

# Olympic Rings Business Park, Dundonald, Ayrshire: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

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AOC Project 22309

29<sup>th</sup> November 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

# Olympic Rings Business Park, Dundonald, Ayrshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

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<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>John Fife Per Hunter Mining Offshore Ltd 24 Old Rome Drive Kilmarnock KA1 2RU</b>
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NS 3599 3559</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>22309</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> November 2012</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> November 2012</b>

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

**Author: Rob Engl**

**Date: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

**Approved by: Martin Cook**

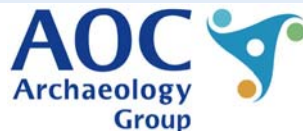
**Date: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

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## Abstract

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This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken during the extension of the Olympic Rings Business Park, Dundonald, Ayrshire.

The area was subject to an 8% sample evaluation comprising 610 linear metres. The works revealed that the eastern half of the site had undergone severe recent truncation to a depth of approximately three metres. Demolition material had then been introduced into the area. The truncation had also adversely affected the drainage of the area with a sizeable bog forming to its immediate west.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered and no further works are necessary.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr John Fife on behalf of Hunter Mining Offshore Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the extension of the Olympic Rings Business Park, Dundonald, Ayrshire. The evaluation was undertaken in respect to the planning condition (Planning Ref: 12/00160/APP) in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, South Ayrshire Council who are advised on archaeological matters by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) Archaeology Service (CECAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2012) in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2010) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

### 1.2 Location

1.2.1 The proposed development area is located on the northern edge of Dundonald, South Ayrshire and is presently comprised of open farmland (NGR: NS 3599 3559). The development area is bounded to the north by the present business park and to the south, east and west by existing agricultural land.

### 1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 There are no known archaeological sites situated within the development area. However, Dundonald Castle and several prehistoric monuments are located nearby.

1.3.2 Elements of Second World War activity are thought to exist on site (Paul Robins WoSAS *pers comm.*).

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:

- i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains including proposed WWII activity within the proposed development area;
- ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The evaluation comprised machine trenching of an 8% sample within the development area. Total trenching was initially to consist of 720 linear metres. However, given that approximately 40% of the site had suffered severe truncation this was reduced, after consultation with WoSAS, to 603 linear metres.

3.2 The evaluation was undertaken by an 18 tonne excavator with a 2.0 m wide bladed ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist



and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures, and as per the methodology within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2012). The trenches were not backfilled.

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012. Overall weather conditions were generally dry and archaeological visibility was good.



Plate 1; Trench 1 Post-excitation

- 4.2 Trenches 1-9 were located in the western half of the site (Figure 2). Topsoil ranged from 0.20 m to 0.30 m in depth and overlay a patchy layer of red brown colluvium 0.20 m to 0.30 m in depth. The sub-soil varied from red brown clay to orange and yellow sands. Underlying this was a natural of grey boulder clay. Occasional 19<sup>th</sup> century field drains were encountered these were of clay tile and rubble type.
- 4.3 Trenches 10, 11 and 12 were excavated in the eastern portion of the development area (Figure 2). Trenches 10 and 11 were excavated to a depth of 0.60 m. Further excavation was impractical due to the large amounts of broken concrete slabs within a deposit of made ground. The loose top-soil within these trenches ranged between 0.10 m and 0.20 m and was obviously imported. The eastern third of the site had obviously undergone severe recent truncation with substantial quantities of demolition material in-filling the area to a height of 1.5 m above the original ground level. After consultation with WoSAS it was agreed to dig a trial pit (Trench 12) within the area of most obvious truncation. This 3.0 m by 3.0 m pit was excavated to a depth of 2.75 m and revealed a made ground of demolition rubble, brick and concrete.
- 4.4 To the immediate west of the made ground was a 50.0 m by 70.0 m area of boggy ground. Two trenches (13 & 14) were excavated through this and revealed that this area had previously been



truncated to natural by machine (Figure 2). This truncation and the digging out and infilling of the area to the east had obviously affected drainage within the site leading to bog formation.



Plate 2; Truncation and in-filling, at the eastern end of site.



Plate 3; Trial Pit 12 showing depth of made ground



## 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

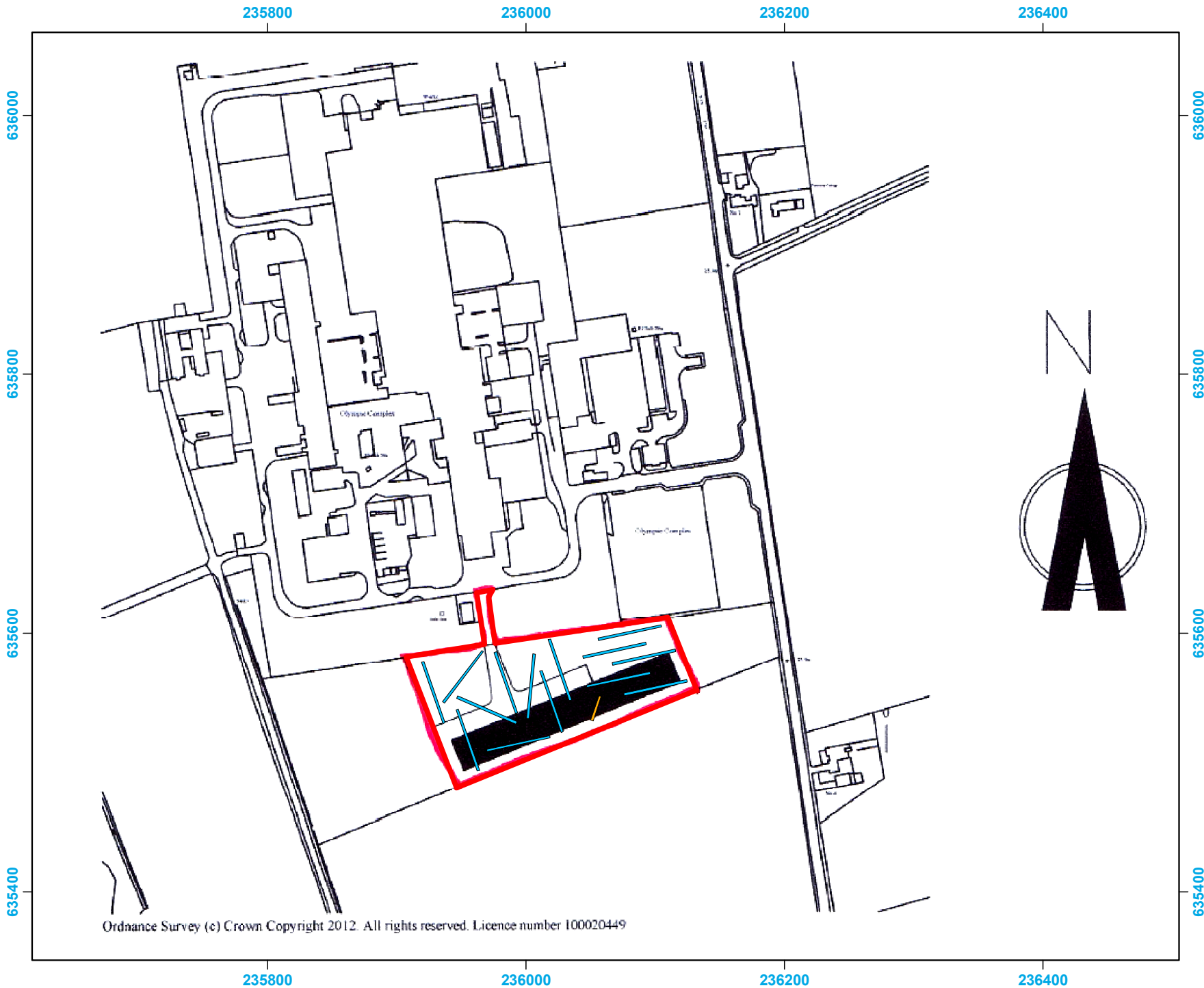
- 5.1 No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified during the evaluation. No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) on behalf of South Ayrshire Council.

## 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AOC 2012 *Olympic Rings Business Park, Dundonald, Ayrshire: Written Scheme of Investigation*  
Unpublished client report

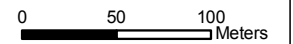
Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*, February 2010.

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*.



AOC 22309  
Proposed trench layout

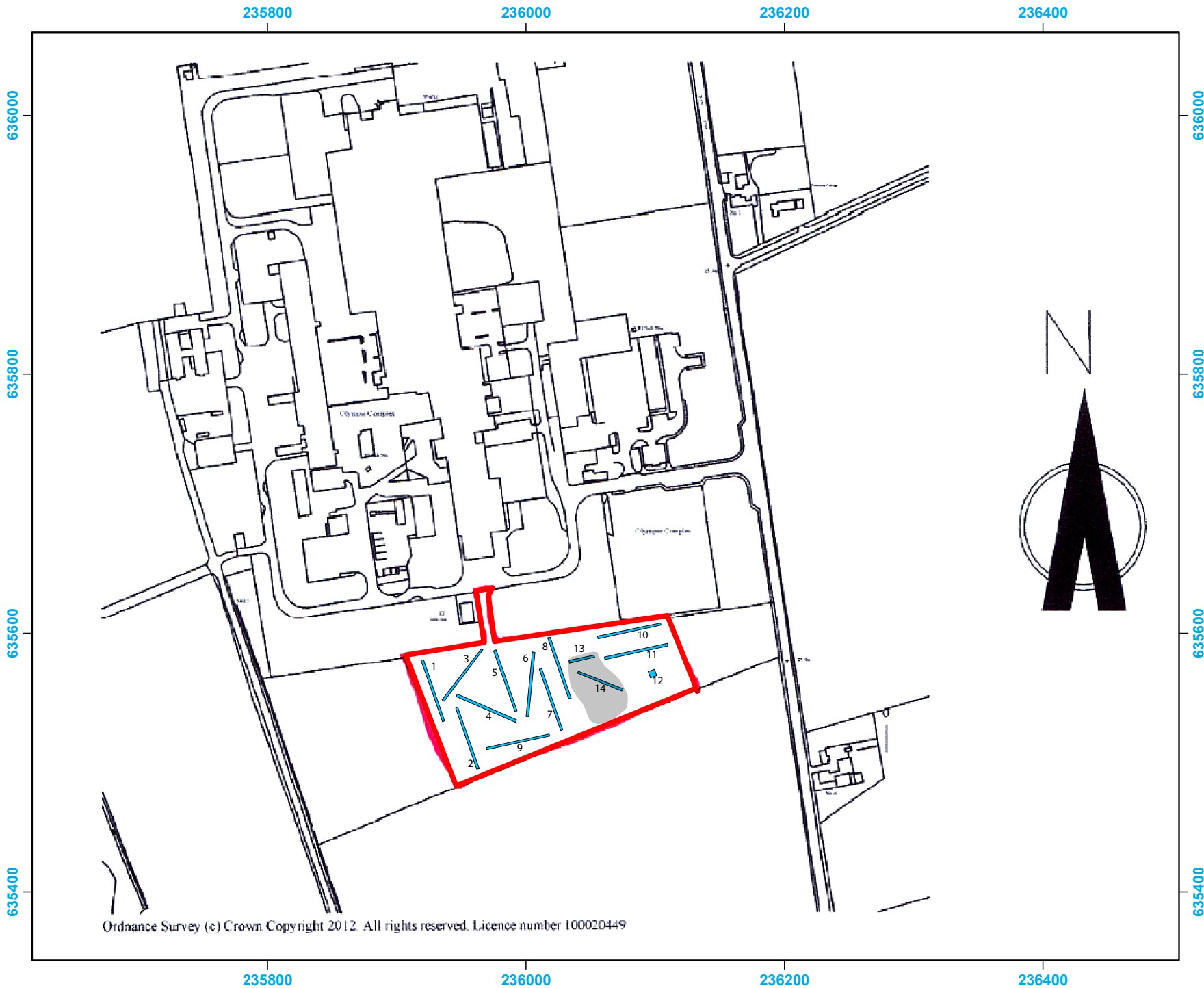
- Legend
- Trenches (720m linear total)
- Length (m)
- 20
  - 50
- Site Boundary



Project No.:	22309
Date:	15/11/12
Scale at A4:	1:4,000






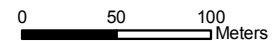
(c) AOC Archaeology 2012



AOC 22309  
Trench layout

Legend

-  Site Boundary
-  Waterlogged Ground
-  Trenches



Project No.:	22309
Date:	29/11/12
Scale at A4:	1:4,000



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Archaeological Evaluation  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**



## APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

### Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	NNW-SSE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Tile drain at 5.0 m & 15.0 m east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Reddish brown clay with underlying grey boulder clay. Gravel terrace at northern end
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	NNW-SSE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m to 0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red brown colluvium 0.20 m deep overlying grey boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m to 0.30
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m to 0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red brown colluvium 0.20 m deep at south-east end overlying red brown clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	NW-SE
<i>Top-soil Depth</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red brown colluvium 0.30 m deep overlying yellow sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	S-N

<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern trial pit at 5.0 m. Rubble drain at 0.40 m east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red brown colluvium 0.30 m deep overlying orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

**Trench 6**

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	NNE-SSW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m to 0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Tile drain at 12.0 m east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

**Trench 7**

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	N-S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

**Trench 8**

<i>Dimensions</i>	50.0 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	N-S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Tile drain at 10.0 m east to west
<i>Subsoil</i>	Brown sandy clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

**Trench 9**

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.60 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern service cut at 4.0 m north to south
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red brown colluvium 0.20 m deep overlying Brown sandy clay

*Finds* None

#### **Trench 10**

*Dimensions* 50 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 100.0 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* E-W  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.20 m  
*Depth of Made Ground* 0.60 m (concrete and crushed rubble)  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.60 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Not reached  
*Finds* None

#### **Trench 11**

*Dimensions* 50 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 100.0 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* E-W  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.10 m  
*Depth of Made Ground* 0.60 m (concrete and crushed rubble)  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.60 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Not reached  
*Finds* None

#### **Trench 12 (Trial Pit)**

*Dimensions* 3 m by 3 m  
*Total Area* 9.0 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* -  
*Depth of Topsoil* None  
*Depth of Made Ground* 2.50 m (concrete, brick and crushed rubble)  
*Depth of Excavation* 2.50 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* None  
*Subsoil* Not reached  
*Finds* None

#### **Trench 13**

*Dimensions* 50 m by 2 m  
*Total Area* 100.0 m<sup>2</sup>  
*Orientation* E-W  
*Depth of Topsoil* 0.10 m to 0.30 m (marsh soil)  
*Depth of Made Ground* None  
*Depth of Excavation* 0.40 m  
*Significant Features* None  
*Other Features* Tile drain at 0.0 m east to west  
*Subsoil* Orange clay sand  
*Finds* None

**Trench 14**

<i>Dimensions</i>	50 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	100.0 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.10 m to 0.30 m (marsh soil)
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange clay sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

**APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record**

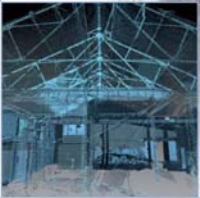
Digital Photographs

<b>Frame</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>From</b>
1	Registration	-
2	Trench 1 Post ex	SSE
3	Trench 2 Post ex	SSE
4	Trench 3 Post ex	NW
5	Trench 4 Post ex	SW
6	Trench 5 Post ex	N
7	Trench 6 Post ex	S
8	Trench 7 Post ex	S
9	Trench 8 Post ex	S
10	Trench 9 Post ex	W
11-12	Trench 12 Trial Pit Post ex	N
13-14	Area of made ground eastern end of site	N-W
15-16	Trench 10 showing concrete	W
17-20	Eastern end of site showing modern scarping, in-filled area and boggy ground	N
21	Trench 13 Post ex	W
22	Trench 14 Post ex	NW



**APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	South Ayrshire Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Olympic Rings, Dundonald, Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 22309
<b>PARISH:</b>	Dundonald
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Rob engl
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NS 3599 3559
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	21 <sup>st</sup> November 2012
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	21 <sup>st</sup> November 2012
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to the extension of the Olympic Rings Business park, Dundonald, Ayrshire.</p> <p>The area was subject to an 8% sample evaluation comprising 610 linear metres. The works revealed that the eastern half of the site had undergone severe truncation in the form of sand quarrying to a depth of approximately three metres. Demolition material had then in-filled the area. The truncation had adversely affected the drainage of the area with a sizeable bog forming to the west.</p> <p>Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	---
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	John Fife per Hunter Mining
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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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