

Lochindorb Castle, NH93NE0001

Access Audit 130

Parish of Cromdale, Inverallan and Advie

Owner / Rep: Victor Laidlaw, Cawdor Estate, Cawdor, Nairn, IV12 5RE (01667 404666)

Local contact: the lochside is owned by Logie Estate: Allastair Laing, Logie Estate Office, Forres, Moray, IV36 2QN (01667 458900)

Description

Lochindorb Castle - late 13th century: The island fastness of Lochindorb was built by John 'the Black', head of the great Comyns of Badenoch. Edward I visited / controlled the castle in 1303 during his triumphant tour of Scotland. The Comyn family's power was crushed by Robert I of Scotland, when he besieged and captured the castle in 1313. It passed through many hands in its long history, the most infamous being those of Alexander Stewart, the Wolf of Badenoch, to whom his father, Robert II of Scotland, granted the castle in 1372. From here the Wolf descended on the fold of the Bishop of Moray at Elgin, burning the cathedral to settle old scores. This area was a hotbed of rebellion for the next one hundred years, and in 1456, following one such rising, the castle was knocked down at the command of James II. Located on the unclassified road joining the B9007 to the A939; the best viewpoint is the lay-by located on the roadside north of Lochindorb Lodge. Note: there is no access to the castle.

Pros

Historically significant site

Beautiful scenic location

Off the beaten tourist track, remote, a view that many visitors will not get of the Highlands

Located in the north of the area, which is not as rich in suitable sites as the Badenoch end

Cons

None

Proposals

I propose erecting an interpretation panel at the site of the lay-by to the north of Lochindorb Lodge, located between the road and Lochindorb. This would appear to be one of the main viewing points for the castle.

The panel would include details of the rich history of the castle, and a plan – this could be accomplished by including an aerial photograph of the castle (taken when the loch was frozen), which shows the layout very

clearly. On my last visit to the lay-by, two Highland Council (temporary, plastic) rubbish bins were positioned there. These should be removed and replaced with one built into a stone cairn, to lessen the impact of these facilities on the landscape.

Costs

Interpretation Panel - £1500

New rubbish bin cairn - £300 (Highland Council contribution)

Bibliography

Oram, Richard Moray & Badenoch: A Historical Guide, p.123



Normal view

LOCHINDORB CASTLE

Elevated view

