

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# FIELD MONUMENTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
H	N	D	0	5	N	E	0	2	1
2 NGR									
N	D	0	7	2	7	5	5	3	7
3 QUAL									
C E									
6 SITE NAME									
D O R R E R Y									
10 GENERIC TYPE									
BURIAL CAIRN, CHAMBERED (OCH)									
14 PERIOD/DATE					15 DATING METHOD				
NE					TYP				
18 SHAPE									
19 THREAT AND DATE									

4 DISTRICT CAITHNESS		5 PARISH HALKIRK	
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE OSND 05 NE 21	12 FORM STANDING STRUCTURE	13 DIMENSIONS	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION INCOMPLETE	
20 LAND USE ROUGH PASTURE		21 GEOLOGY	
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF GENTLE HILLSLOPE	
		26 ASPECT NNE	
		27 ALTITUDE 114=122m OD	

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

- ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1963: 6" MAP.
- HENSHALL A.S.: 1963: CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND: EUP: VOL I: p 270 No 22 PLAN.
- RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: p38 No 133.
- MERCER R.J.: 1985: A FIELD SURVEY IN N. SCOTLAND: EUP: VOL 3: p 218 No FOR 470.

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  
AM: 7.8.1985

51 CHECK: DATE  
DY 14.8.1985

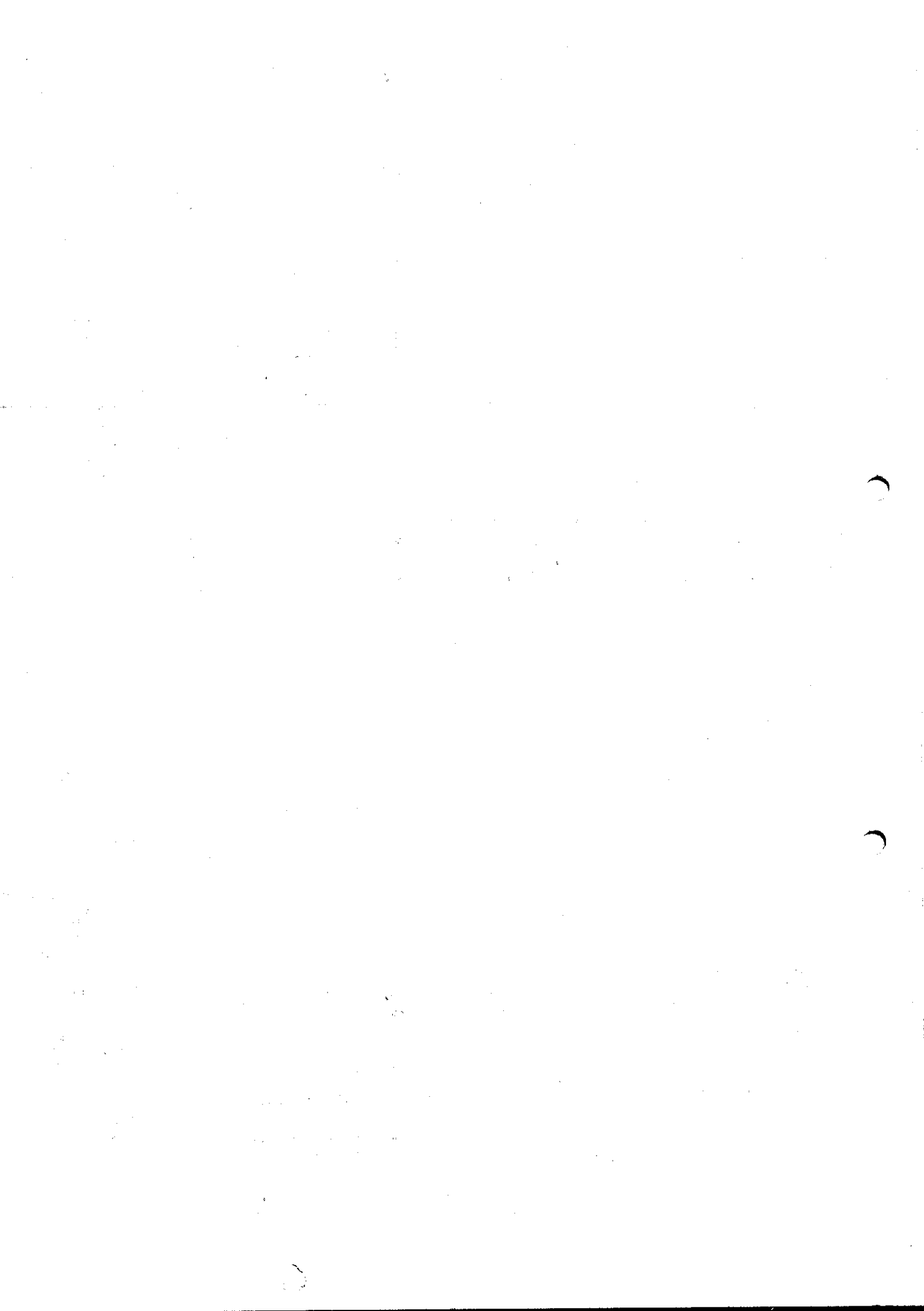
52 TEXT

"(ND 0727 5537) Chambered Cairn." (1).

"The remains of this chambered cairn are as described" (OSFI:NKB:15.2.1965).

"A chambered cairn generally as described but that the back slab in situ was not identified. Some 5.0m. NE of the cairn is a turf-covered roughly oval enclosure 2.2m. by 1.8m. across and 0.4m. high; thin slabs on edge and living rock constitute the build. The structure has uncertain archaeological significance." (OSFI:JM:3.7.1981).

"See continuation card for text of 2 and 4."

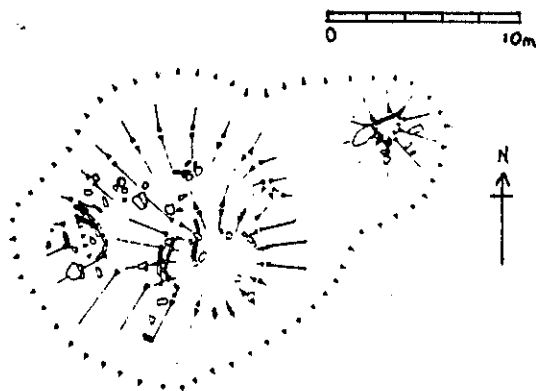


470. Chambered cairn. 'Dorrery'. Dimensions: 24m x 16.50m. Height: 2m. Subcircular grass-covered mound which has its highest point at its E end, which is occupied by a mound 14m x 13m. There are depressions in the mound; in the S part 5m in diameter with two orthostats, and in the N part 2m in diameter and lined on one side by an orthostat. There are four other orthostats by this latter depression. To the W of the cairn is a small mound 5m x 5m with a central orthostat and depression. Orientation: NE-SW. On the crest of a hill. Elevation: 400' OD. ND 073554.

O.S. Card ND 05 NE 21.

Henshall, A.S. (1963) The Chambered Tombs of Scotland, vol. 1, 270, No. 22. RCAHMS (1911) Caithness, 38, No. 138. (fig. 17)

Henshall CAT 22, Mon. No. FOR 470, Dorrery (Fig. 17). This monument is a complex one that, furthermore, has been heavily damaged by quarrying or other activity. In the NE sector an extension of the cairn appears to exist although whether earlier or later it is not possible to say (see above). Set into this extension is a short cist of c.1m in its long axis oriented NE-SW. The main cairn exhibits a series of stone uprights, two of which appear clearly to pertain to a stalled chamber arrangement suggesting a chamber that at this point is c.2.5m in width. The back slab located by Henshall in 1956 was not visible on the site in 1982 and much disturbance does appear to have taken place since her visit. A number of orthostats tangentially oriented appear to occur at the skirts of the cairn suggesting the possibility of some orthostatic kerb.



Mon 470  
Dorrery  
Henshall CAT 22

- 22 DORRERY  
(O.-C., Camster-type, round)  
In the parish of  
HALKIRK  
Location at the foot of  
BEN DORRERY  
8 m. SSW of  
THURSO  
Map reference  
ND/073553  
Sheet XVII; ND 05 NE  
Inventory number 133  
Reference R.C.A.M. Inv. 38<sup>1</sup>  
Plan by A.S.H. and M.J.S.  
(fig. 42)  
Visited 16.8.56

*Description.* The cairn, which is situated at the end of a slight ridge in flat moorland at about 400ft. OD, is now a grass-grown mound with a diameter of 45ft. standing to a maximum height of 6 to 7ft. Just within the present S half of the cairn edge four upright slabs 6in. to 1ft. 3in. high can be distinguished, apparently part of a widely spaced peristalith. The cairn has been much robbed especially on the N and E sides, and here it can be seen that it is built of flat slabs laid slanting down from the centre outwards.

Towards the centre of the cairn there can be seen a number of slabs which have formed part of the chamber. It has been entered from the E. Thirteen feet from the E edge of the cairn a slab, standing 6in. high above the debris, is set transversely and is probably the northern member of a pair of portal stones at the inner end of the passage. The chamber is 11ft. long, and is divided into three compartments by two pairs of taller divisional slabs, the outer compartment being 3ft. 3in. long, the centre compartment 4 to 5ft. long and the inner compartment 2 to 3ft. long. The back-slab is much lower. When visited by Curle in 1910 part of the walling on the N side of the centre compartment was visible.<sup>1</sup>

