

GLEW STRATHFARRAR SSSI  
Inverness District  
Highland Region

NCC File Ref : 173

#### DESCRIPTION

##### ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

With recent /proposed agreements between NCC/SNH and the owner of Braulen Estate and the statutory protection enjoyed by most of the rest of the glen, Glen Strathfarrar offers an uniquely preserved settlement pattern from prehistoric times to the present day. Unlike the neighbouring glens of Affric and Cannich, there has been no major alteration to the settlement remains by reafforestation or flooding caused by hydro dams. The impact of the hydro construction schemes in the late 1940s may have been locally intense, but apart from the construction camp below Mulie it has had little direct effect on the archaeology within the glen. Apart from variations in the shape and policies of the shooting lodges the land use has changed little since it was converted into shooting estates in the mid 19th century.

Strathfarrar is fortunate in having a detailed survey of most of the glen by Peter May in 1758 and it has also had the benefit of a major environmental and historic survey carried out by Alexander Mather in 1969.

In the light of existing evidence, Mather considered that the glen was not settled until the 17th century as part of an expansion of lowland farms in the Lovat Estate. Prior to this time the glen was thought to have been preserved as a forest preserve of the Lords of Lovat. However recent fieldwork by Frank Spencer-Nairn and Jill Harden has revealed a number of roundhouses including a dun at Torr a'Chinn Dubh. Though the date of these is uncertain they certainly demonstrate a strong human presence in prehistoric times. Whether this goes as far back as neolithic or bronze age times is unclear, though the dun is likely to be Iron Age in date and probably AD rather than BC. Mather has stressed the marginal nature of agricultural settlement in the glen and it may be that these settlements only occurred at a time of climatic optima. However the recorded expansion into the glen in the 17th/18th centuries was itself a time of climatic decline and it is clear that simple deterministic models do not suffice. Whether the result of population pressure, changing husbandry trends towards a cattle ranching economy or whatever, it is clear that this prehistoric settlement will have had a direct effect on the vegetation of the glen. It is likely that most of the arable areas shown on May's plan had already been broken in from the original forest.

## DESCRIPTION/2

What is less clear is whether there was a hiatus in human settlement in the medieval period that allowed a resurgence of the natural vegetation. (Rural settlements of this period have been rarely detected in the Highlands - largely because it appears that buildings were made of wattle and turf, both materials that decay readily or are easily converted back into farmland.) The surviving documentary evidence is not sufficient to confirm or deny Mather's thesis that this was a protected hunting preserve. It is unlikely that political conditions were any less stable in the middle ages than they were in the 17th and 18th centuries and so settlement could easily have occurred at this time.

For the 17th century historical records point to an expansion of settlements, centred around a transhumance system of farming shifting cattle to shielings for summer grazings. This expansion continued until at the time of May's survey in 1758 there were 14 separate farms served by over 20 shielings (the exact number of shielings is uncertain due to the poor photocopy studied of May's survey). The majority of these settlements, especially the shielings, are only recorded on May's plan.

It was in the 18th century that the first record of extensive tree-felling is recorded, particularly after the confiscation of the estates of Chisholm and Lovat following the failed rebellions of 1715 and 1746. This continued at least until the 19th century. How much felling occurred and whether it was followed by tree-planting is not presently known, though some evidence may survive in the Lovat Estate papers.

In the early 19th century there was a gradual clearance of the glen to be followed by sheep farming which was in turn replaced by shooting estates. While there has been a change in structures there has been little change in the pattern of occupation to the present day.

There has also been small-scale graphite mining at **Tom na Mhein** and lead mining at **Maol na Ceap**. Though profits were made from both ventures neither was a sustained operation.

In conclusion, recent survey has shown human occupation and thus impact on the natural vegetation of Glen Strathfarrar was much earlier than previously thought. The extent and dates of this settlement, requiring detailed field survey and perhaps sample excavation, are beyond the scope of this study. By the mid 17th century settlement was well-established in the glen reaching its peak in the mid to late 18th century. It then declined as the traditional farming methods were replaced by sheep and then deer. The ruins of many of these settlements still remain, albeit in a decayed form and they should be considered whenever further works, such as enclosures, are planned by SNH staff. This is particularly relevant with the shieling sites whose positions can be only approximately plotted.

GLENSTRATHFARRAR SSSI

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

SITE INDEX

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No	Name	NGR	Description
1	Torr a'Chinn Duibh	NH 382 407	Dun
2	East Deanie	NH 328 396	Roundhouse
3	Neaty Burn	NH 358 404	Roundhouse
4	Culligran Power Station	NH 369 406	2 roundhouses
5	Culligran Power station	NH 373 408	Roundhouse
6	Culligran Cottage	NH 382 407	? roundhouse
7	Culligran Farm	NH 385 417	Roundhouse
		NH 387 418	Roundhouse
8	Milton Cottage	NH 391 407	Roundhouse
9	Culligran Deer Farm	NH 389 415	Roundhouse
		NH 392 417	Roundhouse
10	Allt an Duiliss	NH 333 395	? roundhouse
11	Neaty Burn	NH 3620 4108	? roundhouse
12	Allt an Eas Mhor	NH 151 361	2 shielings
13	Doire nan Gilleann?	NH 157 372	Shieling
14	Inchva likan?	NH 170 375	Shieling
15	Arie Lapaich	NH 183 378	Shieling
16	Arie Helick	NH 186 372	Shieling
17	?	NH 192 381	Shieling
18	Arie voan luisk?	NH 193 372	Shieling
19	Glac Raineach	NH 202 381	Shieling
20	Innis an Loichel	NH 203 384	Farm site
21	Lub Breac	NH 22 39	Shieling
22	Allt Toll a'Mhuic	NH 228 392	Enclosure
23	Inchvuilt	NH 229 386	Farm site + modern buildings
24	West Broulin	NH 234 386	Farm site + modern buildings
25	Braulen Lodge	NH 2377 3870	Lodge
26	East Broulin	NH 2385 3860	Farm site
27	?	NH 234 375	Shieling
28	Allt Toll a'Mhuic	?	Shieling
29	Allt na Sroine Seasgaiche	NH 2378 3820	Structure
30	Cnoc an t-Sobhail	NH 2433 3830	Shieling + later structure
31	Allt Ruigh na Ceardaich	NH 2429 3793	Structure
32	Meall Dubh	NH 25 39	Enclosure
33	Doire Liath	NH 257 399	Shieling
34	Auchtaroe	NH 260 385	Farm site
35	Arie Derry Lae?	NH 2612 3896	Shieling
36	?	NH 265 385	Shieling
37	Inchlary	NH 263 372	Farm site
38	Arduhuilk	NH 2690 3805	Farm site + modern building
39	Arduhuilk	NH 2690 3793	Boat house site

## GLENSTRATHFARRAR SSSI

## ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

No	Name	NGR	Description
40	Muillidh Riabhach	NH 278 378	Farm site
41	Allt nam Buth	NH 2777 3903	Structure
42	Mulie	NH 2805 3853	Farm site
43	Mulie	NH 280 383	Structure
44	Arie Spackhigh?	cNH 275 405	Shieling
45	Coire Mhuilidh	NH 273 395	Wall/fence
46	Mulie	NH 2815 3865	Farm site
47	Cambussorray	NH 2945 3845	Farm site + modern building
48	Cambussorray	NH 294 388	Enclosure
49	Lochanside/Beanacharan	NH 297 390	Farm site + modern building
50	Beanacharan	NH 305 392	Field
51	Coille na Paithe	NH 306 387	3 structures
52	Deanie Lodge	NH 319 399	Farm site + modern building
53	Creag a'Choin Dubh	NH 3261 3951	Modern building
54	Tom Ruigh na Beiste	NH 3306 3913	Modern building
55	Creag a'Bhealaidh	NH 337 397	? enclosure
56	Lice Buidhe	NH	Shieling
57	Lach puie	NH 3485 3955	Farm site
58		cNH 347 395	Weil
59	Creag Blar Sleagha	NH 3547 3915	Structure
		NH 3554 3903	Enclosure
60		NH 363 392	Structure
61	Culligran Wood	NH 3651 3925	Structures
62		NH 3705 3925	Structure
63	Blar Mor	NH 379 391	Settlement and enclosure
64	Blar Mor	NH 387 395	Settlement
65	Neattie	NH 363 402	Shieling
66	Arie Du	NH 375 402	Shieling
67	Dagye?	?NH 378 436	Shieling
68	Arie Culigran	cNH 385 438	Shieling
69	Culligran Cottage	NH 3838 4074	Farm site + modern building
70	Culligran	NH 3860 4110	Modern buildings
71	Culligran	NH 3708 4138	Farm site
72	Culligran	cNH 3880 4115	Farm site + enclosure
73	Culligran	cNH 390 407	Farm site
74		NH 3890 4048	Modern building
75		NH 3918 4070	Sheepfold
76		cNH 393 407	Structure + enclosure
77	Milton Cottage	NH 3936 4058	Mill site
78	Tom a'Mhein	NH 2859 3844	Graphite mine
79	Creag Blar Sleagha	NH 3555 3925	Limekiln
80	Culligran Wood	NH 3685 3935	Bobbin mill
81	Maol nan Ceap	NH 3755 3809	Lead mine
82		NH 38 384	Slag heap
83	Prince Charlie's Cave	NH 3273 3965	Folklore site

## ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY MAP 1

GLENSRATHFARRAR SSSI

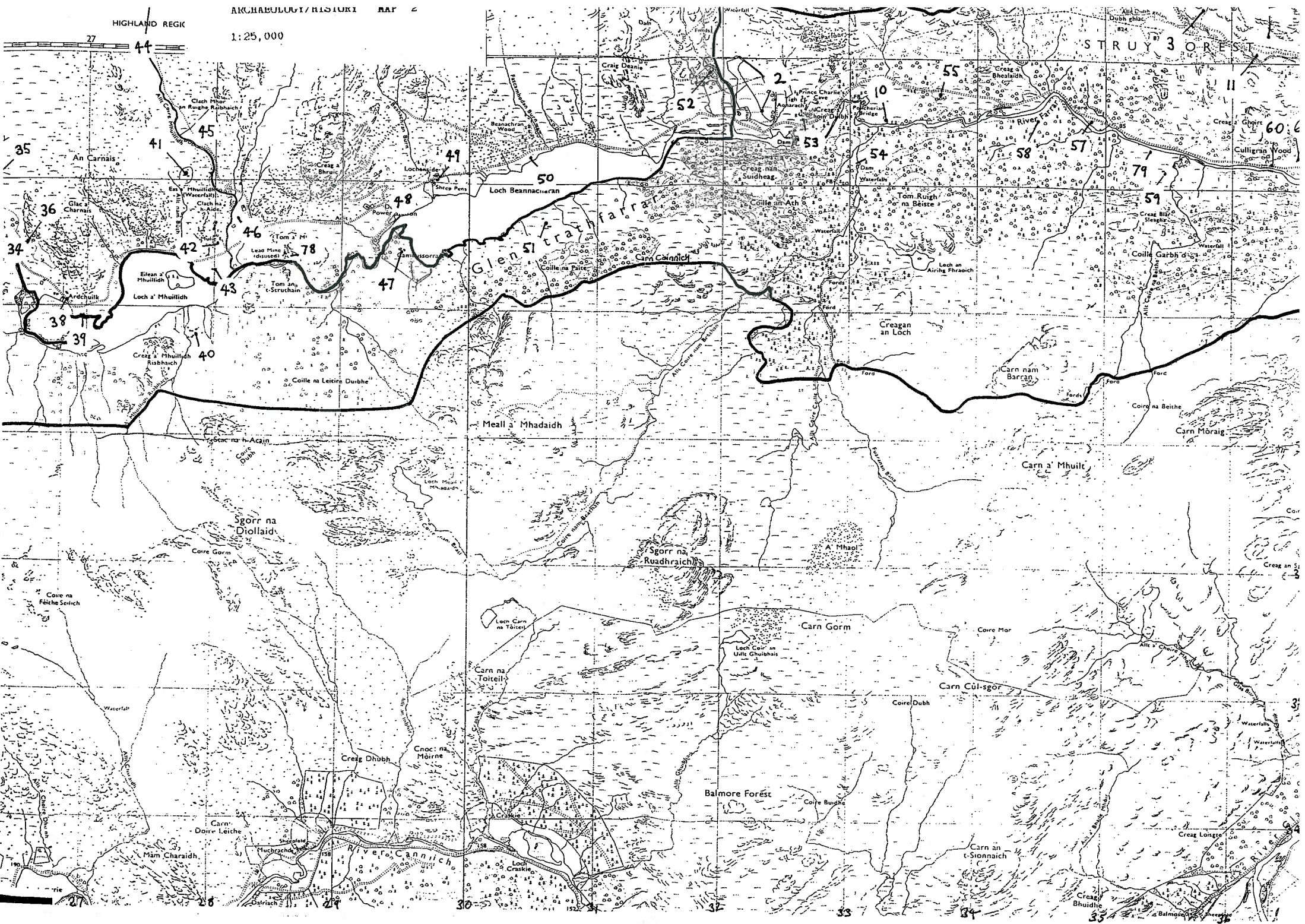
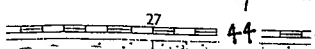
ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY MAP 1

1:25,000

ROSS AND CROMARTY DISTRICT  
ROSS AND CROMARTY CO. CONST.  
EAST MONAR FOREST

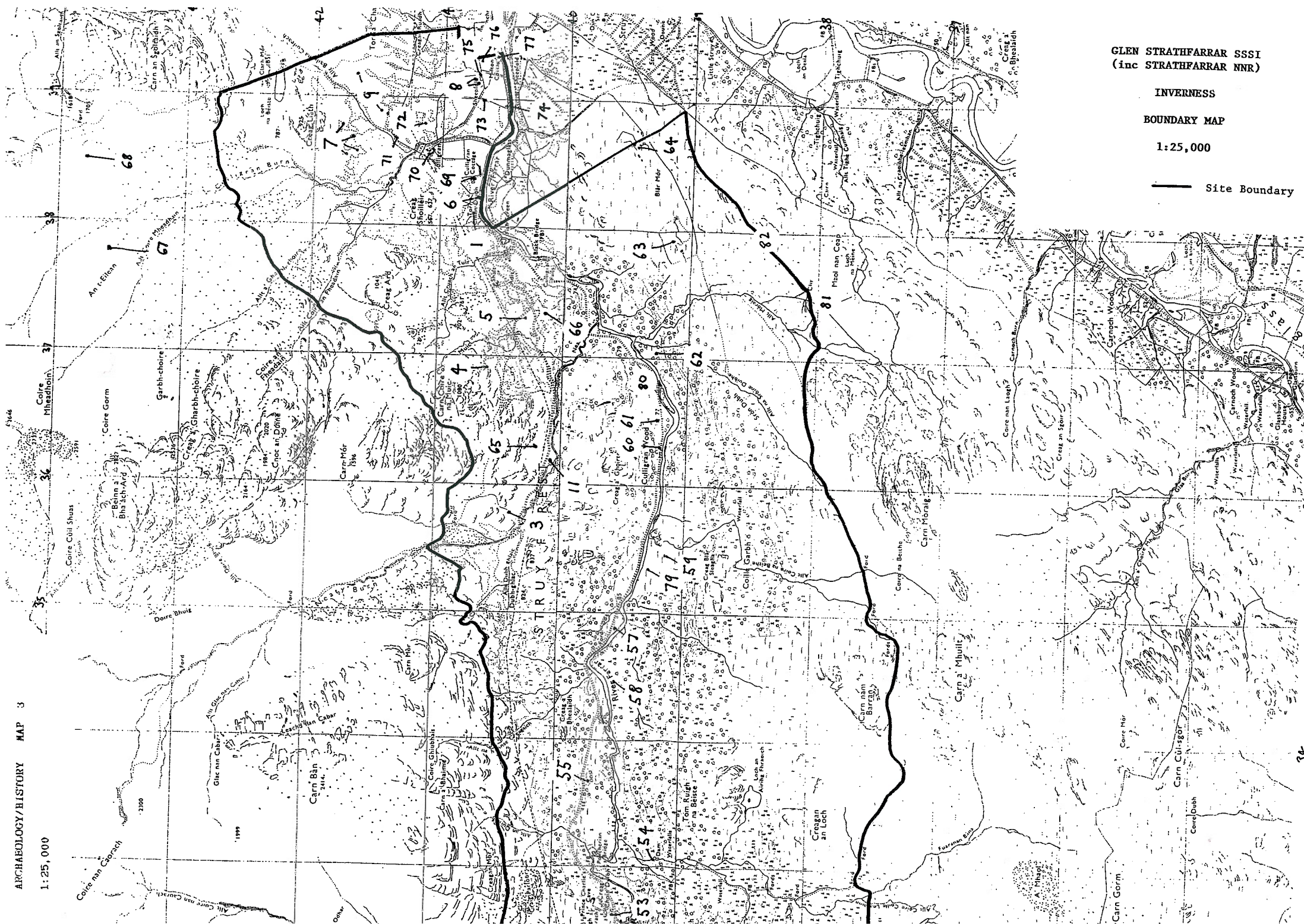
The map shows the River Farrar flowing from the north towards the south. Key locations include Meall an Tairbh, Meall Dubh, Meallan Odhar, and the Glensrathfarrar Forest. The map is divided into sections by a grid with numbers 12-28 and letters A-D. The scale is 1:25,000.





1:25,000

Site Boundary





## ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

Gazetteer of sitesPREHISTORIC  
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173.1

Site name : Torr a'Chinn Duibh

NGR : NH 382 407

SMR : HNH 33 NE 001

HNH 33 NE 002

HNH 44 SW 001

'Situated on the top of a wooded, steeply-sided knoll is a dun that commands good views of the River Farrar as it issues from the gorge at Culligran. It is approximately circular on plan, the stone walls enclosing an area some 10m in diameter, with a probable entrance about 1.5m wide in the ESE arc. The walls stand to a height of about 0.5m and are spread to c1m in the E and c4m in the W. What appears to be a small cell has been added to the external N side of the wall and measures c2.5m by 2m, within walls c0.8m wide. This feature is presumed to be a modern addition.

The S,E and N scarps of the knoll are particularly steep. The W slope has been artificially steepened in two 'steps', some 5m wide and 3m or more high to provide additional defences. However, there is little, if any, evidence of these having been 'crowned' with additional stone walls or ramparts.'

This dun should be compared with the better known examples at Struy.

*Reference*

Harden, G in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1987 Proudfoot, E (ed)



173.2

Site name : East Deanie  
NGR : NH 323 396

'On a terrace above East Deanie Burn is a turf-covered round house that measures some 10m in diameter from wall top to wall top. The wall is spread to 2.5m and has a height of c0.8m. The entrance, which is 1-1.5m wide is in the SE quadrant. The area has been improved and there are no surviving traces of clearance cairns or field dykes.'

#### References

Harden, G in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1989 Proudfoot, E (ed)

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173.3

Site name : Neaty Burn  
NGR : NH 358 404

'Situated on a small flat area at a break of slope on the SSW facing hillside is a hut circle, covered in grass, heather and bracken. It measures c7m diameter internally, with a low encircling grass and heather clad wall spread to c1m and a possible entrance in the ESE c2m wide. There were no obvious associated features in the area

#### Reference

G Harden submission (not fully published) in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1990 Proudfoot, E (ed).

173.4

Site name : Culligran Power Station  
NGR : NH 369 406

'Set into an incredibly steep heather clad hillside at a height of c250m OD are what appear to be two stone walled hut circles. Built one below the other, there is a gap of c30m between them. They are both set on platforms c7m in diameter, with the encircling wall being most evident where it has tumbled down slope. The heather is so thick on this slope that other features were not recorded.'

#### References

Harden, G submission (not fully published) in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1990 Proudfoot, E (ed).

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173.5

Site name : Culligran Power Station  
NGR : NH 373 403

'Set into a grass covered E facing slope, below but N of the HEB track, is a hut circle. It measures c8m in diameter across the low wall spread and has no obvious entrance. A small sub-rectangular stone walled enclosure is situated nearby, measuring c10m by c7m.'

#### Reference

Harden, G submission (not fully published) in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1990 Proudfoot, E (ed).

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173.6

Site name : Culligran Cottage  
NGR : NH 382 407

'A flat topped, circular, low mound some 10m in diameter is surrounded by boggy land. It may be the site of a round house although there are no traces of the wall. A trackway, field boundaries and associated features may be contemporary with this and/or the nearby dun.'

#### References

Harden, G in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1989 Proudfoot, E  
(ed).

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173.7

Site name : Culligran Farm  
NGR : NH 385 417 & NH 387 418

'On the hill to the N of Culligran Farm, at an altitude of c190m, are two round houses some 25m apart. That to the W, NH 387 417, is c10m in diameter from wall top to wall top. The wall of large boulders is spread to c2m and has a height of c0.4 to 0.6m.. The entrance is in the SE and is c"m wide. The round house to the E, NH 3879 4181, is mutilated but is c8m in diameter with wall spread to 1 to 1.5m and 0.4 to 0.6m in height. The entrance seems to be to the SE. There are probable cultivation terraces around these two sites, as well as an area of 'lazy beds' aligned SW NE to the E.

To the W of the above sites, at an altitude of c185m, are two round houses some 100m apart. That to the W, NH 3855 4176, is c12m in diameter between wall tops. The wall survives to a height of 0.4 to 0.5m and is spread to c1m. The entrance in the SE is c1.5m wide. There is a possible cultivation terrace nearby. The round house to the S, NH 3857 4167, has been set back into the slope. It is c12m in diameter with a wall spread of c1.5m and a height of 0.3 to 0.4m. The entrance is in the ESE.'

#### References

Harden, G in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1989 Proudfoot, E  
(ed).



173.8

Site name : Milton Cottage  
NGR : NH 391 407

'Within an improved grass fields at NH 3915 4076 is a large roundhouse situated on a low mound. It is c16m in diameter from wall top to wall top, with a wall spread of c2m and a height of c1m. The entrance is c1.5 to 2m wide and is in the SE quadrant. To the NE at NH 3917 4077 is a second large round house. It is c15m in diameter between wall tops, with wall thickness of 1.2m, with both inner and outer faces being particularly obvious and a height of c0.5m. The c1.2m wide entrance is in the S. No associated features were noted.'

#### References

Harden, G in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1989 Proudfoot, E (ed).  
AP RC8 Kn CN 211 (18/7/90)

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173.9

Site name : Culligran Deer Farm  
NGR : NH 389 415 & NH 392 417

a) 'On a slight ridge NE of Culligran Farmhouse is a grass and bracken covered hut circle. It measures c8m in diameter between wall centres, with the low, c0.5m high, wall spread to c1m. There is a break in the wall of c2m. No associated features were noted in the area.'

b) NH 392 417 'On a flattish area of bracken and heather clad ground at about the 200mOD contour is a hut circle. It measures c9m in diameter between wall centres, with the boulder wall spread to c1.5m and c0.7m high. There is no obvious break in the wall for an entrance. Immediately E of the structure is a heather clad dyke c1.2m wide and 0.6m high which can be traced for 20m in both directions. No other associated features were noted.'

#### References

Harden, G submission (not fully published) in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1990 Proudfoot, E (ed).

**GLENSTRATHFARRAR**

**ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORICAL RECORD**

173.10

Site name : Allt an Duilisd  
NGR : cNH 333 395

A possible roundhouse lies on a low bluff overlooking the River Farrar. It lies about 250m SE of the mouth of the Allt an Duilisd. This site has only been identified from the air and needs to be confirmed on the ground.

*References*

AP RC8 Kn CN 235 & 236 (18/7/90)

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173.11

Site name : Neaty Burn  
NGR : NH 3620 4108

A probable roundhouse or circular sheepfold shows clearly at this point under thick bracken. This is within the area of the shieling at Neattie shown on May's map of 1758.

*References*

AP RC8 Kn CN 212 & 225

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MEDIEVAL (c1100 - 1600)

No features dating to this period have been identified

POST - MEDIEVAL  
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## SETTLEMENTS

173.12

Site name : Allt an Eas Mhor  
NGR : NH 151 361

A shieling is recorded here in the files of the Ethnographic Archive. It does not seem to be recorded in May's survey.

2 oval ruins 3m by 2m survive on the W side of the burn at a height of c700m in an area of Nardus Stricta grasslands.

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173.13

Site name : (Doire na Gilleán ?)  
NGR : NH 157 372

A shieling is marked here on May's map of 1758. No trace of it visible on the OS maps. It served the farm at Inchloichel.

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173.14

Site name : Inchva likan (?)  
NGR : NH 170 375

A shieling is marked here on May's map of 1758. The exact location is uncertain as the burns shown on May do not agree with the modern OS maps. It served the farm at Innis an Loichel

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173.15

Site name : Arie Lapaich  
NGR : NH 183 378

The shieling here marked on May's map also has a patch of arable at cNH 185 379. It served the farm at Inchvuilt.



173.16

Site name : Arie Helick  
NGR : NH 186 372

A shieling is marked here on May's map serving Inchvuilt Farm

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173.17

Site name : (illegible)  
NGR : NH 192 381

A shieling is marked here on May's map serving Innis an Loichel

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173.18

Site name : Arie voan lusk (?)  
NGR : NH 193 373

A shieling is marked here on May's map serving Innis an Loichel. This is adjacent to an outcrop of limestone plotted by the BGS and would have offered good grazing.

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173.19

Site name : Glac Raineach  
NGR : NH 202 381

A shieling is marked here on May's map serving Inchvuilt.

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173.20

Site name : Innis an Loichel  
NGR : NH 203 384

A farm was situated here with 6 acres of arable on both sides of the river. In a rental of 1743 it was paying a higher money rent than either Braulen or Inchvuilt. The 1st edition OS shows the remains of 2 structures at NH 2045 3840 which are not shown on later maps. An enclosure wall defines the W of the settlement and this is still shown.

5 houses are shown on Roy's survey at Lochil.

173.21

Site name : Lub Breac  
NGR : NH 22 39

A shieling is marked here on May's map. It includes an area of arable land. A fragmentary enclosure wall and an abandoned structure at NH 2238 3914 are shown on the current OS. They do not appear on the OS 1st edition.

4 houses are shown on Roy's survey at Chandoch(?). This may be equivalent to Lub Breac.

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173.22

Site name : Allt Toll a'Mhuic  
NGR : NH 228 392

The enclosure centred here is of recent origin not being shown on the 1904 OS map.

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173.23

Site name : Inchvuilt  
NGR : NH 229 386

Inchvuilt lies on the site of a farm dating to at least the 17th century. The modern buildings lie roughly on the site of those shown on May's map, though the latter structures were much more extensive. Some 7 acres were farmed in 1758. The surviving buildings correspond to the structures shown on the 1883 OS plan. The enclosures have changed substantially from that date. The southernmost, surrounding Creag Crithinn, is the most recent as it does not show on the 1904 OS map.

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173.24

Site name : West Broulin  
NGR : NH 234 386

4 modern structures and sheep pens lie on the site of Wester Broulin farm. None of these are shown on 1883 OS map. A sheepfold is shown where 2 of the buildings now stand. The 2 buildings at NH 235 386 are the remains of Braulen Lodge as standing in 1883. It was surrounded by a wooded enclosure only part of which still survives.

7 acres of arable were farmed in 1758. It was converted to a sheep farm at least by 1824 and possibly as early as 1806.

5 houses are recorded on Roy's survey at Browling.

173.25

Site name : Braulen Lodge  
NGR : NH 2377 3870

This lodge was built as the centre of an extensive deer forest of some 250,000 acres used by an American Walter Winans who had the deer driven to Braulen to be shot. The date of the present lodge is not known. An abandoned building at NH 2376 3875 is probably the Ice House marked in 1883.

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173.26

Site name : East Broulin  
NGR : NH 2385 3860

The farm of ~~Easter Browlin~~ was situated here and it was run separately from West Broulin. There were 8 acres of arable in 1758. No trace of this settlement shows on the OS maps.

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173.27

Site name : (illegible)  
NGR : NH 234 375

A shieling serving Vester Browlin farm was situated in this approximate position.

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173.28

Site name : Allt Toll a'Mhuic  
NGR : not known

Another shieling serving Vester Browlin is thought to lie up Allt Toll a'Mhuic. Its exact position is not known, though it may have lain near Loch Toll a'Mhuic (Mather p70a)

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173.29

Site name : Allt na Sroine Seasgaiche  
 NGR : NH 2378 3820

A structure is shown here which was already abandoned by 1883. No site is shown here in May's map of 1758.

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173.30

Site name : Cnoc an t-Sobhail  
 NGR : NH 2433 3830

1 structure with incomplete small enclosure to the S. The enclosure centred at NH 2432 3827 is some 30m by 20m.

This described as a shieling called Lochkan doul in May's map of 1758.

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173.31

Site name : Allt Ruigh na Ceardaich  
 NGR : NH 2429 3798

An abandoned structure shown on the current OS edition does not appear on any earlier map.

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173.32

Site name : Meall Dubh  
 NGR : NH 25 39

The enclosure formed by a now incomplete fence/wall was extant in 1883. The function of such an enclosure is unclear unless it was used as a deer 'reserve' during Winan's occupation of Braulen.

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173.33

Site name : Doire Liath  
NGR : NH 257 399

A shieling is shown here in May's map of 1758 called Arie Laughkine (?)

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173.34

Site name : Auchtaroe  
NGR : NH 260 385

The farm situated at Auchtaroe had 4 acres of arable in 1758. The surviving abandoned buildings are in the same location as those shown on May's map.

The E march boundary for the farm was the small burn 150m E of the buildings. As the surviving enclosures do not respect this boundary they were probably connected with the 19th century sheep farms - as is partly confirmed by the presence of a sheepfold at NH 262 384 on the 1876 OS map.

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173.35

Site name : Arie Derry Lae (?)  
NGR : NH 2612 3896

A small abandoned structure shown on the current OS though not shown on any earlier OS map might be part of the shieling shown here on May's map of 1758. It is likely however that the surviving walls/fences belong to 19th century use of the site.

This shieling served Ardchuilk Farm.

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173.36

Site name : (illegible)  
NGR : NH 265 385

A shieling is marked here serving Ardchuilk Farm.

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173.37

Site name : Inchlary  
NGR : NH 263 378

3 abandoned structures shown on all the OS editions, lie on the site of Inchlary Farm. 17 acres of arable were farmed here in 1758.

Mather describes the buildings S of the river at Ardchuilk (by which he presumably means this settlement) as being mortar bonded and square gabled. He would see these as possibly the houses of Chisholm tenants evicted from Glen Cannich c1830.

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173.38

Site name : Ardchuilk  
NGR : NH 2683 3805

§ Only one structure is now occupied though the remains of buildings occupied in the 19th century are still to be seen on the current OS.

The farm of Ardwhilk had 16 acres of arable in 1758. The farm buildings were sited in approximately the same position as those still surviving.

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173.39

Site name : Ardchuilk  
NGR : NH 2690 3793

A boat house is shown here on the 1903 OS map.

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173.40

Site name : Muillidh Riabhach  
NGR : NH 278 378

10 abandoned structures are shown on the site of the farm of Moyley Riach. These are not shown on the 1876 OS map, though it is unlikely that they are later than this in date.

In 1758 there were 9 acres of arable at this farm.



GLEWSTRATHFARRAR

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

173.41

Site name : Allt nam Buth  
NGR : NH 2777 3903

An abandoned structure within an incomplete oval enclosure 130m by 100m is situated near the start of the Allt nam Buth.

It is not shown on any of the older maps, but is probably connected with Mulie either as a sheep fold or as a shieling.

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173.42

Site name : Mulie  
NGR : NH 2805 3853

2 abandoned structures are shown on the current OS near the site of the farm of Upper Moyley.

On May's map of 1758 this was only a small farm in relation to its neighbour Nether Moyley, having only 1 structure, 6 acres of arable and no shielings. However by 1770 this had absorbed Nether Moyley to become Vester Muilzie.

173.43

Site name : Mulie  
NGR : NH 280 383

The structure shown here is not shown on the 1903 OS map and is probably recent. This is the site of the camp for the workers constructing the hydro dams in the late 1940s. Traces of concrete hut foundations still survive

173.44

Site name : Arie Sochkigh (?)  
NGR : cNH 275 405

A shieling serving the farm of Nether Moyley is shown on May's map of 1758.

173.45

Site name : Coire Mhuilidh  
NGR : NH 278 395

The wall/fence shown here is only shown on the current OS map.

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173.46

Site name : Mulie  
NGR : NH 2815 3865

In 1758 7 buildings and 9 acres of arable are drawn at Nether Moyley. Only a small enclosure and a sheepfold are shown on the current OS map. The farm at Nether Moyley became absorbed into the neighbouring farm of Upper Moyley ( see 173.42)

The sheepfold is shown on both earlier OS maps, though it is described as 'old' on the 1903.

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173.47

Site name : Cambussorray  
NGR : NH 2945 3845

(19)P NH 2945 3846 Cambussorray

Modern dwelling

Originally Chisholm land until purchased by Lord Lovat in 1827, it was not surveyed by May in 1758. It is first mentioned as a small sheep farm called Camissory in c1830 and it is probable the surviving buildings were first constructed about this time. The surviving enclosure is considerably altered from those shown in 1903 which are in turn different from those shown in 1876.

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173.48

Site name : Cambussorray  
NGR : NH 294 388

The enclosure centred here is shown on both on the 1876 and 1903 maps. The building to the S is recent.

**GLEWSTRATHFARRAR**

**ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY**

173.49

Site name : Lochanside/Beanacharan  
MGR : NH 297 390

The house at Lochanside and the nearby sheep pens are recent constructions not being shown on the 1903 OS map.

This on the site of a large farm called Bencharan with at least 18 structures shown on May's map and 16 acres of arable. Nothing of this is shown in 1876. The houses lay at cNH 39.

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173.50

Site name : Beanacharan  
MGR : NH 305 392

A field is shown here in 1903 and is shown as different pasture in 1876. This may correspond to an outlying piece of arable ground belonging to Benacharan shown on May's map.

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173.51

Site name : Coille na Paithe  
MGR : NH 306 387

3 structures are shown here on both the current OS and the 1876 maps.

There is a possible structure further E showing on APs.

Settlement is shown at cNH 313 389 on General Roy's map that may correspond to this settlement

**References**

AP RC8 Kn CN 220 & 221

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173.52

Site name : Deanie Lodge  
 NGR : NH 319 399

The modern settlement of Deanie lies directly over the farm of Deanie surveyed by May in 1758. This farm had 29 acres of arable and 6 buildings are shown. It apparently had no shielings.

The enclosures on both sides of the Deanie burn show considerable variation on the various OS plans.

173.53

Site name : Creag a'Choin Dubh  
 NGR : NH 3261 3951

1 structure lying at the foot of and to the S of Creag a' Choin Dubh. May be identified as Tigh Aonarach or possibly connected with HEB.

173.54

Site name : Tom Ruigh na Beiste  
 NGR : NH 3306 3913

A structure lying to N of small dam collecting water from burn running between Coille an Ath and Tom Ruigh na Beiste. May be connected with HEB.

173.55

Site name : Creag a'Bhealaidh  
 NGR : NH 337 397

A possible enclosure is visible here from AP evidence.

*Reference*

AP RC8 Kn CN 235 & 236 (18/7/90)

## GLENNSTRATHFARRAR

## ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

173.56

Site name : Lice Buidhe  
NGR : NH

The shieling called Lachpuy is described by May as a fine shieling in his survey of 1758. At least 3 structures are shown on his plan. It served the nearby 'farm' of Lach puie.

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173.57

Site name : Lach puie  
NGR : NH 3485 3955

May's plan of 1758 shows a small farm here with 3 structures illustrated. It formed part of the farm of Culligran.

Nothing is shown here on the OS maps, though a footbridge at NH 3493 3945 called Drochaid Tigh na Coille is shown on the 1876 OS map. This points to a house in the wood on the other side of the river - perhaps 173.60.

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173.58

NGR : cNH 347 395

A well has been recorded here by NCC staff. There is no settlement recorded nearby.

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173.59

Site name : Creag Blar Sleagha  
NGR : NH 3547 3915  
NH 3554 3903

A rectangular building some 20m long with an internal division lies c120m NW of a small enclosure at NH 3554 3903. The enclosure is c20m square and lies on the opposite side of an unnamed burn to the building. It is probably a sheep fank. The building is shown abandoned on the 1886 OS map.

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173.60

NGR : NH 363 392

A small structure shown by the road is a modern building, not being shown on the earlier OS maps.

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173.61

Site name : Culligran Wood  
NGR : NH 3651 3925

2 small structures are shown abandoned here. They do not appear on the earlier OS maps, but are probably older than these maps. There was a small settlement called Gortan Peak marked here on May's map. The structures in 1753 seem to be sited further to the NE. It is not described as a separate farm, presumably forming part of Culligran.

This settlement was also marked on Roy's map.

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173.62

NGR : NH 3705 3925

An abandoned structure is shown here on the 1872 OS survey. It lay adjacent to the Allt na Sroine Dubh, though the course of this burn appears to have altered.

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173.63

Site name : Blar Mor  
NGR : NH 379 391

Within a roughly rectangular enclosure some 350m by 250m are 3 structures at NH 3783 3907, NH 3808 3915 and NH 3811 3913. A small enclosure is shown at NH 3786 3908 as well as fragments of walling. A further structure lies to the W outside the enclosure at NH 3777 3905.

At NH 3782 3897 a wall extends/continues SE from this enclosure to run nearly 1km to the Allt na Sroine Duibhe terminating at NH 3686 3869. This wall and parts of the enclosure and settlement are not shown on the 1903 survey.

The S boundary wall extends/continues NE to (31).

GLEWSTRATHFARRAR SSSI

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

173.64

Site name : Blar Mor  
NGR : NH 387 395

A fragmentary settlement with buildings at NH 3859 3946, NH 3866 3949, NH 3867 3944 and NH 3876 3944 extends outwith the SSSI.

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173.65

Site name : Neattie  
NGR : NH 363 402

A shieling called Neattie is marked here on May's map. He describes it as a fine shieling and it was probably larger than 173.66.

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173.66

Site name : Arie Du  
NGR : NH 375 402

A shieling called Arie Du is marked here on May's map.

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173.67

Site name : Dagye  
NGR : ?NH 378 436

A shieling called Dagye (?) is recorded on May's map. It lies outwith the SSSI.

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173.68

Site name : Arie Culigran  
NGR : cNH 385 438

A shieling with at least 3 structures is marked here on May's map. It lies outwith the SSSI.

173.69

Site name : Culligran Cottage  
NGR : NH 3838 4074

A large number of buildings are shown here on May's map though it was not the main settlement. Only minor buildings are shown on the 1882 OS map.

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173.70

Site name : Culligran  
NGR : NH 3860 4110

The buildings standing here are in the same position as those shown on the 1882 OS survey and though altered may be the same basic structures as those shown. No buildings are shown here in May's survey.

A building at NH 3847 4092 and lying between Culligran and Culligran Cottage is shown on both OS maps.

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173.71

Site name : Culligran  
NGR : NH 3775 4138

2 abandoned structures not shown on 1903 OS survey are shown as 4 on the 1882 OS map. 2 other adjoining structures at NH 3887 4143 are shown only on the modern OS map

5 structures and 2 enclosures are shown here on May's map as part of the farm of Culigran.

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173.72

Site name : Culligran  
NGR : cNH 3880 4115

A small enclosure marked only on the 1882 OS map was probably a sheepfold. The main settlement at Culigran on May's map lay just to the S of this.

GLENNSTRATHFARRAR SSSI

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

173.73

Site name : Culligran  
NGR : cNH 390 407

One of the farms forming Culligran is shown here on May's map. At least 7 structures are shown. Nothing is shown on the OS maps.

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173.74

NGR : NH 3890 4048

The modern structure marked here is not shown on the other OS maps.

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173.75

NGR : NH 3918 4070

The sheepfold marked here is not shown on the 1882 OS map.

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173.76

NGR : cNH 393 407

An enclosure probably a sheepfold is marked here on the 1882 OS survey. An abandoned structure is shown to the N of this at cNH 3935 4085, lying S of an enclosure wall only a fragment of which is drawn on the current OS.

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173.77

Site name : Milton Cottage  
NGR : NH 3936 4058

This is an anglicisation of the name *Bailemuileann* shown here in 1882 and points to this being the site of a mill. It was probably served by a lade caused by diverting the burn at Culligran SE. This is now described as 'drain' and no longer reaches Milton.

The buildings at Inchmore and The Shielling are recent not being shown on the earlier OS maps.

## INDUSTRIAL/OTHER

173.78

Site name : Tom a'Mhein  
NGR : NH 2859 3844  
SMR : HNH 33 NW 002

Though marked on the OS maps as a disused lead mine this was in fact a Graphite mine. It seems to have been active at the beginning of the 19th century during the Napoleonic War when a healthy profit was being made. It is unclear if mining stopped because the price fell or the ore became exhausted.

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173.79

Site name : Creag Blar Sleagha  
NGR : NH 3555 3925

A limekiln has been recorded here by NCC staff. No limestone outcrop is recorded here by the BGS. A site visit has identified this as a corn-drying kiln. Stone clearance heaps in the vicinity support this interpretation by confirming the arable nature of the adjoining fields.

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173.80

Site name : Culligran Wood  
NGR : NH 3685 3935

A bobbin mill has been recorded here by NCC staff. The course of the lade powering the mill can be traced abstracting water from the River Farrar at NH 3670 3923 and emptying it at NH 3702 3942.

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173.81

Site name : Maol nan Ceap  
NGR : NH 3755 3809

An extensive mining operation was carried out here in the 19th century. The ore was exposed from the overlying glacial alluvium by means of water sluices with the water being taken from Loch na Meine (NH 3765 3770). The remains of several structures survive including settling ponds, a furnace and a water mill.



GLENSTRATHFARRAR SSSI

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

NGR : NH 38 384

173.82

A slag heap of non-magnetic material lies on the N side of the path to the Struy Lead Mine. There are slight suggestions of scarping on the adjacent hillside. Exact position not plotted.

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Site name : Prince Charlie's Cave  
 NGR : NH 3273 3965  
 SMR : HMH 33 NW 001

173.83

A natural shelter formed from slabs of rock is the alleged hiding place of Prince Charlie after Culloden. There is no evidence for this, though it may well have been used as a dwelling place.

GLEN STRATHFARRAR SSSI

ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY

SOURCES

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May P 1758 Map of Glen Strathfarrar (from a poor photocopy in Fraser-Darling House, Inverness)

OS 1886 1:10,560 Sheet 9 (Inverness-shire)  
OS 1876 1:10,560 Sheet 14 (Inverness-shire)  
OS 1880 1:10,560 Sheet 15 (Inverness-shire)  
OS 1876 1:10,560 Sheet 16 (Inverness-shire)  
OS 1876? 1:10,560 Sheet 17 (Inverness-shire)

HRC Sites & Monuments Record HNH 23 NE 001  
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HRC Sites & Monuments Record HNH 44 SW 001

Wadell M P 1901 Mineralogy of Scotland 1, Edinburgh

Moore J & Hinkman L W 1914 The Geology of the Country around Beaulieu and Inverness, Edinburgh

Mather A 1969 GLENSTRATHFARRAR Land Development Survey HIDE report

The Geology of the Country around Beauly and Inverness 1914

by Dr J Horne & L W Hinxman

pp98-99

Argentiferous Galena

4 veins can be traced in less than a mile between the Dun south of Struy School and Crelevan.

A shaft sunk to this vein 350 yds N of the W end of Loch na Meine. Traces of the vein in the stream ½ mile further W.

Strath Glass lead mines worked at several points during 1st half of last century.

A small shaft was sunk to the northern vein on the hilltop where the ruins of the engine-house are still to be seen; but the veins on the hillside seem only to have been worked by "costeening" in small open workings.

An assay of the ore from the southern opening made in 1838 gave 15cwt 1q or 75 per cent of lead containing 4 1/4 oz of silver to the ton of ore. another assay from the engine shaft vein in 1844 - 37½ per cent lead, 7oz fine silver to the ton of ore. A second from the same vein in 1845 - 62 per cent lead and 22oz 10dwts silver to the ton of ore. An assay for a final report made for the proprietor in 1867, gave the same figures as the 1845 assay. \*

\* statistics 'kindly supplied by J T Garioch, Factor to Lord Lovat.'

The Geology of the Country around Beauly and Inverness 1914

Dr J Horne & L W Hinxman, Edinburgh

p99

Graphite

A thin vertical vein of plumbago on the N side of the River Farrar 550 yds below the foot of Loch a'Mhuilinn.

Worked for a short time at the beginning of last century but owing to cost of carriage and the fall in the price of the mineral it was soon abandoned.

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Mineralogy of Scotland I, 1901

M F Heddle, Edinburgh

p2

Graphite

Tom a'Mhein - Scaly, foliated compact in several veins. Worked vein only scale remaining

In 1818 five tons were extracted which sold for £93 each; the cost of raising was £13 per ton.

[1 mile above Eskadale on the S side of the river Beauly graphite 'in strings and lumps'

At Toulassie, 11 miles north of Mam Soul.]