



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL



ADEN RESTORATION & REDEVELOPMENT & ADEN ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS

**NLHF PROJECT REF: PP-15-05717
HESAG PROJECT REF: HEAP17739253911**

ADEN ARCHAEOLOGY SUMMARY REPORT SITE 3 (TOWER HOUSE/T SHAPED BUILDING)

ADEN COUNTRY PARK, ABERDEENSHIRE AB42 8FQ

31ST AUGUST – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2019

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

**Compiled by
Neil Shirran – Project Co-ordinator**

Introduction

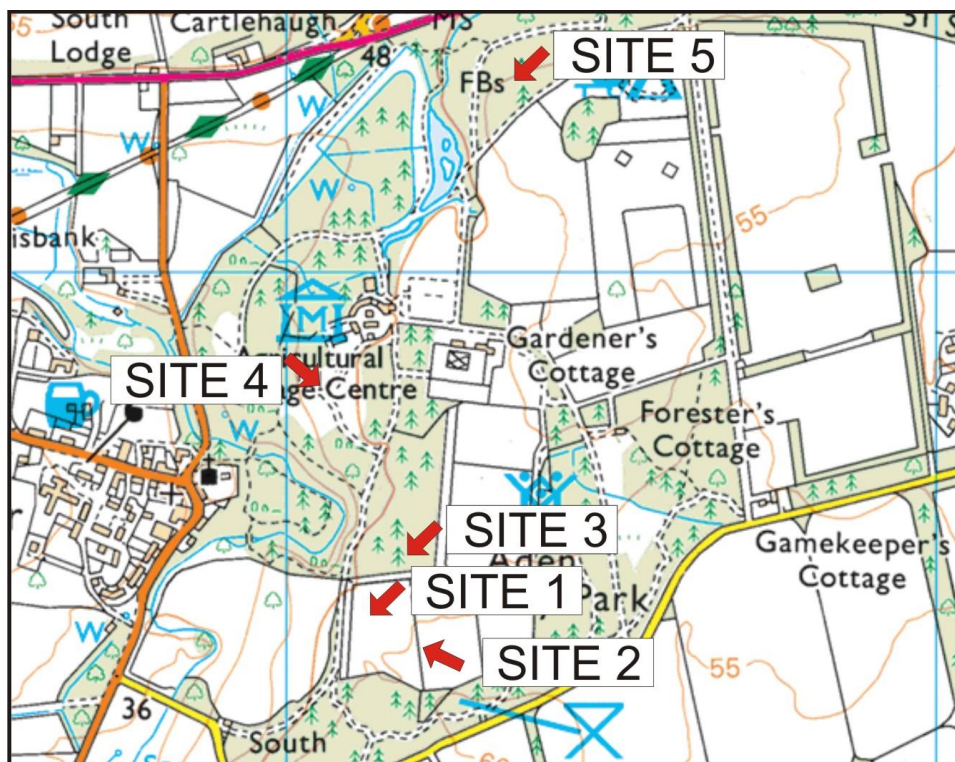
This report has been produced to provide a summary of the work and activities carried out as part of the 2019 Tower House/T Shaped Structure (Site 3) archaeological excavation, as part of the Aden Country Park Restoration & Redevelopment and the associated Aden Archaeology Project. These projects have been made possible with funding support from the Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Archaeological Grant, the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Parks for People programme, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service and in-kind volunteer support from the Friends of Aden Country Park group and additional volunteers.

The archaeological dig at the Tower House/T Shaped structure site was led by the experienced archaeologist Ali Cameron of Cameron Archaeology. Ali has led on numerous community-based archaeological excavations within Aden Country Park and as the commissioned archaeologist has extensive knowledge of Aden's historic environment.

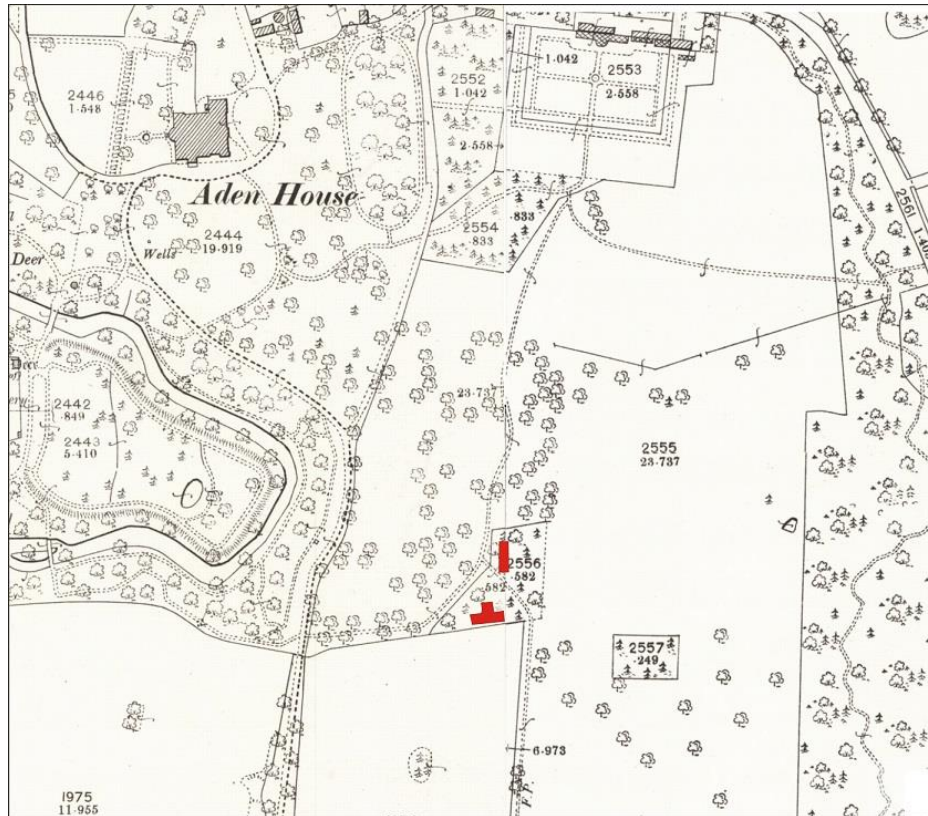
Archaeological Investigations (31st August to 8th September 2019)

The archaeological site which we will focus on in this report is at the Tower House/T Shaped (Site 3) located at the following National Grid Reference point illustrated below, in the parish of Old Deer and at 40-55m OD.

Archaeological Site	National Grid Reference
T Shaped Building (Site 3)	NJ 9821 4755



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



2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map with T Shaped Building (Structure 1) and Agricultural Building (Structure 2) in red; note no buildings are present in this location on map. Aberdeenshire O21.04/01 (includes: Old Deer) Publication date: 1902 Revised: ca. 1899 (copyright National Library of Scotland).

Site 3 – Tower House/T Shaped Structure - Background to Research Aims

Old Deer, Episcopal Meeting House - Excavation (2 - 8 Sept 2015)

NJ 9821 4755 (Aden Country Park) Two trenches were excavated in Aden Country Park investigating the remains of two stone structures by a team of 29 archaeologists, Book of Deer members, students, volunteers and members of Aberdeen Foyer Reach Project, as well as staff and pupils from five local primary schools. Structure 1 is a T-shaped foundation over which stones were rolled to form what appears to be an ad hoc seating area. A large stone 'platform' was uncovered. Local folklore suggests that this was an Episcopalian meeting house, and the excavation and associated finds cannot definitively rule out this interpretation.

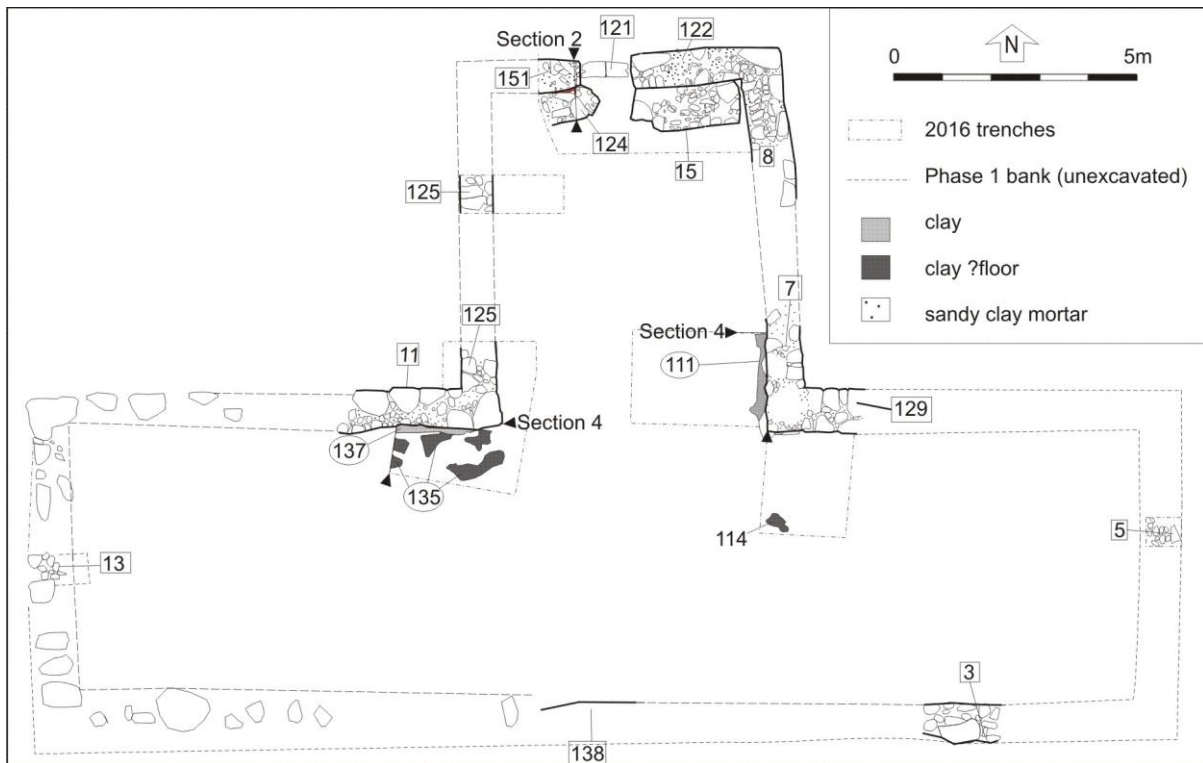
Archive: National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE)

Alison Cameron - Cameron Archaeology

Old Deer, Episcopal Meeting House - Excavation (6 - 19 June 2016)

NJ 9821 4755 Further excavation of two stone structures in Aden Country Park was carried out, 6–19 June 2016, by a team of 36 archaeologists, Book of Deer members, students and volunteers, as well as staff and nearly 300 pupils from local primary schools and Mintlaw Academy.

Structure 1 is a T-shaped building, probably built in the medieval period, possibly as a tower house or castle and possibly later used as an Episcopal Meeting House. Nearly 20 coins of the late 18th century, a copper alloy heart-shaped brooch and copper alloy book fittings are included in the finds from the later use of the building. Burnt timbers and stone were excavated from the demolition of the building which had been burnt prior to demolition.



Structure 1 illustrations done as part of 2016 excavation

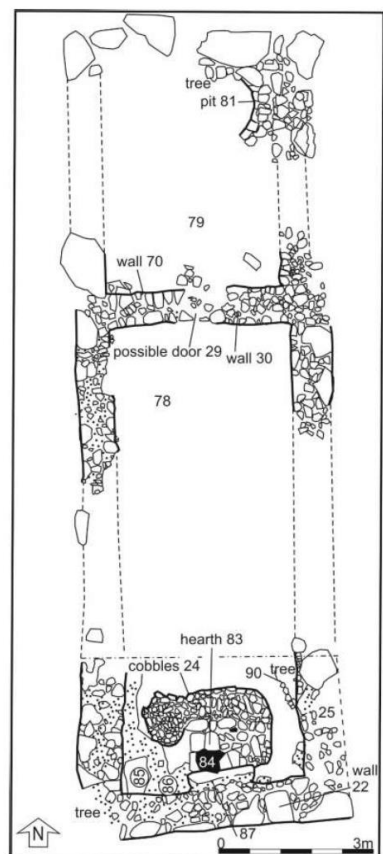


Structure 1 drone photograph taken during the 2016 dig

Structure 2 may have had an agricultural or mixed domestic and agricultural use. There is a hearth inside the S wall surrounded by a well-laid cobbled floor and a stone-lined pit in the NE corner of the N room which may have been an exterior courtyard.

Archive: National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE)

Alison Cameron - Cameron Archaeology



Structure 2 illustrations done as part of 2016 excavation

Illus 39 Plan showing Structure 2 uncovered in 2016

During the 2016 archaeological dig finds included wall plaster, a small piece of medieval pottery, 350 pieces of late medieval moulded glass, coins from between 1540 and 1690, a witch's brooch and many later medieval artefacts.

The witch's brooch was one of the most exciting finds from the dig. It is in the form of a luckenbooth brooch. It may have been attached to a child's (bairn's) shawl to ward off evil and witches.



The 2016 discovery was thought to be a 19th century farmstead but excavation revealed that it is a late medieval tower house, possibly the original tower house of the Keith family. Although small trenches have determined the date and nature of the building, trees on the site did not allow access to several areas of the building. It is proposed to excavate the site further to look at the south wall where the main entrance would have been, further work on the north wall where the rear entrance is and a trench between the tower house and the agricultural building to look at their relationship.

This is now a nationally important site and crucial to the history of the Aden estate. The buildings possible reuse as an Episcopalian Meeting House in the late 18th century is also a fascinating development. Although local folklore suggested that this was in the park, more is now known about the building and the Keith family and Aden's part in this interesting period of Scottish history.

This building will form a key part of the interpretation of the Aden estate and a tourist attraction and focus of the interpretation of the park and of heritage trail, leaflets and walks. Artist's impressions of the building will be key to this and these will be possible following the excavations.

Aim 1 - Understand the site's chronological development

In the light of the excavation, research, and evaluation carried out by Cameron Archaeology (3. Old Deer, Episcopal Meeting House - Excavation (2 - 8 Sept 2015) and 4. Old Deer, Episcopal Meeting House - Excavation (6 - 19 June 2016)), this aim will be addressed with the excavation of the site with a programme of three targeted trenches designed to look at the south wall of the tower house where the main entrance would have been, along with further work on the north wall where the rear entrance is, and a trench between the tower house and the agricultural building to look at their relationship. 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.

Stabilisation Work Prior to Archaeological Excavation (19th- 20th Aug 2019)

Prior to the archaeological excavation at the Site 3 Tower House/T Shaped Building, an experience lumberjack carefully removed a selection of trees from the site to prevent further root damage on Site 3 and the adjacent agricultural building site, yet to be excavated. The photographs below illustrate the extent and number of trees which needed to be cleared to stop further root damage in and around both sites:



Trees marked with X's to be removed



Protective matting placed over the archaeology



Trees starting to be carefully felled



Matting protecting the archaeology



Clearing and removal of the tree on Site 3



Photographs showing tree removal and remaining roots



Large tree removed from Site 3 T Shaped Building



Large tree removed from adjacent agricultural building



Score marks put into tree stumps to encourage natural decomposition

Marketing & Promotion (Prior to Site 3 Archaeological Excavation)

In advance of the second archaeological excavation at the Site 3 Tower House/T Shaped structure, a variety of techniques were adopted to help promote the archaeological volunteering opportunities and the open day through social media, press releases, posters and fliers. Some examples are shown below:

DIG IN THE PARK
Aden Country Park 2019

LAST DIG OF THE YEAR!

31 Aug-8 Sept
Medieval tower house
- the house of the Keith
family dated from
the 15th century

For details contact Ali
cameronarch@btinternet.com 07581101057

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND
Aberdeenshire COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE
HERITAGE FUND
friends of aden country park

aden country park

Dig in the Park

Medieval Tower House Site

Come along for the final Aden dig of 2019
31st of August to the 8th of September 2019
Open day 7th of September

For more information or if you would like to volunteer at the dig please contact justinetough96@gmail.com

HERITAGE FUND
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND
Aberdeenshire COUNCIL
friends of aden country park

Posters designed and distributed online and offline

Social media was also used to promote the archaeological dig. Some examples shown below

https://www.facebook.com/ArchaeologyatAden/

Archaeology at Aden Country Park
30 August 2019

The Medieval Tower House site dig begins tomorrow. The public are invited to attend the associated open day on Saturday the 7th of September. Come along for family digging, site tours and visit Helen Chavez in the Aden theatre to discover her medieval finds!

aden country park

Dig in the Park

Medieval Tower House Site

Archaeology at Aden Country Park
@ArchaeologyatAden

Home
Posts
Reviews
Videos
Photos
Events
About
Community
Create a Page

Page transparency
Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.
Page created - 26 March 2019

English (UK) · English (US) · Polski · Español · Português (Brasil)

Information about Page Insights data
Privacy · Terms · Advertising · AdChoices · Cookies · More +
Facebook © 2020

Facebook post from Cameron Archaeology, dated 16 July 2019. The post features a photograph of an archaeological dig site with several workers in safety gear. The text of the post reads: "Aden medieval tower house dig" and "Archaeology at Aden Country Park · Peterhead". The post has received 356 likes, 388 followers, and 2 check-ins. The page's 'About' section provides the address: 45 View Terrace, AB25 2RS Aberdeen, and the phone number 01224 643020. The page is categorized as a local business with a price range of ££.

Facebook page for Aden Country Park, published by Justine Tough on 16 August 2019. The page features a promotional graphic for a "Dig in the Park" event at the "Medieval Tower House Site". The graphic shows two heart-shaped metal brooches. The page includes a navigation menu with options like Home, About, Photos, Reviews, Events, Videos, Posts, Services, and Shop. A 'Suggested Groups' sidebar lists local community groups such as "Rothie parents and residents" and "New Deer/ New Pitsligo Area...".

Twitter post from Cameron Archaeology (@AllTheArchaeol) dated August 15, 2019. The tweet includes a link to the Aden Country Park page and a promotional graphic for the "Medieval Tower House Site" dig. The graphic text states: "Come along for the final Aden dig of 2019", "31st of August to the 8th of September 2019", and "Open day 7th of September". It also provides contact information: "For more information or if you would like to volunteer at the dig please contact justinetough96@gmail.com". The tweet includes a 'Follow' button and a search bar for other tweets.

Social Media promotion across multiple platforms – Facebook, Twitter etc

Capturing the Site 3 Archaeological Dig (31st August – 8th September 2019)

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 Site 3, possible Tower House/T Shaped Building in Aden Country Park.



Archaeological dig starts at the Tower House/T Shaped Building



Progress already being made on the dig



Aberdeen Young Archaeologists Club attended the dig



Young archaeologists getting stuck in



Remaining tree roots starting to be removed



First school (Auchnagatt Primary School) attends the dig



Heather demonstrates the archaeological techniques to the pupils



Kinmonth Primary School attending the dig



Derek helping the pupils identify any finds after sieving



Skills Development & Events Officer, Justine, helping the pupils at the dig



Volunteers busy at the dig



Corner of West wall cleaning up nicely



Blocked up West door



Volunteers away taking a well-earned break, perfect time for photos!



Elaine discovers another door!



South door cleaned up nicely. Shame about those pesky roots!



Roots removed but further cleaning required



Volunteers working on more root removal and cleaning of the East wall



Various test pits looking at potential relationship between buildings



Test pit showing possible boundary wall



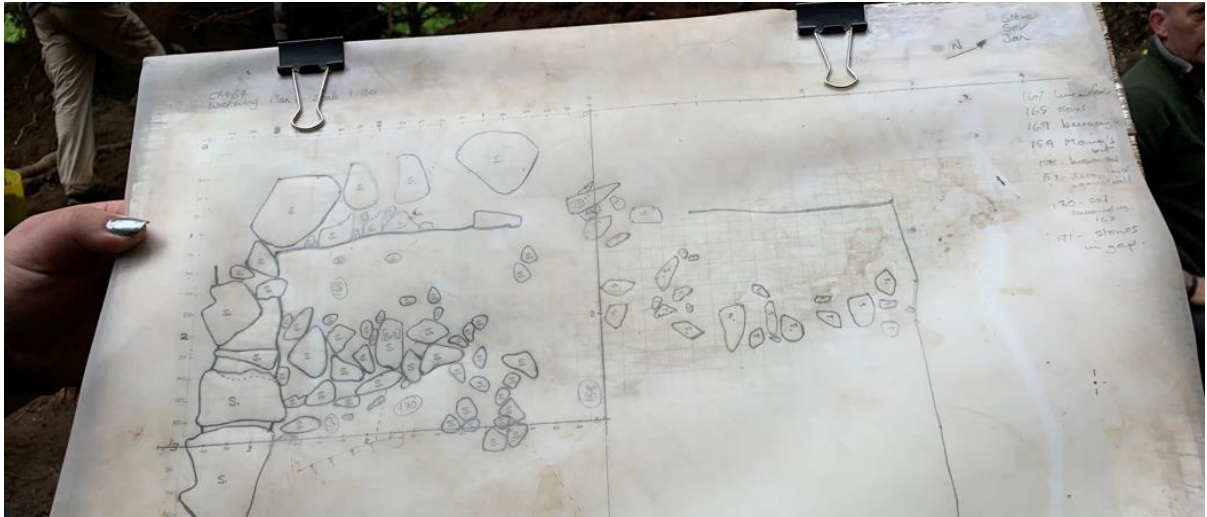
Further trench looking at relationship between the two buildings



Door (East) number 5 discovered at the T Shaped Building



Drawing time! Volunteers get stuck in recording what has been found



One of the recording drawings near to completion

Site Finds

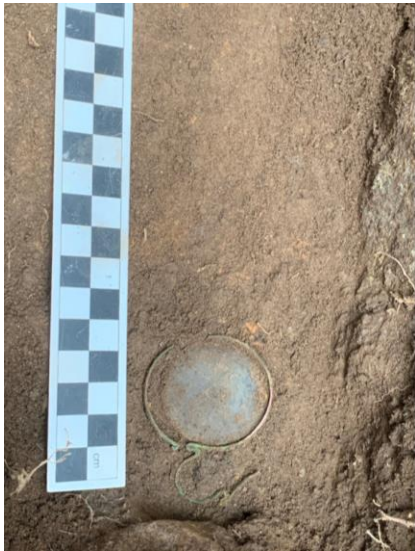
During the 2019 archaeological dig a range of interesting finds were found including medieval pottery and glass, three spectacle lenses, and copper alloy fitting and bodle.



Early post-medieval jug shoulder



Glass with etched pattern



Spectacle lense one with part of copper alloy bridge



Heated distorted window glass



Copper alloy bodle

In the 2016 dig there were also many fragments of two different types of window glass which have been previously dated to the later 16th and 17th century; the later 16th century may suggest that this building was constructed between 1550-1600AD. Further research into the site will continue in the future.

Archaeology Open Day (7th September 2019)

As part of the T-Shaped Building archaeological dig, an open day was held on Saturday 7th of September. The open day attracted many visitors despite the poor weather conditions. The archaeological open day provided an opportunity for the general public and families alike to engage with the archaeological heritage of the site, to experience what it is like to do archaeological digging, a chance to see the finds from the site, as well as an opportunity to take part in the site tours which were led by one of our knowledgeable volunteers.

aden
money park

Dig in the Park



Medieval Tower House Site

Come along for the final Aden dig of 2019
31st of August to the 8th of September 2019
Open day 7th of September

For more information or if you would like to volunteer at the dig please contact: cameronarch@btinternet.com



Drone Photography

To help understand the layout, scale and dimensions of the T Shaped Building site, a drone was used as a recording mechanism. The drone photographs below show the T Shaped Building fully uncovered. It was very sunny day when the photographs were taken, and as the site is surrounded in trees the photographs are quite shadowy.





Levelling and Stabilisation of Site (7th to the 9th Nov 2019)

Following the completion of the archaeological excavation, the spoil heaps surrounding the T shaped building, site 3, made it hard to access and visualise the structure. In addition, the interior ground level was uneven and in need of levelling. A meeting between the Project Team, Ali Cameron, the project Archaeologist, and Jack Grant, Aberdeenshire Council's Landscape Services Team, was held and it was decided that levelling of the site was required. Local contractor, Robbie Cadger, was appointed for the groundworks and worked closely alongside our archaeologist and group of volunteers between the 7th and 9th of November. Ten to thirteen volunteers assisted with the levelling of the site.



Robbie Cadger sets to work on leveling out the spoils heaps and surround ground



Volunteers help to clean the remaining wall



Heather and Elaine clean up the South door



Ewen Sinclair (Obital Scot) starting to scan the site



Robbie Cadger starts carefully working on leveling the building interior



Robbie Cadger carefully working on leveling the interior of the T shaped building



Visiting family to the site standing on preacher stone



Final measurement being gathered after levelling

3D Modelling of T-Shaped Building

As part of the archaeological dig, Maria and Ewen Sinclair, Obital Scot, were invited down with their 3d modelling equipment to help record the archaeological site. The following screenshots are taken from the Sketchfab website, where the imagery has been uploaded to. For further information and imagery please visit: <https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/aden-country-park-structure-1-524ef8c2b6074b7e82f26ea84e1002c4>

Two flythru videos from the site have also been added to You Tube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRqaMrMkNsQ&fbclid=IwAR1Rb71vAPy8kyKNU8TaQkTf13Mjy_x7E1uaCYrcxojznQjFmqLR-8WaDC0

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZ_4mALARJ8



Ewen Sinclair scanning one of the site trenches



Scan of T-shaped building (see key below)

3d Modelling Key:

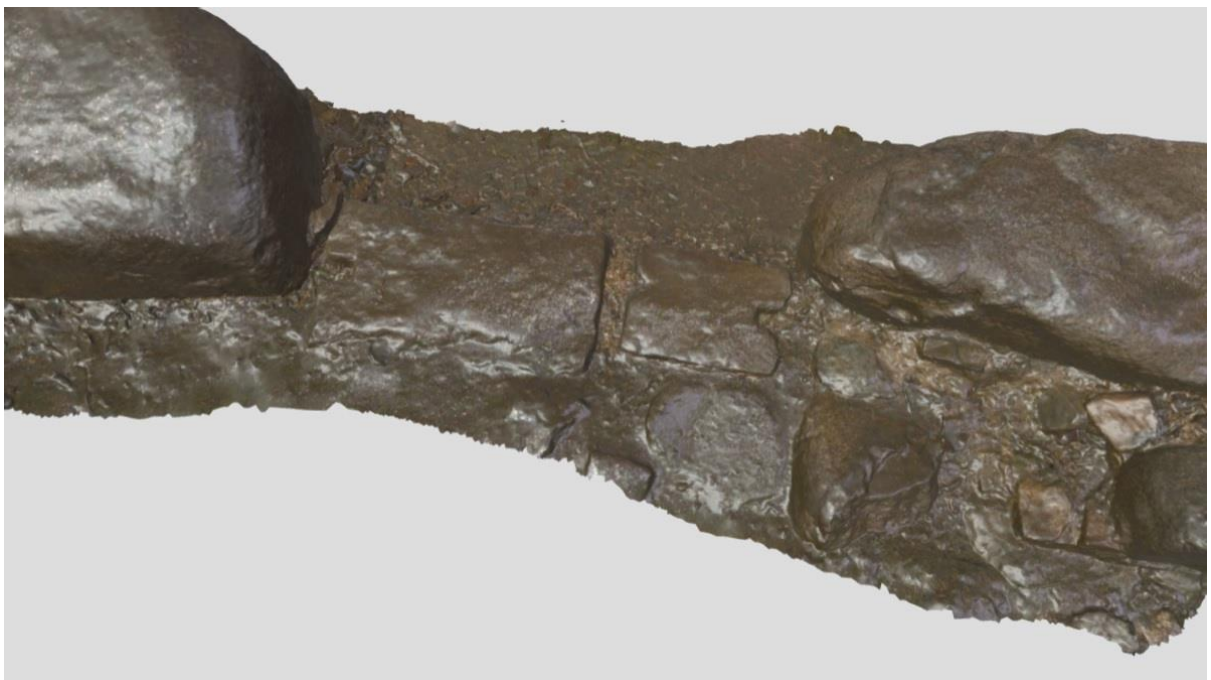
1. **North Door** - This doorway is 1m wide with two flat threshold stones being 0.3m wide. The threshold stones have a socket at each end for the door jamb.
2. **Base for stairs** - May be contemporary with the main structure and may represent remains of internal structures such as stair.
3. **Preacher Stone**
4. **Demolition Rubble**
5. **Cobbles** - Remains of interior cobbled surface.
6. **East Door** - The East entrance is 1m wide and the threshold is constructed of two flat stones with a socket for the door posts at each end.
7. **South Door** - The South entrance is 1m wide and the threshold is constructed of two flat stones with a socket for the door posts at each end, with remains of internal and external cobbles.
8. **Earliest Door** - The jambs of this door are very unusual; on the exterior they are constructed of two large (1.35 x 0.5m) boulders which would have been visible be the exterior of the building when it was harled. This door is 0.9m wide (slightly narrower than the other four doors) must have been original to the construction. The threshold is constructed of two flat stones with a socket for the door posts at each end.
9. **West Door (Blocked)** - This door is 1m wide and the threshold is constructed of two flat stones with a socket for the door posts at each end. This door has been blocked with large stones in mortar.



Scan of T-shaped building from alternative angle (see key above)



Scan of the East Door



Scan of the West Door



Scan of South Door



Scan of the trench beside West Door



T Shaped Building viewed from above

Schools Engagement

In all, 434 professional, skilled and unskilled people/volunteers took part in the ten-day archaeological excavation and three days of levelling. This included six schools: Auchnagatt Primary School (18 pupils + 2 adults), Buchanhaven Primary School (60 pupils + 4 adults), Tipperty Primary School (27 pupils + 4 adults), Peterhead Central Primary School (6 pupils + 2 adults), Kininmonth Primary School (31 pupils + 4 adults), Pitfour Primary School (23 pupils + 4 adults) along with a Young Archaeologists Club (15 + 10 adults), totalling 210. A full volunteer statistics breakdown is provided later in this report.



Heather demonstrates and answers questions regarding archaeological techniques



Kininmonth Primary School enjoying their time at the dig



Sample of one of the worksheets to be completed by pupils

Filming & Promotion

During the Tower House/T Shaped Building site dig the GoPro camera was set up in various locations in 'time lapse' mode where the resulting footage will help to illustrate to future visitors the process taken at the archaeological excavation.

Alongside the 'time lapse' footage, the Aberdeenshire Council Media Unit were also commissioned to capture additional footage in the form of interviews, and real time recording focusing on the volunteer and school involvement, along with the various activities at the archaeological open days. Once edited it is planned that this footage will be used in the new interpretation centre, website, smartphone app, Aden Facebook page and Aden Archaeological Facebook page.



GoPro camera capturing sieving of spoils



GoPro camera capturing volunteers and levelling of site

Conclusions from Cameron Archaeology DSR CA464 / CA267

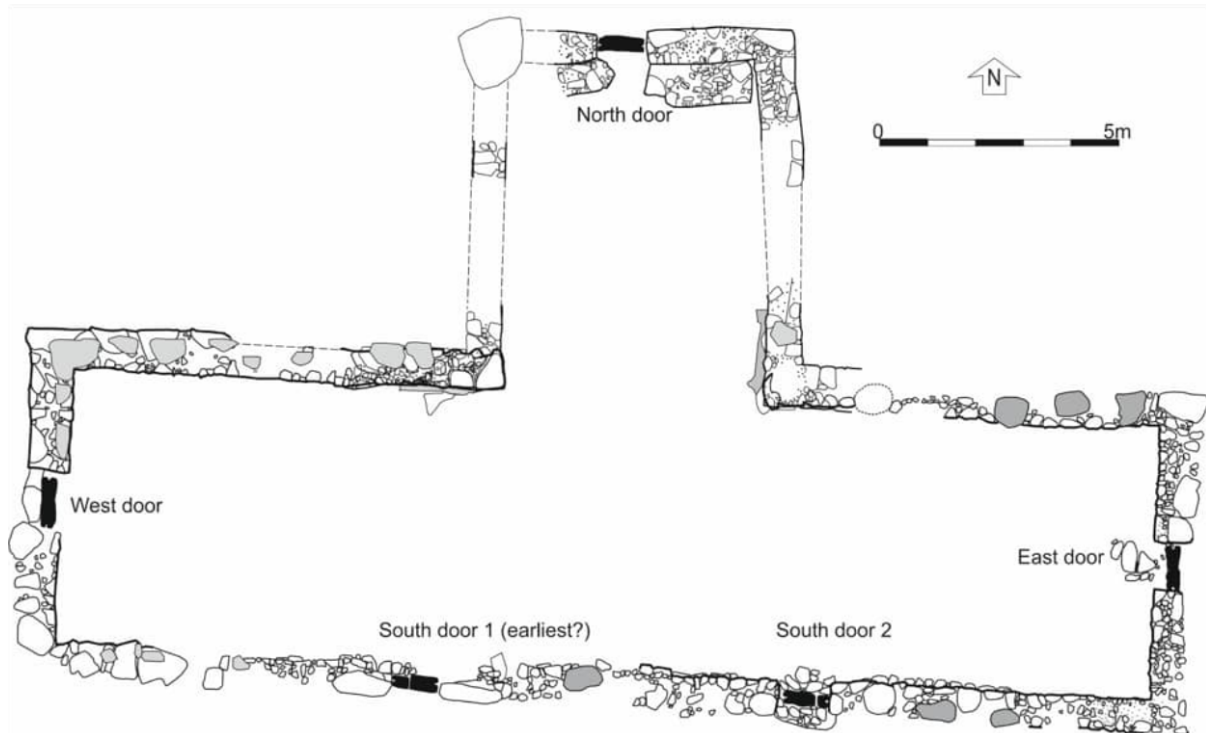
A summary of the finding from these digs include:

- There is no dating for the construction of the building
- These buildings could have a vernacular or ecclesiastical use. The T-shaped building could be the 'fortalico' identified in charters of 1592 and 1612.
- Structure 1 has no room partitions and so therefore may have been a vaulted space or one divided by surface (possibly wooden) partitions
- There are 5 doors (one probably original) and four later doors (one latterly blocked but the threshold was visible at the demolition as there is demolition material above it)
- The finds include coins, brooch, spectacles, window glass but no domestic rubbish – no pottery, vessel glass, bone
- The first phase of window glass dates to the 16th century or early 17th century and the second glazing phase in the mid- latter half of the 17th century
- The coins mainly date to the 17th century

- The burnt wood on the floor was dated to 17th to mid-18th century. Was the building burnt down in the mid-18th century?
- The building has been completely dismantled to ground level including removal of all flooring apart from small areas of cobbles around the doors - does this suggest wooden flooring within the building? Are stone settings in the W wing of the building remains of supports for wooden flooring? Or has stone slab flooring been removed?
- The SE corner of the building appears to have been rebuilt – how was the building originally constructed?
- Large stones have been placed on the bank created by the demolished building, sometime decades after the demolition; were these set out by the later estate owners (Russel family) or by antiquarians who remembered the building and wanted to mark/commemorate it?
- Structure 2 is probably contemporary and again there is no dating evidence for construction. Probably an agricultural building which does not help with the interpretation.
- The buildings are not recorded on any maps. There is a 'boot-shaped' enclosure around them on the OS maps and by the 2nd Edition OS a path has been routed around the outside of the enclosure.

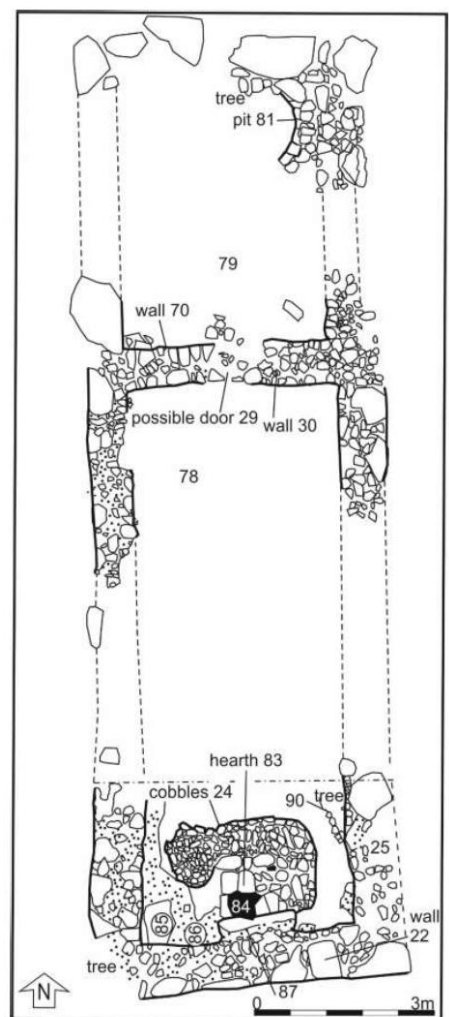
The two structures are clearly (late) medieval in date. Limited research so far has revealed two charters: the first is dated 1592 RMS v no. 2176 a charter from James VI to George and William Keith includes 'terras et baroniam de Auden, cum fortalicio' (Charter 1592). The second charter dates to 1612 fortalicio' (Charter 1592) RMS vii no. 757 - charter from James VI to William Keith includes 'terras et baroniam de Awden, cum fortalicio'. There is also an earlier charter dating to 1525 RMS iii no. 302 - charter from James V to William Keith includes 'terras et baroniam de Kintor et Awdane, cum castro et fortalicio de K.' fortalicio' (Charter 1525) but this does not refer to a fortalico at Aden (just at Kintore) and so this is not evidence of the building at this earlier date (Miles Kerr-Peterson pers comm). This may be the building seen on Pont's map of the late 16th century. There is no structure on Roy's mid-18th-century map.

The T-shaped Building 1 may have been built as a tower house and may thereafter have been used as an Episcopalian Church. The finds from the layers associated with the demolition and earlier include coins, a copper alloy brooch and book fittings and these may come from the ecclesiastical use of this building or the building may have been constructed as a church/chapel; the main alignment of the building is close to W-E. Walker and Woodworth record that near Harehowe there is the ruins of the former Episcopal Meeting House of Rev John Skinner burnt by Hanoverian troops after the 'Forty-five (2015, 320). Other references record Skinner's chapel as being near his house at Linshart, Longside (Walker 1883). Aden House (the current ruin) was originally built after 1758 when the Barony of Aden was sold by the Fergusons of Kinmundy to Alexander Russell. The excavated building may have been the precursor of this late 18th-century house.



T-shaped Building/Structure 1

Building 2 was presumably in agricultural use but the excavation produced little evidence for this. The building is heavily damage by tree roots. The building may have been for animals and storage of crops. The S room of Building 2 may have been for industrial use or domestic and agriculture with the hearth on the S wall. The south room may have been divided into two and the south half may have been a bothy and the rest of the building for agricultural use. The N room may have been an exterior enclosed courtyard with a stone lined pit in the NE corner. This pit may have been for storage; there is no burning or evidence of industrial use such as a kiln. This building could as easily be associated with Structure 1 as a church or as a domestic building.



Agricultural Building/Structure 2

Illus 39 Plan showing Structure 2 uncovered in 2016

Recommendations from Cameron Archaeology DSR CA464 / CA267

Following the completion of the 2019 excavation of the possible Tower House/T Shaped Building it is recommended that:

- Further Post Excavation Research Design prepared, and post-excavation completed
- Further historical research is carried out

The structures will now be consolidated, and information/interpretation boards erected.

Volunteers

During the ten-day archaeological excavation and three days of levelling, a wide range of people including University students from Aberdeen, professional archaeologists, local schools, Young Archaeologists Club, and volunteers from Manchester, Elgin and the local area all attended the dig. The detailed number and frequency of volunteers is detailed in the Volunteer Statistic tables attached below. It is also vitally important to note that the quality, amount and value of volunteer input is not to be understated. The Tower House/T-Shaped Building (Site 3) archaeological dig would not have been possible without their time, effort and enthusiasm.



Ali Cameron and two volunteers dining alfresco!



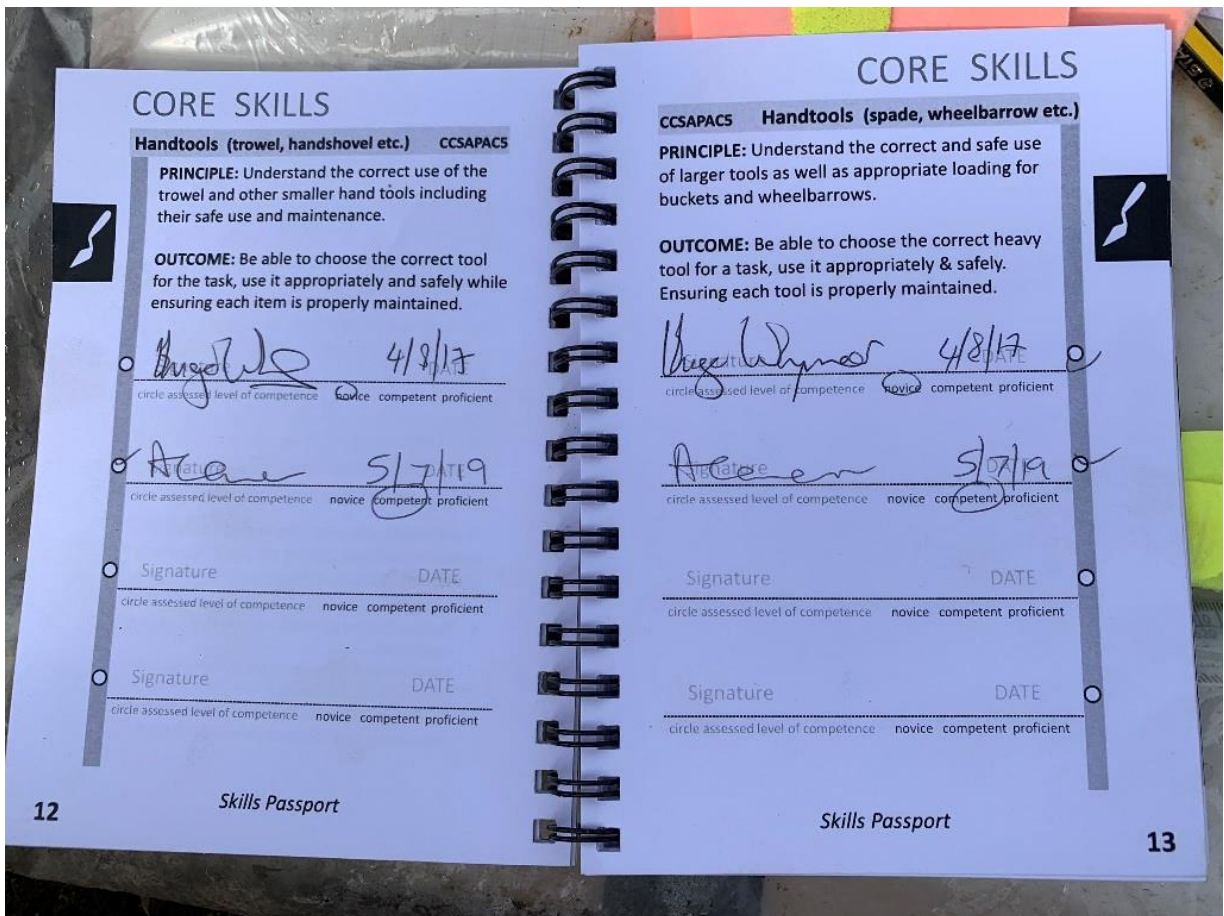
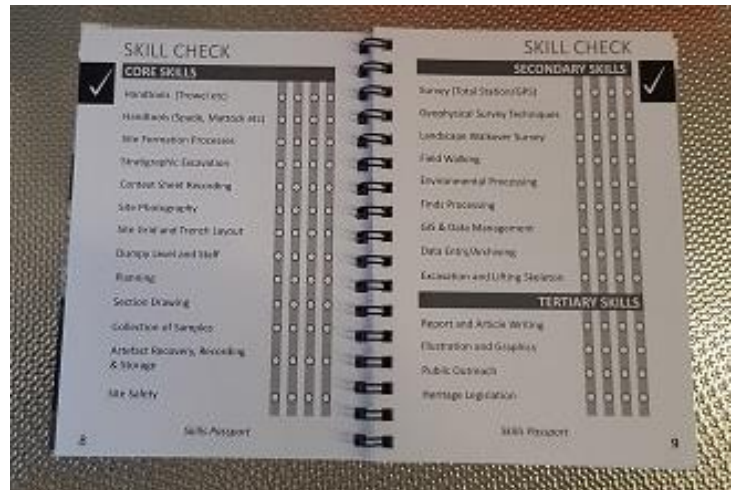
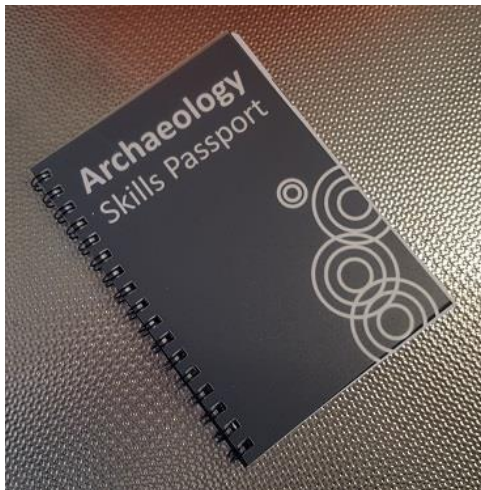
Volunteers take a well-earned break in the welfare unit



Volunteers all busy at work

Training & Skills - Passport

Archaeology Skills Passports purchased through the project were again provided to appropriate 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, and using their experience as a stepping-stone towards professional accreditation.



An example of one of the Skills passports having been signed by Ali Cameron (archaeologist)

Volunteer Statistics

Children & Adults

During the ten-day archaeological excavation and three days of levelling, a range of people including University students from Aberdeen, professional archaeologists, and volunteers from Manchester, Elgin and the local area attended the dig. Details are as follows:

Date	31 Aug	1 Sept	2 Sept	3 Sept	4 Sept	5 Sept	6 Sept	7 Sept	8 Sept	10 Sept	7 Nov	8 Nov	9 Nov	TOTAL	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	19	£6,650.00
skilled	9	9	8	14	13	11	9	12	6	1	6	6	8	112	£16,800.00
unskilled	6	18	8	6	10	5	8	19	6	0	2	2	3	93	£4,650.00
TOTAL	15	27	17	21	24	18	19	33	13	4	10	10	13	224	£28,100.00

Schools/Groups

In all, six schools and a Young Archaeologists Club attended the archaeological excavation. These included: Young Archaeologists Club: 15 + 10 adults (1st Sept). Auchnagatt School: 18 pupils + 2 adults (2nd Sept). Buchanhaven School: 60 pupils + 4 adults (3rd Sept). Tippetty School: 27 pupils + 4 adults and Peterhead Central School: 6 pupils + 2 adults (4th Sept). Kininmonth School: 31 pupils + 4 adults (5th Sept). Pitfour School: 23 pupils + 4 adults (6th Sept).

Date	31 Aug	1 Sept	2 Sept	3 Sept	4 Sept	5 Sept	6 Sept	7 Sept	8 Sept	10 Sept	7 Nov	8 Nov	9 Nov	TOTAL	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0.00
skilled	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0.00
unskilled	0	25	20	64	39	35	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	210	£10,500.00
TOTAL	0	25	20	64	39	35	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	210	£10,500.00

Combined Totals

When the tables are combined this helps to illustrate the total amount of volunteer input over the ten-day archaeological dig and three days of levelling:

Date	31 Aug	1 Sept	2 Sept	3 Sept	4 Sept	5 Sept	6 Sept	7 Sept	8 Sept	10 Sept	7 Nov	8 Nov	9 Nov	TOTAL	£ based on £50/£150/£350
Prof	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	19	£6,650.00
skilled	9	9	8	14	13	11	9	12	6	1	6	6	8	112	£16,800.00
unskilled	6	43	28	70	49	40	35	19	6	0	2	2	3	303	£15,150.00
TOTAL	15	52	37	85	63	53	46	33	13	4	10	10	13	434	£38,600.00

In total the value of the volunteer input was £38,600. Original estimates were £1,500. The actual volunteer input is £37,100 more than originally estimated.

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 Skills Development & Events Officer. An "Tower House Site 3 - Summary of Findings Report" has been developed and will be attached to the next Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Claim and National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Progress Report. This report will help support the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of both the Aden Restoration & Redevelopment NLHF project, and the Aden 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:

- *"Interesting archaeology, great meeting likeminded people and enjoying Aden Country Park."*
- *"Enjoyed my experience and learning some new skills"*
- *"All staff were very patient and able to interact positively with pupils"*
- *"Being involved in a local history project"*
- *"As a regular volunteer on other digs. The instruction and practice I have learned will be extremely useful."*
- *"It was nice to connect with the local community"*
- *"Really enjoyed being part of a project, which will shed more light on Aden's past"*
- *"I gained experience recording finds"*
- *"Excavating at the dig was my favourite part"*
- *"Thank you so much. I very much enjoyed my three days at the Aden dig and look forward to visiting the site when it becomes what it's slowly becoming"*
- *"An excellent experience which was very inclusive"*
- *"Camaraderie and learning about the finds"*
- *"Excavation drawing is something I required practice with, and I received full training for this"*
- *"I would like to thank everyone for the experience"*
- *"The archaeologist was very helpful in explaining what each find looks like. There were a variety of tasks assigned which further enhanced the experience."*
- *"It was an excellent form of relaxation therapy"*
- *"I learned how to excavate a historical building foundation and the appearance of mortar"*
- *"I plan to use my enhanced skills on future digs"*

Next Steps – Further Research/Consulting with Experts

Following the recommendations from Cameron Archaeology Data Structure Report CA464 / CA267 where it is recommended that:

- Further Post Excavation Research Design prepared, and post-excavation completed
- Further historical research is carried out

We are currently contacting experts on buildings of this type to help our own understanding of what both structure 1, T Shaped Building, and Structure 2, Agricultural Building, might have been used for. The work on this is ongoing. A report is to be produced summarising all theories. Experts being consulted include:

- **Charlie and Hilary Murray (H K Murray and J C Murray)**
- Charlie and Hilary Murray are two locally based experienced archaeologists. Hilary Murray is a renowned building expert and both Charlie and Hilary have both been archaeologists for 45 years.
- **Edwina Proudfoot – (Meeting on 12th Dec 2019)**
- Chairman/Director - St Andrews Heritage Services Dates Oct 1988 – Present. This Archaeological company was set up to develop fieldwork and research into the archaeology of St Andrews and Fife.
- Scottish Church Heritage Research (SCHR) was set up in 2000 to develop the Gazetteer of Scottish churches as a website. This involves visiting and photographing every place of worship in Scotland - over 10,000 sites and buildings. All work is by volunteers. What has been achieved to date can be seen on the website www.scottishchurches.org.uk



Edwina meets to discuss the T Shaped Building with Ali, Moyra, Jan, Derek & Heather

Following the onsite meeting with Edwina Proudfoot, Ali Cameron is to write up a report on the discussions, opinions and theories discussed, combining this with planned other discussions with Dr Piers Dixon.

- **Dr Piers Dixon -**
- Piers is one of Scotland's foremost experts on vernacular (non-religious) buildings.
- Between 1978-82 I worked on short-term excavation and survey projects in Scotland and northern England and as an extra-mural lecturer for the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne on medieval archaeology. This included a 6-month survey with British Gas on the gas pipeline through Northumberland and Durham.
- During this period, I carried out a small-scale research excavation, funded mainly by the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, but also with funds from a variety of other sources, on the deserted medieval village of Alnhamshelles, to test my thesis. Interim reports on each season's work were published in the Annual Reports of the Medieval Village Research Group from 1979 to 1983, Nos. 27-31.
- From 1982-88 I worked as Project Director of the Border Burghs Archaeology Project, a Manpower Services Commission funded Community Programme, to carry out excavations in the burghs of the Borders Region and to create a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The excavations are all published, and the Council adopted the SMR and appointed an archaeologist in the Planning Dept. to manage the archaeological resource in 1989.
- I worked as a freelance consultant on both sides of the Scottish Border in 1988-89, working on projects as diverse as pre-forestry surveys, excavations in advance of development at the Tower Hotel, Hawick, or advice on the Archaeological Management of the Ingram Valley to the Northumberland National Park in conjunction with Heritage Projects Ltd (York).
- In 1989 I took up employment as a Field Investigator with the RCAHMS on the newly established Afforestation Land Survey (ALS). I was promoted to Field Manager of the ALS in 1992. I helped develop an on-site recording system for field survey, including the introduction of Penmap, and in the development of GIS (Geographical Information System) for the analysis of the data generated. The field survey database and the complementary outline map became an established part of the methodology of archaeological field survey at the landscape level in RCAHMS.
- During this period I also project managed the First Edition Survey Project (1995 to 2001), which involved supervising a team creating a record in the RCAHMS database of unroofed or ruined structures depicted on the first edition OS 6-inch map, culminating in a publication in 2002.
- I was also a member of the pilot project board of the Historic Land-use Assessment from its inception in 1996 to 1998 and thereafter project manager until 2005. This project is designed to provide data on the origins of the modern landscape to land managers.
- In 1996 I took on the role of Chair of the GIS Project and have overseen its development from a highly skilled technical system to one that is now used

throughout the Commission. This role included chairing the Joint Board with HS, which oversaw the development of Pastmap. This Board was reformed to be more inclusive of all Heritage bodies putting data out on the web as the Shared Online Data Group in 2008. I resigned from the chair in October 2009.

- In 2005 I was appointed an Operations Manager in Survey and Recording with responsibility for Special Surveys. The projects included the Historic Land-use Assessment Project in partnership with Historic Scotland, the HLF funded Scotland's Rural Past project, training local groups to survey and record rural settlement, from 2006-11, the publication the longstanding Farm Buildings Survey in 2009, Buildings of the Land, as well as various topographic surveys (Roxburgh, Balmerino Abbey, Lochindorb Castle, King Edward Castle, et al.).
- In addition to these in-house areas I have represented RCAHMS on Historic Scotland's Medieval or Later Rural Settlement Advisory Panel, latterly on the Historic Rural Settlement Group, which included the production of a web site and joint authorship of the Research Framework for Historic Rural Settlement in 2008. I was co-leader of the Mapping and Meaning seminar in 2008 that was part of the Centenary celebrations, leading to its publication by the Scottish Geographical Journal in 2009. I joined the Medieval Panel of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland's ScARF project in 2009 and the Modern Panel in 2010 and have contributed text to both.
- I have also developed contacts with external bodies responsible for other aspects of the landscape, such as SNH (Ancient Hedgerows), the Forestry Commission (Native Woodland Survey) and the National Parks (Landscape Characterisation).
- I was a member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Council from 1987-90, a member of the Council for Scottish Archaeology's Churches Committee from 1988-90 and was a member of the council of the UK-wide Medieval Settlement Research Group from 1987-1990. I was a Trustee of the Scottish Medievalists from 2009 to 2013).