

# THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY IN SCOTLAND

## SURVEY OF GARDENS & DESIGNED LANDSCAPES RECORDING FORM

### A. GENERAL SITE INFORMATION

(Expand boxes as necessary)

A1 SITE NAME:

Inverquharity Castle

Meaning – derived from the Gaelic “inver-carach”, meaning the place at the foot of the twisty water.

A2 ALTERNATIVE NAMES OR SPELLINGS:

- Old maps – Innerwharraty / Innerharety / Inncarrite etc
- 1682 – Inneraritie – Ochterlony
- 1234 – Invercharity – Warden Vol III
- Invercarrity / Inncarrity – Warden Vol IV
- Enderwharity – The Regality of Kirriemuir

A3 ADDRESS AND POSTCODE:

Inverquharity Castle, Kinnordy, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 4LW

A4 GRID REFERENCE:

- NO 404 577

A5 LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Angus

A6 PARISH:

Kirriemuir

A7 INCLUDED IN AN INVENTORY OF GARDENS & DESIGNED LANDSCAPES IN  
SCOTLAND: NO

A8 TYPE OF SITE: (eg. Landscaped estate, private garden, public park/gardens, corporate/institutional landscape, cemetery, allotments, or other – please specify)

Private garden.

A9 SITE OWNERSHIP & CONTACT: (Where site is in divided ownership please list all owners and indicate areas owned on map if possible)

A10 SIZE IN HECTARES OR ACRES:

11.85 acres

A11 PUBLIC ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS/OPENING TIMES (If any):

None

A12 NATIONAL & LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATIONS: (eg. Conservation Area, Green Belt, Tree Preservation Order(s), Nature Conservation Area, etc.

None

A13 LISTED STRUCTURES:

- Inverquhariry Castle HB 11665 Category A 1971 item 43
- Inverquhariry Bridge over Carity Burn HB Category C(S) 1980 11663 item 41 (location NO 401 581)
- Inverquhariry Mill Category B 1971 HB 11666 item 44

<http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2200:12:0::NO:RP:KEY,COU,PB,CAT,DF,DT:inverquhariry%2C%2C%2C%2C%2C>

## **B. HISTORICAL SURVEY INFORMATION: MAPPED, DOCUMENTARY & PUBLISHED SOURCES**

B1 MAPPED SOURCES: (please list maps below in date order and attach copies where possible. Give the description or title, date, maker's name if known, and for Ordnance Survey maps give the date of survey, edition number and sheet number)



1583-96 Timothy Pont: Middle Strathmore shows Innerwharraty  
<http://maps.nls.uk/counties/view/?id=292&zoom=4&lat=4123.5&lon=3858.5&layers=B>



1636-1652 Robert Gordon: Brae of Angus and the Height of Angus shows Innerharet  
<http://maps.nls.uk/counties/view/?id=30&zoom=5&lat=3849&lon=4796&layers=B>



1678c Robert Edward: The Shire of Angus shows Inncarrite  
<http://maps.nls.uk/counties/view/?id=200&zoom=4&lat=4424&lon=3420&layers=B>



1745 H. Moll: The Shire of Angus or Forfar shows C. Inncarrite  
<http://maps.nls.uk/counties/view/?id=232&zoom=4&lat=3426&lon=3018&layers=B>





1745 Roy Military Survey of Scotland shows Invercarrathy ©*British Library Board. All Rights Reserved.*

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/roy/#zoom=14&lat=56.68392&lon=-2.91999&layers=B0000000TTT>



1794 John Ainslie: Map of the County of Forfar or Shire of Angus shows Inverquharity

<http://maps.nls.uk/joins/view/?rsid=74400188&sid=74400188&mid=577&pdesc=North%20West%20section&zoom=6&lat=1300.5&lon=7668&layers=B>



1825 John Thomson: Northern Part of Angus Southern Part shows Inverquhard  
<http://maps.nls.uk/atlas/thomson/view/?rsid=74400151&sid=74400150&mid=516&pdesc=Bottom%20section&zoom=6&lat=7509.5&lon=5839.5&layers=B>



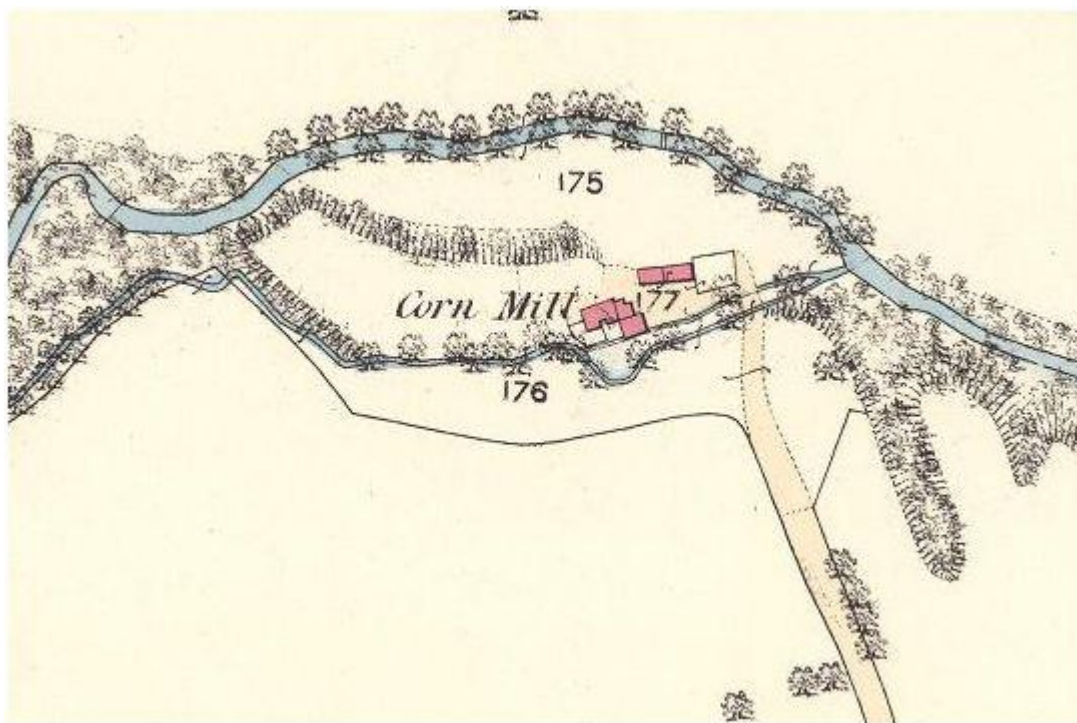
1850 James Knox: Map of the Basin of the Tay shows Inverquhar Cas.  
<http://maps.nls.uk/coasts/view-chart/?id=842&zoom=6&lat=6316.5&lon=8712&layers=B>





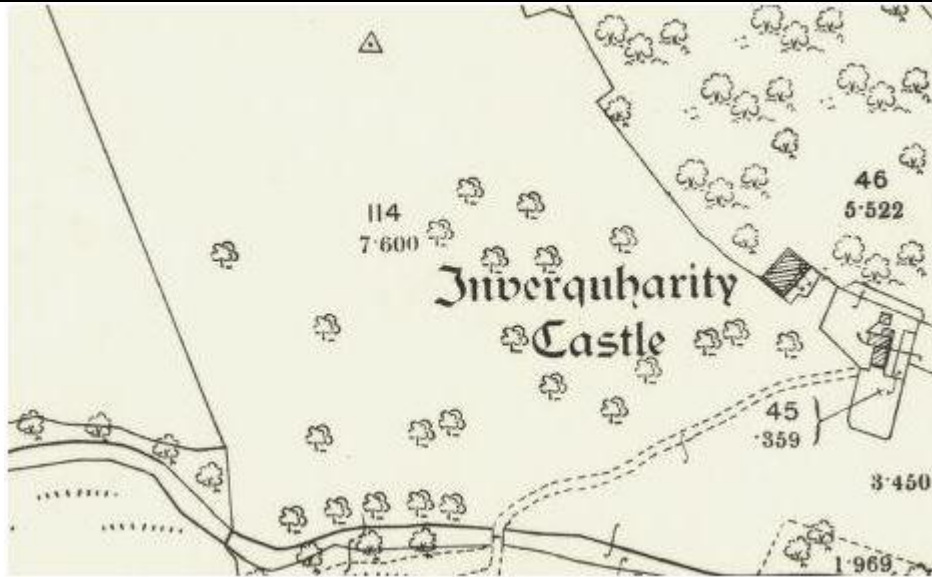
1859 OS 25" to mile surveyed 1859 published 1865 Kirriemuir XXXII.1  
Inverquharity Castle.

<http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch/view/?sid=74946703&zoom=5&lat=2520&lon=14274.5&layers=B>

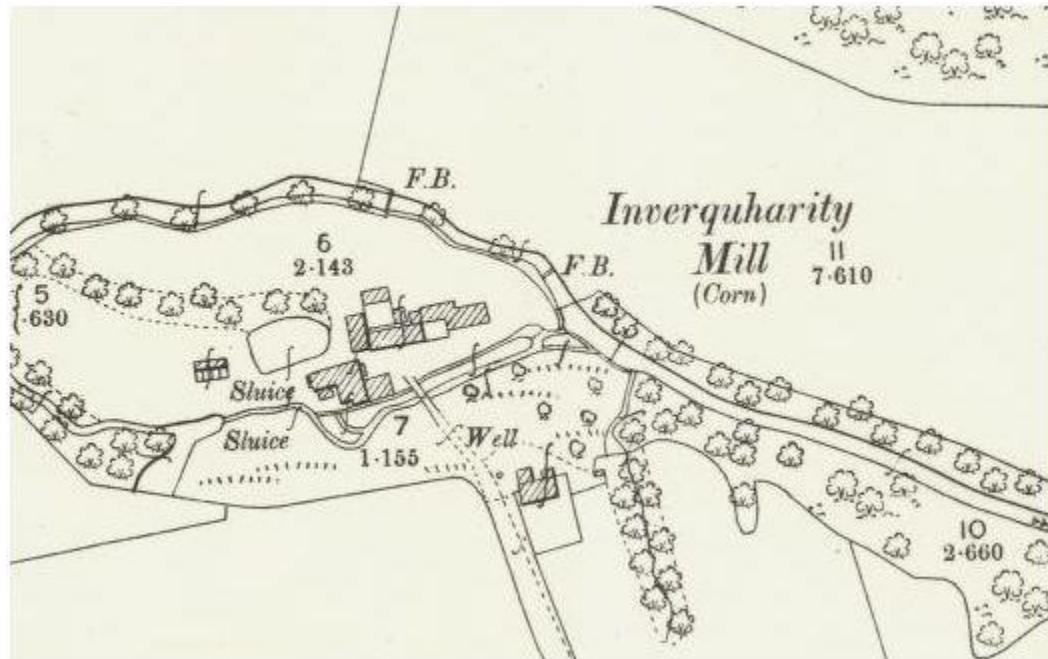


1859 OS 25" to mile surveyed 1859 published 1865 Kirriemuir XXXII.2  
Inverquharity Mill.

<http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch/view/?sid=74946706&zoom=5&lat=2404&lon=2784.5&layers=B>

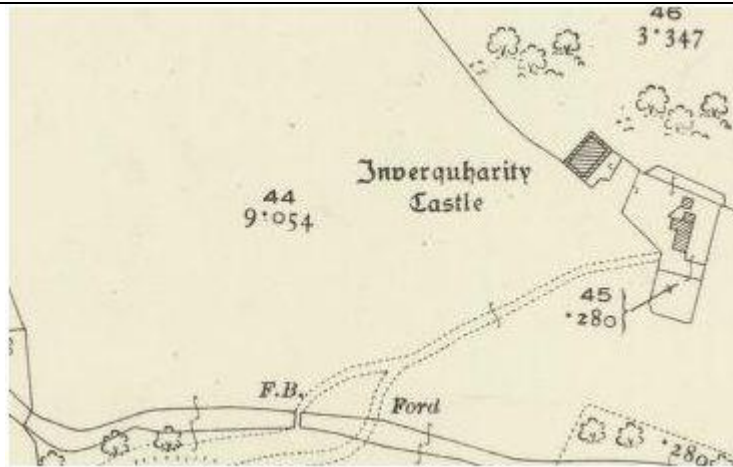


1900 OS 25" to mile revised 1900 published 1902 Forfarshire 032.01 Inverquharity Castle <http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch-2nd-and-later/view/?jp2=82883148&zoom=5&lat=2878.5&lon=15556&layers=B>

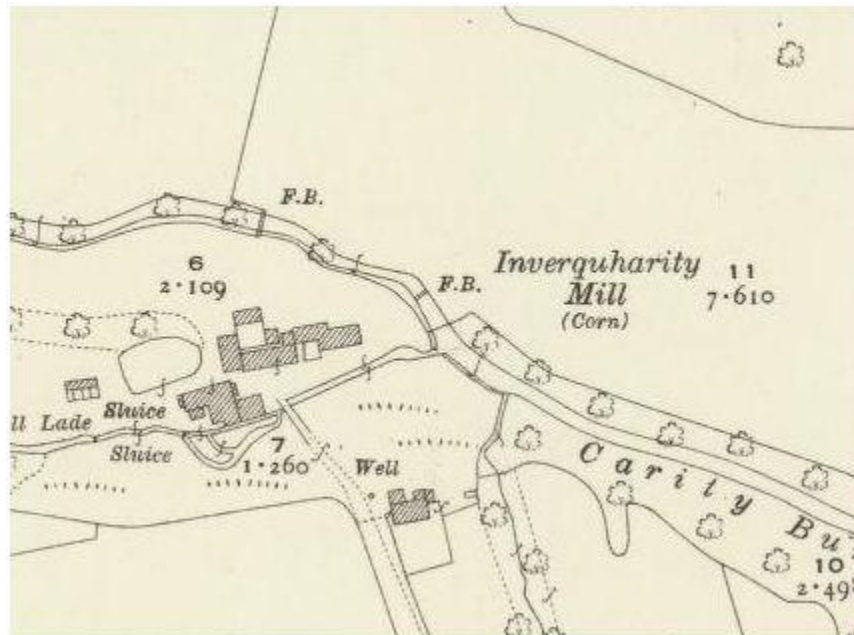


1901 OS 25" to mile surveyed 1859 published 1902 Forfarshire 032.02 Inverquharity Mill. <http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch-2nd-and-later/view/?jp2=82883154&zoom=5&lat=2423&lon=2756&layers=B>





1922 OS 25" to mile revised c1922 published 1924 Forfarshire 032.01 Inverquharity Castle <http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch-2nd-and-later/view/?jp2=82883151&zoom=5&lat=2605.5&lon=14064&layers=B>



1922 OS 25" to mile revised c1922 published 1924 Forfarshire 032.02 Inverquharity Mill <http://maps.nls.uk/os/25inch-2nd-and-later/view/?jp2=82883157&zoom=5&lat=2577&lon=3040&layers=B>

2012 Bing maps

**B2 PRIMARY & DOCUMENTARY SOURCES:** (plans, manuscript documents and other estate records) Please list material consulted in date order and attach copies where possible. Give description of material, and location and reference number of archival holding.

- 1857 RCAHMS 194 - Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. A collection of masons' marks from various places including Inverquharity Castle (14 marks recorded) - (note that in 2012, a local project is ongoing to record the masons' marks – over 700 have been found)
- 1867 Angus Archives MS 720/24/29/25 List of trees in the Birk Hill plantation at Inverquharity and at the bridge.
- 1918 Angus Archives MS 720/24/29/2 & 4 Various leases of Inverquharity Mill farm and Mill House

**B3 HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS & PICTORIAL SOURCES:** (drawings, paintings, photographs, aerial photographs etc. Include type, subject, artist, source or reference location, and date if known)

- Angus Archives 747/45/590 Inverquharity Castle - Reversed scan of 747/45/592
- Angus Archives 747/45/591 Castle of Invercarity - old sketch shows castle & cottage? NB cottage on left in foreground. Original print by R. Scott. Possibly early 19thC
- Angus Archives 747/45/592 Inverquharity Castle -As postcard
- Angus Archives 747/45/593 Inverquharity Castle -As Orr photo with cottage
- Angus Archives 747/45/594 Inverquharity Castle postcard
- Angus Archives 747/45/595 Inverquharity Castle postcard copy
- Angus Archives 747/45/596 Inverquharity Castle postcard postmarked 1910
- Angus Archives 747/45:41 Inverquharity Castle postcard not postmarked
- Angus Archives 747/45/220 Inverquharity Castle from back?
  
- 19C Late 19c drawing of Inverquharity Castle from MacGibbon & Ross
- 1869 RCAHMS AND 162/12 P Photographic copy of watercolour showing general view from SE
- 1878 RCAHMS AND 162/1 P Photographic copy of drawing showing general view of proposed additions (not built)
- 1878 RCAHMS AND 162/2 P to AND 162/9 P Seven photographic copies of drawing showing floor plans of proposed additions (not built)
- 1878 RCAHMS AND 162/10 P Photographic copy of drawing showing rear elevation
- 1878 RCAHMS AND 162/11 P Photographic copy of drawing showing front elevation
- 1885 RCAHMS AN 1284 Historic photographic view (print)
- 1890 RCAHMS B 60448 Copy of historic photograph showing view of castle and lodge from SE

- 1890 RCAHMS PA 104/21V/3 Photograph album page 21v/3. View from SE of castle and lodge
- 1890 RCAHMS PA 104/21V/4 Photograph album page 21v/4. General view
- 1890 RCAHMS B 60451 Copy of historic photograph showing general view
- 1895 RCAHMS AN 3000 Historic photograph view



- 1900c D. Orr P1040453 Inverquhar Castle



- 1900c D. Orr P1040456 Inverquhar Castle

- 1900 RCAHMS AN 1237 Copy of historic photograph showing general view
- 1900 RCAHMS PA 216/15/2 General view, Inverquhar. Photograph album No. 216





- 1906 Postcard showing Inverquhar Castle

- 1909 Battlements from The Regality of Kirriemuir
- 1909 Inverquhar Castle from The Regality of Kirriemuir
- 1909 RCAHMS RAB 164/OP91 Opposite page 91, photograph of Inverquhar Castle
- Pre-1914 Inverquhar Castle; A photograph taken before the great war. Uploaded to RCAHMS by ©Brian McGarrigle
- 1930 RCAHMS AN 1121 View from NNE
- 1930 RCAHMS AN 1122 View from N
- Undated RCAHMS AN 1283 PC General postcard view
- 1937 RCAHMS G 91733 PO General view from N
- 1937 RCAHMS G 91734 PO General view from NE
- 1937 RCAHMS G 91735 PO General view from S
- 1937 RCAHMS G 91736 PO General view from SE
- 1937 RCAHMS G 91737 PO Detail of lower wall from SE
- Undated RCAHMS G 91755 CS View from SE (glass plate slide)
- Undated RCAHMS G 91756 CS View of water garden (glass plate slide)
- Undated RCAHMS G 91757 CS View of grounds (glass plate slide)
- Undated RCAHMS G 91758 CS Photographic copy of drawing of plan of lands (film)
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1548/5 View from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1548/6 View from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1549/7 General view from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1549/8 General view from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1549/9 General view from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1550/10 View from SE
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1550/11 Detail of upper wall
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1552/16 View from W
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1554/23 General view from SW
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1555/25 View from SW
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1555/26 View from S
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1555/27 View from SE

- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1556/28 View of Yett
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1558/6 General view from S
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1564/18 View of roof
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1564/19 View of roof
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1564/20 Detail of gable
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1565/22 View of capehouse
- 1955 RCAHMS AN 1565/23 View of capehouse
- 1957 RCAHMS DC 52435 Undergraduate student project. School of Architecture. Dundee College of Art. Measured drawing. Elevations and sections.
- 1957 RCAHMS DC 52436 Undergraduate student project. School of Architecture. Dundee College of Art. Measured drawing. Plans and details.
- 1970 RCAHMS AN 1621 General view from SE
- 1970 RCAHMS AN 1622 General view from S
- 1970 RCAHMS AN 1623 General view from NW
- 1970 RCAHMS AN 1624 View of great hall on second floor
- 1974 RCAHMS AN 6947 PO Inverquharity Mill – General view showing water wheel
- 1974 RCAHMS AN 6948 PO Inverquharity Mill – View of waterwheel and lade
- 1974 RCAHMS AN 6949 PO Inverquharity Mill – General view
- 1974 RCAHMS AN 6950 PO Inverquharity Mill – View of waterwheel
- 1974 RCAHMS D 36388 CN Oblique aerial view centred on the tower-house with watermill adjacent, taken from WSW
- 1974 RCAHMS SC443411 Inverquharity Mill General View from S (as AN 6947 PO)
- 1974 RCAHMS Inverquharity Mill View of 6-spoke, low breast waterwheel (as AN 6590 PO)
- 1974 RCAHMS SC443414 Inverquharity Mill View of lade/ launder to waterwheel(as AN 6948 PO)
- 1974 RCAHMS SC443415 Inverquharity Mill General View (as AN 6949 PO)
- 1975 RCAHMS A 10364 General view of Inverquharity Bridge
- 1977 RCAHMS A 78653 View from S
- 1977 RCAHMS A 78654 General view from S
- 1977 RCAHMS A 78655 General view from W
- 1979 RCAHMS AN 3780 PO General view from SW
- 1979 RCAHMS AN 3781 General view from SE
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7013 Oblique aerial view
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7103 CS Aerial view
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7104 CS Aerial view
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7105 CS Aerial view
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7108 CS Aerial view
- 1983 RCAHMS AN 7109 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 28377 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 28379 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 28384 CS Aerial view

- 1986 RCAHMS A 28385 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 28386 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 28387 CS Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30667 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30668 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30669 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30670 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30671 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30672 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30673 Aerial view
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30674 Aerial view – now digitized as AT000592
- 1986 RCAHMS A 30675 Aerial view
- 1998 RCAHMS D 36386 CN Oblique aerial view centred on the tower-house, taken from the SE
- 1998 RCAHMS D 36387 CN Oblique aerial view centred on the tower-house, taken from the NE
- 1998 RCAHMS D 36388 CN Oblique aerial view centred on the tower-house with water-mill adjacent, taken from the WSW
- 1998 RCAHMS D 36389 CN Oblique aerial view centred on the tower-house, taken from the SSW
- 2010 RCAHMS DP097077 – DP097085 A set of 8 digital aerial photographs showing the castle from all angles  
[http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/33734/digital\\_images/inverquharicity+castle/](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/33734/digital_images/inverquharicity+castle/)
- 2011 RCAHMS DP 097581 – DP097591 A set of 11 digital photographs taken at ground level showing the castle from all angles  
[http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/33734/digital\\_images/inverquharicity+castle/](http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/33734/digital_images/inverquharicity+castle/)

B4 BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PUBLISHED SOURCES: (Statistical Accounts, Gazetteers, Directories, Travel Accounts etc.) Please list publications consulted in alphabetical order. Include details of author, title, journal or periodical, and date, volume/edition and page numbers where relevant.

- Easton, the Rev. T. D. D. 1834-1845 *The New Statistical Account of Scotland, Kirriemuir*, On-line edition, Vol. 12, 175
- Forfar & District Historical Society 1969 *Account of the Shire of Forfar circa 1682 by John Ochterlony of the Guynd*, Oliver McPherson Ltd, 15-16
- Grant, A. C. October 1971 *Dispatch Office Publication – Inverquharicity Castle*
- Groome, F.H. 1896 *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland*, On-line edition edited by Mike Spathaky, 318
- Jervise, A. 1853 *The History and Traditions of the Land of the Lindsays, Sutherland & Knox*, 78, 275-6
- Macgibbon, D. & Ross, T. 1887 *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries*
- Mackenzie, F. 2002 *Old Kirriemuir*, Stenlake Publishing
- Ogilvy, The Rev. T. 1791-1799 *The Old Statistical Account of Scotland*,



*Kirriemuir*, On-line edition, Vol 11, 198

- Reid, A. 1909 *The Regality of Kirriemuir*, John Grant, 14, 25, 217, 326-330, 389-390
- RCAHMS, 1972, 1977 and 1984 *Inverquharinity Castle, Archeological Notes*
- Salter, M. 1995 *The Castles of Grampian and Angus*, Folly Publications, 141
- Tranter, N. 1977 *The Fortified House in Scotland. V. 4, Aberdeen, Angus, Kincardineshire*, The Mercat Press
- Warden, A.J. 1884 *Angus or Forfarshire the Land and People Vol IV*, Charles Alexander & Co, 105-107, 113

#### B5 PRINCIPAL PERIODS OF DEVELOPMENT:

1440s house built

1444 Licence to fortify house with a yett

1445 E wing destroyed by the Lindsays

1680s Castle vacated in preference to the new mansion house at Kinnordy

1782 Inverquharinity Castle (along with Kinnordy House) sold to Charles Lyell

1818 Mains of Inverquharinity derelict

1878 Scheme for new house incorporating existing tower house (alternative to rebuilding Kinnordy). Not carried out

19<sup>th</sup> century remains of E wing demolished and stone used to repair Inverquharinity farm

1940-45 Trees felled around the castle

1970 Restoration of tower house including reinstatement of E wing. Grounds landscaped.

#### B6 PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS ASSOCIATED WITH SITE: (please reference source of information)

Dictionary of Scottish Architects gives details of 1878 proposed alterations and 20<sup>th</sup> century extensions.

[http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/building\\_full.php?id=200854](http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/building_full.php?id=200854)

1972-73 Cunningham Jack fisher Purdom architect William Murray Jack – Restoration of Tower House, including reinstatement of E wing

**B7 ORAL RECORDS/REMINISCENSES** Please include a list of any people interviewed during the course of research/survey work. Include name and role of interviewee (eg. Family member, former employee, local resident), date of conversation and major dates, features or events recalled. Attach a transcript of the conversation if possible.

9<sup>th</sup> April 2012, from Alisoun Grant, owner at the time of the survey:

- The origin of the line of gean trees is at Glen Quiech where a huge limb of beech was used as a perch for gean eaters. The seeds produced many seedlings some of which came to Inverquharinity
- The circle of betula in the centre of the North Lawn is called the ‘Nine Muses’. There are now just eight but the missing tree allows a better view of the castle from the The Sitting Stones.

- The large *rosa glauca* type at the bottom of the Gully Garden is called the Boot Rose; it came home from an expedition to the Himalayas. The seedling was part of a clump of plants put into a boot as the collector had run out of containers for carrying specimen plants.
- The Gully Garden is probably the area used by the cattle to get access to the upper area by the castle. The ground there is very fertile.

**C. SITE SURVEY** Use map provided to mark positions and boundaries. Take photographs where possible.

The grounds of Inverquharinity castle were designed and planted after the restoration of the castle in the 1970s. As such, they do not contain features characteristic of the gardens and designed landscapes of the 17th and 18th centuries. They do not, therefore, fall naturally into the categories of the standard report form.

The castle stands on a level raised platform or small promontory in a defensive position that would have given extensive views all round. An escarpment drops some 15m to 20m steeply on the NE and the ground below this is on the same level as the river South Esk which is less than ½ a Km away. At some time, it may have been that the river flowed much closer to the castle. On the S side, the slope drops more gradually towards the Carity burn. The drive crosses the Carity burn to the castle.

The main area of open garden is grassed to the WNW and again to the E. The slope of the escarpment to the NE has been planted in a natural way and informal paths lead down to the lower level where there is a large pond. The pond was made on a boggy area and sits in a natural setting. From the main grassed area in the WNW, there is a 'gully' leading to the lower level. This gully is less steep than the escarpment and, although informal in appearance, has been planted with a very specific design to complement the landscape.

Much of the planting depends on thwarting rabbit and deer.



**C1 ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS Note the materials used, the dates and styles of various phases of development, and category of listing if appropriate**

**C1A PRINCIPAL HOUSE OR BUILDING:**

RCAHMS - Four-storey, (formerly L-plan), tower-house, ashlar, with two vaulted floors, corbelled battlements with angle bartizans and machicolations, and gabled cap-house. Re-entrant entrance door has pointed arch and contains iron yett 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The original main tower measures 45ft by 30ft by 64ft high. Its walls are 8ft thick and rise four storeys to a parapet and walk, within which is the usual attic storey.

The E wing was destroyed in a raid 1445 by the Lindsays and rebuilt 1970.

The restored E wing is of red sandstone, four storeys with gabled roof. It has access on the ground floor and also by an external flight of steps to the first floor.

**C1B OFFICES (stables, outbuildings, etc):**

None

**C1C HOME FARM OR MAINS:**

None now. There are references to Mains of Inverquharinity in the region of the castle. OS survey of 1859 shows a large rectangular building to the NW of the castle and an existing sunken track complies with this. RCAHMS 1984 – situated NW of Inverquharinity Castle there are turf-covered remains of two adjoining rectangular enclosures (about 45m by 30m and 30m and 30m respectively), the larger containing a rectangular structure. These may be the remains of Mains of Inverquharinity which was ruinous by 1818.

**C1D BOUNDARIES (External & internal; estate walls, ha-has, park fences etc.):**

Post and wire.

**C1E GATES/GATE LODGES:**

None

**C1F GARDEN BUILDINGS (Summer houses, view houses, temples, grottoes etc):**

A large timber-built, open ended wood store and work bench lies to the NW of the castle.

A garden shed lies to the E of the castle.

A grove of betula NW of the castle contains The Sitting Stones giving a view of the castle and surrounding countryside.



The Sitting Stones



The Sitting Stones

**C1G CHAPELS/MAUSOLEUMS/BURIAL GROUNDS:**

None

**C1H CONSERVATORIES/FERNERIES:**

None

**C1J GARDEN STATUARY (Fountains, statues, sundials, monuments etc.) Note any inscriptions:**

A frog in the Gully Garden (refer C21F – Other Ornamental Planting)

On the steps to the main door of the castle, there is an exceptionally large burr from an elm tree. This was christened The Vortex.

At the top of the Gully Garden, there is a large Haddenstone urn on a pedestal. This is currently enshrouded by a large cotoneaster.

**C1K BURIAL GROUNDS/CEMETERIES (Note principal memorials and headstones with inscriptions where possible):**

None

**C1L BRIDGES:**

Inverquharity Bridge over Carity Burn at location NO 401 581. Small, single segmental arch, rubble, with dressed voussoirs and raised keystones. Inset stone 1872. Strictly not part of the building as it is some way from the castle on the public road.



Inverquharity Bridge

Wooden bridge over the Carity burn as part of the main drive. This is supported on stone abutments of a much earlier age. Prior to the erection of the wooden bridge, a small footbridge probably c. 1920s spanned the abutments.

C1M TERRACES (Including steps & stairways):

A terrace of granite setts NNE of the restored section. The setts are laid in the shape of a compass with the main arrow extended, heading N. Steps lead NW behind the castle.



Compass Terrace

A short series of steps lead to the main door of the original tower behind which is an iron yett. Around these steps, small cracks hold primroses, alchemilla conjuncta and other small plants.

An external set of stairs gives access to the restored E wing arriving at the kitchen door on the first floor.

CIN WALLED GARDENS (Including potting sheds, bothies, glasshouse ranges etc.):

None.

CIP AVENUES, CARRIAGE DRIVES, ORNAMENTAL WALKS, SERVICE DRIVES ETC:

A single main drive curves from the minor, public road. This terminates in a circular area with central grass and specimen conifer.



Main Drive

A vehicle width track leads ESE away from the house and curves N around the escarpment down to the pond area on the N of the house. Turning NW, this continues past the pond; turns SW rising back to the North Lawn on the castle level on the NW.

An old, vehicle width track leads NW from the edge of the North Lawn. This has a double, forked junction at the top. Coming from below, one section heads to the castle and the other to what is known to have been the Mains of Inverquharie farm steading.





Sunken track

Various walkways lead down the slope on the NNE of the castle to the pond area below. These are named after a family friend Robin Wydell, who farmed at Tregragon in Cornwall and who constructed these paths:

- Tregragon
- The Grand Cornish
- Wydell's Way

A walkway, Rob's Rise leads down through the gulley garden to the pond area. There is no exit at the bottom through the rabbit fencing at the moment.

#### CIQ ROCKERIES:

None

#### CIQ WATER FEATURES (natural & man-made including rivers, cascades, lochs, pools etc.):

The property stands near the confluence of the Carity Burn and the South Esk with the Carity on the S boundary and the South Esk close by on the N.

On the NNE of the castle, in the lower area, there is a semi-natural pond approximately 185m x 15m. This was created in a natural boggy area by excavation, the S edge below the escarpment being lined by large boulders. It is fed by a pipe from the Carity Burn which enters about half way along the S edge of the pond and exits through a sluice on the E end. Various reeds, grasses and local pond plants complement the water including *Lysichiton americanus* (skunk cabbage).

There is a ford over the Carity burn. This was the original access to the castle.



Ford over the Carity Burn

There is evidence of the mill lade that once ran to the Mill of Inverquharitty; also two tail races from mills not now in existence.



Pond on lower level



Pond on lower level

**C15 ANY OTHER FEATURES NOT INCLUDED ABOVE (Include any historic or modern feature and indicate use where possible):**

- Inverquharitty Mill (not part of the castle grounds). As at 1971. Two-storey L-plan, rubble and slate, with outside wheel, workings complete but not in use. Door lintel in gable pediment. Later alterations and additions now used as farm shedding. Roof partly ruinous.  
1990 Buildings at Risk Register – 1-2 storey L-plan mill in rubble and slate, and extended in wood to form a store. Most workings remain in place, including a 6-

spoke low-breast paddle wheel on the exterior, and iron axes and rings, and wooden spokes and paddles, inside. The door lintel in the gable pediment bears the date 1725, though there have been some later alterations and additions.

- A pile of stone is all that remains of a cottage that used to stand to the E of the castle. This was inhabited by the caretaker of the castle. This is shown in maps and photographs up to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



Stones from cottage E. of castle



**C2 PLANTED ELEMENTS: The garden or park should divide up naturally and historically into different areas, e.g. ornamental gardens, parkland, walled garden, policy planting. Each area should be delineated on a plan and current use noted.**

**C21. ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS**

C21A GRASSED AREAS (Lawns, meadows, terraces):

The main grassed area is to the W (called the North Lawn) with a shelter belt of conifers to the WNW and a line of gean trees within that, two mature prunus serrula on the W edge and an Abies pinsapo. In the centre there is a circle of eight betula; originally there were nine trees named for the Nine Muses of mythology.

To the E is another section of grassed area mainly bordering the track off the escarpment to the lower level.



Ornamental planting on slope above pond



Open grass area WNW of castle – geans in back



Open grass area – shelter belt behind



Nine Muses betula

C21B FLOWER BEDS (Indicate theme or type – parterres, perennial herbaceous border/annual bedding where possible. Note whether significant plant collection):

None as such – refer C21F



C21C SHRUBBERY INCLUDING HEDGES & TOPIARY (Include details of height, species etc. if possible):

Specimen shrubs are interspersed throughout the planting and these are included in C21D Ornamental Tree Planting.

To the N of the Compass Terrace, there is a hedge of cotoneaster called The Slug because of its shape.

The steps to the front (yett) door are partially covered by cotoneaster – possibly cotoneaster congestus.

Part of the slope on the S above the pond has a selection of mature rhododendron.

There is a large planting of tree peonies and a row of five Sorbus vilmorinii lines the upper side of The Grand Cornish.

C21D ORNAMENTAL TREE PLANTING (Single specimens, groups – include details of age and species if possible):

The following lists just some of the many specimen trees and shrubs.

The North Lawn:

- A shelter belt of mixed conifer edges the property at the NW.
- Inside the shelter belt is a line of gean trees running parallel to the shelter belt and along the track.
- Continuing anti-clockwise round the perimeter of the grass there is a single mature conifer
- Two prunus serrula (same age but weathering has produced different sizes)
- In the centre, a circle of eight (originally nine) betula contain several large boulders known as The Sitting Stones. These trees are known as the Nine Muses.
- Abies pinsapo
- Continuing anti-clockwise, there is the gated entrance to the Gully Garden.

The level area E of the castle

- Several ancient hardwood trees including a dead Spanish Chestnut retained for the spiral trunk (the barley sugar tree) and several young Spanish chestnuts in a line along the track.
- Betula albosinensis 'China Ruby'
- Acer platanoides 'Drummondii' Norway maple which has now reverted, apart from a single branch.
- S of this area and close by the river is a large mature Sycamore which may be a 'sport' or unique specimen. This starts with colouration of copper pink, turns yellow about June before going green.
- A large sprawl of rosa 'Seven Sisters' Rose'.
- Sorbus aria 'Lutescens'

- *Betula maximowicziana*

In the lower, pond area:

- By the pond *Rosa longicuspis* grows high up a tree
- Nearby is *Rosa* 'Sir Cedric Morris', a cross between *longicuspis* and *glauca*
- *Viburnum x praegense* *Viburnum* – Prague
- In the pond area to the NE there is a number of large trees including a beech which may date from c1750. The date of the beech is assumed as the size of the trunk corresponds with the stump of an elm in the Gully Garden. This elm was ring-dated at 1776.
- Mature sycamores
- A recent weeping *Betula ermanii pendula*
- *Sorbus* 'Mitchellii'
- *Betula* 'Nigra' with shaggy bark, a water lover, close by the pond
- Flowering currant, *ribes sanguineum glutinosum* (good smelling)
- *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
- *Viburnum* 'Onondaga' named after the Canadian park director who discovered it
- Lilac – pink – unusual leaf – name not known
- *Prunus* 'Tai Haku' (Great White Cherry);
- On the bank above the path, The Grand Cornish are five *Sorbus Vilmorinii*, a 60<sup>th</sup> birthday gift in 1993 to Alisoun Grant from her fellow members of the Kirriemuir Consort.
- A new *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* 'Gold Rush' (golden foliage)
- *Betula papyrifera*
- *Exochorda macrantha* 'The Bride'
- *Acer griseum*
- Oak
- Two hornbeams
- Turkey oak (*quercus rubra*)
- *Nothofagus procerus* that has leaves like a hornbeam and, in a good year, has a striking vermilion colour.
- Several acers
- Ancient limes and an area of more recent limes going back up the track to the North Lawn

Near the drive / bridge:

- On the left bank above the bridge up to the point where it narrows to the Carity is the Sally (*salix*) garden.



Line of gean trees



Shelter belt

**C21E AVENUE PLANTING** (May also cross parkland and policy planting. Note predominant species and whether single or double planted if possible:

The main drive is lined on the S side with 14 different malus. A single mature betula ermanii is further on towards the castle.

The grassed area to the E carrying the track to the pond carries a line of mature hardwood including a dead Spanish chestnut retained for the spiral effect. (The Barley Sugar Tree).

The track from the lower pond area to the North Lawn is bordered by lime trees.

**C21F ANY OTHER ORNAMENTAL PLANTING FEATURE NOT COVERED ABOVE:**

The Gully Garden or ‘Hostelry’, so called because it contains almost 50 different hostas .

This is part of the escarpment to the N of the castle and is less steep than other sections. It is roughly triangular in shape and may once have been the track taken by cattle from the farm steading at Mains of Inverquharity to reach the lower haugh. At the top, by the entrance gate it is about 4m wide and some 20m wide at the bottom; the length of the slope here is about 25m. It is rabbit fenced.

A personnel gate leads in at the top and a small path meanders down to the bottom. Another small path leads in from the E from the escarpment. The whole is laid out to create a natural effect while providing individual settings for special plants. This includes the use of special types of ivy grown on specific trees and containers of plants included for specific colours.

About two thirds of the way down is a Prunus laurocerasus, common name cherry laurel.

The area contains 47 different types of hostas in addition to many primula, dicentra, pulmonaria, sedum, hellebore, hacquetia, ligularia Desdemona’ etc to name just a few, all under a canopy of small trees and large shrubs.

Salix lanata or woolly willow, native to Angus.

The stump of an elm here has been ring-dated to 1776. There is a memorial bench and a

large ceramic frog – largely disintegrated!

At the top of the Gully Garden, there is a large Haddenstone urn on a pedestal. This is currently enshrouded by a large cotoneaster.

At the bottom edge where it meets the pond area are:

- *Rubus cockburniana*
- Golden hop
- *Betula utilis* ‘Hergest Croft’
- *Berberis temolaica*
- The Boot Rose (refer B7 Oral History)



Top of Gully Garden

## **C22. KITCHEN GARDENS AND ORCHARDS**

C22A KITCHEN GARDENS (walled, hedged or other boundary. Note any other historical features and current use)

By the garden shed to the E of the castle is a section of raised beds. This contains compost bins and rhubarb probably original from the cottage last used in the 1940s. The rest of the area contains plants grown for cutting. (The area is known as the Pickery & Pottery).

C22B ORCHARDS (walled, hedged or other boundary. Note any other historical features and current use)

None.

## **C23. PARKLAND**



<p>C23A GRASSED AREAS (Note current use, amenity grassland, agricultural use – grazing, cultivation etc.):</p> <p>None</p>
<p>C23B TREE PLANTING (Individual specimens, clumps, belts, roundels etc. Note species if possible, and whether fenced):</p> <p>Refer C21D Ornamental Tree Planting</p>
<p>C23C ANY OTHER PARKLAND FEATURE NOT INCLUDED ABOVE:</p> <p>None</p>
<p><b>C24. POLICY WOODLAND PLANTING</b></p>
<p>C24A COMPOSITION (Note composition of woodland; deciduous/coniferous/mixed, and principal species if possible. Note current use eg. commercial timber cropping/amenity woodland):</p> <p>None</p>
<p>C24B ANY OTHER POLICY WOODLAND FEATURE NOT INCLUDED ABOVE:</p> <p>None</p>
<p><b>C25. VIEWS, VISTAS, BORROWED LANDSCAPE &amp; PERIPHERAL AREAS,</b></p>
<p>C25A KEY VIEWS (please note views inwards to the house, outwards from the house, and internally within the landscape):</p> <p>The castle is viewed from the main drive which starts at a lower level from the castle showing the height of the castle to advantage.</p> <p>The trees block most distant views but originally, there would have been good lookout in all directions as befits a building built for protection.</p>
<p>C25B BORROWED LANDSCAPE (please note any features, natural or man-made, lying outside the designed landscape which act as eye-catchers or contribute to the outward views):</p> <p>The edge of the Grampian hills lies beyond the shelter belt to the N and NW.</p>
<p>C25C PERIPHERAL AREAS (please note any features lying outside the main landscape but which are clearly designed eg. regularly spaced roadside/field boundary trees, estate walls etc.):</p>

**C3 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON CURRENT CONDITION OR CARE OF THE LANDSCAPE**

**C4 SURVEY DRAWINGS AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Please include a list and copies where possible of any drawings, photographs made/taken during the ground survey.**

Lists of photographs are included in each section to avoid the necessity of cross-reference. The Photograph number and title reflect the soft copy file name.

**D. SUMMARY HISTORY OF THE SITE**

**This section should be set out in chronological form and should include information on the way the site has developed and changed since it was first recorded, using dates and maps where possible. The names of owners, architects or designers involved, and relevant historical events should be recorded, and the sources noted**

**Name:**

Alice Bremner

**Signature:**

**Dates of ground survey work:**

April 2012

**Date research completed:**

14 May 2012