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ADEN RESTORATION & REDEVELOPMENT & ADEN ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS

HLF PROJECT REF: PP-15-05717
HESAG PROJECT REF: HEAP17739253911

ADEN ARCHAEOLOGY SUMMARY REPORT
SITE 1 (BRONZE AGE/NEOLITHIC STRUCTURE) &
SITE 2 (STONE CIRCLE)

ADEN COUNTRY PARK, ABERDEENSHIRE AB42 8FQ

MARCH 2019

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND (HLF) PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAMME &
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND (HES) ARCHAEOLOGY GRANT

Compiled by
Neil Shirran – Project Co-ordinator

Introduction

This report has been produced to provide a summary of the work and activities carried out between August 2018 and March 2019, as part of the Aden Country Park Restoration & Redevelopment and the associated Aden Archaeology Project. These projects have been made possible with funding support from the Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Archaeological Grant, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People programme, and funding and in-kind contribution from Aberdeenshire Council and the Friends of Aden.

Aden Archaeological Talks & Tours

Along with the archaeological investigations, one of our key experienced archaeological enthusiasts, and Friends of Aden member, Derek Jennings, has delivered a presentation entitled “A ‘T’ in the Park (Twa Bawbees and a Bodle)” to ten local interest groups. These including the Ellon Historic Society (20 people), Peterhead Probus Club (20 people), Fraserburgh Probus Club (30 people), Fraserburgh Ladies Probus (30 people), Ellon Probus Club (30 people), Central Buchan Rotary (15 people), Peterhead Rotary (15 people), St Drostan Kirk Old Deer Annual Lecture (110 people), Buchan Field Club (50 people), and the Book of Deer Project (40 people).



Derek’s talk gave a unique insight into the archaeological dig carried out in Aden Country Park in 2016. In search of the Deer Monastery, the investigation focussed on a site thought to be the remains of either a 19th century farmstead, or Episcopal Meeting Place. Derek’s presentation explained the process leading up to the archaeological

dig, from initial research, onsite surveys, through to excavation itself. As a conclusion, the presentation revealed that, although not the Deer Monastery, that the excavation had discovered what is believed to be a late medieval tower house, possibly the long-lost tower house or castle of the Keith family. Further archaeological investigations into this site are to be carried out during the Aden HLF and Aden Archaeology HES Projects.

Along with promoting the wider Aden Restoration & Redevelopment project plans at the recent Vintage Tractor Day and Heritage Fair, Derek Jennings of the Friends of Aden, also conducted a very popular Aden Archaeology Tour to approximately 40 visitors to the event.

Visitors and local community alike were given the opportunity to learn about the archaeological investigations and excavations that have happened in Aden Country Park over the last five years. Derek also highlighted the future excavations at the stone circle and Bronze Age sites, where everyone was encouraged to come along and help volunteer.

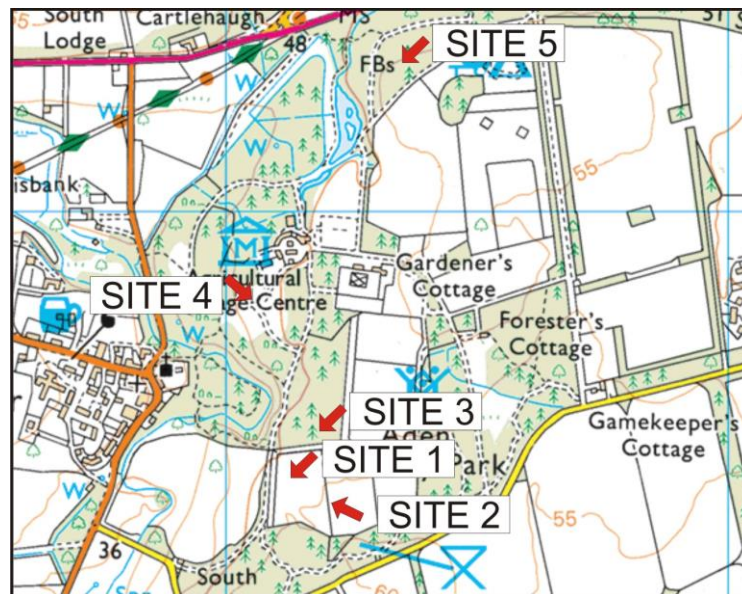
Aden Archaeology Tour

A flyer for the Aden Archaeology Tour. It features a background image of a stone circle. The text on the flyer includes: "Aden Park", "Vintage Tractor Day and Heritage Fair", "30th September 2018", "Walk and Talk taking in various Archaeological sites within the park, including Bronze Age site and Medieval Castle site.", "Tours leave from Farming Museum at 11 o'clock and 2 o'clock and will last for approx. 1 hour.", and logos for Historic Environment Scotland, Arainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba, and the Heritage Lottery Fund with the text "LOTTERY FUNDED".

Archaeological Investigations (5th to 15th November 2018)

The two archaeological sites which we will focus on in this report are the possible Bronze Age Structure (Site 1) and the possible Stone Circle (Site 2) located at the following National Grid Reference points illustrated below, in the parish of Old Deer and at 40-55m OD.

Archaeological Site	National Grid Reference
Bronze Age Structure (Site 1)	NJ 98136 47475
Stone Circle (Site 2)	NJ 98136 47475



Aden Archaeology Project Site Locations (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019)

Marketing & Promotion

In advance of the archaeological excavation, a variety of techniques were adopted to help promote volunteering opportunities through social media, press releases, posters and fliers.



Site 1 - Bronze Age Structure

Background to Research Aims

Following the geophysical survey by Rose Geophysical Consultants, this site was recently identified and was found accidentally whilst looking for the stone circle site (Site 2). Fieldwalking had revealed a large number of Early and Late Neolithic flints at this site. This is a recognised method of site identification and will be carried out in other parts of the park if further fields are ploughed. This site is very heavily ploughed and is at risk from future agriculture. The park uses this field for Tractor and ploughing days and this has affected the topsoil above the surviving features. Modern finds such as toggle from a jacket and silver foil were found at depths in the topsoil.

The three post-holes discovered suggest a rectangular building (certainly not a circular one) and this is therefore intriguing as the date for the organic material in the posthole is Late Bronze Age. There is a possibility that this structure is unique in this area and possibly Scotland and further excavation at this site is essential to determine the shape and size of the structure and to confirm the date. Training in traditional building methods could also be based on this structure.

Aim 1 - Understand the site's chronological development

In the light of the excavation, research, and evaluation carried out by Cameron Archaeology (10. Aden (HLF Site 3) - Excavation (3 – 10 June 2017)) and geophysical survey by Rose Geophysical Consultants (7. Aden (HLF) - Geophysical Survey (20 – 25 March 2017)), this aim will be addressed with a programme of targeted trenches designed to both uncover the complete possible Bronze Age structure, and 'ground-truth' the results of the previous excavation evaluation and geophysical survey. The purpose will be to identify and investigate any archaeological features encountered and obtain appropriate samples for archaeological and artefactual assessment.

Aim 2 – Understand the site's archaeological conditions

This aim will be achieved with an assessment of the samples as defined and recovered in Aim 1, using appropriate archaeological techniques to establish preservation and significance.

Aim 3 – Making recommendations, analysis, publication and interpretation

This aim will require all data from Aims 1 and 2 to be collated, with an integrated analysis of the archaeological resource at Aden Country Park, making recommendations to conserve, enhance, manage, maintain and interpret the historic significance of the site. Indeed, once post excavation has been complete at this, and the other archaeological sites, we will use the findings to help develop an historic environment timeline which will be used to develop interpretation on a new Aden Country Park website, microsite, smartphone app, signage, leaflet, interpretation centre, and heritage trail.

Capturing the archaeological digs

For the purposes of this report, and for future evaluation and interpretation, we have included a range of images to help illustrate the lifespan and process undertaken at the two archaeological sites of interest in Aden Country Park.



Archaeological dig begins at the possible Bronze Age site



Line of post-hole continues round



Centre of structure cleared



Post holes follow a straight line, then curves round at opposite end

Schools Engagement

In all, 232 professional, skilled and unskilled people took part in the archaeological digs, which included five local schools (Peterhead Central, Stuartfield, New Pitligo, Meethill, and Mintlaw Academy) and a range of additional adult and child volunteers. A further breakdown on the volunteer statistics is provided below.

The five schools predominantly worked onsite at the archaeological dig sites, coupled with some indoor learning activities, colouring, quizzes, and find handling sessions.



Stuartfield Primary School teachers and pupils get stuck in!



Filming captures Stuartfield Primary School's involvement



New Pitsligo Primary School completing archaeological worksheets



Meethill Primary School starting an archaeological finds session



Peterhead Central School teachers and pupils enjoying archaeological dig

Post School Involvement Promotion



Following their involvement at the archaeological dig at Site 1, Peterhead Central School used photographs taken to develop a “Dig in the Park” full page feature in the Press & Journal newspaper “Schools Supplement”, published in December 2018.

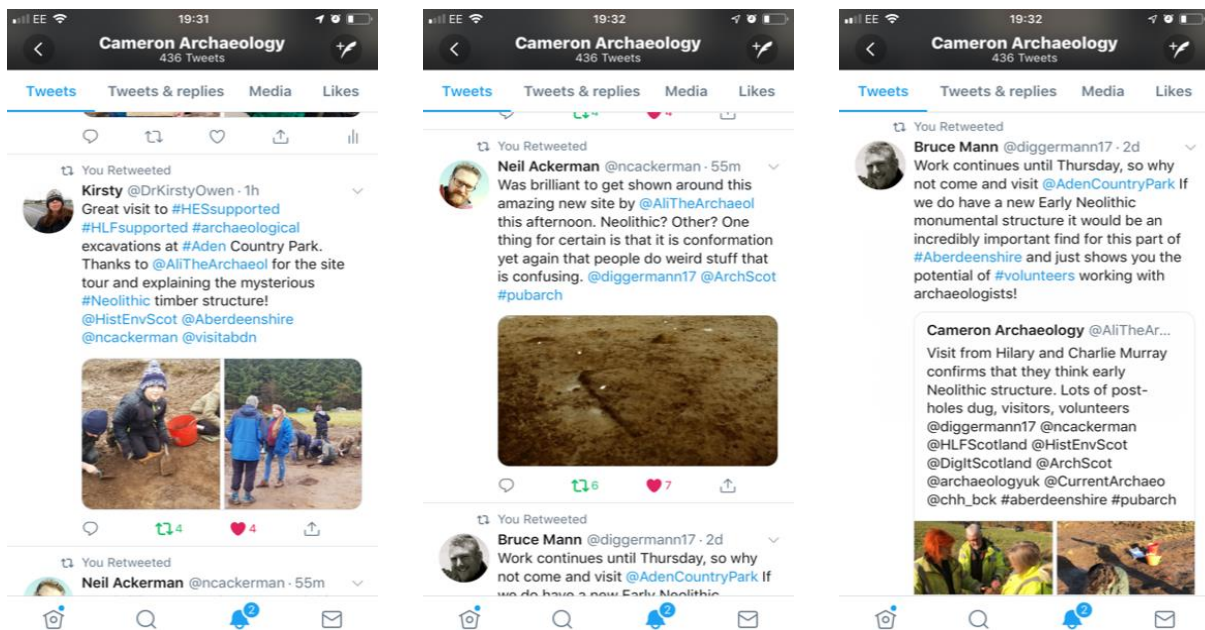
This supplement was designed to give each of the local Aberdeenshire Schools an opportunity to highlight any interesting and worthwhile activities which the Schools had been involved in. It is therefore very pleasing that Peterhead Central School chose to feature their involvement in the archaeological dig in Aden Country Park as their showcase feature.

Filming & Promotion

Ahead of the archaeological investigations, a GoPro camera was purchased so that during the archaeological dig a record could be captured and used to help provide a visual understanding of the archaeological excavation process undertaken. The GoPro camera was set up in ‘time lapse’ mode where the resulting film will allow a viewer to watch the entire excavation process in minutes. These short slideshow type films are to be used in the new interpretation centre, website, smartphone app and archaeological microsite.

Alongside the 'time lapse' footage, the Aberdeenshire Council Media Unit were commissioned to capture additional footage in the form of interviews, and real time recording, of the volunteer and school's involvement in the two archaeological excavations. Once edited it is planned that this footage will also be used in the new interpretation centre, website, smartphone app and archaeological microsite.

Twitter was also used throughout the archaeological digs. As shown below, archaeologist Ali Cameron, along with tweets by Aden Country Park, helped to both promote the school's involvement, the opportunity for anyone to get involved, as well as simply spreading the word about what was being found during the fieldwork excavation.



Drone Photography

To help understand the layout, scale and dimensions of the site and the post-hole marks of the building/structure, a drone was used as a recording mechanism. The inclusion of the JCB tractor, used as part of the fieldwork, helps to illustrate the scale of the site.

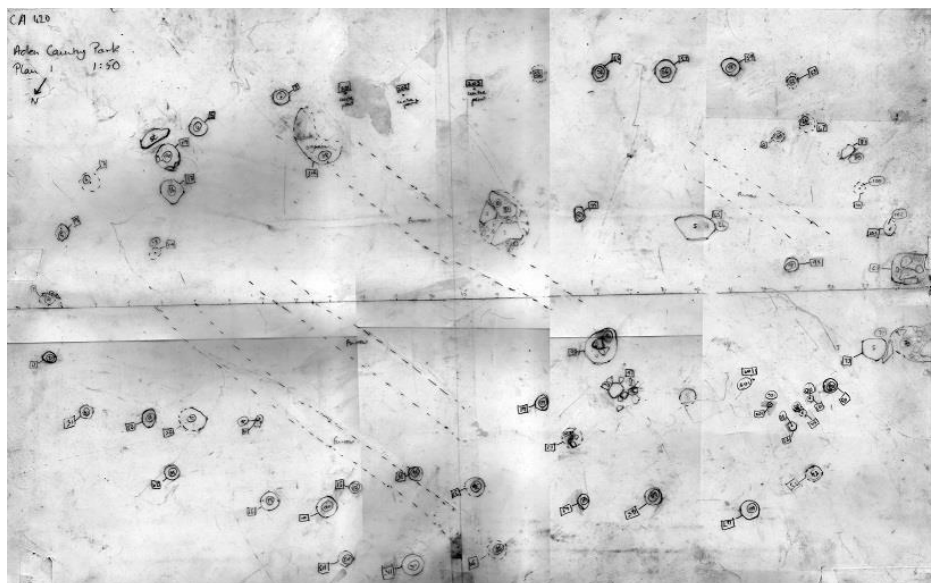
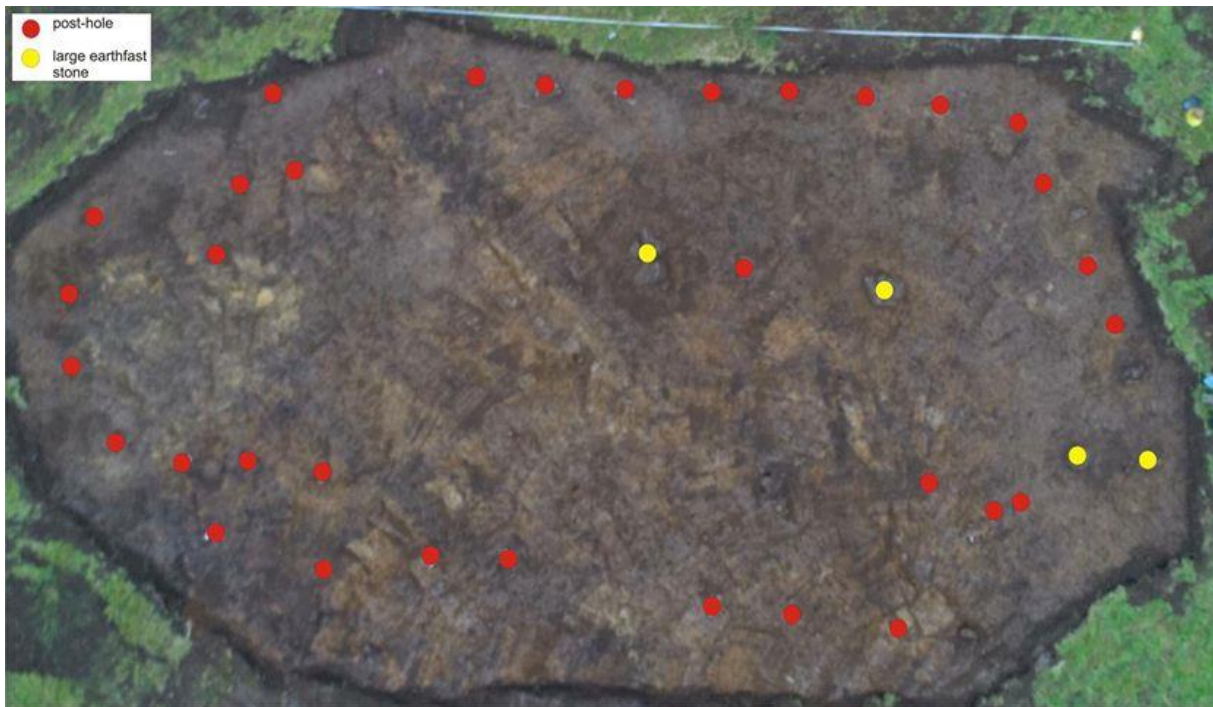


Drone photograph illustrating the scale of the building/structure/dig site

Findings

Following the results of the archaeological dig carried out in 2017, where evidence of three aligned post-holes were found (suggesting a rectangular Bronze Age building/structure), the archaeological team were delighted to find a series of post-holes which outline a 12.4m wide and 24.5m long, rectangular building or structure with rounded ends.

The following photograph and drawing provide further clarity as to what was found at Site 1 i.e. Red = Post-Holes, Yellow = Large Earthfast Stones. Rig and furrow can be seen running across trench from top left to bottom right.



Charcoal samples have been sent off for analysis and radiocarbon dating and it is believed that the building/structure may in fact date to the Neolithic period, perhaps 5500 years old. It is a very exciting find and these types of domestic structures are very rare in both locally

and nationally. A full Excavation and Data Structure Report has been produced which provides further detail on the archaeological dig process, summary and conclusions that can be drawn from this excavation site.

Artist Impression of Site

A local artist, Jan Dunbar, was commissioned after the archaeological fieldwork was completed. This work was undertaken to try and provide a visual, artist impression of what the possible Neolithic structure may have looked like.



Neolithic Structure artist impression by Jan Dunbar

Once samples sent for dating have been confirmed, this artist impression will help support both the understanding of the site, and the ongoing promotion and interpretation of the site in the new interpretation centre, website, smartphone app, archaeological microsite, leaflet and onsite interpretive signage.

Archaeological Collaboration

It is important to also note, that as the Site 1 fieldwork was being completed, contact was made with other experienced archaeologists, with a view of bringing further knowledge and understanding of what we believe might be a Neolithic structure. Charlie and Hilary Murray, Murray Archaeology, came for a site tour, and having excavated a similar, early Neolithic timber hall at Warrenfield, we were pleased to receive positive support to our theories regarding the site being a possible Neolithic structure.

Neil Ackerman from Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service also visited the site, along with Kevin, Laura and Kirsty from the Historic Environment Scotland Archaeology Team.

Ali Cameron, our project archaeologist, also contacted Gordon Noble, Head of Department at Aberdeen University, describing the site, sending photographs and receiving positive

feedback. Gordon also wrote the book “Woodland in the Neolithic” which has now been purchased and is an excellent reference book on the Neolithic period.

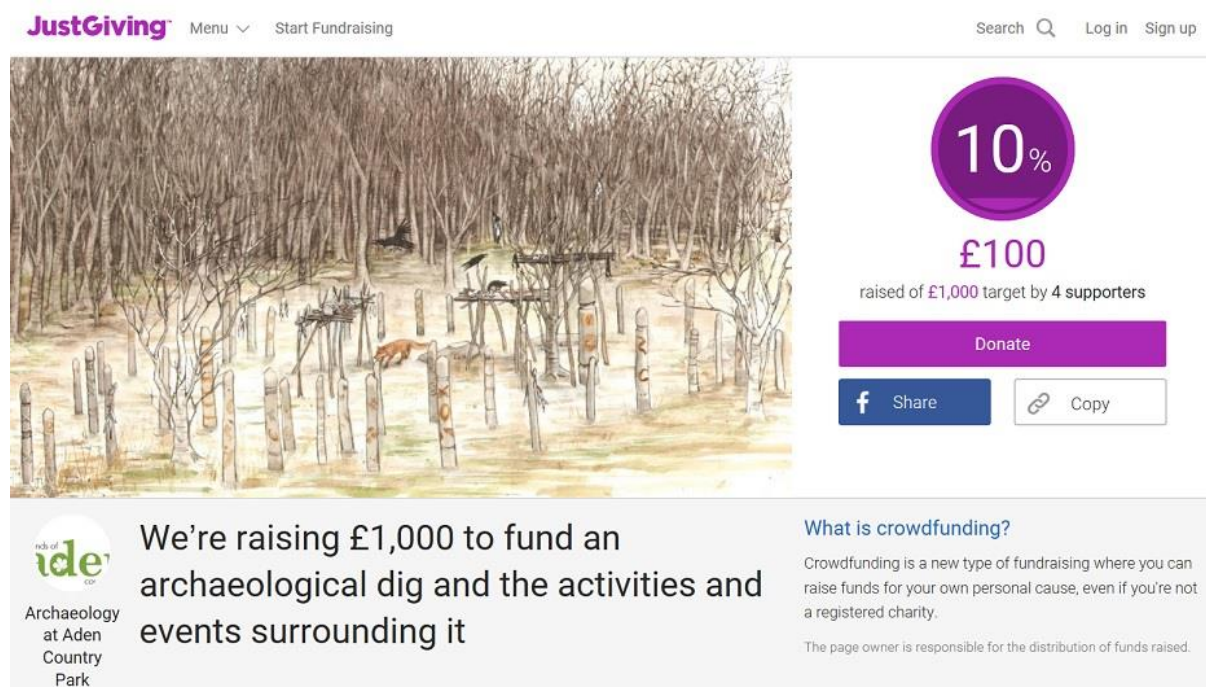
Second Phase Archaeological Dig (Site 1)

Once the post excavation analysis has been completed, with samples and flint having been dated, we are hopeful that this analysis will support the current thinking, that the site may well be from the Neolithic period. If the carbon dating does indeed support this thinking, we are very keen to carry out further fieldwork, investigating areas around the possible Neolithic structure, to see if any further archaeology can be found.

It is intended that we would use the remaining Historic Environment Scotland (HES), Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Aberdeenshire Council budget from Site 1 and Site 2, to support two further weeks of fieldwork at the Site 1 Neolithic structure, between 24th June and 7th July 2019. Unfortunately, even with using the remaining available funds, there will however be a funding shortfall. We have therefore decided to set up an Aden Archaeology Just Giving crowdfunding page to hopefully help to fill the small gap in funding.

As the screen grab image below shows, although just recently made “live” at the beginning of March 2019, we have already managed to raise £100 towards our funding target of £1,000 to help support the second Site 1 archaeological dig. The URL link for the Just Giving page is also provided below:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/archaeologyataden?utm_term=rDQB97BMY&fbclid=IwAR1W7mUzGLD_kV7njNy9rUnS81zLpKMXmLe0np219Z7aNEpCmgtxDUPBUMc



The screenshot shows a Just Giving crowdfunding page. At the top, the Just Giving logo is on the left, and 'Menu' and 'Start Fundraising' are in the middle. On the right, there are links for 'Search', 'Log in', and 'Sign up'. The main content area features a background image of a woodland with several wooden posts or structures. To the right of the image, a purple circle displays '10%' and '£100' below it, with the text 'raised of £1,000 target by 4 supporters'. Below this is a purple 'Donate' button, a blue 'Share' button with a Facebook icon, and a 'Copy' button with a link icon. At the bottom left, the 'ide' logo is shown with the text 'Archaeology at Aden Country Park'. The main text reads: 'We're raising £1,000 to fund an archaeological dig and the activities and events surrounding it'. On the bottom right, there is a section titled 'What is crowdfunding?' with a brief explanation and a note that the page owner is responsible for the distribution of funds raised.

Just Giving page set up to support second Site 1 dig

In addition to setting up the crowdfunding page, options for filling this funding shortfall include, using some of the HLF project contingency funds, asking for further financial

support from the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, or to reduce the fieldwork length to nine or ten days instead of two weeks. From recent conversations with Bruce Mann from the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service, Bruce is hopeful that his service will be able to support the second dig at Site 1. This potential support will be confirmed at the start of the new 2019/20 financial year.

Protection of Site

With the current thinking being that a follow-up dig would be hugely beneficial to understand the Site 1 more fully, we have decided to not backfill the large trench at this stage, until the carbon dating of samples has been complete, and a decision has been made to carry out further fieldwork on the site. As a result, we wanted to ensure the security and condition of the archaeology and have used the appropriate matting and weight (tyres), to keep the matting in place. Photographs below illustrate further supplementary weights/tyres being added to ensure the matting is kept in situ.



Additional weights/tyres being added



Matting and weight/tyres in situ

Site 2 - Stone Circle

Background to Research Aims

A small trench (limited as there was a crop in the field) at this possible stone circle site appeared to confirm that the geophysical anomaly was geological in origin but further trenching is required to confirm this. If evidence of a stone circle does survive at this site it will be one of a small number which have been excavated after having been historically removed by previous landowners. Similar to Site 1, this site is also in a ploughed field with shallow topsoil and remains will eventually be further damaged.

Aim 1 - Understand the site's chronological development

In the light of the excavation, research, and evaluation carried out by Cameron Archaeology (10. Aden (HLF Site 3) - Excavation (3 – 10 June 2017)) and geophysical survey by Rose Geophysical Consultants (7. Aden (HLF) - Geophysical Survey (20 – 25 March 2017)), this aim will be addressed with a programme of targeted trenches designed to both locate the site of a possible stone circle, and 'ground-truth' the results of the previous excavation evaluation and geophysical survey. The purpose will be to identify and investigate any archaeological features encountered, and obtain appropriate samples for archaeological assessment.

Aim 2 – Understand the site's archaeological conditions

This aim will be achieved with an assessment of the samples as defined and recovered in Aim 1, using appropriate techniques to establish preservation and significance.

Aim 3 – Making recommendations, analysis, publication and interpretation

This aim will require all data from Aims 1 and 2 to be collated, with an integrated analysis of the archaeological resource at Aden Country Park, making recommendations to conserve, enhance, manage, maintain and interpret the historic significance of the site. Indeed, once post excavation has been complete at this, and other archaeological sites, we will use the finding to help develop an historic environment timeline which will be used to develop interpretation on a new Aden Country Park website, microsite, smartphone app, leaflet, interpretation centre, and heritage trail.

Capturing the archaeological digs

Like Site 1, we have included a range of images below to help illustrate fieldwork undertaken at the possible Stone Circle (Site 2). Again, this is both for the benefit of this report, monitoring and evaluation, and possibly future interpretation of the site.



The first trench looking for signs of the Stone Circle is put in



A keen eye is required to spot any remains of the possible Stone Circle



This photo helps to illustrate the number of trenches put in for the Stone Circle site

As shown, several trenches closest to the Stone Circle geophysical anomalies were put in, unfortunately no evidence or sample which might indicate a Stone Circle were found.

Volunteers

The full account of the number and frequency of volunteers is detailed in the Volunteer Statistic tables attached below. The quality, amount and value of volunteer input is not to be understated. The archaeological digs at both sites would not have been possible without their time, effort and enthusiasm.



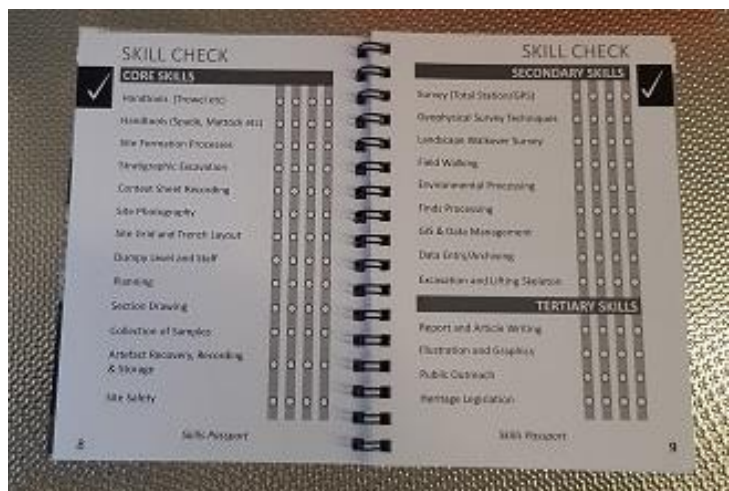
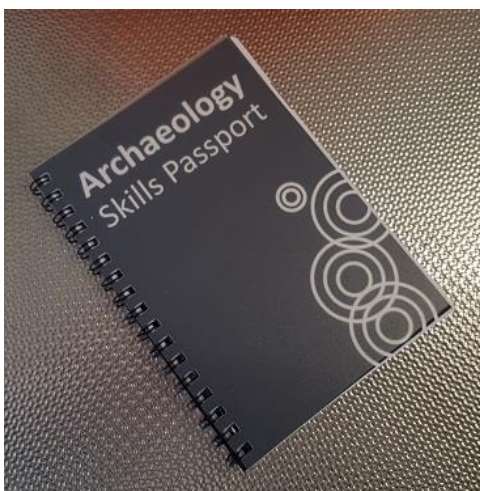
Volunteers Heather and Liz focus in on one of the possible Neolithic post-holes



Range of volunteers working in, at times, challenging conditions

Training & Skills - Passport

Twenty Archaeology Skills Passports were purchased and provided to relevant volunteers. The 'Skills Passport' scheme is a recognised model for tracking, logging and assessing archaeological training. The project archaeologist, Ali Cameron, acted as the assessors, taking the time to discuss with participants the skills that they need to work on and helping to determine their level of ability. Ultimately the scheme is meant to help participants increase their employment prospects, gaining archaeological skills, using the experience as a stepping stone towards professional accreditation.



Volunteer Statistics

Children & Adults

During the ten-day archaeological investigations, a range of volunteers, children and adults attended the digs:

Date	05-Nov	06-Nov	07-Nov	08-Nov	09-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov	14-Nov	15-Nov	Total	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof (£350)										1	1	2	£700
Skilled (£150)	1	3	2	2	7	8	6	3	2	2	3	39	£5,850
Unskilled (£50)	4	3	3	9	7	6	9	4	8	8	7	68	£3,400
TOTAL	5	6	5	11	14	14	15	7	10	11	11	109	£9,950

Schools

In all five schools attended the archaeological investigations. These included:

Peterhead Central: 10 children/2 adults (7th Nov), Stuartfield: 18 children/2 adults (8th Nov), New Pitsligo: 18 children/2 adults (9th Nov),

Meethill: 48 children 5 adults (14th Nov), Mintlaw Academy: 15 pupils/3 adults (15th Nov)

Date	05-Nov	06-Nov	07-Nov	08-Nov	09-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov	14-Nov	15-Nov	Total	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof (£350)													
Skilled (£150)													
Unskilled (£50)			12	20	20					53	18	123	£6,150
TOTAL	0	0	12	20	20	0	0	0	0	53	18	123	£6,150

Combined Totals

When the two totals are combined into one table this helps to illustrate the amount of volunteer input over the ten-day archaeological digs:

Date	05-Nov	06-Nov	07-Nov	08-Nov	09-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov	14-Nov	15-Nov	Total	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof (£350)										1	1	2	700
Skilled (£150)	1	3	2	2	7	8	6	3	2	2	3	39	5850
Unskilled (£50)	4	3	15	29	27	6	9	4	8	61	25	191	9550
TOTAL	5	6	17	31	34	14	15	7	10	64	29	232	16100

In total the value of the volunteer input was £16,100. Original estimates were £2,000. The actual volunteer input is £14,100 more than originally estimated.

2018/2019 HES Grant Project Workblock

The 2018/19 HES Grant Project Workblock along with a summary of the Actual Project Cost has also been included. A further detailed breakdown of the actual expenditure in 2018/19 is included in the following section of this report. The actual costs are paid for with the HES Archaeology Grant, and additional funding support from Aden Restoration & Redevelopment HLF Parks for People programme, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and volunteer time.

Financial Year (FY)	Block	Description	Product	Claim Date	Amount
2018/19	1	Bronze Age Structure (Site 1) Fieldwork	Completion of fieldwork to agreed standards	15-Mar-19	£ 3,000.00
2018/19	2	Stone Circle (Site 2) Fieldwork	Completion of fieldwork to agreed standards	15-Mar-19	£ 1,000.00
2018/19	3	Archaeology Films	Progress Report on Set Up/Expenditure	15-Mar-19	£ 391.20
2018/19	4	Training	Report on Training Delivered (including evaluation) (approx. 3 sessions)	15-Mar-19	£ 180.00
2018/19	5	Events/Activities	Report on Events/Activities Delivered (including evaluation) (approx. 2 sessions)	15-Mar-19	£ 306.27
2018/19	6	Bronze Age Structure (Site 1) Post-Excavation	DSR (Data Structure Report)	15-Mar-19	£ 730.00
			PERD (Post Excavation Research Design)		
			Post-Excavation Analysis		
2018/19	7	Stone Circle (Site 2) Post-Excavation	DSR (Data Structure Report)	15-Mar-19	£ 220.00
			PERD (Post Excavation Research Design)		
			Post-Excavation Analysis		
2018/19	8	Interpretation	Interpretation Panels (3 complete – for Site 1, 2 and 3)	15-Mar-19	£ 500.00
					£ 6,327.47

2018/2019 Actual Project Expenditure - Summary

Item	Detail	Cost
Fieldwork	Bronze Age/Neolithic (Site 1) Costs	£ 4,107.00
	Stone Circle (Site 2) Costs	£ 1,000.00
Post Excavation	Bronze Age/Neolithic (Site 1) Costs	£ 2,660.00
	Stone Circle (Site 2) Costs	£ 220.00
Training	20 Archaeology Skills Passports	£ 180.00
Events & Activities	Printing, Archaeology Talks & Tours, Travel Expenses	£ 401.27
Archaeological Films	Filming (Media Unit) & Film Equipment	£ 849.20
Interpretation	Artist Impression of Site 1 Neolithic Structure – Jan Dunbar	£ 500.00
	Total:	£ 9,917.47

2018/2019 Actual Project Expenditure

A full breakdown of the 2018/19 actual expenditure is listed below. Supporting invoices will be submitted via the HES Claim and the HLF Payment Request reporting process.

Fieldwork Costs

Bronze Age/Neolithic (Site 1) (5-15th Nov 2018)

Budget Allocation: HESAG: £2,000 + HLF £2,000 + AC £1,000 = £5,000 (Not incl £1k Vol Time)

Item	Detail	Cost
Archaeologist Time	Ali Cameron (£220 per day) x 9 days	£ 2,000.00
	Jan (£150 per day) x 9 days	£ 1,350.00
Expenses	Miscellaneous expenses	£ 80.00
Welfare Unit	GAP Group - 21' Welfare Unit (2 weeks)	£ 160.00
Digger & Driver	Robbie Cadger (2 days - 5th £277, 6th Nov £240 = 697)	£ 517.00
	Total:	£ 4,107.00

Stone Circle (Site 2) (5-15th Nov 2018)

Budget Allocation: HESAG: £2,000 + HLF £2,000 + AC £1,000 = £5,000 (Not incl £1k Vol Time)

Item	Detail	Cost
Archaeologist Time	Ali Cameron (£220 per day) x 2 days	£ 420.00
	Jan (£150 per day) x 2 days	£ 300.00
Expenses	Miscellaneous expenses	£ 100.00
Digger & Driver	Robbie Cadger (1 day - 9th Nov £180)	£ 180.00
	Total:	£ 1,000.00

Post Excavation Costs

Bronze Age/Neolithic (Site 1) (5-15th Nov 2018)

Budget Allocation: HESAG: £2,500 + HLF £2,500 + AC £500 = £5,500

Item	Detail	Cost
Data Structure Report (DSR)	Ali Cameron (£220 per day) x almost 8 days	£ 1,710.00
Post Excavation Research Design (PERD)	Ali Cameron (£220 per day) x 1 day	£ 220.00
Post Excavation Analysis	3 samples sent to Headland for carbon dating - £100 x 3 = £300 + SUERC £415 (fast track) x 3 = £1,245. Total: £1,545 + £20 postage	£ 1,565.00
	Total:	£ 3,495.00

Stone Circle (Site 2) (5-15th Nov 2018)

Budget Allocation: HESAG: £1,500 + HLF £1,500 + AC £500 = £3,500

Item	Detail	Cost
Data Structure Report (DSR)	Ali Cameron (£220 per day) x 1 day	£ 220.00
Post Excavation Research Design (PERD)	Not Required	£ -
Post Excavation Analysis	Not Required	£ -
	Total:	£ 220.00

Training Costs

2018-19 Workblock Budget Allocation: £350

Total Project Budget Allocation: HESAG: £2,100 + HLF £2,100 = £4,200

Item	Detail	Cost
Skills Passports	20 Archaeology Skills Passports	£ 180.00
	Total:	£ 180.00

Events & Activities Costs

2018-19 Workblock Budget Allocation: £650

Total Project Budget Allocation: HESAG: £7,500 + HLF £7,500 = £15,000

Item	Detail	Cost
Promotion	Printing costs for flyers & posters	£ 41.27
Events & Activities	Aden Archaeology Talks & Tours Costs	£ 50.00
Travel Costs - Schools	Meethill Primary - John Black	£ 35.00
	New Pitsligo Primary - Kelly or Careen	£ 95.00
	Peterhead Central School - Eileen Carle	£ 80.00
	Total:	£ 401.27

Filming Costs

2018-19 Workblock Budget Allocation: £500

Total Project Budget Allocation: HESAG: £2,750 + HLF £2,750 + AC £750 = £6,250

Item	Detail	Cost
Filming	Media Unit - Paul Barron (£195.6 per half day) x 2 half days	£ 391.20
	Equipment - GoPro Camera, Tripod, Batteries & accessories	£ 458.00
	Total:	£ 849.20

The filming equipment costs are to be claimed through the HLF funds.

Interpretation Costs

2018-19 Workblock Budget Allocation: £500

Total Project Budget Allocation: HESAG: £8,750 + HLF £7,000 + AC £750 = £16,500

Item	Detail	Cost
Interpretation	Artist Impression of Site 1 Neolithic Structure – Jan Dunbar	£ 500.00
	Total:	£ 500.00

The total actual expenditure for the Aden Archaeology Project in 2018/19 is £9,917.47, with the HES Claim being £6,327.47. The difference in expenditure is to be covered by the funding support from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Aberdeenshire Council.

Feedback

Schools, Participant, Volunteer & Training & Skills Surveys

During the archaeological investigations School, Participant, Volunteer, and Training and Skills surveys were distributed to the range of people who participated in archaeological dig. For those schools who couldn't complete the surveys on the day, the staff took away the surveys to complete in the classroom.

We have had a good response rate and the survey analysis has recently been completed by the Justine Tough, the recently appointed Skills Development & Events Officer. An "Aden Archaeology Summary of Findings Report" has been developed and will be attached to the upcoming HES Claim HLF Progress Report, both due in March 2019. This report will help support the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of both the Aden Restoration & Redevelopment Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) project, and the Aden Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Archaeology project.

Comments

During, and after the completion of the archaeological digs, we received a range of positive feedback from visitors, volunteers, teachers, pupils and children, some of their comments have been include below:

- *"Thank you so much for the opportunity given to Central School pupils to participate in the dig at Aden. Staff and pupils thoroughly enjoyed the event and gained from the experience."*

Eileen Carle
Teacher - Peterhead Central School

- *"From a Head Teacher point of view, I couldn't have been happier with the value of the day in terms of the input from all the adults involved and the overall structure of the day. To provide the children with such an extensive 'hands on' learning experience virtually on our doorstep is invaluable. The importance of the transport cost being met as well cannot be over-estimated as frequently, it's the associated costs that prove to be the prohibitive factor in maximising pupil off-site learning opportunities."*

John Black
Head Teacher – Meethill school

- *Thank you for a great time yesterday. The pupils loved it and are still waxing lyrical about their finds. We used the dig experience for the English lesson today. Please pass on our thanks to Heather and our Human Remains Specialist (the pupils were in awe) for their time and patience as well as all the information given. The dig, as always, was a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience and it provides a very important contribution to our curriculum. Thanks again for everything and look forward to future digs.*

Helen Richards
PT ASL - Mintlaw Academy

- *“Ali, thank you very much for allowing me to visit the dig at Aden last Friday and for the information and help you provided. I found it quite awe inspiring to think that the last time the post holes would have been seen would be around 4000 years ago. That is the first time I have visited a dig but hopefully I will see a few more. Thankyou.”*

Rob Paterson
(Visitor to the dig)

Next Steps - 2019 Archaeological Digs

We are currently in the process of developing the next series of archaeological digs and associated activities/open days at Aden Country Park during 2019. The draft timetable for each of these are as follows:

- 1. Mansion House (Site 4)**
29th April to 12th May. Open day: Sat 11th of May.
- 2. Neolithic Structure (Site 1) – Second Dig**
24th June to 7th July. Open days: Sun 30th June and Sat 6th of July.
- 3. Tower House (Site 3)**
31st Aug to 8th Sept. Open day: Sat 7th Sept.

Similar to the November 2018 archaeological digs at Site 1 and Site 2, we plan to get as many schools, volunteers and interest groups involved with each of the planned digs. Contact with the local schools is well underway and already a number of schools have confirmed their interest and dates for attending the next planned dig in April/May 2019.