

Dalreavoch-Sciberscross

Strath Brora, Sutherland



Sheepfold in Strath Brora

A Report on an Archaeological Walk-Over Survey Prepared for Scottish Woodlands Ltd

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1.0 Executive Summary

An archaeological desk-based study and subsequent walk-over survey of part of Sutherland Estate, in Strath Brora in East Sutherland, was undertaken in September 2009. The survey was required by Scottish Woodlands Ltd to establish the extent of archaeological remains, which would, in turn, determine the viability of planting trees.

The survey area comprises a strip of land approximately 3km x 0.3km (90 hectares) of mainly flat ground of the valley floor of the River Brora, with some steeper slopes at the edges. It is situated between Dalreavoch Bridge in the west and Sciberscross in the east, approximately 11km from the village of Golspie on the east coast of Sutherland (see Appendix I). It is split into northern and southern portions by the River Brora. Also running through the northern part of the survey area is the Brora-Balnacoil-Rogart public road.

The survey resulted in the recording of 127 archaeological features, only 34 of which had previously been recorded on the Highland Council Archaeology Unit's Historic Environment Record (HER).

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Background

On behalf of the Sutherland Estate, Scottish Woodlands Ltd propose to plant trees on the valley floor of the River Brora, between Dalreavoch Bridge and Sciberscross. Prior to this, they commissioned a desk-based assessment and subsequent walk-over survey to record and survey any archaeological remains present in the area and assess the impact which the proposal may have on the archaeology.

2.2 Objectives

The objectives of this survey were to:

- Identify the cultural heritage baseline within the proposal area.
- Consider the potential impacts of the proposed development on the cultural heritage resource.
- Propose measures (where appropriate) to mitigate any predicted adverse impacts.

2.3 Methodology

A desk-based study was made of the Highland Council's HER, in conjunction with many specific and relevant references held locally in Sutherland, in order to identify any known and/or visible archaeology.

The subsequent walkover survey used the most recent Ordnance Survey maps and a hand-held Garmin GPS unit was used for GPS co-ordinates, and a pocket compass clinometer was used for 360° whole circle bearings and slope gradients.

2.4 Limitations

The main limitation to identifying surface archaeological features during the walk over survey was the presence of dense bracken and deep heather in several local areas. The majority of the site, however, was found to be open, and vegetated only by low heather and grass. It has to be borne in mind, however, that archaeology may still lie concealed beneath the surface.

GPS co-ordinates are found to differ from Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates generally by around 10m (can be up to 18m) to the SSW. This may pose local problems when relating recorded features to large-scale OS maps. GPS accuracy is wholly determined by the ability to access available satellites by line of sight. This ability can be reduced by proximity to hillsides and valley-sides and also by tree cover.

2.5 Setting

The area identified for this proposal covers a 3km long corridor (approximately 90 hectares) of flat-bottomed valley floor of the River Brora, with some steeper sloping valley sides at the margins of the survey area. The majority of the site is covered with heather and grass, resting on

river gravels, peat and occasional outcrops of bedrock. There are areas of grazing for sheep and cattle, with hillside rough grazing above, and the site is interspersed with local areas of native hardwood stances and single trees.

The site contains part of the boundary separating the parishes of Clyne and Rogart. It enters the area from the NW running down the Allt a'Chlamhain, then eastwards along the centre of the River Brora. The survey area is wholly owned by the Sutherland Estate, although the northern side of the river is tenanted by Sciberscross Farm and the south side of the river is tenanted by the Rogart Sheepstock Club.

The area is not now habited, but there is a modern single dwelling just outwith the survey area to the north, and the farm and associated buildings of Sciberscross to the north of the site at its east end. The site is bounded to the north (for the majority of its extent) by the Brora-Balnacoil-Rogart public road, and to the south by an old stone dyke (see Appendix III).

Map evidence suggests that there has been a long-lived human habitation history in the wider Strath Brora area, from the Neolithic to the Sutherland Clearances of the early 1800s, since which the site has been used for sheep-farming, and cattle grazing, with mid-20th Century coniferous forestry plantations bordering the site to the north west.

3.0 Results

3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

3.1.1 Historic Environment Record

Initial consultation of the Highland Council Archaeology Unit's Historic Environment Record (HER) showed that there are 12 recorded sites within the survey area. The same 12 sites are recorded on the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland's (RCAHMS) National Monument Record of Scotland (NMRS) (see Table 1, below, and Appendix IV).

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the site; the nearest being Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh (hut circles and field system), approximately 1.5km to the south.

HER No	Site Type	Age	Legal Status	Grid Ref
MHG34655	Hut circle	Undated	-	NC 7553 0908
MHG10547	Bridge	Post Medieval – 1560 AD to 1900 AD	List B	NC 7551 0887
MHG12574	Settlement	Post Medieval – 1560 AD to 1900 AD	-	NC 7610 0930
MHG34653	Hut-circles x2	Undated	-	NC 7606 0939
MHG18418	Enclosure	Post Medieval – 1560 AD to 1900 AD	-	NC 7620 0960
MHG32402	Sheep Pen	Undated	-	NC 7640 0960
MHG12575	Hut circle	Bronze Age – 2400 BC to 551 BC	-	NC 7753 0957
MHG19353	Farmstead	Undated	-	NC 7770 0950
MHG44434	Boundary Dyke	Undated	-	NC 7770 0950
MHG10552	Hut circles	Bronze Age – 2400 BC to 551 BC	-	NC 7788 0978
MHG10545	Township	Post Medieval – 1560 AD to 1900 AD	-	NC 7830 0990
MHG41567	Clearance Cairn	Undated	-	NC 7830 0990

Table 1: HER Sites

The presence of these hut circles, together with the other recorded ancient monuments dating back as far as the Neolithic adjacent to the site, show that the area has a long lived and rich history. Early colonisers would have grown subsistence crops on the valley sides and flat valley floor. They would have hunted on the hillsides and fished in the river and it clearly shows that several communities would have been able to sustain an existence here.

3.1.2 Maps

The current Ordnance Survey map depicts many features within the survey area, some of which are recorded on the HER and the NMRS, although there are no settlement names now mentioned.

Investigation into maps of earlier origins, such as William Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, of 1747-55, shows much greater historical detail. It depicts two named townships, 'Dalreach' and 'Kerrynamanoch' on the south bank of the River Brora, and one, 'Kerrynacavick' on the north bank. The main 'road' is depicted on the south side of the river and almost the entire length of the valley floor is cultivated under rig and furrow. There are intermittent riparian stances of woodland and local small woodlands, together with a large woodland in the centre of the survey area on the river's north bank.

William Forbes's map of 1820 shows less detail than Roy's map, but names 'Dalreavach' and 'Kerrow', although it is unclear to which side of the river the names apply. The road is now depicted on the north side of the River Brora.

Thomson's 1832 map shows 'Keria' on the north bank of the Brora and 'Dale Kerrue' possibly on the south bank, which is where the road is depicted! Burnett & Scott's 1855 map appears more accurate and detailed and has the road where it is found today, on the north side of the river, but no townships as, by this time, they would have all been uninhabited following the notorious Sutherland Clearances, some 30 years previously.

The 1st Edition and 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1879 and 1905 respectively depicts no townships, but a few clusters of unroofed structures and hut circles.

3.1.3 Documentary Evidence

There are no distinct names on current maps in the survey area, although 'The Kerrow' refers to the area of the valley floor to the west off Sciberscross on the north bank of the River Brora and the 'Black Park' refers to the fence enclosed area for sheep on the south bank of the river (Mr R Boa, Sciberscross, *pers. comm.*). The Kerrow is a modern derivation of the variations in 3.1.2 (above) and its meaning is explained by Frank MacLennan in one of his place name articles, published in the Northern Times of January 25th, 1957: '*Kerrow - Ceathramh, a fourth part. (The whole implied is the dabhach, a measure of land in olden days, of which Watson says that the extent varied according to the land and the locality). My information is that the East and West Kerrows are on either side of the Allt an Tuirc, and that there was a smithy in East Kerrow; "Records of Grace in Sutherland" confirms. So it would be seen that Baile na ceardaich was one of several holdings in east Kerrow*'.

MacLennan also discusses the derivation of the place name Sciberscross, in a published Northern Times article of June 27th, 1958: '*Point of the High Waterfalls. We get Sibersoc, 1360, and Syborskeg and Schiberskek in 1562. Registers, 1794, and 1833 map, give Siberscross. In Gaelic speech, according to Watson, it was Siobarscaig. Polson gives the meaning as Gaelic: Sith, a high place. Bior, a point; and es-caig, waterfalls; and he informs us that it is commonly regarded as a haunted place. Macbain ventures no further than to say that it may be Norse. If it were Norse it would be interesting as another relic of the Norse trail which we have already seen indicated in Skinsdale and Amat. At any rate, it is evident that the modern name has departed widely from the original*'. However, MacLennan, strangely, does not discuss the locally accepted derivation of Sciberscross, that is, of referring to St Sciber's Grave (Mr R Boa, Sciberscross, *pers. comm.*).

The area of Sciberscross is mentioned in documentary references as far back as 1360 and the township remains indicate that subsistence agriculture was taking place in the survey area. Things changed abruptly with the advent of the Sutherland Clearances, which affected this particular area directly in 1819. Sheep took the place of the cleared township inhabitants, managed by the new sheep farmer and Tacksman James Hall, who has taken the Sutherland Estate lease on the new Sciberscross Farm in 1818. The survey area is still grazed by sheep of the farm and the Rogart Sheepstock Club.

Sciberscross is mentioned (in different variants) as far back as 1360 in *Origines Parochiales Scotiae ii: In 1360 William Earl of Sothyrland granted in free barony to his brother Nicolas of Sothyrland and the heirs of his body, for his faithful homage and service, 16 davachs of land in the earldom of Sothyrland called Thorbol, including among others a davach of Grodybrorak, a davach of **Sibyrsoc**, and two davachs of Kylpodre Mekill and Litill, with a quarter of Meyngferri (afterwards apparently styled Karoumenche), to be held for the service of one soldier yearly.*

*In 1525 Adam Gordon earl of Suthirland and Elezabeth his wife, having considered the right of succession of William Sutherland lord of Duffous to the lands and lordship of Pronse by the decease of Hugh Sutherland without male heirs, and by reason of entail and ancient infeftment, granted to William in heritage the same lands and lord ship, including Gruclebroray, **Schebriskeig**, Kilpeddirmoir, and Kilpedirbeg.*

*In 1560 or 1562 (more probably the former) on 30 October John earl of Sutherland, superior of the following lands and others, with the consent of his wife Helen countess of Errol and Suderland, granted in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Suderland of Duffous the lands and barony of Skelbo, namely, Castcltowii of Skelbo with the tower, fortalice, and mill, Ballewraat, Cambusawye, Ester Skelbo, Cowll, Petmayne, Wester Aberscors, Morynche, Roartbeig, Morines, Cragie, Awchindowych, Innerschyn with the salmon fishing of the water of Innerschyn and the 'lyn,' with the multures and alehouses and the lands of the barony of Pronsie, namely, Castelltown, with the tower and fortalice, Pronsienane, Pronsiecroye, Assidaell, Cornamane, Rewarchar, Avelik with the mill, Dalnamayne, Mekle Torboll, Litill Torboll, Grudebrora, **Syborskeg**, Kilpeddermoir, Kilpedderbeig, with the mill of Kilpeddermoir, Kilpedder in Strathvlze, and Cayane in Strathvlze all lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernys, and resigned by Alexander Sutherland at Dunrobyn on the above day for a new infeftment in the same, and for the union of the lands into the free barony of Skelbo, seisin taken at the castle of Skelbo to be sufficient for the whole.*

*In 1610 (6 November) Master John Gray dean of Caithnes, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased for life to John master of Sutherland, and for twice nineteen years to his heirs and assignees, the teindsheaves of the towns and lands of Killein in Strathbrora, the two West Kelles, Carreill, Kilnabrora, Dallfollie, Killecallumkeill, Killepeddermoir, **Shiberscage**, the Doill, the burgh and lands of Innerbrora bewest the bridge, the whole teind fishing of the water of Brora fresh and salt, Clynesmill, the half of Clynekirketoun belonging to the laird of Duffus, Clyneleish, Dallihallenis, and Easter Brora, with the teind vicarage and small teind of the whole parish of Clyne, belonging to the deanery as part of its patrimony.*

The Sutherland Register of Hornings & Inhibitions mentions the marriage contract of Alexander Sutherland at Sciberscross and Elizabeth Sutherland (Eldest daughter captain Alexander of Little Torboll) of Little Torboll & Sciberscross, on September 29th, 1741. There are seven mentions of William Sutherland at Sciberscross between 1741 and 1781.

The 1793 Sutherland Volunteers list (Sutherland Estate Papers, Dep 313-3273) details the 'Accompt of Subsistence paid the Men of the Sutherland Fencible Regiment to the 2nd May inclusive from the severall dates of their Attestations as ffollows at the rate of 3/ p man p week'. It includes a Donald McKay of Kerrow, who was paid £1.1.10²/7d from 13 March.

The 1807 List of Persons Between the age of 18 & 45 Dwelling within the Parish of Clyne (NAS SC9/87/50), names 'Alexr Sutherland' and 'Angus Murray', both of Kerrow, as being 'old volunteers' under 30. The same list also names 'Joseph Suthd', a Shepherd of Seyberscross, as having no children and being under 30.

The 1813 Militia List (Sutherland Estate Papers) names Private John Sutherland, aged 23, 5' 4", from Kerrow, in Captain William Taylor's Company. In Captain William Munro's Company was Private Donald Sutherland, aged 25 from Syberscross and in Captain Thomas Houston's Company was Private John Sutherland, aged 34, 5' 4", also from Syberscross. All three men enrolled in that same year.

With the arrival of William Young and Patrick Sellar in the employment of the Sutherland Estate, the old way of life was about to change. Sellar presented a report concerning the 'State of the Interest of Landlord and Tenant on the Sutherland Estate: March and April 1811 (Adam, Vol 1, p45). It was an audit of all of the lands and townships currently held by the Estate and included Dalreach in Rogart as having 2 named small tenants. It was noted that the last lease expired in 1807 and that matters requiring immediate attention included to '*ascertain tenants' interest in houses*'. The tenant of Sciberscross, Wester and Easter Kerrow was Captain John Sutherland, whose lease would expire in 1818 and Adam points out that he became opposed to the clearances as he was bitter over being deprived of land by the Estate at Brora and also over a boundary dispute with Houston of Clynelish.

The State of Leases on the Estate of Sutherland - August 1819 (Sutherland Estate Papers, NLS Acc 10853-264) records the current 'State to show the tenants to be brought from the interior of the Estate of Sutherland, to the Coast and the respective dates at which their present lease expires'. It shows that there were 63 families with no lease, who were removed from the area of Craggymore to Achork, including Dalreavoch. There were 2 families from Kerrow and 3 from Sciberscross who were removed on the expiry of their leases in 1818. In 1819, there were 320 families from Rogart parish and 156 from Clyne parish who were removed from their townships.

Information regarding the fate of some of the Sciberscross tenants after removal can be found in the List of Lotters Removed to Brora (Sutherland Estate Papers, NLS). George Sutherland took over a Freestone Cottage in Lot No 21 at East Brora Muirs in 1820, and the Widow of John McDonald was allocated a Country stone house in Lot No 11 at North West Brora.

What is now the public road linking Brora with Rogart, including Dalreavoch Bridge, was built between 1817 and 1828 (Sutherland Estate Papers, NLS, Dep 313-3205).

Following the tenants' removal, there appears in the Dornoch Jail Records, an entry dated July 2nd, 1818, regarding '*William Sutherland, son of Alexander Sutherland, alias Clyne, in Sciberscross, was Incarcerated by virtue of a warrant granted by the Justices of the Peace for the Golspie District of the County on the 1st instant, on a Complaint at the instance of The Marchioness and Marquis of Stafford and Factor, for cutting wood at Sciberscross. The said Prisoner to be confined Fourteen days unless he sooner pay a fine of £2*'. He served the 14 days imprisonment.

A notice placed in the Inverness Journal on August 1st, 1817, by the Sutherland Estates advertises 11 farms in East Sutherland to be let for sheep, including Sciberscross, and the State of Leases on the Estate of Sutherland, belonging to the Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford (not completed) August 1819 (Sutherland Estate Papers, NLS), lists Mr Hall as the new tenant of Sciberscross (replacing Captain Sutherland). His lease would expire in 1828 and that the '*Lease drawn by Mr Loch and to be approved of*'.

James Hall is recorded in Loch (1834), as having contributed £20 to the Ben Bhraggie Monument to the late 1st Duke of Sutherland. Hall died, aged 64, at Sciberscross on September 7th, 1834, and was succeeded by his son, John, who himself died, aged 72, at Sciberscross on April 22nd, 1871. This ended the Hall family connection with Sciberscross and it has since been let to several different managers, the latest of which is Mr R Boa, whose grandfather Peter Boa, formerly a shepherd on the same farm, became the first in his family to take on the lease around 1930.

3.1.4 Archaeological Timescales (from Am Baile)

Stone Age – 10,000 to 4,400 Years Ago

About 10,000 years ago, Scotland lay under a great sheet of ice. As the climate slowly warmed and the ice retreated, people were already living in the area, hunting, fishing and where possible gathering wild plants and fruits. The retreating glaciers left behind boulders and mud, which would soon be colonised by grasses and shrubs. Trees followed - hazel and birch at first, followed by oak and pine. A rich variety of animals were attracted and the seas and lochs had fish in plenty.

The retreat of the Ice marks the end of the Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age), whose primitive stone tools have been found in southern England. Evidence of Palaeolithic people and the Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) is thought to have been lost through ice action in Scotland. This is characterised by shell middens - heaps of debris containing many seashells as well as stone and bone tools. Middens have been found in Skye, Argyll, and Wester Ross dating to around 8,000 years ago. A working site, where stone tools were being made, has now been found at Oliclett in Caithness.

From about 6,000 years ago people began to settle and farm the land. This change brings in the Neolithic (New Stone Age), and the creation of the first monuments. Great burial cairns were built overlooking the cultivated land in which the bones of tribal ancestors were collected together. Good examples of chambered cairns can be seen at Camster, Cnoc Freicadain, Yarrow (Caithness), Achcoillenaborgie (Strathnaver), Clava (Inverness), Vatten, Kensaleyre, Rudh' an Dunain and Kilmarie (Skye) and other places. Some of these are round and others are long, but they all have chambers inside to hold the ancestors. At the end of the Neolithic, about 4,400 years ago, great enclosures and stone circles were being built. The magnificent examples at Callanish in Lewis or the Ring of Brodgar in Orkney are well known. In Highland we have the sophisticated Clava Cairns near Inverness where burial cairns are surrounded by stone circles and attached to them by stone rays.

Bronze Age – 4,400 to 2,600 Years Ago

From about 4,400 years ago travelling metalworkers introduced ornaments and tools made of copper and then bronze (copper and tin mixture), bringing in the Bronze Age. A bronze-worker's open air workshop has been found on the Island of Eigg and a hoard of buried axe-heads has been found in Lochaber. It is an interesting fact that the nearest sources of copper and tin are many hundreds of miles away from the Highlands. The great monuments of the late Neolithic continue into the middle Bronze Age, around 3,500 years ago, after which there was a change to individual burials of important people only. These are often set in stone boxes or 'cists' and have pottery or other finds buried with them. Sometimes they are found inserted into earlier burial cairns.

Some buried evidence of large communal houses dating to the Neolithic has been found, but from the middle Bronze Age we start to get visible evidence in the landscape of round houses (the overgrown stone footings are known as 'hut circles'). These are often surrounded by groups of stone clearance heaps where land has been used for growing crops. Woodland that had grown

up since the end of the Ice Age was now being felled in earnest. The climate had improved to a point that it was warmer than it is today. Many hut circles are in areas that are now too high and cold for cultivation.

Iron Age – 2,600 to 1,500 Years Ago

The weather seems to have worsened towards the end of the Bronze Age (about 2,700 years ago), and upland houses and fields became abandoned to the encroaching peat. At the same time we find the first clear evidence of conflict - hillforts with great ramparts to protect people and their animals from attack. Some hillfort ramparts in Highland, especially around the Moray Firth, have been set on fire and burned so fiercely that the stones have fused together. This is known as vitrification and it can be seen at Craig Phadraig, Inverness, or Knockfarrel, Dingwall. It is not known why or how this was done. Recent experiments have failed to establish the answer.

At the same time, iron working was being introduced. This requires much higher temperatures to work than bronze but the result is much harder and more durable. Hut circles continue through the Iron Age, and increasingly we find evidence of field boundary walls as well as groups of clearance heaps.

The Roman Empire never conquered the Highlands but nevertheless there was a sophisticated local culture here which traded with the Romans. Caithness is the heartland of the broch, a uniquely Scottish type of round stone tower with hollow walls dating from about 200 BC to 200 AD. Some of these have been excavated and have produced traded Roman finds. The finest brochs to visit in Highland are in Glenelg. At Rubh an Dunain on Skye, there is a broch-like stone wall defending a rocky headland, and a variety of other types of Iron Age fort, many of them called duns, are found. Often these make use of natural defensive features such as sea-cliffs.

Duns and brochs were not just for defence. They also indicated the status of the chief who lived there. Crannogs for example would have had limited defensive potential in an age of boat transport as they were houses built on artificial islands, in lochs. Many of these local centres of power seem to have continued in use well into the medieval period - there are references to crannogs still being occupied in the 16th Century.

Another curious type of site associated with the Iron Age is the souterrain. This is a curved underground tunnel built of stone slabs. There are good examples in Skye, Sutherland, and at Easter Raitts in Badenoch. We do not know what they were built for originally but later they seem to have been used for storage and for hiding from enemies. The entrances to souterrains often seem to lead from the inside of houses.

From the 4th Century AD the people of northern Scotland were being referred to by Roman writers as 'Picti' - painted people. These people produced characteristic symbols which are found carved on stone and also on finds of jewellery from the period. Pictish stones are found all over the Highlands, but there is a concentration in the east. Some of the great Pictish carved cross-slabs such as those in Easter Ross are magnificent works of art dating to the 8th - 10th Centuries AD, with influences from Northumbria, Ireland, and Scandinavia. These combine Pictish and Christian symbolism.

The Medieval Highlands - 1,500 to 500 Years Ago

Christianity was introduced into the area from Ireland in the latter half of the 6th Century AD. There are many sites associated with early Christian activity, many of them including the place name elements Cille or Kil and Annat. St Maelrubha founded a monastery at Applecross in 673 AD. His grave is supposed to be marked by the Red Priest's stone in Strathnaver, although this is disputed. The early Tarbat monastery at Portmahomack in Easter Ross has been excavated over

the last few years by York University, who have found evidence of a range of craft activities including making parchment for manuscripts.

Viking raids began at the end of the 8th Century, and it seems likely that Tarbat was burned down. The Vikings arrived from Norway by way of Shetland and Orkney, and they soon began to settle many coastal areas. Caithness, the coastal areas of Sutherland and Wester Ross, and the Hebrides all came under Norse control as can be seen from many surviving place names. The Hebrides transferred from the Kingdom of Norway to the Kingdom of Scotland after the battle of Largs in 1266, but Orkney and Shetland did not become part of Scotland for another 200 years. Even today the Caithness dialect shows Scandinavian influences. Dingwall was the Thing-vollr, the local Norse parliament, as survives today in the Isle of Man's Tynwald.

The Highlands lay on the great trading seaway from Scandinavia to Ireland, France and Spain, and at Smoo Cave (Sutherland) boat fittings have been found where ships have put in to refit before or after rounding Cape Wrath. Today however there are few Norse archaeological sites that can be visited in Highland. In Caithness there are the remains of extensive settlements hidden beneath sand dunes, and Old St Peter's Church in Thurso has a runic stone built into its wall. Near Thurso can be seen the remains of the Castle of the Norse Bishops at Scrabster and near Wick is the square stone tower of the Castle of Auld Wick. Many local chiefs seem to have continued to occupy Iron Age forts.

The later middle ages, from about 1200 to about 1550 AD, were dominated by the attempts of the kings of Scotland to establish their power over the highlands, including the Earldom of Orkney in Caithness and Sutherland, and the Lordship of the Isles in the west. The Lords of the Isles were the successors to the largely independent kingdom of Man and the Isles. In an attempt to divide and rule, chief was set against chief. The insecurity of the times encouraged the growth of the clan system. There are still many castles surviving from this period built by clan chiefs: on Skye alone there are Duntulm, Dunvegan, Brochel, Knock, Dun Sgathaich and Castle Maol. Anglo-Norman lords such as the De Morays in Sutherland and the St Clairs (Sinclairs) in Caithness were granted estates in the area, and they too established castles. Alexander Stewart, the 'Wolf of Badenoch' had his at Ruthven, where fragments of wall can still be seen beneath the 18th Century barracks. Towns such as Inverness were also established as centres of trade and royal power. These burghs were however confined to the east, around the Moray Firth - there do not seem to have been any foundations in the west.

King James IV repeatedly visited the shrine of St Duthac at Tain in the early 16th century, combining pilgrimage with political expediency. Medieval kings could make use of church organisation to help them establish control in their territories. The bishopric of Ross was established by the 12th Century with its centre initially in Rosemarkie, then later at Fortrose Cathedral.

However in much of the Highlands it was also a time of flourishing Gaelic culture and learning, with extensive links to Ireland, the Isle of Man, and continental Europe. Medical science, music, poetry and art all received patronage from clan chiefs. St Columba's Isle, near Skeabost on Skye was the cathedral of the Bishops of Sodor (i.e. Sudreyar, the Norse Southern Isles) and Man until they moved to Iona in 1499.

Apart from castles and the remains of a few churches, there is little later medieval archaeology that can be seen today. Most houses seem to have been built using wood, peat, and thatch and most household items were also made of organic materials. Everything was recycled. However it seems very likely that many remains of deserted villages dating to the 18th and 19th Centuries are sitting on top of earlier houses and fields: once you have cleared the stones from the land in the Highlands, why move unless you have to?

The 'Post-Medieval' Period - 500 Years Ago to Modern Times

In the 17th Century, the Covenanter Wars left battle sites at Auldearn and Carbisdale, and Montrose was imprisoned after his defeat at Ardvreck Castle in Sutherland. Oliver Cromwell established forts to control the Great Glen, including one at Inverness, now almost disappeared except for one corner of the rampart still visible in Lotland Street near the harbour. Cattle droving began to develop as a way of life - Highlanders could raise cattle and sell them on to drovers who took them to markets in central and southern Scotland and on to England. In the early - mid 19th Century many drovers and cattlemen emigrated to become the cowboys of the American West.

In 1688, King James VII (II of England) was ejected by his daughter Mary and son in law (and cousin) William Prince of Orange. There followed a series of uprisings to restore James and his heirs, whose supporters were known as Jacobites (Latin Jacobus - James). Following the rising of 1715, the British Government began a national mapping programme, the Ordnance Survey, and also a programme of military road building to control the Highlands. These roads generally followed droving routes and were to form the basis of the modern road network. Barracks were built at Ruthven in Badenoch and Bernera in Glenelg, and major new Forts were built at Fort William, Fort Augustus, and near Inverness at Fort George at Ardersier. This last is still in active military use, although also open to the public. In 1745 the Jacobite army under James's son Bonnie Prince Charlie used the military road over the Corrieyairack Pass on its way south, and finally assembled at Ruthven Barracks to disband after the defeat at Culloden. Not all Highlanders supported the Jacobites, but all suffered the consequences after the '45, as the British Government made serious attempts to destroy the local culture. The lands of Jacobite clan chiefs were confiscated and given to government supporters or sold.

However, for over two hundred years successive kings and governments had already been encouraging Highland chiefs to see themselves as landlords rather than leaders of men. Many of them were now living beyond their means and looking for increased income to support their lifestyles. As the Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions took off in England and southern Scotland, tenants found themselves evicted to make way for large-scale commercial sheep farming to supply the woollen industry and the new urban markets. Estate owners meanwhile built new houses and monuments. Around the Cromarty Firth, a grain trade developed and girnals (storehouses) were built by the shore like that at Foulis. Attempts to introduce new employment meant the establishment of fishing stations like Ullapool and Pultenytown (Wick), as well as engineering and mining enterprises at Brora. The slate quarries at Ballachulish in Lochaber supplied much of Scotland with roofing, while Caithness flagstones came to pave the streets of towns and cities around the Empire. However for many people there was terrible hardship, especially after a series of famines in the 1840s, and many emigrated, leaving their villages deserted.

At the same time, the mid 19th Century saw the growth of a romantic Highland image promoted by Sir Walter Scott and others, and so admired by Queen Victoria. It also saw a rapid decline in the sheep prices after the end of the Napoleonic War. These both encouraged the development of shooting and fishing estates in the highlands where the wealthy could 'get away from it all' among the hills and moors. Some of these survive, but in other cases they have given way to other forms of land management. They have left shooting butts and lodges and other features in the landscape. Railways encouraged the growth of tourism, and Strathpeffer developed as a spa village where people arrived to take the waters.

3.2 Field Survey

3.2.1 Field Report Style

This report contains information on any existing recorded archaeology from a comprehensive desk-based assessment. It also details any archaeological remains discovered during the field survey, which may be affected by the proposed operations, with *significant* new discoveries highlighted in *italics*.

Included at the start of each feature is:

First Line

- Feature Number, unique to this report
- Feature Type
- Site Name
- Possible Age or Period

Second Line

- Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference
- GPS Reading Accuracy in metres
- Highland Council HER Reference Number

Third Line

- Whether Feature Appears on Ordnance Survey Map

3.2.2 Field Results

The site was visited on September 19th, 26th and 27th 2009. The weather was sunny and windy, except for the final day, when rain came on in the morning and continued throughout the day.

In total, there were 127 archaeological features recorded within the site boundary.

Feature 1. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275530 908857 (8m). HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Heather-covered mound, 4m diameter, 1m high, set on level area on S bank of River Brora. No obvious sign of stone.

Feature 2. Building. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275619 908870 (6m). HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Stone footing remains of building measuring 14m x 3m, set 10m from S bank of River Brora in area of birch wood heavily overgrown by bracken. The longsides of the building trend 050°. Its NE gable wall is set immediately above a small burn which flows down the steep valley side to the river below. The 0.7m thick wall construction is of a double skin and rubble fill type, surviving to 0.5m high.

Feature 3. Boundary Dyke. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275642 908855 to 278198 909639. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Stone dyke, spread to 2m wide and standing up to 0.8m high trends 065° from small burn, across slope uphill and is crossed by modern fence at 275111 908874. This dyke runs along the length of the site (Plate 1) in varying states of repair to meet the River Brora at its eastern termination, on the west bank of Allt an Tuirc.

Attached to the main part of this head dyke at 276795 909431 is a later, less prominent heather-covered dyke which joins it at right angles and trends directly upslope from here from approximately 30m, before turning to the E to run absolutely straight to the ENE, effectively becoming a new head dyke.

Feature 4. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275725 908908. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

A rough pile of football-sized boulders forms a clearance cairn, 10m inside the boundary dyke of Feature 3 (above). The cairn measures 10m x 4m and is 1m high, and trends downslope. At its lower end, a fallen tree has exposed several pieces of 19th Century china of more than one teacup (Plate 2), which has fallen into the spaces between the boulders in the cairn.

Feature 5. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275745 908940. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Tall clearance cairn of football-sized boulders set at the top of a grassy field, approximately 20m below the boundary dyke of Feature 3 (above). It measures 5m in diameter and is 2m high, and is topped by 2 large boulders.

Feature 6. Rig & Furrow Cultivation. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275726 908976. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

A grassy field showing signs of rig and furrow cultivation in the form of broad ridges and furrows which trend downslope. One of many which occupy the valley floor of the survey area.

Feature 7. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275724 908987. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

A linear clearance cairn of large boulders set on a ridge in the grassy field of rig and furrow cultivation of Feature 6 (above). It measures 7m x 1m and trends downslope to 298°.

Feature 8. Clearance Cairns. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275758 909014. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Several small clearance cairns, and local single large boulders up to 0.5m in diameter, delineate the lower boundary between the rig and furrow cultivation of Feature 6 (above) and the lower ground. They are generally aligned in a broad curve at the top of the break of slope, on the upper edge of an open birch stance.

Feature 9. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275767 909060. 11m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

At the base of the birch tree-covered slope, a substantial clearance cairn of football-sized boulders, measuring 6m x 3m and 1.2m high is set parallel to the contours trending 058°.

Feature 10. Enclosure (rectangular). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275748 909085. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

The SE corner of a well defined, stone-built rectangular enclosure is set on the low ground below the break of slope. Its walls are spread to 2m in places and stand 0.5m high now, although the original width can be seen to be 0.9m at the base in places. It measures 19m x 15m and its longides trend 014°. There is a possible entrance in the NW side at its NE end.

Feature 11. Hut Circle. Dalreavoch. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 275754 909112. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Remains of a half of a hut circle, originally measuring 7m internally, set on a level grassy area. Heather growing on its 1.5m wide and 0.5m high walls defines its N arc.

Feature 12. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275763 909181. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

NE corner of a well constructed building, measuring 14.5m x 6m, set directly below and to the NW of a large glacial moraine mound (Plate 3). Its sturdy stone walls survive to 1.3m high and stand 0.8m high and there is a centrally placed entrance in the SE side wall. The walls taper upwards, leading to the suspicion that the former building has been possibly later readapted as an enclosure during the post-Clearance period. The longides of the building trend 232°.

Feature 13. Boundary Dyke. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275768 909166 to 275795 909029. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

N end of stone wall built along the base of the NE side of the large glacial moraine mound. It trends uphill towards 156° and is joined 30m uphill by a ditch on its NE side.

Feature 14. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275792 909171. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

Not on map.

SW corner of small, slight remains of a building, built into a glacial mound. It is 8m x 4m, although it narrows uphill to 3m wide at its more substantial N gable end. Here it stands 0.4m high and is 1m thick. The longsides of the building trend 019⁰ and there is a centrally placed entrance on its E sidewall. The remainder of the building is defined by its sunken interior – it is either a very old, perhaps medieval building, or it has been almost completely robbed. There is occasional stone visible in the sidewalls and the S gable and it is just possible the structure could actually be an old grain drying kiln.

Feature 15. Grain Drying Kiln. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275719 909176. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

Not on map.

Grain drying kiln set in an open grassy field, standing 1.75m high at its upper, SW end (Plate 4). The stone-lined bowl is approximately 1m deep and has large loose boulders partially filling it. Its lower, slightly rounded NE end is less prominent and, at 3m wide, is narrower than its upper end, which is 5m wide. The walls are approximately 1m thick and stand up to 0.5m high.

Feature 16. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275692 909201. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Clearance cairn measuring 15m x 4m, and <0.5m high, comprising large boulders, is set parallel and at the edge of the River Brora. It is possible that the clearance has been used to shore up the bank to prevent erosion of the cultivated area.

Feature 17. Boundary Dyke. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275668 909238 to 275757 909203. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Termination of stone dyke close to the SE bank of the River Brora. It trends 100⁰ for 60m, then bends to the SE, at a 1m diameter boulder, to form the SW sidewall of Feature 18 (below) and continues to its SE to meet the NW side wall of the building/enclosure of Feature 14 (above). It is spread to 1m wide and stands 0.4m high.

Feature 18. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275732 909222. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Stone footing remains of a building (Plate 5) which shares its SW sidewall with Feature 17 (above). It measures 9m x 4m and its walls stand 0.6m high and 0.8m wide (gables are 1.0m thick), with an entrance in its SW side wall. It is set on a slightly raised grass and heather covered area, with boggy ground to the SE.

Feature 19. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275763 909228. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition OS map.

The stone footing remains of a longhouse is set on a raised grassy area above boggy ground to the SE. It measures 19m x 3m and has a 4m x 4m outshot at the SW end of its NW side wall, which trends 244⁰. An entrance is found 8m from the SW end of its SE side wall. Its walls are best preserved at its 1m wide SW gable, where boulders stand 0.7m high. Its sidewalls are merely low grass and heather covered mounds, standing 0.3m high and 0.7m wide.

Feature 20. Potato Pits. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275783 909257. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Two 'tattie' pits are situated on the top part (E end) of a grass and heather covered glacial mound which trends 284⁰. The pits are 1.5m in diameter and approximately 0.4m deep.

Feature 21. Enclosure (rectangular). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275704 909258. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

Not on map.

SW corner of a turf and stone enclosure, set on slightly raised ground at the lower, NW end of the glacial ridge in which are set the Potato Pits of Feature 20 (above). The partially grass-covered stone walls are 0.5m high and 0.7m wide. The construction appears to be of an older style than that of the enclosure of Feature 10 (above). It measures 18m x 13m and its long sides trend 018⁰ and the N corner is rounded. There is an entrance in the W side at its N end.

Feature 22. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275742 909294. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered clearance cairn set in cultivated level grassy area between the settlement and the river Brora. It has occasional stone visible, measures 5m x 3m and is 0.8m high, trends 120⁰.

Feature 23. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275782 909327. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A smaller, grass-covered clearance cairn set in cultivated level grassy area between the settlement and the river Brora. It has occasional stone visible, measures 4m x 2m and is 0.6m high, trends 102⁰. Another smaller clearance cairn is set 11m to its E.

Feature 24. Clearance Cairn. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275799 909284. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Another linear clearance cairn, entirely grass-covered, measures 6m x 2m and is 0.6m high, trends 116⁰. The long axes of all of these clearance cairns indicates to orientation of the rig and furrow cultivation on this grassy field on the S bank of the River Brora.

Feature 25. Enclosure (rounded). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275826 909313. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.
On 1st Edition and current OS map.

A substantial keyhole-shaped enclosure (possibly a former hut circle later adapted) is set to the NW of a ditch running into the River Brora. Internally its N circular part measures 6m in diameter and the rectangular S section is 6m long. Its mounded stone and grass walls stand 1m high and are spread to up to 3m wide. Evidence for being a former hut circle is some internal stone kerbing (Plate 6) in its SW arc. There is no obvious entrance.

Feature 26. Enclosure (rounded). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275856 909322. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.
On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Rounded, but not circular, enclosure (possibly a former hut circle later adapted), measuring 17m x 12m, is set to the NW of a ditch running into the River Brora. Grass and heather covered stone and turf walls stand up to 1.2m high (on S side) and 1.5m wide. The walls almost disappear downhill into long grass at its NW side to only be 0.4m high and 0.6m wide. There is a possible entrance on its N side at its pinched end.

Feature 27. Clapper Bridge. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275871 909318. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

2m wide stone slab bridge has partially collapsed into the 0.5m wide ditch over which it crosses, linking Feature 26 (above) with Feature 28 (below).

Feature 28. Enclosure (rounded). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275894 909325. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.
On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Centre of magnet-shaped enclosure (possibly a former hut circle later adapted), measuring 15m x 10m, is set to the SE of a ditch running into the River Brora. Grass and heather covered stone and turf walls stand up to 1.2m high (on S side) and 1.5m wide. Its long axis trends 166° and its lower, NW end is lost in an area of thick reeds.

Feature 29. Boundary Dyke. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275899 909315 to 275970 909262. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Fading, lower end of turf dyke, spread now to 3m wide and standing only 0.3m high, trends 137° uphill to meet the W corner of the building of Feature 49 (below). It has a similar sized ditch on its SW side.

Feature 30. Shieling. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276055 909331. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Set on the E side of Allt an Sgiobail, a small circular structure measures 3m diameter. It could be a shieling, or possibly a grouse butt (but no other similar butts exist in the area). Its interior measures 1.5m x 1.5m and its walls of stone and grass-covered turf stand 0.4m high and are spread to 0.7m wide. It has a possible entrance on its downhill side to 274⁰.

Feature 31. Shieling. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276059 909329. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

5m to the E of the shieling of Feature 30 (above), a slightly oval shieling, measuring 4.5m x 4m, with its long axis trending down the slope to 170⁰. Its grass mounded walls are 1m thick and stand 0.4m high, with its interior measuring approximately 2m x 2m.

Feature 32. Building with Kale Yard. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276048 909358. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Well-preserved stone footings of a small building, measuring 8m x 4m, with an attached kale yard on its lower, NW side. It is set on uneven, sloping ground on the E bank of Allt an Sgiobail, which flows into the River Brora below. Its walls stand 0.5m high and are 0.6m wide, although its gable ends are spread to 1.4m. Both the building and kale yard walls are of double skin and rubble fill construction. There is an entrance into the kale yard from the NW side of the building at its NE end.

Feature 33. Hut Circle. Allt an Sgiobail. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 276069 909375. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 34653.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Centre of 12m internal diameter hut circle (possibly later adapted as a sheepfold), with turf and stone walls set on the flat valley floor on the S bank of the River Brora. Its walls stand 1.5m high and are up to 3m thick on its S, upper side and stone kerbing is visible on the interior of its E arc. There is an entrance to 030⁰, which is still used by both grazing and wild animals today.

Feature 34. Hut Circle. Allt an Sgiobail. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 276065 909391. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 34653.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Centre of 12m internal diameter hut circle (possibly later adapted as a sheepfold), with turf and stone walls set on the flat valley floor close to the S bank of the River Brora. It has been affected by erosion from the River Brora, which has undermined the river cliff, so that part of its N arc has fallen into the river. Its walls stand 1.5m high and are up to 3m thick and are separated by only 2m from the hut circle walls of Feature 33 (above).

Feature 35. Boundary Dyke. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276243 909343 to 276369 909511. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

A 0.5m high and 0.7m wide heather-covered dyke departs north-eastwards at a bend from the main head dyke of Feature 3 (above), to curve gradually downslope towards the River Brora below.

Feature 36. Clearance Cairn. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276332 909339. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A 6m x 2m x 0.5m high clearance cairn trends to 336⁰ downslope on a steeper grassy slope above level ground.

Feature 37. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276500 909416. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

The N corner of the remains of a building constructed from large boulders is set 5m inside and downhill from the main head dyke of Feature 3 (above). It measures 10m x 4m and has an entrance towards the N end of its W side. Its side walls are 0.6m thick and 0.7m high, trending 343⁰, with its more substantial gable ends standing 1.2m high and 1.2m thick. It is set on a raised area overlooking the rest of the township below (Plate 7). A stone wall built onto its W corner connects with the S corner of the kale yard of Feature 38 (below).

Feature 38. Building with Kale Yard. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276509 909447. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Set at the base of a steeper slope, below and to the NE of Feature 37 (above), the W corner of the stone footing remains of a building with a rectangular kale yard attached to its upper, S side (Plate 8). The main part of the building measures 12m x 4.5m, although an older, less prominent part extends to the ENE for a further 20m, and its long sides trend 062⁰. The main part's walls are 0.7m wide (gable 0.9m wide) and stand up to 1m high, although the well built kale yard walls, measuring 10m x 6m, are 0.9m wide and stand 1.2m high. The walls of the less prominent E part are marked no more than heather-covered mounds with some occasional stone, <0.4m high. This part also has a prominent 4m wide outshot extending to the N for 5m at its W end, which may have been kept as a 'lean to' while the W part was still in use.

An entrance from the main building into the kale yard is centrally placed on the building's S side. It is possible that the kale yard has later been re-used as a sheep enclosure, given its better state of preservation than its attached building.

Feature 39. Grain Drying Kiln. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276498 909441. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On current OS map.

Set into the NE end of a moraine ridge are the remains of a grain drying kiln. It measures 6m x 3m and trends 057⁰. Its bowl is 1.5m deep and it is collapsing at its SW end, and also the flue

has collapsed. It is constructed using large boulders and is partially now overgrown by deep heather.

Feature 40. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276549 909467. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On current OS map.

Standing 2m from the E end of the less prominent building of Feature 38 (above), is another building measuring 13m x 4m, on a bearing of 080⁰, with an open E gable end. Its stone wall construction of large boulders is visible at its E part, whereas its W end is covered with heather. There is a small stone built structure measuring 3m x 2m set parallel to the main building 1m from its S side, which is open to its W side.

Feature 41. Enclosure (rectangular). Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276524 909465. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

SW corner of a large, sub-rectangular, grass-covered stone enclosure, set parallel to and directly to the NW of the buildings of Features 38 and 40 (above). The lower walls are entirely covered in grass and the interior is very reedy. The walls stand 0.6m high and are 1m wide and are constructed with large rounded boulders.

Feature 42. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276504 909479. 7m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On current OS map.

Across boggy ground, some 30m to the NW of the rest of the township, are the stone footing remains of an isolated building (Plate 9). It measures 11m x 4m and its long sides trend 092⁰. Its E gable wall stands 1.5m high and is 1.2m wide, although its heather-covered sidewalls stand 0.7m high and are 0.7m wide. It has a centrally placed entrance on its S side wall, and a later 1m square lambing pen has been built by post-clearance shepherds centrally attached to the interior of its W gable.

Feature 43. Clapper Bridge. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276372 909486. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Approximately 20m from the S bank of the River Brora, a 2.5m wide stone clapper bridge crosses a ditch approximately 1m wide (Plate 10), which is on the SE side of the dyke of Feature 35 (above). The 2 prominent edge stone slabs are each over 1m long, 0.6m wide and 0.4m thick. The other slabs are covered in grass.

Feature 44. Clearance Cairn. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276230 909450. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Small, flat-lying clearance cairn spread to 2m diameter, set on short grass-covered gentle slope.

Feature 45. Clearance Cairn. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276208 909448. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Linear, flat-lying clearance cairn measuring 5m x 1.5m, set on short grass-covered gentle slope.

Feature 46. Clearance Cairn. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276135 909427. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Linear, flat-lying clearance cairn in heather, measuring 5m in diameter.

Feature 47. Boundary Dyke. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276100 909420. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

16m long, deep heather-covered stone wall, approximately 0.5m high and 1m wide constructed with large single boulders, trends 054⁰. There are possible smaller parallel walls set 11m to its NW and 4m to its SE, although the deep heather makes this difficult to confirm. They are set 10m from the S bank of the River Brora and lead towards the partially eroded hut circle of Feature 34 (above).

Feature 48. Boundary Dyke. Allt an Sgiobail. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275971 909346 to 275970 909262. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A low turf mound wall with occasional visible stone, measuring 2m wide and 0.4m high, trends 170⁰ uphill across a short grass-covered slope from the break of slope. It curves around back on itself to meet the S corner of the building of Feature 49 (below).

Feature 49. Building. Dalreavoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275970 909262. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Remains of a small enigmatic building, set on sloping, short grass-covered ground above break of steeper slope below (Plate 11). It measures 6m x 3m (narrowing to 2m at its upper end) and is attached to the low turf mound walls of Features 29 and 48 (above). Its narrow flat-lying boulder walls are a single boulder wide and the longsides trend 136⁰.

Feature 50. Building. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275799 909200. 8m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.

On current OS map.

Covered by deep heather, the W corner of the stone footing remains of a building, constructed from large rounded boulders, approximately 0.5m in diameter. It measures 9m x 4m and its longsides trend 054⁰. It is set on raised ground to the E of a glacial moraine mound and it has an entrance centrally placed on its SE side.

Feature 51. Clearance Cairns. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 275704 909214. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

One of several small, 1.5m diameter and 0.3m high, grass-covered clearance cairns, set in a hummocky grassy field.

Feature 52. River Dam. Dalreavoch. 19th Century.

Grid Reference: 275609 908878. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A V-shaped loose boulder dam, built across the River Brora, pointing upstream. Possibly constructed by the Estate to create a salmon fishing pool.

Feature 53. Borrow Pit. Dalreavoch. Early 19th Century.

Grid Reference: 275620 909319. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A borrow pit, probably created during the construction of the adjacent to the Brora-Rogart public road has been excavated in a heather-covered moraine ridge. The excavated area is approximately 10m x 4m x 1.5m deep.

Feature 54. Bridge, Masonry Arch. Dalreavoch. Early 19th Century.

Grid Reference: 275508 908857. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 10547.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Early 19th Century, twin arched rubble bridge, with dressed rubble arch rings, triangular cutwaters, dressed rubble parapets with a slightly splayed approach and shallow end buttresses (information from Listed Building Record).

Dalreavoch Bridge is 4.3m wide and carries the Brora-Rogart public road across the River Brora. It has an Ordnance Survey bench mark on top of the centre of the NW parapet, marking a height of 98m.

Feature 55. Borrow Pit. Dalreavoch. Early 19th Century.

Grid Reference: 275553 909068. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

A borrow pit, probably created during the construction of the adjacent to the Brora-Rogart public road has been excavated in a heather-covered moraine ridge. The excavated area is approximately 8m x 5m x 1.5m deep.

Feature 56. Roadway. Kerrynamanoch. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277058 909445. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Possible retaining wall supporting a 2m wide 'roadway', which is now a deer path. It consists of approximately an 8m long row of 1m diameter sized boulders.

Feature 57. Hut Circle. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 277279 909516. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Centre of 8m internal diameter hut circle, covered by deep, dense bracken, set on a high bluff immediately above the S bank of the River Brora. Grass and bracken-covered stone walls stand 0.7m high and are spread to 2m thick. There is a possible 1m wide, stone-lined entrance to 078⁰.

Feature 58. Hut Circle. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 277306 909548. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

Centre of 9m internal diameter, hut circle, set on a grassy slope above the S bank of the River Brora (Plate 12), immediately to the SW of Feature 59 (below). Wide walls of stone boulders are up to 3m thick on its W side, although they are much narrower on its N arc above the river, and stand 0.7m high and are partially covered in heather. There is a 2m diameter mound in its centre.

Feature 59. Hut Circle. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 277315 909555. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

Centre of 8m internal diameter, hut circle, set on a level grassy area above the S bank of the River Brora (Plate 12), immediately to the NE of Feature 58 (above). Stone is visible in its heather and grass-covered walls, which are up to 2m thick and stand 0.5m high. There is a possible 1.5m wide entrance to 057⁰. There is only 1m between the walls of these two adjacent hut circles.

Feature 60. Hut Circle. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 277530 909567. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12575.

On current OS map.

Centre of 7m internal diameter, hut circle, set on long grass and heather-covered undulating ground at the edge of an old river terrace and below a steep moraine ridge to the E. Its double-skinned stone walls are up to 2m thick and stand only a single course high at 0.5m high. There is a possible 1m wide entrance to 097⁰.

Feature 61. Boundary Dyke. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277579 909561 to 277585 909558. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

A heather-covered bank, 1m wide and 0.4m high, with occasional visible stone, trends 180⁰ uphill from the steep river cliff of the S bank of the River Brora. It could be associated with the hut circle of Feature 60 (above). It crosses the head dyke of Feature 3 (above) at 277585 909558, and continues uphill outwith the survey area, to fade as it rises up Cnoc an t-Socaich.

Feature 62. Building. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277713 909521. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

SW corner of the stone footing remains of a longhouse, set on a 5⁰ slope in deep heather, on high ground over a former area of cultivation (now a grassy field) below. The head dyke of Feature 3 (above) joins its W corner and departs from its E corner. The walls are 0.7m thick (gables 1m thick) and are 0.7m high, and the sidewalls trend 055⁰.

It measures 27m x 3.5m and it has a 2.5m wide outshot which protrudes 2m out from the SE sidewall towards its NE end (Plate 13). There is also an entrance in this same sidewall, 8m to the SW of the outshot. A stone wall connects the E corner of the outshot to the W corner of the building of Feature 63 (below).

Feature 63. Building with Kale Yard. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277742 909525. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 19353.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

SW corner of the stone footing remains of a small building, covered in deep heather, with a kale yard attached to its SE side, set on a 5⁰ slope on high ground over a former area of cultivation (now a grassy field) below. Its SW gable end and the S side of the kale yard wall forms part of the head dyke of Feature 3 (above). Its walls are 0.6m thick (gables 1m thick) and are 0.7m high, and the sidewalls trend 050⁰. There is no obvious entrance.

Feature 64. Enclosure (rectangular). Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277785 909545. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 19353.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

SW corner of a small, substantially double-skin stone constructed, sub-rectangular enclosure, set on a grassy terrace above a former area of cultivation (now a grassy field) below. The walls are 0.8m thick and survive to 0.6m high and trend 076⁰ and 358⁰ from here. It measures 9m x 8m and has a centrally placed entrance in its W wall. The stone bank of Feature 68 (below) joins its NW corner.

Feature 65. Grain Drying Kiln. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277823 909563. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A completely grass-overgrown grain drying kiln has been constructed into the base of the slope at the edge of a former river terrace. The bowl has become filled and the 0.7m wide and 0.5m high walls are just grass-covered linear mounds, with occasional stone protruding through. It measures 7m x 3.5m and trends 008⁰.

Feature 66. Enclosure (square). Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277806 909574. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 19353.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

NE corner of grassed over stone walled enclosure, set on a flat, grassy river terrace, which was a former area of cultivation. It measures 10m x 10m and has an entrance at the N end of its W side. The walls are up to 1.5m thick and 0.5m high and they trend 187⁰ and 276⁰.

Feature 67. Clearance Cairn. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277787 909571. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Largest of 3 clearance cairns set on a flat, grassy river terrace which was a former area of cultivation. This one measures 4m x 2m and is 0.8m high, and it trends 008°. The other 2 cairns are to the NE and measure 1m in diameter.

Feature 68. Boundary Dyke. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277753 909591 to 277785 909554. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On current OS map.

Stone and turf dyke curves from the S bank of the River Brora, across the grassy field uphill round to NW corner of the enclosure Feature 64 (above). It has a shallow ditch on its NE side, which protects the flat, grassy river terrace, which was a former area of cultivation.

Feature 69. Boundary Dyke. Cnoc an t-Socaich. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277749 909592 to 277742 909530. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Dyke of single large boulders trends from the S bank of the River Brora up the river terrace slope, to join the deep heather-covered connecting wall between the buildings of Features 62 and 63 (above). It has a trickle of a burn on its E side.

Feature 70. Footbridge. River Brora. Late 19th Century.
Grid Reference: 277842 909577. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On 2nd Edition OS map.

Two stone abutments with timber supports and cables across the River Brora are all that remain of a footbridge which first appears on the OS map of 1905. The dry-stone abutments of rounded river boulders measure 4m x 4m and rise up from the river bank level to the former level of the bridge deck. It was used by the Sheepstock Club owners to take their flocks across the River Brora on their way to markets at Rogart and Lairg and fell into a state of disrepair and collapse in the early 1980s (Mr R Boa, Sciberscross, *pers. comm.*).

Feature 71. Clearance Cairn. Allt an Tuirc. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 278078 909554. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Isolated grass-covered small clearance cairn in an area of extensive bracken cover, measuring 5m in diameter and stands 0.4m high, with some stone visible.

Feature 72. Clearance Cairn. Allt an Tuirc. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 278108 909578. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Flat-lying clearance cairn of large boulders, measuring 3m in diameter, set in bracken-covered ground on the highest spot overlooking Allt an Tuirc.

Feature 73. Enclosure (rounded). Allt an Tuirc. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 278185 909588. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Centre of semi-circular stone walled enclosure facing onto the eroded channel of Allt an Tuirc and bounded to its NE side along the top of the bank by the head dyke of Feature 3 (above). It is possible that the structure is all that remains of a hut circle which has been part-eroded by the burn, comprising a local cluster of 3 hut circles together with Features 74 and 75 (below). It is 12m across internally and its grass and bracken-covered walls are 2m thick and stand 1m high. Behind the enclosure to the NW is a complicated arrangement of collapsed stone walling in a now boggy area.

Feature 74. Hut Circle. Allt an Tuirc. Bronze/Iron Age.
Grid Reference: 278194 909635. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Centre of 10m internal diameter, substantially constructed remains of a hut circle, set on the S bank of the River Brora, immediately to the W of Allt an Tuirc. It has possibly been later used as a sheepfold. Its walls of heather and bracken-covered large rounded boulders and turf are minimum 2m wide and stand 0.8m high. There is a 0.5m wide entrance to 072⁰. The head dyke of Feature 3 (above) running along the top of the channel of Allt an Tuirc skirts past its E arc, with only 1m separation.

Feature 75. Hut Circle. Allt an Tuirc. Bronze/Iron Age.
Grid Reference: 278105 909635. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Centre of 15m internal diameter, substantially constructed remains of a hut circle, set on a low terrace on the S bank of the River Brora, to the W of the hut circle of Feature 74 (above). Its large boulder walls are 2m thick and it uses the natural river terrace slope as its back wall. The walls stand 1m high, but are lower and partially missing from the NW arc. It has possibly been later used as a sheepfold.

Feature 76. Boundary Dyke. Cladh Maireannach. Post-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 278097 909658 to 278069 909754. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On 1st Edition and current OS map

Largely intact and functional stone dyke trends uphill to the NW from the N bank of the River Brora to continue outwith the survey area. It stands 1.5m high and is 0.9m thick at its base, tapering upwards to 0.5m, where it is topped with boulders which contain inset iron fence posts which would have carried wire fencing. It has been protected from damage by animals by a modern fence on each side.

Feature 77. Clearance Cairn. Cladh Maireannach. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 278100 909737. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 41567.
Not on map.

Largest of several grass-covered, linear clearance cairns set in the grassy sheep park in which lies the historic cemetery (just outwith the survey area to the E) of Cladh Maireannach. This one measures 10m x 3m x 1m high and trends 156⁰, parallel to the former rig and furrow cultivation.

Feature 78. Hut Circle. Cladh Maireannach. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 278200 909712. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

Centre of 7m internal diameter remains of a hut circle (Plate 14), set in the grassy sheep park of Cladh Maireannach, which gently slopes down to the N bank of the River Brora. It has a Pre-clearance aged 1m diameter clearance cairn in its interior, as well as much jumbled, rounded granite boulders, which are also probably field clearance. Its grass-covered stone walls are spread to up to 2m thick and stand 0.5m high. There is a possible entrance to 096⁰.

Feature 79. Cairn. Cladh Maireannach. ?Bronze Age.

Grid Reference: 278148 909716. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 41567.

Not on map.

A large oval shaped cairn of stone (Plate 15), with possible kerbing visible on its S arc, indicates that this may be an older, more carefully constructed cairn than the scatter of largely linear clearance cairns fitting in with the rig and furrow cultivation of the pre-clearance era. It is set in the grassy sheep park of Cladh Maireannach, and measures 9m x 6m with its long axis trending 160⁰ and is 1.2m high. Its N half has exposed boulders which are football-sized and its S half is grass-covered.

Feature 80. Hut Circle. Cladh Maireannach. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 277896 909770. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 10552.

On current OS map.

Centre of 10m internal diameter stone-walled remains of a hut circle, set in dense bracken immediately to the SW of the track leading down from the Brora-Rogart public road to Cladh Maireannach cemetery.

Feature 81. Boundary Dyke. Cladh Maireannach. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277857 909709 to 277837 909701. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Tumbled and jumbled old stone dyke, set on the birch woodland-covered moderate-sloping valley side of Strath Brora. It trends parallel to the contours and is lost in dense bracken to the W.

Feature 82. Clearance Cairn/Boundary Dyke. Cladh Maireannach. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277861 909641 to 277750 909654. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A linear clearance cairn of large boulders is set on a ridge trending 242⁰. It continues as an ephemeral, intermittent, wavy dyke to the W, where it joins the N corner of Feature 83 (below). The cairn itself measures 20m x 3m and stands 0.7m high. The dyke is spread to 3m wide as it trends uphill towards 337⁰, where it is lost in dense bracken. At its W part, it is nothing more than a linear spread of flat-lying rounded less than football-sized boulders.

Feature 83. Building. Cladh Maireannach. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277823 909639. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

N corner of a possible old, small building. The dyke of Feature 82 (above) forms its NW sidewall, which trends 047°. It is unusually narrow, measuring 9m x 2.5m and its flat-lying stone walls are 0.5m thick. It is set on a gentle slope in open birch woodland, some 40m N of the River Brora.

Feature 84. Boundary Dyke. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277685 909617 to 277687 909789. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On current OS map.

A double-skin and rubble fill stone wall is set some 3-4m to the E of Allt Sciberscaig. It departs from the E side of the S bridge parapet carrying the Brora-Rogart public road over Allt Sciberscaig, running down the steep wooded slope of the valley side of Strath Brora to cross the burn at 277699 909647. It is 1m wide and stands 0.7m high. On the W side of the burn it trends downhill towards the River Brora and turns at 277685 909617 to the E to run along the edge of the N bank of the river.

Feature 85. Boundary Dyke. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277528 909626 to 277682 909606. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Stone and turf bank, 2m wide and 1m high trends eastwards to curve around to meet the River Brora some 20m to the W of Allt Sciberscaig. It carries a ditch on its N side and protects an area of former cultivation to its S on the N bank of the river.

Feature 86. Clearance Cairn/Shieling. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277442 909691. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Rounded, 4m diameter cairn of angular boulders is set in a boggy gully between a moraine ridge to its S and the steep rising valley side of Strath Brora to its N (Plate 16). It is a very odd place to find a clearance cairn – not in an area of former cultivation, which is why the structure can be better explained as a shieling, especially in the light of neighbouring possible shielings of Features 106 and 107 (below).

Feature 87. Boundary Dyke. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277417 909669 to 277634 909628. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Rough dyke of single large boulders, approximately 1m diameter, set at the base of slope above a small river terrace backwall.

Feature 88. Roadway. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 277178 909702. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Possible alignment of former 'roadway' defined by a 0.5m wide retaining wall of single large boulders on its lower S side. It extends for approximately 15m and has a larger row of boulders defining its N side.

Feature 89. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276982 909713. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Clearance cairn of larger than football-sized, lichen-covered boulders. It is 5m in diameter and stands 0.5m high and is set 5m inside and below the modern field fence on the grassy slope leading down to boggy ground on the river valley floor below.

Feature 90. Boundary Dyke. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276979 909720 to 276957 909685. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Low stone and turf, grass-covered dyke curves downhill from the modern field fence across the grassy slope leading down to boggy ground on the river valley floor below. It is 1.5m wide and 0.5m high and carries a shallow, reedy ditch on its uphill, NW side.

Feature 91. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276947 909729. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A clearance cairn, comprising a jumble of different sized boulders, the largest being of the order of 1m diameter, is set just below the level of the Brora-Rogart public road. It is 4m in diameter and stands 1m high.

Feature 92. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276887 909703. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A clearance cairn, of up to football-sized boulders, is set on the W end of a grassy ridge above the steep slope down to the valley floor to the S. It is 3m in diameter and stands 0.5m high.

Feature 93. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276788 909654. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Linear clearance cairn, set at the base of a grassy slope at the NW edge of a grassy, former area of rig and furrow cultivation, trends 054⁰. It measures 10m x 3m and is 0.5m high.

Feature 94. Hut Circle. Garbh-leathad. Bronze/Iron Age.

Grid Reference: 276815 909641. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Centre of 8m internal diameter remains of a hut circle, set on the grassy level valley floor area on the N bank of the River Brora. Its grass-covered walls are spread to 2m thick and stand 0.5m high, and occasional stone is visible protruding through the grass. There is a 2m wide entrance to 110°.

Feature 95. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276749 909647. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Low, 4m diameter clearance cairn of small boulders is set in the NW corner between a ditch and a trickle of a burn.

Feature 96. Borrow Pit. Garbh-leathad. ?20th Century.

Grid Reference: 276764 909620. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A horse-shoe-shaped borrow pit has been excavated in river gravels from the edge of a former river terrace on the N bank of the River Brora. It measures approximately 6m x 6m and is 1.5m deep and opens towards the river to the S. The excavated gravels have probably been used in the construction of the nearby track to the S, for vehicular access from Brora-Rogart public road to the modern grazing land on the valley floor.

Feature 97. Boundary Dyke. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276671 909604 to 276504 909695. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

Rough, dyke of large boulders begins in boggy ground to the N of a winding ditch. Its construction varies along its length – in places it is double-skinned with rubble fill, but where large boulders are used, it is just these single, large boulders which define the dyke. It is 1m wide and stands 0.7m high and trends 304° along the edge of a river terrace above boggy ground to its S, to turn at right angles at 276509 909677 to run uphill towards 345° to the W of the access track's junction with the Brora-Rogart public road and out of the survey area.

Feature 98. Boundary Dyke. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276617 909666 to 277029 909519. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Corner of grass-covered bank to the W of a trickle of a burn running downhill from the NW. It is 1m wide and stands 0.5m high and trends from here to 106°, where it becomes less prominent as it crosses flatter, boggy ground, yet it still retains the burn (as a modern, open ditch which outfalls into the River Brora some 400m to the ESE) on its N side. It also continues faintly to the WNW to 276560 909693.

Feature 99. Enclosure (triangular). Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277680 909644. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

NW corner of triangular enclosure, tacked onto the W side of the dyke of Feature 84 (above). It trends 156°, to join the dyke some 30m downslope. It is 6m wide at its top and uses larger boulders in its construction than the dyke to which it is attached.

Feature 100. Building. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277669 909655. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On current OS map.

NE corner of the stone footing remains of a building (Plate 17), set on a 10° uneven sloping ground of mainly grass, with some heather and bracken to the N and E, above a grassy area of former cultivation on the N bank of the River Brora. It measures 14m x 3m and its well constructed stone walls are 0.7m wide and stand up to 0.8m high at its W gable end. Its longitudes trend 292°, diagonally across the slope, and there is a centrally placed entrance in its S sidewall.

Feature 101. Building. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277620 909661. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On current OS map.

The SW corner of the stone footing remains of a small building set on uneven heather and grass-covered sloping ground, some 30m to the NW of the building of Feature 100 (above). Its N gable end is the most prominent part, standing 1m high and its S gable is more of a jumble of boulders. It measures 7m x 3m and its longitudes trend down the slope and there is a centrally placed entrance in its E sidewall. A later, post-clearance 1m x 1m lambing pen has been constructed by shepherds in its NE interior corner (Plate 18).

Feature 102. Hut Circle. Allt Siberscaig. Bronze/Iron Age.
Grid Reference: 277593 909670. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Centre of 4m internal diameter remains of a circular stone structure, possibly a hut circle, set on uneven heather and grass-covered sloping ground. Its heather-covered stone walls are spread to 1m thick and stand up to 0.6m high, especially in its upper, N arc. The interior of the N arc has several upright kerb stones and there are 3 gaps in the walls where an entrance may have once been.

Feature 103. Clearance Cairns. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277581 909681. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

The largest of 3 possible clearance cairns in deep heather, set on uneven heather-covered sloping ground. This one is 5m in diameter and stands 1m high. The two others are to the W at 277535 909694 (3m diameter) and 277519 909692 (4m diameter).

Feature 104. Clearance Cairns. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277555 909716. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

One of several large, flat-lying collections of rounded large granite boulders, set on a steep valley side slope.

Feature 105. Boundary Dyke. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277474 909760 to 277441 909694. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

At 277480 909706 a bend in a small grass-covered dyke with occasional visible stone, which retains a ditch on its upper N side. It trends uphill from here to 013⁰, to 277474 909760, and gently curves to the W from here to 277441 909694 through low ground between a moraine ridge and the steep valley slope (Plate 16). It protects a small grassed area to the S.

Feature 106. Shieling. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277467 909692. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Possible old shieling marked by a depressed area enclosed by low turf mounded walls. It measures 4.5m x 4m and its interior is only 2.5m x 2m. Its walls are spread to 1m wide and stand only 0.4m high and there is a 0.5m wide entrance in its E sidewall.

Feature 107. Shieling. Allt Siberscaig. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277435 909732. 9m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

NW corner of a small stone-built rectangular structure, which could only realistically be a shieling, but of a different design to that of Features 86 and 106 (above), set at the edge of sloping rocky ground above a break of slope of steeper gradient. It measures 4m x 2.5m and has a slightly rounded W gable end and its long sides trend 098⁰. Its walls are 0.5m wide and stand 0.3m high, although the W gable is 1m thick. There is a possible entrance in its E end. This whole steep S-facing hillside is littered with flat-lying clearance heaps of large boulders.

Feature 108. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 277042 909698. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Loose 3m diameter cairn of sub-angular boulders of 0.5m diameter, set on a grassy slope.

Feature 109. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 276445 909676. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Semi-circular, grass-covered 2m wide mound with a 10m arc stands 0.7m high, set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation, immediately to the S of the Brora-Rogart public road (Plate 19). A smaller grass-covered mound lies 10m to the SE.

Feature 110. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276403 909693. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered mound with several football-sized boulders visible is set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. It measures 10m x 6m, is 1m high and trends 030⁰.

Feature 111. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276379 909619. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Low stone clearance heap is set at the N edge of the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation, with a boggy area of reeds to its N. It measures 3m in diameter and is partially grass-covered.

Feature 112. Cairn. Garbh-leathad. ?Bronze Age.

Grid Reference: 276344 909616. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Large grass-covered mound with less than football-sized rounded boulders visible. It measures 15 x 8, is 1m high and trends 144⁰. It has an undulating upper surface and 2 possible 'tattie pits' or excavations in its S end. As it is more extensive and of a different style to the others clearance cairns in the proximity, it is possible that this may be an earlier, Bronze Age cairn, unconnected to, or maybe added to during, the pre-clearance period.

Feature 113. Building. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276332 909606. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

E corner of the stone footing remains of a small building set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. Its grass-mound walls with some visible stone are spread to 1m wide and stand up to 0.7m high, although its SE sidewall is largely missing. It measures 12m x 4m and its long sides trend 264⁰.

Feature 114. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276338 909584. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Clearance cairn of less than football-sized rounded boulders has been formed around a 1.5m diameter boulder. It is set at the edge of a former river terrace, separating the level ground on which is situated the building of Feature 113 (above), from a flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation below.

Feature 115. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276309 909600. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered clearance cairn, 8m diameter, 1m high, comprising grapefruit-sized rounded boulders visible in its NE side is set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation.

Feature 116. Boundary Dyke. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276297 909641 to 276157 909605. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

A flat-lying small boulder dyke defines the N edge of the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation and separates it from a slightly lower, boggy area of reeds to its N. It is no more than 0.3m high and trends irregularly to the W and SW around the S edge of the boggy area.

Feature 117. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276251 909611. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered mound with 2 boulders visible on its W side is set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. It measures 6m x 4m, is 1m high and trends 154⁰.

Feature 118. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276248 909599. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered stone clearance mound is set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. It measures 6m in diameter and stands 1m high.

Feature 119. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276267 909600. 5m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

Grass-covered small clearance mound with stone visible is set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. It measures 1m in diameter and stands 0.6m high.

Feature 120. Building. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276237 909571. 6m. HER Reference: Not on HER.

Not on map.

SE corner of the remains of a building set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation. Its E gable end is the clearest indication of it being the remains of a building, as its sidewalls are only complete for approximately 6m from the gable, although there is plenty of stone scattered to its S side. Its W gable end is completely overgrown by reeds. Where preserved, its walls are a single course high and wide. It measures 23m x 3m and its long sides trend 268⁰. There is a possible centrally placed internal division. The majority of its stone has possibly been robbed out for the construction of the substantial building of Feature 121 (below).

Feature 121. Building with Kale Yard. Strath Brora. Pre-Clearance.

Grid Reference: 276167 909580. 8m. HER Reference: MHG 18418.

On 1st Edition and current OS map.

SE corner of the substantial remains of a building set on the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation (Plate 20). Its S gable end faces directly onto the edge of the former river terrace. Its well-constructed double-skin and rubble fill stone walls are 0.8m thick and survive to

1.5m high at the S gable and generally 0.8m elsewhere. It measures 23m x 3m and it has an entrance in its W sidewall, which trends N-S. Strangely, there is no sign of an entrance into the kale yard/enclosure attached to the E sidewall, although there is an entrance into the attachment itself on its E side.

The similarly-constructed double-skin and rubble fill stone enclosure walls are less prominent than the building, standing only 0.5m high and are partially grass-covered. This, and the lack of entrance into the enclosure from the building could indicate that the upstanding structure could have been later re-used as a sheep-fold.

Feature 122. Grain Drying Kiln. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 276121 909563. 8m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
On current OS map.

Grain drying kiln set immediately above the edge of the river terrace separating the flat grassy former area of rig and furrow cultivation to its N and lower, boggier ground to its S. Its walls are all grassed over and the bowl, too, has been filled with boulders and is partially grassed over. Its upper, NW end stands 0.8m high and it measures 10m x 4m and its long sides trend 135°.

Feature 123. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275988 909535. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Grass-covered mound with some visible stone is set on the grassy field area above boggy ground. It is 3m in diameter and stands 0.8m high.

Feature 124. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275922 909510. 10m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

A large irregular spread of flat-lying larger than football-sized granite boulders is spread to 10m diameter under a birch tree. There are several other similar smaller cairns in the vicinity,

Feature 125. Clearance Cairn. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 275889 909439. 7m. HER Reference: Not on HER.
Not on map.

Grass-covered mound with some visible stone is set on the grassy, open birch and rowan wood area above boggy ground. It is 2m in diameter and stands 0.7m high.

Feature 126. Boundary Dyke. Garbh-leathad. Pre-Clearance.
Grid Reference: 276096 909443 to 276123 909475. 6m. HER Reference: MHG 12574.
On 2nd Edition and current OS map.

Old degraded stone dyke running parallel to the River Brora set 5m from the edge of its N bank. It is spread to 1m wide and stands only 0.4m high.

Feature 127. Sheep Shelter. Strath Brora. Late 19th Century.

Grid Reference: 276907 909626. 5m. HER Reference: MHG 32402.

On 2nd Edition OS map.

An unusually shaped sheep shelter takes the form of a seriffed cross. It was not visited due to the presence of a frisky herd of cows and calves, but is clearly visible from the Brora-Rogart public road, as well as Google Earth and first appears on the OS map of 1905. The arms of the cross are approximately 30m x 20m and the serifs are approximately 3m long and it stands approximately 1m high. The long arm of the cross trends approximately 100⁰ and the shorter arm is N-S.

4.0 Conclusions

The aim of this walk-over survey was to determine whether there was any archaeology within the survey area and to record and survey anything discovered in detail.

This aim was achieved, with 127 sites being recorded during the current survey, only 34 of which had been previously recorded.

The archaeology is found to be liberally scattered throughout the whole of the survey area.

Whilst nothing present, previously recorded or newly discovered during the survey, could be regarded as being of National or Regional significance as per National Policy Planning Guideline 5, all of the archaeology is regarded as being of significant Local importance.

5.0 Recommendations

Given the local importance of the whole of the archaeology and its liberal distribution throughout the entire survey area, it is difficult to see how any significant planting could practicably take place.

There are local areas devoid of any archaeology, however, these areas tend to be the boggy parts of the valley floor of the River Brora, and have not been able to accommodate any archaeology for this very reason in the past.

Should any planting proposal be taken forward, all areas of archaeology should be given a 20m 'no-planting' buffer, and planting should only take place in the limited areas free of archaeology (as depicted in the Feature Location maps in Appendix III). It should be borne in mind that the flat-lying areas of grass on the N and S banks of the River Brora are also defined as archaeology, given the presence of rig and furrow as former areas of township cultivation.

Should any archaeological features be discovered during the any planting operations, the Highland Council's Archaeology Unit should be contacted immediately.

In summary:

- **20m no-planting/no encroachment buffer zone to be preserved around all archaeology (as depicted in the Feature Location maps in Appendix III) for their protection during planting operations**
- **In the event of any discovery of archaeological remains, *immediate* contact must be made with Highland Council's Archaeology Unit for advice**

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Appendices

Appendix I	Site Location Map
Appendix II	Summary Table of Features
Appendix III	Feature Location Maps
Appendix IV	Existing Historic Environment Record Sites
Appendix V	Plates

Appendix I – Site Location Map



1:1,000,000 - Site Location Map - 1:100,000

Appendix II – Summary Table of Features

A9 Archaeology - Dalreavoch Bridge and Sciberscross, Strath Brora, Sutherland

Feature No	Type	Easting	Northing	Age	HER No
1	Clearance Cairn	275530	908857	Pre-Clearance	-
2	Building	275619	908870	Pre-Clearance	-
3	Boundary Dyke	275642	908855	Pre-Clearance	-
4	Clearance Cairn	275725	908908	Pre-Clearance	-
5	Clearance Cairn	275745	908940	Pre-Clearance	-
6	Rig & Furrow Cultivation	275726	908976	Pre-Clearance	-
7	Clearance Cairn	275724	908987	Pre-Clearance	-
8	Clearance Cairns	275758	909014	Pre-Clearance	-
9	Clearance Cairn	275767	909060	Pre-Clearance	-
10	Enclosure (rectangular)	275748	909085	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
11	Hut Circle	275754	909112	Bronze/Iron Age	-
12	Building	275763	909181	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
13	Boundary Dyke	275768	909166	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
14	Building	275792	909171	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
15	Grain Drying Kiln	275719	909176	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
16	Clearance Cairn	275692	909201	Pre-Clearance	-
17	Boundary Dyke	275668	909238	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
18	Building	275732	909222	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
19	Building	275763	909228	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
20	Potato Pits	275783	909257	Pre-Clearance	-
21	Enclosure (rectangular)	275704	909258	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
22	Clearance Cairn	275742	909294	Pre-Clearance	-
23	Clearance Cairn	275782	909327	Pre-Clearance	-
24	Clearance Cairn	275799	909284	Pre-Clearance	-
25	Enclosure (rounded)	275826	909313	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
26	Enclosure (rounded)	275856	909322	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
27	Clapper Bridge	275871	909318	Pre-Clearance	-
28	Enclosure (rounded)	275894	909325	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
29	Boundary Dyke	275899	909315	Pre-Clearance	-
30	Sheiling	276055	909331	Pre-Clearance	-
31	Sheiling	276059	909329	Pre-Clearance	-
32	Building with Kale Yard	276048	909358	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
33	Hut Circle	276069	909375	Bronze/Iron Age	MHG 34653
34	Hut Circle	276065	909391	Bronze/Iron Age	MHG 34653
35	Boundary Dyke	276243	909343	Pre-Clearance	-
36	Clearance Cairn	276332	909339	Pre-Clearance	-
37	Building	276500	909416	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
38	Building with Kale Yard	276509	909447	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
39	Grain Drying Kiln	276498	909441	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
40	Building	276549	909467	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
41	Enclosure (rectangular)	276524	909465	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
42	Building	276504	909479	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
43	Clapper Bridge	276372	909486	Pre-Clearance	-
44	Clearance Cairn	276230	909450	Pre-Clearance	-
45	Clearance Cairn	276208	909448	Pre-Clearance	-
46	Clearance Cairn	276135	909427	Pre-Clearance	-
47	Boundary Dyke	276100	909420	Pre-Clearance	-
48	Boundary Dyke	275971	909346	Pre-Clearance	-
49	Building	275970	909262	Pre-Clearance	-

A9 Archaeology - Dalreavoch Bridge and Sciberscross, Strath Brora, Sutherland

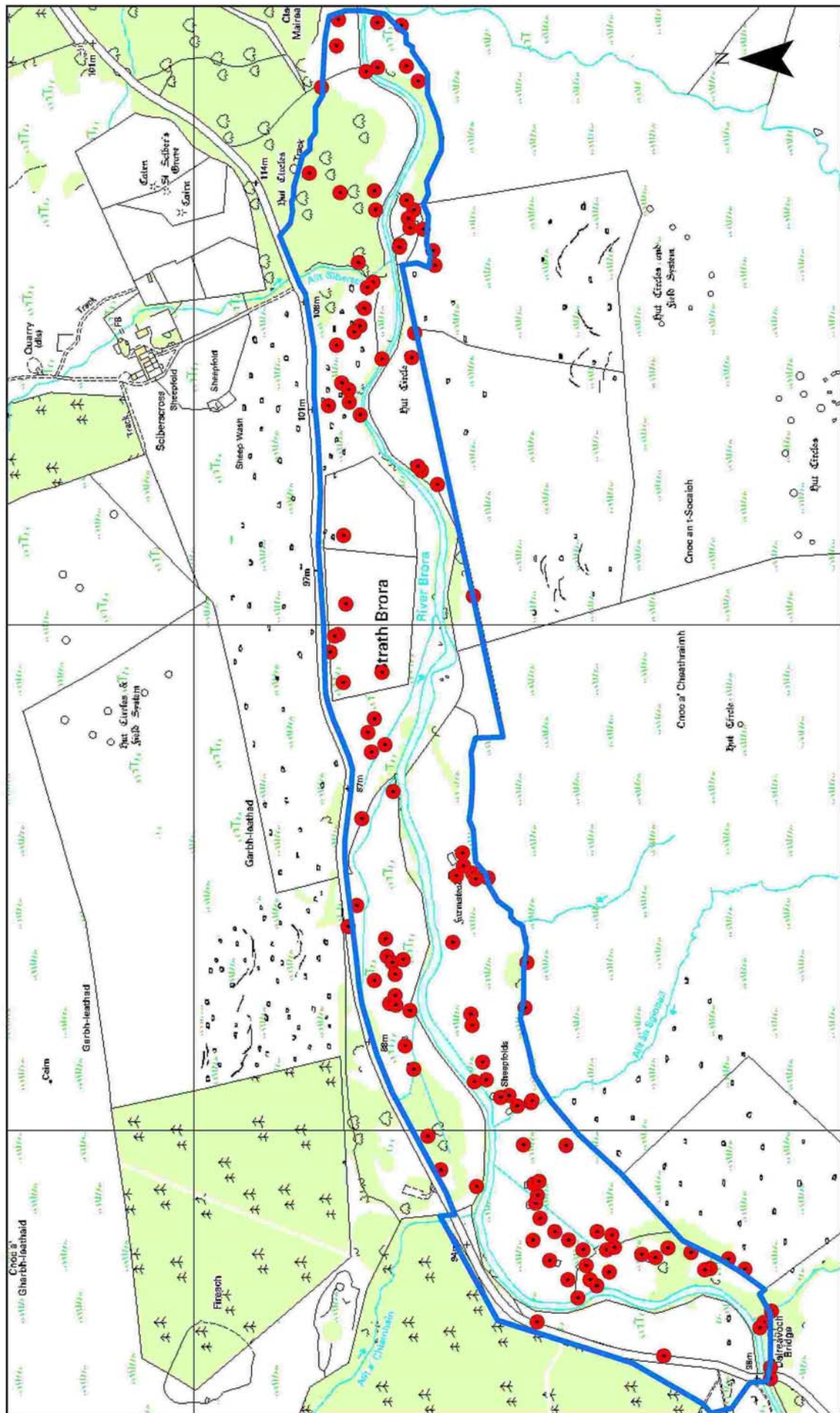
Feature No	Type	Easting	Northing	Age	HER No
50	Building	275799	909200	Pre-Clearance	MHG 12574
51	Clearance Cairn	275704	909214	Pre-Clearance	-
52	River Dam	275609	908878	19th Century	-
53	Borrow Pit	275620	909319	Early 19th Century	-
54	Bridge, Masonry Arch	275508	908857	Early 19th Century	MHG 10547
55	Borrow Pit	275553	909068	Early 19th Century	-
56	Roadway	277058	909445	Pre-Clearance	-
57	Hut Circle	277279	909516	Bronze/Iron Age	-
58	Hut Circle	277306	909548	Bronze/Iron Age	-
59	Hut Circle	277315	909555	Bronze/Iron Age	-
60	Hut Circle	277530	909567	Bronze/Iron Age	MHG 12575
61	Boundary Dyke	277579	909561	Pre-Clearance	MHG 44434
62	Building	277713	909521	Pre-Clearance	-
63	Building with Kale Yard	277742	909525	Pre-Clearance	MHG 19353
64	Enclosure (rectangular)	277785	909545	Pre-Clearance	MHG 19353
65	Grain Drying Kiln	277823	909563	Pre-Clearance	-
66	Enclosure (square)	277806	909574	Pre-Clearance	MHG 19353
67	Clearance Cairn	277787	909571	Pre-Clearance	-
68	Boundary Dyke	277753	909591	Pre-Clearance	-
69	Boundary Dyke	277749	909592	Pre-Clearance	-
70	Footbridge	277842	909577	Late 19th Century	-
71	Clearance Cairn	278078	909554	Pre-Clearance	-
72	Clearance Cairn	278108	909578	Pre-Clearance	-
73	Enclosure (rounded)	278185	909588	Pre-Clearance	-
74	Hut Circle	278194	909635	Bronze/Iron Age	-
75	Hut Circle	278105	909635	Bronze/Iron Age	-
76	Boundary Dyke	278097	909658	Post-Clearance	-
77	Clearance Cairn	278100	909737	Pre-Clearance	MHG 41567
78	Hut Circle	278200	909712	Bronze/Iron Age	-
79	Cairn	278148	909716	?Bronze Age	MHG 41567
80	Hut Circle	277896	909770	Bronze/Iron Age	MHG 10552
81	Boundary Dyke	277857	909709	Pre-Clearance	-
82	Clearance Cairn	277861	909641	Pre-Clearance	-
83	Building	277823	909639	Pre-Clearance	-
84	Boundary Dyke	277719	909673	Pre-Clearance	-
85	Boundary Dyke	277528	909626	Pre-Clearance	-
86	Clearance Cairn/Shieling	277442	909691	Pre-Clearance	-
87	Boundary Dyke	277417	909669	Pre-Clearance	-
88	Roadway	277178	909702	Pre-Clearance	-
89	Clearance Cairn	276982	909713	Pre-Clearance	-
90	Boundary Dyke	276979	909720	Pre-Clearance	-
91	Clearance Cairn	276947	909729	Pre-Clearance	-
92	Clearance Cairn	276887	909703	Pre-Clearance	-
93	Clearance Cairn	276788	909654	Pre-Clearance	-
94	Hut Circle	276815	909641	Bronze/Iron Age	-
95	Clearance Cairn	276749	909647	Pre-Clearance	-
96	Borrow Pit	276764	909620	?20th Century	-
97	Boundary Dyke	276671	909604	Pre-Clearance	-
98	Boundary Dyke	276617	909666	Pre-Clearance	-
99	Enclosure (triangular)	277680	909644	Pre-Clearance	-

A9 Archaeology - Dalreavoch Bridge and Sciberscross, Strath Brora, Sutherland

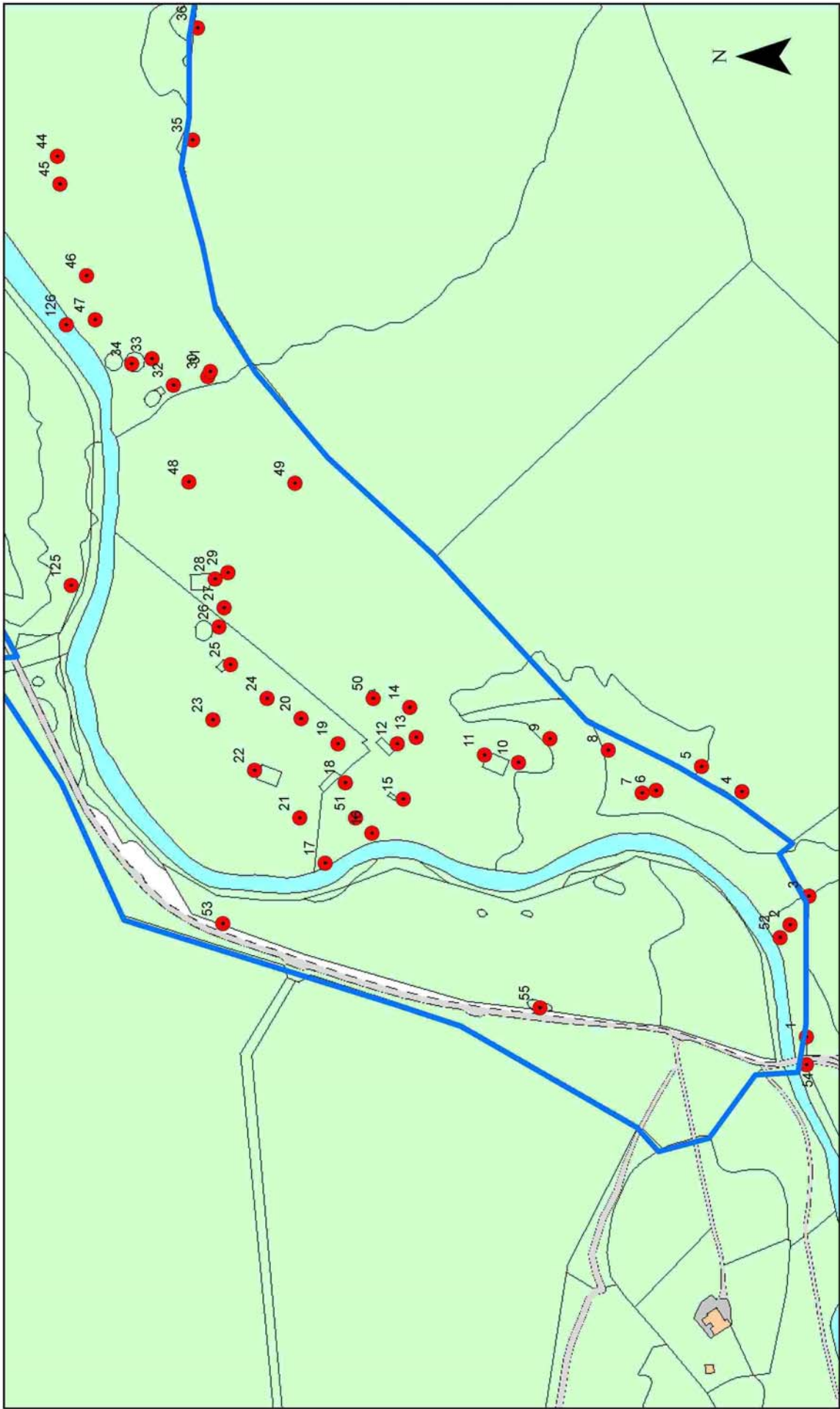
Feature No	Type	Easting	Northing	Age	HER No
100	Building	277669	909655	Pre-Clearance	-
101	Building	277620	909661	Pre-Clearance	-
102	Hut Circle	277593	909670	Bronze/Iron Age	-
103	Clearance Cairns	277581	909681	Pre-Clearance	-
104	Clearance Cairns	277555	909716	Pre-Clearance	-
105	Boundary Dyke	277480	909706	Pre-Clearance	-
106	Sheiling	277467	909692	Pre-Clearance	-
107	Sheiling	277435	909732	Pre-Clearance	-
108	Clearance Cairn	277042	909698	Pre-Clearance	-
109	Clearance Cairn	276445	909676	Pre-Clearance	-
110	Clearance Cairn	276403	909693	Pre-Clearance	-
111	Clearance Cairn	276379	909619	Pre-Clearance	-
112	Cairn	276344	909616	?Bronze Age	-
113	Building	276332	909606	Pre-Clearance	-
114	Clearance Cairn	276338	909584	Pre-Clearance	-
115	Clearance Cairn	276309	909600	Pre-Clearance	-
116	Boundary Dyke	276297	909641	Pre-Clearance	-
117	Clearance Cairn	276251	909611	Pre-Clearance	-
118	Clearance Cairn	276248	909599	Pre-Clearance	-
119	Clearance Cairn	276267	909600	Pre-Clearance	-
120	Building	276237	909571	Pre-Clearance	-
121	Building with Kale Yard	276167	909580	Pre-Clearance	MHG 18418
122	Grain Drying Kiln	276121	909563	Pre-Clearance	-
123	Clearance Cairn	275988	909535	Pre-Clearance	-
124	Clearance Cairn	275922	909510	Pre-Clearance	-
125	Clearance Cairn	275889	909439	Pre-Clearance	-
126	Boundary Dyke	276096	909443	Pre-Clearance	-
127	Sheep Shelter	276907	909626	Late 19th Century	MHG 32402

(see details in section 3.2 - Field Survey)

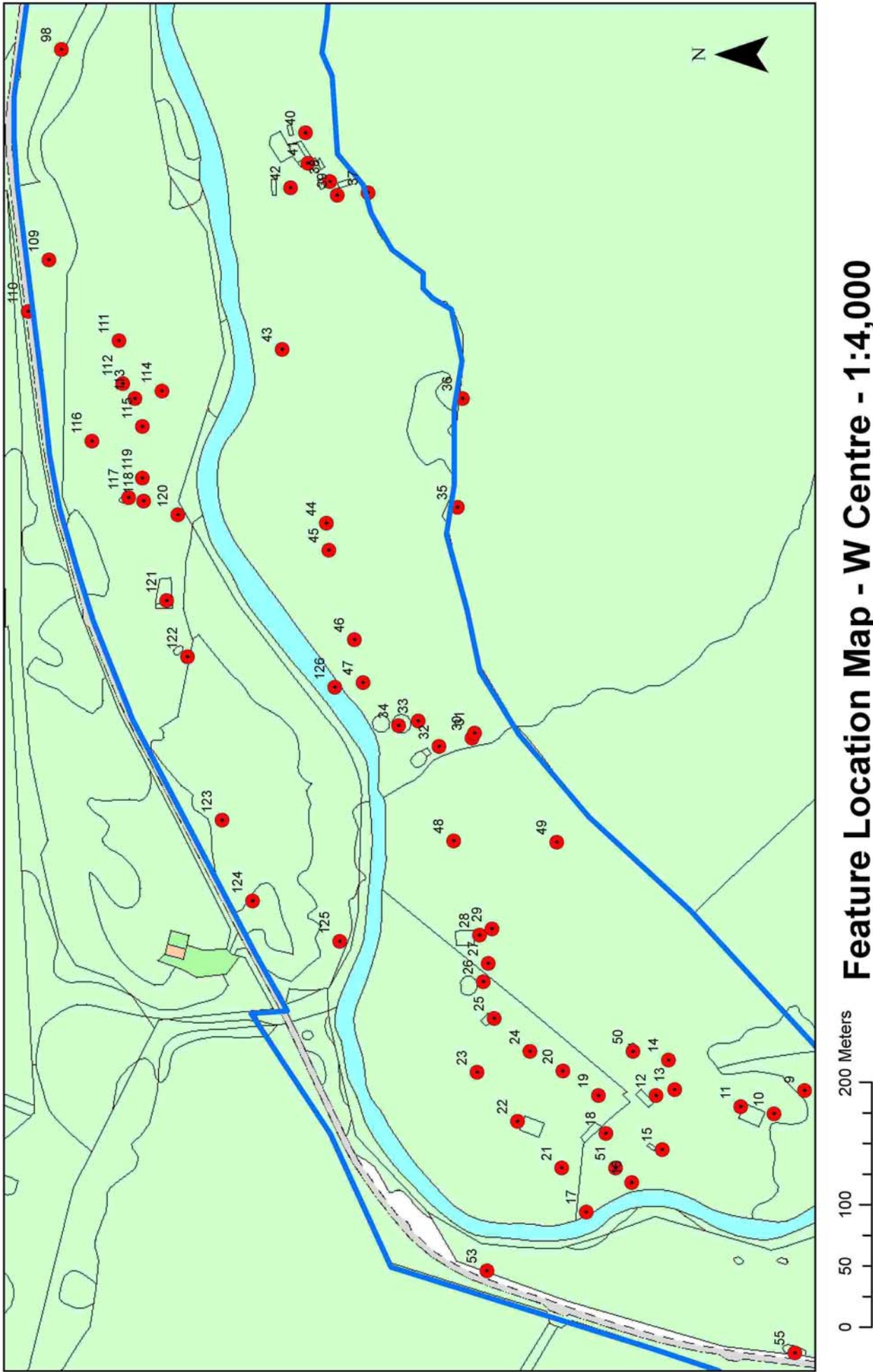
Appendix III – Feature Location Maps

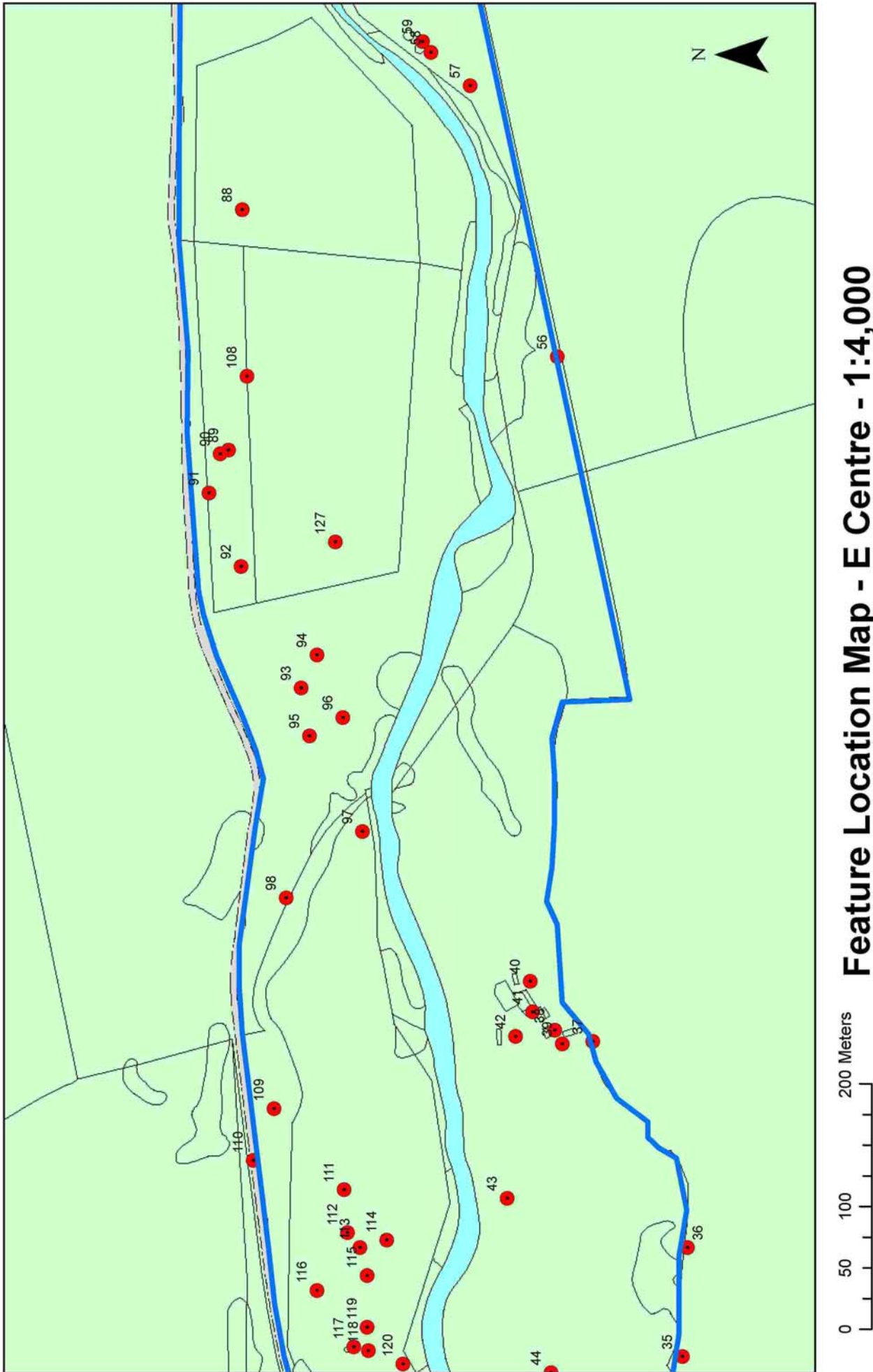


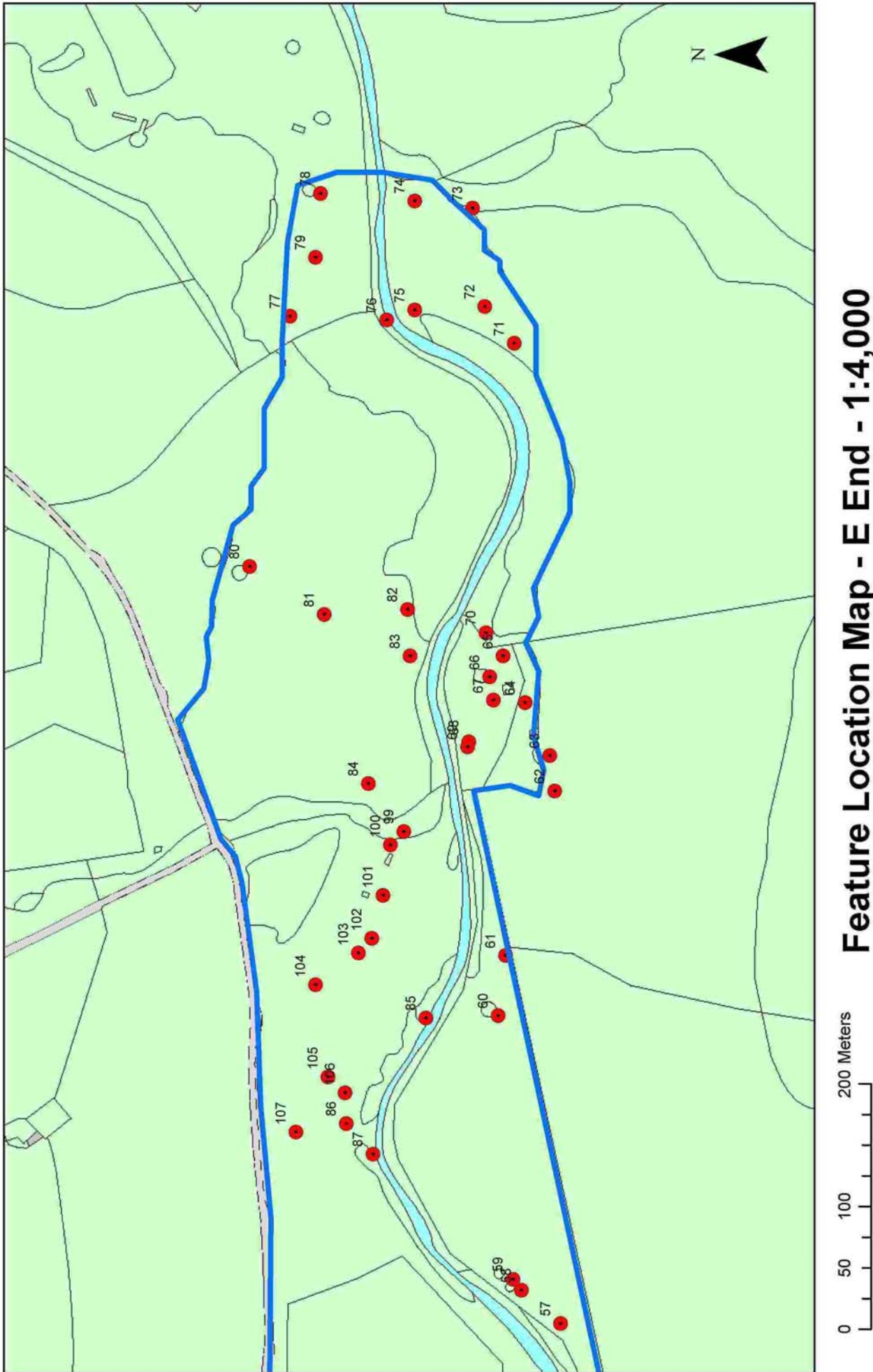
Feature Location Map - 1:10,000



Feature Location Map - W End - 1:4,000







Appendix IV – Existing Historic Environment Record Sites

ID: MHG34655

Type of record: Site (Undated)
Name: Dalreavoch
Grid Reference: NC 7553 0908
Civil Parish: ROGART
NMRS Record Details: NC70NE54 Dalreavoch
Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0089

Full description:

Oblique aerial photographs (RCAHMSAP 1995) show the remains of a possible circular hut-circle, situated approximately 200m N of Dalreavoch Bridge (NC70NE 36). The hut-circle is not depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland, 1879, sheet xcvi).

Information from RCAHMS (KJ) 1 March 1999.

ID: MHG12574

Type of record: Settlement (Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD)
Name: Kerrynamanoch
Grid Reference: NC 7610 0930
Civil Parish: ROGART
NMRS Record Details: NC70NE22 Kerrynamanoch, Strath Brora
Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0022

Full description:

NC70NE 22 centred on 761 093.

NC 761 093. A large area of depopulation on the south bank of the Brora River. Within the area are the remains and footings of eleven rectangular buildings with associated enclosures and two kilns. The buildings vary in size from 20.0m by 4.0m to 7.6m by 4.0m with walls 1.2m maximum height.

The 18th century settlement "Kerrynamanoch" probably is included in the area.
Visited by OS (WDJ) 21 April 1964.

A township comprising three unroofed buildings, twelve enclosures and a head-dyke is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Ten unroofed buildings, eleven enclosures and a head-dyke are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,000 map (1970).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 16 November 1995

ID: MHG34653

Type of record: Site (Undated)
Name: Allt an Sgiobail
Grid Reference: NC 7606 0939
Civil Parish: ROGART
NMRS Record Details: NC70NE52 Allt an Sgiobail
Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0087

Full description:

NC70NE 52 7606 0939

Oblique aerial photographs (RCAHMSAP 1995) show the remains of two possible hut-circles, measuring 10m to 15m across, situated immediately NW of Kerrynamanoch township (NC70NE 22). The hut-circles are not depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland, 1879, sheet xcvi), but are shown on the current edition of the 1:10000 map sheet (1970).

Information from RCAHMS (KJ) 26 February 1999.

ID: MHG18418

Type of record: Enclosure (Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD)
Name: Strath Brora
Grid Reference: NC 7620 0960
Civil Parish: CLYNE
NMRS Record Details: NC70NE45 Strath Brora
Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0055

Full description:

NC70NE 45 762 096

Two enclosures, one of which is subdivided, are depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Four enclosures are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1970).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 9 November 1995

ID: MHG32402

Type of record: Sheep Fold (Undated)
Name: Sheep Pen, Strath Brora
Grid Reference: NC 7640 0960
Civil Parish: ROGART
Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0084

Full description:

Large ruined structure - possible sheep fold - visible from the road. Evidence of many crofts and buildings in surrounding area - EM 07/2004

ID: MHG12575

Type of record: Hut Circle (Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 551 BC)

Name: Cnoc an t-Socaich

Grid Reference: NC 7753 0957

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE23 Allt Siberscaig, Strath Brora, Non-Statutory Register (C)

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0023

Full description:

NC70NE 23 7753 0957.

NC 7753 0957. A solitary well-preserved hut with no associated field system visible. It measures 6.7m internal diameter with a wall thickness of 1.6m. The inner face of stones on edge is almost complete, the outer face is visible in places. The entrance is in E.

Surveyed at 1:10,000. Visited by OS (NKB) 21 November 1975.

ID: MHG19353

Type of record: Farmstead (Undated)

Name: Strath Brora

Grid Reference: NC 7770 0950

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE41 Strath Brora

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0056

Full description:

NC70NE 41 777 095

A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings and an enclosure, and a head-dyke are depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Three unroofed buildings, some field walls and a head-dyke are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1970).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 1 November 1995

ID: MHG44434

Type of record: Boundary Dyke (Undated)

Name: Strath Brora

Grid Reference: NC 7770 0950

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE41 Strath Brora

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0056

Full description:

NC70NE 41 777 095

A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings and an enclosure, and a head-dyke are depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Three unroofed buildings, some field walls and a head-dyke are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1970).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 1 November 1995

ID: MHG10552

Type of record: Hut Circle (Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 551 BC)

Name: Hut circles, Cladh Maireannach

Grid Reference: NC 7788 0978

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE31 Allt Siberscaig, Strath Brora

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0031

Full description:

Situated on a SSE facing steep hillside at altitude 91=107m OD, within woodland. A M Fox, 17.04.00.

NC70NE 31 7788 0978 and 7790 0980.

'A' NC 7788 0978; 'B' NC 7790 0980. On SE-facing slope within later cultivation are two hut circle.

'A', the better preserved, is 11m internal diameter, within a wall faced with stones on edge 1.5m wide, increasing to 2m at the entrance in SE arc. It is overlaid with later clearance and may have been utilised as a sheepfold.

'B' measures 11m between the centres of a turf- covered spread wall, whose SE arc (and presumably the entrance) has been destroyed by a track.

Surveyed at 1:10 000. Visited by OS (NKB) 24 November 1975.

ID: MHG10545

Type of record: Township (Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD)

Name: Township, Cladh Maireannach

Grid Reference: NC 7830 0990

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE39 Cladh Maireannach, Non-Statutory Register (R)

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0041

Full description:

Modern OS shows a series of features indicating old buildings across the whole field - so not just a farmstead. Nothing depicted on 1st ed OS other than the cemetery and 2 buildings to GR given below. Features are visible from the field to the W and include clearance? Cairns - HAW 9/2004

NC70NE 39 783 099

A farmstead comprising two unroofed buildings and two enclosures is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Two unroofed buildings and two enclosures are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,560 map (1969).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 1 November 1995

ID: MHG41567

Type of record: Clearance Cairn (Undated)

Name: Township, Cladh Maireannach

Grid Reference: NC 7830 0990

Civil Parish: ROGART

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE39 Cladh Maireannach

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0041

Full description:

Modern OS shows a series of features indicating old buildings across the whole field - so not just a farmstead. Nothing depicted on 1st ed OS other than the cemetery and 2 buildings to GR given below. Features are visible from the field to the W and include clearance? Cairns - HAW 9/2004

NC70NE 39 783 099

A farmstead comprising two unroofed buildings and two enclosures is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1879, sheet xcvi). Two unroofed buildings and two enclosures are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,560 map (1969).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 1 November 1995

ID: MHG10547

Type of record: Bridge (Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD)

Name: Dalreavoch Bridge over River Brora

Grid Reference: NC 7551 0887

Civil Parish: Rogart

Protected Status: Listed Building (B) 14917: Dalreavoch Bridge Over River Brora

Historic Environment Record: MHG10547

NMRS Record Details: NC70NE36 Dalreavoch Bridge

Old SMR Reference Number: NC70NE0036

Full description

SU/1101 List C Survey 1975-6

The Industrial Archaeology of Sutherland (A Scottish Highland Economy 1700-1900) - Sinclair B Calder, 1974

J Aitken : 19/2/2004

Appendix V – Plates

*Note: the walking pole used as a scale
in the following plates is 1.2m long.*



Plate 1: Feature 3 - head dyke forming the S boundary of survey area.



Plate 2: Feature 4 – china from clearance cairn.



Plate 3: Feature 12 – building, later used as sheepfold (from S).



Plate 4: Feature 15 – grain drying kiln (from NE).



Plate 5: Feature 18 – stone footing remains of a building on grassy area (from W).



Plate 6: Feature 25 – interior kerbing in keyhole enclosure (from S).



Plate 7: Feature 37 – substantial stone footing remains of a building (from S).



Plate 8: Feature 38 – township building remains (from SW).



Plate 9: Feature 42 – stone footing remains of a building raised area (from SW).



Plate 10: Feature 43 – small clapper bridge (rig and furrow in background) (from N).



Plate 11: Feature 49 – low stone footing remains of a building (from SW).



Plate 12: Features 58 & 59 – hut circles (from SW).



Plate 13: Feature 62 – stone footing remains of a building with outshot (from W).



Plate 14: Feature 78 – hut circle (from E).



Plate 15: Feature 79 – 9m x 6m cairn (from N).



Plate 16: Features 86 & 105 – shieling (centre right) and small wall (from NE).



Plate 17: Feature 100 – stone footing remains of a building (from E).



Plate 18: Feature 101 – lambing pen in stone footing remains of a building (from NE).



Plate 19: Feature 109 – semi-circular grass-covered cairn (from NE).



Plate 20: Feature 121 – substantial stone footing remains of a building (from NE).