

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

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

4 DISTRICT				5 PARISH			
CAITHNESS				HALKIRK			
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS		9 REGIONAL STATUS			
		SCHEDULED					
11 CONCORDANCE		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS			
OSND 06 SE 12		STANDING STRUCTURE		c 62.0m LONG.			
NMR							
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS				17 CONDITION			
				INCOMPLETE			

20 LAND USE				21 GEOLOGY					
HEATH									
22 SOILS				23 VEGETATION					
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE			25 RELIEF			26 ASPECT		27 ALTITUDE	
			SPUR ON MODERATE HILLSLOPE			N=NE=E		85mOD	

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: I: pp75-77, 296, No59+PLAN & ILLUS. 3. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: :p39, No 136. 4. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1975: 1/10,000 map. 5. MERCER R.J.: 1985: A FIELD SURVEY IN N. SCOTLAND: 3: FOR No 371. 6. HMB(S.D.D.): 1985: 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	
						SEM: 2.9.1985		DA: 18.9.1985	

52 TEXT

"(ND 0575 6019) Tulach Buaille Assery (Brough)." (1).

"Tulach Buaille Assery is a turf-covered long horned cairn of the Orkney-Cromarty group, with a Camster-type chamber." (2).

"The body of the cairn is about 204 ft (62.4m) long, 42 ft (12.9m) wide at the W end and 65 ft (19.92m) wide at the E end; this end is about 12 ft (3.67m) high and virtually intact. At the W end fairly clearly defined horns project obliquely an additional 20 ft. (6.21m). The horns at the E end were not visible in 1956 but in 1910 they were about 26 ft (8.05m) long. There are the remains of a possible chamber 26 ft (8.05m) in from the W end of the cairn, and a recent hole halfway up the NE side of the E end opens into another chamber, now partially collapsed." (3).

"This long horned chambered cairn is as described." (OSFI:RD:3.11.1964).

"(ND 0575 6019) Tulach Buaille Assery Chambered Cairn." (4).

"Tulach Buaille Assery-a chambered cairn as described by Miss Henshall." (OSFI:NKB:18.9.1981).

"See continuation card for text of (2) & (5)."

6. * Full Name: Tulach Buaile Assery.

59 TULACH BUAILE
ASSERY*(O.-C., Camster-type, long,
horned)**In the parish of*

HALKIRK

Location above the w shore of

LOCH CALDER

5 m. SW of

THURSO

Map reference

ND/057601

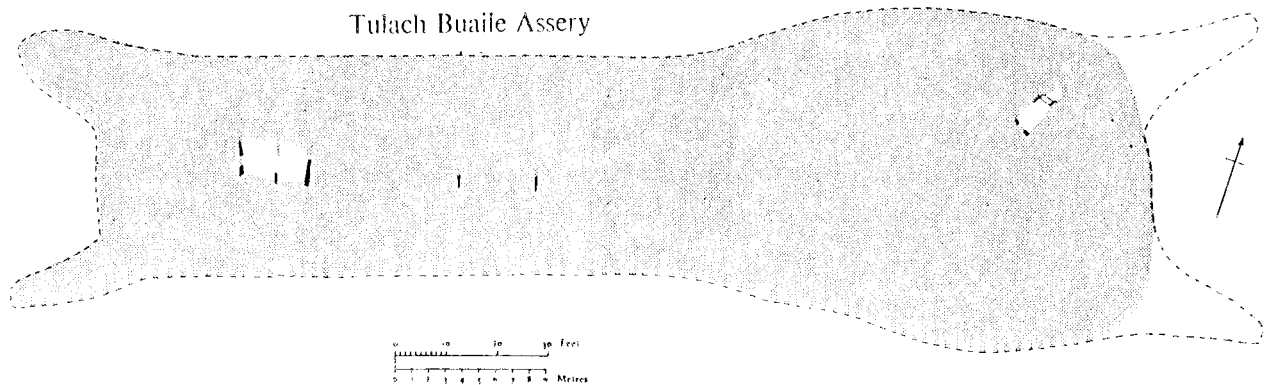
*Sheet X1; ND 06 SE**Inventory number 136**Reference R. C. A. M. Inv. 39¹**Plan by A. S. H. and M. J. S.**(fig. 53; pl. 6B)**Visited 17.8.56*

Description. This long turf-covered cairn is situated in the flat moorland to the W of the loch at about 250ft. OD. It is orientated ENE-WSW at right angles to the shore of the loch, with the larger end to the E. The body of the cairn has been robbed almost flat but the high E end is virtually intact. Without the horns the cairn measures about 204ft. long, 42ft. wide at the W end and 65ft. wide at the E end, which stands some 12ft. high. At the W end there are fairly clearly defined horns which project obliquely for about 20ft. When the site was visited in 1956 the horns at the E end were not evident, but Curle, visiting in 1910, describes them: 'they appear to have measured about 26ft. in length, and 60ft. between their outer terminations, while the distance from the centre of the end of the cairn to their outer extremities is 37ft.'

A group of four stones placed 26ft. from the W end of the cairn seems to represent a chamber aligned along the long axis of the cairn and entered from the W end. A pair of transverse slabs are set 2ft. apart, and 6ft. behind them is a slab, probably the southern partner of a similar pair, while a longer lower slab 5ft. 6in. further E probably represents the back of the chamber. At distances of 70ft. and 84ft. from the W end two more transverse slabs can be seen about the centre of the cairn.

About halfway up the steep NE side of the E end a hole has been made recently and it is possible to look down into part of a chamber. The roof has partially collapsed and it is not possible to see the plan. The chamber has apparently been orientated NNE-SSW. Two pairs of large upright slabs are visible; the N pair have a lintel resting on them, the other pair are about 6ft. 6in. to the S and look like a pair of divisional slabs.

About 600ft. away S by E lies the round cairn of Torr Ban na Gruagaich.



371. Long horned chambered cairn. 'Tulach Buaile Assery'. Length: 60m. Height: 4m. Long mound with a circular mound 24m in diameter, which is the highest part of the monument, at the SE end. There are depressions in the mound and one orthostat is visible in one on the N side of the cairn. Two horns 6m long protrude from this end of the mound. To the SW of this mound is a rectangular cairn 36m x 12m which has four depressions along its length. Two orthostats are visible at each end of the depression second from the mound, parallel to each other, one parallel to these in the next depression, and four in the depression nearest the tail of the monument, two parallel to the others and two at right angles to these. The horns at this end of the cairn are 8m long. Orientation: NE-SW. Elevation: 275' OD. ND 058602. O.S. Card ND 06 SE 12. Henshall, A.S. (1963) The Chambered Tombs of Scotland, vol. 1, 296, No. 59. RCAHMS (1911) Caithness, 39, No. 136. (Fig. 4)

