
Environmental Statement

**Cnoc Morail
Wind Farm Project**

**Submitted to
The Highland Council**

November 2014

Left blank

Prepared by

Susan Bell BSc (Hons), MSc, AIEMA

Approved by

Louise Dunmore

wpd Project Manager

1. Introduction

Content

1.1	Introduction	1-1
1.2	Site Location	1-1
1.3	Environmental Sensitivity	1-1
1.4	Application Details	1-2
1.5	The Applicant	1-3
1.6	Project Team	1-3
1.7	Structure of Environmental Statement	1-4
1.8	Availability of the Environmental Statement	1-6
1.9	Representations to the Application	1-6

Left blank

1.1 Introduction

This Environmental Statement (ES) is submitted in support of an application to The Highland Council (THC) under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006), by wpd Cnoc Morail Ltd (herein referred to as “the applicant”). Permission is being sought to install five wind turbines of up to 2.3 MW capacity, with a total installed capacity of up to 11.5 MW. The applicant also seeks permission for the associated infrastructure and ancillary development on land at Cnoc Morail (herein referred to as “the site”), Watten. The turbines would be sited approximately 2.2km southwest of Watten in Caithness. Each of the wind turbines would have a height of 99.5m to blade tip.

This chapter will outline the structure of the ES, as well as providing details on the application, site location and the environmental sensitivity of the site. Details of the applicant and the project team will also be provided within this chapter.

1.2 Site Location

Located approximately 2.2km southwest of the village of Watten and some 13km west-northwest of the estuary town of Wick, the proposed site lies within the boundaries of THC. The site location is shown within Figure 1.1 with the centre point of the site located at National Grid Reference (ND) 322300 952950.

The proposed development area comprises approximately 63.6 hectares (ha) of semi-improved and improved grassland occupying seven individual fields. The land is currently utilised for sheep and cattle grazing with no discernible field pattern evident within the land holdings. The fields are bounded by post and wire fences on all sides apart from the north-western boundary, which comprises a dry-stone wall. Remnants of redundant field boundary walls can be identified within the site; most of which have been partially removed as part of land improvement practices.

The surrounding landscape offers some level of enclosure due to the presence of large wooded areas. There are a number of coniferous plantations bounding the site with three large wooded areas to the east, west and northeast. Surface water features are present across the site. These can be divided into two sub-catchments which both drain into the Scouthal Burn, a tributary of the Wick River.

The land contained within the development site ranges in elevation from approximately 80m AOD in the western corner to 45m AOD in the eastern corner.

1.3 Environmental Sensitivity

The development site is not located within an environmental designation, however there are a number of designations within 20km of the site. These include four Special Protection Areas (SPAs), four Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), 43 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), one National Nature Reserve (NNR) and two RSPB Reserves. The closest of these designations, Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands SPA and SAC lies 0.9km southeast of the nearest turbine. This designation extends to the southwest of the development boundary. Ecological assessments including: an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, Otter and Water Vole Survey, Bat Survey and a National Vegetation Classification Survey, have been undertaken and a detailed description of these can be found in **Chapter 7: Ecology**. Baseline Fisheries and Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystem (GWDTE) Assessments have also been undertaken and are described within this chapter.

Both summer breeding and over-wintering populations of birds have been shown to be supported by the site. Twelve months of ornithological surveys, including flight activity surveys, have been

undertaken between October 2013 and September 2014, focusing specifically on breeding raptors, and waders, as well as black grouse and winter wildfowl. The results of these surveys are detailed in **Chapter 8: Ornithology**.

There are no areas designated for their landscape importance in the vicinity of the site. The closest Special Landscape Area; The Flow Country and Berriedale Coast, lies 10km southwest of the site at its closest point, with the closest National Scenic Area (NSA) located in Orkney, approximately 41km north of the site. The Castle of Mey Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL) is located approximately 21km north of the development boundary. Further details of potential impacts upon the wider landscape are described in **Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**.

Designated Cultural Heritage Assets have been identified within 10km of the proposed development boundary. Within the study area there are 44 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs); the closest of which lies approximately 0.5km to the east of the site boundary. There are also 16 Listed Buildings, including: 5 Category A and 11 Category B. The closest of which is the Category A listed Achingale Mill, 1.0km to the north of the development boundary. These assets are considered in **Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology**.

The site's natural hydrological regime has been modified through the diversions of natural watercourses and installation of agricultural drainage ditches. Prior to these agricultural practices, the areas of improved grassland are likely to have been wetland and peatland habitat. The site can be divided into two sub-catchments, the Toftmary Burn (SW1) sub-catchment and the Allt Dhughail (SW2) sub-catchment. Both of these sub-catchments form part of the larger Scouthal Burn (SW3) catchment. The Scouthal Burn (SW3) is a tributary of the Wick River which discharges into the North Sea approximately 13km east of the site. An assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed development on these water courses is detailed in **Chapter 10: Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology**. The GWDTE Assessment is also described in this chapter.

1.4 Application Details

The applicant is making an application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland Act) 1997 (as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006), to THC for permission to install five wind turbines of up to 2.3 MW capacity (each) and associated infrastructure and ancillary development on land at Cnoc Morail.

The applicant is proposing turbines with a 64m hub, 71m rotor diameter and overall height of 99.5m to tip. Each turbine will be of a three bladed design, installed on a tapered tubular tower. A comprehensive site selection and design evolution process was carried out in order to determine the most appropriate turbine size. This process is detailed in **Chapter 4: Development Description** and the **Design and Access Statement**.

As well as the proposed turbines and their foundations, the application will include crane hardstandings, a network of access tracks, underground cabling, an electrical substation, a control building, as well as temporary construction and storage areas and welfare facilities. Further details of the proposed wind farm development are presented in **Chapter 4: Development Description**.

It is proposed that access to the site will be gained from the B870 to the north of the wind farm location via an existing access track. The B870 provides links to the A882, via the village of Watten to the northeast, as well as the A9, which lies approximately 5km to the west.

The existing track will need to be upgraded and extended to the base of each of the wind turbines, as these tracks will be utilised throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed wind farm development.

The application for consent of the proposed wind farm development does not include the grid connection, which will form part of a separate application.

1.5 The Applicant

The Applicant, wpd Cnoc Morail Ltd., is a member of the wpd group of companies (wpd), founded in 1996. wpd Cnoc Morail Ltd. was incorporated in Scotland with the aim to construct, operate and at the end of its lifetime decommission a wind farm at the proposed site near Watten.

wpd plan, construct and operate wind power projects in over twenty countries and have completed projects with an installed capacity of more than 2.8 Gigawatts (GW), the equivalent of 1,600 wind turbines.

Based in Edinburgh, wpd Scotland Limited has been working with landowners and communities since 2011 and maintains the company ethos to work closely with local stakeholders and to establish long-term relationships over the project lifetime. wpd Scotland acts as an agent for the Applicant and oversees the planning process as well as the community consultation.

wpd Cnoc Morail Ltd. holds the necessary land agreements required for the planning application and operation of the proposed wind farm.

1.6 Project Team

The applicant has appointed an independent environmental project team to prepare the ES. Neo Environmental have coordinated the ES and provided support during the design process. The roles of the environmental project team are presented in Table 1.1 below.

► **Table 1.1: Project Team and Role**

Company	Role
Neo Environmental	ES coordination
	Introduction
	EIA Process and Methodology
	Description of the Proposed Development
	Ecology
	Cultural Heritage and Archaeology
	Noise, Vibration and Shadow Flicker
	Aviation & Telecommunications
	Socio Economic & Tourism
	Schedule of Mitigation
	Summary of Residual Effects
Avant Planning	Planning Policy

Gavia Environmental Ltd	Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology Baseline Fisheries Assessment GWDTE Assessment
Heritage Environmental Ltd	Ornithology
Peter Brett Associates LLP	Traffic and Transport
Brindley Associates Ltd	Landscape and Visual
Pager Power	Aviation and Telecommunications

1.7 Structure of Environmental Statement

The ES consists of five volumes. The Non-Technical Summary (Volume 1) provides a summary of the main report. The Main Report (Volume 2) presents an assessment of the likely environmental effects of the proposed development. The figures which inform the ES are contained within a standalone volume (Volume 3), as are the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Figures (Volume 4). Lastly the appendices for each of the technical chapters and the additional studies which have been prepared to inform the relevant assessments in the ES make up the final volume (Volume 5).

The Main Report (Volume 2) is divided into thirteen chapters and is structured as follows:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction:** provides a brief introduction to the proposed Cnoc Morail development, the applicant, structure of the ES and presents a rationale for the project;
- **Chapter 2: EIA Process and Methodology:** provides an overview of how the EIA has been undertaken for the proposed development.
- **Chapter 3: Planning Policy and Context:** outlines the climate change, renewable energy and planning policy framework relevant to the proposed development;
- **Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Development:** describes the site selection process, outlining the design strategy, layout constraints and design evolution.
- **Chapters 5 - 13** describe the predicted environmental impacts of the development in relation to the following topic areas:
 - **Chapter 5** **Landscape and Visual**
 - **Chapter 6** **Traffic and Transport**
 - **Chapter 7** **Ecology**
 - **Chapter 8** **Ornithology**
 - **Chapter 9** **Cultural Heritage and Archaeology**
 - **Chapter 10** **Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology**

- **Chapter 11** **Noise, Vibration & Shadow Flicker**
- **Chapter 12** **Aviation & Telecommunications**
- **Chapter 13** **Socio-Economic and Tourism**

► **Chapters 14 and 15** outline the proposed mitigation and a summary of residual effects.

- **Chapter 14** **Schedule of Mitigation**
- **Chapter 15** **Summary of Residual Effects**

Each of these chapters have, as far as practicable, been structured in a consistent way. The structure chosen is as follows:

- **Introduction:** outlines the main objectives of the chapter;
- **Legislation, Policy & Guidance:** summarises relevant national and local planning policy and guidance;
- **Consultation:** describes the consultation carried out, highlighting any issues which may have arisen;
- **Methodology:** outlines the methods used in undertaking the EIA;
- **Baseline Conditions:** summarises the existing condition of the site environment prior to the onset of the proposed development
- **Potential Effects:** identifies the potential impacts (positive or negative) of the proposed development, assessing the significance of these impacts;
- **Mitigation Measures:** sets out the measures envisaged to avoid, reduce or remedy potential significant;
- **Residual Effects:** outlines predicted impacts following mitigation, assessing the significance of these impacts;
- **Cumulative Effects:** outlines any potential cumulative impacts which may arise due to the combination of the proposed wind farm and other existing schemes;
- **Summary & Conclusion:** summarises the significance of predicted impacts, mitigation measures and residual effects.

A separate Planning Statement and Design and Access Statement have been produced to accompany the application.

1.8 Availability of the Environmental Statement

Copies of the ES, together with the planning application and other associated documents, will be available for viewing during opening hours at the following locations:

- ▶ The Highland Council - Inverness Area Office
2nd Floor Kintail House
Beechwood Business Park
Inverness
IV2 3BW
- ▶ The Highland Council - Wick Area Office
Government Buildings
Girnigoe Street
Wick
KW1 4HW

An electronic version of the planning submission documents, including the ES, will be available to download at no cost from THC's Planning website¹.

Hard copies of the ES are available for purchase at a cost of £500 per copy (including postage and packaging) or on DVD (£20) and can be obtained by sending a request to the following address (enclosing cheque payable to wpd Cnoc Morail Limited):

- ▶ wpd Cnoc Morail Limited
1 Carmichael Place
Edinburgh
EH6 5PH

The NTS is available free of charge on request. It can be downloaded from the project website:

- ▶ <http://www.wpd-uk.com/projects/cnoc-morail/documents/planning-and-consultation.html>

or by contacting Louise Dunmore, email l.dunmore@wpd-uk.com, telephone 0131 554 3894.

1.9 Representations to the Application

Comments on the application can be made in writing to THC at the address below:

ePlanning Centre - The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness
IV3 5NX

Comments can also be made online through THC's planning website:

- ▶ <http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/>

.....

¹ THC Website. Available at: http://highland.gov.uk_applications_warrants_and_certificates/143/planning_permission/6

The consultation period for the application will be open to written representations for a period of not less than four weeks. The timescales for representations will be advertised by THC in the local press.

9. Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

Content

9.1	Introduction.....	9-1
9.2	Legislation, Policy & Guidance.....	9-2
9.3	Consultation	9-9
9.4	Methodology	9-10
9.5	Baseline Conditions	9-16
9.6	Potential Effects	9-32
9.7	Mitigation Measures	9-33
9.8	Assessment of Residual Effects	9-34
9.9	Cumulative Impacts.....	9-34
9.10	Summary	9-34

Left blank

9.1 Introduction

A Cultural Heritage and Archaeological assessment has been carried out for the proposed development, located approximately 2.2km southeast of the village of Watten and approximately 13km east of the estuary town of Wick.

A desk based heritage assessment was required to identify any potential impacts both within the site boundary and within the visual envelope. The objective of this chapter is to outline the nature and extent of the known heritage resource within a targeted 10km study area surrounding the site, and to assess the potential direct and indirect impacts of the proposed development on the cultural heritage resource of the area.

This section of the ES will set out the baseline conditions and the methodology used to assess the likely effects of the proposed development upon the local cultural heritage. Those effects are likely to arise during construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development.

The wind farm and the various associated works will be referred to as ‘the proposed development’ and the term ‘site’ will be used to define the application area. The phrase ‘study area’ used, relates to the wider area which is defined for baseline information collation. This is defined as 2km for non-designated heritage assets and 10km for designated heritage assets.

Aims of the Assessment

- ▶ To assess the impacts of the proposed development on cultural heritage assets, following industry guidelines as set out in Historic Scotland *Managing Change in the Historic Environment — Setting* (2010)¹.
- ▶ Identify all known heritage assets within the study area based on available public resources.
- ▶ Through a site walkover survey, identify the potential for both unrecorded above-ground remains and (where possible) sub-surface remains.
- ▶ Determine what, if any, level of recording will be required for any extant remains.
- ▶ To identify the significance of any direct or indirect impact of the proposed development on the heritage assets within the study area, from construction through to decommissioning.
- ▶ Identify mitigation measures where possible and aid in the design process to reduce any potential impacts of the proposed development.
- ▶ Provide recommendations for any further archaeological and heritage assessment work that should be undertaken as part of the proposed development.

.....

¹ Historic Scotland (2010) ‘Managing Change in the Historic Environment – Setting’, Edinburgh

The assessment was conducted through an initial desk based assessment which was complemented by a subsequent field walkover survey. A visual impact assessment was conducted using the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) overlaid on the designated heritage assets map. The assets whose settings were identified as having potential to be impacted were visited and, where appropriate, photomontages and/or wireline diagrams outlining potential impacts were produced. Figures 9.1 to 9.3 detail the heritage assets, HERs and sites identified during site reconnaissance of the application site. Figures 9.4 to 9.10 present a series of photomontages and wireframes of key heritage assets within the study area.

Scope of the Report

A desk based assessment has been produced to evaluate the heritage assets and cultural landscape relevant to the site. Designated sites including: Category A and B listed buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), Registered Parks and Gardens (RPG's) and Battlefields have been assessed to within 10km of the proposed wind farm location.

A ZTV has been produced and overlain onto the Cultural Heritage Assets Map to identify which assets may be visually impacted by the proposed development. This calculated ZTV does not account for any intervening vegetation or built structures and is therefore an indication of a worst case scenario.

Where appropriate, sites outwith the study area have been assessed for their sensitivity to the proposed development.

9.2 Legislation, Policy & Guidance

Planning Policy and Guidance

The proposed development has been assessed against existing national, regional and local policies and guidance. The Scottish framework for heritage is outlined in the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended.

The assessment has been collated and considered based on the following legislative, planning policy and guidance context:

National Policies & Guidance

- ▶ National Planning Framework 3 (2014)²;
- ▶ Historic Environment Scotland Bill (SP Bill 47) (as introduced in the Scottish Parliament on 3 March 2014) Currently at Stage 2 as of 19th August 2014³
- ▶ Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)⁴
- ▶ Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act (1997)⁵;
- ▶ Scottish Historic Environment Policy (as amended 2011)⁶

.....

² The Scottish Government (2014) 'Ambition, Opportunity, Place. Scotland's Third National Planning Framework', Edinburgh

³ The Scottish Government (2014) Historic Environment Scotland Bill (SP Bill 47) (Currently at Stage 2 as of August 2014). Edinburgh

⁴ HMSO 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, London (Reprinted 1996)

⁵ HM Government 1997 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997

⁶ Historic Scotland (2011) 'Scottish Historic Environment Policy', Edinburgh

- ▶ Scottish Planning Policy (2014)⁷
- ▶ Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting - Guidance Note (2010)⁸

Regional, Local Policies & Guidance

- ▶ Highland-wide Local Development Plan (HwLDP) (2012)⁹
- ▶ Highland Historic Environment Strategy (Guidance document adopted January 2013)¹⁰
- ▶ Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work (March 2012)¹¹
- ▶ Interim Supplementary Guidance: Onshore Wind Energy (March 2012)¹²
- ▶ Caithness Local Plan (Adopted 2002) (As Continued in Force) (April 2012)¹³

Assessment of relevant policies, guidance and legislation

The Scottish Historic Environment Policy, the combined Scottish Planning Policy and Historic Scotland's Managing Change in the Historic Environment guidance note series (as confirmed in Planning Circular 9 2009) are the main documents which planning authorities are advised to consult when determining planning applications "affecting the historic environment and the setting of individual elements of the historic environment". Planning authorities are also directed to these specific documents to aid in development planning considerations.

All of the policies and guidance relevant to cultural heritage, the historic environment and archaeology were consulted and assessed. The most relevant sections from the above policies and legislative frameworks, relevant to the proposed development, have been outlined below:

National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3)

The National Planning Framework (NPF3)¹⁴ was incorporated into Scottish policy in June 2014 and outlined the Scottish Minister's key strategies for Scotland's spatial development up until 2030. Cultural landscapes and the historic fabric of our cities, towns and rural areas are all considered in NPF3, as important aspects of Scottish national identity and the distinctive character of each part of the country. The Scottish Government is committed to protecting, promoting and supporting the sustainable management of these key assets.

Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)

The Scottish Planning Policy (2014)¹⁵ provides a statement of the Scottish Government's policy on nationally important land use planning matters. The Scottish Government is committed to

.....

⁷ The Scottish Government (2014) 'Scottish Planning Policy', Edinburgh

⁸ Historic Scotland (2011) 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment – Setting', Edinburgh

⁹ The Highland Council (2012) 'The Highland wide Local Development Plan' (April 2012), Inverness

¹⁰ The Highland Council (2012) 'Highland Council Historic Environment Strategy' (September 2012), Inverness

¹¹ The Highland Council Historic Environment Team (2012) 'Highland Council – Standards for Archaeological Work' (Approved Version 1)

¹² The Highland Council (2012) 'Interim Supplementary Guidance: Onshore Wind Energy' (Approved by Committee – March 2012)

¹³ The Highland Council, Caithness Local Plan (Adopted 2002) (As Continued in Force) (April 2012)

¹⁴ The Scottish Government (June 2014) 'National Planning Framework 3: A Plan for Scotland: Ambition, Opportunity Place', Edinburgh

¹⁵ The Scottish Government (2014) 'Scottish Planning Policy', Edinburgh

sustainable development. Decision making in the planning system should protect and enhance the cultural heritage of Scotland.

The overarching policy and guidance for the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment has been formulated within paragraphs 110 to 133 of the SPP. The framework classifies the historic environment as: "ancient monuments, archaeological sites and landscape, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens and designed landscapes and other features. It comprises both statutory and non-statutory designations." These sites possess significance due to their historic, archaeological or artistic interest and are considered heritage assets and must be considered in relation to planning applications. The SPP notes:

"Development plans should provide the framework for the protection, conservation and enhancement of all elements of the historic environment to allow the assessment of the impact of proposed development on the historic environment and its setting. Setting is more than the immediate surroundings of a site or building, and may be related to the function or use of a place, or how it was intended to fit into the landscape or townscape, the view from it or how it is seen from around, or areas that are important to the protection of the place, site or building. When preparing development plans or considering development proposals with a potentially significant impact on historic character, planning authorities should consider the capacity of settlements and the surrounding areas to accommodate development without damage to their historic value. Authorities should also consider whether further and more detailed assessment is required to establish the capacity of an area for and its sensitivity to change. Relevant assessments include conservation area appraisals, townscape audits and landscape character assessments. When significant elements of the historic environment are likely to be affected by development proposals, developers should take the preservation of this significance into account in their proposals. The amount of information and analysis required should relate in scale to the possible impact on the historic environment."

The local planning authority should support "the best viable use that is compatible with the fabric, setting and character of the historic environment."

Historic Environment Scotland Bill (SP Bill 47) (at Stage 2)

The Historic Environment Scotland Bill¹⁶ was introduced in the Scottish Parliament on 3 March 2014 and the purpose of the Bill is to:

"Create a new lead body for Scotland's historic environment – Historic Environment Scotland (HES) which will be a Non-Departmental Public Body and to equip that body with the necessary powers to be able to carry out the functions which are currently delivered by Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). The Bill provides for RCAHMS to be dissolved. The Bill also sets out the governance arrangements for the new body and provides for the delegation or transfer to Historic Environment Scotland of Ministerial powers and responsibilities under existing legislation as appropriate. The Bill enables the transfer of the property, staff and liabilities of both RCAHMS and Historic Scotland (HS) to Historic Environment Scotland (excluding properties and collections in the care of Scottish Ministers) and aligns certain functions in relation to designation and regulation of the historic environment with the rest of the planning system."

The Bill sets out the functions carried out by the existing bodies which will pass to the new body and proposes changes to those powers and functions. It also sets out the functions currently carried out by Historic Scotland which will be retained by Scottish Ministers. Some of the functions are put on a statutory basis for the first time, in particular the functions of RCAHMS.

.....

¹⁶ The Scottish Government (2014) Historic Environment Scotland Bill (SP Bill 47) (Currently at Stage 2 as of August 2014). Edinburgh

Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) (2011)

The SHEP¹⁷ was originally developed as a series of individual publications which were consolidated into a single document in 2008, revised in 2009, and again amended in 2011. SHEP is afforded the same weight as the Scottish Planning Policy series and other Ministerial policy documents. It is a relevant document in the statutory planning, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) processes.

"The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) sets out Scottish Ministers' policies for the historic environment, and provides policy direction for Historic Scotland and a framework that informs the day-to-day work of a range of organisations that have a role and interest in managing Scotland's historic environment".

Through the implementation of SHEP, Scottish Ministers wish to achieve three outcomes for Scotland's historic environment:

- ▶ That the historic environment is cared for, protected and enhanced for the benefit of our own and future generations;
- ▶ To secure greater economic benefits from the historic environment; and
- ▶ That the people of Scotland and visitors to our country value, understand and enjoy the historic environment.

Planning Legislation in Relation to Statutory Designations

Scheduled Monuments

Scottish Ministers are required to compile and maintain a schedule of monuments considered to be of importance. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) allows for the protection of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Scotland. Scottish Ministers consent is required before any works are carried out in the vicinity of a Scheduled Monument, which would have the effect of "demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or covering up" of one of these protected heritage assets. In addition, effects of proposed developments upon the setting of a Scheduled Monument are a material planning consideration.

Listed Buildings

Under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act (1997), the Scottish Ministers are required to compile a list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Such buildings are classified into Categories A, B and C, in decreasing order of conservation priority. Planning authorities and the Scottish Ministers are required to have special regard for the desirability of preserving Listed Buildings and their settings, and any features of special architectural or historic importance they possess. The Act states that development affecting the character of such designated features is subject to listed building consent via the Planning Authority.

Conservation Areas

Under the 1997 Act, areas of special architectural or historic interest can be designated as Conservation Areas, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

.....

¹⁷ Historic Scotland (2011) 'Scottish Historic Environment Policy', Edinburgh

Planning Authorities are required to carefully consider planning applications affecting the appearance, character or setting of Conservation Areas.

Gardens and Designed Landscapes

The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes (GDL) is compiled by and managed by Historic Scotland. The purpose of the Inventory is to identify sites of national importance, but these designations are not afforded statutory protection. Under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, planning authorities are obliged to consult with Historic Scotland on any proposals that may affect a site that has been registered in the Inventory. Impacts upon these heritage assets are a material consideration in determining a planning application.

Historic Battlefields

There is an onus on Scottish Ministers to compile and maintain (in such form as they think fit) an inventory of such battlefields that they consider merit national importance. Scottish Ministers outlined in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) 2009, that Historic Scotland would prepare an Inventory of Historic Battlefields. The Inventory of Historic Battlefields¹⁸ contains a list of nationally important battlefields in Scotland that meet the qualifying criteria as stated in SHEP (2009). The inventory provides details on the sites listed to raise awareness of their significance, and assist in their protection and management. The protection of these sites ensures that there is a greater understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of battlefields. It also aids in promoting education and stimulating further research, and for developing the potential of these sites as visitor attractions.

Regional and Local Policies

Highland-wide Local Development Plan (LDP) (2012)

"The Highland area has great potential for renewable energy production and to contribute towards meeting ambitious targets set internationally, nationally and regionally. This is recognised in the Highland Renewable Energy Strategy (2006) and can bring benefits in terms of tackling climate change, increasing energy security and contributing to the local and regional economies of the Highlands".

The HwLDP (2012)¹⁹ states that for development proposals: "The outstanding natural, built and cultural heritage of the Highlands has to be fully considered...throughout the area. The Plan identifies three categories based on the type and importance of natural, built and cultural heritage." The three categories consist of:

- ▶ Local and regionally important assets (mostly identified by the Council);
- ▶ Nationally important cultural heritage features (identified by national organisations or by The Council); and
- ▶ Internationally important cultural heritage features (which have been identified under government directives and European conventions).

.....

¹⁸ SPP Policy 149 states: 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.

¹⁹ The Highland Council (2012) 'The Highland wide Local Development Plan (April 2012)', Inverness

The HwLDP identifies that the historic environment can have "an important role to play in the sustainable economic growth of Highland, especially in relation to tourism. The Council also has in place Supplementary Guidance: Highland Historic Environment Strategy'. The plan also states that 'The primary vision of the strategy is to ensure that the future management of change to the historic environment in Highland is based on an understanding of its economic, social and cultural values and that all future decisions are based on informed consideration of the heritage assets to ensure that they are protected and conserved for existing and future generations".

Policies which have been compiled for the protection of the historic environment include:

Policy 57 'Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage'

"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 in the context of the policy framework".

Policy 67 'Renewable Energy Developments'

"Subject to balancing with these considerations and taking into account any mitigation measures to be included, the Council will support proposals where it is satisfied that they are located, sited and designed such that they will not be significantly detrimental overall, either individually or cumulatively with other developments (see Glossary), having regard in particular to any significant effects on the following:

- natural, built and cultural heritage features;"

Policy 69 'Electricity Transmission Infrastructure'

"Subject to balancing with this consideration, and taking into account any proposed mitigation measures, the Council will support proposals which are assessed as not having an unacceptable significant impact on the environment, including natural, built and cultural heritage features."

Highland Historic Environment Strategy (Guidance document adopted January 2013)

The Highland Historic Environment Strategy²⁰ has been developed as "Supplementary Guidance to the Highland-wide Local Development Plan, specifically Policy 57 Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage which states that the main principles of this guidance will ensure that:

- Future developments take account of the historic environment and that they are of a design and quality to enhance the historic environment bringing both economic and social benefits;
- It sets a proactive, consistent approach to the protection of the historic environment.

The purpose of this strategy is to define Highland Council's approach to the protection of the historic environment through the planning process. The document will, through the implementation of the strategic aims, ensure that there is a proactive and consistent approach to the protection of the historic environment. The Historic Environment Strategy is a material consideration when proposals for development are being considered".

.....

²⁰ The Highland Council (2013) 'Supplementary Guidance: Historic Environment Strategy', Inverness

The strategy has identified that, "There are presently over 3,000 listed buildings, 1,236 scheduled monuments and 30 designated conservation areas in Highland."

"The primary vision of the Strategy is to ensure that the future management of change to the historic environment within Highland is based on an understanding of its economic, social and cultural value and that all future decisions are based on informed consideration of the heritage assets to ensure that they are protected, conserved and preserved for existing and future generations."

There are 34 strategic aims outlined in the document that have been developed to ensure the protection, enhancement and enjoyment of the highlands rich cultural heritage. The guidance document aids developers, planners and individuals when considering social, economic, and design criteria for developments in relation to the historic environment.

Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work (2012)

This document provides practical Standards for a consistent approach to the management of the historic environment in The Highland Council (THC) area. The Standards for Archaeological Work²¹ details a range of archaeological procedures that may be required as part of the planning process and sets the, "minimum standards required by the Planning Authority for all fieldwork, reporting and post-excavation procedures".

"The Standards are intended for use by all those involved in the planning process and land management – to inform planners and developers of the specific requirements of a particular piece of archaeological work and to ensure historic environment practitioners conduct fieldwork to an acceptable and consistent standard."

The document identifies the requirements for producing an ES for THC, where it states, "The purpose of an Environmental Statement (ES) is to ensure that the baseline historic environment resource (usually referred-to in an ES as 'Cultural Heritage') is identified and evaluated; the impacts, both direct and indirect, on this resource are predicted; and detailed recommendations for mitigation to offset the impacts are proposed.

The ES will identify all scheduled monuments, historic environment features and landscapes, listed buildings, battlefields, historic gardens and designed landscapes and conservation areas within the proposal area. In addition, the ES will identify all historic environment features located within a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) that may be significantly impacted by development."

In relation to cumulative assessment the document highlights that, "as the number and size of large-scale developments increases (e.g. renewable energy development), so does the importance of a rigorous assessment of cumulative impacts. For example, a proposed development may, in isolation, have a minor impact on the setting of a historic landscape, but in combination with other consented, existing and proposed development, may be judged to result in a major impact."

All of the above policies and guidelines have been assessed and considered throughout the assessment of heritage assets within the area of search, and in relation to potential site specific features of archaeological interest. Cumulative impacts have also been considered as part of the whole process and are outlined in this report.

Caithness Local Plan (Adopted 2002) (As Continued in Force) (April 2012)

This Local Plan²² must be read in conjunction with the Highland-wide Local Development Plan. The

.....

²¹ The Highland Council (2012) 'Standards for Archaeological Work', Inverness

²² The Highland Council (Adopted 2002) Caithness Local Plan (As Continued in Force) (April 2012).

Highland-wide Local Development Plan contains the spatial strategy, vision and all general policy against which development proposals will be assessed.

9.3 Consultation

Scoping Opinions relevant to this assessment were received from Historic Scotland and THC's Historic Environment Team.

A summary of the responses is provided in Table 9.1 below.

► **Table 9.1: Summary of Consultations Conducted**

Consultee	Issues Raised	Actions undertaken/required
Historic Scotland (HS): scoping response (18/12/13)	On the basis of the information supplied, we can indicate that a wind farm proposal at this location does not appear to raise significant concerns for our historic environment interests.	Noted.
	HS note that A-listed Castle of Mey and GDL is outwith the ZTV search area at a distance of 21km and are satisfied that given the distance between the development and the Castle and its GDL, consider that the development will not have a significant impact on these assets and therefore they could be scoped out of the assessment.	Noted.
	In terms of detailed and more focused assessment on the significance and setting of the sites, HS are content with the sites listed in the cultural heritage chapter at section of the scoping request, which lists scheduled monuments and A-listed buildings within 10km of the area of the development.	ZTV produced to 10km to cover this study area.
	HS noted the omission of Inventory Battlefields from the Sources of Information section. As part of the SHEP updates there is now also commitment for an Inventory of Historic Battlefields that lists nationally important battlefields in Scotland that meet the criteria published in SHEP. Historic Scotland is responsible for identifying and providing information on our most important battlefields to aid their management into the future.	The assessment has considered this and included the Inventory of Battlefields.
The Highland Council Historic Environment Team: Consultation response (26/03/14)	Whilst we broadly concur with the methodology and receptors set out in the Scoping Report the ES chapter will also need to follow Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work, specifically Section 4 which deals with Environmental Statements (particularly para 4.14) and Section 3.	The guidance has been consulted and this document has been produced in compliance with section 4.

Where indirect impacts are predicted, these will be illustrated using photomontages. Cumulative visual impacts, including existing and proposed wind farm development in the wider area, must be taken into consideration and assessed in this case.

PM's produced from Scouthal Burn, chapel and the Clow; Achingale Mill; Watten Mains; Cairn and hut circles 1070m S of Strath; Broch E of Knockglass; Gallow Hillock cairn.

Where impacts are unavoidable, HET expect proposed methods to mitigate this impact to be discussed in detail, including both physical (i.e. re-design) and where appropriate, compensatory.

No unavoidable physical impacts currently identified. Section 9.7 contains details on mitigation.

9.4 Methodology

The scope of this assessment meets the requirements of current planning regulations set out in SPP (2014), SHEP (2009), PAN2/2011 and PAN58 (SODD 1999).

Neo Environmental, who prepared this assessment, conforms to the standards of professional conduct outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Code of Conduct, the IfA Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, the IfA Standards and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessments, Field Evaluations etc., and the British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group Code of Practice.

Neo Environmental is a Registered Archaeological Organisation of the IfA. This status ensures that there is regular monitoring and approval by external peers of internal systems, standards and skills development.

Desk-based Assessment

The desk based assessment was conducted to ascertain all historical and archaeological information relevant to the site and the local area. The area considered as part of the original data search was within a 2km (non-designated sites) and 10km (high sensitivity, designated sites) radius of the site. The size of the study area ensures that comprehensive and informative data can be collated to characterise the direct and indirect impacts the proposed development may have on historical and archaeological assets.

Up-to-date information was obtained from appropriate sources on the locations of historic environment (archaeological and built heritage) assets with statutory protection and non-statutory designations both within the site and within 10km of the proposed development.

The following sources have been consulted in the preparation of this assessment:

► National Monuments Record for Scotland:

For NMRS data, archaeological and architectural and aerial photographs, NMRS maps and unpublished archaeological reports

► Highland Council Historic Environment Team:

For Historic Environment Record data

► National Map Library:

For Ordnance Survey maps (1st & 2nd Edition, small- and large-scale) and pre-Ordnance Survey historical maps

► Historic Scotland:

For Scheduled Ancient Monument data and Listed Buildings data, and for information regarding the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Inventory of Battlefields

► Bibliographic references and on-line historical research resources were consulted to provide background and historical information.

► The online Historic Land-Use Assessment Data for Scotland (HLAMap), maintained by the RCAHMS, was consulted for information on the historic land use character of the site.

The designated sites which have been assessed as part of this development include: SAMs, Category A and Category B Listed Buildings, World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens (RPG's) and Battlefield sites. Non-designated sites include those identified in the National Monument Records (NMRs) and Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs).

Professional Guidance

► Code of Conduct Institute of Field Archaeologists (2010);

► Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, Institute of Field Archaeologists (2011).

Field Survey

A survey of the site was carried out on 26th April 2014 with the following aims:

► To assess the present baseline condition of the historic/archaeological assets identified through the desk-based assessment;

► To identify any further features of historic environment interest not detected from the desk-based assessment and to assess ground conditions across the site for its potential to contain currently unrecorded, buried archaeological remains.

► Identified historic environment assets were recorded on pro-forma monument recording forms and by digital photography and their positions (and where appropriate their extents) were logged using a Global Positioning System (GPS). No intrusive archaeological interventions have been carried out as part of this assessment.

- Site visits to assets in the wider area were also carried out, to assess the character and sensitivity of the settings of historic environment assets within 10 km of the proposed development that were indicated by the ZTV to have theoretical views of one or more turbines, and to assess the effects of the proposed development on those settings.

Impact Assessment

Direct Impacts

Potential direct impacts are considered as the physical disturbance of known or associated archaeological remains. These impacts can be caused through the construction process within the footprint of the development and affect both above ground and subsurface remains.

Indirect Impacts

This section assesses the potential visual and amenity impact the proposed development may have on the setting of a heritage asset. A monument or buildings setting can generally be assessed by how its surroundings contribute to the ways in which it is understood, appreciated and experienced.

Visual Impact Assessment

A ZTV (Figure 9.1) has been produced to identify sites with a greater potential for being indirectly impacted by the proposed development. The ZTV has been overlaid on the HER's within the study area, to identify those that will potentially be visually impacted by the proposal.

The software does not take into account any vegetation or built structures that will provide additional screening for the heritage assets.

Assessment of Significance

The assessment of importance of archaeological and heritage assets reflects the relative weight given to them in SHEP and SPP. Table 9.2 summaries the relative importance of the cultural heritage resource.

► **Table 9.2: Sensitivity of Heritage Assets**

Sensitivity	Type of Heritage Asset
Very High	World Heritage Site – Sites of universal value, importance and significance
High	Designated heritage assets such as listed buildings and conservation areas
Medium	Undesignated heritage assets, such as locally listed buildings and other sites locally identified as being of some significance
Low	Structures which may have some potential interest or local significance

Criteria for assessing the magnitude of direct impacts upon the Heritage resource, the direct physical effects that would result from the construction processes of one or more elements of the proposed development, are formulated in Table 9.3.

► **Table 9.3: Magnitude of Effects on Heritage Asset**

Magnitude of Effect	Factors in the assessment
Major/Severe	<p>Direct: Total loss of a heritage asset.</p> <p>Indirect: Total loss of the setting of a heritage asset.</p>
Major	<p>Direct: Considerable physical change to a heritage asset.</p> <p>Indirect: Extensive and fundamental change to the setting of a heritage asset.</p>
Medium	<p>Direct: Noticeable physical modification or change affecting key elements or characteristics</p> <p>Indirect: Noticeable modification or change of the setting of a heritage asset, affecting key elements or characteristics</p>
Minor	<p>Direct: A physical change or difference to a key element or characteristic.</p> <p>Indirect: A change or difference within the setting of the heritage asset, affecting a key element or characteristic.</p>
Slight	<p>Direct: Slight physical change that does not erode the significance of the heritage asset</p> <p>Indirect: Slight change within the setting of the heritage asset that does</p>

The sensitivity of the asset and magnitude of effect are then cross-referenced to enable an assessment of the potential significance of the direct impact of the construction process upon the Heritage resource. Table 9.4 formulates the assessment criteria for ascertaining the direct impacts of the construction process before a mitigation strategy has been implemented.

Major and moderate effects are considered to be significant impacts upon the Heritage resource as set out in the Town and Country Planning (Environment Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (EIA Regulations)²³.

.....

²³ The Scottish Government (2011) Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Scotland) Regulations 2011, Edinburgh

► **Table 9.4: Significance of Impacts**

		HERITAGE VALUE/SENSITIVITY			
		Very High	High	Medium	Low
MAGNITUDE OF EFFECT	Major / Severe	Severe	Severe	Major	Moderate
	Major	Severe	Major	Moderate	Minor
	Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor	Minor
	Minor	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Negligible
	Slight	Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible

The Importance of Setting and the Heritage Asset

Setting can be important to the way in which historic structures or places are understood, appreciated and experienced.

Historic Scotland's *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting* (2011)²⁴ highlights the key issues surrounding the importance of the setting of Heritage assets. Where development is proposed it is important to identify the historic asset that might be affected, to define the setting of the asset and to assess how development might impact upon this resource. Setting often extends beyond the property boundary, or 'curtilage', of an individual historic asset into a broader landscape context. Less tangible elements can also be important in understanding the setting. These may include function, sensory perceptions or the historical, artistic, literary and scenic associations of places or landscapes. In the light of this guidance, development proposals should seek to avoid or mitigate detrimental impacts on the settings of historic assets.

Table 9.5 establishes criteria for assessing the visual impact of a development on the surrounding Heritage assets.

.....
²⁴ Historic Scotland (2011) 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment – Setting', Edinburgh

► **Table 9.5: Criteria for Establishing Setting and the Heritage Asset**

Sensitivity	Definition
High	An asset, the current understanding of which, relies heavily on the landscape/historic context in which it resides regardless of whether or not this was intended by the original constructors of the monument.
Medium	An asset which would have had a strong relationship with its visual setting and the surrounding landscape but where that relationship has been partially compromised by modern activity to the setting or landscape.
Low	A monument where its relationship to the visual setting and the surrounding landscape has been significantly compromised.
Negligible	An asset where setting is not a determining factor in assessing its historical significance within the wider landscape or where the asset has been compromised to such an extent that no relationship with the wider landscape context can offer anything valuable to its understanding.

In assessing the potential impact of a proposed development on the setting of a Heritage asset its significance with the wider landscape context is determined. Table 9.6 illustrates the relevant criteria.

► **Table 9.6 Sensitivity of Setting of a Receptor**

Importance of Asset	Contribution of Setting			
	High	Moderate	Low	Negligible
National	High	High	Medium	Low
Regional	High	Medium	Low	Low
Local	Medium	Low	Low	Low

Classifying Magnitude of Visual Impact

The magnitude of the impact on a setting is assessed according to the criteria listed in Table 9.7.

► **Table 9.7: Criteria for Classifying Magnitude of Visual Impact**

Visual Impact	Criteria
High	Direct and substantial visual impact on a significant sightline to or from a ritual monument or prominent fort; Major alteration to the settings of a Scheduled Ancient Monument or Category A Listed Building with High visual sensitivity; Major visual imposition within a Cultural Landscape; Major visual imposition within or affecting and Iconic Site or Monument.
Medium	Oblique visual impact on an axis adjacent to a significant sightline to or from a ritual monument but where the significant sightline of the monument is not obscured. Glacis of a prominent fort (based on the proportion of the glacis that would be obscured). Significant alteration to the setting of a SAM of High visual sensitivity outwith its penumbral setting or significant alteration to the setting of a Category A, B or C (S) Listed Building of High visual sensitivity beyond its curtilage. Significant but not major visual imposition within a Cultural Landscape.
Low	Peripheral visual impact on a significant sightline to or from a ritual monument. Insignificant alteration to the setting of a SAM of High visual sensitivity outwith its penumbral setting or insignificant alteration to the setting of a Category A, B or C (S) Listed Building beyond its curtilage.
Marginal	All other visual impacts
None	No intervisibility.

9.5 Baseline Conditions

The following section outlines the historical and archaeological background within the extent of the study area and surrounding locale. This will provide a clear depiction of the context and significance of the heritage assets that could potentially be impacted by the development. Appendix 9.1 and Figure 9.2 contain all HERs within 2km of the centre of the site boundary.

Historical and Archaeological Background

Archaeological Period Classifications:

Prehistoric (Pre 10,000BC – AD560)

Despite the potential for prehistoric remains in the wider area, there are no known assets dating back to the Mesolithic, Neolithic or Bronze Age periods within the site boundary.

According to THC's Historic Environment Record (HER), the earliest dated evidence within 2km of the

proposed development is derived from the Neolithic, although undated flint scatters (MHG36881) located in the wider locale may indicate earlier activity.

The search identified five assets which potentially originated from the Neolithic, within the 2km study area. Numerous undated records within the study area are suggestive of wider prehistoric activity which is currently not yet fully understood. One of these assets is a SAM (Table 9.7; 450), a Neolithic cairn located on Backlass Hill (MHG1965). Stone cairns appear to be the dominant type of monument amongst the identified remains within the 2km study area, with possible hut circles indicative of settlement or religious practice. A possible structure (MHG2331) uncovered in the 19th century at Bylbster contained a stone axe and two carved round granite balls within its interior. Undated records also note a number of standing stones within the 2km study area, in some instances, representative of larger stone circles. Although, the state of preservation of these remains appears to have been compromised.

A cist (MHG1980) is the only asset which provides evidence for the Bronze Age in the HER records. It is located on top of Cnoc Sgadain and contained a crouch burial and a beaker. The site is located in close proximity to standing stones (noted above), possibly indicating a degree of continuity. A cist is also recorded at Clow Chapel, south east of the development boundary, (within the HER buffer zone of the SAM 721), but as this township is designated as post-medieval in date it may have a later origin.

Iron Age (550BC – AD560)

There are six records noted in THC Environment Records dating from the Iron Age. These remains are related to Brochs - a round dry stone walled dwelling often built with a defensive purpose in mind – two of which are SAMs (Table 9.7: 450 and 551). Approximately, 200m to the southeast of the proposed development boundary lies the site of a former broch (MHG1977). It is visible as a grass-covered stony mound. In addition, a possible broch resides 150m north of the proposed development boundary (MHG2347). However, the state of preservation appears to have been compromised and little of the remains are now visible.

A general assessment of the broch sites within the 2km study area appear to contribute to a wider security network in the area with a focus along the Burn of Acharole and Scouthal Burn. Perhaps these were employed along this geographical feature as an additional defensive element, incorporated into the overall security strategy for the area with the undated promontory fort (MHG13707) possibly being the focal point. A number of undated enclosures are within the study area, but it cannot be ascertained with any certainty that these have Iron Age origins.

Early Medieval and Medieval (AD450 – AD1560)

There is only one asset within the 2km study area positively identified as being Medieval in origin. The church of St Talore or Tarloc (MHG1963) near the village of Watten is purported to have Early Medieval origins.

Post-medieval and Modern (AD1560 Onwards)

The dividing line between the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods is often seen as the Reformation. Land became redistributed from ecclesiastical to secular owners, brought about by the dissolution of the monasteries. Until the later 18th century, direct involvement in agriculture formed the majority of employment for working people.

Within the 2km study area numerous examples of Post-Medieval activity has been identified, much of it relating to the agricultural economy/infrastructure of the local area. A concentration of farmsteads is identified to the north west of the proposed development boundary. Three examples

(MHG19833), (MHG20115) and (MHG18397) are located on an area of higher ground at Backlass Hill, presumably exploiting the natural drainage of the site. To the north of this cluster of farmsteads, on the edge of the 2km study area, lies Corriemulzie Lodge (MHG19632). A number of Post-Medieval and undated structural remains are indicated to the north west (approximately 200m from the proposed development boundary), lying on lower ground. Two examples lie in the immediate vicinity south of Newton Farm.

The first edition OS 6-inch map (Caithness 1877, sheet xviii) depicts a roofed building (MHG20027) around three sides of a courtyard. An undated structure (MHG36632) (in close proximity to the east) is possibly associated with the aforementioned roofed building and is identifiable in the HER records. A further undated building (MHG20025) can be found approximately 50m from the western corner of the proposed development boundary. The HER identifies this as a rectangular structure containing a fireplace, possibly the remains of a croft. A field survey of this area did not uncover any remnants of this building still being present.

To the east of Newton Farm, a Market Stane (MHG38931) is identified on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map which also highlights a market stance at Knockie Vill (MHG31233). Achingale Mill (MHG1973), a Category A Listed Building, (purported to be early to mid-19th century in date), is located approximately 300m to the north of Knockie Vill, presumably serving the wider Post-Medieval agricultural community of the area.

The Post-Medieval economic centre was probably located in the township (SAM 721) south-south west of Achingale Mill; which contained a chapel, cemetery and an associated settlement also containing a mill. Post-Medieval agricultural structures are also observed south west of the township, clustered around the locales surrounding the Burn of Acharole. Within the site boundary, the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map (Caithness 1877, sheet xxiii) identifies a number of structures (MHG18393) in close proximity to the south eastern boundary of the site. HER description of the site identifies three unroofed buildings and an enclosure. Field evaluation of the area identified structural remains present and a circular enclosure and rig and furrow can be seen on aerial photographic evidence. Whilst the enclosure may predate the structures, it appears to be of similar dimensions to an extant stone sheepfold located 100m to the west and may be an earlier earth-banked fold.

In the Modern period, the heritage assets are located in and around Watten to the north east of the proposed development. Records indicate remains from World War Two including a Prisoner of War camp and Military base (MHG37682). The site has since been cleared and is now occupied by modern housing; although stray finds from the camp are occasionally found by local residents. A Royal Observer Corps monitoring post (MHG54224), a relic of the Cold War, is located east of the town intended to monitor radioactive fallout in the event of nuclear attack.

Walkover Survey

A walkover survey (Figure 9.3) of the proposed development site was conducted on 26th April 2014 in overcast, misty conditions. The aim of the survey was to assess the extent and significance of previously recorded sites, Listed Buildings and SAMs and to identify any hitherto unknown sites of archaeological significance which may be potentially affected by the proposed development site.

The proposed development area is primarily open moorland.

The walkover survey identified two areas of potential archaeological interest. On the edge of the south eastern boundary a rectangular structure 17m x 4.5m (Site 4) aligned north-south was identified (HER entry MHG18393) which composed four interconnected compartments measuring c.5m x 4.5m each (Plate 1). The structure appeared to have been constructed utilising rough angular stone presumably taken from the local environment (Plate 2). Walls were approximately 0.4m in height and 0.9m in width. In addition, aerial photography potentially identifies areas of rig and

furrow in close proximity to the site (although the walkover survey did not confirm the existence of these on the ground).

A stone constructed circular sheepfold (Site 5) was identified during the walkover survey, approximately 13m in diameter with walls c.1.4m wide and 0.8m in height (Plate 3). Only the northern and western portions of the structure remained upstanding with portions of the northern edge exhibiting the best state of preservation. The eastern and southern walls had been largely robbed but could still be discerned. The structure contained a rubble core with flat, slightly angular, outer stone courses. The footings and c.4-5 courses of the original structure could be discerned in the northern edge.

Another example of a circular stone-built sheepfold was encountered (Site 7) approximately 120m outwith the northern boundary of the site (Plate 4). It was similar in construction to the sheepfold at Site 5, but was in a better state of preservation with approximately 7 or 8 courses still intact throughout the structure. An entrance to the structure appeared to be present on the western side of the sheepfold.

Located in close proximity to Site 7 (Site 8), outwith the development site, were the remains of rectangular buildings. The entire visible remains measured approximately 30m x 8m aligned northeast to southwest. The state of preservation was fairly poor, but they are discernible from aerial photographic evidence of the area.

A stone building was observed (Site 9) outwith the north-western edge of the development site, which was still upstanding and in a reasonably good state of preservation; although the southern side of the structure was partially compromised (Plate 5). It most probably represented an early to mid-19th century croft.

A number of clearance cairns were identified (Site 1, 2, 3 and 6) within the site boundary but were clearly of modern origin (Plate 6).

Scouthal Burn, chapel and The Clow (SAM 721), a chapel and its associated settlement remains were assessed. The monument is outwith the site boundary located approximately 550m from the southern boundary of the site. The site contains no upstanding remains but earthworks within the site are extensive and well preserved.

Baseline Assessment

There are no SAMs or Listed Buildings within the development site. A chapel and associated settlement remains are approximately 550m (c.900m from the nearest turbine) from the southern boundary of the site, located on the valley floor and partially obscured by intervening topography.

There are four Listed Buildings located in the 5km study area: one Category A, Achingale Mill, and two Category B buildings, Watten Mains and Achingale Bridge over the Wick River. Thor House at Watten Crossroads is a Category C Listed Building.

Two circular sheepfolds, Post-Medieval in date, not in the Historic Environment Record were discovered during the site walkover survey but are considered to be of low heritage value.

There are 47 Scheduled Monuments, 5 category A, 12 category B and 5 category C Listed Buildings within the 10km study area. There are no UNESCO World Heritage sites, GDLs or Battlefield sites within the study area. Of the 21 Listed Buildings, 7 are outwith the ZTV. This includes the four Listed Buildings at Westerdale (Dale House, Westerdale bridge & Westerdale Church of Scotland), Bower Parish Church, Bridge of Haster and Bilbster House (see appendices Heritage Assets Map).

Furthermore, sixteen of the SAMs lie outwith the ZTV and will therefore not be impacted by the proposed development.

Future Baseline

It is not expected that the current land use within the site boundary will pose a specific risk to any known or unknown heritage assets within its confines. Natural weathering and erosion may continue to further degrade upstanding built remains (e.g. sheepfolds) but this would be expected of remains which occupy exposed locations. Rough grazing of sheep is indeed beneficial to the archaeological resource as tree and scrub saplings are discouraged limiting their impact upon sub-surface and upstanding remains.

Do Nothing Scenario

There would be no change to the baseline assessment of archaeological/heritage assets within the proposed development site if the proposal was not to proceed. The current land-use of rough pasture would continue to dominate the area negating the potential for disturbance to the archaeological/heritage assets.

Heritage Assets within the Study Area

As part of the initial assessment of the historic baseline, a search of designated heritage assets has been conducted within the 5km study area, including: SAMs, GDLs, Battlefields, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. In addition, non-designated assets have been identified within the land ownership boundary of the proposed development.

This identified: 14 SAMs and four Listed Buildings, including: one Category A, two Category B and one Category C within the 5km study area. Each of which are identified in Table 9.8 below and depicted in Figure 9.1 with ZTV overlaid. In addition, there is one non-designated heritage asset contained within the proposed development boundary known as West Watten Holdings Farmstead (Canmore ID 90898). This site lies to the eastern site boundary, adjacent to Toftmary Burn. A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings, two of which are long buildings, and an enclosure are depicted on the 1st edition OS 6-inch map. An unroofed building and two enclosures are evident on the current edition of the OS 1:10,000 map.

► **Table 9.8: Heritage Assets within 10km**

No.	Index No/HB No.	Name	Distance (km) ²⁵
SAMs			
1	721	Scouthal Burn, chapel & The Clow	0.9
2	609	Nether Banks, broch 220m NNE of	1.8
3	551	Green Hill, broch, West Watten	2.0
4	450	Gallow Hillock, cairn on Backlass Hill	2.0
5	452	Grey Cairn, broch 475m SE of Lynegar	3.6
6	472	Osle, chambered cairn S of Lynegar House	3.7
7	5732	Chapel of Dunn, chapel, 300m SW of Oldhall House	3.6
8	3520	Strath, cairn & hut circles 1070m S of	3.6
9	465	Lynegar, cairn 610m NE of	3.4
10	3666	Achalipster, corn kiln & barn	4.0
11	561	Knockglass, broch E of	4.49
12	431	Bilbster, chambered cairn 1040m NNE of Bylbster Bridge	4.78
13	3986	Scottag Cairn	5.1
14	582	Spittal Farm, broch 180m E of	4.76
15	528	Fairy Hillock, chambered cairn SE of Spittal Mains	5.9
16	5301	Halsary, standing stones 450m WNW of and 620m NW of	5.47
17	8484	North Bilbster, standing stone 120m W of	5.84
18	521	Ballone, broch 360m NE of Spittal	5.91
19	7039	Nipster, henge 250m NNW of	5.97
20	5413	St Magnus' church, burial ground and hospital	6.47

.....

²⁵ From nearest turbine.

21	549	Gearsay Cairn, broch 240m SW of West Gersa	7.05
22	434	Cairn of Heathercow, long cairn, Brabster Moss	7.38
23	2659	Kirk o'Moss, site of St Duthac's Chapel, Moss of Killimster	7.53
24	2402	Achanarras, hut circle	7.87
25	475	The Shean, cairn 500m WNW of Achanarras	7.9
26	545	Dale Farm, broch 800m SE of	7.91
27	541	Cnoc Donn, broch 600m ESE of Dale Farm, Halkirk	8.06
28	556	Halcro Manse, broch 640m S of	8.27
29	2400/2401	Achanarras, cairn 800m NW of	8.14
30	536	Camster, broch 275m E of	7.78
31	593	Tulach Mor, broch, E bank of River Thurso	8.07
32	537	Camster, broch S of	8.13
33	2235	Achies, broch 800m NE of	8.54
34	487	Stone Lud, cairn & standing stone 225m WSW of Upper Bowertower	8.67
35	509	Achies, broch 180m E of	8.73
36	534	Cairn Merk, broch 800m SSE of Bridge of Westerdale	8.96
37	520	Ballachly, broch 360m S of, Stemster	8.96
38	494	Tulach an Fhuarain, cairn 310m NW of Bridge of Westerdale	9.27
39	496	Tulach Lochain Bhraseil, cairn 310m WNW of Bridge of Westerdale	9.31
40	473	Rangag, standing stone by Latheron to Thurso Road, 750m N of	9.14
41	468	Mill of Knockdee, chambered cairn SSW of	9.32
42	90056	Grey Cairns of Camster	9.2
43	463	Loch of Camster, stone rows 400m WSW of S end of	9.63

44	576	Ring of Castlehill, fort 380m SW of Summer Byres	10.5
45	553	Green Hill, broch 300m W of Mordwall	10.2
46	5897	Dirlot Castle	10.3
Category A Listed Building			
47	14976	Achingale Mill	1.62
48	14088	Sibster Farm, farmhouse	9.79
49	14088	Sibster Farm, farmsteading, South Range	9.84
50	14088	Sibster Farm, farmsteading, West Range, kiln and horse engine house	9.84
51	14088	Sibster Farm, farmsteading, dwelling	9.85
Category B Listed Building			
52	14975	Achingale Bridge	2.28
53	14979	Watten Mains	4.19
54	589	Stemster House	8.8
55	586	Bower Parish Church and Manse	9.23
56	7805	Westerdale Bridge	9.09
57	7793	Westerdale, Dale House	9.15
58	7794	Westerdale, Dale House, walled garden	9.18
59	7794	Westerdale, Dale House, dovecot	9.18
60	7806	Westerdale Church of Scotland	9.31
61	14089	Stirkoke House	9.57
62	14089	Stirkoke House, service wing	9.57
63	14077	Bridge of Haster	10.4

Category C(s) Listed Building

64	14978	Watten, Cross Roads, Thor House	2.2
65	14076	Bilbster House	5.69
66	14977	Causeymire, Church of Scotland Mission Hall	6.62
67	590	Stemster, Memorial	8.99
68	590	Stemster House, dovecot	8.99

Assessment of Significance of the Listed Buildings within the ZTV

Achingale Mill, Category A (14976)

Description and Designation

An early mid-19th century, tall 3-storey L-plan mill; all rubble. The north arm of the mill consists of a kiln, with a hipped roof and 2 squat, square wooden ridge vents. There is one large, and one small over-shot wheel at the east gable, both of which are served by an overhead wooden lade, leading from the bank to the south, into which the mill is built. Large timber cantilevered square chute projects can be found at the south elevation. There is a lean-to at the rear, with a diminutive gabled dormer. The roof consists of Caithness slate roofing.

Setting and Impacts

Achingale Mill is located 1.62km northeast of the nearest turbine at c.25m AOD adjacent to the Scouthal Burn. The Mill resides in an area of low lying ground sloping gently towards Loch Watten to the north. Occupying the floodplain of the Scouthal Burn the ground immediately surrounding the property has an open appearance with a scarp face — a natural feature probably the result of water erosion — c.180m west which follows the course of the Burn. The original cut for the leat, drawing water from the Burn to the Mill, can be observed on aerial photography; the Burn also has a straight appearance in this area suggestive of management of the watercourse. An area of ridge and furrow is present in the adjacent field east of the property — straight ridges indicative of 19th century to modern ploughing.

The immediate setting surrounding the Mill appears to possess elements of its original setting outlined above. The wider landscape setting still retains traceable 19th century landscape features and infrastructure which would have formed the historic fabric contemporaneous with the Mill, although many of the built structures are in a poor state of preservation. However, commercial forest management is a prominent feature of landscape to the south of the Mill and may have been more extensive in the recent past than at present. These plantations have a modern morphology and would have introduced a landscape character that was not contemporary with the Mill's 19th century setting. The fieldscape to the north has a planned appearance with straight surveyed boundaries present. Much of these land divisions will have a 19th century origin but modification is likely to have occurred in the post-war era to accommodate modern farming practices. Modern commercial quarrying is observed at Spittal.

Figure 9.4 shows the view of the proposed development from within the curtilage of the Mill. The scarp face of the Scouthal Burn can be clearly seen in the mid-ground of the photomontage and an

area of commercial forestry limits views of two turbines. The distance of the proposed development from the asset reduces the impact upon views and setting.

The asset has a high sensitivity/heritage value but the magnitude of effect is expected to be minor to medium. Cumulative impacts to the wider setting of the Mill have been considerable and it is considered that the proposed development will be of a sufficiently low magnitude that impacts will be curtailed. Impacts are predicted to be **minor to moderate**.

Watten Crossroads, Thor House, Category C (14978)

Description and Designation

An early 19th century two storey house with mid-19th century additions and alterations. Prominently sited at Watten Crossroads with mid-19th century single storey, five bay wing to the rear. Rendered and lined as ashlar with contrasting painted margins. Centre door and flanking windows have mid-19th century decorative lintels with incised detailing. Non-traditional door and windows (formerly lying-pane glazing to timber framed sash and case). Renewed end stacks. Slate roof to house; artificial slates to rear wing.

Setting and Impacts

Set amongst the small loch side village of Watten where the A882 and B870 form a crossroads at the core of the settlement. The village displays the characteristics of an 18th – 19th century planned settlement —optimised transport routes and clearly demarcated plots of land carefully aligned to the road network. The 19th century core of the village appears to be clustered around the crossroads and Station Road. Modern development predominates to the west of the village along the A882. Main views from Thor House are oriented north west/south east and will not be impacted upon by the proposed development. Setting has been considerably compromised by the modern development to the west of the property and modern development along Station Road.

The asset is of medium sensitivity and the magnitude of effect is expected to be slight. It is anticipated that the proposed development will not impact upon the setting or views of Thor House and that impacts will be **negligible**.

Watten Mains, Category B (14979)

Description and Designation

A two storey house and attic dated 1763 with symmetrical south facing front; all harled with contrasting painted ashlar margins. Centre door with plain fanlight; centre gablet with small attic window with round-headed dated pediment and apex stack; two later 19th canted dormers; 12-pane glazing. An irregular single storey and attic wing are located to the rear, with a projecting porch at the eastern side; mainly lying-pane glazing. The structure possesses corniced end stacks, and a West Highland slate roof, with Caithness slates to the rear.

Setting and Impacts

The house is located adjacent to the B874 approximately 4.1km from the nearest turbine near the northern shore of Loch Watten. The house occupies an area of neat parcels of woodland with an adjacent farmstead, residential properties and a cemetery fronting the B874. Main views from the house are towards the south. The house is set back from the B874 and is flanked by woodland to the east and west narrowing the visual envelope of main views to the south. Southerly views already comprise renewable energy projects at Flex Hill, Achairn and Camster. Calculated ZTV data suggests a degree of intervisibility will be possible. Figure 9.5 confirms that all five turbines can be seen

although distance reduces their impact considerably. However, views to the left and right of the view depicted in Figure 9.5 would offer obscured views of the application site as direct lines of sight would be interrupted by the hedge line parallel to the road and high fir trees in the mid-ground. Cumulative impacts from previous renewable projects should also reduce the magnitude of impact. It is anticipated that although the asset is of a high sensitivity it is expected that the magnitude of effect will be minor, therefore, the proposed development will have a **minor impact** upon the setting and the heritage value of the house.

Achingale Bridge Category B (14975)

Description and Designation

The bridge located to the south west of Watten was designed by Thomas Telford. It has three segmental arches, the central arch the largest of the three, and has ashlar dressings. The bridge spans the Wick River and it forms a component of the A882.

Setting and Impacts

Located 2.28km from the nearest turbine at 20m AOD the bridge occupies a location east of Watten. The setting of the bridge has been altered radically. Most of the alterations involve traffic safety measures including road lighting, signage and crash barriers. In addition, the tarmacked surface of the A882 and a pedestrian path on the northern side of the bridge has materially altered its appearance and setting. Ancillary structures adjacent to the bridge allowing access to the watercourse have modern handrails visible. Although within the calculated ZTV it is predicted that views of the proposed development will be restricted due to the low lying location of the bridge. Modern elements within the immediate locale of the bridge are currently the most intrusive when evaluating the value of its setting. It is predicted that the proposed development will not contribute significantly to a deterioration of the setting and visuals of the asset. The asset is of medium sensitivity/heritage value but the magnitude of effect is expected to be slight. It is therefore predicted that the proposed development will have a **negligible** impact upon the asset.

Assessment of Significance of SAMs within the ZTV

Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

There are fourteen SAMs located within 5km of the proposed development boundary, thirteen of which lie within the ZTV and have the potential to be visually impacted by the proposed development. Table 9.8 above and Figure 9.1 identify each of the SAMs within the study area.

Scouthal Burn, chapel and The Clow (721)

Description and Designation

These are the remains of St Mary's Chapel, standing in its graveyard with St Mary's Well on the opposite side of the Scouthal Burn. The scheduled area also contains settlement remains in the form of earthworks, which are indicative of built structures.

Setting and Impacts

Occupying an area of land adjacent to the Scouthal Burn the nearest turbine is located c. 0.9km to the southeast. The land the site occupies was clearly chosen to exploit the water resource or local well. Outwith the scheduled area ridge and furrow on southeast facing slopes are faintly legible, possibly contemporary with the settlement. The site's location, residing by the Burn, places it in a low

lying position relative to the surrounding landscape. In addition, an escarpment runs either side of the Burn providing additional screening. Views towards the proposed development are impeded by the sharply rising topography. Figure 9.6 shows the anticipated view from the scheduled area and confirms that the escarpment as well as the area of commercial forestry will provide a substantial amount of screening of the proposed development. It is anticipated that if views are achievable they will be limited in scope. The sensitivity/heritage value of the asset is high and the magnitude of effect is predicted to be medium. It is therefore predicted that the proposed development will have a **moderate** impact upon the asset.

Cairn and hut circles 1070m S of Strath (3520)

Description and Designation

The designation covers an area of ground where a large cairn in which human remains were found in the 19th century and a cluster of hut circles. Though there are no associated cultivation remains, there is another stony mound, which may be a cairn and a possible burnt mound within this cluster.

Setting and Impacts

The site is located 3.6km south east from the nearest turbine at 68m AOD, in an area of agricultural land, close to rough moorland. The area has an extensive visual envelope and views to the horizon are possible in all directions to the west. It is therefore anticipated that intervisibility will be possible. However, distance will be an important factor in mitigating the impact of the proposal as will subtle landscape features and undulations in restricting views. Impacts from operational wind farms are perceptible in the wider landscape (e.g. Causeymire and Camster), however, this impact has been minor despite the scale of development. The wireframe (Figure 9.7) depicting the view from the site confirms that distance reduces the impact of the proposed development greatly and no turbines are in a position where they are skylined. It is anticipated that the proposed development will not significantly alter views in this direction nor unduly compromise the setting. The asset has a high sensitivity/heritage value and the magnitude of effect is anticipated to be minor. It is therefore predicted that the proposal will have a **minor** impact upon the heritage asset.

Broch 220m NNE of Nether Banks (609)

Description and Designation

The monument is visible as a turf covered mound, measuring 29m N-S by 22m transversely, with a maximum height of 3m. Stonework is visible on the south east close to the top of the mound. A number of large boulders exposed at the base of the mound to the south and east may be the remains of an outer encircling wall.

Setting and Impacts

Located 1.8km north east of the nearest turbine on the top of an escarpment bordering the Wick River at 28m AOD. It is clear that the setting of the monument has undergone radical alteration since its construction in the Iron Age. Contemporaneous elements that can be positively confirmed are the additional brochs found within the study area. The broch lies within the calculated ZTV, however it appears to occupy an area of ground which is oriented on a gentle slope facing east, with a crestline immediately behind it to the west. The escarpment may have been partly fashioned by water erosion and it is not clear how much this has impacted upon the eastern portion of the monument. The wider landscape is predominately Post-Medieval to Modern in origin and exhibits a well ordered planned fieldscape, scattered settlement with a local communication network, focused upon Watten. These changes have marginalised the Iron Age landscape in the area despite the obvious evidence of

settlement in the area from this period and have impacted upon the original setting of the monument.

This said, it is clear that a degree of intervisibility will be possible given the proximity of the broch to the proposed development. Although the broch resides partially behind a subtle crestline it is predicted that much of the proposed development will be visible. However, the state of preservation of the broch is not remarkable and although located a short distance from the B870 it would not be expected that the resource would attract a high degree of footfall from the general public. The setting has been compromised by recent historic alterations reducing the legibility of the Iron Age landscape. The sensitivity/heritage value of the asset is high and the anticipated magnitude of effect is minor to medium. Given the wide scale change that has occurred to the setting and cumulative impacts from operational wind farms in the area the impact of the proposed development is predicted to be **minor to moderate**.

Green Hill, Broch, West Watten (551)

Description and Designation

Green Hill Broch is situated immediately to the west of Watten House, 2.3km northwest of the crossroads within Watten village. The broch consists of a 2.5m high grassy mound which is 20m in diameter and contains remnants of the lower parts of the drystone walls.

Setting and Impacts

Located 2km north of the nearest turbine at c.48m AOD the broch occupies an area of ground within the curtilage of Watten House on land sloping gently towards Loch Watten c.600m to the north. The immediate setting of the broch contains the property Watten House, tarmacked driveway and considerable tree cover throughout the property's grounds. To the south south-west, c.200m, a large farmstead is located containing numerous built structures with an agricultural focus. The wider landscape displays a planned fieldscape with a communication system likely to have its origins in the Post-Medieval period. These changes have reduced greatly the legibility of the Iron Age landscape contemporary with the broch. There are a number of approved or operational wind farms (e.g. Causeymire, Halsary and Camster) within 10km of the broch.

ZTV calculations suggest that there will be some intervisibility between the broch and the proposed development. However, the monument is located on what appears to be ground sloping northwards descending towards Loch Watten. The crestline of the slope can be located near the farmstead to the south and may limit intervisibility. Views of the turbines could be difficult to achieve but if possible should be restricted to partial views of blade and hub in most cases. The setting of the broch has been compromised by the proximity of Watten House. The driveway also closely bounds the monument's extent. It is not clear if these elements have directly impacted upon the broch but their close proximity would have the potential to disturb remnants of the monument. The asset is of high sensitivity/heritage value and the magnitude of effect upon the asset is anticipated to be minor. Due to intervening topography and a setting which has been compromised by modern elements it is considered that the proposed development will have a **minor impact** upon the heritage asset.

Bilbster, chambered cairn 1040m NNE of Bylbster Bridge (431)

Description and Designation

The monument comprises the remains of a chambered cairn. Standing on a natural ridge overlooking the Wick River. The cairn is of oval form, measuring approximately 25m by 20m and standing up to 1.6m high. The body of the cairn has been disturbed, revealing the presence of two separate internal chambers, which lie approximately 5m apart. The north chamber is defined by four large, upright,

stones plus one further stone, which has fallen from position. The south chamber can also be identified by the presence of four visible upright stones, although further structural elements of this chamber may lie buried within the body of the cairn.

Setting and Impacts

Located 4.78km north east of the nearest turbine at c.13m AOD. Occupying a location beside the Wick River the land rises from c.13m to 25m AOD within 300m towards the south. The area is unusual in comparison with the surrounding landscape, possibly an area where bedrock is near the surface and has been quarried in the past. A readily obtainable stone resource would have been an important aspect of the siting of the cairn. The wider setting is rural with a large area of rough moorland and commercial forestry to the north east and south. The cairn is located in what appears to be a sheltered location on the north east of this raised area. From an analysis of the ZTV it appears that intervisibility may be possible, but given the immediate topographical picture it is anticipated that views should be limited. Where views are achievable they are likely to be of locations in the north west of the application site. However, if further views are obtainable distance will prove to be a mitigating factor, significantly reducing the impact upon the monument. The asset is of a high sensitivity/heritage value but the magnitude of effect is anticipated to be minor. It is predicted that the proposed development will have a **minor** impact upon the heritage asset.

Scottag cairn (3986)

Description and Designation

The flat stones exposed above the surface show this to be the remains of a possible broch or cairn. It is a low mound c.1.5m high and overgrown with grass. It appears to occupy the summit of a lower mound which is itself ploughed down. The impression given is of a mound on mound effect common to brochs in Caithness. On the east side the lower mound has been quarried down to original ground level.

Setting and Impacts

Located 5.1km from the nearest turbine at approximately 42m AOD the monument is adjacent to the B870 running southwards towards Watten village. The cairn resides in a rural location amongst a highly planned fieldscape. Settlement is scattered and largely agricultural in nature. A farmstead is located c.100m to the west. The present setting has its origins in the Post-Medieval to Modern period. The monument's setting has been largely compromised by the proximity of the B870 and nearby farmstead. The farmstead in particular exhibits very straight formal buildings indicative of a recent origin. The access track to the farm is adjacent to the cairn's northern extent. The cairn is within the calculated ZTV and views are predicted. However, the setting has been compromised by modern elements and has now been largely marginalised by these elements. Distance should prove to be a significantly mitigating factor as at 5.1km the visual impact upon the setting of the monument should be low. The asset has a high sensitivity/heritage value but the magnitude of effect is anticipated to be minor. It is therefore predicted that the proposed development will have a **minor** impact upon the heritage asset.

Grey Cairn, broch 475m SE of Lynegar (452); Cairn 610m NE of Lynegar (465); Oslie, chambered cairn S of Lynegar House (472);

Description and Designation

Grey Cairn, broch 475m SE of Lynegar

The monument comprises the remains of a broch visible as a grass covered mound. The monument is

located in the southwest corner of a ploughed field to the north of Loch Watten. It is sub-circular with maximum dimensions 44m by 41m with a platform 8m in diameter in the south west sector. No surface structures are visible.

Cairn 610m NE of Lynegar

The monument comprises a prehistoric cairn visible as a grass covered mound. The monument lies on the false crest of a hill at c.37m AOD. It comprises a circular mound measuring 30m in diameter and 1m high. Two or three random stone blocks are visible in the south side but otherwise the mound is featureless and has been ploughed in the past.

Oslie, chambered cairn S of Lynegar House

The chambered cairn survives as a partially turf-covered mound 14.5m by 8m and 1m high. The cairn is at 25m AOD, 150m from Loch Watten. It has been reduced to an oval area measuring 16m by 4m and 0.8m high onto which field stones have been gathered. Near the centre the tops of two slabs can be seen 1m apart. These two slabs probably belong to the end compartment of a chamber the axis of which ran east northeast – west southwest. The original perimeter of the cairn is barely traceable.

Setting and Impacts

The three monuments are located between 3.4km to 3.7km from the nearest turbine located on the northern slopes of Loch Watten. Oslie chambered cairn and the Grey Cairn broch are located in fields adjacent to the shores of Loch Watten and occupy a low position in the landscape at approximately 20–25m AOD. The Lynegar Cairn occupies a higher elevation to the north of the Loch shore in a field adjacent to the B874. Lynegar farm is in close proximity to all monuments which contains modern agricultural buildings, a tree covered avenue with additional tree cover in the southeast corner of its grounds. The three monuments are within the ZTV and views are predicted. However, the southern slopes of Loch Watten rise from 16m to 58m AOD within 900m and should partially limit views to the south. Lynegar Cairn occupying a higher elevation from Grey Cairn and Oslie chambered cairn may be able to achieve more significant views but the southern slopes of Loch Watten still remain an impediment to views in this direction. The photomontage (Figure 9.8) gives a typical view from across Loch Watten to the proposed development. The turbines are reduced in size by the ridgeline on the southern side of Loch Watten and partially obscured by trees. Only four of the five turbines are perceptible and the distance from the assets has rendered the turbines only faintly discernible. The assets have a high sensitivity/heritage value but the magnitude of effect is anticipated to be minor. It is predicted that the proposed development will have a **minor** impact upon the heritage assets.

Broch 180m E of Spittal Farm (582); Broch E of Knockglass (561)

Description and Designation

The remains of the broch east of Spittal Farm exist as a turf-covered, level-topped mound, 27m in diameter and 1.7m high. The court is defined by a central depression 12.5m by 11m and 1.1m deep. A section of the outer face of the broch is revealed as an arc of coursed slabs 3.5m long and 0.3m high. The broch east of Knockglass takes the form of a conical grass-covered mound 3.66–3.96m high. A very short fragment of a curved outer wall face is visible half way up the south side of the mound.

Setting and Impacts

The broch at Spittal Farm is located 4.76km to the west north west of the nearest turbine at 103m AOD. The monument appears as a grassy mound in aerial photographic evidence occupying the

corner of a large field. The wider setting of the monument has a fieldscape with long straight boundaries indicative of a planned landscape with its origins in the recent past. Areas of commercial forestry are located to the south with rough moorland to the north, probably an area of afforestation. A large quarry occupies the land adjacent to the western extent of the monument and appears to be a significant commercial operation. The broch east of Knockglass is located 4.49km from the nearest turbine at 99m AOD in a group of medium sized fields to the east of a small farmstead. Intervisibility is predicted from both monuments, however, there does appear to be an intervening ridge near Backlass interdicting views from the broch at Spittal Farm to the application site. The wireframe (Figure 9.9) depicts the view from the broch east of Knockglass and shows two turbines reduced in size by the ridgeline. In addition, if account is taken of the forestry plantation, although at a reduced elevation, this may add additional screening of the proposed development and further limit impacts. In both cases, distance from the application site should adequately mitigate any views if they are achievable. The setting of the asset at Spittal Farm has been considerably compromised by the proximity of the quarry adjacent to the asset. The assets are of a high sensitivity/heritage value and the magnitude of effect is predicted to be slight to minor. It is anticipated that the proposed development will have a **minor** impact upon the heritage assets.

Gallow Hillock, cairn on Backlass Hill (450)

Description and Designation

A prehistoric cairn visible as a grass covered mound. The monument is situated at 110m AOD on top of Backlass Hill. It is circular in form and measures 1.2m in height with maximum dimensions of 24m by 21m. The mound rises to a flat top with a diameter of c.11m. Historical mapping shows the presence of an old market stance and it may be that the cairn was indeed reused as a gallows hill in the Middle Ages.

Setting and Impacts

The cairn is located 2.0km north west of the nearest turbine at 109m AOD. The monument resides on a locally prominent knoll in an area of rough agricultural land. An area of commercial forestry is located to the west and Loch Watten is located to the north east. The cairn is within the calculated ZTV and it is likely that its prominent position will make views of the proposed development achievable. Views of turbines in the north western portion of the site are likely to have the biggest impact upon the cairn. The wireframe (Figure 9.10) confirms this assessment and turbines (3, 4 & 5) appear larger in the north west in comparison to turbines 1 and 2. The wireframe confirms two distinct clusters with turbine 1 and 2 forming one cluster and turbines 3, 4 and 5 the other. Aesthetically, turbines 1 and 2 are less distracting to the view whilst 3, 4 and 5 appear to clash. Distance provides some mitigation of the proposed development but intervisibility is predicted. It is clear that the setting of the monument has altered as land use needs have changed over the years. However, due to the proximity of the development and the elevated position of the monument it is predicted that the proposed development has the potential to have an impact. The sensitivity/heritage value of the asset is high and the magnitude of effect is predicted to be minor to medium. It is predicted that impacts from the proposed development upon the asset will be **minor to moderate**.

Achalipster, corn kiln & barn (3666)

Description and Designation

No description is available regarding the monument but aerial photographic evidence indicates that the monument comprises two stone buildings located c.400m west south west of the farmstead

Badlipster. The western most building is approximately 21m by 6m and the eastern most building is 21m by 7m. A trackway is visible c.150m in length running northwest towards the monument from the moor road. The area adjacent to the buildings have indications of relic field boundaries and possibly further structures discernible beneath the overgrowth. No date can be confirmed due to the paucity of information regarding the site. However, surviving agricultural infrastructure in the wider historical context would suggest a Post-Medieval origin, probably 19th century.

Setting and Impacts

Located 4km southeast of the nearest turbine at 94m AOD, Achalipster is set amongst an extensive area of moorland with pasturage for sheep in close proximity. The area generally has been exhaustively utilised in the 20th century for commercial forestry practices but has in subsequent years seen considerable deforestation. Intervisibility with the wider landscape has therefore increased. However, it is clear that views were not a material consideration behind the construction of the heritage asset and should be considered an addendum to the setting of the asset. The asset is within ZTV calculations and intervisibility is predicted due to the open terrain. However, distance should prove to be a significant factor in mitigating the impact of the proposed development. Views have already been compromised by operational wind farms in the area (e.g. Camster) and it is not considered that the small addition to these impacts will affect the setting of the monument dramatically. The sensitivity/heritage value of the asset is high and the magnitude of effect is anticipated to be minor. It is therefore considered that the impact upon the heritage asset will be **minor**.

9.6 Potential Effects

Direct Impacts

The proposed development will involve ground breaking works during the construction phase of the development to create turbine foundations, cable trenches, a sub-station and access tracks. The access track will be 2,245m in length and between 4m — 6m in width. Of the 2,245m of access track required, 652m is already pre-existing. Assembly areas and access tracks will require the least invasive procedures requiring a topsoil strip c.300mm in depth to provide a stable surface for traffic and site compound facilities.

Turbine foundations and cable trenches will require more significant depths. The turbine foundations are 15m in diameter, requiring an additional working corridor around the foundations of 4m which will create an impact area 23m in diameter. Foundations will be excavated to 2.45m below ground level. There will be approximately 920m of cable trenching required, which will be 1.2m in depth and 0.9m wide.

An on-site sub-station will be necessary, including a control building, a fenced compound for electrical equipment and a car park, encompassing in total an area of 300m² (10m x 30m).

A permanent site laydown area will not be required during the construction phase as it is envisaged that the temporary assembly and compound area will be established adjacent to the turbine hardstandings. This will reduce the overall land take required for the wind farm design.

The wider archaeological context surrounding the site indicates that there may be potential for remains dating from the Neolithic to Post-Medieval periods within the footpad of the proposed development. However, site reconnaissance failed to identify any remains within the site boundary that originated before the Post-Medieval period. The walkover survey (Figure 9.3) identified three sites which lie close to the proposed impact areas (Sites 3, 5 and 6). Sites 3 and 6 are modern clearance cairns and Site 5 is a circular sheepfold. Site 5 may have a degree of overlap with the access

track to turbine 5 but it is not clear if this will be impacted upon although the proximity of the sheepfold to the access track makes this a distinct possibility. Site 5 is considered to be of low heritage value.

Indirect Impacts

A study zone of 10km from the proposed development was decided upon for assets which have a greater sensitivity to development, including: SAMs and Category A and B Listed Buildings. A smaller study area was decided upon for less sensitive assets, including Category C Listed Buildings and HERs.

The ZTV was overlain onto the heritage assets map in order to identify those which have a greater potential to be visually impacted by the proposed development. The ZTV does not account for intervening hedgerows, trees or built structures, which will limit the intervisibility between the building/monument and the proposed development.

The setting and potential visual impact upon each of the listed buildings and the SAMs within the ZTV has been assessed through a desk based assessment, site reconnaissance, wireframes and photomontages.

Indirect impacts overall are predicted to be minor. However, the proposed development has the potential to have a minor to moderate impact upon the SAMs at Scouthal Burn (721), the broch at Nether Banks (609) and the cairn on Gallow Hillock (450). Impacts upon the SAM at Scouthal Burn should have a degree of screening due to its low lying location adjacent to the burn and the scarp face that lies between the site and the proposed development. Views from this location should not encompass the proposed development in its entirety but its proximity to the turbine locations may be of concern. The cairn on Gallow Hillock is located in a prominent position and it is predicted it will have clear views of the proposed development appearing as two distinct clusters from this viewpoint.

The photomontage (Figure 9.4) confirms that indirect impacts upon the Category A Listed Building Achingale Mill are predicted to be minor to moderate.

This assessment of the indirect impacts upon the setting and views from cultural heritage assets within the study area predicts impacts to be **minor**.

9.7 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation through design

The proposed development has been designed cognisant of the significance of the heritage resource within the wider landscape. The proposal has reduced the development from 8 turbines to 5 turbines. In addition, the blade-tip height has been reduced from 110m to 99.5m. These changes will have the beneficial effect of limiting the impact of the proposed development on the setting of heritage assets in the area and to ensure that sensitivity to potential receptors is considered. The site layout has endeavoured to reduce the total land take of the proposed development which will limit the potential for sub-surface archaeology to be disturbed should any remains exist.

Mitigation during Construction Phase

Although there is limited potential for recovering archaeological remains within the development site, there is always the potential for as yet unidentified buried archaeology to exist. It is anticipated that further archaeological works will not be required for this project, however if they are required they will be conducted following the standards below.

All works would be conducted by a professional archaeological organisation and the scope of the works would be detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which would be submitted to THC for approval prior to archaeological monitoring beginning.

Where heritage assets lie in close proximity to development features they would be avoided as far as possible in order to ensure remains are preserved *in situ*. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible provision would be made for excavation where necessary of any archaeological remains encountered. This provision would include the production of written reports on findings with post-excavation analyses and publication of the results of the works where appropriate.

9.8 Assessment of Residual Effects

It is anticipated that the proposed development will not directly impact upon known HERs or sites identified during site reconnaissance. The suggested mitigation strategy should adequately account for the potential presence of previously unidentified archaeological remains uncovered during groundworks to be monitored in accordance with required legislation and guidance during the construction phase of the proposed development.

During the operational lifetime of the proposed development it is anticipated that the indirect impacts upon setting and views will be minor.

9.9 Cumulative Impacts

The wider area surrounding the proposed development has a number of approved or operational wind developments. Substantial wind developments approved or operational include: Causeymire; Halsary; Camster and Wathegar. Camster, Halsary and Causeymire are substantial developments and it is considered that the proposed development, which is of a much smaller scale, will not constitute an unacceptable alteration upon the setting and views of cultural heritage assets within the study area.

9.10 Summary

In summary, no designated or undesignated heritage assets will be directly affected by the proposed development. A mitigation strategy has been outlined to ensure that unidentified archaeological remains will be monitored adequately in accordance with legislation and guidelines. Indirect impacts upon the setting and views have been assessed in detail and the impact of the proposed development is anticipated to be low. A number of photomontages and wireframes have been composed from key locations to give an accurate understanding of the potential impacts upon these assets.

► **Table 9.9: Potential Impacts Upon Receptors**

Description of Effect	Significance of Potential Effect		Mitigation Measure	Significance of Residual Effect	
	Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse		Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse
Potential direct effects on hitherto unknown buried archaeological remains	Minor to Moderate	Adverse	Recording: Watching Brief/Evaluation	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Achingale Mill (14976)	Minor to Moderate	Adverse	None	Minor to Moderate	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Watten Crossroads, Thor House (14978)	Negligible	Adverse	None	Negligible	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Watten Mains (14979)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect of setting of Achingale Bridge (14975)	Negligible	Adverse	None	Negligible	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Scouthal Burn, chapel and The Clow (721)	Moderate	Adverse	None	Moderate	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Cairn and hut circles 1070m S of	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse

► **Table 9.9: Potential Impacts Upon Receptors**

Description of Effect	Significance of Potential Effect		Mitigation Measure	Significance of Residual Effect	
	Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse		Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse
Strath (3520)					
Indirect effect on setting Broch 220m NNE of Nether Banks (609)	Minor to Moderate	Adverse	None	Minor to Moderate	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Green Hill, Broch, West Watten (531)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Bilbster, chambered cairn 1040m NNE of Bylbster Bridge (431)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Scottag cairn (3986)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Grey Cairn, broch 475m SE of Lynegar (452)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Cairn 610m NE of Lynegar (465)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse

► **Table 9.9: Potential Impacts Upon Receptors**

Description of Effect	Significance of Potential Effect		Mitigation Measure	Significance of Residual Effect	
	Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse		Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Oslie, chambered cairn S of Lynegar House	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Broch 180m E of Spittal Farm (582)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Broch E of Knockglass (561)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Gallow Hillock, cairn on Backlass (450)	Minor to Moderate	Adverse	None	Minor to Moderate	Adverse
Indirect effect on setting of Achalipster, corn kiln & barn (3666)	Minor	Adverse	None	Minor	Adverse

Appendix 9.1: Historic Environment Records

Content

1. Historic Environment Record (HER)	1
2. Plates.....	6

Left blank

1. Historic Environment Record (HER)

► HERs within 2km of the Proposed Development

FID	MonUID	RecordType	Name	MonType
0	MHG1960	MON	Broch, Auchingale	Broch
1	MHG1961	MON	Cist w cremation etc, Greystones	Burial Cairn
2	MHG1962	MON	Hut circle etc, Greystones	Cairn, Hut Circle
3	MHG1964	MON	Stone circle? Watten	Mound
4	MHG1965	MON	Gallow Hillock, Backlass Hill	Cairn, Gallows
5	MHG1973	BLD	Achingale Mill	Grain Mill, Watermill
6	MHG1976	MON	Clow Chapel, Scouthal Burn, Red Well	Chapel
7	MHG1980	MON	BA Cist w Burial etc, Acharole	Short Cist
8	MHG2347	MON	Possible Broch, Cairn of Achoy	Broch, Mound
9	MHG2350	MON	Cist w burial etc, Achingale	Cist
10	MHG15111	MON	Achingale Bridge Over the Wick River	Bridge
11	MHG13706	MON	Red Well	Well
12	MHG13707	MON	Achingale	Promontory Fort
13	MHG20115	MON	Houstry	Farmstead
14	MHG18393	MON	West Watten Holdings	Farmstead
15	MHG18394	MON	West Watten Holdings	Farmstead
16	MHG18395	MON	Knockie-Vill	Enclosure
17	MHG18396	MON	Ballacharn	Farmstead
18	MHG18397	MON	Backlass	Farmstead

19	MHG18399	MON	Burn of Acharole	Farmstead
20	MHG18400	MON	Acharole	Building
21	MHG18401	MON	Acharole	Farmstead
22	MHG19137	MON	The Clow	Mill
23	MHG17474	MON	Clow Chapel	Township
24	MHG19130	MON	Achoy	Building
25	MHG19131	MON	Acharole	Building
26	MHG19133	MON	Acharole	Building
27	MHG19134	MON	West Watten Holdings	Farmstead
28	MHG19135	MON	Acharole	Building
29	MHG19142	MON	Ballacharn	Enclosure
30	MHG19128	MON	Acharole	Building
31	MHG19172	MON	Achoy	Farmstead
32	MHG19204	MON	Laid	Building
33	MHG20027	MON	Newton	Farmstead
34	MHG19605	MON	Greystones Farmhouse	House
35	MHG19810	MON	Backlass	Farmstead
36	MHG19813	MON	Lodge Roques	Farmstead
37	MHG19814	MON	Druim Dubh	Farmstead
38	MHG19815	MON	Backlass	Building
39	MHG19831	MON	Houstry of Dunn	Clearance Cairn
40	MHG19833	MON	Backlass Hill	Farmstead
41	MHG19994	MON	Lodge Roques	Building
42	MHG20005	MON	Achingale	Building
43	MHG20025	MON	Viewfield	Building
44	MHG20036	MON	Watten Mains Farm	Farmstead

45	MHG20037	MON	Moss of Newton	Building
46	MHG31233	MON	Market Stance; Knockie Vill; Scouthal	Market Place
47	MHG25117	MON	Murdoch Rivach's Grave	Burial
48	MHG30397	MON	Road Block, Watten	Road Block
49	MHG30398	MON	Road Block, Watten	Road Block
50	MHG30400	MON	Road block, Watten	Road Block
51	MHG37400	MON	Watten, Bungalow	House
52	MHG36632	MON	Newton Farm	Farm
53	MHG42169	MON	Lodge Roques	Building
54	MHG37682	MON	Site of Prisoner of War Camp, Watten	Military Base, Prisoner Of War Camp
55	MHG36741	MON	Watten, West Watten Primary School	School
56	MHG38931	MON	Market Stane, NW of Cairn of Achoy	Market Place
57	MHG37354	MON	Watten	Site
58	MHG42449	MON	Broch, Auchingale	Long Cist
59	MHG42450	MON	Broch, Auchingale	Burial
60	MHG42451	MON	Broch, Auchingale	Midden
61	MHG42452	MON	Stone circle, Watten	Hut Circle, Stone Circle
62	MHG42454	MON	Clow Chapel, Scouthal Burn, Red Well	Cemetery
63	MHG36672	MON	Watten, General	Site, Village
64	MHG36724	MON	Watten Village, Station Road, Parish Church	Church
65	MHG36881	MON	Wester Watten	Flint Scatter, Site
66	MHG37456	MON	West Watten Holdings,	Farmstead, Site

General

67	MHG40555	MON	Acharole	Enclosure
68	MHG40865	MON	Cist w burial etc, Achingale	Burial
69	MHG40900	MON	BA Cist w Burial etc, Acharole	Burial
70	MHG41690	MON	Cist w cremation etc, Greystones	Cist
71	MHG41695	MON	Cist w cremation etc, Greystones	Cremation
72	MHG41778	MON	Acharole	Sheep Fold
73	MHG41779	MON	West Watten Holdings	Sheep Fold
74	MHG42132	MON	Achoy	Corn Drying Kiln
75	MHG42455	MON	Clow Chapel, Scouthal Burn, Red Well	Cist
76	MHG42456	MON	Clow Chapel, Scouthal Burn, Red Well	Burial
77	MHG42457	MON	Clow Chapel, Scouthal Burn, Red Well	Holy Well
78	MHG42815	MON	Watten Village, Station Road, Manse	Manse
79	MHG1963	MON	Church, Knocktarloc	Church
80	MHG1966	FS	Findspot, Watten	Findspot
81	MHG1968	MON	Post Office House, Watten	House
82	MHG1969	MON	Watten Hotel	Hotel
83	MHG1970	BLD	Thor House, Watten Cross Roads	House
84	MHG1971	MON	Old Toll House	Toll House
85	MHG1972	MON	Bridge, Achingale Well	Bridge
86	MHG1974	FS	Findspot, Watten	Findspot
87	MHG1975	MON	Smithy, Watten	Smithy

88	MHG1977	MON	Broch, Carn A' Chladha	Broch
89	MHG44297	MON	Knockie-Vill	Sheep Fold
90	MHG44448	MON	Acharole	Structure
91	MHG639	MON	Enclosure, Uaigh Mhurcha Riabhaich	Enclosure, Grave
92	MHG36783	BLD	Watten Drill Hall	Drill Hall, Village Hall
93	MHG1978	MON	Cairn; Knockie-Vill	Cairn
94	MHG1979	MON	Possible Stone Circle, Acharole	Stone Circle
95	MHG1981	MON	Broch, Bail A Chairn	Broch
96	MHG2331	MON	Possible Structure, Bylbster	Structure
97	MHG2327	MON	Broch, Green Hill	Broch
98	MHG2348	MON	Norse Burial, Watten	Burial
99	MHG2349	MON	Standing Stones, Greystones	Standing Stone
100	MHG2351	MON	Broch, Watten Post Office	Broch
101	MHG20114	MON	Site of building at Achingale Bridge	House, Pen, Sheep Dip
102	MHG54224	BLD	ROC Monitoring Post, Watten	Royal Observer Corps Monitoring Post
103	MHG54928	MON	Alexander Bain Monument, Watten	Commemorative Monument
104	MHG54932	MON	War memorial, Watten	War Memorial
105	MHG56516	BLD	Watten House	

2. Plates

- **Plate 1. View of Site 4, a rectangular structure. View looking north.**



Plate 2. View of Site 4. Structural remains with rough stone showing. Looking west.



► **Plate 3. View of Site 5, a circular sheepfold. View looking west.**



► **Plate 4. View of Site 7, circular sheepfold, looking north.**



► **Plate 5. View of Site 9. Remains of a building. View looking west.**



- **Plate 6. View of Site 2. An example of the clearance cairns which occupy the site. View looking south.**







