

Druim an Daraich: a ruin.

At NM 6807 8414 (located by hand-held GPS) is an unroofed building. It is not shown on the First Edition six inch OS map of 1876 (but it can probably be assumed it was there) but is shown on the current 1:25000 OS map. It is situated in a sheltered gully amongst trees.

This complex little building is very tumbled with a maximum wall height of 1.5m, but most of the walls are collapsed. It lies north-east to south-west. Overall it measures approximately 11m x 5m and consists of two compartments: the north-eastern compartment is reasonably-well built and is approximately 5m x 5m. The south-western compartment is approximately 6m x 5m and is very roughly built. The joints between the two are very rudimentary, with no keying-in. Outside corners are round, inside corners are square. There is a wide doorway in the north-eastern end but no sign of a doorway in the south-western part. No windows are discernible anywhere. Each section has a walled-off area in the southern corners, possibly lambing cupboards, although the south-eastern one is possibly too large for this purpose.

A quantity of broken but good quality white crockery is piled in a hole in the south-eastern corner.

The two parts of the building, built at different times, and the large doorway in the eastern end, suggest a possible change of use, perhaps from residential to agricultural.

There is a substantial clearance cairn outside the south-east corner and evidence of cultivation to the south, where the ground is heavily-covered in bracken.

It was visited on January 20th 2011.

Ken & Jean Bowker

Photographs



Building from north-west



Building from east



Broken crockery



Rough joint of two halves of the building



Lambing cupboard?