

# Cultural Heritage & Archaeology

An Archaeological and Cultural Heritage assessment has been carried out. It considered direct and indirect impacts on sites within 500m of the development and impacts on Significant Monuments in the larger landscape.

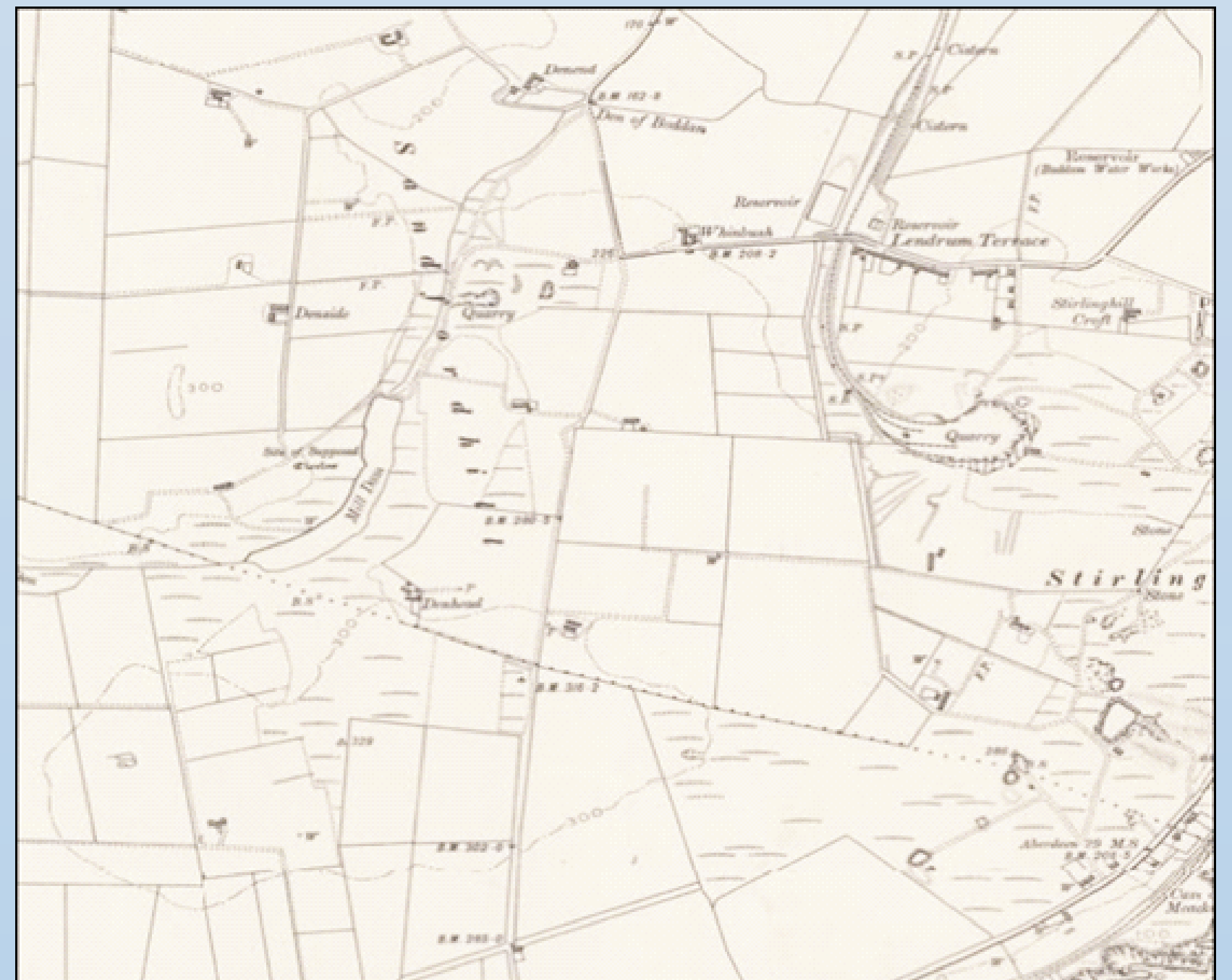
The most notable Cultural Heritage and Archaeological site within the surrounding landscape is the Den of Boddam Flint mining complex, which is a Scheduled Monument and of national importance. It is located in a valley to the west of Fourfields and is the remains of a chalk flint deposit, which is the major source of flint in Scotland. The flint, yellow in colour, occurs in the form of gravel, pebbles, nodules and boulders. Over 300 'flint pits' (the largest measuring about 7m across by 2m deep) are plainly visible lying in an irregular line near the top of both edges of a ravine about three-quarters of a mile long. The site has been dated back to the late Neolithic period ~ 3000BC. NorthConnect will have no direct impacts on the site, but will have minor indirect impacts on it's setting.

Within the boundaries of Fourfields is the site of the former Sandford Hill Farmstead, which was present on maps in 1872 and 1901. The proposed development will not have any direct impacts on the site, as this area will not be disturbed during the construction process.

The remains of the railway embankment built between the quarries at Stirling Hill and the breakwater at Peterhead port was specifically avoided during the selection of the HVAC cable route. The site cannot be seen from Boddam Castle or Buchanness Lighthouse, hence they will not be impacted by the development.



Aerial photo showing the Den of Boddam surrounding the reservoir.  
RCAHMS Aerial Photography Digital Oblique aerial view centred on the reservoir and the remains of the flint mines, taken from the NNE. DP011672 Copyright RCAHMS.



Extract from the 6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (1901) showing the Fourfields site, the quarry and the south end of the old railway line. Reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland.

## PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION

Prior to construction an intrusive evaluation of the converter station site, including sample trenching, will be carried out. In addition, monitoring of all ground-breaking works will be implemented. If any previously unrecorded archaeological features or artefacts are found, then a formally excavated recovery and recording process will be employed.