

REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION AND STANDING BUILDING
RECORDING
CRAIGTON ROAD, PITFODELS, ABERDEEN



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REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND STANDING BUILDING RECORDING CRAIGTON ROAD, PITFODELS, ABERDEEN

Summary

An archaeological evaluation and standing building survey was carried out at Pitfodels, Craighton Road between 3-4 June 2010. No significant archaeological features were recorded during this work. The north boundary wall which is to be removed during the development was recorded.

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	3
2	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	3
3	THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION	5
4	THE STANDING BUILDING RECORDING	8
5	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	11
6	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	11
7	REFERENCES	11
	APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS: The evaluation	12
	APPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHS: The standing building recording	16

Illustrations

Cover

Top	The evaluation from the NE
Bottom	The recorded boundary wall facing west
III 1:	Site outline
III 2	Archaeological sites (RCAHMS Pastmap) with site outline in red
III 3	1867 Ordnance Survey map with site outline in red
III 4	Aerial photograph, 1946 with site outline in red
III 5	Plan showing archaeological trenches and camera points (CP).
III 6	Trench 4 facing north
III 7	Trench 5 facing north
III 8	Wall F5 facing east
III 9	Section through F5, facing west
III 10	North face of wall F5
III 11	Demolished section of wall F5
III 12	Dumped stone on top of wall F6.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This report relates to an archaeological evaluation and standing building survey carried out at Craighton Road, Pitfodels, Aberdeen (National Grid Reference NJ9067 0411). The work was commissioned by Roger Legge, Mackie Ramsay Taylor on behalf of The Trustees of the Nazareth Care Home. The work relates to Aberdeen City Council planning application reference P090141 granted for 54-bed nursing home on 24th March 2010.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A programme of archaeological works was requested by Aberdeen City Council. This greenfield site is c 100 x 90m in size and is open ground; there are no buildings on the site at present. There are no known archaeological sites within the development area. A number of sites of historical interest are known in the area. Various finds in the vicinity include a barbed and tanged arrowhead, flint flake and scraper found at Deeside Gardens (NJ90SW 51). Recent archaeological work at Pitfodels House (Cameron 2008, 13) revealed evidence of a post-medieval house 300m to the south of the current site. Craighton Road was one of the main roads from Aberdeen to the west and a number of boundary stones survive including Aberdeen March stones numbers 9 and 10 (NJ90SW 34, 35).



III 1: Site outline



III 2 Archaeological sites (RCAHMS Pastmap) with site outline in red



III 3 1867 Ordnance Survey map with site outline in red

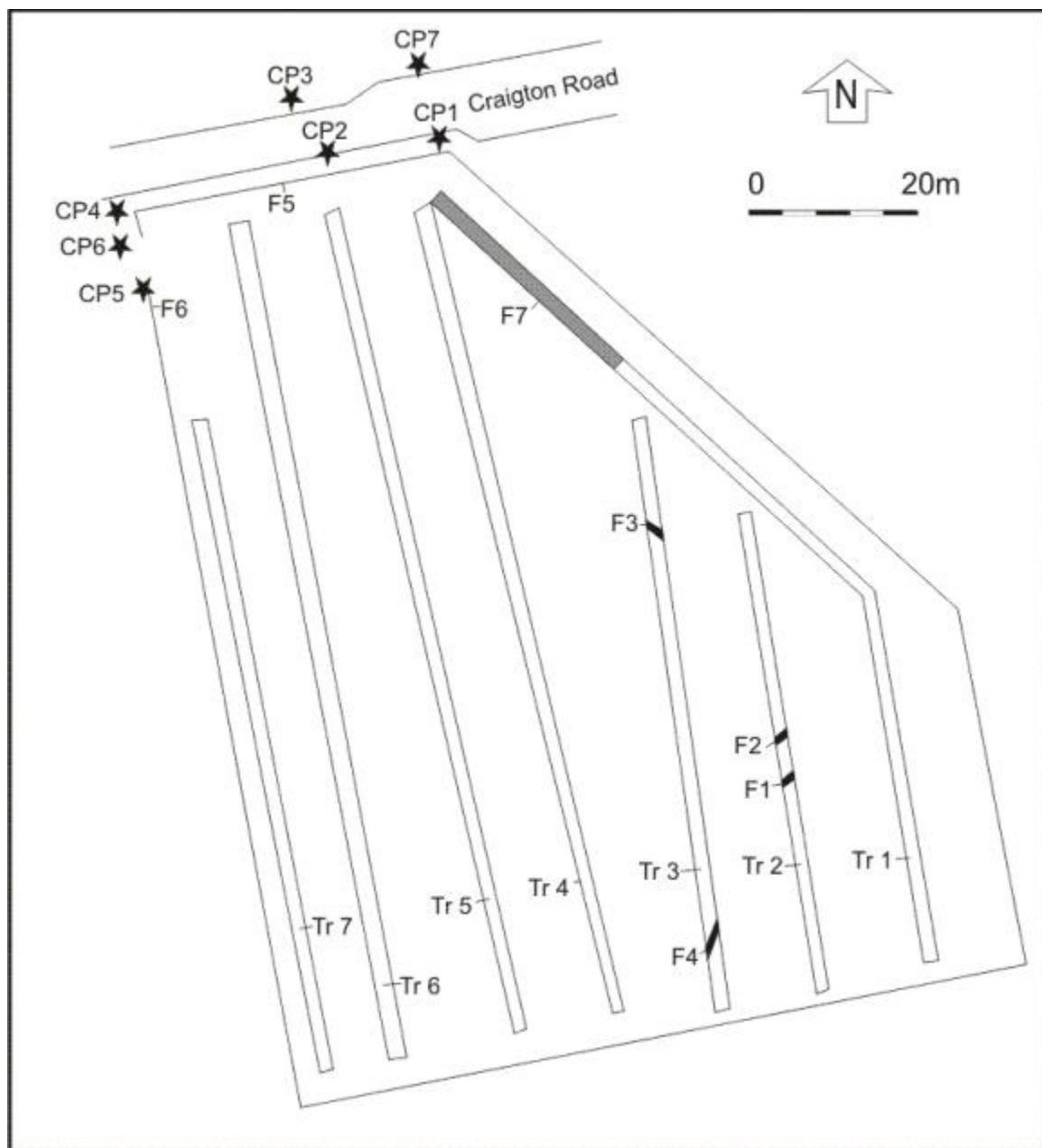


III 4 Aerial photograph, 1946 with site outline in red

3 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

A 10% archaeological evaluation was carried out at the site using a tracked excavator with a ditching bucket. Seven trenches were excavated across the length of the site (III 1).

A number of field drains consisting of cut trenches filled with ceramic drain pipe (F1-F4, III 5) were uncovered and are recorded in archive. F7 (III 5) was a layer of sandy clay which had been laid 10cm below the current ground surface and above c10cm of buried soil. This deposit is relatively modern and may have been laid to create a temporary road surface during the construction of the neighbouring houses (187-189 Craigton Road). This surface was not seen in any other trenches.



III 5 Plan showing archaeological trenches and camera points (CP).



III 6 Trench 4 facing north



III 7 Trench 5 facing north

4 THE STANDING BUILDING RECORDING

As part of this development, the north boundary wall (F5) and the north end of the west boundary wall (F6) are to be demolished and were recorded as part of this archaeological work.

F5 is 39m long and 0.3m wide (Ill 8). It stands to a maximum of 0.6m high and is constructed of granite fieldstones capped with a granite pediment (Ill 9). It has been partially demolished in the central area (Ill 11). Feature F6 is the remains of a stone boundary wall which survives as a foundation course of stones with granite fieldstones roughly placed on top (Ill 12).



Ill 8 Wall F5 facing east



III 9 Section through F5, facing west



III 10 North face of wall F5



III 11 Demolished section of wall F5



III 12 Dumped stone on top of wall F6.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No significant archaeological features or finds were recorded at this site.

It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required at this site during the current development. The final decision on the archaeological requirements at this site remains with Judith Stones, Aberdeen City Council.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

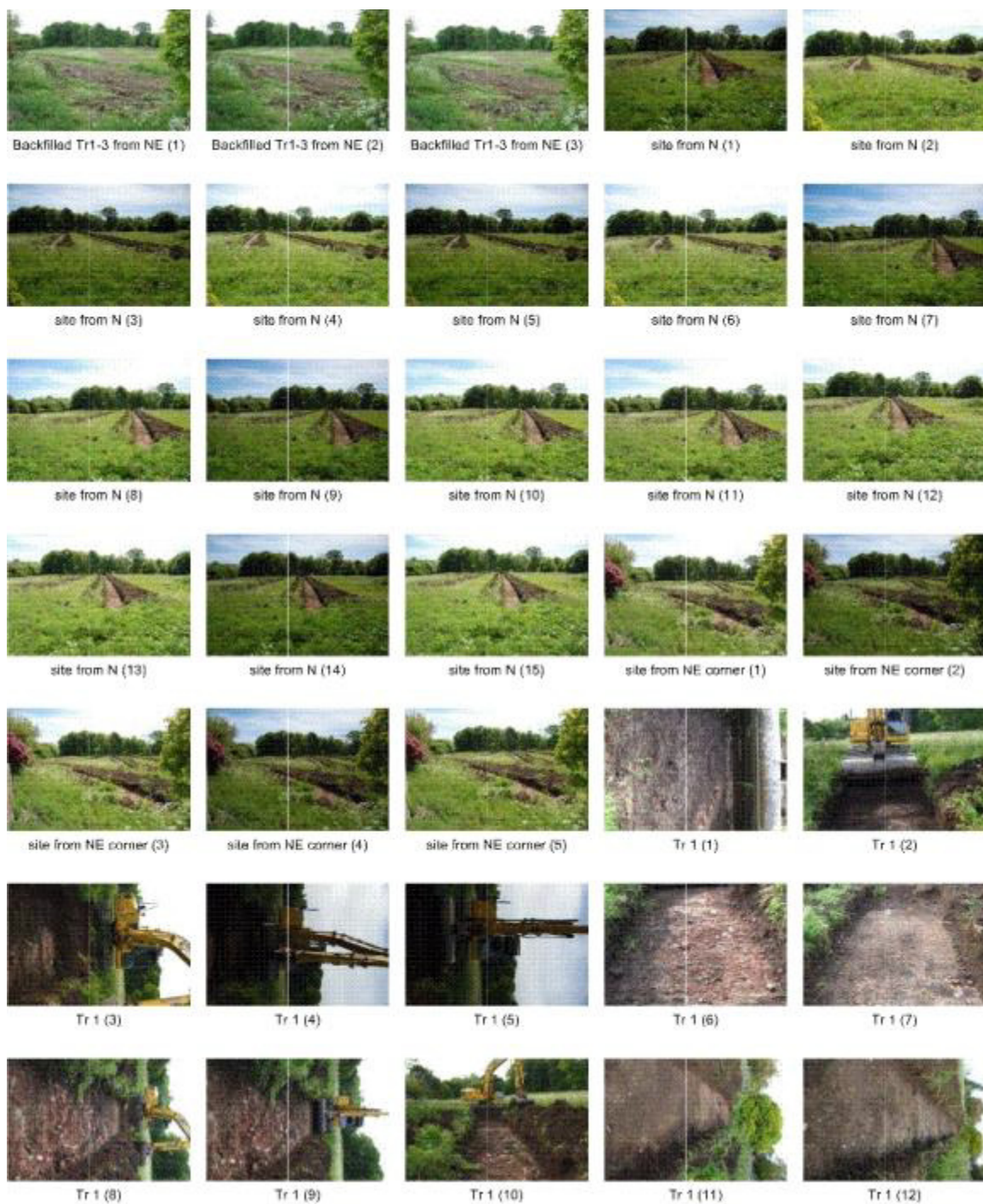
Thanks to Roger Legge, Mackie Ramsay Taylor, Ian Miller and Andy Donald, Miller Plant Hire and Judith Stones, Aberdeen City Council.

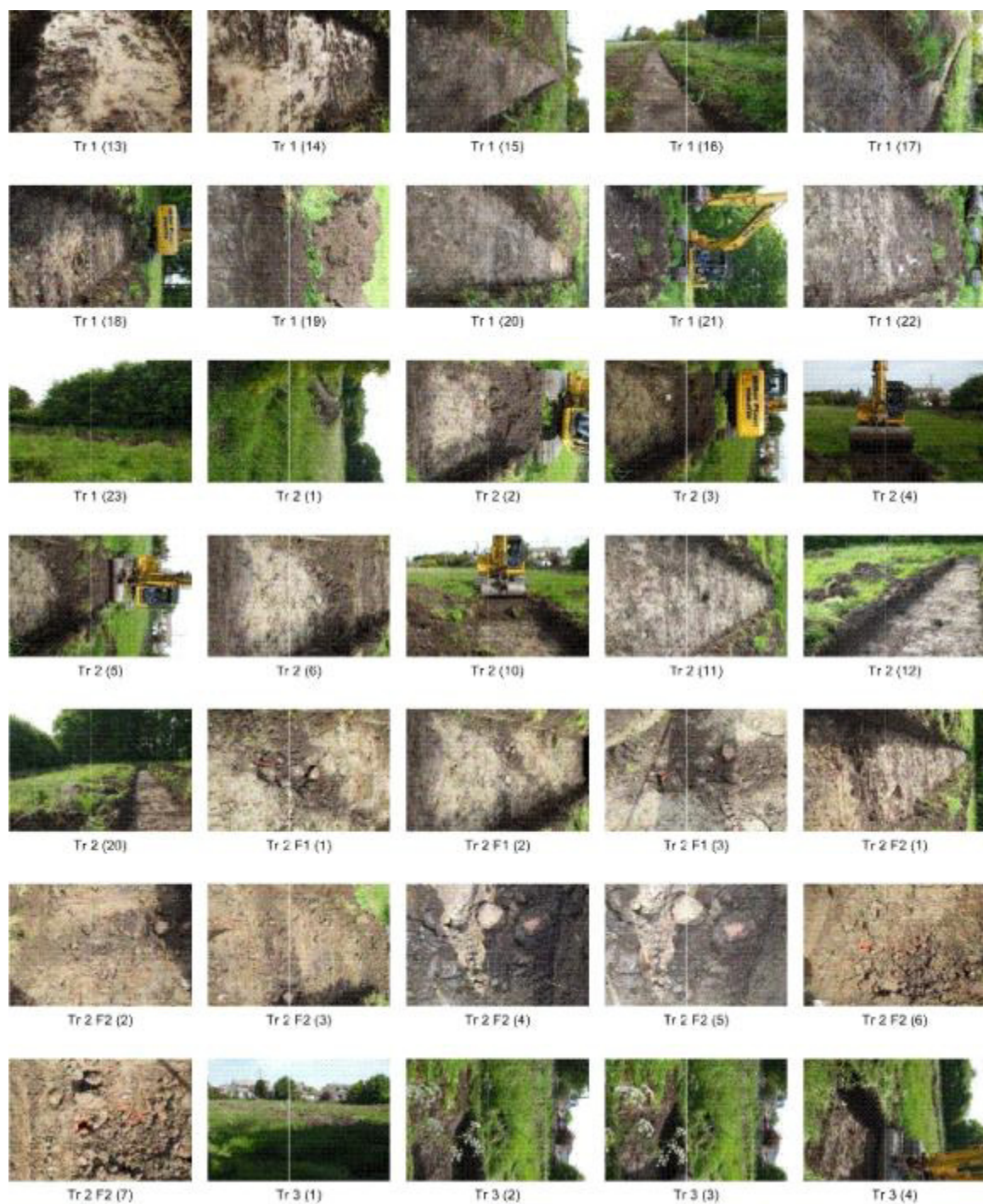
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Page(s): 13

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APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS: The evaluation









APPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHS: The standing building recording

