

DAVID MOYES ROAD, CARNOUSTIE

POST-EXCAVATION RESEARCH DESIGN – APRIL 2017

PROJECT 4597

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52 Elderpark Workspace
100 Elderpark Street
Glasgow
G51 3TR

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by

Warren Bailie

GUARD
ARCHAEOLOGY

Introduction

- 1.1 This Post-Excavation Research Design (PERD) sets out a programme of specialist analyses, publication and final archiving of the results of the hand excavations conducted by GUARD Archaeology Limited at David Moyes Road, Carnoustie on behalf of Angus Council. The investigations involved the excavations of an area of prehistoric archaeology within the development boundary to address a suspensive condition related to the Planning Application 15/00117/FULM, in advance of the development of the site into two football pitches. In addition to the analyses proposed here for the main excavation material, a deposit containing Bronze Age metal work, including a sword, spear and other associated items, was also discovered. Due to the sensitivity of these remains, in particular the surviving organic elements, a post-excavation programme commissioned by Angus Council in January 2017 is ongoing as a separate, albeit related programme of work.
- 1.2 This PERD sets out the scope of work and timetable for the post-excavation works. The PERD will require the agreement of Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Services (ACAS) on behalf of Angus Council prior to post-excavation works commencing.

Site Location

- 2.1 The overall development area measures 2.83 hectares and is centred on NGR NO 55570 35219 located on the northern outskirts of Carnoustie. The development area currently comprises of open arable land. The development area is bounded along its eastern periphery by the Balmachie Road, and to the south by the Shanwell Road. Much of the land to the east, west and north is currently utilised for arable farming, Clayholes Farm lies just north of the development area.

Archaeological Background

- 3.1 There are no known sites within the development boundary however there are a number of sites in proximity, which have been investigated through evaluation within the last 10 to 12 years. The first of these (Clayholes: NO53NE0006) immediately east of the development area, was highlighted by RCAHMS in 1983 due to cropmarks. The evaluation and excavation of this area in 2004 revealed prehistoric, Medieval and post-Medieval archaeology. More specifically there were a total of 98 pits of prehistoric date, part of a D-shaped enclosure and agricultural features of Medieval and post-Medieval date discovered. An additional and similar area of cropmarks exists to the south-west of the development, the Shanwell area (NO53NW0029), which defines a wider area of interest around the Pitskelly scheduled monument (SM 6608), includes hut circles and an adjacent rectilinear enclosure. Further cropmarks of a similar probable prehistoric date are noted to the north, beyond Clayholes Farm (NO53NE0062).
- 3.2 In addition to the areas of known cropmarks, evaluations have taken place to the south for Carnoustie High School (NO53NE0062) and at Woodlands (NO53NE0119), both of which revealed no significant archaeology. A mid-nineteenth century cottage (NO53NE0103) is noted but no longer exists on the western periphery of the development.
- 3.3 The suggestion from the known archaeology and cropmarks in proximity and in the wider landscape is that this area is rich in prehistoric activity. The adjacent investigations in 2004 revealed that elements of Medieval and post-Medieval activity also survive.
- 3.4 The recent evaluation, which led to the requirement for the excavation works revealed an area of prehistoric activity in the south-east area of the site. The features were predominated by pits and spreads with some containing diagnostic prehistoric pottery of likely Bronze Age date. During the strip, map, sample process, this concentration of prehistoric archaeology expanded in every direction up to and beyond the limits of the development area. For full details on the archaeology uncovered and investigated please refer to the Data Structure Report which accompanies this PERD.

Post-excavation Strategy

- 4.1 Following completion of the hand-excavations on site, the post-excavation works comprise the final stage of archaeological works associated with the recent investigations at David Moyes Road, Carnoustie. These works will include specialist analyses (Archaeological and Palaeoecological), conservation, the production of a publication report, archiving of records and finds disposal.
- 4.2 The objective of the overall post-excavation strategy is to extract the full extent of information relating to the archaeological features and finds, as presented within the Data Structure Report, and to publish the results within a suitable journal, and so therefore create a permanent record within the public domain of the archaeology encountered during the investigations at David Moyes Road, Carnoustie.

Finds and Samples Recovered from Archaeological Contexts

- 4.3 The following table provides a list of the finds and materials recovered from archaeological contexts during the evaluation and excavation and recommendations on how they should be treated:

Table 1: Finds and Samples Recovered from Archaeological Contexts

Material Type	Quantity	Recommendations
Prehistoric Pottery Analysis	2177	Process, prep, catalogue, analyse and report
Lithic Analysis	561	Process, prep, catalogue, analyse and report
Coarse Stone Analysis	28	Process, prep, catalogue, analyse and report
Burnt Bone Analysis	15	Process, prep, catalogue, analyse and report
Animal Bone Analysis	51	Process, prep, catalogue, analyse and report
Environmental Analyses	1165	Process, prep. analysis and report on archaeobotanics and other ecofacts, where appropriate. Recommend AMS date material from macrobotanical material.
Multi-element Analysis	459	Process, prep, XRF analysis, statistical analysis and report
Micromorphology	5	Process, prep up to 5 thin sections analysed for micromorphology of key features on five kubiena tins and report.
Pottery Residue Analysis	Quantity determined by pottery specialist	Process, prep specific sherds for residue analysis and report.
Lithic Microwear Analysis	Quantity determined by lithic specialist	Process, prep specific lithic artefacts for microwear analysis and report.
Radiocarbon AMS Dating	100	Process, prep, date 100 samples from the archaeological deposits across site.
Conservation of Finds	Up to 5	Conservation of up to 5 artefacts

Bulk Finds Processing

- 4.5 In the first instance all artefactual remains will require processing. This will involve cleaning, cataloguing, re-bagging and re-quantification if necessary of the site assemblage. The processing is done in preparation for the various relevant specialists and the process of cataloguing also assists in report writing, the archiving and in finds disposal once the post-excavation program has been completed.

Environmental Sample Processing

- 4.6 The environmental samples require varying degrees of processing dependant on the specialist analysis they are proposed for. The processing can range from dry-sieving, wet-sieving, floatation, sub-sampling and preparation for transportation to the various specialists involved. During the environmental processing it is expected that a quantity of small finds that were not immediately apparent during excavation will be recovered. These will be processed and catalogued after the samples have been processed and all finds have been accounted for.
- 4.7 The kubiena and bulk samples will provide an opportunity for valuable environmental analyses, reflective of the evolution of the settlement and wider landscape. This will illustrate the activities and economy of those who settled here through the identification of diagnostic waste material borne of plant and wood species from the deposits sampled.

Research Questions

- 5.1 Appendix B presents an overview of identified research issues. The main questions to be addressed can be summarised as follows:
 - What period or periods are represented by the artefacts and features?
 - Can datable features reveal further patterns in distribution of activity across the site?
 - Does the artefactual assemblage reflect a typical assemblage, reflective of the periods in question and is contemporary local/regional/national trade represented in the assemblages?
 - Has settlement been continuous or periodic from the Neolithic to Later Bronze Age periods?
 - Are there discernible phases in the settlement of this site in the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods?
 - How does the Bronze Age weapon deposits relate to the settlement activity and other archaeological features, temporally and spatially?
 - How has the local environment changed over the sequence represented by the deposits sampled? What changes over time can be directly related to human intervention and/or natural processes?
 - Is the environmental record reflective of sustained cultivation in this locale during the Neolithic/ Bronze Age period? or is there evidence of other land use here?

Specialist Analyses and Reporting

- 6.1 The specialist analyses and reporting will enable a more detailed discussion and interpretation of the evidence, both physical and documentary, recovered during the course of these investigations. The analyses of the artefacts will determine the typology and possible origins of the various materials in the assemblages and allow a detailed insight into the way of life of the inhabitants, in this area of Carnoustie during the early prehistoric period.
- 6.2 Although the post-excavation tasks laid out here are primarily aimed at drawing information from the various assemblages to best interpret the archaeological deposits found at Carnoustie, some of the post-excavation work may contribute to wider research questions related to the area and indeed Scotland as a nation.

Prehistoric Pottery Analysis

- 6.3 There were 2177 sherds of prehistoric pottery recovered during these investigations. From initial observations the probable date for the assemblage is Neolithic and Bronze Age.
- 6.4 The analysis and reporting on this pottery assemblage will allow direct comparison with sites of similar type and date in Scotland and beyond.
- 6.5 This analysis will also aid in the interpretation of the archaeological layers and constructs uncovered and give an insight into the culture in this locale from the Neolithic through to the Bronze Age.

6.6 The ceramic analysis will therefore include:

- produce a full catalogue of ceramic sherds;
- determine the fabric, type, form, function, origin, manufacture and date of the pottery vessels;
- undertake a comparative review of the ceramic artefact data with that from similarly dated sites;
- recommend specific sherds suitable for residue analysis to determine function/use of vessels;
- re-bag and store all recovered pottery sherds in a suitable environment;
- produce a specialist report for archive;
- produce a summary for final publication.

Lithic Analysis

6.7 There were 561 lithic fragments recovered during the investigations here. This lithic most likely dates from the early Neolithic to the early Bronze Age, with the possibility of some slightly earlier and later examples.

6.8 The lithic may allow inferences about the types of commodities traded and their origins. The analysis of the lithic assemblage will therefore aid in the interpretation of the site by illustrating the nature of the economy and culture here during and between the early Neolithic period and later Bronze Age.

6.9 The analysis will therefore seek to:

- produce a full catalogue of lithic sherds;
- determine a typology to allow interpretation of function and origins;
- undertake a comparative review of lithic artefacts from similar dated sites;
- recommend specific lithic tools suitable for microwear analysis to determine use/function;
- re-bag and store all recovered lithic sherds in a suitable environment;
- produce a specialist report for archiving;
- produce a summary for final publication.

Coarse Stone Analysis

6.10 There were 28 coarse stone items/fragments recovered during the investigations here. These items range in date from the early Neolithic to the late Bronze Age, with the possibility of some slightly earlier and later examples. Of particular interest are any saddle querns and the one rotary quern fragment along with the ground stone axe recovered from the Neolithic hall.

6.11 The analysis will therefore seek to:

- produce a full catalogue of coarse stone items;
- determine a typology to allow interpretation of function and origins;
- undertake a comparative review of coarse stone artefacts from similar dated sites;
- re-bag and store all recovered lithic sherds in a suitable environment;
- produce a specialist report for archiving;
- produce a summary for final publication.

Burnt and Unburnt Bone Analysis

6.12 A total of 65 fragments of bone were recovered, including 15 fragments of burnt bone, during the excavation. During preliminary inspection they appear to be of animal origin. This assemblage would require to be processed before being analysed by a relevant specialist to confirm the origin of the material and to identify to species level where possible.

6.13 The animal bone analysis will therefore include:

- produce a full catalogue of all animal bone;
- a rapid analysis of the animal bone assemblage;
- determine the species, MNI of animals represented by the assemblage;
- undertake a comparative review of the animal bones with that from similarly dated sites;
- re-bag and store all animal bones in a suitable environment;
- produce a specialist report for archive;
- produce a summary for final publication.

Other Small Finds Analysis

- 6.14 It is expected that a quantity of small finds will be recovered during the processing of samples for environmental analysis. Given the already complex assemblage this could include other jet, pottery, lithics and other potentially unknown materials. Catalogues of each find category will be produced and this will be incorporated into the existing concordances for the site. Each new small find, material will be analysed and reported upon.
- 6.15 The analyses will therefore seek to:
- produce a catalogue of the objects;
 - incorporate new items within existing concordances
 - determine a typology to allow interpretation of function and origins;
 - undertake a comparative review of similar artefacts from similarly dated sites;
 - store all recovered artefacts in a suitable environment;
 - produce a specialist report for archiving;
 - produce a summary for general publication.

Environmental Analyses

- 6.16 During the hand-excavations a total of 1165 bulk samples, 459 grid samples and 15 kubiena tins. These samples have the potential to produce valuable information regarding the occupation of this area of Angus during the early prehistoric period. The presence of macrofossil assemblages, including wood fragments, insect remains, cereals and other seeds and organic refuse is an expected outcome from sample processing.
- 6.17 The proposed analyses will utilise an appropriate proportion of the samples and will include Archaeobotanical analysis, Wood identification, insect ID and analysis, micromorphological analysis and multi-element analysis. These analyses will reflect the land use changes, possible diet of the inhabitants, the source of wood fuel used and potentially provide information on the local and wider environmental background during the period of the site's occupation.
- 6.18 The analysis will therefore seek to:
- process samples in preparation for the various analyses;
 - Archaeobotanical analysis and report (with recommendations for AMS dates);
 - insect analysis and report;
 - micromorphological Analysis and report;
 - multi-element Analysis and report;
 - reconstruct the environmental sequence through time to enhance the interpretations of past human activity across the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods;
 - undertake a comparative review of environmental records for other early prehistoric period settlements in Angus and across Scotland;
 - store all recovered retents and ecofacts in a suitable environment;

- produce a specialist report for each analyses for archiving;
- produce a summary for general publication.

Pottery Residue Analysis

- 6.19 From initial inspection the pottery recovered is representative of the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. In some cases residue can survive within pots of these periods, such residues can indicate the function of the pot and potentially the food that was stored or cooked within the vessel. The information from this analysis can also be cross-referenced with the information from the environmental analyses to gain a better insight to the economy of the prehistoric community that resided here.
- 6.20 The analysis will therefore seek to:
- establish from the pottery specialist which sherds have the potential for residue to survive;
 - prepare the sherds for sampling and analysis;
 - undertake analysis of the residue from the pot sherds;
 - store all relevant sherds in a suitable environment;
 - produce a specialist report for archiving;
 - produce a summary for general publication.

Lithic Microwear Analysis

- 6.21 During the analysis of the lithic assemblage any diagnostic tools will be selected for potential microwear analysis. While the lithics can be identified to determine their raw material, manufacture and tool type, microwear analysis can determine possible uses for the tools. At a microscopic level the wear on the selected tools can be examined to determine the materials that the tools may have been used on, eg leather, wood, plant materials. This analysis represents a valuable opportunity to gain a better insight into how the tools may have been used by those occupying this site in prehistory. The information from this analysis can also be cross-referenced with the information from the environmental analyses.
- 6.22 The analysis will therefore seek to:
- establish from the lithic specialist which artefacts have the potential for microwear analysis;
 - prepare the relevant artefacts for analysis;
 - undertake analysis of the artefacts;
 - store all relevant artefacts in a suitable environment;
 - produce a specialist report for archiving;
 - produce a summary for general publication.

AMS Dates

- 6.23 The sequence of ecofact-rich deposits recovered as part of the excavations at David Moyes Road, Carnoustie provide a rare opportunity to interpret complex periodic/continuous prehistoric settlement activity; this will enable us to better understand settlement patterns and the development of settlement during these periods. Suitable dating material will initially be selected and recommended by the Archaeobotanist. A specific set of samples from the sequence of deposits excavated will be dated to create a chronological framework to which the archaeological assemblage analyses and environmental analyses can all be tied.
- 6.24 The analysis will therefore seek to:
- Use recommended samples from archaeobotanist;
 - Select 100 specific samples from these to create sequence of dates for the site;

- Identify key changes in the environmental sequence from the analyses and compare with archaeological sequence and interpretations;
- undertake a comparative review of environmental records for other prehistoric settlements across Scotland and beyond;
- store all recovered retents and ecofacts in a suitable environment;
- produce a specialist report for each analysis for archiving;
- produce a summary for general publication.

Conservation of Finds

- 6.25 There is a small quantity of finds that will require conservation, including two almost intact pots; other artefacts requiring conservation may become apparent during sample processing and analyses. The conservation of such items is aimed at halting deterioration or corrosion and to consolidate any weaknesses in its structure therefore allowing for the items in question to be curated in the long term.

Report Integration

- 7.1 Once the specialist reports have been completed, this crucial stage will integrate the information within them with the stratigraphic information held within the Data Structure Report to produce the text for the draft final report. This report will also incorporate the report on the Bronze Age sword, spear and other associated materials and objects.

Documentary Research

- 8.1 As part of the reporting process it will be necessary to review information from other contemporary excavations within this area and further afield. This research will be undertaken by the director of the excavations and other senior staff where appropriate. This documentary research will be most usefully undertaken after the majority of the specialist reports have been produced when the character, date and significance of the archaeological and artefact assemblages are more fully understood. The report on the Bronze Age metal will also be taken into consideration.

Report Illustration

- 9.1 Although some illustrations have already been prepared for the Data Structure Report these will inevitably need some alteration as the post-excavation process alters the understanding of the site. In addition there will be the further illustrations and photography of key artefacts and features.

Publication

- 10.1 The aim of the post-excavation works project design is to bring the artefacts and results of the investigations to the public domain through publication. The results of the stages described above will culminate in a report fit for publication. The publication will incorporate the information recovered from the site and the specialist studies of the artefacts. It will also include a comparative overview of the features and deposits to place the site within its local, regional and national setting. The results of the post-excavation will be published in ARO (www.archaeologyreportsonline.com), which will be freely available to download.

Replica Bronze Items and Site Reconstruction Model

- 11.1 As part of the post-excavation programme GUARD Archaeology Limited propose that replicas are made of the Bronze Age hoard objects including the sword, spearhead, pin, mount, pommel and chape along with a wooden scabbard and other organic remains. This would enable Angus Council to display the hoard replicas in a public setting without the necessary security and storage

complications of displaying the objects themselves. In addition it is proposed that a model reconstruction of the site is created by a model maker. This would enable the general public to appreciate the nature and scale of the prehistoric domestic structures and settlement discovered at David Moyes Road, Carnoustie. This reconstruction could be utilised along with the replica hoard items as part of the any proposed interpretation and visitor events in Carnoustie in the future.

Archiving and Finds Disposal

- 12.1 Upon completion of the final report and its submission for publication, the site record and small finds will be archived. The fieldwork records will be submitted to the archive of the National Monuments Record according to currently prescribed standards.
- 12.2 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work, will be deposited in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and Bona Vacantia in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the post-excavation work. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD Archaeology Ltd until a decision has been made by the panel.

Timetable

- 13.1 The Timetable (Table 2) is outlined below and will be implemented accordingly.

See Appendix C for Tasks and Invoicing Schedule

Works	Completion
Set-up, Finds Processing and Sample Processing/Sieving	June 2017
Pottery and Lithics Analysis	July 2017
Coarse stone and other small finds analysis	August 2017
Environmental Analyses not incl. Micromorphology and Multi-element	September 2017
Residue Analysis and Microwear Analysis	October 2017
Micromorphology, Multi-element and AMS dating	November 2017
Conservation of finds	December 2017
Publication research and preparation, small find illustrations	February 2018
Main illustrations, editing and refereeing	March 2018
Publication	May 2018
Replica Bronze Items and Site Reconstruction Model	May 2018
Archiving, Finds disposal and Management	June 2018

Appendices

Appendix A: Staff

The following staff will be used on this project.

Staffing

Alan Hunter Blair	On-site investigations and Reporting	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Warren Bailie	Project Management, Editing	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Aileen Maule	Soil Processing, Archiving & Finds Disposal	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Maureen Kilpatrick	Ostaeoarchaeologist	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Gillian McSwan	Illustrations	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
John Atkinson	Quality Assurance	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Susan Ramsay	Archaeobotanical and Pollen Analysis	Freelance
Beverley Ballin Smith	Pottery & Coarse Stone	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Peter Jensen	Microwear Analysis	Southampton University
Beverley Ballin Smith	Residue Analysis	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
Torben Ballin	Lithics analysis	Freelance
Will Murray	Conservation	Scottish Conservation Studio
George McLeod	Micromorphology & Multi-element Analysis	Stirling University
Dr Nicki Whitehouse	Insect Analysis	Plymouth University
SUERC	AMS Radiocarbon Dates	SUERC

Appendix B: Research Hypotheses

The following list of research hypotheses and issues provides an overview of the range and type of research questions that have arisen from the excavation results.

Research Questions

Artefact Class	Attributes	Issues
Burnt Bone	Early prehistoric assemblage	What animal species are suggested by the assemblage? Is this typical of an early prehistoric animal bone assemblage in this region of Scotland?
		Are there species represented that are likely to be used for meat, dairy, hides?
Ceramic	Early prehistoric assemblage	What date range does the assemblage suggest?
		What are the origins of the pottery? Indigenous styles or imports?
		Is the pottery unusual or typical for this region in the early prehistoric period?
		What does the residue analysis tell us about the use of the ceramics and how is this reflected in the wider site assemblage and environmental analyses?

Artefact Class	Attributes	Issues
Lithic	Early prehistoric assemblage	What date range does the assemblage suggest?
		What are the origins of the lithic raw material? Are particular imported raw materials suggested?
		Are any of the lithic fragments unusual or typical for this part of Scotland?
		What does the microwear analysis tell us about the use of the lithic tools and how is this reflected in the wider site assemblage and environmental analyses?
Coarse stone	Worked stone	Is the worked stone typical of what you would expect from this period?
		Is there a particular style reflected in the worked stone?
		What date do the querns suggest?
		What is the typology of the querns?
		What type of rock is used for the querns?
		What rock type is the ground stone axe manufactured from?
		Are there trade routes suggested by the type of rock used for the coarse stone items?
Samples	5 kubiena tins	What can the micromorphology analysis tell us about the formation processes in the features sampled?
	Bulk samples to be analysed after floatation- Macrobotanical, Insects, Micromorphology, Multi-element	What macro-botanical material survives in the deposits sampled?
		What do the various analyses suggest in terms of the environmental conditions, vegetation change and land use in the prehistoric era on this site?
		Is this a typical assemblage for an early prehistoric settlement in this region of Scotland?
		What inferences can be made about the diet of the inhabitants here suggested by the ecofactual remains?
		Are there particular animal livestock suggested by the environmental remains?
		What does the multi-element analyses on the various occupation layers tell us about the differential use within and on the periphery of the structures?
		Are there discernible differences between the multi-element results from different structures suggesting particular function?
AMS Date	100 samples for dating	What is the date range of the deposits suggested by the AMS dates?
		Is this in keeping with the artefactual assemblages of the site?
		Do the dates suggest a chronology of structures and therefore settlement development?
		Do the dates suggest continuous or periodic settlement?

Appendix C: Task Schedule

Task	Completion Date
Finds Processing	30/06/2017
Sample Processing	31/07/2017
Pottery Analysis	31/07/2017
Lithics Analysis	31/07/2017
Coarse Stone and other small finds Analysis	31/08/2017
Environmental Analyses	30/09/2017
Residue Analysis of Pottery	31/10/2017
Lithic Microwear Analysis	31/10/2017
Micromorphology Analysis	30/11/2017
Multi-element Analysis	30/11/2017
AMS Radiocarbon Dating	30/11/2017
Conservation of Finds	31/12/2017
Research & Publication Report Preparation	28/02/2018
Small Finds Illustration	28/02/2018
Illustrations	31/03/2018
Editing/Refereeing	31/03/2018
Publication Costs	31/05/2018
Archiving and Finds disposal	30/06/2018
Management	30/06/2018