

**Newton Stewart  
Scottish Water Solutions Pipeline  
Archaeological Field Inspection Report**

**Prepared for:** Scottish Water Solutions  
Watermark  
Alba Campus  
Livingston  
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EH54 7HH

**AOC Archaeology Project No:** 20513

**National grid reference:** NX 4040 6540 to NX 2099 5766  
NX 4131 6454 to NX 4236 6274  
NX 4605 6653 to NX 4525 6342

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**Date:** June 2007

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0 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 0.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological field inspection after topsoil stripping associated with the development of three new water pipelines between, and east of, Newton Stewart and Glenluce, Dumfries and Galloway (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by Scottish Water Solutions.
- 0.2 Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service requested an inspection after topsoil stripping along the route of the proposed pipelines in order to assess the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area and to identify areas which should be subject to further archaeological investigation prior to construction work.
- 0.3 The inspection and watching brief was undertaken on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2007. This involved inspection of a stripped section of easement along part of the Shennanton to Ardachie pipeline corridor and monitoring of topsoil stripping on an area to be used as a compound along part of the Glenluce to Ladyburn pipeline corridor.

1 INTRODUCTION

**1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Scottish Water Solutions to undertake an archaeological field inspection after topsoil stripping, and a watching brief on topsoil stripping, during groundworks associated with the construction of three new water pipelines between and east of Newton Stewart and Glenluce, Dumfries and Galloway. The work is in accord with NPPG 5 (SOEnD 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnD 1994a) in order to determine the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains along the route of the proposed pipelines.

**1.2 Site location**

- 1.2.1 The proposed pipelines are located in the vicinity of Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway. The first stretch of pipeline runs for 25 km between Glenluce and Newton Stewart (NX 4040 6540 to NX 2099 5766). It largely follows the course of the A75 from Newton Stewart in the north-east to Glenluce in the south-west, though occasionally deviating from the modern road where it follows the course of a military road running to the north of, but generally parallel to, the A75. The course of this stretch of pipeline runs through improved agricultural land, unimproved land, afforested areas and along the road corridor (Figure 1). The second stretch of pipeline runs from Newton Stewart to Carty for an approximate distance of 2 km (NX 4131 6454 to NX 4236 6274) along the course of the A714. The proposed route begins at the roundabout at the junction of the A714 and the A75 and runs south to Carty and along the road corridor, in arable agricultural land (Figure

1). The third stretch of pipeline runs for approximately 3 km from Bargaly to Palnure (NX 4605 6653 to NX 4525 6342) and follows the road from Bargaly Farm in the north and ends in the village of Palnure, along the A75, in the south (Figure 1). It crosses Palnure Burn several times and runs through improved agricultural land and forested areas.

### **1.3 Archaeological background**

1.3.1 Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service carried out a desk-based assessment (Nicholson 2007) to identify archaeological features that may be impacted upon by the proposed pipelines (ref: EP/COA/2/2007/Feb). A range of features ranging in date from the prehistoric through to the modern period were identified. A walkover survey of the pipeline route was carried out by AOC Archaeology earlier this year and identified a number of known and previously unknown archaeological features (Oleksy 2007).

## **2 OBJECTIVES**

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological inspection and watching brief were to:

- i)* identify and record the nature and extent of any archaeological remains known to exist along the proposed pipeline;
- ii)* identify and record any hitherto unknown archaeological remains that may be encountered.
- iii)* to recommend, in consultation with Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service, areas which will require further archaeological work before the construction of the pipeline.

## **3 METHOD**

3.1 A section along part of the Pipeline 1 corridor had been topsoil stripped without archaeological supervision (Figure 1). This comprised a short stretch from the Shennanton crossroads westwards towards Ardachie. This was inspected for archaeological features. An area of rubble stone was visible at the western end of this stripped area. The area monitored by the watching brief concerned an area along part of the Glenluce to Ladyburn pipeline corridor. Here whinstone filled field drains, a plastic field drain and a gully drain were recorded.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Pipeline 1 (Part of): Shennanton-Ardachie**

1.4.1 This part of the pipeline corridor had been subject to topsoil stripping without archaeological supervision. An area of rubble stone was visible at the western end of this area (Figure 2, Plate 1). This consisted of an amorphous spread of large and medium sized stones that had been partially

disturbed by tree root penetration and covered an area *circa* 8 m long by 6 m wide. The easement had been traversed repeatedly by tracked vehicles which made it impossible to tell whether more discreet features survived along this part of the pipeline corridor.

#### **4.2 Pipeline 1 (Part of): Glenluce-Ladyburn**

4.2.1 An area measuring 31.4 by 34.0 m was monitored during topsoil stripping of a compound along this part of the pipeline corridor. Here whinstone filled rubble drains, aligned north-west to south-east, were recorded along with a shallow gully drain, a plastic drain was also visible (Figure 3, Plate 2). No significant archaeological features were encountered.

### **5 CONCLUSION**

5.1 It is unclear what the rubble spread recorded along the Shennanton to Ardachie pipeline corridor represents. It may be a clearance cairn or the remnant of a demolished field boundary. Given the proximity of the cairn at Shennanton it cannot be discounted that this may be similar in nature. It is therefore recommended that further ground breaking works in this area, ie during cutting of the pipe trench, are monitored by a watching brief.

6 REFERENCES

Nicholson, Andrew 2007 *Scottish Water Solutions Barclay to Palnure Pipeline Scheme: Desk-based Assessment* Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service Unpublished Report (ref: EP/COA/2/2007/Feb)

Oleksy, Vicky 2007 *Newton Stewart, Scottish Water Solutions Pipeline Walkover Survey, Data Structure Report* Unpublished report

SOEnD 1994 *National Planning Policy Guideline 5, Archaeology and Planning*. Scottish Office Environment Department.

SOEnD 1994a *Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology and Planning*. Scottish Office Environment Department

NEWTON STEWART, SCOTTISH WATER SOLUTIONS PIPELINE: FIELD INSPECTION REPORT

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Digital Photo Number	Description	Taken from
1-2	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	West
3-4	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	East
5	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	West
6-8	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	East
9	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	South-east
10-11	Gulley and rubble drains at Glenluce	North
12-14	General view of stripped area at Glenluce	South
15-16	General view of stripped area at Glenluce	North
17	Detail surface of unsupervised topsoil strip at Shennanton	North
18-19	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	East
20	General view of rubble spread at Shennanton	South-west
21-22	General view of removed part of rubble spread at Shennanton	North
23	General view of stripped easement at Shennanton	West

APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Dumfries and Galloway Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Barclye to Palnure Pipeline Scheme
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 20513
<b>PARISH:</b>	Penninghame, Kirkcowan, Old Luce and Minnigaff
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Alan Hunter Blair
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Field inspection after topsoil strip
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	n/a
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Various
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	n/a
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NGR: NX 4040 6540 to NX 2099 5766, NX 4131 6454 to NX 4236 6274, & NX 4525 6342 to NX 4605 6653
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> June 2007
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> June 2007
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	AOC Archaeology Group undertook an archaeological inspection after topsoil stripping during the development of 3 new water pipelines between, and east of, Newton Stewart and Glenluce, Dumfries and Galloway. A rubble spread was visible along part of the Shennanton to Ardachie pipeline corridor. Whinstone filled rubble drains and a gully drain were recorded on part of the Glenluce to Ladyburn section
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	n/a
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Scottish Water
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	admin@aocscot.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.



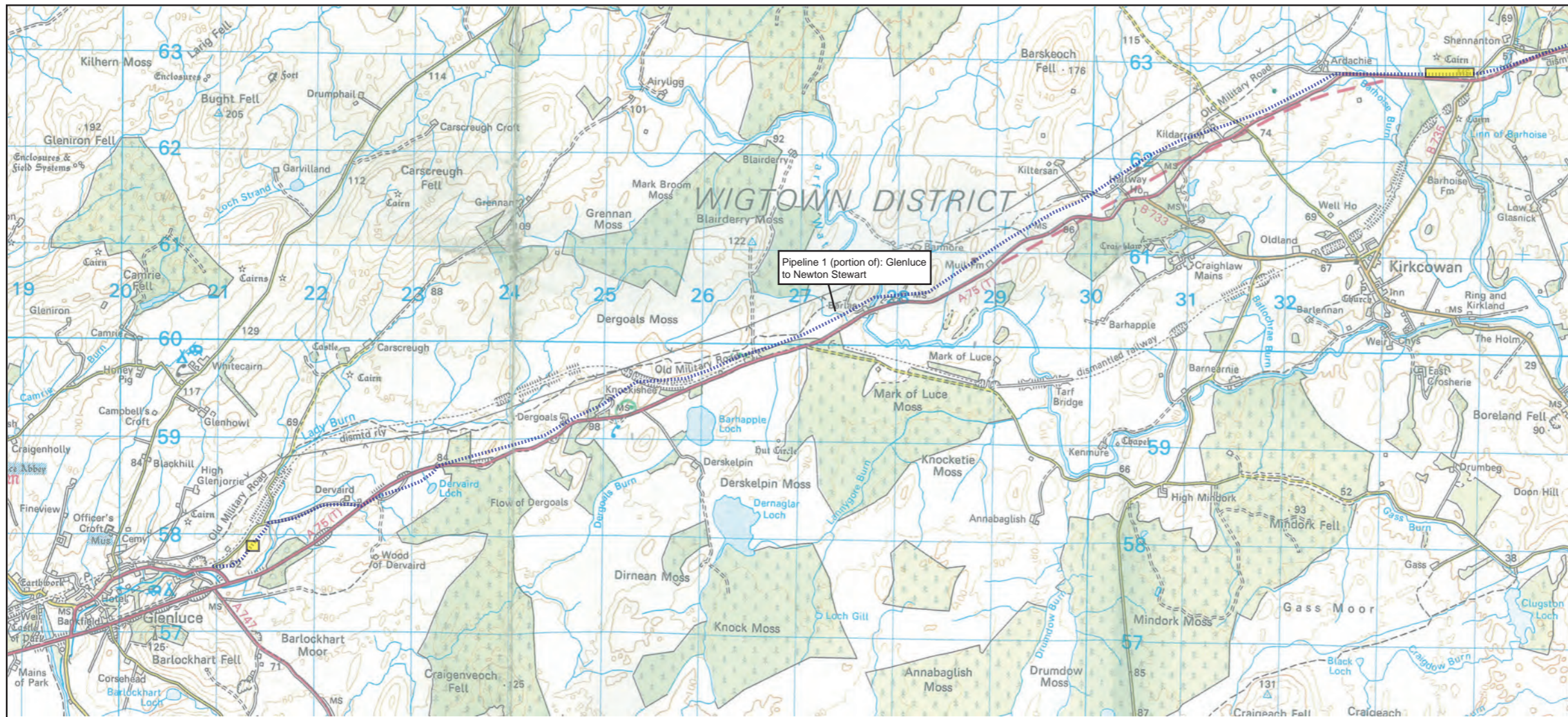
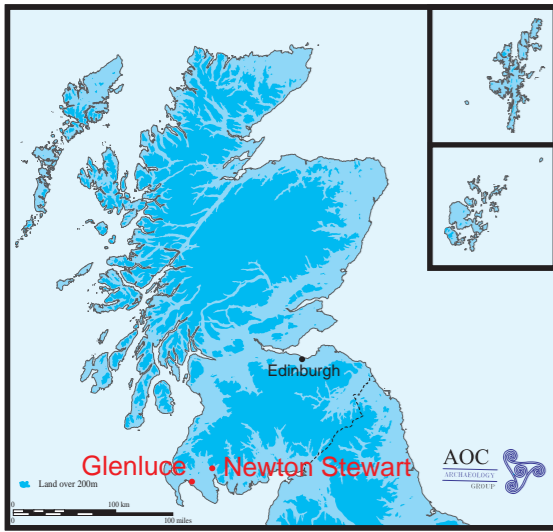
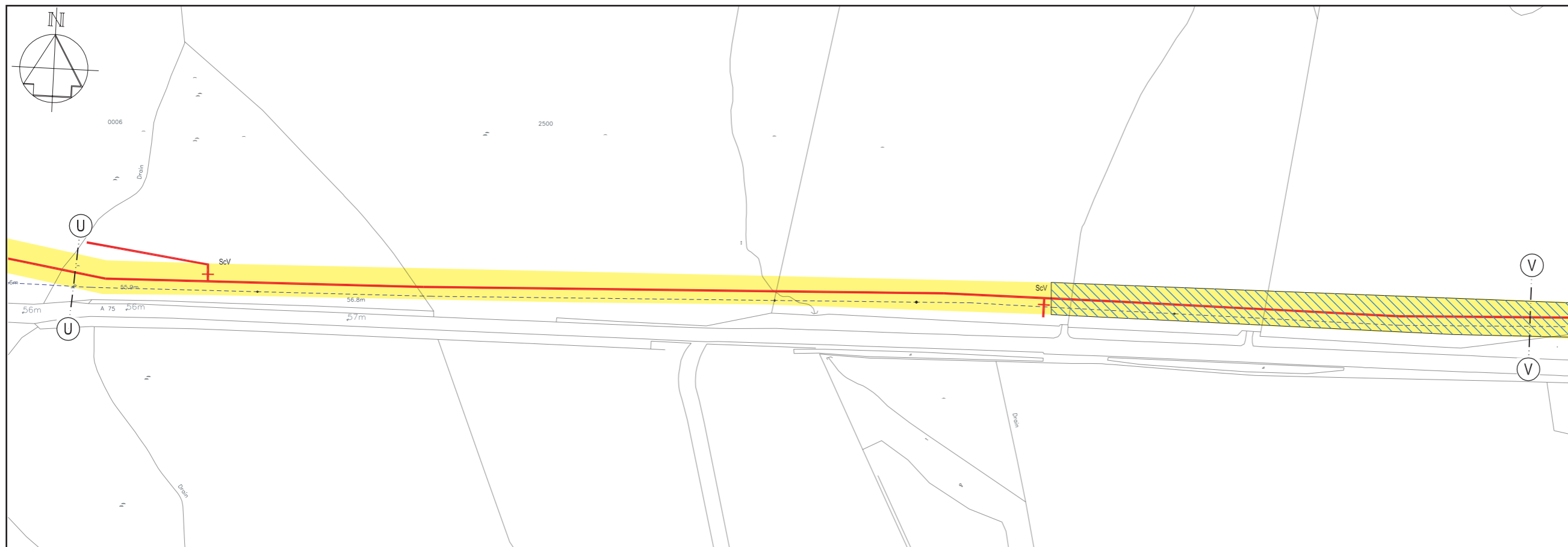


Figure 1: Site Location

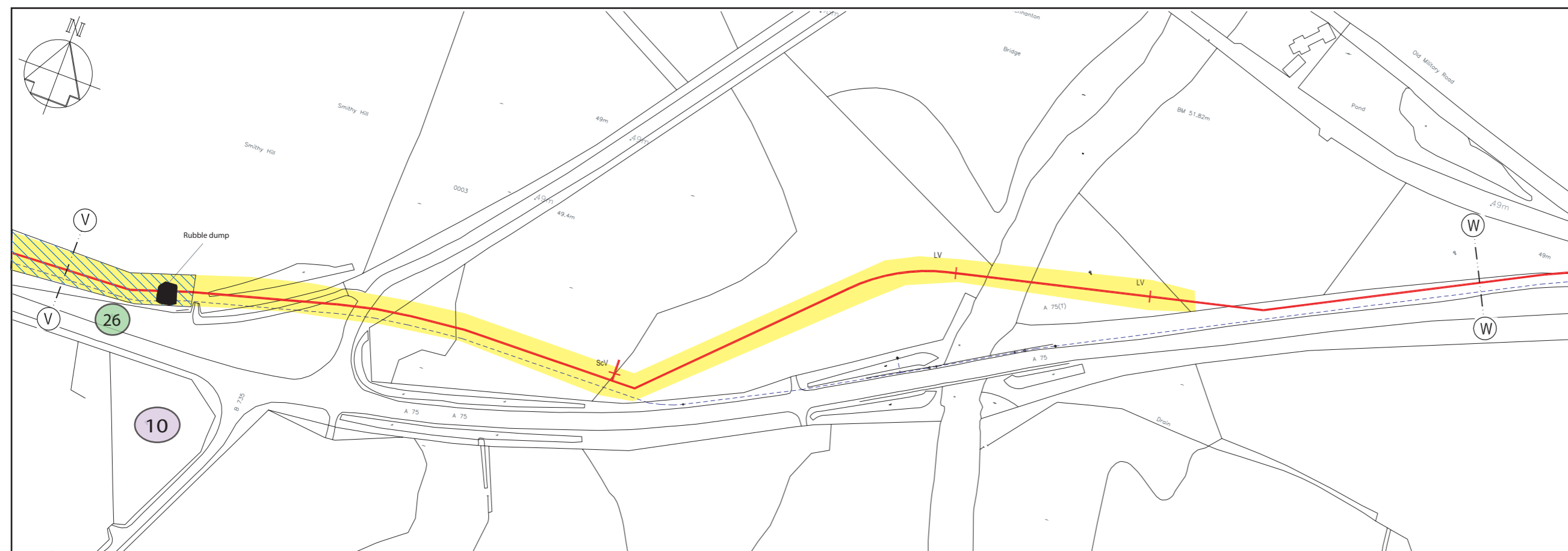


PLAN VIEW (Pipeline Section U-V)  
Scale 1:1250

- Notes:  
1. All dimensions in millimetres and all levels in metres AOD unless shown otherwise.
- Legend:
- Proposed Piperoote
  - - - Existing Distribution Mains
  - Working Area Boundary
  - 5 Site of archaeological interest identified by the Desk-based Assessment
  - 27 Site of archaeological interest identified during the Walkover Survey
  - Watching Brief recommended
  - Area inspected
  - Approximate position of rubble stone

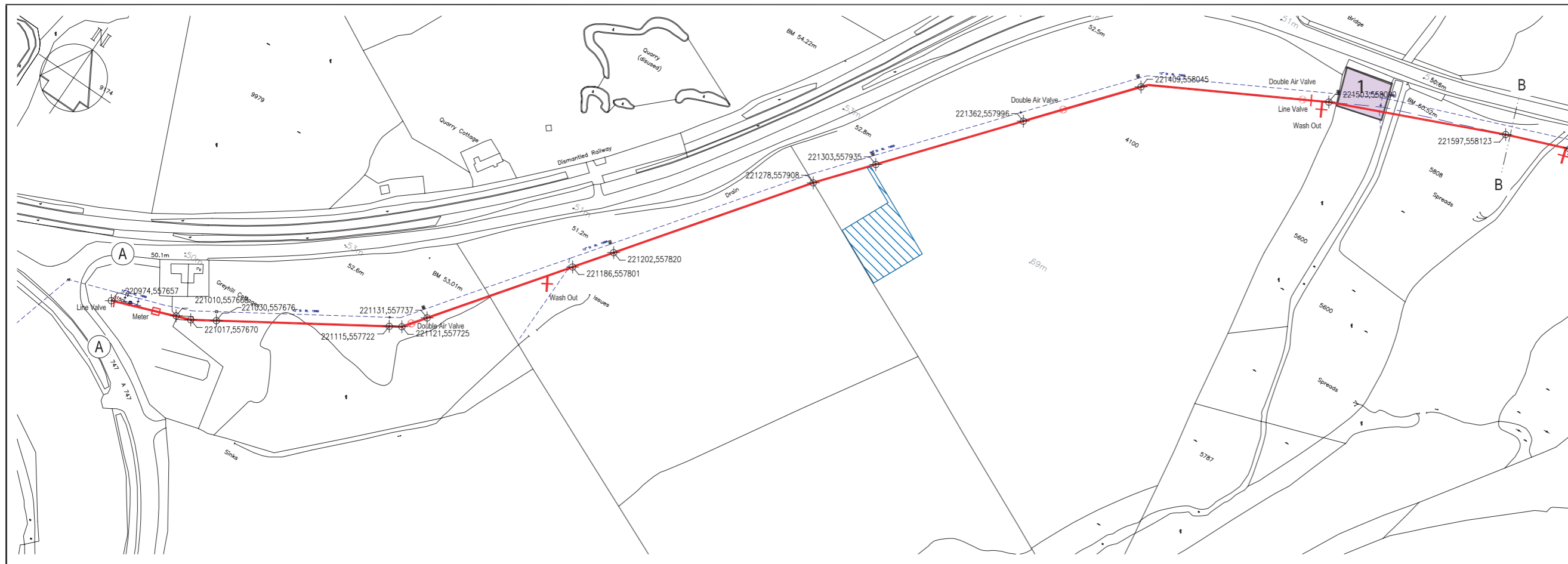
SCALE 1 : 1250 (Horizontal)  
50m 0 50m

Figure 2: Areas subject to archaeological investigation, following an unmonitored topsoil strip



PLAN VIEW (Pipeline Section V-W)  
Scale 1:1250

Drawings based on maps supplied by Scottish Water Solutions



PLAN VIEW (Pipeline Section A B)

- Notes:  
 1. All dimensions in millimetres and all levels in metres AOD unless shown otherwise.
- Legend:
- Proposed Pipework
  - Existing Distribution Mains
  - Working Area Boundary
  - 5 Site of archaeological interest identified by the Desk-based Assessment
  - 27 Site of archaeological interest identified during the Walkover Survey
  - Watching Brief recommended
  - Area monitored during topsoil strip

SCALE 1 : 1250 (Horizontal)  
 50m 0 50m

Figure 3: Area subject to an archaeological watching brief during top soil stripping



Plate 1: Rubble stone along the Shennanton to Ardachie pipeline corridor from the west



Plate 2: Whinstone filled rubble and gully drain in area monitored during topsoil strip along Glenluce to Ladyburn stretch from the northwest