

CFA Archaeology Ltd

archaeological consultants

Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Interpretation, Design & Display

Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording


Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

**New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works,
Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

**Data Structure Report
No. 3165**

 0131 273 4380

 0131 273 4381

 info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

The Old Engine House
Eskmills Business Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian
EH21 7PQ

Tel: 0131 273 4380
Fax: 0131 273 4381
email: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Author	Michael Cressey BA MSc Phd FSA Scot MifA
Illustrator	Kevin Hicks BA FSA Scot
Editor	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MifA
Commissioned by	Scottish Water
Date issued	June 2014
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-166963
Planning Application No	APP/2013/2999
Grid Ref	NO 35500 97275

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

**New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works,
Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

**Data Structure Report
No. 3165**

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Methods	4
3.	Archaeological Results	5
4.	Conclusions	5
5.	Reference	5

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Photograph Register	6
Appendix 2	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	6

ILLUSTRATIONS (bound at rear)

Fig.1 Archaeological sites identified by field survey and the area of the Phase 2 watching brief

Fig 2 Archaeologically sterile subsoil close to demarcated Site 7

Fig 3 Archaeologically sterile subsoil close to the east end of Site 7

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out in May 2014 along the route of a proposed new road to Ballater Water Treatment Works (WTW), Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire (NGR NO 35500 97275, Fig 1). The work was commissioned by Scottish Water.

A programme of survey work was earlier requested by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service as Phase 1 of the archaeological mitigation response to the development. Phase 1 was a topographic survey of the route of the new road, to determine the nature, location and preservation of any archaeological features which lay within that corridor. A report was produced on the results (Tweedie 2013).

Feature 7 was described as a possible hut circle with banks approximately 1m wide and 0.3m high with an internal diameter of 5m. Feature 8 was described as a possible clearance cairn and was roughly rectangular measuring 3m by 1.5m and 0.3m in height.

The road was micro-sited slightly further to the south where it ran past Feature 7, in order to provide a larger buffer zone between it and construction works.

Based on the results of the Phase 1 work an addendum for Phase 2 archaeological mitigation was accepted by ACAS and included the following objectives:

- Fencing-off sites 7 and 8 to secure them from interference during ground breaking works.
- Carryout a targeted watching brief where the road passes close to Feature 7.

2. METHODS

2.1 General

CFA follows Institute of Archaeologists Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidelines as appropriate.

2.2 Demarcation

Sites 7 and 8 were fenced off by the contractor with a visible barrier comprising of polypropylene rope and traffic cones, to protect them from accidental damage.

The demarcated areas were as large as was possible within the confines of the development. The fencing remained in place for the duration of construction works.

2.3 Watching Brief

All excavation by mechanical plant was done using a smooth-bladed ditching bucket under close archaeological supervision.

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

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Sites 7 and 8 were demarcated by the contractor according to the WSI and were not affected by the new road alignment.

The watching brief area measured 3.5m wide by approx. 20m in length.

The topsoil measured 0.2m deep and rested on a loose, red-brown, sandy, gravel-rich natural subsoil containing frequent large sub-angular boulders throughout (Fig 2-3). No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were recorded.

4. CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological features were recorded during the topsoil strip along the new road alignment as it crossed close to Feature 7.

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

A summary statement of the results, to be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, and an OASIS Scotland entry will be compiled following completion of all work relating to this project.

5. REFERENCE

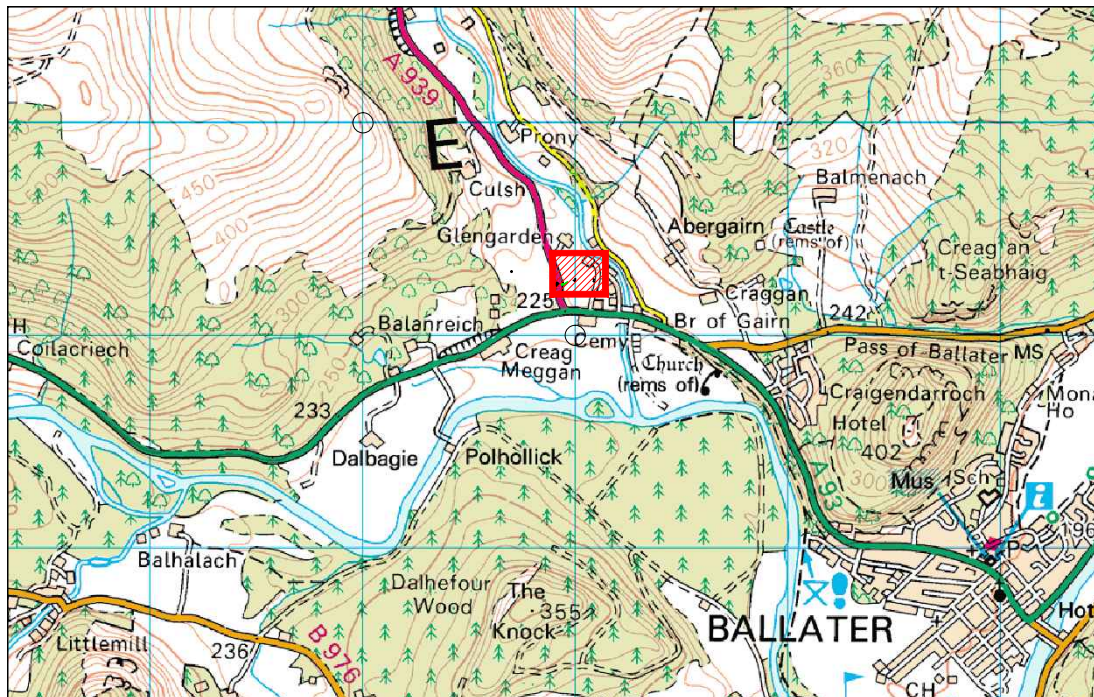
Tweedie, H 2013 *New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire, Walkover Survey*. CFA Report No. 3112.

APPENDIX 1: Digital Photograph Register

Shot No.	Description	From	Conditions
001	General view of topsoil removal close to Feature 7	W	Dull
002	Subsoil exposed by the mechanical excavator close to Feature 7	W	Dull
003	Stone-rich subsoil exposed close to Feature 7	S	Dull
004	Subsoil exposed by the mechanical excavator close to Feature 7 following cleaning by flat bladed bucket	SW	Dull
005	Completed top soil strip in the vicinity of Feature 7	E	Dull
006	Feature 8, general view of its relationship to the route of the track	W	Dull
007	General shot looking west on Feature 7 and topsoil stripped area	W	Dull

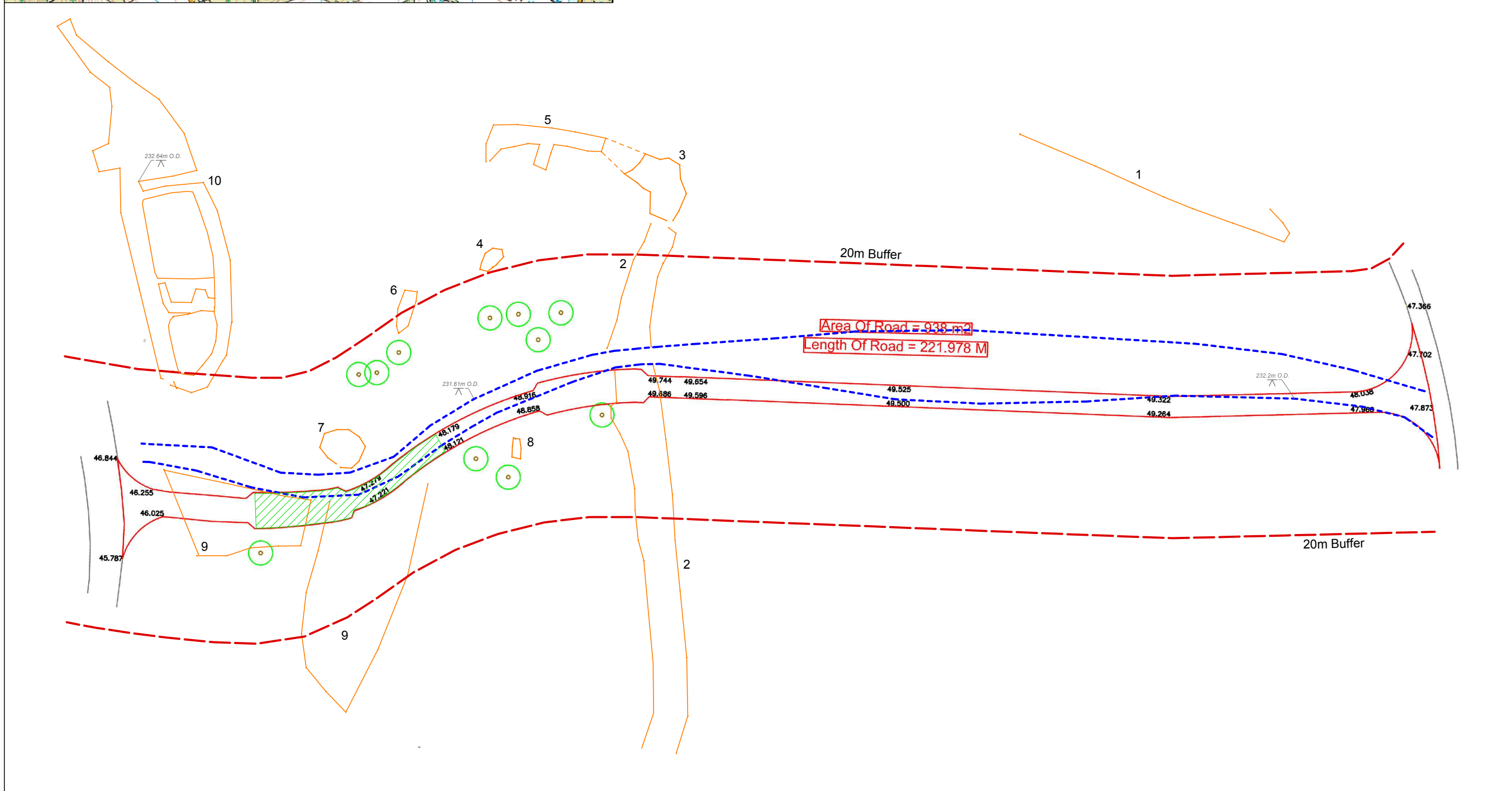
APPENDIX 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire
PROJECT CODE:	BWTW
PARISH:	Ballater
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	M Cressey
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NO 35500 97275
START DATE	December 2013
END DATE	May 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A field survey was carried out by CFA in December 2013 along the route of a proposed new road to Ballater Water Treatment Works. The field survey identified ten sites of potential archaeological importance, including field banks, cairns and other upstanding features. An archaeological watching-brief was carried out during topsoil removal close to one of the upstanding features, which had been demarcated in order to protect it from the proposed works. No archaeological features were recorded within the area subjected to topsoil removal.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water
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 and Aberdeenshire Council Sites and Monuments Record



Key:

- Area of disturbance resulting from modern farm track
- 20m Buffer
- Route of proposed new road
- Archaeological feature
- ▨ Watching Brief Area



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
 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

Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A
----------	---	-----------	---

Title:
 Archaeological sites identified by field survey and the area of the Phase 2 watching brief

Project:
 New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire
 Archaeological Watching Brief

Client:
 Scottish Water

Scale at A3:
 1:700





Fig. 2 - Archaeologically sterile subsoil close to demarcated Site 7



Fig. 3 - Archaeologically sterile subsoil close to the east end of Site 7

Fig. No: 2-3	Revision: A	Project: New Road, Ballater Water Treatment Works, Bridge of Gairn, Aberdeenshire. Archaeological Watching Brief
Drawn by: TB	Checked: MC	Report No.: 3165
		Client: Scottish Water



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
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

The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) but the Client shall have a licence to copy and use the document for the purpose for which it was provided. CFA shall not be liable for the use by any person of this document for any purpose other than that for which the same was provided by CFA. This document shall not be reproduced in whole or in part or relied upon by third parties for any use whatsoever without the express written authority of CFA.