



NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE	Roman Road, Balfron
REPORT:	Stirlingshire
PROJECT ID: 310	Metal Detector Survey & Archaeological Evaluation
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT	



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Roman Road, Balfron, Stirlingshire

NGR: NS 5548 8882

Data Structure Report
on behalf of
CALA Homes (West) Ltd

Cover Plate: Vehicle on site surrounded by cattle

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Date: 27 October 2015

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Abstract

A metal detector survey and archaeological evaluation were undertaken at Roman Road, Balfron, Stirlingshire on behalf of CALA Homes (West) Ltd. The work was conducted by Northlight Heritage between 19th and 24th of October 2015. Twenty one trenches, totalling an area of 1576 sq. m, were excavated across the proposed development area, equivalent to approximately 8% of the area to be developed.

A series of modern field drains, plough scars and part of a possible furrow were uncovered within the evaluation trenches. An iron meat cleaver, likely to be of quite recent date, was found during the metal detecting survey.

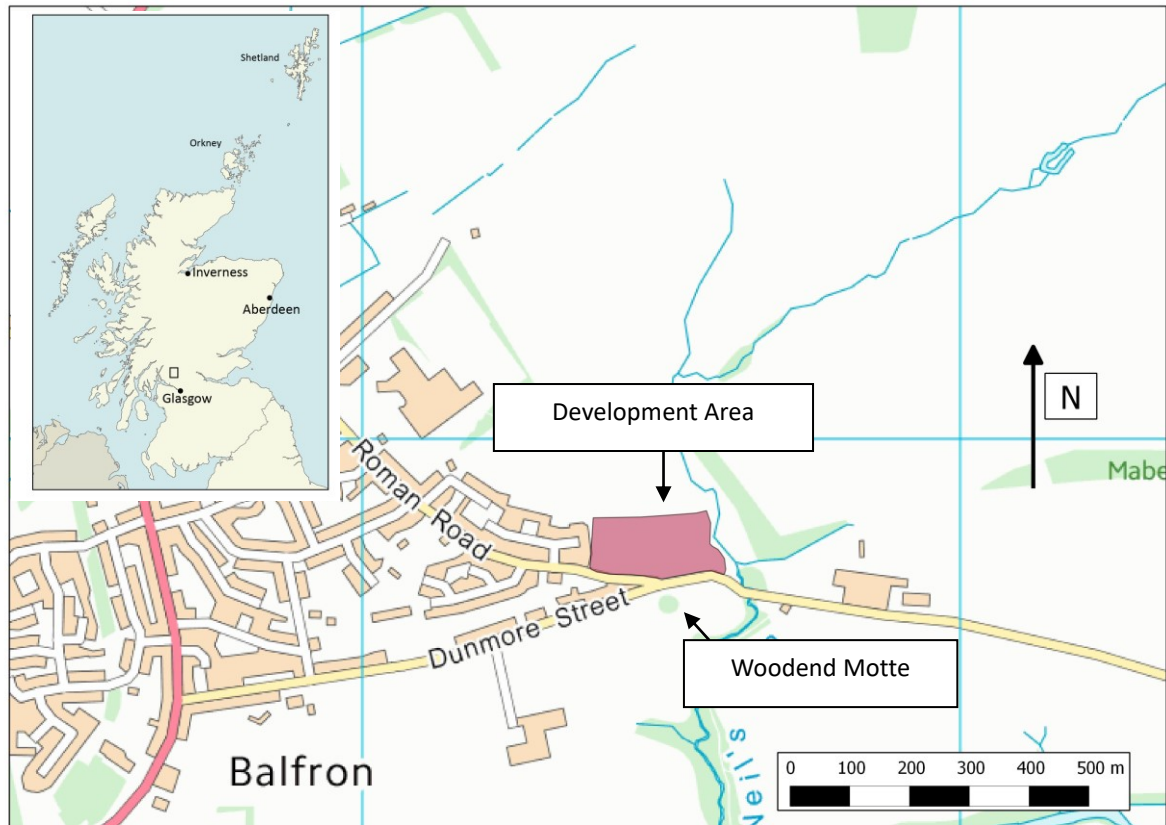


Figure 1: Site location

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1. Introduction

1.1

This report presents the results of archaeological works at Roman Road, Balfron, Stirlingshire conducted by Northlight Heritage on behalf of CALA Homes (West) Ltd between the 19th and 24th of October 2015. Twenty one trenches, a total of 1576 sq. m, were opened across an area proposed for housing development on the land to the east of Roman Road where it joins Dunmore Street. The evaluation trenches equated to approximately 8% of proposed development area. As well as the evaluation a metal detector survey was conducted across the entire development area.

2. Location, Geology and Topography

2.1

The proposed development site is located on the south-eastern edge of Balfron and is centred on approximately NGR: NS 5548 8882 (Figure 1). The site occupies a gently sloping green field, currently used as pasture. It is bound to the east by Dalfoil Farm and to the west by residential houses, while the areas to the north and south comprise further pastoral fields.

2.2

The underlying geology consists of Stockiemuir Sandstone and gravel while the superficial deposits consist of Devensian Till (1:50000, British Geological Survey).

3. Archaeological and Historical Context

3.1

There are no known archaeological features within the proposed development area; however the broader area is rich in archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to present times. The known remains indicate millennia of human occupation which indicated potential for previously unknown sub-surface archaeological remains to survive on site.

3.2

There is very little in terms of known prehistoric archaeology in the immediate area. The only recorded site is that of a cairn (NMRS: NS58NE 4 located at Cairn Hall Farm. Unfortunately this was destroyed by a farmer in 1969.

3.3

The most significant archaeological site in relation to the proposed development is located immediately south of the site, across Dunmore Street. This is the site of Woodend Motte (NMRS: NS58NE 1) and is a Scheduled Monument (SM2239). This proximity of this medieval feature to the proposed development area significantly raises the possibility of encountering medieval archaeology during the development.

3.4

Other features within 1km of the site include many upstanding buildings ranging in date between the post-medieval period to the present day

4. Summary Objectives

The objectives of the metal detector survey and evaluation were:

- To establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may be present on site;
- To determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- Where preservation *in-situ* was not feasible, to provide sufficient information to develop a stage 2 mitigation strategy to excavate and record any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the evaluation to ensure preservation through record;

5. Methodology

Metal Detector Survey

5.1

A metal detector survey was conducted across the proposed development area, primarily with the aim of identifying material which may relate to the motte or any conflict which may have occurred here. The survey was conducted by two detectorists using different detectors (Whites Spectra Series VX3 and Radiodetecion SPX RD312) in order to ensure a complete set of results.

5.2

The site was separated into areas measuring 20 m by 10 m and a thorough metal detector survey was undertaken with both metal detectors in each section. Signals were investigated with shovel-dug holes, with care not to disturb any archaeological features or deposits. Finds were collected and recorded by sub-centimetre GPS.

Evaluation

5.3

The site comprised approximately 1.97 hectares of land which was intended for housing development. To mitigate against the possible destruction of buried archaeological evidence a series of trial trenches were positioned to evaluate the area and identify any significant archaeological features and/or deposits. A total of twenty one trenches were excavated amounting to 1576 sq. metres and all the trenches were tied into the OS grid using sub-centimetre GPS. Each of these trenches measures 50 m in length by 1.6 m in width, with the exception of trenches 19 and 20 which measured 25 m in length by 1.6 m in width.

5.4

Excavation was undertaken by a wheeled mechanical back hoe CAT 432F excavator using a 1.6 m wide toothless ditching bucket under direct archaeological supervision. The topsoil was removed in spits to the level required for the construction works (the natural subsoil).

5.5

All trenches, archaeological features and artefacts were recorded, where appropriate, by written description on pro forma recording sheets, by high quality digital photography and by measured drawing.

6. Results

Metal Detection

6.1

Approximately 50 – 60 small holes were excavated across the entire site where metal detector indicated a reading. Of these 50 – 60 readings only one item (small find 1), which may be an iron (Fe.) cleaver, was deemed worthy of keeping for further analysis, and the rest of the items consisted of modern agricultural items (bolts, nuts, bushes etc) and aluminium cans. The location of small find 1 was recorded through sub-centimetre GPS in order to tie it into the OS grid (Figure 1).

Evaluation

6.2

Twenty trenches, each 1.6 m in width, were excavated. The topsoil comprised a dark brown silty sand (001), varying in depth between 0.24 m and 0.41 m, with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m in size. The natural subsoil (002) consisted of grey/orange sandy clay with occasional angular and sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m in diameter.

6.3

A large number of field drains were encountered throughout the majority of the evaluation trenches. Approximately 10 – 15 of these were partially excavated in order to confirm that they were not of archaeological significance. Many of these were hard to distinguish from the natural subsoil and many of them initially gave the impression of much larger features.

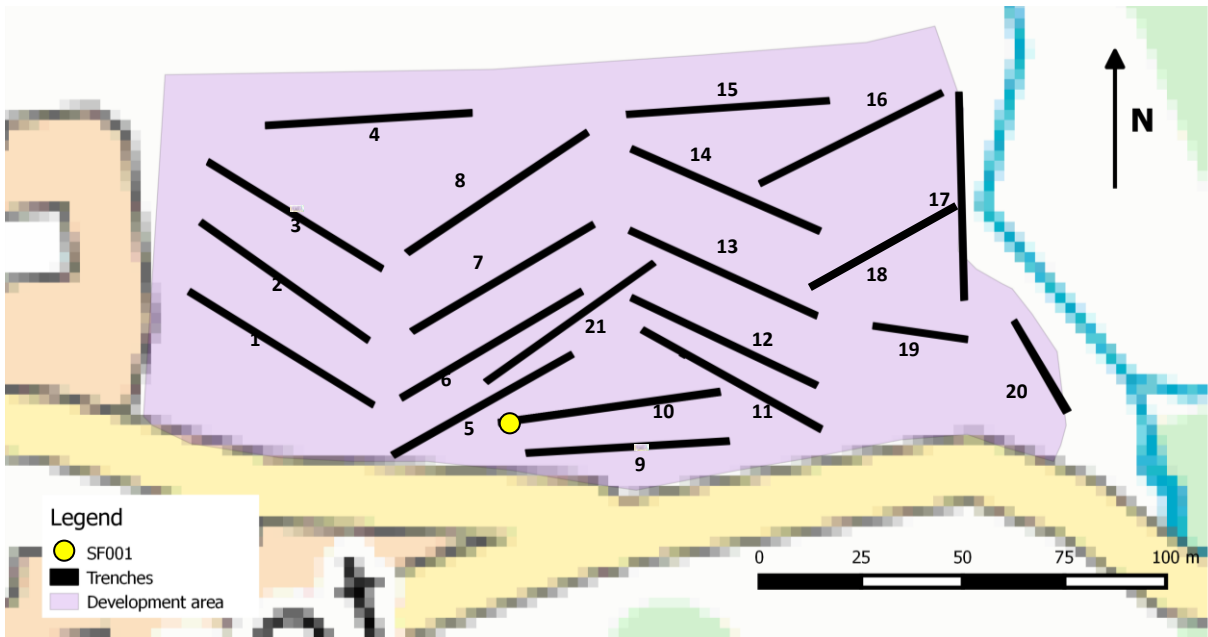


Figure 2: Trench locations

6.4

In trench 12 a small section of a possible furrow was uncovered (see plate 1). This possible furrow was 1.10 m in width by 0.16 m in depth and a section 1.6 m long was exposed. The furrow had been cut into the natural subsoil and had very shallow angled sides and an irregular base, slightly concave. It contained one fill which comprised light brown/grey sandy silt with very few stone inclusions. Although in plan this appeared very similar to the spread around the modern field drains, it was identifiable by a slight variation in colour, a much more definitive shape and much siltier soil. The furrow did not appear to continue to the south in trench 11 nor to the north in trench 13. Due to the amount of plough scars throughout the entire site it is likely that this possible furrow has been badly truncated by both ploughing and by the installation of field drains.



Plate 1: Small section of furrow surviving in trench 12

7. Discussion and Summary

7.1

Other than a large number of modern agricultural debris the metal detecting survey recovered only one item, a possible meat cleaver. This object is relatively well preserved, and is unlikely to be of archaeological significance.

7.2

A small section of a possible furrow was encountered in trench 12. As a large number of field drains and plough scars were evident across the entire site, it seems likely that intensive agricultural improvement and ploughing has caused significant truncation of the furrow and any other archaeological remains that may have been present here.

7.3

The metal-detection survey and evaluation were in part a response to the possibility that the development area, due to the proximity to the motte (NMRS: NS58NE 1), may have been a site of battle. Whilst we recovered no evidence of conflict in this area, the significant agricultural disturbance of the site, coupled with potentially poor soil conditions for the survival of iron artefacts, may mean that any such evidence had been destroyed.

8. Recommendations

8.1

As no significant archaeology was uncovered during the work reported here, and because the levels of agricultural disturbance within the development boundary have been shown to be significant, it is recommended that no further archaeological work need be carried out during the proposed development.

Northlight Heritage would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only and final decisions on the requirement for further mitigation rests with the planning authority.

9. List of Sources

British Geological Survey, 1:50000, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> (accessed 21/10/2015).

18	50	1.6	0.39	Moderately compacted dark brown silty sand (001) with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m.	Firmly compacted grey/orange sandy clay with occasional angular and sub-angular stone inclusions<0.20 m diameter.	Contained a number of field drains and plough scars. No archaeology.
19	25	1.6	0.31	Moderately compacted dark brown silty sand (001) with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m.	Firmly compacted grey/orange sandy clay with occasional angular and sub-angular stone inclusions<0.20 m diameter.	Contained a number of field drains and plough scars. No archaeology.
20	25	1.6	0.25	Moderately compacted dark brown silty sand (001) with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m.	Firmly compacted grey/orange sandy clay with occasional angular and sub-angular stone inclusions<0.20 m diameter.	Contained a number of field drains and plough scars. No archaeology.
21	50	1.6	0.30	Moderately compacted dark brown silty sand (001) with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions <0.20 m.	Firmly compacted grey/orange sandy clay with occasional angular and sub-angular stone inclusions<0.20 m diameter.	Contained a number of field drains and plough scars. No archaeology.

Table 2: Context Information

Context No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Compaction / Texture / Condition	Colour	Composition	Interpretation	Stratigraphy and/or phasing info	Notes
'001	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	Average 0.31	Moderate	Dark Brown	Silty Sand	Topsoil	Overlies entire site	n/a
'002	Natural	n/a	n/a	n/a	Firm	Grey/Orange	Sandy Clay	Natural	Underlies entire site	n/a
'003	Deposit	>1.60	1.10	0.16	Moderate	Light Brown/Grey	Sandy Silt	Fill of possible furrow	Above [004] Below (001)	n/a
'004	Cut	>1.60	1.10	0.16	n/a	n/a	n/a	Cut of possible furrow	Above (002) Below (003)	Shallow sides & irregular base.

Table 3: Finds

Small Find No.	Composition	Description
001	Fe.	Possible cleaver

Table 4: Drawings

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Scale	Context No's.	Description
001	001	1 : 10	003, 004	SSW facing section of possible furrow

Table 5: Digital photographs

<i>Photo No.</i>	<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken from.</i>
1	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	NW
2	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	S
3	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	SW
4	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	NW
5	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	NW
6	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	SW
7	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	E
8	n/a	001	Pre excavation of site	E
9	1	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 1	E
10	2	001, 002	Black organic patch within trench 2	E
11	2	001, 002	Black organic patch within trench 2	E
12	2	001, 002	Natural linear feature within trench 2	E
13	2	001, 002	Field drain within trench 2	E
14	2	001, 002	Natural linear feature within trench 2	E
15	2	001, 002	Large field drain within trench 2	E
16	2	002	Large field drain within trench 2	E
17	2	001, 002	Large field drain within trench 2	E
18	2	001, 002	Large field drain within trench 2	E
19	2	002	Section of large pipe cut within trench 2	E
20	2	001, 002	Field drain within trench 2	E
21	2	001, 002	Field drain within trench 2	E
22	2	001, 002	Close up of field drain within trench 2	S
23	2	002	Close up of field drain within trench 2	S
24	2	002	Field drain within trench 2	S
25	2	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 2	SW
26	3	001, 002	Field drain within trench 3	SW
27	3	001, 002	Close up of field drain within trench 3	SW
28	n/a	001	General shot of site	S
29	4	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 4	SW
30	5	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 5	SW
31	5	001, 002	Field drain within trench 5	SW
32	5	001, 002	Field drain within trench 5	SW
33	6	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 6	SW
34	6	001, 002	Organic boggy patch in centre of trench 6	SW
35	6	002	Organic boggy patch in centre of trench 6	SW
36	2	001, 002	Tree bowl within trench 2	E
37	2	001, 002	Tree bowl within trench 2	E
38	2	001, 002	Tree bowl within trench 2	E
39	2	001, 002	Tree bowl within trench 2	E
40	6	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 6	E
41	6	001, 002	Field drain within trench 6	E
42	6	001, 002	Field drain within trench 6	E
43	6	002	Field drain within trench 6	E
44	7	001, 002	Boggy organic patch within trench 7	E
45	7	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 7	E
46	8	001, 002	Working shot	E
47	8	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 8	E
48	8	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 8 including boggy organic patch	E
49	9	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 9	E
50	9	001, 002	Red gravel patch with trench 9 (natural)	E
51	9	001, 002	Field drain within trench 9	E
52	9	001, 002	Boggy organic patch within trench 9	E

53	10	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 10	E
54	12	001, 002	Field drain in trench 12	NW
55	12	001-004	Possible furrow in trench 12	SW
56	12	001-004	Possible furrow in trench 12	E
57	12	001-004	SSW facing section of possible furrow in trench 12	SSW
58	12	001, 002	Field drain in trench 12	NW
59	12	001, 002	Field drain in trench 12	NW
60	12	001, 002	Field drain in trench 12	NW
61	12	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 12	NW
62	13	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 13	NW
63	13	001, 002	Field drain in trench 13	NW
64	13	001, 002	Field drain in trench 13	NW
65	11	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 11	E
66	11	001, 002	Field drain in trench 11	E
67	11	001, 002	Field drain in trench 11	E
68	11	001, 002	Field drain in trench 11	NW
69	n/a	001	Working shot	NW
70	14	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 14	NW
71	14	001, 002	Field drain in trench 14	NW
72	14	001, 002	Field drain and plough scars in trench 14	NW
73	14	001, 002	Field drain and plough scars in trench 14	NW
74	14	001, 002	Large spread of black clay, field drain in trench 14	NW
75	15	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 15	NW
76	n/a	001, 002	Working shot	SW
77	n/a	001, 002	Working shot	NW
78	n/a	001, 002	Working shot	NW
79	15	001, 002	Field drain in trench 15	NW
80	15	001, 002	Field drain in trench 15	NW
81	15	001, 002	Field drain and plough scars in trench 15	NW
82	15	001, 002	Field drain and plough scars in trench 15	NW
83	15	001, 002	Field drain in trench 15	NW
84	n/a	001	Steep slope avoided during evaluation	SE
85	n/a	001	Steep slope avoided during evaluation	ESE
86	n/a	001	Steep slope avoided during evaluation	E
87	n/a	001	Steep slope avoided during evaluation	N
88	16	001, 002	Field drain within trench 26	W
89	16	001, 002	Field drain within trench 16	W
90	16	001, 002	Field drain within trench 16	W
91	16	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 16	W
92	17	001, 002	Change in natural subsoil within trench 17	E
93	17	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench within trench 17	W
94	17	001, 002	Plough scars and field drain within trench 17	W
95	17	001, 002	Change in natural subsoil within trench 17	W
96	18	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 18	N
97	19	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 19	N
98	20	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 20	W
99	21	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 21	SW
100	21	001, 002	Post excavation shot of trench 21	SW
101	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	SE
102	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	S
103	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	NW
104	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	W
105	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	E
106	n/a	001	General shot of site once trenches were backfilled	S

APPENDIX 2: Stage 1 Written Scheme of Investigation

Roman Road, Balfron
Stirling

Housing Development

Planning ref. 12/00432/FUL

Archaeological Works

Written Scheme of Investigation

Project: 310

Prepared by Alastair Becket

1.0 Non-Technical Summary

This document sets a Written Scheme of Investigation designed by Northlight Heritage on behalf of the CALA Homes (West) for archaeological works relating to the construction of a housing development at Roman Road, Balfron, Stirling (planning ref. 12/00432/FUL). The initial proposed mitigation is a metal detector survey followed by an archaeological evaluation through trial trenching of the area.

This document establishes actions and products required to achieve Stage 1 of a potentially three-stage process, Stage 2 being any further work, including fieldwork arising from Stage 1, such as the development and implementation of a mitigation strategy to deal with any significant archaeology identified or recovered during Stage 1 which cannot be preserved *in-situ*, and Stage 3 being the further analysis of any materials recovered during the field work in either or both Stages 1 and 2 and/or the preparation of a final report on all works constituting preservation by record for publication, as appropriate.

2.0 Site Location and Description

The site is located on the eastern side of Balfron, at approximately NGR: NS 5548 8882 (Figure 1). The proposed development area is approximately 1.97 hectares in size. The site is a gently sloping green field, currently used as pasture.

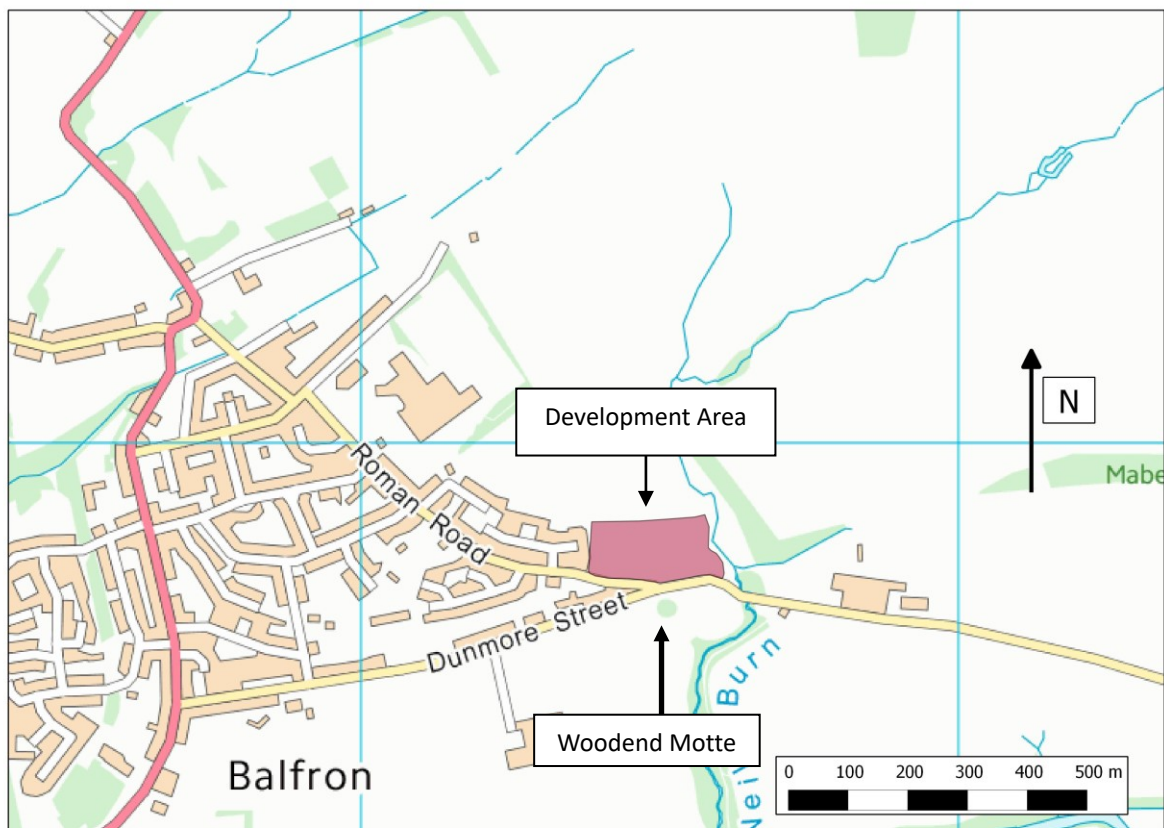


Figure 1: Approximate location of proposed development area
(Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014)

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

There are no known archaeological features within the proposed development area, however the broader area is rich in archaeological remains dating from prehistoric to present times. These known remains indicate millennia of human occupation and demonstrate that there is a potential for previously unknown sub-surface archaeological remains to survive on the site.

In the immediate area around the site (within approximately 1 km) there is little recorded of prehistoric date other than a cairn which was located at Cairn Hall Farm, but was destroyed by the farmer in 1969 (NMRS: NS58NE 4). Other features within 1 km of the site include many upstanding buildings which date between the post-Medieval period and the present day.

The most significant known archaeological site in relation to the proposed development area is Woodend Motte (NMRS: NS58NE 1) which lies just across the road to the south of the development area and is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Figure 1). The proximity of this medieval feature to the development area significantly raises the possibility of encountering medieval archaeology during the development.

4.0 Project Objectives

The project objectives are to:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may be present on site;
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- and, where preservation *in-situ* is not feasible, provide sufficient information to develop a stage 2 mitigation strategy to excavate and record any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the evaluation to ensure preservation through record.

5.0 Methodology

5.1 Metal Detector Survey

A metal detector survey will be conducted across the proposed development area, primarily with the aim of identifying material relating to the motte or conflict which may have occurred here. The survey will be conducted by no less than two detectorists using different detectors to ensure a complete set of results. Signals will be investigated with shovel-dug holes, with care being taken not to disturb archaeological features or deposits without appropriate recording (see section 5.2). Artefacts will be collected and their locations recorded.

5.2 Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation comprising trial trenches equating to 8% of the total development area will be conducted. Trenches will be positioned to ensure coverage of the area and with a consideration of the metal detector results and the location of the medieval motte. The trench plan (figure 2) may also be altered on the ground to target topographic features deemed more likely to contain archaeologically significant material, or to avoid areas (particularly live services) in accordance with the site health and safety risk assessment.

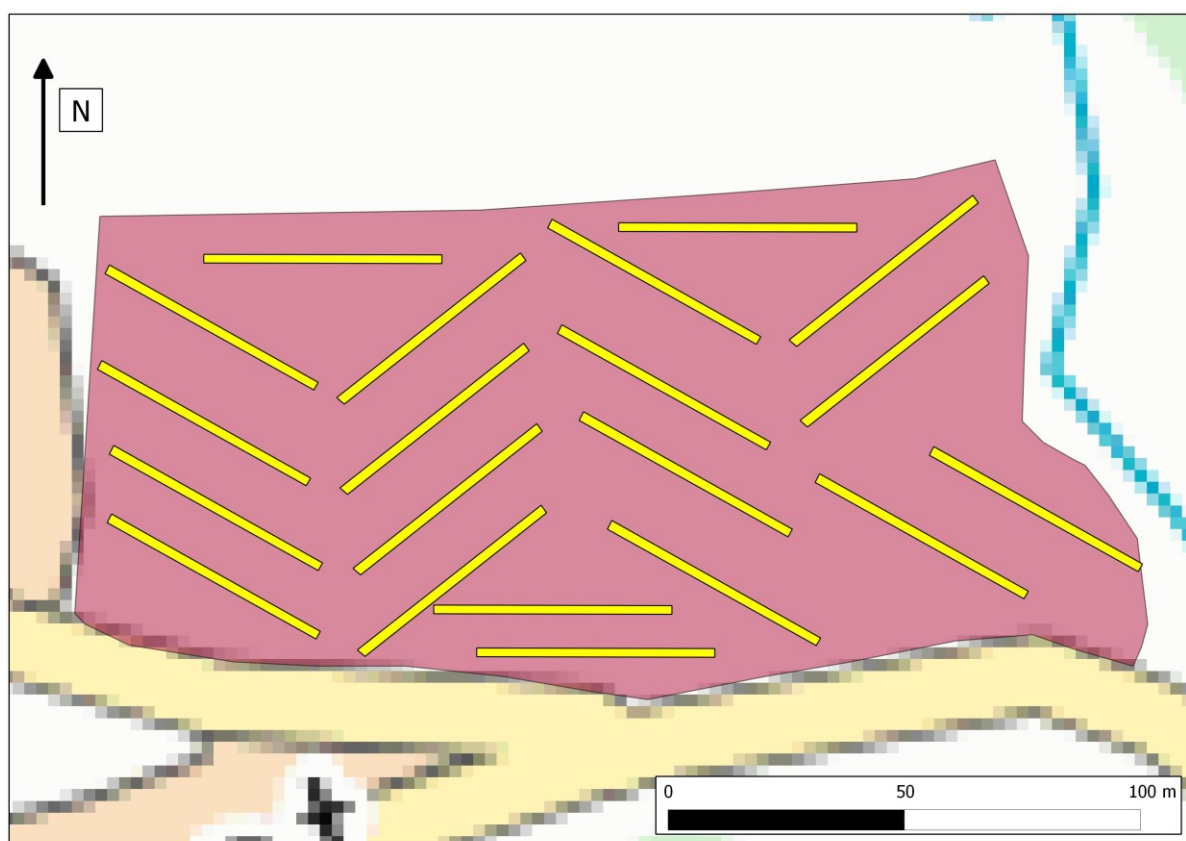


Figure 2: Proposed trench layout
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The strategy to be employed during the evaluation will consist of the following:

- Evaluation of the whole area of proposed development requires 20 50 m by 1.6 m trenches (or variation thereon, to a total of 1576 m²) to be excavated.
- Excavation will be undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under direct archaeological supervision.
- The topsoil, and any subsoil interfaces, will be removed in spits to the level required for the construction works (likely to be the natural subsoil) or the first archaeological horizon. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to help 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 archaeological features encountered will be investigated by the on-site archaeologists. Should negative-cut features be encountered a representative sample of them will be 50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function.
- In the event that discovered features are deemed to be of archaeological significance, trenches will be extended to investigate the broader area surrounding them and establish the extent of the archaeological remains. Linear features will be sampled excavated to establish their character and potential date. Isolated features will be 100% excavated.
- Recording will include pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs.
- All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeological team. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context which date from the later phases of occupation. Should finds be encountered from the earlier occupation phases of the site they will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to up-lifting. Finds which are of particular sensitivity or importance may require specialist conservation assessment.

- All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled for artefactual and palaeo-environmental evidence. Where appropriate, this may also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues on soil development at the site.
- Where archaeological deposits or features prove to be present, and particularly extensive, numerous or complex are encountered, the client will be informed and a site meeting will be held (if required) between all relevant parties to agree the most appropriate strategy. Where preservation in-situ is not feasible, this will generally comprise a need to develop a stage 2 mitigation strategy to excavate and record any significant archaeological features or sites encountered during the evaluation to ensure preservation through record.
- Due to the close proximity of the development to Balfron, trenches will be backfilled and reinstated at the end of each day. In the case of trenches containing archaeology, these may require to be kept open overnight in which case hazard-tape will be erected around the open trench.
- All trenches will be surveyed in to the OS grid.

5.3 *Human Remains*

Should human remains be encountered, the local police, the local authority archaeologist and the developer will be notified immediately and thereafter prescribed procedure for their treatment will be followed, in accordance with legal requirements.

5.4 *Project Monitoring*

The local authority archaeologist and the developer will be notified immediately of any unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries, or other unexpected occurrences which might significantly affect the archaeological work and/or the development. In that event, all finds and features will be left *in situ* until arrangements have been agreed by the local authority archaeologist for safeguarding or recording them. The local authority archaeologist will be the final judge of significance for any archaeological remains and may well insist upon full excavation for any remains to be destroyed by the proposals.

An archaeological project manager will be appointed for all the works outlined above and the manager will be the first point of contact for any project-related liaison with the local authority archaeologist and the developer or the developer's agent for all formal logistical, administrative and financial aspects of the project.

It will be important to ensure that all formal communications, instructions and/or requests (including any proposed amendments to on-site strategies) are ultimately made in writing to the project manager, to ensure organisational, administrative and financial efficiency.

Any site visitors, including representatives of the local authority, will be required to conform to the health and safety regime in place during the fieldwork programme.

6.0 Reporting, Archive & Small Finds Arrangements

Following completion of the fieldwork, a report on the fieldwork will be prepared, outlining the main results and incorporating lists of all features, finds, samples, photographs and drawings. This report will be produced as an electronic report (and a desk-top published document where this is required). The report will also include recommendations for further mitigation measures appropriate to the remains encountered. Implementation of any recommendations offered would, however, only follow consultation with the local authority archaeologist.

The report will be prepared, in structural and textual content terms, to the standard of the traditional Data

Structure Report as defined by Historic Scotland, in their "Project Design, Implementation and Archiving" document (Historic Scotland Archaeological Procedure Paper 2, 1996). The report will provide "a structure or organisation to the primary records" of the fieldwork, forming "a basis for further work". It will be "essentially, an initial organisation on paper of the information retrieved from the site" and consist "of a narrative account of the contexts...discovered, including field interpretations and a set of lists. It is not intended for publication, but will itself be archived." A project archive will be prepared and made ready for submission within six months of the completion of all fieldwork or post-excavation work (as appropriate). The resultant site archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Records for Scotland.

A short report detailing the results will also be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* and to *OASIS*.

Copies of the Data Structure Report will be provided to the local authority archaeologist, the developer and to the National Monuments Record for Scotland. Further copies can be distributed to other recipients if requested and specified.

The results of this work will inform the need for further (Stage 2) fieldwork or further (Stage 3) analysis of materials/generation of a report for publication, the report will, on request, be followed by a costed assessment specifying any work deemed necessary in order to complete the project. Publication, where required, would normally be sought in a suitable academic journal. The post-excavation process is essential to bring a piece of archaeological work to completion.

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 during the evaluation or any subsequent stages of work, 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 (QLTR) which museum should be allocated the finds.

All artefacts will be stored temporarily by Northlight until a decision has been made by the Panel regarding the museum which will be allocated the finds for permanent curation. All finds will be transferred to the appropriate museum within six months of completion of the fieldwork, if no post-excavation work is required, or at the end of the latest finishing post-excavation programme.

In the event that unallocated finds recovered from the evaluation or any later stages of work require to be removed from Scotland, for the purposes of post-excavation analysis, there is a legal requirement to obtain the consent of the QLTR, in the form of a loan agreement. Initially, an indication of intent would be registered with the Treasure Trove Secretariat at the National Museums of Scotland, after which formal consent would be applied for using the form "Application for authority to borrow unallocated Treasure Trove for research purposes". A consent form, signed by the QLTR and specifying conditions (such as the period during which finds may be held outside Scotland) would then be issued. Receipt of this signed consent form will be required before items may be removed from the country.

7.0 Timetable

The work will be undertaken during the week commencing 19 October 2015

A draft Data Structure Report will be lodged with the local authority archaeologist within 4 weeks of the completion of fieldwork. Should the project result in the need for publication a Stage 3 'Post-Excavation Research Design' will be submitted to the local authority archaeologist within 3 months after the submission of the Data Structure Report with the aim of producing a final publication within one year of agreement of the design.

8.0 Staffing

Project Manager – Alastair Becket

Project Director – Steven Black

9.0 Health and Safety

Prior to fieldwork commencing a risk assessment of the project will be undertaken. Northlight Heritage, as part of York Archaeological Trust, adheres to all standard Health and Safety regulations governing fieldwork projects.

Northlight Heritage also possess appropriate third party/public liability insurance cover, proof of which may be supplied upon request.

APPENDIX 3: DES

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Stirling
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Roman Road
PROJECT CODE:	310
PARISH:	Balfron
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Steven Black
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Northlight Heritage
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Metal Detecting Survey & Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	none
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	none
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	none
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 5548 8882
START DATE (this season)	19 th October 2015
END DATE (this season)	24 th October 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (NARRATIVE) (May include information from other fields)	<p>A metal detector survey and archaeological evaluation were undertaken at Roman Road, Balfron, Stirlingshire on behalf of CALA Homes (West) Ltd. The work was conducted by Northlight Heritage between 19th and 24th of October 2015. Twenty one trenches, totalling an area of 1576 sq. m, were excavated across the proposed development area, equivalent to approximately 8% of the area to be developed.</p> <p>A series of modern field drains, plough scars and part of a possible furrow were uncovered within the evaluation trenches. An iron meat cleaver, likely to be of quite recent date, was found during the metal detecting survey.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	n/a
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CALA Homes (West) Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Northlight Heritage, Studio 406, South Block, 64 Osborne Street, Glasgow G1 5QT .
EMAIL ADDRESS:	northlight@yorkat.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record for Scotland (intended)