



Printing 2 Aberdeen City HER records where:

- the Period matches **Lower Palaeolithic (40,000 BC - 8000 BC)**

NJ80SE0573 - ABERDEEN WESTERN PERIPHERAL ROUTE

Main Details

Primary Reference	NJ80SE0573
Name	ABERDEEN WESTERN PERIPHERAL ROUTE
Details	<p>Trial trenching carried out by Headland Archaeology in 2013 following earlier geophysical survey (NJ80SE0565) ahead of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route recorded a concentration of archaeological features in this area. These comprised a circular pit in trench SL0418, two sub-oval pits in trench SL0419, all containing charcoal, and one of containing a chip of flint, a small pit in trench SL0424, a sub-rectangular pit in trench SL0423 which produced glass fragments, sherds of redware pottery, clay pipe and an iron nail. These features are all thought to be post-medieval in date. Further excavation was carried out by Headland Archaeology in 2014. A total of 190 features were recorded, concentrated at the foot of the steep rise on the edge of the river terrace overlooking the floodplain. Of Mesolithic date was a patchy lithics scatter across much of the southwestern part of the site, with 30 large pits mainly to the northwest of the scatter, and a small number of hearths, pits and postholes that likely pre- or post-date the scatter. Over 11,000 lithics were recovered, the majority dating to the Mesolithic, and mostly debitage but including cores and tools. Almost all were of flint, with a small number of quartz flakes/chips. Mesolithic artefacts include cores, flakes, microblades, microburins, blades, scrapers. These all point to a domestic or settlement site, although the function of the large pits is unclear. Two areas within the lithic scatter includes a small assemblage of lithic material that is thought to be of Late Upper Palaeolithic date, between 13,000 and 11,000 BC, and include large blades from opposed-platform cores, crested blades, rejuvenated flakes and a small number of blades and scrapers. The Early Neolithic is represented by a structure in the east of the site, a series of parallel post alignments, a number of hearths and pits. The lithic scatter also includes some pieces of Neolithic date, and carinated bowl fragments were found in several recent Mesolithic pits. A phase of Early Neolithic activity is represented by a concentration of hearths, partial remains of a structure, pits and postholes towards the southwestern part of the site. A spread of Middle to Later Neolithic features was also recorded, including a pits (one of which produced Impressed Ware pottery sherds) and possible hearths. Later features included post-medieval furrows, a small rectilinear enclosure and a small number of pits. A pit dated to 360-110 cal BC contained fragments of saddle quern, fragments of undiagnostic pottery and lithic debitage. Finds recovered from the excavation included three sherds of beaker, a complete beaker and two iron objects.</p>
Easting	385662
Northing	801095

NJ80SE0031 - MARYCULTER BRIDGE

Main Details

Primary Reference	NJ80SE0031
Name	MARYCULTER BRIDGE
Details	<p>Collection of circa 230 worked flints, found in 1973 near Maryculter Bridge (Dr Grieve's Site H), many of Mesolithic date. They were surface finds, found in a field to the west of the road and north of the River Dee, following ploughing and heavy rain. Dr Grieve presented his collection of flint tools to the Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums in 1975. The assemblage contains over 8,000 flints including knives, points, scrapers and microliths. Dr Grieve's collection demonstrates an extensive flint industry in the area. A total of 176 objects in the collection are flint cores, from which smaller pieces have been removed, such as blades and flakes by knapping. There are a large number of primary and secondary flakes, including some that were burnt. Further analysis was carried out in 2018: as well as the Mesolithic pieces, the collection includes two later Neolithic Levallois-like flakes, and several likely Late Upper Palaeolithic pieces.</p>
Easting	385716
Northing	800558

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