



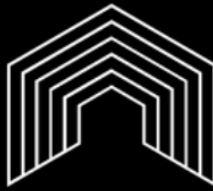
BANKHEAD DEVELOPMENTS

THORNIEHILL, STRATHAVEN ROAD, LIMEKILNBURN
CUSTOM DESIGN AND BUILD PLOTS

Be part of history living on this important historic site. We will bring these WW2 Anti Aircraft battery buildings back to life and create your dream home.

These eco houses will be built on 2 acre plus plots with paddocks. From 5000 ft² to 9000 ft² of Architecturally unique and sustainable detached dwellings.





HISTORY OF THE SITE

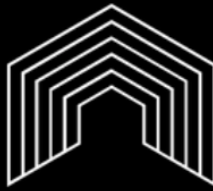
During the later part of the 19th Century and the early 20th Century the site had a loch in the south-west corner. In the winter months it was often used for local curling championships when the loch was frozen over. Many of the curlers were miners from local pits and would compete with other mining pits and villages in the local area.



Circa 1864

Due to its location high above the valley, the site generally remains above the mist and was therefore used during both World War I & II to station aircrafts. Also, between the wars, the Duke of Hamilton would sponsor air shows on the site and was noted as being the winter home of the Flying Circus.





As part of the country's defences for the Clyde Valley, the site was a natural location for the Anti-Aircraft Battery during World War II. The site was then known as 'Thorniehill'. Throughout the war, from 1939 to 1945, four 3.7/4.5-inch AA gun emplacements were manned along with a command post and gun laying platform. The site was used to great effect to target German bombers heading to Clydebank on night raids. The site was decommissioned and all personnel removed in 1956. The site has been used as farmland ever since.



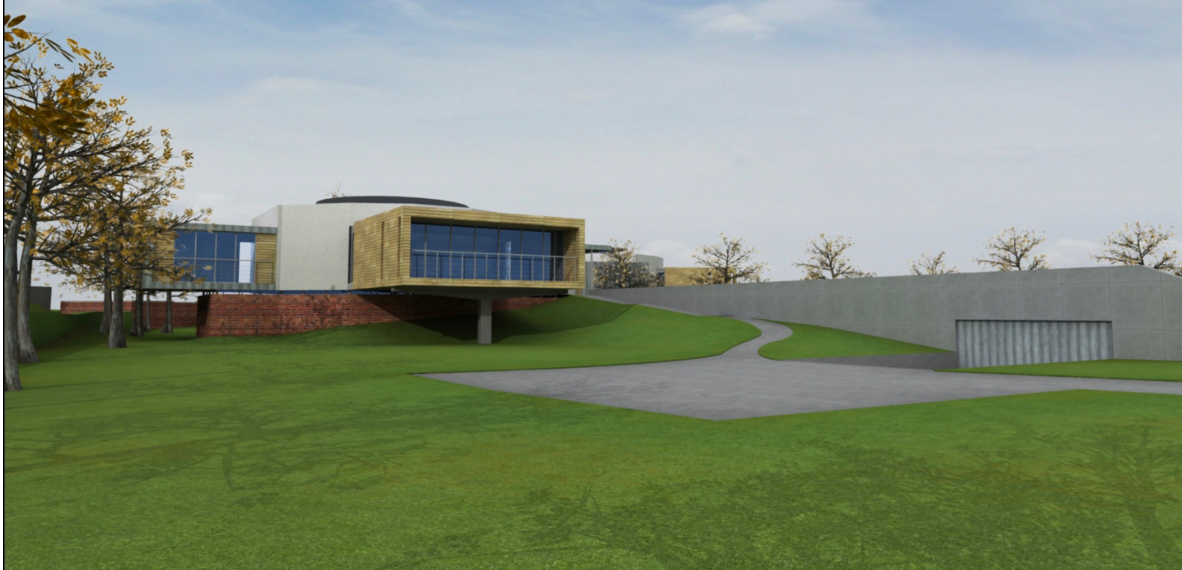
THE VISION

The vision of the Architect and indeed the planners was to bring the site back to life for a happier purpose but still retain the proud history and heritage of the site. The houses will “float” above the existing structures leaving them connected to the ground and to history.

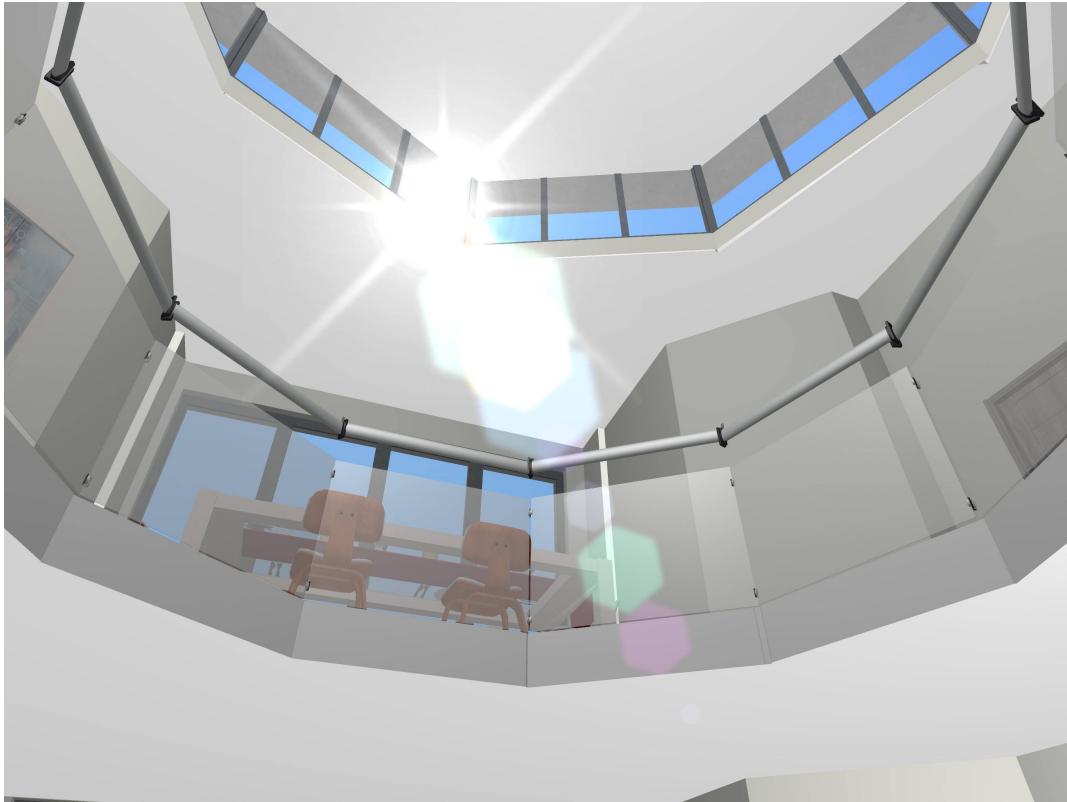




These near passive houses will be built to the highest building standards with treble glazing, air source heat pumps, solar panels and wind turbines. A proposal has been developed sensitive to the scale, setting and materials of the existing buildings. These buildings will be used in their entirety, providing all of the ground floor accommodation. This crucial component of the proposals is easily recognisable in the design drawings, thus respecting and preserving the historical context of the buildings. It is extended upwards from the brick base with a clerestory of glazing creating a visible break between the old and the new materials allowing light into the inner spaces of the ground floor. The only extensions, out with the original hexagonal form, are the 3 boxes projecting outwards, symbolic of WWII gun and watchtowers. On either side, cantilevered over the former engine and crew rooms, are two of the boxes. One forms the main entrance and the other the master bedroom. Here, the extensions are finished in zinc, a metal which symbolises the military in its material and colour. The other extension is the main living space, in the form of a timber box floating above the landscape below, orientated out towards the open views of the countryside and beyond.



A central feature of the design is the former circular gun holdfast mounting. This is the heart of the home, forming a central focus and circulation point that every space opens onto. The void rises from the ground through the upper floor to a hexagon glazed atrium lifted above the wall head of the hexagon perimeter form; making it obvious to those on the outside that the original core of the emplacement is still in existence. The cone shaped roof is again finished in zinc.



View from Ground Floor to Atrium

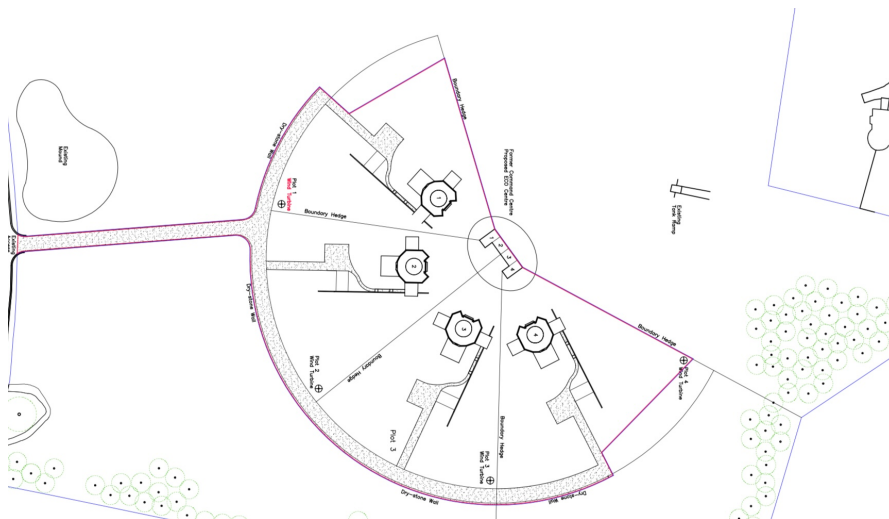


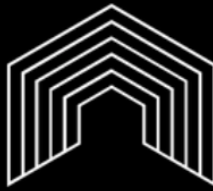
View from Snug in open plan central Kitchen



The approach to each of the houses is via the reinstatement of the existing access road curving around the outside of the original emplacements. From here each house will have electric gates leading to a private driveway and parking area and down into a sunken underground garage. On the opposite side of the road a track leads to each of the individual stable blocks. The stables are designed to replicate the footprint of the original gun emplacements and are finished in exposed brick, to match the existing, with a traditional slated roof. The entrance to each house is via a footpath that rises up the embankment along the edge of a new concrete wall that cuts through the landscape in the form of a battle rampart that leads the visitors' eye towards the entrance.

From the lower level, via an underground link, there is access to the garage, located at the end of the concrete wall. The garage is buried below the new landscaped banking reminiscent of a war time bunker.





CONSTRUCTION

The development will start early in 2023 with all houses being built at the same time to ensure the road and final finishes are completed before client entry.

The exterior of all 4 houses will be identical, but the internal design can be tailored to suit the individual clients requirements.

This is a custom build project with the land being purchased separately and the house then being built by Bankhead Developments Ltd. This provides a substantial saving of around £70k on stamp duty.

All kitchens, bathrooms, tiles, finishings etc. will be to the clients own specification.

This truly is a rare opportunity to be part of a unique development that feels very rural but still close to all amenities, with Hamilton 1.3 miles away and Strathaven only 3.6.



Bankhead Developments has a well earned reputation for completing complex developments like this to a high standard time after time with client and Architect testimonials to prove it.

We are excited to transform this historic site into truly unique homes.