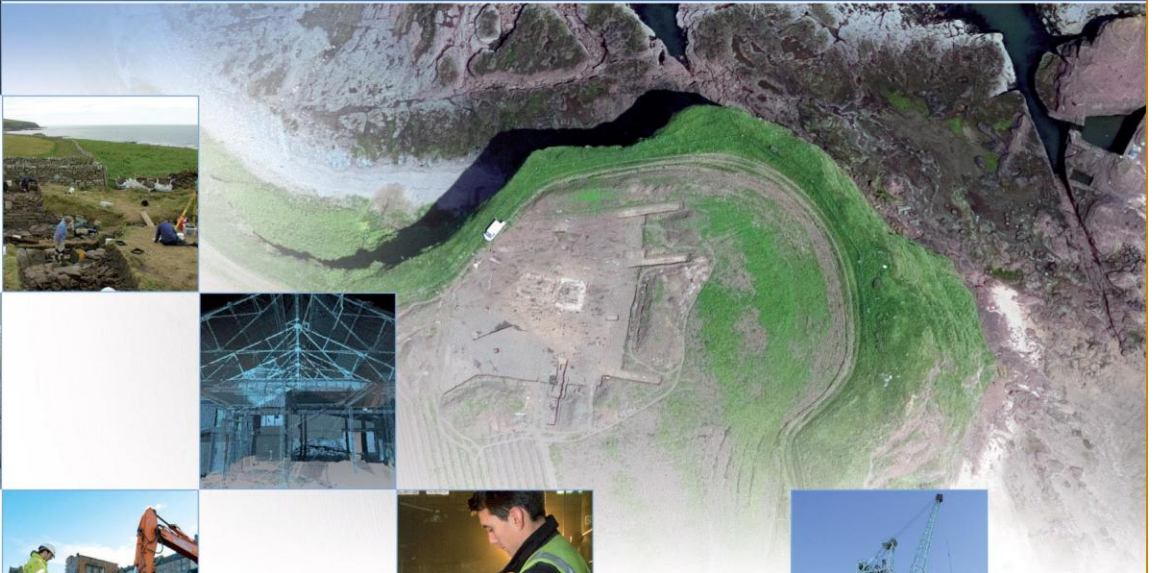
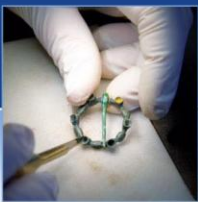


ESKMILLS: ADDENDUM TO WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

14th May 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

| HERITAGE

| CONSERVATION

1. DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

AOC Archaeology Group has been commissioned by Hackland & Dore Architects Ltd on behalf of Dunedin Canmore Housing Association to undertake a programme of archaeological works ahead of the construction of a residential development within land formerly occupied by part of the former Brunton Wireworks, Inveresk. The need for and scope of archaeological works has been determined by the East Lothian Council who are advised on archaeological matters by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2011a), to which this document represents an addendum, was submitted and subsequently approved by the planning authority on advice provided by ELCAS.

An archaeological evaluation (AOC 2011) undertaken in April, 2011 found building detritus overlying a buried soil below an imported topsoil. Evidence of modern building rubble was evident, particularly in Trench 2. Trenches 3 and 5 unearthed an early 20th century refuse layer adding to the raising of ground levels in the north-eastern edge of the development area at this time. Three features were unearthed in Trench 6. Both linears (609/610) and (611/612) are considered to be relic field drains. The only significant archaeological material was a small waster pit (607/608) deriving from early production at the Newbigging Pottery (Figure 1). Although the pit in Trench 6 was not a classic waster pit (i.e. a clay pit back-filled with debris from ceramic manufacture), it nevertheless yielded a significant assemblage of waster sherds, slag and kiln furniture worthy of further specialist examination. It is considered possible that further examples of this type of pit, or waster scatter, as found on the adjacent Tesco site (Cook 2009), may survive in the eastern part of the development area.

The archaeological potential of these features was discussed with ELCAS who expressed the view that a secondary phase of investigative works was required.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the archaeological works are:

- i. the identification, excavation, sampling and recording of all significant archaeological features within the development area;
- ii. the retrieval of a representative artefact assemblage;
- iii. upon conclusion of the excavation, the preparation and execution of a post-excavation programme;

3. FIELDWORK METHODS

3.1 Strategy

Mitigation works in dealing with the recent findings will include both watching brief and monitored topsoil strip methodologies focused respectively in areas of lesser or greater archaeological potential.

3.2 Monitored Topsoil Strip

Reduction to natural subsoil or first significant archaeological horizon will be by means of a back-actor equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision and direction.

The ground breaking works will be by means of a back-acting mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. Excavation will be in shallow units/spits and will be supervised by an experienced field archaeologist. The monitoring will also include the excavation of any archaeological features encountered (assuming preservation *in situ* is impractical given the development requirements) in order to establish the extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features impacted upon by these works (WSI, Appendix 9). The excavation method can be summarised thus:

- Following cleaning of the topsoil stripped area by hand, features will be demarcated so that machine movement does not impact on features prior to their excavation and recording;
- Post-holes, pits and structural negative features will be subject to 50% excavation (100% given significant artefact retrieval) and recording;
- Non-structural linear features (included robbed out wall lines) will be subject to 15% sample excavation;
- Walls will be rapidly cleaned, photographed and planned/surveyed with additional detailed drawing/photography of areas of architectural complexity;
- Standard bulk samples, soil chemistry and, where appropriate, specialist sampling, will be undertaken as per normal AOC Archaeology procedure (WSI Appendix 9).

3.3 Watching Brief

The Watching Brief will involve the monitoring of ground reduction in the western part of the development area. The ground breaking works will be by means of a Mechanical Digger (or equivalent) equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation will be monitored by an experienced field archaeologist. The Watching Brief will also include the excavation of any archaeological features encountered (should preservation *in situ* prove infeasible) in order to establish the extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features impacted upon by these works.

Where small discoveries (those requiring less than two hours to deal with) are encountered, these will be excavated and recorded in accordance with AOC Archaeology's standard practice as summarised above. Where larger, more significant, discoveries are made (those requiring more two hours to deal with) AOC Archaeology will immediately inform the client and ELCAS, to describe the features, itemise the costs and propose a mitigation strategy if appropriate for their excavation.

For discovery of human remains, see above. Again, as with the monitored topsoil all mechanical excavation must be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be worthy of preservation *in situ*. No archaeological deposits should be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable, in agreement with ELCAS. Where possible, significant archaeological material will be preserved *in situ*. In the event of preservation *in situ* being unable to be adopted, any resultant Data Structure Report, artefact or ecofact analysis (Post-Excavation) and publication (if appropriate) will be fully funded by the client in accordance with a negotiated mitigation strategy that will comply with the Conditions for Planning Consent. Archaeological remains to be preserved *in situ* will be covered by terram and these areas backfilled.

3.4 Data Structure Reporting

A Data Structure Report will be produced on completion of the fieldwork as per the WSI.

4. POST EXCAVATION PROGRAMME

Upon conclusion of all fieldwork, a costed post-excavation and publication programme (PERD) will be prepared. The scope of these works will be agreed with the planning authority acting on advice from ELCAS. The PERD will be pertinent to the quantity, quality, character, date and condition of retrieved small finds and soil samples when considered against the series of research questions raised by the excavated features and the assessment reports.

REFERENCES

AOC 2011 *Eskmills Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished AOC Project Design.

AOC 2011a *Eskmills Evaluation: Data Structure Report*. Unpublished AOC Archive Report (21861).

Cook, M 2009 *Brunton Wireworks, Inveresk Archaeological excavation: Data Structure Report*. Unpublished AOC Archive Report.

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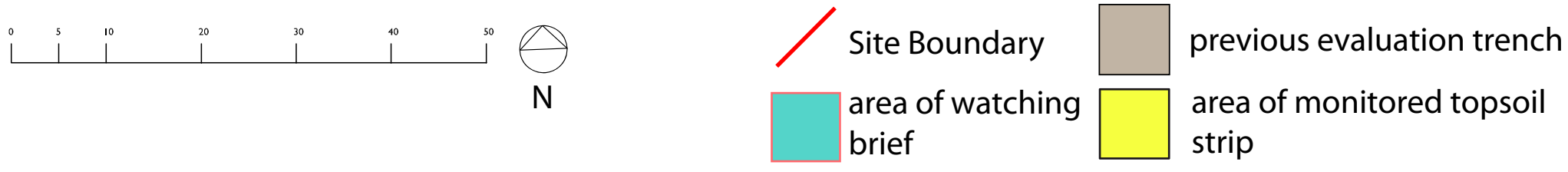
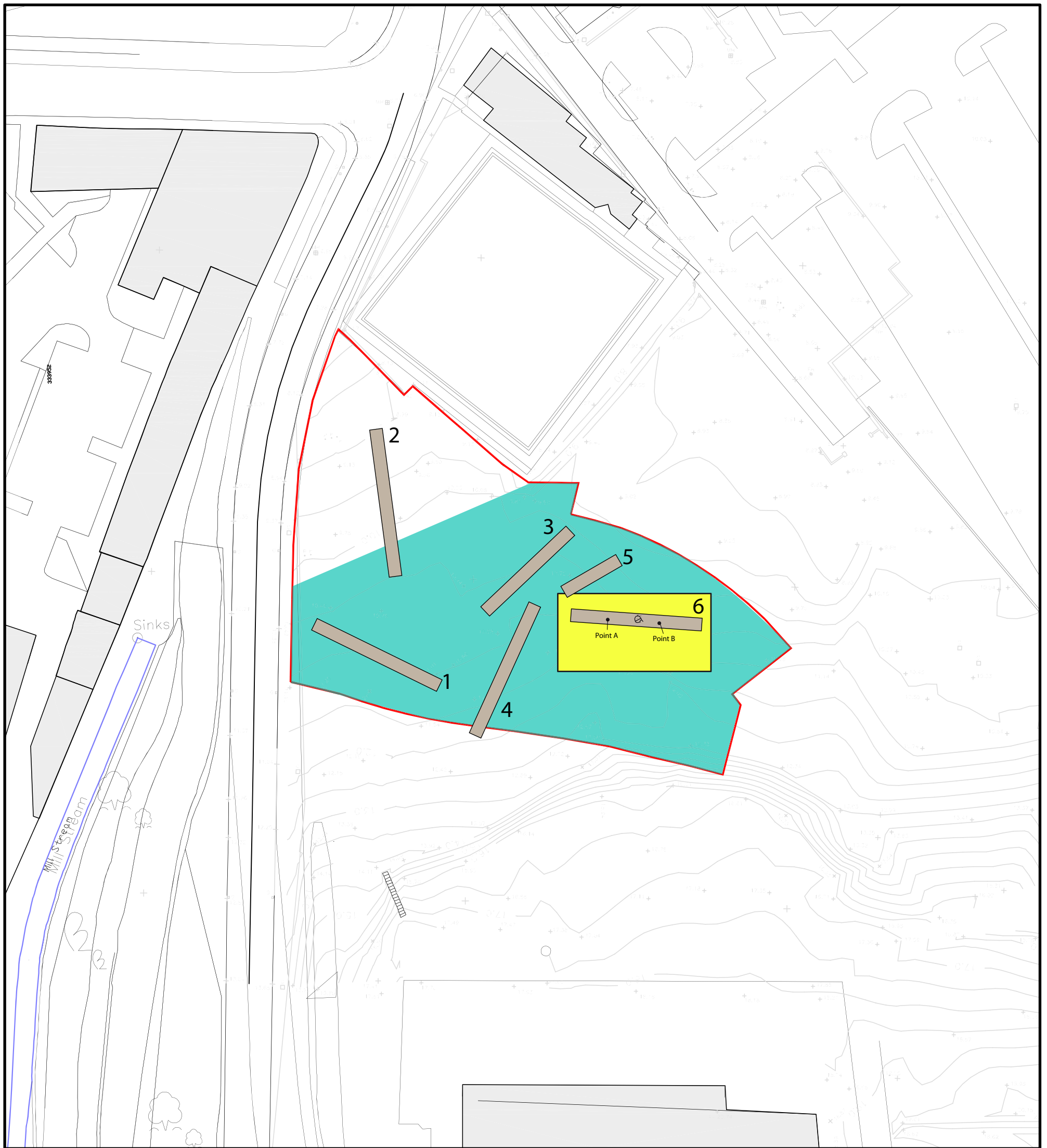


Figure 1: Proposed areas of monitored topsoil strip and watching brief



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