Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AUDIT



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Historic Environment Audit
for
East Ayrshire Council
on behalf of
Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership

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1. Introduction

This report presents the findings of an Historic Environment Audit (HEA), conducted on behalf of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership (CCLP) in November and December 2018.

For the purposes of this study, 'historic environment' is defined as a combination of physical evidence - including archaeological remains, artefacts, the built environment and bio-cultural heritage - and intangible associations, concepts and values that link people with place (*Scottish Historic Environment Policy* 2011).

The audit has provided a thorough baseline understanding of the CCLP area's historic environment and the key elements and narratives that underpin the distinctive qualities of the area's landscapes.

2. Aims

The Historic Environment Audit aims to give the CCLP a thorough, evidence-based understanding of the character of the historic environment across the study area. The study area is defined as the CCLP area - 228 km^2 of the of the River Doon and Lugar Water valleys along with the foothills between them - plus a 1 km buffer zone (Figure 1).

The specific aims of the audit are to:

- collate information on the cultural and built heritage of the study area;
- identify key elements which contribute to the area's distinctiveness, with input from those living in the area and with expert knowledge of its heritage;
- consider the impact of people on the landscape and the legacies of past generations, both tangible and intangible;
- assess the extent of land use change since the Historic Land Use Assessment was completed (2015) and the impact of change on relict landscapes, especially upland prehistoric and medieval or later landscapes.
- assess the local, regional and national significance of key elements of the historic environment, and

- develop proposals for how best to conserve, sustain and present the historic environment of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership.

3. Methods

Information on the historic environment was gathered from various sources, collated and analysed in order to build up an understanding of its character.

Geo-referenced datasets on the historic environment were collated in ArcGIS 10.3.1 and QGIS 3.2.3, including:

- information from Historic Environment Scotland (hereafter 'HES') on Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, World Heritage Sites, Properties in Care, sites entered on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields and the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and Historic Marine Protected Areas, downloaded from the website portal.historicenvironment.scot
- information provided by East Ayrshire Council (hereafter 'the Council') on, for example, conservation areas and core paths;
- information held within the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) on behalf of the Council, provided as a geo-referenced dataset;
- information from Canmore, the national database on the historic environment maintained by HES, accessed through the websites https://canmore.org.uk/ and https://pastmap.org.uk/;
- historic maps of the area, ranging in date from the late 16th century to the 20th century, accessed via the website maps.nls.uk;
- Historic Land Use Assessment data, downloaded from the website hlamap.org.uk.

Readily available published and grey literature on the historic environment was consulted for information on particular sites, historical trends, folklore and cultural practices specific to the area. The audit also drew on expert analysis of East Ayrshire's industrial heritage, which has relevance to the Coalfield Communities landscape partnership area (Hume 2017).

4. The Historic Environment of the CCLP

The HER for the study area contains 643 entries, some of which are also Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments, while the 1km buffer contains an additional 240 entries. Their approximate proportions by period are as follows:

Prehistoric (including Roman):	6%
Early Medieval to Medieval:	2%
Post Medieval (primarily farming):	42%
Modern (primarily industrial):	45%
Unknown	5%

It should be noted that the low percentage of prehistoric and early Medieval to Medieval sites is unlikely to be a true picture of the extent of the historic environment relating to these periods. Many sites (for example, ecclesiastical sites) may have origins in these periods, but are assigned to a later period because of the lack of direct evidence for their origins. It is also possible that many of the settlement remains from these periods have either been removed by more modern activity or are yet to be identified.

Sites with national or local authority designations include:

Scheduled Monuments:	10
Listed Buildings:	166
5.4% category A	
53.0 % category B	
41.6% category C	
Conservation Areas:	5
Inventory Gardens & Designed Landscapes:	2
Properties in Care:	0
Historic Battlefields:	0

This section describes the evidence for use of the landscape from earliest prehistory to modern - sketching the character and kinds of evidence that demonstrate this use. Key elements of the

historic environment for each period (highlighted in **bold**) are also discussed. The numbers that appear in parentheses (for example, 63789) after the names of individual elements are their unique identifiers in the WoSAS HER. Those that appear in italics (for example, *42610*) after the names of individual elements are their unique identifiers in the national Canmore database. The chronological period names used below are based on those used in the national Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF: www.scottishheritagehub.com/node/1203).

Environmental background

The retreat of the last ice sheet over south-west Scotland after 15,000 BP triggered a series of changes along the coast. The land initially rebounded with the release of pressure, but then sea levels rose in the main post-glacial transgression of the 7th and 6th millennia BC. The subsequent retreat of the sea created raised beaches and relict cliff lines along the coast.

The open grasslands and treeless tundra of the post-glacial landscape in south-west Scotland were gradually colonised by flora, including trees that could thrive in a temperate climate. Juniper and willow and then birch took root, followed by hazel after 7500 BC, then oak and elm and finally alder between 6000-5500 BC (Tipping 2015: 17). Large mammals populated the woodlands, with Arctic species such as reindeer eventually moving north and making room for others such red deer and auroch, and probably brown bear, beaver, wolf, lynx and wild pig (Kitchener et al 2004).

This mixed woodland dominated until about 3000 BC, and across north-west Europe the elm population declined about 3500 BC (Tipping 1994; 1997a). For southern Scotland as a whole, there is evidence from around 5500 BC for human intervention in the landscape, with charcoal in pollen profiles pointing to the use of fire over small areas, perhaps to channel game and clear woodland. Pine may have grown on some mossy areas. The period from about 5500-4000 BC is often described as the climatic optimum; all the major trees were well established, with some probably growing at higher altitudes. Throughout north-west Europe, the elm population declined about 3800 BC (Tipping 2015: 17).

For the 4th and 3rd millennia BC, the palaeo-botanical evidence indicates much more dramatic intervention to clear patches of ground for cereal cultivation and woodland regeneration (Tipping & Milburn 2000). The 4th millennium BC also saw the introduction (or development) of

domesticated livestock, including sheep, pig and cattle (see also evidence for goats from Ayrshire in Becket & MacGregor 2009). Communities increasingly relied on domestic animals during the subsequent millennia, with pigs favoured particularly in the 3rd millennia (Albarella & Serjeantson 2002).

Dendrochronology and bog humification levels indicate that the climate deteriorated around 2250 cal BC and again around 1650 cal BC, probably due to volcanic eruptions in Iceland. Pollen profiles from Walls Hill Bog, Renfrewshire, show there were short, small-scale phases of woodland clearance throughout the 2nd and early 1st millennia BC, probably to create pasture, and this is also the picture across west central Scotland (Ramsay 1996: 62). While these phases of woodland clearance were not as large as those that would follow, they may have triggered processes of soil degradation and peat formation on the uplands.

Around the middle of the 1st millennium BC, there was a dramatic change: what had formerly been largely wooded landscapes dotted with small, temporary clearings became open farmland with areas of woodland (Tipping 2015: 19). The spread of iron-working technology and the availability of bog ore meant that tools for felling and processing wood were widely available.

The evidence from Walls Hill Bog suggests that woodland regenerated throughout the 1st millennium BC, with another period of clearance and agriculture in the 11th century AD. There were short periods when the climate was colder and wetter around AD 300 and 800, but generally speaking drier conditions prevailed until about AD 1400 (the 'little ice age'), when the climate became colder and wetter until about 1850 (Tipping 2015: 13). Further woodland clearance took place throughout the Medieval and post-Medieval periods for agriculture, charcoal production and iron working.

Increases in soil acidification recorded elsewhere in south-west Scotland indicate the effects of industrialisation, as pH started to fall from 1840 with a significant decline from 1900 to the present, as industrial emissions deposited heavy metals and soot particles (Jones & Stevenson 1980).

There has been very limited palaeo-environmental analysis undertaken in or close to the CCLP area. Peat cores up to 7 m in depth were taken from Airds Moss and subjected to initial pollen

study, but they have not been dated (Durno 1956; 1976; Newell 1990). Palaeo-environmental analysis of peat deposits (e.g. Airds Moss or Barlosh Moss SSSI) could produce important insights into environmental change and human impacts in the CCLP area.

c 12,700 BC - 4,100 BC

During early prehistory, the study area would have provided a range of resources for communities who moved around and through it in complex seasonal cycles and patterns. Groups of people may have based themselves by the coast during the colder months, where there was plentiful food including fish, waterfowl, shellfish and plants as well as land-based game. In summer they may have travelled inland and up, following the migration patterns of large mammals like deer and aur och to higher pastures and camping next to regular watering holes such as rivers and lochs.

They often made tools at their campsites, using flint collected as pebbles on coastal beaches or the generally inferior chert that outcrops around Loch Doon.

Certain places in the landscapes - such as those associated with regular gatherings and social practices, the reliable presence of game and the availability of raw materials - may have become fixed in collective memory through patterns of movement and use over many generations.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area are sparse, but they include:

- tools for hunting game, fishing and processing food, hides, wood and other raw materials, worked in flint or chert (lithics) and waste from tool production (debitage)

In the uplands, artefacts from early prehistory have been exposed by changing water levels around Loch Doon. For example, many **cores**, **flint blades, scrapers, microliths, flakes** and **debitage** have been found on the eastern shore of Loch Doon during dry periods (7168, *42610* & 12781, *75495,* see Plate 1 as an example); these are probably traces of tool-making sessions over many visits, a palimpsest of the work of many generations. **Microliths** are very small blades which were set in groups into wood and bone to form cutting tools, arrowheads and spears. A flint **scraper** was found

on the western side of Loch Doon (7179, *42621*); however, in the absence of any other diagnostic material this could relate to later periods of prehistory.



Plate 1: Mesolithic flints from Starr at the southern end of Loch Doon, courtesy of futuremuseum.co.uk.

The River Doon and the Lugar Water would not only have been sources of fish at this time. The valleys provided natural routeways for the mobile communities that would have utilised both coastal and inland environments. The wooded edges of lochs would have provided shelter and cover for camps, while the tributary burns would have attracted game.

There is some evidence from late Mesolithic lithic assemblages in south-west Scotland for the use of different proportions of raw material (Ballin & Barrowman 2015, 25), with mixed flint and chert assemblage found at sites in the inland parts of East Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway, for example at Starr and Smittons (Finlayson 1990). This pattern suggests that communities in these areas had access to both coastal flint and inland chert sources, unlike communities further to the

north which used predominantly flint.

The relatively sparse evidence for early prehistoric activity in the study area will at least partly relate to ground disturbance through development and mineral extraction, but it is also highly likely that more evidence remains to be detected.

c 4,100 - 2500 BC

From the 4th millennium BC, communities in the study area began adopting agricultural technologies to produce their food - raising livestock and growing cereals - although probably at least initially with a primary focus on stock. They also acquired knowledge of other technologies, including how to make pottery and larger stone tools such as knives, arrowheads and axes. Communities' horizons appear to have expanded considerably as people travelled over long distances and conveyed not only new knowledge but also raw materials, artefacts, ideas and beliefs.

Over time, the practice of farming would have necessitated and generated greater investment in particular places in the landscape, as well as increased commitment to them: ground had to be cleared of trees, animals had to tended, and crops had to be sowed and harvested. The transition was probably very gradual, with some communities beginning to sustain themselves through farming earlier than others and even these continuing to move around the study area to some extent to find wild resources or herd stock to summer pastures. They began to mark the meaning of places by building large communal monuments that were foci for ceremonial activities and social structuring.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area are sparse but include:

- stone axes and other stone tools

Stone axes, polished to increase their mechanical strength and used to fell trees for grazing or cultivation, were valued objects that often travelled long distances. Examples found within the study area include: one from Drumbowie (7203, *42645*), which was made from epidotized intermediate tuff of the Borrowdale Volcanic Series from the Great Langdale and Scafell areas of Cumbria (Clough & Cummins 1988); one from Dalmellington (7137, *42579*), donated to the

National Museum of Scotland in 1981, and one from Borland, made of the same type of stone as the Drumbowie example (8006, *43512*). The two examples made from stone that outcrops in Cumbria are testament to the distance people travelled and/or the movement of objects through trade during this period. Langdale is the source of nearly a third of the polished stone axes found across Britain and Ireland (Gregory 2000: 14).

Three sporadic find spots relating to **flint tools** have also been recorded within the study area - at Loganhill (68221), The Muir (46789, *142057*) and Gass Water (12854, *75721*). The Muir and Gass Water tools are **scrapers**. In the absence of any other diagnostic material or provenance, these artefacts could relate to later or earlier periods of prehistory, although the latter is perhaps less likely.

It is worth noting the elements of the historic environment from this period which are virtually absent in the study area but much more common in other parts of south-west Scotland. These include large monuments such as long cairns (enormous construction projects that created new features in the landscape, in marked contrast to the light footprints left by mobile communities over the preceding millennia); standing stones (although the cairn named Beoch (7989, *43488)* and Rig Hill (7990, *43489* - see below) were described by the excavators as stone circles; henges, and cup and ring marked rocks (a form of prehistoric rock art common throughout Scotland). Although outwith the study area, the vertical rock art panel at Ballochmyle provides an important context for the rock art found at Beoch (see below).

Large timber structures of Neolithic date have been found in the wider region and indicate the existence of complex early farming communities in south-west Scotland. These include the timber hall recently discovered at Hillhouse near Kilmarnock, which measured about 14 m by 8 m and may date from 3500 – 3000 BC. They also include the large timber hall at Lockerbie Academy; mortuary structures which were burnt down and covered by long cairns (at Lochhill by New Abbey and Slewcairn by Dalbeattie), and henges like the one at Pict's Knowe near Dumfries. These intra-regional differences could suggest that the open, fertile valleys to the south-east attracted more abundant and complex early farming communities, while the topographic and soil conditions in the study area were home to smaller, more dispersed communities (Gregory 2000: 21).

c 2,500 - 800 BC

From around the middle of the 3rd millennium BC, other changes occurred across the European Continent, Britain and Ireland. New practices and ideas emerged, arriving on the back of expanded trade and exchange networks. Long cairns were blocked and covered and these, along with stone circles, henges and other earlier ceremonial monuments, became foci for diverse practices that involved depositing human remains. New forms of pottery were adopted that suggest very far-ranging connections and shared belief systems among communities across north-west Europe.

The meanings of formerly significant places for communal gathering and ceremony seemed to shift, as did people's relationship to the landscape. From the early 2nd millennium BC, features like hilltops, lochs and rivers became the focus of deliberate, votive deposition; these natural features thus became the ceremonial monuments of the period. Votive deposition involved metalwork particularly, much of it brought from other regions, thus indicating very extensive networks along which people and ideas travelled, as well as objects. The knowledge of metallurgy - how to transform rocks into weapons or ornaments using fire - may have been highly specialised and viewed as mystical within contemporary belief systems.

From the late 2nd millennium BC, the historic environment indicates a shift in the character of people's practices - from an earlier focus on monuments and the treatment of the dead to a focus on the domestic and agricultural spheres and the integration of belief systems into daily life. Substantial houses in open settlements with field systems dominate the historic environment from this point, and these more sedentary, domesticated landscapes may have been integrated with contemporary cosmologies in the way that large communal monuments formerly had been. The start of this shift coincided with a marked climatic deterioration to colder, wetter conditions.

Key elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area are:

- round cairns, barrows and cists
- pottery associated with funerary practice
- an enclosed settlement
- a burnt mound
- bronze metalwork (rapiers, spearheads and daggers)
- stone battle axes and axe hammers

One of the more frequently occurring types of site within the study area, typical of this period, are **round cairns** and **barrows**. Twenty-five have been recorded, although some are only possible examples. Most are concentrated in the southern part of the study area to the south-east, south and west of Dalmellington. A small concentration also lies on and near Rig Hill, roughly midway along the Dalmellington to New Cumnock Road. Two of this latter group of cairns (7989, *43488* to the south and 7990, *43489* to the north on Rig Hill itself) were excavated in the late 1930s (McLeod 1938: 235-247). The southern site (7989, *43488*) held several **cists** (see below) and fragments of **cinerary urns**. A stone slab from one of the cists was decorated (Plate 2). The northern excavated **cairn** on Rig Hill (7990, *43489*) held at least eight cremation pits, fragments of small decorated pottery referred to as 'incense cup urns' and larger **collared urns** and an **axe hammer** (Plate 3). Many cairns and barrows on low-lying ground may have been damaged or destroyed by later agricultural use, as seen in the possible ploughed-out **barrow** at Doon Bridge (7113, *42555*).

Cists - rectangular boxes built of large slabs - and **urns** - pottery associated with funerary practices - were often set into or sealed beneath cairns or barrows (as in the examples above); however, others noted in the study area were discovered in antiquity, often by workmen or farmers (for example 8097, *43604* and 9047, *44694*).

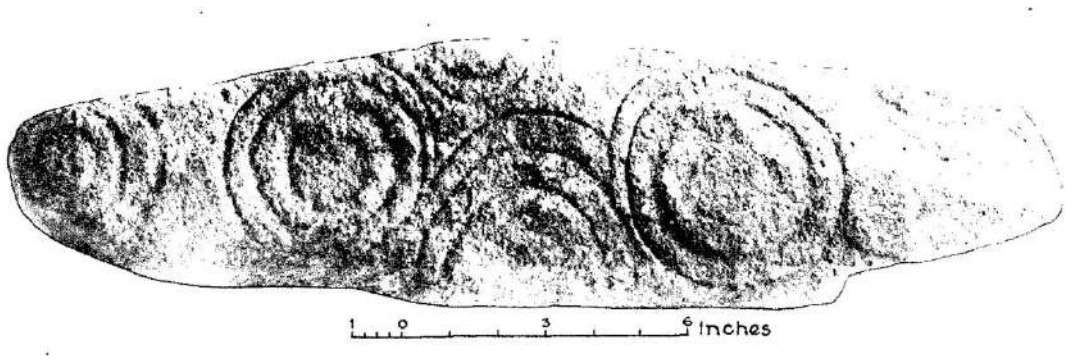


Plate 2: Decorated cist slab found in a round cairn at Beoch (7989, 43488), courtesy of Society of Antiquaries Scotland.

In addition to the stone **axe hammer** found at Rig Hill, an unfinished example, made of Essexite from Central Ayrshire, was discovered during work at Dumfries House (8101, *43608*). A **battle axe**, made from graywacke from the Southern Uplands (Clough & Cummins 1988), was also found on the banks of the Lugar Water just south-west of Auchinleck (8131, *43638*).

No settlements of this period have so far been identified in the study area, although a possible house platform on Kiers Hill (63372) could relate to this time. This is unusual for southern Scotland, where extensive settlements have been identified in other areas (for example, Clydesdale and the Borders). These generally consist of the footings of round houses interspersed with small fields defined by clearance cairns and banks, or clusters of platforms for houses terraced into slopes. It is likely that the valley and valley sides of the River Doon and Lugar Water would have been dotted with unenclosed farming communities.



Plate 3: Stone Axe Hammer found in a round cairn on Rig Hill (7990, 43489), courtesy of National Museum of Scotland.

Certain areas of the landscape had spiritual significance during this period, evident in votive deposits of **bronze metalwork**. These deposits are often found in boggy or marshy areas, for example the bronze **rapier** recovered from Skares (13883, *81490*) south-west of Cumnock and a bronze **dagger** found in Airds Moss north-east of Cumnock. It is also recorded that several **sword points**, **spearheads** and **sword hilts** were recovered from a dry piece of ground south-east of Cumnock (8001, *43507*). It may have meant different things to place stone or bronze weapons in the ground, with different areas of landscape considered appropriate for each.

Other isolated finds for this period within the study area include a V-bored **jet button**, found near New Cumnock (8107, *43523*)

A single possible **burnt mound** has been recorded in the study area between Straiton and Waterside (14169, *82258*). Burnt mounds are heaps of heat-cracked stones that were piled up around a stone trough; they probably represent outdoor cooking or feasting sites or, in other interpretations, saunas or copper-production sites (Thelin 2007).

c 800 BC - AD 400

From the mid 1st millennium BC, the south of Scotland saw extensive woodland clearance, transforming what had been wooded landscapes with cleared areas into open farmland with patches of woodland. The spread of iron smelting and smithing technology made axes and other tools much more widely available, and the timber was needed to construct enclosures and houses.

Many communities began building enclosures around their settlements, defined by ramparts and ditches. While many enclosed settlements were positioned on the spurs or summits of hills, others were in low-lying places and have been truncated by later land use. Communities were also building monumental dwellings, from large timber round houses and crannogs to thick-walled duns which relate to broader social and architectural trends around the Atlantic coasts of Europe. However, by the 1st century AD, evidence from elsewhere in southern Scotland shows that the concept of enclosure had been largely abandoned, perhaps signalling changes in society and the development of broader, tribal identities.

Practices related to religious belief were again integrated into domestic and agricultural arenas and natural features, although not necessarily with the same meanings attached as previously, given the changes in society. Placing metalwork in bogs, lochs and rivers re-emerged as a form of votive practice; human remains were deployed in domestic contexts and architecture, and caves were used in ways that may have linked the underworld to beliefs about fertility and the agricultural cycle.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area are sparse but include:

- enclosed settlements
- a crannog

Only a glimpse of settlement activity is present within the study area although, as noted above, remains on the valley floors or upland areas could have been removed by subsequent farming and development. An **enclosed settlement**, protected as a Scheduled Monument (SM7491), is present next to Knockdon Burn (7200, *42642*), consisting of a relatively small oval enclosure which likely contained smaller roofed buildings.

Another possible **enclosed settlement** has been noted on aerial photographs, which show cropmarks that suggest a concentric, ringed palisade enclosure and a single palisade trench lie partly within the grounds of Waterside Church (7146, *42588*).

Some communities were living in close association to water, making their homes on lochs and rivers by building **crannogs**, or artificial islands of timber and brush. A possible example is recorded on Bogton Loch, just south of Dalmelligton, where Elizabeth Isle has been argued to be at least partly artificial (7115, *42557*). Crannogs are also known to have been used in the early historic period.

The use of water by communities during later prehistory and the earlier historic periods in this area is highlighted by the discovery of several dug-out oak canoes that were found in Loch Doon during the mid 19th century. One of these was a single-piece boat that has been radiocarbon dated to AD400-AD600 (*73879*, Mackie 1984: 133).

It is worth noting the elements of the historic environment from this period which are virtually absent in the study area but are found in other parts of south-west Scotland. These include large monuments such as hillforts; smaller settlement remains like hut-circles; metalwork, and other material culture.

The Doon and Lugar Water valleys lay outside the main axis for the Roman Army's land-based invasions in the mid 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD. Although no substantial direct evidence for the Army's presence has yet been found in the study area, three stray Roman coins have been found in the northern half (for example 7236, *42678* and 8095, *43602*). There has been a tentative suggestion that some early tracks near Patna may be on the line of Roman roads (12385, *73247*),

and Dalmellington parish records for the mid-19th century note the remains of a Roman road and the possibility that Dalmellington was a Roman station (Houston 1837: 315). The area certainly lay within the reach of the Empire's cultural influence and, on the whole, it is likely that Army patrols and spies were operating within the study area.

c AD 400 - AD 1500

In the power vacuum created by the Roman Army's withdrawal, a state of political unrest and fragmentation prevailed for some time. To the north, the sub-Roman period saw the flourishing of Pictish culture and language from the 3rd or 4th century AD. South of the Forth and Clyde, several kingdoms eventually emerged from Brittonic-speaking groups with cultural and political links down the west side of Britain. The kingdom of Strathclyde or Al Clud, based at Dumbarton Rock, extended around the Clyde valley and estuary.

Smaller kingdoms emerged to the south and west, including those of Kyle and Carrick to the north and south of the River Doon respectively. 'Kyle' refers to a 5th-century king Coel Hen, while 'Carrick' possibly refers to Ailsa Craig, as it derives from 'carreg' meaning rock (Driscoll & Forsyth 2004: 6).

The Christian church was established by the late 4th century AD at Whithorn in Galloway and conversion rolled northwards and eastwards from there, although not uniformly. Missionaries from Ireland and Iona also penetrated the western seaboard and hinterland from the 7th century. By the 8th century, Anglians were pushing northward into Northumbria and then southern Scotland, settling extensively in the Borders, East Lothian, Galloway and Ayrshire. Vikings from Norway were also raiding along the western seaboard (sacking Dumbarton Rock in AD 870), although there is little direct evidence for their impact on the study area. Gaelic-speaking Irish settlers spread into the western part of the area from the 9th century, adding another linguistic layer to the landscape.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area include:

- mottes
- linear earthworks that mark land divisions
- stone-built tower houses (castles)

One of the earliest sites from this period is the **motte** in Dalmellington (Plate 4, 7131, *42573*), protected as a Scheduled Monument (SM3009). Although it was restored in the mid-19th century, this earthwork likely represents the site of a timber or stone tower, which would have stood on top of the mound. These early castles were often associated with an enclosed courtyard (or bailey) around the foot of the motte, although no evidence of this exists at Dalmellington. As the northern side of the site is bounded by the Muck Water, the most likely location for a bailey would be on the south or west in areas currently occupied by modern buildings.

Dalmellington **motte** is perched on the boundary between the kingdoms of Carrick to the south and Kyle to the north. Records note that Thomas de Colville built the motte here in the 12th century, after receiving land from the Earl of Carrick for protection against raids from Galloway to the south, although the site could have been in use prior to this.

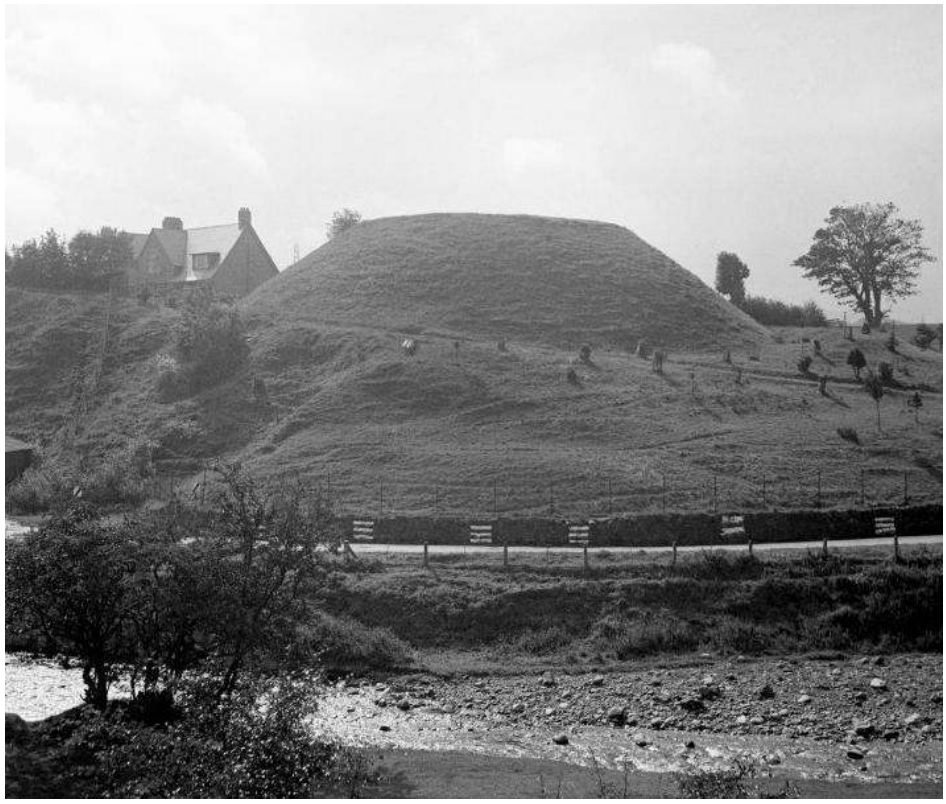


Plate 4: Dalmellington Motte (7131, 42573), courtesy of HES (canmore.org.uk).

By the 12th century, Kyle was part of the Kingdom of Strathclyde while Carrick, to the south, formed part of the Lordship of Galloway, again highlighting the strategic importance of Dalmellington motte.

A second **motte** has been recorded in the study area a short distance to the north-west of Ochiltree (8127, *43634*). It holds a similar position, being bounded by the Lugar Water to the north. As the ground immediately around it has seen less modern disturbance than at Dalmellington, the remains of a bailey could be preserved beneath the surface in the surrounding fields.

This period saw considerable socio-political change. In the 12th century, the Kingdom of Strathclyde became part of Alba with David I granting lands as part of the Anglo-Norman settlement. The northern part of Kyle (to the north of the River Ayr) was given to Walter the Stewart, son of Alan (Driscoll & Forsyth 2004: 12) and became known as Kyle Stewart. Lands to the south were retained by the crown and were referred to as Kyle Regis.

Control and division of the landscape is a theme which runs throughout this period. One of the more substantial sites relating to this is Pican's Dyke (7121, *42563*). Running across the hill slopes to the north of Dalmellington, this meandering **linear earthwork** comprises a bank and ditch that probably represent a form of political or land boundary. Although undated, it would not be out of place in a Medieval context, as estates are recorded along with mottes in the local historical record. For example, Thomas de Colville granted a **grange** (7136, *42578*), a large farm, to the Cistercian monks of Vaudey, although attacks from the local population forced them to transfer the estate to Melrose Abbey in 1223. Analysis of the findings of recent archaeological work (Gordon et al 2012) may shed light on the origins of the dyke.

Traces of boundaries marking estate or land divisions are also visible to the west of Dalblair, at a large bend on the Glenmuir Water. A substantial area, some 200 m across, is partially enclosed by both large curving ditches and natural scarps (9045, *44692*). Although the origins of the features are unknown, they have been tentatively interpreted as early medieval in date.

At Dalmellington is an interesting example of the possible transition from the earlier **mottes** to later **tower houses** made of stone, of which there are up to seven examples in the study area. The site of Dame Helen's Castle (7132, *42574*) is situated a short distance to the east of the motte.

Although no obvious sign of it remains, the stone having been re-used in one of the local houses (NSA, 1845: 315), a distinctive rock-cut ditch is still visible in the bedrock outcrop on which the castle once stood. It may have been the fortified successor to the motte.

A short distance to the north-west along the River Doon, on opposite sides of the valley at Waterside, are two further tower houses. The site of Kiers Castle (7138, *42580*) is on the southern side of the valley. Although an upstanding wall existed in the early 20th century, little remains visible on the ground today. On the northern side is the better preserved Laight Castle, protected as a Scheduled Monument (SM7690). It sits in a prominent position above the Dunaskin Burn with a ditch to the east.

Some distance to the north-east, on the banks of the Glenmuir Water at Dalblair, lies the scheduled, ruined remains of Kyle Castle (Plate 5, 9048, *44695*), slightly upstream from the large, ditched enclosure at Dalblair noted above (9045, *44692*). In the grounds of Dumfries House, on the banks of the Lugar Water, Terringzean Castle forms a visibly more complex set of remains.

While the general progression of earth-and-timber mottes to stone-built tower houses is well understood, the specific history, chronology and relationships between examples in the study area, which often occur in close proximity, are not. Much of the discussion of Medieval settlement focuses on these strongholds, but the landscape would also have held numerous farms comprising buildings made out of turf, earth, timber and other organic materials. The fragile nature of the construction material along with years of erosion and bioturbation often means that only ephemeral surface and buried traces of them survive. For this reason they are not easily identified or excavated. The only known example of this is 4.5 km north-east of Cronberry, where the remains of a likely Medieval turf and earth building was excavated (12211, *72404*).



Plate 5: Upstanding remains of Kyle Castle (9048, 44695), courtesy of HES (canmore.org.uk).

c AD 1500 - c AD 1800

It is highly likely that at least the later phases, if not the entire history, of some the castles noted above extended well into the latter half of the second millennium. This period was generally unsettled, with waves of invasion by the English, frequent feuding between noble families and phases of religious conflict.

The 17th century was particularly unstable. After the Union of the Crowns in 1603, real union was not so easily achieved and the period 1638-88 was especially tumultuous. Both James VI and his son Charles I tried to impose their will on the Presbyterian Kirk in Scotland in the name of religious uniformity. The Covenanter movement developed in violent opposition, and its forces supported the Parliamentarians in the English Civil Wars with the aim of imposing religious reform in England and Ireland.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area include:

- burghs of barony and markets
- churches
- farmsteads

- routeways and roads
- sites relating to Covenanting activity
- early mines and limekilns
- textile industry remains
- mills
- country houses and designed landscapes

Several of the larger settlements in the study area became **burghs of barony** in the 14th and 15th centuries, which gave the landowner the right to hold weekly markets. These included Auchinleck in 1507 (12796, *75548*), Cumnock in 1509 (12797, *75549*) and Dalmellington in 1607 (12780, *75494*). This was a time when detailed maps were beginning to be produced, including Timothy Pont's maps of 1583-1614 (although few of the study area have survived) and the later 17th-century maps of Robert and James Gordon and Joan Blaeu, who at least partly based their work on Pont's earlier surveys.

These early maps paint a picture of a generally rural landscape with numerous **farmsteads**, which operated in a largely subsistence economy and traded in the local market towns. Many of the buildings related to these farms will have been removed by modern industry or later phases of farming. They were also probably largely constructed from turf and earth (see above), leaving very little if any trace of their existence on the surface. However, two relatively well preserved examples exist on the hill slopes to the south of Dalmellington: Dalnean Hill Farmstead (7114, *42556*) and Munteoch Farmstead (7188, *42630*), both protected as Scheduled Monuments (SM4390 & 5200 respectively) and comprising evidence of various phases of buildings and field systems.

Many **churches** were built during in the 18th century - for example, Dalmellington Old Kirk (7133, *42575*), Ochiltree (8122, *43629*) and Auchinleck (8069, *43576*). It is likely that some were built over earlier churches, the parishes having been formed in the centuries leading up to the 1500s.

The Covenanters were particularly active in the study area and several sites are related to **Covenanting activity**. These include Martyrs Moss (57843) - where, in April 1685, worshippers were surprised by Government troops; graves at Cumnock Old Graveyard (8094, *43601*); Carsgailoch Hill (8028, *43534*); Little Auchengibbert (8005, *43511*); Airds Moss near Cumnock, the

site of a confrontation with the government in 1680; a mask (Plate 6) worn by the Covenanting minister Alexander Peden (1626-1686), which was discovered in a cottage near Cumnock in the 1840s along with his weapons; and two Covenanter banners related to Cumnock, one of which is in the Hunterian Museum and the other in the Baird Institute in Cumnock.

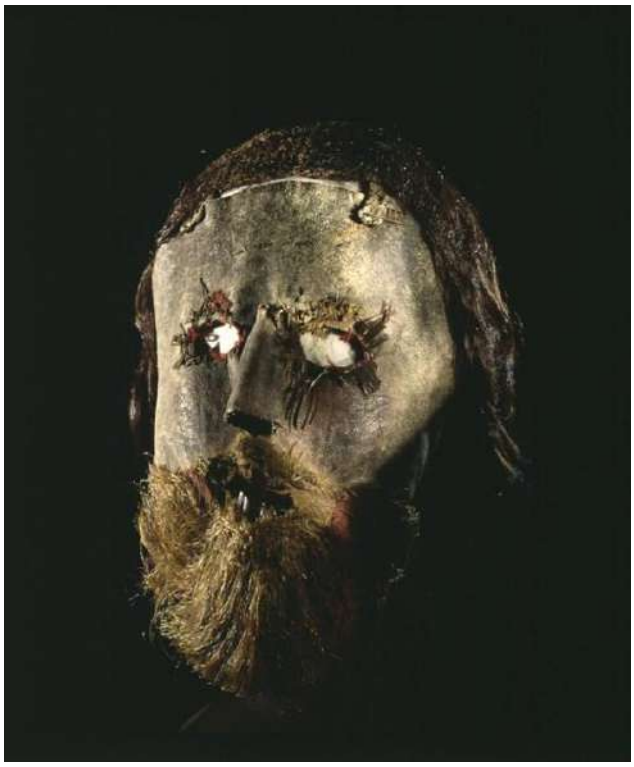


Plate 6: Alexander Peden's mask, courtesy of National Museum of Scotland.

Another phase of significant social and economic change in the study area commenced in the 1700s. The drive to improve soil quality on farms and the readily available sources of coal and limestone led to the construction of **mines** and **limekilns** (for example at Straiton 61748, *295670)*. Some landowners improved or constructed **roads** to access these raw materials, which in turn led to better mobility and communication among and between local communities (Miller 1793: 415). Coal was readily available in the parishes of Old Cumnock and Dalmellington (Miller 1793; McMyne 1793), but the parish of Ochiltree only had one small pit which mainly produced coal for drying oats, as it had the quality of producing little smoke (Thomson 1793: 447).

The development of a formal turnpike road system in the later 18th century further improved access and mobility to and within the study area, and it allowed coal and other produce to be

transported to markets outside it. John Loudon McAdam, who became famous for his technique of building roads with compressed stone - macadamised roads - was a trustee of the Ayrshire Turnpike Trust and was very active in road construction through Ayrshire in the late 18th century. Much of the stone required for the roads was quarried locally, although stone cleared from agricultural land was also used (Hume 2017: 16). The improved quality of farming soils ultimately meant that less labour was required to work the land and so smaller **farmsteads** began to be amalgamated, with many former labouring families moving into nearby towns. The increase in cereal production led to a higher demand for local **mills** such as Bello Mill (8073, *43580*). Bello Mill was also the birthplace of the engineer William Murdoch, who first used cast-iron gearing for mill work and later introduced gas lighting and invented the oscillating cylinder steam engine.

During the 1780s, the first relatively large-scale industrial complexes were opened: Catrine Cotton Mills and Muirkirk Ironworks; although both are outwith the study area, they are worth noting because of the cotton mills' significance as the focal point of the planned model village and the early date of the water-powered ironworks. Small-scale production took place in the towns which, as noted above, were increasing in size due to the developing road networks and population movement away from smaller farms. For example, the two largest trades in Cumnock during the late 18th century were hand loom weaving and shoe making (employing 28 people and 33 people respectively) (Miller 1793: 410). Hand loom weaving became a popular occupation in East Ayrshire, partly because of increased flax production but also because improved road networks allowed machine-spun yarn from the big Glasgow manufacturers to be brought to Ayrshire for weaving.

Another significant industry to emerge during the late 18th century was Cumnock Pottery (54403). Founded in 1791, the pottery was in existence until 1912 and was famed for its 'Scotch Motto Ware' (Love 1992: 29).

Map evidence suggests that some **country houses** with associated **gardens and designed landscapes** were established in the centuries preceding the 1700s, for example at Grimmet (53544) and Glaisnock (53553). Heightened agricultural productivity and associated revenues gave landowners the means to construct large new houses set within elaborate designed landscapes as well as to invest in existing ones. Craigengillan (Plate 7, 53543), for example, existed from the 16th century and the designed landscape was formulated in the late 18th century, while

Dumfries House (53552) similarly existed before the 18th century but was developed further during this period.



Plate 7: Craigengillan House built in 1765, courtesy of craigengillan.com.

The gardens and designed landscapes of the area include a range of specimen trees, plantations and shelter belts which also have significance in natural heritage terms. They are also, as historically managed woodlands, good examples of bio-cultural heritage and they contribute significantly to the character of the landscape, particularly in the Lugar Valley.

c AD 1800 - current day

Many of the heritage assets within the study area that post-date 1800 relate to industrial activity, which continued to develop and grow throughout the 19th and 20th centuries.

These aspects of the historic environment have been documented in some detail, particularly by John Hume, who has written extensively on the evidence for this period in the CCLP area (Hume 2017). It is not the purpose of this report to reproduce his findings in detail, but a summary of key points relating to the last 200 years is presented below.

Elements of the historic environment from this period in the study area include:

- ironworks
- mines (coal, ironstone and limestone)
- tileworks and brickworks
- railways
- industrial settlements
- coal mining, including open-cast mines
- brass and silver bands
- sporting heritage
- local industries
- farming remains
- forestry
- WWI remains

Iron smelting on an industrial scale in East Ayrshire commenced at Terreoch and nearby Muirkirk in the mid 18th century. The abundance of coal, limestone (used as the reducing agent) and ironstone, the well-developed road infrastructure, an expanding railway network and technological developments led to further investment and the opening of two large **ironworks** in the study area (Dalmellington (Waterside) in 1847 and Lugar in 1845).

One of the significant drivers for this industrial expansion was the creation of a **railway** network. The Glasgow, Paisley, Kilmarnock , Ayr (GPKA) railway reached Kilmarnock and Ayr in 1841 and expanded to near Cumnock in 1850. A section of the line contained the Ballochmyle Viaduct over the River Ayr - the largest single span of any British railway (Hume 2017: 29) - and the 49m-high category A listed Lugar/Woodroad Viaduct at Cumnock (LB24133).

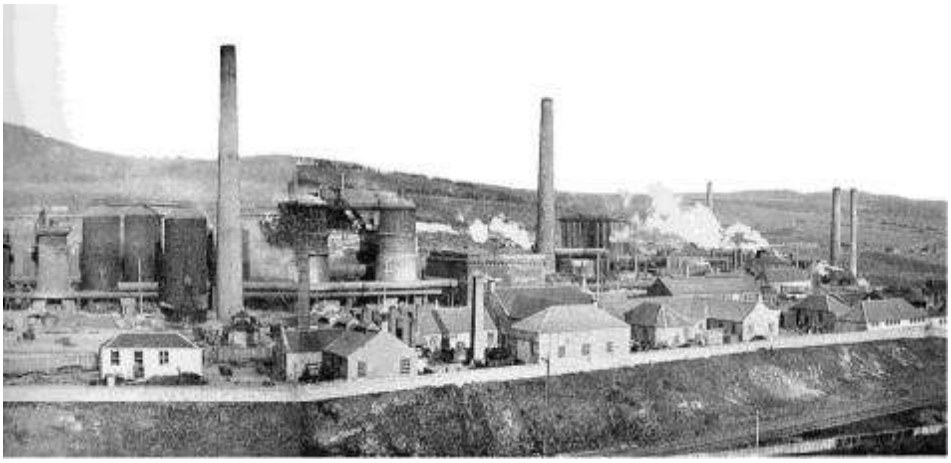


Plate 8: Dalmellington Ironworks re-equipped in the late 1880s for by product recovery.

Lugar Ironworks (8076, *43583*) was founded by Colin Dunlop and John Wilson of the Dundyvan Ironworks, Coatbridge, partly because ironstone and coal in Lanarkshire were running out and partly because the railway network was going to be extended as far as Cumnock. The Waterside Ironworks (7154, *42596*, Scheduled Monuments 4345, 7544 & 7863) was founded in 1847 by the Dalmellington Iron Company in expectation of a railway connection, which did not arrive until 1856; until then, limestone (much of it from Ireland) had to be transferred in and pig iron out, primarily to Glasgow, along a rapidly deteriorating road. The Lugar and Dalmellington works were rebuilt in the late 1880s (Plate 8) and equipped for by-product recovery (tar and ammonia), allowing resale to the dyestuffs and pharmaceutical industries.

Transportation of raw materials from the **mines** to the **ironworks** was initially by horse-powered carts on rails, although these were rapidly replaced by locomotive lines which allowed resources from further afield to be exploited and mines to be extended across much of the study area. The Scottish Industrial Railway Centre, located at the former Dalmellington Ironworks, holds a number of former industrial locomotives as part of a living history museum. The steep slopes were often negotiated by inclined planes, with carts full of coal and ironstone lowered down on rails controlled by ropes, for example at Lethanhill (50892, *245024*). An intricate network of privately owned mineral railway lines built up, all connected to the main GPKA rail line. Traces of these lines still litter the landscape, particularly at the north-eastern end of the study area, to the north-east of Auchinleck.

Settlements associated with different industries developed in conjunction with them. The gradual movement of mining away from the central ironworks led to miners and their families being housed nearer the mines themselves. Housing generally consisted of small, conjoined buildings laid out in rows, with very few facilities provided for the more isolated settlements. More complex settlements were built at the larger ironworks, for example at Lethanhill and Benqhuat for Dalmellington Ironworks and at Cronberry and Darnconner for Lugar Ironworks (Hume 2017: 76), while others were added to existing villages. William Fullerton established Patna, north-west of Dalmellington, in 1802 to house miners that worked on his estate. His father had worked for the British East India Company and the settlement was named after the city of the same name in India.

These early **miners' settlements** (Plate 9) varied in size and complexity. At Darnconner, to the north of the Lugar Ironworks, the second edition Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1895, published 1896; Ayrshire, Sheet 029.15) shows a relatively complex settlement that included a school and a church; one of the longest rows, at Common Loch, consisted of 99 dwellings (ibid: 44). Many of the miners were from the local population, but a large number emigrated from Ireland. Some are likely to have been from Lithuania; Scottish agents were sent there by the coal and iron companies in the late 19th to early 20th centuries.



Plate 9: Miners Row (unknown date) at Burnfoothill, north-west of Dalmellington Ironworks, courtesy of futuremuseum.co.uk.

Sources of ironstone were running low by the end of the 1800s, although coal was still abundant. Iron ore began to be imported from Spain (ibid: 45). After the First World War, both the

Dalmellington and Lugar ironworks became unviable, the former closing in 1921 and the latter in 1928. Coal mining did, however, continue with the industry being nationalised after the Second World War.

The National Coal Board (NBC) started to open new **mines** at existing pits, including those at Barony (12271, *72648*), which first opened in 1906 but was significantly remodelled in the 1950s, and Littlemill (21311, *124358*) which first produced in 1860. At Barony the new mine, with its imposing A frame still visible (Plate 10) and part of a B listed building (LB971), also had an adjacent power station that burnt slurry from nearby coal washeries (ibid: 48). The power station closed in 1982 and the colliery, Ayrshire's last working deep pit, was shut in 1989. Another iconic structure relating to this period is the riveted steel headframe at the former High House Colliery, Auchinleck (8120, *43627*). This also forms part of a B listed building (LB6580) representing the remains of the colliery, which opened in the late 19th century and closed in 1983.

Brass and silver bands in mining communities have a long tradition across the UK, many having their origins in the mid to late 19th century. Of those that once operated in the study area, such as the Lugar Silver Band and the Auchinleck Brass Band, only the Dalmellington band, founded in 1864, remains. Other forms of leisure activity included a range of **sports**, including bowling, curling, football and quoiting. Some of these sports continue to be actively practiced in the area, including football clubs from the SJFA, with great passion in the community.



Plate 10: Benwhat Heather Bell Football Club (c 1894), courtesy of East Ayrshire Council (www.futuremuseum.co.uk).

The 1990s saw advances in the availability and effectiveness of large earth-moving equipment. This meant that **open cast coal mining**, primarily to supply power stations in Northern Ireland, became viable. Although large volumes of coal were removed, resulting in drastic changes to parts of the landscape, a fall in coal prices and an emerging emphasis on renewable power has led to their abandonment over the last few decades - for example at Skares, south-west of Cumnock.



Plate 11: The A Frame at the former Barony Colliery after the remainder of the infrastructure was demolished, courtesy of HES (canmore.org.uk).

Although iron working and mining have been the dominant industries across the study area over the last two centuries, several smaller-scale industries have also played important roles in its development.

Until about the mid 20th century, tile field drains were used to drain and improve the land. Many would have been produced at local **tileworks**, including at Kerse (46702, *134496*), Cronberry (48212, *204586*) and Ochiltree Tile Works (8118, *43625*) which operated from 1896 until the early 1980s. Lime was mixed with the locally sourced clay to improve its plasticity, and the clay was forced through a mould to form the section of clay drain pipe. The sections were dried before being lightly fired in a kiln for three days. An excellent short film documenting this process at Ochiltrre in the 1950s is present at http://movingimage.nls.uk/film/0948.

Brick works were also a prominent industry, and ususally found in close association with coileries, given that coal mining waste was often used to form bricks. Two types of brick were made: fire bricks for furnace linings and boiler settings, which were produced at Dunaskin (7154, *42596*, Plate 11), and the more common building bricks, produced at Dunaskin but also at Commondyke (47862,

191778), Littlemill (21311, *124358*), Cronberry (48212, *204586*), Lugar (48419, *207579*) and Skares (47855, *191839*). The **brick works** at Dunaskin were originally a short distance to the south-east but, in the 1930s, were moved to the location of the ironworks (ibid: 63).



Plate 12: Former brick kilns at Dunaskin, HES (canmore.org.uk).

Although heavy industry was a key focus for land use after 1800, farming continued to be practiced in the the study area. In terms of changing agricultural practices, there was a shift from arable to dairy farming in the mid 19th century. This led to the creation of **creameries** in Machline and Cummnock (Hume 2017: 113). The engineering firm George MacCartney & Co. was based in Cumnock from 1850 and was a prominent producer of **threshing machines**, agricultural implements and mill wrights up until 1933.

The manufacture of small wooden souvenir wares in Mauchline, Cumnock and Auchinleck, which were initially fashionable in the late 1700s due to the popularity of snuff, continued into the 1800s. Production of this **Mauchline Ware** peaked in the 1820s (ibid: 129) when it was recognised worldwide and it continues to be valued by collectors today.

In addition to the remnants of heavy industry, one of the most visible landscape transformations of more recent decades has been the creation of commercial **forestry**, which covers vast areas of the uplands between the River Doon and Lugar Water valleys. Some of this was planted between World Wars I and II with the aim of providing local sources of timber for pit props. When the coal

industry was nationalised after the Second World War, steel was much more commonly used and the demand for wood declined, so the forestry has remained (ibid: 62).

World War I remains are present within the study area at the northern end of Loch Doon, at the site of Loch Doon Gunnery School, a pilot training facility. The loch had to be raised six feet to make it suitable for sea plane landings, and this damming also created hydro-electric power for the site. About 15,000 construction workers, 500 military personnel and 1,300 German PoWs reportedly worked on the site. The complex includes parts of a mono rail (47815, *194933*), military camps (55293, *278141* & 47818, *194909*), magazines (47817, *194910* & 55295, *278249*) and an airfield (47872, *185825*).

A miltary facility at Pennyland (46881, *158790*), in the grounds of Dumfries House, was used for a variety of purposes during **World War II**, including as a training camp (1939-1943), an Italian and later German PoW camp (1943-1946) and a Polish repatriation camp (1946-1948). Following the end of the war, the local council took over the site and rented the houses; the population in 1951 was 380. Conditions were, however, relatively poor and by 1957, when new housing became available, only a few residents remained. The camp finally closed about 1960. A social history project has recently been carried out on the site, which included archaeological excavation and oral history research.

6. Assessment of Significance

The concept of significance

In the context of national policy, it is necessary to identify and understand the cultural significance of an aspect of the historic environment before its national importance can be considered. The concept of cultural significance, which is now widely accepted, was introduced in policy statements including the *Burra Charter* (Australia ICOMOS 2013).

Assessment of significance is designed to help establish why a place or feature is considered to be important and why it is valued. It can be a subjective exercise – reflecting the moment in history when it is written and the state of knowledge about the site at that time. This means that the

assessment of significance has the potential to change as knowledge and understanding of the site increase, as ideas and values change or as a result of alterations to the place or feature.

The cultural significance of an element of the historic environment rests on three types of characteristics, as set out in the *HES Policy Statement* (2016).

Intrinsic - those inherent in the landscape and/or its constituent parts, including:

- its condition;
- its research potential;
- the length and legibility of its apparent developmental sequence; and
- its original or subsequent functions

Contextual - those relating to its place in the wider landscape or body of existing knowledge, including:

- the rarity of the designed landscape or any part of it, assessed against its regional and national context;
- its relationship to other, similar landscapes in the vicinity; and
- the relationship of the designed landscape and its constituent parts to the wider landscape setting;

Associative - the historic, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the designed landscape, and vice versa, including:

- its aesthetic attributes;
- its significance in the national consciousness or to people or use or have used it, or their descendants; and
- its associations with historical, traditional or artistic characters or events

In order to define a monument as of national importance, a particular level of significance must be established on the basis of one or more of the following criteria:

- its inherent capability or potential to make a significant addition to the understanding or appreciation of the past;

- 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; and
- its place in the national consciousness is a factor that may be considered in support of other factors.

Designations

The CCLP area contains a number of sites with designations that reflect national importance. These include ten Scheduled Monuments, nine category A Listed Buildings, two Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes and five Conservation Areas.

Category B Listed Buildings are those considered to have regional or more than local importance, while category C are those with local importance. The CCLP area contains 88 category B listed buildings and 69 listed as category C.

Conservation Areas are designated by local planning authorities as 'areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance' *(S.61 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997*). They generally contain groups of buildings in a town, village or city, but can include historic battlefields, public parks, designed landscapes or railways. The CCLP contains five.

The tables below list the Scheduled Monuments, category A Listed Buildings and Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes in the study area which, by definition, are considered to be of national importance. A list of the five Conservation Areas is also included.

Scheduled Monuments

SM Number	*Scheduled Name*	*Easting*	*Northing*
SM3009	Dalmellington, motte	248192	605815
SM7690	Laight Castle	245006	608860
SM4345	Waterside, Dalmellington Ironworks	244319	608399
SM3311	Kyle Castle, 200m E of Dalblair	264736	619206
SM7863	Waterside, miners' villages & mineral railways N of	244077	610132
SM5393	Auchencloigh Castle	249452	616664
SM5200	Munteoch, settlement and field systems	243761	603611
SM7491	Knockdon, enclosure 700m NE of	243756	601116
SM4390	Dalnean Hill, farmstead and field system	246217	605440
SM7544	Waterside Bing, iron slag bing, Dalmellington Ironworks	243877	608256

Listed Category A Buildings

LB Number	*Listed Name*	*Easting*	*Northing*
LB1092	Dunaskin Brickworks, Waterside Ironworks, Dalmellington	244173	608383
LB18793	Craigengillan	247350	602817
LB18794	Stable Block, Craigengillan	247365	602755
LB24133	Bank Viaduct, Lugar Water, Cumnock	257395	620624
LB96	The Temple, Dumfries House	253908	621384
LB14413	Dumfries House	254141	620398
LB14414	Avenue Bridge, Lugar Water, Dumfries House	253798	620643

LB Number	*Listed Name*	*Easting*	*Northing*
LB24093	Market Cross, The Square, Cumnock	256783	620132
LB14416	Dovecot, Dumfries House	253951	620350

Inventory Gardens & Designed Landscapes

GDL Number	*GDL Name*	*Easting*	*Northing*
GDL00111	Craigengillan	246391	604198
GDL00149	Dumfries House	254413	620411

Conservation Areas

CA Number	*Conservation Area Name*	*Easting*	*Northing*
CA46	Ochiltree	250651	621099
CA50	Waterside	244048	608497
CA65	Lugar	259123	621290
CA42	Cumnock	256816	620078
CA43	Dalmellington	248049	605863

7. Opportunities for Research and Engagement

The audit has established the range of key historic environment features in the CCLP area, particularly those relating to the Medieval and post-Medieval periods and the area's rich industrial heritage. There are some notable gaps in the historic environment record, which may be a result of differential preservation due to the area's history of land use. For example, unlike other areas in southern Scotland, later prehistoric settlement remains are largely unknown. This may not be a

true picture, but instead reflect the fact that limited survey took place in advance of extensive ground disturbance for mineral extraction and afforestation. Alternatively, it is a real pattern, which would suggest the area was not much settled in the later prehistoric period. There is similarly limited evidence of earlier prehistoric remains, with the notable exception of some probable Bronze Age round cairns. In these respects, the known prehistoric remains of the study area contribute little to its character or special qualities and hold low potential for research, engagement and enhancements in the context of CCLP.

The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) period panel reports for most periods make no direct mention of the Coalfield Communities area. More broadly, the archaeology of East Ayrshire receives relatively little attention in the context of ScARF, with the most notable exception being several references to Buiston Crannog (Hunter & Carruthers 2012; Milek & Jones 2012; see also Crone 2002).

However, the ScARF Modern period report makes more explicit reference to the research potential of East Ayrshire's archaeology, with the recognition that 17th-century Covenanting practice 'could be explored further through archaeologies of place and landscape' (Dalglish & Tarlow 2012: 54). The excavation of the house of Covenanter John Brown at Priesthill, Muirkirk, while beyond the study area, is particularly notable in this regard (ibid; see also Fairbairn 1927: 16 -18), and its artefactual assemblage could merit further study (see NMAS Acc Nos HX170: 175-8, 180, 191, 202, 213, 222).

The textile mills at Catrine and their relationship to wider supply chains, extending to the industry on the Clyde, receive special attention (Dalglish & Tarlow 2012: 21). The ScARF Modern period report also highlights the potential of industrial archaeologies to contribute to contemporary dialogues:

> Many of Scotland's communities were formed in the context of industrialisation and de-industrialisation has had tangible social, economic and material effects which continue to resonate, whether in the countryside of Ayrshire or Fife or in urban contexts like Glasgow. Industrial archaeology speaks directly to present day concerns and the histories created through industrial archaeology have the potential to confirm, challenge or complicate historically-grounded political narratives in the present (ibid: 125-6).

From this perspective, the industrial heritage complex at Dunaskin presents an especially challenging set of issues around its future conservation and management. Yet from another perspective, as the largest heritage asset and with its links to mineral railways and industrial settlements (such as Lethanhill and Benwhat), it represents a significant opportunity for wider engagement if approached in an innovative way.

On a broader scale, project development and legacy building should seek to maximise opportunities presented by the existence of the Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere (GSAB). There may be synergies between the CCLP and GSAB that create potential to build sustainability in terms of local food supply and provenance, audience development and visitor orientation.

These points may be useful to take into account when formulating projects for the CCLP delivery phase, which should create opportunities for better conservation management, interpretation and wider engagement. Based on the historical narratives highlighted through the historic environment audit, below are some potential themes for cultural heritage projects:

- Old Land, New Life: The CCLP area has a significant range of evidence for post-Medieval rural settlement, ranging from 17th- and 18th-century farmsteads to 19th- and 20th-century industrial villages. A project could set out to discover how people lived at these sites and answer questions such as: to what extent could people produce from the land (through infield and garden)? What did they grow and where did farmers and gardeners get seeds? What containers did they use to store and carry? How did diet and recipes differ in these periods, and what could be learned to inform legacy building?

- Landscape of Change: The CCLP area has visible change written large across it. Designed gardens and landscapes and the remains of late 18th- and 19th-century industrial innovations are still clearly visible. The late 20th-century open cast mineral extraction is a reality still evident, while large-scale afforestation and the growth of renewable energy have also brought change. Wider understanding of these processes of reinvention and change could form the basis for research and engagement during the delivery phase. It could help frame conversations around future landscape change and how the Coalfield Communities could positively develop aspects of this as part of CCLP legacy planning.

- We Make and Play: There is abundant evidence for creativity and energy in the area, from the craft production of the 18th to 20th centuries to its sporting heritage, which still plays a significant role in cultural life. How have people celebrated, through music and dance, and what photographs exist from the area showing past leisure pursuits? Can we be inspired by the ways people made and played in the past and thus encourage further activities and new traditions?

These themes could guide the development of a number of projects relating to the archaeology, historic environment and cultural heritage of the CCLP area, including:

- 21st-century Mottoes: This project would focus on Cumnock Ware in the first instance, working with local collections (such as those held at the Baird Institute) to create opportunities to learn about the heritage of craft production in the area. This would comprise pottery making and motto crafting for the 21st century, but would be designed to increase awareness of and respect for the earlier tradition. With the use of fragments of poetry and Scots words on Cumnock Ware, it would also help raise awareness of and encourage pride in the Scots language. In parallel, the project could commission ceramic artists to help train local people and produce their own Cumnock Ware-inspired pieces, culminating in a final exhibition.

- Delvin Oor Patch: This project would comprise archaeological investigations at several key sites to reveal the social archaeologies of communities during the post-Medieval period and to help answer research questions in relation to the Old Land, New Life theme. As well as the houses, where and how did people grow food? Can we learn enough to plant, grow and share food from Oor Patch ?

- Covenanting Paths and Places: This project would seek to draw out the geographies of Covenanting: where were conventicles held, where were the battles and skirmishes, what were the route ways and hiding places, where are the memorials ? It would create a GIS-enabled map resource of Covenanting paths and places. This could then be used for trail development as part of wider interpretative planning.

- Sports Mapping: A sports heritage project could document the traditions of the different local sports, and the various sports grounds (such as bowling and football clubs) could be recorded to enhance the Historic Environment Record. Participants from clubs would help record their places and collect oral histories from club members. Production of a short video documentary on the project would allow the stories to be more widely shared.

- Walk This Way: A walking project could encourage wider access and support increased health and wellbeing. Over the lifetime of the CCLP, volunteers would be supported to map and walk old routeways, seeking historical links between the Lugar and Doon Valleys. This could be a context for developing a Covenanting Trail, with information about relevant sites in the wider region. Shorter routes could be explored from each of the local schools to help link them to the core path network and promote active travel. The schools element could also explore how travel has changed in the area through time.

- Access All Archives – This project would promote wider access to and use of local archives and the learning and research opportunities they can provide. It would involve supporting volunteers through training and structured archive research sessions, which would be designed to help build confidence and deliver other social benefits for participants. A structured approach should be developed in order to provide insights on the overarching themes and feed into other projects. This could also form the basis for schools projects.

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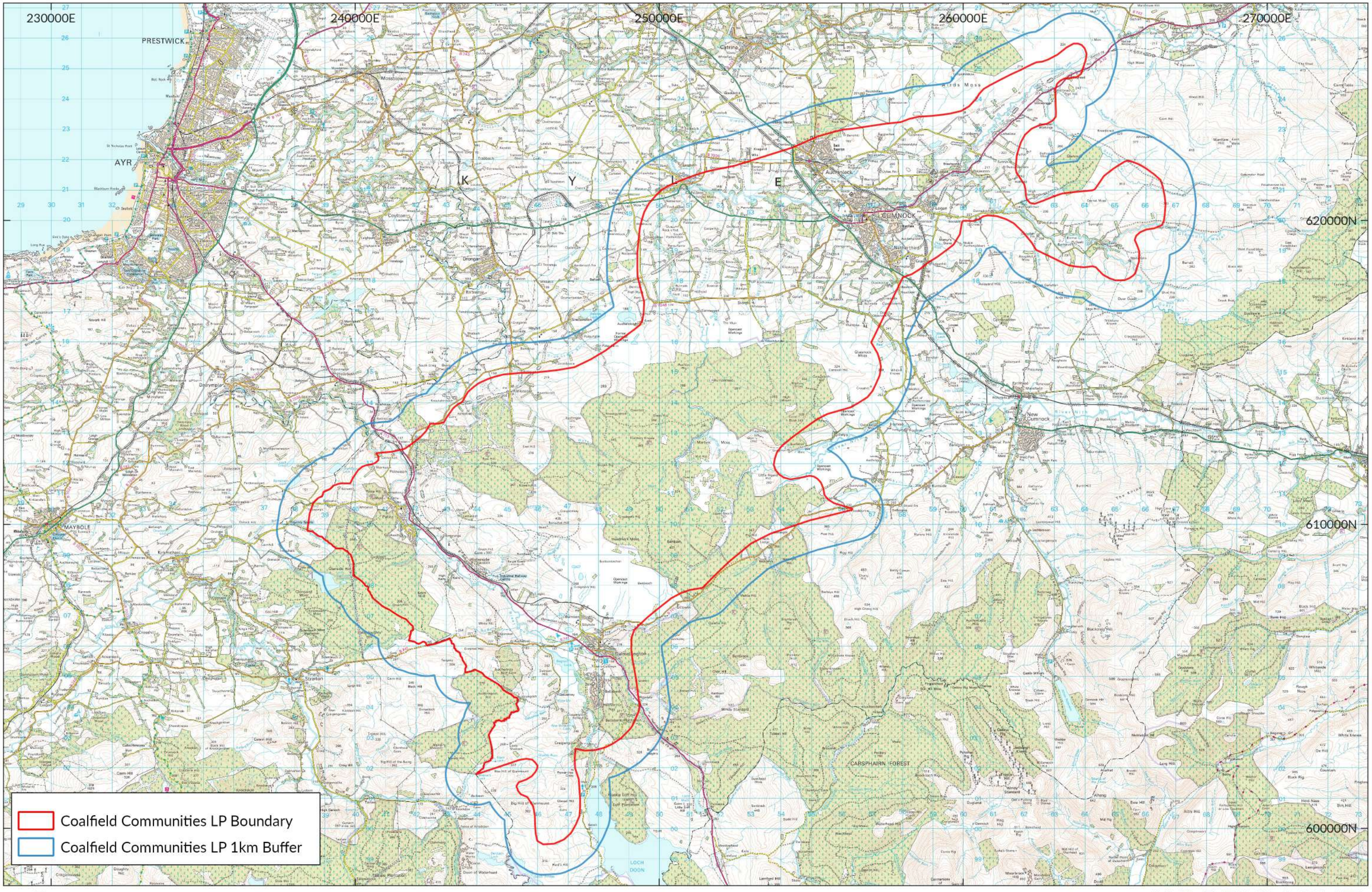


Figure 1: Coalfield Communities Historic Environment Audit Study Area

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

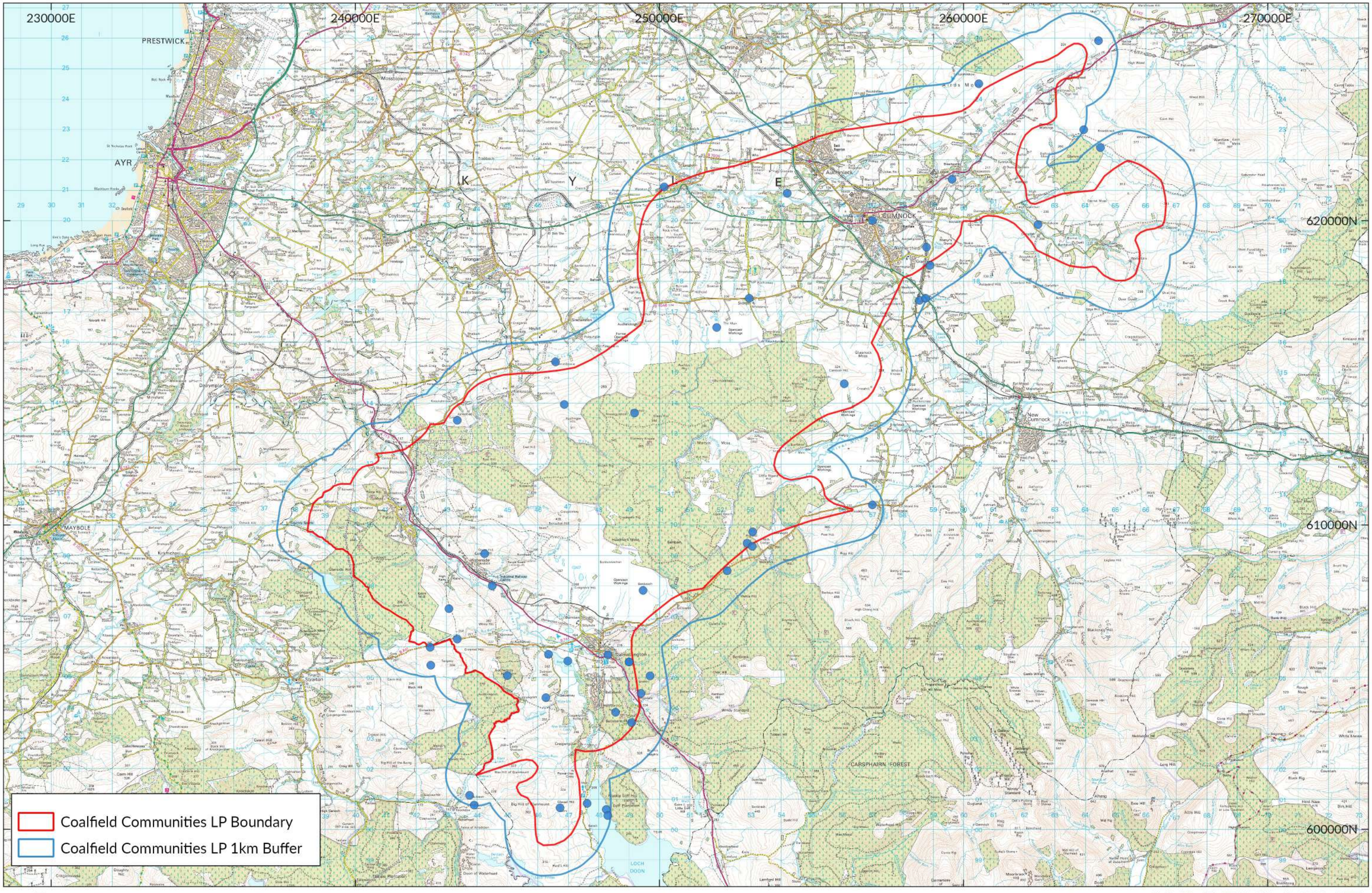


Figure 2: Prehistoric Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

230000E
240000E
250000E
260000E
270000E
620000N
610000N
600000N
PRESTWICK
AYR
MAYBOLE
Mossblown
Coylton
Dalrymple
Drongan
Stair
Ochiltree
Auchinleck
CUMNOCK
Netherthird
New Cumnock
Cronberry
Logan
Catrine
Sorn
Muirkirk
Darmaillington
Stratton
Crosshill
Kirkmichael
Minishant
Annbank
Trabboch
Ayr Moss
CARSPHAIRN FOREST
LOCH DOON
K
Y
E

Coalfield Communities LP Boundary
Coalfield Communities LP 1km Buffer

0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Scale: 1:115,000 @ A3

Figure 3: Roman Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE



Figure 4: Medieval Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

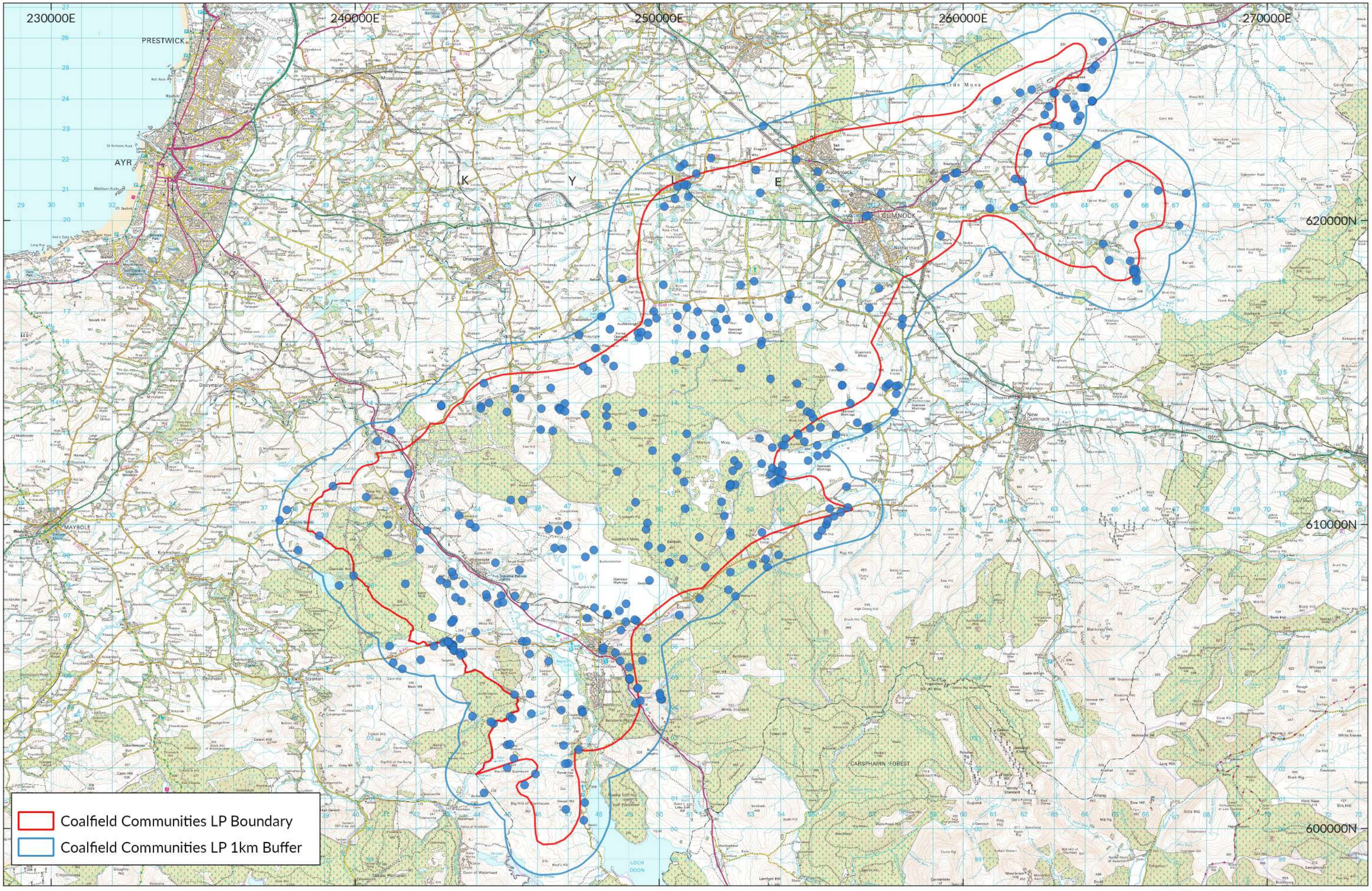


Figure 5: Farming & Market Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

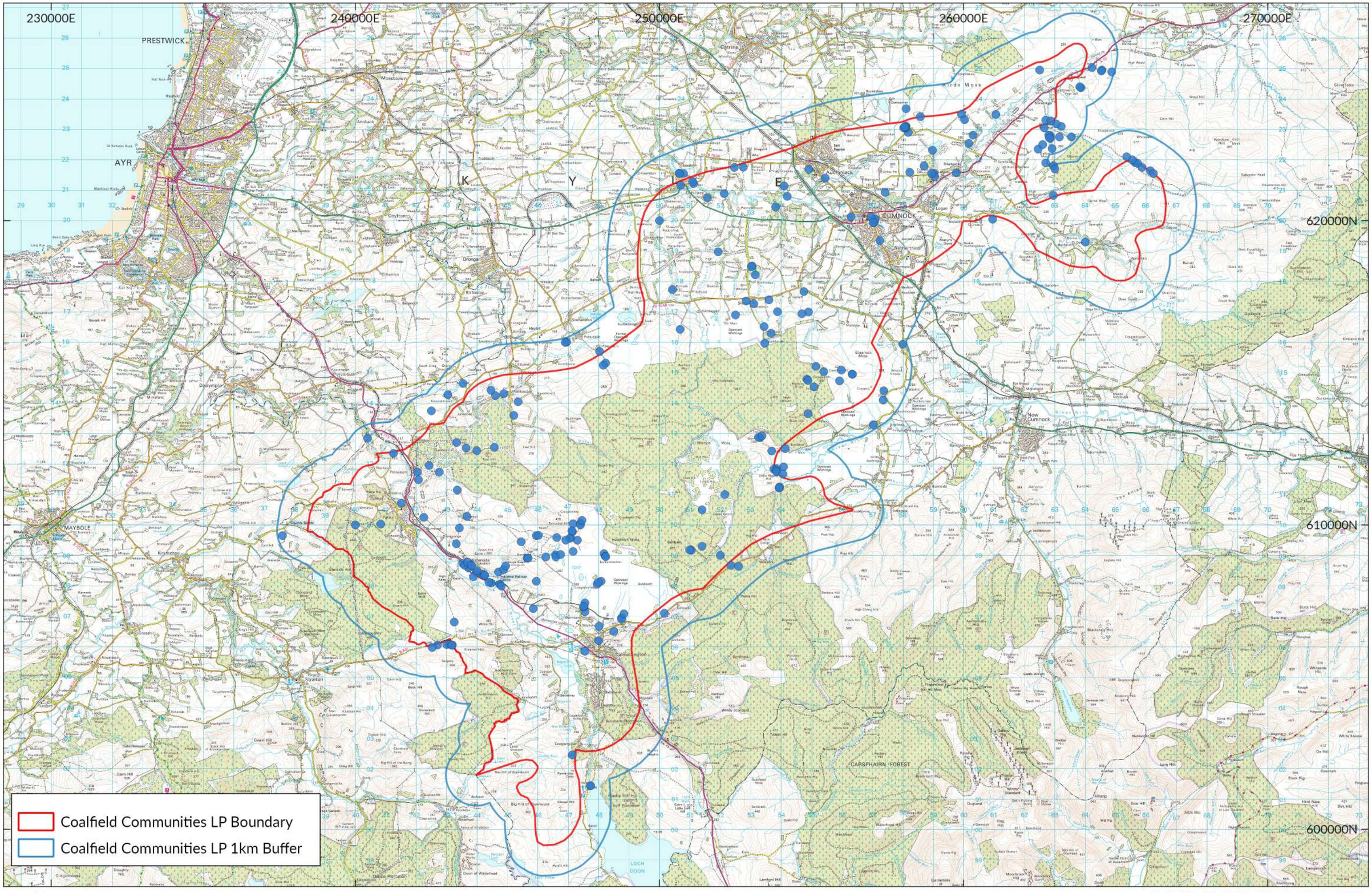


Figure 6: Industrial Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

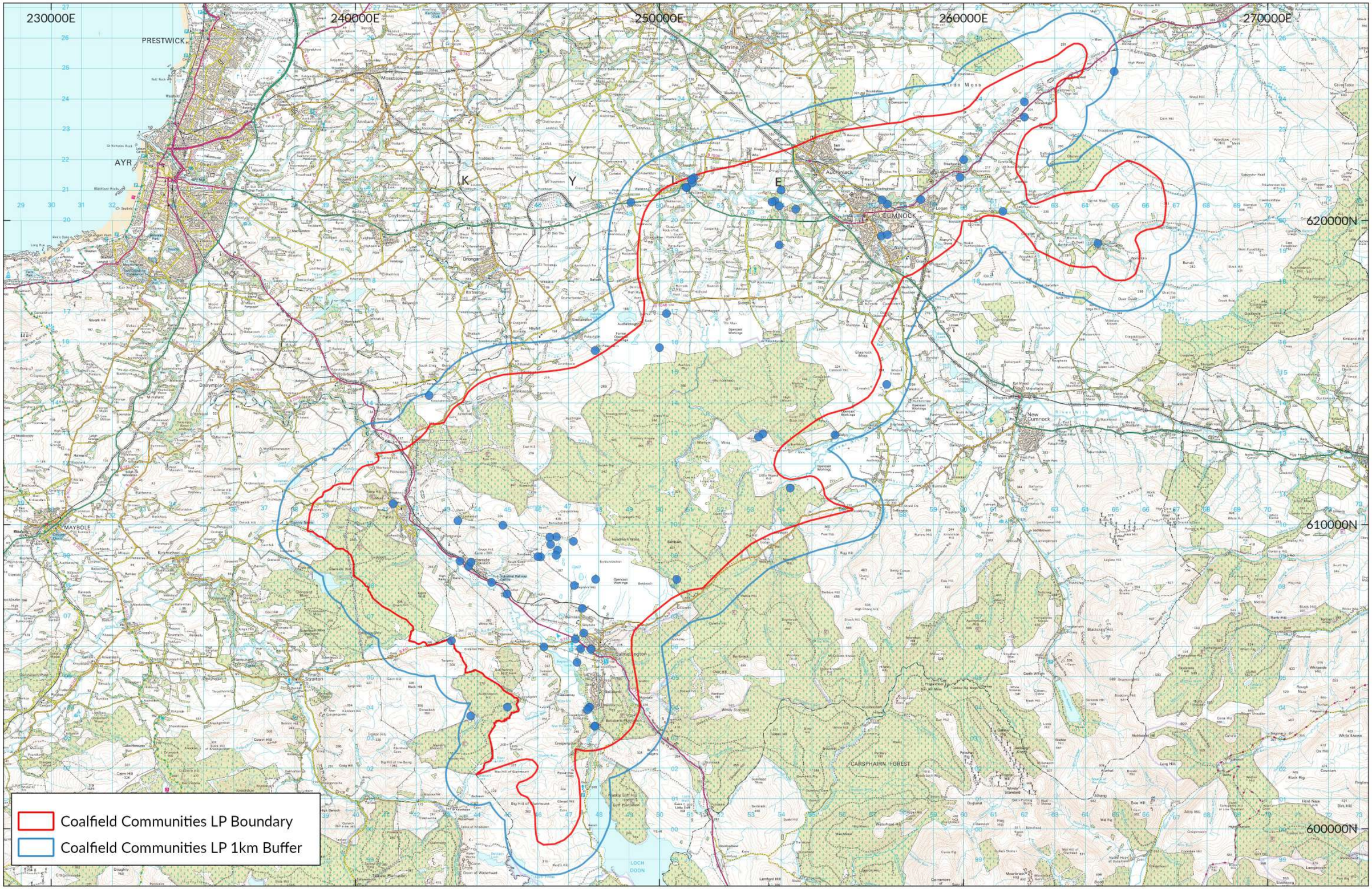


Figure 7: Transport & Communication Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

230000E
240000E
250000E
260000E
270000E
620000N
610000N
600000N
PRESTWICK
AYR
MAYBOLE
Mossblown
Annbank
Coylton
Dromore
Ristonton
Dalrymple
Crosshill
Straiton
Catrine
Auchinleck
CUMNOCK
Netherthird
New Cumnock
Kirda Moss
Glaisnock Moss
Widenside
Dalmellington
CARSPHAIRN FOREST
LOCH DOON
K
Y
E

Coalfield Communities LP Boundary
Coalfield Communities LP 1km Buffer

0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Scale: 1:115,000 @ A3

Figure 8: Medieval Warfare, WWI & WWII Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

230000E
240000E
250000E
260000E
270000E
620000N
610000N
600000N
PRESTWICK
AYR
MAYBOLE
Mossblown
Coylton
Dalrymple
Drongan
Stair
Cumnock
Auchinleck
Netherthird
New Cumnock
Dalmellington
Straiton
CARSPHAIRN FOREST
LOCH DOON
Kirda Moss
K
Y
E

Coalfield Communities LP Boundary
Coalfield Communities LP 1km Buffer

0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Scale: 1:115,000 @ A3

Figure 9: Covananting Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

230000E
240000E
250000E
260000E
270000E
620000N
610000N
600000N
PRESTWICK
AYR
MAYBOLE
Mossblown
Annbank
Coylton
Dalrymple
Drongan
Ayr
Catrine
Cumnock
Logan
CUMNOCK
Netherthird
New Cumnock
Auchinleck
Dalmellington
Patna
Straiton
Crosshill
Glenside
Riverside
Industrial Railway
Quarries
Opencast Workings
Airds Moss
CARSPHAIRN FOREST
LOCH DOON
K
Y
E

Coalfield Communities LP Boundary
Coalfield Communities LP 1km Buffer

0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Scale: 1:115,000 @ A3

Figure 10: Religious Elements of the Historic Environment (primarily churches & churchyards)

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

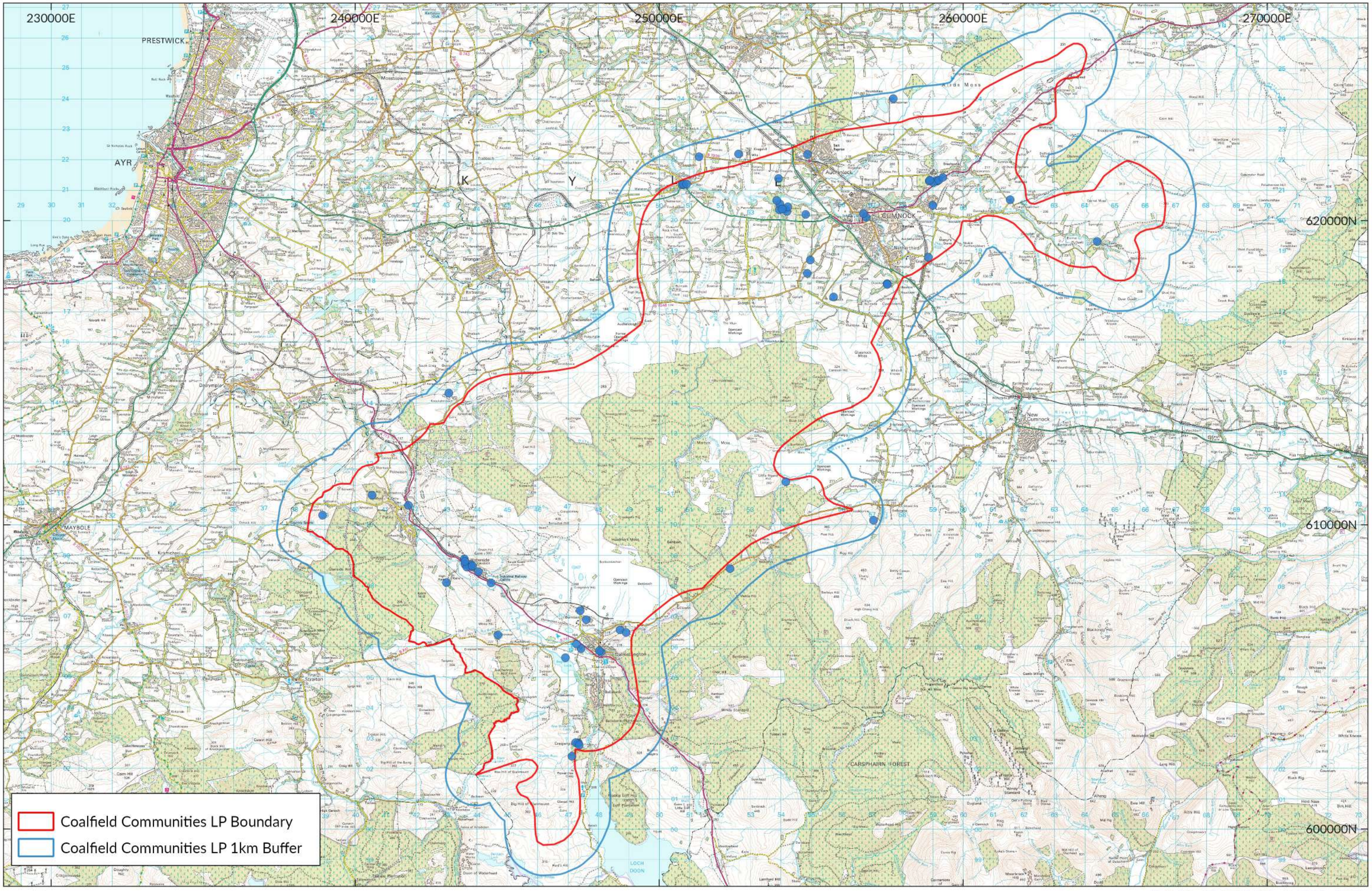


Figure 11: Modern Estate & Settlement Elements of the Historic Environment

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE

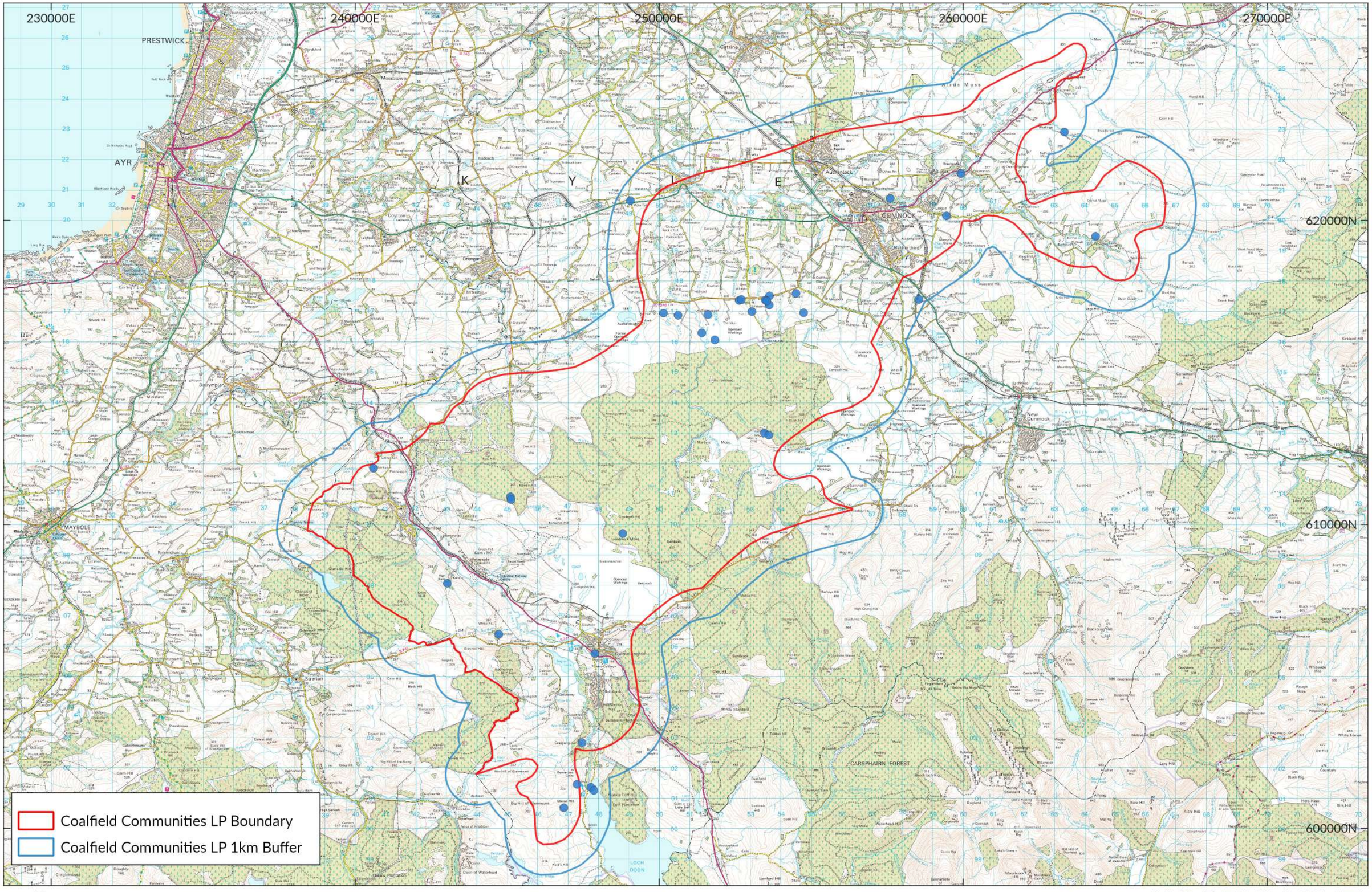


Figure 12: Elements of the Historic Environment with an unknown origin

NORTHLIGHT HERITAGE