Leet Haugh, Duns Road, Coldstream:

Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21779
Planning Ref: 10/00439/FUL
24th December 2010





Leet Haugh, Coldstream, Borders: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: Hudson Hirsel LLP

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 8367 4045

AOC Project No: 21779

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

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Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of a proposed residential development at Leet Haugh, Duns Road, Coldstream, Borders.

The archaeological evaluation consisted of the machine trenching of 2150 m² m² equating to a 5% sample of the development area.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Hudson Hirsel LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation within a proposed residential development site (105 dwelling houses) at Leet Haugh, Duns Road, Coldstream. The archaeological evaluation is being undertaken in response to a planning condition (10/00439/FUL).
- 1.2 The Scottish Borders is advised on archaeological matters by Dr. Chris Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principles set out in Scottish Planning Policy (Scottish Government February 2010) and PAN 42 (SOEnD 1994) and in accord with Scottish Borders Council requirements as advised by Dr Bowles.
- 1.3 The objective of the archaeological works was to determine the existence of any buried archaeological remains within the area of the development area by means of a programme of trial trenching. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2010) outlining the entire programme of archaeological works was agreed with WoSAS in advance of the evaluation being undertaken.

1.2 Location

1.2.1 The proposed development area (NGR: NT 8367 4045) is located within the grounds of the Leet Haugh on the north-western outskirts of the village of Coldstream. The development area comprises undeveloped farmland. Duns Road bounds the site to the north-east with a tree belt to the northwest. Open ground lies to the south-west, with an existing residential development to the south-east.

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 Ordnance Survey mapping from 1862 to the present day has shown the site to be free of development throughout this period. The Hirsel Designed Landscape (No.359 in *Inventory of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*) lies immediately adjacent to the development site to the west.
- 1.3.2 A cist (NMRS NT84SW 5) allegedly containing a sword was found near to the development area in a field (c.NGR: NT 838 403) in the 19th century (McLaren 1863, RCAHMS 1980). Its precise location is not known. This form of burial type, common in the Bronze Age, could take place either as single graves or as part of a localised or more dispersed cemetery; often focused on earlier ritual or funerary sites.
- 1.3.3 To the south lie a series of indeterminate cropmarks visible on oblique aerial photographs (NMRS NT84SW 48; RCAHMSAP 1999). The NMRS entry notes these features as possibly being 'recent in origin'.

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 within the proposed development area;
 - ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as evaluation, 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 trenching was designed to establish the extent, condition, character, quality, significance and date of any archaeological features present within the site area. The evaluation comprised machine trenching of a 5% sample of the development area. Overall the development area amounted to 4.3 ha; thus trenching consisted of 2150 m² (total basal trench dimensions). Trenches were 2 m wide, between 100 m and 50 m in length and set on varying orientations (Figure 2).
- 3.2 Stripping of the overburden was by means of a single tracked excavator equipped with a 2 m wide toothless ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.3 All trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures. The trenches were carefully backfilled on completion of the evaluation.







Plate 2: Trench 4

3 RESULTS

- 3.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 20th and 22nd December 2010. Overall weather conditions were generally cold and fair, and good archaeological visibility was present throughout the evaluation. In total 2150 m² of trenching was opened equating to a 5% sample of the development area. Nothing of archaeological significance was found in any of the trenches.
- 3.2 The excavation of the trenches revealed topsoil comprising of a dark brown/black silty clay containing frequent small to medium sized rounded stones with occasional large rounded stones. This top soil varied in depth from 0.25 m to 0.40 m. Natural subsoil consisted of a mid brown clay with varying amounts of medium sized gravels.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Neither significant features nor unstratified artefacts were encountered by the evaluation. The significant balance of probability is that the development area is archaeologically sterile.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by Dr Bowles on behalf of Scottish Borders Council.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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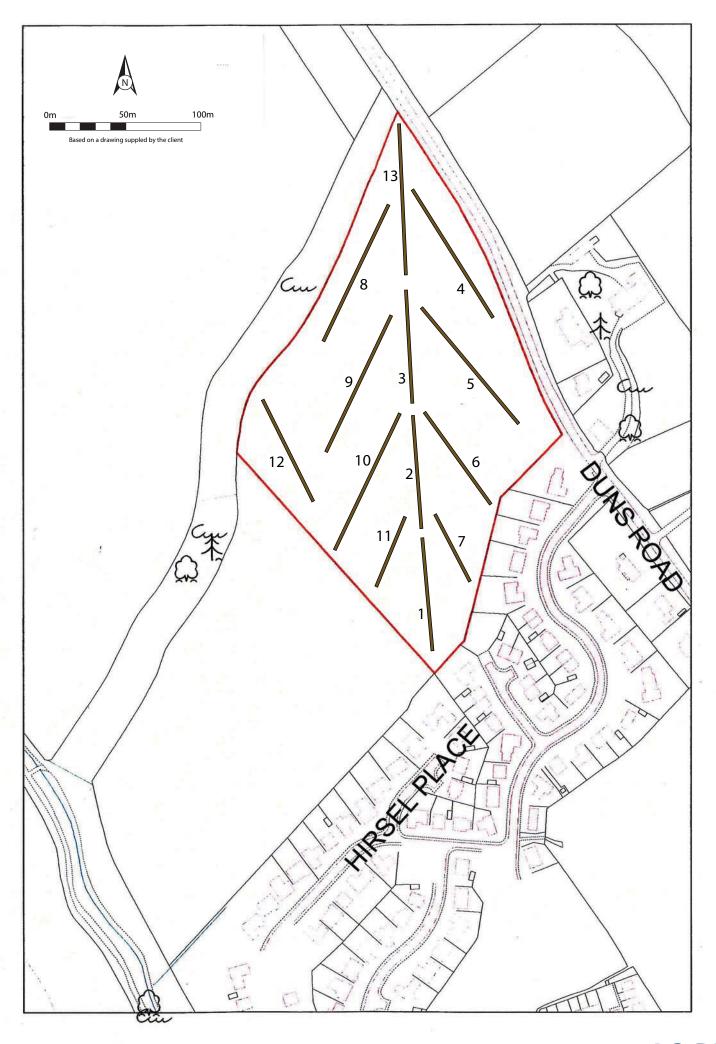


Figure 1: Layout of evaluation trenches at Leet Haugh



Leet Haugh, Coldstream, Borders: Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices



APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

Dimensions75 m by 2 mTotal Area150 m²OrientationN/SDepth of Topsoil0.3 mDepth of Excavation0.35 mSignificant FeaturesNoneOther FeaturesNone

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 2

Dimensions75 m by 2 mTotal Area150 m²OrientationN/S

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textit{Depth of Topsoil} & 0.25 \text{ m} - 0.4 \text{ m} \\ \textit{Depth of Excavation} & 0.3 \text{ m} - 0.4 \text{ m} \\ \end{array}$

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 3

Dimensions75 m by 2 mTotal Area150 m²OrientationN/S

Depth of Topsoil 0.35 m – 0.4 m

Depth of Excavation 0.4 m Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 4

Dimensions100 m by 2 mTotal Area200 m²OrientationNW/SE

Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m - 0.35 mDepth of Excavation 0.35 m

Significant Features None
Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 5

Dimensions100 m by 2 mTotal Area200 m²OrientationNE/SE

Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m - 0.3 m

Depth of Excavation 0.35 m Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 6

Dimensions75 m by 2 mTotal Area150 m²OrientationNW/SE

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textit{Depth of Topsoil} & 0.3 \text{ m} - 0.35 \text{ m} \\ \textit{Depth of Excavation} & 0.3 \text{ m} - 0.4 \text{ m} \end{array}$

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 7

Dimensions50 m by 2 mTotal Area100 m²OrientationNW/SEDepth of Topsoil0.25 mDepth of Excavation0.25 mSignificant FeaturesNoneOther FeaturesNone

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 8

Dimensions100 m by 2 mTotal Area200 m²OrientationNE/SW

Depth of Topsoil 0.25 m - 0.35 mDepth of Excavation 0.25 m - 0.35 m

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 9

Dimensions100 m by 2 mTotal Area200 m²OrientationNE/SW

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textit{Depth of Topsoil} & 0.3 \text{ m} - 0.35 \text{ m} \\ \textit{Depth of Excavation} & 0.3 \text{ m} - 0.4 \text{ m} \\ \end{array}$

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 10

Dimensions 100 m by 2 m 200 m² Total Area NE/SW Orientation Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m - 0.35 m

Depth of Excavation 0.3 m - 0.35 m

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 11

Dimensions 50 m by 2 m Total Area 100 m² Orientation NE/SW

Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m - 0.35 mDepth of Excavation 0.3 m - 0.35 m

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 12

Dimensions 75 m by 2 m Total Area 150 m² Orientation NW/SE Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m - 0.4 mDepth of Excavation 0.3 m - 0.4 mSignificant Features None

Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

Trench 13

Dimensions 100 m by 2 m Total Area 200 m² Orientation N/S

Depth of Topsoil 0.3 m - 0.4 mDepth of Excavation 0.3 m - 0.4 m

Significant Features None Other Features None

Subsoil Clay and gravel

Finds None

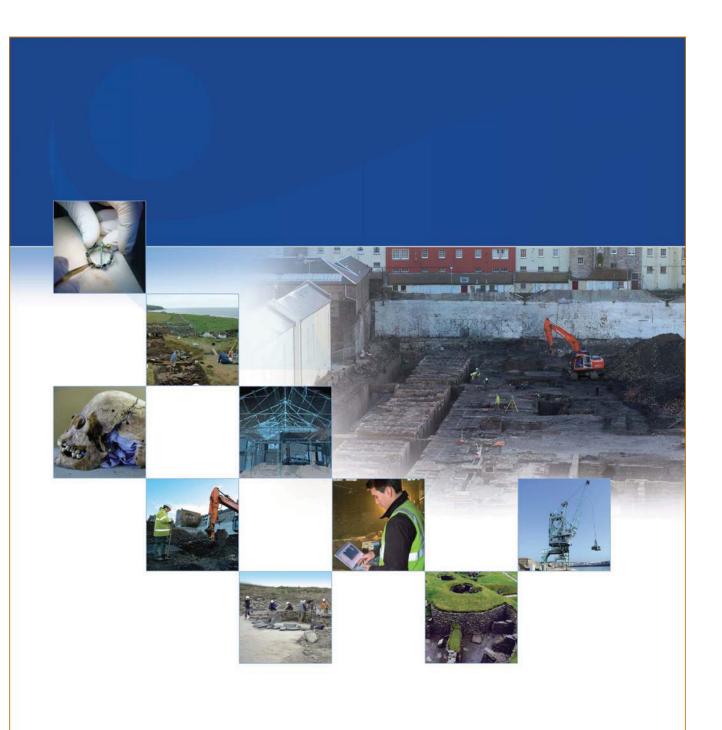
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	-	Registration shot	-
2	1	Post Excavation General View	S
3	2	Post Excavation General View	S
4	3	Post Excavation General View	S
5	4	Post Excavation General View	SE
6	5	Post Excavation General View	SE
7	6	Post Excavation General View	SE
8	7	Post Excavation General View	SE
9	13	Post Excavation General View	S
10	8	Post Excavation General View	SW
11	9	Post Excavation General View	SW
12	10	Post Excavation General View	SW
13	12	Post Excavation General View	NW
14	11	Post Excavation General View	SW

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Leet Haugh, Duns Road, Coldstream: Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21779
PARISH:	
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Erlend Hindmarch
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 8367 4045
START DATE (this season)	20 th December 2010
END DATE (this season)	22 nd December 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the site of a proposed residential development at Leet Haugh, Duns Road, Coldstream. The archaeological evaluation consisted of trenching with combined basal dimensions of 2150 m² equating to a 5% sample of the development area. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Hudson Hirsel LLP
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS





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