

NORTH LASTS QUARRY
PETERCULTER
ABERDEEN



Archaeological Evaluation 2015
Carried out 27th and 30th November 2015
by
Murray Archaeological Services Ltd



Report No: MAS 2015-36A
by
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Archaeological Evaluation 2015

1. Background

- 1.1 In the light of proposals to create settling ponds for a sand washing process at the N side of the quarry at North Lasts, Peterculter, it was decided that a 7% evaluation should be carried out to assess the survival and nature of any archaeological remains on the proposed site.

This work was undertaken in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP).

- 1.2 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Leiths Scotland Ltd to undertake the work.

2. The Site

- 2.1 The site (illus 1) lies some 2.5km N of Peterculter, to the W of the B979.

Parish: Peterculter.

NGR: NJ 8240 0410 (approx centre of site)

- 2.2 At the time of the evaluation (Illus 2) Area 1 was in very rough tussocky grass with some gorse. The field slopes down to the burn to the N and to the wet ground near the bridge at the NW. A slight ridge lies just to the W of the W end of Trench 1.



Illus 1 Site location. . Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright (2007) All rights reserved. Licence number (100049810). Site indicated by red circle.

3 Methodology

- 3.1 The cultivated topsoil was removed by a full slew excavator with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. Any possible features were cleaned and excavated by hand.
- 3.2 All mapping was done with a Magellan Mobile Mapper 120 GPS and Glonass.

AREA 1

Trench 1

GPS E end: 382406,804066 W end: 382319,804084

Orientation: Approx E/W Length: 90m Width: 2.0m

Depth above natural: 200-300mm

Stratigraphy: Peaty topsoil over sand and rocks. Occasional plough marks SW/NE across trench.

Features: None.

Trench 2

GPS E end: 382413,804095 W end: 382319,804104

Orientation: Approx E/W Length: 95m Width: 2.0m

Depth above natural: 200-300mm

Stratigraphy: Peaty topsoil over sand and rocks. Occasional plough marks SW/NE across trench.

Features: None.



Illus 3 Trench 2, looking W

Trench 3

GPS E end: 382418,804115 W end: 382337,804123

Orientation: Approx E/W Length: 82m Width: 2.0m

Depth above natural: 200-300mm

Stratigraphy: Peaty topsoil over sand and rocks. Occasional plough marks SW/NE across trench.

Features: None.



Illus 4 Trench 3, looking W, note plough marks.

Trench 4

GPS E end: 382396,804131 W end: 382331,804140

Orientation: Approx E/W Length: 65m Width: 2.0m

Depth above natural: 200-300mm

Stratigraphy: Peaty topsoil over sand and rocks. Occasional plough marks SW/NE across trench.

Features: None.

Trench 5

GPS SE end: 382382,804154 NW end: 382370,804178

Orientation: Approx SE/NW Length: 27m Width: 2.0m

Depth above natural: 200-300mm

Stratigraphy: Peaty topsoil over sand and rocks.

Features: None.

AREA 2

There were no archaeological finds or features in Area 2. There was 200-300mm peaty soil over natural.



Illus 5 Area 2 after soil strip.

6 Impacts and Mitigations

6.1 Impacts There were no finds and no evidence of surviving archaeology.

6.2 Mitigations

(i) On the basis of the evaluation there is no perceived need for any further archaeological investigation in the area.

(ii) The lack of surviving archaeology within the evaluation area does not preclude the possibility of chance finds or archaeological discoveries outwith the evaluation trenches. Should such chance finds occur, then the Archaeology Service, Aberdeenshire Council, or Murray Archaeological Services Ltd, must be informed immediately so that an appropriate archaeological response can be formulated and agreed by all parties concerned.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Catalogue of digital photographic record

Digital frame number	Content
1-2	General views of Area 1 looking W. Area 2 in foreground.
3-4	Trench 3 looking W
5-6	Area 1, looking E
7-8	Trench 2 looking W

8 References

Murray, H K & Murray, J C 2015 *North Last Quarry, Peterculter. Desk top survey.*
MAS 2015-36. Unpublished report available in Aberdeen SMR.