

Newfargie Farm, Perth & Kinross: Archaeological Survey

Data Structure Report



by Peter Klemen
issued 10th June 2015
on behalf of Mr Charles Stewart

RATHMELL 
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Quality Assurance

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Signed 

Date10th June 2015.....

In keeping with the procedure of Rathmell Archaeology Limited this document and its findings have been reviewed and agreed by an appropriate colleague:

Checked 

Date10th June 2015.....

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Introduction

1. A programme of archaeological works was required by Allan Corfield Architects Ltd, on behalf of Mr Charles Stewart, in support of the erection of a dwelling house at New Fargie Farm, Glenfarg. These archaeological works were required as an element of the granted planning consent (14/01716/FLL). The archaeological works were designed to meet the conditions for archaeology work, the requirements of the client, Perth and Kinross Council and their advisors Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.
2. The objective of these archaeological works is to identify significant archaeological features and, wherever possible, to then avoid impact by promoting preservation *in situ*. The specific focus has been identified by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust as nine boundary stones which are depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. At least two of the stones are known to survive and are marked on modern mapping; one of the surviving stones is annotated 'Rocking Stone.' An apparently comparable stone, mapped on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, is known to have stood within the development area.
3. The archaeological works undertaken were the survey of the development area for significant archaeological features, with the intention of developing protection measures to safeguard these features. The programme of works was detailed within the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (Matthews 2015) and this Data Structure Report presents the findings of the field survey.

Site Topography

4. The total application site is some 2.61 acres of ground within a predominantly mixed woodland setting. The ground is situated to the west of New Fargie Farm and south of Glen Farg on the lower slopes of the Ochil Hills. The site is bounded by farmland to the north and by woodland to the west, south and east.
5. The development site has a steep slope, falling to the north with substantial views out over to the Tay Valley. The hillside and surrounding area is planted with native tree species. One area of open pasture within the development area lies at its southeastern tip.

Project Works

6. An archaeological walkover was carried out over the morning of 10th June 2015, and was carried out in keeping with the methods outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Matthews 2015).
7. The primary task of the archaeological walkover survey was to identify the Stone marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey which is mapped within the development area. The walkover survey was also used to identify any previously unknown archaeological features, including additional boundary stones, within the development area (see Figure 2).
8. The record of any archaeological features would comprise:
 - ❖ classification of the archaeological sites and monuments;
 - ❖ written site description (objective measured description; subjective site interpretation; site condition; and management recommendations if appropriate);
 - ❖ a measured sketch plan;
 - ❖ photographic record (digital) of all sites; and
 - ❖ locate all archaeological site limits and elements by DGPS equipment (Leica GS50) allowing real-time correction to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum.
9. All works were conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

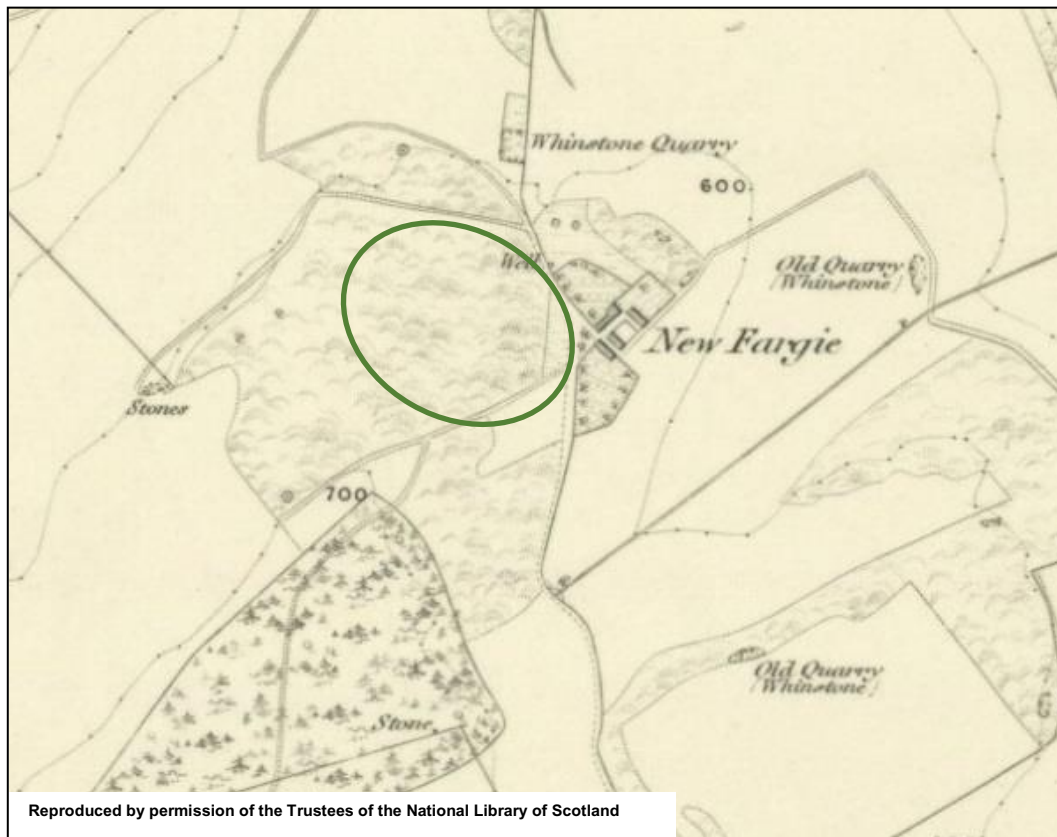


Figure 1a: Extract from the 6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1856)

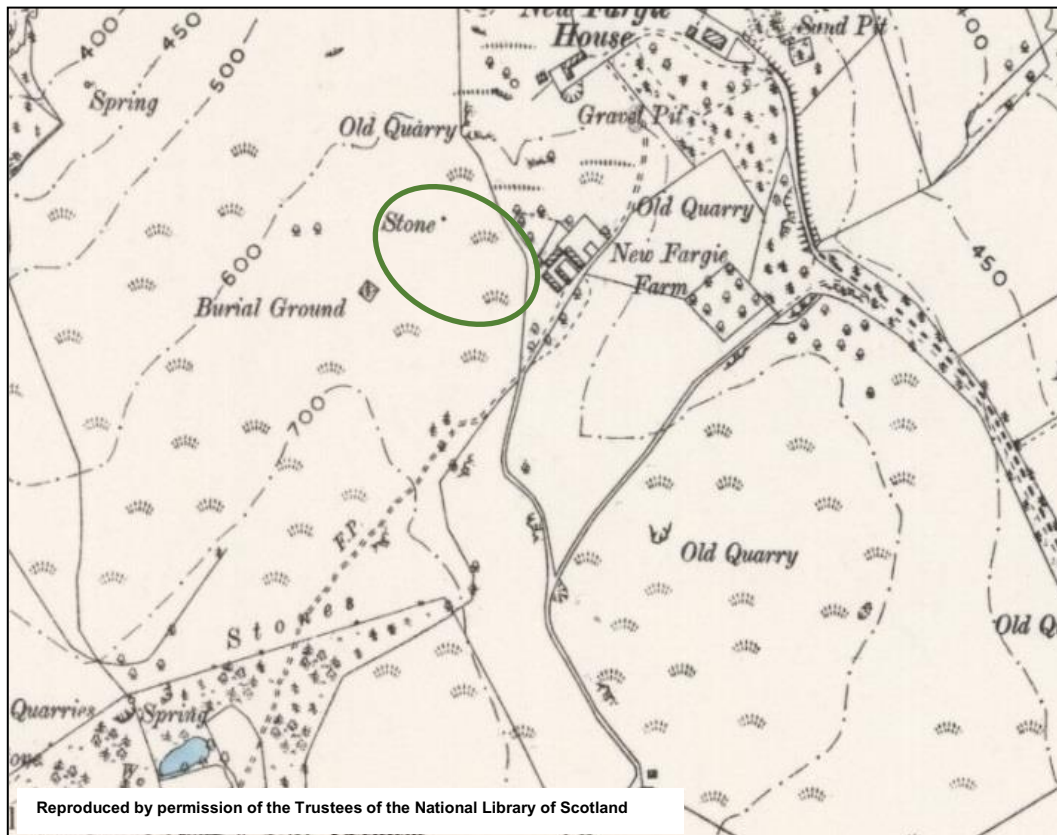


Figure 1b: Extract from the 6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (1896)

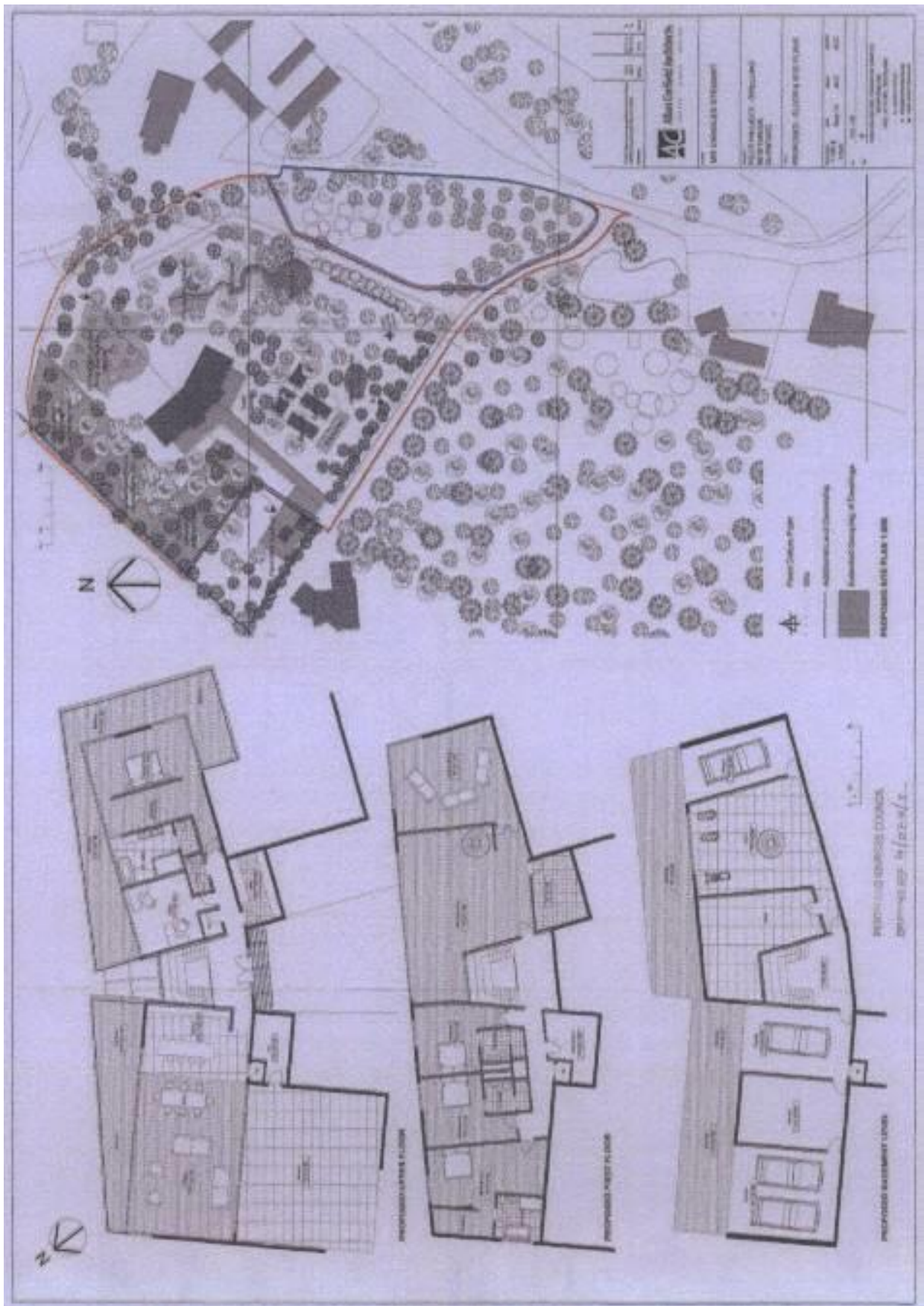


Figure 2: Site Layout and Location Plan

Findings

10. Through a study of the historic mapping (Figures 1a & b) and HER records available there was one stone (HER Id: MPK15089) first mapped in the late 19th century recorded that lay within the development area. Mid-19th century mapping depicted a set of eight boundary stones in the wider landscape, possibly laid out during Enclosure activities in the 18th century.

Historic Landuse

11. The *6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey* map (1856) (Figure 1a) depicts the development area and immediate landscape as rough unimproved land and the only woodland is a small distance to the south. 'Stones' are depicted to the south-south-west on the north side of a trackway (not recorded in HER). The trackway depicted that leads to New Fargie Farm is still in use.
12. There has been little change in the form of the landscape by the time of the *6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey* (1896) (Figure 1b). One exception is a newly marked 'Stone' (HER Id: MPK15089) depicted on the open hillside and situated within the development area; at the same time the 'Stones' previously depicted to the south-south-west have gone. This is also the first time that the burial ground to the southwest (Canmore ID: 268582, HER ID: MPK 14942) is depicted.
13. Both surveys depict a treeless area with the *6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey* (1896) the first to depict the presence of a stone within the development area. It is not known when the development area become wooded or when the last time the stone was recorded.

Site Walkover

14. The walkover survey took place over the morning of 10th June 2015. It confirmed the core of the study area to have a steep topography and extensive tree cover (Figures 3a, to 4b). The steep topography and thick ground vegetation and tree cover made movement difficult. Where possible and appropriate, temporary tracks were used to traverse and gain the maximum access to the survey area.
15. The walkover survey did not locate the Stone (HER Id: MPK15089) that is recorded on historic environment records and no unknown archaeological sites or features were identified.
16. The area in which the boundary stone (HER Id: MPK15089) (Figures 5a & 5b) had been formerly recorded was walked in a 'helix' pattern to a distance of 10m to fully systematically survey the area and make sure that it had not fallen and therefore covered by earth, leaf litter or vegetation. Nothing of the stone was identified nor were rock outcrops or similar topographic features that could have been classed as a 'Stone' identified. As can be seen from the images, this location was one of the more open and accessible portions of the woodland.

Discussion

17. The walkover survey failed to locate the known archaeological site within the survey area and no new sites or features were identified or recorded. While the standing woodland did inhibit field survey, it was not at a level that the ground could not be inspected with effort and the location of the known Stone was readily accessible.
18. It appears reasonable to suggest that at some point during the 20th century the stone depicted on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey has been removed - potentially when the area was planted as woodland. The date at which this happened is not known. However, it should be noted that any association between this stone, and the boundary stones depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey is a matter of conjecture. The stone in question did not stand on a land boundary (unlike the earlier stones) and as such may have been a rubbing stone or indeed a notable erratic on the hillside.

19. We recommend that there are no identifiable archaeological features or structures within the development area that merit protection or safeguarding from development works. Hence, we recommend no further archaeological works are undertaken.

Conclusion

20. A programme of archaeological works was required by Allan Corfield Architects Ltd, on behalf of Mr Charles Stewart, in support of the erection of a dwelling house at New Fargie Farm, Glenfarg.
21. Survey works attempted to relocate a Stone of potential heritage value to safeguard this feature. The area in which the stone (HER Id: MPK15089) had been formerly recorded was walked in a 'helix' pattern to a distance of 10m to fully systematically survey the area and make sure that it had not fallen and therefore covered by earth, leaf litter or vegetation. No trace of the stone was found.
22. We have recommended that there are no identifiable archaeological features or structures within the development area that merit protection or safeguarding from development works. Hence we recommend no further archaeological works are undertaken.



Figure 3a: Tree cover in the north area of the survey area



Figure 3b: Tree cover in the east area of the survey area



Figure 4a: Demonstrating the thick undergrowth and tree cover



Figure 4b: Demonstrating the thick undergrowth and tree cover



Figure 5a: Former location of the Stone



Figure 5b: Former location of the Stone

References

Cartographic

Ordnance Survey	1856	<i>6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey, Fife and Kinross Shire, Sheet 8</i>
Ordnance Survey	1896	<i>6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey, Perth & Clackmannan Sheet CXX.NE</i>

Appendix 1: Photographic Register

Photographic Register

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
001	-	-	-	-	001	Mapped location of the Boundary Stone	E	10/06/15
002	-	-	-	-	002	Mapped location of the Boundary Stone	SE	10/06/15
003	-	-	-	-	003	Mapped location of the Boundary Stone	S	10/06/15
004	-	-	-	-	004	Mapped location of the Boundary Stone	E	10/06/15
005	-	-	-	-	005	Demonstrating tree cover	NE	10/06/15
006	-	-	-	-	006	Demonstrating tree cover	N	10/06/15
007	-	-	-	-	007	Demonstrating tree cover	N	10/06/15
008	-	-	-	-	008	Demonstrating open flat topography of the southern area	NW	10/06/15
009	-	-	-	-	009	Demonstrating open flat topography of the southern area	W	10/06/15
010	-	-	-	-	010	Demonstrating tree cover	SSE	10/06/15
011	-	-	-	-	011	Mapped location of the Boundary Stone	NW	10/06/15
012	-	-	-	-	012	Demonstrating the steep topography of the N & NE side	E	10/06/15
013	-	-	-	-	013	Demonstrating vegetation and steep topography	E	10/06/15
014	-	-	-	-	014	Demonstrating topography and tree cover	SW	10/06/15
015	-	-	-	-	015	Demonstrating topography and tree cover	S	10/06/15
016	-	-	-	-	016	Demonstrating topography and tree cover	SE	10/06/15
017	-	-	-	-	017	Tree cover in the SW area of the site	NE	10/06/15
018	-	-	-	-	018	Showing the southern boundary fence	SE	10/06/15
019	-	-	-	-	019	Showing the southern boundary fence	NE	10/06/15

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth & Kinross
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Newfargie Farm
PROJECT CODE:	RA15053
PARISH:	Arngask
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Peter Klemen
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Walkover Survey
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NO 15562 12480 (centred)
START DATE (this season)	10 th June, 2015
END DATE (this season)	10 th June, 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological survey was required by Allan Corfield Architects Ltd, on behalf of Mr Charles Stewart, in support of the erection of a dwelling house at New Fargie Farm, Glenfarg.</p> <p>The walkover survey revealed no archaeological sites within the survey area and no new sites or features were recorded. It is suggested that any presence of a Stone (HER ID: MPK 15089) has been removed when the area for the development became wooded. The date at which this happened is not known.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Charles Stewart
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	North Tay Office Centre, 48 Loons Road, Dundee DD3 6AP
EMAIL ADDRESS:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust and archive to RCAHMS Collections.

Contact Details

25. Rathmell Archaeology can be contacted at our Registered Office or at:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
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- | | |
|--|--|
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| Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust | |
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