

# West Coast Archaeological Services

## Erection of 32 Residential Units and Associated Works at Land at Achmore Road, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye

### Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<b>On Behalf of:</b>	James MacQueen Contractors
<b>Highland Council Planning Ref.</b>	19/04529/FUL
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR)</b>	NG 74651 26226 (centred)
<b>WCAS Report No:</b>	2020-124/KYLE/20
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## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation were required by James MacQueen Building Contractors in advance of the construction of 32 residential units, formation of access and associated infrastructure on land at Achmore Road, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye (Planning Reference 19/04529/FUL). This project formed a second phase of development in this general area for housing and the Phase 1 developments were covered by WCAS Report Number 80/KYLE/18, and Planning Reference 17/04694/FUL. During the evaluation carried out for this initial phase of development, during which ten trenches of various lengths were stripped of topsoil with an area totalling 700m<sup>2</sup> and covering approximately 7% of the evaluation area, no archaeological finds or features were recorded.
- 1.2 The programme of archaeological works was specified by the Highland Council Historic Environment Team (HET) in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011). The desk-based assessment was requested in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area prior to fieldwork commencing. An archaeological trial trenching evaluation of the development area was requested in order to record the presence and extent of any archaeological features which may be present.
- 1.3 The archaeological evaluation was carried out over two days between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2020. Twenty-eight trenches of various lengths were stripped of topsoil with an area totaling 1922m<sup>2</sup> of the development area. Just three archaeological features were recorded and evaluated including two cuts into the subsoil containing old, abandoned water main pipes: and a small oval pit containing post-medieval materials including a small number of artefacts including roofing slate and industrial period ceramics.

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The development is located in the village of Kyleakin, a former ferry village on the southeast end of the Isle of Skye, overlooking the straits of Kyle Akin and across from the mainland town of Kyle of Lochalsh (**Figure 1**). Kyleakin is the first settlement encountered on the A87 on the Isle of Skye side of the Skye Bridge, and located 300m east of the roundabout. It straddles a small tidal inlet, An t-Ob. Broadford is located 7 miles along the A87 to the southwest. The proposed development comprises 32 residential units, an access road and associated drainage and service trenches. The site is accessed via a track which runs along the eastern edge of Kyleakin Community Centre and the western edge of a football field. The development site comprises former open pastoral fields, located on a raised shingle platform bounded by the inlet An t-Ob on the SE, S and W sides, and the football field on the N side. The relatively level platform on which the development is proposed falls away steeply to the inlet. The

original Phase 1 development which included 18 residential units and their associated infrastructure, is located to the NE on land 40m W of the Birches.

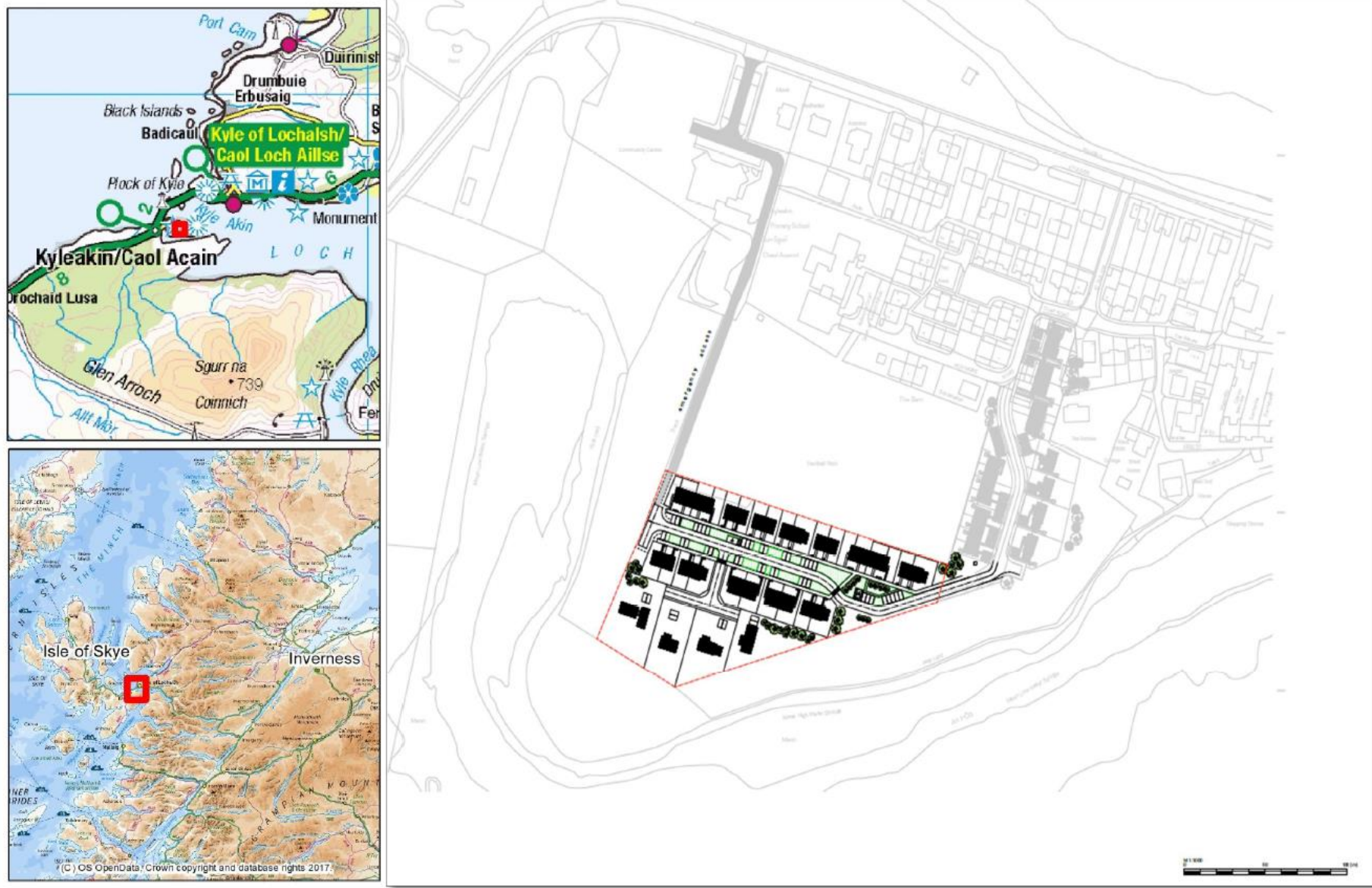
- 2.2 A desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation were required as the site is located within an area of archaeological potential. There is evidence for significant prehistoric and medieval remains in the vicinity, as well as the later post-medieval settlement that is prevalent in the landscape today. There is also a record of several prehistoric burials and a cairn being uncovered during 19th century road building a short distance to the north of the development site. A prominent crossing point to the mainland, the Kyleakin - Kyle of Lochalsh ferry crossing was officially established in the early-19<sup>th</sup> century and operated until the opening of the Skye bridge in 1995.



***Plate 1: View NNE over the central area of the development site showing long tussocky grass cover***



Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation, Erection of 32 Residential Units, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye:  
Data Structure Report



**Figure 1: Development site location**

Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation, Erection of 32 Residential Units, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye:  
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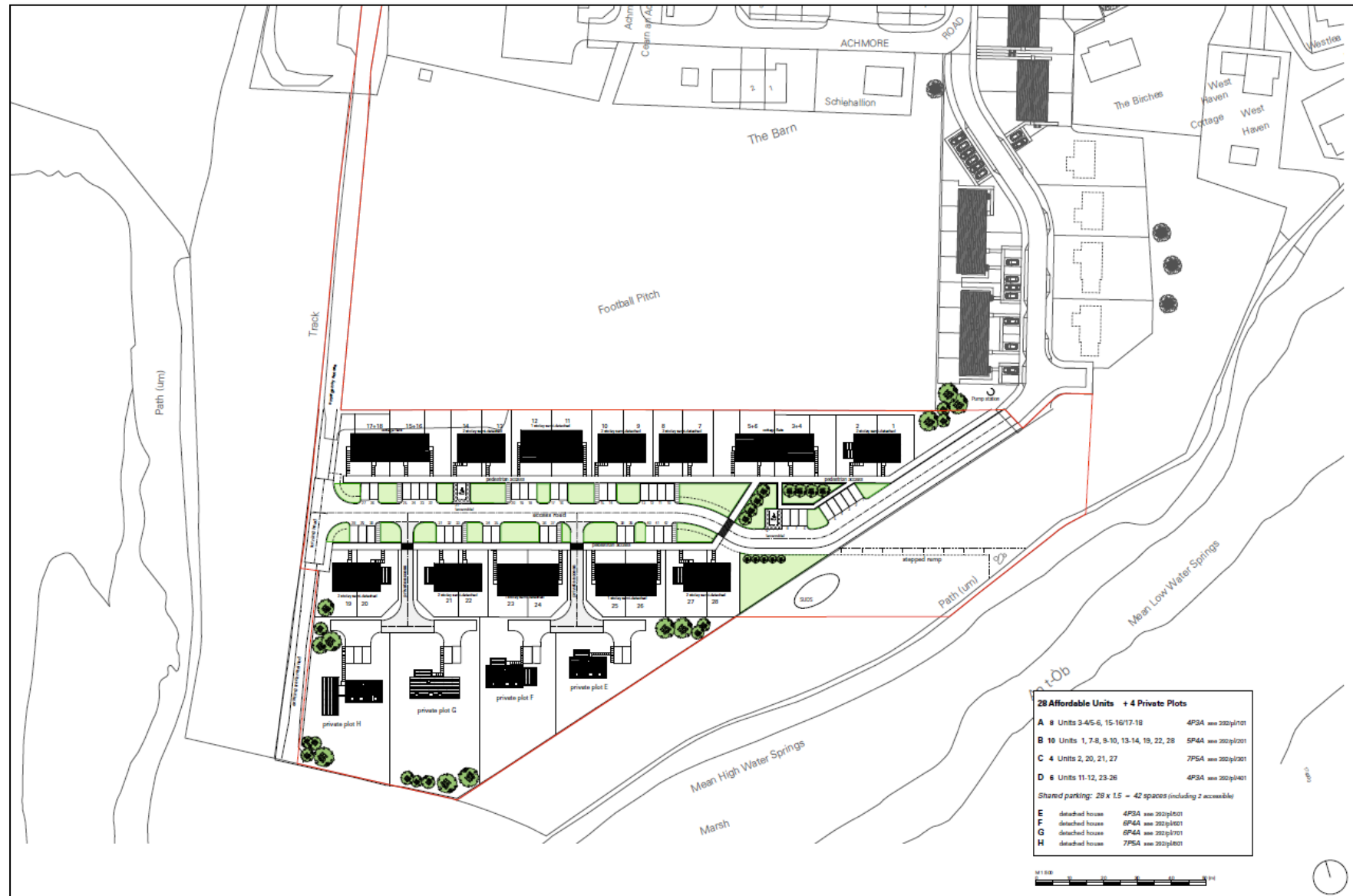


Figure 2: Detailed plan of the development site

### 3 OBJECTIVES

3.1 The *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (CIfA) defines an archaeological evaluation as ‘a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land...field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate (2014 (a)).’ The aims of the archaeological works are:

- i) to monitor ground-breaking works during the trial trenching evaluation
- ii) to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains and make mitigation recommendations prior to development
- iii) to remove by hand any overburden to expose the archaeological deposits
- iv) to excavate, sample and record any features or to propose arrangements for their safeguarding, where possible
- v) to sample deposits for post-excavation work, including environmental analysis and dating
- vi) to liaise with the client in the event of significant archaeological features and /or small finds being unearthed as to the most appropriate response for safeguarding these features either by preservation *in situ*, if at all feasible, or by archaeological recording
- vii) to make recommendations for further measures necessary to mitigate the impact of the development
- viii) to make recommendations for post-excavation work
- ix) to report on the results of the trial trenching evaluation

### 4 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

4.1 A comprehensive desk-based assessment was conducted in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area based on previously recorded sites and any historical documentation. A full check of all available historical and archaeological records, aerial photographs and historical maps was conducted using the Highland Historic Environment Record (HHER) Sites and Monuments Record, the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE), Ordnance Survey Name Books, Historic

Environment Scotland's databases, the National Library of Scotland, statistical accounts and other available records, literary sources or online resources about the site. This work was conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (CIfA 2014(b)).

## 4.2 Historical Mapping

- 4.2.1 Historic maps were consulted online at the National Library of Scotland (NLS). The earliest map to show Kyleakin is Blaeu's map of 1654 depicting a tower with the label *Castle of Dun akin* and *Cheules Akin* in the sea- Straits of Haakon. The first map to show Kyleakin as a place name is the Robert Gordon Map of Scotland, 1636-1652; Kyleakin is shown as *Cheulis Akyn*. The 1776 Murdoch Mackenzie map shows *Keilaken* and depicts a tower. *Castlenafuchag* is also labelled on this map, as with other marine maps i.e. Huddart *et al*, 1794, and Depot Generale de la Marine, 1803. *Castlenafuchag* is referenced generally in seafaring books and seaman's guides and as a nautical hazard comprising a rocky ledge which runs half-way over to the islands. The first map to show the village of Kyleakin and the development site in detail is the Ordnance Survey 6-inch to the mile map where the development site is shown as planned rectilinear village plots.

### (a) Robert Gordon, 1636-1652

**A map of Scotland, north of Loch Linnhe and the River Dee and west of the River Deveron**

Kyleakin as a place name is first depicted as *Cheulis Akyn*.

### (b) Blaeu Map, 1654

*Skia vel Skiana, [vulgo], The Yle of Skie / Auct. Timotheo Pont.*

Shows label *Castle of Dun akin* and an illustration of a tower, and *Cheules Akin* in the sea – Straits of Haakon.

### (c) 1776 Murdoch Mackenzie Map

*The south part of Sky Island and the adjacent main of Scotland.*

Shows *Keilaken* and depicts a tower. *Castlenafuchag* is also shown.

### (d) 1794 Joseph Huddart, Robert Laurie, and James Whittle

**A new chart of the West coast of Scotland from the point of Ardnamurchan to Cape Wrath.**

Shows *Castlenafuchag*.

### (e) 1832 John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland

**Skye Island, &c.**

Shows Kyleakin as a settlement of six houses, three either side of the road, and *Castle Muel* situated to the east. The ferry crossing is also marked.



**(f) Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map**

**Inverness-shire (Isle of Skye), Sheet XLI (includes Lochalsh: Strath)**

**Survey Date: 1876      Publication Date: 1882**

The development site is shown as planned rectilinear village allotments.

**(g) Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map**

**Inverness-shire (Isle of Skye) Sheet XLI (includes Lochalsh: Strath)**

**Publication Date: 1901    Date Revised: 1901**

There are no changes from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map, the development area is still shown as planned rectilinear village allotments.

**(h) Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map**

**Inverness-shire (Isle of Skye) Sheet XLI (includes Lochalsh: Strath)**

**Publication Date: 1901    Date Revised: 1901**

There are no changes from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map, the development area is still shown as planned rectilinear village allotments.

**(i) Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map**

**Inverness-shire (Isle of Skye) Sheet XLI (includes Lochalsh: Strath)**

**Publication Date: 1901    Date Revised: 1901**

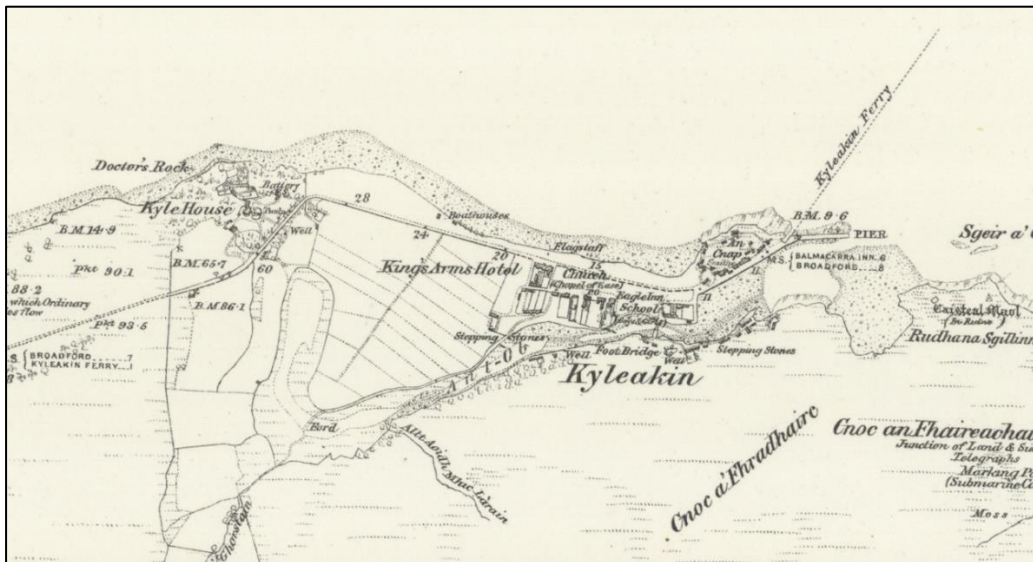
There are no changes from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map, the development area is still shown as planned rectilinear village allotments.



**Figure 3: Extract from Blaeu Map, 1654 (courtesy NLS, Edinburgh)**



**Figure 4: Extract from John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland, 1832** (courtesy NLS, Edinburgh)



**Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map, 1882** (courtesy NLS, Edinburgh)

## 4.4 Historic Environment Record

- 4.4.1 There are no known archaeological sites within the immediate development area, however, several previously known sites in the village are listed in the Highland Council Historic Environment Record (HER). Records associated with the harbour include: Kyleakin harbour (MHG35127) and slipway (MHG5417); a boat shed (MHG28650) and boathouses (MHG33836; MHG33835). Notable buildings in the village include: The King's Arms Hotel (MHG25383) and Kyle House (Listed (B) 13995; MHG16948), built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and gardens (MHG36285). Archaeological assessments carried out to the west of Kyle House prior to the construction of the Skye Road Bridge identified two undated structures with a cobbled area (MHG6755) and boundary banks (MHG6625; MHG6756); one dated to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A barrage balloon site (MHG6757) relating to World War I defences is also situated near Kyle House.

- 4.4.2 Prehistoric and medieval sites in Kyleakin include a cairn with associated finds, and Caisteal Maol, which is located on a prominent site with the potential for earlier activity.

**MHG5416                      NG 7580 2634                      Caisteal Maol, Kyleakin**

A stronghold of the Mackinnon's of Skye occupies a rocky promontory about 50ft OD. The structure appears to be of 15th century date and is rectangular on plan measuring 46ft 6 ins by 34ft 8 ins externally with its major axis lying almost NE-SW. Only the N and S corners and the SE wall remain, being 8-9ft thick. The walls are of basalt rubble and are faced externally and internally with squared rubble built to courses of varying heights.

**MHG5437                      NG 7460 2650                      Cairn with finds, Kyleside**

Several stone coffins (probably cists) with urns, were found in a large cairn which was destroyed when making the road between Dr MacKinnon's house and Kyleakin village; at a point where this road takes a sharp turn.

- 4.4.3 Known finds in the area include a bronze cauldron and a coin hoard:

**MHG5418                      NG 7500 2600                      Cauldron and Bog Butter, Strath**

In 1884 a bronze cauldron was found in close juxtaposition with kegs of butter in a peat moss at a depth of 7 ½ feet near Kyleakin. It measured 18 inches in diameter and was much patched: the rim and handles missing. Classified as a cauldron of 'Battersea' type of the early 1<sup>st</sup> century AD and in view of its association with the kegs of bog-butter suggested as a likely votive deposit.

**MHG5419                      NG 7579 2634                      Coin Hoard, Caisteal Maol**

A hoard of 70 coins discovered in April 1951 in a chink of the masonry on the exterior of the western side of Castle Maol. The hoard is mainly comprised of coins of James VI ranging in date from 1572 to 1601, but also included are 2 Scottish and 1 English coins of Mary, a coin of James V and an English sixpence of Elizabeth.

## **4.5 Other Sources**

- 4.5.1 The name Kyleakin is derived from the Gaelic for 'Kyle of Haakon'- the straits of Hakon. Haakon Haakonsson was king of Norway in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century and met Alexander III of Scotland's forces at the Battle of Largs in the Forth of Clyde. His fleet moored somewhere near Kyleakin en-route to the battle, hence the name.
- 4.5.2 Kyleakin has a medieval, if not earlier, provenance. Caisteal Mor, a 15<sup>th</sup> century stronghold of the Mackinnon's, is situated at the eastern extent of the settlement. Local folklore alleges that the castle overlies an earlier structure that was home to a Norwegian princess in the 13th century. The majority of the village seen today was

planned in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the ferry was established in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

- 4.5.3 Information on the place names from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map can be found in the Ordnance Survey Name Books (Inverness-shire (Skye) Vol. 10). Most of the entries give purely descriptive accounts of their location and physical characteristics.

*Kyleakin*: This name applies to a small village situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Isle of Skye, the dwellings are partly one and partly two stories high, slated and in good repair.

*Pier (Kyleakin)*: This name is applied to a small pier situated a little north-east of the village of Kyle-Akin. It was built by the county. This pier is chiefly used for the boat conveying mail bags, passengers, and other traffic southwards and vice versa.

*Caisteal Maol (in ruins)*: This name applies to the ruin of some ancient stronghold. The walls are about twenty feet high and about four feet thick. It is situated on a small knoll on a bare headland about one fourth mile to the east of the village of Kyle Akin. Its signification is the bare or “bald castle” supposed to be flat roofed when in repair. Its original name was Dun Akin

- 4.5.4 The development site lies in the historic parish of Strath, details of which can be found in the Old Statistical Account (County of Inverness, OSA, Vol. XVI, 1795) and the New Statistical Account (County of inverness, NSA, Vol. XIV, 1845). The parish of Strath also contains the village of Broadford and the islands of Scalpay, Pabba and Longa. The parish is also known as ‘Strathswordle’. While ‘Strath’ is Gaelic and signifies a valley, ‘Swordle’ could be of Danish origin or may signify a place situated in the centre of the parish. The parish is known to have been in existence since 1354 and has been the family property of the MacKinnon’s; a family with a turbulent history dating to back to that period, and more recently, in 1715 and 1745 as supporters of the Jacobite cause. A number of caves are present in the parish, one is reported to have been used as refuge by Prince Charles Edward Stuart. These accounts are detailed in terms of describing the parish economy and inhabitants, but does not detail the development area, other than to describe ‘Keil’ as the location of the only ferry on the ‘post-road’ from Inverness.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

### **5.1 Methodology**

- 5.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the ground works, a rapid walkover of the development site was carried out in order to identify any potential upstanding archaeology that would be impacted upon. A possible linear earthwork or bank aligned SW-NE may have been the very degraded remains of a turf dyke, although this could not be confirmed with any

certainty during the evaluations using trenches; some of which cut through this potential feature. However, this potential feature does correspond with the location for a dyke shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet (Figure 5).

- 5.1.2 Due to the lack of a dumper truck on site at the time of the evaluation, the initial archaeological brief which included a full topsoil strip of the development area could not be carried out. Therefore, in order to mitigate against this problem, and having contacted the Highland Council's Historic Environment Team to seek some clarity, it was decided that a trial trench evaluation would take place. The layout of the excavated trenches were placed in close proximity to each other and in a manner, which evaluated in an efficient way the whole of the development area (Figure 6). A track running adjacent to, and on the S side of the football field had already been cleared during the Phase 1 developments, along with an open area at the tracks E end, adjacent to the SE corner of the Phase 1 development area. This had been utilised as a lay-down area for equipment and materials and had been surfaced with gravel.
- 5.1.3 Evaluation trenches were monitored by an archaeologist by way of a controlled topsoil strip. The archaeologist directed digging by a mechanical excavator fitted with a **straight-edged** bucket in order to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the development area. All work was carried out in accordance with the Highland Council *Standards for Archaeological Work* (2012) and the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (2014(c)).

## 5.2 Results

- 5.2.1 Fieldwork was carried out over two days between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 in mainly dry, cold, and bright conditions with good visibility and a moderate wind. However, the latter half of the second day included torrential rain and strong winds. Twenty-eight trenches were excavated across the site with an area totalling 1922m<sup>2</sup> (**Plates 2-9, Appendix 1**). Full details of the trench records can be consulted in Appendix 1. Three features were identified and subjected to excavation and evaluation during the fieldwork and details relating to contexts can be found in Appendix 2.
- 5.2.2 Surface vegetation across the development area included long, tussocky grass and some rushes, and it appeared that animals had not grazed in the area for some time. Generally, the topsoil (001) across the site retained a uniform depth of around 0.25>0.45m, although deeper deposits (up to 1.2m deep) were encountered in Trenches 14 and 15, within the SW corner of the site where a natural, broad hollow had been infilled using demolition rubble (brick, roofing slate and ashy spreads) to create a level surface (003). Some groundwater was encountered in the deepest part of the hollow, which may once have formed a natural water course or drainage channel. The topsoil generally comprised a mid-to dark-brown gritty loam containing small, rounded gravel clasts (20>30mm across), fine rootlets, and the occasional fragments of roofing slate and small, degraded sherds of industrial period ceramics and glass.





**Plate 2: View SE over the development site during excavation of evaluation trenches; Plate 3: The W sector of the development site, looking SW; Plate 4: Evaluation trenches in the E sector of the development site; Plate 5: The possible very degraded remnants of a turf dyke (below 1m scale rod), looking NE**

- 5.2.3 The mixed and mottled subsoil (002) comprised an orange to light brown silty sediment containing numerous gravel inclusions varying in size from 20>40mm across, with the occasional larger rounded stone clasts up to 150mm by 50mm in size. The subsoil was stained dark black in some areas by manganese deposits and these often formed a hard surface, possibly due to localised iron panning. Overall, the site is well-drained and would have been suitable for settlement, although a good quality water source was not present on the site – the waters of the Ob being fresh to brackish, especially during high spring tides.
- 5.2.4 The features recorded and excavated at the site comprised negative features, excavated into the underlying subsoil. Two roughly parallel ditches ran at an angle on a SW-NE alignment through the southern end of Trenches 1 and 2 (Cuts 004 and 005). These measured 0.50m and 0.65m wide respectively and contained homogenous fills comprising dark brown gritty sediments (006) and (007). Excavation revealed Cut (004)



to be a maximum of 0.30m deep and contained a very corroded cast-iron water main, including one of the joining flanges. The pipe measured approximately 120mm in diameter. Cut (005) was a maximum of 0.18m deep and had laid in the base an asbestos pipe measuring approximately 90mm in diameter, which had also most likely functioned as a water main.





**Plates opposite page:**

**Plate 6: Typical subsoil colour and structure across most evaluation trenches; Plate 7: Slightly darker subsoil showing black manganese-rich deposits; Plate 8: The deeper, damp sediments (003) in Trench 14 (beyond scales in image); Plate 9: The deeper manganese-rich deposits underlying (003) in Trench 15 (in distance beyond scales)**

- 5.2.5 A pit feature cut (008) was identified in the northwest side of Trench 3, which contained a grey to black charcoal and ash-rich sediment containing numerous, small gravel stone clasts (009). Section excavation of the shallow pit, which measured approximately 1.3m long (SW-NE) by 0.7m wide and a maximum of 0.18m deep, showed an homogenous fill containing two fragments of roofing slate and 4 small, degraded sherds of white-glazed industrial period ceramic. The pit possibly contained the debris from a small fire of post-medieval date.



**Plates 10 and 11: Pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trenches 1 and 2, with their respective fills (006) and (007), before section excavation**





***Plate 12: View of the two water main trenches and their respective cast-iron and asbestos pipes***

## **6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Although the development site is located in an area with the potential for archaeological remains, the evaluation did not uncover any finds or features of archaeological significance and has demonstrated the presence of significant archaeological remains on the site to be unlikely. No further work is recommended.





***Plate 13: Pit feature cut (008) and charcoal-rich fill (009), Trench 3***

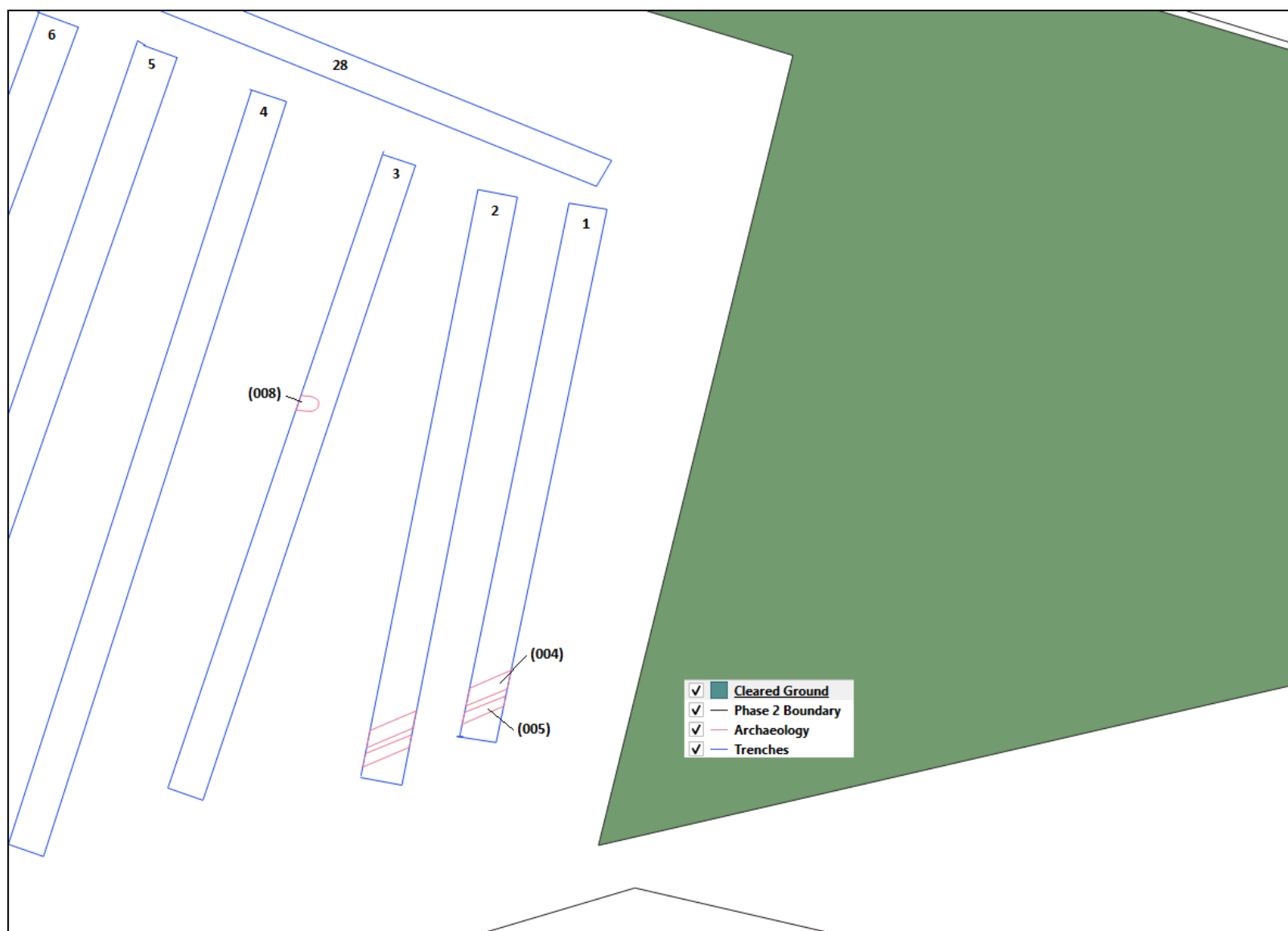


***Plate 14: Pit feature cut (008) and charcoal-rich fill (009), after section excavation***





**Figure 6: Plan showing evaluation trenches and archaeological features**



**Figure 7: Plan showing archaeological features in Trenches 1, 2 and 3**





***Plate 15: The southern edge of the development site showing the ground falling away to the Ob***

## 7 REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX 1: Trench Register

(Trenches 1.8m wide)

Trench No.	Length (m)	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Depths (m) (Average)	Archaeology	Subsoil Notes
1	34	61.2	0.3m	(004), (005), (006), (007)	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
2	36	64.8	0.28	(004), (005), (006), (007)	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
3	42	75.6	0.26	(008), (009)	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
4	48	86.4	0.25	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
5	50	90	0.27	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
6	50	90	0.26	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
7	52	93.6	0.25	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
8	58	104.4	0.27	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
9	68	122.4	0.28	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
10	86	154.8	0.28	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
11	90	162	0.30	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
12	92	165.6	0.32	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
13	34	61.2	0.32>0.82	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
14	26	46.8	0.30>0.90	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
15	26	46.8	0.32>1.10	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
16	26	46.8	0.35>0.85	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning



Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation, Erection of 32 Residential Units, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye:  
Data Structure Report

Trench No.	Length (m)	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Depths (m)	Archaeology	Subsoil Notes
17	26	46.8	0.30>0.75	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
18	26	46.8	0.28>0.60	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
19	26	46.8	0.30>0.45	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
20	26	46.8	0.35>0.40	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
21	28	50.4	0.32>0.40	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
22	30	54	0.30>0.35	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
23	28	50.4	0.35	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
24	28	50.4	0.32	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
25	18	32.4	0.30	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
26	14	25.2	0.28	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
27	98	176.4	0.25	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning
28	62	111.6	0.25	-	Mid brown to orange gravel with sub-rounded pebbles >0.30mm; and areas of manganese panning

## APPENDIX 2: Contexts Register

Context No.	Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Mid to dark brown gritty loam containing small, rounded gravel clasts (20>30mm across), fine rootlets, and the occasional fragments of roofing slate and small, degraded sherds of industrial period ceramics and glass.	Topsoil
002	All	Deposit	Mixed and mottled subsoil (002) comprised an orange to light brown silty sediment containing numerous gravel inclusions varying in size from 20>40mm across, with the occasional larger rounded stone clasts up to 150mm by 50mm in size. The subsoil was stained dark black in some areas by manganese deposits and these often formed a hard surface, possibly due to localised iron panning.	Subsoil/Natural
003	13>15	Deposit	Mid to dark brown gritty loam containing small, rounded gravel clasts (20>30mm across), fine rootlets, and the occasional fragments of roofing slate and small, degraded sherds of industrial period ceramics and glass within Trenches 13, 14 and 15 attains a greater depth where it fills a shallow gully. Here, the deposit also contains demolition rubble, including brick, roofing slate and ashy spreads. Has been used to infill gully.	Topsoil/ demolition deposits
004	1, 2	Cut	U-shaped cut 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. Cut for abandoned water main containing cast-iron pipe.	Cut for water main
005	1, 2	Cut	U-shaped cut 0.6m wide 0.65m wide and 0.18m deep, with angled sides and flat base. Cut for abandoned water main containing asbestos pipe.	Cut for water main
006	1, 2	Fill	Dark brown gritty sediment containing gravel clasts up to 20mm across.	Fill of water main trench (004)
007	1, 2	Fill	Dark brown gritty sediment containing gravel clasts up to 20mm across.	Fill of water main trench (005)
008	3	Cut	Shallow pit measuring approximately 1.3m long by 0.7m wide and a maximum of 0.18m deep. Shallow, angled sides and undulating base.	Cut for pit
009	3	Fill	Grey to black charcoal and ash-rich sediment containing numerous small gravel stone clasts, two fragments of roofing slate and 4 small, degraded sherds of white-glazed industrial period ceramic. The pit possibly contained the debris from a small fire of post-medieval date.	Fill of pit (008)

### APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register

Photo No.	Description	Direction Facing	Date Taken
1	Looking over SE sector of site during cutting of trenches	SW	19.11.20
2	Looking over SE sector of site during cutting of trenches	SW	19.11.20
3	Looking over NE end of trenches on development site	W	19.11.20
4	Looking over NE end of trenches on development site with access track to right	NW	19.11.20
5	Looking over NE end of trenches and development site with access track to left	SE	19.11.20
6	Looking over NE end of development site with access track in foreground	SSE	19.11.20
7	View over central area of development site with access track in foreground	SSW	19.11.20
8	View over central and W area of development site with access track in foreground	SW	19.11.20
9	View over the central area of the development site with the ranging rod within the possible degraded turf dyke (running away from the camera)	N	19.11.20
10	View over the NW sector of the development site showing the surface vegetation including long tussocky grasses	NW	19.11.20
11	Looking along Trench 1	SSW	19.11.20
12	View along Trench 2	SSW	19.11.20
13	View along Trench 3 with dark fill of pit cut (008) visible in distance	SSW	19.11.20
14	View along Trench 4	SSW	19.11.20
15	View along Trench 5	SSW	19.11.20
16	View along Trench 6	SSW	19.11.20
17	View along Trench 7	SW	19.11.20
18	View along Trench 8	SW	19.11.20
19	View along Trench 9	SW	19.11.20
20	View along Trench 10	SW	19.11.20
21	View along Trench 11	SW	19.11.20
22	View along Trench 12	SW	19.11.20
23	Looking up Trench 1 showing water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005)	NNE	19.11.20
24	View along Trench 2	NNE	19.11.20
25	View along Trench 3	NNE	19.11.20
26	View along Trench 4	NNE	19.11.20
27	View along Trench 5	NNE	19.11.20
28	View along Trench 6	NNE	19.11.20
29	View along Trench 7	NE	19.11.20
30	View along Trench 8	NE	19.11.20
31	View along Trench 9	NE	19.11.20
32	View along Trench 10	NE	19.11.20
33	View along Trench 11	NE	19.11.20
34	View along Trench 12	NE	19.11.20

Photo No.	Description	Direction Facing	Date Taken
35	Looking along SW end of development site with steeper ground leading down to An t-Ob – the tidal inlet	ESE	19.11.20
36	View along Trench 13 with deeper sediment deposits filling shallow gully in distance	NW	19.11.20
37	View along Trench 13 with deeper sediment deposits filling shallow gully beyond ranging rod	SE	19.11.20
38	View along Trench 14 with deeper sediment deposits removed from shallow gully showing black manganese deposits	SE	19.11.20
39	View along Trench 14 with deeper sediment deposits removed from shallow gully showing black manganese deposits	NW	19.11.20
40	View along Trench 16 showing black manganese-rich deposits in foreground	NW	19.11.20
41	View along Trench 16	SE	19.11.20
42	View along Trench 18 showing black manganese-rich deposits	NW	19.11.20
43	View along Trench 18 showing black manganese-rich deposits	SE	19.11.20
44	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 1	NNE	20.11.20
45	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 1	NNE	20.11.20
46	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 1	N	20.11.20
47	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 2	NNE	20.11.20
48	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 2	NNE	20.11.20
49	Pre-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005) in Trench 2	N	20.11.20
50	Pre-excavation image of pit cut (008) and black ashy fill (009) in Trench 3	SW	20.11.20
51	Pre-excavation image of pit cut (008) and black ashy fill (009) in Trench 3	SW	20.11.20
52	Post-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) – top, with cast-iron pipe; and (005) – bottom, with asbestos pipe, in Trench 1	NNE	20.11.20
53	Post-excavation image of water main pipe trench cuts (004) and (005), in Trench 1	ENE	20.11.20
54	Post-excavation image of pit cut (008), showing black ashy fill (009) in section with white-glazed industrial period ceramics, in Trench 3	SW	20.11.20
55	Post-excavation image of pit cut (008), showing black ashy fill (009) in section with white-glazed industrial period ceramics, in Trench 3 (closer view)	WSW	20.11.20