

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Cairngorms National Park
Historic Designed Landscapes Project

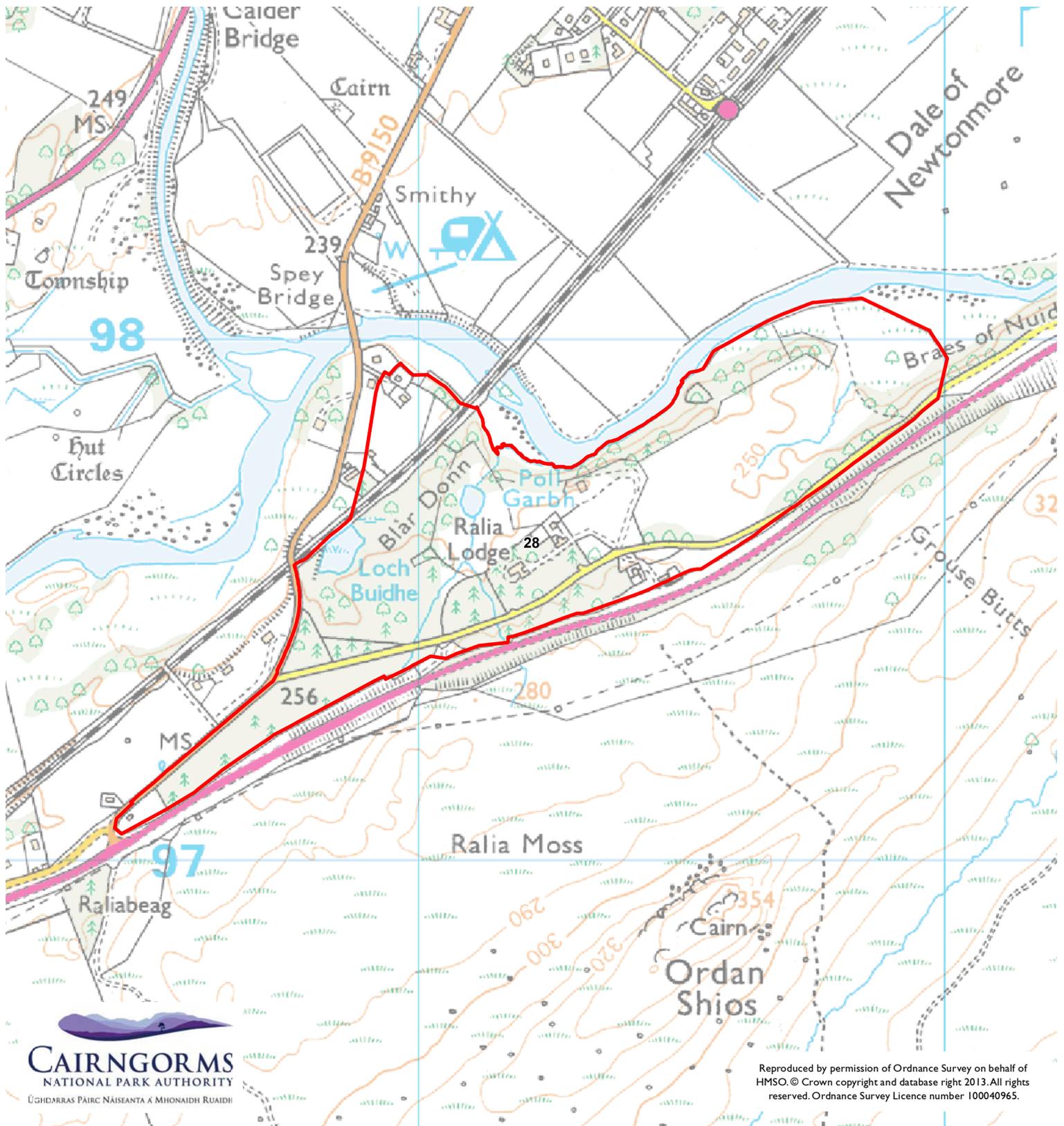
Site Research Report
28 Ralia Lodge

Consultants

Peter McGowan Associates
Landscape Architects and Heritage Management Consultants
86 Constitution Street Edinburgh EH6 6RP
0131 261 6265 • pma@ednet.co.uk

and Christopher Dingwall

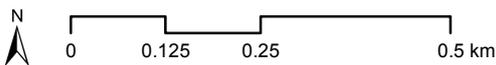
May 2013



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

Site 28

Ralia Lodge



May 2013

28 Ralia Lodge

County Inverness-shire
Parish Kingussie & Insh
NGR NN 710 976; OS 1:25,000 Sheet 402

DESIGNATIONS

Listing House is not listed.

Much of the woodland in the vicinity of Ralia Lodge is designated as Ancient Woodland.

The core policies are the subject of a WGS Mark 1 Agreement, with adjacent blocks the subject of a WGS Mark 2 Agreement.

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Ralia Lodge and its designed landscape occupy a fairly restricted site on the east bank of the River Spey immediately opposite its confluence with the River Calder, less than 2km to the south of the town of Kingussie. The eastern edge of the landscape is defined by the B9150 (formerly the A9), the northern edge by the River Spey, and the southern edge by the new A9, with the eastern edge tailing off towards the Braes of Nuide. Access is from a narrow unclassified road, branching off from the B9150, and running along the Braes of Nuide. The Perth to Inverness railway passes through the northern extremity of the landscape before crossing the Spey. Ralia occupies a strategic location, formerly an important crossing point on the River Spey.



William Tennoch for the Commissioners for the Annexed Estates 1771

LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

Map and documentary evidence

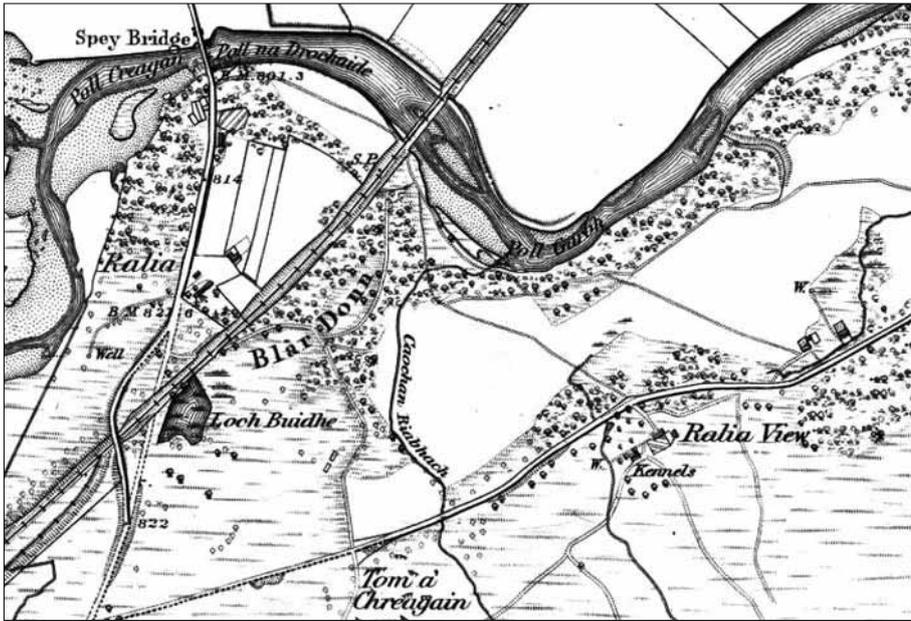
The original settlement of Ralia appears to have been focused on an important crossing point on the River Spey, though it is not marked or named on Roy (c1750). This is seen on a plan prepared in 1771 by William Tennoch for the Commissioners for the Annexed Estates, who were responsible for the management of the estate for a period towards the end of the 18th century, following its confiscation from Macphersons of Cluny. The settlement, seemingly a group of buildings close to the River Spey, is clearly marked as 'Raliaea' by Taylor and Skinner (1776). There is no appearance of the present shooting lodge on the OS First Edition (1871) or the OS Second Edition (1903), although there is a cottage named 'Ralia View', with 'Kennels', to be seen across the road. The shooting lodge is first seen on the OS 1:63,360 Third Edition (1905), pointing to the possibility of an Edwardian rather than a Victorian date for the lodge. The house is approached by two short drives, which lead round to the north front of the house, which looks out over a small area of parkland, leading northwards towards the River Spey.



Taylor & Skinner 1776

Building history and ownership

It would appear that the estate gave it name to a cadet branch of the locally dominant Macpherson family, prior to the building of Glentruim House a short distance to the south, by Major Euan Macpherson in the 1840s. Time has not allowed a detailed study of subsequent ownership. Ralia continues to possess ground, and is currently advertised for shooting lets, with the emphasis on grouse shooting.



Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
2nd edition 1903, prior to the
building of Ralia Lodge

APPENDIX

Historical notes

No historical accounts found.



Approach to Ralia Lodge