Case information

Reference/Case ID	201508244

Scheduled Monument	Invervar, shrunken township, Glen Lyon		
Index no	M3388	**Grid Ref**	NN665483 266500.0000 748300.0000

Date of Application	04 April 2016	**Application Received**	04 April 2016
Summary of proposed works	Excavation of trench for water pipe and subsequent reinstatement of the trench.		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends approval without conditions.

2. Background

The monument comprises the remains of a small industrial village, centred on a late 18th-century lint mill, whose economy was based on flax production. The monument lies in pasture land at approximately 200m OD on an S-facing hillside on the E side of the Invervar Burn. Invervar is first depicted on Roy's map in the mid-18th century as a small settlement N of the B846 road and E of Invervar Burn. The lint mill is first depicted on James Stobie's map of 1783, which shows the mill and a small village comprising six buildings. The lint mill was built by Ewan Cameron, who was responsible for the construction of some eighty mills in the Highlands. The mill is likely to have gone out of use during the first half of the 19th century. At the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey in 1862, the village comprised one unroofed and nine roofed buildings (one annotated as a smithy), four enclosures and a field.

The lint mill is a circular two-storey rubble building with a conical roof. Sited near the centre of the village, it is 6m in diameter with walls 0.6m thick and stands 4m high. The lint mill was restored in the 1980s. A track c.1.8m wide runs northwards through the scheduled area over a distance of some 160m. It is cut into the ground in places and one section is lined with boulders along the E side.

HES has undertaken pre-application discussions with the applicant regarding different options for the renewal of the water pipe. This trench will allow the laying of a new water pipe to supply water to Invervar Cottage. HES visited the monument on 29 March 2016 and met with the applicant to discuss the options for the work, the suggested option is the least invasive. This application accords with the outcome of those discussions.

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3. Proposals

Consented works: Excavation of trench for water pipe

The proposals include:

- Excavation of a trench for water pipe. The pipe trench will be dug by a mini-excavator and will measure 300mm wide, 900mm deep and will run along an existing past on the western edge of the scheduled area as outlined in the WSI.
- Subsequent reinstatement of the trench.

4. Representations received

No representations were received concerning this application.

5. Report

a) Policy considerations

The application should be viewed with the following legislative and policy considerations in mind:

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- Part 1 Section 2 - Control of works affecting an ancient monument.

The Scottish Historic Environment Policy

3.4. Scheduled monument consent is required for any works that would demolish, destroy, damage, remove, repair, alter or add to the monument or to carry out any flooding or tipping on the monument. It is a criminal offence to carry out any of these works without consent.

3.16. Works on scheduled monuments should therefore normally be the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument.

3.18. Scheduled monument consent applications must be considered in terms of the cultural significance of the monument and the impact that the proposals would have upon this cultural significance. The more important particular features of the monument are to its cultural significance, the greater will be the case against interventions which modify these features.

3.20. Where change is proposed, it should be carefully considered, based on good authority, sensitively designed, properly planned and executed, and where appropriate in the context of an individual monument, reversible.

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3.22. Where consent for the range of works set out in paragraph 3.4 is granted, conditions are normally applied to ensure the works are undertaken in an appropriate manner. Common requirements are:

c. that where change is necessary, strategies should be adopted to mitigate its impact and limit intervention;
e. that appropriate skills and techniques, materials and construction techniques are specified where appropriate;
f. that an appropriate level of record is made before, during and after any work and deposited in local and national archives, and, where appropriate, published;

b) Assessment

The works represent alterations and additions to a scheduled monument and as such, scheduled monument consent is required.

The area of the monument affected is to the western edge of the scheduled area and will utilise an existing pathway. The works involve the excavation of a trench, running north-south along the western edge of the scheduled area, up to 900mm deep and 300mm wide. I consider trenching in this area at a depth of 900mm has a low potential to disturb significant archaeological deposits relating to the lint mill and thus would not significantly affect the cultural significance of the monument.

The application included a written scheme of investigation, which details the proposed mitigation, being archaeological monitoring of the works, the recording of all finds and archiving of all material and finds. The archaeological works are to be undertaken by a commercial archaeological contractor, Scotia Archaeology. I have reviewed the document and consider the mitigation strategy outlined in the WSI is robust and in accordance with industry standards.

c) Other material considerations, including impact of the works on Protected Species and Places

There will be no impact upon protected species or places.

d) Conclusion

This intervention should be viewed as works as set out in both Part 1 Section 2 of the AMAAA 1979 and under section 3.4 of SHEP. The works are in the form of an intrusive excavation to the monument.

The excavation works is the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument, and thus compliant with SHEP 3.16.

The application contains sufficiently detailed information regarding the specification and methods to be used to be considered to be consistent with 3.20.

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The application contains sufficiently detailed methodologies and justification that a consent may be granted without the requirement for conditions to satisfy 3.22.

6. Recommended decision

The works proposed are considered acceptable in meeting the terms of national policy for scheduled monuments, and also accounting for other material considerations.

I recommend consent is **granted without conditions**.

7. Conditions

None

8. Approval

Officer	**James Bruhn**	**Date**	**21/04/2016**
Approved by	**George Findlater**	**Date**	**29/04/2016**

Annex A – list of supporting documents

- Scotia Archaeology. New Domestic Water Pipe to Invervar Cottage, Glen Lyon. Written Scheme of Investigation 05/04/2016
- Annotated Site Plan **(SM3388-Apr16/01)**
- Photograph 1 **(SM3388-Apr16/02)**
- Photograph 2 **(SM3388-Apr16/03)**
- Method Statement **(SM3388-Apr16/04)**
- Photograph 3 **(SM3388-Apr16/06)**

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