



Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

Bringing the Past and Future Together

**Duchally and Rosehall
Balnagown Estate, Creich, Sutherland**

Proposed New Native Woodland Planting



Archaeological Survey

7 Duke Street Cromarty Ross-shire IV11 8YH

Tel / Fax: 01381 600491 Mobile: 07834 693378 Email: info@hi-arch.co.uk Web: www.hi-arch.co.uk

Registered in Scotland no. 262144 Registered Office: 10 Knockbreck Street, Tain, Ross-shire IV19 1BJ VAT No. GB 838 7358 80
Independently Accredited for Health and Safety, Environment and Quality Control by UVDB Verify



**Duchally and Rosehall
Balnagown Estate, Creich, Sutherland**

**Proposed New Native Woodland Planting
Archaeological Survey**

Report No.	HAS110401
Project Code	HAS-BDY11
Client	CKD Galbraith
NGR (approx centres)	NC 3856 1595; NC 4329 0228
OASIS	
Date/ revision	01/04/2011
Author	Catherine Dagg

Summary

A desk-based and walk-over survey was carried out ahead of a new native tree-planting scheme at Duchally and Rosehall, Balnagown Estate, Creich, Sutherland. 31 features were recorded over five areas surveyed. These appear to be post-medieval but cannot be dated accurately without excavation. They occupy small areas of slightly favoured ground which would have been equally attractive to prehistoric settlers as to 18th century tenants. Most were probably when the small tenants were removed to make way for sheep in 1770-1790. The only sites clearly dating to the period of sheep farming are five sheep shelters, all of which are on the original Balnagown land. No such features have been noted on the Rosehall side of the Cassley, probably reflecting a lesser emphasis on sheep. Recommendations are made for safeguarding these features within the scheme.

Acknowledgements and Copyright

Fieldwork was carried out by Cathy Dagg; this report was edited by John Wood. We wish to thank Louise Alexander of CKD Galbraith for commissioning this survey. Modern Ordnance Survey mapping is reproduced by permission of Landmark Information Group under Licence 100043217. Historic maps are courtesy of the National Library of Scotland. Figures 2-6 include background mapping courtesy of CKD Galbraith.

The report's author and Highland Archaeology Services Ltd jointly retain copyright in all reports produced, but will allow the client and other recipients to make the report available for reference and research (but not commercial) purposes, either on paper, or electronically, without charge, provided this copyright is acknowledged.

Contents

Site Location.....	4
Introduction	7
Desk-based assessment.....	8
Previous Archaeological Work	8
Recorded Sites and Features.....	8
Scheduled Monuments.....	9
Listed Buildings.....	9
Other Recorded Archaeological Sites	10
Historical Background and Cartographic Evidence	11
Roy's Military Survey	11
1 st Edition OS map.....	11
Balnagown Estate	12
Rosehall Estate.....	12
Walkover Survey	13
Method	13
Results.....	13
Area 1: Dubh Choille.....	13
Area 2: Dalnaclave.....	14
Area 3: Glenmuick (Gleann na Muic).....	15
Area 4: Carn Beag (Tutim Burn)	18
Area 5: Carn Beag (Rosehall Farm).....	18
Summary of Findings	22
Recommendations	22
Appendix 1: Table of Photographs	23

Illustrations

Figure 1 Survey location	4
Figure 2 Area 1: Dubh Coille	5
Figure 3 Area 2: Dalnaclave	5
Figure 4 Area 3: Glen Muick	6
Figure 5 Area 4: Carn Beag (Tutim Burn)	6
Figure 6 Area 5: Carn Beag (Rosehall)	7
Plate 1 View across Area 2 to Area 1, which is the hillside to the left of the plantation.	14
Plate 2 Feature 2.5	15
Plate 3 Building 3.3f.....	16
Plate 4 Feature 3.4: Sheep Shelter	17
Plate 5 Feature 3.5: Shieling	17
Plate 6 Feature 4.1 (Sheep shelter)	18
Plate 7 Feature 5.1: Possible field clearance heaps.....	19
Plate 8 Feature 5.2: Cladh a'Chnocain Burial Ground	19
Plate 9 Feature 5.9: Tighachumhainn Farmstead.....	20
Plate 10 Feature 5.11: Cairn	21

Site Location

The survey area covers 815 hectares or thereby, in five planting areas. Areas 1,2, and 3 are centred on Dalnaclave approximately at OS grid reference NC 3856 1595; the other two are centred on Carn Beag, Rosehall approximately at NC 4329 0228 Overall the survey rise from about 16m above sea level at Rosehall to about 260m north of Dubh Coille. See Figures 1 – 6 below.



Figure 1 Survey location (*Not to scale*)

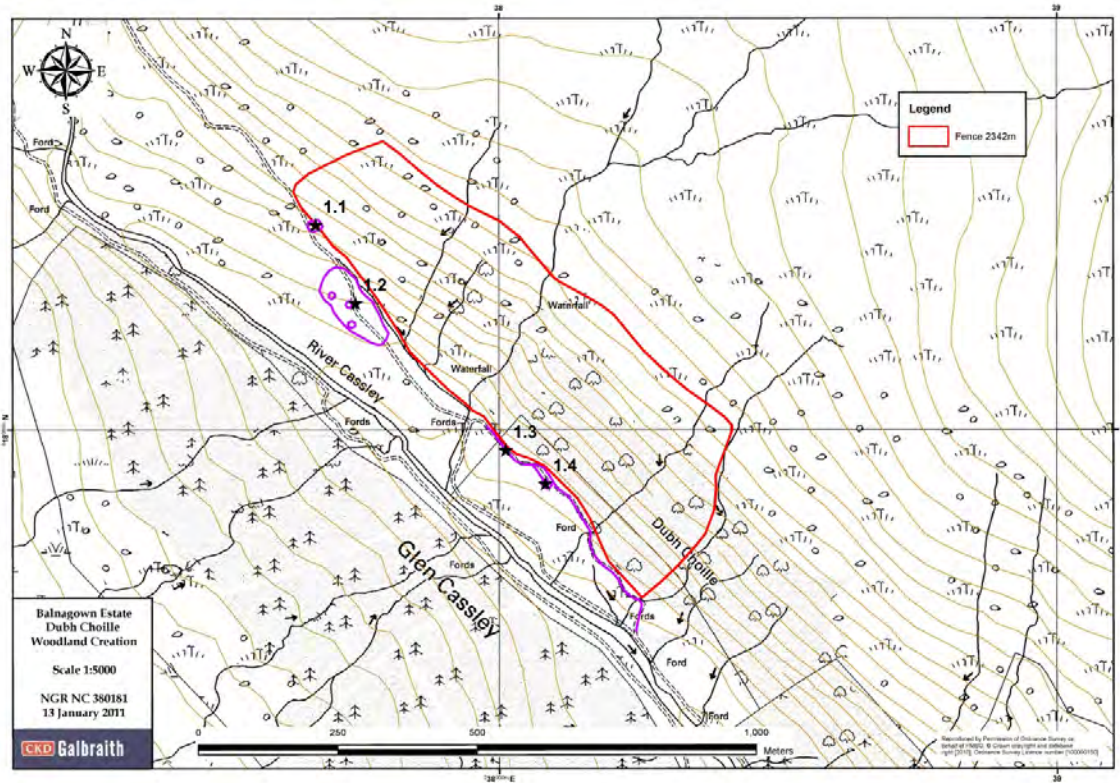


Figure 2 Area 1: Dubh Coille (Not to scale)

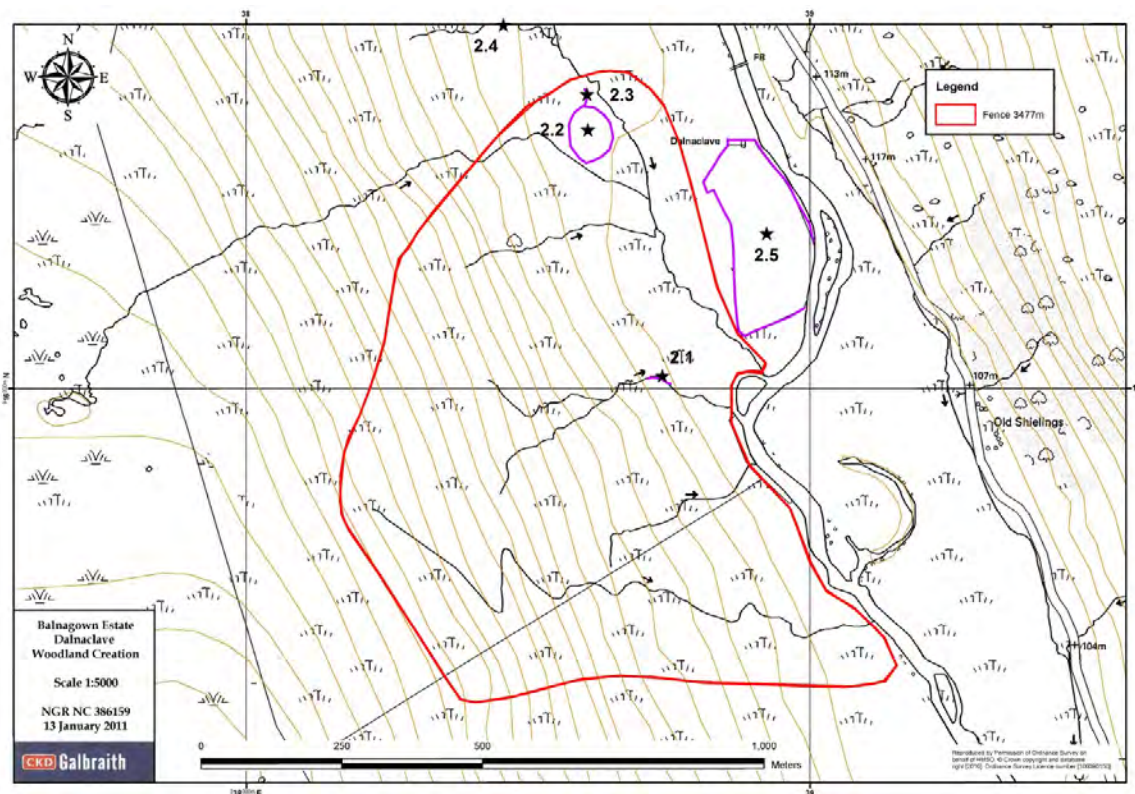


Figure 3 Area 2: Dalnaclave (Not to scale)

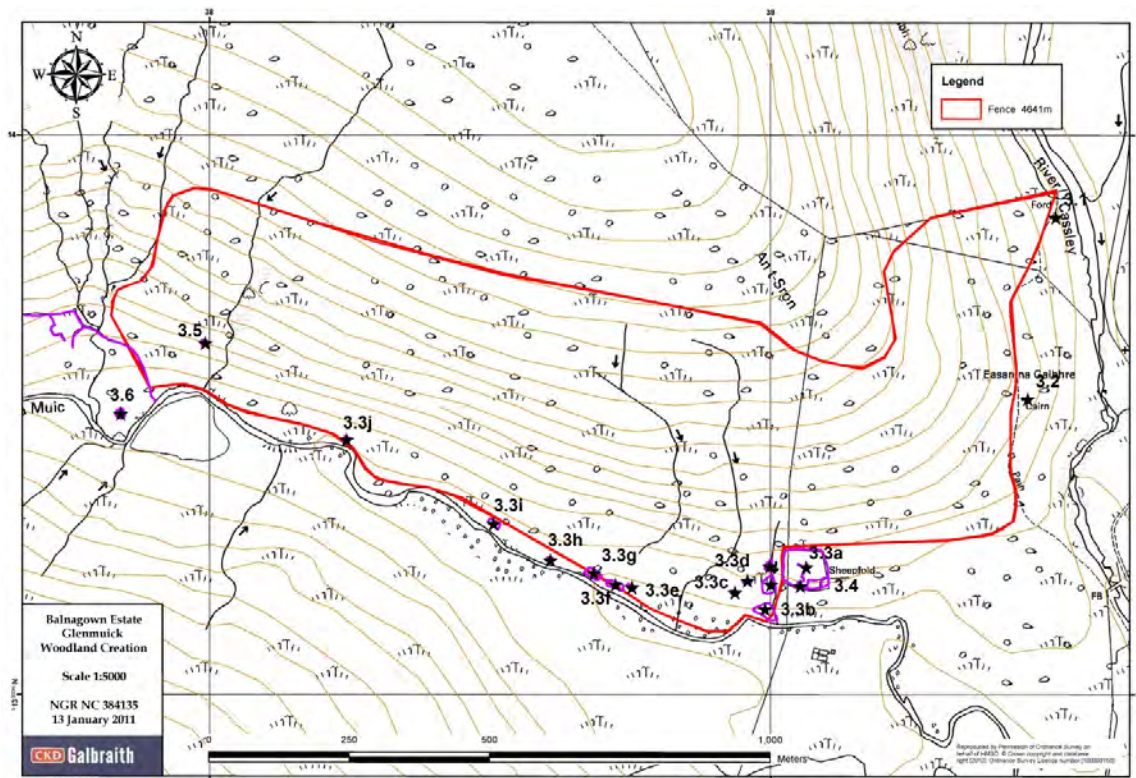


Figure 4 Area 3: Glenmuick (Glenn na Muic) (Not to scale)

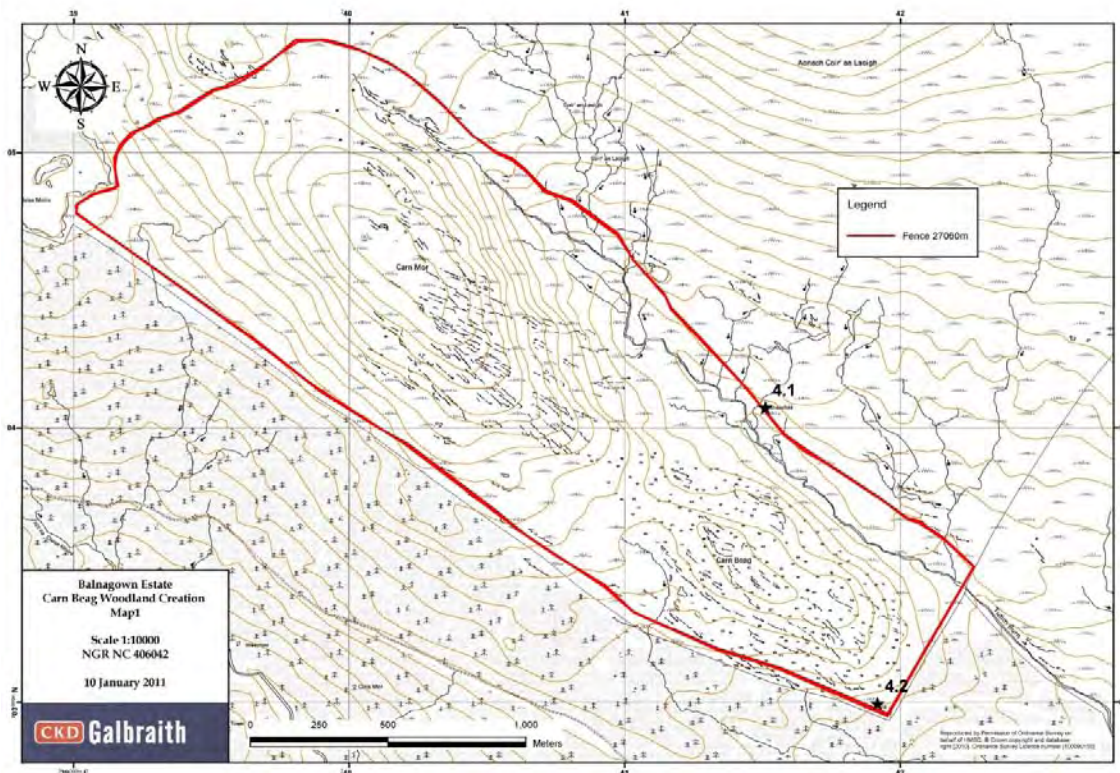


Figure 5 Area 4: Carn Beag (Tutim Burn) (Not to scale)

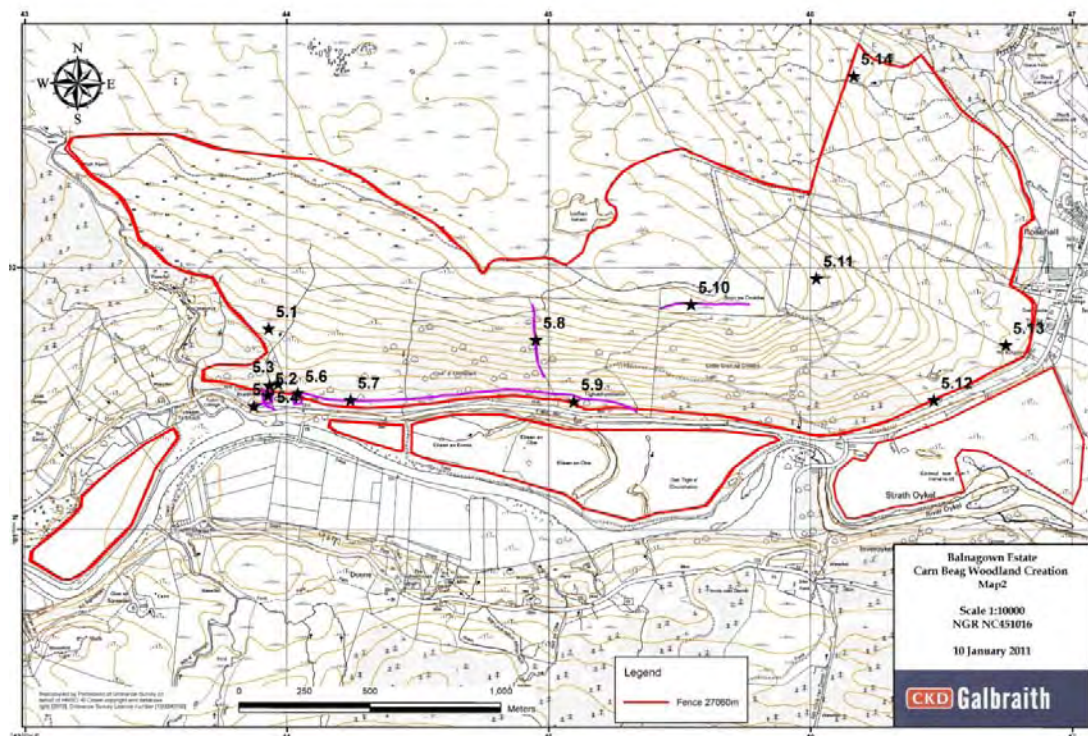


Figure 6 Area 5: Carn Beag (Rosehall Farm) (Not to scale)

Introduction

An archaeological walkover survey was conducted in March 2011 in advance of a new woodland planting scheme on the Balnagown Estate at Rosehall and Duchally (Dubh Coille).

The aim of the survey was to provide archaeological and historical background information and a gazetteer of visible archaeological features and areas of potential archaeological interest.

The *Forests and Archaeology Guidelines*, produced by the Forestry Authority, recommend that:

- No new planting should occur on archaeological sites. Normally an unplanted area should extend for at least 20m beyond the outermost recognised feature of the site
- Where groups of archaeological features are close together they should be incorporated into a larger area of open space
- Fence lines should not cross the archaeological site
- Archaeological sites should not be used as a source for stone or other materials

In addition, it is generally accepted that the best management practice for archaeological features is light grazing, to prevent the features from being obscured or damaged by vegetation growth within fenced areas even if the site is left clear of tree planting. Where the site is close to the perimeter fence, the fence line should be altered to exclude the site.

There are five distinct proposed planting areas (see Figures 2 - 6 above)::

- Area 1. Dubh Choille. The planting area, measuring 1150m by 250m, occupies a steep SW-facing slope at the head of Glencassley. The SE part of the slope is occupied by old woodland (Dubh Choille G. The black or dark wood)
- Area 2. Dalnaclave. The planting area, measuring 850m NW-SE by 800m NE-SW, occupies part of the low-lying and poorly drained ground adjacent to the River Cassley, as well as the NE-facing hill slope rising to the plateau of Mointeach Dail nan Cliabh (G. The meadow of the baskets)
- Area 3. Gleann na Muic. The planting area, measuring 1550m E-W and 500m N-S, occupies the south-facing slope to the north of the Abhainn Gleann na Muic and the narrow strip of level ground along the river
- Area 4. Carn Beag 1 (Tutim Burn). This remote area measures 3.5km NW-SE and 1km N-S, contains the two high ridges of Carn Mor and Carn Beag. It is bounded to the SW by existing mature coniferous forestry and to the NE by the Tutim Burn
- Area 5. Carn Beag 2 (Rosehall Farm). The planting area occupies the improved and re-seeded ground of Rosehall Farm, a predominantly cattle-raising enterprise which is soon to be closed. The area includes the low-lying, now drained fields between the A837 and the River Oykel and the slopes rising to the north. On these slopes is one area of old woodland : Coill'a'Chnocain, and an enclosed area of coniferous planting, formerly old woodland, Coille Sron na Croiche. The eastern part of the planting area is an undulating landscape of knolls of glacially deposited gravels.

Desk-based assessment

A desk-based assessment was conducted in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area based on previously recorded sites and any historical documentation.

A check was made of all relevant records from the Highland Historic Environment Record (HHER), National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS), and Historic Scotland's records of scheduled monuments and listed buildings. Online aerial photographs, historical maps and other sources were checked for any relevant site information.

Previous Archaeological Work

There has been no previous archaeological survey within the areas of proposed planting. Two surveys in advance of afforestation on the east side of Glencassley at Dalphaid and Glencassley Castle (C.Dagg 2009) located only minor features associated with 19th century sporting activities.

Recorded Sites and Features

Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed buildings and Designed landscapes are not only protected by law from direct impacts, but any indirect, visual impacts on the monument or building and its setting also

requires consideration. New planting which interrupts views or lines of sight between monuments or which radically alters the landscape of a monument where landscape type was an important factor in the siting of that monument would be considered as having a negative visual impact.

Scheduled Monuments

Only two Scheduled Monuments (SAMs) are located up in the vicinity of any of the planting areas:

- **Croich Broch** at NC 4116 1121
SAM ref no. 1852
HER ref. MHG11897
This is a visible monument in the landscape, located low on the west bank of the River Cassley and approximately 4.5km from the edge of planting area 2 and 2.5km from the edge of planting area 3. The intervening ground means that there is no direct line of sight to the planting areas. The monument will not be directly affected by the scheme, nor will there be any negative visual impact.
- **Langwell Fort and Dun** at NC 4104 0084
SAM ref no.5302
HER ref. MHG44797
This monument is located low within the strath 3km west of the edge of planting area 5. Intervening coniferous forestry plantings mean that there is no direct line of sight to the planting areas. The monument will not be directly affected by the scheme, nor will there be any negative visual impact.

Listed Buildings

The following Listed structures are in the vicinity of the planting areas:

- **Brae Doune Suspension Bridge** at NC 4405 0137
Listed (B) ref. 287
HER ref. MHG17115
This bridge over the Oykel, constructed in 1938, is located 100m south of the edge of planting area 5. While there will be no direct impact on the structure, there will be a visual impact. However, this is a functional bridge, still in use. Visual elements in the surrounding landscape were not considered as a factor in the siting of the bridge, nor need the introduction of new forestry be considered as a negative impact.
- **Cassley Bridge** at NC 4718 0227
Listed (B) ref. 277
HER ref. MHG11877
This bridge over the River Cassley is located 300m from the east edge of planting area 5. It was built in 1825 during the construction of the Lochinver road. Considerations in its siting were functional rather than aesthetic. It is now adjacent to a complex landscape of 19th century and modern housing. While planting area 5 will be visible from the bridge, it can not be considered to have a negative visual impact
- **Rosehall House and walled garden** at NC4748 0157
Listed (B) ref. 275
HER ref. MHG17007 and MHG47629)

Located 650m SE of the edge of planting area 5, the present house dates to 1822. It is now derelict and set within mature woodland, with an aspect SW across the Oykel. The new planting is not visible from the house and it will not have a negative impact on the setting of the house.

Other Recorded Archaeological Sites

The following sites are recorded on the Highland Historic Environment Record as within or adjacent to the planting areas:

Area 1, Dubh Choille

No recorded sites

Area 2, Dalnaclave

- **Dalnaclave, enclosure** at NC 38601640 (see below, site 2.2)
HER ref. MHG18307
This feature is recorded on the 1st edition OS map. It is located in the north part of the planting area.

Area 3. Gleann na Muic

- **River Cassley, enclosure** at NC 3950 1380 (see below, site 3.1)
HER ref. MHG18683
This feature is recorded on the 1st edition OS map, adjacent to the River Cassley. It is located in the NE corner of the proposed planting area
- **Gleann na Muic, Township**, centred on NC 388 132 (see below, site 3.3)
HER ref. MHG10217
A depopulated township of at least 11 buildings and associated enclosures, several of which are recorded on the 1968 1:25000 map, along the north bank of the Abhainn Gleann na Muic, immediately south of the south boundary of the proposed planting area
- **Gleann na Muic, sheepfold** at NC 3915 1315
HER ref. MHG41773
A U-shaped structure with wings to north and south. This is recorded on the 1st edition OS map and has been excluded from the planting area
- **Gleann na Muic, farmstead** at NC 3915 1315
HER ref. MHG9500
Buildings within the same area as the sheep shelter, as recorded on modern mapping but not on the 1st edition OS map. This area is excluded from the planting area.

Other recorded sites in Glencassley are few, and reflect the lack of systematic survey in the area. They are generally features of early-modern townships. Despite the presence of the broch at Croich, there is no known domestic prehistoric settlement in Glencassley. This is most likely to be due to the continuation of settlement and cultivation on the same few areas of favoured ground in the glen.

Area 4 Carn Beag (Tutim Burn)

No recorded sites

Area 5 Carn Beag (Rosehall Farm)

- **Cladh a'Chnocain Chapel, cemetery, cross slab** at NC 4393 0150 (see below, site 5.2)
HER refs MHG 11887, MHG42208, MHG 42211
This burial ground, enclosed by a 19th century dyke, is located immediately to the south of the south boundary of the proposed planting area.
- **Tighachumhainn, farmstead** at NC 4510 0140 (see below, site 5.9)
HER ref. MHG18696
One roofed and one unroofed structure recorded on the 1st edition OS map, and one structure on more modern mapping. This lies on the south boundary of the proposed planting area.
- **Tuiteam Tarbhaich, battle site** at NC
HER ref. MHG11891
Recorded as the site of a battle between the Mackays and the Macleods c 1400, a turf-covered natural knoll east of the track may be a former defended site.

To the west of Tutim Burn are a number of prehistoric features, including cairns, hut circle settlements and field systems, as well as the post-mediaeval settlement of Knockan, as recorded on Roy's military survey. As this ground is similar to that east of the burn, there is a strong likelihood that similar settlement features will be located there.

Historical Background and Cartographic Evidence

Roy's Military Survey

This survey records the settlements up both sides of the Cassley and along the Oykel. On the east, Rosehall, side, Roy records six inhabited places : (from south to north) Rossal, Badcrew (Bad a' Creamha), Badinchagget (Bad an t-Sagairt), Langwell, Dalhaur (Dalphaid /Dail F'aid) and Dorachally (Duchally). It is worth noting that three of these place names contain Norse elements. On the west, Balnagown side, (south to north) Craigan, at the confluence of the two rivers, Castle Achness, recorded as just north of the Allt an Tuirc but possibly referring to one of the broch structures east of the Cassley, Aldnafeich (Allt na Faic), East Croich, Croich and Glenmuck (Gleann na Muic). No settlement is recorded at Dalnaclave

Along the north side of the Oykel, no settlements are recorded between Craigan and Knockan, west of the Tutim Burn. The low ground by the river is shown as under cultivation, while the hill slope behind is lightly wooded.

1st Edition OS map

The 1st edition OS map, surveyed in the 1870s, shows the unpeopled landscape of a shooting estate, with single buildings in the former township areas. These were probably originally built for shepherds and subsequently used by keepers. Glencassley Castle and its associated offices, gardens and policies are depicted as almost identical to the present day. Several sheep shelters, depicted as complete or partial circles with wings, are depicted at several locations on the Balnagown side of the river.

At NC 4675 0170 a 'summer house' is recorded on the 1st edition map. This is not recorded on later mapping and there is no further information about this structure

Balnagown Estate

The west side of Glen Cassley and the lands north of the Oykel, as far as Altnacealgach near Ledmore, formed the northern part of the lands of Balnagown, owned by Sir John Lockhart-Ross, who began improvements on the estate in 1762. In 1790 the high ground was converted to sheep farming, the evicted tenants settling on the neighbouring Sutherland estate as squatters and subtenants. Sheep farming activity north of the Oykel appears to have been centred at Invercassley, with a separate lease given for Tuiteam Tarbhach in 1792, where the tenant, Duncan Macgregor later took on the lease of Glencassley.

Rosehall Estate

The small Rosehall estate, which included the east side of Glen Cassley, was one of the properties owned by William Baillie, who also acted as factor on the Balnagown estate for many years. The upper part of the Cassley River appears to have been sparsely populated, but, historically, contained five farms, or townships.

William Baillie dealt in grain, but does not appear to have been attracted to sheep farming. While not actively clearing his small tenants, he did set in motion voluntary migration to places like the Carolinas, although the loss of cattle during the severe winter of 1771 was also a factor. Baillie let the lands to a single tacksman at a very high rent, which had to be passed on to the small tenants, seeing their rents increase twelve fold. Some left on the ship *Bachelor of Leith*, bound for North Carolina, in 1774-5

Rosehall eventually passed to Major Mackay Hugh Baillie, an army careerist and absentee landowner. In 1788 Glen Cassley was let on a thirty eight year lease as a sheep farm to one John Campbell of Lagwine, from Ayrshire, 'the former tenants being driven away'. Campbell was 'uncouth in appearance and conversation', but has been hailed as 'the first to demonstrate the true pastoral capabilities of the north' Campbell took up residence at Badintagairt, and in 179x it was reported that the farm 'seems to answer very well'. Baillie and Campbell bickered over payment of the rents and various actions were brought to sequester Campbell's stocking and remove him from the farm. In 1797 it was claimed that 'every thing upon the farm seems to be going to confusion, and the corns, sheep and cattle, liable to be carried off by any person who pleases to do so'. However, Campbell survived as tenant until his death when the lease was assigned to Duncan MacGregor, sheepfarmer, of Tutimtarvach on the neighbouring Balnagown estate.

The estate of Rosehall was bought by Lord Ashburton in 1806, who made improvements until his death in 1823. Such was Lord Ashburton's intense hatred of sheep-farming, that he would not allow a single sheep to be grazed on any part of the estate of Rosehall. 'Whenever he saw a sheep he would immediately point at it with his silver-headed cane, and exclaim at the top of his voice, "*There, goes the enemy of man! These are the vile creatures that have been the cause of so much misery in the county.*" However, no

land was returned to crofting tenure in Glen Cassley. The sheep walks now gave way to grouse moors and deer forests.

Rosehall estate was subsequently owned by Lord Cranstoun, James Matheson and Lord Grosvenor, but by the 1870s and probably earlier, Glencassley had been sold. In the 1870s it was in the possession of Charles Flower, a brewing magnate. The two small shooting lodges, Glen Rossal Lodge and Glencassley castle, were built in 1871 and 1860, the latter having alterations in 1875. In 1881 there were five inhabited houses in the glen apart from the shooting lodges.

Walkover Survey

Method

The survey was undertaken on 1-3 March 2011 in dry and sunny weather conditions. Locations were recorded using GPS to an accuracy of approximately +/- 4m

Results

See Figures 2-6 above for the locations of these sites.

Area 1: Dubh Choille

1.1 Structure at NC 37662 18367

Immediately east of the track is a sub-square structure, aligned E-W and measuring internally 3m by 3m, of large rubble construction. It may be truncated by the track.

1.2 Enclosure, shieling huts, centred on NC 37730 18194

A turf and rubble dyke encloses an area measuring 160m NW-SE by 70m NE-SW. The dyke forms a revetting wall as it runs adjacent to the small watercourse. Within the enclosed area are at least three small shieling-type huts, at a. NC 37730 18194, b. NC37729 18225 and c. NC 37693 18241. The largest of these, b., measures 3.5m by 1.5m internally and is sub-rectangular, while a. and c. are oval and measure internally 2m by 1m. There are also field clearance stone piles within the enclosure. The modern track runs through the middle of the enclosure.

1.3 Trackway between NC 37975 18005 and NC 38243 17630

An obsolete trackway runs along the base of slope below the woodlands. The NE, upper side has been excavated into the bank, but there is no trace of stone revetting. There is a slight bank on the SW, downhill side. This track is recorded on the 1st edition OS map but may be earlier.

1.4 Building at NC 38084 17900

A rectangular structure, measuring internally 4m by 2m and aligned NW-SE, parallel to the track. The walling is particularly high at the NW end and may be a kiln bowl. From this structure a substantial earth and rubble dyke runs NW to a small circular feature built into the dyke at NC 38075 18924

None of the features above lie within the proposed planting area.



Plate 1 View across Area 2 to Area 1, which is the hillside to the left of the plantation.

Area 2: Dalnaclave

2.1 Ditching, drains, centred on NC 38730 16025

A number of artificial drainage channels run obliquely down the hill slope across the whole area, while natural watercourses have also been channelled to encourage drainage south into the river, away from the sheep pens. These features were not individually plotted. (Photos 4, 5)

2.2 Enclosure, centred on NC 3860 1645

A low and at times indistinct turf and rubble dyke encloses an area measuring 100m N-S by 70m E-W. The enclosed area includes a section of a long esker, with very waterlogged ground to either side. (Photos 6, 7, 8) There appears to be an artificial hollow or borrow pit dug into the west side of the esker within the enclosure (Photos 9, 10). This feature is recorded on the 1st edition OS map and on the Highland HER, MHG 18307

2.3 Trackway at NC 38560 16532

What appears to be a constructed path runs along the west side of the esker from the enclosure. It could only be traced for 30m then became indistinct but does lead in the direction of the shielings, site 2.4. (Photo 11)

2.4 Shieling huts at NC 38465 16658

Occupying a level terrace cut by a small watercourse, are possibly four shieling huts: a. NC 38454 16642 is rectangular, measuring 3m by 1m internally and aligned NW-SE (Photo 12), b. NC 38465 16658 is on a prominent knoll at the edge of the terrace, aligned NE-SW and measuring internally 2.5m by 1.5m (Photos 13, 16) c. at NC 38455 16658 is aligned NE-SW and measures

internally 4m by 2m (Photos 14, 15) A fourth, less distinct structure lies to the NW at NC 38439 16669.

2.5 **Shepherds cottage, sheep enclosures**, centred on NC 38880 16435

The building is a 19th century shepherds cottage, with a fireplace in the west gable (Plate 2; Photos 17, 18). It may be built on the foundations of an earlier building, but this was not immediately obvious. The remains of drystone walling, much reduced to footings, enclose an area measuring 350m N-S by 150m E-W, as recorded on the 1st edition OS map

Of these five sites, only sites 1, 2 and 3 lie within the proposed planting area



Plate 2 Feature 2.5

Area 3: **Glenmuick (Gleann na Muic)**

3.1 **Enclosure**, centred on NC 3950 1380

Turf and rubble dyke enclosing an area measuring 100m N-S and 30m E-W, as recorded on the 1st edition OS map. The enclosure is similar to enclosures associated with the post-mediaeval township of Gleann na Muic, site 3.3, and is assumed to be contemporary.

3.2 **Path, cairn** at NC 39452 13523

These features are recorded on modern mapping but not on the 1st edition OS map. They were not located during this field survey due to poor light. The cairn is, however, assumed to be a contemporary marker cairn associated with the path, and that both are contemporary with the small suspension bridge over the river from which the path ascends. This dates probably to the late 19th century. The path is, therefore, most likely to be a stalkers' track.

3.3 **Gleann na Muic Township** features, centred on NC 388 132

A number of buildings and associated enclosures, mostly spread along the terrace above the river bank, but including three irregularly shaped enclosures adjacent to the small stream west of the sheep shelter, site 3.4, and the rectangular enclosure in which the sheep shelter is set, which, with associated buildings, forms the farmstead recorded on the HER as MHG9500, while the township generally is recorded as MHG10217

The following individual features were recorded:

- a. Large square enclosure, centred on NC 3906 1322, defined by turf and rubble banks and measuring 80m N-S by 70m E-W. Within this enclosure, in the Se corner, is a smaller, square enclosure, measuring 16m across (photo 20). To the west of this, at NC 39066 13195 is a long building, aligned E-W across the slope and measuring 18m in length by 5m in width (Photo 23). Below this, at NC 39066 13176 is a smaller building, aligned N-S down the slope and measuring 8m by 3m. The later sheep shelter, site 3.4, is also located within this enclosure
- b. Enclosures. Three irregularly shaped enclosures are built onto the west bank of the small stream. i. centred on NC 38999 13216 is roughly square and straddles the stream, ii. centred on NC 39000 13185 is less distinct but contains a slightly raised area of grassland, while iii, centred on NC 38985 13145 contains one building, aligned NW-SE and measuring 11m by 3m, at NC 38984 13132
- c. Building at NC 38957 13193
- d. Building at NC 38931 13179
- e. Building at NC 38741 13186
- f. Long building at NC 38705 13193 (Plate 3; photo 24)
- g. Enclosure at NC 38690 13197
- h. Building at NC 38603 13237 (Photo 25)
- i. Possible structure at NC 38511 13293
- j. Hut at NC 38240 13442, remains of a wooden hut overlying what may be an earlier structure.



Plate 3 Building 3.3f



Plate 4 Feature 3.4: Sheep Shelter

3.4 Sheep shelter at NC 39058 13200.

Drystone walling of a C-shaped structure with a drystone wing extending south. To the north, associated wings are, unusually, constructed of turf and rubble, forming a cross. (Plate 4; photos 21, 22)

3.5 Shieling structure at NC 37992 13614

Small rubble store or dairy-type structure, on a bracken-covered slope west of a small stream. One course of large stones enclose an area 2m by 1m with an entrance to the SE. (Photos 26, 27)



Plate 5 Feature 3.5: Shieling

3.6 Enclosure at NC 37900 13516

Turf and rubble dyke enclosing an area measuring 300m E-W by 150m N-S. Within this enclosed area is a circular feature at NC 37845 13495 and a sheep shelter at NC 37720 13650

The majority of these features lie along the proposed south and east boundary of the proposed planting area. Only site 3.5 lies entirely within the planting area

Area 4: Carn Beag (Tutim Burn)

4.1 Sheep Shelter at NC 41500 04070

Drystone circular shelter with wings extending NE and SW. There is one small creep entrance to the circle. (Plate 6; photos 30-33) The feature is on a slight rise some distance from the river edge and there is no trace of any earlier shieling structures although this may have been a shieling area with the stones of any huts robbed in the building of the sheep shelter.



Plate 6 Feature 4.1 (Sheep shelter)

4.1 Sheep Shelter at NC 41970 02960

Drystone circular structure with wings extending north and south. This is located some distance from the nearest watercourse and is unlikely to be occupying a former shieling area.

Site 4.1 is located just outside the proposed planting area, while site 4.2 is within the planting area.

Area 5: Carn Beag (Rosehall Farm)

5.1 Field system, centred on NC 43917 01783

A group of 4-5 spread moss-covered mounds on a steep south-facing slope form the SE edge of a possible cultivation area, defined by stone-free grassy ground. This has the appearance of a

prehistoric field system and although no hut circles were located east of the stream, there are recorded sites to the west of the stream with which this site may be associated. (Plate 7; photos 35, 36)



Plate 7 Feature 5.1: Possible field clearance heaps

5.2 Cladh a'Chnocain Burial ground, centred on NC 4393 0150

This prominent feature is the recorded site HER refs MHG 11887, MHG42208, MHG 42211. The burial ground is enclosed by a drystone dyke, and there is no indication that it extended further than the enclosed rectangular area. This site is well recorded and was not investigated in detail (Plate 8; photos 37, 38)



Plate 8 feature 5.2: Cladh a'Chnocain Burial Ground

5.3 Farmstead, Structure at NC 43945 01525

A possible building, defined by heather-covered banking, on a levelled platform, its north side dug into the bank, Aligned E-W and measuring 10m by 5m. A bank extends east from the building to NC 43984 01524 and west to meet the stream at NC 43953 01532. South of this, a level platform aligned N-S may be a second building. (Photos 39-41)

5.4 Enclosure, centred on NC 43926 01515.

An approximately square enclosure, measuring 20m across and defined by low turf banks. The south part of the enclosure appears to be levelled up (Photo 42). A modern fence cuts across the north part of the enclosure.

5.5 Turf dykes from NC 43900 01518 to NC 43925 01456. A turf and rubble dyke runs south from the modern fence line, curving SE to the road. From a junction at NC 43913 01468 a second, well-defined dyke runs west to the road (Photo 43)**5.6 Building, farmstead** at NC 44040 01504. Low footings of a building occupying a level spur, measuring 20m in length and 5m in width. The building is attached to the NE corner of an enclosure, defined by low turf and rubble dykes, which runs down to the road (Photos 44, 45)**5.7 Trackway** from NC 44040 01504 to NC 45390 01450

A worn path, with no built features, can be traced running approximately parallel to the present road, until it drops to join or cross the road at its east end

5.8 Dyke, boundary at NC 44950 01700

The east edge of the woodland at Coill'a'Chnocain is defined by a rubble wall. This was not noted on the west side.



Plate 9 Feature 5.9: Tighachumhainn Farmstead

5.9 Tighachumhainn, Farmstead at NC 45083 01450

This is the recorded site HER ref. MHG18696, shown on the 1st edition OS map as one large and one small building, and on more modern mapping as one building. The remains are confused and

suggest that any buildings here were deliberately demolished and robbed of building stone, leaving only a level platform and random rubble (Plate 9; photos 46, 47) It is this farmstead which gave its name to Dail Tigh a'Chumhainn (G. The meadows of the house at the narrows), the low-lying fields between the road and the river, shown as cultivated on Roy's military survey.

5.10 **Trackway** between NC 45426 01846 and NC 45671 01847

Parallel ditches, 3m apart, appear to define a broad trackway which runs across the high ground above the old woodland. (Photos 48, 49)

5.11 **Cairn** at NC 46020 01952

A small stone pile, as shown on modern mapping. It sits on a square base 1m across and consists of roughly 5 courses to a height of 600mm. This is of unknown function, but the carefully laid square base suggests a 19th century date. (Plate 10; photos 50, 51)



Plate 10 Feature 5.11: Cairn

5.12 **Structure, hut** at NC 46480 01480

Occupying a small knoll immediately above the fence is a small square hut, defined by rubble walling and measuring internally 2.5m by 1.5m (Photos 52, 53) This may be a surviving feature of the post-mediaeval townships of Craigan, as recorded on Roy's military survey

5.13 **Site of 'summer house'** at NC 4675 0170

Nothing was visible at this location of any structure, suggesting that the 'summer house' was a short-lived structure, possibly associated with Rosehall House, dating to the second part of the 19th century.

5.14 **Sheep Shelter** at NC 46165 02727

A circular drystone structure with wings extending south and east. There is no indication of any earlier structures on this site, which is located just north of a small watercourse but not where shielings would be expected. (Photos 54, 55)

No archaeological features were noted on the low-lying ground between the road and the river. Although the battle site, Tuiteam Tarbhaich, HER ref. MHG11891, is approximately adjacent to the planting area, this is too uncertain a location and event to affect the scheme proposals

Summary of Findings

Of the sites noted within or adjacent to the proposed planting areas, the majority are features of land use which pre-dates the sheep and deer forest. These features are generally referred to as Early Modern or Post-Mediaeval. They are not possible to date more accurately without more intrusive archaeological methods and may have been in use for many centuries. They occupy small areas of slightly favoured ground which would have been equally attractive to prehistoric settlers as to 18th century tenants. The date of their abandonment can, however, be given with more certainty, as this is likely to coincide with the historical removal of small tenants to make way for sheep in 1770-1790.

The only sites dating to the period of sheep farming are the five very similar sheep shelters, all of which are on the original Balnagown land. No such features have been noted on the Rosehall side of the Cassley, probably reflecting a lesser emphasis on sheep.

The chronology of the sites is as follows:

Prehistoric: 5.1

Post-Mediaeval/ early Modern: 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.3, 3.5, 3.6, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9, 5.10, 5.12

Sheep farming: 2.5, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 5.14

Sporting Estate: 1.3, 2.1, 3.2, 5.8, 5.11, 5.13

Recommendations

Area 1. None of the archaeological features are located within the proposed planting area, but may be vulnerable to damage during fencing or improving access. It may be advisable to mark features such as sites 1.1 and 1.2 and define exclusion zones when placing fencing materials or parking

Area 2. Sites 2.1 and 2.3 lie within the planting area and should be protected from planting within an exclusion zone which extends 20m beyond the visible edge of the features. Sites 2.4 and 2.5 are outside the scheme and should not be affected, and no recommendations are given for the protection of the drains and ditches, site 2.1.

Area 3. It is recommended that the boundary of the planting area be altered to exclude sites 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.6. This is particularly important in the vicinity of the township features along the river, where the fence line should be kept at least 20m north of the structures. Care should be taken to avoid damage to these features during fencing or improving access. Site 3.5 will be within the planting scheme, and should be protected within an exclusion zone extending at least 5m beyond the structure.

Area 4. Site 4.1 will be just outside the planting scheme, and care should be taken to avoid damage during fencing or improving access. No stones should be removed from the structure. Site 4.2 will be within the planting area, and should be protected within an exclusion zone extending 20m beyond the visible structure.

Area 5. A cluster of post-mediaeval features in the vicinity of the burial ground at Cladh a'Chnocain indicate the importance of this area for both settlement and land use. It is recommended that this area, including site 5.6, be excluded from the planting scheme. Other contemporary sites, 5.9 and 5.12 lie approximately on the proposed new fence line. If included within the fenced area, these should be protected from planting within exclusion zones extending at least 20 from the visible features, as should sites 5.1, 5.8, 5.10, and 5.14. Site 5.11 will be adequately protected within a 5m radius exclusion zone and no recommendations are given for sites 5.7 or 5.13

The long-term protection of these features from damage or being obscured by regenerating vegetation should be included in any forestry management plan.

Appendix 1: Table of Photographs

All photographs were taken by Cathy Dagg

<i>Photo no.</i>	<i>Area no.</i>	<i>Site no.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Viewpoint</i>
1	1, 2		General view across area 2 to area 1, which is the hillside to the left of the plantation.	from S
2	2		General view of north part of area 2.	from S
3	2		General view of south part of area 2	from N
4	2	5	Ditching: natural course of stream is channelled right	from W
5	2	5	Ditching: drains cut obliquely across hill slope	from SSE
6	2	6	Enclosure, green mossy banks running in front of and across right side of esker	from E
7	2	6	Enclosure, green mossy banks running up side of esker from right	from N
8	2	6	Enclosure, banks curve right from left of centre	from W
9	2	6	Enclosure: hollow, possible borrow pit excavated into west side of esker	from E
10	2	6	Enclosure: hollow, possible borrow pit excavated into west side of esker	from S
11	2	7	Trackway between enclosure and shieling huts (behind esker on right)	from SE
12	2	8	Shieling hut a. rectangular structure in centre of image	from NW
13	2	8	Shieling hut b. occupying summit of knoll, centre	from SW
14	2	8	Shieling hut c. immediately north of small stream	from E
15	2	8	Shieling hut c. in foreground with possible shieling hut d. behind	from SE
16	2	8	Shieling hut b. occupying summit of knoll, centre	from NNW
17	2	9	Ruinous shepherds cottage, interior, east gable end and rubble lambing pen in foreground	from W

<i>Photo no.</i>	<i>Area no.</i>	<i>Site no.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Viewpoint</i>
18	3	9	Ruinous shepherds cottage: interior, west gable fireplace and cast iron surround	from E
19	3		General view of settlement area along Amhainn Gleann na Muic	from SE
20	3	10a	Rectangular enclosures defined by turf banks, crossed by modern fence	from N
21	3	11	Sheep shelter: main section of drystone construction	from N
22	3	11	Sheep shelter: wings to north of main section, earth and rubble construction	from WNW
23	3	10b	Long building aligned E-W within large rectangular enclosure	from W
24	3	10i	Long building aligned E-W	from W
25	3	10l	Structure, possible building aligned N-S	from N
26	3	12	Shieling type structure on narrow terrace by stream	from S
27	3	12	Shieling type structure on narrow terrace by stream	from ENE
28	4		General view of north part of planting area, Carn Mor on Right, Carn Beag on left.	from N
27	4		General view of north part of area, Carn Mor on right, Carn Beag on left	from SE
29	4		General view of south part of area, long ridge of Carn Beag	from N
30	4	13	Sheep shelter	from SE
31	4	13	Sheep shelter	from NE
32	4	13	Sheep shelter	from NE
33	4	13	Sheep shelter: sheep creep from interior	from NW
34	5		General view of west part of planting area, Coill'a' Chnocain in background	from W
35	5	15	Field system: low mossy cairns at edge of grass-moss area	from SE
36	5	15	Field system: two cairns at edge of grass-moss area	from SE
37	5	16	Burial ground, Cladh a'Chnocain: south part	from NE
38	5	16	Burial ground, Cladh a'Chnocain: north part	from E
39	5	17	Terracing, structure. Building is defined by heather-covered banks , behind terrace	from E
40	5	17	Possible building defined by heather-covered banks	from N
41	5	17	Possible building defined by heather-covered banks	from SE
42	5	18	Enclosure: level terrace to left of burial ground dyke	from W
43	5	19	Turf dyke running up from road	from WSW
44	5	20	Building, farmstead: bracken-moss covered footings of long building	from NW
45	5	20	Building, farmstead: footings of long building on slight knoll	from NNE
46	5	23	Farmstead: robbed foundations of dwelling	from SE
47	5	23	Farmstead: robbed foundations of dwelling	from NW
48	5	24	Possible trackway defined by parallel ditches, running to near horizon	from W
49	5	24	Possible trackway defined by parallel ditches, running to near horizon	from E
50	5	25	Cairn: rubble pile	from N

<i>Photo no.</i>	<i>Area no.</i>	<i>Site no.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Viewpoint</i>
51	5	25	cairn: rubble pile on square base	from SE
52	5	26	Structure, possible shieling hut on slight knoll	from N
53	5	26	Structure, possible shieling hut on slight knoll	from N
54	5	28	Sheep shelter: drystone central circular enclosure	from W
55	5	28	Sheep shelter: general view showing central structure and wings	from S