

**BOOK OF DEER 16, OLD DEER, ABERDEENSHIRE,
AB42 5FQ
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT**



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2 October 2016**

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SUMMARY

The excavation took place from 3-9th September 2016. Twenty-six archaeologists, students and local volunteers took part in the project which was funded by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service. Sixteen trenches were located in Old Deer village, the Episcopal Church and the Parish Church graveyard.

The trenches in the village revealed the remains of cottages at 14 Abbey Street including a cobbled area, and a cobbled yard or roadway between 8-10 Abbey Street and the Kemp Hall, an area which appears to have been a track or road between the buildings. Nothing earlier than these post-medieval structures were recorded in these trenches. In the garden of 8-10 Abbey Street there were 19th to 20th-century deposits down to 1m depth although a 17th-century coin was recovered. At the rear of the Episcopalian Church the ground had been prone to flooding and the area was raised in height using stony rubble sealed with clay, but no other deposits were found and no finds earlier than the 19th century were recovered.

Eleven trenches were excavated in the Parish Church graveyard to determine the make-up of the ground. A trench within the medieval ruin in 2011 had encountered human remains and had to be abandoned and trenches in 2015 on the N and E side of the medieval ruin revealed post-medieval deposits including mortar, plaster and stones from building construction, demolition or repairs but no medieval remains. Anomalies from the geophysical survey on the E side of the medieval ruin were revealed to be post-medieval mortar deposits. In this season Trench 6 was positioned to identify a N-S geophysical anomaly identified at 1.5-1.75m depth on the ground radar survey. The trench was located at the W end of the medieval ruin within the area of the church which was demolished when the 1780s Parish Church was constructed. The foundation trench of the S wall of the medieval church was excavated and this had been dug through by a post 1780s grave. A 17th-century coin was found in the topsoil of this trench. An area of undisturbed medieval burial soil was identified but these burials were left unexcavated. Natural subsoil was located within this trench and it is unlikely that the N-S anomaly is the remains of a structure.

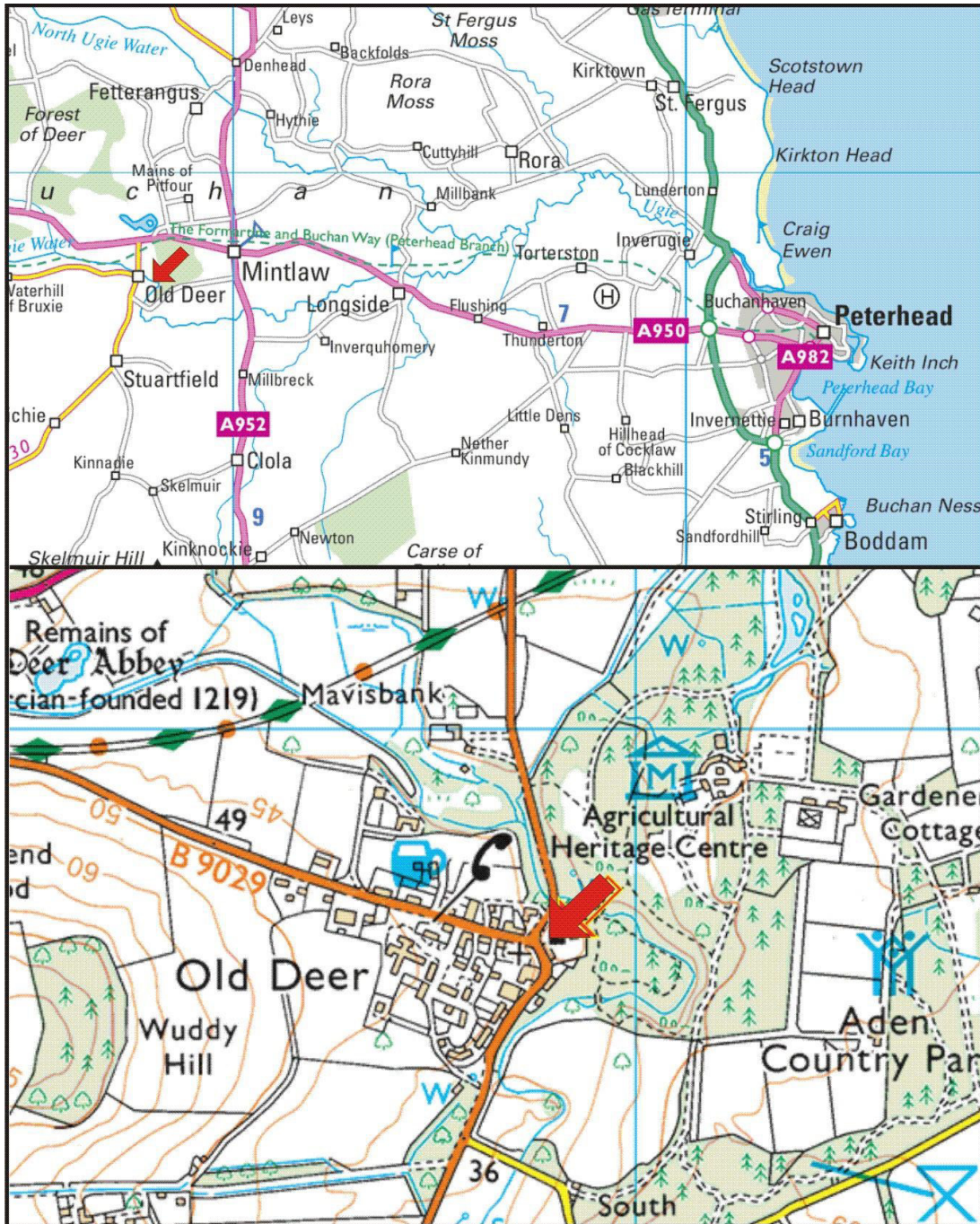
Trenches 7-16 were located around the edges of the graveyard in areas thought to contain no later burials as identified on the 1870 lair plan. Trench 7 in the SW corner of the graveyard contained large amounts of domestic rubbish probably from the adjacent buildings. Trenches 8, 9 and 10 did contain post-medieval grave cuts within the trenches but no fragments of human bone suggesting that they were not within the medieval graveyard.

Trenches 11-16 all contained fragments of human bone suggesting that they were within the medieval graveyard. They were all dug to around 1m deep and also contained 19th and 20th-century finds. Trench 14 also contained large amounts of building rubble including plaster with red and yellow pigment, probably from the medieval ruined church. The NE corner of the churchyard had therefore been used to dump building materials and raise the level of the graveyard. An earlier context was recorded in the base of this trench but it was not possible to access this for health and safety reasons. No later burials were recorded in these trenches and this is an area where larger trenches would be beneficial to access greater depths and earlier deposits which may contain evidence of the early medieval monastery.

Possible future work could include larger trenches on the N and E of the medieval ruin in gaps in the 1870 lair plan, possibly using mini digger, to achieve greater depths. The areas within and immediately around the medieval ruin have been raised in height after the 1780s church was built and accessing these areas will be extremely difficult due to health and safety concerns and later burials. It should be noted that very few medieval finds have been recorded during all the excavation work in the churchyard and the current author recommends that other sites are investigated further including ground radar of the Deer Abbey site and other areas closer to this later monastic site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The site is located in Old Deer village (Illus 1), the rear of the Episcopal Church and the Parish Churchyard. It is at NJ 978 476, in the parish of Old Deer and at 35-40m OD.



Illus 1 Site location (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2016).

2 THE BOOK OF DEER PREVIOUS WORK AND BACKGROUND

The Book of Deer is a tenth century illuminated manuscript from North East Scotland. As the only pre-Norman manuscript from this area known as “former Pictland” it provides us with a unique insight into the early church, culture and society of this period. One of the oldest

pieces of Gaelic writing to have survived from early Medieval Scotland. The Book of Deer is one of Scotland's most important manuscripts. The book and its history sets itself apart from Scotland's more well known traditional attractions and offers a fresh and diverse route into uncovering Scotland's history from its earliest beginnings.

The Book of Deer project is an active group of local historians, archaeologists and local interested amateurs who research topics associated with the Book of Deer. Since 2011 they have commissioned archaeological research including excavation of possible sites for the early monastery of Deer.

In the second half of the first millennium AD, the area around Old Deer entered the historical or protohistorical record. The available archaeological, place-name and historical evidence has been synthesised and analysed in the recently published *Studies on the Book of Deer* (Forsyth 2008). From that volume, Taylor's analysis of the place-names and descriptive terms as they relate to Old Deer, Forsyth's study of sculptured stones in Buchan and Clancy's interpretation of the early church in the north-east have all contributed significantly to the understanding of the earlier historic landscape of Old Deer. Standing stones bearing Pictish symbols (Class I stones), which were carved between the fifth and seventh centuries AD, attest to the thriving cultural life of societies in early Medieval Scotland. These abound in Aberdeenshire; about a third of the total number of stones in Scotland occur here (Henderson 1972). A symbol stone carved with a rectangle and a crescent and V-rod stood at the west end of the church at Deer Abbey until the mid-nineteenth century, when it was cleared away along with much of the abbey's ruins; it has since been lost (NMRS NJ94NE 5.0). Forsyth (2008, 406) and others have interpreted these stones primarily as visual charters, positioned on the boundaries of properties and asserting the rights of kin-groups to them through a graphic code that was understood within local society. Although members of the land owning kin-groups may have been buried near the stones, their main use was probably not as burial markers. Their abundance reflects the complexity of the social and political landscape at the time, especially in these agriculturally rich lowlands, in which the land was parcelled up between numerous minor landowning families (Henderson 1972, 172; Forsyth 2008, 430). The Deer Abbey symbol stone was turned upside down at some point in its life and carved with a Christian cross – either in the sixth to ninth centuries, relatively soon after its original carving and at a time when its symbols would have still been understood, or in the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries, when its original meaning would have probably been lost (*ibid.*, 404). The interpretation of the cross's date depends upon details available only from the one surviving drawing of it, so it may never be firmly resolved (Lelong 2009).

It is not known whether the symbol stone originally stood at the site of Deer Abbey or whether it was moved there, either when or at some point after the cross was carved. Its inversion shows that it had certainly been moved, but perhaps not far; it may have fallen over and been re-erected upside down close to its original position. As Forsyth (2008, 411-13) notes, if it did originally stand in the vicinity of the Abbey, then much can be deduced of its origins and history. It may first have served as a boundary marker, and perhaps also as a focus for Pictish burial. Its inversion and the addition of the cross – especially if that took place in the sixth to ninth centuries – may have marked its transition to the ecclesiastical sphere, when the property it defined was granted to the monastery at Deer and became part of the church's *termonn* or sanctuary. Alternatively, or in addition, its secondary use may have involved marking a Christian burial ground, a pilgrimage station or a small dependent oratory. The relationship of the stone to the later Cistercian Abbey of Deer also has implications for the location of the original monastery, which are discussed further below (section 8.0). As noted above, Deer is first mentioned in the eleventh-century account of the monastery's foundation, recorded in the *Book of Deer*. The story may have been constructed to emphasise the relationship of the contemporary monastery with a politically prominent family. Simpson (1927, 180) ascribes the legend to Medieval historical revisionism that gave

Columba credit for conversion in preference to Pictish saints – a legacy, he believes, of the ultimate success of the MacAlpin dynasty and the amalgamation and loss of cultural identity of its Pictish rivals after AD 844. Clancy (2008) presents a similar, albeit moderated case, arguing that the foundation legend involving Columba was probably composed when the first property grants were recorded in the tenth or eleventh century,, although it may have drawn on older folklore. He notes that Columba is only mentioned in the foundation legend and the first grant, which were recorded by the same scribe; subsequent grants were made to Drostan and sometimes also to God. He suggests that the association with Columba developed ‘in an attempt to attract patronage from Gaelic mobility who may have been less interested in cultivating a local, probably Pictish, saint like Drostan’ (*ibid.*, 264). It may have reflecting Gaelicising trends in the tenth century, just as the adoption of St. Peter at Petergrie reflected Europeanising trends in the twelfth century.

Clancy (2008, 382-84) suggests that the Drostan of Deer is the same saint whose death was noted at Ardbreccan in Ireland in AD 719 in the *Annals of Ulster*, and who also makes an appearance in a poem in the *Book of Leinster*. The ‘*Drostan Dairtaighe*’ mentioned in the *Annals of Ulster* makes reference to an oratory; the word derives from ‘oak-house’, and could be a corruption of the word (meaning ‘oak’) from which the place-name Deer derives. This would place the founding of the monastery of Deer around AD 700. Clancy finds good evidence – in place-names, dedications and physical remains – for a prosperous network of local churches in north-east Scotland from the seventh century onwards, during the lives of Drostan, Fergus and Nechtan, among others. It may have had some links with Iona, as evident in the associations between St. Ternan and Columba, but it was not the product of Irish evangelising. Textual evidence indicates that both Drostan and Fergus – whose cults have close geographical parallels – had strong connections with Ireland in the early eighth century, independent of Iona. Clancy (2008, 392) envisages ‘small local churches serving restricted territories defined by geography and secular structures, the siting of which was often determined by a tradition of sacred space in the region’ and which were created through the pastoral efforts of mother churches and monastic centres like Deer and Tulloch. This model of a thriving, locally-based ecclesiastical network, which Deer as one of its nodes, accords with the picture Forsyth (2008) has constructed from the evidence of sculptured stones in Buchan. These stones – including Ravenscraig near Peterhead, Skellybogs to the north-west of Old Deer and Fyvie to the south-west – point to the existence of a significant ecclesiastical establishment, most likely centred on Deer, in the ninth to eleventh centuries. The stone from Skellybogs shows a figure holding a book, recalling a similar figure drawn in the *Book of Deer*; it may have marked the edge of an ancient territorial unit related to the monastery at Deer (*ibid.*, 415-16). The stone from Ravenscraig shows a figure (perhaps originally one of two) and bears an inscription that could refer to St. Drostan. If Deer served as the mother church for a much larger area, as Taylor (2008, 277) suggests, this stone may have marked an eastern entry point to its *paruchia*, and may have depicted its founder(s). The fragment of inscription on the Ravenscraig stone also suggests that a scriptorium was operating in the region. The stone from Fyvie, although much further away, indicates there was an important ecclesiastical centre producing sophisticated stone-carving in the area. The *Book of Deer* does not explicitly state it was created at the monastery of Deer, but as Forsyth points out it would be unusual among Insular gospel books if it did refer to its own place of origin in that way. Although these stones do not prove that the *Book of Deer* was produced at Deer itself, they do ‘provide physical evidence of an economic, social and artistic context in which the creation of such an object was possible’ (*ibid.*, 431-33). The close affinities of some of the manuscript’s artwork to other objects in eastern Scotland lend further support to its origin in the north-east.

As for the exact location of the early Medieval monastery of Deer, several factors suggest it occupied a site in the village of Old Deer. The position of the Medieval church and the character of its churchyard point to early origins. The present churchyard wall, which was probably built in the eighteenth century, has an overall curvilinear form that closely

corresponds to the mound on which the Old Church sits. This form is consistent with that of a pre-twelfth century ecclesiastical or monastic establishment (Thomas 1971, 81-5). Local traditions that burials were found at the western edge of the churchyard (<http://www.bookofdeer.co.uk>) indicate that the ecclesiastical precinct was formerly larger. Traditions also exist of a small mound opposite the Old Church called the Minister's Mound, from which the minister would bless parishioners as they left the church; this would also suggest that the ecclesiastical precinct was once more extensive (Forsyth 2008, 401). Old Deer Church itself is Medieval in date, dating mainly to the fifteenth century, with thirteenth-century elements possibly surviving in its fabric. However, the presence of accumulated deposits that apparently pre-date the churchyard wall would suggest it was built on the site of an earlier establishment. The church's position, nestled in a river bend, is similar to those of other early Medieval churches in eastern Scotland, including Old Melrose (*ibid.* 400). Gibbon (1927, 175) also compares the topographic position of Old Deer Church to that of the old parish church at Banchory-Devenick on Deeside (NMRS NJ90SW 8.00) – occupying elevated ground, with flat ground between the church and the river and a steeply sloping opposite bank. A church was recorded here in 1157, and the site is associated with the ninth century St. Devenick. The early churches at Arbuthnott, Kildrummy and Turriff apparently occupy similar positions (Gibbon 1927, 175). The layout of the nineteenth-century village of Old Deer, particularly the line of Russell Street as it curves northward along the western side of the core, may preserve the line of an outer monastic enclosure (Forsyth 2008, 400-1). On the south this lane terminates at Grain's Well, which might have been the *tiprat* noted in the original grant (*ibid.*, 401) – although the district abounds in natural springs and wells, so there are other candidates.

The site of Deer Abbey could also be the location of the original monastery. Although the Cistercians generally preferred to establish monasteries on virgin sites, this was not always their practice. The Cistercian abbey at Culross appears to have been built on the site of an early Medieval monastery, and it was established about the same time as Deer Abbey and also by monks from Kinloss. However, the Cistercian abbey of Melrose was built about four kilometres upstream from the early Medieval church at Old Melrose (*ibid.*, 411), so both its topographic position and its geographical relationship to the later abbey may be comparable to Old Deer. Another spot about one mile to the south of the village has been proposed as the site of the monastery (Simpson 1927, 182). It was recorded in the early twentieth century as Colm's Hillock (a possible reference to one of Drostán's disciples) and Colm's Well apparently stood close by. This may correspond to the site of Chapel Hillock and Chapel Well recorded in the NMRS (NJ94NE 17), where several foundation stones were unearthed during construction of the adjacent road. While this may have been the site of a dependent chapel, there seems to be no strong evidence for its having been the site of the monastery itself, especially as Colm was not the recorded founder (unless Colm in this instance is a version of Columcille). Wherever the original monastery stood, its precinct may have contained various buildings in addition to a church and burial enclosure. These might have included a scriptorium, kitchen, living quarters, a stone carving workshop and other buildings related to craft activity. Features such as mills and barns may have stood further away on the monastery's other holdings, close to agricultural fields. The land grants in the *Book of Deer* give the impression of a thoroughly inhabited landscape, known intimately by those who lived in it and worked the land, and the monks of Deer would have become active agents in this. If Deer did operate as a mother church, as Taylor (2008) believes, then their holdings in other parts of Buchan and their links with daughter churches would have placed them at the centre of a network of ecclesiastical, social and economic connections. Churches and chapels like those at Fetterangus (with its Pictish symbol stone) (NMRS NJ95SE 4.0, 4.1) and Peterhead (NMRS NK14NW 2.00) would have formed other nodes in this wider inhabited landscape during the later first millennium AD.

Although much of the settlement pattern in the surrounding landscape has developed during the last two or three centuries, there are – or were – remains of possible early Medieval

settlement about two kilometres to the west of Old Deer. In the mid eighteenth century, the remains of a settlement known locally as 'the bourachs' were visible on the north-west facing slope of Aikey Brae (Cruden 1791). They consisted of about 60 small square houses huddled together, with clay-bonded stone walls and paved floors, surrounded by small enclosures. These were gradually removed during the nineteenth century, probably in the course of agricultural improvements, and by 1870 nothing was visible on the surface (NMRS NJ94NE 8). Banks and clearance cairns relating to a field system were noted next to it (NMRS NJ94NE 9). The settlement was known locally as the Picts' or Pights' houses, indicating that by the eighteenth century any collective memory of its original name or nature had disappeared; this could point to an earlier rather than later Medieval date for it. Another, similar settlement was discovered beneath the ground surface during nineteenth-century agricultural improvements about 2.5 kilometres to the southwest of Old Deer, at King's Crown (NMRS NJ94NE 13). The notes recorded in the Book of Deer indicate that the original monastery continued to operate and maintain its integrity into the twelfth century (Simpson 1927, 182), most likely until the establishment of the Cistercian abbey in 1219. By this time the Scottish crown – most notably under David I – was attempting to bring the semi-independent, ancient provinces of Buchan, Moray and Mar under more centralised control, and it used the twin tools of feudalism and the Roman church to accomplish this higher level of political organisation. Extensive grants of land to imported noble vassals and to religious houses – often Continental orders, with monks imported from England or Europe – gradually established a hierarchy of authority with the king at its head, presiding over feudal law. Simpson (1927, 184) notes that some Celtic establishments were forced to convert to the Roman church (as at Monymusk), while others became parish churches (for example, the monastery of St. Moluag at Mortlach). The enormously powerful Comyn family controlled Buchan on behalf of the Crown during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. William, the first Comyn Earl of Buchan, brought Cistercian monks from Kinloss to the abbey he established at Deer in 1219. When he died in 1233 and was buried at the abbey, the church had already been built there, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Old Deer Church was probably built around this time – it was certainly standing by 1256 – possibly on the site of an earlier church. With the Comyns' opposition to Robert the Bruce and their subsequent downfall during the Wars of Independence, Bruce reportedly wasted Buchan but spared the monks and confirmed them in their possessions (Simpson 1927, 185).

Late fourteenth-century grants throw some light on the realities of monastic life during this generally unsettled period. A deed granted by Pope Gregory XI in 1371 confirmed the monks' rights of patronage over lesser churches and noted that the Abbey of Deer had been 'exceedingly despoiled and diminished in its resources' due to local wars. A grant by Robert III (1390 x 1406) allowed the monks to keep all profits from the wool of their own sheep and those of Old Deer Church up to the value of twenty sacks. From the late fifteenth century, the Abbey appears to have declined, in spite of a 1537 attempt to reform it, restore strict Cistercian rule and order the Abbot to repair its buildings. In 1543, Robert Keith, brother of the fourth Earl Marischal, became Abbot but he never took monastic vows – perhaps a sign of the secularisation process that would bring about the Abbey's demise at the Reformation within a few decades (*ibid.*)

Ongoing research has led to archaeological evaluations

- in 2008-9 GUARD were commissioned by The Book of Deer Project to conduct an archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation of the possible site of the early Medieval monastery of Deer in Aberdeenshire. The monastery, which was probably founded in the late eighth century, may have been where the *Book of Deer* was produced. The assessment found an array of evidence to indicate that the monastery may well have been located on or near the site of Old Deer Church. The field evaluation found archaeological remains in the area to the east and south of the churchyard. These consisted of a small fire-pit, scatters of charcoal and a possible ard mark, a slight stone wall associated with a stake-

hole, and a substantial, mortared wall of post-Medieval date. The trenches encountered deep waterborne and hillwashed deposits across the area to the east of the church and thick modern midden deposits over waterlogged subsoil around Grian's Well in the south of the village. The results indicate that if Old Deer is the site of the original monastery, the low-lying ground to the east of the church was not used to accommodate dwellings, workshops or other permanent components of the monastery's infrastructure, probably because of its propensity to flooding, while the area around the well appears to have been historically boggy. However, the slight archaeological features found to the east of the churchyard could relate to an early ecclesiastical establishment at the site. Radiocarbon assay of charcoal samples from the features would help to clarify their dates.

- in 2011 Murray Archaeological Services excavated 15 trenches throughout the village of Old Deer and two within the ruined church. The trenches within the village failed to record any evidence of the early monastery but produced interesting evidence of the early village. The trench in the Old Parish Church identified a wall as the anomaly shown in the 2010 geophysical survey of the church. The church, now much modified, is normally dated to the 15th century; although Fawcett (2008, 459) considers the two-compartment plan to be possibly derived from the 13th century building, he describes the surviving fabric as late medieval. The excavated wall appears most likely to date to before the use of the chancel arch and the original form of the nave and chancel. If the present parts of the original fabric date to the 15th century, then the wall could be of 13th century date. If the 15th century church is as Fawcett appears to suggest, on the plan of its 13th century predecessor, the excavated wall could possibly be pre-13th century in date but this is highly speculative. The trench could not be fully excavated to the natural because of the presence of articulated burials, a problem that is likely to occur anywhere within the church. There is therefore little potential for further excavation within the church unless the internal levels are to be lowered in relation to any future renovation works. In 2013 an excavation of circular clay-walled features in Aden Coun try park produced virtually no finds but they are likely to date to the late prehistoric period (Murray and Murray 2013, 23). Discussion with various archaeologists including Prof Richard Fawcett and Dr Gordon Noble leads the Book of Deer Project to think that the most likely site for the early monastery of Deer to be under the Scheduled Ancient Monument, Old Deer Church.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND: OLD DEER CHURCH

3.1 The monument comprises the remains of the old parish church which lie immediately E of the present parish church in the centre of Old Deer, incorporated into two contiguous walled roofless burial enclosures, separated by the medieval chancel arch (NJ94NE 3.1). The only surviving parts of the medieval church appear to be the chancel arch itself, the truncated E end of the nave, and some parts of the N and S walls of the chancel.

The nave was 6.2m wide internally and of uncertain length, the W part having been destroyed completely when the parish church was built in 1788-9. Its overall width was probably 8.05m, the same as the present burial enclosure, though it is hard to detect any medieval masonry in the external walls as the facing has been greatly altered by repairs and the insertion into it of a various memorials. The W burial enclosure, of which it now forms part, extends 6.62m E-W, with a W wall 0.6m thick containing the entrance. This enclosure was probably formed in 1892, which is the date at which William Ferguson of Kinmundy erected a memorial against the S wall in memory of his ancestors, the earliest mentioned being James Ferguson of Kinmundy, who died in 1777. Medieval features of the nave that survive in situ include a splayed rounded-arched window in the N wall, and another facing it on the S. Just to the left of the latter is a scalloped piscina, set in a recess enclosed by a trefoil arch; this was probably

intended to serve a nave altar placed to the right of the chancel arch. Immediately to the left of the chancel arch is another similar piscina, though less well preserved, indicating the former existence of another nave altar in that position also. To the left of the N window is an aumbry with a segmental-arched head surmounted by a pointed arch containing a cross in circle.

The chancel arch is 2.24m wide and roughly semi-circular, with a broad chamfer on both arrises. On the E face of the wall between the nave and the chancel, to the left of the arch and at a level just above its springing (perhaps some 2m above the original floor level) is a blocked door, that would possibly have given access to a rood loft above the nave altars. The chancel was 4.3m wide, though the medieval walls survive only as footings at the W end and in the central part of the S wall where the wall of the E burial enclosure appears to retain the original wall-thickness. If one assumes that the form of the chancel is perpetuated more or less in that of the E burial enclosure, it would have been some 10.75m long internally. The burial enclosure itself appears to date from 1731, when James Ferguson of Pitfour erected a fine marble memorial to his wife, Anne Stuart, in the centre of its S wall. A heraldic stone is built into the E wall.

A number of heraldic stones and memorials are built into the external S wall of the W burial enclosure and appear to have been brought here from elsewhere. They include a 17th-century tomb set in an arcosolium with an inscription on the tomb chest, only part of which is now visible above ground; the arch encloses a heraldic stone and another representing a man and a woman identified by the initials AK and GK respectively with the date 1603. Above the arch is another inscription recording:...

KEI[.]S
BALLI[.....]ANDREA SVMA.IVSTISSIMVS OMN[... (or Andreas vita ?)...]PIVS ATQ(ue)
PROBUS KAETHIA DVM [.....]VSIT FAEMINAEI.SEXVS.COGNOMIN[e k]AETHA/
NOMINE ET AEGIDI[e....t]VMVLATA IACET/ OBIERE 1603 16[.] LAVS DEO

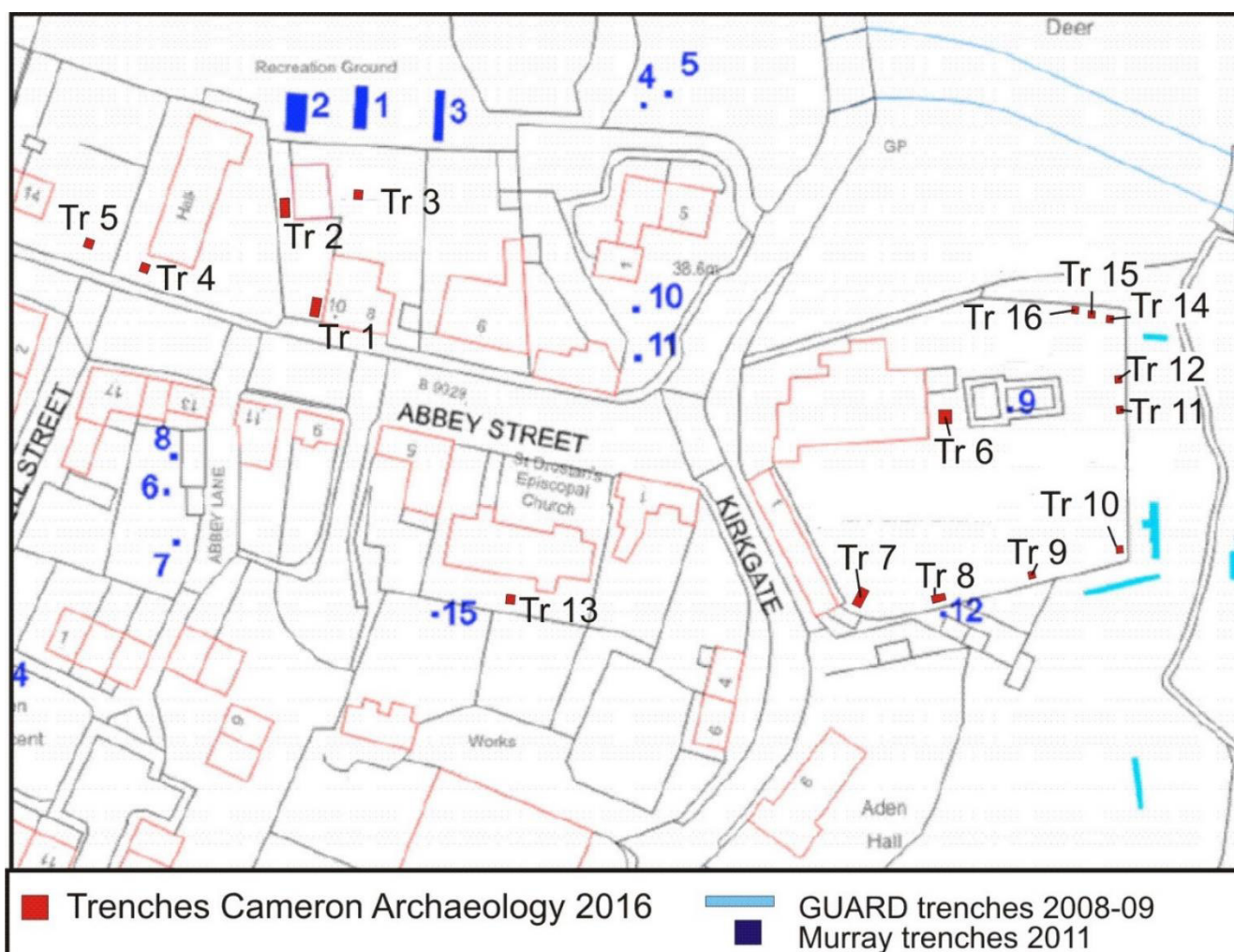
This evidently also relates to Andrew Keith and his wife, Gillian (?). The Old Parish Church is traditionally supposed to have been dedicated to St Drostan, though there appears to be no certain evidence of this. Nor is there any certain evidence that it occupies the site of a monastery established by St Columba and St Drostan in AD 580. The Old Parish Church and Churchyard are listed as Historic Buildings (Category B). The monument to be scheduled comprises both burial enclosures, the ground enclosed by them and the ground extending for 2m from their outer wall face, that is to say an area measuring some 23m E-W by 12.05m N-S, as indicated in red on the accompanying map. The monument is of national importance in representing a well-preserved remnant of a medieval parish church and for the light that it sheds on the liturgical arrangement of such a building. Although none of the surviving upstanding fabric appears to date to earlier than the fifteenth century, the below-ground archaeological remains have the potential to shed further light not only on the later medieval church and its development, but also on the early church that it is likely to have replaced. The importance of the surviving structure is enhanced by the surviving medieval and post-medieval memorials that are built into it (Historic Scotland SAM online).

- 3.2 In 2011 a trench was excavated inside the church (Murray and Murray 2011) to target an anomaly recorded on a geophysical survey undertaken by GUARD. An articulated burial was identified and the anomaly was not further investigated. A GPR survey was completed on the interior of the church by Rose geophysics and a summary of these results can be seen on Illus 2 and 3.
- 3.3 A GPS survey of the exterior of the church was completed in July 2015 and it is these results which revealed a possible structure underlying the NE corner of the standing ruin (Illus 2).

3.4 In 2015 five trenches were excavated on the N and E side of Old Deer church. The dates for fieldwork has been set and unfortunately SAM consent arrived too late for the excavation dates. This allowed tranches outwith the SAM area supported by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service. Due to the requirement to keep a distance away from the Sam area and the existing graves and gravestones it was not possible to excavate trenches over all the geophysical anomalies. One trench at the E end uncovered mortar deposits associated with post-medieval building or repair work may have been responsible for the geophysical anomaly in this area. The trenches to the N of the church were either dug into existing grave fills or other disturbed ground and no medieval levels were identified.

4 THE EXCAVATION

The excavation took place from 3-9th September 2016. Twenty six archaeologists, students and local volunteers took part in the project which was funded by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service. Sixteen trenches were located in Old Deer village, the Episcopal Church and the Parish Church graveyard (Illus 2).



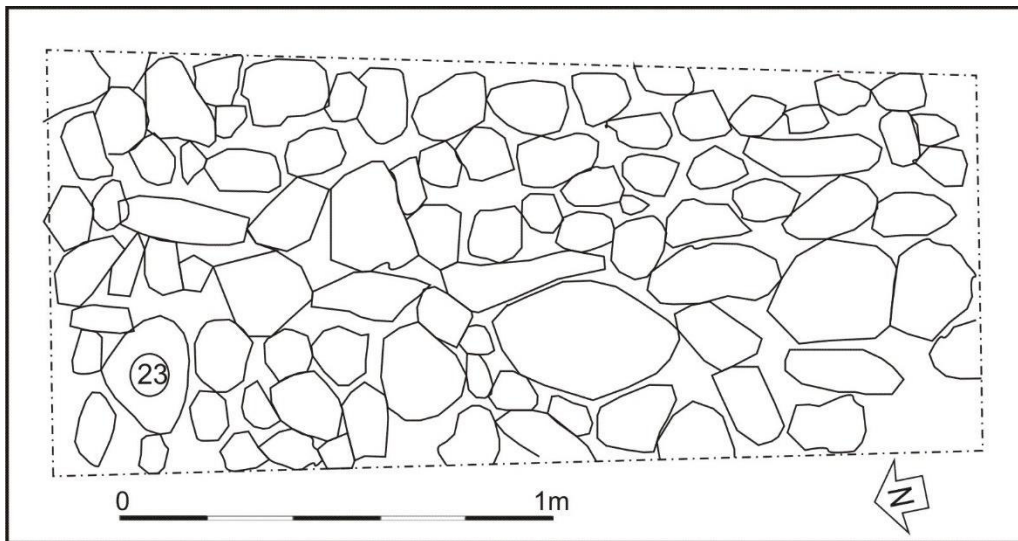
Illus 2 Plan showing all trenches (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2016).

Trench 1 NJ97784 47705

Trench 1 was opened on the frontage of Abbey Street immediately to the W of 8-10; asbestos cement roofing material was uncovered and the trench was immediately closed. No archaeological finds or features were identified.

Trench 2 NJ97778 47722

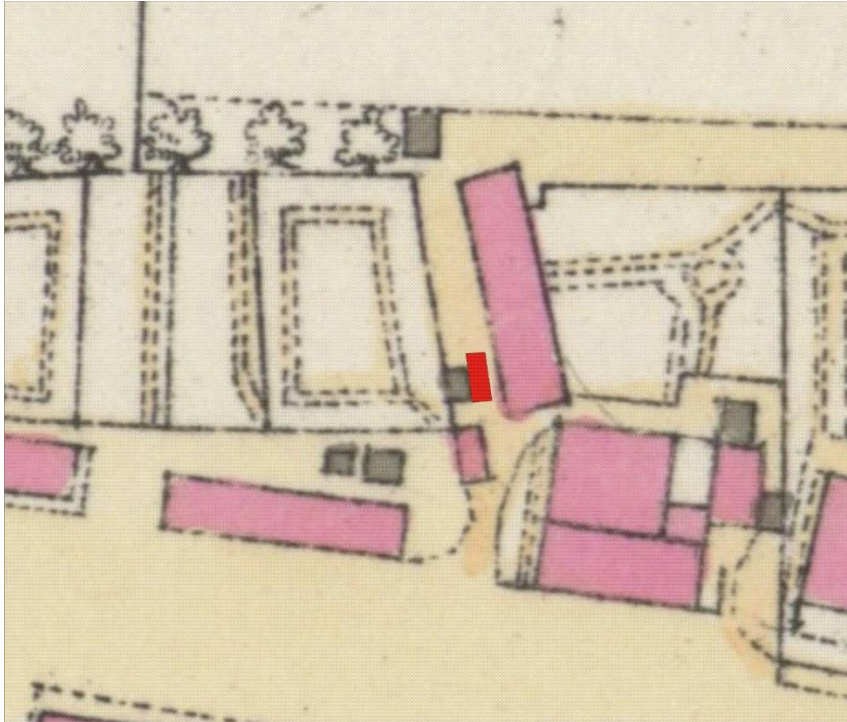
Trench 2 was located in a lane between the Kemp Hall to the W and 8-10 Abbey Street garage to the E. Under turf was a layer of rounded cobbles (23, Illus 3, 4) probably the remains of a cobbled lane (Illus 5). A layer of tiny sherds of 19th-century pottery had been trampled onto the surface. Under the cobbles were layers of clay and gravel with natural subsoil being 0.6m deep (41.11m OD).



Illus 3 Plan showing cobbled surface 23



Illus 4 Trench 2 with cobbled surface 23 showing lane between properties leading to Abbey Street (top); facing S



Illus 5 Trench 2 (in red) on 1st edition OS map (copyright National Library of Scotland)

Trench 3 NJ97794 47723

Trench 3 was located within the garden of 8-10 Abbey Street. It was excavated to 0.75m through 19th-century topsoil and sand (Illus 6).



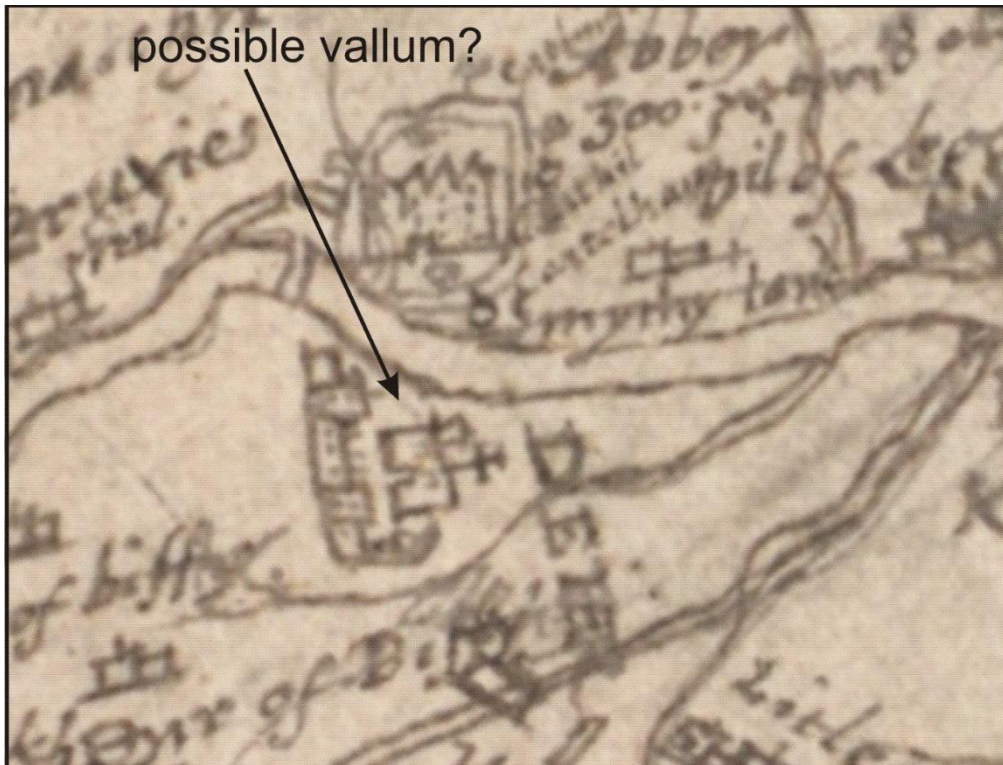
Illus 6 Trench 3 being recorded by young archaeologist Isla and Watt family; facing SE

Trench 4 NJ97753 47712

Trench 4 was excavated in front of the Kemp Hall on the line of the possible vallum (Murray and Murray 2011, 40). Trench 4 contained a wall foundation on the S edge of the trench and 19th-century soils on top of natural subsoil sand (Illus 7) at a depth of 0.4m (41.77m OD). Ponts map of Old Deer shows a faint line which may be a boundary, possibly the remains of a vallum (Illus 8).



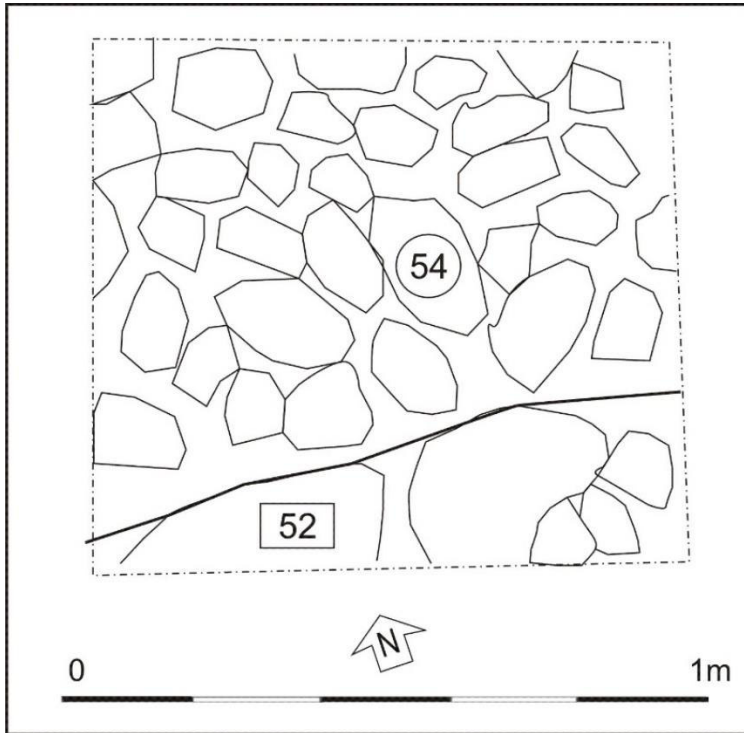
Illus 7 Trench 4 showing wall foundation (43, right) and natural sand; facing E



Illus 8 Ponts map of 1583-96 showing Old Deer Church with line of houses; there is a faint line which may represent a boundary, possibly the remains of a vallum (copyright National Library of Scotland).

Trench 5 NJ97742 47720

Trench 5 was 1 x 1 m in size and dug in the garden of 14 Abbey Street. Under the topsoil was a layer of yellow clay (51), 0.11m deep and under this was cobbled surface (54; Illus 9, 10) and wall foundation (52). A layer of burnt coal (55) had accumulated over the cobbled surface. Old photos show a cottage on this location which was removed for road widening in the 20th century (Illus 11, 12).



Illus 9 Plan of wall foundation 52 and cobbled surface 54.



Illus 10 Wall foundation 52 (top), cobbled surface 54 (top); the clay sealing layer, 51 can be seen in the section; facing N



Illus 11 Postcard facing E showing line of cottages (extreme left) which were demolished to make way for Kemp Hall and 14 Abbey Street gardens.

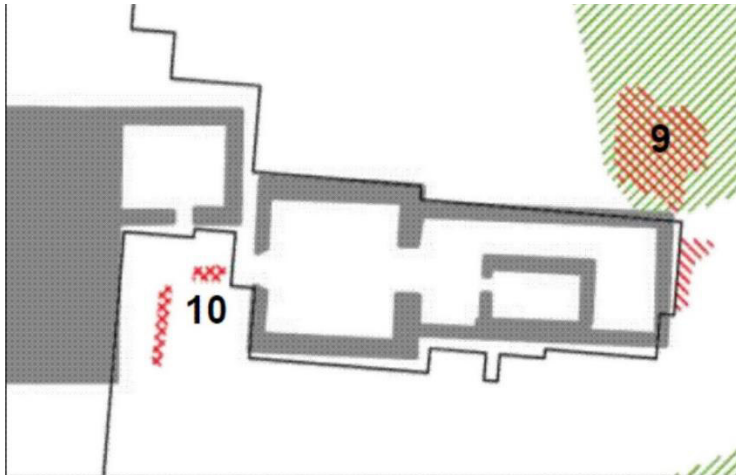


Illus 12 Postcard facing W showing line of cottages (left, in front of two large trees) which were demolished to make way for Kemp Hall and 14 Abbey Street gardens.

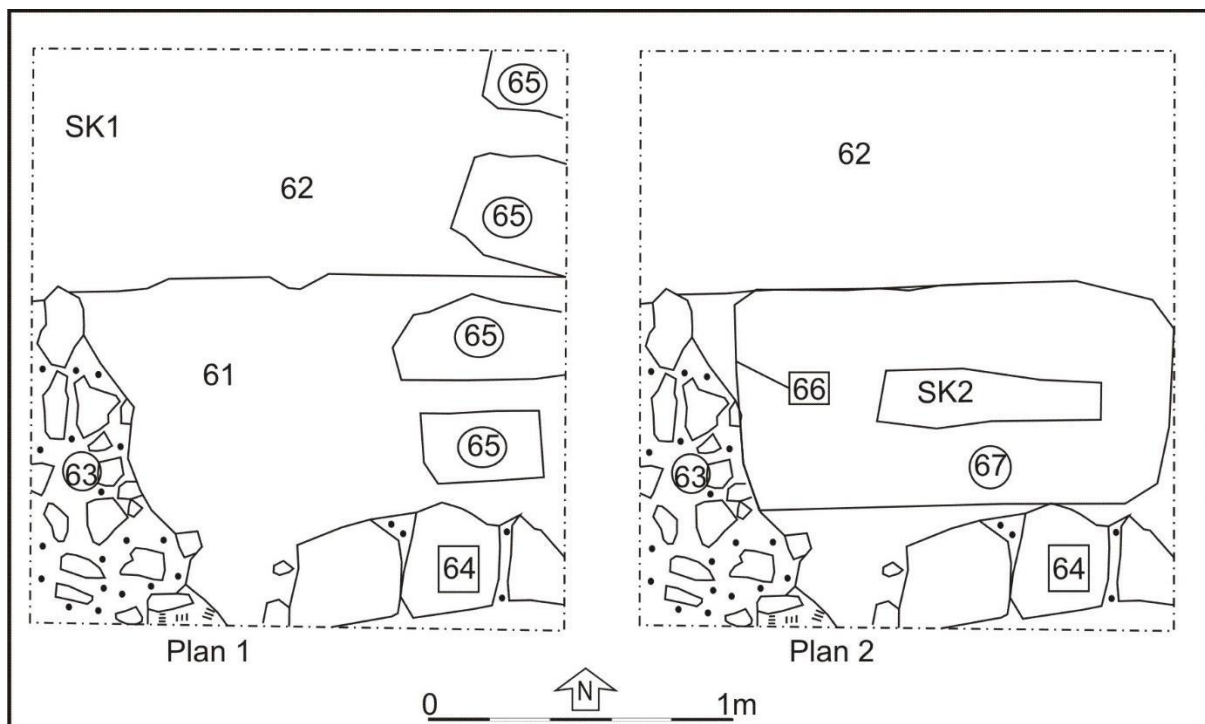
Trenches 6-12 and 13-16 were located in the parish churchyard in areas where there are gaps in the lair plan. Trenches with large amounts of human bone indicated that trenches on the E and N of the graveyard were probably within the medieval graveyard whereas the trenches on the S and SW of the graveyard were outwith the medieval graveyard.

Trench 6 NJ97903 47684

Trench 6 was 1.9 x 1.7m in size and located between the current 1780s church and the medieval ruin. The west end of the medieval church was demolished in the 1780s when the new church was built and so this trench is within the medieval church. An anomaly (no 10) on the geophysical survey (Illus 13) suggested that there was a N-S structure running through this area of the site.



Illus 13 Rose Geophysical Surveys ground radar survey results at 1.5-1.75m showing anomaly 10.



Illus 14 Plan showing Trench 6 contexts

Phase 1

The wall foundation of the south wall (64; Illus 14, 15, 16, 17) of the medieval church was investigated; it was 1.1m wide and filled with stones in mortar and clay. On the north side of the trench were undisturbed burial soils associated with this church including *in situ* burial

SK1 which was left unexcavated. This burial soil was located at 40.85m OD. Natural subsoil was recorded at 40.56m OD in the edge of the Phase 2 grave cut and there was no evidence of the anomaly 10 seen on the geophysical survey (Illus 13).



Illus 15 Trench 6 S wall of medieval church 63; facing W



Illus 16 Trench 6 wall foundation trench 64 (centre); facing S



Illus 17 Trench 6 wall foundation 64 in line with S wall of medieval church, robbed out by grave cut 66; facing E

Phase 2

A post-1780 burial lair had been dug through the Phase 1 wall foundation. The grave cut was 1.4 m long and 0.7m wide (Illus 17) and the coffin of a baby (SK2) was recorded at 40.23m OD. This burial was left *in situ*. A small sondage was excavated at the W end of this grave but wood and a further burial were located below SK2 and the trench was backfilled.

Phase 3

After grave cut 66 went out of use, large stone blocks were laid at the E end of the trench (65; Illus 18), possibly as a base or footing for a graveyard structure. The stones were reused and included stone blocks with cast iron fittings for a fence and a block inscribed with initials (Illus 19).



Illus 18 Phase 3 stone blocks 65; wall foundation 64 can be seen at the bottom of the trench and clay in grave cut 66 in the centre; facing E



Illus 19 Stone block, 65, inscribed with W/C/J.R. reused in Phase 3 structure

Trench 7 NJ97886 47648

Trench 7 was 1 x 2m in size and located in the SW corner of the Old Deer Parish Church graveyard adjacent to buildings which included a smithy on the First Edition OS map (Illus 29). The trench was excavated to 0.8m deep (39.61m OD) through layers of sandy loam and 19th and 20th-century domestic finds including pottery and building materials (Illus 20) including a copper alloy bell (Illus 21). There were dumps of stone but no structures. No

human bone was recovered and it is unlikely that this trench was within the medieval graveyard.



Illus 20 19th-century domestic rubbish in Trench 7 layer 70, mostly recorded and reburied.



Illus 21 Copper alloy bell from 19th-century domestic rubbish in Trench 7 layer 70.

Trench 8 NJ97903 47652

Trench 8 was 1 x 2m in size and located in the S of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. One end of the trench contained loose wet, clay loam and the other a compact stoney soil. The trench was dug down to 0.8m deep and it is likely that there was a modern grave cut as wood was encountered at the W end of the trench. No human bone was recovered and it is unlikely that this trench was within the medieval graveyard.

Trench 9 NJ97915 47655

Trench 9 was 1 x 1m in size and located in the S of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. Under the turf was a compact layer of small rounded stones 0.1m deep. Under this in the centre of the trench was a linear area of compact small stones. Excavation to 1m deep either side of this layer revealed that it is likely that there were modern graves cut into this area. One fragment of human bone was recovered and it is not possible to determine whether this trench was within the medieval graveyard, possibly it was on the edge.

Trench 10 NJ97933 47659

Trench 10 was 1 x 1m in size and located in the SE corner of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. The trench was dug down to 1m (37.98m OD) through light sandy loam which contained large amounts of building materials including slates, plaster (Illus 22), mortar, sewer pipe and nails. Hundreds of fragments of human bone were recovered and this trench was definitely within the medieval graveyard (Illus 23).



Illus 22 Trench 10 painted plaster



Illus 23 Trench 10 human bone fragments

Trench 11 NJ97932 47682

Trench 11 was 1 x 1m in size and located on the E side of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. A large block of stone was encountered 0.25m down. The stone was 0.17m thick and was chamfered on two edges. Lifting of the stone revealed that it was probably a plinth from the base of a gravestone (Illus 24). The trench was dug down to 1m and contained human bones including an older adult, a young adult, child, coffin nails and handles. It is likely that this was outwith the area of later graves but had been levelled up using rubble and grave artefacts. The trench was probably within the medieval graveyard.



Illus 24 Trench 11 sandstone plinth; facing N



Illus 25 Corner of sandstone plinth found in Trench 11 layer 110

Trench 12 NJ97932 47688

Trench 12 was 1 x 1 m in size and located on the E side of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. The trench was dug to 1m deep and the fill included iron nails and human bone fragments, bottle and window glass, roof tile, mortar and stone. The trench was within the medieval graveyard but the area had also been used to discard 19th-century rubble.

Trench 13 NJ97826 47650

Trench 13 was 1 x 1 m in size and located at the south side of Old Deer Episcopal Church. Under turf was a layer of pink and yellow compact clay (132) 0.13m deep and under this was roughly laid medium angular and rounded boulders (133; Illus 26) uneven and with large voids between the stones, considered too rough to be a surface. Under this was clay subsoil at a depth of 40.48m OD (Illus 27). It is likely that this land was waterlogged and the stones and clay were laid to prevent the area around the church from flooding.



Illus 26 Stones 133; facing S



Illus 27 Clay natural under stones 133; facing S

Trench 14 NJ97933 47701

Trench 14 was 1 x 1m in size and located in the NE corner of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870.

Trench 15 NJ97931 47702

Trench 15 was 1 x 1m in size and located in the NE corner of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. The trench was dug to 1.1m deep and there were 19th-century finds including clay pipe, mortar, nails and lead. There was an early 17th-century coin as well as several fragments of human bone including a possible young adult and remains of an adult.

Trench 16 NJ97927 47703

Trench 16 was 1 x 1m in size and located in the NE corner of Old Deer Parish Church graveyard in an area where there were no lairs on the lair plan of 1870. The trench was dug down to 0.85m through light sandy loam which contained 19th-century finds and several fragments of human bone including one adult female and one baby.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK

Sixteen trenches were excavated throughout the village and in the rear of the Episcopal Church and the Parish Church building on work previously by Murray and Murray (2011) and Cameron (2015). Scheduled Monument Consent was applied for but not granted prior to the excavation and so only areas outwith the SAM area were targeted in this season.

The trenches in the village revealed the remains of cottages at 14 Abbey Street including a cobbled area, and a cobbled yard or roadway between 8-10 Abbey Street and the Kemp Hall, an area which appears to have been a track or road between the buildings. Nothing earlier than these post-medieval structures were recorded in these trenches. In the garden of 8-10 Abbey Street there were 19th to 20th-century deposits down to 1m depth although a 17th-century coin was recovered. At the rear of the Episcopalian Church the ground had been prone to flooding and the area was raised in height using stony rubble sealed with clay, but no other deposits were found and no finds earlier than the 19th century were recovered.

Eleven trenches were excavated in the Parish Church graveyard to determine the make-up of the ground. A trench within the medieval ruin in 2011 had encountered human remains and had to be abandoned and trenches in 2015 on the N and E side of the medieval ruin revealed post-medieval deposits including mortar, plaster and stones from building construction, demolition or repairs but no medieval remains. Anomalies from the geophysical survey on the E side of the medieval ruin were revealed to be post-medieval mortar deposits. In this season Trench 6 was positioned to identify a N-S geophysical anomaly identified at 1.5-1.75m depth on the ground radar survey. The trench was located at the W end of the medieval ruin within the area of the church which was demolished when the 1780s Parish Church was constructed. The foundation trench of the S wall of the medieval church was excavated and this had been dug through by a post 1780s grave. A 17th-century coin was found in the topsoil of this trench. An area of undisturbed medieval burial soil was identified but these burials were left unexcavated. Natural subsoil was located within this trench and it is unlikely that the N-S anomaly is the remains of a structure.

Trenches 7-16 were located around the edges of the graveyard in areas thought to contain no later burials as identified on the 1870 lair plan. Trench 7 in the SW corner of the graveyard contained large amounts of domestic rubbish probably from the adjacent buildings. Trenches 8, 9 and 10 did contain post-medieval grave cuts within the trenches but no fragments of human bone suggesting that they were not within the medieval graveyard.

Trenches 11-16 all contained fragments of human bone suggesting that they were within the medieval graveyard. They were all dug to around 1m deep and also contained 19th and 20th-century finds. Trench 14 also contained large amounts of building rubble including plaster with red and yellow pigment, probably from the medieval ruined church. The NE corner of the churchyard had therefore been used to dump building materials and raise the level of the graveyard. An earlier context was recorded in the base of this trench but it was not possible to access this for health and safety reasons. No later burials were recorded in these trenches and this is an area where larger trenches would be beneficial to access greater depths and earlier deposits which may contain evidence of the early medieval monastery.

Possible future work could include larger trenches on the N and E of the medieval ruin in gaps in the 1870 lair plan, possibly using mini digger, to achieve greater depths. The areas within and immediately around the medieval ruin have been raised in height after the 1780s church was built and accessing these areas will be extremely difficult due to health and safety concerns and later burials. It should be noted that very few medieval finds have been recorded during all the excavation work in the churchyard and the current author recommends that other sites are investigated further including ground radar of the Deer Abbey site and other areas closer to this later monastic site.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the Book of Deer Project especially Anne Simpson, Joyce Brown, Heather and Derek Jennings for initiating this project.

For permission to excavate I would like to thank Jurgita Kuznecova (14 Abbey Street), Sam Thain and Essle Watt (8-10 Abbey Street), Sheila Kirk, Minister and Louis Cruickshank, Session Clerk (Old Deer Church) and Richard O'Sullivan (Old Deer Episcopal Church).

Thanks to Bruce Mann, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service for funding this project and for his advice during the work. Special thanks to Alice Jaspars for her assistance with the organisation of this project and Jan Dunbar for supervising. Also thanks to all the diggers Heather Jennings, Derek Jennings, Jim Bright, Katie Walker, Abeer Eladany, Kareen Fraser, Neil Hutchison, Janie Owen, Claire Blackadder, Jack Blackadder, Harry Blackadder, Isla McKenzie, Ian Black, Susan Burnett, Molly Watt, Mazey Watt, Alfie Watt, Sheena Leith, Neil Paterson, Sandy Whyte, Marguerite Connolly, Carol Crutchfield, Mathew Paterson.

Thanks to Oliver Lewis, Historic Scotland for his advice and assistance.

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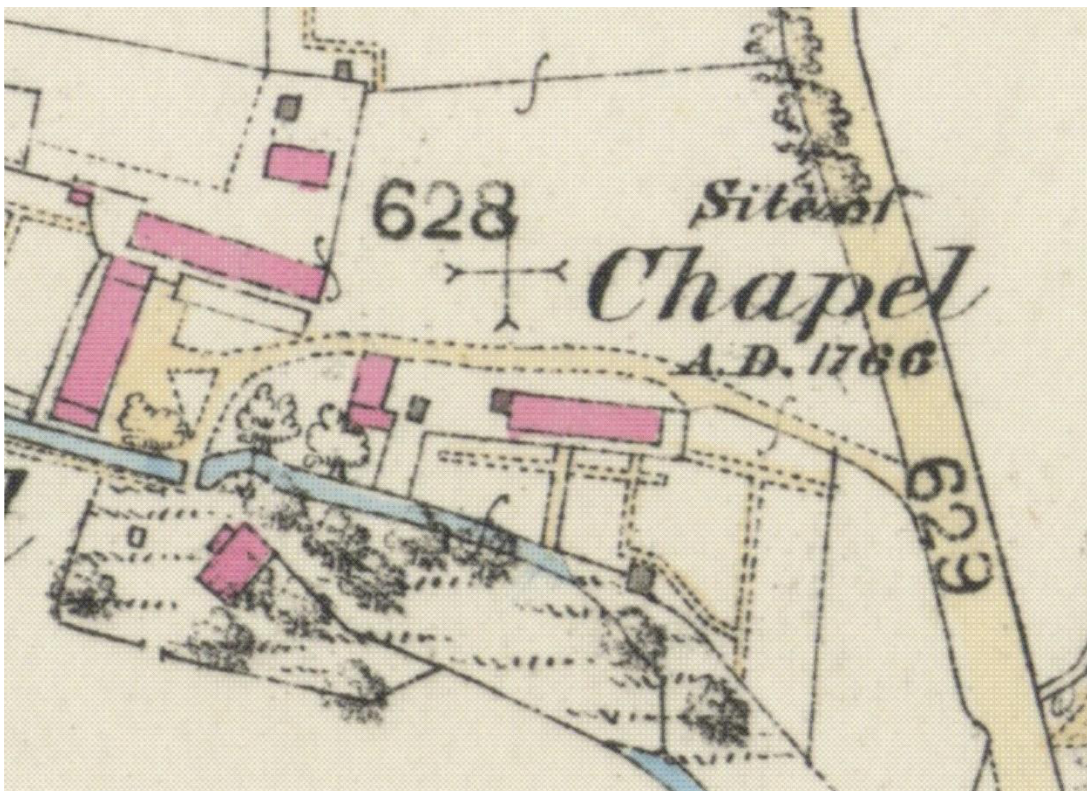
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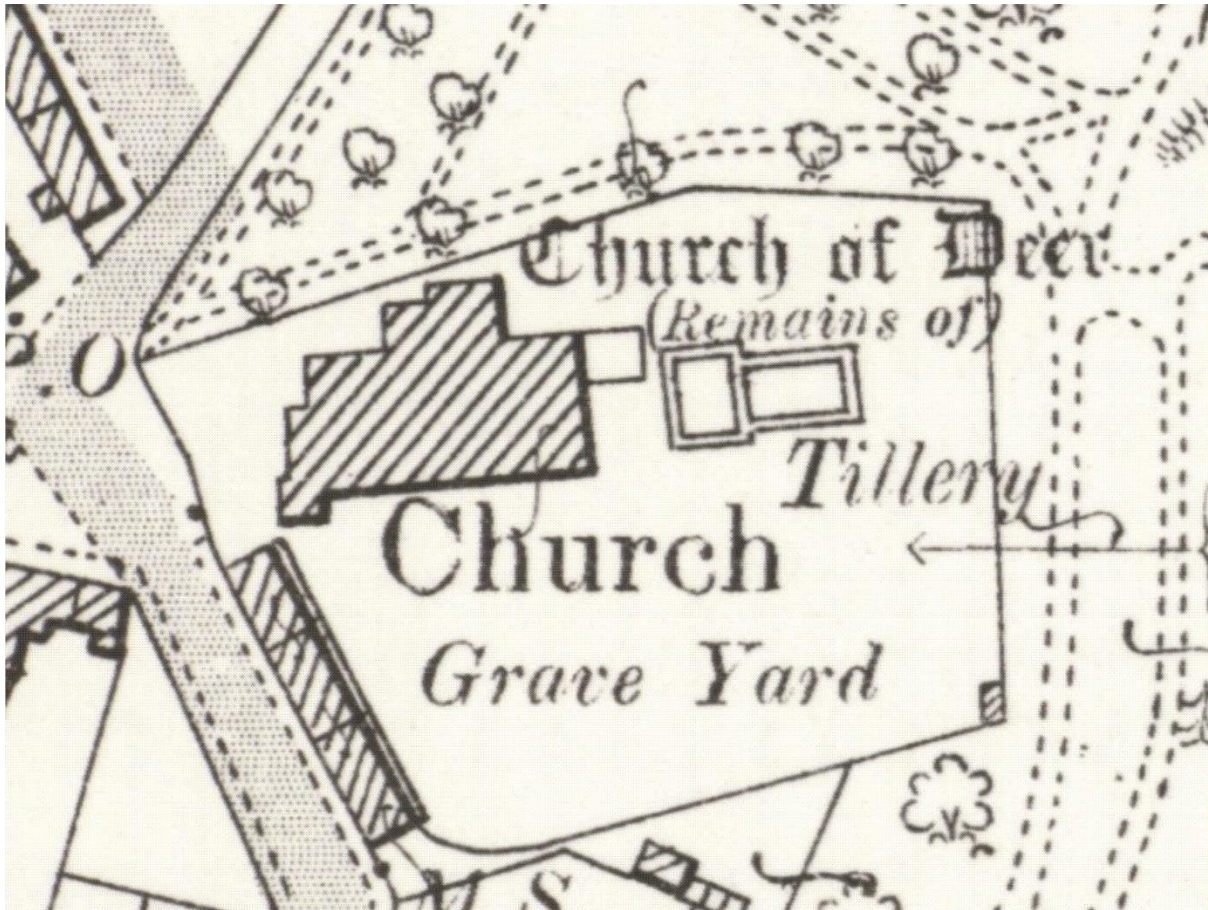
APPENDIX 1 MAPS



Illus 28 Roy Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-55 showing Old Deer (copyright National Library of Scotland)



Illus 29 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map showing Old Deer Church before construction of the new church. Aberdeen Sheet XXI.4 (Old Deer) Survey date: 1870 Publication date: 1873 (copyright National Library of Scotland).



Illus 30 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map showing Old Deer Church. Aberdeenshire 021.04/01 (includes: Old Deer) Publication date: 1902 Revised: ca. 1899 (copyright National Library of Scotland).

APPENDIX 2 CONTEXTS

Context no	Trench	Description
10	1	Modern upfill with asbestos concrete roofing material
20	2	Compact sandy loam and stone
21	2	Layer of tiny sherds of 19 th -century pottery
22	2	Mortar on top of cobbles 23
23	2	Cobbled surface
24	2	Sand and gravel
25	2	Sand and gravel
30	3	Dark brown clay loam with san and clay
31	3	Medium brown grey sandy loam
32	3	Light brown sandy clay dump
40	4	Gravel surface Kemp Hall yard
41	4	Sand base for gravel with plastic sheet underneath
42	4	Brown sandy loam with modern glass, pottery, coal
43	4	Rubble lying next to wall – foundation trench
44	4	Brown loam – garden soil
45	4	Medium stones in grey loam
50	5	Dark brown grey topsoil
51	5	Light brown sandy clay with stone, sealing above cobbles
52	5	Large stones with mortar – wall foundation
53	5	Black loam and stone

54	5	Large rounded stones with dark loam in between, cobbled surface
55	5	Black loam and charcoal on top of cobbled 54
56	5	Charcoal and loam
60	6	Mixed brown loam under turf
61	6	Yellow clay with few finds, fill grave cut 66
62	6	Medium grey brown loam – medieval burial soil with SK1
63	6	Medium and small irregular stones and mortar – S wall medieval church
64	6	Wall foundation – S wall medieval church filled with medium stones, clay and mortar
65	6	4 worked reused stones laid as foundation
66	6	Grave cut SK2
67	6	Fill of grave 66 around SK2; wood, nails, fish vertebra
70	7	Loose medium grey sandy loam with 19 th to 20 th -century domestic rubbish
71	7	Medium angular boulders, no bonding, 70 x 90cm
72	7	Linear area of small stones, 19 th century finds below
73	7	Loose medium grey sandy loam with 19 th to 20 th -century domestic rubbish dug to 0.9m
80	8	Small rounded pebble surface 10cm deep under turf
81	8	Small and medium stones in clay linear area in centre of trench; area undisturbed by later burials? Foundation for memorial?
82	8	Dark grey brown clay loam, grave fill? Dug to 0.8m deep
83	8	Dark grey brown clay loam, grave fill? Dug to 0.8m deep
90	9	Small rounded pebble surface 10cm deep under turf
91	9	Small and medium stones in clay linear area in centre of trench; area undisturbed by later burials? Foundation for memorial?
92	9	Dark grey clay loam, grave fill? Dug to 0.8m deep
93	9	Dark grey clay loam, grave fill? Dug to 0.8m deep
100	10	Dark grey brown clay loam, 189 th century finds and human bones
101	10	Mortar loam, sewer pipe, plaster with yellow and pink pigment, human bone, iron nails
102	10	Medium brown grey loam bottom 20cm of trench – medieval burial soil?
110	11	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; plinth for gravestone 17cm thick with chamfered edges. 19 th C finds and human bones
120	12	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
121	12	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
130	13	Dark brown loam
131	13	Light brown loam with burnt clay and clinker
132	13	Mixed clay, laid for waterproofing 13cm thick
133	13	Medium angular and rounded stones roughly laid with voids
140	14	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
141	14	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
150	15	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
151	15	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones dug to 1.1m
160	16	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones
161	16	Light brown sandy loam dug down to 1m; 19 th C finds and human bones dug to 0.85m

APPENDIX 3 FINDS

Context no	Trench	Finds
100	1	Ring pull, plaster, glass, clay pipe
20	2	Roof tiles, brick and slate discarded, clay pipe – Swinyard bowl, bottle and window glass including complete glass stopper, mammal bones

21	2	Red sandstone, metal bar, china, glass, clay pipes, bottle and window glass
23	2	China, slate, brick, black bottle glass
30	3	Rubber washer, iron spikes, fireplace tile (from current fireplace in Watts house), clay pipe, slate, glass bottle and window, chicken leg bone, black glazed ceramic bottle neck, 1932 halfpenny, ceramic roof tiles
31	3	Bottle and window glass, china, slate, clay pipe inc Rattray/Aberdeen stem, glass, china, iron, 17 th century coin, clay pipe
42	4	Brick, sawn mammal bone, bottle glass – clear, brown and black, china, clay pipe stem and mouth piece, stoneware, flint
43	4	Sewer pipe
50	5	Pottery, glass, bone, 2 x flint
56	5	Cu alloy button cover, china
60	6	Sandstone, stone floor slab, china, glass, clay pipes, notched flint, 17 th -century coin, iron nails, large amount of human bone frags
61	6	Shell, china, metal strip
62	6	3 nails, 1 medieval pot frag
64	6	1 medieval pot – tiny sherd of redware
66	6	China, nails, iron
67	6	1 flint, medieval window glass sherd, 1 square copper alloy fitting with wood on reverse (might be coffin fitting)
70	7	Cu alloy bell, flint, china. Photographed and backfilled – pantile x 23, china c 200, brown glazed 18 th /19 th C x 26, ironwork x 21, dairy bowl x 10, clear glass x 5, slate x 5
73	7	Roof slates, china, metal inc coffin handle, iron, flint, dairy bowl, glass, clay pipe
80	8	2 frags of gravestone, 1 clay pipe, 1 glass, 1 tile
90/91	9	Slate, brick, tile, glass, ceramic marble, Ballinmore? Bottle top (Grolsh type)
91	9	1 flint, 1 purple glass
100	10	20 nails, coffin handle, human bones frags
101	10	1861 halfpenny, 4 copper alloy pins, plaster with red and yellow wash, mortar, sewer pipe, paint/pigment, slate, stone, human bone, iron nails
110	11	Sandstone corner, slate, mortar, iron nails and coffin handles, plastic button, human bone, coffin nails, coffin handles
120	12	Window and bottle glass
130	13	Brick, iron nail, bone, glass, 1 medieval pot sherd
131	13	China and stoneware
133	13	Ceramic dairy bowl sherds, creamware, 18 th -19 th -century glass, leather shoe frags, iron nails, window glass
150	15	17 th C Charles II pre 1666 Turner, lead sheet, sawn mammal bone, window and vessel glass (some very fine), mussel shell, clay pipe, slate, sandstone, mortar, iron nails, human bone
160	16	Green bottle glass, stone roof slate, 1 china, 2 dairy bowl, human bone x 11

APPENDIX 4 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo no	Description	Facing
DSC_2502-4	Starting Tr 3 with the Watts	
DSC_2505-7	Starting Tr 2 Ian, Heather and Janie	
DSC_2508-9	Starting Tr 1 Jan and Jim	
DSC_2510-1	Tr 1	NNE

DSC_2512-3	Tr 1	E
DSC_2514	Tr 2 cobbles being revealed	W
DSC_2516-8	Tr 2 cobbles 23	S
DSC_2519-23	Tr 2 cobbles 23 very hot day Old Deer Jim, Janie, Ian, Heather	S
DSC_2524-6	Tr 2 cobbles 23	NNE
DSC_2527-8	Tr 2 cobbles 23	W
DSC_2529-31	Tr 2 cobbles 23	S
DSC_2532-5	Tr 2 finds from 200 including roof tile, Belfast sink, metal and pottery	
DSC_2536-9	Tr 2 cobbles 23	S
DSC_2540-1	Tr 2 cobbles 23	N
DSC_2542-3	Tr 2 cobbles 23	S
DSC_2544-5	Tr 2 cobbles 23	W
DSC_2546	Tr 1 backfilled	SE
DSC_2547-9	Tr 4 being opened Jan, Jim, Neil	W
DSC_2550-1	Tr 5 being opened Jim and Derek	N
DSC_2554-6	Tr 2 gravels under cobbled 23	N
DSC_2557-61	Tr 2 gravels under cobbled 23	S
DSC_2562-3	Tr 2 gravels under cobbled 23	N
DSC_2564-5	Tr 5 wall foundation 52 (bottom) with clay 51 (top)	N
DSC_2566	Tr 5 wall foundation 52 (left) with clay 51 (right)	W
DSC_2567-8	Tr 4 wall foundation 43 (left)	W
DSC_2569	Tr 4 wall foundation 43 (top)	S
DSC_2570	Tr 4 wall foundation 43	SE
DSC_2571-2	Tr 4 wall foundation 43 (top) showing 17 Abbey St (top)	S
DSC_2573	Tr 2 gravel natural	N
DSC_2574-5	Tr 2 gravel natural	S
DSC_2576-7	Tr 2 gravel natural	E
DSC_2578-9	Tr 2 gravel natural S section showing cobbles above gravels	S
DSC_2580	Tr 2 W section	W
DSC_2581-3	Tr 3 Alice and Joyce	
DSC_2584-9	Tr 3 clay layer 31	E
DSC_2590	Tr 3 clay layer 31	S
DSC_2591-3	Tr 3 clay layer 31	W
DSC_2594-5	Tr 2 backfilled	N
DSC_2596-7	Tr 4 stones 43 and 19th century soils	NW
DSC_2598-600	Tr 4 Heather and Neil sorting finds	
DSC_2601	Tr 5 Jim getting down	SW
DSC_2602	Tr 6 Jan, Sheena and Derek opening trench	NE
DSC_2603-4	Tr 5 wall foundation 52 (right) layer 55 burnt layer on top of cobbles 53 (left)	SE
DSC_2605	Tr 4 stones 43 and natural sand below 19th century soils	NW
DSC_2606-9	Tr 4 stones 43 and natural sand below 19th century soils	SW
DSC_2610-11	Tr 3 Watt kids and Isla recording	
DSC_2612	Tr 3 sand 31 with 19th century finds	E

DSC_2613	Tr 3 sand 31 with 19th century finds	S
DSC_2614-5	Tr 3 sand 31 with 19th century finds	NE
DSC_2616-8	Tr 5 uncovering cobbles, Jim and Mathew	SE
DSC_2619-21	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing (bottom left)	N
DSC_2622	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing	N
DSC_2623	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing	W
DSC_2624	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing	S
DSC_2625-6	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing	SE
DSC_2627	Tr 6 stones 63 appearing	E
DSC_2628	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (left) wall foundation 52 (right)	SE
DSC_2629	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (top) wall foundation 52 (bottom)	NE
DSC_2630	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (right) wall foundation 52 (left)	NW
DSC_2631-3	Tr 6 bones being revealed	
DSC_2634	Tr 7 Alice and Kareen	
DSC_2635	Tr 8 Ian and Sandy	
DSC_2636-8	Tr 6 location	
DSC_2639-40	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (left) wall foundation 52 (right)	SE
DSC_2641	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (top) wall foundation 52 (bottom)	NE
DSC_2642	Tr 5 cobbles 54 (right) wall foundation 52 (left)	NW
DSC_2643-4	Tr 8 turf removed	W
DSC_2645-6	Tr 8 turf removed	S
DSC_2647	Tr 9 pebble surface 90	W
DSC_2648	Tr 9 pebble surface 90	E
DSC_2649	Tr 9 pebble surface 90	S
DSC_2650-1	Tr 8 location	
DSC_2654-5	Tr 8 stoney layer 81, 82, 83	
DSC_2656	Tr 6 Jan recording	E
DSC_2657-8	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	E
DSC_2659-60	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	N
DSC_2661-2	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	S
DSC_2663-4	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	W
DSC_2665	Tr 6	SW
DSC_2666-8	Tr 7 turf removed	SW
DSC_2669-71	Tr 5 cobbles removed and natural underneath	SE
DSC_2672-3	Tr 8 82 (bottom) 81 (centre) 83 (top)	W
DSC_2674-5	Tr 8 82 (left) 81 (centre) 83 (right)	S
DSC_2676	Derek uncovering stones 65	NE
DSC_2677-8	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	E
DSC_2679	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	S
DSC_2680	Tr 6 stones 65 A, B, C and D	N
DSC_2681	Tr 9 pebbles 90	S
DSC_2683-4	Tr 8 Sandy and Neil	W
DSC_2685	Derek admiring stone 65A	NW
DSC_2686-7	Stone 65A W/C/JR	

DSC_2688	Stone 65A W/C/JR	N
DSC_2689-90	Tr 8 stones 81 in centre of trench running N-S	E
DSC_2691-2701	Tr 8 stones 81 being planned	
DSC_2702-3	Tr 9 stones 91 being planned	
DSC_2704	Tr 9 stones 91	S
DSC_2705	Tr 9 stones 91	E
DSC_2706	Tr 8 Sandy	W
DSC_2707	Tr 7 Alice and Neil P	SW
DSC_2708	Tr 9 stones 91	S
DSC_279-10	Tr 9 stones 91	W
DSC_2711	Tr 9 location	NW
DSC_2712	Tr 9 location	W
DSC_2713-7	Tr 9 stones 91 being planned	
DSC_2718	Tr 6 removing 65	SW
DSC_2719	Tr 6 removing 65	N
DSC_2720-1	Tr 7 Neil P cleaning stones 71	
DSC_2722-3	Tr 7 71	NW
DSC_2724	Tr 7 71	NE
DSC_2725-6	Tr 7 71	SE
DSC_2727-30	Tr 7 planning 71	
DSC_2731	Tr 6 65 removed; 64 (top right) 63 (bottom right)	E
DSC_2732	Tr 6 65 removed; 64 (top left) 63 (top right)	S
DSC_2733-4	Tr 6 65 removed; 64 (bottom left) 63 (top left)	W
DSC_2735	Stone 65A W/C/JR	
DSC_2736-7	Tr 6 64	S
DSC_2738-41	Tr 6 63	W
DSC_2742-45	Tr 6 Derek and Jan	
DSC_2746	Tr 8 E end clay and stones	S
DSC_2747-9	Tr 8	SW/W
DSC_2750	Tr 9 extended with clay and stone stripe in centre	E
DSC_2751	Tr 9 extended with clay and stone stripe in centre	N
DSC_2752	Tr 9 extended with clay and stone stripe in centre	W
DSC_2753	Old Deer Church	N
DSC_2754-5	Trench 7 Neil sorting finds	E
DSC_2756-62	Tr 9 recording 91	
DSC_2763	Neil sorting finds from Tr 7	
DSC_2764-7	Tr 8 large stones in topsoil, base for gravestone?	
DSC_2768-75	Tr 7 copper alloy bell from 70	
DSC_2776-88	Tr 7 70 finds reburied	
DSC_2789-91	Tr 9 stones in 91	E
DSC_2792-94	Glass and sandstone from Tr 9	
DSC_2795	Tr 8 dug to 0.9m 19th C finds as base	S
DSC_2796	Tr 8 dug to 0.9m at both ends 19th C finds as base	SW
DSC_2797-2802	Tr 6 digging into grave cut 66, wall foundation 64 (top left) 63 (right)	S

DSC_2803-6	Tr 6 digging into grave cut 66, wall foundation 64 (top right)	E
DSC_2807-11	Tr 6 digging into grave cut 66, wall foundation 64 (left 63 (top left))	W
DSC_2812-21	Wall foundation 64 in line with remaining S wall of medieval church	E
DSC_2822	Tr 6	NW
DSC_2823-4	Tr 10 plaster	
DSC_2825	Tr 10	SE
DSC_2826-32	Tr 10 plaster and other finds	
DSC_2833	Sheena and Heather starting Tr 11	S
DSC_2834-5	Jim and Kareen starting Tr 12	N
DSC_2836-9	Tr 11 Corner of pedestal or plinth from gravestone	
DSC_2840	Tr 12	N
DSC_2841	Tr 13 stones 133	E
DSC_2842	Tr 13 stones 133	S
DSC_2843-4	Tr 13 stones 133	W
DSC_2845	Tr 13 stones 133	N
DSC_2846	Jim and Kareen starting Tr 12	ENE
DSC_2847-8	Sheena and Heather starting Tr 11	E/ESE
DSC_2849	Katie and Alice starting Tr 14	N
DSC_2850	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	NE
DSC_2851-3	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	N
DSC_2854	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	W
DSC_2855-6	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	S
DSC_2857-8	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	NNW
DSC_2859-61	Sandstone slab in Trench 11 layer 110	N
DSC_2862-66	Lifting Tr 11 sandstone	NE/N
DSC_2867	Tr 12	N
DSC_2868-71	Tr 12	W
DSC_2872	Tr 12 location with Tr 14 in background	N
DSC_2873-4	Tr 12 with 11 in background	S
DSC_2875	Kareen and Jim sorting human bone from Tr 12	E
DSC_2876-7	Tr 11 below stone	
DSC_2878-9	Tr 12 iron nails and human bone to be reburied	
DSC_2880-2	Tr 14 dug to 1m	E
DSC_2883-4	Tr 14 dug to 1m	W
DSC_2885	Tr 10 dug to 1m	N
DSC_2886-93	Human bone and metalwork from Tr 10 to be reburied	
DSC_2894-5	Tr 13 stones 133 removed down to natural subsoil below	W
DSC_2896-99	Tr 13 stones 133 removed down to natural subsoil below	S
DSC_2900-1	Tr 13 stones 133 removed down to natural subsoil below	W
DSC_2902-4	Tr 13 stones 133 removed down to natural subsoil below	NW
DSC_2905	Tr 13 stones 133 removed	
DSC_2906-11	Tr 12 dug down to 1m	N
DSC_2912	Tr 7 returfed	SW

DSC_2913	Trench 8 reurfed	E
DSC_2914	Tr 9 reurfed	ESE
DSC_2915	Tr 14 reurfed	NW
DSC_2916	Tr 14 reurfed	NE
DSC_2917-18	Tr 11 dug to 0.8m	S
DSC_2919-21	Tr 11	N
DSC_2922-3	Tr 12 reurfed	N
DSC_2924	Katie and Carol Tr 14	N
DSC_2925-6	Wall next to Tr 12 - initials scribbled in mortar	N
DSC_2927-8	1600s coin from Tr 10	
DSC_2929-30	Tr 11 ready to backfill	S/SSE
DSC_2931-39	Bone and metal from Tr 11	
DSC_2940-1	Tr 14	N
DSC_2942-3	Stone from Tr 14	
DSC_2944-6	Tr 14 with 15 and 16 in background	W
DSC_2947-8	Tr 14 dug to 60cm	N
DSC_2949	Tr 14 dug to 60cm	E
DSC_2950-1	Tr 14 dug to 60cm	W
DSC_2952-3	Tr 14 dug to 60cm	W
DSC_2954-5	Katie recording Tr 14	
DSC_2956-7	ironwork from Tr 14 to be reburied	
DSC_2961-65	Turf disposal	
DSC_2966-7	Tr 15 dug to 1.1m	E
DSC_2968-9	Tr 15 dug to 1.1m	W
DSC_2970	Tr 14 backfilling	
DSC_2971-9	Tr 15 recording finds	
DSC_2980	Tr 15 dug to 1.1m	W
DSC_2981	Tr 15 dug to 1.1m	E
DSC_2982	Tr 15 spoil heap	SE
DSC_2983-4	Tr 15 dug to 1.1m	E
DSC_2985	Heather and Sheena Tr 16	W
DSC_2986-89	Tr 16 bone and metal to be reburied	
DSC_2990	Tr 12 backfilled	S
DSC_2991	Tr 14 being backfilled	N
DSC_2992	Tr 12 backfilled	S
DSC_2993-6	Tr 14 reurfed	SE/S
DSC_2997	Tr 15 reurfed	W
DSC_2998	Tr 16 being backfilled	W
DSC_2999	Tr 16 reurfed	W



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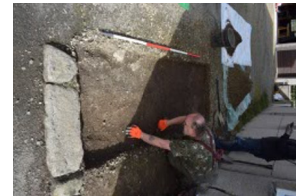
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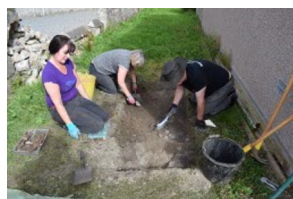
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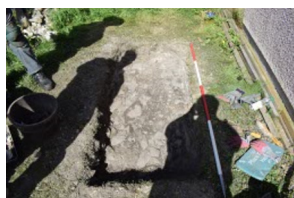
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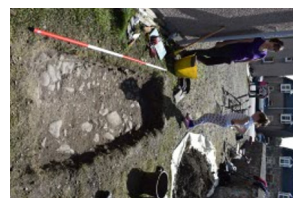
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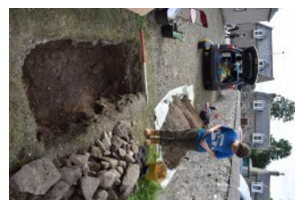
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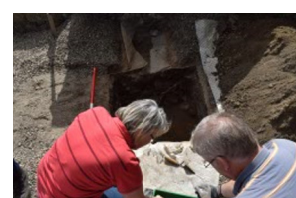
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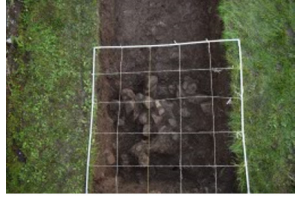
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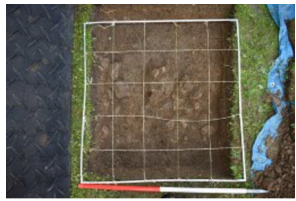
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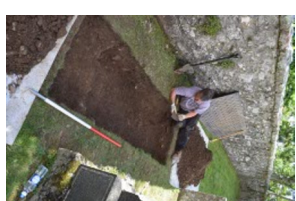
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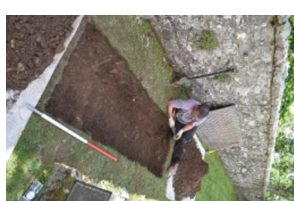
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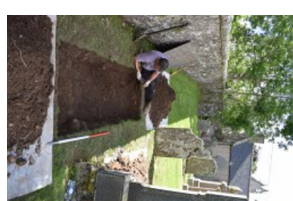
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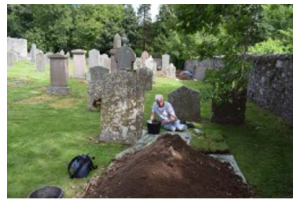
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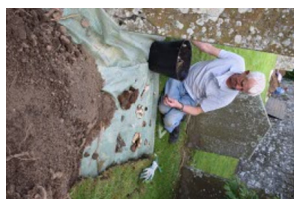
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DSC_2772.JPG



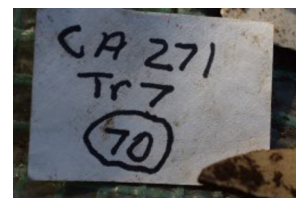
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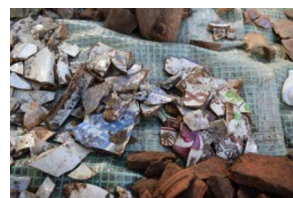
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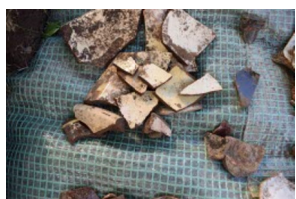
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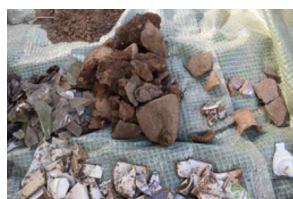
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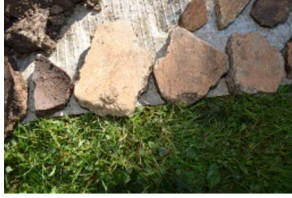
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DSC_2832.JPG



DSC_2833.JPG



DSC_2834.JPG



DSC_2835.JPG



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DSC_2848.JPG



DSC_2849.JPG



DSC_2850.JPG



DSC_2851.JPG



DSC_2852.JPG



DSC_2853.JPG



DSC_2854.JPG



DSC_2855.JPG



DSC_2856.JPG



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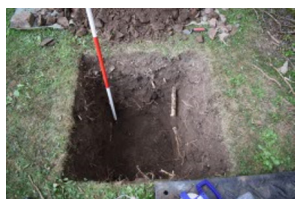
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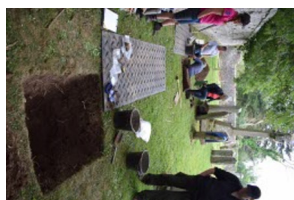
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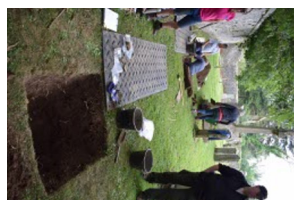
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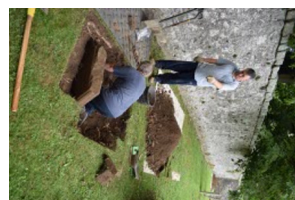
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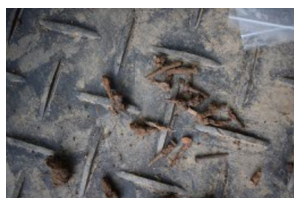
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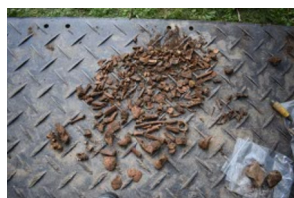
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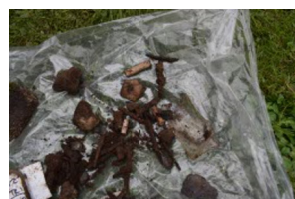
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DSC_2897.JPG



DSC_2898.JPG



DSC_2899.JPG



DSC_2900.JPG



DSC_2901.JPG



DSC_2902.JPG



DSC_2903.JPG



DSC_2904.JPG



DSC_2905.JPG



DSC_2906.JPG



DSC_2907.JPG



DSC_2908.JPG



DSC_2909.JPG



DSC_2910.JPG



DSC_2911.JPG



DSC_2912.JPG



DSC_2913.JPG



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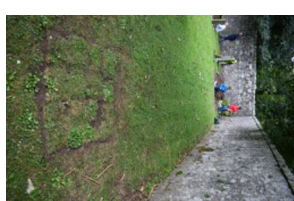
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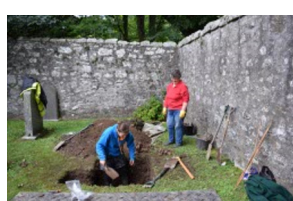
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DSC_2928.JPG



DSC_2929.JPG



DSC_2930.JPG



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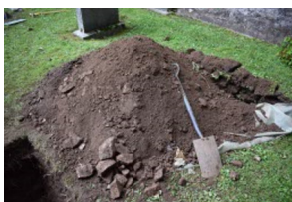
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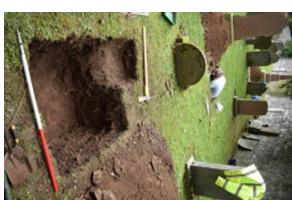
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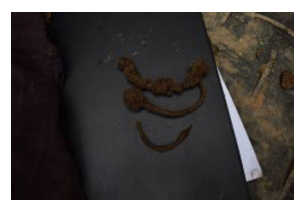
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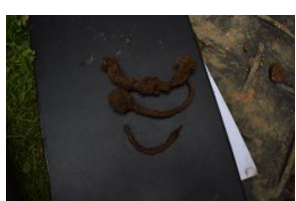
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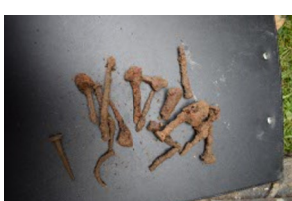
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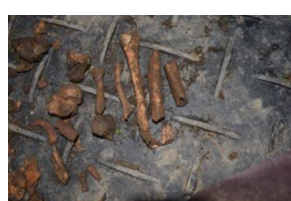
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DSC_2967.JPG



DSC_2968.JPG



DSC_2969.JPG



DSC_2970.JPG



DSC_2971.JPG



DSC_2972.JPG



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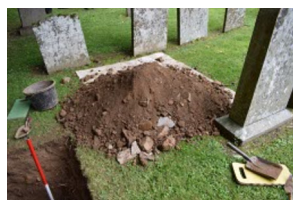
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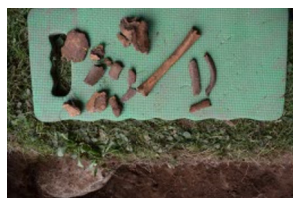
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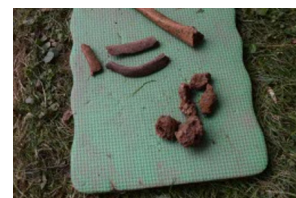
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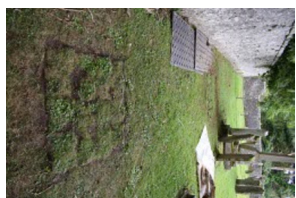
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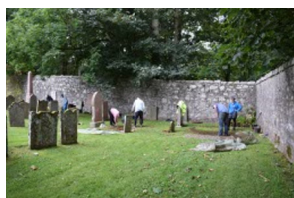
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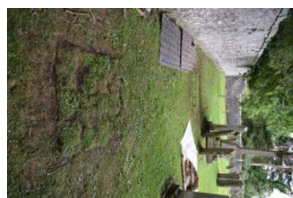
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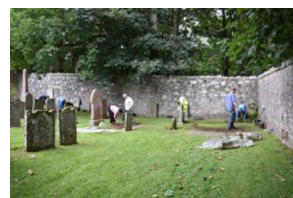
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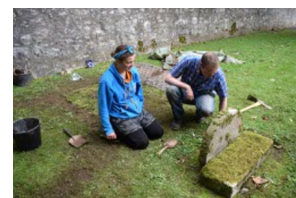
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DSC_2997.JPG



DSC_2998.JPG



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