

**Auchmill Golf Course, Bonnyview Road, Bucksburn,
Aberdeen, AB16 7DF
Report on Archaeological evaluation**



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ILLUSTRATIONS

Cover Trench 3 showing rig and furrow; facing E

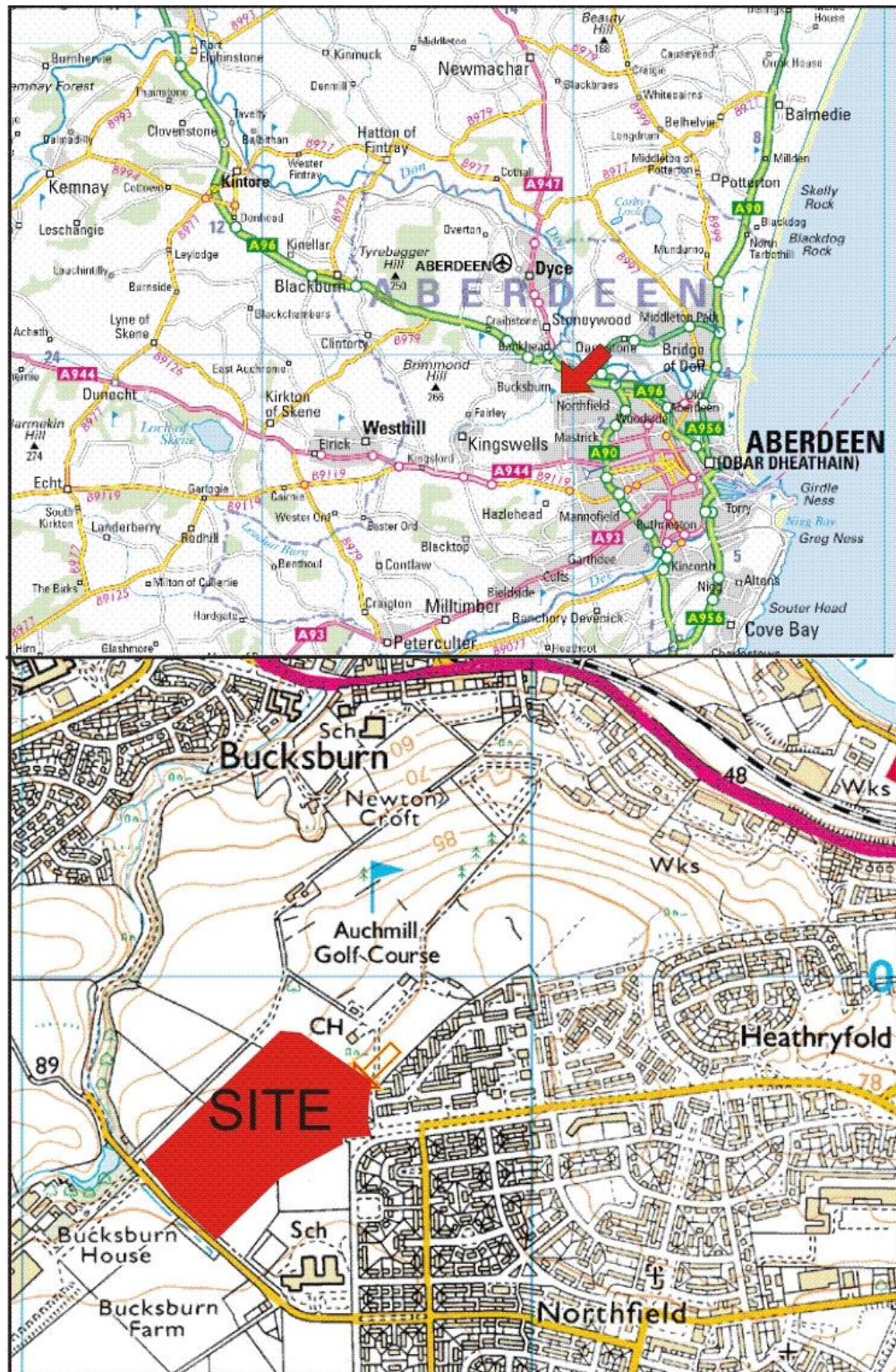
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SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on 5 June 2014; the weather was damp and very misty. Three trenches were excavated in the area where levels are to be lowered for the proposed formation of two new golf holes. The topsoil was 0.25-0.3m deep and the east end of the trenches revealed rig and furrow cultivation running SW-NE across the area. No further archaeological features or finds were recorded and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current remodelling of the golf course.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The site is located on the SW edge of Auchmill Golf course on the NE side of Howes Road. At the south of the site is newly constructed Marchburn School and the NE of the site is bounded by Provost Rust/Davidson Drive. The site is at AB16 7DF, centred on NJ 89647 08778, at 95-105m OD and in the parish of Aberdeen (Illus 1).
- 1.2 Aberdeen City Council planning application P090245 for alterations to two holes at Auchmill Golf Course was passed on 23 April 2009 with standard archaeology condition.



Illus 1 Location plan of site (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014)



Illus 2 Location of proposed development with archaeological trenches (copyright SAC Consulting)

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 1km of the site and no known archaeological sites within the site boundary.
- 2.2 Immediately to the south of this site an archaeological evaluation (NJ80NE 194) was carried out, between 13th April and 19th April 2007, prior to the construction of the new Marchburn primary school on a green field site. The foundations of the original S dyke of the field, was excavated in Trench 9. The standing N and W dykes were also recorded. These are in fair condition and are good examples of estate dyke building. An extensive field under-drainage system was revealed, consisting of drainage cuts running N-S across the site and a small number of wider cuts were also observed (Murray 2007, 9).

- 2.3 Several finds have been recovered from the Bucksburn area. A granite axehead (NJ80NE 10) was purchased for the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, University of Aberdeen in 1910 (Acc No 97) (Reid 1912, 7; Cruickshank 1934, 46). In Inverurie Museum donated in 1960 by the late Mr W A Sutherland, 16 King's Walk, Bucksburn (NJ80NE 19) are a polished stone ball (Acc No AS 8), 6 leaf-shaped flint arrowheads (Acc Nos AD 6; 24 and 25, and 104, 105 and 106), 3 lozenge-shaped arrowheads (Acc Nos AD 26; 107 and 108) and a hollow-based arrowhead (Acc No AD 131). The find spot of these objects is unknown.
- 2.4 There are several Aberdeen Freedom Lands Boundary stones (Stone 44 NJ80NE 27; Stone 45 NJ80NE 24; Stone 46 NJ80NE 32) adjacent to the site but none will be disturbed by the proposed development; they are all Listed B.
- 2.5 Immediately west of the proposed site is Country House, Bucksburn House (NJ80NE 104) and there were several farmsteads in the area including Westerton of Auchmull (NJ80NE 123), Redmyres (NJ80NE 61), Newton of Auchill (NJ80NE 186) and Bucksburn farm (NJ80NE 124).
- 2.6 First Second and Third Edition OS maps (Illus 4-6) show that the area has been fields since the mid 19th century and the 1941 aerial photograph (Illus 7) reveals no obvious archaeological sites within the proposed site area.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on 5 June 2014; the weather was damp and very misty. Three trenches were excavated in the area where levels are to be lowered for the proposed formation of two new golf holes. The remainder of the proposed development area is not being excavated but areas will be built up with the addition of soil.

The topsoil was 0.25-0.3m deep and the east end of the trenches revealed rig and furrow cultivation running SW-NE across the area. The furrows were up to 2m wide, 3-8m apart and up to 5cm deep. No further archaeological features or finds were recorded and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current remodelling of the golf course.

4.0 REFERENCES

Cruickshank, J 1934 Newhills: the annals of the parish, 46.

Reid, R W 1912 Illustrated catalogue of the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen. 7.

Murray HK and JC Marchburn Primary School site, Marchburn Drive, Discovery and Excavation in Scotland for 2007, New Series Vol 8, 9

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Gavin Elrick, SAC Consulting for initiating this project, Graeme Webster and his staff, Team Niblick for their assistance during the work and to Judith Stones, Aberdeen City Council for her advice during this project.

APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo no	Description	Facing
P1010270-1	Tr 1	W
P1010272-5	Tr 1 E end showing modern plough scars NW-SE	E
P1010276-92	Tr 1 showing rig and furrow and modern stone drains all running SW-NE	W
P1010293-94	Tr 2	E
P1010295-96	Tr 2 W end	W
P1010297-300	Tr 2 showing rig and furrow	E
P1010301-302	Tr 2	W
P1010303-304	Tr 2 and Tr 1 from E end Tr 3	NW
P1010305	Tr 3	W
P1010306-8	Tr 3	E
P1010309-14	Location of trenches	



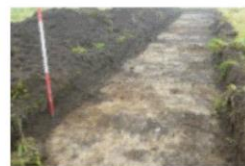
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P1010271



P1010272



P1010273



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P1010292



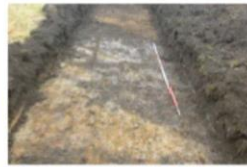
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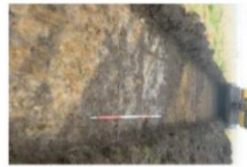
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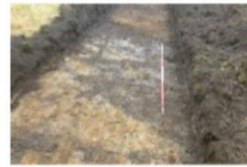
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P1010299



P1010300



P1010301



P1010302



P1010303



P1010304



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P1010307



P1010308



P1010309



P1010310



P1010311



P1010312



P1010313



P1010314