



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H N D 0 5 N W 0 0 6
2 NGR	N D 0 4 9 7 5 8 3 4 C E
3 QUAL	
6 SITE NAME	S I T H E A N D U B H
10 GENERIC TYPE	BURIAL CAIRN, CHAMBERED (OCH)
14 PERIOD/DATE	NE
15 DATING METHOD	TYP
18 SHAPE	CIRCULAR
19 THREAT AND DATE	

4 DISTRICT CAITHNESS	5 PARISH REAY
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS SCHEDULED
9 REGIONAL STATUS	12 FORM STANDING STRUCTURE
11 CONCORDANCE OSND 05 NW 6	13 DIMENSIONS 30.0m DIAM.
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS	17 CONDITION (ROBBED)
20 LAND USE ROUGH PASTURE	21 GEOLOGY
22 SOILS	23 VEGETATION
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	25 RELIEF RISE ON UNDULATING MOORLAND
	26 ASPECT NW
	27 ALTITUDE 107=114m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)	
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)	
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1907:6" MAP. 2. HENSHALL A.S.:1963:CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND:EUP:VOL I:pp70-1, 73,287 + PLAN. 3. RCAHMS:1911:CAITHNESS INVENTORY:HMSO:ppNo 363. pp 99: 4. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1873:OBJECT NAME BOOK:9:138. 5. ORDNANCE SURVEY:1963:6" MAP. 6. HMB (S.D.D.):1985:LIST OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS. 7. MERCER R.:1985:FIELD SURVEY IN N.SCOTLAND:E.U.P.:VOL 3:FOR 294.	
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 GS: 29.7.1985
	51 CHECK: DATE AM 8.8.1985

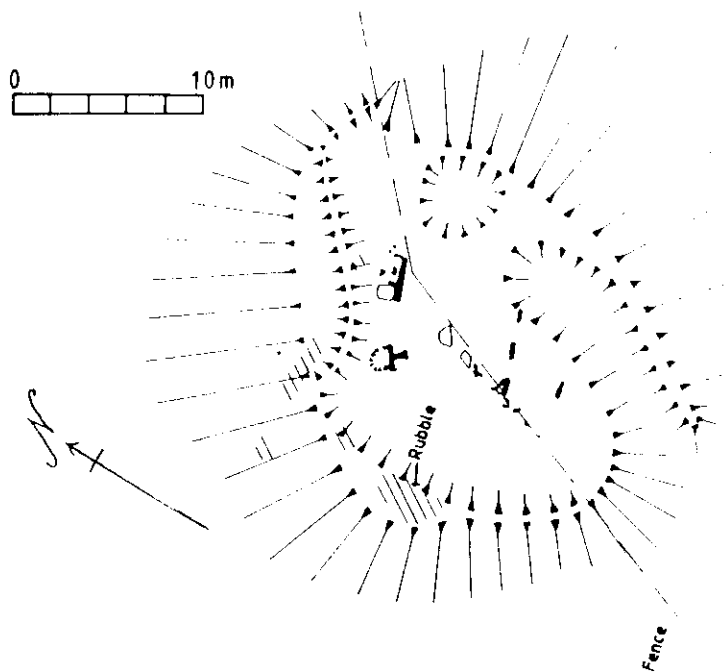
52 TEXT
"See continuation card for text and illustration."

Henshall CAT 48 Mon. No. FOR 294, Shurrery (Fig. 14). This cairn, like FOR 102, has been heavily robbed and much consequent damage done. Curle (RCAHMS 1911, 99) records that the robbing took place for road metal before 1910. Nearly all the chamber elements visible to Henshall during her visit in 1956 were still present in 1983 although one of the stall divisional slabs appears to have dislodged and another, which must have obtruded from the quarry pit on the SE side of the cairn, appears to have vanished. Judging by the upright slab lengths the known chamber on this site would appear to be about 3m in width and from back slab to passage entrance c.9.5m. Of the suspected northern chamber a probable back slab only survives with one stall slab surviving at the very edge of the SE quarry which must have destroyed the greater part of any structure that had survived.

Chambered cairn. 'Shurrery'. 'Sithean Dubh'. Dimensions: 32m x 30m. Height: 2m. Subcircular grass- and heather-covered mound with boulders. Large central hollow 20m x 7m. Six orthostats in rows are evidence of a chamber. Cairn is crossed by a fence. Elevation: 350' OD. ND 050583.

O.S. Card ND 05 NW 6.

Henshall, A.S. (1963) The Chambered Tombs of Scotland, vol. 1, 70-1, 73, 287, No. 48. RCAHMS (1911) Caithness, 99, No. 363. (Fig. 14)



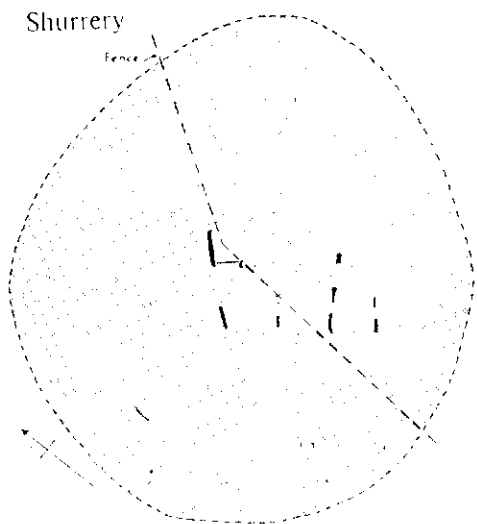
Mon 294
Shurrery
Henshall CAT 48

SHURRERY
 (SITHEAN DUBH)
 (O.-C., Camster-type, round)
 In the parish of
 REAY
 Location between
 LOCH CALDER and
 LOCH SHURRERY
 7 1/2 m. SSW of
 THURSO
 Map reference
 ND/050583
 Sheet XVI; ND 05 NW
 Inventory number 363
 Reference R.C.A.M. Inv. 991
 Plan by A.S.H. and M.J.S.
 (fig. 48)
 Visited 15.8.56

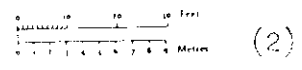
Description. The cairn is situated on a slight rise in the undulating moorland at 250ft. OD. It was severely robbed for road metal in or shortly before 1910. Before this it was about 10 ft. high, covered with loose stones (according to the Ordnance Surveys' Name Book). The diameter is 90 to 100 ft. A short length of the face of an encircling wall of horizontally laid slabs is exposed on the W side 12 ft. within the present cairn edge.

Through the debris there protrude the tops of a number of slabs, all about the same height. These seem to indicate the presence of two chambers, parallel to each other and only 4 to 7 ft. apart, orientated SE-NW and both entered from the former end. The more complete lies to the S and appears to have an overall length of 20 ft. There are visible a pair of transverse slabs 17 ft. from the SE edge of the cairn, 1 ft. 3 in. high and 2 ft. apart, with another pair of transverse slabs 8 ft. further W, a transverse slab on the S side 10 ft. behind (the N stone presumed to lie opposite not being visible), and a back-slab a further 10 ft. to the W. Of the N chamber there are visible only a transverse slab 1 ft. 8 in. high immediately N of the second pair of transverse slabs of the S chamber, the S wall and small transverse slab of the inner compartment, and the large end stone 7 ft. long.

Finds
 The 6 in. OS map marks 'human remains found here'. These were found in or about 1831, and were thought to be two gigantic human skeletons (Ordnance Surveys' Name Book).



250ft = 76m	4ft = 1.21m
10ft = 3.00m	7ft = 2.13m
90ft = 27.52m	29ft = 8.96m
100ft = 30.56m	1ft 3ins = 0.38m
12ft = 3.67m	2ft = 0.61m
	1ft 8ins = 0.50m
	12ft = 3.67m



(ND 0497 5834) Cairn (NR) Human Remains found (NAT) (1)

This round Orkney-Cromarty type cairn is 90 to 100 ft in diameter and was about 10 ft high before it was severely robbed in or shortly before 1910. A short length of the face of an encircling wall of horizontally-laid slabs is exposed on the W side, 12 ft within the present cairn edge. Stones protruding through the debris seem to indicate the presence of two Camster-type chambers (2). (See plan.) In or about 1831 two gigantic human skeletons were removed from this cairn and sent to some Antiquarian Society in London by the late Capt MacDonalld of Sandside, Reay (3). (2) (3) (4)

The much mutilated remains of a round cairn as described above measure 30.0 m in diameter by 1.7 m high. Several large, flat stones set on edge and protruding from the cairn in the SE indicate the presence of a chamber and stalls. (OSPI: ND: 17.11.1964.)
 (ND 0497 5834) Chambered Cairn (NR) (5)

This chambered cairn is as described and planned by the previous authorities. (OSPI: JR: 21.7.1961.)