

Sanquhar Windfarm

Dumfries and Galloway

Walkover Survey

for

Community Windpower Ltd.

April 2013



Glengap Burn



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Dumfries and Galloway

Walkover Survey – April 2013
AA 2065

Data Structure Report

April 2013

by Ross Cameron

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All photographs and drawings in this report are by the authors unless stated.

Sanquhar Windfarm

Dumfries and Galloway

Walkover Survey – April 2013

Executive Summary

Addyman Archaeology were commissioned to complete a walkover survey ahead of the proposed development of Sanquhar Windfarm in Dumfries and Galloway. The site is located around 7km SW of the town of Sanquhar and 5km SW of Kirkconnel and encompasses around 448 hectares in area.

An assessment of the NMRS revealed no sites within the development area. The local government HER and an in depth map regression showed the development area to have always been essentially free of significant habitation. Only one pre-improvement farmstead was recorded as MDG24806, Glengap farmstead in the HER, also identified on William Roy's mid 18th century map, and still visible on the ground. The aerial photographic assessment also revealed a number of sites, but none of these were felt to be of significance. The walkover survey did not reveal any further important archaeological features.

A record of the evaluation has been deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service (OASIS ID addymanal-148876) and with Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland.

1. Introduction

i. General

Addyman Archaeology were contracted by Community Windpower Ltd. to undertake a walkover survey in advance of the proposed development of Sanquhar Windfarm in Dumfries and Galloway near to the towns of Sanquhar and Kirkconnel. The walkover survey is in response to the planning condition as outlined by Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service through planning application 10/P/3/0182.

Preliminary research was undertaken prior to the walkover survey in order to identify any known archaeological sites or other features of cultural heritage interest. This research included an assessment of known historical features within the boundaries of the site as well as a consultation of historic maps and aerial photographs of the proposed development site.

A walkover survey was undertaken on the 18th April 2013 by Ross Cameron and Andrew Morrison. Weather conditions were variable, with intermittent rain and sunshine, but consistent high winds. The walkover survey aimed to assess the character, extent and condition of any sites, monuments and landscape features identified by the preliminary research, but also aimed to identify any other features of cultural heritage interest not previously detected.

All sites recorded are discussed in the text, but also included in a gazetteer at the end of the document. All sites recorded during the preliminary assessments were categorised with a letter, while those recorded during the walkover were assigned a site number. Where two sites were discovered to be the same, these were recorded by combining the two, i.e. Site 5A.

This report contains several maps reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland (NLS). To view these maps online, see www.nls.uk. This report also contains licensed images from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). To view these images online, see www.rcahms.gov.uk/canmore.html.

ii. Setting

Roughly centred on NS 70932 07786, the proposed development site is located around 7km SW of the town of Sanquhar and 5km SW of Kirkconnel, measuring around 4.4km² in area. The site is irregular in shape, running in a SW direction from Kirkconnel between the farmsteads of Glengap and Birknowe, following first the Birk Burn and subsequently the Thwarter Burn to the upland areas, Black Hill, Bank Hill, Hog Hill, Mid Hill and Well Hill. This series of hills is bounded to both the N and S by forestry plantations and it is in this area that the 12 planned turbines are to be sited. The W end of the site follows the boundary of the Euchanhead Wood, running SW from Well Hill to Mageuchan Rig. No development is currently planned in this area of the site.

The topography of the site is very varied and crossed by countless small water courses and burns forming cuts and depressions in the landscape. In particular the Glengap Burn lies in a large valley cutting NW-SE across the centre of the site. The access track between Kirkconnel and the Glengap farm crosses fertile farmland and grazing. From here the steady climb to the SW across the Drumbuie Moorhead is undulating rough grazing with wild grasses and vegetation often to knee height. The main windfarm area centred on the hills in the middle of the site comprises short grassland, steep climbs and gradual descents the most spectacular of which is the aforementioned Glengap Burn. A modern forestry track cuts the site to the W of the Meteorological Mast with the W end of the development characterised by outcrops of heather and peat.

Clear attempts have been made to improve these upland areas, but on the whole they remain wet and are not extensively managed.

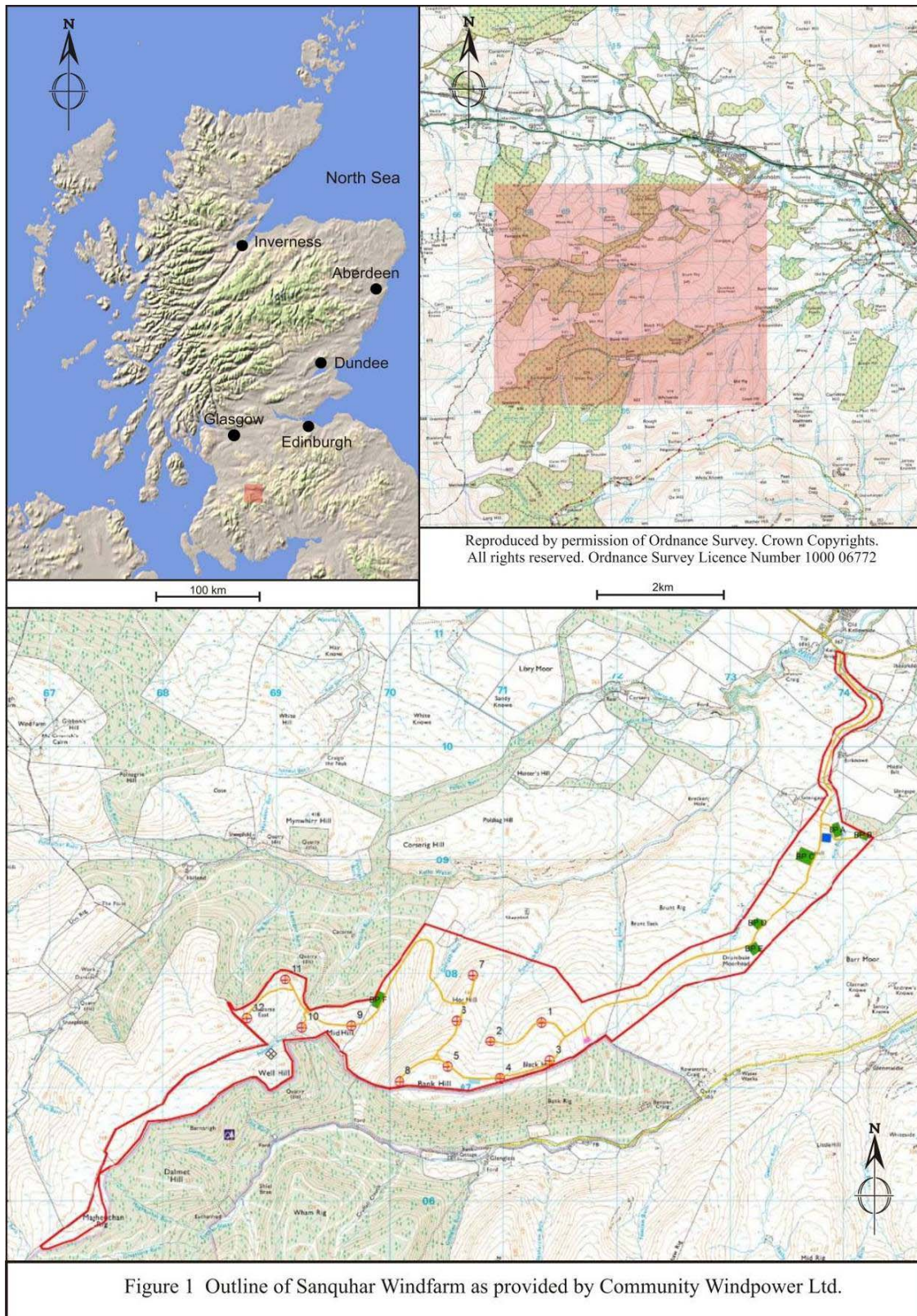
As expected of such a lengthy and varied site, the underlying geology of Sanquhar Windfarm is mixed.

The area between Kirkconnel and the Glengap Farm has underlying bedrock geology of the Scottish Lower Coal Measures Formation, sedimentary bedrock formed 314 to 316 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. On the whole this is overlain by Devensian Till from the Diamicton era, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period dominated by Ice Age conditions.

The bedrock geology across the rest of the site is predominantly Wacke of the Kirkcolm Formation. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed 449-458 million years ago in the Ordovician Period. The overlying superficial geology is essentially a mix of Till and Peat, both dateable to the Quaternary Period.

To emphasise the varied character of the geology, Sandstone, Siltstone and Mudstone of the Clackmannan Group is recorded to the SW of Glengap and a thick band of igneous bedrock (Poltallan Member - Volcaniclastic-Breccia) runs NE-SW across the centre of the site. The former can be dated to the Carboniferous Period while the latter is attributed to the Ordovician Period and characteristic of a local environment previously dominated by explosive eruptions of magma.¹

¹ www.bgs.ac.uk – 19/04/13



2. *Map regression*

Assessment of the cartographic resource provided little information with regard to further understanding the development of the site and identifying unknown or previously unrecorded archaeological features.

A large number of maps were consulted in order to assess the development of the site. Whilst some of the earliest maps clearly depict the historic towns of Sanquhar and Kirkconnel, identifying the site area is not always as simple. The existence of the significant water courses, the River Nith, the Kello Water to the N and Euchan Water to the S of the development assisted in plotting the rough location of the windfarm site. In summary the maps consulted include:

Timothy Pont (c.1560-c.1614)

- ‘Nithsdale; part of Teviotdale’ c.1596

Robert Gordon (1580-1661)

- ‘Nithsdail descryved according to Mr. Timothe Pont his papers’ 1644

Joan Blaeu (1596-1673)

- ‘Nithia Vicecomitatus, The Shirifdome of Nidis-dail’ 1654

John Adair (1650-1722)

- ‘A mape of the west of Scotland containing Clydsdail, Nithsdail, Ranfrew, Shyre of Ayre, & Galloway’ 1685

Hermann Moll (d.1732)

- ‘The Shire of Dumfries or Nithisdale’ 1735

William Roy (1726-1790)

- ‘Military Survey of Scotland’ 1747-1755

William Crawford (1774-1828)

- ‘Map of Dumfries-shire’ 1804

John Thomson (1777-1840)

- ‘Dumfriesshire’ 1820/1832

John Ainslie (1745-1828)

- ‘Map of Southern Scotland (Left Side)’ 1821

Ordnance Survey (1859 – present)

- 1 inch, Sanquhar (15). Surveyed 1849-1859. Published 1864.
- 1 inch, Sanquhar (15). Surveyed 1895. Published 1896.
- 1 inch, Sanquhar (15). Surveyed 1902. Published 1904.
- 1 inch popular, Nithsdale & Moffat (84). Published 1925.
- 1 inch popular, Loch Doon (83). Published 1945.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire, (VI). Surveyed 1856. Published 1860.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire, (XIII). Surveyed 1856. Published 1860.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire (XII). Surveyed 1856. Published 1859.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire (VI). Surveyed 1856. Published 1860.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire VI.SW. Surveyed 1898. Published 1900.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire XIII.NW. Surveyed 1898. Published 1900.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire XII.NE. Surveyed 1898. Published 1900.

- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire XII.NW. Surveyed 1898. Published 1900.
- 6 inch to 1 mile, Dumfriesshire VI.SW. Surveyed 1938. Published 1949.
- 1:25000, NS60. Published 1956.
- 1:25000, NS70. Published 1955.
- 1:25000, NS71. Published 1955.
- 25 inch Dumfries Sheet, VI.9 (Sanquhar). Surveyed 1856. Published 1860
- 25 inch Dumfries Sheet, VI.13 (Sanquhar). Surveyed 1856. Published 1860
- 25 inch, Dumfriesshire (006.09). Surveyed 1899. Published 1899.
- 25 inch, Dumfriesshire (006.13). Surveyed 1898. Published 1899.

Most of the pre-Ordnance Survey maps do not go into sufficient detail to cover the site area. The site is fortunate enough to be covered by the maps of Timothy Pont (*figure 2*), one of the earliest cartographers to provide mapping with any level of detail. The exact dates of Pont's life are unclear, but his 'Nithsdale; part of Teviotdale' has been dated to c.1596, providing a very early depiction of the site area. Pont's map seems to be remarkably accurate for its age. The modern village of Kirkconnel has not yet been constructed, but he draws St. Connel's Kirk as 'Kirkconnel' as well as the village of Sanquhar to the S. Sanquhar is in the correct location in relation to the River Nith and the Eliock Burn can be identified today to the S of Sanquhar. Thus the area of the proposed development can be tentatively plotted. No sites are noted in this area, although the detail is insufficient to record anything other than a site of significant size.

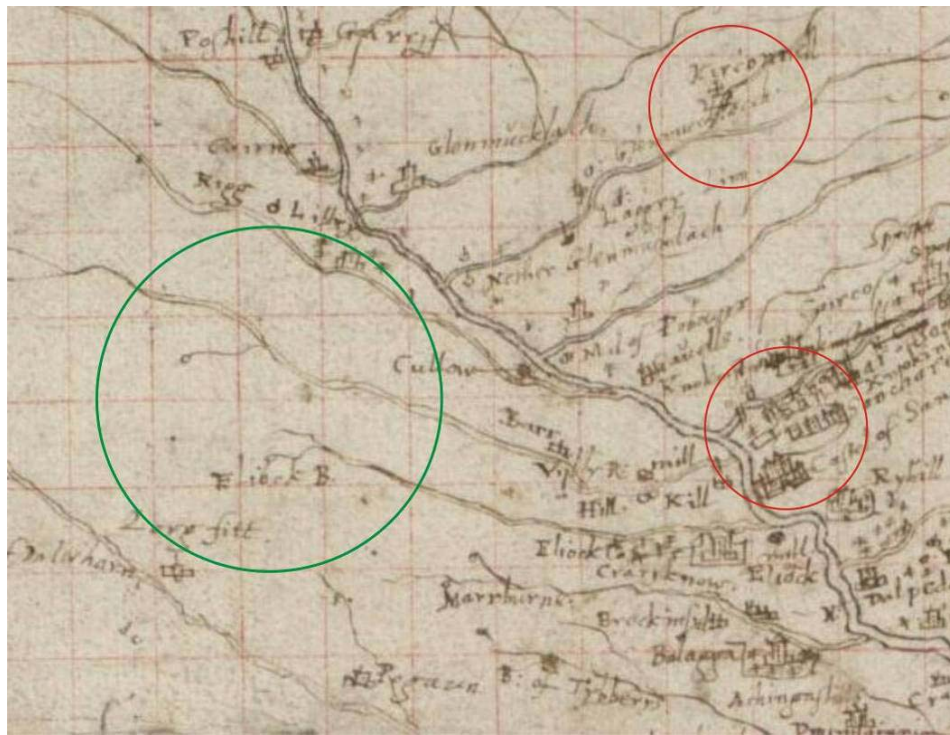


Figure 2 Timothy Pont's map of 1596 showing the locations of Sanquhar and Kirkconnel marked red and tentative location of the proposed development in green (NLS)

In 1644 Robert Gordon re-issued Pont's map, further annotating the upland area to the W of Sanquhar with a series of hills, but adding no further sites within the projected development area. By 1654 Joan Bleau had also produced a map of the area, but this too has been taken from the 16th century work of Timothy Pont, providing no new information.

‘A mape of the west of Scotland containing Clydesdail, Nithsdail, Ranfrew, Shyre of Ayre, & Galloway’ produced by John Adair (*figure 3*) was produced in 1685, and can be considered the first re-mapping of the development area post-Pont. Adair’s map is very simple and shows little detail,, but very clearly depicts the line of the River Nith as well as Cumnock and Elioock. Once again, no settlements or buildings of any sort are depicted in the vicinity of the development area.

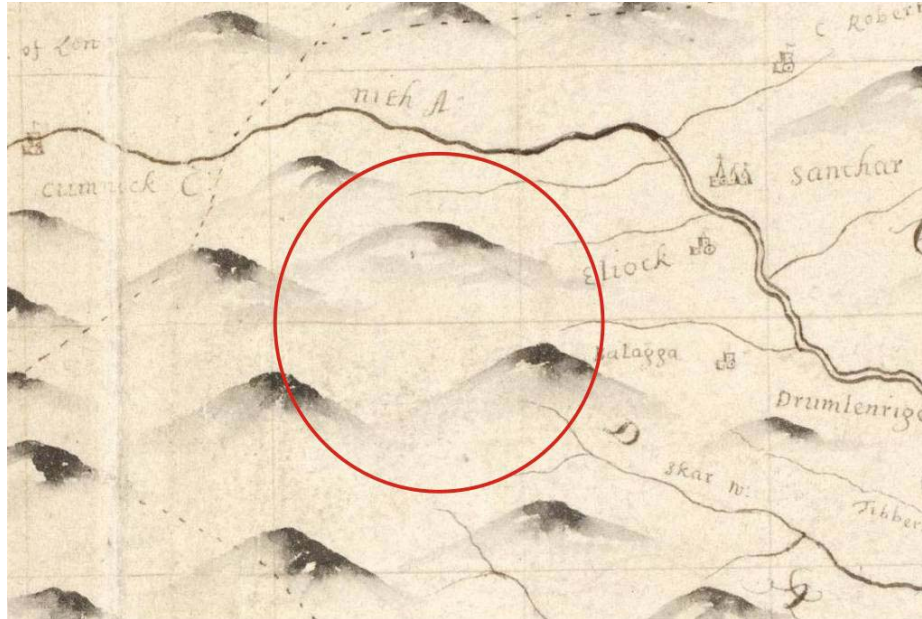


Figure 3 Extract from John Adair’s ‘A mape of the west of Scotland containing Clydsdail, Nithsdail, Ranfrew, Shyre of Ayre, & Galloway’ with the rough location of the site indicated in red. This map shows the whole area W of ‘Sanchar’ and ‘Elioch’ to be free from significant occupation in 1685 (NLS)

Although these early maps lack accuracy and detail, the general picture is clearly one lacking in any important historical occupation in this period. Herman Moll continues to show the area as devoid of any historical occupation in his ‘Shire of Dumfries and Nithsdaile’ published in 1735.

William Roy’s military survey of Scotland conducted between 1747 and 1755 stands out as the first map with sufficient detail to analyse the development area (*figure 4*). Roy’s map clearly depicts Sanquhar, is the first to show the embryonic village of Kirkconnel as well as both the Kello Water and the Euchan Water, here depicted as ‘Kellero Water’ and the ‘Yoochan Water’. The issue is slightly complicated by the fact the site crosses over two of Roy’s major sheets, which due to the nature in which they were drawn, do not actually fit together with any degree of accuracy.



Figure 4 Extract from William Roy's Military Survey of Scotland. Produced c.1750 this map has a remarkable level of detail and shows 'Glengap' (Site A) to the S of the Kello Water. © The British Library Board. All Rights Reserved (Roy Military Survey of Scotland).

Only one clear potential site is visible in the development area. A small collection of red blocks is recorded adjacent to the Kello Water. This depicts structures and is recorded as 'Glengap' (see also MDG24806, Glengap farmstead in HER). As the first site recorded within the development area, 'Glengap' is recorded as Site A.

The next map produced post-Roy is that of William Crawford in 1804. This map, like that of John Ainslie from 1821 clearly shows the area of the proposed development in some detail, but with no features visible therein.

'Dumfriesshire' produced by John Thomson in 1820 however (*figure 5*), does show two small structures in the N of the site.

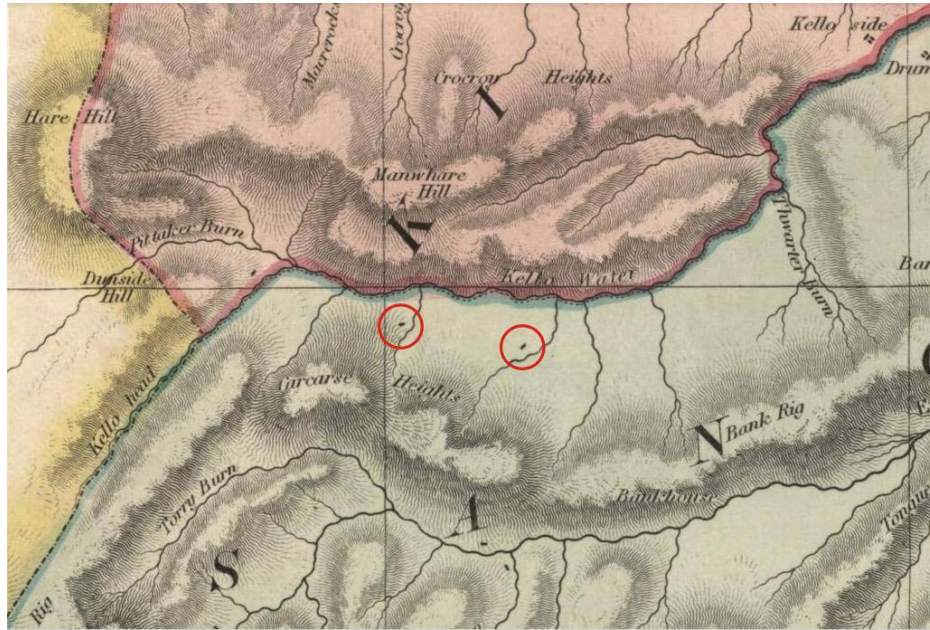


Figure 5 John Thomson's map of c.1820 showing two possible sites S of the Kello Water and N of the high ground to the S (NLS)

The westerly of these is likely to be the same as 'Glengap' as recorded by Roy and seen subsequently in the OS maps, while it seems likely that the more easterly of the two lies outwith the site, possibly in the area today occupied by a sheepfold visible today. The westerly of the two is accepted as the same as Site A.

The first Ordnance Survey maps of this area were surveyed in the late 1840s and into the 1850s and provide the earliest accurate cartographic evidence for the development of the site. However the remote nature of the site provides some issues with the OS data. The 1st edition 25 inch to 1 mile is the most detailed view of the OS maps, but fails to cover the entire site, focussing instead on the northern quarter. This reveals no real notable features, with an 'Old Quarry' (figure 6) the only site of any note within the development area. This is recorded as Site B.



Figure 6 Detail of the 'Old Quarry' (Site B) from the 25 inch to 1 mile 1st edition (NLS)

The 6 inch to 1 mile series of OS maps provide comprehensive coverage of the site, but obviously not in such good detail as the earlier 25 inch to 1 mile series. The 6 inch to 1 mile series essentially confirms the earlier maps to show the site to be devoid of any significant habitation. Three further sites of note are recorded to the W of Hog Hill and around the Glengap Burn (*figure 7*) – a further ‘sheepfold’ (Site C), a ‘whinstone quarry’ (Site D), but perhaps more importantly a large enclosure with possible structure associated and termed ‘Glengap’. This site straddles the boundary of the proposed development and is almost certainly ‘Glengap’ (Site A) as recorded by Roy and in the HER.

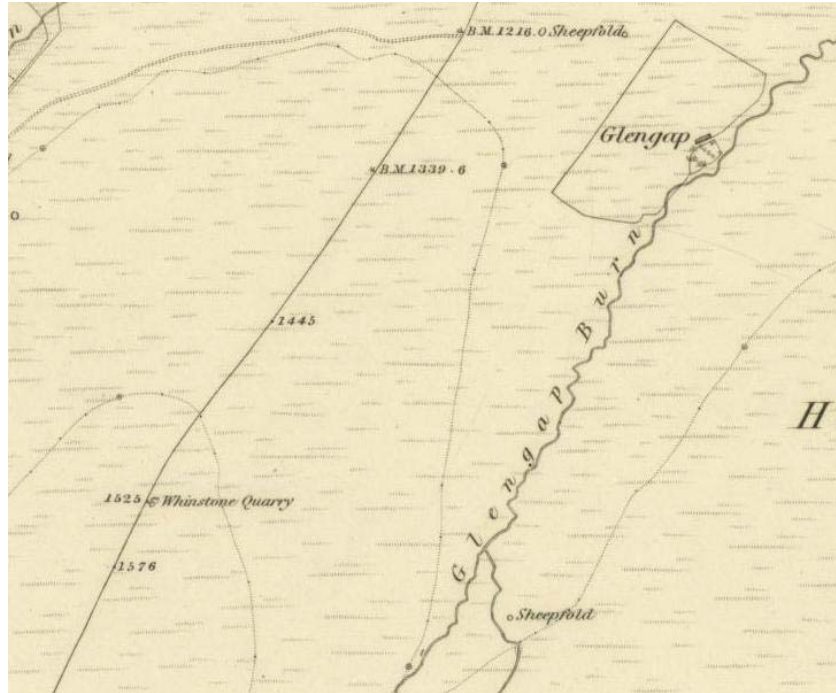


Figure 7 Detail of the 6 inch to 1 mile 1st edition, Dumfriesshire Sheet XII showing the enclosure at Glengap, a ‘whinstone quarry’ and a ‘sheepfold’ to the E of the Glengap Burn (NLS)

By the time the second edition is produced in 1899, the 25 inch to 1 mile Dumfriesshire 006.09 shows a circular sheepfold within the projecting area of land surrounded by the Birk Burn (*figure 8*). This was recorded as Site E.



Figure 8 Detail of the circular sheepfold from the 25 inch to 1 mile Dumfriesshire (006.09) from 1899 (NLS)

All other OS maps that covered the development area were consulted, but none of these showed any further evidence for archaeological features or habitation.

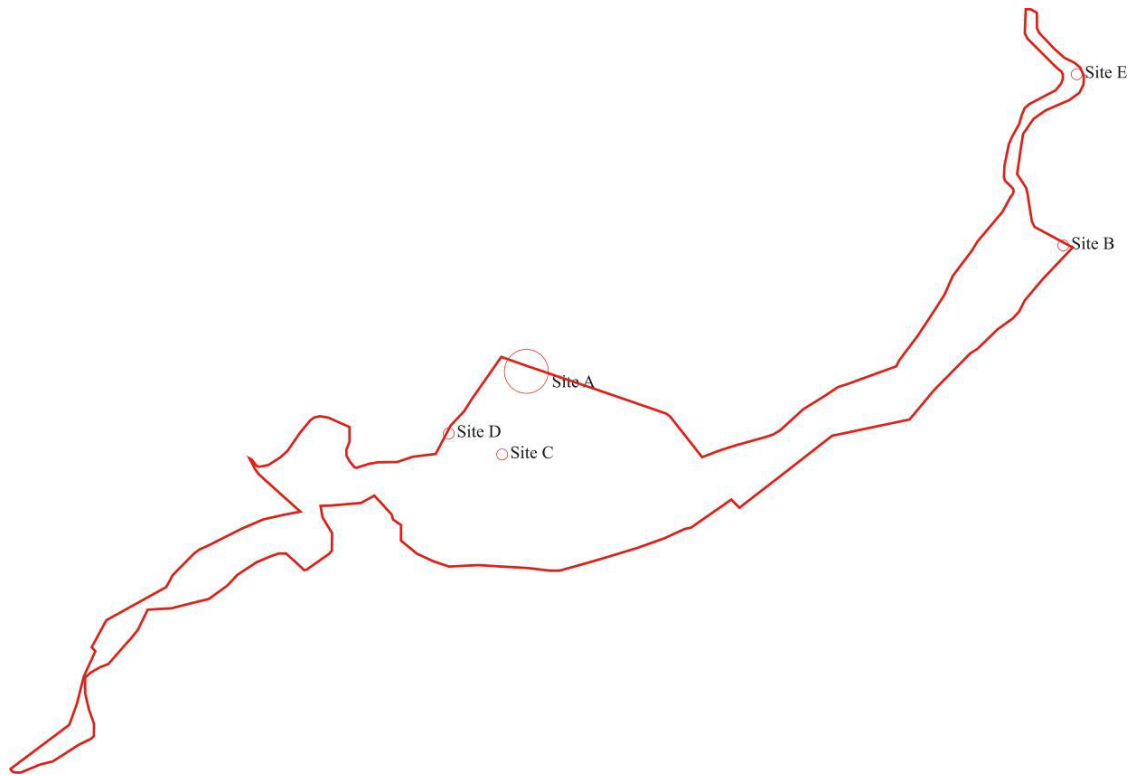


Figure 9 Collation of sites recorded from maps (Addyman Archaeology)

3 Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs of the proposed development site were consulted in order to assess the potential for previously unrecorded archaeological features to survive in the vicinity. The photographic coverage of the site was extensive and revealed a number of interesting anomalies and features, some of which were recorded during the walkover survey and others which the team were subsequently unable to locate.

A wide variety of vertical aerial photographs were consulted with varying degrees of usefulness. A number of factors are important in revealing features on the ground in aerial photographs. The weather, cloud cover, time of day, time of year and height of the flight are all important factors affecting the usefulness of the picture, making it very important to view and assess as many images as possible. In addition the image itself may not be of great quality or sharpness, perhaps due to issues when the picture was taken or due to the conditions in which the photograph was subsequently stored.

From the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS), Addyman Archaeology consulted the following aerial images:

Sortie	Date	Frames
CPE/UK/0324	26/03/48	3337-3347, 4312-4327, 4408-4409
540/A/0383	20/05/48	5114-5116, 5130-5132
540/0331	13/05/50	5448-5450, 5453-5456, 5473-5474
541/A/0545	12/06/50	3169-3171, 4165-4170
58/1414	20/04/54	0295-0300, 0288-0291, 0328
OS/65/012	01/04/65	0148-0149, 0171-0174, 0205-0206
ASS/621/88	10/06/88	0161-0164, 0231-0235

In addition, readily available aerial views online were also analysed from both www.bing.com, and www.google.co.uk. Google Earth also provided aerial views dated from:

- 13/05/09 (partial coverage)
- 31/12/10

The earliest flown sortie recorded across the proposed site of the Sanquhar wind farm was undertaken in 1948 and the site was photographed in a number of other flights undertaken throughout the late 1940s and into the 1950s as the Royal Air Force (RAF) achieved comprehensive coverage of the Douglas area. Further sorties were flown in the late 1980s while the Ordnance Survey undertook their own programme of vertical aerial photography across the site in the mid 1960s. The satellite images available on the internet bring the coverage to the present day.

Accurately assessing the historical development of the proposed Sanquhar wind farm site from the aerial images was not always a simple task. The site boundary is irregular and elongated, running SW from the town of Kirkconnel bordered by land boundaries and forestry plantations not always present

in the historic images. Moving SE from Kirkconnel, on the whole the southern boundary of the site follows a land division discernible from the earliest aerial images of the late 1940s. In addition the northern boundary could be assessed in relation to the water courses and sheepfolds located N of the wind farm. This is true as far W as 'Mid Hill' whereafter no manmade indicators could be used to pinpoint the location of either the northern or southern site boundary. This western end of the site was essentially plotted by following watercourses and contours and their position in relation to other geographic and topographic features located to the N and S of the development.

The initial factor to note from a casual assessment of the photographs is the extensive drainage and land improvement undertaken across a large proportion of the site. The images show a number of freshly cut drainage and irrigation channels forming linear patterns of parallel and perpendicular lines alongside older linear patterns. The distance these are located from one another, and regularity indicates that almost all constitute part of a drainage network and land improvement scheme with little obvious evidence of rig and furrow. This improvement is more concentrated towards the NE end of the site, but not exclusively so, with clear banding of drainage ditches around the hills in the centre of the site and a series of linears running down the slopes into the Glengap Burn.

In addition to the drainage and improvement schemes, six clear or potential features were identified for further analysis, some of which were clearly the same as those identified during the map regression. These were assigned a letter consecutively from E to W, unless the site already clearly been recorded in the map regression.

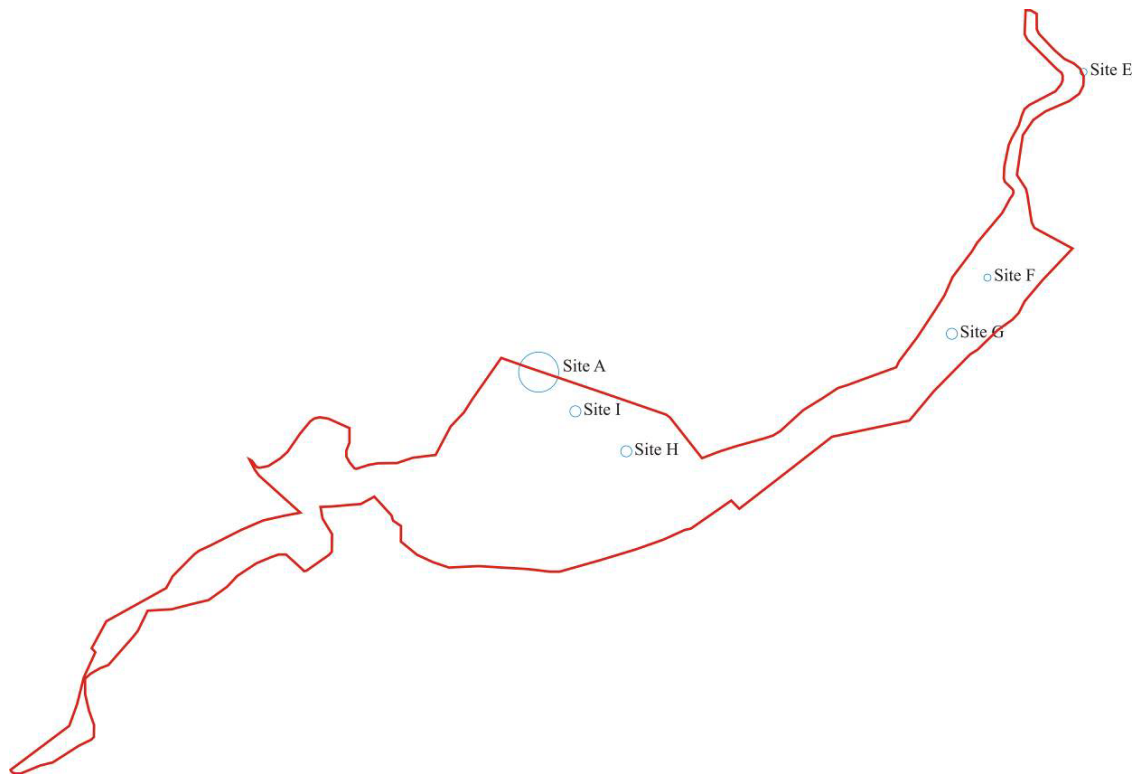


Figure 10 Sites recorded from an assessment of the aerial photography (Addyman Archaeology)

The earliest sortie flown across the site on the 26/03/48 was categorised as CPE/UK/0324 (Plate 1) and immediately confirmed the presence of the Glengap enclosure, Site A. This was seen as a large field or enclosure bounding the Glengap Burn with a further circular enclosure and some disturbance along the SE perimeter.

On the summit of the neighbouring Hog Hill, some very ephemeral features were visible, with one in particular indicative of some form of enclosure (Site I).



Plate 1 Detail of image 4234 from sortie CPE/UK/0324 showing Sites A and I. ©RCAHMS [NCAP_CPE_Scot_UK_0324_4324]. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk

Further sorties flown in June 1950 revealed traces of a circular feature at the northern end of the site within the area of land formed by the course of the Birk Burn (Plate 2). This feature was compared to the information recovered during the map regression and shown to be the same as Site E, a sheepfold visible on the 2nd edition OS map (figure 8).



Plate 2 Detail of image 3171 from Sortie 541/A/0545 showing Site E. ©RCAHMS [NCAP_541_A_0545_3171]. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk

A further feature was recorded from Sortie 58/1414 flown in April 1954, seeming to show a small square 'structure' on a raised mound immediately E of the Polsallach Burn. This feature (Site H) was very clear on all the aerial photographs from this sortie, with image 0289 displaying this best (*Plate 3*). Curiously this feature was not clear on images from any others sorties.



Plate 3 Detail of image0289 from Sortie 58/1414 flown on 20/04/54. ©RCAHMS [NCAP_58_1414_F21_0289]. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk

On 01/04/65 the Ordnance Survey completed a series of flights across the Sanquhar area. From sortie OS/65/012 two further potential features were recorded. Both sites F and G lie in the area of the access track, climbing uphill to the SW over Drumbuie Moorhead (*Plate 4*). These sites lie in an area populated with outcrops of rock, but both Sites F and G both look slightly different. Site F was tentatively interpreted as a possible structure, while Site G appeared to be a possible series of walls. These form no distinct pattern, but looked clearly man made.



Plate 4 Detail taken from image 171 from Sortie OS/65/012 showing Sites F and G. Note the extensive land management across the site. ©RCAHMS [NCAP_OS_65_012_171]. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk

4. Walkover Survey

The walkover survey was designed to provide comprehensive cover of the site whilst specifically targeting those areas identified from earlier research as being of potential archaeological significance. Undertaken over one day, the site was systematically traversed moving in a south-westerly direction from Kirkconnel towards Magheuchtan Rig and assessed for archaeological features. The process was continued during the return journey to the NE with extra assessment completed along the watercourses that dominate the centre of the site. The locations of sites identified were accurately plotted by hand-held GPS and their dimensions recorded alongside any other relevant impressions. Each site recorded was digitally photographed.



Figure 11 Locations of sites from the walkover survey (Addyman Archaeology)

A more detailed record of each site and extra images can be viewed as part of the Gazetteer included with this report.

The walkover survey revealed only six sites of interest, two of which were recorded from the earlier assessment.

- Site 1 (centred on NS 74315 10411):

The first site to be recorded comprised a large depression set into a NE facing slope above the Birk Burn. The feature measures around 9m NW-SE by 4m SW-NE and may be a quarrying pit from which the numerous drystone walls in the area were constructed.



Plate 5 View looking NW across Site 1. Note the rig and furrow in the background (Photograph 001)

- Site 2 (SE end NS 74005 10111):

Site 2 was initially encountered as a large concentration of small to medium angular stones directly adjacent to the Birk Burn. This clearly continued as an overgrown linear stretching in a north-westerly direction. At the terminus with the Birk Burn, Site 2 was some 1.50m across and around 0.20m high, but this became much lower and less clear as it proceeded, quickly running parallel with the existing field boundary.



Plate 6 Looking NW along the course of Site 2 from the Birk Burn (Photograph 003)



Plate 7 Site 2 running NW parallel with the fence line (Photograph 004)

Site 2 is clearly the remains of a much robbed and overgrown drystone wall or field boundary.

- Site 3 (NS 73978 09443):



Plate 8 Large clearance cairn Site 3 looking E (Photograph 005)

Further along the Birk Burn, a large concentration of stones was recorded on the marginal land sloping westwards towards the water. The feature comprises predominantly small to medium rounded and angular stones with occasional larger stones towards the edges and downward side of the feature. Measuring roughly 5m², Site 3 is clearly a field clearance cairn.

- Site 4 (S terminal NS 70403 07700, N terminal NS 70393 07720):

Site 4 was located amid long wild grasses at the bottom of the deep valley which holds the Glengap Burn. Much of this area showed clear signs of improvement works and a systematic drainage network on the slopes of the valley.

Site 4 comprised a low, drystone linear, running westwards before curving gently NW and sharply returning NE. There was no evidence of a wall connecting the 19m gap between the two terminals along the E side. The wall was well constructed from small to medium angular stones, heavily covered in moss and surviving to three to four courses in places.

It is likely Site 4 is the remnants of a sheep or animal pen in keeping Site C located from the map evidence.



Plate 9 View looking NW across Site 4 in the bottom of the valley towards the Glengap Burn. Note the land improvement work visible on the SE facing slope (Photograph 013)



Plate 10 Site 4 showing the construction of the drystone wall (Photograph 014)

- Site 5 (NS 70418 08258):

Assessment of the aerial photographs and map resource had already indicated the presence of Site 5, straddling the site boundary to the N of the Glengap Burn.



Plate 11 Site 5 looking NE from the slopes of the Glengap valley (Photograph 017)

Site 5 is a large enclosure of drystone construction with small to medium angular slabs and stones forming a series of walls surviving, seemingly intact, up to 8 courses. In some places the walls are topped by a corroded metal fence, indicating 20th century usage.

As indicated by the desk based research, along the SE edge of the compound, a smaller enclosure was integrated within the larger network of walls. This circular feature clearly formed an integral part of the management of the animals kept in the enclosure.



Plate 12 The smaller enclosure within Site 5 along the western edge the main enclosure. Note the Glengap Burn to the rear (Photograph 020)

- Site 6 (NS 72136 07879):

Site 6 was located on the access track to the site, to the N of Thwarter Burn amid the long grasses and vegetation on the NE sloping Drumbuie Moor. A significant 1m high wall of some six or seven courses formed a semi-circular shape against the slope. The wall survived to around 1m high in places, with a width of c.0.6m although there was no indication of the enclosure being completed along the eastern side.



Plate 13 Substantial walls of Site 6 (Photograph 029)

The lack of a complete encircling wall is somewhat confusing when the significant survival of the upstanding remains are considered, but this is not felt of any importance. Site 6 forms the remains of a sheep or animal pen in keeping with those identified to the N of the development site.


5. Summary and Recommendations

The detailed map regression of the proposed site showed that no significant archaeological site or structure was on record within the development area. The early maps show the area as totally devoid of habitation with the first recorded occupation of the area to be found on William Roy's Military Survey of c.1750. On Roy's map it appears a small series of structures is depicted to the N of the site adjacent to the Glengap Burn. Other sites recorded by the cartographic analysis were either agricultural enclosures or records of quarrying and are of negligible importance.


The assessment of the aerial images revealed four further previously unrecorded sites of which two (Sites F and G) are likely to be naturally occurring rock outcrops or remnants of sheep enclosures. Site H clearly seems to be a structure of some sort, but this was not discovered during the walkover and will remain unaffected by the development. This is also true to a lesser extent of Site I atop the Hog Hill. An ephemeral feature, Site I lies to the N of Turbine 7 and should remain unaffected by the development.

The five new sites located during the walkover survey are considered to be of negligible or low archaeological importance and essentially relate to quarrying or land and livestock management.

Addyman Archaeology recommends that no further archaeological involvement is required at Sanquhar Windfarm. However, where possible, it is recommended that turbines and infrastructure works are sited to avoid the recorded archaeological features.

Site Number	Site name	NGR	Located	NMRS/ SMR site no.	Site type	Description	Site Importance/ significance	Site Impact
5A	Glengap	NS 70418 08258 (W end)	Dumfries & Galloway HER Map regression Aerial Photographs Walkover Survey	MDG24806	Enclosure, Farmstead (?), Sheepfold	<p>A cluster of buildings are recorded in this area by William Roy c.1750.</p> <p>The site survives as a large drystone enclosure with smaller, integrated circular enclosure. Walls are reasonably well maintained and topped by fence.</p> <p>Measures c.250m SW-NE by c.130m NW-SE.</p> 	Medium	Low
B	Old Quarry	NS 74134 09215	Map regression		Quarry	<p>'Old Quarry recorded in the 1st edition OS.</p> <p>Site noted on walkover survey as a fragmented rocky outcrop.</p>	Negligible	High

Site Number	Site name	NGR	Located	NMRS/ SMR site no.	Site type	Description	Site Importance/ significance	Site Impact
4C	Sheepfold	NS 70403 07700 (S terminal) NS 70393 07720 (N terminal)	Map regression Walkover Survey		Sheepfold Livestock enclosure	Circular sheepfold noted on the 1 st edition OS. Survives as an irregular alignment of walling some 19m across	Negligible	Low
D	Whinstone Quarry		Map regression		Quarry	Whinstone quarry recorded on the 1 st edition OS.	Negligible	High
E	Sheepfold	c. NS 74233 10414	Map regression Aerial Photographs		Sheepfold Livestock enclosure	Circular sheepfold noted on the 2 nd edition OS and as a 'circle' on the aerial images from 1950.	Negligible	Low
F			Aerial Photography		Unknown	A possible structure or enclosure located on the aerial imagery from 1965. This was not located on the ground and from the landscape, is likely to be a naturally occurring rocky outcrop.	Negligible	High
G			Aerial Photography		Unknown	Seemed to comprise a collection of walls in a photo from 1965. This was not located on the ground and may either be a lost livestock enclosure or a naturally occurring rock outcrop.	Negligible	Moderate

Site Number	Site name	NGR	Located	NMRS/ SMR site no.	Site type	Description	Site Importance/ significance	Site Impact
H			Aerial Photography		Structure (?)	Small square structure located on the aerial images from 1954. Not located on the ground.	Moderate	Negligible
I			Aerial Photographs		Cropmark	Ephemeral feature on the NW facing slope of Hog Hill, just off the summit. Located on aerial images from 1948.	Unknown	Moderate
1		NS 74315 10411	Walkover Survey		Quarry	<p>Large quarry set into NE facing slope of the Birk Burn.</p> <p>Measures 9m NW-SE by 4m SW-NE</p> 	Negligible	High
2		NS 74005 10111 (SE end)	Walkover Survey		Field boundary	<p>Degraded and collapsed field boundary running NW from the Birk Burn. Runs parallel to modern field boundary.</p> <p>Measures c.1.5m diameter by c.0.20m high. Unknown length</p>	Negligible	High

Site Number	Site name	NGR	Located	NMRS/ SMR site no.	Site type	Description	Site Importance/ significance	Site Impact
						(proceeds outwith site)		
3		NS 73978 09443	Walkover Survey		Clearance cairn	Accumulation of ploughed stone on marginal land adjacent to the Birk Burn. Measures c.5m ² .	Negligible	Moderate
6		NS 72136 07879	Walkover Survey		Livestock enclosure	Irregular remnants of a walled enclosure within long grasses on the NE sloping moor. Wall c.1m high with a width of c.0.6m	Negligible	Low

Appendix A:
Photographic Register; (Sanquhar Windfarm) – Walkover Survey

<i>Shot Num.</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initial</i>
001	N	1	View across Site 1 – Note rig and furrow visible beyond	18/04/13	AM
002	NW	1	View across Site 1 – Note rig and furrow visible beyond	18/04/13	AM
003	NW	2	Large concentration of stones at the SE end of Site 2 immediately above the Birk Burn	18/04/13	AM
004	NW	2	Degraded field boundary Site 2 running	18/04/13	AM
005	E	3	Large field clearance cairn Site 3 above the Birk Burn	18/04/13	AM
006	NE	-	Working shot – assessing the slopes of Bank Hill above the Glengap Burn	18/04/13	RC
007	N	-	Working shot – view across the Glengap Burn from Bank Hill to Mid Hill	18/04/13	RC
008	NW	-	Working shot – view across the Glengap Burn from Bank Hill to Mid Hill	18/04/13	RC
009	NE	-	Working shot – assessing the slopes of Bank Hill above the Glengap Burn	18/04/13	RC
010	NE	-	Working shot – snow on the slopes of Bank Hill	18/04/13	RC
011	NE	-	Working shot – view across the Glengap Burn from Bank Hill to Mid Hill with Site 5 in the distance	18/04/13	RC
012	NE	-	Working shot – view across the Glengap Burn from Bank Hill to Mid Hill with Site 5 in the distance	18/04/13	RC
013	NW	4	View across Site 4 in the bottom of the Glengap ‘valley’	18/04/13	AM
014	NN	4	View across Site 4 in the bottom of the Glengap ‘valley’	18/04/13	AM
015	N	-	Working shot – view across land to the N of Mageuchtan Rig	18/04/13	RC
016	NE	-	Working shot – View from Well Hill towards the Met mast	18/04/13	RC
017	NE	5	View of Site 5 from Mid Hill	18/04/13	AM
018	NE	5	View along NE perimeter wall of Site 5	18/04/13	AM
019	SE	5	View along SW perimeter wall of Site 5	18/04/13	AM
020	NE	5	The smaller enclosure within Site 5	18/04/13	AM
021	NE	-	Working shot – view towards Kello Water	18/04/13	RC
022	NE	-	Working shot – view towards Kello Water - detail	18/04/13	RC
023	NW	-	Working shot – Land drainage in the Glengap ‘valley’ from Hog Hill	18/04/13	RC
024	NE	-	Working shot towards Kirkconnel	18/04/13	RC
025	ENE	-	Working shot towards Kirkconnel	18/04/13	RC
026	NE	-	Working shot – panorama towards Kirkconnel	18/04/13	RC
027	N	6	Site 6 within the long grasses	18/04/13	RC
028	NW	6	Site 6 within the long grasses	18/04/13	RC
029	SW	6	Detail of upstanding wall of Site 6	18/04/13	RC
030	N	-	Working shot - Animal enclosure to the N of the development area	18/04/13	RC
031	NE	-	Working shot - Animal enclosure to the N of the development area	18/04/13	RC

Appendix B:
Photographic Thumbnails; (Sanquhar Windfarm) – Walkover Survey



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(002).JPG



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Appendix C:
Provisional Discovery and Excavation Scotland entry; (Sanquhar Windfarm) – Walkover Survey

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Sanquhar Windfarm
PROJECT CODE:	AA 2065
PARISH:	Sanquhar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ross Cameron
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Addyman Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Walkover Survey
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 70932 07786
START DATE (this season)	18/04/13
END DATE (this season)	18/04/13
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>Addyman Archaeology were commissioned to complete a walkover survey ahead of the proposed development of Sanquhar Windfarm in Dumfries and Galloway. The site is located around 7km SW of the town of Sanquhar and 5km SW of Kirkconnel and encompasses around 448 hectares in area.</p> <p>An assessment of the NMRS revealed no sites within the development area. The local government HER and an in depth map regression showed the development area to have always been essentially free of significant habitation. Only one pre-improvement farmstead was recorded as MDG24806, Glengap farmstead in the HER, also identified on William Roy's mid 18th century map, and still visible on the ground. The aerial photographic assessment also revealed a number of sites, but none of these were felt to be of significance. The walkover survey did not reveal any further important archaeological features.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Community Windpower Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	St. Ninian's Manse, Quayside Street, Edinburgh, EH6 6EJ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@addyman-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	NMRS and Dumfries and Galloway HER (intended)