State of the Park Report

Technical Annex 2

Cultural Resources

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2.1 Introduction

The cultural resources of the Cairngorms National Park include a wide range of physical as well as less tangible resources. They all reflect the past and current lives of people living in and enjoying the area.

Culture and cultural heritage are essentially about the relationship between people and place over time. People and place in the Cairngorms continue to interact to create a rich cultural resource, which ranges from the landscape and built environment to the artefacts and traditions of local communities.

The National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 defines cultural heritage as including "structures and other remains resulting from human activity of all periods, language, traditions, ways of life and the historic, artistic and literary associations of people, places and landscapes."

Reflecting these diverse cultural interests, this chapter is divided into four broad sections, which, in practice, include a degree of overlap:

- The Historic Environment;
- The Built Environment;
- Culture and Traditions;
- Material Resources.

While there is a general awareness of many sites and features of cultural heritage interest, there is little systematic identification and recording across the Park. The information presented in this chapter draws together the best available data, but it also highlights the need for more audit work to develop a fuller picture of the cultural resources of the Park.

2.2 The Historic Environment

This consideration of land management features concentrates on those physical features which are associated with, or linked to, agricultural, woodland and sporting activity. The principal reference source for this section is 'The Historic Landscape of the Cairngorms' (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland/Historic Scotland). This 2001 report is based on an Historic Land-use Assessment of the largest original option for the National Park area, together with an analysis of the existing archaeological data recorded within the National Monuments Record of Scotland. It highlights the "enormous potential" for further research and understanding. Additional reference sources used include 'Cairngorms Assets' (Cairngorms Partnership), 'New Directions for Land Management in the Cairngorms' (Scottish Executive) and the annual Agricultural Census.

This section is structured to draw together the inherent physical characteristics of the landscape and the development of human influences upon it in order to understand the landscape we see today.

The context is set by describing in overview the development of the historic landscape; this description is divided into four elements:

- Landscape characteristics;
- The development stages;
- The archaeology of land-use;
- The historic landscape.

More detail is provided in the sections dealing with the human elements and associated land management practices and features:

- Designed landscapes and gardens;
- Land ownership and management;
- Forestry and woodland;
- Sporting management;
- Food and drink;
- Traditional land-based skills.

2.2.1 Historic Landscapes

Landscape Characteristics
The diverse working landscape of the Cairngorms has been shaped primarily by the area's geological and topographical extremes and the opportunities and limitations which these have presented to human activity in terms of land management. This is most clearly characterised by the differences between the high (600 to 900 metres above sea level) massif at the core of the Cairngorms and the lower hill ranges, wide straths and steep-sided glens which were formed through glaciation and which surround and dissect it. While in modern agricultural land classification terms the whole area is classified as a Less Favoured Area, and the majority of that as Severely Disadvantaged, there is a considerable range of potential within these classifications, with clear current and historical contrasts between the more and less intensively managed areas.

The human influence is most clearly evident in the relatively small area of settled and farmed straths and glens (in 2003 only 6.75% of the land of the Cairngorms was devoted to cropping and rotational grazing). The massif is more natural, and much of the landscape has a strong wild land character. The richness, diversity and balance of natural features and habitats, together with human influences, have combined to form the distinctive landscape character of the Cairngorms today. The 'Historic Landscape of the Cairngorms' Report, itself the most comprehensive and up-to-date record, identified as constraints the necessarily composite nature of this work and the limited extent of systematic mapping of archaeological remains in the Park.

The mapping exercise undertaken by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland in its Historic Land Use Assessment clearly demonstrates the extent to which suitability of the land for agriculture and settlement influences both historic and current land-use patterns. Reflecting this, three broad categories of land-use can be identified; improved grazing and arable farming, forestry and woodland and moorland and rough grazing. These three categories can, in general terms, be stratified by altitude; arable cropping occurs on the lowest land in the straths and valley floors, bounded by improved grazing on the lower hillsides; forestry and woodland occurs between this and 250 metres, with rough grazing and moorland occurring between 250 and 700 metres. Human activity above this altitude is almost exclusively recreational. Fieldsports take place within all three categories

This pattern of land-use reflects the agricultural improvements undertaken between 1750 and 1850 and which effectively reshaped the face of the Scottish landscape and left few traces of earlier periods. Given the significant extent to which land-use over the last 200 years has influenced the historic components of the landscape and the associated cultural heritage, this time period forms the principal focus of this topic. The combination of upland under sporting management, lowland agriculture, woodland and 19th century vernacular buildings is what gives the Cairngorms National Park landscape its distinctive character.

Development Stages
As outlined above the landscape features we see today are those which have survived a succession of different land-use practices. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland divides these into three distinct phases:

- Prehistoric;
- Pre-Improvement;
- Post-Improvement.

Prehistoric
The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland defines the prehistoric phase in relation to landscape as covering the period from the earliest human activity (9,000 years ago following the melting of the last ice sheets) to around 1000 AD. There is little recorded evidence of human activity prior to 4000 BC, other than a few flint tools; however, it appears that there has been a spread of human activity across the area, with settlements concentrated in the main glens.

The evidence from about 4000 BC onwards is more substantial, as it was then that people began to build structures which survive today as visible monuments. With the exception of large monuments such as chambered cairns, stone circles and other ritual or funerary monuments, little has survived the subsequent agriculture and settlement in the lower lying areas. Consequently, surviving prehistoric monuments tend to lie in upland areas beyond the range of agricultural improvement. Little is known of settlements in this period.

Evidence of settlement becomes stronger and more common around 2000 BC (although 'Cairngorms Assets' states there is some evidence of human settlement at Grantown-on-Spey in 3000 BC). Evidence principally takes the form of hut circles, sometimes with the suggestion of agricultural cultivation such as gathered field stones or field banks. Prominent examples include the field banks and hut circles at Wheen in Glen Clova on the south eastern fringe of the Park and in the north east at Deskry Hill on Donside.

Remains from the first millennium BC principally relate to settlement and land-use. A change in settlement patterns is noted from around 700 BC until the middle of the first millennium AD, with enclosed settlements being found alongside hut circles. Such enclosed settlements included those with timber stockades, some of which are visible as crop marks. Dun-da-lamh (the fort of two hands) near Laggan with its massive defences is a prominent example cited from this period.

There is little further knowledge of the nature of settlement in the first millennium AD, and there is a gap in evidence between the Iron Age and the townships of the 18th century. There is limited recent evidence from field work and excavation of buildings of a sub-rectangular plan dating to between the 7th and 11th centuries. There is also evidence of early Christian remains at Ballater on Deeside and sculptured stones, cross slabs often of Pictish origin, testifying to the establishment of Christianity in the area.

Pre-Improvement
There is little archaeological or documentary evidence for settlement predating the 18th century across the Park area. Evidence of mediaeval, rural settlement is recognised as being scant in Scotland as a whole, which is thought to reflect the fact that such settlements were located in areas of intensive use. Pre-agricultural improvement remains, therefore, survive mainly in niches where they have been least affected by subsequent land-use.

The majority of mediaeval and later monuments within the Park area identified and mapped by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland consist of the remains of farm townships and farmsteads. This reflects the peak in rural population in the late 18th century and its subsequent decline. This peak in settlement saw sites and materials re-used, which is thought to be substantially responsible for the limited visible evidence which would provide chronological depth.

This form of land management involved multiple-tenancy farms, with associated housing grouped together to form a township. Fields were ridged and bounded by a head dyke, with grazing for livestock lying beyond this. Such settlements and their associated ridge and furrow systems of cultivation are most frequently evident in areas which became devoted to rough grazing when land-use was reorganised in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Further evidence exists in the form of the shieling huts built on the higher altitude shieling grounds (the transhumance summer grazings) at altitudes of up to 800 metres. Glen Banchor, and in particular the township of Glenbanchor near Newtonmore, provides an excellent example of the remains of this system of land management. Clear traces of ridge and furrow may be seen in Glen Shee on the southern fringe of the Park.

Site-specific investigations such as those associated with Mar Lodge, Easter Raitts and Glen Banchor (and the interpretive work of the Highland Folk Museum) provide important insights into understanding structures, and in particular into establishing chronological depth.

Post-Improvement

The Improving movement arose in the later part of the 18th century and sought to apply the ideas and principles of the Scottish Enlightenment (increased production, profit and social improvement) to agriculture. This shift from community-based, subsistence-oriented agriculture resulted in a transformation of the landscape in the late 18th and 19th centuries and formed the template for much of what we observe today.

On the lower land, the glens and the straths, the landscape was reorganised with the laying out of regular-shaped fields and field patterns. Farms were amalgamated, providing larger units; buildings were reorganised or replaced. Drainage work was undertaken, and new and improved cropping regimes were introduced. Trees were planted to provide shelter belts and decorative or amenity woodland. Some larger estates saw the development of grander principal houses, with the attractively laid out, formal policies surrounding them still evident today.

In upland areas there was extensive change, with wholesale depopulation and the demise of the farm townships and shielings. Large areas of land were cleared or abandoned to facilitate the introduction of large-scale sheep farming and gamebird and deer management. In the case of Strathspey, land was turned over to timber. Although some evictions and clearances occurred, the scale of clearances here did not compare with those in the worst affected areas of the west and north Highlands. As the 19th century advanced, more Highland estates were progressively and increasingly given over to deer stalking and other fieldsports, often changing hands in the process.

The characteristic pattern of rural settlements, housing, and farm and estate buildings was established at this time. This saw the increased use of stone as a building material and the adoption of features which were particular to an estate or location. Tourism increased with the development of the railway, and large hotels influenced the development of the towns in the area.

Although this Improvement-based landscape survives as the basis of what we see today, it is nevertheless under pressure, most particularly from modern agricultural and other land-use practices. This is having a particular effect on traditional farm buildings and steadings and on the shape, size and pattern of fields and holdings.

The Archaeology of Land-Use

Evidence from the different stages of land-use development can be summarised to provide an overview of the archaeological landscape of the Cairngorms.

Known archaeological remains within the Park area are divided into two categories, prehistoric monuments dating from 4000 BC to around 1000 AD and mediaeval and post-mediaeval sites, eg farms, townships and shielings. Mapping the distribution of the recorded sites indicates that settlement has been concentrated in the straths and major glens over the Park area as a whole.

The limited extent of systematic archaeological survey in the Cairngorms area places a particular limitation on evidence relating to the prehistoric, which, because the survival of such evidence is dependent on the extent and intensity of subsequent activity, relies largely on field work. The presence of artefacts, however, confirms that human activity has been widespread across the Park from prehistoric times, but little evidence remains other than, for example, stone tools in the valley floors or stone arrowheads on the moorland. This reflects the likelihood that settlement has always been concentrated in the straths and glens, but that the associated continuous activity has affected the availability of evidence. It may be, too, that the lack of evidence of permanent settlement on the higher ground of the plateau reflects its absence, those artefacts found indicating its use for hunting from prehistoric times.

The Historic Landscape Today

The present-day pattern of land-use is relatively modern and reflects cultural change in the latter half of the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries, the period of Improvements in the Highlands. Such was the impact of these changes that only fragmentary evidence of earlier land-use and settlement patterns remains.

The dominant form of land-use today is rough grazing; this is, however, multi-functional, contributing to the livestock farming enterprises of the region as well as fieldsports interests. Much of the land of the Park is owned by large estates, which manage the moorland for its game. This pattern results from the establishment of the area as a destination for fieldsports in the 19th century. The evidence of this sporting management is clearly apparent in the landscape; in particular, the various forms of stalkers' tracks reaching into the mountains and muirburn patterns. Victorian castles and shooting lodges, with their range of associated staff accommodation, stables, kennels and game larders, are still in common use, although poor vehicular access has seen the closure of some of the more outlying ones. High-quality buildings of their type include Mar Lodge. These establishments continue to form a distinctive element of the built heritage in the glens of the Park and form an important part of Scotland's international image.

The regular lowland field patterns and formal farm steadings and housing of the 19th century agricultural improvement period largely persist. Arable cropping is limited overall and tends to be concentrated in areas such as Strathspey; elsewhere improved or rotational grassland is the dominant form of cropping. This lowland landscape is punctuated by plantations of trees, shelter belts or amenity.

There is extensive forestry and woodland, both modern (mainly coniferous) and ancient (mixed coniferous and broadleaf), in the major glens of the Park, with little outwith these

areas. Pinewoods dating back to before the 18th century survive in parts of both Speyside and Deeside. Many of these – for example, on Rothiemurchus Estate – have been in active management over many years.

The impact of human activity on the landscape is evident across the Cairngorms National Park. In the upland and moorland areas this is evidenced by the effects of heather management or woodland practices. The lower lying ground provides a clearer perspective of the cultural influences on the historic landscape and of the dynamic processes of change which continue to influence it.

2.2.2 Designed Landscapes and Gardens

In the broadest terms, the whole area covered by the Park can be considered as a cultural landscape; even the most remote parts of the Park have been modified through human actions. The current pattern of land-use was set in train during the Improvement period of the mid-18th to mid-19th centuries and can be characterised by three zones: a lowland zone comprising settlements, enclosed arable farming and grazing; an upland zone of moorland and rough pasture; and an intermediate zone of woodland and forestry.

The lowland zone has been the most intensely occupied and cultivated of the three identified zones, leaving fewer traces of earlier cultures. The uplands were never intensely cultivated, and their current use for grazing and sport has better preserved the relatively small evidence of earlier periods and peoples. Other than the Cairngorms National Park Authority itself, there is no single organisation that has an overview of all aspects of the agricultural and built environment making up the cultural landscape of the Park. The numerous bodies involved in the component elements of the cultural landscape are identified throughout this report.

Gardens and designed landscapes form a relatively small part of the natural landscape of the Park. The best of these have been identified in the ‘Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland’, published in 1987 by the predecessor bodies to Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage. A supplementary volume covering The Highland Council area was published in 2003. It is likely that further supplementary volumes will be published for other areas of the Park in due course.

The Inventory is not a statutory document, but its importance has been recognised by the requirement under Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Order, Statutory Instrument Number 224, 1992. This requires Planning Authorities to consult the Secretary of State (now Scottish Ministers) where development affects “an historic garden or designed landscape”, defined in Article 2(1) of the Order as one identified in the original Inventory. The Inventory is now an integral part of the Scottish planning system and is reflected in planning authority development plan policies.

Description of Resource/Condition Statement

Types/Elements

The definition of designed landscapes included in the Inventory covers private gardens, country house policies, nurseries, walled gardens, public parks and cemeteries. The majority of the designed landscapes identified within the Park are country house gardens and policies. Components include woodland, parkland, meadows, water features, glass houses, pinetums, kitchen gardens, formal gardens, avenues, drives and approaches, architectural features, statuary, vistas, etc.

Numbers/Quantification

There are nine gardens and designed landscapes identified in the Inventory.

Table 2.2.2: Gardens and Designed Landscapes		
Name	**Council**	**Tourist Board Area**
Balmoral Castle	Aberdeenshire	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands
Candacraig House	Aberdeenshire	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands
Glen Tanar	Aberdeenshire	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands
Invercauld	Aberdeenshire	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands
Aultmore	Highland	Highlands of Scotland
Castle Grant	Highland	Highlands of Scotland
Doune of Rothiemurchus	Highland	Highlands of Scotland
Inshriach Nursery	Highland	Highlands of Scotland
Kinrara	Highland	Highlands of Scotland

Source: Historic Scotland/Scottish Natural Heritage, February 2005

Characteristics

With the exception of Inshriach Nursery, which is a specimen nursery, all the other Inventory gardens and designed landscapes within the Park relate to country houses. Some were designed by professional designers and architects, others by owners and amateurs. A number of the country house gardens/landscapes in the Park exhibit evidence of several layers of landscape relating to different development periods. A good example of this is Doune of Rothiemurchus, where the earliest and most formal components of the landscape (part of a grand avenue) date from the construction of a mansion in the late 17th century. Gardens became more informal throughout the 18th century, after the model of Capability Brown and his follower Thomas White. By the early 19th century, picturesque garden design principles, as set out in Uvedale Price's 1794 'Essay on the Picturesque', had become fashionable; utility and beauty should combine in response to a sense of place. Sir John Peter Grant and his family (including his famous daughter, the diarist Elizabeth Grant) took to the new fashion with gusto and remodelled the Doune gardens, incorporating pretty, thatched cottages with tall chimneys and latticed windows for the estate workers. Kinrara, another Inventory garden, was similarly laid out on picturesque principles by the 4th Duchess of Gordon at about the same time. Later in the 19th century and into the early 20th century the formal garden regained some of its popularity, but this time on a more limited scale and combined with more informal and wild elements. Formal gardens can be found both at Balmoral (1850s) and Aultmore (1912-14).

Classifications/Standards

The landscapes are assessed for significance (Outstanding; High; Some; Little; None) under the following headings:

- As a work of art;
- Historical;
- Horticultural, arboricultural or sylvicultural;
- Architectural;
- Scenic;
- Nature conservation.

Locations/Examples of Significance

Of the nine designated gardens and designed landscapes listed in the Inventory volumes, Balmoral achieves the highest ranking of 'outstanding' in every aspect of significance except horticulture, where it has 'some' value. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert made their first visit to Balmoral in 1848, and improvements to the estate buildings were set in motion ready for

their next visit the following year. In the years 1849-52, negotiations began with the Trustees of the late Earl Fife to buy the Balmoral Estate; meantime, further improvements were made to the estate woodland, paths and gardens. James Giles, who had helped to design the gardens at Haddo House for Lord Aberdeen, is said to have helped the landscape gardener Beattie to lay out the new gardens at Balmoral (and later at Windsor).

New plantations were started on Craig Gowan in the early 1850s, and many exotic conifer trees were planted by the Prince Consort along the drive. In the 1850s, Queen Victoria recorded in her diary that "Albert is very busy supervising the plantations and laying out the grounds, which no one understands as well as he does." Some of the site drawings and parterre designs submitted for his approval were by John and William Smith, and at least one, a revised design, was by John Thomas. In 1857 a new bridge over the River Dee was built to designs by Brunel. In 1859, having completed extensive improvements to the grounds, the Prince Consort turned his attention to improvements to the farm buildings, including, in 1861, plans for a model dairy. Prince Albert died suddenly of typhoid at Windsor in that year, but Queen Victoria continued with his planned improvements to Balmoral. The tenants subscribed for a monument to Prince Albert's memory, which was raised in the form of an obelisk.

The present design of the policies at Balmoral has remained largely unchanged since the 1850s, as revealed by the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1868. There are references to the landscape gardener James Beattie and the artist James Giles assisting Prince Albert with the design of the grounds. Plans for the parterres exist, drawn up by John and William Smith and by John Thomas. The layout of many of the estate paths was designed for Queen Victoria. The gardens and grounds are open to the public during the summer months.

Policies/Strategies/Legislation

- Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Order, Statutory Instrument Number 224, 1992;
- Scottish Ministers' National Planning Policy Guideline 18, Planning and the Historic Environment, April 1999;
- Strategy and Local Plan policies for each planning authority area.

Trends

The Park sites are less vulnerable to damage by wind farm developments than many Inventory sites. As elsewhere, the condition of the gardens is usually closely linked to the condition of the main house. Multiple ownership can hinder a co-ordinated approach to the management of a unified landscape design. Disease, particularly in the elm population (eg the avenues of golden elms at Aultmore), is a significant problem. While all the Inventory sites are in private ownership, several are open to the public on certain days or by appointment, either under the aegis of Scotland's Gardens Scheme or through separate arrangement.

Organisations/Sources of Data

- Historic Scotland;
- Scottish Natural Heritage;
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland;
- Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland and Moray Councils;
- Garden History Society.

Brief Bibliography

- Historic Scotland/Scottish Natural Heritage, Inventory of Designed Landscapes in Scotland (1987);

- Historic Scotland/Scottish Natural Heritage, Inventory of Designed Landscapes; Supplementary Volume 2: Highland & Islands (2003);
- John Gifford, Buildings of Scotland – Highland & Islands (1992);
- Ian Shepherd, Exploring Scotland's Heritage – Grampian (1986);
- Ian Shepherd, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Gordon (1994);
- Jane Geddes, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Deeside and the Mearns (2001);
- Charles McKean, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Moray (1987).

Monitoring/Updating
No formal, systematic monitoring of Inventory landscapes takes place. However, casework arising from the 1992 General Development Procedure Order is referred to by both Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage, and the Garden History Society also provides comments on schemes where possible. Comment generally relates to developments (ie works requiring planning permission) within the boundary of an Inventory landscape. In this way some informal monitoring of the resource does occur, but there are no powers to prevent development that would damage the designed landscape. The Inventory is being extended through the addition of supplementary sites, but only those located in the The Highland Council area of the Park have been added so far.

Pointers for Indicators
The Inventory volumes form a good baseline against which measurement of change in the condition of designed landscapes and gardens could be made.

2.2.3 Land Ownership and Management

Introduction
Such is its fundamental importance to the area that understanding the evolution of agriculture as a land-use in the Cairngorms is essential to any understanding of the culture of the area as a whole.

The agricultural landscape and culture we see today reflect the changes which arose as a result of the Improvements in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. These changes had a profound influence on land tenure and management and associated social structures, with a move away from community-based approaches to larger scale farming, from a focus on subsistence to a focus on productivity. Change continues today through modern policy and practices such as the advent of the Common Market and the associated market interventions, regulatory and support regimes.

The pattern of land ownership and tenure in the Cairngorms National Park area is distinctive to the Highlands of Scotland. A very large proportion of the land is owned by large estates with various interests, including agriculture and sporting; this is reflected in the very extensive area of moorland and rough grazing, some 88% of the total agricultural land area within the Park boundary. In size terms the distribution of land management units is skewed, with a small number of very large hill farms (often in excess of 1,000 hectares) and estates. A high proportion of farmers are tenant farmers, although there has been an apparent shift towards owner-occupation in recent times.

One area of change has been the increasing involvement of conservation and environmentally oriented organisations in land ownership and management in the Park area. In the case of

some of the key cultural assets within the Park, eg Mar Lodge and Abernethy Forest, this involvement is on a large scale.

History of Agriculture

In 1690 Scotland had a population of around one million, 50% of whom lived north of the Tay, with 25% in the Highland counties. The population at that time was predominantly rural, 90% of the total living and working on the land. The accompanying social structure was clearly stratified and linked to land ownership and tenure.

Tenure

The pattern of land ownership has deep historical roots dating back to the nobility and Highland chiefs in pre-Improvement times; these were small in number and held heritable tenure form the King. Landowners not of noble rank were known as lairds, and their tenure in the main was as sub-vassals of the nobility. After the '45 rebellion the principal form of tenure was known as 'feuferme', which was based on cash obligation rather than the previous feudal duty (although in some areas the feudal approach persisted, with the number of men on an estate considered more important than the rent). The financial commitment associated with 'feuferme' put land beyond the reach of the peasant classes and provided opportunities for the old nobility, lairds and urban incomers to add to their estates or buy for the first time. Tenants or tacksmen leased large portions of estates from lairds and sublet to tenants for money or rent in kind, effectively middlemen between those who owned the land and the peasants who worked it. The majority of the population could be described as peasants, and the farmtouns they occupied had distinct social structures practising a form of mass tenure.

Production and Systems

As is the case today, the productive potential of agriculture was substantially determined by its physical and climatic characteristics. In the areas of more fertile and easily worked alluvial soils in the straths and valley floors arable, activity appears to have been practised from early times. Livestock production prevailed as the principal form of farming, with farmtouns located in the glens engaging in communal farming (land and hill grazings). Highland peasants were primarily herdsmen keeping cattle, sheep and goats. The principal form of produce was black cattle produced to provide milk, meat, tallow and leather. Goats were kept in large numbers as a dairy and meat animal (there is one report of 100,000 goat skins being sent to London in a single year at the end of the 17th century). Sheep were kept for the production of wool, meat and tallow. Although some oats were grown, the area as a whole was a net importer of grain and exporter of livestock, in particular cattle. The black cattle and other surplus produce such as dairy products were traded or exchanged for meal in market towns such as Dunkeld, Kirriemuir and Inverness on the frontier of the Cairngorms area.

On the land around the farmtoun a system of runrig or, more commonly periodic runrig, was operated. Such rig systems were extensive in the pre-Improvement period and produced crops for human consumption. Each person farmed a number of sections or rigs, which were often widely scattered and managed in such a way as to make sure that everyone had a share of the best and worst rigs. Stubbles and straw were used for livestock feed for those animals which were overwintered. The allocation of rigs and grazings was undertaken by birlaymen, in process known as 'souming'. The birlaymen also had responsibility for regulating herding, a tradition which continues formally today in crofting common grazings. The runrig system, was not, however, a system designed to maximise productivity. Runrigs around farmsteads and townships are evident today in the upland areas on the margins of the modern agricultural landscape, ie beyond the limits of improved fields.

Townships made use of high-level grazings in summer, practising a form of transhumance. Tenants took their cattle to what were known as shielings in the better areas of summer grazing. Shieling huts, often singly or in groups within an enclosure, served as temporary

summer accommodation for herdsmen and their families. Extensive evidence of these settlements remains, located as they are above the areas of cultivation (although there has been damage to some sites through afforestation). During their time on the shielings (usually around six weeks), people produced cheese and butter before returning to the lower ground for harvest. Many of the animals were sold before the onset of winter due to the lack of winter keep. Retained livestock could often become so emaciated that it was necessary to carry cattle to grass on turnout; this resulted in the Highland tradition of 'lifting day'.

Crofting was practised in scattered townships throughout the Park area. Crofters appear to have been differentiated from cottars and other peasants by the larger scale of their sub-tenancies, with their own small area of in-bye land and a number of animals. Today crofting persists only in the Badenoch and Strathspey area of the Park where, according to the latest Agricultural Census data from the Scottish Executive Economic and Rural Affairs Department, it is concentrated on Speyside and the upper Spey valley, with a total of 78 holdings classed as croft holdings.

Relics and interpretation of this period may be found today in museums across the area, most particularly at the Highland Folk Museum sites at Kingussie and Newtonmore.

Agricultural Improvement

Between 1750 and 1850 a succession of influences and events changed the face of agriculture in the Cairngorms. Three main factors contributed to this – agricultural improvements, changes in land tenure and the associated development of sporting interests and tourism. This section deals with the effects of agricultural improvements.

It is suggested by some commentators that agricultural improvements came late to the Highlands; however, the movement was clearly underway when the Highland Agricultural Society was formed in 1784. It did progress rather slowly in some areas, taking a considerable time to reach Strathspey, where clachan townships near Coilcriech to the west of Ballater still farmed traditional strips in 1837. The improving movement sought to apply the economic and social ideas of the Scottish Enlightenment to agriculture, which can be seen to have affected agriculture's physical footprint, its production techniques and the people involved in them.

The physical manifestations of improvement were significant. The previous system was dismantled, townships were abandoned or done away with and their populations, along with their collective farm systems, dispersed. Land was divided into larger packets, which formed bigger farms, with formal structures, planned steadings and larger, stone-built farmhouse in distinctive vernacular styles (what would be considered a traditional farm today). Fields were laid out on better land, with new, formal structures, often bounded by dry-stone dykes. Drainage was undertaken and land improved. New crops and systems were introduced, particularly rotations including fodder crops that allowed animals to be improved and overwintered. New machinery such as the iron plough was also introduced at this time. In the uplands large numbers of sheep were introduced, at first in large sheepwalks; but it soon became apparent that sheep could not overwinter in these conditions, and they became confined to areas where better wintering was available.

There were significant population shifts associated with these land management changes, but not in the sense of clearances as occurred in other parts of the Highlands. The population did fall in many parishes in the Park between 1755 and 1811, but this is attributed to mass voluntary emigration and army recruiting (D Nethersole-Thompson and A Watson).

Modern Agriculture

From the time of the Improvers through the first half of the 20th century the focus of agricultural production was food security for the growing urban population, particularly influenced by the Great Wars of the period. Intervention by European agricultural support regimes under the Common Agricultural Policy have had highly significant effects on modern farming, with high levels of reliance on agricultural subsidy affecting enterprises, employment and land management practice. During the late 1980s and the 1990s the advent of the Environmentally Sensitive Areas Agri-environment Scheme saw payment for environmental benefits effect changes in land management and farming practice. In general, however, the impact of Common Agricultural Policy schemes is seen to have been environmentally negative, encouraging high levels of stocking through headage payments. Further changes in these subsidy regimes resulting from the 2004 Common Agricultural Policy's Mid-Term Review has seen the introduction of Single Farm Payments and greater freedom to farm, ie the freedom to farm in a more market responsive manner rather than in pursuit of subsidy. While these changes reflect the public's expectations with regard to the public good which can be expected in return for subsidy payment, there are concerns that the basis of these payments will not reflect the agricultural potential and distinctiveness of the area.

As mentioned, crofting continues to be practised in Badenoch and Strathspey, where records show a total of 78 crofts of an average size of circa 40 hectares per croft, which is much larger than the crofting norm. Substantially owner-occupied (70% as opposed to the crofting norm of 20%), these crofts are often held in conjunction with other owner-occupied or tenanted farmland. The area has only a small number of common grazings, and therefore few of the current crofting tenants work on a collective community/traditional township basis. Sheep farming predominates, with an increase in sheep numbers over the last 20 years and a drop in cropping activity.

The coherence of the crofting community appears to be at some risk at present, with tensions existing over new directions in land management and stewardship and concern over how to maximise the earning potential or capital value of land.

The principal source of data relating to agriculture is the Annual Census conducted by the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department.

The features and relics of the pre-Improvement landscape have become confined to those areas where they have not been subject to successive agricultural activities. If managed sympathetically, damage from modern farming or forestry practice can be avoided, but this requires that those involved are well-informed.

Although the Improvement landscape is seen to have survived relatively extensively, it is under pressure from the impact of modern land-use on both field patterns and traditional buildings. Modernisation has very considerably altered the character and destroyed much of the historic interest of many vernacular, domestic buildings. Associated farm buildings such as steadings and mills become ruinous as agriculture changes. Given the contribution of these buildings to the character and quality of the historic landscape, their physical deterioration is considered to be an area of high risk and a priority for action.

2.2.4 Forestry and Woodland

Introduction

This section concentrates on human involvement in forests and woodland in the Cairngorms National Park area and its importance to the cultural heritage of the area. The section outlines the current woodland resource and its characteristics and goes on to describe the socio-

economic history of the Park's woodland and its exploitation and management over centuries. Finally, the section considers modern woodland activity and its links to other forms of land-use and economic activity and to communities within the Park. Data used relates to the slightly larger Cairngorms Partnership area, precursor of the current National Park.

Characteristics

Outwith the open hill land the Cairngorms landscape is a mosaic of woodland, farmland, settlement and open water, with woodland representing 28% of the land below 600 metres, slightly less than the area of improved farmland and semi-natural grassland. The Cairngorms area covers some 8% of Scotland's land mass, containing almost 25% of the country's native woodland, but only 5.6% of its plantation woodland. Most of the semi-natural woodland is concentrated in the main river valleys, particularly upper Speyside and Deeside. As a consequence, woodland distribution is fragmented. Providing habitats for specialist species such as the red squirrel and the capercaillie, woodland is critical to the biodiversity of the area.

Woodland is found principally on the mid-slopes between cultivated farmland and moorland. On the low ground there are shelter belts and smaller areas of decorative, amenity woodland, or policies on large estates which provide a high degree of definition to the landscape. This concentration close to settlements and transport corridors heightens the visual impact and perceived contribution to landscape, suggesting a greater coverage than actually exists.

Non-native conifer plantations account for 21% of woodland. Planted mainly in the second half of the 20th century, these areas are now being restructured in a less rectilinear fashion more appropriate to the landscape.

Such woodland is of high importance in both local and national scenic and environmental contexts.

Woodland Type

Woodland in the Park area is predominantly native. Some 80% of the woodland in the Park is coniferous, with Scots pine the most common species present in native Caledonian pinewoods, self-sown pinewoods and planted pinewoods. Non-native conifers and birch are the next most common types.

Native pinewoods are concentrated in Speyside and Deeside. Mixed forms of land-use are set within predominantly native woodland, with associated woods of planted and self-sown Scots pine. Woods in these areas are substantially interlinked and contain some 70% of the total woodland resource of the Park area (Scottish Natural Heritage Geographical Information System Datasets).

The woodland of the Angus Glens is principally birchwood on the glen sides. There are extensive plantations of non-native conifers, both within the Park and on its fringes.

Overall the resource comprises core areas of surviving native pinewoods (85% of the designated Natura 2000 woodland lies within the Cairngorms), scattered, native, broadleaf woods (principally birch and often associated with agriculture) and a large resource of planted woods. In the north these are predominantly woods of native species, with Scots pine the only native, productive conifer which is considered to generate economic, environmental and social benefits.

History

Following the last Ice Age the Cairngorms area was recolonised some 10,000 years ago by birch, juniper and willow, becoming dominated by Scots pine around 7,500 years ago. The extent of woodland cover is thought to have peaked between 5,000 and 7,000 years ago.

Human involvement in woodland increased slowly over time with the development of agriculture and associated settlements. This saw areas cleared for cultivation in the valley bottoms, with trees also providing timber for housing and fuel. Livestock was allowed to graze in forests, thereby impairing regeneration and forest cover. By the mid 17th century this had resulted in large areas, including Donside and lower parts of the Dee and Spey, being cleared of tree cover, and by the early 18th century most of the woods in Angus had been cleared. The native pinewoods and birchwoods in upper Deeside and Strathspey survived and were treated by lairds as economic assets, providing income and local employment. However, poor roads made extraction difficult. There is evidence of sustainable management practices and skills being developed as part of an integrated approach to land management, involving a regulated system of grazing and woodland husbandry.

Levels of timber extraction increased from the mid-18th century to generate the funds required for implementing agricultural improvements and the associated built infrastructure. Extraction and export, mostly for shipbuilding, were facilitated by rafting timber down the main rivers, the Dee and Spey. Much of this woodland was not replanted. Cheap timber imports, agricultural improvement, the development of extensive sporting land-use and the associated grazing pressures contributed to this.

By the mid-20th century woodland cover in the Cairngorms had reached its lowest level with the extensive felling caused by the two world wars. The need for reforestation was recognised by government, the Forestry Commission and landowners, and as a result extensive reforestation, principally through planting, took place in the 40-year period up to 1990. Species planted were differentiated by suitability to soil type, with the more productive, non-native species such as Sitka and larch on the better land in the south of the Park area, and Scots pine in the poorer soils of Deeside and Strathspey.

Current Activity

Management and Policy

The Forestry Commission Scotland serves as the Scottish Executive's forestry department. It manages national forest land owned by Scottish Ministers for multiple benefits, including public recreation, timber production and nature conservation; supports other woodland owners with grants, felling licences, advice and regulation; promotes the benefits of forests and forestry; and advises Ministers on forestry policy.

The Forestry Commission delivers its regulatory and grant-funding activities through regional conservancies. Three of the five Scottish conservancies (Highland, Perth and Argyll and Grampian) cover parts of the Park area.

Forest Enterprise Scotland is responsible for the management of woodland in public ownership in Scotland. Its organisational structure divides Scotland into 15 forest management districts, four of which have an active involvement in the Park area (Moray, Buchan, Kincardine and Tay). Forest Enterprise has no District Offices located within the Park area.

The Forestry Commission Scotland is increasingly interested in woodland contribution to sustainable development and funds a wide range of activities which enhance the social and environmental benefits arising from forests.

The National Forest Land Scheme offers a range of opportunities for communities located in forested areas of the Park and covers:

- Community acquisition of land by purchase or lease;
- Land for affordable housing;
- Sponsored sale of surplus land.

An example of the type of approach likely to be supported under this scheme is Anagach Wood near Grantown-on-Spey. This woodland has been bought and is now owned and managed by the community in what the Forestry Commission Scotland recognises as a nationally significant initiative.

Other initiatives within the Park area involving the Forestry Commission Scotland and Forest Enterprise Scotland include:

- Work in support of capercaillie re-establishment;
- The Forest of Spey Project Partnership involving Scottish Natural Heritage, the Local Enterprise Company, The Highland Council and the Cairngorms National Park Authority in support of a range of social, environmental and economic projects;
- Work on the Deeside Forest.

A notable project example in this context is the restoration of woodland in the Natura site at Kinveachy involving the Seafield Estate, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Deer Commission for Scotland and the Forestry Commission Scotland.

Timber Production
The age profile of the timber resource in the Park shows a high proportion of young, planted timber. Peak annual timber output from this resource is expected to occur around 2020, lagging behind the Scottish peak due to the proportion of Scots pine.

Employment
An accurate estimate for employment in the forest and woodland sector is problematic. Given the influence of infrastructural and technological improvements, it has declined from previous peaks. The Cairngorms Forest and Woodland Framework of 1999 estimates between 2 to300 full-time equivalent staff supported by direct, forestry-related employment in the area. The 2002 Annual Business Inquiry identifies only 65 full-time equivalent staff in forestry logging and related activities. The cyclical and itinerant nature of much forestry-related employment is clearly a factor; notwithstanding, employment can be expected to increase significantly as timber output reaches its peak.

The woodland resource is of great importance in sustaining a wider range of associated employment, eg keepers and stalkers involved, particularly, in roe stalking and pheasant shoots, those involved in recreation such as motorsports, riding, walking, cycling and countryside ranger services. Woodland thus contributes through sport, tourism and recreation to the wider economy and society of the area.

Native Woodland
In recent years there has been an increasing interest in native woodland, both in general and specifically within the Park. Organisations such as Scottish Native Woods and Highland Birchwoods have been actively involved in the Park area, promoting the socio-economic and environmental benefits of native woodland and undertaking project activity in support of woodland managers. Scottish Native Woods has been successful in securing European Union funding for activities undertaken by woodland owners, managers and forest contractors which

target the economic benefits deriving from diversification of the rural business base through woodland management.

Relationship with Other Activities
Woodland and other activities may either complement each other or exist in tension. Tensions principally arise over conflicting land-use practices. For example, areas of semi-natural forest are affected by neighbouring land-uses, and any extension of existing semi-natural forest through natural regeneration would require a change from other land-uses such as grouse moor, open country deer stalking, plantation forestry and agriculture. The Forestry Commission Scotland recognises and promotes an increasing focus on woodland multi-functionality, particularly in relation to tourism and recreation quality and the contribution made to this by woodland biodiversity. The total value of social and environmental benefits deriving from forestry in the UK was estimated in 2003 to be in the region of £1 billion.

Biodiversity and Nature Conservation
This subject is addressed in the Natural Resources Chapter and Annex.

Moorland Land-Use
Moorland forms the largest part of the Park area, and its management practices in relation to sheep, deer and grouse limit woodland regeneration and expansion. Red deer are the main agents preventing natural regeneration of woodland, and management of this population without extensive fencing (which would impact on the landscape and other activities) is a priority. Effective rabbit control will also significantly contribute to regeneration. Sheep can be managed in a manner compatible with woodland regeneration, but viability of this approach is dependent on support regimes. Large-scale woodland expansion would, however, have a negative impact on red grouse shooting.

Agriculture
Farmers are being encouraged to become more actively involved in woodland and its management, both through policy interventions and the involvement of organisations such as Scottish Native Woods. Given the limitations of agricultural productivity, small-scale woodland provides a significant diversification opportunity and also contributes to other forms of activity, eg sport and recreation (large-scale afforestation of agricultural land would, however, damage the distinctive and valuable habitats associated with farming).

Water
Sensitive woodland expansion can have positive benefits, eg protection of water quality, reduction in erosion and silting and stabilisation of riverbanks. In particular, broadleaved woods improve spawning conditions for the economically and environmentally important migratory fish species. However, large-scale planting has in the past had serious, negative effects, and modern forestry practice seeks to avoid a repetition of this.

Landscape
Recent work for the Forestry Commission placed monetary values against different aspects of woodland contribution to the landscape. One value indicated that the presence of appropriately-managed and planned woodland can add between 4-7% to house prices.

Community Development
Bottom-up principles of rural development now ensure the direct involvement of local communities in decisions regarding forestry; this is reflected in the approach of the Forestry Commission Scotland outlined above. Different forms of stakeholding in woodland are now developing, eg the examples of the Anagach Woods Trust and the Forest of Birse

Community Trust (which, although within the former Partnership area, now lies outwith the Park).

Recreation/Amenity
Forests and woodland provide a venue and setting for outdoor recreational activity such as walking, viewing wildlife, mountain biking and many other activities. There are many examples within the Park of tourism and visitor attractions which depend on or utilise this resource. Examples from the Cairngorms Forest and Woodland Framework include:

- The Nethy Bridge Interpretive Plan and Footpath Network;
- The upgrading of footpaths in Grantown-on-Spey;
- The Upper Deeside Access Trust, which is working to mitigate access problems and develop opportunities.

While there are opportunities associated with woodland recreation, there are also potential and actual costs, eg environmental degradation, which are difficult to quantify or apportion.

Cultural and Built Heritage
Woodland development is recognised as impacting on important archaeological sites and historic buildings and their contribution to the wider cultural heritage and historic landscape. There is a clear need to protect monuments and sites; this includes survey to ensure that unrecorded remains are not lost. There is also the opportunity in some cases to improve the protection of sites through appropriately-designed forestry and woodland.

Interpretation
Modern and historic woodland activity is interpreted at a number of sites in the Park area. Prominent examples include the Forest Enterprise site at Glenmore, which links informally with Rothiemurchus Estate, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds facility at Abernethy (linking birdlife with woodland and the wider environment), the Highland Folk Museum and the Landmark facility at Newtonmore. A number of these facilities are interactive and effectively constitute visitor attractions in their own right; thus a direct link to visitors and the tourism industry is established. Further information on these sites, visitor numbers and trends is provided in the Visitor and Recreation Resources Chapter and Annex.

2.2.5 Sporting Management

Introduction
Deer stalking and other forms of shooting have long been an important element of the culture of the Cairngorms, providing important revenue for landowners and managers. The red deer population in the Cairngorms is of international significance for its herd size and population density. Moorland gamebirds, particularly the red grouse, black grouse and ptarmigan, are also vitally important to the culture and economy of the area. on the low ground pheasant and partridge shoots are valuable components of the sporting package. Angling, particularly for salmon, completes the range of fieldsports offered by estates in the area. The management of these assets is woven into the fabric of land-use and management throughout the Park area.

The modern-day importance of sporting activity and associated estates can be traced back to prehistoric origins. The richness of the resource and generations of change are linked with changes in agriculture and associated land-use. Archaeological evidence of hunting activity going back some 4,000 years is limited. There are remains of traditional deer forests (eg Abernethy) from the pre-Improvement period. There are also the land management features and systems which we see today and the associated castles, mansions, lodges and other buildings so characteristic of the area.

Prehistoric
Archaeological records provide evidence of a history of human habitation and hunting going back some 6,000 years. The human history of hunting on the Cairngorm Plateau is evidenced by finds such as a flint arrowhead around 4,000 years old. Game and other species at this time would have been rather different from that which is present today and would have included species of deer, reindeer, brown bear, wild boar, beaver and wild ox.

Pre-Improvement
There is little evidence available from early mediaeval times, but it is thought that large areas of forest were cleared, with a resultant impact on the species of wild animal occupying that habitat. During this time the brown bear, wild boar and wild ox became extinct. The hunting of deer in the Cairngorms goes back at least to the 12th century. The traditional method was to drive deer with men and hounds. In 1529 there was a great drive for King James V on Atholl where "thretti scoir [600] of hart and hynd, with other small beasties, sic as roe and roe-buck were slain." In 1563, the Earl of Atholl organised a hunt for Queen Mary where 2,000 Highlanders drove 2,000 deer from the lands of Atholl, Badenoch, Mar and Moray (Ritchie, 1920). Writing in 1618 John Taylor records 1,500 men and horse conducting a drive in which 80 deer were killed in a two-hour period. This method is reported to have persisted until the early part of the 20th century. The rich diversity of game in the Cairngorms was clearly a major asset; one 1786 report records a gamebag of 561 birds and mammals of 15 different species, together with 1,126 fish. Salmon fishing at this time was carried out as a communal activity to provide food for working people. This was done using nets, lights and pronged forks known as 'leisters'.

Man and his sheep and cattle appear to have had a considerable influence on deer populations over time, with grazing livestock outnumbering deer. As hill stocks of cattle and sheep increased in the 18th century, red deer numbers over much of Scotland were reduced, as they were regarded as competitors for the important grazings. By 1811, only six deer forests remained with substantial numbers of red deer, three of which were Mar, Atholl (on the fringe of the Park) and Invercauld. The Duke of Gordon let his Badenoch deer forests for grazing after 1745, letting another area as a sheep farm in 1788. Rothiemurchus apparently introduced red calves from Mar in 1843 to create a deer forest. Parts of Mar and Atholl are unusual in never having been affected by hill sheep in significant numbers (the Stirling-Maxwell Report (1922) mentions that they had never had sheep). Consequently, the core area of the Cairngorms has probably had more continuous use by red deer than anywhere else in the Highlands.

Improvement and the Balmoral Influence
A number of factors came together in the first half on the 19th century, which resulted in the development of the culture of fieldsports which persists today. The changes in land management patterns associated with increased numbers of sheep and the development of the agricultural improvement movement occurred around the same time as fieldsports became more accessible (due in part to the advent of the railway) and popular (due in part to changes in patterns of land ownership). As the 19th century advanced, more and more Highland estates (many of them acquiring new proprietors in the process) were given over increasingly to deer stalking and other fieldsports.

The better soils associated with base-rich rocks in the southern and eastern glens, eg those in Angus and Donside, were able to support larger stocks of game and encouraged the development of some sporting estates in the 19th century. Deer stalking and grouse shooting became popular pastimes and status symbols for the wealthy from the 1840s onwards. Employment increased as lairds and shooting tenants employed large numbers of gamekeepers, deer watchers, ghillies and stalkers. The early 19th century saw increased

management of moorland, as gamekeepers and shepherds introduced practices such as muirburn (the practice of burning strips of rank vegetation to provide young shoots for sheep, deer and gamebirds).

Lairds and wealthy sporting tenants built or upgraded mansions, castles and shooting lodges such as Mar Lodge, Invermark, Balmoral and Invercauld. Sporting infrastructure, such as bridges, bothies, roads and hill paths, was developed. Estates which owned stretches of the main salmon rivers of the Spey and Dee developed these assets as salmon angling became a status sport. Amenity woodland, gardens and fine policies were developed around these establishments. Domestic staff and gardeners were employed to service these facilities.

The status associated with engaging in fieldsports made participation almost obligatory for members of the late 19th century elite. This was confirmed by the purchase of the Deeside estate of Balmoral by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert following their 1848 holiday there. The purchase and subsequent building of the new castle in 1852 gave the Royal seal of approval to the area and its sporting culture, establishing the origins of Royal Deeside. It also served to confirm the notion that anyone who was anyone in high society should be spending their summers stalking deer, shooting grouse and fishing for trout or salmon.

Thus the heyday of the sporting estates came into being, with their defining contribution to much of the landscape and culture of the Cairngorms. Sporting estates continue to be an important feature of the area today, if not on the grand scale seen previously.

The Current Importance

Sporting estates remain vitally important to the economy, environment and culture of the Park today. The Game Conservancy Trust estimates that there are 44 sporting estates in the Park with at least two sporting activities, and between 80-90% of the Park area is involved in some form of sporting interest. A survey of landowners within the Cairngorms Partnership area recently showed that around 250,000 hectares of the Park area is managed for sporting and game conservation, and that this activity supports around 250 full-time equivalent posts on 59 estates. In common with other land-based activities, employment levels have dropped significantly. Estates now employ an average of 4.2 full-time equivalent sporting staff (Cairngorms Partnership Estates Survey 2000). While farm rationalisation, mechanisation and new practices have had a significant effect on agriculture, estates and their staff have been subject to additional pressures, particularly the effects of increased taxation and death duties in the first half of the 20th century. The associated lack of management impacted on the quality of sport, which in turn had further consequences. In some cases the economics of grouse moors were so poor that a number of Speyside moors were bought for tree planting by the Forestry Commission in the 1950s and early 1960s.

Sport has become less elitist and is no longer as dominated by the lengthy lease of large beats or shoots. There is now greater opportunity for individuals to engage in sport, be it fishing or shooting, on a daily or per rod/gun basis. The overseas market has grown, and the increasing involvement of agents has seen European guns coming to Scotland to shoot all types of game. Grouse shooting, however, is the exception to this trend (73.4% of moors, with only 12.2% let on a daily or per gun basis) and remains predominantly owner-managed (University of Strathclyde: Economic Study of Scottish Grouse Moors, Update 2001).

Diversification

In common with other forms of land management, Cairngorms estates have in recent years in diversified their activities, most particularly into countryside recreation. The 2000 Estates Survey conducted by the Cairngorms Partnership surveyed estates across the following range of activity categories:

- Woodland;
- Fieldsports;
- Agriculture;
- Nature Conservation;
- Commerce and Tourism;
- Outdoor Recreation and Access;
- Housing and the Local Community.

Most of these can be further broken down into a range of more specific activities, demonstrating the complex and multi-functional nature of these large land holdings. The commerce and tourism category is subdivided into a further 10 categories, one being the reported 18 land managers who provide 29 different types of paid visitor attractions. The most popular form of diversification is letting self-catering tourist accommodation. Specific examples of innovative approaches by estates are as follows:

- Dalhousie Estate and Tarfside village illustrate ongoing and long-term partnership working between community and estate, including the donation of a building by the estate for use as a community resource centre housing small business units and heritage interpretation.

- Rothiemurchus Estate offers a wide range of organised and structured activities, such as off-road driving, clay pigeon shooting and farm tours. The estate also provides corporate recreation for business clients.

- Although outwith the Park, Kincardine O'Neil illustrates the scope for estates to diversify and generate income through housing provision. The estate generates social benefits by providing affordable housing for local people

Land Reform

Two pieces of recent legislation relating to land reform have been enacted by the Scottish Parliament and are likely to impact on estates and sporting management.

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 establishes statutory rights of access to land and inland water for outdoor recreation. The Statutory right of responsible access commenced on 9 February 2005. The introduction of the Act and its underpinning Code is the culmination of some 10 years of intense debate, consultation and negotiation with a diverse range of interested parties. The Act is regarded as a landmark piece of legislation, which establishes wide-ranging rights of non-motorised public access to the outdoors for recreation, education and certain commercial purposes. The Act also establishes a community right to buy and a crofting right to buy, which may lead to some uncertainty among landowners.

The Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 provides for changes in agricultural tenure. The most important provision in this context is the additional freedom to diversify which it gives to tenants.

2.2.6 Food and Drink

The Cairngorms area does not possess a particularly distinctive or notable cuisine. Food production potential is limited by soil, climate and terrain, while agricultural production is livestock-oriented, with only a small range of finished, saleable product of local origin. Meat and livestock production is of regional significance, both historically and today. Malt whisky is of growing economic significance and is of high current and historical importance in terms

of local cultural identity. Its social and economic importance may now be regarded as international.

Food History

In common with much of rural Scotland, food for the common people in the Cairngorms area was traditionally plain and largely restricted to what could be grown locally. Life was hard for the people of the Cairngorms and even into the 19th century famine was common (‘The Cairngorms’, D Nethersole-Thompson and A Watson).

The staple diet was oatmeal, milk when available, butter and cheese, poultry, eggs and fish (herring brought in from the coast and possibly salmon). Kale came into the Highlands first in the late 17th century, hence ‘kailyard’ (literally meaning the cabbage garden), and it became a staple of the diet. In Alvie it is reported that in the early 19th century potatoes and milk were the normal diet, as the greatest part of the small amount of butter and cheese that was made was sold to pay the rent (trade was also conducted in dairy products in exchange for meal from the Lowlands). Meat consumption was extremely rare; beef, mutton and poultry were luxuries in which small tenants only indulged at marriage feasts, baptisms, Christmas and New Year.

Dining for the well-to-do was an entirely different matter. In her ‘Memoirs of a Highland Lady’ Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus reports of the locally-based produce that “game was so plentiful, red deer, roe, hares, grouse, ptarmigan and partridges; the river provided trout and salmon, the different lochs pike and char; the garden abounded in common fruits and common vegetables. Cranberries and raspberries ran over the country and the poultry yard was ever well furnished.” The following items, which include imported produce, appear on a dinner menu from the Dalnacardoch Inn in 1786: pudding, greens, trout and char, roast mutton, chickens, cold hams, snipes, Cheshire cheese, biscuits, wines, claret, port, limes, Jamaica rum and porter.

Drink

Home whisky production was popular, although ale was the normal drink for the common people. The first written record of whisky in Scotland was in 1494, and Speyside has always been an important area in the history of whisky. With its abundant supplies of fresh water, notably the River Spey, the River Avon and the River Livet, and easy access to barley and peat on the moorland hills, everything was readily available for distilling whisky. It was accepted that most farmers produced some whisky for their own consumption. The steep terrain and narrow pathways of the area recall the old smugglers' roads to the key cities in the Lowlands. This mountainous region was virtually inaccessible during the 17th and early 18th centuries, so illegal distilling was a favourite pastime. In the late 18th and early 19th century whisky was distilled in saleable quantities in every glen, with kegs exported via the drove routes. It has been reported that there were as many as 14 stills in Glen Tanar alone in 1830, and that whisky was exported over Mount Keen to Glen Esk.

Trouble came when farmers started to sell whisky, and the government decided that such stocks should be taxed. Most farmers refused to pay. One landowner, the Duke of Gordon, worked with others to introduce a law legalising whisky distilling. Licensing of whisky was introduced in Scotland in 1823, with one of the Duke of Gordon’s own tenants, George Smith, applying for the first licence to distil whisky at The Glenlivet Distillery in 1824.

Food Today

Food production remains of high social and economic importance to the area, although this relates primarily to agricultural production rather than to a distinctive local tradition.

The Cairngorms National Park Authority's 2005 Sustainable Tourism Strategy states that the area "has a reasonable number of places to eat including restaurants, inns, cafés and tearooms. However, it has not established a reputation for local cuisine and the extent to which local produce is used is unclear."

There is an established and growing visitor demand for local produce. The Cairngorms Visitor Survey of 2003 shows that 85% of visitors to the area agree or agree strongly that they would like more local dishes based on the Park's traditional food resources. There is, therefore, an increased interest in local produce, which reflects wider trends.

The Cairngorms National Park Authority aims to develop a National Park brand and promote and mange its use by businesses. 'Food Production and Processing in the Cairngorms National Park', a report by Ann Edwards, was commissioned to collect baseline information on the number and types of food producers and processors within the Park.

The survey identifies 130 farms, crofts and estates engaged in the production of food, mainly beef, lamb and venison. No dairy or pig farmers responded, and none from the Park area were listed in directories under these classifications. Most crops and vegetables are grown for animal feed and home consumption, with very little grown for sale.

Around 60% of producers indicate an interest in some form of Cairngorms brand, although there is no clear vision of what this would look like. However, with the exception of Rothiemurchus Estate, there is little evidence that producers currently sell produce directly to the public. A substantial part of the production is of store livestock, with little processing or value-adding activity.

The Edwards Survey identifies 21 food and drink processors based in the Park area; seven butchers, six distilleries, a brewery, a fish farm, a game dealer, a smoke house, a sweet manufacturer and two mineral water bottlers. Most of these sell directly to the public and would be interested in a Cairngorms brand, although the range of produce is clearly limited. At present there is no distinctive characteristic evident which would appear to define a National Park brand.

The Rothiemurchus Larder is at the forefront of promoting local food in the area and was named as one of celebrity chef Rick Stein's 'Food Heroes', highlighting the Estate's exceptional Highland beef, wild venison and fresh rainbow trout.

Drink Today

Whisky production is still strong in the Cairngorms area, with the whole Speyside area said to be home to more than half of Scotland's distilleries. There are currently seven whisky distilleries operating within the Park:

- Balmenach Distillery at Cromdale, established in 1824 by James McGregor;
- Braeval Distillery at Chapeltown, built in 1974 by Chivas Brothers;
- Dalwhinnie Distillery at Dalwhinnie, founded in 1897/8 and the highest distillery in Scotland;
- Drumguish Distillery at Kingussie where distilling began in 1990, although there had been a previous distillery at the site from 1895 to 1911;
- The Glenlivet Distillery near Ballindalloch, founded in 1824 by George Smith;
- Royal Lochnagar Distillery at Balmoral where the first distillery was founded in 1826 – the current distillery, at the same site, was built in 1845;
- Tomintoul Distillery at Tomintoul, built in 1964.

Over the last 25 years there has been a significant increase in the worldwide market for single malt whiskies. A number of the above distilleries produce the finest of single malts, most particularly The Glenlivet, a brand of world renown. Dalwhinnie is also extensively promoted as part of the Classic Malts marketing promotion. The remaining distilleries contribute to premium blended whiskies. The whisky industry is subject to cycles of demand, taxation and trade legislation. Some distilleries have been closed in the past, and others, such as Tamnavullin, mothballed, but capable of being returned to production.

The Malt Whisky Trail is located in Speyside and is a widely promoted trail that visits eight distilleries, including The Glenlivet Distillery, and a cooperage.

2.2.7 Traditional Land-based Skills

The Highland Folk Museum defines traditional skills culture as “the artefacts associated with traditional farming, industry, transport and domestic life, and knowledge of how to use them. These skills range from smithying to the Strathspey steam trains, from peat cutting to making bannocks over an open fire. (Other examples of formerly common skills include the spinning of home-produced wool for weavers in the villages, tallow production, tanning of leather and shoe-making). With a few exceptions (like peat cutting), they are archaic and practised in daily life now by few people – in some cases, the techniques involved are quite obsolete, but still link people with their pasts.”

Links with these skills are, however, becoming increasingly tenuous. Consultations with Lantra and the Construction Industry Training Board, the sector skills councils responsible for land-based and construction skills, confirm concerns; on the one hand, there is a dearth of information regarding the presence of such skills, and, on the other, there is no evidence that these skills are being passed on. This perspective is confirmed by Future Skills Scotland, the skills arm of Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

All the aforementioned land-use practices have associated historical and traditional skills, but there is no information available on the distribution and extent to which these persist. Evidence suggests that those involved in land-based occupations could be expected to have at least occupational experience and a degree of skill in practices such as dry-stone dyking, stone work, path craft, drainage and buildings maintenance. Other, more specific occupational skills, such as those associated with shepherding, ghillieing, gamekeeping and stalking, undoubtedly persist, but the number of people employed in these occupations has declined. The presence of these skills and the extent to which they are practised today are evidence of the evolution of land management practices, legislation, technology, markets and market demands, working practices and mechanisation, all of which have also reduced the number employed in these occupations.

Research into the crafting community by the Cairngorms National Park Authority and the Crofters Commission in 2003 provides insight into the prevalence of such skills. A survey of active crofters in the Badenoch and Strathspey area shows 90% of respondents claiming to have at least general crofting skills, mostly acquired on the job. Activities like peat cutting, building stacks, working dogs and ploughing with horses are identified as specific skills still held by some crofters, but rarely used today.

The traditional skills of dry-stone dyking and thatching, both of considerable historical relevance to the Cairngorms, have professional organisations which maintain registers of qualified practitioners. At present there is only one professionally-qualified dyker listed within the Park and no thatchers.

The now defunct Highland Vernacular Buildings Trust and its associated trading company, Scottish Heritage Builders, were formerly based within the Highland Folk Museum at Newtonmore. The Trust's aims were to promote training to local young people and to offer employment in traditional skills using traditional materials and tools. The Trust sought to secure contracts which would assure the multi-skilled workforce continued employment. The skills offered included:

- Traditional building skills, including traditional stone work, use of lime mortars, thatching and cruck frame construction;
- Turf and stone walling, dry-stone dyking, traditional and modern fencing;
- Path formation/clearing, step building and cobbling;
- Coppicing, pole lathe turning/shave horse techniques;
- Replicating traditional and modern furniture/utensil/agricultural tools.

The Trust worked with Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Construction Industry Training Board to develop a Scottish Vocational Qualification in these heritage skills; however, there was no demand. Further problems arose in relation to the low number of individuals able to pass on these skills (the Highland Vernacular Buildings Trust had to look to England in the case of some skills). Supply and demand factors ultimately led to the demise of the Trust.

The Highland Folk Museum continues to demonstrate some of these skills, the uses to which they were put and the materials and tools associated with them.

The Construction Industry Training Board and Highlands and Islands Enterprise are currently looking at the development in the Highlands of a Scottish Vocational Qualification in rural skills. This would focus on the new skills and specialisations in countryside management associated with recreation and conservation, for which there is little local training provision. As modern agricultural and associated skills do not appear to equip individuals to operate as trainers in conservation and rural skills, additional specialist input will be required.

Voluntary conservation bodies, such as the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, are heavily involved in rural skills provision through their conservation work. The Trust lists 170 organisations with which they are involved in Scotland; only two of these are in the Park area, the Laggan Forest Trust and the Kincraig and District Development Project.

Provision of traditional (and modern) rural skills, therefore, appears relatively poor, with low demand, both in terms of training and application. Consequently, these skills appear to be at some risk. Monitoring of land-based and construction skills is the responsibility of the sector skills councils responsible for land-based and construction skills, Lantra and the Construction Industry Training Board respectively.

2.2.8 Information Gaps – The Historic Environment

- Systematic mapping of archaeological remains;
- Extent of traditional land-based skills within the Park.

2.3 Built Environment

2.3.1 Physical Resources

The scale of physical resources within the Park makes quantification challenging. Further, it is likely that only a very small percentage of the total resource is statutorily protected, and what

is considered to be part of the historic environment is being constantly redefined. Most sites will always remain outside the various statutory systems set up to protect the most important elements, but many of these are still significant. This report devotes more space to statutory sites because more is known about their number and condition. Some elements, such as historic field patterns, cannot be easily quantified, and protection through designation is unlikely to be appropriate. The wide range and design quality of the resources is addressed through the various topics set out below.

Table 2.3.1a lists the identified sources of primary data associated with the Park's built heritage resources.

Table 2.3.1a: Historic Built Environment Data Sources	
Resource	**Data Source**
Listed Buildings	Historic Scotland
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Historic Scotland
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Historic Scotland/Scottish Natural Heritage
Buildings at Risk	Scottish Civic Trust (on behalf of Historic Scotland)
Sites and Monuments Record (Aberdeenshire, Angus and Moray)	Archaeology Service, Aberdeenshire Council
Sites and Monuments Record (Highland)	Archaeology Unit, Planning and Development Service, The Highland Council
National Monuments Record of Scotland	The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

Historic Scotland
Historic Scotland safeguards the nation's built heritage by scheduling monuments of national importance and by listing historic buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Scheduled monuments, listed buildings and buildings in conservation areas are protected by legislation, and consent is normally required before any alteration or development can take place. Historic Scotland conserves properties in its care and provides financial assistance to private owners towards the costs of conserving and repairing outstanding monuments and buildings.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland is responsible for recording, interpreting and collecting information about the built environment, and making it publicly available through the National Monuments Record of Scotland and, increasingly, online.

There are several million items in the collections, comprising photographs, drawings, manuscripts, aerial photographs and other visual and documentary material. The collections are catalogued, and each item is linked to a database site record. Site records have been developed since the Commission's foundation in 1908 and transferred from a paper system to a digital system. Old data is being upgraded and new records constantly added. A start has also been made on attaching digital images of collection material. Not surprisingly, given the age, diverse sources and quantity of the data, there is wide variation in the amount and quality of information held against each site; some buildings or areas have very detailed information derived from measured, on-site surveys; others have minimal or unreliable information. The

Commission holds its own record for every scheduled monument and listed building, and a link is maintained between these records and those held on Historic Scotland's database.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland has an excellent website available to all at www.Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland.gov.uk. It contains four linked websites:

- Canmore contains details of circa 250,000 archaeological sites, ancient monuments, buildings and maritime sites in Scotland. It also provides an index to the catalogued collections of the Commission. Images of some of the photographs and drawings in the collection are also available. New information is added on a daily basis.

- PASTMAP – produced jointly by Historic Scotland and the Commission and bringing together three main databases: Canmore, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings. PASTMAP is updated every two weeks. It displays the location of listed buildings, the boundaries of legally protected ('scheduled') ancient monuments, and every site, building, maritime feature and find recorded in Canmore.

- HLAMAP – provides access to information gathered by the Historic Land-use Assessment Project. A joint project with Historic Scotland, it is working towards a digital map of the historic landscape of Scotland. Through HLAMAP it is possible to view land-use by category, type, period or relict period.

- 'Accessing Scotland's Past' – a pilot project undertaken by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland in 2002/3 with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Focusing on the Cairngorms and the Merse in the Scottish Borders, the aim of the project was to explore a clearer and more useful way of presenting information about a number of sites and buildings in Canmore. Short, descriptive accounts were written and further information sources identified. The project was completed in 2003, but further development of this style of presentation is planned. This is a very interesting project, but remains small-scale at present, partly due to the level of resource required. It has not been possible to use this information more widely, as it does not provide a complete picture of the Cairngorms area.

Sites and Monuments Records

Sites and Monuments Records are available for all the planning authority areas represented in the Cairngorms National Park. Highland, Aberdeenshire and Moray provide summary online services; Angus is not yet available online. Aberdeenshire, Angus and Moray Councils operate a joint archaeology service, providing full records and professional consultancy. Similar services are available from The Highland Council, which runs its own Sites and Monuments Records' service.

The full extent of this resource within the Park has never been quantified, and such an exercise would present considerable difficulties. The National Monuments Record of Scotland holds information relating to some 4,778 individual sites within the Park as at February 2005, but this is unlikely to represent anything like the total number of structures. National Monuments Record of Scotland records are not all derived from comprehensive area surveys, and the figures include monuments, archaeology and demolished structures.

Table 2.3.1b lists the total number of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and National Monuments Records for the Park. To enable comparison with other data in the State of the Park Report, these records have been collected at Community Council area level and then amalgamated at former Area Tourist Board level.

Table 2.3.1b: Historical Built Resources – National Records of the Park				
	Tourist Board Areas			**Total**
	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands	**Angus and Dundee**	**Highlands of Scotland**	
Listed Buildings	247	18	159	**424**
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	31	2	27	**60**
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	4	0	5	**9**
National Monuments Record of Scotland	2,824	235	1,719	**4,778**
Total*	**3,106**	**255**	**1,910**	**5,271**
*There is duplication in the figures for the records – some Sites and Monuments Records are also listed, and all Sites and Monuments and Listed Buildings also have records in the National Monuments Record of Scotland				

Source: Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, February 2005

2.3.2 Archaeological Sites and Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Ancient monuments are often fine examples of human ingenuity, from the standing stones and circles and forts of pre-history to the castles and towers of mediaeval times and the military constructions following the Jacobite risings. However, ancient monuments need not be decorative or impressive to be important; some of the most important sites are, in fact, ancient rubbish tips, which can contain a wealth of evidence about past lifestyles and industries. Only the most significant examples are protected through scheduling. While other sites can be protected through development planning and control systems, many sites are vulnerable to damage through actions that do not require planning permission, such as ploughing and forestry planting.

A large and diverse range of archaeological evidence for past human activity survives within the Park area. The major part of this legacy remains unrecorded in any detail, and the potential for future discoveries is enormous. An extremely useful overview of the historic landscape of the Cairngorms, focusing on the archaeological resource, was published jointly by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and Historic Scotland in 2001. The study was based on archaeology records held by the Commission and local Sites and Monuments Records, the joint Historic Land-use Assessment (essentially a map and accompanying database providing a broad picture of past land-uses), studies of settlements shown to be derelict on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps and aerial photography. The Commission has undertaken a limited number of detailed area surveys within the Park boundary, but where these have taken place (eg Mar Lodge, Kingussie, Newtonmore, Glen Clova), they have consistently revealed a large number of previously unrecorded sites.

Local Authority Archaeology Services have a responsibility to identify, protect, interpret and promote the archaeological heritage of their Local Authority area. Their remit includes the compilation and maintenance of records (Sites and Monuments Records or equivalent) and provision of advice to development planning and control departments, utilities, landowners, developers, agri-environmental and forestry schemes and other interested parties. There are Sites and Monuments Records for Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland and Moray covering the Park area. Although a precise number is not currently available, several thousand records, including photographs, are held for the archaeological heritage of the Park by the four Sites

and Monuments Records. Promotion of archaeology in the Park area is actively encouraged by events such as Highland Archaeology Week, held annually in October. The museums of the local authorities represented in the Park also hold substantial collections of archaeological artefacts.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments are nationally important sites, buildings and other features of artificial construction. Historic Scotland, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, is responsible for their protection under the requirements of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. There are currently more than 7,500 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Scotland, including an extremely wide and varied range of types of monument, from prehistoric tombs and stone circles to Pictish stones and ruined castles. Approximately 300 monuments are scheduled or rescheduled annually. Legal protection extends to the boundary of scheduling shown on a map, which is lodged with the Registers of Scotland.

Scheduled Monument Consent is required from Historic Scotland (Scottish Ministers) for any works which will lead to damage, demolition or destruction of the monument, any works of repair, removal or alteration and addition and any flooding or tipping. Because so many monuments are in the stewardship of farming businesses, there is special provision for routine, shallow ploughing and similar activities to continue. If the monument was under the plough at the date it was scheduled, or in the 10 years preceding, similar ploughing may continue without Scheduled Monument Consent. This special provision is called a Class Consent, and also applies to some minor forestry and horticultural activities, as well as to farming. There are also Class Consents for certain bodies (British Waterways Board, the Coal Authority, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland) and for emergency works needed on health and safety grounds. Some Scheduled Ancient Monuments are also listed buildings, but Scheduled Monument Consent takes precedence in every case (Listed Building Consent is not required for the same works). A grants scheme is administered by Historic Scotland to help with approved schemes of work to Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Description of Resource/Condition Statement

Types/Elements

Historic Scotland uses seven monument categories as follows:
Category 1: Prehistoric Ritual and Funerary;
Category 2: Prehistoric Domestic and Defensive;
Category 3: Roman;
Category 4: Crosses and Carved Stones (Pictish, Early Christian and later dates);
Category 5: Ecclesiastical;
Category 6: Secular;
Category 7: Industrial and Transport.

There are some 60 Scheduled Ancient Monuments recorded within the Park boundary, some of which fall into more than one of the above categories. None of the Scheduled Ancient Monuments falls into Category 3 (Roman), and the majority (33) are in Category 6 (Secular). Examples of Category 1 include three chambered burial cairns and associated stone circles, unique to Scotland and probably of late Neolithic date, two near Aviemore and one at Easter Delfour, north of Kincraig. Two examples of Category 2 monuments: Dun-da-lamh Fort, six miles north of Dalwhinnie, is thought to date from the first millennium AD and consists of the remains of unusually massive ramparts strung around two craggy summits overlooking Strathspey and Strathmashie; by Loch Davan, north of Dinnet, Aberdeenshire, are impressive 2,000 year old hut circles, souterrains and evidence of ceremonial use between the houses. Nearby is the Category 4 Loch Kinord Pictish stone, carved with a complicated knot pattern and dating from the 8th century (although it was removed to the park at Aboyne Castle in the

19th century and returned as closely as possible to its original location in 1959). The spectacular motte at Doune of Invernochty, Strathdon, dating from the late 12th to early 13th century, is a massive castle earthwork, but described as a Category 5 monument because of the chapel, which is thought to have been the predominant structure and served as the parish church until late mediaeval times. A number of Category 6 examples are described below. Category 7 contains only three examples: the 17th century mills at Allanaquoich; the stills and kilns at the townships of Mar; and the mid-19th century, ironstone, mine-crushing mill at the Well of Lecht.

Numbers/Quantification
Table 2.3.2a shows the Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the Park by category and by former Tourist Board area.

Table 2.3.2a: Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the Park				
	Tourist Board Areas			**Total**
	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands	**Angus and Dundee**	**Highlands of Scotland**	
Category 1	1	0	6	**7**
Category 2	4	0	6	**10**
Category 3	0	0	0	**0**
Category 4	3	0	4	**7**
Category 5	2	0	3	**5**
Category 6	21	2	10	**33**
Category 7	2	0	0	**2**
Total*	**33**	**2**	**29**	**64**
*Some Scheduled Ancient Monuments are classed in more than one category, and some straddle two former Tourist Board areas – the monument is allocated to the area containing the predominant part of the monument				

Source: Historic Scotland, February 2005

A full list of Scheduled Ancient Monuments is included at Appendix CR1.

Characteristics
It is not surprising that over the Park area the distribution of recorded sites shows that settlement has concentrated in the major glens. This lower-lying ground is also more subject to change as the result of 18th to 19th century settlement patterns, Improvement forestry and farming methods and modern crops and mechanisation, so the potential for upstanding archaeology here is less. The higher areas of rough grazing and managed moorland present better conditions for archaeological survival, but fewer structures are likely to have been built here in the first place. Relatively few structures have survived from the pre-mediaeval period. However, there is a widespread distribution of artefacts across all zones of the Park, from prehistoric stone tools in the lowland areas to flint arrowheads on the Cairngorm Plateau, indicating at least 4,000 years of hunting.

Classifications/Standards
All Scheduled Ancient Monuments are assessed against a standard of national importance. Monuments can be important for different reasons or combinations of reasons. For example, good historical documentation might make an archaeologically unimpressive site important, or a very battered cross might be important because it is the only one of its type surviving.

Many significant archaeological sites recorded in Sites and Monuments Records will not merit scheduling, but may be of importance in a regional or local context: these sites can be defined and justified through development plan policies and priority given to their preservation in an appropriate setting, preferably in situ. The preservation of ancient monuments and their settings is a material consideration in determining planning applications and appeals, whether or not a monument is scheduled.

Locations/Examples of Significance
A number of the finest examples of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the Park are in the care of Scottish Ministers. These include:

- *Corgarff Castle*, eight miles west of Strathdon, is a tower house in a wild and remote location to the south of the River Don. Built as a hunting lodge in the mid-16th century, it was converted into a Hanoverian garrison in 1748. The lodge was reputedly built by the Earl of Mar, but passed to the Forbes family soon after.

- *Glenbuchat Castle*, six miles west of Kildrummy, is a ruined, Z-plan tower with square towers at north east and south west corners, square and circular angle turrets, turnpike stairs and re-entrant angles in trompe arches. Built by John Gordon in 1590 as a mock-military country house, it was sold in 1738 by the last Gordon of Glenbuchat (of Jacobite fame) to the Duff family.

- *Bridge of Dee*, Invercauld, was built in 1752 by military engineer Major Edward Caulfield to link Blairgowrie with Corgarff and Inverness. A remarkable, six arch, hump-backed, rubble bridge with segmental arches increasing in size to the centre. By-passed by the new Invercauld Bridge in 1859.

- *Ruthven Barracks*, by Kingussie, prominently sited on an artificially scarped hill guarding the flat floor of the Spey valley, is the best-preserved of the four infantry barracks built by the Hanoverian government after the Jacobite rising of 1715. The barracks fell out of use after the Battle of Culloden in 1745 and is now roofless, but building shells are largely complete to the wallheads.

Policies/Strategies/Legislation
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979;
- Scottish Ministers' National Planning Policy Guideline 5, Archaeology and Planning, January 1994;
- Scottish Ministers' National Planning Policy Guideline 18, Planning and the Historic Environment, April 1999;
- Scottish Ministers' Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled Monument Procedures, January 1994;
- Strategy and Local Plan policies for each Local Authority area.

Trends
Apart from natural decay, one of the main threats to archaeology is new development in the form of housing and roads. Development planning and control has a key role to play in the management and mitigation of this type of threat. Management of the upland areas of the Park as moorland and grazing has been generally beneficial to the survival of archaeological remains. Any significant reduction in these uses, most likely through the re-introduction of forestry, is likely to have an adverse impact on the archaeological resource. In particular, some agricultural and forestry practices can lead to irretrievable damage. Agricultural threats can take the form of ploughing (or other cultivation), drainage, changes to field boundaries, heavy grazing by cattle and sheep, poaching, road construction, building and extraction of

building materials. Damage caused by afforestation can occur through cultivation, drainage, establishment, tree roots, extraction and the development of associated infrastructure. Increased tree cover will have direct and significant consequences for shielings, field systems and features. Increased visitor numbers and associated recreational activities using four-wheel-drive vehicles and mountain bikes may have a severe and detrimental impact on sites of archaeological importance. Specifically, erosion caused by this activity is of concern. Crannogs, ancient artificial islands in lochs, can be vulnerable to changes in water conditions/levels or drainage. There is considerable potential for the promotion of the educational, cultural and economic benefits of archaeology, as the success of events like Highland Archaeology Week has demonstrated. Long-term planning of visitor management is essential to balance the needs of visitors with the conservation requirements of the monuments they come to see.

Organisations/Sources of Data

- Historic Scotland (Scheduled Ancient Monuments List);
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (National Monuments Records);
- Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland and Moray Councils' Sites and Monuments Records;
- Council for Scottish Archaeology.

Brief Bibliography

- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland/Historic Scotland, The Historic Landscape of the Cairngorms (2001);
- Historic Scotland, Archaeological Information and Advice (2002);
- Historic Scotland, Scheduled Ancient Monuments – A Guide for Owners, Occupiers and Land Managers (undated);
- Joanna Close-Brooks, Exploring Scotland's Heritage – The Highlands (1986);
- Ian Shepherd, Exploring Scotland's Heritage – Grampian (1986);
- John Gifford, Buildings of Scotland – Highland & Islands (1992);
- Jane Geddes, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Deeside and the Mearns (2001);
- Charles McKean, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Moray (1987);
- Ian Shepherd, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Moray (1994).

Monitoring/Updating

All Scheduled Ancient Monuments are visited as part of a rolling programme of condition monitoring by Historic Scotland, undertaken at a three to five year frequency. Monuments are also visited by Historic Scotland after works requiring Scheduled Monument Consent have been completed. Historic Scotland also operates a scheduling programme, which considers sites for scheduling and rescheduling on an area basis. Portable archaeological artefacts are subject to the legal requirements of the Treasure Trove system, which is monitored by an independent Treasure Trove Advisory Panel. Local Authority Archaeological Services undertake ground and air surveys to update and verify their Sites and Monuments Records. Similarly, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland carries out both ground and air surveys.

Pointers for Indicators

Reports from Historic Scotland's Scheduled Ancient Monuments' monitoring programme and field verification visits by Local Authority Archaeology Services.

2.3.3 Buildings of Architectural and Historic Interest

Description of Resource/Condition Statement
This section deals with all above-ground, man-made structures from ancient times to today, excluding structures otherwise considered as monuments. This is clearly a very broad definition, which encompasses sundials, lampposts, postboxes and cottages at one end of the size scale to castles, bridges and mills at the other end. Similarly, the range of architectural or historic interest varies widely from simple structures such as boundary walls or kit/pattern-book houses to complex, multi-period tower houses, churches and bridges. The general difficulties in establishing the full extent of the resource apply, in particular, to this category of physical asset.

The two national bodies responsible for the recording and protection of the built heritage, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and Historic Scotland, hold a significant number of site records in relation to the Park. However, these records are likely to represent a fraction of the overall number of historic building sites, and there are limitations to the consistency and quality of the data held. Similarly, local planning authorities and Sites and Monuments Registers hold a variety of information relating to their respective areas. Descriptions of the information held by public bodies concerned with the built heritage within the Park, and its limitations, are set out below.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
In relation to the Park area, the Commission holds 1,409 records for architectural sites (this includes sites that are classified as both architectural and archaeological and all listed buildings). No qualitative measure is held on the database in terms of either the relative interest of each site or in terms of the interest of the archival material held against the site. The records form an historical archive, rather than a reflection of the current situation on the ground, so are of limited use in establishing a baseline. Further, there is no guarantee that records relate to structures that currently exist, or in the case of proposed architectural schemes, that they ever existed at all. However, the records certainly provide a representative, if unquantifiable, sample of the richness of the built heritage resource within the Park.

Two contrasting examples (both viewable at http://www.Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland.gov.uk/), illustrating the sizes of site and range of information available in the Commission's database, are:

- National Monuments Record of Scotland Reference Number NN69NE 14, an iron field gate at Creagdhubh Lodge in Abernethy & Kincardine Parish, Highland, for which the Commission holds two photographs and a drawing from 1987. There is no written description of the site and no bibliographic reference.

- National Monuments Record of Scotland Reference Number NO08NE 12, Mar Lodge, a large country house/shooting lodge in Crathie & Braemar Parish, Aberdeenshire. There is no written description of the site, but there are references to archaeology and architectural notes held in the collection, 76 collection photographs, 9 online images, 6 prints/drawings, 9 bibliographic references, 1 reference to external material and references to associated structures.

Historic Scotland
The 424 buildings afforded statutory protection by Scottish Ministers through the listing system represent an even smaller percentage of the total number of historic environment structures in the Park, perhaps 3-5%, based on estimates for other parts of the country. For the

most part these comprise the upper qualitative end of the historic building stock. The classification system used by Historic Scotland is set out below under 'Classifications/Standards'.

The lists were first compiled on a parish and burgh basis during the 1950s and 1960s. These lists were given statutory effect in 1971; other buildings have been added since on an ad hoc basis. A comprehensive re-survey of the whole Park area has not been undertaken, but the parts falling within The Highland Council and Moray Council areas were re-surveyed in the mid to late 1980s, and Aboyne & Glentanar and Logie Coldstone parishes in Aberdeenshire were re-surveyed in March 2000 and September 2003 respectively. It is, therefore, extremely likely that buildings of special architectural or historic interest which would meet the current criteria for listing have not been identified in other parts of the Park area. It is understood that Historic Scotland are prioritising re-survey of the remaining areas. Paper copies of the lists are available at local planning offices, Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. A summary electronic version is available on Historic Scotland's website (http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/), and full list descriptions can be accessed via the joint Historic Scotland/Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland mapping website (http://www.pastmap.org.uk).

Historic Scotland's guidance on the scope of architectural or historic interest includes: planned streets in villages or burghs; works of well-known architects; buildings clearly associated with famous people or events; good examples of buildings connected with social and industrial history and the development of communications; distinctive regional variations in design and use of materials; good examples within individual building types; and technological innovation. The address constitutes the only statutory part of the listing. Supplementary information provided in list descriptions varies according to the age of the description; by and large, more recent descriptions include information about the date, architect, materials, construction history, associated people, bibliographic references and other relevant details. Photographs are not included with the published list description, but Historic Scotland holds a large paper archive and a relatively small digital archive of listed building photographs for its own administrative purposes. Some buildings considered, but rejected, for listing are recorded in these archives.

Listed Building Consent is required for any alterations to the interior or exterior character of listed buildings, including demolition. The consent system is administered by the local planning authority, but all cases affecting Categories A and B listed buildings and all demolitions must be referred to Historic Scotland. Historic Scotland may clear the application for the planning authority to grant consent or refer the decision on the application to Scottish Ministers. Such 'called-in' cases are usually determined by the Scottish Executive's Inquiry Reporters Unit following a hearing, written submissions or public inquiry. A key document is the Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas 1998, which provides advice on the operation of the consent system and detailed guidance on consideration of cases. Planning authorities are also required to take account of the setting of a listed building in determining planning applications which might affect that setting.

Local Authorities/Sites and Monuments Records
The Sites and Monuments Records largely relate to monuments, finds and archaeology, but a significant amount of related historic building information can also be found. The limitations of the data are similar to those found for the data of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, although many Sites and Monuments Records are fuller and more up-to-date. The information has been built up over a long period of time, usually as it arises, rather than through systematic survey of large areas, and different levels of detail are apparent. Considerable care, caution and professional expertise are required to interpret the data. A new initiative from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical

Monuments of Scotland and Historic Scotland to display Sites and Monuments Records' sites on the PASTMAP website will increase the availability of information and allow comparisons to be made, potentially identifying areas of strength and weakness in all the datasets. This initiative is currently at an early stage. Local authorities maintain records of planning permissions and listed building consents affecting buildings throughout the Park area. Further working archives of photographs and other information are also held by planning departments.

Types/Elements
The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and Historic Scotland are working together on a joint approach to the classification of architectural records and listed building types. Not all sites have been allocated a classification by type, so a detailed type analysis is not yet possible. However, high quality examples of some of the main, top-level building types can be found within the Park area:

- *Residential:* Castle Grant, a 15th to 16th century tower house enlarged and re-cast as a severe, classical mansion for Sir Ludovick Grant by the architect John Adam in 1765;
- *Religion:* Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Chapeltown, Braes of Glenlivet, built by Edinburgh architect John Kinross for the Marquis of Bute in 1896-7;
- *Funerary:* Mitchell-Forbes Mausoleum, Strathdon Parish Church, 1829, probably by the Aberdeen architect Archibald Simpson for Mary Forbes, wife of Daniel Mitchell;
- *Public:* Speyside Home, the Square, Grantown-on-Spey, an orphanage built in 1824 and endowed by Lady Grant of Monymusk;
- *Farming/Fishing:* Ballantruan, Kirkmichael, Moray, a mid-18th century farmhouse, notable for its panelled interior;
- *Defence:* Ruthven Barracks near Kingussie, constructed after the 1715 Jacobite rebellion to house Hanovarian soldiers;
- *Industrial:* Dalwhinnie Distillery and Bonded Warehouse, circa 1890, with pagoda-roofed malt kilns typical of architect Charles Doig;
- *Transport and Communications:* Broomhill Bridge over the River Spey near Grantown, built in 1894 by the Kingussie engineer J Alexander Mackenzie and described by Historic Scotland as the finest surviving timber bridge in Scotland.

Quantification
Some 424 buildings or structures of special architectural or historic interest are protected within the Park area under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997. The lists of listed buildings are compiled and maintained by Historic Scotland on behalf of Scottish Ministers and administered by the local planning authorities. There are over 47,000 listings throughout Scotland. A single listing can comprise more than one property and also ancillary structures within the curtilage of the main building; for example, a terrace of farm cottages can be listed as one item, with associated outhouses also falling within the curtilage.

Table 2.3.3a: Listed Buildings within the Park

	Tourist Board Areas			**Total**
	Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands	**Angus and Dundee**	**Highlands of Scotland**	
Category A	16	1	14	**31**
Category B	121	6	88	**215**

Category C	110	11	57	**178**
Total	**247**	**18**	**159**	**424**

Source: Historic Scotland, February 2005

A full table of listed buildings is included at Appendix CR2.

Characteristics

The area covered by the Cairngorms National Park is large and the topography, geology, micro-climate and land-use are varied. Distinctive building traditions and settlement distribution were frequently determined by these factors. While it is not possible to detail every local characteristic throughout the whole area, some general trends are apparent.

Firstly, farming (including forestry) has predominated in the landscape of the Park for many hundreds of years, and the great majority of structures relate to this activity. The agricultural improvement movement of the mid 18th to late 19th centuries consequently impacted to a great extent with the enclosure of fields, provision of drainage, amalgamation of smaller farms, construction of new farmhouses and steadings, improved communication routes to carry produce, depopulation of large areas to create sheepwalks and hunting/shooting estates, new planned settlements, enlarged or replacement churches and enlargement or replacement of old tower houses with new mansions. Such was the impact of the Improvement era that very few structures of pre-18th century date survive, apart from some of the major houses such as Muchrach, Braemar and Abergeldie Castles.

Spreading out from the mountain core at the heart of the Park are numerous glens, through which and across which the main communication routes stretch. Bridge building has been fundamental to the accessibility of the area, and this is another of the principal legacies of the Improvement period. There is a particularly rich legacy of military and other mid-18th century masonry bridges including: Sluggan Bridge over the River Dulnain (General Wade, 1729-30); Old Spey Bridge (1754); Gairnshiel Bridge over the River Gairn (1750); and Old Invercauld Bridge over the River Dee (1753).

Classical country houses on the Anglo-Dutch model of plain piend (or hipped), foofed boxes are relatively rare within the Park, but the largest and most "elegantly austere" (J Gifford, Highlands & Islands, page 51) is the four-storey, ashlar-fronted, north block at Castle Grant designed by John Adam in 1753. Forty years later, Adam's brothers, Robert and James, designed Balavil House near Kingussie in a more sophisticated, classical style for the author James MacPherson.

Until the late 19th century the transportation of heavy building materials over long distances was difficult and expensive. Consequently, local materials, such as earth, granite and quartz (from Glen Tanar), are widely in evidence, even in the grandest of buildings. Wood was widely available, and many structures including the game larder and seasonal workers' cottages at Mar Lodge and the station at Ballater (1886) were faced in timber. Throughout the area, rustic tree-trunks are often used to picturesque effect as supports for porches, overhanging roofs, verandahs, and balconies, as in the case of perhaps the most spectacular example, the mid-19th century former Corriemulzie Cottage at Mar Lodge. Following the installation of the prefabricated ballroom at Balmoral (purchased by Prince Albert after the Great Exhibition), corrugated iron also gained in popularity. At Auchtavan, north of Crathie, corrugated iron covers the original heather thatch on the lime-burners' clachan. Recreations of 19th century, vernacular, thatched cottages can be found at the Highland Folk Park in Kingussie.

Queen Victoria's purchase of the Balmoral Estate in 1852, and the subsequent arrival of the railway, also had a major impact on the whole Park area, heralding the age of tourism and the sporting estate. The romantic, Balmoral style spread through neighbouring estates, such as Invercauld, where the old house was remodelled with crowstepped gables and pepperpot towers in 1875. At a more modest scale, the villas of Braemar and Ballater also competed for baronial credentials, and hotels, shooting lodges, entrance lodges, banks and police stations across the area offered similar architectural finery.

Classifications/Standards
Buildings that are listed are divided into three categories to identify the level of interest of an individual property. These are described by Historic Scotland as:

Category A: Buildings of national or international importance, either architectural or historic, or fine, little-altered examples of some particular period, style or building type;

Category B: Buildings of regional or more than local importance, or major examples of some particular period, style or building type which may have been altered;

Category C(S): Buildings of local importance, lesser examples of any period, style or building type, as originally constructed or altered, and simple, traditional buildings which group well with others in Categories A and B or are part of a planned group such as an estate or an industrial complex.

Locations/Examples of Significance
Examples of each category include:

Category A: Aultmore House and garden pavilions, terrace walls and walled garden, Nethy Bridge, Highland
A little-altered, Edwardian country house of national architectural importance, built from 1912-14 by the English architect C H B Quenell for a Moscow department store owner. The house has a spectacular elevated location overlooking the Cairngorm mountains and is designed in late 17th century classical style. Internally it was furnished with every modern convenience of its day, most of which survives, including extravagant plumbing and a centralised vacuum cleaning system.

Category B: Tomintoul Parish Church, Tomintoul, Moray
Designed by Thomas Telford in 1826 following the Parliamentary Commission investigating the provision of churches to remote rural areas. The connection with one of the most famous UK engineers/architects of the 19th century would normally have delivered an assessment of national importance, but in this instance the building has been significantly altered, which reduces the interest to Category B.

Category C(S): 127 and 129 High Street, Grantown-on-Spey, Highland
This pair of modest cottages dating from around 1800 are listed for their contribution to the overall plan of Grantown-on-Spey, laid out by the local laird, Sir Ludovick Grant, in 1765.

Policies/ Strategies/Legislation

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997;
- Structure Plan policies for North East Scotland, Dundee and Angus, Highland and Moray;
- Local Plan policies for Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, and Moray Councils
- Scottish Ministers' National Planning Policy Guideline 18, Planning and the Historic Environment, April 1999;

- Scottish Ministers' Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas 1998.

Trends
The use of modern farm practices and machinery has led to the abandonment of a great many 19th century farm steadings and associated vernacular buildings, many of which are not statutorily protected. In view of the predominantly rural nature of the Park, this continuing trend is likely to have a major, adverse impact on the distinctive character of the landscape. Similarly, the improvements in access to remote areas have made the more far-flung shooting lodges less necessary, and a number of these are also under threat. Apart from natural decay and dereliction, development pressures constitute a further threat to the historic buildings of the Park. Quite minor changes, such as changes in glazing or replacement/repair of features in non-traditional materials, can have a cumulative and permanently damaging effect on the quality, appearance, performance and value of the historic building stock. There is considerable potential for the promotion of the educational, cultural and economic benefits of historic buildings, as the success of events like the September Doors Open Days has demonstrated. As with archaeology, long-term planning of visitor management is essential to balance the needs of visitors with the conservation requirements of the buildings they come to see.

Organisations/Sources of Data
- Historic Scotland;
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland;
- Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland and Moray Councils;
- Highland Building Preservation Trust;
- Tayside Building Preservation Trust;
- Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group;
- Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland;
- Scottish Civic Trust;
- Cairngorms National Park Authority.

Brief Bibliography

- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland/Historic Scotland, The Historic Landscape of the Cairngorms 2001;
- Historic Scotland, Statutory Lists;
- John Gifford, Buildings of Scotland – Highland & Islands (1992);
- Ian Shepherd, Exploring Scotland's Heritage – Grampian (1986);
- Ian Shepherd, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Gordon (1994);
- Jane Geddes, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Deeside and the Mearns (2001);
- Charles McKean, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Moray (1987);
- Robin Smith, The Making of Scotland – A Comprehensive Guide to the Growth of Scotland's Cities, Towns and Villages (2001).

Monitoring/Updating
Formal monitoring of the historic buildings within the Park area is not undertaken on a systematic or regular basis. There are a number of organisations and bodies involved in recording and protecting the built heritage of the Park, each with different roles and priorities. The results of these activities are not drawn together to give an overall picture of the health of the resource.

Through its survey work, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland has undertaken detailed studies of parts of the Park. These are usually one-off surveys, essentially making a record of a building or area, without the specific intention of informing protective measures or the development plan process. Under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997, the Threatened Building Survey by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland is afforded the opportunity of recording buildings for which Listed Building or Conservation Area Consent for demolition has been granted. Usually such surveys are undertaken immediately prior to demolition or when the building is in an advanced state of decay.

Historic Scotland's listing re-survey programme is specifically targeted at identifying buildings for protection on a systematic, area basis. The time gap between the initial survey and the re-survey is usually in excess of 30 to 40 years. More frequent, but informal, monitoring is undertaken through the listed building consent system, administered by planning authorities and Historic Scotland. All changes to a listed building should be controlled, and proposed alterations recorded through this system. In practice, however, consents are rarely monitored after the works have been implemented, and there is no completion certificate mechanism in place. It is also likely that significant, unauthorised work, particularly to interiors, takes place unnoticed. Enforcement action against unauthorised works is extremely rare. Schemes of work to buildings grant-aided by Historic Scotland are now subject to more regular monitoring. In general, however, regular, systematic monitoring and reporting of the condition of listed buildings is not undertaken by either the planning authorities or Historic Scotland.

The Scottish Civic Trust maintains a database of Buildings at Risk on behalf of Historic Scotland. Buildings at Risk information for all planning authority areas within the Park, with the exception of Highland, has recently been revised and is published on the Buildings At Risk Register for Scotland website (http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/). 'At Risk' is defined as:

- Vacant with no identified new use;
- Suffering from neglect and/or poor maintenance;
- Suffering from structural problems;
- Fire-damaged;
- Unsecured;
- Open to the elements;
- Threatened with demolition.

Planning authorities, Historic Scotland officers, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, building preservation trusts and other interested parties notify buildings to the Trust for inclusion on the Register, and a site visit is undertaken by the Buildings at Risk Officer. Resources do not allow for systematic area surveys. Buildings that are not listed can be included, but the majority of the over 1,000 national buildings on the Register are listed. The degree of risk is assessed as 'Minimal', 'Low', 'Moderate', 'High' or 'Critical'.

Table 2.3.3b: Buildings at Risk

Tourist Board Area	Name	Listed	Degree of Risk
Aberdeen and Grampian Highlands	Aberarder Free Church, Knockan	C(S)	Low
	Great North of Scotland Omnibus Depot, Braemar	B	Low
	Derry (Shooting) Lodge, Mar Lodge	C(S)	Low

	Victoria (Entrance) Lodge, Mar Lodge	B	Low
Angus and Dundee	None		
Highlands of Scotland	128 High Street, Grantown-on-Spey Braeruthven, Near Ruthven Barracks, Kingussie Croft Cottage, Blaragie, Laggan, Near Newtonmore Garvamore Barracks, Garva Bridge, Near Newtonmore Gladstone House, Castle Road, Grantown-on-Spey Glenballoch, Near Newtonmore Glenbanchor, Near Newtonmore House and Kennels, Glen Tromie, Near Kingussie Upper Tullochgrue Farm Steading, Near Aviemore	C(S) Unlisted Unlisted A C(S) Unlisted Unlisted Unlisted Unlisted	Low Moderate High Minimal Moderate Moderate High Low Moderate

Source: Scottish Civic Trust, Buildings at Risk Online Register, February 2005

Pointers for Indicators
Until baseline information has been established, indicators will be very difficult to identify. In view of the size of the area, the scale of the assets and the limited resources available, it would probably be sensible to seek representative areas for sample studies from which broader conclusions could be drawn. One approach might be to revisit some of the areas/buildings recorded in detail by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and assess the level of change on a regular basis. Another possibility might be to seek co-ordinated annual reports on new listings, de-listings, authorised changes to listed buildings and enforcement actions from all planning authorities within the Park and Historic Scotland, and conduct sample studies on completed works. Representative areas could be selected for systematic survey of buildings at risk, including non-listed structures, and the results forwarded for consideration by the Buildings at Risk Officer. Regular, future monitoring would also be required.

2.3.4 Settlements and Conservation Areas

Before the 18th to 19th century Improvement era, the landscape of the Park was peppered with townships – clusters of houses serving multiple-tenancy farms. Reform of agriculture put an end to these townships, and now the clusters of houses, with their associated field systems and shieling huts, represent the most extensive archaeological remains in the Park. One of the most distinctive legacies of the 18th to 19th century Improvement period within the Park boundary is the creation of a number of planned villages. These were established by local landowners, partly for economic reasons, but also in an attempt to engineer social order. Only Ballater had a non-agriculture or non-cottage industry purpose – it was laid out by Francis Farquharson to service the Pannanich Wells Spa. All major settlements are adjacent to rivers, and with the exception of Braemar, are located where the glens are relatively broad and flat.

Local planning authorities are the principal organisations involved in shaping policy for settlements within the Park. Planning authorities have a statutory duty to designate ‘conservation areas’ to preserve and enhance the character of historic settlements. The Scottish Executive’s Planning Advice Note 71 sets out best practice for active management of conservation areas to maintain their historic character and economic vitality.

Description of Resource/Condition Statement
Types/Elements
Settlements in the area consist mainly of hamlets, villages and small towns of up to 2,400 adults. Conservation areas are defined by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation

Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997 as "areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance." Physical elements of settlements which can contribute to their character and interest include: wider setting including views into and out of the settlement and relationship with topography; archaeology; planning and layout of streets; key buildings or monuments; distinctive architectural styles; building and surfacing materials; density and building pattern; skyline; a variety of building types, including domestic, commercial, public, religious, educational and industrial buildings; open spaces; parks and gardens; planting.

Numbers/Quantification

Aviemore, Ballater (planned 1770), Braemar, Grantown-on-Spey (planned 1765), Kingussie (planned 1799) and Newtonmore are the largest settlements in the Park. Of these, Grantown-on-Spey, Ballater and Braemar are designated conservation areas. There are over 600 conservation areas throughout Scotland.

Characteristics

Most of the settlements in the Park have their origins in the 18th and 19th centuries. Local materials were predominantly used for construction until the mid-20th century. The density and height of buildings is generally low. Where planned, villages either take a linear or gridiron form, with streets that are usually wide and spacious, but generally not tree-lined. From the formal core, a number of the villages had a further spurt of more informally planned growth in the late 19th century. These are characterised by villas set in their own grounds, built to accommodate the increasing number of summer tourists who, following the example of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, flocked to area with the opening of the railway and improved roads. Further expansion of the larger villages occurred after the two World Wars, when Local Authority housing was provided for returning soldiers and their families. Perhaps the most controversial and least-loved architectural period, the 1960s and 1970s, also made their impact, most notably at Aviemore.

Classifications/Standards

Planning authorities designate conservation areas, but they do not classify them by merit. For the purpose of assessing conservation areas for grant aid, Historic Scotland applies a classification system of Outstanding, Non-outstanding or Not Classified (Awaiting Assessment). Ballater and Braemar are classified as 'outstanding' and Grantown-on-Spey is 'not classified'.

Locations/Examples of Significance

Grantown-on-Spey is the largest and most renowned of the mid-18th century, planned settlements within the Park boundary. Founded in 1765 by Ludovick Grant, the laird of nearby Castle Grant, it was laid out around a long square linked to an axial road. The new village was a great success, attracting many traders, shopkeepers and craftsmen by the end of the 18th century. Queen Victoria made a "very amusing and never to be forgotten" visit in 1860. Architectural coherence is not as strong as in some other planned villages and towns, but the structure of the original plan remains intact.

The village of Easter Raitts near Kingussie was cleared in the early 19th century by its then landlord, James MacPherson (the translator of 'Ossian'). The footings of several houses and other buildings, as well as a hollowed roadway, can be clearly seen in the grass. The walls would have been built up using foundation courses of stone and then slabs of turf to the height of the eaves. The roofs were supported by wooden A-frames, known as 'crucks'. Excavations take place here every summer, and the results used to reconstruct a typical local township at the Highland Folk Museum at Newtonmore. It appears that although the visible remains date to the 18th and early 19th centuries, the site had by then been occupied for many hundreds of years. There are mediaeval references to Raitts, and prehistoric pottery has been found.

Visitors to the excavations are welcome, but dates and other details should be checked in advance with the Highland Archaeology Unit or the Folk Museum.

Policies/Strategies/Legislation

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997;
- Scottish Ministers' National Planning Policy Guideline 18, Planning and the Historic Environment, April 1999;
- Scottish Ministers' Planning Advice Note 71, Conservation Area Management, December 2000;
- Scottish Ministers' Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas 1998;
- Strategy and Local Plan policies for each planning authority area.

Trends

Trends are very similar to those outlined above for listed buildings. Quite minor changes, such as changes in glazing or replacement/repair of features in non-traditional materials, can have a cumulative and permanently damaging effect on the quality, appearance, performance and value of the historic building stock in historic settlements. New development is not always of the highest design quality, and incremental erosion of the character of an area can take place through poor infill and backland developments. There is considerable potential for promotion of the educational, cultural and economic benefits of historic buildings and conservation areas, as the success of events like the September Doors Open Days has demonstrated.

Organisations/Sources of Data

- Historic Scotland;
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland;
- Scottish Civic Trust
- Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland and Moray Councils
- Cairngorms National Park Authority

Brief Bibliography

- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland/Historic Scotland, The Historic Landscape of the Cairngorms (2001);
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- Charles McKean, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Illustrated Architectural Guide to Moray (1987);
- Robin Smith, The Making of Scotland – A Comprehensive Guide to the Growth of Scotland's Cities, Towns and Villages (2001).

Monitoring/Updating

Section 63 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997 requires planning authorities to formulate and publish their plans for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. Monitoring of settlements and building stock condition is usually undertaken every five years during preparation of the Local Plan. Settlements are assessed for new conservation area status, or existing conservation area boundaries are

reconsidered as part of this process. The recent Planning Advice Note 71 on conservation areas makes a number of recommendations over and above the Local Plan process, including: a proper understanding of the resource through conservation area appraisals; involvement of the local community; supplementary guidance on design and conservation issues; active management of change to ensure high quality, new development that respects, enhances and has a positive impact on the area; proactive enforcement; enhancement and maintenance of the public realm and regular monitoring and review.

Pointers for Indicators
Implementation of recommendations in Planning Advice Note 71 would provide a full baseline assessment against which to measure the condition of the resource.

2.3.5 Military Buildings and Battlefields

The Cairngorms area has had a long association with military endeavours throughout the centuries. The military infrastructure which was established throughout the Highlands in an attempt to quell the clans during the 18th century consisted of barracks, castles and roads. The network is recognised internationally as a unique example of the military control structure of its time.

Remnants of the military infrastructure are still visible in the landscape today and are of considerable economic significance through their contribution to the visitor amenity of the area.

Ruthven Barracks
Situated east of the A9 near Kingussie, Ruthven Barracks is a prominent landmark in the Park.

The mound on which the barracks was erected is man-made. Its construction consists of wooden timbers and is thought to be the remnants of a stronghold built in the 13th century.

The barracks, which housed about 100 dragoons, was built in 1719 by General Wade as part of the measures to subdue the clans after the Jacobite rising of 1715. The garrison at Ruthven was strategically important as it defended an important junction in the military road network which connected the road to Fort Augustus and the road to Fort George.

In August 1745 a small troop of Redcoats managed to hold at bay a Jacobite force almost 20 times their number. In February 1746 the Jacobites returned with artillery, forcing the surrender of the garrison. After their defeat on Culloden Moor, the retreating Jacobites set fire to the barracks, resulting in its present ruinous state.

Garvamore Barracks
Built in 1740, Garvamore Barracks is situated on General Wade's military road which ran through the Corrieyairack Pass (connecting Fort Augustus and Ruthven Barracks).

Unlike Ruthven Barracks, Garvamore Barracks was never attacked and when no longer required for military use was used as an Inn, a school and a private house before falling into its present-day state of disrepair.

Regiments
The armed services have been a traditional source of employment and education for many areas of rural Scotland; the Cairngorms area is no exception. The principal traditional regiments for the Caingorms area were the Seaforth, Cameron and Gordon Highlanders.

Formed in 1881 and organised as the county regiment of Caithness-shire, Cromarty, Elgin-shire, Nairn, Ross-shire, Sutherland and Orkney, the Seaforth Highlanders, (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's) encompassed its Militia and Volunteer infantry and united two regular battalions.

In 1881 The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders reorganised as the county regiment of Inverness-shire, encompassing its Militia and Volunteer infantry.

In 1961 The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders amalgamated with the Seaforth Highlanders, (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's) to form the Queen's Own Highlands (Seaforth and Camerons).

Formed in 1794, the Gordon Highlanders was the local regiment of the north east of Scotland. Recruits came primarily from Aberdeenshire, Banffshire and Kincardineshire; however, nearly 25% of the initial recruits came from Inverness-shire (including the Cairngorms), (personal comment by Sarah MacKay, Curator, Gordon Highlanders Museum, 2005).

In 1994 the Gordon Highlanders were amalgamated with the Queen's Own Highlands (Seaforth and Camerons) to become a new regiment for the north of Scotland – Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons). The Scottish regiments are currently under review (2004/5) and the existence of individual regiments is not secured.

The Cairngorms area could be regarded as a nursery for the British Army, as many officers and men in the years following the defeat of the Jacobites in 1746 were enlisted to form Highland regiments to counter the threat from foreign aggressors.

There are a number of museums throughout the area that collate and provide a good source of relevant, historical, military data. The Gordon Highlanders Museum (Aberdeen) and the Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons) Regimental Museum at Fort George, although both outwith the Park area, are particularly valuable.

The social value of these regiments to the culture of the area is of high significance in historic terms.

Battles within the Cairngorms
A number of significant battles have taken place within the Cairngorms area. These include:

Battle of Culblean, 1335
This took place on St Andrew's Day when Sir Andrew de Moray defeated English supporters.

Battle of Invernahavon, 1370
The Battle of Invernahavon is said to have taken place in 1370 (although some accounts mention 1386). The Camerons, numbering 400 men, were returning home from a raid into Badenoch when they were overtaken by a pursuing body of Clan Chattan. The Clan Chattan forces consisted of Mackintoshes, Davidsons and MacPhersons. After initial gains against the Mackintoshes and the Davidsons, the Camerons were engaged by the MacPhersons. The MacPhersons in turn defeated the Camerons, forcing them to flee towards Drumochter, skirting Loch Ericht, and westwards towards the River Treig.

Glenlivet, 1594
The Battle of Glenlivet is said by many to have been a religious conflict, with circa 2,000 men (including Camerons) fighting in support of the Catholic Earls of Errol and Huntly against

10,000 Highlanders under the Protestant Earl of Argyll (including Forbes and Mackintoshes). The battle is noted as being an early victory of artillery and horse over infantry.

Cromdale, 1690
A combined Jacobite force consisting of MacDonalds, Macleans, Camerons, MacPhersons and Grants of Invermoriston were camped on the haughs of Cromdale when a surprise attack by government troops, led by local Grant men, killed or captured 400 Jacobites. The remaining Jacobites were dispersed and would have to wait until 1715 before the next rising took place. The Battle of Cromdale has since been immortalised by the pipe tune 'The Haughs of Cromdale'. There is a plaque to mark the site, as well as the Piper's Stone, where it is said a lone piper played as the battle raged around him.

2.3.6 Roads, Railways and Drove Roads

Roads
With the development of villages and towns came the connecting routes and tracks. These were to form the basic infrastructure which would allow the transport of animals, promote the practice of trade and permit the cultural assimilation of Highland and Lowland people, as well as permitting the deployment of military personnel.

Little information exists about the condition and distribution of roads until 1617, when the Scottish Parliament made Justices of the Peace responsible for maintenance of highways connecting villages and townships. As a result of increased usage and new types of transportation, tracks were in poor condition. Main routes north of the Tay were said to have been impassable by wheeled vehicles in the mid-17th century; local routes focused on travel across or between estates. In 1669 the Scheme of Statute Labour was introduced, whereby all men in a parish between the ages of 15 and 70 had to do six days labour on the roads every year. This scheme, however, did not prove successful and was superseded by the introduction of turnpikes (eg North Deeside Turnpike Road), where those using the roads paid tolls, with road trustees in turn employing roadmen to carry out maintenance work. The turnpike system lasted until 1878, when maintenance was made the responsibility of local authorities.

Military Roads
The development of military roads in and around the Cairngorms area can be attributed in large part to General George Wade (1673-1748). In the aftermath of the Jacobite rebellion of 1715, General Wade was tasked with the construction of a network of military roads linking castles and barracks. These were primarily the three main Highland garrisons of Fort William, Fort Augustus and Fort George, together with Stirling in the Lowlands, as well as garrisons like those at Ruthven and Garvamore.

The programme of road building began in 1724 and continued under the supervision of General Wade until 1740, at which time it was passed to Major William Caulfield, who continued in post until 1767. During this period, road network construction was extended and a programme of road maintenance introduced.

Having served its initial purpose and with the passing of the Jacobite threat, the military road network was increasingly recognised as a valuable resource for civilian purposes, allowing travel in greater numbers between the north and south of the country.

Many signs of the original network of military roads are still visible, and roads, where known, are marked on Ordnance Survey Maps. Many modern roads follow the original routes of Wade and Caulfield, and bridges built as part of the military infrastructure are still visible in the landscape.

General Wade's road over the Corrieyairack Pass linked Ruthven Barracks in Badenoch to Fort Augustus on the shores of Loch Ness. This road was completed in 1731 and is the only surviving example where the original construction details can still be clearly seen. This is largely due to its remoteness and high altitude. A lower level road through Glen Spean was constructed in the early 19th century, thereby rendering the Corrieyairack route redundant.

The national significance of these built resources is such that they are recorded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and afforded protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997, which is monitored by Historic Scotland.

Drove Roads

With an increase in population in the early 18th century across central Scotland, there were opportunities to be gained from selling cattle for meat and clothing. The Highlands were well-placed to meet the extra demand, and driving cattle south each autumn to cattle markets or trysts was commonplace.

A network of paths existed throughout the area which allowed the transport of cattle along the long valleys of the Dee, the Don, the Deveron and the Spey, as well as through the Angus Glens to be sold or exchanged for goods at market towns such as Dunkeld, Dunblane, Kirriemuir, Inverness and Dingwall (Smout 1969).

Around 1630, Sir James Balfour of Denmyle described the main routes between the Rivers Tay and Dee and various routes from Glen Clova and Glen Esk to Glen Muick and Glen Tanar (National Library of Scotland, MS 33.2.27). Balfour also listed crossing places over the River Dee. These included ferries at Braemar, Crathie and Abergeldie.

From Angus cattle thieves would pass "through Glen Glova, Glencallater and Glenclunie to Deeside to the hills of Atholl Forest, or crossing the Dee below Invercauld, they went by Glen Lui through the passes of the Cairngorms", while cattle stolen from land between the Dee and the Don were driven to Speyside via the Avon valley (Smout 1969). In an attempt to end the practice in the mid-18th century, military detachments were posted along such routes at Dalwhinnie, Glenfeshie, Glenclunie, Corgarff, Inchrory, Glenmuick and Glen Clova.

Many of the drove roads were used as blueprints for the network of military roads that were constructed under the leadership of Wade and Caulfield, and it is therefore difficult to distinguish exactly what the original purpose of roads was. 'Cairngorms Assets' (1996) highlights the difficulties of distinguishing "military roads from drove roads or the whisky trail as many routes had multiple uses."

Although there is no definitive listing of drove roads, authoritative works on the subject include 'Scottish Hill Tracks' (Scottish Rights of Way Society) and 'The Drove Roads of Scotland' (ARB Haldane).

Whatever their original purpose, many drove roads have since become rights of way. Examples of well-known drove roads include:

- Lairig Ghru;
- Lairig an Laoigh;
- Fungle;
- Firmounth;
- Capel Mounth.

Rights of Way
The Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society has compiled a directory of rights of way across Scotland. The directory is in two parts; a computer catalogue containing information on the known routes and maps showing the routes. With assistance from Scottish Natural Heritage, local authorities, community groups and the Society's own members, the catalogue is regularly updated. Where known, the catalogue provides an indication of the uses of each route (vehicular, horse, cycle, pedestrian, unknown).

Routes are also classified in relation to the strength of their legal status:

Vindicated: all routes declared to be rights of way by the Courts and with evidence of continued usage. Evidence of continued usage is only necessary where a landowner contends that a route has fallen out of use for the necessary prescriptive period (20 years) and therefore ceased to be a right of way.

Asserted: all routes where either the landowner accepts the route as a right of way, or the Local Authority has indicated that it would be willing to take Court action if required.

Claimed: routes which the Society considers meet the conditions for being rights of way, but which have not been vindicated or asserted.

Other Route: all permissive routes and those created by agreement or which do not as yet satisfy the required conditions.

The Society continually updates data held in relation to the routes stored on the catalogue. Information is collated from surveys conducted by volunteers on behalf of the Society.

Rights of Way (as promoted by the Scottish Rights of Way Society) include the following:

- Ballater to Clova (The Capel Mounth), 31 kilometres;
- Ballater to Cock Bridge, 19 kilometres;
- Ballater to Tarfside by Mount Keen, 26 kilometres;
- Ballater to Strathdon, 22.5 kilometres;
- Braemar to Aviemore by the Lairig Ghru, 51 kilometres;
- Braemar to Glen Clova (The Tolmount), 29 kilometres;
- Braemar to Glen Isla (The Monega Pass), 35 kilometres;
- Braemar to Nethy Bridge by the Lairig an Laoigh, 48 kilometres;
- Braemar to Tomintoul, 32 kilometres;
- Clova to Tarfside, 24 kilometres;
- Cock Bridge (Donside) to Nethy Bridge, 51.5 kilometres;
- Cock Bridge (Donside) to Tomintoul by Inchrory, 22.5 kilometres;
- Coylumbridge to Achlean (Glen Feshie) by Gleann Einich, 20 kilometres;
- Crathie to Clova, 34 kilometres;
- Crathie to Tomintoul, 35 kilometres;
- Dinnet to Tarfside (The Fir Mounth), 21 kilometres;
- Grantown-on-Spey to Tomintoul by Cromdale, 22.5 kilometres;
- Kingussie to Braemar by Glen Feshie, 51 kilometres;
- Nethy Bridge to Tomintoul, 17 kilometres;
- Strathdon to Tomintoul by the Ladder Road, 26 kilometres.

In the Second Survey of Landowners in the Cairngorms Partnership Area (Scottish Landowners Federation, 2000) it is estimated that there exists some 2,600 kilometres of paths with open public access; 340 kilometres are above 600 metres and 2,219 kilometres below 600 metres.

Scottish Paths Record
The Scottish Paths Record is a computerised record of paths and tracks in Scotland. Information on routes (with associated data) is held in a Geographical Information System. This was derived from OSCAR data (a comprehensive roads dataset featuring all motorable public roads, minor roads and a selection of private roads), Ordnance Survey data and additional data supplied by local authorities, Sustrans and Scotways' Catalogue of Rights of Way. Information such as route names, current use, legal status and whether the route is promoted is available. The accuracy of data supplied by local authorities is known to vary according to the initial collation process and the extent of any updating.

Created in 2002, the Scottish Paths Record was designed to assist access authorities in the implementation of new responsibilities under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. It is intended that the Scottish Paths Record be used by Scottish Natural Heritage to assist them in monitoring the core path network, as well as other managed and promoted paths.

At the time of developing the Scottish Paths Record the Cairngorms National Park Authority had not been formed. However, the need for a separate database for the Park area was recognised in 2003, and Scottish Natural Heritage staff have since extracted Park-specific data from the Scottish Paths Record. Updating this dataset will be the responsibility of the Cairngorms National Park Authority.

The Archaeology Service at Aberdeenshire Council maintains the Sites and Monuments Register for Aberdeenshire, Angus and Moray Council areas, but holds no record of the exact number of military or drove roads with the Cairngorms National Park

Details of the few recordings held within the Sites and Monuments Records are not extensive. While there are no specific policies relating to military or drove roads, Aberdeenshire Council's Environmental Policies 19, 21 and 23 relate to the protection of "local cultural sites", "upland areas" and "vernacular buildings" from development that may damage them. In particular, this relates to "existing paths", "historic trackways" and "droving roads".

Aberdeenshire Council views military roads as an important step in the history of transportation infrastructure, both at national and regional levels, and where possible believes they should be treated as built structures and afforded the same protected status as other built structures. Drove roads are regarded as important because they served as connections between communities and therefore allowed the dissemination of oral traditions, etc, but they are considered more ephemeral than military roads.

Many of these ancient paths, tracks, drove and military roads form the basis of the roads we travel on today, while others have been allowed to revert to their natural state and are difficult to see in the modern landscape.

Railways
The introduction of rail travel to the Cairngorms area in the mid-19th century improved the comfort and speed of travel to such an extent that it resulted in the area up to becoming a fashionable holiday destination. Over the following century rail travel was to prove a vital and popular form of transport within rural areas and was of high social and economic value.

However, construction of modern-day roads and the increased use of other forms of transport impacted on the future of rural railway lines.

Dr Beeching

In 1961 Dr Richard Beeching (1913-1985) was appointed as Chair of British Railway with a specific remit to reduce the spiralling costs of running the railway system. This was done by introducing a system of closure of unprofitable railway lines.

In his report 'The Shaping of British Railways' (March 1963) Dr Beeching proposed massive closures to the railway system. The 'Beeching Axe', as the report was to become known, proved highly controversial, as many communities, especially rural communities, were faced with the loss of a means of public transport.

Although not cost-effective, many of the lines marked for closure remained open. This was due to a number of reasons, including the inability of local roads to cope with the extra volume of traffic and the pressure exerted by Highland politicians.

However, not all lines escaped the Beeching Axe; those railway lines affected by the closures included:

- The Royal Deeside Railway;
- The Strathspey Railway.

The Royal Deeside Railway

The Royal Deeside Railway line was opened in 1853 and ran from Aberdeen to Banchory. The line was extended in 1859 to Aboyne and further extended to Ballater in 1866. The railway line was initially built to Bridge of Gairn, but the section between Ballatar and Bridge of Gairn was lifted when it became clear that the line was not going to be extended to Braemar. However, a service was provided between Ballater and Braemar in the form of a traction engine.

The railway was seen as vital to the development of Ballater and was used by royalty and visitors to Balmoral Castle, as well as soldiers during the Second World War when Royal Deeside was used for training purposes. The line remained open until its closure in 1966.

The Royal Deeside Railway Preservation Society

Formed in 1996, the Royal Deeside Railway Preservation Society has the following aims:

- To preserve, as a working railway, for the education of the general public, part or all of the former Deeside Railway line from the Aberdeen Joint Station to the former Ballater Railway Station;

- To collect, preserve, restore and display, for the education of the general public, appropriate examples of locomotives (diesel, electric and steam-powered), rolling stock (passenger carriages, multiple units, railcars, goods wagons, departmental and engineering vehicles) and any other artefacts (including, but not limited to, signalling, permanent way, communications, materials handling and servicing equipment);

- To acquire, construct or lease such premises as are required to meet the aims of the Society.

To date the work of The Royal Deeside Railway Preservation Society has concentrated on sections of railway outwith the Park.

A separate restoration project to restore the train station at Ballater was recently undertaken, and the Royal Station now houses an exhibition of the history of the railway, as well as the local tourist information centre and a cafeteria.

The Strathspey Railway
Opened in 1866, the Strathspey Railway line ran from Boat of Garten to Craigellachie and was operated by Great North of Scotland Railways. In addition to transporting passengers, the railway was used to transport freight, in particular supplies to the Speyside distilleries, as well as full whisky casks for onward distribution.

Onward connections were provided at Boat of Garten to Inverness and Perth.

The Speyside line was closed in 1967; the railway track now forms part of the Speyside Way (a long-distance footpath from Buckie to Aviemore).

In 1971 the Strathspey Railway Company Limited set about purchasing, restoring and using the Sprathspey line. They now operate steam railway trips between Aviemore and Broomhill, using stations along the line.

Inverness and Aviemore Direct Railway
This line is still in operation, with services are provided by Scotrail between Inverness and Aviemore. Stations remain open at Aviemore and Carrbridge. The line remains of high social and economic value to the area and is not thought to be at risk.

Inverness and Perth Junction Railway
This line is still in operation, with services are provided by Scotrail between Inverness and Perth. Stations remain in operation at Boat of Garten, Aviemore, Kincraig, Kingussie, Newtonmore and Dalwhinnie. Again, the line remains of high social and economic value to the area and is not thought to be at risk.

2.3.7 Information Gaps – The Built Environment

- Quantification of physical resources within the Park;
- Recording of the archaeological legacy within the Park;
- Quantification of buildings of architectural and historic interest.

2.4 Culture and Traditions

2.4.1 Language

Although there were Norse influences, the main language across the Park area up to the end of the 17th century was Gaelic. Gaelic was, however, in a process of decline, albeit a relatively slow one. By the 16th and 17th centuries Gaelic had all but disappeared east of Dinnet, but remained prevalent to the west of Dinnet during the 18th century.

During the 1790s English was becoming more common around Ballater, and by the 19th century Gaelic was no longer spoken south of the Dee. On the north side, however, there was scarcely a family at Micras near Crathie who did not speak Gaelic in 1830 (Michie 1908). By 1850 English was the preferred language of the young, and by 1870 only the every old

conversed in Gaelic. By the early 1840s almost all the indigenous people in Braemar spoke in English.

In the 19th century Gaelic was being replaced by English throughout Badenoch. This has been attributed to the influx of Lowlanders who did not speak Gaelic. Parish schools also introduced English during this time.

Scots was becoming more common in the area throughout this time, with individual and distinctive dialects in different glens and localities. The last native speaker to use the distinctive Deeside Gaelic dialect died in 1984 at the age of 93, not having spoken or heard Gaelic to any extent for over 50 years (Watson and Clement, 1983).

Within the Park language has had, and continues to have, an influence on the cultural heritage of the area. It is possible to assess the strength of Gaelic in the area through information collected in the 2001 Census, which shows that the trend of Gaelic decline has almost halved in comparison to the decline of the previous Census period (1981-1991).

Table 2.4.1 shows the numbers of people with knowledge of Gaelic within the Cairngorms National Park.

Table 2.4.1: Gaelic within the Park				
	The Park		**Scotland**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Total Population	16,024	100	5,062,011	100
Understands spoken Gaelic but cannot speak, read or write Gaelic	156	1.0	27,219	0.5
Speaks, reads and writes Gaelic	155	1.0	31,235	0.6
Speaks but neither reads nor writes Gaelic	100	0.6	19,466	0.4
Speaks and reads but cannot write Gaelic	35	0.2	7,949	0.2
Reads but neither speaks nor writes Gaelic	27	0.2	4,758	0.1
Writes but neither speaks nor reads Gaelic	2	0.0	901	0.0
Reads and writes but does not speak Gaelic	11	0.1	1,435	0.0
Other combination of skills in Gaelic	319	2.0	0	0.0
No knowledge of Gaelic	15,538	97.0	4,968,729	98.2

Source: 2001 Census, General Register Office for Scotland

The concentration of numbers of Gaelic speakers varies throughout the Park, with it being most prevalent in the Badenoch and Strathspey area and less so in the east of the Park. While Gaelic is relatively strong within the Park (by comparison with Scotland), it is important to recognise there are other local language traditions, such as the various Scots dialects, eg Doric in the north eastern part of the Park and dialects with words of Norse origin such as ‘kirk’, ‘hoose’ and ‘bairn’. However, while there are questions about Gaelic in the Census, there are no questions about other local language or dialects of relevance to the Park area.

The Doric Festival, now in its 13th year, is a programme of events in Aberdeenshire (but outwith the Park) celebrating the song, dance and story-telling traditions of the north east of Scotland. The festival encourages involvement of local communities across the north east in celebrating the Doric language’s music and tradition. It provides an opportunity for all to witness the vibrancy of the language, music and folklore of the north east and for performers to participate in the preservation of the Doric heritage.

In a recent survey conducted in Badenoch and Strathspey for the Cairngorms National Park Authority and the Crofters Commission (2003), only 11% of crofters spoke Gaelic, while 23% of those surveyed had some link to Gaelic. It might be expected that the crofting community is where the Gaelic language is likely to thrive and be culturally significant; however, this is not borne out in the survey results, which might be explained by the atypical nature of the crofting community within Badenoch and Strathspey, with its greater accessibility to social and cultural influences.

At present Gaelic is taught at Newtonmore Primary School and Kingussie High School. In 2004-2005, some 29 primary school children spoke Gaelic, and there were 11 fluent speakers attending Kingussie High School. The Highland Council records show that there were five speakers registered at partner centres and no Gaelic speakers attending nursery.

The use of Gaelic is, therefore, very limited, and the language must be considered to be at risk in the Park area. Its social value is high in terms of the distinctive heritage of the area, but its economic value at present must be regarded as low.

In the broader cultural context Gaelic influences more than those who speak, read, write or understand the language. Within the Park, this can be clearly seen in the number of Gaelic place names throughout the area (Cairngorms National Park Authority Board Paper, 2004).

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 aims to ensure that Gaelic language and culture in Scotland is allowed to continue, expand and thrive. The Act confers specific statutory powers upon Bòrd na Gàidhlig, which was established in 2003 to promote the use and understanding of Gaelic at a national level. The Act places a statutory duty on public bodies to consider the need for Gaelic language plans in relation to the services they offer.

Given the role of the Cairngorms National Park Authority in relation to cultural heritage, approval was sought in 2004 to prepare a Gaelic Language Plan for the Park. Approval was also sought for an interim policy statement in relation to the Authority's view on the Gaelic language, as well as for the formation of a Gaelic Advisory Panel to provide technical guidance as and when required.

2.4.2 Folklore Sites and Tales

There is no definitive list of folklore sites and tales relating to the Cairngorms, and the resource is therefore dispersed and diffuse. It is known that the Highland Folk Museum has a significant collection of archives relating to local folklore.

Known sites of interest include holy wells such as those at Inverallan and Kinrara, while notable trees include 'Craobh an Oir' (Tree of the Gold) in the Forest of Mar, and 'Craobh na Croiche' (the Gallows Tree) of Inverey.

With the ongoing Gaelic revival and increasing popularity of festivals such as Fèis Spè, it is anticipated that folklore and traditional tales and beliefs will become increasingly appreciated.

A selection of folklore sites and tales include:

Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui
At a height of 1,309 metres Ben MacDhui is the highest peak in the Cairngorms and the second highest peak in Scotland. It is claimed that the mountain is haunted. Many mountaineers are certain that Ben MacDhui is home to a humanoid entity that is grey in colour, big, fearsome in appearance and known locally as 'Fear Liath Mor' (Big Grey Man).

Actual sightings of the Big Grey Man have been rare, but eye-witness descriptions of his appearance describe him as being around 10 feet tall, covered in hair, with very long arms and legs.

The Gallows Tree and a Family Curse
Beside the road which leads to the Linn of Dee is an old, dead tree which is held up by wire stay ropes. This is the Gallows Tree where, at the end of the 15th century, a young man called Lamont, the only son of a widowed mother, was hanged by order of Farquharson of Invercauld. The widow pronounced a curse, of which there are several different versions. One is that if the tree falls there will be no more Farquharsons on Deeside, which is why when the tree did die it was held up by supportive ropes. Another version is that though the tree would flourish, the Farquharsons would disappear. In 1876, when the Legends of the Braes of Mar were written, the tree was still green, but one after another the Farquharson families had died out at Monaltrie, Inverey, Auchendryne, Allonquocill and Tullochcoy. In 1805 even Farquharson of Invercauld, who had had 11 children, had seen them all die before him of consumption, except for one little girl.

The Ghost's Testimony
On the banks of the Christie Burn an English Redcoat soldier carrying wages to the garrison at Braemar Castle was killed and his body hidden. Just over the hill to the north lay the 'clachan' (village) of Dubrach. Shortly after the crime, one of the villagers showed signs of wealth, buying cattle from drovers and extra food. This gave rise to suspicion. An envious neighbour, to curry favour with the military, reported him and he was arrested to stand trial in Edinburgh. At the trial the jealous neighbour claimed that, although he did not know exactly where the body was buried, the ghost of the soldier had named the killer, and he pointed to the accused. On being asked by the judge what language the soldier used, he replied, "As good Gaelic as I'm speaking now, Your Honour." As the soldier did not speak Gaelic, the case was dismissed and went down in history as the 'Ghost's Testimony'.

Magic Bible
When King Malcolm was in Braemar, a serving girl dropped the Bible of his wife, Queen Margaret, into the river. Though richly decorated with gold, jewels and gilt figures, the Bible, when recovered, was miraculously undamaged, apart from four damp leaves. It acquired the name of the 'Magic Bible' and is kept in the Bodleian Library in Oxford, England.

Grant of Dubrach
In Braemar Cemetery is the gravestone of Dubrach. This recounts the story of Peter Grant, who was born a mile above the Linn of Dee at the 'clachan' or village of Dubrach. He fought in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 and was captured at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, although he later escaped. Reputed to have lived to the age of 110 years, he received a pension from the King at the age of 100. He was presented to the monarch in Edinburgh, the King exclaiming, "Ah, Grant, you are my oldest friend", to which old Dubrach replied, "Na, na, your Majesty, I'm your auldest enemy."

2.4.3 Dress

Approximately 1,000 years ago the standard garment of the Gael was a shirt called a 'léine' (the Gaelic word for shirt). Styles varied according to the time period, but initially this was a simple, long tunic, pulled on over the head, worn long by women and either long or to the knee by men.

During the 16th century the 'léine' had evolved into an elaborate garment with long sleeves. Variations were either pulled over on the head or wrapped around the body and closed in

similar style to a bathrobe. The most popular colour was saffron, although other colours were possible, and they were often undyed. A woollen shawl or wrap was often worn on top for warmth. This was called a 'plaid' (the Gaelic word for blanket).

The Belted Plaid
Although tartan was not popular at this time, evidence shows that tartan cloth can be traced back to the 3rd or 4th century, and it is conceivable that these wraps were made from material with a tartan pattern.

The fashion of the 16th century was for very full clothing with long puffy sleeves. The thinking behind this was that the more fabric worn, the more influential and prosperous the wearer. Towards the end of the 16th century woollen plaids began to grow longer with the fashion.

At some point in the late 16th century the longer wraps were gathered in folds and belted about the waist. This was called the belted plaid or in Gaelic either 'feileadh-mor' (meaning great wrap) or 'breacan-an-feileadh' (meaning tartan wrap).

There were different ways of wearing the belted plaid, which was the common dress of Highland men during the 17th and first half of the 18th century. The female version was the 'arisaid', which contained less cloth and was ankle-length.

At this time tartan was almost synonymous with Highland Dress, although plaids consisting of solid colours were also worn.

The Phillabeg
Although it is not known when the phillabeg came into being, most Highland Dress historians put its origins towards the mid to late 17th century.

Essentially, the phillabeg consisted of the lower half of the belted plaid. In Gaelic it is called 'feileadh-beag' (meaning little wrap). It would have been gathered loosely into folds and belted about the waist, the bottom reaching to just above the knee and the top few inches overlapping the top of the belt. Often, another length of cloth was worn over the shoulders for warmth, equating to the top half of the belted plaid.

Following the defeat of the Jacobites at Culloden in 1746, new laws were introduced which outlawed the wearing of tartan and Highland Dress for all except government troops. The 1746 Highland Dress Proscription Act, designed to punish the clans and destroy their identities, was repealed in 1782, some 36 years after being made law.

The Kilt
The kilt differed from the phillabeg in that pleats were sown in instead of simply being gathered and belted. The first recorded wearing of the kilt was by the military in the 1790s. The amount of cloth used was between three and a half and four yards. Tailored kilts for civilian wear soon followed.

The amount of cloth used in making the kilt increased to about five yards in the mid-19th century, due to tartan patterns becoming larger and box pleats becoming narrower. In 1853 the Gordon Highlanders became the first regiment to adopt the knife pleat (a form of narrow pleat). By 1900 knife pleating had also become acceptable in civilian kilts, and the practice of 'pleating to sett' (ie arranging the pleats so that the pattern of the tartan was unbroken) became popular. This new form of pleating resulted in kilts of six, seven or even eight or more yards of tartan cloth.

The Retreat Museum in Glen Esk and the Highland Folk Museum in Newtonmore house extensive clothing collections relating to the local area.

The Cairngorms area played a significant role in the formalisation of Highland Dress, and as such this resource may be regarded as of national, social significance. There is no data on trends or condition of the resource.

Clans

With reference to the 'Map of the Clans of Scotland (according to the Acts of Parliament 1587 and 1594)' which was produced in 1899, prominent Highland family names within the Cairngorms area included Erskine, Farquharson, Forbes, Gordon, Grant, Lindsay, Mackinnon, Mackintosh, MacPherson, Ogilvy and Stewart.

Further information on specific clans can be researched at clan society museums throughout the area. These clan societies maintain clan histories, records and artefacts of moderate, local, social and economic significance. These include:

- Clan MacPherson Museum – see Museums section;
- Clan Grant (Grantown Museum) – see Museums section;
- Clan Grant Society Centre – see Museums section.

2.4.4 Music and Dance

Dating back to the 11th or 12th centuries, the Highland Dances of Scotland tended to be highly athletic, male, celebratory dances of triumph or joy, or warrior dances performed over swords and spiked shield. Highland Dancing was one of the various ways men were tested for strength, stamina, accuracy and agility. The Scottish military regiments used Highland Dancing as a form of training to develop stamina and agility. Competitive Highland Dancing started during the Highland revival of Victorian Britain, and was originally for men only. Ladies began competing only at the turn of the last century. Over the centuries dancing style became more refined and now shares many features with classical ballet. Although historically Highland Dancing was restricted to men, today it is mostly performed by females. Highland Dancing is an important element of the traditional Highland Games throughout the area.

The most notable contribution from the Cairngorms area to the tradition of country dancing is the Strathspey. This slow style of dance, with its characteristic 'dotted' rhythm, is uniquely Scottish and emerged around the mid-18th century. The Strathspey has a slow tempo and can be followed by another piece, for example the Strathspey and Highland Reel or the Strathspey and Half Tulloch.

James Scott Skinner (1843-1927) was a key figure in Scottish traditional music and an exponent of Strathspeys and Reels. Born in the village of Arbeadie in the parish of Banchory-Ternan, he became known as the Strathspey King and took the art of Scottish fiddle music to a wider audience. He gained much recognition through his playing and his compositions, which totalled some 600 and included the Cairngorms Series. In 1861 he followed a course of dancing lessons and in 1862 took part in a Highland Dancing competition in Ireland, where he won first prize after accompanying himself on the fiddle. The following year he won a violin competition in Inverness and that same year became a professional dancing master, holding his first classes at Strathdon. His growing reputation was such that it led to employment at Balmoral Castle, where he taught dancing to more than 100 tenants and children. James Scott Skinner died in 1927 and was buried in Aberdeen.

It is difficult to ascertain when pipe bands were first established, but 1854 is the generally accepted date. That was the year an order was issued from the War Office stipulating that one pipe major and five pipers were to be included in each Highland regiment. However, it is likely that pipe bands had been in operation in one form or another for some time prior to 1854.

It is equally difficult to establish when drums were introduced into pipe bands, but it is known that drums and pipes were being played together by the second half of the 19th century.

In 1995 Ballater was host to the European Pipe Band Championships, and in December 2003 finances were made available from Cairngorms LEADER+ to assist in establishing a pipe band covering the Badenoch and Strathspey area. The band has attracted membership from throughout the area, and one of its main aims is to promote and maintain the heritage of piping and drumming.

Local Initiatives

Fèis Spè was established in Badenoch and Strathspey in 2000 and has since become an annual festival, fostering interest and participation in traditional music, song and dance. Taking its name from the Gaelic word for festival, the Fèis movement operates across Scotland and enables communities to become involved in learning about Gaelic song and language, as well as traditional music, drama and dance.

In addition to Fèis Spè, Dannsa Spè celebrates local tunes and dance, and the Badenoch and Strathspey Music Festival features dance piping and Gaelic verse.

Highland Dancing is popular at regional Highland Games, but it has not been possible to establish the number of dance clubs or dance schools throughout the area. The Arts Development Team at Aberdeenshire Council holds details of only one dance school in the area, based in Ballater.

2.4.5 Games and Sport

Highland Gatherings and Games

Highland Gatherings and Games have a long history within the Park. Banned following the Jacobite rebellion of 1745, they were resurrected during the reign of Queen Victoria and are of high social significance. They contribute seasonally to the tourism product of the area and are of moderate economic significance.

Today Highland Gatherings and Highland Games are an important part of the cultural heritage of the people of the Cairngorms, with royal attendance at Braemar and celebritity attendance at Lonach helping to maintain a high profile. Throughout the summer Gatherings and Games take place across the Park on different weekends. These include Abernethy Highland Games, Ballater Highland Games, Braemar Gathering, Lonach Highland Gathering and Games, Grantown-on Spey Highland Games, Netwonmore Highland Games and Clan MacPherson Gathering and Tomintoul Highland Games.

Shinty

Although now a sport played across Scotland, shinty's roots lie in Badenoch, with records going back to the 18th century. The game now achieves national recognition on radio and television. The first national rules were drawn up by the Camanachd Association in 1893.

Of the 35 teams in existence throughout Scotland three teams are based in the Cairngorms. These are Kingussie, Kincraig and Newtonmore. Since the inception of the game, both Kingussie and Newtonmore have dominated the sport, which is therefore of high social significance in these areas.

In an attempt to reduce the number of match call-offs as a result of bad weather, the Camanachd Association has recently moved to a summer season. It is also hoped that the change will allow greater participation levels and encourage new players. The Camanachd Association has introduced a development programme which concentrates on introducing shinty to local primary schools and creating teams for the under 12s, under 14s and under 17s.

A database of the history of shinty is available at the Highland Folk Museum at Newtonmore, while other museums throughout the Park hold information of relevance to the sport.

Curling

Although once popular with estate and farm workers, this traditional sport has faced significant decline over the last 50 years, with the reduction in the number of farm and other rural workers and the onset of milder winters and resultant lack of frozen lochs or outdoor curling ponds. It may be regarded as of moderate to low social significance and little economic value. Having said this, the sport has seen an upturn in its fortunes, with increased interest in the sport since Great Britain’s Women’s Curling Team won gold at the Winter Olympics in 2000.

The sport is now dependent on the availability of ice rinks. There are currently three Curling clubs within the Park: Braemar Curling Club; Carrbridge Curling Club; and Newtonmore Curling Club.

Walking

Developments during the 1930s changed the way in which the countryside was viewed. Improvements in rail and road transport meant that the great outdoors was accessible to a wider number of people than ever before. Walking remains a major activity for visitors to the Park today, with 26% of visitors engaging in this activity (Cairngorms Visitor Survey 2003). Recorded numbers of walkers have been increasing steadily since the early 1950s. As a major attraction, walking is of high social and economic significance to the area through its contribution to tourism and the understanding and enjoyment of the area. Participation is monitored through general and site-specific surveys and through people counters such as those operated by Scottish Natural Heritage.

Access to the countryside has been the subject of debate since the first half of the 19th century. In 1847 John Balfour, Professor of Botany at Edinburgh University, led a group of students from Braemar down Glen Tilt, where he was met by the Duke of Atholl and his ghillies barring the way. The ensuing acrimonious encounter ended when Balfour and his students climbed a dyke and ran off down the glen, but the lengthy lawsuit that followed vindicated the right of way through Glen Tilt.

In 1891 a party from the Scottish Rights of Way and Recreation Society led by Walter Smith set off from Braemar on an expedition through the Mounth and Cairngorm glens to signpost rights of way. In Glen Doll the expedition was met by gamekeepers of the landowner Duncan MacPherson. The subsequent lawsuit was eventually settled in the House of Lords, with the ruling confirming the status of Jock’s Road as a right of way. Litigation costs were such that they left both the Society and MacPherson bankrupt.

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ensures that everyone visiting the Park has the right to access most land and water areas, if they behave in a responsible manner, cause no damage to the environment and respect the privacy, safety and livelihoods of others.

Mountaineering and Climbing
With five peaks above 4,000 feet, the Cairngorms have long laid claim to be the roof of Scotland. A popular destination for walkers of all standards, the Cairngorms have something for everyone from all ability, low-level walks to the higher and more technical peaks, which demand good map-reading and navigational skills.

Within (and in part forming) the Park boundary there are 49 Munros (hills over 3,000 feet high) and 23 Corbetts (hills between 2,500 and 2,999 feet high).

The Cairngorm Club, one of the oldest hillwalking and climbing clubs in Scotland, was founded in 1887. The Club is still going strong and has an extensive library stocked with over 300 books and sets of journals of a number of British and overseas climbing clubs. The library is located in the Special Collections Unit of Aberdeen University Library.

Skiing
Formal skiing and other snowsports within the Park take place at Cairngorm Ski Centre, Glenshee Ski Centre and The Lecht Ski Centre.

Established in 1960, the Cairngorm Ski Centre has capacity for 5,000 to 6,000 skiers, while the Glenshee Ski Centre (established in 1962) has capacity for 6,000 skiers. The Lecht Ski Centre was established in 1977 and has capacity for 2,500 skiers. Between the three centres there are around 97 kilometres of pisted runs. Equipment hire and tuition are available at all three centres.

Although still under consideration, the idea of establishing a Ski Museum has been mooted. The Museum would be sited within the Park and be home to a collection which would tell the story of skiing.

Fieldsports
It has not been possible to record accurately the number of local residents who participate in fieldsports such as fishing and shooting; however, these are understood to be popular. There is a number of angling associations within the Park (eg in Grantown-on-Spey), and regular shooting on estates. Further details are provided in the Visitor and Recreation Resources Chapter and Annex.

2.4.6 Crafts

The Scottish Arts Council highlights the difficulty in defining a craft, as the word has so many subjective connotations. The following section concentrates on the principal, historical handcraft of relevance to the Park and on modern craft producers located within the Park area.

Spinning and Weaving
The woollen industry in Scotland is usually associated with the Borders and the Outer Isles and, to a lesser extent, with Clackmannanshire. It is often forgotten that the industry was formerly very widely distributed. Many country areas had their own small mills taking in fleeces from local sheep and scouring, dying, carding, spinning and weaving them to make tweeds and blankets for local use and yarn for knitters. Until the 19th century there was a cottage industry in the Cairngorms which saw women in the townships hand-spinning yarn for use by weavers in the villages and towns.

The development of spinning machines took place between 1760 and 1780, with the 'jenny', the water-frame and finally the 'mule' of Samuel Crompton. Resisted by home-workers, the mule in a factory setting meant that spinning capacity outstripped that of hand-weavers. The period to 1850 saw a steep increase in hand-weavers to accommodate the glut of yarn (with an estimated 250,000 handlooms in Britain circa 1800), together with a strong resistance to the development of power-looms, which only gained ascendancy between 1820 and 1850 in England and later in the Borders and the Highlands. The wool carder and dyer could also usefully employ his water source for washing and shrinking woven cloth or 'waulking'. While washing and drying tasks were happily relinquished to local mills, spinning and weaving remained in the home setting, but inevitably the factory setting came to encompass all trades.

From 1850 onwards, the small Highland mills adopted machines and working practices from England, providing a relatively stable trade for a few generations, with local mills widespread and viable until the 1930s. Viability was often reliant on supplementary income from farming alongside mill work, demonstrating a strong pattern of self-sufficiency. However, price determines markets and with machines becoming ever more efficient, some small, Highland mills grew into large, 'vertical' concerns, incorporating all aspects of manufacture. By the 1930s the number of small mills was dwindling, and by the 1950s very few remained.

The introduction of the railway to the Cairngorms area was relatively early. The Strathspey Railway opened in 1866 and ran from Boat of Garten to Craigellachie; The Royal Deeside Railway opened in 1853 and by 1866 ran from Aberdeen to Ballater. This and other transport developments ensured that the area became less remote, which in turn reduced the need for small mills and home-weaving, as textiles were more readily available at affordable prices.

There is, however, still one working textile mill in the area, just outside the Park boundary at Knockando. The mill is of international significance and "illustrates in its fabric the development of mechanised wool processing, beginning with a small water-powered, carding mill, built to supply carded wool to local hand-spinners. The building was later extended to house a spinning mule, to provide yarn for handloom weavers. Finally, power-looms were introduced, together with finishing equipment, and extensions built to house them. All these phases of development are still evident, as are the machines which performed the functions of carding, spinning, weaving and finishing (apart from milling). The tenter frame used for drying the finished cloth to a uniform width is still in an adjacent field (John R Hume Formerly Chief Inspector of Historic Buildings, Historic Scotland)."

The current situation with regard to traditional crafts such as spinning and weaving is that there is little or no record of current activity. There are, however, two associations registered with Craft Scotland: the Grampian Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers; and the Highland Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. It has not been possible to establish whether they have any members in the Park area.

Evidence suggests that historic crafts are currently of moderate social and low economic value. The level of activity identified suggests that these crafts are now at risk, although their historical significance is addressed at museums and interpretative centres in the area.

Modern Crafts

The Craftscotland website was established by the Scottish Arts Council to promote crafts within Scotland. It is based on a Highlands and Islands Enterprise HI-Arts pilot project, with Highland producers well-represented. The website promotes crafts, both via a showcase and a search facility. It also provides a business-to-business service, including discussion forums

and advice, and enables the public to see and commission work and find out about craft-related events.

There are six craft businesses within the Park listed on the Craftscotland website. These businesses provide a flavour of the range of current activity in the area:

- *Anotherworld*
  Manufactures hand-crafted dolls' houses covering all periods, but specialising in Scottish and Irish architecture. It also runs courses covering all aspects of dolls' house and furniture-making.

- *Alice Buttress, Carrbridge*
  Studio with a diverse range of hand-built and hand-thrown pottery, sculpture and jewellery, specialising in unique pieces.

- *Lindsey Gallacher, Newtonmore*
  Contemporary jeweller who works in all precious metals, but concentrates on creating soft forms using fine silver.

- *Loch-an-Eilein Pottery, Aviemore*
  The pottery makes mostly functional domestic ware (with a tourist market in mind), hand-thrown in terracotta and glazed predominantly with blues, greens and a rich turquoise. The forms are traditional and functional, though tending towards lightness and fineness within the terracotta medium.

- *Nethybridge Pottery, Grantown-on-Spey*
  The majority of the stoneware pots made are functional items hand-thrown on the potter's wheel, but tiles and unusually shaped serving plates are slab-formed. The most stunning feature of the wares is undoubtedly the range of vibrant, yet organic, colours created by the glazes, which have been painstakingly developed over many years.

- *A'anside Studios, Tomintoul*
  The combined skills of an experienced cabinetmaker and a stained glass artist form the core of the business, which specialises in the design and manufacture of customised boxes. Furniture commissions in native and exotic hardwoods are undertaken.

The value of modern crafts appears to be increasing in both social and economic terms, with evidence of increased interest. The levels of activity and support in this area suggest a relatively low level of risk, although the small number of businesses suggests a degree of fragility. The register maintained by Craftscotland provides a means of monitoring activity.

2.4.7 Gemstones, Pearls and Precious Metals

In the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries lead, iron and silver were mined or prospected for in various parts of the Park, but with little success. Digging for Cairngorms was popular on Lochnagar and in the Cairngorms in the 19th century, and mention of precious stones goes back to 1795. Surface deposits are now largely worked out, with local ewellery producers now using imported stones. Smoky Quartz is a traditional gem at one time found in the Cairngorms Mountains, ranging in colour from the lightest to the darkest of greys. There is also a yellow-brown variety called a Cairngorm, which is generally faceted and set in jewellery. It has been used in traditional jewellery such as Sgian Dubhs, dirks and brooches.

Scotland is still home to over half the world's stocks of freshwater pearl mussels. At one time they were found in as many as 160 Scottish rivers. Roman historian Suetonius cited Julius Caesar's preference for British pearls as one of his main reasons for invading Britain, and Alexander 1, the 12th century King of Scotland, was said to have had the best collection of freshwater pearls in the world. Today, due to a combination of factors, mussels are in danger of becoming extinct, and their locations are closely protected.

The River Dee is one of the few remaining strongholds for the freshwater pearl mussel. Scottish Natural Heritage hopes to provide additional environmental protection for mussels by designating the River Dee as a Special Area for Conservation. The River Spey is also an important site for mussels, which are found along significant portions of the river; exact locations are kept secret, as pearl mussel fishing, although illegal, still takes place. Freshwater mussels are also found in the South Esk, which is designated as a Special Area for Conservation.

The modern social value of the Cairngorm lies principally in its link to Highland Dress and is of moderate significance; its economic value is low. The value of freshwater pearls today is principally environmental; pearl mussels are at risk, hence the designation of sites as Special Areas for Conservation and their monitoring by environmental agencies.

2.4.8 Information Gaps – Culture and Traditions

- Trends and condition of Highland Dress;
- Number of dance clubs and dance schools within the Park;
- Number of local residents participating in fieldsports;
- Membership of the Grampian Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers and the Highland Guild of Weavers.

2.5 Material Resources

2.5.1 Museums, Heritage and Interpretation Centres and Libraries

Museums and Heritage and Interpretation Centres

The many museums and heritage centres to be found throughout the area represent its rich and diverse social and cultural heritage. Many of these have elements of education and interpretation built into their design, construction and layout and may be regarded as being of medium to high social and economic significance to the area.

The Scottish Museums Council is the membership organisation for local museums and galleries within Scotland. Its aim is to improve museum and gallery provision. At present membership consists of over 320 museums, ranging in size from small voluntary trusts to larger urban services. There are no significant trends in museum provision apparent at present.

Museums in the public sector are not thought to be at risk; however, there are significant risks to some in the private sector which depend on volunteers and visitor numbers for their sustainability.

There are five museums within the Park registered with the Scottish Museums Council:

Clan Grant Society Centre

Based at Duthil, this former church contains grounds where some of the past clan chiefs are buried. It is owned and managed by the Clan Grant Society and stands in the midst of Grant lands. A resource centre is available to the public for conducting research into the Clan Grant.

Clan MacPherson Museum
Based at Newtonmore, this museum tells the history of the Clan MacPherson. An audiovisual display about the clan and the local area is the main attraction. Other exhibits include James MacPherson's fiddle, the clock which Burns wrote of in his song MacPherson's Rant and various relics associated with Bonnie Prince Charlie. A reference library is also available for those wishing to research the Badenoch area or the MacPherson name.

Grantown Museum
This community-owned initiative was officially opened to the public in 1999. In the same year the museum was commended in the Scottish Museum of the Year Awards.

The museum tells the story of Grantown-on-Spey (an 18th century planned town). An extensive photographic collection depicts the history of the town and its residents, while records relating to the founding of Grantown-on-Spey in 1765 form the basis of audiovisual displays.

The museum is also the meeting place of the Grantown Society (a local history group) and home to the Society's archives. The museum provides research facilities for genealogy and local history.

The Highland Folk Museum
This museum is situated in two locations, Kingussie and Newtonmore.

The Kingussie site has an extensive collection of everyday objects, as well as major exhibits of furniture, machinery and implements connected with the countryside and which provide the visitor with an insight into the social history of the people of the Highlands.

Exhibits include: farming machinery and implements; textile crafts; traditional furniture; reconstructed buildings (eg Lewis Blackhouse); and a traditional Scottish herbaceous garden.

The Newtonmore site is 40 hectares in size, with whole buildings reconstructed to give the visitor the experience of the Highlands in different times. The traditional skills and crafts spoken of at the Kingussie site have been used to create the buildings at Newtonmore. Living exhibits range from an early 18th century Highland township to a mid-20th century working croft.

The village of Easter Raitts was cleared of its residents in the early 19th century by the landlord James MacPherson (the translator of Ossian) as part of the Highland Clearances. Excavations of the site take place annually, and the Highland Folk Museum has been able to use this knowledge to reconstruct a township typical of the area.

In addition to the numerous themed exhibits, there are also facilities available for those wishing to conduct research using the wide range of archives housed at the musem. These archived collections are known to incorporate many aspects of Highland life including: buildings; traditional crafts and industry; placenames; folklore, music and dance; clothes; oral testimony from the Badenoch Local History Project (conducted in the early 1980s); and a database on the history of shinty.

Tomintoul Visitor Centre

Owned by Moray Council, this centre offers an insight into the social and natural history of Tomintoul and the surrounding area. It includes a reconstructed farmhouse kitchen and blacksmith's workshop.

Museums not registered with the Scottish Museums Council, but within the Park boundary include:

Old Royal Station Museum, Ballater
The restored railway station displays the story of Queen Victoria's railway travel to and from Balmoral. The local Tourist Information Centre is also housed here.

Braemar Highland Heritage Centre
This heritage centre houses a 15-minute film of Braemar and the surrounding area.

Landmark Visitor Centre
This centre, with its steam-powered sawmill, houses an audio show of Highland history.

Although outside the Park boundary, two museums registered with the Scottish Museums Council and of cultural interest are:

Glenesk Folk Museum
Run by a community trust, this museum is based in The Retreat, a former hunting lodge in Glen Esk. It houses a unique and diverse collection, including archived material which covers every aspect of the Glen's social history. Exhibits include: a smiddy with implements and horse brasses; a kitchen with its old box-bed; dairy and farming equipment; a parlour; costume display; and a music room. The museum is currently being redeveloped and refurbished. Once re-opened, the new facility will provide a purpose-built home for part of the highly acclaimed heritage collection in an environment that will ensure it does not deteriorate.

Kirriemuir Gateway to the Glens Museum
This museum is run by Angus Council and describes the social, architectural and political history of Kirriemuir and the Angus Glens.

Interpretive sites located throughout the Park showing cultural aspects of life in the Cairngorms include:

Loch Garten Osprey Centre
Owned by The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, this resource is home to nesting ospreys. The interpretation centre is largely built with timber sourced from the Abernethy Forest Reserve and allows visitors to view the osprey nests with the aid of closed circuit television facilities.

Rothiemurchus Estate
Rothiemurchus Estate offers a range of educational tours on subjects which include forestry and forest life, land-use past and present, land management and countryside activities, fishery and deer farming.

Libraries
Local public libraries located within the Park can be found in Aviemore, Ballater, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore, while mobile library services operate throughout the Angus Glens, Badenoch, Braemar and Strathspey areas.

Other libraries containing manuscripts, archival indexes, maps and photographs pertaining to the Cairngorms include: Inverness Public Library; National Library of Scotland; University of Aberdeen (Special Collections and Archives); The Robert Gordon University; and the University of St Andrews Library.

2.5.2 Literature and Poetry

A number of literary works on the Cairngorms area have been written; these are of significant importance to the social, economic and environmental understanding of the area. The works encompass a range of subjects including folklore, myth and legend, family origins, sporting traditions, poetry and estate management.

Perhaps the most famous of the works are the writings of James MacPherson. Born in Ruthven in 1736, he was taught at the local school and later became its headmaster. In 1760 he published some Gaelic verse with English translations ('Fragments of Ancient Poetry'). At that time Gaelic poetry was an oral tradition with no written record. Each clan had a 'Seannachaidh', a hereditary genealogist and storyteller, who passed on poetry by word of mouth.

MacPherson was commissioned to tour the Highlands to record the epic poem and deeds of the Celtic hero Fingal, as narrated by his son Ossian. In 1761 MacPherson published the poem 'Fingal', which he had translated from Gaelic to English. The book was a bestseller and was translated into all the main European languages. It is reported that Bonaparte carried a French translation with him on all his campaigns and that it caused him was to re-open the Scots College in Paris which had been destroyed during the French Revolution of 1789. 'Fingal' was followed by the publication in 1963 of 'Temora', another poem, but by this time there were doubts over the authenticity of his works. MacPherson died in 1796, and his remains were interred in Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey.

Other literary works relating to the Cairngorms area and worthy of mention include:

- Gaelic in Strathspey – Neil McGregor (private publication, extract from Transactions of The Gaelic Society of Inverness Vol 59, 1995)
- Highland Journals – Queen Victoria
- In the Shadow of Cairngorm – Reverend Doctor William Forsyth (1900)
- Legends of the Cairngorms – Affleck Grey
- Lochnagar – George Gordon Byron
- Memoirs of a Highland Lady – Elisabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus (1898)
- Romantic Strathspey – James Alan Rennie (1956)
- Rothiemurchus: Nature and People on a Highland Estate 1500-2000 – Smout TC and Lambert RA (eds) (1999)
- The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui – Affleck Grey
- The Old Man of Lochnagar – HRH The Prince of Wales (1991)

Most of these works are considered of national significance.

2.5.3 Written Records

There is a wealth of archive material available relating to the Park area. The value, importance and significance of this varies on a case by case basis over time. The extent of the resource is not fully established, with much material thought to be in private hands. Digital records and the digitisation of records are becoming of increasing importance.

Archive material in the public sector is maintained in excellent condition and is catalogued and organised to a high degree. Material in private ownership can also be well-kept, but some owners may fail to appreciate the importance of their holdings, and so the resource suffers through neglect, financial constraints and an absence of cataloguing or structure. Material in private hands is most at risk, as much of it is unregistered and as a consequence could be wholly lost if damaged.

The National Archives of Scotland
The National Archives of Scotland is the main archive for sources of Scottish history and holds records spanning the 12th to 21st centuries encompassing most aspects of Scottish life.

In addition to housing the public and legal records of Scotland, the National Archives also holds many local and private archives, amounting to almost 500 large and 2,000 small collections of papers, and is able to advise on the care of collections outwith their guardianship.

The Scottish Archive Network was established in 1999. Its aim is to improve access to Scotland's archives by combining computer and digital technology with archivist knowledge to reach a wider audience.

Creating a single, electronic catalogue for more than 20,000 collections of historical records held by 52 Scottish archives has resulted in a central point of reference for researchers. The catalogue is maintained by The National Archives of Scotland and is available online at www.scan.org.uk. In addition to hosting the catalogue, the Scottish Archive Network also provides up-to-date contact details for Scottish archives, a suite of research tools for those studying Scottish history and genealogy and a digital archive containing high quality images of selected Scottish historical records.

The National Archives of Scotland has also created a computerised index to wills and testaments of Scots from 1500 to 1901. This in turn has been linked to digital images of the documents and is available online at www.scottishdocuments.com. It is not known how many of these records relate to the people of the Cairngorms.

Examples of the type of collections held by the National Archives of Scotland include family and estate papers of landowners from across Scotland, as well as records of businesses, societies and institutions. Collections which relate to the Cairngorms area include:

Mountaineering Council for Scotland 1970-1985, Reference: GB234/GD429 – includes papers regarding extension of ski development in the Cairngorms at Lurcher's Gully (1980-1981);

Forestry Commission 1841-2000, Reference: GB234/FC – includes files relating to Scottish National Parks 1943-1957;

Alvie Parish Papers 1695-1725, Reference: GB234/GD1/159 – papers relating to the Parish of Alvie including Tack, Testament, Marriage Contract and Extract of Baptism;

Records of the Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society 1847-2001, Reference: GB234/GD335 – papers relating to all aspects of the Society (formerly the Scottish Rights of Way Society);

Royal Scottish Forestry Society circa 1806-1976, Reference: GB234/GD1/1214 ─ includes a note of the presentation of plank to the Duke of Gordon in commemoration of cutting down the forest of Glenmore circa 1806 in order to construct ships, together with reports and other papers from the Scottish Landowners' Federation, 1952-1959;

The Scottish Mountaineering Club 1842-2000, Reference: GB233/Acc.11538 ─ register of Munroists 1971-1992 and correspondence, diaries, notebooks and photographs of club members and individual climbers presented to the club 1799-1996.

University of Aberdeen
Examples of records held include:

North Deeside Turnpike Road 1856-1865, Reference: GB231/MS2765 ─ papers relating to the construction of the turnpike road which ran from Charlestone of Aboyne to Castletown of Braemar and the rental of tolls thereon;

Mar Lodge: Weather Journal 1783-1791, Reference: GB231/MS3075 ─ journal recording weather during shooting seasons 1783-1791;

MacGregor Collection of Gaelic songs from Braemar, Strathdee and Glengairn 18th-19th Century, Reference: GB231/MS3106 ─ photocopy of the Invercauld Manuscript, a collection of the 18th Century Gaelic songs entitled Original Gaelic Songs of Braemar, Strathdee and Glengairn collected by the Reverand Robert MacGregor. The Invercauld manuscript is the oldest and second largest collection of Gaelic verse from Aberdeenshire. The collection includes laments, love songs, satires, praise poetry and Jacobite verse;

Papers of Professor Alexander S Watt, relating to the Cambridge University Cairngorm Survey of 1938 and 1939, Reference: GB231/MS 3221 ─ collection of papers mostly relating to the Cairngorm Ecological Surveys with which Professor Watt was involved, including a photographic journal of the expedition and notebooks.

The Highland Council
Examples of records held include:

Kingussie and Area Records 1898-1995, Reference: GB232/D427 ─ includes correspondence and newspaper cuttings relating to the erection and unveiling of the Norwegian Memorial at Glenmore in 1973; correspondence and newspaper cuttings regarding the presentation of HMS Loch Alvie's ship's bell to Alvie Parish Church in 1968 and numerous miscellaneous records;

Kingussie and Inverness Miscellany circa 1836-1948, Reference: GB232/D258 ─ includes a collection of papers relating to the history of Inverness and Badenoch and a guide to Badenoch with photographs, dating from 1948.

The National Library of Scotland
Examples of records held include:

Royal Aberdeen Volunteers: letter book 1795-1802, Reference: GB 233/MS.9363 ─ letter book of the Royal Aberdeen Volunteers containing copies of correspondence on their use to check unrest in the Braemar district in 1787;

Badenoch Bards late 18th century, Reference: GB233/Acc.11044 – Gaelic verse, mostly by Badenoch bards, transcribed circa 1799.

The National Register of Archives (Scotland)
The National Register of Archives contains information on the nature and location of manuscripts and historical records relating to Scottish history. It holds close to 4,000 lists describing papers held by private individuals and families, landed estates, clubs and societies, businesses and law firms. The Register also includes surveys which have been deposited in the archives and libraries of local authorities, universities, institutions and companies. It is not known how many of these records relate to the Cairngorms area.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
The Commission is the main source of collections relating to Scotland's archaeology. The collections contain photographs, drawings, manuscripts, aerial photographs and other visual and documentary material. Principal components include: antiquarian material from the early 19th century onwards; records compiled by the Ordnance Survey Archaeology Branch from 1950-1983, including microfilm copies of the Ordnance Survey Name Books; personal research archives; and archaeological books and journals.

The Air Photographs Collection
The collection covers the whole of Scotland with photographs from a variety of sources including the Royal Air Force, Ordnance Survey, Luftwaffe, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and private companies. The majority of the photographs are black and white and range from the 1940s to the present day.

Aberdeenshire Council
The Council holds a vertical aerial photograph collection which comprises 95% coverage of Aberdeenshire and Moray. These are in two sets, both of which are black and white. One set is 1:24,000 scale taken in the mid-1970s (generally 1976/1977), and the other set is 1:11,000 scale taken in the mid-1980s (generally 1988). Both collections are in good condition and are available for viewing by appointment.

2.5.4 Maps, and Digital and Oral Records

Maps
Almost all detailed maps of parts of Scotland up to 1750 derived from the work of three main mapmakers. These were Timothy Pont in the late 16th century, Robert Gordon in the mid-17th century and John Adair in the late 17th century (although John Adair did not produce maps of the Cairngorms area).

The National Library holds the largest map collection in Scotland. Included in this collection are Ordnance Survey Maps of Counties and Regions of Scotland, Military Maps of Scotland and Ordnance Survey Town Plans 1847-1895.

In addition, thematic maps showing Scotland's first road atlas by Taylor and Skinner 1776, geology, clans and administrative boundaries in the 19th century are also available for research and consultation.

Over 4,000 high-resolution images of early maps of Scotland and related texts are available for visitors to view on the National Library's purpose-built website. The National Library has also developed a website highlighting the maps of Timothy Pont (circa 1583-circa 1596).

Maps produced by Timothy Pont which relate directly to the Cairngorms area include:

Pont 6 (front):	Strathspey;
Pont 6 (back):	River Nethy, River Dulnain;
Pont 7:	Ben Lawers, Glen Tanar, Strath Avon;
Pont 18:	Loch Tay: Head of Glen Tanar;
Pont 19:	Forest of Atholl;
Pont 20:	Glen Tilt;
Pont 27:	Strathardle, Glenshee and Glenericht;
Pont 28:	Glen Isla and Lintrathen; parts of Strathmore near Coupar Angus;
Pont 30 (front)	North Esk; South Esk.

Maps produced by Robert Gordon which refer to the Cairngorms area include:

Gordon 2:	Map of Scotland, north of Glenmore in detail, and outline of the east coast to Dunbar, showing the courses of the main rivers, and the positions of some places;
Gordon 3:	Map of Scotland, north of Loch Linnhe, the River Dee and west of the River Deveron;
Gordon 6:	Map of eastern Scotland, including the basins of the Rivers Don, Dee, Tay, Forth and Tweed;
Gordon 24:	Map of the River Avon.

Maps of Counties and Regions of Scotland

The practice of mapping counties began in the 1760s, when new detailed maps were created across Scotland. A number of factors motivated the interest in mapping, including advances in agricultural practices, the enclosure of common land and political stability.

Land surveying emerged as a distinct profession, with surveyors combining mathematical knowledge with practical skills in land management. Map-making was given a further boost in 1759 when the Society of Arts in London awarded grants for maps of counties at a scale of at least one-inch to the mile based on trigonometric surveys. In most areas in Scotland this resulted in the most detailed revision of maps since Timothy Pont's maps some 200 years earlier. As well as showing natural features such as rivers and woodland, these new maps showed for the first time a range of settlements, including many remote farms and hamlets.

Military Maps of Scotland (18th century)

During the 18th century the threat of Jacobite rebellion led to an increase in military activity, especially within the Highlands. In addition to building new forts and garrisons and strengthening existing ones, over 250 miles of roads and more than 40 new bridges were constructed.

These new developments were recorded and are now preserved in the National Library of Scotland's Board of Ordnance and Wade collections. Manuscript maps contain detailed architectural plans, profiles and elevations of forts and buildings; town plans and views; and road and battle plans.

Maps of interest include:

James Robertson, Topographical and Military Map of the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine (1822).

Wade Collection

After being commissioned by King George I to report on the growing threat of Highland insurrection in 1724, General George Wade (1673-1748) recommended a number of urgent measures, including the upgrading of forts and the improvement or construction of new roads between them.

During his time in Scotland Wade was responsible for founding and constructing two new forts, Fort George and Fort Augustus,as well as upgrading several others, including Ruthven Barracks.

Within the Wade Collection there are 17 plans on 14 sheets of paper. While most pertain to areas outwith the Park, there is “A Plan of the Country where the New Intended Road is to be made from the Barrack at Ruthven in Badenoth to Invercall in Brae Marr.”

Ordnance Survey
The origins of Ordnance Survey Maps can be traced back to the years following the failure of the Jacobite uprising at Culloden in 1746, when General William Roy was given the task of making a survey of the Highlands.

Ordnance Survey has one of the largest collections of historical mapping in Great Britain. Until recently this was held only as a paper archive, but there is now an extensive digital archive. Online access to an historical map archive is available at www.old-maps.co.uk.

Digital and Oral Records
The increasing importance of digital recordings has allowed researchers to hear and see recordings of testimonies and events. It has also allowed the incorporation of recordings into displays and reconstructions of both historical events and the social history of people and their culture.

An examples of such material is the oral testimony stored at the Highland Folk Museum at Kingussie.

With recent developments in Information and Communications Technology, it has become increasingly easy for materials to be viewed by large numbers of people. This has revolutionised the way in which archivists and researchers work. The importance of these developments can be seen in the number of databases and collections now available online.

2.5.5 Information Gaps – Material Resources

- Number of National Archives of Scotland records relating to people of the Cairngorms.