

Auchlishie Farm Bunkhouse, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir: Archaeological Watching Brief

Data Structure Report



by Callum Allsop

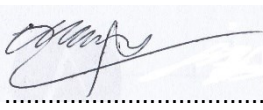
issued 25th October 2016

on behalf of Gary Sinclair Architecture

RATHMELL 
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

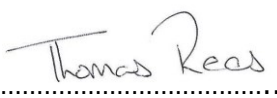
Quality Assurance

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 

Date25th 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.....

Date25th October 2016....

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Quality Assurance Data

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Introduction and Planning Context

1. This Data Structure Report is for a programme of Monitoring works required by Gary Sinclair Architecture in respect of the erection of a bunkhouse at Auchlishie Farm, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir DD8 4LS (NGR: NO 38926 57433) (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL).
2. The development has been granted planning consent by Angus Council (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL) subject to a negative suspensive condition for archaeology (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP). Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS), who advise Angus Council on archaeological matters, has specified that any groundbreaking works undertaken within the development area, must be monitored following a 'Watching-brief' Condition (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP).
3. A Method Statement (Allsop 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.
4. Rathmell Archaeology Ltd was appointed to act with regard to the archaeological issue by Gary Sinclair Architecture. The project works described below were designed to comply with the identified requirements of Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service.

Historical Background

5. The proposed development area is located to the northwest of Auchlishie Farm and north of the course of Auchlishie Burn (centred on NGR NO 38926 57433). The works comprise the erection of a Dutch Barn, incorporating Bunkhouse, Shower & Toilet Facilities and Storage for use with Existing Equestrian Eventing Venue (see Figure 2).
6. The underlying bedrock is a sedimentary type of the Arbuthnott-garvock Group-Conglomerate that formed approximately 407 to 416 million years ago in the Devonian Period with superficial Glaciofluvial Deposits of gravels, sands and silt that formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period indicating that the local environment was dominated by ice-age conditions (British Geological Society, Geology of Britain Viewer).
7. In the mid-19th century the ground to the immediate northwest was enclosed in a field system relating to Auchlishie Farm (see Figure 1a). The farmstead comprised of three buildings; one "U-shaped", one "L-shaped" and one rectangular, with a further rectangular building to the northeast surrounded by vegetation. An ovoid-shaped patch of marshland was also present to the west of the farmstead.
8. Throughout the late 19th to mid-20th centuries the development area continues to be used for agriculture with no changes to the field system, minor modifications to the farm buildings and the excavation of a gravel pit immediately to the north of the farmstead (Figure 1b and 1c). There is also the establishment of Burnmouth Cottage to the southwest of the development area by the beginning of the 20th century.
9. In the immediate landscape to the northwest of Auchlishie Farm are a group of cropmarks representing pits which were recorded by the RCAHMS in summer aerial reconnaissance in 1988. (Canmore ID: 68321, HER ID: NO35NE0061).
10. Sited directly to the west of Auchlishie Farm are a set of indeterminate cropmarks visible on aerial photographs also taken by the RCAHMS in 1988. The cropmarks are possibly geological and periglacial in formation. (Canmore ID: 68322, HER ID: NO35NE0061).
11. Within 1km of Auchlishie Farm there are also recorded a number of later prehistoric features represented by cropmarks and souterrains (Canmore ID: 285820, Canmore ID: 32225, Canmore ID: 32226, Canmore ID: 68323 Canmore ID: 32218).

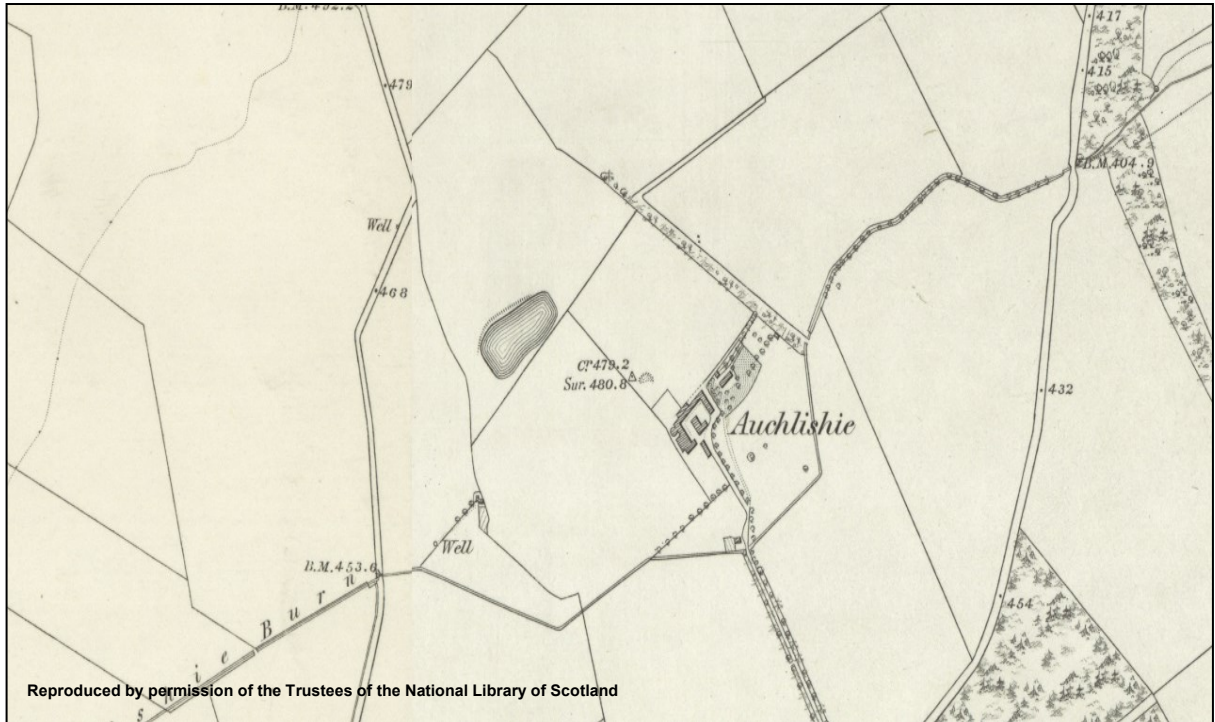


Figure 1a: 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1865)

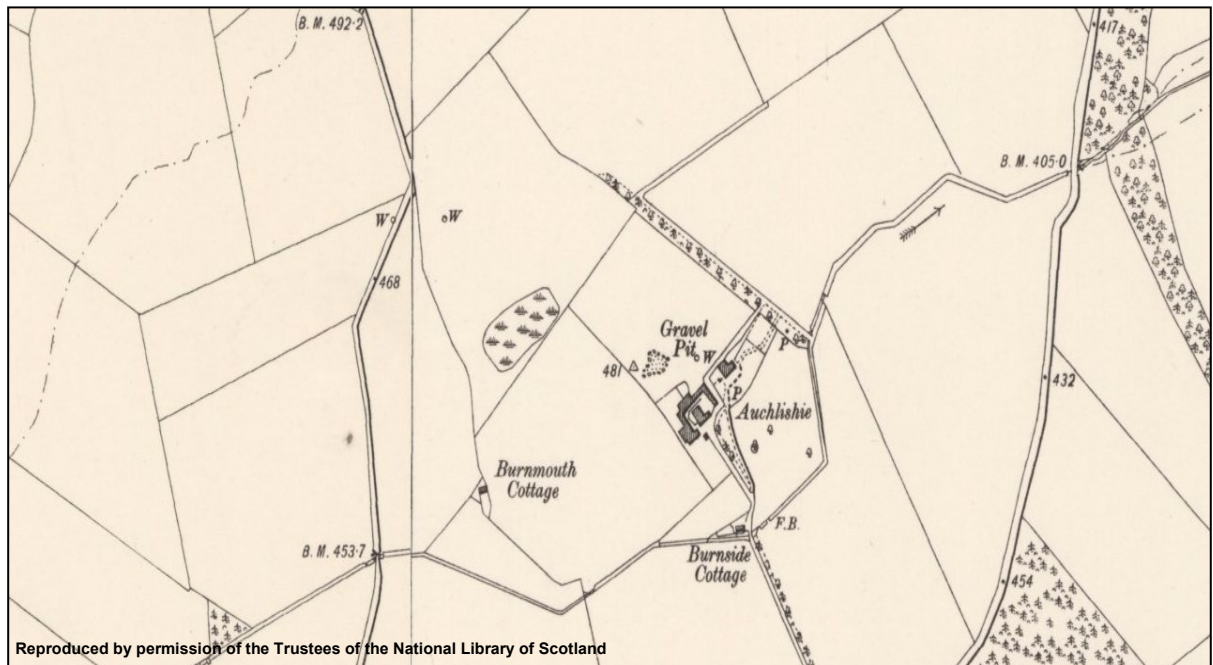


Figure 1b: 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (1903)

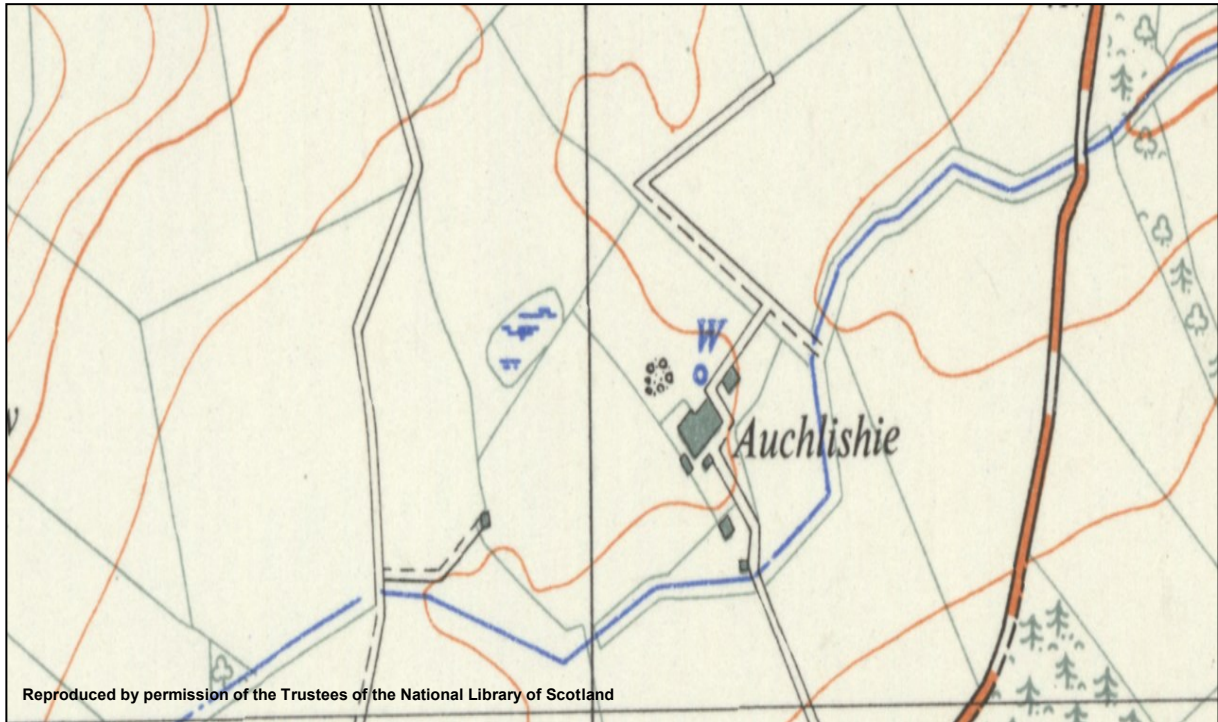


Figure 1c: Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 (1959)

Project Works

12. The programme of monitoring works was undertaken on one site visit which took place on the 12th October 2016 and the agreed programme of mitigation works was agreed to comprise the following key components:
 - a. undertake a continuous archaeological watching brief on appropriate ground breaking works in a manner that will expose any significant archaeological horizons with care.
 - b. the production of a report which integrates the findings of the works (watching brief) through a Data Structure Report, detailing the nature, form and extent of the monitored areas.
13. 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.
14. All work will be undertaken in accordance with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) standard conditions and will comply with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct.

Findings

15. The archaeological monitoring works comprised the excavation of five test pits (F1-F3 and TP1-TP2) and the topsoil stripping of the area for the Bunkhouse (Figure 2). Three test pits (S1-S3) were abandoned due to the presence of a mains water pipe.
16. The three test pits to the north of the development area (F1-F3) showed the same formation of deposits that consisted a mid-brown, loose loam with infrequent small sub-rounded stones 320-330mm deep (001) overlying a yellow, loose sand with no inclusions 340-480mm deep (002) that overlay a light brown, loose silty gravel with very frequent small to medium round and sub-rounded stones (003) (Figures 3a and 3b).
17. Two further test pits (TP1-TP2), located to the west and southeast of the strip area respectively, showed a change in the formation of deposits. Deposits within TP1 consisted a mid-brown, loose loam with infrequent small sub-rounded stones 270mm deep (001) overlying a yellow, firm sandy clay with no inclusions 720mm deep (005) that overlay a grey, compact clay with frequent small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (006) (Figure 4a). The formation of deposits in TP2 were the same as those in F1-F3 with (001) 600mm deep, (002) 300mm deep. A water pipe trench [009] that ran northwest to southeast and located in the west end of the test pit that was cut in to the subsoil (002) and filled with a dark grey, loose silt with frequent small sub-angular stones 250mm deep (004) (Figure 4b).
18. The changing deposits occurring within the development area were also identified during the main site strip for the bunkhouse (Figure 5a and 5b). (001) was present throughout to a depth of 450mm. From west to east, the underlying deposit (005) was present for 21m where it changed to (002) for a further 21m where it altered to a light brown, firm silty clay with infrequent small sub-rounded stones 300mm deep (010) for 9m (Figure 6a). At the west end, a northwest-southeast aligned linear 600mm wide containing a plastic water pipe [009], cutting (005) and filled with (004) was identified (Figure 6b). Also, to the east end of the strip area a sub-square pit-like feature [007] measuring 900mm by 700mm by 80mm was revealed cutting (010) and filled with dark grey, loose silt with frequent small sub-angular stones (008) (Figure 7a and 7b).

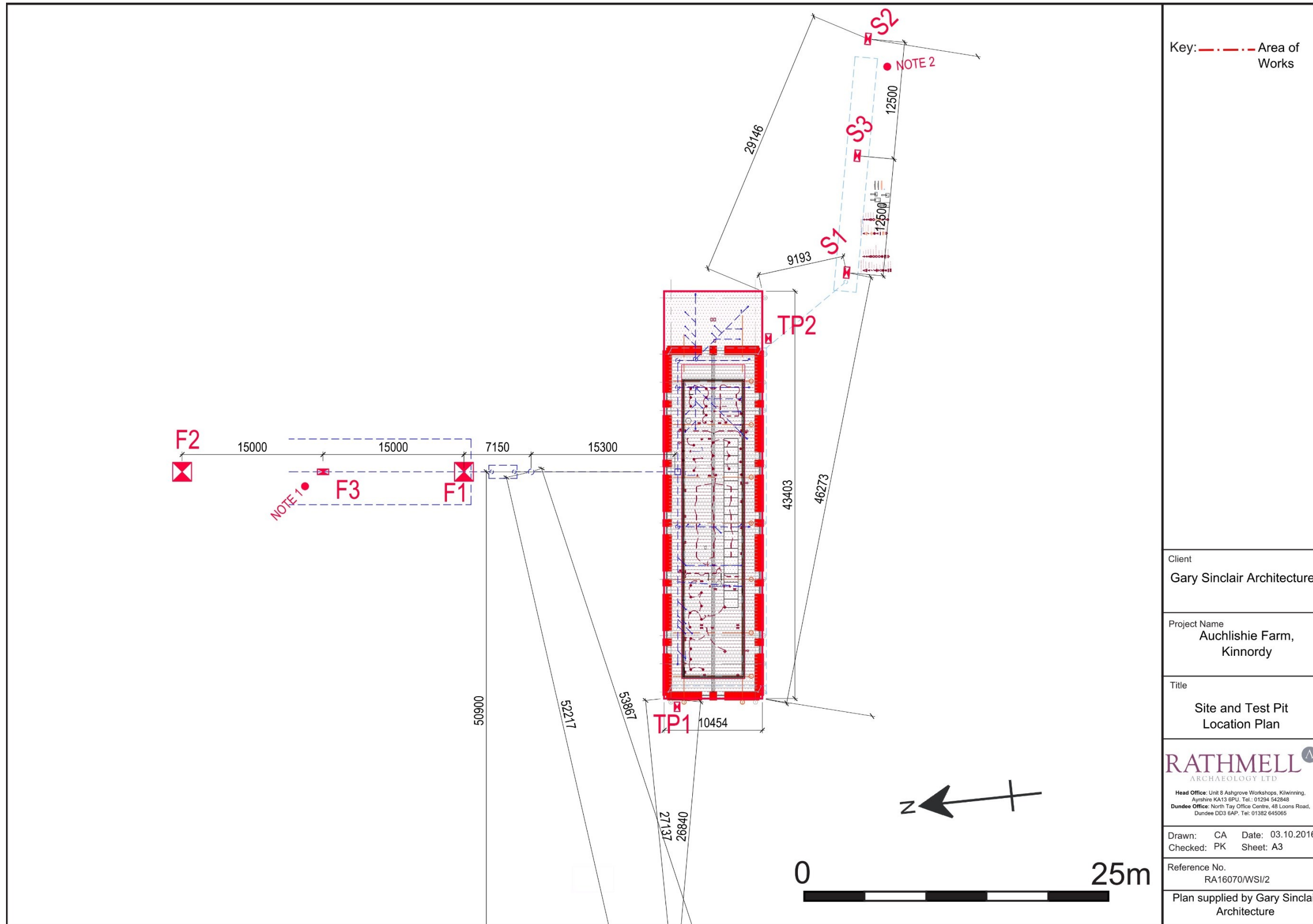


Figure 2: Site Plan and Plan of proposed work



Figure 3a: F2 – post-excitation from the north showing (001), (002) and (003)



Figure 3b: F3 – west facing section showing (001), (002) and (003)



Figure 4a: TP1 – north facing section showing (005) and (006)



Figure 4b: TP2 – north facing section showing [009] and (004)



Figure 5a: Strip – post-excitation of W end showing (005) and (002)



Figure 5b: Strip – post-excitation of E end showing (010) and (002)



Figure 6a: Strip – west facing section of bulk showing (010)



Figure 6b: Strip – shot of linear feature [009] from the northeast



Figure 7a: Strip – west facing section of pit-like feature [007]



Figure 7b: Strip – post-excitation of pit-like feature [007]

Discussion

19. The monitoring works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area. The test pits and strip show a change in the natural subsoils from a well-draining gravel (002) and (010) to a more clay (005) based deposit in a relatively small area.
20. A single feature is associated with anthropic activity. The linear feature [009] was a trench for a modern mains water pipe and its alignment suggests that it services Auchlishie Farm.
21. The pit-like feature [007] uncovered during the strip is of natural origin, most likely a tree or stone throw. A single rim-sherd of ceramic pottery was recovered from this feature, measuring 80mm by 45mm and 10mm thick, with a blackened face and stone inclusions in the matrix. This is most likely of Bronze Age origin.

Recommendations

22. The archaeological mitigation works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area.
23. Therefore it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service on behalf of Angus Council.

Conclusion

24. A programme of Monitoring works required by Gary Sinclair Architecture in respect of the erection of a bunkhouse at Auchlishie Farm, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir DD8 4LS (NGR: NO 38926 57433) (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL). The development has been granted planning consent by Angus Council (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL) subject to a negative suspensive condition for archaeology (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP) that any groundbreaking works undertaken within the development area, must be monitored following a 'Watching-brief' Condition (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP).
25. This Data Structure Report represents the findings of monitoring works required by Gary Sinclair Architecture. The monitoring works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area. As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate.

References

Documentary

Allsop, C. 2016, Auchlishie Farm Bunkhouse, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir: Archaeological Watching Brief, *Written Scheme of Investigation*.

Cartographic

Ordnance Survey	1865	<i>6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey Forfarshire (Angus) Sheet XXXII</i>
Ordnance Survey	1903	<i>6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey Forfarshire (Angus) Sheet XXXII.NW</i>
Ordnance Survey	1959	<i>25-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey Forfarshire (Angus) Sheet XXXV</i>

Appendix 1: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Angus
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Auchlishie Farm, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir
PROJECT CODE:	RA16070
PARISH:	Kirriemuir
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Callum Allsop
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Monitoring
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NO 38926 57433
START DATE (this season)	12 th October 2016
END DATE (this season)	12 th October 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of Monitoring works required by Gary Sinclair Architecture in respect of the erection of a bunkhouse at Auchlishie Farm, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir DD8 4LS (NGR: NO 38926 57433) (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL). The development has been granted planning consent by Angus Council (Planning Ref: 15/00995/FULL) subject to a negative suspensive condition for archaeology that any groundbreaking works undertaken within the development area, must be monitored following a 'Watching-brief' Condition (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP).</p> <p>The monitoring works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area. As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Gary Sinclair Architecture
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 Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and archive to HES Collections.

Appendix 2: Registers

Photographic Register:

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	4509	F2: working shot	W	12/10/16
002	4510	F2: east facing section	E	12/10/16
003	4511	F2: post-excavation	N	12/10/16
004	4512	F1: working shot	NE	12/10/16
005	4513	F1: west facing section	W	12/10/16
006	4514	F1: post-excavation	N	12/10/16
007	4515	F3: working shot	NE	12/10/16
008	4516	F3: west facing section	W	12/10/16
009	4517	F3: post-excavation	NE	12/10/16
010	4518	S2: working shot	S	12/10/16
011	4519	TP2: working shot	SE	12/10/16
012	4520	TP2: north facing section	N	12/10/16
013	4521	TP2: post-excavation	W	12/10/16
014	4522	TP1: location shot	SE	12/10/16
015	4523	TP1: north facing section	N	12/10/16
016	4524	TP1: post-excavation	W	12/10/16
017	4525	Strip: working shot	E	12/10/16
018	4526	Strip: pre-excavation of [007]	E	12/10/16
019	4527	Strip: east facing section of [007]	E	12/10/16
020	4528	Strip: post-excavation of [007]	E	12/10/16
021	4529	Strip: working shot	NE	12/10/16
022	4530	Strip: west facing section of east bulk	W	12/10/16
023	4531	Strip: working shot of east area	NW	12/10/16
024	4532	Strip: working shot	N	12/10/16
025	4533	Strip: shot of water pipe trench	NE	12/10/16
026	4534	Strip: post-excavation of west area	W	12/10/16
027	4535	Strip: post-excavation of east area	E	12/10/16

Context Register:

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Mid-brown, loose loam with infrequent small sub-rounded stones	Topsoil
002	All bar TP1	Deposit	Yellow, loose sand with no inclusions	Subsoil

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
003	All bar TP1	Deposit	Light brown, loose silty gravel with very frequent small to medium round and sub-rounded stones	Natural
004	Strip; TP2	Fill	Grey, loose silty sand	Redeposited material
005	Strip; TP1	Deposit	Yellow, firm sandy clay with no inclusions	Subsoil
006	TP1	Deposit	Grey, compact clay with frequent small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones	Natural
007	Strip	Cut	Sub-square pit-like feature	Possible pit/tree throw
008	Strip	Fill	Dark grey, loose silt with frequent small sub-angular stones	Fill of [007]
009	Strip; TP2	Cut	NW-SE aligned linear containing a plastic water pipe	Water pipe trench
010	Strip	Deposit	Light brown, firm silty clay with infrequent small sub-rounded stones	Subsoil

Finds Register:

Find No.	Area/Trench	Context No.	Material Type	Description
001	Strip	008	Ceramic	Black burnished rim sherd x1

Contact Details

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

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t.: 01382 645 065

e.: callum.allso@rathmell-arch.co.uk

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