



ARCUS

ACKRON WIND FARM

APPENDIX A9.1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

CULTURAL HERITAGE REPORT NUMBER: 118

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DATA ENTRY FORM

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project title	Ackron Wind Farm
Description	Wind farm development and ancillary infrastructure
Report	Desk Based Assessment and Walkover Survey
Contractor name	Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd.
Client	Statkraft
SITE LOCATION INFORMATION	
Council	The Highland Council
Area	662 ha
Grid References	Centred on NGR 291000, 962000
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	
Type of publication	Unpublished document/manuscript
Title	Ackron Wind Farm Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
Author	Eva Heimpel, Olivia Watt, and Heather Kwiatkowski
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SUMMARY

An archaeological desk-based assessment has been undertaken by Arcus Consultancy Services Limited ('Arcus') on behalf of Statkraft for land located at Ackron Farm and Golval Farm, approximately 2 km south-east of Melvich. The purpose of this archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) is to establish the known or potential archaeological resource baseline and provide design advice for the proposed Ackron Wind Farm (herein referred to as 'the Development') for which an application is to be submitted in 2020. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will utilise the baseline within this DBA to fully assess any potential effect to archaeological resource and heritage assets within a separate EIA Report chapter.

For the purposes of this desk-based assessment, the Core Study Area includes the site **boundary at Scoping ('the Site') and covers approximately 662 hectares (ha)**, with the extents and location shown on Figure 1. This Core Study Area consists largely of rough upland moorland, as shown in Plates 1-3. The Core Study Area is the area in which direct effects to archaeology may occur. A 1 km study area, which includes the Core Study Area and land within a 1 km radius, was used to aid the assessment of potential unknown archaeology. A 10 km Study Area was used to identify assets which have the potential to receive a change to their setting as a result of the Development.

The data collection exercise identified a total of 22 features within the Core Study Area. This included prehistoric hit circles and post medieval and modern agricultural buildings and sheepfolds. These were identified through analysis of the HER and Canmore records, the cartographic record, and the photographic record. A total of 54 additional heritage features were identified within the 1 km study area including one Scheduled Monuments, 40 HER features, and 20 Canmore features.

Within the 10 km Study Area, there are 46 designated heritage assets. This includes 20 Scheduled Monuments and 26 Listed Buildings (four Category A, 13 Category B, and eight Category C).

The archaeological potential of the CSA and surrounding area is concentrated along waterways and in these areas the potential is high, especially along the lower elevations of Ackran Burn and Gilligill Burn, with the scheduled Halladale Bridge hut circles (SM3304) situation on Gilligill Burn just out with the CSA. The high elevation and exposed nature of the CSA where wind farm infrastructure is likely to be located lowers the archaeological potential. Any archaeological remains that survive subsurface would likely relate to the transhumance utilisation of the landscape during the post-medieval period, e.g. sheepfolds, and be of low significance. As such, there is a low potential for any unknown archaeological features to survive subsurface.

In conclusion, it is likely that any work undertaken on this site would have low potential to have a direct impact upon potentially significant, previously undiscovered archaeological remains. Consultation should be undertaken with the THC archaeologist to agree appropriate mitigation measures, where required, following the final design.

There is also the potential for indirect impacts to affect designated heritage assets. Consideration of indirect effects will be reported on fully in the EIA Report, taking into account the way in which the Development may affect the setting of nationally important sites.

1 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological desk-based assessment has been undertaken by Arcus Consultancy Services Limited ('Arcus') on behalf of Statkraft for land located at Ackron Farm and Golval Farm, approximately 2 km south-east of Melvich. The purpose of this archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) is to establish the known or potential archaeological resource baseline and provide design advice for the proposed Ackron Wind Farm (herein referred to as 'the Development') for which an application is to be submitted in 2020. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will utilise the baseline within this DBA to full assess any potential effect to the archaeological resource and heritage assets within a separate EIA Report chapter.

1.1 The Development

The Development will consist of up to 14 turbines with a maximum height to blade tip of 149.9 metres (m) and a total generating capacity of between 20 – 49.9 MW. Ancillary infrastructure will also be required as part of the Development and may include a substation, external transformers, new access tracks and site entrance, temporary construction compound, crane hardstandings and a permanent meteorological mast as well as the option for battery storage. The turbine numbers and ancillary infrastructure proposed may change as the final parameters of the Development are identified throughout the iterative EIA process. The final design will be assessed within a separate EIA Report chapter.

1.2 Study Areas

To assess the potential for on-site archaeology, three study areas were defined based upon the likelihood of potential significant effects upon archaeology and cultural heritage.

Core Study Area **includes the site boundary at Scoping ('the Site') and covers approximately 662 hectares (ha)**, with the extents and location shown on Figure 1. This Core Study Area consists largely of rough upland moorland, as shown in Plates 1-3. The Core Study Area is the area in which direct effects to archaeology may occur.

A 1 km study area, which includes the Core Study Area and land within a 1 km radius of the Core Study Area (Figure 1), was used to establish the type of known archaeology within proximity to the Core Study Area in order to inform the potential for unknown archaeology to survive within the Core Study Area.

A 10 km Study Area was used to identify assets which have the potential to receive a change to their setting as a result of the Development and for which an assessment of indirect effects may be required within the EIA Report (Figure 1).

2 LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE

The assessment has been undertaken taking into account relevant heritage legislation and guidance as outlined below.

2.1.1 Legislation

The assessment of impacts to the historic environment falls under The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, and this DBA forms the baseline against which this assessment will occur. This DBA is a technical appendix to the EIA Report that will accompany the application for consent.

Statutory protection for archaeology is principally outlined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)¹, as amended by the National Heritage Act (1983),² and nationally important sites are listed in a Schedule of Monuments. The 1979 Act makes no reference to the settings of Scheduled Monuments.

Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas receive protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997³, as amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (2013)⁴. The 1997 Act places a duty on the local planning authority with respect to Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas, and their settings. Section 59 of the 1997 Act states (in part):

"In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, a planning authority or the Secretary of State... shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses."

Section 64 states:

"In the exercise, with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, of any powers under any of the provisions in subsection (2), special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area."

The Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 defines the role of Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the processes for the designation of heritage assets, consents and rights of appeal.

2.1.2 Policy

Scottish Planning Policy⁵ (SPP) is the statement of the Scottish Government's policy on nationally important land use planning matters. Circulars, which also provide statements of the Scottish Government's policy, contain guidance on policy implementation through legislative or procedural change

In the SPP, the historic environment is defined as *"the physical evidence for human activity that connects people with place, linked with the associations we can see, feel and understand"* and includes *"individual assets, related settings and the wider cultural landscape"*⁶. As stated in paragraph 137:

"The planning system should:

Promote the care and protection of the designated and non-designated historic environment (including individual assets, related settings and the wider cultural landscape) and its contribution to sense of place, cultural identity, social well-being, economic growth, civic participation and lifelong learning; and

Enable positive change in the historic environment which is informed by a clear understanding of the importance of the heritage assets affected and ensure their future use. Change should be sensitively managed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the

¹ UK Government (1979) *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act*. Available at www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46 [Accessed on 20/10/2019]

² UK Government (1983) *National Heritage Act*. Available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1983/47> [Accessed on 20/10/2019]

³ UK Government (1997) *(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997*. Available at http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46/pdfs/ukpga_19790046_en.pdf [Accessed on 20/10/2019]

⁴ UK Government (2013) *Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013*. Available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2013/24/contents/enacted> [Accessed 20/10/2019]

⁵ Scottish Government (2014) *Scottish Planning Policy* [Online] Available at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> [Accessed 30/10/2019]

⁶ Scottish Government (2014) *Scottish Planning Policy*. Paragraph 137 [Online] Available at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> [Accessed 30/10/2019]

fabric and setting of the asset, and ensure that its special characteristics are protected, conserved or enhanced."

In regards to designated heritage assets, the SPP⁷ states:

Regarding developments affecting listed buildings, "special regard must be given to the importance of preserving and enhancing the building, its setting and any features of special architectural or historic interest";

Proposals "which will impact on its appearance, character or setting [of a conservation area], should preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area";

"where there is potential for a proposed development to have an adverse effect on a scheduled monument or on the integrity of its setting, permission should only be granted where there are exceptional circumstances";

"where a development proposal has the potential to affect a world heritage site, or its setting, the planning authority must protect and preserve its outstanding universal value";

"planning authorities should protect and, where appropriate, seek to enhance gardens and designed landscapes included in the inventory of gardens and designed landscapes and designed landscapes of regional and local importance"; and

"planning authorities should seek to protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the key landscape characteristics and special qualities of sites in the inventory of historic battlefields".

The SPP also requires local planning authorities to protect archaeological sites and monuments, preserving them *in situ* or otherwise ensuring **"appropriate excavation, recording, analysis, publication and archiving before and/or during development"**⁸. **"Non-designated historic assets and areas of historical interest, including historic landscapes, other gardens and designed landscapes, woodlands and routes such as drove roads"** should also be preserved *in situ* wherever feasible⁹.

'Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland'¹⁰ presents the Scottish Government's strategy for the protection and promotion of the historic environment. The Historic Environment Policy for Scotland¹¹ (HEPS) and the Historic Environment Scotland Circular¹² complement the SPP and provide further policy direction. In particular, HEPS provides more detailed policy on historic environment designations and consents.

The Highland-Wide Local Development Plan 2012, Policy 57: Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage¹³ states that **'all development proposals will be assessed taking into account the level of importance and type of heritage features, the form and scale of the development, and any impact on the feature and its setting'**. The following criteria will also work:

- For features of regional/local importance, development will be accepted if they do not have an unacceptable impact on the heritage resource;
- For features of national importance, development will be accepted if they do not compromise the heritage resource. Significant effects must be clearly outweighed by social or economic benefits of national importance;

⁷ Scottish Government (2014) Scottish Planning Policy. Paragraph 141-149 [Online] Available at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> [Accessed 30/10/2019]

⁸ Scottish Government (2014) Scottish Planning Policy. Paragraph 150 [Online] Available at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> [Accessed 30/10/2019]

⁹ Scottish Government (2014) Scottish Planning Policy. Paragraph 151 [Online] Available at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> [Accessed 30/10/2019]

¹⁰ *Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland*, 2015, Historic Environment Scotland

¹¹ *The Historic Environment Policy for Scotland*, 2019, Historic Environment Scotland

¹² *Historic Environment Scotland Circular*, 2019, Historic Environment Scotland

¹³ The Highland Council (2012) Highland-Wide Local Development Plan. Available at file:///C:/Users/EvaH/Downloads/Highland_wide_Local_Development_Plan.pdf [Accessed 30/08/2019]

- For features of international importance, developments which effect heritage sites will be accepted only where there is no alternative solution.

2.1.3 Guidance

Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology¹⁴ provides advice on dealing with archaeological remains. Whilst it covers a range of issues, of particular relevance is the planning balance associated with the preservation of archaeological remains and the benefits of development; the circumstances under which developers may be required to provide further information or field evaluation to inform decisions; and measures that can be taken to mitigate adverse effects.

Designation Policy and Selection Guidance (DPSG, 2019) accompanies HEPS and details the policy and selection guidance used by Historic Environment Scotland when designating heritage assets of national importance.

Guidance on how to apply the policies set out in the SPP is set out in Historic Environment **Scotland's** 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment Series', of which their guidance on 'Setting'¹⁵ is particularly relevant.

Standards and Guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) have been followed in preparing this DBA, in particular the 'Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment'¹⁶ and the 'Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment'¹⁷.

3 AIMS, METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

3.1 Aims

The aim of this DBA is to:

- Establish the baseline information regarding archaeology within the Core Study Area and 1 km Study Areas;
- To establish the archaeological potential for unknown buried archaeology to survive within the Core Study Area;
- To identify heritage assets that may be impacted by the Development and for which further assessment is required; and
- Where appropriate, to provide advice to mitigate harm and/or enhance heritage assets as part of the development design process.

3.2 Methodology

The following methodology follows those guidelines as outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance Paper for historic environment desk-based assessment¹⁸.

¹⁴ The Scottish Government (2011) Planning Advice Note 2/2011. Available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/pan-2-2011-planning-archaeology/> [Accessed 30/08/2019]

¹⁵ Historic Environment Scotland, (June 2016), *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting*. [Online] Available at: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=80b7c0a0-584b-4625-b1fd-a60b009c2549> [Accessed 30/08/2019]

¹⁶ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) *Standard and Guidance for Commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment*, Published December 2014, [Online] Available at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GCommissioning_1.pdf [Accessed 30/08/2019]

¹⁷ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, Published December 2014, Updated January 2017 [Online] Available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_3.pdf [Accessed 30/08/2019]

¹⁸ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, Published December 2014, Updated January 2017 [Online] Available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_3.pdf [Accessed 30/08/2019]

The DBA comprises of a written report including a description of the baseline heritage resource and archaeological potential of the study area, a description of the area's historic character, the archaeological and historical baseline's significance, the potential effect of the Development upon the outlined archaeological and historical resource, and possible mitigation strategies. The following section outlines the methodology used to fulfil the aims of the assessment stated in Section 3.1 above.

To inform the DBA, an archival search was undertaken in order to identify records of known archaeological features which have the potential to be affected by the Development. This archive search also collected data falling within the 1 km study area to inform the assessment of the physical and ground-based archaeological potential of the Core Study Area.

The following sources were consulted in accordance with the best practice guidelines laid down by the Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

- Historic Environment Scotland Datasets including;
 - Canmore Archaeological Records;
 - Database of World Heritage Sites;
 - Database of Scheduled Monuments;
 - Database of Listed Buildings;
 - Database of Inventoried Garden and Designed Landscapes; and
 - Database of Inventoried Battlefields.
- The National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP);
- Cartographic evidence;
- The Highland Council Historic Environment Record (HER) consulted on 24th July 2019; and
- The Statistical Accounts for Scotland.

These resources have been collated and examined alongside the results of any fieldwork.

To accompany this consultation, a site walkover was conducted on 14th August 2019 to verify the written records, to assess the character of the site, and to note any archaeological features not previously identified. Any previously unknown sites were recorded by use of digital photography and an appropriate scale.

The results of this work have informed the archaeological baseline and archaeological potential of the Core Study Area. This baseline has then been used to feed into the design and final layout of the Development presented in the EIA Report.

4 RESULTS

The data collection exercise has identified a total of 76 heritage features within the 1 km study area including one Scheduled Monument, 46 HER features, 21 Canmore features, five sites identified during the cartographic analysis, and three sites identified during a review of aerial photos. Of these, 22 fall within the Core Study Area.

The results of the desk-based assessment are summarised below. Site number references correlate to the Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9.

4.1 Core Study Area Description

The Core Study Area is located within Sutherland and Caithness, Highland Council, approximately 2 km south-east of Melvich, with the extents and location shown on Figure 1.

The Core Study Area predominantly comprises of upland moorland, with small areas of coniferous plantation and agricultural buildings associated with Ackron and Golval Farm located along the lower slopes within the western portion of the Core Study Area.

There are a number of watercourses and waterbodies within the Core Study Area. These drain into Halladale River to the north-west of the Site, which in turn discharges into Melvich Bay on the north coast of the Sutherland.

The topography of the Core Study Area is relatively complex with the elevation ranging from 163 m AOD on the summit to the west of Caol-Loch in the east of the Core Study Area falling to around 30 m AOD where the western boundary runs adjacent to the A897. The Development will be located on the higher elevated section of the site with elevations typically above 100 m AOD. The bedrock geology is comprised of Migmatitic rock with a superficial deposit of Till to the west and peat to the east¹⁹.

No public roads are located within the Core Study Area, although a number of existing farm tracks from Ackron Farm and Golval Farm are located within the Core Study Area.

4.2 Core Study Area and 1 km Study Area

4.2.1 Designated Assets

A search of the National Monument Record Scotland (NMRS) returned no nationally designated assets within the Core Study Area. There are no World Heritage Sites, Listed Buildings, Gardens and Designed Landscapes, Inventoried Battlefields or Conservation Areas within the 1 km Study Area. One Scheduled Monument is located within the 1 km Study Area. This is the scheduled Halladale Hut Circles which is a prehistoric domestic and defensive hut circle, roundhouse (SM3304), which lies along Gilligill Burn just outside the north-west boundary along the A836.

The Scheduled Monument is shown on Figure 2 and is discussed in Section 6. Full details can be found in the Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9.

4.2.2 Historic Environment Record and Canmore Datasets

The Historic Environment Record (HER) dataset returned 46 records of archaeological features within the 1 km Study Area (Figure 2), including hut circles, clearance cairns, findspots, farmsteads, enclosures, and field systems. Ten of these non-designated assets are located within the Core Study Area, as shown on Figure 2 and detailed in Table 1.

The Canmore Dataset returned an additional 21 non-designated assets within the 1 km Study Area. This includes building structures, quarry features, field systems, cairns, forts/brochs, and hut circles. Four of these non-designated assets are located within the Core Study Area, as shown on Figure 2 and detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: HER and Canmore Records within the Core Study Area

Record Type	Reference	Name	Type
HER Record	MHG9684	Ackran Burn	Hut circle; clearance cairn
HER Record	MHG9698	Cairn, Akran Burn	Cairn
HER Record	MHG10221	Burnt Mound, Akran Burn	Burnt mound
HER Record	MHG10226	Ackran Burn	Field system
HER Record	MHG10296	Akran Burn	Hut circle
HER Record	MHG10297	Akran Burn	Hut circle
HER Record	MHG13440	Akran Burn	Settlement
HER Record	MHG17815	Golval	Building
HER Record	MHG18613	Cnoc Chorkael	Building

¹⁹ BGS (n.d.) Geology of Britain Viewer. Available at <https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>. (Accessed 10/10/2019)

Record Type	Reference	Name	Type
HER Record	MHG19733	Cnoc Chorkael	Enclosure
Canmore Record	348154	Melvich	Quarry (period unassigned)
Canmore Record	348459	Golval Farm	Structure (period unassigned)
Canmore Record	348460	Golval Farm	Dyke (period unassigned)
Canmore Record	349450	Melvich	Sand and gravel workings (period unassigned)

Details of all non-designated assets within the 1 km Study Area are provided within the heritage gazetteer in Section 9.

4.2.3 Cartographic Analysis

All maps containing specific reference to the Core Study Area (CSA) were consulted as listed below:

- Ordnance Survey, County Series, 1878²⁰. The map contains a topographic mark in north of the CSA which indicates a sheepfold (HM-1) and a number of agricultural structures surrounding Golval Farm (MHG13440 and MHG17815), as shown on Figures 4a and 4b.
- Ordnance Survey, County Series, 1888²¹. The map included the additional rectangular areas of cultivated land in the central western area of the CSA, as shown on Figure 5. Site 121 is no longer visible on this map.
- Ordnance Survey, County Series, 1907-8²². The map for the northern area of the CSA is not of great quality and small changes will not be distinguishable, as shown in Figure 6a. The southern section of the CSA shows no change, as seen in Figure 6b.
- OS Plan (1962-64)²³. The map shows an additional enclosure (HM-2) and farm buildings (HM-3) to the north and south of Golval Farm (MHG13440 and MHG17815) along the A897 in the west, as shown in Figure 7a. There is also an additional sheepfold (HM-4) to the south of Golval farm. Site 83 is now visible in the southern part of the CSA, as shown in Figure 7b.
- Current OS (2020)²⁴. At the south-west corner of the Core Study Area, there are electricity pylons belonging to the Beauly to Dounreay tower line (HM-5). Running in a south-west to north-east direction, there is an associated substation at Connagill, located to the south of the Core Study Area. These are shown on Figure 1.

A review of cartographic sources identified five additional features. This includes two sheepfolds (HM-1 and HM-4), an enclosure (HM-2), agricultural buildings surrounding Golval Farm (HM-3) and an electricity line and substation (HM-5). These are shown in Figure 2 and detailed in Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9.

4.2.4 Aerial Photography

Aerial photography of the area was accessed through the National Collection of Aerial Photography. Photographs for the area around the Core Study Area were consulted, as listed below:

²⁰ Ordnance Survey, County Series (1878) Sutherland.

²¹ Ordnance Survey, County Series (1907-8) Sutherland.

²² Ordnance Survey, County Series (1907-8) Sutherland.

²³ Ordnance Survey, Plan (1962-64)

²⁴ Ordnance Survey (Current)

- Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3087; Dated 9th May 1946; Location: Giligill Burn, Farr, Sutherland. The photograph shows the south-eastern section of the CSA. Within the image there is an area of likely peat cutting along Akran Burn in the centre of the CSA and small tributaries are visible which drain down the sides of the hills within the CSA. There is a possible circular feature to the east of the northern tip of Caol-Loch (AP-1) and part of a linear feature (AP-2).
- Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3090; Dated 9th May 1946; Location: Golval Hill, Farr, Sutherland. The photograph shows the central western part of the CSA. Ackron Farm and Golval Farm and associated agricultural buildings are visible, as is a hut circle (AP-3), and building (Site 83), a possible circular feature to the west of Akran Burn (Site 127), and part of the linear feature at the top of the image (Site 126).
- Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 4089; Dated 9th May 1946; Location: Giligill Burn Farr, Sutherland. The image shows the north-east part of the CSA with Site 125 and 126 visible.
- Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 4352; Dated 9th May 1946; Location: Akran Burn Farr, Sutherland. The image shows the central western area of the CSA, around Ackron and Golval Farm which are both visible in the image. Site 125 is visible and there are no additional features shown on this image.
- Sortie: ASS/60988; Frame 0028; Dated 7th May 1988; Location: Akran Burn, Farr, Sutherland. The photography shows the entire CSA. Ackron Farm and its associated infrastructure is visible, as is the area of forestry immediately to the east of the main farm buildings. Peat cuttings are evident to the north, with farm tracks shown in the southern section, leading out from Golval Farm, also visible in the image.

Analysis of the aerial photographic archive and satellite imagery revealed three additional archaeological features. This includes two circular features, one east of the northern tip of Caol-Loch (AP-1) and one to the west of Akran Burn (AP-3). There is also a linear feature (AP-2) which extends from east of Ackron Farm to the north-east of the CSA. These features are detailed in the Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9 and shown on Figure 2.

4.2.5 Walkover Survey

A walkover survey was undertaken on 14th August 2019. The weather was clear, and visibility was good to fair. A general walkover of the area around the Development infrastructure and known archaeological sites was conducted. No additional archaeological features were noted.

4.2.6 Statistical Accounts

The nearest Statistical Accounts to the Core Study Area are found in the County of Caithness, Parish Reay. Whilst there is no specific mention of the Core Study Area, the parish records describe the hilly **topography of the parish indicating that the 'only flat and lowlands lie along the coast'²⁵**. Halladale Strath is referenced as presenting '*the appearance of a valley from top to bottom*²⁶'.

In relation to potential archaeology within this area, the parish records that '*Along the Halladale Strath are the remains of several circular towers, about 60 or 70 foot in diameter. The walls are thick, and artfully built of large stones without mortar. They do not seem to*

²⁵ Statistical Accounts (1845) Reay, County of Caithness, NSA, Vol. XV, page13. Available at [https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/viewer/nsa-vol15-Parish record for Reay in the county of Caithness in volume 15 of account 2/](https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/viewer/nsa-vol15-Parish%20record%20for%20Reay%20in%20the%20county%20of%20Caithness%20in%20volume%2015%20of%20account%202/) [Accessed 25/11/2019].

²⁶ Ibid.

have been intended for dwelling purposes, nor is it easy to determine to what purposes they were appropriated, unless it was beacons, or watch-towers²⁷.

4.2.7 National Archives of Scotland

A search of the National Archives of Scotland revealed no records for a search of 'Ackron', 'Akran', 'Golval', or 'Melvich'.

A search of Reay revealed five records which include parish records, church records, and papers of the Mackay Family.

4.2.8 Previous Archaeological Investigations within the Core Study Area

There are seven previous archaeological excavations which occurred within or on the edge of the Core Study Area. These include:

- 2001 DBA and Walkover Survey for Melvich and Armadale, power line routes and refurbishment (EHG521 and 613) on the western border of the CSA. A rich prehistoric landscape was recorded with interspersed prehistoric remains identified in the lower elevations along the River Halladale.
- 2001 Walkover Survey for the North Delta project (EHG648) to the north of the CSA.
- 2002 Walkover Survey for the Proposed Water Mai at Halladale Bridge and Connagill (EHG637) on the western border of the CSA. Pre-clearance settlements were identified at Golval, Deasphollag, and Connagill in the lower elevations of Halladale Strath.
- 2006-8 DBA and Walkover Survey for the Beauly-Dounreay 25kV overhead transmission line (EHG3360). Part of this survey went through the CSA.
- 2012 DBA and Walkover Survey for Ackron Sand and Rock Quarries (EHG4128) to the west of the CSA. Two quarry sites, either side of Ackron Farm (the eastern site lies within the CSA), were assessed. Nothing of archaeological significance was identified.
- 2015 DBA and Walkover Survey for the Drum Hollistan Wind Farm (EHG4704). This extends into the north-eastern edge of the CSA. Nine archaeological sites were identified, none of which fall within the CSA.

4.3 10 km Study Area

Within the 10 km Study Area, there are 46 designated heritage assets. This includes 20 Scheduled Monuments and 26 Listed Buildings (four Category A, 13 Category B, and eight Category C). These assets are shown in Figure 3 and detailed in full within the Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9.

5 BASELINE INTERPRETATION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

The following section gives a brief description of the wider study area's archaeological and historical sites within the context of the area's background history, presented by period. The features referred to are detailed in the Heritage Gazetteer in Section 9 and shown in Figures 2. References are given by their designation reference, HER reference beginning MHG, or Canmore if it is simply a number, as detailed in the Gazetteer within Section 9.

5.1 The Prehistoric Period

Within the Core Study Area (CSA) there are four prehistoric remains. This includes three Neolithic hut circles (MHG9684, MHG10296, and MHG10297) and a Neolithic cairn (MHG9689). Adjacent to the north-western boundary of the CSA is the scheduled Halladale Bridge hut circles (SM3304). Within the 1 km Study Area, there are six other prehistoric

²⁷ Statistical Accounts (1845) Reay, County of Caithness, NSA, Vol. XV, page17. Available at [https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/viewer/nsa-vol15-Parish record for Reay in the county of Caithness in volume 15 of account 2/](https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/viewer/nsa-vol15-Parish%20record%20for%20Reay%20in%20the%20county%20of%20Caithness%20in%20volume%2015%20of%20account%202/) [Accessed 25/11/2019].

features and two findspots primarily along the coast and waterways and at lower elevations where land is less steep, including:

- Two Bronze Age findspots (MHG704), 530 m north of the CSA and Site 105, 780 m north of CSA;
- Six Prehistoric hut circles (MHG9680 1 km east of the CSA; MHG9694 400 m north-west of the CSA; MHG577551 km east of the CSA, Canmore 6911 500m south of CSA; Canmore 351655 430 m south of the CSA; and Canmore 120, 800 m south of the CSA).

The wider area of Caithness has a rich prehistoric history with known Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts and features, especially concentrated along this northern coastline. Recent excavations along Thusater Burn near Thurso, approximately 18 km east of the Core Study Area, has uncovered evidence of an Iron Age settlement including finds such as a stone lined hearth, a hammer stone, and striking stones²⁸. Other significant scheduled prehistoric features within the area include: Millburn, Strath Halladale, barrows 340m NNE of (SM13622), 4 km south of the CSA; Leathad Carnaich, hut circles, clearance cairns, N of Dalhalvaig School (SM1876), 4 km south of the CSA; and Achvarasdal House, two stones N of (SM421), 5.8 km north-east of the CSA.

These prehistoric archaeological features are largely concentrated at lower elevations along the coastline or inland near waterways and lochs. The archaeological potential of the wider area is high given the proximity of the scheduled Halladale Bridge hut circles (SM3304) and the number of prehistoric archaeological finds within the CSA. However, prehistoric finds are more likely to be located in areas of low elevation along waterways in the north and west of the CSA. The high elevation and exposed nature of the portion of the CSA where the turbines and most of the infrastructure will be located lowers the potential for unknown prehistoric archaeological material to be impacted. The archaeological potential of the CSA for unknown prehistoric remains to survive is high along the lower elevations and waterways and low for the upper elevations.

5.2 Early Medieval Period

There are no known early medieval archaeological remains within the Core Study Area. Within the 1 km Study Area, there is a Pictish fort (MHG9696), located 1 km to the south-west along the River Halladale, **north of Loch a'Bhealaich**.

Within the wider area, there are known sites of Viking activity. By the end of the 8th century, Viking raids were beginning through the highlands by way of Shetland. Caithness came under Norse control and many Viking place names still survive, indicating the spread of influence²⁹. The majority of the known Viking settlements are located along the coast and in areas of lower elevation in the eastern part of Caithness. An example of this is the use **of the word 'ster' which means 'farm, homestead' in Norse**³⁰.

There is only one early medieval feature located within the 1 km Study Area (MHG9696) which is a pictish defensive fort located along the River Halladale, 1 km south-west of the CSA. Early Medieval settlements and finds are more likely to be located in areas of low elevation along waterways. The high elevation and exposed nature of the CSA lowers the potential for early medieval archaeological material. The archaeological potential of the CSA for unknown remains to survive is assessed as very low.

²⁸ Kathryn Krakowka (2018) Iron Age Settlement near Thurso? Available at <https://www.archaeology.co.uk/articles/iron-age-settlement-near-thurso.htm> [Accessed on 27/11/2019]

²⁹ HER <https://her.highland.gov.uk/Theme/THG6>

³⁰ Waugh D (n.d.) Available at http://www.snsbi.org.uk/Nomina_articles/Nomina_08_Waugh.pdf [Accessed on 27/11/2019]

5.3 Medieval Period

There are no known medieval archaeological remains within the Core Study Area or within the 1 km Study Area, though the Pictish fort (MHG9696) may have utilised into this period.

The medieval period in the Highlands was characterised by the attempts of the Kings of Scotland to gain back control from the Norsemen. This included attempt made by the Earldom of Orkney in Caithness and Sutherland and the Lordship of the Isles in the west³¹. However, there are limited known medieval remains within the wider area, this may be due to subsequent development within the post medieval period which may cover medieval features.

There are no known archaeological features of medieval origin within the CSA or the 1 km Study Area. Medieval settlements and finds are more likely to be located in areas of low elevation along waterways. The lack of known records along with the high elevation and exposed nature of the CSA lowers the potential for medieval archaeological material. The archaeological potential of the CSA for unknown remains to survive is assessed as very low.

5.4 Post-Medieval Period

There are three post medieval features within the CSA focused at or near Golval; a sheepfold (HM-1) and two buildings (MHG17815 and MHG18613). Within the 1 km Study Area, there is a ruinous chapel/cemetery (MHG9685), 640 m west of the CSA; an abandoned township which consisted of crofts and a meeting house (MHG10223), 500 m south of the CSA; a farmstead (MHG10555), 860 m south of the CSA; a field system (MHG13412), 300 m west of the CSA; a boundary marker (MHG24089), 650 m north-west of the CSA; and a house (MHG56672), 600 m west of the CSA. These settlements and associated buildings are primarily situated at lower elevations, with a concentration within close proximity to the Halladale River and other tributaries and waterways. The flatter topography at these elevations would have allowed for improved pasture in an agriculturally dominated era of the Highland history, with steeper areas confined to the uplands for seasonal grazing indicative of transhumance utilisation of the landscape.

The wider area is characterised by croft settlements and enclosed agricultural fields concentrated along the coastline and in lower elevations in the eastern areas of Caithness. Land utilisation within the upland moor would have been limited and associated with seasonal agricultural activities.

Post medieval settlements and finds are more likely to be located in areas of low elevation along waterways, such as the existing farmsteads associated with the Core Study Area (Ackron and Golval) and abandoned settlement of Deasphollag (MHG10223) which is located along the River Halladale. The high elevation and exposed nature of the CSA was likely used for seasonal grazing rather than permanent settlement which lowers the potential for post medieval archaeological material as shieling huts are concentrated along watercourses. As such, any archaeological remains that survive subsurface would likely relate to the agricultural utilisation of the landscape i.e. sheepfolds or shielings along waterways. There is good cartographic coverage of this area and any post medieval remains will have likely been record, and the buffers around watercourses would avoid shielings if present. As such, there is low potential for any unknown post medieval remains to survive within the CSA.

5.5 Modern Era

The CSA consists of modern features such as agricultural enclosures (HM-2), buildings (MHG18613 and HM-3), an enclosure (HM-4), and modern post and wire fences and gates which do not have any archaeological value. One modern archaeological feature within the

³¹ HER

1 km Study Area was through the HER which is a bench mark (MHG55394), 260 m south-west of the CSA.

This modern period saw the continued growth of coastal towns and villages such as Melvich and Reay and construction of utilitarian infrastructure within the wider landscape. Dounreay Power Station is located approximately 6.3 km north-east of the CSA while the Beaully to Dounreay tower line intersects the south-western corner of the CSA connecting to an associated substation at Connagill.

There are limited extant modern archaeological features in the Core Study Area, and those which exist are either located in low elevation on the western border surrounding Golval Farm or comprise of the Beaully to Dounreay transmission line in the south-western portion of the CSA. Due to the exposed upland nature of the CSA, the majority of which has remained undeveloped, any modern features would likely still be visible within the landscape. As such, there is a very low potential for unknown modern remains of significance to exist within the CSA.

5.6 Archaeological and Historical Potential

Table 2 summarises the potential for unknown subsurface archaeological remains to survive within the Core Study Area.

Table 2: Summary of Archaeological Potential of the Site

Period	Visibility within 1 km study area	Presence or Absence of sites within 1 km study area	Likelihood of further Discoveries within the Development
Prehistoric	Present within the CSA and 1 km Study Area in low lying areas along the coast or waterways. Archaeological features include hut circles and standing stones. Limited presence of prehistoric archaeological features in upland areas.	High presence areas of low elevation along the coastline and waterways. Limited presence in exposed upland areas.	High along lower elevations and waterways but Low at upper more exposed elevations
Early Medieval	Limited presence within the 1 km Study Area.	Limited presence, one known pictish fort. Any subsurface remains would likely lie in areas of low elevation along the coastline. Limited presence in exposed upland areas.	Very Low
Medieval	No known remains within the 1 km Study Area.	No known remains within the 1 km Study Area.	Very Low
Post-Medieval	Agricultural remains representative of croft and agricultural settlement present. Includes sheepfolds and field structures. Good cartographic coverage.	Prevalent in the form of auxiliary remains associated with farmsteads. Evidence of abandon village also exists with the 1 km Study Area. These are concentrated in areas of low elevation.	Low

		Limited presence in exposed upland areas.	
Modern	Good-remains still highly visible and good cartographic coverage	Limited presence, any modern archaeological remains would likely still be extant and visible.	Very Low

6 POTENTIAL IMPACT FROM THE DEVELOPMENT

Direct impacts are physical alterations which may affect either known sites or currently unknown buried and otherwise unrecorded archaeology. Direct or physical impacts may damage or destroy archaeological features and are usually permanent and irreversible. These effects are likely to occur during construction or decommissioning of a site.

Direct effects are limited to the Development footprint where associated earthmoving and excavation occur and not to the full extent of the Core Study Area. Excavations for the turbine foundations are anticipated to reach a depth between 2-4 m with bedrock encountered at depths below 3 m. Excavation depths for cable runs and access tracks are anticipated to reach c. 500-750 mm. It is therefore unlikely that any archaeology situated at a depth of more than 1 metre has the potential to receive a direct impact, other than at the turbine locations.

It is recommended that the finalised Development footprint avoid all known remains, where feasible. There is a low potential for unknown archaeology to exist across the Core Study Area due to its exposed upland nature. The direct effects as a result of the finalised Development footprint will be assessed within the EIA Report.

The Development has the potential to cause indirect effects, primarily visual, upon the settings of nationally important cultural heritage assets within and beyond the study area of this desk-based assessment. Due to the height and visibility of the turbines, it is considered that these indirect effects have the potential to be significant (i.e., they may have the potential to so alter the settings of some cultural heritage assets that the understanding, appreciation or experience of those assets is changed or harmed). An area covering a 10 km radius of the Core Study Area has been selected to determine which assets will have the potential to be indirectly affected by the Development. The final list of assets for selection will be based on theoretical visibility of the final Development layout, definitions of setting for each heritage asset, and professional judgement. Where possible, the final selection of heritage assets will be agreed in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland. These effects will be assessed and reported in full within the EIA Report.

7 POTENTIAL MITIGATION

It is considered that preservation *in situ* is the preferred method of mitigation for known archaeological remains. However, where this is not possible, or where there is a likelihood of encountering locally important unknown subsurface archaeological remains, a programme of archaeological works leading to preservation by record is considered appropriate.

Due to there being low potential for further unknown significant archaeological remains within the Core Study Area, it is proposed that the following steps are undertaken to reduce the potential impact:

- Avoidance of known or potential archaeological features and sites during finalisation of site design; and
- Consultation with THC archaeologist in order to establish appropriate mitigation should known archaeological features be impacted.

8 CONCLUSION

The desk-based assessment has revealed that many of the archaeological remains recorded within the study areas relate to prehistoric settlement and pastoral activities from the post-medieval period. Generally, settlement has been and is concentrated along the coast and waterways.

Potential to encounter further unrecorded archaeological remains is low due to the exposed upland nature of the Core Study Area which may have been used for seasonal grazing but is unlikely to have been conducive to significant archaeological features associated with settlement patterns.

In conclusion, it is likely that any work undertaken would have low potential to have a direct impact upon potentially significant, previously undiscovered archaeological remains. Consultation should be undertaken with the THC archaeologist to agree appropriate mitigation measures, where direct impacts cannot be avoided.

There is also the potential for indirect impacts to affect assets both in the Core Study Area and the wider area. Consideration of indirect effects will be reported on fully in the EIA Report, taking into account the way in which the Development may affect the setting of designated heritage assets.

9 GAZETTEER OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

9.1 Heritage Assets within 1 km

The following gazetteer summarises the results of the desk-based assessment and includes non-designated heritage assets within the 1km study area. Archaeological sites within the Core Study Area are highlighted in grey.

Table 9.1: Heritage assets within 1 km Study Area

HES Reference	Reference	Canmore ID	Name	Monument Type
SM3304	MHG9683	n/a	Halladale Bridge, hut circles 670m NE of, on banks of Giligill Burn	Scheduled prehistoric settlement
	MHG10224			
	MHG10225			
	MHG704	n/a	Bronze Age Spearhead, Cnocan Dubh	Findspot
	MHG1646	n/a	Shooting Bothy, Loch Hollistan	Shooting bothy
	MHG9680	6914	Kirkton	Hut circle
	MHG9681	6913	Ditched Mound, Giligill Burn	Enclosure; mound
	MHG9682	6912	Cairn, Bighouse	Cairn
	MHG9684	6910	Akran Burn	Hut circle; clearance cairn
	MHG9685	6909	Chapel, Allt na h-Eaglaise	Chapel; cemetery
	MHG9689	6905	Halladale Bridge	Cairn
	MHG9691	6903	Bighouse	Field boundary
	MHG9694	n/a	Bighouse	Hut circle; clearance cairn
	MHG9696	6896	Fort - Havaig	Fort; cairnfield
	MHG9698	n/a	Cairn, Akran Burn	Cairn
	MHG57755	6894	Kirkton	Hut circle
	MHG10123	n/a	Deasphollag	Hut circle; clearance cairn
	MHG10224	n/a	Cnoc A'Mhail	Enclosure
	MHG10221	7393	Burnt Mound, Akran Burn	Burnt mound
	MHG10222	7400	Bighouse	Hut circle
	MHG10223	7399	Deasphollag	Township
	MHG10226	7403	Ackran Burn	Field system
	MHG10296	7401	Akran Burn	Hut circle
	MHG10297	7402	Akran Burn	Hut circle
	MHG10298	7325	Treligeo Burn	Structure
	MHG10555	72961	Connagill	Farmstead
	MHG13411	n/a	Thaiphraig	Farmstead
	MHG13412	93266	Field system, Bighouse	Field system
	MHG13440	n/a	Akran Burn	Settlement
	MHG17814	86990	Allt Na H-Eaglaise	Enclosure
	MHG17815	86980	Golval	Building
	MHG18610	86996	Kirkton	Township

HES Reference	Reference	Canmore ID	Name	Monument Type
	MHG18611	86997	Cnoc Chorkael	Farmstead
	MHG18612	n/a	Cnoc Chorkael	Enclosure
	MHG18613	86999	Cnoc Chorkael	Building
	MHG19616	n/a	Golval	House
	MHG19645	93274	Golval	Enclosure
	MHG19696	n/a	Golval	Enclosure
	MHG19731	93264	Allt Na H-Eaglaise	Field system
	MHG19733	93267	Cnoc Chorkael	Enclosure
	MHG24089	n/a	Pillar, Bighouse, Melvich	Boundary marker
	MHG29428	142211	Kirkton Quarry	Quarry
	MHG34662	n/a	Kirkton quarry	Quarry scoop
	MHG43364	n/a	Lazy Beds, Deasphollag	Lazy beds
	MHG43367	7399	Deasphollag	Corn drying kiln
	MHG43370	n/a	Deasphollag	Nonconformist meeting house
	MHG50673	n/a	Tourmaline: Melvich, Pentland Firth	Wreck
	MHG55394	n/a	Fundamental bench mark, Reay	Fundamental bench mark
	MHG56672	n/a	Bridge House, 163 Strondhu, Melvich	House
		6895	Achridigill	Cairnfield (period unassigned), hut circle (prehistoric)
		6900	Bighouse	Farmstead (period unassigned)
		6904	Loch Mor	Broch (iron age)(possible)
		6911	Bighouse	Field system (period unassigned), hut circle (prehistoric)
		7325	Treligeo Burn	Structure (period unassigned)
		7398	Cnocan Dubh	Findspot (20th century), spearhead (bronze)(bronze age)
		7404	Deasphollag	Cairnfield (period unassigned), hut circle (prehistoric)
		72963	Loch Hollistan	Structure (period unassigned)
		86998	Cnoc Chorkael	Enclosure (period unassigned)
		87000	Thaiphraig	Farmstead (period unassigned)
		93277	Golval	House (period unassigned)

HES Reference	Reference	Canmore ID	Name	Monument Type
		93279	Golval	Enclosure (period unassigned)
		100569	Melvich, Roadside Column	Column (period unassigned)
		164100	Mclaich	Quarry (period unassigned)
		315644	Reay Fundamental Bench Mark	Fundamental bench mark (20th century)
		348154	Melvich	Quarry (period unassigned)
		348459	Golval Farm	Structure (period unassigned)
		348460	Golval Farm	Dyke (period unassigned)
		349449	Melvich	Enclosure (period unassigned)
		349450	Melvich	Sand and gravel workings (period unassigned)
		351655	Connagill	Roundhouse (prehistoric)
	HM-1		Post Medieval Sheepfold	1878 OS Map
	HM-2		Modern Enclosure	1962-64 OS Map
	HM-3		Modern Buildings	1962-64 OS Map
	HM-4		Modern Sheepfold	1962-64 OS Map
	HM-5		Connagill Substation and Electricity Line	Current OS
	AP1		Possible Circular Structure	Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3087
				Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 4089
	AP2		Possible Linear Feature	Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3087
				Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3090
				Sortie: 106G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 4089
	AP3		Possible Circular Structure	Sortie: 106A66:E82G/Scot/UK/0075; Frame 3090

9.2 Designated Assets within 10 km

The following gazetteer summarises the results of the desk-based assessment and includes designated heritage assets within the 10 km study area. These are shown on Figure 3.

Table 3: Designated Assets within 10 km

Designation Type	Designation Number	Name	x	y
Scheduled Monument	421	Achvarasdal House, two stones N of	298332	964729
Scheduled Monument	441	Clach Clais an Tuire, standing stone 1000m SE of Loanscorribest	299160	963166
Scheduled Monument	444	Cnoc-na-h'Uiseig, chambered cairn	299680	967731
Scheduled Monument	458	Knock Stanger, cairn 730m E of Sandside House	295992	965241
Scheduled Monument	476	Hill of Shebster, chambered cairn	301182	964635
Scheduled Monument	513	Achunabust, broch NNW of	299436	964634
Scheduled Monument	514	Achvarasdal House, broch 65m NE of	298352	964687
Scheduled Monument	564	Knock Urray, broch 400m NNE of Gunnscoft	298380	966302
Scheduled Monument	615	Reay, burial ground, old church and cross slab 175m E of Parish Church	296908	964819
Scheduled Monument	616	Sandside House, Reay, two carved stones	295193	965169
Scheduled Monument	1839	The Borg, broch, Strath Halladale	289943	950958
Scheduled Monument	1876	Leathad Carnaich, hut circles, clearance cairns, N of Dalhalvaig School	289405	955485
Scheduled Monument	2386	Creag Bhreac Mhor, stone rows 200m ESE of	301174	965975
Scheduled Monument	3304	Halladale Bridge, hut circles 670m NE of, on banks of Giligill Burn	289989	963537
Scheduled Monument	4265	Baligill, mill	285563	965637
Scheduled Monument	4290	Baligill Burn, limekilns	285546	966004
Scheduled Monument	6401	Dounreay Castle	298314	966945
Scheduled Monument	13622	Millburn, Strath Halladale, barrows 340m NNE of	289033	955881
Scheduled Monument	13678	Armada Burn, broch 1420m SE of Armada House.	279933	962670
Scheduled Monument	90078	Cnoc Freiceadain, long cairns	301286	965375

Designation Type	Designation Number	Name	x	y
Category A Listed Building	7160	Bighouse, Garden House and Walled Garden	289201	964831
Category A Listed Building	14986	Sandside House, Kiln Barn, Implement Shed, Byre, Cottage and Dairy	295216	965234
Category A Listed Building	14988	Sandside Harbour, 1 Sandside. The Bothy	295762	965990
Category A Listed Building	14992	Reay Parish Church	296733	964822
Category B Listed Building	7141	Smigel Mill	289535	957690
Category B Listed Building	7159	Bighouse, Stables, Gatepiers And Garden Wall	289095	964786
Category B Listed Building	7161	Bighouse, Barracks	289099	964766
Category B Listed Building	7162	Bighouse, Ice House	289201	964922
Category B Listed Building	12915	Smigel Bridge	289503	957695
Category B Listed Building	12922	Leathad Carnaich, Church of Scotland Mission House	289255	955791
Category B Listed Building	14983	Achimenach, Reay Free Church and Walled Memorial	302440	964039
Category B Listed Building	14984	Sandside House	295215	965155
Category B Listed Building	14985	Sandside House, NW And SE Walled Garden, Dovecot, And Privy	295127	965211
Category B Listed Building	14987	Sandside House, Lodge	295083	964629
Category B Listed Building	14989	Upper Dounreay Farm Steading	299820	965985
Category B Listed Building	17592	Reay, Reayburn House	296988	964930
Category B Listed Building	18831	Reay Village, Market Cross	295900	964553
Category C Listed Building	7140	Bighouse Farm Steading	289399	964972
Category C Listed Building	7142	Strath Halladale Mission Church	289518	957803
Category C Listed Building	7143	Strathy, Ben Griam	283510	965196
Category C Listed Building	7144	Strathy, Free Church of Scotland	284387	965268
Category C Listed Building	7145	Strathy Free Church Manse	284422	965274
Category C Listed Building	7146	Strathy East, Free Church of Scotland, School	284361	965268

Designation Type	Designation Number	Name	x	y
Category C Listed Building	14981	Reay Bridge	295728	964615
Category C Listed Building	14982	Reay, D Miller's Cottage, Cheese Press, And Steading	295629	964567
Category C Listed Building	17593	Shebster Barn	301749	964148

10 PLATES



Plate 1: Image taken from the east of the northern tip of Coal-Loach looking north-west over the CSA. Halladale Strath and Melvich / Portaskerra are visible in the background.

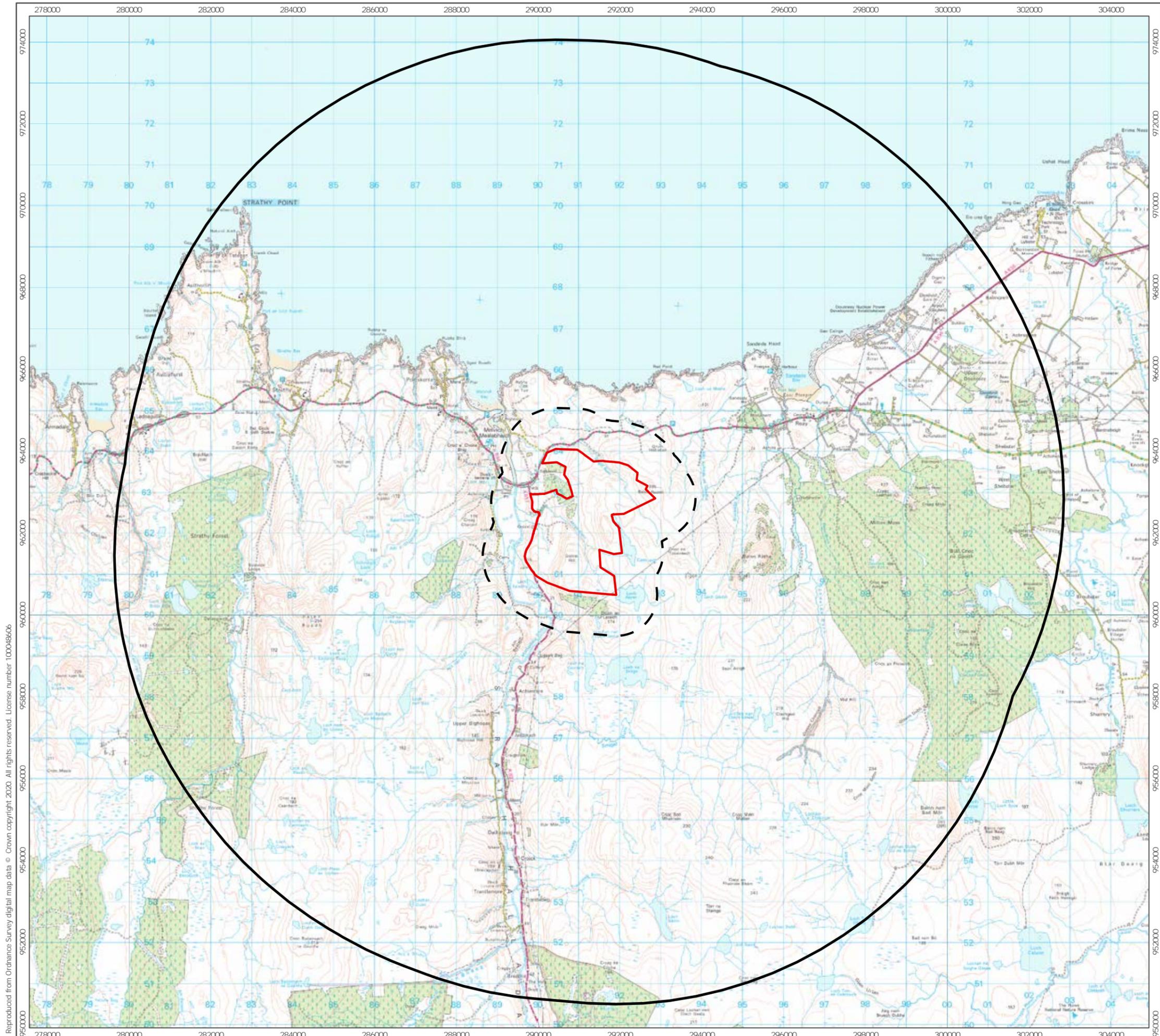


Plate 2: Image taken from the west of Coal-Loach looking south-west over the CSA



Plate 3: Image take from the south of the Core Study Area looking north-east over the CSA

11 FIGURES



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- Core Study Area
- 1 km Study Area
- 10 km Study Area

1:90,000 Scale @ A3

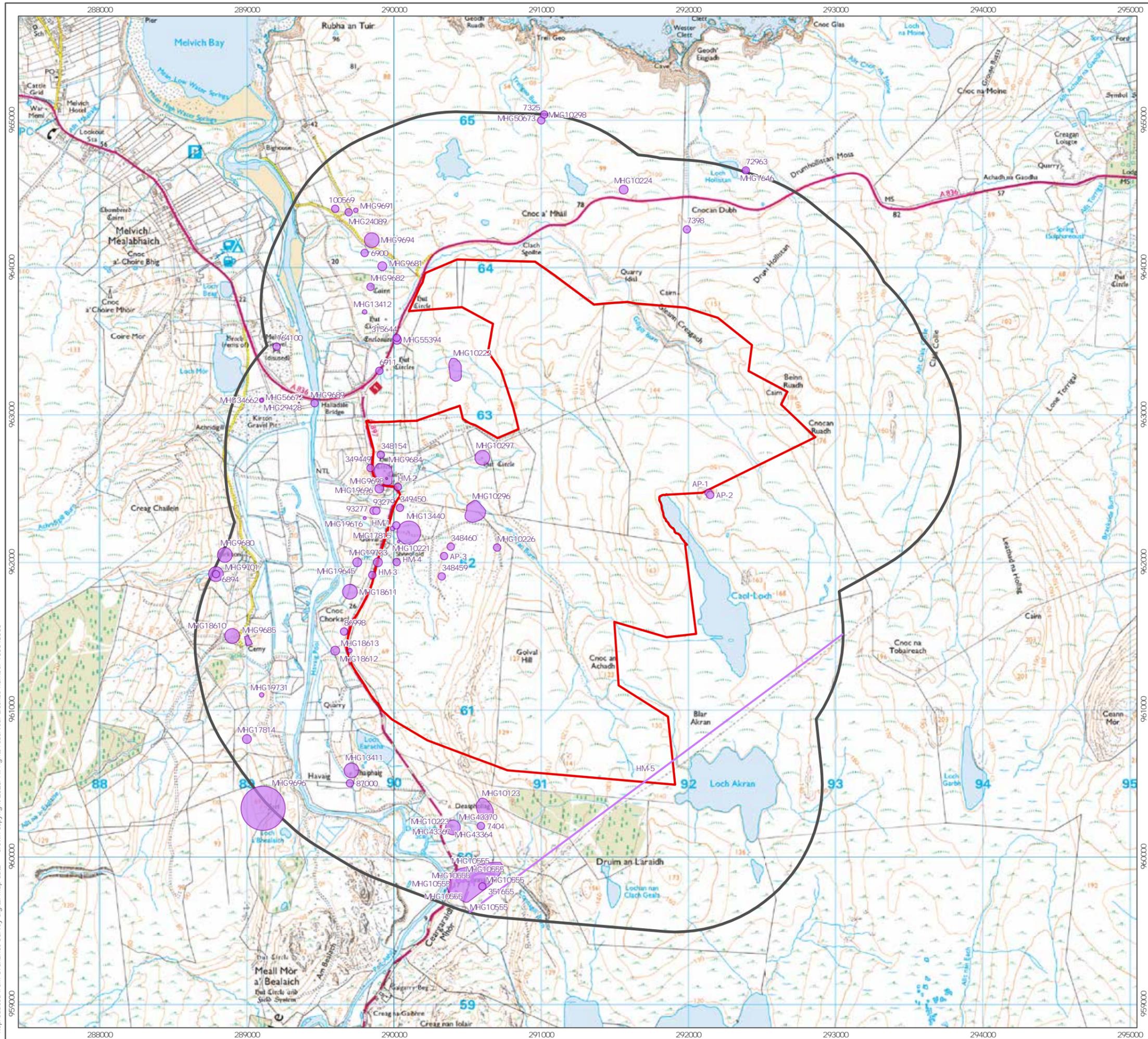
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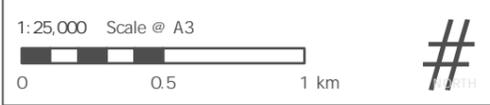
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Checked By: HK	Date: 19/08/2020

Study Areas
Figure 1

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



- Core Study Area
- 1 km Study Area
- Undesignated Heritage Assets



Produced By: SC	Ref: 3138-REP-023
Checked By: HK	Date: 19/08/2020

Non-Designated Assets within 1 km
Figure 2

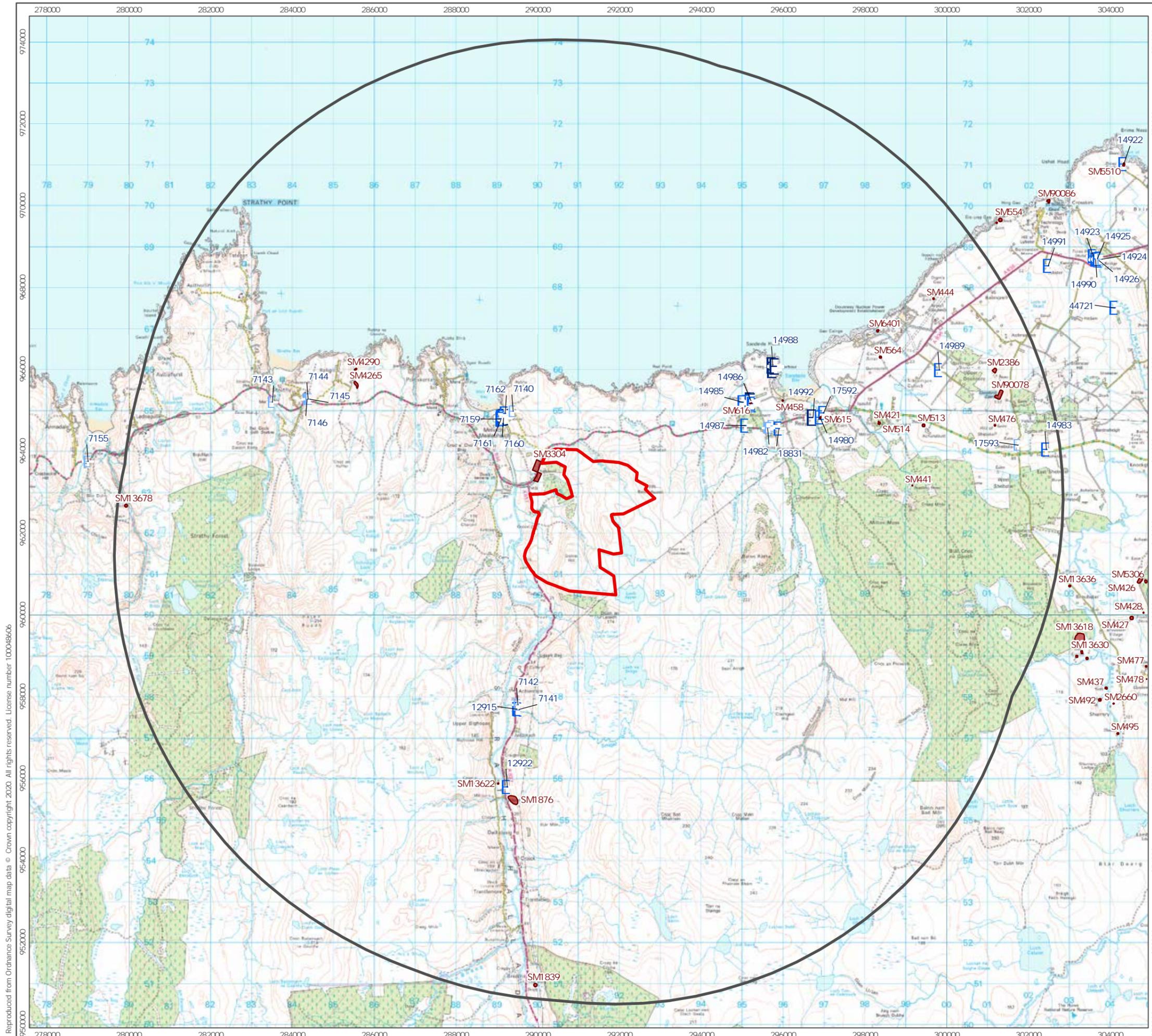
Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA

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- Core Study Area
- 10 km Study Area
- Scheduled Monuments

Listed Buildings

- E Category A
- E Category B
- E Category C



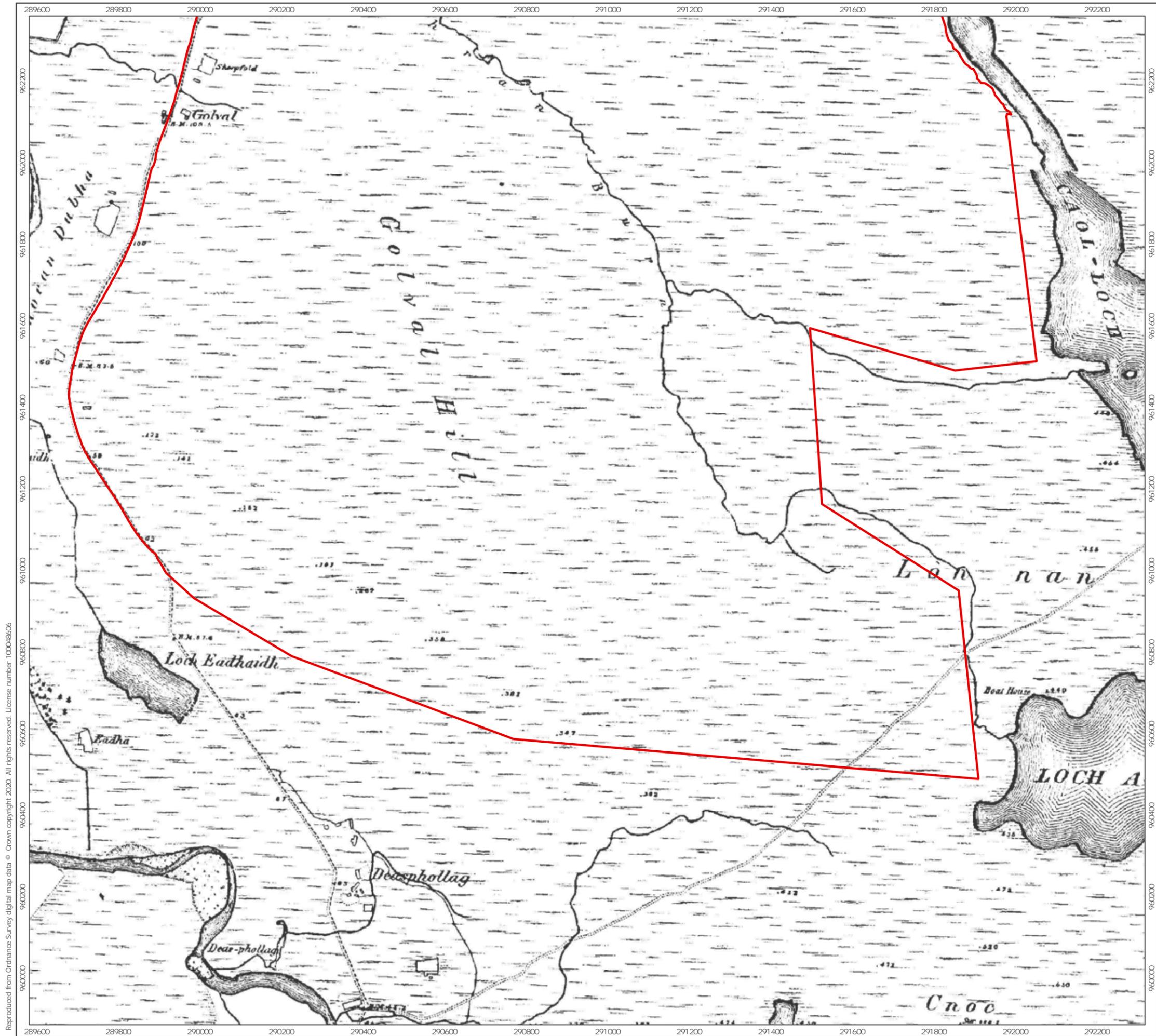
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Heritage Assets within 10km
Figure 3

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



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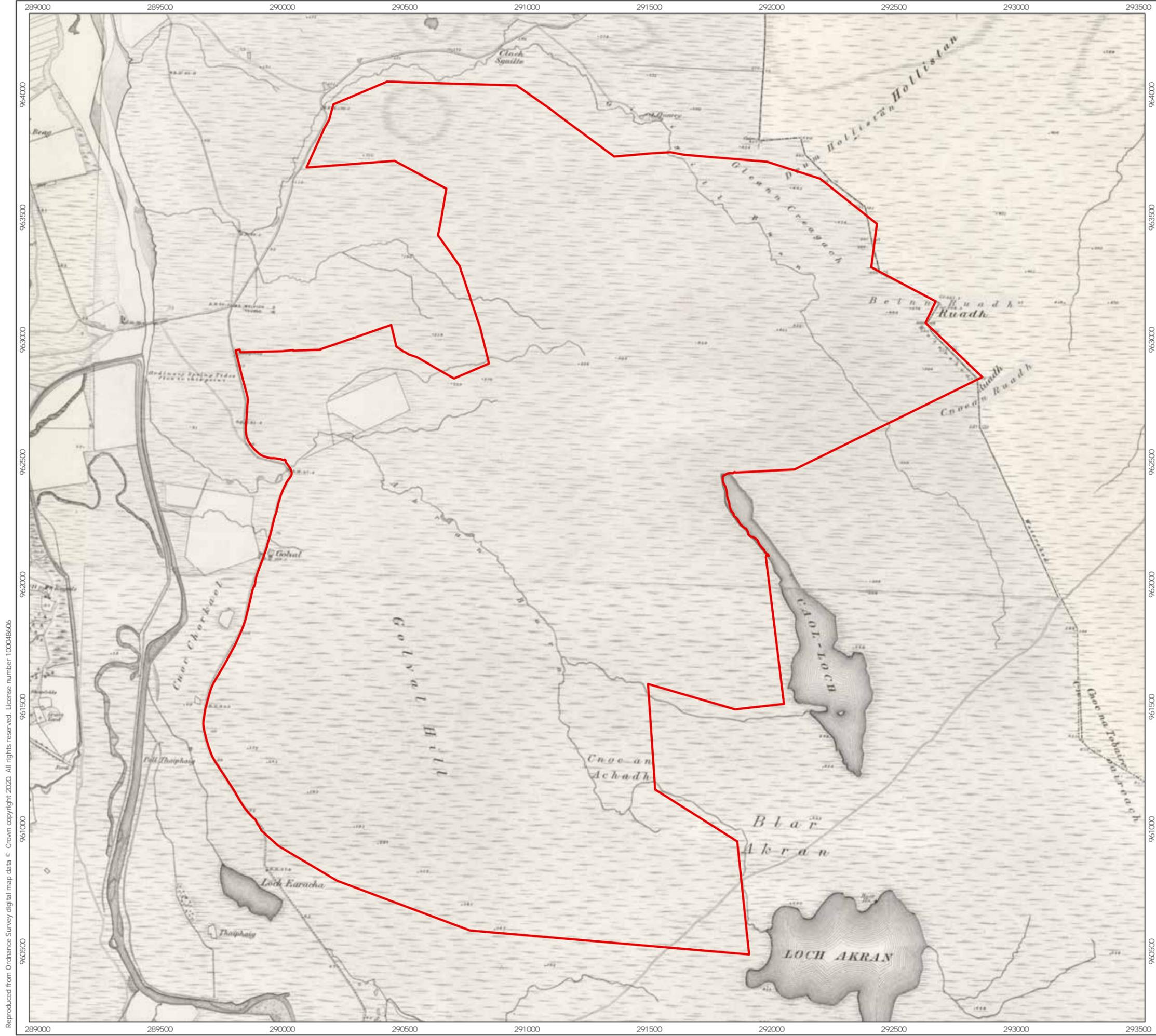
Core Study Area

1:9,000 Scale @ A3

Produced By: EH	Ref: 3138-REP-025
Checked By: SC	Date: 19/08/2020

1878 OS Map
Figure 4b

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



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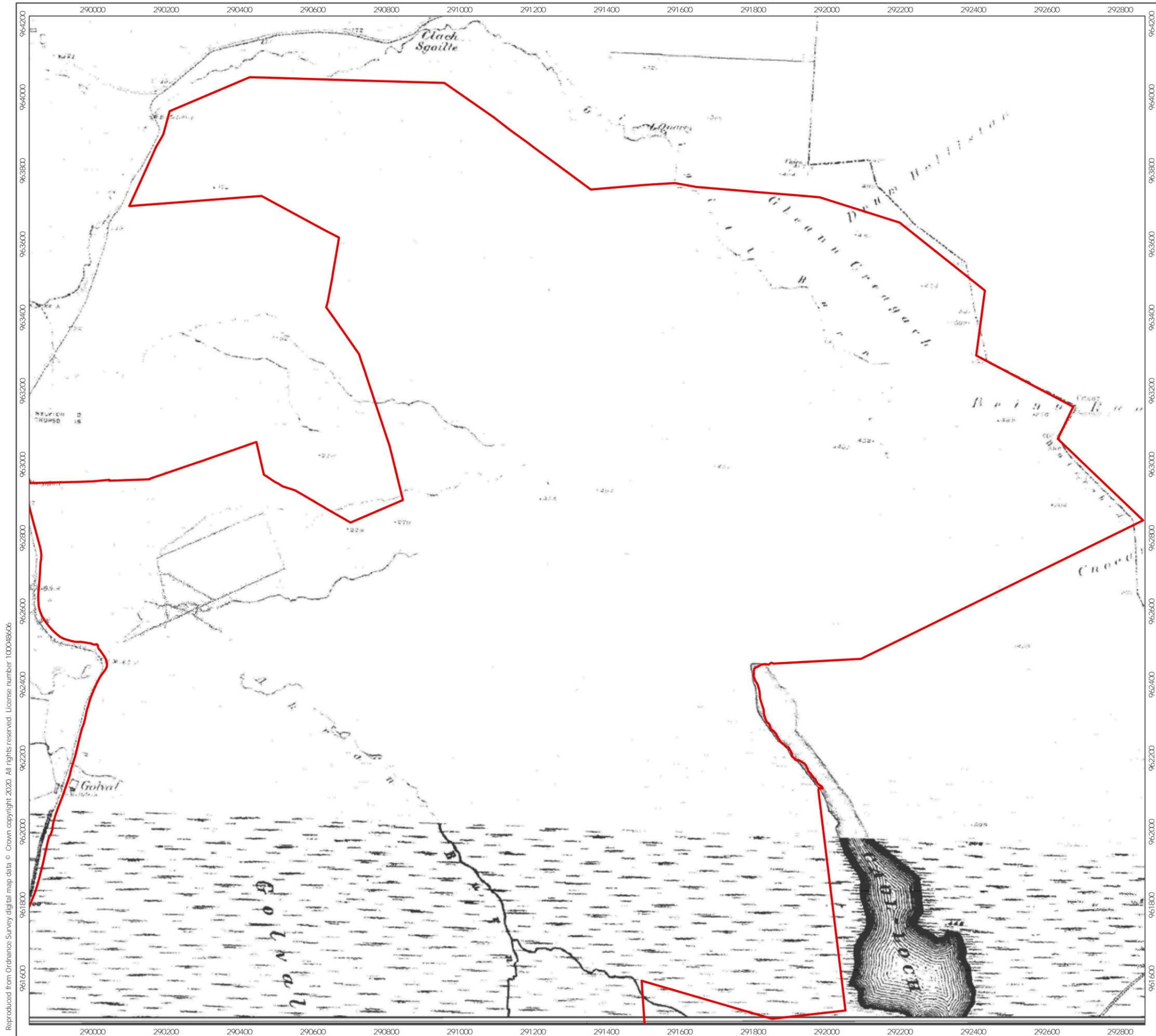
Core Study Area

1:15,000 Scale @ A3
 0 300 600 m 

Produced By: EH	Ref: 3138-REP-026
Checked By: SC	Date: 19/08/2020

1888 OS Map
Figure 5

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



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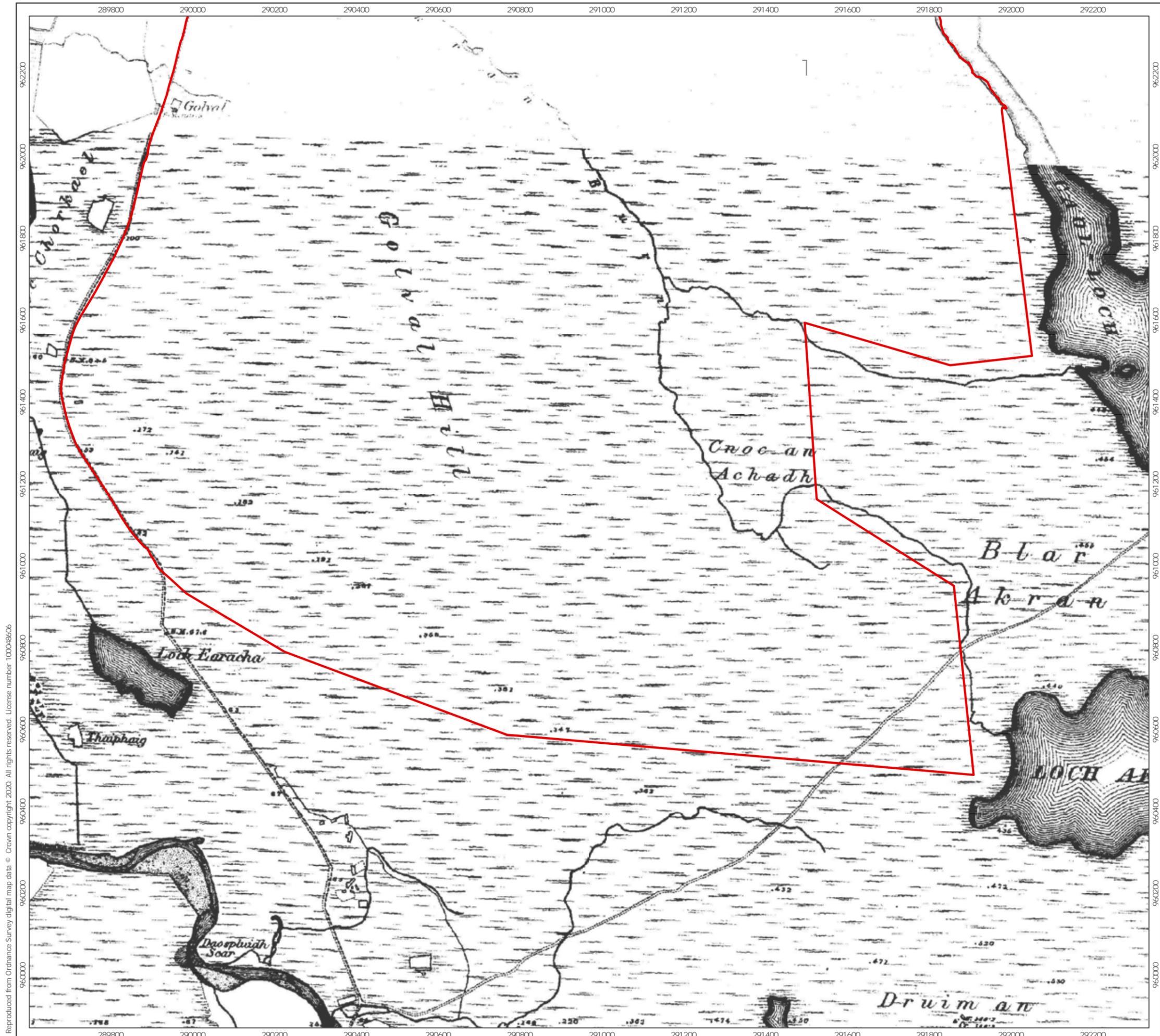
Core Study Area



Produced By: EH	Ref: 3138-REP-027
Checked By: HK	Date: 19/08/2020

1907-8 OS Map
Figure 6a

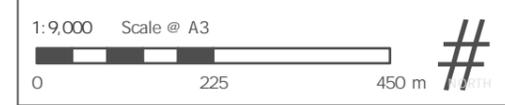
Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



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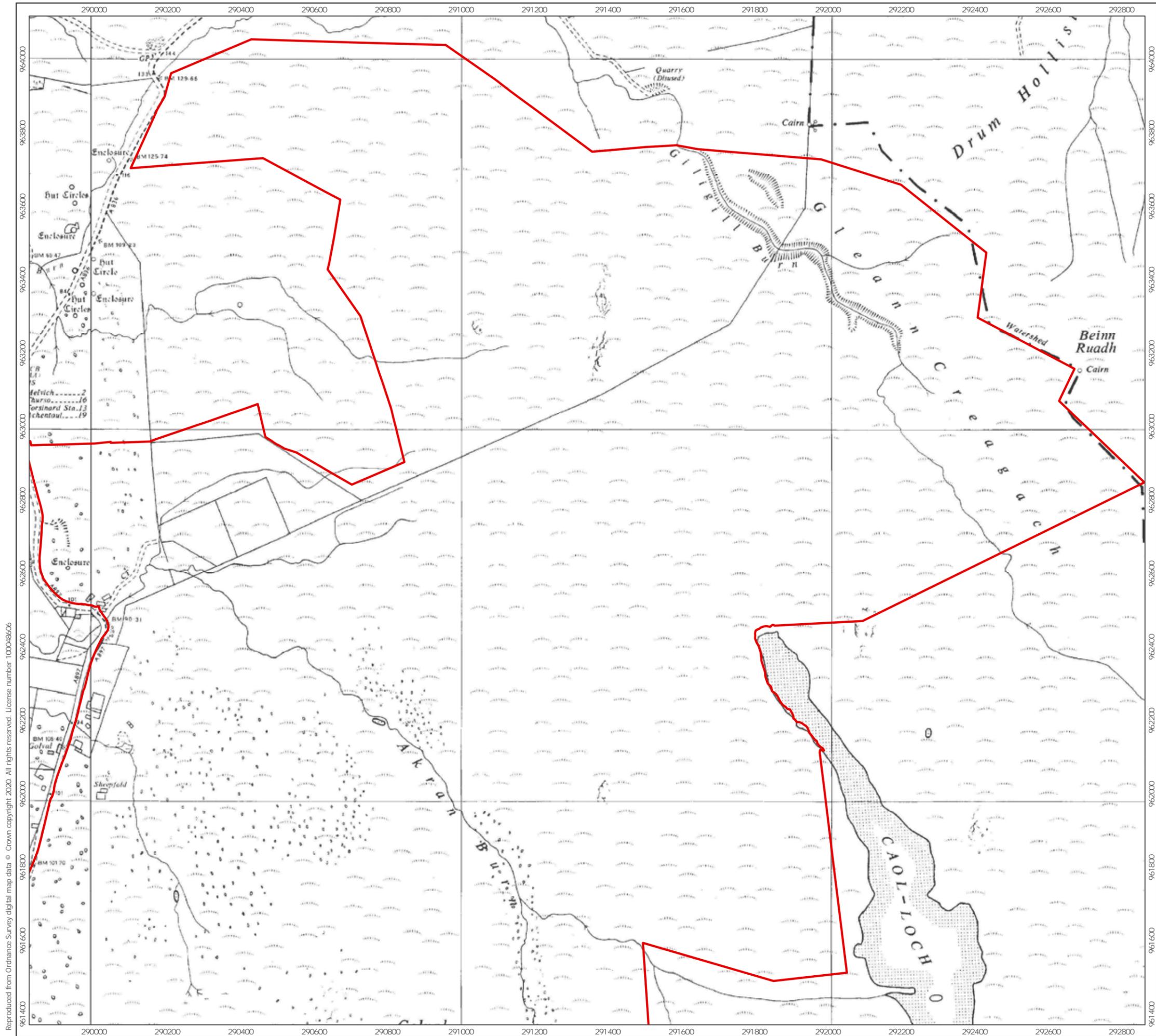
Core Study Area



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Checked By: HK	Date: 19/08/2020

1907-8 OS Map
Figure 6b

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA



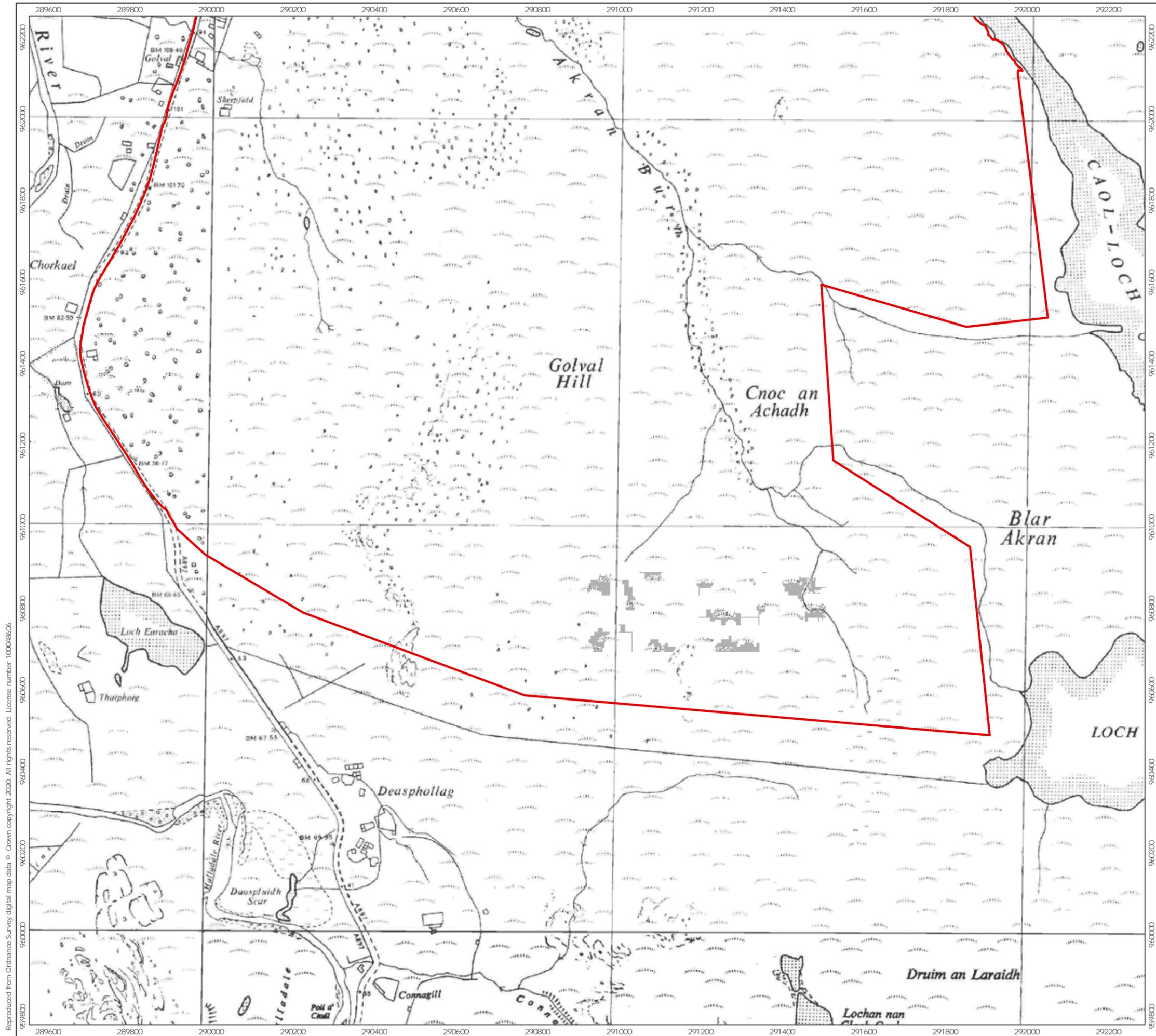
Core Study Area

1:10,000 Scale @ A3
 #

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Checked By:	Date: 19/08/2020

1962-64 OS Map
 Figure 7a

Ackron Wind Farm
 Archaeological DBA



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 Core Study Area

1:9,000 Scale @ A3
 #

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1962-64 OS Map
Figure 7b

Ackron Wind Farm
Archaeological DBA