TANERA MORE BURIAL GROUND A Survey of Its Memorials. NB 9894/0748



Compiled by Stuart Farrell B.A A.I.F.A F.S.A.Scot and Frances Ross May 2000

Abstract

This survey was conducted, further to the survey work carried out by the authors as part of the wider study of graveyards in the Ullapool area. This report gives details of inscriptions and an index of surnames.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following for their help during this survey :-- Mr. Bill Wilder, for access and transportation to the island of Tanera More.

This survey was conducted with the help from the following bodies :-

- Highland Council Archaeology Service;
- Marc Fitch Fund.

Location



Cover : General view of burial ground from East.

Introduction

The burial ground at Tanera More is situated to the north west of the former fishing station forming a triangular piece of ground. It served as a burial ground for over 150 years.

Site History

The origins of the burial ground on Tanera are unknown. There is no record of any church or chapel being on the island. The find of a possible medieval stone in 1988 (Baldwin, 1994, 221) may give an indication of reuse of a stone rather than the sites actual history.

Date and condition of Monuments

The vast majority of memorials in the burial ground consist of flat irregular shaped slabs with no inscriptions or carvings, with small head and foot markers. A number of inscribed slabs date from the middle to the late 19th century. A cast-iron railed enclosure of the late 19th century contains 3 slabs, 2 of which are inscribed. There is no sign of any structures on the site. A possible burial cairn was also surveyed.

During the site visit a slab, lying disturbed, which may have been the medieval stone found in 1988 (see over), was inspected and upon study was possibly thought not to be the stone found in 1988. If it was the same stone its carving is now lost, being highly worn as to be indecipherable.

Bibliography

Baldwin J R. (ed.)(1994) Peoples & Settlement in North-west Ross. Scottish Society for Northern Studies. Edinburgh.

Brown M (1994) Two Ecclesiastical Sites in the Summer Isles, Wester Ross. In Baldwin (ed.) Peoples & Settlement in North-west Ross. Scottish Society for Northern Studies. Edinburgh.

Jones J. (1984) How to record Graveyards. Council for British Archaeology and RESCUE. London.

National Monuments Record of Scotland CANMORE entry NB 90 NW 1.





MAY 2000

Recording Form

For the purposes of this survey a recording form was devised based on that recommended by the Council for British Archaeology (Jones 1984). This form being quite detailed (see over), and possibly difficult to use, a simplified form detailing the most important points of recording was drawn up.(see over) This was to include the following :-

1. Full inscription, including all genealogical information.

- 2. Type and style of monument.
- 3. Orientation and size.
- 4. Material used.

5. Photograph : a colour print (4x5) for attachment to each recording form. Also that details of carvings or other comments could be recorded.

Key to Recording Form

1st line - Date of Record - day upon record made;

- Recorder - initials of person making record;

- Memorial No. - number of stone relating to plan;

2nd line - Monument type - what kind of monument is it? Headstone/slab/etc; 3rd line - Material - What it is made of pink/yellow sandstone, granite, slate, etc; 4th line - Faces Inscribed (Compass Points) - What direction does the inscription face?;

5th line - Condition of stone & inscription - overall is the stone and inscription together very good, good, very poor, or poor. Take into consideration the eligibility of the inscription and the stone itself;

6th line - Dimensions - use a handtape or extending ruler to measure size; 7th line - Remarks - describe anything of interest - carvings, condition in

general. A sketch of any particular feature of the stone.

8th line - Inscription - record the complete inscription. Write each line as it is on the stone.

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1	NAT. GRID REF.	5:2'3 9:915:0151
2	DATE of RECORD	0:4:015:719
3	NAME of RECORDER or GROUP	M. JENKINSCH
4	MEMORIAL No. and LETTER	0 0101514
5	No. of COMPONENTS	011
6	ASSOCIATED FORM LETTERS	
7	Memorial type: 1. flat 2. head 3. to	romb 4. foot 5. other [2]
8	MATERIAL and GEOLOGY	SANDSTONE
9	STONE MASON or UNDERTAKER	
10	Which faces are inscribed? - compass	s points 01010171
11	No. of people commemorated	0 0 2
12	TECHNIQUE of INSCRIPTION	INCISED
13	Condition of monument: 1. sound, in 3 leaning or falling apart 4. colla	
14	Condition of inscription: 1. mint 2. 3. mainly decipherable 4. traces	
15	DIMENSIONS	Height 1 3 917
16	(in mms.)	Width 0.914
17		Thickness 0.0.9.2
18	PHOTOGRAPH NEGATIVE No.	0 0 3 3
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GRAVE MEMORIAL RECORDING FORM GENEAOLOGICAL SUMMARY SURNAME FORENAME RELATIONSHIP DOB DOD PHOTOGRAPH

Inscription Details

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- ... notes letters illegible.
- 1 Annabella McLean Riff died 22nd May 1872 aged 75 years.
- 2 A Mc L died June 1861 aged 73 years.
- 3 R M L aged 27 years.
- 4 S M.

5 – D Mathewson who died Decr 1st 1866 aged 69 years. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord".

Index of Surnames McLean - 1 Mathewson - 5

Initials Only 2 – A Mc L 3 – R M L 4 – S M

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PHOTOGRAPH



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