



**cateran's common wealth**  
celebrating & sustaining the things that belong to all of us



# **Common Ground Exhibition**

**Catalogue of Aerial Photographs**

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Photo number	Description of Photo
1	<p>The large prehistoric burial cairn known as the Grey Cairn was excavated some years before 1865. A passage of slabs large enough for a person to crawl through were found which led towards the centre of the cairn but no chamber was found.</p>
2	<p>The remains of a substantial prehistoric burial cairn are situated on a low knoll in the saddle between the Hill of Kingseat and Saebeg hill. The cairn is roughly circular, measuring 19m in diameter with at least sixty visible kerbstones.</p>
3	<p>This image is a 2D orthophoto created using a series of overlapping vertical images taken using a low-level small unmanned aircraft. It shows the ring cairn, longhouse #1 and surrounding trackways at Lair prior to excavations by the Glen Shee Archaeology Project in 2014.</p>
4	<p>The post-medieval farmstead at Bad an Loin and the ‘four-poster’ stone circle reputed to be the Grave of Diarmid in Glen Shee. The stone circle was excavated in 1894 and proved to be a natural glacial mound with no evidence of a burial. The four stones are natural boulders taken from the adjacent hillside.</p>
5	<p>This large group of roundhouses and cultivation remains extend across the south-west flank of Beddingrew, to the West of Drumturn Burn. At least twenty-two hut-circles and a platform can be identified.</p>
6	<p>The fort which crowns Barry Hill overlooks the mouth of Glen Isla and commands an extensive view across Strathmore. Barry Hill is impressive for the sheer scale of its defences which are both complex and multi-period.</p>
7	<p>An oblique aerial view of the cairnfield at Hill of Cally. There are at least eighty small stone cairns of the type usually found in association with prehistoric hut circles and mark where ana rea has been cleared for arable cultivation.</p>

8	<p>This is a prehistoric settlement of three pairs of "Dalrulzian" type double-walled roundhouses of unusual plan and one single-walled circular hut at Ardlebank near Ballintuim. The roundhouses occur on the north fringe of a small field system marked by stone clearance cairns.</p>
9	<p>The area around the Grey Cairn at Balnabroich is studded with nearly 1000 small stone clearance cairns and 19 hut-circles that mark where prehistoric roundhouses and associated field systems have been. The huts are generally visible as level platforms set into the hillside edged by collapsed stone walls. Excavation of one hut has produced charred wood and a fragment of bronze, like the pin of a brooch.</p>
10	<p>At least eight small clearance cairns are scattered along the track leading to the prominent outcrop of Clach Sgorach in Glenkilrie. Low cultivation ridges are visible between the cairns on the east side of the track and at the north end of the cairnfield providing evidence of prehistoric arable farming.</p>
11	<p>To the west of Wester Peathaugh in Glen Isla lies an extensive prehistoric settlement of some 13 stone-walled roundhouses. Double-walled "Dalrulzian" type examples are clearly discernible amongst the group. A contemporary field system marked by stone clearance heaps, ruinous walls, and lynchets (earth banks formed by ploughing) are also visible.</p>
12	<p>This large group of prehistoric roundhouses and field systems extends across the south-west flank of Beddingrew, to the west of Drumturn Burn. At least 22 hut-circles and a platform can be identified including a number of rare double-walled examples. The field system is marked by numerous irregular low stone walls and some stone clearance cairns. There are suggestions of trackways between the fields and gaps in the walls suggesting gateways.</p>
13	<p>The fort which crowns Barry Hill overlooks the mouth of Glen Isla and commands an extensive view across Strathmore. Barry Hill is impressive for the sheer scale of its defences which are both complex and multi-period.</p>
14	<p>The hut-circle remains of two circular stone-walled roundhouses are visible in this oblique view of Tomlia and Westertown in Glen Shee. Several stone</p>

	clearance cairns to the north likely relate to contemporary prehistoric cultivation plots.
15	In this oblique aerial view, strips of heather burning around Pitcarmick burn have exposed the remains of prehistoric hut circles and field systems. Within the field-systems there are also a number of buildings and enclosures which are probably the remains of later, post-medieval shieling huts and associated enclosures.
16	This oblique aerial view centres on the remains of a prehistoric settlement and associated field system. Shallow gullies divide the ground into three low ridges; the remains of 19 roundhouses extend over the two lower ridges to the south and west of the post-medieval farmstead ruins at Buckinhill, Forest of Clunie. A scatter of small stone clearance cairns mark the position of prehistoric cultivation across the upper ridge.
17	This image was captured by a low-level small unmanned aircraft. It features Building #7 at Lair, Glen Shee, a medieval turf and stone longhouse, prior to its excavation as part of the Glenshee Archaeology Project in 2014.
18	Situated within heather-covered moorland by Balnabroich are the remains of a substantial Pitcarmick-type building. Its walls have been reduced to banks and the entrance lies midway along the west side. At the south end of the building there is an enclosure which is defined by a low stony bank.
19	The remains of an early historic Pitcarmick-type longhouse building with associated cultivation evidence and enclosures are visible close to the edge of a broad natural terrace at Cnoc an Daimh, near Ashintully.
20	The remains of Pitcarmick-type stone dwellings (distinctively rectangular in plan with rounded corners) and a central enclosure of the prehistoric settlement near Wester Peathaugh are clearly discernible in the low light of this image.
21	This oblique aerial view of Lair in Glen Shee captures the extensive settlement history of this remarkable landscape. The early prehistoric ring cairn with the hut-circle remains of later prehistoric roundhouses above it

	are visible to the left of centre with the dispersed early historic settlement of Pitcarmick-type buildings spread out towards the main road.
22	The village of Kirkmichael, Strathardle: licensed as burgh of barony in 1511. In the middle of the 18th Century, Kirkmichael's Michaelmas Fair was a major cattle market and drove roads connected the village to Spittal of Glenshee and Ballinluig.
23	Glen Shee: A dramatic view looking north-west towards Spittal of Glenshee and the Grampian mountains beyond.
24	Looking north-west through Glen Shee towards the village of Spittal of Glenshee with Dalmunzie House in the distance.
25	A dramatic view of Gleann Beag where light snow has enhanced the visibility of the rig and furrow cultivation systems of the 1700s AD. It is dramatic landscapes such as this that Drovers would have passed through on their way to the southern markets.
26	Easter Bleaton is an exceptionally well preserved example of a linear post-medieval fermtoun settlement. The stone footing remains of at least fifty-two buildings together with a series of enclosures and four corn drying kilns can still be seen. From the disposition of the buildings it is possible to suggest the presence of at least eight different farmsteads, perhaps reflecting the properties of individual tenants.
27	On the south west flank of the Hill of Kingseat is a fermtoun comprising two groups of buildings. In the westerly group are four buildings, their walls generally reduced to their lower courses and standing to a maximum height of 1m. A kiln and an enclosure can also be seen here. One of the buildings in the eastern group has been incorporated into a later stone dyke.
28	Associated with the laird's or tacksman's house at Craigsheal near Loch Benachally, this small well-preserved fermtoun features buildings standing to over 1m in height. Two of the buildings flank the house and the remainder lie upslope. The remains also include a preserved kiln-barn.

29	This series of shieling-hut foundations (small seasonal dwellings) and enclosures are scattered across a gentle slope to the east of the forestry plantation by Loch Crannach.
30	The remains of three rectangular shieling-huts (small seasonal dwellings used by people tending animals) and an enclosure are situated on a terrace on the north side of the burn that flows from Loch Crannach.
31	Foundations of several rectangular farmstead buildings and associated enclosures are in evidence near Loch Crannach. They contribute to the extensive pre-improvement settlement and agriculture remains that can be found throughout Gleann Fearnach.
32	The remains of circular, oval and rectangular shielings as well as pens, enclosures and other miscellaneous structures are visible in this wintery oblique image of Ruigh an Laoigh. The contrast of the light snow cover makes the surviving low walls particularly well defined.
33	The Ashintully fermtoun and Cnoc an Dainmh prehistoric roundhouses. This fermtoun comprises fourteen buildings and a corn drying kiln in two clusters. The prehistoric roundhouse remains consist of a twin-double-walled hut-circle, and a single double-walled hut-circle.
34	This image depicts the largest group of buildings within the the well preserved 16 <sup>th</sup> century fermtoun of Inverreddrie. There are at least sixty-four buildings in the whole fermtoun with associated enclosures, yards, animal pens, corn drying kilns and mills.
35	In rough pasture beside Dalmunzie Golf Course, on the south bank of the Glen Lochsie Burn, are the remains of a fermtoun comprising of at least eleven buildings. Dalmunzie is notable as one of the few fermtouns in north-east Perthshire where a laird or tacksman's house has been identified.
36	The extensive remains of rig-and-furrow cultivation on the south-west bank of the Shee Water, Glen Shee stand out particularly clearly in the light

	<p>snow. Situated on a slight terrace above are the remains of a prehistoric cairn and a post-medieval farmstead.</p>
37	<p>To the north of Bridge of Cally, a section of the military road built under the supervision of Major William Caulfeild in the mid-1700s AD is visible. The distinctive banks of earth and stone that were thrown up along either side of the road by the soldiers during its construction are particularly clear.</p>
38	<p>The hump-backed bridge over the Shee Water constructed by Major Caulfield's road-building soldiers in the 18th-century. Also visible is the present day church at Spittal of Glenshee and above it, the rectangular outline of the 18th-century chapel.</p>
39	<p>Major Caulfeild's Bridge over the Shee Water at Spittal of Glenshee. In the field to the right of the present church, the rectangular outline of the 18th-century chapel, contemporary with the bridge, can be observed. The long lines of rig and furrow cultivation can also be appreciated within the same field in this image.</p>
40	<p>The 'Happy Hillock' is a robbed cairn which is situated on a natural knoll at the west end of a low ridge. The edge of the cairn is masked by the remains of a dry-stone dyke which was built against the earthen, or 'fael' dyke, that had previously surrounded the cairn. Several cists containing skeletons were discovered within the cairn whilst it was being quarried to dyke-building material around 1790 AD.</p>
41	<p>The remains of a substantial burial cairn are situated on a low knoll in the saddle between the Hill of Kingseat and the hill known as Saebeg. It is roughly circular and measures 19m in diameter with at least sixty visible kerbstones.</p>
42	<p>The rich archaeological landscape of Lair in Glen Shee. Visible are the prehistoric ring-cairn and the early historic buildings and associated enclosures that have been investigated as part of the Glenshee Archaeology Project. This image centres on a single compartment building adjoined by a roughly rectangular enclosure which may have been used for livestock or garden cultivation.</p>

43	<p>The island dwelling in Loch Beanie: a roughly square, artificial island formed almost entirely of boulders and small stones. This small island, which appears to be largely artificial, lies towards the centre of the loch. Maps from the 1600s AD describe it as a 'mansion' or dwelling place for the '<i>chief man of Glan Shee</i>'.</p>
44	<p>A broad view of the Mains of Runavey showing the extensive and well preserved remains of the fermtoun at Invereddrie and the roofless ruins of Mains of Runavey farmstead.</p>
45	<p>The large extent of archaeological remains preserved in Glen Shee is remarkable. Here the 18<sup>th</sup> century system of land allotment for cultivation is clearly visible with the rigs being systematically grouped into lots and defined by earth-and-stone banks.</p>
46	<p>An excellent view of the fermtoun at Easter Bleaton displaying the stone footing remains of at least fifty-two buildings together with enclosures and corn drying kilns. Spreading down the slope above the north end of the site there is a line of five retting pools which would have been used for soaking flax straw as part of textile manufacture.</p>
47	<p>The stone wall footings of a post-medieval mill with lade and mill pond further upstream are visible on the south side of the old Mains of Persie steading near Netherton in Glen Shee. The buildings of the steading were roofed until the mid-1800s AD but have since been demolished and the area of the steading and mill pond extensively landscaped.</p>
48	<p>Oblique aerial view of the Allt Menach fermtoun in Strathardle. The remains of nine buildings plus a limekiln and two enclosures can be observed.</p>
49	<p>Situated across a terrace on the west side of Gleann Beag are the remains of the Laginamer post-medieval farmstead. The complex consists of six buildings including a mill, and a kiln. At the centre of the group there are buildings on two sides of a yard. The larger of the two has three compartments and was probably a byre-dwelling where people lives at one end and animals wintered in the other.</p>



The town of Alyth was first erected as a burgh of barony by a charter of James III in 1488. It developed as a market town through association with the cattle droving, wool, linen and jute trades. Recent placename research has suggested that there could be Pictish origins as the first element of the name is a Pictish cognate of the Gaelic a(i)l meaning 'rock cliff'.

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