

# Land West of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm, Heriot, The Scottish Borders

*Watching Brief Data Structure Report:  
August 2016*

*for*

Hunter Architecture

*August 2016*



*Working shot (006)*

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Addyman Archaeology

Archaeology   Heritage Consultancy   Architecture

# Land West of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill farm, Heriot

## *The Scottish Borders*

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### *Watching Brief August 2016*

*Job number 2161*

*August 2016*

by Jenni Morrison

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# Land to the West of Gala View Bungalow

## *Scottish Borders*

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### *Watching Brief: Report*

*August 2016*

#### *Executive Summary*

Addyman Archaeology were commissioned to carry out a watching brief on an area of land to the west of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm, near Heriot in the Scottish Borders. The watching brief was undertaken on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016.

The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition associated with the construction of a house. The area was stripped using a mechanical excavator under direct archaeological control.

A number of modern machine excavated pits containing animal remains were uncovered. A rubble filled field drain was recorded running diagonally across the south east corner of the trench. A small quantity of modern pottery sherds were observed within the topsoil, though not retained. No features or finds of archaeological interest were present on the site.

#### *1. Introduction*

##### *1.1 General*

Addyman Archaeology was commissioned by Hunter Architecture, on behalf of Mr Mark Kibble to undertake an archaeological watching brief prior to the construction of a house on land to the west of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm near Heriot in the Scottish Borders (NGR NT 39176 56081).

Planning permission for the construction of the house was granted on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015 (ref. 13/00094/PPP). Attached to the permission was an archaeological condition that a watching brief be undertaken on ground breaking works in order to record any archaeological features present on the site. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was submitted to and approved by Dr Christopher Bowles of Scottish Borders Council in March 2015. The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the principles laid out in the WSI.

This report has been produced in order to discharge the archaeological planning condition, and is therefore submitted to Scottish Borders Council Heritage Officer, Dr Christopher Bowles for his approval.

##### *1.2 Site location and Description*

The site is located at Falahill Farm, directly to the west of Gala View Bungalow. Falahill Farm is situated in the Moorfoot Hills to the west of the A7 between the villages of Middleton and Heriot. The plot is bordered on the north side by a high laurel hedge and a drystone wall separating it from the main access road to the farm. There are trees and shrubs on the east and west side, with a few trees and a broad view down to the valley to the south and south east. The site is under turf and slopes down to the south, there are a few trees dotted across the area.

The underlying geology is Leadhills Supergroup – Wacke; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 444-467 million years ago in the Ordovician Period; the local environment was previously dominated by deep seas. The superficial geological deposits are Till, Devensian – Diamicton deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. The local environment was at that point dominated by ice age conditions. ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)).

### *1.3 Historic Background*

There are no listed buildings or scheduled monuments either on or near to the proposed development site. A limited search of historic maps, and information held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland on their CANMORE website was carried out as part of the WSI (*Appendix D*).

There are three CANMORE sites in the vicinity of the proposed development, none of which lie on the site itself. There is a Post Medieval mill Dam to the north west of the main farm buildings (CANMORE ID 342374), the farm itself (CANMORE ID 100216) and of most interest a crop-mark site (CANMORE ID 70114) lies in the field immediately to the south. The following description is taken from the CANMORE website.

#### *Archaeological Notes*

[NT35NE 24](#) 3919 5601

*Aerial photography has revealed the crop-marks of a settlement on an E facing slope immediately to the SE of Falahill farmsteading. It is circular, with a diameter of approximately 33m internally, with a possible entrance on the SE side. Internally, crop-marks including a large dark crescentic mark (possibly geological), some pits, and an arc of narrow ditch have been recorded. Information from RCAHMS (KB) 16 July 1999. There are a number of these enclosed settlements or forts in the area including the upstanding scheduled remains at Chapel Hill (canmore ID 54652). Sites with upstanding remains were generally recorded by the Ordnance Survey and often on early maps such as General Roy's Military Survey. A selection of maps were consulted to identify if there had been upstanding remains at Falahill which had been destroyed by recent farming activity, however there was no map evidence of upstanding remains.*

*Roy's Military Survey Lowland Scotland did not show any settlement in the vicinity of Falahill Farm. The first map consulted which shows the farm is the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition Berwickshire sheet XIII A surveyed 1853-57. The field boundaries on the site are visible but no other structures. By the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition survey in the 1890's the farm buildings, and cottages opposite the site have changed considerably, but the field boundaries on the site remain unchanged. There is still no evidence of any buildings on the site.*



Figure 1 OS 1st edition Berwickshire sheet XIII A surveyed 1853-57 © nls



Figure 2 OS 2nd edition Edinburghshire sheet XXI.NW published 1895  
revised 1892© nls

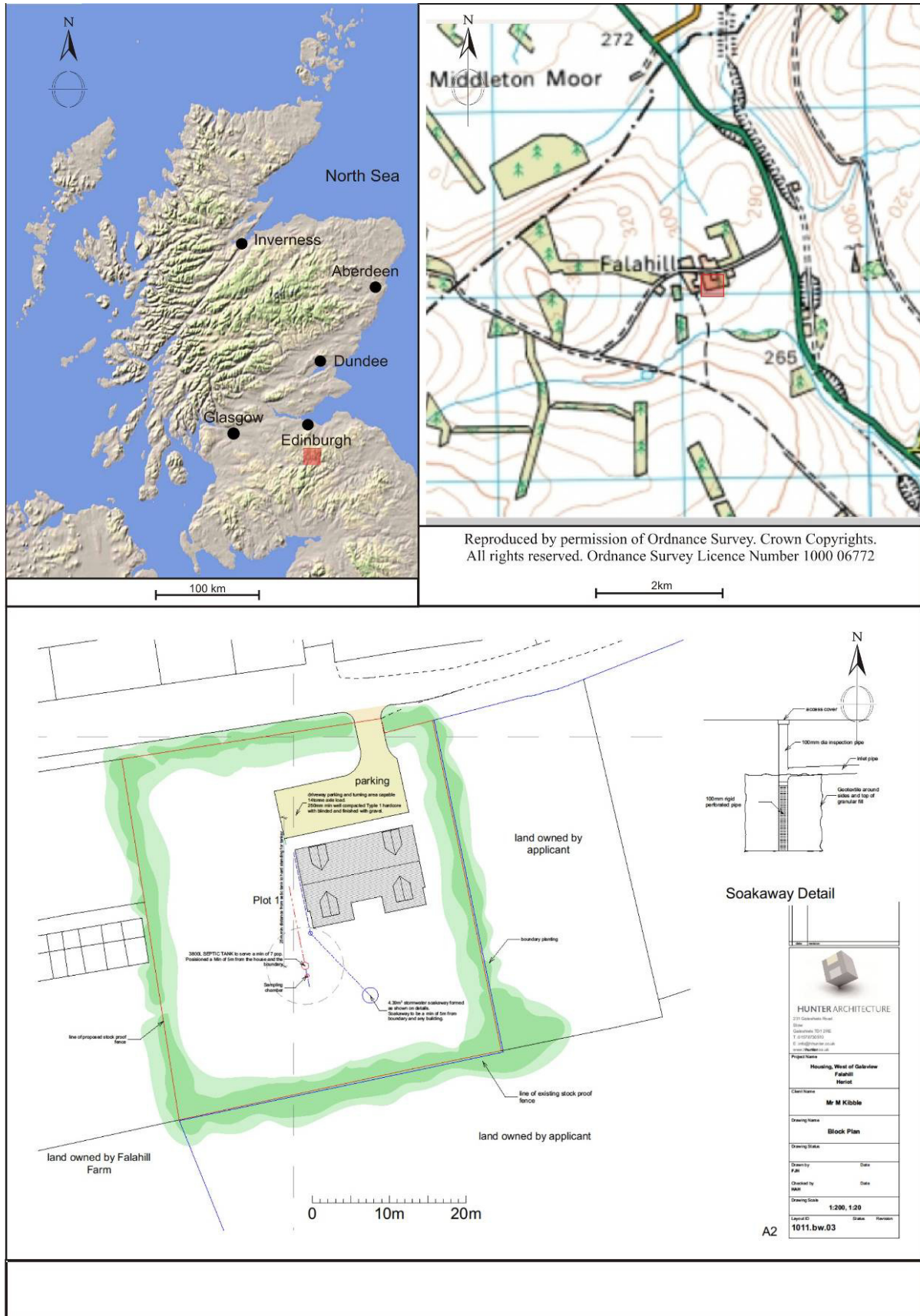


Figure 3 Site location

## 2. Watching Brief

### 2.1 Methodology

The area was stripped using a 5 tonne JCB tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All excavation was carried out under direct archaeological control. The area stripped was smaller than that originally specified; the location and extent of the area was recorded.

A general site plan indicating the position of the field drain was prepared and tied in to the National Grid, based on drawings supplied by the contactor. A complete photographic record was made of the site before and after stripping, and of the modern features uncovered. A written description was made of the nature and depth of all deposits.

A record of this project will be deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service and with *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland. The site archive will be deposited with HES.

### 2.2 Results

The topsoil varied between 0.3m and 0.6m in depth, it was loose rich dark topsoil and the ground was dry. A number of fragment of modern ceramic and glass were observed within the topsoil. These were not retained. No finds of archaeological significance were present within the topsoil.



Plate 1 Area after stripping looking east 008

The natural subsoil was very compact reddish brown fractured shale with areas of coarse sand and gravel which was also very compact. The nature of the subsoil and the ground conditions made any cut features very clearly visible. A very straight linear feature was visible running broadly north east to south west across the south corner of the trench. It was 0.6m wide and was visible for 12.20m. At its western end where the ground rose up slightly, a loose rubble core was exposed during machining. This feature is clearly a rubble filled field drain. No further excavation was carried out.





*Plate 2 Field drain [003] 021*



*Plate 3 Rubble core of field drain exposed 012*

Prior to excavation the client stated he had recently removed a partially collapsed rubble field boundary in line with the south end of the trench. During excavation a large amount of large field stone rubble was uncovered along the south edge of the trench. There was no evidence of mortar on any of the stones. The stone was retained for re-use on the site.

The only other features present on the site were a number of machine excavated pits, all of which contained animal burials. The pits were either square or rectangular and mostly contained the remains of several sheep and or cattle. Some also had the nylon rope which had been used to drag the animal to the pits. One of the pits could be clearly seen to cut the field drain [003]. None of the pits were excavated, though photographs were taken.



*Plate 4 Pit cutting Field drain [003] 016*



*Plate 5 Pit containing animal burial 011*



Key

Area excavated

Field drain 003

Figure 4 Area as excavated showing field drain 003

### 3. Conclusion and Recommendation

Neither the initial desk based research or the archaeological watching brief showed any evidence of past human activity of the site. Across the whole area natural subsoil was uncovered. No features or finds of archaeological interest were present on the site. Therefore no further archaeological work is recommended. On this basis this report is submitted as the final element in fulfilling the archaeological requirement attached to the planning condition relating to this site.

*Appendix A: Context register*

<i>Context no</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Recorded by</i>
<i>001</i>	<i>Turf and top soil; varied from 0.3m to 0.6m deep</i>	<i>JMM</i>
<i>002</i>	<i>Subsoil very compact redish brown sand and gravel</i>	<i>JMM</i>
<i>003</i>	<i>Cut of filed drain</i>	<i>JMM</i>
<i>004</i>	<i>Rubble core of field drain 003</i>	<i>JMM</i>
<i>005</i>	<i>Upper fill of field drain 004</i>	<i>JMM</i>

**Appendix B Photo Register**

<i>Photo No</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken by</i>
01	S	Pre excavation record shot	JMM
02	S	As above different angle	JMM
03	N	As above	JMM
04	N	As above	JMM
05	S	Working shot of machine	JMM
06	SE	As above	JMM
07	SE	Post excavation general shot	JMM
08	E	As above different angle	JMM
09	NW	As above	JMM
10	S	Modern pit with animal burial	JMM
11	NE	Modern pit with animal skull on top	JMM
12	SW	Rubble fill exposed in field drain [003]	JMM
13	SW	As above zoomed out	JMM
14	NW	General view of [003]	JMM
15	W	Rectangular pit with animal burial	JMM
16	SW	Field drain [003] cut by modern animal burial pit	JMM
17	SW	Animal burial pit cutting drain [003]	JMM
18	NE	Overview of field drain [003]	JMM
19	E	Rubble from boundary wall along south edge of trench	JMM
20	SW	Large curved animal burial pit	JMM
21	SW	Detail of field drain [003]	JMM
22	E	Section of top soil maximum depth	JMM
23	W	Section of top soil minimum depth	JMM

*Appendix C: Photographic contact sheets*



2161-001



2161-002



2161-003



2161-004



2161-005



2161-006



2161-007



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2161-020



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2161-024



2161-023

*Appendix D: WSI, March 2015*

*Land west of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm  
Heriot, The Scottish Borders*

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*Archaeological Watching Brief : Written Scheme of Investigation*

for

Hunter Architecture

*March 2015*



*The site looking south by Hamish Hunter of Hunter Architects*



**Addyman Archaeology**

*Building Historians & Archaeologists*

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admin@addyman-archaeology.co.uk www.simpsonandbrown.co.uk

# Land west of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm

## Heriot, The Scottish Borders

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### *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring*

by Jenni Morrison

#### ***I. Introduction***

##### ***i. General***

Addyman Archaeology were asked by Hamish Hunter of Hunter Architects on behalf of Mr Mark Kibble, to carry out a programme of archaeological work at land to the West of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm, Heriot, The Scottish Border, prior to the erection of a new house. An application for Planning Permission in Principle (ref. 13/00094/PPP) was made and Permission in Principle was granted on 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2015. In consultation with the archaeology officer at Scottish Borders Council Dr Christopher Bowles, the following requirements have been specified:

*No development shall commence until the Developer has first secured a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining a Watching Brief, that has first been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Planning Authority. Thereafter, both the development and the archaeological investigation shall only be implemented and progressed in accordance with the approved details.....the results of the archaeological works shall be reported in the form of a Data Structure Report (DSR), which, unless otherwise agreed in writing and in advance by the Planning Authority, shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for its written approval within no more than one month of the date of completion of all on-site archaeological works.*

This written scheme of investigation (WSI) is the first step in discharging the archaeological planning condition and is presented here for acceptance by The Scottish Borders Council Heritage Officer, Dr Christopher Bowles. This document contains back ground information together with the methods that will be used to appropriately monitor the stripping of the site in order to identify and record any archaeological remains which may be present. The results will be presented in the form of a written and illustrated report.

##### ***ii. Acknowledgements***

Unless otherwise stated, all content is the copyright of Simpson & Brown Architects with Addyman Archaeology.

##### ***iii. The Site – Location, and Description***

The site is located at Falahill Farm, directly to the west of Gala View Bungalow. Falla Hill Farm is situated in the Moorfoot Hills to the west of the A7 between the villages of Middleton and Heriot. The land is currently under grass with occasional conifers and a border of trees to the south.



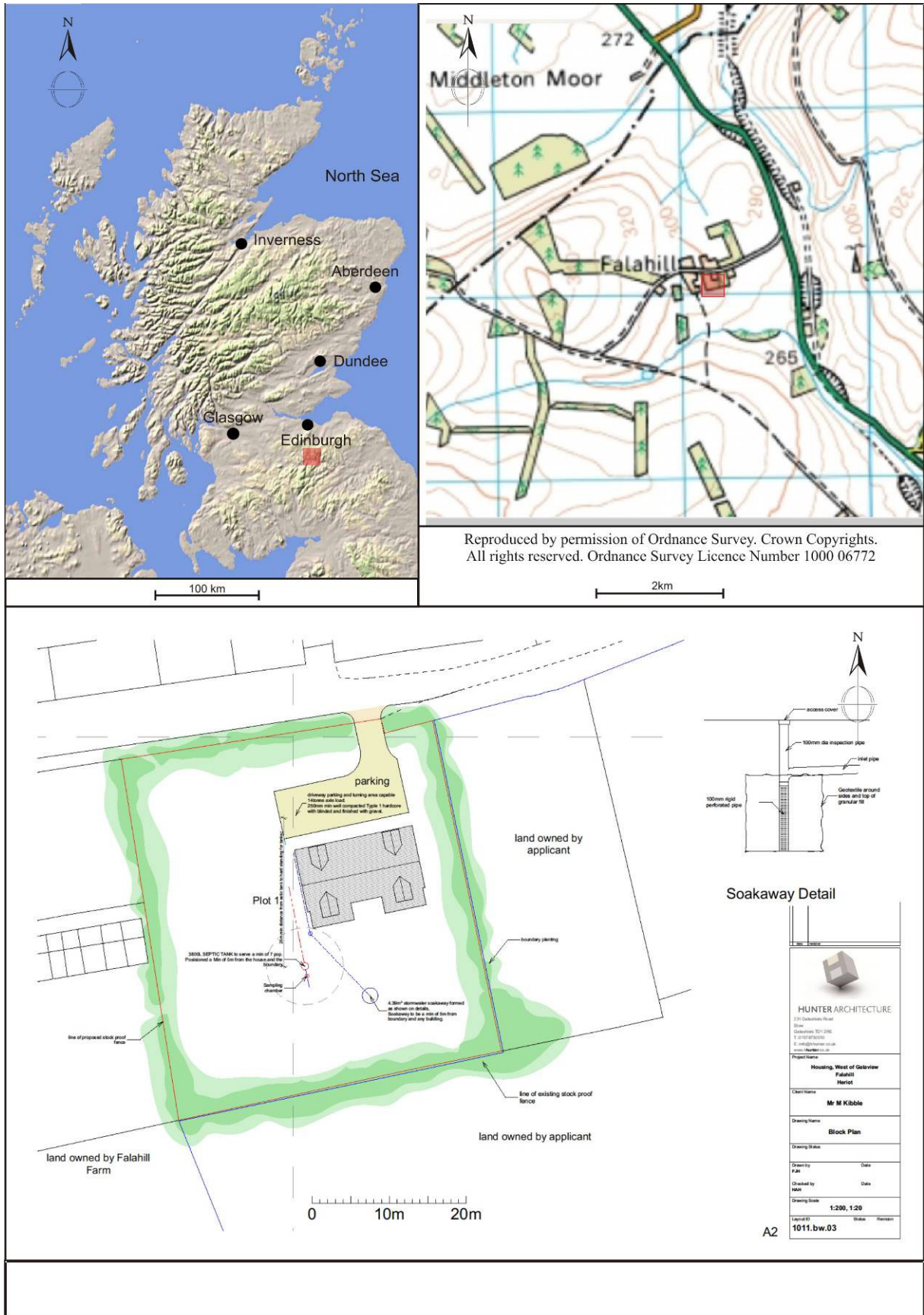


Figure 1 Site location plan

*iv. Background*

There are no listed buildings or scheduled monuments either on or near to the proposed development site. A limited search of historic maps, and information held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland on their CANMORE website was carried out.

There are three CANMORE sites in the vicinity of the proposed development, none of which lie on the site itself. There is a Post Medieval mill Dam to the north west of the main farm buildings (CANMORE ID 342374), the farm itself (CANMORE ID 100216) and of most interest a crop-mark site (CANMORE ID 70114) lies in the field immediately to the south. The following description is taken from the CANMORE website.

*Archaeological Notes*  
NT35NE 24 3919 5601

Aerial photography has revealed the crop-marks of a settlement on an E facing slope immediately to the SE of Falahill farmstead. It is circular, with a diameter of approximately 33m internally, with a possible entrance on the SE side. Internally, crop-marks including a large dark crescentic mark (possibly geological), some pits, and an arc of narrow ditch have been recorded. Information from RCAHMS (KB) 16 July 1999 There are a number of these enclosed settlements or forts in the area including the upstanding scheduled remains at Chapel Hill (canmore ID 54652). Sites with upstanding remains were generally recorded by the Ordnance Survey and often on early maps such as General Roy's Military Survey. A selection of maps were consulted to identify if there had been upstanding remains at Falahill which had been destroyed by recent farming activity, however there was no map evidence of upstanding remains.

The following maps were consulted:

- OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition Berwickshire sheet XIII A surveyed 1853-57 published 1854-62
- OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Edinburghshire sheet XXI.NW published 1895 revised 1892
- General William Roy's Military Survey Lowland Scotland# ref C9.b 7/4c

## ***2. Scope of proposed works – Written Scheme of Investigation***

### ***i. Watching brief during ground breaking works***

The watching brief is necessary in order to evaluate any buried archaeological remains, and involves the monitoring of any and all ground breaking works by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

The ground breaking works will be undertaken by the contractor, who will also be responsible for soil removal and storage. Soil will be stripped using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The mechanical excavation work will be monitored by a qualified archaeologist until the depth of the development impact or undisturbed natural subsoil is reached. If excavations are carried out by hand, these will also be monitored.

The client will notify the archaeologists in advance of any ground breaking works taking place. This must be done 5 working days in advance in order for an archaeologist to attend site. If archaeological features or artefacts are exposed, these will be hand excavated and recorded by the archaeologist carrying out the watching brief. The recording will be undertaken using Addyman Archaeology standard procedure. This will include written records using pro-form sheets, photographs and drawings at an appropriate scale, following Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) standards.

Should the archaeological remains prove to be significant, Dr Christopher Bowles of Scottish Borders Council will be informed, and it may be necessary to undertake additional excavation and recording of the features in order to satisfy the planning condition. All site work will cease until an amended WSI has been submitted to and approved in writing by Scottish Borders Council.

### ***ii. Staffing***

The watching brief will be carried out by Jenni Morrison or another suitably qualified member of staff of Addyman Archaeology. The report will be compiled by the archaeologist undertaking the site monitoring.

### ***iii. Reporting***

The results of the historic building recording and watching brief will be presented in a formal Data Structure Report (DSR), as per Addyman Archaeology standards, following *CI/A* procedures.

The formal report is to include:

- An executive summary
- National Grid Reference and formal address
- Note of any statutory and non-statutory designations
- Date of record, names of recorders, archive location
- Location plan
- Detailed description of findings
- Summary statement of results
- Recommendation for mitigation

Addyman Archaeology will complete the report within four weeks of completion of the fieldwork.

A summary of the findings will be presented in a small article for 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' (DES), published by Archaeology Scotland. The results of the project will also be uploaded to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) platform, and be available for wider public consultation.

*vi. Time-scales*

The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken as determined by the client's schedule, though this should take place during the summer of 2015. Dr Christopher Bowles of The Scottish Borders Council will be notified in advance of all works taking place.

The report will be submitted to the client and Dr Chris Bowles of The Scottish Borders Council within four weeks of the completion of fieldwork.

**3. Bibliography**

<http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/>

[www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk)

<http://www.scottish-places.info/>

[www.rcahms.gov.uk](http://www.rcahms.gov.uk)

*Appendix E: DES entry*

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Scottish Borders Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Land to West of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AA 2161
<b>PARISH:</b>	Heriot
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Jenni Morrison
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Addyman Archaeology
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NT 39176 56081
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	22/08/2016
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	22/08/2016
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	-
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>Addyman Archaeology were commissioned to carry out a watching brief on an area of land to the west of Gala View Bungalow, Falahill Farm, near Heriot in the Scottish Borders. The watching brief was undertaken on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016.</p> <p>The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition associated with the construction of a house. The area was stripped using a mechanical excavator under direct archaeological control.</p> <p>A number of modern machine excavated pits containing animal remains were uncovered. A rubble filled field drain was recorded running diagonally across the south east corner of the trench. A small quantity of modern pottery sherds were observed within the topsoil, though not retained. No features or finds of archaeological interest were present on the site.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	-
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	-
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Mark Kibble
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	St. Ninian's Manse, Quayside Street, Edinburgh, EH6 6EJ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	admin@addyman-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	HES