

Mill of Plunton, Kirkcudbrightshire: Historic Environment Assessment & Survey

Appraisal



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on behalf of Mark Hamilton Landscape Services

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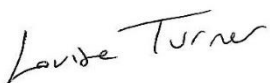
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Date ...17th December 2021...

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Executive Summary

1. A historic environment assessment was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a proposed planting scheme at Mill of Plunton, near Borgue, in Dumfries and Galloway. A desk-based assessment and walkover survey was designed to establish a sound baseline on the historic environment within the landholding and to make recommendations on its management. The findings of the assessment and survey are presented in this report.
2. Nineteen historic environment sites, some with multiple elements present, were identified within the assessment area and are considered within this report (Table 1). These consisted of farmsteads (**S1 – S4, S8 and S9**), quarries (**S5 – S7 and S19**), field banks (**S11 - S15 and S17**), a pond/ possible quarry **S16** and a structure (**S10**).
3. Based on the evidence gathered for this assessment, positive management has been recommended to safeguard eight sites in whole or part (**S1, S2, S3, S4, S8, S9, S13 and S14**).

Introduction

4. A historic environment assessment and survey was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a programme of tree planting at Mill of Plunton, near Borgue, Dumfries and Galloway (centred on NX 61300 50610). These works were designed to inform on the nature, form and extent of any historic environment assets present within the defined areas, based on archival sources and site inspection undertaken through the walkover survey. From this baseline, management guidelines are presented that seek to protect significant sites in an appropriate setting.
5. This report has been prepared to support Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to address UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines (2016), specifically Good Forestry Practice Requirements 1 to 4.

Topographic and Geological Background

6. The area covered by the archaeological assessment comprised rough pasture and open hillside extending to approximately 91.95 ha.
7. The majority of the survey area is located to the northeast of Kirkandrews Bay, with the B727 road running north-south along the eastern side of the assessment site, cutting through the northeast corner. The wider landscape consists of multiple named prominences: for example, Corsewood Drum (75m AOD) lies entirely within the assessment area. The ground is undulating throughout. The assessment area is quite waterlogged and has three ponds within it, with the Pulwhirrin Burn running through the area from north-northeast to south-southwest. There is a reservoir to the northwest.
8. The bedrock geology is sedimentary in character, comprising Carghidown Formation and Kirkmaiden Formation, with small inclusions of microdiorite and porphyritic. The superficial geology consists of silt, sand and gravel, and Devensian Till formation – diamicton.

Approach to Assessment

9. The works comprised a desk-based assessment supported by a walkover survey. The assessment focused within the area defined by the boundary of the proposal. For some resources, where insufficient information is available, an adjacent buffer may be included within the study area to examine any sites that are close, and which present the potential to inform on the resource within the proposed planting area.
10. 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

11. 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

12. 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.
13. 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.
14. 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 Archaeology Service 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.
15. Information contained within available published and web-based sources was also consulted. This collation of information was undertaken during the restrictions for the COVID-19 pandemic; as such no visits to archives were possible and all resources consulted were either available online or from the company library.
16. A walkover survey of the proposed planting area was undertaken on 10th December 2021 to assist in the characterisation of surviving upstanding archaeological or historic remains and define their key characteristics (including significance). Also, the walkover survey sought to identify new, previously unrecognised archaeological sites.
17. The walkover survey comprised:
- ❖ classification of the archaeological sites and monuments;
 - ❖ compilation of a written site description (objective measured description; subjective site interpretation; site condition; site evaluation [using FES categorisation guidelines]; and management recommendations if appropriate);
 - ❖ production of a photographic record (digital) of all sites; and
 - ❖ location of all archaeological site limits and elements by DGPS equipment (Leica GS50) allowing real-time correction to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum.
18. 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

19. The desk-based assessment identified sixteen sites within the assessment area. None of the sites were protected by designation.

Previous Archaeological Works

20. Some archaeological works have been carried out in the assessment area. In 2000 A. Kilpatrick of RCAHMS visited selected sites in the assessment area and noted possible structures, plus a watermill and farmsteads (**S1 – S4, S8 – S10**). Each of these sites were depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map where they were already marked either as roofed and presumably functioning buildings or as 'ruins'.
21. The watermill buildings (**S1**) were investigated on the 27th of June 2000 and said to comprise a farmstead with four roofed buildings and one enclosure, much like its depiction on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Farmstead (**S3**) is an extension of Mill of Plunton: it is shown as a single unroofed building annotated as 'ruins' and one enclosure, both depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The same analysis was done on Corsewood Drum (**S2**), which was described as a farmstead with two roofed and three unroofed buildings. It is labelled as 'ruins' on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, and only one building remains on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. The structure at Mill of Plunton Bridge (**S10**) was also included in the same survey. They located the 'ruin' depicted on 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and not depicted on later historical mapping. The visits of the RCAHMS in 2000 helped to monitor and check the structures mentioned above.

Prehistoric to Roman Land use

22. There are no definitive prehistoric sites known within the assessment area. There are, however, a number of recorded discoveries which attest to occupation and use within the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. A group of cup and ring marks were located approximately 2.43km southeast of the assessment area boundary at Senwick (Canmore ID:109133; DG HER ID: MDG3543). Another prehistoric site was located approximately 1.43km southwest of the assessment area boundary where a cinerary urn was discovered in Twynholm parish containing calcined bone (Canmore ID: 64013). A possible standing stone of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date has also been identified approximately 460m north of the assessment area (Canmore ID: 64159).
23. In 1957, a Bronze Age Dirk was recovered from Doon Bay, approximately 3.47km to the southeast of the assessment area (Canmore ID: 81488). The weapon was found in 1957 by Mr Alex Smith while trenching a field on farm of Lower Nunton. The dirk was subsequently donated to the Stewartry Museum, information from Mr B O'Connor and Mr T Cowie, 1995.
24. Given the lack of Neolithic sites within the assessment area in comparison to the wider landscape, we may infer that this reflects either a genuine absence of intensive occupation or use within our study area or the loss of any sites which were once present as the result of intensive farming upon this area of low-lying agricultural land.
25. There are no known later prehistoric sites recorded in the immediate vicinity of the assessment area. An Iron Age Fort, Doon Fort (Canmore ID: 63621; HES ID: SM13651; DG HER ID: MDG27039) is located approximately 2.75km to the southwest of the assessment area. This site has been intermittently visited by RCAHMS with their most recent visit in 1951.
26. No definitive sites of Roman date have been identified within the assessment area, with the nearest focus of Roman activity located approximately 58.89km northeast of the assessment area boundary in Annan, where a concentration of Roman Camps has been identified (HESID: SM667).

Medieval and Later Periods

27. No known sites of medieval date have been identified within the assessment area. Some are, however, present within the wider environs, in particular Borgue (Canmore ID:

- 63956), located approximately 1.9km southeast of the assessment area. This site was assessed by RCAHMS in 1980 and was described as a possible Medieval Motte.
28. Blaeu's map (1596 – 1673) (Figure 1a) is the first map to give any indication of the existence of the assessment area. On the map 'Plunton' is spelt *Plumtoun*, with what appears to be the Pulwhirrin Burn (although this is not made clear on the map) distinctly shown on the plan as running through the area .
 29. The first available mapping that provides any level of detail within the assessment area is Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands)* (1752-5) (Figure 1b). The assessment area is depicted as cultivated land with a possible farmstead named "Head of Plunton". The settlement of Plunton is to the north of Borgue and is located on the burn that runs to Kirkandrews Bay. Woodland is scarce at this time and the land appears to be divided into fields by this time. Mill of Plunton falls under the parish Borgue which is derived from the Gaelic word *burg* which signifies *little hill*, which describes the general appearance of the landscape which is said to have a very uneven surface.
 30. Roy mentions a number of small farmsteads within the vicinity of the assessment area: Barmagachan, Craig Croft, Burnyard, Ratray and Crofswood. There is evidence of the widespread use of enclosures that are drawn in red on the map. Based on this evidence, Roy's red lines indicate that there are enclosures in the southern area of the assessment area and possibly the northern.
 31. The *Statistical Account of Scotland*, compiled for the Parish of Temple in 1794 (Smith 1794), describes the area as very uneven. It states that the hills are nothing more than piles of rocks covered with turf. The soil is described as fine, sometimes a mixture of soil and gravel founded on rocks or a hard bottom which works well for crops and pastures during the wet seasons but does not thrive in a drought. In terms of livestock, it is described as the best in Scotland and famous for the management of cattle. The keeping of sheep and horses were prevalent in the parish which could possibly relate to the enclosures highlighted on Roy's mapping.
 32. By the time of the *New Statistical Account* some in the parish had tried their hand at mining for both copper and iron, which of which neither proved very successful (Smith 1845). A salmon fishery was also established at the mouth of one of the rivers. Agriculture remained similar to the account in 1794: cattle, horses and sheep were still kept on the land, although it is noted that they only kept three different breeds of sheep based on preference of the meats. There was an increase in turnips and the agriculture worked on a rotation per year to grow a variety of different crops from turnips to oats and barley. Mills were not erected at this point; however, the author predicted that they would be erected in the future as they had sufficient waterpower in that area. This would suggest that the Mill of Plunton had its origins in the period post-dating 1845; however, the presence of a ruinous 'Old Mill of Plunton' would indicate that some mills, at least, had earlier origins, *contra* the *New Statistical Account's* summary.
 33. In Thomson's *Atlas of Scotland* (1832), 'Pluntoun' becomes Mill of Plunton, located near Mill of Borgue and other mills appearing in the surrounding area. The area appears to have proliferated in mills as the *New Statistical Account* had predicted.
 34. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 2a), published in 1854, shows a farmstead named Mill of Plunton (**S1**), which comprised four unroofed rectangular structures and one enclosure aligned NE – SW. There is Mill of Plunton *in ruins* as well as the functioning Mill of Plunton labelled on the map. The old quarry (**S7**) is also marked on the map just off the B727 road to the NW of the Mill of Plunton. 'Old Quarry' (**S6**) is also marked on the map to the NE of Mill of Plunton, also running along the B727 road. There are many buildings in the assessment area that are marked as 'ruins' such as for (**S3**) comprising one unroofed building and an enclosure. Another farmstead (**S4**), was also depicted as 'ruin' on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, comprising of one unroofed building. Many of the boundaries are marked on the map as 'old fence'. Corsewood Drum (**S2**) is also marked with 'ruins' alongside (**S8**, **S9**) and comprised of two roofed, three unroofed buildings and two enclosures. The Pulwhirrin Burn runs through the central part of the



Figure 1a: Extract from Blaeu 1596-1673, Gallovidia, vernacule Galloway.



Figure 1b: Extract from Roy 1752-5, Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands)

assessment area, running past the Mill of Plunton and perhaps powering the mill.

35. The Ordnance Survey Name Book for Kirkcudbrightshire (1848 – 1851) describes Borgue as a small village nearly in the centre of the parish. It states that there are more houses than residents, some of which lay in ruins. They are described as “commodiously built and in good repair having suitable gardens attached”. The unnecessary amounts of housing for the wider area may explain the number of ruins that lay within the assessment area.
36. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (figure 2b), published in 1896, depicts the assessment area as having greatly changed. There is no mention of the quarries or the ruins that were mentioned on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. There is some indication of more woodland planting in the landscape, though the plantations do not cover vast amounts of land. There is a footpath depicted on the map that runs from Mill of Plunton Bridge through Mill of Plunton and out onto the B727 road. The majority of the landscape would appear to comprise agricultural land, indicated by the farmhouses and the field divisions, and the mills, powered by the burn, with only a limited area devoted to woodlands.

Aerial Photography and LiDAR data

37. Modern satellite imagery and Scottish Government LiDAR data are available for the assessment area and these have been used to confirm the location and clarify the form of many of the sites previously identified. In particular, LiDAR data enabled the identification of a quarry **S5**, three boundary enclosures **S13 - S15 & S17**, and rig and furrow block **A**.

Walkover Survey

38. The walkover survey took place in sunny conditions with occasional light showers and gentle winds. The assessment area was divided into multiple fields composed of uneven and sometimes waterlogged grounds. Modern field boundaries were defined by post-and-wire fences and dry-stone walls.
39. Throughout the walkover survey, sites that were identified through historical mapping, LiDAR and aerial imagery were investigated. Sites that were confirmed to be present as visible upstanding features included the farmsteads (**S1**, **S2** and **S4**) and the enclosures (**S13**, **S14**, and **S15**).
40. Farmstead **S1** survived as a group of six separate farm buildings, including a farmhouse. There were clear signs of maintenance on the structures to ensure their continued use as well as the addition of five sheet metal modern sheds. Farmsteads **S2** and **S4** survived as ruins in various levels of preservation in the landscape. Each of these farmsteads were identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as rectangular structures. Some parts of the structures survived whereas other parts were more ephemeral. The enclosures **S13**, **S14**, and **S15** survived in various degrees of preservation. **S13** survived as part of the farmstead ruin **S2**, albeit a modern track that cuts through it, and **S14** and **S15** survived as field boundaries.
41. Farmsteads **S3**, **S8** and **S9** were not identified during the field survey; however, they were in an area overgrown with gorse bushes, and it is possible that upstanding features survived. Similarly, enclosures **S11** and **S12**, structure **S10**, and quarries **S5**, **S6** and **S7** were also not identified on the field survey as they were overgrown with gorse bushes and other vegetation, in an area of rough pasture.
42. Corsewood Drum Pond or quarry (possible) **S16** was identified as a regularly-shaped, roughly circular, body of water. It is possible that this feature represents an old quarry or gravel pit now filled with water, although it could also potentially represent a custom-built pond created for agricultural purposes.
43. Field boundary **S17** was first identified on the walkover survey. It lies near **S18** clearance cairn which is perhaps related to the use of the field now represented by **S17**.

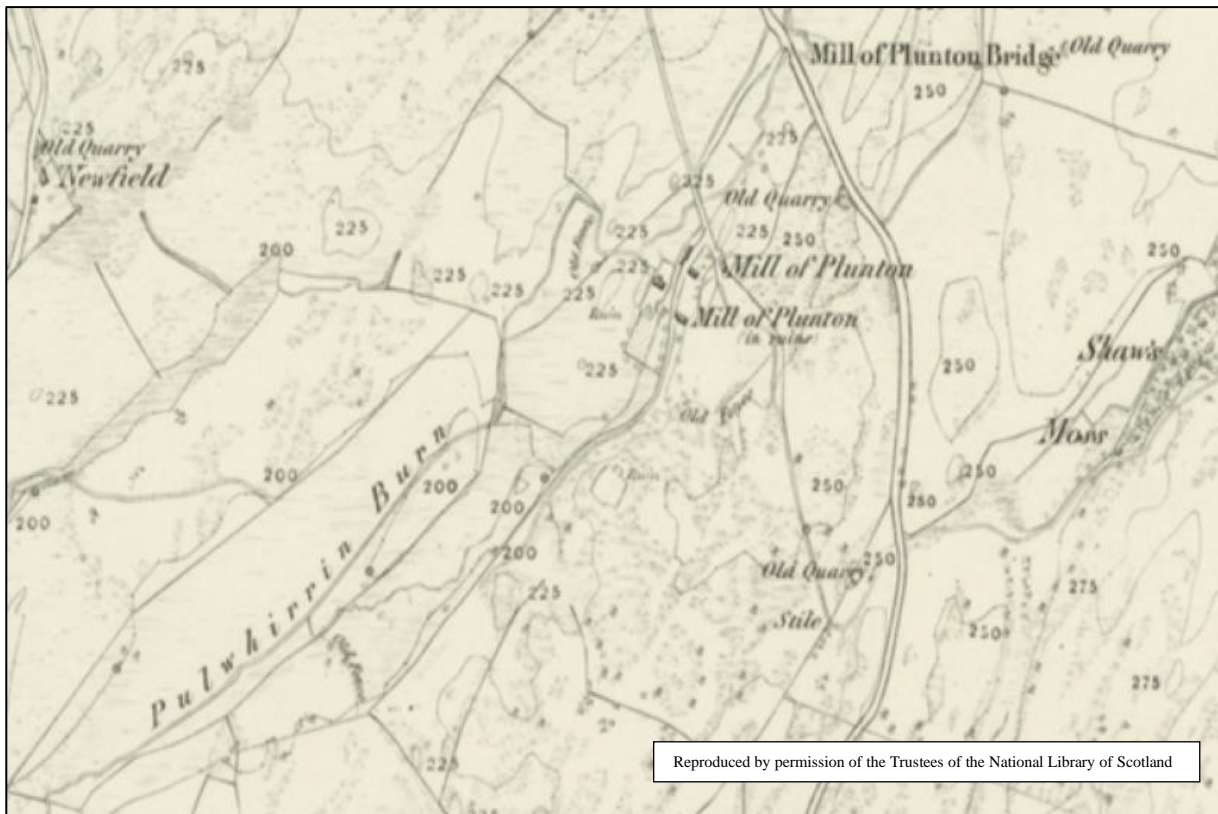


Figure 2a: Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet 50 (1854)

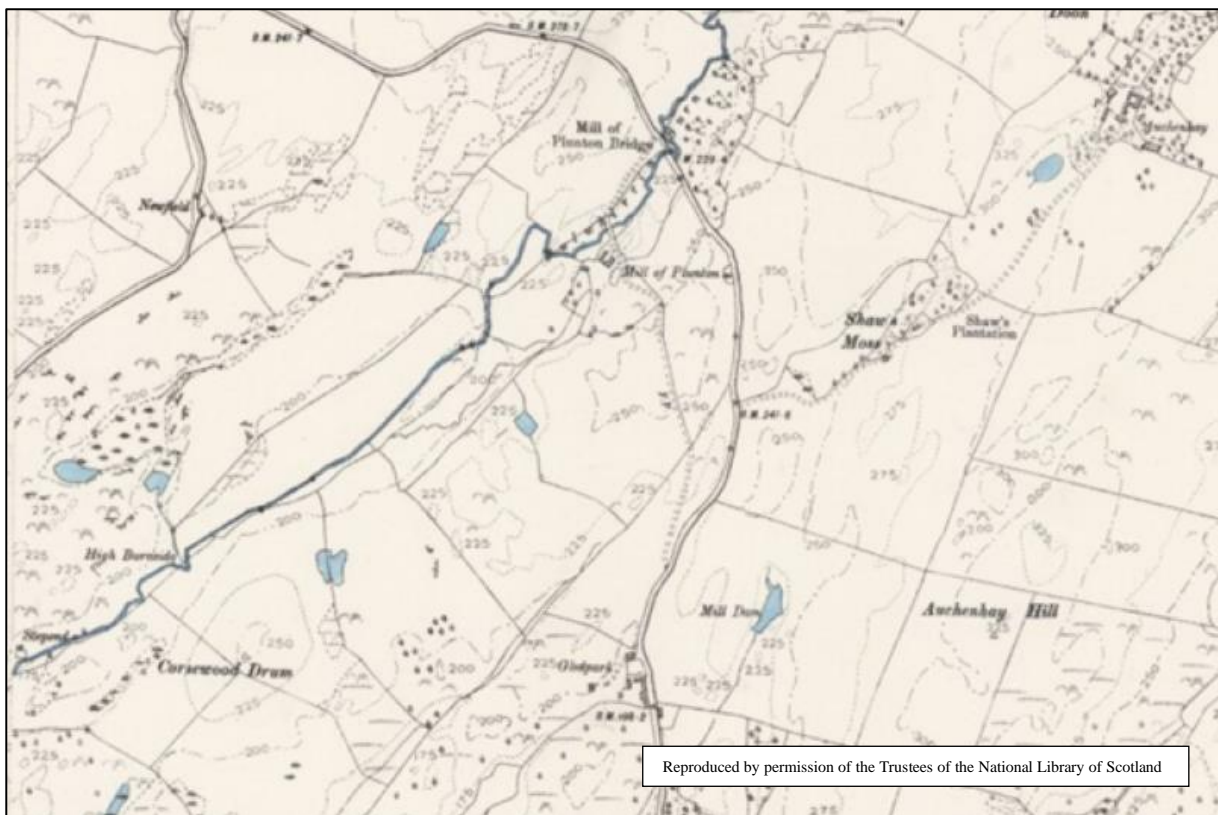


Figure 2b: Extract from 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet LIV.NE (1896)





Table 1: Historic Environment Sites located within the assessment area





No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
S1	Mill of Plunton Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177344 Canmore ID: 96464 D&GHER: MDG15712	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i></p> <p>A farmstead and watermill named 'Mill of Plunton' was identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as four rectangular buildings. There is a distinction made between Mill of Plunton and Mill of Plunton (ruins) on the map. It is also depicted in the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey as just the watermill. The farmstead is still visible on modern mapping and is visible on aerial and LiDAR imagery.</p> <p><i>Walkover</i></p> <p>The farmstead consisted of four whitewashed stone buildings, plus one red brick and shed, and one house. These were accompanied by five modern sheet metal constructions. There were no signs of modern additions to the buildings themselves other than fabric modified through maintenance and the blocking of flight holes for pigeons on either of the barn structures.</p>	NT 62689 51480	
S2	Corsewood Drum – Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177363 D&GHER: MDG15731	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i></p> <p>The farmstead was shown as one square unroofed (S2.2) and one rectangular roofed structure (S2.1) on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, with a further two unroofed structures marked as 'ruins' nearby (S8 and S9) respectively. Another roofed rectangular structure was located in an area now occupied by field bank S13.1. The farmstead is depicted on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map as a single rectangular structure beside a square structure. The structures are identified on LiDAR imagery, however they are not shown on modern mapping.</p> <p><i>Walkover</i></p> <p>S2.1 lies as a ruin in the landscape. It is a three- possibly four - compartment rectilinear footing with a possible entrance to the SE that measures 1.55m in width. The central compartment looks more debilitated, with the other compartments having better survived. The ruin was 21m in length and 5m in width with a maximum wall height of 0.3m and width of 1.7m. S2.2 was partially destroyed by a track truncating the feature. The remains of the feature lie as an 'L' shaped bank, possibly a continuation of bank S13.2. It measures 6m SW – NE and 3.4m NW – SE. No structure survives.</p>	S2.1 NT 62100 50500 S2.2 NT 62092 50509	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
					
S3	Mill of Plunton Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177364 D&GHER: MDG15732	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> An extension of the Mill of Plunton Farmstead was identified as a rectangular unroofed structure on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map. It is also visible on LiDAR imagery; however, the farmstead is not depicted on modern mapping. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible – rough pasture area overgrown with gorse.	NT 62590 51290	
S4	Plunton Mains Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177342 D&GHER: MDG15710	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> The farmstead of Plunton Mains was identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey as a small structure. It is not depicted on any subsequent historical or modern mapping. <i>Walkover</i> The farmstead survives as a rectangular ruin with two compartments. The width of the wall separating the two compartments measures 1.52m. The interior of the smaller compartment on the SW side measures 7m in the length and 1.96m in width. It is made of stone walls with a maximum height of 0.5m and minimum height of 0.26m. The possible entrance lies on the SSE side and measures 1.5m in width. The NE walls are more prominent and the SW more ephemeral although still visible. All the walls measure under 0.3m.	NT 61760 50810	
S5	Shaw's Plantation Quarry	Canmore ID: D&GHER:	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A circular feature located northeast of Mill of Plunton (S1) is depicted on the 1 st ed Ordnance Survey map as 'Old Quarry'. It was not shown on the 2 nd Ordnance Survey, nor on any modern mapping. It is visible on LiDAR imagery. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – gorse filled quarry.	NT 63072 51645	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
S6	Mill of Plunton Quarry	Canmore ID: D&GHER:	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A small sub-circular feature near the road B727, northeast of Mill of Plunton (S1) is visible on the 1 st Ordnance Survey map and labelled as 'Old Quarry'. It is not visible on any other mapping. It is identifiable on LiDAR imagery. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – gorse filled quarry.	NT 62845 51519	
S7	Mill of Plunton Cottage Quarry	Canmore ID: D&GHER:	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A small irregular feature is visible on the 1 st Ordnance Survey maps. It is not visible on LiDAR or any other historical or modern mapping. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – gorse filled quarry.	NT 62720 51770	
S8	Corsewood Drum Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177363 D&GHER: MDG15731	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> One of two small roofless rectangular structures marked 'ruin; which are shown on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map to the SW of Corsewood Drum Farmstead. It is not visible on any other historical or modern mapping or LiDAR imagery. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey, in an area of rough pasture area much overgrown with gorse.	NT 62083 50479	
S9	Corsewood Drum Farmstead	Canmore ID: 177363 D&GHER: MDG15731	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> One of two small roofless rectangular structures marked 'ruin; which are shown on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map to the SW of Corsewood Drum Farmstead. It is not visible on any other historical or modern mapping or LiDAR imagery. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – rough pasture area overgrown with gorse.	NT 62066 50459	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
S10	Mill of Plunton Bridge Structure	Canmore ID: 177341 D&GHER: MDG15709	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A small unroofed structure marked as 'ruin' on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map. It is not shown on any other historical or modern mapping. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – rough pasture area.	NT 62820 51820	
S11	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	N/a	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> An enclosure bank running along the southeast area of Mill of Plunton is marked on the 1 st Ordnance Survey as 'Old Fence'. This does not show up on any other historical or modern mapping. It is not visible on LiDAR or on aerial photographs. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – in an area of rough pasture with a modern track which has been constructed in its place.	NT 62761 51399 NT 62633 51347	
S12	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	N/a	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> An enclosure bank running along the northwest area of Mill of Plunton is marked on the 1 st Ordnance Survey as 'Old Fence'. This does not show up on any other historical or modern mapping. It is not visible on LiDAR or on aerial photographs. <i>Walkover</i> Not visible on survey – in its place lies a modern fence line.	NT 62579 51520 NT 62558 51460	
S13	Corsewood Drum Field Bank Building	N/a	<i>Desk Based Assessment</i> An enclosure bank running from southwest to northeast in the proximity of Corsewood Drum farmstead is visible on LiDAR. This enclosure bank possibly relates to the Corsewood Drum rectangular enclosure found on the 1 st Ordnance Survey map and also incorporates the S wall of a roofed rectangular structure shown on the 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map which forms part of Corsewood Drum farm S2 . It is not shown on any other historical or modern mapping. <i>Walkover</i> S13.1 The feature survives as a turf bank with inclusions of stone and a sheer face that falls to the SE side. The bank has a length of 20m, a width of 1.7m and a height of 0.4m. No visible trace of the earlier rectangular building survives. S13.2 This feature survives as a turf bank truncated by a modern track. The bank has a length of 13.9m, a width of 1.7m and a maximum height of 0.8m.	S13.1 NT 62103 50496 NT 62088 50484 S13.2 NT 62085 50505 NT 62078 50494	

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
					
S14	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	N/a	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A rectangular enclosure abuts the southwest side of farmstead (S3) farmstead. on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. It is also visible on LiDAR. It is not shown on any other historical or modern mapping.</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> An 'L' shaped bank was visible during the survey. The bank was truncated by a track and exists partially covered by gorse. The bank runs for a total of 42.7m in length and 1.75m in width.</p>	NT 62595 51273	
S15	Corsewood Drum Field Bank	N/a	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A field enclosure boundary running from north to south identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. It is not visible on any other historical or modern mapping. It is not visible on aerial or LiDAR.</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> The bank is partially covered by tussocks of grass and damaged through the planting of three trees upon it and the creation of a track passing through it. There is a possible fence line that runs along the side of the bank.</p>	NT 62280 51162 NT 62310 51092	 

No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
S16	Corsewood Drum Pond Quarry (possible)	N/a	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> A possible penannular enclosure was spotted on LiDAR. It measures 10m NW-SE by 12m transversely, with an opening to the east. This circular feature is also visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey but is not given a name or way of identifying it. It is not visible on any other historical or modern mapping.</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> A pool of water currently occupies this location, indicating a depression within the landscape, in a location comparable with the possible enclosure. The feature may represent an unmarked quarry or gravel pit which has become flooded.</p>	NT 62318 50838	
S17	Corsewood Drum Field Banks	N/a	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> -</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> Possible field turf banks were found on walkover survey. All three banks consisted of turf and grass. S17.1 measured 90m in length and 1m in width. S17.2 measured 17m in length and 1.1m in width. S17.3 measured 30m in length and 1m in width.</p>	<p>S17.1 NT 62142 51061 NT 62057 51019</p> <p>S17.2 NT 62024 51022 NT 62037 51009</p> <p>S17.3 NT 62011 50990 NT 62021 51019</p>	  



No	Site	HER Ref:	Description	NGR	Images from Site Inspection
S18	Corsewood Drum Clearance Cairn	N/a:	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> -</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> A clearance cairn was found on the walkover survey consisting of hand sized stones covered in moss and trees growing out of it. Possibly connected to the field banks S17. It measures 4.9m SW to NE and 2.3m NW to SE.</p>	NT 62042 51026	
S19	Mill of Plunton Quarry	N/a	<p><i>Desk Based Assessment</i> -</p> <p><i>Walkover</i> A quarry was discovered out on the field walkover filled with large to medium stones and patches of gorse growing in it. It measured 7.6m W – E and 10.3 N – S.</p>	NT 62606 51525	

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

No	NGR	Block Form	Visibility	Boundaries	Sequence & Relationships	Rig Orientation & Topography	Rig & Furrow Dimensions	Rig Morphology
A	NT 61991 50983	0.182 ha	Visible in LiDAR survey and walkover survey, Partially obscured by vegetation.	None	None	Aligned NW-SE. Running on level ground, perpendicular to field bank S17 to the immediate SE.	5m mid rig to mid rig. Maximum length of 30m and a minimum length of 18m.	Straight rig

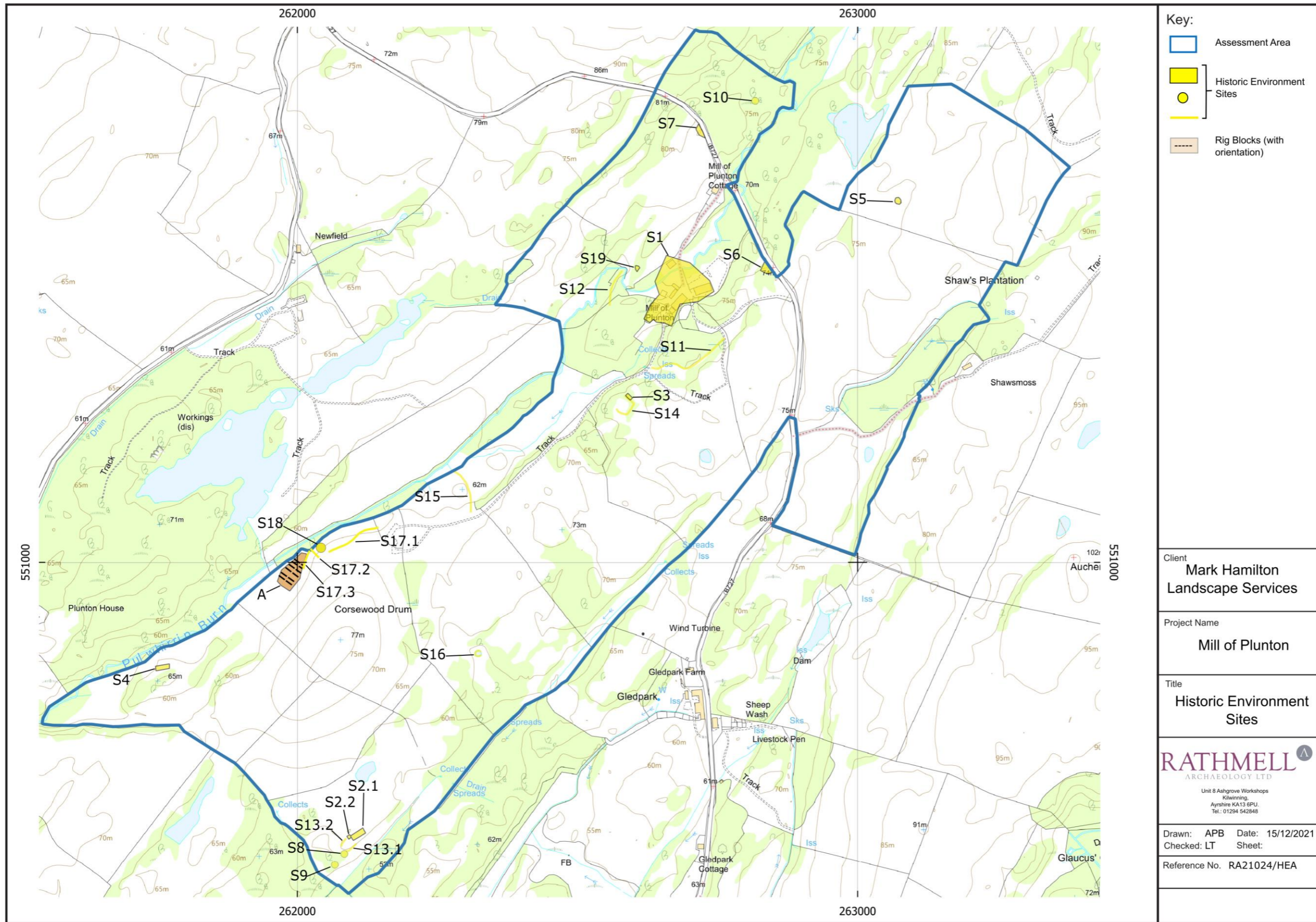


Figure 2: Plan of Historic Environment Sites and assessment area

44. Quarry **S19** was also identified on the walkover survey, located near **S12** and consisting of piles of sub-angular large stones almost obscured by gorse. Their exposed and irregular character suggested a modern date for these features.
45. One block of rig (Rig Block A) was identified on the walkover and its presence confirmed by LiDAR imagery. It was located in an area of grazed pasture where visible traces of rig and furrow cultivation could be identified in the field.

Management Guidance

46. The assessment identified nineteen historic sites within the Mill of Plunton assessment area. Not all sites are of equal merit or have equal potential to contribute to the comprehension of the Historic Environment. A fourfold significance is used to reflect the scale of contribution running, from high to low, as National, Regional, Local and Other, where Other denotes a minimal significance. Presented below is our guidance on how we recommend the known historic environment sites should be treated within any Forest Design Plan (summarised in Table 3).
47. Mill of Plunton Farmstead **S1** is an example of a historic farmstead which has its origins prior to 1854. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space.
48. Corsewood Drum Farmstead **S2** is another example of a historic farmstead which has its origins prior to 1854. At the time of the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854), this farmstead was already marked as a 'ruin'. Due to this it has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space.
49. Mill of Plunton Farmstead **S3** is another example of a historic farmstead which has its origins prior to 1854. At the time of the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854), this farmstead was already marked as a 'ruin'. Although it was not visible on the walkover as it was in an area overgrown with gorse, elements of the structure may still survive as upstanding features. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space. Careful clearance of the gorse over the extent of the structure is recommended in order to expose any surviving elements and help prevent further damage of buried sub-surface features.
50. Plunton Mains Farmstead **S4** was recorded on the 1st Ordnance Survey map as a small structure and not mentioned on any map thereafter. It is an example of 19th century structure and contributes to the historical and archaeological understanding of the landscape. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer, (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space. Quarries **S5**, **S6** and **S7** were marked on the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854). Only **S5** and **S6** are visible on LiDAR. None of these quarries were visible on the walkover due to overgrown gorse and other vegetation. They have been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
51. Corsewood Drum Farmstead **S8**, was recorded on the 1st Ordnance Survey map as a 'ruin,' where it comprised one of two outlying structures located to the SW of (and possibly associated) Corsewood Drum Farmstead **S2**. It is another example of a historic agricultural building which has origins prior to 1854. Although not visible on the walkover as it was in an area overgrown with gorse, elements of the structure may still survive as upstanding features. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space. Careful clearance of the gorse over

the extent of the structure and in its immediate proximity is recommended in order to expose any surviving elements and help prevent further damage of buried sub-surface features.

52. Corsewood Drum Farmstead **S9**, was also recorded on the 1st Ordnance Survey map as a 'ruin'. It is another example of a historic farmstead which has origins prior to 1854. Although it was not visible on the walkover as it was in an area overgrown with gorse, elements of the structure may still survive as upstanding features. It has been ascribed Local significance and should be **protected** with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites) and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space. Careful clearance of the gorse over the extent of the structure and in its immediate proximity is recommended in order to expose any surviving elements and help prevent further damage of buried sub-surface features.
53. Mill of Plunton Bridge Structure **S10**, depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map, has origins in the earlier part of the 19th century. It was not visible on the walkover in an area of rough grazing, with no remains of any structure or ruin in the location. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
54. Of the two Mill of Plunton Field Bank **S11**, Mill of Plunton Field Bank **S12**, none of these features were identified on the walkover due to area of rough pasture, and overgrown gorse and other vegetation. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
55. Corsewood Drum Field Bank **S13** was identified on the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854) and is visible both on LiDAR and aerial photographs. It survives as an upstanding feature, abutting the remains of farmstead **S2**, and as such it contributes to the historic character of the landscape. It may also incorporate elements of a rectangular farm building shown on the Ordnance Survey map, which – although no longer surviving as an upstanding feature, may retain buried features which could provide information relating to its occupation and use. It should be protected with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites), and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space.
56. Mill of Plunton Field Bank **S14** was first identified on the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854) and noticed on LiDAR and aerial photographs. It survives as an upstanding feature, abutting the remains of farmstead **S3**, and as such it contributes to the historic character of the landscape It should be protected with a 10m buffer (as per recommendations of Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service regarding medieval and later rural settlement sites), and retained within a managed clearing which is maintained as open space.
57. Corsewood Drum Field Boundary **S15** was first spotted on the 1st Ordnance Survey (1854) but was not identified during the field walkover. The feature is likely to have been destroyed through later land use. It does not contribute to historic landscape character. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
58. Corsewood Drum pond and quarry (possible) **S16** was identified on LiDAR. It is not mentioned on any historical mapping and is possibly a waterfilled quarry or gravel pit. It does not contribute to historic landscape character. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
59. Corsewood Drum Field Banks **S17** it is not visible on LiDAR or aerial photography. It is not mentioned on any historical mapping. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
60. Corsewood Drum Clearance Cairn **S18**, is partially visible on LiDAR. It is not mentioned on the 1st or 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. It does not contribute to the historical character of the landscape. It has been ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.
61. Mill of Plunton Quarry **S19**, is visible on LiDAR but it is not mentioned on any historical mapping. It does not contribute to the historical character of the landscape. It has been

ascribed Other significance and **no action** is recommended.

62. One area of rig-and-furrow cultivation was identified during the course of the survey. The cultivation rigs were visible as upstanding features and hence survived in good condition. However, the limited extent of these features meant that they represented only a fragment of what may once have been a more extensive field system, and the character of the rig (straight rig) also suggested that these cultivation remains had relatively recent origins. The levels of recording undertaken during the survey are considered appropriate in this instance, and the rig-block should be viewed as being of Other significance, with **no action** recommended.

Table 2: Management Guidance for Historic Environment Sites

No	Site	Significance	Management Guidance	UKFS HE Guidelines
S1	Mill of Plunton Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S1 represents a well-preserved 19 th century structure and it therefore contributes to historic landscape character. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S2	Corsewood Drum Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S2 represents a ruined structure that dates prior to 1854 and it therefore contributes to historical landscape character. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S3	Mill of Plunton Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S3 represents a historic farmstead which predates 1854. It contributes to historic landscape character and should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S4	Plunton Mains Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S4 was a moderately well-preserved historic farmstead which predates 1854. It contributes to historic landscape character and should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S5	Shaw's Plantation Quarry	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S6	Mill of Plunton Quarry	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S7	Mill of Plunton Cottage Quarry	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S8	Corsewood Drum Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S8 represents a ruined structure that dates prior to 1854. If cleared of obscuring vegetation, it has the potential to contribute to historical landscape character, and there may also be buried features present which have the potential to inform our understanding of occupation and land use during the 19 th century. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space. Careful clearance of gorse from the site itself and its immediate	GFPR 1 SFM 11

			proximity is recommended.	
S9	Corsewood Drum Old Farmstead	Local	The farmstead S9 represents a ruined structure that dates prior to 1854. If cleared of obscuring vegetation, it has the potential to contribute to historical landscape character, and there may also be buried features present which have the potential to inform our understanding of occupation and land use during the 19 th century. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space. Careful clearance of gorse from the site itself and its immediate proximity is recommended.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S10	Mill of Plunton Bridge Structure	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S11	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S12	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S13	Corsewood Drum Field Bank Building	Local	The bank S13 is associated with farmstead S2 and therefore contributes to the historic character of the landscape. It also may incorporate elements of a rectangular structure which formed part of the c.1850 farmstead of Corsewood Drum. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S14	Mill of Plunton Field Bank	Local	The bank S14 is associated with farmstead S3 and therefore contributes to the historic character of the landscape. It should be protected with a 10m buffer and maintained as an open space.	GFPR 1 SFM 11
S15	Corsewood Drum Field Bank	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S16	Corsewood Drum Pond Quarry (possible)	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S17	Corsewood Drum Field Banks	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S18	Corsewood Drum Clearance Cairn	Other	No action is recommended.	-
S19	Mill of	Other	No action is recommended.	-

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

Conclusion

63. A historic environment assessment was required by Mark Hamilton Landscape Services to inform a programme of tree-planting at Mill of Plunton, near Borgue, Dumfries and Galloway. This process identified nineteen historic environment sites located within the assessment area (Table 1).
64. Our management guidance has covered protection measures for eight of these sites. These recommendations are compliant with UKFS Historic Environment Guidelines.

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