

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# FIELD MONUMENTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE		H N D 0 3 N E 0 0 2	
2 NGR	N D 0 8 3 3 6 7		3 QUAL C E
4 DISTRICT CAITHNESS		5 PARISH LATHERON	
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS SCHEDULED AMEND 17.5.83	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE OS ND 03 NE 2 NMR	12 FORM STANDING STRUCTURES	13 DIMENSIONS	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION INCOMPLETE	10 GENERIC TYPE WAG MOR
20 LAND USE ROUGH PASTURE		21 GEOLOGY	
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF GENTLE VALLEY SIDE	26 ASPECT SW
		27 ALTITUDE 160 = 175m OD	
28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)			
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)			
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1962: 6" MAP. 2. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: : p 70, No. 256. 3. HBM(SS): 1985: LIST OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS			
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 AM: 17.6.1985	51 CHECK: DATE HAR: 17.6.1985
52 TEXT			

See attached photocopies for text.

ND 083 367 Wag Mor, homestead, 4km NNW of Achnaclyth (3)

On the E side of the Raffin Burn, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles above its junction with the Dunbeath Water, and on a grassy slope beside a sheep stail, are the ruins of two or three galleried structures. The place is known as 'Wag Mor'. The structures are much ruined and their plans indistinct. That best preserved appears to have been an oblong building measuring some 47 ft in length internally; divided by a cross wall at 20 ft from the inner end. Its width seems to have been about 6 ft at the entrance at the outer end, and to have expanded to 8 or 9 ft at the opposite extremity. The walls have been built of large flat slabs and the structures have been of the galleried type.

The remains of two 'wags'. That at ND 0825 3680 now appears as an oval-shaped, mutilated area measuring 24.0 m N-S by 17.0 m transversely, practically cleared except in the SE where there is a considerable quantity of stone. There are several orthostats in position, and the remains of an outer wall can be seen. One or two roofing slabs, not in situ, can also be seen.

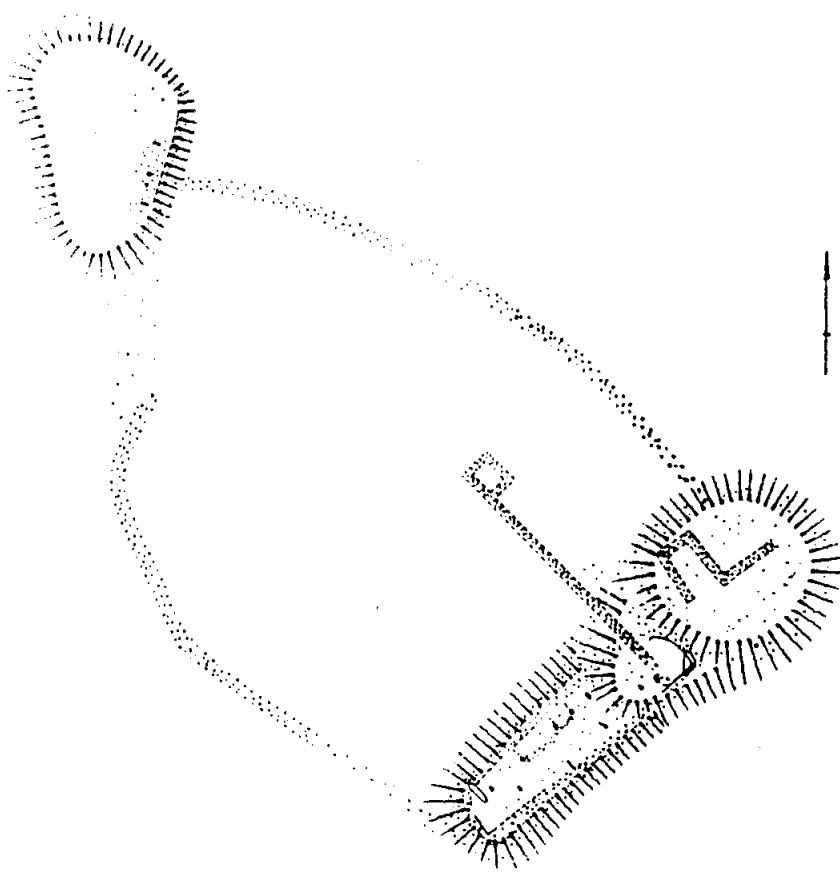
The other, at ND 0830 3677, appears as a large mutilated earth and stone mound 1.4 m high at the NE end. It measures 44.0 m NE-SW, being 11.0 m wide at the S end widening to 20.0 m at the N end. At the S end of the mound are the remains of an oblong building formed by a stone wall 1.0 m wide. It is 11.0 m long and 5.0 m broad. At the N end of the mound are the remains of several rectangular buildings, one near the centre of the mound and extending right across it, is 15.0 m long and 2.5 m broad, and is built into the mound on its N side, giving the wall a height of 0.7 m. The NE corner of this building is covered by a large slab. The other buildings are formed by stone walls and abut each other.

On a gentle N-facing slope at 350 ft O D is a settlement complex comprising two separate mounds, each of which contains at least one galleried structure.

At 'A' (ND 0825 3680) numerous large stones protrude through the turf capping; some are loose, others are earthfast and upright. These form no identifiable pattern except along the E side, where a discontinuous line of boulders defines an inner face some 8.4 m long. At a distance of about 1.0 m from the face, is a line of four orthostats, up to 0.9 m high, which appear to be more or less in situ; the S orthostat has its lintel lying displaced against it. This is probably the remains of the E side of a rectangular 'wag' of unknown size, though the shape of the mound suggests one or more buried structures.

On 'B' (ND 0830 3676), a rectangular 'wag' 22.0 m long and about 4.2 m wide internally occupies the lower SW end of the mound. The oversailing inner face survives to a height of 1.0 m in the NE; elsewhere it is reduced to a single course of stones or obscured by tumble. At least ten orthostats can be identified up to a height of 0.8 m. The position of the entrance cannot now be determined. A later wall, probably early-modern, encroaches upon the NE part of the wag; other rectilinear features surmount the highest point on the mound, effectively obscuring details of an earlier structure of unknown shape and size which must have existed here.

Low, boulder-faced walls extend between mounds A and B, forming an enclosure. They are sunk into the peat and are of somewhat random construction; as such they are more likely to be contemporary with the 'wags' than with the early-modern phase. See 1:500 enlargement. Published survey (1:10,000) revised.



NKB 5-8-82