



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE																			
H		N		B		9		1		S		E		0		0		2	
NB		9		6		8		6		1		3		8		0		CE	
8 SITE NAME																			
BLARBUIE																			
10 GENERIC TYPE																			
BURIAL CAIRN																			
14 PERIOD/DATE					15 DATING METHOD														
BA					TYP														
18 SHAPE																			
OVAL																			
19 THREAT AND DATE																			

4 DISTRICT			5 PARISH		
ROSS & CROMARTY			LOCHROOM		
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS	
		STANDING STRUCTURE			
11 CONCORDANCE		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS	
OS NB 91 SE 2				c. 11.0m by 8.0m	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION			
		ROBBED			

20 LAND USE			21 GEOLOGY		
HEATH					
22 SOILS			23 VEGETATION		
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE			25 RELIEF		
			FLAT TOPPED PROMONTORY		
			26 ASPECT		27 ALTITUDE
			WSW		25-50m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)	
1. NOT KNOWN: c1912: PARTIAL: UNSCIENTIFIC; UNRECORDED	
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)	
30 GROUND PLAN NO.	31 GROUND PHOTO NO.
OSFI: AA: 16.7.1974	
32 SLIDES NO.	33 HR. AR. NO.
34 NMR. AR. NO.	35 OTHER AR. NO.: SOURCE
36 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION	
37 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY	38 SAMPLES
39 PALYNOLOGY	40 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.
41 SMALL FINDS	42 MUSEUM/LOCATION
43 OTHER	

44 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER		45 ATTITUDE OF OWNER	
46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT		47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT	
48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS			

49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE		50 RECORDER: DATE		51 CHECK: DATE	
		MAR: 14.12.1984		SM: 17.12.1984	

52 TEXT  
 '(NB 9686 1380) Cairn, partially excavated by a local. (Also a 20th c. burial - sailor, 1914-18)'  
 (Rec 6" (I. Crawford, Sept 1961)  
 (OSRI:W.W.:12.12.61)

'The cairn stands on a narrow, flat-topped grassy promontory, flanked by deep gullies; it consists of an irregularly-shaped mound, 1.0m high, of loose water-worn stones with no evidence of a retaining circle or chambering.  
 'A small area in the centre has been cleared to natural ground surface. Around and partially underlying the cairn are overgrown patches of stones, giving a superficial

appearance of walling, and to the E are the remains of three small hollowed-out enclosures.

'Local enquiry (a) ascertained that (1) the cairn was originally excavated about 50 years ago by a local man, no records of finds being made. (2) the visible clearance was made recently by a Mr. McGregor of Glasgow University who thought that a fort had originally occupied the site; (3) the small enclosures were built and used for seaweed storage and are of no significance; (4) the "Sailor's Grave" is sited on another spur to the N.

'Although the grassed-over rubble gives a superficial appearance of walling, the form is meaningless. This and the fact that nearly all the stones of the cairn are water-worn beach stones, quite unsuitable for building, make it unlikely that this was a fort. A robbed burial cairn is the more likely explanation.

(OSFI:FRH:30.5.62)

(a. Mr. MacLennan, Blarbuie)

'The promontory on which this cairn stands is capped by a layer of gravel and small stones up to 2.5m deep, which is in turn covered by a thin topping of peat. The cairn itself is a mound of bare stones (11.5m NW-SE by 8.0m NE-SW by 0.8m high) and it looks from excavations around it as if the peat at one time covered it, signifying it is of some antiquity. It is partly the edge of these excavations and a few fortuitous stones that F.1 has taken to be pre-cairn walling. Despite the lack of evidence from the excavation, it seems likely that this is a sepulchral cairn placed on what is now the remnants only of a small raised beach, and it is not unlike the cairns on Rhum (See NM 39 NW 3). There is no indication of a fort here, although the position is a good one for a small defensive structure. ~~See illustration card.~~

'Surveyed at 1:10 560 scale.'

(OSFI:AA:16.7.74)

