## Trial Trenching

Archaeological trial trenching of the pit like features identified by the 2016 geophysical survey (commissioned by Transport Scotland) was also undertaken. In summary:

- A total of 10 trial trenches were excavated and each of the possible pits was trenched;
- No burials or other archaeological features were present in any of the trenches with the anomalies identified by the 2016 geophysical survey resulting from geological and natural processes such as localised iron-panning or peat deposits formed over the natural sub-soil; and
- While the geophysical survey undertaken in 2018 identified no anomalies of definite archaeological potential, 4 trial trenches were excavated over a sample of the larger geological anomalies to confirm their interpretation as natural features. It confirmed that these features were natural in origin.





Trial trenching, Killiecrankie Battlefield, June 2018.



#### Extent of trial trenching, June 2018.





## Metal Detecting

The metal detecting undertaken in June 2018 supplemented metal detecting undertaken by Pollard and Oliver (2003) and GUARD Archaeology (2015) (commissioned by Transport Scotland). Approximately 18 hectares of additional metal detecting was undertaken with 1432 metal objects retrieved from the survey areas shown. The analysis of the finds suggest that 33 relate to the battle and comprise:

- 8 lead shot;
- 9 impacted shot or splatter shot;
- 5 buckles; and
- 11 horseshoes.

Some of the finds from the 2018 metal detecting are on display today.





Splattered Lead Shot.

Buckles.



Metal Detecting Survey, Killiecrankie Battlefield, June 2018.











Horseshoes.



Musket and Pistol Shot.





# Metal Detecting (Continued)

The results of the 2018 metal detecting generally supports the results of the 2003 and 2015 metal detecting surveys and understanding of the battle. In particular:

- There is a widespread distribution of finds between the Allt Chluain and the Allt Girnaig; • The recovery of munitions from Field F10 provides further evidence for more intensive
- fighting to the west of the battlefield as indicated by the 2015 survey;
- There is additional evidence for intensive fighting in the form of munitions recovered from Field F7 and F8. However, the concentration of munitions recovered from the southern edge of a small terrace in the west of Field F7 (which was interpreted by Pollard and Oliver (2003) as evidence for the final volley from the Government forces at the Jacobites), did not extend eastwards. This may reflect localised changes in topography with the transition from a terrace to moderate slope providing greater visibility of the charging Jacobites; and
- While the recovery of munitions from Field F9 may indicate fighting in the area, the low concentration of munitions here, and the absence of any munitions in Skirmish Fields 1 and 2 does not suggest that this was intense.

The results of the archaeological investigations have added to the corpus of information on the battlefield. In our view, the results of these investigations confirm the baseline and assessment of impact presented in the Environmental Statement and, should the proposed scheme be consented, will help to inform the further archaeological mitigation identified in the Environmental Statement.



The terrace in Field F7 may have partially shielded the Jacobites from fire from the Government troops below.











### **Design Refinements - Overview**

In parallel to progressing the archaeological investigations we have been working to refine elements of the scheme design to minimise the footprint and Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in a number of areas of the Killiecrankie Battlefield which include:

- Refinement of Aldclune Junction northbound diverge slip road, reducing land take in Fields F1 and F2;
- Steepening earthworks slopes and verge cross-section modifications to reduce land take in Fields F5, F6 and F7; and
- A refinement of the SuDS (Sustainable Drainage System) features at the Allt Girnaig watercourse to reduce land take in Field F9.

Further information regarding the design refinements is described on the following panels, but please come and speak to a member of the team who will be happy to explain the materials on display in further detail.



Looking West from Glen Girnaig towards Aldclune over the site of the Killiecrankie Battlefield.



