

# HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



# FIELD MONUMENTS

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE									
H	N	D	0	6	S	E	0	1	3
2 NGR									
N	D	0	5	8	5	6	0	0	1
3 QUAL									
6 SITE NAME									
T O R R / B A N / G R U A G A I C H *									
10 GENERIC TYPE									
BURIAL CAIRN, CHAMBERED (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 <i>Amended 9.12.92</i>		
11 CONCORDANCE	12 FORM	13 DIMENSIONS	
OND 06 SE 13 NMR	STANDING STRUCTURE	c40.0m x 19.0m	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION	
		(ROBBED)	
20 LAND USE		21 GEOLOGY	
HEATH			
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF	
		MODERATE HILLSLOPE	
		26 ASPECT	
		N=NE=E	
		27 ALTITUDE	
		90=95m 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: VOL1: No 56.
3. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: p39 No 137.
4. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1975: 1:10,000 map.
5. MERCER R.J.: 1985: A. FIELD SURVEY IN N. SCOTLAND: EUP: VOL3: No 373.
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
	HAR: 9.9.1985	OH: 18.9.1985

52 TEXT

"(ND 0585 6001) Torr Bàn na Gruagaich, (Brough)." (I).

"This chambered cairn, generally as described, is 19.0m in diameter and 1.8m high; the stones which have been removed from the cairn were probably used in the construction of a building which stood at the SE end of the cairn." (OSFI:RD:3.11.1964).

"(ND 0585 6001) Torr Ban na Gruagaich, Chambered Cairn." (4).

"This is a long cairn measuring about 40.0m NNE-SSW by 19.0m transversely; the prominent 'round cairn' with its chamber occurs at the NNE end, and is as described by Miss Henshall. From it, an indistinct, heather-covered rickle of stones, 0.5m maximum height, extends, and at the extreme SSW end, deep ploughing in association with nearby forestry has revealed a content of medium-sized slabs, but no further chamber or passage. There is no trace of a hornwork. The chamber planned by Miss Henshall is not aligned along the lower axis, suggesting that the cairn may have at least two phases." (OSFI:NKB:18.9.1981).

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

6. \* Full Name: Tòrr Bàn na Gruagaich.

52.

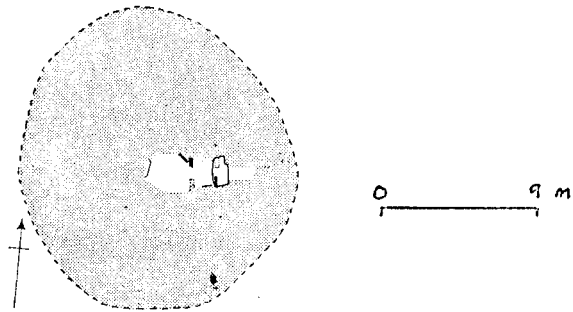
56 TORR BAN NA  
GRUAGAICH  
(O.-C., round)  
In the parish of  
HALKIRK  
Location above the w shore of  
LOCH CALDER  
5 m. SW of  
THURSO  
Map reference  
ND/058600  
Sheet XI; ND 06 SE  
Inventory number 137  
Reference R. C. A. M. Inv. 39  
Plan by A. S. H. and M. J. S.  
(fig. 52)  
Visited 17.8.56

*Description.* The cairn is placed on the gently sloping moorland shore of Loch Calder at about 270ft. OD, and only about 600ft by E of the long cairn Tulach Buaille Assery. The cairn is grass-grown, and has been opened and robbed in the centre. The diameters are 58ft. N-S and 54ft. E-W, and its height is about 7ft.

The entrance has evidently been from the E, for 14ft. from the edge at this side there is a large lintel *in situ* with another displaced lintel in front of it. Under the lintel may be seen a transverse slab projecting from the S side, one of the portal stones at the entrance to the chamber. The outer compartment has been about 4ft. long and about 4ft. 6in. wide, four oversailing courses of dry-walling on its S side being visible. The N partner of a pair of divisional stones remains at the entry to the next compartment. There is an upright slab standing at the NE corner of this compartment, and 8ft. to the W there are exposed some flat oversailing slabs which may represent the walling at the back of the chamber, but as they are large and rough they may be no more than the slabs of which the cairn is composed, arranged fortuitously.

(2).

Torr Ban na Gruagaich



373. Long horned chambered cairn. 'Torr Ban na Gruagaich'. Dimensions: (5).  
 42m x 18m. Height: 2m. Circular grass-covered mound 18m x 16m forms  
 the highest part of the mound. Central depression 6m x 5m with two  
 orthostats and stones visible. Indistinct horns 4- long protrude from  
 the N end of the cairn. To the S is a subrectangular mound 26m x 12m  
 which has been truncated by ploughing at its S end. Orientation: N-S.  
 There is a subrectangular structure 7m x 6m defined by grass-covered  
 banks, which is situated partially over the cairn at the middle of its E  
 side. Orientation: E-W.  
 Elevation: 275' OD.  
 ND 058600.  
 O.S. Card ND 06 SE 13.  
 Henshall, A.S. (1963) The Chambered Tombs of Scotland, vol. 1, 39,  
 No. 137. RCAHMS (1911) Caithness, 39, No. 137.  
 (Fig. 4)

