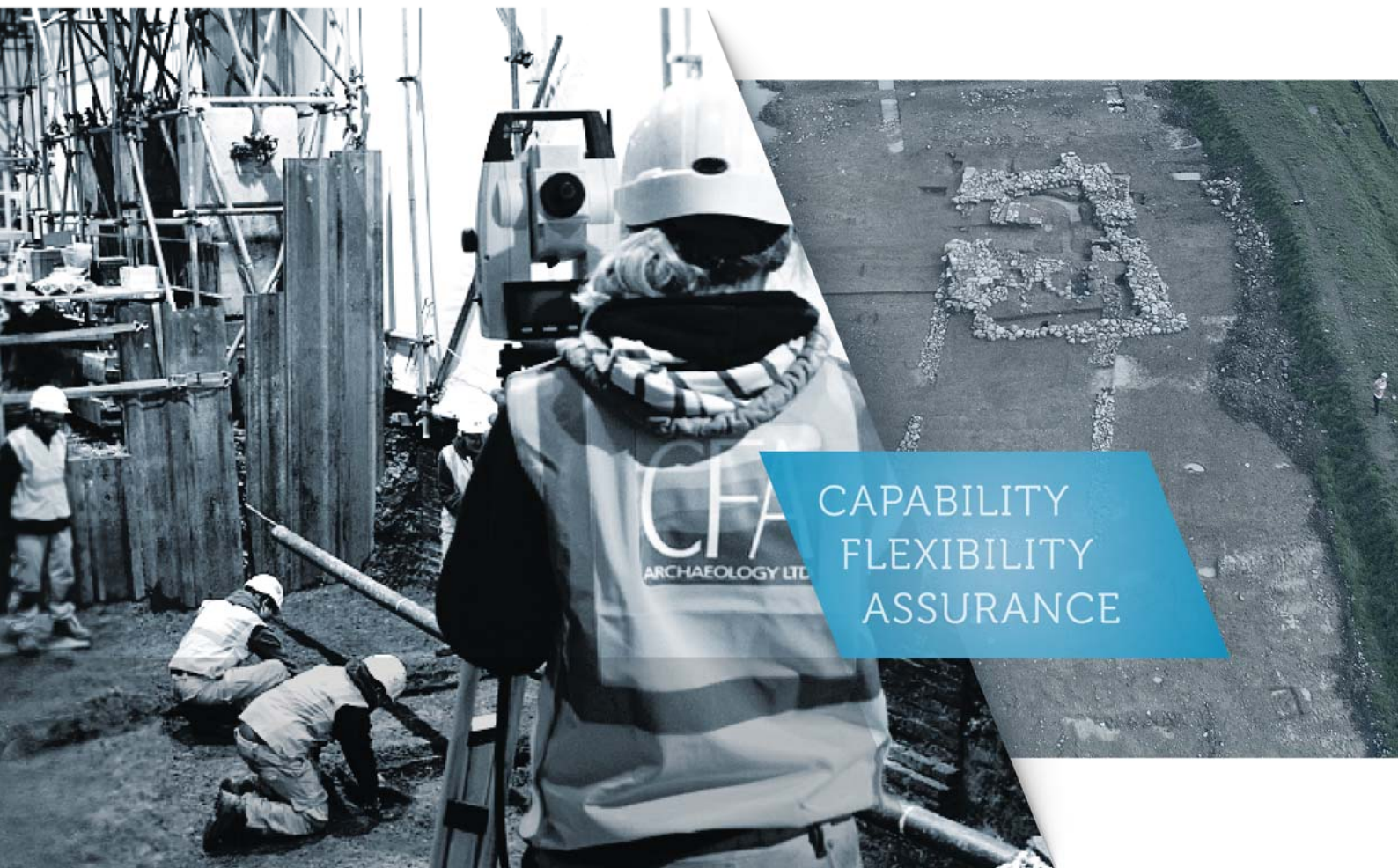




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CAPABILITY
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Beaulieu-Keith 132kV OHL Reconductoring Archaeological Mitigation Works

Report type: Data Structure Report
Report No. 3836

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Commissioned by	Balfour Beatty
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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd
standard operating procedures.

Beaully-Keith 132kV OHL Reconductoring Archaeological Mitigation Works

Report No. 3836

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Fig. 3 Identification of SM6016

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of archaeological mitigation works undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in July to September 2018 and January 2019 during groundworks for reconductoring along the Beaully-Keith 132kV OHL, between Beaully and Nairn, Towers 7R to 156 (NH 5247 4531 to NH 9123 5630) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Balfour Beatty.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 6th July 2018 was produced by CFA on behalf of Balfour Beatty. The WSI was designed to meet the requirements of the Highland Council Historic Environment Team (HCHET).

A further Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 29th October 2018 was produced by CFA for Historic Environment Scotland (HES) in support of Scheduled Monument Consent for a programme of works within Scheduled Monument no. 6016 at Little Kildrummie, south-west of Nairn.

1.2 Background

HCHET and HES required a programme of archaeological works to mitigate the effects of foundation upgrades and of access provision to existing Towers along the Beaully-Keith OHL. The accesses were a combination of the use of existing tracks, upgrades of existing tracks, cut stone roads (temporary and permanent), temporary laid panel trackways and ATV access across open ground.

An Environmental Appraisal (EA), including a Cultural Heritage chapter based on a desk-based assessment and targeted field visits by CFA, was prepared in September 2017. Areas considered to have archaeological potential were assessed alongside access route maps to inform the programme of mitigation works outlined in the WSI. This comprised a select number of sites and access routes flagged for demarcation and/or an archaeological watching brief.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the project were:

- To ensure the preservation of sites in close proximity to construction activities through their avoidance/demarcation for the duration of all works
- To carry out watching briefs during ground breaking works, in order to identify and record any archaeological remains directly affected by construction activities
- To carry out any additional mitigation that was identified as being required as a result of the above listed works
- To report on the results.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods.

2.2 Pre-construction Survey and Demarcation

A walkover survey was undertaken in July 2018 to assess the requirements for demarcation of archaeological features in close proximity to proposed access routes and works at Towers 12, 13, 15, 40, 41, and 135. No works were taking place at Tower 121 so this was not visited.

Upstanding archaeological features present in the vicinity of works and/or access routes were fenced off with a visible barrier. Where possible this demarcated area included a minimum 10m buffer zone around the site.

A photographic record was made of surviving remains and the general area of the works, using digital photography according to standard CFA procedures. Fencing remained in place for the duration of all construction works.

2.3 Watching Brief

A watching brief was required during groundbreaking work on access routes to Towers 70-73 and 100-101. These routes traversed along the boundaries of arable fields and pasture.

All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil and subsoil were removed using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket.

Excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, using pro forma record sheets and digital photography.

The stratification of the excavated area was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

2.4 Scheduled Monument Consent

A watching brief was required within the Scheduled Monument of Little Kildrummie, Settlements & Funerary Remains 750m WSW Of (SM no. 6016). Tower 135 lay within SM 6016, midway along the NE edge of the Scheduled area (NGR: NH 86031 53153), and its foundation required upgrading as part of the project. A site visit to Tower 135 was undertaken in July 2018 by CFA.

Scheduled Monument Consent for the work was obtained by the client: Historic Environment Scotland required archaeological monitoring during all ground breaking works required for the foundation upgrade within the Scheduled area.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Pre-construction Survey and Demarcation

The measures taken to demarcate and avoid known sites were satisfactory in all cases reviewed.

Towers 12, 13 and 15 were sufficiently isolated from the demarcated archaeological sites; namely a military camp (MHG 26658), mounds (MHG 26654), and a farmstead (MHG 25728) (Fig. 2).

Towers 40 and 41 were situated close to drainage ditches and boundary banks (MHG 26711), with access already reaching the pylon bases, and therefore there was no impact upon these sites.

3.2 Watching Brief

Access routes for Towers 71 and 72 were reviewed during the course of the works and a watching brief was no longer required. Saturated ground conditions at Tower 71 necessitated the use of trackway panels, while access to Tower 72 was maintained along existing tracks that did not require groundbreaking work. A small area of track was excavated to Tower 70 from the B9177.

The access route for Tower 101 comprised a bellmouth access and a 4m wide new stone track. This ran for 300m, skirting the boundary of woodland and pasture south-east of the B9006 towards the pylon (Fig. 4). The remainder of the route to Tower 100 did not require a watching brief.

Groundbreaking generally removed 0.25-0.35m of dark, rooted topsoil with natural subsoil immediately beneath. The natural subsoil consisted of firm sandy clay with moderate gravel content.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the course of the archaeological monitoring.

3.3 Scheduled Monument Consent

Access to Tower 135 was taken along the field edge over the existing surface and was agreed to have no impact on the Scheduled Monument (SM 6016) (Fig. 3). Further consultation was sought from Historic Environment Scotland prior to Scheduled Monument Consent being granted for the foundation upgrade.

An area around each leg of Tower 135 was excavated to natural. Topsoil was 0.35-0.4m thick with natural subsoil immediately beneath. The natural subsoil consisted of firm sandy clay with occasional gravel content.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the course of the archaeological monitoring.

4. CONCLUSION

A programme of archaeological mitigation works, consisting of site demarcation and watching briefs, was carried out during groundworks for reconductoring along the Beaully-Keith OHL. Upstanding archaeological features in proximity to works and access routes were adequately demarcated and avoided. No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the course of the monitored works.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Highland Council Historic Environment Team.

A summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2) and will also be reported on through *OASIS Scotland*.

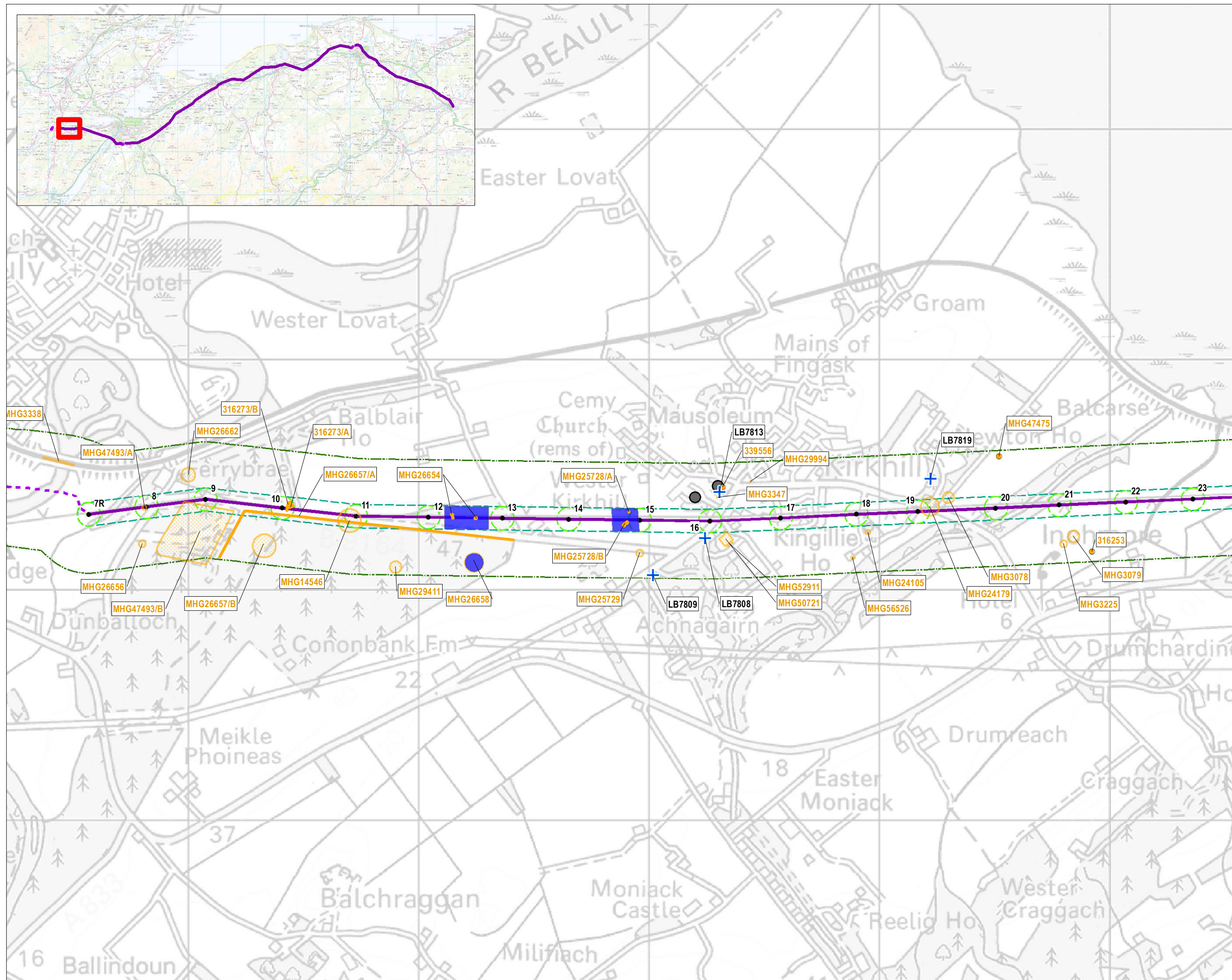
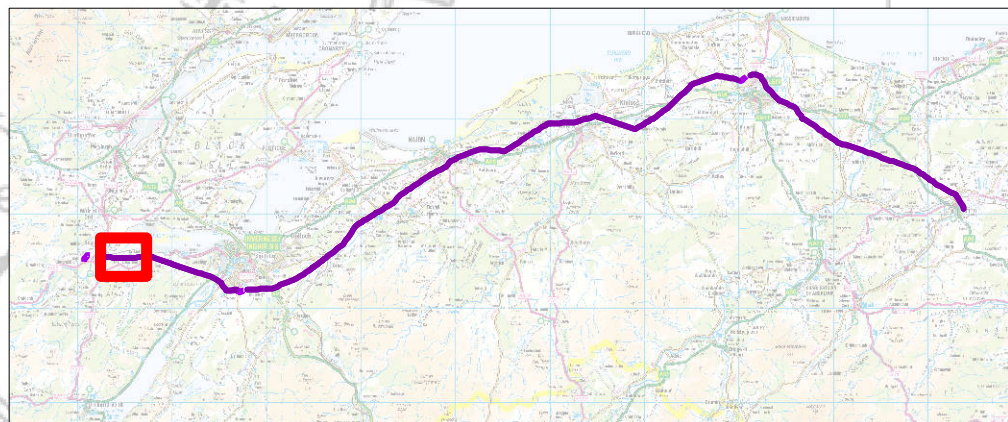
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Facing
1	Twr 135 access along road edge SM6016	NW
2	Twr 135 access along road edge SM6016	NW
3	Twr 135 pylon base, edge of crop field	NW
4	Twr 135 pylon base, edge of crop field	SW
5	Twr 135 access track route along road	SSW
6	T41e field wall boundary northern extent	S
7	T41e field wall drystone to south of Great Glen Way track	NE
8	T41d turf field bank NE-SW	NE
9	T41c+d forked field banks	N
10	T41c field bank N-S	N
11	T41b field bank N-S, parallel with T41c	N
12	T41a field drainage ditch N-S	N
13	T41 pylon with banks beyond	N
14	T40a drainage channel and pylon	NW
15	T40a drainage channel and pylon	NW
16	T40 possible track west of pylon	E
17	T40b possible field bank to NE	W
18	Twr 12 facing access to E	E
19	Twr 12 demarcated mound (254144, 845322) MHG26654	W
20	Twr 12 demarcated mound (254148, 845313) MHG26654	W
21	Twr 12 demarcated mound (254245, 845308) MHG26654	W
22	Twr 13 pylon base facing W	W
23	Twr 13 scaffolding facing E	E
24	Twr 11 pylon base and access (hut circle beyond hedge)	W
25	Twr 10 building near pylon base	SE
26	Twr 10 building facing pylon to W	W
27	Twr 15 overgrown farmstead MHG25728 facing pylon	E
28	Pre-work shot, Twr 70	SW
29	Pre-ex shot of WB area, Twr 70	SW
30	Working shot in made ground, Twr 70	S
31	Working shot in made ground, Twr 70	S
32	Working shot, Twr 70	S
33	Working shot, Twr 70	S
34	Pre-ex shot of track to Twr 72	E
35	Pre-ex shot of track to Twr 72	N
36	Pre-ex shot of track to Twr 72	S
37	Bellmouth Twr 101, post-ex	N
38	Bellmouth Twr 101, post-ex	W
39	Bellmouth Twr 101, post-ex	E
40	Twr 101 track, working shot	E
41	Twr 101 track, post-strip w/ field drain	NW
42	Twr 101 track, post-strip w/ field drain	NW
43	Twr 101 track, working shot	SE
44	Twr 101 track, irregular feature - no archaeology	W
45	Twr 101 track, post-strip	W
46	Twr 101 track, post-strip	NE
47	Twr 101 track, working shot	E
48	General shot of Twr 101 area	E
49	General shot of Twr 101 area, post-strip	E
50	General area shot Twr 135	E
51	General area shot Twr 135	NE
52	Hard standing at tower feet	NNE
53	Hard standing at tower feet	
54	General shot of natural at one of the feet	

55	General shot of natural at one of the feet	
56	Area Post excavation	NNE
57	Area Post excavation	E
58	Area Post excavation	W
















APPENDIX 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Highland
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Beauly-Keith 132kV OHL Reconductoring
PROJECT CODE:	BEAK
PARISH:	Kirkhill, Daviot & Dunlichity, Croy & Dalcross, Nairn
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Bethan Gray & Oliver Rusk
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
HES NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR	NH 5247 4531 - NH 9123 5630
START DATE (this season)	July 2018
END DATE (this season)	January 2019
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A programme of archaeological mitigation, consisting of site demarcation and watching briefs, was carried out during works for reconductoring along the Beauly-Keith OHL, between Beauly and Nairn. Upstanding archaeological features in proximity to works and access routes were adequately demarcated and avoided. Watching briefs were undertaken at a small number of locations, including around the base of a pylon within Scheduled Monument no. 6016 at Little Kildrummie, under SMC No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the course of the monitored works.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Balfour Beatty
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in HES. Reports lodged with local SMR.



Key:



-  Beauhy-Keith OHL Route
-  Underground Cable
-  Tower Location
-  Demarcation
-  Watching Brief Area
-  Scheduled Monument
-  Category A Listed Building
-  Category B Listed Building
-  Category C Listed Building
-  Garden and Designed Landscape
-  Conservation Area
-  Battlefield Area
-  Cultural Heritage Site (point)
-  Cultural Heritage Site (linear)
-  Cultural Heritage Site (area)

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Title:
Location and site plan

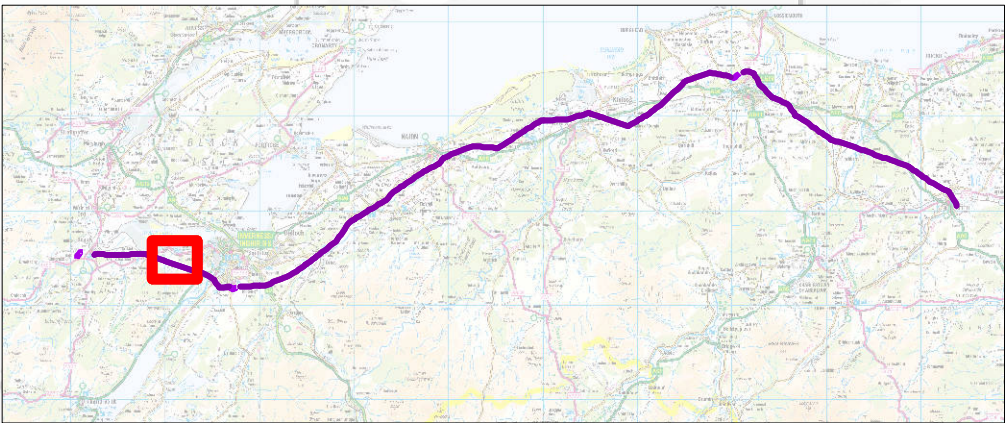
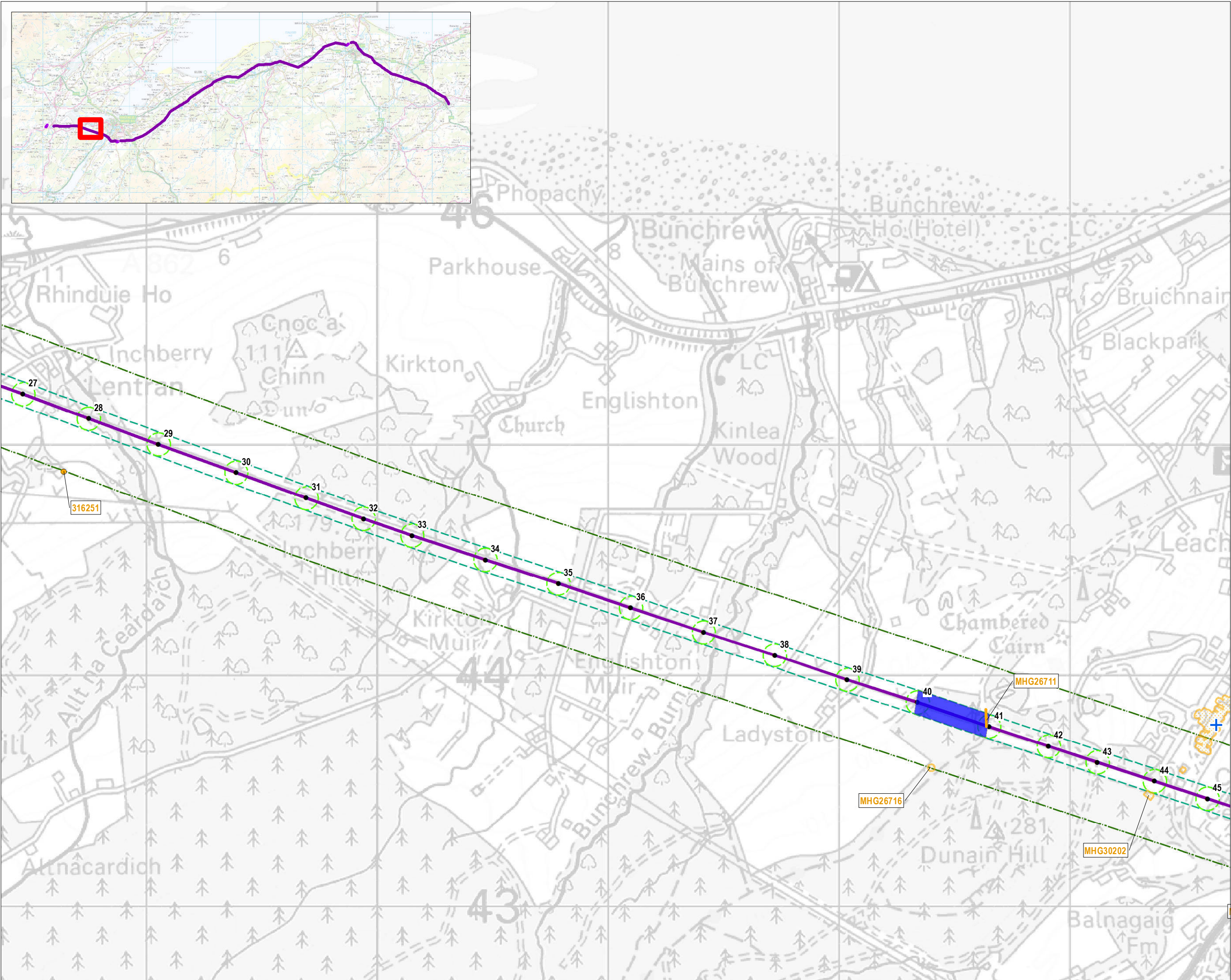
Project:
Beaulieu-Keith 132kV OHL
Reconductoring.
Archaeological Mitigation Works

Client: **Balfour Beatty**

Scale at A3:
1:15,000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SW	BGr	28/03/2019

Report No:	Fig. No:
3836	1a



Key:

- Beauly-Keith OHL Route
- Underground Cable
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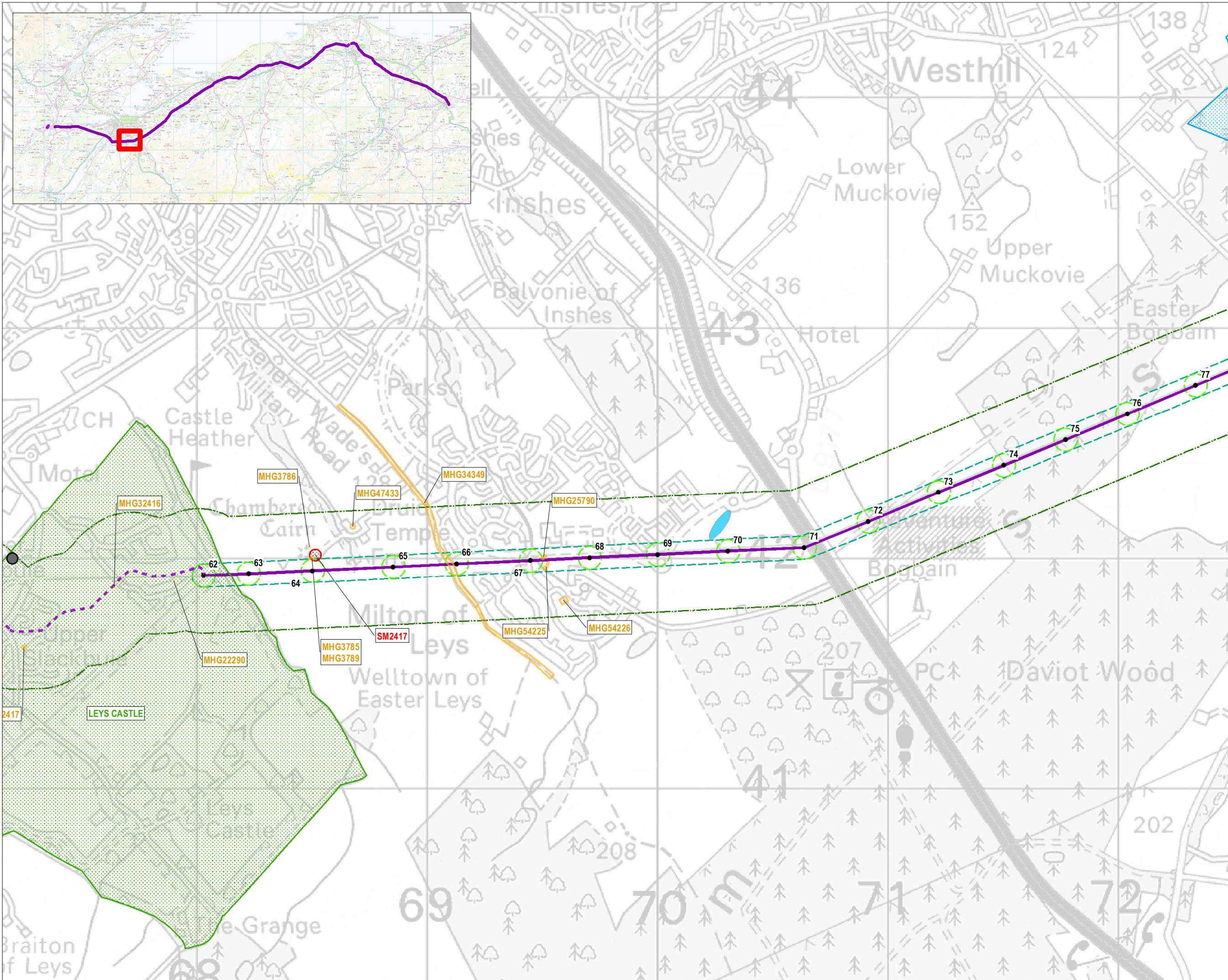
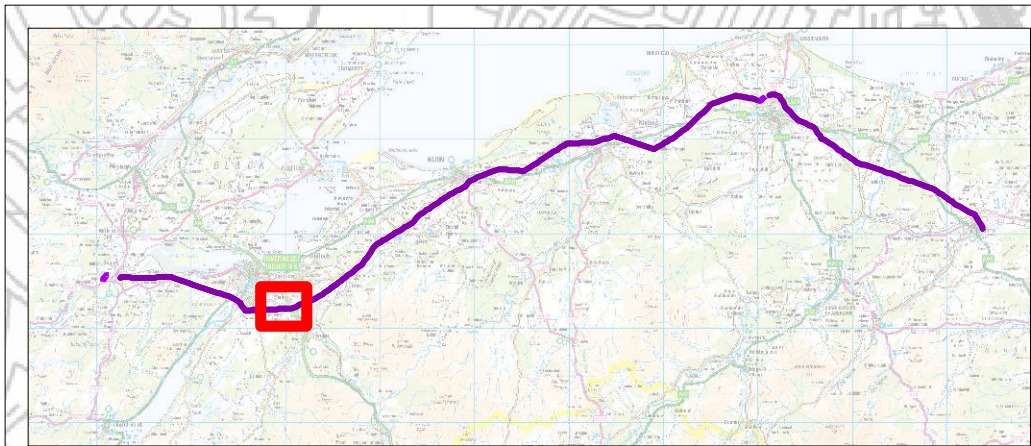
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Project: Beauly-Keith 132kV OHL Reconductoring. Archaeological Mitigation Works		
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Report No: 3836		Fig. No: 1b



Key:

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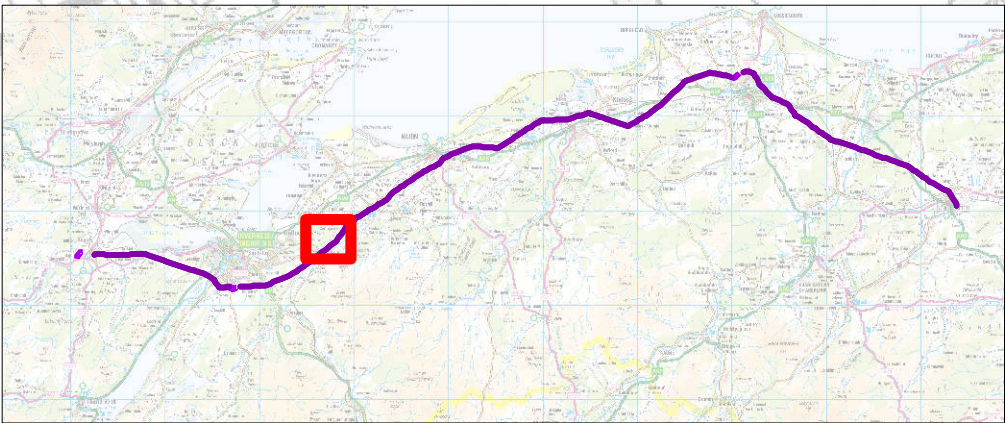
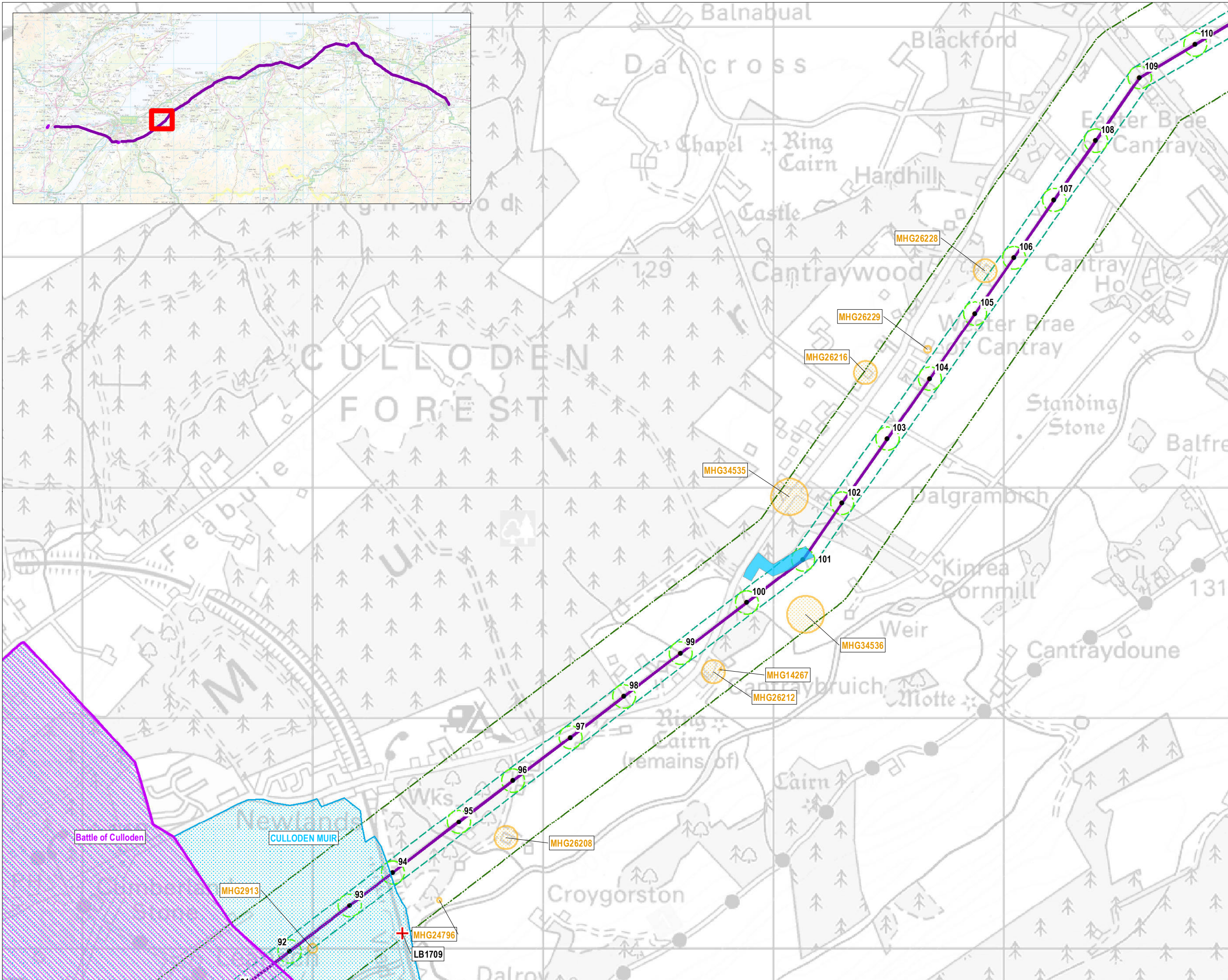
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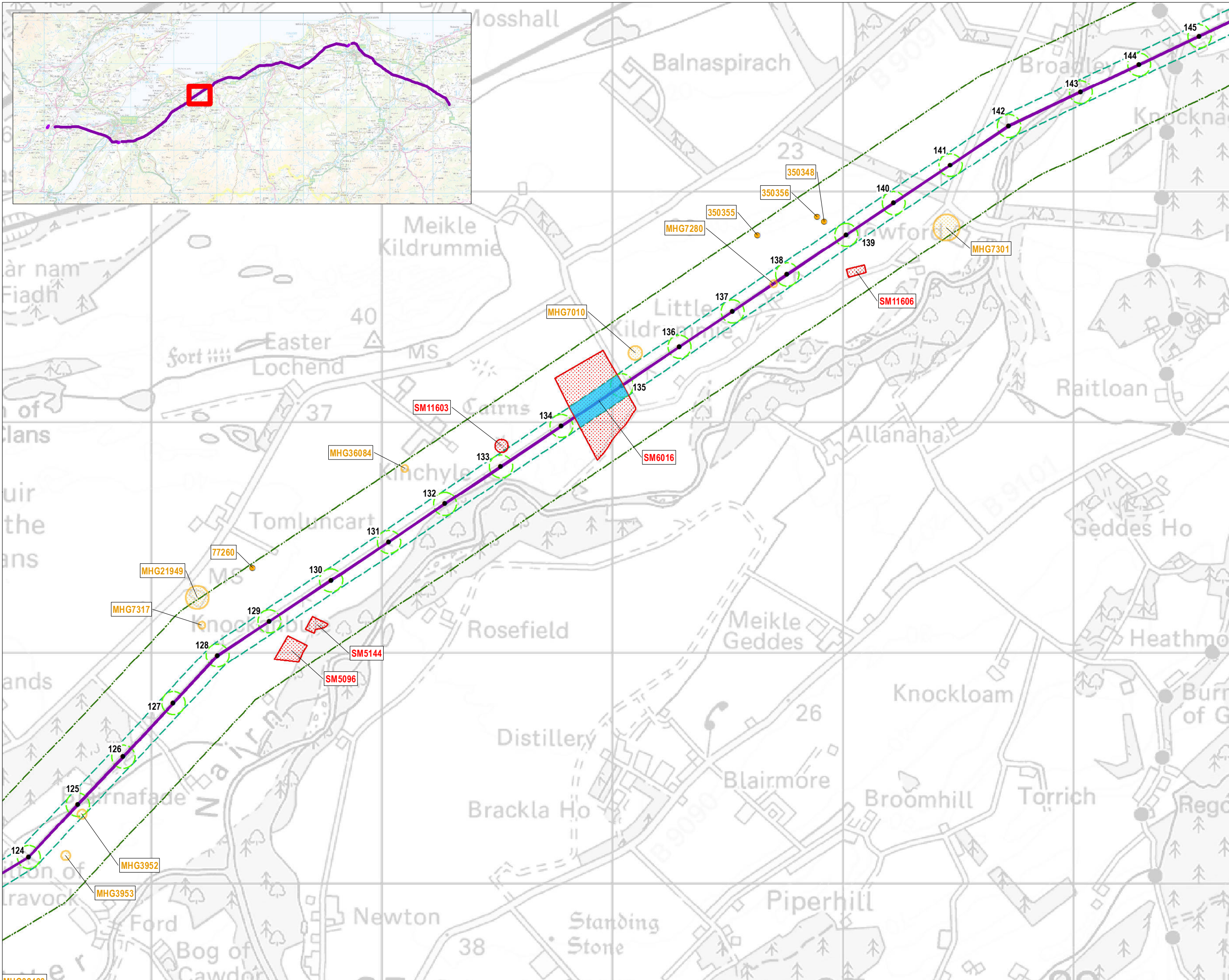
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Key:

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Fig. 2: Demarcation of MHG26654



Fig. 3: Identification of SM6016



Fig. 4: Tower 101 Main Strip

Project:
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