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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Intpretation, Design & Display

Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Plot 1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park,
Dunbar,
East Lothian.**

**Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
& Evaluation.**

**Data Structure Report,
No. 1624**

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 This report presents the results of a desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in May 2009 within Plot 1 at Bell House, Roxburghe Park, Dunbar, East Lothian (NGR: NT 6875 7845, Figs. 1 & 3). The work was commissioned by Mr Ken Paterson.

1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the project was produced by CFA. The WSI was based upon documents provided by Mr Paterson and subsequent discussions with Andrew Robertson, the East Lothian Council Archaeology Officer.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 The proposed development site lies within the grounds of Bell House and is currently a garden. There are no known archaeological sites within the proposed development site but there are a number in the surrounding area.

1.2.2 No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the proposed development site prior to this evaluation.

1.3 Objectives

1.3.1 The project's aims and objectives are:

- To establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development area through archive assessment and trial trenching evaluation;
- To establish whether any prehistoric settlement remains, as known in the vicinity, survive within the proposed development site;
- To establish whether any of the known prehistoric burial sites extend into the proposed development site;
- To establish the vulnerability of any archaeological features to the proposed development;
- To propose mitigation measures if these remains exist.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

2.1.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations.

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 The National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and Historic Scotland's 'Pastmap' (<http://jura.rcahms.gov.uk/PASTMAP/Map>) web site were consulted to obtain information on known archaeological sites within the proposed development area.

2.2.2 The historic map collection held by the National Libraries of Scotland (NLS) was examined for information on pre-recent land use within the proposed development area. The maps examined included the Ordnance Survey 6" and 25" map editions, together with other readily available cartographic information.

2.2.3 An examination was made of the vertical aerial photographs held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS).

2.3 Trial Trenching

2.3.1 The approximate location of the proposed house within the boundaries of Plot 1 was established from Mr Paterson and trenching was confined to that area.

2.3.2 Four trenches (1-4, Fig. 1) were excavated, amounting to 52m² (c.5% of the total development area).

2.3.3 Topsoil and modern overburden were removed by a JCB mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.5m wide smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. All further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

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

2.3.5 Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment.

2.3.6 All trenches were backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) Sites

- 3.1.1 There are no NMRS records of cultural heritage sites within the proposed development area.
- 3.1.2 Broxmouth Park Historic Garden and Designed Landscape, formerly owned by the Duke of Roxburgh, is now a golf course and lies directly to the north and east of Bell House. A Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) (No. 8753, NMRS No. NT67NE 127) lies within the golf course to the south-east of the development site, and this is an enclosure recorded as a cropmark. On the golf course c.50m to the east of the site, a watching brief (NT67NE 186) during the construction of a new tractor shed revealed a stone burial cist, a series of curvilinear and linear features, and a fragment of Roman Samian ware. The cist contained the skeleton of a child and a copper-alloy brooch. The curvilinear and linear features did not form a recognisable structure and yielded only bone (Baker 2000).
- 3.1.3 Further to the south-east of Bell House, an extensive archaeological evaluation (NT67NE 508) in advance of development revealed linear ditches which are likely to be old field boundaries and a concentration of features on a ridge close to the coast; these comprised stake-holes, pits, a linear feature and a ring-groove which are likely to represent prehistoric settlement (Holden 2003).
- 3.1.4 To the west of the proposed development area, at Kirkhill Braes, about 12 long-cists and several sherds of Beaker pottery were found during building work in December 1951 (NMRS no: NT67NE 2, Calder & Feachem 1953). The long-cists may date to the second half of the first millennium AD with the Beaker pottery dating to the third millennium BC. The work in question may well be the construction of the houses to the west of Bell House, these being The Braes, Wresden and Suilven, all of which appear to have been constructed after 1926 and before 1959.

Cartographic Sources

- 3.1.5 Adair's map of 1682 provides no detail on the proposed development area.
- 3.1.6 Roy's Military Map (1747-55) provides no detail on the proposed development area. No rig-and-furrow is depicted to the north of what is now the A1087 (Queen's Road).
- 3.1.7 Forrest's (1799) map provides no detail on the proposed development area.
- 3.1.8 Ainslie (1821) provides no detail on the proposed development area.
- 3.1.9 Greenwood (1824 and 1844) provides no detail on the proposed development area.

- 3.1.10 The earliest map depicting useful information about the proposed development area is the 1832 Dunbar map which was a product of the Great Reform Act (Plans & Reports) 1832. This shows the southern boundary of Dunbar town curving to the north of Roxburghe Park and this boundary may be that currently between Bell House and the golf course to the north (Fig. 2). The proposed development area is featureless on this map.
- 3.1.11 The Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1854) also shows the proposed development area to be featureless. The boundary with the golf course to the north of Bell House is shown and annotated FW (Face of Wall), suggesting the wall is revetting material on one side, as it does today. This may be the Dunbar Town boundary shown on the 1832 map.
- 3.1.12 More recent Ordnance Survey maps, Haddington Sheet 33, 1898 (Second Edition), Haddington Sheet 33, 1903 (Third Edition) and Dunbar and Lammermuir Sheet 75, 1926 (Popular Edition) show no additional information about the development site.

Aerial Photographs

- 3.1.13 A break of slope within the site running west to east just north of Trench 1 is visible as a shadow on an aerial photograph from 1959; this break of slope is still present. A second shadow running north to south lies outwith Plot 1. Bell House itself has not been built but the three houses to the west (The Braes, Wresden and Suilven) are apparent. It is notable that the current topography of the site appears little changed from that in 1959.
- 3.1.14 By 1971, Bell House had been constructed. Slight shadows in the garden appear to be landscaping works but a large portion of the sandstone wall forming the boundary with the golf course to the east is invisible and may have collapsed or been demolished. By 1980 the wall may have been repaired but it is less visible in these photographs than in 1959.

Other Information

- 3.1.15 Information from the owner of Bell House, Mr John Cairns, indicates that Bell House was built in 1969. Prior to its construction, the area was used for allotments which were tended by workers from the cement factory. He suggests that the sandstone wall forming the eastern boundary of the site may have been built by prisoners from the Napoleonic Wars. Interestingly he does not recall part of the wall being demolished around or just after the time the house was built.

3.2 Trial Trenches (Fig. 1)

3.2.1 A tabulated summary of the trenches is contained in Appendix 1. Context descriptions can be found in Appendix 2. Other site records form Appendices 3-4. In the description below, context numbers appear in bold.

Trench 1 (4.5m x.1.5m E-W)

3.2.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 1) was located on the level grass to the east of Bell House. Topsoil (**000**), containing occasional modern ceramics and glass, had a depth of 0.2m. Below topsoil was made ground (**002**) consisting of mixed pinkish clay and stones with a depth of 1.2-1.4m. Below this was a 1.2m deep deposit of dark red sand (**003**) which became cleaner with depth and contained occasional clay lumps. Natural laminated creamy white and red sand (**004**) was recorded at a depth of 2.7m below the surface.

Trench 2 (8.5m x.1.5m E-W)

3.2.3 The eastern end of Trench 2 (Fig. 1) abutted the sandstone wall (**012**) forming the boundary on the east side of Plot 1. The uppermost deposit was a very thin layer of sterile topsoil containing frequent ceramics, glass and coal (**000**), followed by a compact dark-brown garden soil (**001**) containing modern finds which was 0.4m deep.

3.2.4 A 0.15-0.3m deep layer of yellow-brown or buff clay-silt (**005**) containing stones and pebbles lay below **001**, beneath which was natural undulating compact yellow clay (**006**).

3.2.5 Layer **005** and the natural were cut by a service trench containing a lead water pipe (**007**), and by a linear ditch (**009**) containing modern finds in its mixed clay and topsoil fill (**013**) (Fig. 4, 6). This ditch measured 1.8m wide by 0.5-0.7m deep. It was broadly U-shaped with some undulations in its sides and base. It was sealed by **001**. It lay 4m to the west of the boundary wall **012** and was aligned roughly N-S.

3.2.6 Two cuts were apparent next to the wall, which may represent two phases of construction/repair of the wall (Fig. 4, 5). The earlier cut (**011**) cut the natural to a depth of 0.18m, was filled by compact brown clay-silt (**010**), and was sealed by layer **005**. The cut extended to a width of 1.1m from the base of the wall.

3.2.7 The second cut (**019**) was 0.3m wide and filled with **018**, a grey-brown silt. It cut through layer **005** and fill **010** and was sealed by **001** (Fig. 4, 5). The fill (**018**) contained an abraded lithic. This cut (**019**) may be the foundation trench for the c.1971 repair of wall **012**.

3.2.8 The soil layers in this trench were 0.5m-0.9m deep, deepest to the east.

Trench 3 (9m x.1.5m E-W)

- 3.2.9 This trench (Fig. 1) contained a similar sequence of soil deposits to those in Trench 2. Beneath garden soil (**001**) of 0.3m depth was a 0.3-0.4m deep deposit (**015**) of compact yellow-brown clay-silt. Beneath this was natural undulating compact yellow clay (**016**), at a depth of 0.5-0.6m from the surface.
- 3.2.10 A linear ditch feature (**017**), measuring 1.9m wide by 0.7m deep, cut both deposit **015** and natural (**016**), and was filled with a mixture of redeposited clay and topsoil (**014**) containing modern finds (Fig. 7). It was aligned roughly NW-SE and sealed by **001**.

Trench 4 (13.5m x.1.5m N-S)

- 3.2.11 Garden soil (**001**) in Trench 4 overlay a patchy deposit of red blaes (**020**) between 0.05m and 0.25m deep (Fig. 8). Below this was a 0.3m deep compact layer of dark-brown clay-silt (**021**) containing frequent modern ceramics, glass, wire and coal/ash, followed by a 0.2m deep layer of yellow-brown or buff clay-silt (**022**). Deposits **021** and **022** were cut by an active garden irrigation water pipe (**024**). Undulating compact yellow clay natural (**023**) was recorded at a depth of 0.5-0.8m.
- 3.2.12 A single feature (**026**, Fig. 9) was found to cut the natural. Aligned east to west, feature **026** is interpreted as the terminal of a shallow ditch and within the trench it measured 1.3m by 0.6m. Half sectioned, it was concave in profile and had a depth of 0.15m. No finds were recovered from the brownish-orange fill (**027**) which contained no visible environmental information. It was sealed by **022**.

3.3 Finds, Sue Anderson

- 3.3.1 A single piece of light brown flint, patinated on one side, came from context **018**, and may be worked.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The desk-based assessment indicated that no known cultural heritage sites existed within the proposed development area at Plot 1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park, Dunbar.
- 4.2 Four trial trenches were excavated covering 52m². All of these lay within the area of the proposed house footprint to the front of the plot, and therefore well over 5% of the affected area has been evaluated. The rear of the plot is currently a lawn with an area of mature planting in the north-east corner. This part of the plot will be unaffected by the development (including house foundations and service trenches) and will remain as a garden in its current layout.
- 4.3 In suggested chronological order, the results of the evaluation include:
- Features associated with the construction and use of Bell House include the garden soils (001), made ground (002) in Trench 1, made ground (020, 021) in Trench 4, and the modern rubberised water pipes. All were overlain by a thin sterile topsoil (000) used for landscaping. A ditch (009) containing modern finds cut through the garden soil (001) in Trench 2 and is therefore relatively recent in date.
 - The soil deposits below the garden soil in Trenches 2-4 (005/015/022), a compact yellow-brown soil containing modern finds, may be related to the prior use of the site as allotments. This layer in Trench 2 was cut by a service trench. This layer in Trench 3 was cut by a ditch (017) containing modern finds.
 - A shallow linear feature (026) in Trench 4 may be the terminal of a ditch. No finds or environmental information were recovered. The sterile nature of the fill is suggestive of an agricultural feature; however, its date and function are unknown.
 - The sandstone wall may be 18th-19th century in origin and a foundation cut (019) was recorded. An earlier cut (011) was apparent, which may relate to an earlier episode of construction. This portion of the wall appears from aerial photographs to have been rebuilt in around 1971. Currently leaning outwards (Fig. 2) and in an unstable condition, visual examination of the wall reveals no apparent difference in construction, or in the type of lime mortar used between that portion apparently rebuilt in around 1971 and the remaining wall. However, vertical joints at the corner just to the north of Trench 2 and at the corner in the foreground of Fig. 3 may relate to this reconstruction.
- 4.3 The evaluation results indicate that neither the known nearby settlement or burial remains extend into the proposed development area.
- 4.5 The final decision regarding any further mitigation work lies with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Officer. A summary statement of these results

in OASIS and an entry in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 5), will be sufficient to disseminate the results of the evaluation.

- 4.6 The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record.

5. REFERENCES

5.1 Bibliographic

Baker, L 2000 'Dunbar Golf Course, East Links, Dunbar, East Lothian (Dunbar parish), watching brief and excavation' *Discovery Excav Scot, vol.1* 24

Calder, C S T & Feachem, R W 1953 'Cemetery, Dunbar, East Lothian', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, 85 (1953) 179

Holden, T 2003 'Deer Park, Dunbar (Dunbar parish), evaluation', *Discovery Excav Scot, vol.4* 56

5.2 Cartographic

Adair, J 1682 *East Lothian / authore Johanne Adair*

Adair, J 1736 *A map of East Lothian / survey'd by J. Adair*

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

Forrest, W 1802 *Map of Haddingtonshire*

Great Reform Act (Plans & Reports) 1832, Dunbar (Map 19). London: House of Commons

Greenwood, C 1824 *Map of the county of Haddington*

Greenwood, C 1844 *Map of the county of Haddington*

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition (1854) 6 inch to one mile Haddingtonshire Sheet 6

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition (1898) 1 inch to one mile Haddington Sheet 66

Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition (1903) 1 inch to one mile Haddington Sheet 66

Ordnance Survey Popular Edition (1926) 1 inch to one mile Dunbar & Lammermuir Sheet 75

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military map of Scotland*

5.3 Aerial Photographs

Sortie	Frame	Date	Scale
58/RAF/3262	F63: 0272-0273	15/10/59	1:10000
OS/71/051	015-016	11/04/71	1:7000
OS/80/074	023-024	11/05/80	1:8000

APPENDIX 1: Summary of Excavation Results

Trench no.	Size (m)	Depth over Natural (m)	Features
1	4.5 x 1.5	2.7	
2	8.5 x 1.5	0.5-0.9	Modern ditch & lead pipe trench Cut for sandstone wall
3	9 x 1.5	0.6	Modern ditch
4	13.5 x 1.5	0.5	Possible ditch terminal Modern water pipe

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

No	Trench	Description
000	1-4	Thin sterile topsoil. Post-1969 landscaping
001	1-3	Compact dark-brown soil containing modern finds. Allotment use
002	1	Redeposited clay with occasional stones and traces of topsoil. Made ground
003	1	Homogeneous dark red sand
004	1	Laminated creamy and red sand. Natural
005	2	Compact yellow-brown clay-silt = 015
006	2	Yellow clay. Natural = 016
007	2	Linear cut for lead water pipe
008	2	Mixed fill of 007
009	2	Linear cut for modern ditch
010	2	Compact brown clay-silt
011	2	Possible cut running under wall 012 filled by 010
012	2	Lime mortared red sandstone wall between Bell House and the golf course
013	2	Redeposited clay with occasional stones and traces of topsoil fill of 009
014	3	Redeposited clay with occasional stones and traces of topsoil fill of 017
015	3	Compact yellow-brown clay-silt = 005
016	3	Yellow clay. Natural = 006
017	3	Linear cut for modern ditch
018	2	Grey-brown friable powdery fill of 019. Lithic found
019	2	Cut containing 018. This may relate to the repair of the wall in c.1971
020	4	Red blaes
021	4	Compact dark-brown soil containing modern finds. Allotment use
022	4	Compact yellow-brown clay-silt = 015
023	4	Yellow clay. Natural = 016
024	4	Linear cut containing rubber water pipe
025	4	Mixed fill of 024
026	4	Cut for possible ditch terminal
027	4	Yellow-orange clay-silt fill of 026

APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register

Colour Slide (SLR) Film 1 and Digital

SLR	Digital	Description	From	Conditions
	1-5	General site views	NE & N	Sunny
	6-9	General site views	SE	Sunny
	10-16	General views of Plot 1 pre-ex	Various	Sunny
1-2	17	Trench 3 general view	SW	Sunny
3-4	18	Trench 3 SW end of SE facing section	S	Sunny
5-6	19	Trench 3 NE end of SE facing section	S	Sunny
7-8	20	Trench 2 general view	SW	Sunny
9-10	21	Trench 2 SW end of SE facing section	S	Sunny
11-12	22	Trench 2 central portion of section	S	Sunny
13-14	23-24	Trench 2 NE end of SE facing section including cut 019 for wall 012	S	Sunny
15-16	25	Trench 2 NE end of SE facing section including wall 012	S	Sunny
17-18	26-27	Trench 1 general view of section	S	Sun/Shade
19-20	28-29	Trench 1 base of section	S	Shade
21-22	30-31	Trench 1 central portion of section	S	Sun/Shade
	32	Trench 1 backfilled with Trench 2 on the right	SW	Sunny
	33	General view of Trenches 2-3	W	Sunny
	34	Trench 1 backfilled with surplus spoil	SW	Overcast
23-24	35-36	Trench 4 general view	SE	Overcast
25-26	37	Trench 4 possible feature 026-7 pre-ex	SW	Overcast
27-28	38	Trench 4 E facing section at N end	E	Overcast
29-30	39-40	Trench 4 E facing section at S end	NE & E	Overcast
31-32	41-43	Trench 2, section at NE end.		Overcast
33-34	44	Trench 2 lead pipe in section	SE	Overcast
35-36	45	Trench 2 oblique view of NW facing section	W	Overcast

Colour Slide (SLR) Film 2 and Digital

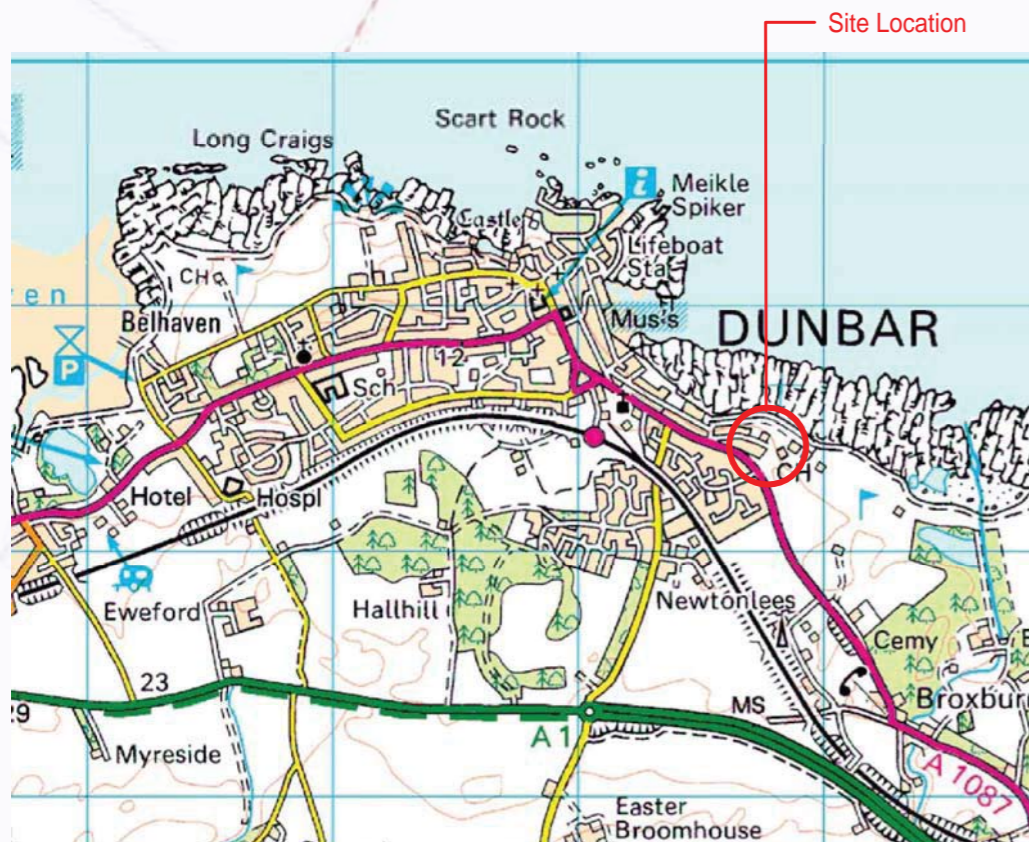
SLR	Digital	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	46-47	Trench 4, possible ditch section	S & SW	Overcast
3-4	48-49	Trench 4, ditch in W facing section	W	Overcast
5-6	50-52	General view of the backfilled site	Varied	Overcast

APPENDIX 4: Field Drawings Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Section/Plan	Description
1	1	1:20	Section	Trench 1, SE facing section
1	2	1:20	Section	Trench 2, SE facing section
2-3	3	1:20	Section	Trench 2, NW facing section
2-3	4	1:20	Section	Trench 3, NW facing section
2-3	5	1:20	Section	Trench 3, SE facing section
2-3	6	1:20	Section	Trench 4, E facing section
4	7	1:40	Plan	Trench 4 general plan
4	8	1:10	Section	Trench 4, ditch terminal 026 section
4	9	1:10	Section	Trench 4, ditch terminal 026 at Trench W facing trench section

APPENDIX 5: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

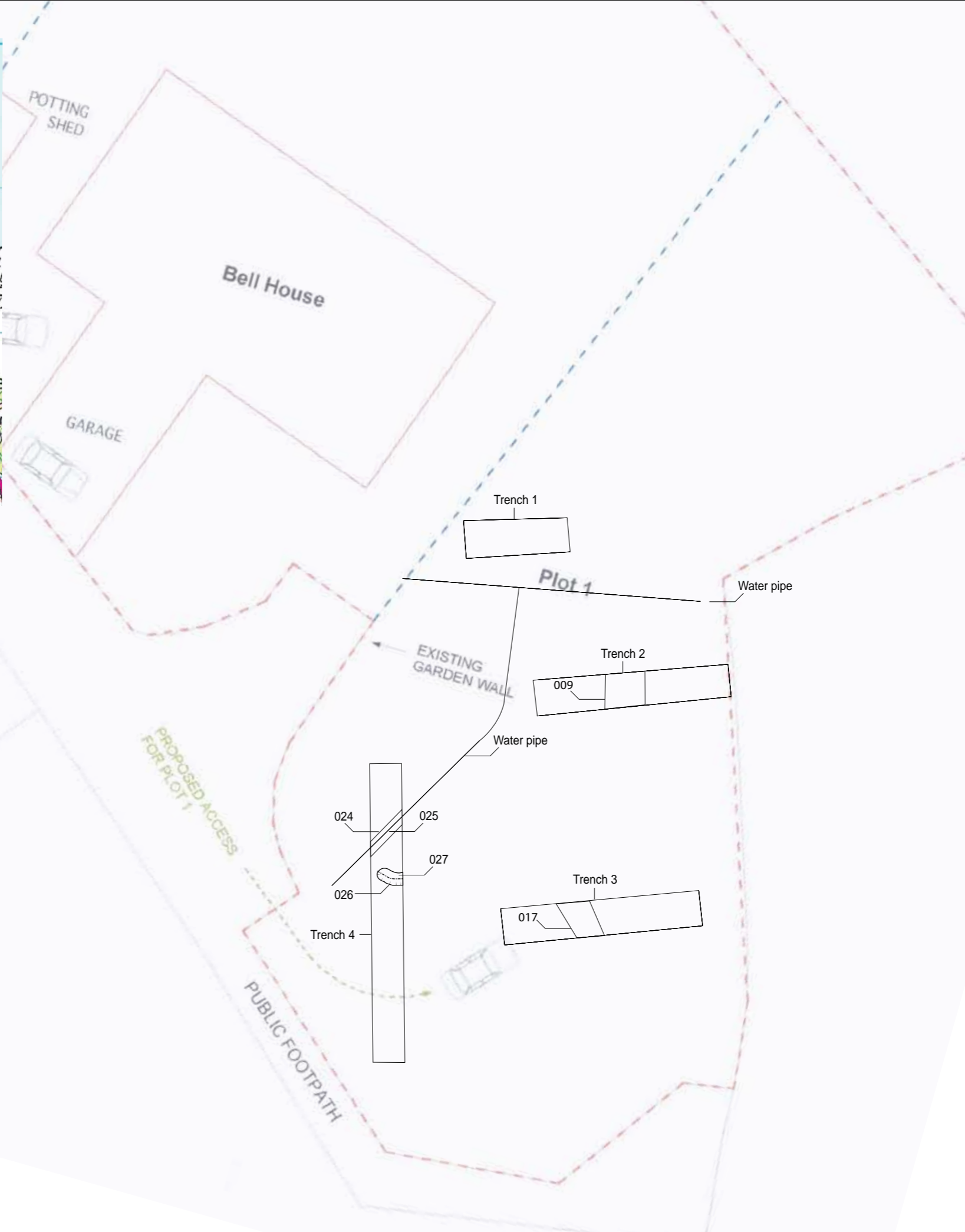
LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Plot 1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park,, Dunbar
PROJECT CODE:	BEHO
PARISH:	Dunbar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ian Suddaby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment & Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 6875 7845
START DATE (this season)	14 May 2009
END DATE (this season)	15 May 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A desk-based assessment produced no evidence of archaeological remains within the site although several burial and settlement sites have been recorded in the surrounding area. Four trenches were excavated with a total of 52m ² (5%). A possible ditch terminal was located in Trench 4 but no significant remains were found.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Ken Paterson
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 East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record



Site Location

Key:

- Archaeological Feature
- Site Boundary
- Proposed Boundary
- Proposed Access Rt
- Existing Access Rt



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Fig. No: **1** Revision:

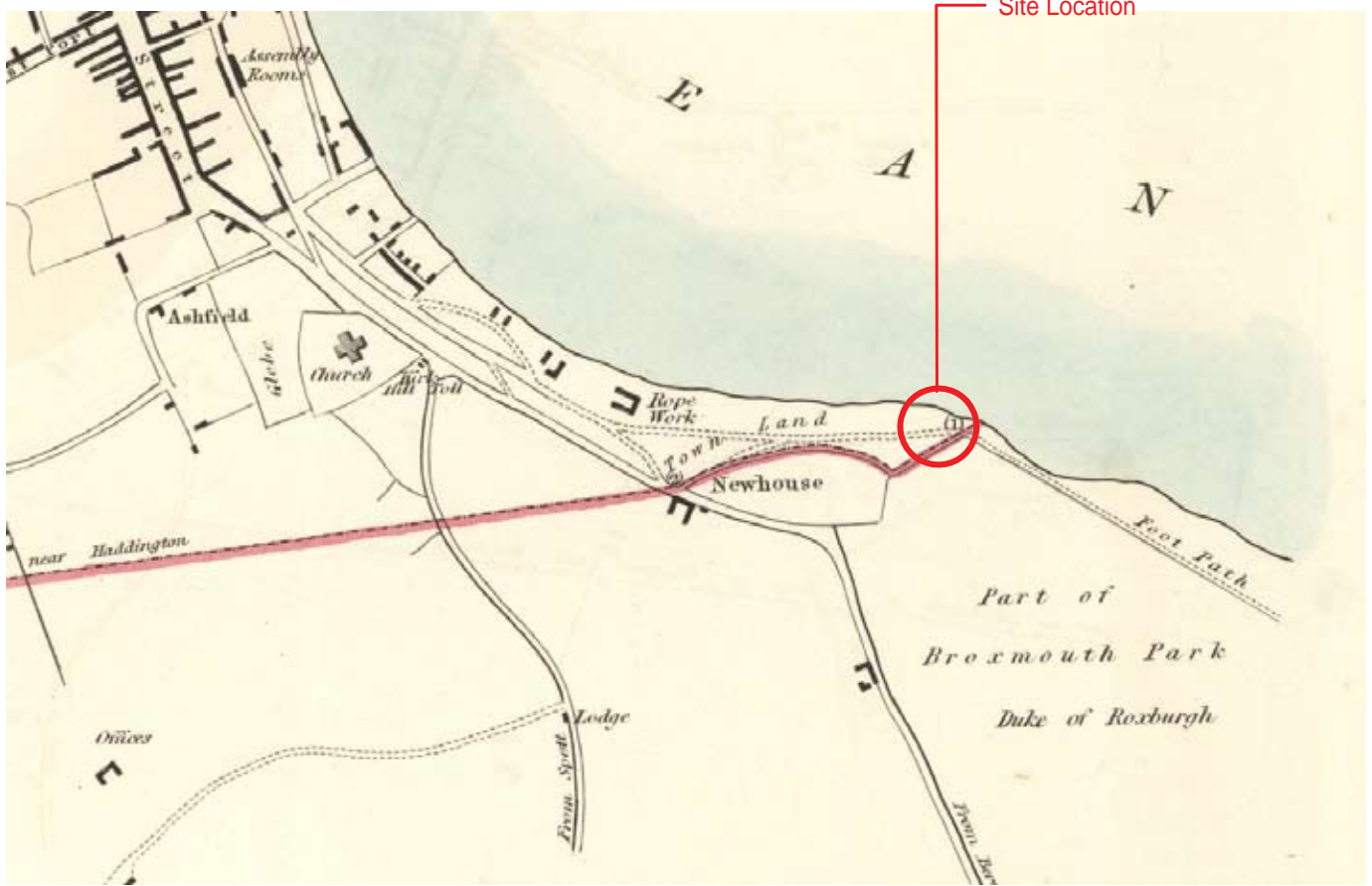
Title:
Site plan

Project:
Plot 1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park.


Scale:
1:200

Client:
Ken Paterson

Drawn by: **NK** Page No: Report No: **1624**



Site Location

Key:	Fig. No: 2	Revision:	Client: Ken Paterson	 <p>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</p>
	Title: Extract from 1832 Great Reform Act plan			
	Project: Plot1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park			
Scale:	Drawn by: NK		Page No:	Report No:



Key:

Fig. No: 3

Revision:

Client:

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Title:

The site location in the garden to the east of Bell House, from the south-east

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Scale:



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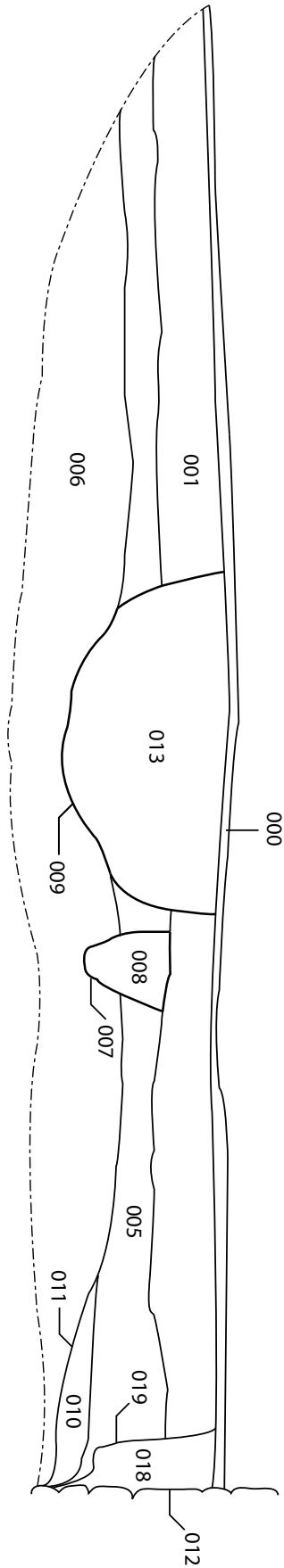
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NK

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Report No:

1624



Key:

Fig. No: **4** Revision: Client: **Ken Paterson**

Title: **Trench 2, south facing section**

Project: **Plot1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park**

Scale: **1:30**



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Report No: **1624**



Fig. 5 - South-facing section of Trench 2 showing cut for wall 012



Fig. 6 - North-facing section of Trench 2 showing ditch 009


Key:	Fig. No:	5-6	Revision:		Client:	Ken Paterson	 <p>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</p>				
	Title:										
	Project:	Plot1, Bell House, Roxburghe Park									
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Fig. 7 - South-facing section of Trench 3 showing ditch 017

Key:

Fig. No: 7

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Fig.8: Trench 4, general view from the south



Fig.9: Trench 4, possible ditch terminal **026** from the south-west

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