

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# FIELD MONUMENTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
2 NGR		H N H 6 6		S E 0 0		4		3 QUAL	
N H 6 6 1 5 6 2 8 1 C E									
6 SITE NAME									
E A S T E R B R A E									
10 GENERIC TYPE									
B U R I A L C A I R N , L O N G , C H A M B E R E D ( O C H )									
14 PERIOD/DATE					15 DATING METHOD				
N E					T Y P				
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS									
C A I R N O R I E N T E D E N E - W S W					17 CONDITION				
					I N C O M P L E T E ( S E V E R E L Y R O B B E D & M U T I L A T E D )				
18 SHAPE									
S U B - R E C T A N G U L A R									
19 THREAT AND DATE									

4 DISTRICT		ROSS & CROMARTY		5 PARISH		RESOLIS			
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS					
		SCHEDULED							
11 CONCORDANCE		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS					
OSNH 66 SE 4		STANDING STRUCTURE		70.5m x 12.3m					
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION							
CAIRN ORIENTED ENE - WSW		INCOMPLETE (SEVERELY ROBBED & MUTILATED)							
20 LAND USE				21 GEOLOGY					
ENCLOSED LAND									
22 SOILS				23 VEGETATION					
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE			25 RELIEF			26 ASPECT		27 ALTITUDE	
			HILL TERRACE			NW		145 = 150m O.D.	

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1959: 6" MAP
2. HENSHALL, A.: 1963: CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND: EDINBURGH U.P.: p352 + plan
3. CHILDE, PROF. V.G.: 1944 PROC. SOC. ANT. SCOT: VOL. 78: p34
4. WOODHAM, A.A.: 1956: PROC. SOC. ANT. SCOT: VOL. 88: p88
5. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1981: 1/10,000 MAP
6. HBM (SDD): 1985: 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

46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT

47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT

48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS

49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE

50 RECORDER: DATE  
HSR: 13.10.1986

51 CHECK: DATE  
HSR: 30 10 1986

52 TEXT

"A whin-covered, chambered long cairn as described by Henshall. Insufficient evidence to support second chamber theory."  
 "Resurveyed at 1/2500." (OSFI:NKB:27.1.1966)  
 "See continuation card for further text."

"NH 661 628. Easter Brae, Long cairn + cairn." (6)

BOX 29. 7. SOC. ANT. SCOT.:1979:ARCH.SITES & MONS.OF THE BLACK ISLE:R.C.A.H.M.S.:p8,no9.

352

## CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND

## 31 MID BRAE

(O.-C., rectangular, long)

In the parish of

RESOLIS

Location on the northern slopes of

MOUNT EAGLE,

BLACK ISLE

Map reference

NH/661628

Sheet LXXVII; NH 66 SE

References

P.S.A.S. LXXXVIII (1954-56)

76-77, 88;

ibid. LXXVIII (1943-44) 33-34

Plan after WOODHAM,<sup>1</sup>

additions by A.S.H. and

J.C.W. (fig. 83)

Visited 9.7.56

*Description.* The cairn, at just under 450ft. OD, is placed along the edge of a terrace on the hillside which slopes down to the Cromarty Firth. The site has been very severely robbed, and is surrounded and mutilated by the foundations of old crofts. The remains appear to be those of a large cairn about 230ft. long and about 40 to 50ft. wide, orientated ENE-WSW, as is recorded on the 6in. OS map (as Woodham points out<sup>1</sup> at the time of the 1871-73 survey the remains may have been more recognisable than at the present day). The cairn is composed of large stones and its exact extent is now difficult to determine.

At the w end there is a large chamber partly exposed aligned along the main axis of the cairn. The end-stone is 3ft. 8in. high above the debris and three large slabs are visible forming the N wall, diminishing in height from the end-stone. Two transverse slabs project into the chamber from the N side, the inner being 8in. lower than the side slabs, the outer 1ft. higher than the adjacent slab. Parts of two slabs of the S wall are also visible. The inner portion, which may represent the chamber, is 13ft. 6in. long by 5ft. wide; the outer, which may represent the passage, is 6ft. long by about 5ft. wide. West of the chamber is a large displaced slab.

At the E end of the cairn there is a large flat slab which may be a lintel. A small earthfast stone can be seen immediately w of it, while some 12ft. further w a large slab protrudes well above the cairn material. These stones suggest that there may have been a chamber at this end of the cairn also.

A small cairn with a kerb lies 20ft. to the S of the w end.

450ft (137.0m)

230ft	{ 70.5m }
40ft	{ 12.3m }
50ft	{ 15.3m }

3ft 8ins (1.1m)

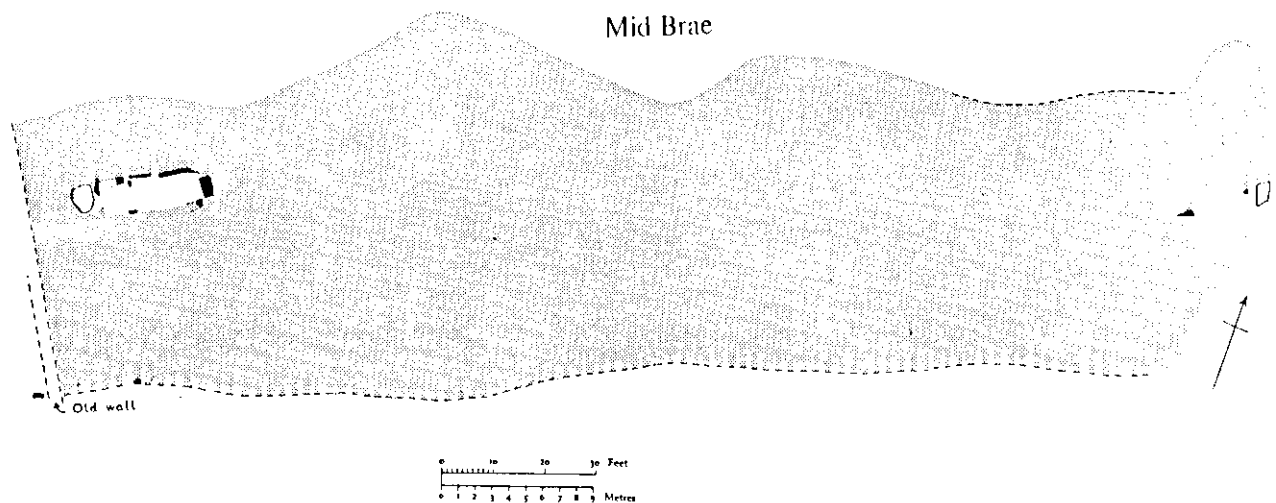
8ins	{ 203.2mm }
1ft	{ 0.3m }

13ft 6ins (4.2m)

5ft	{ 1.5m }
6ft	{ 1.8m }
5ft	{ 1.5m }

12ft (3.6m)

20ft (6.2m)

METRIC CONVERSION

Para 1.	line 1	450 ft (137.0m)		
	line 5	230 ft ( 70.5 m)	40 ft (12.3 m)	50 ft (15.3 m)
Para 2.	line 2	3 ft 8 ins (1.1 m)		
	line 5	8 ins (203.2 mm)	1 ft (0.3 m)	
	line 7	13 ft 6 ins (4.2 m)		
	line 8	5 ft (1.5 m)	6 ft (1.8 m)	
	line 9	5 ft (1.5 m)		
Para 3.	line 2	12 ft (3.6 m)		
	line 5	20 ft (6.2 m)		

At Mid Brae I (No. 30), the one exposed side of the chamber suggests that it is bipartite, the large flat slab lying at the W. end and adjacent to the W. transverse slab having been a lintel originally supported at one end by the visible transverse slab and at the other by a fellow, still buried in cairn material. Possibly the slab, which is obviously displaced and now lies partially behind the eastmost side slab, was once a transverse slab in that position in the chamber. The result would be a tripartite chamber. Excavation is needed here to clarify the position. (4)

- (15) Mid Brae (Resolis Par., Ross., lxxvii). A spur of Mt. Eagle, running N. towards Newhall Pt., forms a long and very broad ridge that slopes very gently downwards along its axis and almost more gently towards the Allt Dubhach on the east, but quite steeply towards the Cromarty Firth on the (N.)W. Overlooking the Firth on the brow of the hill just below the 450-foot contour and the crest of the ridge among the ruins of deserted crofts are the remains of a grievously denuded cairn and the headstone and four lateral slabs of a cist, extending 13 feet in a line 21 S. of W. from the headstone. Two transverse slabs on edge, 14 and 20 feet respectively from the headstone and lower than the adjacent lateral slabs, project respectively  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  feet into the supposed chamber or cist. (3)
- 450' (137m)  
 13' (4.0m)  
 14' (4.3m) 20' (6.2m)  
 1½' (0.4m) 2¾' (1.3m)