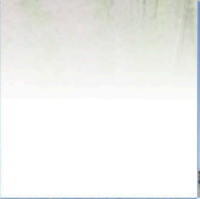


# Barcyle to Palnure Pipeline: Watching Brief Report

AOC project no 20513  
June 2008



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

## Barcyle to Palnure Pipeline: Watching Brief Report

<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>Scottish Water Solutions</b> Watermark Alba Campus Livingston West Lothian EH54 7HH
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NX 4040 6540 to NX 2099 5766</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>20513</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Vicky Oleksy</b>
<b>Illustration by:</b>	<b>Vicky Oleksy</b>
<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>June 2007 to April 2008</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>June 2008</b>

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

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**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2008

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**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2008

**Draft Report Stage:**

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## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
<b>List of illustrations</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>List of plates</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Abstract</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
1.1 Background.....	3
1.2 Location.....	3
1.3 Archaeological background .....	3
<b>2 OBJECTIVES</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>3 METHODOLOGY</b> .....	<b>4</b>
3.2 Topsoil monitoring.....	4
<b>4 RESULTS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>5 CONCLUSION</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>6 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Digital Photograph Register.....	7
FILM 1: Black and white and colour slide film .....	7
FILM 2: Black and white and colour slide film .....	7
<b>APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT</b> .....	<b>8</b>

## List of illustrations

Figure 1      Site Location, including pipeline route and watching brief areas

## List of plates

Plate 1      Possible line of 'Old Military Road' east of the Three Lochs turn off

## Abstract

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AOC Archaeology Group carried out a watching brief during the construction of a pipeline by Scottish Water. The pipeline extended approximately along the route of the A75 from Glenluce to Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway. Previously identified potentially archaeologically sensitive areas of the pipeline route were subject to the watching brief. The only feature observed was a linear feature in the approximate vicinity the Old Military Road at approximately NGR: NX 3150 6250. However the authenticity of feature was at best dubious. No features of archaeological significance were identified during watching brief.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Scottish Water Solutions to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground breaking works associated with the construction of a new pipeline from Glenluce to Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway (Figure 1). The site is located within the Local Authority administrative area of Dumfries and Galloway Council. The areas to be monitored were determined following a desk-based assessment (Nicholson 2007), walkover survey (Oleksy 2007), a field inspection following initial topsoil stripping (Hunter Blair 2007) and discussion between AOC Archaeology Group, Scottish Water Solutions and Ms. Jane Brann, Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeologist.

### 1.2 Location

1.2.1 The pipeline subject to archaeological watching brief is approximately 25 km in length; being located between Glenluce and Newton Stewart (NGR: NX 4040 6540 to NX 2099 5766). It largely follows the course of the A75 from Newton Stewart in the north-east to Glenluce in the south-west, though occasionally deviating from the modern road where it follows the course of a military road running to the north of, but generally parallel to, the A75. The course of this pipeline runs through improved agricultural land, unimproved land and afforested areas and along the road corridor (Figure 1).

### 1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service carried out a desk-based assessment (Nicholson 2007) to identify archaeological features that may be impacted upon by the proposed pipelines (ref: EP/COA/2/2007/Feb). A range of features ranging in date from the prehistoric through to the modern period were identified. A walkover survey of the pipeline route was carried out by AOC Archaeology 2007 and identified a number of known and previously unknown archaeological features (Oleksy 2007).

1.3.2 Following the inspection of a topsoil stripped test area a report was compiled; the only features encountered included field drains and a clearance cairn or the remnant of a demolished field boundary (Hunter Blair 2007).

## 2 OBJECTIVES

- i) to monitor ground-breaking works, where deemed necessary, within the pipeline corridor and prevent the destruction of significant archaeological features prior to their recording;
- ii) to undertake the immediate recording of isolated finds of moderately significant archaeological material that will be disturbed by the development programme;
- iii) given the discovery of highly significant archaeological material in quantity that that would suffer an adverse impact from construction works (ie preservation *in situ* is impractical), the

formulation on an appropriate programme of mitigation excavation and recording with Ms. Brann.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

- 3.1.1 The details of the archaeological works undertaken are laid out below, and were designed to fully meet the advice of Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service. The archaeological works comprised a programme of topsoil strip monitoring, including the excavation of pipe trenches.

### **3.2 Topsoil monitoring**

- 3.2.1 Ground breaking work in those areas identified as potentially archaeological sensitive was monitored by an experienced archaeologist. Work primarily consisted of monitoring a topsoil strip of the 15 to 20 m wide pipeline corridor. Where natural deposits were not observed during the topsoil strip, excavation of the pipe trench was also observed. The work was carried out by tracked 360° excavators, 13 tonnes in size, with a 1.8 m to 2.0 m wide bucket; the bucket was generally toothless but on occasion a toothed bucket was used.

## **4 RESULTS**

- 4.1 Given the large geographical area that was covered by the pipeline route through differing terrains a variety of soil depths, soil types, types of drains and natural subsoil were encountered. Excepting the field drains and remains of possible field clearance cairn or old field boundary detailed in the 2007 *Field Inspection Report* (Hunter Blair 2007), the only feature of potential archaeological interest identified during the watching brief was possible observation of the edge of the Military Road to the east of Three Lochs at approximately NGR: NX 3150 6250 (Plate 1). However the authenticity of this feature was uncertain as it was located considerably south of the Ordnance Survey indicated location of the Old Military Road; as such the feature identified may have simply been merely a natural ledge.
- 4.2 No significant archaeological features or finds were encountered during any of the monitored ground-works.

## **5 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified. No further works are recommended.

## **6 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES**

Hunter Blair, Alan 2007 *Newton Stewart, Scottish Water Solutions Pipeline: Field Inspection Report*  
Unpublished AOC Data Structure Report

Nicholson, Andrew 2007 *Scottish Water Solutions Barclye to Palnure Pipeline Scheme: Desk-based Assessment* Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service Unpublished Report (ref: EP/COA/2/2007/Feb)

Oleksy, Vicky 2007 *Newton Stewart, Scottish Water Solutions Pipeline Walkover Survey*, Unpublished AOC Data Structure Report Unpublished report

SOEnD 1994 National Planning Policy Guideline 5, Archaeology and Planning. Scottish Office Environment Department.

SOEnD 1994a Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology and Planning. Scottish Office Environment Department



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**Barcyle to Palnure Pipeline:  
Watching Brief Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

### Digital Photograph Register

Digital Photo No.	Description	Taken from
1-2	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	West
3-4	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	East
5	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	West
6-8	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	East
9	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	South-east
10-11	Gulley and rubble drains at Glenluce	North
12-14	General view of stripped area at Glenluce	South
15-16	General view of stripped area at Glenluce	North
17	Detail surface of unsupervised topsoil strip at Shennanton	North
18-19	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	East
20	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	South-west
21-22	General view of removed part of rubble spread at Shennanton	North
23	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	West
24	Topsoil strip at Lady Burn	North-east
25	Topsoil strip at Lady Burn	North-east
26-27	Topsoil strip at Lady Burn	East
28	Topsoil strip at Lady Burn	West

### FILM 1: Black and white and colour slide film

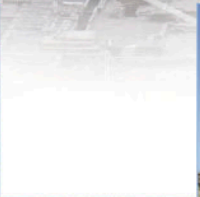
Photo #	Detail	From
1-2	Registration	
3-4	Area Stripped	E
5-6	Area Pre-stripping	W
7-8	Area Stripped	E
9-10	Stripped area showing bedrock shelf	E

### FILM 2: Black and white and colour slide film

Photo #	Detail	From
1	Registration	
2-3	General view of the easement during topsoil strip east of compound	W
4-5	General view of rubble field drain	N
6-7	View of possible military road at 'Three Lochs'	SW
8-9	Detail of possible military road at 'Three Lochs'	SW

## APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Barcyle to Palnure Pipeline
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 20513
PARISH:	Penninghame
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Sarah Lynchehaun & Victoria Oleksy
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	n/a
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Various
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	n/a
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	Glenluce NX 21105 57543 to Newton Stewart NX 40102 65456
START DATE (this season)	21 <sup>st</sup> June 2007
END DATE (this season)	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	Walkover Survey Field Inspection Report
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology Group undertook an archaeological watching brief on selected areas of a 25 km pipeline running from Glenluce to Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway.</p> <p>The only feature encountered was the possible line of the Old Military Road near Three Lochs (NX 3100 6225). However the authenticity of this feature was uncertain and while it was located in the vicinity of the Military Road it may have simply been a natural ledge.</p> <p>No features of archaeological significance were encountered during the course of the watching brief.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	No further work recommended
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water Solutions
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead, Midlothian EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:Ronan.toolis@aacarchaeology.com">Ronan.toolis@aacarchaeology.com</a>
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.



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