



Taing dhan

**A' Mhaoin-
Dualchais**

Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**



GLENCOE

FOLK MUSEUM

**Construction Project Advisor
Recruitment Pack**

Glencoe Folk Museum is looking for a volunteer Construction Project Advisor to get involved with our upcoming redevelopment. This is a very exciting time to join the team as we prepare to deliver the restoration and extension of our Museum – plans for which are currently at full RIBA 3 stage.

We welcome interest from someone with experience of building projects who can be available remotely to provide advice where needed through the warrant/tender phase, construction, fit-out and completion of the building work, due to be completed in Spring 2025. Being an advisor includes the option to join the Museum's Board of Trustees if desired.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Ideally we're looking for advice from someone with experience of some of the following:

- Liaising with contractors.
- Knowledge of relevant building standards/planning permissions.
- Experience of overseeing building projects.
- Previous involvement in heritage-based projects.
- Knowledge of or interest in the preservation of historic buildings and/or sustainable building construction.

Advice can be provided remotely though you'd be more than welcome to visit us in Glencoe!

There is no remuneration attached to the appointment but reasonable expenses connected with the work of the Trust will be payable.

Communication would be with project staff and the Board of Trustees. Day-to-day communication occurs through Slack software and meetings via Zoom.

To find out more about our Museum please visit glencoemuseum.com. If you'd like to chat about the role or would be interested in becoming a construction advisor, please contact David Rounce, Project Director, redvelopment@glencoemuseum.com



Current Museum cottage interior

WHO ARE WE?

'Steeped in history and a wee treasure' TripAdvisor July 2017

Introduction

Glencoe Folk Museum preserves and exhibits a collection of artefacts and photographs relating to the Glencoe, Ballachulish, Kinlochleven and North Lorn area. It is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Charity Number: SCO002786, and has full Accreditation under the national Museum Accreditation Scheme.

VISION

We aspire to be the heart of our community, inspiring our local and global visitors to connect with the past by sharing our love of the unique history, culture and environment of our corner of the Highlands.

MISSION

Glencoe Folk Museum chronicles the history, landscape and identity of the Glencoe area. We are a Museum of the people, by the people and for the people – sharing the stories of our local communities and the historical events that shaped them.

We will capture imaginations and stimulate creativity through our collections, exhibitions and activities.

By exploring our past and striving for a sustainable future, we will inspire people around the world to take pride in their communities, cultures and traditions.

VALUES

Quirky

Genuine

Inclusive

Innovative



Current Museum exhibitions and exterior space

'Don't expect a huge museum but appreciate the time and trouble and obvious passion that has gone into putting this together' TripAdvisor May 2019

REDEVELOPMENT

To pursue the organisation's mission, we are preparing to deliver our greatest redevelopment since the Museum moved into its current premises over 50 years ago. Our objective over the next two years is to transform the Museum, protecting and maximising the potential of the buildings and collection while contributing to the sustainability of the organisation.

'Considering the number and range of items in the museum it deserves a bigger, purpose-built, building'
Visitor Survey 2018

Redevelopment Objectives

Our redevelopment will:

- Increase accessibility and interpretation of the historic cottages and collections, replacing life-expired exhibitions and enclosing the current external display area (constructed in the 1970s) to develop new climate-controlled visitor reception and exhibition spaces (designed by Peter Drummond Conservation Architects).
- Re-roof and convert a byre outbuilding into a Community Exhibition Gallery, creating space for meetings/research/craft demonstrations while enabling schools and local groups to produce their own displays in museum-standard conditions. This will allow a regular programme of changing exhibitions to be scheduled, encouraging return visits.
- Install an accessible visitor/staff toilet; eliminating a current barrier to visitor dwell time, group bookings and volunteer recruitment.
- Create a new, larger, gift shop; generating increased retail revenue.
- Create a venue which can be readily made 'infection secure' to ensure the safety of staff and visitors to work and visit with confidence.
- Work with exhibition specialists Mather & Co. Ltd to create modern displays, improving the interpretation of the Museum's stories and allowing more of the collection to be displayed to correct environmental standards.

Redevelopment Timetable (provisional)

- **April 2023** Current Museum opens for tourist season
- **October 2023** Current Museum closes and is emptied of artefacts
- **October/November 2023** Site clearance and capital works begin
- **September 2024** Construction and fit-out completed, artefacts installed
- **October 2024** 'soft' opening of redeveloped Museum for locals and school groups/winter events
- **March/April 2025** Grand re-opening of redeveloped Museum for public

Redevelopment Status (Jan 2023)

- £2m funding secured of £2.1m total project costs
- Architectural designs completed to full RIBA 3 stage
- Planning Permission / Listed Building Consent secured from Highland Council
- Exhibition Activity and Interpretation Plans created

HISTORY

The Museum

The Museum comprises two early 19th century crofters' heather-thatched cottages and byres (Cat. B listed), and two 1970s display outbuildings. In 2014 the cottages were re-thatched with assistance from the Pilgrim Trust, Heritage Lottery Fund and Museums Galleries Scotland.

The collection was co-founded in the 1967 by Miss Barbara Fairweather, Mrs Rae Grant and friends to document the rapidly changing way of life in the Glencoe and North Lorn area. The Museum was an immediate success and the collection rapidly outgrew its original premises. In 1972 it re-opened in the cottages which form the Museum today, donated through the generosity of local resident Hugh Grant. The Museum celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. We employ one full-time Curator, two part-time Museum Assistants and, through project funding, a Project Director and Learning & Engagement Officer, supported by a group of enthusiastic volunteers.

'What did I like most? The amazing artefacts like Campbell's boot!' Visitor Survey 2019

The Collection

Our collections are a unique record of tumultuous events such as the Massacre of Glencoe and Jacobite uprisings, as well as daily life and work between the 17th-21st centuries. The majority of the collection is stored in the Museum office/curator's accommodation in Ballachulish, which is not currently publicly accessible. As of 2019 there are over 6,000 objects in the collection, including paintings, social and industrial artefacts, a substantial costume collection and larger artefacts such as agricultural implements and a rowing boat used as a 'coffin boat' by local clans. Over 4,000 of these are catalogued in a digital collections management system.

'I never thought you could pack so many exhibits into such a small place' TripAdvisor July 2016

Our aim through the Museum redevelopment is to enable more of the collections to be put on rotating display and make our collections database accessible online for research.



Glencoe Folk Museum

Design Document



1.0 Thematic Layout and Visitor Journey.

Visitor Journey

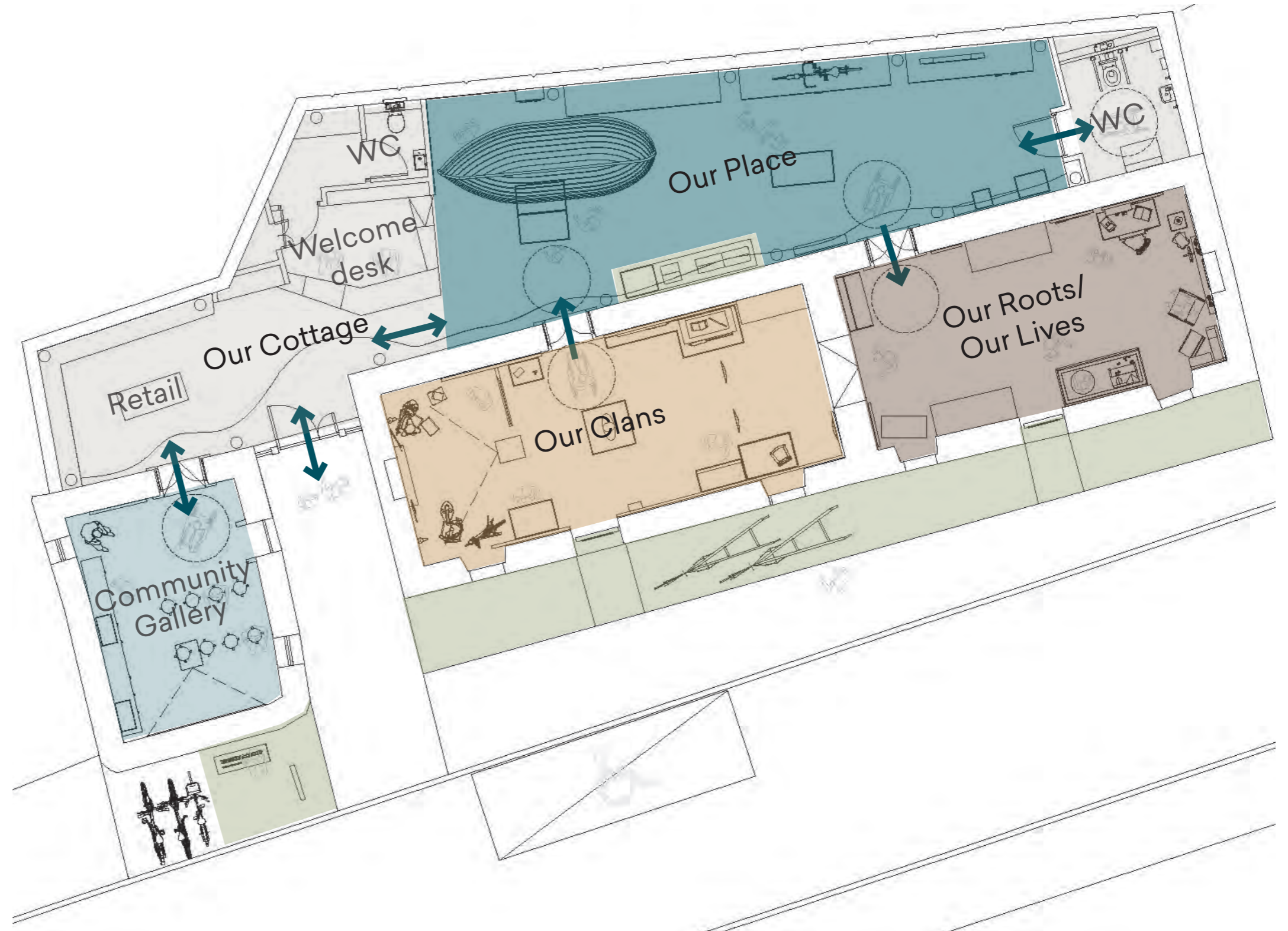
Most visitors will arrive from the A82 coming up into the village centre. Improved external signage and welcome will draw visitors to the Museum entrance. In addition, the main glazed entrance will offer incredible sightlines into the new exhibition space and retail.

The welcome desk is situated on the right and provides an information point and ticket & sales point for the retail offer. In addition, it will offer guidebooks and other secondary interpretative discovery devices like activity packs and trails.

The shop, toilets, and cloakroom/community gallery are all accessible from the main entrance space as well as the exhibition galleries.

Inside the building, a blend of wayfinding and interpretative signage will highlight and guide visitors to the range of experiences on offer within the Museum, including its different areas, exhibitions, events, and activities.

A new retail offer will provide a range of locally-sourced merchandise that aligns with the brand and ethos of the new Glencoe Folk Museum. The new shop will be open, inspiring, and inviting. The shop counter will extend the main reception desk allowing multiple staffing points.



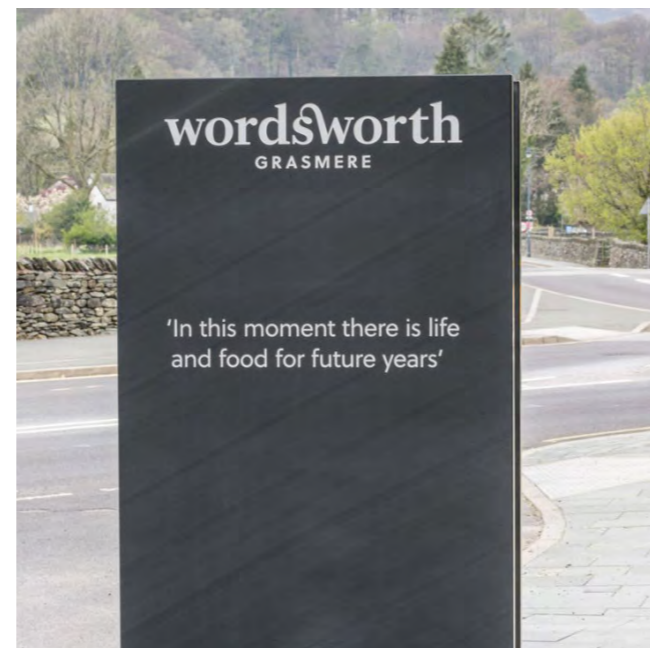
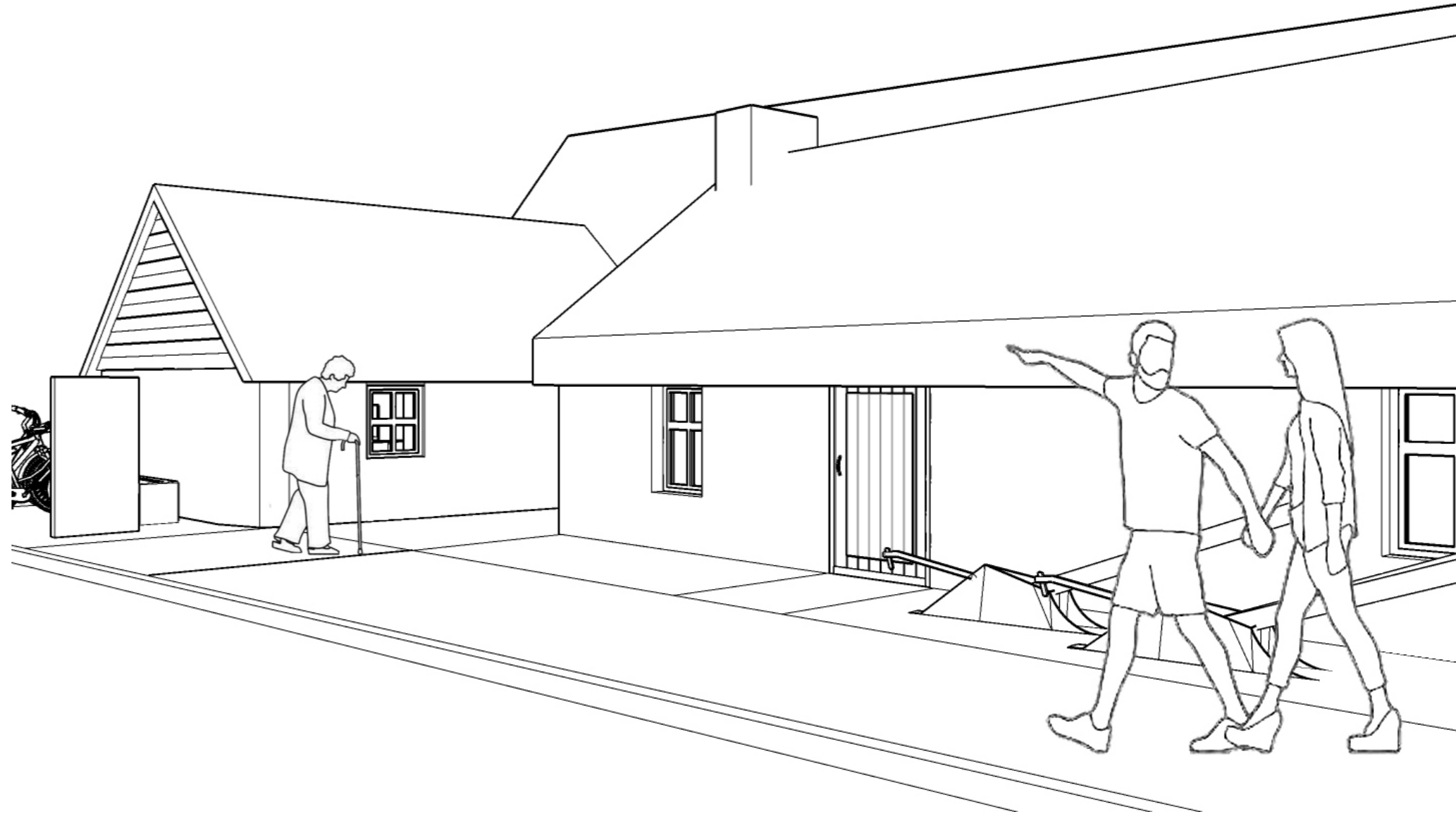
1.2 The Design.

1.2.1 Our Cottage

Visitors start their journey from the outside, as they are welcomed to the site with a new welcome panel created out of locally sourced slate, introducing Glencoe Folk Museum the last remaining heather-thatched cottages in Glencoe.

Using semi-translucent graphic panels overlaid on the cottage building, visitors can appreciate the history of the building and its transformation across the years. Handwritten stories along with the windows intrigue visitors to explore further inside the cottage. In addition, visitors are invited to explore an open-air artefact display of ploughs that highlights the crofting history of the cottages and Glencoe.

Visitors arriving by bike can park their bicycle in front of the byre, and charge their electric bikes. In addition, visitors can take a seat on the bench outside with an inspiring community-related quote engraved into it.



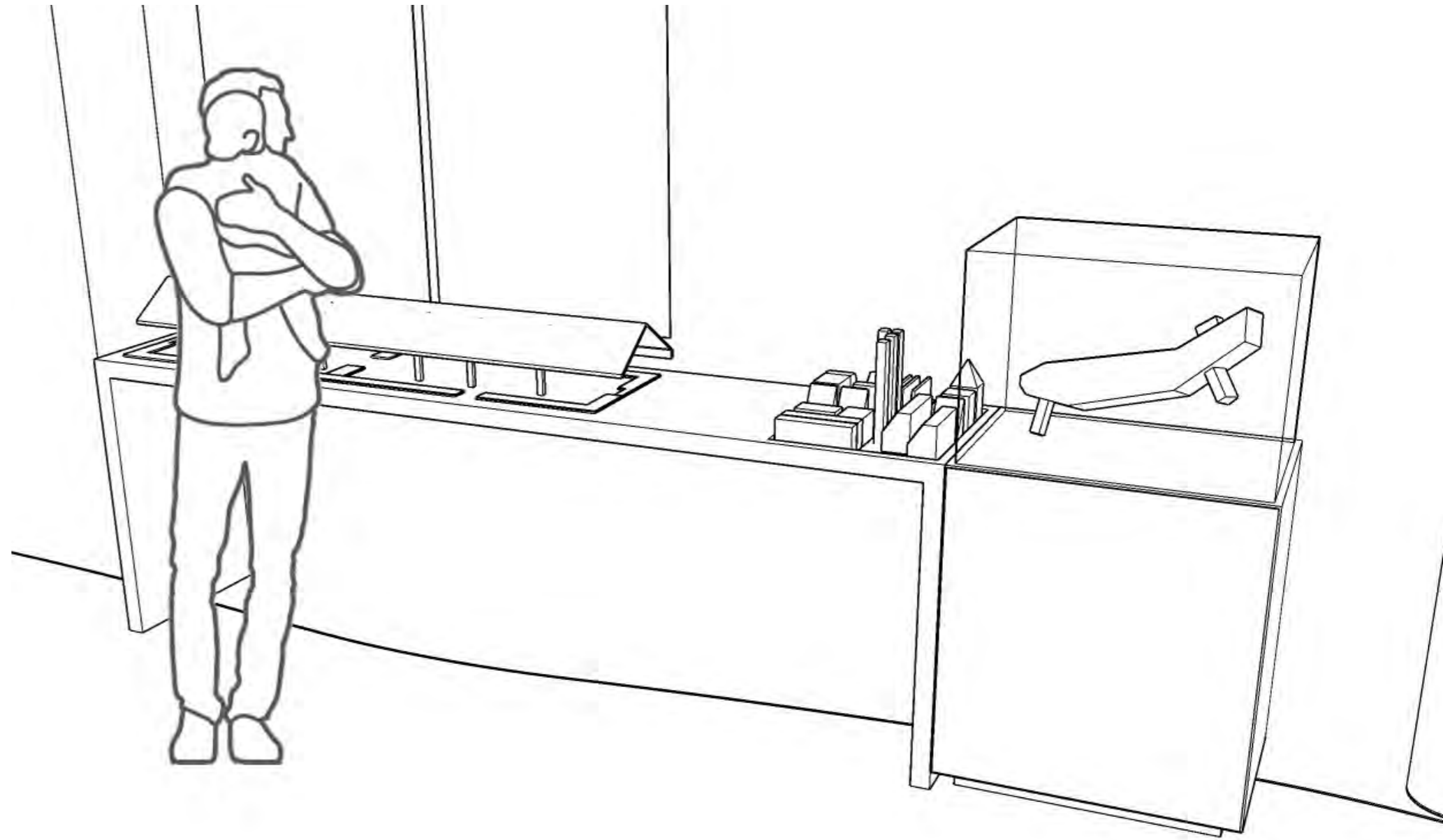
1.2 The Design.

1.2.1 Our Cottage

Upon entering the new Museum extension visitors will witness the combination of the historic and contemporary structures, introducing how and why the cottage came to be.

Visitors can analyse the building materials and construction methods used to create the cottage, and understand the process undertaken to conserve and protect the cottage today. Engaging tactile and hands-on experience will give an understanding of how to design and build their own heather-thatched cottage.

Interpretation within the space will help visitors learn more about this iconic cottage and its life before the Museum in a new refreshing way. Meanwhile within the cottages, key features of the buildings will be highlighted to give better insight into the importance of materials, construction methods and techniques in creating this long-standing structure.



1.2 The Design.

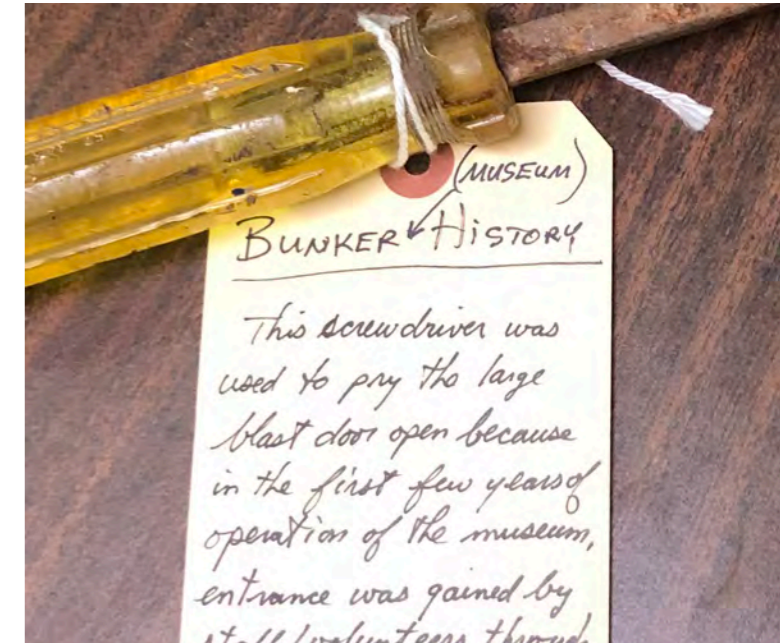
1.2.2 Our Roots/Our Lives

Make yourself at home in Barbara Fairweather's living room and feel welcome as you discover the unique and eclectic collections and their stories in the 'curated clutter' around the cottage.

Visitors can take a seat in a chair integrated with concealed speakers and listen to the stories of the founders through their relatives, as they reflect on the Museum. As visitors explore the collections, they can hear the stories told by the community themselves, building a sense of the daily life in this rural village and creating a space that feels connected to the people who live there.

Handwritten interpretation labels add a personal touch and capture the essence of the early years of the Museum as visitors read the notes of the curator and community for the collections.

With quirky new opportunities to interact with the displays and collections, visitors are encouraged to look closer, explore further, and even interact with the interpretation to make sure everything is in order. A doll-house display will also bring back memories, allowing visitors to explore the rooms and create their own stories inside.



1.2 The Design.



"We thought that **They** ought to make a
Museum to record daily life.
But **They** do not exist...
so we did it ourselves."

Barbara Fairweather

This room is designed to feel welcoming and relaxed, inspired by the portrait of Barbara Fairweather which takes centre stage on the fireplace. Sounds of the clock ticking and stories being told set the scene for visitors to explore the collection in new, more engaging ways.

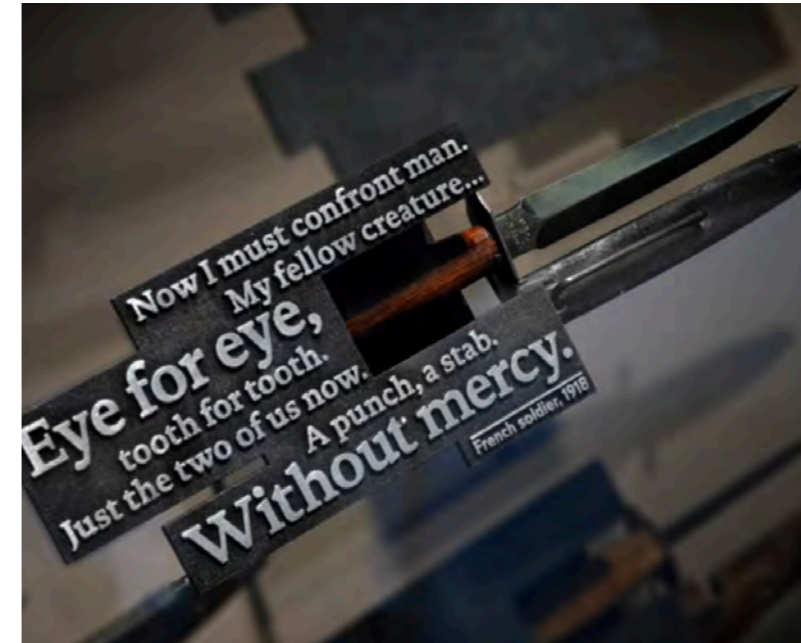
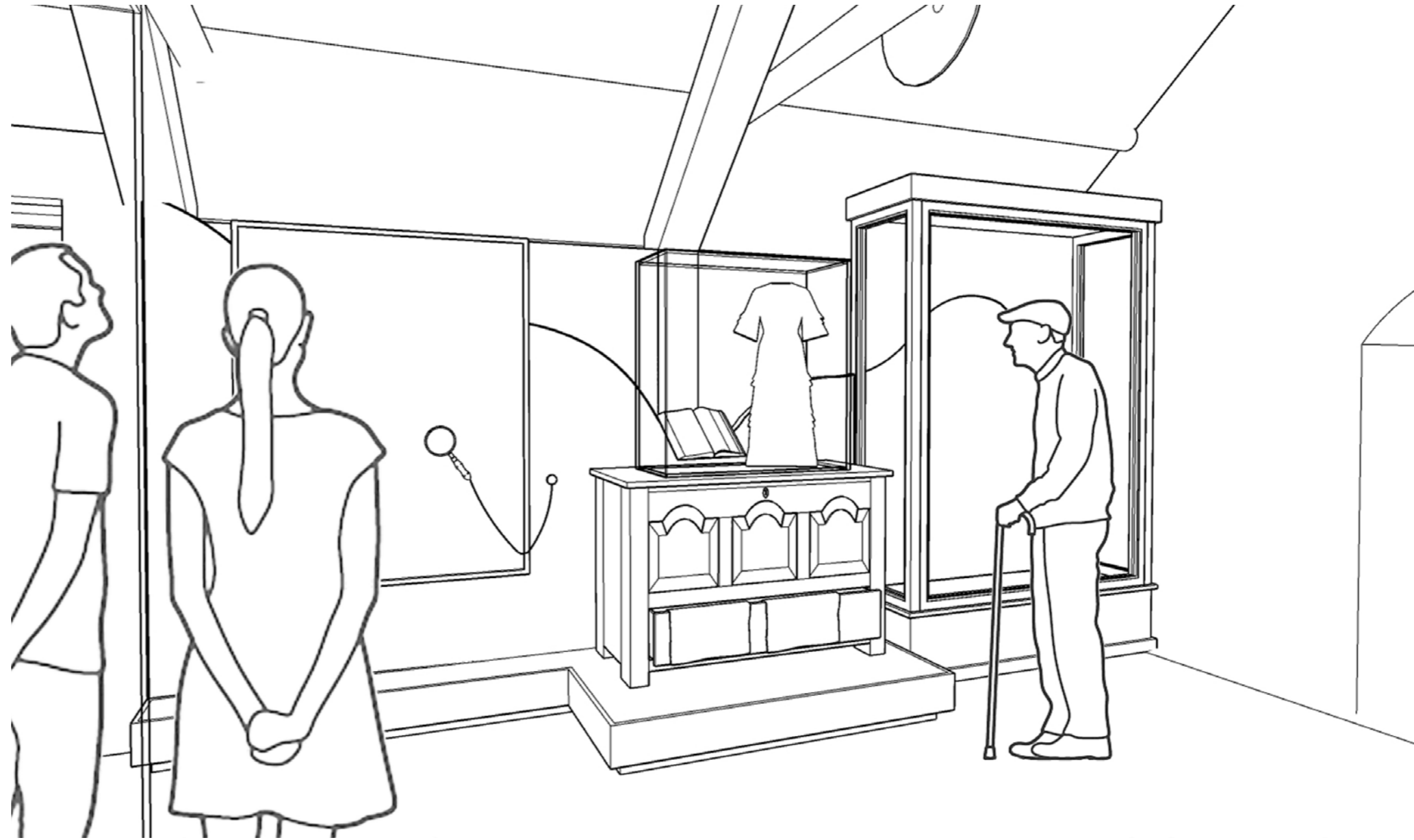
1.2 The Design.

1.2.3 Our Clans

Breathe in the change in atmosphere as you meet the Clans that shaped the Glen. An engaging mix of immersive projection, props, and sensory interactivity brings to life the cultural importance of highland hospitality and the social and political climate that triggered the Massacre of Glencoe.

Visitors will be able to learn about the Clans from historical and contemporary perspectives, interpreted the incredible Jacobite collection with both curator and community interpretation. In one instance, Visitors can use a magnifying glass to animate the MacDonald Clan Tree and discover the origins and stories of the Clan, from past and present generations. The family tree will also inspire the donor contribution wall by the entrance.

Inspired by the Glencoe landscape, the graphics will bring the outside in as colours and shapes will flow into the architecture of the building, creating an interpretive layering. 3D forms and graphic language create bold and illustrative visuals that form an atmospheric backdrop to the artefacts and their stories. New and upcycled showcasing will also embrace this visual aesthetic, blending them into the graphic landscape.



1.2 The Design.



“You are hereby ordered to fall upon the Rebels,
the McDonalds of Glenco,
and putt all to the sword under Seventy.”

Order received by
Captain Robert Campbell of Glenlyon

...of Glenco.
...February 1692
...the morning of 12th February 1692, the
...of the rebels and the death of the rebels
...the rebels and the death of the rebels
...the rebels and the death of the rebels

The Again (The
...the rebels and the death of the rebels
...the rebels and the death of the rebels
...the rebels and the death of the rebels

Empty seats and left-behind props give a sense of untouched memorium of those no longer here, as silhouettes recreate the chilling story of their massacre in an animated projection and soundscape that put the visitors into the centre of the massacre.

1.2 The Design.



A central showcase will display the 18th Century Spitalfield dress, allowing visitors to see it from 360 degrees. They will be able to see the intricate details from front to back.

1.2 The Design.

1.2.4 Our Place

Find yourself at the heart of Glencoe, immersed in a display of objects displays that tell both the chronology of Glencoe's history and focus on particular themes important to the community. Pull out panels, display drawers and lift to reveal panels offer story discovery across the timeline, creating a tactile way for visitors to understand the history of Glencoe.

Our Place has been developed to integrate storage and seating where suitable. Central displays will be moveable, allowing for more space to be made when needed. This will allow for optimal flexibility and accessibility within the Museum. It will also open opportunities for the Museum to hold more indoor activities and local events.

The clean design and dynamic graphics embrace the bright new architecture, allowing the historic objects to speak for themselves and capturing the essence of the Glencoe community from its origins through to today. Accessible audio brings community voices into the stories, leaving visitors with a sense of connection to the locals and Glencoe as a home.

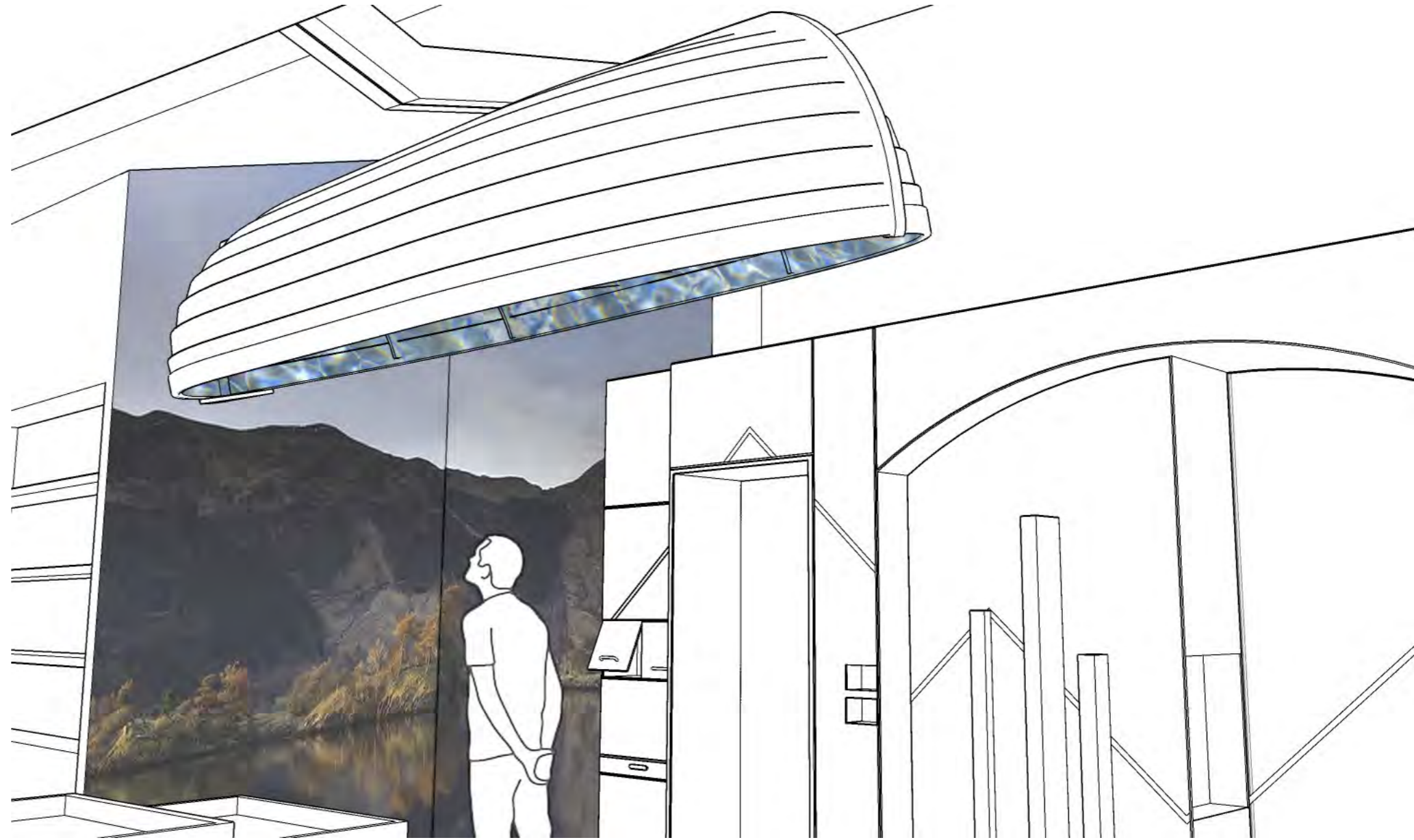


1.2 The Design.

1.2.5 Coffin Boat

Wrapped in centuries of folklore, the Coffin display is a particular interest piece for all visiting the Museum. The new display will create an isolated immersive experience which takes visitors on a journey to Eilean Munde. Suspended from a roof structure and supported by surrounding graphic interpretation, visitors will learn the rich history of the Coffin Boat, while a gobo effect gives the sense of the boat floating through the waters of Loch Leven.

Based on the conservation survey, that includes a proposal for display, the Coffin Boat will be suspended by supporting cradle. This will be designed to stabilise the boat and its condition while on display in the redeveloped Museum.



1.2 The Design.

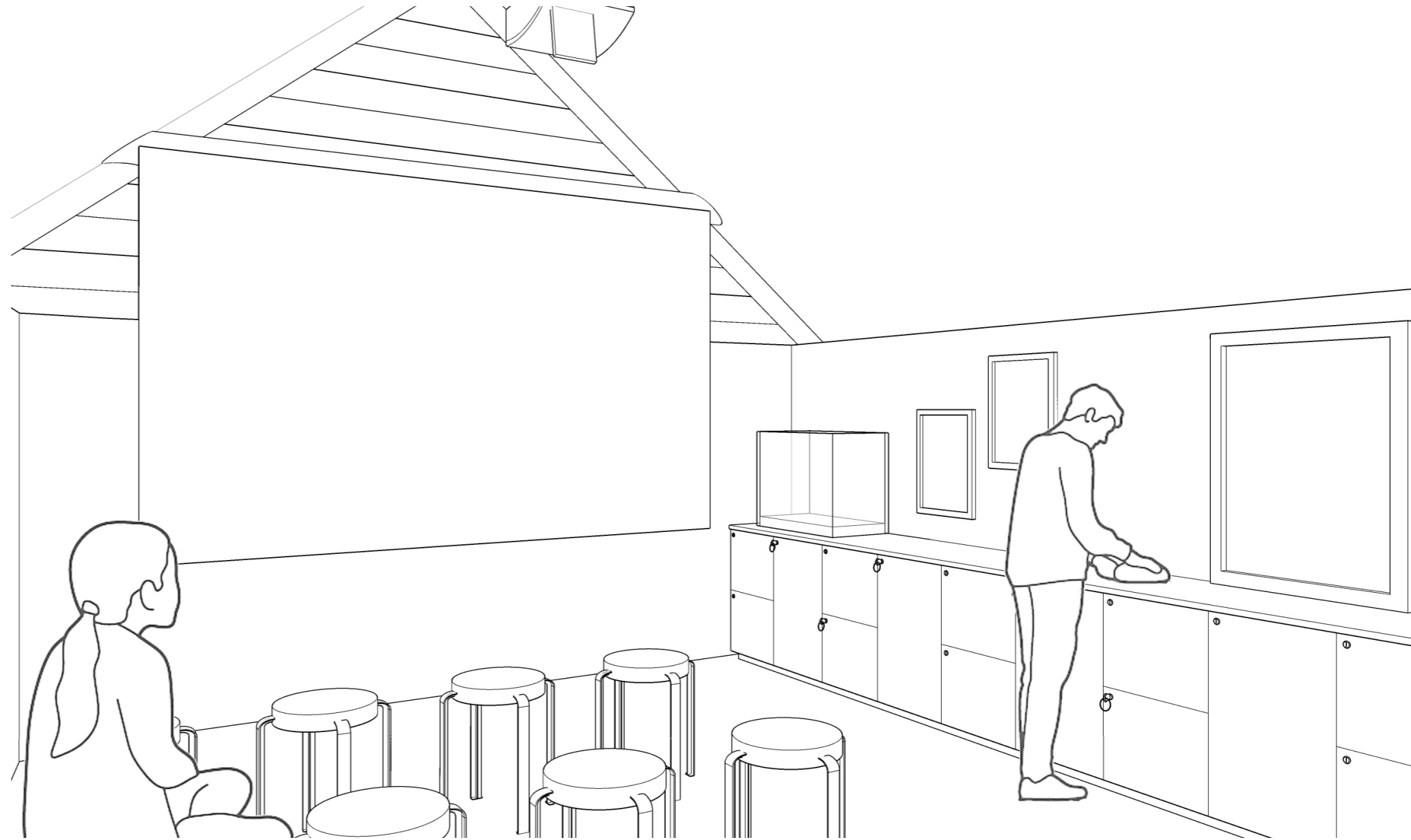
1.2.5 Community Gallery: In the Byre

The Community Gallery is a flexible exhibition and education space inside the Byre. It is free to access and has multi-purpose use.

The local community will be given ownership of the temporary exhibition space, allowing them to tell stories of the contemporary community. The Byre can also provide room for community films, promoting local activities and partnerships. During school visits, the Byre can be transformed into an education area.

This space will also be integrated with low-level lockers, offering a storage space for those who wish to leave their luggage, and a surface for displays around the perimeter of the Byre.

Opportunities for the involvement of the local community will be displayed here, as will objects that are available for adoption and the famous 'Hamish the Heilan Hunk'. Visitors are invited to take a photo with Hamish himself and learn all about his story.

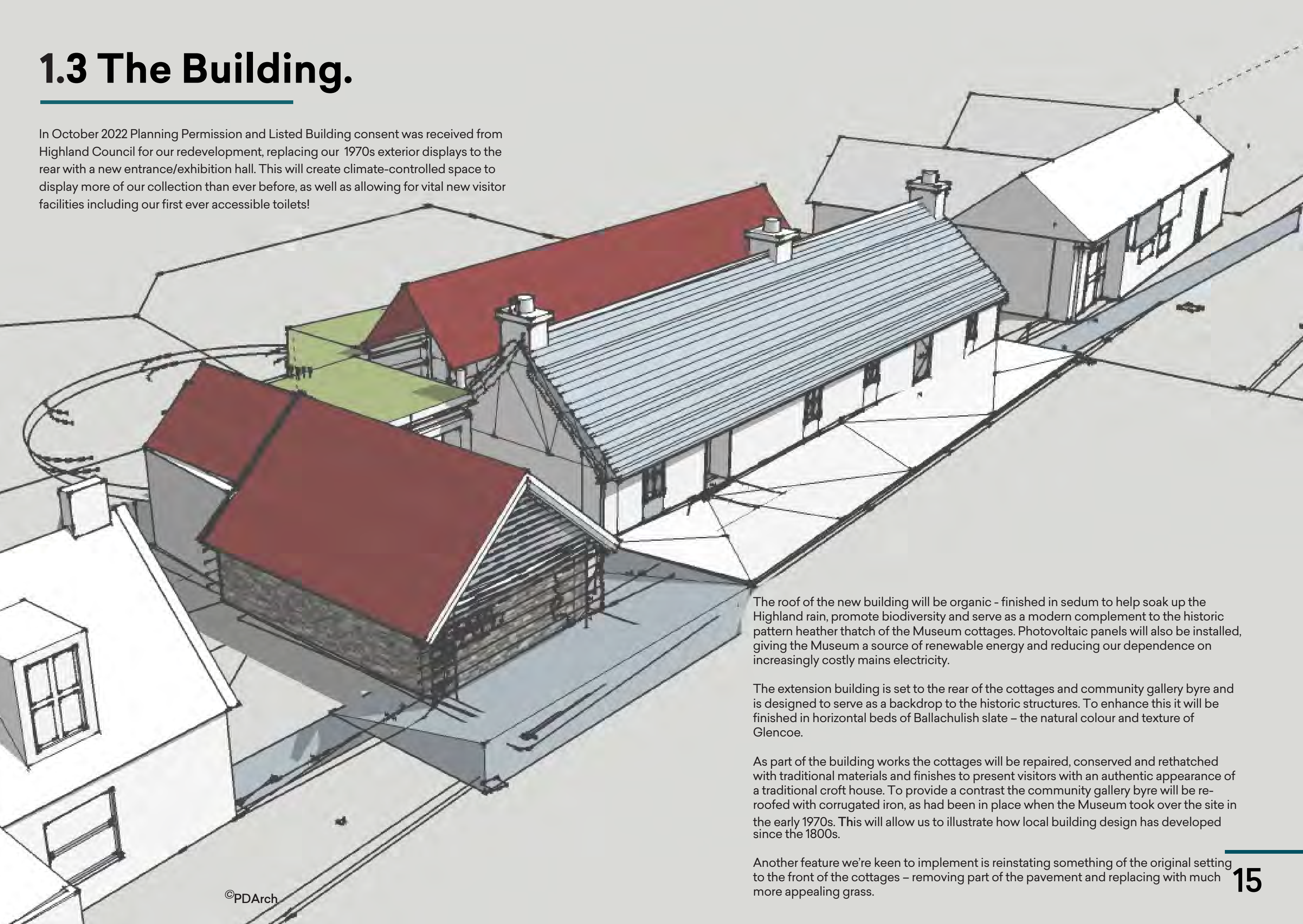


1.2 The Design.



1.3 The Building.

In October 2022 Planning Permission and Listed Building consent was received from Highland Council for our redevelopment, replacing our 1970s exterior displays to the rear with a new entrance/exhibition hall. This will create climate-controlled space to display more of our collection than ever before, as well as allowing for vital new visitor facilities including our first ever accessible toilets!



The roof of the new building will be organic - finished in sedum to help soak up the Highland rain, promote biodiversity and serve as a modern complement to the historic pattern heather thatch of the Museum cottages. Photovoltaic panels will also be installed, giving the Museum a source of renewable energy and reducing our dependence on increasingly costly mains electricity.

The extension building is set to the rear of the cottages and community gallery byre and is designed to serve as a backdrop to the historic structures. To enhance this it will be finished in horizontal beds of Ballachulish slate – the natural colour and texture of Glencoe.

As part of the building works the cottages will be repaired, conserved and rethatched with traditional materials and finishes to present visitors with an authentic appearance of a traditional croft house. To provide a contrast the community gallery byre will be re-roofed with corrugated iron, as had been in place when the Museum took over the site in the early 1970s. This will allow us to illustrate how local building design has developed since the 1800s.

Another feature we're keen to implement is reinstating something of the original setting to the front of the cottages – removing part of the pavement and replacing with much more appealing grass.

1.3 The Building.

New open plan exhibition space, suitable for a mix of permanent and temporary exhibitions

Staff WC / showerroom and storage

Accessible WC

Reception

Entrance vestibule

Gift Shop and Gallery

Accessible entrance into museum

Accessible doorway to community space

Community Space with locker/storage space for visitors jackets and bags

Cottages now with accessible entrances from extension

Original landscpae frontage setting reinstated