

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields

The Battle of Tippermuir

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

TIPPERMUIR

Alternative Names: Tibbermore; St. Johnstone

1 September 1644

Local Authority: Perth and Kinross

NGR centred: NO 069 232

Date of Addition to Inventory: 14 December 2012

Date of last update: N/A

Overview and Statement of Significance

The Battle of Tippermuir is significant as the first victory of Montrose's extraordinary campaign within Scotland on behalf of Charles I. The defeat of the much larger and better equipped Covenanter army was a major boost for Montrose's force and the subsequent spoils from the defeated force and from Perth solved Montrose's immediate supply problems, and without which Montrose may well have struggled to continue his efforts. Their defeat also showed the Covenanter commanders that Montrose's efforts were a serious threat, and that, with much of their total force campaigning outside Scotland, their defences were shockingly deficient against the Royalist force.

The Battle of Tippermuir, also known as the Battle of Tibbermore, or St Johnstone, was fought on 1 September 1644 on a wide expanse of ground approximately three miles west of Perth and close to the modern village of Tibbermore. The battle was the first of the Marquis of Montrose's campaign to seize Scotland from the Covenanters on behalf of King Charles I. Despite the lack of cavalry and artillery, the Royalist forces, primarily composed of Irish and Highlander soldiers, won a decisive victory over the larger, yet less experienced, Covenanter army commanded by Lord Elcho. The Covenanters were quickly routed as the Royalists took advantage of disorder in the enemies ranks caused by an earlier attempt to engage in skirmish activity. The Royalists entered Perth and remained there for several days until heading northwards to Aberdeen.

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,

Inventory of Historic Battlefields

such as enclosures or built structures, and areas of known or potential archaeological evidence.

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

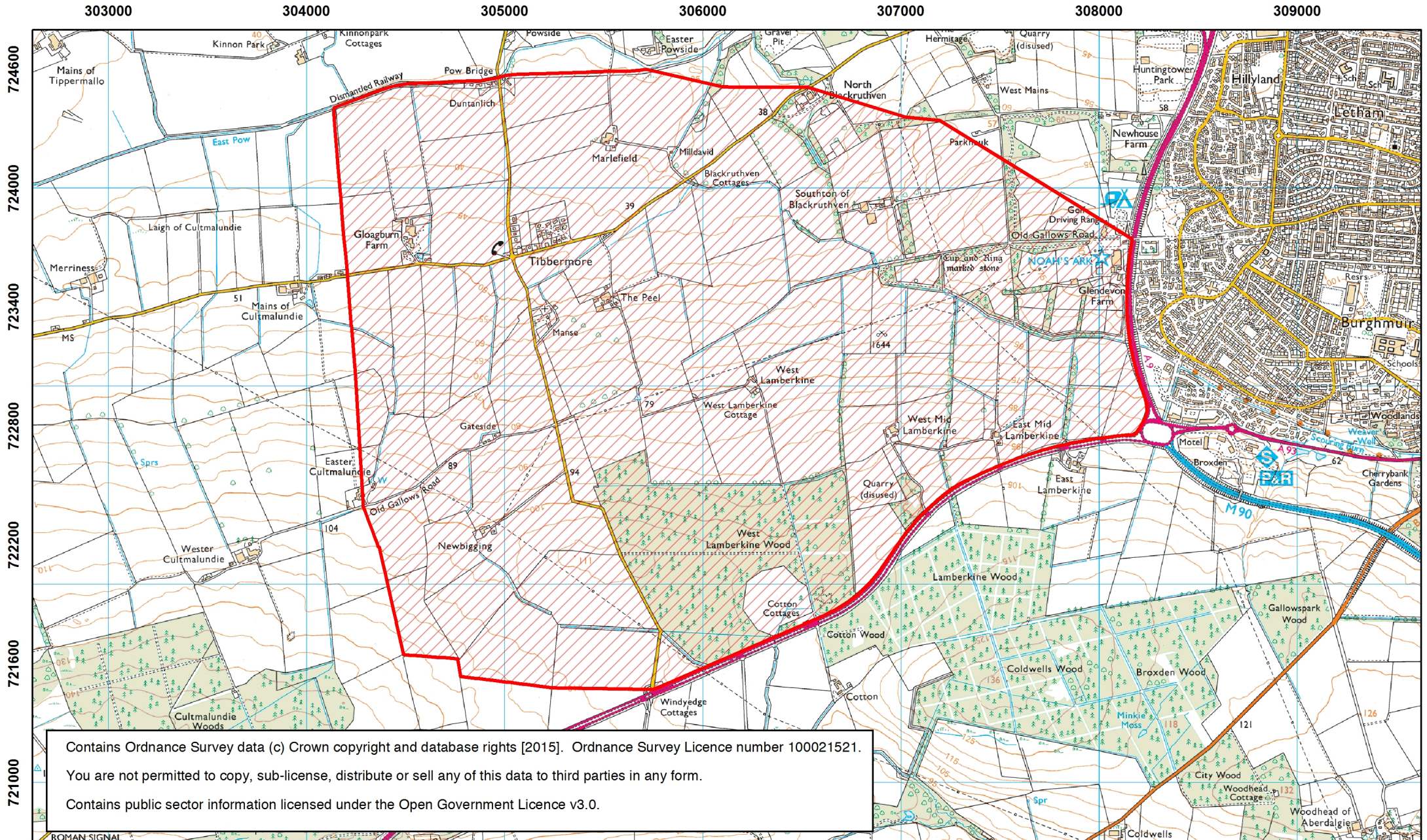
- Old Gallows Road, which survives as a track running along the edge of fields and can be traced through field boundaries, and which likely formed the focus of both the deployments.
- The village of Tibbermore, which is the modern form of Tippermuir, and surrounding area, through which the Royalists advanced to deploy.
- The high ground of the Lamberkine Ridge and West Lamberkine Wood that Montrose took on the Royalist right flank.
- The area around West Lamberkine farm, where much of the fighting occurred and through which Mac Colla and his Irish troops charged and broke through the Covenanter lines.
- The area west of the modern A9 around Glendevon Farm, where the Covenanter army initially deployed.

The Inventory of Historic Battlefields - Boundary

Tippermuir

1 September 1644

Local Authority: Perth and Kinross



Contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights [2015]. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100021521.

You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

 Inventory of Historic Battlefields boundary

