

Brotherton, Aberdeenshire

Archaeological Watching Brief:

Data Structure Report

AOC Project 23692

13th April 2017



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Brotherton, Aberdeenshire Archaeological Watching Brief:

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: CgMs Limited

Planning Application

OASIS ID aocarcha1-283439
National Grid Reference (NGR): 383220 777580 – 377530 769420 (centred)
AOC Project No: 23692
Prepared by: Anne-Aymonne Marot
Illustration by: Sam O'Leary
Date of Fieldwork: 20th February to 29th March 2017
Date of Report: 13th April 2017

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

Author: Anne-Aymonne Marot Date: 13th April 2017
Approved by: Date: 24th April 2017
Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft Date: 24th April 2017

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	3
List of plates	3
List of appendices	3
Abstract	4
1 INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Background	5
1.2 Site Location.....	5
1.3 Archaeological background	5
2 OBJECTIVES.....	6
3 METHODOLOGY	6
4 RESULTS.....	6
5 CONCLUSION	7
6 BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	8
Bibliographic References	8
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register	10
APPENDIX 2: <i>'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'</i> Report	11

List of illustrations

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Section 1
Figure 3	Section 2
Figure 4	Section 3

List of plates

Plate 1	West-facing section of posthole in Kenshot Hill
---------	---

List of appendices

Appendix 1	Photographic Record
Appendix 2	<i>'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'</i> Report

Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group as requested by CgMs on behalf of Green Cat Renewables on the monitoring of five sections of topsoil stripping between St John's Hill, Kinneff and Brotherton, Aberdeenshire.

The Archaeological Appraisal researched and prepared by CgMs identified archaeological assets adjacent to the proposed route and outlined five sections with a greater potential for unrecorded archaeological features to be present.

The five sections of route monitored, Gallow Hill, Kirkton, Banff Hill, Kenshot Hill and Brawleymuir, did not affect known archaeological assets and no unrecorded features were exposed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was required by CgMS Consulting on behalf of Green Cat Renewables on five areas of archaeological interest between St John's Hill and Paul Matthew Hill, Brotherton, Aberdeenshire. The site lies within the administrative area of Aberdeenshire Council.

1.1.2 The archaeological works was conducted in accordance with the principles as set out in *Scottish Planning Policy (2014)* and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011 (2011)*. The work was a follow-on from an Archaeological Appraisal which was provided by CgMs Consulting in December 2016.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The route of the buried grid connection runs approximately 12km between St John's Hill, Kinneff (NGR 383220 777580) and Brotherton (NGR 3777530 769420), Aberdeenshire (Figure 1). Evidence for Early Prehistoric activity has been recorded in the area.

1.2.2 "The greater part of the Route is underlain by igneous bedrock on the Montrose Volcanic Formation with short sections running through areas underlain by conglomerate. Where superficial deposits are present they are predominantly diamicton till. The exception to this is alongside the Bervie Water and between Water Hill and St John's Hill, where there are alluvial deposits of Flandrian date" (CgMs Consulting, *Archaeological Appraisal*, 2016).

1.3 Archaeological background

The Archaeological background has been provided by CgMs in their Archaeological Appraisal for the route of the pipeline from Brotherton to St John's Hill, Kinneff, Aberdeenshire (CgMs Consulting, *Archaeological Appraisal*, 2016). Due to a number of significant archaeological sites, five areas were identified by CgMs for archaeological monitoring of all ground-breaking works. The significant archaeological sites are detailed below and identify a high level of prehistoric activity in the area. More details can be found in the Archaeological Appraisal.

- A recumbent stone circle (NO87NW0006) and a standing stone (NO87NW0012) to the west of Gallowhill.
- A known promontory fort (NO87SW0018) and a cairn (NO87SW0044) to the west of Arbuthnott.
- Three cairns on Banff Hill (NO77SE0025).
- Two cairns on Kenshot Hill (NO77SE0003 & 15).
- A cairn to the south of Brawleymuir (NO77SE0005)

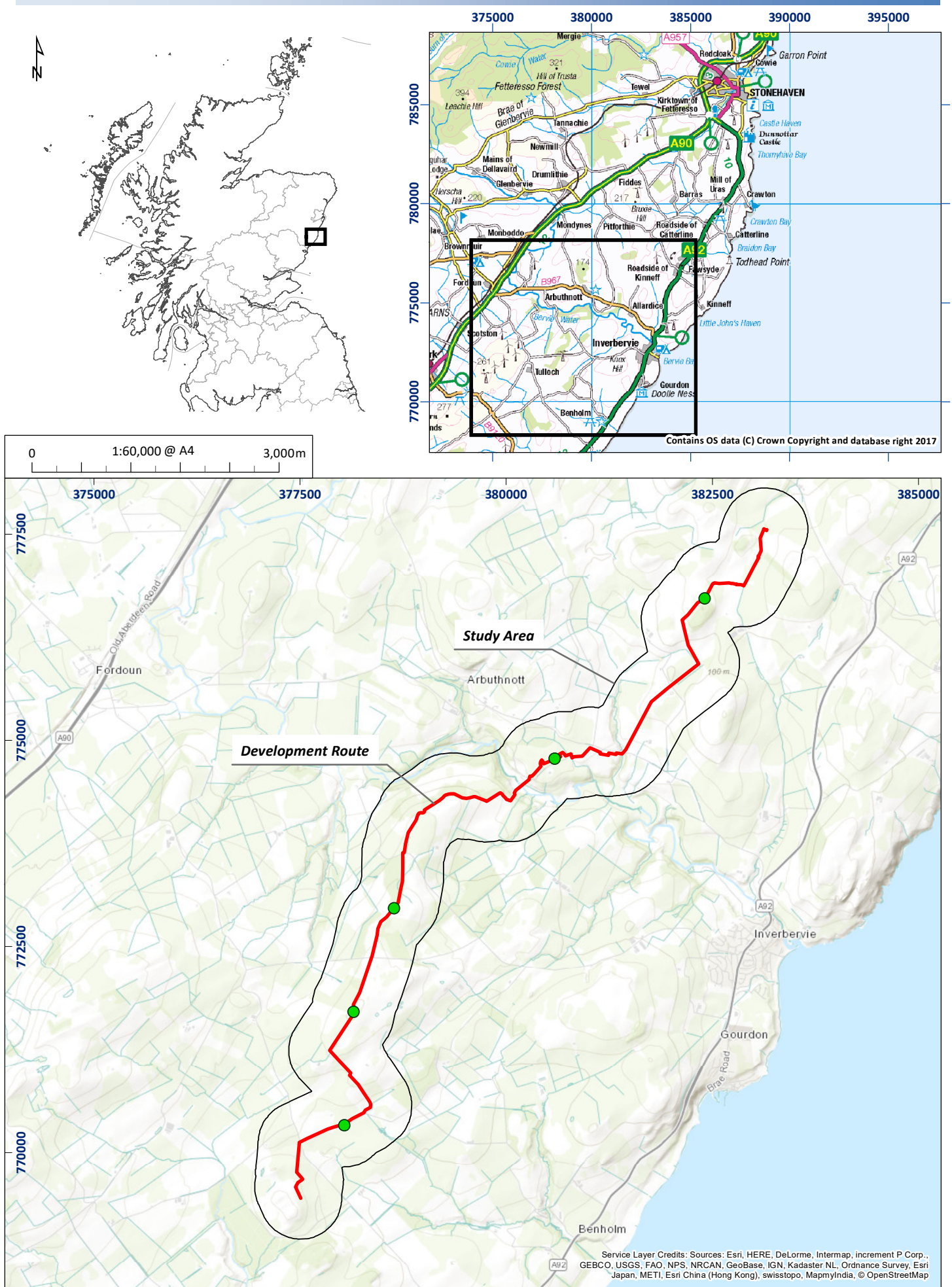


Figure 1: Site location plan

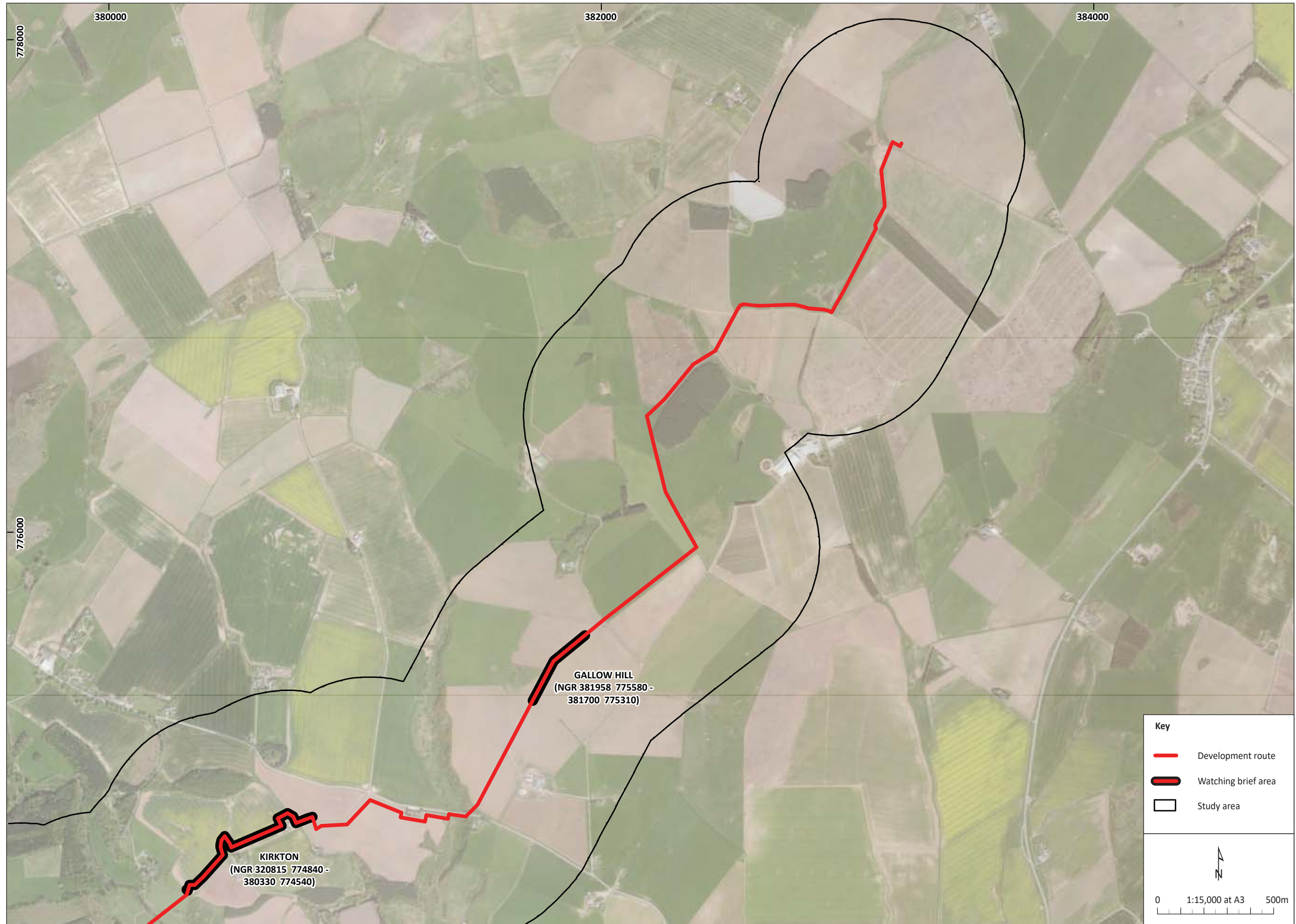


Figure 2: Section 1

01/23692/REP/02/01



Figure 3: Section 2

01/23692/REP/03/01



Figure 4: Section 3

01/23692/REP/04/01

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 In general, the purpose of the work was to mitigate and offset adverse effects on historical environment assets. Specifically, it was to:
- i) Archaeologically monitor initial main contract excavations (removal of turf and topsoil);
 - ii) Excavate and record any archaeological features exposed during these works;
 - iii) Undertake appropriate post excavation analyses (if required) and dissemination of results. (CgMS Consulting, Archaeological Appraisal, 2016).

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The watching brief consisted of the monitoring of topsoil stripping in the five area identified by CgMs Consulting as containing potentially unrecorded archaeology which would be damaged or removed during the construction of the grid connection. This occurred between the 20th February 2017 and the 29th March 2017 with favourable conditions for archaeological observation.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1. Topsoil stripping of the three sections of the route Gallow Hill, Kirkton and Banff Hill was monitored and no archaeological finds observed.
- 4.2. A northeast-southwest aligned modern service trench was observed, and a single post hole recorded in Kenshot Hill, however this was identified as modern and probably related to a displaced telegraph pole which was still visible nearby. Previously recorded archaeological features were not disturbed.
- 4.3. The excavation at Brawleymuir exposed two ceramic drains and a rubble drain.



Plate 1 – West-facing section of posthole in Kenshot Hill

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The watching brief successfully monitored the topsoil stripping in the five area identified by CgMs Consulting as containing potentially unrecorded archaeology which would be damaged or removed during the construction of the grid connection. No new features were exposed.

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bibliographic References

CgMs Consulting, 2016, *Archaeological Appraisal, Brotherton to St John's Hill Kinneff Aberdeenshire*

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

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

Brotherton, Aberdeenshire

Watching Brief Data Structure Report

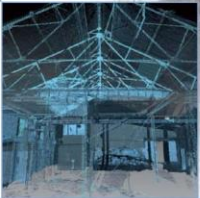
Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

No.	Description	Taken From
001	Registration shot	W

APPENDIX 2: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Brotherton, Aberdeenshire
PROJECT CODE:	23692
PARISH:	Brotherton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Anne-Aymonne Marot
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	383220 777580 – 377530 769420 (centred)
START DATE (this season)	20 th February 2017
END DATE (this season)	29 th March 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	CgMs Consulting, 2016, <i>Archaeological Appraisal, Brotherton to St John's Hill Kinneff Aberdeenshire</i>
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group as requested by CgMs on behalf of Green Cat Renewables on the monitoring of five sections of topsoil stripping between St John's Hill, Kinneff and Brotherton, Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>The Archaeological Appraisal researched and prepared by CgMs identified archaeological assets adjacent to the proposed route and outlined five sections with a greater potential for unrecorded archaeological features to be present.</p> <p>The five sections of route monitored, Gallow Hill, Kirkton, Banff Hill, Kenshot Hill and Brawleymuir, did not affect known archaeological assets and no unrecorded features were exposed.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CgMs Consulting
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	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: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com