

**BOOK OF DEER PROJECT, STUARTFIELD
CEMETERY/CHEVERTON,
20-26 SEPTEMBER 2014**



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SUMMARY

The area of the 2014 fieldwork, following a resistance survey by Rose Geophysical Consultants, has produced no evidence that this was the site of the early medieval monastery of Deer. Extensive agricultural evidence, possibly from the medieval and early post-medieval period indicate that this was intensively used for agriculture. The area was probably within the lands of the monastery of Deer and part of the lands bringing income into the monastery. Fieldwalking in the cemetery and surrounding fields have identified medieval finds but these may be the result of spreading nightsoil from Old Deer or another medieval settlement in the area.

Ditch 10 is a natural feature infilled over many years. Flints from the project include an assemblage of late Neolithic date mainly collected during fieldwalking in the fields and adjacent graveyard.

1 BACKGROUND

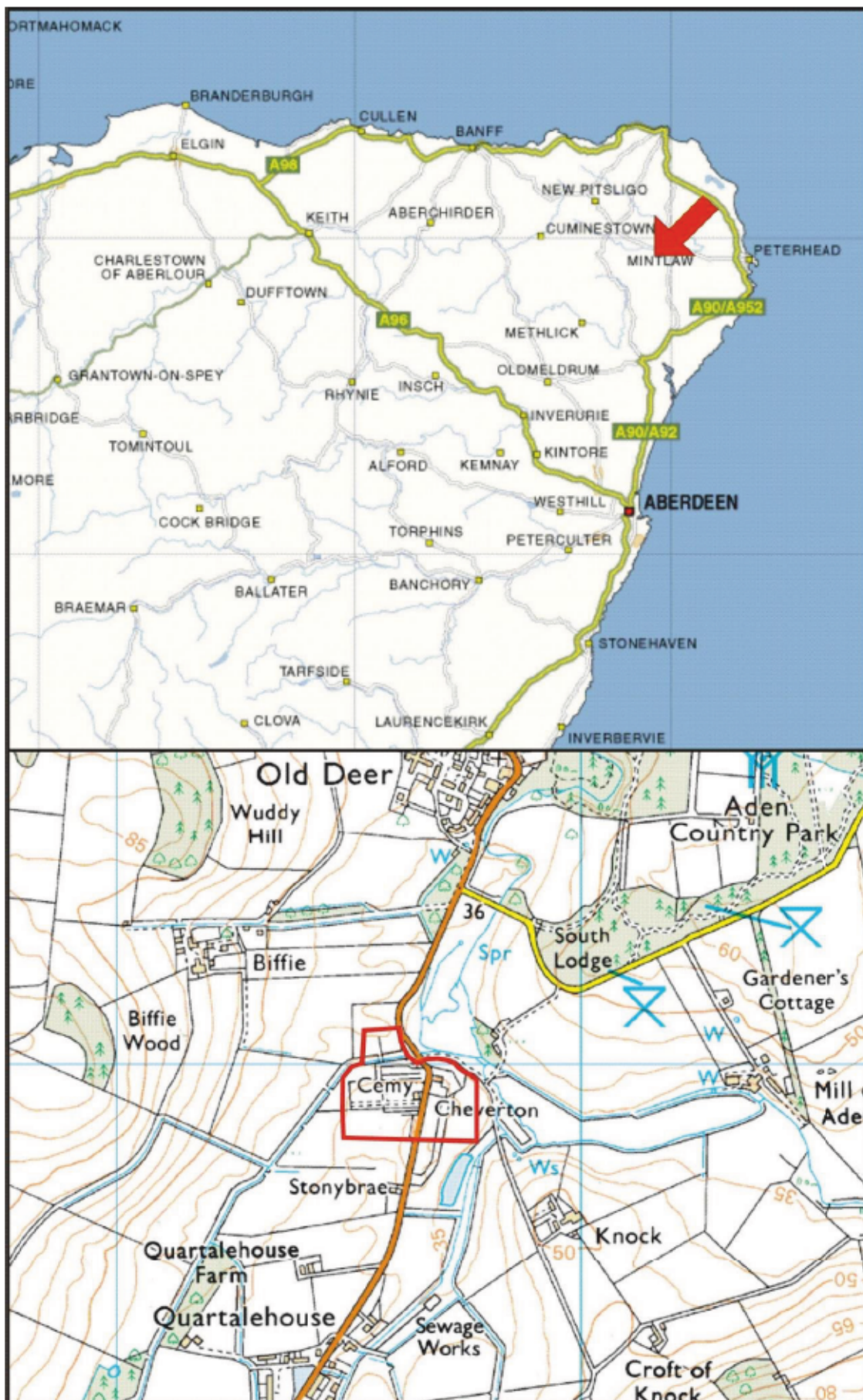
The early medieval Monastery of Deer, which may have been founded as early as the late 6th century, but more likely founded in the late eighth century, may have been where the *Book of Deer* was produced (Lelong 2011, 7).

There have been a series of archaeological interventions to assess and identify any evidence that may indicate the original site and characteristics of the early medieval Monastery of Deer. In 2009 a desk-based assessment and field evaluation of the lower ground to the E of the Old Kirk was undertaken by GUARD (Lelong 2011). In 2011, 2012 and 2013 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd carried out field evaluations in Old Deer and Aden Country Park (Murray & Murray 2011, 2012, 2013). Features were found within Old Deer but excavation within Old Deer Church was halted after the discovery of articulated human remains within the church. No other evidence of the early monastery were uncovered during the work.

In 2014 Cameron Archaeology Ltd were contracted to carry out a field evaluation around Cheverton and Stuartfield cemetery between Stuartfield and Old Deer (Illus 1). This area consists of two raised plateaus with the land falling to the north and east to the South Ugie Water and associated streams. The land to the west drops to a stream and then rises to the high ground at Biffie wood. To the south the ground slopes away naturally to Stuartfield (Crichie) village.

A series of land grants to the monastery, recorded in the *Book of Deer* during the eleventh and twelfth centuries and culminating in their confirmation by David I, mention various places by description or name. The extent of one land grant is described thus: 'as far as the great pillar stone at the end of the thicket nearest to *Ailldin Ailenn*, from *Dubuice* to *Lurchaire*, both rough-grazing and pasture.' *Ailldin Aileen*, Taylor believes, refers to the adjoining lands of the Aden estate – which were never held by the church; the name may denote 'rock' or 'cliff', a possible reference to the steep slopes along the river bank opposite Old Deer. *Dubuice* refers to the South Ugie Water, and *Lurchaire* may represent lands around Quartalehouse. Another grant is described as extending 'as far as the great *coirthie* at the end of the thicket.' Forsyth (2008, 298) suggests that the *coirthie* was the large pillar stone or standing stone known as the White Cow of Crichie, which formerly stood to the south of Quartalehouse. *Bidbin*, mentioned in another grant, corresponds to Biffie, the lands adjoining the monastery's core on the west; it may represent a Pictish form of the word for birch. Birches were mentioned in several of the land grants, indicating that they were uncommon enough to be used to describe and mark boundaries. The place-names or descriptors *acchad madchor* and (*gonige*) *Scali merlec* refer to Auchmachar and Skillymarno; these indicate that the monastery possessed a broad north/south swathe of land of more than six kilometres (Lelong 2011). The area of the current study would therefore fall within these lands.

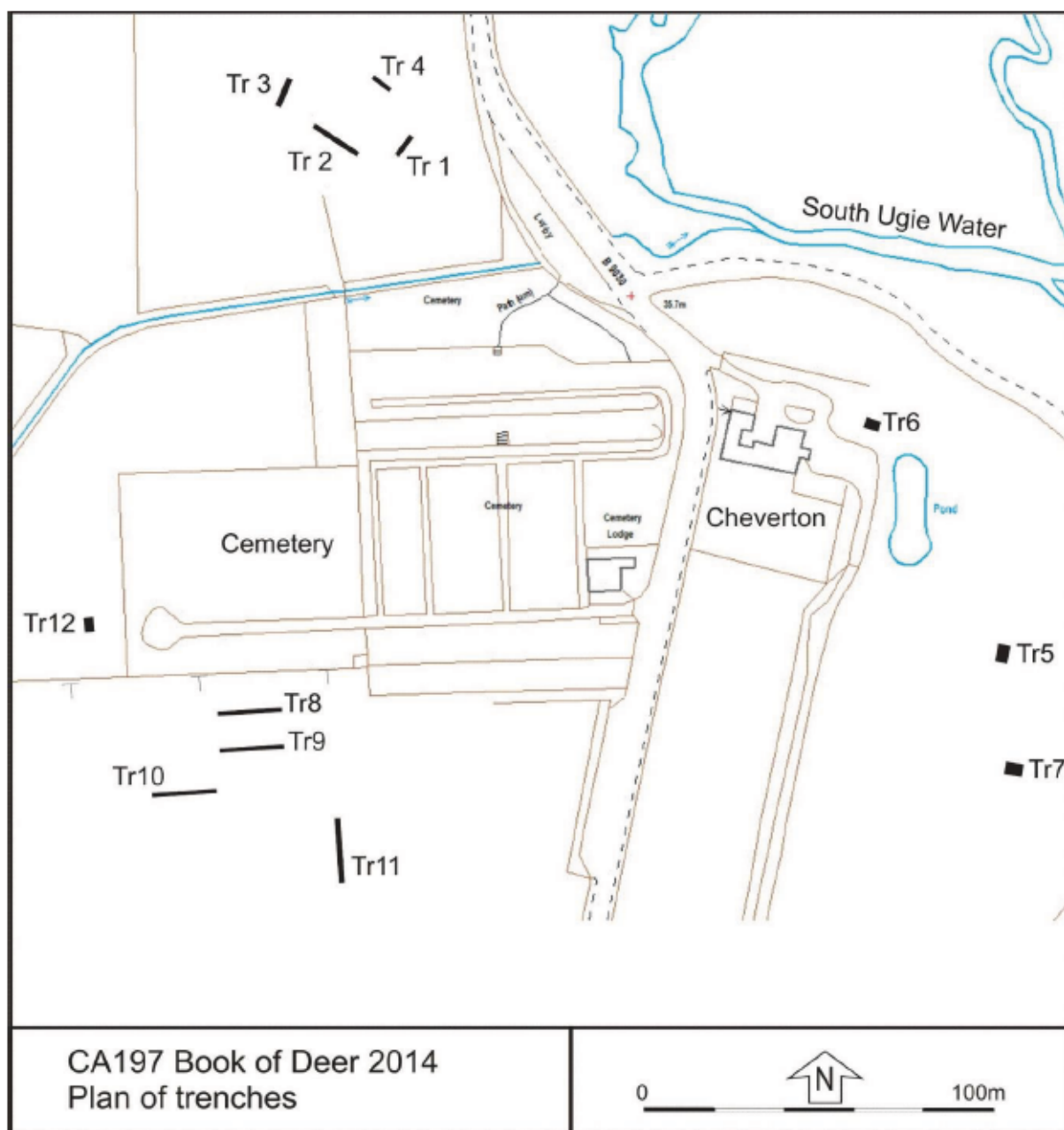
Cheverton (or 'Parsonage' on First Edition OS map and 'rectory' on 2nd Edition) is a late 18th-century house and farmstead. It is a former Episcopal rectory. It was Listed Category B on 16 April 1971 (HS id 19775). Adverts for its sale appeared in the Glasgow Herald on May 3rd 1969 and July 7th 1970.



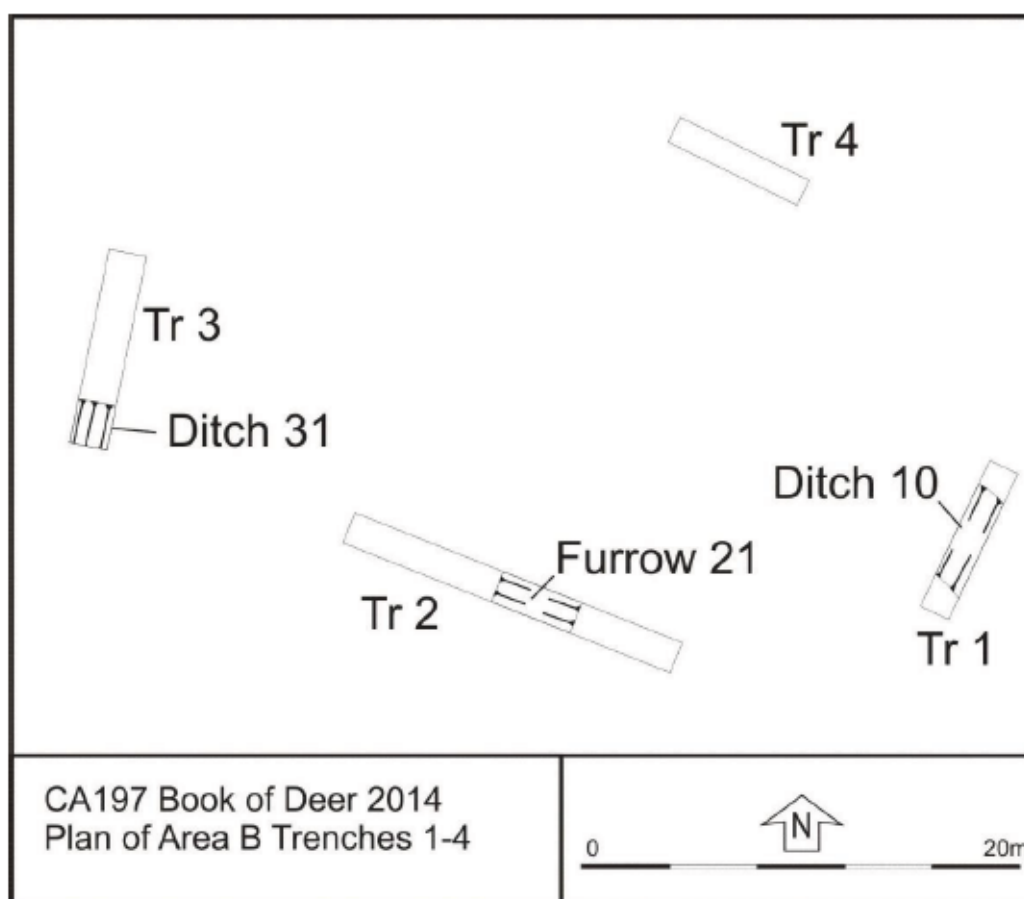
Illus 1 Location plan showing Old Deer (top), Quartalehouse (bottom) which is at the north edge of Stuartfield with the cemetery and Cheverton outlined in red (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014).

2 THE EXCAVATION

The excavation took place from 20-27th September 2014. Trenches 1-4 and 8-12 were started with a wheeled JCB with toothless ditching bucket and then excavated by hand whilst Trenches 5-7 were deturfed and excavated by hand (Illus 2). All features were recorded, planned and photographed (Appendix 2). All artifacts were retained and recorded; the 19th and 20th century artefacts were discarded and the remainder will be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel.



Illus 2 Plan showing location of all trenches in relation to Cheverton and Stuartfield cemetery



Illus 3 Area B Trenches 1-4 with main features

Trenches 1-4

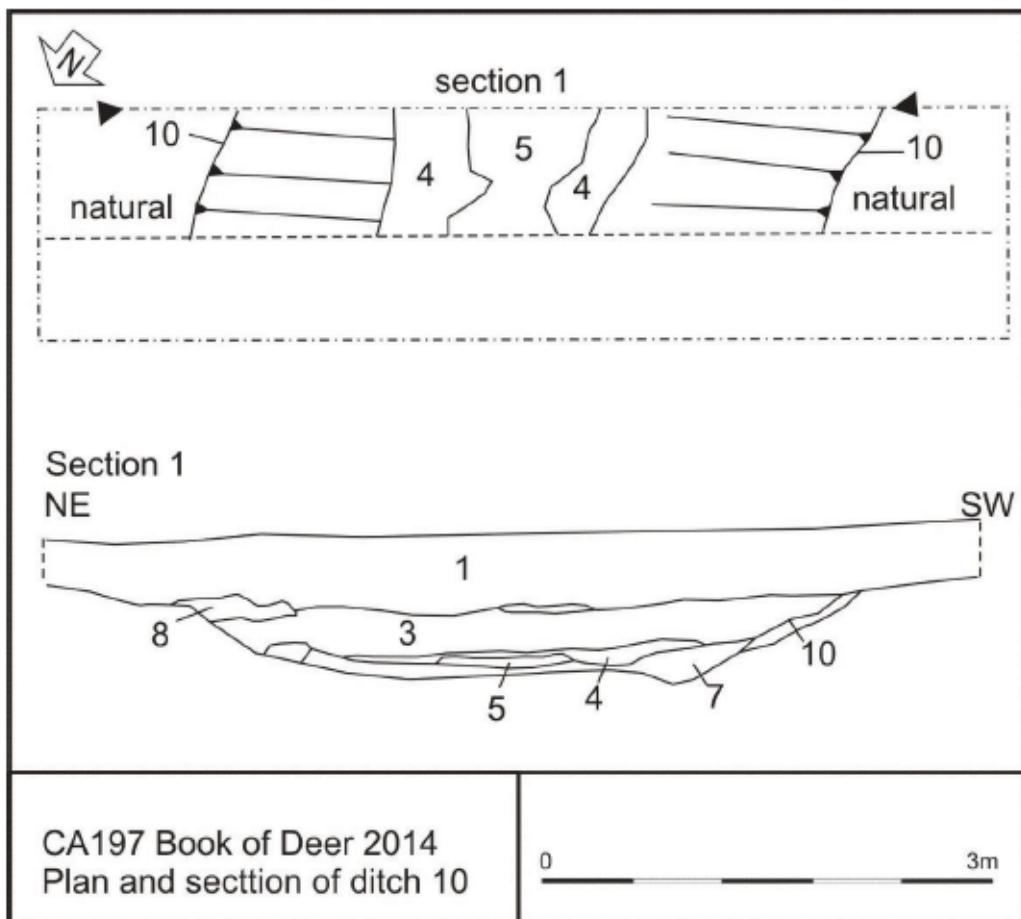
Trenches 1-4 were located in a field at the northern end of the site on a gravel ridge at c 50m OD and a south-facing slope down to 45m OD at the burn. The geophysical survey had indicated high resistance targets on the higher ground and a ditch running down the slope.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was 8m long and 1.5m wide and was located over the line of the possible ditch. The ditch (10; Illus 4, 5) was 2.1m wide and survived to a maximum of 0.25m deep and ran in a NW-SE direction. It had indistinct edges and base and was filled with clays and loams with a lens of black organic material (5). It is probable that this ditch is a natural feature which has silted up over many years.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was 12m long and 1.5m wide. A furrow (21) was 3.2m wide and 0.2m deep and ran NE-SW (Illus 6). This reflects the rig and furrow depicted on Roy's mid 18th century map (Illus 7). The sharp line on the geophysical survey was caused by the junction between the sand and gravel natural subsoil at the top of the ridge and the underlying clay. No other features were recorded in this trench.



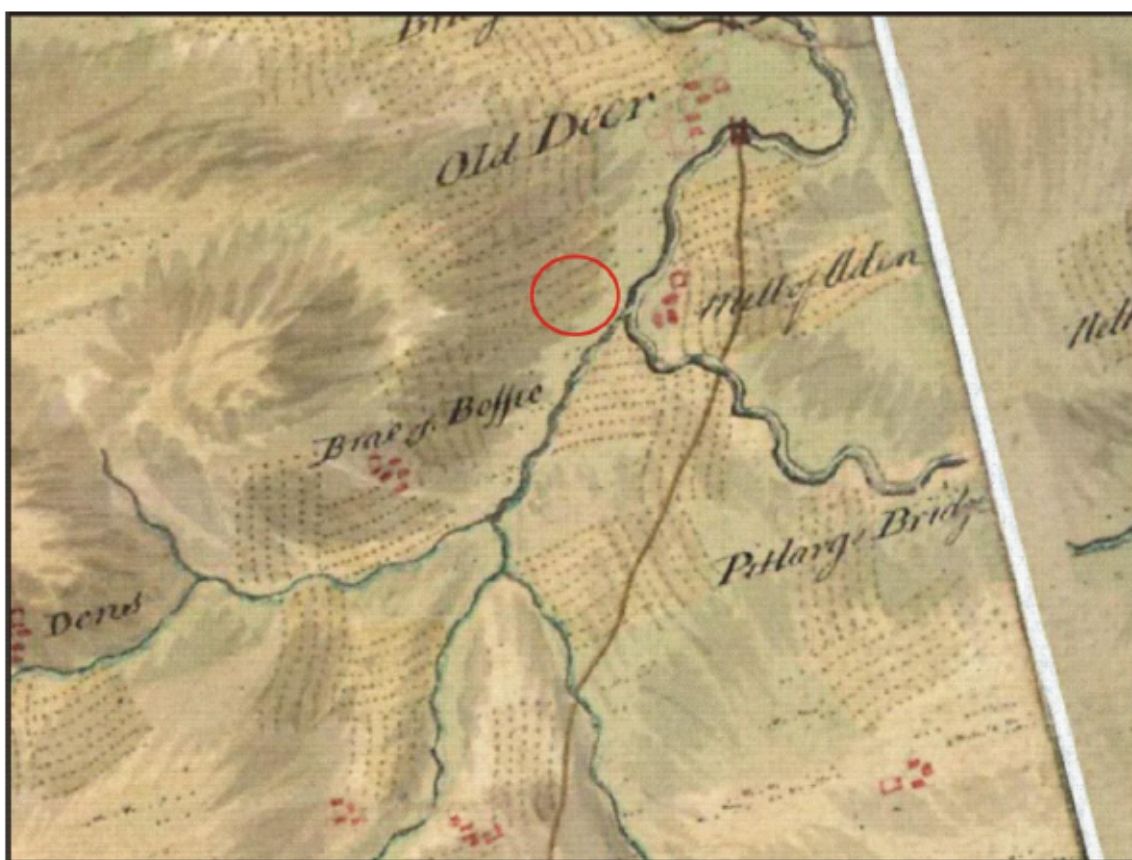
Illus 4 Plan and section of ditch 10



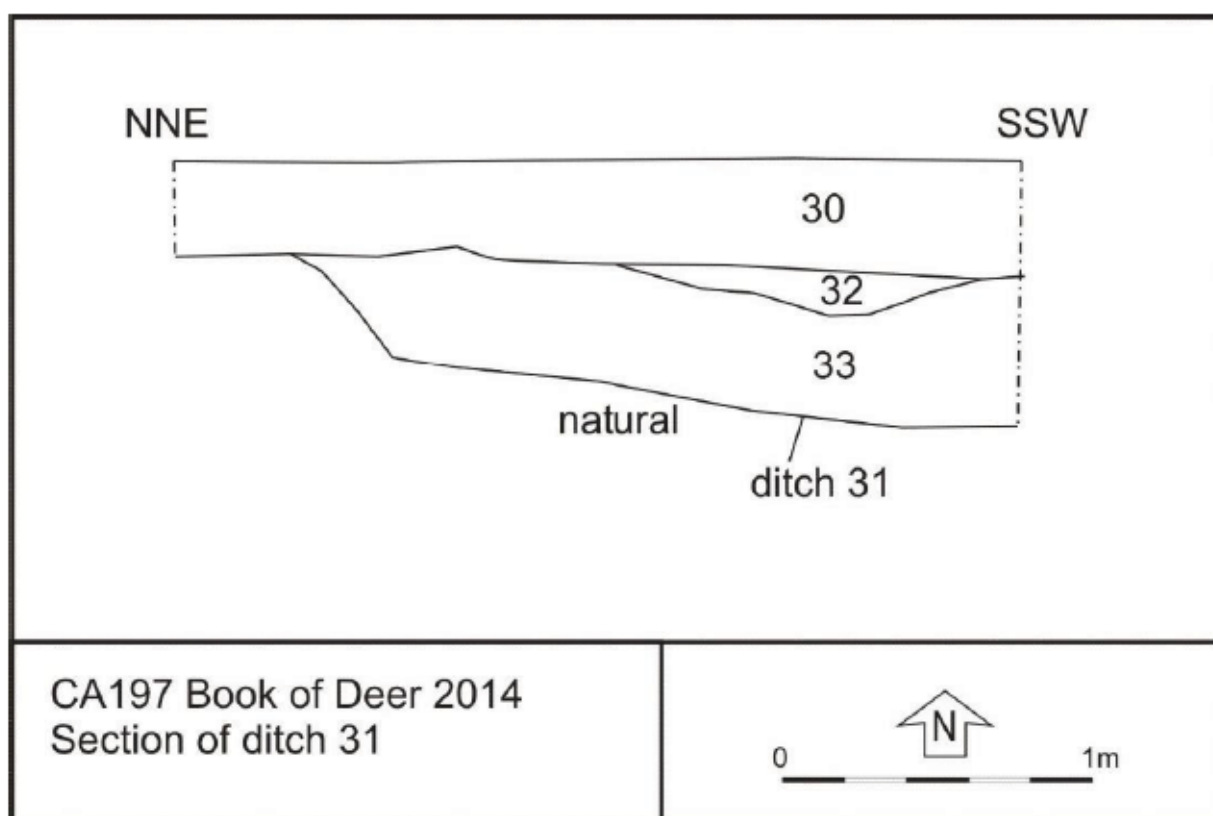
Illus 5 NE-SW section ditch 10; facing SE



Illus 6 Trench 2 furrow 21 being sectioned; facing SE



Illus 7 Roy Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-55 showing approximate area of excavation circled in red (copyright National Library of Scotland)



Illus 8 Section ditch 31

Trench 3

Trench 3 was 9m long and 1.5m wide and was positioned over a possible extension of the ditch in Trench 1. A section of the same ditch (31; Illus 8) was excavated and medieval pottery recovered from the upper levels and flints from the lower levels. There was no evidence of the black organic layer in this section of the ditch.

Trench 4

Trench 4 was 7m long and 1.5m wide. It was positioned on the highest point of the ridge. One animal burrow was recorded but no archaeological features.

Trenches 5-7

Trenches 5 and 7 were located in the field on the high ground on the SE side of Cheverton and Trench 6 adjacent to the drive and pond within the garden of the house. The flat ground is c 40m OD and the ground slopes away sharply to the east to a man-made pond and then to the South Ugie Water (Illus 9).

Trench 5

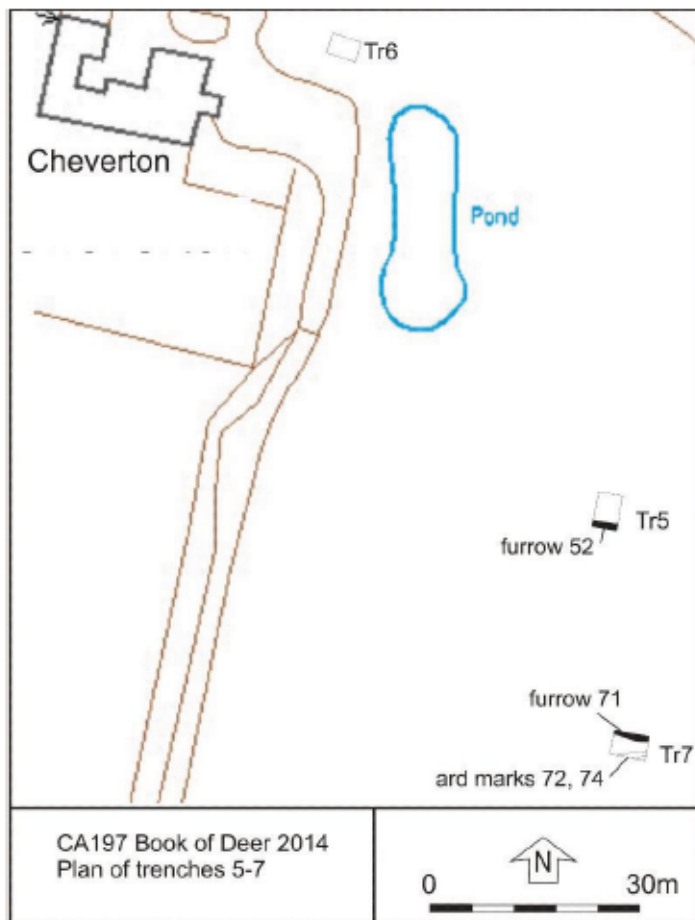
Trench 5 was 3 x 2m in size and contained the remains of one agricultural furrow (52).

Trench 6

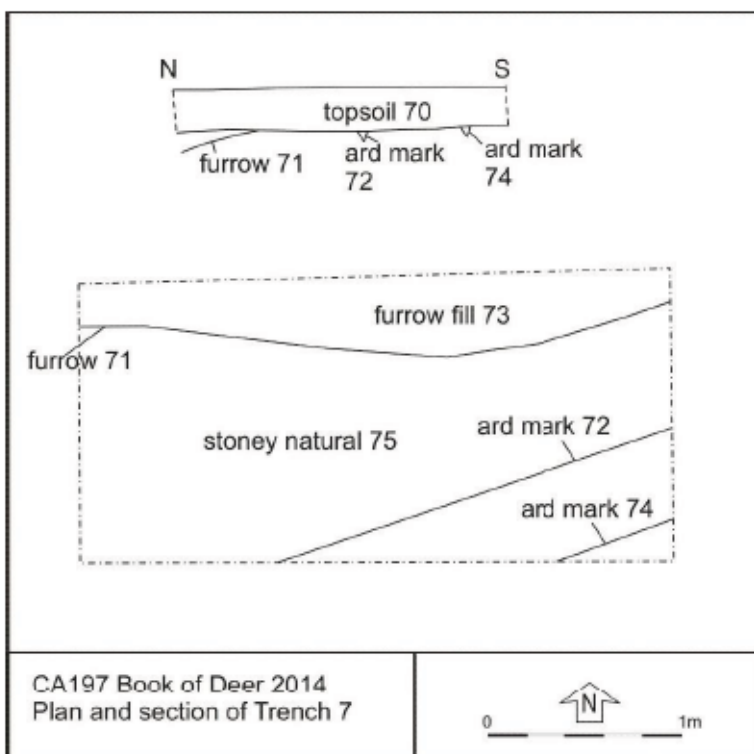
Trench 6 was 2 x 1m in size. During topsoil excavation a metal-detector survey around the area revealed modern metal up to 30cm down and the trench was abandoned. Mr Bellamy recalled that this area had been raised in height prior to construction of the small pond immediately east of Cheverton.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was 3 x 2m in size. It contained one agricultural furrow (71) and two ard marks scored into the natural clays, 72 and 74 (Illus 10). Faint NW-SE furrows can be seen on the geophysical survey in this area.



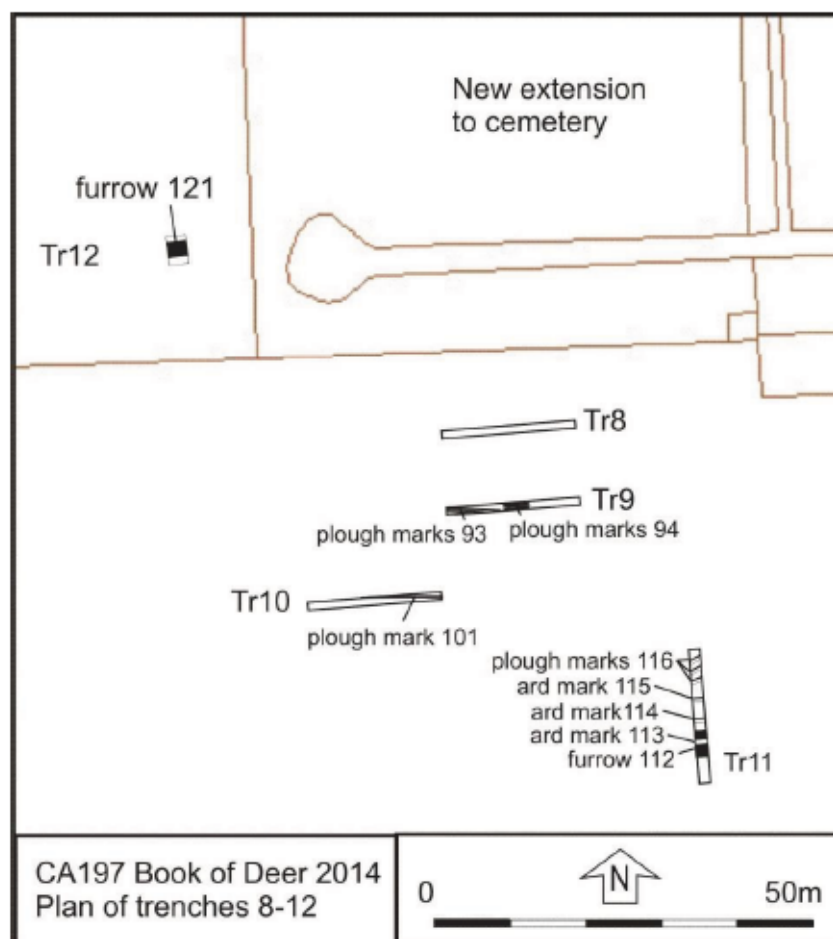
Illus 9 Plan of Trenches 5-7 with main features



Illus 10 Plan of Trench 7 features



Illus 11 Trench 7 showing ard marks 72 and 74 (left) and furrow 71 (right); facing W



Illus 12 Plan of Trenches 8-12

Trenches 8-12

Trench 8-11 were opened in the field immediately south of the graveyard and Trench 12 in scrub land immediately west of the graveyard (Illus 12).

Trench 8

Trench 8 was 20m long and 1.5m wide; the topsoil was a maximum of 0.25m deep. There were no archaeological features in this trench apart from modern deep plough marks and a field drain.

Trench 9

Trench 9 was 20m long and 1.5m wide. This trench contained one W-E furrow (91) and deep modern plough marks in the shallow clay subsoil.

Trench 10

Trench 10 was 20m long and 1.5m wide. This trench contained one furrow (101) on a W-E orientation but no other archaeological features.

Trench 11

Trench 11 was 20m long and 1.5m wide. It contained a series of furrows (112) and ard marks (113, 114 and 115) but no other archaeological features.

Trench 12

Trench 12 was 2 x 21m in size and hand excavated in scrub land immediately outwith the west side of the graveyard. One furrow (121) in the centre of the trench indicates that this has been a cultivated field. From the evidence it would suggest that the cemetery was constructed on a cultivated field and it is unlikely that this is the site of the early medieval monastery.



Illus 13 Trench 11 The team discussing ard marks; facing E



Illus 14 Trench 9 furrow 91 (top) with modern plough marks 94 (foreground); facing S



Illus 15 Trench 12 furrow 121; facing NE

Fieldwalking and Metal-Detecting

Fieldwalking and metal-detecting surveys were carried out in association with this excavation. All fields and spoil heaps were detected; metal detector finds were mostly 20th-century iron agricultural fragments which were recorded and discarded.

School Visits

On 25 September 2014 five school classes visited the excavation including nearly 100 children, teachers and parent helpers. Classes received an introduction from Book of Deer Project members and Aberdeenshire Museums Service staff, a finds handling session with Aberdeenshire Museums Service and excavation with site staff (Illus 16).



Illus 16 School class visits the dig and helps with excavation

3 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The area of the 2014 fieldwork has produced no evidence that this was the site of the early medieval monastery of Deer. Ditch 10 is probably a natural feature which has silted up over many years; there is no evidence that this is man-made. Extensive agricultural evidence, possibly from the medieval and early post-medieval period indicate that this was intensively used for agriculture. The area was probably within the lands of the monastery of Deer (see above) and part of the lands bringing income into the monastery. Fieldwalking in the cemetery and surrounding fields have identified medieval finds but these may be the result of spreading nightsoil from Old Deer or another medieval settlement in the area.

Further archaeological work could include

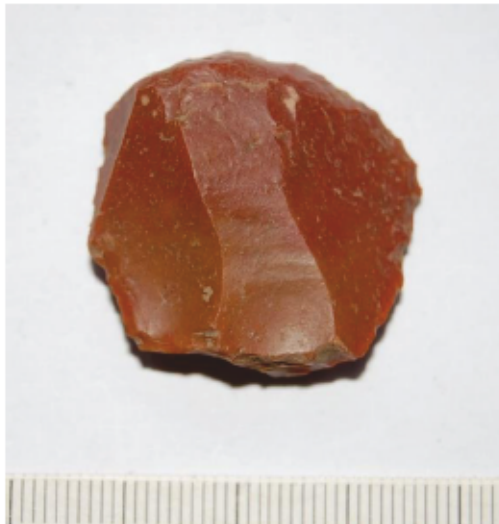
- intensive fieldwalking after ploughing fields in the 6km swathe of land identified as the lands of the monastery of Deer

- further metal detector surveys
- further geophysical survey in areas identified as possible monastery site (Lelong 2011)
- discussion with Historic Scotland to allow further archaeological excavation within Old Deer old church.

4 FINDS

Finds from the site included 23 flints and one quartz sherd (Ballin forthcoming; Illus 17). A small number of abraded medieval pottery sherds and daub may be the result of nightsoil from Old Deer or another medieval settlement in the area.

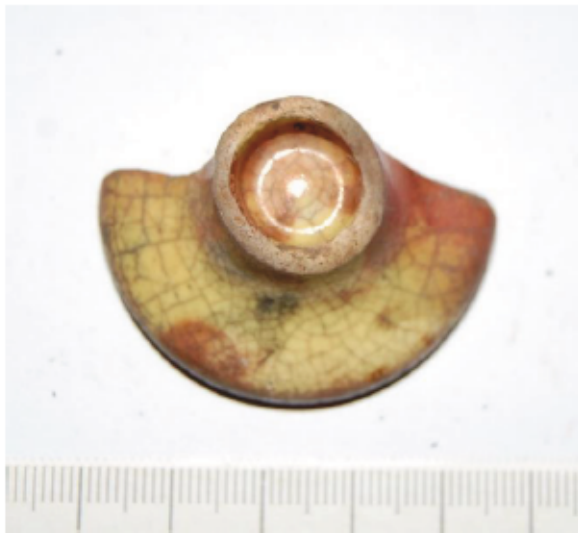
A small group from the ground of Cheverton may represent items lost within the grounds of the late 18th-century mans, although there has been much landscaping in the area so imported soil cannot be discounted. These include a George III silver crown dated 1817-20 (Illus 18) and a lustreware candlestick base (Illus 19). All artifacts were retained and recorded (Illus 20-21); the 19th - 21st century artefacts were discarded and the remainder will be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel. A full catalogue appears in Appendix 3.



Illus 17 Flint scraper (Trench 7 context 70 SF26)



Illus 18 George III silver crown (Trench 7 context 70 SF35)



Illus 19 Lustreware candlestick base (Trench 6 context 60 SF10)



Illus 20 Typical selection of finds from topsoil including 6 flints (bottom right)



Illus 21 Typical selection of metal fieldwalking finds

5 The lithic assemblage

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5.1 INTRODUCTION

Finds from the site include 23 lithic artefacts, mostly flint. The purpose of the present report is to characterize the lithic artefacts in detail, with special reference to raw-materials and typo-technological attributes. From this characterization, it is sought to date and discuss the finds. The evaluation of the lithic material is based upon a detailed catalogue (provided as an Access database) of the lithic finds from Stuartfield. As the excavator gave all finds individual (unique) SF numbers, in the present report the artefacts are referred to by their SF numbers rather than their catalogue numbers.

As the vast majority of the finds were either recovered from the topsoil of several different trenches or from fieldwalking, it was chosen generally to deal with the assemblage as one unstratified/uncontexted collection.

5.2 THE ASSEMBLAGE

From the excavations at Stuartfield, 23 lithic artefacts were recovered. They are listed in Table 1. In total, 74% of this small assemblage is debitage, whereas 4% is cores and 22% tools.

Table 1. General artefact list.

<i>Debitage</i>	
Flakes	15
Blades	2
<i>Total debitage</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Split pebbles</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Tools</i>	
Scale-flaked knives	1
Short end-scrapers	1
End-/side-scrapers	1
Pieces w edge-retouch	1
Fire-flints	1
<i>Total tools</i>	<i>5</i>
TOTAL	23

The definitions of the main lithic categories are as follows:

Chips: All flakes and indeterminate pieces the greatest dimension (GD) of which is $\leq 10\text{mm}$.

Flakes: All lithic artefacts with one identifiable ventral (positive or convex) surface, $\text{GD} > 10\text{mm}$ and $L < 2W$ (L = length; W = width).

Indeterminate pieces: Lithic artefacts which cannot be unequivocally identified as either flakes or cores.

Generally the problem of identification is due to irregular breaks, frost-shattering or fire-crazing.

Chunks are larger indeterminate pieces, and in, for example, the case of quartz, the problem of identification usually originates from a piece flaking along natural planes of weakness rather than flaking in the usual conchoidal way.

Blades and microblades: Flakes where $L \geq 2W$. In the case of blades $W > 8\text{ mm}$, in the case of microblades $W \leq 8\text{ mm}$.

Cores: Artefacts with only dorsal (negative or concave) surfaces – if three or more flakes have been detached, the piece is a core, if fewer than three flakes have been detached, the piece is a split or flaked pebble.

Tools: Artefacts with secondary retouch (modification).

5.21 Raw materials – types, sources and condition

Apart from one piece in white milky quartz (SF 28), the entire collection is based on flint. Almost all flint artefacts are in local fine-grained material, with the most common colours being yellow, honey-brown, orange and red. The local flint was probably procured in the form of pebbles from beach walls along the North Sea shores of eastern Scotland (Wickham-Jones & Collins 1978; Harker 2002). Only two pieces of flint appear to be based on exotic resources, namely retouched blade SF 3 and fire-flint SF 23. The former is based on light-grey, fine-grained Yorkshire flint, thought to have been imported from north-east England, whereas the latter may be based on mottled, grey ballast flint procured from one of the local ports with the flint probably originating from shingle beaches in south-east England or even on the European Continent. The fact that almost half of this small assemblage has abraded cortex supports the general impression of the raw material having been procured from one or more pebble sources.

Table 2. Reduction sequence of the unmodified and modified flakes and blades.

	Quantity	Per cent
Primary pieces	1	4.8
Secondary pieces	9	42.9
Tertiary pieces	11	52.3
TOTAL	21	100.0

In Scotland, Yorkshire flint was generally exchanged during the Middle and Late Neolithic periods (Ballin 2011b), whereas the ballast flint is most likely to date to the Post Medieval period (cf. Ballin forthcoming), although other dates within the late prehistoric-historic period cannot be ruled out. The parent piece of quartz flake SF 28 may have been procured locally either in the form of a beach pebble, a river pebble or an erratic pebble, although quarrying can not be ruled out entirely (cf. Ballin 2004).

Flint-flake SF 34 is heavily rolled, suggesting that the South Ugie Water may occasionally have flooded some of the fields in the area. Two pieces (SF 8, 33) are crazed from exposure to fire.

5.22 Debitage

A total of 15 unmodified flakes and two blades were recovered from the site. Ten of 13 technologically definable blanks were manufactured by the application of hard percussion, whereas three pieces were produced by the use of bipolar technique. Although the assemblage includes four 'blades' – two unmodified specimens and two modified ones – only two of these are 'proper' blades. The two modified blades are both

intentional percussion ('proper') blades, whereas the two unmodified pieces are based on bipolar technique and they are only 'metrical' blades, that is, blades which satisfy the metric requirements of blades ($L \geq 2W$) but which lack the regularity of 'proper' blades. The two intact unmodified blades measure on average 34 x 16 x 10mm, whereas the 11 intact unmodified flakes have average dimensions of 24 x 21 x 7mm. Three blanks have finely faceted platform remnants – unmodified flake SF 21 and modified blanks SF 15 and SF 26 – and they were almost certainly manufactured by the application of Levallois-like technique.

5.23 Cores and tools

The only core recovered from the site is a split pebble (SF 33). This piece was reduced by the application of hammer-and-anvil technique, and it measures 37 x 43 x 19mm.

SF 15 is a relatively plain scale-flaked knife (28 x 15 x 8mm), with a modified cutting-edge along its left lateral side. It is based on an irregular Levallois-like blade. It has a simple dorsal crest, and small detached chips at the distal end may amount to an expedient truncation. SF 26 (Illus 17) is a squat end-scraper based on a Levallois-like flake (29 x 29 x 10mm). It has a convex, steep scraper-edge at the distal end. SF 19 is an end-/side-scraper based on the distal fragment of a flake (28 x 23 x 6mm). It has a straight, steep working-edge at the distal end, and a convex, steep scraper-edge along its left lateral side. The lateral retouch continues onto the proximal break facet, showing that this is not a fragmented scraper, but a scraper based on a flake fragment.

SF 3 is a 'proper' blade with sporadic retouch, based on Yorkshire flint. The piece is the medial-distal fragment of an implement (29 x 12 x 5mm), and it has been retouched along its right lateral side, with both lateral edges displaying flat use-wear from cutting.

SF 23 is a so-called 'shaped' fire-flint, which was given a handy flat shape by decortication and crude flaking, and subsequently used for fire-making with a steel strike-a-light. A fire-flint/strike-a-light terminology was first suggested in Ballin (2005, 15), and later applied in connection with the discussion of specific fire-flint assemblages (eg, Ballin 2014a). The present piece, which measures 54 x 38 x 23mm, has been heavily battered along all edges and arrises, occasionally forming the typical concavities associated with this implement form.

5.3 TECHNOLOGY

Although it cannot be ruled out that the assemblage represents different prehistoric industries of different dates, the collection's 22 prehistoric pieces may predominantly represent one industry (the fire-flint SF 23 is thought to be a historic piece). As indicated in the dating section (below), all diagnostic elements suggest that the present lithic assemblage (although recovered from several neighbouring fields) was produced in the Middle/Late (later) Neolithic period.

Several 'proper' (intentional) blades were recovered, suggesting that the finds represent a combined flake/blade industry. Raw material for this industry was procured mainly from local pebble sources, although SF 3 indicates that some flint was imported from sources in north-east England. Three pieces (SF 15, 21, 26) have finely faceted platform remnants, proving that at Stuartfield flakes and blades were manufactured by the application of the distinct Levallois-like approach. SF 15 has a dorsal crest, with cresting also forming part of the Levallois-like operational schema (Ballin 2011a; 2011b; Suddaby & Ballin 2011).

5.4 DATING

The assemblage includes a number of diagnostic elements, such as raw material preferences and typo-technological attributes.

Raw material: Two raw materials used at Stuartfield are diagnostic, namely those of retouched blade SF 3 and fire-flint SF 23. The former is based on fine grey Yorkshire flint which was predominantly used during the later Neolithic period (Ballin 2011b). The raw material of the latter is also exotic grey flint, but of a more impure kind commonly used in late prehistoric/historic times as ballast flint.

Technology: The fact that 'proper' blades were produced suggests a date prior to the Neolithic/Bronze Age transition, when blade technology was finally abandoned (Ballin 2002). The use of the Levallois-like technique indicates a date during the Middle/Late Neolithic periods (Ballin 2011a; 2011b; Suddaby & Ballin 2011). The fact that no soft percussion was used, but predominantly hard hammer technique, is consistent with this date (Suddaby & Ballin 2011; Ballin 2014b).

Typology: No strictly diagnostic tool forms were recovered at Stuartfield, but scale-flaked knives – the cutting-edges of which were produced by the application of invasive or semi-invasive retouch – generally date to the period during which invasive retouch was used, that is, the Neolithic-Early Bronze Age period (Clark 1936, 47). The fire-flint SF 23 corresponds morphologically to other fire-flints from the Post Medieval period (Ballin 2005).

5.5 CONCLUSION/DISCUSSION

As described above, the present site yielded 22 prehistoric lithic objects and one probably Post Medieval fire-flint. The prehistoric pieces are most likely to indicate prehistoric activity in this general area, whereas the more recent fire-flint may have been deposited at the site with the nightsoil.

Although the lithic finds were recovered from a number of different fields east, north and south of the cemetery, they are all consistent with later Neolithic lithic technology: SF 3, which is a retouched blade based on Yorkshire flint, was recovered from Trench 3 north of the cemetery; scraper SF 26 (based on Levallois-like technique) was recovered from Trench 7 east of the cemetery; scale-flaked knife SF 15 (based on Levallois-like technique) was recovered from Trench 10 south of the cemetery; and unmodified Levallois-like flake SF 21 was recovered during fieldwalking of the southern field. Most likely, the fields around the present cemetery represent later Neolithic settlement, with no diagnostic elements indicating earlier or later prehistoric activity in the area.

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APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo no	Description	Facing
001-002	Trench 5 completed	N
003-004	Trench 5 completed	S
DSC_0133-135	Trench 1 first cleaning with ditch 10; Jan Dunbar and Moyra Simon	NE
DSC_0136-140	Trench 1 first cleaning with ditch 10	NE
DSC_0141-145	Trench 1 first cleaning with ditch 10	S
DSC_0146-153	Trench 1 first cleaning with ditch 10	SW
DSC_0154-158	Trench 1 first cleaning with ditch 10 detail	SE
DSC_0159-169	Trench 1 ditch 10 planning ; Jan Dunbar and Moyra Simon	
DSC_0170-187	Trench 2 cleaning with furrow 21; Derek Jennings	
DSC_0188-189	Trench 1 ditch 10 excavation ; Jan Dunbar and Moyra Simon	
DSC_0190-192	Trench 3 initial clean; Derek Jennings	
DSC_0193-196	Trench 3 ditch 31	NW
DSC_0197-200	Trench 3 ditch 31	SW
DSC_0201-206	Trench 3 ditch 31	ESE
DSC_0207-212	Trench 3 ditch 31 with Tr 2 and 1 in background	SE
DSC_0213-214	Trench 3 ditch 31	NW
DSC_0215	Trench 3 ditch 31	NE
DSC_0216-218	Trench 3 ditch 31	SE
DSC_0219-220	Trench 4 SE end with animal burrow	SE
DSC_0221	Trench 4 SE end with animal burrow	SW
DSC_0222-226	Trench 3 excavating ditch 31 (Derek Jennings) with Paul metal detecting on spoil heap	
DSC_0227	Trench 2 completed with furrow 21 sectioned (centre)	NW
DSC_0228-231	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer ; Jan Dunbar and Moyra Simon	
DSC_0232-233	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	SW
DSC_0234-237	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	SE
DSC_0238-240	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5 with Derek, Jan, Moyra	SW
DSC_0241-244	Trench 1 ditch 10 detail of burnt /organic layer 5	SE
DSC_0245-252	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	E/NE/N

DSC_0253	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	NW
DSC_0254	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	SW
DSC_0255-256	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5	NW
DSC_0257-259	Trench 1 ditch 10 uncovering burnt layer 5 Jan Moyra	
DSC_0260	Trench 3 ditch 31 Derek	NE
DSC_0261-263	Trench 3 ditch 31	NE/SE
DSC_0264	Trench 5 deturfing Derek and Jan	
DSC_0265-270	Trench 5 deturfing Derek and Jan	
DSC_0271-273	Trench 1 ditch 10 Jan and Sheila Duthie	
DSC_0274	Derek metal detecting around Trenches 1-4	
DSC_0275-283	Trench 3 ditch 31	SE
DSC_0284	Trench 3 ditch 31	S
DSC_0285-286	Trench 3 ditch 31	SE
DSC_0287-291	Trench 3 ditch 31	SW
DSC_0292-294	Trench 1 ditch 10 Jan and Sheila Duthie	SE
DSC_0295-297	Trench 5 first clean Andrew Kellock, Derek and Heather Jennings	E
DSC_0298-300	Trench 1 ditch 10 section	SE
DSC_0301-314	Trench 1 ditch 10	SSE/E
DSC_0315-319	Trench 1 ditch 10	NE
DSC_0320-325	Trench 1 ditch 10	SW
DSC_0326	Trench 1 ditch 10	SW
DSC_0333-334	Trench 5 first clean	N
DSC_0335	Trench 5 first clean	S
DSC_0336-338	Trench 5 Derek and heather looking at George III coin	SSW
DSC_0339	Trench 5 Derek with George III coin	N
DSC_0340-341	Trench 8 (right) Tr 9	
DSC_0342-344	Trench 6 deturfed	
DSC_0345-352	Metal detecting finds from area around Tr 6 up to 30cm down so trench closed	
DSC_0353-355	Trench 5 removal of layer 50 Derek, Neil Paterson, George Strachan	
DSC_0356	Trench 7 deturfing Derek and Jan	
DSC_0357-367	Trench 11 Neil Paterson, George Strachan, Sheila Duthie	
DSC_0368	Trench 5 first trowel; David Alderson, Derek Jennings, Helen Macdonald	

DSC_0369-373	Trench 11 cleaned	
DSC_0374-375	Trench 11 south end	W
DSC_0376-377	Trench 11 central area	W
DSC_0378-384	Trench 11	S
DSC_0385-389	Trench 11 marking out section line furrow 112; Neil Paterson and George Strachan	SSE
DSC_0390-391	Trenches 11 (left) 10,9,,8	W
DSC_0394-397	Discussing furrow 112 and ard mark 113 (L-R David, George, Joyce, Jan, Neil, Derek)	ESE
DSC_0398-402	Trench 11 furrow 112 half sectioned	N
DSC_0403-408	Trench 11 furrow 112 half sectioned	W
DSC_0409-413	Trench 11 furrow 112 half sectioned	S
DSC_0414-416	Trench 11 furrow 112 half sectioned	E
DSC_0417-418	Trench 5 looking at finds	
DSC_0419-422	Trench 7 natural in W end	W
DSC_0423-427	Trench 7 natural in W end	E
DSC_0428-433	Trench 9	W
DSC_0434-447	Trench 7 first clean	E
DSC_0448-467	Trench 7 first clean	E
DSC_0468-472	Trench 7 first clean	W
DSC_0473-477	Trench 7 ard mark 74 (background) 72 (foreground)	SE
DSC_0478-483	Trench 7 ard mark 74 (background) 72 (foreground)	SE
DSC_0484-488	Trench 7 ard mark 72 west end	SE
DSC_0489-493	Furrow 71	W
DSC_0494-498	Furrow 71 (foreground)	S
DSC_0499-504	Trench 7 ard mark 72 west end excavated	SSE
DSC_0505-515	Trench 7 ard mark 72 west end excavated	SSE
DSC_0516-518	Trench 7 George excavating furrow 71	E
DSC_0519-522	Trench 7 furrow 71 half excavated	E

DSC_0523-530	Trench 7 furrow 71 half excavated	W
DSC_0531-532	Trench 5 removing layer 50 Joyce Brown and George	
DSC_0533-537	Trench 11 possible ard mark 113	E
DSC_0538-541	Trench 11 Joyce uncovering ard marks	N
DSC_0542-548	Trench 11 waterwashed rivulets	N
DSC_0549-555	Trench 11 114	
DSC_0556-559	Trench 11 ard mark 115	E/W
DSC_0560-562	Trench 11	S
DSC_0563-565	Trench 9 cleaned by Neil and George	W
DSC_0566	Derek metal detecting around Tr 10	SW
DSC_0567-575	Trench 9 cleaned by Neil and George with plough marks 93 (foreground)	E
DSC_0576-580	Trench 11	S
DSC_0581-586	Trench 11	NNE
DSC_0587	Trench 10 first clean Alan and Elizabeth Cameron	E
DSC_0590-599	Trench 8 first clean Andrew, Derek and Mhorlach	W
DSC_0600-602	Trench 9 George	
DSC_0603-606	Trench 8 (foreground) Trench 9 (background)	SSW
DSC_0607	Trench 8 first clean Andrew, Derek	W
DSC_0608	Trench 10 first clean Alan and Elizabeth Cameron	WNW
DSC_0609-615	Trench 10 first clean Alan and Elizabeth Cameron	E
DSC_0616-617	Trench 10 first clean Alan and Elizabeth Cameron	ENE
DSC_0618-627	Trench 10 first clean Alan and Elizabeth Cameron	E
DSC_0628-632	Trench 9 furrow 91 (top) and modern plough marks 94 (foreground)	S
DSC_0633	Trench 9 George and Neil	ESE
DSC_0634	Trench 9	S
DSC_0635	Trench 9 east end George and Neil	S
DSC_0636	George	S
DSC_0637-642	Trench 10	W
DSC_0643-647	Trench 10 furrow 101 sectioned	E
DSC_0648-652	Trench 10 furrow 101 sectioned	E
DSC_0653-657	Trench 10 furrow 101 sectioned	E

DSC_0658-663	Trench 9	W
DSC_0664	Trench 8 Andrew and Derek	N
DSC_0665-666	Trench 8	E
DSC_0667	Trench 8 field drain	E
DSC_0668	Ironwork from field around Tr 8-11 (discarded)	
DSC_0669-674	Trench 12	N
DSC_0675-693	Trench 12 E section with furrow 121	E
DSC_0694-695	Trench 12 E section with furrow 121	NE
DSC_0696-698	Trench 12 E section with furrow 121	NW
DSC_0699-701	Trench 12 E section with furrow 121	NW
P1020320-23	Trench 1 start of machining	
P1020324-63	School classes visit	
P1020364-65	Trench 7 returfed with Stuart Farrell	
P1020366-67	Trench 5 returfed with Stuart Farrell	



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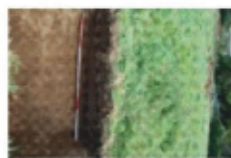
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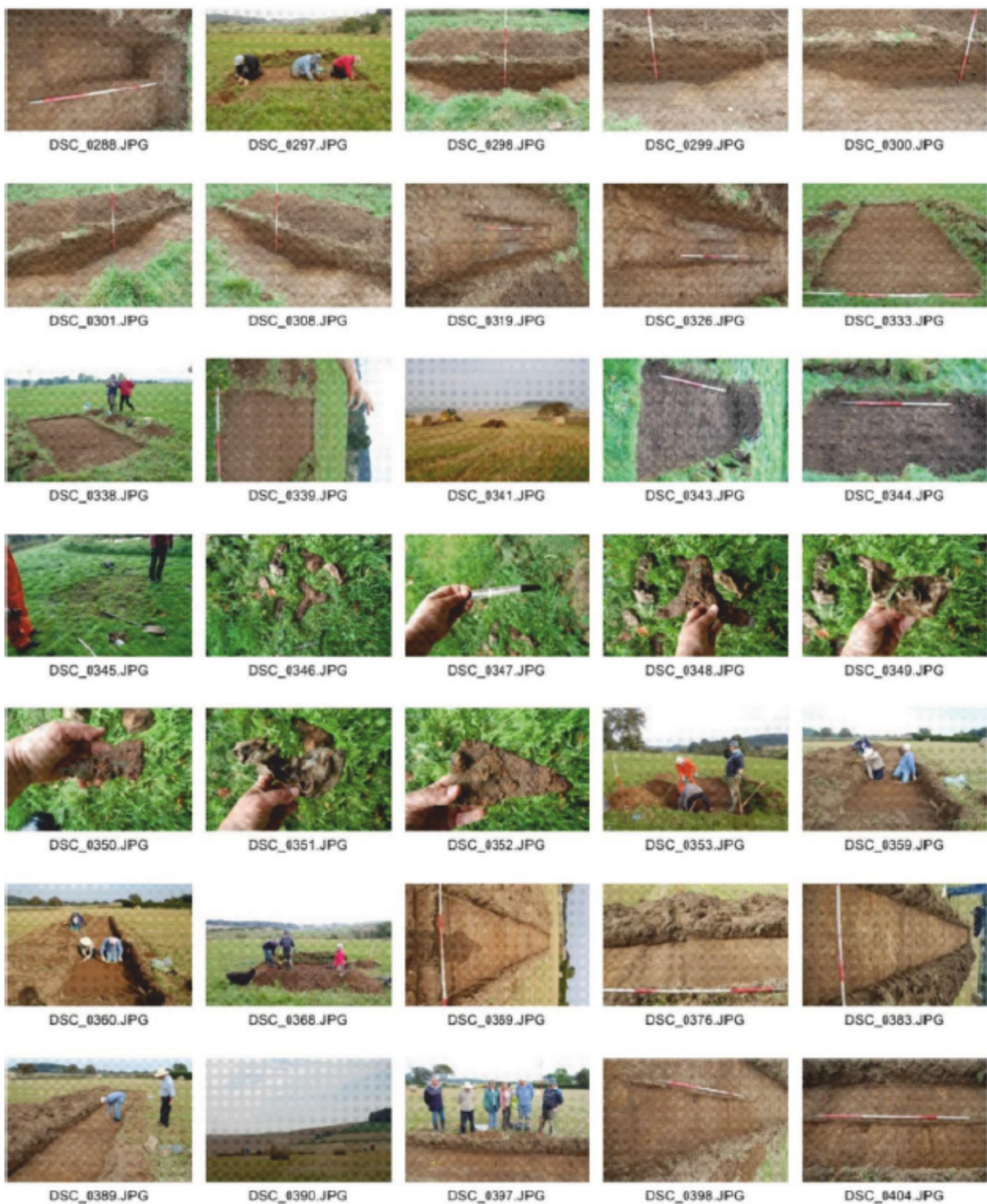
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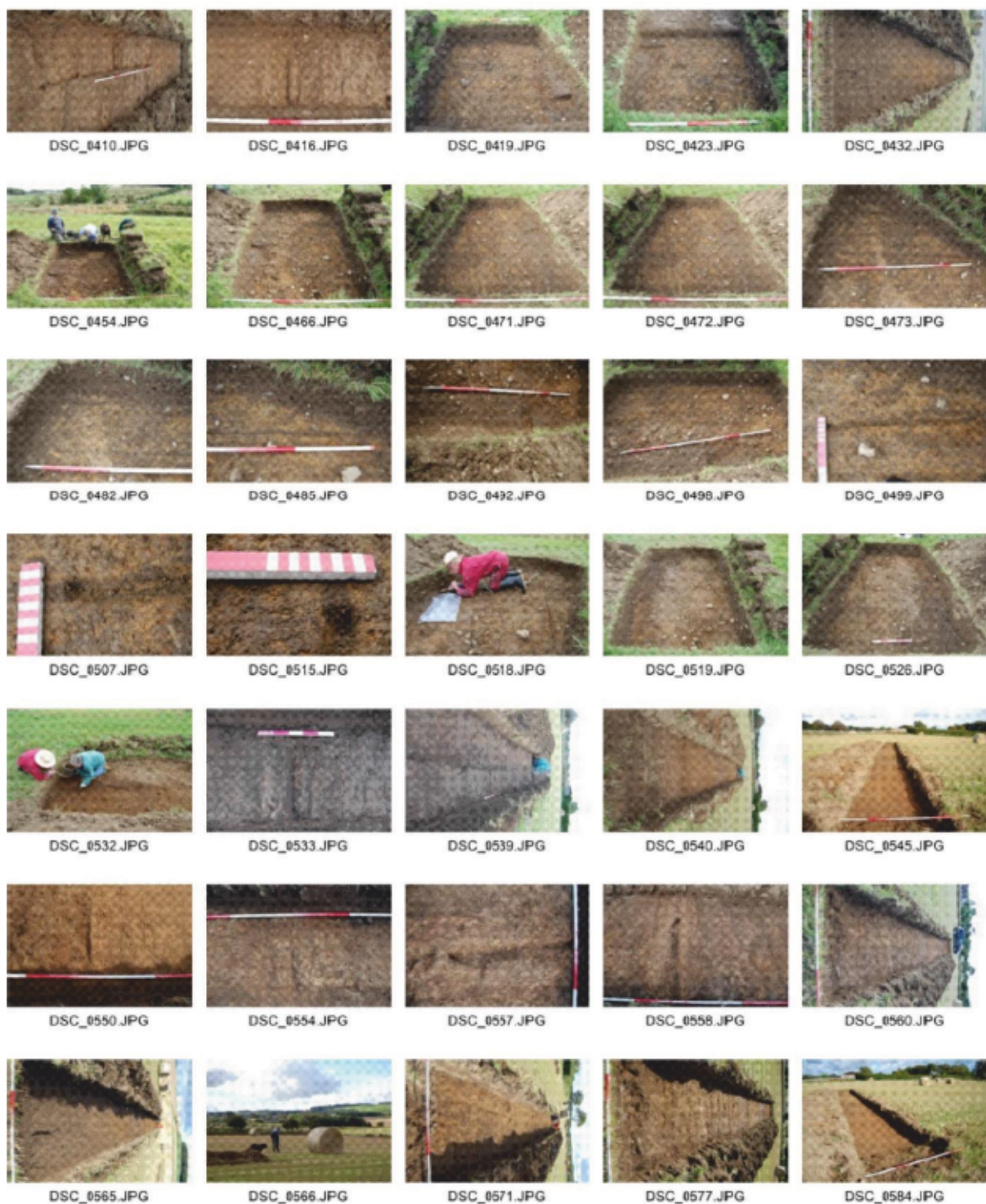


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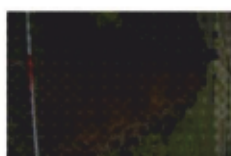
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APPENDIX 2 FEATURES

Context no	Description	Trench	Size
1	Mid brown rich loam topsoil with some small stones	1	45cm deep
2	Light grey and orange silty clay natural	1	-
3	Mid orange brown clayey loam with sparse charcoal; fill of ditch 10	1	1.95m wide, 0.14m deep
4	Mid grey clay silt with sparse charcoal; fill of ditch 10	1	1.15m wide; 0.04m deep
5	Dark brown clayey silt with charcoal; fill of ditch 10	1	0.42m wide, 0.03m deep
6	Loose stones and loam; fill of ditch 10	1	
7	Grey clay in base of ditch 10	1	1.4m wide, 0.1m deep
8	Yellowish clay and loam mix in side of ditch 10	1	0.4m wide, 0.8m deep
9	Yellowish clay and loam mix in ditch 10	1	30cm wide; 0.02m deep
10	Flat bottomed ditch	1	2.1m wide; 0.25m deep
20	Grey clay loam topsoil	2	0.25m deep
21	Furrow filled with 22	2	3.2m wide, 0.2m deep
22	Grey sandy clay and gravel fill of furrow 21	2	3.2m wide, 0.2m deep
30	Grey clay loam topsoil	3	0.4m deep
31	Flat bottom ditch with sloping sides	3	2.1m wide (not full), 0.6m deep
32	Clay and sand lens	3	0.5m wide, 0.05m deep
33	Dark grey clay loam with sparse charcoal	3	2.1m wide, 0.6m deep
40	Dark grey clay topsoil	4	0.25m deep
41	Linear trench; rabbit burrow not excavated	4	
50	Sandy grey gravel topsoil	5	0.28m deep
51	Brown grey sandy silt with small rounded stones; fill of 52	5	0.4-0.5m wide
52	Plough furrow	5	
60	Dark grey clayey loam topsoil; not excavated	6	
70	Dark grey sandy gravel topsoil	7	0.3m deep
71	Shallow depression in natural subsoil; furrow filled with 73	7	0.05m deep
72	V-shaped ard mark	7	0.03m deep, 0.02-0.03m wide
73	Very dark grey silty loam; fill of furrow 71	7	0.03m deep
74	V-shaped ard mark	7	0.03m deep, 0.02-0.03m wide

75	Rusty brown sandy clay with rounded stones; natural under rig adjacent to furrow 71	7	-
80	Medium grey sandy clay loam	8	0.25m deep
81	Trench for field drain; sectioned but not excavated	8	
90	Medium grey clayey loam topsoil	9	0.25m deep
91	Furrow along south edge of trench	9	0.05m deep
92	Medium brown sandy loam fill of furrow 91	9	
93	Two parallel scores in natural, ESE-WNW	9	0.05-0.08m wide, 0.02-0.03m deep; 0.45-0.50m apart
94	Four parallel scores in natural subsoil	9	
100	Medium grey clayey loam topsoil	10	0.35-0.4m deep
101	Flat bottomed shallow sided trench filled with 102	10	0.9m wide, 0.11m deep
102	Medium brownish grey sandy loam, fill of furrow 101	10	0.9m wide, 0.11m deep
110	Medium grey clay loam topsoil	11	0.2-0.25m deep
111	Medium grey sandy loam fill of furrow 112	11	1.5m wide, 0.05m deep
112	Shallow flat bottomed trench with sloping sides	11	1.5m wide, 0.05m deep
113	Possible v-shaped ard mark cut into natural subsoil	11	0.03m wide, 0.01-0.02m deep
114	v-shaped ard mark cut into natural subsoil	11	0.03m wide, 0.01-0.02m deep
115	v-shaped ard mark cut into natural subsoil; distance between 113-114 = 1.4m; 114-115 2.8m	11	0.03m wide, 0.01-0.02m deep
116	Parallel rivulets, possible ard mark with water run-off channels	11	0.02-0.03m wide, 0.01-0.02m deep
120	Dark grey brown clayey sand topsoil	12	0.3m deep
121	Furrow with flat base and sloping sides, fill 122	12	1m wide, 0.05-0.08m deep
122	Dark grey clayey sand fill of furrow 121	12	1m wide, 0.05-0.08m deep

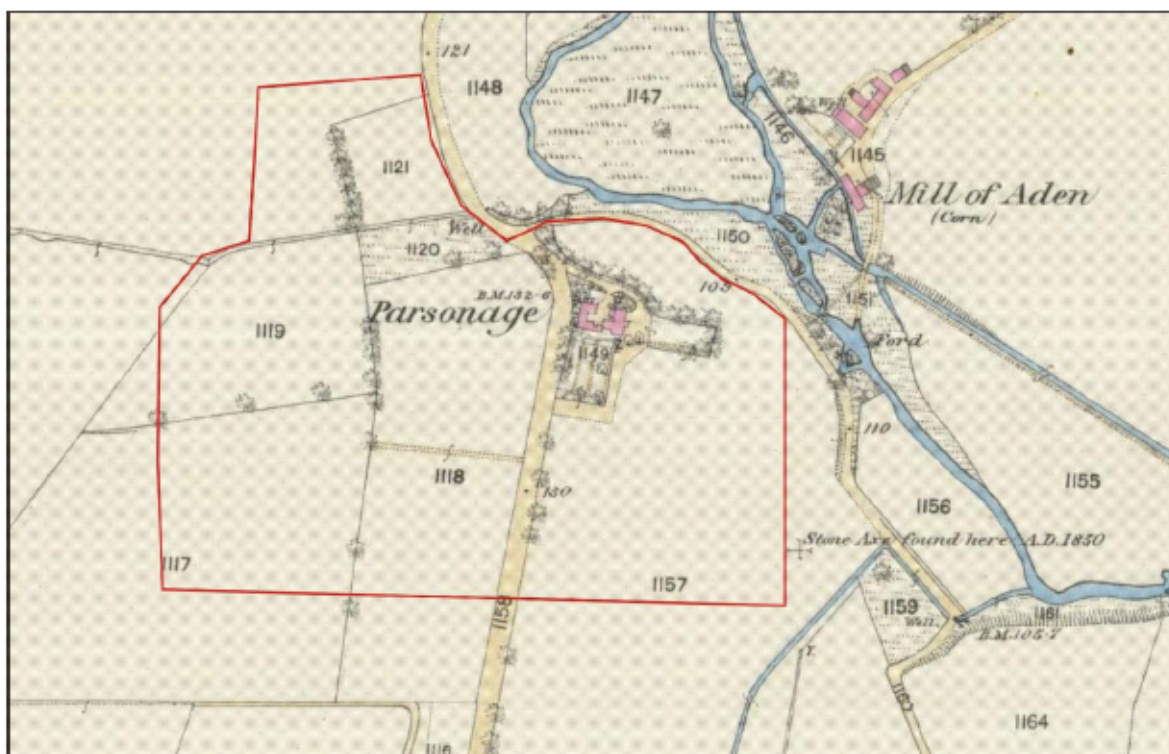
APPENDIX 3 FINDS

SF number	Context	Trench	Description
1	3	1	Abraded sherd medieval redware pottery, medium coarse, no traces of glaze, 13-14th century
2	30	3	Abraded sherd medieval redware pottery, fine pale orange fabric, traces of glaze, 13-15th century?
3	32	3	Light grey flint blade
4	33	3	Light brown struck flint with traces of cortex on one side
5	50	5	Light brown flint flake
6	50	5	Light brown flint cortex frag
7	50	5	Light brown flint struck? Frag with cortex
8	50	5	Light grey ?burnt flint frag
9	50	5	Reddish brown struck frag
10	60	6	Candlestick base, 45mm diameter, red fabric with yellow glazed and red lustre; stacking scar on base, glaze cracked; central aperture 13mm diameter, 5mm deep, very worn on base.
11			Light brown flint
12			molten clear glass
13			2 x lead waste
14			1900 Victoria silver 3d
15	100	10	light brown flint
16			3 light brown daub with plant impressions
17			3 x medieval pottery redware, abraded
18			1 molten lead lump
19			light brown flint
20			light brown flint
21			light brown flint
22			light brown flint
23			grey brown flint core
24			redware pottery sherd ?medieval
25			thin green semi-opaque glass sherd, marbled pattern on one side; twisted into ?petal shape
26	70	7	brown flint scraper
27	70	7	light brown flint
28	70	7	quartz
29	70	7	medium brown worked flint
30	70	7	medium brown worked flint
31	70	7	medium brown worked flint
32	70	7	rusty brown flint
33	110	11	rusty brown flint

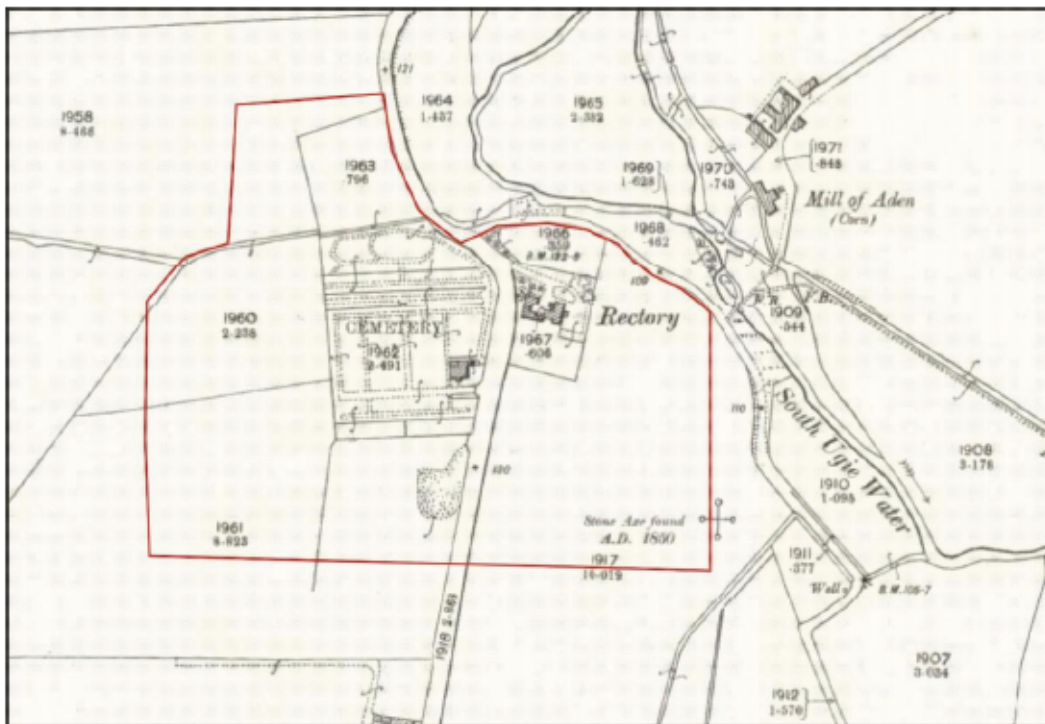
34	110	11	reddish brown flint nodule
35		50	5 George III 1817-1820
36		50	5 lead sheet
37		50	5 light brown flint nodule fragment
		1	1 green bottle glass
		1	1 green bottle glass
	30	3	base of black glass bottle 62mm diameter 30mm deep; 'C W & Co' on base
		32	3 1 rim spongeware green flowers and brown line around rim; one sherd modern brick
		32	3 1 rim spongeware green flowers and brown line around rim; one sherd modern brick
		50	5 17 china/dairy bowl; 3 green bottle glass, 1 slate, 1 quartz unworked
		50	5 1 clay pipe
		50	5 33 china/dairy bowl; 5 green bottle glass, 1 slate, 1 quartz unworked; 2 roof tile; 1 clay marble; 1 unworked quartz
		50	5 1 clay pipe
		60	6 4 modern bathroom tile, white'; 3 grey slate; 2 iron ; 1 green glass' 1 creamware
	70	7	2 x iron nails/bolt; 2 slate; 5 tile/brick; 17 china/pottery; 4 green glass; 3 clay pipe stem
		90	9 3 green bottle glass, 1 clear window glass, 1 redware brown glazed handle, 4 china including harbour scene wuith capstan and boat (photographed)
		90	9 1 creamware; one cream internally glazed bowl
		90	9 1 creamware; one cream internally glazed bowl
		110	11 1 roof tile 1 green glass 1 creamware
		110	11 iron block from tractor; copper alloy cap with screw fitting on interior; cap from tractor fitting
	110	11	1 nail, 1 coal, 2 slate, 1 clear bottle, 1 window, 5 brick,
		120	12 2 x china
	fieldwalking south field		7 brick, drainage pipe, roof tile, 26 china, and other ceramincs, 1 green glass bottle 1 clear glass bottle
	fieldwalking south field		chemistry spatula 'alcaloid?/made in Germany" 17 field drain and floor tile
	fieldwalking south field		1 iron cylinder, 1 copper alloy spoon, copper alloy fork tines; lead alloy cylindrical fitting; 2 clinker; lead alloy T-section fitting; 2 x quartz unworked; 1 x clear window glass;
	fieldwalking south field		1 x porcelain dolls face

	fieldwalking south field		6 x coins
	fieldwalking south field		1 copper alloy container, possible balance weight pan 28mm diameter 7mm deep
	fieldwalking south field		1 ?copper alloy sheet 1mm thick shaped with incised pattern; end of book marker or
	fieldwalking south field		1 red bead, 3 clinker, 1 plastic/bakelite 'flower'
	fieldwalking south field		2 coins; 1 x '2 annas' Queen Victoria

APPENDIX 4 MAPS



Illus 22 First Edition OS map showing outline of project area in red Aberdeen Sheet XXI.8 (Old Deer) Survey date: 1870 Publication date: 1873 (copyright National Library of Scotland).



Illus 23 Second Edition OS map showing outline of project area in red. Aberdeenshire, Sheet 021.08 Publication date: 1901 Revised: ca. 1899 (copyright National Library of Scotland).



Illus 24 Aerial photograph showing outline of project area in red (copyright NCAP)
 Date: 06 May 1988 Location: Scroghill, Old Deer, ABERDEENSHIRE, SCOTLAND
 Coordinates (lat, lon): 57.513265, -2.057744 Description: Part of the All Scotland Survey.
 UNI: NCAP-000-000-144-134 Sortie: ASS/60888 Frame: 0021 Image type: Vertical
 Scale: 24000

APPENDIX 5 NEWSPAPER ADVERTS FOR SALE OF CHEVERTON

CHEVERTON HOUSE, OLD DEER

This charmingly situated small Georgian house is For Sale privately. The house, which is in its own easily maintained grounds, half-a-mile from the village of Old Deer, has been modernised and has oil-fired central heating throughout.

The accommodation, which is compactly arranged, consists of 3 Public-Rooms, 3 Principal Bedrooms, 1 with dressing-room and all with w.c. basins, 2 smaller Bedrooms, Kitchen, Bathroom, Cloakroom with w.c. and washhand basin, etc.

Garage and useful Outbuildings. Delightful well-stocked Garden and Paddock. Good sea-trout and salmon fishing available on River Ugie which passes the house. Excellent sporting facilities in the neighbourhood including wild fowling and rough shooting. Early entry can be arranged.

Rateable Value £61.

For further particulars and viewing arrangements apply to Messrs James and George Collie, Advocates, 1 East Craibstone Street, Aberdeen, AB9 1YH. Tel. 28211.

Illus 27 Cutting from The Glasgow Herald May 3 1969 showing sale of Cheverton (<http://news.google.com/newspapers>)

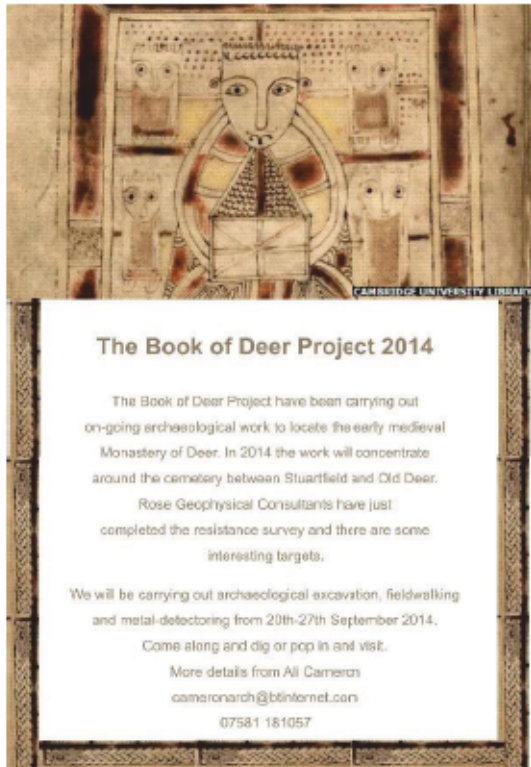
ABERDEENSHIRE

OLD DEER (CHEVERTON HOUSE). —

This charmingly situated eighteenth-century MANSE is FOR SALE, privately. The house, situated in its own easily maintained grounds, half-a-mile from the village of Old Deer has been modernised and has oil-fired central heating throughout. The accommodation which is compactly arranged, consists of 3 public-rooms, 3 principal bedrooms, 1 with dressing-room and all with wash-hand basins, 2 smaller bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom with w.c. and wash-hand basin, etc. Garage and useful outbuildings. Delightful well-stocked garden and paddock. Good sea trout and salmon fishing available on River Ugie which passes the house. Excellent sporting facilities in the neighbourhood including wild fowling and rough shooting. Early entry can be arranged. Rateable value £61. — For further particulars and viewing arrangements apply to either Messrs James & George Collie, Advocates, 1 East Craibstone Street, Aberdeen, AB9 1YH, telephone 28211 or Messrs Alfred Savill, Curtis & Henson, Chartered Surveyors 3 Dee Street Aberdeen AB1 2DQ, telephone 20986.

Illus 28 Cutting from The Glasgow Herald July 7 1970 showing sale of Cheverton (<http://news.google.com/newspapers>)

APPENDIX 6 PUBLICITY FOR 2014 EVENT



Illus 29 Poster for Book of Deer Project 2014

Home » Events » Book of Deer Project excavation

BOOK OF DEER PROJECT EXCAVATION

[View](#) [Edit](#) [Workflow](#)

DATE(S)



Saturday, September 20, 2014 (All day) to Saturday, September 27, 2014 (All day)

DESCRIPTION

The Book of Deer Project (<http://bookofdeer.co.uk/>) have been carrying out on-going archaeological work to locate the early medieval Monastery of Deer. In 2014 the work will concentrate around the cemetery at Stuartfield and the adjacent farmstead.

Rose Geophysical Consultants (<http://rosegeophysics.co.uk/>) have just completed a resistance survey of the area and there are several interesting 'targets' to look at. From Saturday 20th-27th September we will be carrying out a programme of archaeological excavation, fieldwalking and metal detecting. Come along to dig, help with fieldwalking or just to see what we have found. For more details please email Ali Cameron on cameronarch@btinternet.com.

CATEGORIES

-  School programme
-  Excavation

CONTACT

Ali Cameron

ORGANISATION

Cameron Archaeology Ltd

EMAIL

cameronarch@btinternet.com

CONTACT PHONE

07581 181057

LOCATION



LOCATION DETAILS

Fields around Stuartfield cemetery, Stuartfield, Aberdeenshire AB42 5DE

LOCAL AUTHORITY

Aberdeenshire



Illus 30 Scottish Archaeology Month website entry for Book of Deer Project 2014

Local pupils lend a hand at Crichtie Dig



The Book of Deer Project have carried out another search for the monastery of Deer and received help from a number of local school pupils.

The main focus of the dig, carried out under the direction of Aberdeen-based Cameron Archaeology, was to look for any evidence of the original 10th century Pictish monastery where the Book of Deer may have been written.

The Book of Deer Project has been searching for the monastery site for many years and the main thrust of this year's dig was focused on various fields around the graveyard at Stuartfield and Cheverton

The Book of Deer is Scotland's oldest surviving manuscript with evidence of Scotland's oldest surviving Gaelic containing place names from around Old Deer.

It contains the foundation legend for the early Monastery of Deer, how St Columba and St Drostan came to Deer and built a monastery, however it has never been established how large it was or where it was sited.

There were many reasons for choosing the site of this year's dig, but one main point was the legend that the original church of Deer was built at Biffie, the site of this year's dig.

One hundred local primary school children from Stuartfield, Longside, Fetterangus, Maud and Kinninmonth took part in this year's dig on Thursday, September 25, and made a very valuable contribution to The Book of Deer Project's search for the monastery.

Derek Jennings of The Book of Deer Project said: "We would like to thank Mr Stevens of Crichtie Home Farm, Georgie Burnet Stuart, Mr Mowatt of Biffie, Mr and Mrs Bellamy of Cheverton, Ali and Sue – Rose Geophysics, Ali Cameron of Cameron Archaeology, Stuartfield, Longside, Kinninmonth, Fetterangus and Maud Primary pupils and staff who helped with the dig.

"Thanks also to Joyce Brown, Andrew Kellock, George Strachan, Paul Baxter, Alan and Elizabeth Cameron, Helen MacDonald and her Husband, Graeme Buchan and the owner of the field North of the Graveyard, Jan Dunbar and everyone else who gave us their time."

Illus 31 Buchan Observer 15.10.14 (accessed online <http://www.buchanobserver.co.uk/news/groups-and-communities/local-pupils-lend-a-hand-at-crichtie-dig-1-3556499>)

Buchan pupils lend a hand at Crichtie dig

Search continues for Book of Deer monastery

BY KIRSTY TOPP
FRASERBURGH PRESS.CO.UK
@buchannews

The Book of Deer Project has carried out another search for the Monastery of Deer and received help from a number of local school pupils.

The main focus of the dig, carried out under the direction of Aberdeen-based Cameron Archaeology, was to look for any evidence of the original 10th Century Pictish monastery where the Book of Deer may have been written.

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The Book of Deer is Scotland's oldest surviving manuscript with evidence of Scotland's oldest surviving Gaelic containing place names from around the Old Deer area.

It contains the foundation legend for the early Monastery of Deer, how St. Columba and St. Drostan came to Deer and built a monastery.

However, it has never been established as to how large it was or where it was sited.

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Kininmonth pupils dig at the site located just outside Stuartfield.

was the legend that the original church of Deer was built at Biffie, the site of this year's dig.

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Buchan resi with hearin asked to jo

Action on Hearing Loss Scotland is inviting people in Buchan who are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus to join the charity's research panel and help influence its work. Volunteers will have regular opportunities to take part in the charity's research projects by completing surveys as well as through interviews and focus groups.

Evidence gathered through the research will inform Action on the Loss's policy, service campaigning work for where hearing loss is silenced and who look after their he



Illus 32 Fraserburgh Herald 2 October 2014 (photo Gemma Mutch)

APPENDIX 7 FLINT CATALOGUE

CAT No	Orig SF No	Tr	Context	Other	Artefact type	Sub-type	Blank type	Fragment	Perc type	Ret type	Ret position	Reduction sequence	Raw-material	Burnt	Length, mm	Width, mm	Thickness, mm	Gr dim, mm	Comments
1	3	3	032		Piece w edge-retouch		Blade	Medial-distal	Uncertain	Fine retouch	Right lateral side	Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	29.00	12.00	5.00	0.00	Use-wear from cutting along both edges. Probably Yorkshire flint.
2	4	3	033				Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	17.00	29.00	9.00	0.00	Apparent notch is probably just concavity along old platform-edge.
3	5	5	050				Flake	Medial	Uncertain	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	13.00	17.00	2.00	0.00	
4	6	5	006				Flake		Uncertain	Unretouched		Primary	Flint	FALSE	34.00	19.00	8.00	0.00	
5	7	5	050				Flake	Distal	Uncertain	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	16.00	26.00	7.00	0.00	
6	8	5	050				Flake	Proximal	Hard	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	TRUE	20.00	17.00	6.00	0.00	
7	9	5	050				Flake		Bipolar	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	18.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	
8	11			Fieldwalking, S Field			Blade		Bipolar	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	35.00	17.00	7.00	0.00	
9	15	10	100		Scale-flaked knife		Blade		Hard	Fine retouch	Left lateral side	Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	28.00	15.00	8.00	0.00	A few detached chips at the distal end may amount to

																			an expedient oblique truncation. Crested dorsal. Finely faceted platform remnant - Levallois-like flake.
10	19			Fieldwalking, S Field	End-/side-scraper		Flake	Distal	Uncertain	Coarse retouch	Distal/left side	Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	28.00	23.00	6.00	0.00	Straight, steep scraper-edge at distal end; convex, steep scraper-edge LHS.
11	20			Fieldwalking, S Field			Blade		Bipolar	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	33.00	15.00	13.00	0.00	Although apparently a standard platform at one end, the bruised character of the distal end and the character of the flake's ripples indicate the use of an anvil.
12	21			Fieldwalking, S Field			Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	23.00	18.00	5.00	0.00	Finely faceted platform. Although local flint, clearly Levallois-like technique.

13	22			Fieldwalking, S Field			Flake	Proximal-medial	Hard	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	31.00	26.00	4.00	0.00	
																			Crudely shaped and decorticated piece. Probably based on ballast flint. Most likely late historic object. All edges and arrisses heavily battered/bruised by being struck with a steep strike-a-light.
14	23				Fire-flint	'Shaped'	Core			Very coarse retouch	Various	Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	54.00	38.00	23.00	0.00	
15	26	7	070		Short end-scraper		Flake		Hard	Coarse retouch	Distal	Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	29.00	29.00	10.00	0.00	Finely faceted platform remnant. Local flint but clearly Levallois-like technique.
16	27	7	070				Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	30.00	30.00	16.00	0.00	
17	28	7	070				Flake	Distal	Uncertain	Unretouched		Tertiary	Quartz	FALSE	15.00	9.00	5.00	0.00	
18	29	7	070				Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	25.00	16.00	8.00	0.00	
19	30	7	070				Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	17.00	19.00	5.00	0.00	
20	31	7	070				Flake		Platform collapse	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	19.00	18.00	5.00	0.00	

21	32	7	070				Flake		Hard	Unretouched		Tertiary	Flint	FALSE	24.00	17.00	5.00	0.00	
22	33	11	110		Split/flaked pebble							Secondary	Flint	TRUE	37.00	43.00	19.00	0.00	Prob. split by the application of bipolar technique.
23	34	11	110				Flake	Medial	Uncertain	Unretouched		Secondary	Flint	FALSE	18.00	21.00	7.00	0.00	Heavily abraded ('rolled') edges. Any dunes or water nearby?

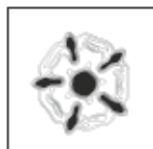
**Geophysical Survey Report
Book of Deer Project 2014**

RGC14124/BDP

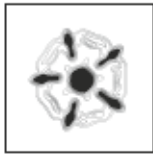


On behalf of:

Cameron Archaeology



Rose Geophysical Consultants:
Specialising in Archaeological Survey and Consultancy



Rose Geophysical Consultants LLP:
Specialising in Archaeological Survey and Consultancy

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www.rosegeophysics.co.uk

Registered in Scotland No. 304077

VAT Registration No: 141 7787 93

Executive Summary

Four areas around the Cheverton Manse were investigated by resistance survey as part of a wider archaeological evaluation as part of the Book of Deer Project.

The resistance survey has identified numerous anomalies across the four survey areas. The majority of the anomalies appear to be associated with modern features such as former track ways and ditches, while others appear to have a natural or agricultural origin. Within Area B several linear and rectilinear anomalies were detected which suggested potential archaeologically significant features.

Subsequent excavation has confirmed that many of the anomalies detected by the resistance survey are natural and/or agricultural in origin. In particular, the anomalies in Area B were found to be due to sharp changes in the subsoil from clays to sands and gravels, further delineated by agricultural activity, although a ditch type feature was also revealed.

Survey:	Book of Deer Project 2014
Client:	Cameron Archaeology
Date of Survey:	9 th – 12 th September
Survey Personnel:	Dr S M Ovenden and A S Wilson
Report Author:	Dr S M Ovenden
Date of Draft Report:	27 th October 2014

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Four areas around the Cheverton Manse were investigated by resistance survey as part of a wider archaeological evaluation as part of the Book of Deer Project.
- 1.2 The location of the survey areas are displayed in Figure 1 at a scale of 1: 1250. Summary greyscale images and an interpretation diagram are provided in Figures 2 and 3, also at 1:1250. Archive plots at 1:625 are provided in Figures 4 – 12.

2. Methodology

- 2.1 Prior to data collection a series of 20m grids were established across the site. The survey grid was tied-in to hard features depicted on Ordnance Survey maps and has been lodged with the client
- 2.2 Earth resistance surveys measure variations in the moisture content of the earth's subsurface by passing a small electrical current through the subsurface. Features such as walls, foundations, rubble, bedrock and sands and gravels will show as high resistance anomalies. Features such as ditches, robber trenches and furrows, with their humic fill, will result in a low resistance response.
- 2.3 Resistance survey was carried out using a Geoscan RM85 resistance meter. For this survey a standard twin probe configuration was used with a mobile probe separation of 0.5m providing a depth resolution of approximately 0.75m. Data was collected at 1m by 1m intervals.
- 2.4 The data was processed with Geoscan Research Geoplot 3.00, using a standard range of corrections and processing algorithms. Raw, interpolated and high pass filtered data have been included in the report. Interpolating data has the effect of smoothing the data image by interpolating the data in both the X and Y directions resulting in the appearance of a 0.5m by 0.5m sample interval. Running a High Pass Filter on the data effectively removes background trends within the data thereby enhancing more discrete anomalies. The data have been displayed at a variety of levels, in an attempt to pull out more subtle anomalies. In area resistance survey the data values themselves are not significant but rather the changes relative to the background level of response are. In some of the figures the data are plotted at absolute values in ohms (Ω). In other plots the statistics of the full data range are used and the data are plotted at plus/minus one or two standard deviations (SD).

3. Results of Resistance Survey

Anomaly numbers referred to below are shown on the accompanying interpretation diagrams.

Area A

- 3.1 Survey was carried out in the pasture field surrounding the Rectory. Survey was not undertaken within the garden due to the pond, drives, trees and other obstructions severely limiting the area suitable for survey.
- 3.2 A broad area of high resistance (1) is visible in the west of the survey area and is thought to be due to geological variations.
- 3.3 The curvilinear low resistance anomaly (2) in the north and east of the survey area is believed to be due to an earlier road and is particularly clear in the high-pass filtered data in Figure 6. This anomaly appears to extend to the southwest (3). However the data are a little confused in this area due to a cluster of anomalous responses. These appear to lie just beyond the eastern limits of a field shown on the 1st Ed OS map but may be associated with it.
- 3.4 In the south of the survey area there are suggestions of rectilinear high resistance anomalies. There are further indications of discrete anomalies (4) and (5) which are clearest in the high pass filtered data, Figure 6. The lateral extent of these anomalies suggests they are not necessarily structural remains but could be archaeologically significant indicating former paths or field divisions.
- 3.5 Numerous trends have been noted on the interpretation and these are thought to be due agricultural activity.

Area B

- 3.6 Areas along the southern and eastern limits of this pasture field were not appropriate for survey due to dense vegetation.

- 3.7 Several anomalies of potential interest have been detected within this survey area. A well-defined area of high resistance (6) has been detected towards the centre of the survey area. The nature of the response with its well-defined edges suggest possible structural remains, with the rectilinear anomaly (7) possibly being associated with a square crop mark visible in aerial photographs.
- 3.8 To the south of (6) more ephemeral high resistance anomalies (8) are visible suggesting a possible associated enclosure extending south-eastwards. The nature of the anomalies would suggest a possible bank or possibly wall footings although, at the end of a hot summer, it is possible that a clay filled ditch may appear as a high resistance response.
- 3.9 The linear anomaly (9) in the west of the survey area coincides with a bank visible on the ground marking an earlier field division. This anomaly extends northwards beyond the visible bank and appears to terminate at a further linear anomaly (10). Although a field boundary is shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps in this area it is not on the same alignment as (10).
- 3.10 A further well-defined zone of high resistance (11) is apparent on the western limits of the survey area. As with (6) the nature of the response and its apparent association with linear anomalies suggest it may be archaeologically significant rather than simply due to localised geological and pedological variations.

Area C

- 3.11 Due to dense vegetation and disturbed ground, including recent burials, only a limited area was suitable for survey within this area. Interpretation of the data is cautious due to the nature of the ground (e.g. dumping and possible digging of soil) and modern debris including concrete within the survey area.
- 3.12 The well-defined area of low resistance defined by a clear edge (12) in the east of the survey area is due to the different nature of the ground cover and coincides with a former field division shown on the OS Map. Similarly the well-defined low resistance anomaly along the southern edge (13) is thought to be due to dumping of soil.

- 3.13 Several well-defined high resistance anomalies (14) and (15) are apparent in the data. While an archaeological origin for these responses cannot be dismissed, particularly (15), the nature of the ground makes interpretation cautious. These anomalies may be due modern landscaping.
- 3.14 The high resistance anomaly (16) in the southeast of the survey area is due to landscaping associated with the adjacent graveyard.

Area D

- 3.15 The well-defined low resistance anomaly (17) on the eastern edge of the survey area is due to an in-filled ditch indicated on the OS map. Immediately to the west of (17) is a broad band of high resistance with a well-defined eastern edge (18) which coincides with a former field boundary indicated on the map.
- 3.16 In the west of the survey area a cluster of amorphous high resistance anomalies has been recorded, which are best viewed in the high pass filtered data, Figure 12. When viewing the summary image, Figure 2, it appears that (19) is a continuation of the anomalies seen in Area C to the north. This would suggest a possible geological origin, although an archaeological origin cannot be ruled out.
- 3.17 The linear anomalies (20) within the data are due to the banks of uncollected hay/straw within the field

4. Discussion

This part of the report incorporates the results from subsequent excavation that took place after the geophysical survey, as reported in "Book of Deer Project, Stuartfield Cemetery/Cheverton. 20-26 September 2014", Alison Cameron, Cameron Archaeology.

Area A

- 4.1 Excavation (Tr's 5 and 7) has confirmed that the trends apparent in the data in the south east of the area are agriculture features, including ridge and furrow.

- 4.2 The information provided by the land owner that the land immediately surrounding the pond is made ground may explain the cluster of high resistance anomalies apparently associated with (3) in the immediate area. These anomalies are possibly the remains of 'dumps' associated with this made ground.
- 4.3 While most of the high resistance anomalies in Area's B, C, and D are now known to be associated with geological and pedological variations (see below), it is thought that the linear anomaly (4) paralleling the track leading to Cheverton Manse is still possibly a former pathway or field boundary.

Area B

- 4.4 Excavation (Tr 2) has shown that the high resistance anomalies (6 & 7) central to the survey area are due to geological/pedological changes between the natural clays and sands and gravels. Anomaly 11 is likely to have the same origin. The sharp linear edges of some of the anomalies was thought to possibly indicate structural remains, however, this hypothesis is now discounted.
- 4.5 Trenches 1 and 3 have confirmed anomalies 8 and 10 to be ditches.

Area D

- 4.6 Excavation (Tr's 8, 9 & 10) in this area has again confirmed that the high resistance anomalies (19) are due to geological/pedological changes.
- 4.7 The E-W trends with this area thought to have possibly been due to the current crop lying in the field may actually indicate ridge and furrow as found by excavation, or possibly both.

5. Conclusions

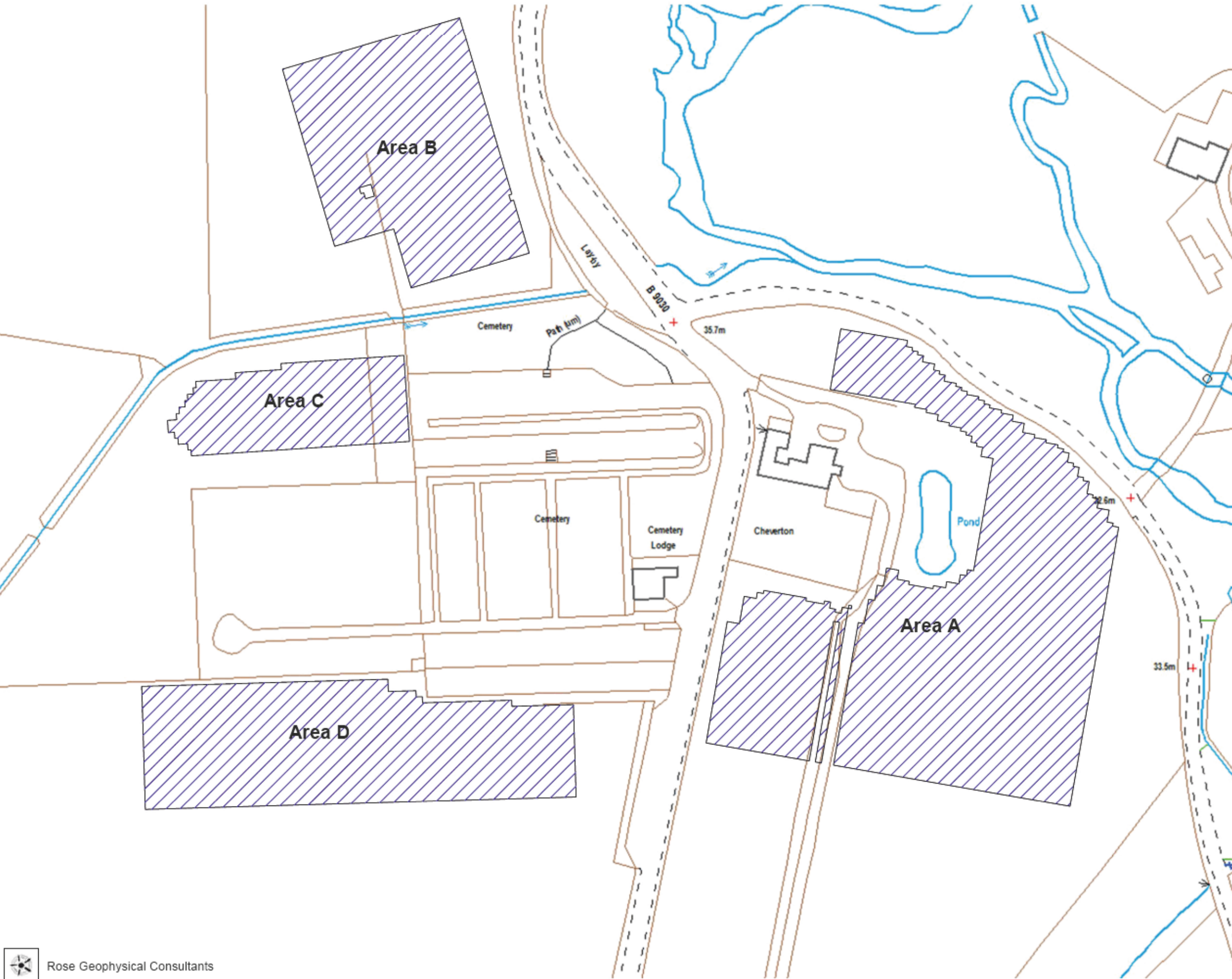
- 5.1 The resistance survey has identified numerous anomalies across the four survey areas. The majority of the anomalies appeared to be associated with modern features such as former track ways and ditches, while others appeared to have a natural or agricultural origin.

- 5.2 Within Area B several linear and rectilinear anomalies were detected which suggested potential archaeologically significant features.
- 5.3 Subsequent excavation has confirmed that many of the anomalies detected by the resistance survey are natural and/or agricultural in origin. In particular, the anomalies in Area B were found to be due to sharp changes in the subsoil from clays to sands and gravels, further delineated by agricultural activity, although a ditch type feature was also revealed.

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Figure 3	Summary Interpretation	1:1250
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Figure 11	Area D: Raw Data & Interpolated Data	1:625
Figure 12	Area D: High Pass Filtered Data & Interpretation	1:625

BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY
Location Diagram



 Survey Area



0m 50m

Figure 1

BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY
Summary Greyscale

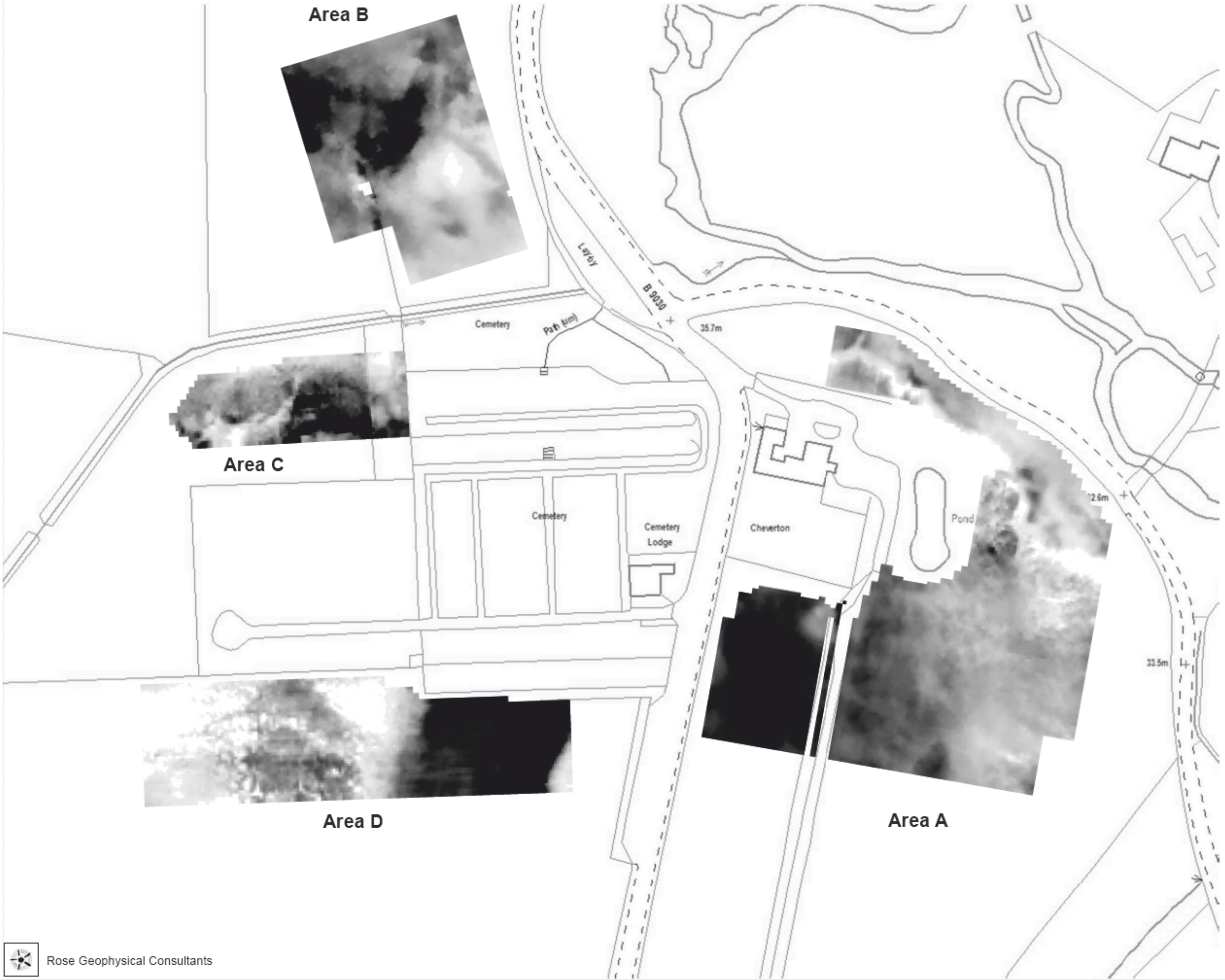


Figure 2

BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY
Summary Interpretation

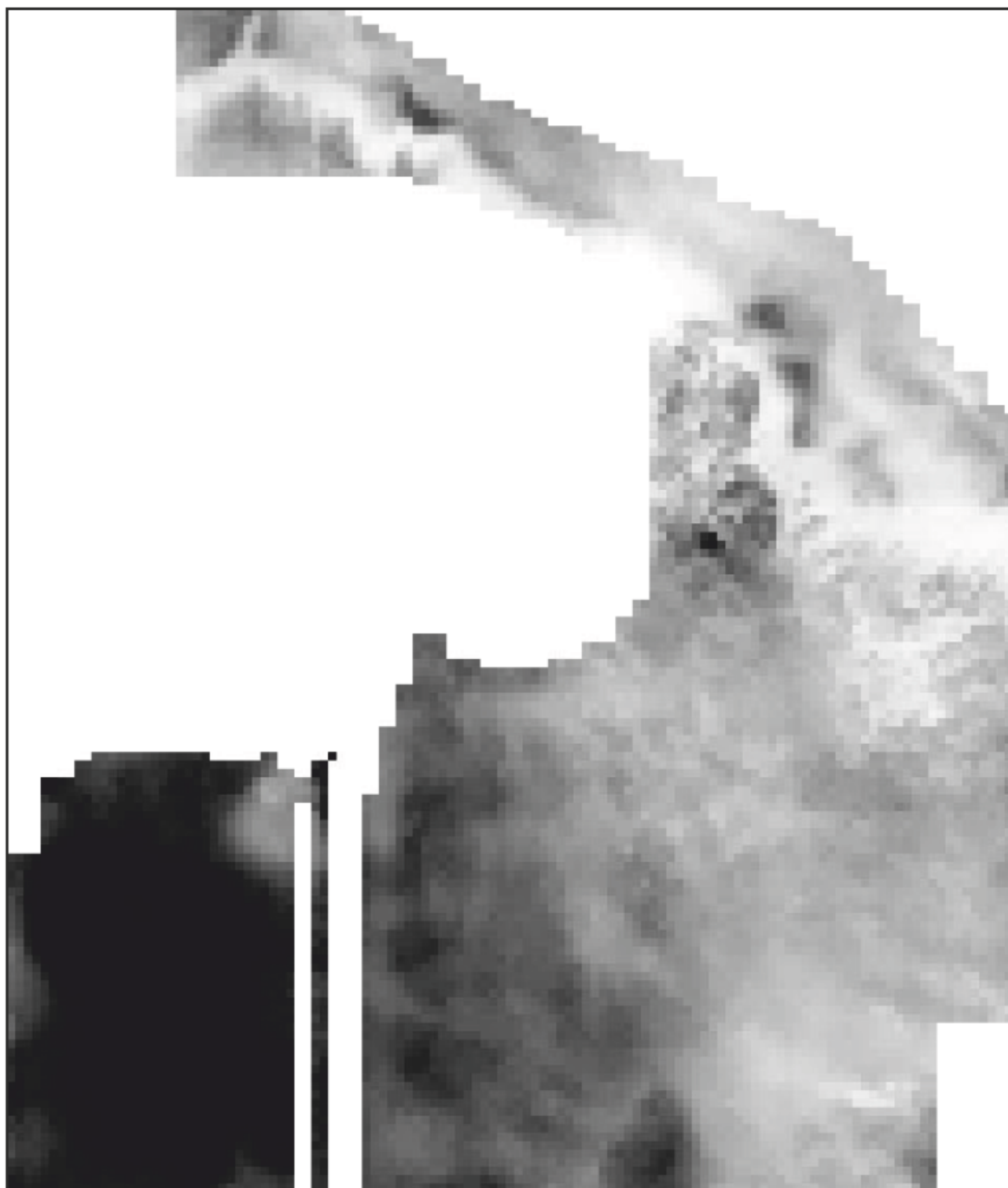


- High Resistance: ? Archaeology/Natural
- High Resistance: ? Natural/Modern
- High Resistance: ? Natural
- Low Resistance: ? Modern
- Trend



BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY

Area A
Raw Data



BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY

Area A
Interpolated Data



BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY


Area A
High Pass Filtered Data





**BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY**


**Area A
Interpretation**



 High Resistance:
? Archaeology/Natural

 High Resistance:
? Natural/Modern

 High Resistance:
? Natural

 Low Resistance:
? Modern

 Trend

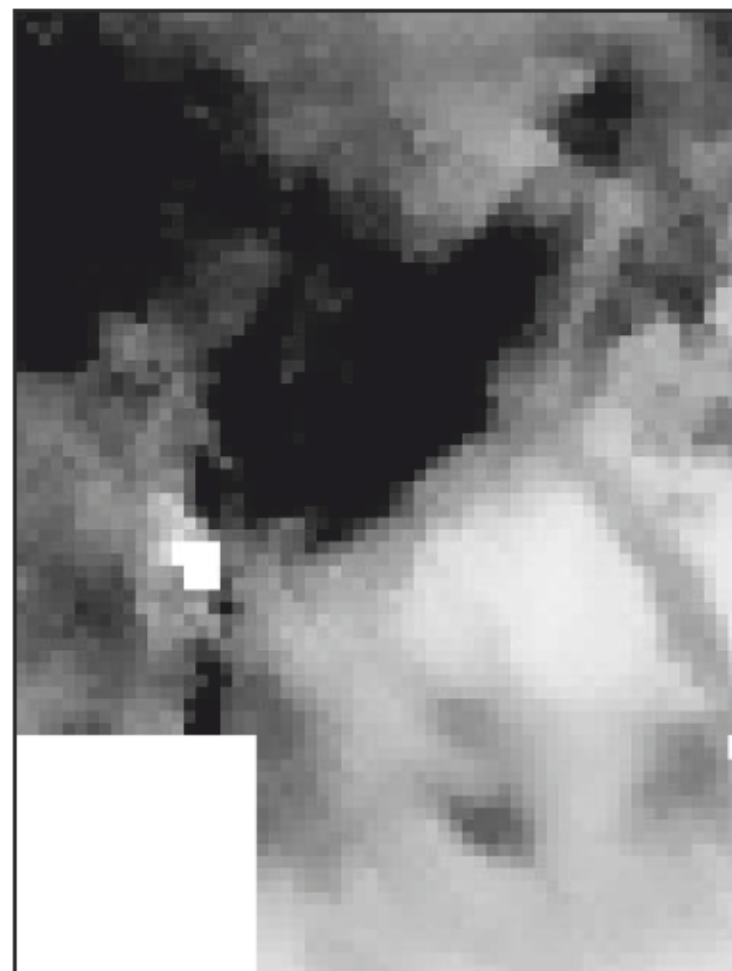


0m 20m

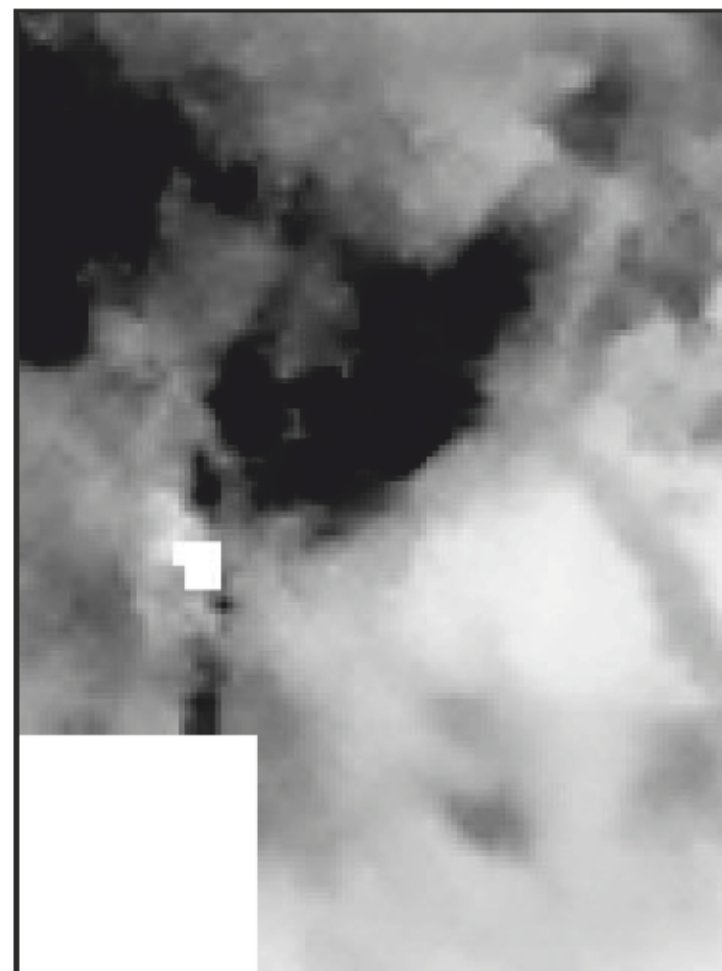
**BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY**

**Area B
Raw & Interpolated Data**

Raw Data



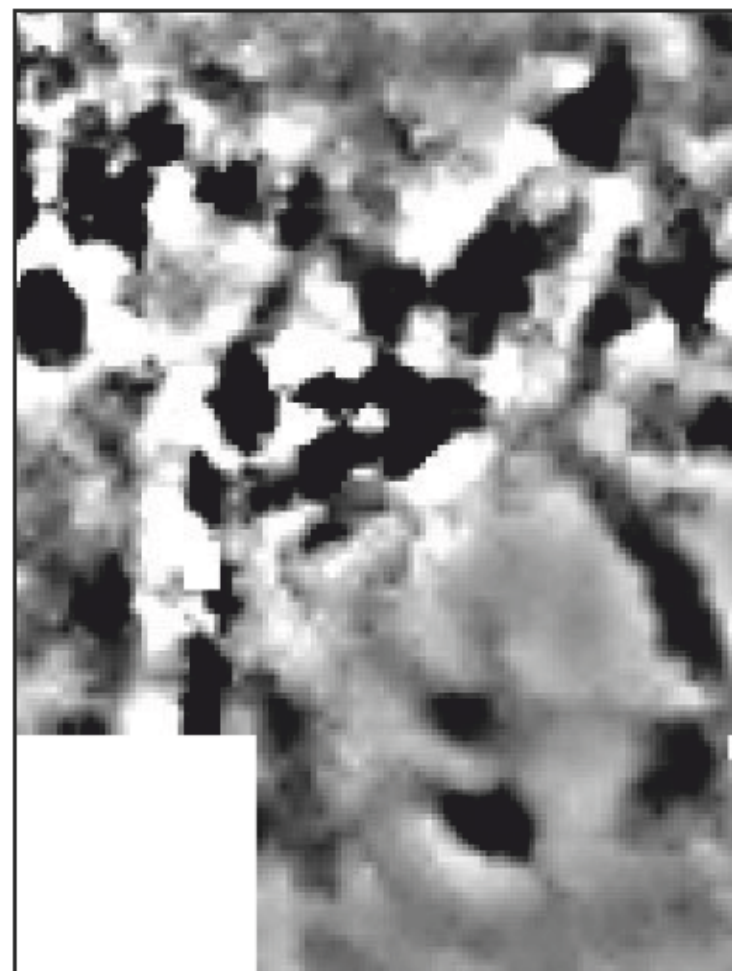
Interpolated Data



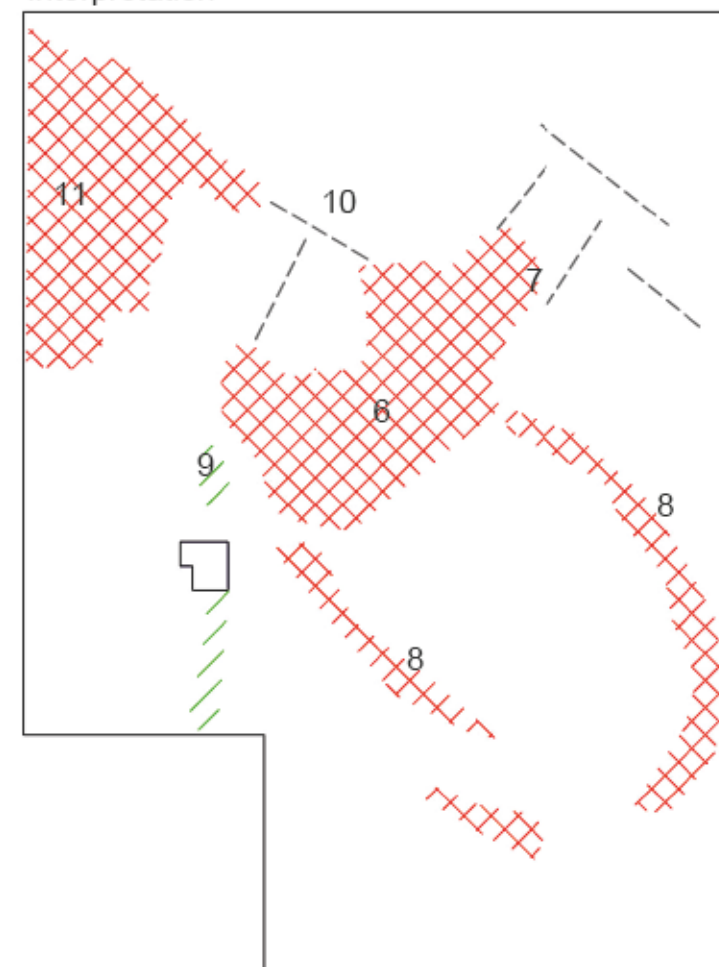
**BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY**


**Area B
Filtered Data & Interpretation**


High Pass Filtered Data





Interpretation



 High Resistance:
? Archaeology/Natural

 High Resistance:
? Natural/Modern

 High Resistance:
? Natural

 Low Resistance:
? Modern

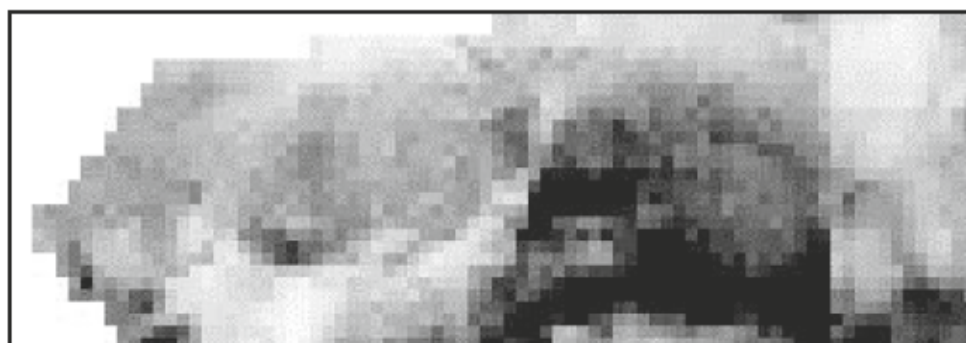
 Trend



BOOK OF DEER PROJECT RESISTANCE SURVEY

Area C

Raw Data



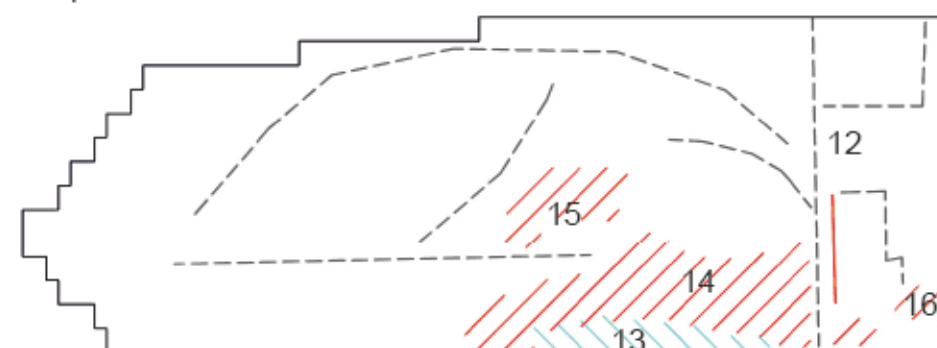
Interpolated Data





High Pass Filtered Data





Interpretation



 High Resistance:
? Archaeology/Natural

 High Resistance:
? Natural/Modern

 High Resistance:
? Natural

 Low Resistance:
? Modern

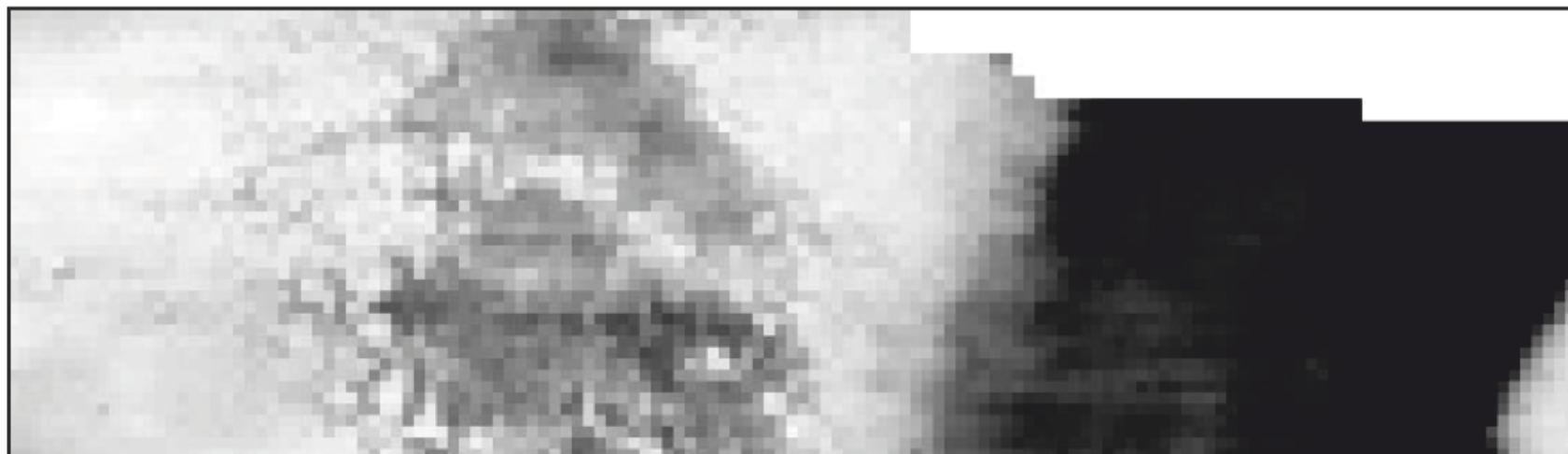
 Trend



BOOK OF DEER PROJECT
RESISTANCE SURVEY

Area D
Raw & Interpolated Data

Raw Data



Interpolated Data

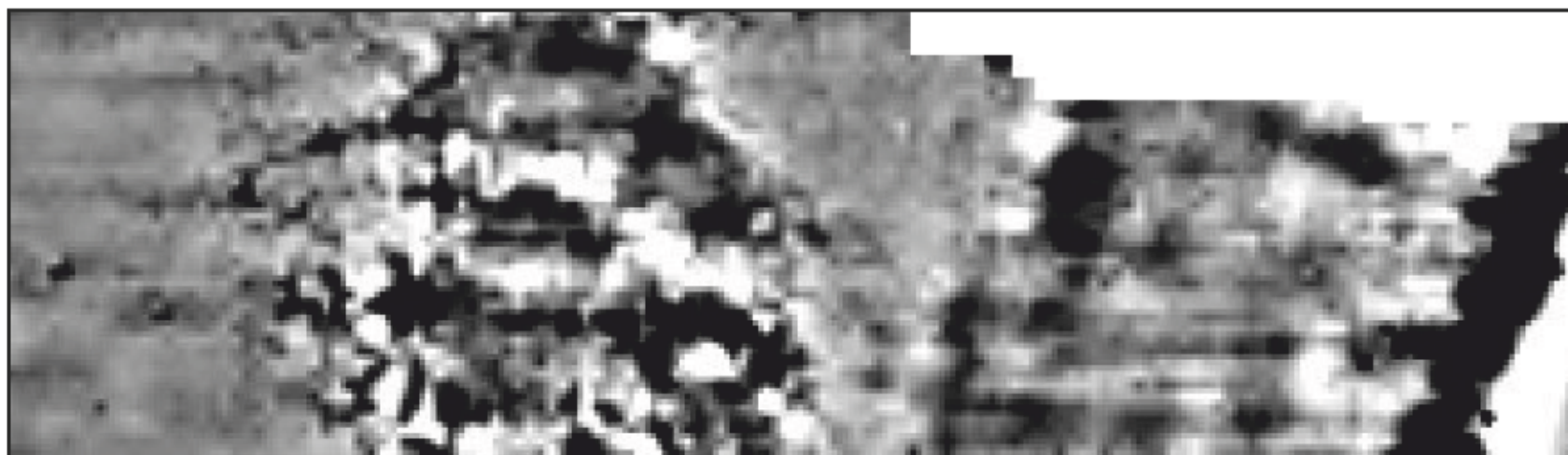


BOOK OF DEER PROJECT RESISTANCE SURVEY


Area D


Filtered Data & Interpretation


High Pass Filtered Data



 High Resistance:
? Archaeology/Natural

 High Resistance:
? Natural/Modern

 High Resistance:
? Natural

 Low Resistance:
? Modern

 Trend



Interpretation

