

Broadshade Pipeline Diversion, Westhill, Aberdeenshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report No. 1658







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Commissioned by	RSK Environment Ltd
Date issued	August 2009
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-63189
Planning Application No	
Grid Ref	NJ 8102 0704 - NJ 8196 0790

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief, monitored topsoil strip and subsequent mitigation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during July 2009 during topsoil stripping operations for the diversion of a gas main at Broadshade Farm on the western edge of Westhill, Aberdeenshire (NGR: NJ 8102 0704 NJ 8196 0790). The work was commissioned by RSK Environment Ltd.
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological works was produced by RSK Environment Ltd (RSK) on behalf of the contractors, Murphy Pipelines Ltd. The WSI was based upon an Environmental Review (RSK 2008a) and a Desk-Based Assessment (RSK 2008b) and followed advice from Aberdeenshire Council that a Watching Brief be maintained during topsoil stripping. RSK were acting as archaeological consultants for Scotland Gas Networks Ltd (SGN).

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 An existing gas pipeline running between the edge of Westhill and Broadshade farm is being diverted to the west in order to allow for further expansion of residential housing development in Westhill. The topsoil stripping operations were subject to an archaeological condition requiring a watching brief.
- 1.2.2 The route of the pipeline (Fig. 1) began west of the farmstead of Kilnhilloch. It continued on a northerly trajectory (Fig. 2), crossing Old Skene Road before turning eastwards between the farmsteads of Hill of Keir and Broadshade. It terminated to the south-east of the farm of Berryhill (Fig. 3), between Hill of Keir and Westhill.
- 1.2.3 The desk-based assessment identified no significant areas of archaeological potential within the pipeline route although several poorly defined artefact find-spots were identified as were a number of buildings.
- 1.2.4 No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the development area prior to this programme of archaeological works.

1.3 Objectives

- 1.3.1 The aims of the programme of watching brief were to:
 - Identify and determine the extent, condition, character and importance of any archaeological remains present within the subject area;
 - Preserve, by record or in situ, archaeological remains encountered during topsoil stripping; and

- Provide an assessment of the importance of the identified archaeological and heritage resources, so enabling the remains to be placed within their local, regional, national and historical contexts.
- 1.3.2 Following the watching brief and monitored topsoil strip, the aims of the programme of archaeological works were to conduct mitigation excavations on the features identified.

2. WORKING METHODS

- 2.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008a, 2008b, 2008c).
- 2.2 The removal of the vast majority of soil deposits was carried out using 360° excavators equipped with smooth-bladed ditching buckets. A bulldozer was used below overhead power-lines for health and safety reasons. The Project Archaeologist maintained a permanent presence on site during these operations. Subsequent mitigation works required to fulfil the terms of the brief were carried out using a combination of hand and machine excavation.
- 2.3 All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and completing standard CFA record forms.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Watching Brief: General

- 3.1.1 Topsoil deposits were removed from a c.20m working width with a length of c.3km. A greater width was utilised around road crossings, in the area immediately to the south of Old Skene Road and around the tie-in point at each end of the pipeline route. In addition to the pipeline route itself, the formation of a temporary compound was monitored.
- 3.1.2 The topsoil was varied, with black peaty silts and brown silty sands being the dominant types recorded. These varied in depth from 0.2-0.4m. Stone inclusions within the topsoil were few, being predominantly confined to occasional small and medium granite fragments. By contrast, the natural subsoil was, with only localised exceptions, very stony, with numerous plough-scored boulders protruding into the topsoil. Occasional sherds of 19th and 20th century pottery were also observed within the topsoil, the frequency of which was evenly dispersed.
- 3.1.3 Land drains were identified in most of the fields, with ceramic and field clearance stone-filled drains being represented. Several fields contained a well-drained stony-sand subsoil and no drains were identified in these locations. In several cases, the land drains fed pipes leading to watering troughs.
- 3.1.4 In the following text, numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a list of which is contained in Appendix 2. Contexts associated with walls are prefixed W. Road crossings are shown on Fig. 1 and are abbreviated in the text to RDX.

3.2 Field Boundary Recording

- 3.2.1 A programme of field boundary wall recording was undertaken in order to record their character and preservation, prior to any dismantling or removal as a consequence of the construction activity, as required in the WSI. Using standard recording methods, a written and photographic record of fourteen field boundaries (Fig. 1) was conducted, a list of which is contained in Appendix 1. These walls will be reinstated after the pipe laying process has finished.
- 3.2.2 Three types of walls were identified, and representative examples of each were recorded in section. These are revetting walls (eg Wall 5, Fig. 11), consumption dykes (eg Wall 6, Fig. 12) and field walls (eg Wall 13, Fig. 13).

3.3 Mitigation Recording

3.3.1 Linear furrows were recorded in several locations. In addition to these, five possible archaeological sites were identified and fenced off during the watching brief. These were then evaluated on completion of the main topsoil

strip. All contexts identified and recorded during the watching brief operation are listed separately in Appendix 2.

Broad-Rig

3.3.2 Parallel furrows representing the remains of broad-rig strip cultivation were recorded in better drained and less stony portions of the pipeline route. These included the area of the site compound and all fields to the south of Old Skene Road. Their alignment was NE-SW and they were spaced (centre to centre) at 11m-13m. Furrow widths of 1.7m and depths of 0.2m were recorded. One furrow (003) contained a dump of organic silt (005) which included sherds of post-medieval ceramic and slate. They were also recorded to the north of Old Skene Road in an area of stone-free subsoil between Walls 5 and 6 (Fig. 4), where the alignment was N-S and spacing was c.6m. Further examples lay in the area between Walls 14 and 4 (Fig. 5). In both instances, the furrows were 1.3m-1.7m wide and 0.1m-0.15m deep.

Site 1

3.3.3 A deposit of homogeneous brown stony soil (**009**) measuring 7.5m by 8.5m was identified below the topsoil at NJ 8101 0723. A single machine-excavated evaluation trench (Trench 1) revealed this to be a shallow subsoil. No finds were recovered.

Site 2

3.3.4 Immediately to the north of RDX2, an extensive deposit of pinkish shattered stones in a black peaty matrix (010) was revealed at NJ 8109 0765 (Fig. 6). This measured 17m by 16m and was almost surrounded by a second deposit of similar shattered stones within a grey sandy matrix (011). Together, these deposits measured 24m north to south and exceeded the width (east to west) of the pipeline easement (23m here). These deposits were cut by numerous stone-filled field drains. The area was planned and evaluated by two machine excavated trenches (Trenches 2-3). These revealed that both deposits (010, 011) overlay natural clay and stones and had formed as a result of poor drainage. No finds were recovered.

Site 3

3.3.5 In the field between Walls 6 and 7, in an area of exceptionally stony subsoil, a natural hollow with a width of 10m crossed the pipeline route at NJ 8130 0780 on a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 7). This was filled with cobbles and boulders within a loose peaty matrix (**008**). Machine excavated trenches (Trenches 4-5) found this deposit to be 0.75m deep. No finds were recovered.

Site 4

3.3.6 An isolated pit (**016**, Fig. 8) was identified on a south facing slope at NJ 81705 07807. Distinguished from the numerous nearby stone-holes by its charcoalrich fill, the feature was sub-circular, measuring 0.95m in diameter and 0.25m

deep. It was cut into soft yellow sandy silt subsoil and bioturbation had caused both the edges and context boundaries to merge. A primary fill (023) of mottled dark brown sandy silt contained numerous small lumps of charcoal and this was overlain by deposits of brown sandy silt (021) and black silt with a substantial charcoal content (022). A number of degrading cobbles lay within both 021 and 022. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery with a granite temper was recovered from 021 and all three fills were sampled.

Site 5

3.3.7 A second isolated pit (017, Figs 9-10) was identified in a wet area on a south-facing slope at NJ 81963 07883. Distinguished from the numerous nearby stone-holes by its black gravelly fill (Fig. 9), the feature was sub-rectangular, measuring 1.5m by 0.9m. Three fills were recorded (Fig. 10). A primary deposit of grey sand (020) had a depth of 0.03m and this was overlain by a lens of black silt and charcoal flecks (019) with a depth of 0.01m. The upper fill (018) consisted of 0.12m of grey and black mottled silty sand containing numerous chips and lumps of stone, much of which was degrading. No finds were recovered and all three fills were sampled.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd during soil stripping for the Broadshade Diversion gas pipeline. This work identified broad-rig cultivation remains and a number of isolated archaeological features (Sites 1-5). These sites were subject to a programme of archaeological excavation and only two were found to be archaeological in origin; these were two isolated pits, Sites 4 and 5, the first of which contained a single sherd of prehistoric pottery. No other archaeological features were discovered.
- 4.2 No dating evidence was recovered, but Sites 4 and 5 are considered to have the potential to be prehistoric in date. Consequently, it is recommended that a programme of post-excavation analysis is carried out on the soil samples and pottery recovered. A Costed Assessment for the recommended post-excavation analysis will be provided under separate cover.
- 4.3 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 Aberdeenshire Council Sites and Monuments Record.
- 4.4 A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 5).

5. REFERENCES

Institute for Archaeologists 2008a Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.

Institute for Archaeologists 2008b Code of Conduct. By-laws of the Institute for Archaeologists.

Institute for Archaeologists 2008c Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology. By-laws of the Institute for Archaeologists.

RSK 2008a *Environmental Review: Broadshade Pipeline Diversion*. Unpublished report for Scotland Gas Networks.

RSK 2008b *Broadshade, Westhill Pipeline Archaeological Desk-based Assessment.* Unpublished report for Scotland Gas Networks.

APPENDIX 1: Field Boundary Register

Wall Number	Section Dwg No	Description
1	-	Drystone wall. Poor condition. Collapsed and overgrown. 0.6m wide at base. Crossed at NJ 80991 07166
2	-	Drystone wall. Fair condition. 0.6m wide, 0.5m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Crossed at NJ 81005 07093
3	-	Drystone wall. Fair condition. 0.6m wide, 0.5m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Crossed at NJ 81074 07261
4	-	Drystone wall. On S facing slope. Good face on S side 1m high, poor to rear but still 0.7m high in places. No coping stones. Crossed at NJ 81090 07530
5	10	Revetting wall. On S facing slope. Good face on S side 1m high, no face to rear. Facing stones (W50) revetted into a deposit of stones & soil (W51) with modern post & wire fence above. Crossed at NJ 81127 07697
6	16	Drystone consumption wall. Up to 1.7m high and 2.5m wide. Massive boulders in the base poorly coursed (W61). Random core (W60) with 19-20 th C glass and sawn cattle bones. Modern debris dumped on wall includes rusting metal gates, broken ceramic troughs and modern plough derived boulders. Crossed at NJ 81206 07798
7	-	Drystone wall. Fair condition. 0.8m wide at base, 0.8m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Crossed at NJ 81326 07792
8	-	Drystone wall running alongside track to Berryhill with fence on top. Poor condition. Spread to 1.5m wide, up to 1m high. No coping stones. Crossed (RDX3) at NJ 81422 07794
9	-	Drystone wall running alongside unclassified road from Old Skene Road to Mains of Kier with deep ditch on W side. Good condition. 0.7m wide, tapering to top. 0.8m high. Rough coping stones. Crossed (RDX2) at NJ 81069 07685
10	-	Drystone wall. Good condition. 1.1m wide at base, 0.8m high, tapering to a narrow top. No coping stones. Poor condition fence on top. Crossed at NJ 81549 07793
11	-	Drystone wall. Fair condition. 1m wide at base, 0.5-0.8m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Some orthostats in base. Poor condition fence on top. Crossed at NJ 81619 07803
12	-	Drystone wall. Good condition. 1.3m wide at base, 1.2m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Good condition fence on top. Crossed at NJ 81755 07805
13	17	Drystone wall. Good condition. 1.1m wide at base, 1.2m high, tapering to the top. Rough coping stones. This wall is clearly of 2 phase construction, with a good quality well course primary phase overlain by a rougher build. Massive boulders in the base, 2 of which have 'plug & feather' auger/chisel holes. Poor condition fence on top. Crossed at NJ 81855 07817
14	-	Drystone wall. Good condition. 1.3m wide at base, 1.2m high, tapering to the top. No coping stones. Good condition fence on top. Crossed at NJ 81093 07350

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context no.	Area	Fill of	Description
000			Topsoil/ploughsoil
001			Linear ditch, broad-rig
002		001	Grey-brown silty sand
003			As 001
004		003	As 002
005	Within 004		Organic deposit in 004
006			Linear ditch, narrow rig
007		006	Dark brown peaty silt
008	Site 3		Stone dump
009	Site 1		Subsoil
010	Site 2		Angular stones within peat-matrix
011	Site 2		Angular stones within sand-matrix
012			Linear ditch, broad-rig
013		012	Light yellow-brown silty sand with occasional cobbles
014			Creamy sand over 011, under 010
015	Wall 5		
016	Site 4		Oval/irregular pit
017	Site 5		Irregular pit
018	Site 5	017	Main/upper fill, degraded stones with black silty-sand
019	Site 5	017	Charcoal lens
020	Site 5	017	Grey sand primary fill
021	Site 4	016	Brown sandy-silt with charcoal flecks
022	Site 4	016	Black sandy-silt with stones with charcoal
023	Site 4	016	Mottled dark brown sandy silt in base
W50	Wall 5		Wall 5, facing stones
W51	Wall 5		Wall 5, stones with soil infill to rear
W52	Wall 5		Wall 5, homogenous soil over W51
W53	Wall 5		Wall 5, tumble/collapse
W60	Wall 6		Wall 6, Core stones
W61	Wall 6		Wall 6, Facing stones
W130	Wall 13		Facing stones, Wall 13
W131	Wall 13		Core stones, Wall 13
W132	Wall 13		Truncated subsoil below W130

APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register

SLR No.	Digital No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
	1-2	Furrow 001-2 section with general view from NE	NE	Sunny
	3-5	Working shots, furrows in compound area		
1/ 1-2	6	Black patch 005 pre-ex, possibly not a cut feature with modern pot in fill/deposit	S	Overcast
3-4	7-8	Black peaty patch 005 sectioned. Not a cut feature, modern finds and burrows in base.	S	Overcast
	9	Location of patch 005 within furrow 006-7	NE	Overcast
	10-11	Wall 1 removal	ENE	Overcast
	12	Wall 2 pre-ex	NE	Overcast
	13	Wall 2 pre-ex	ENE	Overcast
	14	Wall 2 pre-ex elevation	NNW	Overcast
	15	Wall 3 elevation	N	Overcast
	16	Wall 3 pre-ex	Е	Overcast
	17	Working shot		
	18	Wall 1 sectioned	WSW	
	19-24	Site panorama		
	25	Wall 4 general view of area	S	Sunny
	26-7	Wall 4 general view of area	W	Sunny
	28	Wall 4 elevation close-up	S	Sunny
	29	Wall 4 section	Е	Sunny
	30-31	Wall 5 general	SSW	Sunny
	32	Wall 5 view along length	ESE	Sunny
	33-34	General site views looking S from just N of Wall 5	N	Sunny
	35	Wall 6	NW	Overcast
	36	Wall 6 elevation	SW	Overcast
	37-38	Wall 6 elevation	SE	Overcast
	39	Wall 6 general view	NW	Overcast
	40	Wall 7 elevation	NE	Overcast
	41	Wall 7 general view	NW	Overcast
	42	Wall 8 elevation	SW	Overcast
	43	Wall 8 general view	SE	Overcast
	44	Wall 6 section	SE	Overcast
	45	General view of Site 1	N	Bright
	46	General view of Site 1	SW	Overcast
	47-50	Working shots, subsoil near S tie-in		
	51-52	Access road prep with Wall 9	SW	Sunny
	53	Wall 9 elevation	SE	Sunny
	54-57	Working shots with views of soil depth (up to 0.8m) around Wall 4	ESE	Sunny
	58	Wall 9 General view	S	Overcast
	59-60	Wall 9 General views	SE	Overcast
	61-64	Poss Burnt Mound fenced off	S	Dull
	65-66	Poss Burnt Mound fenced off	W	Dull
	67-68	Furrows cut by drains to S of Wall 6 at NJ 81175 07765	S	Bright
	69-70	Views S downhill over pipe route showing machines working	N	Bright
	71-72	As 67-68	SE	Bright

SLR No.	Digital No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
	73-74	View E along route pre-ex with Wall 6 in foreground	W	Bright
	75	Site 2, Tr2 close-up of section	Е	Sunny
	76-77	Southern tie-in area panorama	E/N	Sunny
	78	Working shot		
	79-82	Stone dump 008 at NJ 8130 0780 (Site 3)	E/N	Sunny
	83-84	As 79-82	S/SE	Sunny
	85-86	Stone dump 008	W	Sunny
	87-89	Stone trough at E side of track at 81435 07768	Е	Bright
	90	Deposit of broken stones similar to Site 2 at NJ 81396 07799 Clearly natural here but also associated with peaty deposits with field drains	SE	Bright
	91	View E along spread pre-ex from RDX3/Wall 8	W	Bright
	92	Walls 10-13 on the left with unaffected wall with clearance boulders piled against it on right	W	Bright
	93	Wall 10 elevation	W	Bright
	94	Wall 10 general view	S	Bright
	95-96	Wall 11 elevation	W	Bright
	97	Wall 11 general view	S	Bright
	98	Wall 11 general view	N	Bright
	99-109	Various views of stone features around the farm		
	110	Wall 12 general view	SW	Dull/wet
	111	Wall 12 elevation	W	Dull/wet
	112	Wall 12 view along length	S	Dull/wet
	113	Wall 12 crude-cut section	N	Overcast
	114-120	Stone Circle		
	121	Wall 10, section	N	Overcast
	122	Wall 11, section	N	Overcast
	123	Wall 12, section	N	Overcast
	124	General view of FCFD with good flow leading to pipe at trough. Drain section NJ 81771 07799. trough at NJ 81789 07784		
	125	Trough with pipe water from FCFD at NJ 81789 07780 c	Е	Overcast
	126	General view of Wall 13	SW	Overcast
	127-129	Elevation views of Wall 13 showing differing build qualities	W	Overcast
	130-131	As 129 showing FCFD running under wall	SW	Overcast
	132	Rainbow over Broadshade Farm	ENE	Overcast
	133-134	Wall 13, S facing (132) with N facing (133) sections	S/N	Overcast
	135-136	Ruined building to N of Wall 13	S	Overcast
	137-138	Doorway lintels, stone outside, wood inside. Stone lintel has cup with feather marks on edge		
	139	Massive boulders dumped over Wall 13	W	Overcast
	140	Wall 13 E facing elevation showing soil depth 0.35m against stones and basal boulder with cup with feather quarry mark in section	Е	Bright
	141-142	Close-up of cup with feather mark. This is 5 inch/0.13m deep with 7/8 inch diameter	Е	Dull
	143-144	Similar cup with feather mark on another stone in demolished Wall 13		Overcast

SLR No.	Digital No.	Contexts/description	Taken from	Conditions
	145	As 143-144 on a different stone. Here, the drill has gone in at least 9 inches (0.23m) and a collar of compacted powered rock remains in the hole at a depth of 2 inches 0.05m to show the length of the feather (wedge).		Dull
	146-149	Large boulder with bore hole on upper surface.		Bright
	150-163	Panorama of N part of route.		Bright
5-6	164	Site 1 009 machine cleared.	Е	Bright
7-8	165	As 164	S	Bright
9-10	166	Site 1, SE facing section	S	Shade/bright
11-12	167	Site 1, SE facing section close-up	SE	Shade/bright
	168-169	Wall 14 General with close-up views	S	Overcast
	170	Wall 14 View along wall	W	Overcast
13-14	171-172	Site 2 pre-evaluation	SSW	Shade/bright
15-16	173-176	Site 2 pre-evaluation	Е	Shade/bright
17-18	177-178	Site 2 pre-evaluation	NE	Shade/bright
19-20	179	Site 2, trenches 2-3 exc	SSW	Sunny
21-24	180	Site 2, trenches 2-3 exc	SE	Sunny
	181	Site 2, trenches 2-3 exc	NNE	Overcast
25-28	182-183	Site 2, general view of Tr2 section	Е	Sunny
29-30		Site 2, Tr2 close-up of section	Е	Sunny
31-32	184	Site 2, Tr3 general view of section	SSW	Bright
33-34	185	Site 2, Tr3 close-up of section	S	Bright
	186-188	Broad rig furrows 012-3 exposed to N of Old Skene Rd.	N	Sunny
	189-190	As 186-8	S	Sunny
	191-192	Broad rig furrow 012-3 section	S	Sunny
2/ 1-2	193	Site 3 general view	SW	Sunny
3-4	194	Site 3 sondage (Tr4) at W side	S	Sunny
5-6	195	Site 3 sondage (Tr4) at W side	W	Sunny
7-8	196	Site 3 sondage (Tr5) at E side	S	Sunny
9-10	197	Site 3 sondage (Tr5) at E side	E	Sunny
11-12	198-199	Wall 5 General views	ESE	Hazy/sun
13-14	200	Wall 5 close up	ESE	Hazy/sun
15-16	201	Prob pit 016 Site 4 pre-ex	SSW	Sunny
17-18	202	Prob pit 017 Site 5 pre-ex	S	Bright
19-20	203	Prob pit 017 Site 5 general view	S	Bright
21-24	204-205	Pit 017 section	SSW	Sunny
25-26	206-207	Poss pit 016 section	SW	Sunny
27-28	208	Poss pit 016 post-ex	S	Sunny
29-30	209	Pit 017 post-ex	SSW	Sunny
31-32	210	Pit 017 post-ex	WNW	Sunny
	211-212	Pit 017 post-ex general views	SW/SS W	Sunny
33-34	213-214	Wall 13 Section	S	Sunny
35-36	215-216	Wall 13, close-up of drill hole in base of massive basal boulder.	S	Sunny
	217-218	Wall 13. Tin sample 7 in-situ below basal stone in subsoil W132	S	Sunny

APPENDIX 4: Drawings Register

Dwg No.	Sheet No.	Scale	Plan / Section	Description/contexts
1	DB	1:10	S	Furrow 001-2 NE facing
2	DB	1:10	S	Furrow 006-7 S facing
3	DB	1:200	P	Stone dump 008 with Wall 7
4	DB	1:100	P	Site 1, burned soil? 009
5	1	1:20	S	Site 1, burned soil? 009 Trench 1 SE facing
6	2	1:100	P	Site 2, plan 010-011
7	3	1:40	S	Site 2, Trench 2 E facing
8	3	1:40	S	Site 2 Trench 3 S facing
9	DB	1:10	S	Furrow 012-3 S facing
10	1	1:20	S	Wall 5 (revetting) ESE facing W50-3
11	1	1:10	P	Poss pit 016 pre-ex Fills 021, 022
12	1	1:10	S	Poss pit 016 section SW facing Fills 021-023
13	4	1:10	P	Poss pit 016 post-ex
14	4	1:10	S	Pit 017 section SSW facing Fills 017, 018-020
15	4	1:10	P	Pit 017 post-ex
16	5	1:10	S	Wall 6 (consumption) S facing
17	6	1:10	S	Wall 13 (field) S facing

APPENDIX 5: Samples Register

Sample No.	Context	Feature	Sample type	Volume
1	021	016	Bulk	12L
2	022	016	Bulk	12L
3	023	016	Bulk	8L
4	018	017	Bulk	12L
5	019	017	Bulk	3L
6	020	017	Bulk	1L
7	W132/Nat. Subsoil	-	Kubiena	Tin
8	000	-	Bulk	6L
9	Subsoil	-	Bulk	6L

APPENDIX 6: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Aberdeenshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Broadshade Pipeline Diversion, Westhill
PROJECT CODE:	BROA
PARISH:	Skene
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ian Suddaby
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief, Monitored Topsoil Removal and Excavation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Pits
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NJ 8102 0704 - NJ 8196 0790
START DATE (this season)	21 July 2009
END DATE (this season)	31 July 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd during topsoil stripping for a pipeline diversion near Westhill, Aberdeenshire. This work identified broad-rig cultivation remains and a number of isolated archaeological features. These sites were subject to a programme of archaeological excavation and only two were found to be archaeological in origin; these were two isolated pits, one of which contained a single sherd of prehistoric pottery. A number of field walls were also recorded in section following their dismantling. No other archaeological features were discovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Limited post-excavation
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	RSK Environment Ltd per Scotland Gas Networks
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, East Lothian EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited with NMRS; reports to be deposited with Aberdeenshire Council SMR and NMRS.

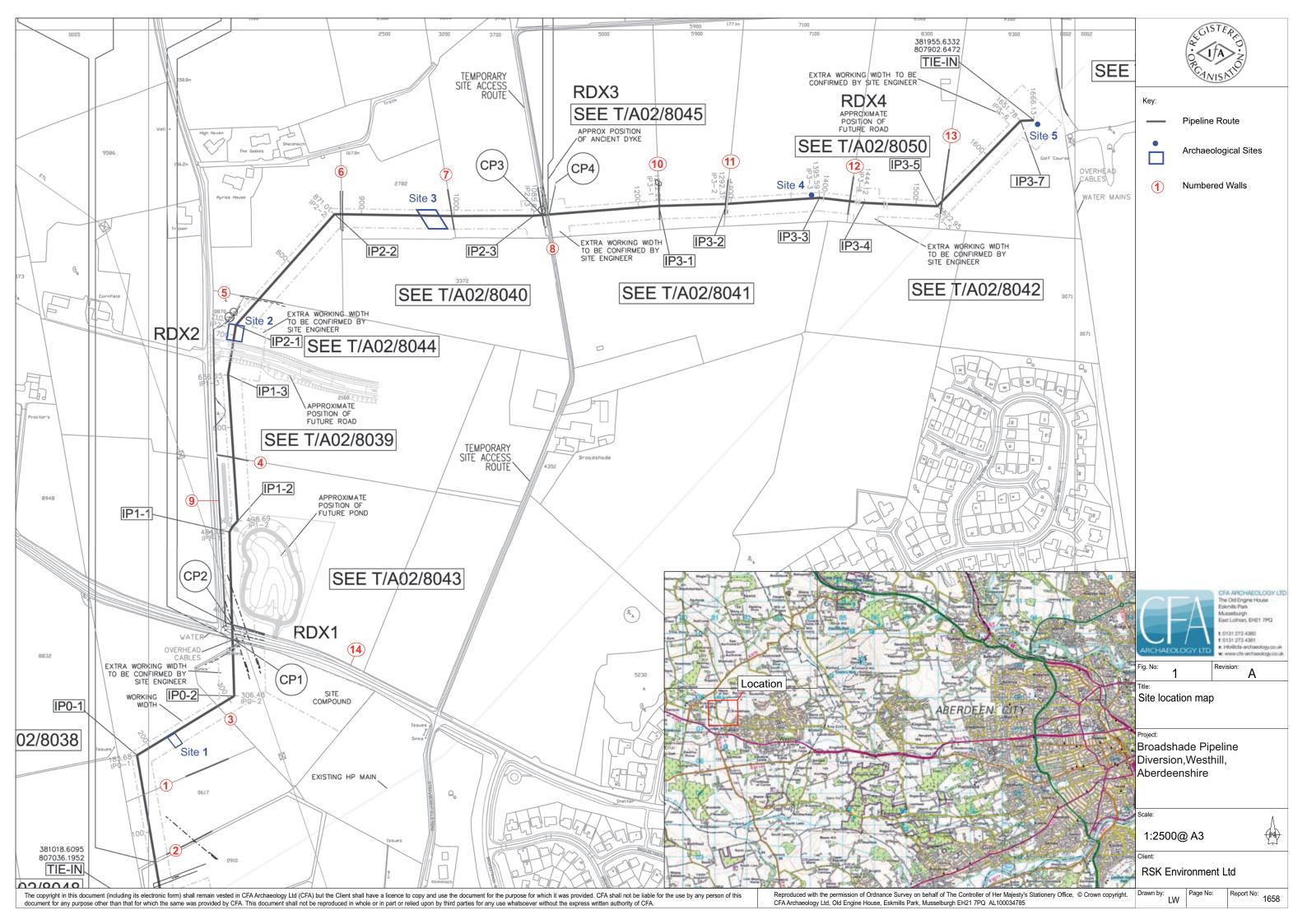






Fig. 2 - General view of the pipeline route looking south-west from near Wall 6



Fig. 4 - Broad rig between Walls 5 & 6



Fig. 6 - Site 2 prior to evaluation



Fig. 3 - General view of the pipeline route pre-excavation looking east with the location of the northern tie-in top left and Wall 8 in the foreground



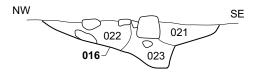
Fig. 5 - Broad rig between Walls 4 & 14 with pond excavation area on the left



Fig. 7 - Site 3 with Wall 6 at the top right

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SW NE

Fig. 8 - Site 4, Pit 016, south-west-facing section

Fig. 10 - Site 5, Pit 017, south-east-facing section



Fig. 9 - Site 5, Pit 017 pre-excavation from the SE, with stone-holes nearby



Fig. 11 - Wall 5 (Revetting), east-facing section



Fig. 12 - Wall 6 (Consumption), south-east-facing section



Fig. 13 - Wall 13, south-facing section

Key:	Fig. No: 8-13 Revision: A Client: RSK Environment Ltd		CFA ARICHAEOLOGY LTD he Old Engine House
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