

1. HENSHALL, A.S.

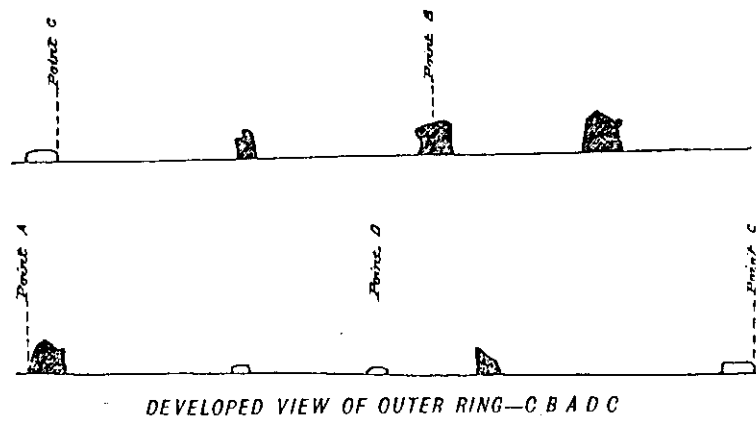
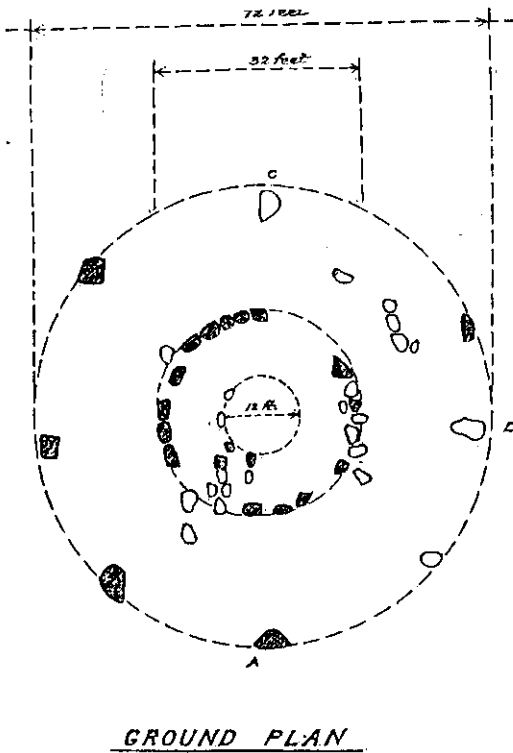
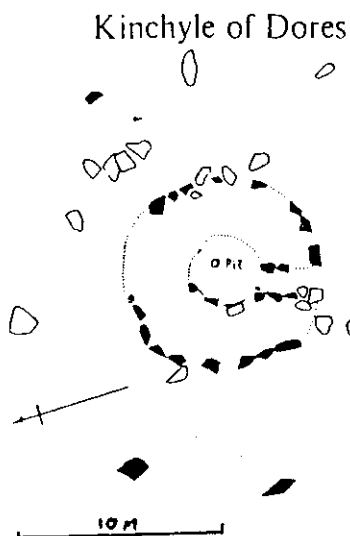


Fig. 23. Circle No. 27, at Kinchyle of Dores, near Scaniport, Inverness.

37 KINCHYLE OF DORES
(Clava passage-grave)
In the parish of DORES
Location at the foot of LOCH NESS
4½ m. SW of INVERNESS
Map reference NH/621388

Sheet XIX NE; NH 63 NW
References
P. S. A. S. LXXXVIII (1954-56) 185¹;
ibid. LXXXIX (1955-56) 83-90²;
ibid. XVIII (1883-84) 356-57;
ibid. XVI (1881-82) 491-92;
ARCH. SCOT. III (1831) 212-13³
Plan after PIGGOTT¹ (fig. 97)
Excavation PIGGOTT 1952¹
Visited 11.4.57

Description. The site lies on a small hill-crest at about 200ft. OD, beside a field in what is now rough ground, but which last century was wooded. The cairn material has been totally removed, but most of the kerb, which has a diameter of 30ft., remains, now consisting of nineteen upright and fallen stones, placed with their flattest faces outwards. The stones nearest the entrance are 3ft. and 3ft. 6in. high, the smallest stones occurring on the E side where they are 1ft. 6in. or 1ft. 9in. high. The entrance is just to the W of S. Three stones of the W side of the passage and two of the E side remain, the inner stones, 2ft. and 1ft. 3in. high, being slightly taller than the others.

Two stones of the chamber remain *in situ* on the NW side, and between them and the entrance is another which has fallen outwards.

The outer circle of monoliths, with a diameter of 66ft., is placed 16 to 18ft. outside the kerb. It retains five of its stones upright and three more have fallen over their former positions. The highest stone, 5ft. 9in. tall, is to the SW of the entrance, the others (clockwise) being 4ft. 6in., 4ft. 3in., 3ft. 9in. and 4ft. 3in. high. All the stones used in the construction are irregular rounded boulders. When seen in about 1824 there were nine stones in the outer circle, but otherwise the site seems to have been in the same condition as at present.³ It was visited by Johnson and Boswell during their Highland Tour (August 30th, 1773) and was even then described as a double circle, one of very big, the other of smaller, stones.

When the area of the original chamber was examined the old surface was only 1ft. below the present turf. 'A small bowl-shaped pit was found cut into the boulder clay, 18in. in diameter and 10in. deep, filled with dark soil, and near this to the SW was a scatter of cremated bones with dark earth on the old surface and under a few flattish stones. No other finds were made.'¹

Finds

Skeletal. Cremated remains of a single individual.²

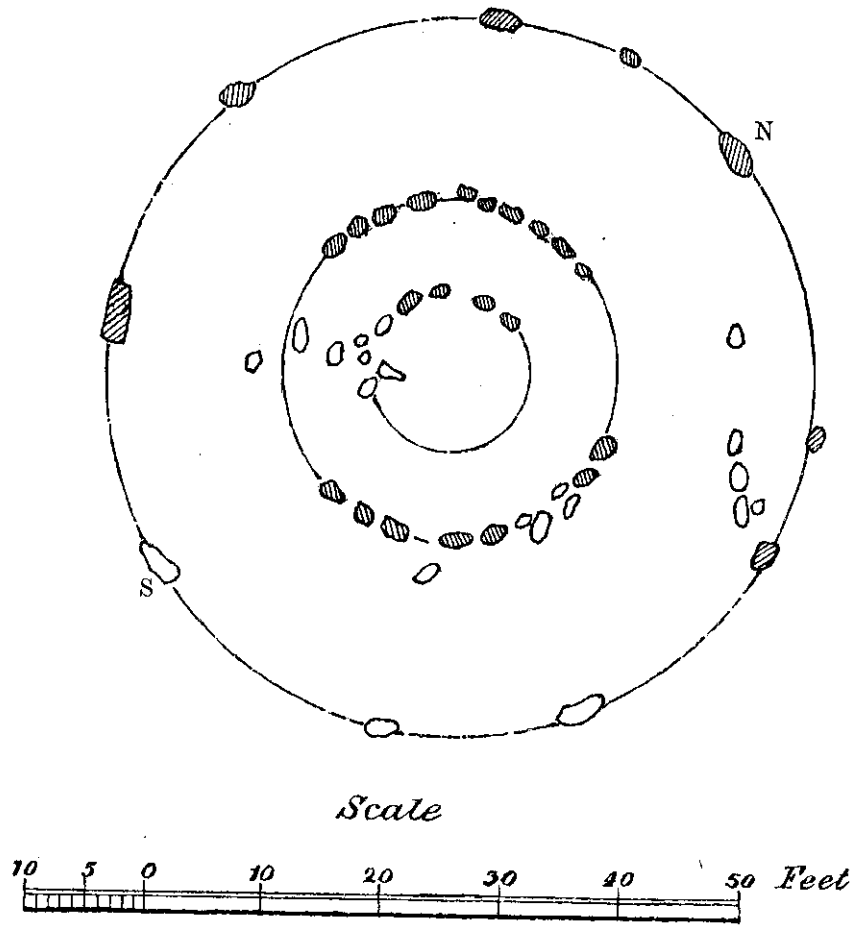


Fig. 9. Plan of Stone Circle at Scaniport, Inverness.

The diameter of the outer circle is 60 feet, of the second 30 feet, and of the inner circle 14 feet. The stones in the outer circle vary from 6 feet to about 3 feet in height.

5. The plan of a stone circle, still existing, in a wood near Scaniport, about 5 miles from Inverness, towards Loch Ness.