

Scotia Archaeology

REPORT
TO
CAMPBELL OF DOUNE
AND
AUCHINEDEN ESTATE

AUCHINEDEN
HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME
BLANEFIELD, STIRLINGSHIRE

Walk-over survey
September 2014

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INTRODUCTION

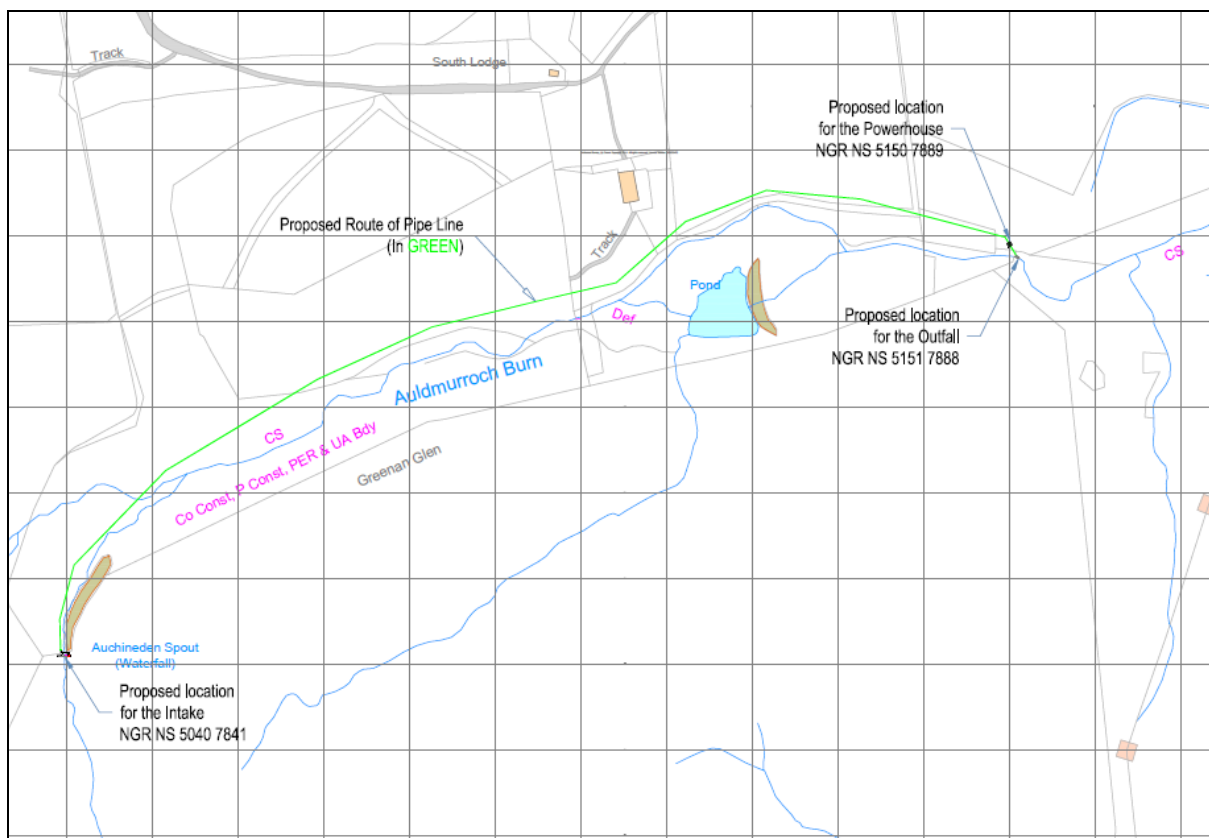
This report describes the results of a desk study of archaeological sites and monuments and a subsequent walk-over survey along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme at Auchineden, near Blanefield, Stirlingshire. The survey was carried out by Scotia Archaeology at the request of Campbell of Doune, civil and structural engineers, and commissioned by Auchineden Estate.

THE SITE

The proposed hydro scheme will take water from the Auldmurroch Burn which runs off the east side of the Kilpatrick Hills, some 5km west of Blanefield and 5km north of Milngavie.

The intake will be at approximately NS 5040 7841, from where the penstock will run eastwards as far as the power house at NS 5150 7089, the outfall returning into the burn at NS 5151 7888. The overall length of the penstock will be approximately 1.4km.

A location map, based on one supplied by Campbell of Doune and depicting the area of proposed development, is shown below.



Location of Auchineden hydro-electric scheme

THE DESK STUDY

A desk study of readily available source material undertaken prior to the commencement of fieldwork revealed no known sites of archaeological or historical significance along or close to the route of the proposed pipeline.

THE WALK-OVER SURVEY

The survey was undertaken by John Lewis of Scotia Archaeology on 22 September 2014 during warm, dry weather. It encompassed the area between the burn and a notional line some 100m north of the proposed route of the penstock.

From the intake, the route passes through a shallow gorge for a short distance before running along gently sloping ground through a small deciduous wood and coarse vegetation including grass, reeds and bracken. The latter covered the west end section of the penstock during the walk-over survey.

No structures or features of archaeological or historical significance were encountered during the survey.

CONCLUSIONS

The survey revealed nothing of archaeological interest although it should be noted that some of the survey area was covered with high bracken which masked any features that might lie in that area.