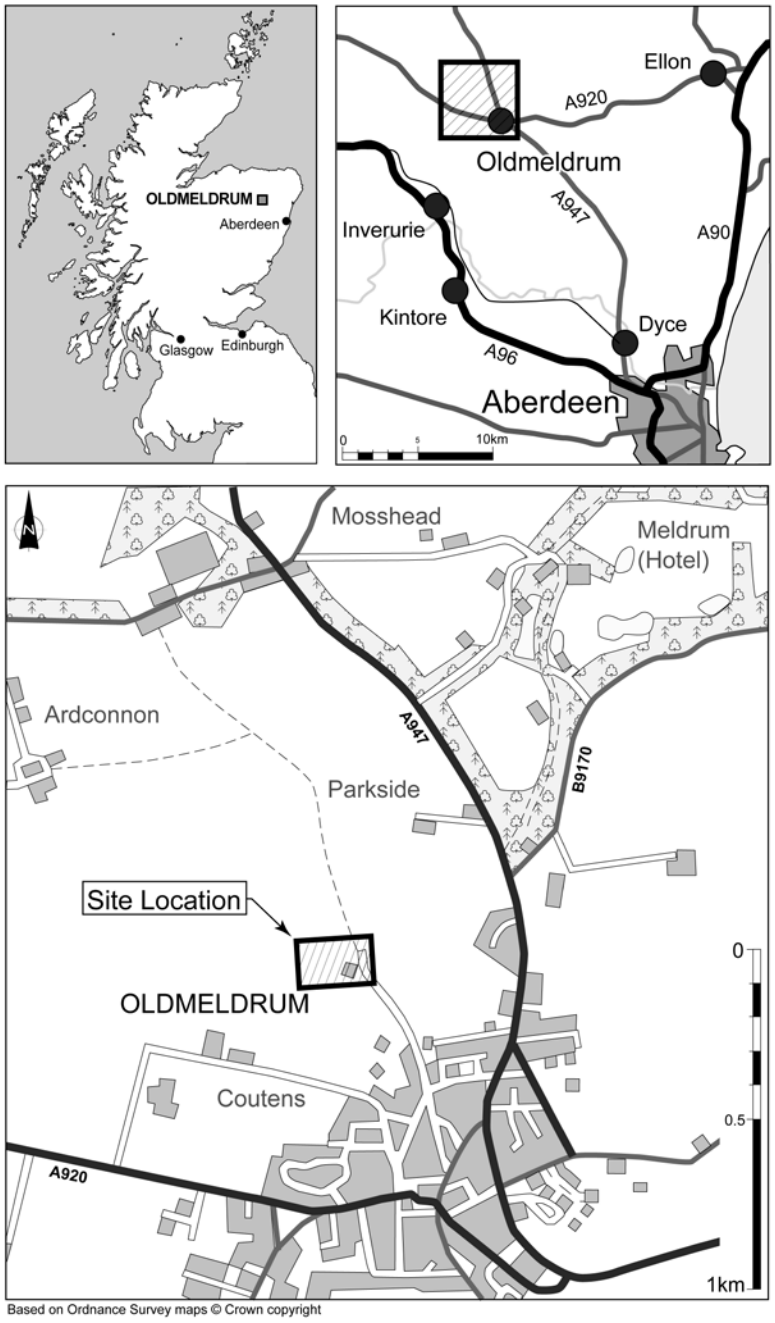
2 INTRODUCTION

In 2005, CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) undertook a programme of archaeological works along the line of a proposed new bypass to the north of Oldmeldrum, linking the A920 with the A947 (illus 1). Trial trenching within two fields on a gentle south-facing slope (NGR NJ 806 279) revealed the remains of three plough-truncated roundhouses, which were later excavated in full. A subsequent archaeological watching brief conducted during the stripping of the soil along the road line revealed further features in the same area (illus 2). The subsurface drift geology of the excavation site comprised a yellowish-orange sandy glacial till with frequent inclusions of angular rocks. Topsoil was removed during all elements of the archaeological work using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, with subsequent archaeological excavation taking place by hand.



Illus 1 Site location map