***East Lodge, Ardkinglas*** *(David Sumsion’s office)*

This is already been described in the Royal Commission volume[[1]](#footnote-1) as ‘Lodge’ –

*A lodge of early 19th century character, now unoccupied with adjacent ashlar piers and metal gates, stands .85 km east, south east of Ardkinglas house. At the north side of the former road to Strachur, now by passed by the A815. It measures 8.5 m by 5.8 m overall and is elongated octagonal plan containing two rooms divided by a central chimney stack. The base course, door and window dressings are of sound stone ashlar and the remaining masonry of hulled rubble with a hipped inflated roof having sprocketed eaves. In each end there are two round arched sash windows and a third corresponding blind recess, and the doorway is at the centre of the NE side wall.*

This building was re-roofed by John MacDonald **[double-check year].** Although many of the rafters were saved the sarking was replaced entirely - obviously the slates have been redone and the leadwork is new. At that same stage an early lime harling exercise was undertaken, this using bag lime. This repair work by John MacDonald was overseen by Bercott Architects, the architect himself Baron Bercott of 1 Park Terrace, Glasgow.

There is a set of plans (kindly shown by David Sumsion) that are dated August 1991. After the internal fitting out of the interior, this shows the additions and part of the original arrangement, including the central fire stack which had to the E a large broad opening (probably for a range) and then a smaller fireplace facing into the W room (the living room).

As it is now the interior has been heavily lined out loosing approximately 5% of its former interior space, this has been slightly re-arranged more recently by David Sumsion, the eastern room having been subdivided with a small partition on the S side, this area contains the pre-existing kitchen slightly re-arranged.

Sash and case windows for the most part appear original; these are detailed with a Victorian gothic glazing bar profile. The lower sash in the eastern window has a slightly elongated profile, secondary as the upper sash has the Victorian gothic.

It's possible that even the early elements of the existing roof structure are secondary; up in the loft space the upper half-meter of walling at the wall head appears possibly to have been added. The existing chimneystack, where it is visible within the roof space, retains some apparent traces of exterior lime harl or plaster and much whitewash – it seems that this may have originally been external (the alternative is that there were chambers up in the roof space for bedding, as at one point it is recorded that 13 people - 11 family and 2 lodgers - resided in this diminutive structure).

Above the attic floor level the chimney steps in twice with offsets. The upper step at least looks rather like an exterior detail scarcement. Some of the plain wall head course stones were replaced to the W, that part of the structure having had structural problems due to subsidence.

It is possible that the structure had had a much lower, perhaps flatter roof, set behind a parapet. This detail may have been less successful that the existing overhanging eaves in such a wet climate.

1. Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland, *Argyll : An Inventory of the Monuments : Volume 7 : Mid Argyll & Cowal : Medieval & Later Monuments* (1992) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)