

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
H	N	C	6	6	S	E	0	0	1
2 NGR									
N	C	6	8	7	6	6	1	4	0
3 QUAL									
CE									
6 SITE NAME									
D	U	N		R	I	A	S	K	I

4 DISTRICT SUTHERLAND		5 PARISH TONGUE	
7 AREA STATUS SSSI	8 SITE STATUS	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE OSNC 66 SE 1	12 FORM STANDING STRUCTURE	13 DIMENSIONS c.18.0m DIAM.	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION INCOMPLETE	

10 GENERIC TYPE BURIAL CAIRN, CHAMBERED	
14 PERIOD/DATE NE=BA	15 DATING METHOD TYP
18 SHAPE CIRCULAR	
19 THREAT AND DATE	

20 LAND USE ROUGH PASTURE	21 GEOLOGY
22 SOILS	23 VEGETATION
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	25 RELIEF BASE OF STEEP CRAGGY HILL SLOPE
	26 ASPECT W
	27 ALTITUDE 15m=23mOD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)	

29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1964: 6" MAP
2. HENSHALL A.S.: 1972: CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND: E.U.P.: vol.2: p.582
3. R.C.A.H.M.S.: 1911: SUTHERLAND INVENTORY: H.M.S.O.: p.184 no.529
4. MERCER R.J.: 1981: ARCH. FIELD SURVEY IN N. SCOTLAND: E.U.P.: vol.2 paper7: p.6 p.107
5. MORRISON H.: 1882: PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT.: vol16: p.177
6. : 1883: PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT.: vol17: p.275
7. HORSBURGH : 1868: PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT.

30 GROUND PLAN NO.	31 GROUND PHOTO NO.
32 SLIDES NO.	33 HR. AP NO.
34 NMR. AP. NO.	35 OTHER AP. 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 HAR 19.3.1985	51 CHECK: DATE HAR: 2-4-1985
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52 TEXT

See over page for details.....

'There are several duns in its neighbourhood, using the word in its popular sense. The first of these was DUN THORASDAL, from which DUN BRAHAN, on the opposite side of the river and some distance farther up, is visible. In (7) Horsburgh refers to this dun as DUN RICHARD. No one ever called it so, and its name has always been DUN BHRAHAN or BRAHAN. His informant may have been misled by the name of a spot in the neighbourhood called POL RIASGIDH, i.e. the barren hollow or rank-grass hollow. DUN RIASGIDH would be transformed by saxon ears to DUN RICHARD.' (5)

'The cairn at Dun Riaskidh (Mon. no.5) is set upon a knoll looking directly over the beach-land in the estuary of the River Borgie. Its form is unclear but it would appear to relate to the large group of small "circular" chambered cairns widespread within the O-C-H group' p6 (4)

'Chambered cairn, Dun Riaskidh. Diameter 15.0m. Height 2.0m. Circular with chamber of very unclear form. Massive slabs to the NW may relate to the orthostats or lintels of an entrance.' p107 no.5 (4)

'See also H NC 66 SE 006, Carn Mean Leod' (HAR 19.3.1985)

'See attached photocopies for rest of text.'

(NC 6876 6140) Chambered Cairn (NR)

(1)

A chambered round cairn, formerly thought to be a broch (a) and named 'Dun Riaskidh'. It lies on a narrow rock ridge overlooking the river and the bay and is a mass of angular stones 4 ft high. The edge can be traced on the S and the indications are that it was about 57 ft in diameter. The edge on the N is rather vague and may have been flattened in plan. On the E and W sides where there are steep drops, the stones have evidently spread downhill although on the E parts of a roughly built edging can be seen. Many large slabs lie about the site, probably mainly displaced corbels and roofing stones. Much of the chamber structure probably exists and a few visible orthostats are probably *in situ*. The entrance has probably been from the N.

(2)

(a = 3)

No change to the preceding report.
Revised at 1:10,000.

(OSFI:JM:7.8.1978)

SUT 62

DUN RIASKIDH

(Unclassified, round cairn)

Parish Tongue

Location on the N coast, at the

mouth of the River Borgie

Map reference NC 687614

Sheet XVII NE; NC 66 SE

Inventory number 529

Reference R.C.A.M. Inv. 184

Visited 4.10.67

Description. The cairn was built on a narrow rock ridge overlooking the flat pastures by the river, and the sand-dunes which edge the bay. It is at the foot of the steep hillside which forms the E side of the valley. The cairn is about 4 ft high consisting of a mass of angular stones. On the S side the edge can be traced, and the indications are that the diameter was about 57 ft. The edge on the N side is rather vague and may have been flattened in plan. On the E and W sides, where there are steep drops, the stones have evidently spread downhill, though on the E side parts of a roughly built edging can be seen.

(2)

Many large slabs lie about the site, probably mainly displaced corbels and roofing stones. Much of the chamber structure probably exists, and a few visible orthostats are probably *in situ*. The entrance has probably been from the N or seaward side. A slab towards the S side, aligned E-W, projects 1 ft 6 in. and is likely to be the back-slab. The E side of the chamber is represented by a slab 4 ft 6 in. to the N, aligned N-S, which is just visible. On the W side of the chamber there are a number of large slabs, one over the other with their E edges aligned vertically, and laid declining to the W, which appear to be corbel stones only slightly displaced. To the N of them a stone set transversely to the axis of the chamber, 10 ft 3 in. N of the back-slab, might be a portal stone. Another upright stone, seemingly firmly set but obstructing the probable position of the entry into the chamber, is presumably displaced.