

**Leys of Dun  
Archaeological Watching Brief  
During Construction of Wind Turbine  
MONTROSE  
MT28**



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**  
**LEYS OF DUN**  
**MONTROSE**

**MT28**

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*Illustration 1:* Site Location Plan

*Illustration 2:* Detailed Site Location Plan

*Illustration 3:* Plans and Sections

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***ABSTRACT***

*Greenfish Energy on behalf of their client John Sutcliffe commissioned Alder Archaeology to carry out a Watching Brief during the excavation of foundations for a small wind turbine at Leys of Dun Farm near Montrose. The work (site code MT28) was carried out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August in good weather conditions. The excavation revealed the remains of a farm track and pieces iron in the topsoil, but no significant archaeological remains were discovered.*

## **1 Background**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Greenfish Energy of behalf of their client John Sutcliffe commissioned Alder Archaeology to undertake an archaeological Watching Brief on the construction of a new wind turbine at Leys of Dun farm near the House of Dun, Montrose. The site of the new wind turbine is centred on NGR NO 65925 60380. The work (site code MT28) was undertaken on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August in good weather conditions. The requirement was to monitor excavation of the turbine's foundations.

The work was designed to satisfy the archaeological condition on development application reference 11/01130/FULL.

### **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The main aim of this investigation was to establish the presence/absence, date, character and quality of any archaeological remains surviving on the site of the new turbine.

### **1.3 Reporting**

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this watching brief. Copies will be sent to the client, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and the Angus Sites and Monuments Record.

### **1.4 Planning and Curatorial Issues**

This watching brief is designed to satisfy the outstanding archaeological condition on the planning consent for this development.

### **1.5 Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank John Sutcliffe and the staff from Greenfish Energy for their assistance and guidance during this project. The site was identified as of possible interest by Bruce Mann, as archaeological advisor to Angus Council.

## **2 Details of Work**

### **2.1 The Site (Illus 1)**

The site lies WSW of the main farm buildings at the end of a track and next to a gate which provides access into a large field SW of the farm.

### **2.2 Archaeological Potential**

Coins of unknown date and a barbed and tanged flint arrowhead have previously been found close to the farm. The arrowhead, found near West Leys of Dun is evidence of Neolithic presence in the region. The coins may relate to Medieval and Post-medieval remains located around the House of Dun.

### **2.3 Archaeological Method**

Topsoil stripping and excavation was monitored by a professional archaeologist. Plans and sections at an appropriate scale were drawn and detailed notes taken on the character of archaeological deposits. The site was also recorded photographically using a digital SLR. Given the potential for coins on this site, a metal detector was used to scan the footprint of the foundation trench prior to deep excavations.

### **2.4 Results of Investigations**

Metal detecting in the upper topsoil layer revealed a variety of 19<sup>th</sup> century to modern ferrous finds including nails, a bolt and pieces of wire fencing. These finds relate to farm machinery and equipment being driven along the track. None of the finds were kept as they had little significance.

The excavation of the foundation trench revealed a section through the track. A cobble layer (03) represented rough metalling presumably to fill in puddles and pot holes. A dark organic silty mud had formed in places at the base of the track. This was presumably caused by water having filled up depressions. This layer was particularly noticeable near the gate (see W section, illustration 3). A very small feature was found dug or pressed into the natural in the E section of the foundation trench. This was interpreted as a rut created by farm vehicles.

## **3 Conclusions and Recommendations**

The archaeological monitoring of the foundation trench did not reveal any significant archaeological remains. There are no recommendations for further work relating to this development.

## **4 Bibliography**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map
- Planning Approval for 11/01130/FULL
- The NMRS and Angus Sites and Monuments Record

## Appendix 1 Context Register

<i>No:</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Phase</i>
01	Topsoil, a dark brown humic silty loam, very light in weight and free draining. Occasional cobbles and small stones (subrounded) 5-15cm dia.	-
02	Subsoil, a brown sandy silt slightly lighter in hue than the topsoil. <5cm thick. Not visible across whole of excavation.	Modern
03	A layer of compacted cobbles (rounded to sub-rounded) 3-18cm dia under the topsoil above (04).	Modern
04	A dark humic silty layer below the topsoil and the cobble layer (03). Thickness varied between 2 and 5cm.	Modern
05	A small feature, probably a vehicle rut cut/pressed into the natural below the topsoil.	Modern
06	Cut for 05.	Modern
NAT	A bright orangy-grey sandy silt with occasional small to large sub-rounded stones and larger boulders.	Glacial

## Appendix 2 Photographic Register

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
DSC_0001-2	Pre-excavation shots	ENE
DSC_0003-4	Removing the turf	ENE
DSC_0005	Removing the turf	SE
DSC_0006	Measuring out the foundation trench (this surface was metal detected)	SE
DSC_0007-9	Excavation of the foundation trench	SE
DSC_0010-11	Shots of the track layer (03) in section	E
DSC_0012	The N section of the foundation trench	N
DSC_0013	The W section of the foundation trench	W
DSC_0029	The S section of the foundation trench	S
DSC_0030-1	Close up of the S section of the foundation trench	S
DSC_0032	The N side of the E elevation of the foundation trench	E
DSC_0033	The S side of the E elevation of the foundation trench	E
DSC_0034	Close up of feature (05), the possible rut.	E

## Appendix 3 Drawing Register

<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	Plan of trench and sections.	1:50

## Appendix 4 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Angus Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Leys of Dun
PROJECT CODE:	MT28
PARISH:	Dun
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Barton, T
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Alder Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NO66SE 6; NO66SE 7
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Track
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	Site centred on NO65925 60380
START DATE	02-08-12
END DATE	02-08-12
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Greenfish Energy on behalf of their client John Sutcliffe commissioned Alder Archaeology to carry out a Watching Brief during the excavation of foundations for a small wind turbine at Leys of Dun Farm near Montrose. The work (site code MT28) was carried out on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of August in good weather conditions. The excavation revealed the remains of a farm track and pieces iron in the topsoil, but no significant archaeological remains were discovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Greenfish Energy on behalf of their client John Sutcliffe
CAPTIONS FOR ILLUSTRS	-
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Alder Archaeology Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended)	NMRS
EMAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk">Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk</a>



## Appendix 5 Standard Terms of Reference for all Fieldwork

### 5.1 Recording Methodology

Alder Archaeology employs a Single Context Recording System that allows full cross-referencing of stratigraphy, finds and environmental samples, as well as site-wide phasing. All features will be planned at scale 1:20, and sections drawn at scale 1:10. Sections and profiles will be drawn and all features will be photographed with metric scale included. Environmental samples will be taken from archaeologically significant contexts, if the analysis of these samples would aid significantly in the interpretation of any features identified.

### 5.2 Human Remains

If human remains are encountered they will be left in situ and the local police will be informed. If removal is required this will take place in compliance with Historic Scotland's Policy Paper *The Treatment of Human Remains in Archaeology*.

### 5.3 Products and Reporting

A Data Structure Report will normally be prepared within a period agreed within the Written Scheme of Investigation/ Project Design, after the completion of the fieldwork. This forms the basic level of reporting. Further reporting may be required on the basis of discoveries made during excavations.

A copy of the report and the project archive will be deposited in the NMRS. Further copies will be sent to the client, LAAO and others, as appropriate.

### 5.4 Artefacts

Finds of objects will be subject to the Scots Laws of Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia*. We will report such finds, if recovered, with supporting documentation to the Secretariat of the Treasure Trove Panel for disposal to the appropriate museum.

### 5.5 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

A brief summary of the results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*.

### 5.6 General Conditions and Health and Safety

We adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists.

Alder Archaeology Ltd has public liability insurance of £2,000,000. Details of this can be provided on request.

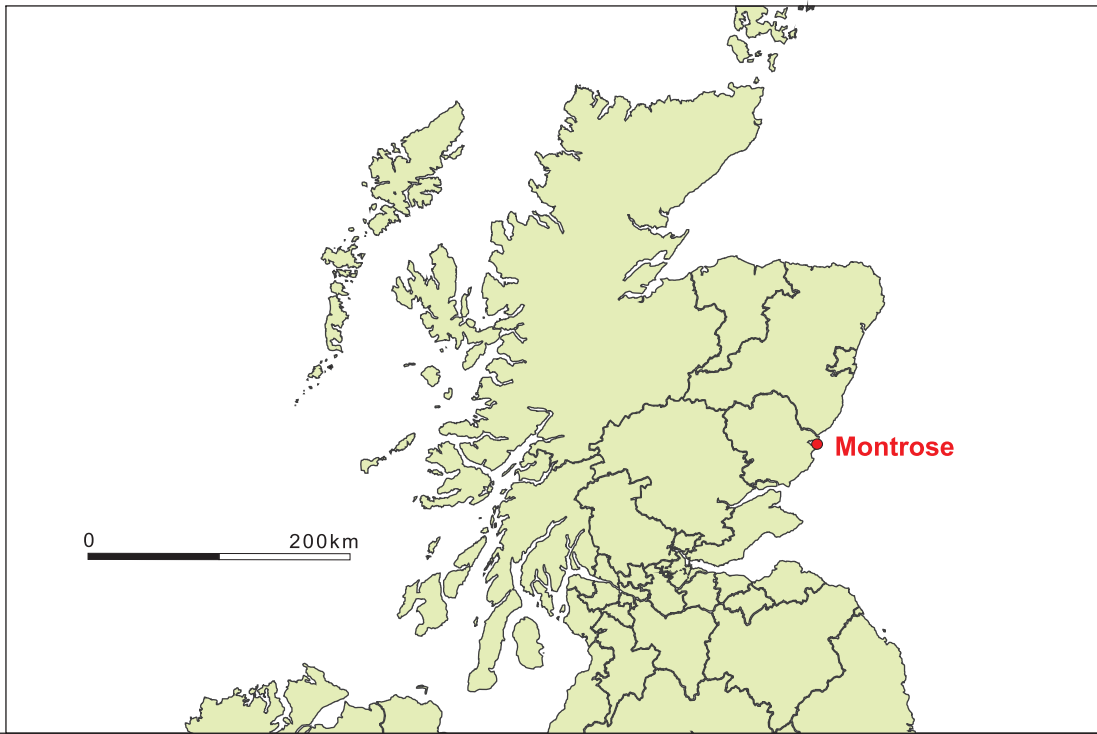
We operate a strict health and safety policy and conforms to the Health and Safety at Work Act. We undertakes Risk Assessments on all fieldwork carried out.

Alder Archaeology representatives will at all times wear protective footwear, high visibility clothing and other appropriate clothing. Hard hats will be worn if there is active plant on site or at all times if the site is deemed a hard hat area.

If lightly contaminated deposits are uncovered disposable boiler suits and gloves will be worn. A source of clean water will be made available for staff to clean hands with. If the health risk posed by site contamination is felt to be too high all further archaeological work will stop in that area.

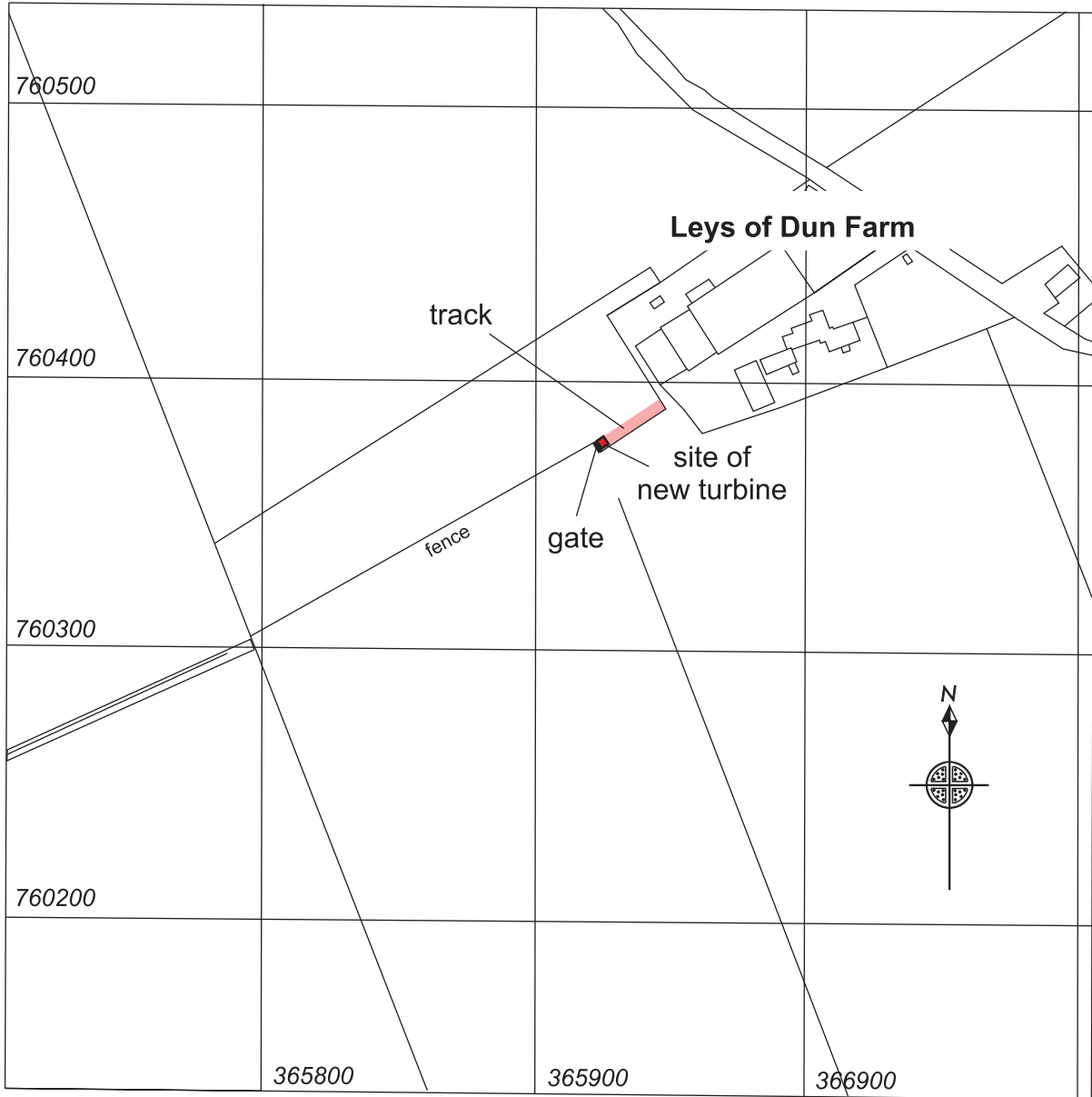
Illus 1

Site Location Plan



Illus 2

Detailed Site Location Plan



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Illus 3

Plan and Sections

