

Craiganterve Beg, Ford, Argyll and Bute: Archaeological Mitigation:

Data Structure Report



by Peter Klemen

issued 2nd February 2017

on behalf of John and Michelle Seddon

RATHMELL 
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Quality Assurance

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Signed  Date02/02/2017....

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

Checked  Date02/02/2017.....

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for John and Michelle Seddon in support of the consented development at Craiganterve Beg, Ford, Argyll and Bute. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area. The proposed area for development is situated close to the village of Ford and considered to have archaeological potential.
2. The archaeological works have been structured to meet the requirements of West of Scotland Archaeology Service who in advising that archaeological issues should be addressed through a staged programme of archaeological works. These have been required to be agreed through a Written Scheme of Investigation based on a negative suspensive condition appended to the granted planning consent (16/01911/PP). The West of Scotland Archaeology Service have advised that the initial stage of works should be an intrusive evaluation at a 10% sample level.
3. The archaeological evaluation would aim to provide sufficient information to either evidence an absence of significant archaeology (hence seeking to purge any issue) or to define more closely the archaeological response necessary to deal with significant archaeology within the area.
4. Rathmell Archaeology Limited were appointed to undertake the development and implementation of archaeological mitigation works in advance of the proposed development work.

Archaeological Context

5. The general location of the development area is depicted in 17th and 18th century mapping such as Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland and Moll's map of 1745. The name of the development area, Craiganterve Beg, is first shown in Roy's map of 1747-52 (Figure 1a) which shows a small village or possibly group of farmsteads with the name of 'Craigantarve' surrounded with areas of cultivated land.
6. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey (Figure 1b) shows the development area within a relatively unenclosed area with a road which is now the B840 running across it. Close to the SE end of the area a small road or path is shown running ENE off the road towards a Free Church of Scotland building. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey appears to suggest that there is some form of enclosure surrounding the field in which the development is situated. The road which led to the Free Church of Scotland building is still shown but the church building itself is not, suggesting that it had stopped being used possibly even demolished at the end of the 19th century.
7. Though there are no known historical or archaeological sites within the proposed development area there are several within close proximity to the site. A number of funeral cairns and a cup marked stone (all of which are scheduled) are located at Tigh À Charnain 0.25-5km to the S and ESE of the site (Canmore ID 22823 and 22815). Another Cairn located very close to the NW corner of the site (Canmore ID 22822) is thought to be a clearance cairn.
8. Farm buildings at Creaganterve Beag (Canmore ID 152215), 0.4km from the site, are those first depicted in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (Figure 1b) but could also relate to the buildings shown in Roy's map of 1747-52 (Figure 1a). The remains of a scheduled standing stone (Canmore ID 22787) lie to the immediate E of the farmstead buildings. The remains of the Free Church of Scotland building shown in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (Figure 1a) map also survive as earthworks as does a nearby disused quarry 0.1km to the E of the site.



Figure 1a: Roy's Military Survey of 1752-55

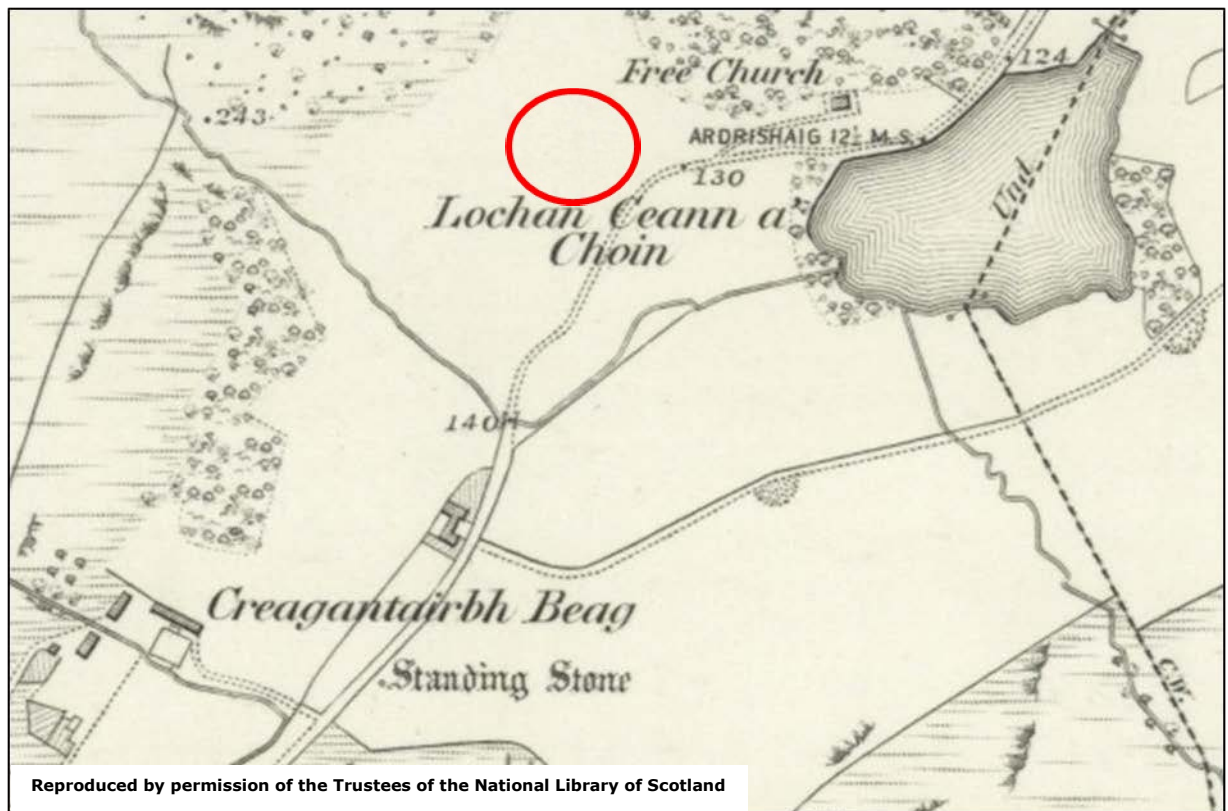


Figure 1b: 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1875, six-inch, Argyllshire, Sheet CXXXVII

Project Works

9. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken over one day on the 31st January 2017, and was carried out in keeping with the methods outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Mckinstry 2017). This evaluation consisted of the excavation of three intrusive trenches (See Figure 2 for locations). Excavations were carried out by a JCB 8085 ZTS tracked excavator (Figure 3a).
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 complied with West of Scotland Archaeology Service Standard Conditions, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement.

Findings

12. The topography of the development site is flat east-west with a moderate gradient north-south and the distinct topographical feature of Creag an Tairbh to the north. Vegetation cover across the area is rough pasture (Figure 3b).
13. Three evaluation trenches were excavated across the proposed development area (Figure 2 and 4a, 4b, 5a). The details of the trenches can be found in Appendix 1 within this report. In total an area of 156.8m² was excavated and slightly exceeded the required 155m². All three trenches were backfilled on the conclusion of the works (Figure 5b)
14. Topsoil (001) consisted of a moderately compacted, mid brown silty-sand with a small percentage of clay and very frequent minute gritty stone and frequent rootles. The topsoil ranged from 200mm to 150mm in thickness across the three trenches.
15. Below (001), (002) was recorded across all three trenches and characterised by a moderately compacted clayey silty-sand, red brown in colour with very frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones ranging in size from very small to large (5mm to 300mm) (Figures 4a, 4b, 5a).

Discussion

16. Though there are no known historical or archaeological sites within the proposed development area there are several within close proximity to the site. These range from funeral cairns and a cup marked stone; all of which are scheduled.
17. However, in this instance no anthropic remains were recorded and contexts (001) and (002) represent natural deposits with (002) most likely representative of a glacial till. The make-up/contents of the till can vary from clays to mixtures of clay, sand, gravel, and stones varying in sizes.

Recommendations

18. The archaeological mitigation works revealed only natural deposits that were characterised by a glacial till deposit. No other significant archaeological features were uncovered during the archaeological works.
19. As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with WoSAS on behalf of Argyll & Bute Council.

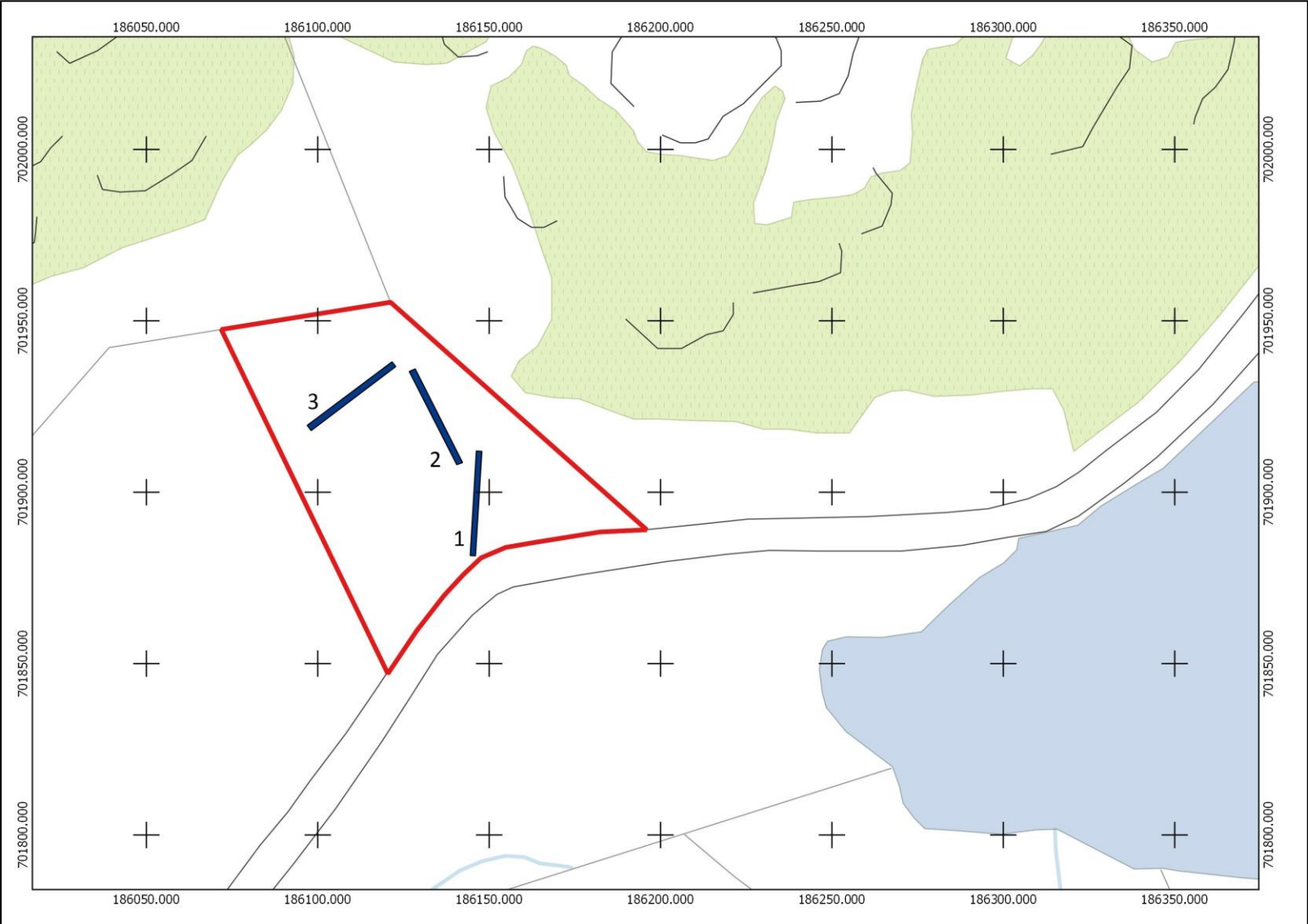


Figure 2: Trench locations as excavated



Figure 3a: Working shot of JCB 8085 ZTS



Figure 3b: Showing topography of the development area



Figure 4a: Trench 1



Figure 4b: Trench 2



Figure 5a: Trench 3



Figure 5b: Trenches backfilled

Conclusion

20. A programme of archaeological evaluation was carried out on the 31st January 2017 on behalf of John and Michelle Seddon in support of the development within the area of Craiganterve Beg, Ford, Argyll & Bute (Planning consent: 16/01911/PP). This Data Structure Report covers the archaeological works requested by WoSAS who advise Argyll & Bute Council on archaeological matters.
21. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service advised that the initial stage of works should be an intrusive evaluation at a 10% sample level. No anthropic remains were recorded and contexts (001) and (002) represent natural deposits with (002) most likely representative of a glacial till.

Acknowledgements

22. The author would like to thank West of Scotland Archaeology Service for their guidance on the structure of these archaeological works. We are grateful to John and Michele Seddon who provided us the opportunity to carry out these works and for ensuring that the on-site works ran smoothly. The mechanical excavator and driver was provided by McLaren of Craig, Dalmally.

References

Documentary

Mckinstry, L. 2017. *Craiganterve Beg, Ford, Argyll and Bute: Archaeological Mitigation: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd.

Cartographic

Blaeu, J., 1654, *Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland*

Moll, H., 1745, *Argyle: Lorn, Knapdale, and Cowal. All parts of Argyllshire*

Roy, W., 1752-55, *Military survey of Scotland*

Ordnance Survey 1875, *1st edition, six-inch, Argyllshire, Sheet CXXXVII*

Ordnance Survey 1900, *2nd edition, six-inch, Argyll & Bute, Sheet CXXXVI.SE*

Appendix 1: Registers

Trench Details

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
1	N-S	32m by 1.6m 51.2m ²	200mm to 200mm	The whole trench was characterised by a moderately compacted clayey silty-sand, red brown in colour with very frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones ranging in size from very small to large (5mm to 300mm)	None	None	None
2	NNW-SSE	33m by 1.6m 52.8m ²	150mm to 150mm	The whole trench was characterised by a moderately compacted clayey silty-sand, red brown in colour with very frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones ranging in size from very small to large (5mm to 300mm)	None	None	None
3	NE-SW	33m by 1.6m 52.8m ²	150mm to 150mm	The whole trench was characterised by a moderately compacted clayey silty-sand, red brown in colour with very frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones ranging in size from very small to large (5mm to 300mm)	None	None	None

Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All trenches	Deposit	Moderately compacted, mid brown silty-sand with a small amount of clay and very frequent minute gritty stone with frequent rootles	Topsoil
002	All trenches	Deposit	Moderately compacted clayey silty-sand, red brown in colour with very frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones ranging in size from very small to large (5mm to 300mm)	Natural sub-soil

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
01	4852	Pre-excitation over the development area, east side of the development area	SW	31/01/17
02	4853	Pre-excitation over the development area, north side of the development area	S	31/01/17

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
03	4854	Pre-excavation over the development area, northeast side of the development area	SSW	31/01/17
04	4855	Pre-excavation over the development area, south side of the development area	N	31/01/17
05	4856	Trench 1	S	31/01/17
06	4857	Trench 2	SSE	31/01/17
07	4858	Trench 3	NE	31/01/17
08	4859	Working shot	W	31/01/17
09	4860	Post excavation of excavated trenches	NW	31/01/17
10	4861	Backfilled trench 1	S	31/01/17
11	4862	Backfilling of trench 2	SE	31/01/17
12	4863	All trenches backfilled	S	31/01/17

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll & Bute
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Craiganterve Beg, Ford, Argyll and Bute
PROJECT CODE:	RA17004
PARISH:	Kilmartin
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Peter Klemen
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NM 86128 01915 (Centred)
START DATE (this season)	31 st January 2017
END DATE (this season)	31st January 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of intrusive evaluation was carried out over one day on the 31st January 2017 on behalf of John and Michelle Seddon. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area. The proposed area for development is situated close to the village of Ford and considered to have archaeological potential (Planning app: 16/01911/PP).</p> <p>The West of Scotland Archaeology Service advised that the initial stage of works should be an intrusive evaluation at a 10% sample level. Three trenches were excavated across the areas that were to be disturbed by the development.</p> <p>No anthropic remains were recorded and contexts (001) and (002) represent natural deposits with (002) most likely representative of a glacial till.</p> <p>As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with WoSAS on behalf of Argyll & Bute.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to WoSAS and archive to National Record of the Historic Environment.

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