

In a field to the north-east of Balmuildy fort, north of the Antonine Wall and south of the River Kelvin, is the site of a Roman temporary camp. The camp is visible in aerial photographs, but nothing is visible on the ground.

HISTORY OF DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION:

The Balmuildy camp was first discovered from aerial photographs in 1951, but no visible remains found during site inspections. Further aerial photographs from the 1970s and 1980s have confirmed the site's existence. No excavations have taken place within the camp.

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION:

Examination of aerial photographs has confirmed the camp's dimensions, giving it an internal area of about 4.7ha (12 acres). The camp was oriented on a north-east to south-west axis, and entrance gaps have been identified in the centre of its south-west and north-east defences. The camp featured at least one annexe: a small enclosed area on its north-east side enclosing an additional 0.62ha (1.5 acres), and a possible secondary annexe adjacent to this. The possible second annexe

(perhaps about 0.64ha in area) is represented by cropmarks and the full dimensions are uncertain. These annexes are significant, as only two other camps along the Antonine Wall (Little Kerse and Polmonthill) are known to have an annexe (although the probable temporary camps underlying the Bar Hill and Croy Hill forts appear to also have had annexe areas) and, if the second feature is indeed an annexe, it would be the only example in Britain of a Roman camp with more than one annexe.

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