

RECORDS

Any recording carried out as part of the project, either as drawings or photographs, will be offered to the National Monuments Record of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, Coates Place, Edinburgh.

NOTE: Please note that the above refers only to the first stage of work on this important Monument. Any future input will be itemised and submitted separately for Scheduled Monument Consent.

Robert Gourlay
Archaeologist
Dept Libraries & Leisure Services
Highland Regional Council
Glenurquhart Road
INVERNESS

3rd March, 1987.

Element 2: (Contd)

in a subsequent phase.

Element 3: The outer face of the Outwork shown as Area 1 (see plan).

Here too, large voids exist at the base of the wall. After checking of the wall-head for loose material, these will be cleared out, refilled and rough-racked 100mm back from the wall-face as before. Mortar mix as discussed above.

Note: A short length of the wall-head may be affected by overhanging branches from the trees growing inside the Outer Court. These branches will be lopped, in advance, by forestry workers from Cawdor Estates.

Element 4: Avanguard gridded tell-tales will be installed to monitor any movement which exists in the wall below the blocked window opening at Area 3 (see plan). Subject to the results of this monitoring, this area will be dealt with in a subsequent phase.

Element 5: Small, localised pockets of consolidation in Areas 4 and 5 (see plan).

In order that NO element is begun which cannot be completed within this phase, these small areas of work have been identified as small-scale works which can be undertaken should Elements 1-4 above be completed within the duration of the 1987 project. These comprise small patches of basal voiding at the wall-face, which can be dealt with as above.

Note: Any further time which might remain will be taken up by work on the access point on the loch shore.

Element 6: Preparation of Landing Point (see plan)

The landing stage will be a floating jetty anchored to the island shore at this point. If ANY disturbance of the ground surface is necessary to install this, prior archaeological excavation of post sockets etc will be undertaken by Mr Gourlay. This is, however, unlikely to be necessary.

Element 7: (NOT WITHIN THE APPLICATION). Shore works.

This will be undertaken at the commencement of the project in order to establish a Shore Base. It will be fenced and gated to prevent any public access during the Overall work programme.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

It is hoped that the bulk of the heavy equipment (Workshed; Scaffolding; Mortar materials etc) will be transported to the island by helicopter. All smaller items will be ferried across by boat. Storage will be entirely above ground (no excavation involved) within the Outer Ward. Toilet facilities for the workforce will be a chemical toilet. Disposal will be on the shore, not on the island. As vandalism is unlikely to be a problem, most equipment will be stored, securely locked, on the island.

FUNDING

The bulk of the funding will come from the Manpower Services Commission, comprising all wages (except Mr Innes the mason, who will be funded by Cawdor Estate). An allowance of £400 per person is available towards materials, equipment and protective clothing. Any shortfall in this will be made up from Highland Regional Council funds. Other costs may be offset by Cawdor Estates, and grant for the shore-based facilities is forthcoming from the Countryside Commission for Scotland.

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LOCHINDORB CASTLE

REPORT ON PROPOSED WORKS TO CONSOLIDATE THE FABRIC OF THE MONUMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVATION AND FUTURE SUPERVISED PUBLIC ACCESS

The Overall Programme

Lochindorb is an important Monument, both architecturally and historically, whose fabric is in urgent need of consolidation and repair to prevent further deterioration of the existing remains. The overall programme is intended, through a carefully staged series of operations, to undertake remedial work to arrest decay and consolidate the ruins with the eventual aim of allowing supervised public access.

The work will be undertaken by a Community Programme project under the auspices of the Manpower Services Commission. The project is sponsored by Highland Regional Council in response to an initiative from the Earl of Cawdor, owner of the site. Additional input, to the provision of facilities on the island and the adjacent shore for public access, will come from Highland Regional Council and the Countryside Commission for Scotland. All necessary agreements for access have been made with adjacent landowners.

Workforce and Supervision

This will comprise a team of 9 part-time general workers recruited locally under the immediate supervision of a Charge Hand who will, if possible, be a stonemason or experienced building worker. The work as a whole will be under the supervision of the retired Master Mason for Cawdor Estates, Mr John Innes.

Archaeological supervision, where necessary, will be by the Archaeologist for Highland Regional Council, Mr Robert Gourlay.

STAGE I, APRIL - SEPTEMBER 1987.

Stage I will be to consolidate and repair those areas in most need of urgent work as identified through discussion with Mr Gourlay, and the HBM (SDD) Inspector and Architect, Mr Coulter and Dr Fawcett. These are intended to be as follows:

NB: NO identified element in the programme will be begun unless it is certain to be completed with the Project period.

Element 1: Loose masonry at the junctions of Areas 7 and 8 (see attached plan).

A small area of corbelled stonework is in imminent danger of collapse in the upper part of the wall angle. This will be recorded in detail both by drawings and photographs; the facing stones numbered; and these removed prior to consolidation and replacement in accordance with the drawn/photographed record. The MORTAR MIX, as throughout, will be in accordance with the original mixture (details to be agreed with HBM's Architect). Aggregate for this will be obtained locally. Size as recommended.

Element 2: Both faces of the Outwork represented by Areas 2 and 2a (see plan).

Here the serious undermining of the walls will be cleared out, re-racked and consolidated. The repaired areas will be left rough-racked (not refaced) and left some 100mm back from the wall-face so that they are identifiable. Prior to this work beginning, the wall-top will be checked for loose material.

Secondly at Areas 2 and 2a, the major crack in the S angle of the wall will be marked with Avonguard gridded tell-tales to measure any movement. If the crack is widening, this will be dealt with

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OBJECTIVES:

To undertake essential consolidation work on the fabric of the castle of Lochindorb, and to create facilities, both on the castle island and the loch shore, to enable visitors to have access to the castle and interpretive information on its construction and history.

This project derives from an initiative by Lord Cawdor, owner of the castle, and is of a nature suitable for grant aid by the Countryside Commission for Scotland and supported by Highland Regional Council.

WORK PROGRAMME:

- (a) Consolidation of parts of the castle walls, consisting principally of repointing and refacing of existing masonry, mostly at low levels. A minor element of branch-jumping may also be involved.
- (b) Construction of landing-places both on the island and on the loch shore to facilitate access by passengers arriving by boat.
- (c) Construction of a parking area for visitors, and such pathway facilities as are necessary to link this with the shore landing-place.
- (d) Amenity landscaping of (c) above, comprising hardwood and softwood tree planting within protective fencing.

STAFFING:

One charge-hand and 8-10 part-time workers to be under the overall supervision of Lord Cawdor's stonemason (approved by Historic Buildings and Monuments).

DURATION:

Due to the exposed nature of the site and its relatively high altitude, work would require to be confined to the summer months, ideally May-October. This proposal is, therefore, for a 6-month project only. It is considered that all the work detailed above could be completed within the timescale.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

Cement, hand tools, protective clothing, site hut and cooking facilities, toilet facilities, quarry scalings for paths, construction materials for landing places (type most suitable not yet identified). Transportation (minibus and boat). Much of this might be supplied outwith the project. Also approved safety facilities.

MAINTENANCE:

Provision for maintenance of access and facilities have been, or will be, made.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED COSTS

Small Tools (shovels, pointing trowels, cold chisels, hammers, etc)	200
Cement and related materials	500
Shore landing-stage	1,000
Island landing-stage	1,000
Car parking area and pathways	5,000
Tree planting, fencing, etc	2,500
Site hut and necessary offices	150
Protective Clothing @ £40 per worker	360-440*
Transport (Minibus) @ £120 per week	2,500
Transport (Boat)	600
TOTAL	£13,810 (£13,890)*

Signed

Robert L. J.

Date

24.1.76