

Linlathen, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, DD5 3GL
Report on an Archaeological Evaluation
Phases 1-3 - Cameron Archaeology CA288
(Planning Application 18/00115/FULM & PPA-180-2057)



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17 May 2019

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Cover: Section within Trench 34 indicating the maximum level of site topsoil depth.

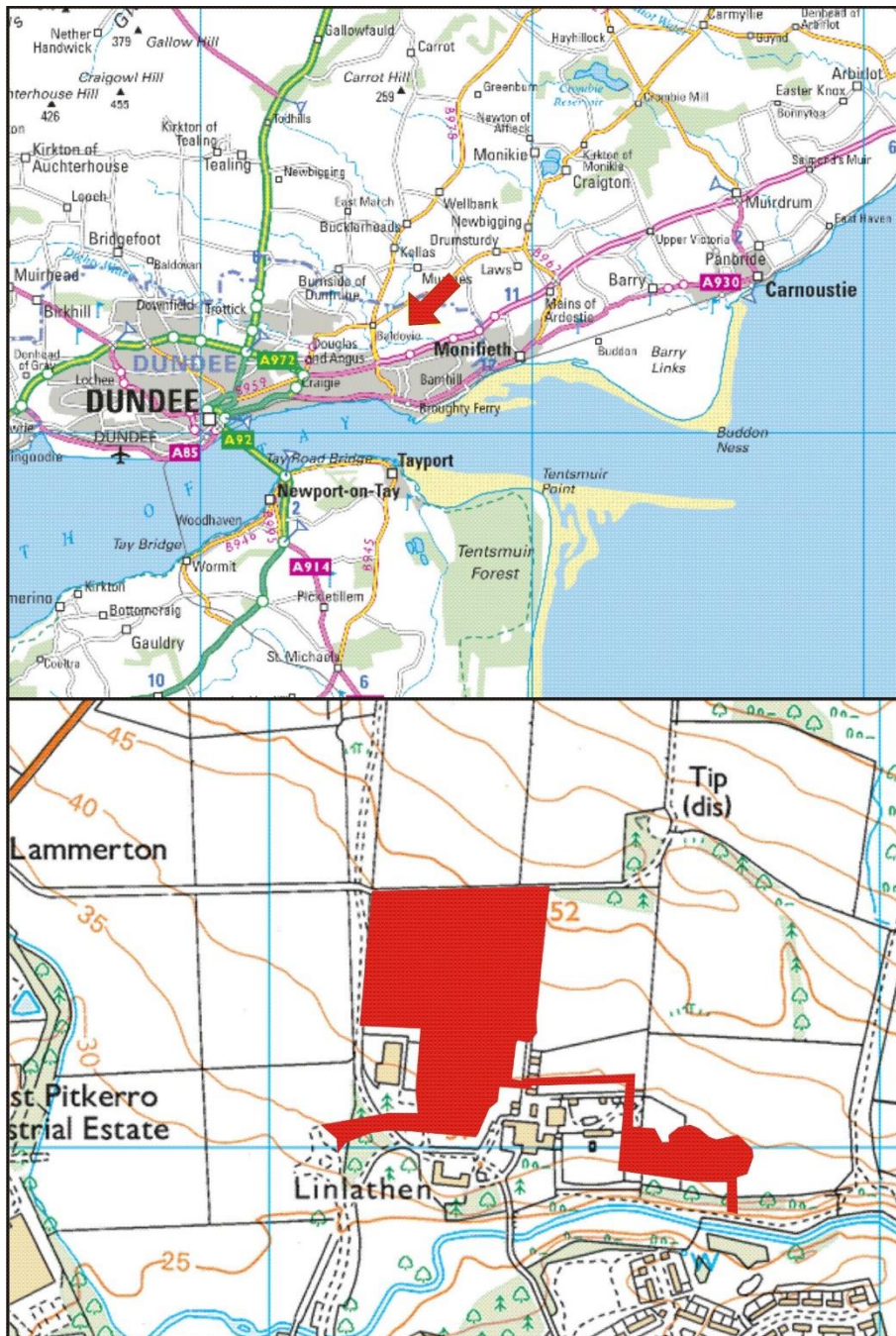
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SUMMARY

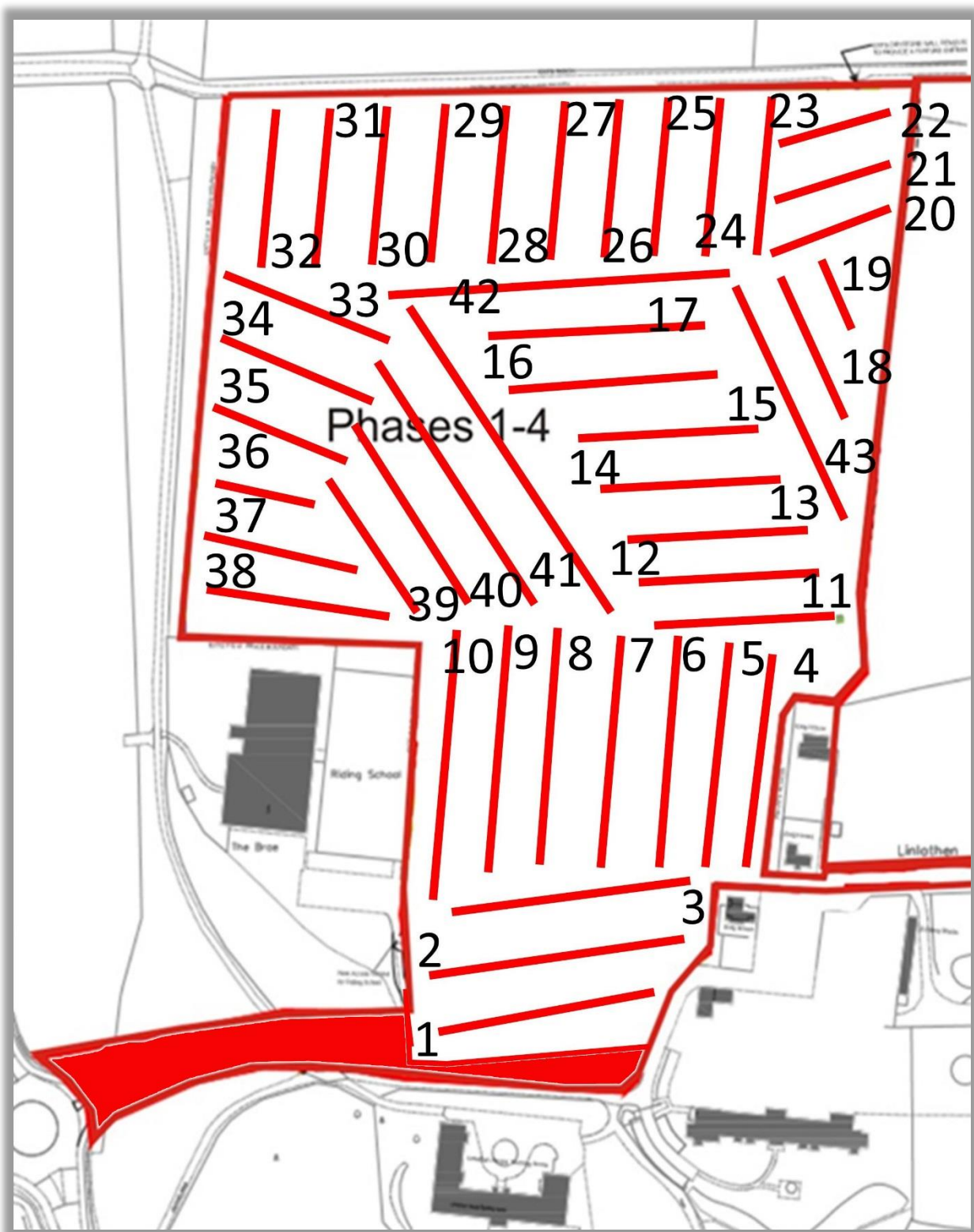
From April 15th to 25th, 2019, an 8% archaeological evaluation was performed at Linlathen, Broughty Ferry, City of Dundee by Robert Lenfert of Cameron Archaeology. Despite the presence of numerous prehistoric cropmarks in the field immediately to the W/SW, and aerial indications of medieval rig and furrow agriculture within the project area itself, deep modern ploughing appears to have obliterated any potential traces of archaeological activity, at least within the 43 evaluation trenches excavated as part of this project. It is therefore recommended that no further archaeological mitigation is necessary.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The site (Illus 1, 2) is located to the N of Linlathen House on the E side of West Pitkerro Industrial Estate and on the N side of the Dighty Water. It is centred on NGR NO46279 33227, at 30-50m OD in the parish of Dundee (City).
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by Kirkwood Homes in advance of a series of construction phases for residential dwellings. An application 18/00115/FULM has been superseded by DPEA condition 2.vii of the appeal decision (PPA-180-2057). Dundee City Council Archaeological advisors require an 8% archaeological evaluation.
- 1.3 All the archaeological work was carried out in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) Planning Advice Note (PAN 2/2011) and Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), which state that archaeological remains should be regarded as part of the environment to be protected and managed.



Illus 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019)



Illus 2 Plan of trench locations at Linlathen. Shaded area in lower left was wooded or tarmac road in use at time of evaluation.

2 The Evaluation

Between April 15th and 25th, 2019, Cameron Archaeology carried out an 8% evaluation (basal trench dimensions) of the application area (Illus 6). All trenches were backfilled and reinstated after excavation. The field was in fast-growing rye-grass at the time of the evaluation and increased in height from approximately 150mm to 600mm by the end of the two-week project.

The 'trenchable' area of the site was 8.15Ha, with the remainder wooded or gravel/tarmac road which was in use at the time. A walkover within the wooded area did not reveal any indications of upstanding archaeology or earthworks. In the open field, 43 trenches in total were excavated using a 14-ton excavator with a 2m bladed bucket. The trenching covered some 3300 linear metres, or 8.09% of the area. The topsoil (Odd-numbered contexts 101-4301 below in 3.1) depth fluctuated between 350mm and 500mm in depth, and comprised a mid-reddish-brown silty loam, overlying a natural clay loam subsoil (even-numbered contexts 102-4302, below in 3.1) with friable stone inclusions. The topsoil itself was remarkably free of larger stones, with the largest example <200mm. The soils were largely sterile from an archaeological standpoint, with three modern ceramic sherds and several small coal fragments identified within the topsoils the only artefacts recovered from the entirety of the site. No charcoal or other indicative signs of archaeological activity were observed in any of the trenches.

2.1 Trench summary and context numbers

Trench No	Length/Depth	Context Numbers for Topsoil/Subsoil & Comments (no archaeology noted)
1	67m x 0.3m	101/102
2	78m x 0.33m	201/202
3	77m x 0.35m	301/302
4	78m x 0.32m	401/402
5	88m x 0.33m	501/502
6	101m x 0.34m	601/602
7	99m x 0.36m	701/702
8	99m x 0.36m	801/802
9	70m x 0.37m	901/902
10	79m x 0.38m	1001/1002
11	70m x 0.33m	1101/1102
12	71m x 0.35m	1201/1202
13	73m x 0.33m	1301/1302 modern plough scars visible
14	73m x 0.35m	1401/1402
15	74m x 0.37m	1501/1502
16	87m x 0.39m	1601/1602
17	88m x 0.41m	1701/1702
18	70m x 0.37m	1801/1802
19	30m x 0.37m	1901/1902
20	48m x 0.34m	2001/2002 modern plough scars visible
21	49m x 0.37m	2101/2102
22	48m x 0.36m	2201/2202
23	72m x 0.41m	2301/2302 modern plough scars visible
24	85m x 0.42m	2401/2402
25	88m x 0.40m	2501/2502
26	89m x 0.41m	2601/2602
27	90m x 0.44m	2701/2702
28	89m x 0.51m	2801/2802
29	88m x 0.41m	2901/2902

30	89m x 0.42m	3001/3002
31	84m x 0.37m	3101/3102
32	75m x 0.41m	3201/3202
33	62m x 0.38m	3301/3302
34	62m x 0.80m	3401/3402 (deepest topsoil depth reached on site)
35	61m x 0.36m	3501/3502
36	56m x 0.36m	3601/3602
37	57m x 0.37m	3701/3702
38	57m x 0.34m	3801/3802
39	53m x 0.39m	3901/3902
40	87m x 0.41m	4001/4002 modern plough scars visible
41	123m x 0.46m	4101/4102
42	127m x 0.42m	4201/4202 Longest trench dug to cover machine track corridor due south of T23-32 for crop avoidance
43	119m x 0.42m	4301/4302

2.2 Finds

No finds or features of archaeological significance were noted. Three pieces of modern ceramic were identified in the topsoil and were discarded.

3 Discussion and Conclusions

Despite the relative abundance of prehistoric cropmarks in the adjacent field to the W/SW of the site (NO43SE 498) including a possible souterrain identified in aerial photos (E11174-8), no finds or features were noted in any of the evaluation trenches, nor were any stray finds of lithics or ceramic identified in the spoil heaps. The removal of a thin stand of trees in the southern portion of the site between the third and fourth edition OS maps indicates an intensification of agricultural activity during the period between 1922 and 1946. Consistent signs of deep modern ploughing in the form of parallel plough scars in the subsoil appear to have removed any traces of the medieval rig and furrow and plantation bank mentioned in the HER (Site number NO43SE 505, *section 2.5 above*). It was noted at the time of the evaluation that the field immediately to the west appeared to be freshly ploughed for potatoes, with deep v-shaped plough channels extending well into the subsoil. This level of modern ploughing intensity which presumably has taken place within this project area could explain the absence of the rig and furrow crop marks noted on aerial photos in the HER. Given the 8% coverage, the possibility exists that intact pockets or archaeology could potentially be present, however, based on the negative results from this evaluation, no further archaeological mitigation is considered necessary.



Illus 3 Maximum topsoil depth located in Trench 34 reaching c.0.8m in a small natural hollow on the W perimeter of the site.



Illus 4 Trench 2 in progress.

4 REFERENCES

Cameron, A. 2019 *CA288 Linlathen Phases 1-3 Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished client report. Cameron Archaeology, Aberdeen.

Clarke, D L. 1970 *Beaker pottery of Great Britain and Ireland, 2v*. Cambridge. Page(s): Vol. 2, 513, no. 1018

Fouracre, L & Bradley-Lovekin, T 2012 Land at Linlathen, Dundee, Addendum to Desk based assessment

Henshall, A S. 1968 *Scottish dagger graves'*, in Coles, J M and Simpson, D D A, *Studies in ancient Europe: essays presented to Stuart Piggott*. Leicester.

Stuart, J. 1868 *Account of the recent examination of a cairn, called "Cairngreg", on the estate of Linlathen'*, *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 6, 1864-6.

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Allan Rae and Colin Mair, Kirkwood Homes for initiating this project and to Doug Speirs, Consultant Archaeologist for Dundee City Council for his advice during this work.

APPENDIX 1 PHOTOS

PHOTO ID	DIRECTION FACING & COMMENTS
CA288-1	N – Trench 1 in progress
CA288-2	N – Trench 2 completed
CA288-3	S – Trench 2 in progress
CA288-4	N – Trench 3 in progress
CA288-5	N – Trench 3 in progress
CA288-6	N – Trench 4 completed
CA288-7	S – Trench 4 in progress
CA288-9	N – Trench 5 in progress
CA288-10	E – Trench 8 in progress
CA288-11	N – Trench 6 completed
CA288-12	N – Trench 7 completed
CA288-13	E – Trench 9 in progress
CA288-14	E – Trench 11 in progress
CA288-15	SE – Trench 10 completed
CA288-16	SW – Trench 10 completed
CA288-17	E – Trench 10 showing modern plough scaring in top of subsoils
CA288-18	W – Trench 12 completed
CA288-19	W – Trench 13 nearing completion
CA288-20	NE – Trench 14 in progress
CA288-21	SW – Trench 15 in progress
CA288-22	SW – Trench 16 nearing completion
CA288-23	NE – Trench 17 in progress
CA288-24	SE – Trench 18 in progress
CA288-25	N – Trench 19 in progress
CA288-26	SE – Trench 20 in progress
CA288-27	N – Top end of Trench 20 completed
CA288-28	SSE – general site view with Trench 20 in left of frame
CA288-29	S – general site view next to Trench 20
CA288-30	SSW – general site view next to Trench 20
CA288-31	W – Trench 21 completed
CA288-32	W – Trench 22 nearing completion
CA288-33	SW – Trench 23 completed
CA288-34	SW – Trench 24 completed
CA288-35	S – Trench 25 completed
CA288-36	S – Trench 26 completed
CA288-37	S – Trench 27 in progress
CA288-38	S – Trench 28 nearing completion
CA288-39	S – Trench 29 completed
CA288-40	S - Trench 30 nearing completion
CA288-41	S – Trench 31 completed
CA288-42	Topsoil depth in Trench 31 (shallowest point)
CA288-43	Topsoil depth in Trench 31 (deepest point)
CA288-44	S – Trench 32 nearing completion
CA288-45	SE – Trench 33 completed
CA288-46	SE – Trench 34 in progress

CA288-47	Deepest area of topsoil encountered in Trench 34
CA288-48	Deepest area of topsoil encountered in Trench 34
CA288-49	E – Trench 35 completed
CA288-50	E – Trench 36 in progress
CA288-51	W – Trench 38 completed
CA288-52	W – Trench 37 completed
CA288-53	SW – Trench 39 completed
CA288-54	SW – Trench 40 in progress
CA288-55	SW – Trench 41 in progress
CA288-56	SW – Trench 42 completed
CA288-57	ENE – Trench 43 nearing completion

APPENDIX 2 DES, OASIS and archive deposition

OASIS reference [camerona1-351724 \(1\)](#)

Deposition HES (intended)

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Dundee
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Linlathen, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, DD5 3GL Phases 1-3
PROJECT CODE:	CA288
PARISH:	Dundee
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Robert Lenfert
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Cameron Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	none
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S) AND AGE (IF KNOWN):	none
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	none
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NO46279 33227
START DATE (this season)	15 April 2019
END DATE (this season)	25 April 2019
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	none
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	From April 15th to 25th, 2019, an 8% archaeological evaluation was carried out prior to a housing development. Despite the presence of numerous prehistoric cropmarks in the field immediately to the WSW, and aerial indications of medieval rig and furrow agriculture within the project area itself, deep modern ploughing appears to have obliterated any potential traces of archaeological activity and no archaeological features or finds were recorded.

PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Yes Phases 4-6
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	none
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Kirkwood Homes
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	45 View Terrace, Aberdeen, AB25 2RS
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cameronarch@btinternet.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	HES (intended)