Case information

Case ID	300010000
File Reference	AMH/7603/2/1
Name of Site	Lamb Knowe, bank barrow 300m NW to 800m N of Raeburnfoot

Local Authority	Dumfries And Galloway		
National Grid Reference	NY 25000 99598		
Designation No. (if any)	SM7603		
Designation Type	Scheduled Monument	**Current Category of Listing**	N/A
Case Type	Amendment		

Received/Start Date	16/11/2009
Decision Date	09/03/2016

1. Decision

The decision is to update the entry in the Schedule, to include the newly identified Roman camp, as **Lamb Knowe, bank barrow and Roman camp 480m NNW of Raeburnfoot**.

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

The site was originally scheduled in 1998 as Lamb Knowe, bank barrow (SM 7603).

The Roman camp was only identified in 2005 (see Jones and McKeague 2009) and is the only known example of a camp with an upstanding Stracathro type gate.

The bank barrow runs through the camp and the two monuments are therefore being scheduled together, re-using SM no 7603. The area is being extended quite significantly to include the camp.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

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3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The site was visited on 02/09/2010.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

The designation criteria are published in Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), Annex 1, pp. 71-85. http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-dec2011.pdf

An assessment against the scheduling criteria has determined that the monument meets the criteria of national importance. A description of the monument and the full assessment are in the Annex to this report.

3.3 Other considerations

None

Elizabeth McCrone
Head of Designations
Heritage Management
Historic Environment Scotland

Contact	Dr James Bruhn, Senior Designations Officer, 0131 668 0316 james.bruhn@hes.scot

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ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria*

Lamb Knowe, bank barrow and Roman camp 480m NNW of Raeburnfoot

1. Description

The monument comprises the remains of a Neolithic bank barrow dating probably from the late 3rd to 2nd millennium BC, and a Roman temporary camp dating probably from the late 1st century AD. The bank barrow runs NNE-SSW through the Roman camp. Both the barrow and the camp defences survive as slight upstanding earthworks and are also visible on oblique aerial photographs. The monument is located on the SSW flank of Lamb Knowe, a ridge lying between the Rae and Moodlaw burns, which descends towards the River White Esk; the barrow runs down the ridge from around 250m to 210m OD. The monument was first scheduled in 1998, but only included the bank barrow: the present amendment rectifies this.

The bank barrow is approximately 650m long. It comprises an oval terminal mound at the NNE end, measuring about 9.7m by 8m and 1.5m in height, with a long tail mound running NNE-SSW, which is about 6m wide and stands 0.5m in height, with a ditch on either side. The bank has been levelled by cultivation at the SSW end and its original length is uncertain.

The Roman camp measures 454m NE-SW by 290m transversely, enclosing an area of approximately 13ha. It comprises a low turf rampart accompanied by an external ditch and counterscarp bank. The camp appears to have had four gates, one in each side; the two which are most clearly visible, on the NE and NW sides, are ‘Stracathro’-type gateways.

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 excludes the above-ground elements of all post-and-wire fences.

2. Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria (SHEP, 2011) pp71-73**

* 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 bank barrow and the camp defences survive in part as slight upstanding earthworks. They are also visible on oblique aerial photographs. • The bank barrow is approximately 650m long, but

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	its SSW end has been levelled by cultivation so its original length is uncertain. • Most of the site lies on open peaty moorland, which becomes ill-drained and boggy towards the SW. Only the S corner of the camp lies in cultivated ground. Part of the SW end of the camp is obscured by a modern forestry plantation. • Neither the barrow nor the camp appear to have been disturbed or excavated in antiquity and the archaeological remains are likely to be well-preserved below ground.
Archaeological, scientific, technological or other interest or research potential of the monument	• There is high potential to examine the date, construction, function and duration of use of the Neolithic bank barrow, which is a rare type of monument. The barrow and ditch fills are likely to seal deposits containing palaeoenvironmental evidence that can inform our understanding of changes in land-use and vegetation in the vicinity through time. • There is high potential to examine the Roman camp defences and recover scientific and artefactual dating evidence. Excavations of similar sites elsewhere in Scotland have demonstrated that Roman camp interiors have good potential for the survival of remains relating to the construction of the camp and the lives of the soldiers who occupied it, including rubbish pits, bread ovens, latrine pits and other features.
Apparent developmental sequence of monument (either long or short may provide insights of importance)	• The bank barrow may have had a long development sequence, possibly 1000 years or more. It is essentially a grossly extended burial mound – and was probably extended over a period of time to contain more burials and fulfill ceremonial and ritual purposes. • The barrow is considerably earlier than the Roman camp – perhaps 3000 years older – but its existence must have been known to the camp builders. Why they built their camp with a barrow running through it is unknown: this is an important strategic site, but their effective 'appropriation' of an ancient barrow may also have been intended to show control over the land and native peoples in the area. • The Roman camp probably relates to a single phase of occupation and was used for a relatively short period, probably in the late 1st century AD (Flavian period).

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Original or subsequent functions of the monument and its parts	• The Neolithic bank barrow was primarily a funerary monument, but its length and likely longevity also suggest that this area was also an important focal point for Neolithic ceremonial and ritual activities. • The camp clearly demonstrates Roman military use of the site. This was a temporary camp, built and used for a short period to accommodate soldiers and others while a more permanent fort was built – presumably at Raeburnfoot only some 175m to the S (at its nearest point).
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	• The monument is very rare because it combines two separate but overlapping sites, both of which are rare and important in their own right. • Neolithic bank barrows are rare in Scotland and only two others survive as earthworks – and one of those lies on the other side of the Esk valley (SM 4514: Tom's Knowe, bank barrow) and may in fact be the southern portion of the present example. If so, the original length of this monument would have been around 2km, with the central section having been lost to cultivation. • The Roman camp is also relatively rare in being a Stracathro-type camp, of which only 14 are known in Scotland. Roman camps are rare across the Roman Empire, with Scotland having the most examples. • This camp contains the only known examples of upstanding Stracathro-type gates in existence, and appears not to have been disturbed by any post-Roman developments.
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)	• The bank barrow may be the northern portion of a very long barrow that ran across the glen and the River White Esk and adjoined another stretch of bank barrow to the S known as Tom's Knowe (SM 4514). If so, this would give the bank barrow a total length of some 2km. • This was a strategically important site for the Roman army. The Roman fort and enclosure at Raeburnfoot (SM 671) is located just S of this camp. Both the camp and the fort overlook the ford across the White Esk, thereby guarding a significant crossing point for the Roman road which the runs to the NE, part of which is also upstanding (SM 675).

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Relationship of the monument and its parts with its wider landscape and setting	• The monument is located on the SSW flank of Lamb Knowe, a ridge lying between the Rae and Moodlaw burns, which descends towards the River White Esk. There is a ford over the White Esk to the S of the site. • The barrow runs down the ridge from around 250m to 210m OD, and the camp occupies the same slope from about 235m to 210m. • The monument has extensive views along the valleys of the White Esk and Rae Burn, although the line of sight to the NE is more restricted.
Associative	
Historical, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the monument, and vice versa	• The forms of both the barrow and the camp are distinctive and reflect their contemporary cultural and social influences.
Aesthetic attributes of the monument	• N/A
Significance in the national consciousness or to people who use or have used the monument, or descendants of such people	• The Roman occupation of Britain continues to have an important place in the national consciousness.
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 significant potential to contribute to our understanding of both Neolithic burial and ceremonial monuments and Roman camps and forts. The long bank barrow is particularly valuable because it comprises a rare monument type in Scotland and includes upstanding remains. The Roman camp is also very important because it is a rare 'Stracathro' type, and the only one of this type to preserve upstanding remains. Both the barrow and the camp appear relatively undisturbed and have high archaeological potential for the preservation of important remains, including artefacts and ecofacts. We can expect them both to preserve evidence for their date, duration of use, method of construction, and any
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	

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The quality and extent of any documentation or association that adds to the understanding of the monument or its context	development sequence. They can be compared with other Neolithic burial monuments and Roman military installations respectively elsewhere in Scotland, and with other broadly contemporary (Neolithic and Roman) monuments in the area. The barrow can enhance understanding of Neolithic burial practices and the contemporary population; and the camp can inform understanding of the daily lives of Roman soldiers and enhance knowledge of the impact of Roman campaigns on local Iron Age communities and the landscape. If this monument was to be lost or damaged, our understanding of Neolithic ceremonial monuments and Roman military structures and logistics would be significantly diminished.
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

Historic Environment Scotland http://www.canmore.org.uk reference number CANMORE ID 274593, 97647 (accessed on 16/11/2009).

Brophy, K 1998 ‘Cursus monuments and bank barrows of Tayside and Fife’, in Barclay, G J and Maxwell, G S (eds) *The Cleaven Dyke and Littleour: monuments in the Neolithic of Tayside*, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland monog no 13. Edinburgh: 92-108.

Jones, R H 2011, *Roman Camps in Scotland*. Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland monog ser.

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