Greenacre, Campmuir: Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report

by Claire Williamson

issued 8th December 2009

Quality Assurance

This report covers works which have been undertaken in keeping with the issued brief as modified by the agreed programme of works. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance of Rathmell Archaeology Limited on the preparation of reports. All works reported on within this document have been undertaken in keeping with the Institute of Field Archaeology's Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct.

Signed ... Claire Williamson...... Date ... 10th December 2009....

In keeping with the procedure of Rathmell Archaeology Limited this document and its findings have been reviewed and agreed by an appropriate colleague:

Checked ... Date ...10th December 2009....

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Introduction

- 1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Mr Taylor in respect to the proposed residential development on Greenacre, Campmuir (NO 21872 37796). The archaeological works are designed to inform on the appropriateness of granting planning consent and inform the development of any appropriate mitigation of impact on archaeological remains should they be present within the development area.
- Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust had advised that it was appropriate to undertake a predetermination evaluation. They required a programme of archaeological works consisting of an intrusive evaluation within the ground. The character of these works has been defined by Terms of Reference issued by Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust, advisors to Perth & Kinross Council, and their structure has been outlined in a Method Statement (Rees 2009).
- 3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Mr Taylor to undertake the development and implementation of the required archaeological works for the prospective residential development at Greenacre, Campmuir.
 - Archaeological and Historical Background
- 4. The following five paragraphs are reproduced here *verbatim* from the Terms of Reference issued by Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust:

The proposed development site is considered to be archaeologically sensitive as it is located within the defensive ditch and bank of a Roman marching camp at Lintrose (see Figure 1). The camp was discovered in 1754 by Captain R. Melville and consists of a large rectangular enclosure and would have been used by the Roman Army during military campaigns in north-east Scotland (NMRS site number NO23NW 5). The dimension and plan of the Lintrose camp suggest that the site probably derives from the Severan campaign, dating to the early 3rd century AD. Enclosing about 26ha and measuring about 625m by 420m, only a few short stretches of the enclosing rampart and ditch now survive, notably the short sections of the east and south sides immediately adjacent to the southeast angle, where the rampart appears as a bank 6m thick, and a length of about 100m of the north side near the north-west angle.

Cropmarks recorded on aerial photographs confirm and add to the plan drawn by General Roy in 1793 (Figure 2). For instance a gate with a traverse is now known in the east half of the south side, while the slight change in alignment of the defences 160m to the east probably indicates the position of another. The only other entrance known is the one placed centrally in the west side, now obscured, but depicted by Roy as provided with an external traverse.

Recent archaeological monitoring of a housing development at 30 Holdings in the south-east area of the camp identified physical evidence for the line of the defensive ditch and a hearth potentially associated with Roman military presence and contemporary with the camp's occupation (SUAT 2004). Archaeological investigations at comparable sites such as at Kintore in Aberdeenshire have indicated that Roman camps could be occupied for extended periods of time, in contrast to what the name suggests, and be associated with extensive remains of occupation such as fired-clay baking ovens.

The development site is located within the north-west interior of the camp. Based on 19th century maps (1863AD 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of 'Forfarshire') of the location the plot was historically part of a forest plantation during at least the last two hundred years (Figure 3). However, remains of Roman occupation in the form of baking ovens, industrial activity or minor building remains have the potential to be present within the development plot.

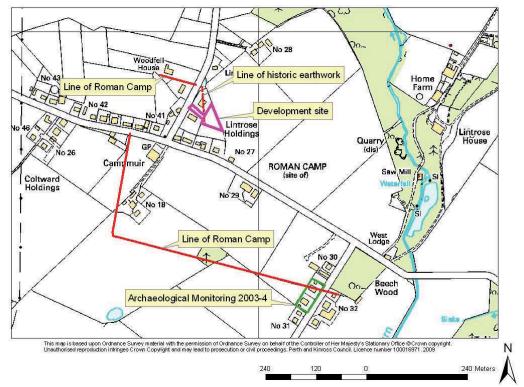


Figure 1a: Reproduction of Figure 1 from PKHT TOR – development area overlain by known archaeological sites and events.

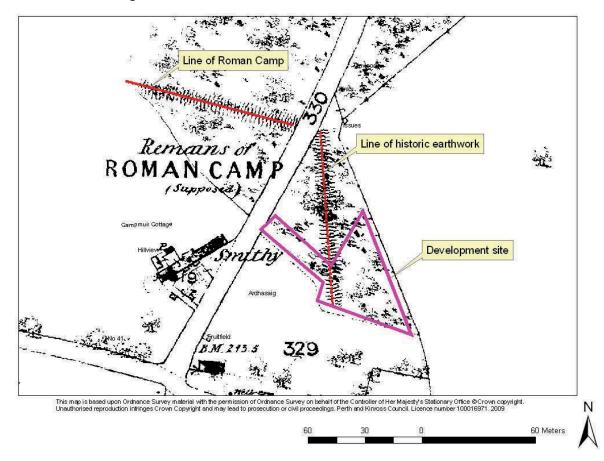


Figure 1b: Reproduction of Figure 3 from PKHT TOR - 1863AD 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of development site and surroundings showing north-south aligned earthwork and section of Roman Camp's north bank.

Also, of particular significance is a linear earthwork shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map that apparently crossed the development site north to south, and extended at an oblique angle from the northern enclosure bank of the camp. This earthwork is not shown on other plans of the site, and could potentially relate to an additional Roman defensive work; perhaps representing the remains of an unrecognized chevron gateway to the camp (e.g. Strathcathro type), although it is rather too long for this; a defensive work from an earlier military campaign to the Severan period camp; or a later boundary feature. Buried remains of this earthwork will potentially be affected by ground breaking works for the development.

Source: PKHT TOR

Project Works

- 5. The programme of works commenced with an archaeological evaluation through machine cut trenches which were initially to include 5% of the study area, which measures some 0.17ha in extent. An initial target of 85m² of trenching (approximately 55 linear metres using a 1.6m bucket) was specified in the Method Statement (Rees 2009). When on site, the width of the bucket actually measured 1.5m across which changed the requirement to approximately 57 linear metres. In total 60.7m of linear trenching was excavated, slightly exceeding 5% of the study area.
- 6. Placement of the evaluation trenches was broadly in keeping with the trench plan submitted with the Method Statement (Rees 2009). Alterations were made to the trench layout due to the presence of a greenhouse to the south of Trench 2 (visible in Figure 3a) and overhead power cables which ran through the centre of the site affecting Trenches 3 and 5 (see Figure 2). However the alterations were never more than a few metres away from an obstruction.
- 7. Monitoring was also required during the excavation of three geo-technical test pits to be carried out on the same day as the archaeological evaluation works. All three test pits were located within the area of Trenches 2,4 and 5 and so did not require any further ground breaking works.
- 8. Any exposed features were investigated and evaluated to determine their archaeological significance, with the on-site works taking place on the 3rd December 2009. All works were conducted in accordance with the Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust Standard Conditions, the Institute of Field Archaeology's Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings

- 9. Six evaluation trenches were opened across the development area (Figure 2). Full descriptions of each are contained in the appendices at the end of this report. Included below is a synthesis of the findings and interpretation from these. Initially there were only five trenches proposed in the Method Statement (Rees 2009) but due to the presence of the overhead cables, Trench 3 had to be split in two creating Trenches 3a and 3b.
- 10. The topsoil across the site (001) ranged between 200 to 500mm in depth. The natural subsoil was predominantly compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003) although compact pale yellow/orange slightly clayey silty sand (002) did also appear within two of the trenches.

11.

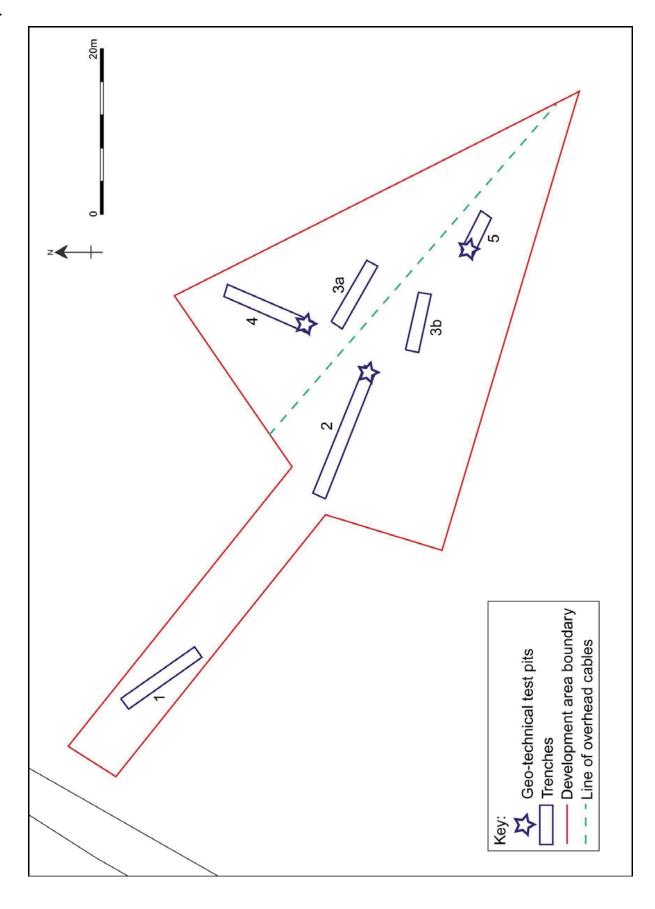


Figure 2: Trench Layout



Figure 3a: General shot of site from the north with trench 2 in the foreground



Figure 3b: General shot of site from the east-north-east

Significant Archaeological features

12. No significant archaeological features were observed during the course of the evaluation works. The section of Trench 2 (Figure 4a) was investigated for any evidence of the linear earthwork visible in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey which would have crossed the site at this point (see Figure 1b). However no evidence was present.

Artefacts

13. No artefacts were recovered during the evaluation although modern detritus (late nineteenth and twentieth century material) was observed within the topsoil in most trenches.

Modern Disturbance

14. The presence of modern material, including an empty gun cartridge within the deeper areas of topsoil in Trench 2, points to modern clearance of the area including any remains which may have existed of the linear earthwork visible in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey.

Discussion

Significant Archaeological Features

15. No significant archaeological features were uncovered in the course of the evaluation works and no anthropic material was recovered which would indicate use of the site prior to the twentieth century.

Modern Disturbance

16. The presence of modern material within the topsoil, specifically in the area of Trench 2, points to a modern clearance of the area which appears to have removed any remains of the linear earthwork, possibly due to landscaping of the area for use as a garden.

Recommendations

- 17. The archaeological evaluation failed to identify any significant archaeological features or artefacts within the development area. Consequently, we recommend that no further archaeological works are required.
- 18. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust.



Figure 4a: Trench 2 from the northwest



Figure 4b: Trench 3b from the west



Figure 5a: Trench 4 from the south-south-west



Figure 5b: Geo-technical test pitting in Trench 2 from the southwest

Conclusion

- 20. This Data Structure Report has outlined the work carried out during the archaeological evaluation in respect to the proposed residential development on Greenacre, Campmuir (NO 21872 37796). The archaeological works were designed to inform the appropriateness of granting planning consent and inform the development of any appropriate mitigation of impact on archaeological remains should they be present within the development area.
- 21. The archaeological evaluation works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other that that which related to twentieth century use of the site. No remains of the linear earthwork visible on the 1st edition Ordnance survey were present, any remains appearing to have been removed in modern times during clearance of the area for landscaping. We have therefore recommended that no further works are required.

References

| Documentary | | |
|-------------|------|---|
| O'Grady, O | 2009 | Greenacre, Lintrose/Campmuir, Terms of Reference for archaeological evaluation and archaeological monitoring of engineer site investigation, unpublished document issued by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. |
| Rees, T | 2009 | Greenacre, Campmuir, Archaeological Evaluation: Method Statement, unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd for Mr Taylor. |
| Scot Gov | 2008 | SPP23 Planning and the Historic Environment. |
| SOEnv | 1994 | Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology, Scottish Office Environmental Department. |

Cartographic

1863 Ordnance Survey 1st edition Ordnance Survey, Perthshire

Appendix 1: Trench Details

- 22. Within this appendix a standardised set of data pertaining to the evaluation trenches is presented.
- 23. All measurement distances quoted along the trench measure based on the quoted orientation of the trench. See Figure 2 for trench locations.

| Trench | Orientation | Size | Topsoil Depth | Subsoil Character | Modern Features | Significant Features | Artefacts |
|--------|--|--|------------------|--|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Northwest to Southeast | 1.5m by 10.6m 15.9m ² | 200 to 300mm | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003). | None | None | None |
| 2 | West-north- west to East- south-east | 1.5m by 16.2m 24.3m ² | 200 to 350mm | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003). | None | None | None |
| 3a | Southeast to Northwest | 1.5m by 9m 13.5m ² | 300 to 500mm | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003). | None | None | None |
| 3b | East-south-east to West-north- west | 1.5m by 7.7m 11.55m ² | 250 to 300mm | Compact pale yellow/orange slightly clayey silty sand (002) present until +3.3m before changing to compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003). | None | None | None |
| 4 | Northeast to Southwest | 1.5m by 12m 18m ² | 300mm | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003) present until +9m before changing to compact pale yellow/orange slightly clayey silty sand (002). | None | None | None |
| 5 | Southeast to Northwest | 1.5m by 5.2m 7.8m ² | 400 to 500mm | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay (003). | None | None | None |

Appendix 2: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site during the evaluation.

Context Register

| Context No. | Area/ Trench | Туре | Description | Interpretation |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|---|----------------|
| 001 | All | Topsoil | Compact mid brown silty clay with frequent roots and some small stone inclusions. | Topsoil |
| 002 | 3b, 4 | Subsoil | Compact pale yellow/orange slightly clayey silty sand with occasional small stone inclusions. | Subsoil |
| 003 | All | Subsoil | Compact mid pinky red sandy clay with frequent small stone inclusions. | Subsoil |

Photographic Register

| Image | Digital | Description | From | Date |
|-------|---------|---|------|----------|
| No. | | | | |
| 1 | 1 | General site shot | WNW | 03/12/09 |
| 2 | 2 | General site shot | WNW | 03/12/09 |
| 3 | 3 | Trench 1 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 4 | 4 | Trench 1 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 5 | 5 | General site shot | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 6 | 6 | General site shot | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 7 | 7 | General site shot (with greenhouse beside Trench 2) | N | 03/12/09 |
| 8 | 8 | General site shot (with greenhouse beside Trench 2) | | 03/12/09 |
| 9 | 9 | Trench 2 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 10 | 10 | Trench 2 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 11 | 11 | Trench 4 | SSW | 03/12/09 |

| Image | Digital | Description | From | Date |
|-------|---------|---------------------------------|------|----------|
| No. | | | | |
| 12 | 12 | Trench 4 | SSW | 03/12/09 |
| 13 | 13 | General site shot | NNE | 03/12/09 |
| 14 | 14 | General site shot | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 15 | 15 | General site shot | SE | 03/12/09 |
| 16 | 16 | General site shot | SSE | 03/12/09 |
| 17 | 17 | General site shot | E | 03/12/09 |
| 18 | 18 | General site shot | E | 03/12/09 |
| 19 | 19 | General site shot | NNW | 03/12/09 |
| 20 | 20 | Shot of field to NE of site | SW | 03/12/09 |
| 21 | 21 | Working shot | - | 03/12/09 |
| 22 | 22 | Working shot | - | 03/12/09 |
| 23 | 23 | Trench 5 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 24 | 24 | Trench 5 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 25 | 25 | Trench 3b | W | 03/12/09 |
| 26 | 26 | Trench 3b | W | 03/12/09 |
| 27 | 27 | Working shot | - | 03/12/09 |
| 28 | 28 | Working shot | - | 03/12/09 |
| 29 | 29 | Trench 3a | SE | 03/12/09 |
| 30 | 30 | Trench 3a | SE | 03/12/09 |
| 31 | 31 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 2 | SW | 03/12/09 |
| 32 | 32 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 2 | SW | 03/12/09 |
| 33 | 33 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 2 | SW | 03/12/09 |
| 34 | 34 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 4 | NW | 03/12/09 |
| 35 | 35 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 4 | NW | 03/12/09 |

| Image No. | Digital | Description | From | Date |
|--------------|---------|---------------------------------|------|----------|
| 36 | 36 | Engineer test pitting, Trench 5 | NE | 03/12/09 |
| 37 | 37 | General site shot (post ex) | WSW | 03/12/09 |
| 38 | 38 | General site shot (post ex) | WNW | 03/12/09 |
| 39 | 39 | General site shot (post ex) | ESE | 03/12/09 |
| 40 | 40 | General site shot (post ex) | SE | 03/12/09 |
| 41 | 41 | General site shot (post ex) | E | 03/12/09 |
| 42 | 42 | General site shot (post ex) | SE | 03/12/09 |
| 43 | 43 | General site shot (post ex) | ENE | 03/12/09 |
| 44 | 44 | Shot of backfilling of trenches | ESE | 03/12/09 |
| 45 | 45 | Shot of backfilling of trenches | ESE | 03/12/09 |
| 46 | 46 | Shot of backfilling of trenches | SE | 03/12/09 |

Drawing Register

| Drawing No. | Sheet No. | Area/ Trench | Drawing Type | Scale | Description | Drawer | Date |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 1 | 5 | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 5 | CW | 03/12/09 |
| 2 | 1 | 3b | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 3b | CW | 03/12/09 |
| 3 | 1 | 3a | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 3a | CW | 03/12/09 |
| 4 | 1 | 4 | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 4 | CW | 03/12/09 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 2 | CW | 03/12/09 |
| 6 | 1 | 1 | Plan | 1:100 | Plan of Trench 1 | CW | 03/12/09 |

Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

| LOCAL AUTHORITY: | Perth and Kinross |
|---|---|
| PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME: | Greenacre, Campmuir |
| PROJECT CODE: | RA09030 |
| PARISH: | Kettins |
| NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR: | Claire Williamson |
| NAME OF ORGANISATION: | Rathmell Archaeology Limited |
| TYPE(S) OF PROJECT: | Evaluation |
| NMRS NO(S): | None |
| SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S): | None |
| SIGNIFICANT FINDS: | None |
| NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures) | NO 21872 37796 |
| START DATE (this season) | 3 rd December 2009 |
| END DATE (this season) | 3 rd December 2009 |
| PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.) | None |
| MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields) | An archaeological evaluation was carried out in respect to the proposed residential development on Greenacre, Campmuir (NO 21872 37796). The archaeological works were designed to inform the appropriateness of granting planning consent and inform the development of any appropriate mitigation of impact on archaeological remains should they be present within the development area. |
| | The archaeological evaluation works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other that that which related to twentieth century use of the site. No remains of the linear earthwork visible on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey were present, any remains appearing to have been removed in modern times during clearance of the area for landscaping. |
| PROPOSED FUTURE WORK: | None |
| CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS: | None |
| SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY: | Mr Jason Taylor |
| ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR: | Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk |
| ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited) | Report to Perth and Kinross Trust and archive to National Monuments Record of Scotland. |

Contact Details

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