

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

FIELD MONUMENTS



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE		H N D 2 7 S W 0 0 4	
2 NGR	N D 2 4 9 2 7 3 7 1		3 QUAL CE
6 SITE NAME THE CAIRNS PARK			
10 GENERIC TYPE BURIAL CAIRN, LONG, CHAMBERED (ALLEGED BOAT BURIAL)			
14 PERIOD/DATE NE = BA		15 DATING METHOD TYP	
18 SHAPE OVAL			
19 THREAT AND DATE			

4 DISTRICT CAITHNESS		5 PARISH DUNNET	
7 AREA STATUS SSSI	8 SITE STATUS	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE OS ND 27 SW 4 NMR	12 FORM STANDING STRUCTURE	13 DIMENSIONS 18.0m x 13.0m	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS IN AN AREA OF RIG AND FURROW		17 CONDITION INCOMPLETE	

20 LAND USE ENCLOSED LAND	21 GEOLOGY
22 SOILS	23 VEGETATION
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	25 RELIEF MODERATE HILLSLOPE
26 ASPECT N	27 ALTITUDE 10 = 15m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)
NICOLSON, J: : PARTIAL

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1873: 6" MAP
2. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1873: OBJECT NAME BOOK: 3: pp51-52
3. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: p26, Nos. 73 & 75
4. BATEY, C: 1980: CAITHNESS COASTAL SURVEY: DURHAM U.P.: No. 15
5. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1976: 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 HAR: 7.4.1986	51 CHECK: DATE PB: 16.6.1986
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52 TEXT
"See continuation card for text."

"ND 2492 7371: Tumuli."(1)

"Two of three mounds (the others being HND27SE8 & HND27SW027) shaped like inverted boats and lying in a field called 'the Cairns Park'. The mounds are about 4ft(1.21m) or 5ft(1.52m) in height with large stones on edge and large slabs lying flat and exposed where soil has been removed. Mr Campbell sent a description of them to the society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Mr Anderson (presumably Joseph), one of the members, at a meeting of the Society pronounced them to be Norse boat burials, probably dating from Earl Thorfinn's sea-battle of 1046, off the Caithness coast.(R Campbell, schoolmaster Dunnet)."(2)

"An oval grassy mound lying NE-SW and measuring 45ft(13.83m) by 30ft(9.27m) and 5ft(1.52m) high, which was partially opened by John Nicolson, Nybster, who found 'a passage 4ft(1.21m) deep by 2ft(0.61m) wide, extending along it from the SW end, faced with slabs set on end and covered by flat stones for lintels'. In the passage were a stone pounder, two split bones and a quantity of shells of edible molluscs."(3)

"The cairn is as described by the RCAHM. Four thin slabs are now scattered over the mound, but otherwise it is featureless, with no evidence of the passage surviving."(OSFI:RD:1.3.1965)

"A grass-covered cairn, about 15.0m by 10.0m by 1.6m high, the core of which is exposed in a ploughed field, and stones are scattered throughout the area."(4)

"A: ND 2494 7371. Cairn."(5)

"A cairn turf-covered, on a slight NE-facing field slope within an area of rig-and-furrow. It measures 18.0m WSW-ENE by 13.0m transversely and 1.5m high. Random slabs lie on the surface and packed, fragmented slab is visible in the disturbed centre. The SE side may have been truncated by rig-and-furrow cultivation."(OSFI:JM:24.4.1982)