

# GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Peel Road, Thorntonhall  
Archaeological Evaluation  
Project 3265**

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## **Peel Road, Thorntonhall**

### **Archaeological Evaluation**

**On behalf of:** CALA Homes (West) Ltd

**NGR:** NS 588 560 (centred)

**Project Number:** 3265

**Project Manager:** Ronan Toolis

**Report by:** Christine Rennie

**Illustrations:** Fiona Jackson

**Approved by:**



**Date:**

28/03/2011

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

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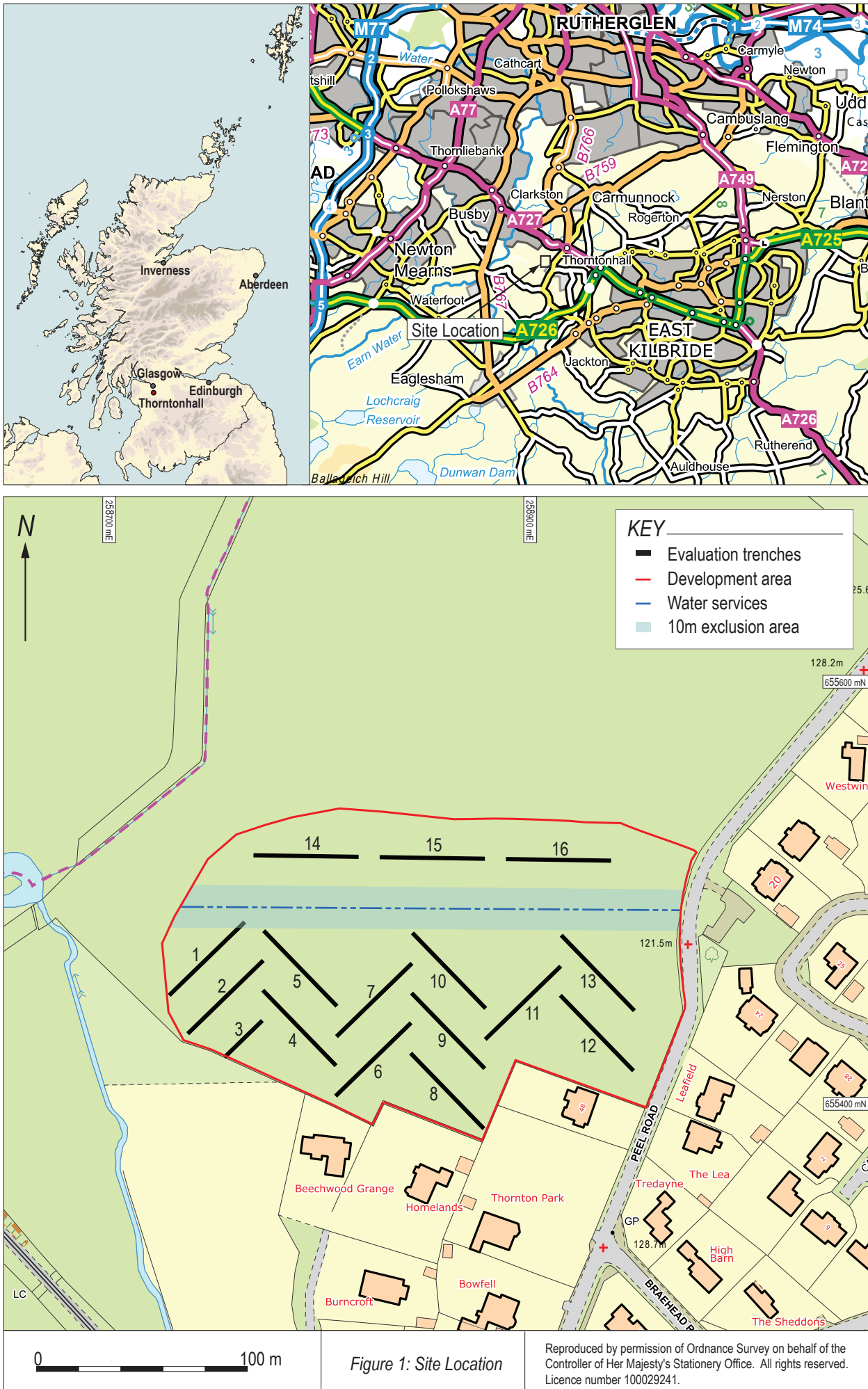
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## Executive Summary

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out by GUARD Archaeology Ltd on behalf of CALA Homes (West) Ltd, of an area proposed for development at Peel Road, Thorntonhall, South Lanarkshire. The trial trench evaluation investigated 8% of the total area of the development. No significant archaeological features, remains or artefacts were encountered during this work.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation of a proposed development area at Thorntonhall, undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd, on behalf of CALA Homes (West) Ltd. This work was undertaken in order to meet Planning Condition 4 (Reference: EK/10/0283) and accords with the Written Scheme.

## Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The proposed development location lies immediately north-west of Thorntonhall, South Lanarkshire (centred at NGR NS 588 560). The 1.94 ha development area is bounded to the east by Peel Road, to the south by a residential area, and to the north and west by fields. Topographically, the development area slopes down from south-west to north-east, and a marked rise in the ground lies immediately south of Beechwood Grange, with the ground sloping down steeply from that point to the north, west and east (Figure 1). The land is currently pasture.
- 3.2 The underlying superficial geology consists of Devensian till of the Quaternary period, while the bedrock is sedimentary Kirkwood Formation of Carboniferous age (<http://digimap.edina.ac.uk>).

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 While no archaeological remains have been identified within the development area, previous investigation in 2004 of greenfield land on the opposite side of Peel Road, revealed hitherto unknown archaeological remains. This previous archaeological evaluation uncovered a single plough-damaged cremation burial pit located on an area of higher ground at the north end of the field. The pottery recovered from the burial appeared to be of Middle to Late Bronze Age date and was similar to Collared Urn types. The flat area of the knoll was subsequently stripped of topsoil and the burial completely excavated. There was no evidence that the burial was contained within an enclosure or that it was part of a larger cemetery, but two small pits were located close to the burial (Coleman 2004, 124).
- 4.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment and survey (WoSAS Event ID: 1411) was previously undertaken along sections of the White Cart Water, Kitch Water and Earn Water, including the area to the immediate west of the development area (Shearer 2003). No archaeological remains were identified within the development area by this assessment. A further archaeological investigation, comprising desk-based assessment, survey and watching brief (WoSAS Event ID: 1036; NMRS No: NS55NE 238), was previously undertaken to the north of the development area in advance of the southern orbital road link to the M77 (Halliday 1996; Halliday 1997; Wilson, 2003). Again no archaeological remains were identified in close proximity to the development area.
- 4.3 The earliest map to depict the development area in any detail is Roy's map of 1747-55, which shows it as open arable land. Subsequent maps such as Ross' map of 1773, Richardson's map of 1795, Forrest's map of 1816, and the Ordnance Survey maps of 1858-1925 similarly depict the development area as agricultural land.
- 4.4 Nevertheless, given the evidence for prehistoric burials within the surrounding area, the evaluation had the potential to encounter similar previously unknown archaeological remains.



## Aims and Objectives

5.1 The evaluation aimed to establish the presence or absence of archaeological resources within the proposed development area under targeted archaeological evaluation. The specific objectives were:-

- to evaluate 8% of the development area by machine-cut trial trench evaluation;
- to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains;
- to determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- to establish whether there are any archaeological issues resulting from the proposed development and recommend how they may be addressed.

## Methodology

- 6.1 The programme of archaeological works was to commence with an 8 % evaluation of the 1.94 ha development area (ie 1,552 m<sup>2</sup>), comprising 15 trenches, each measuring 50 m x 2 m and one trench measuring 26 m x 2 m (See Figure 1).
- 6.2 All trenches were to be excavated by mechanical excavator, utilizing a toothless ditching bucket under direct supervision of an archaeologist, down to the first archaeological horizon or to natural, whichever is encountered first. The depth of stratigraphy apparent in all trenches was to be recorded.
- 6.3 A proportion of any minor or locally significant archaeological features encountered were to be sample excavated. All finds were to be recovered and a bulk soil sampling strategy was to be adopted for discrete negative features as exposed within trenches. All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, was to be to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork.
- 6.4 If features of regional or national archaeological significance were found within the evaluation trenches then further phases of work to mitigate the archaeologically adverse effects of the development would be required, subject to further discussion with WoSAS, on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council.
- 6.5 Should significant archaeological remains be identified, Stage 2 would involve the implementation of appropriate archaeological mitigation measures, which may consist of further evaluation and/or excavation and recording of features that will be destroyed by development works. Stage 3 would include suitable post-excavation analysis, reporting, and publication of discovered archaeological remains, if appropriate.

## Results

- 7.1 Sixteen trenches were excavated, totalling 1,552 m<sup>2</sup> or 8% of the development area. The full details of the results are set out in Appendix A, while the full photographic list is set out in Appendix B.
- 7.2 Thirteen trenches were excavated in a herringbone pattern across the southern half of the development area, with a line of three trenches on the north side of the water services (Figure 1).
- 7.3 The topsoil in all 16 trenches comprised reddish brown silty clay (See Plate 1), with a depth that varied between 0.24 m and 0.66 m. The subsoil was weathered boulder clay that ranged in

colour from orange/brown to yellow/grey (See Plate 2). Three modern linear rubble-filled drains were found to have been cut into the subsoil. No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.

- 7.4 A background scatter of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery was noted in the topsoil. None of these artefacts were significant and were not collected.



Plate 1: Section through deposits in Trench 11.



Plate 2: Post-excavation view of Trench 16.

## Discussion

- 8.1 Given the previous discovery of a Bronze Age cremation urn and two pits approximately 200 m to the north-east, it was considered that similar archaeological remains could potentially survive within the proposed development area. The location of this prehistoric cremation burial on higher ground was particularly noteworthy, as the current evaluation took place on topographically similar terrain. Furthermore, aside from the open drain running east/west across the development area and the three modern rubble field drains, the subsoil encountered did not appear to have been heavily disturbed. The small amount of modern pottery observed was found exclusively in the topsoil, suggesting that little ploughing had taken place over the field. If any similar archaeological remains had been present it would therefore be expected that these would be relatively intact. However, no such archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation of the proposed development area.

## Conclusions

- 9.1 No archaeological remains were encountered during the evaluation of the proposed development area at Peel Road, Thorntonhall. It is therefore unlikely that South Lanarkshire Council will require any further stages of archaeological mitigation work for this development area. It is proposed that the final publication of the evaluation will be in the annual round up of archaeological fieldwork in Scotland, *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2011* (see Appendix D).
- 9.2 GUARD would stress that this advice is intended for guidance only. Final decisions on the requirement and scope for any future archaeological work rest with the planning authority.

## Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD would like to thank Jillian Gelston of CALA Homes (West) Ltd for her assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by Brown Plant. Technical support was provided by Aileen Maule and John Kiely. Illustrations were produced by Fiona Jackson. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed by Ronan Toolis.



**Peel Road, Thorntonhall  
Archaeological Evaluation**

**Section 2: Appendices**



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## Appendices

### Appendix A: References

#### Bibliographic references

Coleman, R 2004 'Laigh Braehead, Thorntonhall cremation urn burial', in *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol.5, 124.

Forrest, W 1816 *The county of Lanark from actual survey*.

Halliday, S 1996 An archaeological assessment and survey for the M77 Glasgow Southern Orbital, Stage 2, unpublished GUARD report.

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#### Cartographic references

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Ross, C 1773 *A new map of the Shire of Lanark*.

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland*.

Shearer, I 2003 *White Cart Water: A Cultural Heritage Assessment*, unpublished GUARD report.

Wilson, D 2003 'Glasgow Southern Orbital', in *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol.4, 65.

### Appendix B: Trench Descriptions

Tr No	Length	Width	Depth	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
1	50	2.0	0.33	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.28m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
2	50	2.0	0.24	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.22m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
3	26	2.0	0.32	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles and occasional boulders. 0.29m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
4	50	2.0	0.42	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.40m thick	Yellow/brown/grey weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains

Tr No	Length	Width	Depth	Topsoil/Overburden	Subsoil	Details
5	50	2.0	0.31	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.28m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
6	50	2.0	0.38	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.32m thick	Brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
7	50	2.0	0.36	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.31m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
8	50	2.0	0.31	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. Quite wet at SE corner of trench. 0.30m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
9	50	2.0	0.66	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.49m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
10	50	2.0	0.34	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.27m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
11	50	2.0	0.32	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.26m thick	Yellow/brown/ weathered boulder clay. Includes cobbles and boulders	No archaeological remains
12	50	2.0	0.46	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.39m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
13	50	2.0	0.29	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.26m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
14	50	2.0	0.38	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.31m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
15	50	2.0	0.44	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.37m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains
16	50	2.0	0.43	Red/brown silty clay with pebbles. 0.38m thick	Yellow/brown/orange weathered boulder clay.	No archaeological remains

## Appendix C: Site Records

### List of Photographs

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	ID shot	-
2	Tr1	-	Post-excavation view of Trench 1	SW
3	Tr1	01001-002	South-east facing section of Trench 1	S
4	Tr2	02002	Post-excavation view of Trench 2	SW
5	Tr2	02001-002	North-west facing section of Trench 2	W
6	Tr3	03002	Post-excavation view of Trench 3	SW
7	Tr3	03001-002	North-west facing section of Trench 3	W
8	Tr4	04002	Post-excavation view of Trench 4	SE
9	Tr4	04001-002	South-west facing section of Trench 4	W
10	Tr5	05002	Post-excavation view of Trench 5	SE

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
11	Tr5	05001-002	South-west facing section of Trench 5	W
12	Tr6	06002	Post-excavation view of Trench 6	SW
13	Tr6	06001-002	North-west facing section of Trench 6	N
14	Tr7	07002	Post-excavation view of Trench 7	SW
15	Tr7	07001-002	North-west facing section of Trench 7	N
16	Tr8	08002	Post-excavation view of Trench 8	SE
17	Tr8	08001-002	South-west facing section of Trench 8	SW
18	Tr9	09002	Post-excavation view of Trench 9	SE
19	Tr9	09001-002	South-west facing section of Trench 9	W
20	Tr10	10002	Post-excavation view of Trench 10	SW
21	Tr10	10001-002	North-east facing section of Trench 10	N
22	Tr11	11002	Post-excavation view of Trench 11	SW
23	Tr11	11001-002	North-east facing section of Trench 11	N
24	Tr12	12002	Post-excavation view of Trench 12	NW
25	Tr12	12001-002	North-east facing section of Trench 12	E
26	Tr13	13002	Post-excavation view of Trench 13	SE
27	Tr13	13001-002	North-east facing section of Trench 13	E
28	Tr14	14002	South facing section of Trench 14	SE
29	Tr14	14001-002	Post-excavation view of Trench 14	E
30	Tr15	15002	Post-excavation view of Trench 15	E
31	Tr15	15001-002	South facing section of Trench 15	SW
32	Tr16	16002	Post-excavation view of Trench 16	E
33	Tr16	16001-002	South facing section of Trench 16	SW

## Appendix D: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	South Lanarkshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Peel Road, Thorntonhall
PROJECT CODE:	3265
PARISH:	East Kilbride
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Christine Rennie
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 588 554
START DATE (this season)	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2011
END DATE (this season)	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Due to the proximity of a prehistoric burial previously found within the surrounding area, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd of an area proposed for development at Peel Road, Thorntonhall, South Lanarkshire. The trial trench evaluation investigated 8% of the development area. No significant archaeological features, remains or artefacts were encountered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CALA Homes (West) Ltd
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	GUARD Archaeology Limited, 52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	christine.rennie@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive will be deposited with NMRS.

## Appendix E: Written Scheme of Investigation

### **GUARD 3265: Peel Road, Thorntonhall Written Scheme of Investigation** **Planning Reference: EK/10/0283**

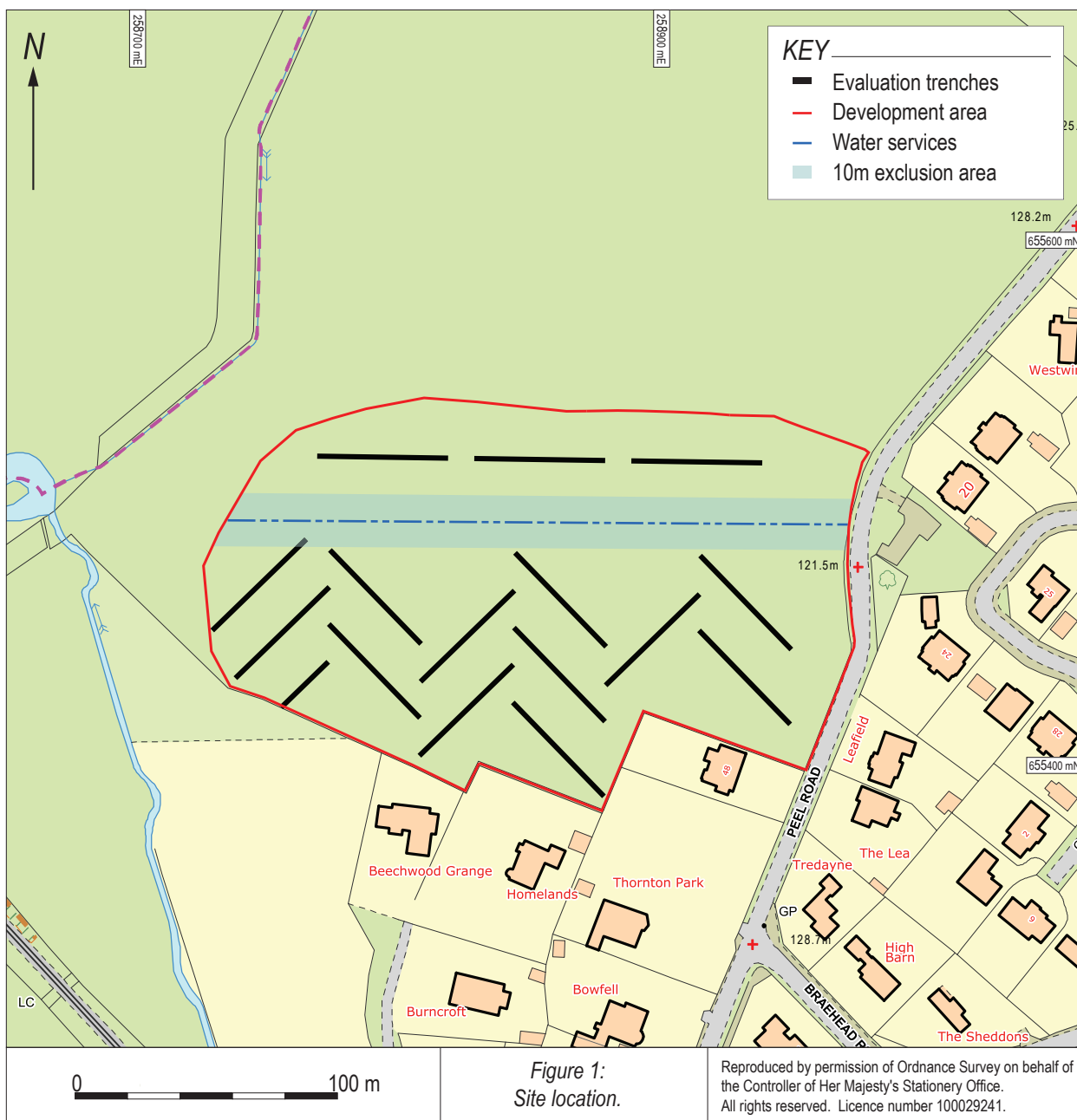
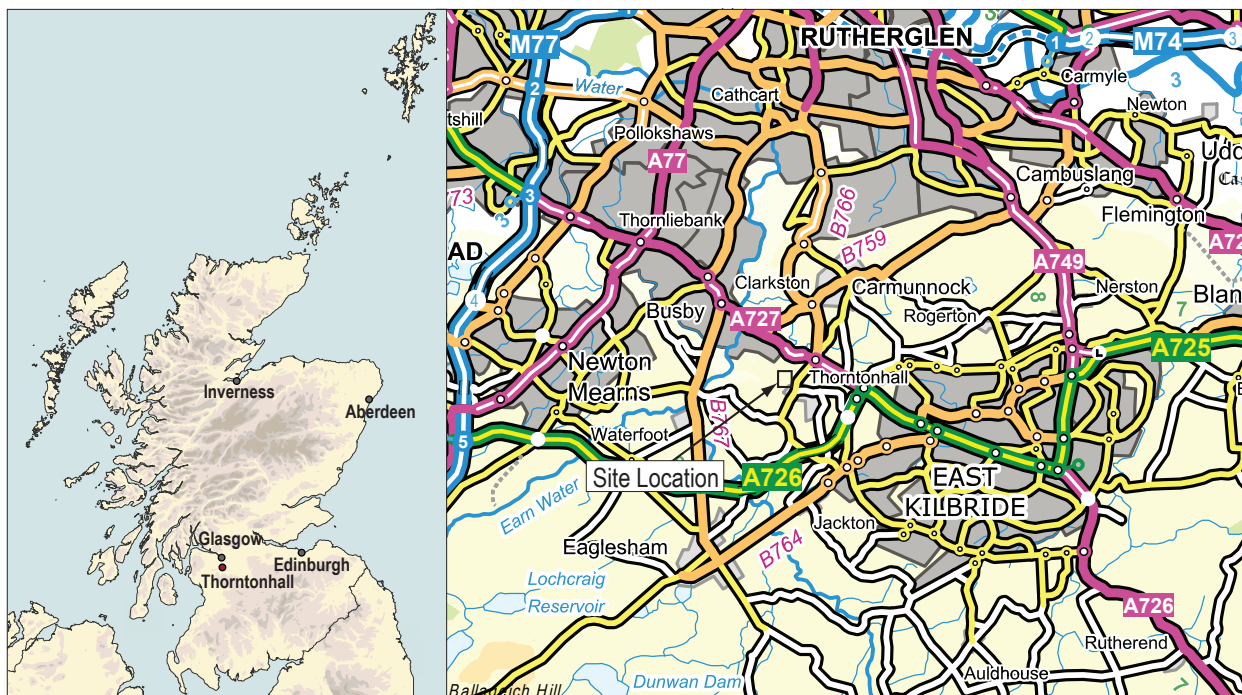
#### **Introduction**

- 1.1 This document sets out a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a phased programme of archaeological works for the proposed development of the site known as 3265: Peel Road, Thorntonhall. In the first instance, an evaluation of the site will be undertaken to establish whether any significant archaeological remains are associated with the site. Should significant remains be identified and it is not possible to preserve them *in-situ* a further requirement for archaeological works to ensure their preservation through record is likely to be pursued.
- 1.2 This WSI outlines the entirety of the programme of archaeological works that may be needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed development. It details the methodology to be employed in implementing the Stage 1 archaeological works. The mitigation methodology to be employed during Stage 2 and Stage 3 post excavation analysis and publication, will be specified in *addenda* to this document. These *addenda*, if required, will be submitted for agreement of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) acting on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council, prior to the commencement of any archaeological work. All phases of work will be funded by the developer as required by the Planning Authority.

#### **Site Location and Archaeological Background**

- 2.1 The proposed development area requiring evaluation covers 1.94 ha and is located to the immediate north- west of Thorntonhall (centred at NGR: NS 588 560; Figure 1). The proposed site is bounded to the east by Peel Road, to the south by a residential area and the north and west by fields.
- 2.2 While no archaeological remains have been identified within the development area, previous investigation in 2004 of greenfield land to the immediate east of the development area, on the opposite side of Peel Road, revealed hitherto unknown archaeological remains. This previous archaeological evaluation (NMRS No: NS55NE 246; WoSAS Site IDs: 1436 & 52392) was undertaken in January and February 2004 in advance of a housing development., While the majority of the 25 trenches excavated across the site contained only modern field drains, a single plough-damaged cremation burial pit was located on an area of higher ground at the north end of the field. The pottery recovered from the burial appeared to be of Middle to Late Bronze Age date and was similar to Collared Urn types. The flat area of the knoll was subsequently stripped of topsoil and the burial completely excavated. There was no evidence that the burial was contained within an enclosure or that it was part of a larger cemetery, but two small pits were located close to the burial (Coleman 2004, 124).
- 2.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment and survey (WoSAS Event ID: 1411) was previously undertaken along sections of the White Cart Water, Kittoch water and Earn Water, including the area to the immediate west of the development area (Shearer 2003). No archaeological remains were identified within the development area by this assessment. Another archaeological investigation, comprising desk-based assessment, survey and watching brief (WoSAS Event ID: 1036; NMRS No: NS55NE 238), was previously undertaken to the north of the development area in advance of the southern orbital road link to the M77 (Halliday 1996; Halliday 1997; Wilson, 2003). Again no archaeological remains were identified in close proximity to the development area by this investigation.
- 2.4 The earliest map to show the development area in sufficient detail is Roy's map of 1747-55, which shows it as open arable land. Subsequent maps such as Ross' map of 1773, Richardson's map of 1795, Forrest's map of 1816, and the Ordnance Survey maps of 1858-1925 similarly depict the development area as agricultural land.





- 2.5 Nevertheless, given the evidence for potential prehistoric burials within the surrounding area, the evaluation has the potential to encounter similar previously unknown archaeological remains.

## Planning Background

- 3.1 This WSI has been drafted in response to Planning Condition 4, which requires an archaeological evaluation of the development area.

## Aims

- 4.1 The aims and objectives of archaeological works are as follows:
- evaluate 8 % of the development area by machine-cut trial trench excavation;
  - establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains;
  - determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
  - establish whether there are any archaeological issues resulting from the proposed development and recommend how they may be addressed.

## Methodology

- 5.1 The programme of archaeological works will commence with an 8 % evaluation of the 1.94 ha development area (ie 1,552 m<sup>2</sup>), comprising 15 trenches, each measuring 50 m x 2 m and one trench measuring 26 m x 2 m (See Figure 1).
- 5.2 All trenches will be excavated by mechanical excavator, utilizing a toothless ditching bucket under direct supervision of an archaeologist, down to the first archaeological horizon or to natural, whichever is encountered first. The depth of stratigraphy apparent in all trenches will be recorded.
- 5.3 A proportion of any minor or locally significant archaeological features encountered will be sample excavated. All finds will be recovered and a bulk soil sampling strategy will be adopted for discrete negative features as exposed within trenches. All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, will be to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork.
- 5.4 If features of regional or national archaeological significance are found within the evaluation trenches then further phases of work to mitigate the archaeologically adverse effects of the development may be required, subject to further discussion with WoSAS, on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council.
- 5.5 Should significant archaeological remains be identified, Stage 2 will involve the implementation of appropriate archaeological mitigation measures, which may consist of further evaluation and/or excavation and recording of features that will be destroyed by development works. Stage 3 will include suitable post-excavation analysis, reporting, and publication of discovered archaeological remains, if appropriate.

## Reporting

- 6.1 Following the completion of the evaluation fieldwork, an illustrated Data Structure Report will be produced within four weeks of the completion of fieldwork, detailing the results of the fieldwork and including recommendations for mitigation measures appropriate to any remains encountered by the evaluation. Hard and digital copies of the evaluation report will be produced and copies lodged, as a minimum, with the client, WoSAS and the National Monuments Record for Scotland. Subject to significant archaeology being encountered requiring Stage 2 Works, a Post-Excavation Research Design (PERD) will be submitted to WoSAS within three months of

agreement to the Data Structure Report and any final publication will be submitted within a year of agreement to the PERD.

- 6.2 GUARD will also implement the standards and requirements of the Archaeological Standard Protocol for the Integrated Reporting of Events (ASPIRE), Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) and *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*.

## Archive, Small Finds and Human Remains

- 7.1 The resultant site archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Records for Scotland within six months of the completion of all work. Any small finds recovered will be declared to the Crown Agent in accordance with Scots Law, and if claimed, will be transferred to the appointed museum. In the unlikely event that human remains are encountered during the evaluation, the local police and the client will be notified immediately and no further work will take place on site until agreement on how to proceed has been reached with all parties.

## Timetable and Staffing

- 8.1 It is proposed that the fieldwork will commence on Monday 31 January and be completed by 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011. Maureen Kilpatrick, a qualified and experienced GUARD Archaeologist will supervise the evaluation. The site mobile phone number will be notified to WoSAS and the client prior to work commencing.

## Health & Safety and Insurance

- 9.1 GUARD will conduct the evaluation in accordance with Health and Safety legislation and with the guidelines and standards governing archaeological fieldwork set down in the IFA approved Health and Safety in Archaeological Fieldwork document prepared by SCAUM. Prior to fieldwork commencing a risk assessment of the project will be undertaken, giving rise to a project-specific safety plan. GUARD also possess all necessary insurance cover, including employer's and public liability insurance cover, proofs of which will be supplied upon request.

## Bibliographic and Cartographic References

Coleman, R 2004 'Laigh Braehead, Thorntonhall cremation urn burial', in *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol.5, 124.

Forrest, W 1816 *The county of Lanark from actual survey*.

Halliday, S 1996 An archaeological assessment and survey for the M77 Glasgow Southern Orbital, Stage 2, unpublished GUARD report.

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