



Progress report 1

Week 1 (after 3 ½ years)

September 14th 2004

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Glachbeg Croft will be opening as a curriculum support centre in the Spring of 2005. Education programmes will be offered in the context of the croft and Environmental/ Countryside Education. 3 ½ years of planning has led us to the point when construction of our classroom building has begun. The building is being constructed using sustainability principles. This series of information sheets that track the progress of the building will help you to follow progress and to consider what these principles are:



Artists impression of the building:

1. High levels of insulation
2. Non toxic materials
3. Locally produced “renewable” materials where possible
4. Passive and active thermal features

The building is based on a timber frame of Douglas Fir obtained from a nearby estate. This timber can be cut, sawn and used without seasoning in large pieces



Before work begins on site the following things had to take place:

1. Outline drawings of the building and its location
2. Planning Permission obtained from Highland Council.
3. Detailed structural drawings and reports from a structural engineer obtained.
4. Building Warrant obtained to ensure that the building meets current building standards.
5. Contractors sought.

When this happens the site can be prepared:

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The bank between the road and site is removed. The top soil is cleared to provide a level base.

Some bottoming material is bought from a local quarry to provide a firm base for vehicles:



The exact shape of the foundations are marked on the soil using string and measuring tools, and then painted.

The digging begins



Sustainability Considerations

The points below are provided for discussion:

- Timber as a renewable resource
- Transport
- Fuel
- Habitat destruction/
- Use of aggregates

IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE E- MAIL ME.
We hope that as things develop site visits will be possible