

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H	N	D	2	4	N	E	0	0	3
2 NGR	N	D	2	5	7	2	4	5	4	1
3 QUAL	CE									
6 SITE NAME	LOWER CAMSTER									
10 GENERIC TYPE	SETTLEMENT									
14 PERIOD/DATE	BA = IA					15 DATING METHOD				
						TYP				
18 SHAPE	-									
19 THREAT AND DATE										

4 DISTRICT	CAITHNESS	5 PARISH	WICK
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS	
9 REGIONAL STATUS			
11 CONCORDANCE	12 FORM	13 DIMENSIONS	
OS ND 24 NE 3	STANDING STRUCTURES	-	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS	17 CONDITION		
THREE HUT CIRCLES	INCOMPLETE		

20 LAND USE	HEATH	21 GEOLOGY	
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	25 RELIEF	26 ASPECT	27 ALTITUDE
	SPUR ON GENTLE HILLSLOPE	SW	100 = 110m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)			
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)	1. RCAHMS:1911:CAITHNESS INVENTORY:HMSO:p168,No.536 2. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1975:1/10 000 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
	PB:11.3.1986	18 24 3 1986

52 TEXT

"Three hut circles : 'A': ND 2572 4541
 'B' : ND 2573 4546
 'C' : ND 2575 4545."
 "See continuation card for text."

(2)

(Area: ND 257 454) A group of hut circles lies on the W side of the road about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile SE of Camster (ND 252 455). They lie on the end of a grassy spur which projects into the flat land by the burn.

Near the end of the spur is a circle with an interior diameter of about 16 ft, enclosed by a bank some 9 to 10 ft thick and having an entrance from the SE. Some 20 ft SW of it are the indefinite remains of another, oval or oblong in shape, measuring interiorly some 10 by 16 ft. The entrance, in the SW, appears to be very wide; the outline is, however, very indistinct.

About 100 ft NE of the first is another small circle, with a diameter of some 10 ft, having an entrance from the SE. Its bank is much worn down. (1)

Some 20 ft to the SE is another, oval in form, measuring interiorly some 14 by 24 ft. The entrance has been from the W, and the bank on either side of it is carried down the hill in front for a distance of some 22 ft with an intervening space of some 11 ft.

These features occur on a heather-covered spur and are difficult to interpret because of a blanket of peat. The structure 'A' first described by the RCAHM is undoubtedly a circular, stone-walled hut measuring about 8.0 m in diameter between the centres of a wall spread to about 2.5 m which is rather amorphous in the E arc. The ill-defined entrance is in the ESE.

The structure '20 ft to the SW' is no longer recognisable, appearing only as slightly disturbed ground.

The structure '100 ft to the NE' ('B') is scarcely visible but appears to be circular and about 6.5 m in diameter between the centres of its enclosing bank.

'C', the structure 'about 20 ft to the SE' of 'B' caps a slight rise and is visible as a level area surrounded by an oval bank measuring 8.5 m E-W by 6.0 m transversely between its centres. It appears to be open to the W where it continues down the slope for another 7.5 m with a constricted width of 4.5 m. Its classification is uncertain but it is in the same state of preservation as hut 'A' and may be a contemporary building. (OSFI:ISS:12.4.1972)
Surveyed at 1:10,000.

Despite the doubts expressed by F1, this would appear to be a settlement of three hut circles (A-C), ill-preserved and heather-obscured, with 'C' a hut of the 'key-hole' variety. Each is as described in the previous field report.

Published survey 1:10,000 to be revised.

(OSFI:JM:8.12.1982)