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## Grantfield Croft, Tain Archaeological Trial Trenching



### Data Structure Report and Recommendations

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# Grantfield Croft, Tain Archaeological Trial Trenching Data Structure Report and Recommendations

<b>HAS Report No.</b>	GCT22-005
<b>Site Code</b>	GCT22
<b>Client</b>	David Murison
<b>Planning Reference</b>	22/00887/FUL
<b>OS Grid Reference</b>	NH 76500 77900
<b>Date</b>	20/12/2022
<b>Author(s)</b>	Karen Kennedy
<b>Approved by</b>	Lachlan McKeggie

## Summary

*A programme of archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken at the site of an abandoned rural settlement at Grantfield Croft, Tain. This project was commissioned by David Murison in advance of the development of a new house. This was in order to fulfil a planning condition as part of application 22/00887/FUL.*

*During the evaluation five trenches were opened, three of which targeted the post-medieval structures identified for the planning condition. No other archaeological features were found in the other two trenches in the development area, with the exception of a rubble filled drain.*

*The structures were characterised and recorded and due to the lack of other features noted during the work no further archaeological work is recommended.*

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## ***Legislation and Policy***

The common principles underlying international conventions, national legislation and local authority planning policies are that cultural heritage assets should be identified in advance of development and safeguarded where practicable; if disturbance is unavoidable appropriate recording of features and recovery of portable artefacts should take place. These have been set out in international agreements, UK and Scottish legislation, as well as national and local planning policies<sup>1</sup>.

Professional standards maintained throughout the present project adhered to the Codes of Conduct and Approved Practice and Standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists<sup>2</sup>.

## ***Acknowledgements***

This document was written by Karen Kennedy and edited by Lachlan McKeggie. The project was commissioned and funded by David Murison. Fieldwork was directed by Lynne McKeggie with the assistance of James McGovern, Karen Kennedy and Lachlan McKeggie. Background mapping has been reproduced by permission of the Ordnance Survey under Licence 100043217. Historic mapping is courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

## ***Glossary***

- BGS - British Geological Survey
- DBA – Desk based Assessment
- DES – Discovery and Excavation Scotland
- CIfA – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- HES – Historic Environment Scotland
- HET – Historic Environment Team
- HHER – Highland Historic Environment Record
- NLS – National Library of Scotland

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<sup>1</sup> A summary of relevant international, EU, UK and Scottish legislation and policies is available from the HAS office on request.

<sup>2</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Excavation.

## Location

The site is located to the south of Tain and approximately 2.68km west of the A9 (Figures 1 and 2). The development area sits 150 metres to the west of the Kings Causeway with forestry to the north west and west of the site. It is located at NGR NH 76500 77900.



Figure 1: Site Location

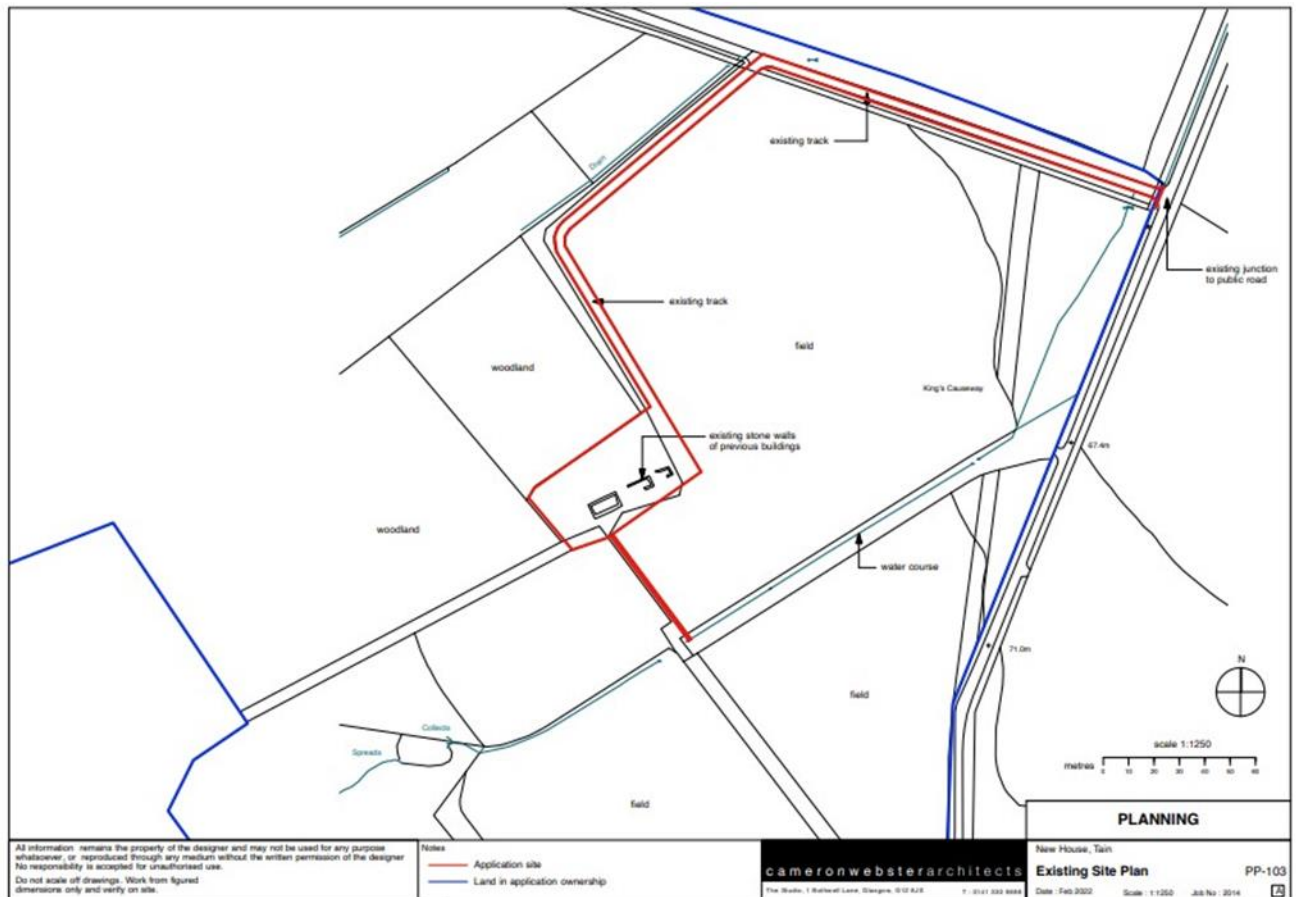


Figure 2: Site boundary  
(Courtesy of David Murison)

## Introduction

A programme of archaeological evaluation took place between 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and was commissioned by David Murison in advance of the development of a house at Grantfield Croft, near Tain in Ross and Cromarty. This is in order to fulfil obligations of the planning consent set out by Highland Council Historic Environment Team to application 22/00887/FUL.

The plot area was a small rough grassy padlock on the edge of an agricultural field with mature Scots Pine trees forming open woodland to the north west and south west sides. According to the BGS the sites underlying bedrock geology is Raddery Sandstone, a sedimentary bedrock made up of red sandstone largely of fluvial origin with lensing conglomerate members and muddy lacustrine members with fish fragments. The surface geology is a superficial sedimentary Devensian till.

The project comprises targeted excavation of 3 structures and 2 further trenches to identify and record archaeological remains within the footprint of the development. It included provision to undertake post-fieldwork tasks required for the preparation of a Data Structure report.

## Archaeological & Historical Background

The development is situated directly on the ruinous remains of an earlier structure. This feature is not designated but it is considered to be of local historic importance, possibly located to respect the scheduled King's Causeway that lies to the east and is directly adjacent to the access road. The King's Causeway was built in advance of King James IV's pilgrimage to St. Duthas Cathedral in Tain. Below is the DBA considering the available evidence for the site including the HER, OS Name book, Historic Maps and the Old and New Statistical Accounts. A full list of the identified features is given in appendix Table 2.

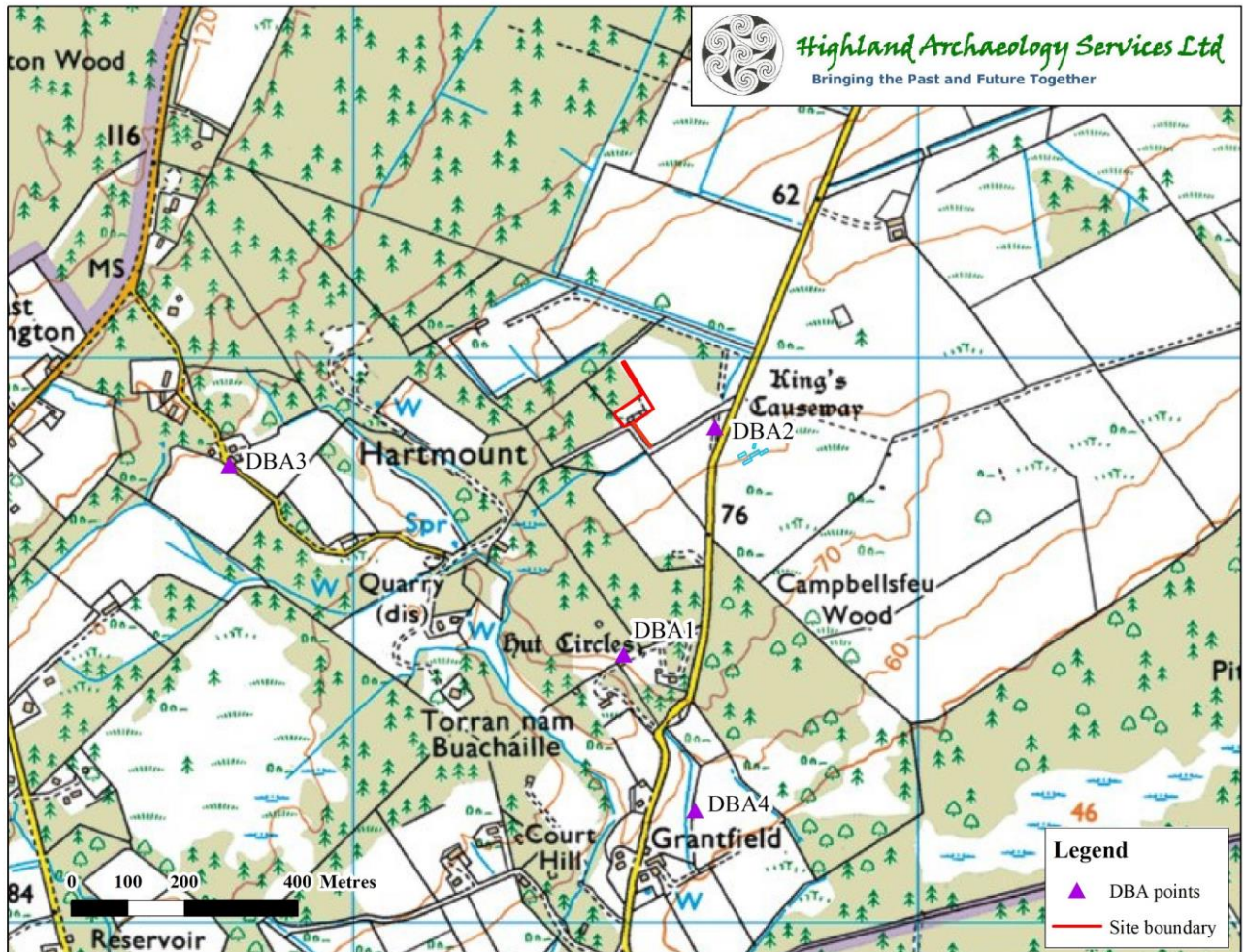


Figure 3: DBA Map

## Historic Environment Record

The historical assets identified in the Highland Historic Environment Record and Canmore are shown in **Figure 3**. The main asset in the vicinity to the development site is the King's Causeway (DBA 2). This is a Scheduled Monument noted on the Ordnance Survey in 1966 (SM3751). It is situated a little to the east of the development and consisted of a turf-covered track, 5.2m wide and 90m long, it is flanked by ditches and revetted with large stones. Deturfing of a section by Tain

school children in 1972 revealed the roughly paved roadway and silted ditches. It is believed to be the remnant of a medieval routeway and formed a pilgrimage route.

To the south of the site is DBA 1, a settlement of five stone-walled 'hut circles' surveyed in 1972 by the Ordnance Survey and described as follows:

"A-D" are marked by overgrown walls spread to about 3.5m on average, with an entrance in the SE. "A, B and C" are oval and measure respectively 15.5m NW-SE by 13.0m, 12.5m NW-SE by 10.5m, and 13.5m NW-SE by 12.0m between wall centres. "D" is circular and measures 12.0m in diameter between wall centres. "E" is about 11.0m in diameter but is too heavily overgrown to measure or describe accurately. Although there are traces of walls in the vicinity of "A, B and E", there is no definite trace of contemporary cultivation in the area.'

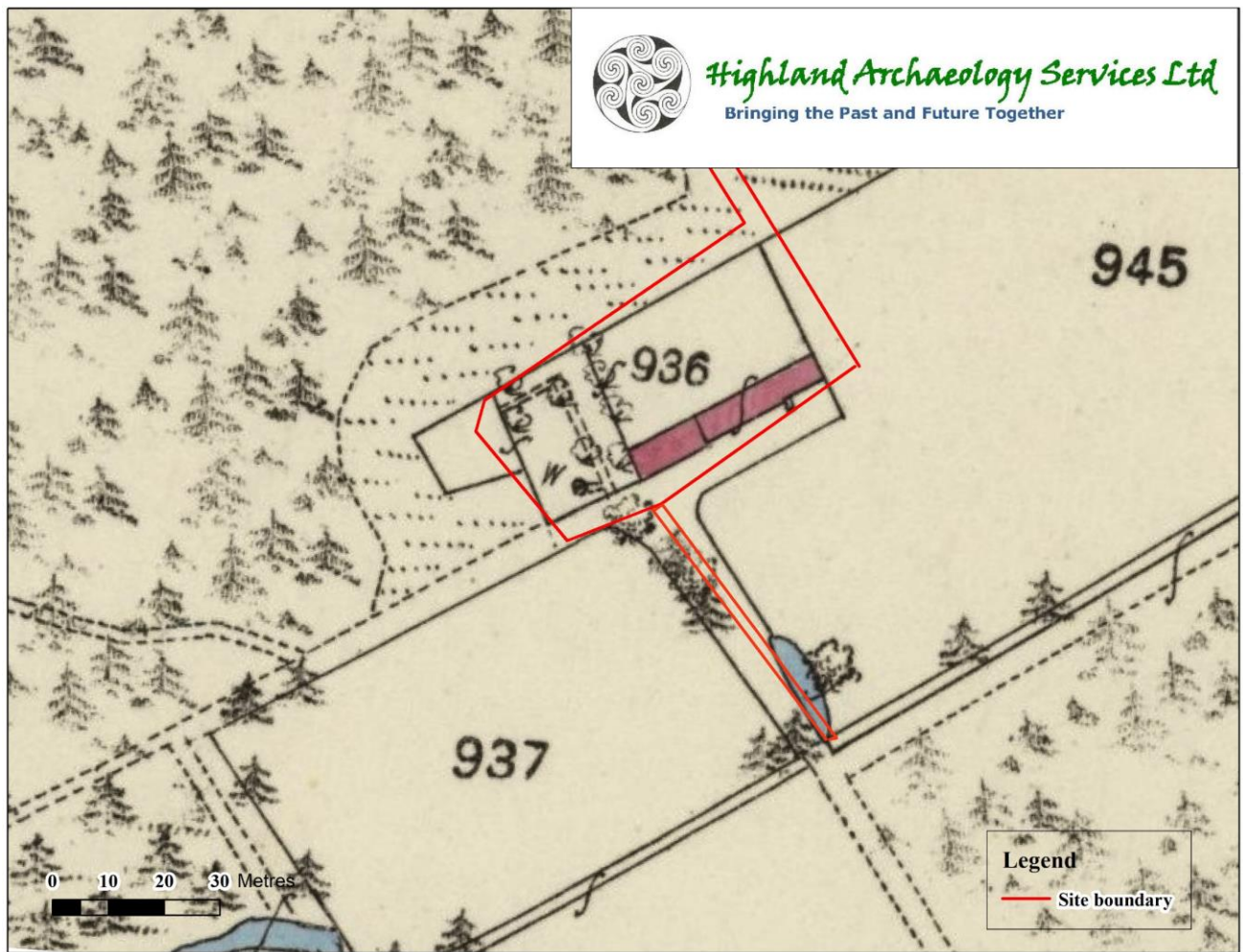
Just 5 years later in 1977 RCAHMS visited the site and noted that only one hut circle was visible. These features are likely to have been prehistoric round-houses. It is unknown what their present condition may be, but they are indicative of prehistoric activity in the area.

A series of walkover surveys were undertaken by S Farrell in 2004 as part of the Nigg Area Water Mains Renewal Project, in which a number of sites were recorded. However, the only feature noted in the vicinity of this development was a threshing barn (DBA 3). It was constructed of rubble sandstone walls, with corners and surrounds made of dressed stone. There were a number of openings, including a doorway into the loft. The original roof had been replaced with corrugated iron and part of a drive shaft survived in a wall.

Further south from the study area a farmstead was recorded by the Ordnance Survey in 1880 (DBA 5). It comprised three unroofed buildings and an enclosure. This was not depicted on modern mapping.

There are no Designated Battlefields, Garden and Designed Landscapes, Conservation Areas or World Heritage Sites in the vicinity of the development.

## Historic Mapping



**Figure 4: First edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey Map surveyed 1871 (site shown in red)**

The first edition map (**Figure 4**) surveyed in 1871 depicts a building filling much of the plot. This is shown as one continuous roofed structure divided into two with a small porch to the south east side of the house, to the south west is a garden which contains a well. There is an enclosure attached to the west of the garden. The King's Causeway can be seen to the east of the structure. The croft house sits in an area of cultivated fields surrounded by forestry.

The second edition map (**Figure 5**), surveyed in 1904, depicts the structure divided into three, with the north east end of the structure no longer roofed and the small porch is no longer depicted, the garden, well and enclosure to the south west are still shown. The King's Causeway is also still depicted to the east of the development site.

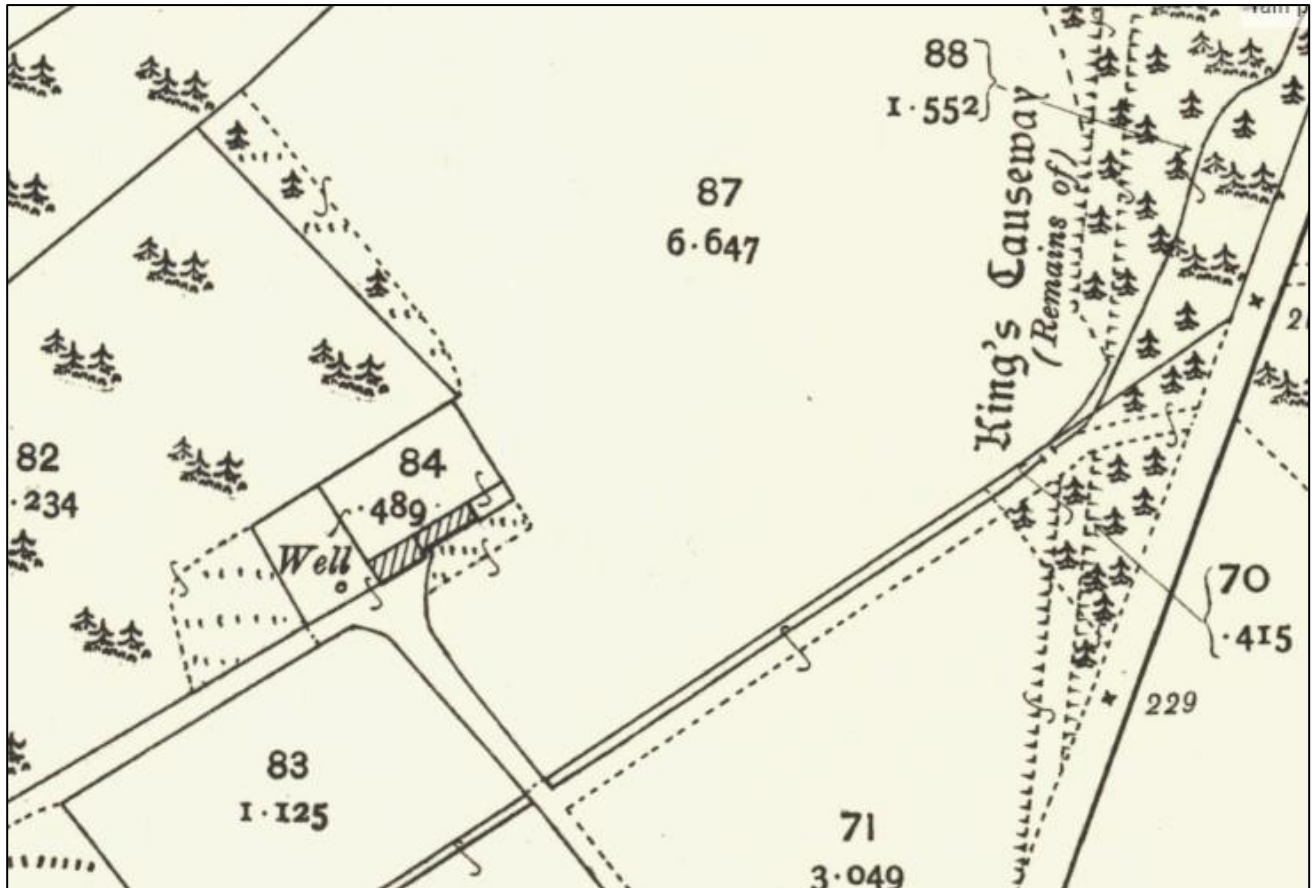


Figure 5: Second edition Ordnance Survey 25 inch Map surveyed 1904

## OS Namebook

The Ordnance Survey Name Books were created by surveyors as they mapped Britain in the 1800's. The books record the names of the settlements and natural features that they encountered, and descriptions of the places themselves. Grantfield is described as a small croft and was the property of the occupant John Meikle.<sup>3</sup>

The King's Causeway is described as "A public road entering the parish at Logie Muir extending in a South Western direction until it unites with the Co. [County] Road leading thro [through] Balnagown Wood. Constructed in 1527 for the journey of King James V to St Duthus' Sanctuary, Tain".<sup>4</sup>

## Statistical Accounts

The Old and New Statistical Accounts were checked for references to the area and possible antiquities. The site falls within the parish of Tain.

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<sup>3</sup> OS1/28/29/121

<sup>4</sup> OS1/28/25/34

### Old Statistical Account

The Old Statistical Account for the parish was written by the Rev. Mr George Douglas and was published in 1792. It describes King James IV travelling on foot from Falkland Palace to St. Duthus' cathedral. It states that the cathedral was burnt down shortly after the King's visit.<sup>5</sup> There is no other information that appears to relate to the proposed development site.

### New Statistical Accounts

The New Statistical accounts were written by the Rev. Charles Calder MacKintosh, minister in August 1837. In it he describes the Kings Causeway and its construction. He does, however, dispute the claim that the chapel was burnt after the visit of the King in 1527, stating that the fire had been 100 years earlier. He states that the road was built because of the lack of suitable paths across the moor in the upper part of the parish, for the king to use on his way to St Duthus' Cathedral.<sup>6</sup>

## **DBA Conclusions**

The desk based assessment has established that few previously recorded features have been noted in the vicinity of the development<sup>7</sup>. The proposed development is situated directly on the ruinous remains of an earlier structure. This feature is not designated but is considered to be of local historic importance, possibly located to respect the scheduled King's Causeway that lies to the east and is directly adjacent to the access road. The King's Causeway was built in advance of King James IV's pilgrimage to St. Duthas Cathedral in Tain.

## **The fieldwork**

### *Aims and Objectives*

The principal aims of the fieldwork stage of the project were:

- To establish what is previously known about the site and potentially related features in the vicinity of the development.
- To undertake selective and targeted excavation for the proposed development in order to identify and record all significant archaeological remains and finds revealed during the course of that work to be satisfied that no further work is required.
- To present and disseminate the archaeological evidence gathered during the fieldwork stage and to set out the archaeological research potential of the primary fieldwork data and how that evidence can elucidate the history of the site.

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<sup>5</sup> Sinclair, 1792, p394

<sup>6</sup> Gordon, 1845, p288

<sup>7</sup> Kennedy, K, 2022

## *Methodology*

The evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken over four days 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The weather was mainly sunny with occasional overcast, light showers and was very cold with hard frosts. The archaeological trial trenching was proposed in order to characterise the historic structures that were evident as well as assess the potential for survival of buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

An experienced and qualified professional archaeologist supervised all ground works required for the Trial Trenching work. Machine excavation was undertaken using a flat-bladed bucket in areas where this could be achieved without causing damage to underlying deposits. This horizon was inspected by the archaeologist for signs of possible features or artefacts, and the resulting surface was cleaned where necessary by hand to clarify details. The structural remains on the site were found to survive up to 1m high.

The PD&RAMS<sup>8</sup> stated that sections would be cut and recorded through at least two walls down to base-foundation level in order to ascertain the construction method and identify potential earlier phases, this was not done as it was obvious during the excavation that the walls of the structures were built straight onto the topsoil and no phasing was evident therefore this was not required.

## *Description of Recorded Archaeology*

Five trenches were excavated in total (see Figure 6 below), three of which targeted the known structures within the site. Trench 5 and Trench 1 were excavated to establish whether any associated buried features may be present, or if there was any indication of use in these garden or cultivation areas. Trenches 2, 3 and 4 targeted the structures previously identified on the site. Overall the subsoil was an orange/yellow sandy soil with many black patches with frequent stone inclusions. The topsoil was a dark brown silty loam with moderately frequent small stones and was between 0.3m and 0.65m in depth. Descriptions for all contexts recorded within each trench can be seen in the context register within the appendices. With the exception of a drain in trench 1 (see Figure 6 below) and the trenches that targeted the structures in trenches 2, 3 and 4, no other archaeological features were noted.

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<sup>8</sup> Kennedy, K, 2022

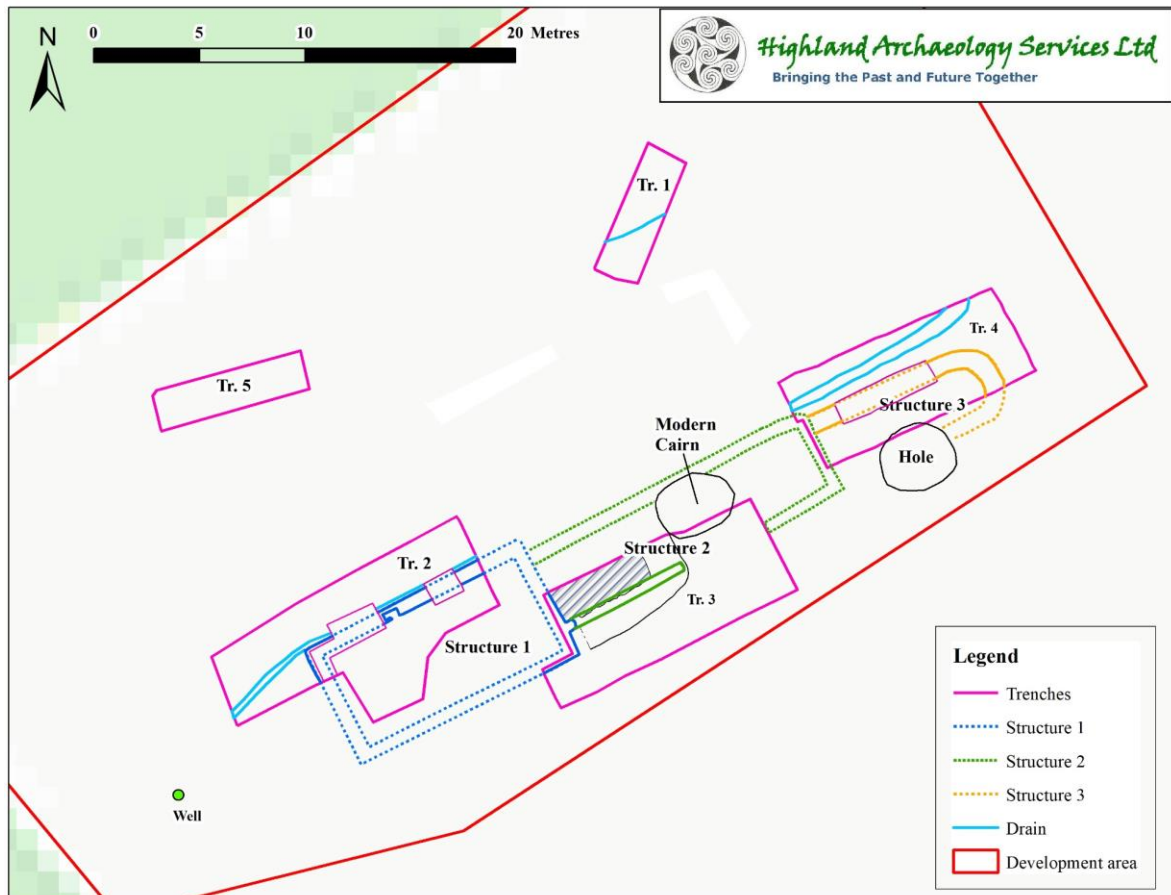


Figure 6: Overall Trench Layout and Structures



Figure 7: Photo 4941, Trench 1 facing N, 1m scale

## Trench 2 (Structure 1)

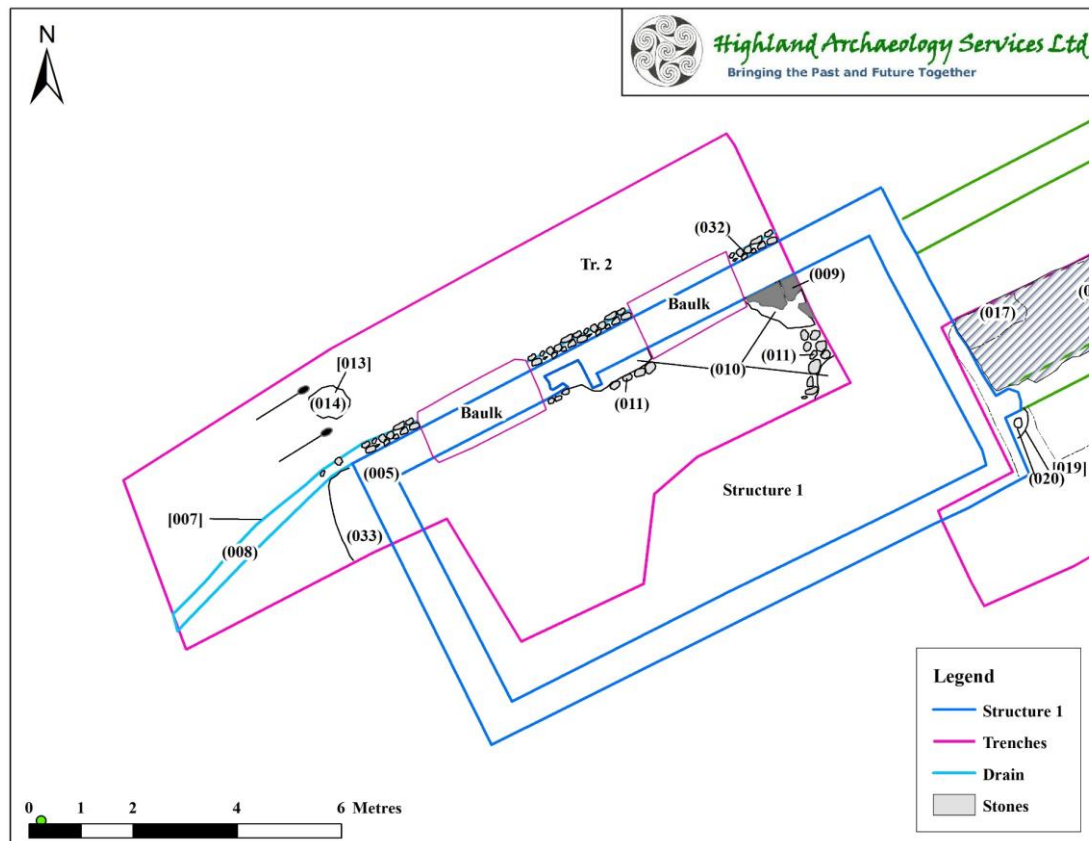


Figure 8: Structure 1

Trench 2 was opened over the north and west of Structure 1 (see Figure 8 above). This was a stone built structure comprising a mix of square stones laid in courses, large rounded boulders, which were mostly at the foundation level or at the corner of the structure and some smaller stones which acted as an infill (005) (see Figure 9 below). The stones were tightly packed but did not appear to be mortared or clay-bonded. There were some small areas of pointing on the outside of this structure which was a pale yellow colour with small gravel inclusions (see Figure 10 below). The wall survived around a metre high and was 0.6m wide. The even height of survival suggests that the building was deliberately demolished and left at this height.

Running along the north edge of the structure's wall ran a drain [007] (see Figure 8 above) which continued south west towards the well within the garden of the structure. The ditch was filled with a dark brown soil with frequent large stones (008) through the garden area, and was densely packed with stones that were heaped against the wall where it ran along the side of the structure (032) (see Figure 9 and 10 below). It contained some voids and water was accruing within the ditch.

A little to the north of the corner of the structure was a posthole [013] this contained a grey-brown clay soil and still contained the post (014) (see Figure 8 above). This was the cut and posthole for a fence marked on the historic mapping (see Figure 4 and 5). To the west of this the subsoil sloped down to create an area with deeper topsoil, which had been within an enclosed area to the side of the building. On the ground against the west gable of the building a dark brown, dense soil had accumulated prior to the demolition of the building (033).



**Figure 9: North facing elevation of western external corner of structure 1**



**Figure 10: North facing elevation of central part of external wall, structure 1**

On the inside of the structure, in the centre of the northern most wall a pantry was built within the wall this contained the remains of a 20<sup>th</sup> century lamp with pyramid-form metal base and an amber-coloured glass shade with honeycomb pattern (see Figure 11 below). Fragments of a glass bottle and a copper-alloy switch casing were found inside the glass lampshade. The floor of the pantry comprised a yellowy-grey clay (010) with a slate on top, indicating that slates may have been used as the floor of the cupboard.



**Figure 11: Photo 5039, facing north showing pantry with lampshade and base with 30cm scale**

The floor across the rest of the structure had largely been destroyed, probably during demolition. However, towards the east end of the trench a small number of flagstones (009) were uncovered (see Figure 12 below), some of which were quite square and sat nicely against each other with little in the way of gaps. This sat on top of the clay layer (010) which was a pale yellow-grey clay and was reasonably compact and not very deep. Beneath (010) a layer of rounded stones (011) was revealed, with stones 10-20cm in diameter. The stones appeared to have been placed directly onto an old topsoil layer of black brown soil (034). (034) say directly on to the natural (002). The floor within the building was notably higher than the outside ground level, which was likely due to the need to keep water out of the building.



**Figure 12: Inside structure 1 with remains of floor, facing east, 1m scale**

A brown and yellow clay soil layer (012) was uncovered overlying the flagstones in Structure 1. This was interpreted as the initial abandonment layer overlying the floor layer. This contained artefacts such as pottery and a metal bucket (see Figure 13).



**Figure 13: pottery and metal above flagstones in (012)**

## Trench 3 (Structure 1 & 2)

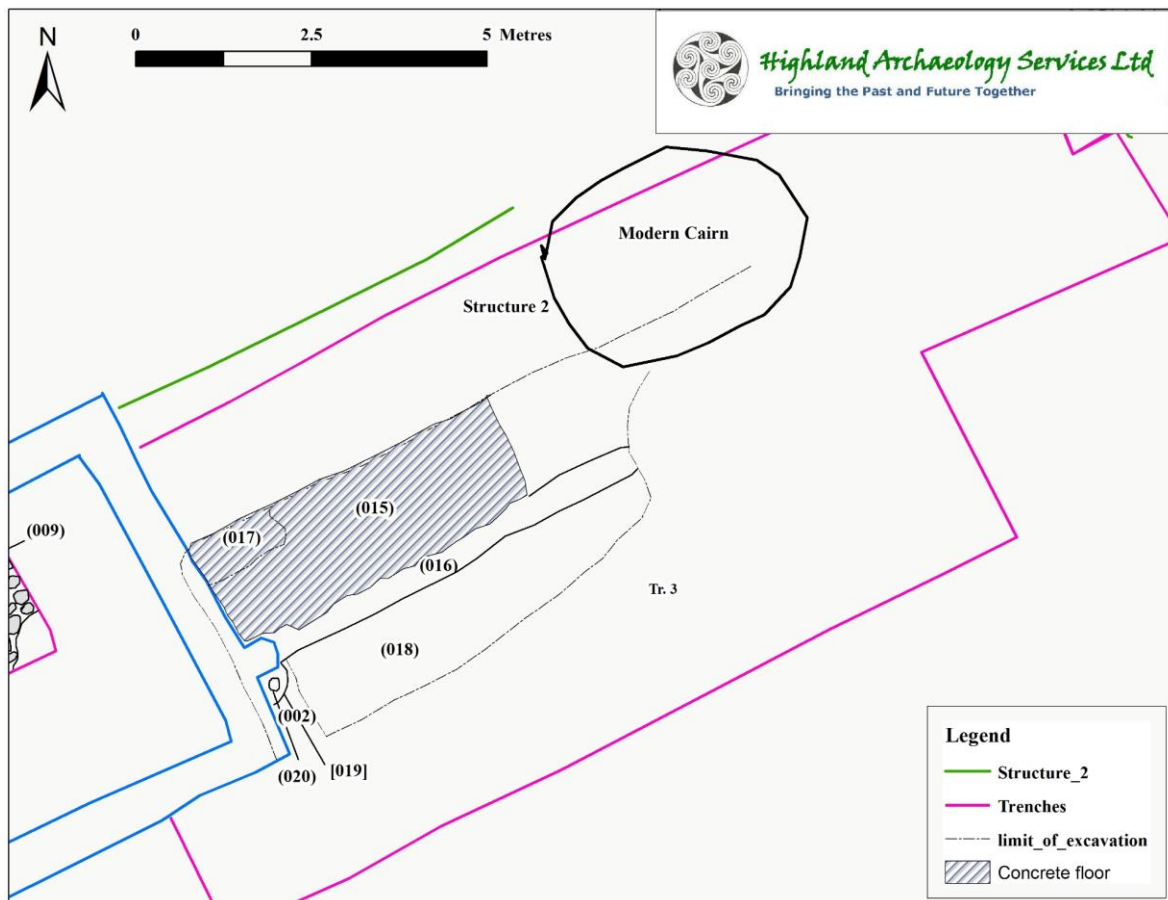


Figure 14: Trench 3, Structure 2

Trench 3 was opened over the south west side of structure 2 and the corner of structure 1 (see Figure 14 above). Structure 2 was a stone-built structure which like structure 1 was comprised of large rounded stones and some smaller stones. In the south west of the structure a layer of orangey yellow concrete (015) (see Figure 15 below) with frequent pebble inclusions was uncovered. This was very degraded and uneven and appears to have sunken or collapsed with the underlying floor. The eastern edge of the concrete layer was very straight. A thin layer of mottled clay survived in parts (021) on top of the concrete (015). This was mostly grey but with dark purplish staining as well as yellows and pinks. It also contained many small fragments of coal and a piece of textile (find no. 2) was found within this layer. Beneath the concrete was a layer of stones (016) with a facing on the south side forming the edge of the structure described as a structure 2. (016) had smaller tightly packed stones on the inside underlaying the concrete (015).



**Figure 15: Photo 5021, Concrete layer (015) facing W, 1m scales**

A slot was excavated to establish the relationship between structures 1 and 2 (see Figure 16, Figure 17 and Figure 18 below). This established that adjacent to the concrete was a layer of orangey brown gravelly soil (017), this was fairly compact and contained medium sized angular stones and appears to be collapse from structure 1. (017) also contained some metal items including lamp fragments. A layer of brown homogenous soil containing large stones (018), was similar to the topsoil but lay beneath the collapse layer (017). Within the slot was a posthole [019], this was situated between the edge of structure 1 and 2 and circular in plan. The fill (020) was mainly dark brown but had a charred circle signifying the location of circular post, which had probably been charred to preserve it. The posthole was approximately 15cm in diameter and was around 4cm from each structure.

The wall (016) just to the north west of post [019] forming the faced of structure 2 was found to be built into wall (005) of structure 1 showing they were contemporary (see Figure 16).



Figure 16: Photo 5026, facing West showing slot outside structure 1 within structure 2, 1m and 30cm scales



Figure 17: Photo 5032, showing posthole [019], 30cm scale

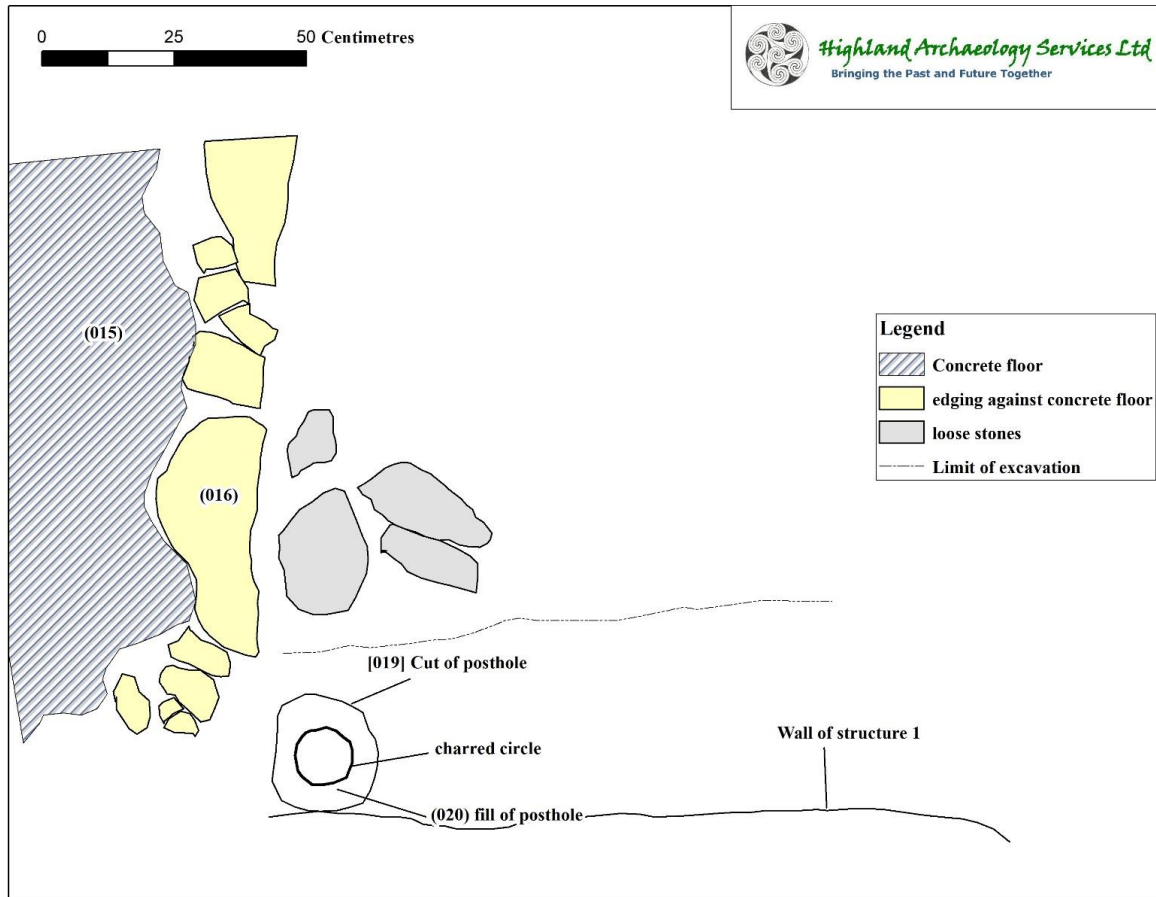


Figure 18: Plan of slot within structure 2, showing posthole

## Trench 4 (Structure 2 & 3)

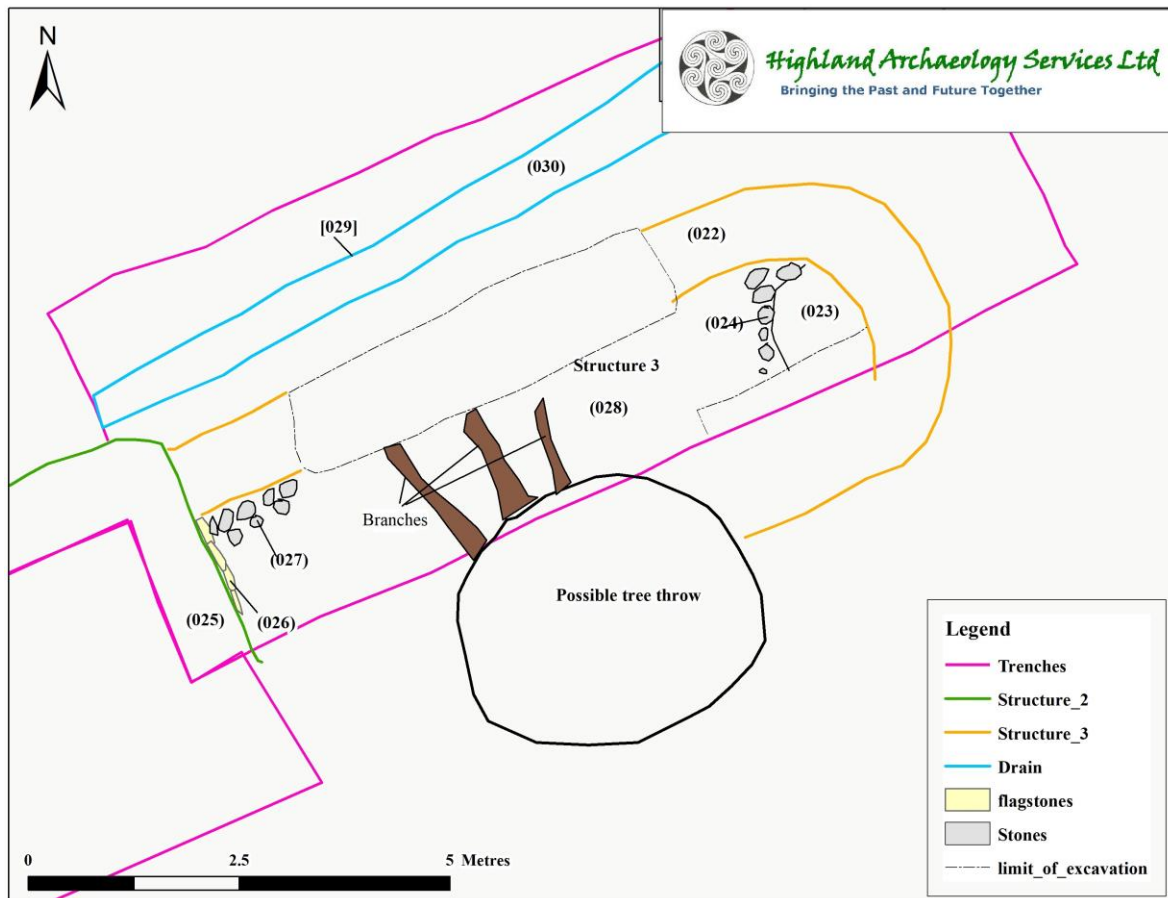


Figure 19: Trench 4 Plan

Trench 4 was opened up over the north eastern side of Structure 3 and the corner of structure 2 (see Figure 19 above). This trench sought to establish the nature of Structure 3 as well as the relationship between structures 2 and 3. The wall of structure 3 (022) abutted Structure 2 (025) however these stones were smaller than those in the rest of the structure and may have been the result of reconstruction at a later date (see Figure 20 below).

Visible within structure 3 at the eastern end of structure 2 was a foundation layer of flat stones (026) underlying the larger stones making up the gable of structure 2 (025) (see Figure 19 above). A number of large rounded stones as well as smaller angular stones were exposed on the eastern gable of structure 2 (025) which sat partly on (026) and partly onto the natural.



**Figure 20: Photo 5003, facing S, showing join between structures 2 (left) and 3 (right), 1m scale**

Structure 3 was found to comprised drystone walls (022), sturdily constructed with a mixture of rounded boulders and angled stones and built directly onto the topsoil (see Figure 21 and Figure 22 below). The wall may at some time have been reconstructed where it joins with structure 2. Within structure 3, at the eastern end, an orange clay packed around smallish angular stones (023) was uncovered. Beneath this were larger rounded stones (024), these appeared to form the foundation layer for the floor. A similar jumble of stones (027) was uncovered adjacent to the structure 2 wall, within structure 3 and this is likely to be the same as (024).



Figure 21: Photo 4988, facing SW, showing curved wall of eastern end of structure 3, 1m scale

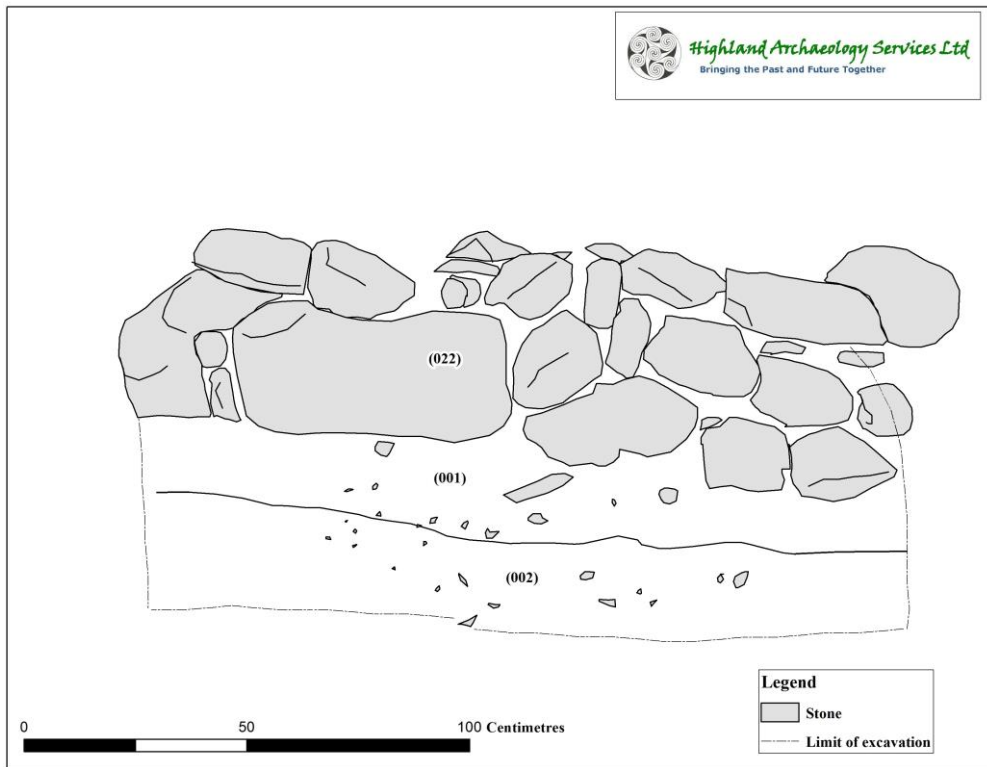
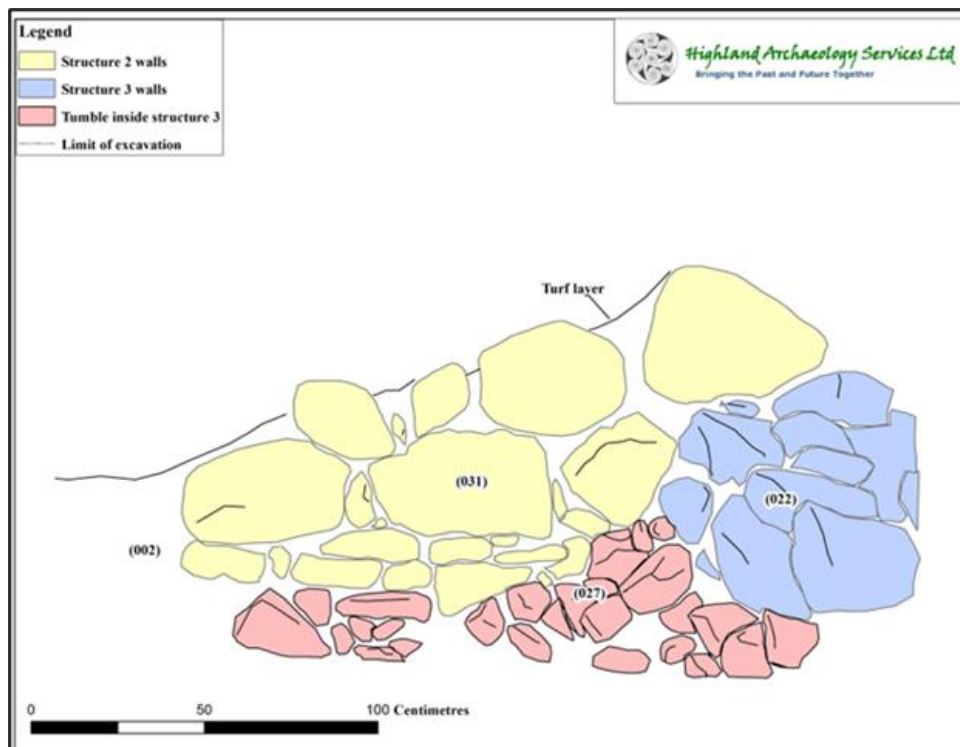


Figure 22: South facing section of east end of structure 3

A clay rich dark brown soil (028) underlay (024), this directly over the natural subsoil and contained large pieces of wood, which were possibly roots or dumped branches (see Figure 25 below).



**Figure 23: Photo 4965, facing E, showing clay flooring and curved wall at east end of structure 3, 1m and 30cm scales**



**Figure 24: Inside structure 3 showing jumble of stones (027) next to structure 2**



**Figure 25: Possible tree branch across structure 3, facing South, 1m and 30cm scales**

Running north east to south west of the trench, a drain [029] was noted (likely the same as [007] from trench 1. The drain was 0.4m wide with a fairly shallow cut into the natural. It was filled with medium sized stones and dark brown soil (030).

### ***Summary of Finds***

Much of the finds found on the site were not from a secure context so were not retained although some of the more interesting finds were photographed onsite (see Figure 26, Figure 27 and Figure 28 below).



Figure 26: Jam jars



Figure 27: Metal bucket



**Figure 28: Metal traps**



**Figure 29: Find No. 1: Selection of glass, ceramic and spoon**

A selection of ceramic, glass and a horn/bone spoon (see Figure 29 above) were retained as Find Number 1 from (012) overlying the flagstones in Structure 1. These all appear to be of a fairly modern date, i.e. late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The spoon which is most likely made from horn was traditionally made by travellers within the Highlands and may be evidence of trade and contact with this community.

Find 2 was a piece of textile recovered from (021) within the clay layer overlying the concrete floor in structure 2 (trench 3). This appears to be coarsely woven, tabby weave hessian commonly used for sack cloth.

## Discussion & Conclusions

The programme of archaeological recording and excavation undertaken in advance of the planned housing development works has characterised and preserved by record the substantial and well preserved remains of abandoned 19th century/early 20th century rural buildings at Grantfield Croft, Tain. The site represents one of many such abandoned rural, later post medieval settlements recorded throughout the Highland region – a common type of heritage asset that nonetheless has received surprisingly little previous archaeological intervention or research, although its significance is being increasingly appreciated throughout the archaeology community. The recorded archaeology, in combination with documentary evidence, indicates that the buildings existed as two structures in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century before it was divided into three sometime before the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The eastern structure was unroofed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1904, but the other two remained roofed at this time. This would seem to indicate that both the western and central structures were still in use at this time and the eastern structure may have been used as an enclosure. Apart from this there is little evidence of different phases on the site with the exception of the concrete floor within structure 2b which seems to have been a later addition when a narrow retaining wall was built to retain the concrete. As this retaining wall does not seem to have been a substantial wall it is unlikely that it was very high and may have formed an open barn structure.

The finds and the archaeology excavated would seem to indicate that these structures were abandoned and left derelict sometime during the first half or middle of the 20th century. The finds are consistent with the overall site having an agriculture and residential use. With structure 1 being the main dwelling, structure 2 being a barn or shed and structure 3 an enclosure or byre.

## Recommendations

In view of the recording and characterisation of the structures on the site no further work is recommended.

Due to their low research value finds 1 & 2 will not be offered to Treasure Trove.

## Archive

A copy of this report will be deposited with the Highland Council for inclusion in the Historic Environment Record and with OASIS under report Highland4-438224. A summary report will also be sent to DES and the project archive will be submitted to HES following completion. The site archive comprises digital records including photographs, registers and GIS files. These will be processed and submitted to HES following completion of the project in accordance with their published guidance. The finds will be offered to Scottish Treasure Trove.

## Bibliography and References

Canmore 2021: Online Digital resource available at: <https://canmore.org.uk/>

CIFA 2020 ‘Standards and Guidance’ various documents Digital available at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>

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Highland Archaeology Services Ltd  
January 2023

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## Appendices

Table 1: Photo Table

Photo number	CP Location	Direction facing	Description
4924-4949		Pano	General shots of site
4941-4943	CP2	N and S	possible field drain in trench 1 - Pre-ex
4944-4946	CP3	Plan	Plan shot of rubble field drain [003] in trench 1
4947-4950	CP4	NW	SE Facing section of rubble field drain in trench 1
4951-4960	CP5	Var	General shots of structure1
4961-3		s	western corner of str1
4964		s	drain and posthole by western corner of str1
4965-4968		e	clay flooring and curved wall at east end of str3
4969-4972		w	drain from str1 towards well
4973-4		e	drain towards str1
4975			toad
4976		s	planning frame over corner of str1
4977		s	planning frame over drain by corner of str1
4978-9		s	central part of wall on outside str1 with planning frame
4980		s	planning frame over stones lying against str1 wall central part
4981		s	planning frame against wall in eastern part of trench
4982-3		n	planning frame over stones against wall in eastern part of trench
4984		s	external wall on east end of str3
4985-6		e	top of external wall at eastern end of str3
4987		s	planning frame against external wall str3
4988-90		sw	curved corner of str3
4991		ne	curved corner of str3
4992-4996		n	join between str3 and str2 from inside str3
4997-4999		w	wall of str2 from inside str3 incl with planning frame

Photo number	CP Location	Direction facing	Description
5000		n	planning frame over stones within str3
5001		n	planning frame over str2 wall from inside
5002		w	planning frame over str2 wall
5003-5010		s	join between str2 and str3 from outside
5011-5012		w	wall collapse overlying str2
5013-4		n	wall collapse overlying str2
5015-6		ne	working shot cleaning str2
5017-8		w	textiles within (021) overlying concrete floor str2
5019-20		n	concrete floor str2
5021		w	concrete floor str2
5022-3		e	concrete floor str2
5024		n	slot showing relationship str1&2
5025-7		w	str1 wall from within str2
5028-9		e	planning frame over slot with posthole
5030-1		w	planning frame over str1 wall
5032		n	closeup charred ring within posthole tr3
5033		n	working shot of pantrystr1
5034		s	flagstone base
5035		s	flagstone base close-up
5036		n	possible pantry str1
5037		n	possible pantry str1
5038		e	possible pantry str1
5039		n	pantry str1
5040-5041			stoneware jam jars
5042-5045			metal bucket
5046-5047		e	top of lampshade in situ
5048-5049		e	lampshade and pot in situ
5050-5051		e	lampshade and pot with lid off
5052			
5053			
5054		s	possible tree root
5055		s	possible tree root
5056-5057		e	trench 5
5058			metal straps

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**Table 2: DBA Table**

DBA No.	Canmore	HHER	Name	Easting	Northing	OS NGR	Classification	Description
DBA 1	14545	MHG8722	Hartmount	276480	877486	NH 76480 77490	HUT CIRCLE(S) (PREHISTORIC)	Centred at NH 765 775 is a settlement of five stone-walled huts "A - E" "A-D" are marked by overgrown walls spread to about 3.5m on average, with an entrance in the SE arc."A, B and C" are oval and measure respectively 15.5m NW-SE by 13.0m, 12.5m NW-SE by 10.5m, and 13.5m NW-SE by 12.0m between wall centres."D" is circular and measures 12.0m in diameter between wall centres."E" is circular and measures 12.0m in diameter between wall centres."E" is about 11.0m in diameter but is too heavily overgrown to measure or describe accurately.Although there are traces of walls in the vicinity of "A, B and E", there is no definite trace of contemporary cultivation in the area.Surveyed at 1/2500.Visited by OS (I S S) 30 August 1972.At the date of visit only one hut circle was visible in the dense vegetation that now covers the area. RCAHMS 1979, visited October 1977.
DBA 2	SM3751	MHG33351	King'S Causeway	276639	877877	-	CAUSEWAY	This record refers to the physical remains of the King's Causeway, which was noted by the Ordnance Survey in 1966. It was described as consisting of a turf-covered track 5.2m wide, c.80m long, flanked by ditches and revetted with large stones. Deturfing of a section at NH 7665 7799 by Tain schoolchildren in June 1972 revealed the roughly paved roadway 5.3m wide flanked by silted ditches. This fragment of the King's Causeway is very similar in character to features identified further south as belonging to a postulated early roadway through the Earldom of Ross. Two ditches run either side of an approximately 7m wide, occasionally cambered, surface. A stretch is scheduled 900m north of Grantfield.
DBA 3	275638	MHG48830	Hartmount	275780	877810	NH 75780 77810	BARN (PERIOD UNASSIGNED)	A threshing barn was recorded here during a walkover survey in the Hartmount area. It forms part of a farm, with a house and other building, which appear to be 19th century. The barn has rubble sandstone walls, with dressings on the corners and surrounds. There are a number of openings, including a doorway into the loft. The original roof has been replaced with corrugated iron. Part of a drive shaft survives in a wall. S Farrell 2004

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DBA 4	103968	MHG20836	Grantfield	276604	877199		FARMSTEAD	A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings and an enclosure is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Ross-shire and Cromartyshire 1880, sheet liv), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1978). Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 9 April 1996
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**Table 3: Context register**

Context Number	Area	Length	Width	Depth/height	Context Type (Cut/ structure/ Deposit/Layer/ Other	Method of Excavation	Conditions	Description	Interpretation
1	-	-	-	0.3m to 0.8m	Topsoil	Machine	Dry but frosty	A dark brown silt with moderately frequent small stones, topsoil. agricultural soils.	Topsoil
2	-	-	-	0.3m	Natural	Machine	Dry but frosty	An orange/yellow/black mottled sand with frequent stone inclusion natural	Natural
3	Trench 1	2m but extends trench	0.3m	0.6m	Cut	By Hand	Dry but frosty	Cut of rubble constructed field drain orientated ne to sw. fill contained frequent angular and subangular stones of various sizes for drainage. water still existed at bottom of drain, which demonstrates that the feature was still functioning	cut of field drain
4	Trench 1	2m but extends trench	0.3m	0.39m	Fill	By Hand	Dry but frosty	fill of rubble field drain in trench 1. Dark brown silt fill mixed with various sized angular and sub angular stones. Water existed at the bottom of the drain.	fill of field drain

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5	trench 2	12m	0.6	1.2m	structure			stone built wall, mix of square stones laid in courses, large rounded boulders (mostly at foundation level or large corner stones) and some smaller stones acting as infill	stone walls of structure 1
6	trench 2							small areas of mortar on external stonework only, pale yellow with small gravel inclusions	pointing on outside of structure 1
7	trench 2				cut			cut of ditch running along edge of building and down through 'garden' towards well. relatively shallow, does not extend deep into natural subsoil. Possibly the same drain that runs along the edge of Str3 [29]	cut of drain
8	trench 2				fill			dark brown soil with frequent large stones, some voids, water accrues	fill of drain
9	trench 2				structure			flagstones at east end of trench, some quite square, sit nicely against each other with few gaps. not extant across the space, limited to eastern end. sit on top of clay layer (010)	floor within building
10	trench 2							pale yellow-grey clay underlying flagstones and overlying cobble layer. reasonably compact. only a few cm deep	levelling layer

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11	trench 2							rounded stones 10-20cm wide underlying clay layer.	stones making drainage layer under clay floor
12	trench 2							brown and yellow clay soil layer with artefacts including pottery, metal bucket etc overlying floor layer in str1. initial abandonment layer.	post-abandonment layer
13	trench 2							round cut containing post	cut of posthole for fence
14	trench 2							grey-brown clay soil containing post	fill of posthole for fence
15	trench 3		4cm					orangey yellow concrete with frequent pebble inclusions, very degraded and uneven, appears to have sunken or collapsed with underlying floor. has straight edge on east side.	concrete floor
16	trench 3							stones underlying concrete, large stones with facing on south side forming edge of structure, smaller tightly packed stones on inside of this underlying concrete.	stones aligning front edge of building and underlying concrete
17	trench 3							orangey brown gravelly soil, fairly compact containing medium sized angular stones, appears to be collapse from str1 overlying str2 contains some metal items including lamp fragments	

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18	trench 3							brown homogenous soil containing large stones, very similar to topsoil but underlies collapse layer (017)	
19	trench 3			cut				cut of posthole against edge of structure 1 and 2, triangular in shape.	
20	trench 3			fill				fill of posthole, mostly brown but with charred circle signifying location of circular post, probably charred to preserve it, approx 15cm in diameter, edge about 4cm from each structure.	
21	trench 3				deposit			thin layer of mottled clay overlying concrete, mostly grey but with dark purplish staining and yellows and pinks. many small fragments of coal. A piece of textile found within this layer.	
22	trench 4	8.5	0.8	1m	structure			stone wall, sturdily constructed with mixture of rounded boulders and angled stones, dry stone construction. has been built onto topsoil. may have been reconstructed at join with str2	
23	trench 4							orange clay packed around smallish angular stones at east end of structure 3	
24	trench 4							large rounded stones underlying 23, appears to form foundation layer for floor	

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25	trench 4							eastern gable stones of str2, very large rounded stone at corner and on lower course, also smaller angled stones. has been built onto natural subsoil	
26	trench 4							foundation layer of flat stones underlying 025 inside str3	
27	trench 4							jumble of stones inside str3 beside str2 wall. may be the same as 024	
28	trench 4							clay rich dark brown soil underlying stone layer 028 and directly overlying natural. contains large pieces of wood, possibly roots or dumped branches?	
29	trench 4							cut of drain, 0.4m wide fairly shallow into subsoil.	cut of drain
30	trench 4							medium sized stones and dark brown soil filling drain	fill of drain
31	trench 4							stone wall, constructed with mixture of rounded boulders and angled stones, dry stone construction.	
32	trench 2							angular stones abutting structure 1 wall (005)and filling drain cut [007]	fill of drain
33	trench 2							very dark brown, compacted layer of earth underlying collapse layer and topsoil. Small stones, no charcoal or cultural material. Smooth and homogenous.	soil layer predating collapse of structure

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34	trench 1							blackish brown soil layer underlying stones in structure 1 (011), possibly buried topsoil underlying building, no cultural material	old burred topsoil
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**Table 4: Finds Register**

<b>Find Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Initials</b>
1	12	misc	pottery, glass and spoon from inside str1 overlying flagstones	
2	21	textile	fragments of textile within clay overlying concrete floor	