Case information

Case ID	300018240
File Reference	HGH/B/GD/113
Name of Site	Old Parish Church of Insch (St. Drostan)

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire		
National Grid Reference	NJ 63334 28146		
Designation No. (if any)	LB9064		
Designation Type	Listed building	**Current Category of Listing**	B
Case Type	Removal		

Received/Start Date	Project started in 2014
Decision Date	20/10/2016

1. Decision

Remove: Remove building from the List.

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

Old Parish Church of Insch (St. Drostan) is a category B building and was listed on 16/04/1971. It is in Insch parish.

Insch Old Parish Church and associated memorials is also a scheduled monument (SM3004). The current entry in the Schedule is dated 27/11/1970.

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 Insch. The church's presumed dedication to St Drostan may indicate an association with Christian worship from an early period. The church was clearly in existence by the time that it was granted to Lindores Abbey in 1191-5. Attached to the church is a memorial to Ralph the priest and it has been suggested that this refers to a late 12th century chaplain of the bishop of Aberdeen, and the style of the lettering would be consistent with such a date. As a church site dating to the 12th century, if not earlier, with high potential for associated archaeology, 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.

Elizabeth McCrone
Head of Designations
Heritage Management
Historic Environment Scotland

Contact	Allan Rutherford Deputy Head of Designations (Scheduling) Allan.Rutherford@hes.scot 0131 668 8612