

GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Burnswark, Lockerbie
Data Structure Report
Project 3720**

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Burnswark, Lockerbie

Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Scottish Water

NGR: NY 187 787

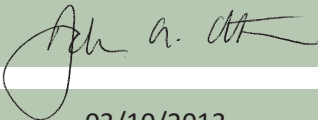
Project Number: 3720

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03/10/2013

Date:

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

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Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Scottish Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief and metal detector survey during the proposed work associated with Blackesk-Douglashall SR to Burnswark SR. This work was undertaken between 26th June and 3rd September 2013 and revealed no significant archaeological remains or finds.

Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief and metal detector survey undertaken by GUARD Archaeology, on behalf of Scottish Water and in consultation with Historic Scotland and the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeologist on a site proposed for the replacement of water pipes at Blackesk-Douglashall SR to Burnswark SR, Dumfries and Galloway. During the course of the watching brief and metal detector survey no significant archaeological remains or finds were discovered. GUARD Archaeology undertook this programme of work between 26th June 2013 and 3rd September 2013 (OASIS reference: guardarc1-159150).

Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The development area includes the scheduled monument associated with Burnswark or Birrenswark Hill, fort and Roman camps (NGR NY 187 787), located south-east of Lockerbie. The proposed development location lies along a corridor that runs parallel to Douglashall Road, deviates to the north-east and passes the northern side of the earthwork at Burnswark Cottage, prior to skirting the northern edge of the three brethren Roman batteries at the Roman south camp and ultimately heading north to the pre-existing reservoir (NGR NY 187 787) (Plate 1). The site currently consists of rough pasture (Figure 1).
- 3.2 The underlying drift geology has not been recorded, while the solid geology consists of Lower Paleozoic Rocks (undifferentiated) (www.bgs.ac.uk).



Plate 1: Working shot showing part of the south fort and two of the three brethren.

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The development corridor lies between Burnswark Hill and the southern camp and siege works associated with the Roman army (SAM number: 667). Much of the area in question lies within the scheduled area (Canmore ID: 66626) and includes a range of monuments: cairn; earthworks, fort; settlement; Roman fortlet and temporary camp and siege works to name but a few. Also apparent were a number of significant artefacts, including a stone axe (Canmore ID: 66627) and a flanged bronze axe head (Canmore ID: 72512) recovered from within the area and there is even some suggestion of a possible early medieval cemetery (Canmore ID: 72884) being present. Excavations conducted in the 1890s (Barbour 1899) and in the 1960s and 1970s (Jobey 1978) in and around the hill fort have provided an enormous amount of additional evidence, which all point towards this being a complex and highly significant site.

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,
- Excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features encountered,
- Preserve by record any archaeological features identified during the development process.

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. A metal detector survey was then carried out on the spoil formed by the strip. Same methodology was used for the entirety of the work which included: eleven test pits (TP), five trenches (TR) and the development corridor. The measurements of the test pits and trenches varied between 0.7 m by 0.5 m and 1.5m by 0.4 m for test pits to 2.5 m to 5 m in length by 1 m in wide for the trenches. All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, was to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork. The development work was surveyed and located within the National Grid using a Sub-metre DGPS- Magellan Mobilemapper CX.

6.2 Conditions for the watching brief were mostly dry but overcast.

Results

7.1 A total area of 380 metre square was stripped of topsoil to reveal loose light brown silt. Over the majority of the area topsoil deposits were 0.18 to 0.3 m thick. It overlay a layer of mid-brown silt with occasional patches of orange clayish silt hill wash between 0.2 m-0.6 m thick. The subsoil consisted mostly of pink clay with moderate inclusions of boulders (Plate 2). During the course of the watching brief no features of archaeological significance were encountered.



Plate 2: SE facing section.

7.2 During the watching brief and the metal detector survey no artefacts were recovered from topsoil deposits across the area.

Discussion

- 8.1 The watching brief identified no significant archaeological features or finds relating to the use of the site during the Roman period or any other prehistoric/historic period. The lack of evidence is probably being the result of previous disturbance during the installation of water pipes in the 1960s.

Recommendations

- 9.1 The watching brief work has proved that no archaeologically sensitive deposits or features exist within the portions of development area that were opened. In consequence, it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required.
- 9.2 GUARD Archaeology would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. While the recommended mitigation strategy was developed following consultation with John Malcolm of Historic Scotland and Andrew Nicholson, archaeologist of Dumfries and Galloway Council. Final decisions on the nature and extent of any future archaeological work rest with Historic Scotland and the planning authority.

Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology would like to thank Simon Brassey of Scottish Water, John Malcolm of Historic Scotland and Andrew Nicholson of Dumfries and Galloway Council for their assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by MAP. Technical support was from Aileen Maule and John Kiely. The illustrations were produced by Gillian McSwan. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology Limited by John Atkinson.

**Burnswark, Lockerbie
Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: Bibliography

Barbour, J 1899 Account of the excavation of the camps and earthworks at Birrenswark Hill, in Annandale, undertaken by the society in 1898, (II) Account of the Excavations and Description of the Plans and Sections, *Proc Soc Antiq Scot* 33, 219-43.

Jobey, G 1978 Burnswark Hill, Dumfriesshire, *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist & Antiq Soc* (3rd series) LIII, 57-104.

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

[http:// www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)

Appendix B: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
001	-	Light brown silt	Topsoil
002	-	Orange/light brown clay	Subsoil
003	-	Reddish brown silt	Intermediate
004	-	Mid brown with occasional patches of orange clayish silt	Hillwash
005	-	Pink silty clay with angular boulders	Subsoil
006	-	Light grey brown gravelly clay	Subsoil
007	-	Light grey pinkish silty clay	Subsoil
008	-	Light orangey brown clayish silt	Intermediate
009	-	Yellowish brown silty clay	Intermediate

Appendix C: List of Photographs

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	ID shot	-
2	TP1	-	TP1 post-ex	-
3	TP2	-	TP2 post-ex	-
4	TP3	-	TP3 post-ex	-
5	TP4	-	TP4 post-ex	-
6	TP5	-	TP5 post-ex	-
7	TP7	-	TP7 post-ex	-
8	TP8	-	TP8 post-ex	-
9	TP6	-	TP6 post-ex	-
10	-	-	General shot of hill fort	-
11	-	-	Roman road	NW
12	-	-	Three Brethern and earthwork	SW
13	-	-	Earthwork S of three Brethern	W
14	-	-	Roman fort	NNE
15	-	-	Roman fort	NE
16	-	-	Existing vehicle tracks on west of SAM	W
17	-	-	Existing vehicle tracks on west of SAM	S
18	-	-	Existing vehicle tracks on south of SAM	S
19	-	-	Existing vehicle tracks on south of SAM	SE
20	TP9	-	Pre-ex of test pit 9	E
21	TP9	9001/9002	Post ex of TP9	NW
22	TR1	-	Post ex of TR1	S
23	TR1	-	Post ex of field drain	W
24	TR1	-	Post ex	S
25	TR1	-	Post ex	W
26	TR2	-	Post ex	W

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
27	TR2	-	Post ex	S
28	TR1/ TR3	-	Extension to S of TR1	S
29	TR1/ TR3	-	To S field drain and pipe	W
30	TR1/ TR3	-	Backfill	S
31	TR4	-	Location of pipe at 500 m chainage	W
32	TR4	-	Location of pipe and valve location	S
33	TR5	-	Tank- pipe exsiting from valve	W
34	TR5	-	Pipe- general	SW
35	TR5	-	Location of pipe	W
36	TR5	-	Location of pipe with tank	W
37	TR5	-	General pipe	SW
38	TR5	-	Pipe and fence round tank	N
39	TR5	-	General location/view	N
40	TR5	-	Tank and view	W
41	TP11	-	Pre-ex of location for TP11	S
42	TP11	-	Post-ex of TP11	SE
43	TP11	-	SE facing section	SE
44	ch1630-1730	-	S facing section	S
45	ch1630-1730	-	Working shot	W
46	ch1630-1730	-	Working shot	W
47	ch1630-1730	-	Post-ex of pipe trench ch1630 to circa ch1730	E
48	ch1730-ch1880	-	S facing section	S
49	ch1730-ch1880	-	Post-ex of pipe trench	E
50	ch1730-ch1880	-	Post-ex of pipe trench	E
51	ch1730-ch1880	-	Post-ex of pipe trench	E
52	ch1880-ch1910	-	Working shot (chainage approximate)	E
53	ch1880-ch1910	-	Working shot (chainage approximate)	E
54	ch1880-ch1910	004/005	S facing section	S
55	ch1960?	001/004/006	SE facing section	SE
56	ch1910/ch1980	-	Working shot	SW
57	ch1910/ch1980	-	Working shot shows slope	SW
58	ch2000	-	Working shot	NE
59	ch2000	-	Working shot showing three Brethens	SW
60	circa ch2050	001/004/007/008	SE facing section	SE
61	circa ch2050	-	Working shot (shows cut for pipe)	S
62	circa ch2100	-	Post ex of pipe trench	S
63	In front of second Brethen	-	SE facing section	SE
64	In front of second Brethen	-	Working shot (third Brethen and fort)	S
65	ch2300	-	SE facing section	S
66	ch2300	-	SE facing section	SE
67	ch2380	-	Working shot	NE
68	ch2450	-	Pre-ex on area where new track will go	NE
69	ch2450-ch2500	-	NNE facing section	NNE
70	-	-	Removal of turf in strip towards water mains	SE
71	-	-	SE facing section	SE
72	-	-	Area stripped 2-09-13	NW
73	-	-	Excavation at extant water tank	SE
74	-	-	Excavation at extant water tank	N
75	-	-	Excavation at extant water tank	N
76	-	-	Working shot	SE
77	ch2500	-	Chainage 2500 section NW facing	NW
78	ch2500	-	Chainage 2500 section NW facing	NW
79	-	-	Working shot ch 2500	SE
80	-	-	Connecting valve to S of water tank ch 2500	S

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
81	-	-	To S of connecting valve	W
82	-	-	To S of connecting valve	W
83	-	-	Shot of trench towards water tank	E
84	-	-	Shot of trench towards water tank	E
85	-	-	Shot of trench to N of woodland	W
86	-	-	Trench around connection valve at water tank	E
87	-	-	Trench to north of woodland	E

Appendix D: Discovery And Excavation Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Burnswark, Lockerbie
PROJECT CODE:	3720
PARISH:	Hoddum
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Iraia Arabaolaza
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Guard Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NY17NE 2
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Scheduled Ancient monument including: cairn, earthworks, fort, Roman fortlet, settlement and Roman temporary camps
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NY 186 787
START DATE (this season)	26th June 2013
END DATE (this season)	3rd September 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	GUARD Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Scottish Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief and metal detector survey during the proposed work associated with Blackesk-Douglashall SR to Burnswark SR. This work was undertaken between 26th June and 3rd September 2013 on the Scheduled Ancient monument known as Burnswark or Birrenswark Hill and revealed no significant archaeological remains or finds.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	--
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	52 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 E: Written Scheme of Investigation**BLACKESK-DOUGLASHALL SR to
BURNSWARK SR**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 3720

Executive Summary

- 1.1 This document sets out a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief to be conducted as part of the proposed works associated with Blackesk-Douglashall SR to Burnswark SR. This WSI has been prepared on behalf of Scottish Water in consultation with Historic Scotland and the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeologist who advises Dumfries and Galloway Council on archaeological matters. The WSI includes monitoring of all ground breaking works associated with the project (including test trenching and any works within the scheduled areas at Burnswark) and hand excavation and recording of any archaeological features encountered

Introduction

- 2.1 This WSI sets out the scope and methodology for the proposed archaeological watching brief for the proposed works at Blackesk-Douglashall SR to Burnswark SR, Dumfries and Galloway. An archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during all ground breaking works associated with the construction programme. The aim of the watching brief is to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains. 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 required. This WSI has been prepared following consultation with Historic Scotland and the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeologist.

Site Location

- 3.1 The development area includes the scheduled monument associated with Burnswark or Birrenswark Hill, fort and Roman camps (NGR: NY 187 787). The proposed works will be focused along a corridor that runs parallel to Douglashall Road, deviates to the north-east and passes the northern side of the earthwork at Burnswark Cottage, prior to skirting the northern edge of the three brethren Roman batteries at the camp and ultimately heading north to the pre-existing reservoir (see drawings 46579DB-CM-001-002-003-1/3/4/5).

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The development corridor lies between Burnswark Hill and the southern camp and siege works associated with the Roman army. Much of the area in question lies with the scheduled area (Canmore ID 66626) and includes a range of monuments: cairn; fort; settlement; Roman fort and camp and siege works to name but a few. Also apparent were a number of significant artefacts, including a stone axe and a flanged bronze recovered from within the area and there is even some suggestion of a cemetery being present. Excavations in and around the hill fort have provided an enormous amount of additional evidence, which all point towards this being a complex and highly significant site.

Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The main aim of the archaeological watching brief is to ensure that important archaeological remains are not destroyed without first being properly recorded. Therefore 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.
 - Preserve by record any archaeological features identified during the construction process

Watching Brief Methodology

6.1 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. This will include: groundwork associated with site clearance of undisturbed ground, excavation of inspection or test pits within the scheduled area and within its close proximity or excavation of any sections of trench or valve access if either is necessary. In addition if sections through upstanding banks are necessary to permit access these will also need to be monitored and fully recorded.
- The number of archaeologists required during the works will be dependent on the extent of the ground works being undertaken simultaneously and the number of mechanical excavators or hand excavation teams being deployed.
- All plant (if used) will be fitted with a toothless ditching bucket for removal of any previously undisturbed overburden layers to ensure the subsoil interface is not disturbed and any archaeological features can be clearly identified. A toothed bucket may be used for previously disturbed layers.
- 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 these will be fully excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. Recording will include *pro forma* sheets, drawings and photographs.
- All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence. This may also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues on soil development.
- 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 the client, Historic Scotland and where appropriate the Planning Authority archaeologist prior to proceeding.
- In the event that significant features, special finds or complex groups of features are encountered the client and Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council will be alerted, so that a mitigation strategy/contingency can be agreed to deal with them.
- In the event of human burials being discovered, the archaeologist will procure and comply with all statutory consents and licences. Where any part of a human burial is disturbed, the whole burial must be archaeologically excavated. Specialist advice and support must be provided as appropriate.

Report Preparation and Contents

7.1 A report detailing the results of the archaeological fieldwork will be submitted to the client within two weeks of completion of fieldwork and, subject to client approval, then submitted to Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council for agreement. The report will take the form of a Data Structure Report and will contain an analysis of the results of the archaeological evaluation. The report will include a full descriptive text that will characterise the date and extent of any archaeological deposits. It will also include plans at an appropriate scale showing the area subjected to ground-breaking works, evaluation trenches, archaeological features and archiving lists of all finds, samples, field drawings and photographs.

- 7.2 If appropriate, the report will also include an addendum to this Mitigation Strategy for further archaeological fieldwork, post-excavation analysis and publication, should significant archaeology have been encountered.
- 7.3 The report will include the following:
- executive summary;
 - a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 8 figure central grid reference;
 - OASIS reference number; unique site code;
 - Planning application number;
 - contractor's details including date work carried out;
 - nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details;
 - description of the site history, location and geology;
 - a site plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid so that features can be correctly orientated;
 - discussion of the results of field work;
 - context & feature descriptions;
 - features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format;
 - plans and section drawings of the features drawn at a suitable scale;
 - initial assessment of relevant finds/samples if appropriate;
 - recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work such as excavation (Stage 2) and Post-excavation finds analysis, conservation & publication (Stage 3);
 - bibliography.
- 7.4 An appropriate number of hard copies and digital pdf copies of the report will be prepared for the client, for distribution to the relevant bodies.
- 7.5 The report will be presented in an ordered state and bound within a protective cover/sleeve. The report will be page numbered and supplemented with section numbering for ease of reference.

Copyright

- 8.1 The report and results can be disseminated by Scottish Water in regards to the project and used for research purposes as long as appropriately referenced. Otherwise the copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of GUARD Archaeology Ltd.

Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. In the event of minor archaeological remains being encountered during the archaeological fieldwork, it is proposed that a comprehensive report submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, will form the final publication of the site. A copy of this will be included in the Data Structure Report.
- 9.2 If the results from the project are more significant they will be published in an appropriate period or other journal.
- 9.3 The scope and extent of an appropriate post-excavation programme (including any publication proposals) will be set out in a detailed post-excavation research design (PERD) and approved by Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council.

Archive

- 10.1 The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within three months of completion of all relevant work.
- 10.2 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be completed within 3 months of completion of the work. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

Finds Disposal

- 11.1 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work, will be deposited in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia* in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent Data Structure Report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the fieldwork. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD until a decision has been made by the panel.

Personnel and Liaison

- 12.1 The GUARD team will comprise the following qualified and experienced GUARD archaeologists:
 - Project Manager: Mr Bob Will
 - Project Director (on-site Archaeologist): Project officer to be confirmed
 - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Ms Aileen Maule
 - Illustrator: Ms Gillian McSwan
 - Quality Assurance: Dr John Atkinson
- 12.2 The GUARD Senior Project Manager, Mr Bob Will, will be the point of contact for the archaeological works. A full CV for individuals concerned can be made available on request.

Monitoring

- 13.1 The proposed start date for the archaeological fieldwork will be arranged in due course. Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council will be given notice prior to the commencement of fieldwork. Historic Scotland/Dumfries & Galloway Council and the client will be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged.

Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down in the Institute for Archaeologists approved Health and Safety in Field Archaeology document, prepared under the aegis of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM). It is standard GUARD policy, prior to any fieldwork project commencing, to conduct a risk assessment and to prepare a project safety plan, the prescriptions of which will be strictly followed for the duration of all archaeological fieldwork. Copies of the resultant project safety plan and of GUARD's Fieldwork Safety Policy Statement may be viewed upon request.

- 14.2 GUARD Archaeology Ltd also possesses all necessary insurance cover, proofs of which may be supplied upon request.

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