

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Cairngorms National Park
Historic Designed Landscapes Project

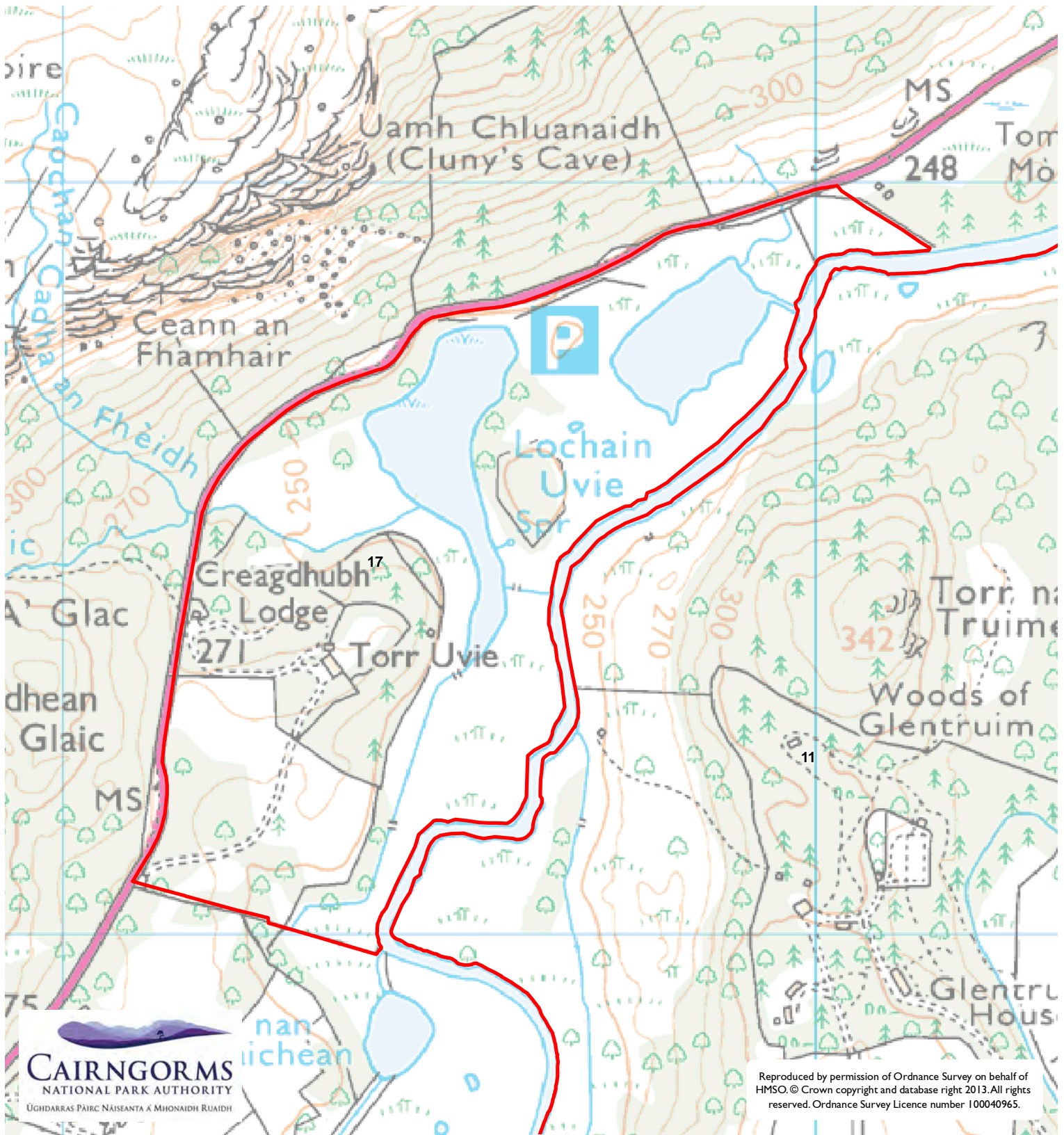
Site Research Report
17 Creagdhubh (Craig Dhu) Lodge

Consultants

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May 2013

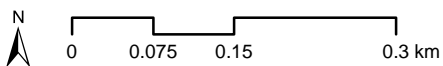


Legend

- Cairngorms National Park Boundary
- Designed landscape provisional boundary

Site 17

Craigdubh Lodge



May 2013

17 Creagdhuhb (Craig Dhu) Lodge

County Aberdeenshire
Parish Laggan
NGR NN 673 953; OS 1:25,000 Sheet 402

DESIGNATIONS

Listing Craig Dhu Lodge, HB Number 49688 – Category B (2004)

Almost all of the policies are designated as Ancient Woodland

LOCATION AND EXTENT

The designed landscape of Creagdhuhb Lodge is located beside the A86, approximately 4km south-west of Newtonmore, between the road and the River Spey. Although comparatively small in extent, the location of the lodge and associated planting on a low spur projecting into the valley floor of the River Spey – Torr Uvie – mean that it is visually prominent. Access to the house and landscape is from a gate lodge on the A86.

LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

Map and documentary evidence

A settlement named 'Owy' is recorded by Gordon (c1650). Roy marks three townships on the lower slopes of Creag Dubh, to the east of Clunie Castle, the westernmost named 'Uvie', the other two unnamed. There is a strip of unenclosed cultivation rigs running along the foot of the hill, above the flood-plain of the River Spey, which is marked by a series of small lochans. Thomson (1830) marks 'Ovie' as a few cottages with some associated woodland, but no indication of a higher status house. The OS First Edition (1870) is the first to mark 'Creagdhuhb Lodge' on 'Torr Uvie', occupying a woodland clearing, with a direct drive from the public road to the west, but no gate lodge. The OS Second



Roy's Military Survey c1750



Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
2nd edition 1899

Edition (1899) shows a more formal landscape, including a gate lodge on the original drive, a new approach from the south, a kitchen garden, burial ground, boat- house and pier on neighbouring Lochan Uvie.

Building history and ownership

The lands of Uvie were formerly part of extensive landholdings in Upper Speyside under the ownership of the Duke of Gordon. There is no indication of enclosure or landscaping prior to the mid-19th century. Described by Historic Scotland (2004) as being of later 19th century date, it is suggested that the house 'in the style of a shooting lodge' was most likely to have been built as the dower house for nearby Cluny Castle, principal seat of the Macphersons. The formalisation of the landscape, noted above, is likely to have accompanied the additions to the house which are said to have been made in the 1870s, after which it was occupied by G D Fitzroy. After serving for a time as an alcohol treatment clinic in the 1980s, it has since returned to private ownership.



Creagdhubh and Lochan Uvie from the north (Google)

APPENDIX

Historical notes

Sale Particulars (1993) are recorded as being held by RCAHMS (not seen).

The National Records of Scotland may contain a small collection of relevant papers dating from the late 20th century (not seen).
