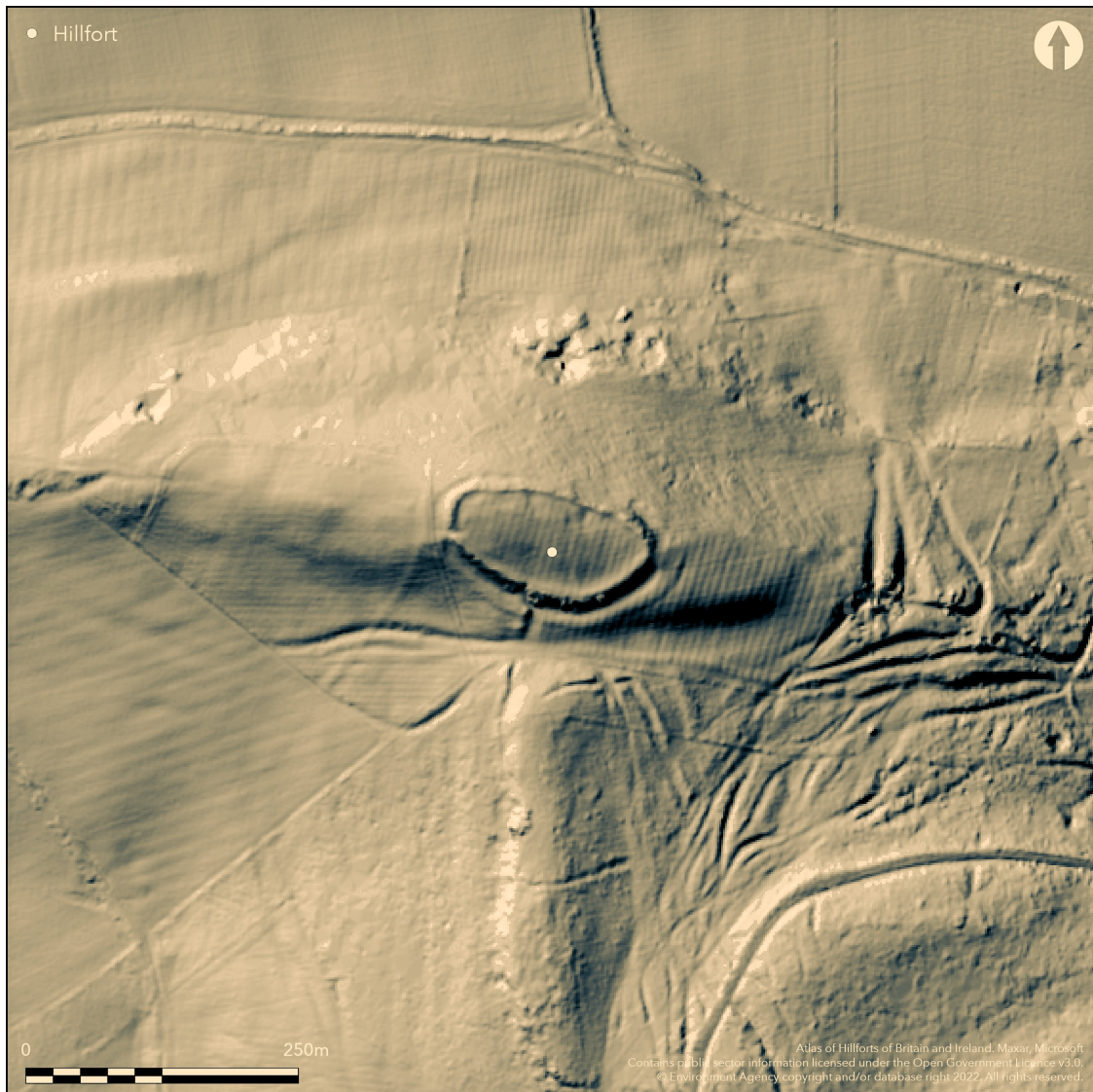


Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland

EN0595 Tosson Burgh, Northumberland (Burgh Hill Camp)



HER: Northumberland 2817 (None)

NMR: NU 00 SW 3 (4628)

SM: 1011267

NGR: NU 02346 00481

X: 402346 **Y:** 600481 (OSGB36)

Summary

Lying 450m to the W of Great Tosson, an oval univallate hillfort of approximately 0.43ha. The site lies at 228m OD on the summit of a knoll at the N end of a promontory. The Coquet valley surrounds the promontory to the N, E and W. The enclosure measures 100m E-W by 45m N-S with a single rampart which was possibly formed by scarping the natural slopes from the inside, evidenced by the presence of a slight internal ditch. An external ditch up to 10m wide is visible on the S and SE sides where the rampart survives to a height of 2m above the bottom of the ditch. An entrance lies in the S where there is

a break in the ditch and a staggered rampart with the SE terminal of the rampart curving slightly inwards. A holloway leads westwards from this entrance. A further 2.5m wide gap in the ramparts in the W and a causeway across the ditch and a lowering of the ramparts in the E might be further entrances. There is no visible evidence for internal occupation. Prehistoric finds are said to have been found on the hillside in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and a bronze axe was discovered within the enclosure by a workman in 1890, but no further information is available. Ploughing has occurred across the hillfort in the medieval or post medieval periods. The site is recorded on 1856-65 OS mapping and scheduled in 1932. It is undated but presumed iron Age.

Status

Citizen Science: X

Reliability of Data: Confirmed

Reliability of Interpretation: Confirmed

Location

X: -218697 **Y:** 7420008 (EPSG: 3857)

Longitude: -1.9645916850817604 **Latitude:** 55.298459754175894 (EPSG:4326)

Country: England

Current County or Unitary Authority: Northumberland

Historic County: Northumberland

Current Parish/Community/Council/Townland: Whitton and Tosson

Monument Condition

None

Condition:

Extant	✓
Cropmark	X
Likely Destroyed	X

Land Use

Ploughed in the past

Current Use:

Woodland	X
Commercial Forestry Plantation	X
Parkland	X
Pasture (Grazing)	✓
Arable	X
Scrub/Bracken	X
Bare Outcrop	X
Heather/Moorland	X
Heath	X
Built-up	X

Coastal Grassland	X
Other	X

Landscape

Hillfort Type

A contour fort lying at 228m OD on the summit of a knoll on a northerly facing promontory

Type:

Contour Fort	✓
Partial Contour Fort	X
Promontory Fort	X
Hillslope Fort	X
Level Terrain Fort	X
Marsh Fort	X
Multiple Enclosure Fort	X

Topographic Position

Position:

Hilltop	X
Coastal Promontory	X
Inland Promontory	✓
Valley Bottom	X
Knoll/Hillock/Outcrop	X
Ridge	X
Cliff/Plateau-edge/Scarp	X
Hillslope	X
Lowland	X
Spur	X

Dominant Topographic Feature: Summit of a knoll

Aspect:

North	✓
Northeast	X
East	X
Southeast	X
South	X
Southwest	X
West	X
Northwest	X
Level	X

Altitude: 228.0m

Boundary

N/A

Dating Evidence

Undated, presumed Iron Age

Reliability: D - None

Principal Activity:

Pre 1200BC	✗
1200BC - 800BC	✓
800BC - 400BC	✓
400BC - AD50	✓
AD50 - AD400	✗
AD400 - AD 800	✗
Post AD800	✗
Unknown	✗

Other Activity:

Pre Hillfort: None

Post Hillfort: None

Evidence: No related records

Investigation History

Recorded on 1856-65 OS mapping. General reference in MacLauchlan (1867). Plan produced by Hedley (1892). Field investigations in 1957 and 1971. Scheduled

Investigations:

1st Identified Written Reference (1867):	None
Other (1892):	Plan (Hedley, 1892)
Other (1932):	Scheduled
Other (1957):	Field investigation
Other (1971):	Field investigation
1st Identified Map Depiction (None):	None

Interior Features

No internal features are known. Surface find of bronze axe. Interior cultivated in straight rigs

Water Source

Wells and a small stream lie to the E of the hillfort

Source:

None	✓
Spring	✗

- Stream *X*
- Pool *X*
- Flush *X*
- Well *X*
- Other *X*

Surface

None

Interior Features (Surface):

- No Known Features
- Round Stone Structures *X*
- Rectangular Stone Structures *X*
- Curvilinear Platforms *X*
- Other Roundhouse Evidence *X*
- Pits *X*
- Quarry Hollows *X*
- Other *X*

Excavation

None

Interior Features (Excavation):

- No Known Excavation
- Pits *X*
- Postholes *X*
- Roundhouses *X*
- Rectangular Structures *X*
- Roads/Tracks *X*
- Quarry Hollows *X*
- Other *X*
- Nothing Found *X*

Geophysics

None

Interior Features (Geophysics):

- No Known Geophysics
- Pits *X*
- Roundhouses *X*
- Rectangular Structures *X*
- Roads/Tracks *X*
- Quarry Hollows *X*
- Other *X*
- Nothing Found *X*

Finds

Surface find of bronze axe

Interior (Finds):

No Known Finds	X
Pottery	X
Metal	✓
Metalworking	X
Human Bones	X
Animal Bones	X
Lithics	X
Environmental	X
Other	X

Aerial

None

Interior Features (Aerial):

APs Not Checked	✓
None	X
Roundhouses	X
Rectangular Structures	X
Pits	X
Postholes	X
Roads/Tracks	X
Other	X

Entrances

Entrance in the S where there is a break in the ditch and a staggered rampart with the SE terminal of the rampart curving slightly inwards. Further 2.5m wide gap in the ramparts in the W with a causeway across the ditch, and a lowering of the ramparts in the E might be further entrances.

Total Number of Breaks Through Ramparts:

3: None

Number of Possible Original Entrances:

2: None

Guard Chambers: X

Chevaux de Frise: X

Entrances:

1. In-turned (South): SE terminal of the rampart curves slightly inwards
1. Over-lapping (South): None
2. Other Forms (East): Lowering of the ramparts only, but described in scheduling information as a possible entrance
3. Simple Gap (West): None

Enclosing Works

Oval enclosure 100m E-W by 45m N-S with a single rampart which was possibly formed by scarping the natural slopes from the inside, evidenced by the presence of a slight internal ditch. An external ditch up to 10m wide is visible on the most vulnerable S and SE sides where the rampart survives to a height of 2m above the bottom of the ditch.

Enclosed Area:

Area 1: 0.43ha.

Total: 0.43ha.

Total Footprint Area: Noneha.

Ramparts

None

Multi-period Enclosure System:

None

Ramparts Form a Continuous Circuit:

None

Number of Ramparts:

NE Quadrant: 1

SE Quadrant: 1

SW Quadrant: 1

NW Quadrant: 1

Total: 1

Morphology

Current Morphology:

Partial Univallate

Univallate

Partial Bivallate

Bivallate

Partial Multivallate

Multivallate

Unknown

Detailed Morphology:

Partial Univallate

Univallate

Partial Bivallate

Bivallate

Partial Multivallate

Multivallate

Surface Evidence

None

Enclosing Works (Surface):

None	X
Earthen Bank	✓
Stone Wall	X
Rubble	X
Wall-walk	X
Evidence of Timber	X
Vitrification	X
Other Burning	X
Palisade	X
Counter Scarp Bank	X
Berm	X
Unfinished	X
Other	X

Excavated Evidence

None

Enclosing Works (Excavation):

None	X
Earthen Bank	X
Stone Wall	X
Murus Duplex	X
Timber-framed	X
Timber-laced	X
Vitrification	X
Other Burning	X
Palisade	X
Counter Scarp Bank	X
Berm	X
Unfinished	X
No Known Excavation	✓
Other	X

Other

Gang Working:

X None

Ditches:

✓ Slight internal ditch possibly created by scarping the rampart from the inside

Number of Ditches: 2

Annex:

X None

References

Hedley, R.C. 1892. The Prehistoric Camps of Northumberland Archaeol Aeliana 2 ser 12 33-36

Hogg, A.H.A. 1947. A new list of the native sites of Northumberland. Proc Soc Antiq Newcastle (4th Series) 11, 167

Jobey, G.1965. Hillforts and Settlements in Northumberland. Archaeol Aeliana (4th Series) 43

MacLauchlan, H. 1867. Notes not included in the memoirs already published on Roman roads in Northumberland (Alnwick), 88

Links

Atlas of Hillforts:

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/40ccda26452f427a9f081506958e1d81/#data_s=id%3Aacf7b6cc651c4bc1a392992140d959ca-1cbc55d5d6c9413a8e28ea115b03f70f%3A575&widget_23=active_datasource_id:acf7b6cc651c4bc1a392992140d959ca,center:-218697%2C7420008%2C102100,scale:10000,rotation:0

Wikidata:

<https://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q31111582>

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