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Halkburn Woodland Project: Feasibility Study

Report No. 2170

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS

This report considers the potential impact on cultural heritage interests of proposed woodland planting scheme at Halkburn to the north-west of Galashiels. The report is accompanied by a gazetteer (Appendix 1) describing sites and features of historic environment interest identified within and close to the proposed planting area boundary.

Figure 1 shows the locations and where applicable the extents of features identified during a reconnaissance site visit carried out in December 2012.

The proposed woodland scheme lies along the east bank of the Halk Burn, approximately 2km north-east of Galashiels in the Scottish Borders and within the Lauder Water valley. The current land use is a mix of pasture farmland (both improved pasture grass-land and rough pasture) and includes an existing small area of woodland spread along the banks of the Halk Burn at its southern end. Some new planting has been introduced in the area south of the Williamlaw Burn. Much of the proposed new planting area is on a steep west-facing hillslope, but it also includes a lower lying flood terrace, on the east bank of the Halk Burn.

The objectives of the cultural heritage study were to:

- Identify the cultural heritage baseline within and in the vicinity of the proposed woodland site;
- Assess the woodland site in terms of its archaeological and historic environment potential;
- Consider the potential effects of the woodland planting on the baseline cultural heritage resource, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy guidelines;
- Propose measures, where appropriate, to mitigate any predicted adverse effects.

Assessing Heritage Importance

The assessment of the heritage importance of the archaeological and heritage assets has been determined from the relative weight given to the in Scottish Planning Policy¹ (SPP) and Scottish Historic Environment Policy² (SHEP). Table 1 summarises the relative importance of key cultural heritage assets.

Table 1: Importance of Cultural Heritage Assets

Heritage Importance	Definition / Criteria
National / International	Sites of national or international importance, including: World Heritage Sites Scheduled Monuments and sites proposed for scheduling Undesignated archaeological sites and areas of likely national importance identified in the Historic Environment Records (HER) Category A Listed Buildings Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes Outstanding Conservation Areas

¹ Scottish Government (2010) Scottish Planning Policy

² Historic Scotland (2010) Scottish Historic Environment Policy

Regional	Sites of regional importance, including: Archaeological sites and areas of distinctive regional importance Category B Listed Buildings Conservation Areas
Local	Sites of local importance, including: Archaeological sites of local importance Category C Listed Buildings Unlisted historic buildings and townscapes with local (vernacular) characteristics
Lesser	Sites of little or no importance (lesser than local), including: Find-spots Unlisted buildings of minor historic or architectural interest Poorly preserved examples of particular types of features

PLANNING AND LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

The primary planning guidance comprises the Scottish Historic Environment Policy document (SHEP), Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (February 2010) and Planning Advice Note 2/2011 (PAN 2) at national level, and, at the regional and local level, the Scottish Borders Structure Plan 2002 and the Consolidated Local Plan 2011 (which comprises the adopted Local Plan 2008 and Local Plan amendment of 2011).

Cultural heritage assets include statutory (those protected by legislation) and non-statutory designations, as defined in SPP.

Assets with statutory designations are:

- Scheduled Monuments;
- Listed Buildings;
- Conservation Areas; and
- Designated Wrecks.

Assets with non-statutory designations are:

- World Heritage Sites;
- Gardens and Designed Landscapes;
- Historic Battlefields; and,
- Other Historic Environment Interests.

Cultural heritage assets relevant to this assessment are 'other historic environment feature'. There are no Scheduled Monuments, no Listed Buildings or other buildings of historic or architectural importance, no Conservation Areas and no Gardens and Designed Landscapes that would be affected by the proposed woodland planting scheme; therefore these asset classifications are not considered further in this report.

Structure Plan Policies

Scottish Borders Structure Plan 2001 - 2011 (Approved 2002) sets out the strategic policy framework for the region and provides the current basis for decisions on planning applications.

Policy N15 (Regional and Local Archaeological Sites) states that development proposals which will adversely affect an archaeological site of regional or local significance will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that the benefits of the proposal will clearly outweigh the archaeological value of the site or feature.

Policy N16 (Archaeological Evaluation, Preservation and Recording) states that where there is reasonable evidence of the existence of archaeological remains, but their nature and extent are unknown, the Council may require an archaeological evaluation to provide clarification of the potential impact of a development before a planning decision is reached. Where development is approved which would damage an archaeological site or feature, the Council will require that such development is carried out in accordance with a strategy designed to minimise the impact of development upon the archaeology and to ensure that a complete record is made of any remains which would otherwise be damaged by the development. Such a strategy might include some or all of the following:

- The preservation of remains in-situ and in an appropriate setting.
- Surface or geophysical survey.
- Archaeological evaluation.
- Study of the excavated evidence and publication of the results.

The preferred solution will be influenced by the value of the site in national, regional or local terms.

Local Plan Policies

The Scottish Borders Consolidated Local Plan (2011) sets out the SBC's approach to the development and use of land. Together with the Scottish Borders Structure Plan it forms the statutory Development Plan for the Scottish Borders. Volume 1 of the Consolidated Local Plan sets out relevant Policies.

Policy BE2 (Archaeological Sites and Ancient Monuments) states that where development proposals impact on a Scheduled Monument, other nationally important sites not yet scheduled, or any other archaeological or historical sites, developers will be required to carry out detailed investigation to ensure compliance with Structure Plan policies.

Forestry and Woodland Guidance

UK Forestry Standard (2011)

The UK Forestry Standard sets out the UK governments' approach to sustainable forest management. The guidance provides a list of five good forestry practice requirements in relation to forestry and woodland management and the historic environment:

1. Forests should be designed and managed to take account of the historical character and cultural values of the landscape.
2. Forests should be designed and managed to take account of policies associated with historic landscapes, battlefield sites, historic parks and gardens, and designed landscapes of historic interest.

3. Steps should be taken to ensure that historic features, which may be adversely affected by forestry, are known and evaluated on an individual site basis, taking advice from the local historic environment services.
4. Forest management plans and operational plans should set out how important historic environment features, including veteran trees, are to be protected and managed.
5. Where existing forests do not meet the *UKFS Requirements for Forests and Historic Environment*, improvements should be made when management opportunities arise.

The Scottish Forestry Strategy 2006

The Scottish Forestry Strategy 2006 is the Scottish Government's framework for taking forestry forward through the first half of this century, but focussing on the key priorities over the next decade.

KEY THEME 6: Environmental quality (p 43) identifies, as one of its aims, the need to help to manage Scotland's historic environment and its interpretation and enjoyment. The historic environment is a unique and irreplaceable source of evidence about how people have lived in Scotland over thousands of years. It enables present and future generations to better understand and appreciate their place in history. The historic dimension of the landscape also contributes to its quality, character and meaning.

Managing the historic environment (p 45) can be achieved through:

- Identifying and safeguarding significant evidence of the historic environment, including historic landscapes (see Historic Land-use Assessment Data), through the forest design planning process and by the sensitive management of forest operations.
- Encouraging and supporting the active management, enhancement and interpretation of the most significant elements of the historic environment.
- Working with partners to integrate online historical, landscape and environmental data sources.

Scotland's Woodlands and the Historic Environment (2008)

Scotland's woodlands and the historic environment (2008) is the Forestry Commission Scotland's Policy framework document. Fundamentally, the purpose of that document is to:

- Communicate the forestry sector's shared understanding of how forests and woodlands contribute towards Scotland's historic environment.
- Promote the appreciation of the history of Scotland's forests and woodlands, and their contribution towards our cultural heritage.
- Confirm how the forestry sector will endeavour to deliver the required outcomes of Scottish Ministers' strategic policies for the historic environment.
- Outline what practical measures the forestry sector can take to ensure that all our activities enhance the stewardship of the historic environment

APPROACH TO THE ASSESSMENT

The feasibility study took the form of a detailed desk-based assessment augmented by a site visit. The collation of baseline information was conducted in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists' By-laws and Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment. The principal methods employed comprise archival and documentary research and a systematic walk-over survey with two experienced archaeologists.

Desk-based Assessment

Information was gathered on previously recorded sites and monuments within and around the red-line site boundary from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) database.

The on-line Ordnance Survey map coverage (1863-1950) was checked along with available earlier historic maps for evidence of historical land-use development.

Vertical aerial photographs covering the proposed planting area held by RCAHMS were examined; coverage from 1946, 1964 and 1988 was reviewed. There were no oblique aerial photographs covering the proposed planting area. Modern vertical aerial photographic imagery available via GoogleEarth™ and Bing™ was also used to obtain information on current land-use and evidence for continuing survival of sites and features identified through other desk-based resources.

A list of the sources consulted during the assessment is provided at the end of this report.

Field survey

A site visit was carried out on 17 December 2012 to assess the quality and current condition of the previously recorded on-site historic environment sites and features. Sites and features encountered were surveyed in using hand-held GPS surveying equipment with an accuracy of approximately +/- 5m or better and their condition recorded on pro forma recording sheets. A digital photographic record was made of all but the least significant features.

The weather on the day was fair and clear and visibility was good. Ground conditions on site were exceptionally wet and ground covered consisted of sparse mixed scrub woodland with some new planting (south of the Williamslaw Burn), rough grassland, heather, gorse and bracken with light scrub woodland on the steep slopes on the east bank of the Halk Burn, and open rough pasture and improved and unimproved grassland on the higher flatter ground, bordering the east side of the proposed planting area.

Site numbers cited in the following text refer to the identification numbers cited in Appendix 1 for sites and features within and to the east of the proposed planting area the locations of which are shown on Figure 1.

Appendix 1 contains a column which provides an initial appraisal, based on the knowledge obtained from the desk-based study and field visit, of the likely cultural heritage importance of each of the identified sites or features.

BASELINE CONDITIONS

Medieval and Later Settlement

Farmsteads

'Williamslaw' farmstead (4) (Plate 1) is depicted in some detail on Roy's Military Survey Map (1747-55) set within a group of four conjoined enclosures somewhere between the Williamslaw Burn and the White Grain (as shown on modern maps) indicating that it is at least of 18th century date. It is also depicted on Stobie's map of 1770 as a fairly substantial settlement. The farmstead does not appear on earlier maps, which are however at a small scale and do not seem to have any detail outwith the Lauder Water valley; 'Buckholm' is however depicted from as early as Blaeu's Atlas (1654) where it is named as 'Buckhoome' and it is possible that 'Williamslaw' has an equally early origin. An 'Extract from the Act Book of the Regality of Melrose (1608)' records a Decree obtained at the instance of Sir Gideon Murray of Elibank,

proprietor of the Mill of Langschaw, against the feuars, tenants and others thirled to said Mill and mentions by name one *'William Hunter of Williamlaw as feuar of the lands of Williamlaw, Braidwoodsheill, and one (?) of the feuars of the lands and touns of Blainslie'* and provides a date of 1606. An earlier document (GD150; Papers of the Earls of Morton) provides an earlier date of 1577 in relation to the tenancy at Williamlaw. Torwoodlee, as a landholding, can also be dated back to at least the 15th century (M L Anderson 1967 cited in RCAHMS database - NT43NE 3) so a medieval date for farming activities at Williamlaw may also be consistent with the evidence.

Examination of 19th century maps indicates that the farmstead is shown on maps until 1821 (Ainslie), there is then a short period when a settlement at 'Williamlaw' is not shown (it is not, for example, depicted on Thomson's map of 1832). However, the farmstead appears again on Tennant's map of 1840 and, in 1843, it is depicted on Crawford and Brooks map at the head of what is evidently the Williamlaw Burn, where the farmstead is depicted to the immediate east of a large polygonal enclosure. From Crawford and Brooks map, the indication is that the farmstead (4) is that mapped and named at that time and it is likely that this farmstead is also that depicted on Roy. On the Ordnance Survey 1st edition (1863) map the earlier 'Williamlaw' farmstead is shown as abandoned and unroofed (seven former buildings being depicted) and new buildings are depicted (3) closer to the Williamlaw Burn as a group of three roofed buildings around two conjoined enclosures. At this time the farmstead is evidently a smaller complex than the earlier farmstead; the earlier enclosures are depicted as old walls and old fences and a large sheepfold (occupying part of the earlier field system) is shown as the only large contained enclosure.

The remains are represent at least two phases of farming settlement with clearly early origins (at least 18th century and quite possibly much earlier (16th century)) and the site is assessed as being of regional importance.

Field Systems; Cultivation Terraces; Rig and Furrow

The two former (now abandoned) farmsteads at Williamlaw (3 & 4) are associated with a group of drystone walled enclosures which represent the last phase of the farming settlement of the hill. The farmstead buildings (3) are shown as roofed on Ordnance Survey map in 1921, 1933 and 1950 and appear to still be roofed on aerial photographs from 1988. The field walls of the sheepfold and the large enclosures (depicted on the 2002 Ordnance Survey map) are still standing as drystone dykes enclosing improved pasture grassland. The remains are evidently of late 18th and more probably 19th century date and the field boundaries are therefore assessed to be of local importance.

Cultivation terraces are recorded around William Law (1) and the Halk Burn (5) in the RCAHMS database. Those on the slopes of William Law lie well outwith the surveyed area and so were not visited nor are they described in any detail here. It was however possible to see faint traces of what might be cultivation terracing on the west-facing slopes of William Law, in what is now improved pasture grassland within a large enclosed field. However, it was also noted that the topography of the hill shows a marked tendency to display the appearance of terracing that may in fact be geological in origin. It may be that the underlying geology of sandstone has weathered along the bedding planes of the layered sandstone creating natural 'terracing' (represented by changes in slope angle) that follows the hill contour lines. This may be the case particularly for the terracing described on William law (1). However, the cultivation terracing further north along the Halk Burn described by the RCAHMS (5) and identified during the desk-based assessment and confirmed by field survey (8) is undoubtedly of anthropogenic origin. The terracing in this area runs at right angles to the prevailing hill slope and is composed of a series of layered terraces varying in high from 3m high on the downslope side in some places to around

1m high on the downslope (Plate 2) in others and petering out into the hillslope at higher elevations. Within the group visited (5) the higher terraces are those to the west, the lower terracing lying to the east. The higher terraces are up to 30m wide, whilst those lower down are narrower, at around 8m wide.

Just to the north of the White Grain watercourse is another collection of very similar terracing (8a-c) and this includes two small patches (8a & 8b) that lie close to the proposed woodland planting area. These two patches are separated from the main grouping and were not clearly detectable (in rough wet rank grassland and in failing light) on the day of the survey. However, from aerial photographic evidence they appear to be very similar to those recorded at (5); on the same alignments across the contours, and between 8m and 12m wide.

These cultivation terraces represent the remains of early (possibly medieval agricultural practices and are assessed to be of regional importance.

Other (possible) cultivation terracing (17 & 26) was identified and recorded during the field survey on the hill slope above the Williamlaw Burn (17) and further north along the Halk Burn (26). This terracing is however substantially different to those described above. The apparent terraces follow closely the contour lines and the terraces are much narrower (3m to 4m wide). They were detectable as flatter strips of ground along the hill contours with slightly steeper bank on the downslope side (Plate 3). As discussed above, it is possible that this terracing is in fact a natural feature, derived from the character of the underlying sandstone geology. It is possible that natural terracing has been enhanced and exploited for cultivation.

These cultivation terraces are ambiguous and it is possible that they are in fact natural geological terracing; they are therefore assessed to be of no more than local importance.

An area of possible rig and furrow (27) was identified from aerial photographic imagery on the east bank of the Halk Burn. This was one of the features identified by the SBCAS as requiring further investigation. The aerial photography seems to show two groups of roughly equally spaced, curving rig; seemingly with a wavelength of between 5m and 7m furrow to furrow. However, field survey found these features hard to identify definitively on the ground at close quarters. The curving features interpreted as possible furrows could be seen from an elevated position of the west-facing hillslope (Plate 4) but on the ground there is no detectable rig profile consistent with cultivation. The spacing between the gullies (putative furrows) also appears to be variable and inconsistent with equally distributed rig beds. The area is very low lying, on the flood plain of the Halk Burn, and which, at the time of survey, was exceptionally wet and marshy. The putative furrows (where they could be made out) seem much wetter and more like drainage channels than furrows. The channels also curve towards the direction of flow of the Halk Burn and there are later (linear) drainage channels cut across the earlier features (also aligned towards the direction of flow of the burn). On balance the features visible appear to represent drainage at the foot of the hill slope, draining marshy ground to create an additional area of grazing pasture.

The features as recorded in the field do not appear to be the remains of rig and furrow cultivation and are interpreted as being relict historic drainage channels; they are therefore assessed to be of no more than local importance.

Other agrarian features

Three post-medieval 19th century sheepfolds (2, 6 & 7) are drystone wall built structures surviving in fair to good condition. As surviving relicts of the pastoral land-use they have some limited heritage value and are assessed as being of local importance.

The remains of an old post-medieval sheep shelter (9) depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map and labelled as a 'bield' (a term sometimes used in the Scots and northern English dialect and derived from Old English) lie within the large expanse of cultivation terraces (5). The now partially collapsed remains are assessed as being of little archaeological or heritage interest and therefore of lesser importance.

Twelve heaps or spreads of stone (11-15, 18-21, 24, 25, & 29) representing probable aggregations of field clearance stone were identified along the hillside on the east side of the Halk Burn. They vary in size and shape; from small heaps of bare stone approximately 2m in diameter by 0.4m high (24) to large amorphous spreads up to 15m long and 5m - 11m wide and up to 0.6m high (13) and moss covered. Some examples are either heaped around the base of a tree (19) or have trees growing through them (12). Other examples (21 & 25) may be naturally derived scree deposits. They are all assessed as being of little archaeological or heritage interest and therefore of lesser importance.

Two small quarries (16 & 28) lie beside post-medieval drystone walls and are evidently small expedient quarries supplying a source of stone used in the construction of the adjacent walls. They are both assessed as being of little archaeological or heritage interest and therefore of lesser importance.

A small linear section of what may be drystone walling arranged in an apparent L-shape and appearing to be recessed partly into the hillslope (22) is interpreted as possible structural remains (rather than random field clearance); it may be a small enclosure (possibly an animal pen). The feature is assessed as being of little archaeological or heritage interest and therefore of lesser importance.

Two tracks (30 & 31) identified from the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map coverage and still detectable at least in part on the ground are also assessed as being of little archaeological or heritage interest and therefore of lesser importance.

Undated Features

The remains of an oval and fairly large enclosure (10) were identified from aerial photography and recorded during the field survey as underlying a later (post-medieval, 19th century) drystone wall. The enclosure, which measures about 70m northeast to southwest and 35m transversely, appears to have been robbed of much of the stone that formerly probably constituted a wall in order to construct the overlying wall (**Plates 5 & 6**). The enclosure is now defined by a bank (up to around 1m high on the downslope side) which marks a raised platform that is partly cut into the hill slope (not more than 0.4m) on the upslope side. The platform thus created slopes slightly from northeast to south west (downslope). There is no evidence of any remains of any former structure on the enclosed platform and its date and function are both indeterminate. A track (30a) some 2m - 2.4m wide, which leads from the large polygonal sheepfold of the Williamlaw farmstead (3 & 4), passes immediately to the north of the enclosure and evidently respects its presence. Whether this indicates contemporaneity or simply avoidance is unclear. It seems quite possible that the enclosure is in some way a feature associated with the earlier phase of the Williamlaw farmstead (4); but it could alternatively be of an earlier date. There are morphological similarities between the enclosure and the house platforms evident at Williamlaw (4), which are elevated above the surrounding ground on levelled platforms (Plate 1). The remains are unclear archaeological or heritage interest and therefore are assessed as being of unknown importance.

A possible hut circle (23) was located during field survey as what appears to be a broken arc of fairly large (0.5m by 0.4m by 0.4m high) earthfast boulders on a fairly flat piece of ground with what appears to be an arc of revetting walling to the rear (upslope) side (Plate 7). The arc of boulders, if extended would form a circle approximately 5m in diameter and it is possible that the feature could be the remains of a hut -circle and house platform of possible prehistoric date. Alternatively, the feature could

simply be a small quarried face representing expedient use of locally available bedrock outcrop and the apparent arc of boulders merely a fortuitous arrangement. As the remains are unclear and it is uncertain as to whether they represent a genuine feature of archaeological or heritage interest they are assessed as being of unknown importance.

ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF THE PROPOSED WOODLAND SITE

Other than the small flat flood plain adjacent to the Halk Burn, the proposed woodland site is spread along a fairly steep (in most places) hillside that breaks abruptly at the top onto flatter elevated ground. At the northern end of the site the ground around the White Grain is lower lying and extensively cut with watercourses draining into each other and ultimately into the Halk Burn. The identified cultivation terracing extends both north and east around the confluences of these watercourses.

Historical farming remains occupy the flatter, elevated ground between the White Grain and the Williamlaw Burn, and extend further to the south, within a 19th century enclosure now used as improved pasture grazing.

Other than the features identified here there are no records of any other archaeological finds and the archaeological potential of the steep hillside is assessed to be low to negligible as it is largely unsuitable for settlement. It was also noted that there is a particular tendency for water drainage from the hillside especially around the Williamlaw Burn and 'springs', 'issues' and 'spreads' of water egress are in fact marked on present day Ordnance Survey maps of the site (seen on Figure 1).

Prehistoric settlement in the vicinity is evident and is represented by the remains of a probable settlement enclosure to the west of Whitelee Farm (NT43NE 24) and there is a fort and broch (NT43NE 2) at Torwoodlee and a second broch somewhat further north at Bow Castle (NT44SE 3); both sites are scheduled monuments.

Torwoodlee is a landholding that dates back to at least the medieval period ('The stede of 'Torwartlie' in Ettrick Forest is listed in 1456; it was held by George Hoppringill in 1588' (M L Anderson 1967) cited in RCAHMS database (NT43NE 3)). The present (scheduled) Torwoodlee TowerHouse was built in 1601 to replace an earlier tower. There are also a number of lynchets and cultivation terraces at Torwoodlee (NT43NE 11) whose dimension accord well with those described above at Williamlaw and it is possible (if not probable) that all are broadly contemporary in date and most likely of medieval origin.

Taking account of the identified sites and features, the topography and geology and the evidence from the surrounding landscape it is assessed that the archeologically potential within the proposed woodland planting area, outwith the identified sites and features, is low to negligible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- The areas of cultivation terracing (5 & 8) and the remains of the historic farmsteads (3 & 4), including the oval enclosure (10), be excluded from any area of proposed planting. A stand-off buffer, not less than 20m from the clearly defined edges of the enclosure, should be established to afford protection from tree root development; this being in accordance with good woodland and forestry practice in relation to archaeologically sensitive remains.
- Woodland planting should be restricted at the north end of the New Planting area defined on Figure 1, but may be extended up slope as far as the extent indicated on Figure 1 (green line limit), just upslope from the clearance spread (21); below the 240m contour.

- There appears, on the basis of the field identification, no justifiable reason to exclude on heritage grounds the area of putative rig and furrow (27) identified from aerial photographic evidence; which appears on closer examination more likely to be historical drainage works.
- Small scale, trial trench evaluation of the putative cultivation terracing (17) to the north side of the Williamlaw Burn may clarify whether the apparent terraces here (and elsewhere (26)) are in fact cultivation terraces or natural geological features.

REFERENCES

Bibliography

Anderson, M L (1967) *'A history of Scottish forestry'*, 2v Edinburgh Page(s): Vol.2, 595

Cartography

Ainslie, J (1821) *'Ainslie's Map of the Southern Part of Scotland'*

Blaeu, J (1654) *'Tvedia cum vicecomitatu Etterico Forestae etiam Selkircae dictus, [vulgo], Twee-dail with the Sherifdome of Etterik-Forest called also Selkirk / auct. Timotheo Pont'*

Crawford, W and Brooke, W (1843) *'Map embracing extensive portions of the Counties of Roxburgh, Berwick, Selkirk & Midlothian and Parts of Northumberland'*

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map 25 inch to one mile (1863) (Roxburghshire, Sheet III.06)

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map 25 inch to one mile (1898) (Roxburghshire, Sheet 003.06)

Ordnance Survey 25 inch to one mile (1921) (Roxburghshire, Sheet n003.03)

Ordnance Survey 6 inch to one mile (1933) (Selkirkshire, Sheet IV.SW)

Ordnance Survey 6 inch to one mile (1950) (Selkirkshire, Sheet IV.SW)

Roy, W (1747-55) *'Military Survey of Scotland'*

Tennant, N (1840) *'Map of the County of Roxburgh'*

Thomson, J (1832) *'Atlas of Scotland'*

Stobie, M (1770) *'A map of Roxburghshire or Teviotdale'*

Vertical Aerial Photographs

Lib. Ref.	Sortie	Date	Frame	Scale
B0107	106G/UK/0018	15.04.1946	5068	1:10,000
C0017	106G/UK/0016	15.04.1946	6098	1:8,700
OS64-242	0564 - 242	12.10.1964	002 - 004	1:7,500
C0266	ASS/506/88	25.05.1988	200	1:24,000

APPENDIX 1 GAZETTEER OF SITES AND FEATURES

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
1	William Law, Cultivation terraces	2140006 / NT43NE 25	347170	639390	HER; RCAHMS; Field survey	<p>The HER and RCAHMS database records that there are cultivation terraces visible on the eastern bank of Halk Burn.</p> <p>Field survey, carried out in 1961 by the Ordnance Survey, recorded that faint traces a few unsurveyable terraces can be seen in rough pasture on the lower southwest slopes of William Law³.</p> <p>Field survey noted that faint traces could be made out of what could have been former cultivation terraces, running along the contours, in improved pasture fields between the Williamlaw Burn and Bells Cairn on William Law.</p>	Lesser
2	William Law, sheepfold	2140271	347086	639710	HER; RCAHMS; Historic maps; Aerial Photos; Field survey	<p>The HER records the presence of a sheepfold at Williams Law.</p> <p>A circular sheepfold is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1863, Sheet III.06) and 2nd Edition map (Roxburghshire 1899, Sheet II.NW).</p> <p>Field survey recorded the well preserved remains of a circular drystone walled sheepfold 16m in diameter and with walls upstanding to 1.7m high with an original entrance in the south. A conical cairn (0.9m and 1.2m high has been erected in the almost exact centre of the sheepfold.</p>	Local
3	Williamlaw, Farmstead	2142016 / NT43NE 26	347184	639724	HER; RCAHMS; Historic maps; Aerial Photos; Field survey	<p>The HER and RCAHMS database record the presence of a farmstead at Williamlaw.</p> <p>A farmstead, annotated as 'Williamlaw', is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1863, Sheet III.06). The farmstead consists of three roofed buildings, one unroofed building and two enclosures. The same farmstead is shown on subsequent Ordnance Survey maps (1899-1950).</p> <p>The farmstead buildings appear to be still roofed on both the 1946 and</p>	Local

³ RCAHMS (1956) The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. 'An inventory of the ancient and historical monuments of Roxburghshire: with the fourteenth report of the Commission', 2v Edinburgh, p322, No.614

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
						1988 vertical aerial photographs. Field survey noted that the buildings are now substantially dilapidated although walls and chimney stacks on the main house still stand.	
4	Williamlaw, farmstead, head dyke, sheepfold	NT43NE 74	347330	639840	RCAHMS; Historic maps; Documentary Records; Aerial Photos; Field survey	<p>The RCAHMS database records that a farmstead comprising five unroofed buildings (which are marked by pecked lines and annotated 'Old Walls'), three enclosures (one of which is incomplete), a sheepfold and a head-dyke (which is also marked by pecked lines), are depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1854, Sheet III.06). An enclosure, a sheepfold and the head-dyke are shown on the 1983 Ordnance Survey map.</p> <p>Milne (1973⁴) records that William Law belonged for several ages to the Pringles of Galashiels.</p> <p>The National Archive of Scotland holds a number of documents relating to tenancies at Williamlaw; the earliest of these (GD86; Sir William Fraser Charters), being an 'Extract from the Act Book of the Regality of Melrose (1608)' records '<i>a Decree obtained at the instance of Sir Gideon Murray of Elibank, proprietor of the Mill of Langschaw, against the feuars, tenants and others thirled to said Mill</i>' and mentions by name one '<i>William Hunter of Williamlaw as feuar of the lands of Williamlaw, Braidwoodsheill, and one (?) of the feuars of the lands and touns of Blainslie</i>' and provides a date of 1606.</p> <p>A farmstead (Williams Law) and four enclosures are depicted on Roy's Military Survey Map (1747-55). The farmstead is not depicted on any earlier maps but these are all small scale and recording seems to be particularly poor in this hill country for those maps (e.g. Gordon (ca 1650)⁵ and Blaeu (1654)⁶). The farmstead is not depicted on the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map (1899) or on subsequent map editions. The large enclosure, a sheepfold and the head-dyke are,</p>	Local - Regional

⁴ Milne, A (1743) 'A description of the parish of Melrose, in answer to Maitland's queries sent to each parish in the kingdom', Edinburgh, p 63

⁵ Gordon, R (ca. 1636-52) 'The Sherifdome of Etricke Forrest with the adjoining provinces. Etrick Forrest wt ye joyning provinces'

⁶ Blaeu, J (1654) 'Twee-dail with the Sherifdome of Etterik-Forest called also Selkirk / auct'. Timotheo Pont

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
						<p>however, still shown.</p> <p>Field survey recorded that the well preserved footings of a small group of buildings survives to the south of a large standing drystone walled enclosure (within which are remains of rig and furrow cultivation). The buildings were erected on raised 'platforms' or knolls and an old track passes through the ruins. The remains appear to be those of the 'Williams Law' farmstead depicted on Roy's (18th century) map. The farmstead is evidently of some antiquity and may have had associations with the cultivation terraces to the north (5). The farmstead also most likely was replaced during the late 18th / early 19th century with a new farmstead (3).</p>	
5	White Grain, Cultivation terrace(s), Enclosure, Field boundary(s)	2140010 / NT44SE 1	347600	640300	HER; RCAHMS; Historic maps; Aerial Photos; Field survey	<p>The HER and RCAHMS database records that at least eight cultivation terraces are situated on the north slope of the north-west shoulder of William Law, overlooking White Grain. At their upper ends the terraces are laid out in an almost vertical direction, but lower down they swing north-west to cross the contours obliquely. They measure up to 30m (100ft) wide and their negative lynchets, which are normally up to 1.2m (4ft) and exceptionally up to 3m (10ft) in height, have not only been reinforced with stones but also seem to have been walled along their lips. Piles of stones, apparently collected from these walls, can be seen in many places⁷.</p> <p>A field wall and an enclosure are depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1854-62-3, Sheet III). A series of terraces, running north-west to south-east, are marked and annotated on the 1970 Ordnance Survey map.</p> <p>Field survey recorded that the cultivation terraces are both extensive and well-preserved. They cover a wide area and, being built slightly across the line of contours, are higher at the western end than the east where they peter out into the hillslope. At the west end the lynchets</p>	Regional

⁷ (1956) The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. 'An inventory of the ancient and historical monuments of Roxburghshire: with the fourteenth report of the Commission', 2v Edinburgh, p321-2, No.613

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
						are between 1m and 2m in height.	
6	White Grain, Sheepfold	2140270	347486	640513	HER; Historic maps; Field survey	<p>The HER records the presence of a sheepfold.</p> <p>A circular sheepfold is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1863, Sheet III.06) and 2nd Edition map (Roxburghshire 1899, Sheet II.NW).</p> <p>Field survey recorded the partly collapsed remains of a large 14m diameter circular sheepfold surviving as two arcs of drystone walling up to 1.3m high and 0.8m wide at the base and 0.4m at the top. The walling is collapsed at both the north and south sides and there was no trace of an entrance in any of the upstanding sections.</p>	Local
7	White Grain, Sheepfold	2140269	347899	640744	HER; Historic maps	<p>The HER records the presence of a sheepfold.</p> <p>A circular sheepfold is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1863, Sheet III.06) and 2nd Edition map (Roxburghshire 1899, Sheet II.NW).</p> <p>Not visited (well outside survey area).</p>	Local
8	Cultivation Terraces				Aerial Photography; Field survey	<p>Two small patches (8a & 8b) and a larger expanse (8c) of what appears to be cultivation terracing similar to that recorded further upslope (5) are evident on modern aerial photographic imagery (GoogleEarthTM; Bing Maps).</p> <p>8a measures approximately 55m ENE to WSW by 40m transversely.</p> <p>8b is approximately 50m NE to SW by 40m transversely.</p> <p>8c covers an area 250m east to west by 200m transversely, to the northwest of (5) and beyond a boundary fence.</p> <p>Field survey observed that the area is now predominantly rough moorland and rank grass and it was not possible to identify clear terracing at the location of 8a & 8b. It was evident that well preserved terracing was present further northwest of that previously recorded (5) beyond the survey area boundary.</p>	Local / Regional
9	Sheep shelter (Bield)		347918	640348	Historic maps	<p>A linear sheep shelter is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (Roxburghshire 1863, Sheet III.06) and annotated 'Bield'.</p>	Lesser

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
						Not visited (well outside survey area).	
10	Enclosure		347133	640012	Aerial Photos; Field survey	An oval enclosure, defined by turf banks and measuring approximately 75m long and 30m wide is visible on vertical aerial photographs (1946) and modern (GoogleEarth™; Bing Maps) imagery. The enclosure is not depicted on any historic maps. Field survey recorded the much denuded remains of a stone walled enclosure surviving, on the west side of a later drystone wall, as a 2.5m wide stony bank up to 0.5m high above the surrounding hillslope on its west side. The east side of the enclosure is not well defined and lacks any significant stone content; being mostly detectable as a slight scarp slope against the natural hillslope. The enclosure slope gently from its north end towards the south. A later (late 18th/early 19th century) drystone dyke overlies the enclosure and has presumably been constructed largely from the stone content of the enclosure.	Unknown
11	Field clearance (probable)		346918	639344	Field survey	Spread of large stones 8m long by 3m wide along top bank above track.	Lesser
12	Field clearance (probable)		346923	639426	Field survey	Heap of large stones 10m by 5m by 0.6m high (max) aligned roughly east to west up and down-slope alignment.	Lesser
13	Field clearance (probable)		346950	639513	Field survey	Heap of large stones 15m long by 5m to 11m wide and up to 1m high.	Lesser
14	Field clearance (probable)		347026	639531	Field survey	Small cairn of stones 3m diameter by 0.6m high.	Lesser
15	Field clearance (probable)		347027	639607	Field survey	Rough spread of large angular stones 8m long by 3m wide and 0.4m high.	Lesser
16	Quarry		347044	639810	Field survey	Small quarry adjacent to drystone wall.	Lesser
17	Cultivation Terraces		347031	639799	Field survey	Possible cultivation terracing follows southwest facing hill contours on north side of Williamlaw burn. These are poorly preserved and have no obvious facing stones although they are defined by slight lynchet banks	Local (or lesser)

Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
	(possible)					on the downslope side. The 'terraces' appear to be approximately 4m wide and their edges may be defined by stunted hawthorn bushes.	
18	Field clearance (probable)		347049	639875	Field survey	Spread of stones, 10m by 8m by 0.4m high. Possible tumble from near by drystone wall, or field clearance.	Lesser
19	Field clearance (probable)		347027	639963	Field survey	Spread of clearance running down west facing slope. Irregular in shape; 12m by 6m by 0.3m high.	Lesser
20	Field clearance (probable)		347058	639958	Field survey	Spread of stone over an area 10m by 8m and up to 0.4m high. May be field clearance or remains of possibly of sub-square structure; open on	Lesser
21	Field clearance (possible)		347234	640235	Field survey	Linear stone spread 25m long along the contours by 2m to 8m wide and up to 0.3m high. Composed of small piles of small to medium sized angular stones.	Lesser
22	Structure (possible)		347389	640411	Field survey	An L-shaped section of what appears to be a drystone built wall 1.2m wide and 0.4m to 0.6m high is partly cut into the hillslope on a flat terrace. It measures approximately 3m wide and is 8m - 11m long; the narrow side cutting into the slope. It may be a small enclosure or animal pen.	Lesser
23	Structure; Hut circle (possible)		347501	640267	Field survey	What may be the remains of a small circular or oval structure is defined by a semi circle setting of large earthfast boulders in an arc set in front (west facing side) of an excavated, stone lined face cut into the hill slope on fairly level ground close to the southwest end of the cultivation terracing on Williams Law (5)	Unknown
24	Field clearance (probable)		347160	640150	Field survey	Small 2m diameter clearance stone heap on hill slope.	Lesser
25	Field clearance (probable)		347131	640163	Field survey	Spread of large stones (4m in diameter) on hillslope just below track (30).	Lesser
26	Cultivation Terraces				Field survey	Possible cultivation terracing (approximately 4m wide with slight possible lynchets on the west (downslope side) follow the contours of the hillslope on the west facing slopes of William Law, just below the	Local (or lesser)

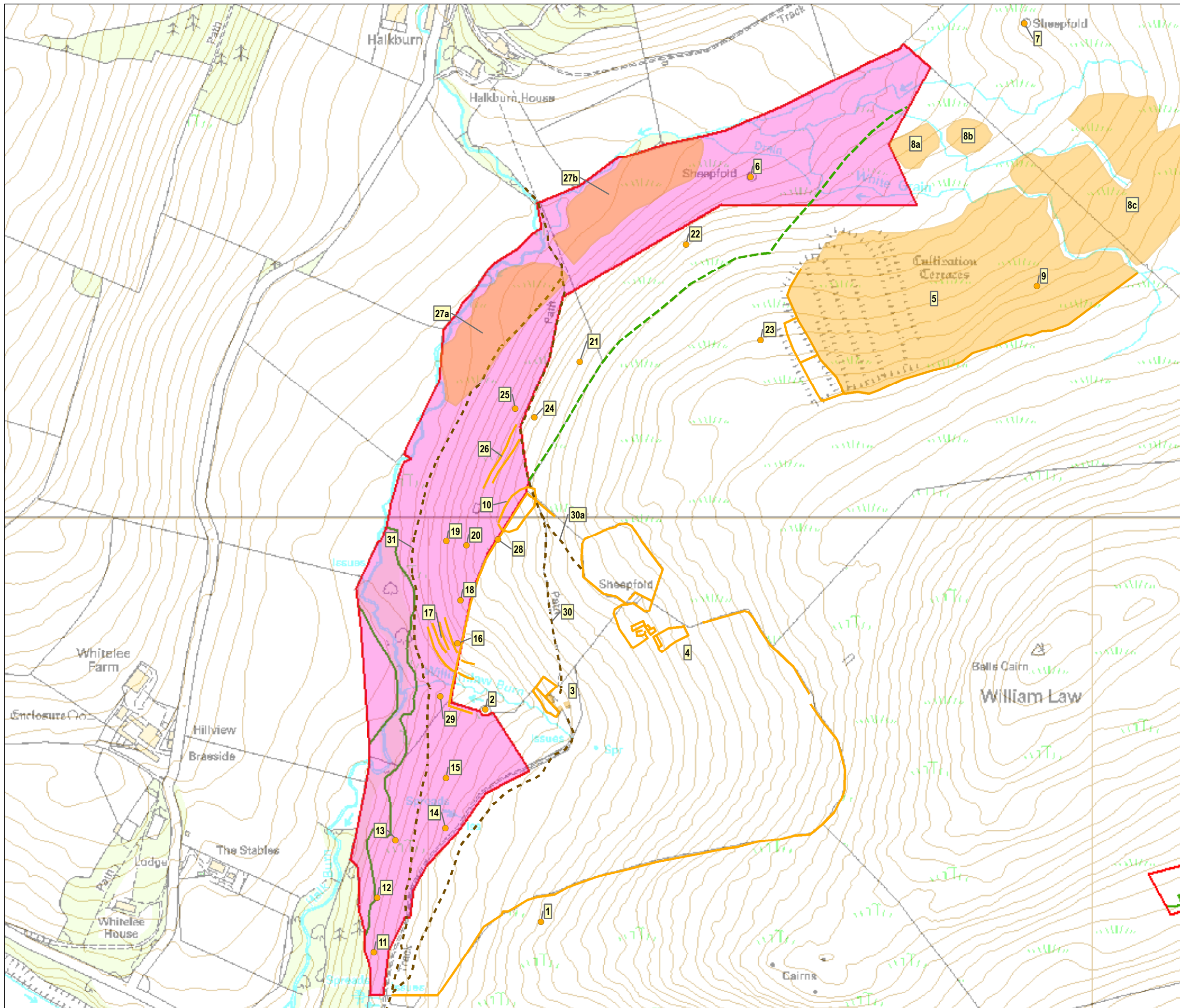
Site no	Site name / type	HER No. / RCAHMS No.	Easting	Northing	Source	Site description	Heritage Importance
	(possible)					oval enclosure (10). Of similar character to (17).	
27	Rig & Furrow (possible); Drainage				Aerial Photos; Field survey	<p>What appears to be possible curvilinear rig and furrow cultivation is visible on vertical aerial photographs (1946 and modern).</p> <p>Field inspection found the features to be very poorly preserved and having no detectable profile. A series of wet gullies, approximately 0.5m wide curved across wet boggy ground on the southeast bank of the Halk Burn on what is clearly a floodplain at the base of the steep rising ground of William Law. The gullies curve towards the direction of flow of the Halk Burn and are not measurable equally spaced; varying between 5m and 7m apart. The ground is very wet and very boggy and (in the more northerly of two sections (27b) linear drains can be seen to cut across the earlier gullies (on an east to west alignment also directed towards the flow of the burn. It is more likely that these features are drainage features rather than rig and furrow remains. They are in any case very poorly preserved features.</p>	Local (or lesser)
28	Quarry		347105	639966	Field survey	Small quarry lying adjacent to drystone wall.	Lesser
29	Field clearance (probable)		347018	639730	Field survey	Spread of clearance stone roughly 10m in diameter.	Lesser
30	Track				Historic maps; Field survey	<p>Depicted on Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map running between Williams Law and Halkburn House Farmsteads.</p> <p>Field survey recorded a 2m to 2.5m wide track partly cut into hillslope and with drystone wall revetting along the downslope side in places (notable close to two clearance cairns (24 and 25). A branch (30a) from the main track leads from the oval enclosure (10) to the former farmstead (4) at Williamlaw.</p>	Lesser
31	Track				Historic maps; Field survey	Depicted on Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map running along the east side of the Halk Burn, across the lower slopes of William Law between the A7 and Halkburn House.	Lesser

FIGURES AND PLATES



Key

- New Planting
- Cultural Heritage Site (point)
- Cultural Heritage Site (area)
- Cultural Heritage Site (linear)
- Track
- Alternative Boundary



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Fig. No	1	Revision
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Title
Internal Constraints

Project
**Halkburn Woodland Project:
 Feasibility Study**

Scale at A3
1:5,500

Client
UPM Tillhill

Drawn by: SW Checked by: GM Report No:





Plate 1: Building remains and trackway at Williamlaw (site 4) viewed from the northeast



Plate 2: Cultivation terracing on the northwest flanks of William Law (site 5) viewed from the northwest



Plate 3: Possible cultivation terracing (site 17), above the north bank of Williamlaw Burn, to west of 19th century farmstead (site 3)



Plate 4: Putative rig and furrow or drainage (site 27b) viewed from southeast (note the linear drainage channels cutting across the curving features and the lack of rig profiles)



Plate 5: Northwest bank defining the western side of the enclosure platform (site 10), viewed from the south west



Plate 6: Detail of enclosure platform (site 10), southwest end, overlain by later drystone dyke

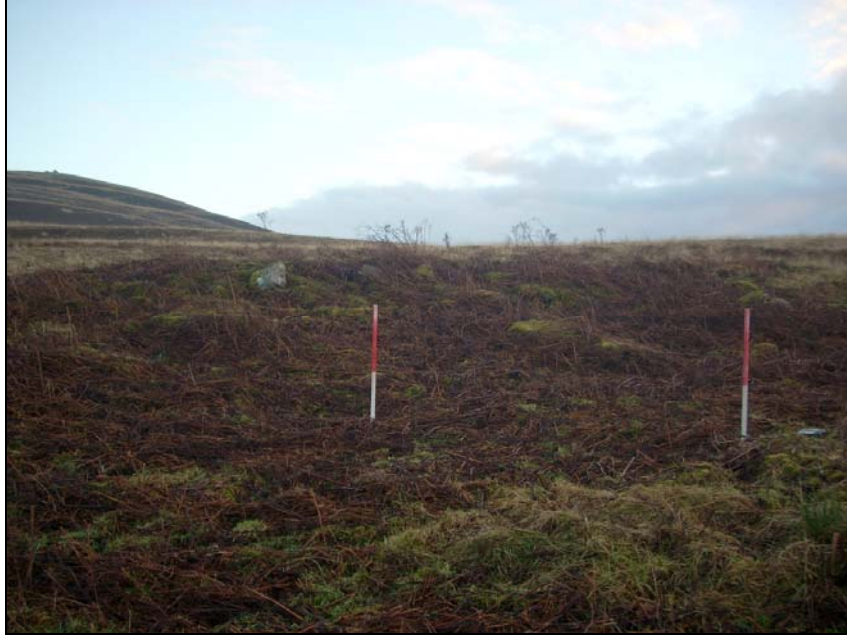


Plate 7: Possible hut circle platform (or alternatively quarry) (site 23), viewed from the northwest

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Halkburn - Jubilee Woodland, Torwoodlee
PROJECT CODE:	GATO
PARISH:	Melrose
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	George Mudie
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Assessment
RCAHMS Site No.	NT43NE 25; NT43NE 26; NT43NE 74; NT44SE 1
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Farmsteads; Cultivation terraces; Agrarian features
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Large enclosure platform (possibly of late medieval date); Putative rig and furrow re-interpreted as drainage
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 47330 39840
START DATE (this season)	December 2012
END DATE (this season)	January 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>A desk-based assessment of existing records (RCAHMS); historic maps and documentary sources (NAS) was followed up with a rapid field survey to ground truth and establish the baseline character of features noted and to identify any other significant constraints to woodland planting on the slopes of William Law on the east bank of the Halk Burn.</p> <p>A number of minor features (field clearance heaps, quarries, possible cultivation terraces) were identified. An area of putative rig and furrow cultivation adjacent to the Halk Burn was re-interpreted as drainage. An enclosure (thought to be possibly prehistoric) was re-interpreted as being more likely to be late medieval and associated with an early settlement at Williamlaw Farm. The cultivation terracing recorded in the RCAHMS database (NT44SE 1) was found to be well-preserved and more extensive than existing records suggest.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	RCAHMS (archive)

