

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



ARTEFACTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE																			
H		N		C		6		4		S		E		O		2		2	
2 NGR										3 QUAL									
N		C		6		9		4		4		L		O					
6 SITE NAME																			
L A N G D A L E																			
7 GENERIC TYPE																			

4 DISTRICT	5 PARISH
SUTHERLAND	FARR

8 CONCORDANCE	9 MUSEUM/LOCATION OF FIND(S)	10 ACCESSION NO.
OS NC 64 SE 22 NMR	N.M.A.S.	C.M. 39.

7 GENERIC TYPE	
STONE OBJECT, SPEAR HEAD MOULD	
11 PERIOD/DATE	12 DATING METHOD
BA	TYP

13 FIND CIRCUMSTANCES	14 CONDITION
STRAY FIND	

15 EXCAVATOR AND DATE	16 EXCAVATION RECORD NO.

17 LAND USE	18 GEOLOGY

19 SOILS	20 VEGETATION

21 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	22 RELIEF	23 ASPECT	24 ALTITUDE

25 DETAILED DESCRIPTION/ DIMENSIONS			

26 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)			
1. :1905-6:PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT:40:pp129-30, p214.			
2. :1963-4:PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT:97:pp118,147.			

27 GROUND PLAN NO.	28 GROUND PHOTO NO.

29 SLIDES NO.	30 HR. AP. NO.

31 NMR. AP. NO.	32 OTHER AP. NO.: SOURCE

33 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION

34 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY	35 SAMPLES

36 PALYNOLOGY	37 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.

38 OTHER

39 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER	40 ATTITUDE OF OWNER

41 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT	42 ATTITUDE OF TENANT

43 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS

44 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/ RECORDER: DATE	45 RECORDER: DATE	46 CHECK: DATE
	SEM:14.3.1985	HAR:1.4.1985

47 TEXT
'A M.B.A., steatite mould for casting leaf-shaped, tanged spearheads was found by Adam MacKay in early 1905 in gravel soil on his own land between the foot of langdale (NC 69 44) and the top of Skail (NC 71 46). It was donated to the NMAS by Rev. Angus Mackay, Westerdale, Caithness in 1906. (Acc. No. C.M.39).'

(1), (2)

'See attached photocopies for the text of (1)'

"Photocopies cancelled; see over card for text."

The half of a stone mould for casting leaf-shaped bronze spear-heads (fig. 2) was found by Adam Mackay in gravel soil on his own land, between the foot of Langdale and the top of Skail, during the early part of 1905. The stone is soft and close-grained, and gives a sharp metallic clink when struck smartly. It measures 5 inches in length by 2 inches in breadth. The hollow for casting is about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch below the plain surface of the mould, and a narrow channel, about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch below this second surface, runs longitudinally along the centre of the mould, getting deeper and broader as it proceeds, until at the outside edge it becomes $\frac{9}{16}$ inch in diameter. Unfortunately, when they were cleaning the stone with a sharp knife after discovery, under the impression that the longitudinal central line ought to run the whole length of the stone, a scar was made by the knife along this line from the upper or point end of the mould to the outside edge of the stone. The margin or outline of the leaf-shaped hollow was also slightly deepened in the same way; otherwise the mould is practically uninjured. The higher surface of the stone is even and well polished, so that it would lie close and flush with its missing half. Round the funnel and along the back of the stone there are unmistakable evidences of contact with molten metal. Indeed, from little pockets on the back of the stone red metallic dust can easily be picked out, but I have refrained from doing so. The stone-mould is now presented to the National Museum.



Fig. 2. Half of a Stone Mould for Spear-heads found at Langdale. (1.)