

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H	N	H	7	9	N	W	0	0	3
2 NGR	N	H	7	3	9	9	9	6	CE	
3 QUAL										
6 SITE NAME	T O R B O L L									

4 DISTRICT	SUTHERLAND		5 PARISH	DORNOCH		
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS			
		SCHEDULED				
11 CONCORDANCE	12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS			
OS NH 79 NW 3	STANDING STRUCTURES					
NMR						
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS			17 CONDITION			
FOUR (POSSIBLY SIX) HUT CIRCLES			INCOMPLETE			
20 LAND USE			21 GEOLOGY			
HEATH						
22 SOILS			23 VEGETATION			
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF		26 ASPECT		
		ROUNDED SUMMIT + GENTLE HILLSLOPES		360°		
				27 ALTITUDE		
				114m = 183m OD		

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)	
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)	
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1959: 6" MAP (PROV).	
2. RCAHMS: 1911: SUTHERLAND INVENTORY: HMSO: pp44 & 48, Nos. 125, 126, 135.	
3. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1969: 6" MAP.	
4. HBIS (S): 1983: 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	51 CHECK: DATE
	HAR: 3.6.1985	HAR: 17.6.1985

52 TEXT
 'A': NH 7378 9969, Hut Circle; 'B': NH 7393 9959, Hut Circle; 'C': NH 7387 9960, Hut Circle; 'D': NH 7378 9962, Hut Circle; 'X': NH 7347 9965, Possible Hut Circle; 'Y': NH 7410 9955, Possible Hut Circle.

"See attached photocopies for text."

"NH 738 997. Carn Liath, hut Circles & Field System 1200m WNW of Torboll." (4)



(A: NH 7378 9969) Hut Circle (NR) (3)
 (B & Y: NH 7393 9959 & NH 7410 9955) Hut Circles (NR)
 (C: NH 7387 9960) Enclosures (NR)

(A: NH 7377 9968) Hut Circle (NR)
 (Centred NH 736 998, NH 738 998 & NH 739 995) Cairns (NR) (1)
 (D: NH 737 9962) Hut Circle. (OSFI:NKB)

Centred at NH 739 996 is a settlement of three stone-walled huts (A - C) and an associated field system.

Hut 'A', (noted by the R C A H M as a circular enclosure) is the best preserved and measures 12.0m in diameter within a rubble wall, whose inner face of contiguous stones set on edge is visible for almost the whole periphery. Occasional outer facing stones can be seen, giving a wall thickness of 2.0m. A gap in the ESE marks the entrance, but no details survive. The R C A H M describe an entrance passage, 10½' long, flanked on the W by a triangular mural chamber, and on the E within the hut by a small enclosure (see fig 16) but these are no longer visible and the R C A H M may have misinterpreted tumble at this point. Field walls extend from the N and S walls of the hut. (2)

'B' (noted by the R C A H M as a circular enclosure) is c. 10.0m in diameter between the centres of a wall spread to c. 2.5m all round, with occasional outer facing stones visible. The entrance is in the NW. The R C A H M mention another narrow entrance in the SE but this is due to mutilation.

'C', described by F I in 1964 as two enclosures, is a mutilated hut, attached in the NE to a semi-circular enclosure wall open to the NE, which may be secondary and overlie the hut. The hut measures c. 16.0m in diameter between the centres of a wall spread to c. 2.5m all round. The entrance is in the SE. A clearance heap lies against the N wall which is partly destroyed. (See enlargement).

'Y' (noted by the R C A H M as a hut circle) is an excavated stone clearance heap.

'X', at NH 7347 9965, is a shallow platform c. 12.0m in diameter, set into a S-facing slope. There is no trace of walling at any point around the perimeter, but it may be a denuded hut.

The field system is defined by stone clearance heaps, which the R C A H M describe as "mounds", field walls, and lynchets forming cultivation plots, about 30.0m by 20.0m average size. (OSFI:NKB:17.11.1969)



Hut 'C': Scale 1:1250

(OSFI:NKB:17.11.1969)

(OSFI:NKB:15.10.1980)

The settlement and field system are as described by F1. A further hut circle (D) was discovered at NH 7378 9962 during field investigation. It measures about 11.0 m NW-SE by 9.5 m transversely within a heather-covered stone wall surviving to 0.3 m high and spread to 2.5 m wide. There is a simple entrance in the SE arc.

Surveyed at 1:10,000.

(2)

126. *Do.*—Some 200 yards S. of the large cairn below Craig a' Bhlairst, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. NW. of "Carn Liath," is a well-defined circular enclosure, with walls of stone about 6' thick, faced towards the interior with flat-sided boulders set contiguously. The interior diameter is 37'. The entrance is from the SE., through a passage 10' 6" long on the W. side and 7' on the E. Entering from the passage on the W. side, at about 4' from the exterior, through an opening 1' to 1' 3" wide, is a triangular chamber 10' long and 4' to 4' 6" wide. In the interior, to the E. of the entrance, is a small enclosure set off with boulders abutting on the wall, measuring interiorly 4' long by 3' wide. From the S. side of the circle an old ruined wall runs S. for a few yards, and then curves away eastwards round the flank of the hill (fig. 16).

O.S.M. SUTH. civ.

Visited, 9th July 1909.

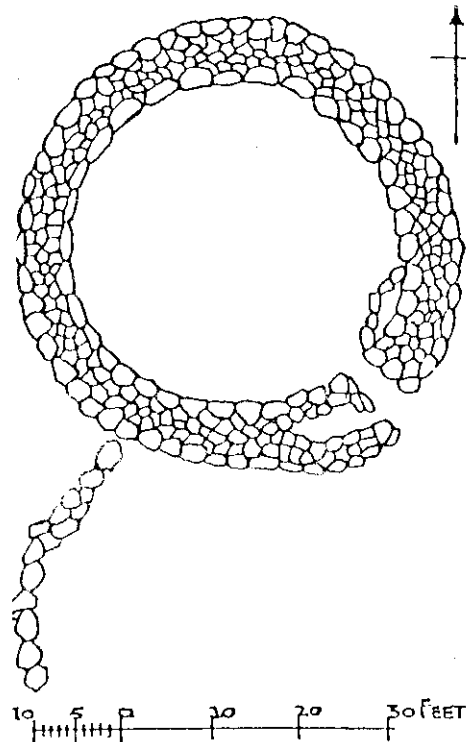


FIG. 16.—Hut Circle, Torboll (No. 126).