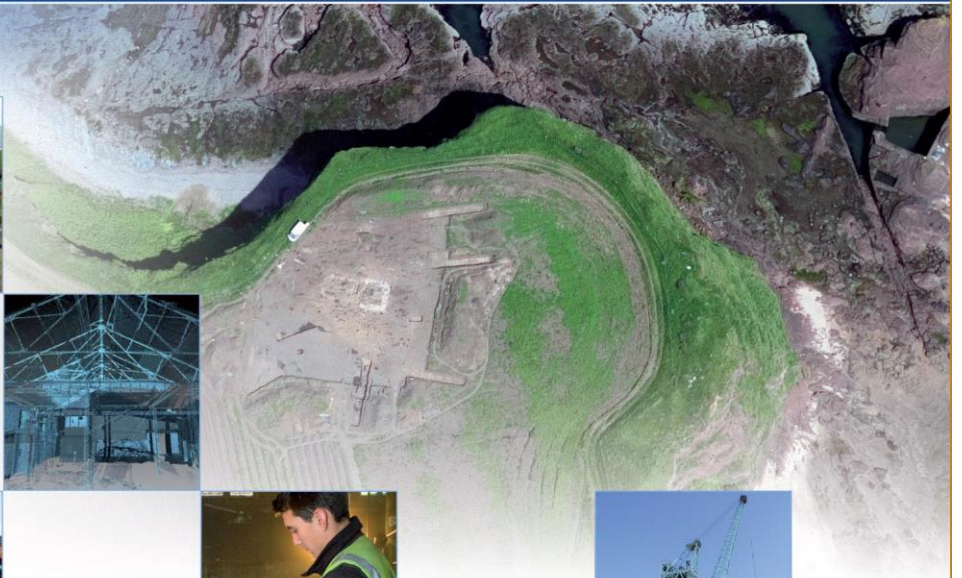
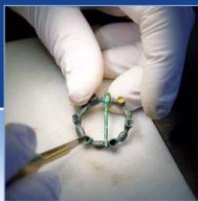


# Inner Forth Landscape Initiative: Evaluation Excavations at Valleyfield Stables Data Structure Report

AOC 60079

OASIS No. aocarcha1- 298397

September 2017



# **Inner Forth Landscape Initiative: Archaeological Investigations Valleyfield Stables Data Structure Report**

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**On Behalf of: Inner Forth Landscape Initiative**

**National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 00371 87274**

**AOC Project No: 60079**

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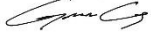
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**This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.**

**Author: Jamie Humble**

**Date:**

**Approved by:** 

**Date: 12/10/17**

**Draft/Final Report Stage: Final**

**Date: 01/08/16**

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## SUMMARY

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This report presents the results of an archaeological trial excavation and topographic survey undertaken by the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative, with local volunteers, and AOC Archaeology Group at Valleyfield Stables, Valleyfield. The excavations and survey focussed on the 19<sup>th</sup> century stable block of the designed landscape of Valleyfield house, which survives as the slight remains of upstanding walls overlain by demolition rubble.

The topographic survey and excavations investigated the 19<sup>th</sup> century stable and office block and fountain within the central courtyard. Trench 1 was excavated over one of the rooms of the stable and office block and demonstrated this to be the one of the stables of the courtyard building. Trench 1 revealed a well preserved concrete floor to the stables with an impressed chevron pattern marking the individual stalls, with the remains of a post setting between each stall for a partition wall. Trench 1 also investigated the entrance into the courtyard, revealing a further patterned concrete floor, with repairs, along with a post setting for the main gates into the stable block.

Trench 2 revealed the cobbled surface of the courtyard as well as investigating the central stone feature within the courtyard. This central stone feature has previously been described as a fountain or doocot. The excavations revealed details of the structure and its infill.

Overall the excavations showed that the remains of Valleyfield House Stables, while now reduced to a series of rubble mounds, are well preserved below ground and contain a wealth of information about the use and history of the building.



## 1 INTRODUCTION

A community archaeology project, comprising the excavation of two trenches, was carried out at the stables of the designed landscape of Valleyfield House (Figure 1) by the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative, with local volunteers and AOC Archaeology Group.

This report presents the results of excavation and topographic survey at the 18<sup>th</sup> century stables of the designed landscape.

## 2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Valleyfield estate lies to the north of the Firth of Forth around 5 miles west of Dunfermline. The original estate has been bisected by the A985 and most of the southern parts of the estate have been developed for housing related to the local coal mining industry.

The earliest evidence of a settlement at Valleyfield is from Roy's map of c.1747-55, however there is limited information about this. Valleyfield House and Stables were built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, on inheriting the Baronetcy of Valleyfield in 1880 and having made a fortune through trade in the East Indies, 7<sup>th</sup> Baron Sir Robert Preston set about improving the estate.



Plate 1: Estate plan of 1810 showing house and stables.

Preston commissioned the famous landscape architect Humphry Repton to undertake improvements to the landscape in the early 1800's. This was Repton's only Scottish commission and he created a magnificent landscape with ornate terraces between the house and its landscaped park. When designing a landscape, Repton would produce 'Red Books' of the estate, slim volumes that became his trademark and there is one such book for Valleyfield. Remains of the flower garden are still in evidence, notably its walled surrounds, and a large hollow at the foot of the garden shows the location of a linear pond known as the canal.

An estate plan of 1810 (Plate 1) clearly shows the stable building although on the plan it is labelled as 'offices'. The stable/office block forms a quadrangle with a central feature and a bleaching green

adjoined to the north of the stables. The Ordnance Survey plan of 1866 again shows the house and stables with the central feature labelled as a 'Dovecote'.

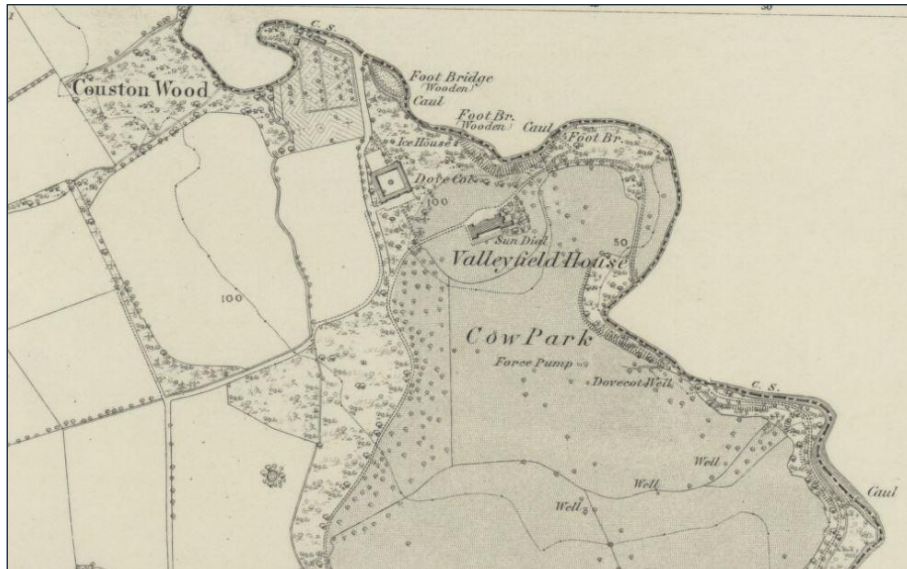


Plate 2: OS map of 1866 showing house and stables with central feature labelled as 'Dovecote'.

The Baronetcy of Valleyfield became dormant in 1873 following the death of the 9<sup>th</sup> Baron. The house and estate slowly fell into disrepair with the house being demolished in 1941.

No previous archaeological investigations are known to have taken place within Valleyfield Estate.

The bedrock geology within the site comprises Limestones of the Upper Limestone Formation - Sedimentary Rock Cycles of the Clackmannan Group Type formed 324 to 328 million years ago. These are overlain by Raised Marine Deposits of Devonian Age – Clay, Silt Sand and Gravel formed up to 2 million years ago (BGS 2017).

### 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the project were to investigate the stable block of Valleyfield House and to establish the extent of survival of the upstanding remains.

### 4 METHODOLOGY

The archaeological excavation works comprised the hand excavation of two trenches (Figure 2). Two trenches were excavated across the upstanding remains of the stable building and the central fountain to investigate the nature and survival of these features.

All features and structures revealed during the excavation were cleaned by hand before being recorded by digital photography, drawn to an appropriate scale and a written record produced using AOC *pro forma* context sheets.

## 5 RESULTS

The topographic survey was conducted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of August 2017. The archaeological excavations were conducted between the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Weather conditions were variable through the course of the work however the archaeological visibility remaining good. The following presents a summary of the excavation results, full details of the deposits and structures can be found in the appendices.

### 5.1 Topographic survey

The topographic survey (Figure 2) recorded the upstanding remains of the stable courtyard and associated remains. For the most part the demolished buildings are covered by deep deposits of demolition rubble masking the layout of the building; thick overgrowth has further masked the remains of the stable block. The remains of the stables were clearest on the southeast and northeast sides and the survey focussed on these areas. The stable block forms a rectangular structure 48m by 46m in overall size. While for the large part details of the structure could not be made out above ground there were in places sections of upstanding wall projecting above ground.

Prior to the survey the central stone doocot or fountain had been partially cleared of demolition rubble. This structure was hexagonal, measuring 5.1m externally and 4.1m internally. The interior of the structure comprised a series of arches, one on each of the six sides.



Plate 3: Central stone feature showing arches.

### 5.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 (Figures 2-3) was excavated over the slight upstanding remains of a single room of the stable block. Across the trench a topsoil comprising dark brown humic silty sand (101) up to 0.1m thick. Underlying this was a deposit of building rubble in a sandy clay matrix of lime mortar and crushed stone (102) relating to the demolition of the building. Removal of this demolition deposit exposed the structure of the building.



The walls of the building [103, 104, 105] comprised two facing courses of well dressed and squared limestone blocks with a rubble core all bonded with a pale grey sandy lime mortar. Within the interior of the building there was a concrete floor [106] with a repeating chevron pattern impressed on its surface. Within the floor there were two post-settings for square posts [115 & 116], these along with the chevron pattern impressed on the floor demarcated a separation between individual stalls within the stable block. The floor sloped gently from the NW providing drainage to the horse stalls, running across the centre of the floor was a drainage channel [117], this also appeared to form one end of the horse stalls. Beyond the drainage channel there was a rectangular pattern impressed on the floor, this area appears to have been a corridor to and from the horse stalls. On the SW wall of the stable block [105] there was an iron door fitting [107] in line with one of the post settings [115]. This appears to have been a hinge for a door or gate to block the corridor level with the stalls.



Plate 3: Trench 1 showing impressed patterns on floor demarcating individual horse stalls along with post-settings [115] & [116] and drain [117], from SW.

Two extensions to trench 1 (trenches 1a & b) were excavated to investigate the entrance and passage into the courtyard of the stables. Trench 1a extended across one of the walls [104] of the stables and into the entrance passage of the stable block. Removal of topsoil (101) and demolition rubble (102) exposed a concrete floor [108] impressed with a rectangular pattern. Set into the concrete floor at the NW corner of the trench was a cast iron drain cover [111]. Extending across the concrete floor [108] of the entrance passage was a linear cut [109] oriented NW – SE. This was capped by a layer of rough cobbling (110).





Plate 4: Trench 1a showing patterned concrete floor [108] with drain [111] and cut [109], from NE.

Trench 1b investigated the outside of the entrance passageway. Removal of topsoil (101) and demolition rubble (102) exposed the continuation of wall [104] extending NW-SE along with a buttress [114]. At the junction of walls [104] & [114] there was a rectangular post setting [113], this appears to have been the gate post for outer gates of the stable block. The entrance passage was again surfaced with a concrete floor [112].



Plate 5: Trench 1b showing walls [104] and [114] with post setting [113] at junction, from NW.



### 5.3 Trench 2

Trench 2 (figures 2 & 4) investigated the central stone feature within the courtyard, described as a fountain or doocot, along with the courtyard surface. This trench was excavated partially within the interior of the structure and partially outside the structure.



Plate 6: Trench 2 showing cobble surface [203] within courtyard of stables, from SE.

To the exterior of the structure removal of recently accumulated rubble (201), cleared from the centre of the structure during recent excavations exposed an accumulated topsoil (202) post-dating the abandonment of the stables. Underlying the topsoil was a well preserved cobbled surface [203] comprising water rounded cobbles up to 0.2m by 0.2m in size set close together in a single layer. This cobbled surface was left in-situ and not disturbed. Protruding through the cobbles were the upper stones of one of the arches of the central stone structure [204].



Plate 6: Trench 2 within centre of structure showing drain pipe [210] set in silting deposit (211) with dumped cobbles (208) above, from NW.

Within the centre of the stone structure a trench was excavated against and within one of the arches of the structure. Removal of demolition rubble (209) exposed a deposit of cobblestones (208) seemingly dumped into the centre of the structure. Underlying the cobbles was a waterlogged deposit of sandy silt (211) that appears to be an infilling of the structure. This deposit was not fully excavated. Set within silting deposit (211) was a ceramic drain pipe [210] that had been inserted through the outer wall of the structure. This drain pipe appears to have been a later addition to the structure.

## 6 DISCUSSION

The excavations at Valleyfield stables have demonstrated the nature of the surviving archaeology of the estate buildings and given a glimpse of how these buildings were used.

Trench 1 was excavated over the remains of the main building of the Valleyfield stables and this has shown that a well-preserved series of remains relating to the use of the building for stabling of horses is preserved below the demolition rubble. Here the impressed concrete floor and associated post settings demarcated the stalls for individual horses. Associated remains such as gate fittings and drainage features survive in the walls and floor of the stables.

Trench 2 excavated over the central stone feature and courtyard interior revealed the cobbled surface of the courtyard as well as investigating the nature of the central feature within the courtyard. Previous descriptions of this structure have described it as a doocot, however no evidence for this was recovered during the excavations. The excavation into the interior of the structure has demonstrated that a deep structure has been constructed, this later filled in with a silting deposit and was used for drainage before being sealed with a dump of stone. This leads to the suggestion that this central feature is a well or font rather than a doocot.



## 7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AOC would like to thank all of the volunteers whose hard work on site made the project a success: Logan Paton, Luke Taylor, Nicholas Reid, Diane Sinclair, Micheil Halliday, Katrine Paterson, Robert McKenzie, Charlotte Downie, Shannon Collins, James McGregor, Jennifer McKee, John McKee, Lizzy Cairns, Fiona Waite, Stewart Ferguson, Kym McCulloch, Stan Welch, Debra Nixon, Billy Nixon, Claire Richardson, Imogen Eccles, Evan Eccles, Ellie Lawson, Daryl O'Keefe, Stuan O'Keefe, Colin Thompson, David Nicol.



The project was undertaken with the kind permission of the landowner, Fife Council to whom thanks are due, especially Fife Council archaeologists Douglas Spiers and Steve Liscoe. The archaeological works were part of the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative, thanks are due to Kirsty McAlister and Nicholas Reid of IFLI.

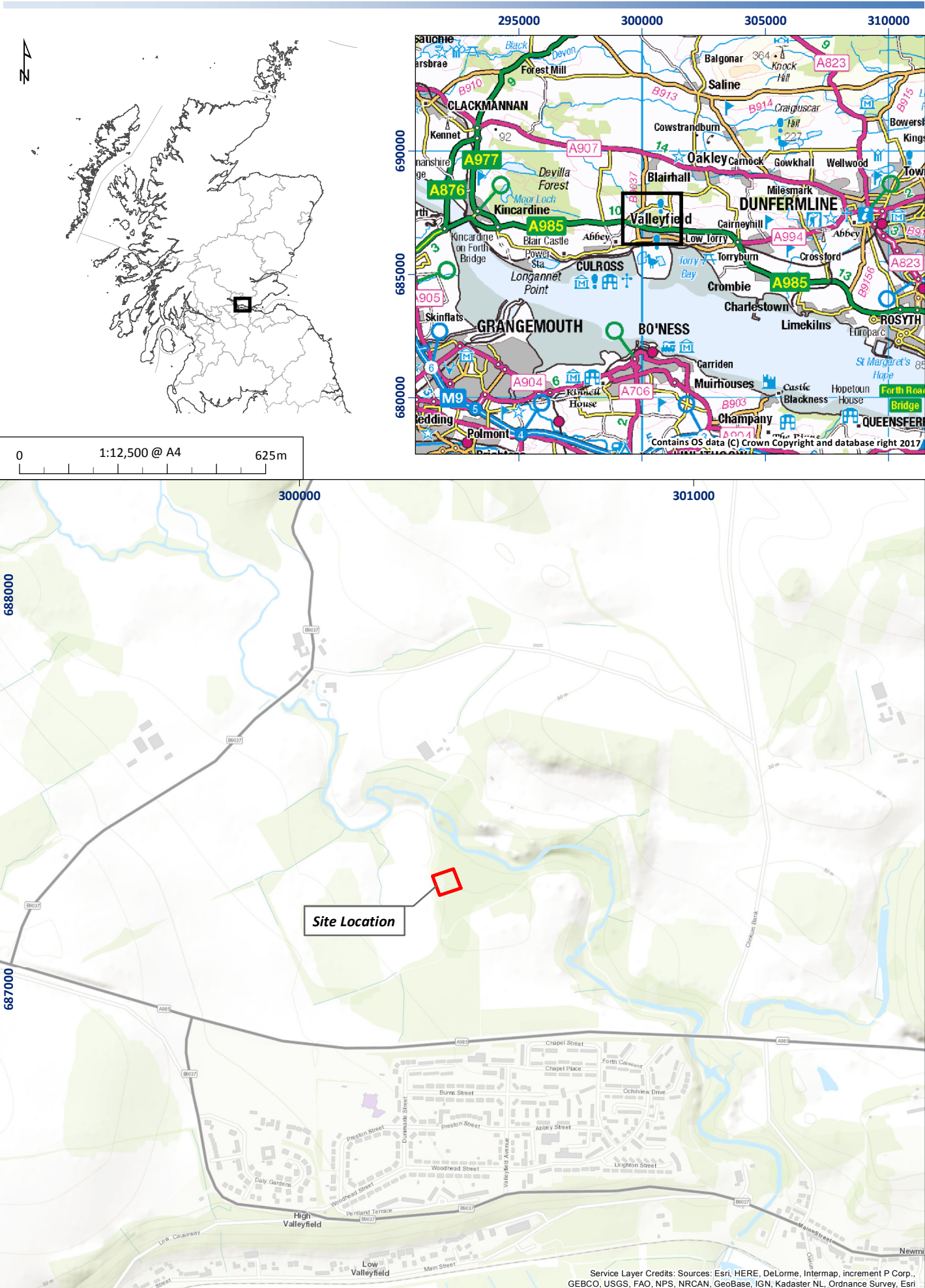


Figure 1: Site location plan



Figure 2: Topographic Survey

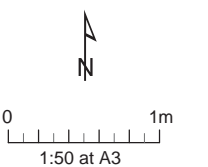
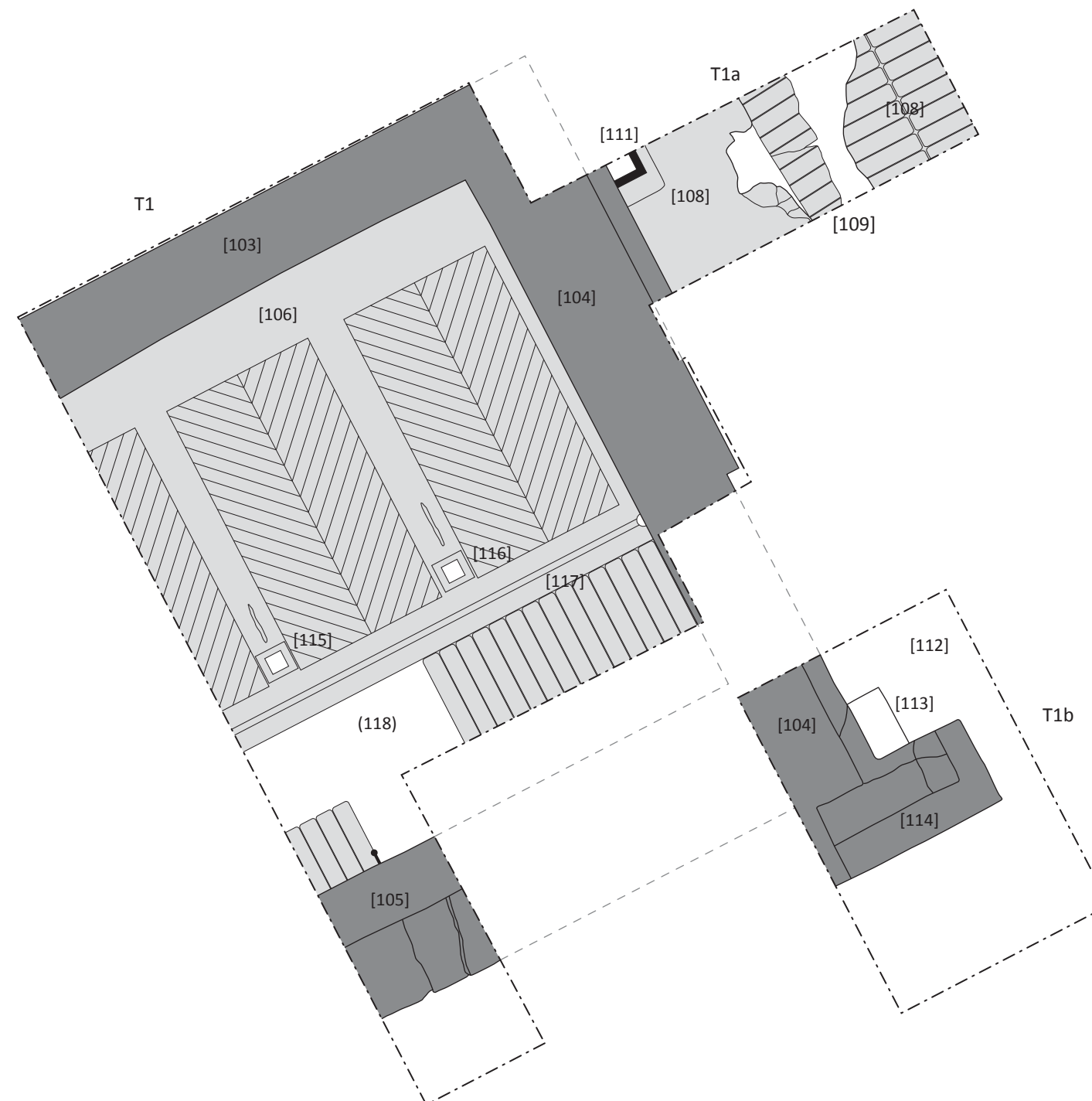


Figure 3: Trench 1 plan



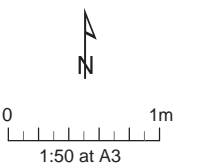
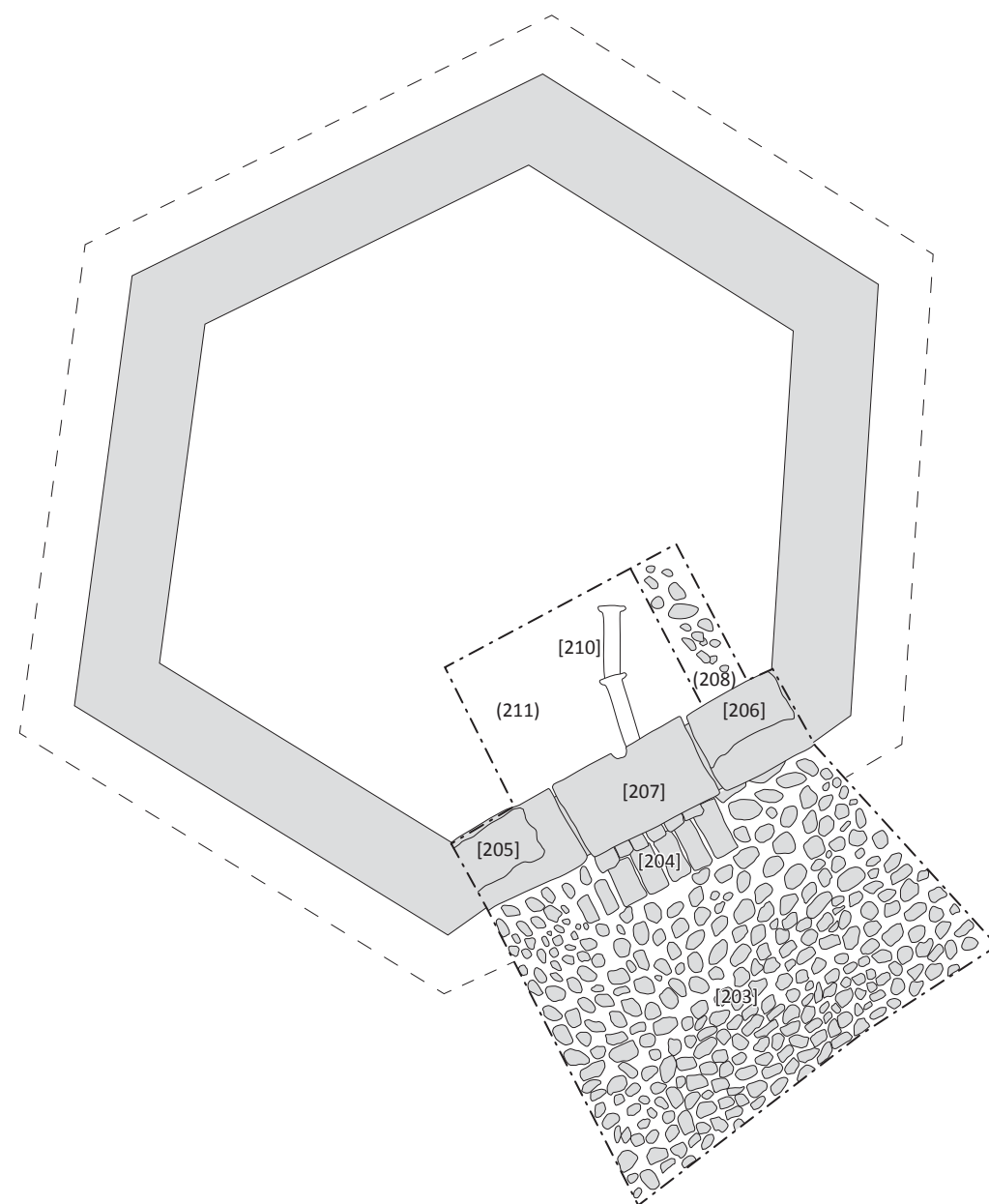


Figure 4: Trench 2 plan

## 8 REFERENCES

Roy 1747-55 Military Survey of Scotland

Anon 1810 Estate plan of Valleyfield

Ordnance Survey 1866 Perthshire Sheet CXLIII

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**Inner Forth Landscape Initiative:  
Archaeological Investigations at Valleyfield  
Stables  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench	Context	Context Type	Description
1	101	Deposit	Dark brown humic silty sand with abundant tree roots and vegetation. Up to 0.1m thick across trench <b>Topsoil</b>
1	102	Deposit	Loose mixed deposit of building rubble of varying sizes in a loose sandy clay matrix of lime mortar and crushed stone with occasional tree roots. Contained architectural plasterwork (moulded corning) and bottle glass (not retained). Across trench, up to 0.6m deep. <b>Demolition rubble</b>
1	103	Structure	NE-SW wall forming inner courtyard wall of stable building. Extends across width of trench 1, 0.7m thick surviving 0.6m high. Composed of two facing courses of well dressed and squared limestone blocks with a rubble core all bonded with pale grey sandy lime mortar. <b>Inner wall of Courtyard Stables</b>
1	104	Structure	NW-SE wall forming SW side of arched entrance to stable courtyard. Extends across width of trench 1, 1.1m thick surviving 0.6m high. Composed of two facing courses of well dressed and squared limestone blocks with a rubble core all bonded with pale grey sandy lime mortar. <b>Wall of Courtyard Stables</b>
1	105	Structure	NE-SW wall forming inner courtyard wall of stable building. Extends across width of trench 1, 1.2m thick surviving 0.3m high. Composed of two facing courses of well dressed and squared limestone blocks with a rubble core all bonded with pale grey sandy lime mortar. <b>Outer wall of Courtyard Stables</b>
1	106	Structure	Concrete floor within stables. Extends throughout trench 1, 0.15m thick. Impressed with repeating chevron pattern of grooves indicating location of individual horse stalls, further marked by postholes [115 & 116]. Outwith the stalls the floor pattern changes to impressed rectangular blocks. Floor slopes from NW and SE to central drain [117]. <b>Floor of stable block</b>
1	107	Structure	Iron bolt protruding from wall [105], aligned with edge of horse stall as indicated by posthole [115] and pattern on concrete floor. <b>Hinge bracket for internal partition door of stables</b>
1	108	Structure	Concrete floor within entrance passage way to courtyard. Extends across trench 1a, 0.1m thick. Smooth and un-patterned at SW against wall [104], impressed with rectangular blocks towards centre of passageway. Damaged by later cut [109] <b>Concrete floor of entrance passageway</b>
1	109	Cut	Cut through concrete floor [108] oriented NW-SE. Extends across trench 1a, 1.1m wide, feature not fully excavated. <b>Cut through concrete floor [108]</b>
1	110	Fill	Fill of cut [109]
1	111	Structure	Iron drain cover within concrete floor [108]
1	112	Structure	Concrete floor of entrance passage way with trench 1b
1	113	Structure	Posthole for gate within concrete floor [112] in trench 1b
1	114	Structure	Gate pillar/buttress



## Valleyfield Stables: Trial Excavation and Survey Data Structure Report

Trench	Context	Context Type	Description
1	115	Structure	Posthole within concrete floor [106] demarcating stall of stables.
1	116	Structure	Posthole within concrete floor [106] demarcating stall of stables.
1	117	Deposit	Mid brown loose sand with frequent pieces of lime mortar. Levelling deposit below concrete floor [106]
1	118	Natural	Mid orange brown compact silty sand. Glacial till
2	201	Deposit	Mixed rubble dumped from previous clearance of fountain
2	202	Deposit	Dark brown humic silty sand with abundant tree roots and vegetation. Up to 0.1m thick across trench <b>Topsoil</b>
2	203	Deposit	Cobbled Surface of courtyard
2	204	Structure	Upper surface of arch stones
2	205	Structure	Superstructure of fountain
2	206	Structure	Superstructure of fountain
2	207	Structure	Foundations of fountain
2	208	Deposit	Dumped cobbles within fountain
2	209	Deposit	Collapsed demolition rubble within fountain
2	210	Structure	Ceramic drain pipe extending into fountain
2	211	Deposit	Silting within centre of fountain

## APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

### Digital Photographs

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1	2	Dumped cobbles within centre of fountain	NW
2	2	Dumped cobbles within centre of fountain	NW
3	2	Dumped cobbles within centre of fountain	W
4	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NE
5	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NE
6	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NW
7	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NW
8	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
9	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
10	2	Cobbled surface of courtyard [203]	SE
11	2	Fountain wall [205, 206 & 207]	SE
12	2	Upper stones of arch within fountain [204]	SE
13	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NE
14	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NW
15	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NW
16	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SW
17	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
18	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
19	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
20	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	SE
21	1a	Cut [109] through concrete floor [108]	SE
22	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	W
23	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	NW
24	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	N
25	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	SE
26	1	Courtyard stable outer wall [105]	SE
27	2	Excavation within centre of fountain showing pipe [210]	N
28	2	Excavation within centre of fountain showing pipe [210]	NW
29	2	Excavation within centre of fountain showing pipe [210]	NW
30	2	Excavation within centre of fountain showing pipe [210]	NW
31	1b	Buttress wall [114] of entrance	SE
32	1b	Trench 1b post-ex showing wall [104], floor [112] and posthole [113]	NE
33	1b	Trench 1b post-ex showing wall [104], floor [112] and posthole [113]	NW
34	1b	Posthole [113]	NW
35	-	Working shot	-
36	-	Working shot	-
37	-	Working shot	-
38	-	Working shot	-
39	2	Topsoil finds from trench 2 - (not retained)	-
40	2	Finds from (211) - (not retained)	-
41	2	Finds from (211) - (not retained)	-
42	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-

# Valleyfield Stables: Trial Excavation and Survey Data Structure Report

Frame	Trench	Description	From
43	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
44	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
45	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
46	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
47	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
48	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
49	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
50	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
51	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
52	1	Artefacts from demolition rubble (102) - (not retained)	-
53	-	School Group	-
54	-	School Group	-
55	-	School Group	-
56	-	School Group	-
57	-	School Group	-
58	-	School Group	-
59	1a	Entrance passage floor surface [108]	NE
60	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	W
61	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	SW
62	1	Courtyard stable outer wall [105]	SE
63	1	Trench 1 and 1b post-ex	E
64	1	Courtyard stable outer wall [105]	SE
65	1	Courtyard stable outer wall [105] and door hinge [107]	NW
66	1	Courtyard stable outer wall [105] and door hinge [107]	NW
67	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	SW
68	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	SW
69	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing wall [103]	SW
70	1	Trench 1 post-ex showing stable floor [106]	NW
71	1	Detail of impressed grooves on stable floor [106]	NW
72	1	Detail of drain [117] within stable floor [106]	SE
73	1	Detail of drain [117] within stable floor [106]	SE
74	1	Detail of posthole [116] within stable floor [106]	SE
75	1		
76	1a	Drain [111] within concrete floor [108]	SE
77	1a	Concrete floor [108]	NE
78	1a	Concrete floor [108]	NE
79	1a	Cut [109] post-excavation	SE
80	1a	Cut [109] post-excavation	SE
81	1a	Concrete floor [108]	SE
82	1a	Trench 1a post-excavation showing concrete floor [108]	NE
83	1a	Trench 1a post-excavation showing concrete floor [108]	NE
84	1a	Trench 1a post-excavation showing concrete floor [108]	NE
85	1a	Trench 1a post-excavation showing concrete floor [108]	NE
86	1a	Trench 1a SE facing section	SE
87	1	Detail of wall 104	NE
88	2	Working shot	-

## Valleyfield Stables: Trial Excavation and Survey Data Structure Report

Frame	Trench	Description	From
89	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre	NW
90	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre	NW
91	2	Trench 2 post-excavation	NW
92	2	Trench 2 post-excavation	NW
93	2	Trench 2 post-excavation	NW
94	2	Trench 2 post-excavation	NW
95	2	Structure of fountain	NW
96	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre	N
97	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre	N
98	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre	NW
99	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre, showing hole broken through [207] to accommodate pipe	NW
100	2	Passage at rear of arch, connecting to next arched opening	W
101	2	Rear of arched opening showing pipe [210], rear wall and opening to next arch	NW
102	2	Rear of arched opening showing pipe [210], rear wall and opening to next arch	NW
103	2	Passage at rear of arch, connecting to next arched opening	N
104	2	Passage at rear of arch, connecting to next arched opening	N
105	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre, showing hole broken through [207] to accommodate pipe	NW
106	2	Ceramic drain pipe [210] within fountain centre, showing hole broken through [207] to accommodate pipe	NW
107	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	NW
108	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	NW
109	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	SE
110	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	NE
111	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	SW
112	1b	Trench 1b post-excavation	N
113	1	Trench 1 and 1b post-excavation	E
114	1	Trench 1 and 1b post-excavation	E



### APPENDIX 3: DRAWING REGISTER

Drawing No.	Trench No.	Details	Scale
001	1	Plan of trench 1	1:20
002	2	Plan of trench 2	1:20
003	2	Section of trench 2	1:20

### APPENDIX 4: FINDS REGISTER

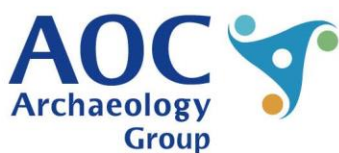
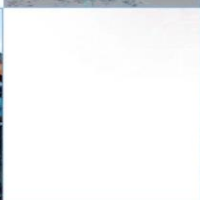
Find No.	Trench No.	Context No.	Description
001			
002			
003			
004			
005			
006			

**APPENDIX 6: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Fife
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Inner Forth Landscape Initiative: Valleyfield Stables
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	60079
<b>PARISH:</b>	Culross
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Jamie Humble, Gemma Hudson
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Excavation, Topographic survey
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NT08NW 15.06
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Stables
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 00371 87274
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2017
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (inc DES)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological trial excavation and topographic survey was undertaken by the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative, with local volunteers, and AOC Archaeology Group at Valleyfield Stables, Valleyfield. The excavations and geophysical survey focussed on the 19<sup>th</sup> century stable block of the designed landscape of Valleyfield house, which survives as the slight remains of upstanding walls overlain by demolition rubble.</p> <p>The topographic survey and excavations investigated the 19<sup>th</sup> century stable and office block and fountain within the central courtyard. Trench 1 was excavated over one of the rooms of the stable and office block and demonstrated this to be the one of the stables of the courtyard building. Trench 1 revealed a well preserved concrete floor to the stables with an impressed chevron pattern marking the individual stalls, with the remains of a post setting between each stall for a partition wall. Trench 1 also investigated the entrance into the courtyard, revealing a further patterned concrete floor, with repairs, along with a post setting for the main gates into the stable block.</p> <p>Trench 2 revealed the cobbled surface of the courtyard as well as investigating the central stone feature within the courtyard. This central stone feature has previously been described as a fountain or doocot. The excavations revealed details of the structure and its infill.</p> <p>Overall the excavations showed that the remains of Valleyfield House Stables, while now reduced to a series of rubble mounds, are well preserved below ground and contain a wealth of information about the use and history of the building.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None planned
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRATIONS:</b>	N/A

## Valleyfield Stables: Trial Excavation and Survey Data Structure Report

<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Inner Forth Landscape Initiative
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<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	admin@aocarchaeology.com
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b>	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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