

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Cairngorms National Park
Historic Designed Landscapes Project

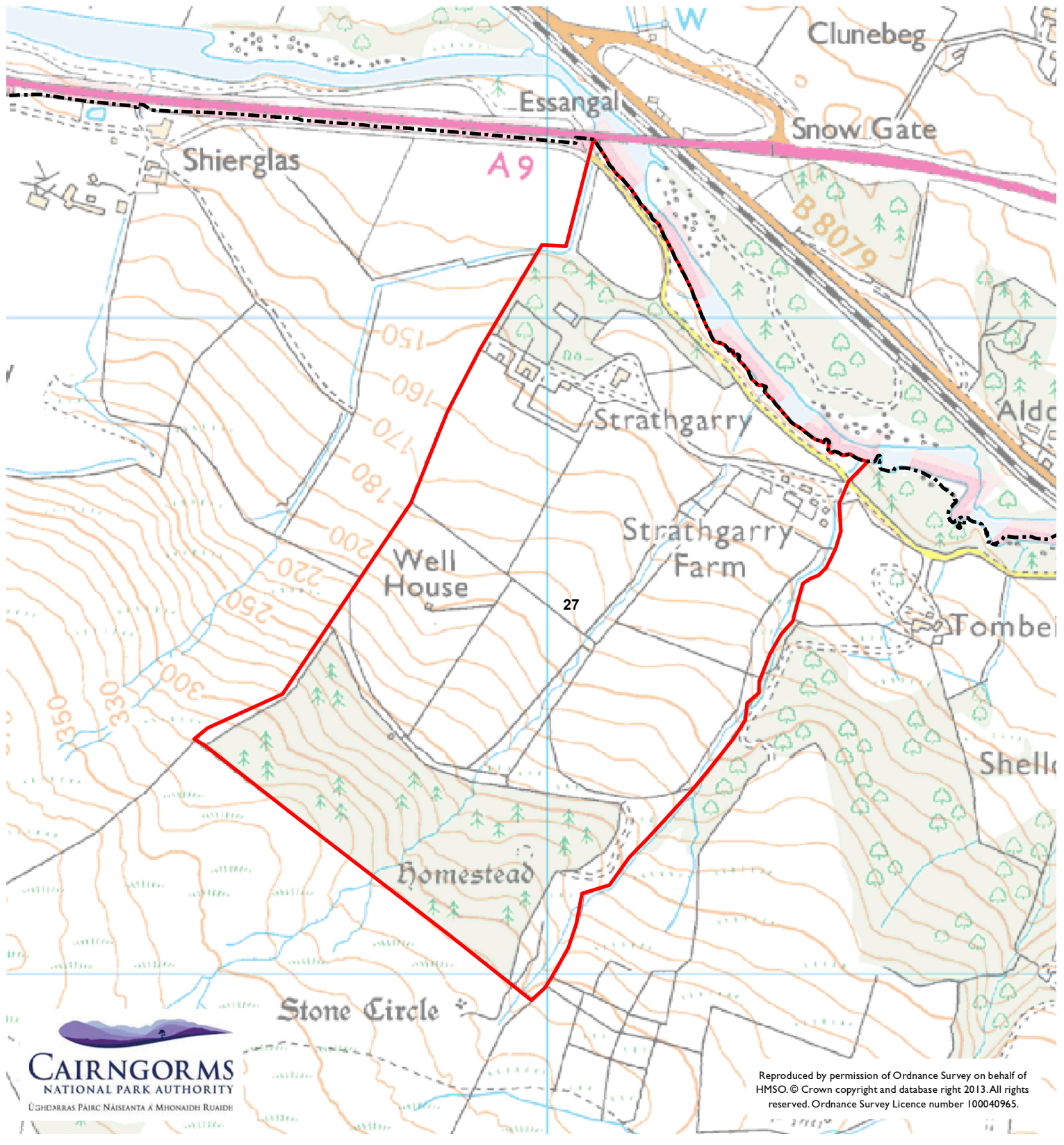
Site Research Report
26 Strathgarry

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May 2013

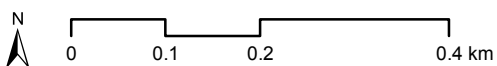


- Legend**
- Cairngorms National Park Boundary
 - Designed landscape provisional boundary

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Site 27

Strathgarry House



May 2013

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County Perthshire
Parish Moulin (detached) / Blair Atholl
NGR NN 891 639; OS 1:25,000 Sheet 386 (East)

DESIGNATIONS

Listing Strathgarry House is unlisted.

The upper block of woodland, south of the house, is designated as Ancient Woodland.

The policy woodland between the house and the River Garry is the subject of a WGS Mark 1 Agreement.

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Strathgarry House is centrally placed towards the north end of a comparatively small near-rectangular estate, on the west bank of the River Garry, approximately 8km north-west of Pitlochry, and 2km south east of Blair Atholl. Although it lies outwith the National Park boundary, its landscape is clearly seen across the valley from roads within the park. Access is by an unclassified road which leads off the B7059 (formerly the A9) at the village of Killiecrankie, crossing the River Garry, and following the river bank from there northwards.



Roy's Military Survey c1750



Stobie 1783



Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1st edition 1861

LANDSCAPE HISTORY

Map and documentary evidence

There is little information to be found in the public domain on the history of Strathgarry House. The name does not appear until Stobie (1783), with Roy (c1750) showing only a scatter of unnamed townships, together with some unenclosed rig cultivation and odd patches of woodland on the west bank of the Garry, opposite to Aldclune. A line drawn on Stobie's map suggests that enclosure and improvement of the estate had taken place before the end of the 18th century, though this enclosure appears to include the township of 'Treat', also noted by Thomson (1832) – though this may have been based on Stobie's map. The OS First Edition (1861) shows the estate with the same more-or-less rectangular outline as on Stobie's map, with a several large fields sheltered by a large block of woodland on rising ground to the rear/south of the house. There is additional policy planting at the north end of the estate, embracing the mansion house, offices and a rectangular walled garden. A drive leads up to the house from the riverside road. Other features noted on this map are two strips of planting running downhill from the southern block of planting, and a 'well-house' uphill from the mansion house. The OS Second Edition (1899) shows very little change, apart from the virtual disappearance of the southern block of planting. This remained the case throughout much of the 20th century, as recorded by the OS Popular Editions (1927 & 1955), though the woodland has since been replanted within the historical boundaries.

Building history and ownership

Timperley (1976) records the owner of Strathgarry c1770 as Gilbert Stewart of Fincastle, who may have been responsible for building the original mansion house marked on Stobie's map (1783). The present five-bay mansion house appears to be of Victorian date, so may have incorporated, or been built to replace the earlier 18th century house. It has not been possible to determine

*Strathgarry House*

subsequent changes of ownership during the study period, though this could presumably be traced through property Valuation Rolls. The court of offices was developed as a concert venue and conference centre during the late 20th century under the ownership of the Thewes family, but has since been sold.

APPENDIX

Historical notes

Unfortunately the OS Name Book for the parish of Moulin has been lost. No other historical accounts have been found.
