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Morrison, Alexander (1985) *Rural settlement in the Scottish Highlands, 1750-1850: a comparative study of Lochtayside and Assynt*. PhD thesis.

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RURAL SETTLEMENT IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS, 1750-1850:

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LOCHTAYSIDE AND ASSYNT

VOLUME 3

PLATES

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Thesis submitted in accordance with the requirements
for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty
of Arts of the University of Glasgow, February, 1985.

VOLUME 3

PLATES

- Plates 1 to 56. Material remains of settlements on Lochtayside.
- Plates 57 to 99. Material remains of settlements in Assynt.
- Plates 100 to 102. Remains of settlement at East Lix, Glendochart, Perthshire.
- Plates 103 to 104. Remains of settlement at Rosal, Strathnaver, Sutherland.
- Plate 105. Plan of Glentarken, Lochearnside, 1810.
- Plates 106 to 107. Hip-roofed buildings.
- Plates 108 to 113. 18th and 19th century illustrations of houses and buildings.



Plate 1. Central Lochtayside, c. 1750, from the Military Survey. The tree planting at Miltown of Lawers can be seen in the centre of the map.

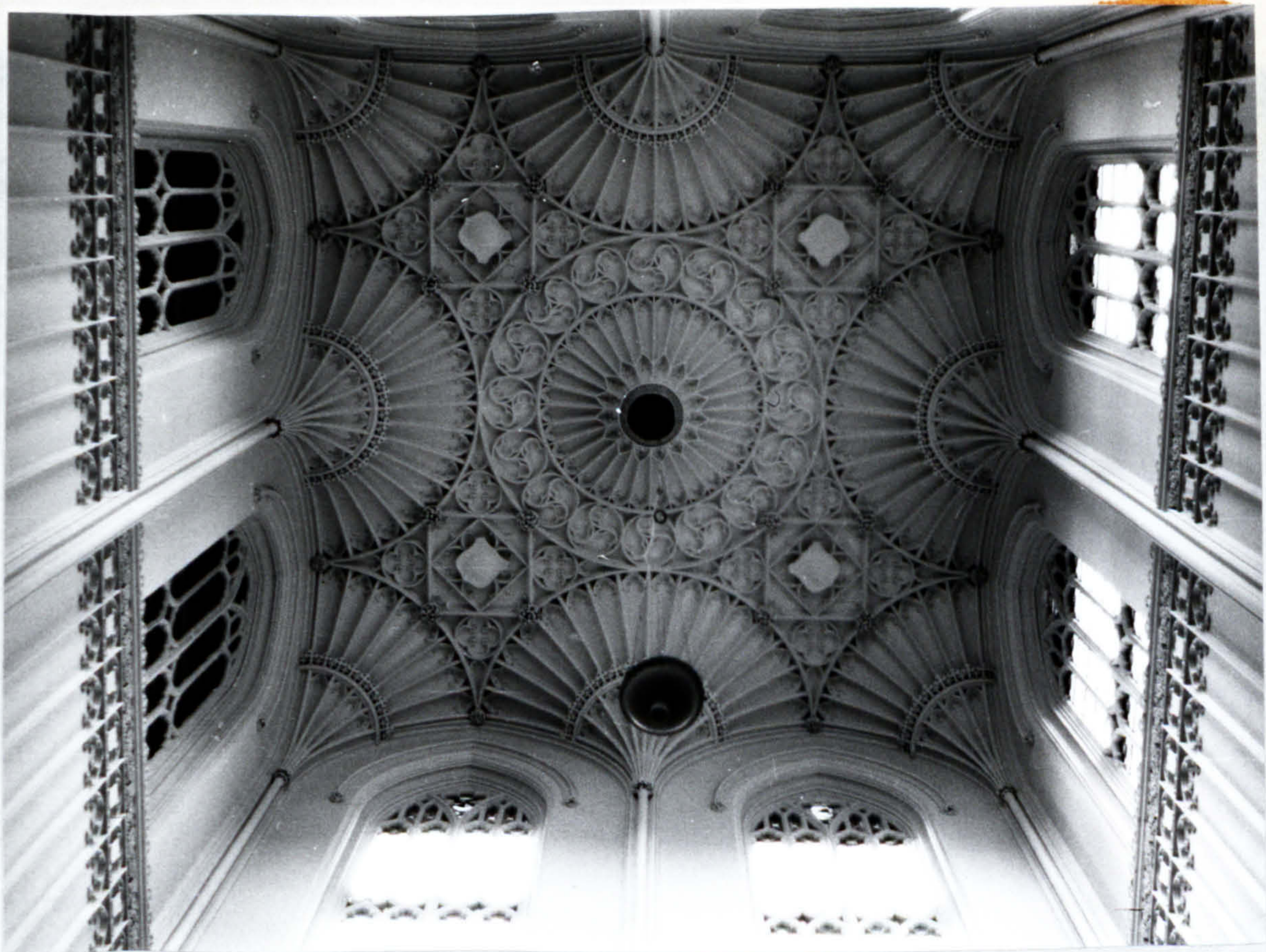


Plate 2. The ceiling above the great staircase at Taymouth Castle, completed by the 2nd Marquis of Breadalbane just before Queen Victoria's visit in 1842.



Plate 3. Remains of Cluster F on Blarliargan.



Plate 4. Building B in Cluster D on Blarliargan, showing loft window.



Plate 5. Northern part of Cluster A on Blarliargan. Left to right: Building A, Mill and Building C (behind tree).



Plate 6. The Mill (Building B) in the northern part of Cluster A on Blarliargan.



Plate 7. Building C in the northern part of Cluster A on Blarliargan.



Plate 8. Remains of Cluster B on Blarliargan.



Plate 9. Building C in Cluster B on Blarliargan.



Plate 10. Limekiln on Rheninchuleigh.



Plate 11. Remains of Building A in Cluster B on Wester Kuilturie. The ranging rod (in feet) stands beside the surviving lower part of a cruck couple.



Plate 12. Cluster A on Easter Kuilturie. In Building C (centre), the gable fireplace and loft window can be seen on the western interior wall.



Plate 13. Margcraggan cluster on Wester Carawhin (Figure 26).



Plate 14. Margcraggan cluster on Wester Carawhin from the west, Marraghaha in left background.



Plate 15. Deep-cut track leading north from Marrag Dow cluster on Wester Carawhin (in background).



Plate 16. Building B, possible barn, on Marrag Dow cluster, Wester Carawhin (Figure 27).



Plate 17. Building B in Marragow cluster, Wester Carawhin, showing 5 dry-stone 'piers' along western wall (Figure 27). Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 18. Buildings C and D in Marragow cluster, Wester Carawhin (Figure 27).



Plate 19. Building D (possible barn ?) on Marragow cluster on Wester Carawhin (Figure 27).



Plate 20. Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltirannich (Figure 31) in 1950, 2 years after its last occupancy (Maynard, 1969).



Plate 21. Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltirannich (Figure 31) in c. late 1950's. The doors and window frames have gone, the roof covering has deteriorated and the rafters and crucks are showing through, but some of the of the suspended stones which secured the earlier thatch have survived in situ. (Dunbar, 1966).



Plate 22. Building A in Cluster B, Cuiltirannich in 1966. The roof covering, now almost completely disappeared, had probably been turf under straw thatch (sgrathan). The upper crucks still carry remnants of purlins and the roof tree.



Plate 23. Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich in 1978. Only one cruck couple still remains in position, the roof is entirely gone and the walls of section A₂ (Figure 31) have almost completely collapsed.



Plate 24. Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich with Building B (latterly used as a smithy) in the background. (1966).



Plate 25. Interior of Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich in 1966, looking east (Section A₁ in Figure 31). Three cruck couples are still in position although the rearmost has slumped from one of its wall slots. The collar beams or ties and crossed couples are secured with wooden pegs.



Plate 26. Interior of Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich in 1966, looking west. The outer, rounded side of the cruck couples can be seen from this direction. This section of the original byre-dwelling had a hearth located just off the photograph in the foreground, with smoke going out through a probable 'hanging lum', the outer aperture of which can be seen in Plate 20. The gable-end fireplace is a secondary structure, 'added on' to the wall face with a chimney and chimney pot still visible. A fallen ridge-pole or purlin is standing upright in front of the fireplace.



Plate 27. Interior of Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich in 1966, looking east (Section A₂ in Figure 31).



Plate 28. Foot of cruck in wall slot, central cruck, south wall of Section A₁, Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich, 1966.



Plate 29. Feet of crucks in wall slots, west and central crucks,
North wall of Section A₁, Building A in Cluster B on Cuiltrannich,
1966 (Figure 31).



Plate 30. Cluster X on Cuiltrannich (Figure 29), Cluster Y in background. Two post-1769 clusters high up on Cuiltrannich, possibly given as crofts to returning soldiers at the end of the 18th century.



Plate 31. House of Lawers in Cluster B, Miltown of Lawers (Figures 32 & 33). Built after older house burned by Montrose in 1645.



Plate 32. House of Lawers in Cluster B, Miltown of Lawers, from NE. Described by Gillies (1938, 247) as having been a double-storied thatched house. A less durable, and probably much more recent dry-stone building (C in Cluster B) is attached to the SW end.



Plate 33. Church of Lawers in Cluster B, Miltown of Lawers. Abandoned in the early 19th century.



Plate 34. Doorway of Lawers Church in Cluster B, Miltown of Lawers, with date of construction inscribed on lintel.



Plate 35. The two-storied mill of Lawers, only building surviving of Cluster A, Miltown of Lawers (Figure 32)



Plate 36. Lawers Mill, with remains of corn-drying kiln attached to
NE end



Plate 37. Lawers Mill, interior showing upper and lower windows



Plate 38. Remains of the post-1769 'Old Village of Lawers'. These are the ruins of Building A and its smaller neighbour to the right on Figures 34, 35 and 35a. Lawers Burn behind houses.



Plate 39. Remains of long house in post-1769 cluster located at X on detached Mains outfields on Figure 38. Possible post-Survey colonisation of detached outfield. 82 x 26 feet (25 x 8 m).



Plate 40. Building B in Cluster A on Newton Farm (Figures 38 and 39). Building A, a long house, can be seen in the left background. Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 41. Interior of Building B in Cluster A on Newton Farm, showing possible winnowing-hole or toll fhasgnaidh.



Plate 42. Remains of long house, Building A in Cluster A on Newton Farm (Figure 39). 80 x 20 feet (24 x 6 m). Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 43. Remains of long house, Building A in Cluster B on Newton Farm (Figure 40). 70 x 17 feet (21 x 5 m). Newton was a 2-tenant, 2-cluster farm where the remains show the same numbers and orientations of buildings as on the 1769 plans.



Plate 44. Remains of Cluster A on Suckoch (Figures 37 and 41). Much has been lost by the undercutting of the bank of the Ardeonaig Burn on the left of the photograph.



Plate 45. Remains of the linear Cluster A on Tomindason (Figures 44 and 45). Here, too, the remains are in similar layout to the 1769 plans.



Plate 46. Remains of Cluster B on Craig Farm. (Figures 46 and 47).
The loft window in Building A can be seen in the background.



Plate 47. Interior of Building A in Cluster B on Craig Farm. Loft window and fireplace in SW gable end. Cruck slot in mortared wall. Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 48. Lime-burning kiln associated with Cluster B on Craig Farm (Figure 47).



Plate 49. NW end of Building D on Craig Farm (Figure 46). Long house 64 x 17½ feet at NW end which has corn-drying kiln.. Ranging pole in feet.

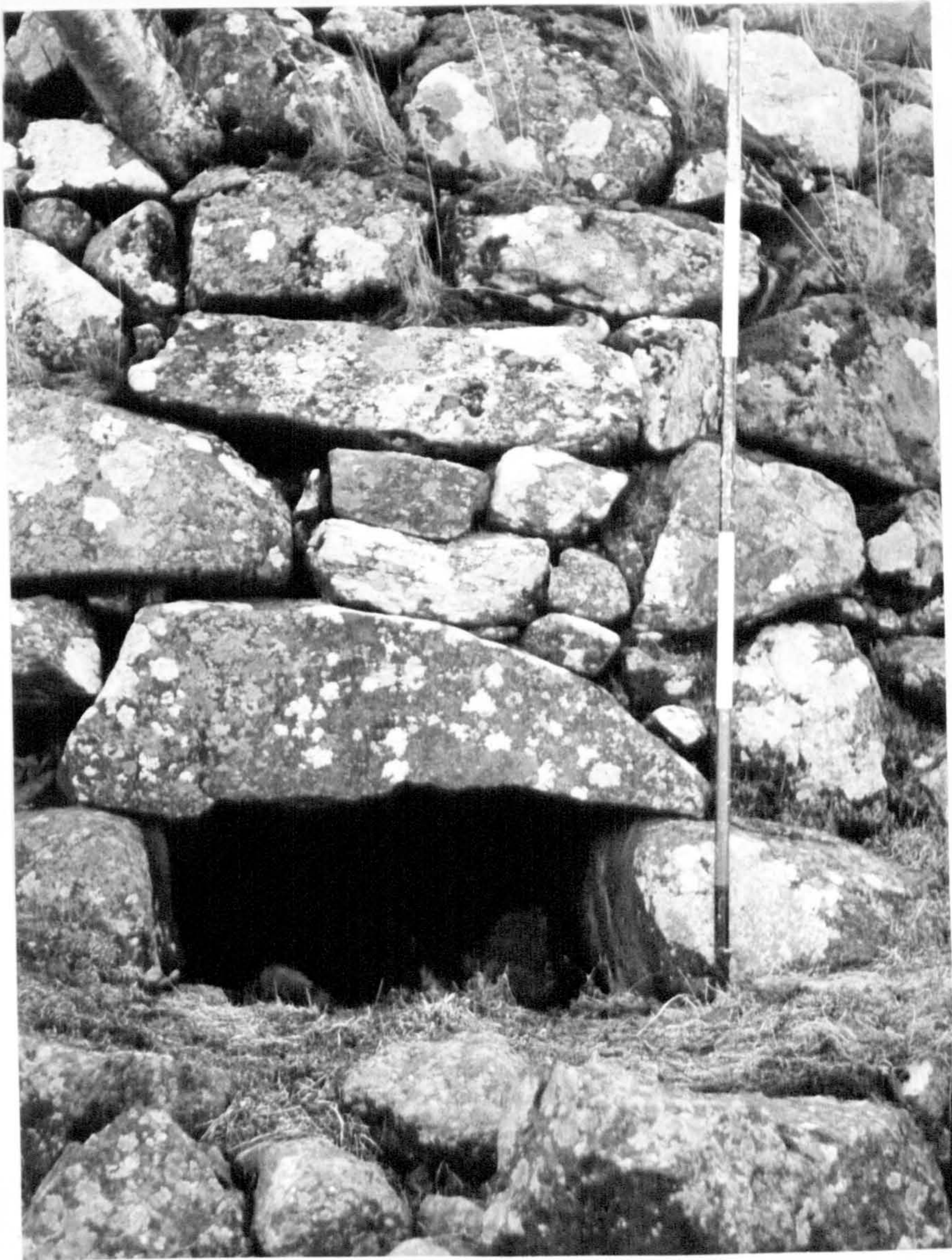


Plate 50. Fireplace and outer end of flue of corn-drying kiln built into end of Building D on Craig Farm. Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 51. Track above Craig Farm leading to hill grazings (Figure 48). Structures X and Y, just above the 1769 head dyke, are seen in the background to the right of centre.



Plate 52. Structure Y, possible shieling bothy (Figure 48), modern head dyke in background. Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 53. Structure Z, turf-covered, sub-rectangular, possible shieling bothy above modern head dyke at junction of Ten-Shilling Land and Kenderochid farms (Figure 48).



Plate 54. View of South Lochtayside looking west from above Craig. Most of the land at this level, just below the 1769 head dyke, was outfield.



Plate 55. Dry-stone built bothy and fold (Figure 49a) above Shenlarich, South Lochtayside. In foreground, smaller (older?) oval, turf-covered structure, possible shieling bothy.



Plate 56. Rectangular shieling bothies on the terraces of the Morenish Burn, where Farquharson's overall map of North Lochtayside shows 'Tommachrochar sheals'.



Plate 57. Ruins of Ardvreck Castle on the northern shore of Loch Assynt, in the left background the shell of Calda House, home of the last Mackenzie Laird of Assynt, burned in 1737.



Plate 58. Building A on Clashnessie (Figure 60). An old style of construction with the upper part of the gable ends and the roof made of turf. The roof is supported on crucks (see Plate 59) unlike the later unroofed house in the background which has normal rafters resting on the wall heads.



Plate 59. Interior of Building A on Clashnessie (Plate 58). The crucks are in a somewhat dilapidated condition, but at least one collar beam is still in place. Turf upper gable in background.



Plate 60. Old building on Clashnessie, now used as outhouse. Upper gable of turf.



Plate 61. Building B on Clashnessie, Assynt (Figure 60).



Plate 62. Remains of mill on Clashnessie, Assynt (Figure 60).



Plate 63. View west across Clashnessie from Cluster C on Figures 60 and 61. Clashnessie Bay in right background, old arable area and field boundaries in far background.



Plate 64. Building 3 on Cluster C, Clashnessie. NW (dry stone) end.



Plate 65. Interior of Building 3, Cluster C, Clashnessie. Window and empty cruck slot to left of upright ranging pole (in feet).



Plate 66. Building 1, Cluster C, Clashnessie. Ranging pole in feet.



Plate 67. Interior of Building 1, Cluster C, Clashnessie. Empty cruck slot in far wall.



Plate 68. Area D on Clashnessie (Figure 60), shown by Home as sheeling in 1774 (Figures 58a, 59) and later colonised as a small settlement. Known as 'imir fada' - long balk or ridge.



Plate 69. Traces of former lazy beds or 'feannagan' on the Clashnessie Burn just below the waterfall, on land shown by John Home in 1774 as a sheeling (Figures 58a and 60).



Plate 70. Old style of building on Balcladich (Bellachlattach) now used as byres or stores



Plate 71. Old style of building on Balcladich (Bellachlattach) resembling some of those sketched by Home on his plans of Assynt (Figures 82, 83, 84).



Plate 72. View east to Clashnessie Bay across the remains of settlement on Achnacarnin (Auchnagarnan). Quinag in the far background.



Plate 73. Enclosed infield and house ruins at A on Clashmore (Figure 63). There are traces of rigs within the dyked area. Druim na Claise rises behind.



Plate 74. Former walled infield area and ruins of houses at Clachtoll (Figure 65).



Plate 75. Remains of broch on Clachtoll township (Figure 65).

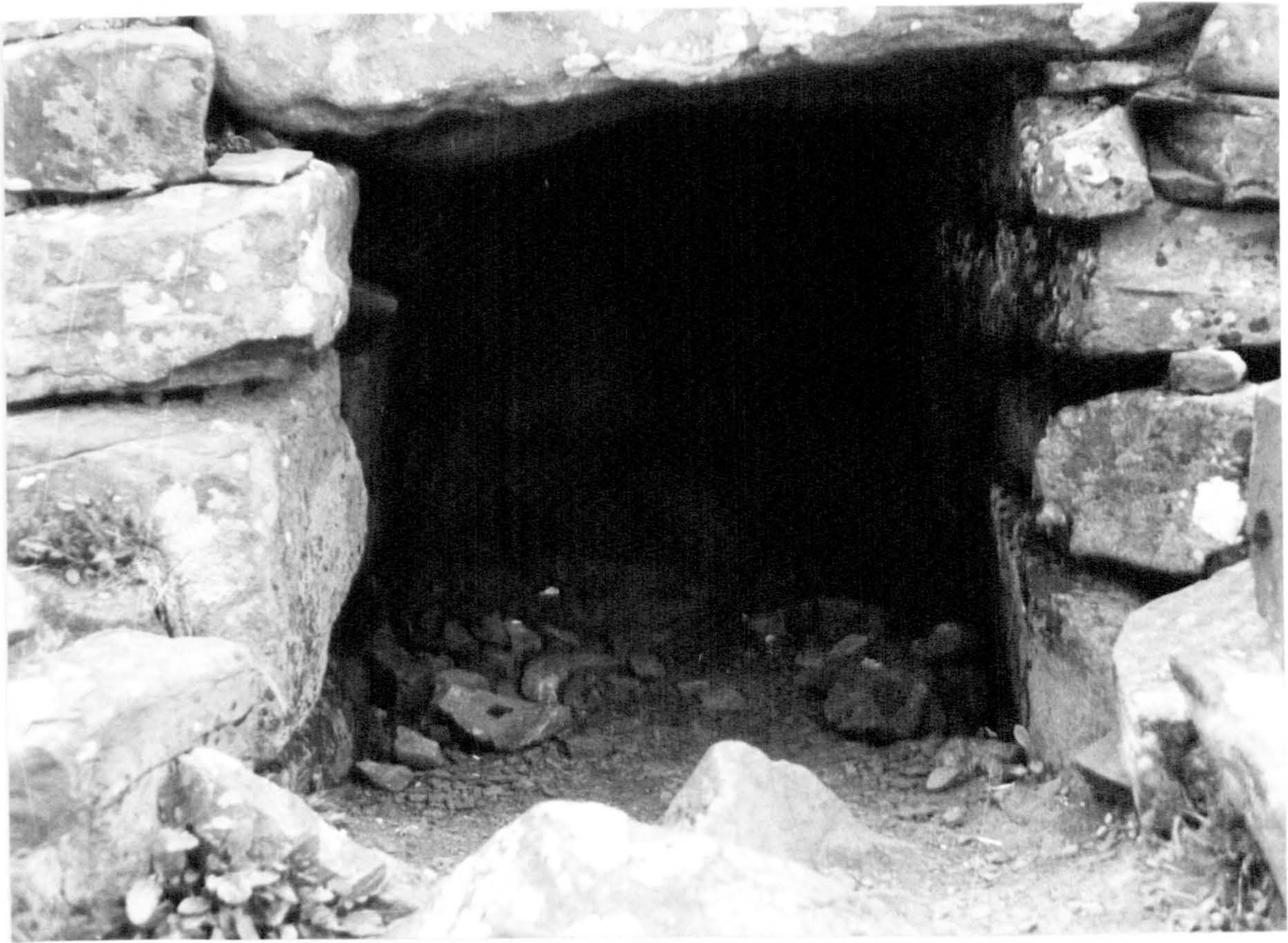


Plate 76. Clachtoll broch, entrance passage with door checks.



Plate 77. Buildings and yard at X on Auchmelvich (Figures 67 and 68).

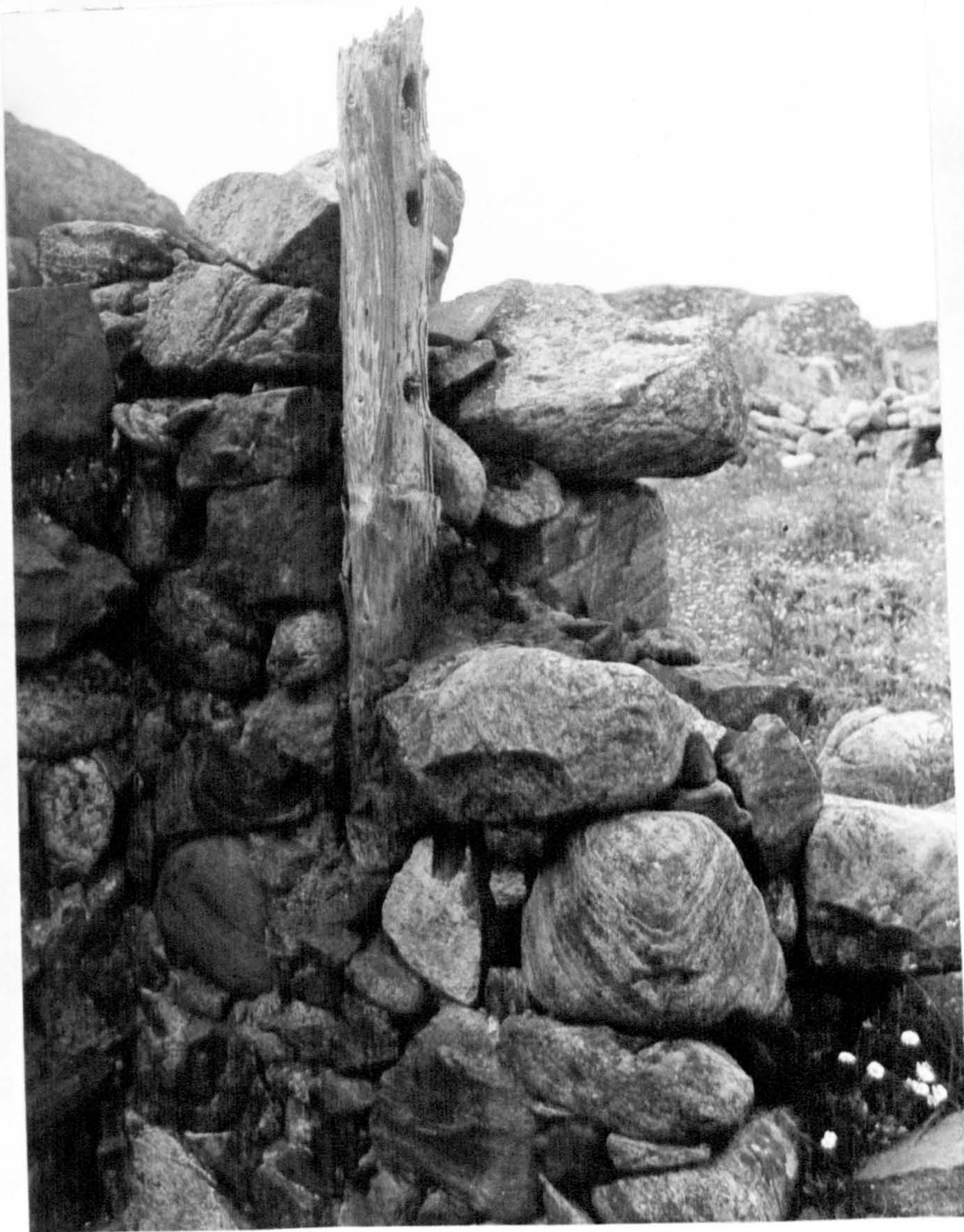


Plate 78. Remains of cruck high in wall of building at X on Auchmelvich.



Plate 79. Remains of cruck with pinning holes outside wall of building at X on Auchmelvich (Figures 67 and 68).



Plate 80. View across Glananter (Glananter) sheeling, with remains of post-1774 colonisation for arable and settlement (Figures 66, 69, 70).



Plate 81. Building E on Glananter sheeling (Figures 69, 71).



Plate 82. Interior of Building E, Glananter sheeling, showing single cruck slot in SE wall.



Plate 83. Interior of Building E, Glananter sheeling, showing cruck slot and doorway in NW wall (Figure 71).



Plate 84. Remains of lower part of cruck in wall slot of NW wall of Building E, Glananter sheeling. Scale has 50 cm and 10 cm divisions.



Plate 85. Close up of cruck remains in NW wall of Building E, Glanantler sheeling, showing surviving wooden peg.



Plate 86. Alltanabradhan, a sheeling in 1774, later colonised for arable and settlement (area C on Figures 66, 67). Traces of rigs in dyked area.



Plate 87. Early building and yard (fold?) on former Alltanabradhan sheeling.



Plate 88. Riecairn, a sheeling on Auchmelvich in 1774, later colonised for arable and settlement (Figures 66 and 67). Widespread traces of former rigs.

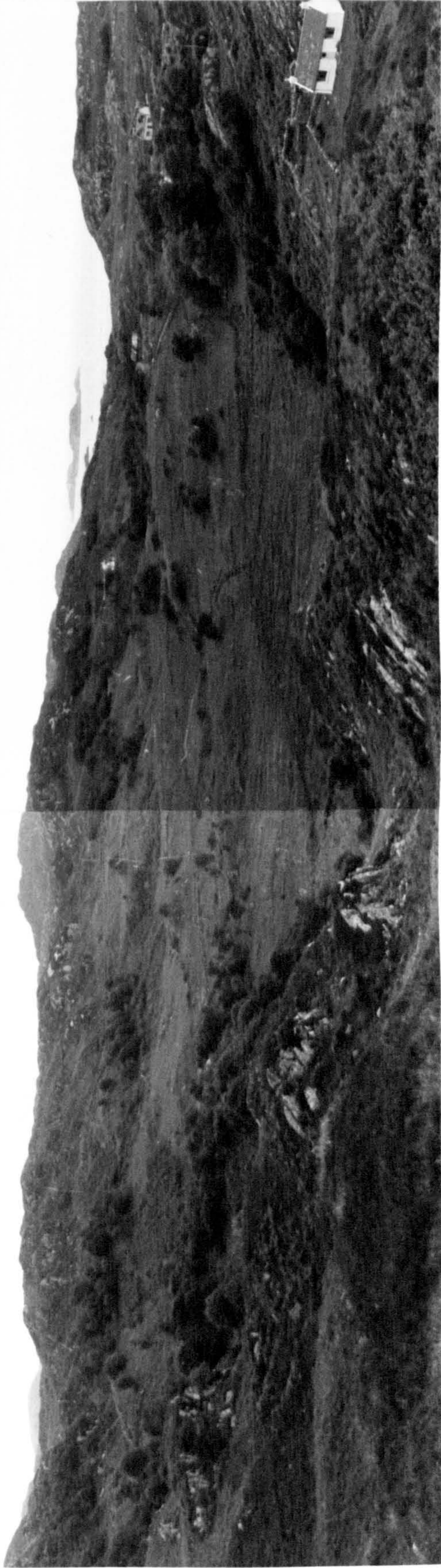


Plate 89. Part of the 1774 township of Culack or Culag (now Strathain). The arable lands were in the shallow bowl-like depression just left of centre through which the Allt an t-Srathain runs. Modern settlement on the right, Loch Inver in the distant background. (Figures 72 and 73).

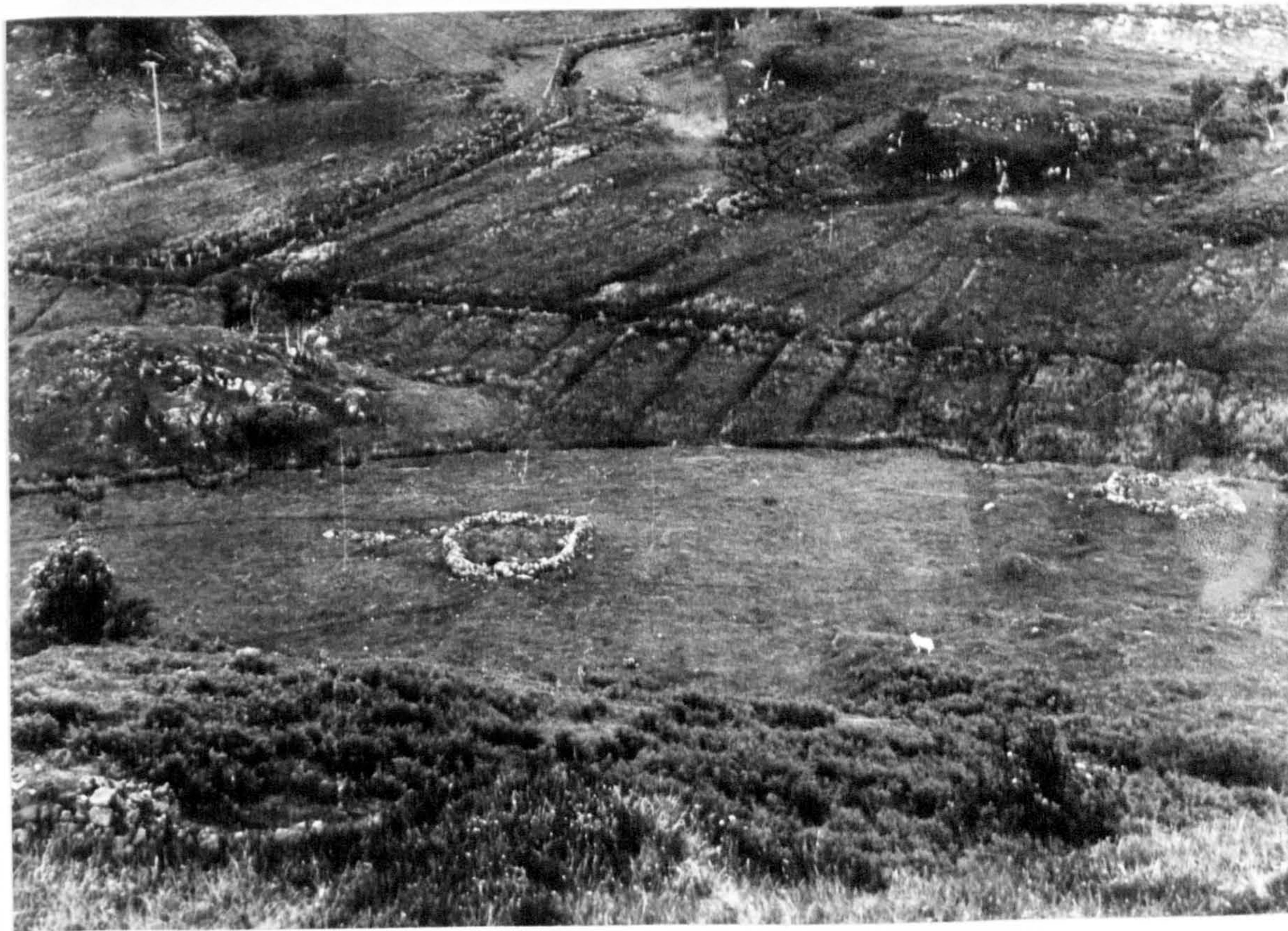


Plate 90. Remains of rigs at the centre of the former arable lands of Culack (Culag).

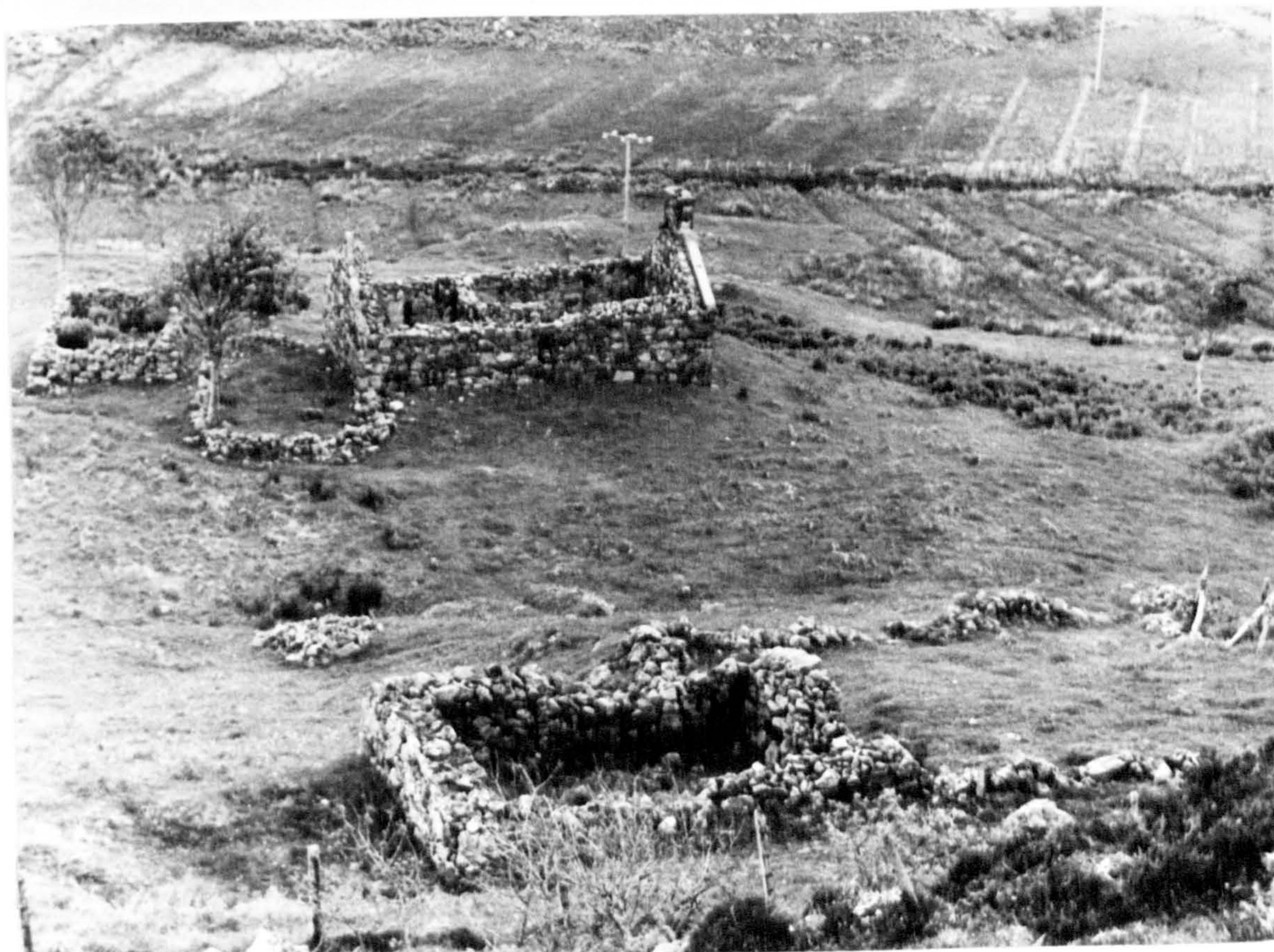


Plate 91. Remains of buildings and rigs on Culack (Culag).

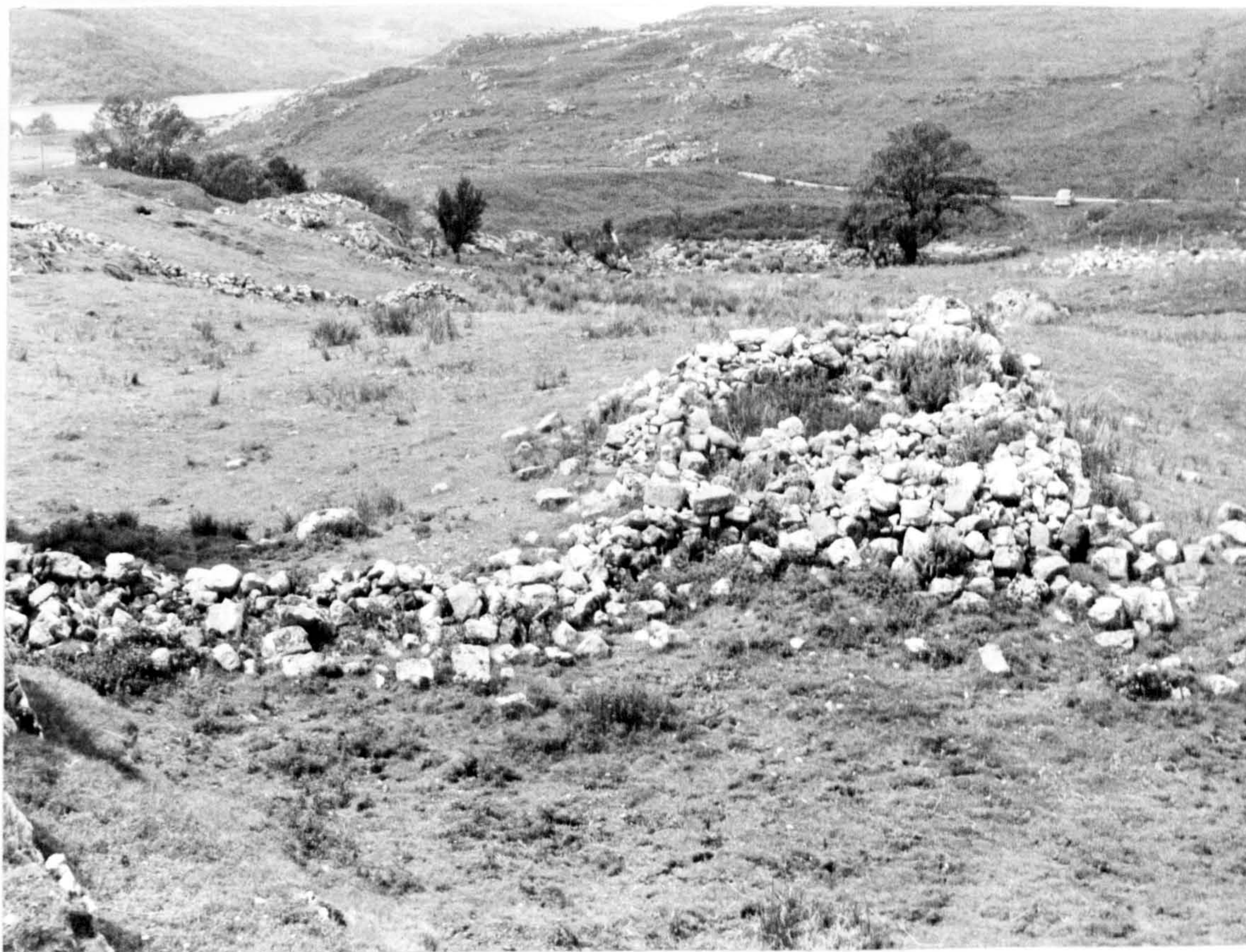


Plate 92. Remains of Building 4 on sheeling B, Kirktown (Figures 79, 80 and 81). Post-1774 colonisation.

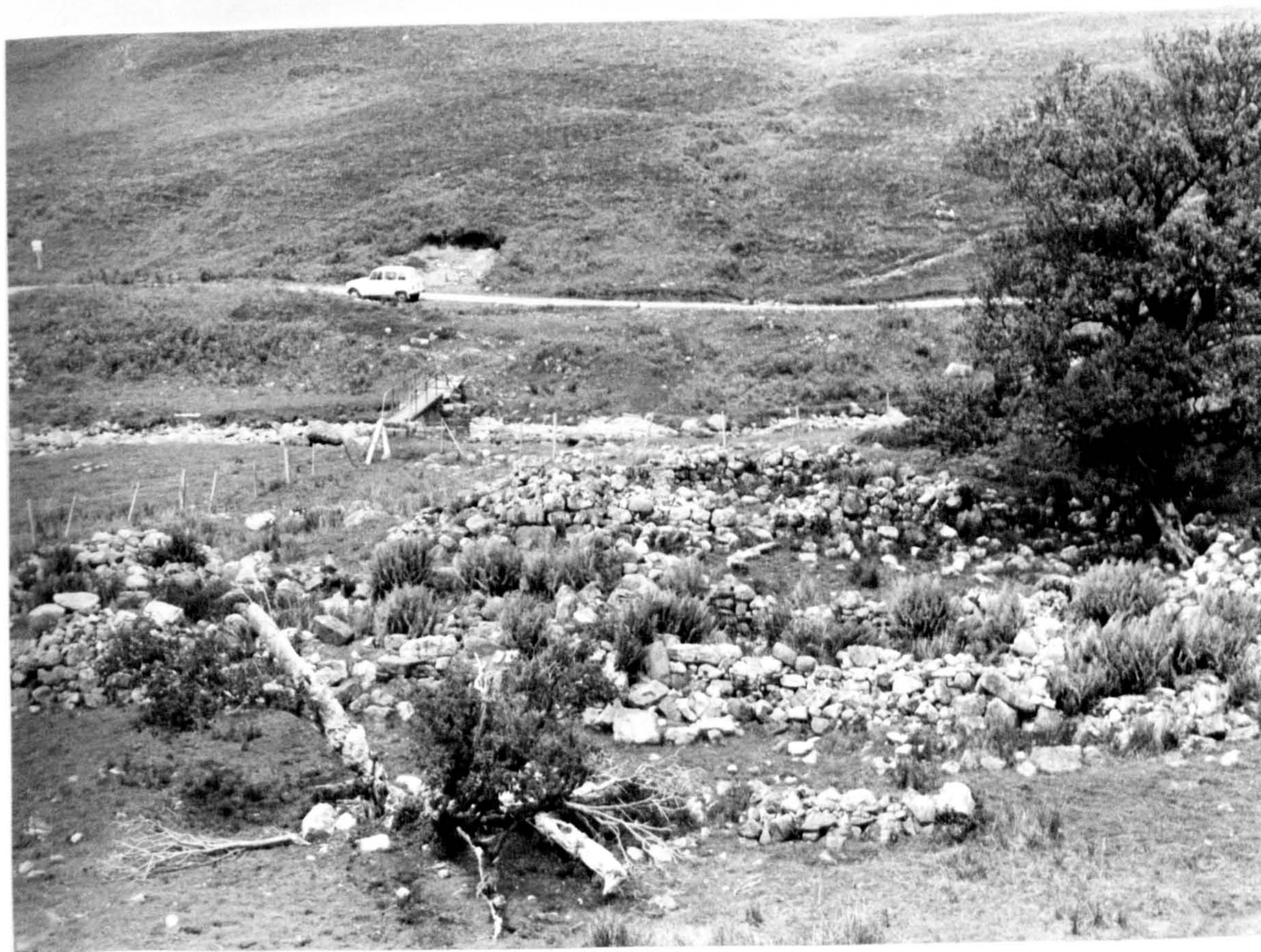


Plate 93. Remains of Buildings 1 and 2 on sheeling B, Kirktown. River Traligill in background.



Plates 94 and 95. Remains of former sheeling bothies on sheeling D, Kirktown, the largest sheeling area in Assynt in 1774 (Figure 80).



Plate 96. Remains of mill building on Alltanabradhan Burn



Plate 97. Basin for horizontal mill-paddle, interior of ruined mill on Alltanabradhan Burn.



Plate 98. Upper and lower mill stones, Alltanabradhan Burn.

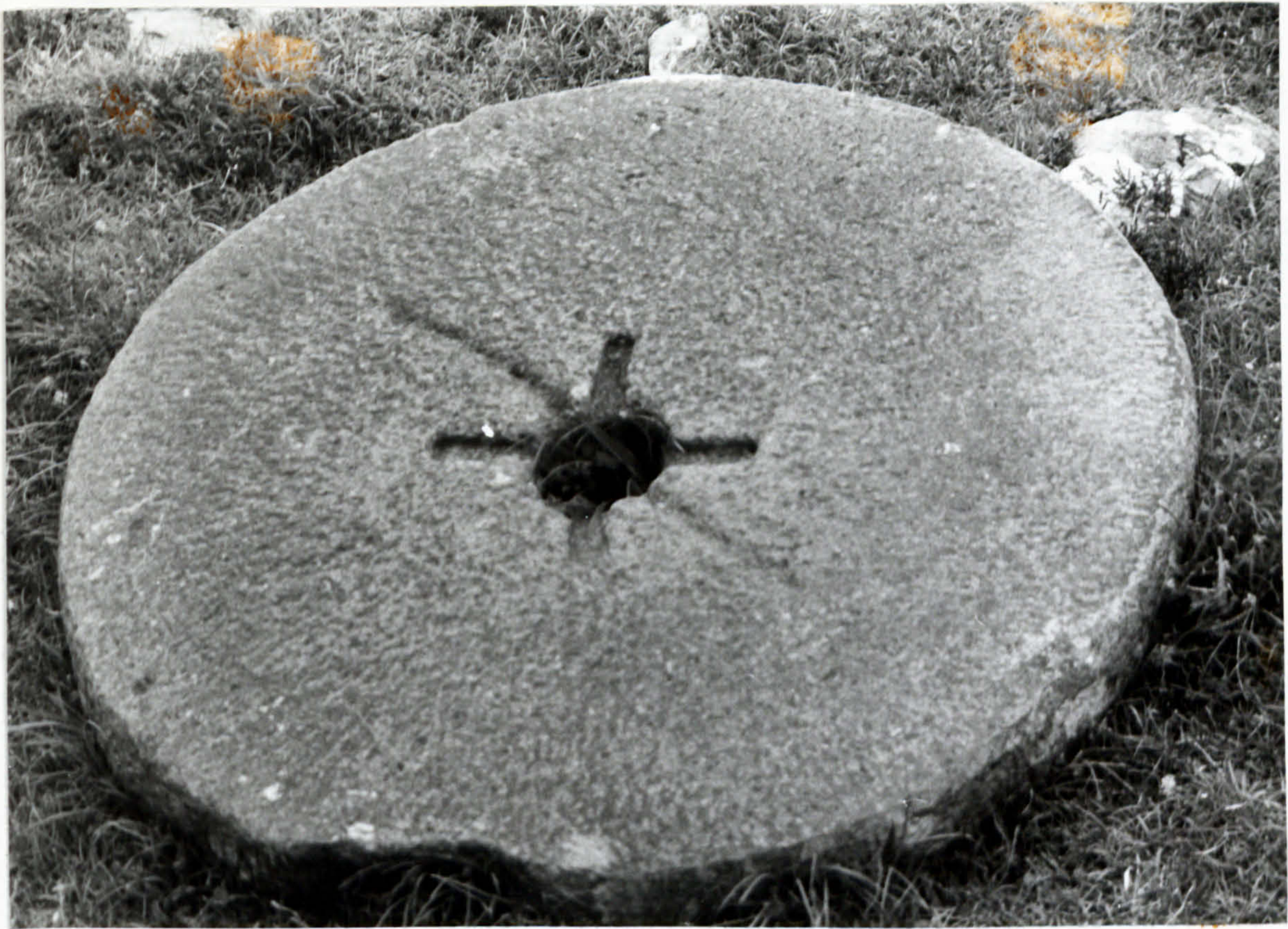


Plate 99. Upper mill stone, Alltanabradhan Burn.



Plate 100. Excavation of House D in Cluster EL/I at East Lix, showing pair of garnetiferous quern stones found in the floor.



Plate 101. Excavation of byre dwelling House G in Cluster EL/III at East Lix (Figure 88), showing living area in foreground with hearth and backing stone, and byre drain behind vertical ranging pole (in feet).



Plate 102. Rick foundations associated with Cluster EL/III at East Lix (Figure 88).



Plate 103. 'Ring-dyke' enclosing settlement and arable at Rosal, Strathnaver (Figure 91). Forestry ploughing stopping short of dyke on left, River Naver in background.



Plate 104. Interior of byre dwelling in Complex A, Rosal, showing hearth and possible extension at SW end.



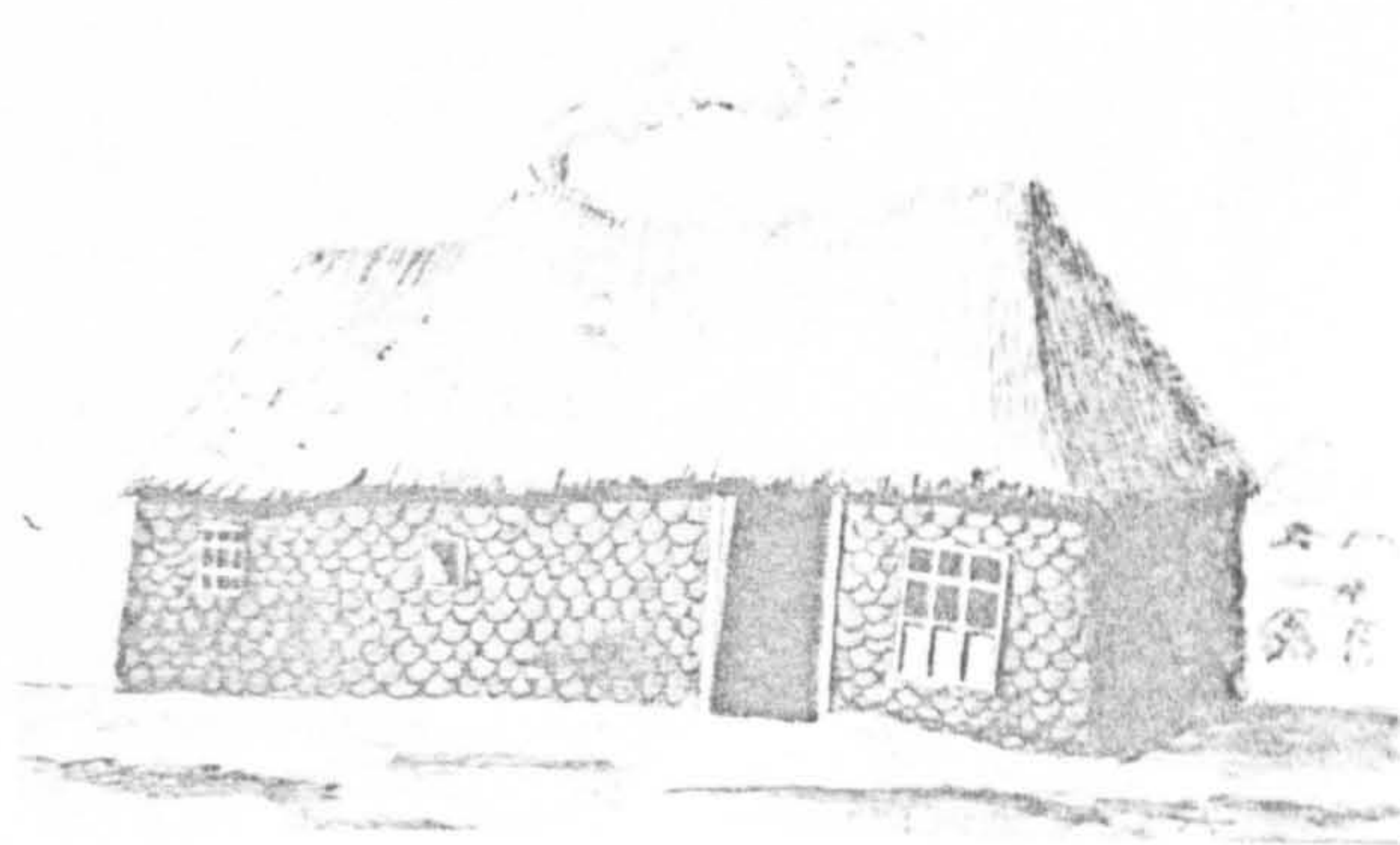
Plate 105. Plan of Glentarken, Lochearnside, by James Knox, 1810 (Figure 97).



Plate 106. Building G at Auchindrain, reconstructed with hipped roof, crucks and central hearth. Thatched with straw on heather.

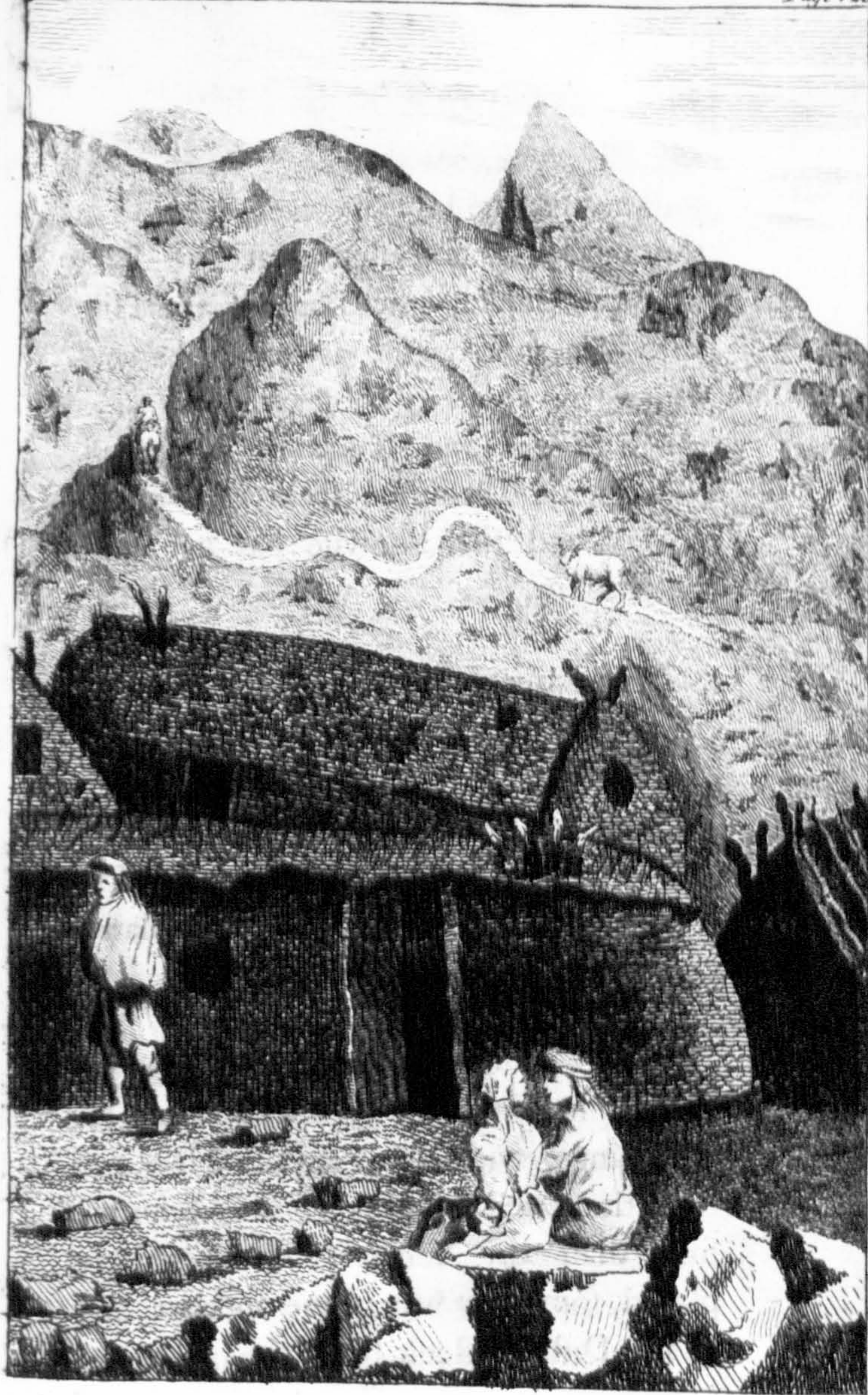


Plate 107. Building O at Auchindrain, c. 1886. One end hip-roofed.



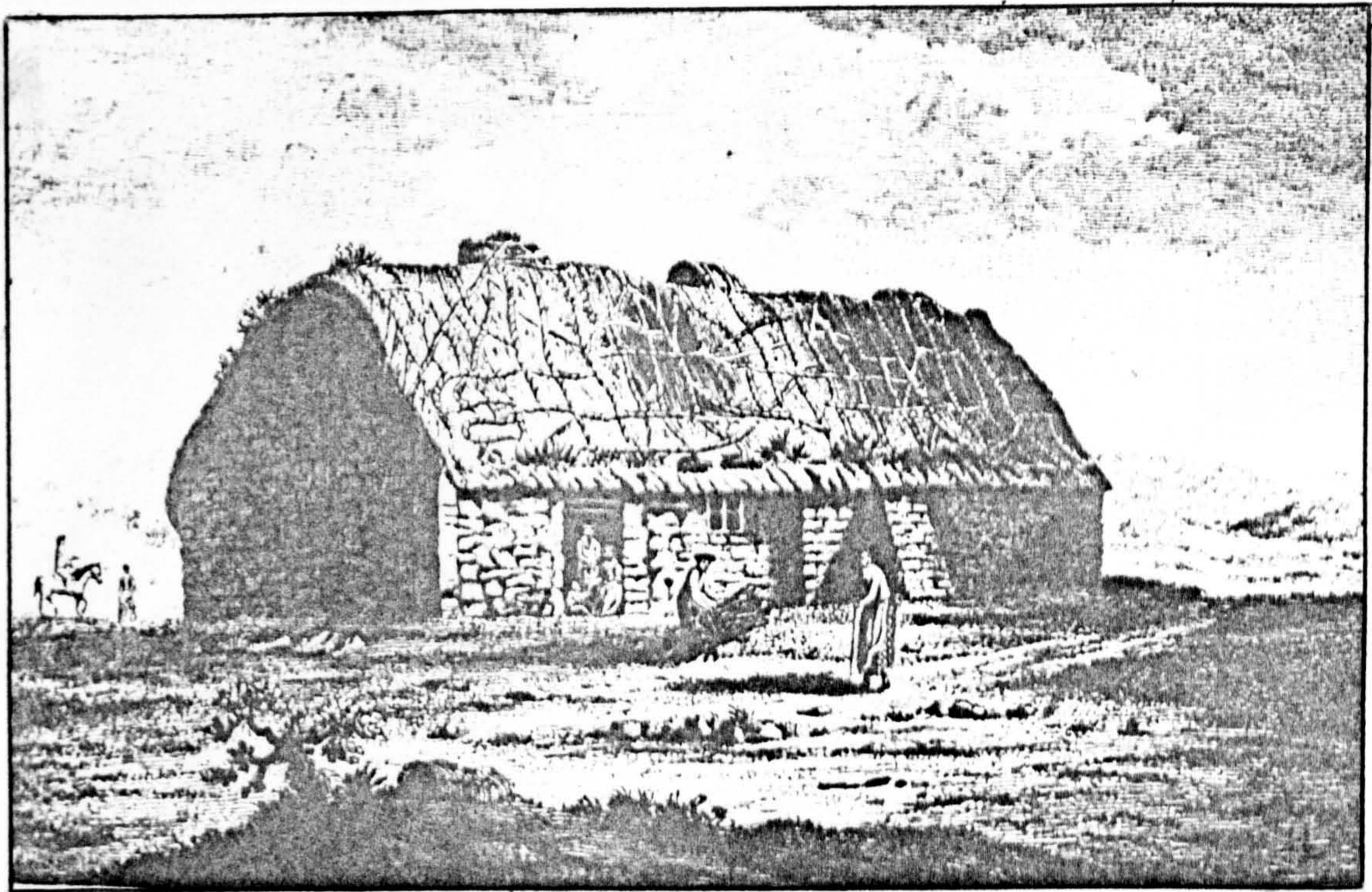
182 Late eighteenth-century drawing of
'An Inn in Ross-shire'

Plate 109. An 18th century building using turf as 'tiling'. After Dunbar (1966).

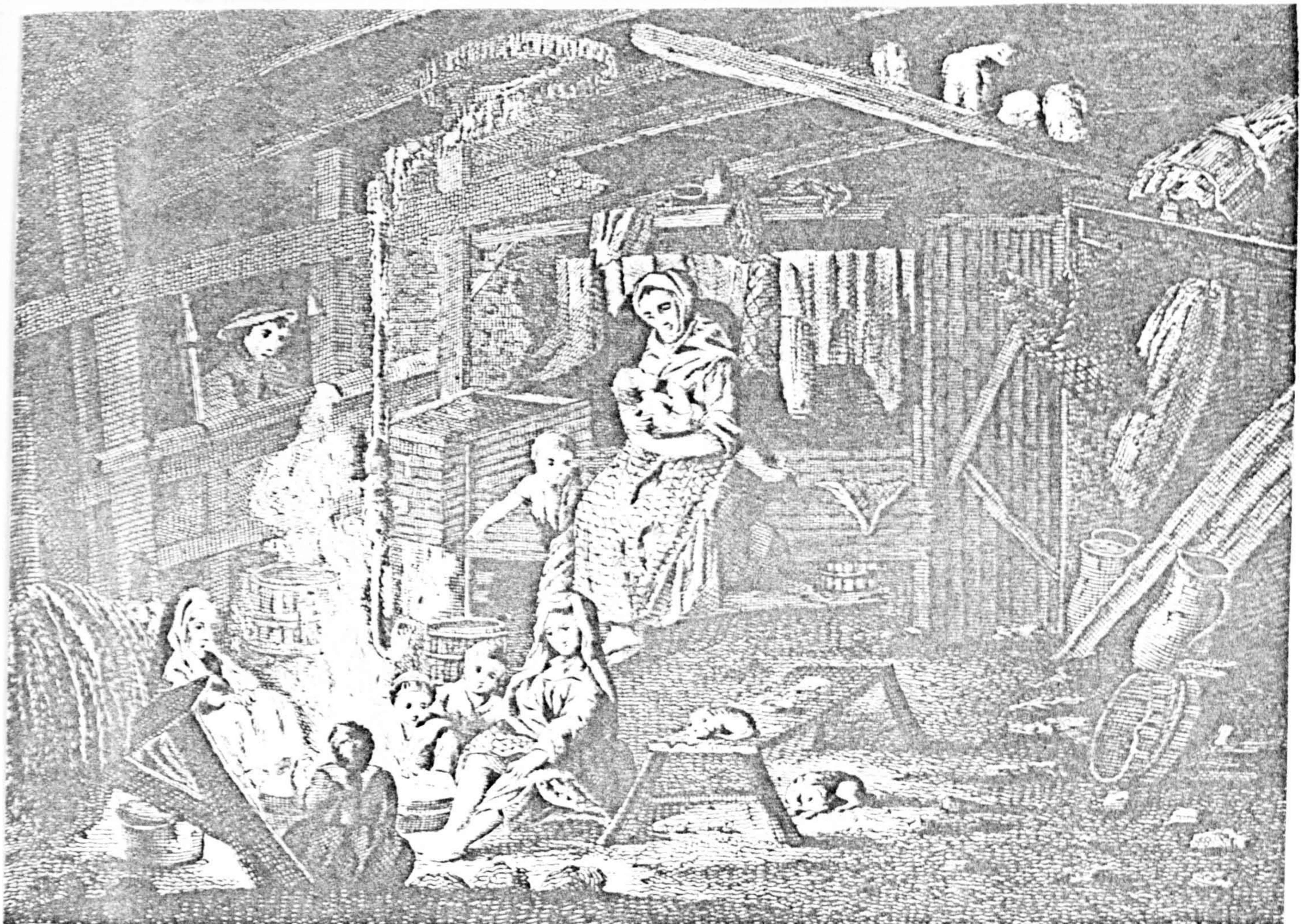


J. Jefferys sculp.

Plate 108. Edward Burt's (1754) impression of a 'highland town' (see also Appendix 28).



Cottage in 1758.



Inside of a WEAVERS COTTAGE in ILLAY

Plates 110 and 111. Illustrations from Pennant's Tour in Scotland and Voyage to the Hebrides.



Shielings in JURA and a distant view of the Taps.

Plate 112. Shieling huts from Pennant's Tour. It is interesting to compare the 'beehive' forms with some of John Home's sketches (Figures 82, 83, 84).

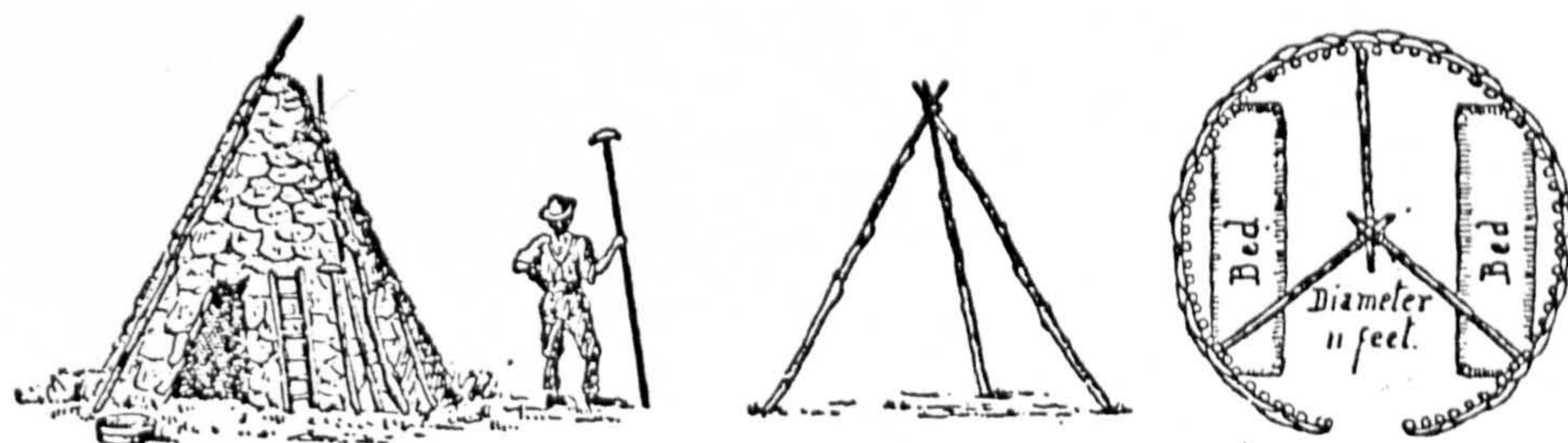


Plate 113. Structure of a charcoal burner's hut at High Furness, Lancashire, in the 19th century. After Walton (1959).