

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



ARTEFACTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
H	N	C	6	4	S	E	0	2	3
2 NGR								3 QUAL	
6 9								L O	
6 SITE NAME									
L	A	N	G	D	A	L	E		

4 DISTRICT	5 PARISH
SUTHERLAND	FARR

8 CONCORDANCE	9 MUSEUM/LOCATION OF FIND(S)	10 ACCESSION NO.
OS NC 64 SE 23 NMR		

7 GENERIC TYPE	
SCULPTURED STONE, PICTISH (CLASS I)	
11 PERIOD/DATE	12 DATING METHOD
EM	TYP

13 FIND CIRCUMSTANCES	14 CONDITION
STRAY FIND	DOCUMENTS ONLY, NOT LOCATED IN 1960.

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. MACKAY, A: 1906: PROC. SOC. ANT. SCOT.: VOL 40: pp 128-29.
2. RCAHMS: 1911: SUTHERLAND INVENTORY: HMSO: p87, No. 253
3. THOMAS, A. C: 1963: ARCHAEOLOGY JOURNAL: VOL. 120: p94
4. RCAHMS: 1985: PICTISH SYMBOL STONES, A HANDLIST: HMSO: pp10-14

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

'Part of an incised slab was found on Angus Gunn's farm at the foot of Langdale (NC 69 44) during trenching in 1905. The fragment measures 44" (111cm.) by 27" (68.6cm.) and is about 3" (7.6cm.) thick. The device, part of a concentric figure resembling the crescent symbol of the sculptured stones, is so clearly and artistically cut that the sculptor must have used a sharp iron tool. When found, the stone was standing upright on a dry ridge and was sunk so deeply into the ground that its upper end was about 16" (40cm.) below the surface. At its base lay three rough boulders each weighing about 56 lbs.' (1)

'Angus Gunn's son, Hugh, at Langdale, could not remember this slab being discovered, nor did he know its present whereabouts.'

(OSFI:JLD:11.5.1960.)

'See attached photocopies' "Photocopies cancelled; see over card for text."

NOTES ON A SLAB WITH INCISED CRESCENTIC DESIGN, STONE MOULD
FOR CASTING BRONZE SPEAR-HEADS, A CUP-MARKED STONE,
HOLY-WATER STOUP, AND OTHER ANTIQUITIES IN STRATH-
NAVER, SUTHERLANDSHIRE. BY REV. ANGUS MACKAY, M.A.,
WESTERDALE, HALKIRK.

An incised slab (fig. 1) was discovered on Angus Gunn's farm at the foot of Langdale during the spring of 1905, when they were trenching the land. It stood upright on a dry ridge, and was sunk so deeply in the ground that its upper end was about 16 inches beneath the surface. At its base lay three rough boulders, each weighing about 56 pounds, but nothing else was found, notwithstanding a careful search.

The extreme length of the slab is 44 inches, its extreme breadth is 27 inches, and it is about 3 inches in thickness. One face is smooth,

but not hewn, the other is slightly rougher. Although it was removed from the ground uninjured, and remains as it was found, it is evidently a fragment of its former self. What remains of the device—part of a concentric figure resembling the crescent symbol of the sculptured stones—is so clearly and artistically cut into the stone that the designer must have used a sharp iron tool.

Judging from the appearance of the edges, it looks as if the stone had been fractured vertically and horizontally, that is to say, the top part and a portion of the left side is gone. How the stone came to be planted upright in the ground so deeply after being thus fractured is a question.

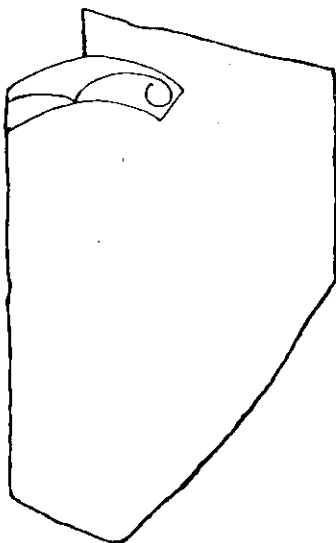


Fig. 1. Incised Slab found at Langdale. (17.)