

Lidl Perth, Crieff Road, Perth and Kinross Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

AOC Project No: 26271

8th February 2022



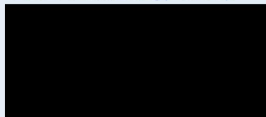
Lidl Perth, Crief Road, Perth and Kinross: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

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National Grid Reference (NGR):	NO 09245 24968 (centre)
AOC Project No:	26271
OASIS Entry No:	aocarcha1- 435962
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Date of Fieldwork:	7th February 2022
Date of Report:	8th February 2022

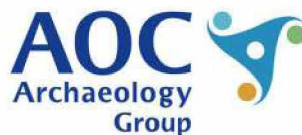
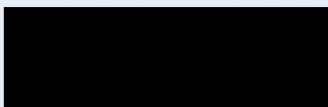
This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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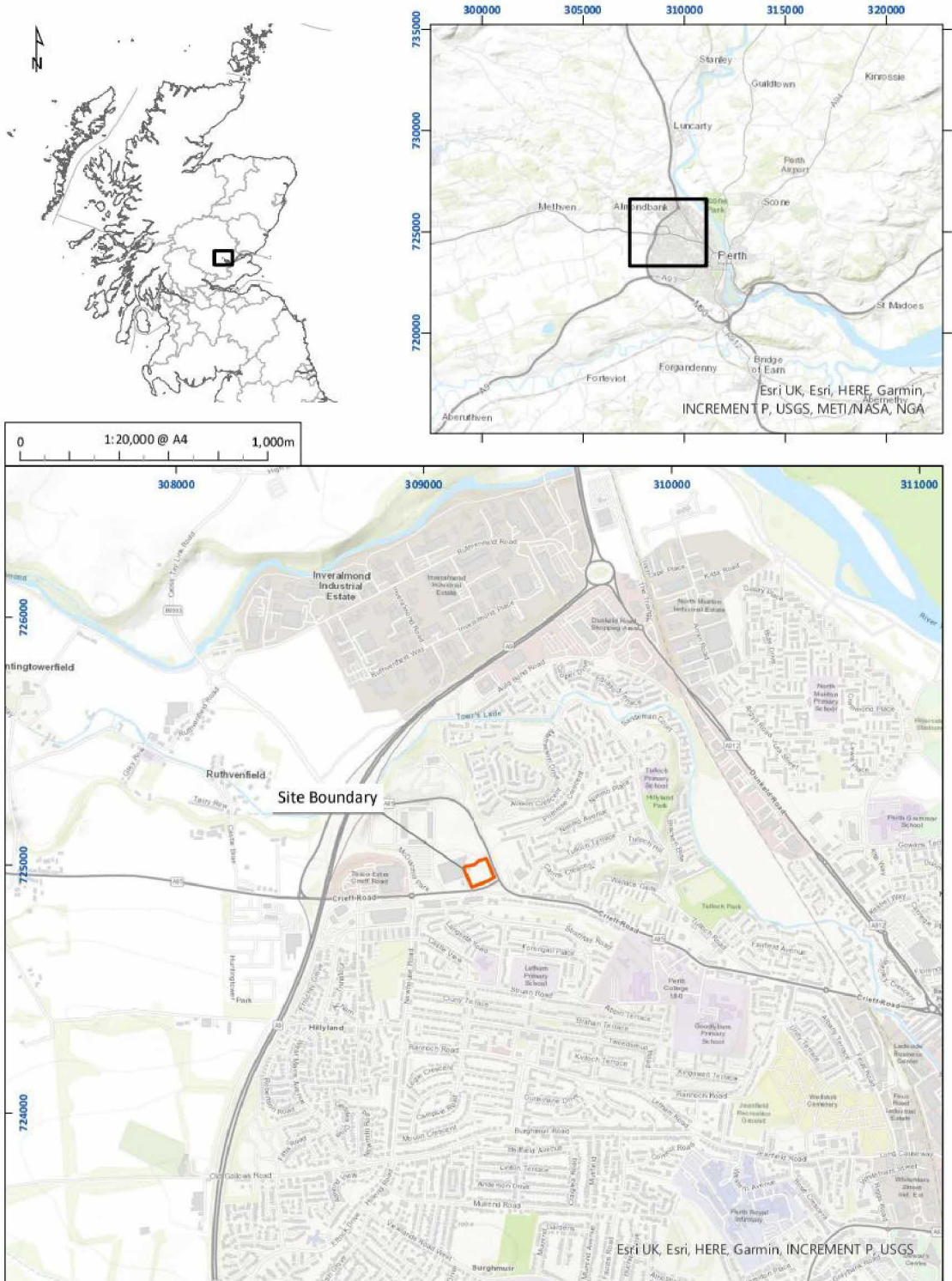


Figure 1: Site location plan

01/26217/DSR/01/01



Figure 2: Trench location plan

01/26217/DSR/02/01

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Summary

AOC Archaeology was commissioned by Lidl Great Britain to carry out an archaeological evaluation off Crieff Road, Perth, Perth and Kinross in advance of a proposed commercial development.

Due to on-site restrictions including mature trees, and possibly live services, 400 linear meters was excavated. The evaluation revealed a uniform soil matrix across the site.

The site had undergone agricultural improvement in the form of rubble and ceramic field drains as well as a stone lined, rubble filled culvert.

No archaeologically significant finds or features were discovered. No further work is considered necessary.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by Lidl Great Britain for the proposed construction of a new commercial development off Crieff Road, Perth (NGR: NO 09245 24968).
- 1.1.2 The need for and scope of the archaeological works was determined by Perth and Kinross Council who are advised on archaeological matters by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, PKHT. PKHT requested that a programme of evaluation trenching should be undertaken across the development area as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (AOC 2022).
- 1.1.3 The programme of archaeological works was in keeping with the policies outlined in Scottish Planning Policy (2014) and PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology (2011) in order to record the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may have been present within the development area.

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The development area lies within a mixed residential area on the western edge of Perth. The site is primarily greenfield with the proposed development covering an area of some 0.8 ha centred on NO 09245 24968 (Figure 1). The western side of the Site is occupied by a number of buildings. The site is bounded by Crieff Road to the south and the A85 to the east. St Johnstone Football Club and associated playing fields lie to the north of the Site.

1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The remains of a 19th century circular horse-engine farmhouse (NO02SE 137) lies within the western boundary of the Site. Though this site has been demolished it is possible that foundations or related remains are within the area.
- 1.3.2 Two scheduled monuments lie within 1 km of the Site, to the west. Huntington Tower Castle (SM90164) is a pair of 15th-16th towers joined by a 17th century range. In the area around Huntington Tower Castle is a multi-period complex of cropmarks (SM3630) including a henge monument; dispersed pits; roundhouses; prehistoric enclosures; and a Roman / Medieval road.
- 1.3.3 Further cropmarks are also known directly north-east of the Site (NO02NE 49.01) indicating a possible enclosure.



Figure 3 Extract from Roy Map 1747-1755



Figure 4 Extract from OS Six Inch 1866



Figure 5 Extract from OS Twenty-Five Inch 1932

- 1.3.4 Historic map regression shows the Site to have remained largely undeveloped since the 18th century. Roy's Military Map of the Highlands (Figure 3) depicts the area of the Site as unenclosed farmland. Newton Farm on the west side of the development area first appears on the 1866 OS Six Inch (Figure 4). Newton Farm is noted on the Historic Environment Record (MPK7745) for the circular horse engine house, eventually incorporated into the existing steading or having been demolished by the 1900s. Little change occurred to the Site in the 20th century though with some alteration to field boundaries (Figure 5).
- 1.3.5 As an undeveloped greenfield site there existed the possibility that the development area contained hitherto unknown subsurface archaeological features or deposits.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were,
- i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the 0.8 ha proposed development area through a 10% field evaluation;
 - ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation strategy compliant with Scottish Planning Policy (2014) and Planning and Archaeology 2/2011 (2011), such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material in situ, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.
 - iii) to prepare a final 'Data Structure Report' and project archive.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The evaluation was undertaken by a 360 tracked excavator with a 2m wide bladed ditching bucket. All 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 and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures. All trenches were backfilled at the end of the project.
- 3.2 The WSI originally called for a 10% evaluation of 0.8ha, totalling some 420 linear metres of trenching. However, due to on-site restrictions, particularly the presence of mature trees, only 400 metres was excavated. Despite this good coverage was achieved.
- 3.3 As well as mature trees, two unmapped services were encountered, an electric and water service leading towards the now demolished cottage at Newton Farm (Figure 2). While presumed 'dead', this could not be fully verified and thus no trenching was conducted in the footprint of the cottage.

4 RESULTS

4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 7th February 2022 with weather conditions remaining favourable and archaeological visibility good. The various detailed data gathered is presented as a series of appendices:

- Appendix 1: Trench Record
- Appendix 2: Photographic Register
- Appendix 3: Context Register
- Appendix 4: Sample Register

4.2 The soil matrix was consistent across the site consisting of a mid-brown silty loam topsoil (depths of 0.25-0.35m), overlaying a colluvial deposit of light brown gravelly silt (depths of 0.3-0.4m) in the northern portion of site. The natural was comprised of a mid reddish-pink clayey silt, with occasional patches of pure clay and orange gravels. Occasional patches of bedrock were also encountered in several trenches.



Plate 1 Typical post-excavation view of trench

4.3 The site had clearly undergone significant agricultural improvement in the form of ceramic and rubble drains found throughout the trenches. Further to this a stone lined, rubble filled culvert was also encountered in Trenches 1 and 2 (Figure 2, Plate 2). The culvert was found at approximately 1.0m from ground surface and measured 2.0m (as exposed) x 0.75m x 0.25-0.35m on a SW-NE alignment.



Plate 2 Typical field drain



Plate 3 View of Culvert in Trench 2

4.4 No archaeologically significant finds or features were encountered.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 The evaluation has successfully determined that the site has gone through significant agricultural improvement in the form of field drainage, ranging from rubble drains to a stone culvert. No significant archaeological finds or features were noted in the remainder of the development area. Despite some limitations good coverage of the area was achieved, and therefore no further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will need confirmation by the Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust.

6 REFERENCES

AOC 2022 Lidl Perth, Crieff Road, Perth and Kinross: Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation, Unpublished Client Method Statement

Scottish Government 2014 Scottish Planning Policy (2014)

Scottish Government 2011 PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology

Cartographic references

1747-1755 Roy's Military Survey of Scotland

1866 Ordnance Survey Six Inch Perthshire Sheet XCVII

1932 Ordnance Survey Twenty Five Inch Perth and Clackmannanshire XCVII.4

LIDL PERTH, CRIEFF ROAD, PERTH AND KINROSS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION: DATA STRUCTURE
REPORT
APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	NE-SW
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m Subsoil – light brown silty gravel – 0.4m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains, stone culvert
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 2

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	NW-SE
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m Subsoil – light brown silty gravel – 0.4m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains, stone culvert
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 3

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	N-S
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m Subsoil – light brown silty gravel – 0.4m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 4

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	NE-SW
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.35m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 5

Dimensions	40 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	E-W
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 6

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	SE-NW
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Field drains
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 7

Dimensions	20 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	SE-NW
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 8

Dimensions	50 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	S-N
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

Trench 9

Dimensions	40 m by 2 m
Excavated Orientation	SE-NW
Soil Make-up	Topsoil – Mid brown silty loam – 0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Natural Subsoil	Mid pink clay rick silt with large sandstone blocks, occasional patches of sand and clay
Finds	None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital Images

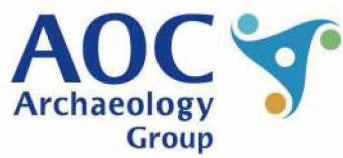
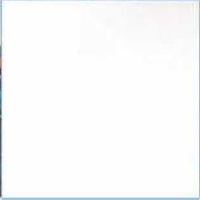
Frame	Description
1-14	Pre-excavation views of site
15	Post-excavation of Trench 1
16	Post-excavation of Trench 2
17	Post-excavation of Trench 3
18	E-facing section of Trench 3
19	View of electric service in Trench 3
20	Post-excavation of Trench 4
21	Post -excavation of Trench 5
22	Post-excavation of Trench 6
23	Post-excavation of Trench 7
24	Post-excavation of Trench 8
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28	Post-excavation of Trench 1
29-30	View of bedrock in Trench 6
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33-34	Views of culvert in Trench 2
35	Depth of culvert in Trench 2
36-39	Views of culvert in Trench 2
40	View of Trench 1
41-42	Views of culvert in Trench 1
43	Depth of culvert in Trench 1
45-51	Views of culvert in Trench 1
52-53	Views of cottage area
54-56	General shots
57-87	Post-excavation views of site

APPENDIX 3: Context Descriptions

Context	Description
001	Mid brown silty loam Topsoil
003	Light brown silty gravel Subsoil
002	Mid pink clay rich silt with patches of mid yellow grey sand Natural
1001	Stone lined, rubble filled culvert. Base slabbed. 2.0m x 0.75m as exposed. SW-NE alignment. Culvert
2001	Stone lined, rubble filled culvert. Base slabbed. 2.0m x 0.75m as exposed. SW-NE alignment. Culvert

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth and Kinross Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Lidl Perth, Crieff Road
PROJECT CODE:	26271
PARISH:	Perth
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)	NO 09245 24968
START DATE (this season)	7 th February 2022
END DATE (this season)	7 th February 2022
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology was commissioned by Lidl Great Britain to carry out an archaeological evaluation off Crieff Road, Perth, Perth and Kinross in advance of a proposed commercial development.</p> <p>Due to on-site restrictions including mature trees, and possibly live services, 400 linear meters was excavated. The evaluation revealed a uniform soil matrix across the site.</p> <p>The site had undergone agricultural improvement in the form of rubble and ceramic field drains as well as a stone lined, rubble filled culvert.</p> <p>No archaeologically significant finds or features were discovered. No further work is considered necessary.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Lidle Great Britain
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarcaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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