

Emergency Survey Site Descriptions (Typescripts): Inverness-shire, 1943

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The list below has been prepared as an aid to finding the description of specific sites. It lists the typescript page number first, the name and classification of each site (as used in the original typescript), and the current unique RCAHMS identification number.

By entering a search for this number in Canmore, the reader can access other information about each site, including contemporary notebooks, photographs and sketched plans.

The index was created on 3 November 2015 by G F Geddes, RCAHMS.

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INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

FORT, TOM A' CHAISTEAL, KIRKTON. The name "Tom a' Chaisteal", recorded by Wallace (P.S.A.S., xx, p. 340) is not now known at Kirkton, but the site was identified without difficulty from his description. The knoll in question stands about a quarter of a mile just W. of S. of Kirkton Farm and ~~forms~~^{forms} the end of a promontory between two small glens on W. and NE.; ~~and~~^{it} is divided from the adjoining ground to S. and SE. by a hollow, about 25 ft. deep, at the highest point of the saddle between the two glens. This hollow is evidently a natural one, but its sides may have been steepened artificially for defensive purposes. The summit of the knoll is a very suitable site for a fort, but it was too thickly covered with bracken at the date of visit for any features to be identified. A few isolated stones were, however, found among the bracken, and the W. part of the summit seemed to be flattened if not actually somewhat dished.

xi. (unnoted).

September 13th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSHIRE.

PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

FORT, KIRKTON. In additon to Tom a' Chaisteal (supra) Wallace (P.S.A.S., xx, p.340) records a fort on an isolated hill W. of Kirkton. This is evidently not Cnoc a' Chinn, on the summit of which there are no remains of any kind. There is, however, a lower isolated hill between Cnoc a' Chinn and Inchberry Hill, which would fit Wallace's description equally well; this could not be visited, and it should be noted for examination when the Inventory is made.

xi. (unnoted).

September 14th 1943.

ag. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

CAIRN & INDETERMINATE REMAINS, INCHBERRY HILL. On a shoulder of Inchberry Hill, N. W. of the summit and about 450 yds. S. W. of pt. 588, there is a small cairn built on a rounded outcrop. It measures 7 ft. by 4 ft. and is less than 1 ft. high. About 30 yds. S. of the cairn there are traces of what seems to have been a hut partly dug into the hillside, with stones shewing along the lip of the excavation. From behind the stones to what was probably the downhill edge of the site measures 17 ft., seven of which represent the excavated slope, which falls about 1 ft. 6 in. The transverse measurement is 20 ft. This hollow might possibly be explained as a superficial quarryhole, but it is more probably a hut. Otherwise Inchberry Hill seems to be deficient in traces of primitive occupation. The "two circular buildings" mentioned in P. S. A. S., xx, p. 350, no doubt hut-circles, could not be identified.

xi. (unnoted).

August 15th 1943.

A.S. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

MOUND, ALTNACARDICH. Three mounds are mentioned in P.S.A.S., xx, p. 350 as existing at Altnacardich, but all those seen in this vicinity seemed to be natural except the one that stands about 20 yds. N. E. of the N. E. end of the house. This one is flattened on the top, is covered with grass and evidently contains large stones, but it has suffered so much disturbance that its original features are uncertain. But, if originally round, it must have measured more than 50 ft. in diameter, and it still stands 5 ft. high on the down-hill side.

xi. (unnoted).

August 15th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

CAIRNS, LENTRAN. No trace could be found^{sf,} nor any local information obtained~~is~~ regarding, the cairns half a mile S. of Lentrán House noted in P.S.A.S., xx, p. 348. Their probable site is now either arable or thickly wooded.

xi. (unnoted).

August 15th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DORES.

CAIRN, N. of LOCH ASHIE. This cairn is situated on a low ridge between the N. corner of Loch Ashie and the junction of the highway and the by-road leading to the outlet of the loch. It is quite inconspicuous, being much dilapidated and heavily covered with heather and moss. All that can be seen is a pile of squarish blocks of stone measuring about 4 ft. in diameter by 2 ft. high, with an isolated stone 8 ft. away to the S. W. But there is evidently a good deal more hidden by the vegetation.

xix.

August 14th 1943.

R.S. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DORAN.

CAIRNS, ETC., DRUMASHIE MOOR. On the N. E. part of Drumashie Moor, W. of the highway, a number of cairns and some other remains were observed. a/ Two to three dozen small cairns, heavily turfed over, mostly about the lip of the plateau (represented approximately by the 750' contour) and extending downhill towards the N. W. b/ The wasted foundations of an irregular stone-&-turf dyke, running along the slope below most of the small cairns. c/ The foundations of a rectangular hut or enclosure, measuring about 12 ft. by 9 ft., among the small cairns. d/ Two mounds, no doubt ^{turf}/~~stone~~-covered cairns, at a lower level and further to the N. W. than the others, being close to the edge of the cultivated ground extending S. from ^{the} Drumashie Woods. The larger mound measures 37 ft. from N. E. to S. W. by 32 ft. transversely and is up to 3 ft. high. Its summit has been hollowed out. The smaller mound, which is intact, lies 50 yds. N. E. of its neighbour and measures 20 ft. in diameter by 2 ft. in height.

xix.

August 14th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DORES PARISH.

DUN, BUAILE CHOMHARD, S. of LOCH ASHIE. Exactly 3/10 m. S. of the end of L. Ashie, on the crest of a low wide swampy ridge that rises and continues to rise above the ruin to the S. W. without quite reaching the 800 ft. contour, are the very ruinous remains of a circular drystone enclosure about 120' across inside. The wall now consists of a rickle of boulders that has been roughly patched in places as if to provide shelters for sheep. No trace of the original inner face can be detected with any confidence, but some footings at least of the outer face are visible in places under later patching.

xix. ("Supposed remains of Fort").

19.viii.43.

A.G. 31/3/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DORES PARISH.

CAIRNS, ETC., S. W. of L. ASHIE. On the crest of the same ridge ^{*}
S.S.W. of the dūn is a line of 9 small cairns, mostly about
20' in diameter. But No. 6 (from the N.) at the highest point
of the ridge is at least 25' across. No. 9 about 3/10 mile WNW.
of West Town farmhouse is also about 24-26 ft. in diameter.
It is situated near the centre of a ring framed by a peat-
covered bank interrupted by a gap at the ENE and defined
externally by slabs which measures 42' to 45' in overall diameter.
This ring certainly resembles a typical hut-circle and the small
cairn seems to have been heaped within ~~it~~ and to be posterior to
its use. A perfectly distinct hut-circle measuring 31' overall
is visible on a strip of level ground below the crest of the
ridge E. of cairn 9. The E. flank of the ridge is traversed
by several very ruinous enclosure baulks of stones, the last-
named hut-circle itself standing within an irregularly rectan-
:gular enclosure thus bounded. In cairn 2 there are traces
of a built cist.

On the next ridge to the NW. and WNW. of the fort (*Dun
Buaile Chomhruad*)
are numerous small cairns 12' - 15' in diameter, again on the
E. flank of the ridge but near the 800' contour. These seem
to have been disturbed and dug into.

Further to the NW. there is another group of similar
small cairns on the E. flank of the ridge that is followed by
the high road from Inverfarigaig to Inverness, as noted on the
O.S. map.

** Je. as that mentioned under Dun, Buaile Chomhruad, S. of
(Loch Ashie.)*

xix. ("Cairns").

19.viii.43.

A. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DORES PARISH.

FORT, CAIRNS, ETC., CAISTEAL AN DUNRIACHAIDH.

This fort

occupies an elongated boss of conglomerate which rises from the marshy moorland lying NW. of Loch Dun an t - Seilchaig and SW. of Loch nan Eoin Ruadha and Loch a' Choin. The major axis of this eminence runs from ~~W.~~^{NE.} to ~~SW.~~^{SW.}; its SE. side consists of a formidable precipice at least 50 ft. high and its NW. side, though less uniformly precipitous, is steep and broken up by patches of sheer rock-face. The defences, which are very much dilapidated, consist of an inner and an outer rampart on the ridge itself while a mound of earth & stone, which it is difficult to regard otherwise than as part of the defensive system, runs immediately below the base of the ridge on its NW. side and fades out to the SW. and NE. on rocky outcrops. (This mound is not shown on the plan). The outer rampart proper crosses the SW. end of the ridge, where access is easy, and is here pierced by an entrance which, though clearly distinguishable, shows no definite features other than the outer corner on the NW. side and a line of masonry 2 ft. 6 in. long marking the return face of the entrance-passage. From the entrance the rampart swings E. and NE. with the contours to die out on the lip of the precipice at a distance of 100 ft. On the other side of the entrance it swings similarly to N. and NE., becoming fragmentary towards the NE. extremity of the ridge where again it appears to have ended on the precipitous eastern side. The thickness of the outer rampart is not measurable. There seem to have been no artificial defences along the lip of the precipice, and this and the outer rampart between them enclose an almond-shaped area measuring 290 ft. from NE. to SW. by about 145 ft. (maximum) transversely. The inner rampart encloses part of the summit of the ridge; it can be traced from a point about 15 ft. NW. of ^{the end, on} the lip of the precipice, ~~of~~ ^{where the}

~~where~~ the SE. section of the outer rampart, ~~ends~~ to W., N. and E. until it dies out on the side of a rocky knoll which is the highest part of the site. There is nothing to suggest that it ever extended along the SE. side of the summit, above the precipice. The outer face of this wall is visible here and there to the extent of one or sometimes two courses, but its thickness is nowhere measurable and no entrance can be identified with certainty. There is a waterhole 10 ft. in diameter in the NE. part of the enclosure between the outer and inner ramparts.

On the flat moorland to S. and W. of the ridge on which the fort stands there are a number of small cairns. On the SW. there are traces of an enclosure or hut measuring 36 ft. by 20 ft. and of another of smaller size. More small cairns can be seen NW. of the fort, on the W. side of the road that runs NE. towards Loch Ashie.

xxx. Wallace TISS., ^{p.} ~~viie~~ 125 ("plan" p. 130) August 19th 1943.

A.S.
31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

INVERNESS & BONA.

CHAMBERED CAIRN(S), ESSICH MOOR. On Essich Moor is a wide ridge above the 700' ^{contour} sloping up gently to above 750' on the S., whence it continues as Drumashie Moor but falling away rather more steeply to the N.; it forms the watershed between the Allt Mòr (that flows out of L. Ashie) and the Ness. The broad crest is cut into several parallel gravelly ridges by shallow swampy depressions. The whole area is now covered with heather and peat and practically treeless. At the N. end of the easternmost of the minor component ridges are three heaps of naked stones in line running N. and S., separated by two rather lower and grass-grown but still stony tracts 30' wide, the whole series extending over a total length of 380'. No peristalith nor peristaliths are exposed to define the monuments; grass and heather are encroaching upon the cairn material; on the other hand cairn stones may have been spread about by indiscriminate plunderers; finally the frontier between cairn material and virgin soil which itself is gravel can not be easily discerned. The monument has evidently been used as a quarry for stones, perhaps for building or repairing Gen. Wade's Inverness-Stratherrick Rd. that runs less than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the W. Hence the form, dimensions and elevation of the original monuments cannot be defined with any precision. What the visitor actually sees are three irregular heaps of naked stones, bearing a few whins and thorns, which will be treated for purposes of description as 3 distinct cairns.

On the N., bare stones form a continuous cairn 120' long N. and S., 57' wide just behind the chamber and 50' wide 100' from the N. end, surviving to a height of some 6' round the chamber. Near the N. end are exposed an erect portal stone rising 3' above the cairn material, the west side of a passage 9'8" long leading to a cist 6' long x 4'9" wide at its apparent end. Of the passage wall 2 slabs on edge respectively 3'6" and 4'4" /

4'4" long have been exposed to a height of 1'4" and 2'2" by trenching along their outer W. sides. The inner side of a corresponding slab 3'3" long parallel to the innermost on the W. is also exposed on the E. The cist itself is more fully cleared though the floor is cumbered with a layer of boulders of uncertain depth. Its sides are formed by two large slabs on edge almost parallel but not in line with the passage sides. That on the W. is 6'1" long 1'1" thick and 2'2" high above the boulders, its E. counterpart 5'9" x 10" x 3'1". The S. end of the cist seems to be formed by a very low headstone. This is only 2'2" long and so does not close the chamber, the SW. corner being filled only with boulders. W. of the W. lateral slab is another large slab leaning against it measuring 6'7" x 3'0" x 10" - perhaps a lintel. A rowan tree is growing just south of the apparent end of the cist. 33' S. of the latter and 8' W. of the axis, but at right angles thereto, the upper edge of a slab 1'8" wide and 5" thick just projects through the cairn material. Near the SW. corner is a hollow in which slabs on edge or exposed among large boulders.

? are

The central cairn, much overgrown with whins, seems to measure 76' N. & S. x 47' E. & W. Near its apparent northern margin is a thick horizontal slab apparently covering a cavity, while near the centre some slabs on edge are exposed in a hole made by pillagers. At the SE. corner the corner of a megalithic cist partly demolished is fully exposed. The "headstone" on the W. is 4'9" long, 1' thick and rises 3'3" high above the moss-clad boulders that line the cist. The S. side is a slab 2'10" long at right angles to the headstone but 1'6" lower than it. The N. side is missing, while there may have been an entrance on the E. equally lost.

The S. cairn, on the high end ^{of} ~~at~~ the ridge, is 124' N. & S. x 94' E. & W. across the chamber and perhaps 8' high.

Near/

Near the centre the inner end of a chamber, presumably running N. and S., is exposed; the headstone is a solid block 5' ~~side~~^{wide} & 1'6" thick, and rising 5'6" above debris on the chamber floor. Making a small angle with its E. end is a small pointed slab 2'10" x 1'8" high to its apex. Beyond this, but at a less sharp angle with the head stone (still less than a right angle) the side is continued by a second slab 3'4" long and exposed 2'4" high. In the corner dry stone masonry of flat slabs, oversailing inwards over the E. edge of the headstone, fill up the irregularities of the NE. stone and bring the wall at this point up to ~~the~~^{the} height of the second wall-slab, but this masonry continues behind the second slab. The W. side of the chamber and its entrance on the S. are entirely hidden in debris.

This monument-complex might be regarded as the remains of three cairns of the Beaully-Nairn-Spey type set in line (as at Clova) & reduced to chaos by stone-robbers. Nevertheless the structure of the chambers with split slabs instead of boulders, the presence of a lateral chamber and the situation on a high moor above the 700' contour, differentiate the complex sharply from any cairn of that group such as Ballindarrach and even

.x. which stand on the same watershed. Mr. James D. McCulloch, in his little pamphlet Essich & its Traditions, published by Munro, Aberdeen, regards the monument as one long cairn. Though it is very much longer than any other cairn in Scotland and it may still be a composite monument it should perhaps be connected with the Clyde or Pentland groups rather than with the Beaully.

xx ("Carn Glas".)

A.G. 229 31/8/60.

.x. Blank in MS.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

CASTLE HEATHER. This appears to be the site of a castle,
but there is nothing of interest to be seen except the remains
of a ditch.

xi. ("Earthworks".)

August 16th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

CASTLEHILL HOUSE. The earliest parts of this house are said to date from before 1745, but additions and modernizations have disguised any early architectural features.

xii.

August 16th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

STONE CIRCLE, TORBRECK. This monument stands about 500 yds. SW. of Torbreck, its site being a shelf of arable land not quite 200 ft. above sea-level and overlooking the River Ness, which flows along the bottom of the valley on the NW. It consists of eight upright stones and one fallen one, disposed, as shown over-leaf, on the periphery of a figure approximating to a circle 20 ft. in diameter. Whether it is to be regarded as the remains of a chambered cairn of the Clava type is doubtful; especially as the stones are graded in height from a tall pair on the SSW. (B and C) through others of intermediate height (A and D) to the lowest (E, G, H & J) on the N. sector, and this is a feature of an outer ring, for which the diameter of this circle is too small, rather than of a peristalith or a chamber. Stone F cannot be placed in the height-series with certainty as it has fallen outwards and is partly covered with turf. The dimensions of all the stones are as follows in the order height, breadth, thickness:- C, 6 ft. by 3 ft. 9 in. by 2 ft. 9 in.; B, 5 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. 4 in.; D, 4 ft. 6 in. by 3 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 3 in.; A, 4 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 3 in. by 2 ft.; F, originally perhaps, over 4 ft. by 3 ft. by an unknown thickness; J, 3 ft. 11 in. by 2 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 9 in.; E, 3 ft. 9 in. by 2 ft. 8 in. by 1 ft. 10 in.; G, 3 ft. 8 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. 11 in.; H, 3 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 10 in. A hollow about 6 ft. in diameter by 1 ft. deep has been dug slightly to the NW. of the apparent centre of the monument.

.x. Ref. Ms.

xii.

August 19th 1948.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

INVERNESS & BONA PARISH.

^{RR}
CHAMBERED CAIRN, BALLINDAHOCH, stands immediately to the E. of General Wade's Road from Inverness to Dores, between the farms of Ballinda^{rr}hoch & Balnafroig^{and} near the NE. end of the broad ridge defined by the 200' contour but slightly E. of its crest. The remains consist of a free-standing circle of 8 stones (the tallest on the SSW. measuring 5'8" high x 5'3" x 2'6" and its neighbour on SSE. 4'4" x 5'6" x 2'7") with diameters of 63' N. & S. x 61' E. & W.; a peristalith of close-set slabs on edge 3' to 2'6" high with diameters of 30' and 29'; and four stones that probably constituted the basal course of a chamber 11' in diameter. Entrance to the chamber was obtained through a gap in the peristalith a few degrees W. of S., and a passage about 10'6" long of which 4 orthostats survive on each side. The portal stone in the peristalith stands 3'4" x 2'9" x 1'6".

The site has been planted though it is now clear of trees. In removing these 5 or 6 stones have been removed from the peristalith on the NE. and replaced outside ~~at~~ it further W. Practically nothing of the cairn itself survives.

* MS appears to read "3'h", & the meaning ~~was~~ is presumably "3' high"; see Chambered Cairn, Cullernie, for similar abbreviation.

xix. ("Stone Circle").

19.viii.43.

As. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

INVERNESS & BONA PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, STONE CIRCLE, CULLERNIE. On a level field S. of the Inverness-Nairn Rd. opposite Cullernie is a stony mound about 2' high bordered by close-set boulders on edge running more or less NE. and SW. The boulders, almost continuous on NW. but with serious gaps on the SE., form in the first instance a pear-shaped enclosure about 39' x 33'. But about 32' from the SW. end a second setting, at first 25' wide and slowly contracting, forms an extension bringing the total length of the mound up to 50'. On the N. 5 stones survive of this outer line of which the E-most is the largest in the monument, being 4'6" h. x 4'6" w. x 2'9" thick. Only three stones survive in the S. line and one prostrate slab obviously displaced. On the margins of the mound between the uprights boulders appear thickly packed as in a cairn, but the interior is covered with rank grass in which numerous large blocks are lying without obvious order. Some of these show jumper marks, showing that they are fragments more or less displaced. None are now suggestive of a chamber, nor is there any obvious passage though the authenticity of some stones protruding through the grass at the E. end is not beyond question.

* So in MS, but not in agreement with plan.

† as in MS, but should be E.

iv. ("Stone Circle, remains of".)

16.viii.45.

A.G. 31/8/60

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

STONE SETTING, LEACHKIN. This monument stands at an elevation of nearly 700 ft. above sea-level, on the spine of ^aridge W. of the County Asylum. The structure has evidently been greatly disturbed; but the remains of a cist are still recognizable in the E. part (Stones K to O) and at the SW. corner there is a great pillar (A) 6 ft. 4 in. high, 4 ft. 3 in. broad & 2 ft. 11 in. thick. Of the stones that form the cist, K (2 ft. 11 in. high by 2 ft. 6 in. broad by 1 ft. 1 in. thick) has evidently been badly displaced, but the remainder, which vary from 1 ft. to 2 ft. 8 in. in height, 2 ft. to 4 ft. 1 in. in breadth and 11 in. to 1 ft. 6 in. in thickness, suggest that the cist may originally have measured about 5 ft. each way and may have had an entrance - perhaps about 1 ft. 6 in. broad - on the W. side, between Stones K & L. Stone J, an upright 2 ft. 9 in. high, 4 ft. 4 in. broad & 1 ft. 6 in. thick, lacks any obvious function; as do likewise Stones C, E, F & G, which are almost flush with the ground, & stones B & H, which seem to be slabs lying nearly prone & largely covered up with soil. Stone D, a slab, is lying free, partly on top of Stone C, and has no doubt be thrown into its present position in more or less recent times. (Photo. by Professor Childe.)

xi. ("Stone Circle".)

August 15th 1943.

A.S. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

INVERNESS & BONA PARISH.

CRAIG PHADRIG.

VITRIFIED FORT, ^h Craig Phadrig is an isolated peak of conglomerate rising to just under 800'; ^{it} ~~that~~ forms the NE. extremity of the ridge between the Ness Valley and the Beaully Firth that is continued beyond the track by the Hill of Kessock. The sides of the peak are steep and in places precipitous. The elongated summit is defended by two stony ramparts entirely covered with grass and whins; the outer one was still planted with trees when the site was visited. The trees on the inner rampart and in the interior had been felled. The inner rampart encloses an irregular rectilinear figure, running on the SE. dead straight for about 250' and on the NW. for ^{220'} ~~200'~~ but not quite parallel since the width at the NE. end is 90' from crest to crest at the SW. only 80'. No vitrified masses are now exposed, but on the SW. the track across the rampart has laid bare two or three stones of a built masonry face 20' outside the apparent crest of the rampart. No visible gap interrupts the rampart.

The outer rampart is much more overgrown. It crosses the ridge 63' from the inner rampart's crest at the NE. end and 73' from it at the SW. end, but on the steep sides approaches to within 45' of the inner rampart.

The interior of the enclosure is some 4' below the rampart crest, but is uneven ^{and} pitted with hollows filled with nettles & ferns.

xi.

15.viii.43.

TRSE., 1783, p. ^{*}

; T.I.S.S., viii, 90-3.

^{*} Blank in MS.

A.S.
31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

STONE CIRCLE, CULDUTHEL. The stone circle noted SW. of Culduthel Hospital was not seen and nothing was known about it by local residents. Any further search made for it would require the 6 - inch O. S. map-sheet on the spot.

xii.

August 14th 1943.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

SCULPTURED STONE, DRUMDEVAN. This stone, which stands on the E. side of the Inverness - Loch Ashie road about 200 yds. NE. of Drumdevan, has been described but without a photograph (Cf. E.C.M., iii, p. 104). These have now been secured by ~~Major~~^{Professor} Childe. The stone measures 6 ft. 7 in. in height, 7 ft. in breadth and 1 ft. 3 in. in thickness. Axis of face is nearly ENE. and WSW.

xii.

August 14th 1943.

as. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF INVERNESS & BONA.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, DRUIDTEMPLE.

About 200
~~sample of 100~~ yds. SW. of

the farm house, beyond the small burn, are the remains of a cairn situated near the NW. end of a gravel ridge in a small wood. The remains consist of a ring of 14 free-standing monoliths with a diameter of just under 75' N.-S. x 65' E.-W., the largest stone to SW. standing 8'9" x 5' wide x 3'6" thick and the rest ranging up to 5' in height; a peristalith of close-set slabs on end (some of which are now displaced) forming a ring 43' N.-S. x 39' E.-W.; and the remains of a chamber with entrance passage. A gap in the peristalith ring on the S. 2'4" wide flanked by upright, measuring respectively 3'10" x 5'3" x 2'4" (W.) and 3'3" x 5'2" x 2'6" (on E.), give access to a passage of similar width and 13' long flanked by 4 pairs of uprights. Beyond this point only 3 or 4 large blocks, not apparently in position, are exposed. The surface inside the peristalith ring is certainly stony but is grass-grown and planted with firs.

xii. ("Stone Circles".)

16.viii.43.

A.G. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILTARLITY PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, TOMNACROSS. This cairn stands a quarter of a mile NE. of Tomnacross Church, between the left bank of the Belladrum Burn and the road descending from Glen *Convinth* to join the Inverness-Beaully road a mile SE. of Lovat Bridge. It is now reduced to five upright stones, disposed as shown below,* and perhaps representing the chamber of a cairn of Clava type. Internal cross-measurements vary from 8 ft. to 9 ft., the monument possessing no well-defined major axis. The dimensions of the stones are as follows: in the order height, breadth, thickness, the height being measured on the inner side in every case:- A, 3 ft. 6 in. by 4 ft. 4 in. by 1 ft. 6 in.; B, 2 ft. 7 in. by 3 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 1 in.; C, 3 ft. by 4 ft. by 1 ft. 1 in.; E, 3 ft. 9 in. by 3 ft. by 1 ft. 4 in. Stone B. measures 3 in. more on its outer side than from the apparent floor of the chamber.

* Ref. 5725. for plan.

x. ("Stone Circle.")

August 18th 1943.

A.S. 31/8/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

VITRIFIED FONT, DUN FHIONN, lies in Ruttle Wood, Eileanaigas, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of Eileanaigas Falls, on the right bank of the Beauly R. on a crag overhanging a bend of the river on S. & W. and partially isolated on the N. by a precipitous gully. The whole site is densely wooded and cumbered with a thick undergrowth of bracken, ferns and nettles. On the E. a grass-grown bank is clearly visible running fairly straight for perhaps 200', though interrupted about midway by a wide gap occupied by luxuriant nettles. Near the N. end one large block of vitrified stones was exposed. At the N. end it seems to turn to the W. and is then almost at once interrupted by another narrow gap that is opposite a saddle that unites the crag to the main mass of hill culminating in Torr Mor. Beyond this gap the line of this ? rampart is continued by a ridge, precipitous to the E., downhill to the brink of the river gorge. At the S. end too the rampart seems to bend sharply but cannot be followed out to the gorge. Close to this corner can be seen the gap left by the trenches dug by Lord Lovat about 1825 through both the E. and S. ramparts. Bits of vitrified material and many stones that have been exposed to heat are visible in the spoil heaps then thrown up. There is no trace of a wall along the brink of the gorge. Owing to the density of the vegetation and disturbance by planting and excavation it is impossible at present to determine the size and shape of the work.

x. T.I.S.S., iii, 139; viii, 103 & plan (Wallace). 2l.viii.43.

~~in the area but not near~~

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

EARTHWORK, EASTER ESKADALE WOOD, KINERRAS. In the wood $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of Kinerras Farm and just below the road along the ridge from Auldfearn to Cruive is a bank of earth mixed with a few stones about 2' forming the periphery of a circle 250 to 300 in diameter interrupted by a gap some 4' wide on the WNW. The area enclosed is on the steep slope between the 800' and 750' contours and very uneven. The centre is said to be "stony" (? a cairn) but this feature could not be detected owing to the closeness of the trees and the thick carpet of needles and moss. Mr. Macdonald, who has known the region for 86 years, says that before plantation the slope was uncultivated and the circle very distinct. It does not agree with the description given by Wallace in T.I.S.S. iii, p. 145.

Marginal note "Plantation bank?" in RWF's writing

x (indicated but not named).

21.viii.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

CASTLE SPYNIE occupies the summit of a small high peak on the Aird Plateau overlooking the sources of the ^{two} ~~burns~~ burns that flow out through a common gorge near Milifiach and midway between Crockanord farm and Dùn Mòr. It thus commands a wide view over the Beaully Firth as well as along the ridge over Dùn ^{Mòr} ~~Mòr~~ (q.v.), but itself is not visible from the foot of the ridge being hidden by a lower knoll between the two burns. The summit is a crag, precipitous on all sides but clad in patches with heather and small firs. The summit is girt with a dry stone rampart forming a small dùn with an overall diameter of some 62'. Where the rampart rested on naked steeply-sloping rock, particularly on the south, much has slipped downhill, but on the W. N. and N. E. a great pile of stones, visible from afar, is preserved and some strips of outer face have been exposed by casual excavation. These all lie on the circumference of a circle of radius 31', but on the S., between two projecting bosses of naked rock, some stones that look like footings of the other face seem to lie in a straight line for some 16' - the status of these is however definitely uncertain.

To the SW. there is an entrance passage through the wall 12' long 6' wide at the mouth but contracting after 3' to 3'6". The N. face is well preserved but on the S. the passage wall seems to have been repaired and perhaps augmented recently. Access to the entrance is obtained up a narrow fissure in the rock opening to NW., the mouth of which may have been narrowed by an outwork.

The inner face is exposed only at the return of ~~the~~ passage. The interior seems mainly occupied by rock bosses covered with thin heather and fir trees and 6 or more feet higher than the exposed outer face of the rampart.

T.I.S.S. iii, 135 (Wallace)
x ("Fort")

16.viii.43.

AG. 2/9/60.

T. D. Wallace gives the external diameter as 63' & and wall thickness as 14' & so internal diameter 36'. He suggests comparison with brochs but admits apparent absence of distinctive features. I agree with him.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

thus apparently in 185.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, BRUIACH, AULDFEARN. Immediately to the S. of the road from Kintarlity Bridge to Auldfearn, and 400 yd. W. of the P. O. at (1) on level low-lying land between 2 burns, are remains of a free-standing circle now consisting of 14 orthostats with a diameter of about 70' and within it the peristalith of a chambered cairn 45' in diameter. The site has been planted with trees and, perhaps later, the cairn has been entirely removed, and a round pond dug in its site. As a result the inner faces of the peristalith stones alone are exposed, as they were used as a kerb to the pond, the exteriors being buried in mud and grass. There seem to be stones missing in the outer circle on NE. and NW., one is included in a field dyke, while some to ENE. may have been displaced by a tree. The largest stone in this ring measures 3'10" h. x 3'6" w. x 2'6" thick and stands SSW. of the centre; the remainder are rather small. The peristalith seems almost continuous, though many slabs on the SE. and N. are partly hidden in grass and mud that has slipped into the pond. A large stone (on the SW.) in this ring stands 2'4" high and is 4'6" wide; others are narrow but probably all at least 2' high. On the top on one stone in the SW. quadrant are 6 distinct cup-marks; 5 cup-marks may be seen in an equally unusual position on a stone in the NW. quadrant of the peristalith.

x("Stone Circle"). P.S.A.S., xvi (1882), 326. 18.viii.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILTARLITY & CONVINTH.

SMALL CAIRNS, BYREFIELD. Rather less than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. SSW. of Byrefield cottages (which stand on an isolated outcrop knoll) a low gravel-covered ridge begins to rise from swampy ground above the 700' contour, being separated from the main mass of Torr Mòr (1007') on the E. by the valley of the Allt Coire an t'Seilach. Along the crest and flanks of this ridge, especially where bracken begins to mingle with the heather, are scattered some 50 small cairns ranging in diameters from 14' to 25'. All are partially overgrown but some clearly rest upon ridges of outcrop. No structures were found exposed in any examined.

T.I.S.S., iii. p. 142 (? Caiplich group).

18.viii.43.

x & xviii. (Byrefield on X; "Cairns" on xviii).

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINFARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

MOTTE, TOMNACROSS. In the churchyard close to the church is a grass-covered mound of earth 9' high, about 65' in diameter, and not more than 40' across its flat top. The sides of the mound appear to have been scarped and a wall dug.

x ("Tom na Croiseige".)

August 18th 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH. PARISH.

CAIRN (SITE OF), BOBLAINY. Wallace (T.I.S.S., iii, 144) describes a cairn 33' in diameter surrounded 6' out by a circle of stones 2½' to 3' high ¼ of a mile N. of Boblainy. Precisely at this distance on the E. side of the road from Auldfearn, rather below the crest of the ridge and the 500' contour and just beyond the end of cultivated fields, is a grass-grown stony patch of ground now rather swampy. The farmer admits that there was here a circular hollow surrounded with large stones. These he says he threw into the hollow and buried them in earth lest horses should injure themselves in it. Hence neither circle, cairn nor even hollow are now visible.

x (Unnoted).

21.viii.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH

STANDING STONE, "CHAR'S STONE", BUNTAIL, stands on the crest of a ridge N. of the steading about 780' above O. D. It now projects above rather than standing on a grass-grown cairn apparently composed of small stones. Above this the stone rises 3'4", and it measures 1'11" x 1'4" round the base.

xxviii. ("Char's Stone".)

16.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

HUT CIRCLES, BUNTAIL. On the rather marshy moorland between Upperton and Buntail, N. of the road between the farms, are 3 hut circles as well as numerous small cairns. The land slopes very gently to SW. and is rather boggy. On the other side of the road are cultivated fields and ruins of old steadings, and field walls extend across it onto what is now heather-clad moor. The circles are defined by the usual heather-clad banks in which large stones can be felt, interrupted by gaps 6' wide on the ESE. Two measure 33' ~~MM~~ from crest to crest while the third is 37' x 33'.

xxviii. (Unnoted).

16.ix.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

VITRIFIED FORT, DUN MOR occupies an isolated rocky peak forming the northern extremity of Phoinneas Hill, itself the westernmost ridge of the Aird plateau, and so commands a superb view over the lower Beaully valley. The peak is formed of irregular bosses of rock precipitous on N. and W. but rising more gently and by stages on the S. The summit, save where it consists of bare precipitous crags, is girt with a grass-grown rampart accommodated to the rock bosses but tending to be rectilinear on the S.. It encloses an irregular area measuring 180' NE.-SW. x 95' NW-SE. The footings at least of a built outer face were discovered by a little troweling on the brink of the steep slope on the NE., and between two precipitous rock outcrops that form the NW. bastion. On the SW., near the brink of the declivity, one large and perfectly characteristic vitrified mass is exposed. On the S. there is a gap suggestive of an entrance. The interior is covered with nettles, the soil in rabbit-scrapes being very black, but is far from level. On the SW., S. of the vitrified mass, there is a hollow filled with very tall nettles at the foot of a small cliff. Outside the rampart on the first terrace to the S. there is a patch of reeds that looks like a spring though dry when visited.

Wallace gives length as 205' and width as 90'. He recognizes fortifications also on the lower platforms of the hill which we failed to observe. In T.I.S.S., viii, 1912-18, No. 96 he gives a reasonably good plan of the work.

T.I.S.S., iii, 138 (Wallace) ;viii, 95-7~~7~~.

x ~~W~~

16.viii. 43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KIRKHILL PARISH.

MOUND, BALNABREK. On the brink of Balnabrek Hill, immediately above and SE. of Easter Craggach Farm and just on the edge of the wood, is a conspicuous mound measuring about 106' NE.-SW. x 85' NW.-SE. and rising some 20' above the field on the NW. at least 10' above uncultivated land on the SE. The mound is entirely covered with grass, no large stones protruding, but seems to be stony. It stands on the edge of a wood, but has not itself been planted but occupies a rectangular enclosure bounded by dilapidated mossgrown dykes that impinge on the foot of the mound on NE., NW. & SW. but run about 15' from it on SE. The mound may be natural.

xi. (unnoted).

15.viii.43.

Wallace, T.I.S.S., iii, 143, gives "diameter" as 94' and height as 15'.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KIRKHILL PARISH.

CAIRNS, BLAR NAM FEINNE. On the ~~N~~W. slope of the Cnoc na Moine plateau immediately above the road from Kirkton Muir to Altnacardich are numerous small cairns in a very dense larch-wood. Most seem to lie along the 700' contour where the slope is very steep, though there is a fairly level shoulder a little further down. Most seem to have been dug into and the stones spread about, while moss and peat are encroaching. Still the diameters may be between 12' and 20'. No structures are exposed in those visited but owing to the density of the trees the heavy undergrowth and the inconspicuous nature of the monuments only a dozen were actually seen.

xi. Wallace, T.I.S.S., iii, 141.

15.viii.43.

AS. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILTARLITY PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, CULBURNIE. This monument stands immediately NE. of the croft known as No. 19 Culburnie, between the house and the by-road that runs between the Hughton-Aultearn and the Hughton-Kilmorack roads. *[Drawing in MS file.]*

The above plan is intended to accompany the account written by Professor Childe. The dotted portions of the outlines of the chamber and peristalith are conjectural, as are also the exact shapes and dimensions of Stones 1, 7 and 8, which were covered with ivy when the monument was surveyed.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, CULBURNIE. In the yard in front of croft No. 19, immediately S. of the by-road joining the Hughton-Aultearn and the Hughton-Kilmorack roads, stand the remains of a chambered cairn surrounded by a ring of **free-standing** monoliths. The SW. portion of the cairn's peristalith and two of the uprights in the outer ring are actually included in the garden of the croft and covered with ivy. The rest, outside the garden, is overgrown with whins and ivy and cumbered with a few trees. 8 stones survive in the outer ring, which has a diameter of about 70' NW.-SE. by about 66' NE.-SW. The largest stone, SSW. of the centre, is 5' ^{high} and some 3'6" wide. The rest, reading clockwise from this point, measure respectively (1) ? 4' ^{high} (WSW.); (2) 4'3" x 4'0" x 2'6" (WNW); (3) 3'4" x 3'6" x 2'3" (NNW.); (4) 4' ^{high} recently split (on N.); (5) 3' x 2' x 2" (on NE.); (6) 4' x 2'6" x 1'3" (ESE.) and (7) 4'4" x 3'6" x 1'9" (SSE.). The cairn is bounded by an apparently continuous peristalith of slabs on edge, with an exposed height of 2' to 2'6", sloping inwards; and on the E. these still support 3 or 4 courses of masonry built with an inward batter of about 1 in 5 standing to a total height of 4' to 4'6". The diameters would be about 44 NW. - SE. x 42' NE.-SW., and the total height of the cairn must be between 5' and 6'6" though grass, bushes and ivy growing on the cairn make any estimates unreliable. (A grass-grown wall or bank of stones abuts against the peristalith on the E. and though it looks quite like the remains of a more recent field-boundary the possibility of comparison with the "causeways" at Balnuarin of Clava No. 2 must be borne in mind).

Within the cairn the remains of an oval chamber some 17' x 16' in diameter are exposed, now full of rubbish and whins and earth perhaps 1' deep. It is formed of a basal course of close-set slabs on edge some 2' wide and emerging 2' high apparently/

Blank here
in MS.

sic, but per-
haps "or" is
meant.

apparently

continuous all round; they support courses of slabs so that the chamber walls are fully 3' high above the earth on the floor. At this height there is only faint evidence for an inward over-sailing of the walls. After the celebrated Clava cairns this is perhaps the best-preserved monument of type in the district.

x ("Stone Circle"). P.S.A.S., xvi, 316. 17.viii.43.

There are cup marks on the tall monolith No. 8 now entirely hidden by ivy, and on three stones in the peristalith.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

HUT CIRCLES AND SMALL CAIRNS, BLAIRMORE. On the crest of the ridge that runs NE. towards Blairmore, 1000 yds. or more SW. of that steading, but only about 500 yds. ESE. of Fanblair, there is a large cemetery of small cairns. The major group is concentrated along the crest of the ridge and its NW. flank that slopes down to the Belladruin Burn * and the road

* Also called Allt Dearg. from Drumnadrochit between the 700' and the 800' contours. The cairns measure up to 20' x 18'. Among them is a very ill-defined hut-circle with a diameter of 30' from crest to crest. There is a smaller group of cairns nearer Blairmore and rather on the E. flank, where there is a gentle slope down to a tributary burn.

xviii. (Unnoted). T.I.S.S., iii, pp.142, 144. 18.ix.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

HUT CIRCLES, ENCLOSURES & SMALL CAIRNS, TIGHNABRUAICH.

On the broad flat crest of the ridge between Ardindrain and Ardblair, on the opposite side of Glen Convint from the Blairmore group, is a very numerous assemblage of small cairns. They are strung out for over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the level swampy moorland outside (E. of) the big wood and on the slope SEward towards Allt Dearg just about the 800' contour. Among the cairns, besides the usual irregularly circular heaps of stones 12 - 15 in diameter and covered with grass or heather, are numerous elongated but rather amorphous piles, a typical specimen measuring 27' x 12'.

In the same area are at least three typical and very regular hut-circles that measure (beginning on the NE.) 45', 37' & 24' respectively from crest to crest. In addition the ridge top is traversed by various old stone and turf dykes now very low and always distinctly sinuous. (They are in fact generally lower and narrower than the banks defining hut circles). They seem to bound irregular fields of various shapes and sizes. In the corners of some fields are subsidiary enclosures rather like large but incomplete hut-circles. Among the fields defined by such low banks on the slope are subrectangular lynched plots. One such, defined on the NW. uphill end only by a very shallow negative lynchet, measures 58' down to the stony bank that marks its limit downhill, where it is 31' wide. 32' from its upper end the plot is divided by a very low lynchet where the whole plot is 33' wide. The plot is limited by very low lateral banks that grow rather more prominent downhill. At the junction of two of the old fieldbanks is a tiny hut circle or a small cairn excavated at the centre.

On/

On a summary survey of the area no significant relation between "small cairns" and plots could be detected, but the whole complex might repay an accurate survey by an adequately equipped expert. It probably extends into the wood. There some "small cairns" can still be seen but it is to be feared that planting will have destroyed all the less imposing remains and the felling of the timber actually in progress in September 1943 will probably complete their obliteration.

xviii. ("Cairns".)

18.ix.43.

at. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY PARISH.

CAIRN, BELLADRUM. A quarter of a mile W. of Belladrum a branch-road from Aultearn joins the road running N. from Glen Convinth. Two hundred yards N. of this junction, within a strip of wood, there are the remains of a cairn, the actual site being a very broad terrace which stands about 10 ft. higher than the arable land on the W. and falls steeply on the E. to Belladrum Burn. The remains consist of twenty stones disposed, as shown in the sketch-plan, on the periphery of a figure which approximates to a circle with a diameter of about 41 ft., and resembling part of the peristalith of a chambered cairn of the Clava type. The stones against which their serial numbers are entered on the plan were placed by triangulation, the others being inserted diagrammatically in their approximate positions. It will be noted that the ring is interrupted for some 27 ft. on the N. & NW. and for some 15 ft. on the NE.; that there is a gap between Stones 8 and 9, in which however there are the remains of a riven stump (+); and that Stones 17 and 18 are widely spaced, Stone 17 moreover having fallen. The following dimensions, given in the order height, breadth, thickness, are typical:- Stone 1, 2 ft. by 3 ft. by 2 ft. 6"; Stone 5, 1 ft. 9 in. by 3 ft. by 2 ft.; Stone 9, 3 ft. by 4 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft.; Stone 12, 1 ft. 9 in. by 2 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft.; Stone 16, 1 ft. 3 in. by 1 ft. 8 in. by 1 ft. 6 in.; Stone 20, 1 ft. 3 in. by 2 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 1 in. The total height of the fallen stone (17), measurable owing to the exposure of its base, is 3 ft. 4 in. All the stones are more or less thickly covered with moss, and consequently nothing can be said about cup-markings. Small rounded boulders, typical cairn-material, appear plentifully through the moss that covers the surface of the interior. No traces can be seen of any chamber, passage or outer ring of uprights.

Attached to
MS. while

x ("Stone Circle".)

August 21st 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KINTARLITY & CONVINTH PARISH.

FORT, STRUY BRIDGE, ERCHLESS, stands at the SW. end of a low ridge below but parallel to the main ridge of Coille Mhor, nearly 500' above O.D. 700 yds. WNW. of Erchless Castle and about the same distance NNE. of Struy Bridge. The ridge falls very steeply to the Beauly valley on the S. & rather less steeply to Strath Farrar on the SW., but rises only a little above a marshy terrace on the other sides. Its summit is occupied by a dry stone dūn. Its walls are very dilapidated and the interior is full of large stones and bracken 6' high, but considerable strips of the outer face, standing exposed in places to height of 4', are exposed on the N. These fall near the periphery of a circle just under 60' in diameter. A shorter segment of inner face could be detected standing at least 3' high, the wall at the level of the present top being 9'9" thick. The entrance lay to the NE., the northern cheek being traceable through the whole thickness of the wall. It is concave, the height of the arc being 9". The other wall could not be seen. An outwork runs along the edge of the ridge crest 16' outside the entrance. It starts from the edge of a precipitous crop on the E. and disappears in tree stumps and high heather on the W.

? drop?
(illegible)

ix.

15.ix.43.

ah. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

FORT, STRUY, occupies the summit of a crag that towers 60'-70' above the Struy-Cannich road and the haugh-lands along the Glass immediately behind Struy Beag Cottage. The crag is sheer precipice nearly 100' high on S. & E. but slopes more gently to the NE. and rises steeply only about 25' from a col on the NW. The summit seems to have been surrounded by ^a stone-faced rampart that left out the SW. corner of the summit. Footings of the outer face are preserved along the NE. end, and a few on the brink of the cliff on the E., but elsewhere the rampart is now represented only by a grass-grown bank that seems to consist largely of earth. No inner face is exposed anywhere. The dūn thus defined appears as an ovoid enclosure measuring overall some 47' NE.-SW. x 38 NW.-SE. The enclosed area is uneven since the rock slopes downwards NW. from the edge of the E. cliff.

xvii.

15.ix.43.

R.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

FORT, LARACH TIGH NAM FIONN, TOMICH. The site thus portentously named lies at the E. end of the ridge that divides the valley of the Affric R. from that of its tributary Amhuinn Deabhag just below the 500' contour. It is in fact a dún occupying a crag on a spur projecting from the ridge and overlooking the haugh-lands of the tributary some 200' below. The crag is precipitous on the N. and E. while on the W. a low cliff 5' or 6' separates the crag from the saddle that connects it with the higher main ridge; on the S. the slope to the river is very steep and is interrupted by similar steps. On the W. it rises only 12'-15' above the saddle that connects it with the main ridge, but ^{the} rise consists of precipitous rocky steps. The core of the summit is formed by a N. - S. ridge precipitous on the W. and sloping away to a low platform above the cliffs on the E., but half-way along from the S. end the crest ends in a minor cliff 6'-8' high within the fort.

The west wall of the dún runs for some 26' along the edge of the ridge the W. ridge cliff that may have been accentuated by quarrying. The outer face here is well preserved and shows an unusual re-entrant angle to adjust it to the contours of the ridge; north of this point the wall is in a ruinous condition and the plan, marking the crest of the bank of debris, suggests further sinuosities. Near the N. corner a gap in the bank some 15' wide marks the site of the entrance. No built faces to the entrance passage are discoverable but its present floor is some 6' below the crest of the bank. But 6' - 8' outside the line of the bank-crest the faces of an entrance cut through the face of the rock ridge are exposed for a distance of 4'. The mouth of the/

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

the passage is more than 12' below the summit of the rampart bank and its width about 4'6". Whether steps or a steep slope led up through it is uncertain. 10' - 20' N. of the entrance the rampart reaches the edge of the N. cliff. Presumably the rampart followed this edge E., but only a rickle of stones survives. But after some 65', the N. rampart, having run a considerable way down the slope in the meantime, turns S. again cutting across the tip of the promontory. Near the corner a few footings still in position show a rounded corner. The E. rampart after this seems entirely ruinous and the SE. corner is equally dilapidated. But for 25' - 30' on the S. the footings of the outer face are visible again on the edge of an outcrop cliff running almost straight. Unfortunately the SW. corner is as ruinous as the SE., but the lines of the surviving strips of wall-face and of the outcrop edges suggest that it may well have been angular - indeed an acute angle - rather than curved.

The rampart is built of straight-edged blocks of rather intractable stone, but the construction seems less skilful than in the duns lower down the valley to say nothing of the brochs. Still the basal course at the re-entrance angle on the W. is a cleverly chosen block, the curved edge of which coincides with the change in direction of the superincumbent masonry. No inner face is exposed, though it would probably be discoverable by removing some rubble. Only the overall dimensions can therefore be given. In this sense the rampart encloses a very roughly triangular area over 100' N. - S. by some 80' E. - W. This area is however extremely uneven. The SW. corner is occupied by a high boss of outcrop that terminates precipitously on the N. At the foot of the 10' overhanging cliff there may be a spring or cave. Before the E. rampart is reached the surface of the interior is probably 15' - 25' below the summit of the boss.

Some/

Some trenches have been dug in this low ground within the last 25 years, but no intelligible foundations are now exposed and no record can be traced of the operations.

Outside the main dūn there are indications of an outer rampart on the S. & W. It seems to have been of less substantial character than the main rampart, and is now represented by a low and narrow belt of moss-grown stones linking up natural outcrop bosses. From such a boss some 55' W. of the SW. corner of the main dūn the W. branch runs rather E. of N. towards the NE. corner of the dūn. As it approaches the latter the debris from its collapse becomes confused with that fallen from the inner rampart so that its course in the vicinity of the entrance is quite uncertain. The S. branch runs from the same boss in a generally E. direction below the terrace on which the dūn stands, apparently until the steep S. slope merges into the precipitous declivity to the E.

[? from]

xxvii.

16.xi.43.

Marginal note "Laggan"

The plan and to some extent the masonry recall Dun on a hilltop at the junction of Straths Spey & Mashie.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACH PARISH.

BROCH, "DUN COILLE STRUIDH", STRUY. This broch stands on a small rocky boss which projects from the general slope of the steep hillside that overlooks the village of Struy. On the W. the boss is separated from the hillside above it by a damp hollow and a small gully, while its E. face, on the lip of which the broch stands, descends precipitously. The site is about 300 ft. above the flat cultivable lands that form the bottom of Strath Glass.

The structure is greatly dilapidated, being reduced to little more than a pile of debris. In this, however, it is possible to identify a certain number of features, notably several showings of the outer wall face. On the strength of these it is possible to reconstruct the line of the outer circumference from NW., through N., to E., where the footings arrive at the brink of the precipice, as well as on the WSW., just to the "right." †



i. e. on the right hand of one entering the broch.

of the entrance. Some isolated foundation-stones also remain along the brink of the precipice on the SE. sector, where the wall as a whole has disappeared.

As will be seen from the plan, the outline thus arrived at is not strictly circular, but it is sufficiently nearly so to justify the statement that the outer "diameter" is rather over 60 ft. Too much importance should not, however, be attached to this figure owing to irregularities in the level of the site, which are so great that the footings on the brink of the precipice are about level with the top of the highest-standing fragment of outer wall-face on the N. sector, as well as to uncertainty regarding the depth of the debris piled against the foot of the wall-face and to the unknown element of batter in the concealed portions. Three good samples of the wall-face, all on the N. sector, show respectively a batter of 11 in. in an exposed height of/-

of 3 ft. 2 in., of 5 in. in 3 ft. 4 in., and of 10 in. in only 1 ft. 10 in. The highest-standing section of the face is 4 ft. 8 in. in height. Some of the stones used in the face are large, for example up to 2 ft. 6 in. long, 1 ft. 6 in. high *and* ~~as~~ as much as 2 ft. 3 in. deep.

Showings of the inner face are much scantier; as will be seen on the plan they consist only of a section under 13 ft. long in the SW. sector *and* ~~is~~ a single very short and rather doubtful fragment on the NNE. by N. These suggest that the internal diameter may have been about 35 ft., the wall-thickness in each case being about 13 ft.

The entrance is in the E. side. Its general position is indicated clearly enough, but its breadth cannot be measured as the N. or "left" side of the entrance-passage is completely obliterated and the stonework indicated on the plan by a dotted line does not appear to represent the actual face of the "right" side. The entrance-passage is full of debris, and the height of this line of stonework above the original ground-level is quite uncertain - another factor making against exactitude in the locating of the passage.

The best-preserved feature of the broch is the guard-cell to the "right" of the entrance. The cell is largely filled with debris, but it has been possible to plan the inner extremity, the whole of the NE. side, and a short length of the NE. side of the passage that evidently joined it to the entrance-passage of the broch. The measurable length of passage and chamber together - the angle between them is more noticeable in reality than the plan suggests - is 8 ft., and the breadth of the chamber 3 ft. 6 in.; these measurements, however, are taken at an arbitrary and unknown height, which may be as much as 4 ft., above the floor of the chamber, and consequently the plan, which embodies them, does not represent the true ground-plan of the chamber owing to the decrease in its size resulting from/

from the oversailing of the upper courses. The NE. wall oversails as much as 5 in. in an exposed height of 2 ft. 4 in. At the level represented in the plan, the cell is separated from the court of the broch by a wall 3 ft. 3 in. thick.

In the NW. sector there are some traces of a mural cell or gallery - probably a cell which contained the base of the stair. As shown on the plan, there are two short discontinuous stretches of the face of the cell on its inner side, i. e. the side nearer the court; the SW. sketch consists of a single stone 5 ft. 6 in. long, and the NE. one - which is separated from the first by a gap of 5 ft. - is masonry facing and measures 4 ft. 6 in. in length. The doubtful fragment of the inner face of the broch-wall (supra) backs on this NE. piece of the facing of the cell, the thickness of the wall between the two faces being 2 ft. 10 in.

The only other feature calling for notice is an irregular four-sided cell or hut, measuring 8 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. and having an entrance 2 ft. 4 in. wide in its NW. corner, which stands just to the "left" of the entrance backing on the outside of the broch-wall. Some further ruins, which could not be examined on account of thick bracken, adjoin it on the W. These remains have been represented, along with corresponding structures on the opposite side of the broch-entrance, as integral parts of the broch; but this is quite unlikely to be correct as this hut is founded on debris fallen from the broch-wall and must consequently have been built since its collapse. Nothing but a bank of debris can now be seen on the opposite side of the broch-entrance.

xvii.

September 14th 1943.

W.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACH PARISH.

FORT, CANNICH. There is said to be a fort near the N. end of Comar Wood, and somewhere to the W. of the footpath that rises from the Cannich-Fasnakyle road to the Cannich-Glencannich road and near its junction with the latter. The fort could not be found, but when the Inventory survey is made it should be looked for again - if possible at a season when the bracken is down.

xvii. (unnoted).

September 16th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

FONT, CANNICH. A rumour was picked up to the effect that an inscribed pre-Reformation font is preserved somewhere in or near Cannich. This information could not be followed up, but when the Inventory survey is made, the font should be looked for, possibly at the modern church. The source of the rumour was Mrs. McLeod, proprietor of the Glenaffric Hotel, Cannich.

xvii. (unnoted).

September 16th 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

DUN A' CHLIABHAIN occupies the SW. extremity of a ridge between ^{the} 850' & 900' contours that is itself a spur of the high ground in Farley Wood that rises to 1150'. The NW. side consists of a cliff some 20' ^{high} falling to marshy ground, and the slope is also very steep on the SW. and SE. but quite gentle on the NE. The dun consists of an ovoid enclosure flattened on the NW., about 77' long inside and about 48' wide internally 32' from its NE. end. This area has been girt by a stone wall 10'6" to 12' thick that appears as a high bank of naked stones save along the edge of the cliff on the NW., at the foot of which however are considerable remains of toppled wall. The footings of both inner and outer face can be traced at intervals nearly all round, and two or three courses of the inner face are probably preserved in places though buried in debris now. The entrance lay in the E. corner, but is now represented by a hollow in the stony bank rather than a walled passage. Outside it the old way up along the SE. flank of the ridge is visible, and the rock has been quarried away for some distance to clear the approach. 34' outside the main work the gently sloping ridge on the NE. is traversed by an outer rampart, the foundation course of which is visible on the outside but which is otherwise very low and inconspicuous. The site has been planted and the trees felled.

x. T.I.S.S. viii, 119 (plan).

31.viii.43.

as.

2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

DUN GARBHLAICH is perched on a crag about 1030' O.D. that is an isolated SW. outlier of the higher and often precipitous ridge of the Urchany & Farley Forest. The core of the site is formed by a ridge of naked rock some 36' wide precipitous on the N. and W. but sloping away more gently on the uphill NE. side to a low col. Some 15' below the crest of this rocky spine on the SE. is a broad platform some 48' wide that again falls away in sheer cliffs on the S. & W. Both the ridge crest and the platform are included within the protection of a drystone wall. This runs nearly straight along the edge of the precipice on the N. for about 105', but from each end of the spine sweeps out in a rough semicircle to embrace the level terrace below, running downhill across the slope of naked rock in the SW. quadrant. In this segment both inner and outer faces are exposed, 3' to 5' of almost vertical masonry being visible where the outer face traverses a cleft in the rock. In the S. there is an entrance passage 3'8" wide at its inner end and traceable for 15' on the W. side but 14' further W. from the inner corner the rampart seems only 11' ~~wide~~^{thick.} At the foot of the central ridge in the SE. quadrant, just within the rampart, is a spring or well that still contained water when visited. Some good sections of outer face neatly adjusted to rock outcrops are visible also on the E., but along the cliff edge to the N. as well as to the SE. the rampart is overgrown with peat and heather.

xi. T.I.S.S., viii, 119 (plan)

31.viii.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACH PARISH.

DUN MÒR, TIGHNALEAC. This fort occupies the summit of a small isolated crag just over 550' O.D. and rather less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. NNW. of Tighnaleac, from which farm it is just visible. The crag overlooks the deep ravine of a burn, on the N. and NW., on which side it is defended by impregnable cliffs, but on the S. and SE. it slopes away more gently to marshy ground. The summit is very uneven with a high hump of naked rock near its E. end. It is protected by two drystone ramparts now represented by wide banks of naked stone. But in places the footings of both faces of the inner rampart and of the outer are exposed. The inner rampart is 15' wide on the E. where it straddles the rock hump 16' on the cliff edge to the N. and 18' on the W. Starting on the high outcrop on the E. it follows the cliff edge on the N. then turns S. across a lower spur of outcrop and sweeping out over the slope climbs the hump to the starting point. The area thus enclosed measures over 70' N. & S, by 63' E. & W. internally. The outer rampart 15' thick starts on the cliff edge on the NE. and runs S., its inner face being 32' E. of the outer face of inner rampart on the hump. It curves far S. across the slope till it is some 70' from ^{the} inner rampart and then, climbing N-wards, ends on the S. flank of the rock spur that the inner rampart crosses on the W. Judging from the quantity of stones exposed the outer rampart was a lower and less formidable defence than the inner. The entrance to the latter lay to the SE., W. of the rock hump, but no face for the passage is exposed.

T.I.S.S., viii, 121 (plan). ^{these given} The dimensions are too low, the 3rd outwork could not be seen, and the comparison with brochs is quite irrelevant.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

HUT CIRCLES & ENCLOSURES, L. CUIL NA CAILLICH. The depression occupied by this loch is separated from main valley of the Beauly on the S. by a high ridge culminating in Craig Dhu and on the E. by a spur running NE. from this peak towards Aigas House. Between the 450' and 350' contours the broad crest of this ridge bears a series of monuments described by Wallace in T.I.S.S., iii, p. 144 (= P.S.A.S., xx, pp. 351 f.). The NE. end of the ridge is occupied by a dense wood and was not searched. Proceeding uphill from the boundary of the wood in the direction of Craig Dhu the following monuments are encountered on rough heather clad country interrupted by rock outcrops. 1 & 2. Close to the wood, two hut-circles defined by heather-clad banks measuring 29' & 25' from crest to crest respectively.

3. Higher up, a larger circle 71' in diameter over all, defined by the same sort of stone-faced bank as usually surrounds a hut-circle. The entrance, apparently, about 7' wide, is on the lower NE. side while the high ground on the SW. has been scarped to accommodate the circle. The bank, about 3' above the level interior, was probably faced on both sides with boulders on end set by no means closely.

4. Still higher up, another hut-circle 4' across from crest to crest.

5. A large loose block of rock, 4' x 4'3" x 1'4", bearing near one end of the upper surface 7 cup-marks.

6. Still higher, a second circle like No. 3 but covered in dense bracken. It measures 57' from crest to crest.

7. Just above the 450' contour, immediately below Craig Dhu, several small cairns measuring 10' to 15' across.

ix & x. (unnoted).

2.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

KILMORACK PARISH.

FORT, CRAIG DHU, AIGAS FERRY. Craig Dhu is a conspicuous rocky bluff at the E. end of the ~~main~~ ^{500 ft. high, that runs} ridge, ~~that runs~~ ^{and} SE. from Bad a' Chlamhain, divides the Loch Guil na Caillich basin on the S. from the main valley of the Beauly. The bluff, only about 30 yds. wide but nearly 120 yds. long N. to S., is flat-topped but defined almost all round by small cliffs some 10' to 15' high. The northern end of this platform, though a few feet lower than the S. end, has been converted into a fort by a crescentic rampart of drystone masonry built across it from cliff to cliff. Footings of the outer face are exposed at each end, notably in a shooting butt built against it on the W., but the inner face is nowhere recognizable with full certainty. The ^hcord of the arc formed by the rampart is 78' from the footings of the outer face on the crag edges and its height over 16'. The area thus defended is about 75' long. No rampart stands on the cliff edge on either side and there is no fallen debris at its foot, but a stretch of gentle slope at the N. end may have been defended by a strip of walling now covered with turf. In any case the entrance must have been at this end.

On the flat area of the summit outside the rampart there is a low pile of stones, now largely covered in heather, 16' long x 8' wide. It may as well be one side of some kind of house as a cairn or "consumption" ^L

[? heap.] L

ix (Unnoted). T.I.S.S., viii, p. 121.

& P.S.A.S., xx, p. 343.

2.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DAVIOT & DUNLIGHT PARISH.

"STONE CIRCLE," MAINS OF GASK, stands close to the Inverness -
Farr road S. of the farm buildings on the crest of a low ridge
overlooking the Nairn valley. It consists of an outer ring of
8 freestanding stones, the largest, to the S., being an immense slab
10'6" high x 10' wide x 1'3" thick pointed at the apex. Within
this outer circle close-set blocks on end, about 2'0" to 3'0"
high, form an apparently continuous ring, 85' in diameter. This
is the peristalith of a cairn now reduced to a virtually flat-
topped mound only 3' high and covered with grass and groups of
large naked stones. But 2 slabs on edge, protruding through the
grass and set at ^{an} angle 16' from the centre might well be the rem-
nants of the uprights bounding a closed central chamber.

xx.

17.viii.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DAVIOT & DUNLICHT PARISH.

STONE CIRCLE, TORDARROCH, stands on low-lying level ground below the road to Farr. An outer ring of free-standing stones 110' in diameter seems to stand on a low bank clearly visible only on the S. & W. Here there seems to be a shallow ditch between the bank and the inner circle. The latter, 67' in diameter, consists of close-set boulders on end, but many are missing or prostrate. The interior is grass-grown with a few exposed boulders not forming any certain plan.

Blank
in MS.

xx.

17.viii.43.

R.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DAVIOT & DUNLIGHT.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, FARR. Just behind Farr P. O., on the low alluvial plain of the Allt Beag, is the peristalith of a small chambered cairn. Within the ring are some large boulders in no discoverable order among shrubs that doubtless represent remnants of some sort of chamber.

xx ("Stone Circle".)

17.viii.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON
PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, CORRIMONY. What the O. S. map describes as a stone circle stands on a dead-level, rather marshy meadow close to the road from Glen Urquhart to Corrimony about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. due E. of the old house. It is actually an intact cairn 8' to 10' high surrounded by a circle of 11 orthostats. The cairn consists almost entirely of rounded waterworn boulders covered in grass on its flanks but naked after the first couple of feet. Through the surface of the stony slope the top edges of very large upright boulders (5) just project on the SW. and N. while a sixth on the SW. has been fully exposed by digging into the cairn and has fallen down outwards as a result. These stones stand on the periphery of a circle of about 51' diameter and presumably represent the peristalith of the cairn as they resemble the blocks in the peristalith on Clava and cairns of that group. The largest block visible on WSW. is 5'6" long tangentially.

Cairn material certainly now extends well beyond this peristalith that does not interrupt the smooth slope from the cairns summit. The actual limits of the spread are naturally ill defined; bare stones form an oval about 58' E.-W. x 55 N.-S. while under the turf stones extend for 74 x 65 reaching to the base of the orthostats on the W.

The 11 orthostats form a very irregular circle about 82' N.-S. x 76 E.-W. The stones are set at intervals of from 15' to 25' save on the E. where there is a gap of 35'. A stone may have been removed from this point. A large slab/now ^{that} lies prostrate on the summit of the cairn may once have stood here; ^{.x.} it measures 7'3" x 3'6" x 1'9" and bears on the exposed

- .x. For a suggestion that it may have been placed in its present position in 1830, cf. P.S.A.S., x, p. 643.

surface at least 44 cup-marks. The orthostat No. 10 on the WNW. also/

also bears 5 cup-marks on the face away from the cairn.

The dimensions of the remaining stones beginning on the ENE. are as follows, the dimensions being in each case height, tangential width, & (radial) thickness:-

(1) ENE. 4' x 3'4" x 1'0" pointed; (2) E. 3'10" x 9" x 2'8" (set radially); (3) SS.-ESE. 4'8" x 3'3" x 1'3"; (4) SSE. 4'6" x 3'6" x 3'9" pointed; (5) S. 3'7" x 4'0" x 1'4"; (6) SSW. 2'0" x 1'8" x 1'3" ? chipped; (7) WSW. 3'8" x 1'4" x 1'1"; (8) W. (split vertically into 3 sections) 2'7" x 2'3"; (9) WNW. leaning outwards - length along face 6'0" vertical height of apex 4'2" width 2'6" thickness 2'3"; (10) NNW. 4'7" x 3'9" x 8" - a flat slab pointed on top and cup-marked; (11) 4'4" x 3'0" x 1'0" pointed.

Though no chamber is exposed, the free-standing circle the peristalith slabs and the cupmarks justify the inference that this is an intact cairn of the sort so familiar along the Nairn and Spey and on both sides of the Beaully Firth. As such the monument is certainly worthy of preservation though it does not seem to be in any danger.

Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., x, p. 643.
xvi, 312.

xxviii ("Stone Circle").

15.ix.43.

al. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, CAIRN DALEY, BALNAGRANTACH. This monument stands some 50 yds. S. of Balnagrantach steading about the 750' contour, on the brow of the hill down to the burn that flows S. from Loch nam Faoil^eag to join the Enrich at Milton. The cairn stands in a cultivated field, and part of the outer circle has been admittedly removed to facilitate ploughing while a garden used to exist on the base of the cairn to the NW. The site was excavated some 50 years ago, when a central chamber with entrance passage was exposed. Since then the walls of the chamber have partially collapsed and stones gathered from the fields have been dumped within it. It can still be seen that it was a chambered cairn of the Beaully (Clava) type, defined by a peristalith of boulders enclosing a chamber entered from the SW. and surrounded by free-standing circle of uprights.

Of the circle one stone on the SSE., 14' from the peristalith, is certainly in position. It is exposed to a height of 2'9" and is 3'10" wide tangentially & 1'2" thick. A second stone, on the ESE., protruding through a heap of gathered stones is probably still in situ but cannot be measured. A third stone, on the S., is now lying prostrate; it is 6' long x 4'9" x 1'3". Eight stones of the peristalith in ^{the} SW. & SE. quadrants, as well as two portal stones, are still visible in position, and a few other stones are just protruding through the stones of the cairn while on the W. can be seen the edges of 2 stones that have been pushed outwards by the weight of the cairn and are now almost prostrate. The peristalith consists of the usual large rounded boulders, those near the entrance being particularly large - that on the W. is about 4'3" long and exposed to a height of 2'. The entrance to the chamber is marked by 2 portal stones with a gap of about 2'4" between them. They are rounded boulders like the rest of the peristalith but lower than the two adjacent stones of the latter/

latter and set radially instead of tangentially. The arc exposed is not long enough for the diameter of the cairn to be estimated with more accuracy than to say ^{that} it lies between 35' and 45'; but enough is exposed to show that the circle is flattened on the SW., the entrance lying at the centre of this flattening.

Reference blank in MS.

~~Mackay~~ Mackay, Glenurquhart & Glenmoriston,

xxix.

17.ix.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

The remains of this monument are distinctly worthy of preservation and its existence is seriously endangered by its position on arable land. Attempts have already been made to destroy the large pros-
:trate slab on the S. in the upper face of which a jumper mark is visible.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON PARISH.

CAIRN (? CHAMBERED), BALNALICK. The remains of this monument are to be found W. of the farm on the brow of the hill down S. to Loch Meiklie. It occupies the crest of a ridge but stands W. of the highest point on it near the 750' contour. The land about it has been cultivated. The cairn has been excavated and is now somewhat overgrown with birches and other small scrub. It is now only two or three feet high. Many stones of the peristalith are visible and define a circle about 52' in diameter. Most resemble those similarly used in Beaully cairns but ^{one,} ~~the~~ E. of the centre ^{and} now fallen, is exceptionally large, measuring 4' x 2'9" x 1'6".

Of the "chamber" exposed by the excavation nothing can now be seen. The excavation ^{of} ~~the~~ however describes it as a cist measuring 2 ft. in length, 1 ft. 3 in. in breadth and 7 in. in depth, internally. Its major axis lay NE. and SW. An urn containing a bronze blade and fragments of bone had previously been found about the centre of the cairn and 2 ft. SE. of the cist, resting on stones about a foot above the natural level of the ground.¹

1. P.S.A.S., xx, pp. 42 ff. Illustrations of urn & blade ibid.

xxviii.

18.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

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GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON
PARISH.

HUT-CIRCLE & SMALL CAIRNS, E. of LOCH FAOILEAG. On the gently sloping moorland traversed by the Drummadrochit - Glen Convinth road a large hut-circle can be seen on the E. side of the road a little above the 800' contour. It is defined by the usual broad bank and measures 39' N. & S. x 29' E.-W. with an entrance gap on S. On the same moor, slightly high^{er} up the slope to E. & W., are numerous small cairns the largest measuring $17\frac{1}{2}'$ x 14'.

xxix. (Unnoted).

18.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON PARISH

STANDING STONE, "MONY'S STONE," CORRIMONY. This monolith stands on the S. side of the drive up to the new Corrimony Ho. & on the bank of a small burn tributary to the Enrick. It stands 7' 4" & is 2' 8" wide x 1' 3" thick.

xxviii. ("Mony's Stone").

15.ix.43.

As. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON

PARISH.

FORT, CRAIG MONY, LEWISTON. The site of this construction is the NE. lip of the high ridge that separates Glen Urquhart from Glen Coiltie. The ridge ends at about the 450' contour in a promontory, sheer on the E. & NE. and sloping very steeply to the N., that rises 6' or more above the saddle that connects it with the main mass of Cnoc a' Bhuachaille. Firs have been planted on the summit and paths constructed to make it a look-out point, presumably by the proprietors of Balmacaan Ho. These operations have mutilated the monument; in particular it looks as if facing blocks from the rampart have been used as kerbs for the garden paths and one of these now blocks a cleft on the N. that may have afforded access to the fort. All that remains of the defences is the debris of a stone rampart about 98' long across the neck of the promontory, running most of the way along the crest of an outcrop ridge. It looks as if the rampart may have turned E. at both ends and continued along the edge of the declivity on the N. and of the precipice on the S., but the modern paths traverse the most probable course for such work. They make it impossible to say whether there was any entrance from the saddle. The rampart is now represented by a rickle of stones, but a few footings are visible on the SW.

xxix.

17.ix.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GLENURQUHART & GLENMORISTON
PARISH.

CUP-MARKED STONE, CLACH MHOR, CULNAKIRK. This name is applied to a prostrate block of rock 14'10" x 8'0" x 2'9" lying on level, slightly swampy, meadowland NE. of the steading and some 400' above O.D. The E. edge of the slab is straight and squared for its whole 14'10"; the butt, 10'4" long, is nearly straight but the third side is convex. The slab is now lying with its apex downwards and partly overgrown with turf. On the upper surface are 88 cup-marks, the largest measuring 4½" x 3½" across. The markings are all concentrated on the basal portion of the stone (which is now the highest), almost as if they had been executed at a time when the apex half was entirely covered with turf.

xxviii. (Unnoted).

17.ix.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF GLENURQUHART AND
GLENMORISTON.

FORT, STRATHNACRO. The 6 - inch O. S. map marks a fort on the summit of An Torr, about 300 yds. N. of ~~Stracathro~~ ^{Strathnacro} post-office, in the angle of the River Enrick. The site in question is evidently the knoll that rises from the lip of the precipitous slope that flanks the E. side of the highroad just N. of the post-office, but nothing can now be seen except some very faint traces of an earthen mound - sometimes taking the form of a vague terrace - which can be followed round the knoll for the greater part of its circumference. No stonework is visible, and the top of the knoll is not flattened.

xxix.

Sept. 17th 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF URQUHART & GLENMORISTON.

CARVED STONES, KILMORE CHURCH-YARD, DRUMNADROCHIT. The mediaeval cross-slab having been adequately recorded, no further description of it was prepared. A recumbent grave-slab dated 1621 was noted, and at least one more which appeared to date from the 17th century, but the inscriptions were illegible. Reset in the E. gable of the church - the only remaining portion of the structure - there is a small panel of red sandstone bearing, in relief, a shield flanked by the words DOMVS DEI 1631. On the shield are the letters M/AG, the two last being separated by a crown; they evidently stand for Mr. Alexander Grant, who became minister of the parish probably before 1624 and began the building of the church in that year. (Fasti Ecclesiae Scot^eianae, Ed. 1926, vi, p. 481).

A photograph was also taken of the window above which the panel is set. The lowest stone of the N. jamb appears to be a re-used lintel or sill, as it carries a thin moulding returned at each end. The interior of the window is rebated as if to hold a window-frame, but there are also the sockets of an iron grille.

xxix.

Sept. 17th 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSHIRE.

PARISH OF PETTY.

"TOM MHOID", WESTER DALZIEL. A mound, the position of which seems to correspond with that of Tom Mhoid, has been cut through by the railway. Its size and profile suggest that it is natural.

v.

Sept. 19th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF PETTY.

MOTTE (W.), PETTY. This is the western member of ^{the pair of mottes} ~~notes~~ ^{and} that stand on the promontory that flanks the sandy ~~and~~ marshy tidal bay at the mouth of Rough Burn. It stands about 450 yds. W. of the parish church, on the S. side of the promontory, being divided from the adjoining ground to the N. by a deep ditch which has probably been formed by the enlarging ^{and} ~~and~~ deepening of a natural hollow. On the SW., S., ^{and} ~~and~~ SE. the sides of the mound run down to high-water mark in one profile with the natural sandy cliff; from the lip of the cliff on the SE. faint traces of a ditch can be followed round the E. sector, the ditch becoming really broad and deep on the NE., N., ^{and} ~~and~~ NW. sectors. The NW. side of the mound is very steep indeed, ^{and} ~~and~~ the top of the mound is here 27 ft. above the bottom of the ditch ^{and} ~~and~~ about 10 ft. higher than the spine of the promontory. Beyond this point the ditch fades out, giving place to a neck joining the mound to the rest of the promontory at a rather higher level - possibly the original level of the bottom of the hollow before the ditch was dug. The top of the mound does not now show any flattening ^{and} ~~and~~ seems to have been a good deal disturbed. There are no traces of an access-path. (Photo. by Prof. Childe.)

Just across the ditch, E. of the mound, there are the remains of a rectilinear enclosure measuring about 60 ft. by 20 ft. The whole site deserves careful planning when the Inventory is made..

iv. ("Tumulus").

Sept. 19th 1943.

AS. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF PETTY.

MOTIF (E.), PETTY. This is the eastern member of the pair of mottes the situation of which has been described in the account of its western neighbour (q.v.). It stands immediately W. of the grave-yard of the parish church, a quarter of a mile from the western motte. The promontory is here much wider than at the other site, its ridge being at least 500 ft. away to the N. and the slope from it to the foot of the mound quite gentle. There is also level ground intervening between the foot of the mound on its sector and the lip of the low cliff above the bay. The mound rises about 25 ft. above the arable field on the NNW., there being no ditch. Its summit is flattened and measures 69 ft. from WSW. to ENE. by 52 ft. transversely. Traces of a path can be seen ascending the W. side. (Photo. by Prof. Childe.)

iv ("Tumulus".)

Sept. 19th 1943.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF ARDERSIER.

"FLEMISH CAMP", LOCHSIDE. This site is partly overbuilt and partly under cultivation, and no signs of structure could be seen.

i.

Sept. 19th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF ARDERSIER.

EARTHWORK, MILTON OF BALNAGOWAN. No trace could be found of any structure in the position marked "Camp (site of)", on the ^{*}N. side of the Fort George - Nairn road 100 yds. N. of Milton. However, about 50 yds. to the E., and on the S. side of the road - actually abutting on the turf dyke that flanks the road - there is an enclosure formed by a circular mound of turf with a slight ditch outside it on the W. but no entrance. The diameter from crest to crest is 33 ft.; from the crest to the opposite lip of the ditch is 17 ft., the bottom of the ditch being 9 ft. out from the crest of the mound. The ditch was no doubt originally continuous all round, but could only be traced on the W. on account of lumbering debris and recent disturbance of the surface.

* marginal note by R.W.F. points out that "Camp (site of)" is actually marked on the S. side of the road, not the N. side.

i.

Sept. 19th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF ARDERSIER.

EARTH-WORK, WOOD OF LAGNAGREISHACH or MUIR OF BALNAGOWAN.

The spine of the promontory that terminates at Fort George is formed by a very low ridge, running from WNW. to ESE., to which the land slopes up gently from the sea-coast on the N. and from a wide area of low-lying country on the S. The monument now to be described lies about 70 yds. S. of the summit of this ridge on the Muir of Balnagowan, at a point about mid-way between the farms of Sunnyhillock and Baddock, and about 150 yds. S. of the direct road from Fort George to Nairn. The area is shown as woodland on the 6 - inch O. S. map, but the trees had recently been felled at the date of visit and the site was greatly encumbered with branches & debris.

The remains consist of a low mound, oval in shape and measuring 27 ft. from NNE. to SSW. by 19 ft. transversely, enclosed by a penannular ditch 7 ft. to 8 ft. broad and up to 2 ft. deep and interrupted on the SSW.. Though the central area thus appears as a mound, its surface is probably at the original level of the ground. Outside the ditch there is a bank about 8 ft. broad and up to 1 ft. in height; on the NE. sector, where the ground rises, there is no noticeable fall outwards from the crest of the bank. All these measurements are approximate, as it is hard to define where the lips of the central mound and of the surrounding bank should be set, the latter being particularly vague on the NW. Entry to the central area is obtained by a tongue of undisturbed ground, 10 ft. wide across the gap between the ends of the ditch and 16 ft. wide across that between the ends of the bank. There is no sign of any outer ditch outside the bank.

In view of the superficial resemblance of these remains to a Roman signal-station, it is worth while to record that a very wide view can be obtained from the site towards the SE., S., & S.W. - as far, in fact, as the high moorlands between the/
the/

the Nairn and the Findhorn - and that, although the site is about 7 ft. below the level of the main ridge of the promontory, to which allusion has been made above, a look-out tower which topped this ridge would likewise give very wide observation over the Moray Firth and the Ross-shire coast opposite.

i. SW. ("Fort, remains of".)

Sept. 19th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

NB. Professor Richmond has visited this site and, though the remains were even more obscured than in 1943, felt confident that they were not Roman. A.G.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF CROY & DALCROSS.

STONE CIRCLE, CANTRAYBRUICH. This assemblage of stones, noted on the 6-inch O. S. map as the remains of a stone circle but probably the last vestiges of the peristalith of a Clava cairn, stands on arable ground on the left bank of the River Nairn about 450 yds. SE. of the farm of Cantraybruich. Its position is just S. of the inflow of a small tributary burn, and so close to the present river-bed that it is possible that some part may have been destroyed by erosion. It consists of six large stones, disposed as shown in the plan; but too much importance should not be attached to their present arrangement as the monument has been seriously disturbed and perhaps only Stones 1 and 2, or possibly Stone 3 as well, are in their original positions. A pile of stones and turf has been built on the W. side of and partly covering Stone 3; Stone 5 has toppled eastwards, the plan showing **what** seems to have been its former position; and Stone 6 is prone. There is thus insufficient evidence to identify the monument with confidence as part of the peristalith of a cairn. The dimensions of the stones are as follows, in the order height, breadth, thickness:- Stone 1, 3 ft. 2 in. by 4 ft. 2 in. by 2 ft.; Stone 2, 4 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 9 in.; Stone 3, 3 ft. 3 in. by 5 ft. 1 in. by more than 1 ft. 3 in.; Stone 4, 2 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 8 in.; Stone 5, (perhaps originally) 4 ft. 1 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 6 in.; Stone 6, (exposed surface) 3 ft. 8 in. by 3 ft. 8 in.

v. ("Stone circle, remains of".)

August 20th 1943.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

GROY and DALCROSS PARISH.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, 200 yds. NE. of DALCROSS CASTLE. In a narrow wood on the crest of a ridge rather above the 400' contour, ~~are~~ *→ the Castle, there are some* remains of a chambered cairn with a free-standing circle round it. Of the latter only one stone south of the cairn's centre is still in position, standing 4' high x 3'6" x 1'8" with its base partly buried in cairn material. SSW. of the centre lies a prostrate stone 6'3" bearing some rather doubtful cupmarks. The cairn proper is surrounded by a ring of slabs on edge with a gap 2' wide on WSW., but the stones of the cairn now extend beyond the peristalith at many points even to the line of the outer ring so that the uprights of the peristalith in places barely project above the stones. Exposed uprights measure 2'9" x 4'7" x 2'3" (on W.) or 2'6" x 3'6" x 1'3" (on N.), but the upright S. of the entrance gap that has fallen outwards and is therefore fully exposed has a total length (i.e. height) of 4'3". The ring thus formed has a diameter of about 40' and, the surviving upright being radially 16' outside, the outer circle should have measured 72' across. The gap on the WSW. seems to have given access to a gallery forming the entrance to a chamber or cist, but this is now ^{too} much blocked up with cairn material for its length or the form of any chamber to be estimated. The cairn near the centre seems to be about 5'3" high above the surrounding ground and about 4'0" to the top of the peristalith.

v. ("Stone circle".)

20.viii.43.

A.S. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

CROY AND DALCROSS PARISH.

STANDING STONE, DALGRAMBICH. Below and E. of Dalgrambich farmhouse and close to the W. side of the road from the farm to Cantray Ho., on the level alluvial plain of the Nairn valley, stands a single stone 5'8" high x 4'3" wide x 1'10" thick. It looks like a normal isolated Standing Stone but is reputedly the last remnant of a "Stone Circle" of the Nairn type - there are actually some large boulders on the roadside that might also once have found a place in such a monument. In any case its situation is similar to that of the better preserved structures a little further upstream by Cantraybruich & Clava.

v. ("Stone circle, remains of".)

20.viii.43.

A.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

CROY & DALCROSS PARISH.

CAIRN (site), HILLHEAD. The site of this cairn is on low^Ilying, level, cultivated land about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of Hillhead farmhouse. The cairn has been almost entirely removed, but its site is not cultivated but used as a dump for weeds and rubbish. Under this some cairn material still survives and there are several large stones lying about on the edge of the area. Three on the north are contiguous and apparently earthfast and seem to stand on an arc of a circle, so that they may represent remnants of a peristalith. Two or three loose blocks on the S., over 2' long, may also have belonged to the kerb, and careful examination of the site might still reveal some details of the plan of structure.

v (Unnoted).

19.ix.43.

R.G. 2/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHIL & ROTHLEMURCUS.

CAIRNS, TORISPARDON. A few small cairns of the usual moorland type were observed on the north-facing slope of the hill between Torispardon & Clury.

xlvi.

Sept. 25th 1943.

A.S. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHILL &

ROTHTEMURCUS.

CAIRN, DRUMMULLIE. A small cairn of boulders, probably the one marked on the 6 - inch O. S. map, was found in a waste of lumbering debris on the hillside above Drummullie. It measures 15 ft. by 12 ft.

xlvi.

Sept. 25th 1943.

A.G. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHIL & ROTHLEMURCUS.

CASTLE, DRUMMULIE. No signs of structure were seen here,
and the "remains" marked on the 6 - inch O. S. map - if they
now exist at all - cannot be more than foundations.

xlvi.

Sept. 25th 1943.

Dr. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHIL & ROTHLEMURCUS.

STANDING STONES, LAGYIE. About $\frac{1}{4}$ m. SE. of the chambered cairn across the railway, and scarcely 400 yds. SW. of Tullochgoram farm, are two standing stones. The stones, standing on a line bearing 17° S. of $W_{\frac{1}{2}}$, occupy a very low gravel ridge on the flood-plain of the Spey well below the first gravel terrace and only 150 yds. from the river bank. The E. stone (triangular in plan) measures 2'9" high x 3'6" wide x 1'6" thick at its W. edge. The W. stone, which tapers upwards, measures 7'6" x 1'11" x 1'8" to 1'2", its edge being also on the W.

xliv. ("Standing Stones".)

25.ix.43.

RS. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

DUTHIL & ROTHLEMURCUS.

CAIRN, TOUM. This monument stands on a level terrace just NE $\frac{1}{2}$ of Toum farm buildings in the direction of Ochnair farm. It consists of a huge pile of bare fragments of rock with turf encroaching slightly at its base. The stones on the flanks have been disturbed to some extent and a hole dug in its summit and subsequently filled up with old tins and similar rubbish. No cist, chamber nor peristalith has been thereby exposed to view but the diameters and elevation have been distorted. To-day the cairn is still fully 11' high and measures overall 96' N.-S. by 88' E. - W.

In the thin woodland round the cairn are probably remains of small cairns overgrown with thick grass.

The great cairn is an impressive monument worthy of preservation.

xlvi. ("Cairn".)

25.ix.43.

A.G. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHIL & ROTHIEMURUS.

CAIRN, MIDD CURR. The site of this monument is marked on the E. fringe of Curr Wood between the 800'-850' contours, just behind two modern residences and less than 400 yds. W. of Mid Curr steading. All that remains of the cairn is a roughly circular bank of moss-grown boulders, some 62' across from crest to crest, with other boulders in the interior. The terrain is sloping gravelly alluvium. To the SW. an elongated ridge of gravel terminates to the E. in a stoney hummock that might also be taken for the remains of a cairn.

xlvi. ("Cairn".)

25.ix.43.

A.H. 3/9/60.

INVERNESSSHIRE.

PARISH OF DUTHIL & ROTHLEMURCUS.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, LAGYIE. What the O. S. map calls a "Stone Circle" is situated between the L.M.S. Forres-Aviemore line and the main road from Grantown-on-Spey to Aviemore, about 50 yds. from the 7th milestone and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Lagyie farmhouse. The site is the end of a sandy ridge a little above the 700' contour. The "circle" is a ring of close-set boulders and recalls the peristalith of a chambered cairn of the Clava type. Only 35 boulders are actually visible, and of these several are more or less out of position. A typical specimen on the E. measures 3'3" in height (a rabbit burrow has exposed its base) x 2'9" wide x 1'8" thick, but the stones on the N. are somewhat smaller while those on the SW. are noticeably larger than the rest. The two largest stones are on the SW. and, there being an apparent gap of 5'8" between them, they look like portals. That on the E., still in position, rises 2'9" above the surrounding ground, is 3'3" wide tangentially and 2' thick radially. The opposite stone, on W., is leaning inwards and exceeds 4' in real height by 2'9" in width and 1'8" in thickness. The apparent gap is, however, partially filled by a broken slab 2'9" wide and over 1' thick the upper edge of which is now covered with turf. Just beyond the W. portal there is, another very large slab (instead of a boulder, over 2'8" high x 3'4" x over 1'3" that is now leaning inward. Slabs take the place of boulders at three other points upon the circle. The diameters of the circle are 45' N.-S. and 47' E. - W. The interior of the circle is 6" to 18" higher than the sandy ground outside, and is now occupied by very deep turf through which the edges of 4 large slabs protrude. These may well have formed part of the wall of a chamber, as their inner faces are notably smooth and straight. The northernmost is however certainly out of position, lying rather on its side, and the arrangement of the rest is too doubtful to allow of the form of the chamber being recovered.

A/

A few cairn stones are lying just outside the peristalith in places, but no free-standing outer circle survives. Nevertheless, having regard to the nature of the site, the character of the architecture and the proximity of the well-known group of cairns at Avielochan and Aviemore, it seems probable that this monument should be classed with the chambered cairns of the Clava type.

xlvi. ("Stone Circle".)

25.ix.43.

25. 3/9/60.