

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

FIELD MONUMENTS



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

1 SITE CODE	H N D 2 7 S W 0 0 3
2 NGR	N D 2 4 8 8 7 3 6 6
3 QUAL	CE
6 SITE NAME	R A T T A R
10 GENERIC TYPE	BURIAL CAIRN, ROUND, CHAMBERED (OCH)
14 PERIOD/DATE	NE
15 DATING METHOD	TYP
18 SHAPE	SUB-CIRCULAR
19 THREAT AND DATE	

4 DISTRICT	CAITHNESS	5 PARISH	DUNNET
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS	
9 REGIONAL STATUS			
11 CONCORDANCE	OS ND 27 SW 3	12 FORM	STANDING STRUCTURE
		13 DIMENSIONS	12.6m x 11.8m
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS	A SEMAPHORE POLE IS DUG INTO THE TOP		17 CONDITION
			ROBBED AND REDUCED TO A LOW MOUND

20 LAND USE	ENCLOSED LAND	21 GEOLOGY	
22 SOILS		23 VEGETATION	
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF	LEVEL GROUND
		26 ASPECT	NNE
		27 ALTITUDE	15 = 20m OD

28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)

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

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1976: 1/10 000 MAP
2. RCAHMS: 1911: CAITHNESS SURVEY: HMSO: p27, No. 83
3. HENSHALL, A.S.: 1963: CHAMBERED TOMBS OF SCOTLAND: EDIN. U.P.: Vol. 1: pp285-6: No. 45
4. BATEY, C.: 1980: CAITHNESS COASTAL SURVEY: DURHAM U.P.: p55, DUN 014.

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	PB: 2.4.1986
		51 CHECK: DATE	PB: 16.4.1986

52 TEXT

"ND 2488 7366. Chambered cairn (remains of)." (1)

"The fragmentary remains of a large circular construction, from which the stones have been removed. It has probably been a broch." (2)

"This is an Orkney-Cromarty round cairn with a Camster-type chamber, which has been greatly disturbed and robbed, and is reduced to a low mound, max. height 3ft (0.9m). It now measures 80ft (24.5m) NW-SE by 72ft (22.1m) transversely. The tops of a number of thin parallel slabs can be seen projecting somewhat to the SW of the centre of the cairn, suggesting that a chamber was orientated NW-SE with the entrance at the SE (see attached photocopy). At the ESE edge of the mound are two larger slabs set more or less radially, apparently unconnected with the chamber. (Miss Henshall erroneously refers to RCAHM site No. 73 at this cairn.)" (3)

"The remains of this cairn are as described by Miss Henshall." (OSFI:RD:1.3.1965)

cont. over/...

52./ "A cairn, 12.6m N-S by 11.8m E-W (sic - ? 24 by 22m) and 1m high, eroded and roughly circular. Stone slabs project and a semaphore pole is dug into the top of it." (4)
"The remains of a chambered cairn, generally as described." (OSFI:JM:28.4.1982)
"See continuation card for additional text."

45 RATTAR
 (O.-C., Camster-type, round)
 In the parish of
 DUNNET
 Location on the N coast 2 1/2 m.
 SE of
 DUNNET
 Map reference
 ND 249757
 Sheet 15U; ND 27 SW
 Inventory number 73

Reference R. C. A. M. Inv. 26¹
 Plan by C. A. G. and A. S. H.
 (fig. 47)
 Visited 9.5.57

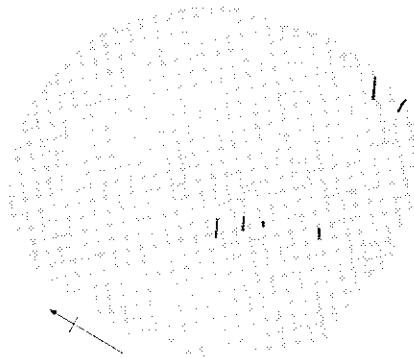
Description. The site is in a field, about 300 or 400ft. from the coast and at nearly 50ft. OD. The cairn had been greatly disturbed and robbed, and is now reduced to a low irregular grass-grown mound with a maximum height of about 3 ft. It appears to be slightly oval, about 80ft. NW-SE by 72ft. SW-NE, but probably it was originally round and has been spread on the NW side.

The tops of a number of thin parallel slabs can be seen projecting, somewhat to the SW of the centre of the cairn, all apparently arranged on an axis lying NW-SE, suggesting that there has been a chamber orientated on this line and entered from the SE. At about 16ft. from the SE edge is a slab hardly showing above the surface. Ten feet to the NW is a small slab projecting 9in.; 3ft. 6in. behind it is a larger slab showing for a height of 1ft. 6in., and 4ft. 9in. further are two lower slabs at present 1ft. high, which may represent one split stone, possibly the back-slab of the chamber. The remains have been disturbed since 1910, for then there were 'the heads of three large slabs all facing N and S, two in line and one a short distance to the rear opposite the space between the two slabs in front',¹ which implies the existence of a pair of transverse divisional stones and a back-slab.

At the ESE edge of the mound are two larger slabs, set more or less radially, 5ft. to 6ft. 6in. apart, apparently unconnected with the chamber.

(3)

Rattar



(3)

"Inventory number 73 above should be Inventory Number 83."

(SMRPA:PB:2.4.1986)

1000 1000 1000
 1000 1000 1000

