

Archaeological Evaluation
Cloichfoldich
Strathtay
PERTH AND KINROSS
AF15

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
CLOICHFOLDICH
STRATHTAY
PERTH AND KINROSS**

AF15

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Illustration 1: Site location plan

Illustration 2: Trenches location plan

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ABSTRACT

Mr Mark Jennison commissioned Alder Archaeology to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of a proposed housing development at Cloichfoldich, Strath Tay, near the Scheduled Monument of Ballinduin cairn and cup-marked stone (SM4318). Four trenches were excavated by machine under archaeological supervision. Nothing of archaeological significance was found. The work (Alder site code AF15) was undertaken on 8 August 2016 in mainly dry, sunny, breezy conditions.

1 Background

1.1 Introduction

Mr and Mrs Mark Jennison commissioned Alder Archaeology to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of a proposed housing development on land 50m north of The Old Mill of Cloichfoldich, Strathtay, Perth and Kinross. The proposed development area is a triangular corner of a field on a hillslope, at NGR NN 89478 53129. The work (site code AF15) was undertaken by two archaeologists on 8 August 2016 in mainly dry, sunny, but cool and breezy weather conditions with one shower in the afternoon. The requirement was to evaluate 6% of the available area, that is 122m².

The work was designed to satisfy the archaeological condition on development application references 15/00726/FLL and renewal of permission 12/01061/FLL and the Terms of Reference issued by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (Malone 2016).

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 within the development area.

1.3 Reporting

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this evaluation. Copies will be sent to the client, Historic Environment Scotland and Perth and Kinross Historic Environment Record.

1.4 Acknowledgements

Mr and Mrs Mark Jennison funded this evaluation. Richard Lyszkowski, formerly of the National Museums Scotland, identified the pupa in Trench 3.

2 Details of Work

2.1 The Site (Illus 1)

The proposed development area, about 2,027m², is a triangular corner of a field on a hillslope, bounded by farm tracks on the north-east and south and by the rest of the field on the west.

2.2 Archaeological Potential

The development site lies approximately 30m to the SW of a Scheduled Monument (SM4318). The monument is a barrow – a prehistoric burial monument - measuring 17.0m in diameter and 3.5m high. A cup marked stone which has at least 70 cups lies on the E side of the barrow. Prehistoric barrows are often found to be focal points in the landscape throughout prehistory and into the Pictish period, eg with contemporary and later burials taking place in their vicinity. As such, archaeological remains may have survived within the proposed development site.

2.3 Archaeological Method

Four trenches, 15m by 2m, were dug by a Kubota mini digger under archaeological supervision and cleaned and recorded by hand. Trench 2 was not entered because of its depth.

2.4 Results of Investigations

Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned N/S (160° Mag) up the hillslope. It was 0.45m deep at the N end and 0.75m deep at the S end. Natural orange sand and gravel (0103) was overlain by a thick deposit of brown sandy silt (0102), which was under turf and topsoil (0101).

Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned approximately NE/SW (200° Mag) at the break of slope from a steep slope to the W and a gentle slope to the N and E. It was 1.6m deep at the N end and 1.55m deep at the S end. Natural sand and gravel (0203) underlay brown sandy silt (0202), which underlay turf and topsoil (0201).

Trench 3

Trench 3 was aligned approximately NW/SE (aligned 110° Mag) across the top of the hillslope. It was 0.60m deep on the N side and 0.30m deep on the S side at the NW end and 0.40m deep on the N side and 0.20m deep on the S side at the SE end. Above natural sand and gravel (0303) was brown sandy silt (0302) above which was turf and topsoil (0301).

Trench 4

Trench 4 was aligned E/W (275° Mag) across the hillslope towards the bottom of the hillslope where the steepness levelled out. It was 0.45m deep on the N side and 0.30m deep on the S side at the E end and 0.75m deep on the N side and 0.60m deep on the S side at the W end. Above natural sand and gravel (0403) was brown sandy silt (0402) which underlay turf and topsoil (0401).

3 Interpretation

Similar deposits were encountered in each of the trenches and can be easily interpreted. Natural glacial deposits of sand, gravel and stones were covered by brown sandy silt of varying depths, representing hillwash deposits, above which was turf and topsoil. Eighteenth or nineteenth pottery sherds and a clear glass milk bottle base indicate that the site had been manured for agriculture with domestic middens from nearby settlements in post-medieval times. The surprising depth of hillwash in Trench 2 may be due to its filling a natural hollow within the hillslope.

4 Conclusions and Recommendations

The hillslope, on which the proposed development will take place, probably rendered it unsuitable for any occupation until recent times when the site seems to have been used for agriculture in the 18th and 19th centuries. No evidence of any prehistoric or later settlement or occupation was found except for a few post-medieval sherds, a pipe stem, and a glass bottle base (not retained). No further archaeological work is recommended

for this site, although the final decision ultimately rests with Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, the archaeological advisers to Perth and Kinross Council.

5 Bibliography

Malone, S 2016 'Terms of Reference for Evaluation Land 50 Metres North of The Old Mill of Cloichfoldich, Strathtay', issued 5 July 2016.

Appendix 1 Context Register

<i>No:</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Description</i>
0101	Trench 1	Turf and dark brown topsoil, 0.10m thick at N end, 0.15m thick at S end
0102	Trench 1	Brown sandy silt with moderate small to large stone fragments; 0.25m thick at N end, 0.55m thick at S end
0103	Trench 1	Orange-brown sand with fine to coarse pebbles and frequent small to large stones with one large boulder
0201	Trench 2	as 0101, 0.15m thick
0202	Trench 2	as 0102; 1.45m thick at N end, 1.4m thick at S end
0203	Trench 2	as 0103
0301	Trench 3	as 0101, 0.15m thick
0302	Trench 3	as 0102, 0.30m thick
0303	Trench 3	as 0103
0401	Trench 4	as 0101, 0.15m thick
0402	Trench 4	as 0102, 0.30m thick on N side, 0.20m thick on S side at E end; 0.60m thick on N side and 0.50m thick on S side at W end
0403	Trench 4	as 0103

Appendix 2 Photographic Register

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
	01 Trench 1	
001	Preparing to open Trench 1	NNE
002 – 3	Preparing to open Trench 1	SSE
004	Beginning to open Trench 1	SSE
005	Beginning to open Trench 1	S
006	Modern glass base from topsoil	
007	Deturfing Trench 1	S
008 - 11	Stripping Trench 1	SSE

012	Subsoil exposed in Trench 1	SSW
013 – 35	Continuing Trench 1	S
036 – 7	Driving cattle along farm track.	SSE
038 – 9	Continuing Trench 1	S
040 – 2	Trench 1 complete. Scales 1m.	NNW
043 – 4	Trench 1 complete. Scales 1m.	SSE
	02 Trench 2	
045	Beginning to open Trench 2	SSW
046 – 7	Insect pupa of a cockchafer (<i>Melolontha hippocastani</i> or <i>Melolontha melolontha</i>) in topsoil	
048	Opening Trench 2	SSW
049 – 63	Opening Trench 2	SW
064 – 5	Continuing Trench 2	SSW
066 – 8	Continuing Trench 2	SW
069 – 72	Continuing Trench 2	SSW
073	Detail, blue glazed ceramic fragment in subsoil. (19 th cent?)	W
074 – 80	Continuing Trench 2	SW
081 – 99	Continuing Trench 2	SSW
100 – 102	Trench 2 complete. Scales 1m.	SSW
103 – 4	Trench 2 complete. Scales 1m.	NNE
	03 General	
105	General view from above site	SW
106	View from above site down towards Tay.	W
	04 Trench 3	
107	View from above site. Machine at W end of Trench 3. Trenches 1 and 2 in foreground, L and R.	SE

108	Machine at W end of Trench 3.	SE
109	Beginning Trench 3.	SSE
110 – 4	Stripping Trench 3. Stony sandy subsoil exposed.	SE
115	Detail, stony sandy subsoil, and topsoil in section.	NE
116 – 30	Continuing Trench 3.	SE
131, 131a	Detail of frog resting on spoil heap.	E
132 – 7	Continuing Trench 3.	SE
138	Trench 3 complete. Scales 1m.	SE
139 – 140	Trench 3 complete. Scales 1m. Trenches 1 and 2 in background, R and L.	NW
	05 Trench 4	
141	Beginning Trench 4. Trench 2 in background.	W
142 – 7	Continuing Trench 4	W
148 – 79	Continuing Trench 4. Note, camera is vertical, machine intentionally tilted to follow slope of ground.	W
180 – 1	Trench 4 completed. Scales 1m. Note, camera is vertical, slope of ground is real.	W
182	Trench 4 completed. Scales 1m. Note, camera is vertical, slope of ground is real.	E
	06 General	
183	General view from NW corner of site, showing all four trenches completed; 1, ahead, foreground; 3 ahead, background; 2, right foreground; 4, right background. Machine at site entrance, doing minor access works.	SE
184	View N from NW corner of site. Possible standing stone on skyline.	N
185 – 6	General view from NW corner of site, showing all four trenches completed; 1, ahead, foreground; 3 ahead, background; 2, right foreground; 4, right background. Machine at site entrance, doing minor access works.	SE
187	View N from NW corner of site. Possible standing stone on skyline.	N

Appendix 3 Drawing Register

<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	Notes on Trenches 1-4; sample section of Trench 3	1:10

Appendix 4 Finds Register

<i>Context</i>	<i>Material Type</i>	<i>Details</i>
0102	Pottery	1 rim sherd red earthenware plate, cream glaze on upper side, dark brown on lower side 1 sherd base and side of bowl/jug, white glaze on both sides
0102	Glass	Bottle base, stamped 'WF' and 'C.T.C'
0202	Pottery	1 china rim sherd, white glaze with blue flower pattern externally, traces of white glaze internally 1 red earthenware sherd, cream and brown pattern glaze on one surface
0302	Pottery	1 base sherd of saucer, white glaze both sides
0302	Clay pipe	1 mouth piece, unglazed
0402	Pottery	1 china plate base sherd, white glaze both sides 2 sherds earthenware, cream glazed on both sides

Finds not retained.

Appendix 5 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth and Kinross
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Cloichfoldich, Strathtay, evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AF15
PARISH:	Logierait
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	David Perry
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Alder Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	NN85SE 10
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Barrow, cup-marked stone
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NN 89478 53129
START DATE (this season)	8 August 2016
END DATE (this season)	8 August 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Alder Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an evaluation on the site of a proposed housing development at Cloichfoldich, Strathtay, near the Scheduled Monument of Ballinduin cairn and cup-marked stone (SM4318). Four trenches were excavated by machine under archaeological supervision. Nothing of archaeological significance was found.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr and Mrs Mark Jennison
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Alder Archaeology Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
EMAIL ADDRESS:	director@alderarchaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	HES (intended)

Appendix 6 Standard Terms of Reference for all Fieldwork

6.1 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.

6.2 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*.

6.3 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.

6.4 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.

6.5 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

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

6.6 General Conditions and Health and Safety

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

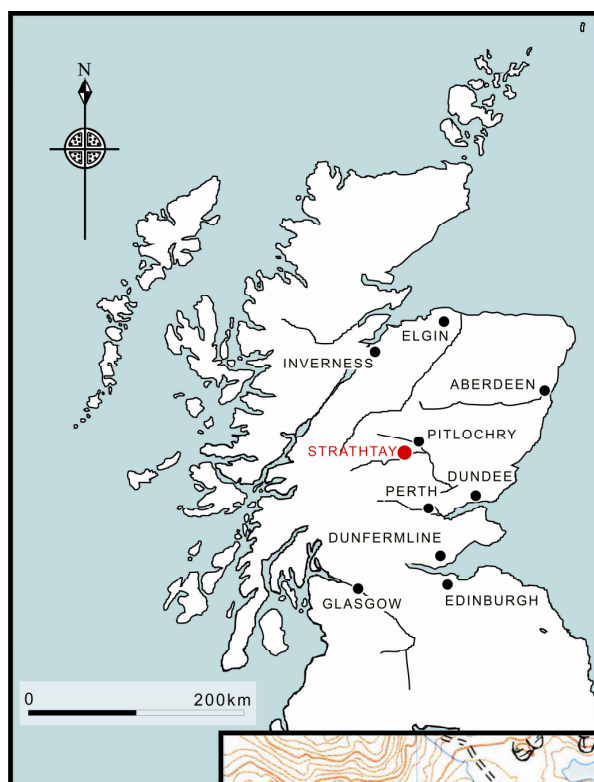
Alder Archaeology Ltd has public liability insurance of £2,000,000. Details of this can be provided on request.

We operate a strict health and safety policy that conforms to the Health and Safety at Work Act. We undertake 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.

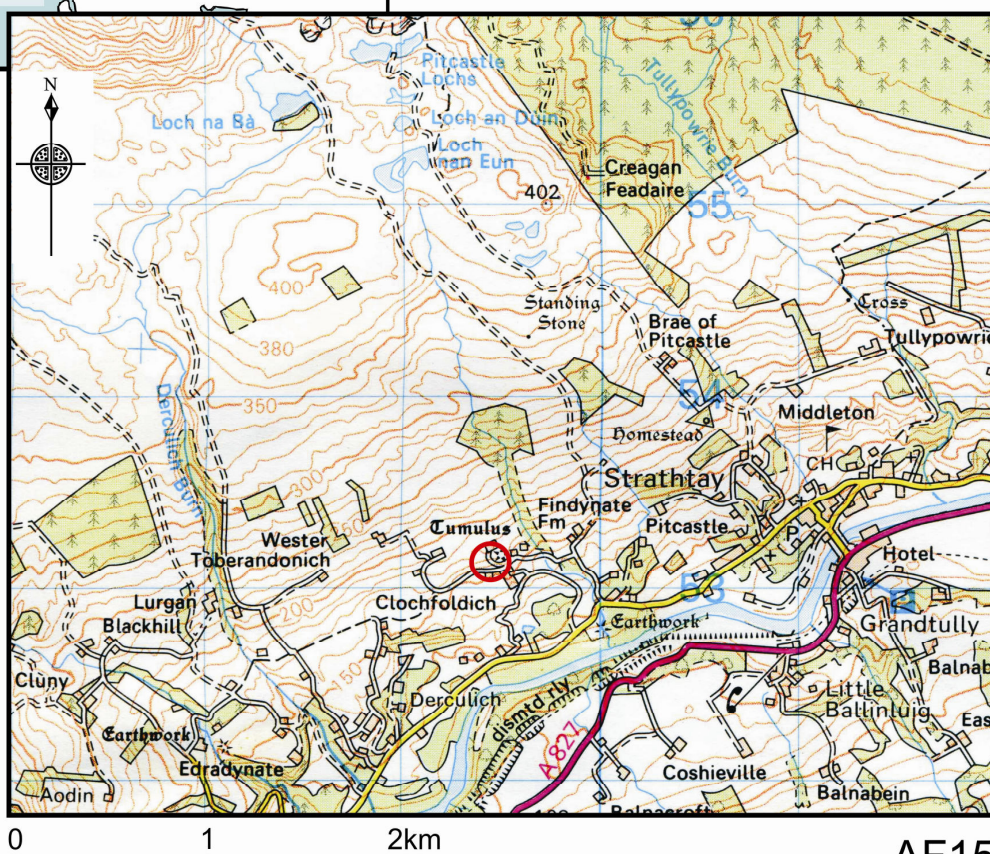
If lightly contaminated deposits are uncovered disposable boiler suits and gloves will be worn. A source of clean water will be made available for staff to clean hands with. If the health risk posed by site contamination is felt to be too high all further archaeological work will stop in that area.

Illus 1



CLOICHFOLDICH STRATHTAY, PERTH & KINROSS

Site Location Map



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Illus 2

Cloichfoldich Archaeological Evaluation

