



Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

**Townhead of Greenlaw, Castle Douglas
Dumfries & Galloway:
Archaeological Monitoring Works**



**by Rebecca Shaw and Ros Francis
4th March 2019**

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1 Introduction

This Data Structure Report presents the findings of a programme of archaeological works undertaken in respect of proposed works on a plot of ground in Townhead of Greenlaw, Castle Douglas in Dumfries & Galloway (NGR: NS 74005 64883) (Figure 1). The proposed works comprise: erection of dwellinghouse with integral double garage, formation of access and installation of septic tank, soakaway and air source heat pump (Dumfries & Galloway Council planning application no. 17/1875/FUL) (Figure 3).

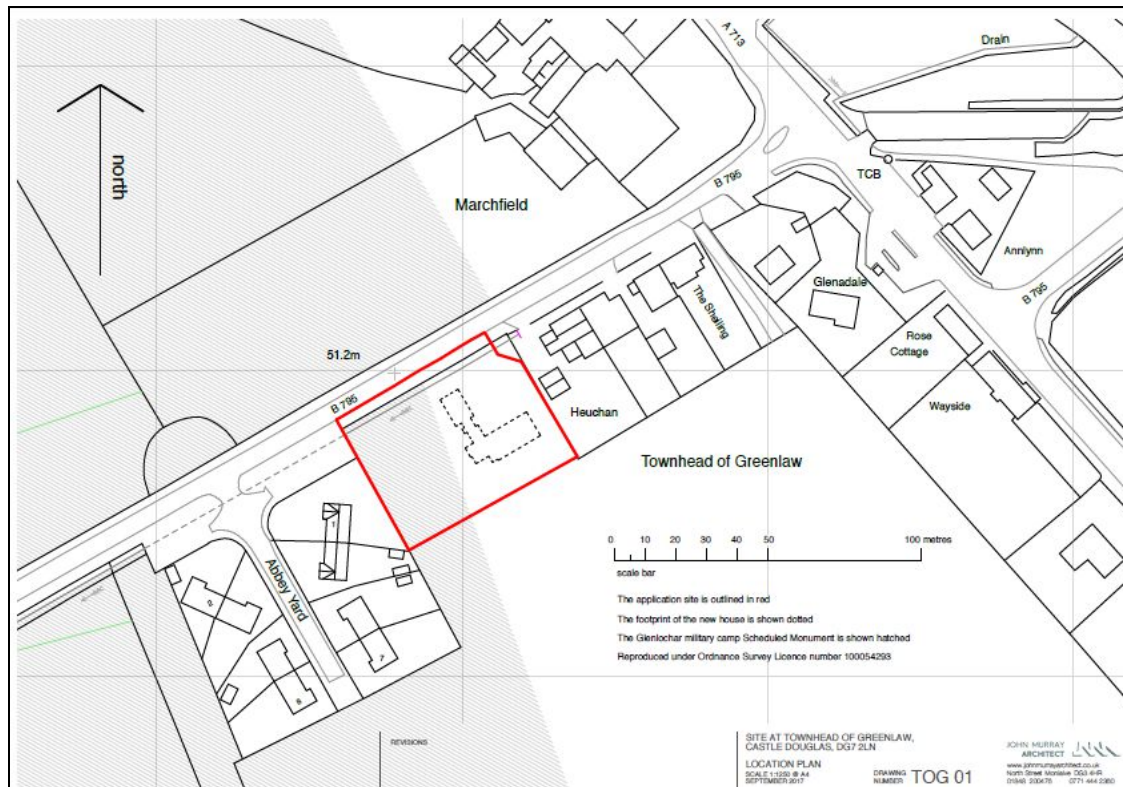


Figure 1 – detailed location map
(kindly provided by Alan & Shelia Wallace © John Murray Architect)

The proposed development falls within an area of archaeological interest relating to the Roman road and military camps at Glenlochar (HER ref: MDG4274 and MDG8812) and is immediately adjacent to a nationally designated Scheduled Monument known as ‘Glenlochar, Roman fort, annexe, road, camps & barrows 50m E of Montford’ (SM12792) (Figure 4). The archaeological remains comprise of a complex of Roman military remains and a pair of later prehistoric round barrows, all visible as cropmarks on aerial photography. Recent transcriptions of aerial photographs suggest there are a number of pits located at the south-eastern edge of the development plot (Figure 2). The proposal is for the part of the plot within the scheduled area to be left as an open undeveloped paddock (Figure 5).

As Glenlochar Roman fort is a Scheduled Monument (SM 12792) and as such is legally protected under the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) was therefore required from Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to undertake any works within the scheduled area (Figure 4).

Historic Environment Scotland granted SMC for the works detailed below:

- (I) excavation of pit measuring 2.1m x 2.1m (at most) by 2m (in depth) to accommodate a new electricity pole.
- (II) excavation of a small section of trenching (4.5m approx within the scheduled area) to underground a new electricity supply to the new pole (replacement of the existing overhead line to be removed)

(III) piping and infilling of the existing open ditch at the road frontage of the property

The archaeological works were required to mitigate the impact on any archaeological remains within the scheduled area.

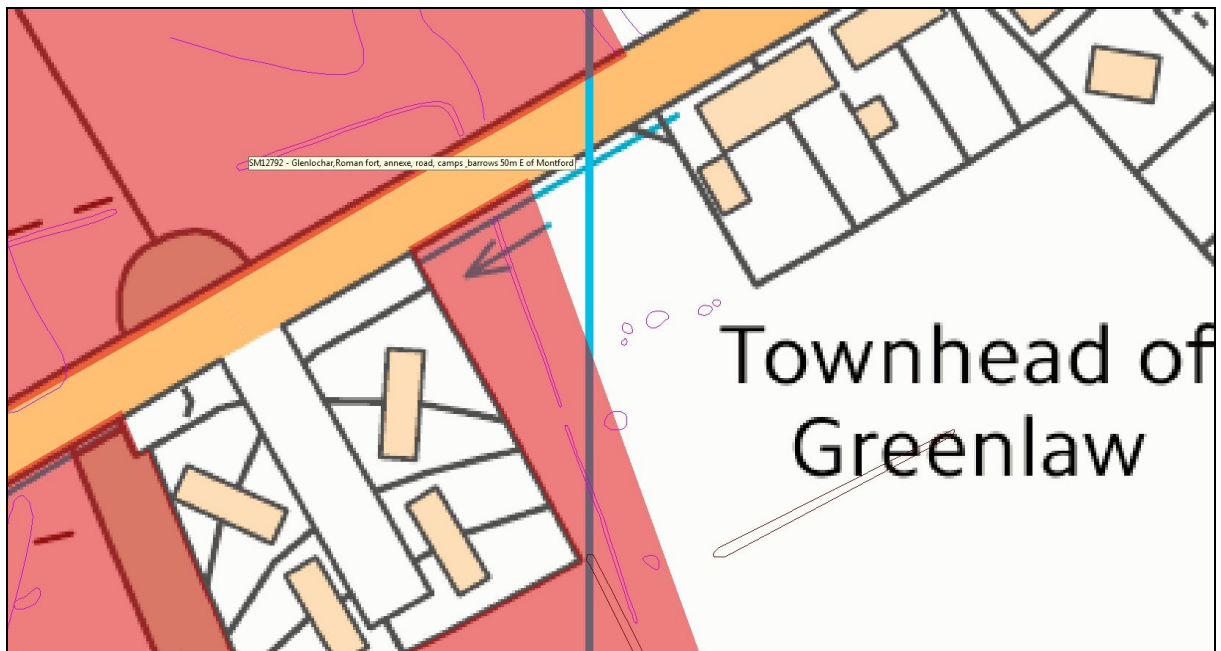


Figure 2 - recent transcriptions of aerial photographs (kindly provided by John Malcolm at HES)

As the main ground breaking works had potential to uncover sub surface remains that would be destroyed by the proposed development, Dumfries & Galloway Council also asked for a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken as a requirement of the issued planning consent. Dumfries & Galloway Council Archaeology Service, who advise Dumfries & Galloway Council on archaeological matters provided guidance on the nature of archaeological works required.

The condition comprised: a monitored topsoil strip of the area defined on the map in Figure 4; with full excavation of any significant features uncovered and recovery of any finds.

During the course of the monitoring works a total of seven features of possible archaeological interest were noted [105]; [106]; [107]; [108]; [109]; [110] and [111] (Figures 10a - 17c & 22). One of these, F [111] was later disregarded as feature representing instead a ephemeral deposit of charcoal. A fragment of oak charcoal recovered from posthole F [108] was subsequently dated to the Early 3rd millennium BC.

Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services was appointed to act with regard to the monitoring works by Alan and Shelia Wallace. The terms of the works were agreed through a Written Scheme of Investigation with HES (Shaw, July 2018) and Dumfries & Galloway Archaeology Service (Shaw, February 2018).

2 Project Works:

The works at Townhead of Greenlaw were undertaken between the 20th and 24th August 2018 (inclusive).

The works were undertaken as stipulated in the WSI documents agreed with HES and Dumfries & Galloway Archaeology Service. Following on-site discussions with Andy Nicholson all six features were half sectioned and sampled with the best surviving three features being fully excavated and sampled.

All works complied with the Chartered Institute For Archaeology's Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct, and Historic Environment Scotland's Policy Statements.

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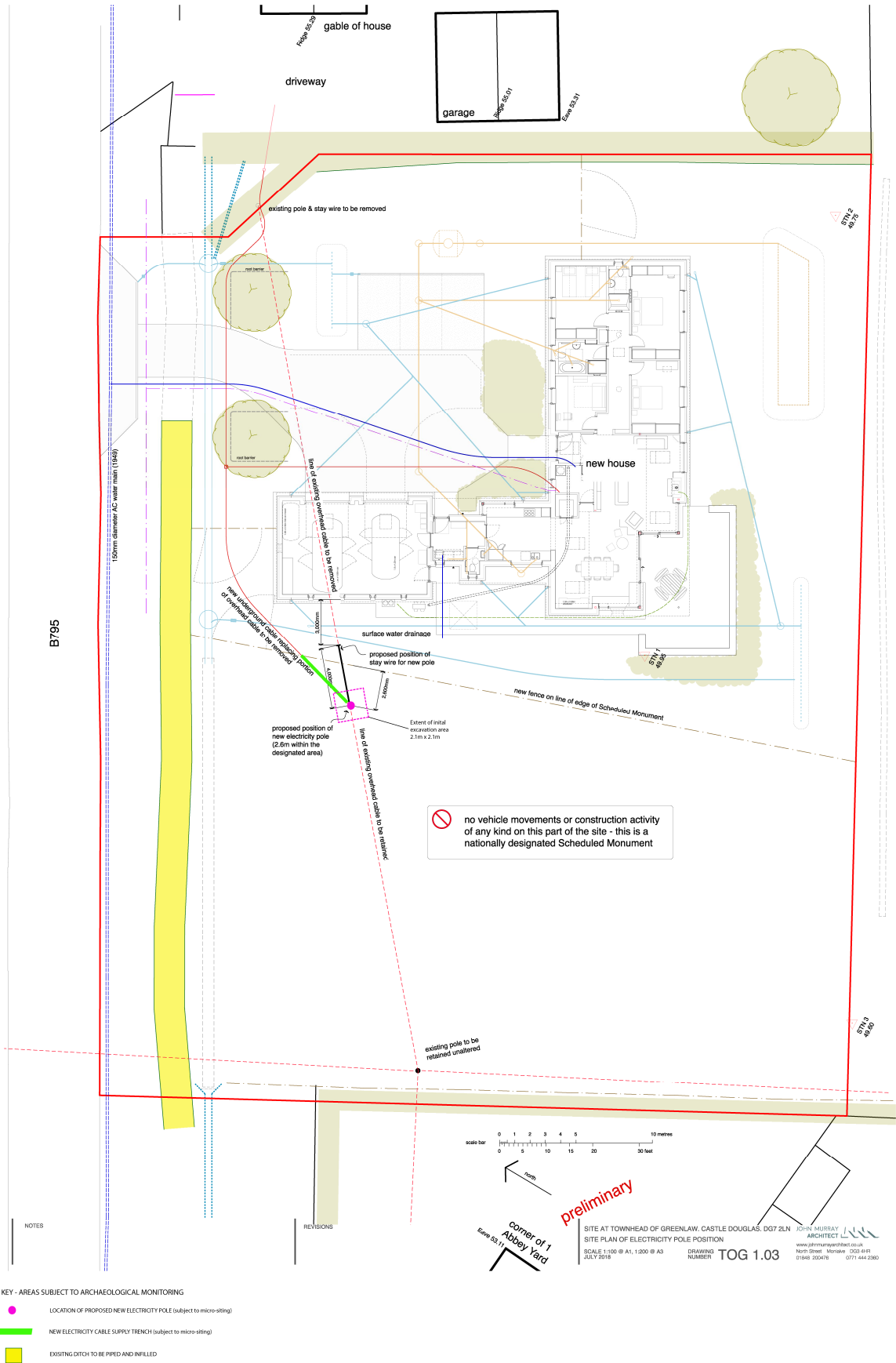


Figure 3 – site plan showing proposed dwelling; location of new pole; route of underground electricity cable and location of existing ditch at the road frontage © John Murray Architect

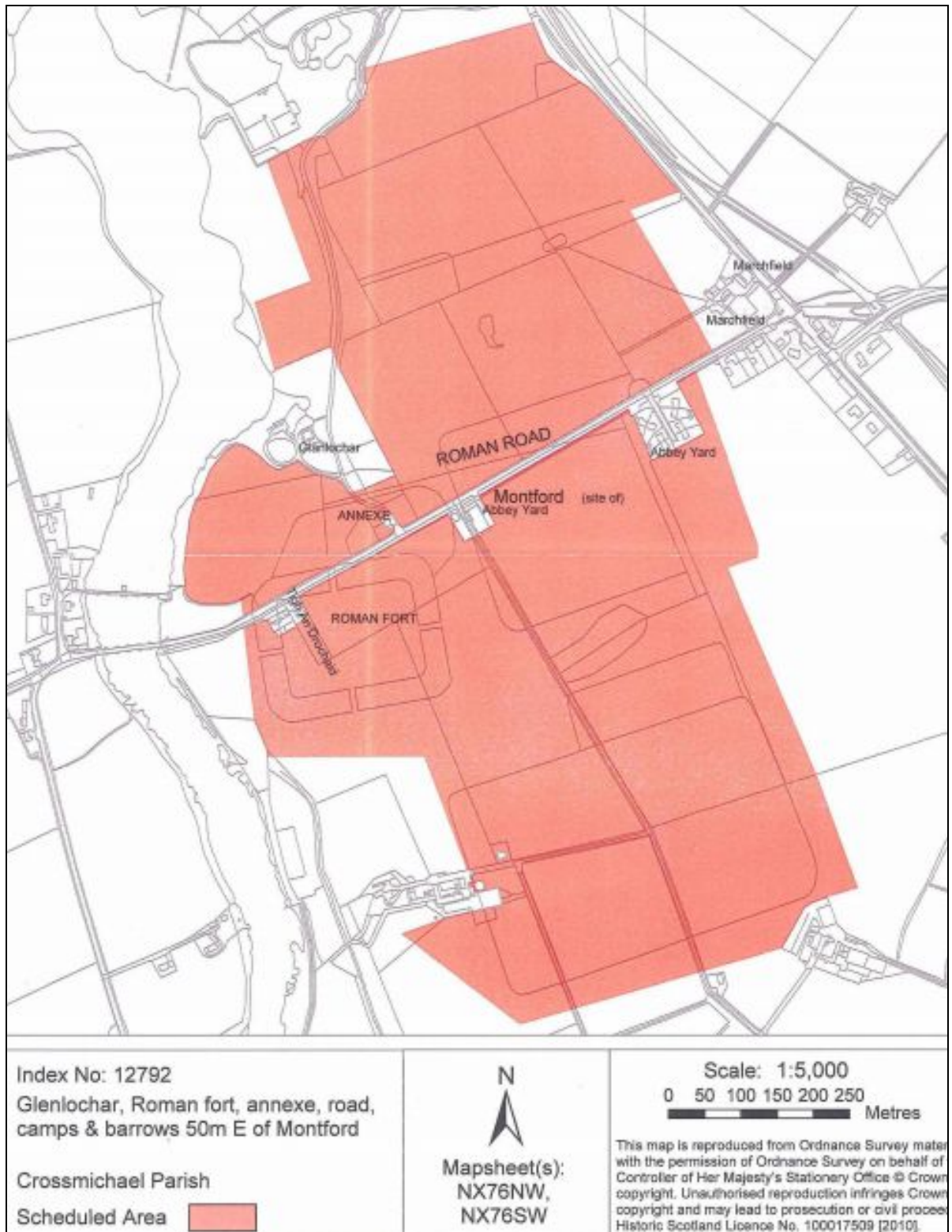
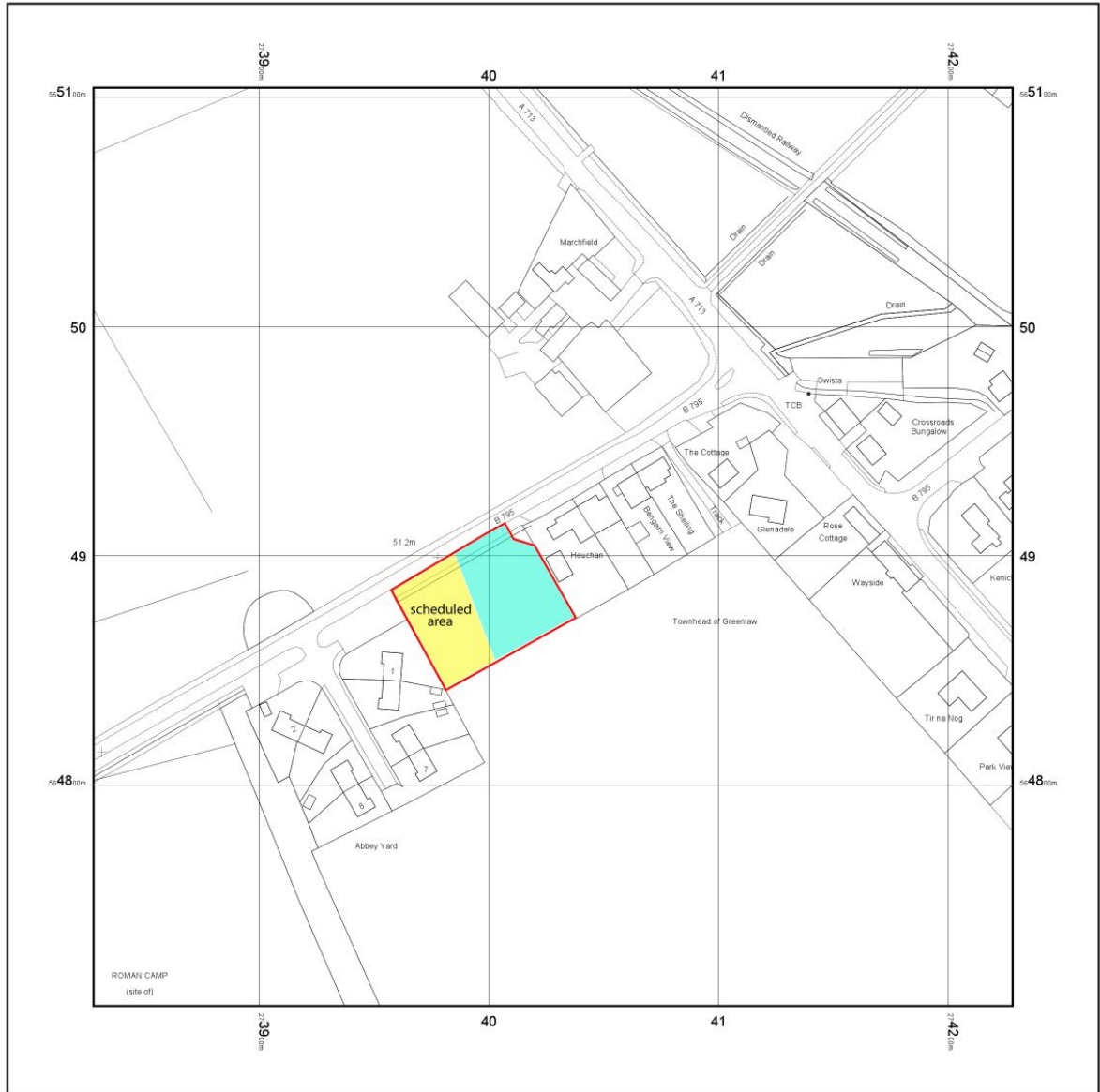
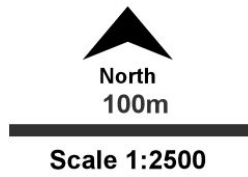


Figure 4 – map showing extent of scheduled area

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- Monitored topsoil strip under archaeological supervision to be undertaken within this area in accordance with the planning condition attached by Dumfries & Galloway Council
- All groundbreaking works in this area subject to Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC)

Figure 5 – map depicting approx extent of scheduled area in relation to proposed development area



Figure 6a – Roys Military map of Scotland (1747-55) © National map Library of Scotland

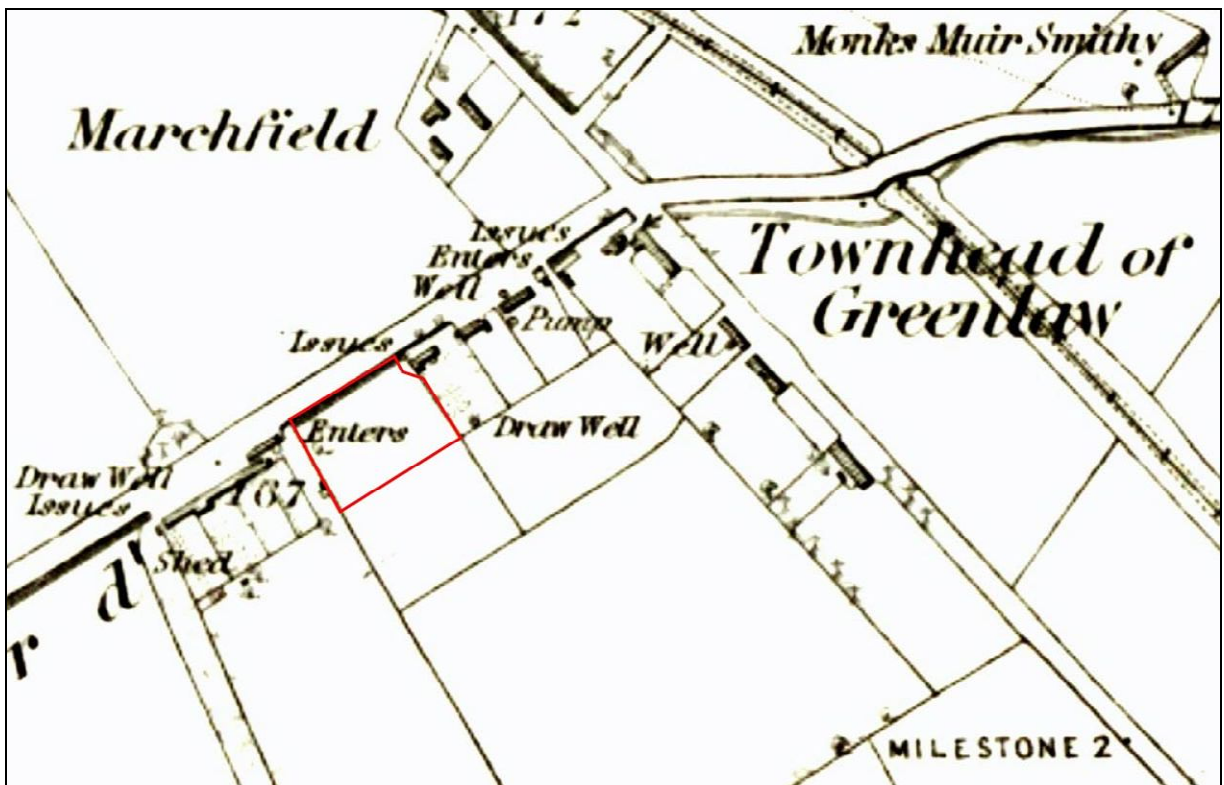


Figure 6b – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,560 (1853) © Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group – not to be reproduced without permission (869159838)

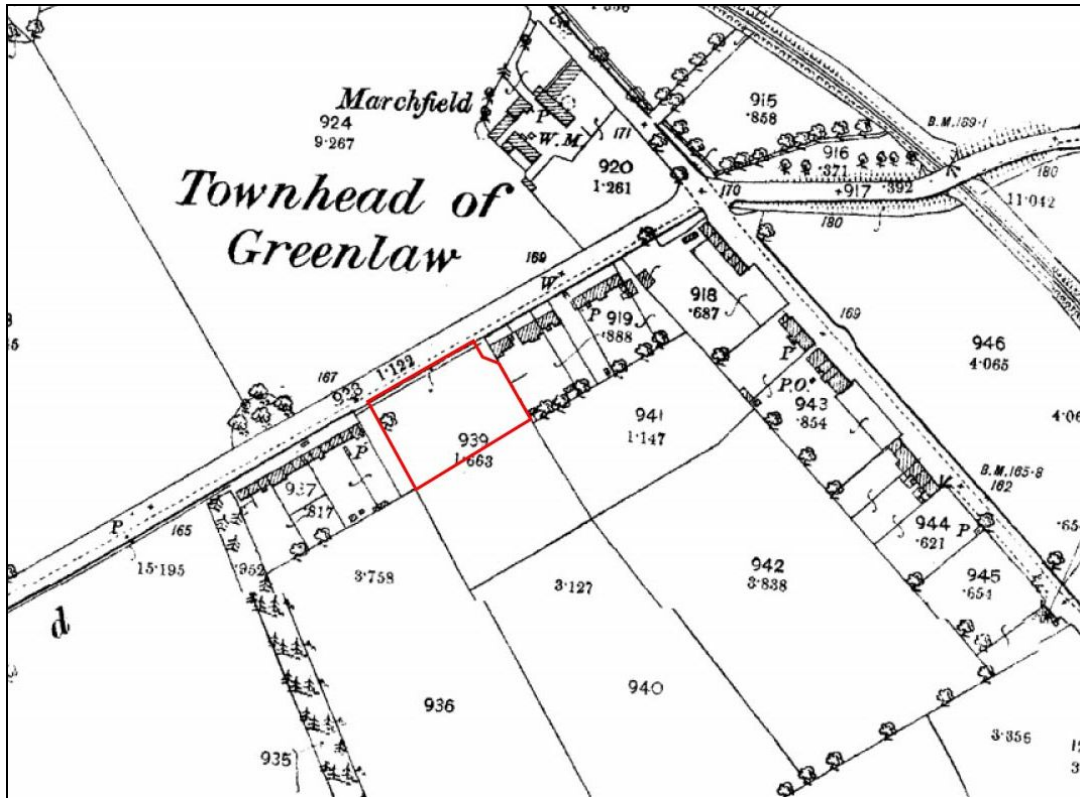


Figure 6c – Ordnance Survey Map 1:10.560 (1895) © Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group – not to be reproduced without permission (869159838)

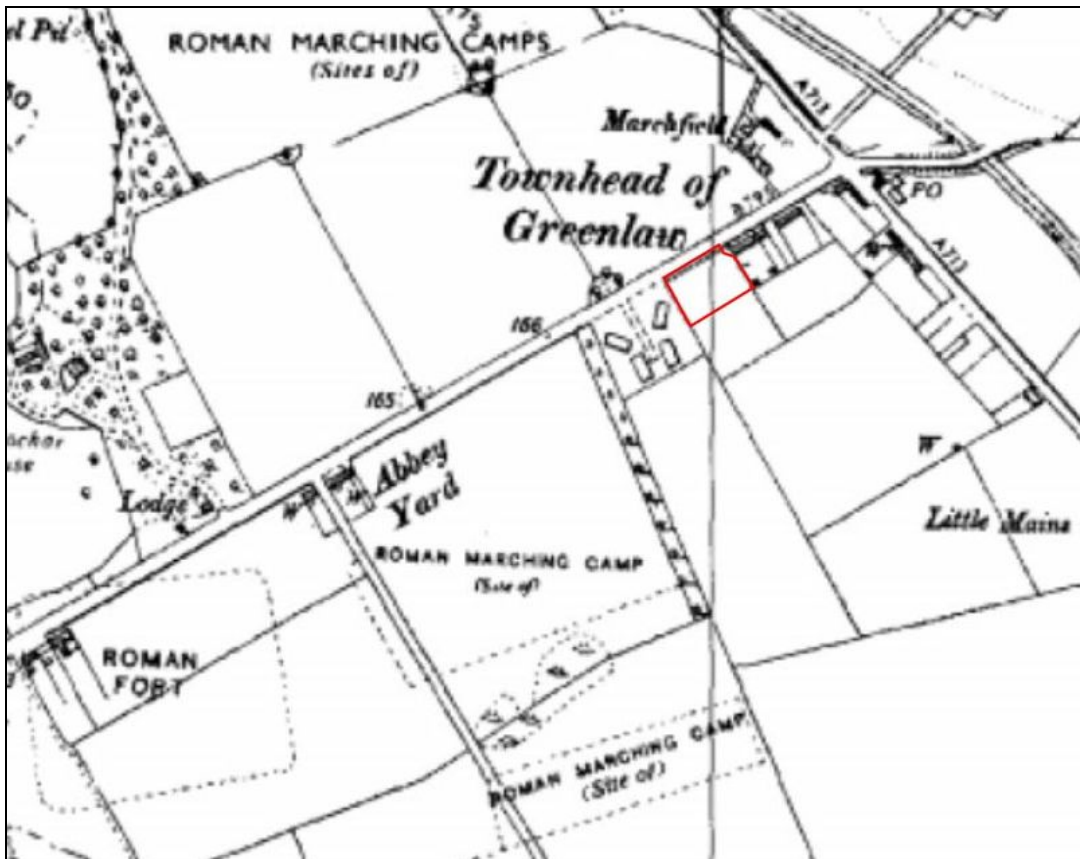


Figure 6d – Ordnance Survey Map 1:10.560 (1957) © Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group – not to be reproduced without permission (869159838)

4 Findings

Scheduled Area

The pit (Figures 8a & 20) that was excavated for the new electricity pole measured 2.1m x 2.1m with a smaller deeper hole which measured 1.6m x 1.3m (Figure 8c). The topsoil measured between 300mm - 400mm in depth and comprised a mid brown fairly fine silt containing a moderate to frequent amount of small stones [124]. The subsoil averaged 350mm in depth and comprised a bright orange gritty silt with frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones [125] (Figure 8b). The natural comprised large rocks & gravel with frequent shattered rock [126] (Figure 8c).

The cable trench (Figure 20) measured 4.5m x 0.7m (approx) and was excavated to an average depth of 500mm (Front Cover). The topsoil averaged 300mm in depth and comprised a mid brown fairly fine silt containing a moderate to frequent amount of small stones [124]. The subsoil comprised a bright orange gritty silt with frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones [125].

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were noted during the excavations for the pit or cable trench.

Ditch

The debris from clearing out the ditch (Figure 20) comprised mix of plant matter and a mid to light brown silt containing occasional sherds of 19th / 20th century china [129] (Figures 9a-d).

Open Area Strip

In general the topsoil comprised a greyish brown fairly fine silt containing a moderate amount of stones [101] - the depth varied between: 420mm (SE); 300mm (SW) and 400mm (NW). Along the NE edge (adjacent to the hedge) the topsoil comprised a mid brown (warm) silt containing decomposing matter [102]. The subsoil (Figures 7b-c) varied between: a bright red gravelly silt with frequent stones & occasional large rocks [103]; pinky orange slightly clayey silt containing an occasional to moderate amount of small stones [104] and shattered bedrock [127] (or rock close to the surface which shattered easily - particularly in NE). Occasional patches of dark brown gravelly silt were also noted [128].

Seven features of archaeological interest were noted during the open area strip, the features mainly comprised a mix of postholes & pits [105] [106] [107] [108] [109] & [110] (Figures 18; 19; 20 & 22). The remaining feature of interest F [111] was latterly discounted as a as it just comprised a small ephemeral deposit of charcoal (Figure 16b).

Features

Feature [105] (Figures 10a & 22) comprised an irregular sub-oval shaped probable posthole with vertical sides and a slightly angled base. The posthole measured 0.64m x 0.27m and 0.20m in depth (at most) (Figure 10b). The fill comprised a dark brownish black charcoal rich fairly fine silt [112] above an orangey brown gritty silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded) [113] (Figure 10c).

Feature [106] (Figures 11a & 22) comprised a fairly large sub rectangular pit with vertical shallow with vertical sides and an undulating base. The pit measured 1m x 0.64m (approx) and 0.26m in depth (at most) (Figure 11b). The fill comprised a dark brown gritty silt containing frequent fragments of charcoal [122] above a brown gritty / gravelly containing a moderate of small stones (rounded & sub-rounded) [123] (Figure 11c).

Feature [107] (Figures 12a & 22) comprised an oval shaped shallow pit with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. The pit measured 0.58m x 0.34m (approx) and 0.10m in depth (at most) (Figure 12c). The fill comprised a dark brownish black gritty silt containing frequent charcoal inclusions and fragments of burnt stone [114] above a fine brown silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded) [115] (Figure 12c).

Feature [108] (Figures 13a & 22) comprised an oval shaped posthole with vertical sides and a

flat base. The posthole measured 0.20m x 0.56m and 0.20m in depth (at most) (Figure 13b). The fill comprised a dark brownish black charcoal rich fine silt [116] above a dark orangey brown gritty silt containing frequent small stones (angular & sub-angular) [117] (Figure 13c).

Feature [109] (Figures 14a & 22) comprised a roughly oval shaped posthole with mostly vertical sides and a flat base set between two stones. The posthole measured 0.22m x 0.32m in diameter and 0.17m in depth (at most) (Figure 14b). The fill comprised a fine black silt containing occasional inclusions of charcoal [118] above a mid brown fairly fine silt containing small rounded pebbles [119] (Figure 14c).

Feature [110] (Figures 15a & 22) comprised a slightly irregular fairly shallow circular shaped pit with a gently sloped W edge and an angled E edge and a rounded base. The pit measured roughly 0.30m in diameter and 0.10m in depth (at most) (Figure 15b). The fill comprised a dark brownish black charcoal rich fine silt [120] above an orangey brown silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded) [121] (Figure 15c).

5 Post Excavation

Radiocarbon Dating

A sample of charcoal recovered from posthole feature [108] was submitted to Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre for 14C dating. The radiocarbon age for F [108] (fill 116) BP 4152 ± 31 (SUERC-83945 - GU49875) (δ 13 relative VPDB -25.9%) was calibrated to: 2876BC-2831BC (95.4% probability).

The charcoal sample can therefore be dated to the early 3rd millennium cal BC indicating the site was in use during the Late Neolithic, between 4893 to 4848 years ago (approx).

6 Discussion

Sound cartographic sources depict that from at least the mid eighteenth century the proposed development area has been open ground, more than likely used for cultivation (Figures 6a-d). The monitored excavations uncovered the remains of seven features, six of which are regarded to be of archaeological significance: [105] [106] [107] [108] [109] & [110] and one of which comprised an ephemeral deposit of charcoal [111] (Figure 16b). The features were a mix of pits [106] [107] & [110] and postholes [105] [108] & [109] (Figure 18).

The features of archaeological significance were all located within the non designated area, which excavations in the scheduled area comprising a very sterile silty topsoil above a fairly stony subsoil.

All of the pit and posthole features contained varying quantities of charcoal with F [107] also containing what appeared to be fragments of burnt stones within deposit [114]. Although the pits and postholes indicate that some form of burning activity was being undertaken, no finds were recovered to suggest this site was inhabited domestically or for any length of time.

Radiocarbon dating undertaken on F [108] (116) (Figures 13a-c) produced a date of between 2876BC-2831BC indicating that the site was in use during the early 3rd millennium BC, roughly 4893 to 4848 years ago in the Late Neolithic Period.

The scheduled area for 'Glenlochar, Roman fort, annexe, road, camps & barrows 50m E of Montford' (SM12792) (Figure 4) contains cropmarks for two prehistoric barrows (and pits) amongst the numerous Roman remains (NX76SW 24). Prehistoric barrows are usually Bronze Age in date and with the pits & postholes uncovered during these works being dated to the Late Neolithic, it seems that this area may have been important for millennia, albeit it periodically rather than continually.

Although the discreet pits & postholes do not appear to form part of a larger feature such as an enclosure or pit alignment. However, with recent transcriptions of aerial photographs indicating a number of (possible) pits along south-eastern edge of the development plot (Figure 2), a larger prehistoric complex may exist.

In conclusion, although a definitive function for the site cannot be determined it could probably be punitively suggested that this site was not domestic or funerary given the absence of domestic debris (pottery or animal bones) or human remains.

7 Conclusion

A programme of archaeological works were undertaken in respect of proposed works on a plot of ground at Townhead of Greenlaw, Castle Douglas in Dumfries & Galloway. The proposed works comprise: erection of dwellinghouse with integral double garage, formation of access and installation of septic tank, soakaway and air source heat pump

Archaeological works were required as the proposed development falls within an area of archaeological interest relating to the Roman road and military camps at Glenlochar and is immediately adjacent to a nationally designated Scheduled Monument known as 'Glenlochar, Roman fort, annexe, road, camps & barrows 50m E of Montford'. The archaeological works comprised monitoring of ground reduction to a clean subsoil surface within the whole development plot within the non designated area as well as the monitoring of the excavations fro a pit and cable trench within the scheduled area.

Seven features of archaeological interest were noted during the course of the monitoring works, six of which were regarded as being of archaeological significance. The features, all of which were located within the non designated area, comprised pits and postholes and although all the features contained charcoal, no other finds were recovered. Charcoal recovered from posthole F [108] was radiocarbon dated to the early 3rd millennium cal BC indicating the site was in use during the Late Neolithic Period, between 4893 to 4848 years ago (approx).

Although four of the features [106] [107] [108] & [109] are possibly part of a more discreet group the features do not appear to form part of a larger feature. The general lack of any domestic or funerary remains is indicative of temporary use, however, it can be discounted that a settlement related to these features is within the immediate proximity.



Figure 7a – general pre-ex of site (from S)



Figure 7b – general post-ex of site (from N)



Figure 7c - general post-ex of site (from S)



Figure 8a - general pre-ex of pit location within scheduled area (from NE)



Figure 8b – subsoil [1??] within pit (from NE)



Figure 8c – post-ex of pit - excavated to required depth (from NE)



Figure 9a – ditch prior to clear out (ENE half)



Figure 9b – ditch prior to clear out (WSW half)



Figure 9c - ditch after clear out (ENE half)



Figure 9d - ditch after clear out (WSW half)

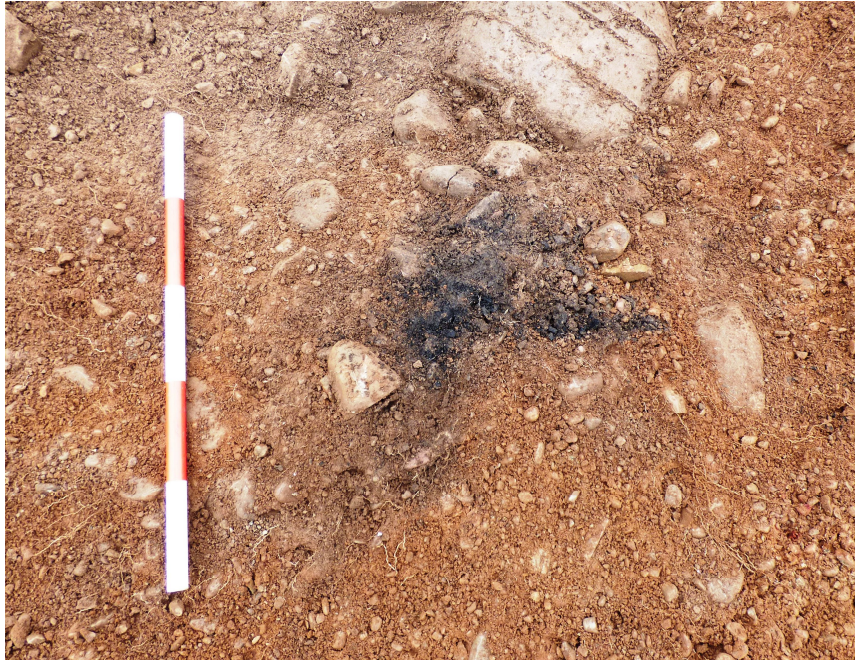


Figure 10a – pre-ex of F [105] (from NNW)

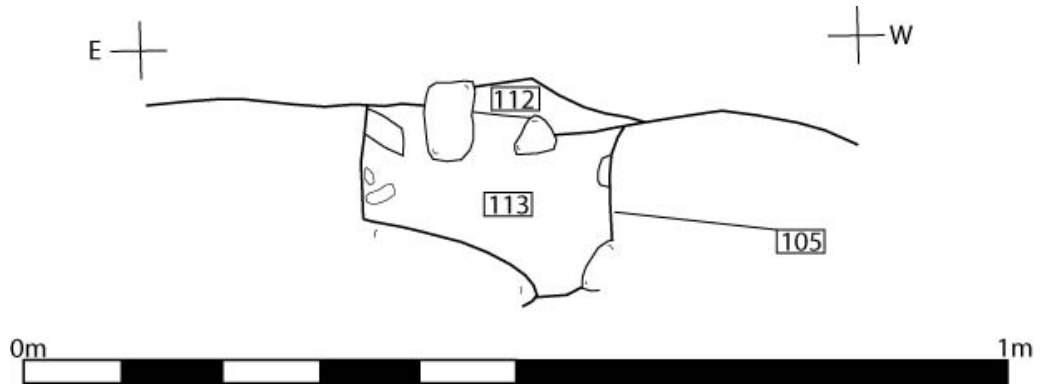


Figure 10b - N facing section through F[105]



Figure 10c - N facing section through F[105] (from N)



Figure 11a – pre-ex of F [106] (from ENE)

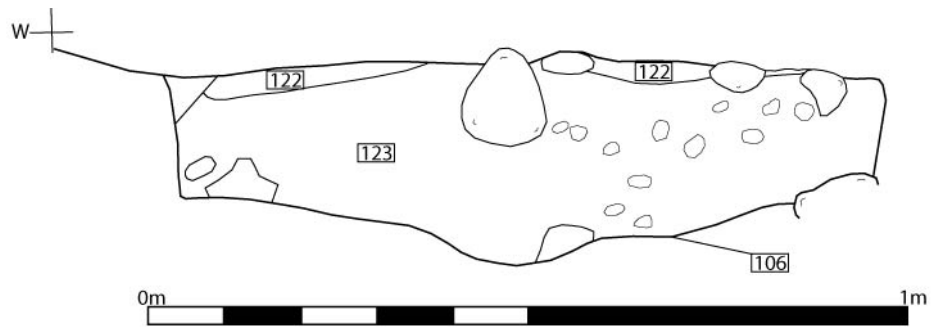


Figure 11b - S facing section through F [106]

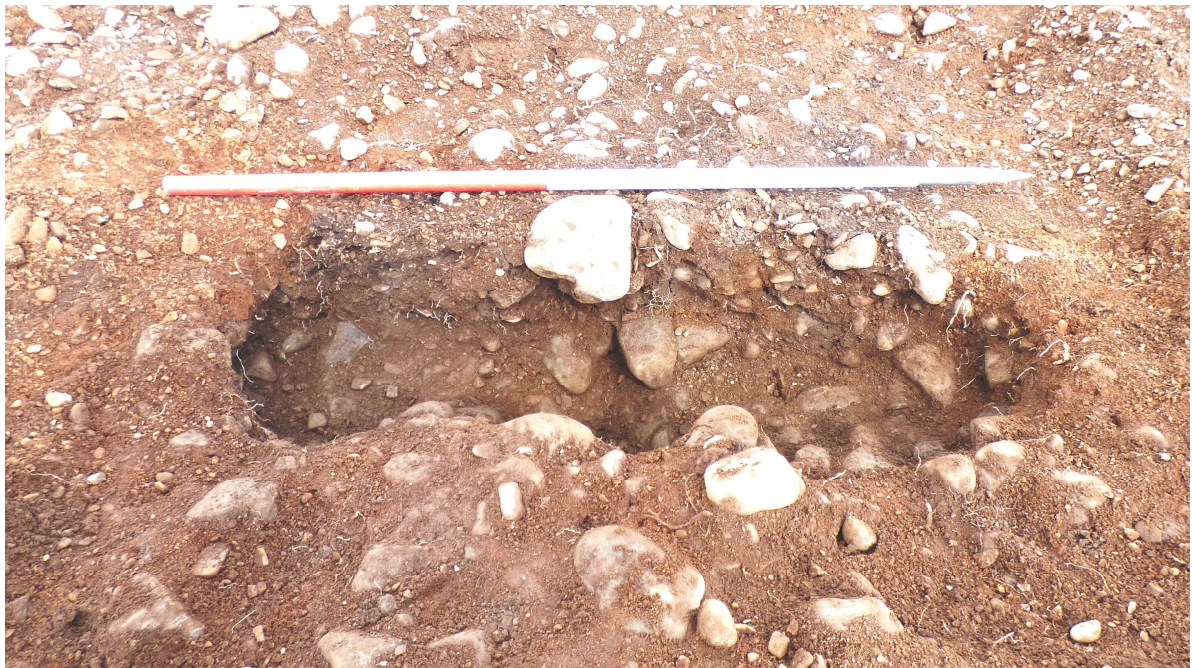


Figure 11c - S facing section through F [106] (from S)



Figure 12a – pre-ex of F [107] (from N)

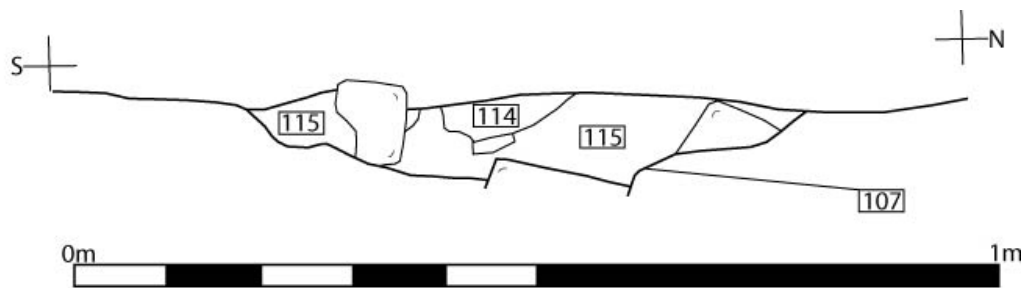


Figure 12b - E facing section through F[107]



Figure 12c - E facing section through F[107] (from E)



Figure 13a – pre-ex of F [108] (from N)

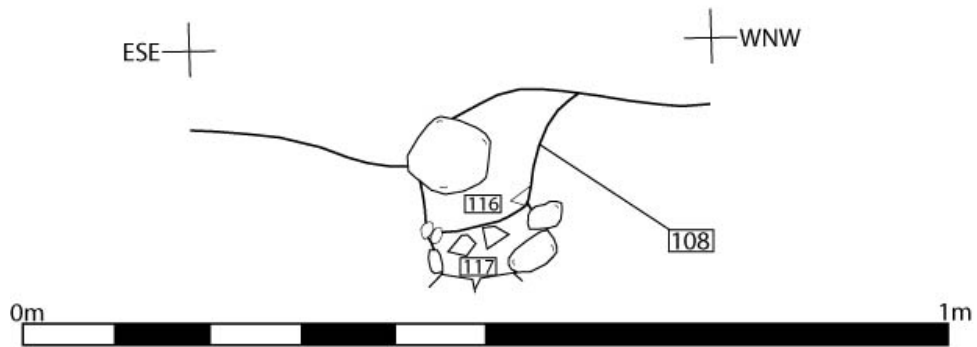


Figure 13b - NNE facing section through F [108] (from NNE)



Figure 13c - NNE facing section through F [108] (from NNE)

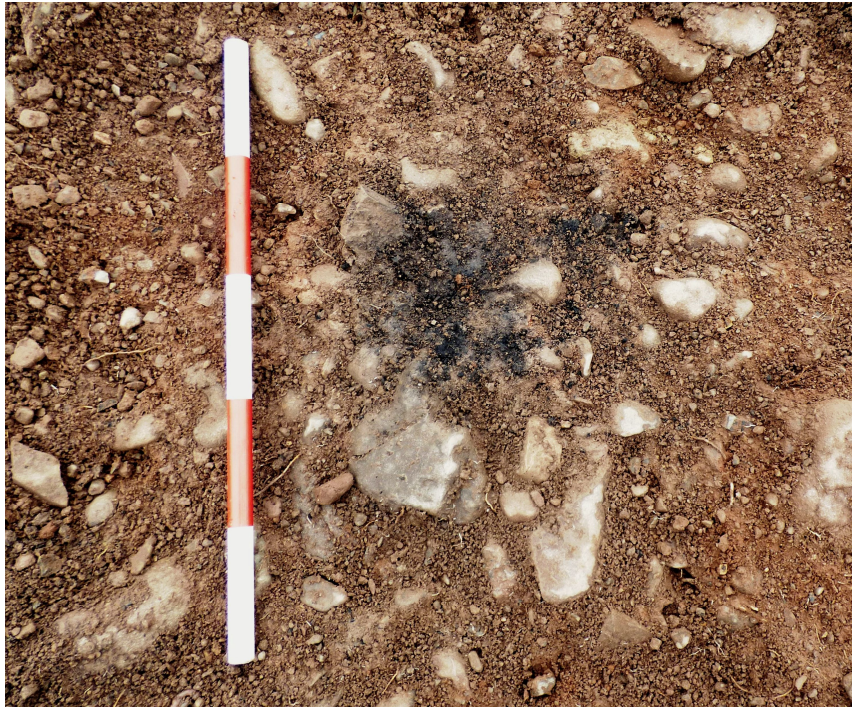


Figure 14a – pre-ex of F [109] (from N)

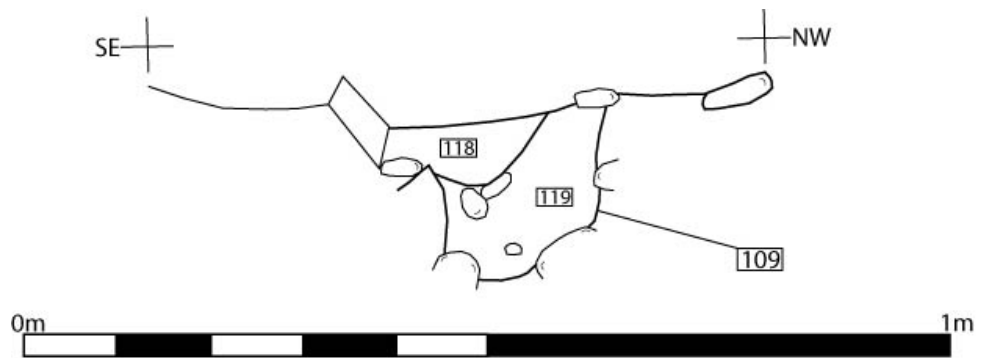


Figure 14b - NE facing section through F [109] (from NE)



Figure 14c - NNE facing section through F [109] (from NNE)



Figure 15a - pre-ex of F [110] (from ESE)

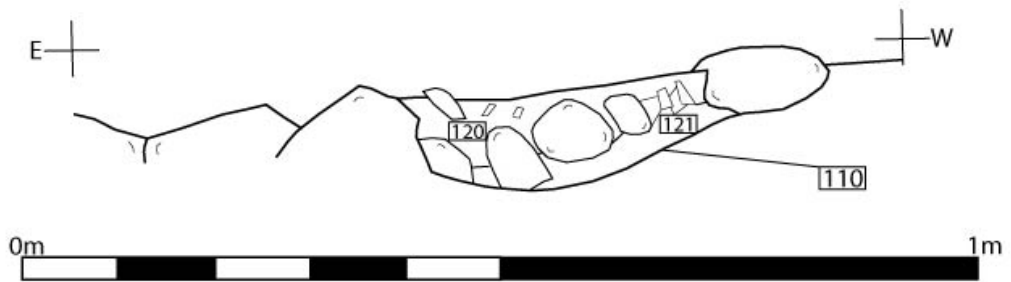


Figure 15b - N facing section through F [110]



Figure 15c - N facing section through F [110] (from N)



Figure 16a - post-ex of F [110] (from S)



Figure 16b – pre-ex of F [111] (from NNE)



Figure 17a - post-ex of F [105] (from N)



Figure 17b - post-ex of F [108] (from N)



Figure 17c - post-ex of F [109] (from N)

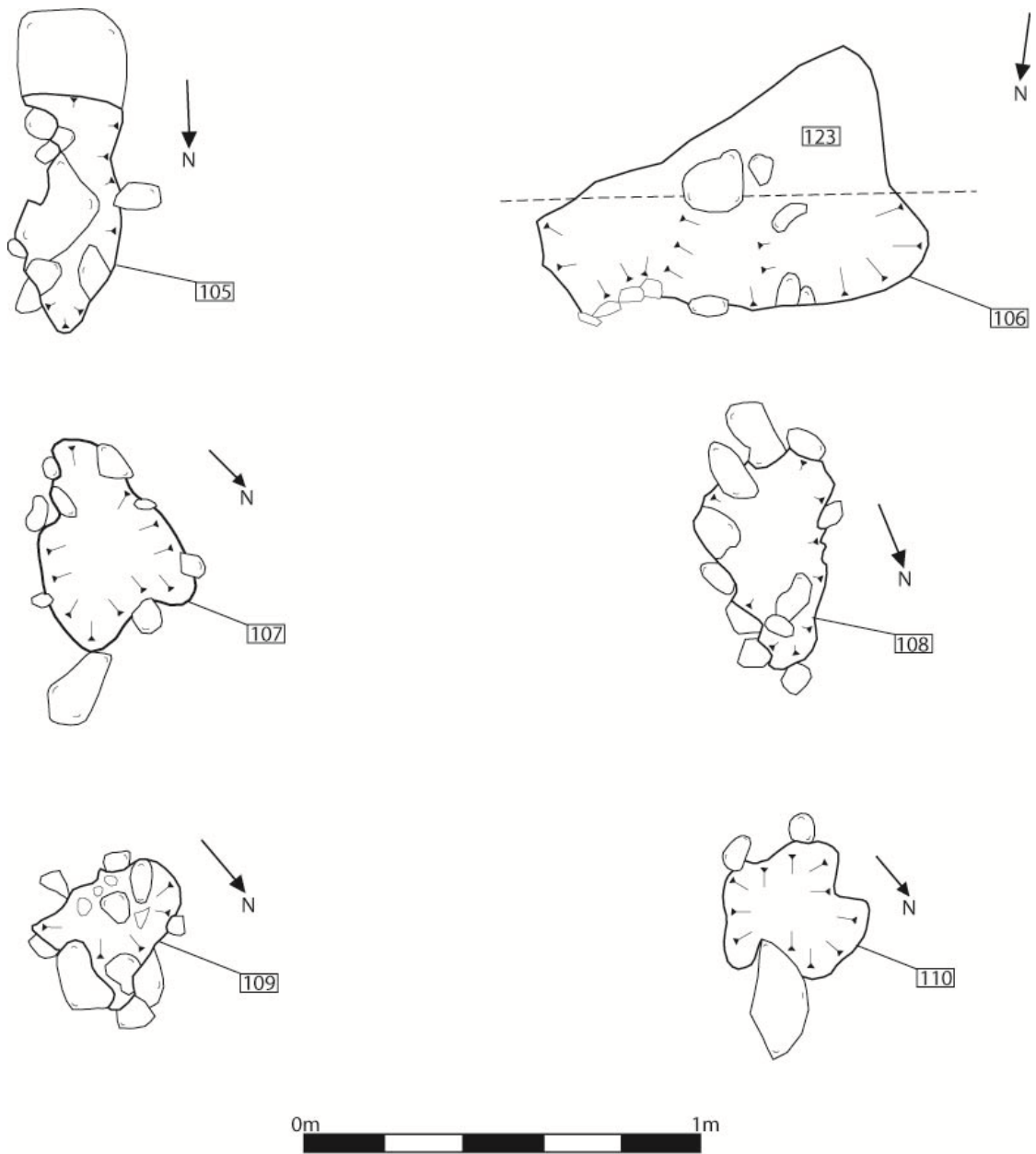
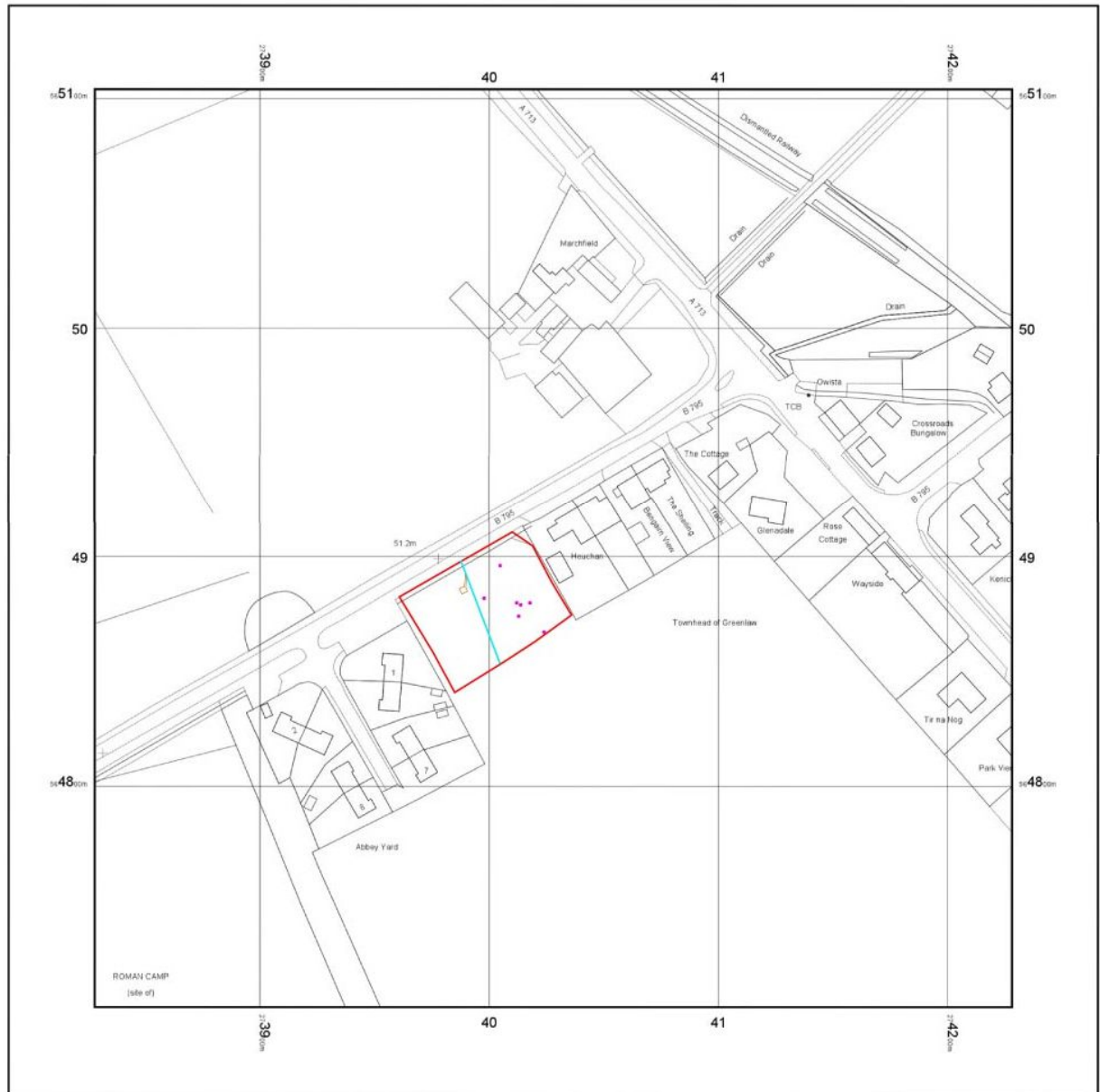
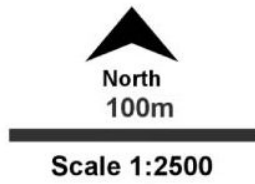
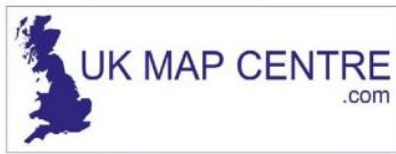


Figure 18 – post-ex plans of features [105]; [106]; [107]; [108]; [109] and [110]

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Figure 19 – map showing extent of excavated area

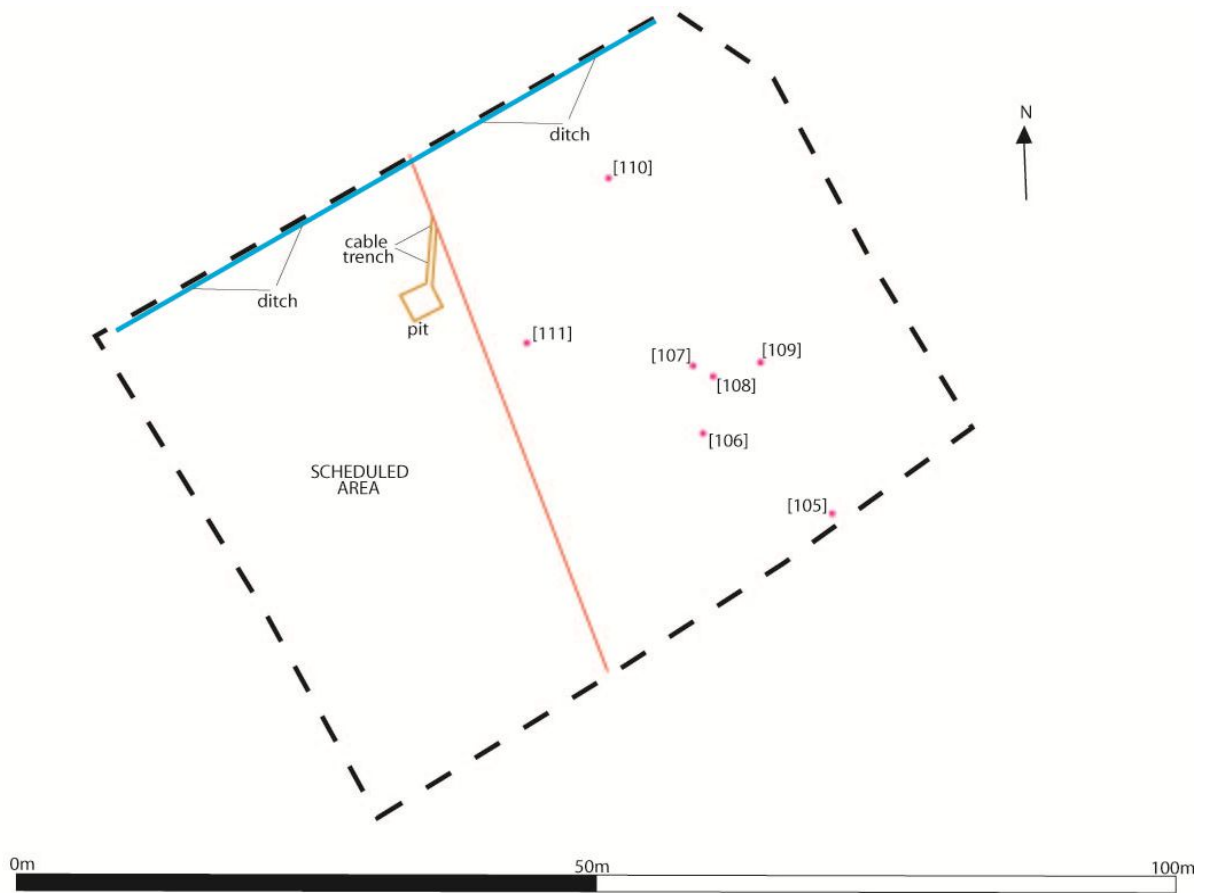


Figure 20 – map showing extent of actual excavated area and location of features



Figure 21 - post-ex image with green flags marking features of archaeological interest

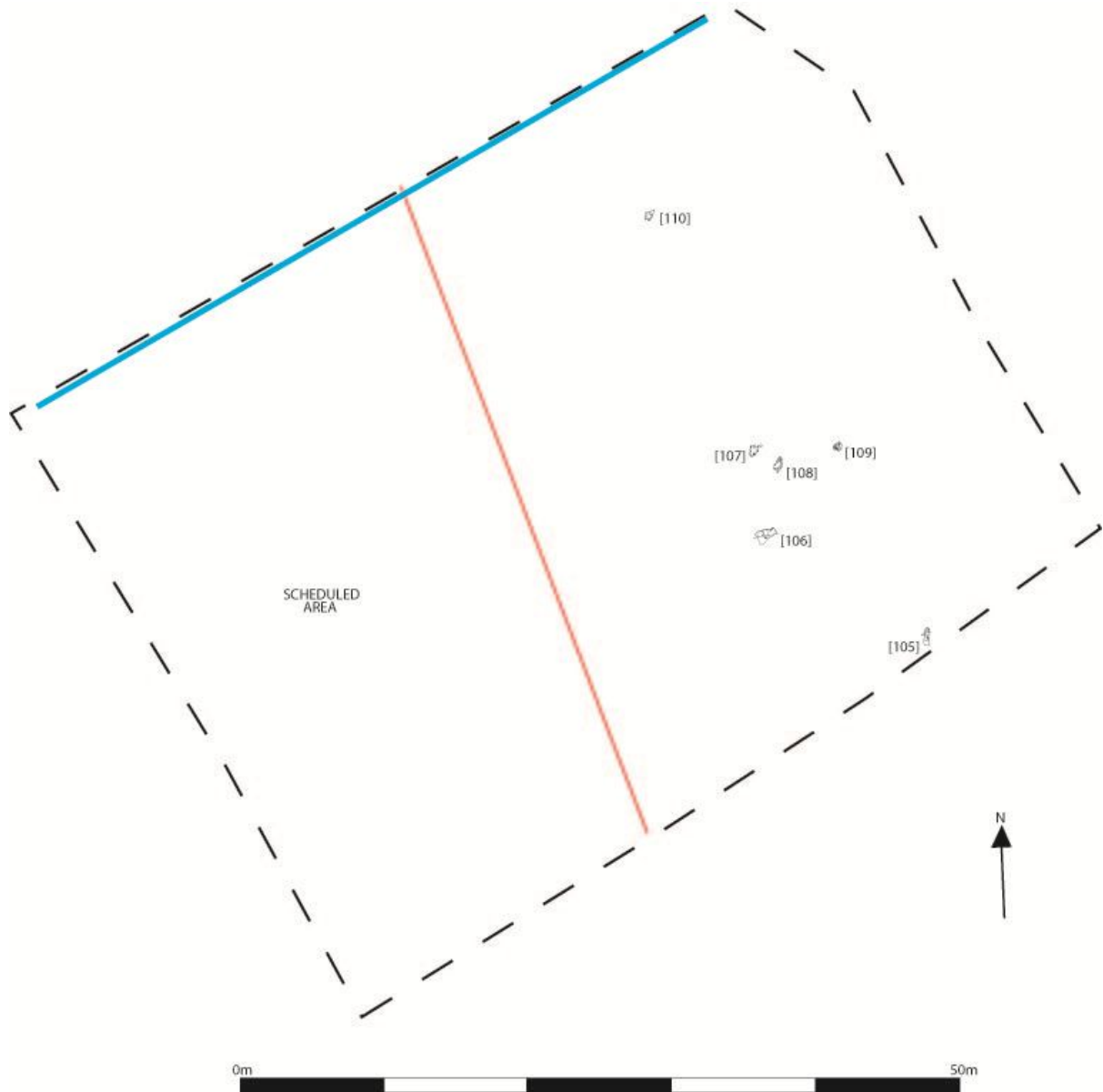


Figure 22 – detailed site plan showing the six features of archaeological interest

References

Documentary

- | | | |
|------|------|--|
| SOEn | 2010 | Scottish Planning Policy (SPP). <i>Archaeology</i> , Scottish Office Environmental Department. |
| SOEn | 2011 | <i>PAN 2/2011</i> , Planning & Archaeology Scottish Office Environmental Department. |
| HES | 2016 | Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement June 2016 |

Cartographic

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| Roy | 1747-55 | Military Survey Map of Scotland |
| Ordnance Survey | 1853 | 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1:2500, Kirkcudbrightshire |
| Ordnance Survey | 1895 | 2 nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1:2500, Kirkcudbrightshire |
| Ordnance Survey | 1957 | Ordnance Survey Map, 1:2500, Kirkcudbrightshire |

Appendix 1: Record Summaries

Context Summaries

No.	Interpretation	Description
101	Topsoil	Greyish brown fairly fine silt containing a moderate amount of stones - the depth varied between: 420mm (SE); 300mm (SW) and 400mm (NW).
102	Topsoil	Mid brown (warm) silt containing decomposing matter - averaged 300mm in depth.
103	Subsoil	Bright red gravelly silt with frequent stones & occasional large rocks.
104	Subsoil	Pinky orange slightly clayey silt containing an occasional to moderate amount of small stones.
105	Posthole F [105] - probable	Irregular shaped sub-oval shaped (probable) posthole with vertical sides and a slightly angled base. The posthole measured 0.64m x 0.27m and 0.20m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [112] & [113].
106	Pit F [106]	Fairly large sub rectangular pit with vertical shallow with vertical sides and an undulating base. The pit measured 1m x 0.64m (approx) and 0.26m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [122] & [123].
107	Pit F [107]	Oval shaped shallow pit with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. The pit measured 0.58m x 0.34m (approx) and 0.10m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [114] & [115].
108	Posthole F [108]	Oval shaped posthole with vertical sides and a flat base. The posthole measured 0.20m x 0.56m and 0.20m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [116] & [117].
109	Posthole F [109]	Comprised a roughly oval shaped posthole with mostly vertical sides and a flat base set between two stones. The posthole measured 0.22m x 0.32m in diameter and 0.17m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [118] & [119].
110	Pit F [110]	Comprised a slightly irregular fairly shallow circular shaped pit with a gently sloped W edge and an angled E edge and a rounded base. The pit measured roughly 0.30m in diameter and 0.10m in depth (at most). Comprised two fills: [120] & [121].
111	Charcoal deposit	Small ephemeral deposit of charcoal mixed with topsoil.
112	Fill of posthole F [105]	Dark brownish black charcoal rich fairly fine silt.
113	Fill of posthole F [105]	Orangey brown gritty silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded).

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114	Fill of posthole F [107]	Dark brownish black gritty silt containing frequent charcoal inclusions and fragments of burnt stone.
115	Fill of posthole F [107]	Fine brown silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded).
116	Fill of posthole F [108]	Dark brownish black charcoal rich fine silt.
117	Fill of posthole F [108]	Dark orangey brown gritty silt containing frequent small stones (angular & sub-angular).
118	Fill of posthole F [109]	Fine black silt containing occasional inclusions of charcoal.
119	Fill of posthole F [109]	Mid brown fairly fine silt containing small rounded pebbles.
120	Fill of posthole F [110]	Dark brownish black charcoal rich fine silt.
121	Fill of posthole F [110]	Orangey brown silt containing small stones (rounded & sub-rounded).
122	Fill of posthole F [106]	Dark brown gritty silt containing frequent fragments of charcoal.
123	Fill of posthole F [106]	Brown gritty / gravelly containing a moderate of small stones (rounded & sub-rounded).
124	Topsoil	Mid brown fairly fine silt containing a moderate to frequent amount of small stones between 300mm - 400mm in depth.
125	Subsoil	Bright orange gritty silt with frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones - averaged 350mm in depth.
126	Natural	Large rocks & gravel with frequent shattered rock.
127	Subsoil	Shattered bedrock (or rock close to the surface which shattered easily - particularly in NE).
128	Subsoil	Occasional patches of dark brown gravelly silt.
129	Ditch fill	Mix of plant matter and mid to light brown silt containing occasional sherds of 19th / 20th century china.

Photographic Record

No	B&W	CLR	Description	From	Date
1	1	1	General pre-ex of site	S	20/08/18
2	2	2	General pre-ex of site	E	20/08/18
3	3	3	Partial topsoil reduction in non designated area	E	20/08/18
4	4	4	Partial topsoil reduction in non designated area	S	20/08/18
5	5	5	General post-ex of non designated area	N	21/08/18

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6	6	6	General post-ex of non designated area	S	21/08/18
7	7	7	Pre-ex of proposed pit in scheduled area	NE	21/08/18
8	8	8	Ditch prior to being cleaned out (ENE half - non designated area)	ENE	21/08/18
9	9	9	Ditch prior to being cleaned out (WSW half - scheduled area)	WSW	21/08/18
10	10	10	Pit reduced to subsoil	NE	21/08/18
11	11	11	Pit reduced to required depth	NE	21/08/18
12	12	12	Post-ex image of cable trench (within scheduled area)	N	21/08/18
13	13	13	Ditch after cleaning - WSW half (scheduled area)	WSW	21/08/18
14	14	14	Ditch after cleaning - ENE half (non designated area)	ENE	21/08/18
15	15	15	Pre-ex of F [105]	NNW	22/08/18
16	16	16	Pre-ex of F [106]	ENE	22/08/18
17	17	17	Pre-ex of F [107]	N	22/08/18
18	18	18	Pre-ex of F [108]	N	22/08/18
19	19	19	Pre-ex of F [109]	N	22/08/18
20	20	20	Pre-ex of F [111]	NNE	22/08/18
21	21	21	Pre-ex of F [110]	ESE	22/08/18
22	22	22	N facing section through F [105]	N	22/08/18
23	23	23	S facing section through F [107]	S	22/08/18
24	24	24	NNE facing section through F [108]	NNE	22/08/18
25	25	25	NE facing section through F [109]	NE	22/08/18
26	26	26	N facing section through F [110]	N	24/08/18
27	27	27	S facing section through F [106]	S	24/08/18
28	28	28	Post-ex of F [105]	N	24/08/18
29	29	29	Post-ex of F [109]	N	24/08/18
30	30	30	Post-ex of F [110]	S	24/08/18
31	31	31	Post-ex of F [108]	N	24/08/18
32	32	32	Post-ex of F [106]	E	24/08/18

Drawing Record

Sheet No.	Drawing No.	Description	Scale	Date
1	001	Pre-ex plan of F [105]	1:20	22/08/18
1	002	Pre-ex plan of F [110]	1:20	22/08/18

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1	003	Pre-ex plan of F [111]	1:20	22/08/18
1	004	Pre-ex plan of F [107]	1:20	22/08/18
1	005	Pre-ex plan of F [108]	1:20	22/08/18
1	006	Pre-ex plan of F [109]	1:20	22/08/18
1	007	Pre-ex plan of F [106]	1:20	22/08/18
1	008	N facing section through F [108]	1:10	22/08/18
1	009	E facing section through F [107]	1:10	24/08/18
1	010	N facing section through F [108]	1:10	24/08/18
1	011	N facing section through F [109]	1:10	24/08/18
1	012	N facing section through F [110]	1:10	24/08/18
1	013	S facing section through F [109]	1:10	24/08/18
1	014	Post-ex plan of F [105]	1:20	24/08/18
1	015	Post-ex plan of F [109]	1:20	24/08/18
1	022	Post-ex plan of F [106]	1:20	24/08/18
1	023	Post-ex plan of F [108]	1:20	24/08/18

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries & Galloway Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Townhead of Greenlaw, Castle Douglas
PARISH:	Crossmichael
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rebecca Shaw and Ros Francis
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Monitoring Works
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NS 74005 64883
START DATE (this season)	20 th August 2018
END DATE (this season)	24 th August 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
DESCRIPTION:	A programme of archaeological works were undertaken in

	<p>respect of proposed works on a plot of ground at Townhead of Greenlaw, Castle Douglas in Dumfries & Galloway. The proposed works comprise: erection of dwellinghouse with integral double garage, formation of access and installation of septic tank, soakaway and air source heat pump</p> <p>Archaeological works were required as the proposed development falls within an area of archaeological interest relating to the Roman road and military camps at Glenlochar and is immediately adjacent to a nationally designated Scheduled Monument known as 'Glenlochar, Roman fort, annexe, road, camps & barrows 50m E of Montford'. The archaeological works comprised monitoring of ground reduction to a clean subsoil surface within the whole development plot within the non designated area as well as the monitoring of the excavations from a pit and cable trench within the scheduled area.</p> <p>Seven features of archaeological interest were noted during the course of the monitoring works, six of which were regarded as being of archaeological significance. The features, all of which were located within the non designated area, comprised pits and postholes and although all the features contained charcoal, no other finds were recovered. Charcoal recovered from posthole F [108] was radiocarbon dated to the early 3rd millennium cal BC indicating the site was in use during the Late Neolithic Period, between 4893 to 4848 years ago (approx).</p> <p>Although four of the features [106] [107] [108] & [109] are possibly part of a more discrete group the features do not appear to form part of a larger feature. The general lack of any domestic or funerary remains is indicative of temporary use, however, it can be discounted that a settlement related to these features is within the immediate proximity.</p>
PROJECT CODE:	017044
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Alan and Shelia Wallace
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	9 Earl Place, Ranfurly, Bridge of Weir, PA11 3HA
E MAIL:	rebeccashaw@archaeologist.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended)	Report to Historic Environment Scotland and Dumfries & Galloway Sites and Monuments Record and archive to Historic Environment Scotland Archives.

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