

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD



1 SITE CODE		H		NH		64		SIE		003	
2 NGR		NH		6778		4260		CE		3 QUAL	
6 SITE NAME											
CASTLE HEATHER *											
10 GENERIC TYPE											
CASTLE (ALLEGED)											
14 PERIOD/DATE						15 DATING METHOD					
LM						TYP					
18 SHAPE											
SUB - RECTANGULAR											
19 THREAT AND DATE											
4 DISTRICT				5 PARISH				6 SITE NAME			
INVERNESS				INVERNESS & BONA				6 SITE NAME			
7 AREA STATUS				8 SITE STATUS				9 REGIONAL STATUS			
11 CONCORDANCE				12 FORM				13 DIMENSIONS			
M64SE3				EARTHWORK =				c40.0m x c30.0m			
NMR				DOCUMENTS ONLY							
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS				17 CONDITION				18 SHAPE			
				INCOMPLETE				SUB - RECTANGULAR			
				DESTROYED - BULLDOZED.				19 THREAT AND DATE			
20 LAND USE				21 GEOLOGY				22 ALTITUDE			
ENCLOSED LAND								80=85m OD			
22 SOILS				23 VEGETATION				24 ASPECT			
								N			
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE				25 RELIEF				26 ALTITUDE			
				GENTLE HILLSLOPE				80=85m OD			
28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)											
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)											
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1938: 6" MAP (PROV.)											
2. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1869: OBJECT NAME BOOK: No. 31: pp9, 40											
3. : MISCELLANY OF THE SPALDING CLUB: VOL. 4											
4. : 1793: OLD STATISTICAL ACCOUNT: No. 9: pp633-4											
5. : 1845: NEW STATISTICAL ACCOUNT: VOL. 14: p15											
6. SOC. ANT. SCOT.: 1979: ARCH. SITES & MONS. OF NE INVERNESS: RCAHMS: p26, No. 196											
7. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1978: 1/10,000 MAP											
30 GROUND PLAN NO.						31 GROUND PHOTO NO.					
32 SLIDES NO.						33 HR. AP. NO.					
34 NMR. AP. NO.						35 OTHER AP. NO. SOURCE					
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			51 CHECK: DATE		
						MWC: 11.11.1986			HSC: 12.11.86		
52 TEXT											
"See continuation card for text."											

6. " * AKA. 'Castle Leathers', 'Castle Bathers' (misprint?), 'Castle Ladderis' or 'Ladders'."

(NH 6778 4220) Supposed site of Castle

(1)

This is supposed to be the site of the Castle mentioned in the Statistical Account as having existed at Castle Leathers. It is there called Castle Bathers, but that is evidently a misprint as no one knows such a name. Traces of a large building have been seen here and there are at present two hollows which appear to be the traces of the ditch.

In referring to Castleleathers and Castle-heather, in 1537 the name "Castletown of La. iŕ" appeared in the list of the Castle lands of Inverness reprinted in the 4th volume of the Spalding Club (3) and in a manuscript of 1737 giving Major James Fraser's evidence as a witness, the name appears as "Castle Ladderis or Ladders".

(2)

The name this castle bears, would be more suitable to a convent of Monks. It is called in English, Castle Bathers, a corruption of the Gaelic name "Caistal nan boirach", that is the castle of the "recluse or retired" a monastery in Gaelic is indifferently termed "Manachinn" the "residence of the monks" or "Leoirnamanach" the "retreat or retirement of the Monks"

(4)

The estate of Castle Leathers was anciently provided with its own keep or tower.

(5)

The site of the Castle is a levelled of area situated on a gentle north facing slope. The site is a sub-rectangular platform measuring c.40 Cm. along three sides and c.30 Cm. along the S.E. Side. It is 1-2.0m high. Surrounding it on three sides is a broad ditch varying from c.20.0m. wide on the east side to c.80m. on the N.W. The counterscarp of the ditch has been ploughed down at the north angle, and the turn is only just discernible. On the S.W. side is the natural slope to a burn. The site has been used as a dumping ground for field stones and rubbish. No traces of buildings exist on the platform. It is known locally as the site of Castle Heather. Published 25" revised.

(OSFI:JLO:27.3.1962)

"NH 6778 4260 'Castle Mound'."

(7)

Site destroyed c1990 by landowner with a bulldozer - Jill Harden.

