

Visit summary report

Index number 479 NGR ND049583 Date originally scheduled 17-Mar-1934

Date last scheduled

Monument name Shurrery Kirk, chambered cairn 360m SSE of

Visit date 15-Jun-1999 Council HIGHLAND

Recorder Mrs A Coombs Inspector

Condition 2 Risk 1 HS Priority 2.24 Opportunity for positive management 5

New damage? IAM visit required? Interest in a HS grant? Sketch made? Y Slides taken? Y

Inadequate area? Review scheduling? Proportion scheduled 100%

Description and assessment of management requirements

15-JUN-1999, AC

The site lies on the NW facing slope of the moorland above Shurrery Kirk. The monument, a chambered cairn, was 'severely robbed for road metal in or shortly before 1910', according to the Highland Regional Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record. At that time or soon afterwards it was crossed by a fence which was later replaced by the present deer fence dividing the cairn in half. The E side is within the fence enclosing the Forest Enterprise conifer plantation, the W side is in sheep grazed moorland. The cairn is c.30m in diameter with 2 areas of visible stone on the W side. There are 2 large stones visible on the W side, the nearest to the fence is c.1.5m long and appears to be quite narrow, the other is more clearly embedded in the cairn stone and c.0.75m across. To the E of the fence there are few visible stones although they were felt beneath the grass.

The site was in a reasonable condition, covered with grass and heather, but there are signs of some regeneration. The area to the E of the fence will be subject to a Forest Enterprise Management Plan. The trees on the edge of the plantation are at present within 20m of the edge of the cairn and will be cleared back 20m beyond the scheduled area when the management plan is implemented and any regeneration will be removed. It may be appropriate to approach the owner of the W side of the cairn to see if he would be interested in a Management Agreement. Maintenance of the fence will need to be undertaken with care. There are some old drains on the W side of the cairn c.30m away.

30-JAN-94

Though difficult to be certain, the diameter of the monument is probably larger than previously stated and is approximately 30m N-S x 26m transversely. Bearing this in mind, the scheduled area should ideally be enlarged to cover a 10m band of land around the monument.

The half of the monument that is within the Brawlbinplantation is now covered by thick growing vegetation and all the stone is covered. Outwith the plantation there is more stone visible including the tops of three orthostats, the largest of which measures 2m wide x 0.1m thick x 0.4m aboveground. It is not possible to gauge the size or alignment of the chamber from the visible upright slabs.

Otherwise, there is no change in description. Site OK.

11-DEC-90

The cairn, which has in the past been disturbed, is now in the main grass and heather covered. Measuring

Visit summary report

Description and assessment of management requirements

A deer fence crosses the monument. To the east of the fence is a conifer plantation, to the west, moorland upon which sheep graze. The nearest trees to the cairn are 30m away. The tops of two large upright stones are visible in the centre of the monument.

Comments on scheduling

15-Jun-1999, AC

The scheduled area is c.40m in diameter and probably covers the monument adequately.

Comments by IAM

Who was contacted and nature of contact

15-Jun-1999, AC

The site is part owned by Forest Enterprise and was visited with their representative. The other owner, Sir Robert Black was spoken with prior to the visit.

Appendix 5 Historic Scotland's last Monument Warden site sketch

HBM WARDEN SKETCH SHEET

Index No 479

Monument SITURRERT KIRK chambered cairn 360m SSE of

Region HIGHLAND

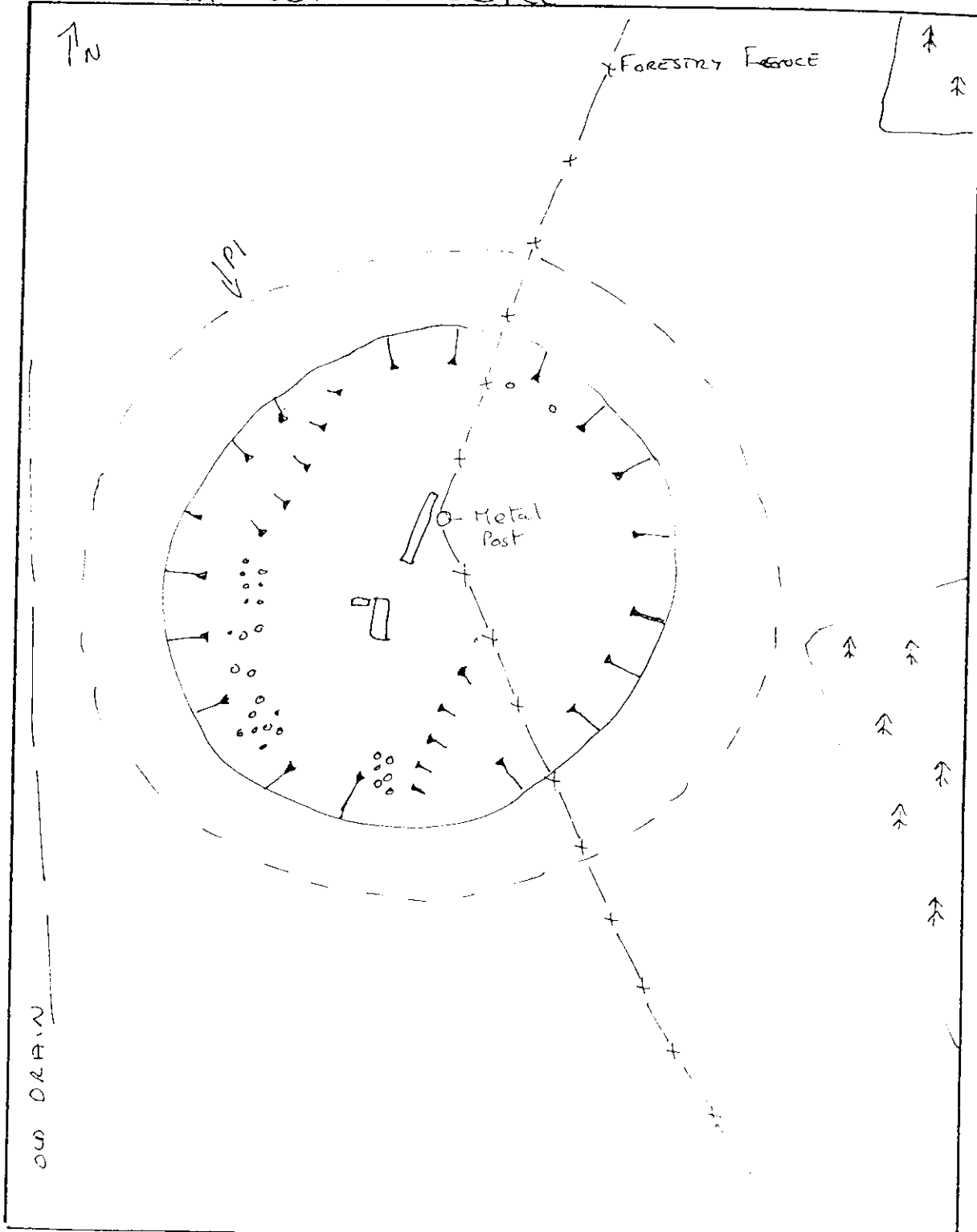
District CALTHNESS

Initials of Recorder A-C

Date of Visit 15-6-99

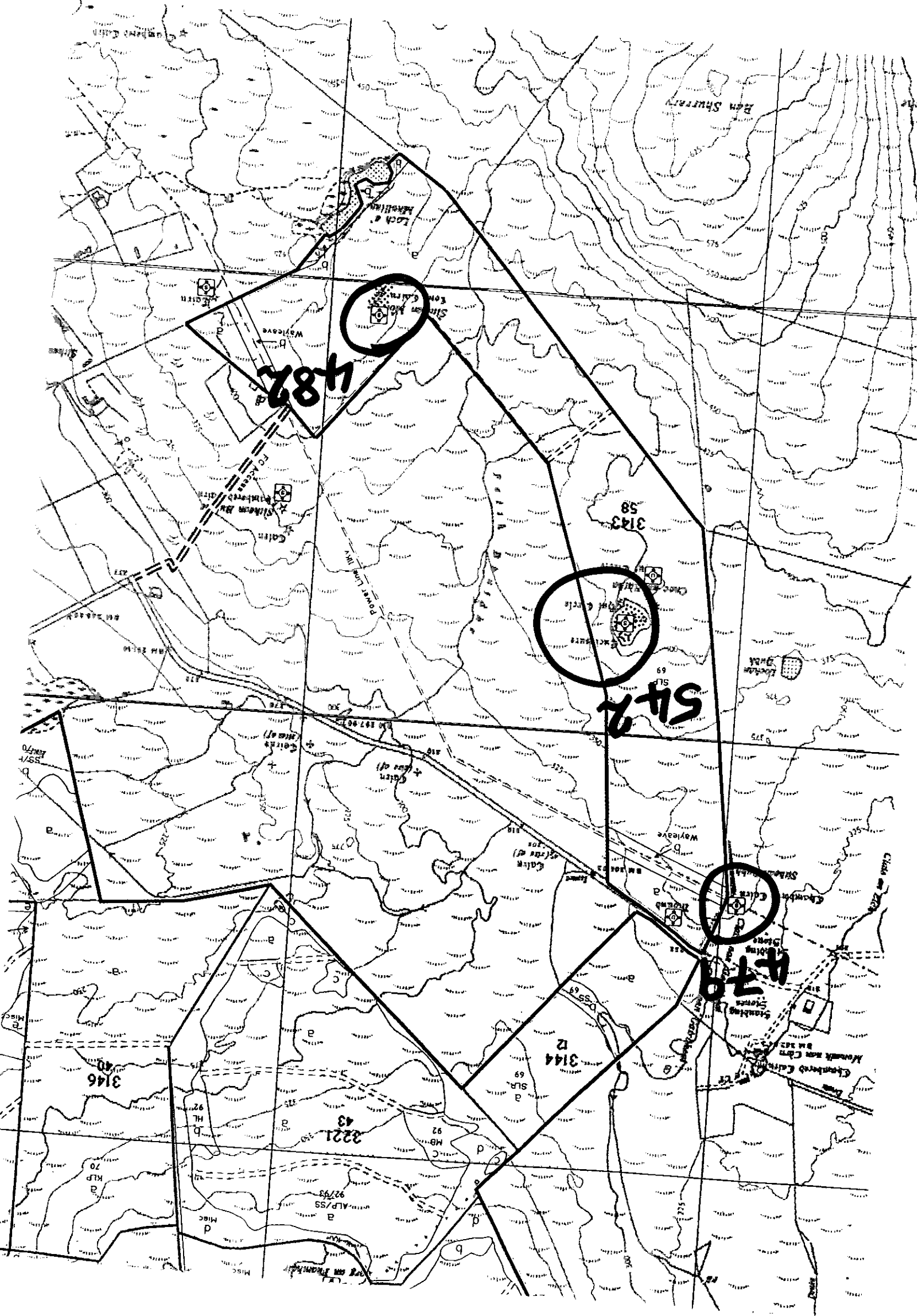
Visit No 03

SKETCH NOT TO SCALE



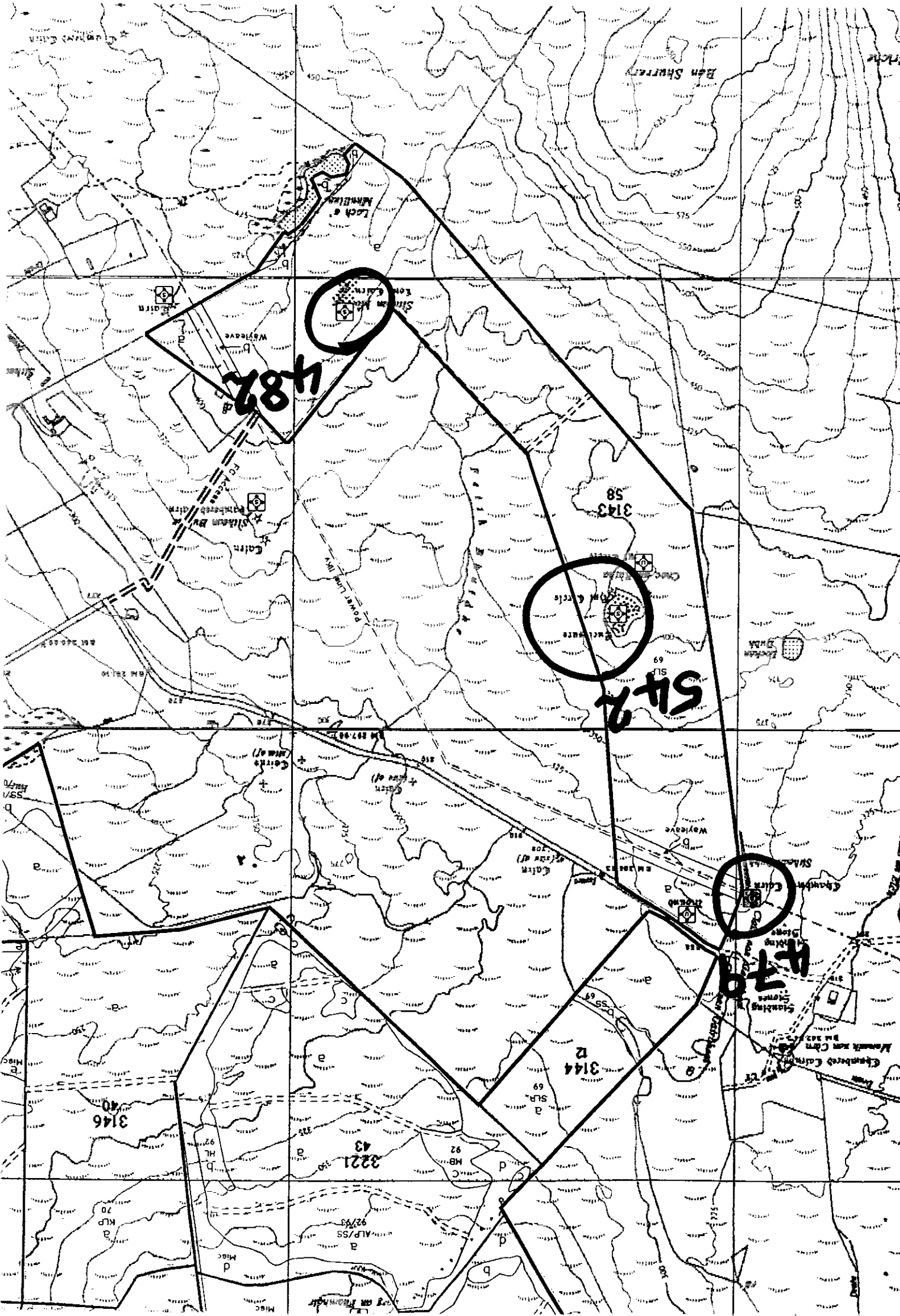
Scheduled Area c. 40m diameter

Appendix 3 Site access map



Appendix 4 Historic Scotland's last Monument Warden report

Appendix 2 Forest Enterprise stock map



Appendix 1 Scheduling Certificate

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS 1913 and 1931.

To George Gunn, Esq., Ormlie Lodge, Thurso, Caithness, the owner of part of the Monument known as Remains of chambered cairn measuring approximately 100 feet in diameter and situated on the moorland at an angle in the fence 400 yards south-south-east of Shurrery Kirk, 750 yards east of the road leading nearly due north to Shurrery School at its nearest point and 520 yards north-north-east of Lochan Dubh said monument being the subjects indicated in red colour on the annexed plan whereof the part belonging to the said George Gunn is the portion to the east of said fence said portion being part of the property known as Brawlbin Farm situated in the Parish of Reay and County of Caithness

In accordance with the provisions of Section 6 of the Ancient Monuments Act 1931, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works and Public Buildings hereby give you notice that it is their intention to include the Monument above specified in a list of monuments to be published by them under Section 12 of the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act 1913.

Dated this 17th day of March 1934

By Order of the Commissioners.

Patrick Duff
Secretary.

I, Edward Francis Murray (Officer in Secretariat) in the office of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works and Public Buildings duly authorised by them in that behalf hereby certify that the notice of which the foregoing is a duplicate together with a copy of the plan annexed and signed as relative to a certificate affecting the interest of Alan Douglas Pilkington, Achvarasdal, Reay, Caithness, in said Remains of chambered cairn, dated and recorded in the Division of the General Register of Sasines for the County of Caithness, of even date herewith was served on the before named George Gunn, by posting on the day of March 1934 between the hours of 1 o'clock and 2 o'clock afternoon at the Parliament St Post Office, London, a copy of the same to him, in a registered letter addressed as follows :- George Gunn, Esq., Ormlie Lodge, Thurso, Caithness.

E. F. Murray

Register on behalf of the within named Commissioners of His Majesty's Works and Public Buildings in the Register of the County of Caithness.

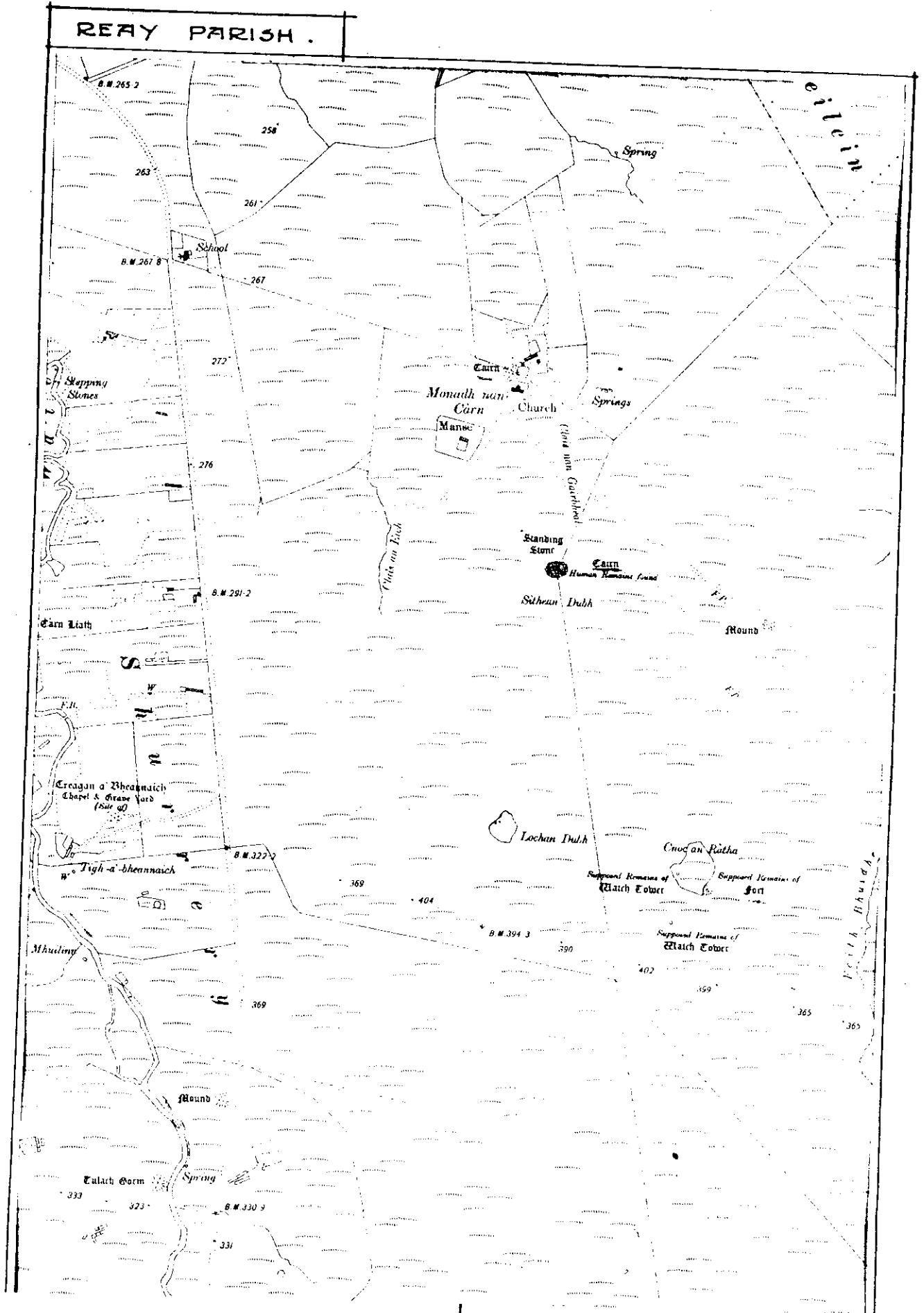
9 REGISTERS and RECORDS of SCOTLAND
GENERAL REGISTER OF SASINES
County of Caithness.

BOOK 212 FOLIO 15-17
PRESENTED & REGISTERED 3 October 1934

Sheila Ross DEPUTY-KEEPER

W.S. *W.S. [Signature]*
EDINBURGH, Agent.

REAY PARISH.



IN THE MATTER OF THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS, 1913 and 1931.

To Alan Douglas Pilkington, Esq., Achvarasdal, Reay, Caithness, the owner of part of the Monument known as Remains of chambered cairn measuring approximately 100 feet in diameter and situated on the moorland at an angle in the fence 400 yards south-south-east of Shurrery Kirk, 750 yards east of the road leading nearly due north to Shurrery School at its nearest point and 520 yards north-north-east of Lochan Dubh said monument being the subjects indicated in red colour on the annexed plan whereof the part belonging to the said Alan Douglas Pilkington is the portion to the west of said fence said portion being part of the property known as Shurrery Commons, situated in the Parish of Reay and County of Caithness.

In accordance with the provision of Section 6 of the Ancient Monuments Act 1931, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works and Public Buildings hereby give you notice that it is their intention to include the Monument above specified in a list of monuments to be published by them under Section 12 of the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act 1913.

Dated this 17th day of March 1934

By Order of the Commissioners.

Patricia Duff
Secretary.

I... Edward Francis Muir..... (Officer in Secretariat), in the Office of the Commissioners of H.M. Works and Public Buildings duly authorised by them in that behalf hereby certify that the notice of which the foregoing is a duplicate together with a copy of the plan annexed and signed as relative hereto was served on the before named Alan Douglas Pilkington, by posting on the 17th day of March 1934 between the hours of 1 o'clock and 2 o'clock ~~at~~ at the Parliament St Post Office, London, a copy of the same to him, in a registered letter addressed as follows :-

Alan Douglas Pilkington, Esq.,
Achvarasdal,
Reay,
Caithness.

E.F. Muir

Register on behalf of the within named Commissioners of His Majesty's Works and Public Buildings in the Register of the County of Caithness.

... *W.S.*

W.S.,
EDINBURGH, Agent.

REGISTERS and RECORDS of SCOTLAND

GENERAL REGISTER OF SABINES

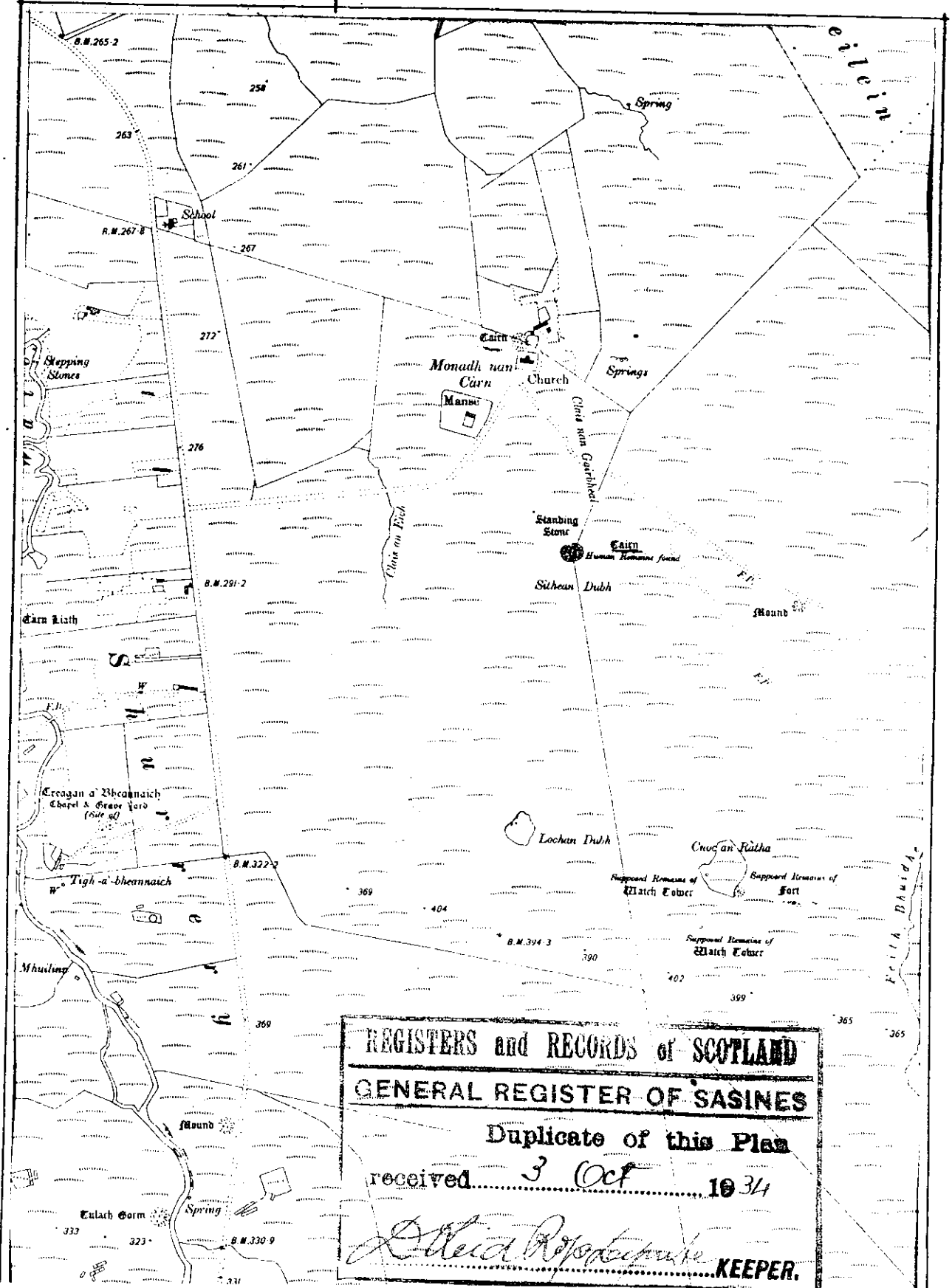
County of Caithness.

BOOK 212 FOLIO 14

PRESENTED & REGISTERED 3 October 1934

Sheila Boyd KEEPER.

REAY PARISH.



REGISTERS and RECORDS of SCOTLAND
 GENERAL REGISTER OF SASINES
 Duplicate of this Plan
 received 3 Oct 1934
Alfred R. [Signature] KEEPER.

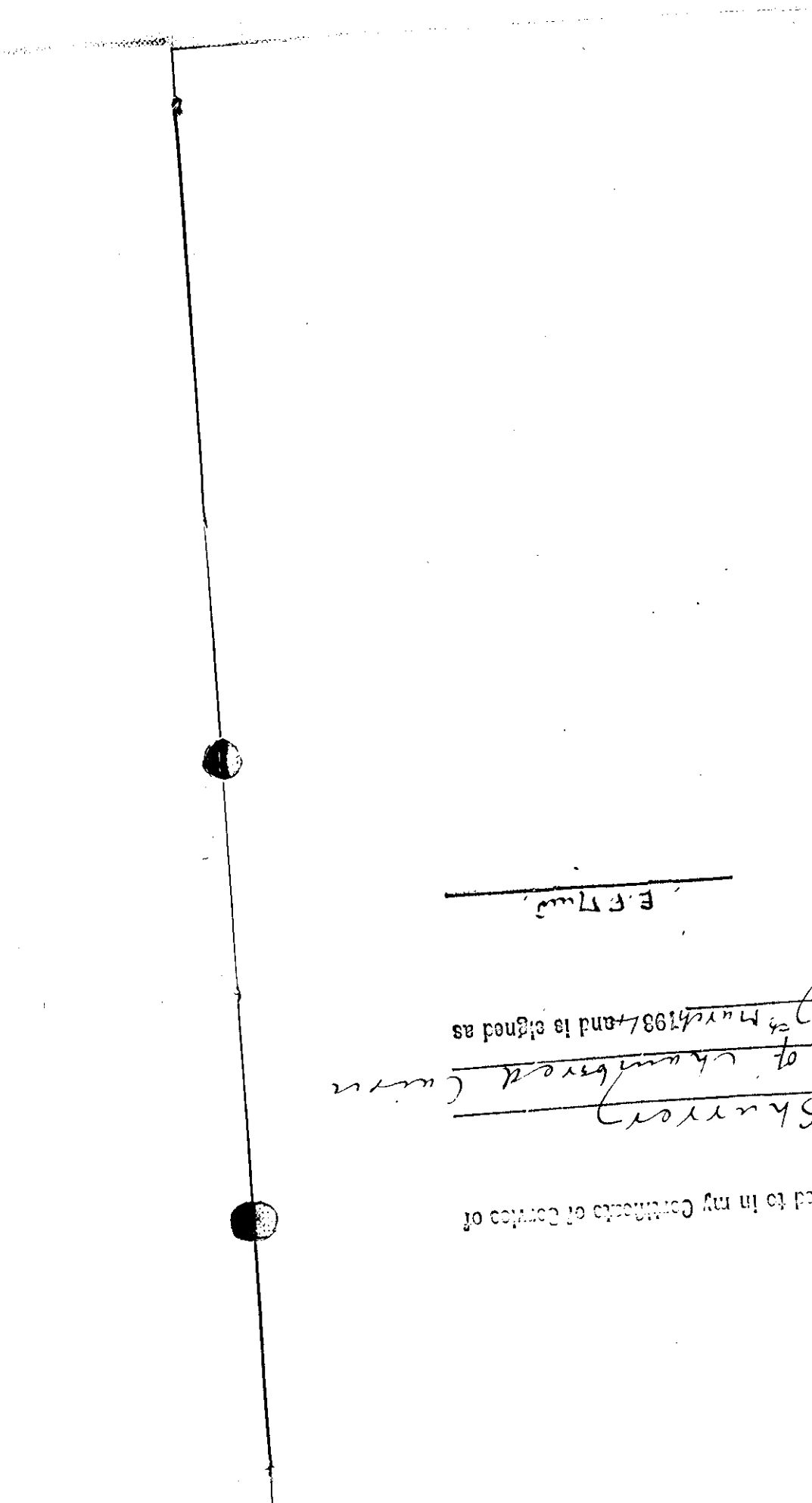
This is the plan referred to in my Certificate of Service of

Notice affecting Skurrey

Remains of Chambered Cairn

dated 17th March 1934 and is signed as
relative thereto.

E. P. Quinn,



E. F. Shaw

Sherrill
c. of Chambered Curran
dated 17th March 1934 and is signed as

referred to in my Certificate of Copies of

Walter Finlay W.S.
55, Frederick Street,
Edinburgh 2.

Walter Finlay
3rd Oct 1934

3-4

Caithness Lib. 212-15-17.

16.

334

C 15/ad

Caithness

C E R T I F I C A T E

O F

S E R V I C E O F N O T I C E

By The Commissioners of H.M.
Works etc. under Sections 6
and 16 of the Ancient Monuments
Act 1931.

H

1934.

Affecting George Gunn's
interest in Remains of Chamberlain
:ered Cairn south-south-east
of Shurrery Kirk in the Parish
of Reay and County of Caithness

WALTER FINLAY W.S.
Solicitor to H.M. Works etc.