

## 7 Cultural Heritage

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This chapter describes the likely impacts to cultural heritage arising from the construction and operation of the scheme. It has been prepared in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2 (HA208/07), Cultural Heritage (Ref 7.1), which identifies and defines three categories of cultural heritage as follows.

- Archaeological remains are the materials created or modified by past human activities that contribute to the study and understanding of past human societies and behaviour.
- Historic buildings are architectural or designed or other structures with a significant historical value.
- Historic landscapes are defined by perceptions that emphasise the evidence of the past and its significance in shaping the present landscape.

7.1.2 A stage 2 Environmental Assessment Report was previously completed for the purposes of assessing the impacts of a number of options and to assist in the route selection process (Ref 7.2). This included identification of the cultural heritage assets and a detailed assessment of the potential impacts of each option upon those assets to inform the selection process.

7.1.3 Upon selection of the preferred scheme option, a stage 3 assessment has now been prepared, concentrating on the assets associated with that design. The objectives of this assessment are as follows.

- Define and identify a study area and its baseline of known and potential cultural heritage assets.
- Assess the impacts of the proposed scheme upon the cultural heritage assets.
- Propose mitigation measures to address any potential adverse impacts on those assets.
- Assess the residual impacts on the cultural heritage baseline with the proposed mitigation in place.

### 7.2 Policy and Legislative Background

7.2.1 A desktop review of current legislation, planning policy and technical guidance was carried out to identify all information relevant to the scheme in relation to cultural heritage using the following online resources:

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) (Ref 7.3)

- Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (Ref 7.4)
- Aberdeenshire Council (AC) (Ref 7.5)
- The Scottish Government (Ref 7.6)
- UK legislation (Ref 7.7)
- Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) (Ref 7.8)

7.2.2 The legislative and policy documents that are relevant to the scheme are described in Table 7-1.

**Table 7-1 Statutory and planning context**

Document	Description	Relevance to scheme
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (Ref 7.9)	This Act makes provision for the investigation, preservation, and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters.	Scheduled ancient monuments falling within the study area as defined in section 7.3.1 of this chapter will be assessed for potential impact from the proposed scheme in compliance with this Act.
Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 (Ref 7.10)	This Act establishes Historic Environment Scotland (HES) as a Non-Departmental Public Body which will take over the functions of HS and the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). It sets out HES's role and legal status including changes in processes for the designation of monuments and buildings (scheduling and listing) and for consents relating to scheduled monuments, listed buildings and conservation areas.	This Act sets out why consultation has been sought with HES about the potential impact of the proposed scheme upon the cultural heritage within the study area.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 (Ref 7.11)	This Act relates to controls and enforcements in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest.	The assessment of potential impacts the scheme would have on listed buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest is undertaken in this chapter and the process ensures the scheme is compliant with this Act. The assessment considers the potential impact of the proposed scheme upon the character of listed buildings or structures within the study area.

Document	Description	Relevance to scheme
Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Ref 7.12)	This Act requires that an environmental assessment of certain road construction projects is undertaken - see Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, below.	Section 20A requires that Scottish Ministers must not proceed with the construction of a new road for which they are the roads authority if an environmental impact assessment is required for that project: (a) unless an environmental impact assessment has been carried out; and (b) in carrying out such an assessment, the Scottish Ministers have taken the environmental information into account
The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Ref.7.13)	These regulations implement the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU in Scotland in relation to construction projects for new roads and any improvement and maintenance projects for roads.	EIA must identify, describe and assess the direct and indirect significant effects of the proposed development on the following factors: (a) population and human health; (b) biodiversity, with particular attention to protected species and habitats; (c) land, soil, water, air and climate; (d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape; (e) the interaction between those factors.
Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (*01/05/2019) (Ref 7.14)	HEPS is a policy statement which sets out to direct decision-making that affects the historic environment.	Six policies are outlined in HEPS, including: "HEPS1: Decisions affecting any part of the historic environment should be informed by an inclusive understanding of its breadth and cultural significance. HEPS4: ...If detrimental impact on the historic environment is unavoidable, it should be minimised. Steps should be taken to demonstrate that alternatives have been explored, and mitigation measures should be put in place."
Scottish Planning Policy 2014 (Ref 7.15)	The SPP sets out the goals of the planning system including the protection of the designated and non-designated historic environment (including individual receptors, related settings and the wider cultural landscape). It enables positive change to the historic environment informed by a clear understanding of the importance of the cultural heritage affected to ensure their future use.	The assessment undertaken in this chapter of the potential impacts on the designated and non-designated historic environment, and the potential mitigation measures set out as a result of that assessment, ensures compliancy with the SPP.
National Planning Framework 3 2014 (Ref 7.16)	The NPF3 is the Scottish Government's strategy for Scotland's long-term spatial development that is read in conjunction with the SPP (Ref 7.12). The NPF3 document states that the Scottish Government "will respect, enhance and make responsible use of our natural and cultural assets" and that the "historic environment is an integral part of our well-being and cultural identity".	The assessment in this chapter is undertaken in recognition of the NPF3 statement that the "increased vulnerability of the historic building stock will also need to be factored into planning decisions over the longer term". The assessment considers the constructional and operational impacts on cultural heritage receptors and outlines potential mitigation measures and the scheme in respect to the NPF3 statement.

Document	Description	Relevance to scheme
Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology process (Ref 7.17)	This provides advice and information on technical planning to inform the day-to-day work of a range of local authority advisory services and other organisations that have a role in the handling of archaeological matters within the planning process.	The assessment is informed by the advice set out in the PAN, however as the scheme is for trunk road, it does not require planning permission.
Historic Environment Scotland 2016: Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting (Ref 7.18)	This non-statutory guidance note provides information about the principles behind government policies that are applicable to developments that would result in changes to the settings of historic assets or places.	The assessment is informed by the advice set out in the note, however as the scheme is for trunk road, it does not require planning permission.
Historic Environment Scotland 2010: Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Boundaries (Ref 7.19)	This non-statutory guidance note provides information about the principles behind government policies that are applicable to developments that would result in changes to the boundary treatments of historic buildings, including ditches, walls, fences, or any other type of structure used to mark the boundary of a property or part of a property.	The assessment is informed by the advice set out in the note, however as the scheme is for trunk road, it does not require planning permission.
Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014 (Ref 7.20)	This is the strategic plan that sets out targets and goals for developing Aberdeen City and Shire by 2035.	Although as a trunk road this scheme does not require planning permission, the assessment complies with the statement within the Quality of the Environment objective of the plan, which seeks to ensure the continued protection of cultural heritage assets from loss or damage that could otherwise arise from development.
Aberdeenshire Council Local Development Plan 2017 (Ref 7.21)	This LDP is a land-use planning document that indicates where certain types of development should and should not happen in Aberdeenshire.	Section 16: The Historic Environment, acknowledges that protecting and improving the historic environment is important to the distinctiveness and sense of place within Aberdeenshire. Policy HE1 undertakes to protect all listed buildings, archaeological sites and scheduled monuments from developments that would have a negative effect on their character, integrity or setting. Policy HE2 would restrict developments that would not preserve or enhance the character, appearance or setting of a conservation area.

## 7.3 Methodology

### Defining the study area

- 7.3.1 The DMRB guidelines (Annex 5, para.5.4.1) state that the study area for a road scheme should comprise the scheme outline and any new land-take, plus an area extending at least 200m from

either side, and that issues of setting may need to consider visual settings of monuments or even more distant aspects of the assets' surroundings. In this instance, the study area is defined by a 300m buffer in all directions from the centreline of the scheme in order to create a baseline of the recorded cultural heritage assets and to take into account the settings of Listed Buildings.

- 7.3.2 Cultural heritage receptors may sometimes fit into multiple categories; however, the DMRB recommends that only the single most suitable category be used for each receptor, and they should only be "double counted" in exceptional circumstances, where the most suitable category has insufficient scope to cover the entire cultural heritage interest of the site (ch.2, para.2.22).

### **Determining the baseline**

- 7.3.3 Baseline information was gathered through desk study in addition to a walkover survey and consultations with HES and local planning authority heritage officers at ACAS on behalf of AC.

#### **Desk-based assessment**

- 7.3.4 The following sources of information were used to gather cultural heritage resource data:
- Cultural heritage data recorded in the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS), previously compiled by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and now maintained by HES (Ref 7.22)
  - HES Historic Land-use Assessment (HLA) online map and digital dataset (Ref 7.23)
  - ACAS Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) (Ref 7.24)
  - Digitised historic maps including Ordnance Survey and pre-Ordnance Survey mapping as held by the National Library of Scotland (Ref 7.25)
  - The Archaeological Data Service (ADS) journal "Discovery and Excavation in Scotland" (Ref 7.26)
  - Mapping of known cultural heritage assets on the PastMap website (Ref 7.27)

#### **Field survey**

- 7.3.5 A walkover survey to ascertain the locations and extents of known cultural heritage assets within the footprint of the scheme was undertaken by a qualified archaeologist in January 2018. No evidence of unknown above-ground archaeological remains was discovered.

#### **Assessment method**

- 7.3.6 The assessment analyses the sensitivity, or value, of cultural heritage receptors, both designated and undesignated, as set out by the DMRB (Annex 5, para.5.10; Annex 6, para.6.10; and Annex 7, para.7.10).

7.3.7 The value of each receptor is identified by taking into account international, national, and regional legislation, designations, frameworks, and priorities, and by using professional judgement. The criteria to determine the sensitivity of a cultural heritage receptor for this assessment are set out in Table 7-2.

7.3.8 Impacts may affect cultural heritage assets or their settings, and can be positive, negative, direct, indirect, secondary, short, medium or long-term, temporary or permanent, and cumulative. Criteria for determining the magnitude of such impacts are given in Table 7-3.

**Table 7-2: Value of cultural heritage assets**

Value	Description	Categories
Very high	Internationally important	World Heritage Sites Sites of acknowledged international importance. Buildings of recognised international importance. Historic landscapes of international value.
High	Nationally important, both legally protected and non-designated	Properties in Care. Scheduled Monuments. undesignated Archaeological remains of national importance. Category A listed buildings. Conservation areas containing buildings of national importance. Historic landscapes of national importance.
Medium	Regionally important	Archaeological remains of regional importance. Category B listed buildings. Conservation areas containing important buildings. Designated historic landscapes.
Low	Locally important, of low or minor importance	Field systems, ridge and furrow, etc. Category C listed buildings Historic townscape of limited historic integrity. Industrial heritage sites. Historic landscapes of local interest groups.
Negligible	Assets with little or no surviving archaeological or historical interest	Modern field boundaries, drains and ponds. Buildings of no architectural or historical note. Landscapes with little or no historical interest.
Unknown	Assets of uncertain archaeological or historical importance.	Single find spots. Unexcavated features with archaeological potential. Buildings with potential for historic significance.

7.3.9 The magnitude of impact on each cultural heritage receptor is judged without considering sensitivity, so that the total destruction of a receptor with low sensitivity has the same magnitude of impact as the total destruction of a highly sensitive receptor. The magnitude, or scale, of such impacts are described in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3: Magnitude of impact

Magnitude of impact	Description
Major	<p>Change to most or all key archaeological materials, historic building elements such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to settings of cultural heritage receptors.</p> <p>Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit, including: extreme visual changes; gross change of noise or change to sound quality; or fundamental changes to use or access.</p>
Moderate	<p>Changes to many key archaeological materials, historic building elements such that the receptor is clearly modified.</p> <p>Considerable changes or modifications to the setting that affect the character of the receptor.</p> <p>Changes to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character, including: visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape; noticeable differences in noise or sound quality; or considerable changes to use or access.</p>
Minor	<p>Changes to key archaeological materials, historic building elements such that the receptor is slightly altered or made slightly different.</p> <p>Slight changes to setting, such that it is noticeably changed.</p> <p>Changes to few key historic landscape elements, parcels or components resulting in limited changes to historic landscape character, including: slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape; limited changes to noise levels or sound quality; or slight changes to use or access.</p>
Negligible	<p>Very minor changes to archaeological materials, historic building elements or setting.</p> <p>Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character, including: virtually unchanged visual changes; very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality; or very slight changes to use or access.</p>
No change	<p>No change to archaeological remains.</p> <p>No change to fabric or setting of historic building elements.</p> <p>No change to elements, parcels or components; no visual or audible changes; no changes arising from amenity or community factors.</p>

7.3.10 The significance of the effects of the scheme is presented as a combination of the value of each cultural heritage receptor and the potential magnitude of the impact upon it, as presented in Table 7-4. Professional judgement is used to ensure that the value assigned to each receptor, the magnitude of impact defined for each receptor, and the results of the analysis of the significance of impacts are all balanced. Therefore, the scales of value, impact and significance will be similar across assessed archaeological remains, historic buildings, and historic landscapes, so that the impacts of the scheme on each receptor may be compared to each other.

**Table 7-4: Significance of effect**

		Magnitude of Impact				
		Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	None
Value	Very High	Very large	Very Large / Large	Large / Moderate	Slight	Neutral
	High	Very Large / Large	Large / Moderate	Moderate / Slight	Slight	Neutral
	Medium	Large / Moderate	Moderate / Slight	Slight	Slight / Neutral	Neutral
	Low	Moderate / Slight	Slight	Slight / Neutral	Slight / Neutral	Neutral
	Negligible	Slight	Slight / Neutral	Slight / Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

## 7.4 Consultation Responses

- 7.4.1 In accordance with the DMRB guidelines for scoping (Annex 8, paras 8.25 – 8.28 & 8.32), consultations were sought from HES, ACAS and Auchenblae Heritage Society (AHS) and Howe o’ the Mearns Heritage Club (HoMHC) with regard to concerns about cultural heritage. Consultation for stage 2 was sought in November 2018; consultation for stage 3 was sought in February 2019.
- 7.4.2 HES responded to the stage 3 consultation on 19th February 2019, stating:
- 7.4.3 *“I can confirm that there are no known archaeological sites impacted on by the proposal... There are however considerations for the historic environment when looking at the wider landscape, ranging from prehistoric to medieval settlement. As such, given the potential for previously unknown buried archaeological remains to be encountered during the work, I would recommend that some form of evaluative mitigation works are undertaken ahead of any construction works. This could take the form of trial-trenching along the footprint of the new road layout (outwith the existing carriageway).”*
- 7.4.4 ACAS responded to the stage 2 consultation on 12th December 2017, stating that: “an archaeological watching brief / monitored topsoil strip would be required over all ground-breaking works”.
- 7.4.5 AHS responded to the stage 3 consultation on 16th February 2019, stating that they have no comments to make on the chosen route option.
- 7.4.6 No response has been received from HoMHC.



## 7.5 Baseline Conditions

- 7.5.1 The locations of the cultural heritage receptors considered in this assessment, including historic landscape areas, are shown in **Figure 7.1** and **Figure 7.2**. The receptors are labelled from west to east in the figures as listed in Table 7-5 to Table 7-7.
- 7.5.2 Although the scheme footprint extends from Oatyhill in the southwest to Laurencekirk Memorial Park in the northeast, the works to the north of Gaugers Burn are all online, apart from a 450m side road immediately adjacent to the A90 linking Frain Drive to the B9102. The offline elements of the scheme would be concentrated in the southwest of the scheme.



Photo 7-1: Fields southwest of Laurencekirk, from NE



Photo 7-2: Fields north of Newton, from NW

### Archaeological remains

#### *Designated archaeological assets*

7.5.3 There are no World Heritage Sites or Scheduled Monuments within the study area.

#### *Recorded archaeological assets*

7.5.4 There are 8 no. sites recorded as archaeological remains or archaeological investigations in the ACAS SMR website (see Table 7-5). Their locations are depicted in **Figure 7.1**.

**Table 7-5: Archaeological remains within the study area**

Map No.	HES Site No.	Name/Category
1	NO77SE0032	Possible site of hunting lodge
2	NO77SW0016	Findspot: stone axe
3	NO77SW0037	Possible site of holy well
4	NO77SW0011	Findspot: Roman coins
5	NO77SW0036	Possible site of St Medan's Well
6	NO76NW0008	Possible site of Mains of Newton manor house
7	NO77SW0007	Findspot: Roman coin
8	NO77SW0024	Site of Bronze Age burial cairn

- 7.5.5 The earliest evidence for occupation in the area is an unstratified polished Neolithic stone axe that was found at Garvock Farm (site 2). Upon investigation, the field in which it was found revealed no further features or finds.
- 7.5.6 The site of an early Bronze Age burial cairn near Beattie Lodge (site 8) contained a cordoned cinerary urn and a barbed and tanged projectile point; it was fully investigated and recorded before its complete removal by the construction of the current bypass.
- 7.5.7 There are findspots of 4 no. unstratified Roman coins (sites 4 & 7), including a denarius of Otho (69 CE), an Alexandrian bronze of Aurelian (270-275 CE), and an Alexandrian bronze of Diocletian (244-312 CE) (Photo 7-2).
- 7.5.8 Occupation from the medieval period to the founding of Laurencekirk, as a planned weaving town in the 18th century, is not well represented in the archaeological record.
- 7.5.9 The unlocated sites within the study area provide some clues through documentary evidence, as there may be a potential early hunting lodge in Garvock Parish (site 1), 2 no. respective holy wells known only as Laurencekirk and St Medan's Well (sites 3 & 5), and the possible site of a manor house at the Mains of Newton (site 6).

#### ***Unrecorded archaeological remains***

- 7.5.10 Unknown buried archaeological remains have been uncovered at many development sites, and there is the potential for unrecorded features and artefacts to be present within the scheme footprint and consequently may be disturbed, damaged or destroyed by the scheme. To address that possibility, and following DMRB guidance (Annex 5, para.5.10.8), a programme of mitigation measures is presented in section 7.8 to reduce risk both to the scheme from delays

and to subsurface archaeological assets, and to comply with legislative and local planning policies.

### Historic buildings and structures

#### *Listed buildings*

7.5.11 Listed Buildings are categorised by HES as follows.

- Category A buildings are of national or international importance, either architectural or historic, or fine little-altered examples of some particular period, style or building type.
- Category B buildings are of regional or more than local importance, or major examples of some particular period, style or building type that may have been altered.
- Category C buildings are of local importance, may be lesser examples of any period, style, or building type, as originally constructed or moderately altered.

7.5.12 There are 2 no. Listed Buildings within the study area; details are in Table 7-6 and their locations are depicted in **Figure 7.1**.

**Table 7-6: Listed Buildings within the study area**

Map No.	HES Ref	Listing Name	Grade
13	LB37235	West Gates, Johnston Lodge	C
14	LB37234	Beattie Lodge	B

7.5.13 The gates, walls, parapet rails and piers at the entrance to the private road leading to Johnston Lodge are Category C and date from the 19th century (site 13; Photo 7-3).

7.5.14 Beattie Lodge, a Category B two-storey former dower house (site 14; Photo 7-4) retains a stone inset at the back dated 1679 and a door lintel dated 1769.



**Photo 7-3: Gateposts**



**Photo 7-4: Beattie Lodge, from SW**

***Undesignated historic buildings and structures***

- 7.5.15 There are 4 no. undesignated buildings and structures in the ACAS SMR as listed in Table 7-7. Their outlines and locations are depicted in **Figure 7.1**.
- 7.5.16 The entry for the site adjacent to Beattie Lodge (site 14) refers to a watching brief undertaken during the construction of a new building to the west of the house; the investigation uncovered features potentially related to a former garden (site 9).

7.5.17 The First and Second World Wars left considerable impact on the area. The building at 244 High Street, Laurencekirk (site 12), had been used as a drill hall. The Laurencekirk Memorial Park (site 11) and its associated war memorial (site 10) are maintained and made accessible to the public by Aberdeenshire Council.

**Table 7-7: Undesignated historic buildings & structures within the study area**

Map No.	HES Ref	Name/Category
9	NO77SW0005	Beattie Lodge (enclosed garden remains)
10	NO77SW0046	Laurencekirk War Memorial
11	NO77SW0092	Laurencekirk Memorial Park
12	NO77SW0086	Former Drill Hall

**Historic landscapes**

7.5.18 There are no Gardens and Designed Landscapes or Conservation Areas within the study area.

7.5.19 The HES Historic Land-use Assessment (HLA) project has digitally recorded land use across Scotland (Ref.7.19). It maps current activities and also land use activities from periods in the past and categorises the historical and current land use into various types. The HLA types recorded within 300m of the scheme footprint are detailed in Table 7-8 and depicted in **Figure 7.2**.

**Table 7-8: Historic Land-use Assessment areas**

HLA type
Motorway
Urban area (Laurencekirk)
Recreation area (Kinnear Square)
Agricultural planned village (Laurencekirk)
Rectilinear fields and farms
Rough grazing
Plantation
Managed woodland (Newton & Gaugers Burn)

7.5.20 There is no defined land-use predating the medieval period recorded within the study area. The earliest recorded land-use relates to the medieval village of Laurencekirk, which lies between Charter Lane and Kirk Burn. All other land-use types recorded within the study area date to the post-medieval and modern era.

- 7.5.21 Most of the countryside surrounding the town of Laurencekirk is composed of rectilinear fields, associated with agricultural improvements typical for the post-medieval period (Photo 7-1, Photo 7-2, Photo 7-5). Managed woodland dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, along with plantation enclosures dating to the 19th century, are found in the west (Photo 7-6). Such landscape types are extensive and pervasive; however, they contribute to the sense of rural agricultural life that has dominated the region since the planning of the town
- 7.5.22 Plate 7-1 depicts the current route of the A90 and the outline of the proposed scheme superimposed on the OS map of the area surveyed in 1862-64. It indicates that the area has changed little in the last 150 years. The open fields, A937 and the access road to Law of Newton are depicted; further access routes running east-west no longer exist, nor do the managed woodlands flanking them. A90 in blue, off-line elements of scheme in red

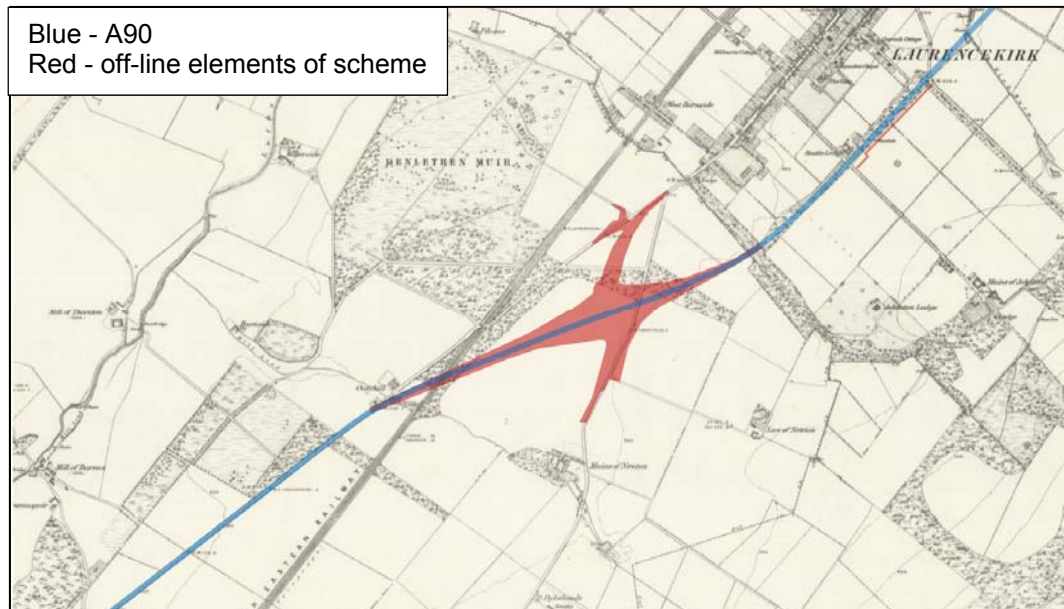


Plate 7-1: OS map surveyed in 1862-64



Photo 7-5: Field, site for slip road, from SE



Photo 7-6 Gaugers Burn, from NW



## 7.6 Impact Assessment

### Sensitivity / value of receptors

7.6.1 The value of the cultural heritage baseline and sensitivity to change are set out in Table 7-2 and detailed as follows.

### Archaeological remains

7.6.2 Of the 8 no. archaeological sites, 4 no. are known only through documentary evidence (sites 1, 3, 5 & 6) and their sites are at present unlocated in the landscape. Under the criteria set out in Table 7-2, it must be concluded that these assets are of unknown value.

7.6.3 The Bronze Age cairn (site 8) has been completely excavated and removed; it is therefore of negligible value. The 3 no. findspots of a stone axe and Roman coins (sites 2, 4 & 7) are also determined to be of negligible value as they are not known to be associated with other surviving remains. These are summarised in Table 7-9.

**Table 7-9: Value of archaeological assets**

Map No.	HES Ref.	Name	Value
1	NO77SE0032	Possible site of hunting lodge, Garvock Parish	Unknown
2	NO77SW0016	Findspot: stone axe	Negligible
3	NO77SW0037	Possible site of holy well, Laurencekirk	Unknown
4	NO77SW0011	Findspot: Roman coins	Negligible
5	NO77SW0036	Possible site of St Medan's Well	Unknown
6	NO76NW0008	Possible site of Mains of Newton manor house	Unknown
7	NO77SW0007	Findspot: Roman coin	Negligible
8	NO77SW0007	Site of Bronze Age burial cairn	Negligible

### Historic buildings and structures

7.6.4 In accordance with the criteria set out by the DMRB as reflected in Table 7-1, the Category B Beattie Lodge (site 14) is of regional importance and medium value, while the Category C gates at the West Lodge (site 13) is of local importance and low value (Table 7-10).

**Table 7-10: Value of Listed Buildings**

Map No.	HES No.	Name	Grade	Value
13	LB37235	Johnston Lodge - West Lodge Gates	C	Low

Map No.	HES No.	Name	Grade	Value
14	LB37234	Beattie Lodge	B	Medium

7.6.5 The undesignated structures for which there are any surviving elements in the field (sites 9-12) would be of purely local significance and of low value (Table 7-11).

7.6.6 The undesignated structures which have been removed and for which there only records survive (sites 14 & 16) are relatively recent sites with no known upstanding and are determined to be of negligible value.

**Table 7-11: Value of undesignated historic structures**

Map No.	HES Ref	Name/Category	Value
9	NO77SW0005	Beattie Lodge (enclosed garden remains)	Low
10	NO77SW0046	Laurencekirk War Memorial	Low
11	NO77SW0092	Laurencekirk Memorial Park	Low

### Historic landscapes

7.6.7 Historic landscapes within the region are predominantly agricultural and rural in character. Land-use types around Laurencekirk include field enclosures from which it is possible to trace the agricultural planning from the post-medieval period onwards.

7.6.8 Such undesignated landscape types are extensive and pervasive within the region and are robust in the face of development impacts. It is determined, therefore, that each of the landscapes categories is of purely local importance and of low value (Table 7-12).

**Table 7-12: Value of HLA areas**

Name	Value
Motorway	Low
Urban area (Laurencekirk)	Low
Recreation area (Kinneir Square)	Low
Agricultural planned village (Laurencekirk)	Low
Holdings (Scotston)	Low
Rectilinear fields and farms	Low
Rough grazing	Low
Plantation	Low
Managed woodland (Newton & Gaugers Burn)	Low

## **Magnitude of Impact**

### **Archaeological remains**

#### ***Construction***

- 7.6.9 Of the archaeological sites, 4 no. (sites 1, 3, 5 & 6) are known only through documentary evidence with approximate locations provided by ACAS; therefore, the magnitude of the impacts is unknown.
- 7.6.10 There would be no direct impact from scheme on the remaining archaeological assets and, as such, the magnitude of the impacts would be negligible.

#### ***Operation***

- 7.6.11 It is anticipated that there would be no impacts to archaeological remains during this phase.

### **Historic buildings and structures**

#### ***Construction***

- 7.6.12 The scheme would come within 25m of the Category C gates at West Lodge (site 13) in order to tie into the A937 at Gauger Bridge. Although there are no alterations to the gates and the works will ultimately result in maintaining access to the Category B Johnston Lodge via the private road along Gaugers Burn, access will be impacted due to construction works, associated machinery movement and added visual and noise intrusion. There may also be impact due to the locations of material storage areas, temporary facilities for use of construction workers, and other enabling works. This could result in temporary moderate adverse impacts to that asset.
- 7.6.13 The scheme will have no direct or indirect impact on Beattie Lodge.
- 7.6.14 The scheme will have no direct impact on the undesignated historic sites and structures as the realignment is only slightly further away from the current road layout.

#### ***Operation***

- 7.6.15 The scheme will not impact upon the existing relationship between Category C listed gates at West Lodge. The gates could be affected by increased vehicle movement and traffic noise; none the less, the magnitude of such an impact is estimated to be negligible.

### **Historic landscapes**

#### ***Construction***

- 7.6.16 The construction phase will result in a temporary moderate adverse impact upon some of the rectilinear fields and farms through the removal of trees and vegetation and construction works, including changes to access, associated vehicle and machinery movement, the insertion of

storage areas, temporary facilities, and other enabling works, all of which could also result in visual and noise intrusions within the landscape.

7.6.17 The scheme will result in a temporary moderate adverse impact upon the managed woodland area along Gaugers Burn through visual and noise intrusion associated with the insertion of the realigned A90.

7.6.18 The remaining landscapes will not be affected by the scheme and therefore overall there would be no impact to these.

### ***Operation***

7.6.19 The scheme will introduce a minor adverse impact to some of the southern rectilinear fields and farm areas by cutting across them and reducing their size; however, the realignment is largely in parallel with the existing A90, and the current access roads to the south will remain intact, therefore the visual and noise intrusion will be largely in keeping with the baseline.

7.6.20 The proposed link road would continue from the south junction to the B9120 (road to Garvock) in parallel to the existing A90 alignment. This would produce a negligible impact upon the 1 no. field through which it traverses as it would be immediately adjacent to the A90.

7.6.21 The limited removal of trees and other vegetation will produce a minor adverse impact to the managed woodland area along Gaugers Burn where the scheme will connect to the existing local access road.

7.6.22 The remaining landscapes will not be affected by the scheme and therefore overall there would be no impact to these.

### **Significance of Effects**

7.6.23 Table 7-13 summarises the significance of the effects of the construction and operation phases of the scheme upon the historic environment.

### ***Construction***

7.6.24 As the locations of 4 no. archaeological sites (1, 3, 5, 6) are only known through documentary evidence, it is unknown whether they have any buried remains or if the scheme would impact them.

7.6.25 There also remains the potential for currently unknown archaeological sites to be encountered throughout the construction of the option. At this stage the significance of the effect upon the unrecorded archaeological record is unknown.

7.6.26 There would be moderate adverse effects on the Category C gates at West Lodge (site 13), of low value, resulting in a temporary impact of slight adverse significance.

7.6.27 There would be moderate adverse effects arising from the temporary works on the managed woodland around Gaugers Burn and on the rectilinear farms and fields within the scheme footprint, both of low value, resulting in an impact of slight adverse significance.

***Operation***

7.6.28 There are no effects to known archaeological remains, and any impacts upon unknown subsurface remains will take place during the construction phase.

7.6.29 Access to Category B Johnston Lodge will be retained and, therefore, the effect of the scheme in operation would be of negligible significance.

7.6.30 There would be minor adverse effects upon the rectilinear fields and farms and the managed woodland at Gaugers Burn, of negligible significance.

Table 7-13: Significance of effects

Map No.	Name	Value	Magnitude		Significance	
			Construction	Operational	Construction	Operational
1	Poss. hunting lodge, Garvock Parish	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown	Neutral
2	Findspot: stone axe	Negligible	Negligible.	None	Neutral	Neutral
3	Poss. holy well, Laurencekirk	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown	Neutral
4	Findspot: Roman coins	Negligible	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
5	Poss. site of St Medan's Well	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown	Neutral
6	Poss. manor, Mains of Newton	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown	Neutral
7	Findspot: Roman coin	Negligible	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
8	Site of Bronze Age burial cairn	Negligible	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
9	Enclosed garden	Low	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
10	Laurencekirk War Memorial	Low	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
11	Laurencekirk Memorial Park	Low	Negligible	None	Neutral	Neutral
12	Former Drill Hall, 244 High Street	Low	None	None	Neutral	Neutral
13	Johnston Lodge - West Lodge Gates	Medium	Mod.	Negligible	Slight	Neutral
14	Beattie Lodge	Medium	None	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Urban area	Low	No change	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Recreation area (Kinneir Square)	Low	No change	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Agricultural planned village (both)	Low	No change	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Rectilinear fields and farms (combined)	Low	Mod.	Minor	Slight adverse	Negligible
-	Rough grazing (combined)	Low	No change	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Plantation	Low	No change	None	Neutral	Neutral
-	Managed woodland (Newton & Gaugers Burn)	Low	Mod.	Minor	Slight	Negligible

## 7.7 Impacts on Policy and Legislation

7.7.1 The anticipated impacts on legislation, policy and guidance are shown in Table 7-14.

**Table 7-14: Compliance with legislation, policy and guidance**

Document	Impact
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Scheme would not impact the Act.
Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014	Scheme would not impact the Act.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997	Mitigation strategies will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the Act in relation to Listed Buildings to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction.
Roads (Scotland) Act 1984	Production of EIA addresses requirements of the Act.
Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017	Production of EIA addresses requirements of the Regulations.
Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement 2016	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the Act in relation to Listed Buildings to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction.
Scottish Planning Policy 2014	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the policy where it relates to archaeological remains. Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the policy in relation to Listed Buildings to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction.
National Planning Framework 3	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the policies where they relate to archaeological remains.
PAN 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies within the policies within NPF3 where they relate to archaeological remains.
Historic Environment Scotland 2016: Managing Change in the Historic Environment Setting	Scheme would create a major road system across a landscape of small farms linked by a historical network of tracks and field access lanes. In following the advance in this guidance note, the assessment has concluded that the changes to the landscape are only slightly adverse to baseline conditions. Therefore, the scheme would comply with the advice in this guidance note.
Historic Environment Scotland 2010: Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Boundaries	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the advice in this guidance note in relation to Listed Buildings to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction. Scheme would create a major road system across a landscape of small farms linked by a historical network of tracks and field access lanes, thus coming into conflict with the advice in this guidance note.

Document	Impact
	Scheme would create a major road system across a landscape of small farms linked by a network of historical tracks and field access lanes. In following the advice in this guidance note, the assessment has concluded that the changes to the landscape are only slightly adverse to baseline conditions. Therefore, the scheme would comply with the advice in this guidance note.
Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme complies with the policies within the plan where they relate to archaeological remains and to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction.
Aberdeenshire Council Local Development Plan 2017	Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme would comply within policies HE1 and HE2. Mitigation measures will be required to ensure that the scheme would comply with the policy in relation to Listed Buildings to ensure protection of the Category C West Lodge Gates at Johnston Lodge due to close proximity during construction.

## 7.8 Recommended Mitigation Measures

- 7.8.1 The works between Gaugers Burn and Laurencekirk Memorial Park are all online, apart from a 450m side road immediately adjacent to the southeast side of the A90 linking Frain Drive to the B9102. As such, there would be no significant effects on recorded cultural heritage assets along that stretch of the scheme.
- 7.8.2 There is the potential for remains of the unlocated archaeological assets to survive within the footprint of the scheme. There is also the possibility that further unrecorded subsurface archaeological remains to exist within the footprint of the scheme.
- 7.8.3 In accordance with consultations with HES and ACAS detailed in section 7.4, and using guidelines of ClfA regulations, standards and guidelines (Ref 7.2), it is recommended that a preliminary programme of trial trenching should be undertaken in off-line greenfield areas prior to construction within the areas potentially containing archaeological remains, to identify and record features, deposits and/or artefacts. Any mitigation measures should be presented as a written scheme of investigation (WSI) and should be agreed with ACAS.
- 7.8.4 It is recommended that the site induction for the construction phase should make all site operatives aware of the potential for buried archaeological material to be uncovered during the works. The main contractor and subcontractors would be obliged to facilitate any archaeological oversight and investigations that the project archaeologist and/or ACAS deem desirable or necessary.



## **7.9 Residual Effects**

- 7.9.1 It is assumed that further mitigation would not be required after the scheme has been completed and, as such, residual impacts will remain as assessed in Impact Assessment 7.6.

## **7.10 Limitations**

- 7.10.1 The impact of the scheme on unlocated or unrecorded subsurface archaeological remains which may survive within footprint of the options is currently unknown. The recommended mitigation measures set out in section 7.8 will ensure that potential archaeological remains are identified and risks to the scheme are minimised or removed.

## **7.11 Conclusions**

- 7.11.1 A study area of 300m from the centre line of the scheme was defined and used to create a baseline of cultural heritage receptors around Laurencekirk, from which it was concluded that 1 no. Category C Listed Building and 2 no. areas of historic landscapes could potentially experience a slight adverse effect from the scheme, though the impacts were determined to be mainly temporary in nature.
- 7.11.2 There is significant potential for unknown subsurface archaeological remains to survive within the footprint of the scheme, particularly in the agricultural fields that comprise much of the rural setting within which the offline elements of the scheme are situated. For that reason, it is recommended that a WSI is produced to propose mitigation measures, including preliminary trial trenching.