

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE		H	N	D	1	2	N	W	0	0	1	
2 NGR		N	D	1	0	5	5	2	5	0	5	
3 QUAL		CE										
4 DISTRICT		CAITHNESS					5 PARISH		LATHERON			
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS		10 GENERIC TYPE						
11 CONCORDANCE		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS		14 PERIOD/DATE						
OS ND 12 NW 1+9		STANDING STRUCTURES				SETTLEMENT + FIELD SYSTEM						
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION		18 SHAPE		15 DATING METHOD		19 THREAT AND DATE				
8 HUT CIRCLES		INCOMPLETE				BA = IA		TYP				
20 LAND USE		21 GEOLOGY		22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION		26 ASPECT		27 ALTITUDE		
ROUGH PASTURE								ESE = SE = S		69 = 145m OD		
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF		28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)		29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)		30 GROUND PLAN NO.		31 GROUND PHOTO NO.		
		MODERATE TO STEEP HILLSLOPES				1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1907: 6" MAP		32 SLIDES NO.		33 HR. AP NO.		
						2. RCAHMS: 1911:: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: p63, No. 231		34 NMR. AP NO.		35 OTHER AP NO.: SOURCE		
						3. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1965: 6" MAP		36 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION		37 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY		
								38 SAMPLES		39 PALYNOLOGY		
								40 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.		41 SMALL FINDS		
										42 MUSEUM/LOCATION		
										43 OTHER		
44 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER		45 ATTITUDE OF OWNER		46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT		47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT		48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS		49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE		
										50 RECORDER: DATE		
										AS: 6.1.1986		
										51 CHECK: DATE		
										7B 21 1 1986		

52 TEXT

"Five hut circles: A 1054 2507
 B 1056 2505
 C 1060 2506
 D 1048 2504
 E 1062 2496."

"See continuation card for text".

Some 200 yds N of the broch above the Allt an Duin (HND 12 SW 010 and near the cairn (HND12NW 015) are the distinct remains of a large hut circle. (2)

Some 25 yds NE lies another, measuring internally some 37 by 42 ft, and having its entrance from the SE about 6 ft wide, while the remains of a third, ill-defined, are visible some 30 yds to the S.

Centred ND 1055 2505. The huts described by the RCAHM (OSFI:WDJ:21.6.1960) were not found during perambulation, but three others were found roughly corresponding to the same area.

About 40 m NE of the cairn is an enclosure or hut circle scooped into the slope on the W and measuring 14.0 m in diameter. The earth-and-stone enclosing bank is spread to 4.3 m on the E side and is 1.1 m high. The entrance, in the SE, is 1.8 m wide. The interior is featureless and the whole site is thickly overgrown with heather. Some 56 m ENE of this is another of similar form and dimensions. An earth-and-stone bank abuts on to the circle on its E side.

Some way to the S, at ND 1062 2475, is another hut circle or enclosure, measuring 12.3 by 11.2 m with an entrance, 1.0 m wide, in the SW. The enclosing bank is of a slighter character than the others and is 0.8 m maximum height. The circle is also scooped into the slope on the W

(Centred ND 105 250) Enclosures (NR) (Four shown) (3)

On a gentle SE-facing slope in open moorland is a group of five hut circles (A - E) within a contemporary field system. (OSFI:NKB:9.11.1982)

Hut circle 'A', the "large hut circle" noted by the RCAHM, is 12.0 m NW-SE by 11.0 m transversely within a wall, 0.6 m average height, spread to 2.5 m, but expanding to a width of 3.5 m at the entrance, in the SE. Recent heather burning has revealed an intermittent wall face of large stones.

'B' (mentioned by the RCAHM "30 yds to the S", also in burnt-off heather, is almost totally obscured by peat. It is about 7.0 m in diameter within a wall, 0.2 m maximum height and of indeterminate width. The entrance cannot be identified.

Only the NW half of hut 'C' is visible, the wall 0.5 m high and spread to 2.5 m. The SE arc is very vague, and presumably the entrance was in this side. A clearance heap abuts the outside of the wall in the NE, and within the SW segment of the hut is a pile of stone, probably pulled from the wall. Internally, it measures about 10.0 m across.

'D', set back into a slope, is 8.0 m in diameter within a wall 0.5 m high and spread to 3.0 m at the entrance in the SE, but elsewhere the wall is barely discernible.

'E', set into the slope, measures 10.0 m N-S by 8.0 m transversely within a wall, 0.3 m average height and spread to 2.5 m.

Hut circles 'A', 'D' and 'E' were discovered by F1. There is no trace of a hut circle "some 25 yds NE of 'A'" (noted by the RCAHM) in an area of burnt-off heather.

An associated field system comprises meandering field walls set deep in the peat and numerous stone clearance heaps much of this has been exposed by recent heather-burning.

(Centred ND 1065 2510)

(1)

Scattered along the slope of the hill below the hut circles are a number of mounds, from 12 to 18 ft in diameter and 2 to 2½ ft in height.

(2)

These are field clearance heaps, associated with the nearby hut circles.

(OSFI:WJJ:21.6.1960)

A field system of meandering field walls, set deep in peat, and numerous clearance heaps, exposed by recent heather burning.

(OSFI:NKB:9.11.1982)