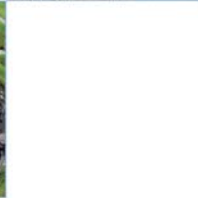
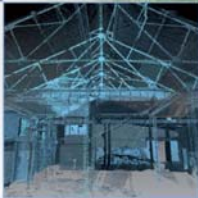


Land at Gallowhill, Huntly Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

AOC23475
7th June 2016



Land at Gallowhill, Huntly Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Mr. Andrew Mitchell Ivy Cottage, 6 Quartalehouse, Stuartfield, Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire, AB42 5DE
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NJ 422 415
AOC Project No:	23475
Oasis ID:	aocarcha1-254058
Fieldwork by:	Steven Watt & Stuart Wilson
Prepared by:	Steven Watt
Illustration by:	Steven Watt
Date of Fieldwork:	6th June 2016
Date of Report:	7th June 2016

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

Author: Steven Watt

Date: 7th June 2016

Approved by: Martin Cook

Date: 7th June 2016

Draft Report Stage: Draft

Date: 7th June 2016

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarchaeology.com

Contents

	Page
List of illustrations.....	4
List of plates.....	4
List of appendices.....	4
Summary.....	5
1 INTRODUCTION.....	6
1.1 Project Background.....	6
1.2 Site Location.....	6
1.2 Development Background.....	6
2 OBJECTIVES.....	7
3 METHODOLOGY.....	7
4 RESULTS.....	7
5 CONCLUSION.....	8
6 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	8
7 REFERENCES.....	8
APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES.....	11
APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER.....	12
APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT.....	13

List of illustrations

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench location

List of plates

Plate 1 Evaluation area

Plate 2 Trench 1 from west

List of appendices

Appendix 1 Trench Summaries

Appendix 2 Photographic Register

Appendix 3 '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' Entry

Summary

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. Andrew Mitchell to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Gallowhill, Huntly (NGR: NJ 4224 41579) in response to previously unmonitored works being carried out on the site. The development lies at the summit of Gallowhill, off the A920.

In total five trenches were excavated, totaling 126 linear meters of an area approximately 1,250 m². This revealed a mid orange-brown sand silt with bedrock protruding throughout.

No archaeological features or material were identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. Andrew Mitchell to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Gallowhill, Huntly. The proposed development lies within the administrative area of Aberdeenshire Council which is advised on archaeological matters by Ms. Claire Herbert, of Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS). An archaeological watching brief had been specified by Ms. Herbert on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council and in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011).
- 1.1.2 Due to unmonitored works being carried out by the current owner of the land it was agreed in order to purge the planning condition an archaeological evaluation would take place. This was carried out in accordance with AOC standard guidelines detailed in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (2016).

1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The site is located within existing farmland at Gallowhill, Glass Huntly (NJ 42224 41579; Figure 1), between Corshalloch and Upper Hilton Farms, to the immediate north of the A920.



Plate 1: Proposed Development Area

1.2 Development Background

- 1.2.1 Full planning permission for the erection of a dwelling house has been granted by Aberdeenshire Council (APP/2015/0870), subject to conditions.

1.3 Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The HES identifies no known monuments within the proposed development area. However, the site is reputed to be the site of a gallows (HER NJ44SW0102). Apart from upstanding and existing farms there are few known archaeological sites within the immediate vicinity although possible pits have been recorded to the south-west of the site (NRHE: NJ 44SW89).

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the development area;
 - ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Prior to any archaeological intervention part of the proposed development was topsoil stripped. In agreement with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, it was proposed that the stripped area be hand cleaned and inspected for archaeological features. However, as much of the site was still to be stripped the area was subject to a standard evaluation and trenched. As the final layout of the house had not been fully decided, the trenches were excavated along the entire possible development zone as informed by Mr. Mitchell.
- 3.2 The area evaluated therefore totalled to approximately 1,250 m² with five trenches totalling 126 linear meters. Thereby a 10% evaluation of the development area was achieved.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The various detailed data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices:
- Appendix 1 Trench Summaries;
 - Appendix 2 Photographic Register;
 - Appendix 3 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry
- 4.2 Figure 2 identifies the position and orientations of all excavated trenches. The works were conducted on the 6th June 2016. The weather conditions during the evaluation were favourable with archaeological visibility being good.
- 4.3 All trenches were excavated using a JCB 3XC 'backhoe' machine. The eastern area was covered by a thin mossy peat extending to depths of c.0.20 – 0.32 m and the western area covered in crushed

stone hard-standing, c.0.08 - 0.18m. This overlay a B-horizon of poorly sorted, loose stone and mid-dark brown silty loam in Trench 1. Trench 1 also had rubble drain running down the slope of the hill. The natural for all trenches was a light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel with areas of bedrock.



Plate 2: Trench 1 from west

- 4.4 No significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered throughout the works.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 No significant archaeological finds or features were observed during the evaluation, suggesting that the development area is archaeologically sterile.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. The recommendation will require confirmation by Ms. Claire Herbert on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council.

7 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2016 *Land at Gallowhill, Huntly, Archaeological Evaluation: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished Client Report

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

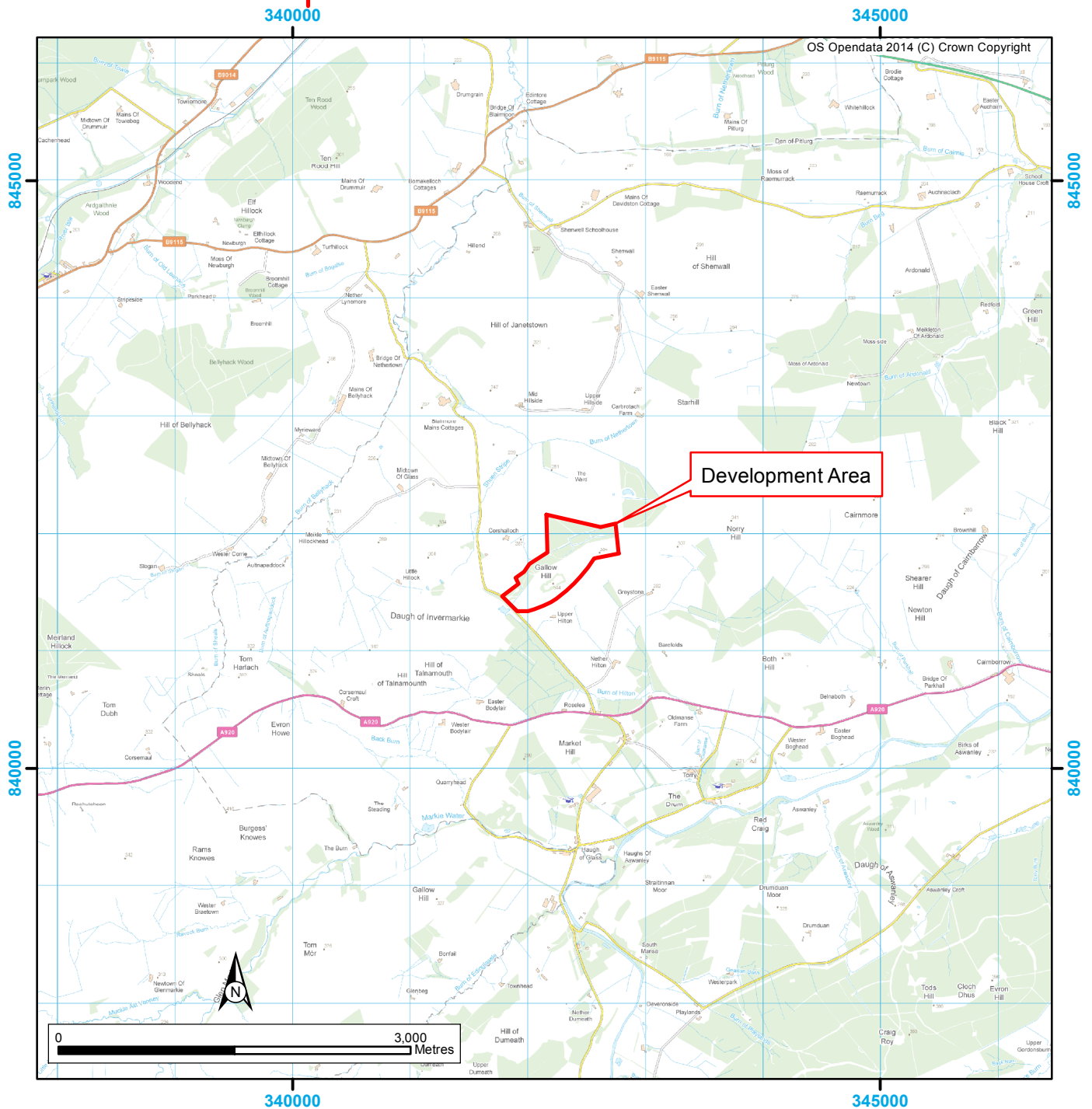
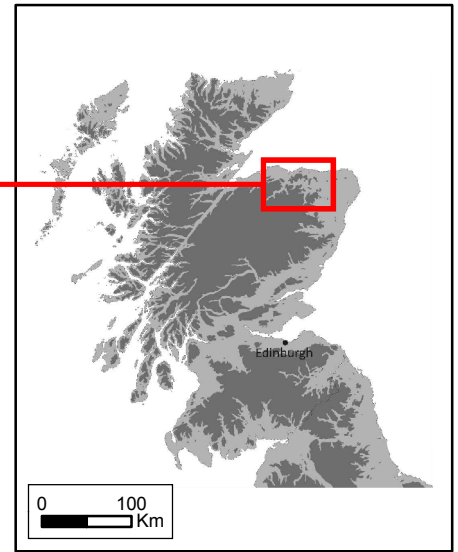
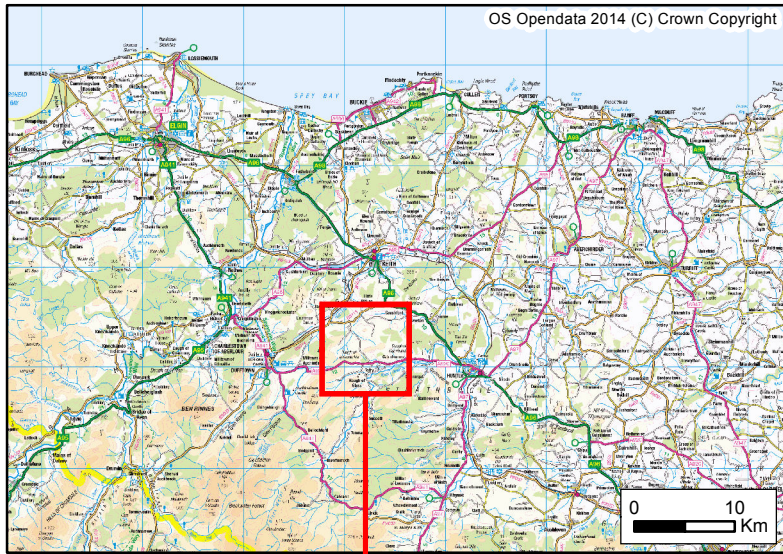


Figure 1: Site Location Plan



Figure 2: Site plan showing position of evaluation trenches

Scottish Government 2011 *PAN 2/2011 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology*.

Land at Gallowhill, Huntly: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1

Dimensions	35.5m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m
B-horizon	0.35m
Features	Rubble drain at 30.0m NE-SW
Subsoil	Light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel
Finds	None

Trench 2

Dimensions	35.5m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.32m
B-horizon	None
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel, large angular stones throughout
Finds	None

Trench 3

Dimensions	18.0m by 2.0m
Orientation	W-E
Depth of Topsoil	0.18m
B-horizon	None
Features	None
Drains	None

Subsoil	Light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel, large angular stones throughout
Finds	None

Trench 4

Dimensions	19.0m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.08m
B-horizon	None
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel, large angular stones throughout
Finds	None

Trench 5

Dimensions	18.0m by 2.0m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.18m
B-horizon	None
Features	None
Subsoil	Light brown-orange sandy stoney gravel, large angular stones throughout
Finds	None

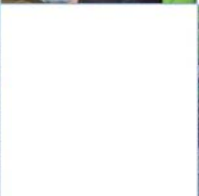
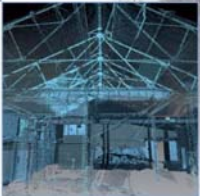
APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Colour Digital

Frame	Trench	Description
1	-	Registration
2-8	-	General views of site
9	1	Post-excavation of Trench 1
10	2	Post-excavation of Trench 2
11	1	S-facing section of Trench 1
12	-	Area of raised stone – possible man made
13	3	Post-excavation of Trench 3
14	4	Post-excavation of Trench 4
15	5	Post-excavation of Trench 5
16	-	View of quarry at base of hill

APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land at Gallowhill, Huntly
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23475
PARISH:	Glass
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Steven Watt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NJ 422 415
START DATE (this season)	6 th June 2016
END DATE (this season)	6 th June 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. Andrew Mitchell to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Gallowhill, Huntly (NGR: NJ 4224 41579). The development lies at the summit of Gallowhill, off the A920.</p> <p><i>In total five trenches were excavated, totaling 126 linear meters of an area approximately 1,250 m². This revealed a mid orange-brown sand silt with bedrock protruding throughout.</i></p> <p><i>No archaeological features or material were identified.</i></p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr. Andrew Miller,
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead. Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



AOC Archaeology Group, **Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY**
tel: **0131 440 3593** | fax: **0131 440 3422** | e-mail: **edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com**

www.aocarchaeology.com