

GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Glenview, Luss
Data Structure Report
Project 3247**

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Glenview, Luss

Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Richmond Architects

NGR: NS 3580 9260

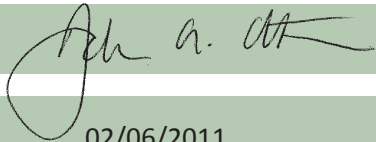
Project Number: 3247

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Report by: Iraia Arabaolaza

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Approved by:


02/06/2011

Date:

*This document has been prepared in accordance
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

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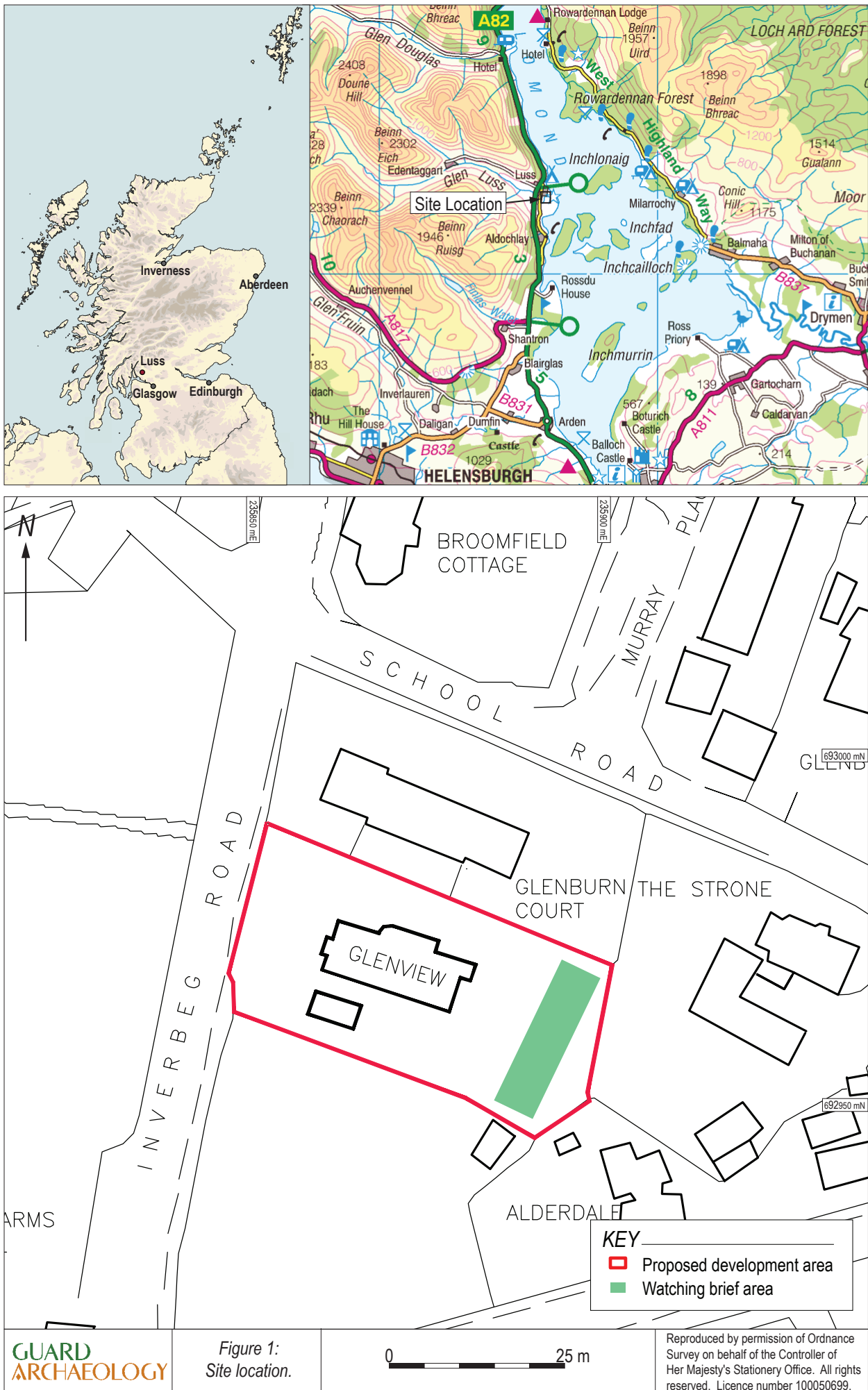
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Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Richmond Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief during a housing development in Luss, Argyll and Bute. This work was undertaken between 25- 30th May 2011 and revealed no significant archaeological features.

Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Limited, on behalf of Richmond Architects on a site proposed for the construction of houses at Glenview, Luss, Argyll and Bute. GUARD undertook this programme of work between 25-30 May 2011. During the course of the watching brief no significant archaeological features were encountered.

Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The proposed development location lies close to the centre of Luss (NGR NS 3580 9260). The development area covers approximately 144 square metres. The site is bounded by housing to the north, south and east and by the Inverbeg road to the west and currently consists of a flat back garden plot (Figure 1).
- 3.2 The underlying drift geology consists of till, while the solid geology consists of Southern highland group-pelite (www.bgs.ac.uk).

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A review of desk-based sources undertaken in advance of the watching brief revealed numerous known cultural heritage sites within a kilometre of the centre of the proposed development. None of these sites are located within the boundary of the development site. Sites recorded within the study area included one scheduled ancient monuments: St Kessog's Church and Churchyard, Luss (SAM No: 2461; NMRS NS39SE 1; WoSAS site ID: 7091). The church is dedicated to St Kessog (Chalmers, 1890) who is said to have been buried at Luss in the early part of the 6th century (Lacaille 1925). The present church of Luss was built in 1875 and succeeds a church opened for worship in 1771 which was erected on the site of a pre-Reformation chapel. The first reference to a church at Luss is in the mid-14th century, however the churchyard contains two cross-slabs, probably of 7th to 9th century in date, and a hogback of 11th century date, which suggest that there was a church on the site considerably earlier. There are the very slight remains of an earlier building immediately to the east of the existing church, which was not built until 1875 (RCAHMS 1978, visited August 1977 Orig Paroch Scot 1850; A D Lacaille 1925; J T Lang 1975).
- 4.2 Other sites of note include Tyndrum Military Road (NMRS: NS39SE 29; WoSAS site ID:21652) also known as Dumbarton-Tarbet-Inveraray-Tyndrum Military Road which lies west of the development site and is currently a road. Further south-west of the site the Colquhoun Arms Hotel (NMRS NS39SE 43) is located. South-east of the development two early to mid-19th century buildings are recorded. The closest building, known as Alderdale (NMRS NS39SE 38; WoSAS site ID: 21797; HB No: 14447) but recorded as Holly Cottage by WoSAS is a C listed building with a boundary wall. The second building, located further east is known as Holly Cottage (NMRS NS39SE 49 ; WoSAS site ID: 21786; HB No: 14425), a category B listed building. There is an extended conservation area situated east of the site known as 'Luss, burgh/village' (WoSAS site ID:12779) which was recorded as a burgh of barony in 1642 (Pryde, 1965).

Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The general aim of the watching brief was to identify any archaeological features encountered and record them fully. The specific objectives were:

- Establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains within the development area;
- Determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- Fully excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features encountered.

Methodology *(Figure 1)*

- 6.1 Topsoil was stripped using a mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. The topsoil was removed in spits to the surface of the subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon. All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, was to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork.
- 6.2 Conditions for the watching brief were variable with spells of sun and rain.

Results

- 7.1 A total area of 144 square metres was stripped of topsoil around 0.15m deep during the first day of work. Further supervision was carried out when digging the foundations of the house which revealed a light yellowy brown clayish silt with frequent pebbles and cobbles subsoil. Over the majority of the area topsoil deposits were 0.1 to 0.2 m thick and consisted of a light greyish brown clayish silt with frequent gravel. Under the topsoil (001) an intermediate garden soil (002) of light brown clayish silt with occasional cobbles was encountered, this deposit was 0.15 m thick. At the south-east corner of the development area the garden deposit (002) had frequent inclusions of modern artefacts, suggesting that this spot had been used as a rubbish dump in recent times. During the course of the watching brief no features of archaeological significance were encountered.
- 7.2 During the watching brief a background scatter of artefacts were recorded from topsoil deposits across the area, including modern ceramic, glass and plastic finds.

Discussion

- 8.1 Given that the church in Luss may have been founded much earlier than the middle of the 14th century and is likely to have been associated with a settlement prior to its formal burgh status, potential clearly existed for archaeology at this location. However, the watching brief identified no significant archaeological features relating to the use of the site. This could be due to the small area that was exposed during the ground-breaking works and significant remains may therefore exist in the general vicinity.

Recommendations

- 9.1 The watching brief work has proved that no archaeologically sensitive deposits or features exist within the development area. In consequence, it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required.
- 9.2 GUARD would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. While the recommended mitigation strategy was developed following consultation with WoSAS, final decisions on the nature and extent of any future archaeological work rest with the planning authority.

Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD would like to thank Richmond Architects for their assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by the client. Technical support was from Jen Cochrane, Aileen Maule and John Kiely. The illustrations were produced by Fiona Jackson. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology by John Atkinson.

**Glenview, Luss
Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: Bibliography

Chalmers, G 1887-94 *Caledonia: or a historical and topographical account of North Britain*, 7 vols + index Paisley Page(s): Vol.6, 907-8 Held at RCAHMS C.1.2.CHA.

Lacaille, A D 1925 'Some ancient crosses in Dumbartonshire and adjoining counties', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol.59 Page(s): 144-5

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Pryde, G S 1965 *The burghs of Scotland: a critical list*. London.

RCAHMS 1978 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. The archaeological sites and monuments of Dumbarton District, Clydebank District, Bearsden and Milngavie District, Strathclyde Region, The archaeological sites and monuments of Scotland series no 3 Edinburgh Page(s): 14, no.78 Held at RCAHMS A.1.2.ARC(3)

National Monuments Record for Scotland, www.rcahms.gov.uk

<http://bgs.ac.uk>

Appendix B: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
001	-	Light greyish brown clayish silt	Topsoil
002	-	Light brown clayish silt	Garden soil
003	-	Light yellowy brown clayish silt	Subsoil

Appendix C: DES

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll and Bute
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Glenview, Luss
PROJECT CODE:	3247
PARISH:	Luss
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Iraia Arabaolaza
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Limited.
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 3580 9260
START DATE (this season)	25 th May 2011
END DATE (this season)	30 th May 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	GUARD Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Richmond Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the housing development at Luss, Argyll and Bute. This work was undertaken between 25- 30 th May 2011 and revealed no significant archaeological features.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Richmond Architects
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	--
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	iraia.arabaolaza@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.

Appendix C: Project Design/WSI**GLENVIEW, LUSS, ARGYLL & BUTE**

WATCHING BRIEF METHOD STATEMENT

PROJECT 3247

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GLENVIEW, LUSS, ARGYLL & BUTE

WATCHING BRIEF METHOD STATEMENT

PROJECT 3247

by

John Atkinson

1.0 Introduction

This document sets out GUARD Archaeology Limited's watching brief methodology. The watching brief strategy includes monitoring of all machine dug trenches during site preparation works associated with services, roadlines, foundations and landscaping works and hand excavation and recording of any archaeological features encountered at Glenview, Luss, Argyll and Bute (planning reference: 2010/0127/DET/A).

On completion of all excavation works a report to data structures level and an accompanying post-excavation research design (PERD) and costing (if required) will be submitted for agreement with Archie Richmond Architects and West of Scotland Archaeology Service acting on behalf of Argyll & Bute Council. The PERD will also outline arrangements for final publication of the project should this prove necessary.

2.0 Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the archaeological watching brief are as follows:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains during ground breaking works;
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features/sites encountered.

3.0 Methodology

The strategy to be employed during the watching brief will consist of the following:

- All ground disturbances will be monitored by an archaeologist assisted, where necessary, by further archaeologists under the overall guidance of an archaeological project manager.
- The number of archaeologists required during the works will be dependent on the number of areas being trenched simultaneously and the number of mechanical excavators being deployed.
- All plant will be fitted with a toothless ditching bucket during all topsoil removal work to ensure the subsoil interface is not disturbed and any archaeological features can be clearly identified.
- The topsoil and any overburden will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none is found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to determine the date of the deposits, their character and extent. Such features will be recorded by written description on *pro forma* recording sheets, by photograph and by measured drawing.
- Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site archaeologist(s). Should negative-cut features be encountered they will be 50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. In the event that they are deemed to be important discoveries, they will be fully excavated. Recording will include *pro forma* sheets, drawings and photographs.
- Suitable down time, up to a maximum of two hours per significant small feature, will be provided to the on-site archaeologists in order to fully recover any archaeological evidence encountered.
- Should more substantial remains be encountered, downtime may be required in excess of two hours per feature. This will be agreed in writing with Archie Richmond Architects and West of Scotland Archaeology Service acting on behalf of Argyll & Bute Council prior to proceeding.
- In the event that particularly significant features, special finds or complex groups of features are encountered Archie Richmond Architects and West of Scotland Archaeology Service acting on behalf of Argyll & Bute Council will be alerted, so that a mitigation strategy can be agreed to deal with them.
- All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeological team. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context which are recovered from the topsoil. Should finds be encountered that are securely stratified from earlier occupation phases they will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to up-lifting.

- All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence.
- A representative section will be recorded for each section of trench denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information will be logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.

On completion of the watching brief phase of work, a report suitable for submission to the Planning Authority and the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) will be produced. This report will be accompanied by the post-excavation research design and costing in order to bring the results forward for analysis and publication should this be required.

4.0 Products

The products of a programme of work can be:

- a preliminary data structure report, after completion of all fieldwork suitable for submission to West of Scotland Archaeology Service, the NMRS and the local Sites and Monuments Record.
- a brief summary of results of the fieldwork will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*
- Post-excavation and publication of the results of the watching brief within an academic journal, should this be necessary.
- Preparation and disposal of the site archive and finds.

5.0 Archive Arrangements

Once all fieldwork is completed, all materials from the programme of work will be prepared to the appropriate archive standard. GUARD Archaeology Limited will undertake to deposit the resultant archive to the NMRS on completion of the report for publication.

All finds will be reported to the Treasure Trove Advisory Panel, and GUARD Archaeology Limited will undertake to ensure their safe deposition within the designated museum at the appropriate time.

6.0 Timetable

The project is estimated to commence in late January 2011 and a report will be completed within three weeks of the completion of fieldwork. Should archaeology be encountered a PERD will be prepared and submitted within three months of agreement of the data structures report and any final publication will be submitted within a year of agreement to the PERD.

7.0 Staffing

The initial phase of work will be directed by one of GUARD's experienced Project Officers. A CV will be appended to this method statement once a start date is confirmed.

8.0 Health and Safety and Insurance

8.1

All archaeological working practices will be subject to a risk assessment prior to commencement of the work where likely health and safety issues associated with the site can be highlighted.

8.2

GUARD Archaeology Limited adheres to all standard Health and Safety regulations governing fieldwork projects and possesses appropriate third party/public liability insurance cover, proof of which may be supplied upon request.

9.0 Monitoring Procedures

All work at Glenview, Luss will be internally monitored by John Atkinson, Managing Director of GUARD Archaeology Limited.

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