Case information

Case ID	300009820
File Reference	AMH/4336/2/1
Name of Site	Fairhill, cairn, Millgate Road

Local Authority	South Lanarkshire		
National Grid Reference	NS 71125 53968		
Designation No. (if any)	SM4336		
Designation Type	Scheduled monument	**Current Category of Listing**	N/A
Case Type	Amendment		

Received/Start Date	01/04/2014
Decision Date	26/11/2015

1. Decision

Amend: Update to entry in the Schedule

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

The monument was scheduled in 1980.

No previous amendments to the scheduling have taken place.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

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3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The monument was assessed for amendment as part of the S15 West scheduling project and visited on 12 May 2014.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

The monument was assessed for scheduling against the criteria for determining national importance and found to meet the criteria (see **Annex A**).

The designation criteria are found in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), pp. 71-85. http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-dec2011.pdf

3.3 Other considerations

The monument continues to meet the scheduling criteria.

Designation as a scheduled monument remains an appropriate mechanism to secure the preservation of the monument.

The existing 1980 legal document is not adequate to support definition of the extent of the scheduled area. The area surrounding the monument has since been subject to development.

There is a significant benefit in amending the existing scheduled monument designation. It will provide an updated legal document and map, allowing the monument to be defined accurately on the ground and shown on modern mapping.

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ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria*

SM 4336 Fairhill, cairn 20m N of 96 Millgate Road

1. Description

The monument is a burial cairn dating probably to the Bronze Age (between about 2000 BC and 800 BC). It is visible as a low, roughly circular, grass-covered mound, measuring approximately 12m in diameter and standing about 1m high. The monument is located at around 105m above sea level, close to the Cadzow Burn. Today it forms part of amenity grassland within a housing estate. The monument was first scheduled in 1980, but the documentation did not meet modern standards: the present amendment rectifies this.

The scheduled area is irregular on plan to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of all public realm infrastructure, including telegraph poles, signage and fencing, to allow for their maintenance.

2. Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria (SHEP 2011, 71-73**)

* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge. It will form the basis of any new or updated scheduled monument record.
** A monument may be found to meet the scheduling criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the Schedule. The purpose and implications of scheduling are issues that require to be taken into account when assessing monuments for scheduling. Scheduling may not be the only, or the most appropriate, mechanism to secure the future of all sites, even those that may otherwise meet the criteria.

Cultural significance

Characteristic	Assessment
Intrinsic	
Condition in which monument survives	• The monument is a burial cairn, which is visible as a low, roughly circular grass-covered mound. The cairn measures approximately 12m in diameter and survives up to a height of 1m. • The profile of the cairn is uneven. On the E side, it appears as a pronounced mound, but on the W side the mound 'blends' into the surrounding landscaped ground and its edge has been obscured. • The cairn survives within an area of urban housing and amenity grass/woodland. The scheduled area is demarcated on its N and S sides by fencing, but the cairn is fully accessible from the E and W and is used as a public amenity.
Archaeological, scientific, technological or other interest or research potential of the monument	• The monument retains much of its structural footprint and a significant proportion of the overlying cairn appears intact, indicating that there is good potential for the survival of artefacts, palaeoenvironmental evidence, and features and structures sealed by the cairn.

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	• An antiquarian account (NSA 1845) reports the discovery and removal of a number of plain and decorated pottery urns containing cremated human remains, some accompanied (reportedly) by a horse tooth. The presence of urns and cremated remains confirms this is a significant burial mound. • The surviving structures and features can provide important information on the construction, use and re-use of the monument, as well as an insight into the contemporary environment and land cover at the time of its construction and use.
Apparent developmental sequence of monument (either long or short may provide insights of importance)	• There are no scientific dates for this site, but this type of cairn is thought to be Bronze Age in origin, dating most commonly to between about 2000 BC and 800 BC. It is also possible that the site has earlier origins as a place of ritual or burial. • The recovery of several urns suggests that the cairn was used for multiple burials. This may well reflect separate interment episodes, commemoration over several generations, and/or the veneration of several individuals within a social group.
Original or subsequent functions of the monument and its parts	• The monument was a place of burial and ritual. When the placing of burials and associated activities were complete (for one or more episodes of burial), the burial cists, human remains and associated grave goods were sealed and covered with loose stones, creating the familiar cairn profile that survives today. • The cairn is likely to have had a prominent place within a social group's territory and may have been a focal point in the landscape, possibly reinforcing social/ancestral ties to the land.
Contextual	
Present rarity or representativeness of all or any part of the monument, assessed against knowledge of the archaeology of Scotland and of the region in which the monument occurs	• Single burial cairns are relatively common along the River Clyde and its catchment areas. There are over 100 examples of the broad category 'cairn' (referring to prehistoric burial) recorded in the wider area of the Clyde Valley and Lanarkshire. • This example should be studied and understood as part of the wider local and regional distribution of prehistoric burial monuments. It can enhance our knowledge of the scale, variety and spread of burial practice and religion. • Today it is a notable survival of a prehistoric monument in an urban environment.
Relationship of the monument to other monuments of the same or related classes or period, or to features or monuments in the vicinity. (Particularly important for monuments forming part of a widespread but varied class)	• This appears to be a relatively isolated example of a burial monument, with similar cairns 5km to the ESE (on the banks of the Avon Water) and 6km to the WNW (above the Calder Glen). • However, modern urban and semi-industrial land-uses have masked the original distribution of contemporary monuments in this part of Scotland.
Relationship of the monument and its parts with its wider landscape and setting	• The cairn is located between two small tributaries of the Cadzow Burn. • The monument's current setting is within a housing estate but, originally, it is likely to have had good views northwards over lower-lying ground towards the Clyde

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	valley and the Campsie Fells.
Associative	
Historical, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the monument, and vice versa	• N/A
Aesthetic attributes of the monument	• A prehistoric feature in an urban setting, which has been preserved as a grassed open space and is used as an amenity area by the community.
Significance in the national consciousness or to people who use or have used the monument, or descendants of such people	• N/A
Associations the monument has with historical, traditional or artistic characters or events	• N/A

Assessment of national importance

Criteria	Assessment
Its inherent capability or potential to make a significant addition to the understanding or appreciation of the past	The monument is of national importance because it has the potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the design, construction and use of burial monuments and the nature of belief systems and burial practices during the Bronze Age in Scotland. Ritual and funerary monuments are often our main source of evidence for human activity during the Bronze Age and are particularly important for enhancing our understanding of Bronze Age society, its organisation, economy, religion and demography. Despite some antiquarian disturbance, this cairn is reasonably well-preserved, enabling us to assess and understand its original form and function and its position in the landscape. It also retains high potential for buried archaeological remains, including human burials, artefacts and palaeoenvironmental evidence. It is a rare prehistoric survival in what is now an urban environment. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our ability to appreciate and understand funerary practice, death and burial in prehistoric times, and the placing of such monuments within the landscape.
Its retention of the structural, decorative or field characteristics of its kind to a marked degree	
Its contribution, or the contribution of its class, to today's landscape and/or the historic landscape	
The quality and extent of any documentation or association that adds to the understanding of the monument or its context	
The diminution of the potential of a particular class or classes of monument to contribute to an understanding of the past, should the monument be lost or damaged	
Its place in the national consciousness [a factor that may be considered in support of other factors]	

References

RCAHMS record the monument as NS75SW 4.

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RCAHMS, 1978, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Lanarkshire: An Inventory of the Prehistoric and Roman Monuments. Edinburgh. 53, no 52.

NSA (New Statistical Account), 1845, The New Statistical Account of Scotland by the Ministers of the Respective Parishes under the Superintendence of a Committee of the Society for the Benefit of the Sons and Daughters of the Clergy. Edinburgh, 270.

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