

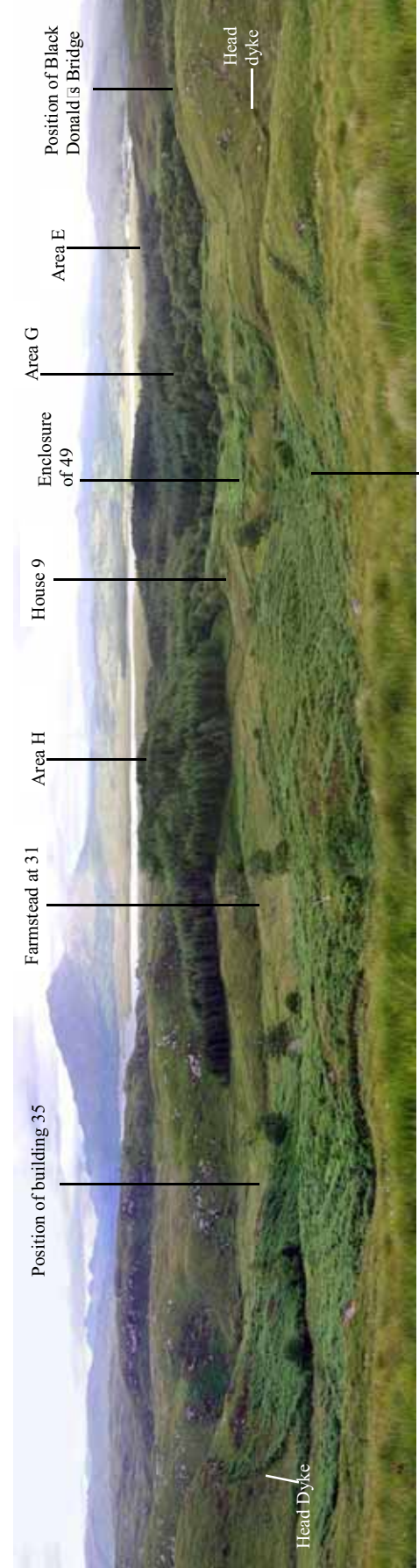
**High Mingarry (Mingaraigh Ard), Moidart, Inverness-shire
(NM 68827 70315)**

**A survey undertaken by the Moidart History Group,
Comann Eachdraidh Mùideart, in Spring / Summer 2008**

The Survey



Panoramic View of High Mingarry viewed from the northwest.



Position of building 35

Farmstead at 31

Area H

House 9

Enclosure of 49

Area G

Area E

Position of Black Donald's Bridge

Head Dyke

Position of building 43

Head dyke

High Mingarry Features record

Features below are recorded/surveyed and numbered on the map:

1. S grid ref is NM & will be accurate to a few metres. All measurements in descriptions approximate in metres.
2. Features 12 to 30 & 76 to 81 are now in forestry not shown on the modern OS map.
3. Features to the west of Mingarry Burn shaded in green are also in modern forestry, which in places is a mess of fallen trees from succeeding storm damage.
4. dd indicates the feature has been described in more detail on a separate list

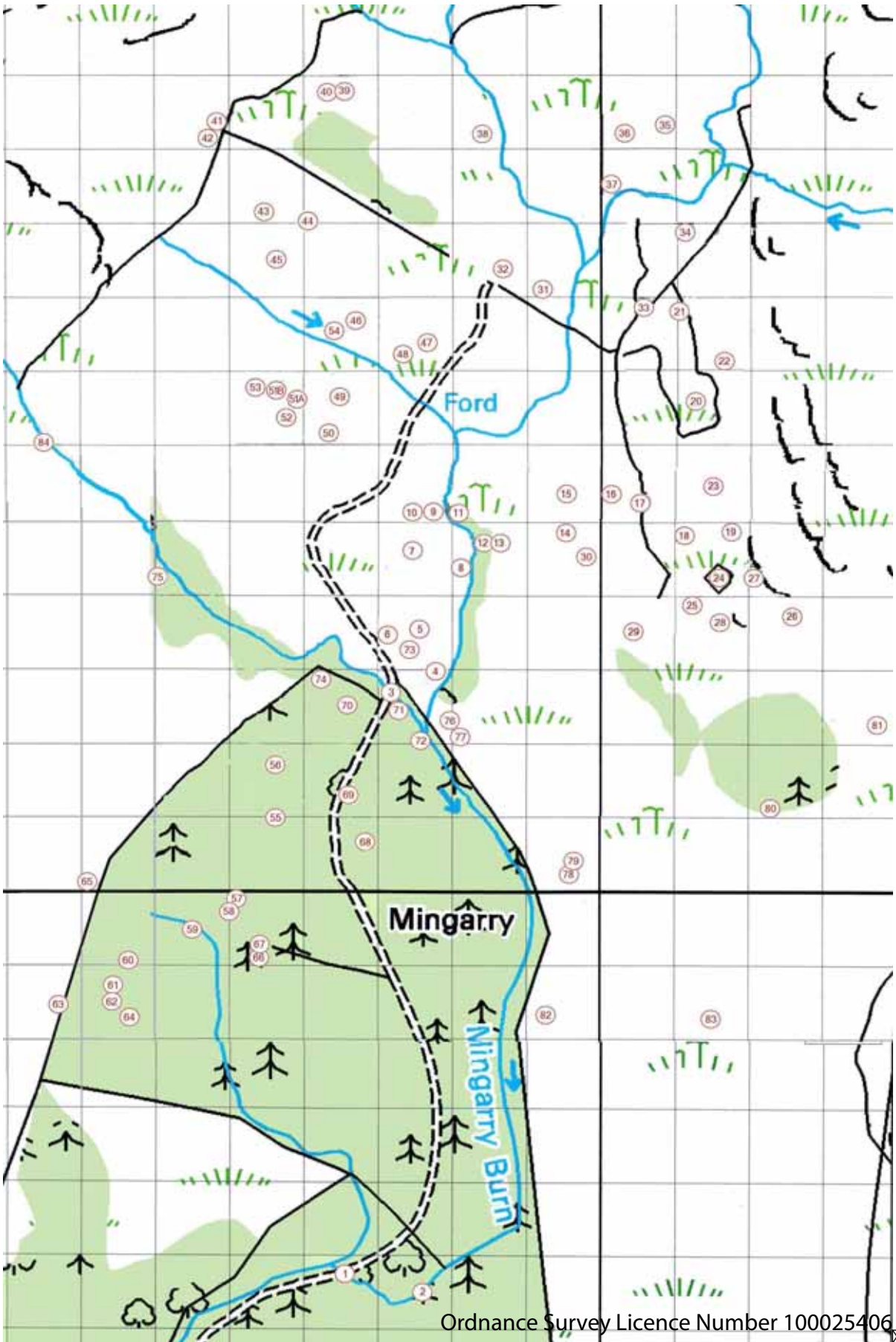
Site	O.S. grid ref	Brief Description	Photo Ref	View from	Date	Action & Date
01	68812 69739	Stone bridge in woods	01		04/03/08	dd
02	68875 69715	Abutment for former bridge	JD	fm S	04/03/08	dd
03	68852 70132	Bridge				dd
04	68888 70150	Cultivation 50 x 30				
05	68877 70177	Structure				dd surveyed 9/4/08
06	68860 70174	Sone Building Building 4 x 7 axis NNE:SSW	06		04/03/08	Dd Plane table 9/4/08
07	68840 77028	Rectangular building against a stone dyke			04/03/08	dd Surveyed 31/3/2008
08	68910 70220	Remains of very small shelter Structure 2 x 2				dd Surveyed 31/3/2008
09	68881 70251	Probable House Stone building 10x 5	09	fm S	04/03/08	dd Plane Tabled 27/3/08
10	68877 70260	Very ruined stone building 3 x 2				dd Plane Tabled 27/3/08
11	68902 70260	Bridge abutment	11	fm SE	04/03/08	dd Plane Table 27/3/08
12	68929 70246	Extentsion of dykes by 13	12	fm S	04/03/08	dd GPS 68909 72046 probably more accurate Plane tabled 31/03/2008
13	68914 70239	Stone building probable house 6 x 3.5 axis NW:SE	13	fm S	04/03/08	dd Plane tabled 31/03/2008 with associated dykes

Site	O.S. grid ref	Brief Description	Photo Ref	View from	Date	Action & Date
14	68977 70249	Rectangular Stone building 5 x 3	14	fm E	04/03/08	dd Plane tabled 31/03/2008 with associated dykes
15	68977 70259	Pit with quartzite c 3 x 4	15		04/03/08	dd Plane tabled 31/03/2008
16	69007 70263	Track & Gateway	16	69007 70263	Gateway in dyke on track from 11	dd
17	69030 70254	Track & Gateway				dd
18	69065 70239	Rectangular partitioned building 8.5 x 3.5 axis NW:SE				dd
19	69088 70240	Rectangular building 6 x 4 axis N:S				dd
20	69061 70328	Junction of enclosure dykes	20	fm SE	04/03/08	
21	69062 70386	Remnant of a small building or enclosure abutting a dyke axis N:S				dd
22	69088 70252	Outline of oval building 4 x 3 axis N:S	22	fm NW	04/03/08	dd
23	69073 70271	Rectangular Building 7 x 4 axis N:S	23	fm N	04/03/08	dd
24	69088 70210	Enclosure c11 x 14	24	fm N	04/03/08	dd
25	69109 70197	Remnant of stone wall & possible corner				dd
26	69130 70181	Possible Well	26		04/03/08	dd
27	69105 70210	Remnants of dyke				dd
28	69037 70180	Rectangular Building				dd
29	69018 70182	Stone dyke junctions	29	fm S	04/03/08	dd
30	68990 77025	Pollarded Oaks along dyke				dd
31 a b c & d	68966 70392	Collection of stone buildings - Possible farmstead	31	fm E	04/03/08	dd These features surveyed with SRPFeb 08 Linked with PT on site 48 from junction at Dyke south of group of buildings
32	68928 70414	Possible Turf Enclosure	32	fm E	04/03/08	dd

Site	O.S. grid ref	Brief Description	Photo Ref	View from	Date	Action & Date
33	69024 70398	Dyke zig zagging largely covered in turf				
34	69051 70449	Parrallel Turf Dykes	34			dd
35	68979 7042	Rectangular Building				dd
36	69019 70511	Low square features				
37	69006 70472	Rock outcrop encircled by low wall	37			dd
38	68919 70507	Circular horizontal area	38	fm NW	04/03/08	dd
39	68826 70538	Small rectangular structure 4 x 2	39	fm N	04/03/08	dd
40		2 nd small stone structure adj to 39 to W				
41	68756 70502	Junction of main head dyke & E:W dyke	41	fm NW	04/03/08	
42	68739 70505	Small dyke 10 m to W of main head dyke axis N:S 15 m long	42	fm E	04/03/08	
43	68784 70448	Possible House	43	fm N	04/03/08	dd Plane Table 15/3/08
44	68805 70453	Circular stone feature				dd Plane Table 15/3/08
45	68780 70425	Clearance Cairn				Dd Plane tabled 15/3/08
46	68837 70384	Altered Rectangular Building	46	fm N	04/03/08	dd Plane Tabled 18/3/08 with associated dykes
47	68862 70370	Walled enclosure on a rock outcrop c 7 mts across irregular				dd Plane Tabled 15/3/08
48	68873 70356	Substantial building c 11 x 4 with additions	48	fm SW	04/03/08	dd Plane Tabled 15/3/08
49 a	68821 70333	Substantial rectangular building 10 x 4.5				dd These features surveyed with SRP – Feb 2008
b	68827 70315	Substantial rectangular building with enclosure 8 x 4				dd
b	68820 70318) Enclosure? c 7 x 7				dd

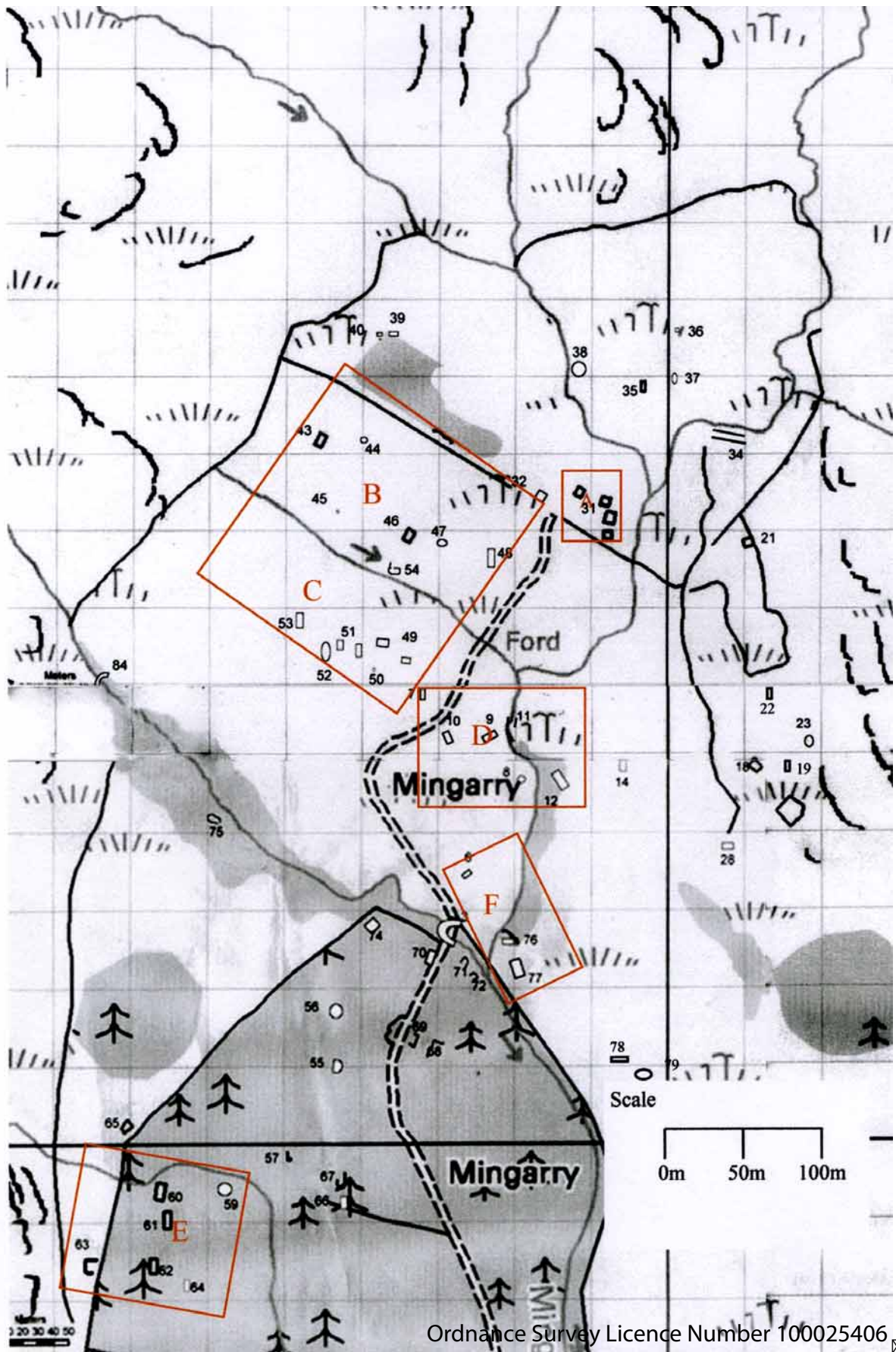
50	68816 70310	Clearance cairn c 3 m across						dd
Site	O.S. grid ref	Brief Description	Photo Ref	View from	Date	Action & Date		
51 a	68797 70329	Rectangular building possible byre	51	fm N	04/03/08	dd Plane Tabled 13/3/08 (see 49 a)		
51 b	68781 70339	Very ruined rectangular building possible byre				dd Plane Tabled 13/3/08		
52	68788 70325	Walled rocky outcrop				dd Plane tabled 13/03/08		
53	68768 70344	Rectangular building with enclosures. Possible house	53	fm SE	04/03/08	dd Plane Tabled 15/3/08		
54	68821 70354	Very ruined irregular building & remnant of turf dyke				dd Plane Tabled 18/3/08		
55	68780 70050	Enclosure				dd		O.S. grid ref
56	68780 70087	Walled Outcrop				dd		O.S. grid ref
57	68753 69996	Remnant of a building				dd		
58	68750 69960	Junction of 5 dykes				dd		
59	68724 69976	Walled outcrop				dd Plane tabled 15/5/08		
60	68680 69951	House				dd Plane tabled 15/5/08		
61	68672 69941	Two joined Buildings				dd Plane tabled 15/5/08		
62	68671 69926	Rectangular Building				dd plane tabled 26/5/08		
63	68639 69921	Enclosure				dd Plane tabled 26/5/08		
64	68680 69913	Small Shelter				dd Plane tabled 26/05/08		
65	68655 70008	Rectangular Building				dd		
66	68770 69959	Remnants of a rectangular building				dd		
67	68777 69968	Remnant of a rectangular building				dd		
68	68843 70035	Wall remnant				dd		

69	68826 70065	Very ruined remnant of a building				dd
Site	O.S. grid ref	Brief Description	Photo Ref	View from	Date	Action & Date
70	68827 70127	Outline of a rectangular building				dd
71	68867 70107	Remnant of a former building				dd
72	68882 70102	Remnant of a building				dd
73	68871 70167	Oval Horizontal area				dd
74	68819 70146	Base of a rectangular stone building				dd
75	68702 70212	Remains of an oval structure				dd
76	68897 70118	Remains of a substantial building				dd Surveyed 14/4/08
77	68912 70101	Enclosure				dd Surveyed 14/4/08
78	68979 70012	Outline of small shelter				dd
79	68984 70018	Outline of oval turf structure				dd
80	69114 70056	Small Platform				dd
81	69188 70109	Circular area of flat ground				dd
82	69064 69922	Small recessed area				dd
83	69074 69914	Arc of dyke & oak tree				dd
84	68629 70301	Bridge				dd

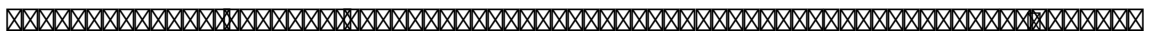


Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100025406





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High Mingarry (Mingaraigh Ard), Moidart
NM 68827 70315
Site Description

This deserted Highland settlement centred on NM 68827 70315 is sited in a natural bowl in the hills above the north shores of Loch Shiel around tributaries of the Mingarry Burn. The centre of the settlement is one km. north of the parliamentary road bridge on the A861 at present day Mingarry.

The site consists of a scatter of groups of very ruined buildings and enclosures surrounded by a head dyke. The walls of most of the buildings stand to below knee height with only a few sections of wall remaining to sill height. Some can only be discerned as stone outlines in the turf.

Each group consists of at least one substantially built building together with a collection of smaller structures built to a similar design and much smaller roughly built structures. It is possible that each group of buildings represents a farm house or houses and their byres and shelters.

In the whole settlement there are 17 sturdy rectangular buildings of internal dimensions of between 7 and 10m. by 3 and 4m. but only six have internal dimensions near 10m by 3 - 4m. There are 12 smaller buildings of similar style and construction of internal dimensions between 5 - 7m. and 2 - 3m, and the remains of 5 small shelters. Remnants of 10 other buildings that have been too damaged to discern their original size and outlines of three round/oval turf shelters are visible. Five enclosures in close association with substantial buildings and two other enclosures have been identified. There are also 5 stone outcrops encircled by rough stone walls of varying thickness and height and the remains of a curious circular structure of unknown identity.

The most visible part of the settlement is the northwest area. This is overgrown in summer with high bracken. The north-eastern and southern areas are buried in thick conifer plantation. The buildings within the plantation are frequently badly damaged by forestry ploughing, tree growth and tree fall.

All buildings are of the last phase of occupation but some have been altered, showing change of use. The larger substantially built buildings are all of similar style. All have lower dry-stone walls between 70cms - 90cms thick and interior dimensions of 7.5 to 10m.x 3 - 4m. The external corners are rounded and the internal corners rectangular. The entrance is in the centre of one of the long sides. Few building stones are dressed.

The settlement is reached by a north/south track from the parliamentary road. This track post-dates the phase of occupation. It crosses the main Mingarry burn within the forestry plantation, and one of the main tributaries of the burn at the northern exit from the plantation by two fine late 19th century bridges.

Figure 2 shows the area split into eight groups (A to H) and the sites are reviewed below in those groups. Sites which do not readily fall into the eight groups are described immediately below.

Ungrouped Sites

Stone Bridge

Feature 1

NM 68812 69739

This arched stone bridge with low parapets carries the track over the burn within the plantation.

Abutment for earlier bridge

Feature 2

NM 68875 69715

Approximately 50m east of the Victorian bridge, these dry stone wall abutments 2.1m in length can be seen on opposite sides of the burn. There are traces of another path entering the settlement from the west. At a break in the head dyke, the path crosses one of the main tributaries of the Mingarry burn by a bridge.

Bridge

Feature 3

NM 68852 70132

This stone bridge carries the track north/south across the burn at the northern edge of the conifer plantation. The east parapet is 14m long and the west parapet is 13.7m in length but is extended in a curve to the northwest for another 5m. The parapets rise to a height of 25cms above the surface of the track. The top of the parapets are 4.2m above the burn. The arch of the bridge is 1.7m wide and 1.9m at its highest point.

There are traces of an earlier track from the parliamentary road to High Mingarry. There is a ford at the confluence of two tributaries of the burn at the northern edge of the conifer plantation and bridge abutments at a site 50m upstream from the southern Victorian bridge.

Bridge ('Donald Dubh's Bridge')

Feature 84

NM 68629 70301

This bridge crosses a tributary of the Mingarry burn at the west edge of High Mingarry just upstream from the point where the burn cascades down a steep-sided narrow ravine. The burn is only about 1m. wide at this point. The bridge consists of a large rock slab (nearly 2m. long and 60cms thick) resting on natural rock and boulders. Other large slabs have been placed on top of this to make the surface flatter. The track on the north side consists of natural rock, but the southern approach has been built up using rough stones and boulders of different sizes and shapes.

The head dyke follows natural contours and may have been extended in places to include more land. The area within the head dyke is subdivided by dykes following natural features such as watercourses and also by several straight dykes. It is not possible to definitely relate these subdivided areas to individual farmsteads.

Sites in Area A

This area is bounded by the head dyke to the north, east and west and to the south by a straight northwest/southeast dyke. It is sub-divided into northern and southern regions by a dyke that follows a small tributary of the main burn and then continues along the west bank of the burn.

A group of buildings is sited in the southeast of this area near the west bank of the burn in the far north of the settlement in an area to the north of the straight turf and stone dyke.

Collection of stone buildings – possible farmstead

Feature 31

NM 68966 70392

This collection of very ruined buildings may have been a small farmstead.

A straight stone and turf dyke, which runs for several hundred metres to join the head-dyke, forms the south-west boundary of the site, with a burn forming the north-eastern boundary.

Feature 31a

This rectangular building 10m x 5m (long axis north/south) has walls below sill height and a 90cm. entrance in the centre of the east wall. Walls are 70cms thick. The external corners are rounded and the internal corners are rectangular. This was probably a house.

Feature 31b

This rectangular building measuring 7m x 5m externally, is aligned end to end with 31a with a one metre gap between them. It also has a 0.9 m entrance in the eastern wall. Nothing is above sill height. This may have been a byre.

To the south-east, between the buildings and the burn, are two faint features – a triangular stone enclosure, about 4 x 3 x 2, and a stone enclosure running north-south with no discernable northern end.

Feature 31c

About 10m north-north-east of these buildings is a ruined rectangular building, with nothing above sill height, measuring 7 x 5m. externally with the long axis slightly west of north-south. There is a 0.9m entrance in the west wall.

Feature 31d

Some 25m east of this building is a fourth structure, very ruinous with nothing over half a metre high. It stands on a slightly raised area. The platform on which it stands has been enhanced on the north side. The external corners are rounded and the internal corners rectangular. There is a possible entrance in the centre of the north wall and another possible narrow opening (60cms) near the east end of the south wall. It measures 8 x 4.5m externally and the long axis is east-west. This may have been a byre or a barn.

Rectangular building

Feature 35

NM 68979 70472

This very ruined rectangular building is sited at the base of a steep hill and north of a small tributary burn 100m. north of the main building in the group, 7.5m by 3.4m. internally, (long axis almost north/south). It has rounded external corners and rectangular internal corners. The 70cm thick walls stand to a maximum height of 80cms. The north wall is

recessed into the bank and the entrance can still be identified in the centre of the east wall. This may have been a house or byre.

20m. to the east is

Rock outcrop encircled by low wall

Feature 37

NM 69006 70472

This oval low rock outcrop (long axis north/south) is encircled by the remnants of a low roughly built stone wall standing to about grass height in most places. The enclosed oval space measures 9m. by 3m.

In the west of the area to the north of the straight dyke , and sited on the hillside 20m north of the dyke are the remains of two rectangular buildings.

Small rectangular structure

Feature 39

NM 68826 70538

Low stone walls outline a rectangular structure measuring 4m. by 2m. The rear wall is recessed into the hillside. Adjacent on the west side is the remnant of a second smaller rectangular structure.

Sites in Area B

These structures are sited in an area bounded by the straight dyke to the north and a small watercourse running northeast/southwest to join the main tributary burn. They are scattered over a well drained area with many cultivation riggs.

A substantial building, probably a house, with an outhouse added to the north.

Feature 48

NM 68873 70356

This very ruined dry-stone rectangular building is sited 40m north/northwest of the point where the track crosses the watercourse at the ford. It measures 7m by 3.8m internally (axis north/south). The external corners are rounded and the internal corners are rectangular. The walls are substantial and are nearly 1m thick. They mainly stand to knee height but the west wall, which is partly set into the bank, and part of the south wall, stand to about sill height. Unfortunately, the east wall, where windows may be expected, is just knee height. A 90cm wide entrance can be discerned to the north of centre in the east wall. An outbuilding has been added to the north side. It appears to be less well built and measures 2.9 by 2.9m internally. The entrance was to the east next to the wall of the main building. Interestingly, the interior is filled with rubble so that the floor level is approximately 45cms higher than that of the main building. There is a level area with dense bracken to the north of these buildings that appears to have been cultivated although no riggs can be discerned. There are wide shallow riggs in boggy ground to the east and northeast of the buildings and well defined riggs to the south.

12m. uphill and to the west is a

Walled enclosure on a rock outcrop

Feature 47

NM 68862 70370

This rock outcrop is sited on the hill above and to the west of the substantial building 48. The remnants of a very roughly built dry stone wall encircle the outcrop in an irregular oval with the east/west diameter of 8m. and north/south diameter 10m. The purpose of this enclosure is unknown. The wall is so poorly built that it may have been built by children playing at the site.

20m. up the hillside to the west of the walled outcrop is another rectangular building.

Altered Rectangular building

Feature 46

NM 68837 70384

This roughly rectangular dry-stone building has been altered. The original building, now seen only in outline at the southeast corner, measured 5m by 8.8m externally. The axis was north/south and the entrance was in the east wall. Most of the original walls remain at the north end and on the west side and are 90cms wide. The south wall has been shortened and is now 3.5m externally. A 3m roughly-built stone wall was added to the interior of the original building so that a smaller rectangular structure measuring 3m by 4m (axis north/south) with an entrance in the east side was made. Parts of the north, west and south walls still stand above sill height but the east wall is very ruined.

20m. to the southeast of this structure are features above the north bank of the watercourse.

Very ruined irregular building and remnant of turf dyke, remnant of small turf shelter

Feature 54

NM 68821 70354

This very ruined, curiously-shaped structure is sited on a rocky outcrop just above and to the north of the small watercourse to the north of Feature 49. Low stone and turf mounds outline the walls of a round cornered structure, almost oval in shape. It measures approximately 4m by 5m interiorly but the west end is wider than the east. The position of the entrance is unclear. The interior is full of rubble. It may have been a small shelter. It does not have the shape and features of a corn drying kiln. Just to the west of the structure is a short turf dyke and at its northern end, low turf mounds outline a very small former almost circular building 5m in diameter exteriorly.

To the northwest the hillside is covered with cultivation riggs and a prominent clearance cairn.

40m. northwest of the cairn is a rectangular building built in front of a stone and turf dyke.

Possible House or byre

Feature 43

NM 68784 70448

This substantial, well-built rectangular dry stone building is sited on high ground in the northwest of the settlement just to the east of a turf dyke. The internal dimensions are 7m by 4m with the long axis north/south. The walls are 90cms wide so that externally the building measures 8.8m by 5.8m. The corners are rounded externally and rectangular internally. The entrance is 90cms wide and is placed in the east wall 3m from the northeast corner. The rear and side walls still stand to a height of 1.5m but the east wall is very ruined to below sill height. Internally, the northeast corner has been partitioned with roughly piled stones to form a very small enclosure. This was probably made by shepherds to keep a ewe and lamb after the building was no longer used and partially ruined.

In front of the building are the remnants of a stone wall that enclosed a triangular area, and other remnants of stone wall and turf dyke show that there was a rectangular enclosure to the north of the building. These may have been gardens and the building could have been a small house. It could also have been a large byre. There is a wide area in front of the building that is covered in bracken and appears to have been cultivated although there are no discernable riggs. This area may have been ploughed as a field.

From the triangular enclosure, remnants of an irregular stone dyke snake down the hillside to the south to the area of cultivation riggs and clearance cairn.

20m. northeast of this building are the curious remains of a circular structure.

Circular stone feature

Feature 44

NM 68805 70453

This curious feature is sited to the northeast of the area of bracken in front of feature 43. The ground slopes away from it to the south and there is no doubt that it has been built up on this side. A roughly built low stone wall standing to below knee height encloses a circular area 6m in diameter. The enclosed space is full of stone rubble. The origin and purpose of this feature remain a puzzle. It does not have the appearance of a corn-drying kiln. There is no sign of a bowl or flue. The rubble appears to be completely haphazard. It may originally have provided a well-drained stance for storage but is in an exposed location to have provided a base for a stack. It is possible that the original structure may have been altered drastically in the 20th century for shooting or during WWII training exercises that were a feature of the area.

Sites in Area C

This is an area bounded by the small tributary of the burn to the north and one of the main tributaries of the Mingarry burn to the south, and by a straight stone dyke that runs north/south between the two burns. The dyke has been cut through by the present-day track. All the identified structures are sited along a ridge running northwest/northeast to the south of the small watercourse.

At the east end of the ridge are the ruins of two substantial buildings.

Substantial rectangular building, possible small house or large byre

Feature 49a

NM 68821 70333

This is the most easterly of a series of buildings along the ridge. It is sited just to the west of a rocky outcrop. The walls stand to about knee height but the remaining base shows that this was a substantially built dry stone rectangular structure (long axis east/west) measuring 6.8m by 3.8m internally. The walls are 90cms thick. The external corners are rounded and the internal rectangular. The 90 cm wide doorway is near the centre of the south wall. This could have been a house or a well constructed byre. There are cultivation riggs to the north of the building.

10m to the northwest is another rectangular building:

Substantial rectangular building and enclosure, probable house and vegetable garden

Feature 49b

NM 68827 70315

This buildings occupies a prominent position on the ridge to the south of the watercourse. It is very ruined with the walls standing to knee height. The base of the walls show that they were substantially built of dry-stone construction and 90cms thick at the base. The rectangular building (long axis east/west) internally measures 8m by 3.5m. The corners are rounded exteriorly but rectangular internally. The 90cm wide entrance is centrally placed in the south wall. In front of the building (ie. to the south) is a boggy depression that may indicate the site of a midden. A short sunken path or channel leads from it to a flat area just below and to the south. Rock outcrop forms a “wall” on the north side of this area and a stone and turf wall extends along the southern edge so that it has the appearance of a small enclosure.

To the north of the main building, stone and turf dykes have been built northwards to meet the dyke running along the south side of the watercourse thus enclosing a sloping area. This may have been the vegetable plot.

20m to the west is a less well built rectangular structure.

Rectangular building, possible byre

Feature 51a

NM 68797 70329

This very ruined rectangular building appears to have been altered. Externally it measures 4.8m by 11m, has rounded external corners and possibly also rounded internal corners. The long axis is north/south. There is a 70cm wide entrance in the north end of the east wall. An internal dividing wall has been added and the south end of the east wall is very ruined but probably had an entrance in it. The walls stand to about knee height. This was probably used to house animals during the later years of its useful existence. There are cultivation rigs on the slope to the north of the building.

12m to the west is another very ruined building.

Very ruined rectangular building, possible byre

Feature 51b

NM 68781 70339

This very ruined rectangular building (long axis north/south) measures 8.5m by 4m. externally and where the walls can be distinctly seen they are 90cms thick. The remaining bases of the walls do not appear to have been well built and the west wall was possibly never straight. The corners are rounded exteriorly and may have been rounded interiorly. The 90cm wide entrance is in the centre of the east wall. Most of the south wall appears to have been robbed out but the southwest corner and west part of the south wall can be clearly seen. A boggy depression to the east of the building may indicate the position of a midden.

Between the two possible byres there is a rock outcrop running to the south.

Walled rocky outcrop

Feature 52

NM 68788 70345

This rocky outcrop extends down the slope to the south side of the ridge between buildings 51a and 51b. The walls enclose two areas of the ridge that are divided from each other by a natural rockface. The northern part of the wall is particularly poorly built. The purpose is unknown. The south enclosure may have been a useful well drained storage area or a sniper's position during WWII training.

At the western end of the ridge 25m to the west of the second possible byre is

Rectangular building with enclosures

Feature 53

NM 68768 70344

This rectangular building (long axis roughly north/south) is the most westerly of the group of buildings along the ridge and measures 5.5m by 3m internally. The well-built walls are nearly 1m thick. The west wall is built into the bank and still stands above sill height. All other walls are below sill height. The 1m wide entrance is in the east wall. The external corners are rounded but the internal corners are rectangular. Very low ruined walls abut the south wall of the main building. This may have been an added outhouse measuring 5m by 4m. Stone and stone and turf dykes enclose an area to the west of the building and a short remnant of turf dyke suggests that there may have been a small enclosure in front of the building. The main building may have been a small house or a well-built byre.

There are areas of cultivation riggs to the southwest and northeast.

Sites in Area D

This area lies to the east of the straight north/south dyke and north of a dyke built between the straight dyke and the ravine of the Mingarry burn. There are buildings on both sides of the burn with bridge abutments at the burn.

The largest building in this area is sited above the west bank of the burn just north of the point where the burn enters the ravine.

Probable House

Feature 9

NM 68881 70251

This rectangular building with rounded external corners and rectangular internal corners is sited to the west of the main burn. The internal dimensions are 9.2m by 3m and the long axis is almost east/west. The very ruined walls stand mainly to just below sill height and were built using very large irregular stones and boulders. The walls are 1m thick in most places but an outhouse was built against the west wall so that where the two walls ran against one another, the wall is over 1.2m thick. The entrance was near the centre of the south wall. Large boulders and stones from the walls are strewn inside the building and outside the walls. The small building built tightly against the west side of the house is very ruined and part of the west wall and the north wall appear to have been robbed away. The corners were rounded both externally and internally. The position of the entrance is unclear. The floor level is below that of the surrounding terrain but appears to be at the same level as that of the main house.

20m to the west is a very ruined rectangular structure.

Very ruined stone building

Feature 10

NM 68877 70260

The remains of this rectangular building are sited to the west of feature 9. The dimensions are 6.5m by 3.8m internally (long axis north/south) and the corners are rounded externally and rectangular internally. The walls are constructed using large rocks and boulders in the same style as feature 9. The entrance was in the centre of the east wall. The walls are 1m thick and are even more ruined than those of feature 9, standing mainly about knee height or below knee height. Large stones and boulders are strewn within and without the building and the walls have the appearance of having been demolished. This could have occurred in the 19th

century after the settlement was cleared but damage could also have occurred during WWII military manoeuvres.

There is a remnant of stone dyke just in front of the building.

10m to the south of the building is a spread of rubble that may be the remnant of a building cut by the late 19th century track, or be due to stone displaced from the course of the track during construction.

To the west of the track are the traces of a rectangular structure built against the straight north/south dyke.

Rectangular building

Feature 7

NM 68840 77028

This very ruined rectangular building (long axis north/south) has an entrance in the east side. The west side is formed by a stone dyke and the north and south walls appear to have been built against the dyke.

On high ground above the ravine 35m. southeast of the largest building in this group, is an almost circular structure.

Remains of very small shelter

Feature 8

NM 68910 70220

At the summit of a rocky knoll directly above and to the west of the Mingarry burn ravine, low, 1m wide turf banks outline a small almost circular structure with an entrance on the south-west side. The internal diameter is 2m.

At the burn to the east of the main building there is a bridge abutment.

Bridge abutment

Feature 11

NM 68902 70260

At a point on the burn just east of structure 9, both banks of the burn have been built up with stone to form supports for a bridge at an obviously useful crossing point. On the west side the support is two metres long but on the east side natural rock with just a small area of stonework has been used. The remnants of an old dyke extend north and south at this point.

To the southeast of the abutment and just within the forestry plantation is a rectangular building and a series of turf dykes.

Stone building – small house or byre

Features 12/13

NM 68914 70239

Feature 13 is a ruined stone building with extensive walled structures, situated in the forestry plantation just inside the north-west of the present-day deer fence. This moss-covered building measures 6m x 3.5m externally with the long axis north-west / south-east. External corners are rounded and internal corners are rectangular. There is a 90cm-wide entrance in the south-west wall, a dividing wall just to the left of the entrance extending to the back, and a 'Cameron cupboard', or stone-walled storage area, in the north-west corner. No walls stand beyond half a metre high but are discernible, and the middle of the structure is covered with fallen stone. The house is surrounded by complex stone enclosure walls. To the south and west these walls (Feature 12) zig-zag outside the deer fence to the edge of a deep ravine, at

the edge of which they become lost. It is not possible to discern whether the two ends were connected by a north-west wall. To the north and east an approach passage, about one metre wide, made of two walls, leads in to the building and the more northerly of the walls runs in a zig-zag to the north-east for about thirty metres.

30m. to the east is

Rectangular Stone building

Feature 14

NM 68977 70249

Located well into the planted forestry inside the present-day deer fence, this moss-covered stone building, about 5m x 3m externally with the long axis north-south, is nowhere above sill-height – the southerly wall is about 1m high. It stands on a level area either cut in or built up on the slope which drops roughly west – east. A small 1.5 x 1.5m extension stands west from the south west corner.

Between the last two buildings is a possible borrow pit.

Pit

Feature 15

NM 68977 70259

This feature, possibly excavated to provide material for the flat platform for Feature 14, is about 7m x 4, and is about 5m west of feature 14, within the forestry enclosure. The east wall is steep and about 1.5m high, and large pieces of quartzite are visible in this wall. The other three sides are built up with low stones to a maximum height of half a metre, suggesting this pit was used as some kind of enclosure.

Sites in Area E

This area occupies the southwest part of the settlement and is mainly forested. A group of buildings are sited to the south of a small watercourse where it runs west/east through the forest. A stone dyke follows the line of the watercourse and when the burn turns south, the dyke follows it. At the angle of the burn there is a junction with three other dykes.

West/southwest of the junction and just 15m south of the watercourse is

Walled outcrop

Feature 59

NM 68724 69976

A roughly constructed wall built using large stones and boulders standing to a height of 1m. in places encloses the summit of a rocky knoll. The almost circular enclosure is 10m in diameter.

30m west of the enclosure and just south of the watercourse is the most substantial building in the group.

Probable House

Feature 60

NM 68680 69951

This substantial building is sited just to the south of the burn on hillside that rises behind it to the west. There is an area of cultivation riggs to the east of it.

The external dimensions are about 11.2m. by 5.2m. with the long axis north/south. The walls are about 80-90cms thick and are below sill height except the west wall which still stands to a height of 1.2m. The external corners of the building are rounded but the internal corners are

rectangular. The entrance is in the north end of the east wall. A small outbuilding has been built tightly against the north wall of the main house so that the shared wall is about 1.2m thick. This outbuilding is roughly built with walls about 60cms thick. The internal dimensions are about 2m.by 3m. (long axis north/south) and the entrance is on the north side.

Two joined Buildings

Feature 61

NM 6867269941

Sited just to the southeast of feature 60 are two buildings built closely side-by-side so that they appear as one 13.5m. long building (long axis north/south) with two inner compartments. All the walls are below sill height.

The northerly building measures 5m by 3m internally and the walls are about 90cms thick. The corners are rounded externally and rectangular internally. The north end is very damaged and obscured by tree fall. The entrance was probably at the north end of the east wall. The south building appears to have been built on. It has a narrow north wall built directly against the south wall of the other structure so that the shared wall is about 1.2m. thick. The other walls are about 90cms -1m. thick. The internal dimensions are 4.6m by 2.9m. The entrance is in the north end of the east wall.

15m to the south are the remains of another building sited on the east-facing slope.

Rectangular building

Feature 62

NM 6867169926

This rectangular building has been very damaged by tree fall. The walls stand mainly well below sill height but the west wall stands to about 1m. in places. The internal dimensions are 6.4m. by 3.3m (long axis north/south). The walls are 80cms thick and appear to have been roughly built but have been very damaged. Corners are rounded externally and possibly also rounded internally. Tree fall has revealed part of the flag-stone floor. The entrance was in the centre of the east wall.

20m to the west at the top of the slope behind this building is

Part of an Enclosure

Feature 63

NM 68639 69921

A semi-circle of turf dyke on the west and north sides and remnants of stone wall on the east side outline a circular enclosure about 14m diameter that occupies a flat area just outside the forestry plantation. There are cultivation riggs between this area and the head dyke to the west.

30m down the slope from the rectangular building with the flagstone floor are the remains of

Small shelter

Feature 64

NM 68680 69913

This rectangular shelter is sited to the east of feature 62. It has been built against a large rock which forms the north end of its east wall. It is roughly built incorporating large boulders and natural features and has rounded corners. The internal dimensions are 4.5 by 2m (long axis north/south). The entrance is in the south side.

Sited outside the forestry plantation, approximately 45m northwest of the main building in the group, and to the north of the watercourse and dyke is a rectangular building standing alone.

Rectangular building

Feature 65

NM 68655 70008

This rectangular building is sited to the north of the burn just to the west of the forestry plantation. The external dimensions are 8.8m. by 4.5m.(Long axis east/west) The walls stand mainly to a height of about 1.2m. but there are no window spaces visible. The walls are roughly constructed using large stones and are about 80cms thick. The corners of the building are rounded externally and rectangular internally. The entrance is centrally placed in the south wall. The southeast corner has been roughly partitioned with stones to form a small enclosure. This may have been made by shepherds to house a ewe and lamb some time after the building was no longer in use.

Sites in Area F

This area lies to the east of the present-day track after it has left the forestry and crossed a large tributary of the Mingarry burn by a stone bridge. It is bounded by the burn to the south and the head dyke to the east. A north/south straight dyke forms the western boundary and a dyke at right angles to the straight dyke forms the northern border. The main tributary of the burn runs north/south through it. The part to the east of this burn is forested except for the southwest corner. The western part is covered with thick bracken and has cultivation riggs.

The largest building in this area is sited just northeast of the junction of the two main tributaries of the Mingarry burn. There appears to have been a ford at this point.

Remains of a substantial building

Feature 76

NM 68897 70118

The remains of this substantial building are sited close to the east bank of the tributary that traverses the settlement from north to south. There is a large larch to the north of the structure. The building is rectangular with rounded external corners and rectangular internal corners. The long axis is east/west and the entrance was in the south wall. The north wall is recessed into the rising ground behind the building and still stands to a height of 75cms. The external dimensions are 10.6m. by 5.3m. The walls are 70cms thick. This was probably a house.

8m. southeast of this building is

Enclosure

Feature 77

NM 68912 701012

This enclosure is sited just to the southeast of feature 76 and to the north of the burn. It is almost square in shape and has an entrance on the west side. The southwest side is formed by part of an old boundary wall, the remains of which can be seen extending southeast to the burn. At this point the burn has been straightened and the banks built up with stone walls. The dyke reappears on the south bank of the burn and turns north again to reappear on the north bank just downstream to climb the hill in an easterly direction. It is likely that the burn once flowed alongside the part of the dyke now south of the burn.

On the western side of the north/south tributary burn and standing on a level area on the hillside 40m north of the Victorian bridge over the east/west tributary burn are the footings of a rectangular building.

Stone Building

Feature 6

NM 68860 70174

This very ruinous rectangular structure, 8.5 by 4.5m. externally with the long axis NNE/SSW, is nowhere much more than grass height. Three walls are well-defined but the fourth, SSW, side less so. There is an entrance but no other discernible features. 5m to the east is a large clearance cairn.

Just outside the head dyke as it climbs through thick forestry northeast from the Mingarry burn are two other structures.

Outline of a small shelter

Feature 78

NM 68979 70012

This roughly built shelter was constructed against the south side of the dyke as it climbs the hillside in from west to east to the northeast of the burn. It is approximately 100m from the burn. The long axis is east/west and the dyke forms the rear wall. The entrance is in the south side. Internally the building measures 5.4m east/west. Internal width is 2.4m at the west end but only 1.5m at the east end.

15m. to the southeast is

Outline of an oval turf structure

Feature 79

NM 68984 70018

Very low 60cms wide turf mounds outline a former oval structure sited on a flat area at the top of a rise in the conifer plantation. The long axis is east/west. The exterior dimensions are 5.4m by 3.2m.

Sites in Area G

This area lies to the south of the tributary burn running northwest/southeast through the settlement. The western boundary is the head dyke and the southern boundary is east/west dyke. The Mingarry burn forms the eastern border. It is subdivided by two north/south dykes. The eastern part is covered by conifer plantation. All except one feature are in the plantation and have been very damaged by forestry ploughing and tree growth and fall. Some buildings were probably robbed for building stone when the Victorian track and bridge were built and when the burn was straightened and its banks built up with stone walls.

One of the largest buildings in this area is sited at the north end of the plantation.

Outline of a rectangular building

Feature 70

NM 68827 70127

Sited just to the west of the track and to the southwest of the bridge at the northern exit of the forestry is the outline of a rectangular building with the long axis northeast/southwest parallel to the track. The building measures 9.3m by 4.5m externally. The whole of the area is full of heaped up stone rubble that has been further disturbed by forestry ploughing so that it is

difficult to assess wall thickness but the base of part of the wall nearest to the track is 70cms thick. It is impossible to identify the position of the entrance.

25m. to the east are the remains of another building.

Base of rectangular stone building

Feature 74

NM 68819 70146

The base of three stone walls outline a former rectangular building sited just within the conifer plantation at an angle in the fence to the south of the burn.

The long axis is northeast/southwest and the rear (northwest) side is recessed into the bank. Internal dimensions are 9m by 3m and the walls are 90cms thick. There is a small levelled area adjacent to and north of the structure.

On the south bank of the burn and to the east of the Victorian bridge are the remnants of two structures.

Remnant of a former building

Feature 71

NM 68867 70107

Sited on the south bank of the burn and about 6m east of the bridge are fragments of the base of stone walls outlining the northern part of a rectangular building. The long axis was northeast/southwest. The northeast wall is 4m long externally. Only 4m of the northwest wall remain but the remnants of the southeast wall indicate that the building was 6.8m long externally. The remaining walls are 70cms thick. Nothing remains of the southwest wall except the east corner. The 1m wide entrance was near the centre of the southeast wall.

Remnant of a building

Feature 72

NM 68882 70102

Sited on the south bank of the burn just to the east of the confluence of the two burns are fragments of wall bases of a probable building that has been very damaged by forestry ploughing. There is a short segment of wall base (2m long) parallel to the burn with a spread of rubble and stone debris to the south of it.

On the east side of the track 40m to the south of the bridge is a barely discernable remnant of a building.

Very ruined remnant of a building

Feature 69

NM 68826 70065

The remains of this building are sited just on the east side of the track through the conifer plantation. The building was rectangular with the long axis northeast/southwest parallel to the track. It measures 7.6m by 3m internally. The base of 1m thick walls 4m long can be seen at the northeast and southwest ends and parts of the long south east wall can be seen extending from the corners. A large boulder has been incorporated into the northern end of this wall. The long northwest side of the building cannot be seen. It may have been recessed into the hillside but is likely to have been covered by the bank of the track. It is not possible to identify the position of the entrance.

10m to the southeast is

Wall remnant

Feature 68

NM 68843 70035.

This remnant of wall has been revealed by treefall that has stripped off the top layer of peat. It is sited about 15m east of the track in conifer plantation. The revealed section of wall is composed of small and medium sized stones and is only 45cms wide. The two metre section of wall is aligned almost east/west. At the east end it turns a right angled corner and a short (70cm) section of wall can be seen extending south from the corner.

In the south of the area sited on a level area of hillside about 40-50m east of the track and 10m north of a gateway in the straight east/west dyke is

Remnants of a rectangular building

Feature 66

NM 68770 69959

This very ruined rectangular building has walls standing to a maximum of 60cms. The long axis of the building is north/south but the position of the north wall is unclear. The external dimensions are 5m by at least 7m. The position of the entrance is uncertain.

15m to the north is another remnant.

Remnant of a rectangular building

Feature 67

NM 68777 69968

This remnant is of a probably rectangular building (long axis north/south). Only the base of part of the south and east walls can be seen. The south-east corner was rounded externally.

Against the most easterly north/south subdividing dyke , is an enclosure.

Enclosure

Feature 55

NM 68780 70050

This former enclosure consists of a spread of rubble showing the position of a wall built out in a semicircle against the east side of a dyke that wanders in a north/south direction parallel to and about 50m - 100m west of the Victorian track. It is very damaged by tree fall and difficult to see. The southern end is built on a rocky outcrop.

Near the north end of this north/south dyke is a

Walled outcrop

Feature 56

NM 6878070087

A roughly built stone wall still standing to a height of 1m in places surrounds the summit of a rocky outcrop situated just to the west of a stone and turf dyke and about 10m south of the edge of the forestry plantation. The enclosure is almost circular and is 7m. in diameter.

Also in the forestry plantation, sited to the north of the southern east/west dyke and 20m. north of the junction point of five dykes is another remnant of a building.

Remnant of a building

Feature 57

NM 68753 69996

These fragmentary remains of a possible building consist of the definite line of the base of a 6m. long wall on the west side and a southwest corner. A short line of rubble indicates the position of a south wall. It is very damaged by tree planting and fall.

To the north side of the plantation and on the south bank of the burn is

Remains of an oval structure

Feature 75

NM 68702 70212

The base of walls, very roughly built with stones and boulders, outline this oval structure which is sited just south of the burn. The long axis of the building is parallel to the burn (northwest/southeast) and its southwest side is formed by the steep bank. External measurement of the long axis is 6.7m. Internal dimensions are 3m by 5m. The width of the walls vary between 70cms to 1m. The entrance was probably at the southeast end.

This could have been a small enclosure or shelter. Its purpose is uncertain but the site in the steep sided gully formed by the burn make it unlikely to have been an animal enclosure or shelter. This may have been a still site.

Sites in Area H

A group of buildings is sited in this area outside and to the east of the head dyke and is covered in conifer plantation. It is east of area D. On the hillside to the east, outside the forestry fence are two large areas of cultivation rigs covered with bracken that are enclosed by stone and turf dykes.

At a site on flat ground 20m east of a gateway in the head dyke is

Rectangular partitioned building, possible house

Feature 18

NM 69065 70239

This rectangular building with 70cm thick walls standing to just below sill height in many places (approximately 80cms – 1m high) is sited in a clearing in the forestry plantation. The internal dimensions are 6.7m by 2.9m (long axis northwest/southeast) and there is a partition wall 2.1m from the southeast end. The external corners are rounded and the internal are rectangular. The entrance is in the centre of the southwest wall.

There is an outline in stone of a shelter built on to the northeast end of the main building measuring 2.5m by 2m. internally with an entrance in the southwest side next to the wall of the probable house.

20m to the east are the remains of

Rectangular Building

Feature 19

NM 69088 70240

The base of stone walls standing to below knee height and made up of large stones and boulders outline a rectangular building measuring 5.6m by 3m internally (long axis north/south). The walls are 70cms thick. The external corners are rounded and the internal are rectangular. The entrance was in the west side.

10m. to the north is

Outline of an oval building

Feature 22

NM 69088 70252

Sited north of Feature 19, turf mounds 1m wide and standing to below knee height outline the position of an oval building measuring 6m. by 3.7m. externally (long axis north/south). This has been very damaged by forestry ploughing.

20m. to the north of these remains is

Rectangular building

Feature 23

NM 69073 70271

1m. wide turf mounds with occasional stones standing to a height of 70cms outline this rectangular building sited in a forest break. The internal dimensions are 4.5m by 3m. (long axis north/south) and the entrance is in the centre of the west wall.

About 75m to the north of this structure and built against the eastern portion of a loop of dyke ten m. south of the forestry fence is

Remnant of a small building or enclosure abutting a dyke

Feature 21

NM 69062 70386

Sited on the summit of a rock outcrop on the west side of a stone and turf dyke, low turf mounds outline a rectangular area 6m by 3m.

The most prominent structure in this area is sited about 25m. southeast of the substantial rectangular building. It is an enclosure.

Enclosure

Feature 24

NM 69088 70210

Stone and turf walls mainly standing to a height of 1m. form a five sided enclosure. The northeast side is 11m. long, the northwest side is 13m. in length and the southwest side measures 14.4m. The southeast side is composed of two walls built out at an angle to each other and with a 3m. gap between them that was possibly the entrance. The walls have been damaged by forestry ploughing.

Just to the south, in an area very damaged by forestry ploughing is a **Remnant of stone wall and possible corner**. A 4m. line of stones with a possible corner at the southeast end may be a remnant of a former building or dyke system.

30m to the southwest of the enclosure and sited in a gully 10m southeast of part of the head dyke is

Rectangular building

Feature 28

NM 69037 70180

Sited in a gully this rectangular building measuring 7.6m. by 3.2m. internally (long axis east/west) has 70cm. wide stone walls standing to a height of 50cms. The external corners are rounded and the internal are rectangular. Although hidden by tree fall the entrance appears to be in the north side. There is a wall across the gully to the west of the building .

To the east of the enclosure, the remnants of a dyke can be discerned skirting around the contour of the hillside in a southeasterly direction for about 50m. where it ends at an east-facing rock face just 10m west of the forestry fence.

At the base of the rock is a

Possible well

Feature 26

NM 69130 77181

This boggy area, about 1m.square, at the base of an east-facing rock face has a line of three small boulders on the north edge. It appears to feed an area of marsh to the southeast and may have been used as a source of water.

There are other minor features scattered in the conifer plantation to the southeast of this area. All may have been associated with deciduous woodland that occupied this area. A few deciduous trees, such as oak, are to be seen.

Small platform

Feature 80

NM69114 70056

This small oval platform measuring 5.1m by 2.8m (long axis east/west) appears to have been excavated into the south-facing hillside. There is a row of stones on the south rim.

Circular area of flat ground

Feature 81

NM 69188 70109

This circular flat area of ground, 10m in diameter, sited in conifer plantation has the remnants of a row of stones along the east side.

Small recessed area

Feature 82

NM 69064 69922.

This small area 2m. wide (east/west) and 1.5m. deep (north /south) has been recessed into the bank of the hillside to the north and built up with a line of stones at the southern edge. The west side is formed by a large boulder.

Arc of dyke and oak tree

Feature 83

NM 69074 69914

This arc of low stone dyke (knee height) follows the contours of the hill and has a flat area of land 10m. diameter to the south of it. The hill rises steeply to the north. This may be the remnant of an enclosure or part of a longer dyke that formerly enclosed woodland. There is a solitary oak tree growing in it.

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