

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Geophysical Survey*

**Ground Investigations  
Galawhistle Wind Farm, Glenbuck  
East Ayrshire/South Lanarkshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 3126**

# **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken in January and February 2014 by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during ground investigation works at Galawhistle Wind Farm, Glenbuck, East Ayrshire/South Lanarkshire (NGR: NS 76538 31098) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by RPS Planning and Development (RPS).

A Project Design (PD) for this programme of works was produced by RPS in December 2013 (RPS Ref. OXF 8282). The PD was designed to meet the requirements of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WOSAS) who act as advisors to East Ayrshire and South Lanarkshire Councils.

### **1.2 Background**

Planning Permission (CL/10/0143) has been granted for the construction of a 22 turbine wind farm (including control building, access tracks, anemometer and associated infrastructure) on a cross boundary site incorporating areas of East Ayrshire and South Lanarkshire. The planning permission was subject to an archaeological condition requiring a watching brief during the excavation of test-pits within an area of improved land around the post-medieval farmstead of High Monkshead (WoSAS No. 17285).

The Environmental Statement (Chapter 9 Cultural Heritage) undertaken for this wind farm development has suggested that the name High Monkshead might indicate that this area was part of the estate lands held by a large medieval monastic foundation, such as Melrose Abbey, for the purpose of stock-rearing. Consequently, it was considered possible that earlier medieval precursors to the High Monkshead farmstead might survive within the proposed development area

The area of improved land around High Monkshead has been bisected by a disused 19<sup>th</sup> century railway (NMRS No.NS73SE 14), which is first depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (1899) (Fig.3). To the north of the railway on the uphill side, there is an enclosure defined by upstanding drystone walls. The First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1864) (Fig.2) depicts this drystone enclosure surrounding an area of woodland, which extended onto the southern side of where the disused railway is now located. On the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (1899), part of the southern extent of this enclosure is no longer depicted and the trees appear to have been felled, possibly in relation to the construction of the railway. When this watching brief was undertaken, slight traces of the southern end of this enclosure were still visible as low grass covered banks (Fig.5). Running down the middle of this enclosure is a substantial earthwork (Fig.6) comprising a hollow-way, which extends across the line of the railway and continues almost as far as the Galawhistle Burn. This hollow-way possibly represents a trackway and, having apparently been bisected by the railway, appears to pre-date it. It is not depicted on either of the early Ordnance Survey map editions suggesting that it had already fallen out of use by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Damage to this feature was avoided during all ground breaking operations.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within those parts of the scheme where such remains may be affected by the development and, if such remains are present, to determine their nature, extent, quality and preservation, and to enable an assessment of their relative importance in a local, regional or international context.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork.

### **2.2 Watching Brief**

The excavation of sixteen 4m by 1m test-pits (TP04-TP19) was monitored. Each test-pit was stripped of topsoil using a 360° mechanical excavator under constant archaeological supervision before being cleaned using hand tools and inspected for archaeological features. Following inspection and recording, each test-pit was excavated to its full depth as required. TP01 –TP03 were not monitored as these lay within a cutting for the disused railway (Fig.4) where the natural substrate had been truncated to a degree where it was considered that the potential for the survival of earlier archaeological features would have been zero.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

#### 3.1 General

A number of upstanding features were present within the trial pitting area. These consisted of a 19<sup>th</sup> century branch-line railway (Fig.4), a substantial earthwork comprising a hollow-way (Fig.6) and the southern extent of a plantation enclosure (Fig.5) depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1864) (Fig.2). Damage to the hollow-way was avoided during this programme of works and damage to the plantation enclosure and railway was avoided as far as was practicable.

#### 3.2 Test Pitting

A summary of all the test-pits excavated is given in Appendix 3.

Each test-pit measured 4m by 1m (Fig.7-10). The soil deposits (**002**) across the test-pitting area predominantly consisted of 0.2m to 0.3m of grey-brown silt overlying orange-brown sand/sandy-gravel natural (**001**). Peaty deposits were identified within some of the wetter areas (notably within TP05, TP13, TP16, TP17 and TP19). Within these wetter areas the overlying deposits (**002**) measured between 0.15m and 0.6m in depth, while the upper layers of the underlying natural (**001**) predominantly consisted of orangey-brown sandy-clay. Made ground with a depth of 0.5m was identified within TP04, which was excavated adjacent to the edge of the disused railway line.

A linear drainage ditch was identified within TP14 and a ceramic field drain was identified with TP13. The drainage ditch measured 0.6m wide by 0.2m deep. It had sloping sides and a concave base, and the fill consisted of dark-grey silt of the same colour, composition and consistency as the topsoil. Slight evidence of this feature was visible on the ground surface suggesting that it is probably recent in date. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during ground investigation works within an area of improved land associated with the farmstead of High Monkshead at Galawhistle Wind Farm. The reference to monks in this name might suggest that this was estate land associated with a powerful medieval monastic foundation such as Melrose Abbey. This area contained a number of upstanding archaeological features including a 19<sup>th</sup> century branch-line railway, a hollow-way earthwork, and a plantation enclosure. Test-pitting identified evidence of agricultural drainage associated with land improvement, but there were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the RCAHMS and copies of reports will be lodged with the East Ayrshire and South Lanarkshire Sites and Monument Record.

A summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4).

#### 5. REFERENCES

##### *Cartographic*

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6" map 1864, *Lanarkshire Sheet XXXVII*

Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 6" map 1899, *Lanarkshire Sheet XXXVII*

## APPENDIX 1: Digital Photographic Register

No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	TP18, general shot	South	Overcast
2	TP19, general shot	East	Overcast
3	TP15, general shot	East	Overcast
4	TP14, general shot	East	Overcast
5-6	TP14, N-facing section of drainage ditch	North	Overcast
7	TP14, general shot	East	Overcast
8	TP10, general shot	East	Overcast
9	TP11, general shot	West	Overcast
10	TP08, general shot	North	Overcast
11	TP07, general shot	North	Overcast
12	TP06, general shot	North	Overcast
13	TP12, general shot	East	Overcast
14-16	TP13, general shots	South	Overcast
17	TP16, general shot	South	Overcast
18	TP17, general shot	West	Overcast
19	Possible platform to south of test-pitting area	North	Overcast
20	Enclosure bank	North	Overcast
21	Hollow-way earthwork	North	Overcast
22	Hollow-way earthwork	South	Overcast
23-25	Various shots of plantation enclosure	Various	Overcast
26	Hollow-way earthwork	North	Overcast
27-28	Upstanding walls of plantation enclosure	North	Overcast
29	TP05, general shot	West	Overcast
30	TP04, general shot	East	Overcast
31	Disused railway cutting	East	Overcast
32	Disused railway	West	Overcast

## APPENDIX 2: Context Register

No	Description
001	Natural – orange-brown sand/sandy-gravel. Clayey-sand within wetter areas
002	Topsoil – grey-brown silt. Peat/peaty-silt within wetter areas
003	Made –ground associated with disused railway

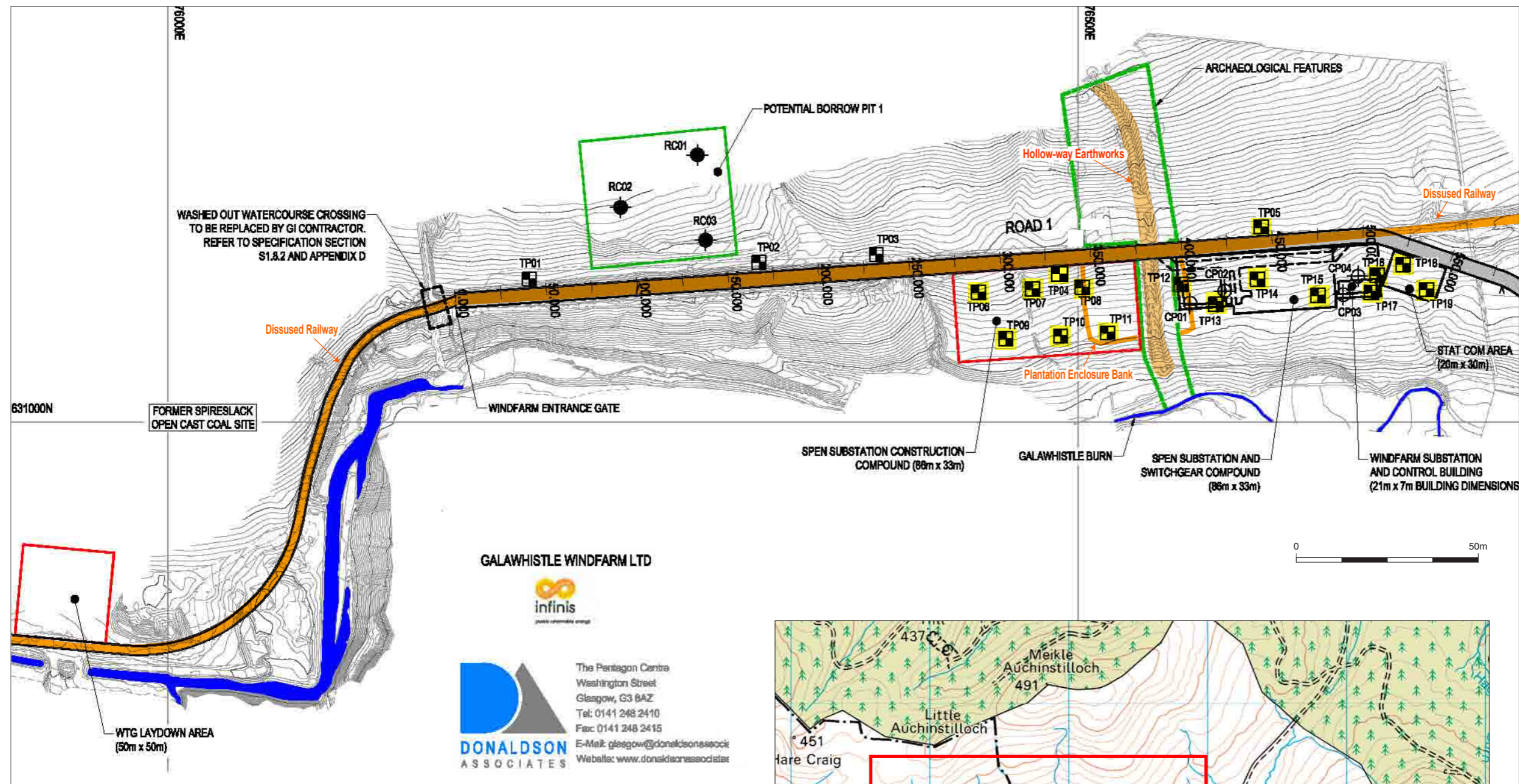


### APPENDIX 3: Summary of Test Pits

Trench Number	Trench Size	Depth of Deposits	Features
TP4	4m x 1m	0.5m	N/A
TP5	4m x 1m	0.2m	N/A
TP6	4m x 1m	0.3m	N/A
TP7	4m x 1m	0.25m	N/A
TP8	4m x 1m	0.3m	N/A
TP9	4m x 1m	0.2m	N/A
TP10	4m x 1m	0.25m	N/A
TP11	4m x 1m	0.3m	N/A
TP12	4m x 1m	0.2m	N/A
TP13	4m x 1m	0.3m	Ceramic cylinder drain
TP14	4m x 1m	0.25m	Linear drainage ditch
TP15	4m x 1m	0.2m	N/A
TP16	4m x 1m	0.15m	N/A
TP17	4m x 1m	0.25m	N/A
TP18	4m x 1m	0.2m	N/A
TP19	4m x 1m	0.6m	N/A

#### APPENDIX 4: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	South Lanarkshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Galawhistle Wind Farm
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	GAWH
<b>PARISH:</b>	Douglas
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Magnus Kirby
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NS73SE 14
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> century railway (Glenbuck Branch Line)
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b>	NS 76538 31098
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	January 2014
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	February 2014
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was carried out during ground investigation works within an area of improved land associated with the farmstead of High Monkshead at Galawhistle Wind Farm. The reference to monks in this name might suggest that this was estate land associated with a powerful medieval monastic foundation such as Melrose Abbey. This area contained a number of upstanding archaeological features including a 19 <sup>th</sup> century branch-line railway, a hollow-way earthwork, and a plantation enclosure. Test-pitting identified evidence of agricultural drainage associated with land improvement, but there were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Unknown
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	RPS Planning and Development
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	RCAHMS and East Ayrshire and South Lanarkshire Sites and Monuments Record



Key:

Monitored Test Pits  
**TP04**

Cultural Heritage Features

631000N

FORMER SPIRESLACK OPEN CAST COAL SITE

WASHED OUT WATERCOURSE CROSSING TO BE REPLACED BY GI CONTRACTOR. REFER TO SPECIFICATION SECTION S1.8.2 AND APPENDIX D

WINDFARM ENTRANCE GATE

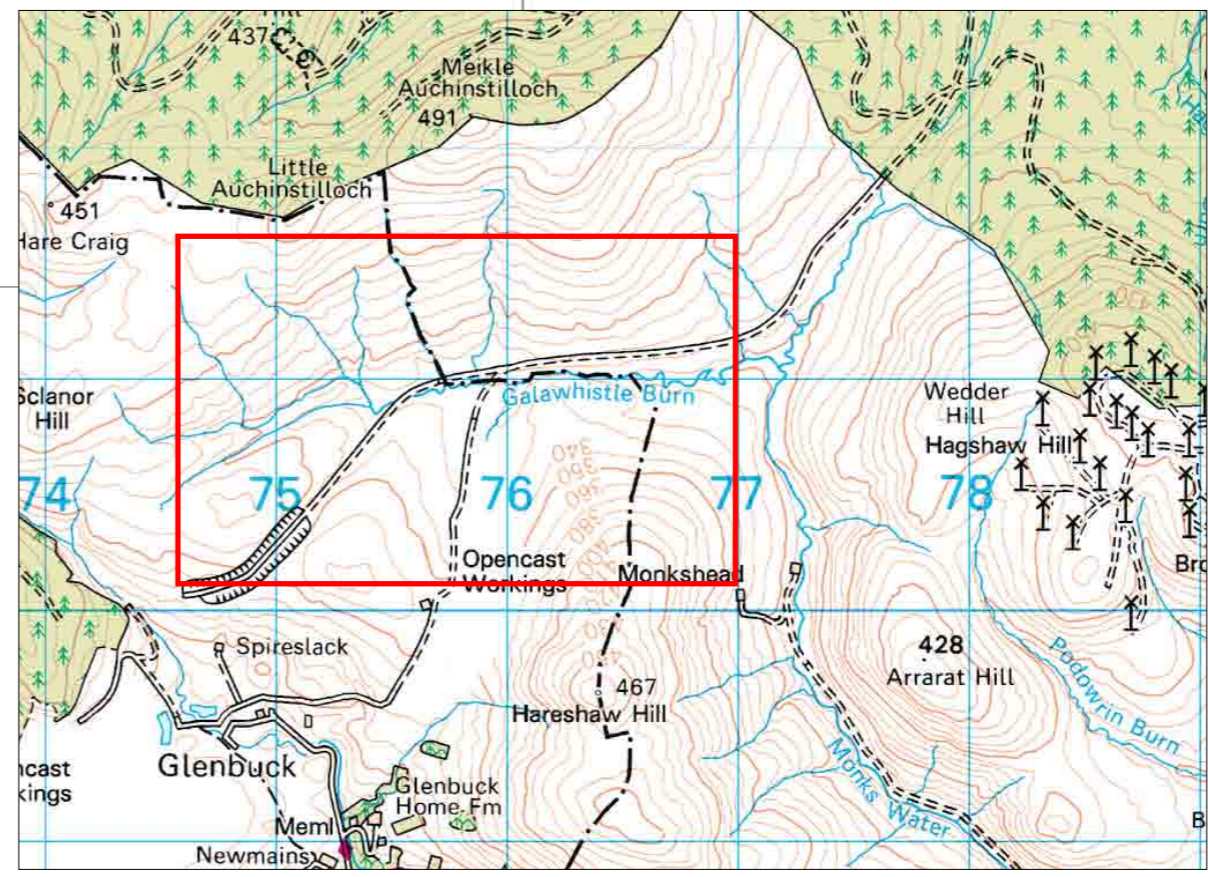
WTC LAYDOWN AREA (50m x 50m)

**GALAWHISTLE WINDFARM LTD**

infinis  
power sustainable energy

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:  
**Location Map and Areas Monitored**

Project:  
**Ground Investigations  
Galawhistle Wind Farm  
Glenbuck  
East Ayrshire/South Lanarkshire**

Scale at A3:  
**1:1250**

Client:  
**RPS Planning and Development**

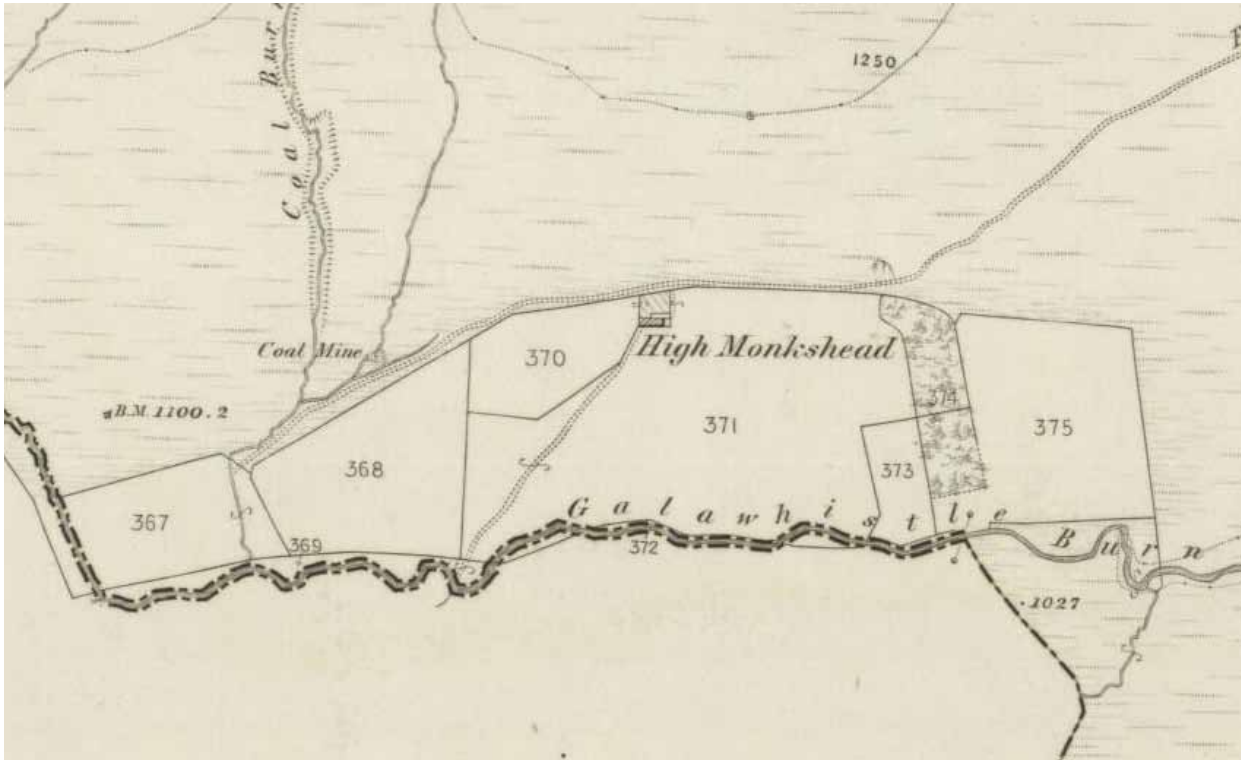


Fig. 2 - Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1864

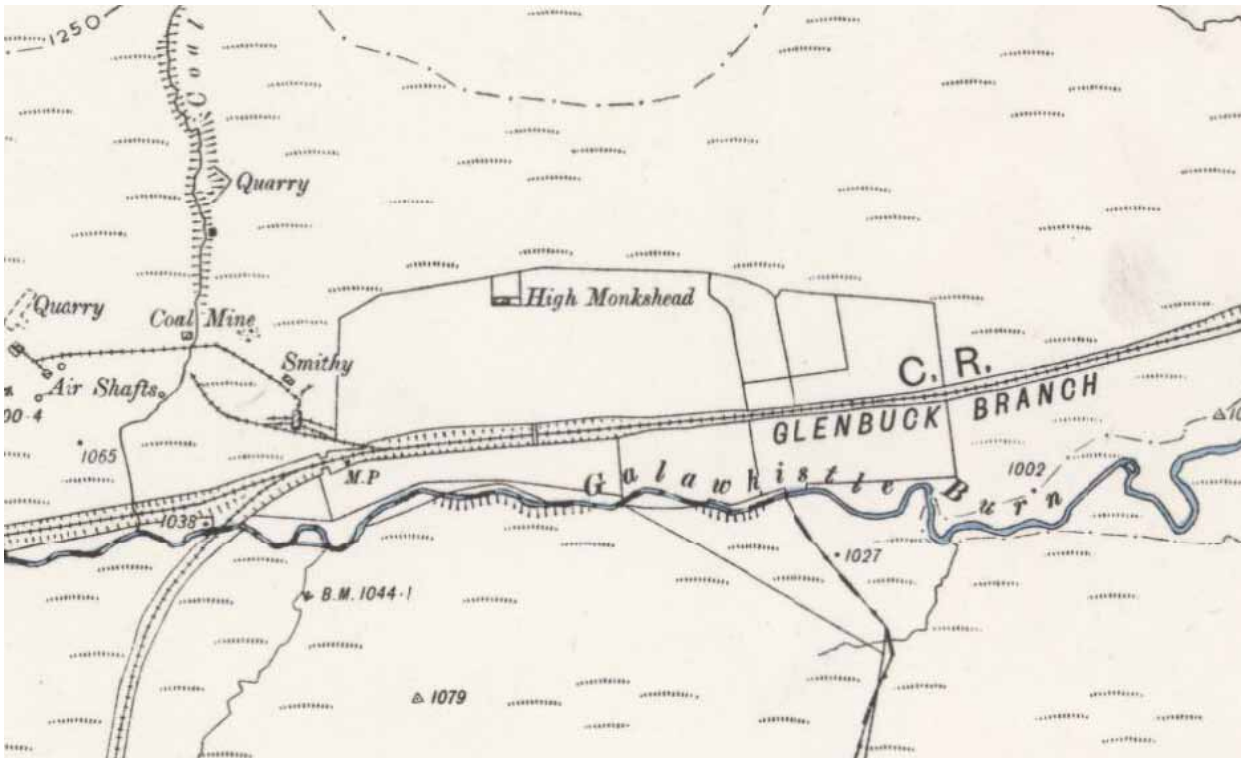


Fig. 3 - Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 1899

Key:



Fig. No: 2-3      Revision: A      Client: RPS Planning and Development

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Ground Investigations, Galawhistle Wind Farm  
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Fig. 4 - Cutting associated with disused railway



Fig. 5 - Plantation enclosure bank



Fig. 6 - Hollow-way earthwork

Fig. No: <b>4-6</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Ground Investigations, Galawhistle Wind Farm Glenbuck, East Ayrshire/South Lanarkshire</b>		
Drawn by: <b>LW</b>	Checked: <b>LW</b>	Report No: <b>3126</b>	Client: <b>RPS Planning and Development</b>		

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Fig. 7 - TP6 from north



Fig. 8 - TP13 from south



Fig. 9 - TP14 from east



Fig. 10 - TP17 from west

Fig. No: <b>7-10</b>		Revision: <b>A</b>	Project: <b>Ground Investigations, Galawhistle Wind Farm Glenbuck, East Ayrshire/South Lanarkshire</b>			<b>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</b> The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ
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