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## Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation



### Data Structure Report and Recommendations

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## Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation DSR

<b>HAS Report No.</b>	SBC24-005
<b>Site Code</b>	SBC24
<b>Client</b>	Tulloch Homes
<b>Planning Reference</b>	21/05918/FUL
<b>OS Grid Reference</b>	NH 54310 54612
<b>Date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
<b>Author(s)</b>	Eile McLeod
<b>Approved by</b>	Lynne McKeggie

### Summary

An Archaeological Evaluation was commissioned by Tulloch Homes ahead of the development of a Housing Estate at Schoolhouse Belt, to the south of Conon Bridge.

The Desk Based Assessment was used to highlight the archaeological and historical character of the area and to inform the interpretation of features that may be encountered during the Evaluation.

The Evaluation was conducted in two stages, the first between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of March and the second on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2024.

No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recovered, and no further works are recommended.

## Contents

Summary .....	2
Contents .....	3
Illustrations .....	3
Tables.....	4
Legislation and Policy.....	4
Acknowledgements.....	4
Glossary .....	4
Location .....	5
Introduction.....	6
Desk Based Assessment.....	6
Geology (from BGS Geology Viewer) .....	7
Historic Environment Record .....	7
Scheduled Monuments.....	7
Prehistoric Features.....	8
Post Medieval features.....	8
Historic Mapping .....	9
OS Namebook.....	10
Statistical Accounts.....	11
Previous Archaeological Work .....	12
Conclusion .....	13
The Evaluation.....	13
Aims and Objectives .....	13
Methodology.....	13
Description of Recorded Archaeology.....	14
Summary of Finds.....	17
Discussion & Conclusions .....	17
Recommendations.....	17
Archive.....	18
Bibliography and References .....	18
Appendices.....	19

## Illustrations

Figure 1 : Site location.....	5
Figure 2: Plan of the proposed development. ....	6
Figure 3: Desk Based Assessment Points .....	7
Figure 4: 1st edition OS 25” map surveyed 1873. ....	9
Figure 5: 2nd edition OS 25” map surveyed 1904.....	10
Figure 6: Previous Archaeological Works.....	12
Figure 7: Trench layout and paths.....	15
Figure 8: Post Ex of laydown area, S facing, Photo No. 0936.....	15
Figure 9: Post ex of trench 17, East facing, Photo No. 1275 .....	16
Figure 10: Post Ex of Trench 11, North facing, Photo No.1262.....	16
Figure 11: Post ex of Trench 13, East facing, Photo No. 1266.....	17
Figure 12: Camera Points (North).....	25
Figure 13: Camera Points (South).....	26

## Tables

Table 1: Photo Register.....	19
Table 2: Context Register.....	21
Table 3: DBA Points.....	23
Table 4: Trench Register.....	24

## Legislation and Policy

The common principles underlying international conventions, national legislation and local authority planning policies are that cultural heritage assets should be identified in advance of development and safeguarded where practicable; if disturbance is unavoidable appropriate recording of features and recovery of portable artefacts should take place. These have been set out in international agreements, UK and Scottish legislation, as well as national and local planning policies<sup>1</sup>.

Professional standards maintained throughout the present project adhered to the Codes of Conduct and Approved Practice and Standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists<sup>2</sup>.

## Acknowledgements

This document was written by Eile McLeod and edited by Lynne McKeggie. The project was commissioned and funded by Tulloch Homes. Fieldwork was directed by Karen Kennedy with the assistance of Eile McLeod. Background mapping has been reproduced by permission of the Ordnance Survey under Licence 100043217. Historic mapping is courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

## Glossary

- BGS - British Geological Survey
- DBA – Desk based Assessment
- DES – Discovery and Excavation Scotland
- CIfA – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- HES – Historic Environment Scotland
- HET – Historic Environment Team
- HHER – Highland Historic Environment Record
- NLS – National Library of Scotland
- OS – Ordnance Survey

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<sup>1</sup> A summary of relevant international, EU, UK and Scottish legislation and policies is available from the HAS office on request.

<sup>2</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Excavation.



## Location

The proposed development is located on the southern side of Conon Bridge along the A862 towards Beauly. The site is centred on National Grid Reference: NH 54310 54612. At the time of fieldwork the land was mainly scrubland with some sparsely wooded areas.

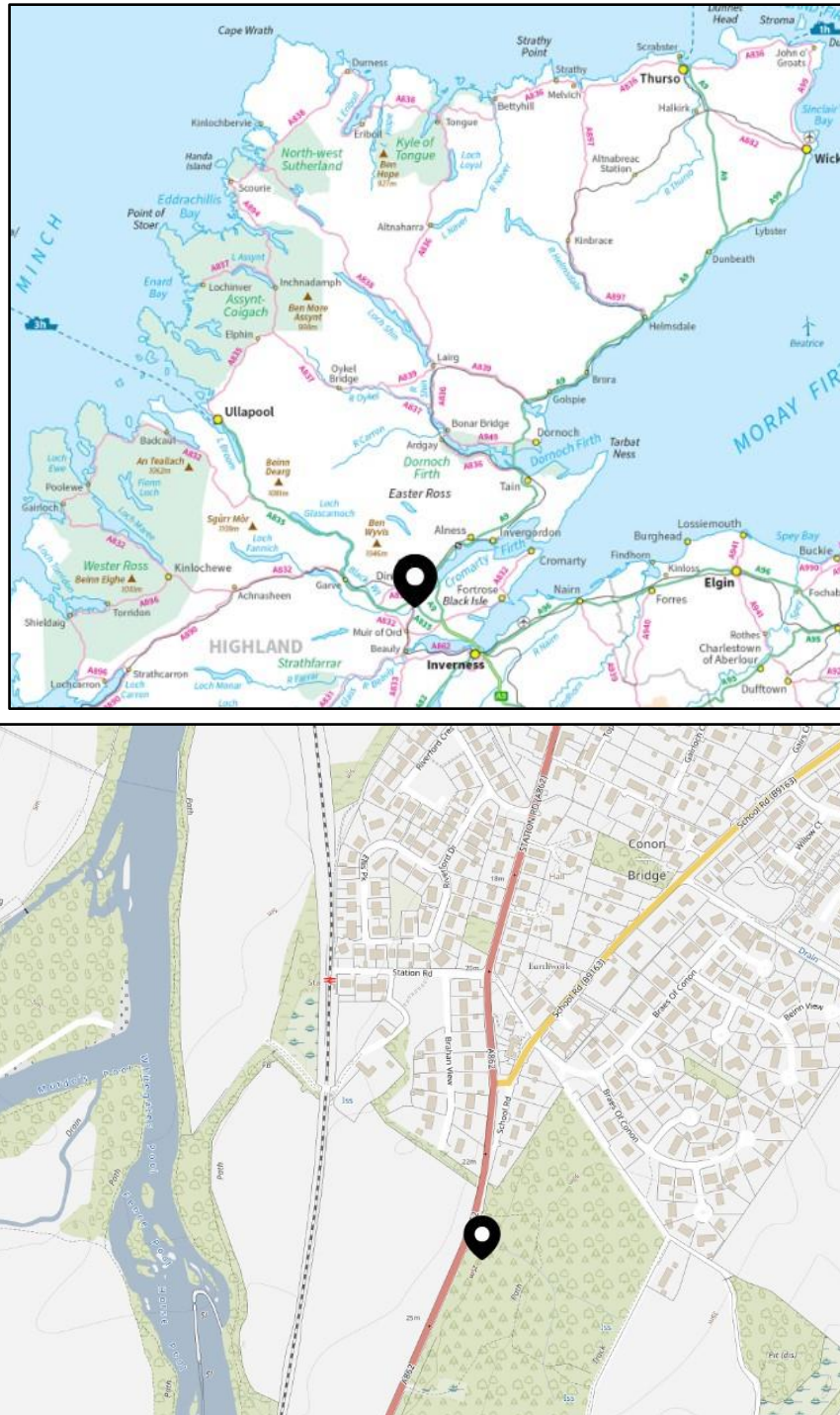


Figure 1 : Site location.

From OS mapping, reproduced under Licence. Not to original scale





## Geology (from BGS Geology Viewer)

The principle underlying geology of the site is Raddery Sandstone Formation bedrock. The superficial deposits are a mixture of raised beach deposits of gravel, sand, and silt. As well as Hummocky Glacial deposits of diamicton, sand, and gravel.

## Historic Environment Record

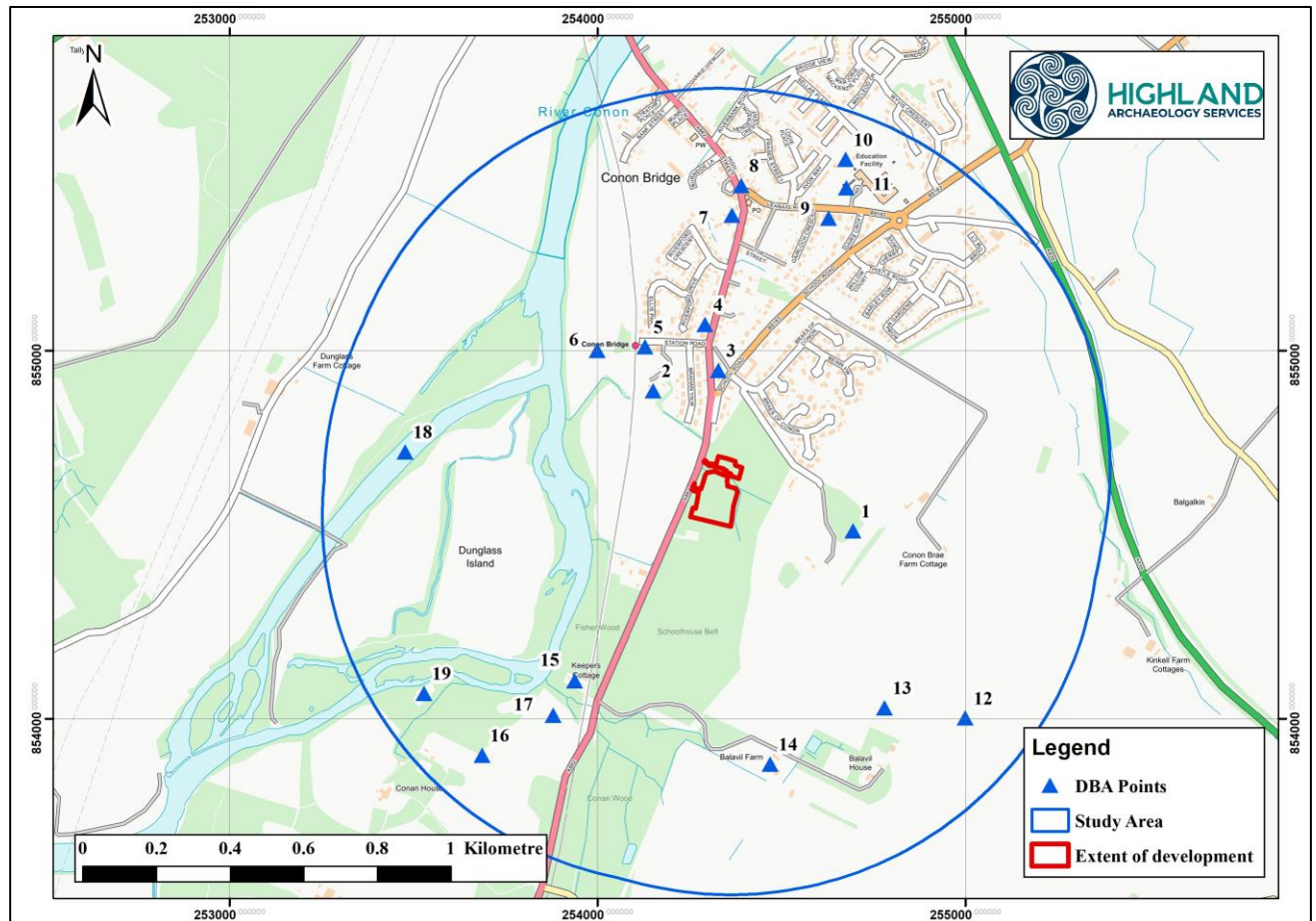


Figure 3: Desk Based Assessment Points

## Scheduled Monuments

The most notable archaeological feature within the Study Area is Scheduled Monument: Conon Bridge Henge (DBA4). Henges are typically considered to be prehistoric circular ditch and bank monuments associated with ritual or religious practices, usually associated with the Neolithic or occasionally Bronze Age period. This henge, measuring to approximately 26m in diameter, is unusual in that it has a causeway across the ditch but no corresponding break in the bank. Excavations of a similar monument at Pullyhour, Caithness dated to the Bronze Age.

Around 1.2km south of the proposed development is David's Fort (SM2500), a medieval moated homestead. The fort measures 83ft north to south by 85 east to west. The motte was still recorded to be filled with water in 1965, fed by a watercourse from an artificial pond. The fort is thought to date to the medieval period.

## Prehistoric Features

The general location of a findspot has been represented by a record in the nearest grid square corner (**DBA 12**). This represents a bronze socketed axe head likely to date to the Late Bronze Age. This was recovered during metal detecting and allocated through the Treasure Trove system to Inverness Museum. To the south west of the proposed development site are the possible remains of a series of pits or a ring ditch, which have been identified through aerial photography (**DBA 13**)

## Early Medieval

Within Logie Wester church burial ground (**DBA 19**) a Pictish stone slab containing a range of designs was recorded during clearing works. Normally found along the north and east coast of Scotland, the Pictish carved stones are designated into 3 classes: Class 1 is recognised as abstract and naturalistic symbols. Class 2 represents a blended mix of Pictish symbols and early Christian iconography. Class 3 represents only early Christian iconography<sup>3</sup>.

The Conon Stone is a Class 2 stone which includes depictions of mythical beasts, oxen, an anthropomorphic warrior with sword and shield, as well as a 'double disc and a Z-rod' symbol. On the reverse, is an early Christian cross adorned with various depictions of snakes. The stone has been reused as a grave marker dating to late 18th C, seen on the top left-hand side of the slab. The first inscriptions likely date to the 8th Century and the stone measures 1.5m by 0.6m by .02m. It has since been removed from site and is now located in Dingwall museum.

Located further north along the river Conon is the generalised location of an Early Historic era penannular brooch found by a metal detectorist (**DBA 6**). This was allocated to Inverness Museum through the Treasure Trove allocation process.

## Post Medieval features

The closest archaeological feature of interest is Conon Brae Quarry (**DBA 1**), this was noted in the OS Namebook in 1878 as a 'pretty large, partly disused quarry'. The stone from here was used to build many of the bridges along the Highland Railway line, according to the Namebook (see below).

To the south west of the proposed development site is Logie Wester with church, burial ground and Pictish stone (**DBA 19**). This site contains the remains of an 18th Century church and burial ground, first detailed on Roy's Military map. There are no upstanding remains of an even earlier church recorded at the site, save for a platform. The burial ground ranged in date from the 19th to the 20th Century.

Around the centre of the village, there are a number of Listed Buildings and other important heritage features. To the north east of the proposed development area is Riverford House, a two-storey grade C Listed Building dating to around 1800 (**DBA2**). There is cluster of Listed Buildings to the north of the proposed development site at McKenzie gardens, where houses 1-6, a lynch gate and the boundary wall all enjoy grade C Listed status (**DBA3**). Houses 1-6 were once the public school and were developed into as a Nurse's home during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. To the south west of the proposed development site, Conan Lodge is a historic building which was once listed but has had its category C Listed Building status removed. It was an ancillary building within the grounds of Conan House, dating to the later 19<sup>th</sup> century (**DBA15 and 16**). Undesignated assets including Larchfield (another delisted house) (**DBA 7**), the War Memorial (**DBA 8**), and Gairs Croft (**DBA 10**) (a house built by experimental precast concrete in the 1960's) are all located in the centre of the village. As well as this, several features were recorded during the construction of Ben Wyvis Primary school (**DBA 11**) these include a sluice, mill dam, pond, and lade. These features connect to Teanhaun farmstead.

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<sup>3</sup> HiARF, 8.6.4 Pictish Stone Carvings  
Highland Archaeology Services Ltd  
June 2024



Within the surrounding area there are two post medieval farmsteads. These being Teanhaun (**DBA 10**) and Balavid farm and mill (**DBA 14**). The former being shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as an L-shaped and rectangular building, with a farmhouse, garden, and a well. By the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map the two farm buildings are now one. The latter consists of a 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse built into a post medieval mill house which possibly dates to the late 16<sup>th</sup> century.

The railway line to the west of the proposed development site and associated station to the north west were opened in 1862 as part of the 'Far North' section of railway line between Inverness and Wick (**DBA5**). Photographic survey of the station site in 2012 recoded a small area of cobbling which appeared to represent all that remained of the station. Slightly outside the 1km study area is Conon Bridge (**MHG9038**) and Conon Bridge Viaduct (**MHG9045**), Built during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, much of the village expanded due to the development of the bridges, allowing for easier access to Dingwall.

Finally, two features of the river were noted during the 'Roads Through Ross' community archaeology project, which sought to understand historic routeways through Ross-shire. **DBA 17** notes the location of a possibly man-made trackway which ran from Blairdhu/ Kileranan to Balvaird/ Logiebride. **DBA18** is the location of a ford marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map.

## Historic Mapping

Conon Bridge is notably absent from early maps, including Blaeu (1654), Moll (1745) and Roy (1747-52), seemingly only becoming established with the creation of the bridge by Thomas Telford in the early 1800's, and subsequently the railway in the 1860's. The first real detail is therefore only really present in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25 inch OS map, which was surveyed in 1873. This map shows Riverford farm (**DBA 2**), Cononbrae farm, Conanside quarry (**DBA 1**), Quarry Croft, and the train station (**DBA 5**). The map shows the proposed development area to be wooded, see Figure 4.

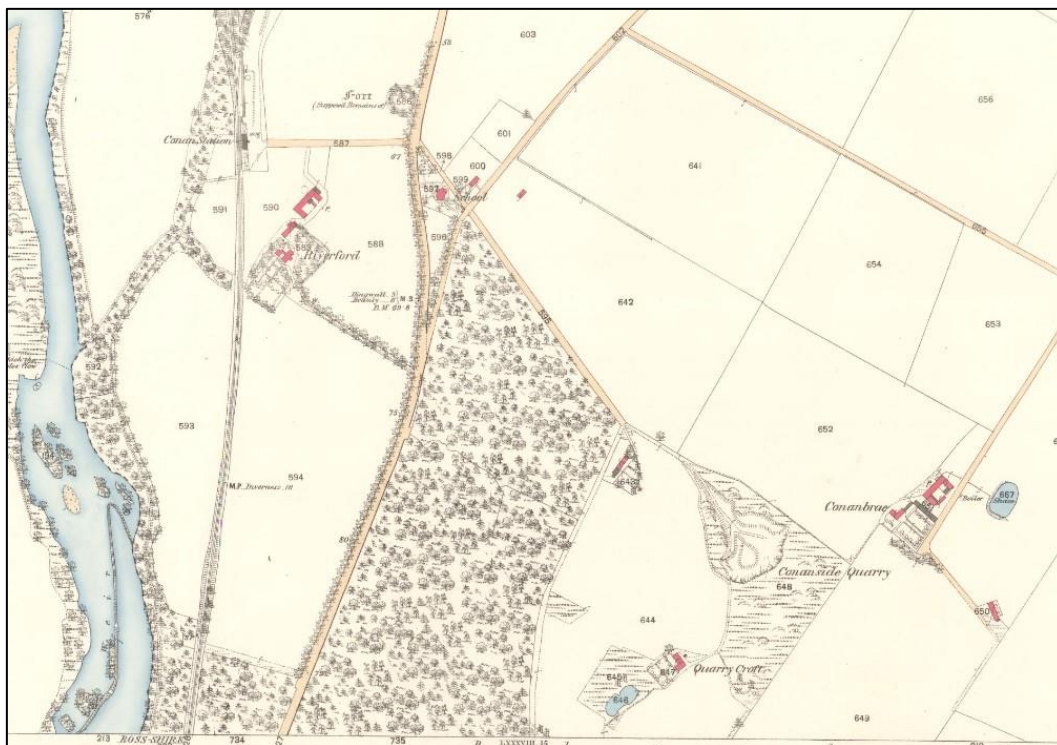
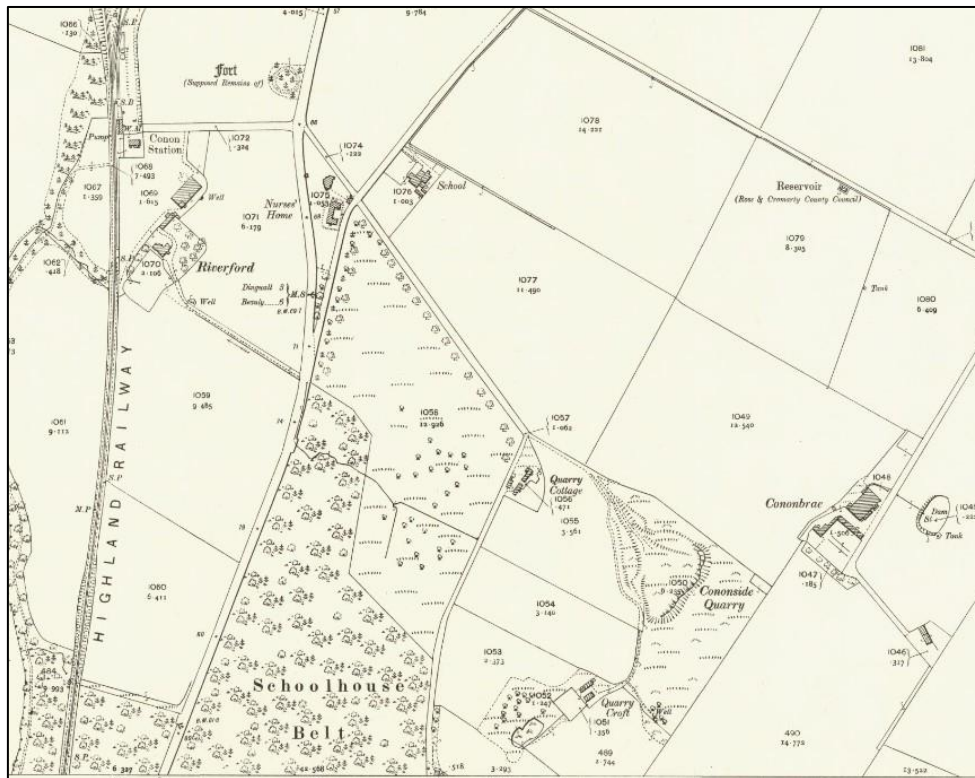


Figure 4:1st edition OS 25" map surveyed 1873.  
Ross-shire and Cromartyshire (Mainland) LXXXVIII

The second edition map, surveyed in 1904, shows very similar details however with the addition of the nurses' home and a reservoir to the north. The proposed development area is now seen to be partially wooded; the northern part of the site is denoted as rough grazing with a line of trees along the field boundary, see Figure 5. According to satellite imagery<sup>4</sup>, the land went through multiple phases of felling and regeneration between 2009 and 2019.



**Figure 5: 2nd edition OS 25" map surveyed 1904.  
Ross-shire and Cromartyshire (Mainland) LXXXVIII**

## OS Namebook

The Ordnance Survey Name Books were created by surveyors as they mapped Britain in the 1800's. The books record the names of the settlements and natural features that they encountered, and descriptions of the places themselves. The Namebook gives descriptions of a number of buildings and streets surrounding the proposed development area.

The Namebook describes many of the features within the surrounding area of the proposed development site. Firstly, describing Riverford House (**DBA 2**) as a large farmhouse which was 2 storeys high, slated, and in good repair situated near Conon Station (**DBA 5**). Conon Station was described to be a small wooden building on the Highland railway line which, too, was slated and in good repair.

To the north, the school (**DBA 3**) was described to be a small building with an associated dwelling house. Both buildings were thatched and in good repair. The school was supported by the government and was not involved with either the free or established church. David's fort (**SM2500**) is described as a circular trench situated in a clump of Fir Wood and that it is supposed to have been

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<sup>4</sup> Google Earth 2024

a fort forming one of a Chain of similar entrenchments which can be traced through by Beauly into Strath Glass.”<sup>5</sup>

To the east, Conanbrae is described to be a 1 storey farmhouse with a thatched roof, its associated offices were also 1 storey and had slated roofs. Nearby is Quarry croft, also, a small one storey thatched house.

Finally, Cononside Quarry (**DBA 1**) is described to be a ‘pretty large partly disused quarry’. The stones were a hard freestone, very durable and good for building purposes. It noted that many of the bridges along the highland railway had been made from this material. <sup>6</sup>

## **Statistical Accounts**

The Statistical Accounts of Scotland are collections of accounts often written by Ministers. They detail many aspects of daily life as well as give descriptions of agriculture, industry and the people living there. The proposed development site is located in the parish of Urquhart and Logie Wester.

The Old Statistical Account, published in 1793, was written in 1792 by the Reverend Mr Charles Calder. Urquhart and Logie wester are a united parish however the author was unsure when this union occurred. The account described the parish to be 9 to 10 miles long and 3 to 4 miles broad. The population as of 1792 sat at 2,901<sup>7</sup>. During the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century the population declined due to several inhabitants leaving when the exemption of duties of excise on spirits produced within Ferintosh was ceased in 1786<sup>8</sup>. He also gave some interesting details about the inhabitants of the parish, including the number of houses, the number of occupants within houses, the age demographics, and the practicing trades. It was mentioned that salmon fishing took place in the river Conan<sup>9</sup>, and that land had been improved along Conan-side. Very little of the ground was enclosed<sup>10</sup>, and the parish was ill-supplied with fuel<sup>11</sup>. The only mention of antiquities is a description of large conical heaps of stones in the south west of the parish containing stone cists, likely to be prehistoric burial cairns<sup>12</sup>. The fords were noted to have been fatal to many, taking several people’s lives<sup>13</sup>.

The New Statistical Account was written by the reverend John MacDonald in 1840.<sup>14</sup>. The parish had since expanded to 10 miles long and 31 miles broad<sup>15</sup>. He noted that much of the parish was cultivated<sup>16</sup> and there was a significant maritime industry along the Cromarty Firth. MacDonald notes that there is a significant number of fir and larch in the surrounding area of Conon<sup>17</sup>. The population as of 1831 was 2,864.<sup>18</sup> The majority of the population were cottars, whom despite having poorer living conditions were not unhappy with their situation<sup>19</sup>. They had access to approximately 4 acres of land, Macdonald notes that many heritor’s were condensing the land into

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<sup>5</sup> OS1/28/31/33

<sup>6</sup> OS1/28/31/33

<sup>7</sup> OSA, 1793, p.206

<sup>8</sup> OSA, 1793, p.208

<sup>9</sup> OSA, 1793, p.211

<sup>10</sup> OSA, 1793, p.212

<sup>11</sup> OSA 1793, p.213

<sup>12</sup> OSA, 1793, p.214

<sup>13</sup> OSA, 1793, p.215

<sup>14</sup> NSA, p.363 & p.380

<sup>15</sup> NSA, 1840, p.364

<sup>16</sup> NSA, 1840, p.365

<sup>17</sup> NSA, 1840, P.368

<sup>18</sup> NSA, 1840, P.375

<sup>19</sup> NSA 1840, p.375



large farms and introducing modern systems of husbandry among his tenants<sup>20</sup>, farms were being enclosed and subdivided<sup>21</sup>. The nearest market town to the parish was Dingwall and there were only 2 villages; Conon Bridge and Culbokie<sup>22</sup>. There are no antiquities or other heritage features likely to apply to the proposed development area within this account.

### Previous Archaeological Work

There have been five programmes of Previous Archaeological Work (PAW) within the study area. Directly over the site, a Walkover Survey was undertaken within Conon Wood in 2004 (PAW1, EHG1060). The Archaeologist confirmed the location and character of features around David's Fort (SM2500) well to the south of the site but found no evidence of archaeological features within or close to the study area considered here.

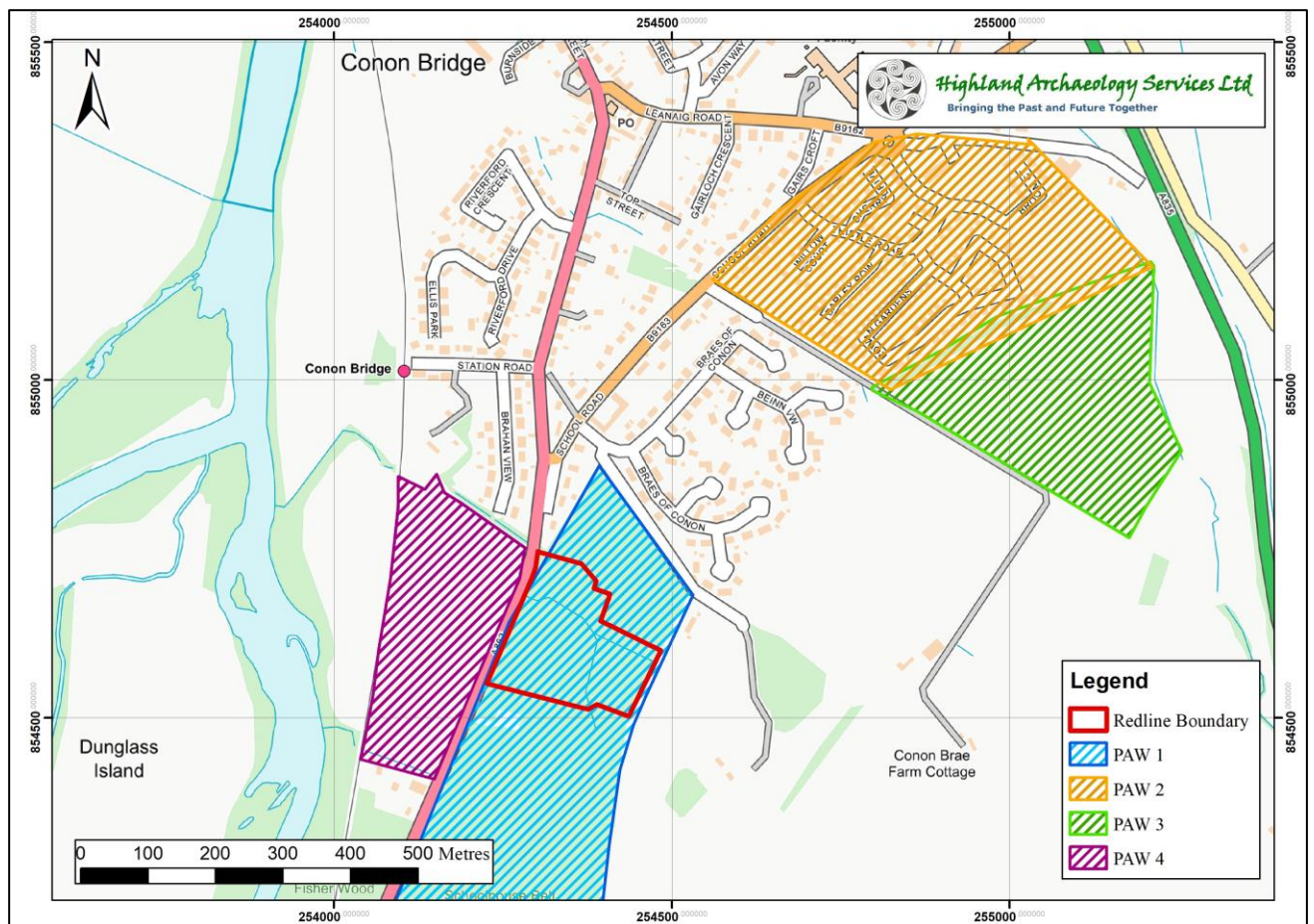


Figure 6: Previous Archaeological Works

In the Braes of Conon area on the north eastern edge of the study area (PAW2) two phases of archaeological fieldwork have been undertaken. An initial programme of trial trenching was undertaken in 2010 (EHG3531) followed by targeted excavation and monitored topsoil strip in 2012 (EHG3741). Findings included a heavily truncated roundhouse, and a sunken trough which may have been the remains of a Bronze Age burnt mound. These findings suggest a potential for survival of buried prehistoric remains in the fields surrounding Conon Bridge.

<sup>20</sup> NSA, 1840, p374

<sup>21</sup> NSA, 1840, p.376

<sup>22</sup> NSA, 1840, p.377



To the west and north east of the current proposed development site, two Desk Based Assessments and Site Visits (**PAW 3** and **4**) were undertaken in 2023 by HAS. Both reports recorded the presence of historic field boundaries, specifically two dykes and a turf covered bank. Both reports reached similar conclusions regarding the probability of buried archaeological remains.

## Conclusion

The Desk Based Assessment has confirmed that there is archaeological and historical activity within the study area. The proposed development sits in a busy multi-period landscape, spanning from prehistory to the modern day. The site itself is located on high ground with extended views along the strath above the River Conon. This prominent place within the landscape can be a mark of higher archaeological potential. This is further suggested by the multiperiod features in reasonable proximity to the proposed development.

The presence of a henge monument near to the site attests to prehistoric activity in the area, confirmed by the excavations at Conon Brae. In nearby fields the recovery of a bronze age axe-head and an early historic brooch pin by metal detecting also suggests that artefacts have the potential to survive. As well as this, the aerial photography of the possible ring ditch/ pit circle seen south west of the proposed development site demonstrates that there is prehistoric archaeological potential. There is Early Medieval activity as seen through the Pictish stone found to the south, which heightens the potential for Early Medieval features or artefacts to be present within the proposed development site. The study area had continued in use through the post-medieval period. However, as shown on the Ordnance Survey Maps, the proposed development site has been used as woodland or scrubland for an extended period of time, decreasing the likelihood of post medieval and modern remains. This may also have impacted the survivability of ephemeral archaeological features due to damage caused by tree roots.

## The Evaluation

### *Aims and Objectives*

The principal aims of the Evaluation stage of the project were to:

- To establish what is previously known about the site and potentially related features in the vicinity of the development.
- To evaluate the site for the proposed development in order to identify and record significant archaeological remains and finds revealed during the course of that work.
- To present and disseminate the archaeological evidence gathered during the fieldwork and the research potential that evidence has to elucidate the history of the site.

### *Methodology*

The two phases of Evaluation were conducted between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of March and then between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. The March fieldwork was undertaken to prepare an access and laydown area to facilitate the following fieldwork. This was therefore incorporated into the trench plan as Trench 1. The rest of the trench layout was completed in June with a random area sample.

Constraints on the trench layout included Tree Protection zones, a watercourse and paths. Potential ornithological constraints identified in the WSI no longer applied at the time of trenching in June. There were no services identified within the site prior to or during trenching.

The weather was temperamental with periods of sun as well as overcast with heavy showers. The layout of the trenches proposed in the WSI were altered slightly in order to ensure the core path and public path would not be affected by the trial trenching. This resulted in 3 of the trenches being split in order to accommodate access along the paths. A total of 17 trenches were opened including trench 1. This totalled 2210m<sup>2</sup> being excavated and 14% of the trenchable area was covered.

### *Description of Recorded Archaeology*

The topsoil was consistent across the entire site, this consisted of a mid brown sandy loam with occasional small stones mixed throughout (101, 201, 301, 401, 501, 601, 701, 801, 901, 1001, 1101, 1201, 1301, 1401, 1501, 1601, 1701). The natural subsoil consisted of a brown, orange silty sand with a large proportion of roots (102, 202, 302, 402, 502, 602, 702, 802, 902, 1002, 1102, 1202, 1302, 1402, 1502, 1602, 1702). Several trenches across the site had bands of whiteish grey clay within trenches 6 (6002), 10 (1001), 13 (1302), and 15 (1502). The trenches varied in depths of topsoil ranging between 0.6m deep at the base of the hill and 0.2 along the slope and top of the hill. There was no evidence of truncation, and the disparity of depth between the base and the top of the slope is likely due to natural erosion and soil creep. Despite the large portion of tree roots there was no evidence of any tree throws and any soil staining was investigated and found to be natural.

In Trench 1, a 1m wide 0.4m deep circular pit was investigated, see Figure 8. The pit was filled with densely packed charcoal with a small deposit of grey silty clay. There was a large amount of unburnt bark which was in a good state of preservation, there was no other natural material in the pit and no artefacts were recovered from the fill (103). The cut of the pit was fairly sharp and sloping, however the feature was not dug to the base as it surpassed the water table and filled with water immediately. Along the sides of the pit there was evidence of heat affected sand suggesting the feature had been burnt in situ (104). The feature is likely to be a modern burning pit, possibly occurring during the felling of the previous iteration of the woodland. The pit is therefore not considered archaeologically significant. The remaining 16 trenches were archaeologically sterile.

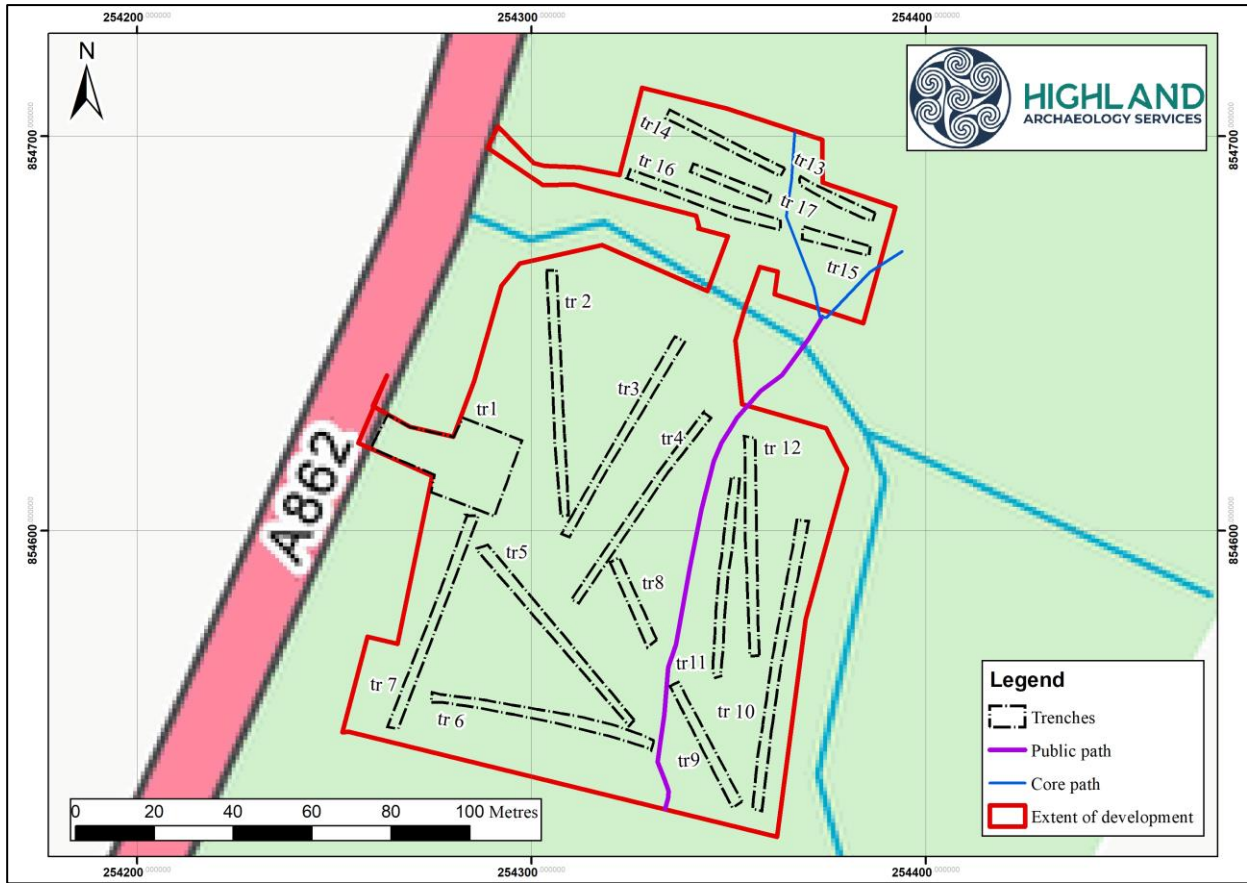


Figure 7: Trench layout and paths



Figure 8: burnt pit, Trench 1, S facing, Photo No. 0930





**Figure 9: Post ex of trench 17, East facing, Photo No. 1275**



**Figure 10: Post Ex of Trench 11, North facing, Photo No.1262**





Figure 11: Post ex of Trench1 3, East facing , Photo No. 1266

### ***Summary of Finds***

No artefacts were recovered during the Evaluation.

### **Discussion & Conclusions**

Despite the proximity of the proposed development site to multiple archaeological and historical heritage features as well as being located upland overlooking the river Conon, there was no evidence of any significant archaeological features or artefacts found within the evaluation trenching.

As seen in both editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping, the land has consistently been used routinely as woodland. According to satellite imagery, the land went through multiple phases of felling and regeneration between 2009 and 2019. The affect of this is very apparent across the trenches in which all had roots or root marks in the natural subsoil. This is likely to have damaged any evidence of buried archaeological features that may have remained on the proposed development. Furthermore, the lack of any archaeological artefacts suggests that the land has not been used for any other purpose apart from wood and scrubland during the historic period.

In conclusion, despite the location of the proposed development both in terms of landscape and in relation to other archaeological features, the land has been significantly disturbed whilst under wood and scrub, and there is no surviving evidence of archaeological features.

### **Recommendations**

As no archaeological finds or features were recovered during the Evaluation, there are no further archaeological works recommended.

## Archive

A copy of this report will be deposited with the Highland Council for inclusion in the Historic Environment Record and with OASIS under report number: highland4-523254. A summary report will be automatically generated for DES. The final project archive will be submitted to HES following completion. The site archive comprises entirely digital records including photographs, registers and GIS files. These will be processed and submitted to HES in accordance with their published guidance. There are no artefacts to report to Treasure Trove. A single sample was taken from context (103) which will be disposed of.

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## Appendices

Table 1: Photo Register

Photo No.	Camera Point	Facing	Description
921 to 0926		N	Knocked down dyke
927			Tree root
928 - 930		various	pre-ex
931 to 0934		W	pre ex of modern charcoal rich pit
935	CP1	N	post ex of Tr 1
936	CP2	S	post ex of Tr 1
937			post ex of modern charcoal pit
03/06/2024			
1233-1234	CP3	S	post ex trench 2
1235-6	CP4	N	post ex of trench 2
1237-43	CP5	var	general shots on site
1244	CP6	ssw	post ex of trench 3
1245	CP7	nne	post ex of trench 3
1246	CP8	ne	post ex of trench 4
1247	CP9	sw	post ex of trench 4
1248	CP10	se	post ex of trench 5
1249	CP11	nw	post ex of trench 5
1250	CP12	w	post ex of trench 6
1251	CP13	e	post ex of trench 6
1252		e	post ex trench 6

## Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation

### DSR & Recommendations

Photo No.	Camera Point	Facing	Description
1252-3	CP14	ne	post ex of trench 7
1254-5	CP15	sw	post ex of trench 7
1256	CP16	nw	post ex of trench 8
1257	CP17	se	post ex of trench 8
1258	CP18	se	post ex of trench 9
1259	CP19	nw	post ex of trench 9
1260	CP20	ssw	post ex of trench 10
1261	CP21	nne	post ex of trench 10
1262	CP22	n	post ex of trench 11
1263	CP23	s	post ex of trench 11
1264	CP24	s	post ex of trench 12
1265	CP25	n	post ex of trench 12
1266	CP26	e	post ex of trench 13
1267	CP27	w	post ex of trench 13
1268	CP28	w	post ex of trench 14
1269	CP29	e	post ex of trench 14
1270	CP30	w	post ex of trench 15
1271	CP31	e	post ex of trench 15
1272	CP32	w	post ex of trench 16
1273	CP33	e	post ex of trench 16
1274	CP34	w	post ex of trench 17
1275	CP35	e	post ex of trench 17
1276-8	CP36	var	general shots of the north side of the burn.



Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation  
DSR & Recommendations

Table 2: Context Register

Context No	Width	Depth	Length	Description	Interpretation
101	19		34	mid brown silty topsoil with small stones	topsoil
102				brownly orange silty sand with tree roots, small to large stones.	Natural subsoil
103	1	0.4	1	Densely packed charcoal, homogeneous a small amount of heat affected sand underneath. Modern wood mixed through *Update-modern tree root, not archaeological significant.	
104				Cut of (003), sharp clean cut into the natural. Bottom cut into the water table. *Update- modern tree root, not archaeological significant.	
201	2	0.3	60	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
203				brownly orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots	Natural subsoil
301	2	0.3	58	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
302				brownly orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots	Natural subsoil
401	2.2	0.2	59	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
402				brownly orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots white grey clay band 10m from n end of trench	Natural subsoil
501	2.3	0.3	58	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
502				brownly orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots	Natural subsoil
601	2.3	0.2-0.5	57	mid brown sandy loam with some stones and very rooty	Topsoil
602				orange silty sand on slope at west with band of very wet clay about 10 metres from east end as slope flattens out then turns to orange silty sand again including some black and grey patches and patches of degraded stone	Natural subsoil
701	2.6	0.4-0.6	58	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones and lots of roots	Topsoil
702				orange sandy silt with some stones of various sizes. also, black and grey loose patches from root and burrowing disturbance	Natural subsoil

## Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation

### DSR & Recommendations

Context No	Width	Depth	Length	Description	Interpretation
801	2.5	0.2	23	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
802				browny orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots	Natural subsoil
901	2.58	0.2	34	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
902				browny orange silty sand with tree roots, small to large stones.	Natural subsoil
1001	2.6	0.2-0.4	74	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones and very rooty	Topsoil
1002				largely orange sandy silt with some patches of wet silty clay and red-ish brown patches	Natural subsoil
1101	2.3	0.2	50	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1102				browny orange silty sand with tree roots, small to large stones.	Natural subsoil
1201	2.7	0.2	55	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1202				browny orange silty sand with some small stones and occasional larger stones and lots of tree roots	Natural subsoil
1301	2	0.3	21	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1302				browny orange silty sand with tree roots, mid tr very clayey	Natural subsoil
1401	2.1	0.2	33	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1402				browny orange silty sand with tree roots,	Natural subsoil
1501	2.7	0.2	17	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1502				browny orange silty sand with tree roots, bands of clay	Natural subsoil
1601	2.7	0.3	41	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones	Topsoil
1602				browny orange silty sand with tree roots,	Natural subsoil
1701	2.5	0.2-0.3	21	mid brown sandy loam with some small stones and tree roots	Topsoil
1702				brown orange sandy silt with occasional stones and some root disturbance	Natural subsoil

Schoolhouse Belt, Conon Evaluation  
DSR & Recommendations

**Table 3: DBA Points**

DBA No.	Description	Easting	Northing	HHER	Canmore	Designated Asset No.
1	Conon Brae Quarry: noted on the 1st and 2nd edition map	254695	854510	MHG29380		
2	Riverford House: post medieval	254152	854891	MHG8990	12862	LB14913
3	Conon cottage, lynch gate, boundary walls, 1-6 Conon homes	254329	854946	MHG31372	233714, 233716, 233715	LB44622, LB44622, LB44622
4	Conon Bridge: Henge, Neolithic-Bronze age	254293	855071	MHG9059	12781	SM1666
5	Conon Bridge railway station: opened 1862 closed 1960	254130	855010	MHG21602	105464	
6	Findspots: Bronze age socketed axe head and penannular brooch	254000	855000	MHG59128, MHG48673	273779	
7	Larchfield, Station Road, B listed building c.1905	254366	855367	MHG16330	111383	LB14912
8	War Memorial: 20th C.	254391	855448		318801	
9	Gairs Croft: experimental building of precast concrete	254629	855359	MHG59078	320907	
10	Teanahaun farmstead, sluice and milldam,	254677	332455	MHG54171, MHG54172		
11	Conon Bridge Primary School	254677	855442		332455	
12	Find spot: annular brooch and coins	255000	854002	MHG60680, MHG61457	368733	
13	Possible pit circles noted in aerial survey in 1988	254780	854030	MHG8988	12864	
14	Balavid Farm and cottage, watermill	254470	853877	MHG52572, MHG51167		
15	Conon House lodge	253939	854103	MHG31369		
16	Icehouse	253687	853901	MHG29939		
17	Old track, blairdhu/ kileranan to Balvaird/Davids Fort/Logiebride	253880	854009	MHG29941		
18	Ford of Conon: main ford over the river Conon, possibly associated with early medieval route way	253478	854725	MHG55060		
19	Logiebride Church and burial ground shown on a map dated 1791	253529	854069	MHG39644	12865	

**Table 4: Trench Register**

Trench sizes			
	length	width	area
Tr1			523
Tr2	62.7	2.4	150.48
Tr3	57	2.3	131.1
Tr4	58	2.3	133.4
Tr5	58	2.2	127.6
Tr6	57	2.4	136.8
Tr7	57	2.5	142.5
Tr8	23	2.6	59.8
Tr9	34	2.5	85
Tr10	74	2.3	170.2
Tr11	50	2.3	115
Tr12	55	2.4	132
Tr13	20	2.2	44
Tr14	33	2.2	72.6
Tr15	17	2.6	44.2
Tr16	41	2.3	94.3
Tr17	21	2.3	48.3
	Total:		2210.28
	trenchable area:		14838
			14.89%



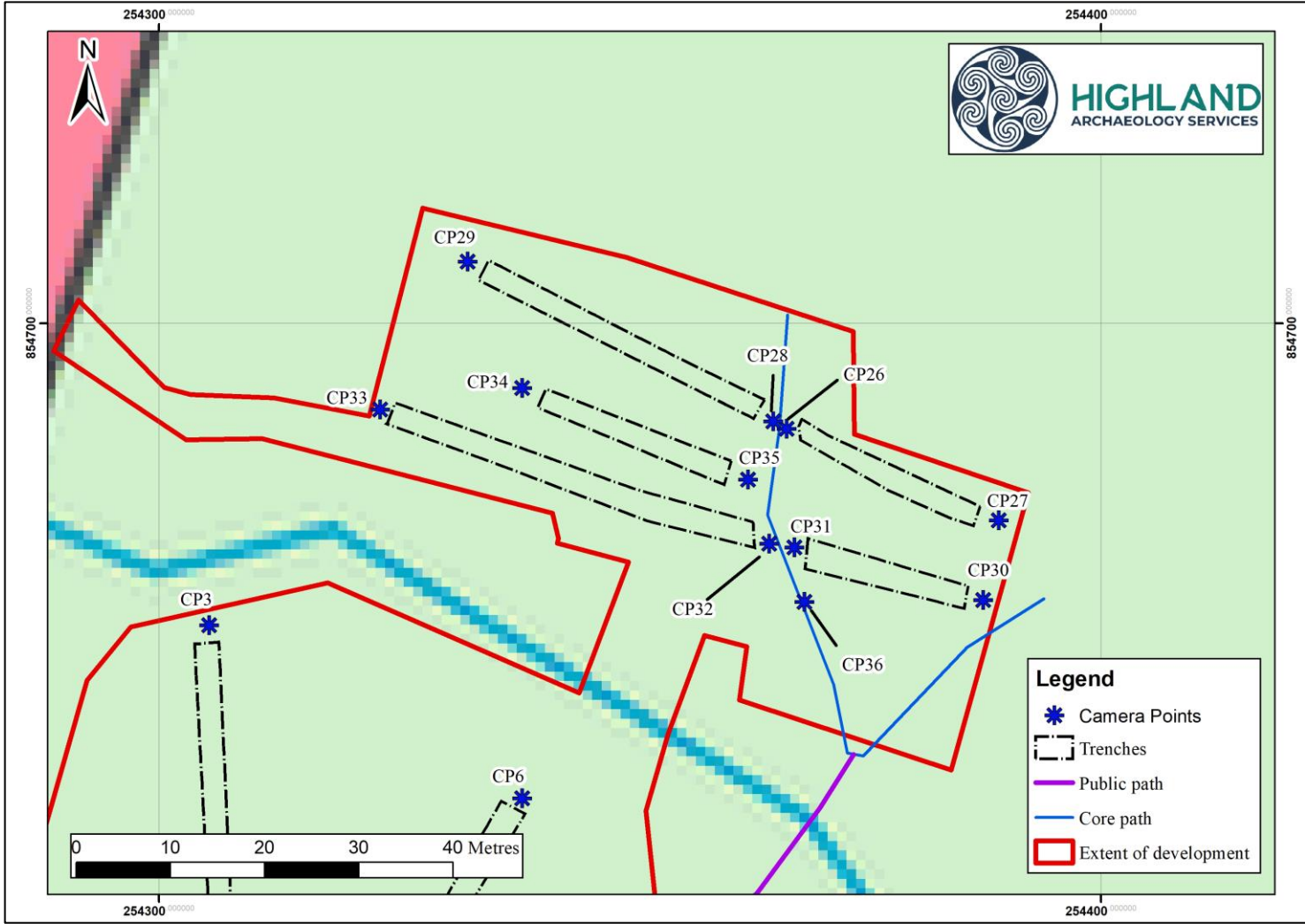


Figure 12: Camera Points (North)

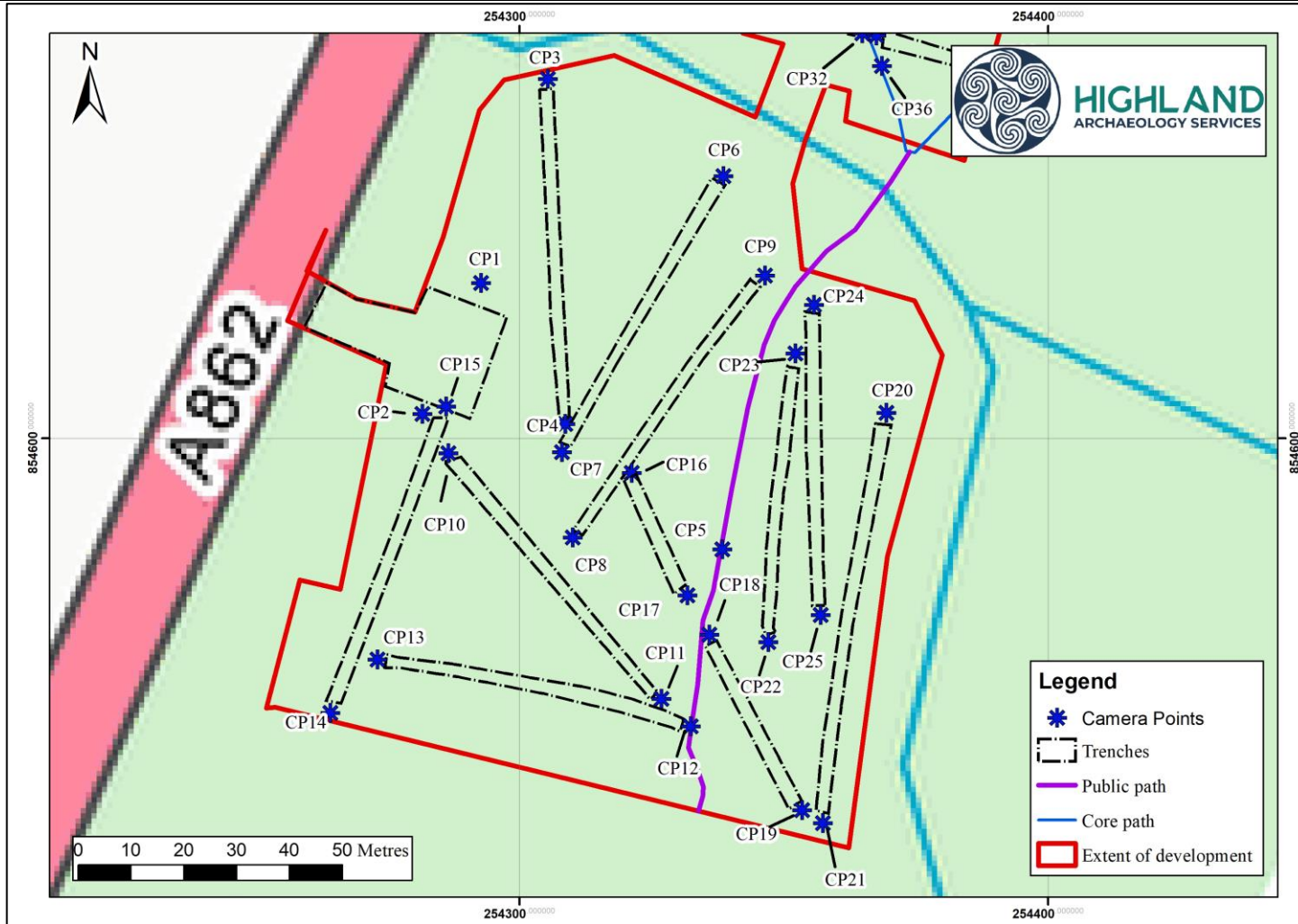


Figure 13: Camera Points (South)