

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# ARTEFACTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

4 DISTRICT <b>CAITHNESS</b>		5 PARISH <b>REAY</b>		1 SITE CODE <b>H N C 9 6 S E 0 0 5 B</b>	
8 CONCORDANCE osNC 96 SE 5 NMR		9 MUSEUM/LOCATION OF FIND(S) <b>HUNTERIAN MUSEUM</b>		10 ACCESSION NO.	
13 FIND CIRCUMSTANCES <b>EXCAVATION INSIDE BROCH HNC 96 SE 005A</b>		14 CONDITION <b>INCOMPLETE</b>		6 SITE NAME <b>A C H V A R A S D A L / H O U S E</b>	
17 LAND USE <b>WOODLAND</b>		18 GEOLOGY		7 GENERIC TYPE <b>QUERN, ROTARY.</b>	
19 SOILS		20 VEGETATION		11 PERIOD/DATE <b>IA</b>	
21 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		22 RELIEF <b>LOW KNOLL</b>		12 DATING METHOD <b>TYP</b>	
25 DETAILED DESCRIPTION/DIMENSIONS		23 ASPECT <b>360°</b>		15 EXCAVATOR AND DATE	
26 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)		24 ALTITUDE <b>38=46m OD</b>		16 EXCAVATION RECORD NO.	
27 GROUND PLAN NO.		28 GROUND PHOTO NO.		29 SLIDES NO.	
30 HR. AP. NO.		31 NMR. AP. NO.		32 OTHER AP. NO.: SOURCE	
33 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION		34 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY		35 SAMPLES	
36 PALYNOLOGY		37 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.		38 OTHER	
39 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER				40 ATTITUDE OF OWNER	
41 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT				42 ATTITUDE OF TENANT	
43 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS					
44 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE				45 RECORDER: DATE <b>GS: 22.7.1985</b>	
				46 CHECK: DATE <b>GS: 31.7.1985</b>	

47 TEXT  
"See over card for text."

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# FIELD MONUMENTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
2 NGR		H N C		9 6 S E		0 0 5 A		3 QUAL	
N C		9 8 3 4		6 4 6 9		C E			

4 DISTRICT <b>CAITHNESS</b>		5 PARISH <b>REAY</b>	
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS <b>SCHEDULED</b>	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE <b>OSNC 96 SE 5</b>	12 FORM <b>STANDING STRUCTURE</b>	13 DIMENSIONS <b>10.0m INT.DIAM.</b>	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION <b>INCOMPLETE</b>	

6 SITE NAME <b>A C H V A R A S D A L / H O U S E</b>	
10 GENERIC TYPE <b>BROCH.</b>	
14 PERIOD/DATE <b>IA</b>	15 DATING METHOD <b>TYP</b>
18 SHAPE <b>CIRCULAR</b>	
19 THREAT AND DATE	

20 LAND USE <b>WOODLAND</b>		21 GEOLOGY	
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF <b>LOW KNOLL</b>	26 ASPECT <b>360°</b>
		27 ALTITUDE <b>38=46m OD</b>	

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1907: 6" MAP.
2. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: p 95 No 353.
3. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1873: OBJECT NAME BOOK: 9: 62.
4. MACKIE E.W.: 1975: SCOTLAND - AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL GUIDE: : p230.
5. MACKIE E.W.: 1971-2: PROC SOC ANT SCOT.: VOL 104: p140.
6. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1963: 6" MAP.
7. S.D.D. (AM): 1983: LIST OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS. (over).

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
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46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT	47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT
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48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS

49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE	50 RECORDER: DATE <b>GS: 22.7.1985</b>	51 CHECK: DATE <b>GS: 31.7.1985</b>
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52 TEXT  
"See over card for text."

(NC 9834 6469) Brough (NR)

Human Remains and Querns found (NAT)

(1).

This broch, with its entrance-passage in the ESE, has been excavated without exposing the exterior wall. The interior is 33 ft in diameter with walls 13 ft thick and 5 ft 3 ins high. From the inner end of the passage, to the right, at 19½ ft, measured direct, is a partly reconstructed stair chamber. There is evidence of a guard chamber in the passage. There are indications of considerable but unexcavated outbuildings.

A rotary quern and a large bottomless mortar lie in the interior of the broch. Two narrow rectangular sharpening stones are preserved at Achvarasdal Lodge.

(2).

Bones, two or three human skulls and several knocking stones were found about 1870 in the interior. Set in a large grassy mound are the remains of a broch with the interior wall standing 1.7 m high. Measuring 10.0 m across the internal diameter, it has a chamber in the NE segment and an entrance 0.9 m wide in the SE, where the width of the broch wall can be seen as 4.1 m. No outer works could be traced. A fragment of a small quern stone still lies beside the flag staff in the centre. The two sharpening stones formerly at Achvarasdal Lodge have been lost.

(3).

Published survey (1:2500) revised.

(OSFI:RD:13.11.1964).

A solid-based broch with a checked entrance in the ESE, with signs of a blocked-up guard-cell door behind the right check. There is an interior door, probably to the mural stair in the E, and there are also traces of outbuildings. A rotary quern which lay inside the broch is now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

(4)(5).

(NC 9834 6469) Broch (NR)

(6).

A broch, as described by the previous authorities. No outbuilding remains can be identified in the dense scrub and grass prevailing around the site.

(OSFI:JM:19.8.1981).

Broch. Diameter: 40m external, 10.10m internal. Height: 2.30m. Circular grass-covered mound with an entrance passageway to the SE. Passage is 4m long and 0.75m wide for most of its length, widening to 3m before reaching the central depression. There is one orthostat 1.20m high visible in the passageway. To the N is a chamber 2m x 1.50m with a passage 1m long and 0.50m wide, which is set 0.20m higher than the rest of the broch base. Within the central chamber the coursing varies between 0.50m and 1.50m high. The site is much restored and was not considered worthy of planning in detail. Elevation: 125' OD.

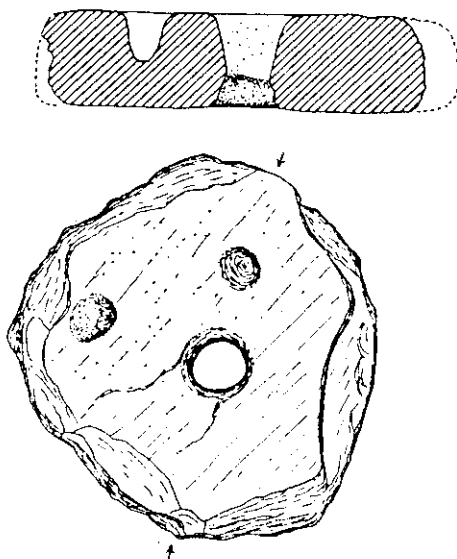
NC 983647.

O.S. Card NC 96 SE 5.

(2)

This Caithness broch has been excavated, probably at some time in the nineteenth century, but no records of this work are known to me and no account of the finds which must have been made is available. A quern lay inside the broch and is now in the Hunterian Museum: it is of Cambrian quartzite, the nearest outcrop of which is at Loch Eriboll, 30 miles to the W. It is difficult to date the stone precisely since it is more than probable that the broch was used, in common with many others in Caithness, as a domestic dwelling after it had ceased to be needed as a fort and this secondary phase of use may have continued for several centuries. A date at any time between the first and the fourth or fifth centuries AD is equally likely.

The edges of the quern are somewhat battered but the original diameter has probably been about 44.5 cm and the thickness is 10 cm; both the grinding and the upper surfaces are quite flat. The hopper is a simple hole, slightly narrower half way down. There is a deep, cylindrical hole for a loose handle in the top surface and another depression nearby which looks like the beginnings of a second one



(SCALE: (1:10).

(5) MACKIE E.W.:PSAS:1971-2.