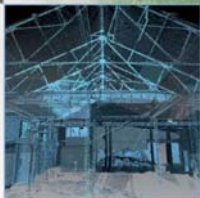
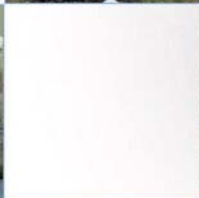
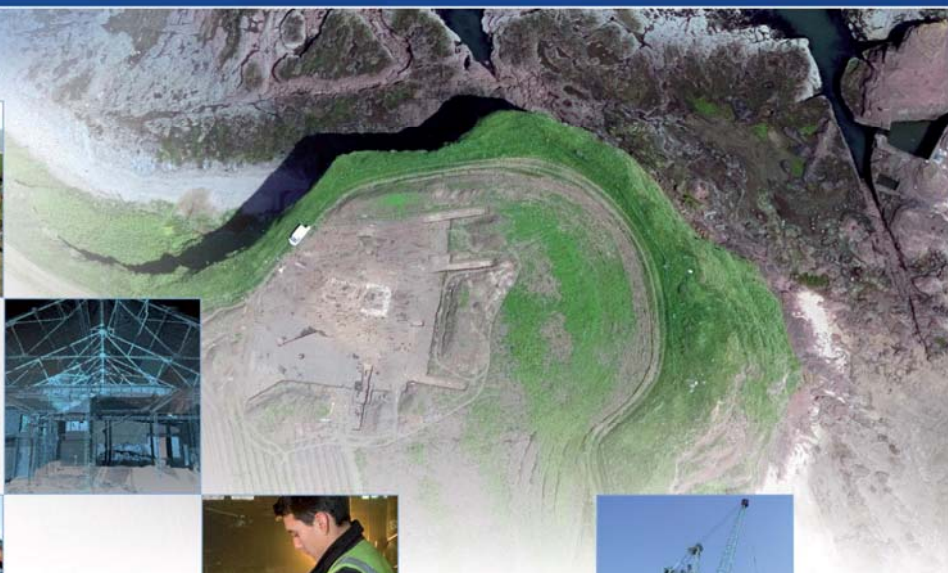


The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

AOC 23663

21st December 2016



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Camerons Ltd 1 Wilderhaugh Galashiels TD1 1QJ
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 54333 35203
AOC Project No:	23663
Prepared by:	Steven Watt
Date of Fieldwork:	21st December 2016
Date of Report:	21st December 2016

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

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Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft **Date:**

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Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by AOC Archaeology Group prior to the development of land at The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders on behalf of Cameron Ltd.

In total three trenches were excavated at the development covering the footprint of the proposed building and service track route. A small patch of modern burning was found and a natural feature, likely caused by the heavy foliage and bracken in the area.

No significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered, therefore no further work is considered necessary.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was required by Camerons Ltd. ahead of a single residential development at land North West of Wellbank, The Loan, Gattonside in the Scottish Borders. Scottish Borders Council has requested a programme of archaeological works as part of a planning condition (Planning Ref: 16/01341/FUL). The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works has been determined by the Scottish Borders Council who are advised on archaeological matters by Dr Christopher Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeological Officer.
- 1.2 The programme of archaeological works required is in keeping with best practices outlined in current planning policy and guidelines: Scottish Planning Policy (2014) & PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology (2011).
- 1.3 No significant archaeological features were found.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The proposed development area of 0.8ha consists of an undeveloped greenfield site presently rough pasture with mature trees and shrubbery, lying within a primarily rural residential area centred on NGR: NT 54333 35203. The site lies immediately east of Valley View and west of Monkwood Road with exiting housing to the west, north east and south east of the proposed site. To the north the site backs onto agricultural land known as Castle Field. The site is located within the village of Gattonside on the North side of the River Tweed in the Scottish Borders.



Plate 1 Location shot of Trench 1 & 2

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 To the immediate North East of the development site there is a property and associated land known as 'Springbank', which has been suggested as the location of a Medieval Castle or monastic grange. The Object Name Books of the Ordnance Survey records the findings of foundations, which were interpreted as those of a castle, located in the South East corner of Castle Field, at the site known as 'Springbank'. It also notes the existence of a "very ancient building" which was known as "The Castle".
- 2.2.2 The village of Gattonside belonged to Melrose Abbey from the mid-12th century and was the location of a monastic grange or farm for the Abbey. It is possible that foundations relating to a medieval grange or castle exist within the vicinity of the proposed development.
- 2.2.3 Archaeological sites identified within 250m of the proposed development area are those of a 20th Century House (NT 54107 35086) known as "The Orchard", a 19th Century listed building (NT 54411 35128) known as "The Rig", and a 20th Century house (NT 5401 3501) in Gattonside Westend. A medieval plough pebble findspot (NT 54200 35400) is also recorded to the north of the site.

3 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works are to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area through evaluation trenching. Another objective is to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, formulated with the approval of the Scottish Borders Council Archaeological Officer, such as excavation (Stage 2), post-excavation analyses and publication (Stage 3), given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological work was conducted on the 21st December 2016 in generally favourable, but overcast weather conditions. Archaeological visibility was moderate. The trenching covered the areas that would be affected by the development.



Plate 2 Modern burning in Trench 3

- 4.2 The original WSI (AOC 2016) stated the land take to be 0.8 ha, equating an evaluation of 10% of an 800 m² area. However on inspection of the site, the area was equivalent to 700 m². The trenches were excavated using a 360 tracked excavator using a 1.5 m bladed ditching bucket. Therefore the required linear meter equated to 48 m.
- 4.3 In total three trenches equating to 35 linear meters (Figure 1; Plate 1) were excavated taking into account overhead services and proximity to existing walls, revealing a pink-brown silty clay subsoil at varying depths of around 0.2m-0.4m. Trench 3 revealed a small ashen pit filled with modern detritus (Plate 2).
- 4.4 No significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered during the programme of works.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The land at The Loan, Gattonside shows no signs of archaeological activity. Of the three trenches excavated only one had any significant feature which proved to be modern. No significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered. No further works are considered necessary; this recommendation will need confirmed by Dr. Chris Bowles of Scottish Borders Council.

6 REFERENCES

AOC 2016 The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders Archaeological Evaluation: *Written Scheme of Investigation*, Unpublished Client Report

Scottish Government, 2014, *Scottish Planning Policy*.

Scottish Government, 2011, *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology*.

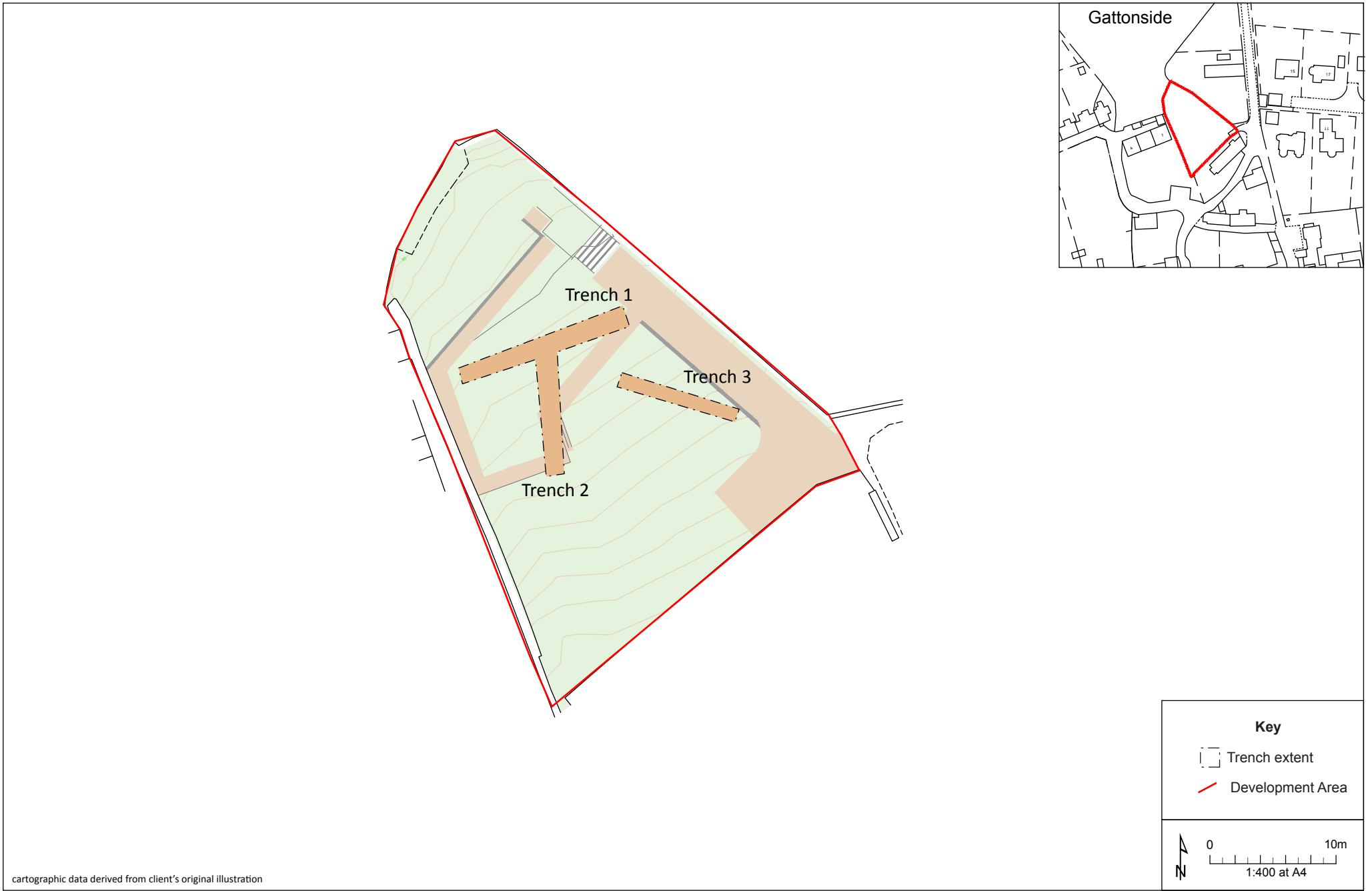


Figure 1: Site plan showing evaluation trench locations

01/23663/REP/01/01

The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record

No.	Description
1-6	Pre-excavation shots
7	Post-excavation of Trench 1
8	Post-excavation of Trench 2
9	Post-excavation of Trench 3
10	Modern burning in Trench 3
11-13	Natural feature in Trench 1
14-15	Post-excavation shots of site

APPENDIX 2: Trench Record

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	15 m by 1.5 m
<i>Orientation</i>	W-E
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.2 m to 0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Natural linear (hedgerow)
<i>Subsoil</i>	Pinky-brown silty clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

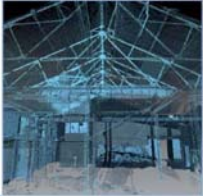
<i>Dimensions</i>	11 m by 1.5 m
<i>Orientation</i>	N-S
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.29 m to 0.39 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Pinky-brown silty.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 1.5 m
<i>Orientation</i>	S-N
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.4 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern burning pit
<i>Subsoil</i>	Pinky-brown silty
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23463
PARISH:	Melrose
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Steven Watt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 531 342
START DATE (this season)	21 st December 2016
END DATE (this season)	21 st December 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by AOC Archaeology Group prior to the development of land at The Loan, Gattonside, Scottish Borders on behalf of Cameron Ltd.</p> <p>In total three trenches were excavated at the development covering the footprint of the proposed building and service track route. A small patch of modern burning was found and a natural feature, likely caused by the heavy foliage and bracken in the area.</p> <p>No significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered, therefore no further work is considered necessary.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Camerons Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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