

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD



1 SITE CODE	H	N	D	1	3	SE	0	4	2
2 NGR	N	D	1	5	7	3	4	4	3 QUAL
6 SITE NAME	MINERA								
10 GENERIC TYPE	SETTLEMENT+FIELD SYSTEM								
14 PERIOD/DATE	BA=IA				15 DATING METHOD				
18 SHAPE	TYP								
19 THREAT AND DATE									

4 DISTRICT	CAITHNESS	5 PARISH	LATHERON
7 AREA STATUS	8 SITE STATUS	9 REGIONAL STATUS	
11 CONCORDANCE	12 FORM		
OS ND 13 SE 42	STANDING STRUCTURES		
NMR +20 +21			
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS	17 CONDITION		
7 HUT CIRCLES	INCOMPLETE		

20 LAND USE	21 GEOLOGY
22 SOILS	23 VEGETATION
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE	25 RELIEF
	GENTLE HILLSLOPE
26 ASPECT	27 ALTITUDE
W	130=150m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1979: 1/10,000 MAP
2. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS INVENTORY: HMSO: No 227, p62
3. G.C. SURVEY: 1986: DB 20/6a-i

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

H AR: 11.2.1986

GS: T.C. M8

52 TEXT

"Settlement of 7 hut circles.

A ND 1571 3447

B ND 1568 3444

C ND 1577 3442

D ND 1576 3438

E ND 1589 3457

F ND 1587 3453

G ND 1581 3467."

"See continuation card for text."

Centred at ND 157 344, on the margin of open moorland, are four hut circles (A-D) all depleted and heather and grass-covered, and traces of associated land-use.

HND 13 SE 042

'A', at ND 1571 3447, measures approximately 14.0 m in diameter over a wall up to 0.4 m high, but spread to an indefinite width. In the S, a depression breaks the wall and pierces the hut interior; this was probably the entrance, accentuated by later disturbance.

'B', at ND 1568 3444, measures 7.0 m in diameter within a wall, 0.2 m average height, spread to a width of 2.0 to 2.5 m. The entrance is in the SSE. At a lower level outside this hut, to the SW, is an enclosure, very possibly a hut circle, much reduced, and with its ENE arc apparently overlaid by 'B'. It measures some 10.5 m N-S by 7.0 m transversely over a peat-silted wall, 0.2 m high and spread to a maximum width of 3.0 m. The entrance is in the S.

Hut 'C', at ND 1577 3442, is built up on a slope and measures 9.0 m N-S by 8.0 m transversely within a wall, 0.2 m average height but of indeterminate width. The simple entrance is in the S.

'D', at ND 1576 3438, appears to comprise a hut circle within a second hut circle, sharing a common entrance in the SW. The outer structure measures 3.5 m NE-SW by 7.5 m transversely within a wall at best 3.0 m wide and 0.5 m high. The inner circle, less pronounced, measures internally 5.5 m NE-SW by 4.5 m transversely; its wall is very indeterminate. Outside the entrance, there appears to be a horned forecourt.

(OSFI:JM:19.10.1982)

There are several stone clearance heaps and a number of field walls partly buried in the peat, in the vicinity of these hut circles.

(2)

At the top of the cultivated land immediately E of the broch at Minera partly within the field and (HUT CIRCLE 'E') partly on the moor above the dyke, is a prominent hut circle. It is situated on the slope of the hill and the interior has been dug out to make a level floor, so that while the elevation of the top of the bank on the upper side is about 6 ft, that on the lower is 2 ft. The bank, which measures 10 to 12 ft in thickness, is stony and well-defined. The internal diameter is 32 ft. The position of the entrance is not apparent. 150 yrd to the SSE is another hut circle measuring 32 ft in diameter within a turf and stone bank which has several large block in situ on the inner and outer faces, giving a wall thickness of 7 to 8 ft. The position of the entrance is not apparent. (HUT CIRCLE 'G')

There are two hut circles: E, at ND 1589 3457, and F, newly located at ND 1587 3453. The huts are generally depleted and are grass and heather-covered; their entrances are not evident.

'E' measures overall approximately 15.0 m N-S by 12.5 m transversely. No facing stones can now be identified in a wall spread at most pronounced to 2.5 m broad by 0.2 m high (ND 1589 3457) Hut Circle as described by the RCAHM. (1) There is no evidence of an associated field system.

'F' measures some 14.0 m in diameter overall. The wall is obscure except in the N where it gives a spread up to 4.0 m broad by 0.5 m high.

Associated land-use is indicated by one or two heaps of stone clearance in the vicinity of the huts. There are occasional traces of field walls or banks.

'G' (ND 1581 3467) Hut Circle

(1)

A hut circle, as described by the RCAHM.

(OSFI:JM:19.10.1982)

No change to the report. An old field wall cuts through the W hut circle.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

DETAILS OF SCHEDULE	Date: 22.8.91	EXTENT (✓)	Artefact		Monument	✓	Area	
	Reg. of Sasines	County: CAITHNESS			Book:	Folio:		

LOCATION	Old County: CAITHNESS										District: CAITHNESS									
	Parish: LATHERON																			
Grid Ref. Monument	N	D	1	S	7		3	4	4											
Grid Ref(s). Area	N																			
	N																			
	N																			
	N																			
	N																			
NMRS Concordance No(s)	N	D	1	3	S	E	4	2	SMR No(s)	H	N	D	1	3	S	E	0	4	2	
	N						2	0		H	N									
	N						2	1		H	N									
	N									H	N									
	N									H	N									
	N									H	N									
Other Locational Details: Three areas scheduled : S area 150m E-W by 170m SSE-NNW He E area, 95m SW-NE by 50m NW-SE and He N area 40m diameter																				

[illegible]