

Burnhervie, Inverurie, AB51 5JA  
Report on soil strip for minimum offtake  
connection



Cameron Archaeology  
10 June 2011

# **Burnhervie, Inverurie, AB51 5JA**

## **Report on soil strip for minimum offtake connection**

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### **SUMMARY**

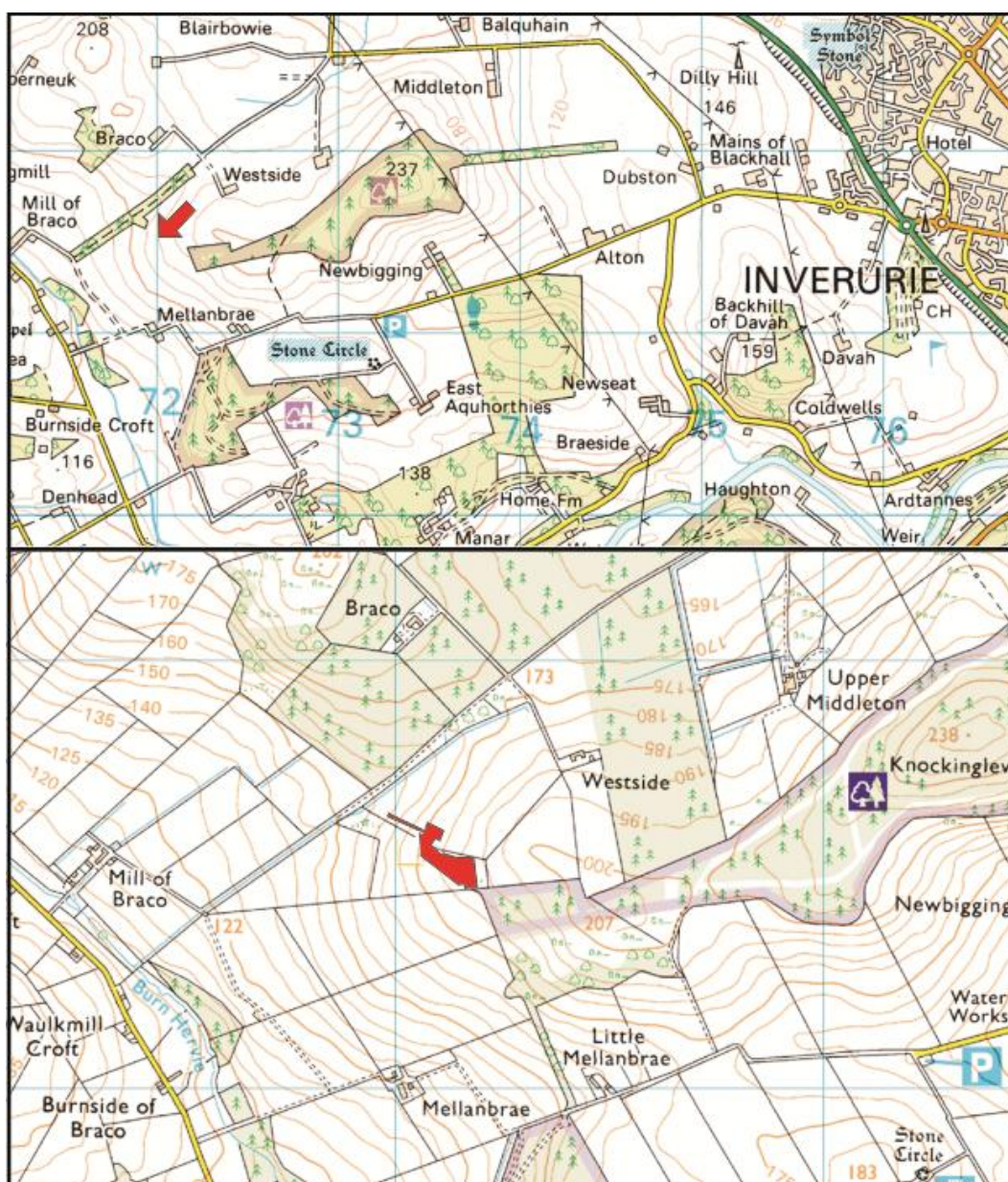
A watching brief was maintained at Burnhervie minimum offtake connection between 31 May and 7 June 2011. No significant archaeological remains were uncovered and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required at this site during the current development although the final decision remains with Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service.



## 1 INTRODUCTION

This method statement is for a watching brief of the soil strip for a minimum offtake connection at Burnhervie, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire. The site is in Inverurie parish, the NGR for the site is NJ 722 214 and the it lies at 180-185m OD. The work was commissioned by John Phillips, Fabricon Ltd on behalf of the client, National Grid.

The watching brief took place between 31 May and 7 June 2011 and was carried out in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) Planning Advice Note 42 (PAN 42) and Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), which state that archaeological remains should be regarded as part of the environment to be protected and managed.



Ill 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010).

- 2.1 There are no known archaeological sites within the development area. Several sites are known within the vicinity.
- 2.2 A mace was found at Mid Balquhain (NJ72SW 157) and was presented by Captain Hugh P Lumsden of Auchindoir in 1937. It is held in the National Museum of Scotland under accession number AH 204. An axehead was found at Blairbowie (NJ72SW 191); it is in Marischal Museum, Aberdeen (ABDUA: 19925).
- 2.3 Two quarries are known at Knockinglews and Upper Middleton.
- 2.4 Several farmsteads and crofts in the surrounding area include Upper Middleton, Little Mellanbrae, Mellanbrae, Cuthel, Braco, Westside and Burnside of Braco.





### 3 THE WATCHING BRIEF

A watching brief was maintained from 31 May to 7 June 2011 on an area approximately 9500m<sup>2</sup>. The area has been divided into Area 1 and 2 for the purposes of this report.

#### Area 1

This is the area north of drystone dyke (F1) and is a cultivated field with up to 0.2m of topsoil on clayey gravel natural subsoil. No features were recorded in this area.



Ill 3 Area 1 facing WNW

#### Feature F1

A drystone dyke was a maximum of 1m high and 0.6m wide at the base. It was removed in the area of the soil strip and will be reinstated after the work is completed.





III 4 Area 1 Feature F1 facing south



III 5 Area 1 NE end, facing SE



## Area 2

This area south of drystone wall F1 had been cleared of gorse prior to this watching brief. The soil was very shallow (up to 0.1m) and the subsoil as very disturbed by burnt and unburnt roots, dumps of stone and soil as well as two areas of deep plough marks (F2 and F3), probably dating to the 19th or 20th century. The area is shown partly tree covered on the First Edition Ordnance Survey



III 6 Area 2 west end facing NW





III 7 Area 2 plough marks (F2) extreme south of site, facing south



III 8 Area 2 deep plough marks (F3) north area, facing NE



A small number of finds from around the plough marks include fragments of china and small fragments of ceramic roof tile suggesting a 19th or early 20th-century date for these features.

#### **4 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required at this site; this is subject to advice from Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service.

#### **5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thanks to John Phillips, Tony Fearn and site staff, Fabricon; Bruce Mann, Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service.

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## APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS



DSCF0928



DSCF0929



DSCF0930



DSCF0931



DSCF0939



DSCF0940



DSCF0941



DSCF0942



DSCF0943



DSCF0944



DSCF0945



DSCF0946



DSCF0947



DSCF0948



DSCF0949



DSCF0950



DSCF0951



DSCF0952



DSCF0955



DSCF0956



DSCF0957



DSCF0958



DSCF0959



DSCF0960



DSCF0961



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DSCF0964



DSCF0965



DSCF0966



DSCF0967



DSCF0968



DSCF0969

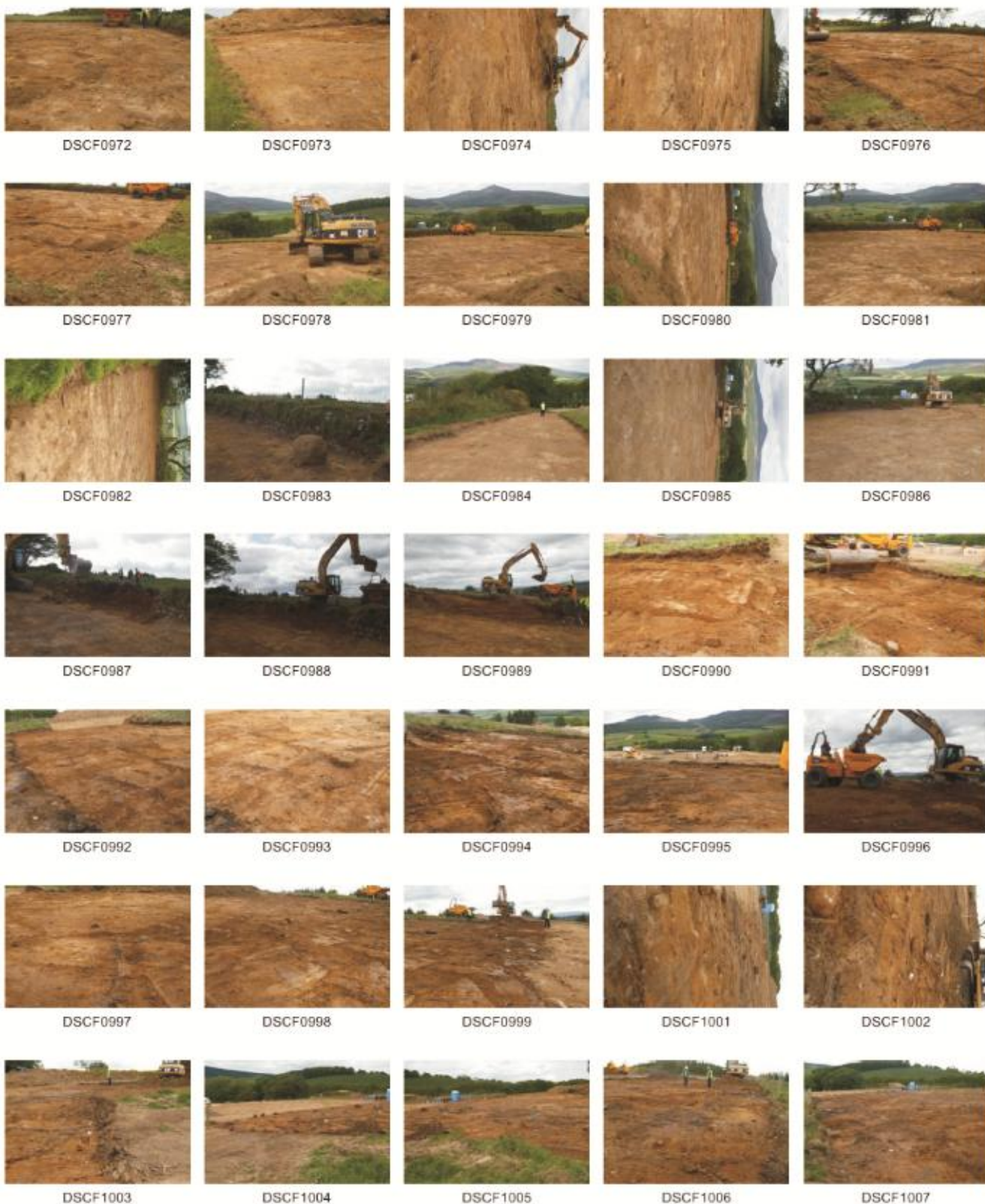


DSCF0970



DSCF0971





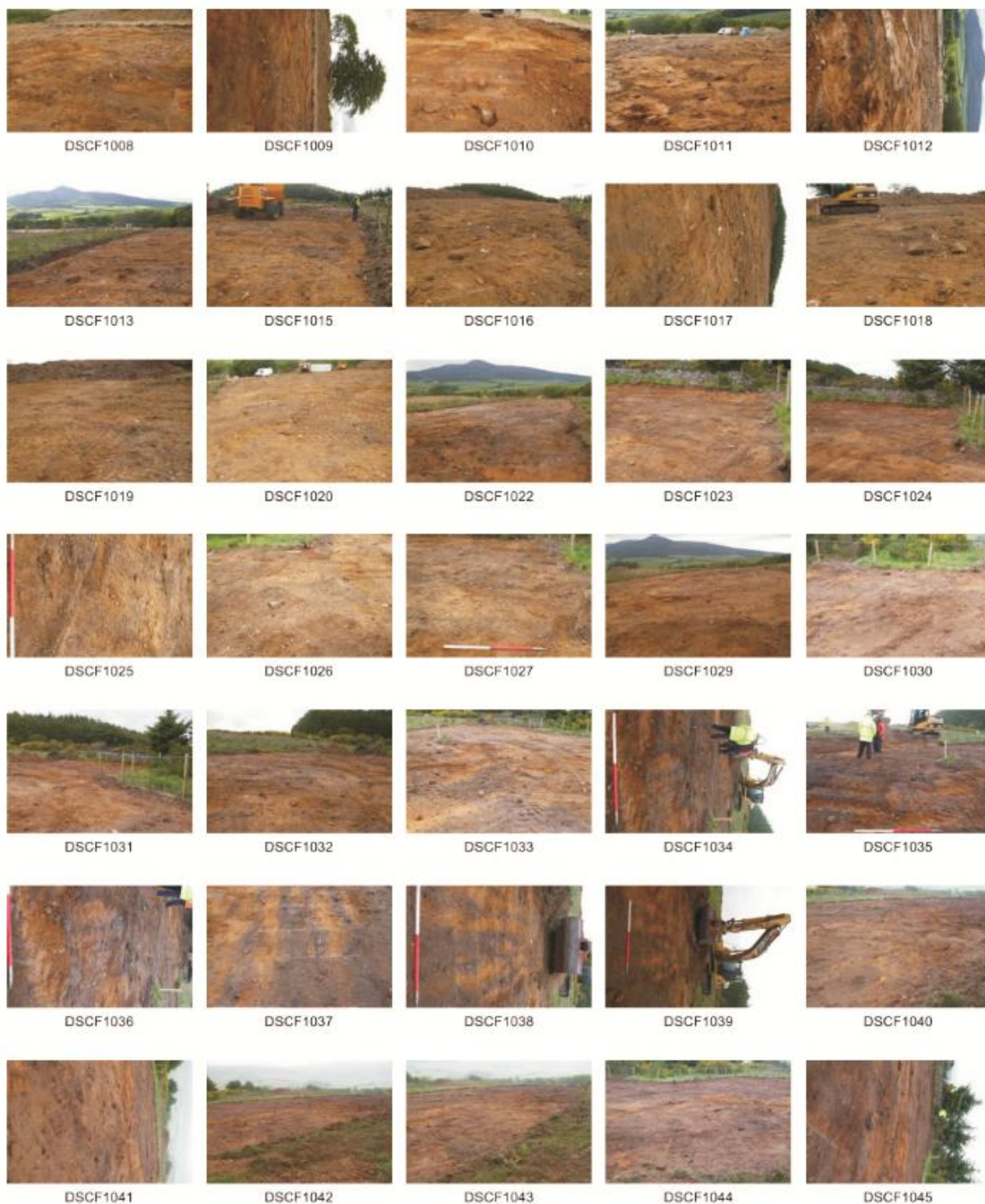






Photo number	Description	Facing
DSCF0928	Area 1 NE end	NE
DSCF0929	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0930	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0931	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0939	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0940	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0941	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0942	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0943	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0944	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0945	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0946	Area 1 NE end	SE
DSCF0947	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0948	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0949	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0950	Area 1 NE end	NW
DSCF0951	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	SE
DSCF0952	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	SE
DSCF0955	Area 1 NE end	SE

DSCF0956	Area 1 NE end	SW
DSCF0957	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	S
DSCF0958	Area 1 F1 (left), Bennachie (background)	SW
DSCF0959	Area 1 F1 (left), Bennachie (background)	SW
DSCF0960	Area 1 F1 (left), Bennachie (background)	SW
DSCF0961	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	SE
DSCF0962	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	S
DSCF0963	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	S
DSCF0964	Area 1 F1 drystone dyke	SW
DSCF0965	Area 1 F1 (left), Bennachie (background)	SW
DSCF0966	Area 1 F1 (left), Bennachie (background)	SW
DSCF0967	Area 1 NE area	SW
DSCF0968	Area 1	SW
DSCF0969	Area 1	S
DSCF0970	Area 1	SSW
DSCF0971	Area 1	NE
DSCF0972	Area 1	SE
DSCF0973	Area 1	N
DSCF0974	Area 1	NE
DSCF0975	Area 1	SE
DSCF0976	Area 1	SE
DSCF0977	Area 1	W
DSCF0978	Area 1	SW
DSCF0979	Area 1	SW
DSCF0980	Area 1	SW
DSCF0981	Area 1	SW
DSCF0982	Area 1	SW
DSCF0983	Area 1 F1	SE
DSCF0984	Area 1	SW
DSCF0985	Area 1	SW
DSCF0986	Area 1	SW
DSCF0987	Demolishing F1 between areas 1 and 2	SE
DSCF0988	Demolishing F1 between areas 1 and 2	SE
DSCF0989	Demolishing F1 between areas 1 and 2	SE
DSCF0990	Section through F1	NW
DSCF0991	Area 2	S
DSCF0992	Area 2	NW
DSCF0993	Area 2	NW
DSCF0994	Area 2	SW
DSCF0995	Area 2	W
DSCF0996	Area 2	S
DSCF0997	Area 2	N
DSCF0998	Area 2	NE
DSCF0999	Area 2	ENE
DSCF1001	Area 2	NW



DSCF1002	Area 2	NW
DSCF1003	Area 2	NE
DSCF1004	Area 2	WSW
DSCF1005	Area 2	WNW
DSCF1006	Area 2	SE
DSCF1007	Area 2	NW
DSCF1008	Area 2	N
DSCF1009	Area 2	N
DSCF1010	Area 2	SE
DSCF1011	Area 2	NW
DSCF1012	Area 2	SW
DSCF1013	Area 2	SW
DSCF1015	Area 2	SE
DSCF1016	Area 2	SE
DSCF1017	Area 2	SE
DSCF1018	Area 2	NE
DSCF1019	Area 2	NW
DSCF1020	Area 2	NW
DSCF1022	Area 2	SW
DSCF1023	Area 2 plough marks F2	S
DSCF1024	Area 2 plough marks F2	S
DSCF1025	Area 2 plough marks F2	SSW
DSCF1026	Area 2 plough marks F2	W
DSCF1027	Area 2 plough marks F2	S
DSCF1029	Area 2	SW
DSCF1030	Area 2	W
DSCF1031	Area 2	SE
DSCF1032	Area 2	E
DSCF1033	Area 2	SE
DSCF1034	Area 2 plough marks F3	E
DSCF1035	Area 2 plough marks F3	E
DSCF1036	Area 2 plough marks F3	E
DSCF1037	Area 2 plough marks F3	NE
DSCF1038	Area 2 plough marks F3	NE
DSCF1039	Area 2 plough marks F3	NE
DSCF1040	Area 2	SW
DSCF1041	Area 2	SW
DSCF1042	Area 2	SW
DSCF1043	Area 2	SW
DSCF1044	Area 2	SW
DSCF1045	Area 2	S
DSCF1046	Existing gas main area previously stripped of topsoil	ENE
DSCF1047	Existing gas main area previously stripped of topsoil	E
DSCF1048	Existing gas main area previously stripped of topsoil	ESE
DSCF1049	Area 2	SE

DSCF1050	Area 2	S
DSCF1051	Area 2	SSW
DSCF1052	Area 2	W
DSCF1053	Area 2	W
DSCF1054	Area 2	SW
DSCF1055	Area 2	N
DSCF1056	Area 2	N
DSCF1057	Area 2	S
DSCF1058	Area 2	S
DSCF1059	Area 2	S
DSCF1060	Area 2	SW
DSCF1061	Area 2	SW
DSCF1062	Area 2 plough marks F3	SW
DSCF1063	Area 2 plough marks F3	SW
DSCF1064	Area 2 plough marks F3	SW

## APPENDIX 2: FEATURE LIST

Feature number	Description
F1	Drystone dyke surviving up to 1m high and 0.6m wide at base. Cut through for current works and to be reinstated.
F2	Plough marks, W-E
F3	Plough marks, NE-SW