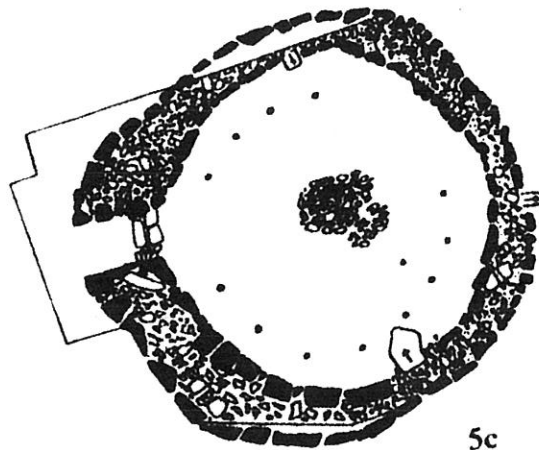


A survey of Round Houses
on the
Strathaird, Torrin and Sconser Estates.

including
A comprehensive catalogue of all the Skye Round Houses.



by

Martin Wildgoose

for

THE JOHN MUIR TRUST

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1. Introduction

In Skye the study of round houses is currently in it's infancy, even the name is a recent amendment, the term hut circle falling out of general usage. For too long round houses have attracted little attention due to the popular belief that the bigger and more obvious the structure the more important it is and perhaps more worrying - the more exciting it is to survey/excavate. Over the years therefore, Brochs, Duns, Burial Mounds and even Souterrains have figured at the centre of intensive research while the round house, the abode of the common man, has been, almost totally, overlooked.

Round houses have been identified widely throughout Skye but until recently there have been few surveyed or excavated examples to provide comparative data. The recent excavations by Manchester University and Dualchas, Skye's museum service(1), have provided evidence for internal layout, constructional technique and, in one instance, dating. The detailed surveys, carried out over the last 10 years, of large areas of landscape, in particular the Strathaird Estate, the Torrin Estate, the Sconser Estate, the Balmacara Estate, the Orbost Estate, and that vast tract of land owned by the Forestry Commission, have produced a flood of well documented round houses. (For details of Excavations and Surveys see list on next page)

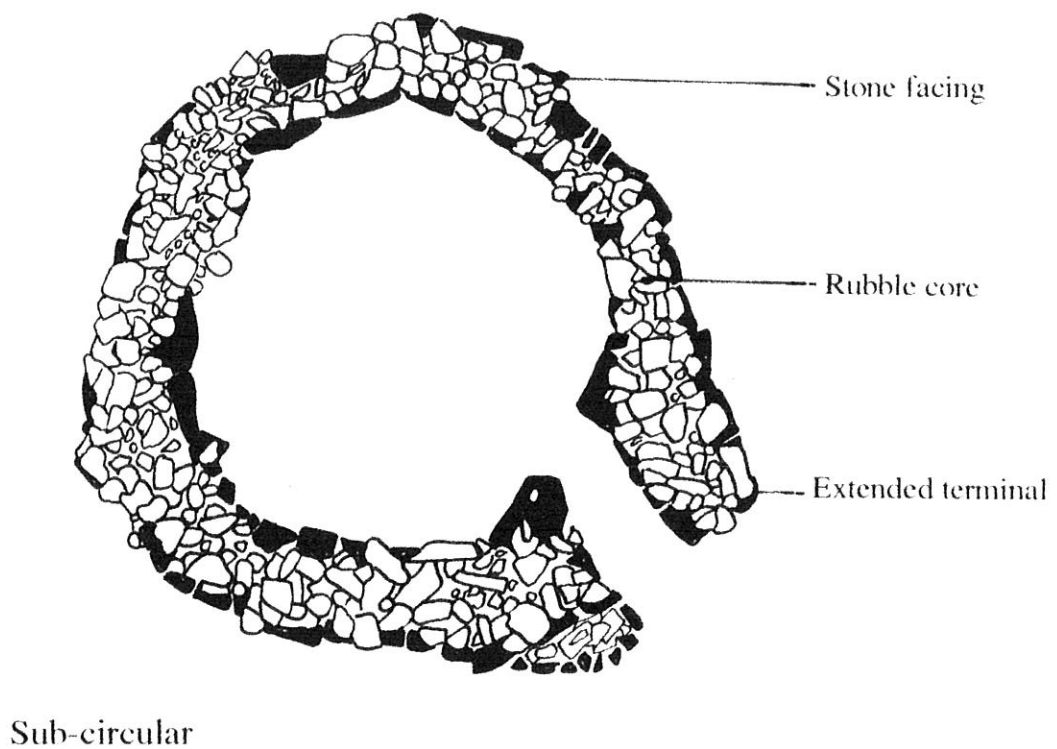
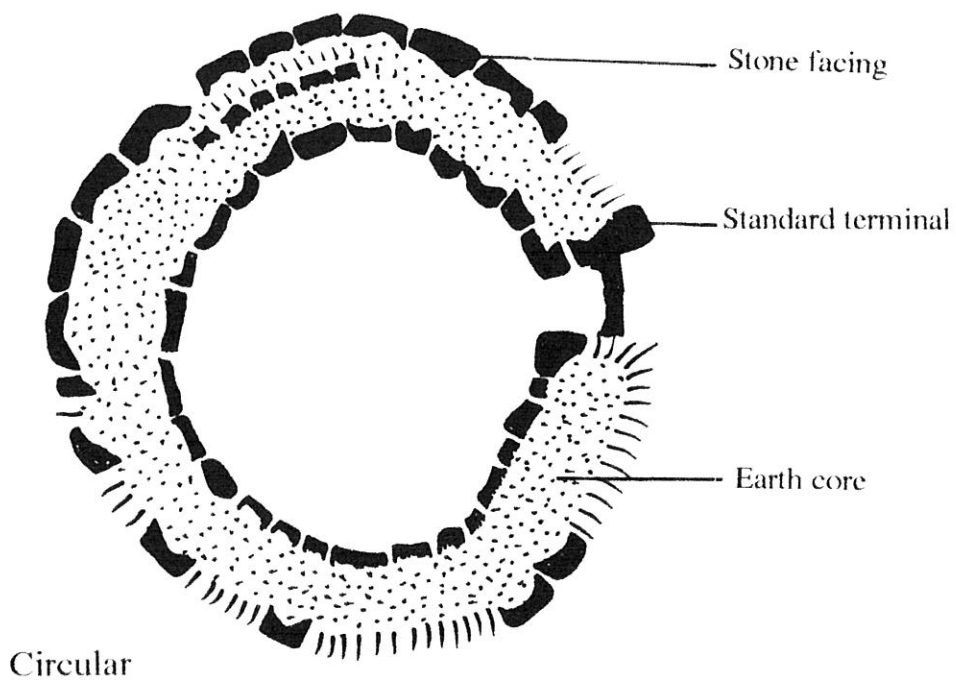
This catalogue aims to draw together all the available evidence - excavation, survey and the local Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and place it in the public domain .

What makes a round structure a Round House ?

The distinguishing features of round houses, when well preserved, are numerous and easily presented. :- see illus. 1

- A. A circular or sub-circular raised bank from 1.0m to 3.0m thick, of soil, turf or occasionally rubble stone, often but not always faced in and out with either stone slabs set on edge or well laid stonework.
- B. The area enclosed can vary from 4 to 15 metres in diameter. If smaller it could be a shieling, any larger and it's probably an enclosure (defensive or agricultural) .
- C. Entrances almost always face along or down the slope and can lie between either standard (the same thickness as the wall) or expanded (wider than the wall) terminals.
- D. The type of terminal dictates the length of the entrance passage and therefore often the shape of the hut circle i.e. a standard terminal will often occur in a circular round house, an expanded terminal in a sub-circular round house.
- E. In Skye round houses occur on natural terraces, on platforms which have been dug into the hill slope (a negative platform) and on platforms created by digging out a partial platform in the hillside, the spoil being used to extend that platform out from the hill slope, (a positive/negative platform). To-date no instances of totally positive platforms have been recorded.

Even if a site meets all the above criteria it may not be a round house! It has to feel right too.



illus. 1. Round Houses : Distinguishing Features

List of Excavations and Surveys producing round houses.

Excavated Sites.

1. Achnacloich 1988 - 91. C. Burney, Unpublished
Coille a Ghasgain 1992 - 93. C. Burney and R. Miket, Unpublished
Coille nan Groben 1994 - 95. C. Burney, M. Wildgoose and R. Miket, Unpublished

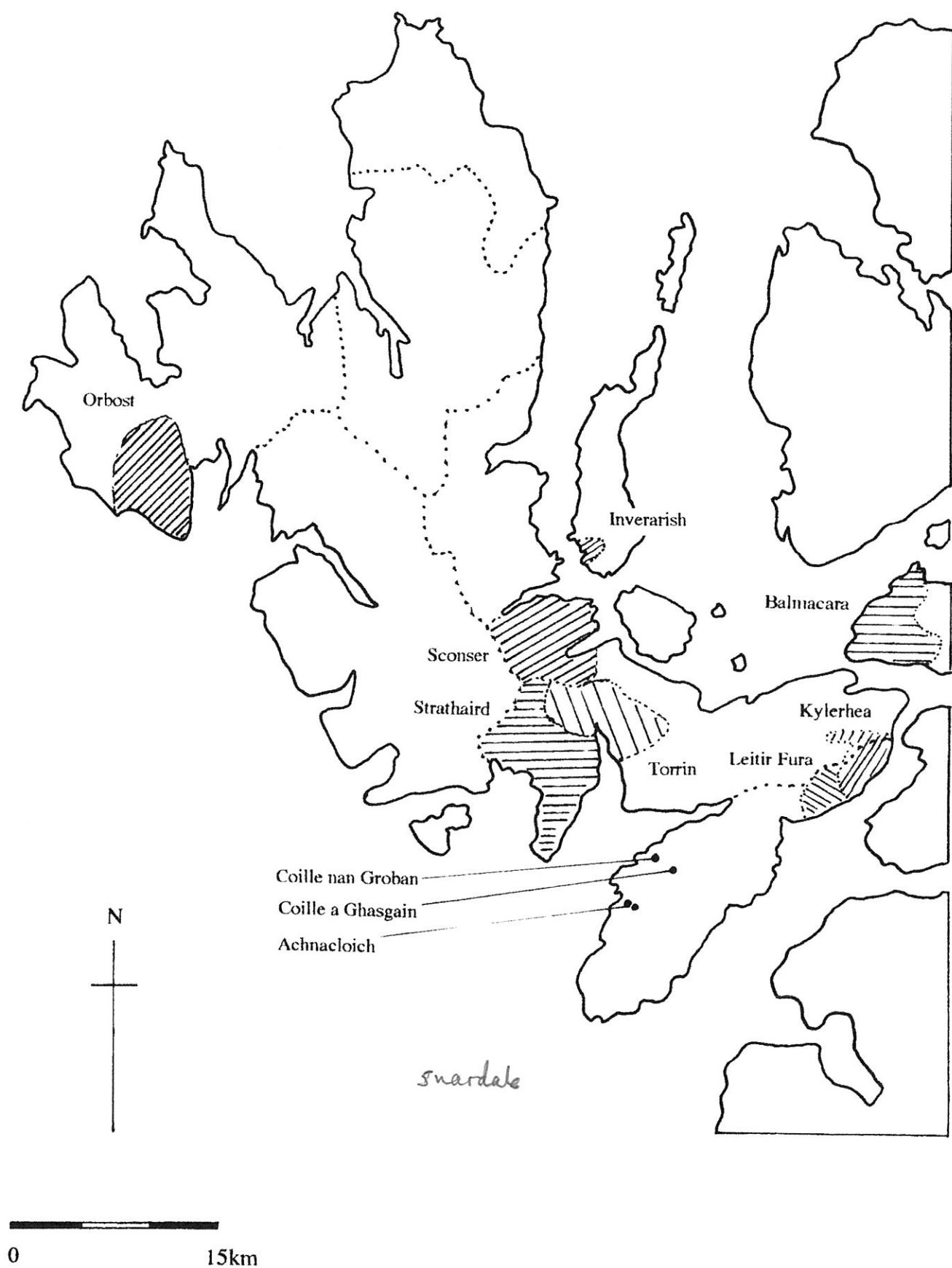
*Look Skye
+ Western
Isles
date
will look.*

Landscape Surveys.

2. Strathaird Estate : South and East - Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1997.
Strathaird Estate : Woodland - Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1997.
Strathaird Estate : North and West - Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1998.
Strathaird Estate : Druim an Fhuarain Survey. M. Wildgoose 1998.
Strathaird Estate : Cille Mhaire Survey. M. Wildgoose 1999.
3. Torrin Estate : Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose and S. Birch 1991 and 1998.
4. Sconser Estate : Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1998.
5. Balmacara Estate Archaeological Survey Phase 1. M. Wildgoose 1994.
Balmacara Estate Archaeological Survey Phase 2. M. Wildgoose 1995.
Balmacara Estate Archaeological Survey Phase 3. M. Wildgoose 1996.
6. Orbst Estate Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1998.
7. Kylerea Planting proposal : Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1991
Inverarish Forest Archaeological Survey. M. Wildgoose 1993.
Leitir Fura Survey. M. Wildgoose 1996.

In addition to the above many smaller surveys have been undertaken between 1989 and the time of writing. Many of these have resulted in the addition of new round houses to the archaeological record. Most have found their way into the SMR, a few have not, all are included, at some point, below.

For locations of principle surveys and excavated sites see illus. 2.



illus. 2 : Map of Skye showing locations of excavated sites and principle surveys.

Excavated Round Houses

Over the last 10 years 4 round houses have been completely excavated :-

Achnacloich B & C by Manchester University in 1990/91

Coille a Ghasgain jointly by Dualchas and Manchester University in 1992/3

Coille nan Groben jointly by Dualchas and Manchester University in 1994/5

To-date none of these sites have been published, a brief description of each is included below. Plans can be found in Appendix 1 at the rear of the report.

Name	illus.	OS Grid Ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Achnacloich B</u>	5a	NG 5880 0820	S-W	30m

Director - Charles Burney. (now retired)

Setting

This round house lies on a secluded natural terrace on the south side of Loch Tarskavaig. Low hills lie to the east, south and west. A fast flowing burn lies just 40 m to the west, below the site. Before excavation a group of small cells (shielings?) lay within the remains of the hut circle. A ruinous black house lies 30 m to the south, overlying Achnacloich A, and cultivation lies all around.

Description

A circular drystone wall 1.5 m thick, faced in and out with large boulders, surrounding an interior measuring 6 m in diameter. The entrance has been robbed away. A paved and sunken hearth lies at the centre of the interior, surrounded, at a distance of 0.5 m, by three shallow, inward sloping, post holes perhaps indicating a tripod type pot hanger. A ring of shallow post holes 1.5 m from the hearth may have supported screens dividing the central area from the outer perimeter and/or roof timbers.

<u>Achnacloich C</u>	-	NG 5880 0820	S-W	30m
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Excavated 1990-91 by Manchester University. Director - Charles Burney. (now retired)

Setting

Lies on a secluded natural terrace, 30 m to the south of Achnacloich B, on the south side of Loch Tarskavaig. All as Achnacloich B. At a later date a black house had been constructed over this site.

Description

A stone faced, sub-circular, earth bank 2 m thick and 0.3m high surrounding an internal area 7.5m in diameter. The bank expands to 2.5m thick at the south-east facing entrance.

A raised, D-shaped platform occupied the centre of the hut, perhaps acting as a cooking and living area. Around the raised platform were a number of small, 20cm wide post holes, perhaps indicating a ring of posts supporting the roof timbers or perhaps acting as partition supports for a sleeping area around the perimeter of the interior. A paved area lay just outside the entrance allowing dry access to the nearby burn.

<u>Coille a Ghasgain</u>	5b	NG 6440 1220	S-E	150m
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Joint directors R. Miket and C Burney

Setting

This round house lies on a small, natural, terrace on the north-east side of the glen. A low hill lies to the north-east of the site otherwise the site has an open aspect. The nearest fresh water lies 200 m to the south-east where a fast flowing burn tumbles down the hillside.

Description

A sub-circular drystone wall 1.2 m thick and 0.9m high, faced both in and out with slabs and laid walling, surrounding an interior measuring 5.2 m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.4 m thick at the south-east facing entrance creating a passage of extended length. A paved central area contained a hearth and a pebble-surfaced work area. A ring of small post holes around the central area may hint at either radial partitions or a ring of post supporting the roof timbers. A single radiocarbon date centres around 470BC (Miket, pers. comm.)

Coille nan Groben,	5c	NG 6280 1335	West	50 m
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Joint Direct. C Burney, R. Miket and M Wildgoose.

Setting

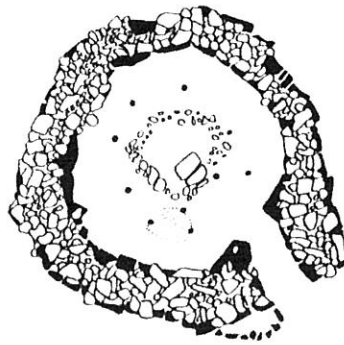
This site lies within a small, secluded valley overlooking Loch Eishort. Low hills lie to the north-east and south-west, to the north-west the valley drops to the coast barely 1km distant, and climbs into the hills behind and to the south-east. A fast flowing burn passes the site just 5 m to the south-west. A small boat shaped structure lies within the remains of the round house. Several small, shieling type, structures lie immediately to the north-west. A major, Late Medieval settlement lies 100 m to the north-west.

Description

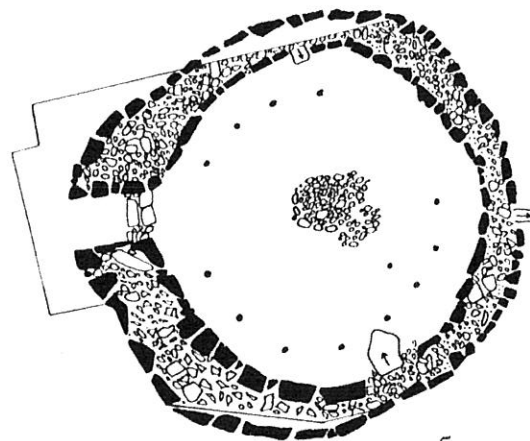
A sub-circular drystone wall 1.5 m thick and 1m high, faced in and out with slabs set on edge, surrounding an interior measuring 8.5 m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.4 m thick at the west facing entrance creating an extended passage. A paved and sunken hearth lies at the centre of the interior, surrounded, at a distance of 3 m, by a ring of shallow post holes perhaps indicating radial divisions and/or roof supports. Numerous sherds of decorated Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the primary floor surface within the round house.



5a



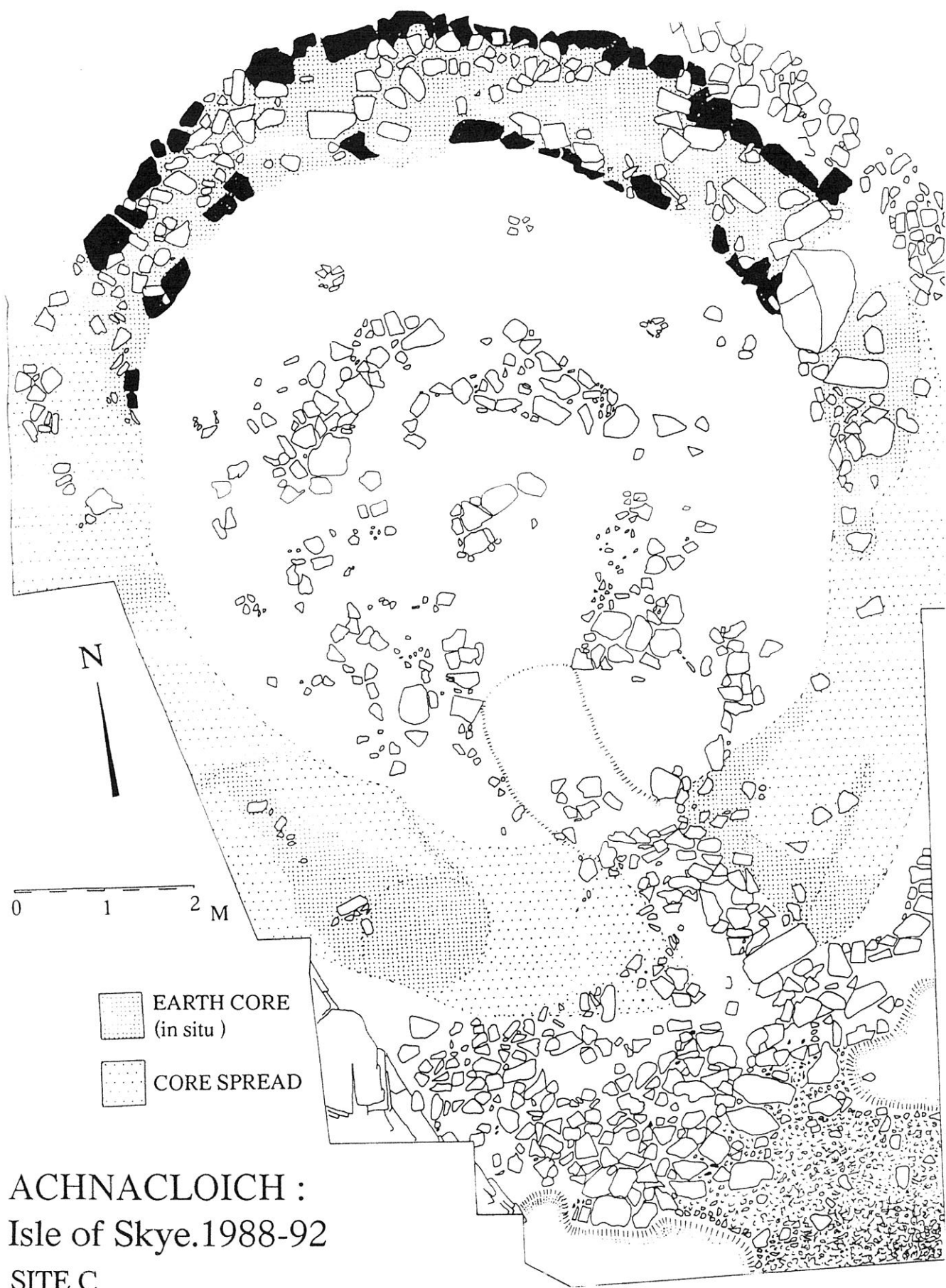
5b



5c



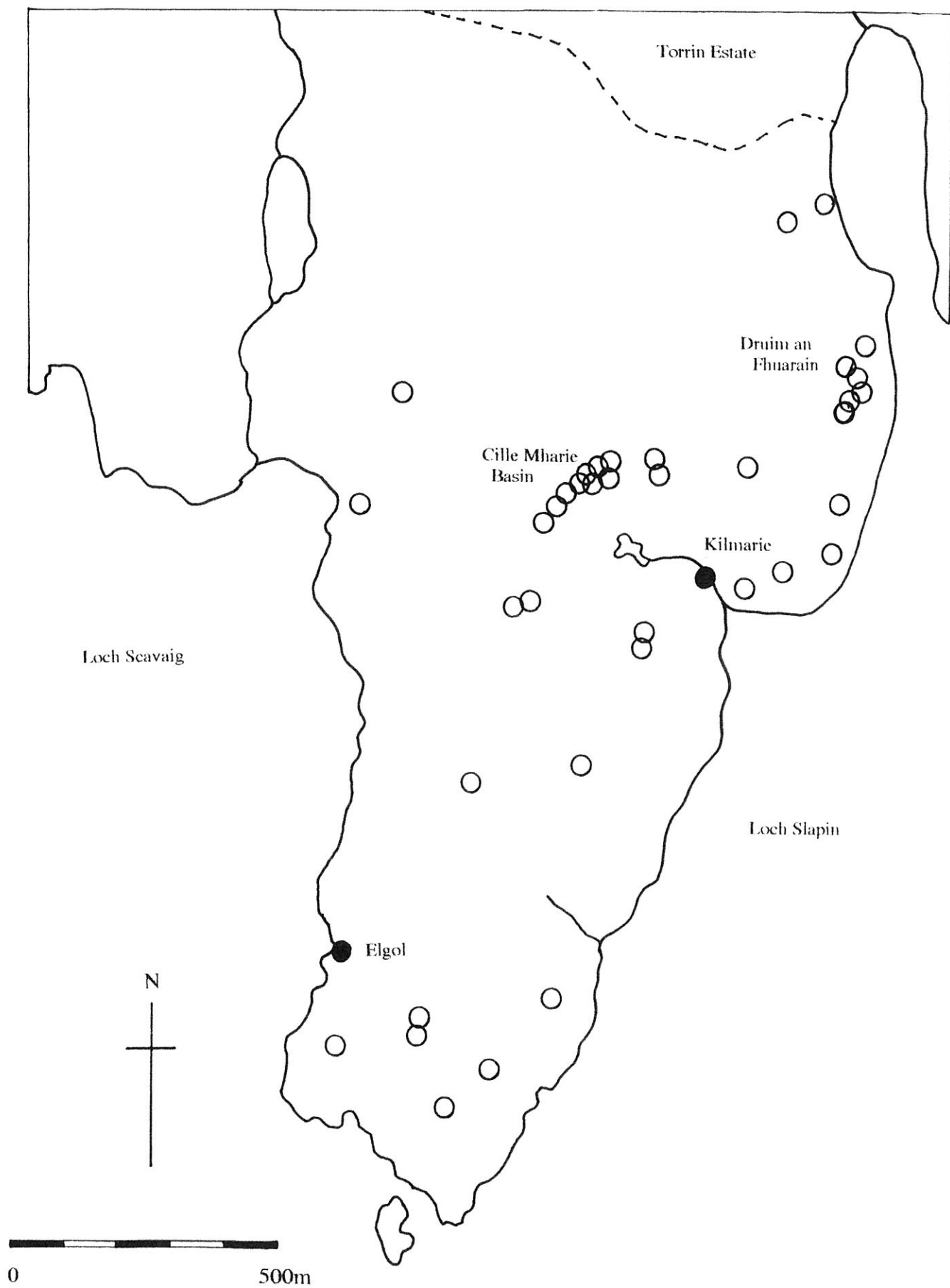
illus. 5 : Excavated Round Houses.



ACHNACLOICH :
Isle of Skye.1988-92

SITE C

NG 5880 0820



illus. 3 : Map of Strathaird Estate showing location of Round Houses

Round houses surveyed in detail.

Between 1989 and 1999 a total of 48 round houses were recorded in detail using the offset method, all at a scale of 1:100. The majority of these (38) are on the Strathaird Estate, owned by the John Muir Trust, and my thanks must be extended to the estate manager for his far sighted and very generous views regarding the importance of archaeology to the management of the Estate. The remainder fall on the Balmacara Estate (5) owned by the National Trust for Scotland, Forestry Commission land (3), The Torrin Estate (1) also owned by the John Muir Trust and Suisnish Farm (1) farmed by Mr Norman Stoddart and owned by the Crown Estates. These are all described below,

The Strathaird Estate

The Strathaird Estate occupies the greater part of a sea girt peninsula, on the south-west coast of Skye, between Loch Scavaig and Loch Slapin. Its 6000 hectares extend from the heart of the Cuillin in the north and west to the township of Elgol and Eilean na h-Airde in the south. The estate includes the spectacular mountain Bla Bheinn, as well as the minor crofting townships of Drinan and Glasnakille. The geography can be divided into three zones, the fertile coastal plain running up to 75m OD, the intermediate zone of low hills and low mountain glens from 75m to 120m and the mountainous west which reaches a height of 928m at the summit of Bla Bheinne. The size and position of these zones has shaped the settlement pattern over the centuries.

The Strathaird Catalogue

All the sites below were first located in 1997* by M. Wildgoose, G. Kozikowski and Steven Birch and were subsequently re-surveyed, in detail in 1998* by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch and 1999* by M. Wildgoose and J. Wildgoose.

The John Muir Trust provided full finance for all survey work.

The number within brackets refers to the site number allocated during the initial survey.

* See list of Surveys above and individual sites below for details of Initial and Detailed Surveys.

For locations of round houses on the Strathaird Estate see illus. 3

Site Name	illus. No.	OS grid Ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Abhainn nan Leac (26)</u>	6a	NG 5239 1911	S-W	130m

Detailed survey 1999 by M & J Wildgoose.

over Camusany track.

Setting

This site lies on a natural shelf on the steeply sloping west flank of Slat Bheinn about 100 m above a fast flowing burn. A 3 celled shieling overlies the north-eastern part of the site.

Description

A partially preserved, circular, earth bank 1.2m thick and 0.35m high with boulder facing to both sides surrounding an interior which measures 6 m in diameter. The entrance must lie either beneath the shieling, in the north-east quadrant or in the destroyed south-east quadrant.

<u>Cille Mharie Glen 1 (36a)</u>	6b	NG 5435 1844	S-E	50m
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AW701

Detailed survey 1999 by M. & J. Wildgoose, S. Birch, G. Kozikowski and H. Birch

Setting

Lies on a man made platform on the lower, south-east facing, flank of Slat Bheinn just to the east of the Abhainn Cille Mharie. A number of similar sites lie within a boulder enclosure 40 m to the east. (see Cille Mharie Glen C, and H)

Description

A circular earth bank, 1.2 m thick and 0.35m high, with a boulder facing to both sides, surrounding an interior which measures 4 m in diameter. The south-east facing entrance lies between standard terminals.

<u>Cille Mharie Glen 2 (36c)</u>	6c	NG 5435 1844	S-E	50m
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Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

As Cille Mharie Glen (36a) but within a boulder enclosure.

AW703

Description

A circular earth bank 1 m thick and 0.3m high, with a boulder facing to both sides, surrounding an interior which measures 4 m in diameter. The walls expand to 1.6 m at the south-east facing entrance forming an expanded entrance passage. The interior has subsequently been sub-divided by a narrow stone wall forming two small cells.

Cille Mharie Glen 3 (36d) 6d NG 5435 1844 S-E 50m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

As Cille Mharie Glen (36c).

Description

A circular earth bank 1.5 m thick and 0.2m high, with feint traces of a stone facing to both sides, surrounding an interior which measures 7 m in diameter. Remains of possible entrance in south-east quadrant. This structure has been heavily robbed to provide building stone for the shieling which overlies the site.

AW 704

Cille Mharie Glen 4 (36h) 6e NG 5435 1844 S-E 50m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

As Cille Mharie Glen (36c & 36d).

Description

A circular platform, cut into the south-east facing hill slope, which measures 7.5 m in overall diameter. Little survives at the rear of the platform but the front half of the hut circle survives as a low earth bank with some stone facing present. A two cell shieling overlies the south-east section of the remains, perhaps covering the entrance to the hut circle. This site has been heavily robbed for building stone for the overlying shieling.

AW 702

Cille Mharie Glen 5 (38a) 7a NG 5428 1837 S-E 50m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies in a shallow, heather covered, depression at the foot of the south-east flank of Slat Bheinn, close to the old Camasunary track.

Description

A sub-circular earth and stone bank, 1.0m thick and 0.3m high, which retains part of it's, now robbed, stone facing. The bank surrounds an interior which measures 4.0m by 4.5m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.5m in thickness at the south-east facing entrance. A single cell shieling lies in the north-west quadrant of the interior.

SG007

Cille Mharie Glen 6 (38b) 7b **NG 5428 1837** **S-E** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Sq008

Setting

As Cille Mharie Glen (38a)

Description

A sub-circular, earth and stone, bank 1.2m thick and 0.3m high with feint traces of stone facing to both sides, surrounding an interior which measures 5.0m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.5m in thickness at the south-east facing entrance.

Cille Mharie Glen 7 (40) 7c **NG 5474 1850** **W** **80m**

other side

Amc902

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies on a natural platform on the lower south-west slope of Nead an Fhir-eoin, just 20m to the north of the modern wire fence which runs up/down the slope. Overlooks the Abhainn Cille Mhaire.

Description

A circular, earth and stone, bank 1.5m thick and 0.3m high which retains much of it's stone facing, both inside and out, around its northern half. The enclosed interior, which measures 7m in diameter, is now somewhat wet and soft. The wall expands to 1.75m at the west facing entrance which is almost 2m wide. Set against the outer, north-west face of the wall are the remains of two small reveted platforms, the smaller (1.5m in diameter) overlying the larger (3m by 2.4m).

Cille Mharie Glen 8 (41) 7d **NG 5480 1843** **W** **85m**

other side Amc903

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies on a negative platform which has been cut into the lower south-west slope of Nead an Fhir-eoin just 30m to the south of the modern wire fence which runs up/down the slope. Overlooks the Abhainn Cille Mhaire

Description

A circular, earth and stone, bank 1.5m thick and 0.3m high which retains only fragments of it's stone facing. The interior, which measures 7.5m in diameter, is now very wet and soft. The wall expands to 2m thick at the south-west facing entrance which is well defined and 1.5m wide. A large, level platform, which measures 8m north to south by 5m east to west

cont. over

lies in front of the hut entrance. A small ramp gives access to the north-west side of this platform. Just within and to the south side of the entrance are the remains of a small stone pen or enclosure which measures 1.5 m in overall diameter.

Cille Mhaire Glen 9 (50a) 8a **NG 5400 1829** **S-E** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Situated on a natural terrace at the foot of the south-east facing slope of Slat Bheinne. lies just a few metres from (50b and 50c).

Description

A sub-circular stone bank 1.5m thick surrounding an interior which measures 4.5m by 5m. An entrance 0.8m wide faces down slope to the south-east.

This structure is poorly preserved and nowhere does it stand more than 0.3m high.

Cille Mhaire Glen 10 (50b) 8b **NG 5400 1829** **S-E** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

As Cille Mhaire Glen (50a)

Description

A sub-circular earth bank, 1.8m thick, which retains traces of a boulder facing to both it's inner and outer faces. The interior measures 9m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.5m in thickness at the west facing entrance, which unusually faces slightly up the slope. A second gap through the wall lies 2m to the south of the entrance. The whole site has been extensively disturbed and has probably seen use as a stone quarry.

Cille Mhaire Glen 11 (50c) 8c **NG 5400 1829** **S-E** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

As Cille Mhaire Glen (50a and 50b)

Description

An oval, stone, bank 1.2m thick and 0.25m high surrounding an interior which measures 7m north-west to south-east by 4m north-east to south-west. The wall expands to 1.6m in thickness at the south-east facing entrance. This site although not, strictly speaking, a round house has been included because of it's proximity to sites Cille Mhaire Glen (50a) and (50b), and because it 'feels right' for the period.

Cille Mhaire Glen 12 (51) 8d NG 5390 1818 S-E 70m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies on a negative platform cut into the slope at the foot of the south-east facing slope of Slat Bheinn. A small burn passes close by the east side of the site.

Description

The much disturbed remains of a circular earth bank some 1.75m thick which surrounds an internal area which measures 8m in diameter. Traces of a stone facing to the bank survive on the south side both on the external and internal faces. There is no obvious entrance but a small stone shieling which overlies the east side of the site may obscure this.

Cille Mhaire Glen 13 (52) 8e NG 5384 1805 S-E 50m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Situated on a natural platform at the foot of the south-east facing slope of Slat Bheinn. A poorly preserved turf dyke passes close to the up slope side of the remains.

Description

The turf covered remains of a circular stone wall which varies in thickness from 1m to 1.6m and stands nowhere more than 0.3m high surrounding an interior which measures 4.5m in diameter. The wall expands to 2m in thickness at the south-east facing entrance, only one side of which survives to its full width.

Cille Mhaire Glen 14 (83) 9a NG 5368 1786 S-E 80m ~~250~~

Detailed survey 1999 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

On a natural, level, terrace at the foot of the sloping south-east facing hillside.

Description

An arc of boulders representing the 10m diameter foundations of a robbed out round house. The surviving arc of boulders is 2m thick. There is no visible door opening.

WAK001

cont. over

Beinn Leacach (67) 9b **NG 5195 1803** N-W **75m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose

Setting

Lies at the foot of the north-west flank of Beinn Leacach, below a small west facing cliff. Overlooks Camas Fhionnairigh.

Description

A circular stone bank 1.2m thick and 0.8m high, faced on both sides with upright slabs and laid walling, surrounding an interior which measures 4m in diameter. A ruinous 2 cell shieling overlies the western half of the site obscuring the probable position of the entrance. The entire site is very disturbed with much loose stone lying around.

Ben Meabost 1 (88) 9c **NG 5338 1720** N-W **100m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose

Setting

Lies on a natural terrace on the lower, north flank of Ben Meabost. Overlooks a small, fast flowing, burn.

Description

The remains of an arc of stone walling 1.6m thick and 0.35m high underlying a very disturbed 2 cell stone shieling. It is possible that this site once resembled site 'Cille Mhaire Glen (50c)' as a similar arc, this time of turf, mirrors the stone arc some 8m to the south. The internal area of this structure would then measure 8m long by 4.5m wide. The interior of the site is very wet and filled with rushes. There is much tumbled stonework within the confines of the two arcs of walling.

Ben Meabost 2 (89) 9d **NG 5345 1720** N-W **100m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

As Ben Meabost 1

Description

A circular earth and stone bank 1.2m thick and 0.4m high once faced on both sides with boulders and laid stonework, surrounding an interior which measures 4.5m in diameter. A well preserved entrance faces down the slope in a north-west direction where the wall expands to 2m in thickness. The interior is filled with dwarf willow and heather.

Allt an Ruadh 1 (104) 9e **NG 5470 1695** **N** **40m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies on a shallow, north facing grassy slope overlooking the Allt an Ruadh.

Description

A circular turf and stone bank 1.5m thick and 0.25m high which is faced on both sides by laid, stone walling. The interior, which is 7m in diameter, is level and clear of rubble. The wall expands to 2m in thickness at the east facing entrance forming an extended entrance passage 2m long and 0.8m wide.

Allt an Ruadh 2 (109) 9f **NG 5466 1684** **N** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

As Allt an Ruadh 1 but on the summit of a prominent green knoll.

Description

A circular stone and turf bank 1.2m thick and 0.4m high with the remains of a stone facing surviving at several points around it's inner and outer faces. The bank surrounds an interior which measures 7m in diameter. The bank expands to 2m thick at the south facing entrance where the stone facing is particularly well preserved. The entrance is 1.1m wide.

Meabost (136) 10a **NG 5307 1550** **S-W** **190m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

In a natural hollow on the south-west facing flank of Ben Meabost. About 80m to the north-east of the reservoir and the ruins of the abandoned settlement of Meabost. A small burn runs past the south-east side of the site.

Description

A much disturbed structure with stone built walls which measure 1m thick and surround an interior 5m in diameter. The ruins of a small, sub-rectangular, stone cell lie north to south across the centre of the site obscuring both the entrance and the east wall.

Ben Meabost 3 (139) 10b **NG 5410 1562** **S-E** **175m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose

Setting

On the front edge of a natural terrace below the south-east flank of Ben Meabost and some 50m up slope from the power line.

Description

A circular, stone and boulder, wall 1.1m thick and 0.2m high surrounding an interior which measures 5.5m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.5m thick at the east facing entrance where the foundations of a small porch can be seen. A large pile of boulders and stones lies against the north-east outer face of the wall as if recently gathered for use elsewhere.

Druim an Fhuarain 1 (154.9) 10c **NG 5670 1970** **E** **140m**

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch

Setting

On a natural terrace on the steep east facing hillside overlooking Loch Slapin. 30m up slope from pole 173 on the power line.

Description

The remains of a circular, rubble stone, bank 1.5m thick which surrounds an interior which measures 7m in diameter. A collapsed, single cell shieling overlies the eastern half of the site. The southern part of the site has been extensively robbed perhaps removing evidence for an entrance.

Druim an Fhuarain 2 (156) 10d **NG 5664 1936** **E** **120m**

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch.

AMC910

Setting

Lies in a small corrie near to the crest of the east facing slope and overlooking Loch Slapin.

Description

Lies on a negative platform, 7m in diameter, cut into the hill slope. The rear of the round house is formed by the cut into the slope, the front is a stone faced earth bank 1.4m thick.

A single, upright stone standing in the wall on the south-east side may mark the position of the entrance. This round house is incorporated into a substantial stone built boundary dyke. The relationship between house and dyke is not clear.

Druim an Fhuarain 3 (158.1) 11a NG 5678 1915 E 80m

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch

AMC 911

Setting

On a leveled natural platform on the steep east facing hillside overlooking Loch Slapin and about 40m to the east of and below the power line.

Description

The turf covered remains of a circular stone built wall 1.5m thick and 0.3m high surrounding an interior which measures 8m in diameter. Parts of the south-west and north-east quadrants of the circle have been robbed away to build a stone dyke which runs over the site from south-west to north-east. At a later date a small 2 cell shieling has been constructed on the top of the dyke in the north-east half of the round house.

Druim an Fhuarain 4 (158.2) 11b NG 5678 1915 E 80m

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch.

Setting

As Druim an Fhuarain 3 but 30m to north-west and up the slope.

Description

The turf covered remains of a circular stone built wall 1.4m thick and 0.35m high surrounding an interior which measures 7.2m in diameter. The south-west quadrant has been totally robbed away, perhaps to build the dykes which abut the southern part of the site. A large boulder is incorporated into the surviving section of the wall on the south side of the circle. There is no obvious entrance.

Druim an Fhuarain 5 (322) 11c NG 5662 1910 S-E 85m

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch.

AMC 909

Setting

Set against the east side of a small outcrop on the east facing hillside above Loch Slapin.

Description

A well built circular stone wall 1.3m in thickness and 1m high, surrounding an interior measuring 6m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.7m in thickness at the well preserved south-east facing entrance. The interior has, at a later date, been sub-divided by a narrow stone wall creating two smaller cells. A poorly built stone dyke abuts the east side of the round house just to the north side of the entrance.

Druim an Fhuarain 6 (153) 11d **NG 5660 1994** **S-E** **140m**

Detailed survey 1998 by M. Wildgoose and S. Birch.

Setting

Lies on a natural platform on the east facing hillside overlooking Loch Slapin.

Description

A very degraded, circular, structure measuring 13m in overall diameter. A short length of wall facing survives on the north-east side otherwise the site is reduced to a low earth bank. A small single cell shieling overlies the southern side of the circle.

Keppoch Plantation (178) 11e **NG 5552 1847** **S-E** **135m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

AMc 901

Setting

Lies on a natural terrace on the lower south-east facing flank of Nead an Fhir-eoin, just above the south-west corner of the Keppoch Plantation. A small burn passes close by the north-west side of the site.

Description

A large circular turf bank, 1.5m thick and almost 1m high, which has been reveted on its inner face with well laid stonework, surrounding an interior which measures 6m in diameter. A somewhat degraded entrance, 2m wide, faces to the south-east. The wall does not appear to thicken at the entrance.

Lag Mór (201) 11f **NG 5176 1302** **S-W** **50m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies at the foot of a gentle south-west facing slope within a natural bowl which looks to the south, over the sea, to the Island of Rum. A dry burn crosses the bowl in an east to west direction.

Description

A sub-circular stone and earth bank 1.2m thick which still retains part of its slab facing, surrounding an interior which measures 4.5m in diameter. The bank expands to 2.1m thick at the north-east facing entrance, creating an elongated entrance passage. A boulder boundary, which protrudes through the peat, passes close by the east side of the site, curves around the south side and disappears under the peat in a southerly direction.

Allt Luig Mhóir 1 (209) 12a **NG 5254 1324** **S** **105m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies on a natural, south facing, terrace atop the south-east facing cliffs with open views across the Sound of Sleat.

Description

A circular turf bank, 1m thick, faced with slabs of stone set on their edges surrounding an interior which measures 3.5m in diameter. The bank expands to 1.8m in thickness at the offset, south facing, entrance. A small single cell shieling has destroyed the eastern side of the entrance. Although this is a small structure it bears all the characteristics of a typical 'Skye' round house.

Allt Luig Mhóir 2 (211) 12b **NG 5255 1313** **S-E** **70m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies in a shallow valley, at the foot of s-east facing cliffs and close to the south-west bank of the Allt Luig Mhóir. The site has no open views.

Description

A circular turf bank, now heather covered, faced both in and out with laid stonework. The bank is 1.5m thick and 1m high and surrounds an interior which measures 6.5m in diameter. The bank expands to 1.8m thick at the south-east facing entrance. A small, stone built, pen or shieling has been constructed within the north-west quadrant of the interior. A shallow stone bench juts out from the interior face of the bank immediately to the north side of the entrance.

Glasnakille 1 (216) 12c **NG 5374 1344** **-** **90m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Situated in a shallow and very wet hollow on the south-east facing hillside to the north of the township of Glasnakille. The site has no open views at all.

Description

An oval, heather covered, mound of stone 1m high which has a well built arc of stone walling around its' southern end. The mound lies on a north to south alignment and measures 7.5m by 6m overall. Only 0.2m of the top of the arc of walling shows above the surface but a further 1.1m (depth) of faced wall lies buried below the peat overburden.

Glasnakille 2 (226) 12d NG 5325 1284 S 75m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies in a shallow bowl at the foot of a south facing hillside about 200m west of the Township of Glasnakille. The site has restricted views to the south.

Description

The degraded remains of a circular, stone faced, earth bank 1m thick which surrounds an internal area which measures 4.5m in diameter. No obvious entrance survives. A large two celled, stone built shieling lies within the remains of the round house.

Glasnakille 3 (230) 12e NG 5280 1240 E 70m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

On the summit of a low rise with open views, over a shallow valley, to the Sound of Sleat to the east.

Description

The well preserved remains of a circular earth bank which is faced on both sides with massive slabs of stone. The bank is 1m thick and surrounds an internal area which measures 4m in diameter. The wall expands at the slab lined entrance to 1.5m thick creating an impressive passageway. Several of the slabs facing the interior of the bank have collapsed inwards revealing the earth core behind.

An Carnach (235) 13a NG 5590 2076 E 120m

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

At the foot of the east facing flank of An Carnach, about 8m to the south of the point where a burn creates a small waterfall. Lies just inside the forestry fence.

Description

A circular, earth and rubble bank faced on both sides with a mixture of slabs of stone and laid walling. The bank is 1.6m thick, 1.1m high and surrounds an interior which measures 5.2m in diameter. The walls expand slightly, to 1.8m thick, at the east facing entrance where there is a well preserved step up into the interior. The entrance is 1.4m wide at the outside and 0.75m wide at the inside. A well preserved round house.

Arinacreaga (245) - **NG 5630 2080** **E** **50m**

Not surveyed due to site covered with conifers 'cut to waste' at time of survey. Details from 1997 survey.

Setting

Lies on a natural terrace on the steep, east facing, hillside which overlooks Loch Slapin.

Description

A much disturbed, circular, structure which measures 8.8m in overall diameter. The walls, where they survive are constructed of large boulders and earth. A particularly large boulder, lies on the south side of the entrance, which faces to the east.

Ringill Plantation 1 (253) 13b **NG 5641 1792** **S-E** **70m**

Detailed survey 1999 by M. and J. Wildgoose.

Setting

Lies under conifers on the, open, south-east facing hillside which overlooks Loch Slapin.

Description

A circular earth bank , faced both in and out with slabs of stone set on edge. The wall, where visible is 1.1m thick, 0.3m high and surrounds an interior which measures 7m in diameter. The outer face of the wall is visible for almost the entire circuit. The inner face however is mostly obscured by a ruinous, multi-celled, structure which fills almost all the interior. The wall expands slightly to 1.3m thick at the south-east facing 1.1m wide entrance.

Ringill plantation 2, (258) 13c **NG 5612 1731** **S-E** **40 m**

Surveyed 1997 by M. Wildgoose for the John Muir Trust.

Setting

This massive structure lies on a natural platform on gently sloping south-east facing ground. Steeply rising ground lies to the north-west but elsewhere the aspect is open with the hillside falling gently to the sea. Dun Ringill lies on the coast some 400 m to the south-east. A massive, earth, dyke overlies the outer edge of the north-east side of the structure.

Description

A sub-circular ,earth bank, 1.3 m thick and 1.1m high, faced on both sides by stone slabs, surrounding an interior which measures 12.5 m north to south by 11 m east to west. The wall expands to 3 m thick at the south-east facing entrance where two large stone post mark the outer limits of an extended passageway. The post to the south-west side of the entrance has partially fallen into the passage. A second gap through the wall, on the north side of the site, may have been caused by the passage of cattle into the interior.

Surveyed Round Houses outwith Strathaird

The Balmacara Estate

Name	illus.	OS Grid Ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Coille Mor A, Balmacara</u>	14a	NG 8058 2920	S-E	130m

Surveyed by M. Wildgoose 1994 for The National Trust for Scotland (NG 82NW 42)

Setting

Lies on gently sloping south-east facing ground on the north-east side of a tributary of the Balmacara Burn. Now lies under dense birch woodland.

Description

A much disturbed drystone wall 1.1 m thick and 0.25m high, surrounding an interior which measures 12 m in diameter. The wall appears to thicken at the south-east facing entrance but the remains are here too disturbed to be certain. A low and very wet rise, to the north-west of the remains has slumped over the western side of the round house obscuring part of the circumference.

<u>Coille Mor B, Balmacara</u>	14b	NG 8070 2945	S-E	150m
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Surveyed by M. Wildgoose 1994 for The National Trust for Scotland (NG 82 NW 45)

Setting

Lies in a small side valley running north-west from a tributary of the Balmacara Burn. The site is enclosed to the north-east and south-west by the sides of the valley,. The ground to the north-west rises steeply out of the valley while that to the south-east falls rapidly down to the burn. A small burn passes the site on it's east side.

Description

A much disturbed, circular, drystone wall 1.6 m thick and 0.35m high, surrounding an interior which measures about 6 m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.5 m thick at the south-east facing entrance forming an extended passage. The east side of this round house, including the entrance survives in a better state than the west side, which is very disturbed.

An Carn, Erbusaig 14c **NG 7707 2988** **S-E** **70 m**

Surveyed by M. Wildgoose 1994 for The National Trust for Scotland (NG 72NE 11)

Setting

Lies in a small fold on the south-east flank of An Carn. The nearest fresh water lies 120 m south.

Description

A circular stone wall 1 m thick and 0.3m high, surrounding an interior measuring 4 m in diameter. The east facing entrance lies between standard terminals. A well preserved site.

Creag Loisgte A, Kyle of Lochalsh 14d **NG 7703 2740** **S-E** **70m**

Surveyed 1996 by M. Wildgoose for The National Trust for Scotland

Setting

Lies on a small shelf overlooking a wet, heather covered, basin below the end of Creag Loisgte. The ground drops away steeply to the coast immediately to the south of the site.

Description

A circular stone wall 1.5 to 2.0 m thick surrounding an interior measuring 11 m in diameter. The entrance must once have been on the south-east side where the wall is now much disturbed. This site protrudes through the peat and more may lie below the surface.

Creag Loisgte B, Kyle of Lochalsh, 14e **NG 7694 2730** **S-E** **80 m**

Surveyed 1996 by M. Wildgoose for The National Trust for Scotland

Setting

Lies on a natural platform at the foot of an east facing rocky slope. Overlooks the same wet basin as Creag Loisgte A.

Description

A much disturbed stone wall 1.5 to 2.0 m thick surrounding an interior which measures 6 m in diameter. The site is too disturbed to determine the position of the entrance. This site also protrudes through the peat and more wall (height) may lie buried.

Forestry Commission.

Name	illus.	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Brochal Forest, Raasay</u>	Fig. 15a	NG 5810 4481	S-E	20 m

Surveyed 1993 by M. Wildgoose for Forest Enterprise.

Setting

Lies just to the east side of the forest track, on the old raised shore-line, above low cliffs which look out to the Inner Sound - under mature conifers. Gently rising ground lies to the west. No fresh water within immediate vicinity.

Description

A circular earth bank 1.5 m thick and 0.5m high, faced in and out with large stones, surrounding an interior measuring 6 m in diameter. A standard entrance, 1 m wide faces to the east. Site now overlain by mature conifers.

<u>Port Aslaig, Sleat</u>	15b	NG 7593 1726	S-E	120 m
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Surveyed 1989 by M. Wildgoose for Forest Enterprise.

Setting

Lies on a narrow, natural, platform on steeply sloping south-east facing ground, overlooking the Sound of Sleat. A massive dome of a hillside lies immediately to the north-west side of the site. A fast flowing burn lies just metres to the south-west of the round house. Immediately below the site is a second platform with the ruins of at least one more round house.

Description

A circular earth bank 1.1 m thick and 0.4m high, faced in and out with massive slabs of stone, surrounding an interior which measures 6 m in diameter. The wall expands to 2 m thick at the south facing entrance forming an extended passage.

<u>Leitir Fura, Sleat,</u>	15c	NG 7325 1570	S-E	45 m
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Surveyed 1996 by M. Wildgoose and G. Kozikowski for Forest Enterprise

Setting

Lies on a level platform between the coast and the steeply rising ground overlooking the Sound of Sleat. A fast flowing burn passes 25 m to the west of the site. Until recently this site lay under mature conifer woodland, the site now lies in open grassland by the forest road.

Description

A fragment of a circular, stone wall 2 m thick and 0.2m high. If the surviving arc of walling is extended to a full circle it would surround an interior measuring 18 m in diameter. The interior of the circle and much of the wall has been cut to pieces by the forestry plough. There are still 70 tree stumps root-fast within the area of the interior. A mass of random stonework overlies the southern side of this structure. An unusual site, which may or may not be a round house.

Torrin Estate

Loch Slapin, Strath 15d **NG 5520 2250** **East** **110 m**

Surveyed 1991 by M. Wildgoose for the John Muir Trust.

Setting

Lies on level ground at the foot of a steeply sloping north-east facing hillside. Looks across Strath Mor to Beinn na Cro. A fast flowing burn lies some tens of metres to the north.

Description

A circular drystone wall, 1 m thick and 0.35m high, surrounding an interior measuring 4 m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.2 m at the south-east facing entrance which is well preserved and 1.1 m wide. The entire structure is set in a shallow scoop cut into the base of the hill.

Suisinish Farm

Ben Suardal, Strath 15e **NG 6160 1912** **S-E** **130 m**

Surveyed 1990 by R. Miket and M. Wildgoose for Dualchas.

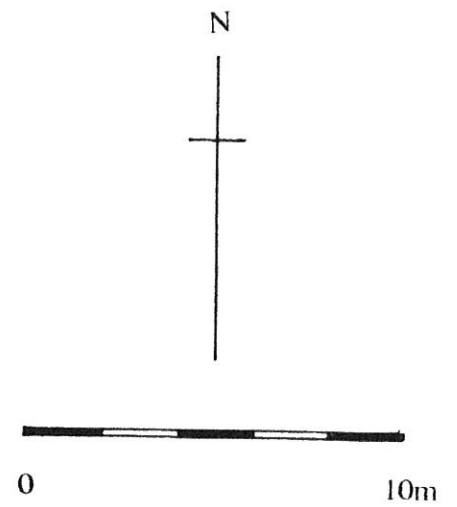
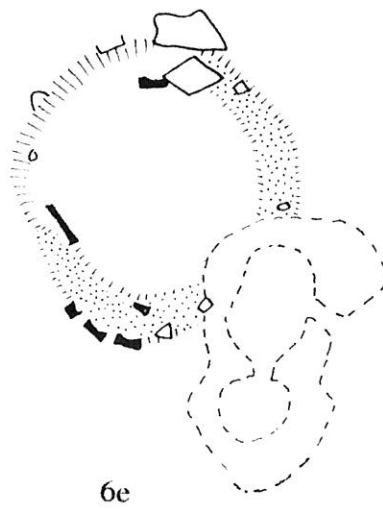
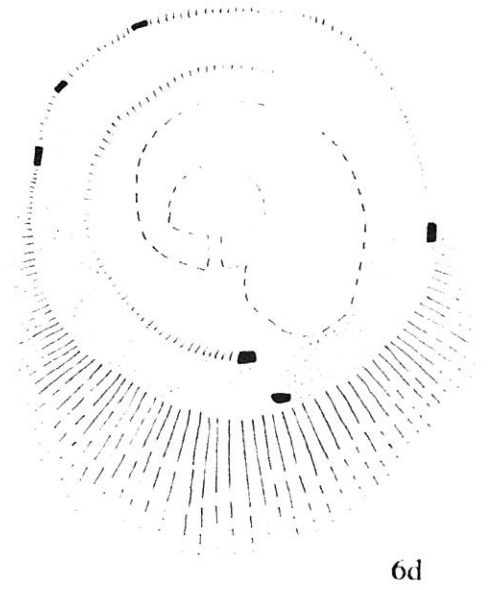
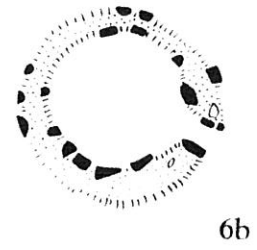
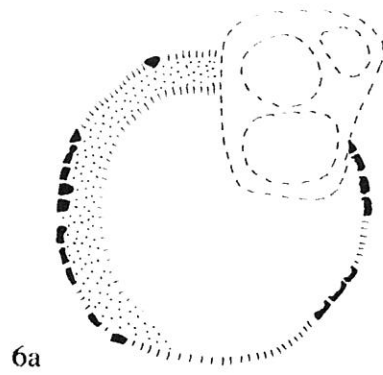
Setting

Lies on the south side of a small natural mound, on a north facing hillside. A fast flowing burn lies 200 m down-slope to the north.

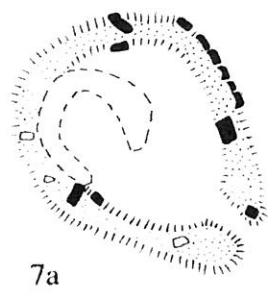
Description

A much disturbed, circular, earth bank 1.2 m thick and 0.4m high, faced in and out with slabs and boulders, surrounding an interior measuring 6 m in diameter. The wall expands to 2.5 m thick at the south facing entrance forming an extended entrance passage.

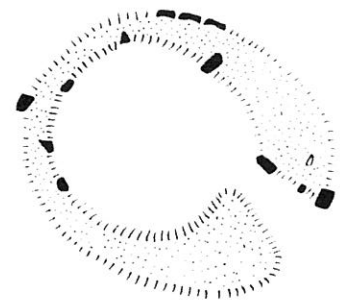
A small, stone walled, enclosure lies to the south-east of, and abuts, the wall of the round house. Both round house and enclosure appear to be of one build and may be contemporary.



illus. 6 : Surveyed Round Houses



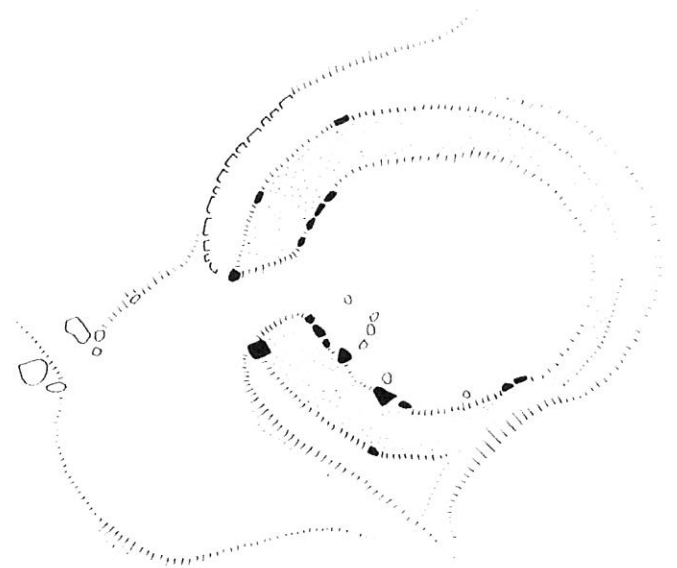
7a



7b



7c



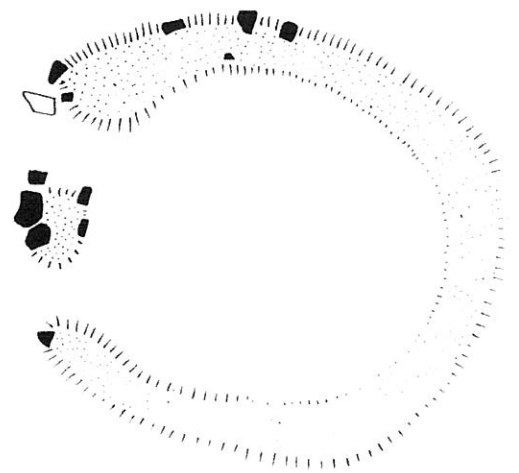
7d



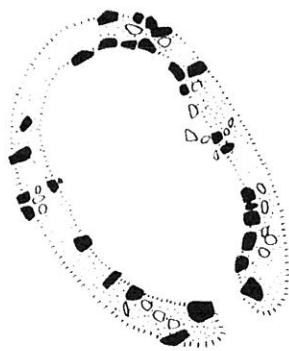
illus. 7 : Surveyed Round Houses



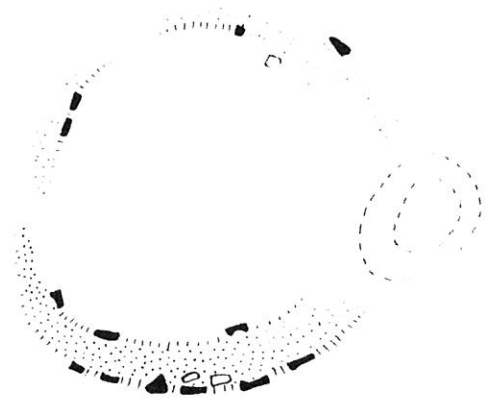
8a



8b



8c



8d



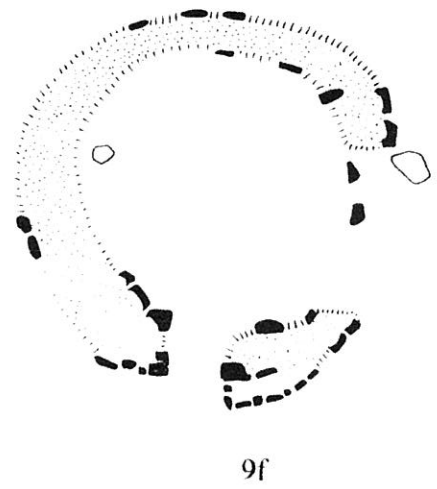
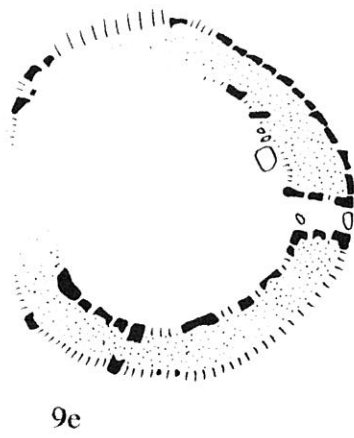
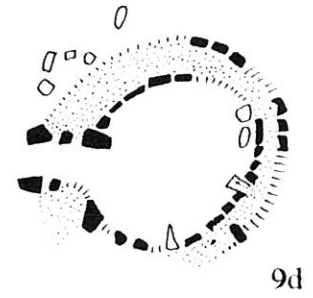
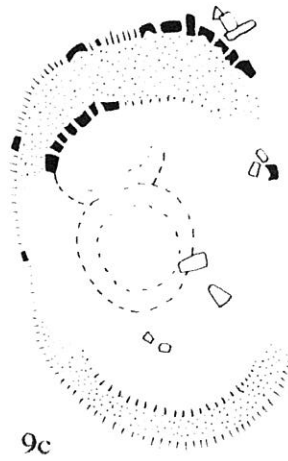
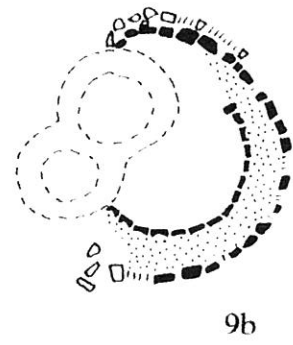
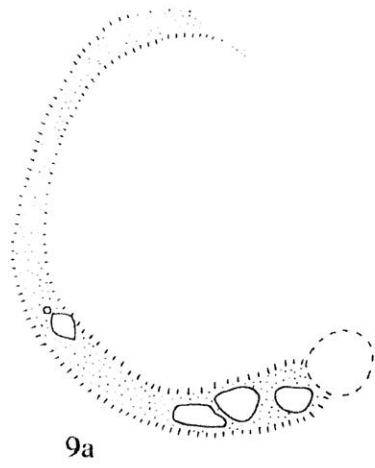
8e



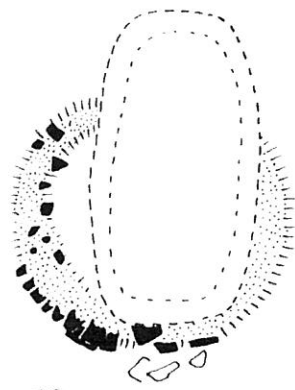
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10m

illus. 8 : Surveyed Round Houses



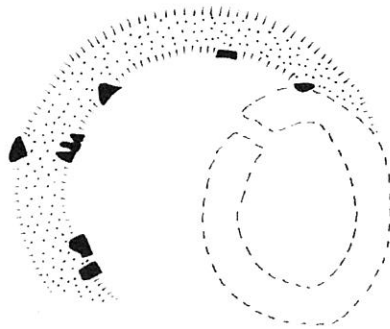
illus. 9 : Surveyed Round Houses



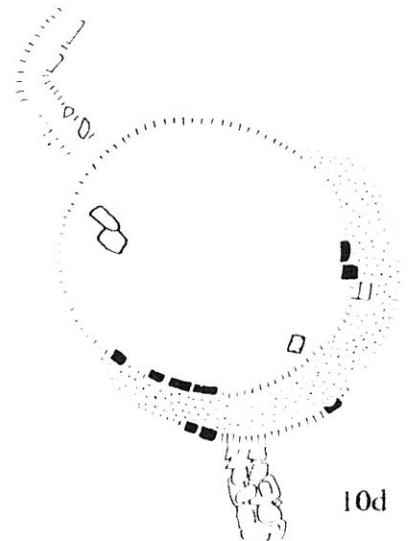
10a



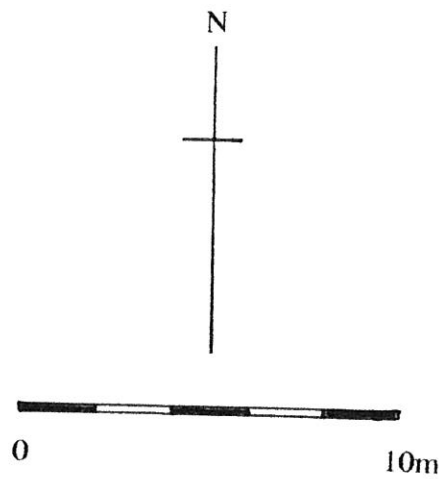
10b



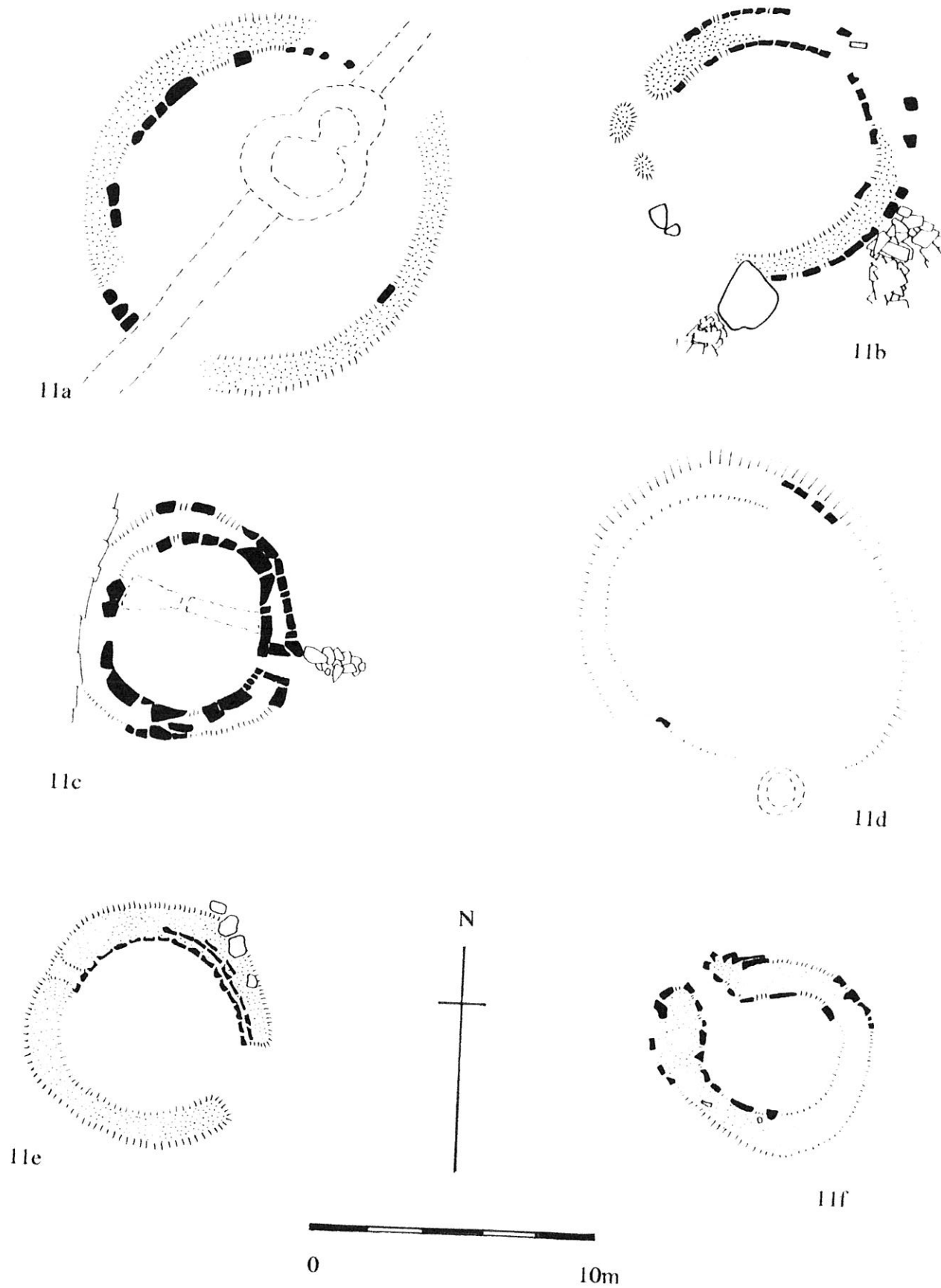
10c



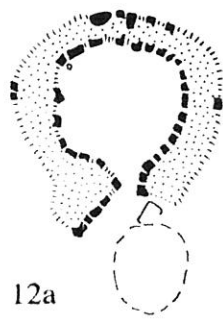
10d



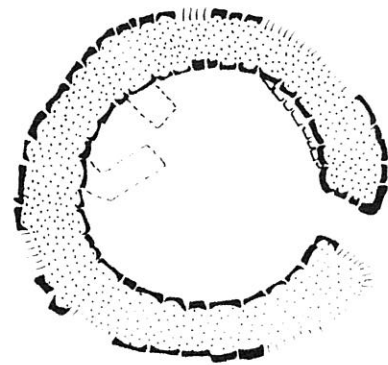
illus. 10 : Surveyed Round Houses



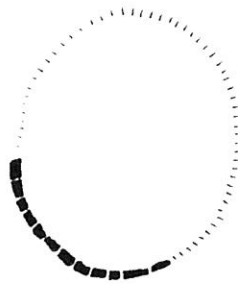
illus. 11 : Surveyed round Houses



12a



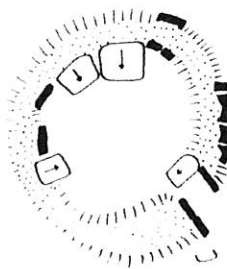
12b



12c



12d



12e



illus. 12 : Surveyed Round Houses



13a



13b



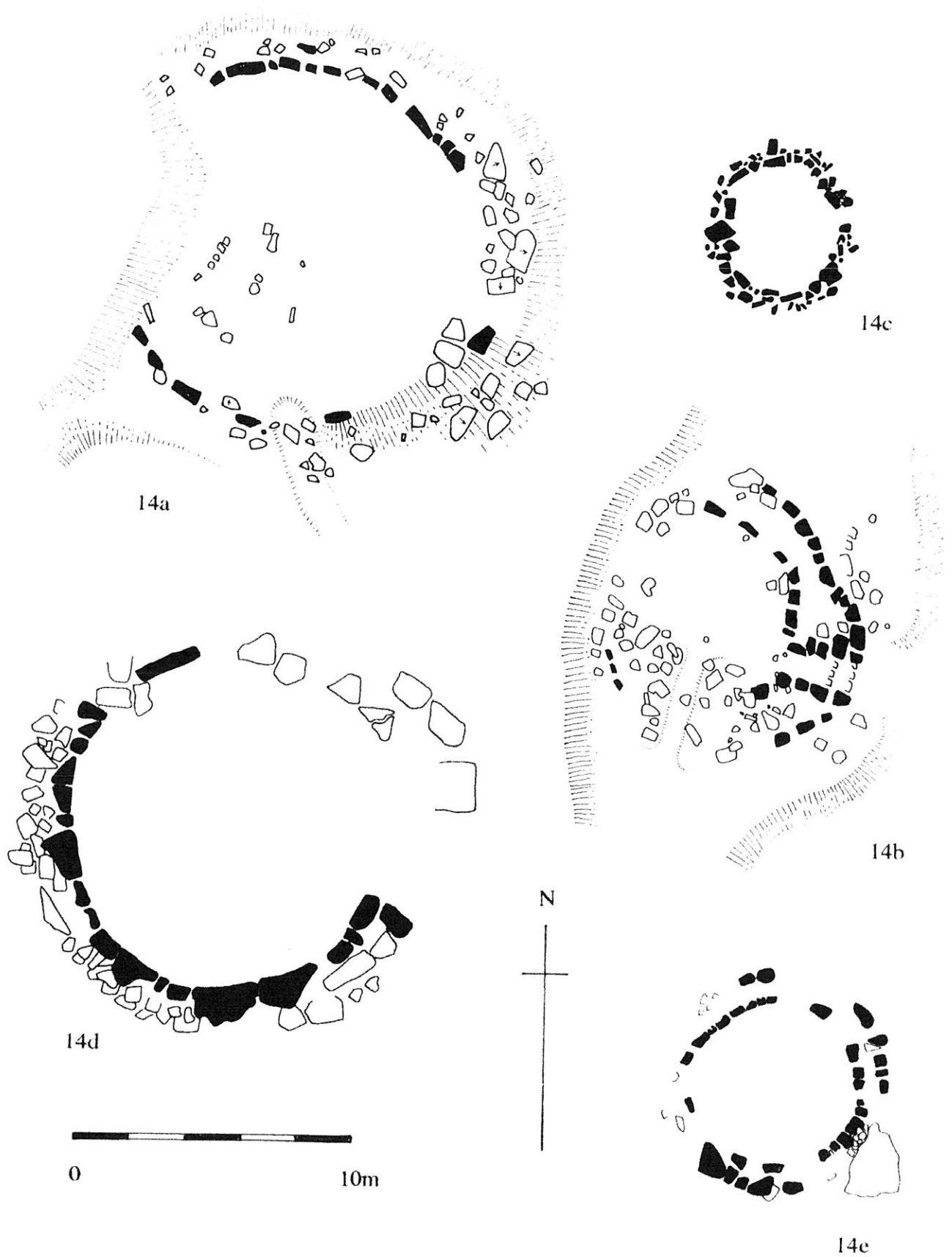
13c



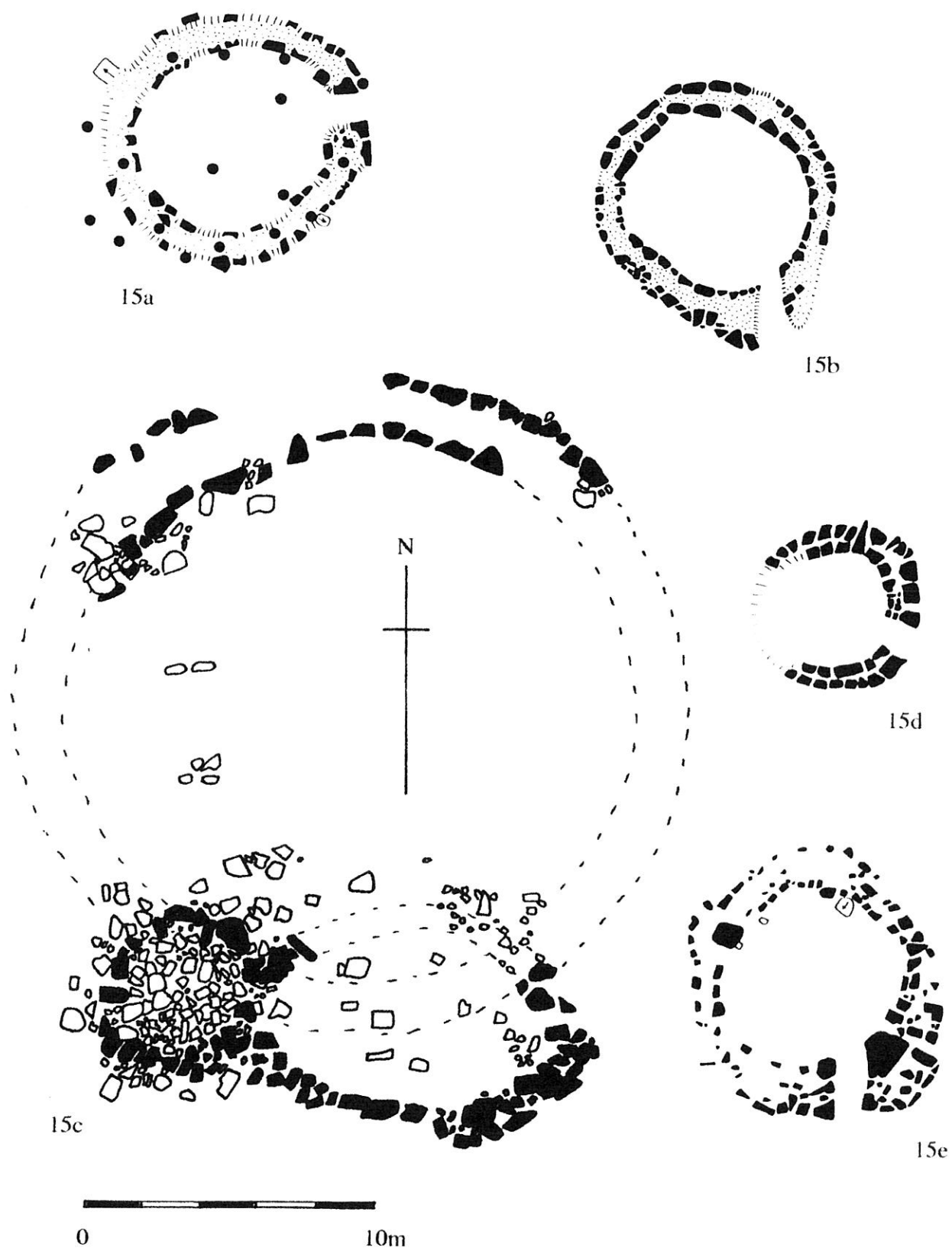
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10m

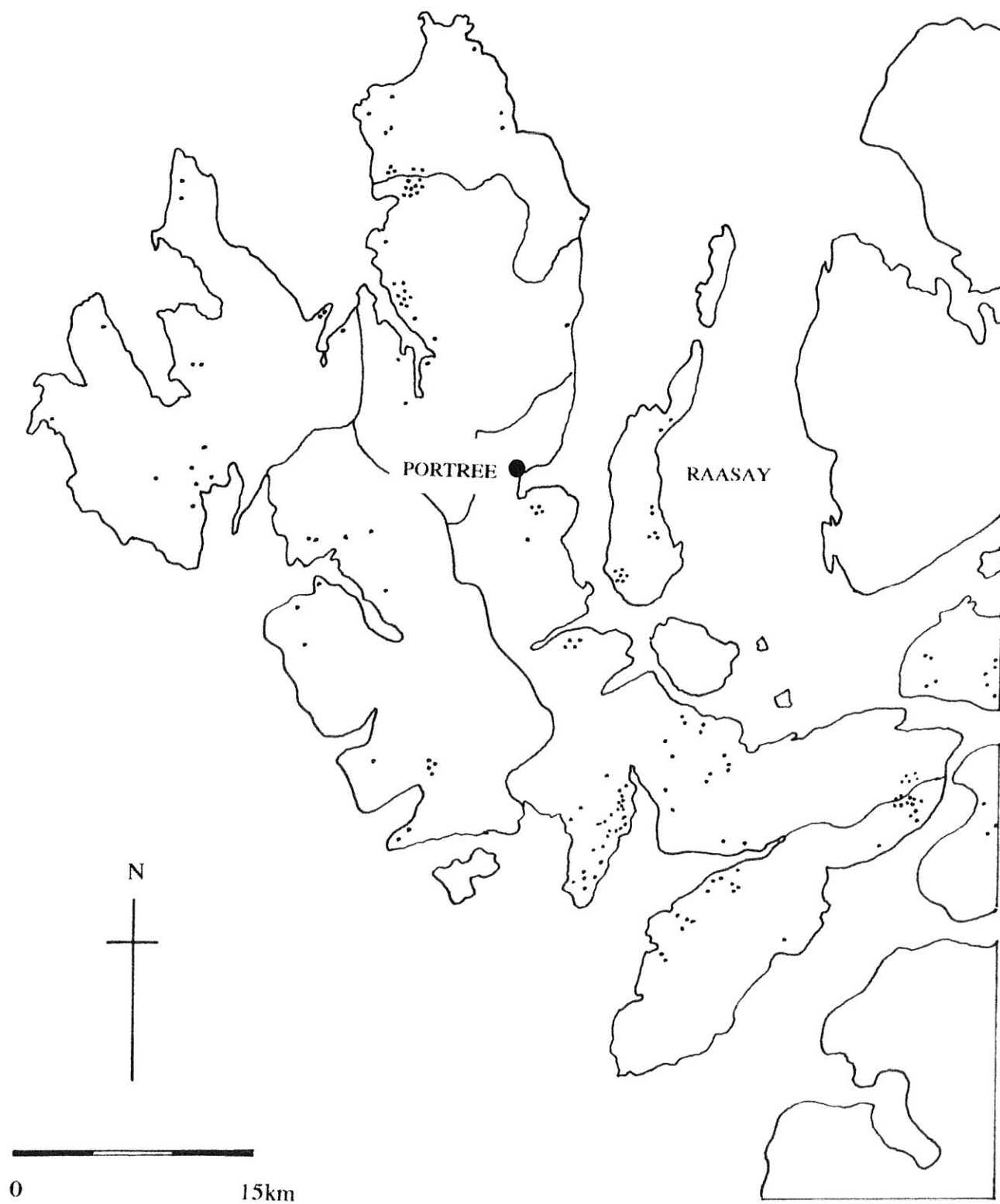
illus. 13 : Surveyed Round Houses



illus. 14 : Surveyed Round Houses



illus. 15 : Surveyed Round Houses

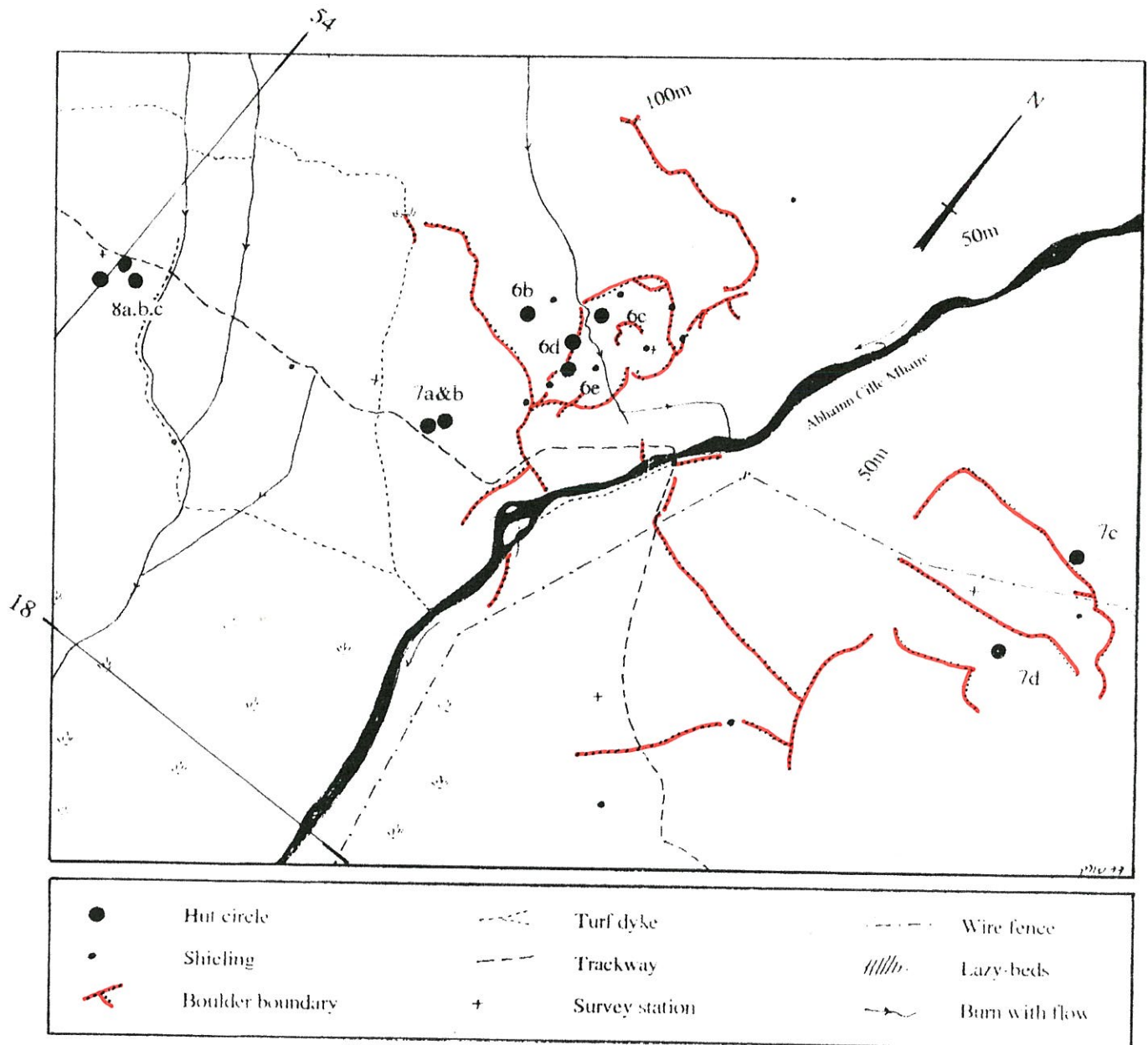


illus. 16 : Map - Distribution of Round Houses - Skye, Raasay, Lochalsh and Glenelg.

This illustration taken from :-

Cille Mhaire Basin. An Archaeological Survey of a
Relict Landscape. M. Wildgoose 1999.

Copies can be found in the archives of the John Muir Trust and Martin Wildgoose.

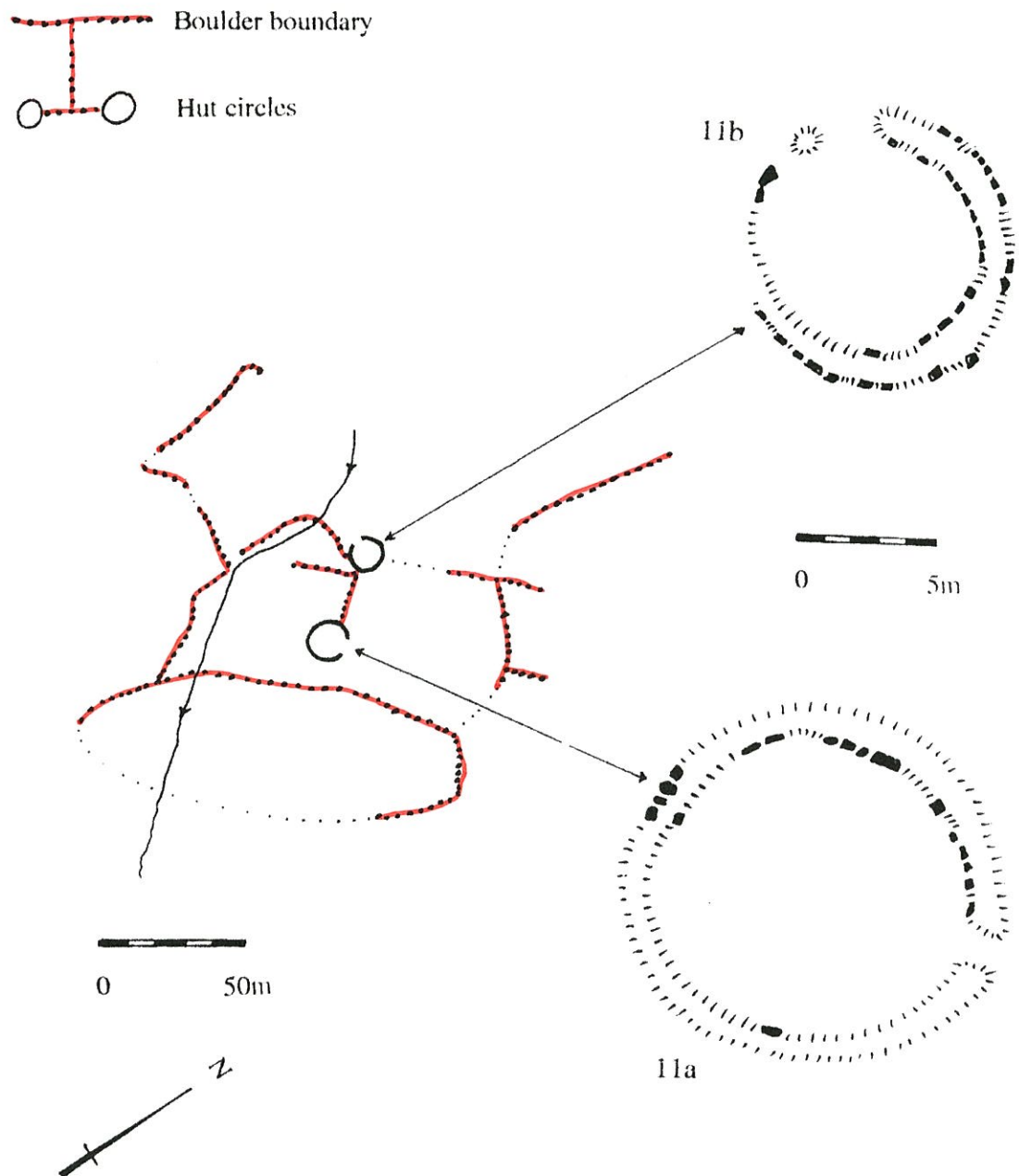


illus. 17 : The landscape associated with Round Houses at Kilmarie, Strathaird.

This illustration taken from :-

Druim an Fhuarain. An Archaeological Survey.
M. Wildgoose 1998

Copies can be found in the archives of the John Muir Trust and Martin Wildgoose.



illus. 18 : The landscape associated with Round Houses at Druim an Fhuarain, Strathaird

Round houses found during survey but not surveyed in detail. (i.e. no plan)

Between 1989 and 1999 a further 10 round houses were found during intensive survey on the Sconser Estate, The Orbost Estate and in general survey at various points around Skye and the close mainland. These are listed below, with a general description of both location and site. The figure in brackets is the site number in the relevant survey report. Copies of all the surveys mentioned below are held in the Dualchas Archive in Portree. Copies of all other surveys, used in compiling this report, are held with the relevant sponsoring body i.e. The Strathaird and Torrin surveys are held in the archive of the John Muir Trust. The records of general survey are held by Martin Wildgoose and the Dualchas Archive in Portree

The Orbost Estate Orbost survey commissioned by Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Name	Size	OS Grid ref	Aspect	Height OD
Creagan Ban (2)	13.5m	NG 2508 4516	N-E	40m

Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose, S. Birch and G. Kozikowski.

Setting

Lies on level ground at the foot of the north flank of Creagan Ban. The site is covered with rushes.

Description

A degraded stone bank 1.6m thick surrounds a central area which measures 10.2m in diameter. A collapsed shieling overlies the eastern half of the site.

Beinn Bhuidhe (25)	11.2m	NG 2490 4332	S-E	130m
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Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

In a blind corrie below the S-E flank of Beinn Bhuidhe.

Description

A circular bank of earth 2m thick faced on both sides with large boulders surrounding an interior which measures 7.2m in diameter. The bank expands to 3m thick at the east facing entrance.

Name	Size	OS Grid Ref.	Aspect	Height OD
Cnoc Feannaig (31)	7m	NG 2484 4249	S-E	120m

Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies at the rear of a natural terrace just below the summit of Cnoc Feannaig and about 80m above the upper limit of the forestry plantation.

Description

A sub-circular stone faced bank 1.2m thick surrounding an interior which measures 4.6m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.5m thick at the south-east facing entrance which is 0.7m wide. A small reveted platform lies immediately in front of the entrance.

Cnoc na Pairce (94)	15m	NG 2527 4157	E	60m
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Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Lies on a natural terrace, at the foot of steeply sloping ground overlooking Loch Bharasaig. Now covered with many mature conifers.

Description

A circular stone faced bank 2m thick surrounding an interior which measures 11m in diameter. The wall expands to 3m thick at the south-east facing entrance. The wall and the interior have been cut through, in several places, by the forestry plough and many trees now grow within and on the structure.

The Sconser Estate Sconser Estate Survey commissioned by the John Muir Trust.

Leathad Dubh 1 (54)	8.8m	NG 5117 3106	N-W	105m
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Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose, Steven Birch and G. Kozikowski.

Setting

Lies on a natural, north facing, terrace on the lower north-west flank of Glamaig, overlooking Loch Sligachan. Power pole 213 lies 30m down slope to the north-east.

Description

A Sub-circular Boulder faced bank 1.3m thick which surrounds an internal area which measures 4.7m in diameter. The wall expands to 1.8m thick at the 1m wide entrance. Built within the north side interior is a small boulder built cell.

Name	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
Leathad Dubh 2 (61)	7.4m	NG 5150 3115	-	140m

Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

Lies in a small hidden hollow on the lower north-west flank of Glamaig.

Description

A very degraded earth and boulder bank 1.4m thick surrounding an internal area which measures 4.6m in diameter. The bank expands to 2m thick at the east facing entrance. The round house has been robbed to provide material for 4 small shielings which overlie the site.

Leathad Dubh 3 (60)	9m	NG 5150 3136	N-W	90m
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Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

On a natural terrace on the lower N-W flank of Glamaig.

Description

A very degraded, sub-circular, stone faced bank 1.2m thick surrounding an interior which measures 9m in diameter. The bank expands to 1.5m at the south-east facing entrance which is 1m wide. Attached to the north-east side of the round house is a bow sided, round ended enclosure which measures 12m by 6m over walls 1.5m thick. The relationship between the round house and the enclosure is not clear.

Leathad Dubh 4 (57)	12m	NG 5127 3127	N-W	80m
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Surveyed 1998 by M. Wildgoose et al.

Setting

On a natural terrace on the lower north-west facing flank of Glamaig.

Description

A very degraded, 12m diameter, stone walled round house. The stone from the wall of the round house has been used to build a 2 celled shieling which overlies the site.

General Survey

Name	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
Staffin Lodge	??	NG 4858 6833	N-W	8m

Surveyed 1999 by M. Wildgoose and G. Kozikowski

Setting

Lies on the top of a small raised himmock on the the shore edge close to the east bank of the Stenscholl River at Staffin.

Description

A very degraded, circular, earth and stone, bank 1.1m thick surrounding an interior some 4.5m in diameter. The N-E quadrant of the bank is missing. There is no visible entrance.

Breum Phort	9m	NG 4942 6800	N-E	8m
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Surveyed 1999 by M. Wildgoose and G. Kozikowski

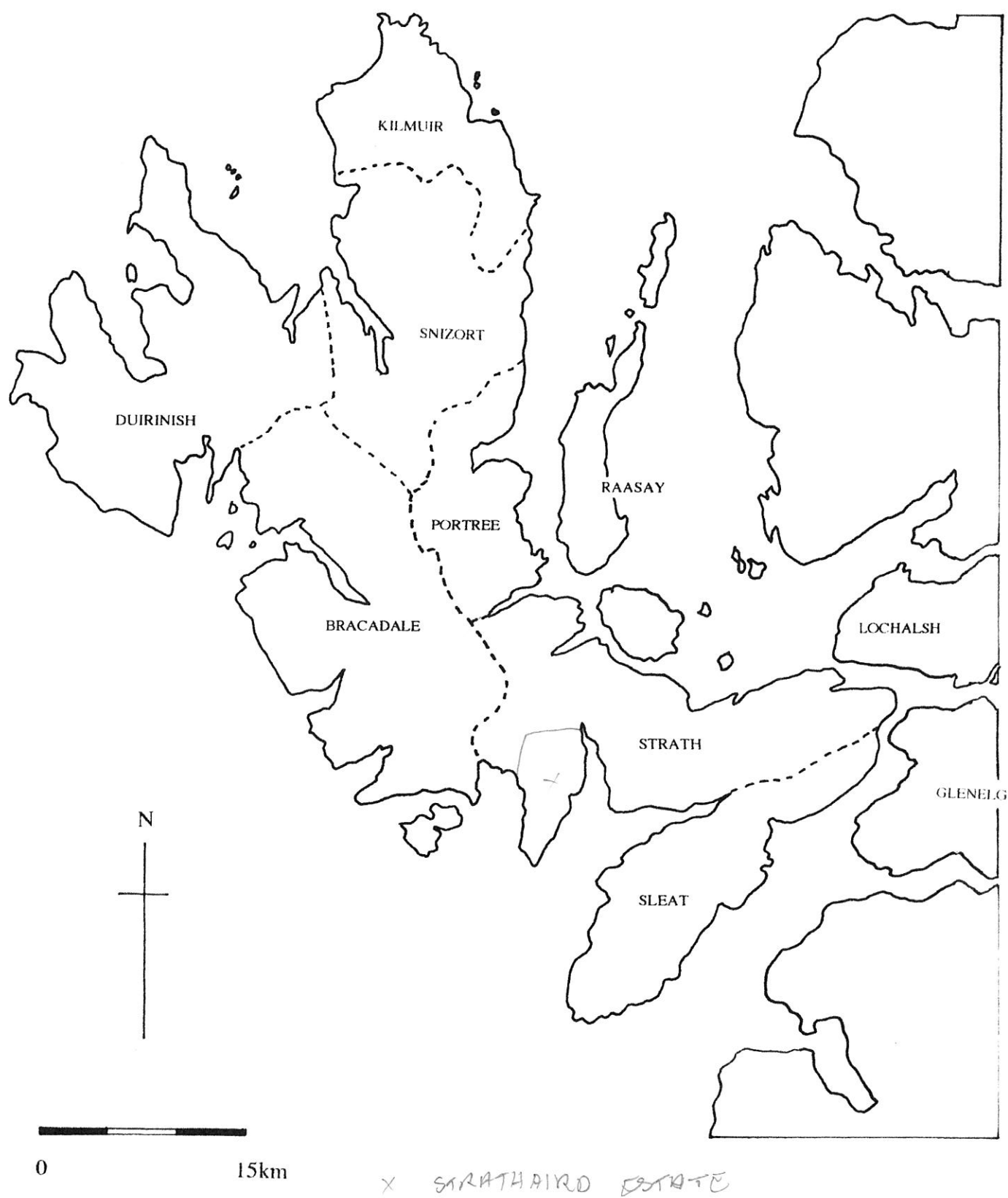
Setting

Lies on level ground at the foot of the N-E facing cliffs close to the Staffin Slipway. A modern footpath has cut through the N-E half of the site.

Description

A circular, earth and stone, bank 1.1m thick surrounding an interior 6.8m in diameter. Eight metres of the wall, on the N-E side, has been destroyed by a modern footpath removing all trace of the entrance to the site.

END



illus. 4 : The Parishes of Skye

Round Houses from the Skye Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)

The round houses lifted from the SMR have been presented Parish by Parish (see parish map)

* indicates a plan on the index card

An underlined name indicates that the site has been visited and confirmed as a round house.

DUIRINISH

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
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Waterstein	NG 14NW 3	7m	NG 1428 4765	S-W	-
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Lies in a small hollow below Waterstein cliffs.

A circular turf bank 7m in overall diameter.

<u>Galtragill</u>	NG 15SE 5*	12.5m	NG 1805 5510	S-E	65m
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Lies on a heather covered knoll to north side of Galtrigil burn.

A circular, stone built wall, 1.5m thick surrounding an internal area 9.5m in diameter. A 1.2m wide entrance faces to the south-east. Interior is partitioned.

<u>Osdale</u>	NG 24SW 50	5.5m	NG 2290 4330	N	175m
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On the lower slopes of the north flank of Healabhal Beag.

A circular boulder wall 1m thick surrounding an internal area 3.5m diameter. A 0.5 wide entrance faces to the north

<u>Suardal Burn 1</u>	NG 25SW 7	9.5m	NG 2473 5124	S-E	90m
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A circular, stone faced, earth bank 2m thick surrounding an internal area 5.5m diameter. The entrance lies in the north-north-west.

<u>Suardal Burn 2</u>	NG 25SW 7	10m	NG 2474 5136	SE	90m
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A circular, stone wall 1.5m thick surrounding an internal area 7m in diameter. No visible entrance.

<u>Dun</u> <u>Gearymore</u>	NG 26SW 1* 6 - 8m	NG 2368 6490	W	70m
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Lying on level ground to the north side of Dun Gearymore are the ruins of 7 circular, stone walled, huts ranging from 6m to 8m in overall diameter. There are no visible entrances.

Dun Borrafiach	NG 26SW 2* -	NG 2355 6370	W	75m
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Lying around the south and west sides of Dun Borrafiach are the ruins of several small, stone walled, huts. These may be shielings.

Dun Flashadder	NG 35SE 3 7 - 8m	NG 3511 5349	NW	55m
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On the west and south sides of Dun Flashadder are the remains of two circular huts 7m and 8m diameter. Possible two more lie close by.

Greshornish	NG 35NW 1 8m	NG 3439 5511	SW	50m
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A circular stone wall 1.4m thick all round surrounding an internal area 5.2m diameter.

Greshornish	NG 35SW 6 8m	NG 3458 5498	SW	50m
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A circular stone wall 1.5m thick surrounding an internal area 5m in diameter.

BRACADALE

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
Rubh an Dunain	NG 31NE 4 -		NG 3900 1600	S	10m

In the neighbourhood of Loch na H'Airde are two groups of huts. These huts cannot now be located.

<u>Sleadale Burn</u>	NG 32NW 5	10m	NG 3271 2978	W	-
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Lies on the west facing flank of Preshal Mor by the east side of the Sleadale Burn.
A sub-circular stone wall 1m thick surrounding an interior which measures 8m in diameter.
The wall expands to 2m thick at the west facing entrance.

An Cruachan	NG 32SE 3	9m	NG 3716 2291	NW	150m
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On the north-west flank of An Cruachan, just to the west of the Kraiknish Burn.
A circular stone wall 1.5 - 2m thick surrounding an interior 5m in diameter. The entrance faces to the north.

Dun Mor 1	NG 33NW 4*	10 - 11m	NG 3399 3905	S	100m
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Within the eastern angle of the dun is a sub-circular hut which measures 10 - 11m in diameter over a wall 2m thick. No visible entrance.

Dun Mor 2	NG 33NW 4*	7 - 8m	NG 3399 3905	S	100m
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Within the later annex on the north-east side of the dun is a sub-circular hut which measures 7 - 8m in diameter over a wall 1m thick. No visible entrance.

Dun Ardtreck	NG 33NW 5* -		NG 3350 3581	NE	30m
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Within the annex on the north-east side of the dun is a possible hut circle. Site identified by E.W.Mackie. (see Current Archaeology 2 May 1967 for plan.)

Ard an t - Sabhail	NG 33NW 9	5.5m	NG 3229 3320	NE	135m
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About 1km to the west of the township of Ard an t - Sabhail is a circular stone walled hut measuring 5.5m in diameter. The wall is constructed of slabs of stone set on edge.

<u>Meadale Burn</u>	NG 33NE 31	12m	NG 3975 3508	SW	150m
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By the south side of the Meadale Burn. A circular stone walled hut measuring 12m in diameter. No visible entrance. Now in a very degraded condition. Very difficult to find.

Coireag Mhor	NG 34SE 2*	8 - 9m	NG 3802 4058	NW	150m
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On the brow of rising ground above Coireag Mhor.

A circular structure 8 - 9m in diameter over walls C. 1.2m thick. The entrance, 1.3m wide faces to the east.

Allt a Choire a Ghreadaidh	NG 42SW 3	11m 6m 5.5m	NG 4140 2250	W	80m
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On the lower west flank of Sgurr nan Gobhar and south of the Allt a Choire a Ghreadaidh are the remains of three circular stone huts.

- A. 11m diameter over walls 2.5m thick. The entrance faces to the west
- B. 5.5m internally within walls ? m thick. May be a shieling.
- C. 6m diameter over walls 1m thick. The entrance faces to the north-west.

<u>Glen Brittle</u>	NG 42SW 4	8m	NG 4141 2179	W	80m
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On the west facing hillside overlooking the Glen Brittle Hut.

Circular hut 8m in diameter over walls 1m thick. The entrance faces to the east.

<u>Tungadal River</u>	NG 44SW 2	8m	NG 4094 4001	N	110m
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On the south bank of the Tungadal River.

A circular hut measuring 8m in diameter over walls 1.5m thick.

KILMUIR

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Uig</u>	NG 36SE 5	3 x 13m	NG 3874 6477	W	110m

On the west facing slope, just to the east side of the road are the remains of three huts. Peat covered clearance heaps lie all around.

- A. 13m in diameter over walls spread to 3m in width. The wall expands to 4m in width at the south facing entrance.

- Balgown** NG 36NE 12 13m NG 3962 6867 NW 100m

A circular, stone walled, hut which measures 13m in diameter over walls spread to 3.5m thick. The entrance, which faces to the west, is flanked by two earth-fast upright stones, standing 1m apart.

On a level plateau just to the south of the school are the remains of four huts. Cultivation and clearance heaps lie all around.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----|--------------|----|------|
| Kilmuir | NG 37SE 9 | 10m | NG 3986 7021 | NW | 110m |
|---------|-----------|-----|--------------|----|------|

A circular, stone walled, hut 10m in diameter over walls 1.9m thick. The 1.1m wide entrance, which faces to the north-east, is flanked by two earth-fast stones.

A circular bank 1m thick around a central area 3m in diameter. Entrance faces to the north-west.

May be an animal pen.

Digg	NG 46NE 8	2 x 11.5m	NG 4659 6957	E	130m
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On the east facing slope below Dun Vallerain are the remains of two circular, stone walled, huts which measure 11.5m in diameter over walls spread to 2.5m in width. There are no visible entrances.

<u>Balmacqueen</u>	NG 47SE 1	9.5m	NG 4506 7390	SW	30m
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Within a small dun on the edge of the sea cliffs is a stone walled hut 9.5m in diameter over walls 2m thick. An entrance faces to the north. Could not see this hut.

Heribusta	NG 47SW 13	13.5m	NG 4004 7025	NW	140m
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On a platform cut into the west facing slope is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 13.5m in diameter over walls spread to 2.5m wide. Entrance faces to the east.

SNIZORT

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
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<u>Loch Treaslane</u>	NG 35SE 12	18m	NG 3975 5175	NW	10m
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Lying just above the shore at the head of Loch Treaslane is a circular, stone walled, round house which measures 18m in diameter over walls 1.2m thick. An entrance 1.1m wide faces to the east. A few metres to the south-west of the site there is a standing stone and an open, Bronze Age, cist.

Penduin	NG 35NE 2	15.5m	NG 3882 5770	SW	50m
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Within the dun near to the township of Penduin is a circular hut which measures 15.5m diameter over walls 2.5m thick. There is no visible entrance.

Dun Cruinn NG 45SW 3 **3m - 4.5m** NG 4108 5185 N.S.E.W. 75m

Within Dun Cruinn are the remains of ten small hut circles ranging from 3m to 4.5m in diameter. Most likely shielings.

Dun Eyre NG 45SW 5 **4m** NG 4210 5352 SW 175m

Within the ramparts of Dun Eyre are the ruins of 2 small 4m diameter hut circles. These may be shielings.

River Rha NG 46SW 3 **13m 13m** NG 4020 6450 W 130m
11m 13m
10m

On the west facing hillside overlooking the River Rha, and about 1km to the NE of Uig are the remains of 5, stone walled, huts.

- A.** 13m diameter over walls 3m thick. Entrance faces to the south-south-west.
- B.** 13m diameter over walls 3m thick. Entrance faces to the south-south-west
- C.** 11m diameter over walls spread to 2.5m wide. No visible entrance.
- D.** 13m diameter over walls spread to 2.5m wide. No visible entrance.
- E.** 10m diameter over walls spread to 2.5m wide. Entrance faces to the south.


R Rha

Dun Grianan NG 55NW 1 **5m 5m** NG 5222 5982 S 110m

On the south-west side of Dun Grianan are the remains of two small circular structures measuring 5m in overall diameter.

Rigg NG 55NW 8 **10m** NG 5220 5630 E. & W. 50m

Against the outer face of the small dun sited on the cliffs to the south of Rigg. Possible, circular, stone walled hut 10m in diameter.

PORTREE

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Lon Choarach</u>	NG 43NE 3	11m	NG 4786 3692	W	85m

Lying within a massive earth banked enclosure, on the west facing hillside above the A87T, is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 11m in diameter over walls 2.5m thick. Entrance faces to the west.

<u>Peinmore</u>	NG 44SE 7	13.6m 12m 10.8m 13.5m	NG 4850 4040	NW	50m
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On the north facing slope overlooking Peinmore are the remains of 4 hut circles.

- A. A sub-circular wall 1.3m thick around an internal area 11m in diameter. Wall expands to 1.8m thick at the, 1.1m wide, south-east facing entrance.
- B. A very degraded 12m diameter platform built out from the slope.
- C. A circular wall 1.8m thick surrounds a central area 7.2m in diameter. Entrance faces to the east.
- D. A circular structure 13.5m diameter over walls 2.5m thick. No visible entrance.

RAASAY

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
<u>Loch a Chadha Charnaich</u>	NG 53NE 10	12m 11m	NG 5840 3930	E	140m

On the west shore of Loch a Chadha Charnaich are the remains of two circular stone huts.

- A. 12m diameter over walls 2m thick. No visible entrance.
- B. 11m diameter over walls 1.5m thick. No visible entrance.

Loch a Chadha Charnaich	NG 53NE 11	11m	NG 5844 3965	E	125m
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On the west side of the burn which runs into the north end of the loch is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 11m in diameter over walls 1.5m thick. No visible entrance.

<u>Brochel</u>	NG 54NE 19	10m	NG 5732 4620	E	50m
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Immediately to the east of, and cut through by, the road is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 10m in diameter over walls 1m thick. There is no visible entrance. A telephone pole stands within the remains of the hut.

<u>Druim an Aonaich</u>	NG 54SE 10	7.2m	NG 5777 4115	N	300m
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On the west side of a small burn which runs down the north flank of Druim an Aonaich is a ruinous, circular, stone walled, hut which measures 7.2m in diameter over walls 1.8m thick. an Entrance faces to the south.

<u>Druim an Aonaich</u>	NG 54SE 16	8.6m	NG 5835 4130	E	150m
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A circular, boulder built, hut 8.6m in diameter over walls 1.3m thick. The walls of this hut still stand to 1.3m high. A possible entrance survives on the north-east side.

STRATH

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
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<u>Glen Boreraig</u>	NG 51NE 2	15m	NG 5921 7390	W	75m
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On the summit of a gentle rise, above and to the east of the Camas Malag to Suisinish track, are the foundations of a massive, circular, boulder built structure 15m in diameter over walls which are 1.6m thick. the walls expand to 2.5m at the north-north-east facing entrance. the ruins of a small, stone built, pen/shieling lie within the circle.

<u>Kilmarie</u>	NG 51NE 9	14.3m	NG 5546 1745	SE	30m
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A circular, stone walled, hut measuring 14.3m in diameter over walls 1.3m thick.

Allt Strollamus NG 52NE 21 **8m** NG 5905 2606 NE 83m

About 60m to the west of the Allt Strollamus, on the north-east facing hillside, is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 8m in diameter over walls 1m thick. The walls expand to 1.5m thick at the, 1m wide, east facing entrance.

Strollamus NG 52NE 32 **10m** NG 5945 2608 NE 105m

In a sheltered hollow on the north-east facing hillside is a circular, stone walled, hut circle which measures 10m diameter over walls 1.5 - 2m thick. Within the structure are the remains of partitions which radiate from a central point dividing the interior into segments. These partitions may be a secondary feature.

Cille Chrìosd NG 61NW 9 **12m** NG 6237 1994 NW 110m 7

Lying amongst the spoil heaps of the marble quarry, on the north-west facing hillside overlooking Loch Cille Chrìosd is a circular, stone walled, hut circle which measures 12m in diameter over walls 1m thick. A possible entrance lies on the east side.

Boreraig NG 61NW 17 **9.5m** NG 6239 1682 SE 110m

A degraded circular, stone walled, hut which measures 9.5m in diameter over walls 1.4m thick. There is no visible entrance.

Loch Eishort NG 61NW 17 **7.5m** NG 6375 1578 S 20m

Just above the north shore of Loch Eishort is a ruinous circular structure which measures 7.5m diameter over walls 1.4m thick. There is no visible entrance.

Creag Strollamus NG 62NW 2* **5m** NG 6095 2555 SE 100m

About 30m above the Allt Fearn is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 5m in diameter over walls 1m thick. A 1m wide entrance faces to the south-east.

<u>Creag Strollamus</u>	NG 62NW 10	8m	NG 6130 2560	SE	80m
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Amongst rig cultivation on the SE flank of Creag Strollamus is a degraded, stone walled, hut which measures 8m in diameter over walls 1 - 1.5m thick. A possible entrance, 1m wide, faces to the north-west.

<u>Sithean Cairn</u>	NG 62SW 5	13.1m	NG 6291 2204	SW	50m
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About 70m to the east of the cairn, on the north side of the road are the degraded remains of two, stone walled, huts. These hut lie only 3m apart and both measure 13.1m diameter over walls 1.7m thick. The walls expand to 2.1m thick at the south facing entrances.

<u>Beallach a Ghlinne</u>	NG 62SW 69*	11.4m	NG 6349 2241	N	70m
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A circular turf walled hut 11.4m in diameter over walls 1.1m thick. A possible entrance faces to the south-west.

<u>Beallach a Ghlinne</u>	NG 62SW 74*	10.3m	NG 6330 2206	NW	65m
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By the east side of the old marble quarry railway is a disturbed, stone built hut which has a 1.5m thick wall surrounding an interior 7.3m in diameter. The north-west quadrant of the circle has been robbed for materials for the railway. No visible entrance.

<u>Beinn Suardal</u>	NG 62SW 83*	9m	NG 6227 2022	W	100m
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On a level terrace on the west facing hillside - A degraded circular hut with walls 1.4m thick surrounding an internal area 6.2m in diameter. No visible entrance.

<u>Beinn Suardal</u>	NG 62SW 87*	11.5m	NG 6226 2006	W	91m
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Against a rocky outcrop, on the west facing hillside - Two degraded, stone walled, huts with walls spread to 3m in diameter surrounding a central area 5.5m in diameter. No visible entrances.

SLEAT

Name	SMR No.	Size	OS Grid ref.	Aspect	Height OD
Loch an Ime	NG 61SE 1	7.9m	NG 6811 1014	SW	80m

A circular, stone walled, hut 7.9m in diameter over walls 1.2m thick and standing 0.3m high. An entrance faces to the east.

<u>Ord River</u>	NG 61SW 4	7.6m	NG 6292 1211	NE	50m
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On a natural shelf on the south-west bank of the Ord river, at the foot of Meall Da-bheinn is a circular, turf covered, stone wall 1.3m thick surrounding an interior 5m in diameter. An entrance faces to the south-west.

<u>Coille a Ghasgain</u>	NG 61SW 7	9m	NG 6313 1258	SW	50m
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On steeply sloping ground to the north of the Ord road is a circular, moss covered structure which measures 9m in diameter over walls 1.3m thick. No visible entrance.

<u>Garbh Allt</u>	NG 61SW 27	5.5m	NG 6300 1450	W	10m
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In light birch woodland, on the north side of a small burn are the moss covered remains of two small, stone built, huts which measure 5.5m in overall diameter.

<u>Garbh Allt</u>	NG 61SW 31	8m	NG 6325 1455	W	30m
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In birch woodland and close to the west bank of the Garbh Allt is a very degraded circular hut which measures 8m in overall diameter.

<u>Garbh Allt</u>	NG 61SW 40*	11m 5.8m	NG 6370 1425	W	120m
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On a raised neck of ground between the Garbh Allt and a small tributary burn which runs in from the north are the remains of two, stone built, circular huts.

- A. 11m diameter over walls 1.7 thick with a door opening facing to the south-west
- B. 5.8m diameter over walls 0.9m thick with a door opening facing to the north.

Rubha Ard Ghormul NG 61SW 47 **11m** NG 6410 1490 N 30m

On a natural platform, amongst birch woodland overlooking the south shore of Loch Eishort is a moss covered circular stone wall 1m thick which surrounds an interior which measures 9m in diameter. The wall expands to 2m thick at the south-east facing entrance.

Ord NG 61 SW 61 **5.5m** NG 6275 1265 SW 50m

On a level platform in birch woodland on the north side of the Ord road is a moss covered, circular, stone wall 1m thick which surrounds an interior 3.5m in diameter. A narrow entrance, 0.75m wide, faces to the south-east.

Port Aslaig NG 71NE 6 **9m** NG 7562 1882 SE 75m

In a sheltered corrie on the steep, south-east facing slope overlooking the sea is a circular, stone built, wall 1m thick which surrounds an interior 6-7m in diameter. The wall expands to 2m thick at the entrance. (Direction note recorded)

Port Aslaig NG 71NE 14 **6m** NG 7663 1828 SE 175m

On the steep hillside above Port Aslaig is a circular, stone built, wall 1m thick which surrounds an interior 4m in diameter. No visible entrance.

Port Aslaig NG 71NE 15 **5.5m 5.5m** NG 7675 1834 SE -

Two circular, stone walled huts which measure 5.5m in diameter over walls 0.75m thick. No visible entrances.

Beinne na Greine NG 72SW 14 **6m** NG 7466 2115 SW 244m

By the side of the Kylerhea road is a circular, stone slab faced wall 1m thick surrounding an interior 4m in diameter. There is no visible entrance.

Kylerhea Glen NG 72SE 8 **6.5m** NG 7672 2105 S 185m

On the hillside above the Kylerhea road is a circular hut with walls 1.25m thick which surround an interior 4m in diameter. A 1m wide entrance faces to the south-east.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 10 **6m** NG 7690 2115 S 210m
Glen

Lying on a natural platform on the hillside above the Kylerhea road is a degraded, stone, hut circle which measures 6m in diameter over walls 1m thick. The wall is faced on both sides with slabs of stone set on edge. No visible entrance.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 11 **6m** NG 7744 2098 SE 244m
Glen

On the hillside to the north of the Kylerhea road is a degraded circular structure which measures 6m overall. No visible entrance.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 14 **5m** NG 7693 2105 S 150m
Glen

Lying on a natural platform on the hillside to the north of the Kylerhea road is a 5m diameter hut circle.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 15 **6 x 5m** NG 7757 2100 S 145m
Glen

Six circular, boulder built huts all measuring 5m in diameter over walls 1m thick.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 16 **6m. 8m** NG 7760 2092 S 150m
Glen

On the hillside to the north of the Kylerhea road are the remains of two degraded, boulder built, hut circles.

- A. 6m diameter over walls 1m thick. no visible entrance.
- B. 8m diameter over walls 1m thick. No visible entrance.

Kylerhea NG 72SE 18 **14m. 7m+** NG 7643 2092 S 210m
Glen

On platforms cut into the hillside on the north side of the Kylerhea road are the remains of two hut circles.

- A. 14m diameter over walls 1.5 - 2m thick. No visible entrance.
- B. 7m+ diameter over walls of uncertain width. No visible entrance.

LOCHALSH

An Carnach	NG 82NW 5	8m	NG 8440 2978	S	270m
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At the foot of the south-east flank of An Carnach is a well preserved hut circle which measures 8m in diameter over walls 2m thick and 0.8m high. An entrance faces to the east.

Maol Mor NG 82NW 9 **9.5m. 13.3m** NG 8490 2910 E 210m

On two artificial platforms set into the slope below the lower north-east flank of Maol Mor are the remains of two hut circles.

- A. 9.5m in diameter over walls 1.5m thick. No visible entrance.
- B. 13.3m in diameter over walls 1.4m thick. No visible entrance.

<u>Maol Beag</u>	NG 82NW 10	12m. 14.4m	NG 8460 2770	SE	100m
		13m+ 15m			

On the south flank of Maol Beag are the remains of 4 hut circles.

- A. 12m diameter over walls 2.5m thick. An entrance faces to the south-south-west.
- B. 14.4m diameter over walls 1.4m thick. Entrance faces to the west-south-west.
- C. 13m+ diameter over poorly preserved walls with no visible entrance.
- D. A circular platform which measures 15m in diameter with traces of a stone built wall around it's outer edge. No visible entrance.

Avernish	NG 82NW 11	8.7m	NG 8447 2682	SE	95m
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On the hillside to the north of Avernish is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 8.7m in diameter over walls 1.1m thick. A ruinous entrance faces to the east.

Avernish	NG 82NW 12B	10m	NG 8481 2696	SE	60m
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On the hillside to the north-east of Avernish is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 10m in diameter over walls spread to 2m thick. An entrance 1.2m wide faces to the south-east.

Maol Beag NG 82NW 15A **15m** NG 8475 2778 SE 100m

Situated close to a large agricultural shed on the south flank of Maol Beag is a circular, stone built, bank 2m thick which surrounds an internal area 11m in diameter. No visible entrance.

Maol Beag NG 82NW 17 **12m** NG 8459 2781 SE 100m

Lying on a natural terrace on the north side of the A890 is a circular, stone built, bank 2m thick which surrounds a central area 8m in diameter. There is no visible entrance.

**Glean
Udalain** NG 82NE 16 **8.1m** NG 8534 2822 S 100m

A circular, stone walled, hut which measures 8.1m in diameter over walls 1.3m thick. An entrance faces to the east.

**Glean
Udalain** NG 82NE 18 **11.2m** NG 8584 2857 S 90m

A circular, stone walled, hut which measures 11.2m in diameter over walls 1.3m thick. There is no visible entrance.

**Glean
Udalain** NG 82NE 19 **9m+-** NG 8573 2815 S 180m

A circular, stone walled, hut 9m in diameter over much disturbed walls . No visible entrance.

**Glean
Udalain** NG 82NE 20 **13.5m-** NG 8603 2925 SW 170m

A circular, stone walled, hut 13.5m in diameter over walls spread to 3m thick. No visible entrance.

Conchra NG 82NE 22 **15.2m** NG 8892 2800 S 60m

Lying on an artificial platform cut into the steep hillside above Conchra is a circular, stone walled, hut which measures 15.2m in diameter over walls 1.6m thick. There is no visible entrance.

Maol Mor NG 82NE 36 **7m+** NG 8507 2910 S 175m

On the east facing slope is a very degraded, stone built, hut circle which measures 7m in diameter internally. The walls are very degraded. No visible entrance.

Carn Fada NG 83SE 7 **6m** NG 8560 3038 SW 225m

A very degraded, stone walled, hut circle measuring 6m in diameter over walls possibly 1m thick. A collapsed door opening faces to the west.

GLENELG

Balvraid NG 81NE 1* **16.5m** NG 8517 1613 W -

Lying by the north-east side of the track leading to Dun Grugaig is much disturbed, stone walled hut circle which measures 16.5m in diameter over walls 2m thick. an ill-defined entrance faces to the north-north-west.

Glen Beag NG 81NE 8 **8m** NG 8312 1725 - -

Within the narrow end of a small grass field lying between the river and the road is a degraded, stone built, hut circle which measures 8m in diameter over walls 1.6m thick. There is no visible entrance. The area around the hut has been used for the dumping of stone during clearance of the field. A large boulder now lies within the circle.

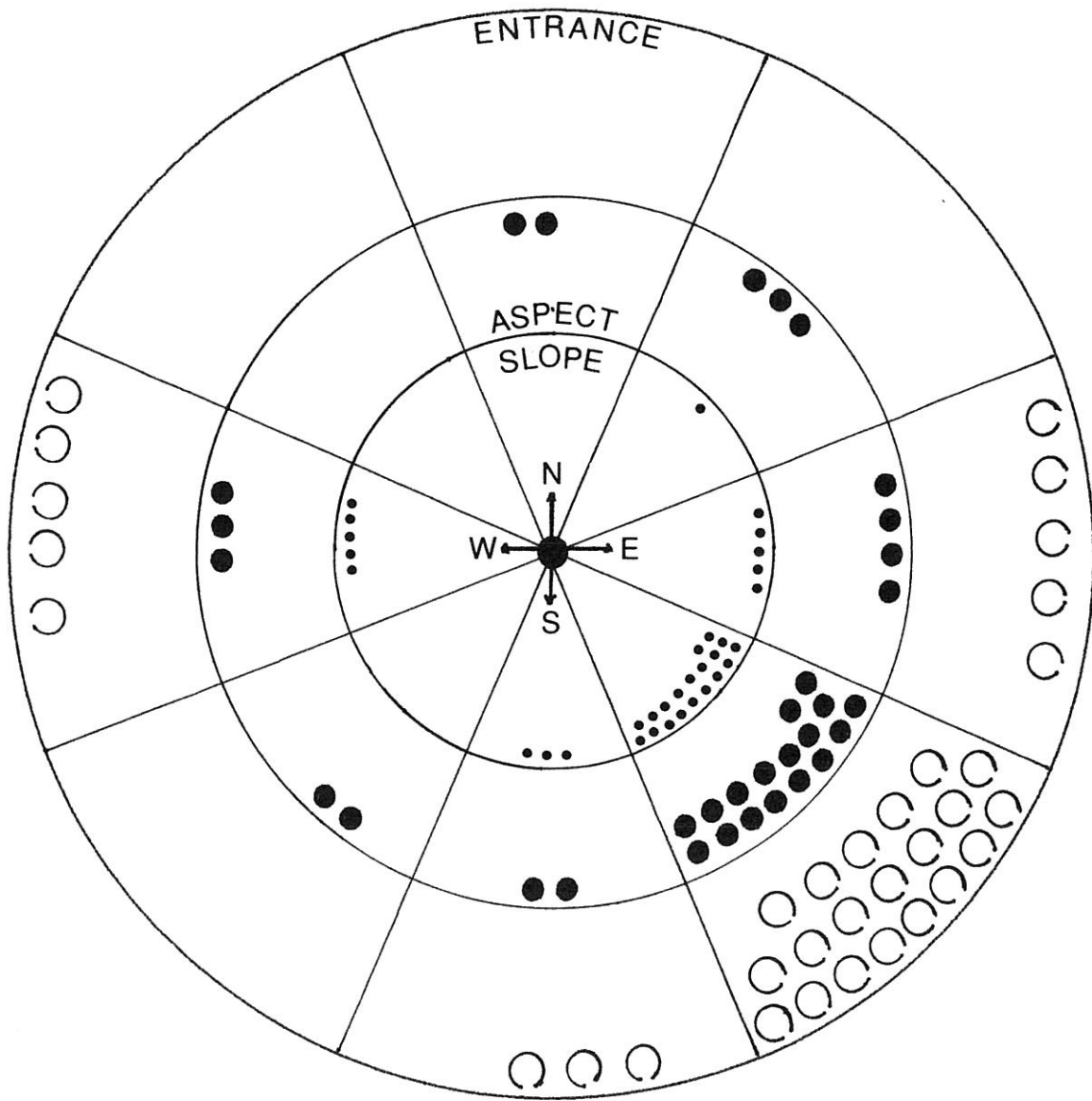
Glen Beag NG 81NW 17 **12.6m** NG 8154 1772 W -

A circular stone walled hut measuring 12.6m in diameter over walls 1.2m thick. No visible entrance.

Galltair NG 83SE 7 **15.1m** NG 8173 2031 SW 40m

A circular, stone walled, hut which measures 15.1m in diameter over walls 1.8m thick. There is no visible entrance.

END



Illus. 19: Strathaird Survey. Roundhouses where entrance survives.

Polar-graph showing relationship of Roundhouse entrances to aspect and slope of land.