

# *Scotia* *Archaeology*

**REPORT  
TO  
GREEN HIGHLAND RENEWABLES LTD**

**INVERLOCHLARIG BURN  
HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME**

**Desk study  
and  
walk-over survey  
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## INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of a desk study of archaeological sites and monuments and a walk-over survey along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme at Inverlochlarig Burn. The work was carried out by Scotia Archaeology at the request of Jayson Drummond of Green Highland Renewables Ltd.

## THE SITE

The proposed hydro scheme will run along the west side of the Inverlochlarig Burn which flows from the south side of Ben More, debouching into the River Larig some 10km west of the village of Balquhiddier, Stirling District. From the intake point, at approximately NN 4324 1950, the route runs through rough ground covered with coarse grass and reeds for some 300m until it reaches an estate road at approximately NN 4322 1918. From that point the pipeline will run alongside or under the road as far as the power house which will be sited close to the burn, at or near NN 4378 1835.

## THE DESK STUDY

A desk study of readily available sources was undertaken prior to the commencement of the field survey. The sources consulted for this work included: the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS); the Stirling Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR); Ordnance Survey (OS) maps; and Archaeology Scotland's annual journal *Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*.

There are no records of sites and monuments of archaeological or historical significance directly on or in very close proximity to the route of the proposed pipeline although the remains of a few are located around the Inverlochlarig area. These are described below.

Sites and monuments are listed according to the numbers allocated by RCAHMS (eg NN41NW 10) and/or Stirling Council's SMR (eg SC 3760).

### **1 SC 2778 Clach na Guiseach: building**

The first edition OS 6-inch map of 1866 shows what appears to be a roofless building at NN 43384 18456. This structure is not shown on modern OS 1:10,000 maps.

### **2 NN41NW 10/SC 3760 Inverlochlarig: homestead, enclosure**

At NN 4377 1841, on the top of a low knoll on the east bank of the Inverlochlarig Burn, are the remains of a possible homestead. It stands within a stony bank and measures 25.5m by 12.5m. On the south-west side of the knoll is a roughly-built enclosure.

### **3 NN41NW 7/SC 83 Inverlochlarig: township**

William Roy's map of 1747-55 shows the township of Inverlochlarig, comprising nine buildings, at approximately NN 4410 1865 while James Stobie's late 18th-century map shows four structures, also named Inverlochlarig, at approximately NN 4400 1840. The first edition OS 6-inch map of 1866 places the township around NN 4406 1846.

#### **4 NN41NW 1/SC 84 Inverlochlarig: farmhouse**

Probably the last surviving remnant of the township of Inverlochlarig, this farmhouse is located at NN 4387 1818.

Inverlochlarig township may have spread over a fairly wide area, particularly on the east side of the burn, and has survived into the 21st century as Inverlochlarig Farmhouse. According to the Exchequer Rolls of 1480-87, there may have been two townships, Easter and Wester Inverlochlarig, around this location during the late medieval period. These may well correspond to entries 3 and 4, respectively.

#### **6 SC 2738 Inverlochlarig Burn: shieling huts**

The current OS 1:10,000 map shows a group of ten shieling huts on the east side of the burn, at NN 43060 20478.

### **THE WALK-OVER SURVEY**

The walk-over survey was undertaken by John Lewis on 14th October 2011 during very wet weather but with reasonable visibility. The majority of the proposed pipeline will run through ground already disturbed during the construction of the estate road. However, this part of the route was included in the survey to ensure that if anything of archaeological or historical significance survives within a corridor spanning each side of the road it can be protected during the installation of the pipe and from the deposition of materials associated with it.

Nothing of archaeological or historical significance was encountered during the walk-over survey.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Remnants of pre-Improvement settlements survive towards the south end of the burn, particularly on its east side. However, with the exception of the extant farmhouse of Inverlochlarig, no sites or monuments are visible along the route of the proposed pipeline on its west side.

Although the group of ten shieling huts (SC 2738) are located 1km north of the intake point for the new hydro scheme, such structures can be frequently found over wide areas of upland Scotland, particularly near streams. However, none was encountered anywhere near the proposed pipe route at Inverlochlarig Burn.