

DCVQ20



# DALMENY CONTRACTORS VILLAGE, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PLANNING REF. 19/05158/FUL

commissioned by IKM Consulting

March 2020



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#### PROJECT INFO:

HA Project Code **DCVQ20** / NGR **NT 1426 7674** / Parish **Dalmeny** / Local Authority **City of Edinburgh** / OASIS Ref. **headland1-386837**

#### PROJECT TEAM:

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Approved by **Candy Hatherley**



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part of the **RSK** Group





## PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd conducted an archaeological trial trench evaluation on agricultural land to the south of Dalmeny, South Queensferry. The work was carried out on the submission of an enforcement notice related to a condition of the planning application for the construction of the temporary carparking at the Oil Storage Works, Dalmeny. Historic mapping of the area indicated the presence of the 19th century Dalmeny Row workers' cottages in the area of the carpark. The excavation of 5 trial trenches amounting to 50m linear revealed the site had been truncated with no evidence of the former cottages identified. The spoil from the initial topsoil strip of the land was also inspected and no bricks or building materials was evident. The depth of the excavated trenches varied between 0.35 and 1m and in all cases exposed the geological subsoil.

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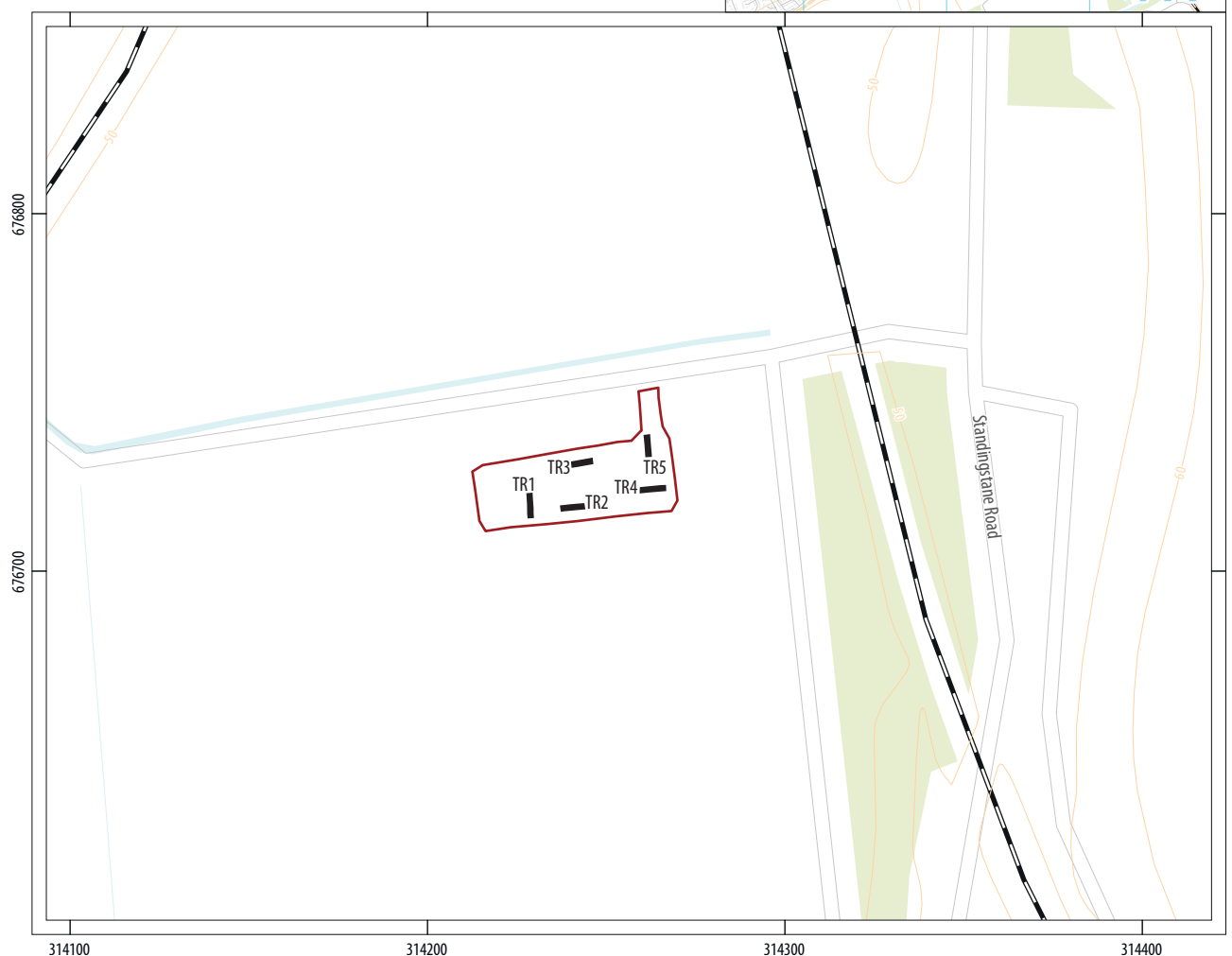
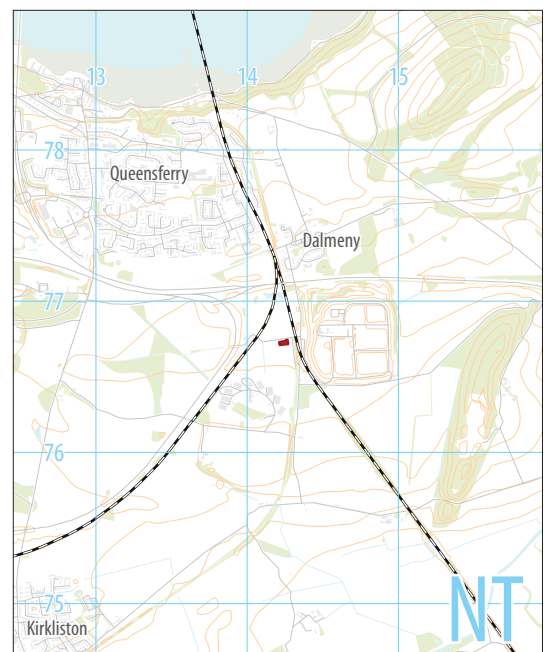
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Dalmeny Contractors Village  
 South Queensferry  
 Dalmeny  
 Edinburgh



0 200km  
 1:12,500,000 @ A4



0 40m  
 1:2,000 @ A4

development boundary  
 trench location



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ILLUS 1 Site location



# DALMENY CONTRACTORS VILLAGE, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Ineos FPS Ltd to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on the site of a temporary carpark located within farmland to the south of Dalmeny, South Queensferry. The work was carried out following the submission of an enforcement notice in reference to a condition of planning consent (ref: 19/05158/FUL) submitted to City of Edinburgh Council (the Local Planning Authority).

Prior to the archaeological intervention the area had been stripped of topsoil and covered with compacted gravel. The evaluation adhered to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Headland Archaeology (2020) and agreed with the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) on behalf of Edinburgh City Council. The work was undertaken in February 2020.

#### 1.1 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The site was located within agricultural land 500m to the south of Dalmeny, South Queensferry (NGR: NT 1426 7674; Illus 1). It is to the west of Standingstone Road and the main railway line between Edinburgh and the north. The area was bounded to the north by a farm track and to the south and west by further agricultural land. Prior to the archaeological works the site had been stripped of topsoil and a temporary compacted gravel surface had been laid within the field (Illus 2).

The site lay around 50m AOD and is underlain by Hopetoun Member sedimentary rock of the Strathclyde Group. These are overlain with superficial alluvium deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel (British Geological Survey website; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

#### 1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Historic mapping (Linlithgowshire VII.1-Dalmeny, Kirkliston – Published 1896; Illus 3) indicated the presence of the Dalmeny Row workers' cottages in the location of the temporary carpark (Canmore ID: 359849). The earliest of these cottages dated from the 1870s and the buildings were associated with the shale oil pit works to the north-east. Further rows of houses were added piecemeal until the turn of the 20th century. By this time there were 81 houses set in four rows. The majority of these were closed, and presumably demolished between 1928 and 1938, as depicted on the 1952 Ordnance Survey. The final row of houses, called Railway Row due to their north/south alignment parallel with the railway line, were demolished in the 1960s.

Discussions with representatives from Luddon Construction (constructing the car park) indicated that turf and c 200mm of topsoil had been removed and a clayey layer revealed. It was unclear if this was a geological subsoil or redeposited material. Inspections of the sides of French drains installed to a depth of c 400mm also failed to establish the depth of the geological subsoil.

Inspection of the spoil heap from the stripping indicated very few inclusions of bricks, building rubble, 19th century ceramics or other material suggestive of the presence of the cottages.

Based on this evidence it is possible that the cottages, including foundations, were removed wholesale by the mid-20th century.



**ILLUS 2** General view of the evaluation area

### 1.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the project were as follows:

- › to establishing the location, extent, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the accessible areas targeted for trenching;
- › to establishing the integrity and state of preservation of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the accessible areas; and
- › to produce and deposit a satisfactory archive and disseminate the results of the work via grey literature reporting and publication as appropriate.

## 2 METHODS

An approximate 6% sample of the temporary carpark area was examined by archaeological trial trenching. This amounted to 100m<sup>2</sup> or 50m of linear trenches with an approximate width of 2m. The trenches were set at varying orientations within the area in order to provide sufficient coverage across the carpark. Their distribution was partially informed by the historical mapping evidence and also limited due to the available space.

Trenches were opened using a tracked excavator. The machine was fitted with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket to remove all deposits. All excavation was carried out in controlled spits under

direct archaeological supervision. Excavation terminated at the top of the natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Spoil was stored at the side of each trench.

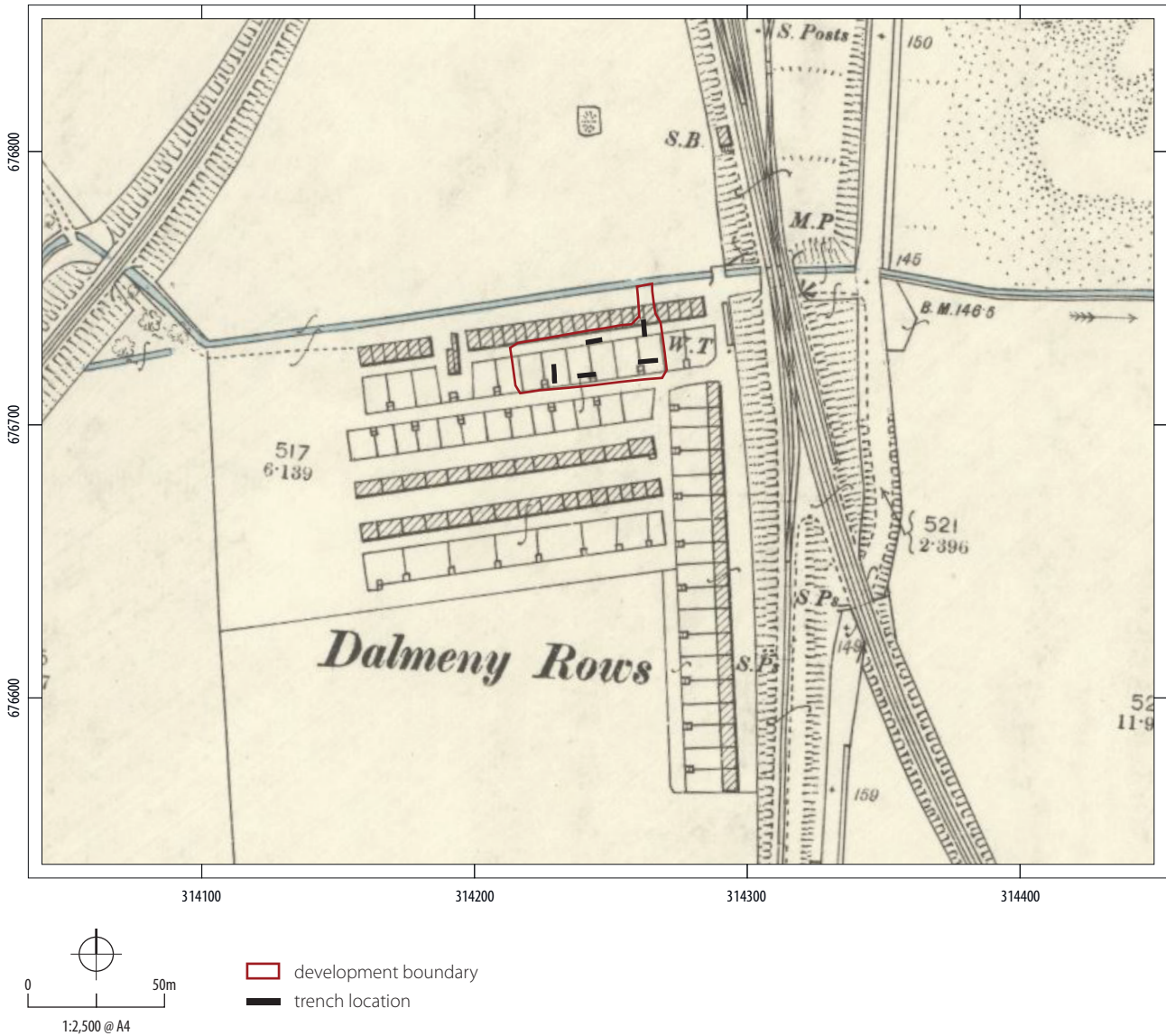
Excavation of archaeological deposits and features required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation were continued by hand. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were identified.

All trenches were backfilled following the completion of the evaluation and all recording.

### 2.1 REPORTING AND ARCHIVES

All recording followed ClfA Standards and Guidance (2014). All contexts were given unique numbers and all trench recording was undertaken on pro forma record sheets (see Appendix 1). A photographic record of all trenches was taken using digital photography (a full list can be found in Appendix 1). The digital photographs will be submitted to Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for long-term archive storage and a copy will be sent to the local Historic Environment Record.

A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and other pertinent information was recorded digitally and has been linked to the National Grid and heights to AOD. Digital recording



ILLUS 3 Extract from the 1896 Ordnance Survey

was undertaken using a differential GPS in order to allow data checking while in the field.

The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery & Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2) and the Archaeological Data Service OASIS database (headland1-836387).

The complete project archive will be deposited with HES within six months of the completion of the project. The records (paper and digital) will be archived according to best practice guidelines set out by the Archaeological Archiving Forum (2011).

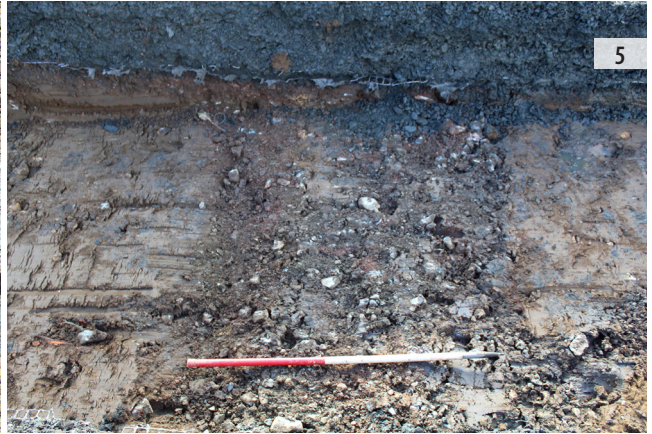
### 3 RESULTS

The evaluation was carried out on the 27th February 2020 in dry and bright conditions. At the time of the evaluation the area had already been stripped of topsoil and covered with compacted gravel (see Illus 2). The size of the area and the surrounding herras fencing

affected the positioning of the proposed trenches, although a reasonably even spread was achieved.

Five evaluation trenches were excavated across the area and the descriptions and dimensions of these can be found in Appendix 1. The geological subsoil of mid-yellow sandy clay (1002) was exposed in all trenches. The stratigraphy and depths of the trenches was similar across all five trenches. In order to ascertain if the yellow sandy clay exposed during the initial topsoil strip was geological subsoil or redeposited material the excavation of Trench 1 continued to a maximum depth of 1m (Illus 4). This revealed that the yellow clay was underlain by a yellowish grey clay (1003) with occasional small stone inclusions. The interface between the two layers was very diffuse suggesting that both layers were geological in formation.

Trench 03 included a north/south aligned linear cut [3002]. The cut was recorded from the top of subsoil (1002) layer 0.2m below ground level (Illus 5). The cut was 1.3m wide and filled with poorly sorted small stone in a dark yellow sandy clay matrix (3001). Within this fill



**ILLUS 4** East facing section of Trench 1    **ILLUS 5** View of linear cut [3002] in Trench 3    **ILLUS 6** View of drain in Trench 4

was a broken length of modern electrical cable implying the cut was modern, although based on its alignment it may have represented a foundation cut for one of the 19th century houses.

Field drains were recorded in four of the five trenches (Trench 01 and Trench 03–05). The majority of these were modern plastic drains covered with pea gravel (Illus 6) with a single drain recorded in each of the four trenches. Trench 04 also included a red ceramic tile drain. The modern drains were all 0.3 to 0.35m below ground level and the tile drain was recorded at a depth of 0.4m.

## 4 DISCUSSION

No evidence of brickwork or building material was encountered during the evaluation and only one potential foundation cut was identified. An inspection of the spoil heap formed from the removal of the topsoil also failed to identify any bricks or building material. The lack of evidence for these buildings would suggest that subsequent to their demolition all building material was removed from site and the area landscaped prior to being returned to agricultural use.

## 5 REFERENCES

Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) 2011 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2nd edn) (ClfA: Reading) [http://www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/aaf\\_archaeological\\_archives\\_2011.pdf](http://www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/aaf_archaeological_archives_2011.pdf) accessed 26 Feb 2020

Headland Archaeology (2020) *Dalmeny Contractors Village, South Queesferry, Written Scheme of Investigation for and Archaeological Evaluation* [unpublished client report, DCVQ20]

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014 *Code of Conduct* [online document] available from <http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CodesofConduct.pdf> accessed 26 Feb 2020

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014 *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation* (updated January 2017) (Reading) [http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GEvaluation\\_1.pdf](http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GEvaluation_1.pdf) accessed 26 Feb 2020

Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) 2016 *British Geological Survey* [online] accessed from <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 26 Feb 2020

### 5.1 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Ordnance Survey (OS) 1896 *Linlithgowshire VII.1 (Dalmeny; Kirkliston)* (Publication date: 1896 Revised: 1895) <https://maps.nls.uk/view/82895250>

Ordnance Survey (OS) 1917 *Linlithgowshire nV.9 (Dalmeny)* (Publication date: 1917 Revised: 1914 Levelled: 1912/1914) <https://maps.nls.uk/view/82895538>

Ordnance Survey (OS) 1852 *Linlithgowshire Sheet nV.SW (includes: Dalmeny; Edinburgh; Kirkliston)* (Publication date: 1952 Date revised: 1948) <https://maps.nls.uk/view/75652091>

## 6 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

#### Appendix 1.1 Trench register

TR1	ALIGNMENT	SIZE (M)	MAX DEPTH (M)
	N - S	2 x 10	1.0

#### DESCRIPTION

Located to W end of the area. Gravel (1001) 0.25m deep over 0.5m of yellow sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions (1002). Basal layer of yellowish grey mottle clay with occasional stone inclusions (1003). One modern field drain aligned NE/SW to the south end 0.35m depth

TR2	ALIGNMENT	SIZE (M)	MAX DEPTH (M)
	E - W	2 x 10	0.8

#### DESCRIPTION

Located to the W end of the area. Gravel (1001) 0.25m deep over 0.4m of yellow sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions (1002). Basal layer of yellowish grey mottle clay with occasional stone inclusions (1003)

TR3	ALIGNMENT	SIZE (M)	MAX DEPTH (M)
	E - W	2 x 10	0.65

#### DESCRIPTION

Located to the central part of the area. Gravel (1001) 0.25m deep over 0.5m of yellow sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions (1002). A single N/S aligned linear cut [3002] 1.3m wide and filled with poorly sorted stone including a modern electrical cable 0.25m below ground level. One modern field drain aligned NE/SW to the west end 0.35m depth

TR4	ALIGNMENT	SIZE (M)	MAX DEPTH (M)
	E-W	2 x 10	0.65

#### DESCRIPTION

Located to the east end of the area. Gravel (1001) 0.25m deep over 0.5m of yellow sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions (1002). One modern field drain aligned NE/SW to the west end 0.35m depth

TR5	ALIGNMENT	SIZE (M)	MAX DEPTH (M)
	N-S	2 x 10	0.6

#### DESCRIPTION

Located to the east side of the area. Gravel (1001) 0.25m deep over 0.5m of yellow sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions (1002). One modern field drain aligned E/W to the north end 0.35m depth. Also, evidence of a north/south aligned pipe cut (no pipe) within the yellow clay

#### Appendix 1.2 Context register

CONTEXT	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
1001	Gravel	A compacted type 1 gravel with plastic teram below. 0.25m deep
1002	Geological subsoil	A mid-yellow sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions
1003	Geological subsoil	A mottled yellowish grey clay with occasional small stone inclusions
3001	Fill of cut	A fill of poorly sorted small stones in a mid-yellow brown sandy clay matrix
3002	Linear cut	A linear cut through 1002 being 1.3m wide and filled with 3001

#### Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

PHOTO	FACING	DESCRIPTION
DCVQ-01	N	General shot of Tr 01
DCVQ-02	S	General shot of Tr 01
DCVQ-03	W	East facing section of Tr 01
DCVQ-04	E	General shot of Tr 02
DCVQ-05	W	General shot of Tr 02
DCVQ-06	E	Site view
DCVQ-07	W	Site view
DCVQ-08	S	Site view
DCVQ-09	E	General view of Tr 03
DCVQ-10	W	General view of Tr 03
DCVQ-11	W	General view of Tr 04
DCVQ-12	E	General view of Tr 04
DCVQ-13	S	North facing section of Tr 04
DCVQ-14	NW	Site view
DCVQ-15	N	Site view
DCVQ-16	N	General view of Tr 05
DCVQ-17	E	Linear cut 3002 in Tr 03
DCVQ-18	S	Linear cut 3002 in Tr 03
DCVQ-19	N	South facing section of Tr 03
DCVQ-20	W	East facing section of Tr 01
DCVQ-21	W	East facing section of Tr 01

## APPENDIX 2 DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Dalmeny Contractors Village, South Queensferry
PROJECT CODE:	DCVQ20
PARISH:	Dalmeny
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Donald Wilson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 1426 7674
START DATE (this season)	27th Feb 2020
END DATE (this season)	27th Feb 2020
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd conducted an archaeological trial trench evaluation on agricultural land to the south of Dalmeny, South Queensferry. The work was undertaken due to the submission of an enforcement notice related to a condition of the planning application for the provision of temporary carparking during development works at the Dalmeny Oil Storage Works. Historic mapping had indicated the presence of the 19th century Dalmeny Row workers' cottages at the location of the carpark. Excavation of 5 trial trenches amounting to 50m linear revealed the site had been truncated with no evidence of the cottages identified. The spoil from the initial topsoil strip was also inspected and no evidence bricks or building materials was evident. The depth of the excavated trenches varied between 0.35 and 1m and in all cases exposed the geological subsoil.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Ineos FPS Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	13 Jane Street, Edinburgh. EH6 5HE
EMAIL ADDRESS:	office@headlandarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Historic Environment Scotland









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