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**Aberdalgie Wind Farm:  
Archaeological Baseline Report  
Report no. 1664**

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### **Aberdalgie Proposed Wind Farm**

### **Archaeological Baseline Report**

**Report No. 1664**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report presents a cultural heritage baseline assessment for a proposed wind farm at Aberdalgie, Perth and Kinross (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by Perth Wind Energy Ltd and was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd in August 2009.
- 1.2 The specific objectives of the cultural heritage study were to:
- identify the cultural heritage baseline within the proposed development site;
  - assess the proposed development site in terms of its archaeological and historic environment potential, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy guidelines;
  - consider the potential and predicted effects of the proposed development on the identified cultural heritage sites within the proposed development boundary; and
  - propose measures, where appropriate, to mitigate any predicted significant adverse effects
- 1.3 Figure 1 depicts the proposed development area and the locations of archaeological sites and monuments identified by the cultural heritage assessment. A gazetteer of those sites is provided in Appendix 1.

## **2. PLANNING AND LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND**

### **Context**

- 2.1 Scotland's historic environment contributes to the Scottish Government's strategic objectives and to the National Performance Framework. The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) document sets out Scottish Minister's policies for the historic environment, and provides policy direction for Historic Scotland and a framework that informs the day-to-day work of a range of organisations that have a role and interest in managing the historic environment. Through the SHEP, Scottish Minister's are determined to achieve three outcomes for Scotland's historic environment.
1. That the historic environment is cared for, protected and enhanced for the benefit of our own and future generations.
  2. To secure greater economic benefits from the historic environment.
  3. That the people of Scotland and visitors to our country value, understand, and enjoy the historic environment.
- 2.2 Cultural heritage resources include sites with statutory and non-statutory designations, as defined in Scottish Planning Policy 23: Planning and the Historic Environment (SPP 23).

Sites with statutory designations include:

- Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- Listed Buildings.
- Conservation Areas.
- Designated Shipwrecks.

Sites with non-statutory designations include:

- World Heritage Sites.
- Gardens and Designed Landscapes.
- Other Historic Environment Interests.

2.3 Those relevant to this assessment are other archaeological features.

### **Other Archaeological Features**

2.4 There is a range of other non-designated archaeological sites, monuments and areas of historic interest, including battlefields, historic landscapes, other gardens and designed landscapes, woodlands and routes such as drove roads that do not have statutory protection. Sites without statutory protection are curated by the local planning authority, and SPP23 and PAN 42 provide national planning policy guidance and advice on the treatment of such resources. SPP 23 requires that planning authorities ensure that development plans provide land use policy frameworks for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the historic environment within which any development impacts can be properly assessed. PAN 42 indicates that the principle that should underlie all planning decision-making is preservation of cultural heritage resources in situ, where possible, and by record if destruction cannot be avoided. It is recognized in the PAN that preservation may not always be possible, and where damage is unavoidable various mitigation measures may be proposed.

### **Regional and Local Planning Policy Guidance**

#### *Perth and Kinross Structure Plan (2003)*

2.5 Policy 8 of the Perth and Kinross Structure Plan (2003) states that the council will seek to ensure that the rich and varied cultural heritage resources of Perth and Kinross are recognised, recorded, protected and enhanced as appropriate. New development which would adversely affect Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes or their settings will not be permitted unless there is a proven public interest where social, economic or safety considerations outweighs the cultural interest in the site. The same protection will be afforded to sites proposed for designation. Other important archaeological sites or landscapes will also be protected from inappropriate development.

#### *Perth Area Local Plan adopted March 1996*

The Perth Area Local Plan (adopted 1996) contains four policies relevant to this development and which are listed below.

- Policy 17 states that the District Council will protect and seek to enhance Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.
- Policy 21 states the District Council will safeguard the settings and archaeological landscapes associated with Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- Policy 22 states that the District Council will seek to protect unscheduled sites of archaeological significance. Where development is proposed in such areas there will be a strong presumption in favour of preservation *in situ* and where in exceptional circumstances preservation of the archaeological features is not feasible the developer, if necessary through appropriate conditions attached to

planning consents, will be required to make provision for the excavation and recording of threatened features prior to development commencing.

- Policy 23 states where it is likely that archaeological remains may exist the prospective developer will be required to arrange for an archaeological evaluation to be carried out by a professionally qualified archaeological organisation or archaeologist before the planning application is determined.
- Policy 24 states the architectural or historic character of existing Conservation Areas will be retained. Infill and other development will only be permitted where it would not affect the character or amenity of the Conservation Areas.
- Policy 25 states there will be a presumption against the demolition of Listed Buildings and a presumption in favour of consent for development involving the sympathetic restoration of a Listed Building, or other buildings of architectural value. The settings of Listed Buildings will also be safeguarded.

### **3. APPROACH TO THE ASSESSMENT**

- 3.1 The assessment has been conducted in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2006) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (IfA 2001).
- 3.2 Consultation letters and requests for information on cultural heritage resources relevant to the assessment were sent to Historic Scotland and to the Fife Council archaeologist. Up-to-date information was obtained on the location of cultural heritage sites with statutory protection and non-statutory designations either within or in the vicinity of the application area.
- 3.3 Information on the character and condition of known archaeological sites and monuments within and within 500m of the proposed development area was obtained from the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and from the Perth and Kinross Sites and Monument Record (SMR).
- 3.4 Ordnance Survey maps and other historical maps held by the Map Library of the National Library of Scotland were examined, to provide information on sites of potential archaeological significance and on historic land-use changes.
- 3.5 An assessment was made of vertical aerial photograph collections held by the RCAHMS. Sorties dating from 1946, 1955, 1965 and 1988 were available for examination.
- 3.6 Bibliographic references were consulted to provide background and historical information. No attempt was made within the remit of this study to conduct detailed historical analysis.
- 3.7 The Scottish Palaeoenvironmental Database (<http://xweb.geos.ed.ac.uk/~ajn/spad>) which records the distribution of known palaeoenvironmental sites within Scotland and the online Historic Land-Use Assessment Data for Scotland maps, maintained by the RCAHMS (<http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/>) were consulted.
- 3.8 A reconnaissance field survey of the proposed development site was undertaken, during August 2009, in order to:

- assess the baseline condition of the known archaeology and heritage features, previously identified through the desk-based assessment;
- identify any further features of cultural heritage interest not detected from the desk study and identify areas with the potential to contain currently unrecorded, buried archaeological remains; and
- assess the potential effects of the construction of the proposed development on cultural heritage sites and areas, and their settings, where appropriate.

3.9 The locations of identified sites and features, no longer surviving as upstanding remains has been taken from cartographic sources. Those sites of which upstanding remains survive were recorded with a Global Positioning System (GPS) accurate to circa.1m.

### **Assessment of importance of cultural heritage features**

- 3.10 The main thresholds of archaeological importance defined by SPP23 are sites of national importance, protected by statute, and sites with non-statutory designations of regional and local importance. Sites of national importance comprise those sites protected by scheduling under the 1979 Act, and sites of “schedulable quality”. Scheduling is an ongoing process and not all sites of "schedulable quality" are currently scheduled. Sites of regional and local importance are those that do not merit scheduling, but which have significance within a regional or local context. This may, for example, apply to their importance to regional or local history, or they may be the only local example of a monument type. A final category, sites of lesser importance, covers those archaeological or historic environment features that are of little intrinsic cultural heritage value and the find-spots of artefacts now removed.
- 3.11 Listed buildings are categorised according to their relative importance (1997 Act; Section 1; SHEP). Category A Listed Buildings are of national or international importance, Category B buildings are of regional or more than local importance and Category C(S) structures are of local importance. Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes contained within the Inventory are considered to be nationally important. Table 1 summarises the relative importance of key cultural heritage resources.

Table 1: Sensitivity of Cultural Heritage Assets

Importance	Definition / criteria
International / National	World Heritage Sites Scheduled Monuments, and sites proposed for scheduling Undesignated archaeological sites and areas of likely national importance identified in HERs/SMRs Category A Listed Buildings Gardens and Designed Landscapes (Inventory sites) Outstanding Conservation Areas Designated Wreck Sites
Regional	Archaeological sites and areas of distinctive regional importance Archaeologically Sensitive Areas Category B listed buildings Conservation Areas
Local	Archaeological sites of local importance Category C(S) listed buildings Unlisted historic buildings and townscapes with local

	(vernacular) characteristics
Lesser	Sites of former archaeological features Unlisted buildings of minor historic or architectural interest; Poorly preserved examples of particular types of feature

- 3.12 Using the thresholds described above and summarised in Table 1, Appendix 1 contains a final column indicating the assessment of importance of each cultural heritage feature identified by the study.

## 4 RESULTS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

### Consultation Responses

#### *Historic Scotland Consultation response*

- 4.1 In its scoping opinion (04/04/06) Historic Scotland set out the underlying principles for assessing the impacts of the development on the cultural heritage resource. Historic Scotland confirmed that there are no Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings or Historic Gardens or Designed Landscapes within the proposed development area. Historic Scotland identified several Listed Building and Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes which may receive indirect effects from the proposed development, and which should therefore be considered within the EIA.

#### *Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust Consultation response*

- 4.2 In response to a consultation letter (21/07/09) Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) Heritage Officer confirmed that there are no recorded archaeological sites within the proposed development site and that no previous archaeological study had taken place within the site. The respondent noted that the woodland (within which the turbines would be located) is listed in the Ancient Woodlands Inventory and that two Historic Gardens or Designed Landscapes are within 3km of the proposed development site.
- 4.3 In the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site are recorded remains of Prehistoric and Roman date, and the Gask Ridge (a Roman Frontier) lies directly north of the proposed development site. The respondent suggested that the Roman Gask Project and the Strathearn Environs & Royal Forteviot (SERF) project (Glasgow University) both be contacted, as both have recently been active in the area. The respondent concludes by stating that PKHT considers the study area to have medium archaeological potential, due to the proximity of the Gask Ridge, and that, while the established woodland may have disturbed subsurface archaeological remains, conversely the tree cover may have protect upstanding remains from modern agricultural processes.

#### *The Roman Gask Project Consultation Response*

- 4.4 Dr David Woolliscroft, Director of the Roman Gask Project, provided further information on the East Mid Lamberkin Camp excavation, together with details of publications detailing the Roman Gask Project.

#### *SERF Consultation Response*



- 4.5 TBA – awaiting response

### **General**

- 4.6 Three sites of cultural heritage interest have been identified within the proposed development area, all of which relate to a later rural landscape.
- 4.7 There are no Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings within the proposed development site and no part of the proposed development would lie within a Conservation Area or Historic Garden and Designed Landscape.
- 4.8 The Scottish Palaeoenvironmental Database, the Historic Land-Use Assessment Data and the Statistical Accounts provided no relevant information specific to the proposed development area.
- 4.9 Appendix 1 provides detailed gazetteer information on the character and baseline condition of each site identified by the study. Numbers in bold and in brackets, in the following sections, refer to site numbers identified on Figure 1 and in Appendix 1.

### **Character of cultural heritage resource**

- 4.10 Cartographic evidence suggests that the study area has been wooded for at least the last 200 years. The features identified within the proposed development site are associated with the development and utilisation of the woodland.
- 4.11 Three sites (**1, 2 and 3**) have been identified within the proposed development area, all of which are considered to be of lesser importance.

### *Tracks*

- 4.12 Three tracks (**1, 2 and 3**), two of which act as main access routes through the woodland have been recorded. Two of these (**1 and 2**) are shown on mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century cartographic sources and are still in use today as access route through the forest. A third (**3**) is recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1972 map.

### **External receptors**

- 4.13 Within a 10km radius of the proposed development site there are one hundred and eighteen Scheduled Monuments, fifty-six Category A Listed Buildings, four hundred and ninety-four Category B Listed Buildings, four hundred and four Category C(S) listed buildings and ten garden and designed landscapes.
- 4.14 The preliminary ZTV shows that from the majority of the surrounding area there would be views of six turbine tips, including from the town of Perth. However key receptors within Perth are set within a well developed ‘townscape’ from which views towards the proposed development would be well screened by the built environment. For those listed buildings within Perth the development would not significantly affect their baseline settings.
- 4.15 Historic Scotland identified a number of Listed Buildings and Gardens and Designed Landscapes which lie in close proximity to the proposed development and that should be considered as part of the impact assessment. These are
- Dupplin Castle Estate Entrance (HB Number 5874)
  - Dupplin Cross (HB Number 11026)

- Dupplin Castle North Lodge (HB Number 5870)
  - Tibbermore Parish Kirk (HB Number 18297)
  - Groups of Listed Buildings within Aberdalgie and Milton of Aberdalgie (Aberdalgie Lodge, HB Number 5862; Aberdalgie House, HB Number 5864; Tobruk Cottage, HB Number 5868; Aberdalgie churchyard and war memorial, HB Number 5860; Rose Cottage, HB Number 5866; Registrar's House, HB Number 44183; Aberdalgie Manse, HB Number 5861; Aberdalgie and Dupplin parish church, HB Number 5859; Aberdalgie House, HB Number 5865; Kinmonth and Cormack, HB Number 5865; Aberdalgie Telephone kiosk, HB Number 5876; and Carmichael, HB Number 5867)
  - Methven Castle Garden and Designed Landscape
  - Abercairney Garden and Designed Landscape
  - Invermay Garden and Designed Landscape
  - Dupplin Castle Garden and Designed Landscape
- 4.16 In most cases the setting of these receptors will not be significantly affected by the proposed development, although this will be confirmed by the ZTV, to be produced once a fixed design is agreed. If the ZTV suggests that the baseline condition of any of these sites would be significantly altered, it is recommended that photomontages be produced to further inform the Impact Assessment.
- 4.17 Impacts on the settings of Gardens and Designed Landscapes are addressed in the Landscape and Visual Assessment chapter.

#### **Assessment of archaeological potential of the proposed development area as a whole**

- 4.18 Three cultural heritage features have been identified within the proposed development site; all being of lesser important. Cartographic evidence suggests that the area has been wooded since the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and the woodland is on the Ancient Woodland Inventory. Field survey recorded that most of the proposed development area appears to have been deep ploughed in advance of modern tree planting.
- 4.19 In the surrounding area are recorded remains of Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and post-medieval date. The proposed development site is on the southern edge of the Gask Ridge, where extensive Roman activity has been recorded; including a Roman temporary Camp at East Mid Lamberkin, immediately to the north of the proposed development site, and which was excavated by the Roman Gask project in 1999. Other recorded remains in the area immediate around the proposed development site are mainly of post-medieval date and related to farming activities; with evidence of rig and furrow, drainage and small farmsteads. Many of these farmsteads still survive today.
- 4.20 The very limited number of sites identified within the proposed development site and the evidence of historical and current land use of the area as predominantly woodland for the past 200 years suggests a limited potential for the discovery of as yet undetected buried archaeological remains. The long established woodland may have considerably disturbed subsurface archaeological remains, particularly so in areas that have been deeply ploughed to accommodate forestry. On the other hand the tree cover may have protected any surviving upstanding remains from modern agricultural processes; however, no upstanding remains have been identified by the study within the woodland.

## **5 CONSTRAINTS AND MITIGATION STRATEGY**

- 5.1 In accordance with guidance contained in SPP23 and PAN 42, the preferred option for mitigation is preservation of important remains in situ where practicable and by record where preservation is not possible. The mitigation measures presented below take account of this planning guidance and offer various options for recording and ensuring that, where practical, upstanding sites and features are presented intact in order to retain the present historic elements of the landscape.
- 5.2 The number and distribution of sites identified within the proposed development site and the evidence of historic and current land use of the area suggests that the potential for the discovery of as yet undetected, buried archaeological remains of medieval or earlier date is low.

#### *Direct Impacts*

- 5.3 Based on the preliminary layout, there would be a direct effect on a woodland track (1) (a feature of lesser importance) from the siting of one of the turbines. The impact would be removed by siting the turbine clear of the track. The use of the track as an on-site access track would not significantly affect the cultural heritage value of the feature.
- 5.4 There are no other surviving remains that should be avoided by the proposed development. There is however a low potential for direct effects on as of yet undiscovered remains.

## **6 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 Three features (1-3) of cultural heritage interest have been identified by this study within the proposed development site. All three are tracks considered to be of lesser importance.
- 6.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings, within the proposed development site and no part of the proposed development would lie within a Historic Garden and Designed Landscape or a Conservation Area. A large number of key cultural receptors have been identified within 10km of the proposed development area although in most cases the setting of these receptors are unlikely to be significantly affect by the proposed development.

## 7. REFERENCES

### 7.1 Historical Maps

Knox, J 1850 *Map of the Basin of the Tay, including the greater part of Perth Shire, Strathmore and the Braes of Angus or Forfar.*

Ordnance Survey 1866 *Perthshire* Sheet XCVII. II Twenty-five inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1866 *Perthshire* Sheet XCVII Six inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1901 *Perthshire* Sheet XCVII. S.E Six inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1933 (Provisional Edition) *Perthshire* Sheet XCVII. S.E Six inch to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1959 National Grid NO02SE Six inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1970 National Grid NO02SE Six inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1985 National Grid NO02SE 1:10,000

Roy, W 1747-1755 Military Survey of Scotland

Stobie, J 1850 *The counties of Perth and Clackmannan*

Stobie, J 1783 *The counties of Perth and Clackmannan*

Thomson, J and Johnson, W 1820 *Perthshire with Clackmannan*

### 7.2 Aerial Photographs

Sortie	Frames	Date	Scale
106G/Scot/uk 2y	4224 – 4228 3225 – 3228	18/04/46	1:10,000
F21.82/RAF/1103	0175 – 0180 0221 – 0226	10/03/55	16,000
OS/65/47	162 – 165 125 – 128 094 – 096 053 – 056	21/04/65	7,500
50788	217 - 219	10/06/88	1:24,000

### 7.3 Bibliographic

Garvie, W. 1791-99 ‘Aberdalgie, County of Perth’ vol.18 p.149

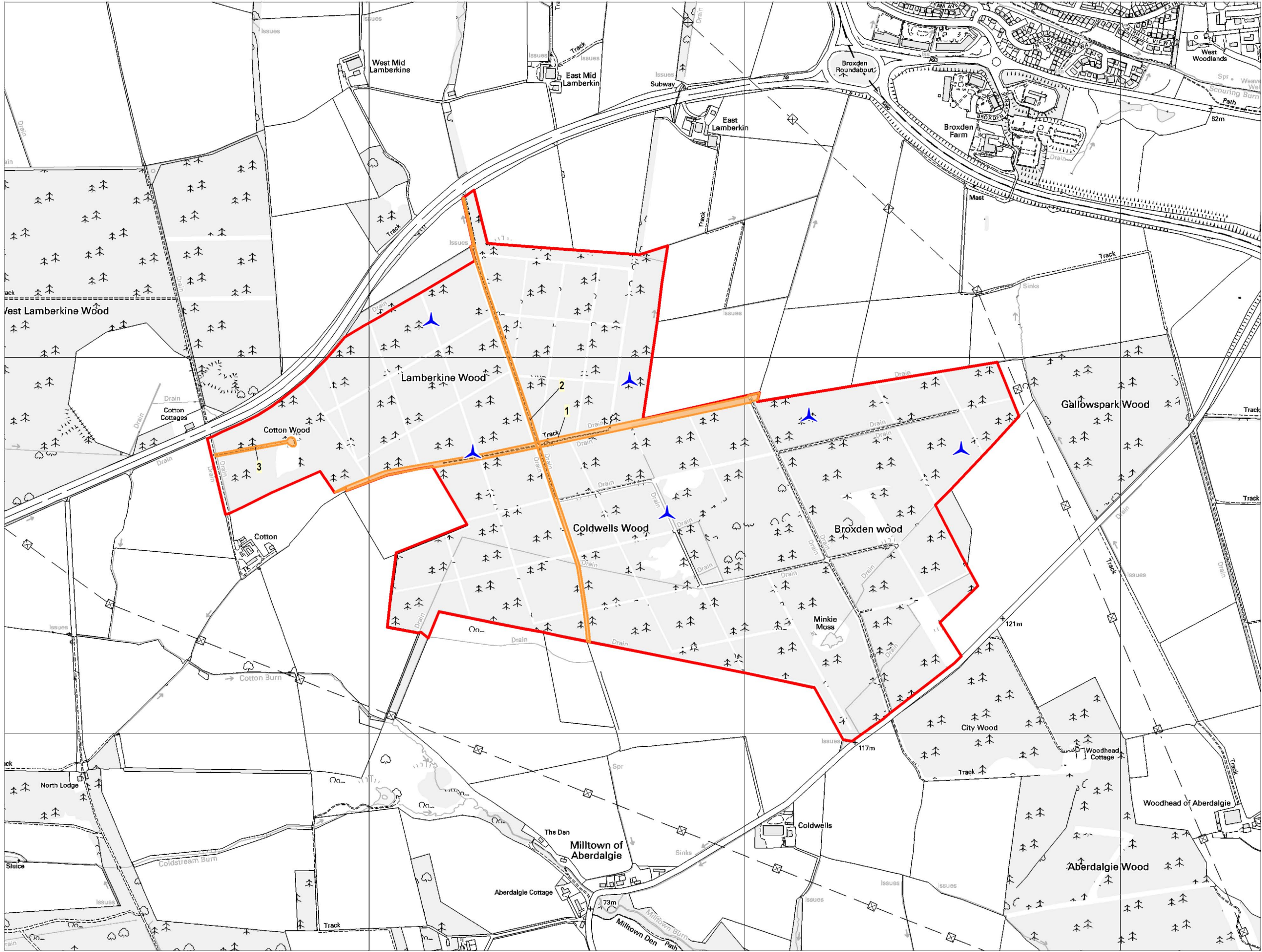
IfA 2001 *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment.* Institute for Archaeologists.

IfA 2006 *By-Laws: Code of Conduct.* Institute for Archaeologists.

Stewart, C C 1834-45 ‘Aberdalgie, County of Perth’ in the New Statistical Account of Scotland vol.10 p.875

# **APPENDIX 1: Cultural heritage features within the proposed development area**

Site no	Site name	NMRS/SMR	Easting	Northing	Status	Source	Site description	Site importance
1	Track		307473	721772		Maps; Aerial Photographs; Field survey	<p>A track is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1866, 1901, 1959, 1970 and 1985 Edition maps running east to west, from Cotton Farm towards Perth, between Lamberkine Woods and Coldwells Woods.</p> <p>The 1955 and 1965 aerial photographs both show the track running through the woodland.</p> <p>Field survey recorded a grassed over track 8m wide.</p>	Lesser
2	Track		307427	721833		Maps; Aerial photographs; Field survey;	<p>A track is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1866, 1901, 1959, 1970 and 1985 Edition maps running north to south, between Milltown of Aberdalgie and Mid Lamberkine.</p> <p>The 1955 and 1965 aerial photographs both show the track running through the woodland</p> <p>Field survey recorded that part of the track (6m wide) is still in use as an access track through the woodland.</p>	Lesser
3	Track		306696	721761		Maps; Field survey;	<p>A track leading to an open area is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1970 and 1985 edition maps.</p> <p>Field survey recorded the track leading to a clearing within the forest.</p>	Lesser



- Key:
- Cultural Heritage Site - linear
  - Turbine
  - Development Boundary

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