

CBBS12/001

CAMBUSBARRON

STIRLING

*Desk based assessment*

*On behalf of Hallam Land Management and CEG Land Promotions limited*

*November 2012*



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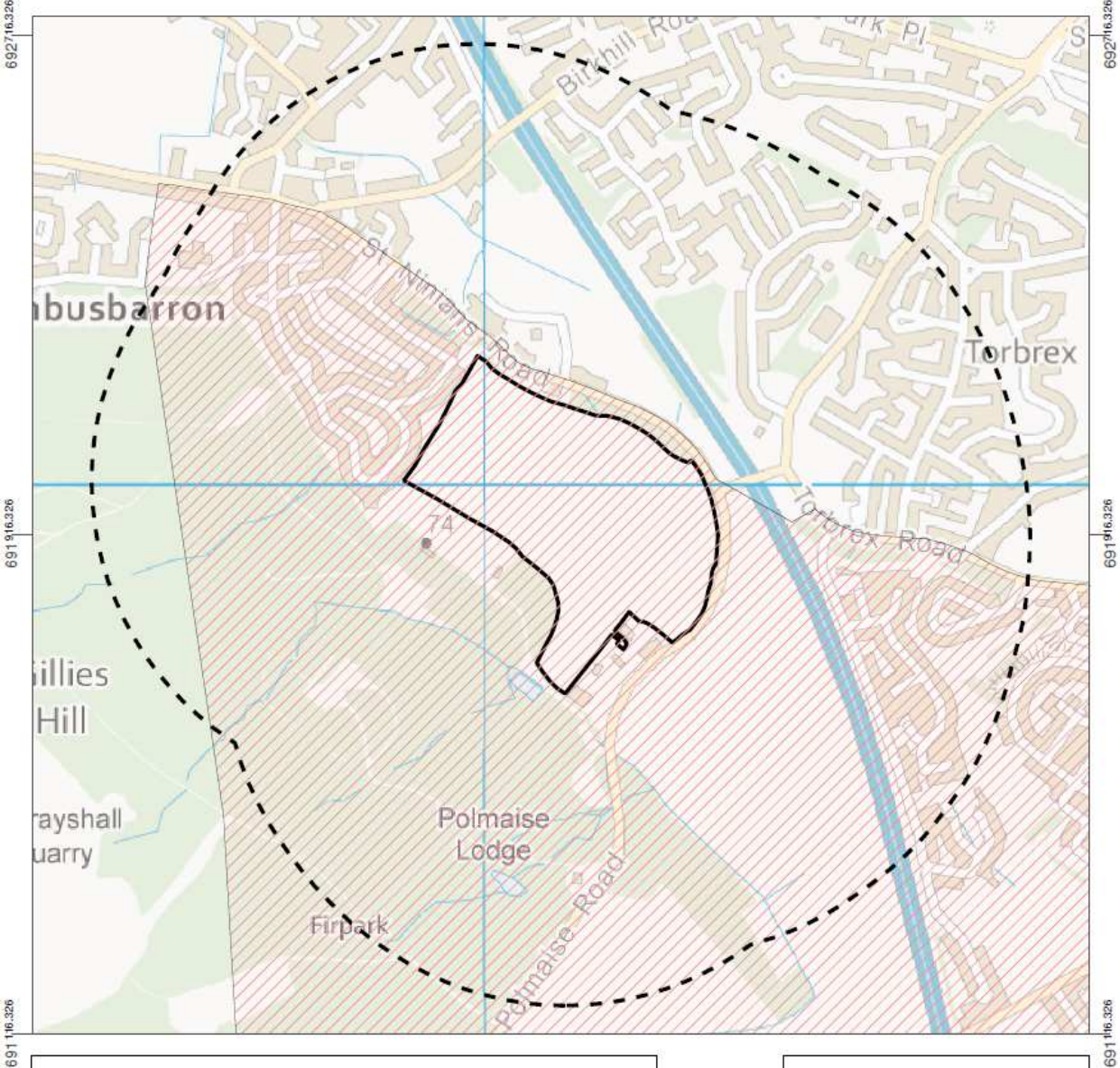
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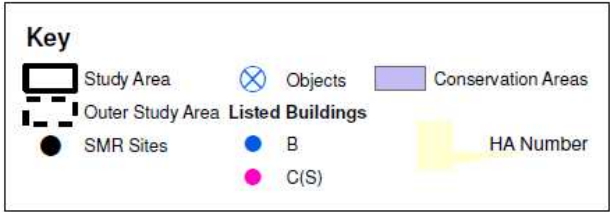
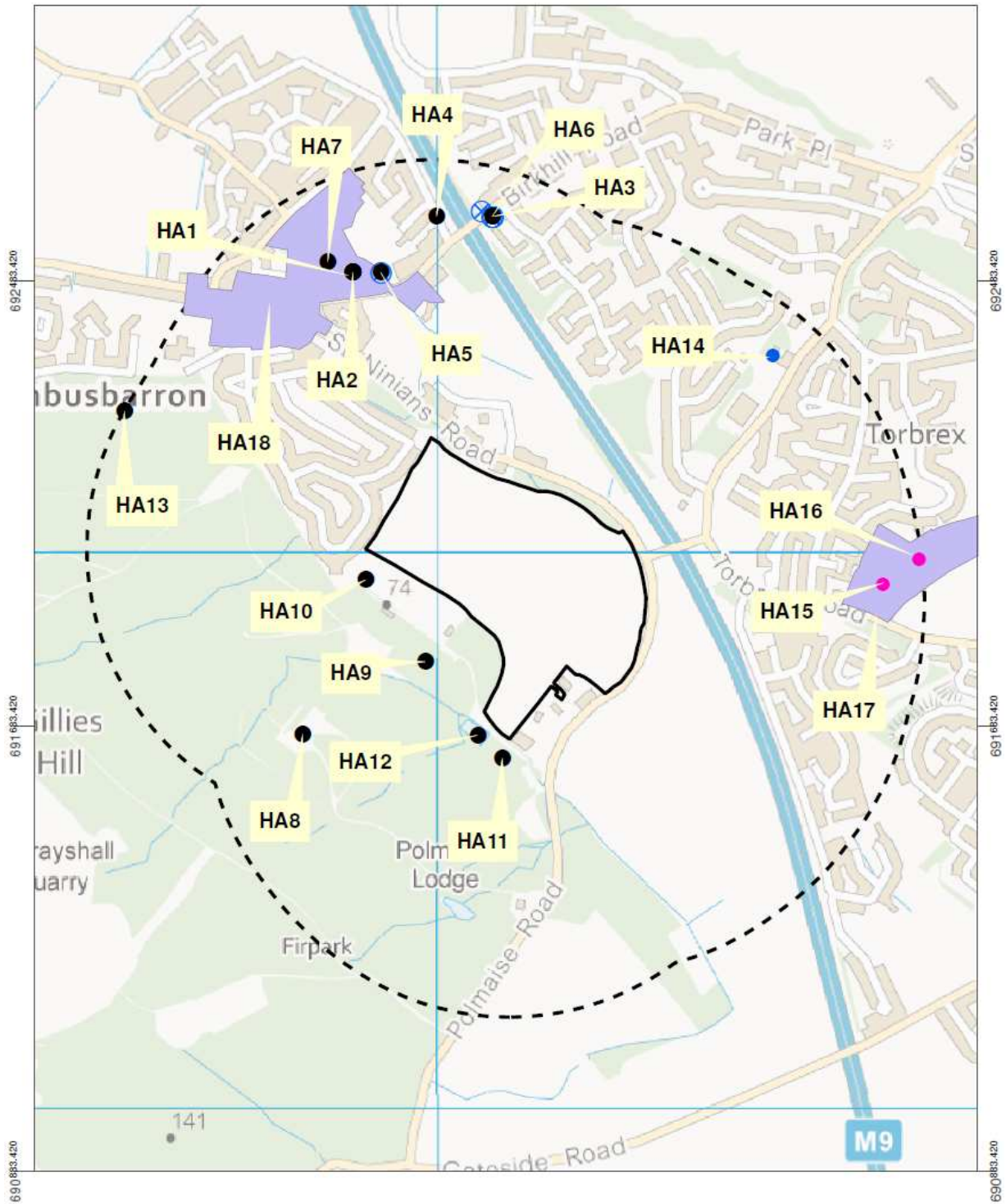
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**Key**

 Study Area	 Battlefields Inventory Area
 Outer Study Area	

**Figure 1**  
**Study Area**



**Figure 2**  
**Cultural Heritage Assets**  
**within the Study Area**

# CAMBUSBARRON, STIRLING

## Desk based assessment

*This report presents the results of a desk-based assessment of land at Cambusbarron, Stirling. It has been prepared for Hallam Land Management Ltd and CEG Land Promotions Ltd. The area lies within the designated area of the Battle of Bannockburn, listed within Historic Scotland's Inventory of Historic Battlefields, and considered to be of national importance. Previous archaeological investigation, conducted around the study area, has not identified any surviving remains associated with the battle. No other designated or undesignated assets are recorded within the study area. The presence of the battle site together with a further 18 designated and undesignated Heritage Assets within a 500m radius of the study area suggest there is a low to moderate potential for the study area to contain previously unrecorded archaeological remains; though to be predominantly of local importance.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Hallam Land Management Ltd and CEG Land Promotions Ltd to carry out a desk-based assessment of undeveloped land immediately to the south-east of the village of Cambusbarron, Stirling.

Designated assets have been referred to by their scheduled monument or listed building number. Undesignated assets have been referred to by an 'HA' number issued in the course of this study, and are listed in a gazetteer contained in Appendix A.

## 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The area under study is located to the south-east of the village of Cambusbarron, Stirling. The site currently consists of three open fields.

The site is located immediately to the south-east of the current limits of the village of Cambusbarron. It is bounded to the north-east by St Ninians Road, to the south-east by Polmaise Road, to the north-west lies residential dwellings. To the south-west the site

is bounded by woodland of Fir Park. Within the woodlands to the south is a modern cemetery at the western end and further back a post-medieval house called Polmaise Castle. A walled garden associated with this house once stood along the southern boundary of the study area.

The topography of the site is relatively flat, sloping slightly to the north. It is currently used for pasture..

## 3 AIMS & METHODOLOGY

The desk-based assessment has been undertaken in order to:

- Identify recorded assets that could be affected by any proposed development; and
- Identify the potential for previously unrecorded assets to be present.

Two concentric areas (Figure 1) have been used in assembling and presenting the data:

- Study Area
- Outer Study Area: this extends 500m from the study area and has been used to gather

- background data to inform assessment of the study area’s archaeological potential.

The following sources were consulted:

- Databases of designated assets maintained by Historic Scotland;
- Archaeological records held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCHAMS) and National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS);
- Archaeological records held within Stirling Council’s Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), managed by the Stirling Council Archaeologist
- Historic Land-use Assessment map produced by RCAHMS;
- Historic maps and plans held at the National Library of Scotland;
- Other readily available published sources.

Relevant assets or records are located on the accompanying plans (Figures 1 and 2) and listed in Appendix A. All records, previously recorded by the SMR are depicted on Figure 2.

No site visit has been undertaken.

With regards to the Battle of Bannockburn, this assessment has taken Historic Scotland’s Inventory documentation as the most up-to-date version of events.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 General Background

Only one cultural heritage asset, the Battle of Bannockburn, has been recorded within the study area and this is considered to be of national importance. This is discussed in detail in section 4.4.1.

No archaeological investigations have previously taken place within the study area.

A total 16 additional Heritage Assets, including three designated assets, have been identified in the outer study area.

### 4.2 Historic Land-use Assessment

The Historic Land-use Assessment (HLA) map indicates that the study area has remained as farmland from, at least 1745, where Roy’s military survey depicts the area directly south of Cambusbarron as such. Later 19<sup>th</sup> century ordnance survey mapping continues to depict the area as fields.



Figure 3

Extract from Roy’s Military Survey 1747–55



Figure 4

Extract from OS 1896



Although the Ordnance survey mapping of 1892 depicts a track running through the eastern half of the development; from Polmaise Home Farm to the north of the study area to Bearside farm to the south of the study area. The only change in land-use observed in the historic mapping was on the 1913 OS survey which depicts south-eastern fields of the study area as ‘planned landscape’ and part of a larger park extending to the east across the Polmaise road. The later 1938 OS continues to depict the land as such but by 1947 the fields appear to have been returned to agricultural use.

Earlier mapping such as Roy’s military survey indicate that the area south of Cambusbarron was farmland during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

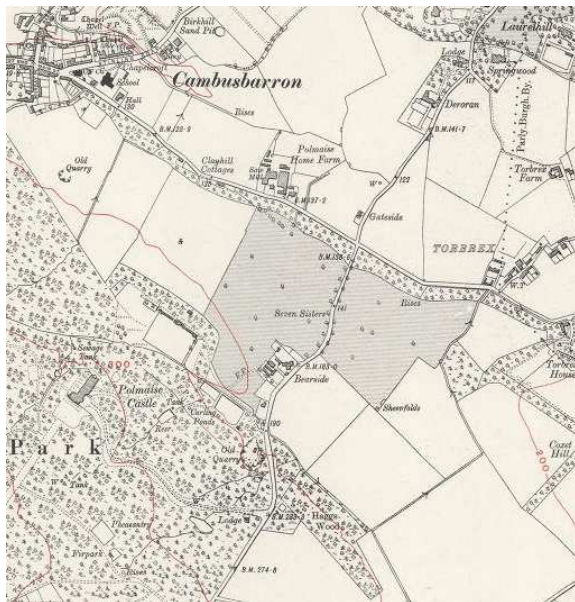


Figure 5  
Extract from OS 1913 survey

#### 4.3 Designated assets in the study area and outer study area.

Designated assets include Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Garden and Designed Landscapes Designated Battlefields or Conservation Areas. The Battle of Bannockburn is the only designated site within the study area. It is detailed in the Historic Scotland Battlefield Inventory.

A category B listed building and two category C listed buildings around Torbrex Village are within the outer study area. These are of a local

importance only. Two Conservation Areas also enter the outer study area around the villages of Cambusbarron to the north-west and Torbrex to the east.

#### 4.4 Significant sites identified

##### 4.4.1 The Battle of Bannockburn

The site of the Battle of Bannockburn is listed within Historic Scotland’s Battlefield Inventory. The entire of the study area falls within the designated Inventory area, lying to the extreme north-west of the designated battlefield. Bannockburn entered the inventory in 2011, and is described by Historic Scotland as one of the ‘most iconic battles of Scottish history’. It is generally agreed that the main action of the first day of battle occurred to the east of the study area, near the Whins of Milton, around the area on which the current battlefield visitor centre currently stands. There is less consensus over the location of the second days combat but most sources place this either around the marshy ‘Carse’ area or the firmer ground of the ‘Dryfield’ areas of Bannockburn both to the south-east and outside of the outer study area. Despite the lack of agreement this places the study area away from most accepted possible areas of conflict for either of the two days. It is traditionally supposed that the ‘Sma’ folk’ or camp followers of the Scottish army were encamped upon Gillies Hill immediately to the south of the study area, and within the outer study area, but this is also unlikely due to the distance to the supposed battle.

Much of the Bannockburn site is now developed with housing estates and the study area is within the area described in the Historic Scotland Inventory as the ‘well preserved landscape ...of the battlefield including the surviving open ground of New Park, the views from and the spatial relationship between the Carse, Stirling Castle and the hill terraces to the south-west.’

#### 4.5 Sites within the outer study area

Within the outer study area five further designated sites and 13 undesigned sites have been identified. The historic land use assessment (above) suggests that the land covered by the study area has remained relatively unchanged from at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century with the nearby settlements of

Bearside and Cambusbarron are visible on maps as far back as Roy's maps of 1747-1755. As such post-medieval sites within the outer study area are unlikely to improve our understanding of the archaeological potential of the study area itself. Post-medieval remains in the area include Polmaise Castle and its surrounding gardens (HA 8 & 9), a pair of Curling ponds (HA 11 & 12) and a modern burial ground (HA 10). Due to the lack of earlier sites identified within the study area medieval and earlier sites within the outer study area will be looked at in greater detail.

#### 4.5.1 Prehistoric

Cambusbarron to the north of the study area is the centre of considerable Bronze Age activity; including a cemetery from which four cinerary urns were recovered, and up to five cist burials were excavated from around Birkhill House in Cambusbarron (HA 3, 4, 5 & 6). Artefacts such as a mace head and a fragment of a bronze plate were found. An earlier Neolithic hammer was also recovered from the Birkhill excavations. Bronze Age and Neolithic find-spots are also known from the Fir Wood and Gillies Hill to the south beyond the outer study area.

#### 4.5.2 Medieval

The site of a medieval chapel, burial ground and well (HA 1, 2 & 7) at Cambusbarron village are known although the remains are no longer standing. The chapel is thought to have existed from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century and to have finally been removed by the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The dedication of the chapel is not known. These are the only records of medieval archaeology within the outer study area.

### 4.6 Assessment of archaeological potential

Taking into account the archaeological background and the size of the study area, it is considered that there is a low to moderate potential for the study area to contain locally important unrecorded archaeological remains.

There is also a low potential for any proposed development to encounter buried remains of a more significant archaeological importance due to the development lying within the boundary of the Battle of Bannockburn.

Buried archaeology relating to the Battle of Bannockburn has been scarce in the past and due to

the nature of battlefield archaeology is most likely to take the form of find-spot scatters such as arrow heads or musket balls. Material evidence from the Battle of Bannockburn, which took place in 1314, is likely to be scarce and corroded in the case of metalwork. Only one military artefact, a possible 14<sup>th</sup> century arrow head, has been recovered from the entire battlefield area in the past. It is held on record that there was little in the way of archery during the battle which is unusual for the time period and the participants. Given the location of the study area, to the extreme north-west of the designated battlefield, it is unlikely that any features such as defensive ditches or grave pits relating to the battle will be found in this location. As such there is a low potential that any development of the site could uncover archaeological remains of national importance.

Although no prehistoric remains have been identified within the study area this is potentially due to the lack of previous investigations of the site itself. The proximity of a significant number of Bronze Age cist burials and a cremation cemetery to the north suggests a moderate potential for the untested study area to contain buried prehistoric remains.

Medieval remains unrelated to the Battle of Bannockburn are also unlikely in this area. The chapel and burial ground located in Cambusbarron to the north-west are the only medieval assets recorded in the outer study area. A low potential for medieval archaeology has also been assigned to the study area.

## 5 DISCUSSION

Only one cultural heritage asset has been identified from within the study area which has the potential to be of more than local significance.

As stated within Historic Scotland's Managing Change document (Historic Scotland 2011), Inventory battle sites should be a material consideration when assessing any development within a designated area. However, inclusion within the Inventory does not preclude development within designated areas. In this instance it is advised that any proposed development takes into account the potential physical impacts on any buried archaeology, and

potential impacts on the landscape setting associated with the Battle of Bannockburn.

As with any Inventory battle site, any change within the designated area can be sympathetically handled to respect and retain its inherent value. Known elements of the battle site can be incorporated into the design of the development, to allow the retention of existing alignments or open views between key landscape locations or features. Key views can also be retained as open spaces, should they exist within the study area. Early consultation with Historic Scotland and the Stirling Council Archaeologist will allow their comments and recommendations to be incorporated into any development design.

Handled sensitively development may present opportunities for the enhancement of understanding and interpretation of the battle site, something which is promoted within Historic Scotland's Managing Change document.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This assessment concludes that there is a low to moderate potential for previously unrecorded prehistoric or medieval archaeological remains in the study area of local significance, and a low potential for previously unrecorded cultural heritages assets of greater significance. Based on this it is proposed that a programme of trial trenching, informed by a metal detector survey be undertaken. The metal detector survey should be undertaken prior to any trial trenching in order to identify any concentrations, if any, of artefacts relating to the Battle of Bannockburn.

Given the potential for archaeological remains is assessed as low to moderate it is recommended that a sample of 7% of the application area be undertaken.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Bibliography

Historic Scotland 2011a *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Historic Battlefields Interim Guidance*

Historic Scotland 2011b *Inventory of Historic Battlefields - BANNOCKBURN*

### Cartographic Sources

The following pre-Ordnance Survey maps held on the National Library of Scotland's website (<http://maps.nls.uk/>) were examined:

- Thomson, J. 1820 *Stirlingshire*
- Grassom, J. 1817 *To the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of Stirling*
- Roy, W. 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland*
- Moll, H. 1745 *The Shires of Stirling and Clackmannan &c.*
- Adair, J. 1685 *A Mape of the countries about Stirling authore Jo. Adair*
- Blaeu J. 1654 *STERLINENSIS - Stirlingshire.*
- Gordon, R and Gordon, J. ca.1636-1652 - *Gordon 50: Sterlinshyr & Lennox, [and], Sterlingshyre, wt a part of the Lennox, and sum of Clydsdail. (manuscript)*
- Pont, T. ca.1583-1601 - *Pont 32: The east central lowlands (Stirling, Falkirk & Kilsyth). (manuscript)*

The following Ordnance Survey maps held by the National Library of Scotland were examined:

- 1951 (surveyed 1948) Perth and Clackmannan Sheet CXXXVIII.NE 1:10,560
- 1947 (surveyed 1938) Stirlingshire Sheet XVII.NW 1:10,560
- 1923 (surveyed 1913) Stirlingshire Sheet XVII.NW 1:10,560
- 1922 (surveyed in 1859-60, revised in 1913) Stirlingshire Sheet XVII NW 1:10,560
- 1901 (surveyed 1899) Perth and Clackmannan Sheet CXXXVIII.NE 1:10,560
- 1899 (surveyed in 1859-60, revised in 1896) Stirlingshire Sheet XVII NW 1:10,560
- 1865 (surveyed in 1859-60) Stirlingshire Sheet XVII.NW 1:10,560

**Appendix A: Gazetteer**

HA number	SMR number	Name	Site type	NMRS number	Period	Description	Easting	Northing
1	775.01	CAMBUSBARRON	CHAPEL	NS79SE 8	MEDIEVAL	Nothing now remains of either the chapel or the burial-ground although part of the chapel was still standing early in the 19th century. It may have been in existence by the late 15th century. The dedication is not known.	277850	692500
2	775.02	CAMBUSBARRON	BURIAL GROUND	NS79SE 8	MEDIEVAL / POST MEDIEVAL	Nothing now remains of either the chapel or the burial-ground, although part of the chapel was still standing early in the 19th century. It may have been in existence by the late 15th century. The dedication is not known.	277850	692500
3	786.01	BIRKHILL HOUSE (CAMBUSBARRON)	CIST	NS79SE 18	BRONZE AGE	A cist, containing an inhumation (SMR No 786.04) with a Food Vessel (SMR No 786.02,) was found in a gravel mound in the garden east of Birkhill House. A flint knife (SMR No 786.03) is also reported to have been found in the cist.	278100	692600
4	788	BIRKHILL (CAMBUSBARRON)	CIST	NS79SE 18	BRONZE AGE	A 'grave and remains' was found 'some years' before 1880 in a gravel mound	278000	692600

						west of Birkhill House.		
5	791	BIRKHILL (CAMBUSBARRON)	CIST	NS79SE 18	BRONZE AGE	A Food Vessel (SMR No 790.00) was found in Birkhill sand-pit in 1905; a horizontal slab of stone, which was discovered quite close to the Food Vessel, possibly marked the site of a further cist burial.	277900	692500
6	793.01	CAMBUSBARRON	CREMATION CEMETERY	NS79SE 18	BRONZE AGE	A cemetery of four Cinerary Urns containing cremations, was discovered in a gravel-pit near Cambusbarron. One of the urns contained a mace-head , another a piece of bronze plate.	278100	692600
7	849	CHAPEL WELL (CAMBUSBARRON)	WELL	NS79SE 62	MEDIEVAL / POST MEDIEVAL	A spring well, from which the holy water was supplied to the nearby chapel (SMR No 775.01).	277805	692519
8	2026	POLMAISE CASTLE	COUNTRY HOUSE	NS79SE 432	POST MEDIEVAL	Built by the Architect William Burn in 1863 and demolished 14th July 1966.	277760	691670
9	2026	POLMAISE CASTLE	WALLED GARDEN		POST MEDIEVAL	Wallen garden associated with Polmaise Castle	277980	691800
10	2026	POLMAISE	BURIAL GROUND		MODERN	No information currently available	277873	691947

11	6232	BEAR SIDE	CURLING POND		POST MEDIEVAL	One of two ponds (see SMR No 6232.02) identified on the First Edition OS 25-inch map of 1862-3. It is not mapped on current OS maps .	278118	691627
12	6232	BEAR SIDE	CURLING POND		POST MEDIEVAL	One of two ponds (see SMR No 6232.01) identified on the First Edition OS 25-inch map of 1862-3. It is still depicted as a pond on current OS maps .	278074	691668
13	6656	BOILING SPRINGS CAMBUSBARRON	SPRING		NATURAL	The 'Boiling Springs' rose in the Fir Park, above the old drove road.	277440	692250
14	41416	POLMASIE, ENDRICK LODGE	LODGE	NS79SE 417	POST MEDIAEVAL	Wm Leiper (Glasgow) dated 1900. Large L-plan asymmetrical mansion. Late scots gothic/English arts-and-crafts manner, mainly 2 storey with circular entrance tower in N entrant angle. Rubble built, with parts harled, half-timbered and tile hung, red tile roof.	78603	92350
15	41488	TORBREX INN	INN	NS79SE 531	POST MEDIAEVAL	1721 Two storey Dated 1721 with later alterations and additions, 2-storey 3-window, harled with margins, crowstepped gables; later lean-to porch, single-storey side extension with unfortunate mock stone-facing: largely a modern rebuild and much extended at rear. Slated roofs	78801	91940

16	41487	TORBEREX, WEAVERS COTTAGES	COTTAGES	NS79SE 163	POST MEDIAEVAL	Dated 17 AR AS56 on lintel. Single-storey harled and white-washed with painted margins, slated roof. Originally 2 weavers cottages now converted to single house.	78843	91951
17		CAMBUSBARRON	CONSERVATION AREA		MULTIPLE		277757	692487
18		TORBREX	CONSERVATION AREA		MULTIPLE		278866	691981