



**Twentyshilling Hill Alternate Grid Connection, Dumfries
& Galloway: Addendum to Arcus
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
Project 5270**

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

On behalf of: Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd

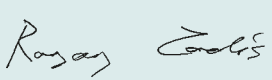
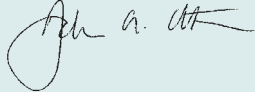
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This document has been prepared in accordance with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.

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Contents

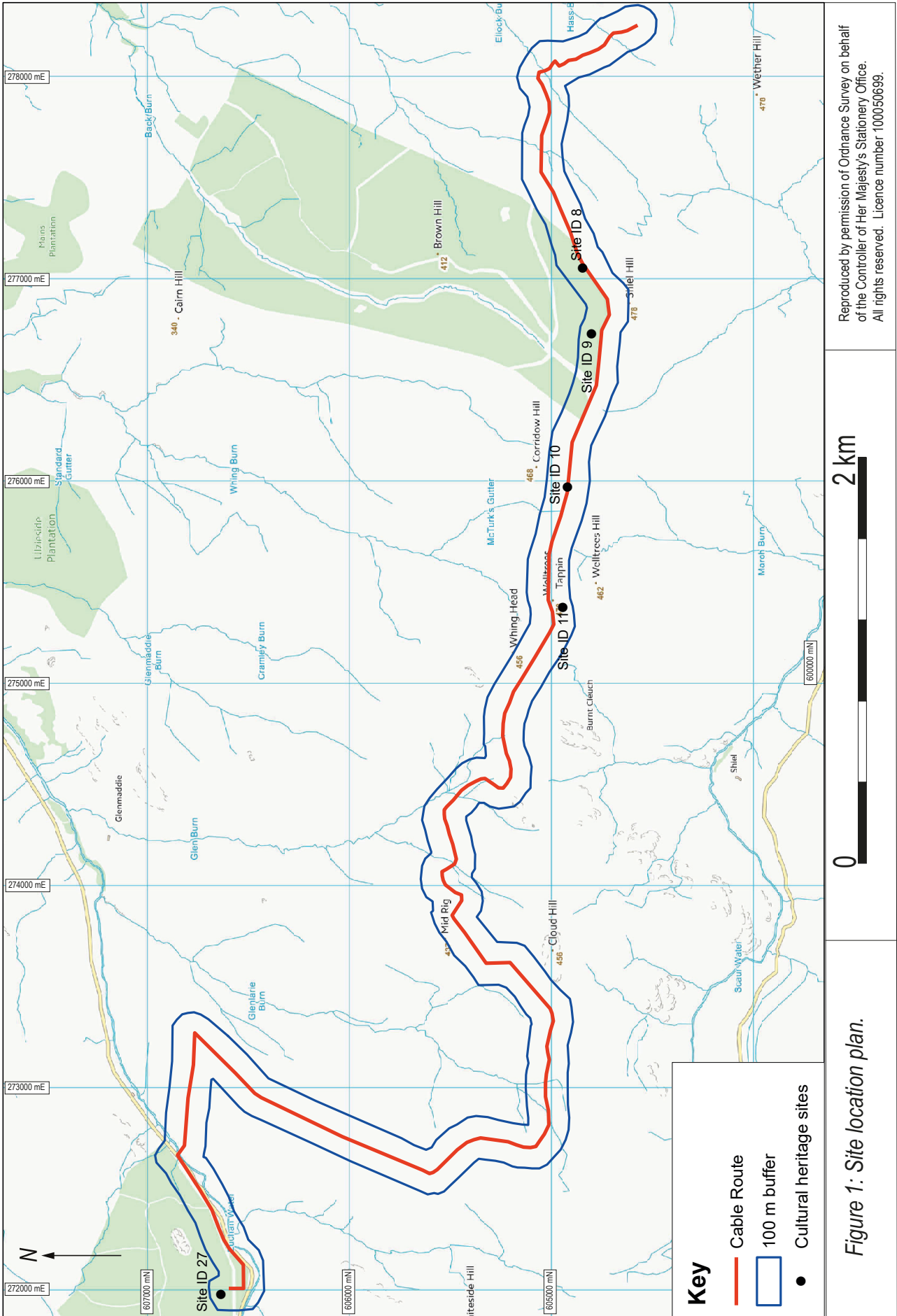
Executive Summary	5
Introduction	5
Aims and Objectives	5
Walkover Survey	5
Conclusions and Recommendations	7
Technical Information	7
Appendices	9
Appendix A: References	9
Appendix B: Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Sites examined during walkover survey	9
Appendix C: Archive material	10

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location plan	4
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List of Plates

Plate 1: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 8) from south-west	6
Plate 2: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 9) from north-east	6
Plate 3: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 10) from west	6
Plate 4: General view of sheepfold (Site ID 27) from north	6



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0 2 km

Figure 1: Site location plan.

Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological walkover survey for the Twentysilling Hill Alternate Grid Connection Corridor located to the south of Sanquhar in Dumfries and Galloway. The general aims of the survey were to visit the archaeological sites identified in the desk-based assessment produced by Arcus Consultancy Services, assess their archaeological sensitivity, and gauge the potential impact of the proposal upon the archaeological resource.
- 1.2 The walkover survey found that two archaeological sites could potentially be directly adversely affected by the proposal. These are the remains of two undesignated post-medieval quarry scoops of lesser archaeological importance. Although the direct effect upon these features would not be significant, the potential adverse impacts could be avoided through erecting temporary fencing immediately prior to construction works for the proposed cable route.
- 1.3 Given these factors, the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service may not require any mitigation if the potential effects upon the two quarry scoops can be averted.

Introduction

- 2.1 In June 2019, Arcus Consultancy Services commissioned GUARD Archaeology Limited to undertake a walkover survey of the Twentysilling Hill Alternate Grid Connection Corridor located within the local authority area of Dumfries and Galloway. The corridor consisted of the grid route and an area of about 100 m surrounding it which, together, comprise the Site.
- 2.2 The Site is located to the south of Sanquhar and consists of rough upland terrain (Figure 1).

Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The general aims of the walkover survey were to assess the known or potential archaeological resource within the Site and the likely impact of any development on the archaeological resource, and to recommend a strategy for mitigating this impact upon any known or potential archaeological remains.
- 3.2 The specific objectives were:
 - to visit all previously known archaeological monuments present within the Site;
 - to identify any previously unknown archaeological monuments present within the Site;
 - to assess the potential impact of any development on the archaeological resource, taking into account its varied significance; and
 - to suggest appropriate mitigation measures for the protection of the archaeological resource or, where necessary, the investigation and recording of any sites likely to be affected by development where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved.

Walkover Survey

- 4.1 The walkover survey of the Site was carried out between 3rd and 5th July 2019 in dry, cloudy conditions.
- 4.2 The Site was walked systematically in transects spaced approximately 50 m apart. All five of the archaeological sites identified in the desk-based assessment produced by Arcus Consultancy Services as being within the cable route and the surrounding 100 m buffer were visited.
- 4.3 The walkover survey located the remains of the three post-medieval quarries and a sheepfold identified in the desk-based assessment produced by Arcus Consultancy Services.

- 4.4 The easternmost quarry (Site ID 8) was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*) and was visible as a semi-circular scoop. It was approximately 6 m wide, 2 m high, 8 m long and was covered with vegetation (Plate 1). The quarry is located approximately 11 m from the proposed cable route and could potentially be directly affected by the proposal.
- 4.5 Some 320 to the ESE of the above was a second semi-circular quarry scoop (Site ID 9) that measured 10 m in width, 3 m in height and 15 m in length (Plate 2). The quarry was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*). The quarry is located approximately 48 m from the proposed cable route and is unlikely to be directly affected by the proposal.
- 4.6 A few possible quarry scoops were found close to the BMG location given for Site ID 10. These were of varying sizes, but the most substantial was a semi-circular scoop that was 5 m wide, 10 m long and 1.5 m high (Plate 3). The quarry was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*). This quarry scoop is located approximately 1.5 m from the proposed cable route and could potentially be directly affected by the proposal.
- 4.7 The sheepfold at Site ID 11 could not be located at or close to the given BNG co-ordinates, although weathering of the natural terrain gave the appearance of a small natural shelter.
- 4.8 The circular sheepfold at the west end of the cable route (Site ID 27) was a well-preserved drystone structure that was approximately 20 m in diameter. The walls were 0.8 m wide and 1.6m high and an entrance was located on the south-east of the structure (Plate 4). The sheepfold was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*). The sheepfold is located approximately 49 m from the proposed cable route and is unlikely to be directly affected by the proposal.
- 4.9 No previously unrecorded cultural heritage sites were noted during the walkover survey.



Plate 1: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 8) from south-west.



Plate 2: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 9) from north-east.



Plate 3: General view of quarry scoop (Site ID 10) from west.



Plate 4: General view of sheepfold (Site ID 27) from north.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- 5.1 The walkover survey has found that two archaeological sites, quarry scoops Site ID 8 and Site ID 10, could potentially be directly affected by the creation of the proposed cable route. Both of these are undesignated and are of lesser archaeological significance. Although the direct effect upon these features would not be significant, the potential adverse impacts could be mitigated by erecting temporary fencing immediately prior to construction works for the proposed cable route.
- 5.2 GUARD Archaeology Limited would stress that decisions regarding the requirement for and scope of any archaeological mitigation rest with the local planning authority.

Technical Information

- 6.1 The paper and digital archive for the walkover survey will be lodged with the National Record of the Historic Environment. The list of archive material can be found at Appendix C.
- 6.2 As far as can be ascertained, there are no existing heritage or archaeological site management plans in operation at the proposed cable route.
- 6.3 All elements of the walkover survey have been undertaken in line with the following policies and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists of which GUARD Archaeology Ltd is a Registered Organisation.
- Code of Conduct (2014);
 - Standards and Guidance for commissioning work on, or providing consultancy advice on, archaeology and the historic environment (2014), and
 - Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (2017).

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Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: References

Documentary Sources Consulted

Heimpel, E 2019 *Twentyshillig Hill Wind Farm – Alternative Grid Connection, Appendix D: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment. Cultural Heritage Report No: 104*. Unpublished report from Arcus Consultancy Services.

Cartographic Sources Consulted

Ordnance Survey 1856 *Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII (includes: Penpont; Sanquhar)*. Six-inch 1st edition, Scotland, 1843-1882.

Appendix B: Gazetteer of Cultural Heritage Sites examined during walkover survey

Site ID No:	8
Name:	Quarry scoop
NGR:	NT 77056 04845
NRHE No:	-
HER No:	-
Significance:	Lesser
Description:	This post-medieval quarry scoop was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (<i>Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII</i>).
Site ID No:	9
Name:	Quarry scoop
NGR:	NT 76730 04801
NRHE No:	-
HER No:	-
Significance:	Lesser
Description:	This post-medieval quarry scoop was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (<i>Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII</i>).
Site ID No:	10
Name:	Quarry scoop
NGR:	NT 75973 04921
NRHE No:	-
HER No:	-
Significance:	Lesser
Description:	This post-medieval quarry scoop was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (<i>Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII</i>).
Site ID No:	11
Name:	Sheepfold

NGR: NT 75376 04994

NRHE No: -

HER No: -

Significance: Lesser

Description: This post-medieval sheepfold was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*). It could not be located in July 2019.

Site ID No: 27

Name: Sheepfold

NGR: NT 71977 06635

NRHE No: -

HER No: -

Significance: Lesser

Description: This post-medieval sheepfold was recorded on the 1856 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (*Dumfriesshire, Sheet XII*).

Appendix C: Archive material

	Description	Format	Number
Paper archive	Photographic record	A4	2
Digital archive	Digital photographs	JPEG	61
	Report	PDF	1
	Shapefiles (ArcMap)	.cpg	1
		.dbf	1
		.prj	1
		.sbn	1
		.shp	2
		.shx	1

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