

Balavil Estate Woodland Creation and Restoration Project Kingussie, Badenoch & Strathspey

Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Walkover Survey



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Contents

Summary	5
1.0 Introduction	5
2.0 Site Location	5
3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	6
4.0 Aims and Objectives	9
5.0 Methodology	9
6.0 Results	10
6.1 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment	
6.2 Archaeological Walkover Survey	
7.0 Discussion	25
8.0 Mitigation and Recommendations	25
9.0 Acknowledgements	27
10.0 References	28
Appendix 1 Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites	35
Appendix 2 Index of Photographs	49

List of Figures

1 - Location maps showing the survey area	7
2 - Map of the Balavil Estate showing the survey area marked in red and access point	8
3 - Excerpt from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland . 1747-1755	11
4 - Excerpt from the 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Survey Date: 1870	12
5 - Excerpt from the 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Survey Date: 1870	12

6 - Excerpt from the 2 nd Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Date Revised: 1899	13
7 - Excerpt from the 2 nd Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Date Revised: 1899	13
8 - Distribution of archaeological sites across the survey area	20
9 - Archaeological sites focused on settlement Site 50 (HER Reference MHG24957)	30
10 - Archaeological sites focused on settlement Sites 12 and 52	31
11 - Archaeological Sites 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 in northern sector of survey area	34

List of Plates

Cover . View to Creag Bhalg and the major areas of settlement, Balavil Estate and cup marked boulder Site 54

1 - View SW over the Raitt's Burn from access point to the survey area	18
2 - View W over survey area to Creag Bhalg from same location	18
3 - View NW from access point with main access track to right	18
4 - View N from access point up main access track	18
5 - View SE from N boundary of survey area	18
6 - View ENE along the NW boundary of the survey area and Raitt's Burn	18
7 - View NW over the NW corner of the survey area from the slopes of Creag Bhalg	19
8 - View NNE over the NE sector of the survey area from lower slopes of Creag Bhalg	19
9 - View NNE over the NE sector of the survey area from lower slopes of Creag Bhalg	19
10 - View ESE from the summit of Creag Bhalg over the main access track	19
11 - View E over the access track and main areas of settlement in the survey area	19
12 - View SE over main areas of settlement and Strathspey	19
13 - Degraded footings of building (Site 12f) at settlement Site 12	24
14 - Footings of building (Site 12g) at settlement Site 12	24
15 - Looking S over settlement Site 12 to Strathspey	24
16 - View WSW over sheep fold Site 17 to Creag Bhalg	24
17 - Sheep fold Site 17 with foundations (Site 16) of earlier structure to left	24
18 - View SW over Site 22 (possible shooting lodge) to Creag Bhalg	24
19 - View SE over footings of stone building Site 43	27
20 - Kiln barn Site 50b with settlement Site 50	27
21 - Building footings Site 50e within settlement Site 50	27
22 - View over robbed building structures at Site 50 with SE wall of stock pen to right	27
23 - View over field clearance cairn Site 36, with dykes Sites 32 & 33 behind	28
24 - Field clearance Site 38 deposited off edge of field into gully	28
25 - Building foundations Site 52b with Creag Bhalg behind	28
26 - View S over shooting butt Site 27b	28
27 - Looking N over prehistoric clearance cairns at Site 19	29
28 - Prehistoric clearance cairn at Site 19	29
29 - View SW showing standing stone Site 52i and cup marked boulder Site 54	32
30 - Standing stone Site 52i and Creag Bhalg behind	32
31 - Cup marked boulder Site 54 looking SSE	32
32 - Image showing the upper surface of the cup marked boulder showing the alignment of larger cups on the NW edge	33
33 - Image showing the possible parallel pecked lines coming in from the left side	33
34 - View SE over Balavil Estate and Strathspey from the summit cairn of Creag Bhalg	53

Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological desk based assessment and walkover survey carried out on behalf of Trees for Life and Balavil Estate in advance of a woodland creation and restoration project on the Balavil Estate, Kingussie, in Badenoch & Strathspey. The walkover survey recorded a rich and diverse archaeological landscape with a significant number of new archaeological sites recorded including a prehistoric field system with stone clearance cairns, a standing stone, and a cup-marked stone. However, it was the post-medieval settlement that dominated the landscape including three major areas of settlement and their associated infrastructure, field systems and clearance cairns, some outlying structures including bothies, and shooting butts relating to estate activities.

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey was carried out on behalf of Trees for Life and Balavil Estate in respect to a woodland creation and restoration project on the Balavil Estate, near Kingussie, in Badenoch & Strathspey. The site lies within the administration of Highland Council and is advised on archaeological matters by Kirsty Cameron, the Highland Council Archaeologist.

A programme of archaeological works was specified in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011). The desk-based assessment was carried out in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area prior to any developments taking place.

The walkover survey was carried out on the 12th, 13th and 14th August 2019 and identified a significant number of new archaeological sites relating to the use of the upland landscape during the prehistoric and historic periods.

2.0 Site Location

The area for survey is located within the Balavil Estate, near Kingussie, in Badenoch & Strathspey (Figures 1 & 2), on ground located above the current tree line and accessed by estate tracks (NGR 77640 04380 - centred). The area of the survey lies generally between the 200 and 400 metre contours above Ordnance Datum, although the distinctive summit of Creag Bhalg rises to 526m.

The survey area extends to approximately 450 hectares and is dissected by a major estate track which enters the survey area at the SE side and runs NW, leaving the survey area to access higher areas of the estate. The survey area is dominated by Creag Bhalg, which comprises heather and grass-covered lower slopes and with a rock-strewn summit ridge, which is located in the W sector of the survey area. This gives way to the NE and E to the Raitt's Burn, a major drainage stream which has cut deeply into the terraced glacial outwash moraines. To the SE of Creag Bhalg, the lower slopes of the hill give way to gently-sloping terraces resulting from the outwash moraines from glacial systems in the distant past. A number of steep-sided, but shallow valleys create natural divisions within the terraces (also most likely cut by glacial outwash rivers), forming areas of flat terraced ground that overlook the lower-lying and quite wet ground to the SE. These terraces are relatively well-drained and have good soils for such an upland environment; and, as such, have supported settlement in the past.

The E sector of the survey area, located to the NE of the access track, rises gently to higher ground with the summits of Creag Mhor (437m) and Creag Righ Tharailt (470m) located just outside the survey area. The flanks of these hills extend into the survey area and also provide relatively well-drained ground on gently-sloping terraces, with W and NW aspects. However, moving to the NW from these terraces, the ground slopes away into poorly-drained ground containing peat and displaying few features of note. The NW boundary of the survey area runs along a transition between the wet ground to the SE and ground which slopes up gently to the NW, with small stream courses running from the high ground and creating areas of outwash that support better quality soils.

The N boundary of the survey area runs to the WSW, cutting across the access track, and following the N side of the Raitt's Burn in a shallow valley to where it joins a tributary of the Allt aqBhreac-ruighe. At this junction, the boundary of the survey area runs SE over the SW shoulder of Creag Bhalg to the Allt Cealgach and then turns back in a NE direction, crossing the Raitt's Burn and meeting the main estate track at the access point (Figure 2).

The underlying geology of the area comprises folded metamorphic rocks of the Moine Series including Moine Schists, quartzite and quartzite-schists. On Creag Bhalg, Creag Beag and the neighbouring hills, the schists are filled with branching veins of white and red muscovite-granite and pegmatite, (BGS 2019). However, within the area of this survey, much of the ground is dominated by glaciofluvial sheet deposits comprising gravels, sand and silts. These base rocks and in particular, the areas of morainic drift have given rise to relatively good quality soils for such an upland area, although in places, these deposits would have been covered with boulders and smaller loose rock clasts. The improvement of these landscapes to sustain livestock and the growing of cereal crops would have required significant amounts of labour, which is evidenced by the significant number of clearance cairns and areas of linear field clearance recorded during the walkover survey for this report.

The general ground vegetation includes deer grass and extensive tracts of heather, some of which has been subjected to muir-burn on a rotational basis to encourage new growth and a habitat to support a number of bird species, including Black and Red Grouse and upland waders. On the lower terraces of the survey area where settlement and the improvement of the ground are most obvious, large areas of bracken blanket the ground. Some of this was dense and created high stands during the walkover survey, which resulted in some difficulty in identifying archaeological sites.

The Estate is open for walkers (with the exception of days when stalking and shooting may be taking place), who come to admire the upland views to the SE over Strath Spey and the wonderful woodlands on the lower-lying grounds of the estate, which contain some majestic Scots Pine and Birch trees.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The requirement for walkover survey arose because of the presence of known archaeological sites within the area of the development, comprising post-medieval settlement sites. Previous archaeological surveys carried out to the east of the Balavil Estate at Kinraig have shown the potential for archaeological sites and prehistoric and historic settlement. An archaeological survey conducted on the Balavil Estate in 1999, in advance of afforestation (Dalland and Low 1999), also indicated the potential for further archaeological remains.

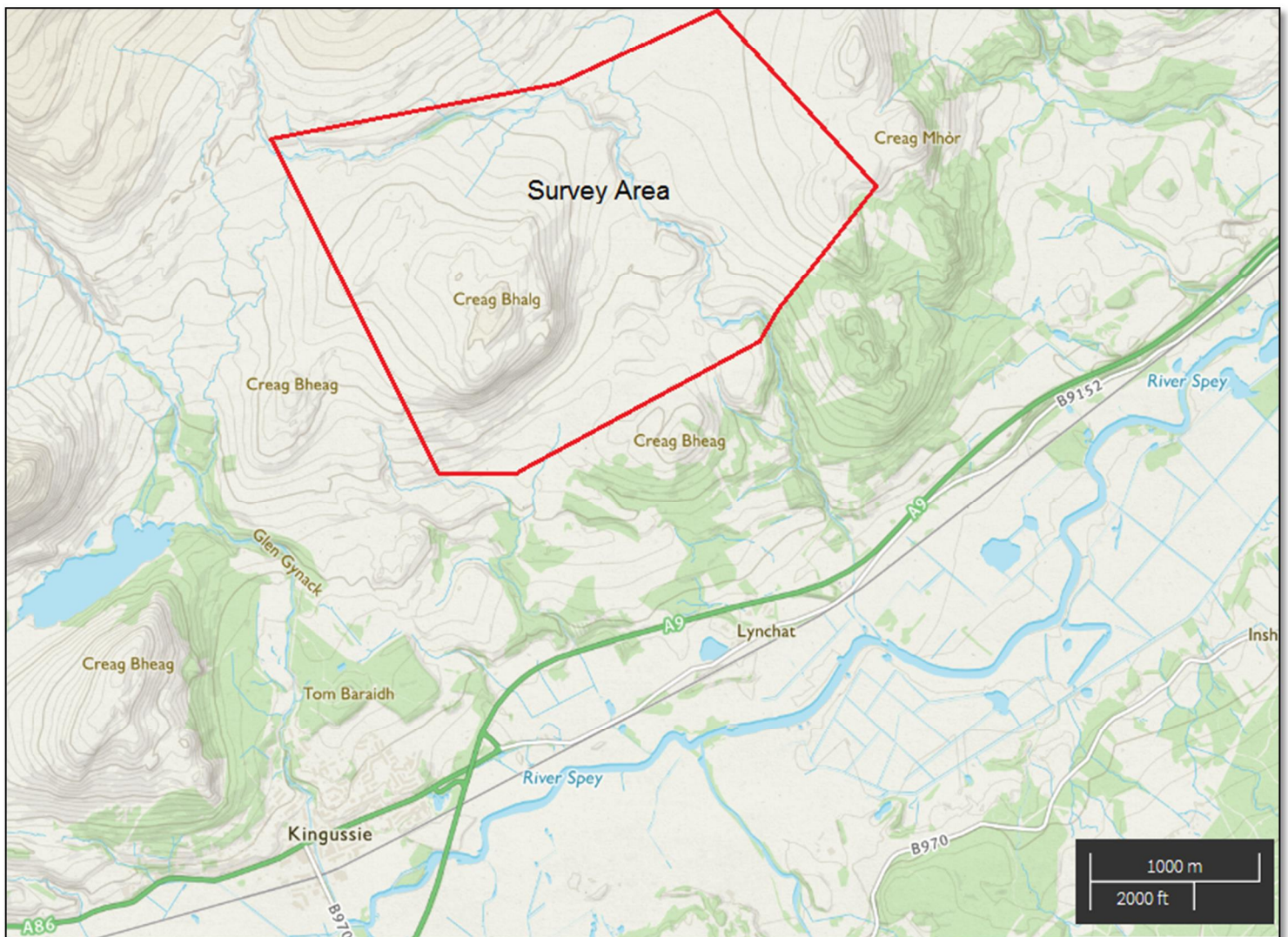


Figure 1 – Location maps showing the survey area
(Contains OS Open Data, Crown copyright and database rights 2019)

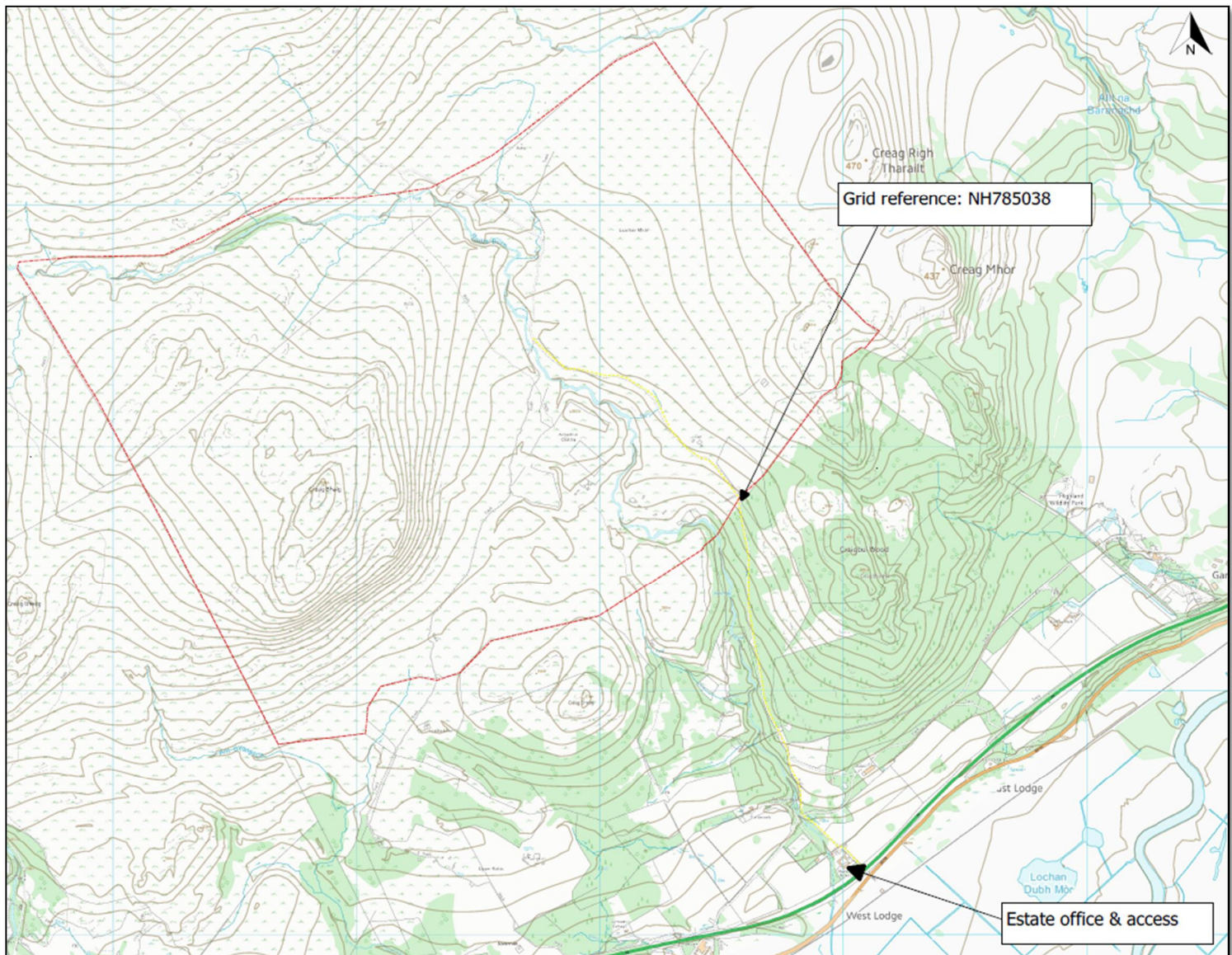


Figure 2 – Map of the Balavil Estate showing the survey area marked in red and access point (Contains OS Open Data, Crown copyright and database rights 2019)

However, it appears that no previous archaeological survey had been undertaken within the area of this survey. The recorded sites, which comprise areas of post-medieval settlement and that are shown on the Historic Environment Record, derived from desk-based activity using the historic mapping.

Balavil House and its Estate are situated on rising ground, to the west of the A9, approximately 3km to the northeast of Kingussie, with the estate boundaries stretching NW over rising moorland. The house overlooks the River Spey and the Insh Marshes National Nature Reserve. The estate has a designed landscape comprising a small area of tree-studded parkland immediately below the house, and stretching westwards across the Raitts Burn, to include Mains of Balavil, Balavil Cottage and a walled garden. There are extensive plantations on the hill ground to the north and east on Craig Bhuidhe and Creag Bheag; some coniferous, some broadleaved and some mixed (McGowan *et al* 2013).

Balavil House is built on or near the site of Raitts Castle, a former stronghold, recorded by Robert Gordon (c.1640) as *Raitq* and by Roy (c1750) as *Raithsq*. Roy shows the former tower house (?) surrounded by several small, stone-walled enclosures, with a single

township and an associated area of rig cultivation across the Raitts Burn to the west, and a substantial strip of woodland on sloping ground to the east. General Wade's Military Road is seen to pass through the farmland and woodland, running just to the south of the walled castle complex (Figure 3). There is little or no trace of this earlier landscape to be seen on the OS First Edition mapping (1870), which shows the new 1790s mansion house and home farm of Belleville together with mid-C19th gate lodges, walled garden, kennels and other features. Drives from the gate lodges, now cut off by the new A9, are seen to sweep up to the north arrival front of the mansion house, allowing open views from the south front across the parkland to Strathspey.

The existing house and landscape have their origins in the acquisition of the estate from the Mackintosh family in the 1790s by the locally-born poet and politician James Macpherson, who it is thought translated the Poems of Ossian. James Macpherson's purpose, after having spent much of his life as an MP in England, was to return to his native country and establish himself as a highland laird. The house, built to a design by the celebrated Scots architect Robert Adam, was partially remodelled and extended in the mid C19th. A damaging fire occurred in 1903, after which the interior of the house was further remodelled. A mid-20th century account describes the house as empty and derelict.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the desk based assessment and archaeological walkover survey was to identify and record any sites or features of archaeological importance that could be impacted by the proposed woodland creation and regeneration project, while minimising any delays or disruption to the development project. The programme of archaeological works was in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011). The desk-based assessment has been requested in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area prior to the walkover survey commencing.

The aims of the archaeological works were:

- i. To assess the nature of the archaeological context and landscape of the potential woodland creation and regeneration project using all the available sources and material
- ii. To assess the impact of the proposed development in relation to the archaeological landscape
- iii. To propose mitigation recommendations in advance of the development in order to safeguard any significant archaeological sites and minimise delays to the programme including, but not limited to, the fencing off of identified archaeological sites within an agreed buffer zone.

5.0 Methodology

The overall aim of the archaeological work was to identify and record any archaeological sites that might be directly affected by the proposed woodland creation and regeneration project and associated developments including plant access and fencing requirements. This would enable informed mitigation measures and recommendations to be proposed to ensure that the value of any cultural heritage would not be compromised.

5.1 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

Prior to the fieldwork commencing, a check of all relevant archaeological and historical records, maps and aerial imagery was undertaken. This included searches of the Highland Historic Environment Record (HER), the Highland Council Archives, the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS), the National Library of Scotland and any other available records or online resources about the site. This work was conducted in accordance with the *Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work* (2012) and the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standards* (CIfA 2014).

5.2 Archaeological Walkover Survey

The area proposed for the new woodland creation and regeneration project was walked over and surveyed on the 12th, 13th and 14th August 2019, during a period of mixed weather including some heavy rain and sunny periods, with generally light winds. Conditions on the ground for the walkover survey were generally good, although wet underfoot in parts, with generally good to excellent visibility and light levels. Stands of heather and bracken covered ground resulted in some difficulty in traversing the ground in some areas, with the bracken in particular overlying and obscuring some archaeological sites. This should be taken into consideration during any groundworks and planting, or for areas where natural regeneration of woodland is proposed. The major stands of dense and deep bracken occur around the areas of major settlement and on improved ground, and along the course of the Raitt's Burn.

Archaeological sites were recorded individually including using high-resolution digital photography, where this was possible. This was hampered by the stands of bracken and heather at some recorded sites. The individual site locations were plotted using DGPS technology on a handheld Trimble Geo XR Rover, while extant land divisions including dykes, walls and boulder alignments were also recorded using the same equipment. The resulting shape files from the survey have been used to create detailed plans of the surviving archaeological landscape, which have been included in this report. Colour coding has also been used on the plans to differentiate between prehistoric and historic period sites. Details relating to the individual recovered sites and monuments can be found in the Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites in Appendix 1.

All archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with the brief and *Development Guidance* from the Highland Council Archaeology Unit and to the standards and guidance as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Code of Conduct' and 'Standards and Guidance'.

6.0 Results

6.1 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

The area for the proposed woodland creation and regeneration project is located within the parish of Alvie, in Badenoch and Strathspey. The area has a rich archaeological heritage and there are a number of known sites in the surrounding landscape. These include the remains of post-medieval settlement sites and their associated infrastructure, as well as a number of prehistoric sites.

Historical Mapping

Historical mapping was consulted online through the National Library of Scotland (NLS 2019). Details of the maps consulted are as follows:



Figure 3 – Excerpt from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland . 1747-1755 (© NLS Edinburgh)

Roy Military Survey of Scotland – 1747-1755

The *Blaeu Atlas of Scotland* (1654) provides the earliest map reference for the settlement at *Rait*, but it is Roy's map of 1747-55 which provides more detail, with the military road passing just to the SE of Raiths Castle and the associated complex of features. Settlement is also shown on the opposite side of the Rait's Burn, just to the NW of the military road. Otherwise, no settlement is shown on the higher ground focused on the Rait's Burn, although a large area of ground is shown under cultivation (Figure 3).

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map

Inverness-shire (Mainland), Sheet LXXXVII (includes: Alvie; Kingussie and Insh)

Survey date: 1870 Publication date: 1872

This map sheet shows settlement on the SW and NE sides of the Rait's Burn, just above the woods of Creag Bhuidhe, to be unroofed and most likely fallen out of use. A sheep fold is also shown to the NE of the Rait's Burn (Figure 4 with red arrows marking the settlement remains) including a large field enclosure to the SW of the burn named Achadh aqChatha. The main settlements shown are associated with the field of Achadh aqChatha (a large field, stock enclosure and two buildings); a larger settlement to the SE focused on a large bend in the Rait's Burn (a stock enclosure, at least four buildings, and a track providing access); and a stock pen and two buildings to the NE of Rait's Burn, with a track providing access. Further up the course of the Rait's Burn, to the NE of where the stream turns to the WSW, a single roofed building with attached enclosure is shown, with a track providing access to it (Figure 5). Otherwise, the survey area is devoid of any additional sites.

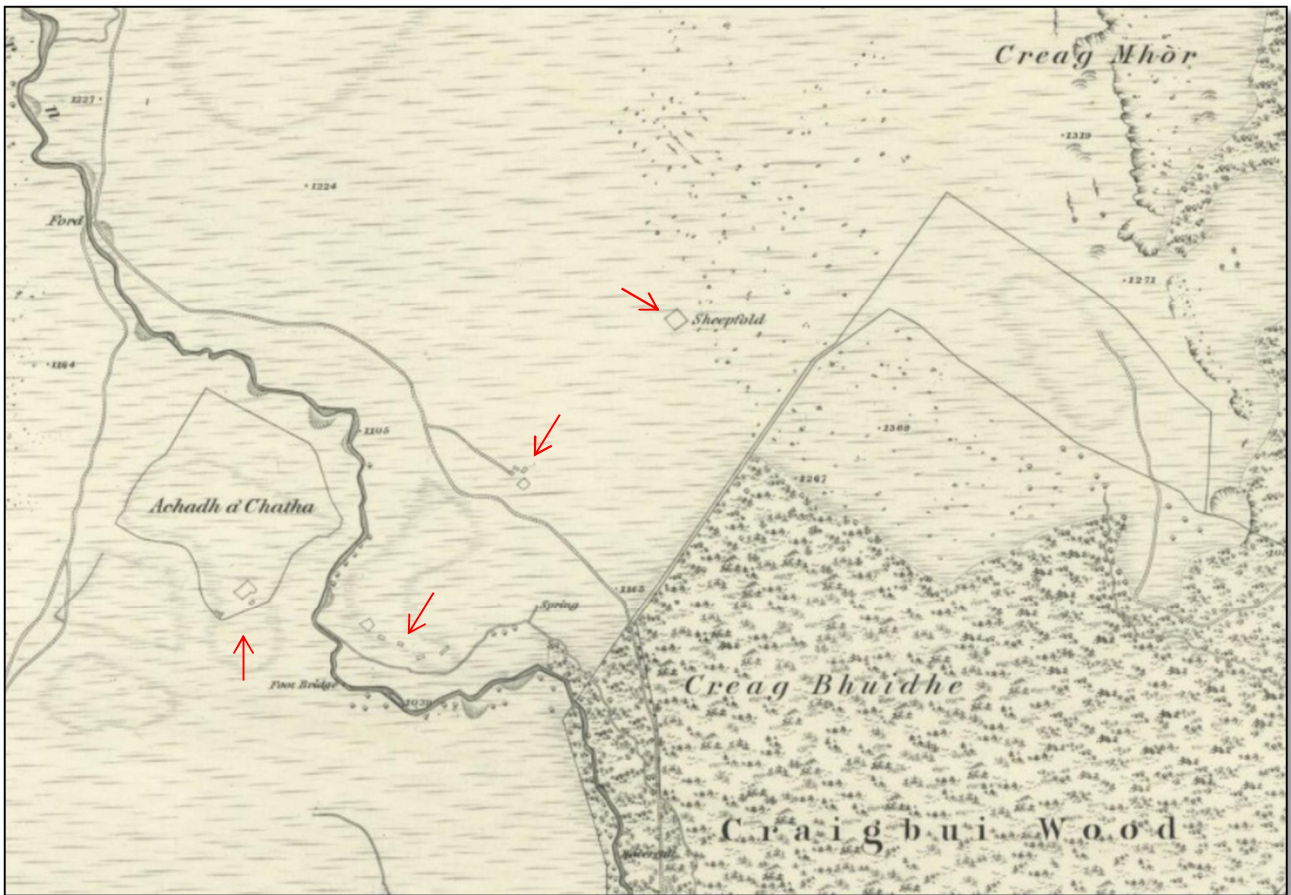


Figure 4 – Excerpt from the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Survey Date: 1870 (© NLS Edinburgh)

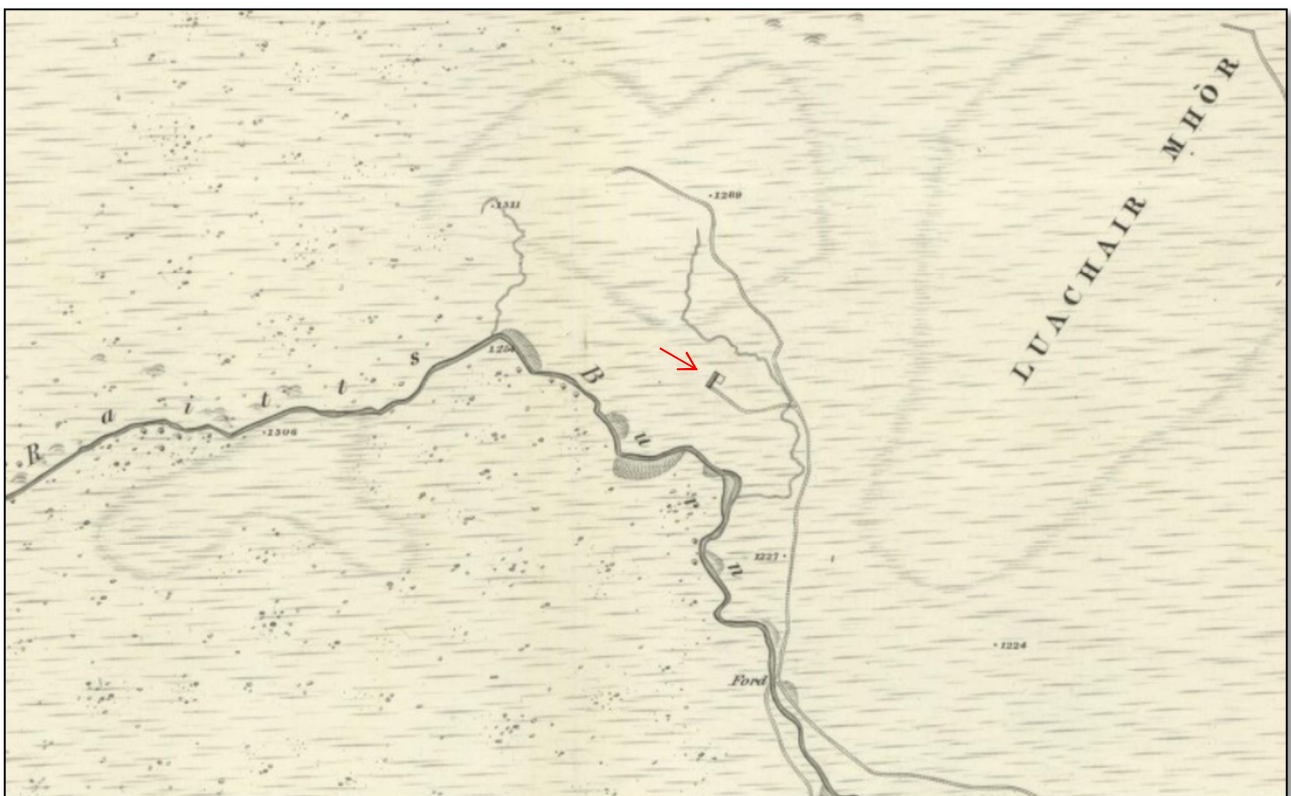


Figure 5 – Excerpt from the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Survey Date: 1870 (© NLS Edinburgh)

**Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 6-inch-to-the-mile map
Inverness-shire (Mainland), Sheet LXXXVII (includes: Alvie; Kingussie and Insh)**

Publication date: 1903 Date Revised: 1899

The later Ordnance Survey map sheet shows the same settlement remains focused on the course of the Raitt's Burn, although the large enclosed field of Achadh aqChatha is not shown. The track providing access to the larger settlement, within the bend of the burn, is also not shown (Figure 6). The single building located to the NNW is now shown to have no roof and abandoned, while the attached small pen or enclosure is also omitted (Figure 7).

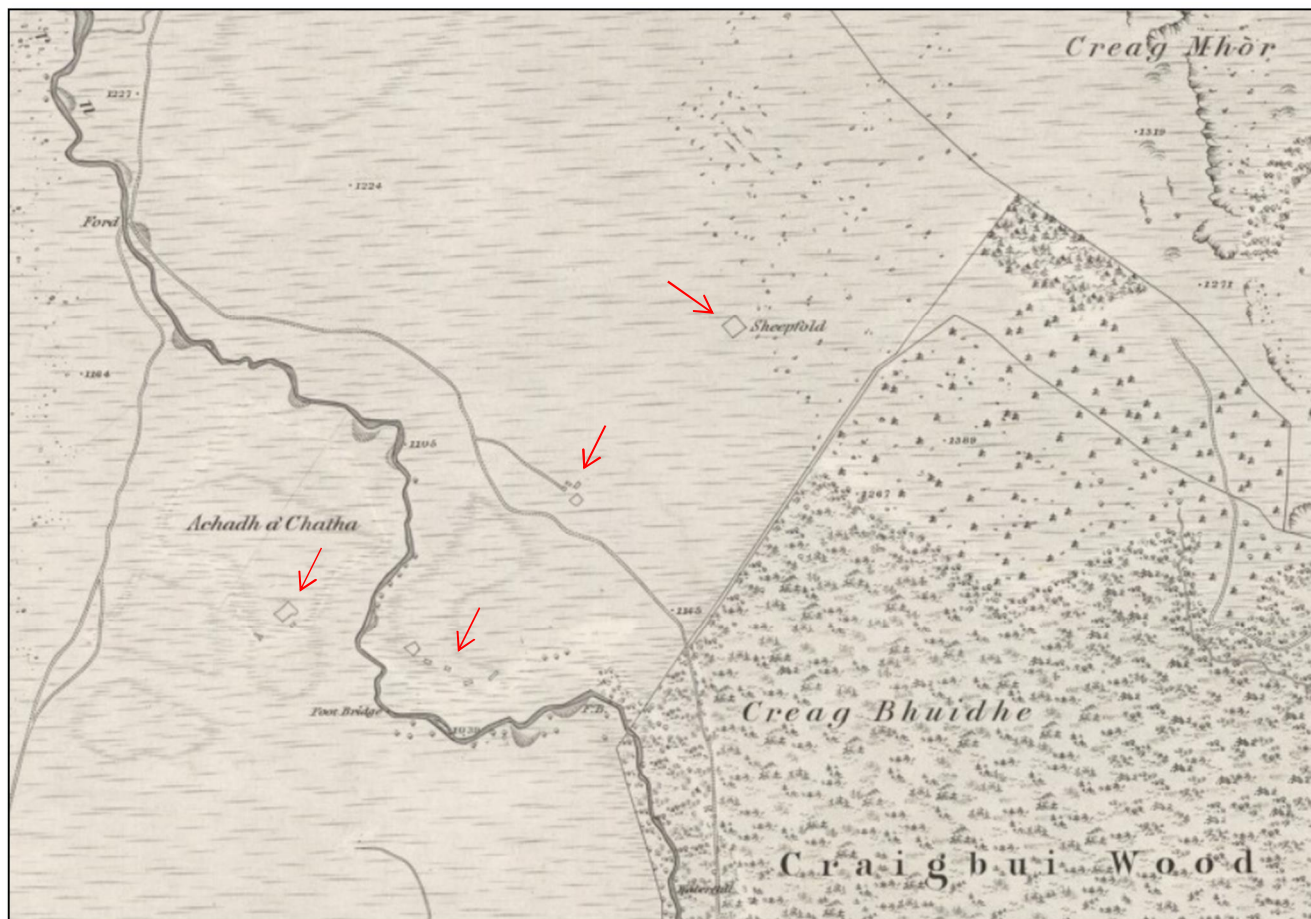


Figure 6 – Excerpt from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Date Revised: 1899 (© NLS Edinburgh)

Therefore, it would appear that all of the settlement, with the exception of the single building located towards the northern boundary of the survey area had fallen out of use by the time the 1st Edition map sheet had been surveyed in 1870. This may tie-in with the development of the Balavil Estate for sporting activities including stalking and grouse shooting. It is also possible that the main improved ground associated with the settlement remains was turned into a larger sheep farm, with the single, roofed building located to the north of the survey area being used by the shepherd. The sheep fold may also have still been in use at this time.

Historic Environment Record

A search of the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) was carried out online via Pastmap, Canmore and the Highland Historic Environment websites. The databases showed the main areas of settlement and sheep fold and these are included below.

The following list also includes sites within the immediate landscape surrounding the survey area (the Highland Historic Environment Record identifiers are used).

Within the boundaries of the survey area:

MHG24958 NH 7839 0400 Achadh a' Chatha – Farmstead

A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings and an enclosure is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872, sheet lxxxvii). Four unroofed buildings and an enclosure are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994). Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 17 July 1996

MHG24959 NH 7819 0370 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

A small township comprising four unroofed buildings and an enclosure is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872, sheet lxxxvii). Six unroofed buildings and an enclosure are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994). Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 17 July 1996

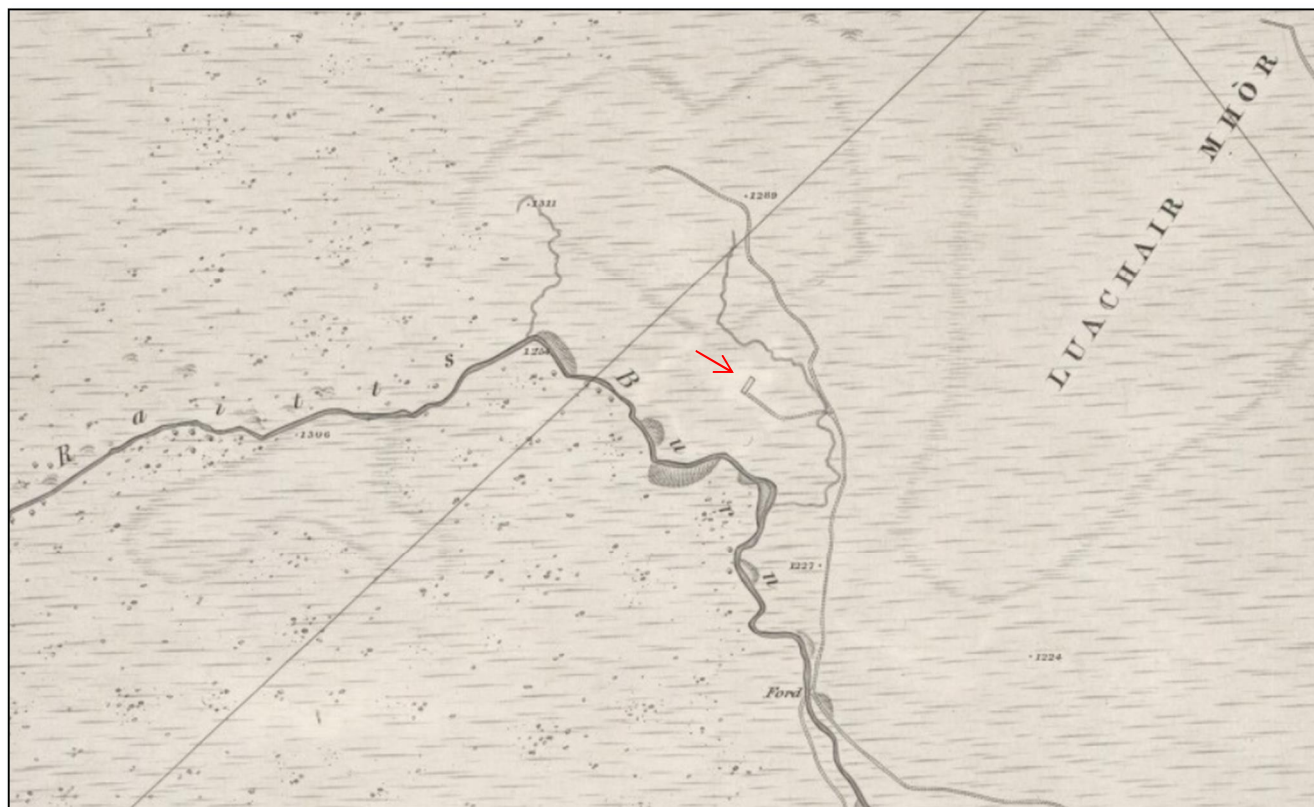


Figure 7 – Excerpt from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map sheet . Date Revised: 1899 (© NLS Edinburgh)

MHG24957 NH 7790 0380 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

A township comprising three unroofed buildings, an enclosure, a field and a length of field wall is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872, sheet lxxxvii). Three unroofed buildings, an enclosure of four compartments, another enclosure and two fields are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994). Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 17 July 1996

MHG35867 NH 7868 0428 Achadh a' Chatha – Sheep Fold

Oblique aerial photography (RCAHMSAP 1996) has recorded the remains of a sheepfold 320m NE of Achadh a' Chatha farmstead (NH70SE 28) on the NW side of Raitts Burn. It is rectangular in shape measuring about 30m SW-NE by 25m transversely. It is depicted as a two-compartment sheepfold on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map sheet (1994) and on the previous edition of the OS 1: 10560 map sheet (1968).

Information from RCAHMS (KJ) 4 February 2000

Located to the E of the survey area:

MHG35875 NH 7924 0444 Creag Mhor – Shieling Settlement

Aerial photography (RCAHMSAP 1996) has recorded a group of at least three possible shielings on the SE facing slope of Creag Mhor, 1.3km NW of Croftcarnoch farm steading
Information from RCAHMS (KJ) 9 February 2000

Located to the NNW of the survey area:

MHG26191 NH 7770 0560 Allt na Baranachd – Shieling

What may be an unroofed shieling-hut is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872, sheet lxxxvii), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1971).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 16 July 1996

Located to the SW of the survey area:

MHG35907 NH 7770 0297 Creag Bheag – Boundary Dyke

A boundary dyke, which may be traced over a distance of some 900m to the N and NE of Creag Bheag, was recorded during a pre-afforestation survey on Balavil Estate, Kingussie. It is 1m wide and 0.5m high. The dyke, which is not depicted on either the 1st or the 2nd edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872 and 1903, sheet lxxxvii), is shown, in part on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994).

M Dalland and C Lowe (Headland Archaeology) 12 February 1999; NMRS MS 899/133, no.4

MHG35906 NH 7739 0290 Creag Bheag – Cairns

Twenty-six grass and heather-grown small cairns, spread over an area measuring 200m by 80m on a gentle slope on the WSW flank of Creag Bheag, were recorded during a pre-afforestation survey on Balavil Estate, Kingussie. Some of the cairns are elongated in shape and range in size from 4m by 3m to 8m by 4m and stand up to 0.5m in height. Others are circular to subcircular on plan and range from 3m to 9m in diameter and 0.2m to 0.8m in height.

M Dalland and C Lowe (Headland Archaeology) 12 February 1999; NMRS MS 899/133, no.3

MHG35905 NH 7759 0272 Creag Bheag – Track

A trackway, climbing the SW flank of Creag Bheag, was recorded during a pre-afforestation survey on Balavil Estate, Kingussie. Its course can be traced from the junction with General Wade's military road (NH70SE 74) at Chapelpark (at NH c.7836 0187), for some 4.3Km to the NW, terminating in moorland to the N of Creag a' Bhuilg. The trackway is badly eroded by small streams following its path along the lower slopes of Creag Bheag whilst on the flatter parts to the N it is partly overgrown with heather.

M Dalland and C Lowe (Headland Archaeology) 12 February 1999; NMRS MS 899/133, no.2

MHG35904 NH 7776 0255 Creag Bheag – Enclosure

An enclosure, situated on the S-facing slope of Creag Bheag, was recorded during a pre-afforestation survey on Balavil Estate, Kingussie. The enclosure is formed by a partly turf-clad stone dyke, up to 2m wide and 0.4m high, which encloses an area of land measuring 75m by 25m on the E side of a small burn.

M Dalland and C Lowe (Headland Archaeology) 12 February 1999; NMRS MS 899/133, no.1

MHG45085 NH 7660 0270 Creag Bheag – Lazy Beds

An air photograph has been taken of the area of clearance cairns on a shoulder of Creag Bheag just above the 320m contour, as well as an area of lazy beds to the E near the sheep wash and pens, which are at NH 771 028 (See Archive for details.)

Information from J Harden 1989

MHG24954 NH 7829 0260 Creag Bheag – Farmstead

A farmstead comprising one partially roofed, two unroofed buildings and two enclosures is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1872, sheet lxxxvii), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 16 July 1996

Statistical Accounts

The Old and New Statistical Accounts of Scotland (1792 and 1845) for the parish of Alvie were consulted. The following accounts relate to Balavil and the surrounding area:

Rev. J Anderson 1790 (OSA) observed that %the country in general, owing to the scarcity of planted wood, has to the eye of the traveller a bleak and naked appearance+.

Rev. G Shepherd 1835 (NSA) reported that %about the year [Mr. Macpherson] purchased a beautiful property lying chiefly in this, and partly in the neighbouring parish, to which he gave the name Belleville. His estate descended to his eldest son who possessed them till 1833, when they fell to his elder sister ò the proprietors are, we understand, desirous to introduce the new mode of farming over all their estates ò Of late years, much has been done in the way of reclaiming waste land, embanking and draining, and improvements in this way are still proceeding+.

Rev. John Macdonald 1835 (NSA) commented that %the house of Belleville, built by the translator of Ossian ò stands on a beautiful eminence, conspicuous from the public road,

sheltered on the north by a plantation of Scotch fir, now grown to a considerable size, and by the beautiful rock Craigbuie, covered with natural birch, among which are some trees of unusual magnitude. The lawn in front of the house is adorned with upward of 100 trees of hardwood, and a fine row of elms along the old military road, planted by Brigadier Mackintosh in 1715. Lochandu celebrated in Sir Thomas Dick Lauder's novel of that name was surrounded with a thick belt of natural birch that hid it from sight, till the late Mr Macpherson of Belleville, in the course of his improvements, laid it open to view.

OS Name Book 1870 (Alvie, Inverness-shire Book 7, p25) records Belleville, a large substantial building, beautifully situated on the side of a sloping hill, and commands a magnificent view both up and down the valley of the Spey, and also of the mountains to the south. It is supposed to be the best building in the parish and is the property and residence of Colonel Macpherson of Craigbui Wood. An extensive wood chiefly fir, stretching about a mile east of Belleville, and nearly a mile north on the west side, it is bounded by the Burn of Raitts.

Aerial Imagery

On-line aerial imagery was viewed to assess the survey area. The search revealed some additional detail to the historic mapping, as follows:

MHG24958 Achadh a' Chatha – Farmstead

A large enclosure, a smaller enclosure and at least five buildings can be seen, while fragments of field dykes can be seen defining fields to the east.

MHG24959 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

A small enclosure and at least six buildings can be seen on the aerial imagery, with field dykes and clearance cairns defining improved and enclosed fields to the NE. What appears to be a track, or dyke, can be seen to the south and southeast of the settlement.

MHG24957 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

One enclosure and the footings of at least eight buildings can be seen on the aerial, with a single building located to the southwest. To the southeast of the settlement, what appear to be the very-degraded remains of buildings can be seen, possibly hidden by vegetation (heather?). Dykes and some clearance cairns define field systems to the north, with another building located on a knoll at grid reference NH 77730 04114. Additional field systems and clearance cairns extend to the west of the main township.

MHG35867 Achadh a' Chatha – Sheep Fold

The sheep fold can be clearly seen, while associated dykes and clearance cairns may define a field system attached to the sheep fold.

No additional features were noted in other sectors of the survey area.

6.2 Archaeological Walkover Survey

The walkover survey carried out for this report revealed a significant number of new archaeological sites, most of which are located within distinct groups, mainly within the SSE and SE sectors of the survey area. A scatter of sites was recovered within the other sectors of the survey area, generally comprising field dykes, clearance cairns, tracks, isolated structures and shooting butts (Figure 8).

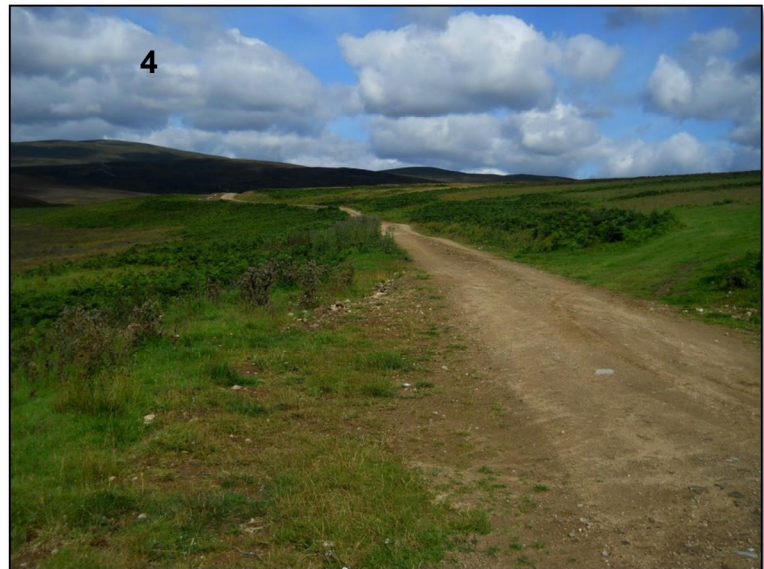


Plate 1 – View SW over the Raitts Burn from access point to the survey area; **Plate 2** – View W over survey area to Creag Bhalg from same location; **Plate 3** – View NW from access point with main access track to right; **Plate 4** – View N from access point up main access track; **Plate 5** – View SE from N boundary of survey area; **Plate 6** – View ENE along the NW boundary of the survey area and Raitts Burn.

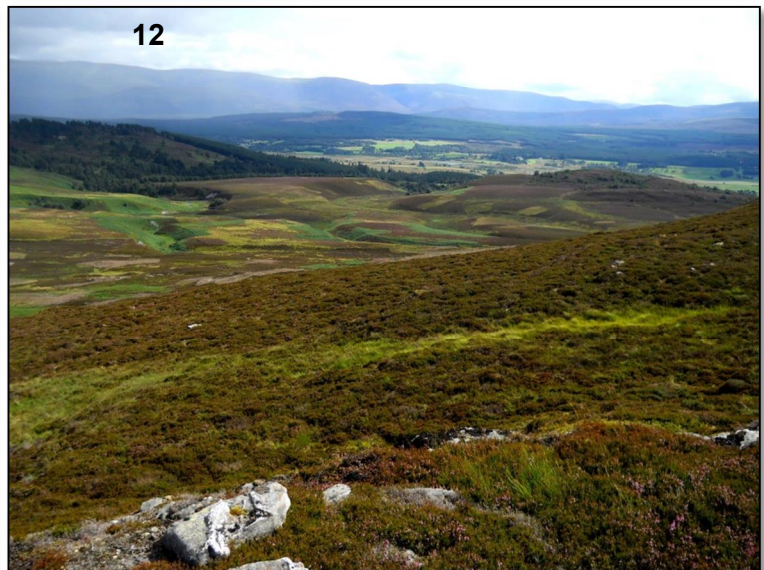


Plate 7 – View NW over the NW corner of the survey area from the slopes of Creag Bhalg; **Plate 8** – View NNE over the NE sector of the survey area from lower slopes of Creag Bhalg; **Plate 9** – View SW over the W sector of the survey area from the upper slopes of Creag Bhalg; **Plate 10** – View ESE from the summit of Creag Bhalg over the main access track and access point to survey area; **Plate 11** – View E over the access track and main areas of settlement in the survey area; **Plate 12** – View SE over main areas of settlement

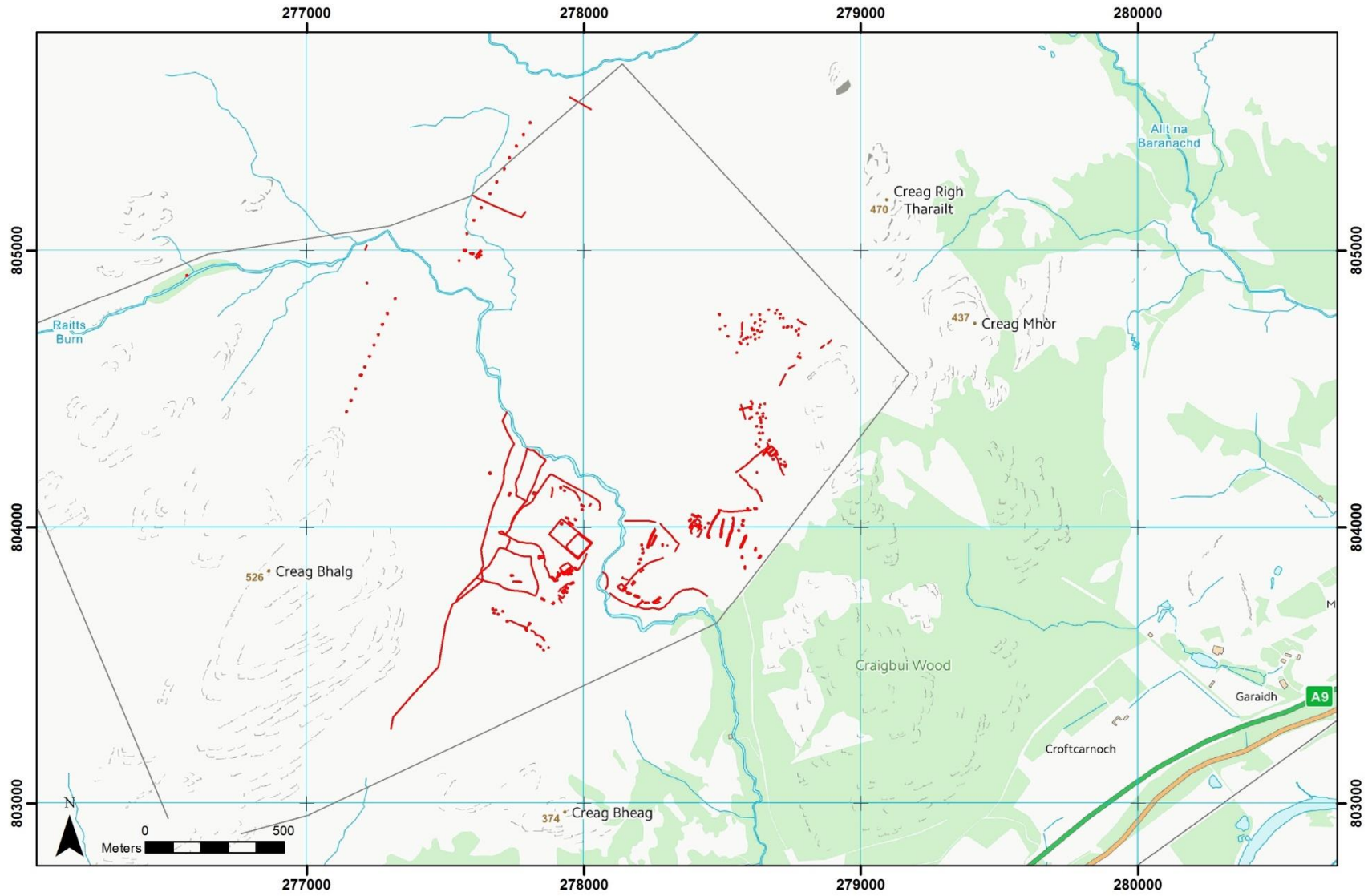


Figure 8 – Distribution of archaeological sites across the survey area

The prehistoric sites included a large cairn field and the associated, but very-degraded and fragmentary bank forming an enclosure around the field system (Site **19**). This was located on a sloping terrace with a SW to NW aspect, on high ground and below a summit ridge located in the E corner of the survey area. The cairn field extending towards sheep fold Site 17 and this feature potentially overlies, or has destroyed, other cairns in this area. No hut circle or settlement was found associated with this site, which is surprising, but this may also have been impacted on by the construction of the sheep fold. Interestingly, Dalland and Lowe (1999) recovered a similar type of site on the slopes of Creag Bheag, just outside the SE boundary of the survey area during a pre-afforestation survey. They recorded a group of 26 cairns within an area 200m by 80m, close to a sheep fold, which varied in their size and height and which were largely turf clad and covered in grass and heather. They also noted that some of the cairns would have been difficult to identify if the covering of heather had not been burnt off through muirburn. They assigned the cairns to the post-medieval period, but considering the vegetation and turf covering them it is most likely they are prehistoric in date and roughly contemporary with Site **19**.

The other prehistoric sites recorded during this walkover survey include the standing stone (Site **52i**), which is located within post-medieval settlement at Site **52**; and the cup-marked boulder (Site **54**), which is located on slightly higher ground to the NE of the standing stone within an enclosed field system. The rock art displayed on this boulder is still relatively well-preserved and the rows of larger cups along its NW edge are quite unusual in their configuration. The cup marked boulder would benefit from some more detailed recording.

It is possible that other prehistoric features are present within the survey area, potentially buried below the layers of peat which are present in some areas. However, it is the post-medieval settlement remains that dominate the upland landscape at Balavil, with three major settlements and their associated infrastructure, field systems and their associated clearance cairns, and some isolated individual structures. The major settlements will be discussed under their Historic Environment Record identifiers, which have also been used in the desk based assessment within this report (Section **6.1**).

The three major settlements, initially identified from historic mapping, are all grouped under the name *Achadh a' Chatha* (Field of the Battle/fight/struggle . although *Cadha* can mean narrow pass, or ravine). *Caith* or *Cath* can also mean winnow corn, and it is likely that corn and other arable produce was grown at these settlements in the past. The presence of the grain-drying kiln (Site **50b**) within settlement Site **50**, along with other possible very-degraded kilns at Site **50** and Site **52**, is testament to this.

MHG24958

NH 7839 0400

Achadh a' Chatha – Farmstead

The Historic Environment Record (HER) refers to this eastern settlement as a farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings and an enclosure (as depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map), but with four unroofed buildings and an enclosure shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994). The walkover survey of Site **12** recorded a small enclosure (**12a**), a larger fragmentary enclosure (**12d**), and 6 buildings (**12e**, **12f**, **12g**, **12h**, **12i**, and **12j**). A number of clearance cairns were also located between the buildings.

In relation to the 1st Edition OS 6-inch map sheet, which already shows the structures at this site to be roofless and abandoned, the walkover survey revealed the 3 buildings and small stock pen or kale yard. However, in addition to this, three further buildings were recorded.

Two of these had been heavily robbed of their stone to leave low turf and stone banks and it is possible that these are the remains of the earliest structures at the site.

MHG24959 NH 7819 0370 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

The HER refers to the central of the three settlements as a small township comprising four unroofed buildings and an enclosure (as depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map), but with six unroofed buildings and an enclosure as shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1994). The walkover survey of Site **52** recorded one stock enclosure (**52h**), at least seven buildings (**52a**, **52c**, **52e**, **52f**, **52g** and **52j**). A fragment of another possible building was located under dense bracken (**52k**), although it is possible that this was a linear clearance cairn. Field dykes extend off to the NE along with their associated clearance cairns. A small enclosure (**52l**) was recorded at the base of the steep slope to the W of the main settlement, using the steeply sloping ground and an oxbow in the Raittø Burn.

Comparing the evidence for this settlement as depicted on the 1st Edition OS 6-inch map sheet with the results from the walkover survey, it appears that the four buildings and stock pen/enclosure shown on the map sheet were identified. However, the walkover survey revealed at least two additional buildings and another small enclosure or pen to the NE. Building 52a displayed evidence for at least two phases of construction, with the later build comprising a smaller structure than the original.

MHG24957 NH 7790 0380 Achadh a' Chatha – Township

The HER refers to the western settlement as a township comprising three unroofed buildings, an enclosure, a field and a length of field wall (as depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map), and with three unroofed buildings, an enclosure of four compartments, another enclosure and two fields (as shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map-1994). The walkover survey of the main settlement at Achadh aqChatha, focused on Site **50** recorded two main areas of settlement . a number of features located on a lower terrace under heather (see below), and Site **50** situated on the upper grass-covered terrace.

On the lower terrace this included a small enclosure (**46**), a smaller, possibly D-shaped enclosure (**45**), and four buildings; (**48** and **49**) located to the NE of a small stream with the enclosure; and (**43** and **44**) located to the SW of the stream on a projecting terrace. These buildings have almost been robbed back to their foundation stones including boulder footings, so along with the more ephemeral structures in Site **50** are most likely the earliest surviving elements of the settlement here.

On the upper terrace, structures included a larger stock enclosure (**50i**), a kiln barn (**50b**), and at least eight buildings (**50a**, **50c**, **50d**, **50e**, **50f**, **50g**, **50h** and **50j**). Some of these had stone footings, while other structures had been robbed back to leave low turf and stone banks . these relating to the earlier structures at the site and possibly contemporary with the degraded structures on the lower terrace.

This complex of settlement remains is depicted on the 1st Edition OS 6-inch map sheet with three buildings and a stock pen, set within the south corner of a large enclosed field. The walkover survey identified these buildings (50a, 50b and 50e) and the stock pen (50i), but recorded an additional six buildings on this upper terrace. However, the map sheet showed no features on the lower terrace, which included at least four buildings and a stock enclosure. These structures had been heavily robbed of their stone, as were some of the

buildings on the upper terrace not shown on the OS map sheet. This suggests that they may be some of the earliest structures constructed within the settlement, which were robbed of their stone to construct new buildings and the larger stock enclosure. By the time the Ordnance Survey conducted their surveys in 1870, these long-abandoned structures would possibly have not been significant enough to record for the publication of the map sheet.

There is therefore clear evidence from the three main areas of nucleated settlement for an earlier phase than that depicted on the 1st Edition OS 6-inch map sheet, with a general contraction in the scale of the settlement through time. Without additional detailed research or excavation of a suite of these structures, it is difficult to establish foundation dates for these settlements.

MHG35867 NH 7868 0428 Achadh a' Chatha – Sheep Fold

The sheep fold is depicted as a simple single cell structure on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 6-inch maps, but is shown as a two-compartment structure on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map sheet (1994) and on the previous edition of the OS 1: 10560 map sheet (1968). The walkover survey recorded a two cell structure with a central access running between the cells in a SW-NE direction. However, the survey of the site (Site 17) also revealed an earlier and slightly larger robbed phase of the sheep fold (Site **16**), which may have been the version depicted on the earlier OS map sheets. The survey also provided evidence of an associated improved field located to the SW, bounded by a stone and turf dyke (Site **15**) and associated clearance cairns (Site **18**). It is possible that most of the clearance recovered from the improvement of the field was used in the construction of the sheep fold . although it is also possible that stone was imported into the site from elsewhere.

Site 22 NH 7761 0497 Achavourich – Shooting Lodge?

This site is depicted as a roofed building on the 1st Edition of the 6-inch map (1870) with an attached enclosure, but is shown unroofed and potentially abandoned on the 2nd Edition of the OS 6-inch map (1899). With the lack of associated settlement surrounding this site and taking into consideration the relatively high altitude at which it is located (390m), it is possible that this substantial structure was a Victorian shooting lodge. This would have been well-placed for accessing the shooting butts (Sites **21** and **27**), located to the NE and SW of the building, respectively. However, in his lists of people evicted from the area in 1806, Fraser Mackintosh (1848) provides a name of Alexander Gordon of Achavourich of Raitts, which may indicate that this was a farm, or shepherds house prior to the evictions.

Beyond these major settlements, sites were limited to the small stone-built bothy (Site **26**) located adjacent to the Raitts Burn and various types of boundary/enclosure dykes, field clearance cairns and tracks, which were associated with the farms and the later use of the land by the Estate. As mentioned above for Site **22**, the other types of site preserved in this diverse archaeological landscape are associated with the sporting activities of the Balavil Estate including the shooting butts recorded at Sites **21** and **27**). One other site of note is the possible lade (Site **51**), the course of which can be traced on the 1st Edition of the OS 6-inch mapping, running down the valley through the Craighui Woods and extending towards Balavil House where it ends in a small pond. This may have serviced an early hydro-electric scheme for the house

The Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites (see Appendix **1**) lists the individual sites and provides a basic description of each structure.

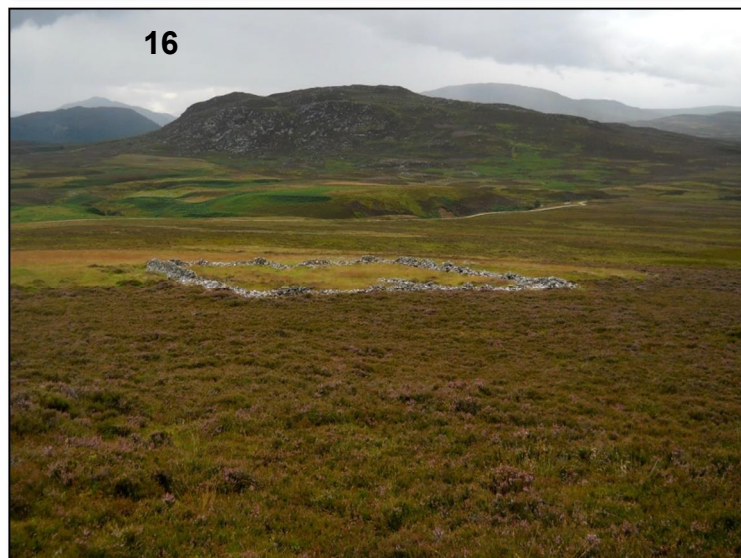
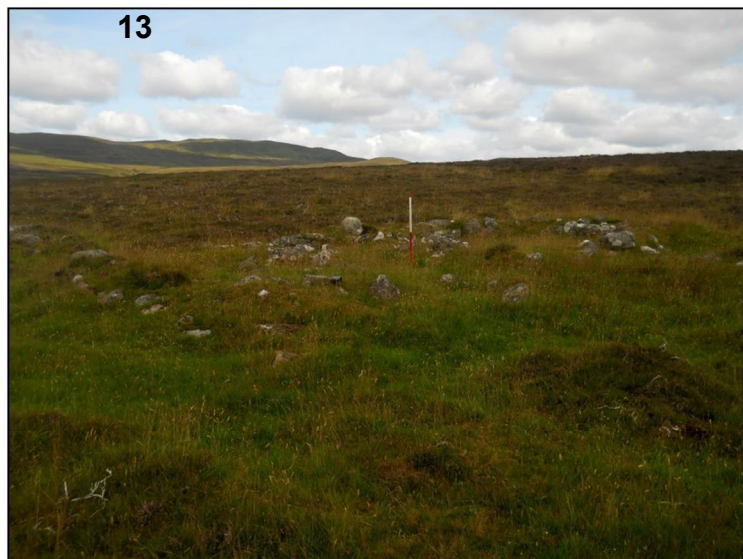


Plate 13 – Degraded footings of building (Site 12f) at settlement Site 12; **Plate 14** – Footings of building (Site 12g) at settlement Site 12; **Plate 15** – Looking S over settlement Site 12 to Strathspey; **Plate 16** – View WSW over sheep fold Site 17 to Creag Bhalg; **Plate 17** – Sheep fold Site 17 with foundations (Site 16) of earlier structure to left; **Plate 18** – View SW over Site 22 (possible shooting lodge) to Creag Bhalg

7.0 Discussion

The desk based assessment conducted prior to the walkover survey taking place, including an assessment of aerial imagery and the historical mapping, showed three distinct settlements and their associated infrastructure, along with a sheep fold within the survey area; but with other areas apparently devoid of any archaeological sites. However, previous surveys conducted in areas to the southwest at Creag Bheag indicated that there was potential for new sites to be recovered.

The walkover survey recorded a significant number of new archaeological sites relating to prehistoric and post-medieval use of the upland landscape at Balavil. Both the prehistoric and historic-period sites appear to relate to a more permanent settlement of the landscape, with only one possible shieling or bothy identified within the survey area relating to a more transient use of the landscape including evidence for transhumance and the droving of livestock.

The prehistoric sites comprise the field system and associated stone clearance cairns (Site **19**), standing stone Site **52i**), and the cup marked boulder (Site **54**).

As would be expected, the walkover survey was dominated by the post-medieval settlement remains and their associated infrastructure . in particular, Sites **12**, **50**, and **52**, which had collectively been given the name of *Achadh a' Chatha*. The survey recorded additional structures to those already identified on the Historic Environment Record, and it was possible to place these within their wider archaeological landscapes including field systems, boundary dykes and field clearance cairns. A number of structures identified and recorded at these settlement sites displayed evidence for more than one phase of construction, while they also provided evidence for construction methods . including the use of cruck-frames to support their roof structures.

It would appear that most of the settlements contracted in size through time, with the robbing of earlier structures to provide materials for new buildings. Such contractions may be associated with changes in farming practices and settlement characteristics during the 18th century, clearances and evictions of people from the land during the early 19th century (as highlighted by Fraser Mackintosh - 1848), and through changing land use and practices which coincided with the establishment of the Balavil Estate.

8.0 Mitigation and recommendations

The archaeological walkover survey conducted within the survey area on the Balavil Estate revealed a significant number of sites relating to settlement of an upland landscape during the prehistoric and historic periods. Some of these sites provide dense distributions, focused within four distinct areas, but with a number of sites more randomly distributed through the remaining sectors of the survey area. However, some parts of the landscape are devoid of archaeological sites, displaying a preference for certain locales in the past.

The archaeological sites identified and recorded during the walkover survey are generally located within open moorland, including heather and deer grass vegetation, with the current tree cover generally confined to the sides of stream courses. However, much of the improved ground is now covered in thick and extensive stands of bracken, especially during the summer months, with some sites completely obscured by this vegetation. Areas in

particular, around settlement Sites **50** and **52**, were covered by dense bracken stands, which created difficulties in identifying and recording archaeological sites. These areas have been taken into consideration while forming protective buffer zones around archaeological sites, to reduce the potential impact of the development on any potential, unrecorded site.

Where possible, the relationships between the different archaeological sites within the post-medieval settlements should be retained for future research and the conservation of the historic environment. This relationship should also include any of the attached enclosures and their distributions of field clearance where possible.

With regards to recommendations for the protection of the post-medieval archaeological sites within the area of the walkover survey, the guidelines below are proposed:

At least a 10-metre buffer zone should be maintained around any individual buildings and structures, while any new tree growth within these buffer zones should be managed in the future. A shapefile has been created within the GIS database showing buffer zones around these structures.

A buffer zone of at least 5 metres should be retained to each side of boundary dykes and any new trees self-setting within these zones should be removed in the future as a part of a management plan. The boundary dykes can be built into the proposed planting scheme, such as in rides between tree plantings.

It is recommended that groups of sites such as the post-medieval settlements (Sites **12**, **50** and **52**, along with their associated enclosures, should have a 20-metre buffer zone established around them in order to preserve their relationships and landscape prominence. If the buffer zones could be increased beyond 20-metres, then this would be recommended; especially where dense bracken may obscure additional unrecorded sites.

Due to the national importance of the prehistoric remains recorded at Balavil, sufficient buffer zones should be maintained around the sites in order to retain, where possible, their relationships; but also, to protect unidentified sites which may be buried by peat and ground build-up in their vicinity. Therefore, it is recommended that the field system and associated clearance cairns (Site **19**) are excluded from the woodland creation and regeneration scheme and that an additional 20-metre buffer zone is applied around the perimeter of the area. This would extend to the SW of the post-medieval sheep fold (Sites **16** and **17**) at the SW end of the terrace on which the prehistoric remains were recorded. At least a 20-metre buffer zone should also be retained around the standing stone (Site **52i**), although this should be covered due to its location within post-medieval settlement Site **52**. At least a 20-metre buffer zone should be retained around cup-marked boulder (Site **54**) and if possible, the view towards standing stone Site **52i** and the surrounding viewshed should be maintained in order to provide intra-site visibility and to retain the sites landscape prominence. If the wider landscape around the cup-marked boulder is not included in the woodland creation and regeneration project, and the site will remain open to livestock, then it is recommended that a small fenced enclosure with access is retained around this nationally important site, to inhibit any further erosion from rubbing.

Shapefiles have been created within the GIS database showing buffer zones around these groups of archaeological sites, structures and features. These recommendations should also be taken into consideration when designing fencing for the woodland creation and regeneration project, and when accessing the landscape using tracked vehicles.

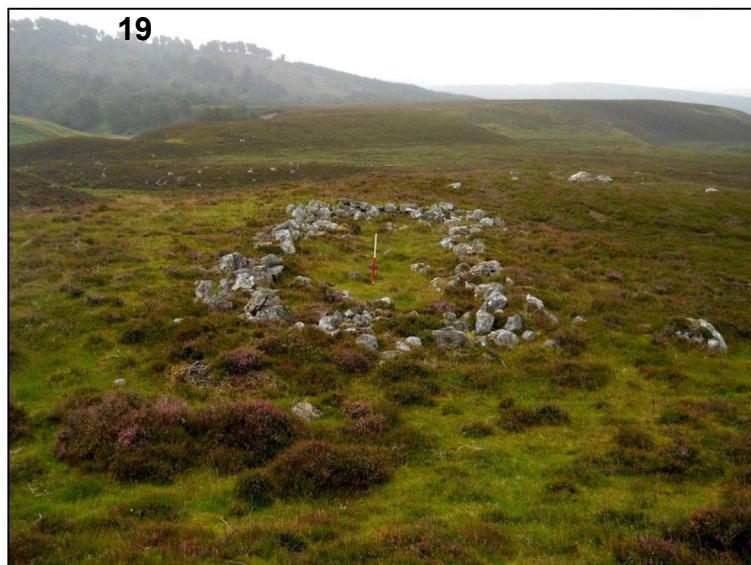


Plate 19 – View SE over footings of stone building Site 43; **Plate 20** – Kiln barn Site 50b with settlement Site 50; **Plate 21** – Building footings Site 50e within settlement Site 50; **Plate 22** – View over robbed building structures at Site 50 with SE wall of stock pen to right

9.0 Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Georgie Brown of Trees for Life and the Balavil Estate for commissioning West Coast Archaeological Services to undertake the archaeological input for this project, for supplying copies of the location map and information regarding access to the survey areas. I am also grateful for the input of Kirsty Cameron at the Highland Council's Historic Environment Team for commenting on the Data Structure Report.

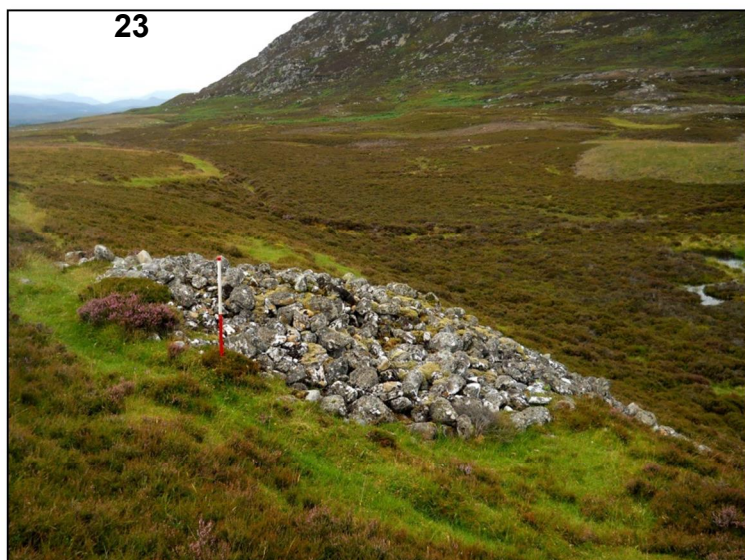


Plate 23 – View over field clearance cairn Site 36, with dykes Sites 32 & 33 behind; **Plate 24** – Field clearance Site 38 deposited off edge of field into gully; **Plate 25** – Building foundations Site 52b with Creag Bhalg behind; **Plate 26** – View S over shooting butt Site 27b

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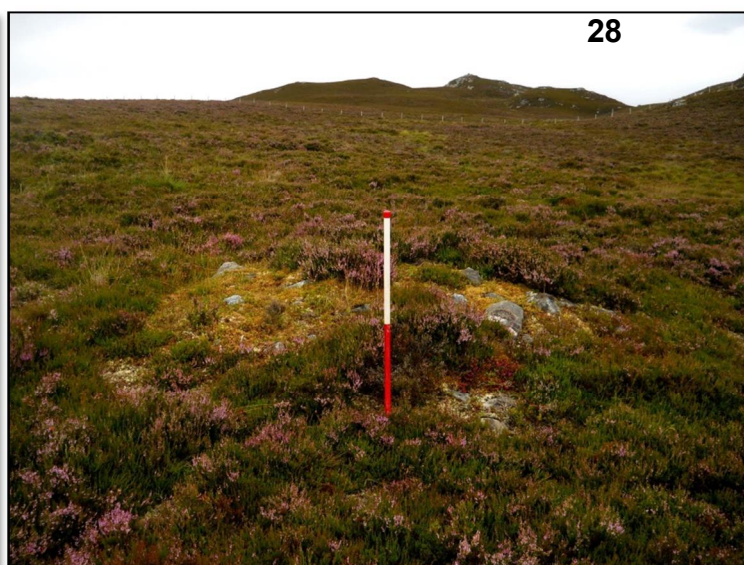
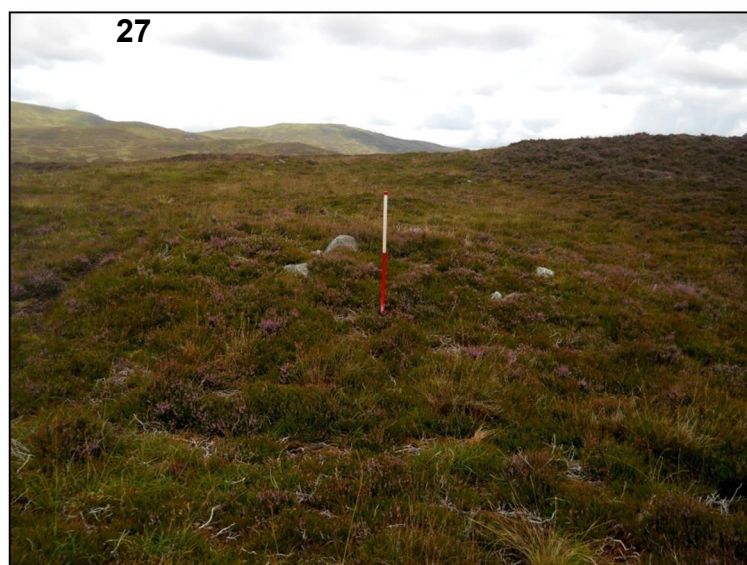


Plate 27 – Looking N over prehistoric clearance cairns at Site 19; **Plate 28** – Prehistoric clearance cairn at Site 19 (note the poor visibility of these sites due to overlying vegetation and turf/peat build-up through time)

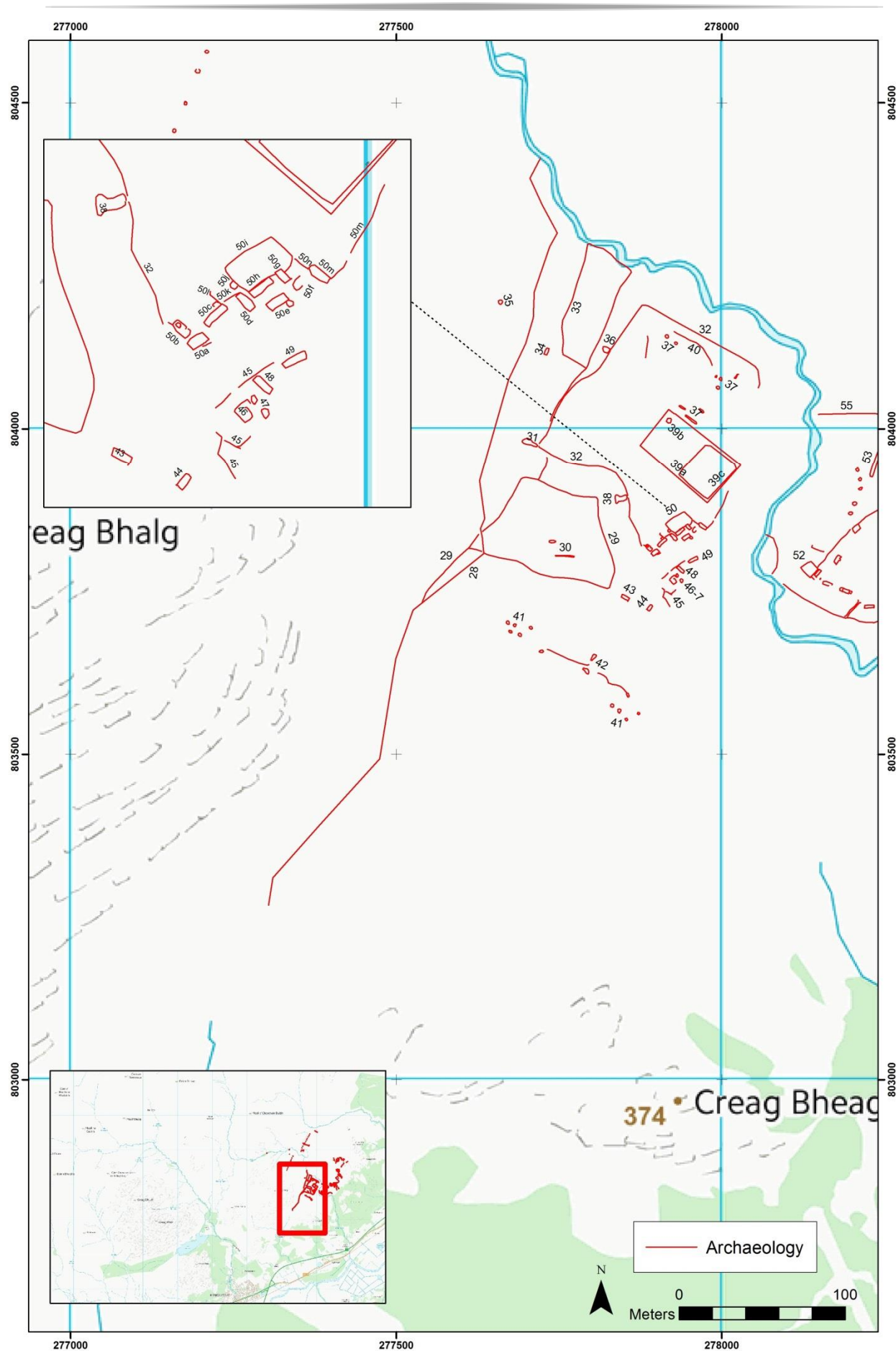


Figure 9 – Archaeological sites focused on settlement Site 50 (HER Reference MHG24957)

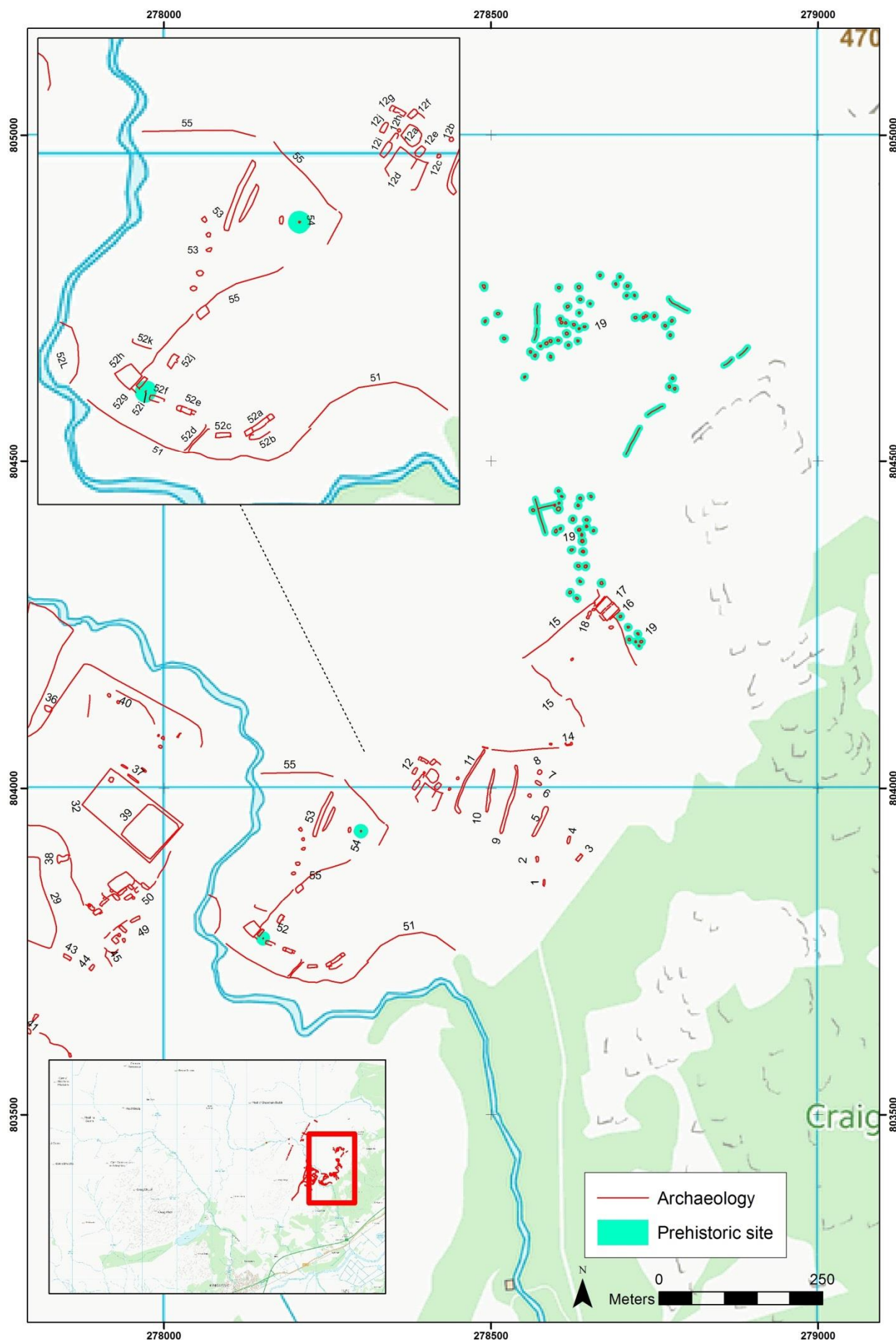


Figure 10 – Archaeological sites focused on settlement Sites 12 and 52 (HER MHG24958/MHG24959)



Plate 29 – View SW showing standing stone Site 52i and cup marked boulder Site 54; **Plate 30** – Standing stone Site 52i and Creag Bhalg behind; **Plate 31** – Cup marked boulder Site 54 looking SSE



Plates 32 – Image showing the upper surface of the cup marked boulder showing the alignment of larger cups on the NW edge; **Plate 33** – Image showing the possible parallel pecked lines coming in from the left side (lower image)

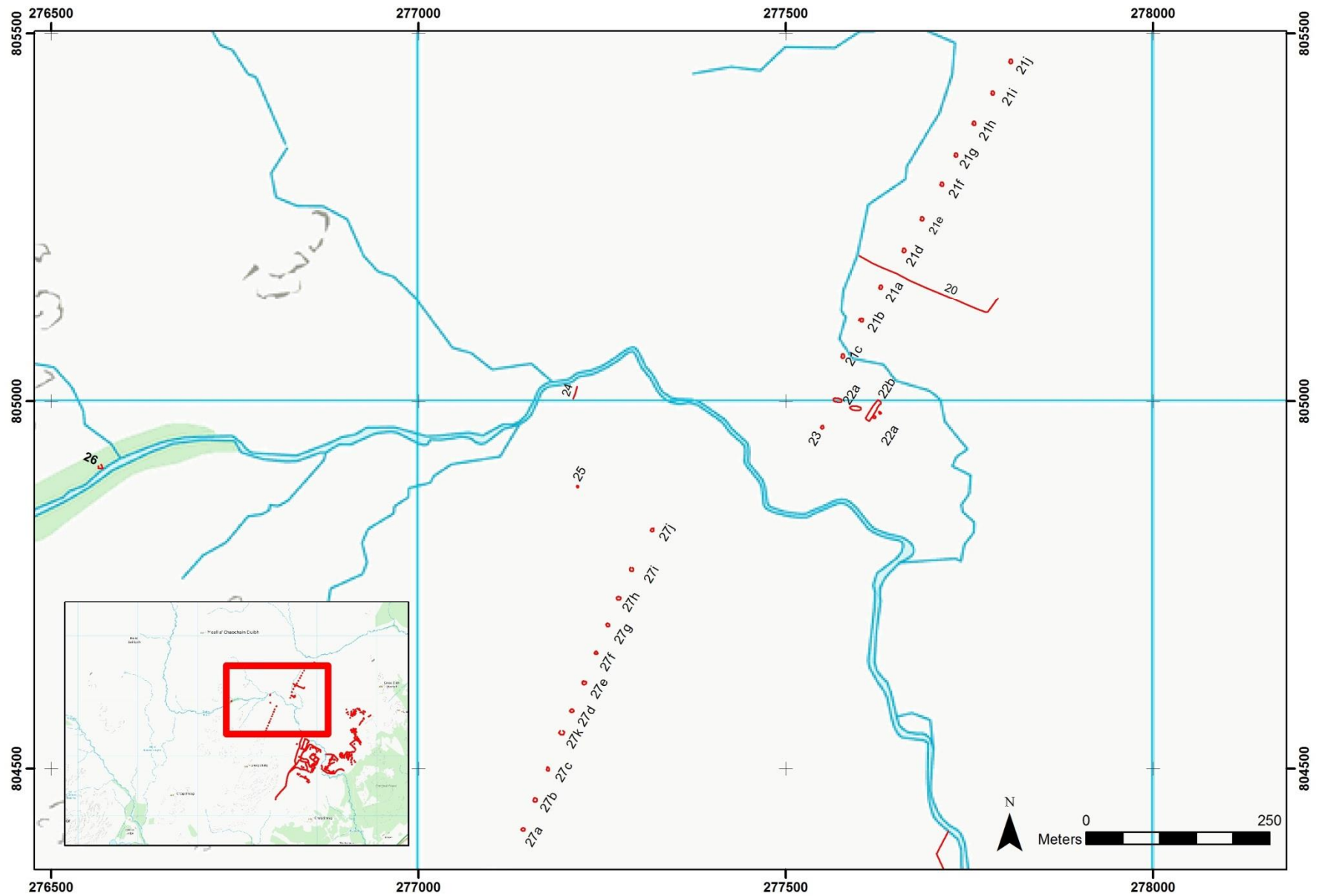


Figure 11 – Archaeological Sites 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 within the northern sector of survey area

APPENDIX 1 - Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
1	Clearance Cairn	Located c.50m ENE of main track is a linear clearance cairn comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared field. Measures up to 0.6m high		Degraded	278581	803860	5
2	Clearance Cairn	Linear clearance cairn comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared field. Measures up to 0.6m high		Degraded	278573	803890	-
3	Structure	Lying under dense bracken to the NE of the main track are the rectangular stone-built footings of a building measuring 9.5m NE-SW by 3.8m wide internally, with walls up to 0.6m wide and 0.4m high. No visible entrance	NE-SW	Very Degraded	278633	803888	6
4	Clearance Cairn	Linear clearance cairn comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared field and measures 7.0m long by 2.5m wide and stands up to 0.4m high. Located under dense bracken stands		Degraded	278619	803916	-
5	Clearance Cairn	Long, linear clearance cairn/consumption dyke comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the E edge of a cleared and improved field. Averages 6.0-7.0m wide and stands up to 0.8m high		Degraded	278571	803933	-
6	Clearance Cairn	Located within improved field, the clearance cairn measures 5.0m diameter and stands 0.3m high	-	Degraded	278556	803989	-
7	Clearance Cairn	Linear clearance cairn comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the N edge of a cleared and improved field and measures 12.0m long by 5.0m wide and stands up to 0.5m high. Located under dense bracken stands	E-W	Degraded	278568	804010	7
8	Clearance Cairn	The cairn, comprising small to large stone and boulders, measures 6.0m long by 5.5m wide and stands 0.5m high	N-S	Degraded	278572	804026	-
9	Clearance Cairn	Extensive linear clearance cairn/consumption dyke comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared and improved field and measures up to 1.0m high and is covered by dense bracken stands	SSW-NNE	Degraded	278516	803931	-

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
10	Clearance Cairn	Extensive linear clearance cairn/consumption dyke comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared and improved field and measures between 3.0-4.0m wide and up to 0.6m high and is covered by dense bracken stands	SSW-NNE	Degraded	278494	803964	8
11	Clearance Cairn	Extensive linear clearance cairn/consumption dyke comprising small to large stone and boulders is spread along the edge of a cleared and improved field and measures up to 2.3m wide and stands up to 0.5m high and is covered by dense bracken stands	SSW-NNE	Degraded	278487	804063	-
12	Settlement	The remains of a small settlement are located to the NE side of the main track, within mainly open ground comprising heather, deer grass, but with some bracken stands adjacent to the track. The settlement has a S-SW aspect	-	Very Degraded	-	-	13
12a	Stock Pen/Kale Yard	A roughly square-shaped stone and turf-built stock pen or kale yard measures 13.5m NW-SE by 13.0m wide internally with walls spread between 1.2m and 1.8m wide and standing up to 0.5m high. No Visible entrance	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278402	804021	13
12b	Clearance Cairn	A cairn, comprising small to large stone and boulders, measures 4.5m long by 3.5m wide and stands 0.4m high	SW-NE	Degraded	278448	804013	-
12c	Clearance Cairn	A cairn, comprising small to large stone and boulders, measures 4.5m diameter and stands 0.4m high	-	Degraded	278438	803997	-
12d	Enclosure	A fragmentary enclosure with walls spread to 1.2m wide and standing up to 0.4m high, with some obscuring bracken stands		Very Degraded	278418	803974	-
12e	Structure	The low stone footings of a rectangular-shaped building measuring 10.0m long by 3.0m wide with walls 0.6m wide and up to 0.4m high. No visible entrance	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278424	804005	9
12f	Structure	The low stone footings of a rectangular-shaped building comprising three rooms and with walls 0.7m wide and standing to 0.4m high, is aligned SW-NE. The NE room measures 2.8m long by 2.5m wide; the central room 1.5m long by 2.5m wide; and the SW room measuring 2.0m long and 2.5m wide. The entrance in the SE wall of the NE room measures 0.7m wide; and the SE entrance in the central room is 1.5m wide	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278410	804042	10

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
12g	Structure	The low stone footings of a rectangular-shaped building comprising three rooms and with walls 0.8m wide and standing to 0.4m high, is aligned NW-SE. The NW room measures 4.0m long by 2.0m wide, with an entrance in the SW wall 1.2m wide; the central room is 3.0m long by 2.5m wide with a central entrance in the SW wall 0.7m wide; and the SE room measures 5.0m long by 2.5m wide internally, with an entrance 1.2m wide in the SW wall	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278400	804044	11
12h	Structure	The low footings of a roughly circular bank up to 0.8m wide and 0.3m high, with an internal space 0.8m diameter and with an entrance 0.5m wide in the SW arc. May have been for storage, or had an industrial function	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278399	804025	-
12i	Structure	A long rectangular building represented by low stone wall footings 0.6m wide and up to 0.3m high, is aligned SSW-NNE and comprises three rooms. The SSW room is 4.5m long by 2.2m wide; the central room is 8.0m long by 2.2m wide; and the NNE room is 10.0m long by 3.2m wide, with its walls heavily robbed away on the ESE side. The NNE room may be the footings of an earlier building. No visible entrances	SSW-NNE	Very Degraded	278380	804000	-
12j	Structure	The low stone-built footings of a rectangular building aligned SW-NE measures 9.8m long by 2.0m wide internally, with walls 0.7m wide and standing up to 0.4m high. No visible entrance	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278385	804031	12
13	Clearance Cairn	A cairn comprising small to large stone and boulders stands in open ground and measures 4.5m long by 2.8m wide and stands 0.3m high	E-W	Degraded	278593	804068	14
14	Clearance Cairn or Dyke	Possible linear clearance cairn or very degraded stone and turf dyke measures 11.0m long by 1.2m spread and stands up to a maximum of 0.3m high	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278624	804069	-
15	Stone & Turf Dyke	The remains of a stone and turf dyke spread to 1.8m wide and standing up to 0.4m high runs towards sheep fold Site 16	-	Very Degraded	278705	804226	15
16	Structure	Boulder and orthostat intermittent footings of earlier, robbed sheep fold located outside current sheep fold (Site 17) to SW, NW and NE. Measures up to 0.7m wide and up to 0.4m high	-	Very Degraded	278690	804265	16, 20

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
17	Sheep Fold	A stone sheep fold constructed over an earlier stock enclosure (Site 16) comprises two main compartments separated by a central access route from the WSW. Walls up to 0.8-1.0m spread and up to 1.2m high (though generally 0.7m high). Access has been blocked with stone. A creep 0.5m wide and 0.6m high with lintel stone passes through the WSW wall, in the SW corner of the structure	WSW-ENE	Degraded	278671	804271	17, 18, 22
18	Clearance Cairns	A series of clearance cairns between 0.4-0.7m high and of various amorphous shapes, associated with the sheep fold Site 17 and the attached enclosed field	-	Degraded	278623	804195	19
19	Prehistoric Field System and Clearance Cairns	Located on a WSW-facing sloping terrace on the flanks of Creag Mhor, and generally under a covering of heather, are the ephemeral remains of a prehistoric enclosed field system containing numerous stone clearance cairns of varying shape and size. The enclosing stone and turf bank is fragmentary and measures up to 1.8m spread and survive up to a maximum height of 0.4m. The cairns are partially covered with encroaching peat and sediment build-up and vary in size between 3m diameter (round cairns) and up to 5m by 3m for the more amorphous-shaped cairns; and stand up to 0.3-0.6m in height. The ground vegetation in some areas of the site has been burnt off in the past for improvement of the grouse moor and where this has occurred, the cairns are more visible . including smaller cairns	NNE-SSW	Very Degraded	278643 278605 278489 278551 278618	804338 804437 804771 804628 804740	21, 23, 24
20	Turf & Stone Dyke	The dyke of turf and stone runs SE from a field system outside the survey area, runs under the existing post and wire fence, and ends within a boggy area. The bank forming the dyke is spread up to 2.5m wide and stands up to 0.5m high. A ditch on the NE side of the dyke is 1.4m wide and up to 0.3m deep. A continuation of the dyke was identified to the SW, where it emerged from low-lying boggy ground and deep heather, on a SSW alignment, before turning NW and stopping at a small stream, by the current post and wire fence	SE-NW	Very Degraded	277987	805532	25

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
21a	Shooting Butt	An alignment of 10 shooting butts (SSW-NNE), of which two were recorded fully. A shooting butt comprising a turf bank 5.5m WNW-ESE by 5.0m wide, up to 1.5m wide and 0.6m high, with an entrance 0.7m wide in the WNW side. Part of the wooden structure inside the butt survives within an internal area c.2.2m diameter. Feature defined by rushes covering the turf bank	WNW-ESE	Very Degraded	277631 277580	805155 805060	27
21b	Shooting Butt	A better preserved example has roughly the same dimensions as shooting butt Site 21a, but with a turf bank up to 1.0m high. Some large stone used to define the internal space, along with the remains of the wooden superstructure including upright wooden posts	WNW-ENE	Degraded	277606	805111	28, 29
22	Structure	Located adjacent to the main track (NE side) is a long stone-built building, with some turf backing to the NW wall. The structure measures 28.5m long NE-SW by 2.8m wide internally with walls 0.8m wide and standing up to 0.6m high. The turf backing to the NW wall creates an overall thickness of 2.0m wide. The structure generally comprises one long compartment, but with partition walls creating two rooms at the SW end 2.2m and 2.5m wide. The single access 0.8m wide is in the SE wall of the building	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277626	804993	32, 33, 34
22a	Clearance Cairns	Clearance cairns of amorphous shape located to the NW of structure Site 22 are between 1.5-5.0m across and between 0.5-1.5m high. Located within a small area of improved ground, most likely associated with Structure Site 22	-	Very Degraded	277629	804983	-
23	Clearance Cairn	Located on the opposite side of the track from Site 22 is a single cairn of stone, partially buried by peat, measuring 3.0m diameter by 0.3m high	-	Very Degraded	277549	804963	-
24	Wall/Track Access	A low stone and boulder wall has been formed where a track has been driven through a low bank to provide access to an improved area of ground on the S side of the Raitts Burn. Measures 0.8m spread by up to 0.4m high	SSW-NNE	Degraded	277214	805011	35

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
25	Clearance Cairn	A stone cairn measuring 3.0m diameter by 0.4m high located within improved, but stone-covered ground to the S of the Raitt's Burn, on a low terrace	-	Degraded	277217	804885	36
26	Structure	A stone-built bothy constructed against a low SE-facing cliff face on the NW side of the Raitt's Burn, under trees. Measures 4.8m WSW-ENE by 2.8m wide internally with walls 0.6m wide and 0.4m high. Covered in dwarf Juniper	WSW-ENE	Very Degraded	276553	804892	37, 38
27	Shooting Butts	An SSW-NNE alignment of 10 shooting butts located on the lower NE slopes of Creag Bhalg, to the SW of the Raitt's Burn. The structures have turf banks, most defined by rushes growing on them, and display varied condition. The internal spaces of the butts is sometimes defined by stone lining and also display parts of their wooden superstructure (including upright wooden posts) and corrugated iron sheets from their collapsed roofs. Their entrances are generally aligned downslope, with the shooting aspect to the S to W arc	SW-NE	See individual structures	-	-	See individual structures
27a	Shooting Butt	Structure is 6.0m diameter with banks spread up to 2.2m and up to 0.6m high. Entrance to NNE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277141	804415	54
27b	Shooting Butt	Structure is 5.5m NE-SW by 4.5m with banks spread up to 1.2m and up to 0.6m high. Entrance to NNE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277158	804455	55
27c	Shooting Butt	Structure is 6.2m NE-SW by 5.8m with banks spread up to 1.8m and up to 0.7m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277177	804497	56
27d	Shooting Butt	Structure is 5.0m diameter with banks spread up to 2.0m and up to 0.6m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277207	804577	-
27e	Shooting Butt	Structure is 5.5m diameter with banks spread up to 1.8m and up to 0.7m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Degraded	277225	804614	57
27f	Shooting Butt	Structure is 6.0m NE-SW by 5.2m with banks spread up to 1.7m and up to 0.8m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Degraded	277240	804656	58
27g	Shooting Butt	Structure is 5.8m NE-SW by 5.0m with banks spread up to 1.8m and up to 0.8m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277257	804693	59
27h	Shooting Butt	Structure is 7.0m diameter with banks spread up to 2.5m and up to 0.7m high. Entrance to NE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277271	804730	-

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
27i	Shooting Butt	Structure is 6.0m diameter with banks spread up to 2.0m and up to 0.6m high. Entrance to NNE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277290	804769	-
27j	Shooting Butt	Structure is 5.5m NE-SW by 4.5m with banks spread up to 1.8m and up to 0.5m high. Internal space has been backfilled	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277317	804823	-
28	Track	Track runs roughly NNE-SSW across open moor and measures 1.8-2.8m wide. Cleared stone has been moved to each side of track in some areas creating banks, appearing like dykes from a distance	NNE-SSW	Degraded	277627	803802	62, 63
29	Stone & Turf Dyke	Dyke is stone-faced on the NW side, with a turf backing, and measures up to 1.0m wide and stands up to 0.5m high	-	Very Degraded	277592	803799	64, 65
30	Clearance Cairns	A clearance cairn with additional linear clearance containing stone (may be a fragment of boundary dyke) is located within field system	-	Very Degraded	277735	803826	-
31	Field Clearance	A large area of stone from field clearance located in corner of field, at break of slope with shallow valley is up to 0.5m high	NE-SW	Degraded	277695	803983	66
32	Turf & Stone Dyke	The dyke runs along the contour of the hill slope, demarcating fields to the E. Measures up to 1.5m wide and stands up to 0.6m high	-	Very Degraded	277764	804057	-
33	Stone & Turf Dyke	Running alongside (on the NW side) of Dyke Site 32, is an earlier stone and turf dyke, covered in heather, and measuring 1.0m wide and up to 0.6m high	-	Very Degraded	277786	804248	67
34	Structure	Located on low knoll above low-lying and wet ground, and to the NW of the field system and SE of a track, are the low footings of a rectangular stone building measuring 8.5m long by 2.3m wide internally, with walls 0.6m wide and up to 0.4m high. No visible entrance	NNE-SSW	Very Degraded	277731	804114	68
35	Clearance Cairn	Located in damp hollow is a stone cairn measuring 7.0m spread and up to 0.7m high	-	Degraded	277659	804198	69
36	Clearance Cairn	A large area of clearance runs from the NW edge of a field system down a steep incline and comprises a wide range of stone sizes	NW-SE	Degraded	277818	804121	70

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
37	Clearance Cairn	Amorphous-shaped cairn of stone within large field enclosure measures up to 1.0m in height	-	Degraded	278020	804078	71
38	Field Clearance	Large area of field clearance runs from SW side of field system down into shallow, but steep-sided valley. Measures up to 0.6m high	SW-NE	Degraded	277836	803892	72
39	Enclosure & Clearance Cairn	An enclosure comprising a post and wire deer fence contains an area of ground containing rig cultivation aligned NW-SE, which is located mainly on a SE facing slope above settlement remains. The enclosure also contains one large clearance cairn measuring 6.0m diameter by 1.2m high	NW-SE	-	277974 277921	803890 804010	73
40	Enclosure Dyke	A fragment of earlier enclosure dyke measures up to 1.2m wide and stands up to 0.4m high	-	Very Degraded	277963	804131	-
41	Clearance Cairns	Located on a flat terrace and peninsula that extends to the SE from between two shallow, but steep-sided valleys, are a number of amorphous-shaped clearance cairns. Some stone cairns are up to 0.6m high, while others form low spreads around 0.3m high. Part of the area has been burnt off in the recent past, resulting in better visibility of the archaeological features. However, the NW half of the peninsula lies under deep heather and some dense stands of bracken. The latter possibly obscuring potential sites	-	Very Degraded	277724 277789	803656 803628	74
42	Stone & Turf Dyke	Fragments of a dyke run from the heather covered area of the peninsula into open, burnt-off ground. Measures 0.8-1.0m wide and stands up to 0.4m high	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277763	803647	75
43	Structure	Located on a level platform of ground, towards the end of a peninsula with steep-sided valleys to each side, and between two field systems are the low stone footings of a rectangular building. Measures 10.5m long by 3.0m wide internally with walls 0.6-0.7m wide and up to 0.5m high. Possible degraded entrance in the NE wall measuring 0.7m wide	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277848	803745	76
44	Structure	Located on lower platform below Site 43 are footings of another rectangular building measuring 8.0m long by 2.0m wide with walls 0.5-0.6m wide and up to 0.3m high. No visible entrance	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277893	803727	77

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
45	Boulder Dyke	A fragment of boulder dyke measuring up to 0.7m wide and 0.6m high emerges from wet ground in valley base and runs upslope to meet another dyke fragment running around the break of slope at the edge of a field system. Dyke disappears to the NNE into dense bracken stands	-	Very Degraded	277911	803741	-
46	Stone Enclosure	Located on a low terrace covered in deep heather are the remains of a stone-built pen of enclosure with an offset entrance in the N corner. Measures 8.0m NW-SE by 6.0m with walls 0.7m wide and up to 0.5m high	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277930	803765	78
47	Clearance Cairns	Located on the same terrace, to the NE of Site 46, are a number of stone cairns varying in shape and size and standing up to 0.7m high	-	Very Degraded	277940	803765	-
48	Structure	Located on the same terrace are the remains of a rectangular-shaped building. Only the boulder footings remain of the structure which measures 11.0m long by 3.0m wide internally with walls up to 0.6m wide and 0.4m high. No visible entrance	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277931	803786	79
49	Structure	The very degraded and robbed out remains (boulders) of a rectangular building measuring 14.5m long by 3.2m wide internally with walls 0.7m high and 0.5m high. No visible entrance and partially covered by bracken	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277951	803794	80
50	Settlement	Located on slightly higher, well-drained and grass-covered terrace, are the stone-built remains of a substantial settlement displaying at least two phases of construction. A larger stone-built enclosure dominates the settlement, with a gentle grassy slope rising above to the NW. The NE end of the terrace is covered in dense and deep stands of bracken, which resulted in difficulties in identifying archaeological sites. Some structures survive as low stone footings, while others have been robbed to leave low stone and turf banks, with some larger boulders from their footings. Generally, the walls of the structures average 0.6-0.8m high and survive to between 0.4-0.6m high. There is evidence in some of the buildings for cruck-frame construction, with some post settings and post pads visible in the gable-ends and along the side walls on the inside	SW-NE	Very Degraded	-	-	88, 89, 90, 91, 98

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
50a	Structure	Rectangular building measures 10.5m by 3.0m internally, with a partition forming two rooms (room w.0m wide in the SW end. Entrance 0.7m wide in the SE wall	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277894	803811	81
50b	Kiln Barn	A key-hole shaped building comprises the remains of a kiln barn. A rectangular-shaped room 5.5m long by 3.0m wide internally, with an entrance 1.2m wide in the NE wall, leads to the kiln bowl. The internal area of the kiln bowl is filled with rubble, but the visible area measures 2.5m diameter and is at least 0.7m deep with several courses of walling. The walls of the kiln bowl are spread to 1.2-1.4m wide and are covered with heather	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277884	803817	82, 83
50c	Structure	Footings of a rectangular-shaped building measures 16.0m long, is 2.6m wide internally and comprises 4 rooms. The SW room is 2.0m long; followed by the main room which is 7.0m long with two entrances 0.7m wide in the SE wall; the third room is 2.0m wide and open to the SE; and the NE room is 1.8m wide	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277912	803832	84
50d	Structure	Footings of a rectangular stone building measuring 11.2m long, comprising two rooms measuring 2.6m wide internally. The NW room is 2.5m long with a central entrance in the SW wall 0.7m wide; the SE room is 6.8m long with an entrance in the SW wall 0.7m wide	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277932	803831	85
50e	Structure	Low stone footings for a more substantial rectangular building measuring 10.5m long by 3.0m wide internally with walls spread up to 1.0m wide and up to 0.4m high. Entrance 0.7m wide in the SE wall and evidence for timber settings in gable ends and along the inside of the walls	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277949	803838	86
50f	Structure	Low stone footings of a rectangular building which disappears to the NE under dense bracken; so could not be defined. The visible element measures 6.5m long by 3.8m wide internally with walls spread up to 1.0m wide and up to 0.4m high. No visible entrance	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277955	803843	-

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
50g	Structure	Very degraded stone footings of a rectangular building measuring 10.0m long by 2.7m wide internally, with a possible partition forming two rooms. Degraded entrance within the SW wall, which are up to 0.7m wide and 0.4m high	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277944	803850	87, 88, 91
50h	Structure	Very degraded stone footings of a rectangular building measuring 14.0m long by 2.8m wide internally, with two partitions forming three rooms. Three degraded entrances within the SE wall, the walls being spread up to 0.8m wide and standing up to 0.3m high	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277929	803838	87, 89, 91
50i	Enclosure / Stock Pen	A stone-built enclosure / stock pen overlies the NW walls of buildings 50g, 50h and 50j, with walls spread up to 0.9m wide and standing to a maximum height of 1.1m. No visible entrance	SW-NE	Degraded	277930	803866	87, 88, 91
50j	Structure	The very-degraded stone and turf bank of a D-shaped structure is located under the SW wall of enclosure Site 50i. It measures 3.0m long by 2.4m wide with walls 0.7m wide and up to 0.3m high. Entrance 0.6m wide in the SE wall	NW-SE	Very Degraded	277918	803842	88
50k	Wall	A short section of stone and turf wall 0.6m wide and 0.4m high runs off the N corner of structure 50d in a SW direction and stops	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277918	803836	88
50l	Wall	A short section of stone and turf wall 0.7m wide and 0.3m high runs off the N corner of structure 50c and forms a small annexe 3.0m long by 2.3m wide with an entrance 0.8m wide on the SW	SW-NE	Very Degraded	277908	803833	88
51	Possible Lade	This feature has been cut into the hillslope above the Raitt's Burn and generally follows the contours of the slope. It measures 1.5-2.0m wide and a bank has been cast-up on the outside/downslope side of the feature measuring up to 0.7m high and spread up to 2.5m wide. The OS 1 st Edition map shows this continuing down towards Balavil House	W-E	Degraded	278256 278374	803704 803776	92
52	Settlement	Located on a terrace and peninsula formed above a prominent bend in the Raitt's Burn, is another extensive area of settlement. Some of the structures are located in open ground with mixed vegetation, but to the NW this extends under heather and some dense and deep stands of bracken. There is some evidence for two phases of building construction at this site	NW-SE	Very Degraded	-	-	-

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
52a	Structure	The low footings of a rectangular building which has been built over the top of an earlier structure measure 16.7m long and comprises two rooms divided by a partition wall. The SW room is 6.0m long by 3.0m wide internally with an entrance 0.6m wide in the SE wall; the NE room is 9.5m long by 3.0m wide internally with an entrance 0.7m wide in the SE wall. The walls are 0.7m wide and stand up to 0.5m high. The earlier, robbed building extends to the SW end of the structure above for 9.2m and is 8.0m long by 2.8m wide internally. It also extends to the NE of the later building for 6.3m and measures 5.0m long by 2.8m wide internally. The walls of the earlier structure stand up to 0.3m high. The underlying, earlier building would have measured at least 30m long, unless it comprised two or more different structures built on the same alignment	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278257 278248	803735 803728	93
52b	Enclosure Wall	A fragment of enclosure wall measuring 0.7m wide and 0.3m high runs across the slope to the SSE of Site 52a then curves into the slope and returns . possibly forming a small open-ended structure measuring 5.0m long SW-NE by 3.0m wide . open to the NE	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278259	803723	-
52c	Structure	The stone foundation courses of a rectangular building measuring 12.5m long over wall 0.6m wide and 0.5m high has 2 rooms separated by a stone dividing wall. The NW room is 7.5m long by 2.7m wide internally with an entrance 0.7m wide set in the SW wall. The SE room measures 5.0m long by 2.7m wide internally with an entrance 0.6m wide in the SE gable wall	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278220	803727	94
52d	Holloway/Track	The access to the settlement Site 52 leads upslope from the SW through a holloway 2.0-2.5m wide, set between wide and low turf banks and connects with track/holloway Site 51	SW-NW	Very Degraded	278202	803722	-
52e	Structure	Stone building measures 9.5m long by 3.0m wide internally with walls 0.6m wide and up to 0.7m high. There is an entrance 0.8m wide in the NE wall. A small annexe has been built off the SE end of the structure and measures 4.0m NW-SE by 2.0m wide internally with walls 0.6m wide and 0.4m high, and with an entrance 2.0m wide in the SE end	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278189 278182	803748 803754	95

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
52f	Structure	The partially robbed away (SE end) footings of a stone building is 14.0m long by 2.8m wide internally, with walls 0.8m wide and standing up to a maximum of 0.5m high. No visible entrance	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278157	803766	-
52g	Structure	Stone footings of a rectangular building measuring 12.2m long over walls 0.7m wide and up to 0.5m high had two rooms divided by a stone cross-wall. The SW room is 4.8m long by 2.6m wide internally with a central entrance 0.7m wide in the SE wall; the NE room is 4.0m long by 2.6m wide internally with a central entrance 0.6m wide in the SE wall	SW-NE	Very Degraded	278150	803784	-
52h	Stock Pen/Yard	A stone and turf built stock pen or yard is located at the NW end of the settlement under dense bracken stands and has walls spread up to 1.2m wide and standing up to 0.7m high. There is a possible (collapsed) entrance within the SE wall	-	Very Degraded	278130	803793	-
52i	Standing Stone	Located at the NW end of the settlement, immediately to the SE of the stock pen/yard Site 52h and to the SW of building Site 52j, is a standing stone. The stone sticks out of the ground to a height of 0.9m and is 1.2m wide SW-NE and 0.35-0.4m thick. The stone has a curved/rounded top	SW-NE	Well-Preserved	278152	803770	96
52j	Structure	Stone footings of a rectangular building with walls of stone and turf measuring 0.7-1.2m wide and standing up to 0.5m high. Entrance 0.8m wide within SW end of structure; and a second entrance 0.7m wide in the SE wall with a porch type arrangement outside . comprising two parallel rows of stone 1.2m long and set 1.2m apart. Overall, the structure has been reduced down to low banks with a few upstanding boulders from the foundation course	SW-NE	Very degraded	278174 278178	803794 803794	97
52k	Linear Clearance or Building	Fragment of stone building or linear field clearance aligned NW-SE and measuring up to 1.5m wide and standing 0.5m high	NW-SE	Very Degraded	278146	803814	-
52l	Enclosure	A stone and turf dyke forms a D-shaped enclosure which uses a natural oxbow in the Raitt's Burn and the steep slope to the E. Located under dense bracken	N-S	Very Degraded	278086	803810	-

Site No.	Site Type	Description	Alignment	Condition	Easting	Northing	Photo No.
53	Clearance Cairns	Stone cairns and linear clearance defining narrow strip fields are amorphous in shape and up to 1.0m in height. Some of the cairns are topped by large boulders, which may have been added at a later date	-	Degraded	278211	803936	99
54	Cup Marked Boulder	A large boulder with slightly rounded edges measuring 1.5m long SW-NE by 1.2m wide NW-SE by up to 0.4m high, has a surface gently inclined to the NW. On the smooth, upper inclined face of the boulder are at least 16 single cups measuring between 50mm and 60mm in diameter, and between 10mm and 20mm in depth. The largest and best-preserved cups form a linear group along the NW edge of the boulder. A series of at least 5 linear lines/shallow grooves radiate from the NE edge of the boulder on a roughly N-W axis. These may be natural, but some of them have shallow profiles which may have been pecked. Sheep have used the boulder as a rubbing stone, indicated by the slightly smoothed outer edges off the boulder and the lack of grass around its base. There are extensive views from the location of the boulder to the SE over Strath Spey	SW-NE	Well-Preserved	278301	803934	100, 101, 102
55	Boundary Dyke	A substantial stone and turf boundary dyke measuring up to 2.0m wide at its base and up to 0.9m high runs from settlement Site 52 to the NE, runs across the hill and eventually turns N to form a field. Some large boulders and field clearance stone has been added to the feature, especially at the SW end, nearest to the settlement	-	Very Degraded	278228	803868	104

APPENDIX 2 - Index of Photographs

Photo No.	Direction Facing	Site No.	Description	Taken By	Date
1	SW	-	General view from access to survey area over Raitts Burn	SB	12.08.19
2	W	-	General view from access to survey area to Creag Bhalg	SB	12.08.19
3	NW	-	General view from access to survey area up main track	SB	12.08.19
4	NNW	-	General view from access to survey area up main track	SB	12.08.19
5	SE	1	Stone field clearance cairn under bracken	SB	12.08.19
6	SSW	3	Low footings of rectangular building under dense bracken	SB	12.08.19
7	WNW	7	Linear field clearance at edge of improved field	SB	12.08.19
8	NNE	10	Linear field clearance at edge of improved field	SB	12.08.19
9	SSW	12e	Low stone footings of building under heather	SB	12.08.19
10	N	12f	Low stone footings of a rectangular building	SB	12.08.19
11	NW	12g	Low stone footings of a rectangular building	SB	12.08.19
12	NE	12j	Low stone footings of a rectangular building with Site 12g behind	SB	12.08.19
13	S	12	Looking over settlement including the central stock pen/enclosure and one of the house foundations to the right of the scale pole	SB	12.08.19
14	E	13	Stone clearance cairn is possibly prehistoric, within area cleared by muir-burn	SB	12.08.19
15	NNW	15, 17	Turf and stone dyke with sheep fold Site 17 at top of slope	SB	12.08.19
16	NE	16, 17	Earlier robbed-out remains of sheep fold (right) with current sheep fold Site 17 to the left	SB	12.08.19
17	NE	17	Creep within the NW wall of sheep fold	SB	12.08.19
18	E	17, 16	Sheep fold with robbed-out remains of earlier structure in the foreground	SB	12.08.19
19	SW	18, 15	Clearance cairns adjacent to sheep fold Site 17, improved field and enclosing dyke Site 15 to right under heather	SB	12.08.19
20	NE	16, 17	Earlier robbed-out foundations of sheep fold Site 16, with more recent sheep fold Site 17 to right	SB	12.08.19
21	N	19	Prehistoric field system showing stone clearance cairns	SB	12.08.19
22	WSW	17, 15, 16	Sheep fold Site 17 with enclosure wall Site 15 just visible to far side of enclosed field under heather	SB	12.08.19
23	S	19	Prehistoric stone clearance cairns	SB	12.08.19

Photo No.	Direction Facing	Site No.	Description	Taken By	Date
24	NE	19	Prehistoric stone clearance cairn	SB	12.08.19
25	NW	20	Turf and stone field dyke defining large enclosure	SB	12.08.19
26	WSW	-	General view looking over NW boundary of survey area and current fence line	SB	12.08.19
27	SE	21a	Shooting butt with the bank defined by rushes and showing upright wooden posts from internal structure	SB	12.08.19
28	SE	21b	Shooting butt showing bank, entrance and wood surviving from internal structure	SB	12.08.19
29	S	21b	Shooting butt showing bank, entrance and wood surviving from internal structure	SB	12.08.19
30	SE	-	Looking over the low-lying boggy ground to the NE of the main access track	SB	12.08.19
31	ESE	-	Looking over the low-lying boggy ground to the NE of the main access track	SB	12.08.19
32	SW	22	Long stone-built building with Creag Bhalg beyond	SB	12.08.19
33	ENE	22	Looking down the stone and turf bank forming the NW wall of the structure	SB	12.08.19
34	NE	22	Looking down the length of the stone-built structure	SB	12.08.19
35	NNE	24	Looking down the short section of access track with the thrown-up bank to the left	SB	12.08.19
36	NNE	25	Looking over the clearance cairn to the main access track	SB	12.08.19
37	NW	26	Looking down over the Raitt's Burn to the small stone structure built against a low cliff and under trees	SB	12.08.19
38	NE	26	The small stone-built structure adjacent to the Raitt's Burn	SB	12.08.19
39	NE	-	Looking down the course of the Raitt's Burn in the NW corner of the survey area	SB	12.08.19
40	NW	-	The barren NW corner of the survey area with the course of the Raitt's Burn running along the change in vegetation type	SB	12.08.19
41	NNE	-	Looking over the N and NE sector of the survey area from the NW slopes of Creag Bhalg	SB	12.08.19
42	NNE	-	Looking over the N slopes of Creag Bhalg to the E sector of the survey area	SB	12.08.19
43	S	-	The WSW sector of the survey area and Strath Spey from the slopes of Creag Bhalg	SB	12.08.19
44	SW	-	Looking over the W boundary of the survey area from the slopes of Creag Bhalg	SB	12.08.19
45	SW	-	The W side of the survey area from the SW end of the Creag Bhalg summit ridge	SB	12.08.19
46	W	-	Looking over the NW corner of the survey area from the SW end of the Creag Bhalg summit ridge	SB	12.08.19
47	SW	-	Looking over the Creag Bhalg summit cairn to Strath Spey and the Insh Marshes	SB	12.08.19

Photo No.	Direction Facing	Site No.	Description	Taken By	Date
48	S	-	Looking over the Creag Bhalg summit cairn to Strath Spey and Ruthven	SB	12.08.19
49	ESE	-	View from near the summit of Creag Bhalg to the main access track splitting the survey area and the access point	SB	12.08.19
50	ESE	-	As above, but zoomed in view. Sheep fold Site 17 can be seen by the sunlit field top-centre of the image. The prehistoric field system extends across slope to the left from the sheep fold	SB	12.08.19
51	NNE	-	Looking over the lower NE slopes of Creag Bhalg to the access track and the N and NE sectors of the survey area	SB	12.08.19
52	E	-	The central area of the survey area dissected by the main access track showing the patchwork of muir-burn areas and bracken	SB	12.08.19
53	SE	-	Looking over the lower slopes of Creag Bhalg and the central survey area containing the major areas of settlement	SB	12.08.19
54	S	27a	Shooting butt showing main enclosing bank with collapsed interior	SB	12.08.19
55	SSW	27b	Shooting butt embedded into natural hollow with some of the wooden post from interior structure	SB	12.08.19
56	SSE	27c	Collapsed and partially overgrown shooting butt with upright wooden posts from interior structure	SB	12.08.19
57	N	27e	Looking over the bank of shooting butt 27e with additional alignment of butts running downslope to right of pole and defined by grassy mounds	SB	12.08.19
58	SW	27f	Well-preserved shooting butt showing enclosing bank and interior with stone lining and wooden structural elements	SB	12.08.19
59	S	27g	Shooting butt showing stone cladding forming entrance and lining and elements from collapsed wooden interior structure	SB	12.08.19
60	NE	-	Looking over the SW sector of the survey area	SB	12.08.19
61	N	-	Looking over the lower SSE shoulder of Creag Bhalg showing areas of recent muir burn	SB	12.08.19
62	SW	28	Looking along line of track defined by wheel ruts	SB	12.08.19
63	NE	28	The same track showing stone cleared to the side of the feature and forming low banks	SB	12.08.19
64	NNE	29	Stone-faced turf dyke forming part of a field system	SB	12.08.19
65	S	29	The same dyke where it crosses from a field system to a steep-sided shallow valley, where large boulders have been cleared from the field and used roughly in the feature	SB	12.08.19
66	NE	31	Large field clearance spread in the NW corner of a field system, with the lower slopes of Creag Bhalg beyond	SB	12.08.19
67	N	32, 33, 36	Image showing earlier stone and turf dyke 32 under heather, with turf and stone dyke 33 to right; and large field clearance cairn Site 36 in distance	SB	12.08.19
68	SW	34	Very degraded remains of a stone building located on a low knoll under heather	SB	12.08.19
69	N	35	Large clearance cairn located in low-lying area near to Site 34	SB	12.08.19
70	SW	36	Large field clearance cairn on slope to NW of field system	SB	12.08.19

Photo No.	Direction Facing	Site No.	Description	Taken By	Date
71	NNE	37	Amorphous-shaped stone clearance cairn within field system	SB	12.08.19
72	E	38	Substantial area of field clearance tipped over edge of field system into steep-sided but shallow valley	SB	12.08.19
73	E	39	Clearance cairn within fenced enclosure, which also contains rig cultivation to the SE	SB	12.08.19
74	SE	41	Flat area with numerous clearance cairns and low spreads of field clearance within field system	SB	12.08.19
75	NW	42	Fragmentary and very degraded stone and turf dyke runs through cleared ground and continues under heather ground cover	SB	12.08.19
76	SE	43	Low stone footings of rectangular building located on flat terrace above valley floor	SB	12.08.19
77	ENE	44	Very degraded stone footings of a building on a slightly lower terrace below Site 43	SB	12.08.19
78	SW	46	Stock pen / enclosure with offset entrance nearest to camera, with boulder-built walls, lies under deep heather on low terrace above valley floor	SB	12.08.19
79	SE	48	Located on same terrace as Site 46 are the robbed-out and reduced stone walls of a rectangular building, partially obscured by heather	SB	12.08.19
80	NE	49	Located to the NE of Site 48 and on the same terrace are the very degraded remains of a rectangular stone building, under heather and bracken stands	SB	12.08.19
81	SW	50a	Stone footings of rectangular building on higher grass-covered terrace within main settlement Site 50	SB	12.08.19
82	NW	50b	Very degraded stone walls of kiln barn with the kiln bowl located at the far end of the structure and covered in heather	SB	12.08.19
83	NW	50b	Looking down into the well-preserved kiln bowl, which is partially filled with rubble and covered in heather	SB	12.08.19
84	SE	50c	Looking over rectangular building footings comprising three rooms, with Site 50a and 50b behind	SB	12.08.19
85	NW	50d	Stone footings of rectangular building comprising two rooms, with stock pen/enclosure behind	SB	12.08.19
86	NE	50e	Substantial stone footings of open plan rectangular building with evidence of cruck timber settings in gable walls and along inside wall faces	SB	12.08.19
87	SW	50	Earlier robbed out walls of buildings within Site 50, partially overlain by a stock pen / enclosure, appear as rectangular low turf and stone banks	SB	12.08.19
88	E	50	View over the NE end of the terrace where settlement Site 50 is located showing stock pen / enclosure and houses, and with the settlement remains continuing under the dense bracken stands to the NE	SB	12.08.19
89	SE	50	Looking over the central area of settlement Site 50, with other structures located on the slightly lower terrace covered in heather and bracken. The course of the Raitt's Burn can be seen beyond and settlement Site 52 is located on the top and flanks of the bracken-covered rise, on the far side of the burn	SB	12.08.19
90	SSE	50	Image showing the SW end of settlement Site 50 with the kiln barn Site 50b located to the right of the rucksack and folder	SB	12.08.19
91	NE	50	Looking over the terrace and settlement Site 50 from the kiln barn Site 50b	SB	12.08.19
92	ESE	51	Possible lade contouring across the hillslope below Site 52	SB	12.08.19

Photo No.	Direction Facing	Site No.	Description	Taken By	Date
93	NE	52a	Very degraded stone footings of long building comprising two rooms. The building overlies an earlier structure which survives as very low turf and stone banks at each end of the later structure	SB	12.08.19
94	NW	52c	Rectangular stone building with two rooms with the Raitt Burn and Creag Bhalg beyond	SB	12.08.19
95	WNW	52e	Stone footings of a rectangular building partially obscured by bracken, with Creag Bhalg behind	SB	12.08.19
96	SW	52i	Standing stone located within the core area of Settlement Site 52, with Creag Bhalg behind	SB	12.08.19
97	NE	52j	Very degraded stone and turf footings of a rectangular building lying under bracken, which has an external porch	SB	12.08.19
98	NW	50	View from the NW edge of settlement Site 52 over the Raitt Burn to settlement Site 50 and Creag Bhalg beyond	SB	12.08.19
99	SSE	53	One of the larger and better preserved clearance cairns within field system to the NE of settlement Site 52 and looking towards Strath Spey	SB	12.08.19
100	SSE	54	Location image showing cup marked boulder with larger cups visible on near edge of upper surface. Strath Spey beyond	SB	12.08.19
101	SE	54	View on to the upper surface of the cup marked boulder with parallel lines visible on the left edge of the surface	SB	12.08.19
102	SSE	54	Oblique view across the upper surface of the cup marked boulder with the larger cups visible, along with the roughly parallel lines coming from the lower left edge. The shallower cups are more difficult to see in this image	SB	12.08.19
103	SE	54	Oblique view across the upper surface of the cup marked boulder with large cups prominent along the near edge. The results of rubbing from livestock can also be clearly seen on the edge of the boulder	SB	12.08.19
104	SW	52, 52i, 52k, 53, 54	View over the field system contained by dyke Site 52 and containing clearance cairns Site 53; settlement Site 52 with standing stone Site 52i visible to left of image where edge of bracken-covered hill is visible; and cup marked boulder Site 54 visible in the centre foreground	SB	12.08.19



Plate 34 – View SE over Balavil Estate and Strathspey from the summit cairn of Creag Bhalg