

**Archaeological assessment of the proposed Route of Water
Pipelines between Letterfearn and Ratagan, Ratagan and
Ault a' Chruinn, and Ardelve and Sallachy, Lochalsh,
Inverness-shire.**

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Archaeological assessment of the proposed Route of Water Pipelines between Letterfearn and Ratagan, Ratagan and Ault a' Chruinn, and Ardelve and Sallachy, Lochalsh, Inverness-shire.

Introduction

The author was asked by the North of Scotland Water Authority to carry out an archaeological assessment of the proposed route of the pipelines between Letterfearn and Ratagan, Ratagan and Ault a' Chruinn, and Ardelve and Sallachy. This project is intended to combine a desk-based assessment of known archaeological and historical data with an archaeological field survey. The object of the project is to identify areas where pipeline laying work might affect the archaeological record, both visible and conjectural, and to recommend measures to be taken to safeguard the archaeological record.

These measures might include the marking of known archaeological features to avoid accidental damage during excavation work or on access routes, and slight alterations to the route of the pipeline to avoid archaeological features where possible. Recommendations will be made on which known archaeological features it would be acceptable to damage or destroy during excavation, and what level of recording or monitoring should be carried out on such features prior to or during work. An assessment will be made based on the known archaeological record and on written records as to the likelihood of further archaeological features being revealed during excavation in any given area, and recommendations will be made on the advisability of trial excavations or archaeological monitoring during work in such areas.

All decisions based on these recommendations will be made by the Senior Archaeologist.

Method

Information on the known archaeological record was obtained from the Highland Council's Sites and Monuments Record, held by the Archaeology Unit of the Planning and Development department of Highland Council at Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, and the National Monuments Register for Scotland in Edinburgh. Aerial photographs were examined for evidence of unrecorded features. Archive material held by the Highland Archive in Inverness was examined for historical information, and information on changing settlement patterns was obtained from maps held by the map library in Edinburgh.

The archaeological field survey was carried out on April 6th 2000 in good sunny conditions. This involved walking along the entire length of the proposed route of the pipeline, searching a corridor of up to 50m for unrecorded archaeological features, and visiting known features to assess the potential impact of the project. 27 locations were

identified between Letterfearn and Ault a' Chruinn, and 10 locations between Ardelve and Sallachy where the archaeological record would potentially be affected to some degree.

Archaeological Background

Archaeological evidence for human occupation of the Lochalsh and Loch Duich area is recorded for just about every period of prehistory and history from the Late Neolithic period onwards. The earliest settlers are represented by the henge monument at Shiel Bridge and the cup marks carved on rocks at Carr on the NW shore of Loch Duich. Similarities between the henge and other Neolithic monuments in the east of Ross and Cromarty suggest an early route of communication between east and west along Glen Carron. Bronze Age settlement is indicated by the scattering of hut circles and associated field systems, and possibly the standing stone at Shiel Bridge. There are also chance finds of objects dating to the prehistoric period. Defensive structures dating to the Iron age and the unsettled succeeding centuries are found at Totaig: the broch known as Caisteal Grugaig, Letterfearn: the dun on Torran a' Bharraich, and Bundaloch: the dun known as the Bard's Castle. There are also traces of a vitrified fort on Eilean Donnan.

The early Christian period is represented by the association of certain sites with the names of early Celtic saints such as St Kentigern and St Dubhthach, the latter reputedly giving his name to Loch Duich. The Presence of Vikings is indicated only by placenames such as Totaig and Nostie, although the area is likely to have been under Viking influence until the Battle of Largs in 1263. It was after this battle that the castle at Eilean Donnan was constructed by an ancestor of the powerful Seaforth clan. This castle was the centre of power in the area until its destruction by government forces during the Jacobite rebellions.

The Clearances of the mid-18th century onward left entire townships deserted, notably along Glen Elchaig, and estate reorganisation of this time laid down the pattern of population distribution and land use which is hardly changed today.

Historical background

Letterfearn - Ratagan - Ault a' Chruinn

The earliest record of settlements around Loch Duich, in 1543, mentions Ratagan, Leachachan and Cill Chaoin-tearn, while Glenshiel is mentioned in a record of 1509. The Blaeu maps of 1654, based on Pont's survey of Scotland between 1583 and 1596, although erroneously aligning Loch Duich NE-SW, marks Lecahan, Muck, Ratagan and Ineer-Sheyl. There is a hill behind the present church and manse north of Ratagan named

A'Mhuc, with Allt na Muice flowing down to the alluvial fan now occupied by the manse, which suggests that this is the location of the settlement named Muck.

The Roy map, drawn on the 1750s, gives an indication of the pattern of settlement just prior to the Clearances and the reorganisation of the estates, with townships marked at Leachachan and Cill a' Chaoin-tearn, and two groupings of houses at Ratagan, on either side of the Allt Ratagain. There appears to be a small settlement at the most southerly point of the loch, above the road and to the west of the present improved fields. Two townships are marked away from the shore between Invershiel and Ault a' Chruinn. The land around all of these settlements is indicated as arable on the maps, but showing a concentration of cultivated land on the more fertile soils of the alluvial fans.

A picture of the pattern of settlement after the Clearances at the end of the 18th century is given by the valuation rolls showing the rentals collected in 1868-69. Almost all the land is given over to deer forest, with a very few large sheep farms held by sole tenants. Only at Wester Achintuard (Achadh an Tagh-aird at Letterfean) are listed 13 tenants paying rents of under £4 per annum. This, and presumably a few farm labourers and cottars, is all that remains of the pre-Clearance population. The land at the mouth of the Allt na Muice was occupied by the manse, where James Hogg dined in 1803, having spent an uncomfortable night at the Shiel Inn (now the Glenshiel lodge) and discussed sheep farming with Donald MacLeod of Ratagan (by then a House, home farm and small fishing station). By 1803 the greater part of Glenshiel was already given over to sheep, although Hogg described the banks of Loch Duich as being stocked with cattle and still part arable land. Hogg describes Loch Duich as an excellent fishing station, 'but there are neither villages, roads, bridges nor post office in the whole country.' The wade military road, constructed during the Jacobite rebellions to link fort Augustus with Berneray Barracks, had by 1803 already fallen into disrepair. It is now mostly overlaid by the modern road.

A revival of the population on the south shores of Loch Duich appears to have been affected only by the introduction of forestry, the majority of new housing being built on the arable ground of Ratagan.

Ardelve - Sallachy

Ardelve, Conchra and Sallachy are all mentioned in records of 1548 and marked on the Blaeu map of Pont's 1583-1596 survey, although Loch Long is drawn as no more than an inlet running north from the mouth of Loch Duich. The Roy map of the 1750s is topographically more accurate, with Ardelve and Conchra more or less in their correct location, but places the township of Sallachy on the south shore of Loch Long and names the settlement in its place as Inversagg. If, although inaccurately located, this is a reference to Allt nan Sugh, this is the only one cartographically until the Ordnance Survey maps of the 1870s. However, the stream running through the west of Sallachy township is also named on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey as Allt nan Sugh, which may

therefore confusingly be an older name for Sallachy. Most map makers of the 18th century pay little heed to Loch Long.

Roy marks very little arable ground on the north shore of Loch Long in the 1750s, apart from around 'Inversagg' and between Ardelve and Conchra. It seems that during the Clearances, settlements did not alter much along this shoreline, while up Glen Elchaig a number of townships were cleared entirely to make way for sheep. In the 1868-69 valuation rolls, 20 tenants paying under £4 per annum are recorded for Ardelve, 18 tenants are listed at Sallachy and 10 at Aultnason. Conchra, however, is now tenanted by one 'gentleman', paying an annual rent of £420. It is most likely that Conchra was originally a township, but by 1843 it is already listed as a gentleman's seat.

The layout of the crofts at Sallachy on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map (1875) show the typical strip pattern, with the houses aligned in a 'street' at the top of the crofts. Three clusters of unroofed buildings are marked to the east of the present township and may represent clachan-type clusters of houses pre-dating the reorganisation into crofts. At Allt nan Sugh the houses marked on the 1875 map also appear to be grouped in clusters, particularly two main clusters along the shore, with more recent croft houses spaced along the present road. There are some indications on the map of a higher road formerly running about 200m. above the present road.

The Archaeological Survey

Letterfearn - Ratagan - Ault a' Chruinn

1. **NG8877 2303 Structure on knoll** Indistinct footings of a structure, probably associated with the township of Hazel brae, marked on the 1st Edition Ordnance survey map whose head dyke passes close behind the knoll. **(photo no. 1)**

Recommendations: This structure should be unaffected by the project, but further remains of the pre-crofting township may be revealed in the vicinity during excavation for the pipeline.

2. **NG 8890 2250 'Souterrain'** (Underground passage of uncertain function and probable Iron Age date) This is described as being 50m. above the road and 15m. to the south of the Allt an Inbhir. No trace now visible, several large stones may indicate its original location, but the ground has been much disturbed during the laying of a water supply.

Recommendations: It is worth looking for cavities or significant large stones. This site is very close to the proposed route of the pipeline and archaeological monitoring may be advisable.

3. **NG 8910 2282 Structures** The footings of two rectangular buildings, the larger aligned NE-SW, the smaller to the north of this and aligned NW-SE. Not now visible on the ground but indicated by aerial photographs, is an enclosure to the SW of the larger building. A track is visible connecting these buildings with the road. One building and this track are marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. **(Photo no. 2)**

Recommendations: The proposed route of the pipeline passes almost exactly through these buildings. It is recommended that the route be changed if possible to avoid them. It is noted that the ground falls steeply to the NE of the buildings, probably a difficult route to excavate for the pipeline. The alternative route to the SW would have to pass as close as possible to the present forestry to avoid cutting through the enclosure. However, damage to the enclosure may have to be considered acceptable.

4. **Centred on NG 8912 2276 Track and Well** The track passes WNW up the bank from the structure (no. 5) It is not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The well is at the upper edge of the track about halfway between the road and the forestry. **(Photos 3 and 4)**

Recommendations: The pipeline will inevitably cut through the track. It is recommended that this be done through as narrow a passage as possible, and avoiding the well, which should be marked to avoid accidental damage.

5. **NG 8917 2273 Structure** The footings of one small building are visible just above the road. This is marked as a roofed building on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Its proximity to the jetty suggests a fisherman's cottage or store.

Recommendations: The location of this structure suggests it may be difficult to avoid destruction or damage during excavation work. It may be advisable to record or monitor this site further.

6. **Centred on NG 8958 2230 Two Structures** Two roofed buildings are marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. There is no sign of these and it is assumed that they have been completely destroyed by road construction. A section of rubble dyke, the northern edge of the head dyke of the Manse, is visible at the base of a rock face.

Recommendations: It is unlikely that any remains of these buildings will be revealed during excavation, and the dyke is already degraded near the road, so no mitigating action is considered necessary.

7. **Centred on NG 8960 2200 Manse and associated buildings. Old settlement area.** The alluvial fan now occupied solely by the manse and its associated farm buildings is most likely the site of the pre-Clearance settlement named as Muck on the Blaeu map. It does not, however, appear to be marked on the Roy map. Aerial photographs show no features, and it is possible that no structures have survived later ploughing and field clearance. **(Photo no. 5)**

Recommendations: It is noted that the proposed pipeline route passes through the walled enclosure which is an integral part of the farm buildings contemporary with the Manse. Is it possible to re-route the pipeline a bit further east to avoid damage to these walls? The unlikelihood of pre-Clearance features remaining under the cultivated fields would suggest that archaeological monitoring of this area would not be necessary.

8. **NG 8975 2180 Structure and Enclosure** This building and enclosure are attached to the southern end of the head dyke of the manse area and probably associated with further enclosing dykes further up the hill joining the Manse with Ard an Eoin and suggesting that this whole strip was formerly enclosed and cultivated. This building now survives as footings only.

Recommendations: It is recommended that the route of the pipeline be altered slightly to pass behind these structures, crossing the burn 30m. from the road. If this measure is impractical, some degree of archaeological recording of the structures prior to work commencing is recommended.

9. **Centred on NG 9001 2147 Church and Land** Another possible location for the original pre-Clearance settlement of Muck, again it is unlikely that any structures from this period will have survived later cultivation. No features are visible on the

aerial photographs: in 1946 the arable land is divided into cultivated strips. The church is still in use.

Recommendations: No action considered necessary.

The following three sites are in the general area of Cill a' Chaoin-tearn, considered to be a chapel dedicated to St. Kentigern, and associated burial ground. The last burial here apparently took place in 1870, and the location of the chapel and burial ground has now been lost.

10. NG 9064 2088 Enclosure This is clearly visible as a square enclosure on the aerial photograph, but is on steep and rocky ground and is unlikely to have contained a chapel and burials. It measures 8.5m. square, aligned NNE-SSW, with a possible extension turf dyke towards the shore. It is approximately 20m. up from the road.

Recommendations: This feature should be far enough back from the road to be unaffected by the project. It is recommended that its edge be marked to avoid accidental damage.

11. NG 9073 2085 Enclosure associated with structure Turf and stone dyke forming an irregularly shaped enclosure, associated with a probable farmstead on the other side of the stream behind the modern cemetery, marked as unroofed on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The lower ground within this enclosure is level enough to have been suitable for a burial ground, but no structure or head stones were visible under the deep bracken cover. This type of turf dyke is not what one would expect to enclose a burial ground. The township marked here on Roy's map may refer to this farmstead. **(Photo no. 6)**

Recommendations: Although it is considered unlikely that this is the burial ground, it may be useful for archaeological monitoring to be carried out when excavation work crosses the enclosed area. The farmstead is far enough away from the road to be unaffected.

12. NG 9085 2078 Cemetery This cemetery has only recently come into use. It is not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map and contains no features older than the past few decades.

Recommendations: No action considered necessary.

13. NG 9170 2008 Structure Footings of a rectangular structure which seem to be at least partly made of concrete. This building is not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map but is visible on the 1946 aerial photograph, where it appears to be roofed and have a path leading to it from the road. Between it and the road is a curved course of stones 3m long.

Recommendations: It is possible that this building is far enough back from the road to be unaffected by the project. As a building of the 20th Century it would possibly not be considered a high priority to protect from damage. Enquiries among older residents would probably reveal its nature and function.

14. **NG 9170 1999 Track** This track, marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, appears to connect the Ratagan sheepfold with the Glenelg road, possibly a route for the movement of livestock from Glenelg making use of the sheepfold. There do not appear to be any construction features associated with the track.

Recommendations: The pipeline will cross the track after crossing the Allt na h-Inghinn, but it is not considered that any protective measures need be taken..

15. **NG 9165 1995 Bridge** A single-span arched stone bridge over the Allt na h-Inghinn. **(Photo no. 7)**

Recommendations: Although well above the proposed route of the pipeline, it has been included in this survey to ensure that no vehicles or plant attempt to cross it as a short cut, as it is in a fragile state.

16. **centred on NG 9173 1995 Track** A track is marked on the present Ordnance Survey map, linking Ratagan House with the bridge (no.15) It is not marked on the 1st edition map, nor is it visible on the aerial photograph or on the ground.

Recommendations: No action considered necessary.

17. **centred on NG 9190 1970 Old settlement area** The Roy map of the 1750s marks two clusters of houses at Ratagan, on either side of the Allt Ratagain, with extensive areas of cultivation. Aerial photographs of 1946 show no trace of structures along the proposed route of the pipeline, although there is a possible circular structure and enclosure further west on the south side of the stream. The previous arable land to the south of the stream is now a housing estate and it is highly unlikely that any archaeological evidence will have survived. It is also unlikely that any pre-Clearance feature will have survived in the cultivated fields north of the stream.

Recommendations: It is unlikely that archaeological monitoring of this area will be fruitful.

18. **NG 9267 1882 Sheepfold** of drystone construction, roughly square, the only feature a lamb creep in the SE corner. Internal divisions have been of fencepost and wire.

(Photo no. 8)

Recommendations: The route of the pipeline should pass safely above this feature, so no mitigating action considered necessary.

19. centred on NG 9173 1995 Track This old track can be followed passing between the shore and the road, then below the sheepfold. In places the ground has been build up with rubble to provide a steady gradient, presumably for carts. Marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. **(Photo no. 9)**

Recommendations: the track and the pipeline share the same route for a short distance, there is not enough leeway here for the pipeline route to be altered to avoid damage to the track, nor is it probably necessary. It may be considered useful for more detailed recording of the track and its construction to be carried out before work commences.

20. centred on NG 9292 1869 Area of dykes and cultivation. Old settlement area this area of pre-clearance cultivation is probably associated with the un-named settlement marked above the military road on the Roy map. Cultivation rigs and an enclosing turf dyke. Turf dykes also appear to extent out onto the shore, and there are confused features on the shoreline, including some apparently modern cuttings. **(Photo no.10)**

Recommendations: The route of the pipeline crosses this area and more detailed archaeological recording of the features is recommended before work commences.

21. NG 9308 1868 Henge (Late Neolithic ritual monument) Visible as a low grass-covered circular platform surrounded by a ditch and bank, total diameter about 19m. This is the only known henge on the west coast of Scotland, and is similar in type to the group of 5 henges in east Ross and Cromarty, indicating a probable route of communication in Neolithic times between east and west along Glen Carron. This henge is not published, at the request of the landowner, but is recorded on the Highland Council's SMR and the NMRS. **(Photo no. 11)**

Recommendations: This monument is vulnerable to accidental damage by any vehicle or plant crossing the field to gain access to the pipeline route. It is recommended that an exclusion zone of 20m. beyond the edge of the feature be taped. The pipeline should pass about 40m. north of the henge, but archaeological monitoring along this section may be advisable in case any associated features are in the vicinity.

22. NG 9296 1871 and NG 9326 1887 Drystone Dykes The drystone dyke enclosing the post-Clearance field pattern, associated with the establishment of the home farm at Shiel House in the 19th century. **(Photos 12 and 13)**

Recommendations: The dykes will be broken through at two points but it is not considered that any action need be taken beyond recording the location.

23. centred on NG 9328 1883 Area of rig cultivation This area of probably pre-Clearance cultivation rigs is noted to the east of the proposed route of the pipeline, visible as a parallel series of raised beds.

Recommendations: This area should be far enough from the proposed route of the pipeline to be unaffected.

24. **NG 9371 1960 Boathouse** marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as just south of the present slipway. No clear remains are visible on the ground.

Recommendations: At this point there is a large mature tree, which it is hoped measures will be taken to avoid. If this is the case, then the presumed location of the boathouse will also be unaffected.

25. **centred on NG 9389 1987 Water management feature** An open water channel consisting of a ditch and substantial rubble bank has been carefully constructed running round the base of a rocky knoll. Its continuation uphill has been destroyed by modern road construction, and downhill it appears to end before crossing the old road. Not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and not visible on the aerial photograph due to the shadow cast by the knoll.

Recommendations: This feature should be far enough away from the proposed route of the pipeline to be unaffected.

26. **centred on NG 9427 2002 Turf Dyke** This low turf dyke runs SE from the road, clearly visible across the low ground but cannot be followed on the higher ground. The aerial photograph suggests that the dyke extends SW along the higher ground and curves back towards the shore to form an enclosure or head dyke. **(Photo no. 14)**

Recommendations: This dyke will be broken through by the pipeline, but it is not considered that any action is necessary beyond recording the location of this feature.

27. **NG 9431 2004 Memorial** A low pile of rubble topped by a wooden post. An inscription painted on one stone dates the memorial to 1949. This feature is about 15m. up from the road. **(Photo no. 15)**

Recommendations: This feature should be far enough away from the proposed route of the pipeline to be unaffected.

Letterfearn to Ault a' Chruinn: Summary of Recommendations

1. The following archaeological features were recorded as in the vicinity of the proposed work, but they are unlikely to be affected by excavation or access. They are noted so that the attention of the contractors can be drawn to them to avoid accidental damage:

Sites no. 10, 15, 18, 21, 23, 25, 27.

2. The following features, although probably unaffected themselves by work or access, may be associated with other archaeological features which may be revealed by excavation work. It may be considered useful for archaeological monitoring to be carried out in the vicinity of these sites.

Sites no. 1, 21.

3. The following features, previously recorded but not visible on the ground, may be revealed during excavation work. It may be considered useful for archaeological monitoring to be carried out in certain of these areas.

Sites no. 2, 6, 11, 24.

4. The following features will inevitably be damaged during excavation work, but it is considered probably not necessary to protect or record in greater detail.

Sites no. 4, 13, 14, 16, 22, 26.

5. The following features are in danger of being damaged by the present proposed route of the pipeline. It is recommended that slight changes to the route be made to avoid these features. If this proves impractical, further archaeological recording may be considered necessary.

Sites no. 3, 5, 7, 8, 19, 20.

6. The following areas show no visible archaeological features, but are likely to be the general locations of pre-Clearance settlement. It may be considered useful for archaeological monitoring to be carried out during excavation work.

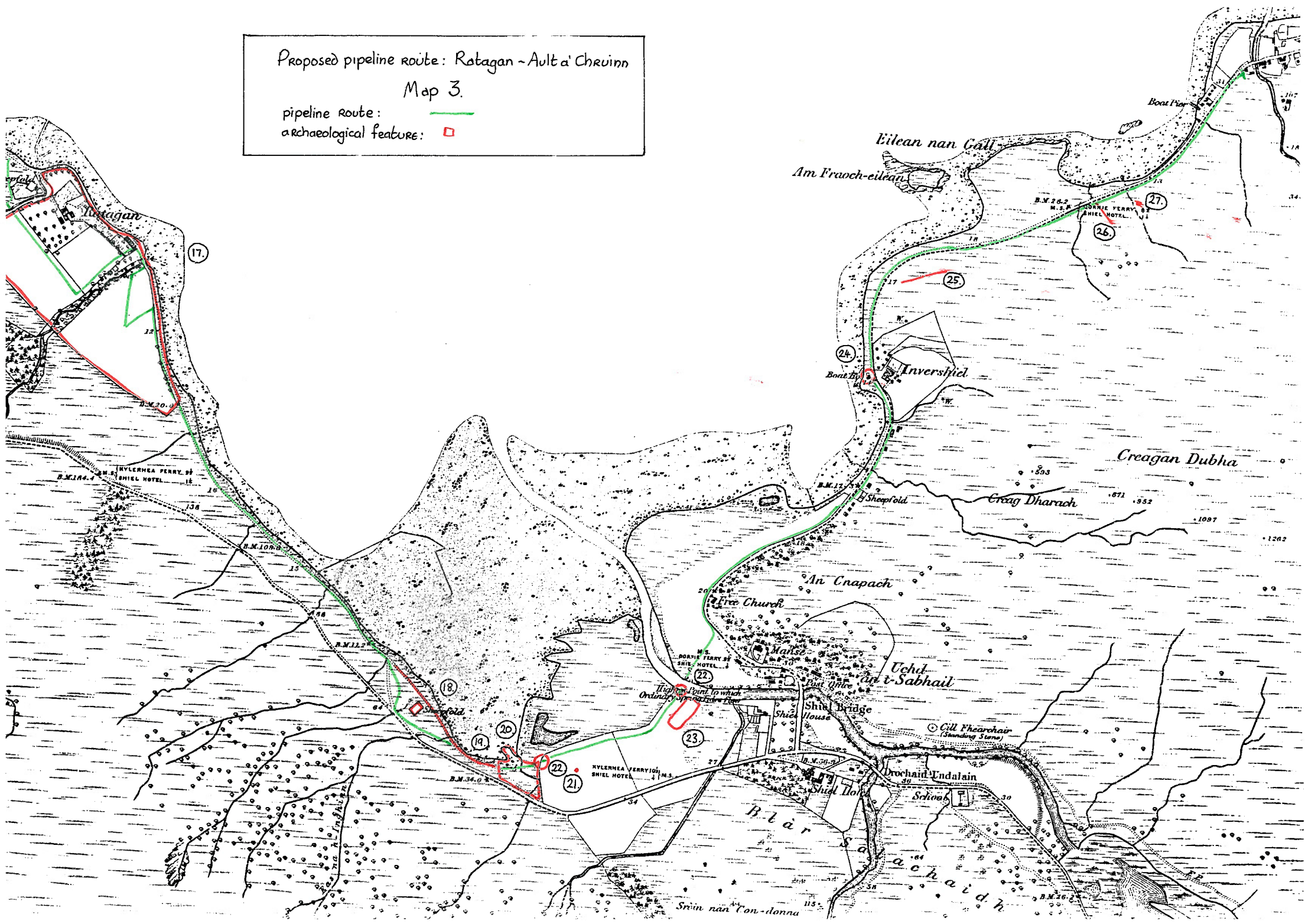
Sites no. 7, 9, 17.

Proposed pipeline route: Ratagan - Ault a' Chruiinn

Map 3.

pipeline route: —

archaeological feature: □



Ardelve to Sallachy: Summary of Recommendations

1. The following archaeological features were recorded as in the vicinity of the proposed work, but are unlikely to be affected by excavation or access. They are noted so that the attention of the contractor can be drawn to them to avoid accidental damage.

Sites no. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12.

2. The following features, although probably unaffected themselves by work or access, may be associated with other archaeological features which may be revealed by excavation work. It may be considered useful for archaeological monitoring to be carried out.

Site no. 32.

3. The following features will inevitably be damaged during excavation work, but it is considered not necessary to protect or record them.

Sites no. 35, 36, 37.

4. The following features are in danger of being damaged by the proposed route of the pipeline. It is recommended that slight changes to the route be made to avoid these features. If this proves impractical, further archaeological recording may be considered advisable.

Site no. 34

Catherine Dagg
24.4.00

Archaeological Survey: Ardelve to Sallachy

- 28. centred on NG 8805 2755 Water management feature** The Allt an Ard Achaidh, flowing naturally southwards, has been channelled to flow down the field boundary, then eastward above the road. The channel as it flows along the roadside is of neat drystone construction, now moss-covered. This probably dates to the land reorganisation of the early 19th century. **(Photo no. 16)**

Recommendations: the proposed route of the pipeline passes just above this water channel. It is recommended that it be dug far enough back to avoid accidental damage to the drystone lining of the channel.

- 29. NG 8787 2763 farmstead** The remaining features of this farmstead are visible at the top of the field, appearing to consist of footings of three structures and a rectangular enclosure. It is assumed that this farmstead predates the existing pattern of fields. It is marked as one unroofed building on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.

Recommendations: The visible features of the farmstead are far enough way from the proposed route of the pipeline to be unaffected. Any features lower down the field will have been cleared and ploughed.

- 30. NG 8892 2800 Hut Circle** The area above this hut circle has been extensively cultivated at some periods in the past, with evidence for clearance heaps, lynchets and walling. These are probably not all contemporary.

Recommendations: This feature and its associated area of cultivation are all sufficiently above the road to be unaffected by the proposed route of the pipeline.

- 31. Centred on NG 8977 2869 Area of rig cultivation** The strip of land above the road between Conchra and the bend at about NG 898 286 has been improved, probably prior to the estate reorganisation of the early 19th Century. At some points the higher older road can be seen, and areas of more intensive cultivation such as the rigs at NG 8977 2869. Other features of cultivation such as clearance cairns and turf dykes may be revealed by more careful examination of this area. **(Photo no. 17)**

Recommendations: It is not considered that any further action should be taken beyond noting the location of this area.

The following three sites are in the township of Allt nan Sugh

- 32. NG 9011 2965 House and byres** A roofed but unoccupied late 19th Century croft house on the road with byres below. The present occupied modern house is below these byres. **(Photos 18 and 19)**

Recommendations: The proposed route of the pipeline passes between the house and the byres, and it should be possible to avoid damage to any building during excavation. It is assumed that some detritus and features of 19th-20th Century crofting will be revealed during work, but it is probably not necessary for archaeological monitoring to take place.

33. Centred on NG 9018 2972 Clachan A cluster of buildings of an older style, with rounded corners. All are unroofed although marked as roofed on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map. Several types of building seem to be present. The buildings are centred on a boat slip, suggesting that the focus of the clachan was fishing. **(Photo no. 20)**

Recommendations: It is recommended that the pipeline pass as close as practical to the road at this point to avoid accidental damage to any higher features of this clachan which may not be visible.

34. NG 9035 2991 Buildings A group of six roofed buildings are marked on the 1st edition Ordnance survey map. The lower row appears to consist of two dwellings with associated gardens or yards to seaward, and three barns or byres. The visible remains of these buildings show them to be of the older style with rounded corners, but improved to accommodate fireplaces. The sixth building, on the roadside, is a later 19th Century croft house type, now not much more than one standing gable. **(Photo no. 21 and 22)**

Recommendations: Ideally, the route of the pipeline would avoid the entire group of six buildings. It is noted that the steepness of the terrain and the presence of a modern building above the road will make it difficult for the route to pass above the road above the buildings then drop down to the west of the group. Is it possible for the route to be diverted to pass below the whole group, leaving the road at NG 9040 2997 ? If this proves impractical, and certain buildings have to make way to the pipeline, it is recommended that the two central dwellings be left intact, damage being done only to the byres or the more recent and ruinous croft house. It may be considered necessary in this case for further archaeological recording to be carried out prior to work commencing.

The following features are all in the township of Sallachy.

The proposed route of the pipeline avoids all other features in the township, but crosses tracks at three points:

35. NG 9092 3024 Track running NNW-SSE

36. NG 9094 3030 Track, marked on 1st edition Ordnance Survey but not now visible, also running NNW-SSE

37. NG 9099 3048 Track running E-W

Recommendations. It is not considered necessary to take any action beyond noting the location of these tracks.

**HIGHLAND COUNCIL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE**

Archaeology Unit

Specification for archaeological work at:



**LETTERFEARN - RATAGAN - AULT
A'CHRUINN.**

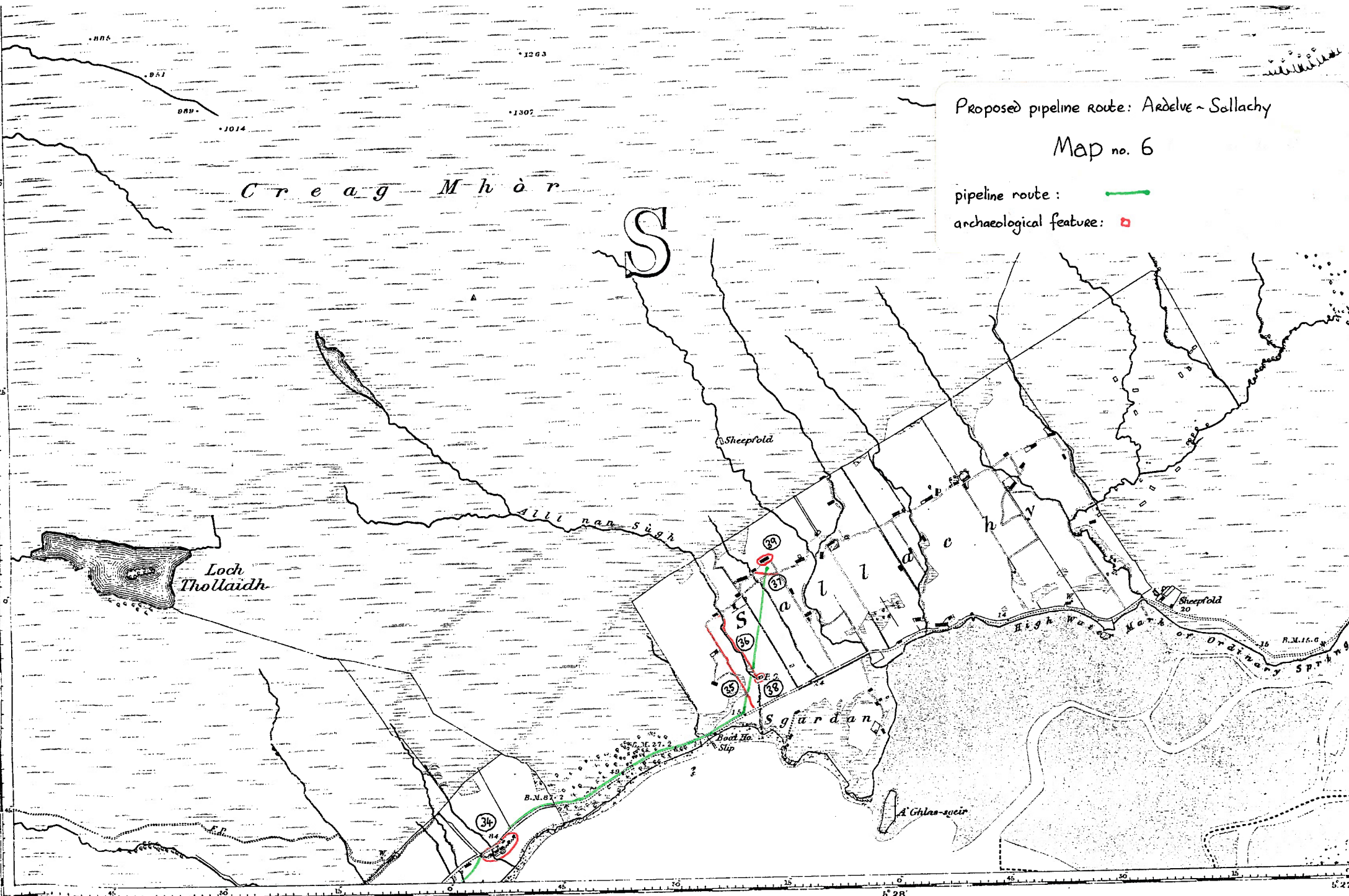
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Proposed pipeline route: Ardelve ~ Sallachy

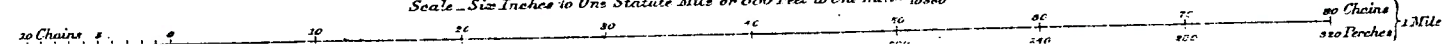
Map no. 6

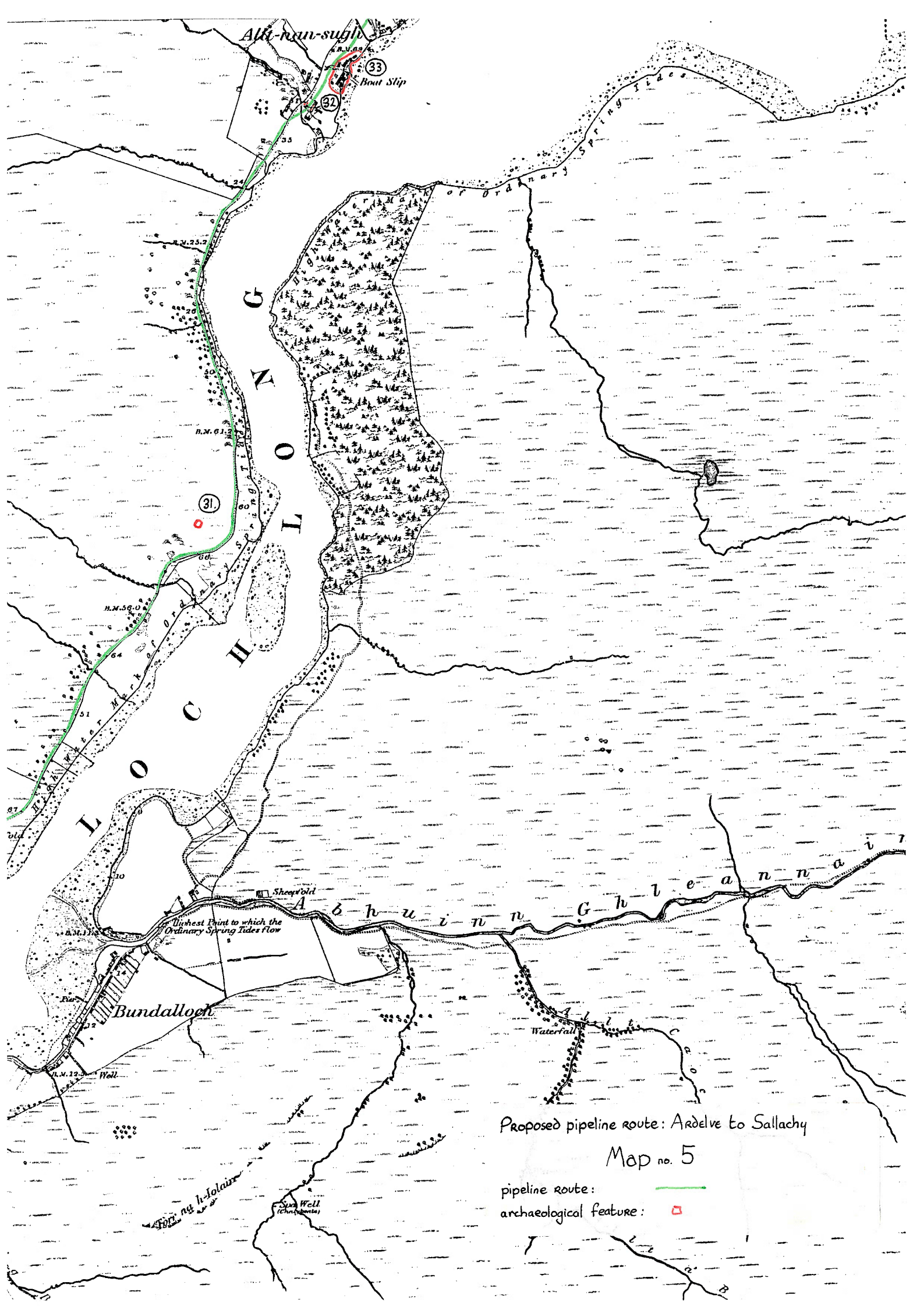
pipeline route: 
archaeological feature: 



Loch Long

Scale Six Inches to One Statute Mile or 300 Feet to One Inch = 10300





Allt-nan-sugh

33

Boat Slip

32

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N
D

B.M. 61

31

B.M. 56

B.M. 11

Bundaloch

B.M. 12

Well

Sheepfold

Highest Point to which the Ordinary Spring Tides flow

Waterfall

CAON

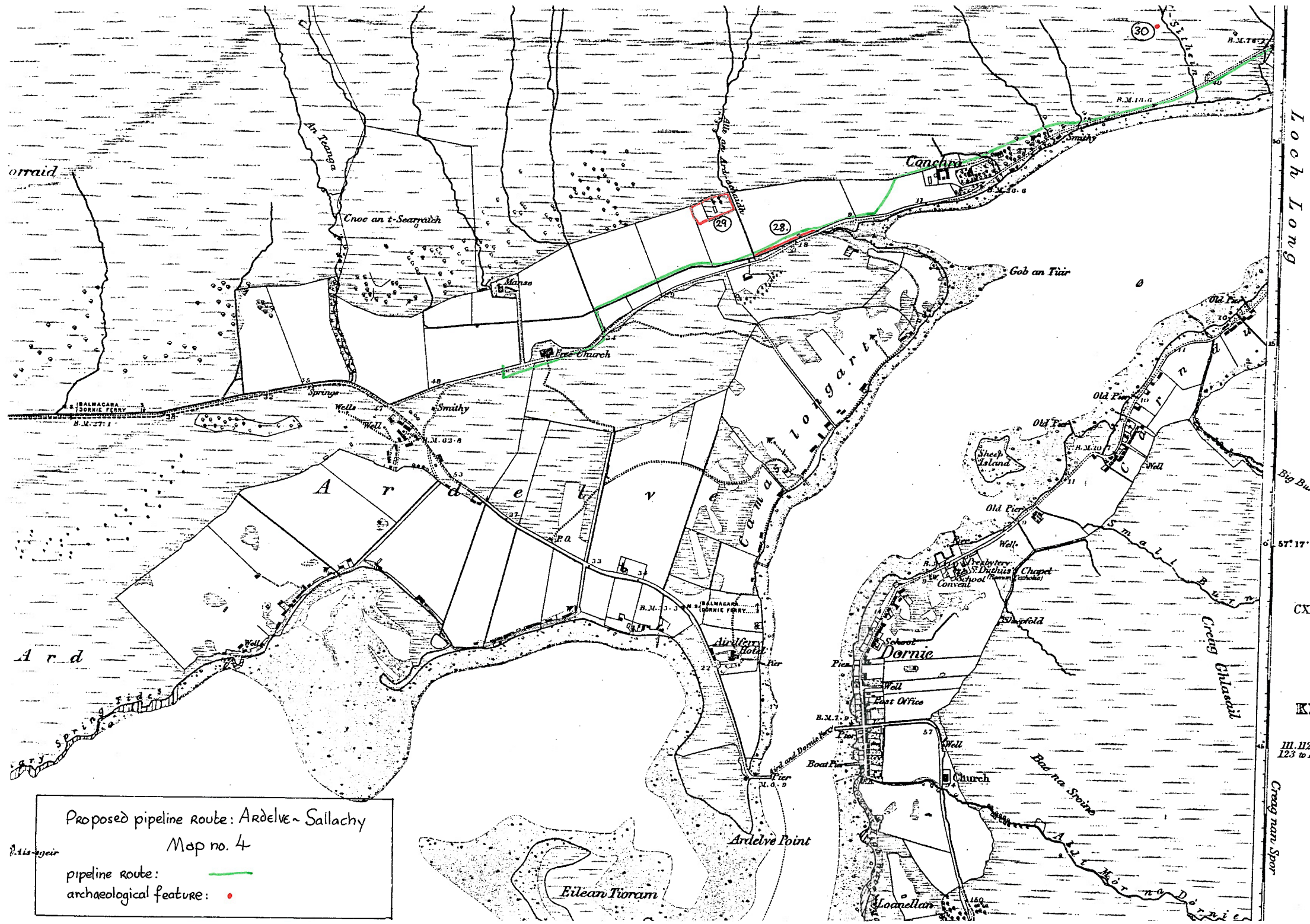
Fort of h-Iolair

Spring Well (Archaeological)

Proposed pipeline route: Ardelve to Sallachy

Map no. 5

pipeline route: —
 archaeological feature: ■



Proposed pipeline route: Ardeve ~ Sallachy
Map no. 4
pipeline route: ———
archaeological feature: •

Loch Long
Big Bu
57° 17'
CX
K
III. 112
123 to 1
Craigh nan Spoir

H D U I C H

Sgeir Mhòr

Sheepfold


Post Office


School

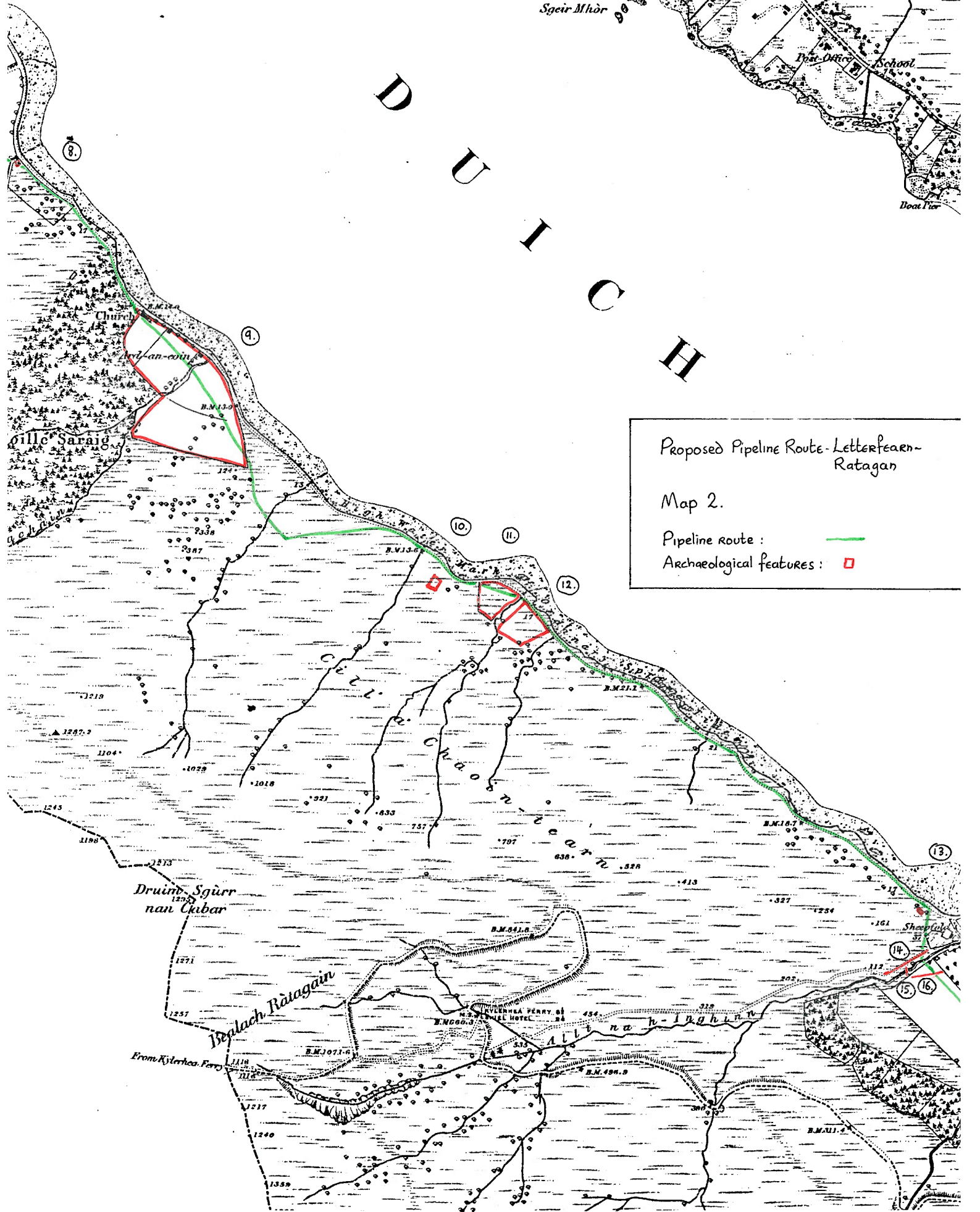
Boat Pier

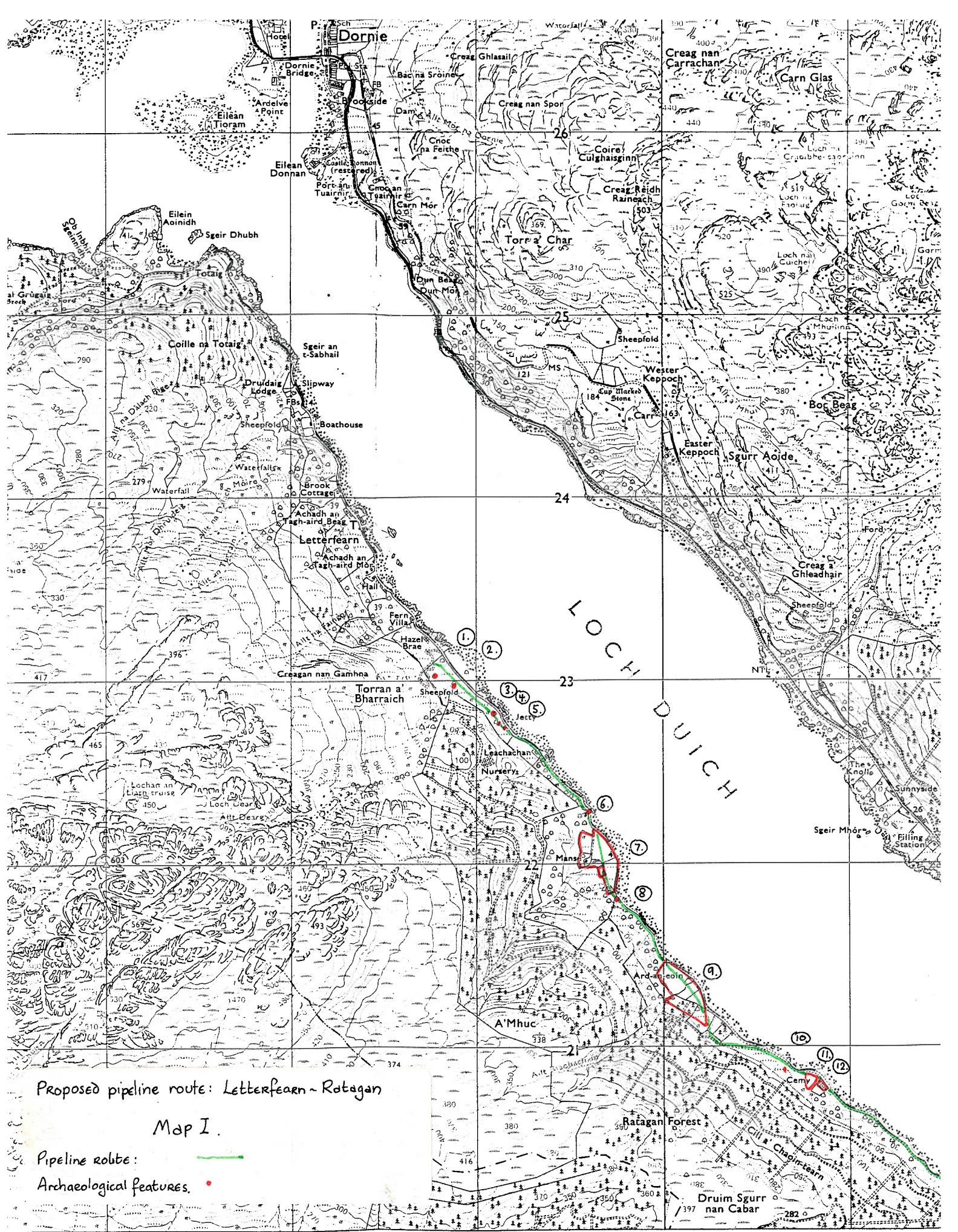
Proposed Pipeline Route - Letterfeearn -
Ratagan

Map 2.

Pipeline route : 


Archaeological features : 






Proposed pipeline route: Letterfearn ~ Rotagan

Map I.

Pipeline route: 

Archaeological features: 

LOCHABER DISTRICT

GLENSHIEL CP

SOUTH WE

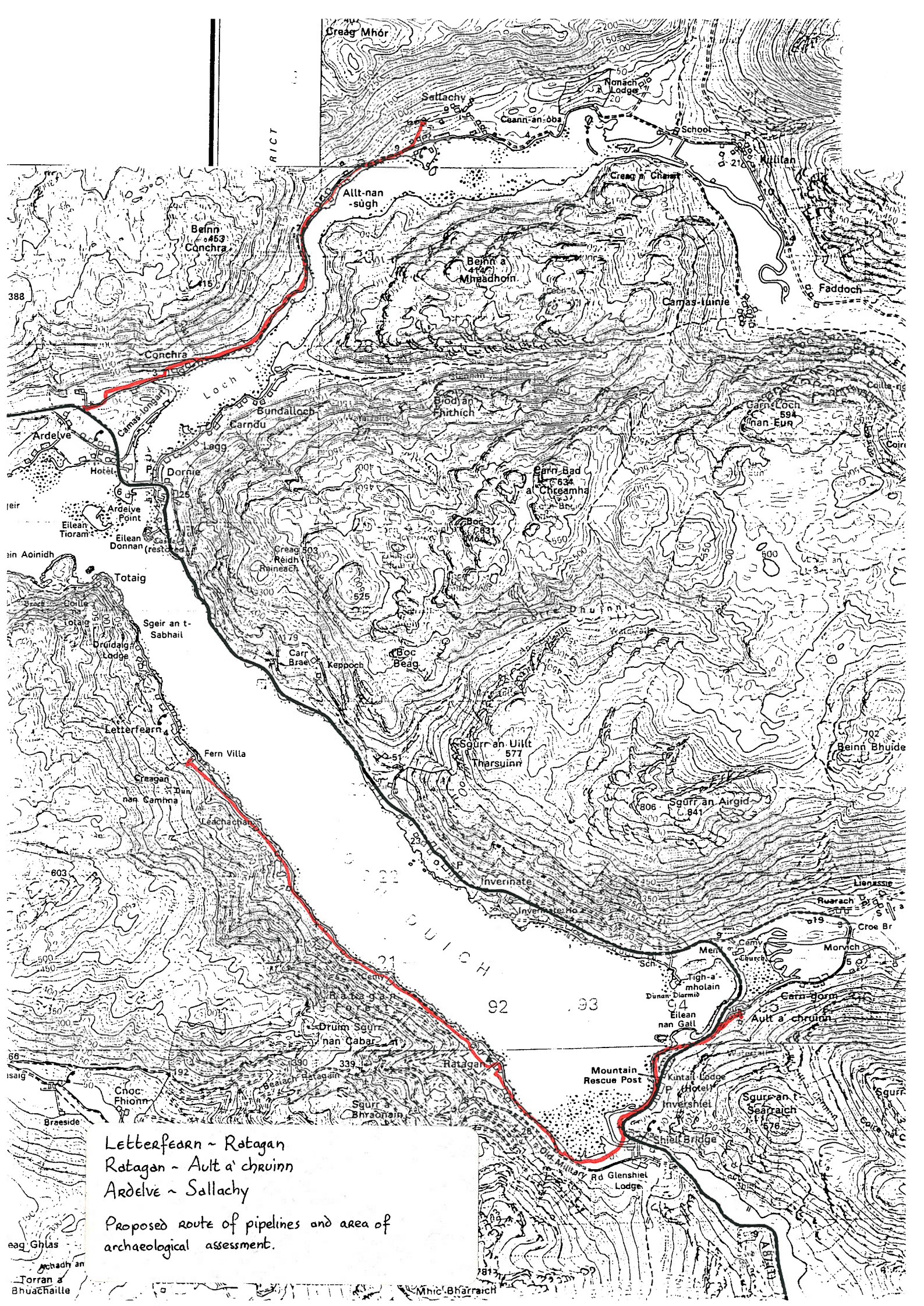
1000 Metres 0 Kilometres

2

3

2

Scale 1:25 000

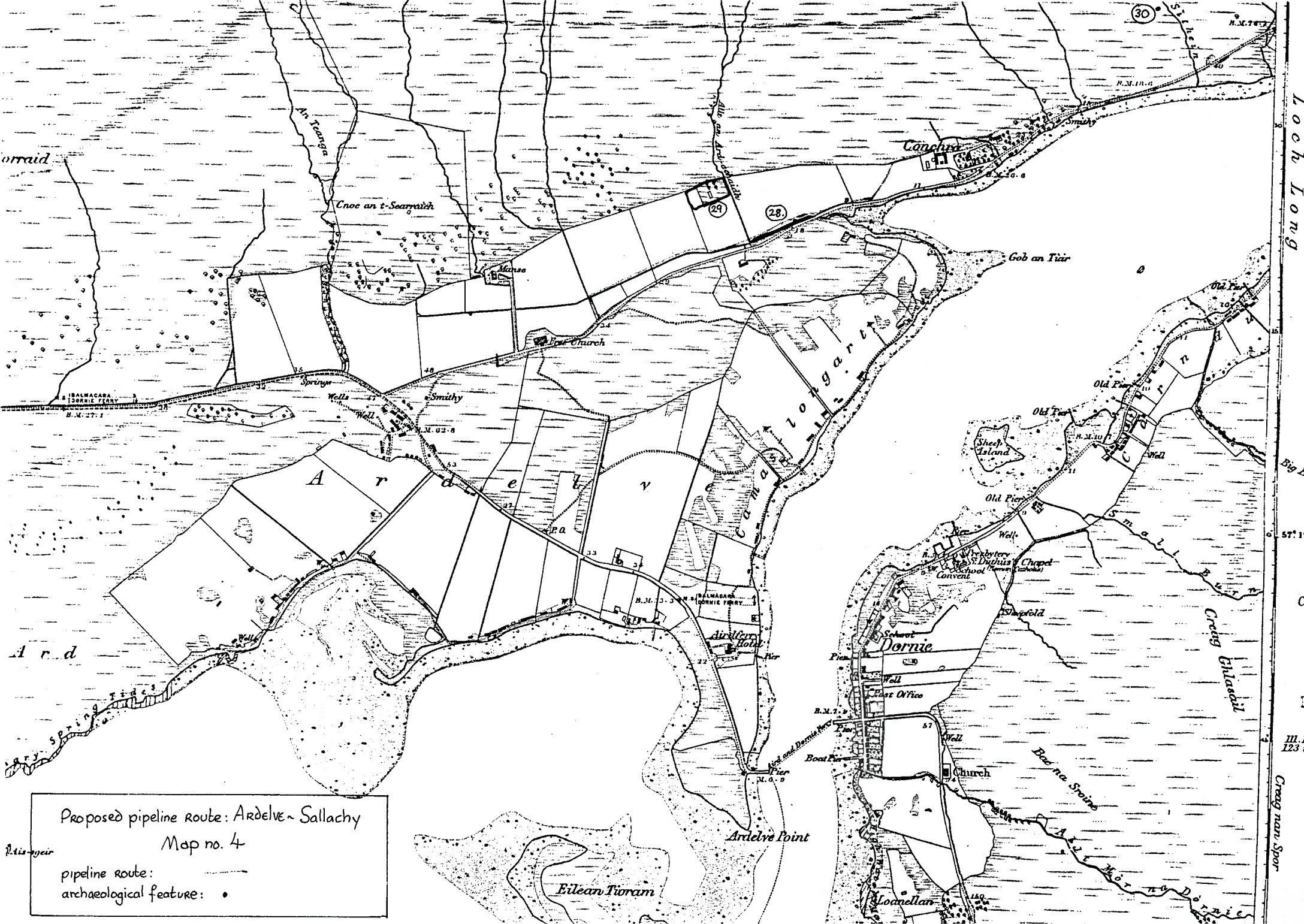


Letterfearn ~ Rotagan
 Rotagan ~ Ault a' chrùinn
 Ardelve ~ Sallachy

Proposed route of pipelines and area of archaeological assessment.

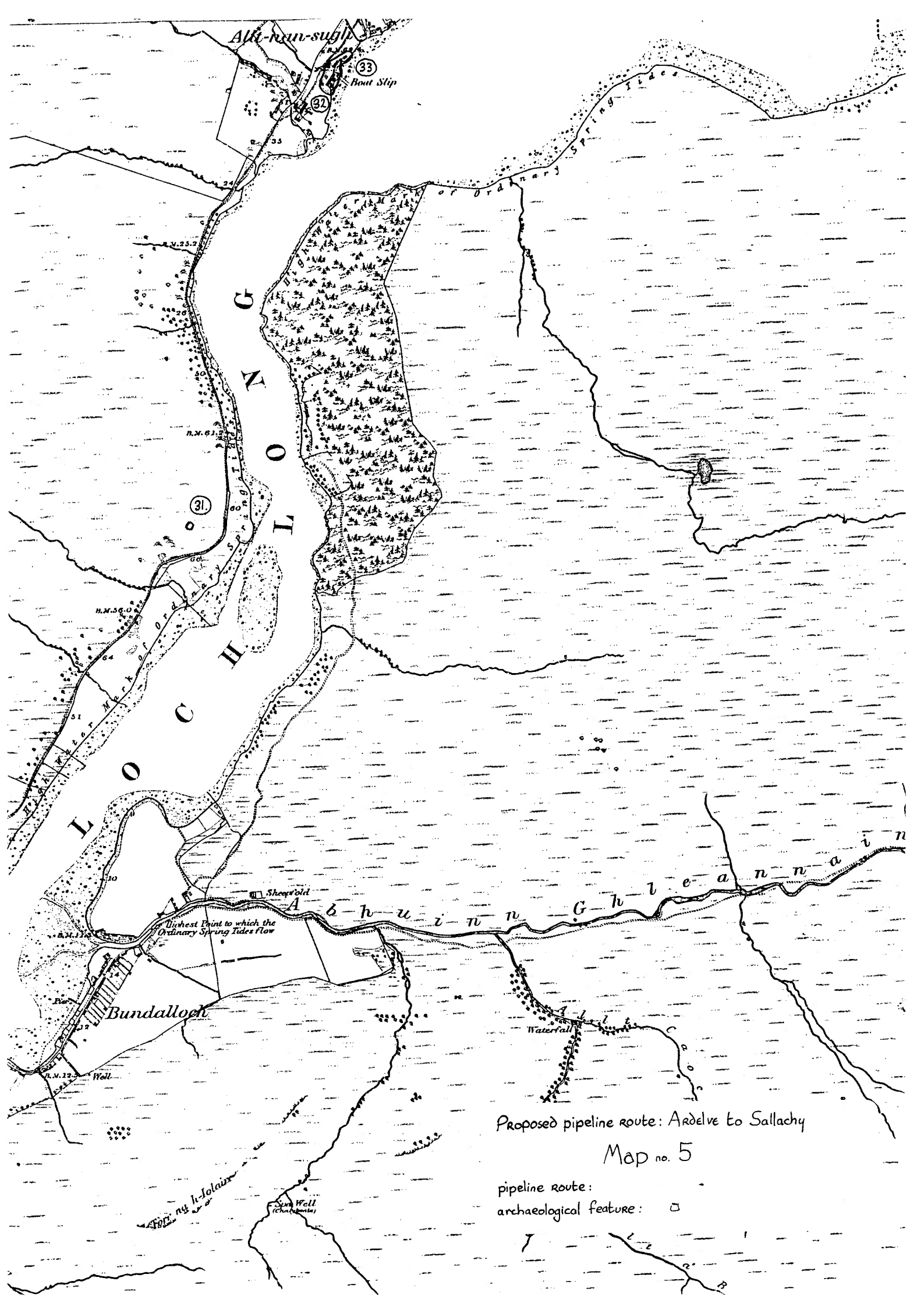
Beag Ghlas
 Achadh an
 Torran a
 Bhuachaille

Mhic B'hàrrach





Proposed pipeline route: Ardelve - Sallachy
 Map no. 4
 pipeline route: - - - - -
 archaeological feature: •

Loch Long
 Big Burn
 57° 17'
 CN
 N
 III. II.
 123 to
 Creag nan Spior



Proposed pipeline route: Ardve to Sallachy

Map no. 5

pipeline route: 
 archaeological feature: 

Proposed pipeline route: Ardelve - Sallachy

Map no. 6

pipeline route: ———
archaeological feature: □

Creag Mhòr

S

Loch Thollaidh

Alli nan Sigh

Sheepfold

Sheepfold

Sheepfold

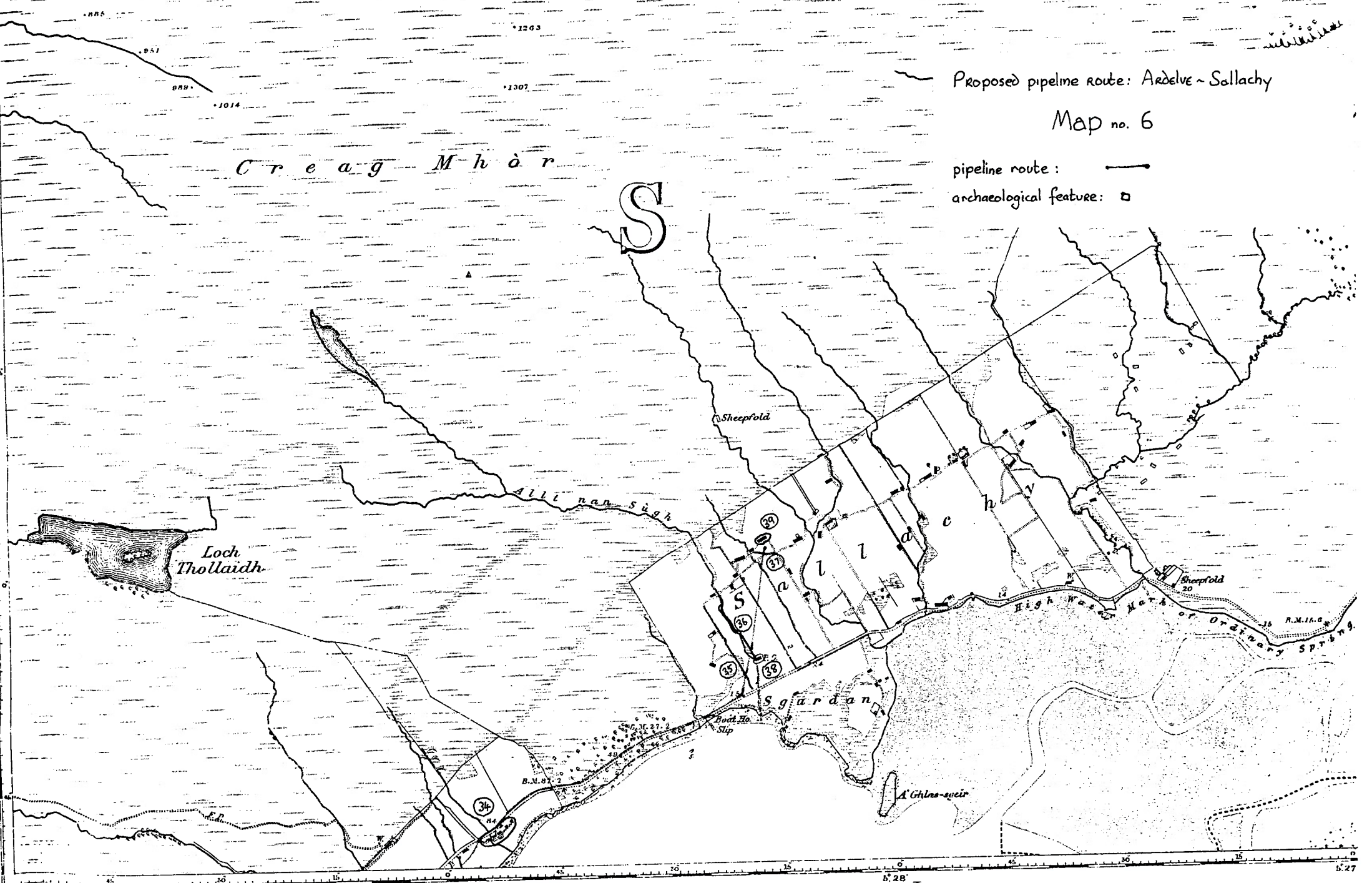
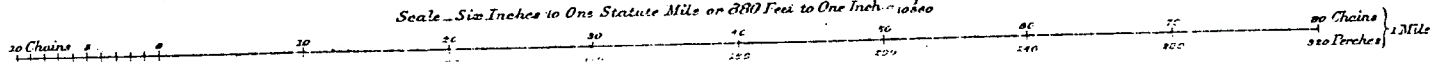
High Water Mark of Ordinary Springs

Sgàrdan

A' Ghlas-suir

Loch Long

Scale - Six Inches to One Statute Mile or 288 Feet to One Inch - 10300

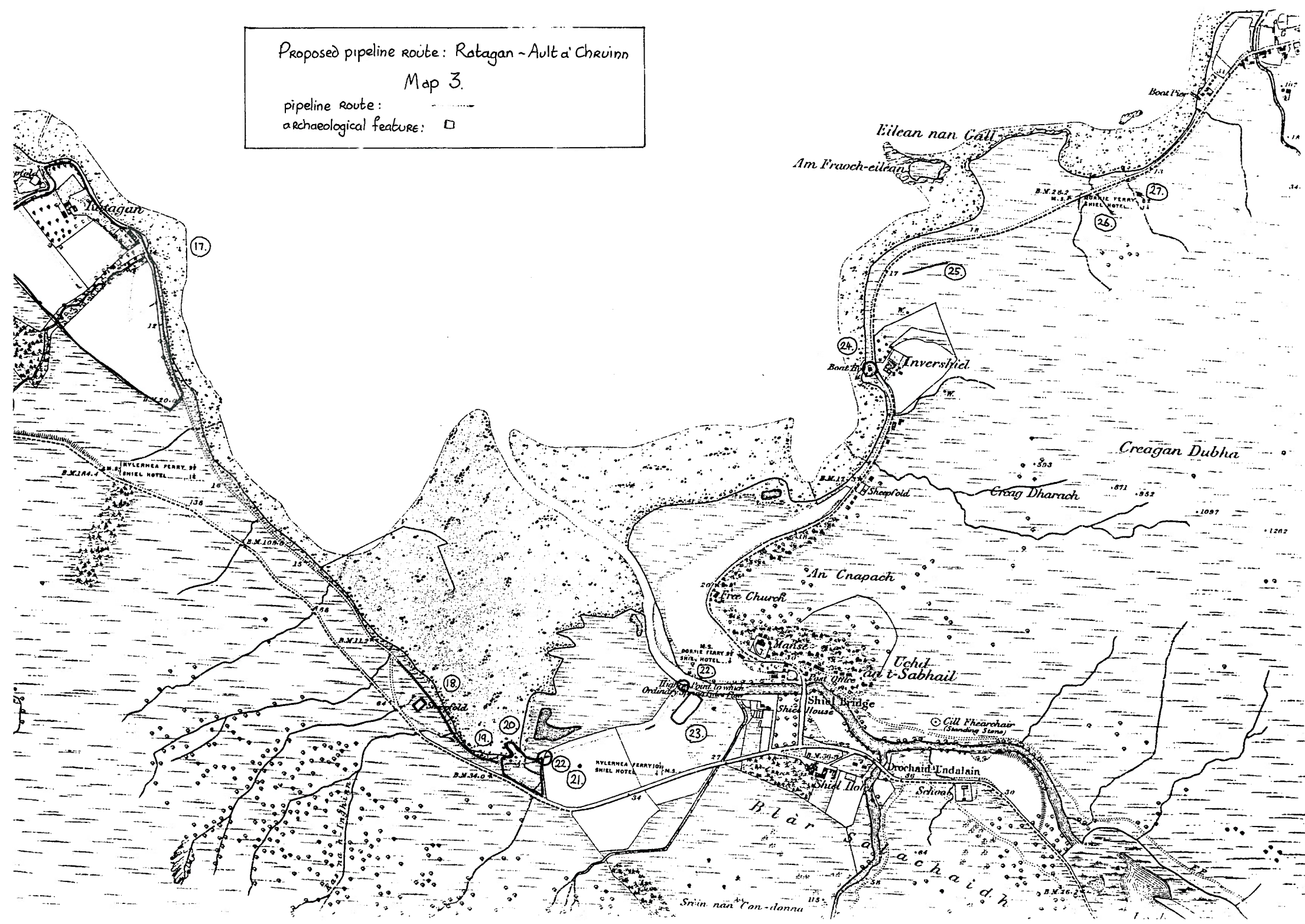


Proposed pipeline route: Ratagan - Ault a' Chruiinn

Map 3.

pipeline route: - - - - -

archaeological feature: □



38. **NG 9096 3026 Building** marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as Post Office but is now ruinous.

Recommendations: This building is noted to avoid accidental damage by access routes, although it is far enough away from the proposed route of the pipeline to be unaffected by excavation work.

39. **NG 9098 3050 Building.** This building, part of the original street of houses of the township is now roofed but unused **(Photo no. 23)**

Recommendations. This building has survived potential damage during the original installation of the Meter Chamber, and it should be unaffected by the present project.

Letterfeary-Ratagan-
Ault a' Chruinn



①



②



③



4



5



6



7



8



9

Letterfearn ~ Ratagan, Ault a' Chrìnn



10



11



12



13



14



15

Ardelve - Sallachy



16



17



18



19



20



21



22



23