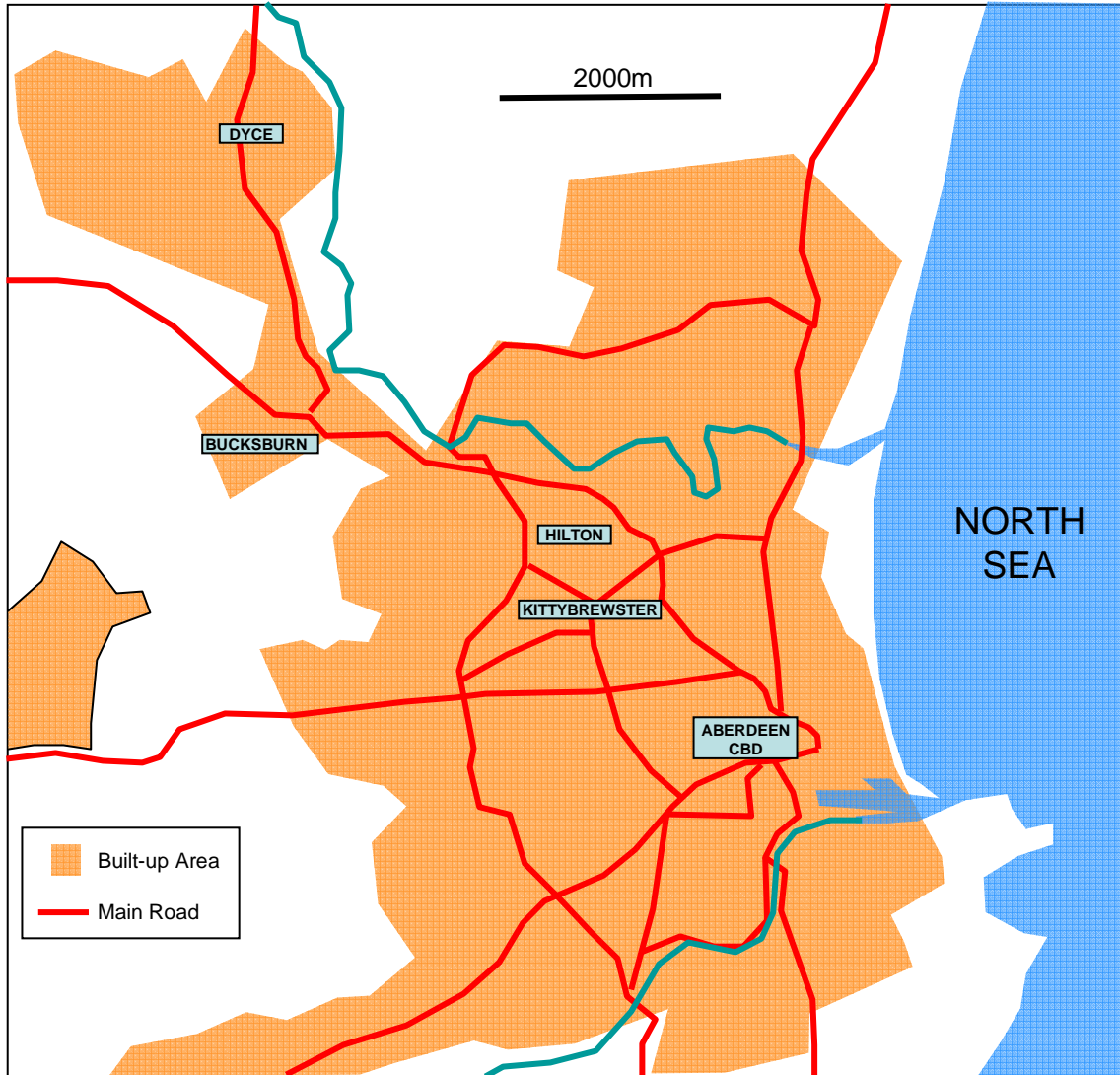


The Urban Transect in Aberdeen



Pupils at Dyce Academy carried out fieldwork in their Geography lessons. They mapped the land use, drew field sketches of the houses, carried out environmental surveys and looked at problems in the chosen areas. The data was analysed by the pupils. The Environmental Education class looked at pollution and rubbish and recycling with the help of the Intermediate Modern Studies class. Pupils from the Maths classes looked at the census data for the chosen areas and used the computers to create graphs to present the information, the class then drew conclusions from their findings.

The areas chosen for study are shown on the map above. This is a simplified map of Aberdeen, showing the outline of the built up area, and the location of the three study sites.

- Dyce representing the outer city modern development
- Hilton representing the older residential area which developed as the city grew
- Kittybrewster representing the old inner city with a mixture of housing and industry.

S3 Geography Class after Fieldwork



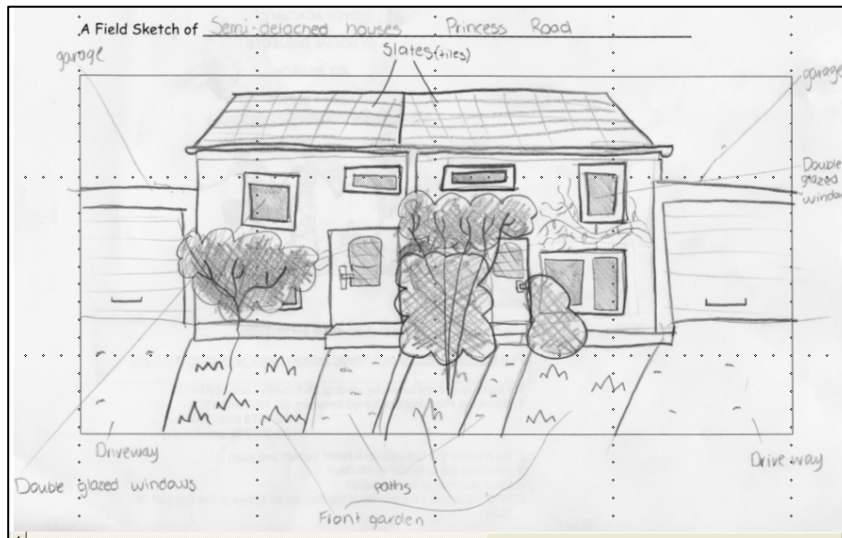
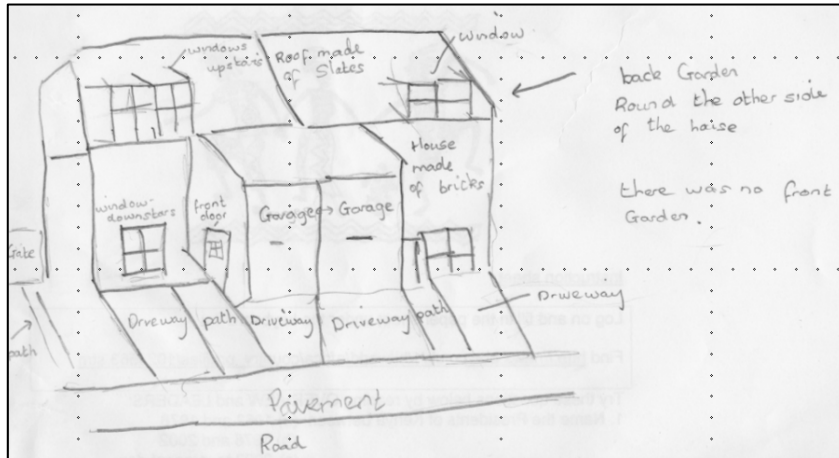
A Land Use Map for Dyce



Land use mapping in Dyce revealed a pattern of distinct zones of land use. There is a mixture of housing, modern industry, planned open space and transport in the form of the airport.

The earliest housing is granite built and probably Victorian, the original settlement was quite small and based around the railway station. Most of the housing is more modern and dates from the development of the oil industry in Aberdeen. Many of the industries are service industries for the oil industry.

Field Sketches of Houses to the North of Dyce Academy



Housing around Dyce Academy

Low rise flats with car parking. Some flats are owner occupied, some rented accommodation.

Access roads to the flats are quiet, but the flats are close to roads with bus routes. Buses regularly run between Dyce and central Aberdeen.

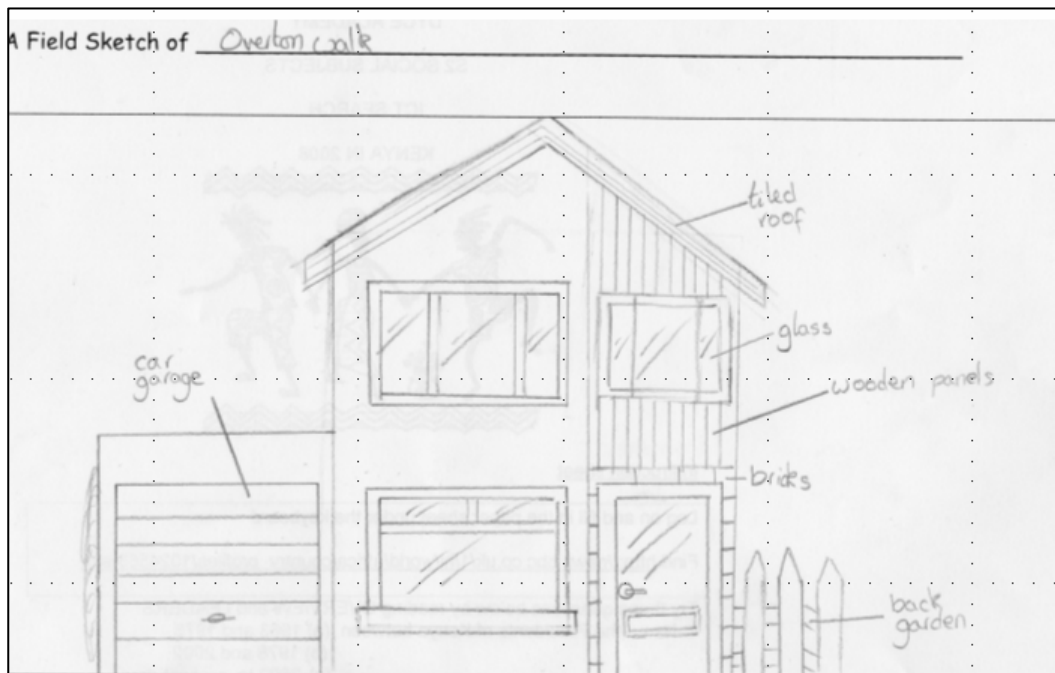
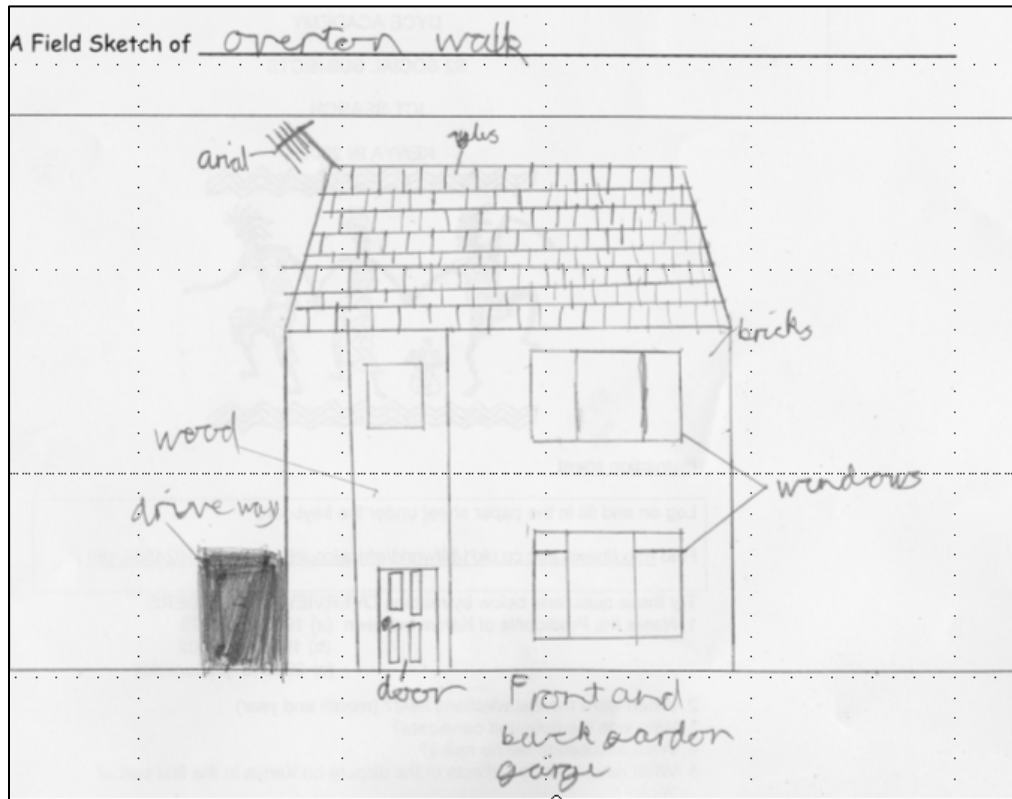


Modern semi detached and terraced housing with private gardens and off street parking in close proximity to the low rise flats. The pavements are wide and allow pedestrians to walk to local services such as the large shopping mall, the schools and the library.

The houses are well kept and the area is well maintained. There are traffic restrictions on the roads, making the environment safe for pedestrians.



Modern Detached Housing to the South of Dyce Academy



Photographs of the Area Around Dyce Academy

Modern detached houses with front and back gardens. Many of the houses have off street parking and many have at least one private garage.

Houses are built on quiet residential roads – crescents and cul-de-sacs, giving a safe environment for pedestrians.

Houses are private and rarely have windows facing their neighbours.



Central Park



Central Park is a public open space between the Academy and the Primary school.

During the school day it is used for playing football and organised PE by the Academy and the Primary School uses it for outside play.

Tree planting has been carried out by pupils at the Academy.



Old Housing, Low Order Services and Traffic Congestion on Victoria Street



Victoria Street is the main road that passes through Dyce. Most of the houses are old as this is the oldest part of the settlement.

It has relatively few shops and services because of the big impact of the ASDA supermarket and Mall by the academy.

Traffic congestion is a problem as the road is narrow with parking bays. There is an alternative route through Dyce along Riverview Drive, lorries and through traffic are encouraged to use this.

Air Pollution Survey

The Environmental Education class was split into 5 groups and each group was given a piece of sellotape, a board and a sheet to record the results. Each group was sent to a different part of Dyce to take samples of the leaves.

The pupils had to stick the sellotape to the back of the leaf and take it off and put it on the recording sheet, and when the sellotape was removed from the back of the leaf, the pollution on it was also removed. Doing this allowed the pupils to record the amount of pollution that the leaves had absorbed.

From the results, we found that Gordon Terrace was the least polluted and the cleanest. At Princess Road there was lots of pollution on the trees. Princess Road seems to be the most polluted, as there are lots of busses passing the trees and Gordon Terrace seems to be the least polluted as it is a narrow road with not much traffic.

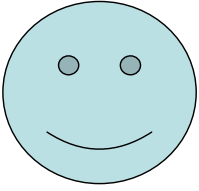
Environmental Survey

There were few trees and unkept areas. There was no derelict land, no vandalism. All the buildings were residential and it was quiet. There were open spaces and clean air. There were shops and a primary school close by.

In the street we surveyed most of the houses we saw were very well looked after but one of the houses was in terrible condition. It had a lot of paint peeling, litter and a lot of overgrowth

Environmental survey

Most of the buildings were 2 storeys because there is a lot of room. These buildings were new. The higher flats were older.

The landscape quality is really nice and modern	There was no derelict land but the area felt crowded	There was hardly any rubbish and no vandalism	The traffic flow was very quiet – there were hardly any cars
There were no unpleasant noises in this area	There were no smells and no evidence of air pollution	There was a lot of public open space	Easy access to schools and services
The area is safe	The area is quiet	There are nice areas for children to play	

Summary of the Area

- Dyce is largely residential, some houses date back to the arrival of the railway, but most are modern and were built after the oil industry came to Aberdeen.
- There is an out of town shopping centre which has a large supermarket, a chemist, a travel agent, an optician and a café. There is a large car park and a petrol station beside the shopping mall.
- There is a large open space in the centre of Dyce, it is used by the schools for football and PE but it is also used by the public
- There is not much entertainment for a settlement the size of Dyce, there is a community centre which has a youth club
- There are a few hotels which would provide accommodation for visiting business workers
- There is an airport in Dyce which is important for business travellers and for holiday travel
- We also have a train station which has a good service between Dyce and Aberdeen it is used by commuters and for leisure
- There are several industrial estates around Dyce: many of the businesses are connected to the oil industry and attract workers from across the city. Some of the companies are large multinationals and some are small businesses