Final Report of an Archaeological Watching Brief of a Development at Dalmore, Alness, Highland. Phases 1 and 2.

Client: O'Brien Homes Ltd on behalf of Albyn Housing Association
Date: August 2016

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Planning Ref. 11/03020/FUL
Grid Ref: NH 66235/69185

CONTENTS

Non-Technical Summary

Stuart Farrell was commissioned by O'Brien Homes Ltd on behalf of Albyn Housing Association in February 2015 to undertake an archaeological watching brief for a housing development at Dalmore, Alness*, Highland (NH 66235/69185).*

Work revealed a hut circle, three ditches, several fence lines, and many pits and postholes being recorded. Dating evidence from radio carbon samples was very varied with dates ranging from the Neolithic to the Iron Age. The hut circle had seen two periods of use with at least 3 hearths, unfortunately no other artefacts were found during the course of the work. C14 dates gave a date range of the Bronze Age to the Iron Age for its construction.

No further archaeological work is proposed for this these two phases of development.

Figure 1 – Site Location

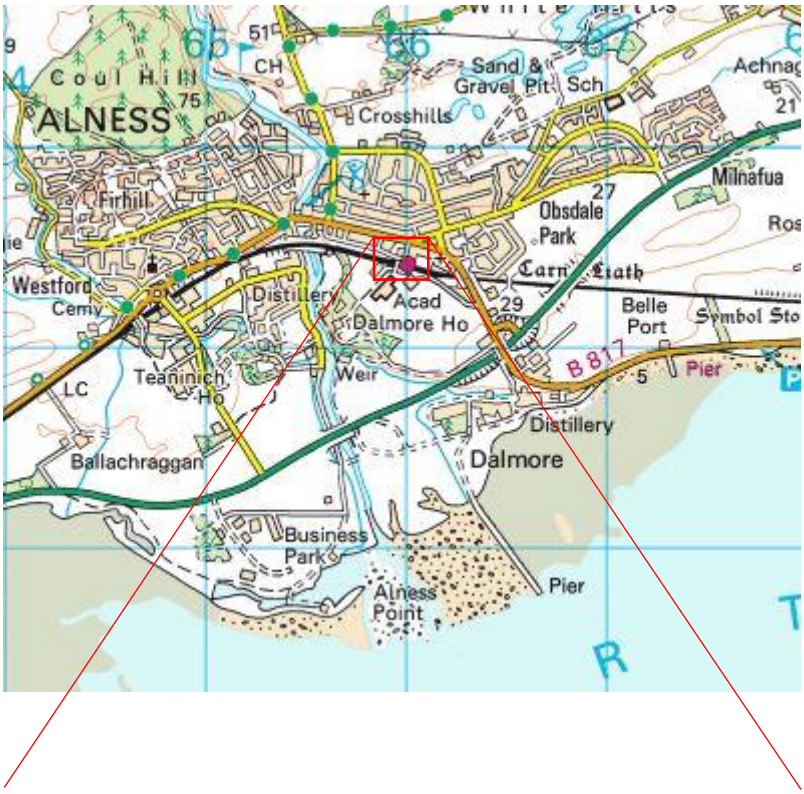

Figure 2 – Site Location (2) 1:5000
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Blue line marks approximate boundary of watching brief

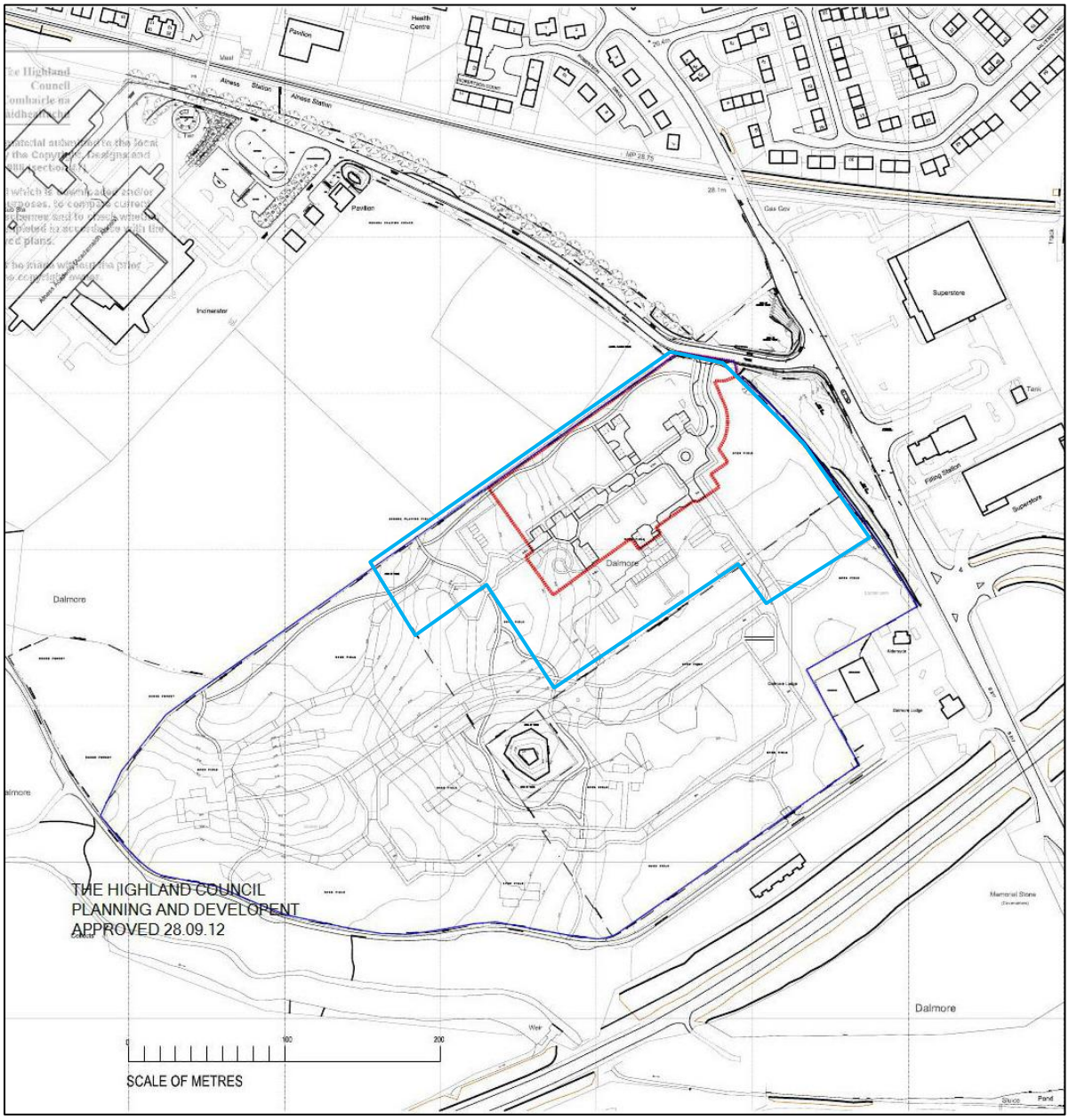
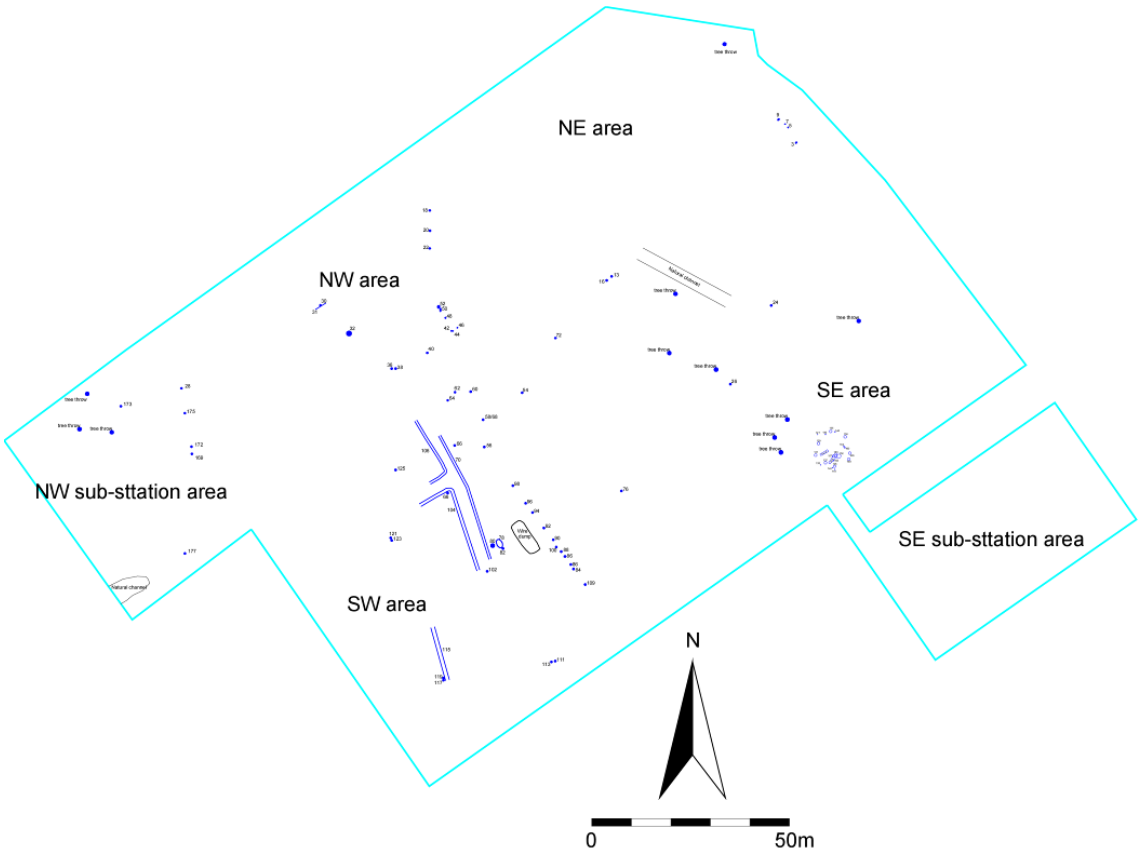


Figure 3 – Site Plan.

Showing distribution of archaeological features



1. INTRODUCTION

An archaeological watching brief was carried out for O'Brien Homes Ltd on behalf of Albyn Housing Association in regard to a condition of planning as required as part of a planning application for housing with associated access and services. The development site is a 'greenfield' site located at Dalmore, Alness.

The work was required as part of planning condition no.2 by Highland Council Planning Department (ref. 11/03020/FUL), which stated the following:

Prior to the commencement of development, a programme of archaeological work for the preservation and recording of any archaeological features affected by the proposed development, including a timetable for investigation, all in accordance with the attached specification, has been submitted to and require approved in writing by the Planning Authority. All arrangements thereby approved shall be implemented by the developer at his expense in accordance with the approved timetable for investigation.

Reason: In order to ensure the protection of the archaeological interest of the site.

A specification for the work was supplied to the client by the Highland Council Archaeologist (see Appendix 1).

2. BACKGROUND

The proposed development site lies to the South of the village of Alness in an area of ground bounded to the East by an existing road, playing fields to North, and woodland to the South. The site is shown on the latest OS map as open ground. The phase 1 site is centred at NH 66235/69185. A second phase of development is planned for the area to the W of this phase. Most of the site is level, although there is a small rise or brae – a raised terrace - just within the western edge of the boundary of this phase.

British Geological Survey mapping shows the bedrock as Raddery Sandstone, overlain by Raised Marine Deposits.

Archaeological Background

Trial trenching conducted to the development site in 2005 by Highland Archaeology Services Ltd (Wood, 2011) revealed a number of features relating to the use of the site as an RAF camp in WW2, as well as a feature of stones, possibly field clearance at NH 66235/68989; a number of cut features with Early Bronze Age Pottery at NH 6610/6893; and a possible round-house or pit circle at NH 6330/6904.

The principal records for the development area are as follows (taken verbatim from Highland Council Historical Environment Record):

1 – Dalmore Farm
HHER: EHG 2893
NMRS: NH66NE 139
NGR: NH 66140/69039 (centred)
Site type: Trial trenching
Recorded in HHER as 'A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken by Highland Archaeology Services between October and December 2005 on a proposed housing development site at Dalmore, Alness. The site consisted of three large fields which had been allocated for housing development. Thirty-seven trial trenches, covering approximately 2.5 acres, were excavated to provide a site sample of over 10%. The entire area formed part of RAF Alness during the Second World War, and had clearly been disturbed by military activity as well as subsequent site clearance. A scatter of fragmentary artefacts from that period was noted within the topsoil. Beneath this, site clearance had been thorough and the subsoil comprised clean, natural mixed periglacial sands and gravels with some areas of rounded stones. A number of possible features were investigated that proved to be the result of tree roots and animal burrowing, but three areas require further investigation. One of these (Trench 35), though very disturbed, contained a large number of early Bronze Age ritual pottery sherds. Apart from targetted fieldwork to clarify these three areas, no further archaeological fieldwork was proposed.'

Recorded in NMRS (CANMORE) as follows: 'Work was undertaken between October and December 2005. The site consists of three large fields which have been allocated for housing development. We opened 37 trial trenches, covering approximately 2.5 acres, to provide a site sample of over 10%. Four of these produced possible archaeological evidence. The first of these, Trench 4, contained a group of possible pits. An extension was made to the western end of this trench to clarify this. However, these features appear to be the result of the action of root systems and burrowing animals, and none of them produced any dating evidence. Trench 11 in the same field contained a large number of pits, including an apparent circle approximately 9m in diameter of regularly spaced pits. Trench 17 in the second field examined contained an area of burnt stones which was cut by the trenches western edge. Trench 35 in the third field contained a large number of pits, some of which contained fragments of black hand-made pottery. These were examined by Beverley Ballin Smith of GUARD and most were identified as Early Bronze Age. There may be at least three different collared urns, to judge by the decoration. There is a significant portion of one vessel; another, with piercing and fingernail decoration is very unusual, and a third has vertical finger dimple decoration. There is also an isolated sherd with stab and drag decoration. The pits were all ill-defined and

apparently disturbed by former root action. No other trenches produced significant archaeological results.'

2 – Dalmore Farm
HHER: MHG 55238
NMRS: NH66NE 139
NGR: NH 6610/6893
Site type: Cut features, Bronze Age Pottery
Recorded in HHER as '151 sherds of Early Bronze Age ritual pottery were recovered from a single trench during an archaeological evaluation of land at Dalmore Farm. The trench contained a number of pits of uncertain, but possibly prehistoric, date. The pits were all ill-defined and apparently disturbed by former root action. Other features in the trench were probably of natural origin. Some of the shers were recovered from within the topsoil, and none were from secure contexts owing to severe disturbance from rabbit burrowing and root action. A high proportion of rims was noted, suggesting they had originally been placed upside down in pits.
This pottery was examined by Beverley Ballin Smith of GUARD and most sherds were identified as Early Bronze Age. There may be at least three different collared urns, to judge by the decoration. There is a significant portion of one vessel; another, with piercing and fingernail decoration is very unusual, and a third has vertical finger dimple decoration. There is also an isolated sherd with stab and drag decoration. There may be at least three different collared urns, to judge by the decoration. There is a significant portion of one vessel; another, with piercing and fingernail decoration is very unusual, and a third has vertical finger dimple decoration. There is also an isolated sherd with stab and drag decoration. A full discussion of the ceramics and any other finds will be included with the final report.'

3 – Dalmore Farm
HHER: MHG 55239
NMRS: NH66NE 139
NGR: NH 6630/6904
Site type: Possible roundhouse or Pit-Circle
Recorded in HHER as 'An apparent circle approximately 7.5 metre in diameter was identified during trial trenching. The circle comprised 11 regularly spaced post or stakeholes, each about 35cm in diameter and 30cm deep. Each pit was half-sectioned, with sections aligned N-S and the eastern half removed. They were all similar in shape and size, and there was no dating evidence or sign of post-pipes. This feature as a whole was undated: it could be related to the use of the site in the 1940s by the RAF, but also could represent a prehistoric round-house. Although no drip-line was noted, this could simply be because of later erosion. Further work is required to better clarify and record the nature and extent of these features.'

4 – Dalmore
HHER: MHG 14218
NMRS: NH66NE 15
NGR: NH 6640/6910
Site type: Pit
Recorded in HHER as 'The site is on the edge of a known Bronze Age burial ground. A resistivity survey produced a localisation of anomalies in an area threatened by work on the A9 Alness bypass. Trial excavation over the anomalies only produced 4 small pits with no artefacts or datable material recovered.'

The following sites are recorded to the Southeast and Eastern edge of the development site:

5 – Dalmore
HHER: MHG 6311
NMRS: NH66NE 15
NGR: NH 6660/6878 & NH 6640/6907
Site type: Burial Ground, Cists, Pits
Recorded in HHER and NMRS as 'A Bronze Age burial ground was discovered, in two parts, in the summer of 1878, during the construction of the branch railway from Alness station to Dalmore Distillery (NH 666 687).

The first part lay immediately above the distillery, and was apparently contained within a stone wall, the base of which could be traced along three sides, enclosing an area 108ft by 66ft, with the shorter walls running north to south. This group consisted of:-
A, a short cist with a crouched burial, a leaf-shaped flint blade, jet beads and a stone bracer.
B, six small cists containing burnt bones, some human, some animal, and, in one, what appeared to be the remains of a tanged bronze blade.
C, a cist containing an inverted cinerary urn and another smaller urn which stood the right way up and contained only gravel.
D, a circular construction of coursed stones, about 18" in internal diameter, enclosing an inverted cinerary urn and capped with a flat slab. The cinerary urn was donated to the NMAS in 1881 by Andrew Mackenzie.
E, an unenclosed burial consisting of loose bones overlaid with a few stones.
The second, presumably related, group lay at a distance of 200 yards along the line of the railway. It consisted sisted of:-
A, Two short cists with crouched burials and, in each case, a slightly decorated inverted urn which, since one contained charcoal, were presumably cinerary.
B, A cist, 3' 4" x 1'6" x 1'8", containing fragments of bone.
C, A cist of small stones enclosing a 'rough urn' and fragments of burnt bone and charcoal.
D, Burnt bones, laid on a bed of sand, with no protecting stones.
E, Three small 'rude cists , formed of stones but destitute of human or other remains.'
A group of broken, calcined bones overlay the two short cists by several feet, implying that the latter were much earlier. In the neighbourhood of the second group are sandy patches in the dark surface soil, similar to those which indicated the positions of the graves. These suggest that there are other graves as yet undiscovered. The 'manufactured articles' were sent to Ardross Castle.
There is no trace and no local knowledge of the findspots of the burials but their approximate positions can be ascertained by deduction. The burials found 'immediately above the distillery' must have been at the rail-head centred at NH 6660 6878, where the track cuts into a natural knoll. For a distance of 200.0m NW, the railway is on an embankment, followed by a flat stretch of line. There is no trace of the stone wall which 'contained' the burials. The second group of burials '200 yards along the line of the railway' could have been at NH 6640 6907 where the line cuts through a small embankment. No trace could be found of any 'sandy patches' in the soil of the adjoining fields, which have long been under cultivation. Visited by OS 23 March 1966.'

6 – Dalmore
HHER: MHG 17924
NMRS: NH66NE 49
NGR: NH 666/690
Site type: Pits, Settlement
Recorded in HHER and NMRS as 'In an area centred here probable Iron Age settlement was found. The features included post holes from a probable roundhouse, a circular building 8m in diameter with posts c. 100 mm in diameter, two grain storage pits with c. 5 kg of carbonised grain as well as another possible building and an area of iron working represented by hammer scale. Recorded during archaeological supervision of the topsoil strip for the Dingwall-Invergordon British Gas pipeline. J Wordsworth 1993.'

3. METHODOLOGY

Evaluation

In line with the recommendations of the 2005 Evaluation report the brief from Highland Council required the opening of areas around the features at NH 66235/68989 (stones spread); NH 6330/690 (hut circle); and NH 6610/6893 (Bronze Age pottery), to determine their function and character. The latter two lie outwith the area of this phase of development.

Watching Brief

Despite the recommendation in the 2005 Evaluation report that no archaeological watching brief was required, Albyn Housing commissioned the authors to undertake observations of the proposed development to the area of the housing and any associated works to identify, evaluate and record any archaeological features or deposits. As the project progressed and the extent of the archaeological resource on the site became apparent, discussions with Albyn Housing led to the funding of a programme of post-excavation work, including processing and analysing the 31 soil samples collected during fieldwork, and radio-carbon dating eight of them.

Topsoil was stripped using a 14-ton back-acting machine with a 2m wide straight-edged bucket; spoil was removed by tippers and dumpers and stockpiled to the W of this phase of development. Exposed surfaces were examined during the moment of excavation, and cleaned by hand where features were suspected or possible. Overburden depth varied between 0.25 and 0.95m. Of the areas shown on figure 3, the NE, NW, SW and SE areas were stripped between 24 February and 16 March 2015. Stripping of two additional areas for water treatment plant occurred between 12 and 18 August 2015

Weather varied from frozen and snowy to hot and dry, but did not significantly affect the quality of observations. The roundhouse or hut circle found during the watching brief and was completely excavated on 17 to 18 March 2015.

4. RESULTS

Stripping began in the area of the stone spread found during the 2005 evaluation at NH 66235/68989, but despite careful searching no traces of it could be discerned. Its location was in a natural hollow, and since the natural deposit became noticeably stonier there it is possible the spread was part of that. Other hollows were noted to the E.

TOPSOIL Context **1**

The topsoil was remarkably uniform across the site, presumably indicating it had at some point recently been cultivated as a single entity. Its depth varied from 0.25m at the crest of the brae to 0.95m at the base, and at the NW extremity of the site. It was a very dark greyish brown sandy loam, moderately well-mixed with a good crumb structure, and contained a few slate fragments in the E of the site. The interface with the underlying natural deposit was sharp, and it is interpreted as a modern ploughsoil.

SUBSOIL Context **23**

A discontinuous layer of unmixed light greyish brown silty sand was found in hollows in the surface of the natural deposit near the top of the brae (but away from the crest) and is interpreted as a remnant natural subsoil.

NATURAL Context **2**

The natural deposit of gravels and sands was very variable, and pockets of silt or sand dried differentially, often masking archaeological features. This problem was

minimised by ensuring it was observed at the point of first exposure. The layer was much sandier on the slope of the brae.

The surface of the natural deposit undulated, and at least two shallow natural channels were observed:

The channel running SE/NW in the E of the site was 3.2m wide, 0.25m deep, with gently sloping sides and a more or less flat base. An apparent terminus was seen at the NW end, while the SE end simply petered out.

The natural feature in the western sub-station area was more of a depression than a channel, was 5m wide, 0.2m deep, and petered out to the E; its W end was in baulk. The topsoil covering the depression contained abundant rounded stones, 0.2m to 0.4m across. Similar stones were found in topsoil along bottom of the brae and are assumed to come from modern field clearance.

Scattered across the site were 13 obvious tree throws; traces of other possible tree throws were seen but not recorded. Three tree throws form a cluster in the NW, while another cluster was found near the hut circle in the SE. The latter are discussed with the hut circle, below.

FEATURES BY AREA

The site may conveniently be divided into areas, see figure 3, and the results are mainly reported on by area, with additional sections dealing with related or similar features ('Pits', and 'Hut Circle'). The SE sub-station area was barren.

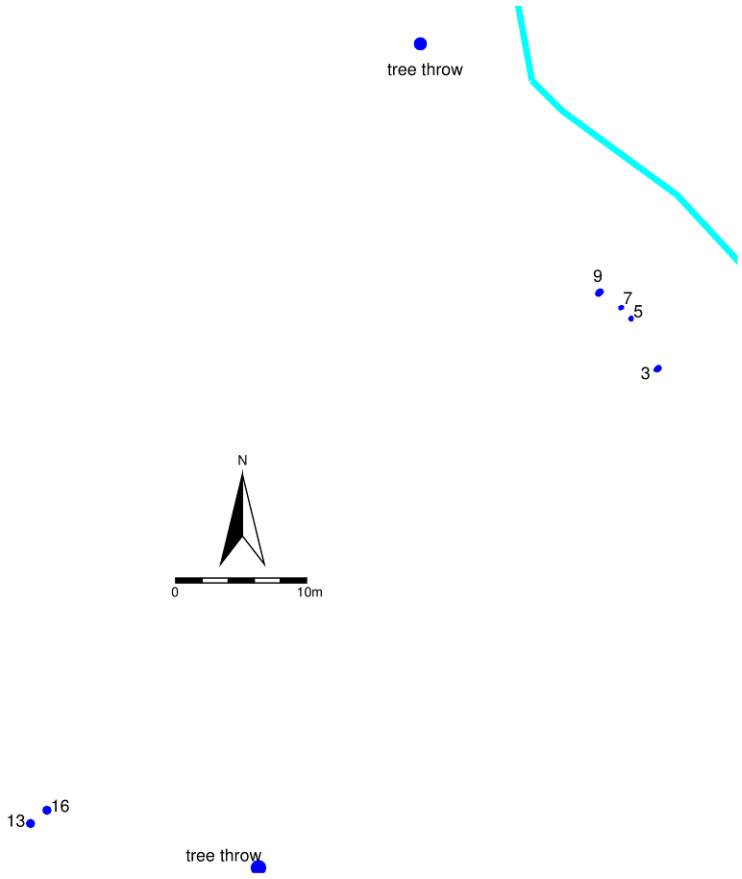
NE AREA Figure 4

Four small postholes, **3**, **5**, **7** and **9** (figure 11), appear to form a rough line more or less parallel to the eastern boundary of the site. **3** and **9**, at the ends of the line, were larger than the others and share a common morphology. **5** and **7** were smaller, and also similar to each other. It is possible that the two pairs are from two different phases of site formation, and may represent the remains of two successive fence lines.

A further pair, **13** and **16** (figure 11), lie to the SW. The line they form is perpendicular to that made by **3**, **5**, **7** and **9**, and although it is tempting to speculate that all six are part of a rectilinear land division system, the evidence is too poor to state that definitely.

Figure 4 – NE area.

Light blue line is site boundary



NW AREA FIGURE 5

Feature **28** is reported on under 'NW sub-station area', below.

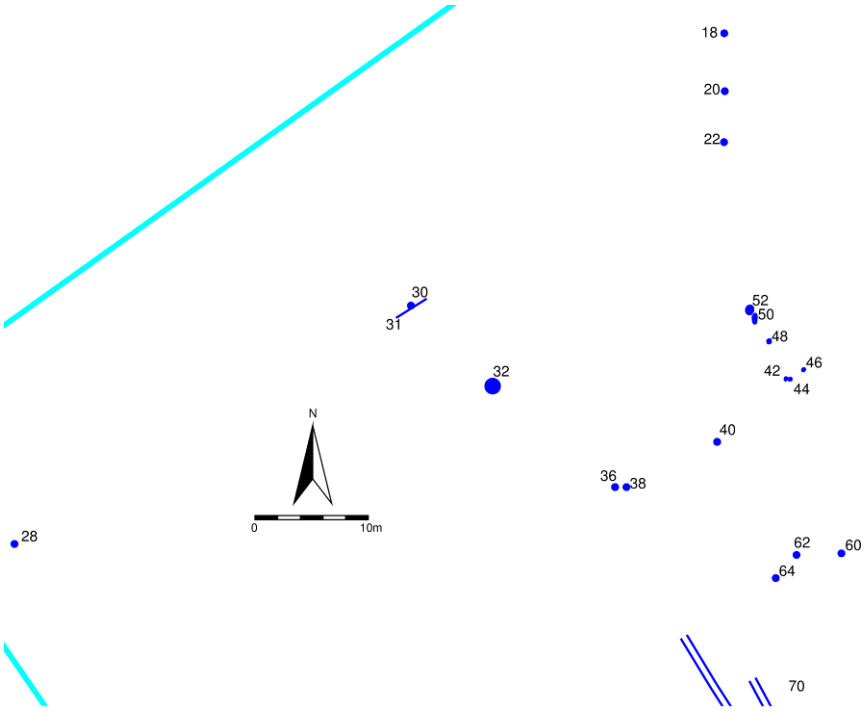
A large circular feature, **32** (figure 12), with signs of slumping along the upper edges, shares morphology with several other features (**54**, **62**, **72**, **74** and **80**), and is reported on under 'Pits', below.

Posthole **64** (figure 13) is the most northerly of a series of postholes reported on under 'SW Area', below.

Two shallow, rectilinear features, **30** and **32** (figure 12), lay on the slope of the brae. Although **30** is shorter, both are the same width, and their morphology suggests spade-cut features. A further shallow rectilinear feature, **50** (figure 13), is slightly narrower and lay to the E. Their purpose is uncertain, but their unmixed fills suggest a recent origin. **30** is cut by, **31** (figure 12), the only plough mark found, which probably owes its presence to the plough cutting deeper as it was towed up the brae.

Figure 5 – NW area.

Light blue line is site boundary



In the N of this area three small postholes, **18**, **20**, and **22** (figure 11) formed a line running almost due N/S. This is probably a fence line, but it does not lie perpendicular to any extant boundary and thus may belong to an earlier system of land division.

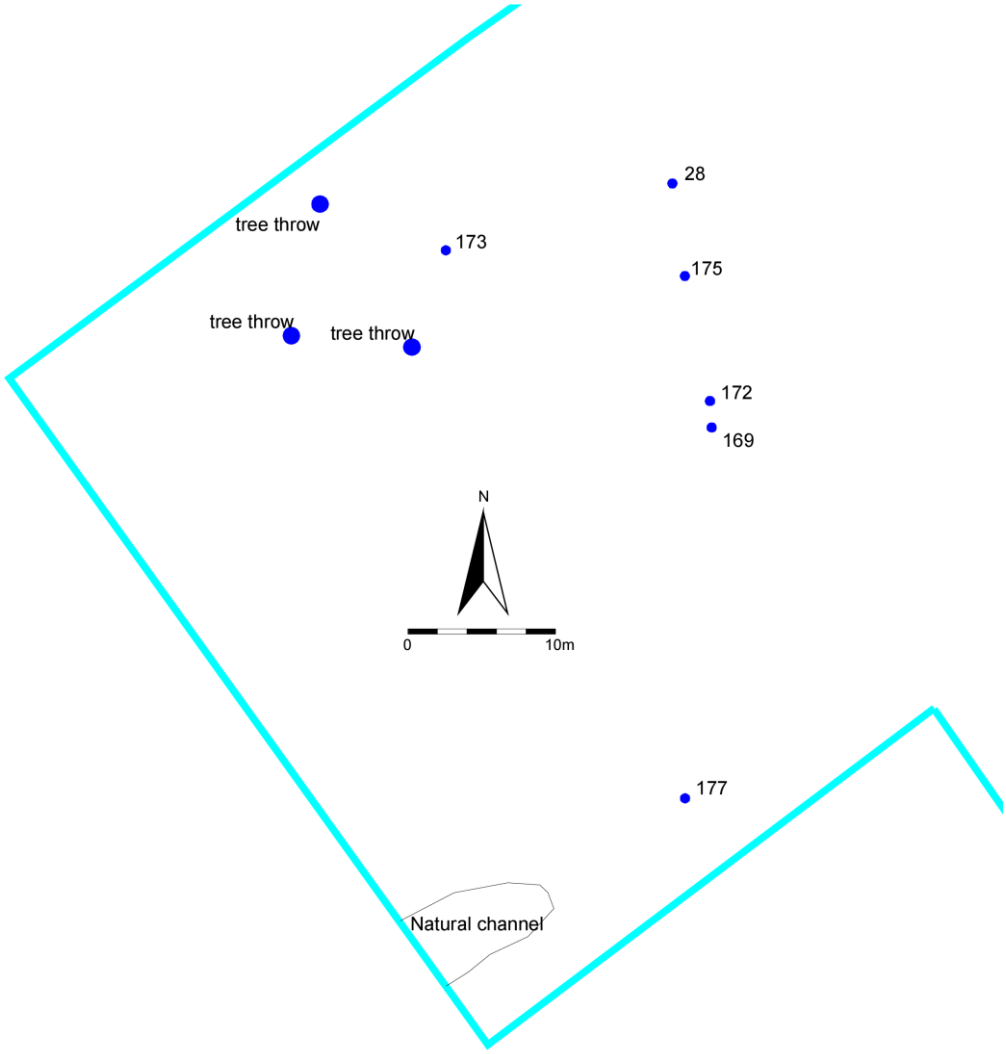
Five small features, **42**, **44**, **46**, **48** and **52** (figures 12 and 13) formed a cluster in the NW of the area, and although they share a common morphology their fills vary considerably, so it is likely that derive from several different phases of site formation.

Two more postholes, **36** and **40** (figure 12) contained largely unmixed fills and may well be of recent origin. It is therefore unlikely that they form part of a rectilinear field system with **42**, **44**, **46**, **48** and **52**, despite the apparent pattern seen in figure 5

A single posthole, **38** (figure 12) lay in the S.

Figure 6 –
NW Sub-station area.

Light blue line is site boundary

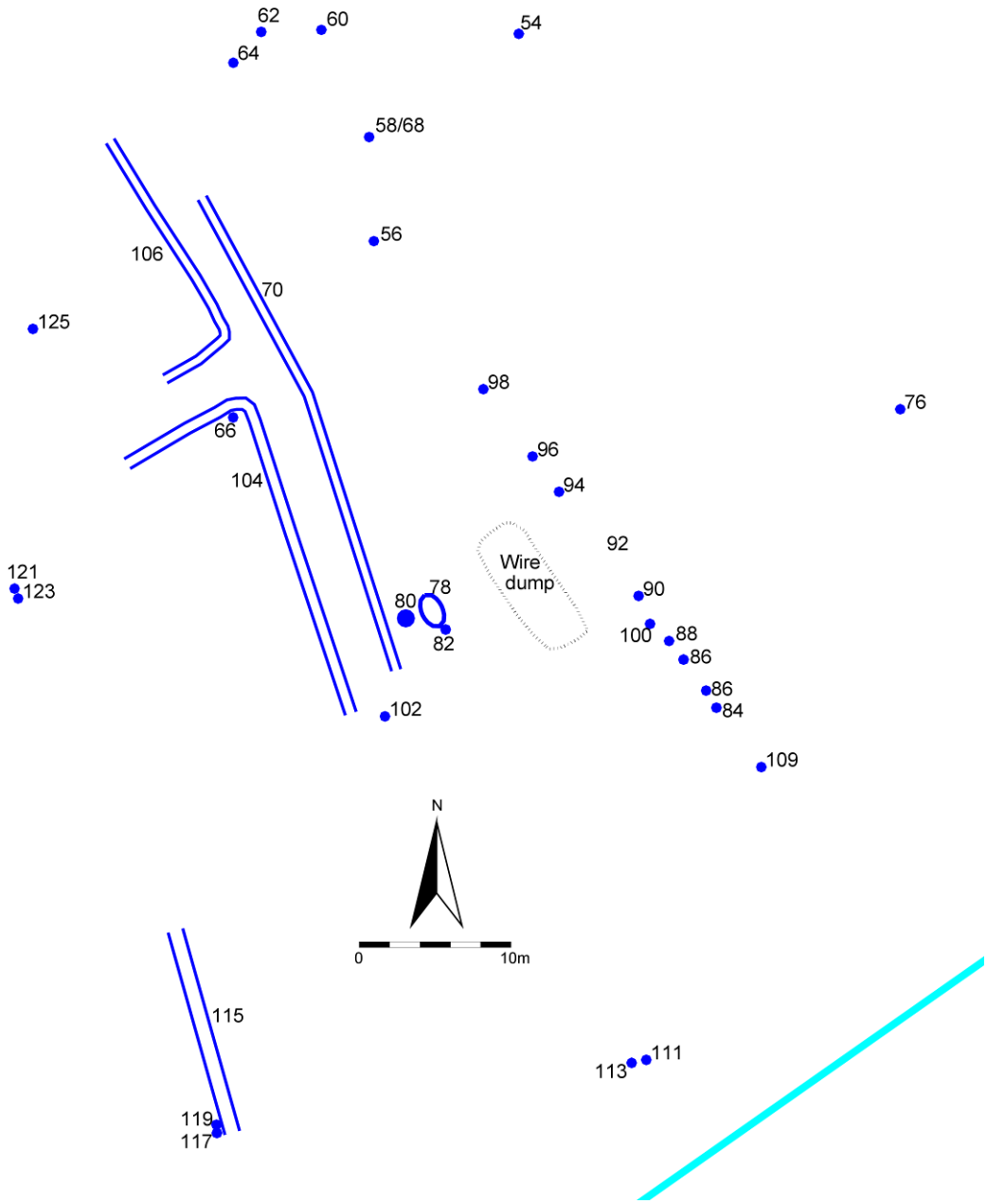


NW SUB-STATION AREA FIGURE 6

Four postholes, **28**, **169**, **171**, and **175** (figures 11 and 19) form a straight line, probably a fence line, running NNW/SSE. The fills of all four are similar, with charcoal inclusions indicative of burning. The probable fence line does not appear to be part of the modern boundary system, but is more or less parallel to both the ditches in the SW area and (rather less convincingly) the line formed by **18**, **20** and **22** in the NE area. An isolated posthole**, 173** (figure 19), lay to the W of the line.

Figure 7 – SW area.

Light blue line is site boundary



SW AREA FIGURE 7

Wire dump A scoop at NH66231 69093 contained abundant fence wire and a few well-rotted wooden posts, the remains of a fence. It is possible that this material came from the fence discussed next.

Fence line Postholes **56**, **64**, **84**, **86**, **88**, **90**, **92**, **94**, **96**, **98**, **100** and **109** (figure 14,) formed a fence line running perpendicular to the existing northern boundary of the site and thus probably forming part of a contemporaneous field

system. All these postholes (except **100**) were small, very truncated, and contained almost identical fills; these were similar to the topsoil but were less well mixed, had no crumb structure, and contained less humous. It is probable that they were derived from the topsoil at an earlier stage in its formation. Posthole **100** was larger than the others, was set slightly to one side, and had a prominent bracing stone; it is interpreted as a being for a strainer post. A further two small postholes, **111** and **113** (figure 16) contained very similar fills and may form part of a rectilinear field system with the fence line.

Two small postholes, **58** and **68** (figure 13) lay to the E of the fence line; **68** cut **58**.

Lying either side of a pit, **80** (figure 15), two tree throws were originally given feature numbers, **78** and **82**. **80** is discussed in the 'Pits' section, below.

Three small postholes, **121**, **123** and **125** (figure 16) lay in the W of the area; although close *together their fills differed markedly and they are unlikely to belong to a single phase*. The fill of **123** contained two small fragments of burnt bone.

A small posthole, **76** (figure 15) with basal stone lay in the E of the area.

Four heavily truncated linear features, **70**, **104**, **106** and **115** (figures 13, 15 and 16) formed part of a rectilinear field system. Little more than the bases remained of these ditches, but they were sufficiently well-defined to delineate a track, with an entrance between **70**, **104**, and **106**. The latter contained both primary and secondary fills. C14 of this primary fill **71** revealed a date of 5370 $\pm$ 34 BP or 3420 $\pm$ 34 giving a date range of 3454-3386 BC or Neolithic date.

Two stakeholes, **117** and **119** (figure 16) lay to the W of ditch **115**, in an area with signs of heavy root infiltration. It is possible that the root disturbance, also seen at the W end of **104**, is evidence of a hedge beside the ditch. A posthole, **102** (figure 15), deeper than most, lay at the southern end of the track formed by **70** and **104**; its location has led to speculation that it was part of the field system, possibly a gate or hurdle post, but this is far from certain. Even less certainly associated with the field system is another posthole, **66** (figure 13), which lay in the angle of **104**.

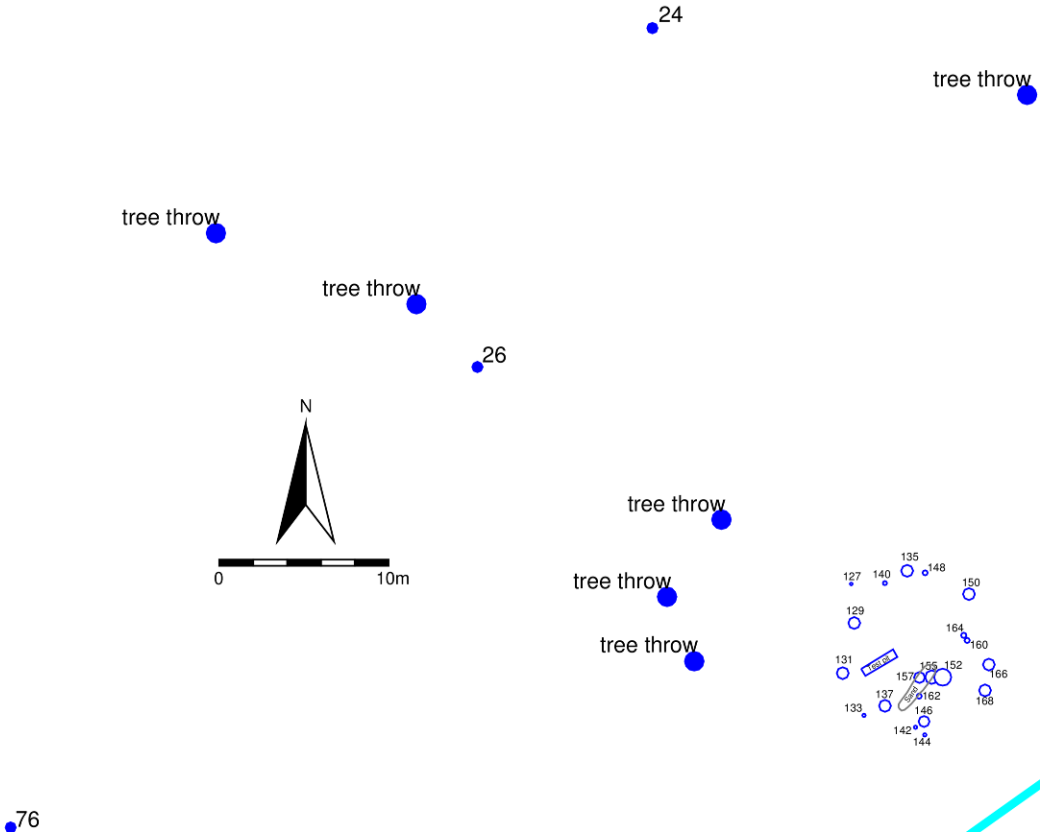
SE AREA FIGURE 8

An isolated posthole, **24** (figure 12), of almost square plan and section, lay in the NW of the area, and a larger, rounded feature, **26** (figure 12) with a concave base lay to the E. Although their fills were very different, both had stones near their bases, possibly remnants of post pads or packing.

This area was dominated by the hut circle, see below.

Figure 8 – SE area.

Light blue line is site boundary



HUT CIRCLE FIGURE 9

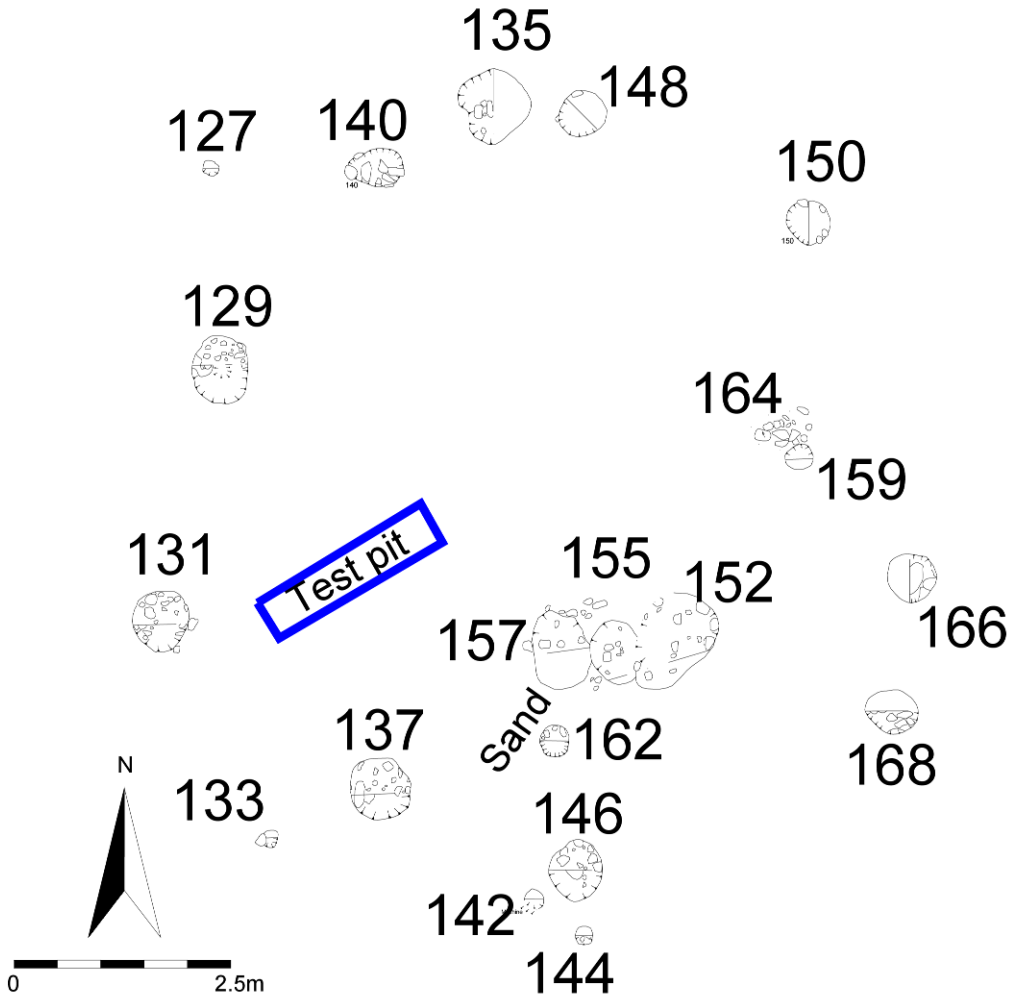
The 9m diameter hut circle comprises eight large postholes, **129**, **131**, **135**, **137**, **146**, **150**, **166** and **168** (figures 16, 17 and 18), the last two of which are close together (1.5m apart), forming a probable entrance in the SW. The others, reading anticlockwise from the entrance, are spaced at 4.0m, 3.3m, 4.3m, 3.1m, 3.2m, 2.6m, and 3.9m apart. The cuts of these features are similar, with steep sides and a concave base, and all contain fills with charcoal inclusions. Packing stones or post pads were present in all cases, and two , **129** and **146**, contained traces of post-pipes. Several had bracing stones beside the cuts. It is assumed the features belong to a primary phase of construction.

Adjacent to or just outwith the circle of large postholes are six smaller postholes. Of these, four – **133**, **140**, **144** and **146** (figures 16 and 17) – contain charcoal-rich fills and are close to one or more larger postholes. These may well represent a secondary phase of construction. Of the other two small postholes at or near the periphery, **127**, differed in morphology from those of the secondary phase, while **142** resembled the postholes of the fence line in the SW area both in shape and fill.

Two small postholes, **159** and **162**, were found within the hut circle. The former contained a post pad and common comminuted charcoal, and may be associated with the adjacent hearth, **164** (figure 18), see below. **162** (figure 18), in contrast, contained vertical packing stones and little charcoal, despite lying close to the major hearth complex.

C14 dates of a number of features within the hut circle recorded variable dates but indicating possible reuse of the hut circle, which compliments the excavation results. Of the fills **136** and **141**, both post-holes, this revealed dates of 2664 ± 34 BP or 714 ± 34 giving a date range of 748-680 BC and respectively a date of 2813 ± 34 BP or 863 ± 34 giving a date range of 897-829 BC or an Iron Age date. However the fill of the hearth, context **153**, revealed a date of 5959 ± 34 BP or 4009 ± 34 giving a date range of 4043-3975 BC or Neolithic date. The fills of two other post-holes in the structure, **158** and **161** gave a date of 4153 ± 34 BP or 2203 ± 34 giving a date range of 2237-2169 BC or a Bronze Age date, whilst the later gave a date of 2868 ± 34 BP or 918 ± 34 giving a date range of 952-884 BC or a late Bronze Age date.

Figure 9 – Hut circle.



THE PITS

Seven large circular features, **27**, **32**, **54**, **62**, **72**, **74** and **80** (figures 12, 13, and 15) were recorded across the site. They ranged in size from 0.92m to 1.3m diameter, and were truncated. For a comparison of their characteristics, see Table 1. All are interpreted as pits.

Pits **26**¸**54**, **72** and **74** all contained abundant large stones with a larger proportion of granite to sandstone than was noted over the rest of the site; some stones of both types were burnt. Pit **80** also contained burnt stones but these were smaller and the charcoal in the fill more abundant. C14 of this primary fill **81** revealed a date of 1784 ± 34 BP or 166 ± 34 giving a date range of 200-132 BC or Iron Age date.

There was a sharp, vertical demarcation between the north and south parts of the fill of pit **74**; the northern part resembled the other stony fills, but the southern was more or less devoid of stones. It is possible that this feature had already been half-sectioned.

Table 1 Characteristics of pits

Pit	Sides	Base	Fill	Comments
26	Sloping	Concave	Common charcoal, many stones, some burnt	
32	Sloping	Concave	Topsoil with natural	Rapidly backfilled, probably recent
54	Sloping	Concave	Common charcoal, many stones, some burnt	
62	Sloping	Concave	Charcoal, especially in centre	
72	Steep	Flat	Common charcoal, many stones, some burnt	
74	Steep	Flat	Many stones in N, absent in S	Looks to have been sectioned already
80	Sloping	Concave	Common charcoal, many small stones, some burnt	Possibly industrial?

Samples by Pete Higgins

The sampling process

As part of the excavation a series of general bulk samples was taken. Sample size varied according to the volume and nature of the feature: post-hole samples were in the region of 2 to 5 litres, while more substantial samples of 5 to 15 litres were taken from larger contexts. All samples were processed by water flotation, the resultant flots being collected on a 250mm mesh. The flots were sorted under x10 magnification; residues were scanned under x5 magnification, and sorted under x10 if results warranted. Any identifiable and quantifiable ecofacts were extracted for identification.

Preliminary identifications were made using the author's reference collection; further identification and analysis was planned if results warranted, but was not undertaken. Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Stace (1991).

The absence of bone and shell is assumed to be due to the slightly acidic taphonomic conditions (pH of the soil samples averaged 6.3 +/-0.3).

Very unusually, no artefacts of any type were recovered from the samples, although fire-crazing was present on some stones from contexts in which it had been noted in the field.

Results

32 samples were sorted, of which 25 produced small quantities of charred seeds and other ecofacts. The results are displayed in Table 1 and are discussed below. Preservation was generally moderate to very poor, reducing the level of identification possible.

The few cereal grains were mainly barley (Hordeum sp), with a single possible oat (Avena sp). Given the poor condition of the grains and the absence of any chaff it was not possible to be more precise with the identification.

Weeds were dominated by arable/ruderal species such as Chenopodium sp (fat hen type), Polygonum sp and Stellaria cf media (chickweed).

Some evidence of hedgerow species species and possibly collection of wild resources is present in the form of hazelnut shell (Corylus avellana) and raspberry and blackberry (Rubus spp), although the former could have entered the assemblage with firewood.

The high concentrations of clover/trefoil, Trifolium sp, from the fills of pit **80** and posthole **102** are consistent with these features being recent, and open at a time when the field was laid to clover.

The samples from the hut circle postholes did not noticeably differ from those recovered from the rest of the site, although both Rubus (berries) and Cruciferare (cabbage family) were slightly more abundant.

Sample 18, from one of the parallel ditches, shows a high count of Chenopodiaceae, a family which includes fat hen and other fodder species, but again the poor condition of the material precludes any firm conclusions being drawn.

Table 1 Plant remains

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	32
	Context	**11**	**14**	**17**	**27**	**35**	**39**	**41**	**43**	**47**	**49**	**55**	**61**	**73**	**71**	**103**	**107**	**81**	**130**	**136**	**147**	**141**	**153**	**158**	**161**	**172**
	Volume (l)	5	5	3	3	5	7	5	4	3	5	5	5	4	9	8	4	8	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
	Hut Circle																		+	+	+	+				
	Hearth																						+	+	+	
Cereal																										
Cf Hordeum sp					1															3						
Hordeum sp				1																						
Cf Avena sp																				1						
Non-cereal																										
Cruciferae			31									9	8											4		
cf Cruciferae					3									18	8				2	8		2	1			
Chenopodiaceae		7		1			8			8	14	10	4	3	45	31	7	5	4	2		2	8			11
Trifolium sp												1	1		1	10		51				1	4			
Rubus cf fruticosus															1				3				2		2	
Rubus cf idaeus			1						2			1										3				
cf Polygonum sp								14																		
Polygonaceae																1	2									
Scleranthus annuus						1																				
Stellaria cf media						15																				
Galium apraine								3	1		2	1														
Rumex sp				3					15	6	1			3	1		4		3		1				2	
cf Stachys sp						2																				1
Anthemis cotula						4																				
Plantago sp										1				1												
Mentha sp														1												
Malva sp																									2	

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	32
	Context	**11**	**14**	**17**	**27**	**35**	**39**	**41**	**43**	**47**	**49**	**55**	**61**	**73**	**71**	**103**	**107**	**81**	**130**	**136**	**147**	**141**	**153**	**158**	**161**	**172**
	Volume (l)	5	5	3	3	5	7	5	4	3	5	5	5	4	9	8	4	8	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
	Hut Circle																		+	+	+	+				
	Hearth																						+	+	+	
Corylus avellana									3		2													1		
Poaceae											1		4					1								
Spp indet						1		4	1				3	1	4	1			2	1	1	3				
Moss capsule				2								1				4				2				1		1

Table 2 Arthropoda

Arthropoda	**Sample**	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	32
Pupal fragments, cf Diptera			7		1	4		17				1				10							1			
Egg case, sp indet				1										6			1		1		1				4	
Coleopteran elytra/carapace				1												3										
Larval fragments. cf Diptera								20	1																	
Oniscoidea																6		1	8							
Other								1						1	1			3	4							

Discussion

Charred plant remains occurred in low to moderate densities in the samples (average 3.92 per litre overall; 2.4 if samples from probably recent features are ignored), but were more or less consistently present. The presence of cereal remains points to some cereal utilisation although counts are low. The complete absence of chaff makes it difficult to be certain of identification, especially for the oat, but does not suggest processing of harvested grain.

The cereal crop record, though scant, is consistent with many other sites in northern Scotland. Barley is both wind and salt tolerant, so is well suited to northern coastal environments. It formed the principal cereal throughout mainland Scotland and the islands for many centuries (Boyd 1988).

The weed assemblages include several families which contain species characteristic of spring-sown barley, such as Chenopodium album and Stellaria media. Again, the poor preservation has not allowed identification to species level, and seeds from these families could enter the assemblages from a variety of other routes.

A few hedgerow indicators are present, Corylus avellana and Rubus spp; there is no evidence of heathland exploitation such as the use of turves for fuel. Interestingly, the number of taxa present was quite large (19), suggesting a provenance from a variety of habitats, either available contemporaneously or varying over time.

A number of arthropod remains were found. Those of the Oniscoidea (woodlice) are assumed to be intrusive, and the high frequencies in samples 7 and 17 are both from contexts (**41** and **103**) which other evidence suggests are of recent date.

The absence of artefacts is a little puzzling, especially since some samples were taken in the vicinity of occupation, but is consistent with the lack of finds across the site.

Sample 19 contained a large quantity of charcoal, mainly as lumps although a few Roundwood fragments were present and it is worth noting that these all showed marked or severe curvature of the annual rings, indicating they were from the ends of limbs; this is consistent with the gathering of brushwood. None have been identified to species level.

5. DISCUSSION

Although the fence line running from the SW to the NW areas is not shown on the 25" 1st edition OS maps (Ross-shire sheet LXV.8, surveyed 1874) it is perpendicular to those that are, and is thus assumed to have been made at the same time, or later, possibly during the use of this area by the RAF in WW2. It is probably the grubbed-out remains of this fence that were noted in the 'wire dump' in the SW area. It is possible that other fence lines were made perpendicular to it, see features **111**, **113** and **142**, and possibly **3**, **5**, **7** and **9**. Some of the other, isolated, features may also date from the same period. The only artefacts dating from this period are the slate fragments noted in the topsoil in the east of the site.

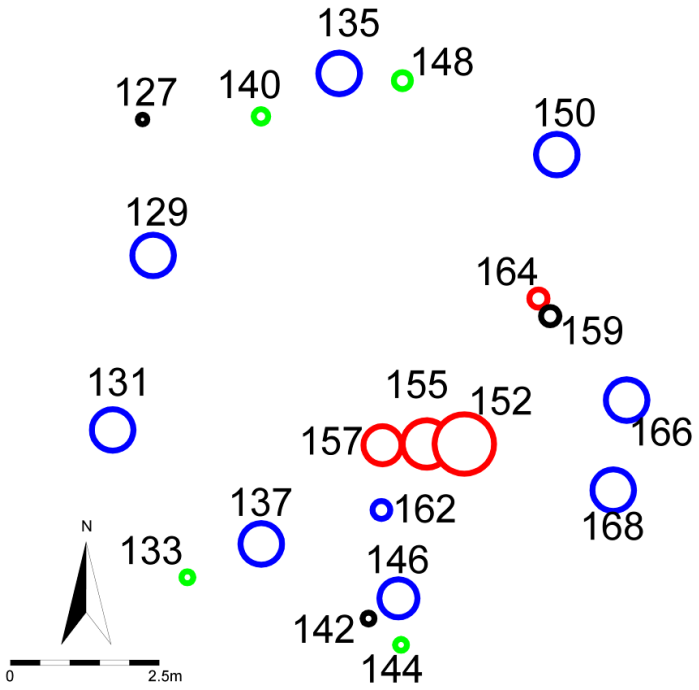
Traces of earlier land divisions survive, including the three ditches in the SW area, and possibly the lines formed by **18**, **20** and **22**; and **28**, **169**, **171** and **175**. The latter line more or less follows the crest of the brae.

The hut circle shows signs of at least two phases of construction and, as in the slightly smaller example found during the evaluation, no floor or occupation layers survived. A sequence of shallow hearths, **152**, **155**, and **157** lie just within the probable SW entrance and are similar to domestic hearths found in other hut circles, while another, deeper hearth, **164**, is slightly N of the entrance and may well relate to an industrial activity though processing of a sample from this context was negative. It is noticeable that three tree throws form an arc to the NW of the hut circle, and may be the remnants of a screen.

The dating evidence gives an indication of use in the Bronze Age and Iron Age, the date of the Neolithic may be an intrusion due to peat being used in the fire. Pottery found in the evaluation phase of works, possibly gives an indication that the site was in use in the Bronze Age with no indication of a use in the Neolithic. Likewise the dating of the field system boundary, context 71, may also be incorrect.

Figure 10 – Possible phases of hut circle.

Primary construction – blue. Secondary construction – green. Hearths – red.
Features probably unrelated to the hut circle - black



The pits **27**, **54**, **62**, **72**, **74** and **80** all contained charcoal, and most also had burnt stones, although there was little or no sign of *in situ* heating. The soil samples from pits may reveal more of their function, possibly as dumps for waste from an as yet unidentified industrial process. Pit **32**, though similar in form differed in its fill, and may have served a different function.

Many of the features found can be related neither to each other nor to existing features such as land divisions.

Fewer features were found to the W of the ditches than the E, despite the better protection presumably afforded by a greater depth of topsoil at the base of the brae.

Overall, the number and varied types of features attest a long period of moderately intensive use of the site.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The planning consent appears to include land to the W and S of this phase of development, and specifies only opening areas around features identified in the 2005 evaluation. In light of the discoveries made during this phase it is recommended that the developer be requested to commission a voluntary watching brief on topsoil stripping and level reductions for any further developments.

7. DISCOVERY & EXCAVATION

A short summary of the results will be submitted to Archaeology Scotland's publication *Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*. *OASIS* no. 259959.

8. REFERENCES

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- Staff of O'Brien Homes Ltd for onsite works.

10. ARCHIVE

The following is to be deposited in the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) in Edinburgh:
- Notebook of results
- Copy of this report
- Photos on Disc
- C14 Sheets
- Drawings and Sections

A set of digital images showing the results of the work has been deposited with the Highland Council Archaeologist.

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7. ILLUSTRATIONS

Note – hatching denotes charcoal-rich soil

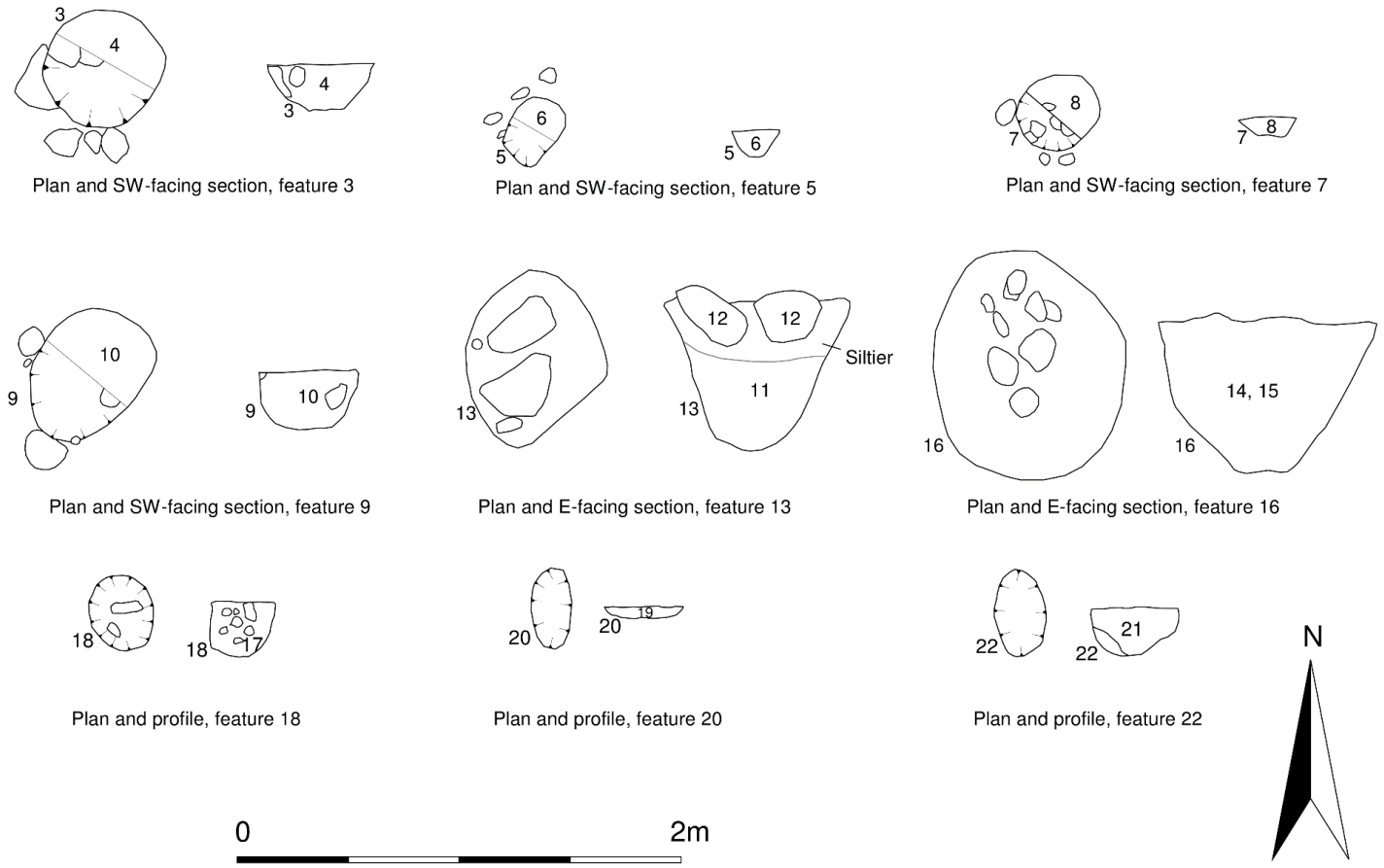

Figure 11 – Features 3 to 22.

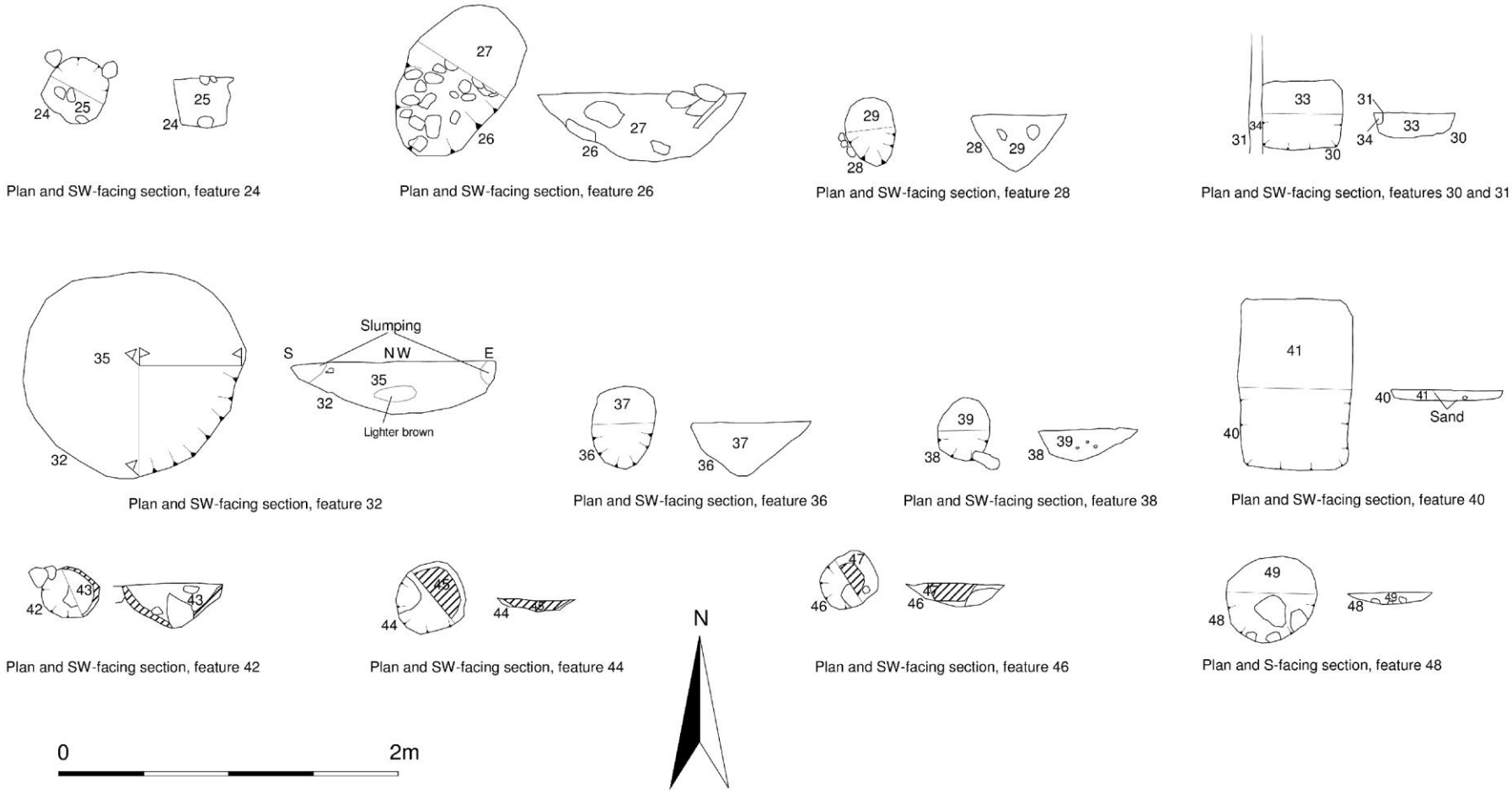

Figure 12 – Features 24 to 48.

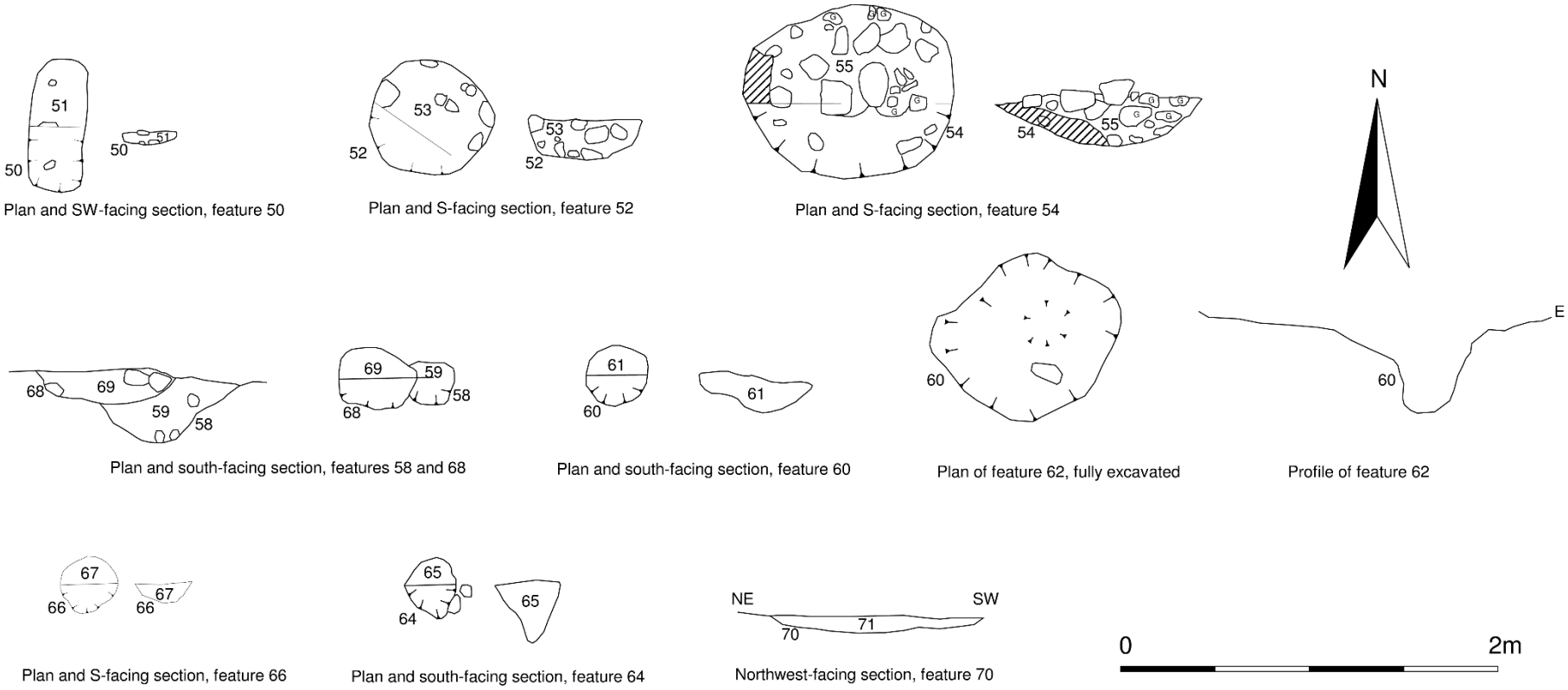

Figure 13 – Features 50 to 70.

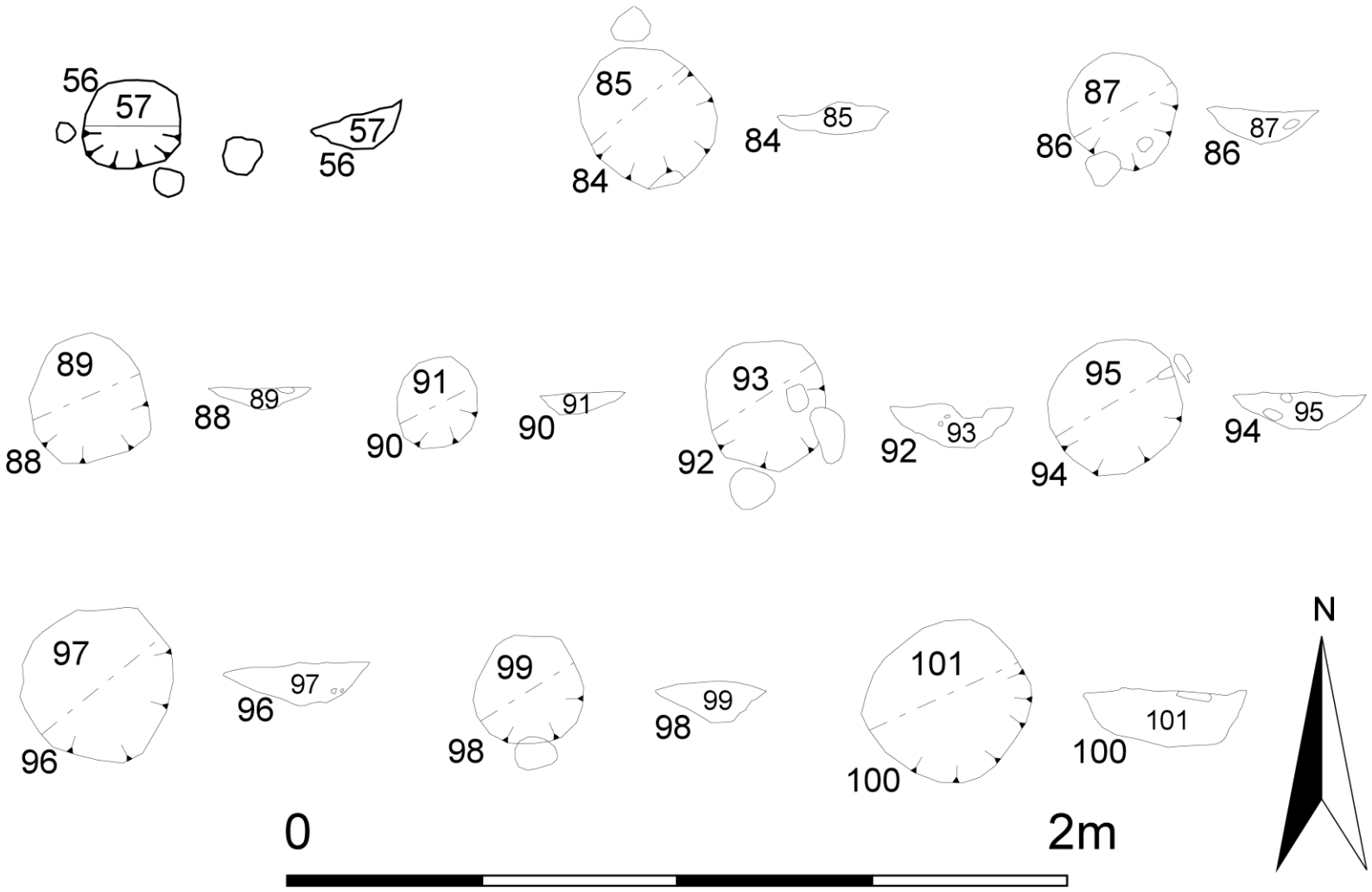

Figure14 – Features forming fence line in SW and NW areas.

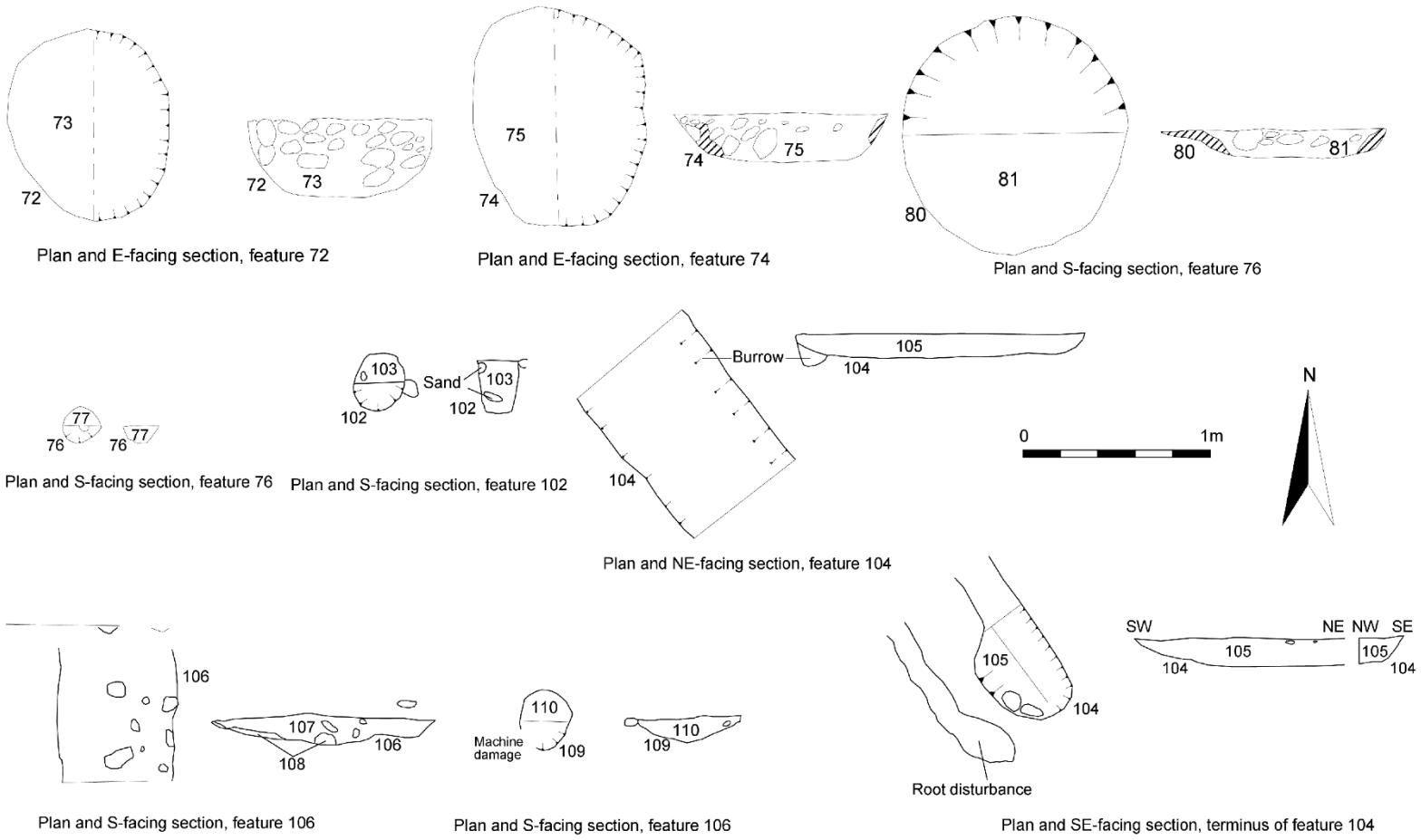

Figure 15 – Features 72 to 76, 80, and 102 to 106.

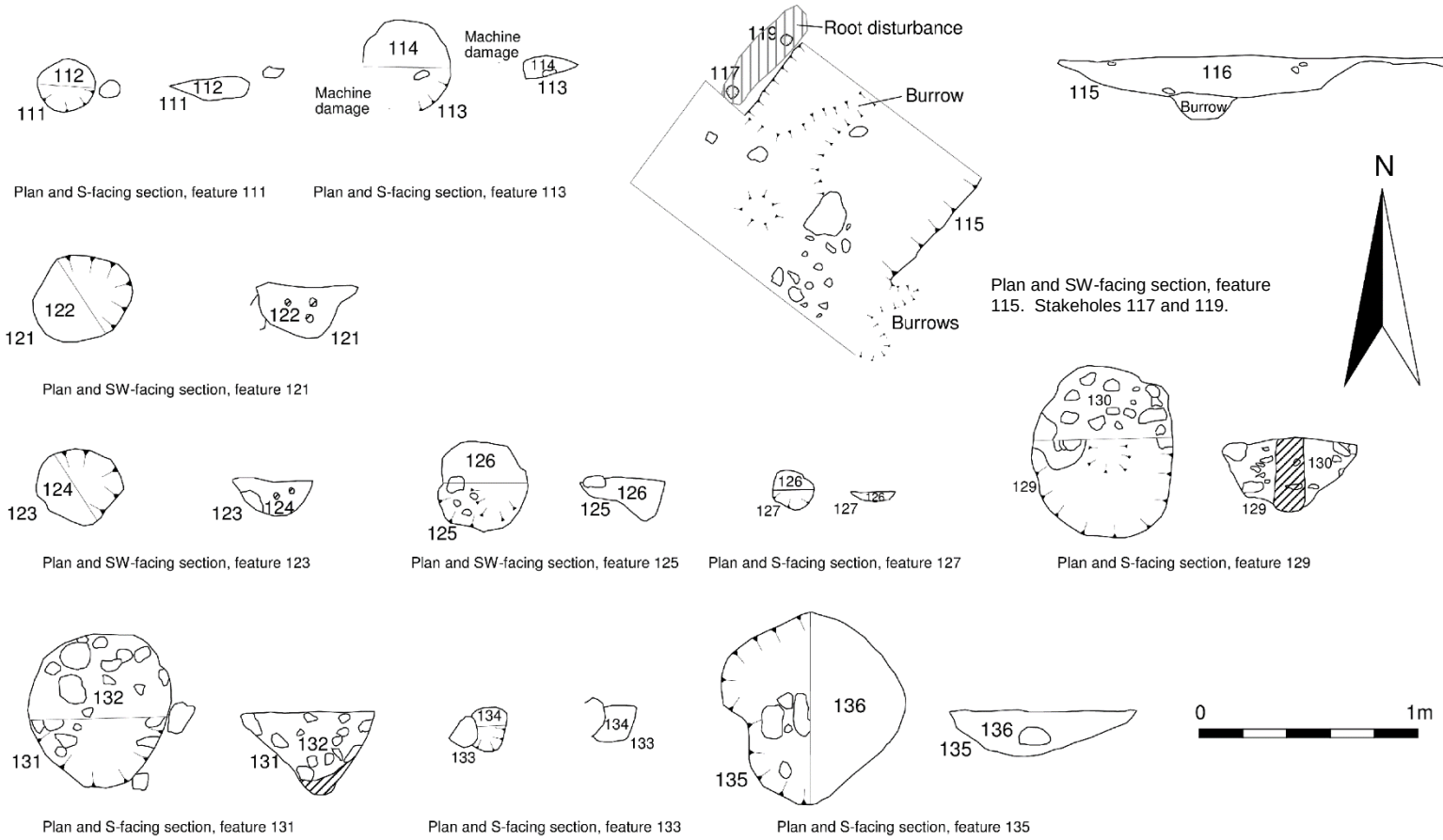

Figure 16 – Features 111 to 135.

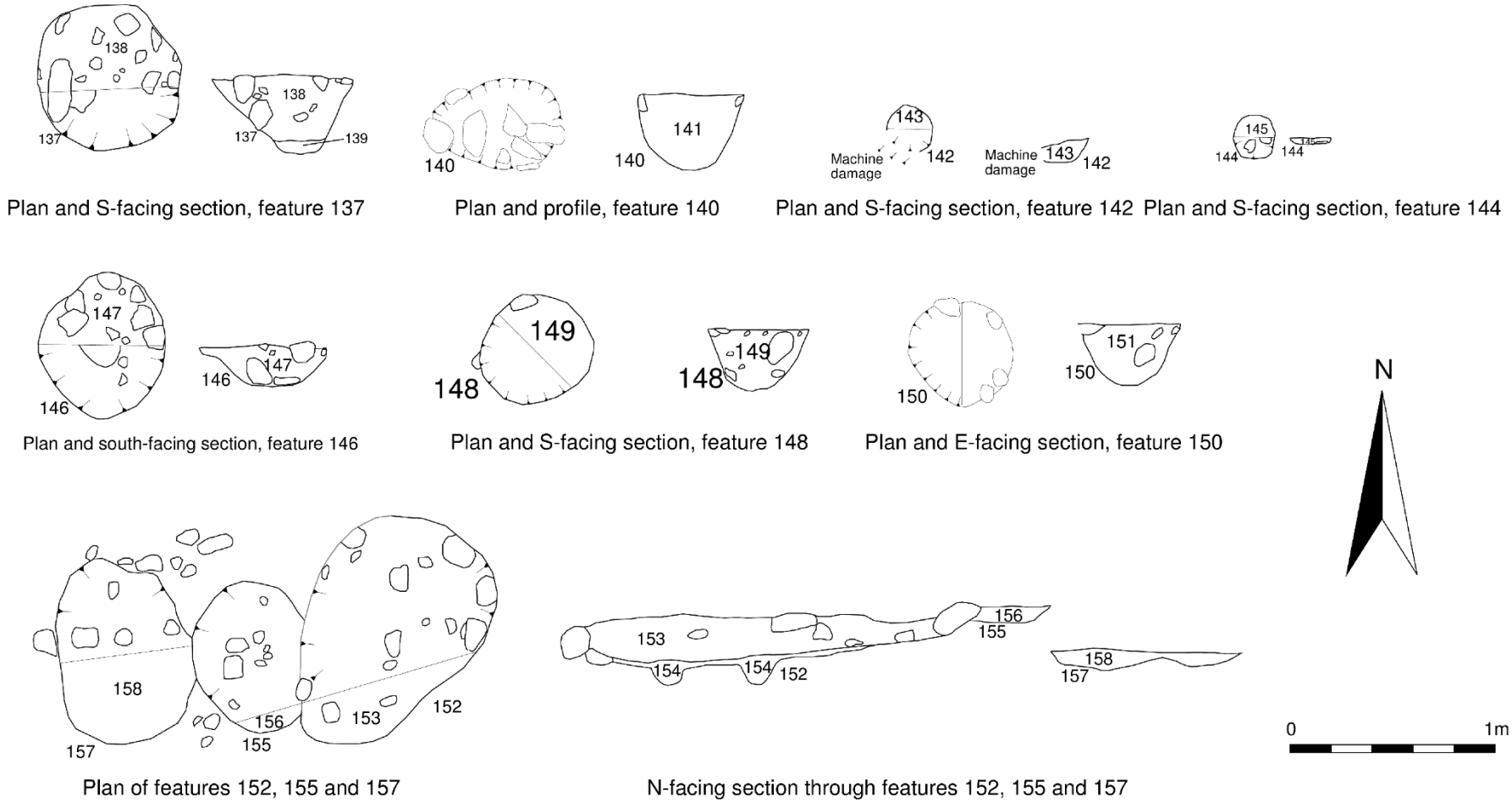

Figure 17 – Features 137 to 157.

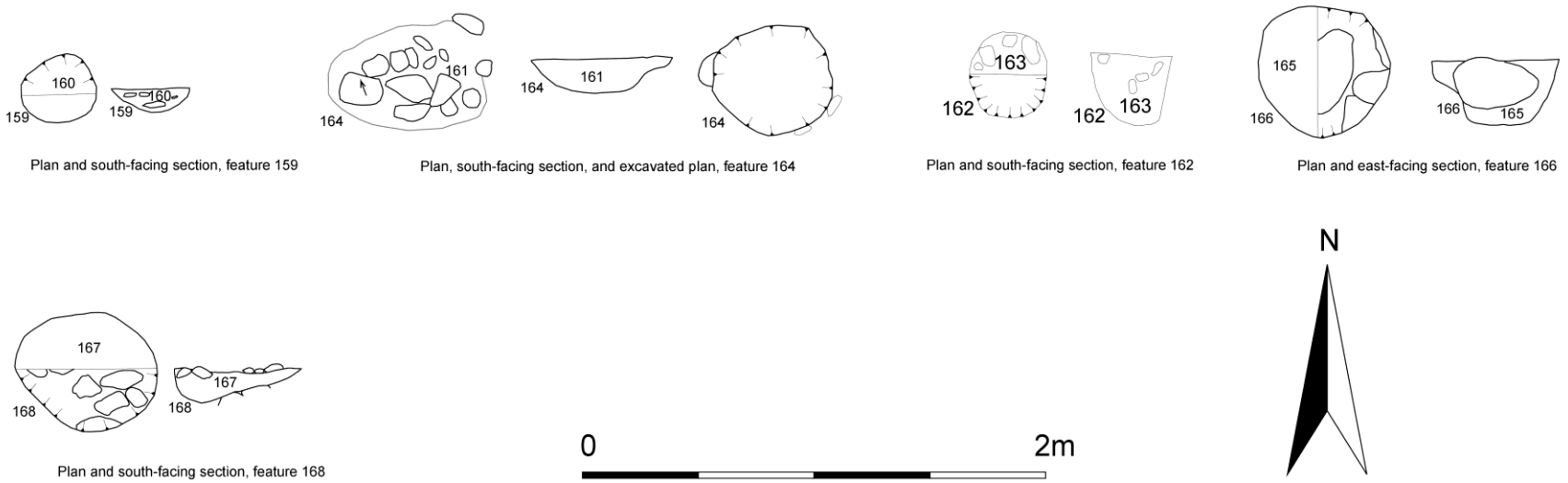

Figure 18 – Features 159 to 168.

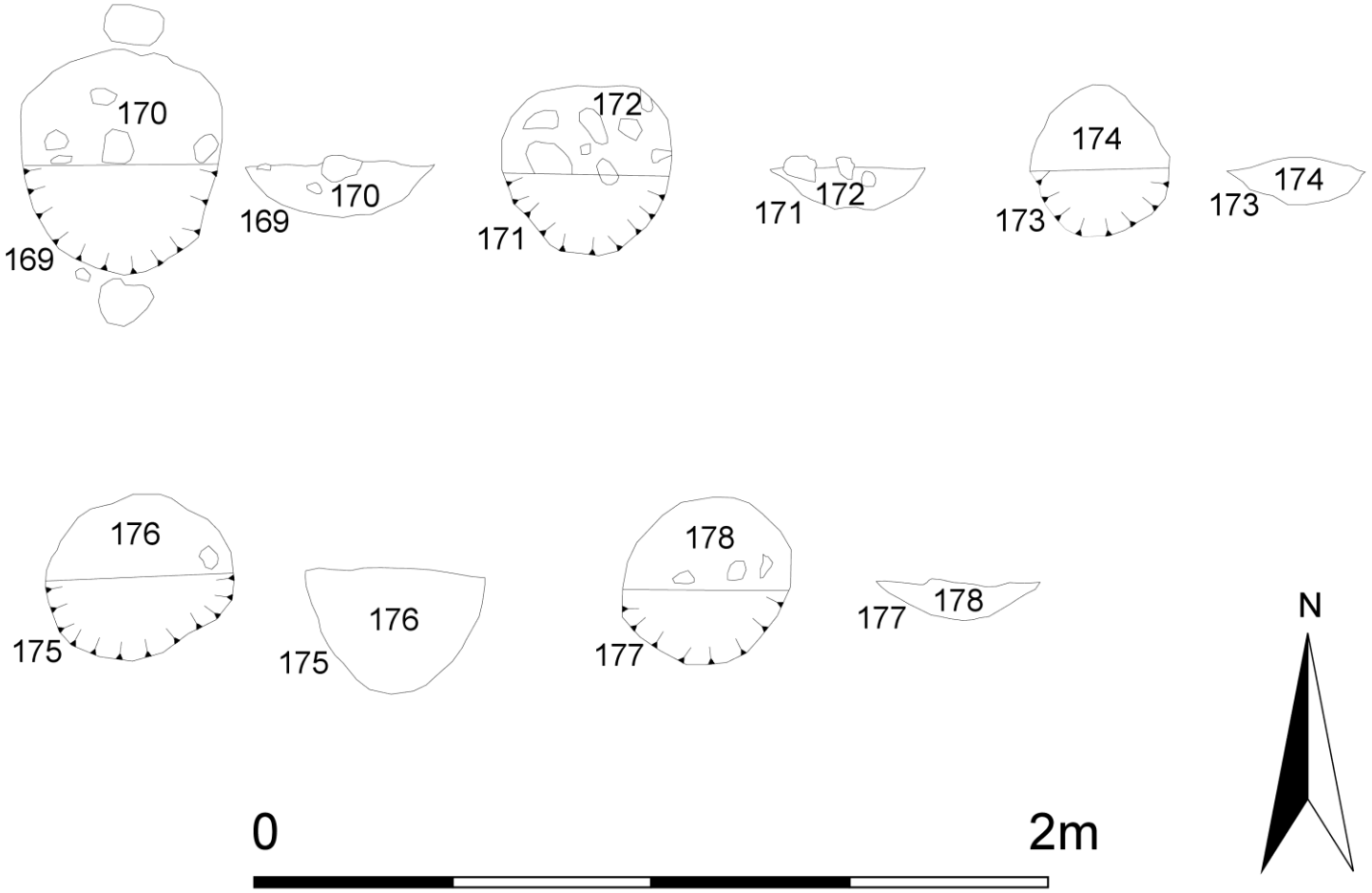

Figure 19 – Features 169 to 177.

Plate 1 – Feature **72** half-sectioned. Photograph 232

Plate 2 – Feature **80** half-sectioned. Photograph 303

Plate 3 – The fence line in the SW and NW areas. Photograph 249

Plate 4 – Ditches **70** (right), **104** (left, foreground) and **106** (left middle distance. Centre lines marked with flags. Photograph 291

Plate 5 – Hut circle posthole **146** half-sectioned. Photograph 146

Plate 6 – Hut circle excavated. Photograph 365

Appendix 1 – Context Table

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
1	Layer	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam, moderately well mixed. Very occasional slate fragments in E.	Site	Layer		0.58	**-**	**2**, **4**, **6**, **8**, **10**, **12**, **23**, **27**, **29**	Topsoil, cultivated within the last 20 years or so
2	Layer	Strong orangey-brown to pale grey silty sand and gravel. Both colour and texture variable. Surface undulates, often with sub-rounded stones or sand in the hollows.	Site	Layer		>0.35	**3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 26, 28**	**UE**	Natural deposit. Raised marine deposit?
3	Feature	Sub-circular, steep-sided, more or less flat-bottomed feature. Stones border the cut to the NW.			0.20	0.49	**4**	**2**	Posthole, with bracing stones to NW.
4	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam. Uniform throughout.			0.20	0.49	**1**	**3**	Fill of posthole, probably rapidly deposited.
5	Feature	Sub-circular, sloping-sided, more or less round-bottomed feature. Stones border the cut to the NE.	0.30	0.23		0.12	**6**	**2**	Posthole, with bracing stones to NW.
6	Fill	Black silty sandy loam (but no evidence of charcoal). Uniform throughout.	0.30	0.23		0.12	**1**	**5**	Fill of posthole, probably rapidly deposited.

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
									Bracing stones present.
7	Feature	Sub-circular, sloping-sided, more or less round-bottomed feature. Stones border the cut to the NE and line base. Those at base are burnt.	0.38	0.32		0.10	**8**	**2**	Posthole, with bracing stones to NW.
8	Fill	Black silty sandy loam with charcoal flecks. Uniform throughout.	0.38	0.32		0.10	**1**	**7**	Fill of posthole, probably rapidly deposited. Bracing stones present.
9	Feature	Sub-circular, steep-sided, more or less flat-bottomed feature. Stones border the cut to the NE and NW.	0.50	0.46		0.26	**10**	**2**	Posthole, with bracing stones to NW.
10	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam. Uniform throughout. Single granite stone in centre of base.	0.50	0.46		0.26	**1**	**9**	Fill of posthole, probably rapidly deposited. Basal stone present.
11	Fill	Blackish grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks and small to medium irregularly shaped stones.	0.58	0.50		0.32	**12**	**13**	Fill of posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
12	Fill	Two large stones in silty matrix, at top of feature	0.58	0.50		0.20	**1**	**11**	Packing of posthole
13	Feature	Sub-oval, steep-sided, round-bottomed feature.	0.58	0.50		0.32	**11**	**2**	Posthole with packing stones present.
14	Fill	Greyish black sandy silt with charcoal flecks	0.55	0.50		0.34	**1**	**15**	Fill of posthole
15	Fill	Medium angular and rounded stones packed tightly together, some heated-crazed. Smaller stones at bottom, larger above	0.50	0.45		0.34	**14**	**16**	Packing of posthole
16	Feature	Sub-oval, steep-sided, round-bottomed feature	0.55	0.50		0.34	**15**	**2**	Posthole with packing stones present.
17	Fill	Greyish black sandy silt with charcoal flecks. Rounded stones, smaller stones at bottom, larger above			0.33	0.23	**1**	**17**	Fill of posthole
18	Feature	Oval feature with irregular sides and flattish base			0.33	0.23	**17**	**2**	Posthole with packing stones present. Forms straight N/S line with **20** and **22**
19	Fill	Blackish grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks	0.36	0.26		0.05	**1**	**20**	Fill of scoop/truncated posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
20	Feature	Shallow, sub-oval feature with sloping sides and flat base	0.36	0.26		0.05	**19**	**2**	Scoop or truncated posthole. Forms straight N/S line with **18** and **22**
21	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks, mainly in centre	0.19	0.24		0.10	**1**	**22**	Fill of possible stake/posthole
22	Feature	Oval feature with irregular sides and rounded base	0.19	0.24		0.10	**21**	**2**	Possible stake/posthole
23	Layer	Pale greyish brown silty sand, not completely sorted. Discontinuous layer found in hollows of surface of **2**, and in patches at the top of the brae. Not cut by any features.	-	-		0.06	**1**	**2**	Natural sub-soil
24	Feature	Sub-circular feature, vertical sides, flat bottom	0.36	0.31		0.26	**25**	**2**	Posthole
25	Fill	Pale greyish brown silty sandy loam, with common large, rounded stones. One large stone at bottom of cut.	0.36	0.31		0.26	**1**	**24**	Fill of posthole, with basal stone
26	Feature	Sub-oval feature, sloping sides, concave base. Sides slightly burnt in places.	0.83	0.58		0.19	**27**	**2**	Pit. Possibly used as a dump for fire residue.
27	Fill	Black silty loam with common charcoal flecks and common sub-rounded, sub-angular and tabular stones, especially at base.	0.83	0.58		0.19	**1**	**26**	Fill of pit.

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
28	Feature	Sub-oval feature with sloping sides and concave, almost pointed bottom. Stones border the cut to the SW.	0.39	0.29		0.19	**29**	**2**	Posthole, with bracing stones.
29	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam, rather loose.	0.39	0.29		0.19	**1**	**28**	Fill of posthole
30	Feature	Sub-rectangular feature with vertical sides and flat bottom; slightly deeper at E side. Cut by plough mark **31**	0.48	0.40		0.15	**33**	**2**	Uncertain function. Vertical sides and one side deeper may indicate it was spade-cut.
31	Feature	Vertical-sides linear feature running SW/NE near top of brae	>1.3	0.06		0.08	**34**	**2**	Plough mark
32	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave base.	1.30	1.20		0.15	**35**	**2**	Pit of uncertain function. Similar to, but larger than, **26**
33	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam mixed with redeposited natural.	0.48	0.40		0.15	**1**	**32**	A recent and rapid backfill

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
34	Fill	Greyish brown sandy loam, very firm	>1.3	0.06		0.08	**1**	**31**	Fill of plough mark - distinguished from topsoil only by slightly lighter colour and greater compaction
35	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam, very firm; lighter brown lens in centre. Resembles topsoil, but less humic content. Slumping at rim of feature, possibly due to burrowing. No evidence of primary fill.	>1.4	0.06		0.08	**1**	**32**	Fill of pit.
36	Feature	Sub-oval feature with sloping sides and concave base	0.49	0.35		0.16	**37**	**2**	Large posthole. Long axis is at right angles to the nearby site boundary to the NE, so this may be a strainer post.
37	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam, partly mixed, blobs of natural gravel present	0.49	0.35		0.16	**1**	**36**	Recent backfill of posthole
38	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave bottom; large stone just outside SE edge	0.36	0.31		0.09	**39**	**2**	Posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
39	Fill	Pale brown silty loam with very rare charcoal flecks; rather loose	0.36	0.31		0.09	**1**	**38**	Fill of posthole
40	Feature	Sub-rectangular feature with vertical sides and flat bottom. At base of brae.	0.80	0.66		0.06	**41**	**2**	Truncated. Similar to but larger than **30**
41	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam; a mix of topsoil and natural, both still in large lumps	0.80	0.66		0.06	**1**	**40**	Rapid and recent fill of posthole
42	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave bottom; two large stones just outside NW edge			0.32	0.13	**43**	**2**	Posthole
43	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam with abundant charcoal concentrated in centre			0.32	0.13	**1**	**42**	Fill of posthole, which may have been burnt
44	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave bottom			0.39	0.08	**45**	**2**	Posthole, very truncated
45	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam with abundant charcoal and common sub-rounded stones at bottom			0.39	0.08	**1**	**44**	Fill of posthole
46	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave bottom	0.31	0.25		0.07	**48**	**2**	Posthole, very truncated
47	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam with abundant charcoal concentrated in centre	0.31	0.25		0.07	**1**	**46**	Fill of posthole, which may have been burnt

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
48	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave bottom; large stone in centre of base	0.50	0.43		0.06	**49**	**2**	Posthole, very truncated
49	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam with abundant charcoal throughout	0.50	0.43		0.06	**1**	**48**	Fill of posthole
50	Feature	Elongated sub-rectangular feature with steep sides and flat base	0.61	0.28		0.05	**51**	**2**	Truncated feature of uncertain function. Filled with topsoil, so recent.
51	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam; well-developed crumb structure. Indistinguishable from topsoil	0.61	0.28		0.05	**1**	**50**	Recent fill of truncated feature
52	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and concave base	0.67	0.60		0.20	**53**	**2**	Post pad?
53	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam matrix with abundant closely-packed sub-rounded to sub-angular stones	0.67	0.60		0.20	**1**	**52**	Fill of post pad
54	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and slightly concave base. No signs of heating in edges			1.10	0.32	**55**	**2**	Pit

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
55	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam matrix with abundant medium to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones; almost half are decayed granite, remainder sandstone. Most stones in W and base slightly burnt. Abundant charcoal in same areas.			1.10	0.32	**1**	**54**	Possible residue of industrial process involving heat. Deposited when cool.
56	Feature	Sub-circular feature, sloping sides, concave base. Very truncated			0.22	0.06	**57**	**2**	Truncated posthole. Part of fence line.
57	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam			0.22	0.06	**1**	**56**	Fill of posthole
58	Feature	Sub-circular feature, sloping sides, concave base			0.28	0.14	**59**	**2**	Posthole
59	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam			0.28	0.14	**68**	**58**	Fill of posthole
60	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and irregular base. No signs of heating in sides.	0.32	0.28		0.08	**61**	**2**	Truncated posthole.
61	Fill	Very dark greyish brown sandy loam with abundant comminuted charcoal	0.32	0.28		0.08	**1**	**60**	Fill of posthole
62	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish with concave centre. No signs of heating in edges			0.92	0.27	**63**	**2**	Pit? Or posthole with post dug out?
63	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam with abundant comminuted charcoal, nearly all in centre			0.92	0.27	**2**	**62**	Fill of posthole
64	Feature	Irregularly circular feature with steep sides and pointed base	0.23	0.17		0.16	**65**	**2**	Post/stakehole
65	Fill	Black sandy loam with more than 30% comminuted charcoal	0.23	0.17		0.16	**1**	**64**	Fill of post/stakehole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
66	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and concave base			0.28	0.08	**67**	**2**	Truncated posthole
67	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam - appears to be redeposited topsoil			0.28	0.08	**1**	**66**	Fill of posthole
68	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and concave base	0.34	0.31		0.08	**69**	**59**	Posthole. Probable re-cut of **58**
69	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam/gravel; rather loose	0.34	0.31		0.08	**1**	**68**	Fill of posthole
70	Feature	Shallow, flat-bottomed linear running more or less NW/SE	>9.5	0.60		0.05	**71**	**2**	Truncated ditch. Part of field system
71	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam, with common blobs of natural sand	>9.6	0.60		0.05	**1**	**70**	Primary fill of ditch
72	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and flat bottom. No signs of heating in sides.	1.05	1.00		0.43	**73**	**2**	Large pit
73	Fill	Brownish grey sandy silt with common large rounded and angular stones, some fire-crazed, and charcoal flecks	1.05	1.00		0.43	**72**	**1**	Possible residue of industrial process involving heat. Deposited when cool.
74	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and flat bottom. No signs of heating in sides.	1.20	1.16		0.26	**75**	**2**	Pit. Similar to **72**

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
75	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt with common large rounded and angular stones, and charcoal flecks. Stones absent on S side	1.20	1.16		0.26	**1**	**74**	Possible residue of industrial process involving heat. Deposited when cool. Appears to have been sectioned previously.
76	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and almost flat base			0.19	0.09	**77**	**2**	Posthole
77	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam, rather firm			0.19	0.09	**1**	**76**	Fill of posthole
78		Tree throw							
79		Tree throw fill							
80	Feature	Circular feature with irregular sides and flattish base. No signs of heating in sides			1.20	0.13	**81**	**2**	Truncated pit
81	Fill	Black sandy silt with abundant charcoal, especially at the edges, and common small to medium stones			1.20	0.13	**1**	**80**	Possible residue of industrial process involving heat. Deposited when cool.
82		Tree throw							

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
83		Tree throw							
84	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.29	0.07	**85**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
85	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.29	0.07	**1**	**84**	Fill of posthole
86	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.29	0.07	**87**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
87	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.29	0.07	**1**	**86**	Fill of posthole
88	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.27	0.07	**89**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
89	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.27	0.07	**1**	**88**	Fill of posthole
90	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.23	0.05	**91**	**2**	Posthole
91	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.23	0.05	**1**	**90**	Fill of posthole
92	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.32	0.10	**91**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
93	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.32	0.10	**1**	**92**	Fill of posthole
94	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.34	0.09	**93**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
95	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.34	0.09	**1**	**94**	Fill of posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
96	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.38	0.16	**95**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
97	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.38	0.16	**1**	**96**	Fill of posthole
98	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base			0.30	0.09	**97**	**2**	Posthole. Part of fence line
99	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.30	0.09	**1**	**98**	Fill of posthole
100	Feature	Sub-circular feature, steep sides, concave base			0.42	0.15	**101**	**2**	Posthole. Larger than other in the fence line, and slightly off-line - probable strainer
101	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam; rather loose, not completely mixed			0.42	0.15	**1**	**100**	Fill of posthole
102	Feature	Sub-circular feature with almost vertical, slightly tapering sides and flat bottom. At centre of S end of track in field system	0.30	0.23		0.28	**103**	**2**	Posthole
103	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty sandy loam, rather loose and with abundant comminuted charcoal. A few lumps of almost unmixed natural sand	0.30	0.23		0.28	**1**	**102**	Recent ? fill of posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
104	Feature	Faint remains of a linear feature, little more than stains and panning in places. Runs more or less NE/SW, parallel to **70** and curving to NW at northerly end. No termini visible.	30.00	0.75		0.05	**105**	**2**	Ditch, forming part of field system
105	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam with rare charcoal flecks	30.00	0.75		0.05	**1**	**104**	Fill of ditch
106	Feature	Faint remains of a linear feature, little more than stains and panning in places. Runs more or less NE/SW, parallel to **70** and curving to SW at southerly end. Continuation of **104**. No termini visible.	19.00	0.61		0.04	**108**	**2**	Ditch, forming part of field system
107	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam with rare charcoal flecks and a few stones	19.00	0.61		0.04	**1**	**107**	Fill of ditch
108	Fill	Very pale greyish brown sand and gravel. Looks like, and probably is, redeposited natural. Discontinuous.	-	-		0.02	**107**	**106**	Primary fill of ditch
109	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and concave base. Stone on W border.			0.26	0.06	**110**	**2**	Posthole
110	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam, only partly mixed			0.26	0.06	**1**	**109**	Fill of posthole
111	Feature	Circular feature with irregular sides and base			0.22	0.05	**112**	**2**	Posthole
112	Fill	Greyish brown sandy loam, rather loose			0.22	0.05	**1**	**111**	Fill of posthole
113	Feature	Circular feature with irregular sides and base			0.24	0.05	**112**	**2**	Posthole
114	Fill	Greyish brown sandy loam, rather loose			0.24	0.05	**1**	**111**	Fill of posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
115	Feature	Shallow remnant of linear feature running more or less NE/SW, parallel to but SW of **104**. Many burrows. Disturbance on NW side may be roots from a hedge.	13.70	1.00		0.07	**116**	**2**	Remnant of ditch forming part of field system
116	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy loam with occasional lumps of unmixed natural sand	13.70	1.00		0.07	**1**	**115**	Primary fill of ditch
117	Feature	Circular feature, tapering sides, pointed base			0.05	0.04	**118**	**2**	Stakehole
118	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam			0.05	0.04	**1**	**17**	Fill of stakehole
119	Feature	Circular feature, tapering sides, pointed base			0.05	0.06	**120**	**2**	Stakehole
120	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam			0.05	0.06	**1**	**119**	Fill of stakehole
121	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and concave base	0.30	0.18		0.09	**122**	**2**	Small posthole
122	Fill	Blackish grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks	0.30	0.18		0.09	**1**	**121**	Fill of posthole
123	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and concave base	0.20	0.16		0.05	**124**	**2**	Small posthole
124	Fill	Blackish grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks and two small fragments of burnt bone	0.20	0.16		0.05	**1**	**123**	Fill of posthole
125	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and irregular base, lower in E			0.39	0.19	**126**	**2**	Posthole
126	Fill	Firm pale greyish brown silty loam; packing stone in SE side			0.39	0.19	**1**	**125**	Fill of posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
127	Feature	Circular feature with more or less flat base			0.16	0.03	**128**	**2**	Truncated small posthole, possibly external to hut
128	Fill	Very dark greyish brown silty sandy loam with abundant comminuted charcoal. No sign of in situ burning.			0.16	0.03	**1**	**127**	Fill of posthole
129	Feature	Sub-oval feature with steep sides and stepped base	0.74	0.60		0.33	**130**	**2**	Posthole, part of hut circle
130	Fill	Very stony dark greyish brown sandy loam; siltier at base. Stones mostly sub-rounded, some flat and these generally packed vertically into edges. Charcoal flecks common in centre, forming a postpipe.	0.74	0.60		0.33	**1**	**129**	Fill of posthole, with packing. Silty base may be primary fill
131	Feature	Sub-oval feature with steep sides and concave base. Dug into gravel which is firm in places, loose in others	0.70	0.62		0.32	**132**	**2**	Posthole, part of hut circle
132	Fill	Very stony, very dark greyish brown sandy loam; siltier at base. Stones nearly all sub-rounded, some vertical. Some charcoal flecking, mainly at base	0.70	0.62		0.32	**1**	**131**	Fill of posthole, with packing. Silty base may be primary fill
133	Feature	Small sub-circular feature with almost vertical sides and flat base	0.20	0.17		0.10	**133**	**2**	Small posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
134	Fill	Firm very dark greyish brown silty loam with common charcoal flecks, mainly at top. Large packing stone at W edge	0.20	0.17		0.10	**1**	**132**	Fill of small posthole, with packing
135	Feature	Irregular oval feature with flattish base and sloping sides.	0.81	0.80		0.20	**136**	**2**	Posthole, different to most associated with the hut circle. Possible secondary construction. Truncated
136	Fill	Brownish black to grey sandy silt with common charcoal	0.81	0.80		0.20	**1**	**135**	Fill of posthole
137	Feature	Sub-oval feature with large packing stones and two fills. Steep sides, flat base.	0.76	0.70		0.36	**139**	**2**	Posthole. May have been packed before primary fill formed, then backfilled with secondary fill
138	Fill	Top fill of **137**; frim, very dark greyish brown silty loam with few charcoal flecks. One void at base of a packing stone.	0.76	0.70		0.30	**1**	**139**	Secondary fill. Probably backfill after packing stones placed and primary fill formed

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
139	Fill	Bottom fill of **137**; firm, very dark greyish brown silt, with no charcoal.	0.76	0.70		0.06	**138**	**137**	Primary fill of posthole, probably formed after packing stones placed
140	Feature	Oval feature with steep sides and roundish base	0.52	0.45		0.33	**141**	**2**	Posthole, from first phase of construction
141	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt with common medium to large sub-angular packing stones forming a rough cylinder in the centre, and traces of rounded gravel; few charcoal flecks	0.52	0.45		0.33	**1**	**140**	Fill of posthole. Hole probably packed with stones before fill formed
142	Feature	Circular feature with steep sides and flat base			0.21	0.10	**143**	**2**	Small posthole near **146**. Possible secondary construction
143	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with few inclusions			0.21	0.10	**1**	**142**	Lack of inclusions distinguishes it from other fills associated with the hut circle

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
144	Feature	Circular feature with flat base; sides too truncated to distinguish morphology			0.20	0.03	**145**	**2**	Truncated posthole. Possible secondary construction
145	Fill	Loose, black silt with >25% charcoal flecks, and heat-stained base			0.20	0.03	**1**	**144**	Fill of posthole; post probably burn in situ
146	Feature	Sub-circular feature with moderately sloping sides and flat base. Packing stones round outside	0.72	0.64		0.20	**147**	**2**	Posthole; differs from others on circumference of hut circle in having a burnt fill
147	Fill	Firm, very dark greyish brown silty sand with c.10% charcoal flecks. Packing stones forming a rough cylinder in centre. No signs of heating in sides or base	0.72	0.64		0.20	**1**	**146**	Fill of posthole; post probably removed before fill formed
148	Feature	Circular feature with steep sides and concave base			0.50	0.28	**149**	**2**	Posthole
149	Fill	Brownish black sandy silt with common charcoal and small to large rounded stones			0.50	0.28	**148**	**1**	Fill of posthole
150	Feature	Circular feature with steep sides and concave base			0.48	0.29	**151**	**2**	Posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
151	Fill	Brownish black sandy silt with small to large rounded stones and sub-angular packing stones. One fragment of burnt bone			0.48	0.29	**150**	**1**	Fill of posthole
152	Feature	Sub-oval feature with flat base; too truncated to distinguish morphology of sides. Cuts **156**	1.07	0.99		0.15	**153**	**156**	Hearth; the third in a sequence
153	Fill	Very loose black sandy gravel with c.30% charcoal flecks and a few sub-rounded heat-marked stones	1.07	0.99		0.15	**1**	**152**	Fill of hearth
154	Fill	Very loose, very dark greyish brown silty gravel filling two hollows and spread over the base of hearth **157.** This is heat-coloured sand with a few sub-rounded heated stones in the centr**e.** A well-defined layer but so loose it appears less so in photographs	1.00	0.70		0.05	**158**	**157**	Fill of hearth
155	Feature	Sub-circular feature with flat base; too truncated to distinguish morphology of sides. Cuts **158**	0.65	0.58		0.05	**156**	**158**	Small hearth, probably the second d of a sequence of three
156	Fill	Loose, very pale greyish brown silty sand with <1% charcoal flecks.	0.65	0.58		0.05	**152**	**155**	Fill of hearth
157	Feature	Sub-oval (but rather irregular) feature with flat base. Partly defined by rounded stones to the S, not heat-affected.	0.80	0.80		0.06	**158**	**2**	Remnant of hearth, first of three

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
158	Fill	Pale grey silty sand with >5% charcoal flecks, mainly in centre	0.80	0.80		0.06	**155**	**157**	Fill of posthole; post possibly burnt in situ
159	Feature	Sub-circular feature with concave base			0.33	0.08	**160**	**2**	Small posthole next to hearth
160	Fill	Orangey-brown silty sand with charcoal and small rounded to angular stones. Some stones laid almost flat, forming a post pad			0.33	0.08	**1**	**159**	Post pad
161	Fill	Greyish black sandy silt with large and small rounded to angular stones, a few of which are burnt; charcoal throughout	0.60	0.50		0.16	**1**	**164**	Fill of hearth
162	Feature	Sub-oval feature with more or less vertical sides and a concave base	0.36	0.31		0.16	**162**	**2**	Posthole. Morphology differs to most of the hut circle postholes
163	Fill	Firm, dark greyish brown silty sand almost devoid of charcoal. Sub-rounded stones, some almost vertical	0.36	0.31		0.16	**1**	**162**	Fill of posthole, with packing stones
164	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and flattish base.	0.60	0.50		0.16	**161**	**2**	Posthole. Morphology differs to most of the hut circle postholes

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
165	Fill	Brownish black sandy silt with medium to large rounded stones and some charcoal. Largest stone set in centre, with packing stones around	0.60	0.50		0.16	**1**	**166**	Fill of posthole. Post either set on large stone or to its N
166	Feature	Sub-circular feature with steep sides and flat base; W side stepped.			0.55	0.28	**165**	**2**	Posthole
167	Fill	Brownish grey sandy loam with medium rounded to angular stones and some charcoal			0.55	0.28	**1**	**168**	Fill of posthole. Differs from most hut circle fills
168	Feature	Circular feature; E side slopes gently, W side almost vertical. Deeper in W			0.55	0.28	**167**	**2**	Posthole. Morphology differs to most of the hut circle postholes
169	Feature	Sub-oval feature with sloping sides, concave base	0.49	0.42		0.14	**170**	**2**	Posthole.
170	Fill	Looses very dark greyish brown sandy silt with c.3% charcoal flecks and common angular to sub-angular stones, mostly burnt. Large burnt sandstone stone in centre of base	0.49	0.42		0.14	**1**	**169**	Fill of posthole, possibly burnt in situ
171	Feature	Sub-circular feature with sloping sides and slightly concave base			0.40	0.17	**172**	**2**	Posthole

Number	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				Before	After	Interpretation
			Length	Width	Diameter	Depth			
172	Fill	Looses very dark greyish brown sandy silt with c.3% charcoal flecks and common angular to sub-angular stones, mostly burnt.			0.40	0.17	**1**	**171**	Fill of posthole, possibly burnt in situ
173	Feature	Circular feature, sloping sides, more or less flat base. Machine damage on W			0.27	0.06	**174**	**2**	Posthole
174	Fill	Pale greyish brown sandy silt. No inclusions			0.27	0.06	**1**	**173**	Fill of posthole. Similar to **67**
175	Feature	Circular feature with very steep sides, concave base.			0.32	0.21	**176**	**2**	Posthole
176	Fill	Firm very dark greyish brown sandy silt with c.1% charcoal flecks; becomes grittier with depth			0.32	0.21	**1**	**175**	Fill of posthole
177	Feature	Circular feature with sloping sides and concave base			0.42	0.10	**178**	**2**	Posthole
178	Fill	Looses very dark greyish brown loamy silt; no inclusions			0.42	0.10	**1**	**177**	Fill of posthole

Appendix 2 – Extract from Planning Permission Decision Notice

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Archaeology: With regard to Condition 2 above, the following is the specification r

The condition requires open area excavation in three areas: Trench 11 (c.266302 86 area will be re-opened around the possible round house and excavated as appr open area extended by c.20mx20m. Trench 17 (c.266235 868989) – this area will b around the stone spread which will be further investigated and excavated to a nature of the feature. The open area will be extended by c.20mx20m centred o spread. Trench 35 (c.266106 868934) – this entire area will need to re-opened an Any features not excavated during the 2005 phase of work will be excavated. Give the area already opened here it is initially expected somewhere between 10 and 1 be opened up on all sides to ascertain the presence of further associated prehistor

In all cases, if additional archaeological features are discovered within 2 metres the open area will be extended by a further 5 metres until the area is archaeologically sterile.

Further to the above, it is HETs understanding that the Bronze Age pottery di Trench 35 has been analysed and a specialist report compiled. This report will updated in light of any further discoveries made during this phase of works. If th report cannot be obtained, a second specialist report which discusses in detail assemblage from the site will need to be commissioned.

The open area excavation will reference and update desk based research already and will produce a report setting out the results and any required further mitig event significant and complex archaeological features are discovered HET should immediately. The applicant will need to engage the services of a professional arc contractor and all archaeological work must be done in accordance with Highl Standards for Archaeological Work.

Dated: 28th September 2012 [redacted] **ea Plannin**

PEFULZ

Appendix 3– Photograph Register

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
1	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	SW	-
2	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	W	-
3	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	NW	-
4	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	OH	-
5	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	OH	-
6	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	OH	-
7	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	OH	-
8	1	Panorama from 266249 869191	OH	-
9	2	Feature **3** half sectioned	OH	1 x 1m
10	2	SW facing section, **3**.	OH	1 x 1m
11	3	Feature **5** half sectioned	OH	1 x 1m
12	3	SW facing section, **5**.	OH	1 x 1m
13	4	Feature **7** half sectioned	OH	1 x 1m
14	4	SW facing section, **7**.	OH	1 x 1m
15	5	Feature **9** half sectioned	OH	1 x 1m
16	5	SW facing section, **9**.	OH	1 x 1m
17	6	Features **3**, **5**, **7** , and **9** as a group	SW	1 x 1m
18	7	Location shot of features **3**, **5**, **7** , and **9**	SW	1 x 1m
19	8	Tree throw at 266282 869214	SW	1 x 1m
20	9	Tree throw at 266282 869214	SW	1 x 1m
21	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205	SW	**-**
22	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205	W	**-**
23	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205	W	**-**
24	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205	OH	**-**
25		Posthole **13**, pre-excavation	OH	1 X 0.5
26		Posthole **13**, partly excavated	N	1 X 0.5
27		Posthole **13**, partly excavated	NE	1 X 0.5
28		Posthole **13**, excavated	OH	1 X 0.5
29		Posthole **13**, excavated	OH	1 X 0.5
30		Posthole **16**, pre-excavation	OH	1 X

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
				0.5
31		Posthole **16**, pre-excavation	OH	1 X 0.5
32		Posthole **16**, partly excavated	N	1 X 0.5
33		Posthole **16**, partly excavated	N	1 X 0.5
34		Posthole **16**, partly excavated	OH	1 X 0.5
35		Posthole **16**, partly excavated	OH	1 X 0.5
36	71	Posthole **16**, excavated	OH	
37	71	Posthole **16**, excavated	OH	1 X 0.5
38	71	Postholes **13** and **16**, excavated	OH	2 x 1
39	71	Postholes **13** and **16**, excavated	OH	2 x 1
40	72	Postholes **13** and **16**, location	OH	2 x 1
41	72	Postholes **13** and **16**, location	N	2 x 1
42	72	Postholes **13** and **16**, location	N	**-**
43	72	Postholes **13** and **16**, location		**-**
44	72	Postholes **13** and **16**, location		**-**
45	71	Postholes **13** and **16**, excavated		2 x 1
46	71	Postholes **13** and **16**, excavated		2 x 1
47	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205		**-**
48	70	Panorama from c. 266285 869205		**-**
49		Posthole **18**, pre-excavation		1 X 0.5
50		Posthole **18**, pre-excavation		1 X 0.5
51	73	Feature **20,** pre-excavation		1 X 0.5
52	73	Feature **20,** pre-excavation		1 X 0.5
53	73	Feature **22,** pre-excavation		2 x 1
54	73	Feature **22,** pre-excavation		2 x 1
55		Posthole **18**, excavated		1 X 0.5

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
56		Posthole **18**, excavated		1 X 0.5
57		Scoop **20** excavated		1 X 0.5
58		Scoop **20** excavated		1 X 0.5
59		Scoop **22** excavated		1 X 0.5
60		Scoop **22** excavated		1 X 0.5
61		Scoop **22** excavated		1 X 0.5
62		Scoop **22** location		2 x 2
63		Scoop **22** location		**2 x 2**
121	10	Panorama from 266284 869196	SE	-
122	10	Panorama from 266284 869196	S	-
123	10	Panorama from 266284 869196	SW	-
124	10	Panorama from 266284 869196	W	-
125	10	Panorama from 266284 869196	NW	-
126	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	N	-
127	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	NE	-
128	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	E	-
129	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	SE	-
130	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	S	-
131	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	SW	-
132	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	W	-
133	11	Panorama from 266216 869148	NW	-
134	12	Burnt tree at 266315 869147	SW	1 x 1m
135	13	Burnt tree quarter sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
136	14	Feature **24** half sectioned	SW	1 x 1m
137	15	Linear depression from 266262 869170	SE	-
138	16	Tree throw at 266267 869139	NE	1 x 1m
139	17	Tree throw at 266267 869139	E	1 x 1m
140	18	Tree throw and feature **26**	SE	1 x 1m
141	19	Pre-excavation shot, feature **26**	SE	1 x 1m
142	19	Feature **26** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
143	19	SW facing section, feature **26**	NE	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
144	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	NW	-
145	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	N	-
146	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	NE	-
147	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	E	-
148	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	SE	-
149	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	S	-
150	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	SW	-
151	20	Panorama from 266293 869159	W	-
152	21	Feature **28** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
153	21	S facing section, **28**	N	1 x 1m
154	22	Features **30** and **31** half sectioned	SW	1 x 1m
155	22	NE facing sections, **30** and **31**	SW	1 x 1m
156	23	Feature **32** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
157	23	S facing section, **32**	N	1 x 1m
158	24	Feature **36** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
159	24	SW facing section, **36**	NE	1 x 1m
160	25	Features **38** and **40** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
161	25	Feature **38** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
162	25	S facing section, **38**	N	1 x 1m
163	26	Feature **40** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
164	26	SE facing section, **40**	NW	1 x 1m
165	22	Feature **30** fully excavated	SW	1 x 1m
166	24	Feature **36** fully excavated	NE	1 x 1m
167	23	Working shot, feature **32** half emptied	W	1 x 1m
168	26	Feature **38** fully excavated	S	1 x 1m
169	26	Feature **40** fully excavated	N	1 x 1m
170	27	Features **42**, **44** and **46** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
171	27	Features **42, 44**, **46**, **48**, **50** and **52**	NW	1 x 1m
172	28	Features **48**, **50** and **52**	N	1 x 1m
173	29	Feature **52** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
174	29	S facing section, **52**	N	1 x 1m
175	29	Feature **52** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
176	29	S facing section, **52**	N	1 x 1m
177	30	Feature **48** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
178	30	SW facing section, **48**	NE	1 x 1m
179	31	Features **42** and **44** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
180	31	SW facing section, **42**	NE	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
181	31	SW facing section, **44**	NE	1 x 1m
182	32	Feature **46** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
183	32	SW facing section, **46**	NE	1 x 1m
184		Not used		
185		Not used		
186		Not used		
187		Not used		
188		Not used		
189		Not used		
190		Not used		
191		Not used		
192		Not used		
193		Not used		
194		Not used		
195		Not used		
196		Not used		
197		Not used		
198		Not used		
199		Not used		
200		Not used		
201		Not used		
202		Not used		
203		Not used		
204		Not used		
205		Not used		
206		Not used		
207		Not used		
208		Not used		
209		Not used		
210	33	Pre-excavation shot of **54**	W	1 x 1m
211	34	Feature **54** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
212	34	S facing section, **54**	N	1 x 1m
213	34	S facing section, **54**, without shade	N	1 x 1m
214	34	Feature **54** fully excavated	N	1 x 1m
215	35	Feature **56** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
216	35	S facing section, **56**	N	1 x 1m
217	36	Features **58** and **68** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
218	36	S facing sections, **58** and **68**	N	1 x 1m
219	37	Feature **60** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
220	37	S facing section, **60**	N	1 x 1m
221	37	Feature **60** fully excavated	N	1 x 1m
222	38	Feature **62** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
223	38	S facing section, **62**	N	1 x 1m
224	38	Feature **62**, working shot	N	1 x 1m
225	38	Feature **62** fully excavated	N	1 x 1m
226	39	Feature **64** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
227	39	S facing section, **64**	N	1 x 1m
228	39	Feature **64** fully excavated	N	1 x 1m
229	40	Linear feature **70**	SE	1 x 1m
230	41	NW facing section through **70**	NW	1 x 1m
231		Pre-excavation shot of feature 72	E	1 x 1m
232		Feature **72** half sectioned	E	1 x 1m
233		W facing section, **72**	E	1 x 1m
234		NW facing section through **70**	SE	1 x 0.5m
235		NW facing section through **70**	SE	1 x 0.5m
236		Pre-excavation shot of feature **74**	E	1 x 1m
237		Feature **74** half sectioned	E	1 x 1m
238		W facing section, **74**	E	1 x 1m
239		W facing section, **74**	E	1 x 1m
240		W facing section, **74**	E	1 x 1m
241	42	Feature **76** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
242	42	W facing section, **76**	NW	1 x 1m
243	43	Dump of wire and posts	SW	-
244	44	Features **78** and **80** on first exposure	SW	1 x 1m
245	44	Features **78** and **80** labelled	SW	1 x 1m
246	44	Hollow left by dump of wire and posts	E	1 x 1m
247	45	Feature **66** half sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
248	45	SW facing section, **66**	NE	1 x 1m
249	46	Line of postholes	NW	1 x 1m
250	46	Feature **84** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
251	46	SE facing section, **84**	NW	1 x 1m
252	47	Feature **86** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
253	47	SE facing section, **86**	NW	1 x 1m
254	48	Features **88** and **100** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
255	48	SE facing section, **88**	NW	1 x 1m
256	49	Feature **100** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
257	49	SE facing section, **100**	NW	1 x 1m
258		Not used		
259		Not used		
258	50	Feature **90** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
259	50	SE facing section, **90**	NW	1 x 1m
260	51	Feature **92** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
261	51	SE facing section, **92**	NW	1 x 1m
262	52	Feature **94** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
263	52	SE facing section, **94**	NW	1 x 1m
264	53	Feature **94** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
265	53	SE facing section, **96**	NW	1 x 1m
266	54	Feature **98** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
267		Not used		
268	54	SE facing section, **98**	NW	1 x 1m
269	55	Feature **102** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
270	55	SE facing section, **102**	N	1 x 1m
271	55	SE facing section, **102**, light level changed	N	1 x 1m
272	56	Linears **106** (foreground) and **104**	NW	1 x 1m
273	57	Linears **104** (foreground), and **70** (right)	NW	1 x 1m
274	58	NW facing section, **104**	SE	1 x 1m
275	59	NW facing section, **106**	SE	1 x 1m
276	59	NW facing section, **106**	SE	1 x 1m
277	60	Panorama	N	1 x 1m
278	60	Panorama	NE	-
279	60	Panorama	E	-
280	60	Panorama	SE	-
281	60	Panorama	S	-
282	60	Panorama	SW	-
283	60	Panorama	W	-
284	60	Panorama	NW	-
285	61	Feature **109** half sectioned	NW	1 x 1m
286	61	SE facing section, **109**	NW	1 x 1m
287	62	Features **111 and 113** half sectioned	SW	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
288	62	SE facing section, **111**	N	1 x 1m
289	62	SE facing section, **113**	N	1 x 1m
290	63	Linear **115** on first exposure	NW	1 x 1m
291		Linears **104** and **106**	N	4 x 1m
292		Linears **104** and **106**	N	4 x 1m
293		Linears **104** and **106**	W	2 x 1m
294		Linears **104** and **106**	N	3 x 1m
294a		Linears **104** and **106**	N	3 x 1m
295	63	Linear **115** cleaned	NW	2 x 1m
296		Pre-excavation shot of **80**	S	3 x 1m
297		Pre-excavation shot of **78**	S	1 x 1m
298		Pre-excavation shot of **78** and **80**	S	1 x 1m
299	64	SE facing section through **115**	NW	1 x 1m
300	64	SE facing section through **115**	NW	1 x 1m
301		Stakeholes **117** and **119**	NW	1 x 1m
302		Feature **80** half sectioned	S	1 x 1m
303		Feature **80** half sectioned	S	1 x 1m
304		Feature **78** half sectioned, with tree throw	S	1 x 1m
305		Feature **78** half sectioned, with tree throw	W	1 x 1m
306		Features **121** and **123** half sectioned	SW	1 x 0.5m
307		Features **121** and **123** half sectioned	SW	1 x 0.5m
308	65	Feature **125** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
309	65	Feature **125** half sectioned	N	1 x 1m
310	66	Infill, modern disturbance, 266180 869085	NE	1 x 1m
311	67	Possible terminus, **104**	NE	1 x 1m
312	67	SW end of **104** sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
313	68	SE facing section, end of **104**	NW	1 x 1m
314	68	Area between **104** and **106**	NE	2 x 1m
315	69	Area of roundhouse, pre-excavation	N	2 x 2m
316		Working shot; stripping track S of roundhouse	N	-
317	70	Feature **127** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
318	70	S facing section, feature **127**	N	1 x 0.5m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
319	71	Feature **129**, pre-excavation shot	N	1 x 0.5m
320	71	Feature **129** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
321	71	S facing section, feature **129**	N	1 x 0.5m
322	72	Feature **131**, pre-excavation shot	N	1 x 0.5m
323	72	Feature **131** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
324	72	S facing section, feature **131**	N	1 x 0.5m
325	73	Feature **133**, pre-excavation shot	N	1 x 0.5m
326	73	Feature **133** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
327	73	S facing section, feature **133**	N	1 x 0.5m
328		Not taken		
329		Feature **135** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
330		Feature **135** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
331	74	Feature **137**, pre-excavation shot	SW	1 x 1m
332	73	Feature **137** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
333	73	Feature **137** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
334		Feature **135**, packing stones removed	N	1 x 0.5m
335		Not taken		
336		Not taken		
337	74	Features **142** and **144** half-sectioned; **146** pre-excavation	N	1 x 1m
338	74	S facing section, feature **142**	N	1 x 1m
339	74	S facing section, feature **144**		1 x 1m
340	75	Pre-excavation, hearth area, **152**	NE	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
341	75	Pre-excavation, hearth area, **152**	NW	1 x 1m
342		S facing section, feature **148**	N	1 x 0.5m
343		S facing section, feature **148**	N	1 x 0.5m
344	75	Hearth area partly excavated	NE	1 x 1m
345		Working shot, **150**, showing packing	N	1 x 0.5m
346	75	Hearths **152**, **155**, and **157** sectioned	NE	1 x 1m
347	75		NE	1 x 1m
348	75		NE	1 x 1m
349		Posthole **150** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
350		Posthole **150** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
351		Posthole **159** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
352		Posthole **159** half sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
353		Hearth **161**, cleaned	NE	1 x 0.5m
353a		Hearth **161**, cleaned	NE	1 x 0.5m
354	76	Feature **162** partly excavated	N	1 x 1m
355	76	Feature **162** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m
356	76	S facing section, feature **162**	N	1 x 1m
357	74	Feature **146** excavated, with basal stone	N	1 x 1m
358		Hearth **164** excavated	SW	1 x 0.5m
359		Hearth **164** excavated	SW	1 x 0.5m
360		Posthole **166** half-sectioned	W	1 x 0.5m
361		Posthole **166** half-sectioned	W	1 x 0.5m
362	77	Pre-excavation shot charcoal spread W of **146**	N	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
363		Posthole **168** half-sectioned	N	1 x 0.5m
364	77	Charcoal spread W of **146** sectioned	W	1 x 1m
365	69	Roundhouse excavated	N	2 X 2m
366	69	Roundhouse excavated	N	2 X 2m
367	69	Roundhouse excavated	N	2 X 2m
368		SE substation strip	NE	-
369		SE substation strip	NE	-
370		SE substation strip	NE	-
371		SE substation strip	NE	-
372		SE substation strip	NW	-
373		SE substation strip	NE	-
374	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	N	-
375	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	NE	-
376	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	E	-
377	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	SE	-
378	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	SE	-
379	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	SW	-
380	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	W	-
381	70	Panorama from NH66140 69113 before strip	NW	-
382	71	**169** and **171** location	N	1 x 1m
383	71	**169** and **171** pre-excavation	N	1 x 1m
384	72	**171** pre-excavation	N	1 x 1m
385	71	**169** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m
386	71	South-facing section, **169**	N	1 x 1m
387	72	**171** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m

Photo No	Camera point	Description	Direction	Scale
388	72	South-facing section, **171**	N	1 x 1m
389	72	**171** completely excavated	N	1 x 1m
390	73	**173** location	NW	1 x 1m
391	73	**173** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m
392	73	South-facing section, **173**	N	1 x 1m
393	74	Rounded stones in winning pit, NH66159 69075	E	1 x 1m
394	74	Close up of rounded stones	E	1 x 1m
395	75	Linear depression (foreground) NH66117 69073	E	1 x 1m
396	75	Linear depression, stripped	E	1 x 1m
397	76	**175** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m
398	76	South-facing section, **175**	N	1 x 1m
399	76	**175** half-sectioned, with less contrast	N	1 x 1m
400	76	South-facing section, **175**, with less contrast	N	1 x 1m
401	77	**177** location	N	1 x 1m
402	77	**177** half-sectioned	N	1 x 1m
403	77	South-facing section, **177**	N	1 x 1m

Appendix 4

The following are digital images of C14 Sheets from Glasgow University (SUERC). The original sheets will be deposited in the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE), Edinburgh as part of the project Archive.

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68314 (GU41271)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	71
Sample Reference	16
Material	Charcoal
δ ^{13}C relative to VPDB	-25.6 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	5370 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

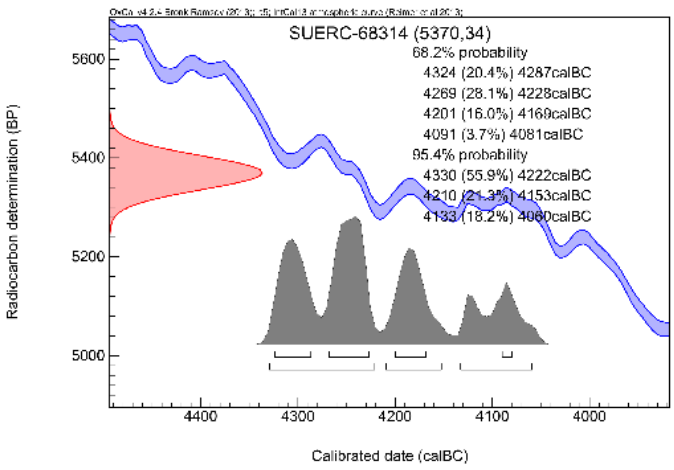
The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email Gordon.Cook@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Naysmith Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- B Tagg Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68315 (GU41273)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	81
Sample Reference	19
Material	Charcoal
δ ^{13}C relative to VPDB	-26.6 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	1784 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

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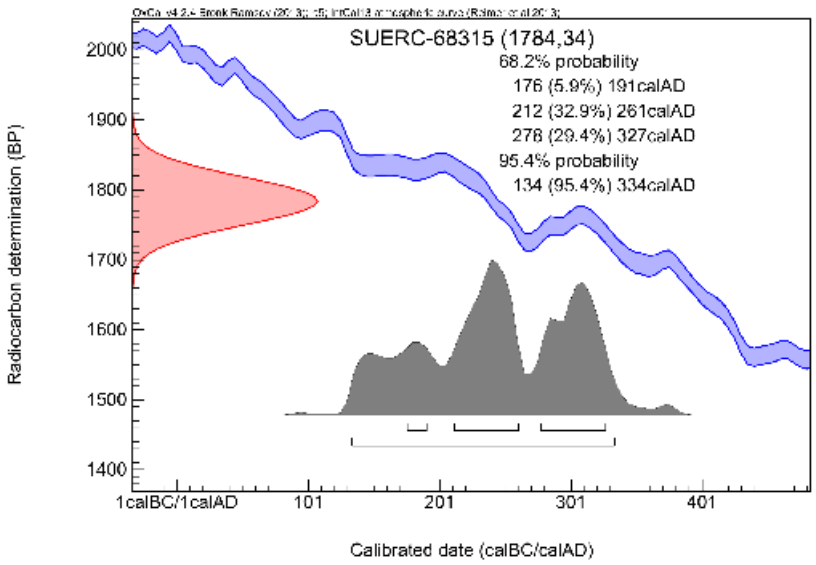
Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Naysmith Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- G. Cook Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68316 (GU41274)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	136
Sample Reference	23
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-27.1 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2664 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

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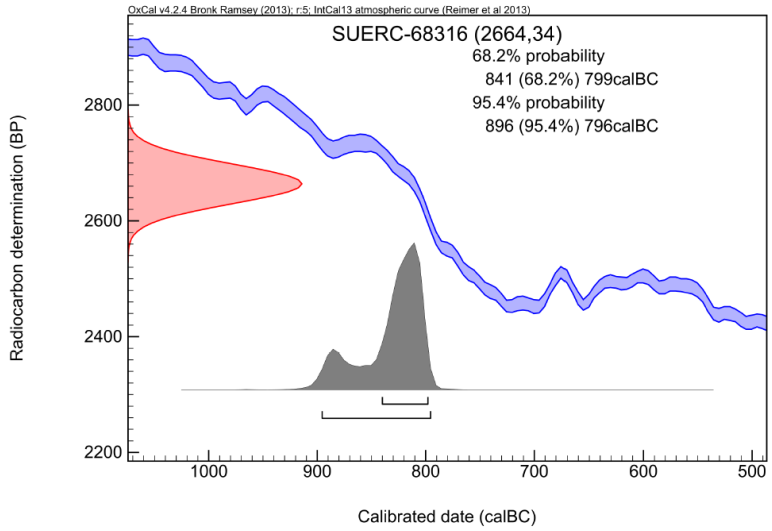
Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Nayont Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- B Tagg Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68317 (GU41275)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	141
Sample Reference	25
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-26.7 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2813 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

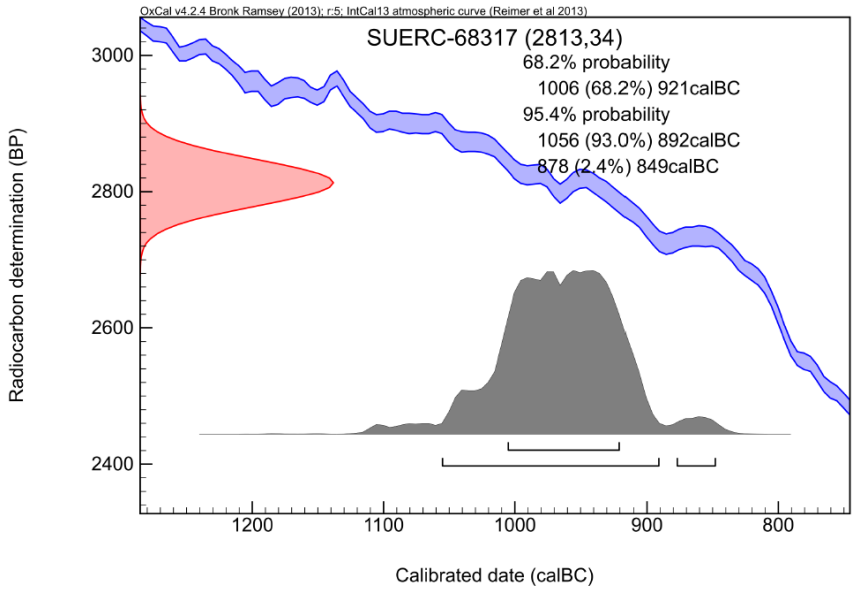
The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email Gordon.Cook@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Naysmith Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- B Tripney Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68318 (GU41276)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	153
Sample Reference	26
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-25.9 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	5959 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

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Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Naysmith Date :- 28/07/2016

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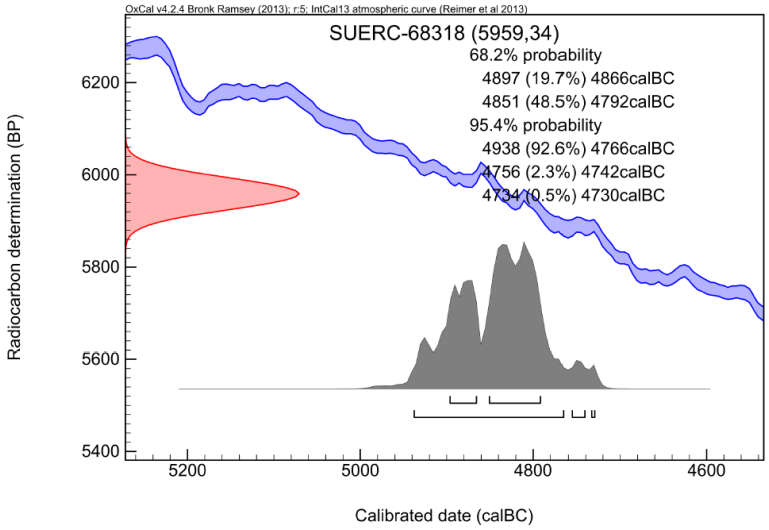
Calibration Plot



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68322 (GU41277)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	158
Sample Reference	27
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-24.8 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	4153 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

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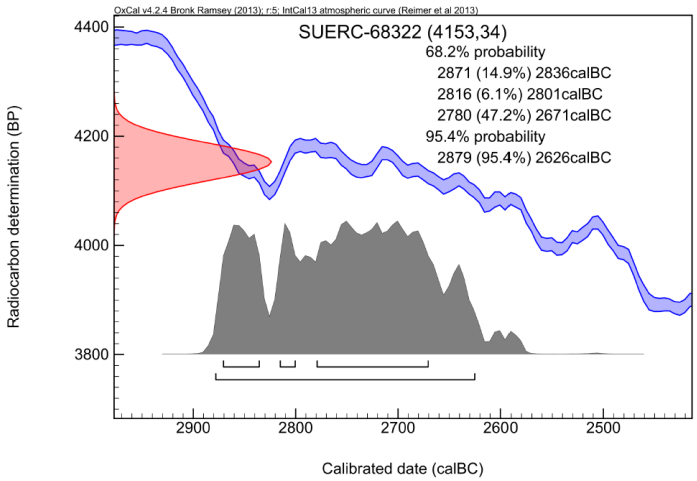
Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Naysmith Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- B Tripney Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

28 July 2016

Laboratory Code	SUERC-68323 (GU41278)
Submitter	Stuart Farrell 39a Park Street Nairn Highland IV12 4PP
Site Reference	Dalmore, Alness, Highland
Context Reference	161
Sample Reference	29
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-25.9 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2868 ± 34

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

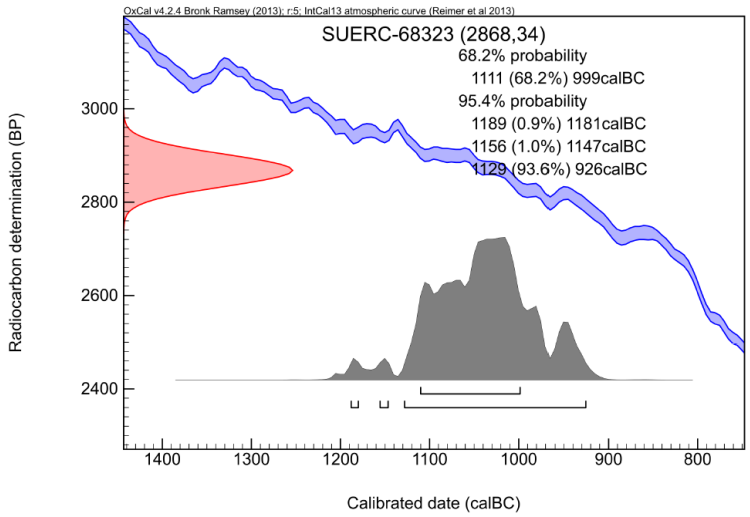
The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email Gordon.Cook@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- P. Nayanto Date :- 28/07/2016

Checked and signed off by :- B Tripney Date :- 28/07/2016

Calibration Plot



LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Highland
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Dalmore, Alness
PROJECT CODE:	-
PARISH:	Alness
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Stuart Farrell, Pete Higgins
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	-
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NH66NE 139
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Field System, Pits, Hut Circle
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NH 66235/69185 (centred)
START DATE (this season)	24 February 2015
END DATE (this season)	20 August 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. *DES* ref.)	DES, 2006, 7, 101.
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was undertaken in Feb-May 2015 for new housing and associated services to a site which had seen an evaluation conducted in late 2005 (NRHE NH66NE 139). Work revealed a number of archaeological features to the development area to include the remnants of a field system, fence-lines, pits (one of which produced a C14 date of 200-132BC) and a hut circle with had seen two phases of occupation in the Bronze Age and in the Iron Age. Full Report submitted to Highland HER and NRHE.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Albyn Housing Association
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	39a Park Street, Nairn, Highland, IV12 4PP
EMAIL ADDRESS:	stuart714@btinternet.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	To be deposited with NRHE