

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H	N	C	8	6	N	E	0	0	2
2 NGR	N	C	8	5	6	6	6	2	6	CE
3 QUAL										

4 DISTRICT	SUTHERLAND	5 PARISH	FARR	6 SITE NAME	A N D U N
7 AREA STATUS	SSSI	8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE	OS NC 86 NE 2	12 FORM	STANDING STRUCTURE	13 DIMENSIONS	13.0m x 9.5m INT.
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION	INCOMPLETE	10 GENERIC TYPE	DUN
20 LAND USE	ROUGH PASTURE	21 GEOLOGY		14 PERIOD/DATE	IA
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION		15 DATING METHOD	TIP
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF	ROCKY PROMONTORY	16 SHAPE	OVAL
		26 ASPECT	360°	19 THREAT AND DATE	
		27 ALTITUDE	38=46m OD		

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1964 : 6" MAP
2. RCAHMS: 1911 :SUTHERLAND INVENTORY:HMSO: p63 no192
3. MERCER R.J.: 1981 :FIELD SURVEY IN NORTHERN SCOTLAND:E.U.P.: vol 2 :p75 + no233
4. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1906 : 25" MAP

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
HAR 14.6.1985	HAR: 18.6.1985

52 TEXT

"Promontory fort, 60.0m x 32.0m. Subcircular structure c.30.0m in diameter at end of promontory defined by bank and stone. Outward wall faced on W. side. Orthostats inside. Earthworks to S. cutting off promontory." (3) no233

"See attached photocopies for text."

(NC 8566 6626) An Dun (NR)

(1)

An Dun: On a slight promontory some 200 ft above the sea are the indefinite foundations of a fort or castle. A parapet, some 6 ft thick, has been built round the edge of the cliff, and about 15 ft back from it, at the centre of the curve, are the foundations of a structure measuring internally about 20 ft by 8 ft. The purpose of this structure is unknown.

(2)

An Dun, the fragmentary remains of a dun, roughly oval on plan, measuring about 13.0 m NW-SE by 9.5 m transversely within a wall some 3.0 m thick reduced to a low stony scarp. The base course of the inner face is visible intermittently in the N and W, and traces of the outer face, with one fragment surviving to a height of 4 courses and 0.6 m, are visible in the SW. The entrance is not evident. The remains of a presumably later subrectangular structure occur inside the dun. Marked by a slight stony bank with six upright stones, tallest 0.9 m along its sides, it measures about 7.5 m E-W by 5.0m transversely.

Outside the dun in the SE is an outwork in the form of a denuded rampart 0.6 m high and spread to 3.5 m.

About 15 m SW of the dun on a shelf at a lower level are traces of stone-walled structures of uncertain plan and date.

(OSFI: AA :8.11.1972)

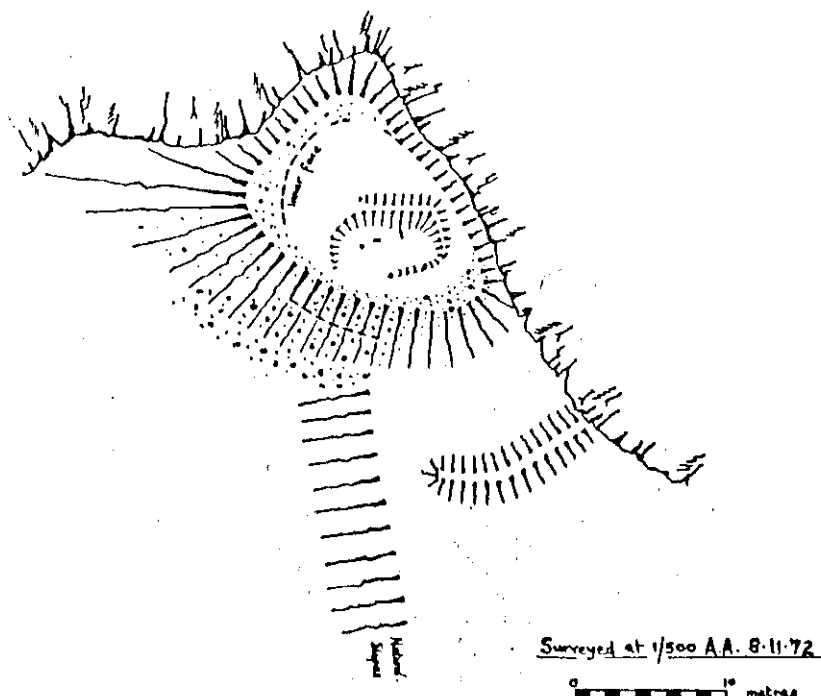
Surveyed at 1:2500. Enlargement at 1:500.

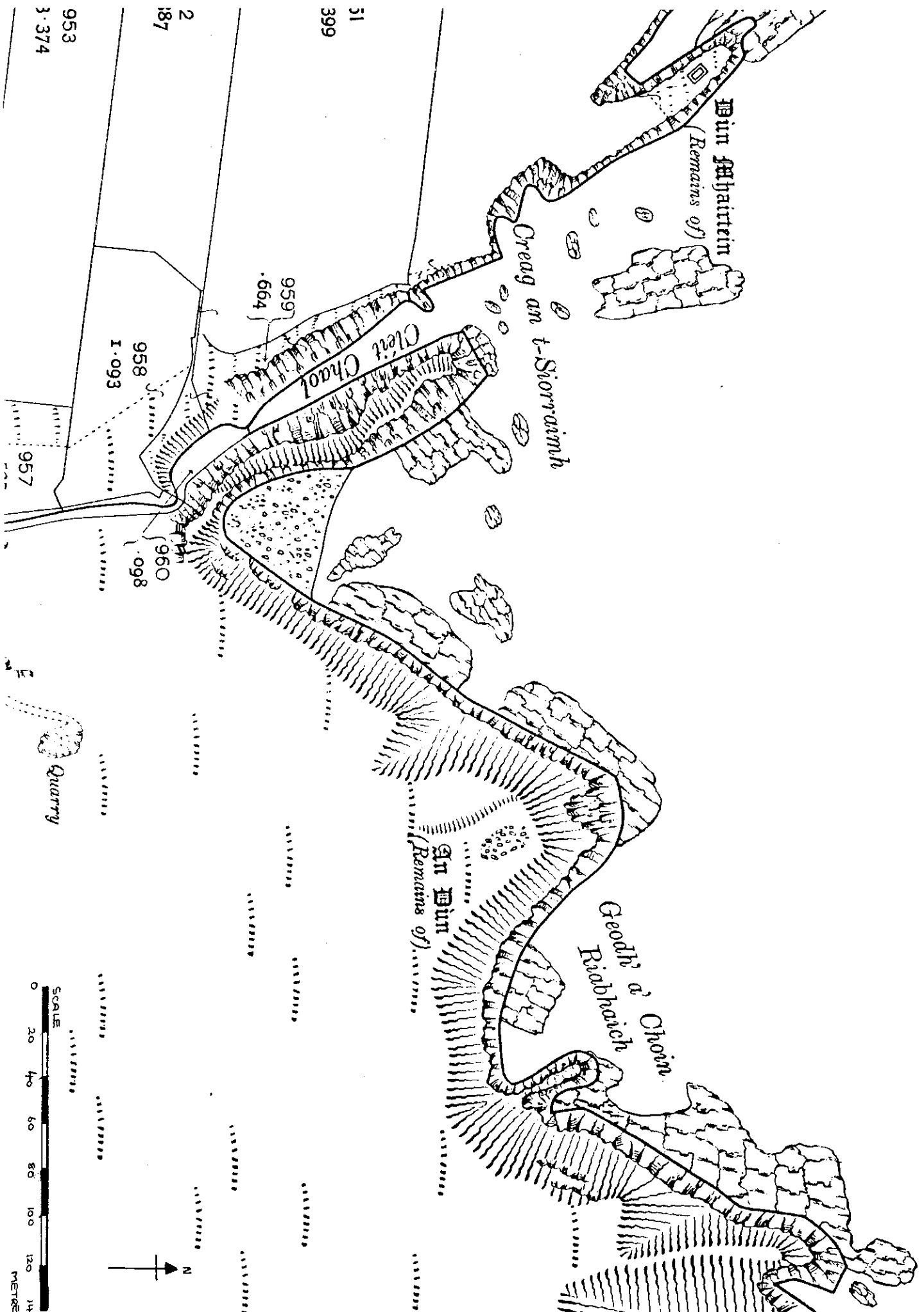
No change to the previous field reports.
Published survey (1:2500) correct.

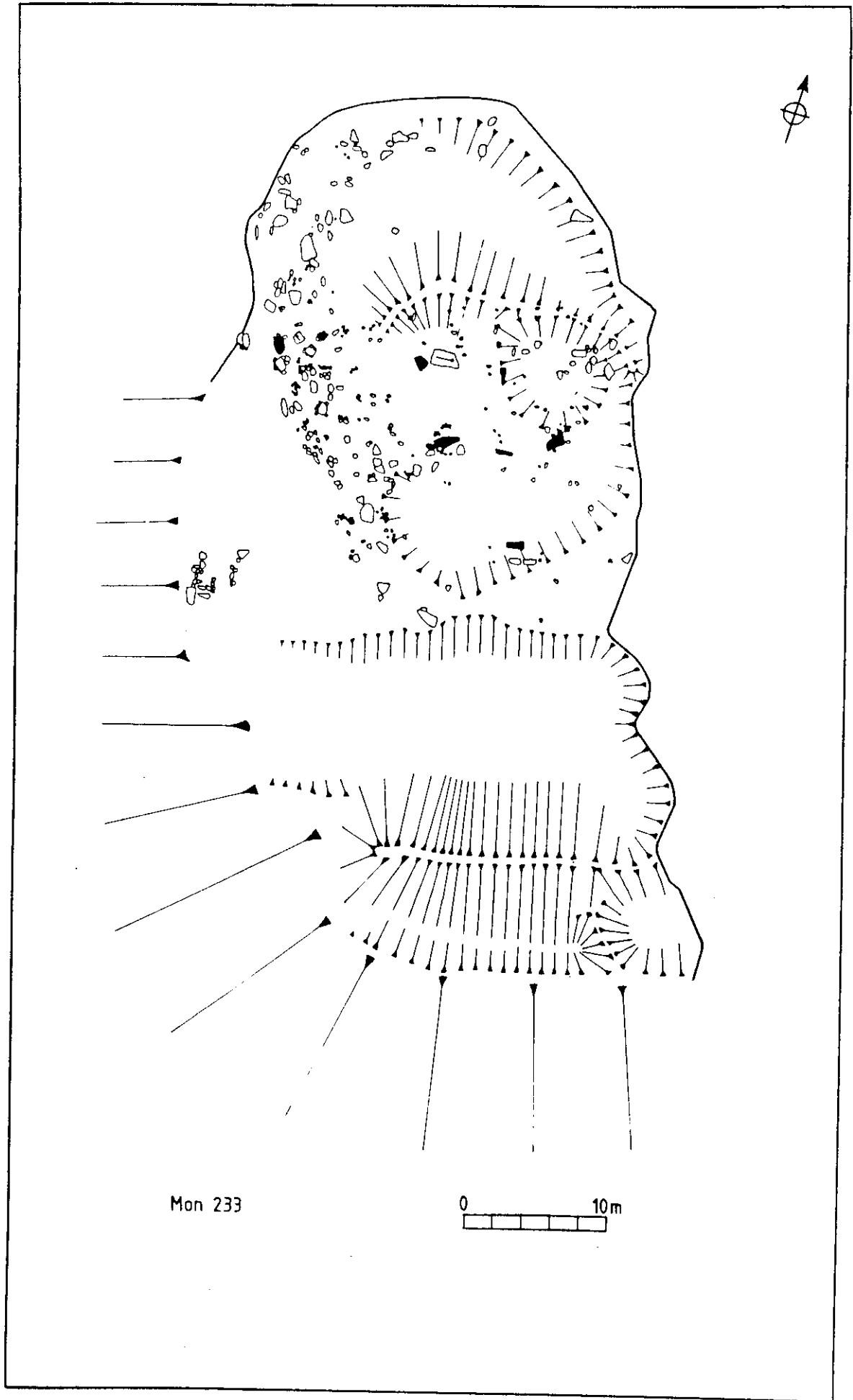
(OSFI: JM :7.7.1977)

A cliff-castle.

(3)







Mon 233

0 10m

Mon. No. 233 (Fig. 29) 'An Dun' (not included by Lamb) may represent a similar site type with a massive defensive rampart structure - sadly, however, entrance details are no longer available. Curle (RCAHMS 1911a) remarks that "A parapet some 6' in thickness has been built round the edge of the cliff; and about 15' back from it, at the centre of the curve, are the foundations of a structure measuring interiorly about 20' x 8'." The O.S. sketch plan of 1972 (O.S. Card NC 86 NE 2) notes the apparent rectangularity of the structure but also notes an inner face to the 'parapet' of Curle, noting that the outer face has disappeared. The enclosure of the remnant 'parapet' if reconstructed as circular would form a structure some 15m in internal diameter with a wall thickness of 2m described by Curle. Such a wall thickness would seem somewhat diminutive for this structure to have been a ruined broch but the possibility exists. The later(?) rectangular(?) structure, if such it be, set within the wrecked 'parapet' may possibly relate to the kind of tower-keep to which reference has already been made. The site is very badly ruined (and there is also the distinct possibility of recent disturbance as the marked depression in the NE corner of the subrectangular structure is not noted either by the O.S. (1972) or by Curle (1909)) so such suggestions must remain most tentative but the possibilities of a complex sequence of events may be present here.