

Report of

An Archaeological Survey of

GLEN FESHIE, Inverness-shire



Produced through the North of Scotland Archaeological Society with financial assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund

Contents

- 1. Location of project
- 2. Introduction
- 3. Method
- 4. Historical background
- 5. Map of survey area with location of sites
- 6. Gazetteer of archaeological sites
 - A. Glen Feshie

¥ .,

- B. Allt Fhearnasdail
- 7. Appendix 1. The Duchess of Bedford, Sir Edwin Landseer and "The Huts"
- 8. Appendix 2 Census Records 1841 1901
- 9. Appendix 3 Roys Military map 1750 Thomsons map 1830

Location of survey area



Introduction

The aims of this project were to survey and record the archaeology of Glen Feshie, south of the settlement of Tolvah (GR NN844995) and of Glen Fhearnasdail, south of the Allt Fhearnasdail, which is located southwest of Tolvah. This would appear to be a huge task, as it involves many square kilometres of heathery upland and mountains, with an altitude of between 300m and 1,200m. The actual area prospected was perhaps 20 square kilometres. Most of the archaeology was inevitably located along the valley floors. An ariel survey carried out in 1995 by The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) was particularly helpful.

Glen Feshie has been a favourite location of mine for many years. I first visited the area in 1964 and have since spent many happy hours exploring the glen and the adjacent region. Following my completion of the Certificate of Field Archaeology through Aberdeen University in 1998, it seemed an obvious target to focus my attention on. The project combined three of my greatest interests - the mountains, archaeology and mapping. From the outset I was determined that I was going to enjoy the work and so I did not set deadlines.

The River Feshie is a tributary of the River Spey. It rises in the hills to the southwest of the Cairngorm mountains close to the boundary with the Atholl and Mar Estates. It flows NE for 6 kilometres before turning abruptly to the NW. This point, at 550m altitude, is significant in that it is the watershed with the Geldie Water and forms a natural route through to the SE. It was the most remote location of my survey. After a further 9kms running NW, the river turns north and continues for 8kms to Tolvah where it is joined by the Allt Fhearnasdail from the west. The upper half of the course of the river is through barren exposed mountain country at an altitude of over 450m, no habitation and only the remains of a few shielings are to be found. The lower northerly half is a glaciated U shaped glen with a flat valley floor and steep heathery sides. The eastern slopes of the Cairngorm mountains rise steeply out of the glen to a height of 1,200m. Inevitably they attract the rough weather from the west. The glen is renowned for its wet and windy weather and the river is prone to flash flooding in the wintertime. The course of the river is much braided and there are several tributaries, some of these have deposited small fertile fluvial outwashes on the valley floor.

There are two permanently occupied settlements in the glen (at Carnachuin and at Achlean), a Shooting Lodge, three holiday cottages and an open bothy (at Ruigh-Aiteachan). Most of the glen is part of the Glen Feshie Estate which is maintained as a sporting estate, however there are some small plantations of commercial woodland. There are a few remnants of the indigenous Caledonian pine forest and also some mixed pine and birch woods, these are being encouraged. Forest Enterprise manage a larger commercial forest at Tolvah, and Achlean is maintained as a farm with mixed cattle and sheep. Public access by car to the glen is as far as Achlean on the east side where there is a large car park, and Tolvah on the west side of the river, after which a private road (no unauthorised vehicles) traverses the glen as far as Carnachuin. The glen is much frequented by hill walkers, bikers and nature lovers.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following for their help and support

- John Wood, Senior Archaeologist, Highland Council and staff
- Glen Feshie Estate
- Bob Steward, Archivist, Highland Council
- RCAHMS for the Arial survey

Method

The project was started in the Winter of 1999-2000. I had studied the RCAHMS publications on NE Perthshire and the Mar Lodge Estate, reports on surveys of similar archaeological landscapes. Using them as models, I set out to collect information and to produce a similar document on the archaeological features of Glen Feshie. It was always going to be an amateur project, but at least it was something to aspire to!

Over the next few years I averaged 6 or 7 days a year of fieldwork in the glen, until the Summer of 2003 when, finding myself with a little more time, I was able to finish the job.

I had consulted the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Canmore, the website of the RCAHMS, for sites recorded already. The RCAHMS produced copies of oblique ariel photographs taken in 1995. The Roy map of 1750 and the Thomson map of 1830 were also particularly helpful and of course the 1st and 2nd editions of the OS survey.

I walked over the area, inspecting likely locations. The archaeology of the glen has been relatively well preserved because of subsequent land use, so features were easily spotted. Bracken was not a problem, but very often some of the features were grossly overgrown with heather. Inevitably every square metre has not been covered and some features will have been missed. I did not, for instance, prospect some of the more remote burns and corries where there may well be shielings. For safety's sake, I usually took a companion when visiting the higher, more remote locations. On many occasions a bicycle proved useful for a quick "lift" up the glen and an even quicker descent after a long day in the field!

Three main phases of land use were identified in the glen, these are represented by their archaeological remains. Firstly, the remains of possible medieval shielings and later townships. Secondly the remnants of a period of sheep-farming and lastly the features associated with the sporting estate in the 19th and 20th centuries. Not surprisingly, this is very similar to the features recorded in the archaeological survey of the Mar Lodge Estate, adjacent and to the southeast. In Glen Feshie, the remnants of structures associated with military field training during World War 2 are also represented.

My objective was to take a grid reference, write a description and photograph each feature, and to make a plan of each settlement, identifying each feature on it. The plan would also give an impression of the shape, size, axis and approximate composition of each feature.

Grid references (GR) for the earlier sites recorded are 6 figures only. The later ones are ten figures, apart from those where it was difficult to get a reading with a GPS - in trees or under crags.

I used a voice recorder for the descriptions. Most measurements were roughly taken by pacing. Internal measurements of buildings were usually recorded, the rough height of the remaining walls, and description of their composition, other details such as internal partitions, entrances or annexes and associations with other features were noted.

A survey of each settlement at a scale of 1:2,500 was made, using compass and pacing techniques. This was drawn up using OCAD, an orienteering cartographic drawing programme, the symbols of which were modified to represent archaeological features and which would give an indication as to the state of preservation of the remains

Each feature was photographed using a film camera. The photographs are reproduced in the gazetteer. In retrospect it would perhaps have been better to use a digital camera and to put the photographs on a disc to accompany the report.

27 settlements (or clusters of buildings) were recorded, with a total of 293 individual archaeological features. Copies of the full report are to be deposited with the Sites and Monuments Record (Highland Council), National Monument Record of Scotland, Historic Scotland, Kingussie Folk Museum and the North of Scotland Archaeological Society.

Historical Background

A search of the historic and cartographic sources of the Glen Feshie area was undertaken. Many hours were spent at the Inverness Reference library, the Archives, and the Highland Council SMR. A day and a half was spent at the National Archive of Scotland in Edinburgh. The most useful maps located were those of Avery 1735, Roy 1752, Thomson 1830 and the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps, 1869 and 1903 respectively.

The glen has been a "through route" from Badenoch in the north, to Blair Atholl and Braemar in the south, for many hundreds of years. Two early routes crossing the Grampian mountains, "Comyns Route" and the "Minigaig Pass" lie a short distance to the west. These were the main North-South routes prior to the Wade road over the Drumochter in 1730. It would seem quite reasonable to believe that travellers heading for the NE would have descended Glen Feshie from the summit of the Minigaig Pass. It is documented that Edward III led an expedition from Perth to Lochindorb in 1336, marching his army through Blair Atholl, Glen Feshie and Strathspey. There was a major droving route through the glen linking Badenoch on the main North-South droving route with the south and southeast in the 18th and 19th centuries. Several proposals to construct a road through the glen have been suggested over the years , but none have come to fruition. A map produced by Avery in 1735 shows the line of the proposed route, "from Ruthven in Badenoch to Braemar", to be constructed as part of the scheme to link the government garrisons and control the Highlands following the 1715 rebellion. In 1828 the Commissioners for Highland Roads and Bridges considered the Glen Feshie - Glen Geldie route, as one of the options for a new North-South road and even in 1953, a road was being considered through the glen to Braemar.

Glen Feshie is in the Parish of Alvie but it has not always been so. Prior to 1833 the east bank only was in the parish, the west bank formed part of the parish of Insh, which at the time was joined with Kingussie. It was not until 1931 that Insh was joined with Alvie.

Land Ownership and Tenancy

Sorting out the landownership and tenancy has been a complex and difficult task for several reasons. The fact that the glen was seen as two separate parts, even at an early stage, led to confusion. Very often Glenfeshie was referred to in documents, implying the whole of the glen when, in actual fact, it was only a part of it. In 1753, a third section in the very upper reaches of the glen was leased separately, this too was referred to as "Glenfeshie". Another factor was the changes in name of some of the owners, particularly applicable to the western or Inversehie part. The variety of names and spellings for the same place led to confusion and last but not least my own inexperience in investigating these matters did not help.

Scrope in his "Days of Deer Stalking in the Scottish Highlands" (1883) writes the following, attributing the quote to Cluny McPherson, chief of Clan Chattan:

"The Earls of Huntly possessed in former times by far the most extensive range of hills and deer forests in Great Britain, they commenced at Ben Avon in Banff-shire and terminated at Ben Nevis, a distance of seventy miles. This immense tract of land was divided into seven distinct portions, each of which was given in charge to the most influential gentleman in its neighbourhood. Braefeshie formed one of these portions, its extent was 15 square miles".

The forests of Badenoch and Lochaber had been gifted to the Earl of Huntly (later Duke of Gordon) in 1452 for services to King James II at the battle of Brechin. The section of the Forest of Glenfeshie east of the River Feshie was held in feu from the Duke of Gordon by Lachlan Mackintosh of Mackintosh and that part west of the river was part of the estates held by the Macpherson of Invereshie.

The Mackintosh Chiefs of Clan Chattan had been connected with the Parish of Alvie since the 13th Century (Fraser Mackintosh, 1863, p407). Lands which included Dalnavert and South Kinrara (now Inshriach), were made over to Lachlan Mackintosh, Chief of the Clan, by the Earl of Huntly, in 1568 as compensation for the beheading of his father, William Mackintosh, whilst on a social call to the Earl of Huntly in 1550.

In the early titles, Glenfeshie is described as "the Summer Shielings of Dalnavert". Evidence of shieling activities appears in other documents and also in the place names, but the time at which these sheiling

grounds were settled on a more permanent basis is difficult to determine. By the middle of the 18th century however, Achleum-a-choid and Rie na Bruaich seem to have been established as settlements, with rentals being made to the Mackintosh. Sheep farming was introduced to the glen in the middle of the 18th century too, but there is no evidence to indicate that people were cleared at this time.

Angus Macpherson had been the first to possess the Invereshie estates on the west side of the River Feshie. In 1626, he obtained "the wadset of Corriearnstil, Cantellaid (Ballintean) and Inneressie (Invereshie)" and later acquired the heritable right of Invereshie by disposition and feu contract of George, Marquis of Huntly in 1637 (Fraser Mackintosh, 1863, p391). Corarnstil appears on the early Gordon map of 1650.

The estates were sold to Macpherson of Dalraddie in ?1694 when Elias Macpherson of Invereshie fell into serious pecuniary difficulties, he died in 1697, without issue. John 2nd of Dalraddie assumed the name Invereshie (and Dalraddie). He was succeeded by his son George, who in 1731 married Grace, daughter of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch. Their son William succeeded but died unmarried in 1812. He was followed by his nephew George, born in 1781. In 1806, George had inherited the estate of Ballindalloch through his fathers maternal uncle, General James Grant of Ballindalloch, and now assumed the surname Grant. He was made a Baronet in 1838 and was MP for Sutherland from 1830 to 1846. He was:

"shrewd, ambitious and determined, party and men were made subservient to his wishes, and he was steadily successful. He bought up at great expense all the ridiculous but burdensome stipulations in his Gordon charters, finally acquiring not only the freehold of Invereshie, but the lands of Invertromie, and also a great slice of the Gordon Kingussie lands" (Fraser McIntosh, 1863, p 394).

George Macpherson of Invereshie leased the upper part of the glen from the Duke of Gordon in 1753, specifically for sheep rearing. In 1806 it was advertised for sale and in 1816 it was bought by his successor, George Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch (NAS GD 44/28/59/39). The over-wintering of sheep proved problematical and by the early part of the 19th century more profit could be made by letting the glen as a sporting estate. Macpherson Grant was particularly active in pursuing this way forward, leasing the Invereshie part of the glen to the Duke and Duchess of Bedford in 1824 and then Edward Ellice in 1833. The Duchess leased the Mackintosh part of the glen from 1833 until her death in 1853. There followed other shooting tenants and in 1873, Macpherson Grant leased the Mackintosh part of the glen on a more permanent basis (NAS GD 176/1487). He now had control of the whole of the glen and was to buy the Mackintosh portion in ?1925. It was a most desirable shooting estate and was let for over a century to various shooting tenants at steadily increasing rents.

Coire Fhearnasdail meanwhile continued as pastoral land, for a time supporting a succession of sheep farmers, but by the middle of the 19th century the settlements in the more marginal uplands, Tom Fhada Lynavragit and Luibean Ruadh, were deserted as the residents moved away, most likely to the nearby villages of Insh and Kingussie. Today, sheep still graze the grassy slopes in the summertime, but there is no one in permanent residence.

Between 1942 and 1946, the glen and the Lodge were requisitioned and used for military training by Highland Fieldcraft Training Centre. The Canadian Forestry Corps were encamped by the Tolvah burn

The estate was sold in 1994 to the Wills Woodland Trust and changed hands again in 1997 when it was bought by Klaus Helmersen from Copenhagen, Denmark, who owns it today.

The Hunting Forest and Pre-Improvement Period

The "Forrest of Glenfishie" is mentioned in an Act of Parliament of 1685. It seems to have been maintained as a hunting forest, although no documentary records of it being used as such were located. It is likely that the glen was used for summer grazing by black cattle. There was also exploitation of the woods for timber. Scrope (1883) again:

"The whole of this vast tract (the land between Ben Avon and Ben Nevis) was not solely appropriate for breeding deer, for tenants were allowed to erect shielings in the confines of

the forest and their cattle were permitted to pasture as far as they chose during the day, but they were bound to bring them back to the shielings in the evenings; and such as were left in the forest over night were liable to be poinded.

These regulations answered very well between Huntly and his tenants, but they made an opening for small proprietors, who held in fee from the Gordon family, to make encroachments, and in course of time to acquire a property to which they had not the smallest legal title".

"No alteration took place in these forests till after the Rebellion of 1745 when the whole was let for grazing, with the exception of Gaick which the Duke of Gordon continued as a deer forest until the year 1788"

And Bil (1990, p102):

"Forest owners actively encouraged settlement and agriculture in the neighbourhood of their forests even though it carried the risk of more permanent future expansion. As early as 1669 shiels were ordered to be erected in the Forest of Atholl to counter the encroachments of people from adjoining districts of Badenoch and Mar. At the turn of the 18th century Killiehuntley was ordered to grass in a place near the boundary between the Forests of Atholl and Spey, chiefly to prevent Speyside trespassers from encroaching on the grounds of the Forest of Atholl. Forest boundary keeping was an important function of shielings.

It was not unknown though for grazing pressure within the forest to rise beyond the carrying capacity of the land where overstocked shielings competed too successfully with the deer and very often shieling activities were banned or resited to less exhausted zones of the forest".

Evidence of shielings in the upper part of Glen Feshie is provided by the gaelic name Ruighe, Rie or Rea which means "outstretched base of a mountain or shieling ground" (Gaelic dictionary). Bil, 1990, (p34) describes Ruighe and Rie (possibly derived from "Airigh") as terms connected with shieling activities. In Glen Feshie there are settlements or shieling sites with the place-names of Rie-na-bruach, Ruighe Aitcheachan, Ruigh-Fionntaig, Rie Leame and Rea Gauldy. Rea Gauldy is a shieling site on the watershed between the Rivers Feshie and Geldie, the march between the Glenfeshie and Mar estates, it may well have been a "boundary patrolling" shieling

In the early titles of Dalnavert, Glenfeshie is described as "the Summer Shielings of Dalnavert" and it is clear from the following quote that Glen Feshie was closely connected with Dalnavert and South Kinrara, probably as shieling grounds but later as more permanent settlements.

"In 1726, John Shaw, Tackman of Kinrara, continuing in favour with his chief, obtains a tack of that part of Dalnavert called losal of Croftbeg and of Achleam-a-choid in Glenfeshie. In 1734 John Shaw gets a new lease of the three ploughs of Kinrara-na-choille, presently possessed by him and of Rie-na-bruaich in Glenfeshie".(Fraser Mackintoshs, 1898, p101-102)

In 1727, there is a Warrand of the Duke of Gordon to Invereshie for overseeing the Forrest of Glenfeshie: "you are to allow no horse or other cattle to be within the forrest of Glenfeshie or any other person to travel through the same with gunns". (NAS GD 44/28/15)

There may have been concern, as there had been on the Mar estates, regarding the over exploitation of the woods by the tenants. In 1726, the Mar estates had cleared people from Glen Lui in order to proceed with improvements and the sale of timber. It is clear that the woods in Glen Feshie were exploited for their timber. The map produced by Avery in 1735 is concerned primarily with the route of the road and the location of bridges, but it also marks extensive "Firr woods" in the lower glen and a saw mill on the east bank.

The Old Statistical Account (1792) for the Parish of Alvie states:

"One proprietor only has exclusive right to the woods on his own estate who is lately let a lot of it to a Company which will probably bring him £2000. The other woods are subjected to a servitude (ie all the feuars have an equal privilege which is on the whole a disadvantage to the tenants as on this account no melioration is allowed for houses and now all the principal wood is mangled and destroyed by this libertine mode of cutting.

There was a major droving route through the glen linking Badenoch on the main North-South droving route with Glen Geldie and Glen Tilt to the south and southeast and it is likely that the "driven" cattle provided extra pressure on the summer grazing of the forest. An Sgarsoch on the Atholl boundary is reputed in both Atholl and Mar folklore, to have been the location in former times of a horse and cattle market. In this remote spot near the junction of the three counties of Perth, Aberdeen and Inverness, it may have been a convenient place for dealing in goods, many of which were contraband (Scotlands Mountains before the Mountaineers - Ian Mitchell 1999 p. 66)

Sheepfarming and the Improvement Period

The rearing of sheep in Glenfeshie had commenced in 1753 when Invereshie had extended his leasing of lands specifically for that purpose, but it would also seem that the rearing of cattle by his tenants continued too, and it is not clear whether any of the population was removed from the glen at this time. If they did leave it is possible that they went voluntarily. The Old Statistical Account of 1792 for the parish of Kingussie and Insh states that "sheepfarming has not as yet made any considerable progress, black cattle is the primary object." In the Parish of Alvie the numbers of black cattle are 1,104, of horses 510 and of sheep 7,000.

The upper part of the glen was leased from the Duke of Gordon in 1753. This area of 13,706 Scots acres, east of "Craig Peek", is described in a survey of 1803, "The State and Situation of the Forrest of Feshie", (NAS GD 44/51/732/29). Craig Peek is assumed to be Creag Beag - GR NN 870892 and referred to on the Thomsons map of 1830 as Craig Peek. The survey was drawn up by George Brown for the Duke of Gordon and gives a good, albeit rosy account of the land use at the time and an indication of the attitude towards improvement. It mentions the Shealing of Rea Gaudy (probably Slionanaig/Stronavaity) at the march with Lord Fifes land, stating that the land to the south and west of the area:

"was high and stormie providing a great many fine spotts of grass, but not much value for pasture, tho' small black cattle and hill horses may in the summer months of June, July and August do prettie well there"

He mentions the "Shealings of Rie Learne and Inver Eidart" on the north side of the river and makes comment that the land in that vicinity, to the north and east of the Feshie:

"with a south and southwest exposure, containing sundry well sheltered valueable Corries, is very good sheep ground and well sheltered, and from the 10th of June till the end of September this ground alone would keep an immense number of sheep and when Geo Brown went over the ground Invereshies sheep stock was all there, and upon that part to the south, first mentioned, many cattle and horses of his tenants".

The assessment of the survey concludes that:

"providing there was land in the Strath suitable for wintering the stock, this ground would yield £300 (a year), but in the present state of the Duke of Gordons property in Badenoch that cannot be procured and the value is therefore lessened by two thirds. It would only be of interest to Invereshie and he is not ready to give an ?overvalue."

It goes on to comment:

"it might therefore turn out to ? to advertise it for sale. Some Englishman of fortune who was a sportsman might form great ideas of 13,706 Scots acres of property and there is no saying what it might bring. If Invereshie had any spunk, or ideas like other enterprising people, he would attempt some treatie betwixt this extensive grazing and the davoch of Dalraddie, but this is not a likely thing to happen. I shall only further observe, either kept as a Forrest or otherwise, out of his hands, his tenants would be ruined, and he obliged to curtail his sheep stock to very narrow limits. In any way of disposing of this ground, it might be proper to advertise it".

The problems, as far as sheep are concerned, seem to be lack of ground for over-wintering them. In 1812 an advertisement appeared in the Inverness Courier:

"Advertisement of the forest of Glenfeshie in Badenoch consisting of 13,706 acres, the property of the Duke of Gordon. It is adapted either for a summer grazing to black cattle or for shooting ground to a sportsman who might wish to preserve the tract for deer, moor game and ptarmigan, all of which abound in the adjoining hills and with which it would be abundantly stocked in a very short time, if carefully kept for this purpose".

In 1816, George Macpherson Grant, who had inherited the Invereshie estates on the death of his uncle William Macpherson in 1812, purchased the Forest for £3105.

Regarding land "improvement", the OSA of 1792 for Alvie states that:

"The gentlemen of the parish have begun of late to lime their lands resulting in luxuriant crops of corn and grass, but the inferior tenants cannot be prevailed on to adopt this mode of farming alleging as a cause their poverty and shortness of their leases from 5 to 9 years"

And by 1835 this situation had not greatly altered. The New Statistical Account (NSA) for the parish of Kingussie reports that:

"Still from the shortness of most of their leases, the still uncertain state of their crops and the length of land carriage, the common people continue in a very poor and uncomfortable state" "The system of agriculture followed by all respectable tenantry is the modern one of cropping by rotation, but the crofters and poorer tenants, partly from their aversion to the new scheme and partly from their indigent circumstances still pretty generally adhere to the old plan."

However there does seem to have been some changes. The NSA goes on:

"Within the last 40 years the parish has undergone many important alterations in its physical character. Great part of the bleak and barren land formerly supposed fit to be only the abode of wild beasts has been brought under cultivation."

"The march in improvement in agriculture and knowledge has been accompanied with many advantages, as in the erection of villages (It would appear that there was an increase in the number of the population residing in villages - 704, as compared with those in the country which totalled 929).

"The greater part of the parish now consists of large sheepwalks."

"Some sheep farmers have leases of 15 years and one tenant holds his farm for 19 years. The farm buildings of the better class are good, but those of the poorer sort are very indifferent".

The NSA for the parish on Alvie and Insh concurs with the situation regarding the poorer classes:

"In general no great attention has been paid to the improvement of sheep or black cattle and still less has been paid by the common or small tenants to the cultivation of soil. The absurd and unproductive system of farming pursued by their rude ancestors from time immemorial is still continued by tenants who have small holdings. Another insurmountable obstacle in the way of agricultural improvement is the absurd division of land among the small tenants. It is not uncommon to see a piece of land not half an acre in extent divided into five or six lots called run-rigs, which make it impossible for any one of the six to improve his small lot unless the other five concur with him."

"The long continuation of frosts in the month of May and the early visit of mildew in the month of August "blasts" potato crops and green corn."

"The farm buildings of the common tenants are most wretched hovels consisting of a few wooden couples joined together with cross spars and covered with a turf roof that requires to be renewed almost every second year."

"Considerable improvements in agriculture have been made of late by a few individuals (principally the landowners), whose example it is hoped others will be induced to follow."

Giving evidence to the Napier Commission in 1884, Sir George Macpherson Grant says:

"The present proprietor is informed that forty five or fifty years ago, the then proprietor and agricultural tenants of the low grounds grazed a certain number of sheep in Glenfeshie, but the difficulty of procuring winter grazing at the early period necessary rendered the summer grazing of little value"

He refers to the village if Insh which is held on an old building lease for 99 years, expiring in about 1920 or 1930, this would suggest that it was first occupied about 1820 or 1830. He describes the holdings as very small, with 2 acres of arable. The Session of the Parish of Insh (1861), also refers to the village of Insh being established in the second decade of the 19th century:

"10 crofts had been established for those folk removed from Glen Feshie" (Russell 1995) There appears to have been little reduction in the population of the parishes, but more of a redistribution to the villages as described in the SA.

Following the cessation of the Napoleonic Wars (1815), the country was able to import more provisions. There was a reduction in the demand for the produce of the Highlands and the price of cattle and sheep fell. Other means of revenue for the landowners and their tenants had to be found. In 1824 the Invereshie lands were leased to the Duke and Duchess of Bedford and in 1833 it was converted to a deer forest and

leased for the sport of shooting. The clearances that took place at this time were clearances of sheep and sheep farmers and not of people.

William Collie in his Memoirs describes how, when his father was appointed head forester of the Glenfeshie deer forest in 1833: "the sheep manager was to be left in the forest till the sheep were collected which took 2 years" and "In 1837 the sheep manager left and we all went to the Glen (Carn a Chunie house)"

Corrie Fhearnasdail remained pastoral and sheep farming continues there to this day. The census record of 1841 supplies the information that there were 10 households in the 6 settlements of Knockinbui, Corarnstilmore, Lynavragit, Tomfhad, Baileguish and Luibean Rhuadhin, with a population of 24 adults and 19 children. The heads of the households made their livelihood either as farmers or agricultural labourers. Two weavers are also mentioned. By 1881 this had dropped to 2 households, Corarnstilmore and Baileguish, with a population of 7 adults and 2 children (see Appendix 2)

The Shooting Estate

In the 1820s and 30s, as the profits from sheep farming declined and the fashion for hunting grew, more revenue could be made by letting the land as a sporting estate. The Duke and Duchess of Bedford leased the Invereshie estate annually from 1824 during the Autumn shooting season and it was at this time that a lodge was established at ?Ruigh Fionntaig (marked on a Telford plan of 1828). From 1833 until 1841, the Rt Hon Edward Ellice MP and General Balfour of Balbirnie (Scarlett, 1988, p69) were tenants and they established the glen as a deer forest. Georgina, Duchess of Bedford had leased the Mackintosh portion of the glen from 1833 and her settlement or "Lodge" was established at Ruigh Aitcheachan, sometimes known as "The Island". She developed an enduring affection for the glen, her main base however, when in the Highlands, remained the Doune of Rothiemurchus.

The painter Edwin Landseer had been introduced to the Highlands in 1824. He found much inspiration for his work, both in the animal life and the landscape of Glen Feshie. Ruigh-aiteachan is known to have been associated with Landseer and it is thought that it was the site for some of his wall frescos. The long term relationship between the Duchess of Bedford and Landseer is well known (see Appendix 1)

Patrick Collie, father of William Collie, was appointed headkeeper of the Invereshie estate in the glen in 1833. William, who later succeeded his father in this post, wrote his memoirs in later life and has given an insight into the working life of an employee on a sporting estate in those days.

He describes the means by which Glenfeshie was initially stocked with deer :

"On Sundays I would go three or four miles up the streams trout fishing, or else into the Mar and Atholl forests in search of young fawns. I could get £1 for every young fawn brought home alive. They were poached and I would be out all night for them. My father was the first who reared fawns on cows milk and that is how Glenfeshie forest was at first stocked"(p 70)

Over the following decades, the Glen Feshie Shooting Estate was consolidated and improved by the Macpherson Grants. Giving evidence to the Napier Commission in 1884, Sir George Macpherson Grant said:

"In 1872 negotiations were entered into with the Mackintosh of Mackintosh for an excambion of lands in the neighbourhood which was at the time considered by both proprietors desirable, and as a preliminary to this arrangement, sheep (about 700) were removed from about 5000 acres of Coriekoy, the tenants retaining the low ground pasture and their arable farms at one-half the rents formerly paid by them. No tenant was removed".

"In 1873 about 500 acres of hill pasture were taken off the farm of Balguise and put into Glenfeshie forest, to admit of a fence being erected between the forest and the farm."

Fences were erected, tracks were built and a bridge was constructed at Achleum, where also a lodge was built. The present Glen Feshie Lodge itself was built in ?1890

During the second half of the 19th and first two decades of the 20th Centuries, the deer forests along with the grouse moors provided fulltime employment for many gamekeepers and stalkers. Gillies and beaters could earn good wages. The shooting tenants would be paying considerable sums for their leases. In 1920 £6000 was a likely rent for the season.

Settlement History

Roys Military map of 1752 (see Appendix 3) is the earliest detailed map of the glen. It depicts the settlements of Achleanbeg, Achleanmor, Achnahoid (Achleum-a-choid or Achleumwhite), ?Rillatabruach (Rie-na-Bruach or Rinabruigh) and Slionanaig (Stronavaity) (on the boundary with the Mar estates). On the west bank of the river Tolvah, Druimnacallich and Stronlia are seen and in Glen Fearnasdail, Knockanbui, Corryarnstolmor, Lynavragit and Tomfat are marked.

But there is also documentary evidence of the existence of Achleum-a-choid in 1726 and of Rie-na-Bruaich in 1734:

"In 1726, John Shaw, Tackman of Kinrara, continuing in favour with his chief, obtains a tack of that part of Dalnavert called losal of Croftbeg and of Achleam-a-choid in Glenfeshie. In 1734 John Shaw gets a new lease of the three ploughs of Kinrara-na-choille, presently possessed by him and of Rie-na-bruaich in Glenfeshie." (Fraser-Mackintosh, 1898 p102)

And of the glens connection with the name Shaw:

"Thomas Shaw appears to have succeeded his father in the tack of Kinrara and appears on 22 Jan 1774 when he gives a receipt for the repayment of a bond of his father on 20 May 1756. According to a letter from Captain James Shaw, Dalnavert, to his sister dated 1789 Thomas was removed from Kinrara by the Mackintosh and appears in a list of purchasers of corn and straw from Captain James Shaw in 1791 as Thos. Shaw, late of Kinrara now at Ryaburgh. Ryaburgh is Rionaburgh (Rie-na-Bruach or Rinabruigh) in Glenfeshie, where in 1750 is found Alexander Shaw whose daughter Marjory John Macintire, late merchant in Ruthven, now tacksman of Tomfad in parish of Inch" (A History of Clan Shaw, p46)

Shaws occupied many settlements on the east bank of the River Feshie:

"In 1791 I find note of Captain James Shaw at Dalnavert, James Shaw in Iosal, Thomas Shaw in Keppoch, Robert Shaw in Rie-Aiteachan, and Thomas Shaw in Rie-na-Bruaich, both in Glenfeshie. The Shaws monopolised all Mackintosh lands east of Feshie River, and the Spey, from Glenfeshie to Rothiemurchus, but at the present day (1898) there is only one tenant of the old stock remaining, Mr John Shaw of Tolvah on the Feshie" (Fraser Mackintoshs, 1898, p101-102).

Shaws continued at Dalnavert until 1810, when the male line terminated and it passed to Captain James Clark, son of Margaret, (daughter of William Shaw) who had married Captain Alexander Clark.

The earliest Mackintosh rentals consulted relate to 1786 (NAS GD 176/1514). These mention rents paid for Achleum White (taken as being Achleum-a-choid), they appear to be continued until 1804, with Achleum white being described as the home of Margaret and Ann Shaw - children of William Shaw. From 1810 to 1819, rents are taken from tenants in both Rinabruigh and Riatachan (?Ruigh Aiteachan), although from 1812 to 1829, rentals are also taken from "the Wood Company" - Messrs Carmichael (of Kinrara) and Shaw (of ?) - "for hill grass and multures, grounds at the saw mill and road money". By 1827 Ryatachan (?Ruigh Aiteachain) only is mentioned.

The census records provide the evidence that Tolvah was occupied by 1 to 2 families of Shaws from 1841 to 1901. At Druimcallich there was from 1 to 3 households from 1841 onwards but by 1901 it was uninhabited. A weaver of wool and cotton is noted as being the occupation of the head of the household here. Stronetoper is thought to refer to the earlier settlement to the west of the present bridge. It was occupied until 1861 but the name seems to have been later transferred to the building 500m to the north which was used as a school. Bulroy has been occupied by a family named Bell through from 1841 to 1901 with the occupation of the head being described as "farmer of 9 acres". In 1841, Achlean has Malcolm Clark, aged 45 and his family. This is Calum Brochair - the fox hunter or poacher mentioned in the early days of the shooting estate, he claims that there have been Clarks in the vicinity for five hundred years. In 1891, John Clark takes over from his father as head of the household, he is described as being a farmer. There is still a John Clark at Achlean today

There are several versions of the name Achleum Choit, which means "cottage of the field of the leap", the "leap" referring to the narrow section of the river. Achnahoid appears on the Roy map, Achnahoit and Achleum White are others. According to the census record, it was last occupied in 1841, but the name reappears in 1871, when a "game watcher" is resident. It may refer to the more recent building, almost certainly built by the estate, 500m to the north of the original settlement and referred to as Achleum on the

current OS map. Interestingly a teacher is resident there in 1901 and the second edition OS map of 1903 marks a footbridge over the river at this spot. It is on the opposite bank of the river to the school at Stronetoper.

The upper part of the glen was well populated between 1841 and 1861, all the residents benefitting from the sporting estate. In 1841, there were 8 households with a population of 14 adults and 17 children and in 1861, 5 households with 16 adults and 18 children. The main settlements were Carnachuine, Ruigh Aiteachan (Eilean More or "The Island") and Ruigh Fiontaig, and the occupation listed in the census was gamekeeper for all of them. The last entry in the census records for Rie na Bruaich is 1841, when a family of 2 adults and 3 children were living there. By 1871, "The Island" (Ruigh Aiteachan), is uninhabited, although a gamekeeper appears as residing there in 1881 and 1901. Ruigh Fiontaig is deserted by 1881, but this may well be as a result of a new lodge being built further to the north. The Collie family are resident at Carnachuine in 1841 and it has continued to be the location for the keeper to this day. By 1901 there are only 5 adults residing in the upper glen.

Bibliography:

Bil, A, 1990, The Shieling 1600-1840 Collie, W, 1908, Memoirs of William Collie Crofters Commission Report (Napier), 1884 Deer Forest Commission Report, 1895 Duff, D (Editor) 1980, Queen Victoria's Highland Journals Fraser Mackintosh, C, 1863, Antiquarian Notes Fraser Mackintosh, C 1898, Minor Septs of Clan Chattan Grimble, 1901, Deer and the Deer Forests of Scotland New Statistical Account for Parishes of Kingussie, Insh and Alvie, 1835 Old Statistical Account for Parishes of Kingussie, Insh and Alvie, 1791-1799 RCAHMS, 1995, Mar Lodge Estate - An Archaeological Survey Roberts, J, L, 1999, Feuds, Forays and Rebellions - History of the Highland Clans, 1475-1625 Scarlett, M, H, 1988, In the Glens Where I Was Young Scrope, W, 1883, Days of Deer Stalking in the Scottish Highlands Wordsworth, J, 1996, An Archaeological Survey of Proposed Native Pinewood Plantations in Glenfeshie NAS GD 176/1514 NAS GD 176/2226 NAS GD 176/223 NAS GD 176/1487 NAS GD 44/28/59/39 NAS GD 44/51/732/29 NAS GD 44/28/15 A History of Clan Shaw



Legend for maps	
	Contour
	index contour
	form line
V V P	manmade slope
	stream
	fence
	footpath
=====	track
	remains of wall, mostly or enrirely of stones or stonework
	occasional stones only indicating line of wall
	distinct remains of earth or turf walls possibly with some stones evident
******	indistinct earthwall or line of a wall that has possibly been constructed of timber
O	clearance caim
1	

.

GAZETTEER OF

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

A. Glen Feshie - the sites are generally described from north to south

Tolvah : Alternatives - Tolva or TolbhaNN 844995SMR: NN 89NW0007

Visited Sunday 18th Feb 2001. Weather – bright but overcast and cold. This township is situated on a flat moraine above the level of the river, but quite close to it. The extensive area of improved land on which it is centred is fenced off and grazed heavily by sheep. There appears to be two phases to the site – the structures to the east, nearer the river are relatively recent, whilst the group on the west side of the site appear to be earlier. A settlement at Tolvah is marked on Roys map of 1750 and on the 1st edition OS map of 1872

Structure A

A roofed building in good repair - used as a holiday cottage.

Structure B

Rectangular in shape and measuring 12mx 5m, this building lies on a NW/SE axis, the low turf and stone footings are clearly visible, the southwest wall rising to a height of 0.3m. Appears to be an entrance in the NE wall at its east end and no evidence of internal walls.

To the NW of this structure and associated with it, there is evidence of an enclosure ?20mx15m, the footings on the SW and NW sides only can be discerned.

Structures C

To the NW of holiday cottage. A collection of derelict sheds with timber walls and corrugated iron roofs, with a stone ?square building on west side, used as shelters by the sheep but in a broken down state. No evidence of previous buildings on the site.

Structure D

Adjoining C, roughly constructed modern walls on the west and south, footings of a previous building, 11mx4m are evident here, may well extend south to C. Lies on a N/S axis and borders an elongated channel area to the north.

"Channel" E

Elongated hollow channel 2m deep and 8m wide, appears to be man-made, runs NW to SE. To the north of C and D there is a semi-circular "bay" faced with stone walling, 1.5m high.

Structure F

Substantial dressed stone footings of a large rectangular building 18mx4.5m, lying on a NW/SE axis. Footings have been well constructed with squared facings internally and externally and squared corners, generally 0.2m high although south wall rises to a height of 0.6m. Doorway in the south end of the NE wall and also possibly at the north end. No evidence of internal walls although there are what appear to be regular stone settings 1mx0.5m, forming low platforms, in three of the corners.

Turf footings of an adjoining structure extend to the north, 6mx4.5m.

To the NE and associated with and only 2m distant from F there is a large rectangular hollow 1m deep and measuring 11mx6m the west edge is comprised of a squared stone facing

Structure G

Lies on a N/S axis and measures 12mx4m. Two compartments, the southern 5mx4m has rounded corners and substantial footings with an entrance in the west wall. The northern one, 7mx4m, appears to be a bit of a hybrid (?adapted), the west wall footings are constructed of dressed stone and are quite squared whereas the east wall is bowed, irregular and comprised of turf and rounded stones. There is no evidence of a north wall and the whole structure slopes down to the north. There is an entrance in the west wall. To the east and on the downslope towards the river there is a fenced enclosure in which there is evidence of recent cultivation

Structure H

Ruined walls to various heights (0.2m-1m) of a rectangular, relatively recent building, lying on a N/S axis and measuring 19mx5m in total. Two compartments, southern one filled in with ?tumble and clearance stones. Northern compartment, 10mx5m, has a depression faced with stone edging in its northern half. Walls substantial and made of dressed stone, mortaring in places. Could be a doorway in the west wall and also in the internal wall.

Enclosure J

Adjoining structure H to the east and running downslope to the river (also adjoining/part of fenced enclosure mentioned previously), there are the stone footings, barely visible, of enclosing walls to the north and to the east, 19mx20m. The lower part forms a substantial terrace and is continuous with the cultivation terrace in the fenced enclosure, there is also evidence of smaller terraces 1.5mx1m

Enclosure K

Large enclosure, 18mx50m, a flat area in a depression on a NW/SE axis. Low turf and stone footings evident for most of the structure but absent at the NW corner.

Structure L

A corn-drying kiln and barn, 11mx4m, lies north of the previous enclosure on an E/W axis. The kiln is 4m in diameter and ?2m deep and is situated at the east end. Barn has substantial walls to a height of 0.5m, and with well rounded corners an entrance is in the north wall

Structure M

At the western edge of the settlement, this is the southernmost of two rectangular structures. It measures 14mx4m externally, long axis NNW/SSE and has well rounded corners. The wall footings are quite substantial, comprised of turf and undressed rounded stone - moss covered and measuring a metre wide and rising to 0.6m high in places. There is evidence of an entrance in the E wall but no evidence of internal walls.

Structure N

To the north of **M**, this rectangular structure on the same axis and measuring overall 14mx4m, has two compartments. The one to the south is 9mx4m and has substantial stone and turf footings 1m in breadth and rising to a height generally of 0.5m although the internal height of the south wall is 1m, there is an entrance in the centre of the east wall. The northern compartment is 5mx3m and its NW corner has been intruded upon by a recently constructed fence.

- 1. General view from north
- 2. General view from SW
- 3. Structures C & D also "bay" in E from N
- 4. Structure B from east
- 5. Structure M from SE
- 6. Structure N from NNW
- 7. Structure F from NW
- 8. Depression to east of F from SE



.

Ŧ

- 9. Corn-drying kiln from NW
 10. Corn-drying kiln from ENE
 11. Corn-drying kiln from ESE
 12. Enclosure K from SE
 13. Terraces in enclosure J

.

- 16.14
- Structure H from NW Structure G from N Structure G form NNW end of footing.

8

.









Bulroy: Alternative - Bulruadh NN 846 995 SMR: NN89NW0012

Visited Saturday 16th December 2000. Weather – dry, overcast and cold. The farmstead is situated on the valley floor in an extensive area of improved land. The main buildings appear to be relatively recent but there is evidence of an earlier structure. The footings of a further building lie 100m to the east on a terrace. A constructed track leads down the hill from the present minor road and there is a ford across the river to the settlement at Tolvah. The farmstead does not appear on Roys map of 1750, but is on the Thomson map of 1830 and on the 1st edition OS survey of 1872

Structure A

Lies to the east of the main farmstead, on a terrace in birch wood. Rectangular structure measuring 15 x 4m with long axis north/south. The footings are low and of rough stone rising to 0.2m. Stone tumble and birch trees internally. The corners appear to be rounded and there is no evidence of a doorway.

Structure B

This, the most eastern of the structures on the valley floor, is situated on a slight terrace. It measures 15 x 5m, with long axis aligned north/south. The dressed stone walls rise to a height on average of 1m, with the corners being square. At the north end the walls rise to a height of 2m and there is evidence of mortaring. There is a doorway in the centre of the west wall and also a window at the north end. No evidence of cruick slots. An internal wall dividing off the southernmost 3m appears to be a later addition. A substantial hollow to the northwest of this building appears to be associated with it.

Structure C

Another substantial structure with walls rising consistently to a height of 1.5m, this building measures 11m by 5m with the long axis east/west. There is one doorway in the centre of the south wall and two doorways in the north wall. There is substantial mortaring in the walls, but no cruick slots

Structure D

This appears to be a much earlier building and has mostly been levelled to the ground, all that remains are the low earth footings with occasional stonework. It measures 12m by 4m and lies on a north/south axis. At its south end it appears to have been built over by structure E. There could be a doorway in the SE corner

Structure E

A square building partly overlying structure D, has unmortared walls to the south and west rising to height of 1.5m. Appears to have been roughly constructed between structures C and D possibly at a later date. There is a doorway in the low east wall and there could be a cruick slot on the inside of the west wall. A gap of 0.5m between this and C has been roughly filled.

To the east of D and north of C there is a rectangular hollow, 12m x 5m and ?1m deep, bordered with what appears to be stone edge in places, at the northeast corner there is a recumbent ?column of dressed rounded granite, 1.5m by 0.2m (visible above the turf) in length

Structure F

To the south of structure B and cut into the terrace is a hollow measuring 7m by 3m and opening to the west. The south side has stone facing in parts and is 1m in depth whilst the northern edge is just 0.3m deep. This could be some sort of kiln or storage pit

- 1. General view of main settlement from the east/north-east
- 2. General view from the east Tolvah on the west side of the river can be seen through the trees.
- 3. Structure A from the south-east.
- 4. Structure B from the south.
- 5. Structure/?pit F from the north-east
- 6. Structures C and E from the north-east.
- 7. Structures D and E from the north/north-east
- 8. Hollow and structure C from the north.
- 9. Close-up of dressed granite "column





Achlean Beg: Alternatives - Achlean or Achleatham Beag NN 850 984 SMR: NN89NE0005

Visited Saturday 16th December 2000. Weather – dry, overcast and cold. The settlement is situated on a river terrace above the valley floor on the east bank of the River Feshie. There are "improved" grassy patches which are grazed by sheep but the majority of the site is overgrown by heather. Marked on Roys map of 1752 and on Thomson map of 1830, but not on 1st edition OS survey.

Structure A

A corn-drying kiln and barn on an east/west axis. The kiln in the east part of the structure measures 3m in diameter and is 1.5m deep, it is overgrown with heather, bracken and moss but appears relatively intact. The barn to the west of the structure is roughly 5m square and has a shallow oval depression adjacent to the kiln. There is an entrance in the northwest corner.

Enclosure B

This grassy clearing is roughly 15m square and lies at the southern end of the settlement. It is surrounded by an earthbank, 0.2m high and heather covered.

Structure C

Lies to the north of the enclosure and consists of the grass covered low footings of a building measuring 11m by 4m, very little stonework but there appears to be a small annexe in the form of a 3m square addition to the southeast corner. In fact this would make the whole building an L-shape.

Structure D

Another L-shaped building lying on a east/west axis to the north of the previous one. The main part of the building measures 11m by 4m, generally covered with short grass, the footings rise to no more than 0.2m and are overgrown on the north side with heather. A further compartment appended to the northeast measures $5m \times 3m$. There could be an entrance in the west wall.

Structure E

Quite ill-defined, this structure measures 10m by 3m and has a grassy hollow internally with low heather covered footings to a height of 0.3m. There could be a doorway in the centre of the west wall.

A large grassy ?manmade depression lies to the southwest of structure E

Structure F

Quite substantial heather covered turf footings rising consistently to a height of 0.4m and with some stonework showing, this structure measures 11m by 4m. It has a doorway in the northwest corner.

Structure G

Very overgrown with heather, this structure measure 11m by 4m. It exists more as a rectangular depression. A small area of humps and bumps, of which no form can be made, lies to the north and a small grassy area lies adjacent and to the east of this structure

Photographs

1. General view of the settlement from the north, looking up Glen Feshie.

- 2. General view from the SE the corn drying kiln is in the foreground
- 3. Corn drying kiln A from the west (also kiln from the east)
- 4. Enclosure B from the north.
- 5. Structure C from the north.
- 6. Structure D from the west.
- 7. Structure E from the southwest.
- 8. Structure F from the southeast (also G from the southeast).



-

.

•

•





Druimcallich: Alternatives - Druimnacallich or Druimchaiellach NN 846 982 SMR: NN89NW0008

Visited Sunday 16th January 2000. Weather – sunny and still. Light snow cover. The site is generally well planted with trees apart from a strip 5m wide on the west side of the road. The planting is thought to have taken place in 1956. There are 8 structures, 3 enclosures and associated field boundaries. The settlement appears on the 1st edition OS map of 1872 and also on Roys military survey of 1750

On the West side of the road:

Structure A

A rectangular building, heavily planted with trees and covered with moss, measuring $14 \times 4.5m$ and on a N/S axis. The ruined stone walls are roughly 0.5m thick and rise to a height of 1m in places, they are made of dressed stone and have squared corners. There are 2 compartments – the north measures $9 \times 4.5m$ and has a door in the east wall and the south measuring $5 \times 4.5m$, appears to have a door in the east wall. Probably a relatively recent structure.

Enclosure B

Adjacent to structure A and to its south and west. Trapezoidal in shape and irregular, it measures roughly 40 x 25m, enclosed by low earthbanks. A large ?clearance cairn, 6m in diameter, lies in the west corner.

Structure C

Quite close and parallel to the road, the low stone footings of this long rectangular building measure $22 \times 4.5m$ and also are on a N/S axis. It is not planted with trees but the west wall has been disturbed by ploughing. The walls rise to 0.5m in places and are heavily moss covered. There are three compartments - the northmost, $8 \times 4.5m$ has a door in the centre of the east wall, the middle compartment $6 \times 4.5m$ also has a door in the southmost $7 \times 4.5m$ has no evidence of an end (south) wall.

Structure K

A rectangular structure measuring 7 x 3m and on a N/S axis, is revetted into the bank, planted over with trees and pretty well wasted. 2 compartments can be seen the s'most being only 2 x 3m

"Scoop" L

Lies to the SW of structure C, a hollow into the moraine, 2 to 4m deep, possibly ?a kiln or quarry. A further shallow scoop lies just to the north and is bounded on the N by a short constructed stone walling 0.5 x 3m.

On the East side of the road:

Enclosure D

An irregular enclosure with quite substantial ruined walls (photographs 3,4 & 5). It measures roughly 31m on its north, west and south sides but 23m on its east side, the north wall is "stepped" and adjoining it are a possible building (structure E) and a low turf and stone field boundary stretching for 60m to the north. The enclosure is unplanted but a recent fenced enclosure in the centre has young self planted trees in it.

Structure E

Adjoins the NE corner of enclosure D. Long axis N/S, the remains of a rectangular structure measuring 14 \times 4m, the low grassy banks are barely discernible, but the north wall is more evident.

Structure F

Rectangular structure 14 x 4m lies to the north of structure E and is on an E/W axis. The low stone and turf footings rise to a height of 0.3m, there is a door in the south wall. Heavily tree planted.

Structure G

A rectangular structure lying on a N/S axis, measures $13 \times 5m$ in total and has three compartments. North one is $4 \times 5m$ (north end wall absent), the middle is $6 \times 5m$ and the south is $3 \times 4m$. The walls rise to a height of 0.5m in places and there is no evidence of entrances. The structure is quite lightly planted with trees but heavily moss covered. A field boundary which stretches for 80m to the south and lies parallel to the road, commences 20m to the south.

Structure H

Probably a corn-drying kiln, this rectangular structure lies on an E/W axis and measures $12 \times 5m$. There are two compartments – the eastmost is a roughly circular depression, circa 4m in diameter and 1m deep, the westmost compartment is $4 \times 8m$ and has a door in its south wall. The whole structure is heavily tree planted and moss covered.

Enclosure J

Lies well to the southeast of the other buildings in what is a sheltered depression. This square enclosure has walls of 16m length. Those on the north and west are quite substantial rising to 0.3m in places, on the south and east they are evident as low turf banks. The enclosure remains free of trees although it has been heavily ploughed (photograph 1)

- 1. Structure A from S
- 2. Structure C from S
- 3. South wall of enclosure D from W (also west wall from S)
- 4. External walling at SE corner of enclosure D from S
- 5. Corn-drying kiln H (interior) from ENE (also kiln from NW)
- 6. Enclosure J from SE
- 7. Stone edging to N of shallow scoop at L from S
- 8. Scoops x 2 at L from NE







Achlean : Alternatives - Achlean Mor, Achleatham More or Auchlean NN 851 980 SMR: NN89NE0004

Visited Monday 23rd June 2003. Weather – overcast but fine. This site is a working farm of two substantial roofed buildings, there is much evidence of current use for cattle and sheep rearing and it would appear that much of the evidence for previous structures on the site has been destroyed. The site is situated on a terrace above the valley floor in a sheltered position. It appears on Roys map of 1750 and on 1st edition OS survey, where there are 3 roofed buildings, 3 unroofed buildings, and 2 enclosures.

Structure A - NN 85175 98134

A rectangular platform, 10m x 3m, on a NW-SE axis, defined by an embankment on its SW side and low turf linear banks on the NE and NW side, these are 0.1-0.2m in height and 1m in width. Heather covered.

Structure B

15m to SE of previous structure there is a possible small structure in the deep heather. On same alignment, it appears as an oval depression $4m \times 2m \times 0.5m$ deep, although surrounding turf banks can be discerned 0.3m in height and 1.5m in width

Structure C - NN 85152 98090

Small rectangular structure on a NW-SE axis measuring internally 5m x 2.5m. Remains of stone and turf wall footings rise to 0.2m and are 0.8m in width. Rounded corners. Covered in nettles!!

Enclosure D - NN 85072 97990

Large rectangular enclosure on a NNE-SSW axis, 45m x 18m. Appears to have had recent use, although it has been superseded by fenced enclosure. Remains of stone walls are variable - 0.2-0.4m in height, but 1m in the north. Abutting the west wall there is the remains of a building and a further building abuts the north wall. (see plan)

Structure E - NN 85059 97986

Rectangular building on a NNE-SSW axis, the main compartment measures 11m x 3m. East wall forms part of the west wall of the enclosure and has a couple of courses of well constructed stonework to 0.3-0.5m in height and 1m in width, tumble to the inside of the building. The west wall is a low linear earth bank to 0.1m, with some stonework, south wall similar but more substantial rising to 0.3m. No evidence of entrances. There may be a possible small byre attached to the north, internal measurements ?2.5m x 3m, evidenced by possible stone settings.

Structure F - NN 85079 98023

A rectangular building on a WNW-ESE axis, measuring 18m x 4m, appears as a shallow depression. The remains only of its south wall exist, forming the north wall of the enclosure. These mortared wall footings are more evident at the east end where there is a roofed timber shack and many small fenced areas probably connected with penning sheep. No evidence of entrances to the building and no evidence of west and north walls, but there is a cobbled area at the west end 3m x 4m.

Clearance Cairn G - NN 84906 97969

On the valley floor below the farmstead. 10m x 3m x 0.8m in height. Remains of a stone boundary stretches away to the NW

- 1. A from east (also A from south)
- 2. C from east
- 3. D (north part) and F from SE
- 4. D (south part) and E from SE
- 5. E from NNE
- 6. E from south (also Cairn G fromSE)



Coire Fhearnagan

Platform/Probable structure - NN 87507 97658 SMR: NN89NE0003

At an altitude of 570m, on the north bank of the Allt Fhearnagan, there is raised grassy circular area, roughly 8m in diameter. Banked up at its lower/west side where there is some stonework evident, there is a flat central area which may possibly have supported a timber building 5m x 4m, there is a stone setting at the south edge which may have been an entrance. The whole of the corrie has rampant heather and there is no evidence of pasture land that would have supported summer grazing. Suggest this structure may have been connected with the sport of shooting. It is marked on 1st Edition OS map as an unroofed building.

Structures - NN 87424 97945

SMR NN89NE0008

Two small sub-circular structures 30m apart, beside the old track up the corrie (marked on 1st edition OS survey). Eastmost is more substantial and intact. Roughly 1.5m in diameter and with an entrance in the west. Walls roughly constructed of largish boulders to 1m in height, recessed into the hillside at its west end. Probably shelters for stalkers/shooting.

- 7. Coire Fhearnagan Platform from south
- 8. Coire Fhearnagan East structure from NW




Stronetoper: Alternatives - StronantopairNN 849971SMRNN89NW0020

Visited 30.08.03. Weather dull and overcast. A well preserved cottage maintained as a holiday house lies within the boundary of the forest, beside a cattle grid. This is the former school. The site does not appear on the Roy map of 1752, but a farmstead is marked on the Thompson map of 1830 and on the 1st edition OS survey, 2 roofed buildings are depicted. The remains of the supports of a pair of bridges are to be seen by the river (see Achleum).

Structure N - NN 84895 97073

A rectangular building on a N-S axis, to the south of the cottage and the cattle grid. Measures internally 7m x 3m. Recessed into slope at its west side. East wall formed by a broad earth bank roughly 0.1m in height, indistinct in places as are the north and south ends. May be an entrance in north end of east wall

?Store P - NN 84890 97142

A small circular (possibly square) feature to the north of the main cottage. Diameter 1.5m, surrounded by turf and stone bank 0.3m in height and 1m in width. May be a small entrance in the west.

Enclosure Q - NN 84925 97002

To the SE of the cottage, on a terrace, there is a rectangular improved area, roughly 150m x 20m. The remains of a rough stone wall are to be seen enclosing it on its west side, being particularly evident at the north end where it is 0.5m in height. The east side is formed by a steep bank dropping towards the river. There is a section of wall in the centre but this appears to be largely formed of clearance material. At the south end a line of stones forms the wall. There is a further stone setting on the edge of the terrace to the south, but it is difficult to discern the line that the wall takes thereafter, it may drop down to a lower level where there is a clearance cairn and a further section of wall.

Clearance Cairn R - NN 84989 96830

A low cairn in the heather, on a raised area in the valley floor. It is rectangular in shape, on a N-S axis, measures 8m x 4m and is 0.3m above the surrounding ground level. From its south end a section of linear wall extends to the south and ends abruptly after 25m. This is 0.3m in height and heather covered.

Linear/?Field wall S

On the west side of the road, the low remnants of a stone wall are to be seen. It is almost continuous, from the settlement of Stronlia (south end) to Strontoper (north end). It is aligned with the west wall of the enclosure Q above.

Structure/ ?Water tank -GR NN84650 37474

Remains of a small rectangular building astride a small stream, are to be found above and to the west of the site. Measures internally 4m x 2.5m. Dressed stone walls upstanding externally to 0.8m (on east side), but walls generally to 0.5m. Could be a mill or possibly a water tank

- 1. Structure N from SSW
- 2. ?Store P from south
- 3. Clearance cairn R from west
- 4. Remains of bridge uprights on west bank of river



.



Achleum

NN 850971 SMR: NN89NE0009

Visited 23rd Aug. Weather bright, sunny and warm. Situated at the north end of a long linear stretch of improved ground on the east side of the river, this collection of remains may be related to the sporting estate, although a farmstead (NN89NE002) and its associated linear bank and sheepfold are almost certainly connected with the early sheep farming days. An unroofed building and sheepfold appear on the 1st edition OS survey (together with a roofed building) and the name Achleum does not appear until the modern maps. On the earlier maps of Roy (1752) and Thomson(1830) however, a similar name is applied to the settlement 600m to the south.

Bridges A - NN 84970 97120

On both banks of the River Feshie the remains of 2 pairs of uprights of 2 now non-extant footbridges are to be found adjacent to one another. On the east bank, the southern pair are of timber and rise to a height of roughly 3.5m with two pairs of lower "strainers" to the east. The northern pair are of concrete to 3m height, with metalwork for a further 1m. Photo 17 from SE. The corresponding uprights exist on the west bank of the river. The rotting timber uprights are 2m in height, 2 "strainers" (0.8m in height) are about 5m to the west. Adjacent to the north, the cylindrical concrete uprights are just 0.3m in height, the arrangement of metalwork at the top is wasted and lies at an angle.

Building B - NN 85007 97056

Stone house with a sound roof of slate. On a north/south axis, measures $12m \times 6m$ and has a porch to the front/west side. It has two annexes attached to the rear/east, the north one is of timber and is roofed, the south measures roughly $3m \times 4m$, remains of the walls rising to ? There is evidence of a further annexe to the south, the foundations of a wall outlining an area adjacent to the building of $2m \times 6m$. A roofed building with an enclosure to the east is marked on 1^{st} Edition OS survey at this site.

Enclosure C

Rectangular depression measuring 17m x 9m on an E-W axis, a few metres to the SE of Structure B.

Structure D - NN 85021 97122

To the north of the house, the remains of an almost square structure, measuring roughly 3m square, internally. Defined by earth and stone banks to 0.3m height and 1-1.5m in width, with squared corners. Depressed at centre and filled with stone clearance/tumble. Entrance in west wall.

Structure E - NN 85050 97085

A platform, 10m x 4m, on a N-S axis has most probably had a timber building sited on it (?marked on 2^{nd} Edition OS survey). The platform is defined by a stone edge, particularly evident in the NW and the N end, the south part of the west wall is a low earth bank with some stones

Structure F - NN 85188 97033 SMR NN89NE0002

Depicted on 1^{st} edition OS survey of 1872 as a ruined building. It is situated to the east of the linear wall and on a N-S axis, measures 12m x 3m internally. Two compartments, south 6m x 3m, north 4.5m x 3m. Walls to 0.6m height and 1.5m in width, those to the east being more substantial. Heather covered.

Linear wall G

Substantial, heather covered, earth and stone bank. 0.6m in height 1.5m in width, on a NNW-SSE axis stretches for 200m from the stream in the north (NN 85173 97087) to the sheepfold in the south.

Sheepfold H - NN 85241 96872

Marked on 1st Edition OS survey as sheepfold, this roughly rectangular enclosure on a N-S axis, measures internally 22m x 17m. Defined by a tumbled wall 0.3-0.4m in height and 1-1.5m in width, with a distinct entrance in the centre if the south wall and a further possible one in the north wall. Clearance cairns externally to west and east walls. Substantially heather covered.

Clearance Cairn J - NN 85141 96673

One of three clearance cairns amidst a large area of improved land. Roughly rectangular, 7.5m x 3.5m (but rounded at the ends), on a NW-SE axis and 0.5-0.6m at its highest. Partially heather covered. This may be a former shieling that has been used as a deposit for clearance material.

Clearance Cairn K - NN 85125 96683

A few metre to the west of previous cairn and nearer the river, this similar cairn is on the same axis, measures $6m \times 3m$ and is 0.6m in height at its highest. Partially heather covered. As with the previous cairn, this may be a former shieling.

Clearance Cairn L - NN 85110 96789

A similar feature to the previous two, but in a "hollower" area. On a N-S axis, measures 5m x 3m and generally 0.6m in height.

Clearance Cairns M - NN 85120 96573

Two small cairns on a slightly raised area.

- 1. General view of site from west
- 2. Bridge supports from SSW
- 3. Building B from west
- 4. Structure D from S
- 5. Structure E from SE
- 6. Structure F from NW (also from S).
- 7. Linear wall G from NNW
- 8. Sheepfold H from SW
- 9. Clearance cairn/?Shieling J from the S
- 10. Clearance cairn/?Shieling K from S
- 11. Clearance cairn L from SE
- 12. Clearance cairns M from SE







(Stronetoper) Stronlia

NN 849 965 SMR: NN89NW0003

Visited Saturday 16th June 2001. Weather – cold and overcast, threatening rain. The settlement is comprised of two groups of buildings situated on a river terrace, on the west bank of the River Feshie. Seven unroofed buildings, in two groups, are depicted on the current 1:25,000 OS map, but not on the !st edition map of 1872. The settlement appears on Roys military survey of 1750.

Northern group :-

Structure A - Lies on a slight mound on a north/south axis. The turf and stone footings rise to a height of roughly 0.5m and are about 1m thick. The walls are heather covered and the internal area is very dished, measuring ?. Possible entrance in the west wall in its southern half, no evidence of internal partitions. To the west of the structure there is a shallow depression and then an enclosure, both of which appear to be associated with the structure. The enclosure measures roughly 16metres square and the surrounding wall footings of turf and stone are very wasted rising only to a height of 0.1m or so in places. A heather covered stone wall stretches away from the SW corner of the structure towards the river in the east.

Structure B - A corn drying kiln and barn lies on an east/west axis. The kiln to the east is on the slope above the river and is 2m in diameter and 0.8m deep. The barn measures 3m by 2.5m internally. The heather covered footings of the walls are very evident and rise to 0.5m, being 0.5m thick, there is much stonework and there appears to be an entrance in the northwest corner

Structure C - This ovoid shaped building, lies on an east/west axis and has an internal measurement of 7 x 3m, "tapering" at the east end to 2m. The wall footings are quite grossly covered with heather and rise to a height of 0.4 to 0.5m with a width of approx. 1m. There is evidence of an entrance in the eastern part of the north wall. What appears to be clearance stones have been deposited inside the structure.

Structure D - Lies on a north/south axis and has an internal measurement of 10m by 2m. There could be evidence of an internal partitions dividing the north end off. The heather covered footings of the walls rise to a height of 0.4m, and are 0.5 to 1m thick, the west wall being more complete. There could be an entrance in the centre of the west wall and another in the east wall towards the south end.

Structure E - Lies on a north/south axis, parallel and only 1m from structure D. Internal measurement 9 x 2m and divided into two compartments by an internal partition, the northern compartment is the most intact. The heather covered, turf and stone footings of the walls rise to 0.3 to 0.4m in height and are 0.5 to 1m thick. There is evidence of an entrance in the east wall of the north compartment. The wall footings of the south compartment are barely visible, rising to a height of 0.1m in places, no evidence of an entrance.

Southern group :-

Structure F - This rectangular structure with definite rounded corners lies on a north/south axis, on a terrace at a lower level to the other two structures in this group. The substantial turf and stone walls rise to 1m (W wall) in height and are 1m thick, there is a small entrance in the northern half of the west wall

Structure G - Lies on a east/west axis, on a higher terrace than the previous structure, and has an internal measurement of 8 x 3m. There are 2 compartments, the east being 5 x 3m and the west $2.5 \times 3m$. The substantial turf and stone walls are grass covered with some heather, rise to 0.3m (0.4m in places) and are 1m thick walls. The corners of the building are rounded and there is evidence of an entrance in the east end of the north wall.

Structure H - Lies to the south of structure G, on a north/south axis and has an internal measurement of 5 x 2.5m. The grass covered turf walls rise to a height of 0.5m and are 1m thick. The corners of the structure are rounded and there could be an entrance in the west wall

The following 2 structures are situated to the south on the west side of the road, at NN 8480 9660 **Structure S** - Rectangular building, the northmost of the two, on a north/south axis, measuring 9m x 2.5m internally. Wall footings to 0.4m height are quite wasted in parts and heavily heather covered. Appears to have rounded corners, no entrance evident

Structure T - Situated only 1.5m to the south of previous building. Rectangular, also on a north/south axis and measuring 10m x 2.5m internally. Walls more substantial, west rises to height of 0.8m east to 0.4m. Appears to have rounded corners, no entrance evident. Heather covered.

Photographs

North group - 1. General view from NW

- 2. Structure A from SW
- 3. Corn drying kiln B from WSW
- 4. Corn drying kiln B, east part, from N
- 5. Structure C from SW
- 6. Structure D from N.
- 7. Structure E from N
- 8. Structures E & D from north
- South group 9. Structure F from SW
 - 10. Structure G from west
 - 11. Structure H from south
 - 12. Structure S from north (structure T from west)









(Strontoper) Achnahoid : Alternatives - Achleam-a-choid (in documents of 1726) or

Achleum White (in documents of 1786) NN 851 964 SMR: NN89NE0001

Visited Saturday 16th June 2001. Weather – cold and overcast, threatening rain. The settlement is situated on the valley floor on the east bank of the River Feshie at the south end of an extensive linear area of improved ground on which evidence of rig and furrow cultivation is seen (particularly on the ariel photographs). 7 structures, 1 enclosure and several obvious man-made depressions are to be seen. Three buildings and an enclosure are depicted on the current 1:25,000 OS map and a single roofless building is depicted on the 1st edition map of 1872. The settlement appears on Roys military survey of 1750, but not on the Thomson map of 1830 or on the 1st edition OS survey of 1872. The name Achleum is given to the more recent buildings 600m to the north on modern maps. Oblique aerial photographs of the settlement were taken in 1995

Structure J

At the north limit of the settlement this rectangular structure has an internal measurement of 15 x 3m and lies on a east/west axis. Footings of the walls are heather covered and rise to a height of 0.4m, there is no evidence of a west wall. No evidence of an entrance and no internal walls. An associated wall stretches away, at an angle, to the west, towards a man-made depression

Corn drying kiln K

This corn drying kiln and barn, lying on an east/west axis, is generally heather covered. The barn at the west end of the structure is at a level of 1m below that of the kiln in the east and has an internal measurement of $9 \times 3m$. The walls of the barn rise to 0.2m and there is a probable entrance in the north wall. The kiln is 2m in diameter and 1m deep.

Structure L

Lies on a NNW/SSE axis and has an internal measurement of 10m by 3m, tapering to 2m at the north end, where there appears to be some alterations to the structure in the northeast corner (possibly narrowed from its original 3m width). Footings of the walls are heather covered and rise to a height of 0,5m with a thickness of 1m in places. Possible entrance in the north end of the east wall. Rounded corners.

Structure M

Lies 2m to the SSE of the previous structure and on the same axis. This structure has heather clad turf and stone footings rising to a height of 0.3m with rounded corners. It has an overall internal length of 15m and 2 compartments The main one to the north measures $9 \times 3m$ and there is a "porch" abutting the northeast corner, measuring $2 \times 2m$, where there appears to be an entrance. The smaller compartment to the south measures $5 \times 2m$, more stonework in the footings here. Possible entrance in the east wall.

Structure N

Lies 3m to the SSE of the previous structure on the same axis. Internal measurement of 9 x 3m, the obvious footings are heavily heather covered and rise to 0.4m with width 0.5m to 1m. Possible entrance in the northern part of the west wall. Corners more squared than previous structures

Enclosure P

Lies on a north/south axis and measures 16 x 25m. East and west walls are grass covered, intact and rise to 0.3m high. The north wall is broken in the middle by what appears to be a more recent rough track. Only a small length of the south wall exists at the east end.

To the north west of the enclosure is a man-made depression roughly rectangular in shape with a measurement of roughly 30 x 10m and 1m deep, but with a deeper (1.5m) oval area extending into the southern corner

Structure Q

This structure is barely discernable on the ground but appears quite well on the aerial photographs It lies 15 m to the SE of structure N and is again on a NNW/SSE axis. It can be seen as a slight depression measuring roughly 8 x 3m and there is some evidence of stone footings.

Between structures N and Q there is a manmade oval depression.

Structure R

Lies 17m to the south of the SE corner of enclosure P. A rectangular building, internal measurement of 11 \times 2.5m is mostly heather covered with some grass internally. The wall footings are variable in height but reach a height of 0.3m and there is much evidence of stonework particularly in the east wall. No evidence of internal partitions or entrances were noted.

Associated with this settlement are several **clearance cairns** 200m to the north, these are described in the entry for Achleum. At least two of these clearance cairns may be former shielings.

- 1. General view of north part of settlement from SE
- 2. Rig and furrow to north of settlement
- 3. General view of settlement from across river to NW with large depression in foreground
- 4. Structure J from west
- 5. Corn drying kiln K from SE
- 6. Corn drying kiln K from SW
- 7. Structure L from north
- 8. Structure M from NE, showing "porch"
- 9. Structure M from SSE
- 10. Structure N from SW
- 11. Structure Q from SE
- 12. Structure R from south







River Feshie

NN 845954 SMR: NN89NW0011

Visited 23rd Aug. Weather bright, sunny and warm. Two buildings lie close to a bend in the road, on the west bank of the River Feshie at its junction with the Allt Garbhlach

Structure - NN 84835 95432

Eastmost of the 2 structures on the west bank of the river. This substantial rectangular building is on a N-S axis and measures 12m x 3m internally. Defined by substantial earth banks 0.6-0.8m in height and 1.5-2m in width. No evidence of an entrance.

Photograph - 1. East structure from SE

Sructure - 25m to the west of the previous structure

Within a small plantation of trees (obvious shelter for deer during the winter), the remains of this building are on a NE-SW axis. It measures 7m x 3m internally and the walls, although variable, are 0.3m in height and 1m in width. Overplanted with trees.

Enclosure and walls

SMR NN89NW0022

300m to the north of previous two structures and on the east side of the river, an enclosure and several walls are to be found :

- A small rectangular enclosure, at NN 84985 95712 on the west side of the main ?enclosure wall and contiguous with it. On a N-S axis, 8m x 5m, defined by a single course of stones to 0.3m height. Photograph 2. Enclosure from SE (also wall at NN 84928 95728 from SE)
- **?Enclosure wall** is 0.3m in height and 1m in width. Stretches through the heather to the south from the previous small enclosure and also to the north of where it finishes at NN 84992 95738
- A 10m length of wall at NN 84958 95710. On a NE-SW axis, 0.3m in height and 0.8m in width, made up of rough stones.
- Close to the river at NN 84928 95728, a short stretch of wall on an E-W axis, 7m in length, 0.4m height and 0.8m in width.

Allt Garbhlach

Bridge

NN 85116 95368 SMR NN89NE0010 On the north side of the stream the abutment of a bridge is to be seen. The unmortared stone facing is 0.8m in height and 1m in width. Photograph - 3. Bridge abutment from SW

?Clearance Cairns

NN 85796 95548 SMR NN89NE0011

Roughly 5m square, rising to 0.5m and amidst a vast area of heather on a NW facing slope. May be a natural morainic feature.

A few metres to the west of the previous cairn, a similar cairn of similar size and height. Photograph - 4. ?Cairn from SW



Carnachuin North

NN 8470 9475

SMR: NN89SW0009

Visited Saturday 16th June 2001. Weather – cold and overcast, threatening rain. This site lies on a terrace, well above the river on its west bank. It comprises a settlement of 4 structures in the north and a variety of platforms almost certainly connected with the WW2 training camp, centred around a well maintained cottage, in the south. A building marked as "kennels" appears on the 1st edition OS map of 1872, nothing is depicted at the site on the earlier maps.

To the north, there are two structures on the west side of the road:

Structure A

This structure lies beside and parallel to the road on a NNW/SSE axis. The obvious low turf and stone footings are covered with short heather. There are two compartments, the northerly one measuring $9 \times 3m$ internally and that in the south $2 \times 3m$.

Structure B

Lies on an east/west axis and measures 10 x 2.5m internally. The low stone footings are 0.5m thick and rise to 0.2m in height, there are no internal walls but there could be an entrance in both the north and the south walls.

On the east side of the road there are a further 2 structures :

Structure C

A flat rectangular area, lies on top of a knoll directly to the east of structure A. It is on a north/south axis and measures 14m x 3m, there is evidence of stone footings at the north end and at the south end where it is rebated into the slope.

Structure D

Lies 7m to the south of structure C on an east/west axis and measures 9 x 3m. The heather covered turf and stone footings of the south wall are very evident, the north wall is rebated into the slope. There is no evidence of a wall on the west side. A prominent depression to the south may be associated with this building.

Caim E - NN 84764 94649

Clearance cairn, 2m in diameter and 0.3m in height.

Pit F - NN 84739 94633

At the foot of a west facing bank, a square pit/?store, 2m square and 0.8m deep. It has a slightly raised earthbank to the west, no evidence of an entrance.

In the south and on the east side of the road:

Platforms G(NN 84733 94595), H, J(NN 84736 94535), and K

Four platforms in varying states of preservation, with J being the best preserved. 16m x 3m on a N-S axis. It is defined by a very definite kerb of stones and with rough paving of irregular stones internally. The others are more wasted, being mostly grass covered. Possible bases for wartime structures.

Structure/?Shieling L - NN 84730 94512

On a north/south axis and measuring internally 5m x 2m. Defined by earthbanks of varying height, 0.3m in north end, less distinct at south end and generally 1m -1.5m in width, grassy. Appears to be an entrance at north end of east wall.

Pit M - NN 84742 94516

To the east of previous structure at the foot of a west facing bank there is an oval pit/?store 2.5m x 1.5m x 0.5m deep with an entrance at south end.

More platforms on the west side of the road in the vicinity of the cottage:

Platforms N

In a small coniferous plantation, two concrete platforms on a NNW-SSE axis, each 24m x 6m. Probably bases for timber structures dating from WW2.

Platform O

Grassy platform on a N-S axis measuring 24m x 6m. Banked out at east side where there is a retaining slope 1m in height. Probably bases for timber structures dating from WW2.

Platforms P - NN 84666 94480

Six concrete platforms on a N-S axis, each 10m x 4m at varying levels. Probably bases for timber structures dating from WW2.

- 1. Structure A from north.
- 2. Structure B from east.
- 3. Structure D from east.
- 4. Not allocated
- 5. Platform J from south
- 6. ?Shieling L from south.
- 7. Pit M from south.
- 8. Platforms P from south



. . . .

ŝ





Coille an Torr NN 849 945 SMR : NN89SW12

The remains of a wartime encampment are situated on a terrace within the forest on the east side of the River Feshie, The features are almost certainly connected with the field training during WW2 and are opposite Carnachuin North. The site is quite complex, a plan was drawn of the features and this should be referred to as brief notes only were taken. It may well be that further features are to be found in the vicinity.

Platforms Q - Centred on NN 84942 94618

A "brick block", R, and a number of concrete platforms of varying size and alignment, these are almost certainly bases for timber buildings.

Trenches S - Centred on a small hill - NN 84970 94442

On S side of a small hill there is a man-made trench on a N-S axis, 80m x 8m and 2m deep. On the NE side of the hill there is a zig-zagging trench, generally 1m deep and 1m in width which leads up to the summit of the hill where there is a evidence of timber "shuttering" internally.

?Water tank T - NN 85171 94691

Concrete tank, 6m square and with an internal wall dividing it into two equal halves. 1.3m deep. A burn to the east would have been easily diverted into the tank. A rectangular trench, 20m x 3m, lies to the north.

- 1. "Brick block" R from SE
- 2. Trenches S from SW
- 3. Watertank T from south



Carnachuin NN 846 939

SMR: NN89SW 0001

Visited Saturday 19th July 2003. Weather - dull and windy. The site lies on a raised moraine on the west side of the River Feshie. A farmstead of 3 roofed buildings, 1 unroofed building and 4 enclosures is depicted on the 1st edition OS survey. The settlement is marked on the Thomson map of 1830 but not on the Roy survey of 1750. Today the site has been developed, with previous buildings being reconstructed and modern structures and sheds erected, a large fenced enclosure lies to the west. The line of the former road exists as a track taking a slightly lower route. Two enclosures and the remains of a single structure/?shieling adjacent to the track are all that remains of the former ?farmstead. A monument is to be found on top of a knoll to the SW of the farmstead. It has the inscription "Highland Fieldcraft Training Centre - 1943-1945 - In memory of those who gave their lives for their country and who trained in this glen and at Gairloch, Ross-shire".

Structure - Rectangular and on a NW-SE axis this measures roughly 6m x 2.5m. Well defined turf walls to 0.3m height and 1.2m in width with rounded corners. A manhole cover situated internally may indicate the existence of a tank.

Enclosure - Small enclosure roughly 12m x 10m lies adjacent and on the west side of the old track. A niche of diameter 1.5m is in the SE corner

Enclosure - Adjacent and to the south of the previous enclosure, this measures 22m x 12m and is defined by an earth bank which drops abruptly to the old track on its east side.





Glen Feshie Lodge

NN 842933 SMR: NN89SW0004

The Shooting Lodge was probably built in the early 1890s. It appears on the 2nd edition OS survey of ?1912, but not on the 1st. In the vicinity of the lodge there are several features.

Northern group - NN 843693512 SMR NN89SW0013

A group of 3 structures lie 250m to the north of the lodge. Two structures on the west side of the road may be shielings. A third structure lies on the east side of the road:

Westmost Structure - Is on a N-S axis and has internal dimensions of 8m x 2m. Defined by linear banks, 0.3m in height and 1.5m in width, with rounded corners, slopes gently to the north at which end there is a depression 0.5m deep also a ?entrance or drain in the NE corner.

Middle Structure - Lies just 5m from the previous structure and is also on a N-S axis, it is 7m x 2m with less well defined banks, heather covered, it also slopes gently to the north and has a depression 0.5m deep at that end. South end is ill defined. No evidence of an entrance.

Eastmost Structure - Is on a NW-SE axis, it is well defined and 11m x 2.5m internally. The heather clad earth banks are 0.4m in height and 1.5m in width. South end is less well defined and there is no north wall This may be a pen for ?sheep.

Photographs

- 1. West structure from south
- 2. Middle structure from south
- 3. East structure from north

Southern group - SMR NN89SW0014

600m to the south of the lodge a further group of 3 features lie close to a conspicuous knoll and may be connected with sheep or deer management. A pond lies 25m to the NE, at NN 84214 92720, this may be man-made although it is unclear whether or not the retaining bank is artificial:

?Enclosure - NN 84177 92644. SW of the knoll and situated at the edge of a moraine terrace, this circular depression of diameter 10m, appears to be man-made. It is open to the east. It may be a pen or a ?quarry.

Structure - NN 84192 92688. To the north of the knoll a rectangular feature on a N-S axis has internal dimensions of 11m x 3m. Defined by linear earth banks, 0.1-0.2m in height and 1.5m in width. N end appears rather amorphous with humps and hollows which could indicate an additional compartment or an entrance. A well defined ditch lies close to the west bank and drains away to the SW.

Pit - 10m to the east of previous structure a circular pit lies at the foot of the knoll. 5m in diameter and 1m deep.

In a small birch wood to the north, at NN 84229 92857, 2 rectangular ?enclosures, lying 5m apart, on a N-S axis are to be found. They appear as depressions . East enclosure is 9m x 2.5m and 0.3m deep, west is 6m x 5m and 0.2m deep. These may be quite recent and may be pens for ?game birds.

- 4. Circular ?enclosure from north
- 5. Structure from SE
- 6. Pit from east
- 7. East ?enclosure from south (also west enclosure from SW)





(Allt Choire Chaoil) Rie-na-Bruaich : Alternatives - Rinabruach, Rionaburgh,

Ryaburgh or Rillatabruach (?misreading from Roy map).NN 849934SMR NN89SW0008

Visited Saturday 16th June 2001. Weather - cold and overcast, threatening rain. The settlement comprises of 15 structures and 1 enclosure. It is situated in the upper part of a fluvial fan where the Allt Choire Chaoil issues onto the flatter valley floor and is at an altitude of 370m. It appears on Roys military survey of 1750, but is not depicted on the 1st edition map of 1872. Oblique aerial photographs were taken in 1995 by the RCAHMS. Several clearance cairns are to the NW, 2 of which may be former shielings. A head dyke encloses to the east and north and a large concrete platform to the SW is probably related to WW2. The remains of a ?sheepfold and ?dip also lie to the SW, on the south side of the Allt Choire Chaoil.

Structure A

At the north limit of the settlement this rectangular structure has an internal measurement of 6m x 3m, it lies on an east/west axis. The stone footings of the walls are scattered but the walls are 0.8m in width and 0.2m high. The corners of the building are squared and there is no evidence of an entrance or internal walls.

Structure B

This structure appears as a flattish rectangular area, 7m x 3m on an NW/SE axis. There is some evidence of low turf footings and at its east end the structure is rebated into the slope, there is also evidence of stonework here too.

Corn drying kiln C

A corn-drying kiln with 3 compartments on an east/west axis. The kiln, at the east end, is 2m in diameter and 1.5m deep with almost vertical sides. The middle compartment measures 3m x 3m internally and has a circular structure in the SE corner with a well-preserved flue connecting it to the kiln. The stone and turf footings of this compartment are 1m in width and 0.3m high and there is a doorway to a further compartment to the east. The walls of this western compartment are much more wasted and rise to a height of 0.2m, it measures 4m x 3m internally.

Structure D

A structure measuring 7m x 2.5m on a north/south axis, this has low turf footings to a height of 0.2m and width of 0.5m. There is no stonework evident and no entrance.

Enclosure E

This sub-square enclosure is roughly 20m x 20m. The obvious turf and stone walls are grass and heather covered and ?0.2m in height. The enclosure includes a natural gully/dry watercourse in its northern part.

Structure F

The low turf and stone footings of this structure enclose an area of $9m \times 3m$ on a NNE/SSW axis. There is no evidence of a wall at the south end but there may be an extension in the form of a compartment measuring $3m \times 3m$ to the north.

Structure G

The stone footings of this structure, with an internal measurement of 6m x 2.5m, lie on a north/south axis. There is an entrance in the NW corner of the west wall. The low heather clad footings of an extension to the building can be seen to the north, this compartment is 3m x 3m and there is no evidence of a west wall.

Structure H

This structure on a north/south axis has an internal measurement of $12m \times 2.5m$. The stone and turf footings of 3 compartments are evident, with those of the northern compartment being most complete. This compartment is $3m \times 2.5m$ with the heather covered footings rising to a height of 0.5m and being 0.5 to 1m in width - ?entrance. The middle compartment is $2.5m \times 2.5m$ and the southern $6m \times 2.5m$, both are grass covered and the walls rise to a height of 0.2m

Structure I

Lying on an east/west axis, the low stone and turf footings of this structure enclose an internal area of 10m x 2.5m. There is an entrance in the north wall but no evidence of partitions.

Structure J

This appears to be the most recently used structure on the settlement. The stone footings are more complete, 0.3m high and comprised, in the main, of dressed stone. The corners of the structure are squared and there are two possible entrances in the west wall. The structure lies on a north/south axis and has an internal measurement of 10m x 2.5m. There are no internal partitions.

Structure K

Lies on a north/south axis and measures 9m x 2.5m internally, this structure has substantial heather covered walls, with some stonework rising to a height of 0.5m and with a width of 0.5m. There is an entrance at the NW corner in the west wall.

Structure L

Lies on a north/south axis and has an internal measurement in total of 11m x 3m, sloping down from north to south. There is a cobbled area of irregular angular stones (0.1 to 0.4m in diameter) in the northern part of the structure, there is some evidence of surrounding wall footings (8m x 3m). The southern part of the structure has irregular humps of undefined shape.

Structure M

Lies on a north/south axis and has an internal measurement of 11m x 3m. The low wall footings are covered with grass and heather and have some stonework, they are 0.2m high and have a width of 0.5rn. There could be an entrance in the west wall. The structure is adjacent to the stream but separated from it by a ?man-made channel in which there is a depression, this could be associated with the structure (?a water-mill)

Structure N

This again may be a more recently used building. The wall footings are of dressed stone, variable in height (0.2m to 0.5m), 0.5m in width and with obvious squared corners. The structure is on a north/south axis, measures internally (total) 12m x 3m and has a partition dividing off the southern 2m, with a doorway to the west. There is an entrance in the east wall and a possible extension to the east measuring 4m x 3m, but this is very vague, a stone setting representing the north wall being the most obvious feature.

Structure P

Represented by a rectangular flat area, on a north/south axis, and measuring $12m \times 3m$. It has surrounding low turf footings for the most part, but they are absent for part of the west wall and to the north, where a gully falls away into an apparently natural channel. There is a possible extension to the east of the structure, measuring $3m \times 3m$.

Structure Q

Situated in an elevated position next to a natural gully, this structure is adjacent to P and only I m distant, it lies on a north/south axis and measures 9m x 3m. It is surrounded by low grass covered turf wall footings in which there is no evidence of an entrance.

An earthwall stretches away from the NE corner, to the north across the gully and there is an obvious manmade scoop in the opposite bank of the gully.

Several clearance cairns are to be seen in the area of improved land to the west of the settlement: **Clearance Cairn S** - **NN** 84876 93460 E-W axis, 12m x 5m and 0.6m in height

Clearance Cairn T - NN 84761 93531

Oval in shape with depressed centre. On a NW-SE axis, 5m x 3m but with an "extension" of stones to the west. Raised above surrounding level by 0.5m, but depression is 0.2m deep. Mostly turf banks, are 1m in

width. Possible shieling, infilled with clearance material.

Clearance Cairn U - NN 84767 93507

Similar in shape to previous cairn but with more stones, and on a NNW-SSE axis. Measures 6m x 3.5m and is 0.7m in height. Possible shieling, infilled with clearance.

Clearance Cairn V - NN 84796 93485

2.5m in diameter and 0.6m in height, is largely grass covered

Clearance Cairn W - NN 84706 93522

Circular, with diameter of 5m and 0.8m height it is partially grass covered.

Clearance cairn X - NN 84797 93543

Low, 2.5m in diameter and 0.3m in height

?Clearance Cairn Y - NN 84746 93560

Circular feature, 3m in diameter and 0.2m in height. Mostly grass covered.

?Sheepfold/?Enclosure R - NN 8463 9369

250metres to the SW of the main settlement. Three earthbanks of a sub-square enclosure are to be seen on the south side of a small stream. Measures roughly 7m x 7m. Open to the east (uphill side). West bank is 1m in height. North and south banks "taper off" to the east side, north one continuing in an arc to the north. Stream close by to the north has a smaller stream leading off it into a rectangular depression 8m x 3m to the west of the enclosure (see plan). This may be associated and may be something to do with management of sheep (?or deer)

Platform Z - NN 84794 93358

SMR NN89SW0016

Rectangular concrete platform on a N-S axis with dimensions of roughly 32m x 18m, made up in sections. Some bricks, wooden timbers and cast iron (?broken fire surround) lie about. The platform is recessed into the slope at its east edge where there is a steep bank 1.5m high at south end and 2.0-2.5m at the north end, where there is a knoll, presumably of excavated material. This is probably connected with the wartime activities. Photo 22 from south

Photographs

- 1. Structure A from east
- 2. Enclosure E from NE.
- 3. Corn drying kiln C from west.
- 4. Corn drying kiln flue and kiln from WSW.
- 5. Structure G from south.
- 6. Structure H from north.
- 7. Structure J from SSW
- 8. Structure K from north.
- 9. Structure L from south
- 10. Structure L close-up of cobbles in north end.
- 11. Structure M from north.
- 12. Channel and depression to south of M from SW.
- 13. Structure N from SSW.
- 14. Structure N from east
- 15. Structure P from SE.
- 16. Structure Q from south
- 17. Clearance cairn T from SE
- 18. Clearance cairn U from SE
- 19. Clearance cairn W from S
- 20. Clearance cairn Y from SE
- 21. ?Sheepfold R from SE
- 22. ?Sheepfold R from west, with rectangular depression in foreground
- 23. Platform Z from NE

SMR NN89SW0015














Ruigh - Aiteachain: Alternatives - Riatachan, Ryatachan or "The Island" NN 846 932 SMR: NN89SW 0002

Visited Friday 6th June 2003. Weather - fine but windy. The site is situated on the valley floor amidst scattered mature pine trees. It comprises of a roofed bothy, a former building now reused as a toilet and evidence of 2 further structures. The 1st edition OS survey of 1872 depicts a ?farmstead comprising 10 roofed buildings and 2 enclosures, also a well. It is suggested that most of the structures on the 1st edition may be timber buildings, although a track has been constructed/?bulldozed in their vicinity. No evidence of settlement appears on the Roy map of 1752 or on the Thomson map of 1830. The site is known to have had associations with the painter Edwin Landseer from the ?1830s to ?1860 (see Appendix 1).

Structure A - NN 8456 9317

Evidence of a building on an east/west axis, exists in the form of a rectangular depression 0.5m deep, it measures 10m x 4m. No wall footings. A mortared chimney of dressed stone rising to a height of 5m, is situated within the east part of the structure. It measures $1.2m \times 0.75m$ at its base, tapers towards the top and has a fireplace $1m \times 1m \times 0.5m$ deep. Evidence of the mortared walls of a porch at the SW corner also exists with stone footings to 0.3m height and 0.5m width (see plan). A large beech tree (?150 years old) grows a few metres to the east, this is a species not indigenous to the surrounding terrain.

Structure B - NN 8456 9323.

Low grass covered wall footings of a rectangular building on an east/west axis measuring internally 9m x 2.5m. Turf with some stones evident, the walls are generally 0.2m in height and 0.8m in width. No evidence of entrances or internal walls.

Structure C - NN 8461 9325.

Roofed bothy measuring 12m x 4.5m. Maintained by Mountain Bothy Association and in good order

Structure D - NN 8461 9322.

Partially roofed structure used as a toilet. Reused from former stone structure, evidence of which exists in the outer walls (rising to 1-1.5m) and blocked up windows. On north/south axis and measuring 5m x 4.5m

Structure E - NN 84723 92338 SMR - NN89SW 0005

500m to the south of the main group of buildings. Rectangular structure on N-S axis, measuring internally 10m x 2.5m. Defined by linear earth banks, more substantial at the north end where they are 0.2-0.3m in height, 1m in width and heather covered, but much lower at the south end where they are grassy.

- 1. General view from east
- 2. A from SW
- 3. A chimney from SW
- 4. A porch from south
- 5. B from NE
- 6. C from SW
- 7. C and D from NNE
- 8. E from south







Ruigh Fionntaig- Shooting Lodge and kennelsNN 843917SMR NN89SW0003

Visited Saturday 6th October 2001. Weather - windy and overcast, threatening rain. The remains of this lodge comprise of 7 stone structures, 1 enclosure and 2 pits. It is situated on the west bank of the Allt Lorgaidh, on the valley floor of Glen Feshie at a point where the main glen bends away to the east. It is at an altitude of 370m. The site is depicted on the current OS maps as a single ruin. 15 buildings are shown on the 1st edition map of 1869 and the name book of the same year supplies the information that "they are chiefly of wood and used as a shooting lodge". The lodge is known by the name of "Bedford Huts" (by the estate) and it appears on a plan of 1828 as "The Duke of Bedfords Shooting Lodge" (see Appendix 1). Oblique aerial photographs taken in 1995 show the site, with abundant rig and furrow cultivation in the vicinity

Structure F

This rectangular structure, the largest of the group, has an internal measurement of 14m x 5m, it lies on an east/west axis. The substantial footings of dressed stone are 0.5m in width and generally 0.8m in height. There is evidence of mortaring and two doorways in the south wall. No evidence of internal walls.

Structure G

Lying close and to the south of the previous building this structure is on a N/S axis. The internal dimension is 9m x 4m. The substantial dressed stone footings rise to 0.8m and are 0.5m in width. There is a doorway in the east wall.

Structure H

Close to the stream, this building measures 6m x 4m. The substantial ruined walls of dressed mortared stone are variable in height rising to ?1.2m in the east wall. There is a doorway in the ?NE corner.

Structure J

A structure measuring 10m x 4m on a north/south axis, this has low stone footings to a height generally of 0.2m to 0.3m, although the north wall is 0.5m high. The footings are made up of two parallel courses of dressed stone with an overall width of 0.5m. There is an entrance in the NW corner

Structure K

This substantial structure is on an E/W axis and has an internal dimension of $11m \times 4.5m$. The ruined walls of dressed and mortared stone rise to 0.8m and are 0.5m in width. There is an entrance in the north wall and no evidence of internal partitions.

A square pit is situated to the east (similar to Pit P). It is 1m deep, measures 1.5m square and has an internal facing of dressed stonework.

Structure L

The dressed stone footings of this structure, with an internal measurement of $8m \times 4m$, lie on a north/south axis. The stone footings of the east and west walls are low, the more obvious footings of the north and south walls are 0.6m in height. There is a entrance in the west wall and another in the SE corner.

Structure M

This structure has an internal measurement of 6m x 5m. The substantial stone and turf footings of the building are 1m in height in places, 1m in width and the internal area has a sunken appearance. The south wall of the structure is formed by the south wall of enclosure N at its east end, there is also an additional length of wall parallel externally (see plan) at this point. There is an entrance in the NE corner.

Enclosure N

The south and west boundaries only of this enclosure are evident. The remains of the south wall are of dressed stone, generally 0.3m high and 0.5m in width. It is 35m long. The western boundary is a grass covered turf bank rising to 0.4m in height and is 1m in width, it is 20m long and has a slight curve inward at the north end.

Pit P

Similar to the pit east of structure K this square pit is 1m deep and 2m square, it has an internal facing of stonework.

Two kennels are located 100m west of the shooting lodge:

Kennel R

Rectangular low earthbanks surround this structure which is on a N/S axis, 11m x 4m and divided into two equal compartments. Each compartment is filled with a stone "dump".

Kennel Q

On the same axis this structure is similar to the previous one but measures $12m \times 4m$ and has 3 compartments. The middle one only is filled with stones, the outer two are smaller in dimension, Being approximately $3m \times 4m$

Between these last two structures there is a scatter of regular stones and to the west a small circular earthbank.

- 1. Structure F from SE
- 2. Structure G from NNE
- 3. Structure G and H from NE
- 4. Structure H from north
- 5. Structure J from south
- 6. Structure K from WNW
- 7. Pit east of structure K from SW
- 8. Structure M from SW
- 9. Structure L from SE

Ruigh Fionntaig- Settlement/?ShielingsNN 842918SMR: NN89SW0010

Visited Saturday 6th October 2001. Weather – windy and overcast, threatening rain. The settlement is comprised of 5 structures and is situated on a terrace above a small stream. It is 150m northwest of the remains of the shooting lodge of the same name and at an altitude of 370m. The site is not depicted on the 1st edition OS survey, and does not appear on Roys military map.

Structure A

Lies on a N/S axis and has an internal dimension of $9m \times 2m$. The heather clad turf footings rise to a height of 0.4m and there is no evidence of an entrance. The corners of the building are rounded and the fence bounding the adjacent forest has been erected over the SW corner (now removed - 19.07.03)

Structure B

Also lies on a N/S axis, this structure has an internal measurement of 11m x 2m. The grass covered footings rise to 0.5m with no evidence of an entrance. The corners of the walls are rounded.

Structure C

Lying on a NW/SE axis and with an internal dimension of 10m x 2m, the grass covered footings of this structure vary from 0.2 to 0.3m high. No evidence of an entrance.

Structure D

Barely discernable, the heather covered footings outline a structure measuring 8m x 2m on a N/S axis sloping gently to the north

Structure S

The northmost structure of the group. Rectangular, on a N-S axis, 4m to the north of Structure A and at one time bisected by a deer fence (now removed - 19.07.03). Internal dimensions 11m x 2m. Defined by linear earthbanks with some stones to 0.2m in height, heather covered, built out at SE corner and recessed into slope on west side. No evidence of an entrance or internal partitions

Bridge E

The turf and (probably) stone abutments of this small footbridge are obvious 50m to the SE of the settlement. Several moss-covered rotting wooden planks of the deck have fallen into the stream. The bridge is most probably of much more recent origin than the settlement and more likely to be associated with the kennels and shooting lodge nearby.

Photographs

- 10. A from SSE
- 11. B from S
- 12. C from W
- 13. D from NW
- 14. Bridge E from NW
- 15. S from SE

Ruigh Fionntaig - Farmstead (east of Allt Lorgaidh)

NN 847915 SMR NN89SW0017

Visited 15. 08.03. Weather hot and sunny. This farmstead of 2 buildings and an enclosure is situated on the edge of a river terrace amidst a large area of improved land, 400m to the SE of the shooting lodge at Ruigh Fionntaig and to the east of the Allt Lorgaidh. It does not appear on any of the maps.

North structure - NN 84724 91460

Rectangular building on a NW-SE axis measuring 10m x 3m internally. Defined by grassy earthbanks 0.2m in height and 1-1.5m in width.

South structure - NN 84720 91441 Rectangular building also on a NW-SE axis measuring 8m x 2.5m internally. Defined by low grassy

earthbanks 0.2m in height and 1m in width. Photo 12 from SE

?Enclosure - NN 84648 91457

Rectangular ?enclosure on an E-W axis measuring 5m x 3m internally. N and S walls exist as earthbanks 0.2m in height and 1-1.5m in width. Open at east and west ends.

Clearance Cairn - NN 84663 91453 2.5m diameter and 0.3m in height

Clearance Cairn - NN 84617 91441 3.5m diameter and 0.5m in height

Clearance Cairn - NN 84554 91482 4m x 3m and 0.5m in height

Photograph -

16. N structure from SE

















Allt Lorgaidh

The Allt Lorgaidh is a tributary of the River Feshie. It rises in the hills, 5kms to the south of Ruigh Fionntaig and flows northwards descending the steep corrie of Slochd Beag, to join the Feshie at Ruigh Fionntaig. A constructed stalkers path climbs the west side of the corrie and continues along the burn for the whole of its length (depicted on 1st and 2nd edition OS survey, but it ceases at NN 842886, halfway along the burn).

Building - NN 844 913 SMR NN89SW0011

A single structure lies on the east bank of the Allt Lorgaidh as it emerges from the Slochd Beag onto the main valley floor. It is situated 30m from the stream. It does not appear on any maps although aerial photographs taken in 1995 show an abundance of rig and furrow cultivation in the vicinity. The structure lies on a N/S axis, measures 10m x 3m internally and has grass covered turf footing rising to a height of 0.2 - 0.3m.. The corners of the building are squarish and there is no evidence of an entrance.

Kiln - NN 84313 91306 SMR NN89SW0018

What is probably a lime kiln is situated on the edge of a heathery terrace on the west bank of the Allt Lorgaidh. Circular bowl is 2.5m in diameter at the top and 1m deep. In the NE a recess of diameter 1.5m, with a stone edge at the back opens towards the NE. No other features were noted in the immediate vicinity, although the previous structure (SMR NN89SW0011) lies not far away across the burn. It is highly possible that other features have been washed away by the torrents that scour the valley. Visited 15.08.03.

Rectangular Platform/?Building - NN 84233 91002 SMR NN89SW0019

Situated on the west bank of Allt Lorgaidh there is a possible platform for a timber building. It lies on a north/south axis, is 14m x 3m and has a ?partition separating southern most third. Defined by vague earthbanks 0.1-0.2m in height and 1.5m wide, more discernible in south, where they are 0.5m high.

On west bank of Allt Lorgaidh, 2kms south of previous structure:

Building - NN 84152 88390 SMR NN88NW0002

Rectangular building on a NNW-SSE axis, internally 6m x 2.5m Defined by distinct turf banks 1m in width and 0.3m in height. Possible entrance in north end of NE wall, from where there is a distinct channel stretching northwards to the circular structure. Channel is 7m long, 1m wide and 0.5m deep.

And a Circular structure - NN 84157 88402

Defined by a turf and stone bank, it is 5m in diameter and 0.8m deep, "shallowly" ramped towards the centre. Walls broken by a small outlet or channel in the NNW (in line and opposite channel previously mentioned). Close to the stream. Could be concerned with management of sheep or deer.

A further 0.5km to the south and also on the west bank of the stream is :

Building - NN 84089 87940 SMR NN88NW0001

Small rectangular building measuring internally 4.5m x 2.2m on a north/south axis and set in boggy ground. Defined by distinct walls of rubble and turf with plenty of stonework 1m in width 0.3m in height. Could be an entrance in north end of east wall and also a small store attached to the north end of the building, just 1m x 2.5m and defined by a low stone setting.

And a further 1km to the southeast on the east bank of the stream is :

Building/Bothy - NN 84643 86910 SMR NN88NW0004

A derelict timber and tin bothy in a sheltered south facing recess.

- 1. Structure at NN 844 913 from south (also from north)
- 2. Kiln at NN 8431 9130 from NW
- 3. Kiln from NE
- 4. Platform at NN 8423 9104 from south
- 5. Structure at NN 8415 8840 from south
- 6. Circular structure at NN 8415 8840 from south (also from SE)
- 7. Structure at NN 8409 8794 from west
- 8. Bothy at NN 8409 8691 from west





Creag na Caillich

NN 855 905

SMR: NN89SE0003

Visited 15.08.03. Weather hot and sunny. This settlement of 3 buildings, all of which have quite substantial remains, is situated on an area of higher ground on the valley floor, at one of the narrowest parts of the glen amidst mature pine woods. It does not appear on any of the maps but is thought to one of the possible sites for the Duchess of Bedfords huts (see Appendix 1)

Structure A

The northmost dwelling is on a NW-SE axis and measures roughly 10.75m x 2.94m internally. Stone walls, roughly constructed are to a height of generally 0.6-0.7m but 1m in places, width of 0.95m has tumble and is turfed up on the outside. The structure has squared corners and there is probably an entrance in the NE wall, 0.86 wide and 4.44m from the NE corner.

Structure B

The middle dwelling is also on a NW-SE axis and aligned with previous building, it measures roughly 10.14m x 2.80m internally. Stone walls, roughly constructed are to a height of 0.6-0.7m but 1m at the SW wall, and with width of 0.9m (1.5m including tumble), it has squared corners. Possible entrance in the NE wall, 1.30m wide (but much tumble), 4.03m from NE corner. No internal partitions.



Structure C

The largest and southmost of the three, is on a NW-SE axis, measures $11m \times 3.50m$ internally and has 2 compartments divided by a low setting of stones. Stone walls of the building are to a height of 0.8-0.9m and width of 0.65m (1.5m with tumble and turf), and have squared corners. The north compartment is $4m \times 3.5m$ and has a wide entrance in the N end of 1.92m with well defined stone edges. There is an entrance in the NE corner of the south compartment, it is 1.4m in width but with much tumble

Sheepfold - NN 85067 91111

SMR: NN89SE0004

A rectangular sheepfold, 700m to the NW of the settlement, on a NNW-SSE axis. It is depicted on 1st edition OS survey of 1872 and lies on the east bank of the river immediately adjacent to it. The main fold is 30m square and defined by wasted earth banks with some large stones, although there is a length of ?dressed footing stones in the south wall (photographed). Compartments of varying size are to be found at the north end, as depicted on the sketch, the stone footings of the walls are generally 0.4m in height and 1- 0.8m in width. What may be a "dip" lies adjacent to the river in the

NW corner, it is 1.2m deep and measures 4m x 2m.

- 1. Structure A from SE
- 2. Structure B from SE
- 3. Structure C from SE
- 4. Sheepfold NE compartment from east
- 5. Sheepfold ?Dip from SE
- 6. Sheepfold South wall from east







Rhuigh Chreagan NN 863898 SMR: NN88NE0004

Visited Saturday 12th July 2003. Weather - fine. This probable shieling site lies on the north bank of the River Feshie on a fertile fluvial fan, the outwash of an obvious deep gully to the north. It does not appear on any of the maps. There are 11 structures.

Structure A - NN 86320 89738

A rectangular building on a NW-SE axis, internal dimensions 6m x 2.5m. Defined by low stone walls 0.3-0.4m in height and 0.8m in width. Heather covered. No evidence of an entrance

Structure B - NN 86293 89761

An L-shaped building on a small knoll. On a NW-SE axis, internal measurements are 6m x 2m but narrower at south end. Extension to the NW is 2m x 1m. Substantial remains of walls are made up of stones and are 0.3m in height and 1m in width. Possible entrance in north end of east wall.

Structure C - NN 86277 89762

Small rectangular building to W of previous, appears more as a grassy platform and is barely discernable. Slightly depressed and measures 5m x 2m.

Structure D

A rectangular structure on a N-S axis, this rectangular building has internal dimensions of 5m x 2.5m. Appears more as a grassy depression, walls less distinct but rise to 0.3m and 1m in width at north end, no stones evident. Could be an entrance in north end of east wall.

Structure E - NN 86251 89817

Two metres to the west of previous structure and on same axis, internal dimensions of 6m x 3m. Walls are of earth and stone and are 0.2m in height and 0.7m in width with squared corners. Possible entrance in east wall.

Structure F - NN 86226 89823

A rectangular building on a NE-SW axis, internal dimensions 5m x 2m. Appears as a depression with slight turf walls to 0.2m in height and 1m in width

Structure/?Pen G

To the NW of previous structure. Could be a circular structure with internal diameter of 2.5m. Surrounded by earth banks 0.3m in height and 1m in width, entrance in SE. This structure could extend to south

Structure H - NN 86340 89803

Rectangular building on a N-S axis, internal dimension of 8m x 2.5m Defined by single course of stones

Structure J - NN 86338 89798

5m to S of the previous building, a further rectangular building on same axis, internal dimensions 7m x 2.5m. Defined by low turf banks, barely discernable, to 0.1m in height and 1m in width.

Structure K - NN 86304 89794

To west of previous building and on N-S axis with internal dimensions of 7m x 2.5m. Well defined turf walls 0.2m in height and 1.5m in width Could be an entrance in the middle of west wall

Structure L - NN 86394 89780

A rectangular building on a NW-SE axis, internal dimensions 6m x 2.5m. Defined by remains of stone walls 0.2m in height and 0.7-0.8m in width. Could be an internal partition dividing of the south most third. Grassy.

Photographs

1. A from SE

- 2. B from NW
- 3. E from south (also D from south)
- 4. F from SSW
- 5. G from SE
- 6. H from south
- 7. J from SSE (also K from SSE)
- 8. L from SE







Sron na Ban-righ

NN 871882 SMR: NN88NE0005

Visited 15.08.03. Weather sunny and hot. This shieling site is marked on the Thomson map of 1830 and situated at an altitude of 590m at the point where the ground levels off, above the steep south side of Glen Feshie. A constructed stalkers track ascends a spur out of the glen from an old suspension bridge over the river. The track is much wasted and less obvious in its lower part, but better preserved higher up. It finishes at a prominent cairn, 200m north of the shielings.

Shieling A - NN 87165 88222

On an obvious spur, a rectangular building on a N-S axis with internal dimensions 6m x 2m. Substantial remains of rubble and turf walls which are 0.5m in height and 1-1.5m in width. Grassy

?Pen B - NN 87170 88241

15m to NE of previous structure, this oval ?pen, 4m x 2m, has roughly constructed stone walls to 0.8m height. Possible entrance in the NE where there is "turn-in" of the west wall. Heather covered. May be a later structure connected with shooting period.

Shieling C - NN 87116 88219

Rectangular structure on top of a knoll, appears as a rectangular depression on a N-S axis and measuring ?6m x 2m. Defined by substantial earth banks generally 1.5m in width and up to 1m in height on the west side, but 0.5m on the east. Could be an entrance at south end of west wall. Grassy, with a small grassy platform to the east.

Shieling D- ?30m to NW of previous structure

Structure of 2 compartments on a NE-SW axis and on a grassy knoll. Northmost is 3m x 2.5m, southmost is D-shaped, 3m x 2m, adjacent and at right angles. Defined by remains of roughly constructed stone walls generally to a height of 0.5m and width of 1m with much tumble. This structure may be a later structure on top of and re-using an earlier shieling site, evidenced by a grassy level platform extending to the northeast.

Hut E - NN 87193 88325

A small rectangular structure, 3m x 1.2m, against a small knoll. Walls roughly constructed of rounded boulders are built to 1m height. Entrance at west end. Could be a shelter for deerstalkers

Bridge - NN 87041 88950

SMR NN88NE0006

Double upright timber posts and the wire are all that remains of an old bridge, on both sides of the River Feshie. There may be the remains of a second bridge further upstream.

- 1. Shieling A from south
- 2. ?Pen B from SW
- 3. Shieling C from south
- 4. Shieling D from SSW
- 5. Hut E from WNW
- 6. Bridge from west







Ruighe nan Leum: Alternatives - Ria Leame or Rea Leame NN 882892 SMR: ?NN88NE0003

Visited Saturday 12th July 2003. Weather - fine. Situated on a heathery, south facing slope well above the river, this site is depicted on the Thomson map of 1830 (on the west side of the Allt Leum), but not on the 1st edition OS survey and not on the Roy map of 1752. Two shieling bothies (5m x 3m) were recorded by J. Wordsworth in 1997 at NN 888893 (?on the east side of the Allt Leum), these may be what is described here,

Structure A - NN 881 892

A rectangular structure close to the track on a NE-SW axis, measuring internally 6m x 2.5m. Defined by linear earth banks 0.3m in height and 1.5m in width with some stones evident. The structure has rounded corners and an entrance at the NE end.

Structure B

On the east side of a small burn, this rectangular structure on a NE-SW axis, has internal dimensions of 6m x 2m. Linear earth banks rise to 0.2-0.3m in height and are 1m in width but more substantial at the north end where they are 0.5m in height and 1.5m in width. Possible entrance at west end of S wall.

Structure C

5m to south of previous structure and on E-W alignment, this structure has internal dimensions of 6m x 2m also. The low earth banks rise to 0.1m and are 0.5m in width with a few stones evident.

Structure D - NN 88178 89174

A sub-circular structure, internal diameter 4m. Defined by an earthbank 0.3m in height and 1-1.5m in width. Internal partition divides off the westmost third, where there appears to be an entrance at the south end

Structure E - NN 88200 89187

On a NE-SW axis, internal dimensions 6m x 2.5m, this L-shaped structure seems to have an annexe to its SE end, 2m square. Generally defined by low earth banks, 0.2m high and 1.5m in width, with some stones. Track encroaches on northmost corner.

Structure F - NN 88330 89156

Rectangular building on E-W axis appears more as a grassy platform which is recessed into the slope at its north edge, 6m x 2.5m.

Building G - NN 88626 89018 SMR NN88NE0001

The remains of a small rectangular structure lie on the east side of a heathery knoll, in the mouth of the narrow ravine of the Allt na Leuma. N-S axis, internal dimensions 4m x 2m, with roughly constructed stone walls to a height of 0.6-0.8m, overgrown with heather. The corners are squared and there is an entrance at the SE corner.

- 1. A from west
- 2. B from NE
- 3. C from NE
- 4. D from NE
- 5. E from NE
- 6. F from east
- 7. G from east
- 8. G from east






Inver Eindart

NN 906885 SMR: NN98NW0002

Visited Saturday 12th July 2003. Weather - fine. A remote site in the upper reaches of the glen near to the watershed with the Geldie Water. An unroofed building appears on the 1st edition OS survey. Several features were identified

?Shieling A - NN 90609 88484

On the east side of the burn, there appears to be the low remains of a rectangular structure on a NNW-SSE axis, 5m x 2.5m internal measurements. III defined banks of stone and turf to 0.1-0.2m height and 1m in width

?Enclosure B - NN 90623 88507

A sub-square, sloping, platform roughly 9m square, defined by a setting or curb of stones very evident in the south. Depression in east corner 1.5m diameter and 0.5m deep.

Shieling C - NN 90646 88548

A rectangular structure on an E-W axis, on a raised grassy knoll to the east of the burn. This structure appears to have had a more recent one, D, built within its west end, more or less overlying the whole of that end. All that remains of C are low stone and turf banks (to the east of D), 0.2m in height and 1m in width, defining an area 3m square. The original structure would have had an internal dimensions of 7m x 3m. To the north of structure D, a small rectangular depression 2.5m x 1.5m in dimensions and 0.2m deep, on the same axis, may be associated.

Structure D - GR as previous

Rectangular stone structure, 3.5m x 2.5m, within structure C. Roughly constructed walls of dressed stone to 1m height and 1m in width are "turfed-up" on outside. Squared corners. Entrance in middle of south wall is blocked with roughly placed stones. Floor is paved with slabs

Structure E - A derelict wooden bothy with a tin roof lies a short distance to the east.

- 1. A from NW
- 2. B from north (also curb from NW)
- 3. C (and D) from NE
- 4. D from north





Slionanaig (misreading from Roy map): Alternatives - Stronavaity, Rie Gauldy NN 915875 SMR: NN98NW0001, also NN98NW0003 and NN98NW0004

Visited Saturday 12th July 2003. Weather - fine. This site lies almost on the watershed/estate boundary, at an altitude of 560m and comprises two groups of structures. That to the north, of which a building (NN98NW0001/NN98NW0004) forms a part, is almost certainly a shieling site, which has been reused ?as a shelter for deer stalkers or in the management of sheep. It is named on the Roy map of 1750 as "Stronavaity", and a building is depicted as being unroofed on the 1st edition OS survey. It is referred to as Rie Gauldy on a land assessment of 1803. Two unroofed buildings (NN98NW0003), marked on the current OS map, lie 300m to the south.

Structure A - NN 91427 87585 SMR - NN98NW0001/NN98NW0004

Substantial remains of a rectangular, 2 compartment, building on a N-S axis. Southmost or main compartment is roughly square and has internal measurements of 3m. Turf and stone rubble banks surrounding rise to 0.6m in height, and have a width of 1.5m. Rounded corners. Entrance in NE corner. To the north an extension or compartment, 4m x 2.5m, defined by earth and stone banks which are more rudimentary than the main compartment.

Structure B - NN 91478 87512

On the edge of a raised bank, this small rectangular structure on a N-S axis has internal dimensions of 5m x 2.5m. Defined by substantial turf banks to 0.5m in height and 1.5m in width. Could be an entrance in east wall. To the south a small niche or hollow in the bank appears man-made and may be associated. It is 2m in diameter and open to the west

Structure C - NN 91460 87526

On the edge of a raised river terrace, this 2-part structure is on a E-W axis. West part is 8m x 3m and is defined by earth banks. Well defined on north and west sides being 0.2m in height and 1.5m in width. Rounded corners. The east part is a circular depression, 3m in diameter and 0.5m deep, surrounded by a substantial earth bank 0.4m in height. A sloping internal facing of stones is evident in a small section of this feature and there is a narrow elongated entrance in the NE. This may be a more recent adaptation to the structure and may be associated with the management of sheep

Structure D - NN 91462 87543

A rectangular building on a NW-SE axis, internal dimensions 7m x 2.5m. Defined by earth banks 0.3m in height and 1.5m in width. There could be an entrance in the north end of the east wall. This structure is slightly lower but continuous with structure E.

Structure E

A 2-compartmental rectangular structure on a N-S axis, slopes gently to the north. Southmost or main compartment has internal dimensions of 5m x 2.5m, the surrounding earth banks which are 0.2m in height have some stones evident. The north compartment is 3m x 2m and has no north wall.

Structure F

A few metres to the north of previous structure this rectangular building lies on a NNE-SSW axis and has internal dimensions of 7m x 2.5m. Appears more as a rectangular depression 0.2m deep, the remains of the walls being barely discernable. Possible entrance at north end of east wall.

Structure G

A rectangular ?enclosure on a NW-SE axis, open at its north end and abutting the previous structure. Internal dimensions are 5m x 3m and defined by low earth banks 0.2m in height and 1m in width

Structure/?Enclosure H

A damp mossy circular depression 0.8m deep lying 2 metres to the NW of G, open to the east and surrounded by earth banks 0.3m in height and 1.5m in width. May be associated with the management of sheep or deer.

Two buildings to the south NN 914873 SMR: NN98NW0003

The remains of two buildings - NN98NW0003, are to be found 300m to the south of the shieling site, south of the bend in the River Feshie. From this location there are good views down both the Geldie Water to the east and the Feshie to the north. It is speculated that these two buildings may be deer watchers houses,

Structure J - NN 91439 87264

The westmost of the two buildings is rectangular and on a N-S axis. It measures 6m x 2.5m internally, and is defined by low earth banks 0.1-0.2m in height and 1m in width. There may be an entrance at north end.

Structure K - NN 91457 87269

Just east of the previous building, on a slightly raised piece of ground, a rectangular building of 2 compartments on a N-S axis. The south compartment has internal measurements of $7m \times 2.5m$ and the north, which is less well preserved, is $4m \times 2.5m$. Main part of building is defined by the remains of walls to 0.2-0.3m in height and 1m in width, bilberry covered. No evidence of an entrance.

- 1. A from SE
- 2. B from S
- 3. C depression/west part, from NW
- 4. C from SE
- 5. D from south
- 6. H from SSW
- 7. J from S
- 8. K from S







B. Allt Fhearnasdail

(Corarnstilmore) Knockinbui: alternatives Knockan Bhuidh NN 835 987 SMR: NN89NW0019

Visited Sunday 4th June 2000. Weather - dull, threatening rain. The site is quite open and lies on a terrace to the south of the Allt Fhearnasdhail. An extensive area of improved land with evidence of rig and furrow cultivation lies to the west and south. The settlement appears on Roys Military map of 1750 (Knockinbui) and on Thomsons map of 1830 (Knockan Bhuidh), but it is not marked on the 1st edition OS map of 1872.

Structure A

A corn-drying kiln and barn lie on the north side of the crest of a knoll. The bowl to the west is roughly 3m in diameter and 1.5m deep. The remains of the barn to the east are barely discernible, being rectangular and 5m x 3m. There is an oval depression, 2m x 1m and 1m deep, in the NW corner adjacent to the kiln.

Structure B

Appears well on the aerial photographs but on the ground the grass covered low turf footings of a structure measuring 8m x 4m are barely discernible. The NW wall footings are more obvious and are approximately 0.15m high, the structure is rebated into a small knoll at its SSW end. There is no evidence of an entrance.

Enclosure C

Situated in a large depression this (probable) enclosure is sub-square and slopes gently to the west, it measures roughly 17m x 14m. The south boundary is formed by what appears to be a manmade escarpment and the northern edge is a natural embankment. No evidence of walls at the west or east borders. There is a large clearance cairn 4m in diameter in the west.

Structure D

A rectangular platform on a raised area to the north of enclosure C, is on a east/west axis. Measures 13m x 4m, has little evidence of footings but is recessed into a small knoll on its northern edge and built out at its west end. A stone alignment marks the line of the south wall before the slope drops guite steeply.

Structure E

Southmost of 2 rectangular structures recessed into the west end of the knoll. Lies on a NE/SW axis and measures 11m x 3m. NW wall comprises stone and turf footings. Area is much burrowed by rabbits.

Structure F

Northmost of the two structures mentioned above, this lies immediately adjacent to and on the same alignment as structure E. The low turf footings define an area of 9m x 3m, an entrance can be identified at the NE corner. A shallow channel or re-entrant sloping off to the NW and lying to the NW is associated.

Structure G

The low turf footings (0.2m high) of a structure measuring 12m x 4m can be identified lying on a north/south axis. Some stonework can be seen in the west wall, there is no evidence of an entrance.

Structure H

A rectangular building, on a north/south axis and measuring 15m x 4m lies to the north of the knoll. Defined by low turf footings 0.2m in height. Within the north end of the building the kerb of a ?drain, 2m long and 0.5m in width, can be identified. No evidence of an entrance to the building.

To the west of this building there are many humps and hollows, no form to them can be detected. A depression, 2m in diameter and 0.5m deep, lies 10m to the NW

Structure J

Indistinct footings of this structure, to the south of H, appear well on aerial photographs, but on the ground are barely discernible. It measures 6m x 3.5m. Some stones define the S wall but no evidence of a N wall

Structure K

Situated on the edge of the terrace this small rectangular building on a north/south axis measures only 5m

x 2.5m. There is stonework in the east wall and a stone setting for the north wall. It may be an extension to structure L but it is offset to the west. A small pit in the bank to the north may be associated.

Structure L

A rectangular structure lying on a north/south axis, 2m east of structure, internal measurement is 6m x 2.5m. Wall footings are difficult to discern, no evidence of a north wall and the corners are rounded.

?Storage pits M

Two possible storage pits are situated at the bottom of the NE slope of the knoll and are 3m apart. Internal measurement roughly 2m x 1m, with well defined heather covered banks and openings to the NW, these are almost identical to N and P

There is evidence of "quarrying" on the SE and NW sides of the knoll and on the NE side, an oval depression, 7m x 4m and approximately 1m deep is heavily overgrown with heather.

?Storage pits N and P - GR NN 837 985

250m to the SE there are two small structures on the east side of a ridge - ?storage pits, possibly associated with the settlement. Both are of turf construction but the north one has an internal stone setting, internal measurement is 2m x 1m. The one to the south is much overgrown with heather and is 3m x 1m.

- 1. Corn-drying kiln A from the west
- 2. Corn-drying kiln A from the south-east
- 3. Structure B from east
- 4. Enclosure C from east
- 5. Structure D from north-west
- 6. Structure E from the east, B in background
- 7. Structure F from the south
- 8. Structure E and F from the north-east

- 9. Structure G from the south
- 10. Structure H from the south-east
- 11. Structure H ?drain from the south-west
- 12. Structure L from south
- 13. Storage-pits M from north-east
- 14. ?Man-made depression from west
- 15. Northern storage pit N from the north
- 16. Southern storage pit P from north-west











CorarnstilmoreNN 830986SMR: NN89NW0017

Visited 13th June 2003. Weather – overcast, threatening rain. The site, which appears as a grassy fertile area on a hillside which is otherwise heathery, lies at the foot of a northwest facing slope and is quite exposed. An extensive area of fertile land lies on the valley floor to the west and south. There is much evidence of recent use for sheep management, with enclosures and a jumble of detritus - corrugated iron, barbed wire and fence remains. The settlement appears on Roys map of 1750 and also on Thomsons map of 1830 and on the 1st edition OS map of 1872, where it is marked as having several roofed buildings.

Structure A - NN 83005 98579

A rectangular structure on a WNW/ESE axis measures internally 12m x 3m. Low linear turf walls are 1m wide and rise to 0.2-0.3m, some stones evident. Squared corners. May be an entrance in the north wall but no evidence of internal walls. Possible entrance at SW corner.

Kiln B - NN 82987 98543

Possible ?limekiln constructed into a steep northwest facing bank, roughly 7m x 3m. Upper part is 1.5m in depth, and is an arc of roughly 3m diameter (top) and 1.5m (base). The lower part is a vertical piece of stonework, measuring 1m x 1m and may be a flue or ?entrance to the kiln. Structure C may be associated.

Structure C - NN 82999 98543

Lies adjacent and above, to the SE of B, with which it may be associated. Dished rectangular area, measures internally 8m x 4m and is 0.3-0.4m deep. Has surrounding turf walls of 1m width and 0.2m height. The structure lies within a more recent sheepstell and may have been robbed of stone. Could be an additional extension at right angles to the east, where a rectangular dished area 7m x 2.5m abuts. This is recessed into the slope at its northeast corner.

Sheepfold D - NN 83005 98545

A circular sheepfold of 20m diameter which has been extensively robbed of stone. Only an arc in the south remains in which the footings of a well constructed wall exist, these are 1m in width and 0.2m height. Occasional stones to be seen in the NE arc.

Structure E - NN 83019 98542

On the highest point of this part of the settlement, this rectangular platform is on a NNW/SSE axis and measures $7m \times 5m$. It is recessed into the slope by 0.3m at the south end and revetted out by 0.3m at the north end. No evidence of wall footings.

Kiln F - NN 83022 98560

This structure is in 2 parts and may be a ?lime kiln. Lower part to the NW, is on a steep slope. It forms a recessed semicircular arc of diameter 2.5m (upper part) and 4.5m (lower part), is 7m in length, and has a total "drop" of 2.3m. Upper part to the SE is a rectangular dished area on a NNE/SSW axis, it measures 6m x 3m and is 0.5m deep at south end. Surrounding earth banks are 1m in width and 0.2m height.

Structure G - NN 83089 98610

One of 2 rectangular structures on a spur in the east of the settlement. On a N/S alignment and measuring 12m x 2.5m internally, appearing as a platform with more lush grass outlining the walls, although there are some stones evident and the long east wall is recessed into the slope, 0.2m height. A square hollow adjacent and to the SE of this building may be an annexe. It is 3m x 3m and 0.2m deep, some stonework evident defining the edges. H lies only 1.5m to the N. Quite decent pasture land surround these 2 buildings with many humps and hollows, but no form can be made of them. Rabbit burrowing.

Structure H - NN 83092 98626

Similar to and on the same alignment as G this building appears as a shallow dished rectangular platform measuring 12m x 2.5m. Outlined by barely discernable earth banks 0.1m in height.

Clearance cairn I - NN 83047 98625

A pile of stones with a diameter of 2m and height of 0.3m

The following features are to be found within the two modern walled enclosures (not described here) recently used for management of sheep. The construction of the substantial walls of the enclosures have most probably been much facilitated by stone robbing from the older structures!

Enclosure J - NN 83024 98664

An enclosure on a NW facing slope, 16m x 14m. East side is recessed into the slope, which falls sharply by 1m, the west edge extends into marshy ground. South side has an obvious earth bank at its east end

Structure K - NN 83037 98659

Rectangular building on a NNE/SSW axis, internal measurement 13m x 4m. Discontinuous earth banks 1m in width and 0.2-0.3m in height are discernable but amorphous. No evidence of north wall

Structure L - NN 83052 98659

A depression roughly 3m in diameter and 1m deep (at the rear), adjacent to the wall of the outer enclosure which at this point is 2m high. A stone edge appears at the foot of the wall and there may be evidence of wall footings extending to the NW, making this a possible rectangular building on a NW/SE axis of roughly 6m x 3m recessed into the slope.

Structure M - NN 83050 98685

Appears to be the main building and the most recently used. It has been re-used to form part of the walls of the inner enclosure. On a NE/SW axis it measures 18m x 4m and has a doorway in the east wall. Walls are well constructed, with evidence of mortaring, they are 0.5m in width and 1.5m height. East, north, and half of the west wall appear to be of the original building, south wall is much rougher. 1st edition OS survey marks this as L shaped. The inner enclosure extends to the north and west and contains an extensive jumble of corrugated iron, timber, broken fences, nettles etc

Structure N - NN 83060 98749

Rectangular structure, much wasted. Appears as a platform 13m x 3m on the west side of the wall where there is an earth bank defining it, and also as a recessed area (the slopes of which are to be found on the east side of the wall). There is a roofed building marked on the 1st edition OS survey in the same position.

Sheepdip P

A sheepdip (probably modern) constructed of concrete ?2.5m x 0.6m x 1m deep

- 1. General view (of south part
- from ENE)
- 2. A from east
- 3. B from east
- 4. B from north
- 5. C from ESE
- 6. D from east
- 7. E from south
- 8. F (upper) from south
- 9. F (lower) from WSW
- 10. G and H from SSE
- 11. G from north
- 12. H from NE
- 13. J from SW
- 14. K from north
- 15. L from WSW
- 16. M from east
- 17. N from SW
- 18. N from NE



Coranstilmore Sheepfold

NN 83687 97613

SMR: NN89NW0021

Visited Sat 30th Aug 2003, weather overcast threatening rain.

A well-preserved circular sheepfold is situated roughly 1km to the SE of Corarnstilmore, in a coniferous plantation. It has not been over planted with trees, and those in the adjacent area have been cleared. It has an internal diameter of roughly 20m and the walls are almost complete and to a consistent height of 1m. They are 0.8m wide at the base and 0.5m at the top. There is an entrance in the SSE with a substantial lintel. The entrance is 1.2m in height, 1m in width at the base and 0.8m at the top. The lintel is a large flat slab measuring 1.5m x 0.6m.

Photographs

- 19. Sheepfold from east
- 20. Sheepfold with entrance from SE,

Baileguish - Fields/Earthbanks NN SMR: NN89NW0016

Visited Sunday 29th June 2003. Weather fine and sunny. A possible farmstead of at least one unroofed building was identified from aerial photographs (RCAHMSAP 1995) at NN 8188 9815 west of the settlement of Baileguish. No evidence of a building was found at this location, but a number of trailing earth banks, boundaries and field clearance cairns were identified.

Northern Earthbank - from NN 81740 98475(west end) to NN 82232 98590 (east end)

A substantial earth and stone bank, 500m in length, dividing improved land in the north, adjacent to the Allt Chomraig, from poorer heather covered land to the south. The bank is made up of much clearance material and may be of recent origin. At its west end it is more "winding" and amorphous. There appears to be a small stretch of earthbank running parallel and 15m distant at this point.

Southmost Earth bank - from NN 81703 98435 (west end) to NN81941 98469 (east end)

A substantial earth and stone bank, 250m in length, running roughly parallel to the previous one. Variable in height from 0.5 - 0.8m and width from 1 - 1.5m. Heather covered. Appears to be the older of the two earthbanks.

Clearance cairn - NN 81825 98489

A flat cairn of clearance material 3m in diameter











BaileguishNN 823985SMR No: NN89NW0015

Visited Friday 13th June 2003. Weather – overcast, threatening rain. This township situated in a broad open valley, at the angle where the Allt Chomraig and Allt Mor of Coire Fhearnasdail converge, has extensive areas of fertile improved land to the east. The settlement appears on Roys Military map of 1750 and also on Thomsons map of 1830 and on the 1st edition OS map of 1872, where it is marked as having three roofed buildings and an enclosure.

Structure A - NN 82279 98492

A small rectangular structure on the east spur of a knoll, on a north/south axis it measures internally $4m \times 2.5m$. Substantial wall footings are 1-1.5m in width and 0.5m in height. The structure is recessed into the hill on its west side and has a platform, $4m \times 4m$, adjacent to the east. Could be an entrance in the NE corner, rubbish and tumble internally.

Enclosure B - NN 82258 98508

Lies to the north of a knoll on a east/west axis, this enclosure measures roughly 40m x 20m. Defined by low linear earth banks, particularly evident in the west, north and south where it bounds the knoll, less evident in the east. Has lush grass and reeds growing internally.

Structure C - NN 82291 98527

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, internal measurements are 8m x 3m. Low linear earth banks have some stones and west wall is more evident than east, generally 1m in width, 0.2-0.3m in height.

Structure D - NN 82278 98545

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, internal measurements 10m x 3m. Low linear earth banks are 0.2m in height with some stonework. No evidence of north wall

Structure E - NN 82314 98530

Possible rectangular building on a north/south axis. Badly wasted and cut by a vehicle track. Internal dimensions 8m x 3m. North end has turf banks to a height of 0.2m and 1m width, south is more amorphous

Enclosure F - NN 82313 98548

Probable recent enclosure, surrounded on west and south by roughly constructed wall and on east by remains of the west wall of structure G. No evidence of a wall on the north side. Measures 14m x 14m

Structure G - NN 82320 98545

Rectangular building, possibly depicted as being roofed on 1st edition OS survey. On a NNE/SSW axis and measures internally 11m x 3m. West wall has well constructed stonework to height of 0.3m, with nicely rounded corners at N and S ends. No evidence of walls to east and north, defined here more as a platform.

Structure H - NN 82313 98560

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, internal measurements 11m x 3m. Defined by substantial linear earth banks, 1-1.5m in width and 0.5m in height with well defined rounded corners. West wall more substantial, east and north walls are "platformed" out. A vehicle track cuts the S end of the building. No evidence of an entrance.

Structure I - NN 82326 98571

Small square structure, appears as a depression, 0.2m deep, measures roughly 2.5m x 2.5m internally.

Building J

A well constructed roofed building in reasonable order. Roughly 12m x 5m externally

Structure K - NN 82332 98557

A rectangular building on a NE/SW axis, measuring 8m x 2.5m internally. Surrounding earthbanks are 1m in width and 0.2m in height, with well defined rounded corners.

Structure L - NN 82334 98544

Linear area/?Structure on same axis as K and to its SE. An area of amorphous humps. Measures 18 x 4m.

Structure M - NN 82373 98537

A complex unroofed building which has been much altered. Lies on an east/west axis, measures roughly 21m x 5m. Well constructed mortared walls to height of 2m. Gable at west end to 3m, has "slits" presumably for ventilation.

Structure N - NN 82385 98550

Abuts M and lies at right-angles. North part is 8m x 4m internally, and defined by remains of low stone walls to height of 0.4m, could be entrance in east wall. South part measures 10m x 5m, with walls to 2m.

Structure O - NN 82396 98549

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, measures internally 8m x 3.5m. Remains of low turf and stone walls to 0.2m and width of 1m. No evidence of north wall or of an entrance.

Enclosure P - NN 82366 98501

Trapezoidal enclosure to northeast of a knoll with rutted track crossing it. Measures roughly 22m (NW-SE) x 20 to 10m (NE-SW). Bounding walls of earth and stone are to a height of 0.3m and width of 1m.

Corn-drying Kiln Q - NN 82363 98461

On the west side of the crest of a "double" knoll. Lies on a NW/SE axis. The bowl in the north part has a diameter of 3m (upper part) and 1.5m lower part) and is 1m deep. West part of bowl has preserved and faced stonework. Barn to the south is 6m x 3m internally recessed into hillside 0.5m deep and has a depressed oval area in its northwest corner (adjacent to bowl)

- 1. General view from NE
- 2. General view from SE
- 3. Structure A from west
- 4. C from south (also D from south)
- 5. G from NNE (also E from south)
- 6. H from SSE
- 7. K from SW
- 8. L from SW (also I from SW)
- 9. N from SW
- 10. M from SW
- 11. O from NNE
- 12. Corn Drying Kiln from SE (also bowl from E)









Luibean Ruadh

NN 8127 9805

SMR: NN89NW0005

Visited Sunday 29th June 2003. Weather fine and sunny. The site lies on the south bank of the Allt Chomhraig at an altitude of 340m. It is on the north west side of an elongated knoll in a plantation of trees, most of the buildings have been planted over with trees. There has been recent felling of trees surrounding the knoll. The remains of six stone built buildings and an enclosure were identified. A farmstead of 3 unroofed buildings and an enclosure is depicted on the 1st edition OS survey and the site appears on the Thomson map of 1830 but not on the Roy survey of 1750.

Structure A

A rectangular building on a NW/SE axis with internal measurements 8m x 3m. Substantial remains of stone walls to a height of 0.8m (west wall) and 0.3m (east wall) and width generally of 0.8m, with squared corners. Could be 2 entrances in east wall, no internal walls.

Enclosure B

Attached to and on west side of structure A, this enclosure is roughly 15m square. The remains of the enclosing walls are substantial - 0.5m in height, 1-1.5m in width (with tumble) and are moss-covered.

Structure C

On a small elevated ridge, this rectangular structure on a NE/SW axis, is 11m x 3m internally and has 2 compartments. It is overplanted with trees and recessed into the slope at the north end. The main/north compartment is 8m x 3m and has a small annexe or porch, measuring internally 2m square, at its NW corner where there is also evidence of an entrance. The smaller compartment to the south is 2.5m x 3m. The walls of the building are generally 0.3m in height (but 0.8m at south corner) and 1m in width with tumble internally. Squared corners. The internal wall dividing the compartments is quite substantial.

Structure D

A rectangular building on a NE-SW axis, internal measurements 10m x 2.5m with rounded corners. It is over planted with trees. There are more substantial remains of the walls at west end where they rise to 0.8m in height and 1m in width, forming a semicircular west end to the building. Grass and moss covered low stone walls to 0.2-0.3m in height and 1m in width at the eastern end. No evidence of an entrance. This structure may be a corn-drying kiln, although it is not in a suitable position for such (being quite sheltered and on the east side of the knoll), and the "bowl" is not typical, having a vertical face internally.

Structure E

5 -

Rectangular structure on a NW-SE axis measuring internally 8m x 3m. Squared corners. Remains of walls are substantial, 0.3-0.4m in height and 1m in width. May be an entrance in NE wall.

Structure F

Rectangular building on a ENE-WSW axis measuring internally 11m x 2.5m, has been over planted with trees. Walls rise to 0.5m, but 0.7m in places, and 1m in width. They are quite roughly constructed and moss covered. No evidence of an entrance. Corners at west end particularly could be rounded.

Structure G

Rectangular building on a ENE-WSW axis, internal measurements 9m x 3m. Substantial remains of walls to 0.3-0.5m height and 0.8m width, are moss covered. Evidence of an entrance at the east end of the NW wall

- 1. A from SE
- 2. C from NE (also C from SW)
- 3. D (west end) from east (also D from SW)
- E from SE
- 5. G from NE
- 6. F from east (also F from west)



Allt na Caoileig

NN 8181 9676

SMR NN89NW0023

At an altitude of 410m, this farmstead lies on the east bank of the Allt na Caoileig, 1.5kms to the SSE of Luibean Ruadh and 500m west of the township of Tom Fhada. There is a coniferous plantation adjacent to the southeast

Structure A - NN 81807 96758

Substantial remains of this rectangular building are on a east/west alignment and measure internally 11m x 3.5m. Remains of the stone walls with tumble are 1.5m in width and rise to 0.5-0.6m in height. There could be an entrance in the north wall. Heather covered. A substantial wall abuts at the SW corner and heads off towards the stream in a westerly direction, likewise at the SE corner heading off in a SE direction for ?15m. In both cases these are 0.6m in height and 1.5m in width

Structure B - NN 81806 96743

Rectangular structure on a N-S axis, measuring internally 9m x 3m, to the south of the previous one and on the northeast side of a knoll. The remains of the walls are linear earth banks, to 0.3m height (east side), 0.5m (west) and generally 1.5m in width. No evidence of an entrance

Enclosure - NN 81827 96852

Enclosure, roughly 12m square on the west bank of the burn. Defined by the very wasted remains of a low stone wall, 1m wide and 0.3m in height, most evident in SW corner. Heather covered.

Photographs

7. Structure A from SW

8. Structure B from south (also SW corner of enclosure from SW and enclosure from SW)





(Baileguish) Lynavragit: Alternatives - Lynabhragait NN 827 976 SMR: NN89NW0014

Visited Sunday 4th June 2000. Weather - dull, threatening rain. The site is on the east side of the Allt Fhearnasdail, at the south edge of an extensive area of improved land. A more recent sheepfold has been constructed, probably using the stone from the old settlement. A channel, possibly manmade, bisects the settlement. The settlement appears on Roys Military map of 1750 and also on Thomsons map of 1830 but not on the 1st edition OS map of 1872.

Corn drying kiln and barn A

Lies on a NW facing slope, on a WNW axis and consists of 3 compartments. The lower northwesterly is square, $2m \times 2m$ internally and 0.5m deep. Middle compartment is circular, roughly 2m in diameter, and 1m deep. The eastmost compartment is rectangular and measures $5m \times 4m$. To the south and probably associated with the structure, there is a depression 1m deep and 4m in diameter

Structure B

Turf footings of a building 11m x 4m, could be an internal partition. No evidence of an entrance

Structure C

Turf footings of a rectangular building measuring in total 15m x 4m, the small compartment to the south is 3m x 4m. Footings rise to a height of 0.2-0.3m and there is some evidence of stonework in the north walls. Could be an entrance in the NW corner. A large depression to the NW is possibly associated.

Structure D

Turf and stone footings of a rectangular building on a north/south axis, measuring 11m x 3m. Entrances in the SE and the NW corners, there could be a "porch" to the SE, where there are external abutting walls

Structure E

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, 11m x 4m. Well defined turf and stone footings rising to a height of roughly 0.3m. Could be an entrance in the SE wall.

Structure F

Rectangular building on a north/south axis, 11m x 3m. Well defined turf and stone footings to a height of 0.5m in the west and south walls, possibly an entrance in the east wall.

Enclosure G

This sub-square enclosure is bisected by the modern field wall and measures roughly 30m x 30m x 50m, the low earthbanks are clearly identified and rise to a height of 0.3m.

Structure H

Sheepfold, roughly 20m in diameter with entrances in the west and east sides. In the northern half an earthbank can be seen, this appears to predate the sheepfold but does not continue outside, A similar earthbank exists to the south of the sheepfold

- 1. Corn-drying kiln A from the East
- 2. Corn-drying kiln A from the west
- 3. Corn-drying kiln and depression from the east
- 4. Structure C from the south
- 5. Structure F from the north
- 6. Structure D (&E) from the north
- 7. Structure D with "porch" from the south
- 8. General view of the settlement from the ESE







(Coire Fhearnasdail) Tom Fhada: Alternatives - Tomfad NN 824 964 SMR: NN89NW0004 (alsoNN89NW0001)

Visited Saturday 30th June 2001. Weather - warm, overcast and windy. The settlement is comprised of 12 structures, 2 enclosure and a sheepfold. The settlement is remote and situated on a broad ridge between 2 streams at an altitude of 400m. It is seen from a distance as a green fertile patch in an otherwise heathery stretch of upland. It appears on Roys survey of 1750 and on the Thomson map of 1830 and is depicted on the 1st edition map of 1872 as having 3 unroofed buildings, a sheepfold and a head dyke.

Structure A

This structure is barely visible, it abuts enclosure P and lies on a north/south axis with an internal measurement of $8m \times 3m$. There is a setting of dressed stone in the west wall footings and a possible entrance in the north end of this wall. The east wall appears as a low heather covered earthbank. A ?clearance cairn, 3m in diameter lies just a few meters to the west

Structure B

Structure B appears as a platform, on a north/south axis, recessed into the NW edge of the knoll. Measures 8m x 3m, although it is difficult to discern its southern limit as it is quite grossly covered with heather. There could be an entrance in the north end of the west wall.

Structure C

A rectangular area in a very shallow depression measuring 12m x 4m with a considerable amount of stones (?cobbling). No apparent wall footings but the south side is recessed into the shallow slope.

Structure D

Is quite grossly heather covered, but the turf banks of the wall footings are easily discernible lying on a north/south axis. Internal measurement of 11m x 3m. No evidence of an entrance.

(Possible) Structure E

Possible rectangular structure lying on a north/ south axis, measures 9m x 3m. Heather covered.

Sheepfold F

Circular, made of dressed stone the substantial walls of this structure rise to 1.5m in places, although they are pretty wasted (0.2m) in others. There is a narrow entrance in the SSE.

Enclosure G

Measures 40m x 20m and is on a north/south axis. Substantial walls rise to 1m in the north part, but wasted in the south where the stone has probably been re-used in the construction of the sheepfold. Could be an entrance in the east wall.

Adjacent and to the north is a further (possible) enclosure bounded on its south by the north wall of this enclosure and on its west and north by a curving turf bank, 0.5m high and 1.5m in width.

Structure H

Rectangular structure is on an east/west axis, has an internal area of 11m x 3m and lies on the ridge. Remains of the substantial walls are of dressed stone, rise to 0.2m in height and are roughly 0.5m in width. A further wall stretches away to the south from the SE corner and could be the eastern boundary of a small enclosure adjacent and to the south of H

Structure I

Also on the summit of the spur and on a north/south axis, with internal measurements 11m x 3m. Substantial stone and turf wall footings are easily discernible but much overgrown with heather. The north end is recessed into the slope. There is no evidence of an entrance.

Structure J

Appears as a rectangular platform, on the same axis and aligned with I, measures 10m x 2.5m. Low stone and turf footings in the north half. At south end is recessed into the slope and has substantial stonework.

Structure K

Substantial walls of this more recent structure are made up of dressed stone and rise to 1.5m in places. The internal measurement is 12m x 3m and there is an internal wall dividing off the southern 3.5m, this has a doorway in its west part. There could be an entrance in the east wall (possibly filled in).

Structure L

Substantial heather covered stone footings define a rectangular structure which lies on a north/south axis with internal measurement of 9m x 2.5m. The walls rise to 0.4m and are 0.5m to 1m in width. No entrance.

Structure M

On the same alignment and just 4m west of structure L this structure is very similar but less obvious, the footings being more overgrown with heather, the west wall is more complete.

Corn Drying Kiln N

A corn-drying kiln lies on a knoll to the east of the settlement, at a much lower level. It lies on an east/west axis, overall internal dimensions are $10m \times 3m$. Substantial walls, 0.5m high in places and generally 0.3m in width are grossly heather covered. 3 compartments. The central bowl is intact, and is 2.5m in diameter (1.2m at the base) and 1.5m deep. West compartment is rectangular, 2.5m x 1.5m, has a depression internally but no evidence of a flue. Barn to the east measures $4m \times 3m$, no evidence of an entrance.

Enclosure P SMR NN89NW0001

Encloses a large area of improved land stretching over a hill to the south of the settlement. Substantial stone walls bound the north and the east side of the enclosure, these vary from 0.5m to 0.2m in height and are 1m wide, with tumble over 2m in places, there is a break half way along the north wall, ?an exit to the settlement. The west wall of the enclosure follows the line of a stream, on its east bank and is in a much more derelict state, also overgrown with heather.

Photographs

- 1. Distant view of settlement from SE
- 2. General view of settlement from north
- 3. Structure B from NE
- 4. Structure D from NE
- 5. Sheepfold F and Enclosure G from SE
- 6. Structure H from east
- 7. Structure I (also H) from north
- 8. Structure K from NNW
- 9. Structure L from north
- 10. Structure M from north
- 11. Looking east from settlement with kiln N in foreground

Allt Mor

Structure - NN 82652 96093

SMR NN89NW0010

A rectangular building in a small ravine 800m to the SE of the township of Tom Fhada. It lies on a NE/SW axis close to a small stream and is quite secluded. Internal measurements 6m x 2.5m. Walls quite substantial but roughly constructed, standing to 1m at north end but generally 0.5m and are 0.5m in width. Entrances at SW end and in the north end of the SE wall. NW wall built into slope. May be an "illicit" still.

Structure - NN 83184 96010

SMR NN89NW0024

A wooden bothy with a corrugated iron roof in a dilapidated state. Rectangular, on a E-W axis measuring 6m x 3m. Single course of stones footing the building. A line of disused grouse butts stretches to the west.

Photographs

1. Structure in ravine from SW 2. Wooden

- 12. Kiln N Bowl from SW 13. NE wall of enclosure P from NW
- 14. SW part of enclosure P from SW
- 15. Enclosure P from north
- 16. Enclosure P from south














Allt Mhor

Appendix 1

The Duchess of Bedford, Sir Edwin Landseer and the "Huts"

In the 1820s it was becoming fashionable for wealthy and aristocratic English folk to take a hunting lodge in the Highlands for the Autumn season. The romantic image of Scotland was being fed by the novels of Sir Walter Scott. The visitors wished to relax and enjoy the wild beauty of the surroundings and the picturesque inhabitants. Sir Edwin Landseer and other painters were to play their part in popularising the Highlands too, but it was not until 1842 that the Highlands received the royal seal of approval with a visit from Queen Victoria and later in 1848 the establishment of Balmoral.

Georgina, Duchess of Bedford (1781-1853) was the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Gordon. She had a life-long association with the area of Strathspey. It had begun through her mothers interest and love for the estate of Kinrara (North), which she had established as her home in 1770. Duchess Jane was a warmhearted, energetic and vivacious lady who secured good matches for all of her 5 daughters, the youngest of which was Georgina. Georgina married, in 1803, the much older Duke of Bedford, a prominent and influential aristocrat. It was his second marriage and she was to have 10 surviving children.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford leased the Invereshie estate from 1824 during the Autumn shooting season and developed a particular fondness for Glen Feshie. The "Duke of Bedfords Lodge" is depicted, on the west side of the river at ?Ruigh Fionntaig, on a Telford plan of 1828. In 1833 it was taken over by Edward Ellice and converted to a deer forest. The Bedfords leased the eastern side of Glenfeshie from ?1830 and Georgina came to view this as her own retreat. She wrote a letter in 1838 to Mackintosh of Mackintosh:

"I now enclose a draft for the shooting at Kincraig and Glen Feshie. I hope next year to see you there and show you what a little paradise I have in that lovely Glen, as I flatter myself I improve it every year" (NSA GD 176/2226)

And in 1839, also to the Mackintosh, she deplores the cutting down of trees to make a track:

"I grieved over the track made amongst your beautiful trees - it is a sad pity, as it gives a look of desolation to a lovely spot" (NSA GD 176/2230)

In 1823 the Duke of Bedford had become the patron of the young Edwin Landseer (1802 - 1873) and in 1824 he had introduced the painter to the Highlands. The Duchess of Bedford and Landseer became "intimate" friends, almost certainly lovers, and it is highly probable that he was the father of at least one of her ten children (Lady Rachel Russell). Glen Feshie is known to have figured prominently in the relationship, which was to last until her death in 1853. Landseer found much inspiration for his paintings in the glen. Over the years he studied the deer and painted many pictures. He painted the landscape too, but was particularly fond of portraying animals and some of his most notable works were of the life and characters of the glen. "Return from Deerstalking" and "Waiting for the Deer to Rise" figured Charles Mackintosh and Malcolm Clark, gamekeepers from the glen.

The main residence of the Bedfords, for the seasons from 1830, was the Doune of Rothiemurchus, but settlements, or "huts", as they were known, were constructed in the upper part of Glen Feshie and many distinguished guests were invited to join the shooting parties. The following pieces of writing give more detail and background of these settlements. The first two are vivid accounts from visitors at the time :

From "Life of Charles Mathews" edited by C. Dickens (1879) - Charles Mathews writes to his mother in Sept 1833 -

"After a most delightful walk (from The Doune via Glen Einich) I entered the narrow pass leading to the glen, through the centre of which foamed and tumbled the river Fishie, forming in its course an endless variety of waterfalls. Towards evening, having waded four or five times up to my middle through the stream, I entered that part of the pass which is called *par excellence* "the" glen. There I found the ladies. The Duchess, Lady Rachel, and the maids had arrived before me in their tilt-cart; Miss Balfour and Lady Georgina having, under the escort of a guide, walked all the way from the Doune. I was immediately conducted to view the habitation, and certainly never saw anything half so original in its conception or so perfect in execution as the whole thing. The appearance was that of a small Indian settlement, consisting

of one low building containing three or four bedrooms and the kitchen etc and two smaller ones of one room each, the one being dining room, parlour, drawing room, and hall and the other containing two beds for ladies. The rest of the settlement was composed of tents, various in size and in use. The buildings themselves looked like the poorest peasant cottages. The walls made of turf and overgrown with foxglove and the roof of untrimmed spars of birch. The apartments within corresponded perfectly with their exterior. Everything of rough unpeeled birch, except the uncovered turf walls. The fires of peat and clear-burning fir blazed away upon the ground, in short, everything bespeaking the habitation of some tasteful wood-cutter, The drawing room was of tolerable length and height, but the bedrooms only just large enough to turn round in. The beds of the ladies resembled small presses or chests of drawers, with mattresses stuffed with heather and pillows of the same let into them like hammocks of a vessel. The gentlemen's apartments were in tents, each containing two small heather couches, side by side on tressels, one small table and a wash-hand-stand and foot-bath, but no chairs, curtains nor looking-glass. The carpet was of turf, upon which our wardrobes were arranged, protected by occasional wood in case of promiscuous or superfluous damp"

And "On the other side of the Fishie, about a quarter of a mile from us, is another, but far inferior dwelling, formerly occupied by the Duchess, and built by her, but now the residence of Captain Ross, with whom is Mr Ellis and his son"



The

room bothie at Glenfeshie by Charles Mathews

Charles Tankerville, Viscount Ossulston, has written an account of his visit to Glenfeshie, also in 1833, in a small publication (1891) entitled "The Chillingham Wild Cattle - Reminiscences of Life in the Highlands". He was staying with Mr Ross in his "wooden house" in Glenfeshie (probably at Ruigh Fiontaig):

"We soon ensconced ourselves behind a heathery knoll within a few yards of our poacher, to watch his proceedings before we finally pounced upon him. He was busy employed in grallocking his deer. This he did with great quickness and dexterity, not omitting to wash the tallow and other treasures carefully in the burn and deposit them carefully on a stone beside the deer. He next let the head hang over, so as to display the horns, and then, squatting down on a stone opposite, took out of his pocket what I thought would be his pipe or his whisky flask; but it was a sketch-book!

Seeing that we had mistaken our man, I came out into the open and then found myself face to

face with my friend of many years to come - Landseer. He was staying with the Duke and Duchess of Bedford in their little settlement of wooden houses on the other side of the Fishie. It was arranged that I should go over to lunch there the next day

Nothing could be more picturesque than the spot chosen by this little colony for their Autumn retreat. A cluster of pretty cottages on the broad lawn of grass, surrounded by this fine forest of Rothiemurchus of self sown firs, some of remarkable size and weird form, with acres of tall junipers grouped about, as only nature can group, in these natural lawns of grass. Every here and there they opened out into beautiful vistas showing the bonny hills of Mar - "Binoch and Scarsoch" where many a wandering deer is feeding. We made for the principal building and there found them at lunch. The old Duke was sitting with an umbrella over his head, to save his soup from being watered by a dribble which was leaking from the roof above; quite happy and resigned to his fate - a wet seat in a wooden cabin instead of Woburn Abbey.

From Fraser Mackintosh "Antiquarian Notes" 1863

"The place which Lady Georgina Gordon, Duchess of Bedford, was so fond of, sometimes called "The Island". sometimes "Georgina" was the favourite residence of the Duchess of Bedford, and her "huts" were visited by the highest in Great Britain".

"Mrs Fraser (a favourite servant with the Duchess) has often told me that the Duchess was in the habit of saying that she loved her huts in Glenfeshie over and above every spot in the world. The huts were mere turf walls, bottomed with stone and by and over each door rowans were planted and trained, carrying out the ancient view that kept away the witches. Above the fireplace in the dining-room hut, was a fine picture of a stag on rough plaster by Sir Edwin Landseer. The whole needed greatest care from the severity of winter weather. The Duchess' chief residence was at the Doune of Rothiemurchus, but she spent much of the season at the huts. After her death both sides of the Feshie were rented by the same sporting tenants and the houses opposite the huts being built of wood were dryer and consequently became the principal residence (?Ruigh Fionntaig). The late Alexander Mackintosh, 26th of Mackintosh was on such friendly terms with the Duchess - a splendid tenant in every respect - that, latterly no conditions were inserted in her leases, the result being that the huts fell into ruins, particularly in the time of the Duke of Leeds, over whom the Mackintoshes had no control, nor was he there even with their consent.

The 27th Mackintosh (1861 - 1875) authorised the dining-room to be restored as far as possible and a pretty wooden hall of the finest Glenfeshie wood, with handsome windows, was erected with the old gable on which was Sir Edwin Landseers picture properly enclosed and incorporated. As to its present state I know not, not having been in the Glen for many years".

Queen Victoria in her "Highland Journals" has written a romantic account of her journey from Braemar to Badenoch through Glen Feshie in September 1860. Of Landseer and the huts she writes:

"Then we came upon a most lovely spot - the scene of all Landseers glory - and where there is a little encampment of wooden and turf huts, built by the late Duchess of Bedford; now no longer belonging to the family and alas! All falling into decay - among splendid fir-trees, the mountains rising abruptly from the sides of the valley. We were quite enchanted with the beauty of the view". (p 90)

And the following year in October 1861 she made a similar journey:

"The huts, surrounded by magnificent fir-trees and by quantities of juniper-bushes, looked lovelier than ever; we gazed with sorrow at their utter ruin. I felt what a delightful little encampment it must have been, and how enchanting to live in such a spot as this beautiful solitary wood in a glen surrounded by the high hills. We got off, and went into one of the huts to look at a fresco of stags of Landseer's over a chimney-piece. Grant, on a pony, led me through the Fishie at the foot of the farmhouses where we met Lord and Lady Russell (stepson and daughter-in-law of late Duchess of Bedford) last year" (p105)

From Grimbles "Deer Stalking and Deer Forests of Scotland, 1901(p258):

"In this forest (Glenfeshie) Landseer painted many pictures, being especially fond of studying the deerhounds bred by old Malcolm Clark, the fox-hunter. At one period there were two sets of huts in the glen, in one of which, on the Mackintosh portion, Landseer painted a group of deer with a suspicious hind on the plaster above the fireplace; but as the huts came to be disused, this chalk drawing was left exposed to the damp and though the remains of it are still to be seen, they are in a very dilapidated condition. The other of these huts was for a long time occupied by Georgina, Duchess of Bedford, who was greatly attached to the place, and so much so that when The Mackintosh proposed to sell some of the pine wood, she purchased most of the finest trees and her mark consisting of a tablet with her coronet and initials may still be identifying on some of them, although, horrible to relate, many of these badges have been removed by tourist visitors to the glen".

And Campbell Lennie in his book "Landseer - The Victorian Paragon" (1976), regarding the frescos:

"The destruction of some valuable, if unconventionally sited, works of art was due in part to a typical demarcation feud between two fiery Highland lairds. Georgina had merely leased the land, the responsibility for which was now a matter of dispute between Macpherson Grant and The MacIntosh. Meantime the rising damp and the leaking roofs were eating at Landseers frescoes.

The cartoons were probably not as remarkable as those at Ardverikie; but their preservation might have been a matter of some concern, at least in a century which expressed almost unanimous praise for all Landseer's work. General Crealock was another who visited Georgina's "ghost village" long after its founder had been laid to rest.

"The chief bothy where the Duchess had lived had had some charming drawings on its walls; but alas! When I was there, the place was in sad ruin, and but a few remnants of these pictures remained. In the hut which served as a dining room, however, there was one large drawing of a deer in good condition still, and fresh in colour - a charming sketch, and it was grievous to think that such a work of art was doomed to destruction, the more so as it might have been saved by removing it bodily from the wall"

Crealock, a fine amateur artist, did his best to preserve a record of the last large deer fresco, drawing a faithful copy of it which was probably, he noted sadly in 1892, "now all that remains". The Ardverikie frescoes had been destroyed by fire; the loss of those in Glen Feshie was even more reprehensible. In 1954 a falling tree destroyed the last of Georgina's huts, exposing the final faint traces of Landseer's joyfully spontaneous wall-cartoons to the hungry Highland winds".

Meta Scarlett writes regarding the old gable with the Landseer fresco on it:

"My father took me to see it shortly after the war (World War 2) intending to show me the last of Landseer's murals but alas only rubble remained with faint tinges of colour on the plaster" (p70)

The Location of "the Huts",

There are three possible candidates for the location of the huts, although it is probable that all three had some significance over the period.

1. Ruigh Aiteachan -

It has often been assumed that "the huts" are, or were at Ruigh Aiteachan, and some of the Victorian writings would suggest that this is the case. It is on the east bank of the river, the land which was held by the Mackintosh of Mackintosh, and it is known to have had the name Eilean More or "The Island", although it is hardly on an island but does have a small stream to the east running parallel to the River Feshie. There is documentary evidence for a settlement here from 1791. Mackintosh rentals were taken from that date to 1829, when not only a tenant, but also "The Wood Company" were paying rent. The 1st Edition OS survey of 1872 has 9 buildings in two groups. The three in the N group can be identified today and also a fourth in the south of the settlement. This last one is interesting. It is the only remaining building of a group which appear to have been ?bulldozed to make the current track. It has an intact stone chimney piece, upstanding to a height of 5m. Strangely the chimney is enclosed within the building, it does not form part of a gable end. The line of the surrounding walls is evident and would appear to have been constructed of timber. An unroofed building, with a small "square" interiorly, is depicted on the 2nd edition OS map of 1903 at this spot. Could this be the remains of "the pretty wooden hall of the finest Glenfeshie wood, with the old gable properly enclosed" constructed by the 27th Mackintosh? There is also the remains of a fallen tree within the building! Further evidence of the connection with Landseer is provided by two of his landscapes. Views



Highland corrages-"indeed mere hovels", according to Victoria- from a painting by Landseer.



Slochd Beg from Ruigh Aiteachan - Edwin Landseer



-

,



3



Exterior of the Duchess of Bedford huts at Glenfeshie



11. Reception at Glenfeshie, with the Duchess of Bedford, Edward Ellice, and others, sketched by Edwin Landseer. Private collection

from this exact spot taken in opposite directions.

In the census of 1841, three houses are occupied at Ruigh Aiteachan. In the census's of 1851 and 1861, John and Mary Fraser and their family are noted. Among their children are two daughters with the names of Rachel, born 1849, and Georgina, born 1853.

2. Creag na Caillich -

This settlement is also on the east bank of the river, the former Mackintosh land, about 2.5kms further upstream from Ruigh Aiteachan. It is situated on an area of higher ground on the valley floor, amidst mature pine woods and at a particularly narrow part of the steep sided glen. It comprises the remains of 3 buildings, all on the same NW-SE axis. There are substantial remains of stone and turf walls to a height of between 0.8m and 1m. Two of the buildings measure roughly 3m by 10m, whilst the third, the largest, is 11m in length and 3.5m in width. It has a wide entrance at its north gable end. There are no other remains to indicate that the site was used as a permanent settlement with livestock management or cultivation in the vicinity. No entries appear in the census records for this location nor, strangely, is it depicted on the 1st edition OS map of 1869. Could these be the Duchess of Bedfords huts? The paradise she lovingly developed. The settlement would appear to fit the description given by Charles Mathews very well! A further possible clue is given by one of Landseers sketches which shows the entrance to one of the huts -

it would appear to be at the gable end of one a building!

3. Ruigh Fionntaig -

The present estate owners refer to this site as the "Bedford Huts". It is on the west bank of the river, the side which belonged to Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch and Invereshie. 15 buildings are depicted on the 1st edition OS survey of 1869. The name book of the same year supplies the information that they are chiefly of wood and used as a shooting lodge. They were probably the houses referred to by Fraser Mackintosh (in 1863) as succeeding "the huts" - " being of wood they were dryer and consequently became the principal residence". They are, most likely, what Queen Victoria describes as the Invereshie huts and what is depicted as "Duke of Bedfords Lodge" on the plan of the "proposed line of the Great North Road" in 1828. Almost certainly this is the group of huts occupied by Captain Horatio Ross and Edward Ellice, and where Charles Tankerville initially stayed on his 1833 visit. Charles Mackintosh and his family of 4 children is noted at Ruigh Fionntaig in the census of 1841.

A possible sequence of events

The origins of the "shooting lodge" at Ruigh Fiontaig seem not to be in doubt. It was established by the Bedfords sometime before 1828, but by 1833 it was being leased to Edward Ellice and Horatio Ross. The original house is described as being of wood and inferior to the later settlement of the Bedfords on the other side of the river. By 1869 it had been developed, and was a much larger settlement, with mainly wooden buildings. The remains seen today would suggest that by the time it was abandoned for the present Lodge, in ?1890, there were several substantial buildings of stone.

The Bedfords leased the east side of the river at some point between 1830 and 1833. A settlement was already in existence at Ruigh Aiteachan and it was possibly added to, but by 1833 the Duchess, perhaps intent on recreating a memory from her childhood (see Note 1), had established a further settlement at Creag na Caillich, in the narrowest most dramatic part of the Glen. The Creag na Caillich site fits the Charles Mathews description extremely well. Today, although pleasant and grassy, it is very much overshadowed by trees and receives very little sunshine. A reliable source has put the trees at about 150 years old, which would mean that they had seeded at about the time the Huts were deserted.

Ruigh Aiteachan would have been occupied by the servants and ghillies, employed by the Bedfords, and it was here too, possibly later in the 1840s, that Landseer was to build his own house, the one with the chimney piece.

It is difficult to discern which of the two settlements, of Ruigh Aiteachan or Creag na Caillich, Queen Victoria is referring to in her account. Both would seem to fit the description and both could have had chimney pieces or walls with frescos on them, although no evidence could be found of stone chimneys in the Creag na Caillich buildings.

Note 1

Elizabeth Grant describes Jane, Duchess of Gordon (mother of Georgina) in her "Memoirs of a Highland Lady" 1804-1806 (p45) -

"She had for the last few years spent her summers at a little farm on the Badenoch property, a couple of

miles higher up the Spey than our Doune, and on the opposite side of the water. She inhabited the real old farmhouse of Kinrara, where she was happier and more agreeable and the society she gathered round her far pleasanter, than it ever was afterwards in the new cottage villa she built a mile nearer to us. It was a sort of backwoods life, charming to young people amid such scenery, a dramatick emancipation from the forms of society that for a while every season was delightful, particularly as there was no real roughing it. In the but and the ben, constituting the small farm cabin it was she and her daughter the Lady Georgina dwelt in, by the help of white calico, a little white wash, a little paint and plenty of flowers they made their apartment quite pretty. What had been kitchen at one end of the house was elevated by various contrivances into a sitting room; a barn was fitted up as a barrack for ladies, stable for gentlemen; a kitchen was formed out of some of the out offices, and in it, without his battery, without his stove, without his thousand and one assistants and resources, her French cook sent up dinners still talked of by the few remaining partakers. The entrees were all prepared in one black pot - a large potato cauldron, which he had ingeniously divided within into four compartments by means of two pieces of tin sheet crossed, the only inconvenience of this clever plan being that the company had to put up withal white sauces one day and all brown the next. Her favourite footman, Lang James, a very handsome impudent person, but an excellent servant for that sort of wild life, able to put his hand to any work, played the violin remarkably well, and as every tenth highlander plays on the same instrument tolerably, there was no difficulty in getting up a highly satisfactory band on any evening that the guests were disposed to dancing. Half the London world of fashion, all the clever people that could be hunted out from all parts, all the north country, all the neighbourhood from far and near without regard to wealth or station, and all the kith and kin both of Gordons and Maxwells flocked to this encampment in the wilderness during the fine autumns to enjoy the free life, the pure air, and the wit and fun the Duchess brought with her to the mountains."

Bibliography

Campbell Lennie - Landseer - The Victorian Paragon - 1976, Dickens, C. (Ed) - Life of Charles Mathews - 1879 Duff, David (Ed) - Queen Victoria's Highland Journals - 1980 Fraser Mackintosh, Charles - Antiquarian Notes 1863 Grant, Elizabeth - Memoirs of a Highland Lady -1898 Grimbles - Deer Stalking and Deer Forests of Scotland - 1901 Scarlet, Meta - In the Glens Where I was Young - 1988 Tankerville, Charles, Viscount Ossulston -The Chillingham Wild Cattle - Reminiscences of Life in the Highlands - 1891

Trethewey, Rachel - Mistress of the Arts, The Passionate Life of Georgina, Duchess of Bedford - 2003

CENSUS RECORD for Glen Feshie - 1841-1901

т ў "ь

	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1901
Bulroy	2H - 3M, 2F, 4C - farmers x 2	2H - 3M, 2F, 2C - farmers x 2	1H - 2M, 2F - farmer	1H - 1M, 2F, 5C - farmer	1H - 2F, 6C - crofter	1H - 2M - crofter & mason
Achlean	1H - 2M, 1F, 7C - farmer & agr lab	1H - 3M, 2F, 7C - farmer & shoemaker	1H - 2M, 2F, 4C - farmer	1H - 4M, 2F, 1C - farmer & foxhunter	1H - 3M, 1F, 1C - farmer & foxhunter	1H - 2M, 1F - farmer & farm servant
Stronetoper	1H - 1M, 1F, 1C - ?	1H - 1M, 3F,1C -	1H - 3M, 2F - gamekeeper & agr lab		uninhabited	uninhabited
Achleumchoit	1H - 2M, 1F - agr lab x 2			1H - 1M, 1F - game watcher	1H - 1M, 1F, 2C - gamekeeper	1H - 2M - gamekeeper & teacher
Carnchuine	2H - 2M, 2F, 5C - servant(forester/ keeper) & agr lab	?2H - 3M, 2F, 3C - gamekeepers x 2	1H - 3M, 4F, 3C - gamekeeper	1H - 1M, 3F, 1C - gamekeeper	2H - 3M, 2F - forester(deerstal ker) & tailor	1H - 2M, 1F - deer stalker
Glen Feshie Lodge					uninhabited	1H - 1M - gardener
Rynabruaich	1H - 1M, 1F, 3C - agr lab					
Eilen More (Ruigh Aiteachan)	3H - 3M, 3F, 1C - agr lab x 2	3H - 4M, 4F, 9C - gamekeepers x 2 & gardener	2H - 5M, 1F, 6C - gamekeepers x 2	uninhabited	1H - 1M, 1F - gamekeeper	1H - 1M - gamekeeper
Ruigh Fiontaig	2H - 1M, 1F, 6C - servants x 2	1H - 1M, 3F, 3C - gamekeeper	1H - 1M, 2F, 9C - gamekeeper	1H - 1M, 1F, 3C - gamekeeper		

Numbers of occupied houses and inhabitants have been detailed, together with the occupation of the heads of the household

Notes: H - house, M - male over 17, F - female over 17, C - child under 17

~

•

1 1 1

	1841	1851	1861	1881	1901
Tolvah	2H - 5M, 3F,2C - farmers x 2 & mason	2H - 4M, 2F, 2C - farmers x 2	2H - 4M, 2F, 1C - farmers x 2	1H - 2M, 3F - farmer	1H - 2M, 3F, 6C - farmer
Druimcallich	2H - 2M, 2F, 1C - wool ?HLS & pauper	3H - 4M, 3F, 3C - weaver , under keeper & pauper	2H - 2M, 4F, 4C, weaver & pauper	1H - 2M, 2F 1C	uninhabited
Knockinbui	1H - 1F				
Corarnstilmore	1H - 2M, 2F, 1C - farmer & agr lab	1H - 2M, 2F,4C - farmer (36 acres) & labourers x 3	1H - 1M, 2F,4C - shepherd	1H - 1M, 3F, 2C - shepherd	1H - 2M, 3F - farmer & mason
Lynavragit	2H - 3M, 4F, 9C - farmer & agr lab	?1H uninhabited			
Tomfad	1H - 1M, 1F, 4C - agr lab				
Baileguish	2H - 3M, 1F, 1C - farmer & agr lab	2H - 5M, 2F, 1C - farmer (20 acres) & labourers x 2	2H - 2M, 2F, 7C - farmer & agr lab	1H - 2M, 1F - farmer & shepherd	1H - 1M, 1F, 3C - shepherd
Luibean Ruadh	3H - 3M, 3F, 4C - ? & wool ?HLF	1H - 2M, 2F, 2C - retired carrier & teacher			

1 1 1

CENSUS RECORD for Coire Fhearnasdail - 1841-1901

• 4

,

Numbers of houses and inhabitants have been detailed, together with occupation of head of the household

Notes: H - house, M - male over 17, F - female over 17, C - child under 17

Appendix 3



Roys Military map - 1750



Thomson map - 1830

7-2