

APPENDIX 10.1: CULTURAL HERITAGE BACKGROUND AND GAZETTEER

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of Report

- 1.1.1 This appendix contains the Cultural Heritage background of the Site and provides details of previous archaeological investigations, a summary of the heritage assets within the baseline, the archaeological potential of the Site, and a gazetteer of all heritage assets within the Site, and the 250 m Study Area.
- 1.1.2 The Site is located approximately 30 km to the west of the town of Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and approximately 3 km to the south-east of the village of Cuminestown, Aberdeenshire.

1.2 Cultural Heritage Background

Geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is located on the Macduff Formation composed of micaceous psammite, semipelite, and pelite. This layer is a metamorphic bedrock formed between 1000 and 541 million years ago between the Tonian and Ediacaran periods.
- 1.2.2 The superficial geology within the Site consists of Devensian Till, which is a sedimentary superficial deposit that was formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period.

Walkover Survey

- 1.2.3 The Site was visited on the 28 and 29 November 2023, by heritage professionals, and the walkover survey executed in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation¹. No new heritage assets over and above those recorded within the Historic Environment Records were discovered during the walkover survey.

Previous Archaeological Work

- 1.2.4 No intrusive archaeological investigations or non-intrusive desk-based studies have taken place within the Site or Study Area.

Baseline Discussion

- 1.2.5 There are 12 heritage assets identified within the Site and Study Area. There are three non-designated heritage assets within the Site and a further nine non-designated heritage assets within the Study Area.
- 1.2.6 The heritage assets within the Site and Study Area are described in the context of a timeline of archaeological periods from prehistoric through to modern. The location of the heritage assets is depicted within **Volume 3, Figure 10.1 Cultural Heritage Assets**.

Prehistoric Period (13,000 Before Current Era (BCE) to Current Era (CE) 400)

- 1.2.7 The Palaeolithic and Mesolithic period in north-east Scotland extended from the end of the last glaciation period, c. 13,000 BCE to the arrival of farming, c. 4,000 BCE². In Scotland, the period is largely characterised by settlement traces in the form of cave and rock-shelters, shell middens and lithic scatters. Palaeolithic communities would have been nomadic, hunting and gathering resources as they moved to areas free of ice. They would have utilised basic stone tools and moved in seasonal cycles over wide areas. Basic stone tools were eventually replaced due to more advanced techniques of tool making being developed, which eventually led to the Mesolithic period. North-east Scotland would have still been physically connected to mainland Europe during the Palaeolithic and early to mid-Mesolithic via a land bridge called Doggerland, but this had disappeared by 6,500 BCE due to rising sea levels. There is no archaeological evidence from the Palaeolithic or Mesolithic periods within the Site or Study Area.

¹ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists [CIfA], (2023). Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation. Reading.

² ScARF, (2012a). Saville & Wickham-Jones (eds) Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Scotland, Scottish Archaeological Research Framework: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

- 1.2.8 The Neolithic period of Scotland spans 1,500 years from c. 4,000 BCE to c. 2,500 BCE. This period saw a transition from nomadic hunter-gatherer subsistence to agriculture and permanent settlement. Woodland clearance took place to make way for sedentary agricultural settlements utilising higher quality stone tools. Neolithic farmers would have grown wheat and barley and raised sheep and cattle³. The Early Neolithic period (4,000 BCE to 3,300 BCE) is defined by new burial practices with new burial monuments such as long and round barrows and cairns being constructed. Large rectangular halls and cursus monuments also appear during this period. The Early Neolithic period also saw the first examples of pottery and higher quality stone tools such as polished stone axe-heads. The Late Neolithic (3,300 BCE to 2,500 BCE) saw more complex structures erected in the landscape such as standing stones, henges, and stone circles, with these monuments usually erected in conspicuous locations. Material culture also became more elaborate and complex with the introduction of Grooved Ware pottery, maceheads, and carved stone balls, large amounts of which have been found in Aberdeenshire⁴. There is no archaeological evidence from the Neolithic period within the Site or Study Area.
- 1.2.9 The Bronze Age period of Scotland spans between 2,500 BCE to 800 BCE and is a period that is characterised by the introduction and use of copper and copper alloys, most notably bronze, to produce tools, ornaments, and weapons. Beaker pottery began to arrive in areas of north-east Scotland from mainland Europe. Settlements were more complex during this period with a Bronze Age settlement at Inverurie, approximately 44 km southeast of Peterhead, containing four ritual centres or henges. Recumbent Stone Circles (RSC) became a unique and prominent feature of the Aberdeenshire landscape during the Bronze Age, with approximately 99 examples located throughout the area. Notable examples include those at Loudon Wood and Aikey Brae, both of which are approximately 14.3 km to the north-east and approximately 13.8 km to the east of the Site respectively. Many of the RSCs were used for the burial of cremated human remains, with evidence of funeral pyres noted at the stone circles and Loanhead and Sunhoney⁵. Funerary activity outside of RSCs also developed during the Bronze Age with distinctive single body graves containing beaker pottery emerging. During the Late Bronze Age climate conditions began to decline, which has led to changes in the archaeological record such as more concentrated settlements with round houses, agricultural plots, and clearance cairns. Weaponry made from bronze also begins to appear in the archaeological record during the later Bronze Age, indicating that warfare between settlements may have started to emerge.
- 1.2.10 There is no archaeological evidence from the Bronze Age within the Site or Study Area. It is unclear as to how this land would have been utilised in the Bronze Age, but it is unlikely to be the site of a settlement. The land may have been utilised for agricultural purposes during the Late Bronze Age, after climate conditions began to decline.
- 1.2.11 Conventionally, the Iron Age of northern Scotland spans the early first millennium BCE to the sixth century CE⁶. However, the period can extend to 800 CE, with the Late Iron Age often referred to as the 'Pictish' period. The climate in Scotland became wetter during the Iron Age leading to less available land for settlement, concentrating populations, and setting up the need for a more hierarchical society, with settlements largely focused on hillforts, some of which were constructed with high stone walls. It is during the Iron Age period that bronze was gradually phased out in favour of iron for making tools and weaponry. Towards the later Iron Age, the archaeological record suggests that settlements and agriculture became more controlled, with underground storage rooms for agricultural and dairy products becoming more prevalent.
- 1.2.12 There is no archaeological evidence from the Iron Age within the Site or Study Area. The Site would have likely been used for agricultural purposes such as raising livestock rather than settlement, as settlements typically focused on enclosed hillforts.

³ ScARF, (2012). Sheridan and Brophy (eds) Neolithic Scotland, Scottish Archaeological Research Framework: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

⁴ Mann, B, (2013). Neolithic, North-east Scotland Research Framework. Aberdeenshire Council.

⁵ ScARF, (2012). Downes, J (ed) Bronze Age Scotland, Scottish Archaeological Research Framework: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

⁶ ScARF, (2012d). Hunter & Carruthers (eds) Iron Age Scotland, Scottish Archaeological Research Framework: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Pictish Period (CE 297 – CE 800)

- 1.2.13 The Pictish period of northern Scotland overlaps with the Late Iron Age spanning from c. 297 CE to c. 800 CE and is typically represented by settlement sites and structures. Pictish society consisted of a dynamic network of kingdoms controlled by potentates, kings, sub-kings, and chiefs. The Picts reused earlier hillforts and built new defensive enclosures, which were vital during the 8th century when Vikings and other raider groups attacked Pictish settlements from the north, west, and south⁷.
- 1.2.14 There is no archaeological evidence from the Pictish period within the Site or Study Area. If the area was settled by the Picts, the Site would have likely been used for agricultural purposes during this period such as for raising livestock.

Medieval Period (CE 800 – CE 1614)

- 1.2.1 Permanent settlements slowly continued to develop and cluster, leading up to and through the medieval period. The conversion of Scotland to Christianity strongly influenced the structure of communities. As a result, in the histories related to medieval Scotland, there is a far greater sense of sovereign and religious control and influence within the country than earlier periods. This is reflected in the archaeological record by the prominence of heritage assets such as churches, churchyards, and castles dating from this period onward. The Protestant Reformation took place during the 16th century which saw the gradual alteration and adaptation from Catholicism to Protestantism.
- 1.2.2 There are no heritage assets from the medieval period within the Site and Study Area. The Site at this time would probably have been part of a rural, agricultural landscape, with settlement located elsewhere.

Post-medieval Period (CE 1614 – CE 1900)

- 1.2.3 The post-medieval period in Scotland was marked by numerous major events and developments, which led to significant societal changes. The Protestant Reformation of 1560 had not taken hold in all areas of Scotland, but the religious landscape was altered greatly. Agricultural improvements also took place during the 18th and 19th centuries including land clearance and crofting formation. Urban growth with large scale industrial projects were introduced in the 19th Century including hydroelectric schemes, improves communications, railway construction, and shipping.
- 1.2.4 Most of the cultural heritage resource within the Site and Study Area date from the post-medieval period. Heritage assets within the Site comprise a farmstead (HA5), an area of rig-and-furrow (HA3), and a boundary dyke (HA11). Assets from the post-medieval period within the Study Area include five farmsteads (HA1, HA4, HA7, HA10, and HA12), a mill (HA2), a building (HA6), a croft (HA8), and a house (HA9). Much of the post-medieval cultural heritage resource is associated with agricultural practices and milling.

Modern Period (CE 1901 – present)

- 1.2.5 The Site changed very little during the modern period, with the land remaining predominantly rural and agricultural. There are no heritage assets dating to the modern period within the Site or Study Area.

1.3 Archaeological Potential*Prehistoric Period*

- 1.3.1 The Site has low potential to contain prehistoric remains. There are no known prehistoric heritage assets within the Site or Study Area. There is no evidence to suggest that prehistoric settlement or monuments exist within the Site and surrounding area. The extensive drainage within and surrounding the Site suggest that any Prehistoric evidence would relate to transient activity or find spots.

⁷ SCARF (2012). Kruse and Noble (eds). Early Medieval Scotland, Highland Archaeological Research Framework: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Pictish Period

- 1.3.2 The Site has low potential to contain Pictish period remains. There are no known heritage assets that date to the Pictish period within the Site or Study Area. Any archaeological remains are likely to be related to agricultural activity.

Medieval Period

- 1.3.3 The Site has low potential to contain medieval remains. There is no archaeological evidence of medieval activity within the Site and Study Area. During the medieval period the Site would have been rural and likely used for agriculture with settlements located elsewhere. Any surviving archaeological remains dating to the medieval period are likely to be agricultural in nature and limited to field boundaries or cultivation remains.

Post-medieval Period

- 1.3.4 The Site has high potential to contain post-medieval remains. The current range of known archaeological evidence and historic mapping suggests that it is unlikely that there will be significant unknown post-medieval remains surviving below ground. There is a post-medieval farm (HA5) and an area of rig-and-furrow (HA3) located within the Site, with the possibility of further post-medieval rig-and-furrow to survive below ground. The archaeological and built heritage evidence of post-medieval agricultural activity within the Site and Study Area suggests that most below-ground remains will relate to these activities.

Modern Period

- 1.3.5 The Site has negligible potential to contain modern remains. There is no archaeological or cartographic evidence to suggest that there will be modern remains with the Site.



ANNEX A: CULTURAL HERITAGE GAZETTEER

Heritage Asset No.	Reference No. (Aberdeenshire HER/SMR record number)	National Grid Reference		Site Type	Designation	Site Name	Description	Period
		Easting	Northing					
HA1	NJ84NW0103	383347	846426	Farmstead	Non-designated	Inchgreen	Farmstead.	Post-medieval
HA2	NJ84NW0032	382278	846681	Mill - Lades, mills, ponds	Non-designated	Greenfield	Remains of a mill dam, lade and threshing mill that are depicted on the 1867 1st edition OS map. The mill now forms part of the modern agricultural buildings.	Post-medieval
HA3	NJ84NW0050	381555	847694	Rig-and-furrow	Non-designated	Upper Greenfield	Remains of rig and furrow within the forestry commission plantation and continuing into the pasture fields on the east side of the wood. The wavelength varies from 1 - 7 m.	Post-medieval
HA4	NJ84NW0008	383161	846466	Farmstead and enclosure	Non-designated	Inchgreen	Site of a farmstead and enclosure, depicted here on the 1st edition of the OS map. It shows two long ranges, and a polygonal enclosure containing a small building on its west side. None of these features appear on the OS 2nd edition 1888 map. The site is now under cultivation.	Post-medieval
HA5	NJ84NW0070	382571	846910	Farmstead	Non-designated	Mains of Greens	Farmstead depicted on historic OS maps.	Post-medieval
HA6	NJ84NW0007	383076	846534	Buildings	Non-designated	Inchgreen Cottage	Site of a rectangular building situated next to the road is depicted on the 1st and 2nd editions of the OS map. Nothing now remains.	Post-medieval
HA7	NJ84NW0058	382694	847578	Farmstead, Horse-mills, ponds, pumps, steadings, wells	Non-designated	Newton	Farmstead, still in use, depicted on historic OS maps. It is also known as Newton of Northburn, Newton of Greens and Chalmers Bequest. It is shown on the 1st edition OS map as an L-plan steading with an attached horse mill to the west and a rectangular building to the south-east. To the north-east is a well and pond. On the 2nd edition OS map the north range of the L-plan building has been partially removed, a rectangular building added to the east and an L-plan building added to the south. The well and pond have been infilled, and a pump added closer to the buildings. Current OS maps show the L-plan steading and horse mill have been removed, the pump removed and the rectangular buildings to the east replaced or incorporated within a larger building. The remaining L-plan building has some minor additions. Photographic recording was carried out in 2018.	Post-medieval

Heritage Asset No.	Reference No. (Aberdeenshire HER/SMR record number)	National Grid Reference		Site Type	Designation	Site Name	Description	Period
		Easting	Northing					
HA8	NJ84NW0031	381900	846780	Croft	Non-designated	Greenfield	Site of a now destroyed rectangular croft that is depicted on the 1867 1st edition OS map.	Post-medieval
HA9	NJ84NW0101	383042	846500	House	Non-designated	Inchgreen Cottage	Houses.	Post-medieval
HA10	NJ84NW0042	381077	847335	Farmstead and enclosures	Non-designated	Upper Greenfield	Farmstead still in use. The 1st edition OS map of 1867 shows an L-shaped building with an enclosure to the east. By the 1888 map, the enclosure is not shown and the building has been modified into a C-shaped building with the court open to the south. The 2005 map shows that this building survives in heavily modified form.	Post-medieval
HA11	NJ84NW0051	381642	847844	Dykes	Non-designated	Upper Greenfield	Site of a substantial linear boundary dyke running from the east end of the wood north-westwards just inside the present boundary. Information from Forestry Commission. FC also record a pile of stones at NJ 8189 4774, though suggesting that this may be related to modern field clearance.	Unknown
HA12	NJ84NW0072	383184	846674	Farmstead	Non-designated	Borderside	Farmstead depicted on historic OS maps.	Post-medieval