

Tullich WTW, Argyll & Bute: Archaeological Watching Brief

Data Structure Report



by Callum Allsop

issued 26th October 2016

on behalf of Scottish Water

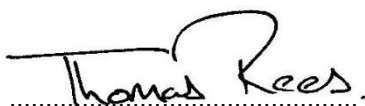
RATHMELL 
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Quality Assurance

This report covers works which have been undertaken in keeping with the issued brief as modified by the agreed programme of works. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance of Rathmell Archaeology Limited on the preparation of reports. All works reported on within this document have been undertaken in keeping with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct.

Signed  Date26th October 2016.....

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

Checked  Date ...26th October 2016.....

Copyright Rathmell Archaeology Limited. All rights reserved.

No part of this report may be copied or reproduced by any means without prior written permission from Rathmell Archaeology Limited. If you have received this report in error, please destroy all copies in your possession or control and notify Rathmell Archaeology Limited.

This report has been prepared for the exclusive use of the commissioning party and unless otherwise agreed in writing by Rathmell Archaeology Limited, no other party may use, make use of or rely on the contents of the report. No liability is accepted by Rathmell Archaeology Limited for any use of this report, other than the purposes for which it was originally prepared and provided.

Opinions and information provided in the report are on the basis of Rathmell Archaeology Limited using due skill, care and diligence in preparation of the same and no explicit warranty is provided as to their accuracy. It should be noted and it is expressly stated that no independent verification of any of the documents or information supplied to Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been made.

Quality Assurance Data

Author(s)	Callum Allsop		
Date of Issue	26 th October 2016	Version	1.0
Commissioning	Scottish Water		
Event Name	Tullich WTW		
Event Type	Watching Brief		
Event Date(s)	6 th October and 10 th to 11 th October 2016		
Rathmell Code	RA16069	OASIS Ref	rathmell1- 263957
Location	United Kingdom : Scotland : Argyll and Bute		
NGR	NM 85560 27586	Parish	Kilmore and Kilbride
Designation(s)	None		
Canmore IDs	None		

Contents

Introduction	3
Historical and Archaeological Background	3
Project Works	6
Findings	6
Discussion	6
Recommendations	6
Conclusion	10
References	10
Appendix 1: Registers	11
Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland	14
Contact Details	15

Figures

Figure 1.1: 1874 1 st edition Ordnance Survey 6" Argyllshire XCVIII	4
Figure 1.2: 1900 1 st edition Ordnance Survey 6" Argyllshire XCVIII.SE....	4
Figure 1.3: Modern aerial imagery	4
Figure 2: Development Area (red line)	5
Figure 3: Development Area Post Monitoring	7
Figure 4a: Site inspection: General shot at northeast end of site showing possible linear feature	8
Figure 4b: Site inspection: Possible linear feature (embankment)	8
Figure 5a: Monitoring: General shot of strip at centre of development.....	9
Figure 5b: Monitoring: East facing section at southwest end of site	9

Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared on behalf of Scottish Water, in support of the construction of a new track on land to the southwest of Tullich Water Treatment Works (WTW), Oban (Centred on NGR: NM 85560 27586).
2. West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken as an element of the granted planning consent. WoSAS, who advises Argyll & Bute Council on archaeology matters, has provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required. Archaeological monitoring has been required as a condition appended to the planning consent (16/01649/PP).
3. The proposed development work includes the construction of an access road linking the new water treatment works with an existing trackway. These archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on any archaeological remains within the development area and were carried on the 6th October and 10th to 11th of October 2016.
4. A Method Statement (Rees 2016) provided the detail of the works (archaeological monitoring, exclusion, excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication) for the mitigation pertaining to ground breaking within the development area and hence the direct physical impact on buried sediments.

Historical and Archaeological Background

5. The development area is a new access road falling southwest from the Tullich WTW, that is currently accessed by the Sorbie Road to the south of Oban. The Glenshellach valley to the immediate N has been the subject of extensive archaeological works since 1991 associated with its progressive development. This has highlighted the high potential for prehistoric, and post-medieval activity within these valleys to the south of Oban.
6. The line of the access track does not intersect any known archaeological sites, crossing unimproved moorland. There are two significant sites that the track passes between:
 - ❖ *lying some 120m to the northwest of the access road is the Tullich shieling hut (Canmore Id 80601) identified during survey works in 1991 associated with the development of Glenshellach; and*
 - ❖ *lying some 200m to the southeast of the access road is Ariogan cairn (Canmore Id 22904), a Scheduled Monument protected under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. This irregularly-shaped stony mound appears to represent the remains of a prehistoric burial cairn. It measures about 6 metres across, stands to a height of 0.6 metres and has been severely disturbed by stone-robbing.*
7. The 1874 1st edition Ordnance Survey (Figure 1.1) depicts the area as strip of northwest/southeast framed by minor burns to the north and south with the southwest section covered by scrub woodland, the balance open moorland. The same is depicted in 1900 (Figure 1.2) though modern imagery shows a more open landscape, with the introduction of access tracks to the south and Tullich WTW to the north being the main landscape changes.
8. The development area is shown on Figure 2.



Figure 1.1: 1874 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" Argyllshire XCVIII

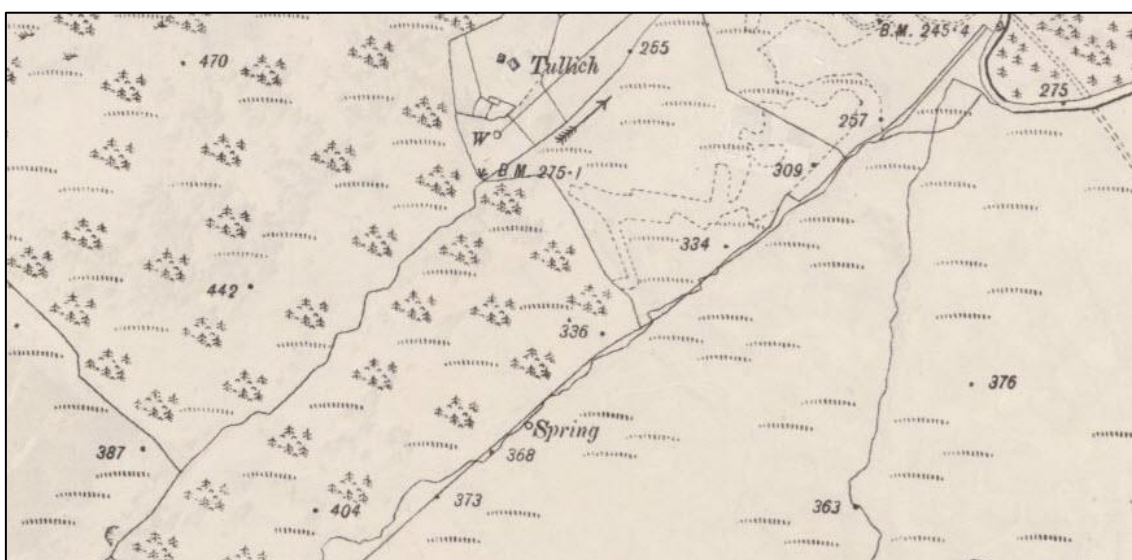


Figure 1.2: 1900 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6" Argyllshire XCVIII.SE



Figure 1.3: Modern aerial imagery

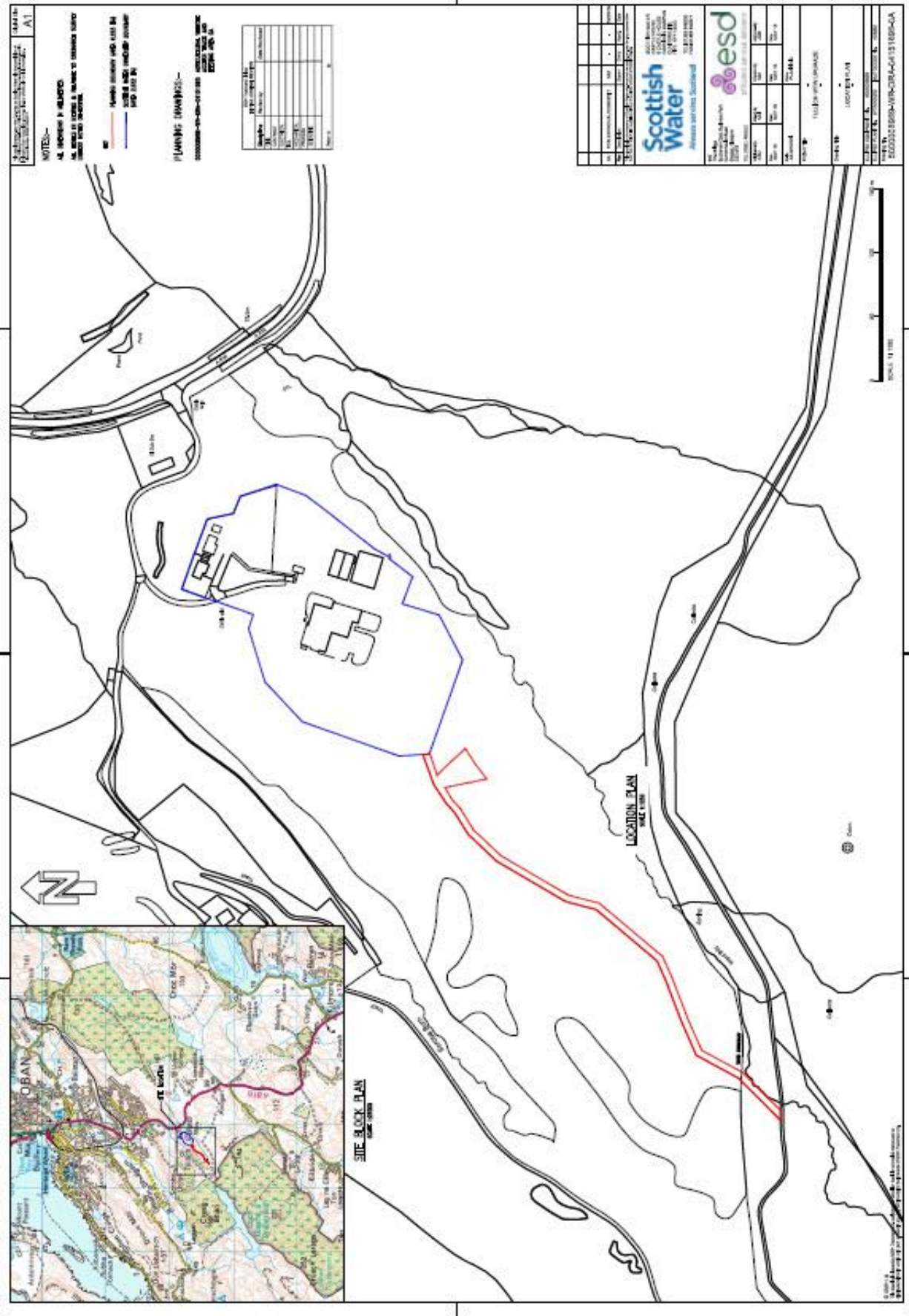


Figure 2: Development Area (red line)

Project Works

9. The programme of works, which was undertaken on the 6th October and 10th to 11th of October 2016, were carried out in keeping with the agreed Method Statement (Rees 2016). The works comprised an initial site visit to establish the character of the environment and archaeological monitoring of the ground breaking works relating to the construction of a new track on land to the southwest of Tullich WTW (Figure 2).
10. Any potentially significant archaeological features, structures or deposits encountered were recorded by the archaeologist on site, using Rathmell Archaeology Ltd standard methods. All contexts, small finds and environmental samples were given unique numbers with bulk finds collected by context.
11. All works were conducted in accordance with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service Standard Conditions, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings

12. The walkover observed a linear feature in the landscape that was truncated by works and measured approximately 1m wide on a northwest/southeast alignment (Figure 3). This feature was truncated during a period of construction work that was carried out without archaeological monitoring (Figures 4a and 4b). No other archaeological features were present within the excavated area prior to inspection.
13. The area of the access road that was stripped was approximately 8m wide and 0.5-0.65m deep along its entire course and minor alterations to its path were made to follow the contours of the topography (Figure 5a).
14. The deposits encountered comprised wet, dark brown peat with medium sub-angular stones 300-400mm deep (001), loose, light brown silty clay with medium to large sub-angular and angular stones 200-250mm deep (002) and grey large to very large angular stone/shale (003) (Figure 5b).
15. No archaeological features were identified within the development area during monitoring.

Discussion

16. The only anthropic features within the development area was a possible embankment or field boundary that was truncated prior to the site inspection. It was not possible to ascertain the full nature and character of this feature due to the development. It is most likely that this feature relates to the field boundary separating woodland and marshes depicted on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps.
17. The monitoring works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area. The stripping for the access road revealed geological deposits typical for this region of Scotland consisting a peat topsoil (001) formed from plant remains in anaerobic conditions up to three million years ago in the Quaternary Period and an igneous bedrock (003) of andesite and basalt that formed around 398 to 419 million years ago in the Devonian and Silurian Periods.

Recommendations

18. This Data Structure Report covers archaeological works undertaken in support of construction work of an access road on land to the southwest of Tullich Water Treatment Works, Oban, Argyll & Bute (Planning Ref: 16/01649/PP).
19. The archaeological monitoring works uncovered no anthropic features within the development area. As such, it is recommended that no further work should be carried out.
20. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Argyll & Bute Council and their advisors, the West of Scotland Archaeological Service.

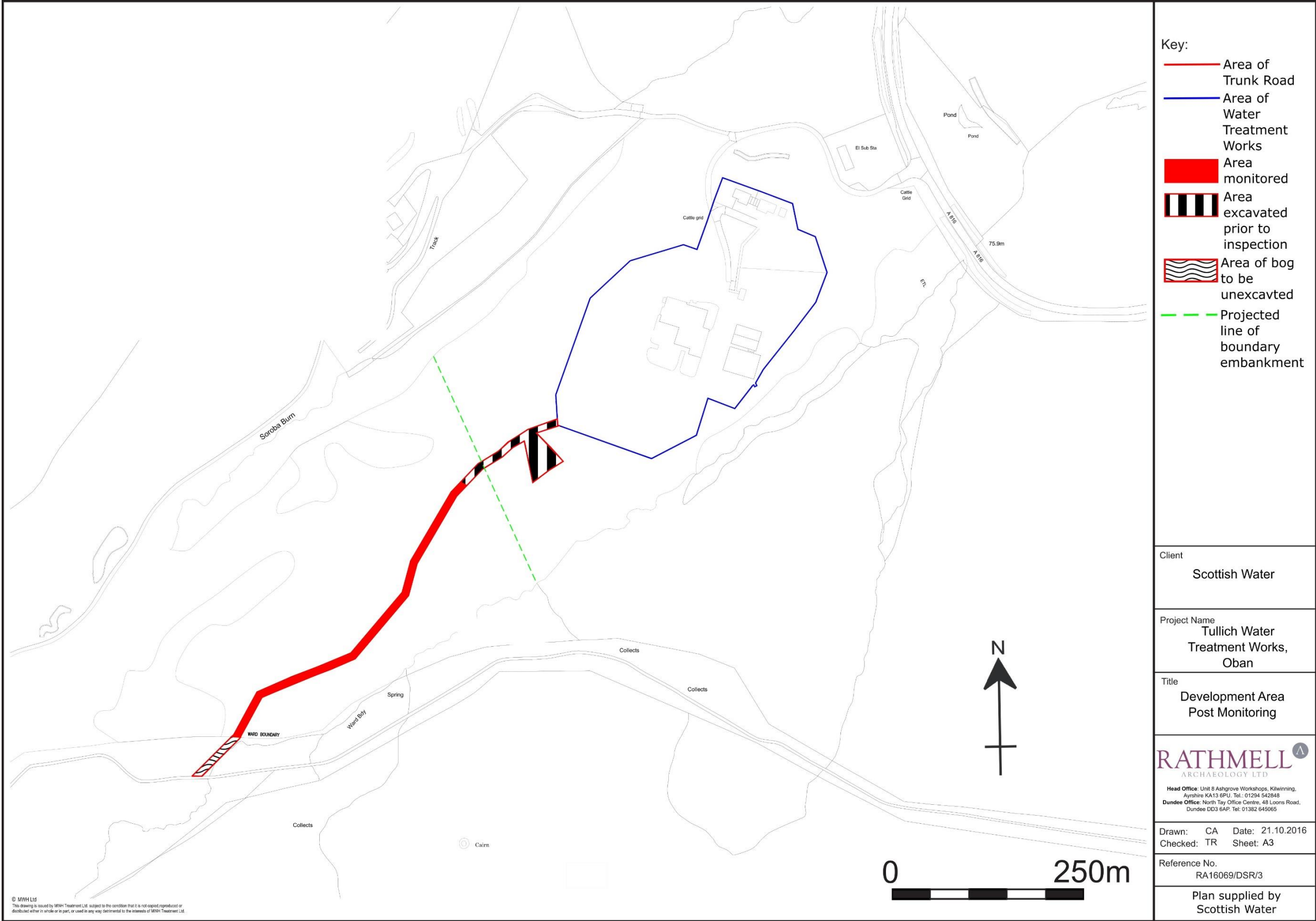


Figure 3: Development Area Post Monitoring



Figure 4a: Site inspection: General shot at northeast end of site showing possible linear feature



Figure 4b: Site inspection: Possible linear feature (embankment)



Figure 5a: Monitoring: General shot of strip at centre of development



Figure 5b: Monitoring: East facing section at southwest end of site

Conclusion

21. Archaeological monitoring work was carried out for Scottish Water, in support of construction work on land to the southwest of Tullich Water Treatment Works, Oban, Argyll & Bute (Planning Ref: 16/01649/PP). These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
22. The works at Tullich WTW consisted of an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an access road from the new water treatment works under construction. During these works only geological deposits were noted with no significant archaeological features being identified.

References

Documentary

Rees, T. 2016, Tullich WTW, Oban: Archaeological Mitigation, *Method Statement*.

Cartographic

Ordnance Survey, 1874, 6-inch, Argyllshire. Sheet XCVIII

Ordnance Survey, 1900, 6-inch, Argyllshire. Sheet XCVIII.SE

Appendix 1: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site during the watching brief:-

Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Wet, dark brown peat with medium sub-angular stones 300-400mm deep	Turf and topsoil covering the whole development area
002	All	Deposit	Loose, light brown silty clay with medium to large sub-angular and angular stones 200-250mm deep	Natural subsoil within the development area
003	All	Deposit	Grey large to very large angular stone/shale	Bedrock within the development area

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	4461	Site inspection: Shot of existing works at northeast end of site	SW	06/10/16
002	4462	Site inspection: Southeast facing section of existing works at northeast end of site	NW	06/10/16
003	4463	Site inspection: Shot of existing works at northeast end of site	NE	06/10/16
004	4464	Site inspection: General shot at northeast end of site	ENE	06/10/16
005	4465	Site inspection: General shot at northeast end of site	ENE	06/10/16
006	4466	Site inspection: Possible linear feature (embankment)	NW	06/10/16
007	4467	Site inspection: Shot of existing works to the southwest	NE	06/10/16
008	4468	Site inspection: Shot of existing works to the southwest	SW	06/10/16

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
009	-	VOID	-	06/10/16
010	4469	Site inspection: Shot of existing works at northeast end of site	SW	06/10/16
011	4470	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route	N	06/10/16
012	4471	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route	S	06/10/16
013	4472	Site inspection: General shot of site	S	06/10/16
014	4473	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route at southwest end of site	SW	06/10/16
015	4474	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route at southwest end of site	NE	06/10/16
016	4475	Site inspection: General shot of site	S	06/10/16
017	4476	Site inspection: General shot of site	W	06/10/16
018	4477	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route at southwest end of site	SW	06/10/16
019	4478	Site inspection: General shot along proposed route at southwest end of site	NE	06/10/16
020	4493	Monitoring: General shot of works commencing	S	10/10/16
021	4494	Monitoring: North facing section of site at northeast end	N	10/10/16
022	4495	Monitoring: General shot of works	S	10/10/16
023	4496	Monitoring: East facing section of strip at centre of development	E	10/10/16
024	4497	Monitoring: Working shot of stripping	SW	10/10/16
025	4498	Monitoring: General shot of strip at centre of development	NE	10/10/16
026	4499	Monitoring: General shot of strip at centre of development	W	10/10/16

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
027	4500	Monitoring: General shot of strip at centre of development	W	10/10/16
028	4501	Monitoring: Working shot of stripping on 2 nd day	E	11/10/16
029	4502	Monitoring: East facing section at southwest end of site	E	11/10/16
030	4503	Monitoring: Working shot of southwest end of development	NE	11/10/16
031	4504	Monitoring: General shot of bog-land at southwest end of development	NE	11/10/16
032	4505	Monitoring: General shot of strip at southwest end of development	SW	11/10/16
033	4506	Monitoring: South facing section of exposed bedrock face	S	11/10/16
034	4507	Monitoring: General shot of strip at southwest end of development	S	11/10/16
035	4508	Monitoring: Working shot of southwest end of development at fence line	NW	11/10/16

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll & Bute
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Tullich Water Treatment Works
PROJECT CODE:	RA16069
PARISH:	Kilmore and Kilbride
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Callum Allsop
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NM 85560 27586 (Centred)
START DATE (this season)	6 th October 2016
END DATE (this season)	11 th October 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>Archaeological monitoring work was carried out for on behalf of Scottish Water, in support of the construction of a new track on land to the SW of Tullich WTW, Oban (Planning Ref: 16/01649/PP). These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.</p> <p>The works at Tullich consisted of an archaeological watching brief during the construction of an access road running to the southwest of the water treatment works. During these works only natural geological deposits were noted with no significant archaeological features being identified.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
E MAIL:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to HES Collections

Contact Details

Rathmell Archaeology can be contacted at our Registered Office or through the web:

Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops
Kilwinning
Ayrshire
KA13 6PU

www.rathmell-arch.co.uk

t.: 01294 542848

f.: 01294 542849

e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk

End of Document