





No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report Project 4368



# No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Roots Design Workshop

**NGR:** 94460 744092

Project Number: 4368

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**DRAFT** 

**Bob Will** 

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

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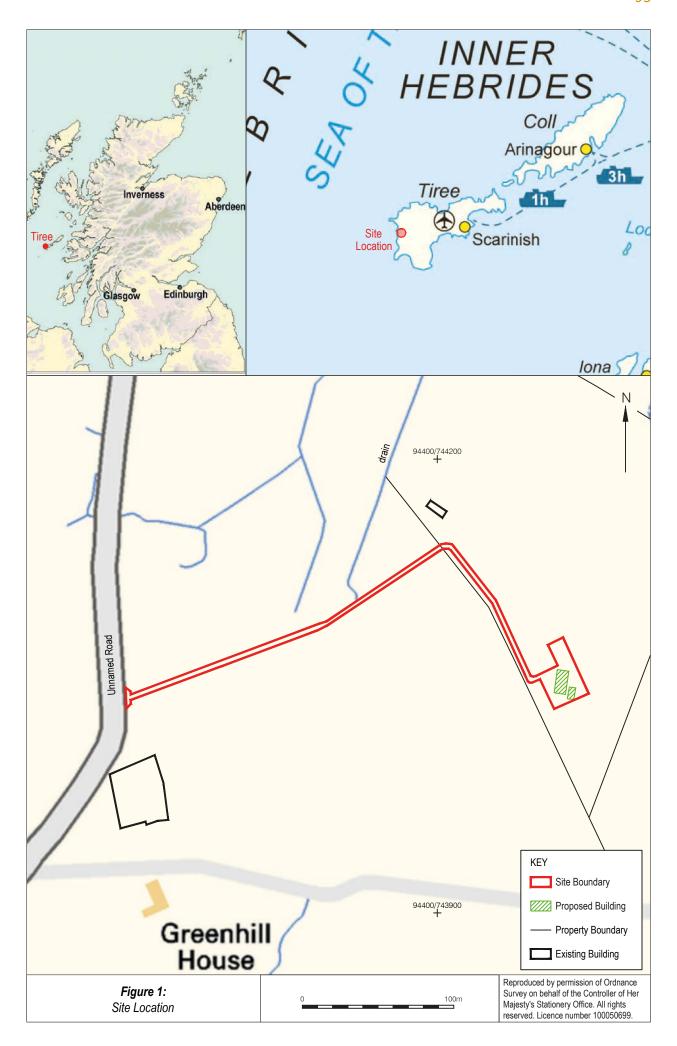




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### **Executive Summary**

1.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited, working on behalf of Roots Design Workshop, on the groundworks associated with the proposed house plot at No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree, Argyll and Bute (Figure 1). The watching brief included the topsoil stripping for the footprint of the house, garage, septic tank, drainage system and part of the access road (Planning Reference: 15/03359/PP). The method statement was prepared in consultation with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) who advise Argyll and Bute Council on archaeological matters. No features or artefacts of archaeological sensitivity were encountered during the watching brief.

### Introduction

2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Roots Design Workshop on an area proposed for a single house plot and associated services at No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree, Argyll and Bute (Figure 1). The work was carried between the 24th and 28th January 2017 to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains, as stipulated by West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) acting as archaeological advisor to Argyll and Bute Council. During the watching brief no archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered.

## Site Location, Topography and Geology

3.1 The house plot is located within croft land at No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth on the west of the Isle of Tiree, and lies to the north-east of Greenhill House and east of the main coastal road. It is located on flat agricultural ground used as animal grazing which comprises part of the common grazing land (Plate 1). drystone wall field boundary is located to the immediate west of the site, while the dilapidated remains of a drystone farmstead is located to the immediate north. The site sits at 20 m AOD.



Plate 1: Pre-excavation shot of house plot.

3.2 The underlying drift geology is Raised Marine Deposits of gravel, sand and silt, while the solid geology consists of Metamorphic Scourian Gneisses (British Geological Survey Map Viewer http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geology ofbritian/home.html).

## **Archaeological Background**

4.1 Although no archaeological sites were known in the development area, the site is located close to areas of pre-improvement agricultural land with rig and furrow clearly visible on aerial photographs (NMRS No. NL49SW) which suggests occupation of the area in the Medieval period or earlier. In addition, there are a number of archaeological sites in the immediate area. Therefore, there is a high potential that archaeological deposits may survive within the development area.

## **Aims and Objectives**

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological watching brief were to identify:
  - the presence or absence of previously unknown archaeological deposits, built remains or artefacts relating to the early settlement of the Isle of Tiree;
  - the extent and nature of previously unknown archaeological features within the development area;



- to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the groundworks were recorded in accordance with CIfA Standards.
- 5.2 The objectives were therefore to:
  - Conduct a watching brief on any and all ground-breaking or ground level reduction work associated with the proposed development 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.

## **Watching Brief Methodology**

- 6.1 The watching brief comprised the monitoring of all groundworks relating to the construction of the house, garage and part of the access road; the footprint of the house, service trenches and septic tank.
- 6.2 The topsoil and/or overburden for each foundation and service trench location were removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the sterile, undisturbed, natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered were cleaned by hand by the on-site Archaeologist to determine their character and extent.
- Any significant archaeological features encountered were dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Any negative-cut features encountered, were fully excavated (100%) 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 will be drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All trenches were accurately surveyed using a sub-metre GPS and located within the National Grid.
- 6.4 A representative section was recorded denoting depth of topsoil/overburden, 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.
- 6.5 All elements of the fieldwork and any subsequent post-excavation work will be undertaken in line with the policies and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) of which GUARD Archaeology Ltd is a *Registered Organisation*.

### **Results**

- 7.1 The results should be read in conjunction with the detailed results found in Appendices B-C and Figure 1.
- 7.2 The route of the new access road commenced at the coastal road and crossed the common grazing in an east/west direction. It then turned roughly north/south where it continued 120 m along the eastern side of the drystone field boundary until it terminated at the house plot. Only the portion to the east of the field boundary was observed (Plate 2) as the route of the road to its west followed an existing trackway which was built-up in comparison to the surrounding ground level and was built form stone chips/gravel (Plate 3 and 4). Following consultation with the Client, the local Grazing Committee and Scottish Natural Heritage and with the agreement of WoSAS it was decided that the existing track would not be stripped but rather maintained and built over negating the need for full excavation. A small section of the new road at the coastal road end, where no pre-existing track was visible, would be built up and the new road 'floated' without the need for excavation work. The section of road leading towards the house plot was stripped of topsoil and revealed subsoil comprising predominantly pink/orange/brown silty clay (002) with an area of outcropping bedrock roughly 10m from the northern end. However,



at the northern end of the road the subsoil comprised sandy gravel with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed during topsoil stripping for the new access road.



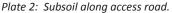




Plate 3: Existing built up access road with stone chips/ gravel.



Plate 4: Bedrock at house/garage plot.

- 7.3 The combined house/garage plot was rectangular in shape and measured 16.3 m in length and 14.8 m in width. The subsoil was similar to that encountered in the roadway comprising pink/orange/brown silty clay (002) and a large area of bedrock was exposed within the central area. Two smaller areas located to the north-east and south-west of the house plot were also excavated to locate the septic tank and drainage system. Again similar subsoil (002) to that found in the house plot was also encountered along with outcropping bedrock. No features or finds of archaeological interest were encountered during excavation work and the ground appeared undisturbed.
- 7.4 The overlying topsoil (001) comprised mid brown sandy silt with inclusions of plant roots and ranged in depth between 0.23 m 0.25 m and was covered with short grass used for animal grazing.

### **Discussion**

8.1 The present work programme uncovered no features or finds of archaeological interest. Historical map regression has revealed no features of archaeological interest within the proposed development area. Rig and furrow cultivation are noted to the south and south-west but are out with the development, as are the remains of a ruined farmstead to the north.

#### Conclusion

9.1 The watching brief has revealed that no significant archaeologically sensitive features exist within the proposed development area and no further work is required. However, GUARD



- Archaeology Limited would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only and 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 D. 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 275195) will be completed within 3 months. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, the archaeological advisor to Argyll and Bute Council 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 Micheal Holliday of Roots Design Workshop for commissioning us to conduct the watching brief. Thanks also go to Martin O'Hare of WoSAS for his advice and assistance and to Marc who operated the plant. The watching brief was conducted by Maureen Kilpatrick. Technical support was from Clarke Innes. The illustrations were produced by Jennifer Simonson. The report was desk top published by Gillian Sneddon. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology Ltd by Bob Will.



# No. 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

**Section 2: Appendices** 





## **Appendices**

## **Appendix A: Bibliography**

British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain viewer, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home/html [accessed 31st January 2017].

West of Scotland Archaeology Service Sites and Monuments Record, www.wosas.net/search.php. [accessed 31st January 2017].

## **Appendix B: List of Contexts**

Context No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Moderately compacted grey/brown fine grained silty sand with pebble and plant root inclusions (depth 0.23 m - 0.25 m)	Topsoil
002	Very firm pink/orange/brown sandy silty clay with inclusions of cobbles and bedrock intrusions	Subsoil

### **Appendix C: List of Photographs**

File No. 1				
Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken From
1	Access Road	-	Pre-excavation of access track	N
2	Access Road	-	Working shot at access track	NE
3	Access Road	-	Pre-excavation of access track	S
4	House plot	-	Pre-excavation of house plot	N
5	Access Road	-	Bedrock outcrop along access track	W
6	Access Road	001, 002	West facing section of deposits	N
7	Access Road	002	Close-up of sub soil at access track	N
8	Access Road	002	North end of access track	N
9	Access Road	002	Central area of access track	N
10	Access Road	002	Close-up of rock outcrop	S
11	Access Road	002	South end of access track	N
12	Access Road		Boulders from access track	-
13	Access Road	002	Southern end of access track	W
14	House plot	001	Stripping house plot	N
15	Access Road	-	Boulders from access track	-
16	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route	Е
17	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route	W
18	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route	W
19	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route with stones	W
20	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route with stones	W
21	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route with stones	W
22	Common ground	-	Common ground access track route with stones	W
23	Common ground	-	Height of access track nearest gate	W
24	Common ground	-	Height of access track nearest gate	W
25	Common ground	-	Access track at gate	W
26	Common ground	-	Access track at gate	W
27	Common ground	-	Ruined farmstead to north of development area	S
28	House plot	001	Turf stripped house plot area	N
29	House plot	001	Turf stripped house plot area	N
30	House plot	001, 002	Depth of topsoil at house plot	NE
31	House plot	002	Stripped house plot	Е
32	House plot	002	Bedrock at house plot	Е
33	House plot	002	Bedrock at house plot	Е
34	House plot	002	Bedrock at house plot	Е
35	House plot	-	General shot of house plot	N



Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken From
36	House plot	002	Post-excavation of house plot	SW
37	House plot	002	Post-excavation of house plot	SW
38	House plot	002	Post-excavation of house plot	SW
39	Soak away	002	Post-excavation of soak-away	SW
40	Septic tank	002	Post-excavation of septic tank	NE
41	Access Road	002	Drystone wall at entrance gate	NE
42	Access Road	002	Drystone wall at entrance gate	E
43	Access Road	002	Access track at gateway	NE
44	Access Road	002	Access track at gateway	E
45	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	SE
46	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	SE
47	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	E
48	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	E
49	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	Е
50	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	SE
51	House plot	002	Post-excavation general shot	SE

## **Appendix D: Discovery and Excavation Entry**

LOCAL ALITHODITY	Avenill and Duta	
LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll and Bute	
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	No.2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree	
PROJECT CODE:	4368	
PARISH:	Tiree	
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Maureen C Kilpatrick	
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Limited	
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief	
NMRS NO(S):	n/a	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	n/a	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None	
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NL 4460 44092	
START DATE (this season)	24 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	
END DATE (this season)	26 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was carried out on the groundworks associated with the proposed house plot at No 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree, Argyll and Bute. The watching brief included the topsoil stripping for the footprint of the house, garage, septic tank and drainage system and part of the access road. No features or finds of archaeological sensitivity were encountered.	
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Roots Design Workshop	
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 (intended/deposited)	Archive will be deposited with the NMRS	



**Appendix E: Watching Brief Method Statement** 

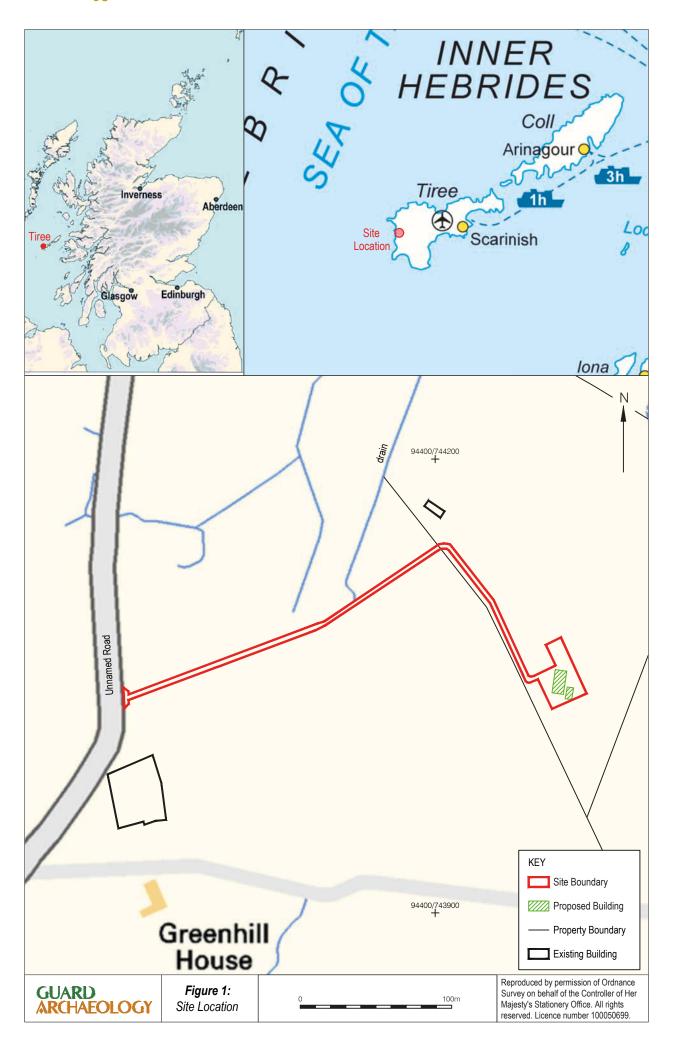
# NO 2 GREENHILL, KILKENNETH, TIREE

WATCHING BRIEF METHOD STATEMENT PROJECT 4368











# **Executive Summary**

1.1 This archaeological watching brief method statement is applicable to the groundworks associated with the proposed house plot at No 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Isle of Tiree, Argyll and Bute. The watching brief will cover topsoil stripping for the footprint of the new house, garage, septic tank and site access and other ground preparation works required for the development (Planning Reference: 15/03359/PP. This method statement was prepared in consultation with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) who advise Argyll and Bute Council on archaeological matters.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This Method Statement sets out the methodology for the archaeological watching brief required for the ground-works associated with the development of a new house at No 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth, Tiree. The watching brief will be undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains, particularly those related to the early occupation and settlement of the Isle of Tiree. 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 may be required following consultation with WoSAS.
- 2.2 Any additional work on site and post-excavation analysis and publication of the results of the watching brief, will be specified in a separate document that will be submitted for the approval of WoSAS and the client, prior to the commencement of any further archaeological site work or post-excavation programme. All archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation work will be funded by the client as required by the Planning Authority.

## Site Location

3.1 The house plot is located within croft land of No 2 Greenhill, Kilkenneth on the west of the Isle of Tiree, and lies to the north-east of Greenhill House and east of the main coastal road. The ground is presently used for grazing and cultivation.

# Archaeological Background

4.1 Although no archaeological sites are known in the development area, the site is located close to areas of pre-improvement agricultural land with rig and furrow clearly visible on aerial photographs which suggests occupation of the area in the Medieval period or earlier. In addition, there are a number of archaeological sites in the immediate area. Therefore, there is a high potential that archaeological deposits may survive within the development area.

# Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological watching brief is to identify:
  - the presence or absence of previously unknown archaeological deposits, built remains or artefacts relating to the early settlement of the Isle of Tiree;
  - the extent and nature of previously unknown archaeological features within the development area;
  - to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the ground-works are recorded in accordance with CIfA Standards.
- 5.2 The objectives are therefore to:
  - Conduct a watching brief on any and all ground-breaking or ground level reduction work associated with the proposed development 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.

# Watching Brief Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief will comprise the monitoring of all groundworks relating to the construction of the house, garage and access road; the footprint of the house or foundation trenches, service trenches and septic tank.
- 6.2 The topsoil and/or overburden for each foundation and service trench location will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the sterile, undisturbed, natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand by the on-site Archaeologist to determine their character and extent.
- 6.3 Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Should negative-cut features be encountered, these will be fully excavated (100%) 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 trenches will be accurately surveyed using a sub-metre GPS and located within the National Grid.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled as appropriate, using bulk soil samples, for palaeo-environmental evidence.
- 6.6 A representative section will be recorded denoting depth of topsoil/overburden, 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.
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 Should significant archaeological remains be encountered during the watching brief, requiring more than limited excavation and recording, the remains will be largely left *in situ* pending the agreement of the client and WoSAS, on a site specific methodology with an appropriate scope of excavation (Stage 2) and Post-excavation design including scope of finds analysis, conservation & publication (Stage 3).

# 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 all 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 watching brief. 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, archaeological features and archiving lists of all finds, samples, field drawings and photographs.
- 7.2 If appropriate, the report will also include any additional methodologies issued for further archaeological fieldwork, should significant archaeology have been encountered that could not be fully investigated as part of a watching brief.
- 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;
- 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 and Post-excavation finds analysis, conservation & publication;
- bibliography.
- 7.4 A hard copy of the report will be prepared for the client and a further one including a digital PDF copy sent to WoSAS.
- 7.5 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. Should more significant material be found, publication of the findings in a journal or as a monograph may be required and will be produced within 12 months of completion of fieldwork and approval by WoSAS.

### **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(s) thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.
- 10.3 A copy of the archive contents will be included in the Data Structure Report which will be provided to WoSAS for inclusion in the planning file and HER archive in order that any relevant conditions can be discharged.



# **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: Bob Will
  - Project Director (on-site Archaeologist): Maureen Kilpatrick
  - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Aileen Maule
  - Illustrator: Gillian McSwan
  - Quality Assurance: Dr John Atkinson
- 12.2 The GUARD Project Manager, Bob Will, 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 works has still to be confirmed but is likely to take place the week beginning 23 January 2017. WoSAS will be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged. It is envisaged that the archaeological watching brief will take 5 days to complete.

# Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists approved Health and Safety in Field Archaeology document. It is standard GUARD policy, prior to <a href="mailto:any">any</a> 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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