

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

# FIELD MONUMENTS



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H N C 9 2 S W 0 1 8
2 NGR	N C 9 0 9 9 2 0 7 3 C E
3 QUAL	
6 SITE NAME	K I L D O N A N C H U R C H
10 GENERIC TYPE	CHURCH + GRAVEYARD.
14 PERIOD/DATE	EM=MO
15 DATING METHOD	DOC
18 SHAPE	
19 THREAT AND DATE	

4 DISTRICT	SUTHERLAND	5 PARISH	KILDONAN
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS	SCHEDULED + LISTED 'B'
9 REGIONAL STATUS		12 FORM	STANDING STRUCTURE
11 CONCORDANCE	os NC 92 SW 18	13 DIMENSIONS	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS	CHURCH BUILT 1786 ON SITE OF EM AND 13th CENT CHURCH.		17 CONDITION
20 LAND USE	ENCLOSED PASTURE		21 GEOLOGY
22 SOILS			23 VEGETATION
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE			25 RELIEF
	VALLEY FLOOR		26 ASPECT
			SW=S=SE
			27 ALTITUDE
			38=40m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. :1855:ORIGINES PAROCHIALES SCOTIAE: :2pt2:p737.
2. :1903-6:TRANS SCOT ECCLES SOC::p260-1
3. SAGE D.:1889:MEMORABILIA DOMESTICA: :75.
4. :1794:OLD STATISTICAL ACCOUNT: :3:405.
5. MACFARLANE W.:1906:MACFARLANE'S GEOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIONS:SCOTTISH HISTORY SOC.:3:p104
6. WATSON W.J.:1926:CELTIC PLACE NAMES OF SCOTLAND: :338.
7. MACDONALD A.D.S.+ LAING L.R.:1973 :PROC SOC ANT SCOT.: :VOL 102:p134-35. CONT.

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
	07.9.7.1985	65.17.7.1985

52 TEXT

29. 8. S.D.D.(AM):1983:LIST OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS.  
 9. BSAHI LIST:1984:SUTHERLAND.

" See attached photo copy for text."

"NC 909 207 Kildonan Church Graveyard, Enclosure." (8)  
 "Kildonan Church, graveyard, Enclosure." (9)

(NC 9099 2073) St Donnan's Church, the church of Kildonan parish to which it gives name, dates from about 1786, but stands on the site of its Early Christian and medieval predecessors.

Name, dedication and tradition are all that remain of the original church, founded by St Donnan who died in 617. A large hollow stone, known as Donnan's Chair or Seat, stood half-way between Kildonan and Helmsdale HNC 91 SW 032 His fair was held at Kildonan until the 17th century.

The medieval church consisted, in the middle of the 13th c. of nave and chancel with a small mortuary chapel of the Clan Gunn at the west end. This church was demolished when the present church was built, some of the material being incorporated in the latter.

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)  
(OSFI:WDJ:2.6.1961).

The church is still in use.

Within the older half of the present graveyard are distinct traces of an earlier irregularly-shaped enclosure, having church in NE corner. It is visible on the north and west as a well-defined raised ledge about 1ft high and on the east and SE as a slope, quite pronounced in the SE corner. The south side is lost under a modern wall and the SW corner is vague with what appears to be a subsidiary ridge running off to the south. A raised area at the east end of the church suggests earlier occupation.

(7).

The formerly cross-marked boulder HNC 92 SW 022 is said to have been a sanctuary cross of this church and the carved "Abbot's Head" HNC 92 SW 019, Tigh-an-Abb HNC 92 SW 023 and the cross-marked 'Clach na h-Uaighe' HNC 92 SW 00 also presumably have some connection with the church.

The environs of the church bear the traces of the enclosure planned by MacDonald & Laing, but the noted raised area should read at West, not East, end of church. The church is still in use.

(OSFI:JM:8.2.1977).

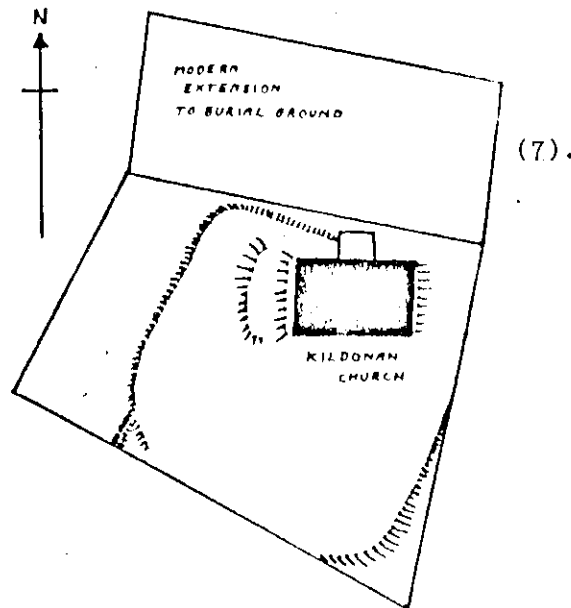


FIG 1 Kildonan Church, Sutherland no. 3