Kirkmabreck, Dumfries and Galloway: Historic Environment Assessment & Survey

Appraisal



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on behalf of EJD Forestry Ltd

RATHMELL ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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Executive Summary

1. A historic environment assessment was required by EJD Forestry Ltd to inform a proposed planting scheme at Kirkmabreck, near Creetown, Dumfries and Galloway.

2. The project comprised desk-based assessment (including LiDAR data), walkover survey (incl. standardised recording of archaeological sites and defining outer boundaries with GPS) and technical reporting (incl. provision of management guidance compliant with UKFS HE, SF Archaeological Survey Guidelines and provision of GIS files of site boundaries) to deliver an archaeological survey in advance of forestry.

3. Thirty historic environment sites were identified within or immediately adjacent to the assessment area (Figure 6) and are considered within this report (Table 1). These included a number of prehistoric monuments – a stone circle and cairn **S19**, four standing stones (**S20**, **S22**, **S27**, **S28**), two burnt mounds (**S13** and **S14**) and two findspots (**S15** and **S23**). A number of other assets were identified relating to settlement and agricultural activity in the medieval to postmedieval period. These included a church **S7**, farmsteads **S3**, **S16** and **S24**, settlements **S6** and **S8** and their associated field boundaries, field system **S12,** hay ree **S9,** well **S10,** enclosure **S25,** clamp kiln **S17,** buildings **S26,** and field boundary and path **S30**. Assets related to 19th to 20th century quarrying within the assessment area included Fell Quarries **S1**, upstanding buildings associated with the quarry works (**S2**, **S4**, **S5**, **S29**) and three smaller quarries (**S11**, **S18**, **S21**).

4. Of the sites within the assessment area, sixteen had not previously been identified either in part or whole in the archaeological record (i.e., within NRHE or Dumfries & Galloway HER). These are **S1**, **S3** to **S5**, **S9** to **S12**, **S16** to, **S18**, **S21**, **S26** to **S28 and S30**.

5. There is one site within the assessment area which is protected by designation as a Scheduled Monument under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 - Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle **S19**. One site, Kirkmabreck Old Church **S7**, is a category B Listed Building. A second Scheduled Monument, the Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**, is located outwith the assessment area but was considered for setting impact.

6. Based on the evidence gathered for this assessment, positive management has been recommended to safeguard fourteen sites whole or in part: structures **S2**, **S4** and **S5**; settlements **S6** and **S8**, church and burial ground **S7**, burnt mounds **S13** and **S14**, farm **S16**, clamp kiln **S17**, cairn and stone circle **S19** and standing stones **S20**, **S27** and **S28**. In addition, four larger clearings have been recommended – Clearing **A** to safeguard the location and setting of township **S6**, Clearing **B** to protect church and burial ground **S7** together with settlement **S8**, Clearing **C** to preserve the inter-relationship of the cairn and stone circle **S19** with standing stones **S20** and **S22**, and Clearing D to protect the relationship between quarry buildings **S2.1** to **S2.3**.

Introduction

7. A historic environment assessment and survey was required by EJD Forestry Ltd to inform a programme of tree planting at Kirkmabreck, near Creetown, Dumfries and Galloway. The assessment area measures 185.8 ha and is centred on NX 49127 56663.

8. 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.

9. This report has been prepared to support EJD Forestry Ltd to address UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines (2023), specifically Good Forestry Practice Requirements 1 to 4.

Topographic and Geological Background

10. The assessment area is located inland to the east of Wigtown Sands and the A75 and comprises improved pasture fields with extensive areas of the former Fell Quarries **S1**. The area is divided into broadly rectangular fields. The remains of three large former quarry pits and a large area of quarry tails and scree are situated in the northwest quadrant of the assessment area. The topography is undulating ground sloping uphill to Fell Hill in the

north, with the highest point at 220m OD and the lowest in the southwest and south of the area at 57m OD. A number of quarry tracks link the northern and central belt of the assessment area with Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**.

11. The principal waterway is Kirkbride Burn, which cuts across the eastern half of the assessment area in a NE-SW direction and forms part of the southern boundary. A large number of drains are connected to this burn across the east of the assessment area, and a number of other drains are found throughout the rest of the area. Three quarry lakes occupy the disused quarry pits in the northwest.

12. The bedrock geology is sedimentary in character across most of the assessment area, comprising wacke of the Gala Unit 7 in the northernmost part and wacke of the Cairnharrow Formation in the southern parts of the area, both formed during the Silurian period. A thin band stretching across the extent of the former quarry is microgranodiorite of the Kirkmabreck Intrusion, an igneous bedrock formed between 423.6 and 393.3 million years ago during the Silurian and Devonian periods. A small patch on Fell Hill north of the quarry is felsite of the North Britain Siluro-devonian Calc-alkaline Dyke Suite. The recorded superficial deposits are primarily Devensian till with limited areas of glaciofluvial deposits of sand, gravel and silt formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period. A small area of peat is found in the southeast.

Approach to Assessment

13. The works comprised a desk-based assessment supported by a walkover survey. The assessment focused on the area(s) defined by the boundary of the proposal. For some resources, where insufficient information was available, an adjacent buffer may be included within the assessment area to examine any sites that are close and which present the potential to inform on the resource within the proposed planting area.

14. All works were conducted in keeping with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statements.

Objectives of the Assessment

15. The objective of the assessment was to assess the known archaeological sites and the potential for currently unlocated sites within the planting area. The assessment was then to determine the potential impact of the development on the archaeological aspects of the resource and hence recommend a design and planting approaches to reduce any adverse impacts.

Scope of work

16. The assessment was undertaken using available resources to:

- identify the known archaeological sites on, or immediately adjacent to, the proposed planting area;
- identify significant demolished structures (architectural, social and historical); and
- identify areas with credible potential for the survival of archaeological strata.

17. For all identified sites, the characterisation process was to establish the nature, form and extent of the site, incorporating an assessment of its date, integrity, level of preservation and importance.

18. Archival sources consulted during this assessment included:

- the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) (known archaeological sites; aerial photography; Scheduled Monuments and other designations);
- The Dumfries and Galloway Council Historic Environment Record (known archaeological sites; and archived commercial reports);
- National Library of Scotland (bibliographic records, historic Ordnance Survey and pre-Ordnance Survey mapping);

- British Library (historic newspapers);
- local museums, libraries and other archives (Old & New Statistical Accounts, local history books); and
- Scottish Government LiDAR data.

19. Information contained within available published and web-based sources was also consulted.

20. The local Historic Environment Record, which is held by Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service, was consulted during the desk-based assessment to acquire further information on the assessment area and the surrounding landscape. This enquiry was also an opportunity for the local Historic Environment Record to raise any concerns over the historic environment sites or highlight areas of particular interest within the assessment area.

21. A walkover survey of the proposed planting area was undertaken on the 31st July and 1st August 2025 to assist in the characterisation of surviving upstanding archaeological or historic remains and define their key characteristics (including significance). The walkover survey also sought to identify new, previously unrecognised archaeological sites.

22. 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 GPS equipment, allowing real-time correction to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum.

23. 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

24. The desk-based assessment identified thirty sites within or immediately adjacent to the assessment area (Figure 6). Of the sites within the assessment area, one, Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle **S19**, is protected by designation as a Scheduled Monument under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. One site, Kirkmabreck Church and Burial Ground **S7**, is designated as a Category B Listed Building. An additional Scheduled Monument, Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**, is located outwith the assessment area boundary but was considered for setting impact.

Previous Archaeological Works

25. The parts of the assessment area were subject to antiquarian research in the late 19th century by F. R. Coles (1897), recording prehistoric monuments **S19** and **S22**. More recently, the assessment area was surveyed by Ordnance Survey archaeologists in 1972 and 1977 and by the RCHAMS through the pre-afforestation short notice survey in 1994, as well as inclusion in the RCAHMS First Edition Survey Project.

26. There have been three Historic Environment Assessments carried out nearby at Glen Farm and Barholm to the east and Garrocher to the north by Rathmell Archaeology (Krischer 2020, Kener 2025, Kener 2025).

27. These previous works have largely been survey-based and, as such, did not include intrusive testing of the land, although some of the antiquarian interpretation was reassessed and appeared to be the result of agricultural works.

Prehistoric to Roman Land Use

28. There are six known prehistoric sites in the assessment area, which likely date from the

Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age and one site of this age located outwith the assessment area, which has been included due to its potential impact from the plantation. The wider landscape is also rich in monuments of prehistoric date.

29. The most notable of the prehistoric monuments within the assessment area is Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle **S19**, located just north of the southern area boundary. To its immediate south is a further possible standing stone **S20** incorporated into the drystone dyke forming the assessment area boundary. These monuments appear to be aligned with the Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**, some 150m to the south. This apparent alignment is reminiscent of other monuments of the wider area, such as the scheduled monument incorporating two cairns, two standing stones and a stone circle SE of Cambret Hill, approximately 3.2km to the NE (HES ID: SM1012).

30. To the northeast, two prehistoric burnt mounds are situated adjacent to tributaries of Kirkbride Burn, **S14** on the northwest slope of Fell Hill and **S13** some 380m to its southeast on the western fringes of Blackmyre Moor. Their placement near a watercourse is typical of this type of monument. Many more examples of burnt mounds can be found in the wider landscape, and two examples are located to the east and northeast of the assessment boundary on Blackmyre Moor (NRHE IDs: 90586, 90587; HER IDs: MDG10258, MDG10259).

31. A cup and ring-marked stone **S15**, now held in the Stewartry Museum in Kirkcudbright, was found incorporated into a field dyke near Blackmyre farmstead **S16** in 1923. The stone was dressed at the time of recovery, but it is presumed it originated from an outcrop in the nearby area, and it bears a rich mix of carvings, including a dozen or more cup marks with various rings. Although no other cup and ring marked stone is noted within the assessment area, three outcrops of quite richly decorated bedrock are found in the fields excluded from the assessment to the east of Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** in a rough linear alignment (NRHE IDs: 63330, 133502, 88938; HER IDs: MDG2961, MDG12834, MDG9845) and further examples are noted in the wider landscape such as the scheduled cup and ring marked stone on Cambret Moor (HES ID: SM1009; NRHE ID: 63679; HER ID: MDG3280). A findspot **S23** for a Bronze Age item is recorded by Dumfries and Galloway Council on the southern slope of Kirkbride Hill, though it is expected that there are no upstanding features related to this find.

32. The density of funerary and ritual monuments in the wider area suggests that this region was regarded as being of some importance during the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age period, and so it may be interpreted as a ritual landscape.

33. There are no known sites within the assessment area which can be positively attributed to the Iron Age or to the Roman period. The Old Military Road linking Creetown to the Coarse of Slakes Road to the north of the assessment area is purported to follow the route of a Roman Road (NRHE ID: 246983; HER ID: MDG10263). A possible Roman camp **S25** was noted within or near the assessment area by Harper (1876), which subsequent surveys by the RCHAMS and the Ordnance Survey dismissed as some agricultural bank and ditch enclosures in the vicinity. Evidence of Roman activity is scarce throughout the wider landscape, although a Roman presence is attested by the remains of a fortlet, some 10km to the east of the assessment area, north of Gatehouse of Fleet (Canmore ID: 63631).

Medieval and Later Periods

34. Most of the medieval and post-medieval sites within the assessment area relate to agricultural land use and settlement in the form of farmsteads and townships. The majority of these sites likely date from the post-medieval period, though some of the noted structures may have earlier origins.

35. Timothy Pont and Joan Bleau's *Galloway* from 1654 depicts Kirkmabreck with a church or chapel labelled 'Kirk Makbrek' to the southeast of 'Ferry-toun', Creetown. This must be the church located in the centre of the assessment area, **S7**, as indicated by its position on the west bank of a substantial watercourse, which, though unnamed, must be Kirkbride Burn.

36. Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands)*, surveyed in the period 1752-5 (Figure 1a), is the first available historical map that shows the area in sufficient detail to allow

comparison with the modern landscape. The assessment area can be identified as the land to the east of 'Kirkmackbreeck' and south of the ESE-WSW running 'road to Dumfries', which runs the same course as the current Old Military Road. This road appears to have been incorporated into the route of the Old Military Road between Bridge of Sark and Portpatrick, constructed between 1763-7 to allow for an easy transportation route to Ireland. Unlike its counterparts in highland Scotland, much of this route was created through the upgrading of existing routeways, a fact supported by the depiction of an already pre-established road on Roy's map, and as discussed previously, it may indeed have Roman origins. The Kirkmabreck depicted on this map is a settlement shown with five buildings and a square-shaped enclosure situated close to the coast south of 'Largs' (Larg) and north of 'Kirkbryde', both of which are depicted similarly. This is more likely to be a settlement near Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**, and it is surrounded by unenclosed cultivated fields on its NW and SE sides. Some of the other fields do appear to be enclosed by this time, such as the land to the immediate west belonging to the 'Manse' that can be identified with the later Glebe House (HES ID: LB13135; NRHE ID: 216257; HER ID: MDG18040). The hill depicted to the east of Kirkmabreck is likely Fell Hill. No further detail is afforded to the assessment area itself; the location of the old church **S7** is not shown.

37. Written some decades after Roy's survey, the *Old Statistical Account of Scotland* (MacLean, 1795) describes the parish of Kirkmabreck as mainly rural in nature. In the thirty years prior to its publication, a great deal of land improvement had been carried out, and the amount of grain grown had increased significantly. This was done using lime from shells found on the shores of Wigtown Bay. In the upland areas, such as parts of the assessment area, the land was mainly used as pasture for sheep and cattle. The hay ree **S9** may attest to this. The population of the parish had increased in the previous thirty years, partially due to the new practice of inoculation against smallpox. In addition, agricultural improvements and new manufacturing businesses served to retain people within the parish.

38. John Ainslie's map of the *Stewartry of Kirkcudbright* of 1797 (Figure 1b) depicts the assessment area similarly, with a few differences. The settlement at Kirkmabreck is shown with seven buildings, all depicted the same way, indicating a slight rise in the importance of the parish from that depicted in Roy's earlier map. The church **S7** is marked 'Old Kirk' in the centre of the area on the west bank of Kirkbride Burn, although the latter is still unnamed. A road along the shore of Wigtown Bay is depicted for the first time passing 'Sutter Croft', 'Kirkbride' and the 'Manse' (discussed above). Ainslie does not show details about land enclosure, though the woodland associated with the manse seemingly reaches as far as Kirkbride farm. The road situated to the south and southeast of the assessment area, connecting the farms of 'Cambret', 'California' and 'Begbie' with the shore, is depicted for the first time and further delineates the assessment area as the open hillside to its north.

39. Thomson's *Kirkcudbright-Shire*, published in 1821 (Figure 2a), depicts the assessment area in broadly the same way, with less detail about the settlements and their immediate surroundings. One key difference is the appearance of a road connecting Kirkmabreck with Sutter Croft to the southwest and the Old Military Road to the northeast. A road linking the farms exists to the present day and is depicted on later mapping, but no later map depicts the section reaching the Old Military Road. It is shown passing the Old Kirk **S7**, which is indeed connected to Kirkmabreck **S24** and Blackmyre **S16** farms via an unpaved farm track which runs parallel to and to the south of the eastern arm of Kirkbride Burn, matching the route of Thomson's road. This may have been a well-used pathway at the time and it may also indicate the presence of other farms along its route, such as Blackmyre **S16**, despite the lack of depiction.

40. There had been a few changes in the parish by the time of writing of the *New Statistical Account* (Muir, 1845). Concerning the general topography of the parish, Muir highlights that the soil of the uplands tends to be thin and rocky, while the valleys had been considerably improved. He also notes that by this time, there was "no land (…) in a state of undivided common" (ibid, p336). The use of shell banks to improve the fields since the *Old Statistical Account* had resulted in a great depletion of this resource, and the practice was rarely carried out by 1845.

41. Muir also describes the process of 19th century stone quarrying in great detail and cites 'The Quarry' – a large granite quarry "immediately behind the glebe" that was opened ten years previously, initially employing as many as 450 men, which by the time of writing, fell to only around 60. The broadly contemporary 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map from 1854 (Figure 2b) depicts Glebe Quarry to the rear of the manse, and another, Kirkmabreck Quarry to its immediate east, associated with a Quarry House **S29**, both marked as substantial granite quarries. Muir also details the historical background of Kirkmabreck church **S7,** noting that it fell out of use after 1645 when a new church was built for the united parish of Kirkmabreck and Kirkdale in a more accessible location in Creetown, although the burial ground remained in use. A "farm-house of the same name" is mentioned nearby, **S24**.

42. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 (Figure 2b) shows much greater detail than any previous mapping and shows the assessment area to be made up of enclosed fields, largely of rectangular shape. Agricultural enclosures such as sheep and hay rees are first depicted on this map, though only one, **S9**, is shown within the assessment area. Along with the large quarries mentioned previously, many smaller quarries and gravel pits are dotted around the wider landscape. Two are depicted on Fell Hill, now consumed by the much more extensive quarry works of Fell Quarry **S1**, while a gravel pit **S18** and two further small quarries, **S11** and **S21**, are shown to the southwest and southeast of Blackmyre Farmstead **S16**. Although Glebe and Kirkmabreck quarries lie to the west of the assessment boundary, the grounds of the quarry offices at Kirkmabreck House **S29** are shown to potentially extend into the westernmost fringes of the assessment area. In the *Ordnance Survey Name Book* (Parish of Kirkmabreck, Volume 124), the Quarry House is described as a "small but neat dwelling house" built 20 years before to serve as a residence for the quarry manager. The *Ordnance Survey Name Book* for the parish also specifies that Kirkmabreck Quarry was in fact the earlier of the two large quarries and had been abandoned in favour of the more convenient Glebe Quarry.

43. Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** is depicted as a fairly substantial farm with four buildings and enclosed grounds to the northeast and southwest, situated on the southeast bank of Kirkmabreck Burn. A single 'Ruin' is also marked within the farm grounds, suggesting the earlier phases of a settlement here. To the southwest of the farm buildings, a further three smaller rectangular structures are depicted at a fork in the road with an associated small cultivated field **S26** immediately outwith the western assessment area boundary. A path **S30.1** is depicted running along a field boundary from Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** to Kirkbride Farm and Mill (NRHE ID: 63313; HER ID: MDG2945) to the SE. The *Ordnance Survey Name Book* (ibid) describes the Kirkmabreck farmhouse and other buildings as being in good repair, slated, and with a land of 200 acres attached. The map shows a path extending into the assessment area from the farm, cutting across its central belt and passing the hay ree **S9**, 'Kirkmabreck Church (in ruins)' **S7**, and a spa well **S10**, then turning northeast and reaching Blackmyre Farm **S16**. It is not shown extending beyond the latter. Blackmyre **S16.1** is depicted as a rectangular-shaped, NW-SE aligned structure with an enclosure to its rear and a possible sheepfold attached to its west side. Another enclosure is shown a short distance to the southwest, and a smaller enclosure with a small roofed structure is found to its southwest on the bank of Kirkbride Burn **S16.2**. The *Ordnance Survey Name Book* (ibid) notes that Blackmyre is a small house in middling repair, which once had land attached, but it had been united with the land belonging to the farm at Kirkbride. A series of largely irregularly shaped field boundaries marked as 'Old Fences' **S16.3** surround this farm in the northeast corner of the assessment area, suggesting the earlier field divisions.

44. Another farmstead **S3.1** is depicted on Fell Hill with a NW-SE aligned rectangular building and a small enclosed rectangular field to its SW side, and a much smaller enclosure, possibly a sheepfold, to its front to the north. The farmstead is located along a pathway extending northwest from Kirkmabreck Church **S7** and is simply noted as 'Fell'. The *Ordnance Survey Name Book* entry describes it as a small house in bad repair, which, like Blackmyre **S16**, once had attached land that had been united with Kirkbride Farm. Short sections of field boundaries denoted as 'Old Fences' surround the house, indicating the structure of the old field system **S3.2** on Fell Hill.

45. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map also depicts an area of ruined buildings on the

southeastern slope of Fell Hill, identified as Kirkmabreck Township **S6**. Four rectangular unroofed structures are shown a short distance to the west of an arm of Kirkbride Burn - **S6.2**, and a further two 'Ruins' are depicted to their southwest, **S6.1**. This area, too, is shown to have a series of still-standing 'Old Fences' and a line of seemingly newer or still in use field boundary stretches across and connects to some of the northern group of buildings in a N-S direction, **S6.3**. Another small group of three ruins, **S8.1** is shown to the east of Kirkmabreck Church **S7**, which may have formed part of the same township. A line of field boundary **S8.2** is shown adjacent to these structures running SSW and connected to the church enclosure.

46. The most notable change to the assessment area by the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map dating from 1896 (Figure 3a) is the establishment of Fell Quarries **S1**. The quarry works already cover a substantial area on Fell Hill by this time, and a large number of quarry tracks are shown across the hill. The small quarries in other parts of the assessment area noted previously are no longer depicted on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, signalling their disuse. The ruins of Kirkmabreck Township **S6**, as well as the structures behind Kirkmabreck Church **S8.1**, along with the line of boundary **S8.2**, are likewise omitted, as is the hay ree **S9**. Though the settlements of the assessment area were seemingly gradually abandoned over the 18th and 19th centuries due to changing land ownership, the immediate vicinity of Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** grew. A new house with an enclosed garden is depicted at Kirkmabreck to the southeast of the farm buildings, which had themselves expanded since the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. To the southwest, just outside of the western border of the assessment area, Woodfall Cottages occupy the location of the previously unnamed land parcel with three structures **S26**.

47. The *National Grid map* published in 1957, but originally surveyed some decades prior (Sheet NX45NE – A, Figure 3b), shows the expansion of the workings at Fell Quarries **S1** in the first decades of the 20th century to their present size, covering approximately 15.15 hectares. Some of the many quarry structures depicted on the 1957 map survive in a ruined state, such as **S2.2**. The vast majority, however, appear to have been demolished since, while some structures depicted on current mapping had not been built yet. A rectangular enclosure, or possibly the unroofed structure at Fell Farm **S3.1**, is still depicted on this map. Curiously, the small quarry **S21** is noted again as 'Old Sand Pit'. The rest of the assessment area appears to be virtually unchanged from the end of the 19th century.

48. From the early decades of the 20th century, the *Dumfries and Galloway Standard* regularly reported on the goings-on of Fell Quarries, which were at the time one of the principal granite quarries in Scotland. As attested by an article originally published in the Stone Trades Journal (Dumfries and Galloway Standard, 15th January 1927), the quarries on Fell Hill provided granite of exceptional quality to many parts of the United Kingdom, including for major construction works at the Liverpool docks and even abroad. The quarries were a major employer in the area until the late 20th century. Creetown Heritage Museum holds further valuable written and photographic records of the quarries, including testimonials from quarry workers.

Aerial Photography and LiDAR data

49. Modern aerial imagery and LiDAR data are available for the assessment area and have been used to clarify the location and form of many of the sites identified, as well as the historical field divisions that still exist across the landscape. One previously unrecorded site, Blackmyre Clamp Kiln **S17**, was identified using LiDAR. Nineteen blocks of rig and furrow (A-S) were also identified primarily through LiDAR. These are summarised in Table 2.

50. The extent of Fell Quarries **S1** was captured on a series of oblique aerial photographs by Aerofilms Ltd in 1950, which show a number of structures that have been since demolished. The wider area was subsequently captured as part of the All Scotland Survey in 1988 (ASS/62488). Photographs from this series prominently show the E-W running track connecting Kirkmabreck and Glebe Quarries to the quarry operations within the assessment area **S1**, which appears to have been the primary haul road from the quarry to the A75 in the second half of the 20th century.

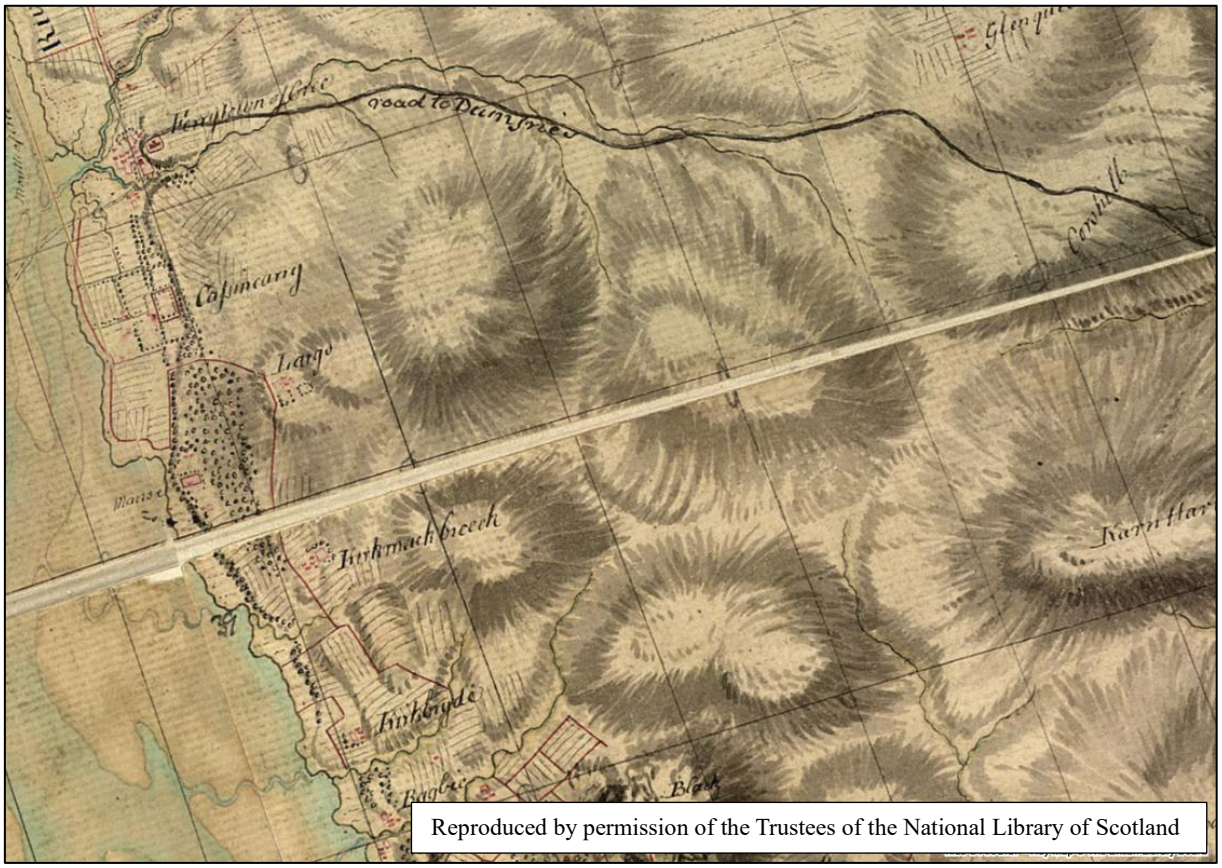


Figure 1a: Extract from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands) 1752-55

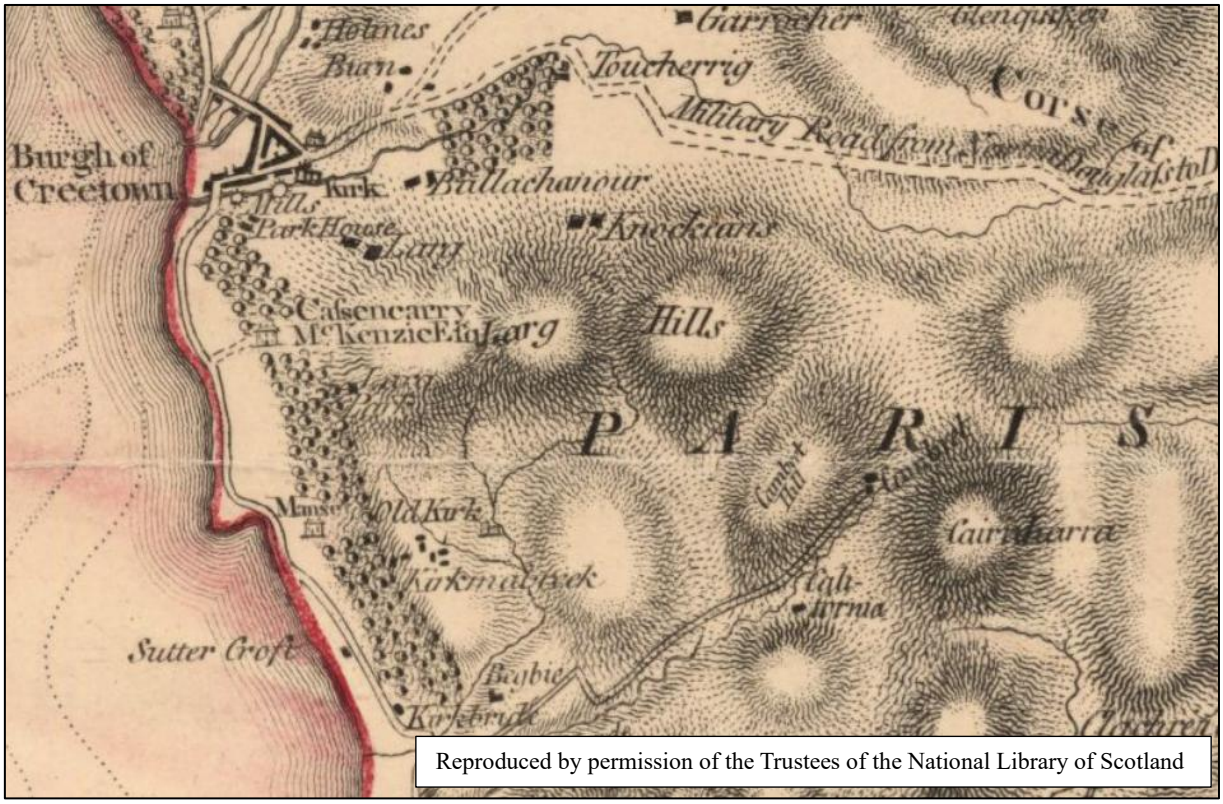


Figure 1b: Extract from Ainslie's map of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, South West section, 1797.



Figure 2a: Extract from Thomson's Kirkcudbright-Shire, Bottom Section, 1821

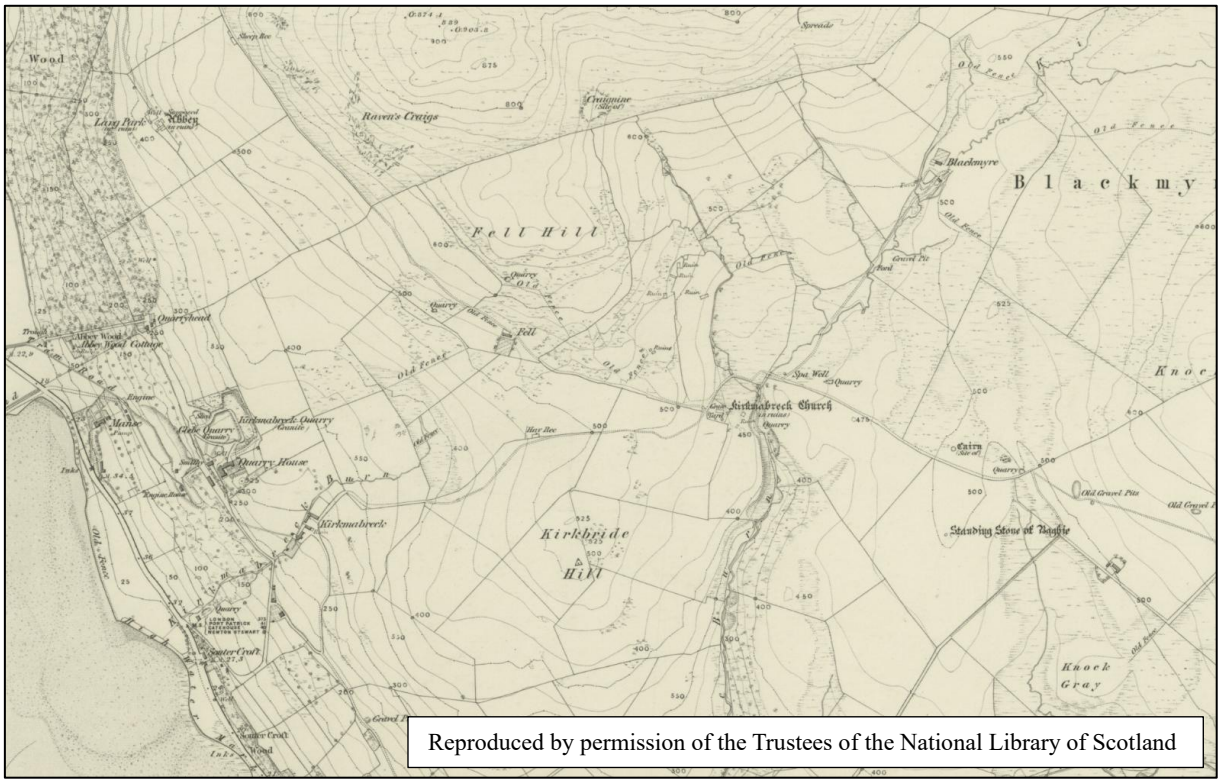


Figure 2b: Extract from the 6-inch 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854, Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet 42

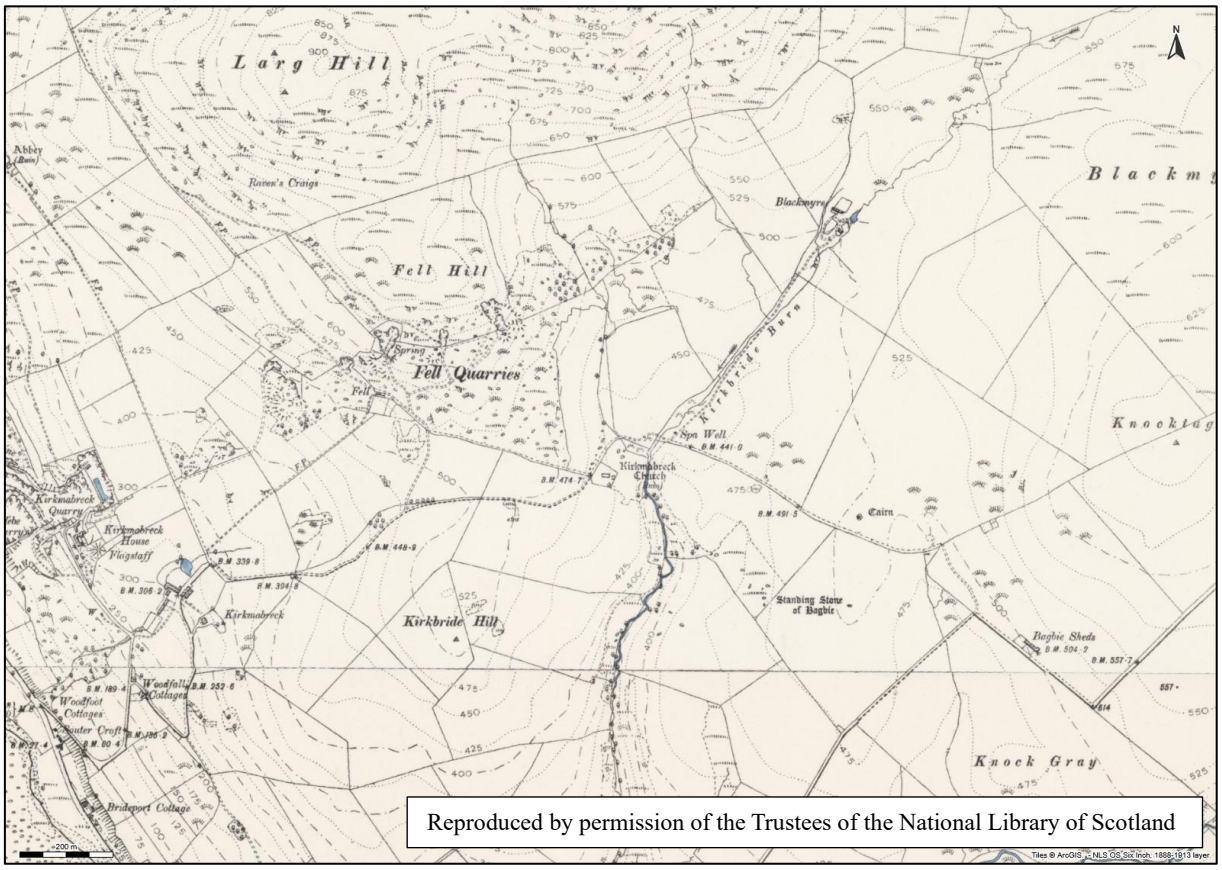


Figure 3a: Extract from 6-inch 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1894, Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet XLVII.NW.

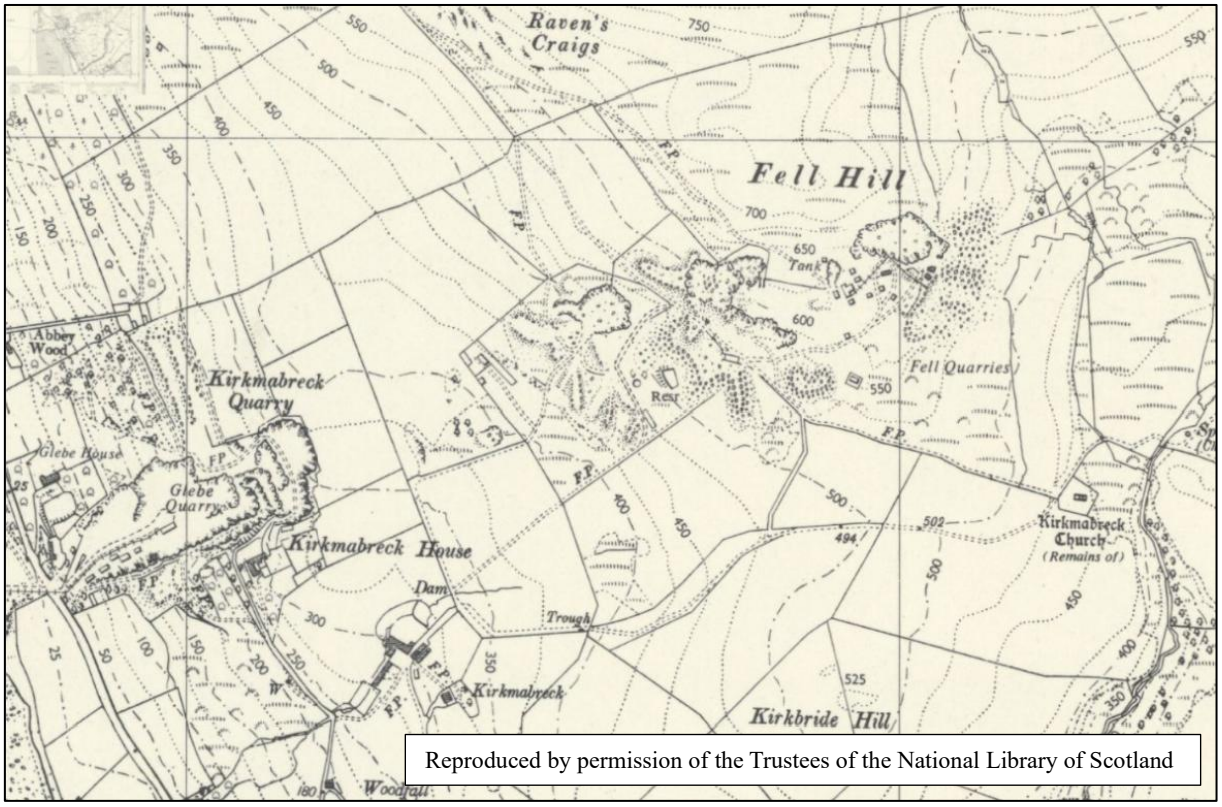


Figure 3b: Extract from the National Grid Maps, Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet NX45NE – A, 1957.

Walkover Survey

51. The walkover survey took place on 31st July and 1st August 2025. Weather conditions were sunny to overcast but dry with good visibility over distances. The survey area consisted primarily of fields of improved pasture. Field boundaries encountered were a mix of drystone dykes and modern post-and-wire fences. Gorse was observed across the quarry area, but did not significantly impact the visibility of the historic environment sites identified through the desk-based assessment. Some bracken was also noted, which impacted visibility in some cases.

52. Throughout the walkover survey, sites that had been identified during the desk-based assessment through the Historic Environment Record, inspection of historical mapping and aerial imagery were investigated. At the same time, areas with high potential were subject to field inspection, with any new sites encountered recorded.

53. The site was accessed through the farm track leading into the assessment area from Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**. Quarry tracks associated with Fell Quarries **S1** were also used.

54. Located on the western edge of the assessment area, but excluded from it, Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** is a modern working farm with associated occupied dwellings, some of which date back to the 19th century and possibly earlier. At the time of the visit, much of the assessment area was still in use for grazing sheep and cattle. It was thought that some features may survive on the grounds of Kirkmabreck House **S29** within a field to the NW of the farm buildings, but no features other than drystone field boundaries corresponding to modern mapping were noted.

55. The survey, however, identified a previously unrecorded prehistoric standing stone **S28** incorporated into a drystone field boundary along the farm track approximately 200m to the N of the farmhouse at Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**. Following the farm track crossing the assessment area towards the east, the survey visited the location of hay ree **S9** and confirmed its removal – the area was partially under the modern quarry track leading north, though the adjacent drystone field boundary still stood.

56. Fell Quarries **S1** occupied the centre of the NW portion of the assessment area (Figure 4a), the extent well defined through aerial photography. The centre of the quarried area was characterised by a concentration of quarried rubble and remains of demolished structures, most notably to the SW of the largest, eastern quarry pit. The vicinity of the other two quarry pits was overgrown with vegetation, though the central pit and the lake formed within it were easily accessible via footpaths and were evidently also frequented by cattle.

57. The nearby location of Fell Farm **S3.1** was covered in quarried stone to a substantial height, and no features of the farm structures were noted. Some stretches survived of the associated field boundaries **S3.2** to the SW and NE, though most of these were also subsumed by the quarry works. Of the quarry buildings, an unroofed structure **S4** (Figure 4b) survived to the SW of the eastern quarry pit and two unroofed, partially standing buildings and remains of a third structure **S2** survived on the lower SW slope of Fell Hill. Two, still roofed, additional small buildings **S5**, were noted on Fell Hill that were likely related to the quarry works. One was situated on the peak of the hill, 170m to the N of **S4**, and the other along a quarry track 160m to the south of the eastern quarry pit. Both depicted on current mapping, these structures were very similar in construction and may have been used as explosives storage.

58. The remains of Kirkmabreck Township **S6**, on the eastern fringes of the quarry works was heavily impacted. The location of one of the 'Ruins' shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map at **S6.2** has entirely been covered by scree and a second building's location was at least partially buried. Some of this area was also under bracken cover at the time of visit which may have obscured some evidence of the structures. Although the stretch of field boundaries that some of the buildings were depicted to abut was found to be a drystone wall standing up to 1m tall, nothing visible survived of the structures themselves.

59. The location of the fourth building was inspected in the pasture field to the SE and bore no sign of the structure. Of the two buildings surveyed by the RCHAMS in 1994 to the SW at **S6.1**, only the NW structure was recognisable, although the area to its immediate SE also



Figure 4a: View from Fell Hill looking SE at Fell Quarries **S1** and the rest of the assessment area in the distance.



Figure 4b: View from Fell Hill looking SW at Fell Quarries **S1** and **S4** and the rest of the assessment area in the distance



Figure 5a: General view of the NE portion of the assessment area. Blackmyre Farm S16 is in the centre in the distance.



Figure 5b: View of the SE of the assessment area with **S27** in the foreground. **S19** marked in the middle ground with **S20** within the field boundary to its left. **S22** is just out of frame to the left. Fell Quarries **S1** located in the upper right, Kirkmabreck Churchyard **S7** is the wooded parcel in the centre.

contained overgrown rubble. Field boundaries of the field system **S6.3** survived near these structures to the S of the quarried area, although tumbled and overgrown. Rig and furrow was noted in the two fields occupied by the township via LiDAR and aerial photography, but it was not visible from the ground.

60. Located a short distance to the SE, Kirkmabreck Church and Burial Ground **S7** was found to have changed little since it was surveyed in 1994. The walkover survey found the churchyard overgrown with trees, tall grass and nettle but all major features described previously were confirmed. The structures in the field to the back of the churchyard **S8.1**, which may have formed part of Kirkmabreck Township, were turfed over and possibly further disturbed in the course of the last three decades. The walkover was unable to confidently identify the structures but noted several grass covered stony mounds corresponding to some of their locations. A partial curving bank was noted on the west and south sides of the area. The head of this bank connecting to the church enclosure was likely the same wall as that depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map **S8.2**, though nothing survived of the rest of the field boundary running SSW.

61. Following the track towards the NE, the survey inspected the location of the Spa Well **S10** and found no upstanding feature. The three perpendicular sections of the field boundaries of Kirkbride Burn Field System **S12** were identified as low, grass covered stoney banks with adjacent shallow ditches in the field N of the track. At the intersection of these banks Kirkbride Burn Burnt Mount **S13** was noted as a mound on the bank of the drain up to 1m in height with some possible heat affected stones in its vicinity. The second burnt mound in the assessment area some 380m to the NW **S14** was however not found at its previously recorded location. No other candidate for this burnt mound was noted in the vicinity, though the immediate bank of the Kirkbride Burn was obscured by bracken.

62. Two buildings were noted at Blackmyre Farm **S16** (Figure 5a) at the end of the farm track in the NW portion of the assessment area. **S16.1** was a single storey partially roofed cottage with extensions associated with a small rectangular enclosed field to its back. The second structure **S16.2** was located to the south by the burn was an unroofed two storey structure, likely a mill. The smaller enclosure surrounding the structure did not survive as an upstanding monument and the larger enclosure was entirely obscured by bracken at the time of visit. Many of the field boundaries surrounding the farm **S16.3** depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map did survive either as drystone walls or low turfed over banks.

63. Most sections of the field system marked 'Old Fences' no longer survived as upstanding monuments, though some were identifiable as low banks with associated ditches. The cup and ring marked stone **S15** may have come from any of the surviving drystone walls in the area and likewise there are plenty of natural rocky outcrops in the wider landscape where it may have originated from. The possible clamp kiln **S17** identified through LiDAR some 250m SE of Blackmyre Farm was found to be an overgrown grass and bracken covered c-shaped bank with stones noted on its outer edge. No sign was noted of the alleged Roman camp **S25** within the NE of the assessment area.

64. Concerning the small quarries in the SE of the assessment area, the gravel pit **S18** was not located but quarries **S11** and **S21** were still visible in the landscape. The latter was located close to the scheduled prehistoric monuments Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle **S19** (Figure 5b). The cairn and four poster stone circle were found as described in the historic environment record and it was noted that the summit of Cambret Hill was visible in the distance from their location. This monument is located only 30m to the north of a possible standing stone **S20** incorporated into the drystone dyke forming the southern assessment area boundary. This boundary wall blocked views to the field to the south containing the Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**, another scheduled monument that was similar in dimensions to the standing stone identified at Kirkmabreck **S28**. Although **S22** is located outwith the assessment area, these three monuments should be considered together due to their proximity and alignment.

65. The walkover survey also took note of a stone **S27** some 340m to the ENE on a low hill within a bedrock outcrop in the SE corner of the assessment area. From a distance it appeared standing-stone like but when investigated it was found to be connected to the

Table 1: Historic Environment Sites located within the Assessment Area

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S1	Fell Quarries	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** The S slopes of Fell Hill were extensively quarried in the course of the 19th and 20th centuries. The total quarried area occupies approximately 15.15 hectares across Fell Hill and extends towards the W in the direction of the older Kirkmabreck and Glebe Quarries. Two small quarries were shown within this area on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Kirkcudbrightshire 1853, sheet 42), which by the 2nd edition of that map (Kirkcudbrightshire 1896, Sheet XLVII) had disappeared under much larger workings. Fell Farm and Field System **S3** was likewise subsumed by the quarry works. As illustrated by the National Grid Map published in 1957 (Sheet NX45NE – A), by the middle of the 20th century the workings had expanded to their present size, focused around three large quarry pits, the easternmost of which is the most substantial. This map shows thirteen structures on the SE slope of Fell Hill and an additional group of three unroofed structures within a larger enclosure in the W of the site. Some of these correspond to the ruined structures visible on recent aerial photography. The quarry was also captured on a series of oblique aerial photographs by Aerofilms Ltd in 1950, which show a number of additional structures since demolished. Photographs from the All Scotland Survey in 1988 (ASS/62488) show the E-W running track connecting Kirkmabreck and Glebe Quarries to the quarry operations within the assessment area. The workings are now dormant, and most of the quarry buildings and associated structures have been demolished. Two roofless buildings and an additional larger structure survive towards the W edge of the site, **S2**, another large unroofed building **S4** is located close to the eastern quarry pit and a further two small roofed structures likely associated with the quarry are recorded under **S5**. Another possible structure and several short sections of wall or boundary are depicted along the quarry tracks to the SW of the eastern large quarry pit on current mapping and substantial rubble is visible in that area on aerial photography. **Walkover survey** The extent of the quarry area was characterised by substantial areas of scree on the slopes of Fell Hill and various heaps of quarried stone rubble extending as far as the western enclosed fields associated with Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**. Some of the quarry tracks were fairly overgrown. The hillside area to the east of **S4** and south of the easternmost large quarry pit was notable for being covered in demolition rubble including heaps of stone, steel and wooden beams, metal sheeting and pipework, as well as concrete foundations of smaller quarry structures. This area measured approximately 0.5 ha. The immediate SW and S banks of the quarry pit, fenced off for safety, retained many more concrete foundations directly related to the quarry operations. The walkover also identified a fourth structure in the SW of the quarry area located to the NW of **S2.1** and **S2.3** on the side of the quarry track prominent on 1980s photography. This was a large square concrete block standing 2m tall and 1.5m wide with rubble around its base and two rectangular protruding parts on the NW-facing side. A square hole ran through the block at a height of 1.3m in a NE-SW direction, parallel to the track.	Centred on NX 48759 56737	  

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S2	Fell Quarry Structures, SW	NRHE ID: 88932 HER ID: MDG4687	**Desk Based Assessment** Two roofless rectangular structures are depicted on current mapping on the SW slope of Fell Hill. A third ruined roofless structure **S2.3** is partially discernible on aerial photography and marked as a wall on mapping. The RCHAMS survey of 1994 identified **S2.1** as a possible barracks for workers and described it as measuring 31.1 x 3.9m oriented NW-SE with 0.6m thick walls of mortared dressed granite standing up to 2.2m high. A door was noted at each end as well as eleven windows along each side suggesting inner compartments but no partition walls were seen. A cast iron stove was noted at the NW end of the structure. **S2.2** measured 18.2m from NW to SE by 6.1m with mortared granite walls 2.4m high and 0.6m thick. It was noted to have a plinth in its S corner and at its NW end a concrete block with two bolts set into it. The entrance was in the SW wall, which may have been a sliding door. There was an 8.4m long extension to the NW with an open SW side, and at the NW end of which there was another mounting block bearing six bolts. None of these structures appear on the 1st or 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. **S2.2** appears unroofed on the National Grid Map published in 1957, though **S2.1** is not depicted at all. **Walkover survey** The walkover survey found **S2.1** largely as described in 1994, though in a more ruined state. The walls on both long sides were only partially standing. A large number of windows could still be seen, some with granite brick coursing and granite block sills. The entrances on each end and some of the window openings retained some attached wooden planks. Wall thickness was measured as 0.46m. The ruins of **S2.2** were especially overgrown with trees and bushes. Only the corners of the building survive to a notable height with the south end in an especially good condition and over 2m high. The walls were 0.5m thick coursed and mortared granite. The concrete block in the NW end of the extension was also noted. **S2.3** located approximately 55m to the NE of S2.1 was found to be a cluster of ruined granite and concrete blocks, the tallest of which appeared to be a corner of a structure and stood to over 2m high. To its east a large block with square holes was noted. A partial wall may survive to their north, though it was obscured by vegetation and the entire area was bisected by the modern track.	**S2.1** NX 4843 5664 **S2.2** NX 4864 5660 **S2.3** NX 48507 56649	 S2.1  S2.2  S2.3

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S3	Fell Farm and Field System	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A single NW-SE rectangular building marked 'Fell' is depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map with a small enclosure on the N and attached enclosed field measuring 0.135ha to the S - **S3.1**. Still shown on the 2nd edition map, although it is depicted somewhat differently and possibly unroofed. The OS Name Book (1848-51) describes Fell as a small house in disrepair which once had attached land, since united with Kirkbride Farm. A series of 'Old Fences' are depicted on the 1st edition OS map which indicate the structure of the corresponding older field system **S3.2**. Neither the farm or the field boundaries are shown on current mapping and the area appears heavily impacted by the later quarry works on aerial imagery. LiDAR suggests the location of the farm may have been flattened related to quarry works. **Walkover Survey** The walkover survey inspected the location of the farm **S3.1** and did not note any surviving features. The area was covered in quarried stone to a substantial height and was otherwise quite overgrown with vegetation. A large dung heap found in the NW corner of the farm's footprint showed recent agricultural use of the area. Limited stretches of the field boundaries **S3.2** survive as tumbled drystone walls outwith the scree, including a longer NW-SE section, the rest was evidently destroyed by the quarry works.	NX 48753 56674	
S4	Fell Quarry Building, SE	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** An unroofed rectangular building is depicted on modern mapping and clearly visible on aerial photography to the SW of the largest quarry pit on Fell Hill. The building measures 13 x 6m aligned NNW-SSE with an entrance to the S. Not shown on 1st or 2nd Ordnance Survey map and the field boundary to its NW also post-dates the 2nd edition. This structure is not depicted on the National Grid map published in 1957. A structure is visible on the 1950 aerial photography of the quarry in the correct location, although seems to be of different dimensions. Related to 20th century quarry works. **Walkover survey** The structure was found to be a substantial rectangular building measuring 13.5m long by 6m wide with 0.59m thick walls of variously sized, largely rectangular rough faced and mortared granite. Rubble including wooden planks and metal sheet roofing was noted inside the structure. Two steel bars ran along the top of the E and W interior elevations and both elevations had two rectangular window openings slightly staggered one over the other, the upper opening shorter in height. Many building blocks bore marks from plug and feather quarrying, evidently quarried locally.	NX 48891 56786	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S5	Fell Hill Buildings	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** Two small roofed rectangular structures are depicted on modern mapping and clearly visible on aerial photography, one, **S5.1** near the peak of Fell Hill and the other, **S5.2** on its SE slope along a quarry track. Both post-date the National Grid map of 1957. **Walkover survey** **S5.1** Was found to be an orange and grey brick walled building measuring 6m SW-NE by 3.6m NW-SE, still roofed and in a decent state, although clearly abandoned. The door on the south-facing entrance was missing and one wing of a wooden door was lying on the floor of the interior. One of two rooms still had remains of electric wiring on the wall. The walls were double coursed, overall 0.4m thick, the roof flat and complete with gutters and drainpipe. All elevations except the south bore pairs of small rectangular openings, one near floor level and one just under the roof. **S5.2** measured 3.7m NW-SE by 5m SW-NE and was similar to **S5.1** in construction, although the roof was a rougher concrete slab and the building blocks were mortared rough faced granite. The footprint of the structure was also different with a small back compartment on its NE side. Remains of wood panelling were noted inside and some was left of the flooring. The door on the SW elevation was missing but a wooden doorframe with hinges was still in place. An iron or steel pole stood on the south side of the back compartment. A vent cover was still in place on one of the small square openings. The layout and construction of these buildings suggest they may have been used for storing explosives and are almost certainly related to the quarry works.	**S5.1** NX 48896 56963 **S5.2** NX 49008 56671	 S5.1  S5.2
S6	Kirkmabreck Township and Field System	NRHE ID: 63331 HER ID: MDG2962	**Desk Based Assessment** Two unroofed buildings marked 'Ruins' are depicted on the 1st edition OS 6-inch map (Kirkcudbrightshire 1853, sheet 42) NW of Kirkmabreck Church **S6.1**, and four more structures are depicted 100-200m to their NE **S6.2** adjacent to an area of ruined field boundaries marked 'Old Fences' **S6.3**. The township was no longer depicted on any later mapping, although one rectangular unroofed structure is shown on current mapping at **S6.1**. None of the other structures are visible on aerial photography, although LiDAR suggests some might survive of the second structure at **S6.1**. At least two of the structures at **S6.2** have been buried under quarry scree, while the rest of the area is covered in rig and furrow. The two buildings at **S6.1** were described by the RCHAMS in 1994 as standing side-by-side and aligned ENE-WSW. The NNW building measured 8.5m in length by 3.9m in breadth with 0.9m thick faced rubble walls, standing up to 1m high; the SSE building measured 5.5m in length and 3.3m in breadth with 0.75m thick walls and up to 0.6m	**S6.1** NX 49097 56646 **S6.2** centred on NX 49170 56798 **S6.3** centred on NX 49050 56672	

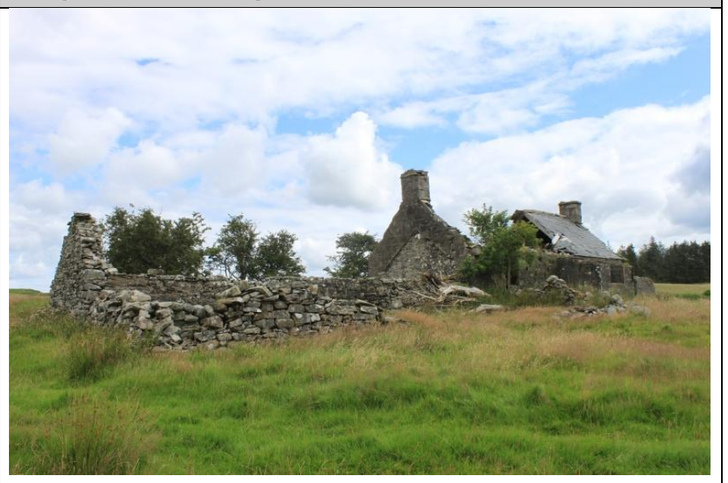
No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
			high, with the fragmentary remains of an outshot extending 4m to the ENE. Both buildings were noted to have an entrance in the gap between them. The RCHAMS also noted stretches of field bank in a rough pasture field about 2ha in extent to the W and SW of these structures. **Walkover survey** **S6.1** The NNW, mapped structure was found in a somewhat more ruined state from 1994. The drystone walls were very tumbled and stood 0.7m tall at their highest and measured roughly 1m thick overgrown with grass. The SSE structure was even worse off and its exact footprint was not discernible, although there was overgrown rubble at its location. **S6.2** None of the four structures marked on the 1st edition OS map were located. In the rough vicinity of the easternmost structure a very near imperceptible rise was noted, although no stones were felt when probing. The area occupied by the other three structures was largely covered by quarry scree and bracken. A great quantity of stones were noted and the field boundaries depicted here on the 1st OS map still stood up to a height of 1m but no other walls were discernible. **S6.3** Some sections of field boundaries survived near **S6.1**, but were very low and tumbled. Curving stretches of low wall survived to the S of the quarried area, other sections extending towards the N were entirely under the scree. Rig and furrow was noted in the two fields occupied by the township via LiDAR and aerial photography – blocks C, D and E, but it was not visible from the ground.		S6.1  S6.2  S6.3

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S7	Kirkmabreck Church and Burial Ground	HES ID: LB13142 NRHE ID: 63325 HER ID: MDG2957	**Desk Based Assessment** The ruins of Kirkmabreck Kirk are a category B listed monument and are described by the designation record as an 18th century church within a walled churchyard with associated 19th century monuments and gravestones. The enclosure is noted as drystone with cast-iron gates and a sheep creep. Kirkmabreck church is first depicted on Timothy Pont and Joan Bleau's *Galloway* (1654), and then on nearly all subsequent mapping with the exception of Roy (1752-55). The New Statistical Account (1845) and the Ordnance Survey Name Book (1848-51) both describe the ruins of an old church surrounded by a graveyard which was still in use. About its origins they note it having belonged to Dunrennan Abbey in 1351, then to the king in 1587 before being transplanted to Creetown in 1636. The site was most recently surveyed by the RCHAMS in 1994, who described the ruins of the church as measuring 15.4m from E to W by 5.4m transversely within mortared rubble walls 0.8m thick and up to 2m high with the exception of the E gable which was 6m high. It was divided into three compartments, each of which had an entrance in the S side wall with a window in the E gable. The burial ground, which surrounds the church, was overgrown. **Walkover survey** The walkover survey found the churchyard overgrown with trees, tall grass and nettles but all major features described previously were confirmed. Some gravestones have fallen over and the walls of the church likely deteriorated. The west gable was almost completely tumbled, measuring 0.3m, but the east gable still appeared nearly intact.	NX 49249 56499	 
S8	Kirkmabreck Church Settlement and Field Boundary	NRHE ID: 88931 HER ID: MDG9839	**Desk Based Assessment** Three 'Ruins' **S8.1** were depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1853 in the field immediately southeast of Kirkmabreck Church **S7**. The ruins are not depicted on any later mapping but aerial photography and especially LiDAR reveals the footprint of the structures still remaining. The settlement was surveyed in 1994 by the RCHAMS who described the grassed-over footings of three rectangular buildings, partly encompassed on their NW side by a curving bank. The most substantial building measured 11.2m from ENE to WSW by 4.3m transversely with 1.3m thick rubble walls. The other two buildings measured 7.6m in length by 3.5m in breadth and 5.3m in length by 3.3m in breadth, both with 0.7m thick walls, the latter having a possible extension or outshot at its SSW end. They also noted a possible enclosure to the SW of the NE building. It is possible these structures also formed part of Kirkmabreck Township **S6**. A line of field boundary **S8.2** is shown adjacent to the structures on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map running SW from the SE corner of the burial ground enclosure **S7**. It is no longer depicted on the 2nd edition map of 1894 and is not visible on aerial photography or LiDAR.	**S8.1** Centred on NX 49297 56478 **S8.2** NX 49263 56453	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
			Walkover survey The walkover survey was unable to identify the structures **S8.1** as described by the RCHAMS survey, although did find several grass covered stony mounds in the locations indicated by LiDAR and several others in different spots. A partial curving bank was noted on the west and south sides of the area. The section of this closest to the burial ground enclosure is likely the same drystone wall the field boundary **S8.2** once connected to. No trace was seen of the rest of the boundary running to the SSW. It is possible that the site has been disturbed in the course of the past three decades – at the time of visit the field was in active use for grazing cattle and sheep.		
S9	Kirkmabreck Hay Ree	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A 'Hay Ree' is labelled on the 1st 6-inch Ordnance Survey Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet 42 (1853). The label is not shown on the 2nd edition OS map or on current mapping. Does not appear on aerial imagery or LiDAR. **Walkover survey** The walkover visited the location of the hay ree and confirmed its removal – the area is at least partially under the modern quarry track, though the adjacent drystone field boundary still stands.	NX 48816 56456	
S10	Kirkmabreck Spa Well	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A 'Spa Well' is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps and identified by 20th century mapping as a chalybeate spring. The spring is still marked on current mapping. **Walkover survey** The location of the well was visited and no upstanding structures were found.	NX 49404 56578	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S11	Kirkbride Burn Quarry	NRHE ID: HER ID:	**Desk Based Assessment** A small quarry is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map near the southern border of the assessment area but is no longer depicted on the 2nd edition. The quarry scar is visible on LiDAR. **Walkover Survey** The quarry was visited and found to be a hillock roughly 3-4m in height, bracken covered on its quarried face on the NW. The depth was measured as 10m.	NX 49509 56563	
S12	Kirkbride Burn Field System	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A series of 'Old Fences' are marked on the 1st edition OS map between the two arms of Kirkbride Burn in the NW of the assessment area, one section of which is depicted on current mapping. The other two are visible on aerial photography and LiDAR and are located in fields covered by rig and furrow. **Walkover Survey** The three perpendicular sections of the field boundaries were identified as low, grass covered stone banks with an adjacent shallow ditch measuring roughly 0.3m high.	Centred on NX 49406 56859	
S13	Kirkbride Burn Burnt Mound	NRHE ID: 88934 HER ID: MDG9841	**Desk Based Assessment** A roughly circular burnt mound was surveyed by the RCHAMS at the angle of a drain about 400m NNW of Kirkbride Church in 1994. It was measured as 8m across by 1m in height with exposures of shattered stone and charcoal visible in the sides. The mound is visible on LiDAR and is somewhat bean-shaped. Not depicted on mapping. **Walkover survey** The burnt mound was visited and some possible heat affected stone was noted in an eroded patch across a sheep track. The mound appeared taller on its east side along the burn, though much slighter from the NW.	NX 49417 56861	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S14	Larg Hill Burnt Mound	NRHE ID: 88777 HER ID: MDG9838	**Desk Based Assessment** A C-shaped burnt mound was surveyed by the RCHAMS in 1994 on the west side of the burn which flows SE from the saddle between Larg Hill and Knockeans Hill, roughly 620m north of Kirkmabreck Church. The mound measured 4.8m from E to W by 4.3m transversely, and 0.3m high, with the opening to the N. **Walkover survey** The survey visited the location of the burnt mound but was not able to confidently identify it in the recorded spot. A slightly raised area was noted as the possible extent, although it did not match the RCHAMS description and was not otherwise indicative of a burnt mound. The immediate bank of the burn nearby was covered by bracken and it is possible it may have obscured the mound if its given location was not exact.	NX 4912 5711	
S15	Blackmyre Cup and Ring Marked Stone Findspot	NRHE ID: 63306 HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A cup-and-ring marked stone was found near Blackmyre Farmstead **S16** in 1923 incorporated into a field dyke. At the time of this survey, the stone was exhibited in the Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright and was most recently surveyed as part of Scotland's Rock Art Project in 2018. It was described as a small, dressed greywacke fragment measuring 54 x 42cm, with a height of 25cm and a complex mix of motifs. There are 5 cups with 1 ring, 6 cupmarks, 1 cup with 4 rings which have been broken by the dressing of the block, 2 cups with rings and grooves, and within the grooves are more cupmarks. Two of the cups are joined to make an oval shape. The surface is very worn. There are random peck marks and tool marks visible. **Walkover Survey** As no exact record exists of the stone's findspot, the survey could not identify its source. There remain a number of drystone field boundaries and enclosures in the vicinity of **S16** where the stone may have been found and likewise there are plenty of natural rocky outcrops in the wider landscape where it may have originated from.	NX 49700 57000	
S16	Blackmyre Farm and Field System	NRHE ID: - HER ID: MDG28183	**Desk Based Assessment** A structure **S16.1** with an associated rectangular enclosure labelled 'Blackmyre' is depicted on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. Another two enclosures are shown to the immediate south, one with a small roofed structure **S16.2**. Both structures are still shown as unroofed on current mapping along with their associated enclosures, except for the smaller enclosure surrounding the building by the burn. The OS Name Book (Parish of Kirkmabreck, vol. 124) notes that Blackmyre in the mid-19th century was a small house in middling repair which once had land attached but it had been united with the land belonging to the farm at Kirkbride. A series of field boundaries **S16.3** are depicted as 'Old Fences' on the 1st edition OS map surrounding Blackmyre Farm, some aligning with other 19th century field divisions. A handful of further sections of banks not depicted on mapping are visible on LiDAR imagery. **Walkover Survey**	**S16.1** NX 49778 57060 **S16.2** NX 49782 57018 **S16.3** Centred on NX 49911 57119	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
			The walkover survey identified two buildings, both matching the layouts depicted on current mapping and visible on aerial imagery. The cottage to the NE **S16.1** was a single storey partially roofed structure with a pitched roof retaining chimneys at both ends. The cottage measured 12m by 5.5m NW-SE. Several alterations were noted since the 1st OS depiction of the farm, including a 13m long once roofed extension joined to the NW gable of the cottage. The drystone walls of this structure still stood almost to their full height though the roof was gone and the interior was overgrown. The interior of the cottage was likewise overgrown but still retained the collapsed upper floor, some wood panelling and a cast iron fireplace with inner brick-built partitions. The exterior walls were 0.6m thick mortared stone and an entrance was located on the SW elevation. A small rectangular brick extension with a separate exterior doorway and window were located to the immediate NW of this entrance. A small, 2m by 6m enclosure was located on the SE end of the cottage and the front and back enclosures likewise survived in a fair condition. The second structure to the south by the burn **S16.2** was an unroofed but otherwise nearly intact pitched two storey structure measuring 10m by 6m oriented NW-SE with mortared stone walls and two rectangular window openings set into the SE elevation. The entrance and no other opening was located on the SW elevation. The interior was heavily overgrown and foliage obscured much of the NE elevation. A small offshoot of the burn flowed directly by the structure which also resulted in the area being quite waterlogged. No record was identified denoting this structure as a mill, though it seems likely given its location and characteristics. The smaller enclosure surrounding the structure did not survive as an upstanding monument and the larger enclosure was entirely obscured by bracken at the time of visit. Most sections of the field system **S16.3** marked 'Old Fences' on 1st OS no longer survive as upstanding monuments, though some were identifiable as low banks with associated ditches. Much of the other field boundaries surrounding the farm depicted on 19th century mapping do survive in various conditions and the majority are still shown on current mapping. Most of these are drystone dykes with some examples of low, turfed over banks.		 S16.1  S16.2
S17	Blackmyre Clamp Kiln	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A c-shaped banked feature, 12m in diameter with an opening on its west side is clearly visible on LiDAR imagery in an area of rig and furrow approximately 250m to the SE of Blackmyre Farm **S16**. The shape is distinct from other natural or built features in the surroundings and is reminiscent of a clamp kiln. **Walkover Survey** The feature was identified on a slight rise as an overgrown grass and bracken covered c-shaped bank with stones noted on its outer edge. Its maximum height was 0.8m.	NX 49902 56814	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S18	Blackmyre Gravel Pit	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A 'Gravel Pit' is noted to the south of Blackmyre **S16** on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The pit is not depicted on later mapping and not visible on aerial photography or LiDAR. **Walkover Survey** The walkover survey did not identify the exact location of the gravel pit – any quarrying activity was likely ephemeral enough to be effectively obscured by vegetation.	NX 49713 56846	
S19	Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle	HES ID: SM1000 NRHE ID: 63327 HER ID: MDG2958	**Desk Based Assessment** Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle is a scheduled monument that comprises the remains of a prehistoric burial cairn and four-poster stone circle, funerary and ritual structures typical of the early Bronze Age (c.2000-1300BC). The cairn was depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and all subsequent mapping and was most recently surveyed by the RCHAMS in 1994. The monument lies at around 155m OD on a broad ridge overlooking Kirkbride Burn to the west and Wigtown Bay beyond. The cairn is described as roughly circular, approximately 13.5-15m in diameter and 1.5m high. Two large upright boulders on the ESE edge of the cairn may represent the remains of a perimeter cairn, and another thin upright slab set into the cairn on its N side may indicate an internal structure. The four-poster stone setting lies immediately to the ENE of the cairn. All four stones appear roughly square in section and are about 0.5m wide. The stone on the E side of the group has fallen, but the other three remain upright to a maximum height of 0.75m, forming an L shape, with their centres 2m apart. **Walkover Survey** The cairn and stone circle were found in the condition described above, in grass covered pasture situated approximately 30m from the possible standing stone **S20** set into the assessment area boundary. It was noted that the summit of Cambret Hill is visible in the distance from this location. **S27** was likewise clearly visible on a low hillside to the ENE. Although the Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22** is located just 200m to the south, it was obscured by the field boundary.	NX 4979 5639	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S20	Bagbie Standing Stone	NRHE ID: 281565 HER ID: MDG21938	**Desk Based Assessment** A possible standing stone, 0.8m high x 0.85m wide is incorporated into a drystone head dyke forming the assessment area boundary located 30m to the south of **S19** and with a direct sightline to the Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**. **Walkover Survey** The walkover identified the standing stone and measured its maximum height as 0.9m. It was 0.8m wide at its base and only 0.5m at the top. Sightlines were confirmed to the cairn and stone circle **S19** and the standing stone to the south **S22** with the three monuments aligned in a straight line.	NX 4979 5635	
S21	Bagbie Quarry	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A quarry is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and is visible on LiDAR. No longer marked by 2nd edition OS map, though it is marked again on the National Grid map published in 1957 as 'Old Sand Pit'. Not marked on current mapping. **Walkover Survey** The walkover identified the location of the quarry, though it was overgrown with bracken and less clear than quarry **S11**. Its total area, better visible on LiDAR, measured approximately 27m by 14m.	NX 49955 56345	
S22	Standing Stone of Bagbie	HES ID: SM1001 NRHE ID: HER ID:	**Desk Based Assessment** The Standing Stone of Bagbie is a scheduled monument, a ritual monument dating from the Neolithic or early Bronze Age period (c. 4000-1500BC). The stone stands at around 150m OD on a wide ridge overlooking Wigtown Bay approximately 160m to the SSE of the assessment area boundary containing the probable standing stone **S20** and the cairn and four poster stone circle **S19** beyond. It is an upright slab aligned on a N-S axis. It was most recently surveyed by the RCHAMS in 1994 and measured as 1.6m in height, 0.95m in breadth and 0.3m in thickness tapering slightly towards the top. A stony platform recorded to extend 2m around the W, S and E sides of the stone is likely a result of field clearance, but may also incorporate an original feature or some of the packing material used to support the stone. **Walkover Survey** The stone was found as described by the RCHAMS. The sightlines onto the prehistoric monuments within the assessment area were impeded by the drystone field boundary, though **S27** was clearly visible.	NX 49742 56215	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S23	Bagbie Findspot	HER ID: MDG2956 NRHE ID: 63324	**Desk Based Assessment** A findspot is recorded for a Bronze Age item by Dumfries & Galloway council in a field on the south slope of Kirkbride Hill in the south of the assessment area. A corresponding NRHE entry is missing. The D&G entry may refer to a Bronze Age flint arrowhead recovered from the 'Standing Stone field on Bagbie farm' while hoeing turnips in 1910 to the east of Kirkbride Burn, outside of the assessment area. **Walkover Survey** Both possible locations of the findspot were found to be improved agricultural fields and bore no indication of linked activity.	NX 48996 56003 NX 497 561	
S24	Kirkmabreck Farm	NRHE ID: 176451 HER ID: MDG15075	**Desk Based Assessment** A settlement at the location of Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**, outwith but adjacent to the assessment area, is first depicted on Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands)* (1752-5) with five buildings and a square shaped enclosure. By the *1st edition Ordnance Survey map* of 1853 Kirkmabreck is depicted as a fairly substantial farm with four buildings and enclosed grounds to the northeast and southwest situated on the southeast bank of Kirkmabreck Burn. A single 'Ruin' is also marked within the farm grounds suggesting the earlier phases of a settlement here. A new house with an enclosed garden is depicted to the southeast of the farm buildings on the *2nd edition Ordnance Survey map* of 1894. Current mapping and satellite imagery shows the farm with a cluster of modern farm buildings with one rectangular structure situated along the track immediately adjacent to the assessment area. **Walkover Survey** The walkover survey confirmed Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** to be an active farm and dwelling with agricultural activity extending into the assessment area with no associated structures other than field boundaries within it.	NX 4828 5628	
S25	Glenquicken Moor Enclosure	NRHE ID: 63671 HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** An alleged Roman camp was noted by M.M. Harper in his work 'Rambles in Galloway: topographical, historical, traditional and biographical' (1876, p117). Later visits by the RCHAMS (1912) and the Ordnance Survey (1977) failed to identify a defensive work and attributed an agricultural origin to the enclosure in question noting many such turf bank and ditch enclosures on Glenquicken Moor. A possible candidate described by the RCHAMS in 1912 is not clear on aerial photography or LiDAR and likely falls outwith the assessment area. **Walkover Survey** While the survey did note several sections of turf bank enclosures within the northeast of the assessment area, it did not identify defensive works or anything inconsistent with an agricultural function.	NX 50 57	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S26	Woodfall Cottages	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** Three structures with a small parcel of cultivated land are visible along the road leading to Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map just outside the assessment area boundary. The area is labelled Woodfall Cottages on the 2nd edition map and is shown to have two roofed structures. Only the structure on the south side of the road is roofed on current mapping, labelled Woodfall Cottage. **Walkover Survey** The walkover survey noted the cottage depicted on modern mapping as an occupied dwelling. The structure shown as unroofed on current mapping was found to be a substantial two storey mortared stone building similar in style but abandoned and scaffolded on the interior. There was no sign of the smaller structures shown on the 1st edition OS map and no part of the asset extended into the assessment area.	NX 48208 56075	
S27	Knocktaggart Stone	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** The stone was identified during the walkover survey. It is not depicted on mapping and not visible on aerial photography or LiDAR. **Walkover Survey** A tall protruding stone was recorded during the walkover survey on a low hill within a bedrock outcrop in the SE corner of the assessment area. From a distance the stone appeared standing-stone like but when investigated it was found to be connected to the surrounding bedrock, likely geological in origin, possibly an intrusive igneous feature. The stone measured 2m wide on its NW face and 0.4 to 0.25m thick. Its surface was notably irregular and speckled with erosion marks, quite unlike the known standing stones of the area. Many surrounding visible bedrock panels bore crescent-shaped erosion marks. From its position on the low hillside there was a clear line of sight to the standing stones **S22** and **S20** and the cairn and stone setting at **S19**.	NX 50140 56467	 

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Image from Site Inspection
S28	Kirkmabreck Standing Stone	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** This asset was identified during the walkover survey. It is not depicted on mapping and not visible on aerial photography. **Walkover Survey** A standing stone measuring 1.2m tall and 0.45m wide at its base was found incorporated into a drystone field boundary approximately 200m to the N of the farmhouse at Kirkmabreck Farm **S24.** The stone is located along a farm track 90m NW of a modern barn, built into a rectangular protruding extension of the field wall, which might be a fairly recent addition as it is not depicted on historical mapping. A slight raised stony area surrounds the base of the stone, similarly to **S22**, although some of the visible stones could be rubble from the drystone wall.	NX 48318 56500	
S29	Kirkmabreck House	NRHE ID: 63315 HER ID: MDG2947	**Desk Based Assessment** A fairly large L-shaped structure with two outbuildings and attached grounds is depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 labelled 'Quarry House'. The OS Name Book specifies that this house was built 20 years prior as a residence and offices for the quarry manager of the adjacent Kirkmabreck and then Glebe Quarries. The house is shown in little changed form on the 2nd edition OS map of 1894. On both maps a small rectangular field possibly associated with the quarry house immediately to its west reaches into the assessment area. In the NE corner of this field a small rectangular structure is depicted on the 1st edition map. **Walkover survey** Kirkmabreck House itself is situated well outside of the assessment area and as such was not visited during the walkover survey. The enclosed field noted within the assessment area was inspected and no upstanding features were seen beyond the drystone field boundaries delineating it from the adjacent fields. A sheep creep was noted in the NE wall of this enclosure.	NX 4809 5640	
S30	Kirkmabreck Path and Field Boundary	NRHE ID: - HER ID: -	**Desk Based Assessment** A path **S30.1** is depicted running along a field boundary from Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** to Kirkbride Farm and Mill (NRHE ID: 63313; HER ID: MDG2945) to the SE on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1845. It is still depicted on the 2nd edition map of 1894. This path now forms part of the road linking Kirkmabreck **S24** to the A75, though the section cutting across the fields towards Kirkbride immediately adjacent to the SW assessment area boundary is only visible on aerial photography and LiDAR as a shallow banked depression. A possible remnant line of a field boundary **S30.2** is visible parallel to this path approximately 115m to the east on LiDAR imagery. The boundary is only faintly discernible on satellite photography and is not depicted on mapping. **Walkover survey** Path **S30.1** was visible on the ground as an even, grass covered trackway with trees sporadically dotted on either side. There was a farm gate located at the bend in the road leading to **S24** at its starting point. The line of **S30.2** was not discernible on the ground.	**S30.1** NX 4833155937 **S30.2** NX 48430 55999	 S30.2

Table 2: Rig & Furrow Blocks located within the assessment area

No	NGR	Block Form	Visibility	Boundaries	Sequence & Relationships	Rig Orientation & Topography	Rig Morphology
A	NX 48141 56771	Rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern field boundaries associated with **S24** including assessment area boundary.	Likely associated with Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**.	Aligned NE-SW.	Narrow low rig
B	NX 48829 57010	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern field boundaries including the assessment area boundary to the N.	N of **S1**.	Aligned ENE-WSW.	Narrow low rig
C	NX 49127 56687	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Partially bounded by **S6.3**.	W of rig block D and N of E.	Aligned ENE-WSW.	Narrow low rig
D	NX 49199 56716	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by **S6.3**.	E of rig block C and E.	Aligned ESE-WNW.	Narrow low rig
E	NX 49143 56564	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by **S6.3**.	W of rig block D and S of C. Overlies **S6.2**.	Aligned NE-SW.	Narrow low rig
F	NX 49362 56926	Rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Partially bounded by **S12**.	W od rig block G.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
G	NX 49500 56909	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern field boundary to the W and partially bounded by a burn to the S and E.	E of rig block F.	Aligned NW-SE.	Broad rig
H	NX 49605 56596	Irregular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by the assessment area boundary to the SW and a modern drain to the NE.	Aligned the same and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks N, P, R and S.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
I	NX 49958 57341	Irregular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by field system **S16.3** to the S and E, by the assessment area boundary to the N.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks J, K, L, M, O.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
J	NX 49863 57150	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by burns to the W, N and E and by the **S16.1** enclosure to the SW.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks I, K, L, M, O.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
K	NX 49975 57107	Irregular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by burns to the NW and S. Partially bounded by **S16.3**.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks I, J, L, M, O.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
L	NX 50041 57037	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by burns to the NW and W, by modern boundaries including the assessment area boundary to the SE and NE.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks I, J, K, M, O.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
M	NX 49856 56979	Irregular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by burns to the NW and SE, by modern drain to the SW.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks I, J, K, L, O.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
N	NX 49720 56874	Sub-oval shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern drain to the NE and by the burn to the W and SE.	Aligned the same and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks H, P, R and S.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
O	NX 49830 56862	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern drain to the SW and by a burn to the NW.	Aligned the same as and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks I, J, K, L, M.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig

No	NGR	Block Form	Visibility	Boundaries	Sequence & Relationships	Rig Orientation & Topography	Rig Morphology
P	NX 49799 56766	Sub-triangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern drain to the NE and modern field boundary to the E.	Aligned the same and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks H, N, R and S.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
Q	NX 49916 56809	Sub-oval shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	None visible.	Stretches across assessment area boundary following the shape of a hillock	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
R	NX 49878 56646	Sub-rectangular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by modern field boundaries to the W and N, by modern drain to the E and S.	Aligned the same and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks H, P, S and N. Stretches across assessment area boundary.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig
S	NX 50063 56454	Irregular shape.	Identified through Aerial Photography and LiDAR.	Bounded by assessment area boundary in all directions but the W.	Aligned the same and likely contemporaneous with rig blocks H, P, R and N. Stretches across assessment area boundary.	Aligned NW-SE.	Narrow low rig

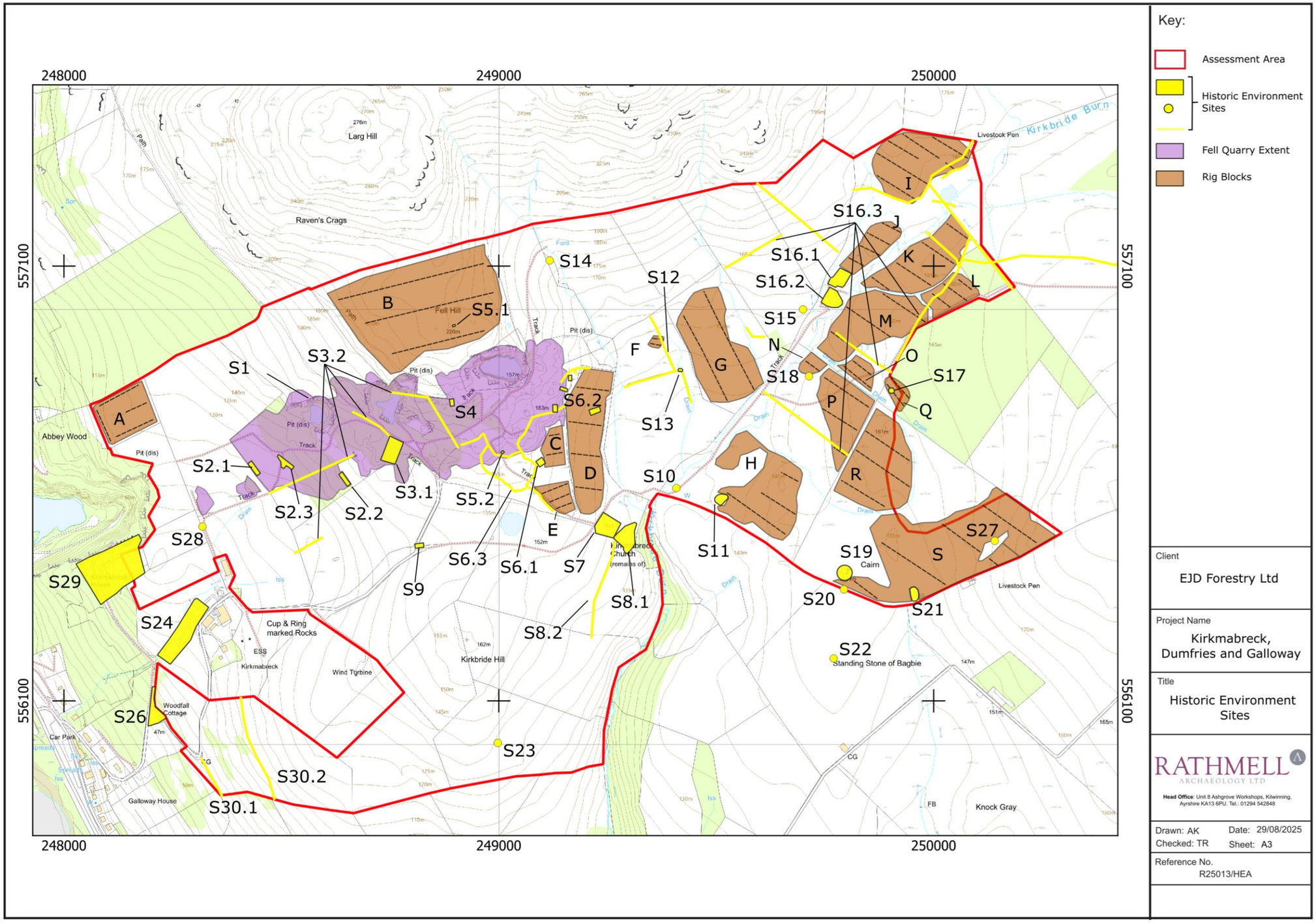


Figure 6: Location Map showing Historic Environment Sites in the Assessment Area.

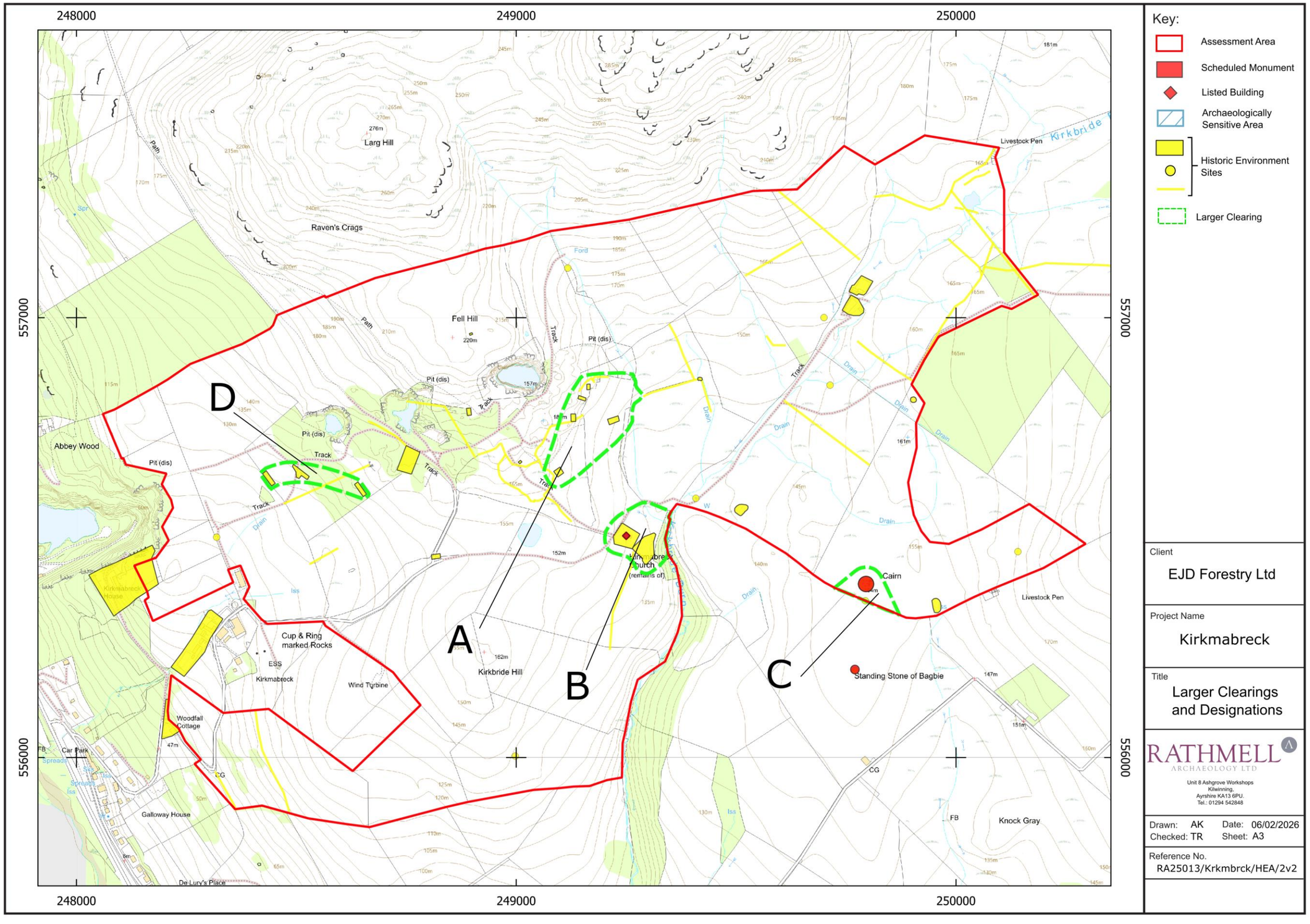


Figure 7: Location Map showing Larger Clearings A, B, C and D within the Kirkmabreck Assessment Area.

surrounding bedrock, likely geological in origin, possibly an intrusive igneous feature. Many surrounding visible bedrock panels bore crescent-shaped erosion marks. From its position on the low hillside there was a clear line of sight to the standing stones **S22** and **S20** and the cairn and stone setting at **S19** and indeed over much of the rest of the assessment area (Figure 5b). No upstanding features were noted that could relate to findspot **S23** either near the standing stone **S22** or on Kirkbride Hill.

67. Blocks of rig and furrow were noted in across the eastern half of the assessment area and in a square field in the NW corner during the desk-based assessment. None of these were clearly visible on the ground at the time of visit, though some appeared prominent on LiDAR and aerial photography. These rig blocks are summarised in Table 2.

Management Guidance

68. The assessment identified thirty historic environment sites within or adjacent to the Kirkmabreck assessment area (Figure 6). Not all sites are of equal merit or have equal potential to contribute to the understanding 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).

Site Protection

69. The extensive workings at Fell Quarries **S1** inform on late 19th to 20th century quarrying in the area. Due to their extent and significant amount of associated deposited material, including quarried stone and demolition rubble from quarry buildings and machinery, they make a significant contribution to the landscape character. Several upstanding structures also survive within the quarry extent. These are **S2**, **S4** and **S5**, which have been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 5m buffer. The rest of the quarry area has been ascribed Other significance, though forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.

70. Quarries **S11** and **S21** inform of smaller-scale 19th century quarrying in the area. The gravel pit **S18** was not identified during the survey. Due to the nature of the features as a means of extraction without deposition, it is unlikely these would embody complex archaeological information. They have been ascribed Other significance, and **no action** is recommended.

71. Fell Farm and Field System **S3** are monuments related to agricultural activity and settlement from the post-medieval period. No above ground elements survive of the farm building **S3.1** and only limited stretches survive of the field boundaries **S3.2** due to disruption by quarrying. As such, they are unlikely to embody complex archaeological information and cannot contribute significantly to the historic landscape character. They have been ascribed Other significance. **No action** is recommended, though forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact on upstanding field boundaries.

72. Kirkmabreck Township and Field System **S6** are examples of medieval to post-medieval settlement structures. Though only the structures at **S6.1** survive as above ground monuments, there is the potential that the location of the group of buildings at **S6.2** may contain complex archaeological information. This asset has been ascribed National significance by Dumfries & Galloway Council, and as such, upstanding elements should be **protected** with a 20m buffer. The establishment of a Larger Clearing is proposed for the area occupied by **S6.2**. Some sections of the associated field boundaries **S6.3** also survive. These have been ascribed Other significance, though some parts are proposed to be protected within Larger Clearing A.

73. Kirkmabreck Church and Burial Ground **S7** is a category B Listed Building. It has been ascribed National significance and should be **protected** with a 20m buffer. The ruined buildings at Kirkmabreck Church Settlement **S8.1** are examples of medieval to post-medieval settlement and may be associated with Kirkmabreck Township **S6**. They have been ascribed Regional significance and their full extent should be maintained as open space and **protected** with a 10m buffer. Larger Clearing B is proposed to protect the

setting of the church **S7** and **S8.1**. No upstanding element survives of the line of field boundary **S8.2**. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no** action is recommended.

74. No upstanding features survive of Kirkmabreck Hay Ree **S9**. As a monument related to the agricultural use of the area, its location is unlikely to contain complex archaeological information. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.

75. The survey identified no upstanding features relating to the Kirkmabreck Spa Well **S10**. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no** action is recommended.

76. The walkover survey identified field boundaries **S12** and **S16.3** as lines of bank and ditch and drystone walls. Due to the nature of these monuments, they are unlikely to contain complex archaeological information, nor do they make a significant contribution to the historic landscape character. They have been ascribed Other significance. **No action** is recommended, though forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.

77. Kirkbride Burn Burnt Mound **S13** and Larg Hill Burnt Mound **S14** are likely prehistoric in origin and therefore have the potential to inform our understanding of early occupation and land use in the area. As an upstanding monument **S13** makes a moderate contribution to the historic landscape character, and is expected to contain complex archaeological information. It has been ascribed Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer. **S14** was not confidently located during the survey but as it has been documented before it has been assigned Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 20m buffer to allow for a degree of inaccuracy in the recorded location.

78. The findspot for Blackmyre Cup and Ring Marked Stone **S15** could not be identified. As such it has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.

79. The structures at Blackmyre Farm **S16** are monuments related to settlement and agricultural activity from the post-medieval period. The upstanding remains of the cottage **S16.1** and the possible mill **S16.2,** as well as their associated small enclosures, contribute greatly to the historical landscape character and have the potential to embody complex archaeological information. As such, they have been ascribed Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer.

80. Blackmyre Clamp Kiln **S17** is a modest upstanding monument likely related to settlement in the post-medieval period. It contributes minimally to the historical landscape character and has some potential to contain complex archaeological information. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 5m buffer.

81. Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle **S19** are Scheduled Monuments that inform on the prehistoric occupation of the area. Their location may contain complex below ground archaeological information and their proximity to the standing stones **S20** and **S22** adds further context. They have been assigned National significance and should be **protected** with a 20m buffer.

82. Bagbie Standing Stone **S20** is an upstanding monument incorporated into a field boundary. As such, its potential to contribute to the historical landscape character is limited, but its location might still contain complex archaeological information. Its close proximity to the Scheduled Monuments **S19** and **S22** in the field to the S adds further interest. It has been ascribed Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer.

83. Findspot **S23** was not confidently located and there are no known upstanding features associated with it. Likewise, the alleged Roman camp **S25** was not identified within the assessment area. As such they have been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.

84. Knocktaggart Stone **S27** was identified as likely being of geological origin. However, its qualities resembling a prehistoric standing stone make it a striking feature of the landscape that may have attracted activity in the past. Its direct sightlines to the prehistoric monuments **S19**, **S20** and **S22** add further interest and the stone therefore has some potential to embody complex archaeological information in its vicinity. It has been ascribed Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer.

85. Kirkmabreck Standing Stone **S28** is a prehistoric standing stone first identified during the survey. It is incorporated into a drystone field boundary located adjacent to a farm track

associated with Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**. The stone has been assigned Regional significance and should be **protected** with a 20m buffer, though the continued use of the adjacent farm track is permissible as a non-haul road.

86. Kirkmabreck Path **S30.1** survives as a short stretch of partially tree-lined, grass covered pathway and as such does not significantly contribute to the historical landscape character. No upstanding features survive associated with Field Boundary **S30.2** and as such it cannot contribute to the historical landscape character. Both assets have been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.

87. The Standing Stone of Bagbie **S22**, Kirkmabreck Farm **S24**, Woodfall Cottages **S26** and the features of interest related to Kirkmabreck House **S29** are upstanding monuments that lie outwith the assessment area boundary. As such, no recommendation has been made for them, though forestry operations should avoid any impact on assets immediately adjacent to the assessment area.

Table 3: Management Guidance for Historic Environment Sites

No	Site	Significance	Management Guidance	UKFS HE Guidelines
S1	Fell Quarry	Other	**No** action is recommended for the extent of the quarry area excluding upstanding structures listed separately. Forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.	-
S2	Fell Quarry Structures, SW	Local	Structures **S2.1** and **S2.2** should be **protected** with a 5m buffer. **No** action is recommended for **S2.3** though forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S3	Fell Farm and Field System	Other	**No** action is recommended. Forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact on field system **S3.2**.	-
S4	Fell Quarry Building, SE	Local	The building should be **protected** with a 5m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S5	Fell Hill Buildings	Local	The buildings should be **protected** with a 5m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S6	Kirkmabreck Township and Field System	National	The structures **S6.1** should be protected with a **20m** buffer. The location of structures **S6.2** should be maintained as open space and **protected** with a 20m buffer. Forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact on field system **S6.3**.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S7	Kirkmabreck Church and Burial Ground	National	The extent of the burial ground should be **protected** with a 20m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11

S8	Kirkmabreck Church Settlement	Regional	The extent of the settlement **S8.1** should be maintained as open space and **protected** with a 10m buffer. **No action** is recommended for the field boundary **S8.2**.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S9	Kirkmabreck Hay Ree	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S10	Kirkmabreck Spa Well	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S11	Kirkbride Burn Quarry	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S12	Kirkbride Burn Field System	Other	**No action** is recommended. Forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.	-
S13	Kirkbride Burn Burnt Mount	Regional	The burnt mound should be **protected** with a buffer of 10m.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S14	Larg Hill Burnt Mound	Regional	The location of the cairn should be maintained as open space and **protected** with a 20m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S15	Blackmyre Cup and Ring Marked Stone Findspot	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S16	Blackmyre Farm and Field System	Regional	The cottage and associated enclosure **S16.1** and the mill and associated enclosure **S16.2** should be **protected** with a 10m buffer. **No action** is recommended for the field system **S16.3**, though forestry operations should avoid unnecessary impact.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S17	Blackmyre Clamp Kiln	Local	The clamp kiln should be **protected** with a 5m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S18	Blackmyre Gravel Pit	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S19	Bagbie Cairn and Stone Circle	National	The monument should be **protected** with a 20m buffer.	LR1 GFPR 1 HEG 11
S20	Bagbie Standing Stone	Regional	The standing stone should be **protected** with a 10m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11

S21	Bagbie Quarry	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S22	Standing Stone of Bagbie	National	Outwith the assessment area.	-
S23	Bagbie Findspot	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S24	Kirkmabreck Farm	Local	Outwith the assessment area.	-
S25	Glenquicken Moor Enclosure	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-
S26	Woodfall Cottages	Local	Outwith the assessment area.	-
S27	Knocktaggart Stone	Regional	The stone should be **protected** with a 10m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S28	Kirkmabreck Standing Stone	Regional	The standing stone should be **protected** with a 20m buffer.	GFPR 1 HEG 11
S29	Kirkmabreck House	Local	Any upstanding monuments associated with the house fall outwith the assessment area. **No action** is recommended.	-
S30	Kirkmabreck Path and Field Boundary	Other	**No action** is recommended.	-

LR legal requirement. GFPR good forestry practice requirement HEG Historic Environment Guidelines.

Larger Clearings

88. Larger clearings should be used to retain improved settings for significant sites, enable related sites that are within the same immediate landscape to be protected within a shared clearing (enabling their interpretation as a group), protect short-distance significant sightlines and retain a representative sample of the medieval and post-medieval agricultural field systems.

89. We recommend the following three larger clearings (see Figure 7) for these objectives:

- **Clearing A** comprises the locations of the structures of Kirkmabreck Township **S6.1** and **S6.2** while also preserving parts of the field boundaries **S6.3** and rig blocks C and D. The clearing is proposed to include the full extent of the field stretching to Kirkbride Burn to preserve the township's relationship to this watercourse and to protect a wider area that may contain sub-surface archaeological information relating to the settlement.
- **Clearing B** is proposed to protect the churchyard **S7** and the settlement to its rear **S8.1** in a shared open space. Similarly to Clearing A, the north of this field was included to preserve a potential area of activity relating to the settlement. The clearing is also proposed to extend to Kirkbride Burn to preserve the setting and relationship of these assets to Kirkbride Burn.
- **Clearing C** is designed to safeguard the setting of the Scheduled Monument **S19**, namely its alignment with the standing stones **S20** and **S22** beyond the assessment area boundary. The clearing also serves to protect the immediate vicinity of these monuments, which have the potential to retain complex sub-surface archaeological information.

- **Clearing D** is proposed to protect three of the key buildings of the quarry complex, **S2.1** to **S2.3**, in a shared open space.

Edge Treatment

90. Where reasonable woodland bounding clearings for historic environment sites should be broadleaf at a lower density than commercial forestry. Such broadleaf edges should preferentially be provided to:

- sites of regional significance not within Larger Clearings; then
- those edges of Larger Clearings in proximity (50m or less) to sites of national significance.

91. Such broadleaf woodland provides both a more sympathetic boundary effect for the setting of the historic environment site and reduces the risk of inadvertent impact from forestry operations during thinning, harvesting and restocking.

Clearing Management

92. Clearings (for site protection) and Larger Clearings (to capture a representative sample of the agricultural systems and retain the setting of sites) should be managed as open ground (either through grazing or episodic mowing, cutting or flailing as appropriate).

93. Stocking levels should not promote poaching or the initiation of erosion. Supplementary feeding should not be undertaken on sites of Regional or National significance although it is appropriate outwith the protection areas for these sites in Larger Clearings.

94. Where clearings are isolated in forestry, an access route should be maintained and a management regime should be implemented that is proportionate to the risk of the incursion of deleterious woody or invasive species. In essence, the long-term sustainable retention of the site should be sought.

95. Established, mature individual trees should not be removed as they may be linked to historic planting, especially at sites related to medieval or later rural settlements.

96. We further recommend consideration of proactive suppression of bracken for historic environment sites of Regional or National significance where stands extend over sites or are approaching the protection buffer of these sites.

97. Any management should be in keeping with HES Technical Guidance and, for Scheduled Monuments, secure Scheduled Monument Consent except where the activities are not subject to control under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 or is permitted through Class Consents.

Access and Interpretation

98. Many of the historic environment sites across the assessment area sit alongside the farm track connecting Kirkmabreck Farm **S24** to Blackmyre Farm **S16**. Retaining this road as a public footpath would facilitate access to these assets as well as those farther afield, such as the prehistoric monuments of Clearing **C**.

99. It is also recommended to retain the other public footpaths already established within the assessment area, such as the path leading NW from Kirkmabreck Church **S7** to and beyond Fell Quarries **S1**.

100. Any forest design work should also consider providing on-site interpretation for these historic environment assets, including for Fell Quarries **S1**, which though modern in origin, is a site of great local interest.

Conclusion

101. A historic environment assessment was required by EJD Forestry Ltd to inform a programme of tree-planting at Kirkmabreck, near Creetown, Dumfries and Galloway. This process identified thirty historic environment sites relating to the assessment area (Table 1).

102. Our management guidance has covered protection measures for fourteen of these sites (Table 3). These recommendations are compliant with UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines.

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