

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

FIELD MONUMENTS



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

4 DISTRICT		5 PARISH		1 SITE CODE		2 NGR		3 QUAL	
SUTHERLAND		FARR		H N C 8 5 N E 0 0 3		N C 8 9 4 5 5 4		CE	
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		6 SITE NAME		10 GENERIC TYPE			
SUTHERLAND		SCHEDULED		LEATHAD CARNAICH		HUT CIRCLE + ENCLOSURE + FIELD SYSTEM, LYNCHETS, CLEARANCE			
11 CONCORDANCE		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS		14 PERIOD/DATE		15 DATING METHOD	
OS NC 85 NE 3		STANDING STRUCTURES				BA = IA		TYP	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION		18 SHAPE		19 THREAT AND DATE			
		INCOMPLETE							
20 LAND USE				21 GEOLOGY					
ROUGH PASTURE									
22 SOILS				23 VEGETATION					
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE			25 RELIEF		26 ASPECT		27 ALTITUDE		
			MODERATE HILLSLOPE		SW		38 = 76m OD		
28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)									
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)									
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1873: 6" MAP 2. PENNANT, T: 1776: TOUR IN SCOTLAND 1769: :1: pp347-8 (Appendix, Rev.A. Pope) 3. RCAHMS: 1911: SUTHERLAND INVENTORY: HMSO: :p74, No.224 (plans) 4. HBM (SDD): 1985: LIST OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS 5. LEITCH, R.D.: 1958: FIELD SURVEY IN N. SCOTLAND: SUP: VOL. 1: pp147-8, HAL. 26									
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		51 CHECK: DATE	
						AM: 10.6.1985		HRC: 20.6.1985	
52 TEXT									
"See overleaf and attached photocopies for text." NC 894 555 LEATHAD CARNAICH. HUT CIRCLES. CLEARANCE CAIRNS. N OF DALMALVAIG SCHOOL. (1)									

'A': (NC 894 555)

Tumuli (NR)
Site of Battle (NR)

(1)

A field system consisting of clearance heaps, banks, walling and alleged hut-circles (3) stretching for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile along the slope of a west-facing hill. A tradition of a 10th century battle between the Scots and the Norse has been attached to the clearance heaps which are said to be the burial cairns of the dead of the battle (2). They appear to be of two different types; the larger, of bare stone, 4.8m to 7.6m in diameter with central depressions as if from partial excavation, probably belong, along with the field banks, to a depopulated settlement. The smaller clearance heaps are typical of those associated with hut-circles and heaps linked by rubble walls are

probably contemporary with these RCAHM mentions various small "huts" but these appear to be only quarried clearance heaps.

(2), (3),
(OSFI:WDJ:28.4.1960)

This is a field system with one, possibly two, associated hut circles. The certain hut at NC 8931 5547, 'A' above the NE bank of a stream and completely heather-covered, is 6.0m in diameter inside a much reduced wall spread to 1.5m. The entrance is no longer evident. The field system, covering seven hectares, on the west and south slopes of the hillside and delimited to the north and north-east by a sinuous wall or bank, comprises stone clearance heaps spaced from 8.0m to 15.0m apart with many linked by either stony banks of cleared stones, or lynchets; a field plot 16.0m by 9.0m was noted. The field system adopts a rectangular pattern of cleared ground lying up and down the slope on the longer axis. The huts alleged by the RCAHM are merely stone clearance heaps extensively mutilated.

At NC 8949 5543 within the field system is a ruinous enclosure of boulder slab construction that may be another hut though very oval in form. It is slightly levelled into the slope and measures about 7.5m ENE-WNW by 4.5m internally, though the longer dimension is obscured by a disturbed clearance heap, similar to others nearby, at the east end.

The wall is generally reduced to a low, overgrown 2.0m spread and an entrance cannot be identified.

(OSFI:JM:25.5.1977)

Surveyed at 1/2500.

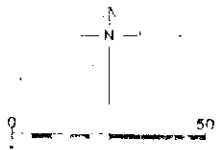
HAL 26

Cairnfield. Dimensions: 450m. X 300m. Extensive area of cairns.
Aspect: SW facing. Elevation: 30m. (98') - 60m. (197') O.D.
NC 894555.

Structures associated with cairnfield:

- a. Wall. Width: 1m. - 3m. Length: 30m.
- b. Wall. Width: 1m. - 3m. Length: 100m.
- c. Structure. Dimensions: 15m. X 5m. Stones at N. end of mound.
- d. Wall. Length: 35m.
- e. Wall. Length: 45m.
- f. Enclosure. Dimensions: 75m. X 45m.
- g. Wall. Length: 20m.
- h. Wall. Length: 45m. Curvilinear.
- j. Wall. Length: 75m.
- k. Field Wall. Length: 40m. Adjoins enclosure 1.
- l. Enclosure. Dimensions: 20m. X 25m. Adjoining cairns.
- m. Field Wall. Length: 300m.
- n. Structure. Dimensions: 12.50m. X 7m. Mound.
- p. Enclosure. Dimensions: 30m. X 10m.
- q. Wall. Length: 20m.

Halladale Survey 1979
Cairnfield (26) and
associated structures
(R Mercer)



Dalhalvaig School, on the slope of the hill from about 100 yards back from the high road, are a large number of stony mounds, measuring from about 16' to 25' in diameter, and stretching along the hillside for about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. They differ in appearance from the ordinary small mounds, so common on the hillsides, by having a depression in the centre in which stones are exposed as if from partial excavation; by there being no admixture of earth or turf with the stones; and by an absence of vegetation over them, except for a fringe some 3' to 4' wide around the outer edge. They are also in some instances linked together by walls, and in other instances have curving lines of walling projecting from them, as if to flank the entrances. Remains of old walls run hither and thither among them in sinuous lines. These constructions are believed to be the ruins of small huts.

At the extreme NW. end are two conjoined huts, which seem to have been partially excavated for stones. One is 18' in diameter and the other 14'.

Southward there is a group of four such ruins, connected, except towards the W., by walls, the foundations of which alone remain, 28' in length and about 3' in thickness, the whole construction

forming a horse-shoe shaped enclosure, measuring 42' across the open end. Each ruin measures some 18' in diameter (fig. 23).

Near this group is a single example, 16' in diameter over all, and having a short wall curving to the SW. for 13' (fig. 24). One large mound near the SW. end of the group lies with its longest axis N. and S., and clearly discloses the outlines of several small circular chambers among the debris.

At the extreme SW. end is a specimen which indicates an interior diameter of from 12' to 15' and entrance from the SW. As far as indications serve, the interior diameters seem to have been from 3' to 10', and the entrances from W. or SW.

At the SE. end of the group are the remains of a small oblong building, with rounded ends, measuring about 42' over all from NE. to SW., having the ruins of a stone-built structure about 9' across at the NE. end. The interior diameter of the construction, including the ruin, has been about 33'. The entrance has been from the SW., and has been 3' wide. The bank is of turf and stone. There are among these ruins a very few mounds, overgrown with turf, and lacking the characteristics of the group, in no way differing externally from the ordinary small mounds.

O.S.M., SUPPL., XIX.

Visited, 27th September 1909.

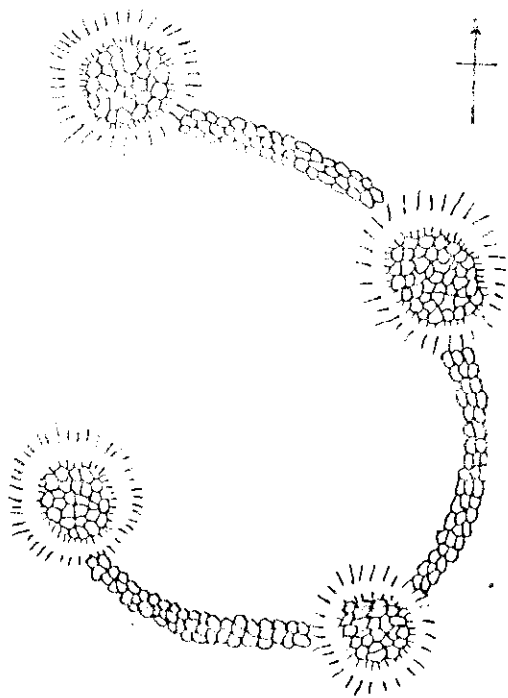


FIG. 23. - Hut Ruins, Dalhalvaig (No. 224).

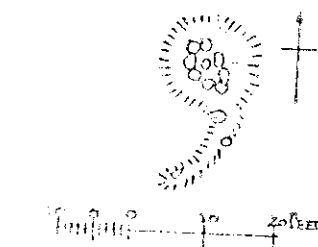


FIG. 24. - Hut Ruin, Dalhalvaig (No. 224).

