

# UPPER KINKELL FARM INVERURIE ABERDEENSHIRE



## - Archaeological Watching Brief -

Carried out 15<sup>TH</sup> February 2013  
by  
**Murray Archaeological Services Ltd**



**Report No: MAS 2013-11**

by  
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1. Background

- 1.1 A planning application (APP/2011/2132) for the erection of a 50kW wind turbine on a 24.5m mast, was subject to a planning condition which required that an archaeological watching brief be carried out during any ground breaking work for the turbine base and the connection track.
- 1.2 The Conditions were applied in the context of PAN (Planning Advise Note) 2/2011, SPP and SHEP.
- 1.3 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by W C & A D Allan to undertake the watching brief which was carried out on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

2. Background

- 2.1 Upper Kinkell Farm is located c.1.2km to the SE of Inverurie and situated on high ground sloping SW (Illus 1).
- 2.2 The site is adjacent to a number of locations of previously recorded finds.

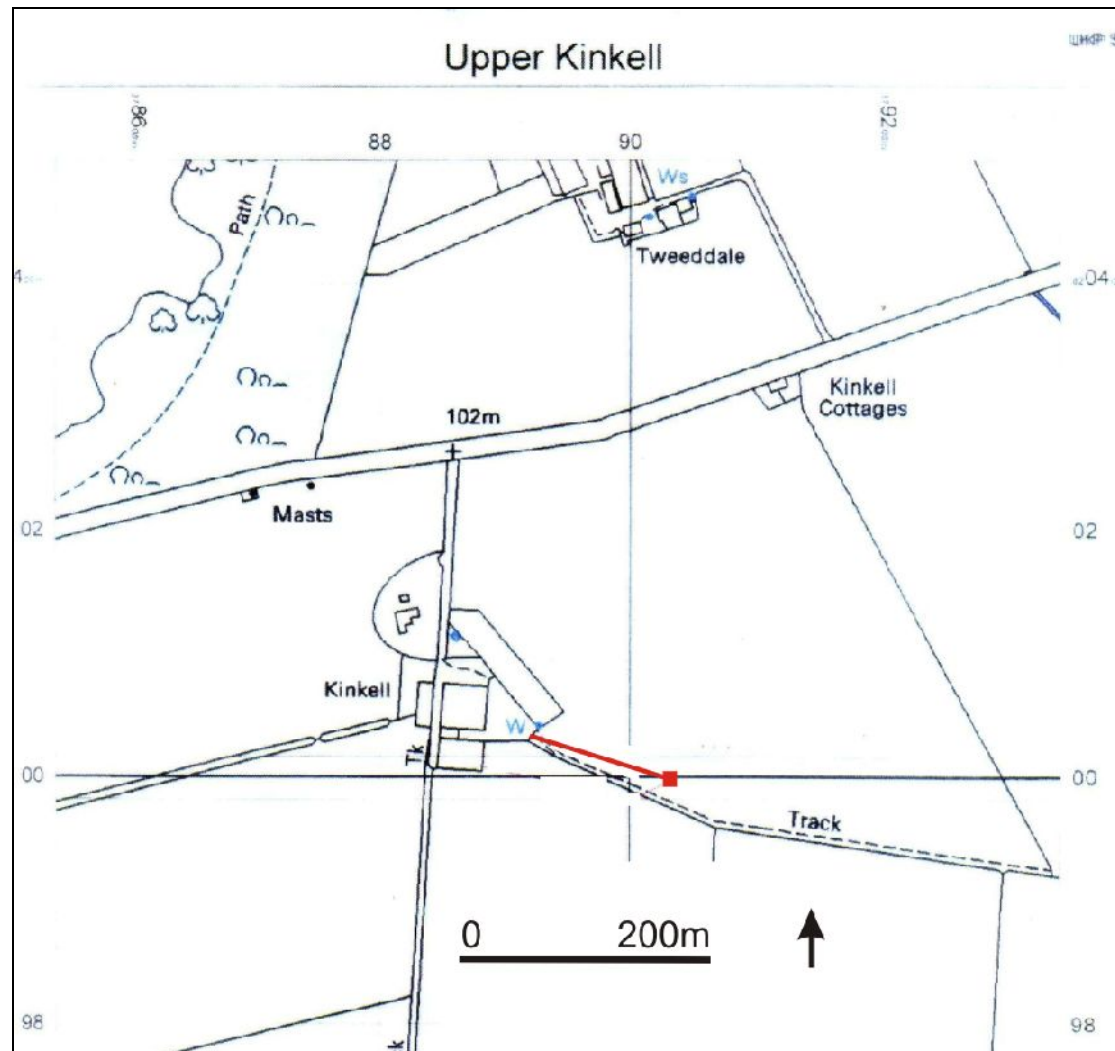
1. A barbed and tanged arrowhead was found at Dain of Leggat to the E of the farm steadings and very close to the site of the turbine [listed on Aberdeenshire SMR and NMRS No: NJ72SE 58]; now in Inverurie Museum (Accession No: AD 185).
2. To the N of Upper Kinkell, at Tweed-dale [Aberdeenshire SMR and NMRS No: NJ72SE 44], a grey polished axe was found and accessioned by the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland in 1888.
3. At Upper Kinkell, a little distance to the SW of the present steading buildings, a greenstone mace-head was found [NGR: NJ 788 200; NMRS No: NJ72SE 307]; now in Marischal Museum, Aberdeen (Accession No: ABDUA: 16227).



**Illus 1: Location Map with site in red circle. (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright ( 2002) All rights reserved. Licence number (100049810))**

### 3. The Watching Brief

- 3.1 The turbine is located c.148m E of the E wall of the central steading building and c.97m from the concrete hard standing (Illus 2)



**Illus 2: Location plan with the turbine base and connection track in red**

- 3.2 The soil strip was carried out using a full-slew mechanical digger with a toothless ditching bucket.
- 3.3 The area stripped for the turbine base was c.20m square. An average of 300mm of topsoil was removed, which overlay a very hard stoney yellow/beige natural.
- 3.4 The connection cable trench was c.97m long by c.3m wide. Here also, c.300mm of topsoil overlay the same hard stoney natural.



3.5 No archaeological features or finds were evident during the soil strip.



**Illus 3: E end of cable track and area of turbine base, looking E**



**Illus 4: W end of cable track**

## 4. Results

- 4.1 A watching brief was maintained during the soil clearance for the turbine base and the connection cable track but no archaeological features or finds were evident.

## Appendix 1

### **Catalogue of Digital Photographs (Supplied to Archive)**

1-2	Area of turbine base, looking NE
3-5	Area of turbine base and cable connection track, looking W
6-8	Area of turbine base and E end of cable connection track, looking E
9	Detail of natural in E end of cable connection track