



Prehistoric burial cairn, Fowlis Wester, Perth and Kinross. © Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.



Excavation of a prehistoric settlement, Birnie, Aberdeenshire. © Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service.



Urban excavation, Ronaldson's Wharf, Leith. © City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service.



Artist's impression of Aberdeen Castle by Jan Dunbar. © Aberdeen City Council.

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ALGAO:Scotland



Community archaeology and outreach. © Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.

What is ALGAO:Scotland?

The Association provides a forum representing archaeologists working for local authorities and national parks in Scotland. It was formed in June 2006 as part of the restructuring of ALGAO with the Association of Regional and Island Archaeologists (ARIA) to form a fully UK-wide organisation, ALGAO:UK.

Member local authorities are represented by the senior professional archaeologist responsible for providing advice to the authority on archaeological conservation and management.

The range of interest of these services embraces all aspects of the historic environment including archaeology, maritime, built environment and historic landscapes.

Cruck-framed longhouse. © Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.



Archaeology in Local Government

ALGAO:Scotland members working within local government have four key functions in order to encourage the identification, recording, protection, management, interpretation and promotion of archaeological sites and monuments:

- To develop and maintain comprehensive public information resources (Historic Environment Records/Sites and Monuments Records) for the understanding and enjoyment of the historic environment.
- To ensure that all development and other land-use change takes into account the need to properly conserve the archaeological heritage.
- To conserve the historic environment by improved land management, through, for example, agri-environment schemes.
- To promote awareness, understanding and enjoyment of Scotland's historic environment through education and outreach programmes.

Excavating the medieval graveyard of St Nicholas Church, Aberdeen. © Aberdeen City Council.



A Strategy for ALGAO:Scotland

The establishment of ALGAO:Scotland presents an opportunity to develop the role of the Association as a leading voice within the sector in Scotland. The Association works to help local authority services strengthen and develop their role within local government in delivering Scottish Executive and UK Government policy. In conjunction with the rest of ALGAO:UK, ALGAO:Scotland will participate in developing coherent UK wide strategies for the historic environment.

Within the framework of the UK Strategy ALGAO:Scotland is developing its own 5-year strategy based on the following key objectives:

1. To provide a strong voice and promote local authority archaeological and historic environment services.
2. To develop and promote high standards within the historic environment profession in Scotland.
3. To promote and ensure the conservation and sustainable management of the historic environment resource in Scotland.
4. To promote education and further understanding and enjoyment of the historic environment.

In order to achieve these ALGAO:Scotland will work with both local organisations and national partners, including COSLA, Historic Scotland, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, the Built Environment Forum Scotland and the Council for Scottish Archaeology.

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