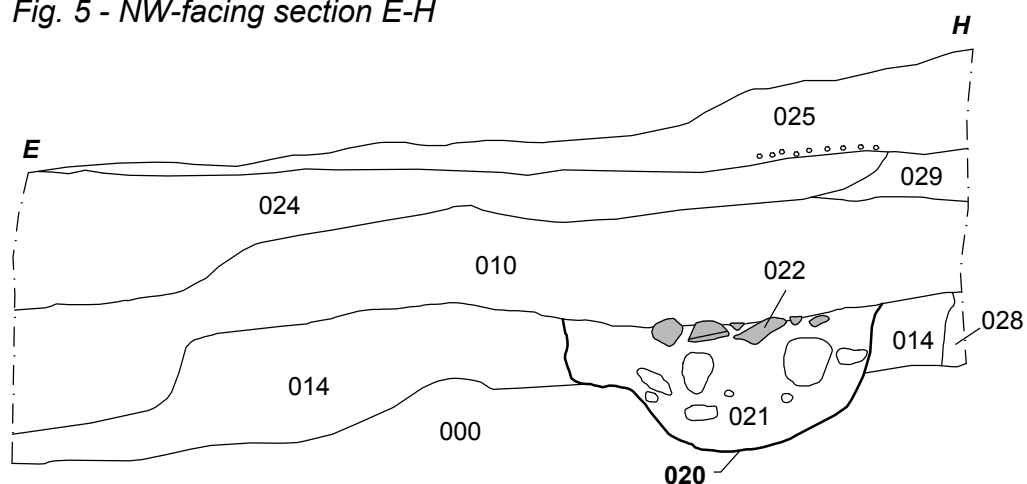


Fig. 6 - NE-facing section I-J

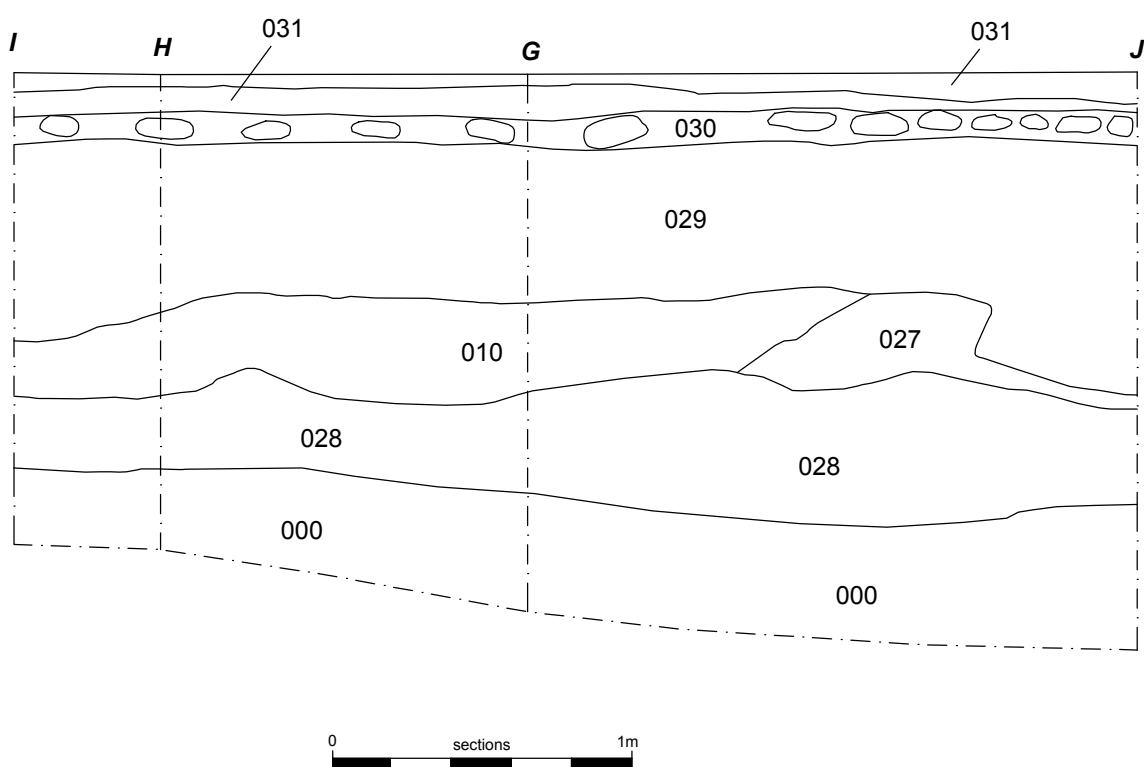


Fig. 7 - Plan of pit 020

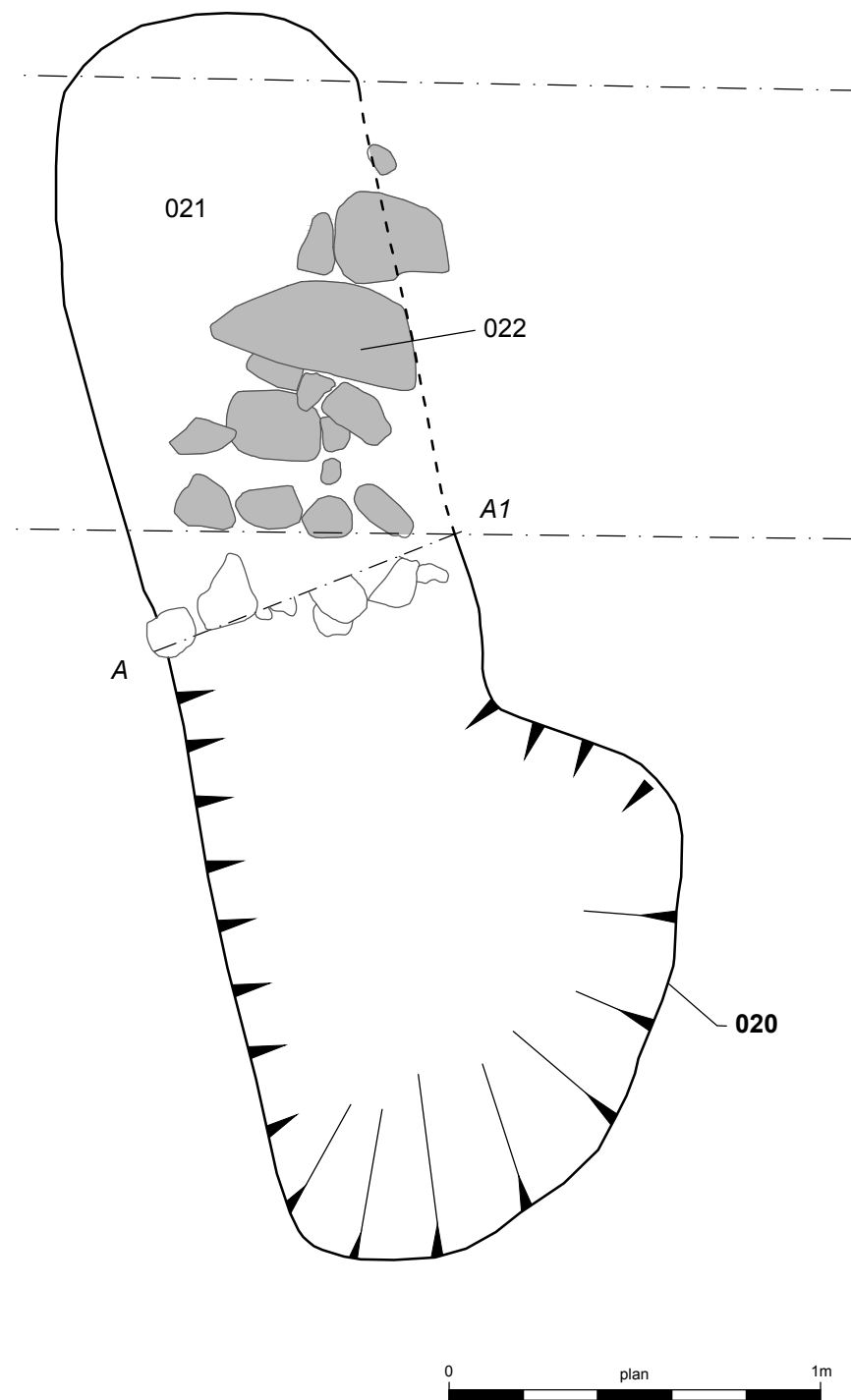
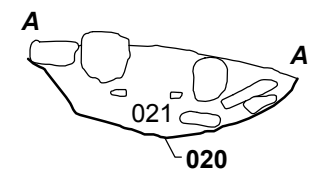
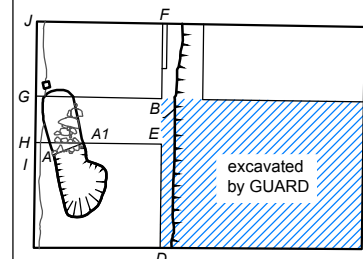


Fig. 8 - SE facing section of pit 020



Key:



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Fig. No: 5-8 Revision: A

Title: Sections and plan of 020

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Scale at A3: Plan, 1:20; sections, 1:25

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Fig. 9 - Section E-H, stones 022 overlying pit 020



Fig. 10 - Upper surface of pit 020 and edge of possible medieval street surface 028



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Fig. 11 - Pit 020 with possible medieval street surface 028 to left of shot



Fig. 12 - Section I-J showing possible medieval street surface 028



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