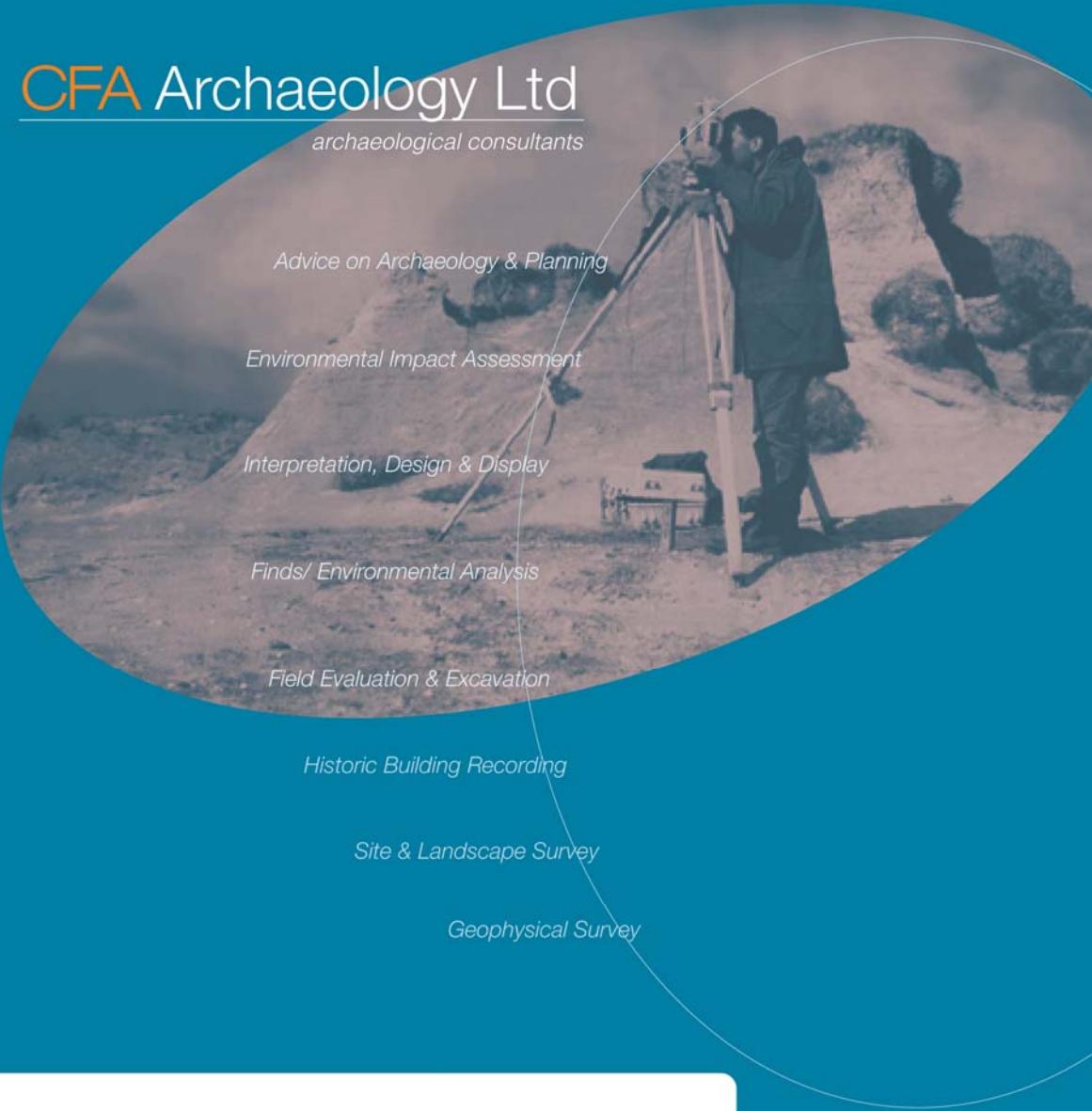


CFA Archaeology Ltd

archaeological consultants



New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire

Walkover Survey

**Data Structure Report
No. 3112**

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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standard operating procedures.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of a topographic survey undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd in December 2013 along the route of a proposed new road to Ballater Water Treatment Works (WTW), Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire (NGR NO 35500 97275). The work was commissioned by Scottish Water.

The walkover field survey was required as the first phase of a programme of archaeological works required to fulfil a planning condition (APP/2013/2999) applied to the construction of a new road serving Ballater WTW. The work complied with the terms of a WSI agreed with Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS).

1.2 Background

The development site lies partially within a site recorded as Glengarden field system (NMRS no. NO39NW 36 / SMR No. NO39MW0024). The archaeological features within this area are said to include cairns, banks, enclosures and a trackway. The recorded Glengarden field system lies within the western part of the field through which the road will be built.

1.3 Objectives

A topographic survey of the proposed route of the new road, plus a 20m buffer zone, was carried out in order to determine the nature, location and preservation of any archaeological features within that corridor.

The information gathered by this topographic survey will be used by ACAS to inform decisions on any mitigation which may be required as Phase 2 of the works.

2. METHODS

2.1 General

CFA follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance and Code of Conduct.

2.2 Walkover Survey

A topographic survey of the route of the proposed new road was conducted, in order to identify and record any surviving remains of upstanding features that might be affected by the proposed road.

Sites were recorded by photography, written records and surveyed using a DGPS (with an accuracy of $\pm 10\text{mm}$) , supplemented by a digital photographic record and written descriptions of all of the surviving features.

3. WALKOVER SURVEY

3.1 General

The survey area was rough grazing with long grass and some sparse tree cover.

The field survey identified ten sites of potential archaeological importance, as described in Table 1 below. Further features were visible to the north (but outwith the survey area) including field banks and a large clearance cairn. Field bank (2) extends further to the south, beyond the surveyed buffer zone. No attempt was made to record those features which lie outwith the survey area.

An informal track used by farm vehicles was present within the surveyed area, forming an area of disturbance, and this track is marked on Figure 1 (and the disturbance shown on Fig. 12).

Figure 1 depicts the cultural heritage sites identified during the survey of the proposed route of the new road. Illustrative images of the sites identified are presented in Figs. 2-11.

Table 1: Sites identified by walkover survey

Site No.	Site Name Type	Description
1	Field bank	<p>Field survey identified a field bank at the edge of a field on the edge of an escarpment where the ground drops steeply to a burn below to the north. The bank is orientated east to west and corresponds with a field boundary located on the modern Ordnance Survey map. The bank may have been truncated at the eastern end by an access to a waterworks.</p> <p>The bank has a maximum width of 5m and is upstanding to a height of 0.8m .</p>
2	Field bank	<p>Field survey identified a field bank with a width of between 2-4m and a maximum height of 0.3m was visible as a low spread of stones following an irregular course. The bank has been cut by a farmers track. A section exposed through the bank shows it to be constructed of large stones up to 0.5m long. South of the track, the bank is approximately 7m long and 0.6m high forming a more regular alignment down to the edge of a modern field.</p>
3	Enclosure (remains of)	<p>Field survey identified the remains of a wall 9m in length and aligned north-south and 6m in width aligned east-west. The wall was 1.5m thick and formed a rectangle and was attached to Field bank (2) at the southern end. More stones at the west end may either relate to another enclosure or may be tumble.</p>
4	Cairn (clearance?)	<p>Eight stones were visible on the ground surface forming a possible cairn feature aligned north-east to south-west. The feature measured c. 4m in length by 2m wide and 0.8m high and was situated on the side of an elevated area of ground on top of which were a number of banks</p>
5	Field bank	<p>Field survey identified field t-shaped bank measuring 3.5m wide and up to 0.7m high. At the eastern end of the feature there is the possible remains of a structure but owing to the very overgrown nature of the terrain it is difficult to be certain.</p>
6	Field bank (remains of)	<p>The vestigial remains of a possible field bank aligned north-south and visible as a low grass covered rise approximately 6m long and 1.5m high and standing to a maximum height of 0.3m.</p>

Site No.	Site Name Type	Description
7	Structure (possible)	Feature 7 may be the remains of a possible hut circle sub-circular in shape with an entrance on its south side. Its banks ate 1m wide and 0.3m high with an internal diameter of approximately 5m. The site is overgrown.
8	Clearance Cairn? (remains of)	Field survey identified the possible remains of a clearance cairn. Six stones were visible on the ground surface. The feature is roughly rectangular measuring 3m north-south and 1.5m east-west. The feature appears to be no more than a single course measuring 0.3m in height.
9	Artificially Flattened area	Field survey identified an area of ground that appeared to have been intentionally flattened below another area of lower ground of a former valley. The flat area drops of to between 1-4m at the south end. At the east end the ground rises to about 1m. No features were present on top of the higher 'platform' area.
10	Field banks (remains of)	Field survey identified a series of low banks measuring 2m wide and 0.4m high enclosing three roughly square features, the most northerly of which was difficult to trace owing to vehicular disturbance. The banks are stone-built and covered with turf. The site occupies a higher area of ground overlooking a possible burn channel situated to the east.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The walkover survey recorded ten sites of potential archaeological importance within the survey area.

One feature, Site 2, will be crossed by the proposed new road, adjacent to an area where it has been disturbed by vehicle tracks. A further feature, Site 7, is located on the edge of the proposed new road. Site 8 lies within 10m of the edge of the proposed new road.

A programme of mitigation works, if required, will be agreed in consultation with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Aberdeenshire Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement of the results, to be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, and an OASIS Scotland entry will be compiled following completion of all work relating to this project.

APPENDIX 1: Digital Photograph Register

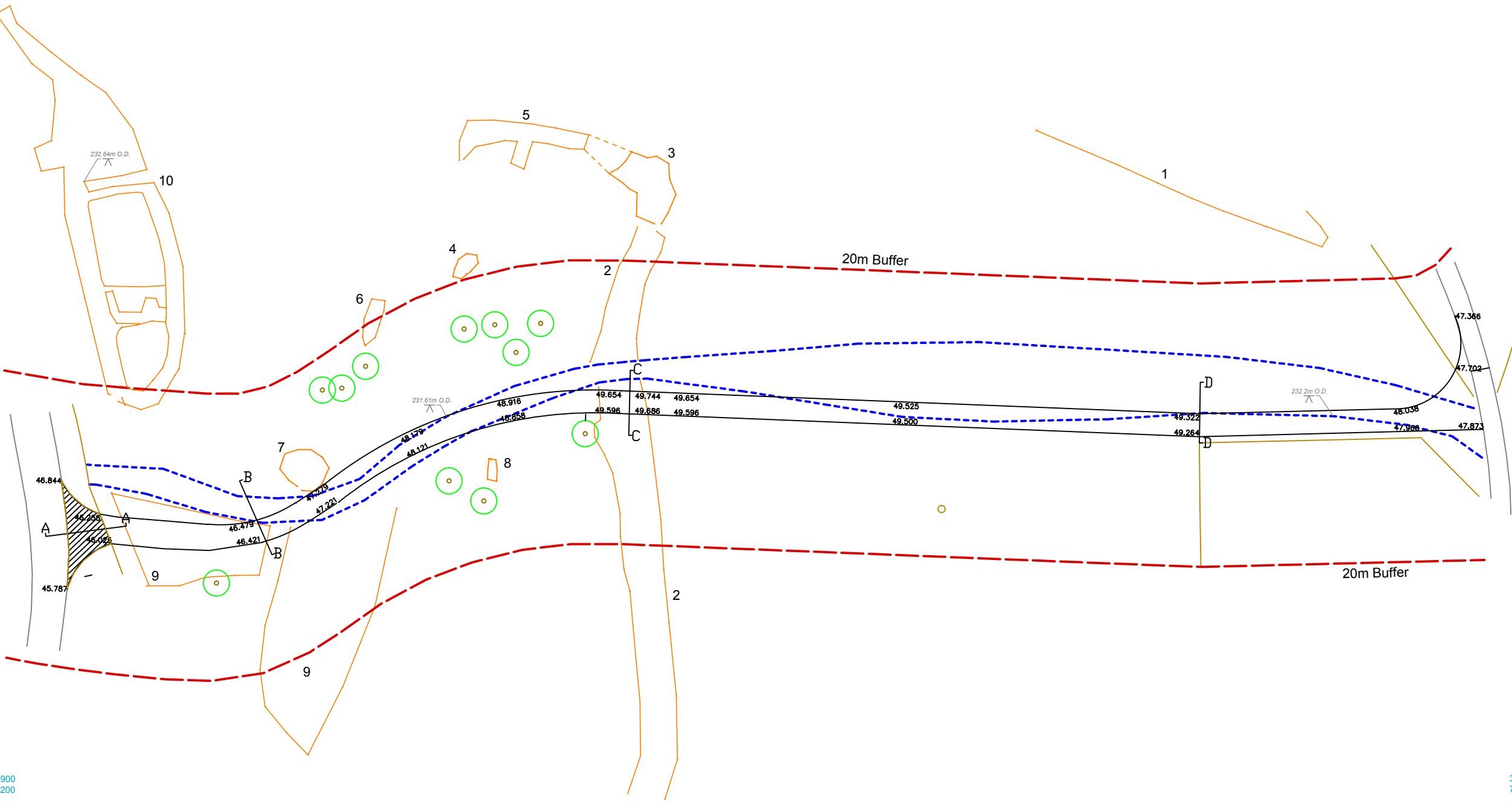
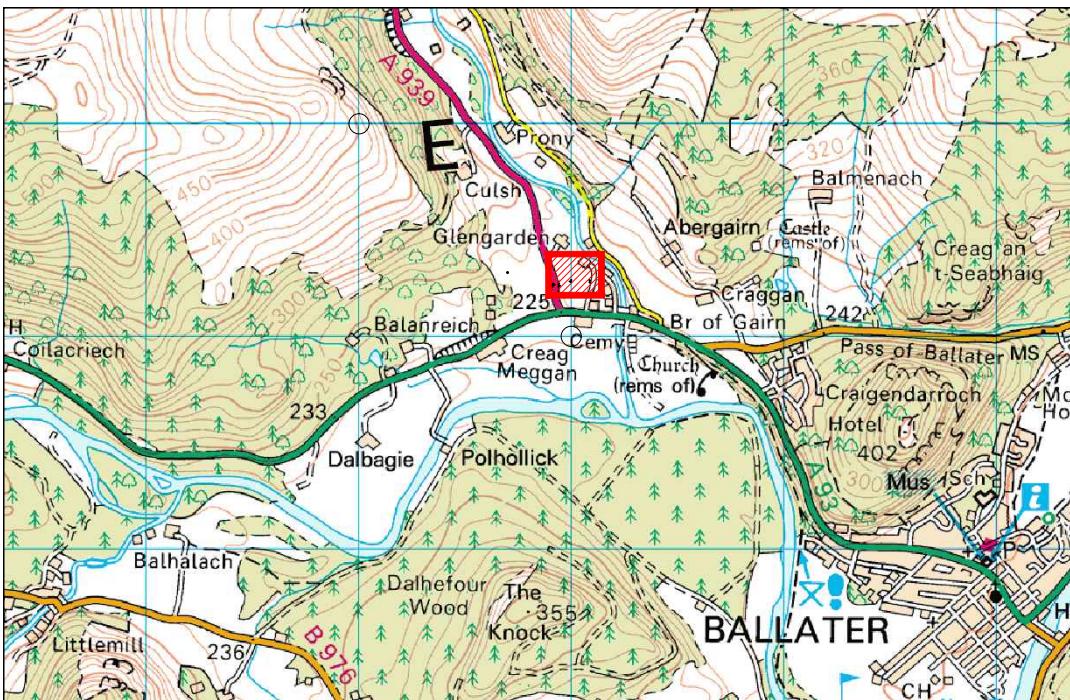
Shot No.	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Field bank, Feature 1, general shot.	E	Overcast
3	Field bank, Feature 2 looking north from the point where a modern track crosses the feature.	S	Overcast
4	Field bank, Feature 2 from the northern end.	N	Sunny
5	Enclosure (remains of), Feature 3 from the northern end	N	Sunny
6-7	Enclosure (remains of), Feature 3 from the southern end	S	Sunny
8	Cairn (possible), Feature 4, general shot	S	Overcast
9	Field bank, Feature 5	SW	Overcast
10	Field bank, Feature 6	S	Overcast
11	Structure/Hut circle, Feature 7	S	Sunny
12	Structure/Hut circle, Feature 7	W	Sunny
13-14	Bank, Feature 2 taken looking south where the feature is crossed by a modern track	N	Sunny
15	Clearance Cairn (possible), Feature 8	N	Sunny
16	Clearance Cairn (possible), Feature 8	W	Sunny
17-18	Artificially flattened area, Feature 9	NW	Sunny
19	Platform, Feature 9 from the base showing structure	S	Sunny
20	Platform, Feature 9 taken from the base	SW	Sunny
21	Enclosure features, Feature 10	S	Sunny
22	Enclosure features, Feature 10, section through bank	W	Sunny



Key:

- Area of disturbance resulting from modern farm track
- 20m Buffer
- Route of proposed new road
- Archaeological feature

335140
797330



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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A
Title: Archaeological sites identified by field survey

Project: New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire (APP/2013/2999) Archaeological Mitigation

Client: Scottish Water

Scale at A3:
1:700

Drawn by: KH Checked: HT Report No: 3112

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Fig. 2: Site 1 - Field bank



Fig. 3: Site 2 - Field bank



Fig. 4: Site 3 - Enclosure (remains of)



Fig. 5: Site 4 - Clearance cairn (possible)

Fig. No: 2-5	Revision: A	Project: New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire		CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
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Fig. 6: Site 5 - Field bank



Fig. 7: Site 7 - Structure / Hut Circle (possible)



Fig. 8: Site 8 - Clearance cairn (possible)



Fig. 9: Site 9 - Artificially flattened area

Fig. No:
6-9

Revision:
A

Project: New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works,
Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire

Drawn by:
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Checked:
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Client:
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Fig. 10: Site 10 - Enclosure features



Fig. 11: Site 10 - Enclosure features



Fig. 12: Existing farm track, at location where it crosses Site 2

Fig. No: 10-12	Revision: A	Project: New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire		CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ
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