Case information

Case ID	300018277
File Reference	HGH/B/HH/50
Name of Site	Wilson Lane, Old St Peter`s Church and burial ground

Local Authority	Highland		
National Grid Reference	ND 12043 68616		
Designation No. (if any)	LB42044		
Designation Type	Listed building	**Current Category of Listing**	A
Case Type	Removal		

Received/Start Date	Project started in 2014
Decision Date	22/09/2016

1. Decision

Remove: Remove building from the List.

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

Wilson Lane, Old St Peter`s Church and burial ground is a category A building and was listed on 21/02/1975. It is in Thurso Burgh.

Thurso, St Peter's Church and Burial Ground is also a scheduled monument (SM618). The entry was added to the Schedule 06/01/1960 and was last amended 06/02/1963.

2.2 Development Proposals

Not checked as part of this project.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The monument was considered for removal as part of the Dual Designation project. This is a nationwide project to review structures which are both listed as buildings of special architectural or historic interest and scheduled as monuments of national importance. Where appropriate the 'dual designation' of structures is being removed and they are being listed or scheduled depending on their individual circumstances. Removing dual designations will help to provide clarity for the future management of sites.

The site was not visited and the present assessment is desk-based, using available information and has included reference to recent photographs.

The site consists of the remains of the old parish church of Thurso, originating in the 13th century at the latest. The church is recorded as being founded by Bishop Gilbert Murray (d1245), although it is suggested that it may have been in existence earlier than that. The apsidal east end and existence of two stones with runic inscriptions (one a grave covering, the other incorporate into the fabric of the church) suggest the church may date to the 12th century. As the remains of a ruinous medieval parish church perhaps dating to the 12th century, this site is more appropriately designated as a scheduled monument rather than a listed building.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

An assessment against the Listing criteria was not carried out as the importance of the structure will continue to be recognised through its designation as a scheduled monument.

The designation criteria are published in the Historic Environment Scotland policy statement June 2016, Annex 1 (Scheduling), pp. 48-50 and Annex 2 (Listing), pp. 51-53. https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/legislation-and-guidance/historic-environment-scotland-policy-statement/

3.3 Other considerations

As part of the Dual Designation project, we have reviewed the structures at this site and concluded that scheduling is the most appropriate mechanism to secure the preservation of this structure as a monument of national importance.

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