

Cairngorms National Park Authority

**Cairngorms National Park**  
Historic Designed Landscapes Project

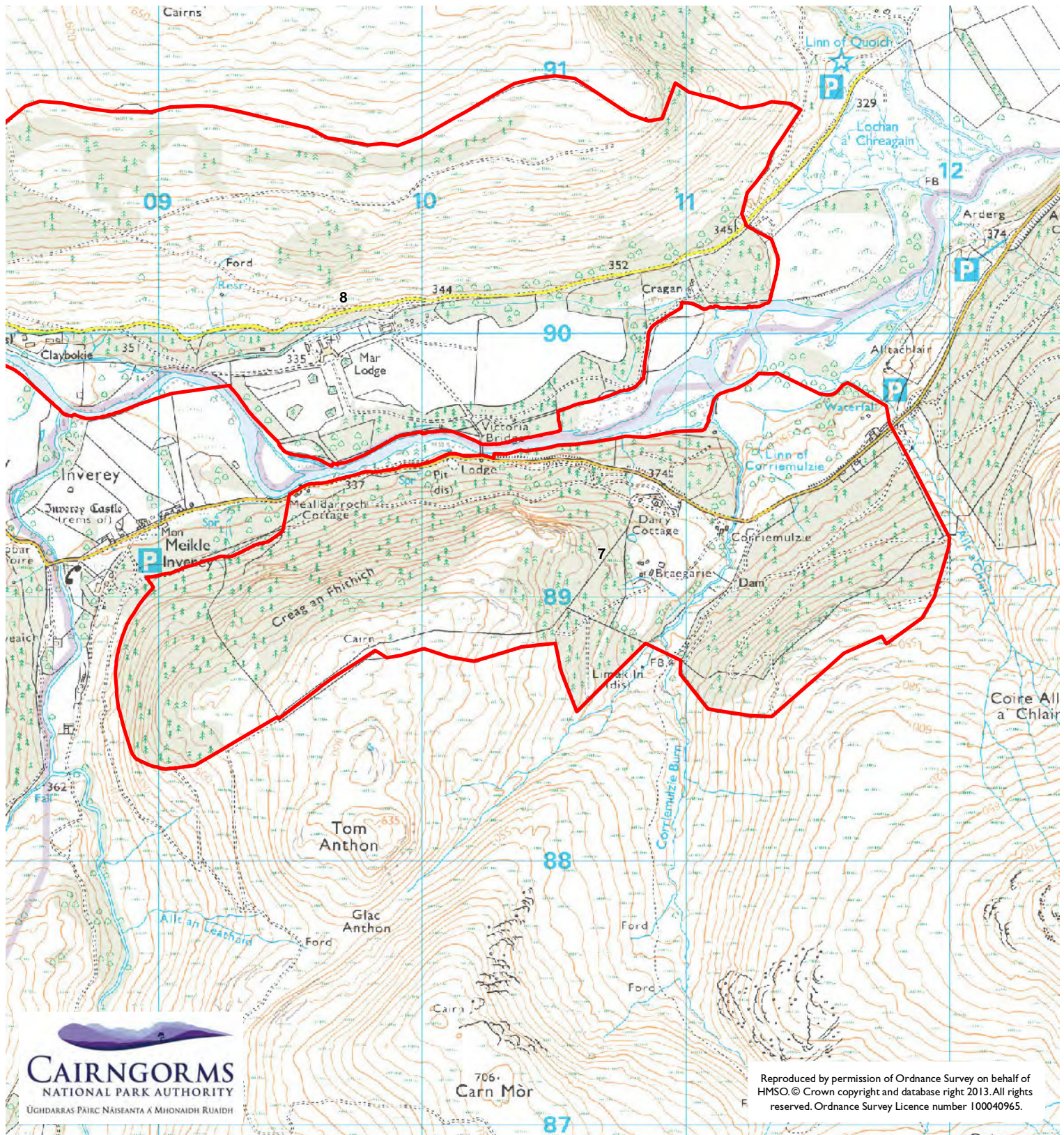
Site Research Report (draft)  
**07 Corriemulzie Cottage (New Mar Lodge)**

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**CAIRNGORMS**  
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY  
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- Legend**
-  Cairngorms National Park Boundary
  -  Designed landscape provisional boundary

Site 7

**Corriemulzie /  
New Mar Lodge**



May 2013

## 07 Corriemulzie Cottage (New Mar Lodge)

County Aberdeenshire  
Parish Crathie & Braemar  
NGR NO 106 893; 1:25,000 OS Map Sheet 404 (South)

### DESIGNATIONS

Listing Mar Estate, Corriemulzie Dairy and Cottage, HB 2994 – Category B (1989)

Corriemulzie lies towards the western end of the Deeside and Lochnagar National Scenic Area

Woodland surrounding and to the east of Braegarie and Linn of Corriemulzie designated Ancient Woodland.

Almost all of the hill planting to south of Braegarie and Linn of Corriemulzie subject of WGS Mark 3 Agreement.

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

The site of Corriemulzie Cottage, which was also known as (New) Mar Lodge for a time in the mid-C19th, lies close to the confluence of the Corriemulzie Burn with the River Dee, approximately 4km to the west of Braemar. The site is reached from Braemar by way of the minor road from Braemar to Inverey and Linn of Dee. In the C19th, the site became the main focus of the Mar Lodge Estate, with the abandonment of Old Mar Lodge, a short distance to the north-west, on the other side of the Dee. The settlement has always been centred on a crossing point on the Burn of Corriemulzie, just above the Linn of Corriemulzie.

### LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

#### Map and documentary evidence

The location is marked as 'Corino-muck Silva' (?) by Gordon (c.1650), and as 'Corimuinlid' (?) on a sketch plan of the Forest of Mar drawn by John



*Painting of Linn of  
Corriemulzie*



*Roy's Military Survey c1750*



Ordnance Survey 1:10,560  
1st edition 1867

Farquharson of Invercauld (1703), with an indication of settlement on either side of the Corriemulzie Burn, where it is crossed by the road between Castletown of Braemar and Inverey. Roy (c.1750) recorded 'Corrie Muillie', with a mixture of unenclosed rig cultivation, townships and semi-natural woodland on either side of the burn. Robertson marks a 'cascade' on the Corriemulzie B[urn], together with some planting on the lower slopes of Tom Anthon and Morrone, to the south. The OS First Edition (1867) shows the relocated Mar Lodge to the west of the Burn of Corriemulzie, with associated buildings, including Eagle's House, stables, footbridge and summer house, alongside the older settlements of Balintuim and Braegarie. By the OS Second Edition (1900) the main house had been removed (see below), though some estate buildings remain, together with associated landscaping.

The Linn of Corriemulzie became a focus for picturesque tourists in the C19th, being painted, photographed and described in travel journals, along with other waterfall sites such as the nearby Linn of Dee, the Hermitage at Dunkeld or the Falls of Bruar near Blair Atholl.

#### Building history and ownership

The landscaping around the Linn of Corriemulzie can be seen to relate in part to the deliberate enhancement of its attraction as a C19th tourist destination, and in part to the relocation of Mar Lodge following damage done by flooding in 1829 to the original lodge, located on the north side of the River Dee. The estate of Mar Lodge, formerly known as Dalmore, had been developed as a hunting estate by successive Earls of Fife in the C18th and C19th, following the forfeiture of the estate by the Earl of Mar, following his involvement with the Jacobite cause. The hunting lodge, sometimes referred to as Corriemulzie Cottage, survived as Mar Lodge until it was destroyed by fire in 1895, after which a third Mar Lodge was rebuilt close to the site of the original lodge on the north side of the River Dee. It is said that some surviving elements of the Corriemulzie Lodge were re-used in the construction of the new lodge.



Caricature of 6th Earl, later 1st Duke of Fife (1849-1912) from Vanity Fair

*Corrimulzie Cottage or New  
Mar Lodge, pictured by G W  
Wilson prior destruction by fire  
in 1895*



## APPENDIX

### Historical notes

**Rev. Archibald Anderson 1842 (NSA)** noted that the Linn of Dee was “a natural curiosity, much visited and admired by strangers, as are likewise the cascades of Coirmulzie and Garvalt. The former is between Mar Lodge and Castletown, and the latter about three miles further down the strath, on the south side of the Dee, in the heart of a beautiful forest belonging to Invercauld ... The indigenous forests are birch, alder, poplar and mountain ash. There is no oak coppice in the parish. The planted woods consist of all the different species of firs, but the larch prevails most in all the plantations. It grows quicker than any other, and is found to supply, in many instances, the place of hardwood, which is said not to thrive in this country. Although at Invercauld there are some large ash and chestnut trees, yet the common Scotch firs may truly be said to constitute the glory of this district, there being some trees of this kind of immense size, which are supposed to be from 300 to 400 years old”.

**G. & P. Anderson (1850)** speak of “two fine waterfalls [which] occur in the hills bounding the strath. Corriemulzie on the south and the Linn of Quoich on the north ... The former is seen as a long white and steep line on the face of the hill, about four miles from the Castletown, bordered by an emerald herbage, and half hid by the foliage of the birch. Corriemulzie Cottage is a pretty sporting villa, occupied during the season by General Duff and his family. The Quoich, two miles below Mar Lodge, is a more turbulent stream, tumbling down a succession of rocky ledges”.

**F. Groome (1884)** recorded “Corremulzie ... a burn near Mar Lodge [which] traverses a narrow birch-clad ravine, and in its short career, has a total descent of 1150 feet, forming one very beautiful cascade”. Also “[New] Mar Lodge, a deer-stalking lodge of the Earl of Fife ... picturesquely situated on the steep wooded side of the Eagle’s Craig, 1250 feet above sea level, and is the highest inhabited gentleman’s seat in Great Britain. A rambling structure, between a Swiss chalet and an Indian bungalow, it once was simply a keeper’s lodge, but has been added to from time to time, till now the series of buildings can hold above 100 visitors and retainers”.

**A.I. McConnochie (1900)** describes “the Falls of Corriemulzie [where] the valley is narrow, bounded by wooded hills on both sides ; at the head also, beyond the Linn, mountains close the vista ... From Invercauld Bridge to the Linn of Dee, we have about eight miles of the finest glen scenery in the Highlands, and in the month of August, when the heather is in bloom, the beauty and richness of the colouring are past description. The travelled tourist who sees this section of the valley of the Dee at its best will admit that it is one of the fairest and most magnificent scenes in the British Islands”.

**Postcard from M.B. (1905)** written from Corriemulzie states “Dear Catherine, This waterfall is just beside our lodging. On receipt of this would you kindly send my boots (buttoning) also Mr. Willis’ football boots. We are to be hill climbing. And when my shirts come send on two & all the turn down collars you see. And collars, handkerchiefs & a pair of knickers for Mr. Willis. I think he will stay on & not return on Friday as he proposed. Lovely place. From M.B.”

**Louis Stott (1987)** states that “...Linn of Corriemulzie, between Braemar and the Linn of dee, is one of the most frequently visited on Deeside. The road crosses the burn by a graceful, high-arched bridge, which is seen to good effect from the foot of the fall. The prospect from hereabouts is fine. There are notable spruce and larch woods, and the green banks of the Dee are diversified by gravel and shingle at this point. The fall is a silvery cascade, falling for fifteen metres in twin ribbons of water, set in a profusion of beautiful birch trees”. Stott also mentions an early hydro-electric power plant, providing power for nearby Mar Lodge.

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