

# Grey S

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009



# Grey Stanes Stone Circle, Scone Watching Brief

## Data Structure Report

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<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>BT Openreach,</b> 34 Victoria Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife KY1 1DR
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NO 1327 2646</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>21432</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> October 2009</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> October 2009</b>

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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<b>Draft Report Stage: Draft</b>	<b>Date:</b>

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## Summary

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This report represents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on ground within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Grey Stanes Stone Circle, Scone. The work was undertaken to monitor the potential impact on the archaeological resource during groundwork associated with the repair of malfunctioning communications equipment within the former area of the Scheduled stone circle. The work was commissioned by Openreach.

All of the excavations undertaken was within ground previously disturbed during the insertion of the existing apparatus that was being replaced by these works. No features relating to the stone circle were identified and no other significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Openreach commissioned AOC Archaeology Group to undertake an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of a single test-pit to house a BT joint box, during works associated with the repair of malfunctioning communication equipment, within the Scheduled Ancient Monument Grey Stanes Stone Circle (NMRS: NO12NW28).
- 1.1.2 The scheduled ground around Gray Stanes Stone Circle site affords it statutory protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (AM & AAA 1979). As such, Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent was applied for and granted (4<sup>th</sup> July 2009) and works were carried out according to these standards.

### 1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The single test-pit was excavated within a private residential garden, within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Grey Stanes Stone Circle, Scone, Perth and Kinross (NGR: NO 1327 2646).

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The Grey Stanes Stone Circle (NMRS N012NW 28; NGR: NO 1327 2646) lies on the west of New Scone, Perthshire. It originally comprised six rounded boulders, with another barely protruding from the ground. The stones were temporarily removed and then re-reacted (set in concrete) during the course of building a housing estate in the early 1960s (Stewart 1965). The circle comprised seven stones on an original internal diameter of about 5.4 m. Many of the stones had been 'keeled' to aid their stability and they were graded with the largest stones on the western and south-western arcs. An urn containing a token cremation (dated 3150 +/- 150 bp) had been set upright in a pit at about the centre of the circle (Stewart 1965).
- 1.3.2 The scheduled ground around Gray Stanes Stone Circle site affords it statutory protection under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (AM & AAA 1979)*.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of this work were:
- i) to safeguard the archaeological resource from any adverse impacts created by ground-works necessitated the repair works;
  - ii) to report on the results of the watching brief.





Plate 1 Showing existing apparatus exposed and extent of ground disturbance

### 3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 All ground-breaking works associated with the repair works will be monitored by an experienced field archaeologist. Ground-breaking works will amount to an area of approximately 0.65 m by 0.45 m by 0.35 m deep.
- 3.2 All monitoring was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures (Appendix 21). The palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy is detailed in Appendix 7, Section 7.11. All excavations were by hand.
- 3.3 A black and white print and digital photographic record of the archaeological works was taken (Appendix 1).

### 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The ground breaking works were excavated over a single day on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in variable weather conditions. Archaeological visibility was good throughout.
- 4.2 The single area of excavation measured approximately 0.65 m in length by 0.45 m in width by 0.35 m in depth. The top of the communications cable was also exposed. The test-pit was excavated through topsoil. The occurrence of a concrete foundation at the base of the test-pit demonstrates that the ground had been previously disturbed.



Plate 2 Showing excavations reinstated

- 4.3 No features relating to the Grey Stanes Stone Circle were identified and no other significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

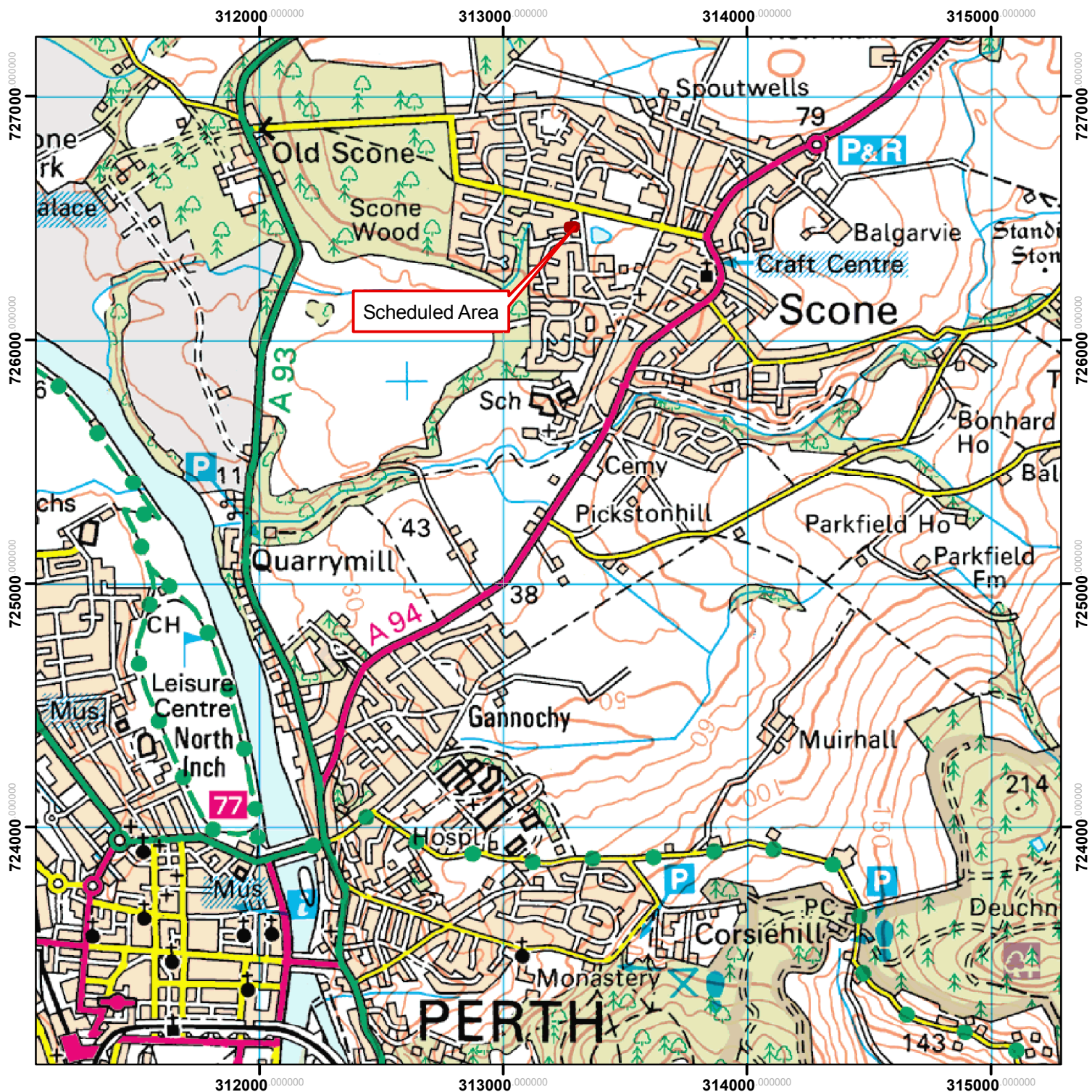
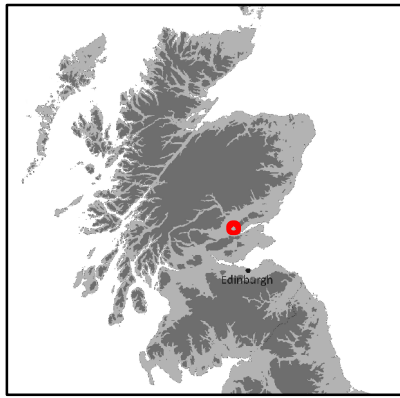
## 5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The archeological watching brief has demonstrated that all of the excavations undertaken was within ground previously disturbed during the insertion of the existing apparatus that was being replaced by these works.
- 5.2 No other significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified and no further works are necessary.

## 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AM & AAA 1979 *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*.





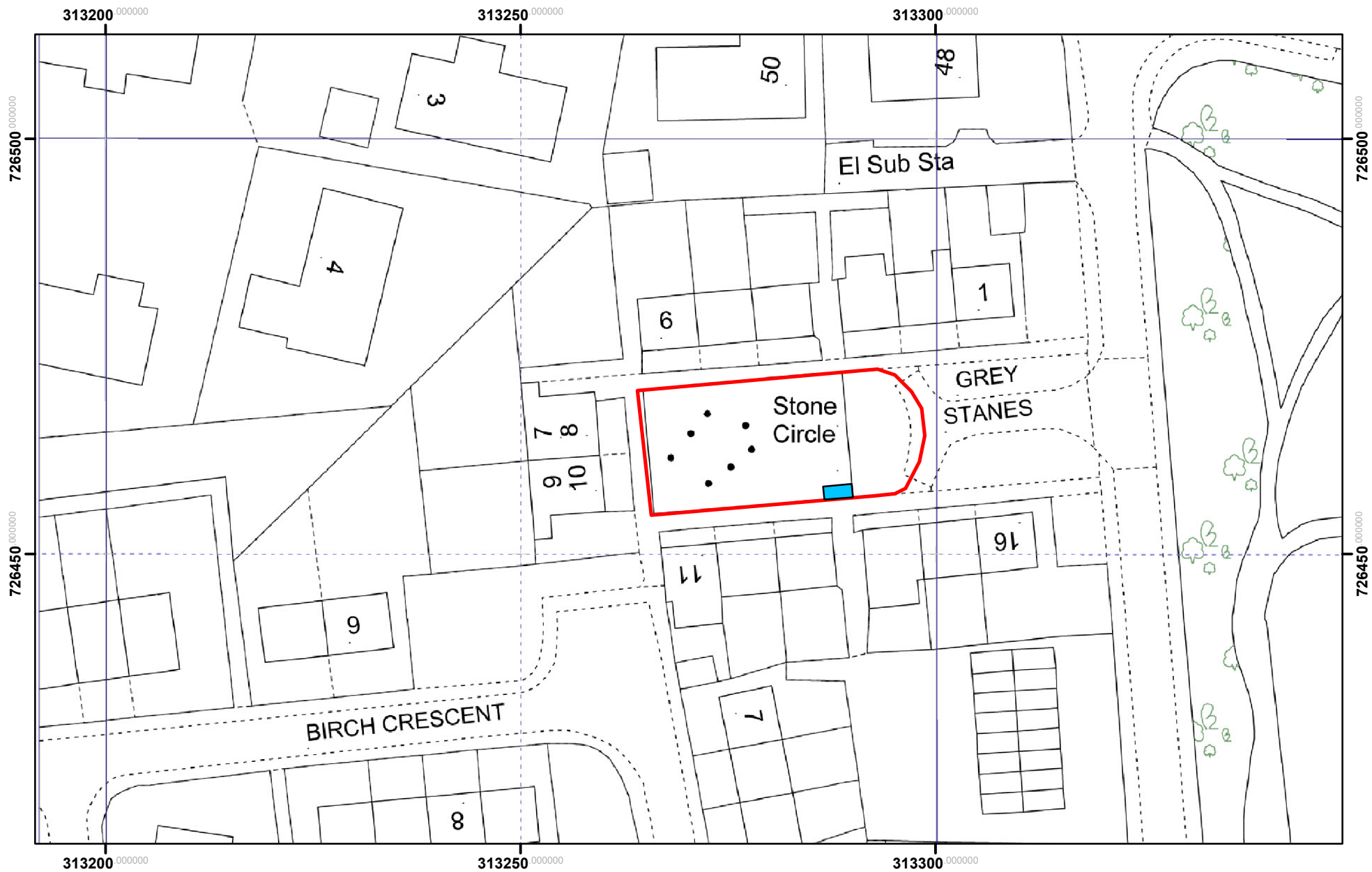
0 50 100 200 300 400 500  
metres

Figure 1: Site Location Plan and Scheduled Area

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Archaeology  
Group



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0 2.5 5 10 15 20 25  
m

Figure 2: Location of Trench

 Trench Location  
 Scheduled Area

# **Grey Stanes Stone Circle: Watching Brief Report**

## **Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record

Black & White Print and Digital Film 1

Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration shots	-
3-4	Showing site prior to excavations being undertaken	SE
5	Showing existing apparatus partially exposed	E
6	Showing full extent of excavations	E
7	Detail of existing apparatus	E
8	Detail of new apparatus	E
9-10	Showing site after reinstatement	E

## APPENDIX 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Perth and Kinross
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Grey Stanes Stone Circle
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 21432
<b>PARISH:</b>	Scone
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Lindsay Dunbar
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	N012NW 28
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Stone Circle
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NO 1327 2646
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2009
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2009
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	Stewart , MEC 1965 Excavation of a circle of standing stones at Sandy Road, Scone, Perthshire. <i>Trans Proc Perthshire Soc Nat Sci</i> , vol.11.
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report represents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on ground within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Grey Stanes Stone Circle, Scone. The work was undertaken to monitor the potential impact on the archaeological resource during groundwork associated with the repair of malfunctioning communications equipment within the former area of the Scheduled stone circle.</p> <p>All of the excavations undertaken were within ground previously disturbed during the insertion of the existing apparatus that was being replaced by these works. No features relating to the stone circle were identified and no other significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	--
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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS





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