



NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE	AWPR: High Pressure Gas Pipeline Diversions
REPORT: 141	Archaeological Watching Brief
PROJECT ID: 16	
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT	Newlands & East Crossley, Aberdeenshire



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Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route: High Pressure Gas Pipeline Diversions

Newlands, Aberdeenshire

NGR: NO 88962/98627 to NO 89187/98827

&

East Crossley, Aberdeenshire

NGR: NO 87206/96163 to NO 87354/96323

Data Structure Report

on behalf of

J. Murphy & Sons Ltd.

Cover Plate: Machine topsoil stripping at East Crossley

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during topsoil stripping at Newlands and East Crossley, near Aberdeen, on behalf of J. Murphy & Sons Ltd. as part of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral High Pressure Gas Pipeline Diversions. The work was carried out by Northlight Heritage between 9th April and 7th May 2015. No significant archaeological features were encountered during the works.

1. Introduction

1.1

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken at Newlands and East Crossley, near Aberdeen, that was carried out by Northlight Heritage, on behalf of J. Murphy & Sons Ltd., between 9th April and 7th May 2015. The work monitored topsoil stripping as part of the diversion of a high pressure gas pipeline in relation to the new Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route. The pipeline diversion at these two locations was required to ensure that it ran perpendicular to and beneath the new road.

2. Location, Geology and Topography

2.1

The areas where the two diversions were carried out comprised:

- STR 1 (Newlands): approximately 420 m of pipeline, National Grid References (NGR) NO 88962, 98627 to NO 89187, 98827 (Figure 1); and
- STR 2 (East Crossley): approximately 235 m of pipeline, NGR NO 87206, 96163 to NO 87354, 96323 (Figure 1).

2.2

STR1 (Newlands) for the most part crossed well cultivated fields either side of a minor road that formed part of the National Cycle Network Route 1. The topography here consisted of gently undulating upland farmland on a subtle north-western aspect.

2.3

STR2 (East Crossley) was accessed from an existing farm track and new track extension across fields used as pasture, primarily for sheep and horses. The diversion itself was situated partly across an area of peat marsh and gently undulating upland pasture. The immediate vicinity of the primary work area was on a north-western aspect but the general overall terrain faced south-east.

2.4

The underlying geology at Newlands consists of a granite bedrock which is part of the Hill of Blairs Pluton series formed between 444 and 448 million years ago in the Ordovician Period. This is overlain by Banchory Till formation deposits originally formed up to 2 million years ago. In addition relatively small pockets of Peat also occur (online British Geological Survey 1:50000 data).

2.5

The bedrock at East Crossley comprises an area of Aberdeen Formation metamorphic Semipelite and Psammite bedrock which was formed 542 to 1000 million years. This is overlain by the same Banchory Till Formation and pockets of peat as found at Newlands (ibid.).



Figure 1: Site Location

3. Archaeological and Historical Context

3.1

No previously recorded archaeology was known to exist within either of the Newlands or East Crossley working areas while little of note had been recorded in their immediate vicinity.

3.2

Just to the east of the Newlands diversion lies the location where four small buildings are noted on the first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the area, published in 1867, which are not present on the second edition published in 1888 (HER No. NO89NE0089). To the north lies the site of a stone noted on the second edition OS map (HER No. NO89NE95) and the site of a former croft noted on both first and second edition OS maps (HER No. NO89NE0058). All these sites appear post-medieval in date and are located out with the pipeline diversion working area.

3.3

Similarly the previously recorded sites in the immediate vicinity of the East Crossley diversion appear to relate to post-medieval remains. To the north-west, north-east and south-east lie farmsteads, all still currently in use, that are depicted on the first edition OS map of the area published in 1867 (HER No. NO89NE0082, NO89NE0083, NO89NE0076 respectively). All these sites are located out with the pipeline diversion working area.

4. Summary Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were to:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may be encountered during ground breaking works;
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- achieve preservation in situ of any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the watching brief which can be avoided by the development; and
- make sure that the needs for archaeological conservation and recording are met without causing any unnecessary delay or disturbance to the development.

5. Methodology

5.1

Topsoil stripping works relating to the diversion of the high pressure gas main at STR1: Newlands and STR2: East Crossley, along with associated access tracks and site compounds, were monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

5.2

All topsoil stripping was undertaken by mechanical excavator fitted with a flat bladed ditching bucket and under direct archaeological supervision.

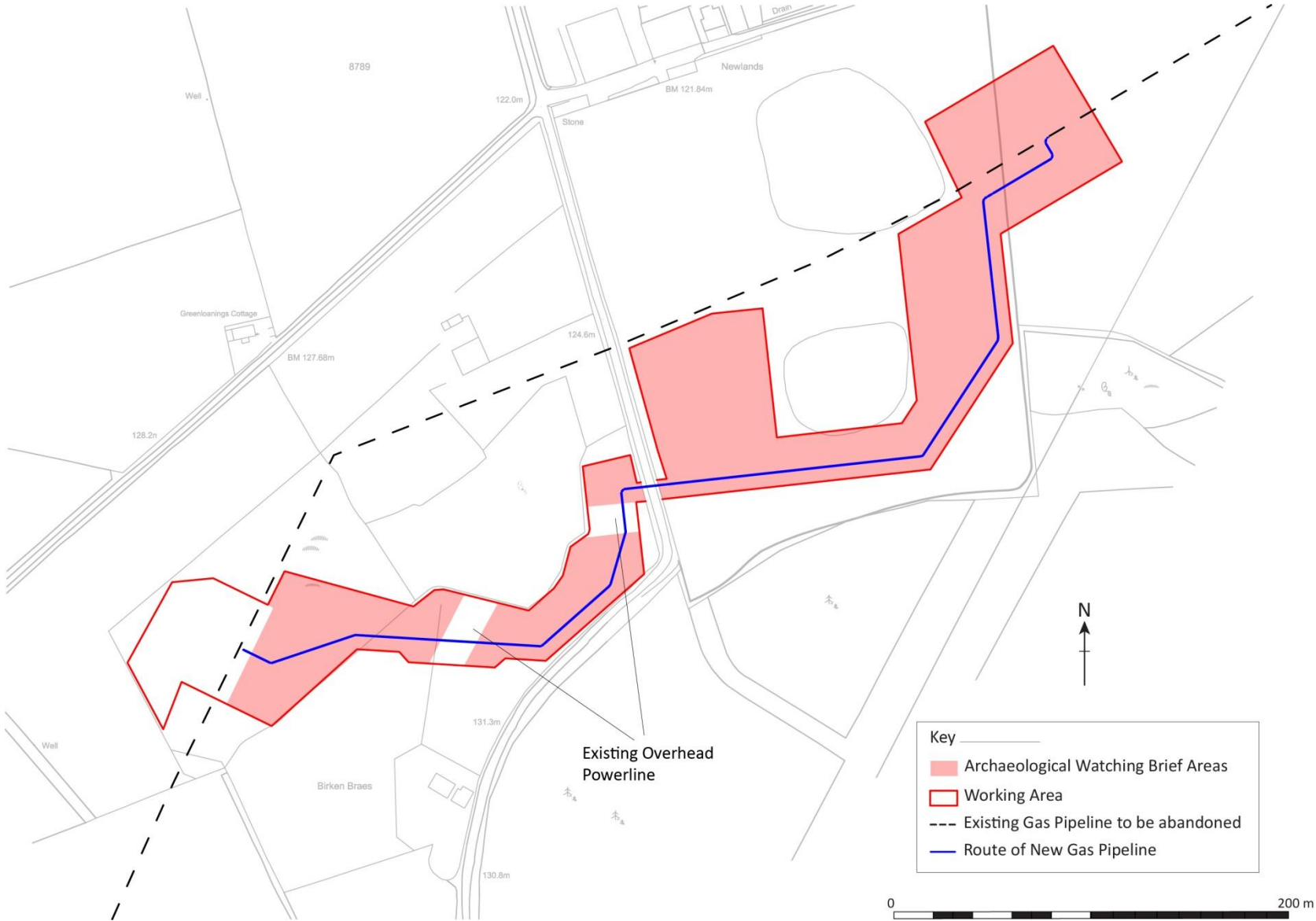


Figure 2: Watching Brief areas at Newlands

5.3

All potential archaeological features encountered were cleaned by hand to help determine the date of the deposits, their character and extent. Where limited archaeological remains were encountered during the watching brief features and deposits were excavated and recorded by written description on pro forma recording sheets, by digital photograph and by measured drawing.

5.4

No environmental bulk samples or finds were recovered during the course of the watching brief.

6. Results

6.1

The results of the watching brief are given below. In the following paragraphs numbers in round brackets indicate unique context numbers issued to deposits while those in square brackets represent structures or cuts.

STR1: Newlands

6.2

The topsoil across the entire watching brief area at Newlands (Figure 2) comprised a dark greyish brown sandy silt (003) existing to 0.2 m to 0.3 m in depth.

6.3

The subsoil over the watching brief area was found to consist of a mottled red/brown sandy silt with frequent large angular and rounded cobbles (004). This differed very slightly to that west of the road crossing where the ground had been cleared of stones more thoroughly and, therefore, fewer were present in the subsoil.

6.4

A number of features were identified during the watching brief, however, none proved to be significant. These included a possible pit [005] which proved to be a stone hole and, on the western side of the road, a service trench was identified containing a black alkathene water pipe while several tree bowls were also noted. Three former archaeological evaluation trenches were clearly visible during the topsoil stripping to the west of the road and were spread evenly across the field.

6.5

After consultation with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service it was agreed that the watching brief need not be undertaken beneath two existing overhead power lines and to the west of the existing gas pipe at the western end of the new route (Figure 2).

STR2: East Crossley

6.6

The topsoil across the previously drained pasture area at East Crossley was generally less than 0.2 m in depth and consisted of a greyish brown clay silt with occasional angular and rounded pebbles (001). This was in contrast to the boggy area (Figure 3) which was covered by a very young peat up to c. 0.85 m deep (008).

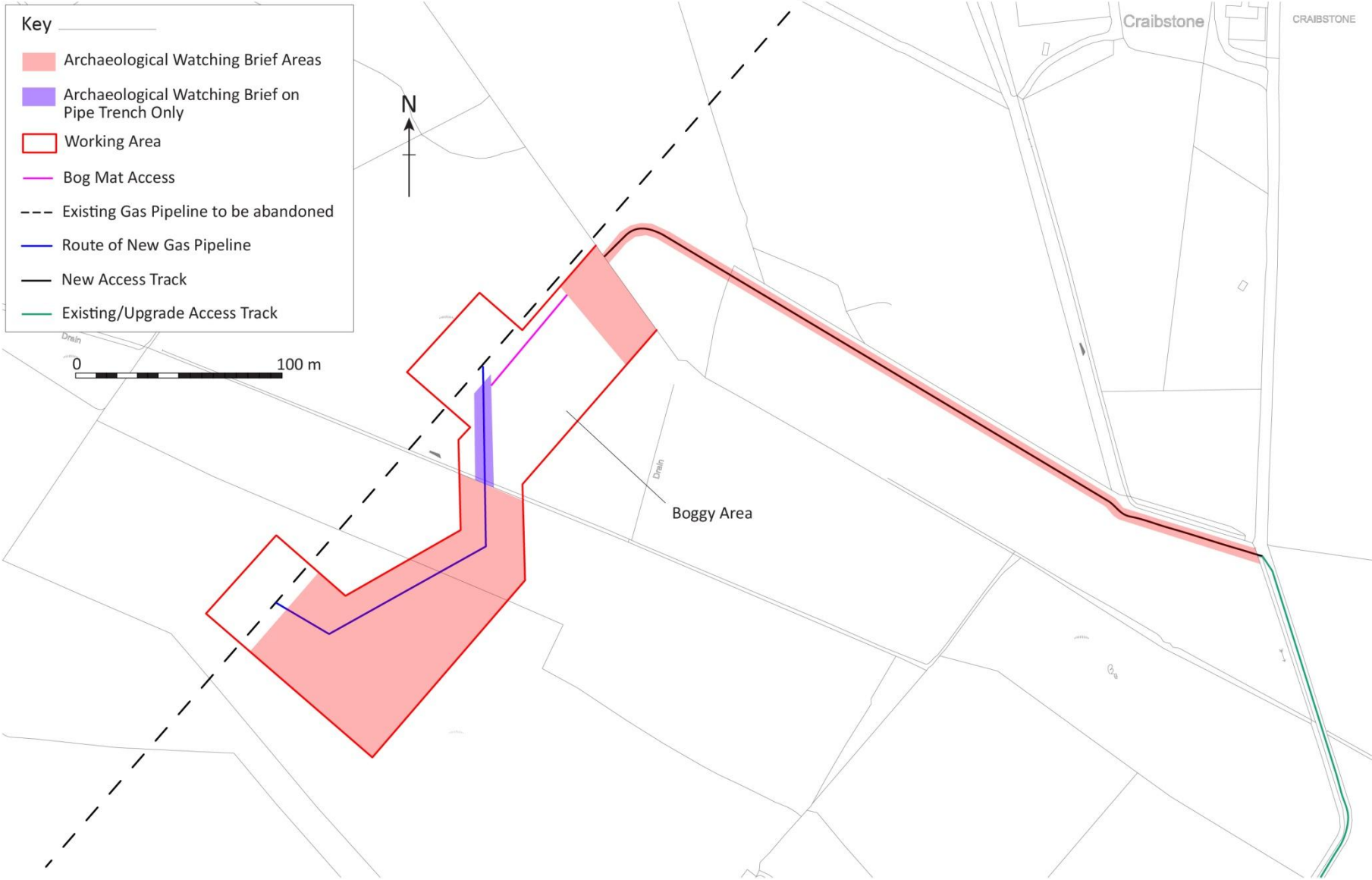


Figure 3: Watching Brief areas at East Crossley

6.7

The subsoil (002) varied across the site, as might be expected given the differing land management (see section 2.3) in the fields between the existing access track and the primary work area (Figure 3). Along the new access track the subsoil was found to be a light yellowish brown clay silt with angular and rounded pebbles and cobbles while, through the marshy area, it was a light grey marl. Up on the slightly higher, rougher ground to the south of a drainage ditch the subsoil consisted of a greyish brown clay silt containing angular and rounded pebbles and cobbles.

6.8

No archaeological features of any significance were uncovered at East Crossley. Several land drains of either rubble or ceramic pipe construction were noted, particularly in the vicinity of the marsh. On the rougher, slightly higher ground several meandering possible linear features were identified but proved to be wheel rutting corresponding to markings on the surface of the grass.

6.9

After consultation with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service it was agreed that the watching brief need not be undertaken to the north-west of the existing gas pipe (Figure 3).

7. Discussion and Summary

7.1

Despite relatively large areas being archaeologically monitored during the works no archaeological features of any significance were identified during the watching brief at either Newlands or East Crossley.

8. Recommendations

8.1

Given no archaeological remains were uncovered during the watching brief at Newlands and East Crossley it is recommended that no further archaeological works are required in relation to the diversion of the high pressure gas pipeline at these two locations.

8.2

Northlight Heritage would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. Final decisions on the requirement for further mitigation rests with the planning authority.

9. List of Sources

Maps and Online Sources

British Geological Survey, 1:50000, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> (accessed 12/05/2015).

10. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Tables/Concordances

Table 1: Context Information

<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Description/Interpretation</i>
001	East Crossley	Deposit	\	\	0.2	Plough soil; greyish brown clay silt with occasional angular and rounded stones
002	East Crossley	Deposit	\	\	\	Subsoil across site; variable across site, including light grey marl, light reddish brown sandy silt and light yellowish grey clay silt
003	Newlands	Deposit	\	\	0.2	Plough soil; dark greyish brown sandy silt plough soil. East of road frequent angular and rounded stones, west of road rare angular and rounded stones.
004	Newlands	Deposit	\	\	\	Subsoil across site; mottled light reddish brown sandy silt with frequent large stones
005	Newlands	Cut	1.4	0.9	0.35-0.4	Cut of stone hole. Initially thought to be a possible pit.
006	Newlands	Backfill	1.4	0.9	0.25	Mottled dark greyish brown, silty sand - upper backfill of cut [005].
007	Newlands	Backfill	1.4	0.9	0.15	Dark greyish brown, silty sand - lower backfill of cut [005].
008	East Crossley	Deposit	\	\	<0.85	Peat across marshy area forming surface deposit at East Crossley.

Table 2: Drawings

<i>Drawing No.</i>	<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Scale</i>
001	1	Newlands	005	West facing section of [005]	1:10
002	1	Newlands	005	Post-ex plan [005]	1:20

Table 3: Digital Photographs

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From (Compass)</i>
001	\	East Crossley	General Pre-ex Shot	SE
002	\	East Crossley	Working Shot; Machine	NE
003	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
004	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
005	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
006	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
007	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
008	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
009	\	East Crossley	General Site Shot, access track	SW
010	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
011	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
012	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	E
013	\	East Crossley	Working Shot; Machine	SE
014	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, field boundary	E
015	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	NE
016	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	NE
017	\	East Crossley	Post-ex, access track	NE
018	\	East Crossley	Record shot; lay down area	N
019	\	East Crossley	Record shot; lay down area	N
020	\	East Crossley	Record shot; lay down area	S
021	\	East Crossley	Record shot; lay down area	N
022	\	East Crossley	Record shot; lay down area	S
023	\	East Crossley	Possible rubble field drain	NW
024	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; lay down area	N
025	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; lay down area	N
026	\	East Crossley	Possible rubble field drain	NE
027	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; lay down area	S
028	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; lay down area	S
029	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; lay down area	W
030	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	W
031	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	W
032	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	W
033	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	W
034	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
035	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
036	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From (Compass)</i>
037	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
038	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
039	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	SW
040	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
041	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
042	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	S
043	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	SE
044	006	Newlands	Pre-ex stone hole	SE
045	005	Newlands	Post-ex stone hole	W
046	005	Newlands	Post-ex stone hole	W
047	005 - 007	Newlands	West facing section of stone hole	W
048	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	E
049	\	Newlands	Record shot; compound	SE
050	\	Newlands	Post-ex; compound	W
051	\	Newlands	Stripped ploughsoil adjacent to drystone wall	W
052	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	W
053	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	E
054	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	N
055	\	Newlands	Possible well/field drain sump?	N
056	\	Newlands	Possible well/field drain sump?	NE
057	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	N
058	\	Newlands	Working shot; removal of dry stone wall	N
059	\	Newlands	General shot; AWPR works	NE
060	\	Newlands	General shot; AWPR works	W
061	\	Newlands	Working shot; removal of dry stone wall - compound access	NW
062	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	SE
063	\	Newlands	Pre-ex possible feature [not real]	W
064	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	W
065	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	W
066	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	W
067	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	W
068	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	SE
069	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	N
070	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	W
071	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	E
072	\	Newlands	Record shot; pipeline diversion route	E
073	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeline diversion route	E
074	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	NE
075	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	W
076	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	E
077	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	W
078	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	E
079	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	S

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From (Compass)</i>
080	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	SE
081	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	NE
082	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	NW
083	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (east of road)	W
084	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
085	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	S
086	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
087	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
088	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
089	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	S
090	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	S
091	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	E
092	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	SE
093	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
094	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	NE
095	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	E
096	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
097	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	N
098	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	NE
099	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	SW
100	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	W
101	\	Newlands	Post-ex; NE jointing area	NE
102	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	W
103	\	Newlands	Possible linear (west of road)	E
104	\	Newlands	Pre-ex possible linear (west of road)	N
105	\	Newlands	Post-ex water pipe trench (west of road)	N
106	\	Newlands	Pre-ex possible pit (west of road)	S
107	\	Newlands	Post-ex possible pit (west of road) [tree bowl]	S
108	\	Newlands	Post-ex possible pit (west of road) [tree bowl]	S
109	\	Newlands	Post-ex; showing former arch evaluation trench	SE
110	\	Newlands	Post-ex; showing former arch evaluation trench	NE
111	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	W
112	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NW
113	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
114	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
115	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
116	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NW
117	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NW
118	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
119	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NE
120	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	W
121	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	E
122	\	East Crossley	Working shot; machine topsoil stripping south of large ditch	N
123	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	E

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From (Compass)</i>
124	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	E
125	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SW
126	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	NE
127	\	East Crossley	Pre-ex; possible linear feature [not real]	NE
128	\	East Crossley	Pre-ex; possible linear feature [not real]	NE
129	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; possible linear feature [not real]	NE
130	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; possible linear feature [not real]	NE
131	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SW
132	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SW
133	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	SW
134	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	S
135	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SE
136	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NE
137	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	N
138	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	NE
139	\	Newlands	Working shot; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	W
140	\	East Crossley	Record shot; drainage, probably associated with existng gas main	SW
141	\	East Crossley	Record shot; drainage, probably associated with existng gas main	SE
142	\	East Crossley	Record shot; drainage, probably associated with existng gas main	SE
143	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	W
144	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	NE
145	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	N
146	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	W
147	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SW
148	\	Newlands	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (west of road)	E
149	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	N
150	\	East Crossley	Post-ex ; south of large ditch	SE
151	\	East Crossley	Record shot; areas still left to dig	N
152	\	East Crossley	Record shot; areas still left to dig	N
153	\	East Crossley	Record shot; areas still left to dig	N
154	\	East Crossley	Working shot; areas north of large ditch	NE
155	\	East Crossley	Working shot; areas north of large ditch	N
156	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; Southern jointing area	SE
157	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; Southern jointing area	S
158	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	N
159	\	East Crossley	Record shot; existng field drains in marsh	SE
160	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	N
161	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	S
162	\	Newlands	Post-ex; area under OHL	N
163	\	Newlands	Post-ex; area under OHL	E
164	\	Newlands	Post-ex; Western jointing area	S

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From (Compass)</i>
165	\	Newlands	Post-ex; Western jointing area	E
166	\	Newlands	Post-ex; Western jointing area	NE
167	\	Newlands	Old teapot found during topsoil stripping (western jointing area)	-
168	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; northern jointing area	NW
169	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; northern jointing area	W
170	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; northern jointing area	SW
171	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; northern jointing area	S
172	\	East Crossley	Working shot; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	N
173	\	East Crossley	Working shot; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	N
174	\	East Crossley	Post-ex; pipeling diversion route (north of ditch)	S

APPENDIX 2: Stage 1 Written Scheme of Investigation

1.0 Non-Technical Summary

This document sets out Northlight Heritage's Written Scheme of Investigation, on behalf of J. Murphy & Sons Ltd., for archaeological works relating to the diversion of a high pressure gas pipeline at two locations as part of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

This document establishes actions and products required to achieve Stage 1 of a potentially three-stage process, Stage 2 being any further work, including fieldwork arising from Stage 1, such as the development and implementation of a mitigation strategy to deal with any significant archaeology identified or recovered during Stage 1, and Stage 3 being the further analysis of any materials recovered during the field work in either or both Stages 1 and 2 and/or the preparation of a final report on all works constituting preservation by record for publication, as appropriate.

2.0 Site Location and Description

A high pressure gas pipeline, running between Aberdeen and Arbroath, will be crossed at two separate locations by the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route to the south-west of Aberdeen. At these two locations there is a requirement to divert the pipeline in order to run it perpendicular to and beneath the new road.

The proposed diversions comprise the following:

- STR 1 (Newlands) – approximately 420 m, National Grid References (NGR) NO 88962, 98627 to NO 89187, 98827; and
- STR 2 (East Crossley): approximately 235 m, NGR NO 87206, 96163 to NO 87354, 96323.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

No previously recorded archaeology is present within the working areas of STR1 or STR2.

Also, little of note is present in the immediate vicinity of either of the two working areas. Just to the east of

STR 1: Newlands, lies the site of four small buildings noted on the first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the area, published in 1867, that are not present on the second edition published in 1888 (HER No. NO89NE0089). To the north lies the site of a stone noted on the second edition OS map (HER No. NO89NE95) and the site of a former croft noted on both first and second edition OS maps (HER No. NO89NE0058). All these sites appear post-medieval in date and are located out with the pipeline diversion working area.

Similarly the previously recorded sites in the immediate vicinity of STR2: East Crossley, appear to relate to post-medieval remains. To the north-west, north-east and south-east lie farmsteads, all still currently in use, that are depicted on the first edition OS map of the area published in 1867 (HER No. NO89NE0082, NO89NE0083, NO89NE0076 respectively). All these sites are located out with the pipeline diversion working area.

4.0 Project Objectives

The project objectives are to:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may be encountered during ground breaking works;
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- achieve preservation *in situ* of any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the watching brief which can be avoided by the development;
- where necessary, and following the development of a separate Stage 2 'Project Design' to be agreed by the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, excavate and record any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the watching brief that cannot be avoided to ensure preservation through record;
- make sure that the needs for archaeological conservation and recording are met without causing any unnecessary delay or disturbance to the development.

5.0 Methodology

5.1 *Watching Brief*

All topsoil stripping works relating to the diversion of the high pressure gas main at STR1 and STR2, along with associated access tracks and site compounds, will be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Given topsoil stripping is likely to be occurring and both sites simultaneously it is likely that two archaeologists will be required on site to monitor each location.

Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to help determine their date, character and extent. Where limited archaeological remains are encountered during the watching brief features and deposits will be excavated and recorded by written description on pro forma recording sheets, by photograph and by measured drawing. Should negative cut features be encountered they will be 50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. In the event that they are deemed to be important discoveries they will be fully excavated.

All archaeologically significant excavated feature fills and deposits will be sampled for artefactual and palaeo-

environmental evidence. Where appropriate this will also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues relating to soil development at the site.

All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeologists. The general practice will be to bulk recover artefacts by context which date from the nineteenth or twentieth century's. Should significant finds be encountered from earlier occupation phases of the site there may be the requirement for three-dimensionally recording prior to up-lifting. Finds which are of particular sensitivity or importance may require specialist conservation assessment.

Where particularly extensive, numerous or complex archaeological deposits or features are proven to be present the developer and the local authority will be informed and discussions, including a site meeting if deemed necessary and appropriate, will be held between all relevant parties to agree the most appropriate strategy. Where preservation *in situ* is not feasible this will generally comprise a need to develop a stage 2 mitigation strategy to excavate and record any significant archaeological features or sites to ensure preservation through record.

If, once topsoil stripping is complete, there remains a potential that archaeological features or deposits remain at lower levels then there may be a requirement to monitor the excavation of the pipeline trench.

5.2 *Human Remains*

Should human remains be encountered, the local police, the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and the developer will be notified immediately and thereafter prescribed procedure for their treatment will be followed, in accordance with legal requirements.

5.3 *Project Monitoring*

The Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and the developer will be notified immediately of any unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries, or other unexpected occurrences which might significantly affect the archaeological work and/or the development. In that event, all finds and features will be left *in situ* until arrangements have been agreed for safeguarding or recording them.

An archaeological project manager will be appointed for all the works outlined above and the manager will be the first point of contact for any project-related liaison with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and the developer or the developer's agent for all formal logistical, administrative and financial aspects of the project.

It will be important to ensure that all formal communications, instructions and/or requests (including any proposed amendments to on-site strategies) are ultimately made in writing to the project manager, to ensure organisational, administrative and financial efficiency.

Any site visitors, including representatives of the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service will be required to conform to the health and safety regime in place during the fieldwork programme.

6.0 Reporting, Archive & Small Finds Arrangements

Following completion of the fieldwork, a report on the fieldwork will be prepared, outlining the main results

and incorporating lists of all features, finds, samples, photographs and drawings. This report will be produced as an electronic report (and a desk-top published document where this is required). The report will also include recommendations for further mitigation measures appropriate to the remains encountered. Implementation of any recommendations offered would, however, only follow consultation with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service.

The report will be prepared, in structural and textual content terms, to the standard of the traditional Data Structure Report as defined by Historic Scotland, in their "Project Design, Implementation and Archiving" document (Historic Scotland Archaeological Procedure Paper 2, 1996). The report will provide "a structure or organisation to the primary records" of the fieldwork, forming "a basis for further work". It will be "essentially, an initial organisation on paper of the information retrieved from the site" and consist "of a narrative account of the contexts...discovered, including field interpretations and a set of lists. It is not intended for publication, but will itself be archived." A project archive will be prepared and made ready for submission within six months of the completion of all fieldwork or post-excavation work (as appropriate). The resultant site archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Records for Scotland.

A short report detailing the results will also be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* and to *OASIS*.

Copies of the Data Structure Report will be provided to the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, the developer and to the National Monuments Record for Scotland. Further copies can be distributed to other recipients if requested and specified.

The results of this work will inform the need for further (Stage 2) fieldwork or further (Stage 3) analysis of materials/generation of a report for publication, the report will, on request, be followed by a costed assessment specifying any work deemed necessary in order to complete the project. Publication, where required, would normally be sought in a suitable academic journal. The post-excavation process is essential to bring a piece of archaeological work to completion.

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 during the evaluation or any subsequent stages of work, 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 (QLTR) which museum should be allocated the finds.

All artefacts will be stored temporarily by Northlight until a decision has been made by the Panel regarding the museum which will be allocated the finds for permanent curation. All finds will be transferred to the appropriate museum within six months of completion of the fieldwork, if no post-excavation work is required, or at the end of the latest finishing post-excavation programme.

In the event that unallocated finds recovered from the evaluation or any later stages of work require to be removed from Scotland, for the purposes of post-excavation analysis, there is a legal requirement to obtain the consent of the QLTR, in the form of a loan agreement. Initially, an indication of intent would be registered with

the Treasure Trove Secretariat at the National Museums of Scotland, after which formal consent would be applied for using the form "Application for authority to borrow unallocated Treasure Trove for research purposes". A consent form, signed by the QLTR and specifying conditions (such as the period during which finds may be held outside Scotland) would then be issued. Receipt of this signed consent form will be required before items may be removed from the country.

7.0 Timetable

The watching brief will be undertaken during April 2015.

8.0 Staffing

Project Manager – David Sneddon

Project Director(s) – TBC

9.0 Health and Safety

Prior to fieldwork commencing a risk assessment of the project will be undertaken. Northlight Heritage, as part of York Archaeological Trust, adheres to all standard Health and Safety regulations governing fieldwork projects.

Northlight Heritage also possess appropriate third party/public liability insurance cover, proof of which may be supplied upon request.

APPENDIX 3: DES

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route: High Pressure Gas Pipeline Diversions: Newlands & East Crossley
PROJECT CODE:	0016
PARISH:	Maryculter (Newlands) & Fetteresso (East Crossley)
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Peta Glew
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Northlight Heritage
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	n/a
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	n/a
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	Newlands: NO 88962, 98627 to NO 89187, 98827 East Crossley: NO 87206, 96163 to NO 87354, 96323
START DATE (this season)	9 th April 2015
END DATE (this season)	7 th May 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	n/a
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during topsoil stripping at Newlands and East Crossley, near Aberdeen, on behalf of J. Murphy & Sons Ltd. as part of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral High Pressure Gas Pipeline Diversions. The work was carried out between 9 th April and 7 th May 2015. No significant archaeological features were encountered during the works.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	J. Murphys & Sons Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Northlight Heritage Studio 406 South Block 64 Osborne St Glasgow G1 5QH
EMAIL ADDRESS:	northlight@yorkat.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	RCAHMS (intended)