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# Project Proposal – Glenan Wood Heritage and Archaeology

This Proposal outlines the Adopt-a-Monument project at Glenan Wood, setting out the project’s aims, activities, timescales, outcomes, evaluation and communication. The Proposal acts as a reference document for all parties concerned with regards to the potential scheme of works. This Proposal has been prepared by Phil Richardson (Archaeology Scotland), and Rhyddian Knight (Friends of Glenan Wood Ranger) in February 2025. All work is subject to approval from the Friends of Glenan Wood Trustees.

## Project Details

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| **Project Type** | Adopt-a-Monument |
| **Project Name** | Glenan Wood Heritage and Archaeology; Phase 1- Where we Stand |
| **Project Dates** | AaM 2025-28- Start 1st April 2025 |
| **Summary** | The Friends of Glenan Wood wish to understand and explore the archaeology of Glenan Wood and develop a project that can deliver on a range of community interests and site needs |
| **Purpose** | Engage community, understand archaeology of the wood, co-design community archaeology programme |
| **Project Number** | 178 |
| **Project Code** | GlenW |
| **Name and type of Group** | Friends of Glenan Wood – Community Owned Woodland- CIC |
| **Group website** | [www.glenanwood.org.uk](http://www.glenanwood.org.uk/) |
| **Group Contact** | Rhyddian Knight; Iain Waugh |
| **AaM Lead and Group contact** | Andy Jepson |
| **AaM second contact** | Phil Richardson |
| **Location (NGR) and** | Portavadie, Cowal Pennisula,  NR 92833 69877  Tigh Eoin, Portavadie, Tighnabruaich, PA21 2DA |
| **Local Authority** | Argyll and Bute |
| **Parish** | Kilfinan |
| **Site name and period** | Glenan Wood- Landscape Project. Multi-period |
| **Designations and ID numbers** | None |
| **Other site ID’s (canmore/HER)** | Known Sites  Portavadie Cairn - Canmore ID 39844  Cuid Oidhche Structure - Canmore ID 88474  Glennan, Cnoc Na Cille Chapel - Canmore ID 39924  Glenan Township - Canmore ID 88473 |
| **Funders (logos needed)** | Archaeology Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland **and?** |
| **Case Study** |  |

## Project Background

In March 2024 Archaeology Scotland and the Friends of Glenan Wood explored the possibility of of a project considering the archaeology of Glenan Wood. The wood contains a wide variety of archaeological remains including a prehistoric cairn, a chapel and the Glenan township. A follow-up meeting in September 2024 led to the development of a shared list of priorities:

1. The need to create a baseline of known archaeology, with the production of a large map and timeline, to help widen understanding and awareness of the archaeological resource and inform future planning of activities and projects. Including study of Lidar.
2. Training and support on ‘Reading Contours’ to be provided as an interest in how to better read the ‘lumps and bumps’ in the landscape and how to tell stories of people from them was identified. Training in walkover survey and measured survey could help develop skills and capacity in the community.
3. Deliver Archaeology Thematic Walks / Explorations –developed to get more people interested and involved with potential for health and wellbeing outcomes.
4. Undertake an Assessment of the feasibility of existing sites to be enhanced for improved visitor experiences and community use. This could include building conservation, excavation and interpretation. This could also look at opportunities from other sites on the key routes in Cowal and wider Argyll.
5. Develop a range of other areas of interest, the scoping and development of which could be improved and informed by completing the above activities, including but not limited to: identifying key storylines / messaging for visitors, creative / artistic responses to the archaeology of the woodland, address climate issues and further community dig(s) and reconstruction project.
6. Understand that the projects ambition is for exposition and experiential educative experiences of ‘traditional subsistence and heritage crafts 'using 'locally available materials”; ‘traditional/local tales and storytelling' and emphasis on an understanding of 'Gaelic as it pertains to place, place-naming and micro toponomy'. Together with what is revealed through surveying, this emphasis would form the major part of the projects heritage and interpretation ambitions.
7. Deliver a project focused in 'learning by doing'. This will form the most engaging means for community involvement.  The project will build capacity for seasonally appropriate residential camps for both this, and our conservation works.

## Project Aims

* Create a baseline of the archaeology in the wood
* Engage the community in a range of activities to create interest and widen participation
* Provide training that supports the Friends to build capacity for their heritage programme
* Co-design a community archaeology project that includes conservation, excavation and interpretation

## Project Outcomes and Outputs

* Trained and engaged local volunteers
* Better understanding of archaeology of the Wood
* Increased capacity in the local community for archaeology projects
* Funded plan for delivering for the archaeology and the people of the area
* Baseline of known archaeology and Project Design for Phase 2 of the project

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## Project Plan

Thirteen key tasks have been identified to be achieved by the Adopt-a-Monument project, which are listed below. Projected time scales are subject to funding.

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| **Task/Activity** | **Delivery/Completion date** | **Action by** | **Project funding and resourcing?** |
| Confirm Proposal and delivery timetable | March 2025 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff for two days (time in kind) |
| Communication and evaluation Plan | May 2025 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff for one day (time in kind) |
| The Archaeology of Glenan Wood a online map workshop | 29th May | Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff one day (time in kind) |
| The Archaeology of Glenan Wood a walk and talk- 1 Day | 16th June 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | Two AaM staff for one day (time in kind) |
| Maps and Desk-based Research in person | 17th June 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | Two AaM staff for one day (time in kind) |
| Desk-based online | 27th June 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff one day (time in kind) |
| Site management and vegetation management and Conservation Assessment workshops- 2 days | 4th and 5th September 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | Two AaM staff two days (time in kind) |
| Introduction to Building Survey fieldwork workshop | 16th October 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff two days (time in kind) |
| Introduction to Field Survey recording the woodland Survey | 17th October 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff two days (time in kind) |
| Commission LIDAR Study | In progress | Glenan |  |
| Storytelling, interpretation and what is important to us workshop- 1 day | 8th November 2025 | Adopt-a-Monument | Two AaM staff for one day (time in kind) |
| Complete Walkover and other baseline tasks | December 2025 to Feb 2026 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | Two AaM staff for one day (time in kind) |
| Produce Baseline Archaeology report | Feb 2026 | Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff two days |
| Produce Phase 2 ‘Revealing the woodland’  Community engagement Project Plan | March 2026 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff three days |
| Start Fundraising for Phase 2 Programme | March 2026 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff five days |
| Project Case Study and Reporting | March 2026 | Friends of Glenan Wood  Adopt-a-Monument | One AaM staff two days |

## Project Communication and Evaluation

A communication and evaluation plan will be developed for the start of the project.

## Next steps

Agree proposal and timetable

Fundraise for AaM expenses c.£3,000

Fundraise for LIDAR contractor c.£4,500