
2 INTRODUCTION

Proposals for a housing development at Cromwellside Farm, Old Rayne, were subject to a planning condition requiring an archaeological evaluation and limited excavation to be carried out, as the site incorporated part of the enclosure of the Old Rayne manor of the medieval bishops of Aberdeen. In May and June 2008 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Hamish McIntosh of Cromwellside Farm to undertake the work, which comprised the evaluation of an area outwith a

proposed protected zone around the remains of the manor ditch and the full excavation of a corridor for a new mains sewer, which had to be routed across the manor site (Murray & Murray 2008).

This report also incorporates the results of an earlier excavation of a small area of the interior of the mound and a section of the ditch undertaken in 1990 by Moira Greig and Alexandra Shepherd when the house Kyninmund was built to the north of the manor (Greig & Shepherd 1990).