

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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## **Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme, Charlestown of Aberlour, Moray**

**Watching Brief**

**Report No. 3085**

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**Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme,  
Charlestown of Aberlour,  
Moray**

**Watching Brief**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in September 2013 for the Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Scottish Water.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 30 August 2012 was produced by CFA Archaeology Ltd from information provided by Scottish Water and was designed to fulfil the requirements of Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) acting as archaeological advisors to Moray Council.

### **1.2 Background**

Scottish Water intend to increase the capacity of the existing sewer network by constructing approximately 540m of new sewer, in order to alleviate a risk of flooding to properties along Aberlour High Street.

A watching brief was required due to the proximity of the ruins of the medieval St Durstan's church (SMR Site NJ24SE0001), which is Category B Listed, and the adjacent cemetery.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the work to conduct a watching brief during ground breaking works in order to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the development area, and propose mitigation measures where necessary.

## **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 Method Statement.

### **2.3 Archaeological Watching Brief**

A watching brief was conducted during the removal of topsoil.

Excavation was undertaken with a tracked mechanical excavator with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.

All discoveries, including soil profiles and subsoil characteristics, were recorded using standard CFA recording forms and digital photography.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 2.

An irregular area measuring approximately 2800m<sup>2</sup>, measuring c.84m NW-SE by c.57m NE-SW, was stripped of topsoil (Fig. 1-3).

Topsoil (**001**) was c.0.3m of mid greyish brown sandy silt and overlay made ground (**003**) in the NW of the site, comprising 0.4m depth of yellow-brown sandy silt containing modern detritus and stones. This overlay a subsoil (**002**) of mid brown silt and natural (**004**) consisting of brownish yellow sand.

A single modern test pit and utility services were recorded. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were uncovered.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the construction of the Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme.

No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Moray Council Sites & Monuments Record.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3) and an online OASIS form will be completed.

## APPENDIX 1: Digital Photographic Register

Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Taken from	Conditions
1-3	Pre-excavation	N, NW, SE	Overcast
4-5	Topsoil stripping in action	SW	Overcast
6-7	Modern test pit	S, W	Overcast
8-10	Topsoil stripping in action	NE-SE	Overcast
11-14	Fully stripped area	S, N	Overcast

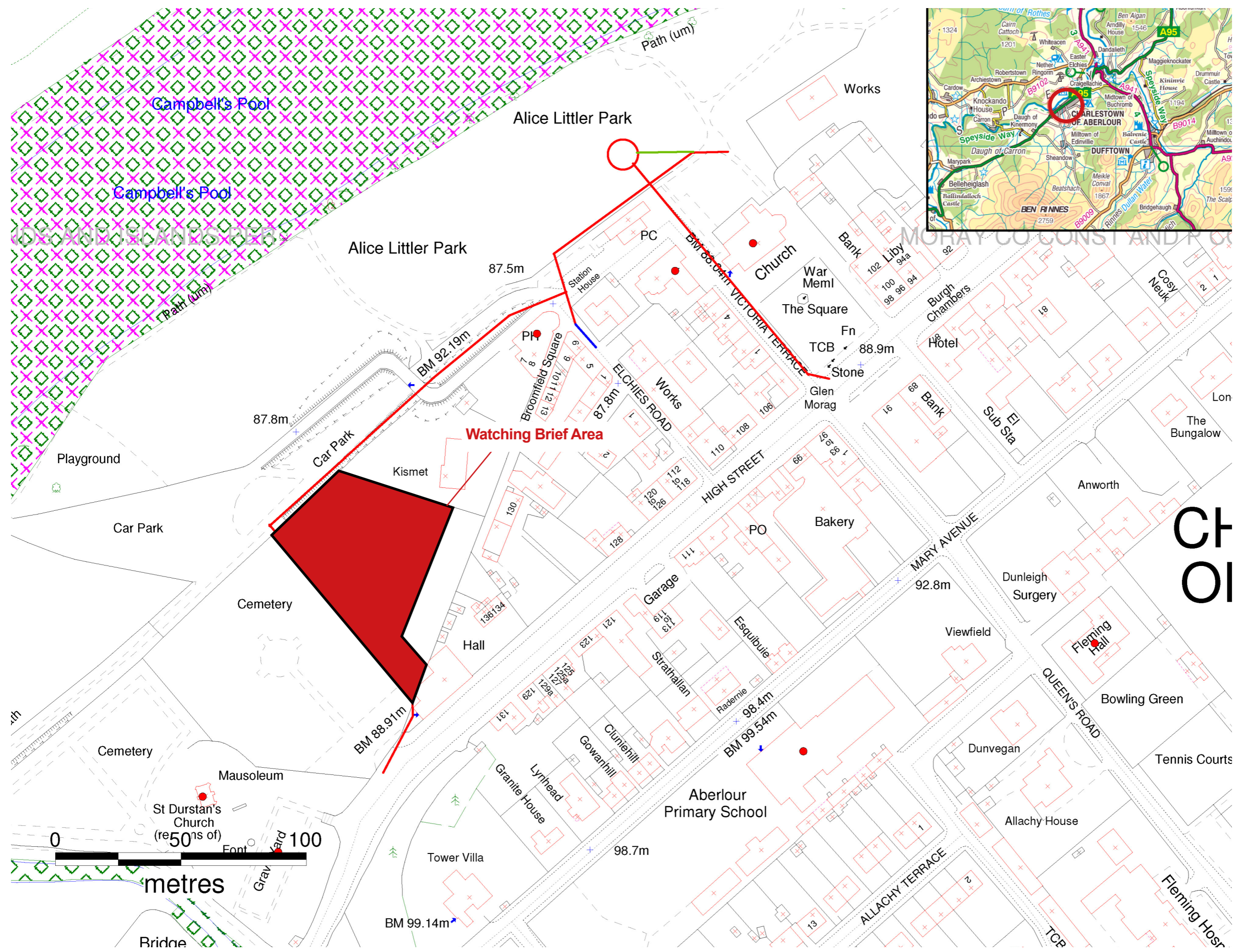
## APPENDIX 2: Context Register

No.	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Subsoil
003	Made ground
004	Natural

### APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Moray
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AMAS
<b>PARISH:</b>	Aberlour
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Rebecca Hunt
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	-
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	-
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	-
<b>NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)</b>	NJ 26410 42843
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	September 2013
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	September 2013
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)</b>	-
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the construction of the Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Scottish Water
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) Moray Council Sites and Monuments Record (report)





Key

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Fig. No:	1	Revision	A
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Title  
**Location Map**

Project  
**Aberlour Main Street  
Flood Relief Scheme**

Scale at A3  
**As shown**

Client  
**Scottish Water**







*Fig 2. - Watching brief area prior to topsoil stripping*



*Fig 3. - View of stripped area*

Fig. No: <b>2-3</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Aberlour Main Street Flood Relief Scheme</b>			<b>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b> The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ  T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
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