



NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE	Pennershaughshill, Ecclefechan
REPORT: 127	Desk-based Assessment
PROJECT ID: 4456161	
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT	Dumfries and Galloway

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Pennershaughshill, Ecclefechan
Dumfries and Galloway
NGR: NY 2160 7343

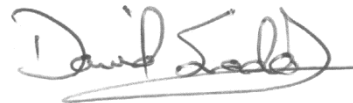
Planning ref. N/A

Data Structure Report
on behalf of
GH SPV 49 Ltd.

Cover Plate: Dry-stone wall along the east of the development area

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Project Management: Alastair Becket

Approved by:



Date: 05/02/2015

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1. Non-technical summary

1.1

This document compiles the results of a desk-based assessment and walkover survey conducted in relation to a proposed solar farm development near Ecclefechan, Dumfries and Galloway. Northlight Heritage were commissioned to undertake the assessment by GH SPV 49 Ltd. and the work was undertaken in February 2015. The desk-based assessment and walkover survey found that there is no significant known archaeologically material within the proposed development area, although there is some potential for previously undiscovered sub-surface remains to survive on the site.

2. Introduction

2.1

The site is located to the south of Ecclefechan at approximately NY 2160 7343, close to Pennersaugh (Figure 1). The site comprises two gently sloping fields on the side of a low hill and is accessed via the road between Eaglesfield and Brydekirk. Recent satellite photographs viewable on Google Maps (accessed 4/2/15) show the eastern field in use as pasture and the western field ploughed. The study area measures approximately 24 hectares in size while a 1 km buffer area around the site was also included in this assessment.

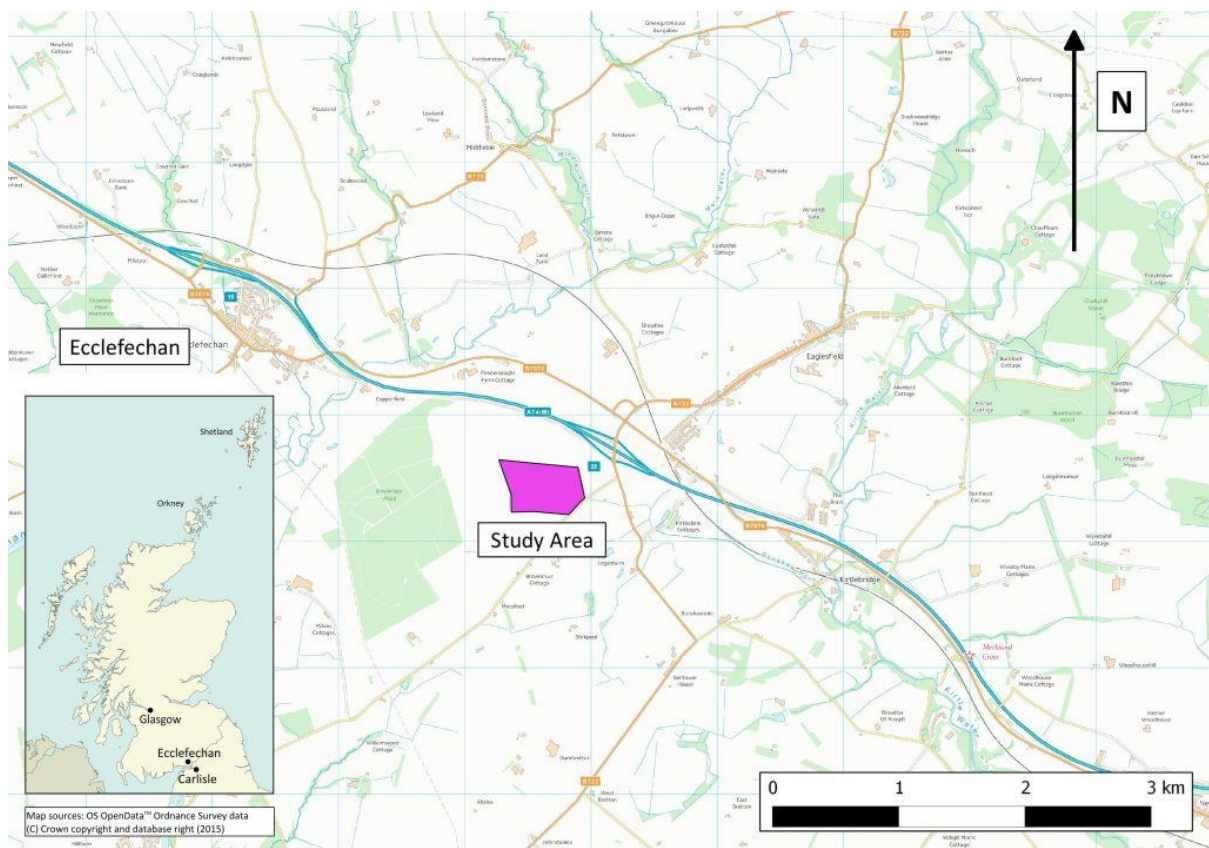


Figure 1: Location plan

3. Aims and objectives

The aims of the study were to:

- Identify any previously recorded or currently unknown archaeological remains present within the proposed solar farm boundary which may be impacted upon by the development;
- Identify any previously recorded archaeological remains within 1 km of the proposed development boundary in order to provide an overall archaeological context to the site.
- Disseminate the results of the study.

These aims were achieved via a series of objectives:

- Examine resources held by national and local bodies, historic mapping and, where appropriate, primary and secondary historic sources.
- Examine the aerial photographic collections held by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments (RCAHMS) in Edinburgh.
- Conduct a site visit/walkover survey.
- Produce a report outlining the results of the assessment.
- Submit the project archive to National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS).

4. Methodology (*also see appendix 2*)

HER/NMRS & Historic Scotland Data, Historic Maps & Documentary Sources

4.1

Resources held by national and local bodies, historic mapping and the first and second Statistical Accounts of Scotland were examined. As part of this process Historic Environment Record (HER) data, held by the local authority, was obtained and the NMRS was consulted through their online Pastmap facility (<http://pastmap.org.uk>). Historic Scotland's dataset on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Historic Battlefields and Gardens and Designed Landscapes was also examined.

4.2

Shapefile data relating to the study area and the 1 km buffer (figure 2) was provided on the 19th January 2015 by the local authority HER officer. Shapefile data relating to Historic Scotland's data set (see 4.1) was also downloaded on 19th January 2015. Both these datasets were viewed through a Geographical Information System (GIS) and, where relevant to the study area and 1 km buffer, comprised: HER points and 'areas of interest' polygon data, polygons derived from a Historic Scotland dataset of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, polygon information for areas which are included in 'A List of Non-Inventory Gardens and designed Landscapes in Dumfries and Galloway Region' (1994) and point data for sites that have not yet been entered into the HER. This data was then compared to that held in the NMRS. Individual illustrations for each of these datasets are provided in Appendix 3.

Aerial Photographs

4.2

Aerial photographic collections held by the RCAHMS were examined for the study area. These vertical and oblique photographs, ranging in date from 1945 to 1973, had potential to show any possible features which had not previously been recorded.

Site Walkover

4.3

It was anticipated that years of agricultural activity on the site would have had a significant impact on any archaeological remains existing above ground. As a result any remains were likely to be fragmentary and survive only within pockets of undisturbed ground. A rapid walkover survey of the study area was conducted to identify any extant features that may survive.

4.4

All sites visited or identified during the walkover were recorded by digital photography and written description on *pro-forma* record sheets. Features were located using GPS and their full extent surveyed. A systematic approach to walkover survey was conducted by choosing walking routes across the site which maximised the chances of spotting any surviving archaeological features. A team of two archaeologists conducted the work.

5. Results

HER, NMRS & Historic Scotland Data

5.1

Examination of the HER, NMRS and Historic Scotland data showed that no previously recorded archaeological remains are present within the proposed development boundary, however, 28 sites have been identified within the 1 km buffer area. The location of these sites are shown in Figure 2 and a listed in the gazetteer (Table 1, Appendix 1) along with a statement of archaeological significance provided by the local authority. They are also summarised below. References to sites contained with the gazetteer are provided in the text as '(Site XX)'.

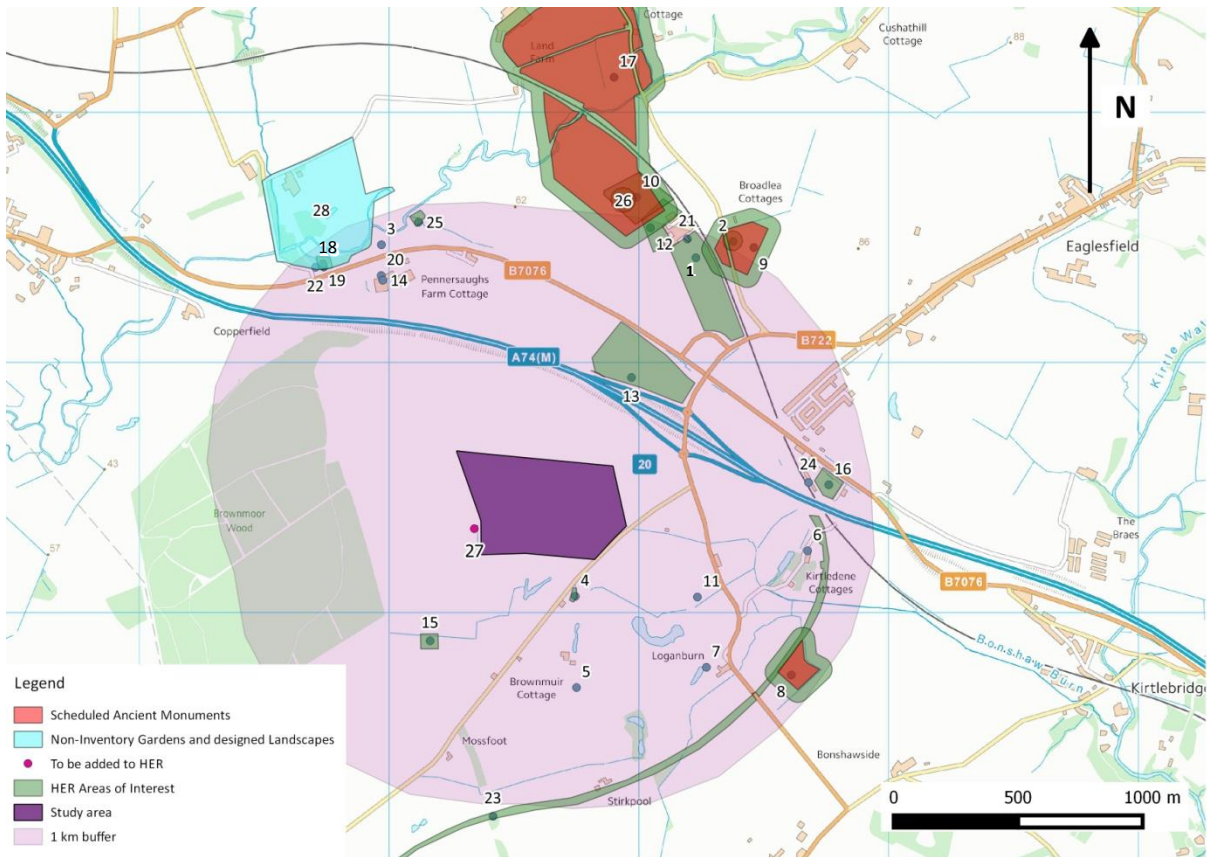


Figure 2: Location of previously recorded archaeological sites

5.2

Whilst no known archaeological sites are located within the study area, the known sites within the 1 km buffer demonstrate that there has been occupation of the broader area from early prehistory with remains from the Neolithic and Roman periods being particularly significant. The primary focus for this occupation is at Broadlea, on the northern side of the A74/M74 motorway and on the edge of the 1 km buffer zone.

5.3

The likely prehistoric remains at Broadlea include a henge (Site 26) and pits identified by aerial photography (Sites 1 & 2). The area later became a focus for Roman activity and two sites are recorded at Broadlea, a fortlet and two temporary camps (Sites 9 & 10, respectively), with the main fort located to the northwest at Birrens (Site 17). The possible fortlet at Broadlea Cottage (Site 9) is a small rectangular enclosure, 45 m by 35 m in plan, which is defined by a ditch some 1.5 m in width. The temporary camps (Site 10), also defined by rectangular ditches, cover much larger areas; the northern approximately 300 m by 125 m, and the southern 120 by 100 m. The fort at Birrens (Site 17) is thought to date originally to the 1st century AD and occupied until the 2nd or 3rd century AD (NMRS: NY27NW 4).

5.4

The Medieval period is represented within the 1 km buffer area by several sites including a tower house (Site 3), cropmark enclosures (Sites 12 & 13) and a church at Pennersaugh (Site 18) which is also seen on the historic mapping (see below).

5.5

Later archaeological remains include farmsteads and other 18th-20th century remains, most notably a series of industrial sites including Bonshaw Tile-works (Site 8) which is a scheduled ancient monument. There are several tile-works and lime-works in the vicinity of the study area. Just outside the western edge of the study area is a structure (Site 27) which has been noted as a site not yet entered into the HER. The purpose of this structure is unclear but it is noted as 'Pennershaughshill' on the Ordnance Survey mapping (see below).

Historic Mapping (Table 3, Appendix 1)

5.6

Few clear features are shown in the approximate area of the site on the early maps consulted, such as Robert Gordon's mid-17th century map 'Sulway fyrth Liddesdale Es[kdale...]'. The name Pennersaugh, in various spellings, does appear on several maps and is shown as the location of a kirk on Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland from 1654 and Moll's map of similar date. A series of structures are shown as 'Pennersaugh' on Roy's map in the mid-18th century.

5.7

By the time of the first-edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1862 the study area is shown in the same configuration as it exists today. One distinctive feature is a Y-shaped drainage channel which runs from the west to east of the site. There is also a stand of forestry along the southern side of the eastern field. Just to the west of the development area a structure is shown and labelled as Pennershaughshill (Site 27).

5.8

Little has changed by the time of the second edition survey of 1899. The only noticeable difference from the first edition map appears to be the removal of the northern branch of the Y-shaped drainage channel. The forestry remains at the southern end of the eastern field and the structure at Pennershaughshill (Site 27) is still depicted.

Documentary Sources

5.9

Two main historical documentary sources were examined in addition to the historic maps. These were the first and second Statistical Accounts of Scotland. In both accounts there is mention of the Roman Fort at Birrens, which appears to have been well known in the area. No other mention of archaeological remains is made in either account and there appears to be no reference to the immediate locale of the study area.

Aerial Photography

5.10

The Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments aerial photography collection was consulted on the 5th February 2015 for photographs of the site. Photographs from three sorties were examined: B0030 106_9/uk/145 12/7/46 4025_438, OS_67_330 22/8/67 83_3947 and OS_73_482 5/11/73_020_4553. The 1973 photograph showed the study area in the clearest detail, including clear plough marks throughout the two fields. No other archaeologically significant features were visible in this or the other photographs.

Walkover Survey

5.11

The walkover survey was conducted on the 3rd of February 2015 by Dawn Ferry and Nicola Reid of Northlight Heritage. The weather was dry and sunny but a recent snow shower meant that the fields were white. Light snow cover can often prove advantageous during a walkover survey as the snow can highlight changes in topography that might otherwise not be noticed.

5.12

The team initially walked the perimeter of the two fields comprising the proposed development area taking a photographic record of both the field and the boundary walls and fences. They then traversed the area to cover it comprehensively. No archaeologically significant features were identified, although a series of field boundaries and features relating to agricultural improvement were photographed.



Figure 3: The site viewed from the E



Figure 4: Dry-stone field boundary in NW corner of the development area, viewed from the SE

6. Conclusions

6.1

The desk-based assessment and walkover survey of the site at Pennershaughshill has demonstrated with a high degree of confidence that there are no known remains within the proposed development area. However, this does not preclude the possibility that archaeologically significant features or deposits may remain on the site for which any surface remains have been obscured by agricultural activity during the recent centuries. The presence of significant sites relating to the Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval periods within the 1 km buffer around the proposed development area suggests there is potential for as yet undiscovered buried remains to exist within the boundaries of the proposed solar farm site.

7. Appendices

APPENDIX 1 Tables

Table 1: Site Gazetteer

Site No	NAME	SITE TYPE	HER SIGNIFICANCE	PERIOD	EASTING	NORTHING	HER_REF	NMRS_REF
1	BROADLEA	PIT; SITE	Regional/Local	Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age	322228	574419	MDG9972	NY27SW38
2	BROADLEA COTTAGE	PIT	National	Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age	322377	574484	MDG9971	NY27SW37
3	'NUCKE' / 'WALLY BELL OF YE NUKE' / CASTLETON	TOWER HOUSE	Unknown	Medieval	320969	574471	MDG9747	NY27NW77
4	BROWNMUIR LIMEWORKS / Brownmoor	LIME WORKS	Regional/Local	18th Century to 19th Century	321745	573065	MDG9660	NY27SW27/1
5	EAGLESFIELD QUARRY / BROWNMUIR; QUARRY PARK; BURNHEAD; DONKINS COTTAGES; KIRTLLEDENE; KIRTLBRIDGE LIMESTONE WORKINGS	LIME KILN; LIME WORKS; LIMESTONE QUARRY	None	18th Century to 19th Century	321750	572700	MDG9659	NY27SW27/0
6	DONKINS COTTAGES, LIMEWORKS	LIME WORKS	None	18th Century to 19th Century	322675	573247	MDG9620	NY27SW27/3
7	BURNHEAD LIMEWORKS	LIME WORKS	National	18th Century to 19th Century	322270	572781	MDG9619	NY27SW27/2
8	BONSHAW TILEWORKS / BONSHAW TILEKILNS; BONSHAW TILE WORKS; BONSHAWSIDE	TILE WORKS	National	19th Century	322610	572750	MDG9373	NY27SW28
9	BROADLEA / BROADLEA COTTAGES; BROADLEE	FORTLET?	National	Roman	322460	574460	MDG7486	NY27SW4
10	BROADLEA	TEMPORARY CAMP	National	Roman	321991	574661	MDG7485	NY27SW3

11	BROWNMOOR / Brownmoor Quarry	LIME WORKS	None	18th Century to 19th Century	322234	573062	MDG7483	NY27SW23
12	BROADLEA	ENCLOSUR E	National	Medieval to 19th Century	322046	574539	MDG7481	NY27SW21
13	PENNERSAUGHS	LINEAR FEATURE; ENCLOSUR E?	Other	Medieval to Modern	321970	573940	MDG7480	NY27SW20
14	PENNERSAUGHS / PENNERSAUGH	FARMSTEAD	None	Post Medieval to Modern	320974	574329	MDG7476	NY27SW17/1
15	BROWNMUIR / QUARRY PARK/ EAGLESFIELD/ BROWN MOOR	TILE WORKS	Other	18th Century to 19th Century	321164	572887	MDG11229	NY27SW34
16	KIRTLEBRIDGE STATION	ARMY CAMP?	Local	20th Century	322760	573511	MDG26112	
17	BIRRENS / Blatobulgium	FORT; FORT ANNEXE; FORT ANNEXE	National	Roman	321900	575141	MDG7432	NY27NW4/0
18	PENNERSAUGHS CHURCH / PENERSAX CHURCH; PENNERSAUGH'S CHURCH	CEMETERY; CHURCH	Regional	Early Medieval to 19th Century	320738	574382	MDG12212	NY27SW1
19	PENNERSHAUGHS OLD CHURCHYARD	CEMETERY	B	18th Century to 19th Century	320735	574394	MDG18403	\
20	PENNERSAUGHS FARMHOUSE	FARMHOUS E	C	19th Century to Modern	320968	574348	MDG18404	NY27SW17
21	BROADLEA	FARMHOUS E	C	19th Century to Modern	322194	574494	MDG18411	NY27SW61
22	BURNFOOT HALL, LODGE AND GATEPIERS	GATE LODGE	C	19th Century to Modern	320705	574381	MDG18415	NY27SW47/1
23	KIRTLEBRIDGE, ANNAN AND BRAYTON BRANCH LINE	RAILWAY	Other	19th Century to 20th Century	321416	572185	MDG21027	\
24	KIRTLEBRIDGE STATION	RAILWAY STATION	None	19th Century to 20th Century	322679	573520	MDG22215	NY27SW51
25	MEIN MILL	CORN MILL	Regional/Local	18th Century to 20th Century	321117	574561	MDG24836	\
26	BROADLEE	HENGE	\	Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age	321946	574651	MDG7478	NY27SW19
27	PENNERSHAUGHSHILL	NAMED COTTAGE	\	18th Century to 20th Century	321340	573335	\	\
28	BURNFOOT HALL	Designed Landscape	\	19th Century to Modern	320705	574381	MGD25656	

Table 2: Walkover Survey Photographs

Number	Description	Taken from	Date	Initials
1	Photograph of site	S	03/02/2015	DF
2	photo of dry stone boundary wall	SW	03/02/2015	DF
3	Photograph of site	E	03/02/2015	DF
4	photo of site and boundary fence	E	03/02/2015	DF
5	Photo of natural dip in field	E	03/02/2015	DF
6	photo of site and boundary fence	N	03/02/2015	DF
7	photo of boundary fence	N	03/02/2015	DF
8	Photograph of site	N	03/02/2015	DF
9	photo of dry stone boundary wall	SE	03/02/2015	DF
10	photo of dry stone boundary wall	E	03/02/2015	DF
11	Photograph of site	W	03/02/2015	DF
12	Photo of large stones and farm track	E	03/02/2015	DF
13	Photograph of site	W	03/02/2015	DF
14	Photograph of farm track and boundary fence	E	03/02/2015	DF
15	Photograph of site	SW	03/02/2015	DF
16	Photograph of site	NW	03/02/2015	DF
17	Photograph of site and boundary fence	SE	03/02/2015	DF
18	Photograph of slight ridges in field	NE	03/02/2015	DF
19	Photograph of slight ridges in field	NE	03/02/2015	DF
20	Photo fence and dry stone boundary wall	SW	03/02/2015	DF
21	Photo fence and dry stone boundary wall	S	03/02/2015	DF

Table 3: Map Sources Consulted

Cartographer	Name	Date
Robert Gordon	Sulway fyrth Liddesdale Es[kdale...]	1650's
Herman Moll	Anandale : is Part of Dumfreis Shire. Eusdale or Eskdale and Liddesdale is the South Part of Roxburgh'	17 th Century
Joan Blaeu	Atlas of Scotland	1654
William Roy	Military Survey (Lowlands)	
Ordnance Survey	1 st edition 25 inch	1864
Ordnance Survey	2 nd edition 25 inch	1899

Table 4: Other Sources Consulted

Author	Date	Title
Nivison, A.	1791-99	'Parish of Middlebie' in the first <i>Statistical Account of Scotland</i> p.58.
Nivison, R.	1834-45	'Parish of Middlebie' in the second <i>Statistical Account of Scotland</i> p.363.

APPENDIX 2 Additional Illustrations

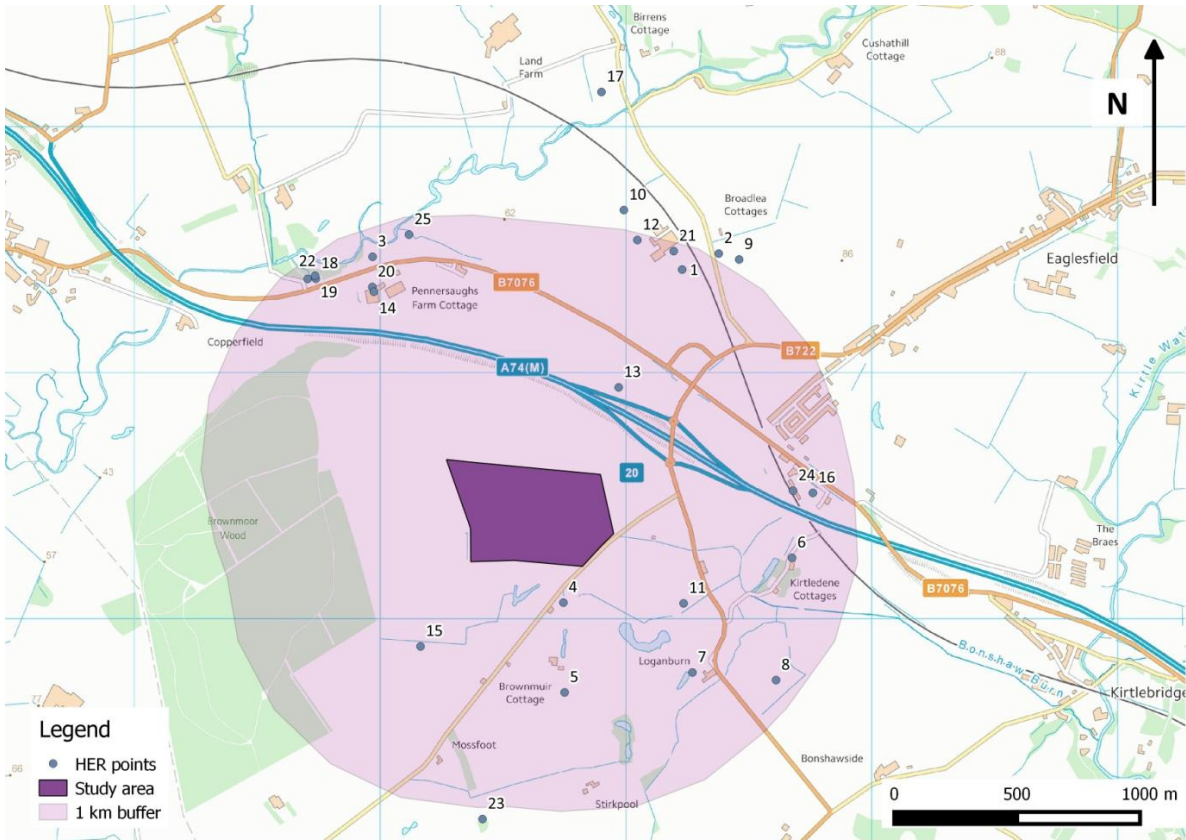


Figure 5: HER point data

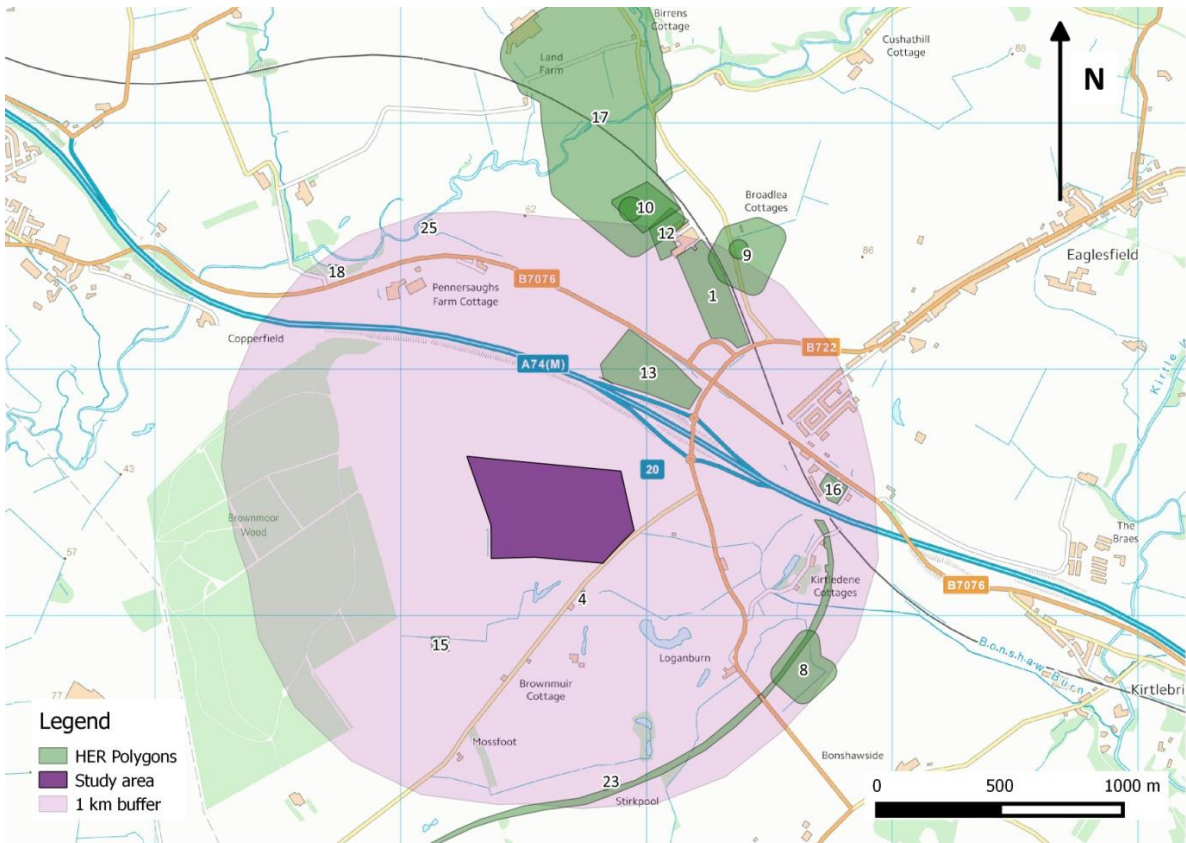


Figure 6: HER Area of Interest polygons

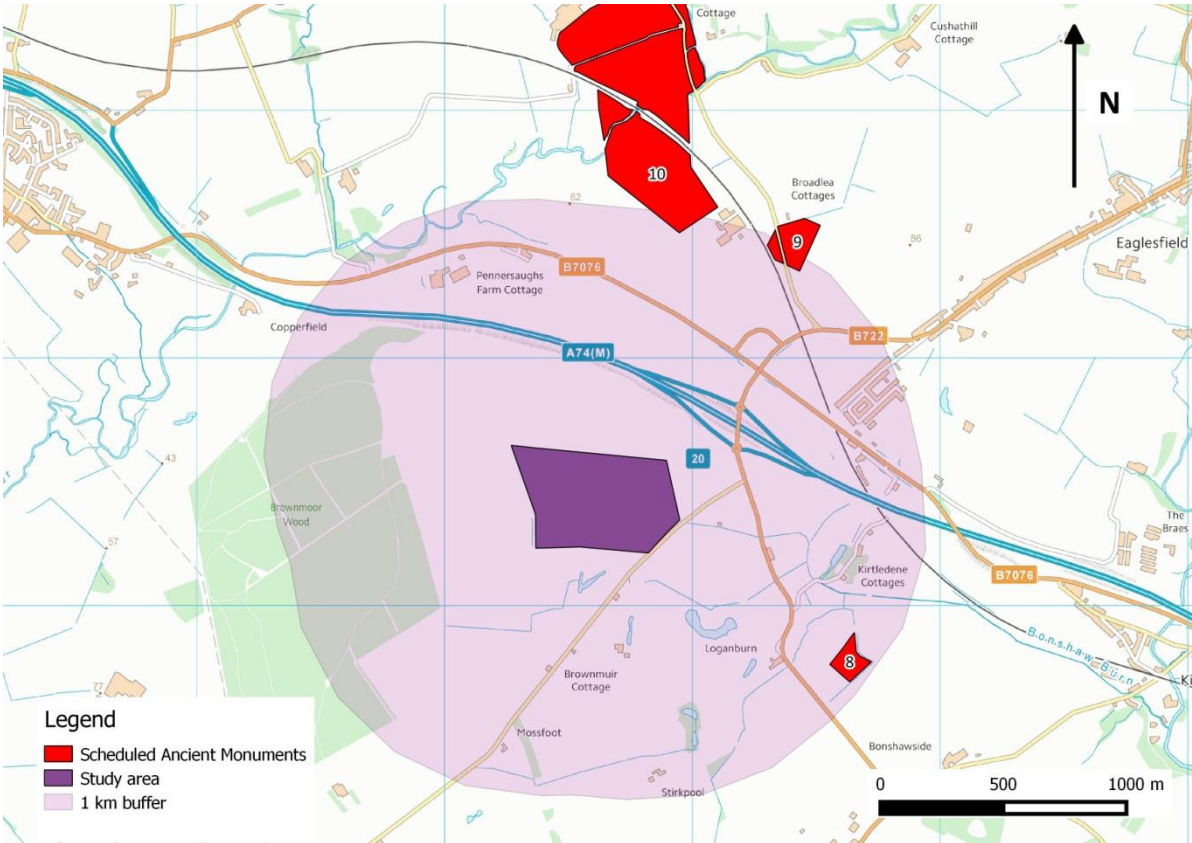


Figure 7: Scheduled Ancient Monuments



Figure 8: Non-inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes

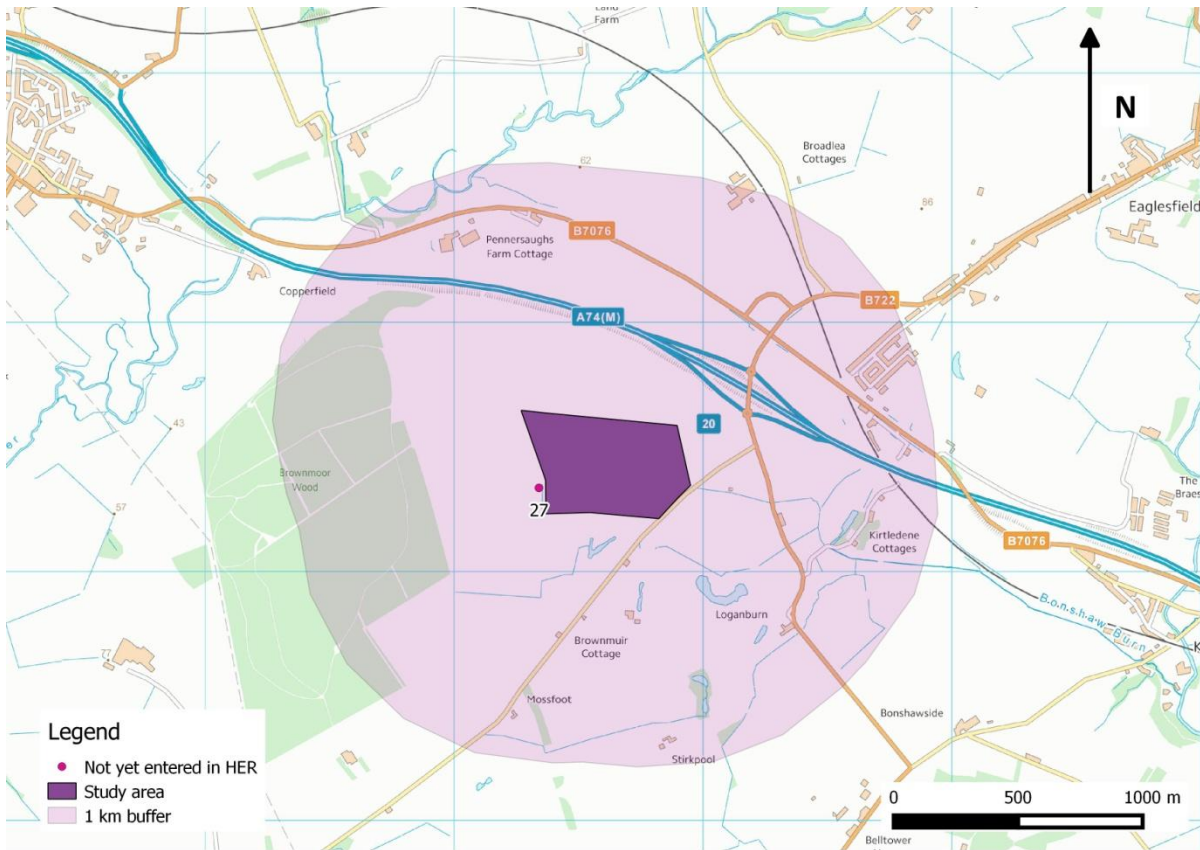


Figure 9: Point not yet added to HER

APPENDIX 2 Methodology

Ecclefechan Solar Farm

Desk Based Assessment Specification

Alastair Becket - Northlight Heritage

1. Non-technical summary

This document provides a specification for the desk-based assessment of a site proposed for a solar farm development near Ecclefechan, Dumfries and Galloway. Northlight Heritage have been commissioned to undertake the assessment by GH SPV 49 Ltd. and the work will be undertaken in February 2015.

2. Site location

The site is located to the south of Ecclefechan at approximately NY 2160 7343. The site comprises two fields accessed via the road between Eaglesfield and Brydekirk.

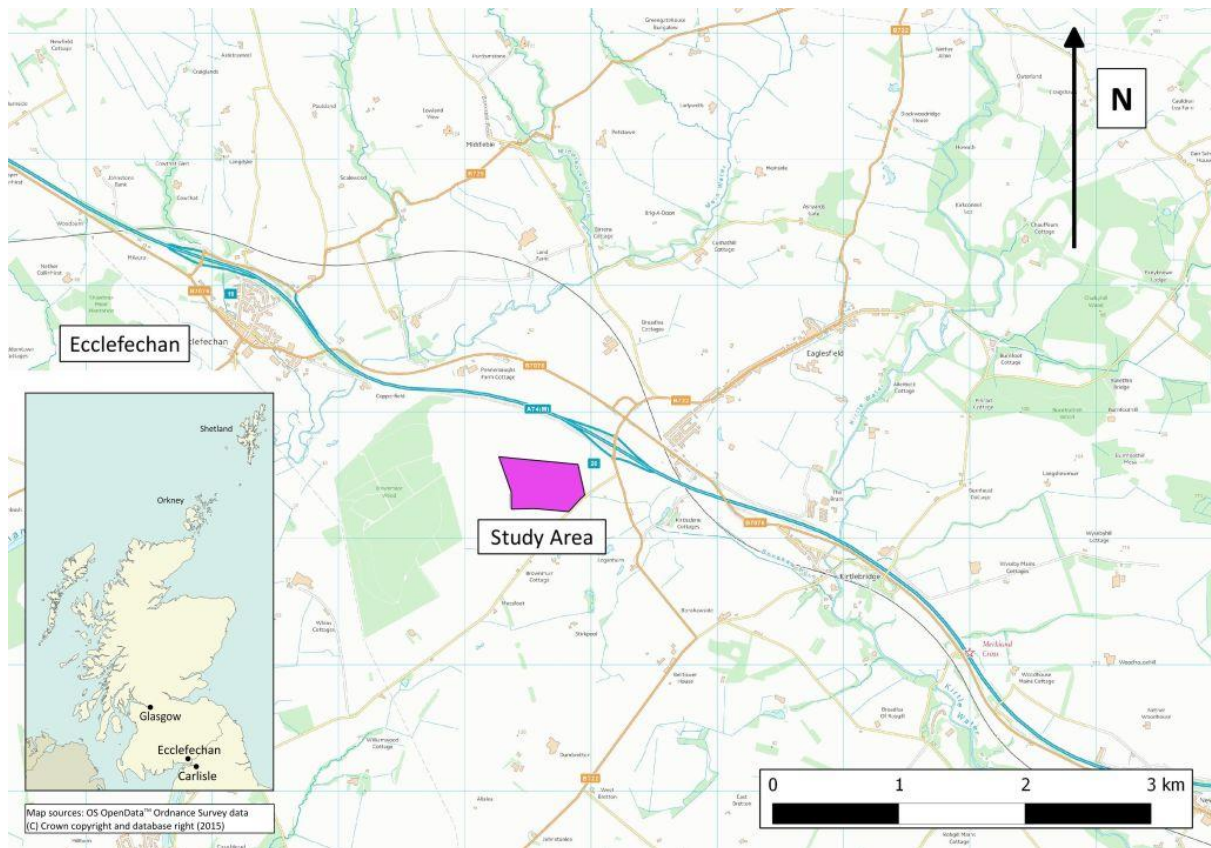


Figure 1: Site Location

3. Context of the project

The project has been commissioned in advance of a submission of a planning application for the site.

4. Geological and topographical background

The site is primarily gently sloping farmland, used most recently for pasture. The geology consists of the following (obtained from the British Geological Survey online viewer, 29/1/15) :

1:50 000 scale bedrock geology description: Yoredale Group - Mudstone, Sandstone And Limestone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 313 to 335 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. Local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas.

1:50 000 scale superficial deposits description: Gretna Till Formation - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions.

5. Archaeological and historical background

The broader area around the site contains significant Roman remains, including a fort and camps at Broadlee which have been protected within three separate scheduled areas. Further significant archaeology in the area relates to the remains of the 19th century Bonshaw Tileworks which is located to the south of the site and is also a scheduled ancient monument. There is a potential for previously unknown remains of any date to be encountered.

6. Aims and Objectives

The aims of the study are to:

- Investigate the site and the surrounding area for information regarding archaeological remains which may have an impact on any development.
- Disseminate the results of the study

These aims will be achieved via a series of objectives:

- examine the resources held by national and local bodies, historic mapping and, where appropriate, primary and secondary historic sources
- examine the aerial photographic collections held by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Edinburgh
- Conduct a site visit/walkover
- Produce a DBA report
- Submit the project archive to NMRS

7. Methodology

HER and NMRS Data

The initial stages of the DBA will examine resources held by national and local bodies, historic mapping and, where appropriate, primary and secondary historic sources, and a report will be produced which details the results of the work. As part of this process we will retrieve Historic Environment Record data held by the local authority.

Aerial Photographs

In addition, examination of the aerial photographic collections held by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Edinburgh allows us to examine the historic aerial photographs of the site for any possible features which have not previously been recorded. Archaeological sites are often discovered through

the analysis of such photographs, particularly in areas such as Ecclefechan where there is a reasonable amount of Roman archaeology.

8. Site Walkover

It is anticipated that years of agricultural activity on the site will have had significant impact on any archaeological remains above ground. As a result any remains are likely to be fragmentary and survive only within pockets of undisturbed ground. A rapid general walkover survey of the development area is also proposed to identify any extant features that may survive on the site.

All sites that are visited or identified during the walkover will be recorded by digital photography and written description on *pro-forma* record sheets. Features will be located using GPS and their full extent will be surveyed. A systematic approach to walkover survey will be conducted by choosing walking routes across the site which maximise the chances of spotting any surviving archaeological features. A team of two archaeologists will conduct the work and a short interim report will be included within the broader DBA to allow for consideration of the need for further phases of work.

9. Report preparation

A desk-based assessment report will be produced which summarises the results of the research. A brief report will also be submitted to Discovery and Excavation Scotland. The DBA will be written in accordance with the standards and guidelines set out by the CIFA and will include the following elements: a. non-technical summary b. introductory statements c. aims and purpose of assessment d. methodology e. an objective summary statement of results f. conclusion, including a confidence rating g. supporting illustrations at appropriate scales h. supporting data, tabulated or in appendices i. index to and location of archive j. references.

10. Publication and dissemination proposals

Copies of the report will be provided to the developer, to the planning authority and to the National Monuments Record for Scotland. Further copies can be distributed to other recipients if requested and specified.

Northlight Heritage will also implement the standards and requirements of the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) and Discovery and Excavation in Scotland.

11. Reference to relevant legislation

Final decisions on the need for further work, and on the detailed specification of the character of that work, rest with Planning Authority.

12. Copyright

Unless otherwise agreed copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of York Archaeological Trust.

13. Archive deposition

Northlight Heritage will ensure that the project archive is prepared and 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.

14. Timetable

The work will be conducted in early February 2015

15. Staffing

Project Director: Alastair Becket

Assistant: Dawn Ferry

Walkover Survey Assistant: Nicola Reid

16. Health and Safety considerations

A risk assessment will be conducted prior to the walkover survey taking place.

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

17. Monitoring procedures

Northlight Heritage adheres to standards set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance Notes and Historic Scotland's various Operational Policy Papers.

The local authority archaeologist will have a formal monitoring role on behalf of the Council.

Alastair Becket will be the dedicated archaeological project manager for all the works outlined above and will be the first point of contact for any project-related liaison with the Council and the developer or the developer's agent for all formal logistical, administrative and financial aspects of the archaeological project.

APPENDIX 4 DES

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Pennershaughshill
PROJECT CODE:	4456161
PARISH:	Middlebie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Alastair Becket & Dawn Ferry
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Northlight Heritage
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Desk Based Assessment
NMRS NO(S):	none
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	none
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	none
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NY 2160 7343
START DATE (this season)	2 February 2015
END DATE (this season)	5 February 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	none
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A desk-based assessment conducted in relation to a site proposed for a solar farm development at Pennershaughshill near Ecclefechan, Dumfries and Galloway. Northlight Heritage were commissioned to undertake the assessment by GH SPV 49 Ltd. and the work was undertaken in February 2015. The desk-based assessment has found that there is no known archaeologically significant material within the development area, although there is some potential for previously undiscovered sub-surface remains to survive on the site.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	none currently
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	none
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	GH SPV 49 Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Northlight Heritage, Studio 406, South Block, 64 Osborne Street, Glasgow, G1 5QH
EMAIL ADDRESS:	northlight@yorkat.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record for Scotland (intended)