

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Cairngorms National Park
Historic Designed Landscapes Project

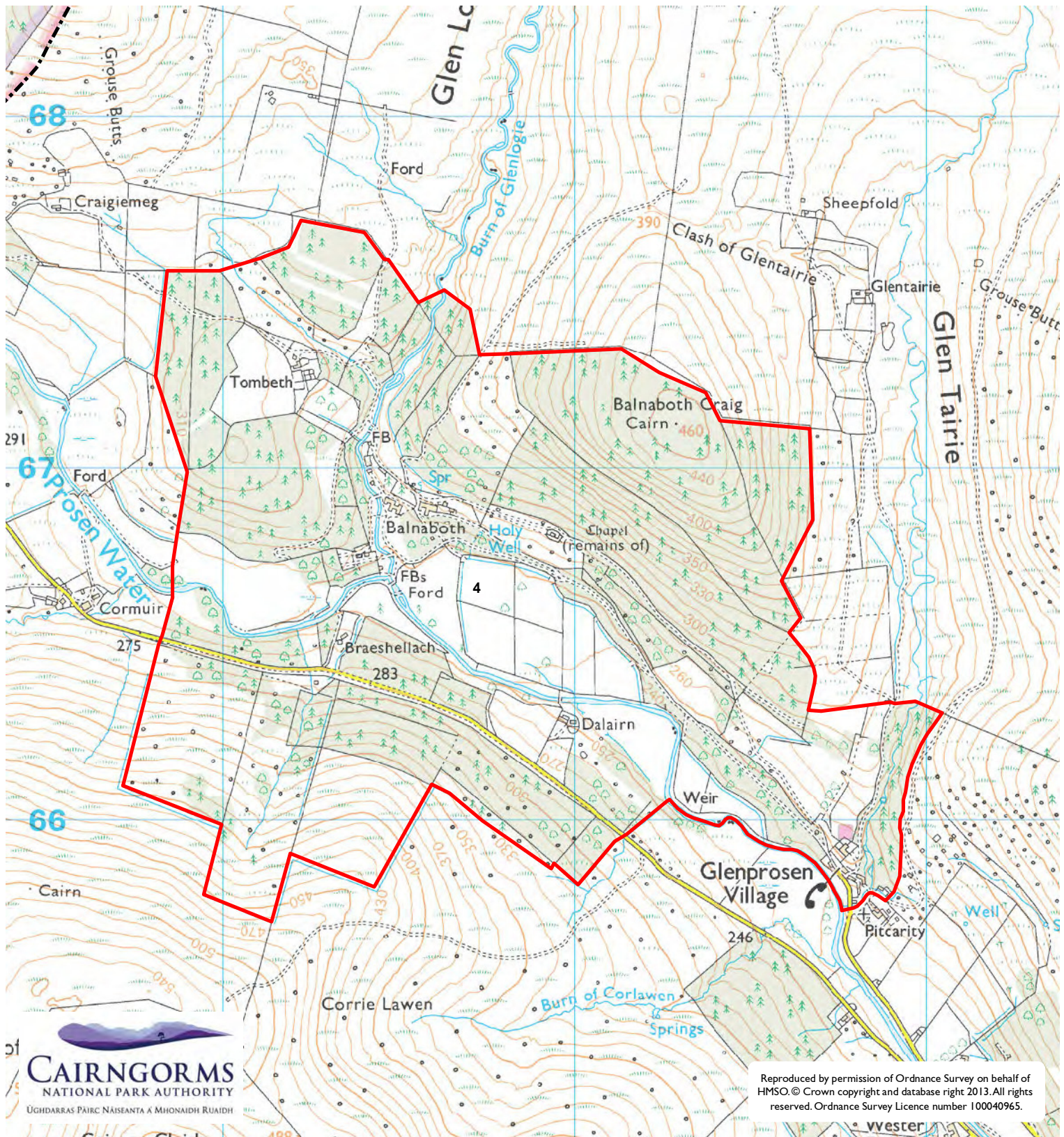
Site Research Report
04 Balnaboth

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May 2013



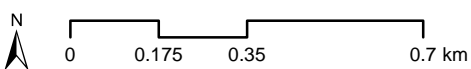
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Legend

-  Cairngorms National Park Boundary
-  Designed landscape provisional boundary

Site 4

Balnaboth



May 2013

04 Balnaboth

County Angus
Parish Kirriemuir
NGR NO 314 668; OS 1:25,000 Sheet 388 (South)

DESIGNATIONS

Listiong Balnaboth House, HB Number 4817 – Category B (1971)
Steading, HB Number 4818 – Category C (1980)
Dairy house, HB Number 4819 – Category B (1971)
Dry bridge, HB Number 4820 – Category C (1980)
Sundial, HB Number 4821 – Category B (1971)
Chapel, HB Number 4822 – Category B (1971)
Lodge, HB Number 4823 – Category B (1971)

Most of the surrounding planting designated as Ancient Woodland.

Most of the surrounding woodland subject of WGS Mark 1 Agreement

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Balnaboth House lies on the east side of the Prosen Water, and of the Burn of Glenlogie, approximately 1km to the north of the village of Glenprosen, in the glen of the same name, from where it can be reached by an unclassified road leading up from Kirriemuir via the B955. The mansion house stands on the east side of the Burn of Glenlogie, with a long approach from the village of Glenprosen along a strip of mostly broadleaved planting, flanked by fields and backed by large blocks of mostly coniferous planting on the slopes of Balnaboth Crag to the east of the Prosen Water, and of the Hill of Adenaich to the west of the Prosen Water. The surrounding hills are managed as grouse moor.

LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

Maps and documentary evidence

Robert Gordon (c1650) records 'Balnagarrock', and Robert Edward 'Bonaboth' (on the wrong side of the Prosen Water'. Balnaboth appears on Roy (c1750) as one of several township settlements on the east side of Glenprosen, flanked by a small extent of unenclosed rig cultivation, and with unenclosed wood pasture on the slopes of neighbouring hills. There is no obvious sign of a high status house, or of enclosure at this time. Ainslie (1794) shows a mansion with substantial areas of planting on both sides of the Prosen Water. Subsequent maps such as the OS First Edition (1862) and OS Second Edition (1900) show much the same distribution of woodland on either side of the Prosen Water, with some of the fields flanking the approach from the village of Glenprosen marked as parkland. Both OS maps show burnside walks, leading across the Glenlogie Burn and down to a kitchen garden near its confluence with the Prosen Water, passing a summerhouse.

Building history and ownership

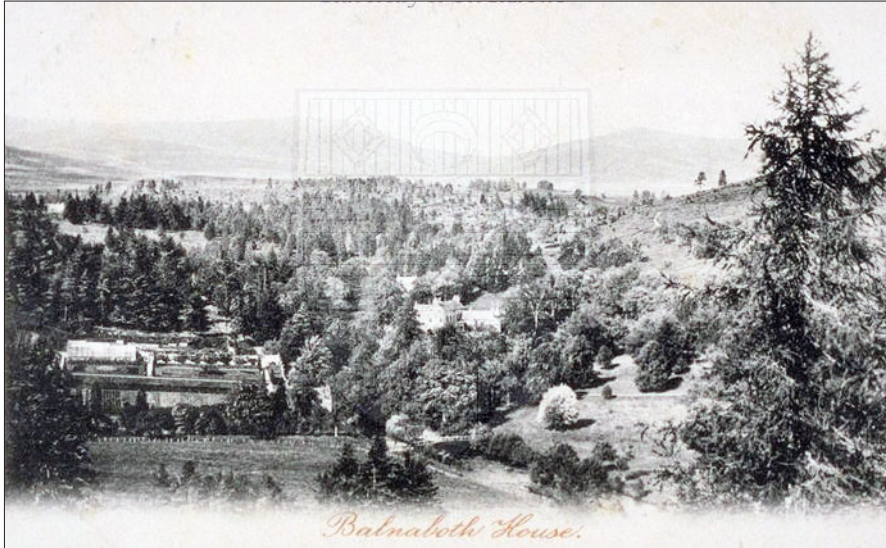
This part of Angus has long been dominated by the Oglivie family, reputedly owners of the Balnaboth Estate from the mid-15th century. Timperley (1976) records Glenprosen as being in the ownership of Walter Ogilvie. Ainslie (1794) records the owner as 'Oglivie Esq.' The present mansion appears to have been formed in the late 18th century from several separate elements, and to have been extensively remodelled in 1824 by architect David Whyte for Donald Ogilvie



Ainslie 1794



Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1st edition 1862



*Balnaboth Estate, J Valentine
 1896 (University of St
 Andrews)*

of Clova, according to Gifford (2012). The NSA (1833) notes the owner as the Ho. Col. Ogilvy of Clova, but credits the late Walter Earl of Airlie (d.1819) with much of the planting on the estate. Groome (1882) names Donald Ogilvy as owner.

APPENDIX

Historical notes

Rev. T Easton 1833 (NSA) reported that “at Balnaboth the plantations are chiefly of Scotch fir, with a few larch ; both are of excellent quality, particularly the former. The late Earl Walter, who planted them, very properly took the precaution of sending to the Mar forests for his plants ... Balnaboth is the residence of the Hon. Col. Ogilvy of Clova, brother of the Earl of Airlie”.

F Groome 1882 described “an estate with a mansion, the seat of Donald Ogilvy of Clova, in the upper part of Kirriemuir Parish”.

A substantial collection of Papers of Charles Hector Ogilvie McLean of Balnaboth, are noted by NRAS (Ref. 1750).



*Balnaboth House, A Wilson
 (Dundee City Libraries)*