

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields

The Battle of Drumclog

Designation Record

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields is a list of nationally important battlefields in Scotland. A battlefield is of national importance if it makes a contribution to the understanding of the archaeology and history of the nation as a whole, or has the potential to do so, or holds a particularly significant place in the national consciousness. For a battlefield to be included in the Inventory, it must be considered to be of national importance either for its association with key historical events or figures; or for the physical remains and/or archaeological potential it contains; or for its landscape context. In addition, it must be possible to define the site on a modern map with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

The aim of the Inventory is to raise awareness of the significance of these nationally important battlefield sites and to assist in their protection and management for the future. Inventory battlefields are a material consideration in the planning process. The Inventory is also a major resource for enhancing the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of historic battlefields, for promoting education and stimulating further research, and for developing their potential as attractions for visitors.

Contents

Name	Date of Addition to Inventory
Alternative Name(s)	Date of Last Update
Date of Battle	Overview and Statement of
Local Authority	Significance
NGR Centred	Inventory Boundary

Inventory of Historic Battlefields

DRUMCLOG

Alternative Names:

1 June 1679

Local Authority: South Lanarkshire

NGR centred: NS 628 399

Date of Addition to Inventory: 30 November 2011

Date of last update: 14 December 2012

Overview and Statement of Significance

The Battle of Drumclog is significant as the opening battle of the 1679 Covenanter uprising. It was a resounding victory for the Covenanters, boosting recruitment to their cause, but the uprising would be quickly suppressed at Bothwell Bridge a few weeks later, sparking a period of brutal reprisal against the Covenanters.

The Battle of Drumclog was fought between an army of Covenanters gathered at a conventicle and a force of Dragoons under John Graham of Claverhouse. While the dragoons were aiming to break up the conventicle, they were instead themselves driven off by the Covenanters.

The Covenanter victory bolstered their cause, and their numbers rapidly grew, although the Government also increased the size of their army to deal with the new Covenanter rebellion, which was swiftly crushed by the Government forces at Bothwell Bridge a few weeks later.

Inventory Boundary

The Inventory boundary defines the area in which the main events of the battle are considered to have taken place (landscape context) and where associated physical remains and archaeological evidence occur or may be expected (specific qualities). The landscape context is described under *battlefield landscape*: it encompasses areas of fighting, key movements of troops across the landscape and other important locations, such as the positions of camps or vantage points. Although the landscape has changed since the time of the battle, key characteristics of the terrain at the time of the battle can normally still be identified, enabling events to be more fully understood and interpreted in their landscape context. Specific qualities are described under *physical remains and potential*: these include landscape features that played a significant role in the battle, other physical remains, such as enclosures or built structures, and areas of known or potential archaeological evidence.

The Inventory boundary for the Battle of Drumclog is defined on the accompanying map and includes the following areas:

- The area of Stobieside, which is on the hill on which the conventicle took place.

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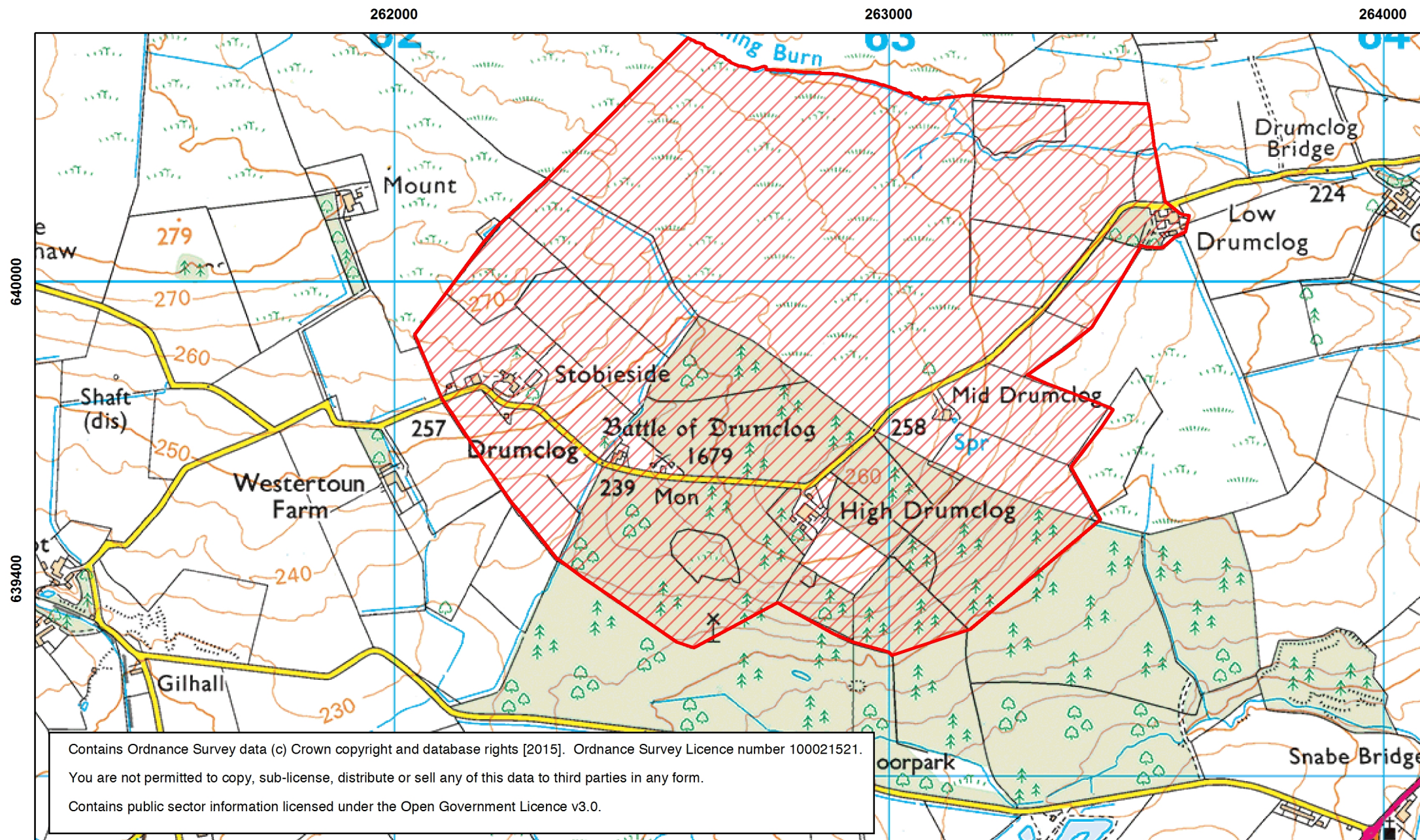
- The area of the wet ground to the north, known as Coldwakning moss.
- The area around the monument which is where Claverhouse was positioned.
- The areas to the south and south-east which accommodate possible lines of government advance and rout.
- The possible location of the ditch where the stream runs between the initial position of the armies.

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields - Boundary

Drumclog

1 June 1679

Local Authority: South Lanarkshire



 Inventory of Historic Battlefields boundary

0 500 1,000
Meters