

NC65 SE0001

Highland Local Authority Area

Cracknie, Souterrain and Settlement

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT
MANAGEMENT PLAN
1 APRIL 2001 TO 31 MARCH 2006



HISTORIC SCOTLAND

Anne Coombs
Monument Warden

FORESTRY COMMISSION

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Forest Enterprise
Dornoch Forest District
Hilton of Embo
Dornoch
Sutherland IV25 3PW

Tel No: 01862 810359

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Name of Monument: **Cracknie, souterrain and settlement**

Scheduled Ancient Monument Number: **5663**

Local Authority Area: **Highland**

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Record Number: **NC665509**

OS Grid Reference: **NC665510**

Forest Enterprise District: **Dornoch**

Forest Enterprise Compartment: **4041**

Plan Period: **1/4/01 – 31/3/06**

Plan prepared by ; **Colin Leslie**
Dornoch Forest District.

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Description of Monument

An extensive site within the forest clearing. There are a number of features visible including mounds, one of which contains the souterrain and other pre-clearance settlement structures such as longhouse, kiln, evidence of former farming practice and tracks.

Forest Enterprise's Objectives

- i. To ensure that the monument and its surrounding area are kept free of trees and scrub, thereby preserving both the archaeological remains and their setting.
- ii. To maintain and improve access to the monument, and to enhance its setting in the wider landscape.

Management

Issues requiring attention:

The adjacent trees at the Northernmost and Southernmost points are within 20m of the scheduled area.

An ATV track was wrongly placed within the scheduled area but has since been restored. There is a possibility that ATC's could still be traversing the scheduled site to access forest rides beyond.

Work proposals

a Harvesting operations

The adjacent trees should be cleared 20m back from the scheduled area. All trees and shrubs shall be cut off at ground level, the stumps or roots being left in the ground and not grubbed out. Trees should be cut by hand or by the use of a hand held power saw. These measures will enable the trees to be felled in such a way as to cause no damage to the remains of the monument or the ground surface within the scheduled area.

Where necessary stumps should be treated with the appropriate chemical according to the statutory "Code of practice for safe use of pesticides on farms and holdings" (HMSO 1990) prepared by MAFF, HSC and DoE.

Any brash resulting from these operations shall be removed well away from the area of the scheduled ancient monument. Cut timber shall be removed from the site by cutting into easily transportable pieces, rather than by dragging, in case this causes damage to underlying archaeology. If brash is to be burned, this operation shall be carried out well away from the scheduled area.

No vehicles shall enter the scheduled area.

d On site access

ATC access will be restricted to prevent encroachment on the monument. This will be made easier when the adjacent trees are felled, allowing vehicles to travel round the edge of the site

e Interpretation

It is not intended to provide Interpretation panels at this site, but a small map and information leaflet is to be produced which details the SAMs on Forest Enterprise land. Details of sites in the local area will be available from the Forest Enterprise Dornoch District office on request.

Interpretation panels, information boards and way markers, when provided will be erected out with the scheduled area.

Management Agreement Conditions

The Occupier undertakes:

1. To monitor and control all scrub, tree and bracken regeneration in the Scheduled Area to prevent colonisation.
2. Not to plant trees within 20 metres of the Scheduled Area.
3. Not to cut any drains, ditches or dykes across, or within 20 metres of, the Scheduled Area.
4. Not to use the Scheduled Area as a dump for any material.
5. Not to use wheeled or tracked vehicles within the Scheduled Area.
6. Not to park any farm or forestry machinery on the Scheduled Area, nor to use the area for storing any materials.
7. Not to construct any building works or access tracks within 10 metres of the Scheduled Area.
8. Not to afford any person access to the Scheduled Area for the purpose of using a metal detector unless that person can produce the written consent of Scottish Ministers'.
9. To permit any authorised representative of Scottish Ministers' access to the Scheduled Area without prior notice.
10. To allow public access at all reasonable times to the Scheduled Area.
11. To report any objects such as pottery, flint or bone, or archaeological features, which are found within the Scheduled Area. Such objects should be left undisturbed and reported to the Council Archaeologist, Historic Scotland or your local museum.

Liaison

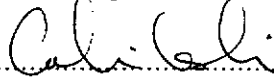
Formal consultation every 5 years with Historic Scotland to review the management strategy of the monument prior to the preparation of the subsequent Management Plan. Meetings will be held with local Historic Scotland staff as required.

Monitoring

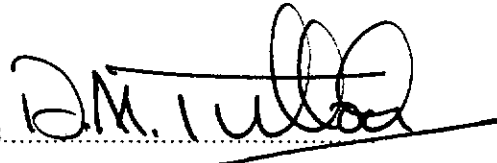
Monitoring of the site will be carried out on a yearly basis in September each year as described in work proposals (g)

Check due (Date)	Date Checked	Action required	Date work completed and checked by
4/2001			
4/2002			
4/2003			
4/2004			
4/2005			

This is an agreement under Section 17 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Only works which are carried out in Fulfilment of the Occupier's obligations and which are specifically identified in this agreement are deemed to have been granted Scheduled Monument Consent under the Ancient Monuments Class Consents Order (Scotland) 1996. The Occupier must apply for Scottish Ministers' consent prior to undertaking any further works affecting the Area.

Signed on behalf of Forest Enterprise by 

Dated 22/01/01

Signed on behalf of the Scottish Ministers 

Dated 27th March 2001

Appendix 1

Bx 6.
5663

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979
ENTRY IN THE SCHEDULE OF MONUMENTS

The monument known as Cracknie, souterrain and settlement comprises a souterrain and a post medieval settlement on a NE-facing slope. The area to be scheduled measures 270m NNW-SSE, by 105m WSW-ENE, to include the souterrain, post medieval buildings, enclosed infield and an area around in which traces of activities associated with the construction and use of the souterrain and settlement may survive. The monument, which lies in the Parish of Farr and the County of Sutherland as shown outlined in red on the Plan annexed and executed as relative hereto and which forms part of the subjects described in the Disposition by George Granville Sutherland Leveson Gower, Duke and Earl of Sutherland in favour of the Board of Agriculture for Scotland dated 14 June and 16 July and recorded in the Division of the General Register of Sasines for the County of Sutherland on 13 August all in the year 1917 (the present owner whereof being the Secretary of State for Scotland, per Agriculture and Fisheries Department, Pentland House, 47 Robb's Loan, Edinburgh), is hereby included in the Schedule of Monuments appearing to the Secretary of State for Scotland to be of national importance compiled and maintained by him under section 1(1) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

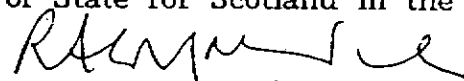
Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Scotland.



Assistant Secretary
Date 26 APRIL 1993

Historic Scotland
20 Brandon Street
Edinburgh
EH3 5RA

Register on behalf of the Secretary of State for Scotland in the Register of the County of Sutherland.

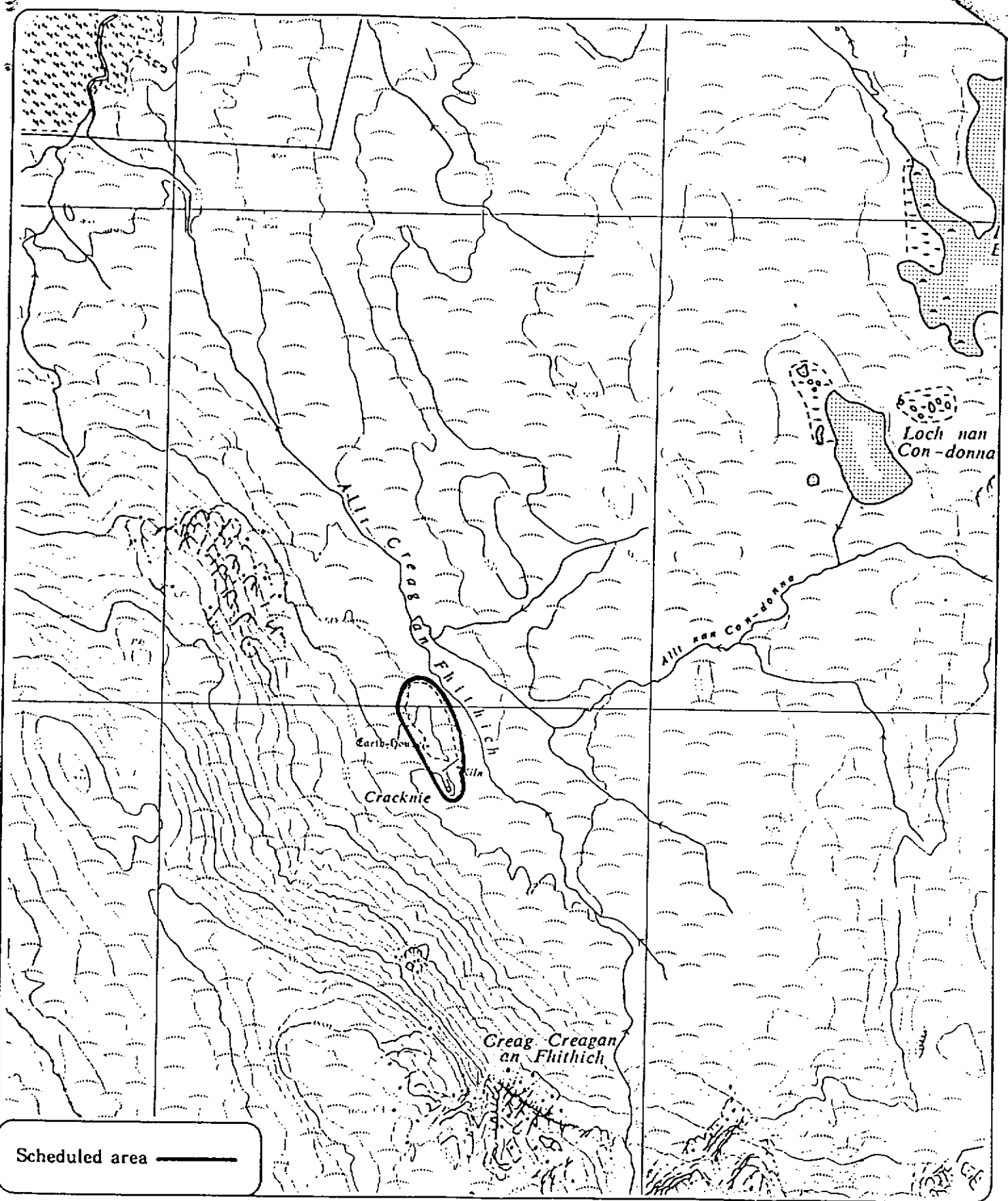

Solicitor, Edinburgh, Agent

REGISTERS OF SCOTLAND
GENERAL REGISTER OF SASINES
COUNTY OF SUTHERLAND JW
Fiche... 36 ... Frame... 20 ...
Presented and Recorded on 11 JUN 1993

G2102535.122

This is the plan referred to in the entry in the schedule affecting Cracknie, souterrain and settlement, dated 26 APRIL 1993 and is signed as relative thereto.

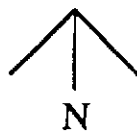
A. Lammie



Scheduled area ———

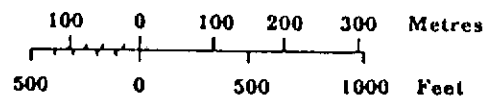
Cracknie, souterrain and settlement

Farr Parish



Sheet: NC 65 SE

Scale: 1/10,560



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11 JUN 1993	
No.	00431
FEE	£ 22 00

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THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979

Entry in the Schedule of Monuments

1993

Re: The Monument known as
Cracknie, souterrain and settlement

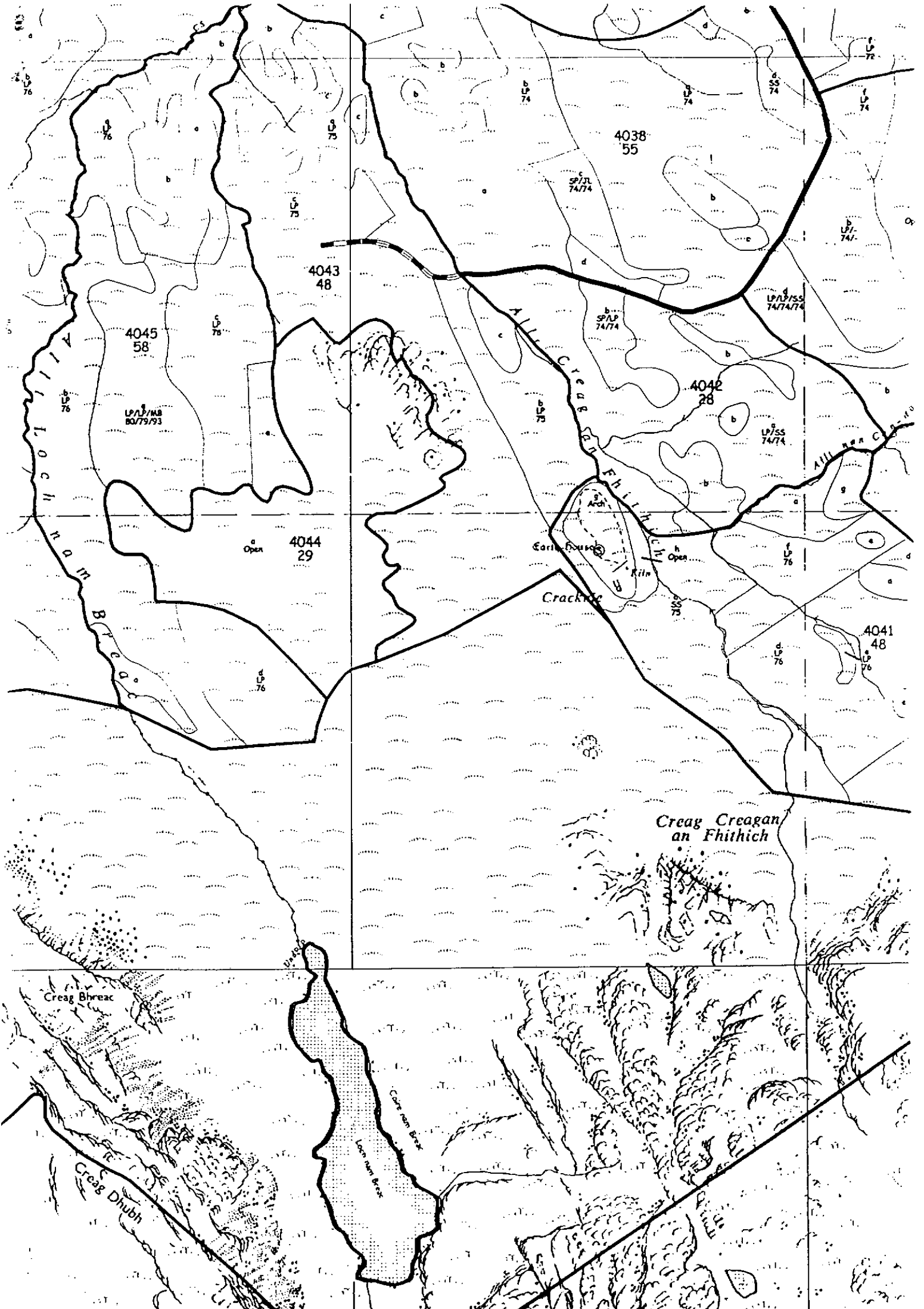
in the Parish of Farr and
County of Sutherland

Search Sheet No: 3023

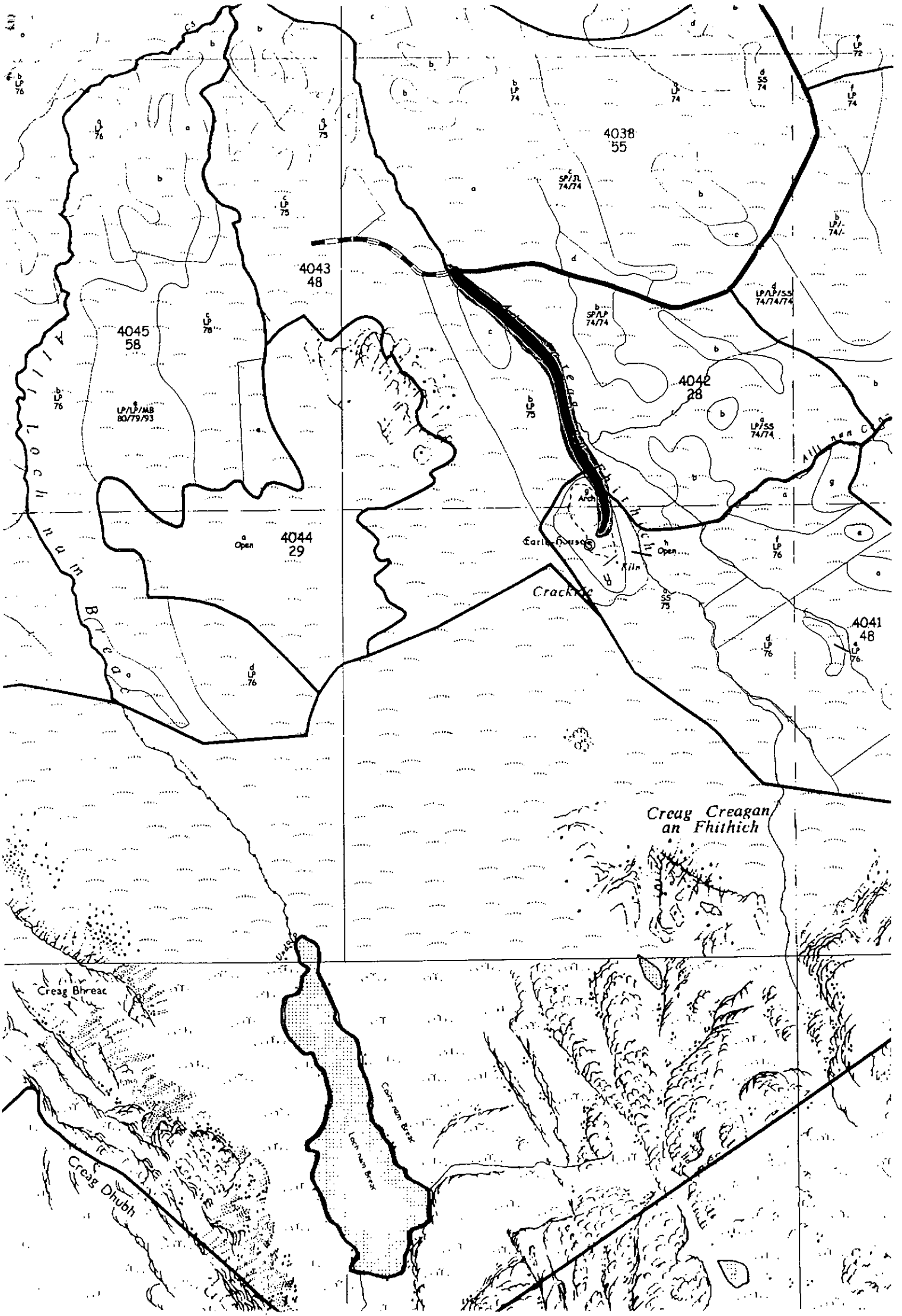
|
Solicitor
to the
Secretary of State
for Scotland
New St Andrew's House
Edinburgh

=AS 7333

Appendix 2



Appendix 3

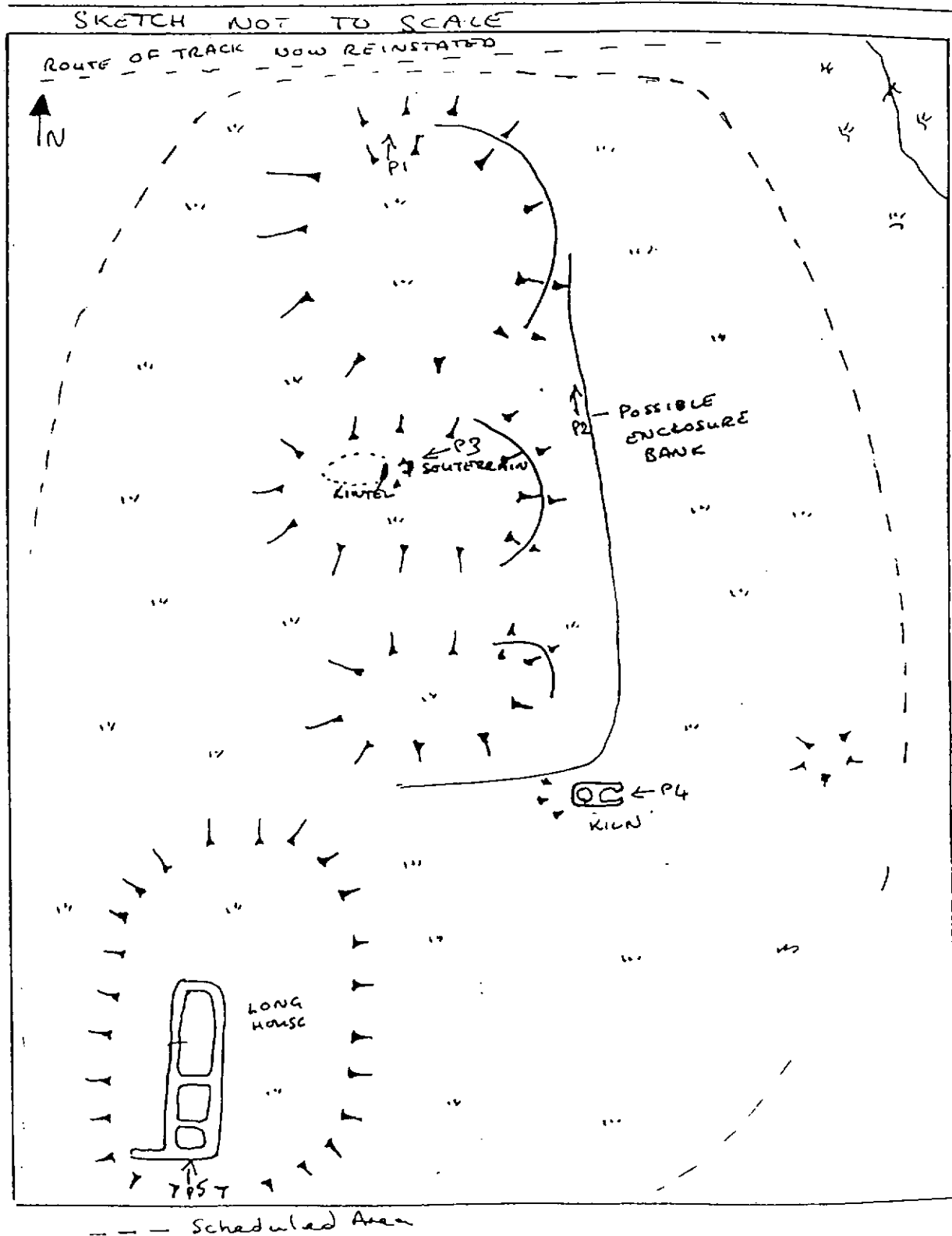


Appendix 4

Monument CRACKNIE settlement & souterrain

Region HIGHLAND District SUTHERLAND

Initials of Recorder A.C. Date of Visit 07-09-00 Visit No 0



Visit summary report

Index number 5663 NGR NC665509 Date originally scheduled 26-Apr-1993
Date last scheduled

Monument name Cracknie, souterrain and settlement

Visit date 07-Aug-2000 Council HIGHLAND

Recorder Mrs A Coombs Inspector

Condition 1 Risk 1 HS Priority 1.41 Opportunity for positive management 5

New damage? IAM visit required? Interest in a HS grant? Sketch made? Y Slides taken? Y

Inadequate area? Review scheduling? Proportion scheduled 100%

Description and assessment of management requirements

07-SEPT-00, AC

The site lies in an area of open ground to the W of Allt Creag an Fhithich within the Forest Enterprise Borgie Forest. The monument, a souterrain and settlement, is scattered over 4 mounds. There are a number of enclosure banks around the mounds. The souterrain is not associated with any other structures. The entrance to the souterrain faces NE and the lintel at the entrance is fallen but previous reports suggest that the stone work of the interior is in a reasonable condition. The length of the souterrain seems to be c.5m to the WS. A small ruined corn drying kiln and barn has been built into the SE edge of the 3rd mound. The building measures c.7m by c.3m with some visible stone but mainly vegetation covered. The remains of a sub-rectangular long house lie to the SW of the 4th mound; it is c.21m long by c3m with at least 2 internal divisions and possible out lying structures. There is some scattered and visible stone on the walls.

The site is in a reasonable condition, although the grass is long it is grazed by deer and the structures are readily visible. The monument was subject to a damage report after a new track was stripped just beyond the NW edge of the scheduled area. There was no damage to the site. The track has been reinstated and there is no further problem. The site will be subject to a Management Plan in the near future, the present regime will be maintained.

21-JUL-95

SCHEDULED AREA: The scheduled area is of adequate size and is correctly located. However the grid reference should be NC666508.

DESCRIPTION: The monument is located between two arms of forestry plantation on the south margin of Borgie Forest and west of Allt Creag an Fhithich. There are four mounds in the scheduled area, the middle two are oriented W-E across the area. The second mound contains the souterrain, at its western end, which has an entrance 0.6m x 0.5m. There is fallen lintel stone beside the entrance. An examination from the outside, suggests that the subterranean stonework is well preserved. 70m to the south of the souterrain, on the southernmost mound, a pre-clearance longhouse is located (NW-SE) and measures 25m x 5m. There is a dividing wall towards the SE end of the house: at this point the stonework of the walls slope down towards the north west and south east. The walls are 1m wide and up to 0.5m high. A series or a fragmented single turf embankment or turf covered dyke is present at the base and along the eastern flanks of these mounds, near to the burn.

Visit summary report

Description and assessment of management requirements

Fescue grass. Soft Rushes grow in the hollows between the mounds, where the water table is near to the surface. The first and third mounds have some Ling present. The surrounding land is dominated by Ling in the south, and Purple Moor grass heath elsewhere. Beyond this vegetation, forestry plantation occurs as well as on the opposite side of the burn. There is some grazing by sheep and deer

20-APR-94

Situated at the southernmost end of the Borgie Forestplantation, on the northern slopes of Meall an Spothaidh, the heather and grass covered site contains a souterrain and the remains of a pre-clearance settlement.

The latter comprises the heather and turf covered foundations of a sub-rectangular structure, 30m long x 5m wide with walls 1m wide x up to 0.5m high. The southern, circular end of the structure has some stone visible along the walls. To the E of this structure lie heather covered banks/dykes and numerous clearance cairns. There is also a small circular structure, 1.5m in diameter, partially hidden by the heather, which may well be a kiln.

The souterrain lies to the NW of the sub-rectangular structure and appears to be "bannana" shaped. The "entrance" to the chamber is 0.6m wide x 0.5m high, partially overgrown and contains some rubble. There is a fallen lintel by the opening, this measuring 0.75m x 0.75m x 0.15m thick. Other stones were felt under the grass in this area. Within the souterrain the stone work has vegetation growing from it, but in general the interior of the monument seems to be both dry and well preserved.

No grazing occurs in the vicinity and, as a result, vegetation growth is a problem on this site.

Comments on scheduling

07-SEPT-00, AC

The scheduled area is adequate.

Comments by IAM

21-JUL-1995, NDR

Grid reference needs to be re-written. Does this mean a new schedule?

Who was contacted and nature of contact

07-SEPT-00, AC

The site was visited with a member of Forest Enterprise.

Visit summary report

Index number 5663 NGR NC665509 Date originally scheduled 26-Apr-1993
Date last scheduled

Monument name Cracknie, souterrain and settlement

Visit date 21-Jul-1995 Council HIGHLAND

Recorder NDR Inspector Dr N Fojut

Condition	Risk	HS Priority	Opportunity for positive management		
New damage?	IAM visit required?	Interest in a HS grant?	Sketch made?	Slides taken?	Y
Inadequate area?	Review scheduling?	Proportion scheduled	100%		

Description and assessment of management requirements

21-JUL-95

SCHEDULED AREA: The scheduled area is of adequate size and is correctly located. However the grid reference should be NC666508.

DESCRIPTION: The monument is located between two arms of forestry plantation on the south margin of Borgie Forest and west of Allt Creag an Fhithich. There are four mounds in the scheduled area, the middle two are oriented W-E across the area. The second mound contains the souterrain, at its western end, which has an entrance 0.6m x 0.5m. There is fallen lintel stone beside the entrance. An examination from the outside, suggests that the subterranean stonework is well preserved. 70m to the south of the souterrain, on the southernmost mound, a pre-clearance longhouse is located (NW-SE) and measures 25m x 5m. There is a dividing wall towards the SE end of the house: at this point the stonework of the walls slope down towards the north west and south east. The walls are 1m wide and up to 0.5m high. A series or a fragmented single turf embankment or turf covered dyke is present at the base and along the eastern flanks of these mounds, near to the burn.

MANAGEMENT: The majority of the scheduled area is covered by luxuriant Purple Moor Grass and Fescue grass. Soft Rushes grow in the hollows between the mounds, where the water table is near to the surface. The first and third mounds have some Ling present. The surrounding land is dominated by Ling in the south, and Purple Moor grass heath elsewhere. Beyond this vegetation, forestry plantation occurs as well as on the opposite side of the burn. There is some grazing by sheep and deer

20-APR-94

Situated at the southernmost end of the Borgie Forestplantation, on the northern slopes of Meall an Spothaidh, the heather and grass covered site contains a souterrain and the remains of a pre-clearance settlement.

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Visit summary report

Description and assessment of management requirements

There is a fallen lintel by the opening, this measuring 0.75m x 0.75m x 0.15m thick. Other stones were felt under the grass in this area. Within the outer terrain the stone work has vegetation growing from it, but in general the interior of the monument seems to be both dry and well preserved.

No grazing occurs in the vicinity and, as a result, vegetation growth is a problem on this site.

Comments on scheduling

Comments by IAM

21-JUL-1995, NDR

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