

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H	N	H	8	4	N	E	0	0	1
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2 NGR	N	H	8	6	6	5	4	8	5	7	3 QUAL	CE
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6 SITE NAME	L	I	T	T	L	E	U	R	C	H	A	N	Y
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10 GENERIC TYPE	BURIAL CAIRN, CHAMBERED, KERBED
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(CLAVA)+CUPMARKS, BOULDER

14 PERIOD/DATE	NE =BA	15 DATING METHOD	TYP
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18 SHAPE	
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19 THREAT AND DATE	
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4 DISTRICT	NAIRN	5 PARISH	CAWDOR
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7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS	
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11 CONCORDANCE	OS NH 84 NE 1	12 FORM	STANDING STRUCTURE	13 DIMENSIONS	
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16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION	RO BBED
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20 LAND USE	ENCLOSED LAND	21 GEOLOGY	
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22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
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24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF	GENTLE HILLSLOPE
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26 ASPECT	WSW = SW = NNW	27 ALTITUDE	140=145m OD
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28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)	
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29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)	
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1. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1906:6"MAP
2. HENSHALL, AS:1963:CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND:EDINBURGH U.P:VOL 1:P 388+PLAN
3. :1881-2:PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT:VOL 16:P 328
4. FRASER, J:1883-4:PROC.SOC.ANT.SCOT:VOL 18:PP 351-2
5. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1978:1/10 000 MAP

30 GROUND PLAN NO.	AO:62:109:5	31 GROUND PHOTO NO.	AO(S)65/45/4
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32 SLIDES NO.		33 HR. AP. NO.	
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34 NMR. AP. NO.		35 OTHER AP. NO. SOURCE	
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36 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION	
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37 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY		38 SAMPLES	
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39 PALYNOLOGY		40 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.	
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41 SMALL FINDS		42 MUSEUM/LOCATION	
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43 OTHER	
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44 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER		45 ATTITUDE OF OWNER	
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46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT		47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT	
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48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS	
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49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE		50 RECORDER: DATE	FJ:25.2.1987	51 CHECK: DATE	MJD:12-5-87
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52 TEXT	
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"(NH 8665 4857) Stone Circle (OE) (Remains of) (1)
 "This is a ruinous clava-type cairn. Most of the cairn material has been removed, but what remains stretches out as far as the monoliths and is turf-covered". (2)
 "The remains of this clava-type cairn are generally as described and planned by Henshall, although the kerb can now only be clearly traced for a short arc in the west. The site has been used as a field-clearance heap".
 "The cup marked monolith could not be located". (O.S.F.I:RD:16.11.1965)
 "NH 8665 4857. Chambered Cairn". (5)

OVER/

BOX 52.

"See continuation card(s) for text (2) (3) (4) + plans (2) (4)".

5 LITTLE URCHANY

*(Clava-type)**In the parish of*

CAWDOR

Location 1½ m. SE of

CAWDOR

Map reference

NH/866485

*Sheet IV SE; NH 84 NE**References*

P. S. A. S. XVIII (1883-84)

351-52¹;*ibid.* XVI (1881-82) 328²*Plan by A. S. H. and J. C. W.**(fig. 101)**Visited 12.4.57*

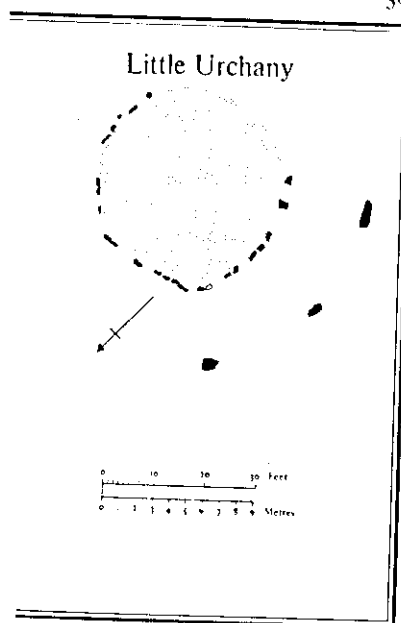
Description. This very ruined cairn is in a gently sloping field at about 450 ft. OD. Most of the cairn material has been removed, but what remains now stretches out as far as the monoliths and is turf-covered. A kerb of rather small stones with a diameter of 37 ft. can be traced for three-quarters of its circuit. The stones are mainly flush with the turf but are slightly larger on the SW where they stand 1 ft. 9 in. high. There is no structure visible within the kerb.

Three monoliths stand on the W side of the cairn, 12 ft. 6 in. to 14 ft. outside the kerb. That to the SW is tallest, 5 ft. high, the central one is 4 ft. high and the NW stone is 4 ft. 3 in. high. In 1884 another prone monolith was visible to the NNW¹ but is now broken up. In 1881 there were one or two more standing stones in the circle of monoliths, a stone on the E side being described as 3 ft. high and 1 ft. 6 in. wide, with eight cup-marks on its upper surface and three on its S side.²

There was another similar site only some 16 ft. to the E or NE which was completely destroyed about 1840.²

(2)

389



(2)

Near the farm of Little Urchany, about a mile from Cawdor Castle, on the road to Ardelach, a double circle of stones exists, now very much broken up for agricultural purposes. This circle is called Clach Chorrach or Clach Thorrach.

The largest stone is on the south-east side. Next to it, on the north side in the outer circle, stands a grey granite block erect, 3 feet high and 18 inches broad. It contains several cups on the top and on the south side, and is shown on fig. 31, which gives the stone as viewed obliquely from above; Nos. 4, 5, and 6 being on the side, and the rest on the top. On the top, there are eight cups, four of them distinct and good, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4; No. 1 being very distinct and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. No. 4 is carved on the shoulder of the stone, and there are two others on the side less distinct. Most of them are rough and shallow, except 1 and 3, the granite crystals here, as in most cases in which the cups are carved in this rock, rendering the surface of the cups rough to the touch, though no doubt originally smooth.

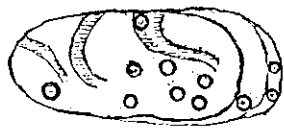
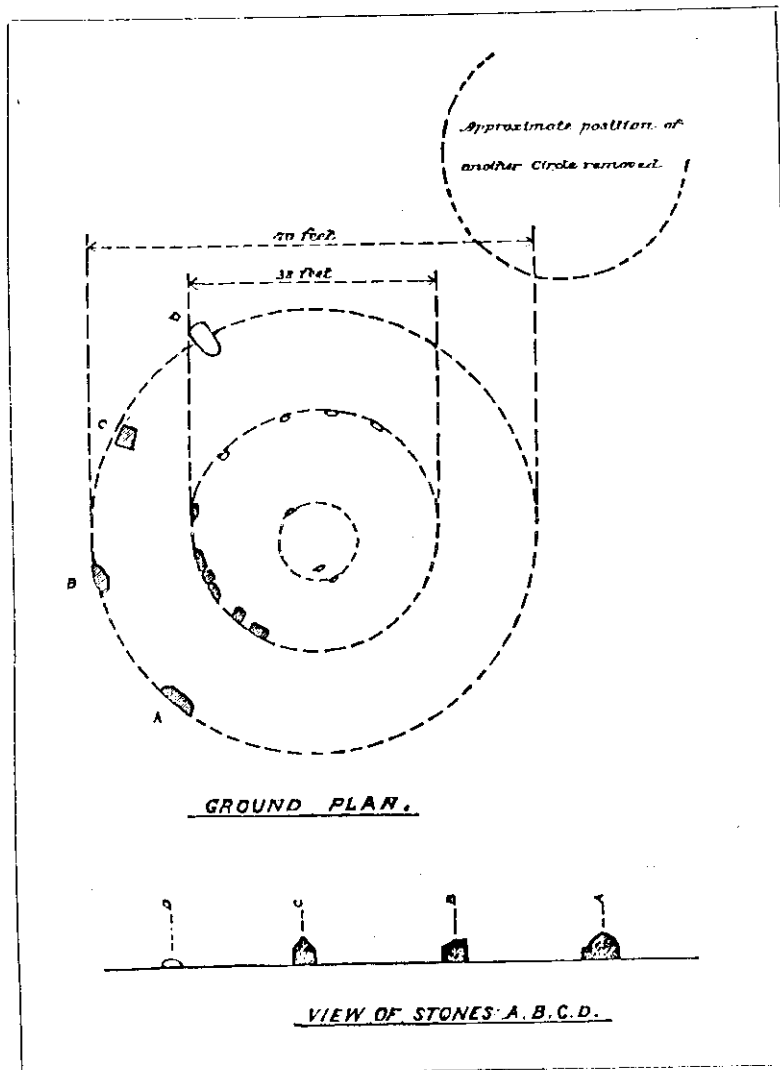


Fig. 31. At Little Urchany.

Another similar circle existed a little to the east of the remaining one, but it was removed by the present tenant, Mr. Clark, about forty years ago, to extend his fields for tillage.

(3)

Circles Nos. 21 and 22.—Circles Nos. 21 and 22 were a pair of circles which stood quite close together at Little Urchany, Cawdor. One is entirely gone, and the other, No. 21, is in the fragmentary state shown in fig. 18.



(4)

Fig. 18. Circles Nos. 21 and 22, at Little Urchany, Cawdor.
(See Scale and Note to Fig. 1.)
(Scale 25 feet to an inch.)