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**Substation Compound
Berry Burn Windfarm
Near Logie, Moray**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 2134

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

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CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	4
3.	Archaeological Results	5
4.	Conclusion	6
5.	Reference	6

Appendices

1.	Context Register	7
2.	Photographic Register	7
3.	Drawings Register	7
4.	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	8
5.	Gazetteer of cultural heritage sites and features	9

Figures (bound at rear)

1.	Location map showing area monitored
2.	Cairn 004 (photographs)
3.	Plan and section of cairn 004

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in September 2012 at Berry Burn Windfarm, near Logie, Moray (NGR: NJ 04275 47106) (Fig.1). The work was commissioned by Wind Prospect Ltd (Wind Prospect).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 08 June 2012 was produced by CFA on behalf of Wind Prospect. The WSI was designed to fulfil the requirements of the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service on behalf of Moray Council.

1.2 Background

Wind Prospect has received planning permission (Ref 11/00966/APP) for the construction of the Berry Burn Windfarm Substation Compound. The planning permission was subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief during all ground breaking operations.

The location of the substation compound is situated at an altitude of c.230m AOD at the Moss of Faebuie on the southern flank of the Hill of Glaschyle, and is accessed via an unclassified road heading eastwards from the A940 at Glenernie. Prior to this development, the area consisted of unimproved moorland lying to the south of a commercial forestry plantation. A line of pylons carrying high voltage electricity cables ran immediately to the north of the site.

Previous work undertaken in relation to the construction of the substation compound included an Environmental Appraisal undertaken by ASH (ASH 2011), a desk-based assessment and field survey undertaken by AMEC (AMEC 2012), and a walkover survey of the substation platform undertaken by CFA (Gray 2012). A gazetteer of the sites identified within close proximity to the substation compound during these previous episodes of work is contained within Appendix 5 and their location is marked on Fig. 1.

This previous work identified that the substation was located entirely within the recorded extent of the Meikle Corshellach settlement and field system (NMRS No.NJ04NW 12), which is believed to be later prehistoric in date. Two features (**Ash 8** and **Ash 9**) (Fig. 1) were identified as lying within very close proximity to the south-western edge of the proposed substation location. These consisted of a possible structure defined by low mossy banks (**Ash 8**), and a group of five low spread mounds (**Ash 9**) thought to be cairns relating to prehistoric field clearance. Four of these possible cairns were located to the SW of the fenceline that ran adjacent to the south-western end of the proposed compound, but the fifth was located to the NE of the fenceline where there was the potential for it being affected by the programme of works.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Watching Brief) to monitor the groundbreaking that is required.
- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording and the production of a report.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

2.2 Soil Stripping

An area measuring c.1.06ha was soil stripped for the substation compound and associated access track. This task was carried out by a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

The deposits within the area of soil stripping measured between 0.2m and 0.9m in depth and consisted of 0.1m to 0.7m of dark humic peat (**001**) and up to 0.5m of mixed beige sandy-gravel subsoil (**002**) overlying cleaner beige/orange-brown sandy-gravel/clay natural (**003**). Deposit **002** was present intermittently throughout the area and in places was found to encase isolated pockets of peat. Isolated pockets of peat were also present within the natural (**003**). There was no indication that these pockets of peat were archaeological in nature and appear to have been the result of a natural formation process.

A concentration of stones (**004**) (Fig. 2) was identified on the south-western edge of the substation compound, extending 1.5m into the area of soil stripping. This feature appears to equate with the position of **Ash 8**. **Ash 8** is interpreted as a possible structure within the Environmental Appraisal (ASH 2011), but the feature uncovered during this watching brief appears to have been a cairn, probably associated with the later prehistoric field-system in which the substation compound is situated. Details of this cairn are contained in the following section.

3.2 Cairn 004

Cairn **004** (NGR: NJ 04211 47085) measured 7m NW to SE by 5m NE to SW and stood to a height of 0.6m. It consisted of stones (**004**) measuring up to 0.4m by 0.4m sitting within a matrix of black peat (**005**), which had become overgrown with a layer of thick fibrous mossy turf (**006**).

The part of the cairn that was exposed during soil stripping was cleaned and recorded (Fig. 2 and 3), but the remainder of this feature remained undisturbed. This cairn was situated outwith the footprint of the substation buildings and consequently it was possible to preserve it in situ.

4. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was carried out during ground works for a substation compound at Berry Burn Wind Farm. A previous desk-based study identified that the substation compound was situated within a field system of probable later prehistoric date. During the course of the watching brief a single cairn was identified within a location equating with a possible feature identified during a previous walkover survey. Given its position within the aforementioned field system, it is considered likely that this cairn is prehistoric in date. The cairn lay outwith the main area of construction and therefore it was possible to preserve it in situ.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Scotland (RCAHMS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Moray Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* and an online OASIS form will be completed.

5. REFERENCE

AMEC 2012 *Berry Burn Wind Farm: Access Route-Assessment for Hydrology, Hydrogeology and the Historic Environment*, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited.

ASH 2011 *Berry Burn Substation Environmental Appraisal*, ASH design + assessment.

Gray, H. 2012 *Berry Burn Wind Farm Walk-over Survey of Substation Platform*, CFA Data Structure Report No.2088.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context	Description
001	Turf and peat topsoil.
002	Mixed beige sandy-gravel subsoil encasing pockets of peat.
003	Beige/orange-brown sandy-gravel/clay natural. Contains pockets of deeper peat.
004	Stones forming cairn.
005	Peaty matrix between stones of cairn 004
006	Turf overlying cairn 004

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital Images

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	Working shots of soil stripping	N/A	Sun
3	Cairn 004	NE	Sun
4	Cairn 004	SE	Sun
5	Cairn 004	NW	Sun
6	Cairn 004	E	Sun
7-14	Working shots	N/A	Overcast
15-30	Working shots (site strategy)	N/A	Overcast
31-44	Working shots post-strip	N/A	Mostly Bright
45-47	Cairn 004 following site cleaning	NE	Bright
48-50	Cairn 004 following site cleaning	SE	Bright
51-55	Cairn 004, NE-facing section	NE	Bright
56	Cairn 004 following site cleaning	NW	Bright

APPENDIX 3: Field Drawings Register

No.	Sheet No.	Description	Scale
1	1	Cairn 004, plan of exposed NE part	1:20
2	1	Cairn 004, profile and part section	1:20

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Moray
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Berry Burn Windfarm, near Logie
PROJECT CODE:	BEBU
PARISH:	Edinkillie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Magnus Kirby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NJ04NW 12
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Meikle Corshellach hut circle and field-system
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	One cairn of probable prehistoric date
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NJ 04275 47106
START DATE (this season)	September 2012
END DATE (this season)	September 2012
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during ground works for a substation compound at Berry Burn Wind Farm. A previous desk-based study identified that the substation compound was situated within a field system of probable later prehistoric date. During the course of the watching brief a single cairn was identified within a location equating with a possible feature identified during a previous walkover survey. Given its position within the aforementioned field system, it is considered likely that this cairn is prehistoric in date. The cairn lay outwith the main area of construction and therefore it was possible to preserve it in situ.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Wind Prospect Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	RCAHMS Moray Council Sites and Monuments Record

APPENDIX 5: Gazetteer of cultural heritage sites and features






Site ID	Site name/type	Eastings	Northings	Source	Description
NJ04NW65	Meikle Corshellach: enclosure	304410	847330	NMRS;SMR; AMEC survey; CFA survey	CFA identified a drystone walled enclosure upstanding to full height (2m) in all but one place. Entrances were visible on the N, E and S corners, measuring 1.5m wide. The enclosure walls measured 0.8m wide at the base to 0.4m at the top.
NJ04NW0052 (NJ04NW0029 and NMRS No.NJ04NW26)	Meikle Corshellach: farmstead	304393	847304	NMRS;SMR; AMEC survey; CFA survey	<p>CFA identified building footings (a); and enclosure (b); an area of peat cutting (c) and a second building (d).</p> <p>a: Located at 304380 847314. Building footings defined by low turf covered walls measuring 0.8m wide by 0.1m-0.2m wide. The building measures 14m NE-SW by 4m NW-SE, with an annex on the NW side measuring 3m by 3.5m. An entrance was identified on the SE side measuring 1m wide. The footings are best defined in the SW corner.</p> <p>b: (Partly identified by AMEC as two lengths of bank). A sub-rectangular enclosure attached to the SW side of building (a) defined by low stony, turf covered banks measuring 0.7m-1m wide by 0.3m-0.5m high. The enclosure is best preserved on the SW side where it is visible as a short length of 2-3 courses of revetment wall.</p> <p>c: An irregular area of peat cutting probably relating to the farmstead, measuring 0.4m-0.6m deep. It is best defined on the NE edge.</p> <p>d: Located at 304308 847911. Well preserved remains of a drystone walled rectangular building defined by walls measuring 0.8m-1.1m side by 0.5m-0.8m high. The building measures 13m NW-SE by 5m NE-SW and has two compartments, with entrances to both on the W side.</p>
NJ04NW0010 (NMRS No. NJ04NW12)	Moss of Faebuie: hut circle and field system	304094	847319	NMRS;SMR; AMEC survey; CFA survey	<p>CFA identified three clearance cairns (a-c) immediately to the NW of the proposed substation platform.</p> <p>a: Located at 304155 847115. Circular grassy mound measuring 6m in diameter by 0.6m high.</p>

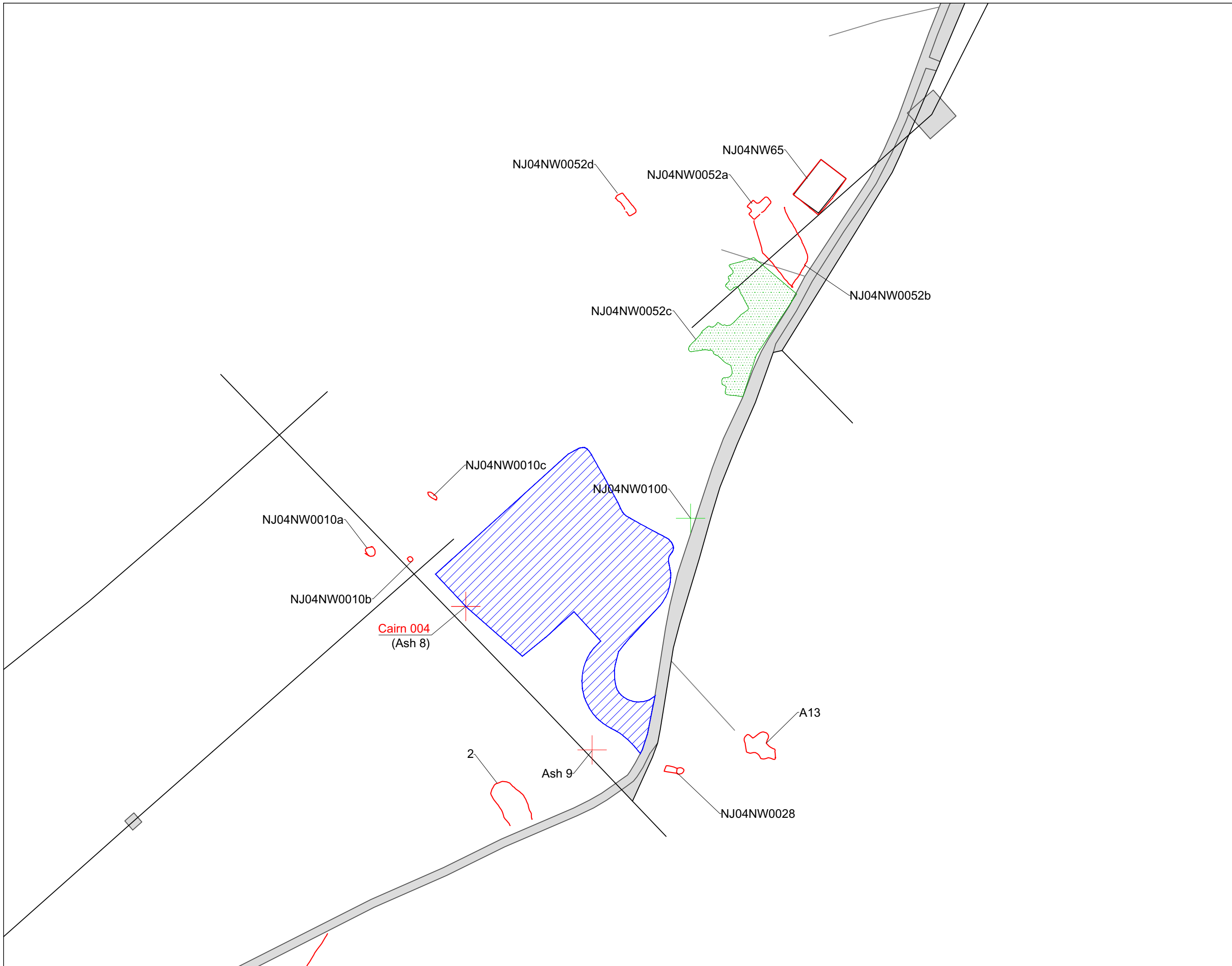
Site ID	Site name/type	Eastings	Northings	Source	Description
					<p>b: Located at 304178 847111. Circular heather covered mound measuring 3m by 0.4m high with several small stones showing.</p> <p>c: Located at 304192 847147. Sub-oval possible cairn measuring 5m by 3m by 0.4m high. Several stones are visible where an area of turf and peat covering the feature has been eroded away.</p> <p>No remains of the field system or hut circles were identified within the substation footprint; the area had been heavily disturbed through water erosion, cattle trample, peat cutting and the construction of nearby overhead pylons.</p>
NJ04NW0028 (same as NMRS No. NJ04NW25)	Stripe of Corshellach: Kiln-barn	304386	846996	NMRS;SMR; AMEC survey; CFA survey	CFA identified the kiln-barn as described by the SMR; the kiln bowl is in fair condition although little now remains of the barn other than a length of denuded turf covered wall measuring 5m long by 0.6m wide and 0.2m high.
NJ04NW0100	Meikle Corshellach: Milestone	304341	847135	SMR; AMEC survey; CFA survey	The AMEC survey did not identify the milestone. CFA did not identify the milestone at the grid reference given, nor in the near vicinity of the grid reference. It is likely that the stone has been moved from its original location and does not lie within the substation footprint.
A13	Stripe of Corshellach: possible building	304386	846981	AMEC survey; CFA survey	AMEC identified a turf and stone spread measuring 12m by 8m. CFA identified the feature as described, although the stone spread appears to be 20m in length and on average 0.3m in height-1.4m in height at the N end where there is a large pile of stones.
NJ04NE0012 (NMRS No. NJ04NE7)	Berry Burn Farm	305938	845350	NMRS; SMR; CFA survey	<p>The NMRS and HER record that the farmstead of Berryburn is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1874) as a rectangular steading with a central open court. A horse mill lies against the E wall. Two other buildings lie to the N and NW. The Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map (1888) shows the farmstead has been altered to an L-shape with an attached enclosure to the NW. The building to the NW has now gone and a later building stands in the courtyard area. The building to the north is sill roofed but the barn is gutted.</p> <p>CFA identified the farmstead as described. The remains lie within a modern fenced area. One building is roofed with rendering visible on the majority of the outer walls (likely to be the more recent</p>

Site ID	Site name/type	Eastings	Northings	Source	Description
					<p>building noted by the NMRS and SMR). A modern barn/metal roofed area lies in the centre of the farm complex, with the remainder of the structures, now ruinous, to the south and east. One of the buildings survives to roof height. The mortared walls measure 2m high by 0.4m-0.7m wide.</p> <p>Several other features were identified in the near vicinity of the farm (3-6, 12) which area likely to relate to the use of the farmstead and surrounding land.</p>
Ash 8	Structure (possible)	304211	847084	ASH survey; CFA survey	ASH identified a possible structure defined by low mossy faint banks adjacent to the proposed substation. CFA identified possible denuded banks surrounding a slight hollow. The feature was poorly preserved and its exact nature is difficult to determine. It may be of natural origin.
Ash 9	Field clearance mounds	Centred on 304284	847001	ASH survey; CFA survey	<p>ASH identified a group of five low spread mounds which appear to be typical field –clearance mounds. Four of the mounds are located to the SW of the fenceline , and the fifth is to the NE of the fenceline, adjacent to the proposed substation and associated access. The mounds are thus likely to be associated with NJ04NW0010.</p> <p>CFA did not identify any mounds within the substation footprint at the grid reference given; they are thus likely to lie outwith the substation footprint. Two low grassy mounds lay directly on the edge of a quarry (2), and are likely to be related to spoil from quarrying activity. Three possible clearance cairns were identified (NJ04NW0010a-c) to the N of the grid reference, one of which may the cairn described as being ‘to the NE of the fenceline’.</p>
2	Quarry	304231	846981	CFA survey	CFA identified a grassed over, sub-rectangular quarry measuring approximately 35m by 15m by 1.5m deep. The quarry is adjacent to the trackway and is likely to be of associated with the construction of the trackway.



Key:

-  Cultural Heritage Site (point)
-  Milestone (former location of)
-  Cultural Heritage Site (linear)
-  Peat Cutting
-  Watching Brief Area



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Fig. No: 1	Revision: A
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Title:
Location map showing area monitored

Project:
Berry Burn Windfarm Substation Compound

Client:
Wind Prospect Limited

Scale at A3:
1:2,000

Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2134
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Fig. 2a: Cairn 004 from north east



Fig. 2b: Cairn 004 from north

Fig. No: 2a-b		Revision: A	Project: Sub station compound, Berry Burn Wind Farm
Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2134	Client: Wind Prospect



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Fig. 2c: Cairn 004 from south east



Fig. 2d: Cairn 004 from east

Fig. No: 2c-d		Revision: A	Project: Sub station compound, Berry Burn Wind Farm
Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2134	Client: Wind Prospect



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Key:

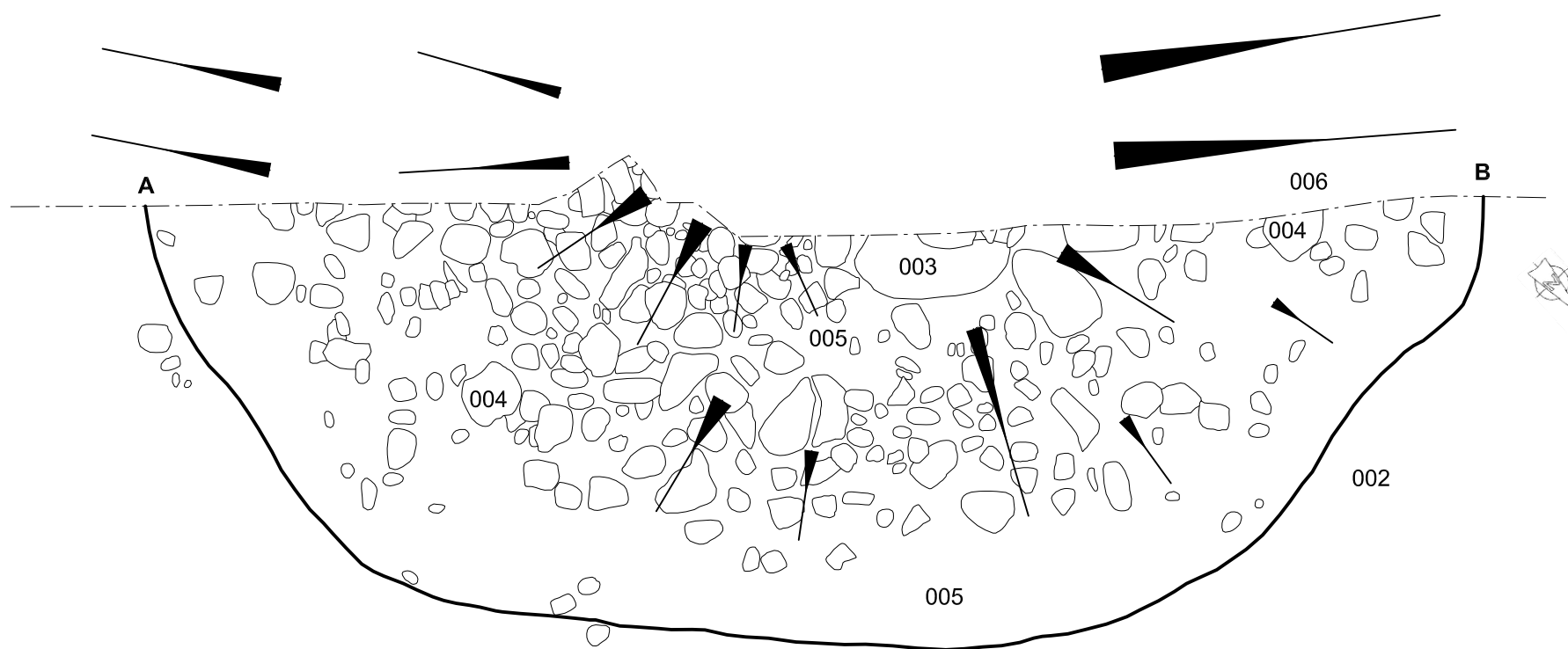


Fig. 3a Plan of Cairn 004

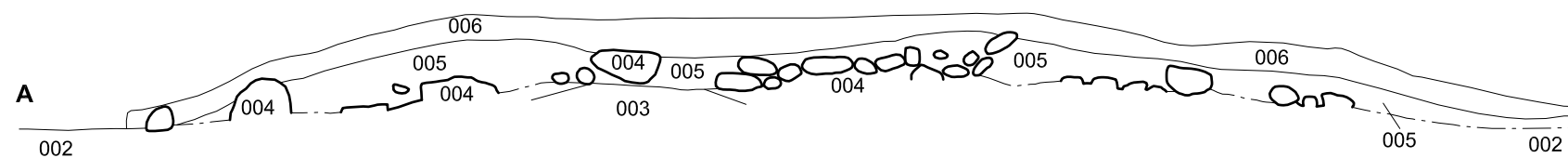


Fig 3b. Cairn 004 NE-facing Section

