

**Site Adjacent to Lynwood, Chapel Of Garioch, Inverurie  
AB51 5HG**

**Data Structure Report (DSR)**

**Aberdeenshire Council Planning application  
APP/2014/1362**



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## ILLUSTRATIONS

Cover: Trench 2 being excavated with Trench 1 and Bennachie in the background; facing SW

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## SUMMARY

A 5% evaluation was carried out on 25 August 2019; two trenches were excavated and furrows from rig and furrow cultivation were recorded running approximately NW-SE. A horse burial was recorded in Trench 2 but no other archaeological features or finds were recorded.

It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current planning application.

# 1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The site (Illus 1) is located W of Chapel of Garioch. It is centred on NGR NJ 7152 2418, at 160-165m OD in the parish of Chapel of Garioch.
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by Mike Strachan Architecture. An application APP/2014/1362 for erection of 3 dwellinghouses requires a 5-7% archaeological evaluation (Claire Herbert 2019, Specification).
- 1.3 All the archaeological work was carried out in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) Planning Advice Note (PAN 2/2011) and Historic Environment Scotland's Policy Statement (HESPS) which state that archaeological remains should be regarded as part of the environment to be protected and managed.



Illus 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019)

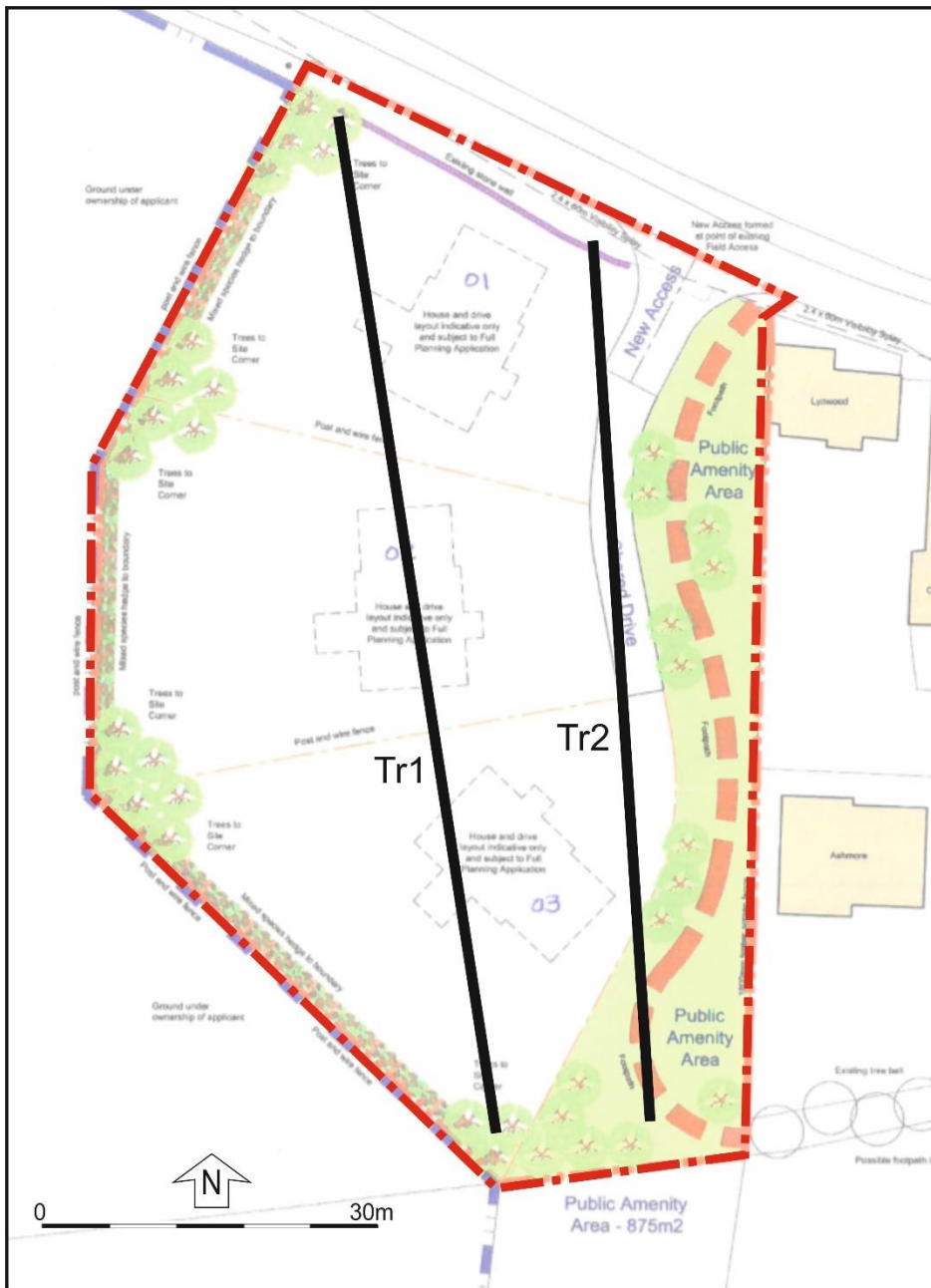
## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

The Historic Environment Record (HER) and Canmore (HES) were consulted online within 1km of the proposed development.

- 2.1 There are no Scheduled Monuments within 1km of the proposed development.
- 2.2 Chapel of Garioch village (HER NJ72SW0127) occupies an elevated position on the crest of a ridge which forms the skirts of Bennachie. The tiny hamlet once held the Capella Beatae Mariae Virginis de Garryoch, one of three chapels in the parish, which was formerly called Logie Durno.
- 2.3 The site of St Mary's Chapel (HER NJ72SW0053) lies E of the proposed site. The chapel of Garioch was founded sometime before 1357 as a private church by Christian Bruce, Lady of Garioch, and sister to King Robert. In the early 17th Century, it became the parish church. Now no trace. There is now a 19th century church on the site (NJ72SW0205) (Shepherd 2006, 110).
- 2.4 Chapel of Garioch Parish Church (HER NJ72SW0205) is still in ecclesiastical use, opened on 10 January 1813 with additions in 1923 by A Marshall Mackenzie and in 1968 by McComie, Inverurie. It is built on the site of a chapel and earlier church (NJ72SW0053), there is also a bell dated 1871. Originally rectangular in plan, the church is built of rough ashlar red granite with cherry cocking. The south elevation has four large pointed arch windows with original wood-traceried Gothic glazing. The west gable has a simple birdcage Gothic bellcote with a ball finial. There is a T-plan north chancel addition from 1923 and small additions flanking chancel from 1968. A war memorial stands to the east of the church building (NJ72SW0165), and there is a 17th century gate in the western wall of the churchyard (NJ72SW0042). The graveyard is enclosed with a rubble-built wall, with gravestones dating to the late 18th century.
- 2.5 To the S of the proposed site is a crop mark (HER NJ72SW0162) of a ring-ditch. There are also faint traces of two possible others to the north and west in the same field.
- 2.6 There is a pump and trough at the N side of the site on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map and the ground has been farmland since the early mapping (Illus 3-7).

## **3 THE EVALUATION**

A 5% archaeological evaluation was carried out on 25 August 2019. Two trenches were excavated (Illus 2) on the 0.46 hectare site with a tracked machine and 1.8m ditching bucket.



Illus 2 Site plan showing proposed development (copyright Mike Strachan Architects)

### 3.1 Trench 1

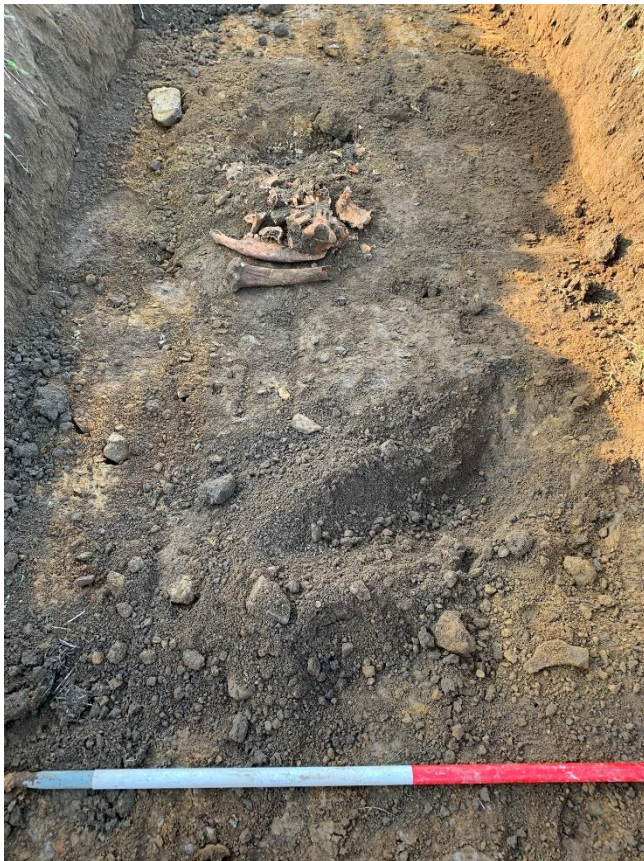
Trench 1 was 88m oriented N-S. The topsoil was 0.25m at the N end and up to 0.35m at the S end and the natural subsoil was rusty brown sandy clay. There were NW-SE furrows along the length of the trench and large stones within the natural subsoil.



Illus 3 Trench 1 furrow; facing S

### 3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was 80m oriented N-S. The topsoil was 0.40m at the N end and up to 0.35m at the S end and the natural subsoil was rusty brown sandy clay. There were NW-SE furrows along the length of the trench and large stones within the natural subsoil. An oval cut had been dug into the subsoil to bury a horse. The skull was partially excavated and part of one tibia was removed by the digger.



Illus 4 Oval cut for horse burial; facing S

#### **4 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

A 5% evaluation was carried out on 25 August 2019; two trenches were excavated and furrows from rig and furrow cultivation were recorded running approximately NW-SE. A horse burial was recorded but no other archaeological features or finds were recorded.

It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current planning application.

#### **5 REFERENCES**

**Herbert, C** 2019 Specification for Archaeological Work, by email.

**Shepherd, I A G.** 2006 *Aberdeenshire, Donside and Strathbogie: an illustrated architectural guide*, in Charles McKean. [Edinburgh].

#### **6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thanks to Mike Strachan for initiating this project, Jim Ellis for trench digging and to Claire Herbert, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service for her advice during this work.

## APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo no	Description	Facing
1	Tr1	S
2	Tr1 with Bennachie	WSW
3,4	Tr2 completed	S
5,6	Tr2 completed with Bennachie	SW
7,8	Tr2 completed with Bennachie	SW
9	Tr2 (left) Tr (right)	S
3733	Tr1 started	
3734-6	Tr1 with Bennachie	WSW
3737	Tr1 furrow	S
3741-4	Tr1 furrow	S
3745	Tr1 completed	N
3746	Tr2 started	S
3747	Tr2, Tr1, Bennachie	SW
3751	Cut for horse burial	S
3752	Horse skull, tibia	
3753	Mandible	
3754	Tr2 completed	N
3755	Trenches completed	SW/WSW





DSC\_0001



DSC\_0002



DSC\_0003



DSC\_0004



DSC\_0005



DSC\_0006



DSC\_0007



DSC\_0008



DSC\_0009



IMG\_3733



IMG\_3734



IMG\_3735



IMG\_3736



IMG\_3737



IMG\_3741



IMG\_3742



IMG\_3744



IMG\_3745



IMG\_3746



IMG\_3747



IMG\_3751



IMG\_3752



IMG\_3753



IMG\_3754



IMG\_3755



IMG\_3756