

Landscapes



St Peter’s Seminary Cardross. Completed in 1966 and closed in 1980, the modernist exterior of St Peter’s was at odds with its intended function.

Italian inscriptions on gravestones accent the Scottish countryside. Orkney’s Churchill Barriers built largely by Italian labour alter the marine ecology of the islands. The abandoned St Peter’s Seminary at Cardross is being consumed by vegetation and street art. The spectacular Grade A Brutalist listed monument was designed by Gillespie, Kidd and Coia.

Iscrizioni italiane sulle lapidi accentuano la campagna scozzese. Le barriere Churchill delle Orcadi, costruite in gran parte da manodopera italiana, alterano l'ecologia marina delle isole. Il seminario abbandonato di San Pietro a Cardross è consumato dalla vegetazione e dalla street art. Questo spettacolare monumento brutalista di grado A è stato progettato da Gillespie, Kidd e Coia.

Migration’s imprint on the landscape extends over multiple scales. It complicates the easy separation between the natural and the man-made and shows how they exist in close and often uneasy proximity. This proximity contains human stories and histories that will endure or become lost with the passing of time and through changes to the environment.

L'impronta della migrazione sul paesaggio si estende su più scale. Essa complica la facile separazione tra il mondo naturale e quello creato dall'uomo e mostra come questi esistano in una stretta e spesso inquieta vicinanza. Questa vicinanza racchiude storie e vicende umane che resisteranno o andranno perdute col passare del tempo e attraverso i cambiamenti dell'ambiente.



Churchill Barrier. Around 350 British workmen and nearly 1300 Italian prisoners of war captured in North Africa built the four causeways to protect military vessels at Scapa Flow.



Churchill Barrier. The barriers are now used for traffic to connect the smaller islands to the Orkney mainland.

A Walk to the Arandora Star Memorial Plaque

Distance – 2.7km [1 hour approx.]

Difficulty – Moderate gradients with some wet/muddy patches.

Parking – next to the graveyard at Kilchattan. [Grid Ref. NT 363950] **P**

1. Follow the B8086 gently uphill until West Loch Fada and the standing stones [Fingal’s Limpet Hammers] in front of Seaview Farm can be seen.
2. Turn left and follow an un-metalled track signposted ‘Pigs Paradise and Bird Cliffs’.
3. Pass through a gate and continue uphill passing to the left of Gortain, heading towards a ladder stile which is then crossed.
4. From here the path continues in the same direction however is fairly indistinct as it traverses the short cropped heather.
5. Soon a small burn can be crossed with aid of wooden planks and from here the track curves uphill to the right.
6. Follow this old peat-cutters track gently uphill past a small lochan until an obvious damp hollow is reached.
7. From here a small diversion can be made to visit Aoineadh an t-Struth with its spectacular cliffs, crashing waves and seabirds.
8. Return to the hollow and gain the slightly higher ground ahead before bearing left along a slight ridge towards the coast following in the same direction as Aoineadh an t-Struth.
9. At the end of the ridge bear right and steadily downhill when eventually the dome-like feature of Meall Lamalum comes into view. When lower ground is reached a small rocky step leads down left to the steep grassy slopes above Meall Lamalum.

The Memorial Plaque **M** is round to the left on the small cliff face facing the sea. Nearby, the Memorial Cairn marks the spot where Italian Giuseppe Delgrosso was first laid to rest in August 1940 – please feel free to mark your visit by adding a stone to the cairn.

Instructions to the site of Giuseppe Delgrosso’s memorial cairn inscribe and commemorate the lives lost on the Arandora Star on the Scottish landscape.



The cliff face on Colonsay where Giuseppe Delgrosso was buried in 1940 and where his memorial plaque is located.