

John Wood

NH87NW0001

To: Law Dunbar Naismith  
Subject: Fearn Abbey

FAO Andrew Wright

Thank you for sending the draft Conservation Plan, which looks really excellent. In fact my only comments are on the Implementation and review section (7.00). Under 7.02, any archaeological investigations should be conducted to a written project design which should be agreed with the Highland Council before the start of work on site. This will set out (inter alia) the proposed methodology and reporting arrangements. I agree that where opportunities arise the fabric of the building should be recorded archaeologically to throw light on its complex history - but not archaeological contractors are really skilled in this specialism so it would be worth being fairly careful to select archaeologists to do it. In the Dissemination section (7.04) - could copies of the plan and any archaeological drawings and reports produced please also be deposited with the Highland Sites and Monuments Record held here?!

On a related matter I understand that an application has been made to the Council's Cultural and Leisure Services for grant to stabilise "the chapels & graveyard attached to Fearn Abbey". Is that part of this project or a separate initiative?

best wishes

John

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John Wood  
Senior Archaeologist  
Planning and Development Service  
The Highland Council  
Glenurquhart Road  
Inverness IV3 5NX  
Tel: 01463 702502 Fax: 01463 702298  
Email: John.Wood@highland.gov.uk  
Web: <<http://www.higharch.demon.co.uk>>

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