

**Watsonburn Forestry, East Ayrshire:
Historic Environment Assessment & Survey
Appraisal**



by Liam McKinstry

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on behalf of Mark Hamilton Landscape Services

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Contents

Executive Summary	4
Introduction	4
Topographic and Geological Background.....	4
Project Works	4
Historic Environment Baseline.....	5
Previous Archaeological Works.....	5
Prehistoric to Roman Land use.....	5
Medieval and Later Periods.....	5
Walkover Survey.....	9
Management Guidance	14
Conclusion	16
References	16
Documentary.....	16
Cartographic.....	16
Contact Details	17

Figures and Tables

Figure 1a: Extract from Roy's Military Survey of 1752-5.	6
Figure 1b: Extract from Thomson 1834.....	6
Figure 2a: Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) showing S3 & S4	7
Figure 2b: Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) showing S2	7
Table 1: Historic Environment Sites located within the assessment area.....	10
Figure 3: Location Map showing Historic Environment Sites and assessment area.....	13
Table 3: Management Guidance for Historic Environment Sites	15

Executive Summary

1. A historic environment assessment was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a proposed planting scheme at Watsonburn, near New Cumnock, East Ayrshire. A desk-based assessment and walkover survey was designed to establish a sound baseline on the historic environment within the landholding and to make recommendations on its management. The findings of the assessment and survey are presented in this report.
2. Nine historic environment sites were identified and are considered within this report (Table 1). These are: two former sheepfolds (**S1** and **S3**), two 19th century farmsteads (**S2** and **S4**), 20th century wind pump (**S6**), 20th century sheep pen (**S6**) and a series of three field boundaries (banks) (**S7**, **S8** and **S9**).
3. Based on the evidence gathered for this assessment, positive management has been recommended to safeguard sites **S1**, **S2**, **S3** and **S4**.

Introduction

4. A historic environment assessment and survey was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a programme of tree planting in the vicinity of Watsonburn, near New Cumnock, East Ayrshire (centred on NS 639 158). These works were designed to inform on the nature, form and extent of any historic environment assets present within the defined areas, based on archival sources and site inspection undertaken through the walkover survey. From this baseline, management guidelines are presented that seek to protect significant sites in an appropriate setting.
5. This report has been prepared to support Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to address UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines (2011), specifically Good Forestry Practice Requirements 1 to 4.

Topographic and Geological Background

6. The assessment area is located 4km northeast of the town of New Cumnock. It comprises a 135ha area of land on the southwest facing slopes of a ridge incorporating Edge Hill and Millstone Knowe.
7. The area includes sections of the Watson Burn and Mansfield Burn which both drain into the River Nith. The study area can be characterised geologically as comprising lower (bedrock) geology of sandstone with some mudstone (Kinnesswood Formation) combined with superficial deposits of Devensian – Diamicton Till with some peat and alluvial deposits. The study area has been enclosed by a mix of drystone walls and wire and post fencing and is improved grazing, although some of this ground has reverted with bracken infestation and reeds.

Project Works

8. The programme of works agreed with Mark Hamilton Landscape Services comprised a desk-based assessment and walkover survey.
9. The desk-based assessment consulted resources within:
 - ❖ Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Collections (including Canmore, Scheduled Monuments and other designations & the National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP));
 - ❖ West of Scotland Archaeology Service Historic Environment Record (known archaeological sites);
 - ❖ National Library of Scotland (bibliographic records, estate plans, historic Ordnance Survey and pre-Ordnance Survey mapping); and
 - ❖ Local museums, libraries and other archives (Old & New Statistical Accounts, local history books).
10. The walkover survey comprised:
 - ❖ classification of the archaeological sites and monuments;

- ❖ compilation of a written site description (objective measured description; subjective site interpretation; site condition; site evaluation [using FES categorisation guidelines]; and management recommendations if appropriate);
 - ❖ production of a photographic record (digital) of all sites; and
 - ❖ location of all archaeological site limits and elements by DGPS equipment (Leica GS50) allowing real-time correction to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum.
11. All works complied with the UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statements.

Historic Environment Baseline

12. The desk based assessment identified nine sites within the assessment area. None were protected by designation as a Scheduled Monument protected under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Previous Archaeological Works

13. The northern half of the study area was subject to an archaeological desk-based assessment and field inspection (WoSAS Ev 1067) by CFA Archaeology in May 1996 for Scottish Coal in support of a proposed 3.8sq km opencast coal extraction site. The survey identified several industrial sites associated with 18th century millstone quarrying as well as showing 19th and 20th century coal mining has partially masked bell-pits from an earlier phase of shaft and adit mining. Agriculture and stock management were represented by settlement remains, parcels of rig and furrow and isolated sheepfolds. The sheepfold **S1** was identified by this study.

Prehistoric to Roman Land use

14. There is no evidence of occupation during the Neolithic, Bronze or Iron Age within the study area. A possible Bronze Age funerary cairn (Canmore Id: 44696) was located on the farm of Polquheys to the west of the Proposal beyond the Muirfoot Burn.
15. Roman activity in the uplands of SW Scotland are poorly understood, despite a continuous array of military installations and associated road network flowing along the Solway coast. No known or suggested Roman sites lie within the area under consideration for forestry, though to the immediate south of the Proposal a putative Roman Road has been described (Canmore Id: 44688) though remains untested. Another purported Roman Road lies to the north on Airds Hill (Canmore Id: 73246), again this road remains untested and should be considered putative.
16. Due to the relatively low intensity of the land use across the assessment area and much of its surroundings, the limited survival of prehistoric field monuments as prominent features in the landscape is notable. The absence of such sites suggests either a consistent pattern of low intensity land use within these periods or occupation in a manner that has not formed discrete and identifiable field monuments.

Medieval and Later Periods

17. No definitively early medieval or medieval features are located within the assessment area.
18. One discovery of note was the recovery of an early medieval cross-slab fragment from a moss in the 19th century near Mansfield House (Canmore Id: 44715) to south of Proposal. This suggests occupation and religious activity within the immediate area.
19. The first barons of Cumnock to be mentioned in charters (of the 14th century) were the Dunbars. Their residence was Cumnock Castle which stood roughly 2.5km to the SW, named on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey as 'Black Bog Castle' and in the New Statistical Account as 'Black Craig Castle'. Its location on the summit of a knoll is identifiable now by sections of a moat rather than any fabric with the castle having been maintained into the 17th century prior to its loss in the 18th to 19th century. The castle site formed the nucleus for New Cumnock.



Figure 1a: Extract from Roy's Military Survey of 1752-5.

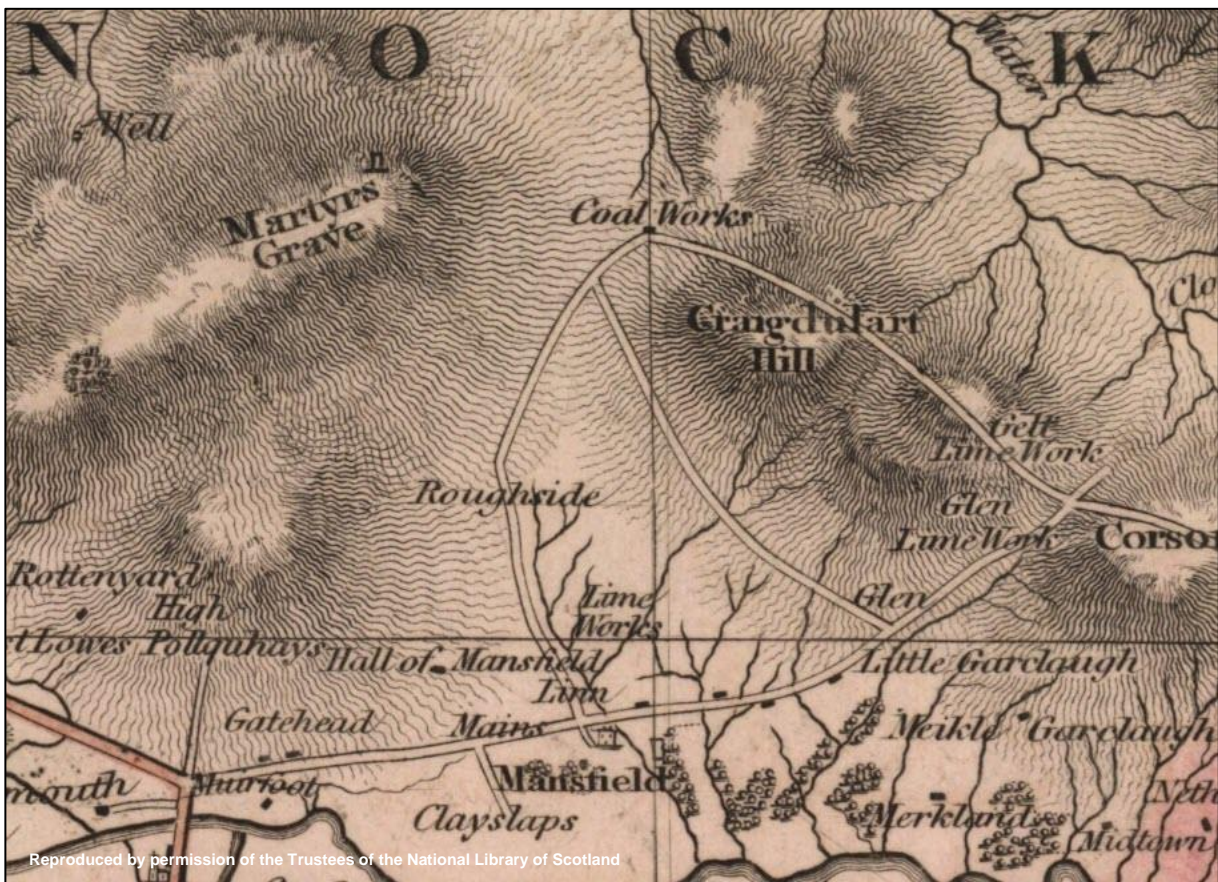


Figure 1b: Extract from Thomson 1834.



Figure 2a: Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) showing **S3** & **S4**

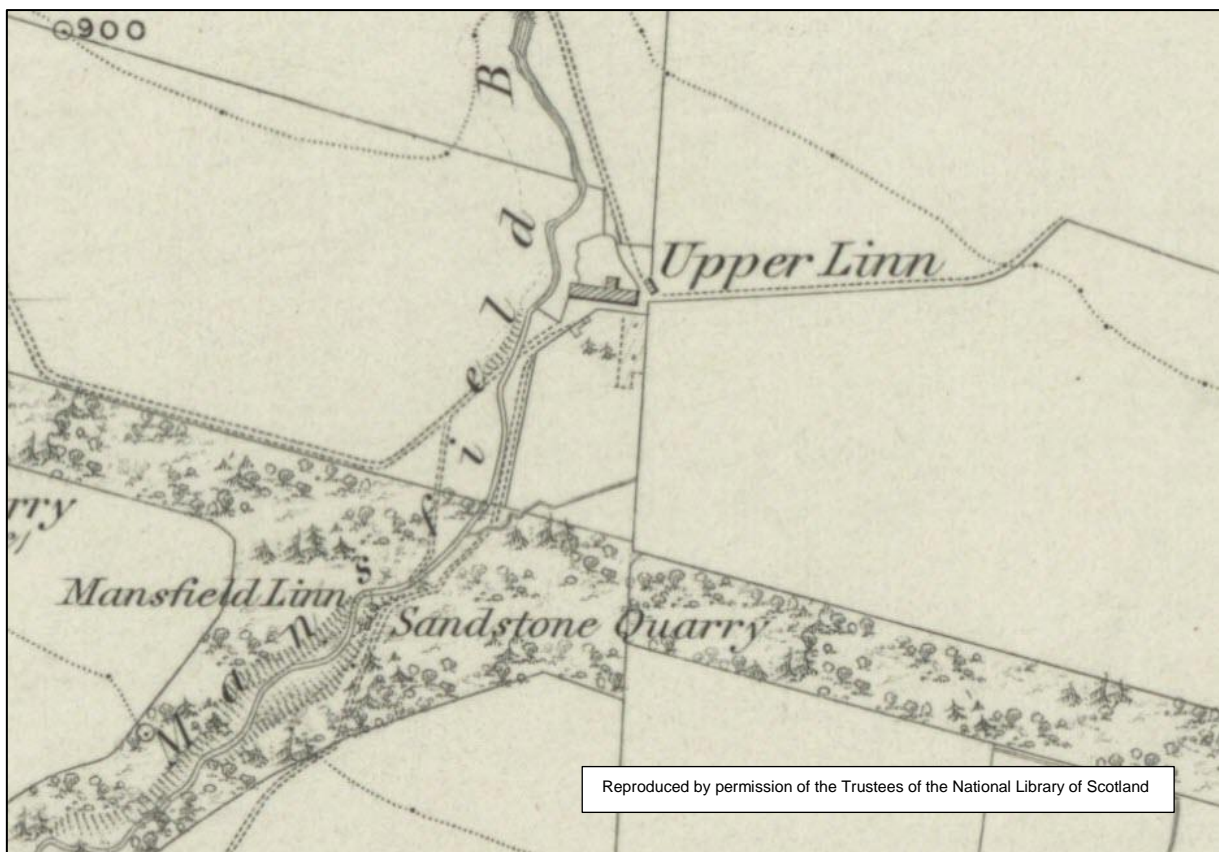


Figure 2b: Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) showing **S2**




20. Within the province of Kyle in Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland (1654) a series of settlements are depicted to the north of the River Nith and to the east of the Muirfoot Burn (though not named on this map). Tying these settlements to known sites depicted on later mapping is challenging, though they show that the lower slopes in this area were occupied in the mid-17th century. Adair (1685) offers no additional information given the lack of detail on his mapping beyond identifying Cumnock Castle and Kyle Castle (to the north on Guelt Water), a similar absence of settlement is present on Moll (1745).
21. Blaeu's depiction also contrasts starkly with the more detailed mapping that is available from the mid-18th century. Roy's Military Survey of Lowland Scotland (1752-55) depicts the study area as open hillside with cultivated land limited to the immediate margins of the River Nith (see Figure 1a). No settlement appears to be active within the area of the Proposal at this time, the nearest being Gallow Hill – a settlement location that appears to correlate to the later Roughside.
22. While no settlement sites within our assessment area are depicted on Armstong (1775) a denser pattern of settlement is evident on the lower slopes of the Nith valley as well as the suggestion of mineral extraction from the hills to the north, with 'Lime Craigs' identified. This changing, industrialising landscape is more evident on Thomson's map (1828) depicting a network of three roads striking north into the hills to a 'Coal Works' at Edge Hill, to the northwest of Craigdullyear Hill. There are also a number of 'Lime Works' noted including one to the immediate south of the Proposal. The westernmost of the three roads is that which bisects the assessment area, providing access to Watsonburn **S4** – though this is not depicted in 1828. The central road lies to the immediate east of the eastern edge of the assessment area. Thomson continues the pattern of not depicting settlement in the assessment area.
23. The Old Statistical Account of Scotland for the Parish of New Cumnock (compiled in 1793) describes the land of the Parish as chiefly producing bear and oats as well as an abundance of potatoes. It identifies a number of mineral resources (inc. coal and lime) though notes this is only used in the locality due to the lack of a navigable river. The population was reported to be steadily, but slowly, climbing since the mid-18th century. The more substantive New Statistical Account (1845) identifies the large extent of mossy and uncultivated land within the parish identifying the common use of open drains to manage this ground. The production of lime for agricultural improvements is also detailed to great extent with a particularly detailed description of the high quality kilns present on the Mansfield estate (to the immediate south of the assessment area). The Mansfield estate also attracts attention for the improvement of the meadow land through drainage and use of broad rigs to improve the pasture.
24. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) map shows the assessment area as an enclosed network of fields with two farms within the assessment area – Watsonburn **S4** (Figure 2a) and Upper Linn **S2** (Figure 2b), on the east bank of the Mansfield Burn. To the south, on the lower slopes, is Mansfield House the centre of the estate of the same name with evidence of structural planting such as the forestry belt to the immediate south of the assessment area.
25. A small circular sheepfold **S3** is also present on the Watson Burn to the west of the farm, implying these fields are in pastoral use. The contemporary Ordnance Survey Name Book (1855-57) describes Watsonburn **S4** as 'A house occupied by servants on Polquheys farm' suggesting that at this time this was a subsidiary element of the Polquheys farm. In contrast Upper Linn **S2** is clearly active as a farm, being described as 'A farm house on Mansfield estate - it derives its name from a linn in its vicinity'.
26. By the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (1897) a second circular sheepfold **S1** with a spur wall was present to the southeast of Watsonburn **S4**. At this point one of the enclosed fields **S7** to the northwest of Upper Linn had fallen out of use with the upper slopes of Craigdullyear reverting to open grazing.
27. The subsequent edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping shows no change to the 2nd into the mid 20th century. More recent representations of the assessment area came in the form of aerial imagery. The broad range available included aerial photographs taken during the




middle and late 20th century, now curated by HES, and up-to-date satellite imagery. Study of this resource revealed a 20th century rectilinear sheep pen **S5** in the southern edge of the assessment area with a small wind pump structure **S6** to the immediate north. Both **S5** and **S6** are shown for the first time in an Ordnance Survey plan from 1957. More recent aerial imagery suggests that the sheepfold was a temporary structure subject to alteration and sometimes being completely disassembled. Extensive evidence for field drainage in dense networks of parallel drains was also evident from these aerial images attesting to the marginal character of this ground.




Walkover Survey

28. The walkover survey took place in mixed weather conditions consisting of blustery showers and sunshine. The study area was located approximately 4km to the NE of the town of New Cumnock, East Ayrshire. Overall the study area consisted of a mix of both pasture, rough pasture and occasional boggy areas (located close to watercourses) within nine fields (Figure 3).
29. Fields 1 and 2 (centred at NS 63130 16665 and NS 63533 16317) were located in the NW part of the study area. Both fields consisted of a mix of pasture and rough pasture with some boggy areas close to a small ENE-WSW running burn which crossed through the easternmost part of Field 2. The fields sloped gently in a SW-NE direction and were enclosed by a mix of drystone walling and wire and post fencing. The only archaeological feature identified was a small sheepfold **S3**. The sheepfold was of drystone construction and in poor repair at the time of the walkover. It survived to a height of 0.3m-0.6m, was 0.7m-0.75m thick and had an outer diameter of 14.8m.
30. Field 3 (centred at NS 63864 16406) was located in the NW part of the study area and immediately NE of Field 2. The field consisted of rough pasture which sloped gently in a SW-NE direction and was bounded by a mix of dry stone walling and wire and post fencing. Located in the southernmost part of Field 3 was the farmstead of Watsonburn **S4**. The farmstead occupied an irregular shaped area of 3833m² and the sub-rectangular shaped range of joined farm buildings, shown first within the 1st edition Ordnance Survey, were located in the SW part of the farmstead enclosure. The farm buildings which were stone built with an exterior render, measured 38m from WNW-ESE, 9.4m from NNE-SSW and consisted of one storey (though what appeared to be a later roof extension was noted on its SW side). Other modern, 20th century or later, outbuildings were located close to the original farm buildings to the SSW and S (outwith the original farmstead enclosure). Both these modern buildings and the range of farm buildings appeared to have been recently abandoned and the roofs had partially collapsed in many of them.
31. Fields 4 and 5 (centred at NS 63936 16046 and NS 64291 16279) were located in the northern part of the study area. Both of the fields consisted mainly of rough pasture with some boggy areas in the northern parts of both fields. Field 4 sloped gently in a SW-NE direction and Field 5 sloped in a NNW-SSE direction and both fields were enclosed by a mix of wire and post fencing with some occasional drystone walling. The only archaeological feature identified was a small sheepfold **S1** which was of drystone construction located in Field 4. The Sheepfold was of drystone construction and in poor repair at the time of the walkover with parts of the wall collapsed. It survived to a height of 0.3m-0.65m, was 0.8m-0.9m thick and had an outer diameter of 15.8m.
32. Fields 6 and 7 (centred at NS 63595 15652 and NS 63835 15669) were located in the western part of the study area. Both of these fields consisted of more improved pastureland than that found in the northern part of the study area. The fields sloped gently in a SW-NE direction and were enclosed with a mix of wire and post fencing and drystone walling. The fields were bisected by Hall Burn a small watercourse which ran in a NNW-SSE direction between the two fields. In the southern part of Field 6 a sheep pen **S5** and a small wind pump **S6** were inspected. The Sheep pen was found to consist of modern steel farm gates and steel and wooden fencing. The sub-rectangular shaped pen was subdivided into 3 compartments and occupied an area of 800.5m². The square shaped wind pump structure consisted of a metal shed which measured 3.3m by 3.3m and had an approximate height of 1.9m-2.1m. No sign of any associated turbine workings could be found and it seems

Table 1: Historic Environment Sites located within the assessment area

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S1	Watsonburn: Sheepfold	Canmore: 135828 WosAS: 46678	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>A circular sheepfold is shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map with a spur running to the SE. This sheepfold was not shown on 1st edition Ordnance Survey, it continues to be depicted on the current Ordnance Survey.</p> <p>Walkover survey</p> <p>The Sheep fold was of drystone construction and in poor repair at the time of the walkover with parts of the wall collapsed. It survived to a height of 0.3m-0.65m, was 0.8m-0.9m thick and had an outer diameter of 15.8m.</p>	NS 64135 16056	
S2	Upper Linn: Farmstead	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>Farmstead depicted on 1st edition Ordnance Survey as an E/W aligned building set to the east of the Mansfield Burn named Upper Linn, accessed by tracks from the south. A small additional structure set to the E with surrounding small enclosures. By 2nd edition Ordnance Survey an additional building is set to the S, parallel with the earlier main building. By 1958 Ordnance Survey southern building was no longer mapped, while original northern building continued to be shown as inhabited, 1963 Ordnance Survey shows as ruinous.</p> <p>Walkover survey</p> <p>The farmstead occupied a sub-rectangular area of 3928m² and the sub-rectangular shaped range of farm buildings which was located centrally within the farmstead measured 11.6m from NNE-SSW and 36m from WNW-ESE. The farm buildings were in a poor state of repair with many of the walls having collapsed or been robbed. The better preserved parts of the buildings survived to a height of 1.9m-2m though the majority of the buildings and farmstead enclosure walls only survived to height of 0.45m-0.6m.</p>	NS 64474 15074	
S3	Watsonburn: Sheepfold	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>A circular sheepfold is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map on the north side of the Watson Burn. This sheepfold continues to be depicted on the current Ordnance Survey.</p> <p>Walkover survey</p> <p>The Sheep fold was of drystone construction and in poor repair at the time of the walkover. It survived to a height of 0.3m-0.6m, was 0.7m-0.75m thick and had an outer diameter of 14.8m.</p>	NS 63530 16240	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S4	Watsonburn: Farmstead	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>Farmstead depicted on 1st edition Ordnance Survey as a NW-SE aligned building set to the north of the Watson Burn named Watsonburn, accessed by road from the south. Set with surrounding small enclosures. Continues in comparable layout to at least 1963 Ordnance Survey, current Ordnance Survey shows original structure appears to have been supplemented by additional structures and remains inhabited.</p> <p>Walkover survey</p> <p>The farmstead occupied an irregular shaped area of 3833m² and the sub-rectangular shaped range of joined farm buildings, shown first within the 1st edition Ordnance Survey, were located in the SW part of the farmstead enclosure. The farm buildings which were stone built with exterior render, measured 38m from WNW-ESE, 9.4m from NNE-SSW and consisted of one storey (though what appeared to be a later roof extension was noted on its SW side). Other modern, 20th century or later, outbuildings were located close to the original farm buildings to the SSW and S (outwith the original farmstead enclosure). Both these modern buildings and the range of farm buildings appeared to have been recently abandoned and the roof had partially collapsed in many of them.</p>	NS 63870 16321	
S5	Watsonburn: Sheep Pen	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>Sub-rectangular shaped sheep pen noted in modern mapping and aerial imagery. From the aerial imagery the pen seems to comprise a series of metal fences and gates located off of the small farm road running from Hall of Mansfield in the south to Watsonburn Farm S4 in the north.</p> <p>Walkover Survey</p> <p>The Sheep pen was found to consist of modern steel farm gates and steel and wooden fencing. The sub-rectangular shaped pen was subdivided into 3 compartments though modern aerial imagery suggests that this changes over time. The pen occupied an area of 800.5m².</p>	NS 63596 15478	
S6	Watsonburn: Wind Pump	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>Small square shaped structure marked as a wind pump in the Ordnance Survey Plan from 1957. The wind pump was located approximately 20m to the north-northwest of a sheep pen S5 and adjacent to the farm road running from Hall of Mansfield in the south to Watsonburn Farm S4 in the north.</p> <p>Walkover Survey</p> <p>The square shaped wind pump structure consisted of a lower metal shed which measured 3.3m by 3.3m and had an approximate height of 1.9m-2.1m. No sign of an associated turbine could be found and it seems that it has been reused as a shed.</p>	NS 63564 15509	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S7	Watsonburn Field Boundary (Bank)	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>The remains of a low L-shaped field boundary (bank) was identified within the 1st edition Ordnance Survey and is still visible within modern aerial imagery though was not shown on the later 2nd edition Ordnance Survey suggesting it had gone out of use by that time. The field boundary is located within Field 8 in the southeastern part of the study area.</p> <p>Walkover Survey</p> <p>The field boundary could not be discerned on the ground though its NNE-SSW length of 92m and WNW-ESE length of 366m could be determined from aerial imagery.</p>	<p>NNE-SSW Stretch NS 64131 15279 To NS 64160 15401</p> <p>WNW-ESE Stretch NS 64160 15401 To NS 64508 15311</p>	
S8	Watsonburn Field Boundary (Bank)	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>The remains of a low linear field boundary (bank) was identified within modern aerial imagery. The field boundary is located within Field 8 in the southeastern part of the study area and runs in a WSW-ENE direction parallel with and 6-7m to the NNE of an existing boundary wall which is associated with Upper Linn Farm S2, 95m to the SE.</p> <p>Walkover Survey</p> <p>The field boundary was barely discernible on the ground though it approximate maximum height of 0.2m, its width of 1m-1.2m and its WNW-ESE length of 246m could be determined.</p>	<p>WNW-ESE Stretch NS 64104 15262 To NS 64364 15177</p>	
S9	Watsonburn Field Boundary (Bank)	NA	<p>Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>The remains of a low linear field boundary (bank) was identified within modern aerial imagery. The field boundary is located within Field 8 in the southeastern part of the study area and runs in a NE-SW direction and either cuts or is cut by the westernmost end of field boundary S7.</p> <p>Walkover Survey</p> <p>The field boundary could not be discerned on the ground though its NE-SW length of 118m could be determined from aerial imagery.</p>	<p>NE-SW Stretch NS 64161 15366 To NS 64205 15448</p>	

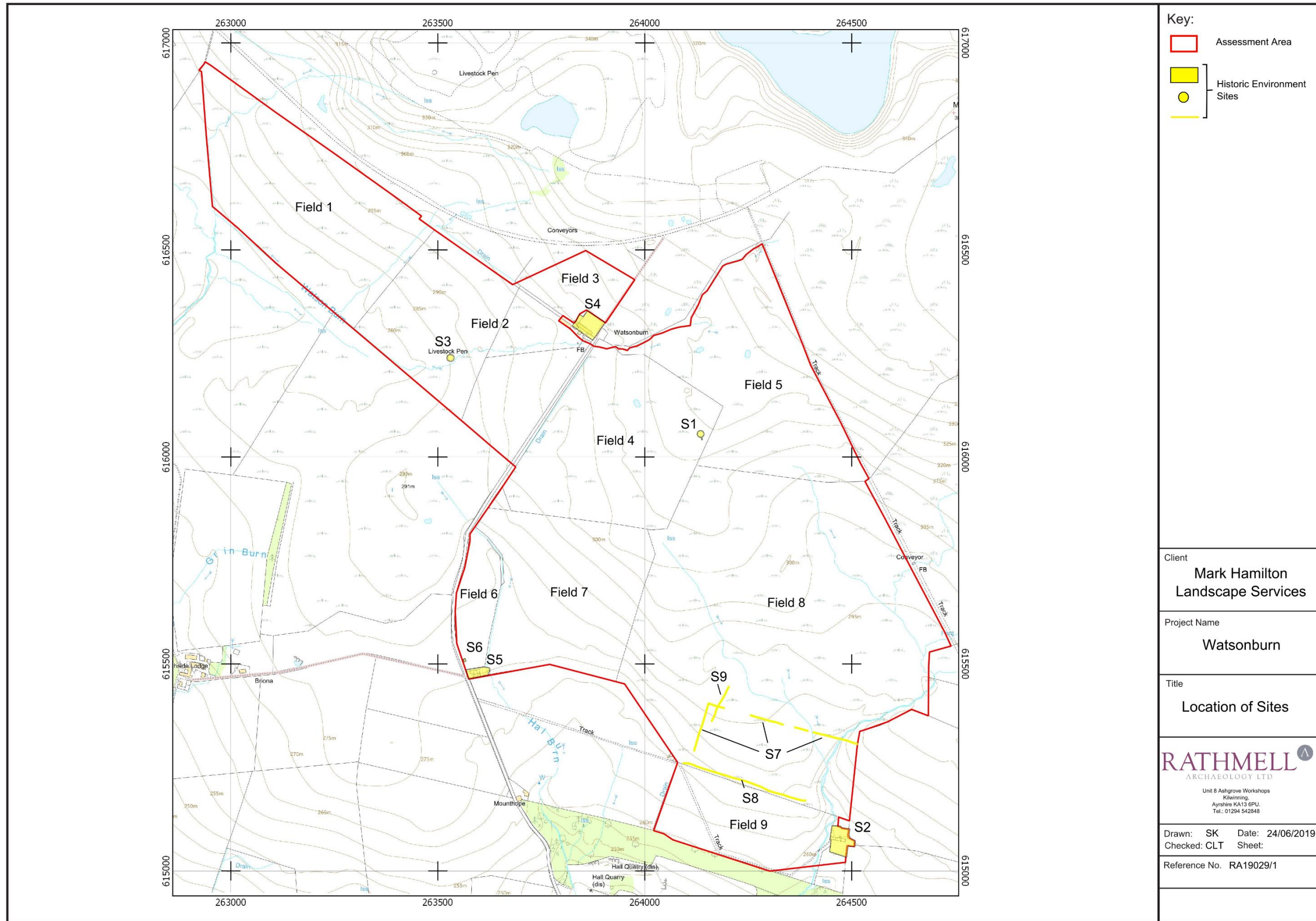


Figure 3: Location Map showing Historic Environment Sites and assessment area

that it has been reused as a shed. No other archaeological features were identified in Fields 6 and 7.

33. Field 8 (centred at NS 64352 15596) was located in the eastern part of the study area. The field was irregular shaped and sloped gently in a SSW-NNE and SSE-NNW direction. The field consisted mainly of rough pasture with boggy areas close to a series of small watercourses which ran across the field in a NW-SE and N-S direction and fed into the larger Mansfield Burn in the SE corner of Field 8. A series of three field boundaries (banks) were identified through aerial imagery. Of these three only **S8** could be discerned (though only barely) on the ground and it had an approximate maximum height of 0.2m, width of 1m-1.2m and WNW-ESE running length of 246m. The other two field boundaries, **S7** and **S9**, could not be discerned on the ground and only their respective lengths and orientations could be discerned using aerial imagery. **S7** was orientated in a NNE-SSW direction with a length of 92m and WNW-ESE direction with a length of 366m. **S9** was orientated in NE-SW direction with a length of 118m. No other archaeological features were identified within Field 8.
34. Field 9 (centred at NS 64247 15119) was located at the southernmost part of the study area. The field was rectangular shaped in plan and consisted of pasture which was enclosed by a mixture of trees and hedges, wire and post fencing and drystone walling. A farmstead **S2** first shown in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey was located in the eastern part of the field. The farmstead occupied a sub-rectangular area of 3928m² and the sub-rectangular shaped range of farm buildings which was located centrally within the farmstead measured 11.6m from NNE-SSW and 36m from WNW-ESE. The farm buildings were in a poor state of repair with many of the walls having collapsed or been robbed out. The better preserved parts of the buildings survived to a height of 1.9m-2m though the majority of the buildings and farmstead enclosure walls only survived to height of 0.45m-0.6m.

Management Guidance

35. The assessment identified nine historic sites within the Watsonburn assessment area. Not all sites are of equal merit or have equal potential to contribute to the comprehension of the Historic Environment. A fourfold significance is used to reflect the scale of contribution running, from high to low, as National, Regional, Local and Other, where Other denotes a minimal significance. Presented below is our guidance on how we recommend the known historic environment sites should be treated within any Forest Design Plan (summarised in Table 3).
36. Sheepfolds **S1** and **S3** are both shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey but only **S3** is shown in the earlier 1st edition Ordnance Survey. They are therefore likely to date to the 19th century with **S3** possibly being an earlier 18th century structure. Though neither is listed in Canmore they contribute to the historic character of the land and have been ascribed Local significance and should be protected by a 5m buffer. Each should be retained within a managed clearing that is maintained as an open space.
37. Both Upper Linn and Watsonburn farmsteads, **S2** and **S4**, were both depicted in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey and as such may date to the early 19th. Watsonburn farmstead is listed in Canmore and even though Upper Linn is not both contribute to the historic character of the land and have been ascribed Local significance and should be protected by a 5m buffer. Each should be retained within a managed clearing that is maintained as an open space.
38. Neither the sheep pen **S5** or the wind pump **S6** appear in any historic mapping and are first shown in the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 plan of 1957. As both of these site are both still currently in use and date to the latter part of the 20th century they have both been ascribed Other significance and as such **no** action is recommended.
39. Though the three field boundary (banks), **S7**, **S8** and **S9**, identified in the southern part of the study area appear to be 19th century (**S7** is depicted in the 1st edition Ordnance Survey) they are in such degraded state that only **S8** is still (barely) visible on the ground. Due to this all three field boundaries have been ascribed Other significance and as such **no** action is recommended (though if at all possible no unnecessary damage should be caused to the

sites).

Table 3: Management Guidance for Historic Environment Sites

No	Site	Significance	Management Guidance	UKFS HE Guidelines
S1	Watsonburn: Sheepfold	Local	The 19 th century sheepfold though collapsed in places and in poor repair still survives as discernible archaeological site. Protection with a 5m buffer, managed as clearing and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 2 SFM 11,18
S2	Upper Linn: Farmstead	Local	The 19 th century farmstead and associated buildings though collapsed in places and in poor repair still survives as discernible archaeological site. Protection with a 5m buffer, managed as clearing and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 2 SFM 11,18
S3	Watsonburn: Sheepfold	Local	The 19 th century sheepfold though collapsed in places an in poor repair still survives as discernible archaeological site. Protection with a 5m buffer, managed as clearing and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 2 SFM 11,18
S4	Watsonburn: Farmstead	Local	The 19 th century farmstead and associated buildings recently abandoned and in good repair, though the farm buildings roofs are beginning to fall in. Protection only covers the 19 th century elements of the farmstead and not the later 20 th century buildings located to the immediate SW and S. Protection with a 5m buffer, managed as clearing and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 2 SFM 11,18
S5	Watsonburn: Sheep Pen	Other	The sheep pen dates to the latter part of the 20 th century and is still in use (though it is temporary structure and occasionally taken down). No action is recommended.	-
S6	Watsonburn: Wind Pump	Other	The wind pump is clearly late 20 th century in date and is still in use as a shed. No action is recommended.	-
S7	Watsonburn Field	Other	The field boundary is no longer visible on the ground and can	-

	Boundary (Bank)		only be seen using aerial imagery. No action is recommended but if at all possible no unnecessary damage should be caused to the site.	
S8	Watsonburn Field Boundary (Bank)	Other	The site was not located during field survey, and is therefore not in a condition that merits preservation. No action is recommended.	-
S9	Watsonburn Field Boundary (Bank)	Other	The field boundary is no longer visible on the ground and can only be seen using aerial imagery. No action is recommended but if at all possible no unnecessary damage should be caused to the site.	-

SFM sustainable forest management. LR legal requirement. GFPR good forestry practice requirement

Conclusion

52. A historic environment assessment was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a programme of tree-planting near Watsonburn, East Ayrshire. This process identified nine historic environment sites relating to the assessment area (Table 1).
53. Our management guidance has covered protection measures for four of these sites. These recommendations are compliant with UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines

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