

HIGHLAND PERTSHIRE COMMUNITIES LAND TRUST

ABERFELDY FIELD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WALK OVER SURVEY REPORT

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Introduction

A walk over survey of the Aberfeldy Field was conducted on 17 and 28 March 2017. Three sites were identified, a stone wall, a stone and earth bank and the foundations of a small building. Other potential features were dismissed on further examination.

The Aberfeldy Field lies just to the south of the centre of Aberfeldy, immediately to the east of the Lower Birks. It consists of grass, a few bushes and a row of trees.

Deed plan used for
Land Registration
From COLIN LIDDELL DEC 2016

LOCATION



— approx access route

Area of Ground 2.410 acres
Outlined Red: 0.975 hectares

Aberfeldy - July 2016

Drawing Ref:- 31925/PH/V1/D



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Aberfeldy Field, Sites 1, 2 & 5

Documentary evidence

Study of maps revealed nothing of interest. Mackay referred to the area in 'Aberfeldy Past and Present':

'On the rising ground of the right (east) bank of the burn here, and looking straight along the 'black bridge', there stood for a number of years the primitive 'pump room' of the iron well at Moness Farm. The bank shows traces of the old wall, and a path leading up to the shelf-like ledge on which the building stood is still there. Mr J.A. MacGregor tells me that he remembers this shed, for it was little more,' (Mackay 1954 & 2000, 118-119.)

Sites

Three sites or features were identified, a stone wall (Site 1), a stony bank (Site 5) and a rectangular structure (Site 2).

Stone wall (Site 1)

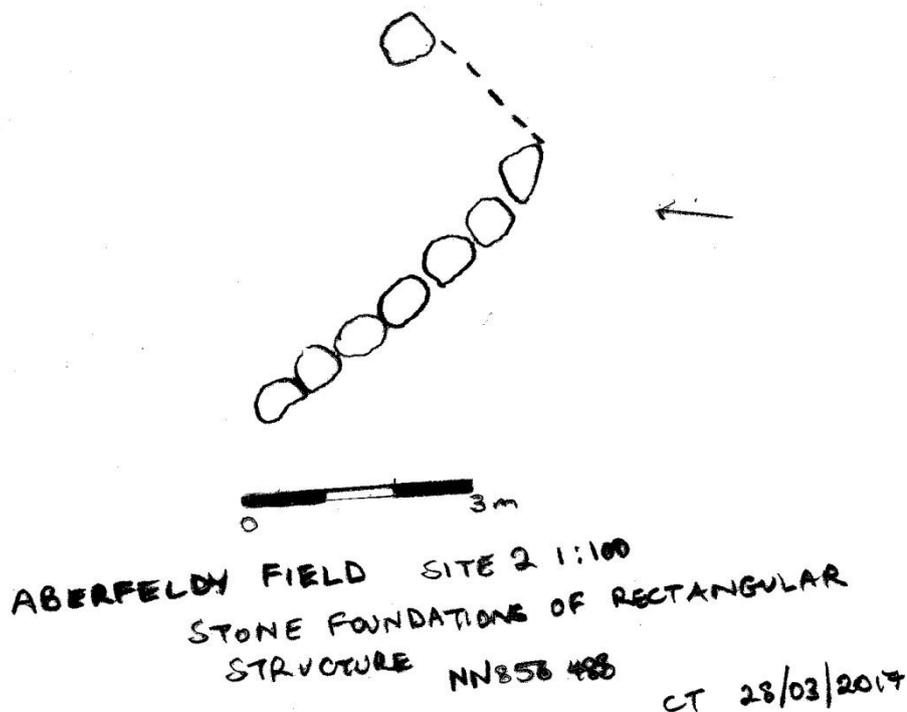
The stone wall runs approximately north-south from NN8560 4885 to 8559 4870, and supports a row of mature lime trees.

Stony bank (Site 5)

A broad grassy bank, centred on NN 8560 4882, runs north-south a few metres to the west of the stone wall. Parts of it have been dug out by a digger, to form humps for mountain bikers. Stone is visible both in the humps and in the corresponding hollows.

Rectangular structure (Site 2)

Stone blocks form two sides of a rectangle, centred on NN 856 488, aligned NE-SW, and measuring approximately 2.5 x 5 m. It lies immediately west of the stone wall (site 1).



Aberfeldy Field Site 2, plan

Other features

Three other features were examined. Site 3 (NN 8560 4872) consists of a very short stone wall, less than a metre long. It appeared to have a turf wall attached to it; this proved to be a semi-buried tree. Site 4 (NN 8560 4872) is possibly part of a culvert, but the area has been greatly disturbed by the creation of a grassy area at the entrance to Burns Brae and by the dumping of rubbish. Site 6 (NN 85- 48-) consists of several humps and corresponding hollows, apparently made by a digger for mountain bikers.

Discussion

Sites 1 and 5 may originally have formed a loaning, for leading animals to pasture.

Site 2 is almost certainly the foundations for the 'Pump Room shed' described by Mackay.

Dating

Mackay implies that the 'Pump Room' was in use in the mid 19th century. (Mackay 1954 & 2000, 112) The loaning formed by the wall and the bank are probably older.

Aberfeldy Field, site 1, stone wall.

Aberfeldy Field Site 1 and 5, stone wall and bank.

Aberfeldy Field Site 2, Rectangular structure.

Photos on different doc

References

Mackay, N D 1954 & 2000 'Aberfeldy Past and Present', Coupar Angus