

GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay
Archaeological Evaluation
Data Structure Report
Project 4364**

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**Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay
Archaeological Evaluation
Data Structure Report**

On behalf of: Hunter Laing

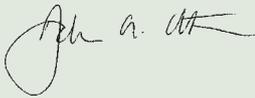
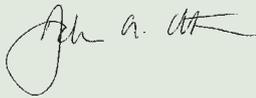
NGR: NR 4352 7166

Project Number: 4364

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*This document has been prepared in accordance
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

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Figure 1: Site location.

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Executive Summary

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited at Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay on an area proposed for the construction of a new distillery and associated infrastructure (Planning Ref: 15/03383/PP). No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered during the work programme.

Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd at Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay (Figure 1). This work was carried out between 10th and 11th May 2016, and aimed to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area as stipulated by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) acting as archaeological advisor to Argyll and Bute Council.

Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The site is located to the north of the village of Port Askaig on Islay, Argyll & Bute. The development area is defined by Ardnahoe Loch and a single track road to the west and open rough grazing on all other sides. The development area sits within improved pasture in an area known as Druim na Cudaig, which overlooks the Sound of Islay to the east and the Paps of Jura (Plate 1). Topographically the site is relatively flat towards the road, however to the east slopes steeply downwards towards the Sound of Islay (Plate 2). Across the central area of the site are two overhead power lines which limited the total area available for trenching. The area of archaeological interest is centred on NR 4352 7166. The development area is currently covered in open pasture and will form the nucleus of the new distillery and associated roads and infrastructure.



Plate 1: Site with the Sound of Islay and the Paps of Jura in the background.



Plate 2: Working shot showing site gradient.

- 3.2 The underlying drift geology is not recorded, while the solid geology consists of Argyll group – Diamictite Metamorphic Bedrock (British Geological Survey Map Viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A brief desk-based assessment was carried out for the proposed development at Ardnahoe, Islay, Argyll and Bute. The assessment examined the area proposed for development (the Site) and a radius of approximately 200 m beyond its boundary (the Buffer Zone; Figure 1). Study of the surrounding landscape was necessary to establish the local archaeological and historical context, in order to provide a broader understanding of the historical development of the areas proposed for development and the potential for as-yet-unidentified archaeological remains within those areas.

- 4.2 A cartographic regression exercise could either find no reference to Ardnahoe on the seventeenth and eighteenth century maps consulted (Pont & Blaeu 1654; Pont & Blaeu 1662; Moll 1745) or found that the extent of the mapping programme did not include Islay (Roy 1747-55).
- 4.3 A small settlement named as Ardnahon is depicted beside an un-named loch, presumably Loch Ardnahoe, on Langlands' 1801 map. The settlement consists of four structures, including a lead mill. The latter remained in existence in 1824 (Thomson and Johnson map), but was not depicted on any later maps, and its precise location is not known.
- 4.4 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1881 depicts the Site as a mix of agricultural land, rough pasture and woodland. No structures lie within the Site, although a track (Site 7) crosses the land, leading from the Port Askaig road to a well and, from 1901, to two buildings at Carraig Dhubh. Ardnahoe Farm (Site 5) is in situ, and several enclosures lie to the north-east and south-east of the farm.
- 4.5 Later editions of Ordnance Survey maps provide no further detail of the Site, and none of the other cultural heritage sites noted on the National Monuments Record of Scotland are mapped (Site 1 to 4), although the circular enclosure (Site 6) is visible on satellite imagery.
- 4.6 The assessment indicates that one cultural heritage site (Site 7) would be disturbed by the development, and may require to be investigated as part of any programme of archaeological works.
- 4.7 The proposed development area at Ardnahoe lies within an agricultural landscape, and that the remains of earlier agricultural activity can be found in the area immediately surrounding the Site. Within 200 m of the Site, these remains include enclosures and field banks (Site 1 and Site 6) and clearance cairns (Site 2 and 3). Other cultural heritage remains located within the 200 m Buffer Zone are a house (Site 5) and a stone (Site 4). None of the cultural heritage remains within the 200 m Buffer Zone would be directly affected by the proposed development.

Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to identify:
- the presence or absence of as yet unknown archaeological features within the proposed development area;
 - to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the evaluation, were recorded to an appropriate level.
- 5.2 The objectives were therefore to:
- Conduct an 8% (850 m²) archaeological evaluation of the 10,750 m² trenchable area of the proposed development site to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains and their character, date and extent if surviving;
 - Submit a report to data structure level for approval to WoSAS, on completion of the archaeological fieldwork, which includes an outline of the scope of any further excavation works should any significant archaeology be encountered.
- 5.3 The scope of the archaeological works will establish:
- that if the archaeological evaluation encounters no significant archaeological remains, no further archaeological fieldwork will be required for this development.

Methodology

- 6.1 A series of ten evaluation trenches (Figure 1) (ranging from 25 m to 50 m in length and measuring

- 2 m wide) were excavated using a back-acting machine under constant supervision of a GUARD Archaeologist.
- 6.2 The topsoil or overburden at each trench location was removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered were cleaned by hand by the on-site Archaeologist to determine their character and extent.
 - 6.3 Any significant archaeological features encountered were dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Should negative-cut features be encountered, a representative sample was 25-50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. A full record of excavated features was made using a single context recording system using pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs. All archaeological features were photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections were drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All test pits were accurately surveyed using a sub-metre GPS and located within the National Grid.
 - 6.4 All archaeological finds were dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Finds and animal bone were collected as bulk samples by context. Significant small finds were three dimensionally located prior to collection. All finds will be processed to MAP2 type standards and subject to appropriate specialist assessment. If necessary, conservation of finds were appraised to allow for specialist study.
 - 6.5 All excavated feature fills and horizons were sampled as appropriate, using bulk soil samples, for palaeo-environmental evidence.
 - 6.6 A representative section was recorded denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information was logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.
 - 6.7 Should significant archaeological remains be encountered by the evaluation, requiring more than the 8% evaluation outlined above, the remains will be largely left *in situ* pending the agreement of the client and WoSAS on a WSI addenda for an appropriate scope of excavation (Stage 2) and Post-excavation design including scope of finds analysis, conservation & publication (Stage 3).
 - 6.8 On completion of the recording of the evaluation trenches, the backfilling was undertaken by a back-acting machine. No specialist backfilling was proposed.
 - 6.9 All work will be conducted in line with the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

Results

- 7.1 Ten trenches were excavated, totalling 850 m². The results should be read in conjunction with the detailed results found in Appendices A-B and Figure 1.
- 7.2 Across the site the subsoil generally comprised orange/beige sand 002 with inclusions of sub-angular pebbles and small boulders (Plate 3). A reddish/orange/brown silty sand colluvium was found in several trenches immediately above the subsoil.
- 7.3 The topsoil deposit which extended the site comprised loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand with inclusions of plant roots and pebble sized stones (Plate 4). It varied in depth between 0.12 m – 0.42 m and was deepest downslope as opposed to upslope where it was generally thinner. No finds were located during the work programme.
- 7.4 The southern end of trench 8 truncated putative trackway (Site 7) which was observable on the ground as a dirt track with modern wheel rutting. This revealed no underlying structures comprising a 'made' surface and it is presumed the track was constructed of compacted earth only.

- 7.5 At the north-western corner of the site and partially within the site boundary are the remains of a degraded stone revetment wall with mortar. It measured at most 0.4 m in width with a maximum height of 0.9 m and comprises a linear field boundary which continues out with the northern most site limits (Plate 5).



Plate 3: Post-excavation of trench 10.



Plate 4: SE facing section trench 7.



Plate 5: Stone wall at north-west corner of site.

Discussion

- 8.1 No features of archaeological interest were uncovered during the evaluation phase of the work programme. The possible trackway (Site 7) was deemed to be of probable dirt construction only.

Conclusions

- 9.1 The evaluation has shown that no potentially significant archaeological features exist within the present development and it is advised no further archaeological work is required. However, the final decisions on the nature and extent of any further archaeological work rest with the planning authority.
- 9.2 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. A copy of this is included in Appendix E. The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within six months of the completion of all fieldwork.
- 9.3 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> for this project (OASIS Reference: guardarc1-251558) will be completed within 3 months. Once the Data Structure Report has

become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, WoSAS will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Hunter Laing for commissioning us to conduct the evaluation. Plant and operator were supplied by WC and MI Wood. Technical support was from Aileen Maule. The evaluation was conducted by Maureen Kilpatrick. The illustrations and trench survey were produced by Diarmuid O Connor. The review of cultural heritage sites was conducted by Christine Rennie. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology Ltd by John Atkinson.

**Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay
Archaeological Evaluation
Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: References

On-line Sources

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Ordnance Survey 1926 *Sheet 69 – Islay*. One-inch "Popular" edition, Scotland, 1921-1930.

Appendix B: Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Sites

CHS No:	1
Name:	Ardnahoe, Enclosure and field banks
NGR:	NR 42430 71850
NMRS No:	NR47SW14
HER No:	WoSAS 21247

Significance:

Description: Located 200m north of Ardnahoe steading, on a prominent knoll top, is a raised rectangular area measuring c.20m N-S by 10m E-W. The west side of this area is formed by a turf dyke which runs up the SW side of the knoll, in a curve, over the top and continues to the north for around 40-50m. There are indications of small fragments of similar dykes on the knoll top, which may have once formed an enclosure. On top of the knoll there are loose stones and the area looks as though it has been disturbed, suggesting possible re-use of the site.

CHS No: 2

Name: Ardnahoe, large clearance cairn

NGR: NR 42410 71800

NMRS No: NR47SW14

HER No: WoSAS 21247

Significance:

Description: In the area to the north of Ardnahoe steading are a number of clearance cairns within the area including this large cairn.

CHS No: 3

Name: Ardnahoe, small clearance cairns

NGR: NR 42500 71790

NMRS No: NR47SW14

HER No: WoSAS 21247

Significance:

Description: In the area to the north of Ardnahoe steading are a number of clearance cairns within the area including these small examples.

CHS No: 4

Name: Ardnahoe, stone

NGR: NR 42600 71540

NMRS No: NR47SW 1

HER No: WoSAS 2750

Significance:

Description: There is a prominent standing stone near Ardnahoe farm. It is clearly visible on a rise to the east of the road to Bunnahabhainn just south of the farm. Assessment in 1979 concluded and this is not a standing stone but a perched boulder 1.9m high.

CHS No: 5

Name: Ardnahoe, house

NGR: NR 42350 71660

NMRS No: NR47SW 20

HER No: WoSAS 44031

Significance: Lesser

Description: This farmhouse is first recorded on the OS 6" map of 1881 (*Argyllshire, Sheet CLXXXVII*), although it may have been in existence for longer.

CHS No: 6

Name: Ardnahoe, enclosure

NGR: NR 4234 7154

NMRS No: NR47SW 2

HER No: WoSAS 2752

Significance: Lesser

Description: Between Ardnahoe Farm and Loch, close to the shore of the loch, is a turf-covered enclosure 14.5m by 10.0m within a collapsed wall spread to about 1.5m broad. There is no trace of an entrance or facing stones. This is probably the remains of an early modern stock enclosure; it is not a hut circle.

CHS No: 7

Name: Ardnahoe, track

NGR: NR 42484 71556 to NR 42588 71502

NMRS No: -

HER No: -

Significance: Lesser

Description: A track is shown on the OS 1881 6" map (*Argyllshire, Sheet CLXXXVII*). It runs from the Port Askaig road to a small collection of buildings at Carraig Dhubh.

Appendix C: List of Trenches

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
1	50	2	0.3	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.12 m - 0.26 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
2	50	2	0.26 - 0.6	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.17 m - 0.23 m). Below is located an orange silty sand hillwash (depth 0.23 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
3	25	2	0.22	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.2 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
4	50	2	0.39	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.36 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
5	50	2	0.45	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.39 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
6	50	2	0.54	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.25 m). Below is located an orange silty sand hillwash (depth 0.24 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
7	50	2	0.19 - 0.31	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.19 m - 0.28 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
8	50	2	0.29 - 0.4	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.27 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted

Tr No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
9	25	2	0.2	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.19 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted
10	25	2	0.46	Loosely compacted reddish brown silty sand (depth 0.42 m)	Orange/beige sand with inclusions of sub-angular cobbles and small boulders	No archaeology noted

Appendix D: List of Photographs

Film	001			
Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	Entrance of site from road	E
2	-	-	General shot of field closest to road	E
3	-	-	General shot of field closest to road	E
4	-	-	General shot of field closest to road	E
5	-	-	General shot of field closest to road	E
6	-	-	General shot of high ground in central area	N
7	-	-	Northern area of site	S
8	-	-	Northern area of site	S
9	-	-	General shot of high ground	S
10	-	-	General shot of high ground	S
11	-	-	General shot of high ground	SE
12	-	-	General shot of high ground and trackway	SE
13	-	-	General shot of high ground	SE
14	-	-	General shot of high ground	SE
15	-	-	Northern area of site	S
16	-	-	General shot of high ground	SE
17	-	-	Pap of Jura	W
18	Tr 10	-	ID Shot	-
19	Tr 10	001-002	East facing section	E
20	Tr 10	002	Post-excavation	S
21	Tr 5	001-002	East facing section	E
22	Tr 5	002	Post-excavation (south end)	S
23	Tr 5	002	Post-excavation (north end)	S
24	Tr 4	-	ID Shot	-
25	Tr 4	001-002	East facing section	E
26	Tr 4	002	Post-excavation (south end)	S
27	Tr 4	002	Post-excavation (north end)	S
28	Tr 6	-	ID Shot	-
29	Tr 6	001-003	East facing section	E
30	Tr 6	-	Working shot	W
31	Tr 6	-	Working shot	W
32	Tr 6	-	Working shot	W
33	Tr 6	002	Post-excavation (west end)	W
34	Tr 6	002	Post-excavation (east end)	W
35	Tr 7	-	ID Shot	-
36	Tr 7	001-002	East facing section	E
37	Tr 7	002	Post-excavation (south end)	W
38	Tr 7	002	Post-excavation (north end)	W
39	-	-	Stone revetment wall	SE
40	-	-	Stone revetment wall	E
41	-	-	Stone revetment wall	SE
42	-	-	Stone revetment wall (close-up)	SE
43	-	-	Stone revetment wall	SE
44	-	-	Stone revetment wall	SE

Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
45	Tr 2	-	ID Shot	-
46	Tr 2	001-003	North facing section	N
47	Tr 2	002	Post-excavation	W
48	Tr 1	-	ID Shot	-
49	Tr 1	001-003	North facing section	N
50	Tr 1	002	Post-excavation	W
51	Tr 3	-	ID Shot	-
52	Tr 3	001-002	West facing section	W
53	Tr 3	002	Post-excavation	S
54	Tr 8	-	ID Shot	-
55	Tr 8	001-002	West facing section	W
56	Tr 8	002	Post-excavation	S
57	Tr 8	002	Post-excavation	N
58	Tr 9	-	ID Shot	-
59	Tr 9	002	Post-excavation	E
60	Tr 9	002	Post-excavation	W
61	-	-	Backfilled trenches	SW
62	-	-	Trench locations	S
63	-	-	Trench locations	S
64	-	-	Trench locations	E
65	-	-	Trench locations	E
66	-	-	Trench locations	W
67	-	-	Paps of Jura	W
68	-	-	Trench locations	S
69	-	-	Trench locations	S
70	-	-	Trench locations	S
71	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	W
72	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	W
73	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	W
74	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	W
75	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	S
76	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	N
77	-	-	Trench location and Paps of Jura	N
Film	002			
Frame	Area	Context	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	S
2	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
3	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
4	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
5	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
6	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
7	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
8	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
9	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	S
10	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	S
11	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	S
12	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
13	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
14	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
15	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
16	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
17	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	W
18	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	SW
19	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	SW
20	-	-	Working shot and Paps of Jura	SW

Appendix E: Discovery and Excavation Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll and Bute Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay
PROJECT CODE:	4364
PARISH:	Killarow and Kilmeny
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Maureen C Kilpatrick
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	n/a
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	n/a
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	none
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NR 4352 7166
START DATE (this season)	10 th May 2016
END DATE (this season)	12 th May 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An 8% (850 m ²) archaeological evaluation of 10,750 m ² was carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited at Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay on an area proposed for the construction of a new distillery and associated infrastructure (Planning Ref: 15/03383/PP). No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered during the work programme.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Hunter Laing
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	54 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	bob.will@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive will be deposited with the NMRS

Appendix F: Written Scheme of Investigation

ARDNAHOE, PORT ASKAIG, ISLAY

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 4364



Figure 1: Site location.

0 200 m

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Executive Summary

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation forms the archaeological method statement for the evaluation of the area proposed for the construction of a new distillery and associated infrastructure at Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay (Figure 1) (Planning reference 15/03383/PP). This document will require to be approved by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

Introduction

- 2.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out the methodology for the archaeological mitigation works required in support of the erection of a new distillery and associated infrastructure at Ardnahoe, Port Askaig, Islay in accordance with the relevant archaeology guidance specified by WoSAS (Planning references 15/03383/PP). An 8% archaeological evaluation will be undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains. Should significant remains be identified and it is not possible to preserve them *in situ* a further requirement for archaeological works to ensure their preservation through record is likely to be required.
- 2.2 This WSI outlines the programme of archaeological works that may be needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed development. It details the methodology to be employed in implementing the Stage 1 archaeological works. The mitigation methodology to be employed during Stage 2 excavation and Stage 3 post excavation analysis and publication, will be specified in *addenda* to this document. These *addenda*, if required, will be submitted for the approval of WoSAS, prior to the commencement of any archaeological work. All phases of work will be funded by the developer as required by the Planning Authority.

Site Location

- 3.1 The site is located to the north of the village of Port Askaig on Islay, Argyll & Bute. The development area is defined by Ardnahoe Loch to the west and open rough grazing on all other sides. The development area sits within improved pasture in an area known as Druim na Cudaig, which overlooks the Sound of Islay to the east. The area of archaeological interest is centred on NR 4352 7166. The development area is currently covered in open pasture and will form the nucleus of the new distillery and associated roads and infrastructure.

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A brief desk-based assessment was carried out for the proposed development at Ardnahoe, Islay, Argyll and Bute. The assessment examined the area proposed for development (the Site) and a radius of approximately 200 m beyond its boundary (the Buffer Zone; Figure 1). Study of the surrounding landscape was necessary to establish the local archaeological and historical context, in order to provide a broader understanding of the historical development of the areas proposed for development and the potential for as-yet-unidentified archaeological remains within those areas.
- 4.2 A cartographic regression exercise could either find no reference to Ardnahoe on the seventeenth and eighteenth century maps consulted (Pont & Blaeu 1654; Pont & Blaeu 1662; Moll 1745) or found that the extent of the mapping programme did not include Islay (Roy 1747-55).
- 4.3 A small settlement named as Ardnahon is depicted beside an un-named loch, presumably Loch Ardnahoe, on Langlands' 1801 map. The settlement consists of four structures, including a lead mill. The latter remained in existence in 1824 (Thomson and Johnson map), but was not depicted on any later maps, and its precise location is not known.
- 4.4 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1881 depicts the Site as a mix of agricultural land, rough pasture and woodland. No structures lie within the Site, although a track (Site 7) crosses the land, leading from the Port Askaig road to a well and, from 1901, to two buildings at Carraig Dhubb. Ardnahoe Farm (Site 5) is *in situ*, and several enclosures lie to the north-east and south-east of the farm.

- 4.5 Later editions of Ordnance Survey maps provide no further detail of the Site, and none of the other cultural heritage sites noted on the National Monuments Record of Scotland are mapped (Site 1 to 4), although the circular enclosure (Site 6) is visible on satellite imagery.
- 4.6 The assessment indicates that one cultural heritage site (Site 7) would be disturbed by the development, and may require to be investigated as part of any programme of archaeological works.
- 4.7 The proposed development area at Ardnahoe lies within an agricultural landscape, and that the remains of earlier agricultural activity can be found in the area immediately surrounding the Site. Within 200 m of the Site, these remains include enclosures and field banks (Site 1 and Site 6) and clearance cairns (Site 2 and 3). Other cultural heritage remains located within the 200 m Buffer Zone are a house (Site 5) and a stone (Site 4). None of the cultural heritage remains within the 200 m Buffer Zone would be directly affected by the proposed development.

Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation is to identify:
 - the presence or absence of as yet unknown archaeological features within the proposed development area;
 - to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the evaluation, are recorded to an appropriate level.
- 5.2 The objectives are therefore to:
 - Conduct an 8% (850 m²) archaeological evaluation of the 10,750 m² trenchable area of the proposed development site to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains and their character, date and extent if surviving;
 - Submit a report to data structure level for approval to WoSAS, on completion of the archaeological fieldwork, which includes an outline of the scope of any further excavation works should any significant archaeology be encountered.
- 5.3 The scope of the archaeological works will establish:
 - that if the archaeological evaluation encounters no significant archaeological remains, no further archaeological fieldwork will be required for this development.

Fieldwork Methodology

Archaeological Evaluation

- 6.1 A series of nine evaluation trenches (Figure 1) (ranging from 30 m to 50 m in length and measuring 2 m wide) will be excavated using a back-acting machine under constant supervision of a GUARD Archaeologist.
- 6.5 The topsoil or overburden at each trench location will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand by the on-site Archaeologist to determine their character and extent.
- 6.6 Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Should negative-cut features be encountered, a representative sample will be 25-50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. A full record of excavated features will be made using a single context recording system using pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs. All archaeological features will be photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections will be drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All test pits will be accurately surveyed using a sub-metre GPS and located within the National Grid.
- 6.7 All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Finds and animal bone will be collected as bulk samples by context. Significant small finds will be three dimensionally located prior to collection. All finds will be processed to MAP2 type standards and subject to appropriate specialist assessment. If necessary, conservation of finds will be appraised to allow for specialist study.

- 6.8 All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled as appropriate, using bulk soil samples, for palaeo-environmental evidence.
- 6.9 A representative section will be recorded denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information will be logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.
- 6.10 Should human remains be revealed by the excavation, the local police, the client and WoSAS will be informed immediately. Any human remains will be accurately recorded, but left *in situ*, pending the agreement of the police, the client and WoSAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy.
- 6.11 Should significant archaeological remains be encountered within any of the trenches proposed, the area of investigation may be expanded, in consultation with the client and WoSAS, with the aim of defining the full extent of the archaeological features.
- 6.12 WoSAS will be the final judge of significance regarding any findings and may well insist on full excavation for any features to be destroyed by the proposals.
- 6.12 Should significant archaeological remains be encountered by the evaluation, requiring more than the 8% evaluation outlined above, the remains will be largely left *in situ* pending the agreement of the client and WoSAS on a WSI addenda for an appropriate scope of excavation (Stage 2) and Post-excavation design including scope of finds analysis, conservation & publication (Stage 3).
- 6.13 On completion of the recording of the evaluation trenches, the backfilling will be undertaken by a back-acting machine. No specialist backfilling is proposed.
- 6.14 All work will be conducted in line with the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

Report Preparation and Contents

- 7.1 A report detailing the results of the archaeological fieldwork will be submitted to the client within two weeks of completion of fieldwork and, subject to client approval, then submitted to WoSAS. The report will take the form of a Data Structure Report and will contain an analysis of the results of the evaluation. The report will include a full descriptive text that will characterise the date and extent of any archaeological deposits. It will also include plans at an appropriate scale showing the area subjected to ground-breaking works, evaluation trenches, archaeological features and archiving lists of all finds, samples, field drawings and photographs.
- 7.2 If appropriate, the report will also include an addendum to this WSI for further archaeological fieldwork, should significant archaeology have been encountered.
- 7.3 The report will include the following:
 - executive summary;
 - a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 8 figure central grid reference;
 - OASIS reference number; unique site code;
 - Planning application number;
 - contractor's details including date work carried out;
 - nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details;
 - description of the site history, location and geology;
 - a site plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid so that features can be correctly orientated;
 - discussion of the results of field work;
 - context & feature descriptions;
 - features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format;

- plans and section drawings of the features drawn at a suitable scale;
 - initial assessment of relevant finds/samples if appropriate;
 - recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work such as excavation (Stage 2) and Post-excavation finds analysis, conservation & publication (Stage 3);
 - bibliography.
- 7.4 At least two copies of the report will be prepared for the client and a further digital PDF copy sent to WoSAS.
- 7.5 WoSAS state that any DSR is to be submitted within 4 weeks of fieldwork completion, any PERD within 3 months of agreement to the DSR and any final publication within a year of agreement to the PERD.
- 7.6 The report will be presented in an ordered state and contained within a protective cover/sleeve or bound in some fashion. The report will be page numbered and supplemented with section numbering for ease of reference.

Copyright

- 8.1 Unless otherwise agreed copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of GUARD Archaeology Ltd.

Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. In the event of minor archaeological remains being encountered during the archaeological fieldwork, it is proposed that a comprehensive report submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, will form the final publication of the site. A copy of this will be included in the Data Structure Report.

Archive

- 10.1 The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within three months of completion of all relevant work.
- 10.2 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be completed within 3 months of completion of the work. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, WoSAS will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

Finds Disposal

- 11.1 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work, will be deposited in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia* in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent Data Structure Report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the fieldwork. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD until a decision has been made by the panel.

Personnel and Liaison

- 12.1 The GUARD team will comprise the following qualified and experienced GUARD archaeologists:
- Project Manager: John Atkinson
 - Project Director (on-site Archaeologists): TBC
 - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Aileen Maule
 - Illustrator: Gillian McSwan
- 12.2 The GUARD Project Manager, will be the point of contact for the archaeological works. A full CV for individuals concerned can be made available on request.

Monitoring

- 13.1 The proposed start date for the archaeological fieldwork will be confirmed on approval of this WSI. WoSAS will be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged. It is estimated that the evaluation will take 2-3 days to complete, including backfilling, with minimal findings.

Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down in the Institute for Archaeologists approved Health and Safety in Field Archaeology document, prepared under the aegis of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM). It is standard GUARD policy, prior to any fieldwork project commencing, to conduct a risk assessment and to prepare a project safety plan, the prescriptions of which will be strictly followed for the duration of all archaeological fieldwork. Copies of the resultant project safety plan and of GUARD's Fieldwork Safety Policy Statement may be viewed upon request.
- 14.2 GUARD Archaeology Ltd also possesses all necessary insurance cover, proofs of which may be supplied upon request.

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