

Cracknie Souterrain, Tongue

Archaeological Survey and Significance Assessment

AOC 22030
16th March 2012



Cracknie Souterrain, Tongue

Archaeological Survey and Significance Assessment

On Behalf of:	Forestry Commission Scotland 1 Highlander Way Inverness Business Park Inverness IV2 7GB
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NC 6655 5092
AOC Project No:	22030
Prepared by:	Graeme Cavers Michael Roy
Illustration by:	Gemma Hudson Graeme Cavers
Date of Fieldwork:	20-22nd February 2012
Date of Report:	16th march 2012

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author:	Date:
Approved by:	Date:
Draft/Final Report Stage:	Date:

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com



Contents

	Page
List of illustrations	1
List of plates	1
List of appendices	1
Abstract.....	2
Cracknie Souterrain	3
The Cultural Significance of Cracknie Souterrain	5
Methodology	6
Establishing Cultural Significance.....	7
Heritage Context.....	8
Cultural heritage evidence in the vicinity of Cracknie.....	10
Assessment of Significance.....	11
Conclusion.....	13
Acknowledgements.....	13
References.....	14
Bibliographic	14
Digital.....	16
Cartographic	17
Glossary.....	18

List of illustrations

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Plan, elevations and sections of the souterrain
- Figure 3: Orthographic views of the souterrain, using standard shading
- Figure 4: Orthographic views of the souterrain, using edge-emphasis shading
- Figure 5: Perspective views of the souterrain
- Figure 6: Plan and elevations of Rosal souterrain (source: Corcoran 1969)
- Figure 7: Plan and elevations of Borgie souterrain (survey by P.Humphreys)
- Figure 8: Heritage context of the site at Cracknie

List of plates

- Plate 1: General view of the entrance to the souterrain
- Plate 2: The souterrain passage, looking E towards the entrance
- Plate 3: The souterrain passage, looking W, towards the terminal
- Plate 4: The souterrain passage, looking E around the central curve
- Plate 5: looking down the passage towards the terminal; the buttress on the right
- Plate 6: View of the buttress, close to the terminal of the passage
- Plate 7: View of the terminal. Looking W
- Plate 8: detail of the terminal stone work
- Plate 9: View of the passage, N-facing elevation, looking W towards the entrance
- Plate 10: View of the passage, S-facing elevation, looking W towards the entrance
- Plate 11: View of the passage, looking W towards the entrance
- Plate 12: View of the souterrain passage at Portnancon, Laid (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 13: View of the entrance steps to the souterrain at Portnancon, Laid (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 14: View of the site of Loch Erribol souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 15: View of the backfilled souterrain at Rosal. The site is not marked in the on-site interpretation. (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 16: View of the souterrain at Rosal, during Fairhurst's 1960s excavations. (Photo: RCAHMS)
- Plate 17: View of the souterrain within the cleared township at Glenleraig, Assynt. (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 18: View of the entrance to the Glenleraig souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 19: View of Dun Mhairtein, showing the entrance to the souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 20: Entrance to the Dun Mhairtein souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 21: View of the entrance to the Dun Mhairtein souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 22: View down the passage of the Dun Mhairtein souterrain, showing the collapsed lintel (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 23: View down the passage of the Dun Mhairtein souterrain, from the entrance (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 24: View of the passage at Borgie souterrain. (Photo: P.Humphreys)
- Plate 25: View of the passage at Borgie souterrain. (Photo: P.Humphreys)
- Plate 26: Entrance to the possible souterrain at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 27: Detail of the entrance to the possible souterrain at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
- Plate 28: View of the roundhouse at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)

List of appendices

- Appendix 1: Gazetteer of sites considered in the assessment.
- Appendix 2: Description of Borgie souterrain, by Paul Humphreys

Abstract

A archaeological survey was carried out using laser scanning at the souterrain structure at Cracknie, near Tongue in Sutherland. An assessment of significance was also carried out, based on associative, contextual and intrinsic characteristics of the site. Several souterrains and associated later prehistoric settlements were visited as part of this assessment.

The survey and assessment concludes that the Cracknie souterrain is among the most significant examples of the type in northern Sutherland; albeit with reduced potential for further archaeological work.

Cracknie Souterrain

Background

1. The souterrain at Cracknie (NC65SE 1; NGR: NC 6655 5092) was first reported by Horsburgh, who described an 'Eirde house' at 'Krakenies' (Horsburgh 1870:276). The site was later visited and recorded by the RCAHMS (1911) and visited in 1960 and 1978, although no detailed survey appears to have been carried out. Other than statements prepared by inspectors on behalf of Historic Scotland no further archaeological records were made.
2. The site was designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 5663) in 1993, and inspection visits were made by the Highland monument warden in 1995 and 2000. A SAM Management Plan was prepared by the Forestry Commission and Historic Scotland in 2001.
3. AOC Archaeology Group were commissioned by Forestry Commission Scotland to undertake a baseline measured survey of the souterrain in 2012. A laser scan survey was carried out to this end on 21st February 2012.

Cracknie

4. The souterrain at Cracknie (Site No. 1) has been recorded by Horsburgh in the late 19th century and by the RCAHMS (Horsburgh 1870, 276; RCAHMS 1911, 73 No. 220). It is described by them as an almost intact subterranean drystone feature atop a hillock with a 0.6 m square entrance leading to a c.13 m long slab-covered passage that curves to the right and varies in both height and width. It is noted as terminating in an expansion c.2 m wide and 1.3 m high.
5. The scheduled area (Scheduled Ancient Monument 5663) around the Cracknie souterrain may encompass unknown remains of contemporary settlement, given the common association of Sutherland souterrains with above-ground structures. While the extent of further remains of Iron Age settlement associated with the souterrain is at present unknown, it is clear that the scheduled area contains post-medieval building remains including those of a corn drying kiln and long house and the enclosed infield, with remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, of a post-medieval settlement known locally as McLeod's Shieling (Site No. 2). The long house appears as a rectangular building near an area of cultivation on both the 1st and 2nd Editions of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1878 & 1906, Sheet XXVI).
6. According to the RCAHMS the footings of the long house stand to the south of the souterrain at NC 6659 5082 and measure 28 m north/south by 4 m east/west. The nearby corn-drying kiln is located at NC 6660 5087. Between the souterrain and these post-medieval features is an associated bank enclosing rig and furrow and two indistinct enclosures and the ephemeral footings of one or two smaller structures.

7. A visit by a Historic Scotland Warden in 2000 noted that the souterrain and settlement extended over four mounds, with a number of enclosure banks around the mounds. The second mound from the north contains the souterrain. The lintel at the entrance of the souterrain was described as fallen at that time. The corn drying kiln and an associated barn are recorded as vegetation-covered stone remains, built into the south-eastern edge of one of the mounds. The long house is described as c.21 m long by c.3 m wide with at least two internal divisions, and some evidence for outlying structures (Historic Scotland 2000).

Survey Methodology

8. The survey was carried out using a Faro Focus 3D laser scanner, using resolution settings prepared to give coverage of the structure at better than 1mm spacing. The data was registered using Faro Scene, edited and decimated in Realworks and visualisations prepared in Pointools. Stone by stone drawings and key sections of the structure were produced using Rhino3D and AutoCAD 2009.

The Structure

9. The Cracknie souterrain is located within a clearing the forestry plantation, and sited within a much later farmstead; a single unroofed building marked 'Cracknie' is depicted on the OS First Edition map. There are no obvious traces of the post-medieval use of the souterrain itself, although the structure is located within the area possibly enclosed by a boundary wall. The souterrain is dug into the middle of three small knolls within the clearing, and is accessed through a small opening, only c. 0.6m across and 0.3m high. A loose lintel near the entrance has probably fallen from the structure, while the mud and stone debris slope immediately inside the entrance is probably of relatively recent origin.
10. Beyond this constricted entrance, the passage is 13.2m in total length, oriented broadly E-W, with a distinct curve to the N at almost halfway along its length (Plates 2-5). The structure averages between 1.30 and 1.40m in height, and is built in rough, sub-rounded boulders averaging 0.2m in diameter but incorporating sub-rectangular blocks up to 0.45m across. There is evidence of rough coursing, with stepping in the stone work to accommodate the slope downwards; although in some areas there appears to be breaks in the masonry this accommodation of slope seems the most plausible explanation for this. The passage walls average seven courses in height and are capped by 27 very large lintels, some up to at least 1.1m by 2.0m across. The passage averages 0.8m in width, but widens to 1.9m across at the W end, where it forms a sub-circular chamber (Plates 5, 7 and 8).
11. On the northern wall of the passage, at the point at which it widens out to form the terminal chamber, a buttress has been constructed causing the passage to check inwards, and narrow to 0.7m in width (Plates 5 and 6). Although this buttress appears to be secondary to the main passage wall, the upper stones are keyed into the passage walling and the capping lintels rest on both the buttress and the passage walling. If the buttress was constructed after the original souterrain passage, this must have entailed some rebuilding of the original walling and replacement of the

lintels. The character of the walling, however, is very similar to the original build and it must remain a possibility that this was part of the original design. It is notable that the buttress obscures the view of the end of the chamber from the upper parts of the passage.

12. The passage floor slopes downwards from the entrance at around 30 degrees, before levelling off near the middle section and then sloping down again more steeply to the terminal. The souterrain is cut into the side of a knoll, which drops away above ground over the deepest part of the passage, but it seems probable that the lintels over the W end of the souterrain is c.1.0m below ground level.

Condition

13. The structure is generally in very good condition, and there are no obvious imminent threats to stability, although roots from the superficial vegetation above are penetrating the chamber between the cap stones. Some evidence for animal burrowing was noted within the chamber deposits, particularly along the base of the northern wall, but this does not seem to be posing a serious threat to the monument. Some superficial animal activity was similarly noted above ground, but similarly this does not appear to be significant in extent and is not considered a threat to the integrity of the souterrain.

The Cultural Significance of Cracknie Souterrain

Introduction

14. The aim of this assessment is to identify the cultural heritage significance of Cracknie Souterrain, a scheduled Ancient Monument between Loch Loyal and the Strath Naver valley in the parish of Farr, Sutherland. AOC Archaeology has been commissioned to undertake this assessment by Forestry Commission Scotland. The Cultural Significance of a monument can be characterised by reference to characteristics defined in Annex 1 of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (2011): intrinsic; contextual and associative.
15. The objectives undertaken in pursuing the study were focused on assessing the cultural significance of the monument. In order to understand its contextual characteristics sites of heritage interest (including Statutory protected heritage assets) within 2 km have been identified and Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 10 km of the monument have been identified. In addition, Highland Council HER was searched for souterrain sites within the parishes of Farr and Tongue. This has informed the assessment of the cultural significance of the souterrain.
16. This assessment is based on standard approaches to assessing the historic and cultural significance of a place (e.g. English Heritage's Conservation Principles (2008), and the definition of Cultural Significance in Annex 1 of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (2011).

Methodology

Standards

17. AOC Archaeology Group conforms to the standards of professional conduct outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Code of Conduct, the IfA Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, the IfA Standards and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessments, Field Evaluations etc., and the British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group Code of Practice.
18. AOC Archaeology Group is a *Registered Archaeological Organisation* of the IfA. This status ensures that there is regular monitoring and approval by external peers of our internal systems, standards and skills development.

Data sources

19. The following sources have been consulted in the preparation of this assessment:
20. *National Monuments Record for Scotland:*
21. For NMRS data, archaeological and architectural and aerial photographs, NMRS maps and unpublished archaeological reports
22. *Highland Council Historic Environment Record:*
23. For Historic Environment Record data
24. *National Map Library:*
25. For old Ordnance Survey maps (1st & 2nd Edition, small- and large-scale) and pre-Ordnance Survey historical maps
26. *Historic Scotland:*
27. For Scheduled Ancient Monument data.

Report Structure

28. Each archaeological or historical site, monument or building referred to in the text is listed in the Gazetteer in Appendix 1. Each has been assigned a 'Site No.' unique to this assessment. The Gazetteer includes information regarding the type, period, grid reference, NMRS number, SMR number, statutory protective designation, and other descriptive information, as derived from the consulted sources, for each Site No.
29. Each archaeological or historical site, monument or building referred to in the text is plotted on Figure 1, using the assigned Site Nos.

30. Recorded Heritage Assets, including all statutory protected assets, within 2 km of Cracknie Souterrain have been identified, as have Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 10 km. The aim of this is to predict the nature of cultural heritage assets in the area surrounding the souterrain, and identify and assess associative characteristics of the souterrain.
31. All sources consulted during the assessment, including publications, archived records, and cartographic evidence, are listed in the Reference Section at the end of this report.

Establishing Cultural Significance

32. Cracknie Souterrain is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. By Historic Scotland's own definition this means that the monument is of at least national importance. Furthermore the monument is legally protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The importance of Cracknie Souterrain was formally recognised by Historic Scotland in 1993 when it was scheduled.
33. In establishing the particular cultural significance of a heritage asset such as Cracknie Souterrain, the significance may be measured along several different characteristics and to a great extent; the intention of the assessor will determine which of those carries more significance in the particular instance. The following Assessment of Significance has been based upon the characteristics outlined in Annex 1 of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP)(2011), which defines three groups of characteristics:
 34. *"Intrinsic* characteristics (those inherent in the monument, such as its condition and the potential survival of important archaeological evidence both above and below ground);
 35. *Contextual* characteristics (such as landscape setting, group value or if the monument is a well-preserved example of an unusual and significant monument type); and
 36. *Associative* characteristics (more subjective assessments, such as aesthetic attributes or if the site has enhanced value to the public as an accessible and significant monument type)."
37. Annex 1 of SHEP (2011) provides the following descriptions of these characteristics of heritage assets:
 38. *Intrinsic characteristics*
 39. a. the condition in which the monument has survived. 'Condition' includes the potential survival of archaeological evidence above and below ground, and goes beyond the survival of marked field characteristics;
 40. b. the archaeological, scientific, technological or other interest or research potential of the monument or any part of it;

- 41. c. the apparent developmental sequence of the monument. Monuments that show a sequence of development can provide insights of importance, as can places occupied for a short time;
- 42. d. the original or subsequent functions of the monument and its parts.

Contextual characteristics

- 43. e. the present rarity or representativeness of all or any part of the monument, assessed against knowledge of the archaeology of Scotland and of the region in which the monument occurs;
- 44. f. the relationship of the monument to other monuments of the same or related classes or period, or to features or monuments in the vicinity. This is particularly important where individual monuments, themselves perhaps of limited immediate significance, form an important part of a widespread but varied class. The diversity of the class should be a material consideration in making individual decisions;
- 45. g. the relationship of the monument and its parts with its wider landscape and setting.

46. Associative characteristics

- 47. h. the historical, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the monument, and vice versa;
- 48. i. the aesthetic attributes of the monument;
- 49. j. its significance in the national consciousness or to people who use or have used the monument, or descendants of such people; and
- 50. k. the associations the monument has with historical, traditional or artistic characters or events."

Heritage Context

The Souterrains of Sutherland

- 51. The over 400 recorded souterrains of Scotland have a widespread distribution, with common examples in the Western Hebrides, Sutherland, Caithness, the Northern Isles, Ross and Cromarty, Aberdeenshire, and a notable group in 'Southern Pictland' concentrated in Angus and Perthshire (Wainwright 1953; Armit 1999; Miket 2002, 78-9). Wainwright (1953, 221) emphasises that 'there are several different kinds of souterrain', and it is likely that as well as varying in form they varied in function. The Sutherland souterrains, although similar in form are typically smaller and simpler in construction than the significant group of souterrains concentrated around Angus (Wainwright 1953, 225; Pollock 1995, 158).

52. In Sutherland, as elsewhere in Scotland, souterrains are commonly associated with contemporary settlement remains; for example a roundhouse is associated with the souterrain at Cyderhall (Pollock 1992). Pollock lists Loch Hope, Portnancon, Achindale and Allt Cille Pheadair as further examples of souterrains in Sutherland associated with above-ground features (Pollock 1992, 158). Wainwright notes that examples of Sutherland souterrains at Allt Cille Pheadair and Salscraggie were attached to huts and states that, 'perhaps the Sutherland souterrains of this kind were normally adjuncts to surface structures', demonstrating a similarity with Hebridean examples associated with wheel-houses (Wainwright 1953, 226).
53. Portnancon (or Laid) souterrain (Site 56, gazetteer) is the most accessible such site in northern Sutherland. The passage is entered from beside a ruinous hut-circle, close to the road, and although the passage is now perpetually flooded it is possible to walk to the end of the chamber (see Plates 12-13). The construction style is very similar to that of Cracknie, making use of rough drystone walling capped by very large, heavy lintel slabs, and having the same, characteristic curving form. The area around Loch Eriboll appears to have been populated by several souterrains in the Iron Age, although there are now no longer any surface traces of those at Loch Eriboll (Site 54) or at Fouhlin (Site 55, gazetteer) (see Plate 14). At the latter site, however, investigations carried out in the 1960s found the passage to be around 18m in length, and of very similar construction to the others in the area. Finds included a pair of bronze shears, rotary querns and a triangular glass bead of Roman Iron Age type (Morrison and Read 1965; Mackie 2007).
54. Excavated examples of souterrains in Sutherland include Upper Suisgill (Barclay 1985); Cyderhall (Pollock 1992) and the nearby site of Rosal, Strath Naver (Corcoran 1967-8; 1969, see Plates 15 to 16). The latter site shares with Cracknie the unusual property of lying within the remains of a post-medieval settlement, and Fairhurst's excavations showed that the passage had been used in the modern centuries, and was filled with post-medieval debris. In Assynt, the post-medieval township of Glenlerraig also contains a souterrain (Welsh 1971; Cavers & Hudson 2010, 138; see Plates 17 and 18). In the past it has been noted (Rivet 1960) that there is an apparent lack of continuity of occupation between the sites of the late Iron Age and the settlements depopulated during the clearances of Sutherland. Glenlerraig, Rosal and Cracknie gain significance in unusually demonstrating that features associated with Iron Age and post-medieval settlement can occupy the same sites.
55. Souterrains are widely dispersed around the parishes of Farr (within which Cracknie is located) and its smaller neighbour to the west, Tongue. Apart from a souterrain associated with a scheduled settlement at Rosal (Site No. 36), most souterrains in this area are not protected. They can be found to the east, within Strath Naver (Site Nos. 38, 39, 42, 44 & 45); to the west, near the Kyle of Tongue (Site Nos. 49, 51 & 52) and commonly in close proximity to the coast (Site Nos. 40, 41, 43, 46, 47, 48 & 50). They are therefore commonly found in relatively resource-rich areas, and often in association with other features of late prehistoric settlement such as hut circles – one, (Site No. 41), is associated with the promontory fort at Dun Mhairtean. At this site, a straight sided drystone passage leads directly to the cliff-edge, where presumably coastal erosion has claimed the terminal chamber of the passage (see Plates 19-23). Dun Mhairtean, relatively easily accessible and sited in a very dramatic coastal location, is one of the few souterrains in the area to rival Cracknie and

Portnancon in terms of 'legibility' to the visitor, and gains importance from the association with a well preserved promontory fort.

56. A chance discovery made in 1997 at Borgie (Site 50, gazetteer) provides a further example of a well preserved souterrain. The site was located during the construction of a farm track, and recorded by Paul Humphreys; his survey and photographs are included in this report (see Plates 24-25; figure 7). The site is remarkably similar to Cracknie, built in a very similar style and of virtually identical dimensions; it would be difficult to argue that these sites are not likely to have been constructed at very similar times. Paul Humphreys' report is included below as an appendix.
57. The only other souterrain of note local to Cracknie is the possible example associated with a very large hut-circle at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Site 53, gazetteer, Plate 26-28). This possible souterrain runs around the south of a thick-walled roundhouse, and is largely infilled. Although a souterrain seems the most likely explanation for this feature, it is not impossible that the passage is in fact a form of intra-mural chamber within the structure itself; excavation would be required to confirm.

Cultural heritage evidence in the vicinity of Cracknie

58. Blaeu's map of 1654 indicates that the area around the souterrain was largely wooded, lying within the 'Wood of Stronchegarry.' Later maps such as Roy's Military Survey of 1747-55 indicate the open, rural nature of the area in the late post-medieval period. The first planting at Borgie Forest took place in 1920 following the creation of the Forestry Commission (Forestry Commission 2005).
59. Non-designated heritage assets within 2 km of the scheduled area confirm the occupation of the area from the prehistoric period and into post-medieval times. They include an undated, though perhaps post-medieval, shieling hut recorded by Highland Historic Environment Record (HER) at Borgie to the south-east (Site No. 3) and a possible crannog at Loch Nan Ealachan to the north-east (Site No. 4). The latter, an Iron Age settlement feature, may be broadly contemporary with the souterrain.
60. To the north-west, the earthwork remains of two or three likely hut circles of Bronze Age date are recorded at Achnantot/Allt Loch Nam Breac (Site Nos. 5 & 6)(RCAHMS 1911, 185, No. 532). Nearby earthwork remains of a hut circle and associated mounds at Druim Buidhe (Site No. 7) are recorded by the HER as being of Neolithic to Iron Age date (RCAHMS 1911, 73, No. 221).
61. *Wider Iron Age Settlement*
62. Beyond the immediate surroundings of the souterrain, the wider area between the Strath Naver valley to the east and Loch Loyal to the west is rich in prehistoric remains, including hut circles, including the scheduled huts, and brochs. The following list is not an exhaustive survey of all evidence for Iron Age Settlement in this area, but identifies the Scheduled Ancient Monuments of

this date, widely-recognised as nationally significant, within a 10 km radius of Cracknie. The majority of such sites are located within Strath Naver to the east.

63. The scheduled deserted township at Rosal (Site No. 36), to the south-east of Cracknie, is a multi-period monument, and includes evidence for Iron Age habitation including hut circles and a souterrain within its area. This souterrain lies less than 10 km SSE of Cracknie, within an area rich in Iron Age settlement remains.
64. Notably, there is a string of scheduled brochs in the Strath Naver valley, a little over 5 km to the east of Cracknie. These include Achcoillenaborgie (Site No. 30), Allt a Chaisteil (Site No.31), Cnoc Carnachadh (Site No. 33), Dun Viden (Site No. 34), Dun Chealamy (Site No. 15); Inshlampie (Site No. 21) and a broch north-east of Inshlampie (Site No. 35). Sites scheduled as homesteads include Dalmor (Site No. 16) and Skail (Site No. 17) to the east and Borgie Bridge (Site No. 24), to the north, though these sites may be functionally indistinguishable from brochs. A scheduled fortified enclosure called 'The Tulloch' (Site No. 18) may be medieval in date but could also be a defensive feature of comparable age with the brochs. Several groups of hut circles and associated features are scheduled around the Naver Forest (Site Nos. 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 37), to the south-east of Cracknie, and there are further scheduled hut circles at Carnachy (Site No. 32).
65. Earlier prehistoric scheduled remains within 10 km of Cracknie include a cup and ring marked rock at Lochan Hakel (Site No. 22) and chambered cairns at Achagary (Site No.25), Skail (Site No. 26), Achgoillenaborgie (Site No. 27) and Skelpick (Site Nos. 28 & 29).

Assessment of Significance

Intrinsic Characteristics

66. Barring those sites that can no longer be located (and so cannot be assessed), Cracknie souterrain ranks among the best preserved and most spectacular such monuments in Sutherland. Although comparison with other sites suggests that souterrains may have been widespread in Iron Age Sutherland, very few are preserved in as good condition as the Cracknie example. For the most part, stone-lined souterrains of Cracknie type are generally partially or completely collapsed and infilled, and so cannot be accessed easily. With the exception of Portnancon souterrain (Site 56, gazeteer), all of the other souterrains in north Sutherland are inaccessible, and even Portnancon itself is perpetually flooded, so that access beyond the entrance is difficult. Cracknie souterrain could hardly be deemed accessible, given the geographical remoteness of the site and the difficulty involved in accessing the passage, but for visitors determined to get to the site, it is among the easiest to inspect once inside.
67. The likelihood that the Cracknie souterrain was used and emptied in the post-medieval centuries diminishes the likely significance of the internal deposits, and it is unlikely that little more could be learned about the late prehistoric origins and use of the structure through invasive investigation.

The intrinsic value of Cracknie souterrain, therefore, derives from its relative accessibility and the fact that the structure can be appreciated in a state close to its original design.

68. *Contextual Characteristics*

69. The souterrain at Cracknie is one of a group of such features within Sutherland, a subset of the broader range of souterrains present in many areas of Scotland. The souterrain at Cracknie lies within an area rich in Iron Age remains, although it appears that settlement concentrated in the richer agricultural lands, such as the Strath Naver valley. Evidence for late prehistoric habitation in close proximity to the souterrain include a possible crannog at Loch Nan Ealachan to the north-east, while there are several hut circle sites to the north-west, at Achnantot/Allt Loch Nam Breac (Site Nos. 5 & 6) and Druim Buidhe (Site no. 7), though the date of these prehistoric features is unclear.
70. There is a possibility that the souterrain at Cracknie may be associated with unknown buried remains of contemporary date. As noted above, in Sutherland souterrains are commonly associated with contemporary settlement remains such as roundhouses. It is notable that the scheduled souterrain at Rosal (Site No. 36) is associated with other evidence of Iron Age settlement including hut circles and field clearance heaps. As at Rosal, the souterrain at Cracknie is also associated with later settlement remains, and therefore gains significance as an example of continued use or reuse of an area for settlement. It is clear that this location was occupied and farmed in the post-medieval period, though it may have been largely unoccupied between the Iron Age and Post-medieval periods, when the area was perhaps, given the evidence of Blaeu's 17th century map, largely wooded.
71. The richness of the general area in the late prehistoric and Early Historic period is indicated by the large number of fortified monuments, including brochs. However, these appear to concentrate on the valley of Strath Naver to the east, suggesting that Cracknie may have been relatively peripheral to the core of activity at this time. It is also notable that in general, souterrains in this part of Sutherland, i.e. within the parishes of Farr and Tongue, tend to be located in relatively resource-rich areas such as the coast and major river valleys.

72. *Associative Characteristics*

73. Given the relative remoteness of the souterrain at Cracknie, and the very restricted entrance the monument has limited significance in terms of the local and national value attached to it; although marked on the Ordnance Survey map, the site is distant from any local routeways and unlikely to be viable as a tourist attraction.
74. The isolation of the Cracknie site can be taken as contributing to the aesthetic value of the setting however, since the appreciation of the site is unimpeded by modern development, an added attraction to visitors with an interest in the archaeological sites of the area.

Conclusion

75. The significance of Cracknie souterrain has been placed within the local and regional context. Despite the remoteness of the location, there can be little doubt that the site is one of the most spectacular and best preserved souterrains in Sutherland, and constitutes a site of considerable archaeological importance for this reason.

Acknowledgements

76. The authors are grateful to Paul Humphreys for the provision of his survey of Borgie souterrain.

References

Bibliographic

Allen, J R and Anderson, J 1903 *The early Christian monuments of Scotland: a classified illustrated descriptive list of the monuments with an analysis of their symbolism and ornamentation*, Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS G.1.11.ALL.

Anderson, J 1873 'Notice of the excavation of the brochs of Yarhouse, Brounaben, Bowermadden, Old Stirkake, and Dunbeath in Caithness, with remarks on the period of the brochs, and an appendix, containing a collected list of the brochs of Scotland, and early notices of many of them, with a map showing sites of brochs', *Archaeol Scot*, Vol.5.

Armit, I 1999 'The abandonment of souterrains: evolution, catastrophe or dislocation?', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, Vol. **129** (1999), 577-596.

Blundell, F O 1913 'Further notes on the artificial islands in the Highland area', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.47.

Bone, J S 1998 '[sites recorded during 1998 by aerial reconnaissance undertaken on behalf of Highland Council Archaeology Service]', *Discovery Excav Scot*, 45.

Cavers, G & Hudson, G 2010 *Assynt's Hidden Lives: An archaeological survey of the parish*. Report by AOC Archaeology Group and Historic Assynt: Digital.

Close-Brooks, J 1986 *Exploring Scotland's heritage: the Highlands*, Exploring Scotland's heritage series Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS A.1.4.HER.

Cooke, G A 1810 *Topographical Description of Northern Division of Scotland*.

Corcoran, J X W P 1967-8 'The Souterrain at Rosal, Strath Naver, Sutherland', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, Vol. **100** (1967-8).

Corcoran, J X W P 1969 'Excavation of two chambered cairns at Mid Gleniron Farm, Glenluce, Wigtownshire', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3rd, Vol.46, 114-18.

Dagg, C 2001 'Strathnaver, Highland (Farr parish), assessment; watching brief' *Discovery Excav Scot*, Vol.2, 55.

English Heritage 2008 *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance*.

Fairhurst, H 1969 'Rosal: a deserted township in Strath Naver, Sutherland', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.100, 135-69 plans.

Fernie, E 1995 *Art History and its Methods*, London.

Graham, A 1949 'Some observations on the brochs', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.**81**.

Henshall, A S 1963 *The chambered tombs of Scotland*, Vol.**1**, Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS E.7.1.HEN.

Henshall, A S 1972 *The chambered tombs of Scotland*, Vol.**2**, Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS E.7.1.HEN.

Horsburgh, J 1870 'Notes of cromlechs, duns, hut-circles, chambered cairns, and other remains, in the County of Sutherland', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.**7** (1870).

Historic Scotland 2000 *Historic Scotland Monument Visit Summary Report SAM 5663: Cracknie, settlement and souterrain*.

Historic Scotland 2011 *Scottish Historic Environment Policy*.

ICOMOS 1999 *The Burra Charter*.

Joass, J M 1865 'Notes of various objects of antiquity in Strathnaver', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.**5**, 359 illust.

Joass, J M 1868 'Notes on some northern antiquities', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.**6**, (1864-6), 386-8.

Lamb, R G 1980 'Iron Age promontory forts in the Northern Isles', *Brit Ser.* **79**.

Mackay, A 1906 'Notes on a slab with incised crescentic design, stone mould for casting spear-heads, a cup-marked stone, holy-water stoup, and other antiquities in Strathnaver, Sutherlandshire', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol.**40**.

MacKie, E W 1975 *Scotland: an archaeological guide: from the earliest times to the twelfth century*, London, Held at RCAHMS E.2.MAC.

MacKie, E.W. 2007 *The Roundhouses, Brochs and Wheelhouses of Atlantic Scotland c.700 BC-AD 500: architecture and material culture, the Northern and Southern Mainland and the Western Islands*, BAR British series 444(II), 444(1), 2 V Oxford

Marshall, M 2002 'Achcheargary, Strathnaver, Highland (Farr parish), survey', *Discovery Excav Scot*, Vol.**3**, 68.

Mercer, R J 1981 *Archaeological field survey in northern Scotland*, Vol.**II**, (1980-81).

Miket, R 2002 'The souterrains of Skye', in Ballin Smith, B & Banks, I 2002 *In the Shadow of the Brochs*.

Morrison, H 1883 *Tourist's guide to Sutherland and Caithness*.

Morrison, A. and Reid, R.K.W. 1965 'Fouhlin, earth house', *Discovery Excav Scot*

ONB 1873 *Ordnance Survey (Name Book)* Object Name Books of the Ordnance Survey, Book No. **20**, Held at RCAHMS.

OPS 1855 *Origines parochiales Scotiae: the antiquities ecclesiastical and territorial of the parishes of Scotland*, Vol. **2**, 2 Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS C.3.2.BAN.

PSAS 1868 'Donations to and purchases for the Museum and Library plus exhibits', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol. **6**, (1864-6).

PSAS 1958 'Donations to and purchases for the Museum and Library', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol. **89**, 460, No. 25.

Pennant, T 1774 *A tour in Scotland; MDCCLXIX*, Warrington, Held at RCAHMS D.20.PEN.R.

Pollock, R W 1992 'The excavation of a souterrain and roundhouse at Cyderhall, Sutherland', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol. **122** (1995), 149-160.

RCAHMS 1911 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions of Scotland. *Second report and Inventory of Monuments and Constructions in the County of Sutherland*, Edinburgh, Held at RCAHMS A.1.1.INV(2)

Rivet, A L F 1960 'Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey' in *Discovery and Excavation Scotland 1960*, 42-44.

Ruscoe, M 2002 'Cladh Ravigill, Rhifail, Strathnaver, Highland (Farr parish), burial ground', *Discovery Excav Scot*, Vol. **3**, 68-69.

Wainwright, F T 1953 'Souterrains in Scotland', *Antiquity*, Vol. **27**, 219-232.

Welsh, T C 1971 'Glen Leireag, settlement, extensive settlement, structure', *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1971*, 45-6.

Young, A 1964 'Brochs and duns', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, Vol. **95**.

Digital

Forestry Commission 2005 *Sutherland Community Signs Up to Historic Forest Management Deal*, News Release No. 7637, 12 May 2005. Accessed January 2012 at

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newsrele.nsf/WebPressReleases/8558FFF80438E24D80256FF900519297>

Cartographic

Blaeu, Joan 1654 *Strath-na-vernia, Strath-na-vern/Auct. Timotheo Pont*, Amsterdam

Roy, W 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland*.

Ordnance Survey 1878 *Sutherland*, Sheet XXVI, 1:10,560

Ordnance Survey 1906 *Sutherland*, Sheet XXVI, 1:10,560

Glossary

77. *Monument*

78. A monument is any physical object visible at ground level that by its survival holds the potential to inform us and future generations about persons, actions, periods, or events in the past¹.

79. *Site*

80. An archaeological site is a physical object, or arrangement, **not now visible at ground surface**² made, caused or installed by human activity, that by its survival holds the potential to inform us and future generations about persons, actions, periods, or events.

81. A conceptual site is one for which the physical link between some important cultural or historical event and the surviving landscape is not represented by any material remains. This may be because there never were any physical deposits or structures associated with the event or because these have subsequently been lost. Many battlefield sites are conceptual sites. The Battle of Bannockburn, for example, has extremely high cultural value for Scots but its precise location remains unknown – indeed, five separate locations on the carse to the south and east of Stirling have been proposed with great and equal conviction by separate authors in the recent past. The absence of physical remains does not reduce the cultural value of conceptual sites because the collective, if imprecise, memories of a people establish their value. Conceptual sites are commonly Cultural Landscapes.

82. *Cultural value/significance*

83. Cultural value is defined as the cultural worth or importance of a heritage asset. The extent of the value is determined by establishing its capacity to inform present or future generations about the past. This definition is readily accepted by heritage professionals both in Britain and internationally. This definition was first fully outlined in the Burra Charter (ICOMOS 1999) which states in article one that ‘cultural significance’ or ‘cultural heritage value’ means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations (Article 1.2). This sentiment has since been adopted by heritage organisations including Historic Scotland who use the term cultural significance in Annex 1 of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) where they claim that to have cultural significance a monument must have a particular ‘artistic; archaeological; architectural; historic; traditional (factors listed in the 1979 Act); aesthetic; scientific; [or] social [significance] – for past, present or future generations’ (2011, 71). In the case of many heritage sites and monuments their general cultural value has already been established through the scheduling and listing processes applied by Historic Scotland.

84. *Aesthetics*

85. The formal and rational recording of the physical parameters of the monument and its surrounding landform, including the observer’s emotional response to it, sets out the framework from within which an aesthetic appreciation can be developed. This approach is well established in critical artistic and architectural

¹ Every monument is also located within a site, formed of the debris associated with the construction, use and destruction or abandonment of the monument but sites are not monuments, in terms of the definitions used here.

² Sites may be revealed by the use of special techniques like aerial photography or geophysical survey

aesthetics and is formalised in 'Hegel's wheel' (Ferne 1995). The philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1770-1831), in his consideration of a philosophy of art, and in an attempt to avoid the biases of contemporary zeitgeist recommended a contextualisation of works of art taking cognisance of criteria such as the social, economic, political, historical and technological backgrounds from which the work of art originated.

Cracknie Souterrain

Archaeological Survey and Assessment of Significance

Section 2: Site Gazetteer

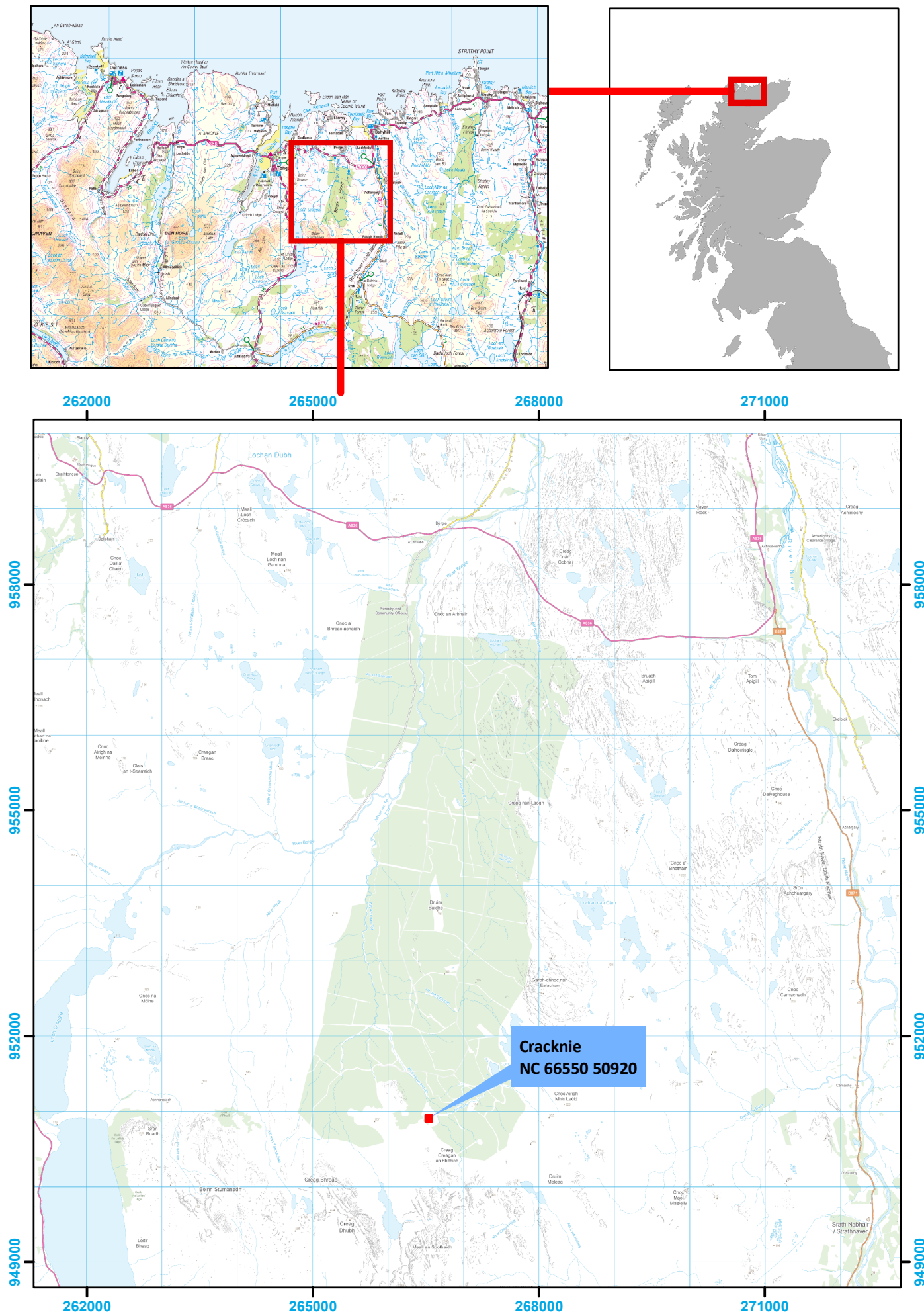
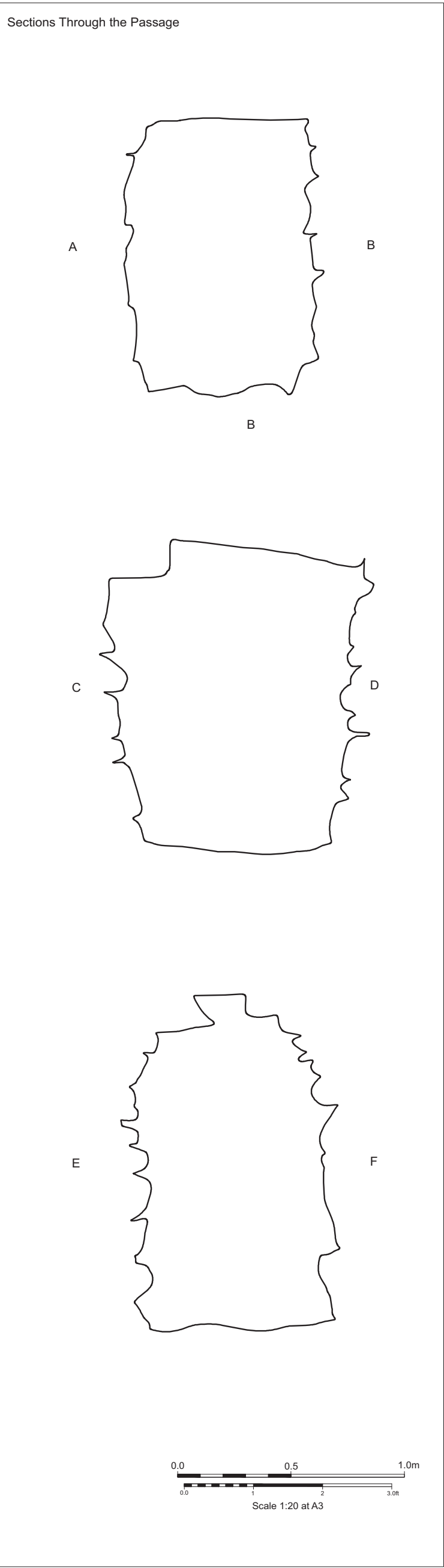
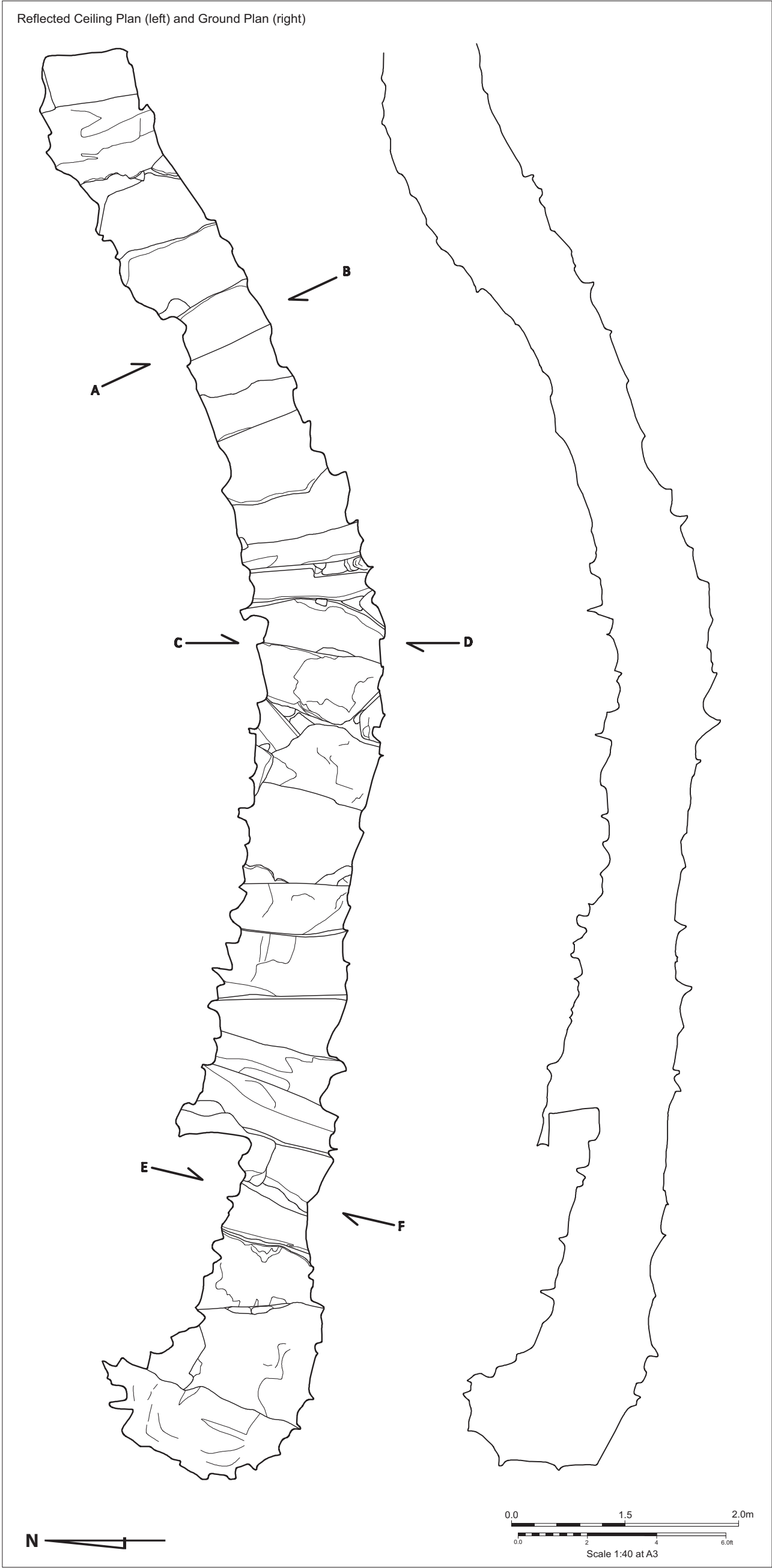


FIGURE 1: Site Location



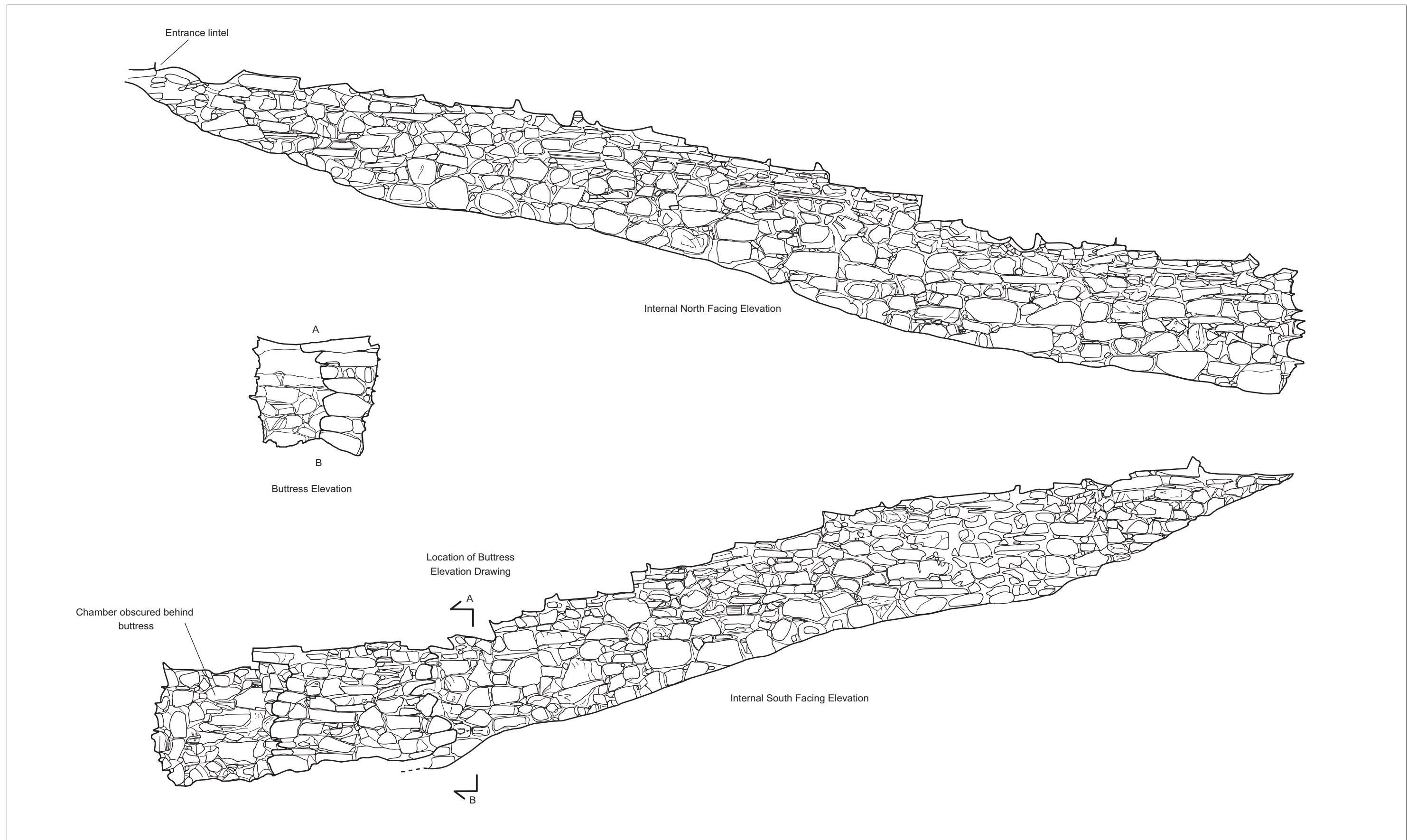
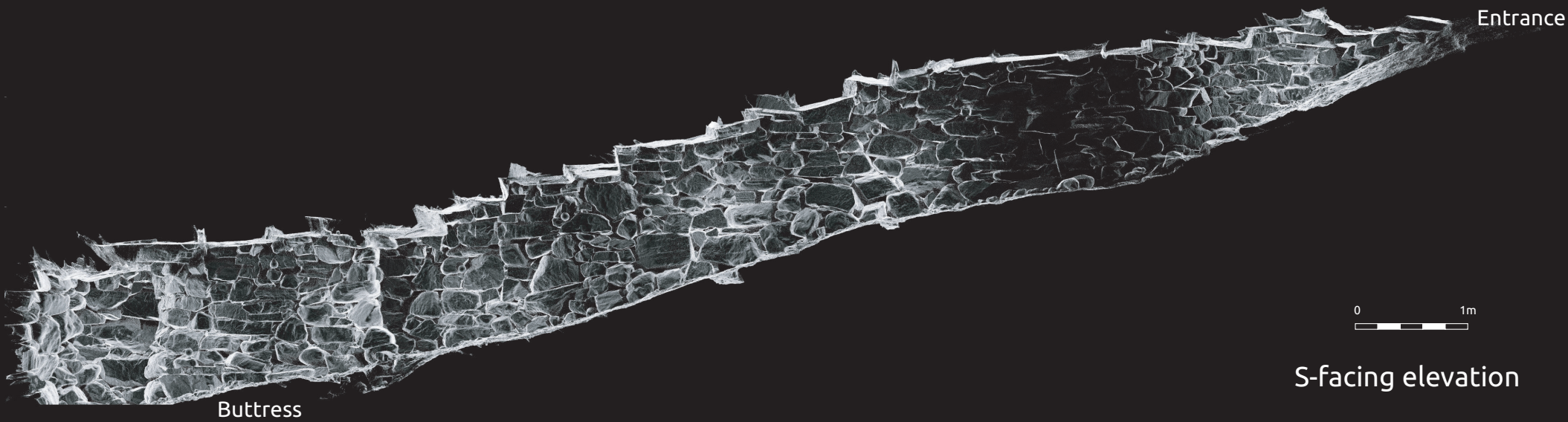
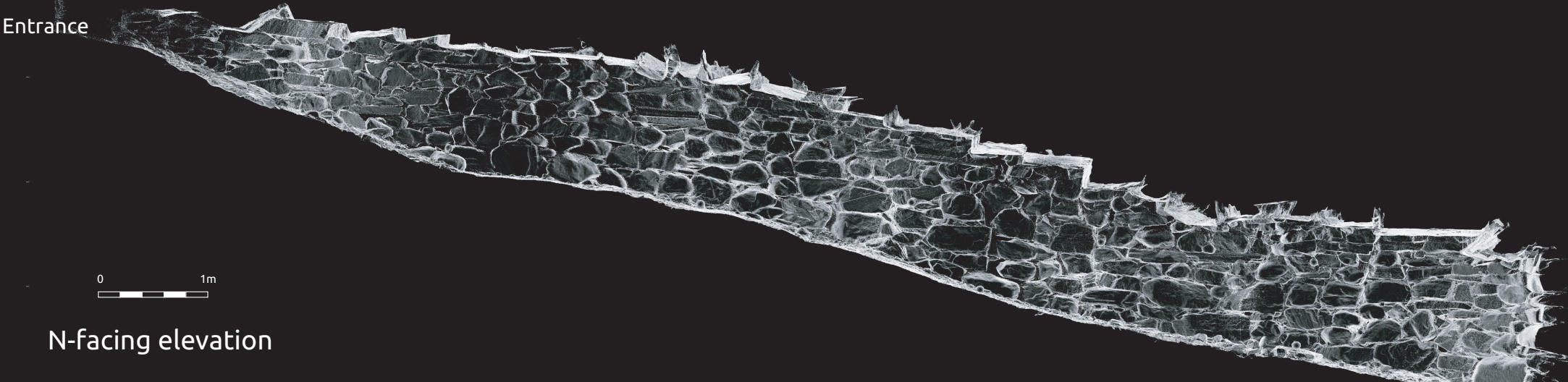
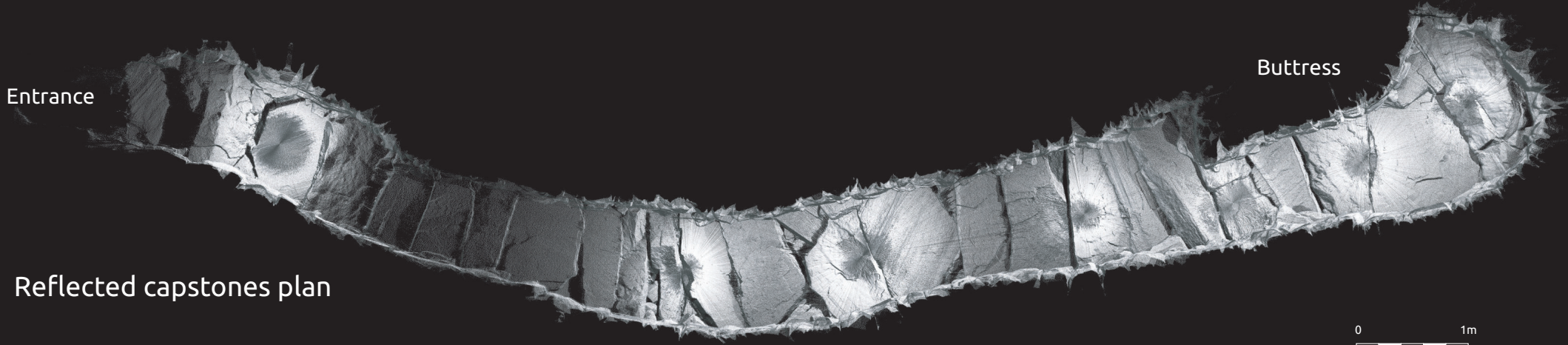
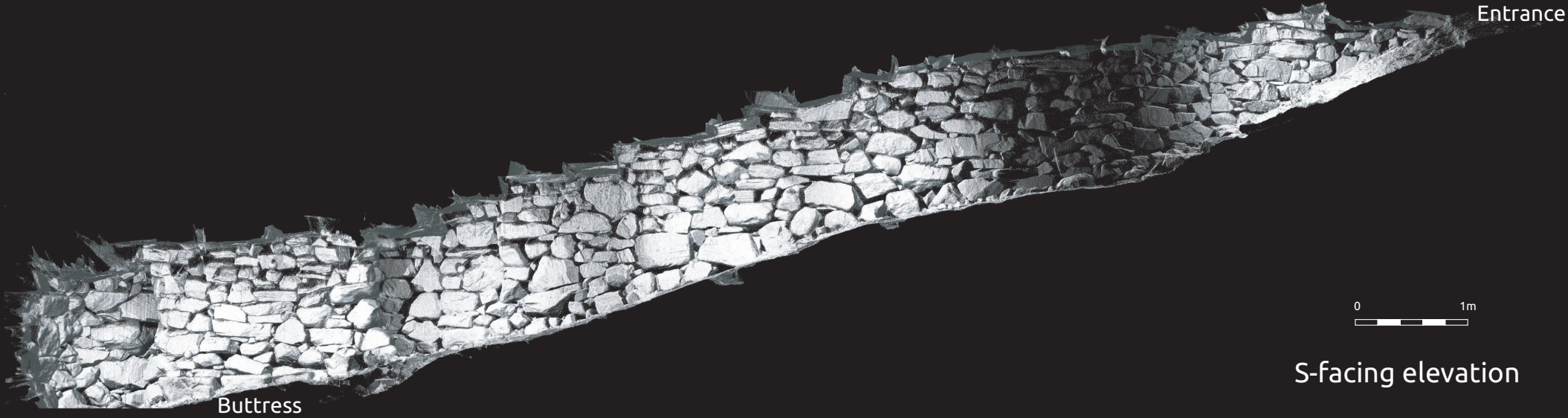
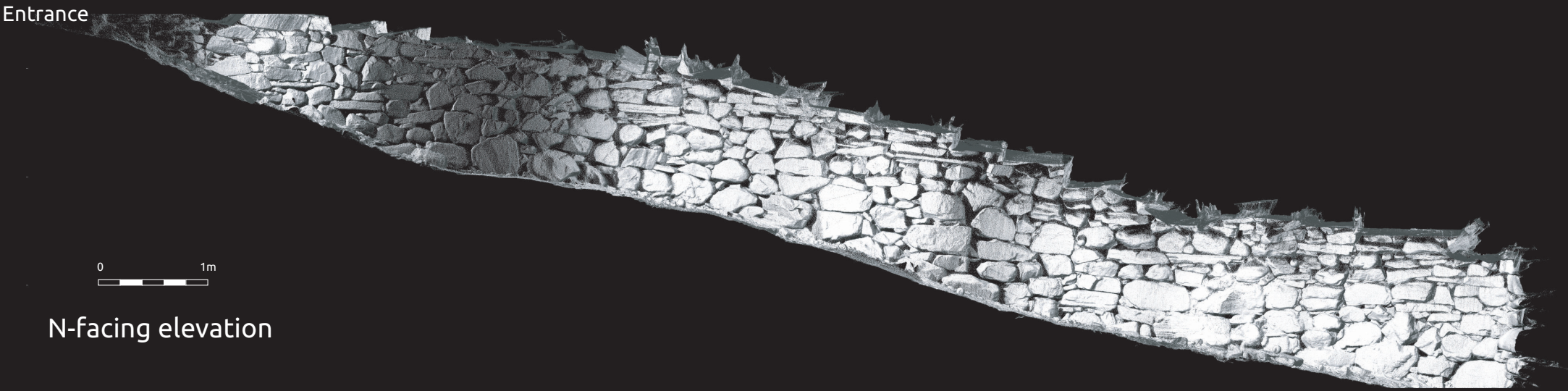
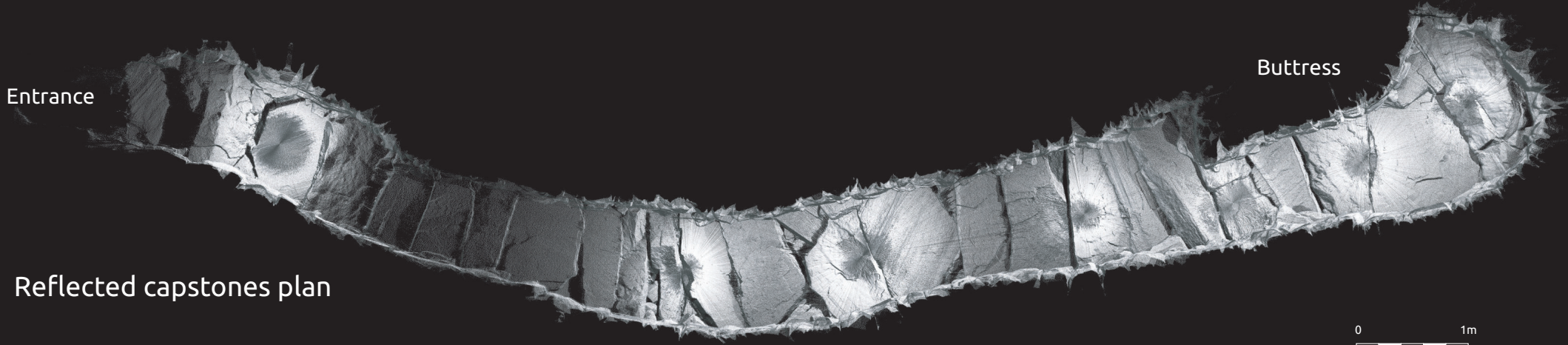


Figure 2b: Internal North Facing, South Facing and Buttress Elevations





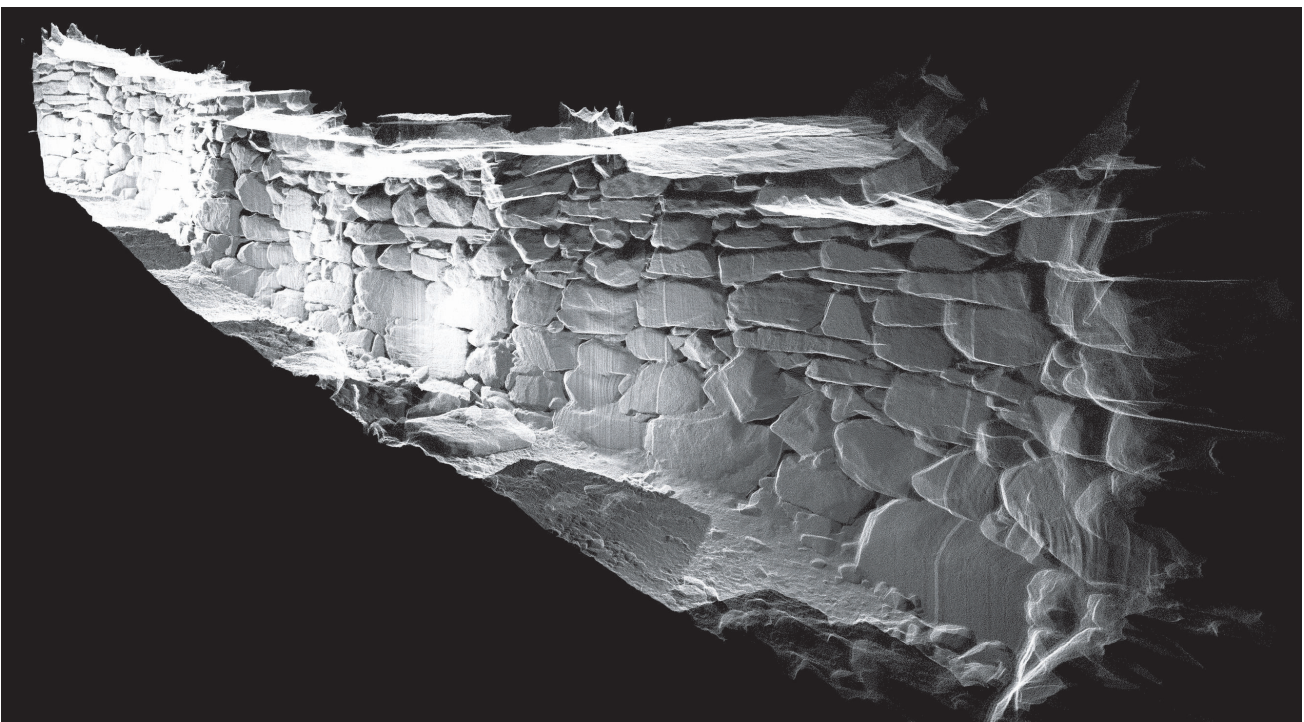
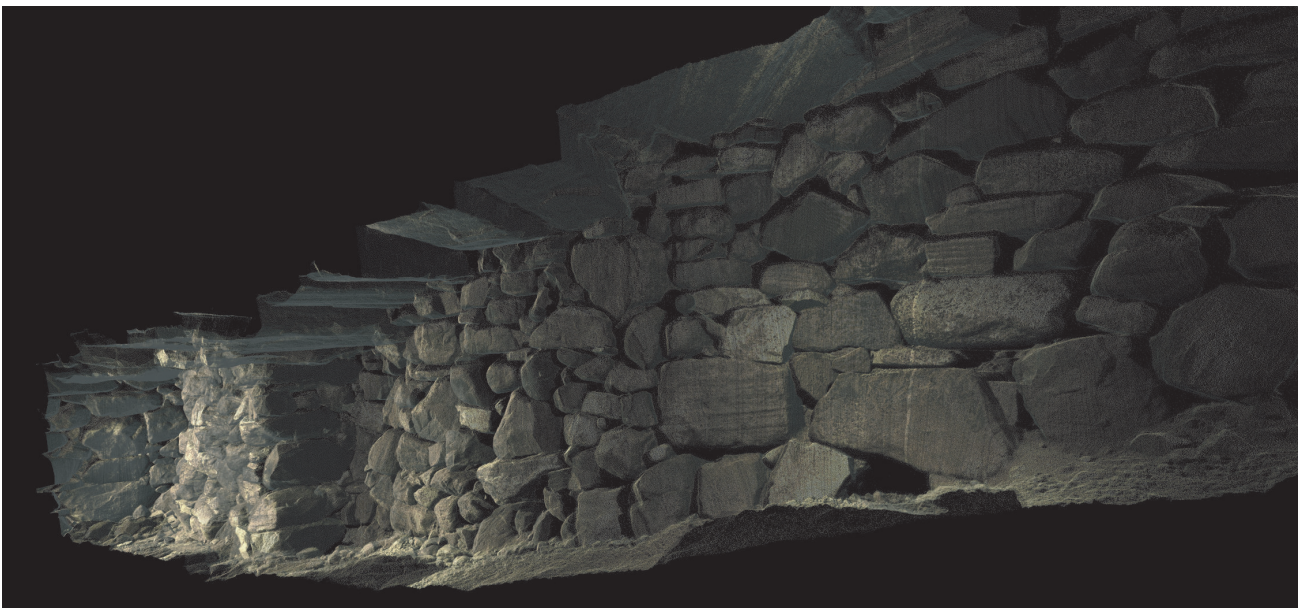


Figure 5: Perspective views of Cracknie souterrain

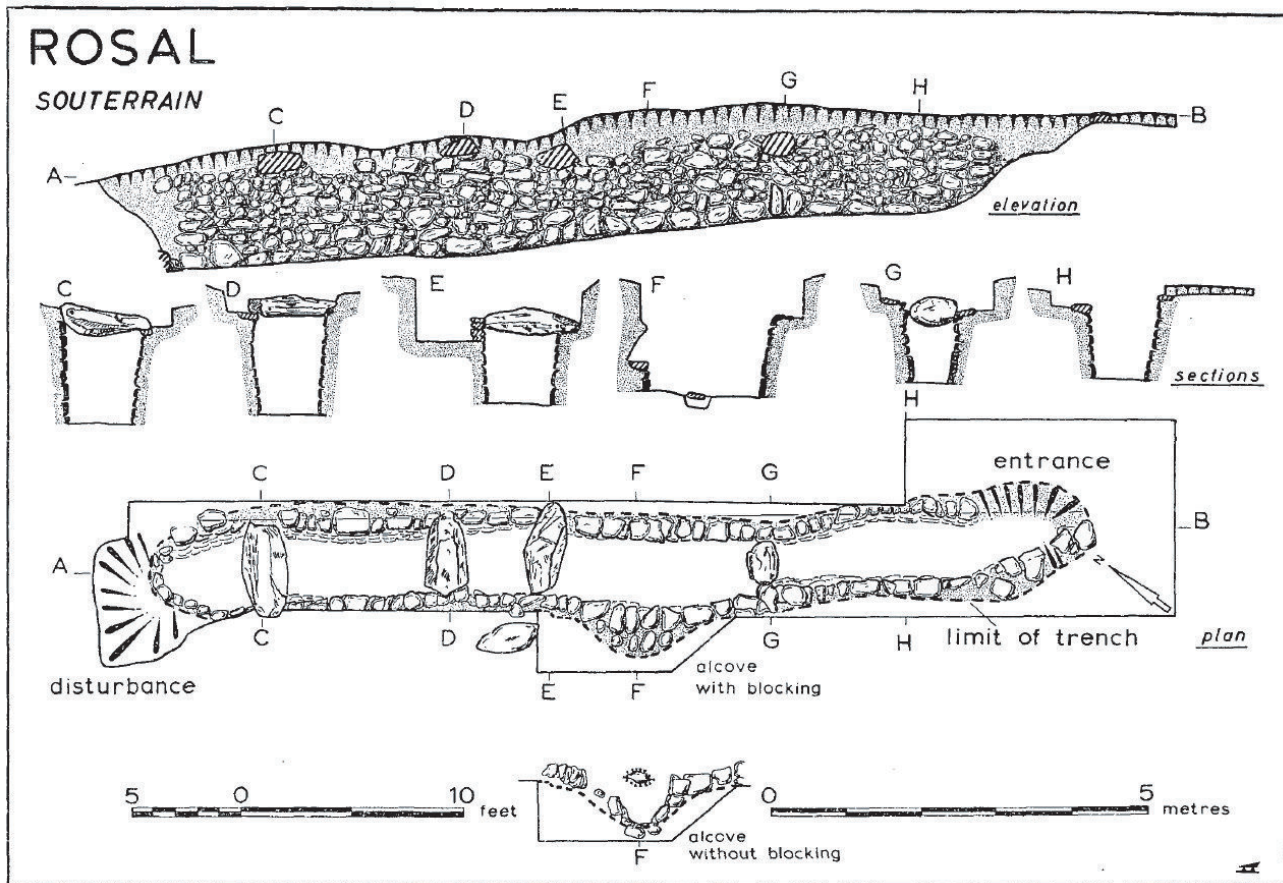


Figure 6: Plan and elevations of Rosal souterrain (Corcoran 1969)

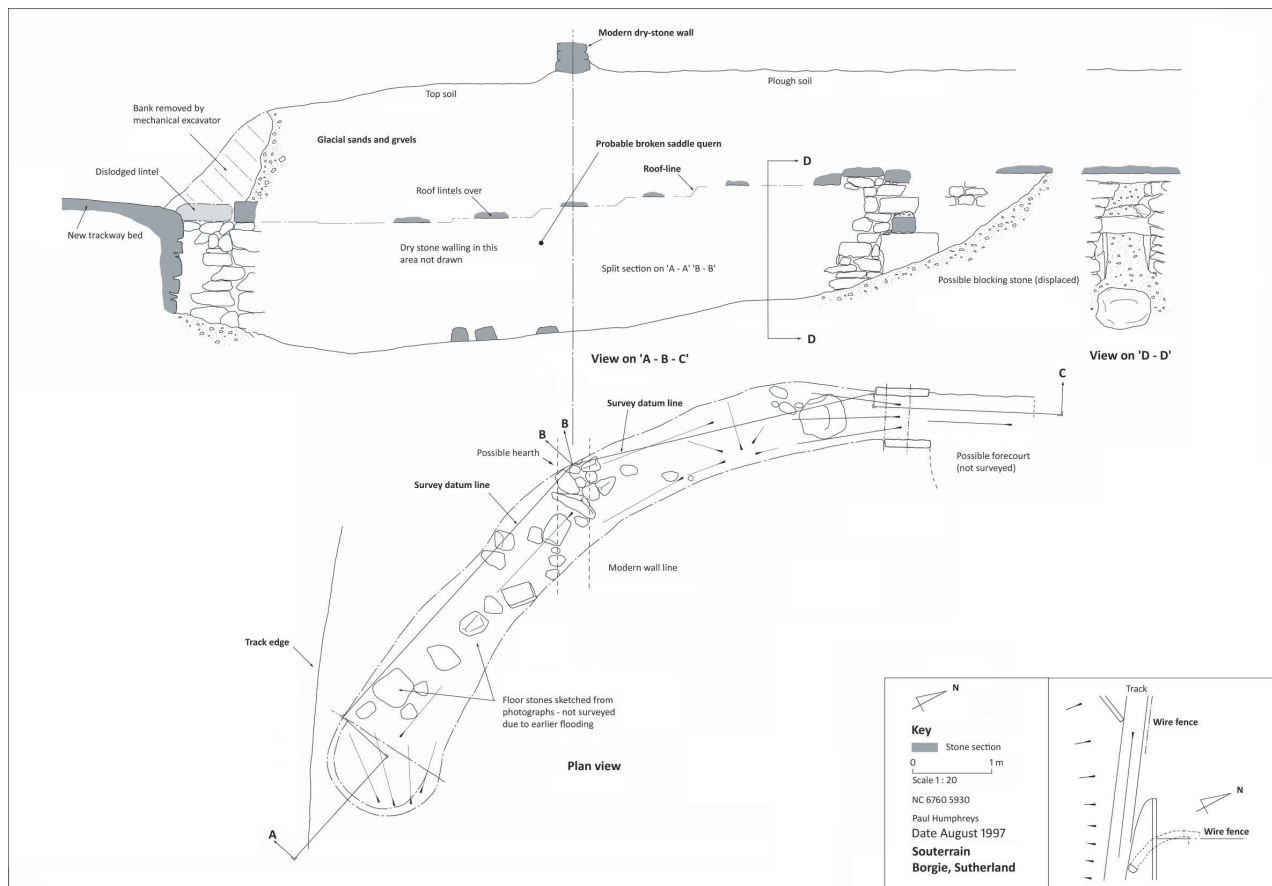
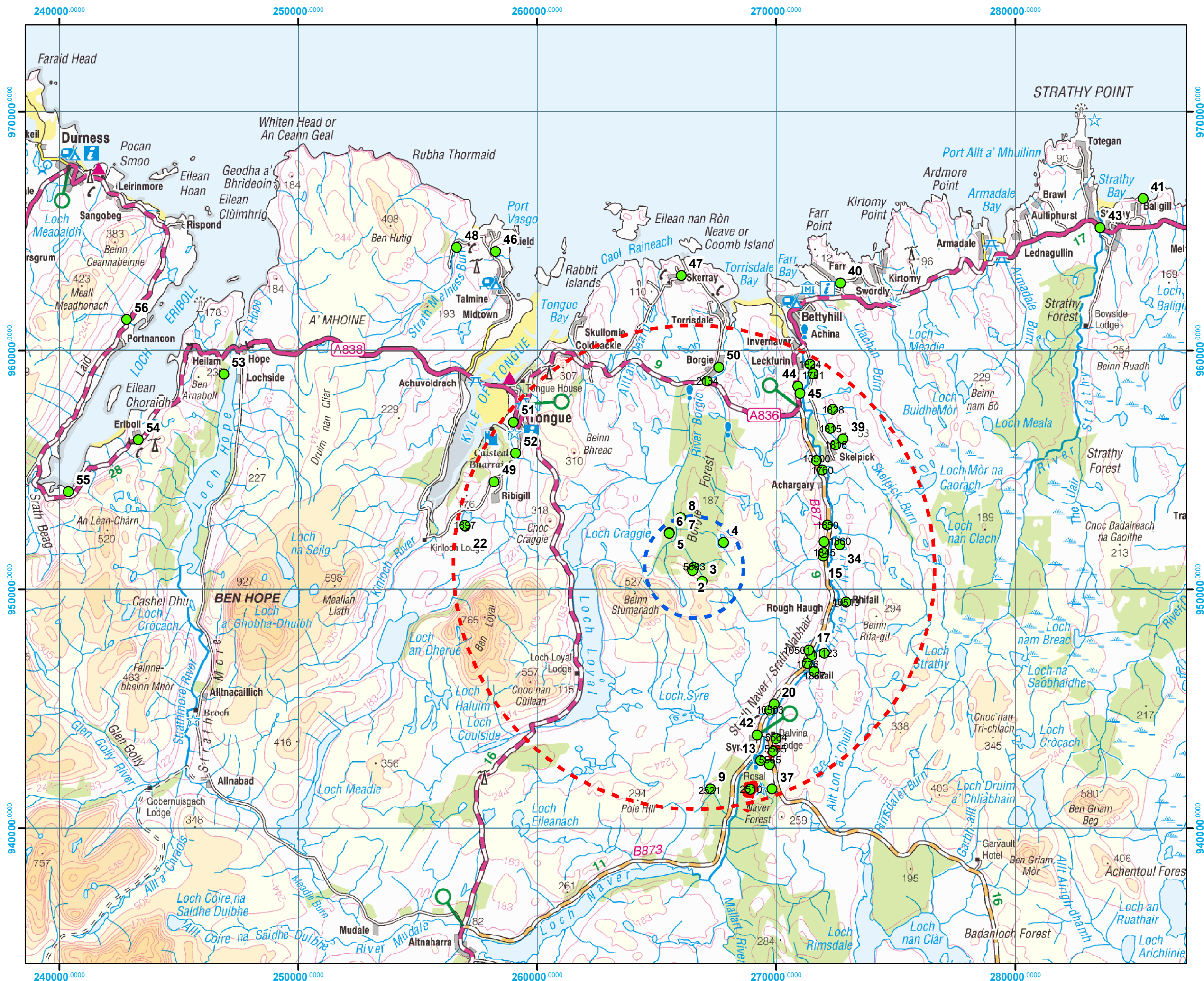


Figure 7: Plan and elevations of Borgie souterrain (survey by Paul Humphreys)



Cracknie: Heritage Context

Legend

- Gazetteer Sites
- SAMs within 10 km of Cracknie, souterrain
- 10 km Buffer
- 2 km Buffer

0 1 2 3 4 5 Km



Cartographic data derived from OS OpenData, Crown Copyright

Project No.:	22030
Date:	16.3.2012
Scale at A3:	1:150,000

AOC
Archaeology
Group

(c) AOC Archaeology 2012



Plate 1: General view of the entrance to the souterrain



Plate 2: The souterrain passage, looking E towards the entrance



Plate 3: The souterrain passage, looking W, towards the terminal



Plate 4: The souterrain passage, looking E around the central curve



Plate 5: looking down the passage towards the terminal; the buttress on the right



Plate 6: View of the buttress, close to the terminal of the passage



Plate 7: View of the terminal. Looking W



Plate 8: detail of the terminal stone work



Plate 9: View of the passage, N-facing elevation, looking W towards the entrance



Plate 10: View of the passage, S-facing elevation, looking W towards the entrance



Plate 11: View of the passage, looking W towards the entrance



Plate 12: View of the souterrain passage at Portnancon, Laid (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 13: View of the entrance steps to the souterrain at Portnancon, Laid (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 14: View of the site of Loch Erribol souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 15: View of the backfilled souterrain at Rosal. The site is not marked in the on-site interpretation.
(Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 16: View of the souterrain at Rosal, during Fairhurst's 1960s excavations. (Photo: RCAHMS)



Plate 17: View of the souterrain within the cleared township at Glenleraig, Assynt. (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 18: View of the entrance to the Glenleraig souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 19: View of Dun Mhairtein, showing the entrance to the souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 20: Entrance to the Dun Mhairtein souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 21: View of the entrance to the Dun Mhairtein souterrain (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 22: View down the passage of the Dun Mhairtein souterrain, showing the collapsed lintel (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 23: View down the passage of the Dun Mhairtein souterrain, from the entrance (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 24: View of the passage at Borgie souterrain. (Photo: P.Humphreys)



Plate 25: View of the passage at Borgie souterrain. (Photo: P.Humphreys)



Plate 26: Entrance to the possible souterrain at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 27: Detail of the entrance to the possible souterrain at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)



Plate 28: View of the roundhouse at Bhuachaille, Loch Hope (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)

Site Number	1
Site Name	Cracknie, souterrain
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC65SE 1
HER Number	MHG12621
Status	SAM 5663
Easting	266550
Northing	950920
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	Iron Age - 550 BC to 560 AD

NC65SE 1 6655 5092.

(NC 6654 5091) Earth-house (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

An almost intact earth-house whose entrance, on the top of a hillock, is an aperture about 2ft square beneath a slab. The passage slopes downward, gradually growing wider and higher, and some 20ft from the entrance is about 3ft wide and from 4ft 6ins to 4ft 10ins high. At 32ft inwards, its width is reduced to 2ft by a rebate on the right side; thereafter it gradually widens and curving round to the right terminates in a pear-shaped expansion about 6ft wide and 4ft 4ins high. The extreme length of the earth-house is 42ft. A few flags lying displaced outside the entrance suggest that it was longer. The sides are carefully built without mortar and it is roofed with slabs overlapping each other; the walls throughout are in perfect condition (Horsburgh 1870, 276; RCAHMS 1911,73, No. 220, visited 1909).

The only external signs of this souterrain are two large slabs at the entrance, now 2ft wide and 1ft 6ins deep, and a depression in the ground. To a length of 12ft to 15ft, the souterrain appears to be in good condition.
Visited by OS (J L D) 29 April 1960.

No change to the preceeding report. Now at corrected plan position NC 6655 5092.
Resurveyed at 1:10,000.
Visited by OS (J M) 19 July 1978.

Scheduled with deserted settlement NC65SE 4.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 26 April 1993.

Site Number	2
Site Name	Cracknie
Type of Site	Corn Drying Kiln; Farmstead; Rig and Furrow
NMRS Number	NC65SE 4
HER Number	MHG11492, 43215 & 43216
Status	SAM 5663
Easting	266500
Northing	950800

Parish Farr
Council Highland
Description Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD

NC65SE 4 665 508

Cracknie (NAT)
 OS 6-inch map, 1962.

A minor settlement known locally as McLeod's Shielling. There is a footing 28m by 4m at NC 6659 5082 and near it a corn-drying kiln at NC 6660 5087; both are outside, and S of an associated bank enclosing rough ground and tenuous rig and furrow occupied by two small indistinct enclosures and one or two vague, bothy-like footings.
 Visited by OS (JM) 15 July 1978.

Scheduled with souterrain NC65SE 1.
 Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 26 April 1993.

A farmstead comprising one long building near an area of cultivation is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1878, sheet xxvi). A two compartment building with one end missing is shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,560 map (1962).
 Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 18 August 1995.

Site Number 3
Site Name Borgie
Type of Site Shielling Hut
NMRS Number
HER Number MHG13299
Status Unprotected
Easting 266890
Northing 950340
Parish Farr
Council Highland
Description Undated

Site Number 4
Site Name Loch Nan Ealachan
Type of Site Crannog (Possible)
NMRS Number NC65SE 5
HER Number MHG10377
Status Unprotected
Easting 267800
Northing 951970
Parish Farr

Council	Highland
Description	<p>Iron Age - 550 BC to 560 AD</p> <p>NC65SE 5 6780 5197.</p> <p>A level, sub-circular, turf-covered island, about 30m across, rising sharply 0.8m above the waters of Loch nan Ealachan. Some stones show off-shore and indicate shallow water surround. Unable to visit; no boat available.</p> <p>Visited by OS (JM) 19 July 1978.</p>
<hr/>	
Site Number	5
Site Name	Achnantot
Type of Site	Hut Circle(s)
NMRS Number	NC65SE 2
HER Number	MHG12622
Status	Unprotected
Easting	265520
Northing	952380
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	<p>Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 551 BC</p> <p>NC65SE 2 6552 5238 and 6552 5234</p> <p>(A: NC 6552 5238; B: NC 6552 5234) Enclosure (sic) (NR)</p> <p>OS 6" map, (1962)</p> <p>Two enclosures were found during field investigation in the area where the RCAHMS (1911, 185, No. 532) note three hut circles. Both are heather-covered but quite prominent, consisting of earth and stone banks with 2m wide entrances in the E.</p> <p>'A' is 15m in diameter with a strong bank 4m broad and 0.7m high.</p> <p>'B' is 11m in diameter with a bank 2m broad and 0.3m high.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J L D) 29 April 1960.</p> <p>RCAHMS 1911, visited 1909.</p> <p>The two enclosures have been ploughed through and planted over with trees, and specific features are lost. The level state of the remains indicates hut circles.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J M) 19 July 1978.</p>
<hr/>	
Site Number	6
Site Name	Achnantot
Type of Site	Hut Circle(s)
NMRS Number	NC65SE 2
HER Number	MHG12622
Status	Unprotected
Easting	265520

Northing	952340
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	<p>Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 551 BC</p> <p>NC65SE 2 6552 5238 and 6552 5234</p> <p>(A: NC 6552 5238; B: NC 6552 5234) Enclosure (sic) (NR) OS 6" map, (1962)</p> <p>Two enclosures were found during field investigation in the area where the RCAHMS (1911, 185, No. 532) note three hut circles. Both are heather-covered but quite prominent, consisting of earth and stone banks with 2m wide entrances in the E. 'A' is 15m in diameter with a strong bank 4m broad and 0.7m high. 'B' is 11m in diameter with a bank 2m broad and 0.3m high. Visited by OS (J L D) 29 April 1960. RCAHMS 1911, visited 1909.</p> <p>The two enclosures have been ploughed through and planted over with trees, and specific features are lost. The level state of the remains indicates hut circles. Visited by OS (J M) 19 July 1978.</p>

Site Number	7
Site Name	Druim Buidhe
Type of Site	Hut Circle
NMRS Number	
HER Number	MHG12623
Status	Unprotected
Easting	266000
Northing	953000
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	<p>Neolithic to Late Iron Age - 4000 BC to 560 AD</p> <p>A hut-circle, accompanied by a group of from 80 to 100 mounds, lies on W side of Druim Buidhe (NC 66 53), c3 miles S of Borgie Bridge (NC 6684 5873).</p> <p>The hut circle lies on the lower part of the slope about 300 yards from the river and directly east of an island. It is about 30ft in diameter within a well-defined bank about 6ft thick with a high stone content. A portal stone still stands to left of entrance. What seems to be the ruins of an inner wall on the west suggests that the circle has been reduced in size.</p> <p>The mounds stretch from the low ground near the river to about 150ft above it ; visited 1909).</p> <p>This area has been re-afforested. The hut-circle was not found during field investigation.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J L D) 29 April 1960.</p>

Site Number	8
--------------------	---

Site Name	Druim Buidhe
Type of Site	Clearance Cairn
NMRS Number	
HER Number	MHG 41386
Status	Unprotected
Easting	266000
Northing	953000
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	Undated

A hut-circle, accompanied by a group of from 80 to 100 mounds, lies on W side of Druim Buidhe (NC 66 53), c3 miles S of Borgie Bridge (NC 6684 5873).

The hut circle lies on the lower part of the slope about 300 yards from the river and directly east of an island. It is about 30ft in diameter within a well-defined bank about 6ft thick with a high stone content. A portal stone still stands to left of entrance. What seems to be the ruins of an inner wall on the west suggests that the circle has been reduced in size.

The mounds stretch from the low ground near the river to about 150ft above it (RCAHMS 1911, 73, No. 221; visited 1909).

This area has been re-afforested. The hut-circle was not found during field investigation.

Visited by OS (J L D) 29 April 1960.

Site Number	9
Site Name	Allt Ceann na Coille, hut circles & field clearance cairns, Naver Forest
Type of Site	Hut Circles; Field Clearance Cairns
NMRS Number	NC64SE 9, 11 & 34
HER Number	MHG12462, MHG12484 & MHG12592
Status	SAM 2521
Easting	267252
Northing	941650
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 9 6720 4158.

(NC 671 415) Tumuli (NR)
OS 6" map, Sutherlandshire, 1st ed., (1874)

(NC 6720 4158) Hut Circle (NR)
OS 6" map, (1961)

A small hut circle found during field investigation accompanied by a cluster of about two dozen field clearance heaps. The hut circle measures 9.5m in diameter and consists of an earth and stone bank 2.5m broad by 0.3m high which seems to have had an entrance in the SE. The surrounding area has been cleared for cultivation.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

Area is thickly planted with conifer trees. The hut circle and the accompanying field clearance heaps were not identified.

Visited by OS (J M) 25 July 1978.

NC64SE 11 6737 4174.

(NC 674 417) Tumuli (NR)
OS 6" map, Sutherlandshire, 1st ed., (1874)

(NC 6737 4174) Hut Circle (NR)
OS 6" map, (1961)

A hut circle discovered during field investigation among about two dozen field clearance heaps in an area which has been cultivated on a low isolated ridge in a vast tract of boggy moorland. The hut circle is 10.5m in diameter and consists of an earth and stone bank 0.7m high, spread to a width of 3.2m, with an entrance 2m wide in the SE.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

A completely heather-covered hut circle measuring about 10.5m by 8.5 internally and having an entrance in the S arc the line of the long axis; the wall stands no more than 0.2m high and is spread to about 2.0m. One or two peat-covered mounds close-by indicate associated field clearance.

Visited by OS (J M) 25 July 1978.

NC64SE 34 centred 671 418.

Centred on NC 671 418 along the summit and flanks of a rise in a high moorland plateau are a number of peat silted, stony mounds, spaced from 10.0 to 20.0m apart, that appear typical of field clearance associated with hut circles.

Visited by OS (J M) 25 July 1978.

Site Number	10
Site Name	Red Priest's Stone and burial ground 500 m NNE of
Type of Site	Cross-Incised Stone; Burial Ground; Chapel
NMRS Number	NC74NW 2
HER Number	MHG11048, MHG42203 & MHG42206
Status	SAM 2721
Easting	271485
Northing	947224
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 2 7147 4722.

(NC 7147 4722) Burial Ground (NR)
(NC 7148 4722) Red Priest's Stone (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

The site of a pre-Reformation chapel (Pennany 1774) and its burial ground, the only surviving evidence of which is a cross-incised pillar, 2ft 4ins high and 1ft 2ins broad, which is known as 'Clach an t-Sagairt Ruidhe', 'the Red Stone of the Priest' (ONB 1873, 250) or 'the Stone of the Red Priest'. 'The Red Priest' was one of the names given to St. Maelrubha (d.722), from which

it is assumed that the chapel was dedicated to him, nothing further is known of it except that its stones are said to have been removed c.1825 to form the embankment of the river opposite Riloisk (NC 706 454), and its font lay on a grassy bank half-way to the embankment (ie. c. NC 708 465) in 1906 (Mackay 1906, 131). The outline of the burial ground is shown as triangular in 1873 (OS 6" map, Sutherland, 1st ed., 1873) and the cross-marked stone is said to have stood in the north angle (ONB 1873, 250) or even outside the burial-ground (Joass 1865, 359). Neither position seems typical of a grave-stone, especially as the cross is on the north face, so MacKenzie's suggestion that it is a girth-cross (Information contained in letter from Rev D MacKenzie James Loch to OPS 1854) seems feasible. None of the other grave-slabs was sculptured but some bear natural tracery in the form of raised quartz veins (Pennant 1774, 345; OPS 1855, 708; Joass 1865, 359; Name Book 1873; Allen & Anderson 1903, Part 3, 55; A Mackay 1906, 131).

A small unenclosed area of rough pasture in the corner of an arable field. 'The Red Priest's Stone' is 0.7m high and 0.3m. square, with a roughly incised, almost equal-armed cross with a rounded head, on its north face. A slab, now embedded in the ground, bears no inscription, but may be a grave-slab. The font was not located and local enquiries proved negative. Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960.

The Red Priest's Stone (name verified locally) and the graveyard are as described by the previous field investigator. The name 'Clach an t-Sagairt Ruidhe' and 'the Red Stone of the Priest' are not known locally. No further information concerning the chapel and font was encountered.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 21 July 1977.

Site Number	11
Site Name	Dalvina Lodge, hut circles 320 m SE and 450 m SE of
Type of Site	Hut Circles
NMRS Number	NC64SE 10 & NC74SW 3
HER Number	MHG11060, MHG11066, MHG12461, MHG40298, MHG40300, MHG44821, MHG44823 & MHG
Status	SAM 5564
Easting	269987
Northing	943745
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 10 6991 4380. (NC 6991 4380) Enclosure (NR) OS 6" map, (1961) This is a hut circle discovered by the previous field investigator. It is turf-covered and has been levelled into the W-facing slope in an area of rig-and-furrow and field walls. Near circular on plan, it has a slight angularity not normally found in hut circles, but this is probably caused by encroachment of the later cultivation or recent re-use of the hut stance. It measures 11.0m in diameter within a wall generally spread but measuring 1.4m wide and 0.3m high in the NE. No entrance is visible. There is no trace of associated cultivation. Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960 and (J B) 29 August 1978. NC74SW 3 7000 4375. (NC 7000 4375) Undescribed circular feature. (NC 7004 4370) Undescribed semi-circular feature.

OS 6" map, (1963)

The feature at NC 7000 4375 is a hut circle on a crest in a west facing hillside discovered during field investigation (OS {JLD}) Associated cultivation is denoted in sporadic heaps of field clearance nearby, but measurable plots are not discernible. The hut, is 10.5m diameter inside a wall 0.4m high and estimated width 1.4m; an entrance is in the south east. Extending from the entrance across the hut interior are footings of uncertain purpose. An obscure rectangular enclosure, 7.0m by 4.0m, abuts the hut exterior in the north east arc, and outside against the south west arc, are possible indications of two further structures. The feature at NC 7004 4370 is an arc of turf covered rubble, 0.3m high and spread 2.0m broad, on the west edge of "lazy-bed" cultivation. It may be the east segment of a hut circle elsewhere completely destroyed by the later agriculture.

Revised at 1/10,000.

Visited by OS (JLD) 11 May 1960 and (JM) 27 May 1977.

Site Number	12
Site Name	Dalvina Lodge, settlements 700 m SSE of and 1050 m S of
Type of Site	Settlements; Hut Circles; Cairnfield; Head Dykes; Township; Enclosure; Corn Drying Kiln
NMRS Number	NC64SE 40, 58, 59 & 63; NC74SW 4
HER Number	MHG10393, MHG10570, MHG10571, MHG11067, MHG12491, MHG41396, MHG43333, MHG4
Status	SAM 5565
Easting	269869
Northing	943222
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 40 6979 4292.

(NC 6979 4292) Unannotated pecked circle.

OS 6" map, (1961)

This feature which is a hut circle lies within the small depopulated settlement of Auchenrach. It is situated on a small rise and survives as a turf covered platform ringed by the vestiges of a wall. It measures 12.0m in diameter within the wall, which only survives to any extent in the north where inner and outer facing stones are visible indicating a wall width of 2.0m-2.2m and a height of 0.6m. Elsewhere the wall is robbed presumably for the adjacent early-modern structures. No entrance to the hut was seen. There are no signs of contemporary cultivation; any trace is likely to have been obliterated by the more recent agriculture.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 7 August 1978.

Scheduled with NC64SE 58, NC64SE 59, NC64SE 63 NC74SW 4.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 February 1993.

NC64SE 58 699 434.

Achupresh, shown on B Meredith's Plan of the Heights of Strathnaver, 1811, was one of the outlying enclosures of Rosal (NC64SE 12). There is evidence to show that such enclosures result from land reclamation which was taking place at the time of the Clearances, 1814-20. The ruinous enclosure dyke, substantially built of stone and turf, has contained six acres, with one full size long-house and possibly a second, together with a barn, a corn-drying kiln, a yard and at least one other outhouse. It is estimated to have been permanently occupied by two families. The enclosure is complex, as though it had been increased by successive intakes from the moor on two or three occasions (Fairhurst 1969, 162, 168).

As described by Fairhurst.
Visited by OS (NKB) 21 December 1978.

Scheduled with NC64SE 40, NC64SE 59, NC64SE 63 NC74SW 4.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 February 1993.

This township comprises five unroofed buildings, an enclosure and a ring-dyke as depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland, sheet xlv). Five unroofed buildings and the ring-dyke are shown on the current editions of the OS 1:10,000 map (1992) and (1986).
Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 9 October 1995.

NC64SE 59 698 430.

Auchenrach, shown on B Meredith's Plan of the Heights of Strathnaver, 1811, was one of the outlying enclosures of Rosal (NC64SE 12). There is evidence to show that such enclosures result from land reclamation which was taking place at the time of the Clearances, 1814-20. The enclosure dyke, substantially built of stone and turf, but now ruinous, has contained four acres, with a small long-house, an outhouse and a yard and is estimated to have been permanently occupied by one family. Possibly originally a shieling (Fairhurst 1969, 162, 168).

As described by Fairhurst.
Visited by OS (NKB) 21 December 1978.

Scheduled with NC64SE 40, NC64SE 58, NC64SE 63 NC74SW 4.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 February 1993.

What may be a township, comprising four unroofed buildings, an enclosure and a ring-dyke is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1878, sheet xlv). Two unroofed buildings, an enclosure and the ring-dyke are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,000 map (1992).
Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 9 October 1995.

NC64SE 63 697 432

A shieling enclosure of three acres which appears to have been cleared of stones but there is little evidence of cultivation. An outlying enclosure of Rosal (NC64SE 12) (Fairhurst 1969).

As described by Fairhurst.
Visited by OS (NKB) 21 December 1978.

Scheduled with NC64SE 40, NC64SE 58, NC64SE 59 NC74SW 4.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 February 1993.

An enclosure is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1878, sheet xlv), and it is shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,000 map (1992).
Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 9 October 1995.

NC74SW 4 7001 4319.

(NC 7001 4319) Undescribed circular feature.
OS 6" map, (1963)

This hut circle on a knoll in a west facing hillside was located during field investigation (OS {JLD}). Associated cultivation is denoted in sporadic mounds of field clearance round about but measurable plots are not discernible. The hut, completely heather covered, is 10.0m by 9.0m inside a wall standing 0.5m high at best and spread to 2.0m in width; an entrance is in the south east on the line of the longer axis.
Revised at 1/10,000.

Visited by OS (JLD) 11 May 1960 and (JM) 27 May 1977.

Scheduled with NC64SE 40, NC64SE 58, NC64SE 59, NC64SE 63.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 February 1993.

Site Number	13
Site Name	Dalvina Lodge, hut circle and field system, 1130 m SSW of
Type of Site	Hut Circle; Field System
NMRS Number	NC64SE 24
HER Number	MHG12475 & 40509
Status	SAM 5627
Easting	269353
Northing	942841
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 24 6935 4285.

Set into a NW-facing slope at NC 6935 4285 is a turf and heather-covered hut circle, within a small field system. It measures 11.0m NE-SW by 10.0m within a stone wall spread to 2.5m wide and up to 0.9m high. The vague entrance is in the SW.
The field system, occupying 1 ha comprises relatively stone-free areas fringed by two or three lynchets and stone clearance heaps. One measurable plot, 40.0m by 20.0m, can be identified. Surveyed at 1:10,000.
Visited by OS (J B) 29 August 1978.

Scheduled as Dalvina Lodge, hut circle and field system.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 17 February 1993.

Site Number	14
Site Name	Dalvina Lodge, hut circle 1300 m S of
Type of Site	Hut Circle
NMRS Number	NC64SE 6
HER Number	MHG12589
Status	SAM 5628
Easting	269717
Northing	942669
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 6 6971 4266.

At NC 6971 4266 on a low knoll in fairly level moorland, is a sub-oval, turf-covered enclosure measuring 12.5m north-south by 10.0m east-west within a wall, 0.2m maximum height, and 1.7m wide in the south east, but generally vague elsewhere. The entrance is probably from the south. The shape of the enclosure is somewhat angular, and it is probably associated with nearby rig and furrow which, with rickles and heaps of stones, is almost certainly

contemporary with Rosal township (NC64SE 12). However there are a small number of stone heaps, the size and disposition of which suggest earlier cultivation, and the enclosure may be a hut circle re-used at a much later, 18th/19th century date.

Surveyed at 1:10000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 21 December 1978.

Scheduled as Dalvina Lodge, hut circle.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 17 February 1993.

Site Number	15
Site Name	Dun Chealamy, broch
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC75SW 9
HER Number	MHG10718
Status	SAM 5632
Easting	271976
Northing	951391
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75SW 9 7199 5140.

(NC 7199 5140) Dun Chealamy (NAT) Broch (NR)
(Undated) OS map.

Dun Chealamy, the heavily-robbled remains of a broch (RCAHMS 1911 and OS {JLD}) or dun (Young 1964), situated on the end of a spur and so naturally defended on all sides except the SW, which has an outwork consisting of a double rampart with one (Young 1964) or two (OS {JLD}) ditches. Although the site is mutilated sufficient remains of the wall faces to establish a width of between 3.7m and 4.3m, and an internal diameter of 7.0m. The masonry is poor and no entrance is visible. The ditches are 12.0m broad and 2.0m deep, and both ends of the inner ditch have been built up with stone (Young 1964). The ditch contains the footings of a later structure, 12.0m by 4.0m (RCAHMS 1911, 60, No. 179; visited 1909; Young 1964, 189). Visited by OS (JLD) 6 May 1960.

Dun Chealamy is a broch with out works as described by the previous field investigator. Traces of a mural gallery are exposed in the rubble of the broch in the south-west arc. There are gaps between the natural slopes and either end of the outworks, one or both of which must be an entrance approach; there is no trace of the stone revetting noted by Young (1964). Visited by OS (N K B) 17 January 1979.

Site Number	16
Site Name	Dalmor, homestead 300 m W of
Type of Site	Homestead
NMRS Number	NC75NW 14
HER Number	MHG11078
Status	SAM 10500
Easting	271685

Northing	955393
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 14 7168 5539

See also NC75NW 22.

(NC 7168 5539) Dun (NR)
OS 6" map, (1964)

This feature previously classified as a broch (Horsburgh 1870) and a dun (OS {JLD}) appears to be a stone-walled enclosure similar to a Kilphedir Hut II type house, apparently defended by a ditch and outer rampart. It is situated on a small knoll on the steep west slopes of Strathnaver, and measures 12.0m NE-SW by 9.0m within a wall spread from 2.5m to 3.0m and attaining a maximum height of 1.5m in the N. The configuration of the entrance in the SE is unlike any other so far encountered in Sutherland. The passage 5.8m long, flanked by intermittent slabs on edge, continues into the enclosure interior rather than ceasing on the regular boulder-lined inner face. The ditch which encircles the S and NW sides is 6.5m to 8.0m wide and attains a maximum depth of 2.2m; the outer rampart is 1.0m high. Both ditch and outer rampart are broken in the W, and the site is protected on the NE side by the natural slope. There is no indication as to whether the enclosure and outworks are contemporary.

The previous classifications of dun and broch seem improbable primarily from the mode of construction of the wall, and its relative insubstantiality, and may be best classified as a homestead. (For similar ditched features which have a defensive capacity see NC65NE 1, NC64SE 30, NC74NW 20). Clearance heaps with indications of field plots and banks probably contemporary with the enclosure, lie nearby to the E. (See NC75NW 22).

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J L D) 3 May 1960 and (J B) 21 December 1960 (Horsburgh 1870, 274).

Scheduled as 'Dalmor, homestead.'

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 27 January 2003.

Site Number	17
Site Name	Skail, homestead
Type of Site	Broch (possible); Homestead
NMRS Number	NC74NW 20
HER Number	MHG11049
Status	SAM 10501
Easting	271363
Northing	947451
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 20 7135 4744.

At NC 7135 4744, occupying the summit of a steep-sided spur connected to the hill-slope to the west by a narrow saddle, are the fragmentary remains of a defensive work, completely turf-covered. It comprises a sub-oval, fairly level area about 20.0m E-W by 15.0m N-S, with a slight counterscarp 0.3m high on the west arc. Around the periphery protruding through the turf are several stones in sufficient numbers to suggest an encircling wall which has been almost completely obliterated; no wall faces are exposed and there is no tumble at the base of the knoll. (The work is situated within a walled pasture field and may have been robbed to build the wall and adjacent farm buildings). A gully extending into the summit area from the south-

east may be a later mutilation. On the west side, across the saddle at the only practical point of access, is a ditch, 1.2m deep and 9.0m wide, which from its size and position has an obvious defensive function.

This ditch is similar to other examples associated with brochs in Strathnaver (See NC75SE 9 and NC75SE 11 NC74NW 3), and also to other, as yet unclassified defensive works (See NC65NE 1, NC64SE 30).

Surveyed at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 25 January 1979.

Site Number	18
Site Name	The Tulloch fortified enclosure, 177 m NE of Langdale
Type of Site	Ringwork (medieval)(possible); Fortified Enclosure
NMRS Number	NC64SE 30
HER Number	MHG11506
Status	SAM 10503
Easting	269725
Northing	944944
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 30 6973 4495

See also NC64SE 31.

Fortified Enclosure, Syre: At Syre, on the east side of the road, and quite close to it is a small fortified enclosure, locally known as 'General Leslie's Fort'. It is circular in form and is defended on the west by a ditch 36ft across and 3ft deep below the natural level. The bank of the enclosure is 9ft to 10ft high on the west and has been surmounted by a drystone wall some 15ft thick. The height of the bank towards the interior is about 5ft, the interior is some 52ft in diameter. There has been an entrance by a causeway across the ditch on the south side, and apparently another on the NE flanked by a wall. The rampart is gone from the east side where a stone wall is being built from its material; and as the interior of the fort is under cultivation what remains of the construction is in danger of demolition. The ditch has not been continued around the NE side (RCAHMS 1911, 64, No. 194; visited 1909).

The fortified enclosure as described by the RCAHMS is located at NC 6973 4495 in pasture on the edge of the river terrace west of the Naver, about 4.0m above the valley floor. It is known locally as 'The Tulloch'; the name 'General Leslie's Fort' is unknown.

The interior has been cultivated and the bank has been largely destroyed in the east arc (RCAHMS refers). The gap in the north-east arc has been widened but probably marks the position of the original entrance; there is no gap in the rampart corresponding with the causeway across the ditch in the south-west arc, which suggests probably that the defences were to some extent rebuilt at a later phase (but before the modern wall occupying the summit of the rampart). Exposed in the inner slope of the turf-covered bank in the west arc are three or four boulders on edge which appear to be the remains of an inner retaining wall.

A 'Druidical Temple' at Langdale, 100ft in diameter surrounded by a bank and trench with a standing stone in the centre, is mentioned in 1802-10 (Cooke 1810) and may refer to this enclosure, but the dimensions are incorrect and there is no trace and no local knowledge of a standing stone (See NC64SE 31).

The date of the work is uncertain, but the size of the bank and ditch, and the manner in which the limited natural defences are utilised leave little doubt that it is defensive. It is similar in some respects to the defensive earthwork at Borgie (NC65NE 1), and to a lesser extent the work by Skail (NC74NW 14), which resemble the bank and ditch outworks commonly found in association with brochs. (See also NC74NW 3 and NC75SW 9).

However the topographic situation close to the valley floor would be highly unusual for a broch. Both position and form resemble a Medieval ringwork, but is conceivable that this work and that a Borgie may be of an as yet unrecognised category of monuments.

Surveyed at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 19 December 1978 (Cooke 1810, 60).

Scheduled as 'The Tulloch', fortified enclosure, 177m NE of Langdale.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 December 2002.

Site Number	19
Site Name	Cladh Rivigill, burial ground and possible chapel site
Type of Site	Burial Ground; Possible Chapel
NMRS Number	NC74NW 1
HER Number	MHG1107 & MHG41440
Status	SAM 10513
Easting	272919
Northing	949464
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 1 7291 4946

(NC 7291 4946) Cladh Rivigill (NAT)
Burial Ground (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

Cladh Rìgh-Geal (Information from local informants to OS, 1873) or Cladh Rivigill (Information from a county map seen by OS surveyor, 1873). 'A mound around which there is an old wall ... on a knoll. In former years it was used as a grave yard ... the measuring of Rìgh Geal cannot be ascertained' (ONB 1873, 255).

Cladh Rivigill. A disused graveyard. The few flat slabs that are exposed bear no inscription or symbolical markings (RCAHMS 1911, 88, No. 257; visited 1909).

Horsburgh (1870) states "On mentioning the Red Priest stone (NC74NW 2) I should have stated that not very far from it there is a knoll, surrounded by a dyke called Croc-an-sagairt (Hillock of the Priest) on which are the remains of his church. (ie. The Red Priest =? St. Maelrubha d.722). The old church of Farr (NC76SW 11) is said by the people to have been built with stones carried away from this place". OPS (1855) places 'Cnoc-an-tsagairt' immediately west of NC74NW 2 but the topographical description is rather muddled, and Horsburgh's description sounds very like ONB (1873, 255).
(Visible on RAF air photographs 106G/Scot/UK/70: 3365-6; flown 9 May 1946)(OPS 1855, 708; Horsburgh 1870, 274).

A small disused burial ground situated on the summit of a knoll, and measuring about 20m by 10m within a drystone wall. A few small stones and two slabs embedded in the ground may mark graves. There is no associated local tradition.
Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960.

Cladh Rivigill (Name unconfirmed), a disused graveyard as described by previous OS surveyor. The name Cron-an-sagairt (presumably Cnoc an t'Sagairt), to which Horsburgh (1870, 274) refers, is not known locally.
Visited by OS (J B) 15 January 1979.

Scheduled as Cladh Rivigill, burial ground and possible chapel site.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 October 2002.

NC 729 494 In November 2001 the site of a burial ground at Rhifail (NC74NW 9), which lies on one of several natural mounds, was surveyed. An incomplete wall encloses the top of the mound; it is vestigial on the W and E arcs. Where the wall is visible, it is around two to three courses and appears to have an outer and inner face of stone with an infill of smaller stones. Within the enclosing wall, an initial survey tried to identify all possible features beneath the turf. There were no visible graveslabs, but a number of small stones which appeared to be header and footer stones. Investigations revealed ten features, eight of which were graveslabs and two were clusters of stones of unclear purpose. A number of other slabs were discovered between the exposed slabs, but were not exposed.

The site and exposed features were described, sketched, photographed and recorded on the plane table. The chapel site was not identified. There was an area of stone scatter on the N arc within the enclosing wall.

There was an empty area on the SE arc where the mound had slumped and lost the wall-line. Either of these areas could be the site of the chapel, depending on the build material. The adjacent mound was looked at, but had no features.

The S side of the chapel mound had a circular area below it where there might have been the vestigial remains of structures or it may be an area of field stone covered with turf.

Full report deposited in Highland SMR.

Sponsor: NOSAS (Ruscoe 2002).

Site Number	20
Site Name	Cladh Langdale burial ground and possible chapel site
Type of Site	Burial Ground; Possible Chapel
NMRS Number	NC64NE 1
HER Number	MHG12691 & MHG41427
Status	SAM 10834
Easting	269908
Northing	945205
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64NE 1 6991 4520.

(NC 6991 4520) Cladh Langdale (NAT)
Burial Ground (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

An ancient burial ground, long disused by 1874, and presumably the site of the chapel mentioned by Authy 4 as existing at Langdale or Langwell. It is enclosed by a wall and none of the exposed tomb stones bear any markings of interest (OPS 1855, 708; Name Book 1873, 267; RCAHMS 1911, 87, No. 255; visited 1909).

A roughly rectangular enclosure formed by a dry-stone wall revetting an elevated area. Only a few small stones, without markings, survive.
Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

The burial ground measures overall 29.0 by 18.0m. Four recumbent slabs and a number of small boulder grave markers are evident, but none are inscribed. The name Cladh Langdale is still known locally.
Visited by OS (J M) 18 July 1978.

Scheduled as Cladh Langdale, burial ground and possible chapel site... in use in the Early Christian period and later.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 11 November 2003.

Site Number	21
Site Name	Inshlampie, broch 1175 m NE of
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC74NW 3.00
HER Number	MHG10698
Status	SAM 11123
Easting	272014
Northing	947329
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 3.00 7201 4732

NC74NW 3.01 NC 7204 4733 Enclosure

(NC 7201 4732) Broch (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

The remains of a broch with outworks, discovered on the edge of a rocky escarpment during fieldwork. The broch consists of the footings of a wall about 4.2m broad and now of negligible height, enclosing an area some 8.3m in diameter, and having an entrance in the SE. The defences consist of a double rampart and ditch springing from the rock edge behind the broch on the west and running through north, east and south, with a break opposite the entrance on the SE. A secondary enclosure 21m by 6m of boulder construction has been built within the inner ditch on the NE. This ditch is 8.5m wide and 3m deep and the outer ditch is 6m wide and 1.2m deep.

Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960; Visible on RAF air photograph 106G/Scot/UK/76: 4025-6.

The fragmentary remains of a broch with outworks are as described by the previous field investigator. It measures 15.2m to 15.7m overall diameter; the base blocks of the outer face are visible intermittently through the tumble, but the inner face cannot be identified with certainty. At the easiest means of approach from the south, the outworks comprise a double rampart with outer ditches, but this fades in the steepening west and east slopes to two outward-facing scarps. The discontinuous footings of an outer retaining wall occur in the face of the inner rampart at both sides of the entrance, and an arc of crude walling, about 4.2m long, against the inner face of the same rampart immediately west of the entrance may be the remains of a domestic structure. The later stone-walled enclosure built into the ditch partially overlays the entrance causeway through the outworks at its south end.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 18 December 1978.

Site Number	22
Site Name	Lochan Hakel, cup and ring marked rock at S end of
Type of Site	Cup and Ring Marked Rock
NMRS Number	NC55SE 5

HER Number	MHG12719
Status	SAM 1806
Easting	256992
Northing	952650
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC55SE 5 5699 5264.</p> <p>(NC 5699 5264) Cup and Ring Stone (NR) OS 6" map (1961)</p> <p>A large earth-fast boulder whose flat upper surface bears thirty-four cup-marks of which eleven are surrounded by rings. Eight of the markings are well-defined and of these the clearest is 3ins. across by 1 1/4ins. deep with a ring 7ins. in diameter. Local tradition says the markings were made by the high heels of a fairy who lived nearby (RCAHMS 1911, 187, No. 541; visited 1909; Horsburgh 1870, 277).</p> <p>A large, weathered cup and ring marked rock as described. Visited by OS (JLD) 22 April 1960</p> <p>No change to RCAHMS report. Visited by OS (JM) 11 October 1978</p> <p>NC 56995 52642 Cup and ring marked stone surveyed as part of survey in the Lochan Hakel area carried out by students from University of Aberdeen in July 2006. J Kirby, D Marquardt, H MacFarlane and S Duthie 21 April 2007</p>

Site Number	23
Site Name	Grianan, house, Lochan Hakel or Hacoïn
Type of Site	House
NMRS Number	NC55SE 4
HER Number	MHG12718
Status	SAM 1897
Easting	256959
Northing	952685
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC55SE 4 5695 5268.</p> <p>(NC 5695 5268) Grianan (NR) OS 6" map (1961)</p> <p>'Grianan' is the name given to the remains of a small rectangular building which occupies the greater part of an islet in Lochan Hacoïn or Hakel, and is traditionally said to have been a hunting-seat of Hacon, king of Norway (1217-63) after whom the loch is named. The walls are 6-7ft thick and 5-6ft high, of unmortared thin flat stones, and enclose an area 19 by 22ft. There are no indications of doors, windows, floors or vaulting, nor is there any sign of the causeway which is said to have connected the islet with the shore 50 yards away. There is no evidence to suggest that the islet is artificial as is suggested by Mr Mackay (Information from Evander MacKay of Farr Schoolhouse) (Blundell 1913, 284; RCAHMS 1911,</p>

184-5, No. 531; visited 1909; Horsburgh 1870, 276).

The ruins of a rectangular building inaccessible at time of visit.
Visited by OS (JLD) 22 April 1977

NC 56955 52675 Building surveyed as part of survey in the Lochan Hakel area carried out by students from University of Aberdeen in July 2006. A plan and details of a vegetation survey carried out on the island are included with the report.
J Kirby, D Marquardt, H MacFarlane and S Duthie 21 April 2007

Site Number	24
Site Name	Borgie Bridge, homestead 250 m E of
Type of Site	Homestead
NMRS Number	NC65NE 1
HER Number	MHG12597
Status	SAM 2134
Easting	267116
Northing	958721
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC65NE 1 6711 5872.

(NC 6711 5872) Dun (NR)
OS 6" map (1962)

Previously classified as a possible broch (RCAHMS 1911, visited 1909; Graham 1947, 96) or a dun (OS {JLD}, visited 26 April 1960), this well-preserved earthwork resembles a defended homestead. It is situated on the edge of a natural escarpment overlooking the Borgie valley and consists of a semi-circular ditch averaging 8 m wide by 2 m deep from which the material has gone to form a flat-topped mound about 18 m in diameter and 2 m high. The ditch stops short of the escarpment at both ends where there are slight counterscarps. A straight-edged but splayed causeway across the ditch in the SE measures 5.4 m wide on the outside and 3.7 m wide on the inner. Eccentrically placed on the top of the mound is a stone-walled structure so reduced that its shape cannot be determined with any accuracy. In the S, where it is best preserved, several inner and outer facing-stones give a wall thickness of 1.6 m. The classification of the site offers problems. The raised central mound constructed from material from the ditch is reminiscent of a motte, but the presence of the causeway and the eccentric stone structure argue against this. It would appear to be a defended homestead of uncertain date (cf. NC75NW 14).

Surveyed at 1:2500.
Visited by OS (AA) 21 July 1971

A defended earthwork of enigmatic type, as described and illustrated by the previous field investigators. This form of ditch is found occasionally in association with brochs (see NC75SW 9 and NC91NE 27), but apart from the indefinite and insubstantial remains of a 'stone-walled structure', the summit area is clear of stone as is the ditch.

It would appear to be a ringwork of possibly medieval, or earlier, date.
Revised at 1:10,000 scale.
Visited by OS (JB) 4 September 1978

Scheduled as Borgie Bridge, homestead.
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 20 November 1992.

Site Number	25
Site Name	Achagary, chambered cairn and ring cairns 380 m NNW of
Type of Site	Chambered Cairn; Ring Cairns
NMRS Number	NC75NW 16 & 19
HER Number	MHG11080 & MHG10781
Status	SAM 1760
Easting	271925
Northing	954995
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 16 7194 5500

See also NC75NW 16.

(NC 7194 5500) Chambered Cairn (NR)
OS 6" map, (1964)

A large round cairn, measuring some 77ft N-S and 70ft E-W. The top has been removed, exposing somewhat to the N of centre, three slabs, apparently the end and sides of a chamber which does not appear to have been cleared out. The length of the chamber from E to W, as far as exposed, is 7ft and its width about 5ft. One stone protrudes about 1ft 2ins at the E end, and the upper portion of one is visible on each side. That on the N has been slightly displaced. The present height of the cairn is about 7ft (RCAHMS 1911, 84, No. 244; visited 1909).

A round, chambered cairn further disturbed and robbed since 1909, but two slabs are still visible in the centre, though only one appears to be in situ (Henshall 1963, 306; visited 1957).

This chambered cairn has been reduced to a grass-covered mound, 22m in diameter and 0.5m high on the north and 2m high on the south, with a few scattered stone protruding. The chamber is indicated by the tops of two slabs.
Visited by OS (J L D) 3 May 1960.

No change to previous field report.
Visited by OS (J B) 15 December 1978.

Scheduled (with NC71NW 19) as Achagary, chambered cairn and ring cairns.
(The latter extend onto map sheet NC71SW).
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 27 January 2003.

NC 7198 5490 The site, which lies on a fluvio-glacial terrace on the W side of Strathnaver, is enclosed and used for grazing sheep. The three main features have been previously interpreted as cairns and are situated on knolls overlooking the floodplain of the river. There are a number of other cairns and small enclosures which may be burial or clearance sites, and the footings of a longhouse with associated earth walls. Some of the stonework from the sites may have been robbed in order to construct a substantial wall enclosing a field on the lower valley floor nearby.

NC 7194 5500 Cairn (NC75NW 16). A natural knoll which has been enhanced to form a central cairn, identified by a scattering of stones over an area with a diameter of 24m. Three large flat elongated stone slabs provide evidence of a chamber.
Full report deposited in Highland SMR
Sponsor: NOSAS (Marshall 2002).

NC75NW 19 7188 5500

See also NC75NW 16.

Extends onto map sheet NC75SW.

(NC 7188 5500) Hut Circle (NR)
(NC 7190 5497) Cairns (NR) (Five shown)
OS 6" map, (1964)

A hut-circle, cut through by a fence and accompanied by field clearance heaps, lying on an east-facing slope, beside the river.

The hut-circle consists of an earth and stone bank, 7m in diameter, with an entrance in the SE. The clearance heaps range from 3m to 6m in diameter and from 0.5m to 1.2m in height. That at NC 7191 5498 appears to be partly surrounded by a slight bank.

Visited by OS (J L D) 5 May 1960 (RCAHMS 1911, 84, No. 244; visited 1909).

The hut circle is turf-covered and mutilated, measuring 5.0m in diameter within a low, vague wall of uncertain width.

The 'cairns' shown on the OS 6" map are turf-covered clearance heaps associated with the hut. Recent cultivation has occurred in the area and strips of linear clearance are presumably of this later date.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 18 December 1978.

Scheduled (with NC71NW 16) as Achargary, chambered cairn and ring cairns.
(The latter extend onto map sheet NC71SW).

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 27 January 2003.

Site Number	26
Site Name	Skail, chambered cairn, 90 m N of
Type of Site	Chambered Cairn
NMRS Number	NC74NW 4
HER Number	MHG11050
Status	SAM 1776
Easting	271296
Northing	946899
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 4 7129 4690.

(NC 7129 4690) Chambered Cairns (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

An Orkney - Cromarty type round cairn, with a polygonal chamber, now almost denuded of cairn material. The cairn has had a diameter of about 66 feet, but has been so heavily robbed that the only appreciable amount of cairn material left occurs against the east side of the chamber, where it is about 4 feet high. The result is that the upright construction stones of the chamber are now exposed to almost their full height, the highest being 5 feet 8 inches tall. Walling of horizontally laid slabs occurs between the slabs. The chamber has been entered from the NE but there is now no sign of the passage.

A steatite cup with a side handle which was said to be in Dunrobin Museum in 1909 is alleged to have come from this site, but is presumably unconnected with the use of the tomb. It could not be found in 1957. An unrecorded excavation by a shooting tenant took place some years

before 1909 (RCAHMS 1911, 80, No. 233; visited 1909; Henshall 1963, 328).

The cairn is as described. Robbing has left only a peripheral rim and the side-slabs of the chamber.

Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960.

No change to previous field report.

Revised at 1/10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 21 July 1977.

Scheduled as 'Skail, chambered cairn... known locally as "the Temple".'

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 27 January 2003.

Site Number	27
Site Name	Achgoillenaborgie, cairns, 500 m N of Lochan Duinte
Type of Site	Cairns
NMRS Number	NC75NW 3
HER Number	MHG10782
Status	SAM 1781
Easting	271538
Northing	959029
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 3 715 590.

('A': NC 7152 5908 and 'B': NC 7152 5905 and 'C': NC 7154 5900)
 Horned Cairns (NR) ('A' and 'B' are shown as one).
 OS 6" map, (1964)

The remains of three horned chambered cairns, two of which 'A' and 'B', were formerly thought to form one long, horned cairn (Henshall 1963) similar to 'C' but with a polygonal as opposed to a Camster - type chamber. They are now considered to be two separate cairns, set back to back on the same axis, and only 6 feet apart, and are therefore comparable with the Kimbrace Hill Long Cairn (NC82NE 3) (Henshall 1972). 'A' which may have been short trapezoidal in plan is ruinous and of bare stones now reaching a height of about 5 feet. It has a deep north-facing forecourt with an orthostatic facade of which only three stones, two of them fallen, survive. A deep spread of cairn material fills the forecourt. Four stones of a peristalith, three of them fallen outwards, are visible on the west side. The east side is fairly well-defined except that it almost fades away towards the NE corner. Of the axial chamber only the tips of two orthostats are visible. There is no sign of robbing at the southern end. 'B' is trapezoidal, but 10 feet narrower than 'A', their west sides being in line. It appears to have a south-facing, crescentric, orthostatic facade, and shows little sign of robbing except at the NE corner, but there has been a spread of cairn material, outwards and downhill along the west side. Three stones of the peristalith are still visible on the west side and two on the east. Two stones, the taller 3 feet high, apparently belong to the facade but the forecourt is full of cairn material which falls neatly to make an almost square end to the cairn. There are wall foundations in front of the facade of 'A' and on the east sides of both 'A' and 'B'. 'C' only 30 feet from 'B' and horned at both ends is assumed to represent a further development of the stage exemplified by 'A' and 'B'. It measures 235 feet, by 62 feet at the high north end and 30 feet at the south. The forecourt on the north appears to have been square rather than crescentric with a facade of upright, pointed stones. The south end has been considerably robbed but is clearly square in plan with a considerable amount of cairn material in the crescentric forecourt. There is a hollow in the profile behind the chamber. The

side edges of the cairn are fairly well-defined and generally rise steeply, with the stones of the peristaltic some feet within the edges.

This group of three cairns is unique in the north and east of Scotland in the use of orthostatic facades; and the cairn and facade developments probably extended through much of the third millennium (Henshall 1963, 314, 316; 1972, 220, 222, 226, 280, 574-6). Visited by OS (J L D) 27 April 1960.

As described and planned.

Surveyed at 1:2500.

Visited by OS (I S S) 9 July 1971.

No change to previous reports.

Published survey (6") revised.

Visited by OS (J B) 20 July 1977.

A huge elongated mass of grey stones protrudes through the heather above the road. On closer inspection, there are substantial remains of at least two and probably three long chambered cairns set in line. Best preserved is the south cairn, some 72m long, with traces of somewhat rectilinear forecourts defined by short horns, at either end. The cairn is widest and highest where the chamber is, and the north forecourt is marked by a series of tall upright slabs once linked by drystone walling. The chamber and passage are set at an angle to the axis of the cairn, and may have been covered by a small round cairn before the long cairn was built. The chamber is divided into compartments by the usual pairs of upright slabs. Its roof has collapsed, and much of the structure is visible. The status of the northern structure is uncertain. Sometimes regarded as one cairn, it may in fact be two cairns set in line. There are traces of a forecourt at either end, and a chamber at the north end now hidden by a horrid modern rubbish dump. All these cairns were cleared out around 1867 when 'only a few bones were found' and 'no account was taken of them'. The set of upright stones in the facades of these cairns is unique in the north of Scotland, though quite usual in the south and west. The development and use of these cairns may have continued through most of the 3rd millennium BC (Close-Brooks 1986, 169, No. 98).

Site Number	28
Site Name	Skelpick, long cairn 350 m NE of
Type of Site	Long Cairn
NMRS Number	NC75NW 7
HER Number	MHG10669
Status	SAM 1815
Easting	272256
Northing	956732
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 7 7225 5672. (NC 7225 5672) Horned Cairn (NR) OS 6"map, (1964)

An Orkney - Cromarty type, long, horned cairn with a polygonal chamber, largely free of vegetation, it lies NW-SE and measures 195 feet along the spine, 67 feet across the chamber at the NW end and 37 feet across the SE end. It appears to be relatively undisturbed except at the SE end and around the chamber which is now entered through the roof. The cairn is horned at both ends but the NW forecourt is so choked with stones that the entrance to the passage is inaccessible although it is still intact, being entered through the chamber. Both chamber and

passage are set considerably askew to the main body of the cairn. The edges of the cairn are indistinct and neither walling nor peristalith is visible.
The inner of the two compartments of the chamber was cleared by Horsburgh about 1867. It is composed of upright slabs and drystone walling (Horsburgh 1870, 273; Henshall 1963, 329).

A horned long cairn as described.
Visited by OS (J L D) 2 May 1960.

No change to previous reports.
Revised at 1:10,000
Visited by OS (N K B) 15 August 1978.

Scheduled as 'Skelpick, long cairn 350m NE of... an Orkney-Cromarty type chambered long cairn... situated on a low terrace at around 32m OD, in rough grassland 70m E of the Skelpick Burn. It is patchily covered by heather.'
Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 8 March 2004.

Site Number	29
Site Name	Skelpick, Lodge, chambered cairn 400 m ENE of
Type of Site	Chambered Cairn
NMRS Number	NC75NW 10
HER Number	MHG11074
Status	SAM 1816
Easting	272491
Northing	956046
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 10 7249 5605.

(NC 7249 5605) Horned Cairn (NR)
OS 6" map, (1964)

A short, horned cairn of bare stone, situated in rough grazing on a terrace above the valley floor. The body of the cairn is about 8ft high and 43ft in diameter. Although it has been robbed and disturbed, and is now crossed by a wall and fence. No structure is visible within the cairn and the chamber may well be intact. The horns are well-defined, radiating to approximately the cardinal points (RCAHMS 1911, 82, No. 238; visited 1909; Henshall 1963, 330).

A short horned cairn as described.
Visited by OS (J L D) 2 May 1960.

No change to previous reports.
Visited by OS (J B) 1 August 1977.

Site Number	30
Site Name	Achcoillenaborgie, broch, Strathnaver
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC75NW 2

HER Number	MHG10772
Status	SAM 1824
Easting	271407
Northing	959424
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 2 7139 5942.

(NC 7139 5942) Broch (NR)
OS 6"map, (1964)

The denuded remains of a broch, 28 feet in diameter within a wall 14 feet thick, with an entrance in the north. The walls of a chamber lie 8 feet west of the passage and the remains of buildings lie outside (RCAHMS 1911, 61, No. 183; visited 1909.

The remains of a broch, set on a low knoll and generally as described by RCAHMS except that the north segment is now severely denuded and the entrance passage is no longer visible although the chamber survives. In the north arc of the interior are traces of a dry-stone chamber, partly built into the broch wall. To the SW of the broch lies a circular rubble-walled enclosure, 7.2m in diameter with no visible entrance, whose period is uncertain. Remains of a ditch, partly accompanied by an outer bank, curve round the broch on the north and west and are probably a contemporary defence, protecting the easier approach. Visited by OS (J L D) 27 April 1960.

The broch is as described by previous OS investigator.
Surveyed at 1:2500.
Visited by OS (I S S) 9 July 1971.

The broch and its outer defence are generally as described by previous OS investigators, the remains are obscured by tumble, and mutilated by stone robbing and the insertion of later structures.
Visited by OS (J B) 10 July 1977.

NC 606 364 and NC 714 593 An initial assessment in December 2000 of the potential damage to known archaeological sites, including a number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, from work on replacing electricity poles, was followed by a watching brief at Grummore (NC 606 364; NMRS NC63NW 1) and Ach Coillenaborgie (NC 714 593; NMRS NC75NW 35 and NC75NW 2). This revealed that no damage had been done to the archaeological features in the initial placing of the poles.
Report to be lodged with Highland SMR.
Sponsor: Scottish & Southern Energy plc (Dagg 2001).

Site Number	31
Site Name	Allt a' Chaisteil, broch E of Rhinovie, Strathnaver
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC75NW 6
HER Number	MHG10658
Status	SAM 1828
Easting	272361
Northing	957522

Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC75NW 6 7235 5752.</p> <p>(NC 7235 5752) Broch (NR) OS 6"map, (1964)</p> <p>The remains of a broch impressively situated on a rocky knoll towering about 100 feet about the plain. It measures 8.4m in diameter within a wall 4.2m broad and about 3m high internally. The outer face is visible to a height of 1m to 2m for almost the whole circuit. A ledge-type scarcement can be seen on the inner wall face (MacKie 1975). The entrance passage, which is said to be 0.6m wide, and to curve southwards (RCAHMS 1911) is still indentifiable in the NW, one of the roofing lintels being exposed in situ (MacKie 1975), Miss Young (1964) notes a triangular lintel-stone lying outside the entrance and so dates the broch to the 2nd to early 3rd centuries AD. She also notes that it is defended by an earth and stone bank (RCAHMS 1911). At the foot of the slope of the knoll on the east are three 'huts' 3m to 4m in diameter and a rectangular building, all later than the broch (OS 6"map, 1964) (RCAHMS 1911, 60-1, No. 182; visited 1909; Young 1964, 185, 197; MacKie 1975, 221; Visited by OS (J L D) 2 May 1960).</p> <p>A broch with outworks generally as described by the previous authorities, except that it measures internally 9.0m E-W by 8.2m and the wall varies in width from 6.4m in the S to 3.8m in the E. (The marked increase in wall width in the S is probably due to the appreciable slope upon which the wall is built in this arc.) The entrance in the W arc is well-defined; no guard chambers are apparent. Within the broch on the N. side, the scarcement mentioned by MacKie can be seen.</p> <p>The summit of the hill appears to have been scarped, and two discontinuous lines of stones in the W probably demarcate the entrance approach to the broch. At the base of the scarp in the east is an outer defence comprising a wall revetted on its inner side by large stones visible intermittently. There are traces of a further outer wall or bank below the broch on the NW side. To the N is a pond with a dam at its W side, this and the "huts" and 'rectangular building' are later than the broch.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J B) 20 December 1978.</p>
Site Number	32
Site Name	Carnachy, hut circles, Strathnaver
Type of Site	Hut Circles
NMRS Number	
HER Number	MHG11105
Status	SAM 1845
Easting	271988
Northing	951546
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC75SW 720 516.</p> <p>(Centred NC 720 516) Site of Conflict between Clans (NAT) OS 6"map, Sutherland, 1st ed., (1878)</p> <p>Tradition says a battle was fought on Carnachy (NC 717 515) and that the small cairns, which occur in groups, cover the dead, but this does not account for the long mounds, serpentine and semi-circular, which lie nearer the foot of the hill (Mackay 1906, 132-3).</p>

(Centred NC 719 515) Five large, sub-circular enclosures set in an extensive area of field clearance heaps. The enclosures consist of earth and stone banks, some 4m broad, 1m in average height and 13m to 16m across. One scooped internally, has a pile of stones, 5.0m by 0.5m high, in the centre. Some of the field clearance heaps are elongated, one about 40m east of the enclosures, being 13.4m. long; but at least one 'serpentine' mound, at NC 7200 5151, is natural.

The enclosures may be associated with the depopulated settlement of Carnachy (RCAHMS 1911, 70-1, No. 211; visited 1909; Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960).

This is a settlement of five hut circles (A-E), in haughland containing irregular mounds, banks of 18/19th century field clearance, and tenuous traces of rig-and-furrow. The huts are turf-covered and much despoiled and all have had stone cleared onto them. Internal diameters range from 10.0 to 11.0m; entrance positions appear to be in the south or south-east quarters. A is the best- preserved, with a wall up to 0.6m high and spread to 4.0m wide. Only the NW half of B remains. C and D are contiguous huts reduced and mutilated. E is scooped in level ground, with a small pile of stones - presumably field clearance - in the centre. There are no signs of associated land-use.

Surveyed and revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J M) 16 December 1978.

The following site was recorded during 1998 by aerial reconnaissance undertaken on behalf of Highland Council Archaeology Service. Full information is held in Highland Council SMR.

NC 721 515 Hut circle and small enclosures in area to N of Carnachy Burn.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, Highland Council (Bone 1998).

Site Number	33
Site Name	Cnoc Carnachadh, broch 1400 m N of Carnachy
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC75SW 8
HER Number	MHG9582
Status	SAM 1850
Easting	272136
Northing	952694
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75SW 8 7213 5269.

(NC 7213 5269) Broch (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

The remains of a broch on a cliff overlooking the river valley. A later structure, possibly a shelter, has been built into the wall on the west.

Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960 (RCAHMS 1911, 60, No. 180; visited 1909).

Situated on the edge of a natural shelf is a broch measuring about 9.2m in diameter within a wall 4.1m to 4.8m wide. The lower courses of the inner and outer faces are visible to some extent, and there are traces of a mural gallery protruding through the tumble in the west arc. The entrance was presumably in the north, but no structural details are exposed. An outer defence surviving in scant traces of a wall, encircles the broch on all sides but the east where the steep slope provides a natural barrier. The broch is in line with the ruins of an early modern head dyke; the possible shelter noted by previous authorities cannot be located and may refer to the mural gallery.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 30 January 1979.

Scheduled as Cnoc Carnachadh, broch. The remains of this broch stand on the edge on a natural terrace on the W side of Strathnaver, and are surrounded by a low bank and a ditch. Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 20 January 2003.

Site Number	34
Site Name	Dun Viden, broch 700 m NE of Carnachy
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC75SW 11
HER Number	MHG11106
Status	SAM 1860
Easting	272650
Northing	951881
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75SW 11 7265 5188

(NC 7265 5188) Dun Viden (NAT) Broch (NR)
OS 6" map, (1964)

The remains of a broch (RCAHMS 1911; PSAS 1958; OS {JLD}) or dun (Young 1964), now a tumbled mass of stones, 1.5m high, within which wall faces, intermittently visible, give an internal diameter of about 9.5m and a wall thickness of 4.8m. The entrance 0.3m high and 1.1m wide is clearly defined in the SE. Steep slopes defend the site on the west but there are outworks on the other three sides - remains of a rampart on the north and south, and a rampart, ditch and outer stony bank on the east. A barbed and socketed iron arrow-head, found outside the broch, was donated to the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland [NMAS] by Miss A S Henshall in 1955-6. (Acc. No. GA 1265). There is also a flint from the site in the museum (Acc. No. AB 2655). Miss Young's reasons for classing this site as a dun are the inferior stonework and the small outer courtyard with stone walling supplementing the natural rock. She admits that it could be classed as a late broch.

Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960 (RCAHMS 1911, 60, No. 181; visited 1909; Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1958; Young 1964, 189).

Dun Viden: a broch and outworks on an old river terrace. Generally as described except that the broch wall varies in thickness from 4.2m minimum to 5.3m maximum. The approach to the broch entrance is trenched with remains of a flanking wall on the north-east side. A later footing occupies the south-west end of the ditch.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J M), 8 December 1978.

Site Number	35
Site Name	Inshlampie, broch 230 m NE of
Type of Site	Broch
NMRS Number	NC74NW 5
HER Number	MHG11051

Status	SAM 1867
Easting	271591
Northing	946575
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC74NW 5 7159 4657.

(NC 7159 4657) Broch (NR)
OS 6" map, (1962)

The remains of a broch in a naturally defended situation, on a projecting bank overlooking the river on the west and flanked by ravines on the north and south. It is now a tumbled mass of stones about 2m high in which both wall faces are exposed intermittently to a height of a few feet, giving a wall thickness of some 4.5m and an internal diameter of about 6.5m. Neither the entrance nor any chambers are identifiable, nor were any outworks noted, but there are several later enclosures in the immediate vicinity.

Visited by OS (J L D) 6 May 1960 (RCAHMS 1911, 60, No. 178; visited 1909).

The broch is as described above; a lowering of the rubble in the WNW suggests the entrance may have been here.

Visited by OS (J B) 21 July 1977.

Site Number	36
Site Name	Rosal, deserted township, Naver Forest, Strathnaver
Type of Site	Deserted Township; Burnt Mound; Head Dyke; Souterrain; Cairn
NMRS Number	NC64SE 12, 25 & 28
HER Number	MHG11549, MHG12476, MHG12478, MHG45495 & MHG45496
Status	SAM 2510
Easting	268911
Northing	941636
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 12 689 416

See also NC64SE 28 and NC64SE 63.

(NC 689 416) Rosal (NAT)
OS 6" map, (1961)

The remains of the township of Rosal whose lands are first on record in 1269 and which was cleared 1814-18, since when it remained relatively undisturbed until in 1962 excavation and survey by Fairhurst made it a type-site for clearance depopulation. The arable lands of the township extended over 60 acres and were enclosed by a dry-stone dyke, the plough rigs surviving as a green island in the rough moor. Seventy structures were recognised of which 15 to 18 were long-houses, the remainder being barns, outhouses, stackyards and corn-drying kilns. The barns were rectangular with one rounded end. A few of the buildings had bowed walls and rounded ends and it is suggested that these may be earlier than the others. Selective excavation was undertaken on a typical complex consisting of long-house, barn, stackyard, outhouse and corn-kiln. The long-house was built on a slope with first, a small room at the upper end, then the main living quarters around a central hearth and finally the long byre giving an overall length of 85ft, though other long-houses reached a length of 108ft. The walls

consisted of dry-stone work up to a height of 2 or 3ft, presumably forming the base for a turf wall. The roof was supported on couples which rose from ground level. Efforts to locate Medieval house-sites proved fruitless presumably because the buildings were constructed without foundation trenches and were abandoned and the building stones re-used at relatively short intervals. Earlier occupation of the site is indicated by the Iron Age hut-circles and souterrain (NC64SE 28) (Fairhurst 1969).

Rosal is as described by the previous authorities.
Visited by OS (J L D) 7 May 1960.

NC 6870 4178: Burnt Mound. This burnt mound is situated on the E side of a boggy gully within the ring-dyke of Rosal Township, some 60m ESE of the entrance to the Forestry Commission walk. It comprises two oval mounds set parallel to each other across the slope; merging with the natural slope to the SE and opening out to the NW. It measures 7.4m from NE to SW by 5.7m transversely and up to 0.6m in height. Exposures in both arms revealed cracked stone set in a matrix of black soil.
Visited by RCAHMS (DCC) 18 July 1991.

A township comprising nine unroofed buildings, one of which is T-shaped, one unroofed structure, which may be another building, and a ring dyke is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Sutherland 1878, sheet xlv). Thirty-nine unroofed buildings, what may be the remains of a two-compartment, long building, one enclosure and a ring dyke are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,000 map (1992).
Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 5 October 1995

NC64SE 25 6898 4135.

(NC 6898 4135) Cairn (NAT)
OS 6" map, (1981)

The site and form of this cairn suggest a Bronze Age burial cairn rather than one of the numerous clearance heaps which occur nearby (Fairhurst 1969, 139).

A possible burial cairn set on the summit of a low crest. It measures about 7.5m in diameter and stands to 0.7m in height, surmounted by a small modern cairn. There is no sign of a kerb or cist.
Visited by OS (J B) 7 August 1978.

NC64SE 28 6910 4117 and 6885 4166

(NC 6910 4117) Enclosure (NR)
(NC 6885 4166) Earth-house (NR)
OS 6" map, (1961)

Iron Age occupation is indicated by the existence of hut-circles, a souterrain and field clearance heaps in and around the township of Rosal (NC64SE 12). The hut circles include the published 'Enclosure' (A), the unnamed circle at NC 6910 4137 ('B') and four others discovered during Fairhurst's survey in 1962 (C-F). They are 30 to 40ft in diameter and consist of lowbanks of earth and boulders. 'A' has an entrance in the SE. The rectangular structure published at NC 6885 4176 ('G') was excavated by Fairhurst and proved to be a circular hut platform, 41ft in diameter cut into the slope on the SE and revetted on the NW by blocks forming a wall 4ft thick and 2ft 6ins high. No definite hut was associated with the souterrain but to the north there were intermittent traces of a very low annular bank, some 30ft in diameter, which excavation showed to be composed of small stones inadequate for the foundation of a hut, although it is possible that any large stones had been removed. The souterrain itself was excavated by Corcoran in 1962 and proved to be unpaved and 42ft long with three lintels still in position. The entrance was in the SE and 7ft 6ins from it were what appeared to be door-checks. Another peculiarity was the outward batter of the passage walls towards the top.
Visited by OS (JLD) 7 May 1960 (Corcoran 1969, 114-118; Fairhurst 1969).

The Iron age occupation at Rosal is generally as described above. All hut circles, now lying in

unthinned forestry approximately fifteen years old, have been disfigured by ploughing and planting. Hut 'E' given at NC 6908 4123 was not located. The site of the hut platform ('G') excavated by Fairhurst is as described by him. Unusually the curving wall on the lower NW side though well preserved does not exhibit an entrance as could be expected. Possibly this is a later wall, contemporary with the township, and overlying the hut platform. The souterrain now largely filled with earth displays the three lintel stones remaining in situ. The clearance heaps form no cohesive pattern mixed as they are among the later cultivation of Rosal township.

Surveyed at 1:10 000.
Visited by OS (J B) 8 July 1978.

Site Number	37
Site Name	Rosal, hut circles and clearance cairns, Naver Forest, Strathnaver
Type of Site	Hut Circles; Clearance Cairns
NMRS Number	NC64SE 7, 15, 16 & 20; NC74SW 1 & 2
HER Number	MHG12464, MHG11059, MHG11065, MHG12466, MHG12471, MHG12590, MHG33038, MHG3
Status	SAM2515
Easting	269830
Northing	941650
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC64SE 7 6998 4223 and 6998 4208</p> <p>('A': NC 6998 4223) Enclosure (NR) ('B': NC 6998 4208) Hut Circle (NR) OS 6" map, (1961)</p> <p>These are turf and heather-covered hut circles (A and B) discovered by the previous OS field investigator (J L D). They occur on separate knolls in open moorland, and are dissimilar in form. Hut A, of massive proportions similar to Kilphedir hut V, measures about 12.0m in diameter within a wall of large stones, 0.4m internal height, spread to 2.0m average width broadening to 2.5m at either side of the entrance in the south east. B is very slight, surviving as a low peat-silted platform 0.2m high and 11.0m overall diameter. Occasional stones protrude through the peat around the periphery; no entrance is discernible. The area around each hut is smooth and relatively stone-free, and apart from two or three low piles of stones, this is the only indication of associated land use.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J L D) 7 May 1969 and (N K B) 21 December 1978.</p> <p>Scheduled (with NC64SE 15 and NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 1 and NC74SW 2) as Rosal, hut circles, Naver Forest, Strathnaver. Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 7 November 2000.</p> <p>Scheduled (with NC64SE 15, NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 2) as 'Rosal, hut circles and clearance cairns, Naver Forest, Strathnaver... the remains of at least 16 hut circles and a number of associated field clearance cairns, representing a late prehistoric settlement.' (Locations of individual hut-circles cited as NC 7013 4129, NO 7013 4173, NC 6998 4209, NC 6998 4225, NC 6902 4063 and NC 6837 4080. Location of centre of group of three hut-circles cited as NC 6989 4169, and location of centre of group of seven hut-circles cited as NC 6875 4076).</p> <p>Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 13 September 2005.</p> <p>NC64SE 15 7001 4149, 6983 4165, 6990 4170 and 6996 4171</p>

Extends onto map sheet NC74SW.

('A': NC 7001 4149) Enclosures (NR)
('B': NC 6983 4165 and 'C': NC 6990 4170 and 'D': NC 6996 4171)
Enclosures (NR)
OS 6" map, (1963)

A settlement of four hut circles ('A'-'D') discovered by the previous field investigator (OS {J L D}). Huts A and B are in a forest; C and D in open moorland.

'A' is totally obscured by particularly dense tree growth. When discovered it was 16.0m in diameter and consisted of an earth and stone bank 2.5m broad and 0.3m high. The entrance was not apparent but may have been in the SE.

'B' in a faint clearing is 14.5m N-S by 11.5m within a heather-covered wall spread at most to 2.5m and 0.4m in average height. The entrance in the S is unusually wide at 4.0m.

'C' is 10.5m in diameter within a heather-covered wall generally spread to 2.5m widening to 3.5m at the entrance in the S. The wall's maximum height of 0.9m is at the W by a projecting bank 3.0m long.

'D' survives as a platform 10.0m in overall diameter, the mere vestiges of a wall about 0.2m high can be seen around the perimeter. The entrance is in the S.

A few scattered clearance heaps occur around 'C' and 'D'.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960 and (J B) 16 August 1978.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7 and NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 1 and NC74SW 2) as Rosal, hut circles, Naver Forest, Strathnaver.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 7 November 2000.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7, NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 2) as 'Rosal, hut circles and clearance cairns, Naver Forest, Strathnaver... the remains of at least 16 hut circles and a number of associated field clearance cairns, representing a late prehistoric settlement.'

(Locations of individual hut-circles cited as NC 7013 4129, NO 7013 4173, NC 6998 4209, NC 6998 4225, NC 6902 4063 and NC 6837 4080. Location of centre of group of three hut-circles cited as NC 6989 4169, and location of centre of group of seven hut-circles cited as NC 6875 4076).

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 13 September 2005.

NC64SE 16 centred 687 407.

('A': NC 6873 4076 and 'B': NC 6887 4076 and 'C': NC 6889 4075 and 'D': NC 6881 4068 and 'E': NC 6863 4077 and 'F': NC 6864 4079 and 'G': NC 6866 4078) Enclosures (NR)
('H': NC 6901 4064) Enclosure (NR)
OS 6" map, (1961)

A group of eight enclosures or hut circles found during fieldwork among field clearance heaps in an area of formerly cultivated ground on a S facing slope. 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'H' are large and well-defined, 14m to 16m in diameter and consisting of earth and stone banks up to 1m high with entrances in the S or SE. Two of them have fine revetted entrance passages 4m long. The other enclosures are less well-defined, 8m to 14m in diameter, and consist of earth and stone banks 0.3m in maximum height with no apparent entrances.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

This settlement of hut circles lies within Naver Forest which is well established, and all are mutilated by ploughing and planting. The larger examples survive in moderate condition, the less strongly-built huts are now almost unrecognizable; hut 'D' cannot be located. Field clearance heaps are still evident within the forest.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 7 August 1978.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7 and NC64SE 15 and NC74SW 1 and NC74SW 2) as Rosal, hut circles, Naver Forest, Strathnaver.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 7 November 2000.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7, NC64SE 15 and NC74SW 2) as 'Rosal, hut circles and clearance cairns, Naver Forest, Strathnaver... the remains of at least 16 hut circles and a number of associated field clearance cairns, representing a late prehistoric settlement.'

(Locations of individual hut-circles cited as NC 7013 4129, NO 7013 4173, NC 6998 4209, NC 6998 4225, NC 6902 4063 and NC 6837 4080. Location of centre of group of three hut-circles cited as NC 6989 4169, and location of centre of group of seven hut-circles cited as NC 6875 4076).

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 13 September 2005.

NC64SE 20 6836 4080.

(NC 683 407) Tumuli (NR)
OS 6" map, Sutherlandshire, 1st ed., (1873)

(NC 6836 4078) Enclosure (NR)
OS 6" map, (1961)

A small enclosure or hut circle, found during field investigation, within an area of formerly cultivated land bearing field clearance heaps. The enclosure considerably mutilated, measures 11.5m by 9.5m and consists of an earth and stone bank, 0.2m high and spread to 2.5m broad, with an entrance, 2.5m wide in the south.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

This hut circle at NC 6836 4080 is as described above. It lies within forestry, but due to its position in a ride it has not been totally destroyed. The field clearance heaps have been obscured and disfigured by the forestry.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (J B) 7 July 1978.

NC74SW 1 7013 4128.

(NC 7013 4128) Enclosure (NR)
OS 6" map, (1963)

A hut circle or enclosure discovered during fieldwork, on a north-west-facing slope.
Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

This hut circle, is in a clearing on a re-afforested hillside. It occupies a slightly elevated stance and is 11.0m by 10.5m inside a wall 0.7m in maximum height, with estimated main width of 1.4m increasing to 2.5m in the sides of a clubbed entrance in the south east which is, on the line of the longer axis and shows several largish stones in the exterior. The hut is otherwise completely heather covered.

Revised at 1/10,000.

Visited by OS (J M) 23 May 1977.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7, NC64SE 15, NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 2) as Rosal, hut circles, Naver Forest, Strathnaver.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 7 November 2000.

NC74SW 2 7012 4173.

(NC 7012 4173) Enclosure (NR)
OS 6" map, (1963)

An enclosure, possibly a hut circle, discovered during fieldwork.

Visited by OS (J L D) 11 May 1960.

This hut circle on west facing shelving ground is heather covered, is 12.0m by 10.5m inside a wall spread to 1.5-2.5m broad and standing at best 0.4m high; an entrance, from the south south west, is on the line of the longer axis. Contemporary cultivation is denoted in sporadic heaps of field clearance round about, but measurable plots are not discernible.

Revised at 1/10,000.

Visited by OS (J M) 27 May 1977.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7, NC64SE 15, NC64SE 16 and NC74SW 1) as Rosal, hut circles, Naver Forest, Strathnaver.

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 7 November 2000.

Scheduled (with NC64SE 7, NC64SE 15 and NC64SE 16) as 'Rosal, hut circles and clearance cairns, Naver Forest, Strathnaver... the remains of at least 16 hut circles and a number of associated field clearance cairns, representing a late prehistoric settlement.'

(Locations of individual hut-circles cited as NC 7013 4129, NO 7013 4173, NC 6998 4209, NC 6998 4225, NC 6902 4063 and NC 6837 4080. Location of centre of group of three hut-circles cited as NC 6989 4169, and location of centre of group of seven hut-circles cited as NC 6875 4076).

Information from Historic Scotland, scheduling document dated 13 September 2005.

Site Number	38
Site Name	Souterrain & Finds, Strath Naver
Type of Site	Souterrain; Whetstone
NMRS Number	NC75SW17
HER Number	MHG11112
Status	Unprotected
Easting	272000
Northing	952000
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	Souterrain (Iron Age - 550 BC to 560 AD)

NC75SW 17 72 52.

A small, sandstone whetstone, 3ins by 1ins, and an irregularly-shaped piece of pumice stone, 3ins across, from Strathnaver (Centred: NC 72 52) were donated to the NMAS by Rev J M Joass, Eddertoun in 1865. One of the articles was found in an 'eirde-house' and the other was found at a depth of 1ft. in the vicinity but the accounts differ as to which was found where. No closer location is given for the 'eirde-house' - presumably a souterrain - but another, ruined, lay on the opposite side of the Strath (Joass 1868, 386-8; Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1868).

No further information obtained.

Visited by OS (J M) 20 July 1977.

Site Number	39
Site Name	Skelpick Lodge
Type of Site	Souterrain

NMRS Number	NC75NW54
HER Number	MHG44110
Status	Unprotected
Easting	272800
Northing	956300
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>Centred on NC 728 563, on a plateau above the steep north east side of the Slepick Burn, is a settlement of 4 hut circles ('A'-D'), at which huts A,C and B are on slight rises.</p> <p>'A' is of massive proportions with an unusually thick wall. It measures 11.8m south west-north east by 10.3m transversely within a wall whose width marked by occasionally facing stones is 3.8m at the entrance passage in the south west reducing to 3.0m in the north. Two portal stones 1.5m apart mark the interior of the choked entrance. A sub-rectangular dry stone cell opening from the hut interior is set into the wall to the west of the entrance; it measures 3.4m by 2.1m internally and stands to 0.9m high of up to 4 courses of drystone masonry. It is north east end where the entrance probably occurred is obscured by tumble. Due to its better state of preservation this feature may be secondary, although it does not appear to overlie the wall and it is well built unlike a shieling or animal shelter (see NC55SE 10 for similar arrangement).</p> <p>'B' masked by peat and heather is set into the slope on the north side. It is about 7.5m in diameter within a low wall spread to 2.0m and 0.4m high with occasional inner and outer facing stones visible. A slight depression in the south south east probably denotes the entrance. From the east and south arcs of the hut extremely vague, denuded walls extend down the hill south eastwards.</p> <p>Hut 'C' is a strongly built similar to 'A', and measures about 11.5m in diameter within a wall spread to 3.0m wide, with an external height of 1.2m. The wall is severely reduced for a length of 5.0m in the north north west arc. Immediately west of the entrance in the south east, the hut wall expands to a width of 4.5m to accommodate what is almost certainly the corbelled chamber of a souterrain, choked with stones. It measures about 2.3m along the length of the hut wall by about 1.5m transversely. At its west end is a transverse slab in situ, possibly defining the inner end of a passage, though there are no other remains of a passage. One or two probable displaced lintel slabs from the chamber lie around.</p> <p>Hut 'D', similar to 'B', is 9.5m in diameter within a wall spread to 2.0m and 0.5m maximum height. The entrance was almost certainly in the east arc, where there is an enlarged gap, 6.0m wide.</p> <p>There is a minor field ststem in the vicinity of the huts where the ground is relatively stone free. Several lynchets and ruinous stone walls, but only one or two stone clearance heaps, are visible. No measurable plots can be identified.</p> <p>Surveyed at 1:10000.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J B) 25 August 1977.</p>

Site Number	40
Site Name	Hut circle, An Rath Chruineach
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC76SW3
HER Number	MHG43651

Status	Unprotected
Easting	272690
Northing	962820
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>An Rath Chruineach (NAT) Enclosure (NR)</p> <p>OS 6"map, (1964)</p> <p>A hut circle. A 'tunnel' is said to have been discovered in an adjacent field many years ago (RCAHMS 1911, 71, No. 214; visited 1909).</p> <p>An oval stone-walled hut circle about 9.0m N-S by 8.0m transversely within a wall spread to 2.5m. It has been mutilated on the NW, NE and SW by the erection of fences. The entrance is in the south. Extending westwards and north-eastwards from the hut are a few stone clearance heaps probably from contemporary cultivation plots. The name could not be confirmed. The 'tunnel', possibly a souterrain, was not located.</p> <p>Hut surveyed at 1:2500 scale.</p> <p>Visited by OS (J L D) 27 April 1960, (R L) 12 July 1971 and (N K B) 14 July 1977.</p>

Site Number	41
Site Name	Promontory Fort, Dun Mhairtein
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC86NE1
HER Number	MHG43243
Status	Unprotected
Easting	285350
Northing	966350
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	Dun Mhairtein (NR) OS 6"map, Sutherland, 2nd ed., (1964)

Dun Mhairtein is promontory fort with a 'blockhouse'- type forework, probably dating from 1st century BC or slightly earlier, whose surviving internal arrangement owes nothing to broch or post-broch occupation which occurs on most other forework-type forts on N mainland.

A precipitous cliff promontory about 27m high, curves parallel with mainland, from which it is separated by a geo. The fortification cuts off tail of promontory, enclosing area 22m by 24m which is over-looked by higher cliff on mainland side of geo.

The main feature is a stone-revetted rampart 4.2m thick at W end, 5m wide at E and 1.2m to 1.8m high, pierced slightly E of centre by an entrance passage 1.02m. wide at outer end and widening inwards. An upright slab, set at right angles two-thirds of way along passage, forms a doorcheck. The ends of the rampart fade away towards cliff-edge and in front of it the ground has been scooped back from either edge, leaving a causeway, 2.5m wide, in line with the entrance. On W side only, a bank, apparently of loose material and unrevetted, intervenes between rampart and ditch. It is about 3.6m thick and is separated from rampart by a gap of 3m. The ditch on this side descends to brink in 3 broad steps. It is possible interior of fort has

been enclosed by a wall following cliff-edge, as traces can be seen running N from each end of rampart.

Within fort and about 8.3m back from rampart is a complex of structures forming a shapeless mound in which part of interior of a rectilinear hut has been exposed quite recently, the visible portions being SE wall, 2.74m long, and parts of SW and NE walls. The rest of interior is choked with debris. It is well-constructed of orthostats, 0.9m high, topped by fine dry-stone walling now preserved to a height of 0.3m at SW corner where topmost courses oversail slightly, although this may be due to bulging. In debris is a possible lintel 1.2m long and 0.25m square.

A deep depression 3m to NW gives access to, and possibly represents collapsed terminal chamber of a souterrain which runs NE and downwards, following ground slope for 10.7m, and emerging in cliff-face where there is a slight ledge 1.2m below the cliff-edge.

Here passage is 0.8m wide expanding to 1.1m in depression on SW. Although it is choked with debris to within 0.5m of roof it is possible to see along whole length of it. The roof is of heavy lintels on orthostats and dry-walling and is broken in 3m from entrance, at which point there are many earthfast slabs.

Resurveyed at 1:2500 in 1972 and revised in 1977 (RCAHMS 1911, 63, No. 191; visited 1909; Lamb 1980, 21, 24-6, 35, 40, 72; Mercer 1981, 129, No. 225. Visited by OS (W D J) 3 May 1960, (A A) 8 November 1972 and (J B) 6 June 1977.

Site Number	42
Site Name	Souterrain, Syre
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC64SE26
HER Number	MHG12477
Status	Unprotected
Easting	269200
Northing	943900
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC64SE 26 692 439.

An earth-house of the usual curved form occurs at Syre (NC 692 439) (Anderson 1873).

This souterrain was not located during field investigation and local enquiries proved negative.

Visited by OS (J L D) 7 May 1960.
No change to previous field report.
Visited by OS (J B) 12 December 1978.

Site Number	43
Site Name	Souterrain, Strathy
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC86NW1
HER Number	MHG9732

Status	Unprotected
Easting	283560
Northing	965130
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>NC86NW 1 8356 6513.</p> <p>(NC 8356 6513) Earth-house (NR) (site of) OS 6"map, (1963)</p> <p>(NC 8356 6511) Souterrain (site of) OS 25"map, (1974)</p> <p>A slight excavation marks entrance to a souterrain which was discovered a few years before 1909 (RCAHMS 1911). In base of this hollow is a cavity which has been filled up with small stones, and there is another small excavation a few metres to west, possibly denoting a collapsed passage, but no signs of building are visible and it does not appear to have been thoroughly explored (RCAHMS 1911, 80, No. 232)</p> <p>Visited by OS (W D J) 26 April 1960; RCAHMS 1911, visited 1909. Site surveyed at 1:2500 Visited by OS (A A) 7 November 1972. No change to first field report. Visited by OS (J M) 8 July 1977.</p>
<hr/>	
Site Number	44
Site Name	Possible Souterrain, Achnabourin
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC75NW24
HER Number	MHG10777
Status	Unprotected
Easting	270900
Northing	958500
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	<p>No trace of souterrain during recent works (new shed) at the farm although excavations to depth of 9' - HAW 9/2004</p> <p>NC75NW 24 709 585.</p> <p>There is an earth-house at farmhouse of Auchinbourin (Achnabourin: NC 7104 5825) (Horsburgh 1870, 275).</p> <p>On a hillock immediately E of road and between wood and farm-house at Achnabourin is a depression running N and S, about 54ft in length and nearly 9ft wide, showing signs of stone building at either side. This may be the remains of an earth-house(RCAHMS 1911, 90, No. 266; visited 1909).</p> <p>This souterrain was not located during field investigation. Visited by OS (J L D) 5 May 1960. Not located and no local info. Visited by OS (JB) 18 12 1978.</p>

Site Number	45
Site Name	Possible Souterrain, third mil WSW of Achnabourin
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC75NW25
HER Number	MHG10778
Status	Unprotected
Easting	271000
Northing	958200
Parish	Farr
Council	Highland
Description	NC75NW 25 710 582. 'About 1/3 mile WSW of the farm-house at Achnabourin (NC 7104 5825) and some 80 yards W of the road, on the summit of a grassy knoll, two boulders probably mark the site of the entrance to the earth-house which formerly existed here. A depression running SE for about 44ft seems to indicate its extent' (RCAHMS 1911, 90, No. 266; visited 1909). The site of this souterrain was not located during field investigation. Visited by OS (J L D) 5 May 1960. The souterrain was not located, a turf and bracken-covered knoll at NC 710 579 about 1/3 mile S of Achnabourin and 55 yards W of the road is possibly the site; nothing artificial was seen on it. Visited by OS (J B) 18 December 1978.

Site Number	46
Site Name	Souterrain? Achinahagh
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC56SE14
HER Number	MHG11399
Status	Unprotected
Easting	258250
Northing	964140
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC56SE 14 5825 6414. NC 5825 6414. Traditional site of a souterrain. Possible Spoil heap. Information contained in letter from T C Welsh to OS 23 July 1973 At the site indicated by Welsh is a vague hollow in the side of a natural slope, but there are no structural remains visible to identify this as the site of a souterrain. The tradition of a man-made "cave" survives locally, but the precise position is not known, (note name Achinahagh; probably "field of the cave"). Visited by OS (NKB) 16 September 1977

Site Number	47
Site Name	Possible Souterrain, Skerray Mains
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC66SE11
HER Number	MHG11500
Status	Unprotected
Easting	266030
Northing	963140
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC66SE 11 6603 6314. (NC 6603 6314) An artificial cave enters from below the road and runs for 40 or 50 yards below the house of Skerra-mains. Two urns were found in it when it was discovered but they crumbled away on being exposed to the air (Morrison 1883, 99). This cave was not located during field investigation. Visited by OS (J L D) 14 May 1960. The occupants of Skerry Mains have heard of this cave, which may possibly be a souterrain, but they have no knowledge of its exact location. Visited by OS (R L) 30 June 1971. No change to previous field reports. Visited by OS (J B) 15 September 1977.

Site Number	48
Site Name	Achintyhalavin
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC56SE6
HER Number	MHG12395
Status	Unprotected
Easting	256630
Northing	964310
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC56SE 6 5663 6431. (NC 5662 6430) Possible souterrain site. Information from G A David Glasgow University to OS 28 June 1966 Mr MacLeod (John H MacLeod, Achintyhalavin, Strath Melness), who is now in his eighty-first year, says that his father told him of a lintelled structure which existed at NC 5663 6431 but was removed for building purposes. No trace now remains. Visited by OS (ISS) 30 June 1971

No further information; Mr MacLeod is now deceased.
Visited by OS (NKB) 15 September 1977

Site Number	49
Site Name	Souterrain 0.25 mile N of Ribigill
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC55SE18
HER Number	MHG12700
Status	Unprotected
Easting	258200
Northing	954500
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC55SE 18 582 545.

(Area: NC 582 545) The site of a souterrain which was closed up many years before 1909 lies in a park on the right of the road between Tongue and Ribigill and about 1/4 mile north of Ribigill farmhouse. (NC 582 541) (Horsburgh 1870, 276; RCAHMS 1911, 188, No. 548; visited 1909).

No trace and no further information.

Visited by OS (NKB) 7 November 1978

Site Number	50
Site Name	Souterrain, Borgie
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	
HER Number	MHG29336
Status	Unprotected
Easting	267600
Northing	959300
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	The 1.6m high stone built chamber measures c9m from the entrance to the semicircular end wall and curved at a radius of c6m. The average width is c1m however it narrows to 0.6m towards the entrance and widens to 1.5m at the semicircular end. The underside of the entrance roof-lintels lie c1.4m below ground level, the chamber falls by a further 0.5m towards the semicircular (distal) end.

Two orthostats set 0.6m apart are bridged by a non-load bearing "false lintel" to form an apparently deliberately restricted entrance. Beyond this, the structure can be seen to extend by at least 2m to form an asymmetrical roofed anti-chamber or forecourt. Whereas the west wall of the anti-chamber respects the line of the main chamber the opposing wall curves-away orthogonally and suggests the possibility of a second souterrain mirroring the first as is the

case at Ham, Caithness and Easter Raitts, Badenoch.

The floor of the main chamber is composed of mid-brown silty-clay containing gravel and cobbles. The anti-chamber is partially filled by a darker brown soil that slopes down from the roof at c40 degrees and spills though the entrance virtually blocking it. A flat sub-circular boulder lies on this anti-chamber fill, where it spills into the main chamber.

Observations

None of the large boulders appear to have fallen from the walls or roof, both of which appear to be in pristine condition. It appears therefore that these stones were introduced into the chamber deliberately. Superficially they are reminiscent of stepping stones and a possible hearth.

The position of the sub-circular flat boulder overlying the anti-chamber fill suggests that an access route into the main chamber existed after the entrance became obstructed.

What ever this alternative entrance was, it appears to have been carefully sealed or re-built at some period after its final use. The semicircular end wall appears to vary in build quality, and may have been partially demolished to form such an entrance.

The depth of soil over the monument, much of which is probably slope-wash, increases the likelihood of well preserved archaeology in the entrance area a zone generally disturbed in many other examples of souterrains.

The tendency to flood suggests to the writer that the constructors of the souterrain would have required a drain. If such a drain exists there is the possibility that it may contain archaeologically significant deposits.

The floor of the lower end of the chamber is subject to periodic flooding, it contained several large boulders distributed along its length with a grouping of smaller boulders towards the mid section of the chamber, thought to be a possible hearth.

A possible broken inverted saddle quern has been built into the mid-section of the west wall. A pillow-like stone was noted close to the possible hearth; sub-elliptical in section, it had been fractured at both ends.

P.D. Humphreys 1997

Site Number	51
Site Name	Souterrain, Brae Tongue
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC55NE6
HER Number	MHG12869
Status	Unprotected
Easting	259000
Northing	957000
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC55NE 6 59 57.

A previously opened souterrain, which lay in a field on the right of the road between Tongue House (NC55NE 4) and Kirkiboll (NC 591 567), was re-opened for examination by Horsburgh in 1867. It was about 25ft long, 2.5ft broad at the entrance and 4ft wide at the inner end where it

terminated in a circle. The sides were dry-built of small stones and it was roofed with flat slabs (Horsburgh 1870, 276).

The souterrain was not found during field investigation.
Visited by OS (JLD) 25 April 1960

No change to previous field report. There is no local knowledge of this site. Visited by OS (JB) 15 September 1977

Site Number	52
Site Name	Souterrain, Deanside
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC55NE8
HER Number	MHG12870
Status	Unprotected
Easting	259100
Northing	955700
Parish	Tongue
Council	Highland
Description	NC55NE 8 591 557.

The end of a souterrain remained in the bank of the burn near Deanside (NC 591 557) but it had been washed away in a flood by 1867 (See also NC55NE 10) (Horsburgh 1870, 276).

Souterrain not located during field investigation.
Visited by OS (JLD) 25 April 1960 and (AA) 2 July 1971

No change. Visited by OS (JM) 30 August 1978

Site Number	53
Site Name	■huachaille, Loch Hope
Type of Site	Souterrain (possible)
NMRS Number	NC45NE 4
HER Number	■MHG43647
Status	
Easting	246890
Northing	959010
Parish	Durness
Council	Highland
Description	A ruined dun with, to the E, the remains of a small out-work, roughly concentric to the dun, and extending between two dried-up stream beds. Visited by OS (W D J) 2 June 1959.

This is not a dun, but a large hut circle containing a souterrain, set into the E side of a knoll within a wood on the W side of Loch Hope. It is overgrown with bracken and scrub, and

measures 12.0m in diameter within a collapsed stone wall, 1.0m high at the back scarp in the W arc, but reduced to 0.3m internal height elsewhere. There are at least fourteen large stones exposed which define the inner wall face. The hut entrance in the E arc appears to be clubbed, about 3.5m long and 2.0m wide; the wall narrows to a width of 2.0m on either side of the entrance.

A lintel slab on the S side of the hut interior marks the entrance to the souterrain, and dry-stone walling of the W side of the entrance and the E side of the passage is exposed where the roof has collapsed. The souterrain is presumed to have curved around the periphery of the hut where there is a considerable mass of tumbled stone. In the W arc in the thickness of the hut wall (here spread to about 7.0m wide) there is a distinct depression which may indicate a collapsed chamber. If so, this would suggest the souterrain is about 20.0m long, and largely intact. The supposed outwork noted by the previous investigator appears to be natural. There is no evidence of associated cultivation.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 2 May 1980.

Site Number	54
Site Name	Loch Eriboll
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC45NW 2
HER Number	■MHG11916
Status	
Easting	243300
Northing	956260
Parish	Durness
Council	Highland
Description	<p>The site of a souterrain which was excavated by Alexander Clark some years before 1864, in which year it could still be examined. By 1911, the entrance was covered by a flagstone, but by 1959 (OS [WDJ] 3 May 1959) no surface trace remains. The passage was about 45 ft long by about 2 ft wide and 4 ft high with only a slight expansion at the end.</p> <p>A Mitchell 1868; RCAHMS 1911.</p> <p>No further information.</p> <p>Visited by OS (R L) 19 July 1971.</p> <p>No trace in an enclosed pasture field.</p> <p>Visited by OS (N K B) 30 October 1978</p>

Site Number	55
Site Name	Fouhlin, Loch Eriboll
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC45SW 2
HER Number	■MHG43649
Status	SAM2185
Easting	240380
Northing	954090

Parish	Durness
Council	Highland
Description	<p>(NC 4038 5409) A souterrain was discovered at Fouhlin on 9th September 1960 during excavations for the foundations of a bungalow.</p> <p>Excavations in 1964 and 1965 by A Morrison and R Reid revealed that it was about 60 ft long, curved almost at right angles and had no side chambers. The entrance, at the downslope end, had steps down into the souterrain, and the entrance passage, about 2 ft wide, was lined by large slabs surmounted by drystone walling. The souterrain itself had been formed by digging a trench into a glacial mound, lining the sides with drystone walling and roofing it with slabs. The average width was 4 1/2 ft. Associated surface structures, presumably dwellings, were located at the upper end of the souterrain. Among the finds were querns and a glass bead, probably dating to the Roman Iron Age. At some period, during or after the souterrain's use, the entrance passage was blocked by large stones and earth.</p> <p>A stratified midden of mussel and oyster shells and burnt material overlay the central part of the souterrain</p> <p>(Information from Dr C S Sandeman, 13 September 1960).</p> <p>There are at least three and probably five hut circles associated with the souterrain (Information contained in letter and Field notes from K Reid 25 September 1978).</p> <p>A Morrison and R K W Reid 1964; A Morrison and R K W Reid 1965; Information from OS, 29 September 1978.</p> <p>Access to the souterrain is blocked by stones, but it remains intact as the bungalow which was to have occupied the site has been built elsewhere. There are no surface indications of hut circles in the locality.</p> <p>Surveyed at 1:10,000.</p> <p>Visited by OS (N K B) 27 November 1978.</p>

Site Number	56
Site Name	Portnancon
Type of Site	Souterrain
NMRS Number	NC46SW 2
HER Number	MHG39715
Status	SAM3776
Easting	242820
Northing	961290
Parish	Durness
Council	Highland
Description	<p>'An Leabaidh-fholaich' - the Hiding Place (Name Book 1874) - or 'An Tigh Fo Thalaich' (OS 6" map, 2nd ed., 1908) - an apparently meaningless name, which may be for 'An Tigh Fo Thalaich' - the House below the Ground - is a souterrain which was cleared and drained by Buxton between 1927 and 1935. The entrance was blocked by a slab 3ft 6ins long and 2ft 6ins high which now lies beside it, and the flight of twelve stone steps which led down into the gallery had been infilled by earth and stones. The gallery itself was 27ft long and 4ft 4ins to 5ft 5ins high; and the walls of undressed stone rose in an outward curve so that the width across the floor was 4ft 3ins, half-way up it was 5ft and at the roof, where it was spanned by stone lintels, it was 3ft 5ins. The end chamber was 4ft 9ins high and 5ft 7ins wide and at the NE corner was a hollow in the floor 4ft in diameter and about 2ft deep, which may have been used to drain the gallery. No relics were found but, after draining, the floor deposit yielded fragments of bone which were, however, too small for identification.</p> <p>Name Book 1874; R J Buxton 1935.</p>

The entrance passage to the souterrain measures 3m long and 0.8m wide. The gallery could not be examined as the floor is again flooded but it could be seen that the walls and roof were in good condition. A mound, 1m high, covers the souterrain.

Visited by OS (J L D) 5 April 1960.

The souterrain is as described in the preceding reports. It has been entered from within a hut circle in the SE arc but all that remains of the latter is an arc of walling extending for about 4.5m on either side of the entrance to the souterrain. The wall is overlaid by debris (presumably cleared from the souterrain) but it appears to have been about 2.0m wide, with five or six large stones on edge defining the inner face. The majority of the hut has been destroyed by the road and a ruinous field wall parallel to the road.

Revised at 1:10,000.

Visited by OS (N K B) 12 May 1980.

Borgie Souterrain Notes - Update

Paul Humphreys

February 2012

Introduction

The monument was discovered in 1997 during the construction of a farm track when a mechanical excavator dislodged a roof lintel from the semicircular end of the souterrain. On its discovery the landowner pumped out the flooded lower end and entered the chamber but did not otherwise disturb the structure or deposits. On my being informed of the discovery I visited the site with Barbara Hiddleston to identify and survey the monument before any deposits became significantly disturbed. Subsequently, many interested groups have visited the site but so far it has escaped noticeable disturbance.

Survey method

A limited survey was conducted by the following method. Two horizontal datum lines were set up to accommodate the curvature of the chamber. The horizontal and vertical distance from the lines to the walls, roof and floor were measured at 500mm intervals along the lines. The level of the datum lines relative to the ground surface above the souterrain was determined by setting an external horizontal line. Line orientation was determined by magnetic compass. Selected areas of masonry were recorded by drawing frame. The limited survey was supported by colour print photography.

As the chamber was partially flooded at the time of survey the site was revisited during a dry spell to photograph large stones on the floor at the lower end of the chamber. The **approximate** position and form of these stones was estimated from the photographs and added to the survey drawing.

The survey drawing is a reconstruction based on co-ordinate data and site drawings.

Brief Description

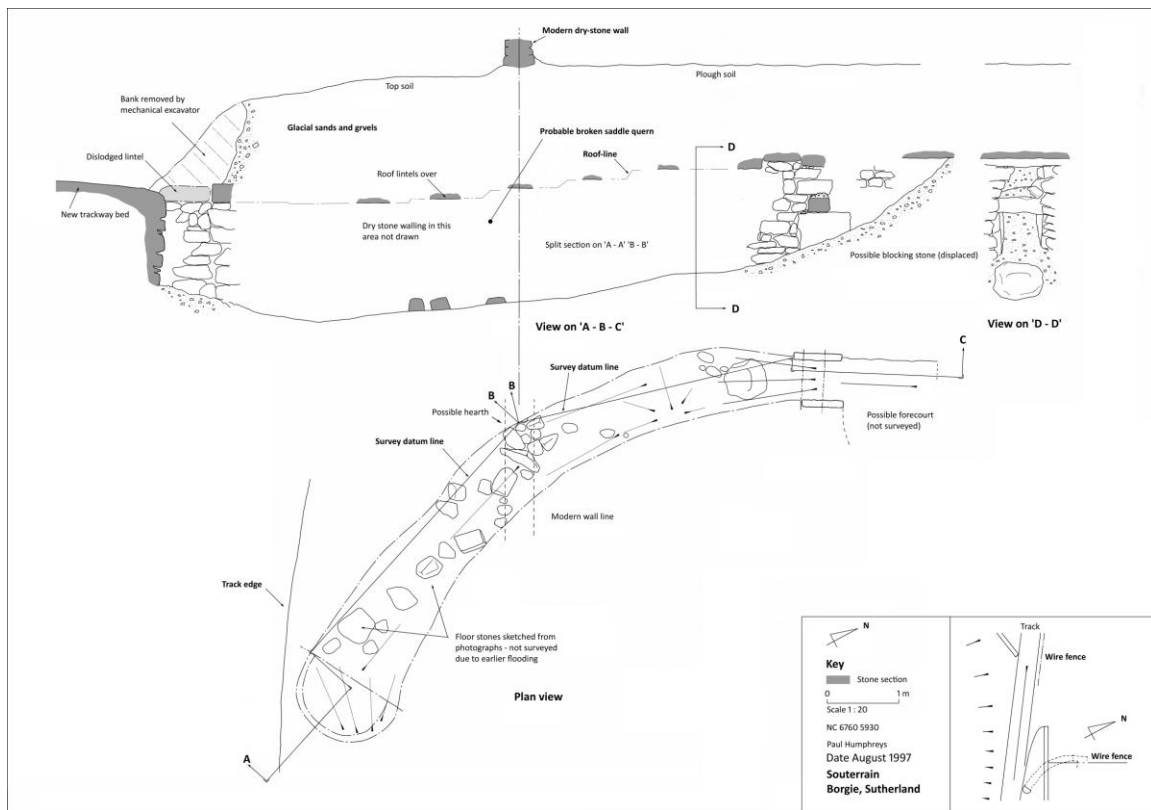
The 1.6m high stone built chamber measures c9m from the entrance to the semicircular end wall and curved at a radius of c6m. The average width is c1m however it narrows to 0.6m towards the entrance and widens to 1.5m at the semicircular end. The underside of the entrance roof-lintels lie c1.4m below ground level, the chamber falls by a further 0.5m towards the semicircular (distal) end.

Two orthostats set 0.6m apart are bridged by a non-load bearing “false lintel” to form an apparently deliberately restricted entrance. Beyond this, the structure can be seen to extend by at least 2m to form an asymmetrical roofed anti-chamber or forecourt. Whereas the west wall of the anti-chamber respects the line of the main chamber the opposing wall curves-away orthogonally and suggests the possibility of a second souterrain mirroring the first as is the case at Ham, Caithness and Easter Raitts, Badenoch.

The floor of the main chamber is composed of mid-brown silty-clay containing gravel and cobbles. The anti-chamber is partially filled by a darker brown soil that slopes down from the roof at c40 degrees and spills though the entrance virtually blocking it. A flat sub-circular boulder lies on this anti-chamber fill, where it spills into the main chamber.

Observations

- None of the large boulders appear to have fallen from the walls or roof, both of which appear to be in pristine condition. It appears therefore that these stones were introduced into the chamber deliberately. Superficially they are reminiscent of stepping stones and a possible hearth.
- The position of the sub-circular flat boulder overlying the anti-chamber fill suggests that an access route into the main chamber existed after the entrance became obstructed.
- What ever this alternative entrance was, it appears to have been carefully sealed or re-built at some period after its final use. The semicircular end wall appears to vary in build quality, and may have been partially demolished to form such an entrance.
- The depth of soil over the monument, much of which is probably slope-wash, increases the likelihood of well preserved archaeology in the entrance area a zone generally disturbed in many other examples of souterrains.
- The tendency to flood suggests to the writer that the constructors of the souterrain would have required a drain. If such a drain exists there is the possibility that it may contain archaeologically significant deposits.
- The floor of the lower end of the chamber is subject to periodic flooding, it contained several large boulders distributed along its length with a grouping of smaller boulders towards the mid section of the chamber, thought to be a possible hearth.
- A possible broken inverted saddle quern has been built into the mid-section of the west wall. A pillow-like stone was noted close to the possible hearth; sub-elliptical in section, it had been fractured at both ends.





Phot 1 - Track down to Borgie river



Photo 2 - Access at distal end of the souterrain



Photo 3 - Distal end; possible re-build on the right



Photo 4 - Proximal end showing false lintel



Plate 5 - Souterrain entrance



Plate 6 - View towards distal end; possible quern circa centre right



Photo 7 - 'Anti-chamber' beyond the entrance



Photo 8 - Floor deposits looking towards the proximal end



Photos 9 - Possible hearth in foreground looking towards the distal end



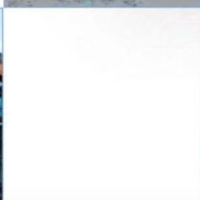
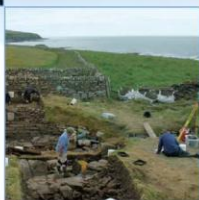
Photo 10 - 'stepping stones' at distal end



Photo 11 - Floor stones looking towards the distal end



Photo 12 - Possible blocking stone lying on entrance slope-wash



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com