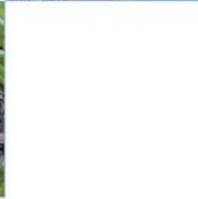


Lookers Audi Workshop, Craig Leith Road, Stirling Metal Detecting Survey Data Structure Report

AOC 23052

Planning Ref No. 14/00222/FUL

25th September 2015



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Looker's Auid, Stirling: Archaeological Metal Detecting Survey Report

On Behalf of:	Taylor Design Architects Ltd. 30 Manchester Road Wimslow Cheshire SK9 1BG
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 80685 92235 (centre)
AOC Project No:	23052
Planning Application No:	14/00328/FUL/PM
Prepared by:	Yvonne Robertson
Date of Fieldwork:	25th September 2015
Date of Report:	25th September 2015

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

Author: Yvonne Robertson

Date: 25th September 2015

Approved by:

Date: 25th September 2015

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft

Date: 25th September 2015

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

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Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological metal detecting survey undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group prior to the development of an Audi Workshop (Planning Application No. 14/00222/FUL) at Plot 12, Craig Leith Road, Stirling (NGR: NS 81366 88189).

The metal detecting survey recovered no significant artefacts and only modern debris was detected.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development Background

1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Taylor Design Architects Ltd on behalf of their client in respect to a proposed development of an Audi Workshop at Plot 12, Craig Leith Road, Stirling (Planning Ref. No. 14/00222/FUL). The survey was conducted in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2014) and *Scottish Government Planning and Archaeology* (2/2011). The survey was designed to meet the requirements of Mr Murray Cook, Archaeology Officer and advisor to Stirling Council.

1.2 The condition also required an archaeological evaluation of the site. However, this could not be undertaken due to the presence of unmarked live services on site.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The proposed development is located at Plot 12, Craig Leith Road, Stirling NGR: NS 81366 88189 (see Figure 1). The current development area is currently wasteland bounded by roads, fence lines and buildings.

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 Currently the site consists of an area of waste ground, identified as Plot 12 of a twenty-five plot business park on Craig Leith Road, Stirling. The site is located at NGR NS 80685 92235 and covers an area some 6,235 m². Plot 11 to the east of the development area is an Imex Business Spaces development whilst Plot 13 to the west is as yet undeveloped. To the south Plot 12 backs on to established arable fields and to the north on the opposite side of Craig Leith Road is Plot 18 which is also undeveloped.

1.3.2 The development area falls within the area demarcated as the 'Battle of Bannockburn' as designated by Historic Scotland in their Inventory of Historic Battlefields in Scotland. This part of the battlefield lies to the west of the edge of the English army overnight camp, beyond the Pelstream Burn. The development area falls within an area that may have seen hand to hand fighting as the English troops retreated towards Stirling Castle. As such the development area may contain artefacts associated with the battle. An old ditch crossing the northeast corner of the development area, visible in aerial photographs from the mid 20th century, may date to this period or earlier and as such may also contain artefacts associated with the battle.

1.3.3 Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland does list any known sites as existing within the site boundaries or the immediate locale. The closest sites listed are primarily associated with coal mining such as the Polmaise Colliery (NMRS No. NS89SW 44).

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The proposed objectives of the Metal Detecting Survey were to:

- i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area through targeted evaluation trenching;

- ii)* to conduct a metal detecting survey during the evaluation trenching of the development area;
- iii)* to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material in situ, should significant archaeological remains be encountered;
- iv)* to prepare a final Data Structure Report and project archive.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.2.1 The metal detector survey was undertaken on wasteland at Plot 12 to the south of Craig Leith Road, Stirling.
- 3.2.2 The metal detector survey was undertaken using a Whites M1 metal detector (primary detector and smaller unit for detailed location). The metal detecting area was walked in transects no greater than 2 m wide. This allowed for a degree of overlap between transects ensuring ground was not missed. The transects were marked out using ranging poles prior to the survey beginning.
- 3.2.3 Findspots were to be marked and surveyed by a GPS to allow accurate plotting of find densities and artefact types.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological work was conducted on 25th September 2015. Detecting conditions were good and full coverage of the area was achieved.
- 4.2 The development area appears to have been waste ground for some time and had previously contained large amounts of vegetation and contains some areas of made ground and underground services.
- 4.3 The ground was contaminated with wire, nails, tin cans, ring pulls and other detritus. All finds were modern and were not recovered.
- 4.4 The archaeological evaluation was attempted in June 2015, but cancelled on the identification of live unmarked services.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The development area has been wasteland for some time. Construction debris and modern dumping in areas of the site meant that no notable archaeological finds were detected. Unfortunately, no battlefield evidence was uncovered relating to the Battle of Bannockburn and it is unlikely that any such finds would be found through further metal detecting surveying of the area.

- 5.2 It is suggested that the area to the north-east of the site should be subject to a monitored topsoil strip to conform the presence of absence of the ditches previously record through aerial photography.

6 REFERENCES

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy, 2014*

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning & Archaeology, 2/2011*



Plate 1: General shot of development area from N



Plate 2: General shot of development area from S



Plate 3: Selection of modern finds

**Lookers Audi Workshop, Craig Leith Road
Stirling:
Archaeological Metal Detecting Survey
Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices

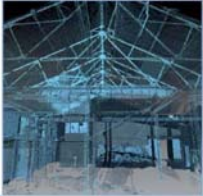
APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From	Date
1-10	General shots of the development area	Various	25/09/15
11	Selection of modern finds (not recovered)	-	25/09/15

APPENDIX 2: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Stirling Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Lookers Audi Workshop
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23052
PARISH:	St Ninians
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Yvonne Robertson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Metal Detecting Survey
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	15 th century Battlefield
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 80685 92235
START DATE (this season)	25 th September 2015
END DATE (this season)	25 th September 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological metal detecting survey was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group prior to the development of an Audi Workshop at Plot 12, Craig Leith Road, Stirling.</p> <p>The survey was required as the development area lies within the area demarcated as the 'Battle of Bannockburn' as designated by Historic Scotland in their Inventory of Historic Battlefields in Scotland. This part of the battlefield lies to the west of the edge of the English army overnight camp, beyond the Pelstream Burn. The development area falls within an area that may have seen hand to hand fighting as the English troops retreated towards Stirling Castle. As such the development area may contain artefacts associated with the battle. An old ditch crossing the northeast corner of the development area, visible in aerial photographs from the mid 20th century, may date to this period or earlier and as such may also contain artefacts associated with the battle.</p> <p>The metal detecting survey recovered no significant artefacts.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Taylor Design Architects Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: edinburgh@aacarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com