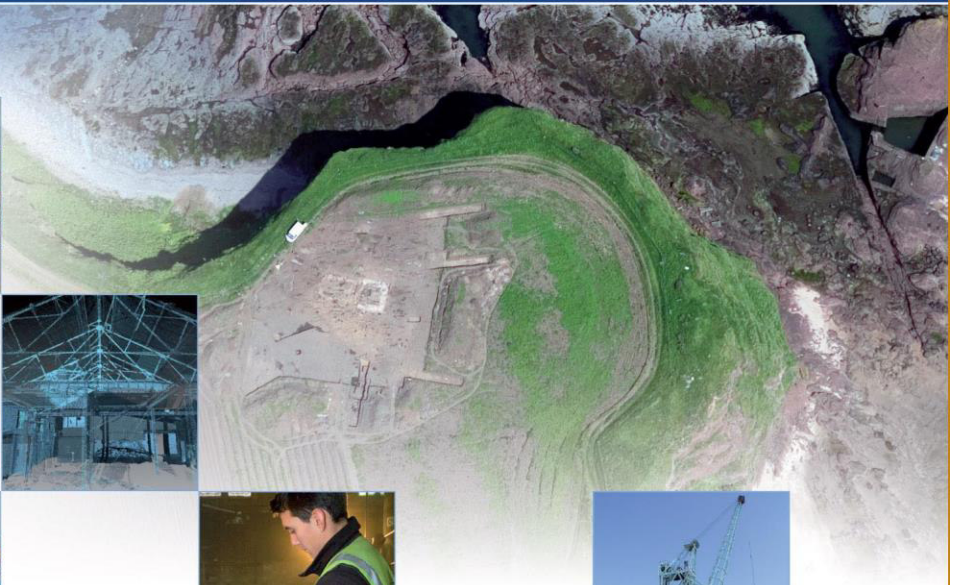


# Calvertsholm, Gretna: Archaeological Watching Brief: Data Structure Report

AOC Project: 24313  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2018



# Calvertsholm, Gretna: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

**On Behalf of:** Connicks,  
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DG8 0EF

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** NY 28170 69019

**AOC Project No:** 24313

**OASIS No:** 1-324457

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**Date:** 10/05/2018

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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**Date:** 17/12/2018

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** Draft

**Date:** 17/12/2018

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## Summary

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This report presents the results of a watching brief required by Connicks ahead of the removal and relocated replacement of a 11kV overhead cable electric pole within the Scheduled Monument of Calvertsholm Settlement.

The archaeological works comprised the monitoring of: ground breaking works associated with the excavation of a foundation trench for a power pole, movement of plant on the Scheduled Monument and removal of an old power pole.

The excavation of the trench for the new pole and a trench against the existing pole it replaced did not reveal any archaeological features.

It is recommended that no further archaeological works are required on the site. This will need to be confirmed in writing by HES.

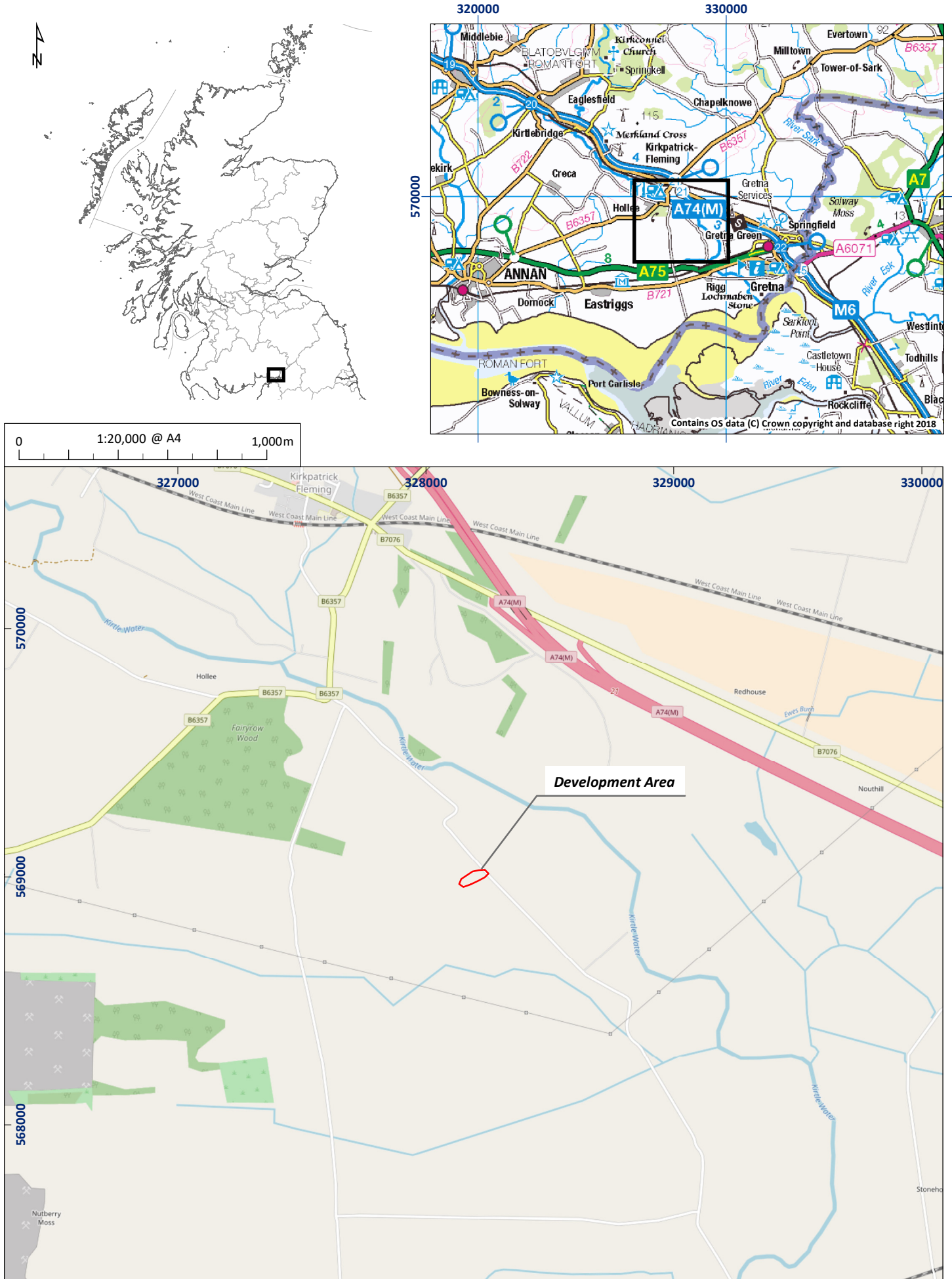
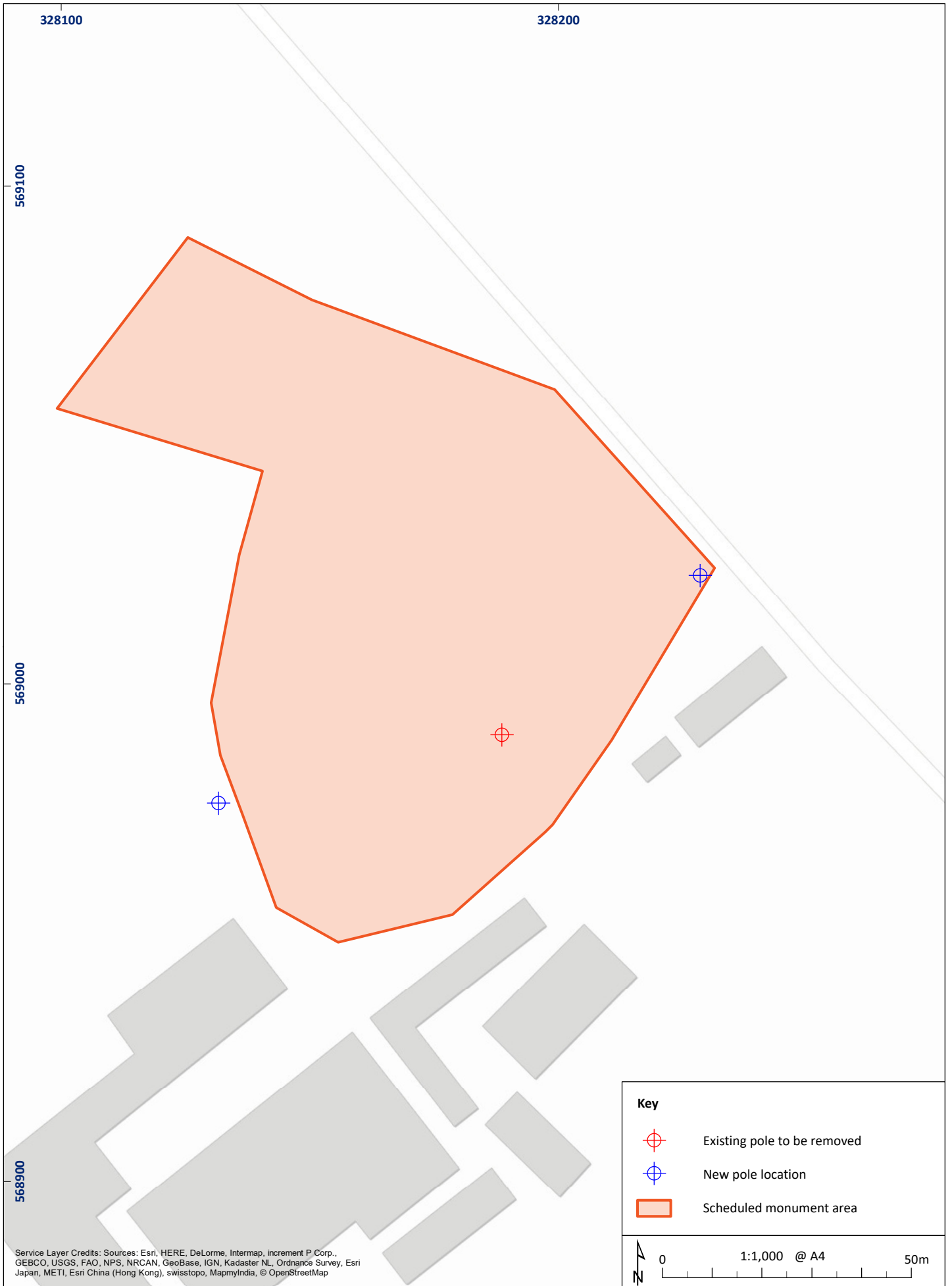


Figure 1: Site location plan

01/24313/DSR/01/01



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap

Figure 2: Pole Replacement Location

01/24313/DSR/02/01

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by Connicks ahead of the removal and relocated replacement of a 11kV overhead cable electrical pole that lies within the Scheduled Monument of Calvertsholm Settlement, Gretna (SM12128).
- 1.1.2 The programme of archaeological works required was in keeping with best practice outlines in current planning policy and guidelines: *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) & *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011).

### 1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area lies North of Calvertsholm Farm and to the South-East of the B6357. The Scheduled Monument lies within open grassland, centered on NGR NY 28170 69019 (Figure 1 and 2).

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The site where the pole was to be replaced lies within the Scheduled Monument of Calvertsholm Settlement (SM No.12128). It is described in its scheduling document as the following:

*The monument comprises the remains of an enclosed settlement and associated droveway, visible from the air as a series of cropmarks and on the ground as very low earthworks. The settlement is Iron Age, likely to date to the late 1st millennium BC or early first millennia AD, and forms part of a wider pattern of later prehistoric defensive and domestic structures in eastern Dumfries and Galloway. It lies 400m S of the Kirtle Water, at 25m above sea level.*

*The enclosure measures a maximum of 90 m N-S by about 120 m transversely and lies on relatively flat ground. It consists of an irregularly-shaped univallate enclosure, comprising a ditch 3m wide, with a 6m-wide entrance-gap on the N end of the E side. Within the enclosure lie the remains of up to five circular structures, most likely roundhouses, each measuring up to 15m in diameter. The droveway, which appears to lead to and/or from the enclosure, runs for at least 550m, its axis orientated WNW-ESE. However, only a section of the droveway, measuring 90m in length, is included in the area to be scheduled. This allows for the preservation of evidence for the chronological relationship between the enclosure and droveway.*

*The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described and an area around them within which related material may be expected to be found, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduled area is bounded on the north-west, north-east and south by a fenceline. This and the above-ground remains of an electricity transformer pole and its stays are specifically excluded from the scheduling, to allow for their maintenance.*

## 2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- i) To monitor removal of the existing 11 kV power cable pole and monitoring the excavation of a foundation trench for the new cable pole by way of a watching brief (Phase 1);
  - ii) To advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, formulated with the approval of HES, such as excavation (Phase 2), post-excavation analyses and publication (Phase 3), given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material in situ, should significant archaeological



remains be encountered. It should be noted that preservation *in situ* is the preferred option and that any Phase 2 or Phase 3 works would be subject to another SMC application;

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Archaeological Works

- 3.1.1 The archaeological works comprised the monitoring of ground breaking works undertaken as part of refurbishment of the overhead powerline. This involved the removal of an old pole, and the excavation of a foundation trench for a new pole in a new location. These works took place over two non-consecutive days.
- 3.1.2 The watching brief was required on ground breaking works associated with the replacement of a 11kV power cable pole (Figure 2). The methodology proposed by SP Energy Networks was to firstly install a new pole before removing the old one, in order to reduce “downtime” to customers and avoid delays in conducting works.
- 3.1.3 The new pole (referred to as pole 19) was erected towards the northeast boundary of the Scheduled Monument in an area deemed to be less archaeologically sensitive (Figure 2). The foundation trench for installing the pole required the excavation of a trench not exceeding 2.1m by 2.1m by 2.2m deep. This was conducted by an excavator not exceeding 8 tonnes, with low pressure tracks and a toothless bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or limit of excavation was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.1.4 Excavations were monitored and recorded by an archaeologist. The archaeologist was on site at the start of operations to note the presence/absence of any upstanding features in the vicinity of the work zone.

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The watching brief was conducted in two parts over two non-consecutive days in May and July 2018.
  - 4.1.1 The first part was conducted on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The weather conditions were fair which allowed for good visibility. The excavation was undertaken with an excavator equipped with a flat-bladed bucket and movement was limited to the SE boundary of the site.
  - 4.1.2 A trench measuring 1m x 1.5m x 2.2m deep was excavated in the north-east corner of the site, for the new pole to be installed (Plate 1). The topsoil in this area was a dark greyish-brown clay-silt, about 0.20m deep, over a mid-reddish-brown sandy-silt natural substratum with frequent small to medium stones. No archaeological features were present in this trench.



**Plate 1 – View of new power pole after excavation**

- 4.1.3 The second part was conducted on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018. The weather conditions were fair which allowed for good visibility. The excavation was undertaken with an excavator equipped with a flat-bladed bucket and movement was limited to the SE boundary of the site.
- 4.1.4 A trench measuring about 1.2m long and 0.40m wide was excavated against the pole to the east side and to a depth of about 1m (Plate 2). The topsoil in this area was a dark greyish-brown clay-silt, about 0.10m deep, over a mid-reddish-brown sandy-silt natural substratum with frequent small to medium stones. No archaeological features were present in this trench.



**Plate 2 – Trench for the removal of redundant power pole**



**Plate 3 – Location of redundant power pole location following reinstatement**

## **5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The watching brief did not reveal any archaeologically significant features or material.
- 5.2 It is recommended that no further archaeological works are required. This will need to be confirmed in writing by HES.

## **6 REFERENCES**

- Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy 2014*
- Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*

# **Calvertsholm, Gretna: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report**

## **Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Digital Photographic Register

Photo No.	Description	Taken From
001	General view of field	SE
002	General view of field	S
003	General view of field	SW
004	General view of field	SW
005	General view of field	E
006	General view of field	S
007	Detail shot of area after excavation	NW
008	General view of site before work	W
009	General view of site before work	NW
010	General view of site before work	E
011	Trench for removal of pole	W
012	W-facing section of trench	W
013	Post-ex	NW
014	Post-ex	N

## APPENDIX 2: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Dumfries and Galloway
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Calvertsholm, Gretna, Archaeological Watching Brief
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 24313
<b>PARISH:</b>	Kirkpatrick-Fleming
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Anne-Aymonne Marot
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	SM12128
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Enclosed Settlement
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NY 28170 69019
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	09 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2018
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report presents the results of a watching brief required by Connicks ahead of the removal and relocated replacement of a 11kV overhead cable electric pole within the Scheduled Monument of Calvertsholm Settlement.</p> <p>The archaeological works comprised the monitoring of: ground breaking works associated with the excavation of a foundation trench for a power pole, movement of plant on the Scheduled Monument and removal of an old power pole.</p> <p>The excavation of the trench for the new pole and a trench against the existing pole it replaced did not reveal any archaeological features.</p> <p>It is recommended that no further archaeological works are required on the site. This will need to be confirmed in writing by HES.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	---
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Connicks
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	admin@aocarchaeology.com
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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