



**DUN FHINN
KILDALTON, ISLAY
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY**



**DATA STRUCTURE REPORT
May 2017
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ISLAY HERITAGE
DUALCHAS ÌLE 

Summary

The survey of Dun Fhinn and its associated landscape has revealed a picture of an area extensively settled and utilised in the past dating from at least the Iron Age and very likely before. In the survey area we see settlements developing across the area from at least the 15th century with a particular concentration of occupation on or near the terraces of the Kintour River. Without excavation or historical documentation dating these settlements is fraught with difficulty but the distinct differences between the structures at Ballore and Creagfinn likely reflect a chronological development between the pre-improvement and post-improvement settlements, the former perhaps a relatively rare well preserved survival.



Ballore

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The Survey Team

1. Introduction

This report collates the results of the survey of Dun Fhinn and a walkover survey of the surrounding landscape. The survey work was undertaken as part of the Ardtalla Landscape Project a collaborative project between Kilmartin Museum and Reading University, which forms part of the wider Islay Heritage Project. The survey area is situated on the Ardtalla Estate within Kildalton parish in the south east of Islay (Figure 1) and survey work was undertaken in early April 2017.



Figure 1: Area of Survey in Argyll

Prehistoric Evidence

A cup marked rock was reported at Proaig (Site 81) but could not be located on later visits which recorded a cut basin.

As mentioned above the remains of what was likely cist burial has been reported from Ardmore (Site 56) and an 'urn' was found near Kintour Old Schoolhouse (Site 24). A saddle quern lies near the door of Kildalton chapel which might also attest to pre Iron Age activity, this perhaps later utilised as a bullion stone.

Standing stones are present at Claggain Bay (Site 2), Trudernish (Site 11) and Ardtalla (Site 95) while a stone setting at Ardilistry (Site 73) may also represent another set of prehistoric standing stones although here their small size makes them unusual.

Enclosures, Homesteads or Hut Circles

Several circular enclosures have been recorded across the area; Creagfinn (Site 14), three at Kintour (Site 30), Kintour River (Site 31) and Ardmore (Site 50). Some of these are likely the remains of roundhouses, although without excavation, dating them is difficult. The few hut circles that have been excavated show that these structures originate in the 2nd millennium BC and can continue in use until the 1st millennium BC (Ritchie 1997). However, it does seem highly probable that some hut circles belong to a later period and recently what is likely Iron Age pottery was recovered from the evaluation of two hut circles at Beinn Bheag (Regan 2012).

Forts and Duns

The study area contains 5 forts and 9 duns and their place in the landscape is more fully outlined in Section 3.

The forts are located at Dun Nan Gall (Site 81), Trudernish Point (Site 37), Creagan Na Ceardaich Moire (Site 53), Loch Nan Clach (Site 67) and Dun Beag (Site 68). The Duns are found at Dun An Rudha Bhuide (Site 1), Cill A Chuibein (Site 9), Dun Fhinn (Site 28), Mullach Ban (Site 49), Ardmore (Site 58), Dunan Charmaic (Site 62), Druim Arn-ir-ach Site (Site 69) and Ardilistry (Site 80).

Medieval Sites

It is quite possible that some of the duns and forts may have been occupied or reoccupied in later periods but again without excavation this remains speculation and similarly evidence of medieval occupation may lie within settlements that we generally attribute to later periods. The main evidence we have of medieval activity in the survey area surrounds chapel sites and possible burial sites. Two chapel sites are located within the study area at Kildalton (Site 54) and Cill A' Chubein (Site 13), while a possible third has been suggested at Ardilistry (Site 79). The cross and some grave stones at Kildalton suggest a chapel or possibly a monastic site in the vicinity in the early medieval period, although the chapel itself is a 13th century construction. It is possible that the small chapel is of a similar or earlier date but without any attributable dating this has to remain speculation. What may be a burial enclosure is located at Cill An Ailein (Site

6) while local tradition suggests another site at Borra-chille (Site 92). The fragment of a cross shaft was recovered from Kintour (Site 34) which may have originated from nearby Kildalton , while a cross incised stone from Trudernish (Site 43) must have come from a burial ground but which one remains unknown.

Sheilings

These are located in the higher ground mainly to the west of the settlements to which they no doubt relate with sites previously recorded at Cnoc Mor Na Claign (Site 7), Druim Nan Buth (Site 16), Trudernish (Site 22), Leac Eidhne (Site 36), An Dun (Sites 64 & 65), Allt Coire Liunn drein (Site 84), Pairc Nan Each (Site 90) while a further group are depicted on the current Ordnance Survey map at Abhainn Torr a' Mhullinn although these are not recorded on Canmore.

Settlements

The survey area contains several settlement sites and a comprehensive study of their history would be beyond the scope of this report, although settlements within the landholding of Kintour which were covered by the walkover survey are discussed in more detail below.

2.1 Cartographic Evidence of Settlement

Blaeu's atlas published in 1654 but based on the cartographic work undertaken in the late 16th century depicts a series of settlements running down the SE coast of Islay north of presently named Ardilistry Bay, these from north to south; 'Pronig' (Proag), 'Ard hallom' (Ardtalla), 'Keandur' (Kintour), 'Ardtrutmish' (Trudernish), 'Ardmoir' (Ardmore), 'Laggénach' (Clagintarroch), 'Kildalckan' (Kildalton) and 'Knockrýnea' (Cnoc Rhaonastil?). The map also depicts 'Avon Kildalckan' which likely approximates with the Kintour River.



Blaeu's Atlas of Islay

Stephen MacDougall's map of Islay drawn up between 1749 and 1751 depicts a series of linear NW/SE oriented farms or landholdings within the northern end of Kildalton parish these again from north to south Proaig, Ardtalla, Clagin, Trudernish, Craigfin, Staine/Kintoure, Kildalton, Ardlistor and Knockronisdill, with the additions of Ardmenoch and Ardmore along the coast at the south eastern ends of Kildalton/Kintour divisions. Within these divisions are a series of settlements which roughly equate to the known positions of later settlement.



Stephen MacDougall's map of Islay

George Langland's Argyll map of 1802 depicts a similar list of settlements strung down the south east of the island these being; Proaig, Ardtala, Clagin, Trudarnish, Ardmeanach, Ardmore, Kintoure, Killdalton and Ardelisto (Ardilistry) with the settlements of Stuinie (Staoin) and Craigfin lying more inland.



George Langland's map

The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Argyllshire, sheets, CCXX, CCXXI, CCXXXIX, CCXXXIII, surveyed 1878) depicts the area in much more detail and has several named settlements these again from north to south (with their site number in given in Appendix 1) are; Proaig (Site 82), Ardtalla (Site 94), Claiggain (Site 5), Skilifin (Site 6?), Trudernaish (Site 44), Sursdun (Site 24), Aros (Site 46), Kintour (34 & 35), Creagfinn (Site 20), Ballore (Site 21), Staoin (Sites 26 & 27), Ardmeinach (Site 51), Kildalton Chapel and manse (54), Ardmore (Site 55), Tallant (Site 4) and Ardilistry (Sites 75 & 78).



1st Edition Ordnance Survey map showing Staoin (at west) to Ballore (at east)

The map also depicts several unnamed settlements and these can also be found in Appendix 1; Cnoc Mor Na Claigin (Site 8), Cnoc Dhota (Site 15), Kintour (Site 29), Kintour River (Sites 31 & 32), Trudernish (Site 41), Reidh An Dun (Site 50), Creagan Na Ceardaich Beag (Site 52), Allt Loch Carn A' Mhaoil (Site 63), Sliabh A' Mheallaidh (Site 70), Cnoc Na Binneig/ Sruthan Bann Na Sgailean (Sites 87-89) and An Creagan (Site 96).

These named sites no doubt equate to the positions of the settlements mentioned in earlier documents, although Proaig may originally have originally have referred to the unnamed settlement at Cnoc Na Binneig/Sruthan Bann Na Sgailean (Sites 87-89) rather than the single structure indicated at Site 82.

2. 2 Some Settlement History

As depicted in Stephen MacDougall's map of Islay the survey area of lies within the NE of the parish of Kildalton with the settlement boundaries forming a series of linear land divisions from Proaig at the north to Ardilistry at the south (Figure 3).

These land divisions and the settlements attached to them were likely established by the late medieval period and possibly by the end of the 15th century. Certainly many appear in documentation of the 16th century and only the absence of earlier documents prevents tracing their existence at earlier dates. The names of the landholdings appear in various documents; Kintour in 1499 (The Book of Islay p. 28), Proaig in 1506 (The Exchequer rolls of Scotland Vol. XII, pp. 709.) Ardtalla, Claggain and Creagfinn in 1541 (The Exchequer rolls of Scotland, Vol. XVII pp. 611-620 & 633-641). Trudenish, Ardmeinach and Ardmore in 1545 (*Registrum Magni Sigilli*

Regum Scotorum, Vol. III, 3085), Ardlistry in 1622 (AS II 1044), Ballore? and Aros in 1686 (Book of Islay, pp 490-520) and Staoin in 1722 (Book of Islay, pp. 521-544).

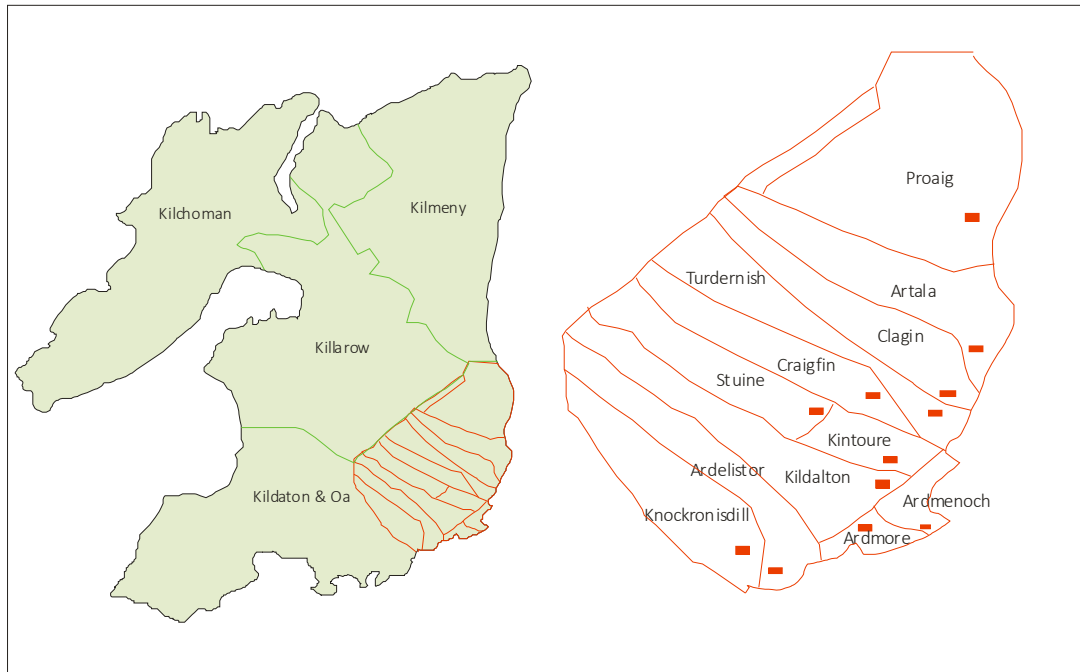


Figure 3: Land divisions

Kintour appears to have been an estate centre as it is named in documents as consisting of 10 merklands in 1499, 1507, 1509 & 1528-9. All three settlements that we know the names of and were subject to survey, namely Staoin, Craegfinn and Ballore, were part of the landholding of Kintour with Ballore being part of the sub-tenancy of Craegfinn. Kintour seems to have been split in two by 1722 with Kintour and Aros forming the seaward division while Staoin became part of the inland division. In a rent roll of 1733 Rent Roll of Kildalton 'Arras (Aros), Keantour (Kintour), and Stein' are described as '*...a spacious quarter-land, very good for stock, being in three separate divisions...*'

Craegfinn (meaning: Finn's Rock).

Craegfinn appears in the Islay Rental Rolls of 1541 as Craggin, in 1545 as Cragfyne, and is in the 1686 rolls as Craigfinn.

In the Hearth Tax of 1694, Craigfin was occupied by the families of Robert Campbell and John McMillan, both tenant farmers.

The Rental Rolls of 1741 show Craigfinn leased to John Campbell of Askomell for a rent of c. £34 per year.

Between 1829 and 1848, Craigfin and Ardmeanach (a landholding that no longer exists but was on the opposite side of the road east of today's Kintour Farm) were on a 19 year lease to

Alexander Campbell, a tenant farmer, In 1848 this became a year to year lease at c. £140 per year.

Census Returns:

1841:	Alexander Campbell	55	Agricultural Labourer
	Mary Campbell	50	Wife of Ag. Lab.
	John Campbell	15	Son
	Janet Wilson	7	Granddaughter
	Ann Wilson	5	Granddaughter
	John McDuffie	50	Agricultural Labourer
	Cathrin McDuffie	50	Wife
	Alexander McDuffie	12	Son
	Isabella McDuffie	9	Daughter

1851, 1861 and 1871: No separate entries in Census for Creagfinn, included and listed as 'Kintur'.

1881:	Peter Sinclair	66 (?)	Shepherd
	Duncan Sinclair	37	Son, Shepherd
	Susan Sinclar	33 (?)	Sister of Shepherd
1891:	Peter Sinclair	85 (?)	Retired Shepherd
	Susan Shepherd	55 (?)	Sister, Housekeeper

Peter Sinclair, his sister and son came to Islay sometime between 1861 and 1871 from Dalavich near Oban. Peter was already a widower and he was listed in the 1871 Census as a shepherd at Ardtalla. Peter died in 1897, his sister, Susan, moved back to the mainland shortly after his death as she is listed in 1901 Census as living in Oban. They are the last occupants of Creagfinn that I can find any record off.

Staoin (meaning: exact translation is tin (as in the metal), local translation is boulder or large stone).

Staoin became a separate landholding from Kintour in 1722,

In the 1741 Rental Roll of Islay, "Stoin" was leased to Baillie Coll McAlister for the sum of c. £4 per year.

In 1848, "Stoine" was held as a joint tenancy with Kintour between Dugald McDougall, Colin Campbell and Malcolm Campbell on a four year lease until 1852 with an annual rent shared between them of c. £140.

Census 1841:	Duncan McNab	55	Agricultural Labourer
	Christian McNab	45	Wife
	Nancy McNab	17	Daughter

Donald McNab	15	Son
Bell McNab	13	Daughter
Duncan McNab	11	Son
Katharine McNab	8	Daughter

In 1851 and 1861: No separate entries in Census for Staoin, included and listed as 'Kintur'.
However an 'Account of Population in Parish of Kildalton' drawn up in 1860 lists those at 'Staoine'.

Anne Morrison	54
Donald Morrison	25
John Morrison	22
Jessie Morrison	18
Christina Morrison	16
Archibald Morrison	13
Catherin Morrison	10

Census 1871:	Donald Morrison	36	Shepherd
	Bella Morrison	25	Wife of Shepherd
	Agnes Morrison	2	Daughter

Donald Morrison moved with his wife to Islay from Dunoon sometime between 1861 and 1869. His daughter was born an Ileach.

I have found no evidence to suggest Staoin was occupied after 1871.

Ballore (meaning: "Baille" means township/village. The second part of the name is more difficult to determine. The accepted translation is derived from the gaelic "odhar" meaning dun (as in the light brown colour) pronounced "oar". Making Ballore "the Dun Township"?). However.....

The Land Assessment of Scotland notes that in 1541 there was a family of Dewars recorded in the Kildalton area (a Dewar is a locally appointed officer with charge of a sacred relic (Dewar is pronounced "jor" in gaelic). There was a John McKyndewir at Craggin (Creagfinn) and a Gillaspy McIndewar at Ardtalloch (Ardtalla). In the 1686 Churchlands of Islay, there is reference to a "Ballindeor" being part of the holdings of Craigfinn and that "Ballindeor" is known as the Township of the Dewar (or Balle an deor pronounced Balle an jor) making the English translation of Ballore today? The Census Returns for Ballore are included under Kintour.

Name Book entries

Ardtalla - *'a substantial dwelling house with gardens'*

Claggainn - *'applies to a farm house now in ruins'*

Sklifin - *'a small dwelling house'*

Trudernish - *'a small farmstead'*

Sursdun - *'a small crofters dwelling house in indifferent repair'*

Aros - *'ruins of a small house'*

Kintour - *'a large farmhouse with offices and garden attached'*

Creagfinn - *'a shepherd's dwelling house and ruins of several buildings situated on the north side of Kintour River'*

Ballore - *'ruins of several dwelling houses'*

Staoin - *'a small house'*

Ardmeinach - *'a shepherd's dwelling house'*

Tallant - *'a dwelling house'*

Ardilistry - *'a small farmsteading'*

The above evidence suggests that the settlements of Staoin and Creagfinn were latterly occupied by shepherds and their families indicating the farms had been turned over to sheep. The name book entries for the First Edition Ordnance Survey reinforce this view and give some indication of the decline of many settlements in the later part of the 19th century these all the *'property of John Ramsay esq'*

2.3 A Brief History of Landholding on Islay

During the medieval period much of Islay was of course dominated by the various branches of the MacDonalDs of Islay who, apart from some counter claims particularly from the MacLeans, held sway over much of the Island. This remained the case until the forfeiture of the Macdonald Lords of the Isles a process that began in the late 15th century and concluded in the early 16th century. After the forfeiture in 1493 of John II Lord of the Isles, John Maclan of Ardnamurchan (who already had lands in Proaig) was awarded extensive lands on Islay by James IV, including those forfeited by John MacDonald of Dunyvaig and the castle of Dunyvaig itself. In 1519, however, Maclan was murdered leaving his young sons under the guardianship of his brother in law the Earl of Argyll who passed the administration of their Islay estates to Campbell of Cawder until his son Alexander came of age and took possession of his father's estate in 1528. The Maclan influence on Islay however effectively came to an end when James MacDonald of Dunyvaig was granted his family's lands in 1545. Family debts eventually led to the lands being mortgaged to John Campbell Thane of Cawder in 1612, while internal family feuding and continued disorder in the isles led to Islay's lands being given to Cawder by the Crown in 1614 who following sieges at Dunyvaig and Loch Gorme took possession of his Islay lands in 1615. Despite trying to sell Islay to the Earl of Antrim in 1627, remained in Cawdor hands until 1723 when it was mortgaged to the Campbell's of Shawfield.

After their acquisition the Campbells of Cawdor brought in new tacksmen (more often than not other Campbells) to supplant former supporters of Clan Donald. These new men sublet farms and crofts to individual tenants or groups of joint tenants. The rental of 1686 illustrates the extent of this process, with seven Campbell tacksmen holding significant swathes of land. In order to maximise profit many of the Campbell tacksmen increased the numbers of tenants on some landholdings and records of the Campbells of Cawdor show increased tenancies on the lands of Ardtalla and Claggain in 1644. This was particularly the case on the more fertile lands such as river terraces (such as the Kintour River) and well drained beach deposits and those adjacent to the while other lands such as Proiaig became large areas set aside for grazing (Storrie 1981, pp. 59). Islay however was not able to provide the income the Cawder family may have first envisaged and as mentioned above Islay was mortgaged to Daniel Campbell of Shawfield who bought the estate in 1726. Daniel Campbell and his descendents tried to introduce 'improvement' across their Islay estate such as enclosure, drainage and the introduction of new crops (particularly potatoes), although family correspondence suggests such improvements were not always meet with enthusiasm by sitting tenants (McGeachy 1988, pp. 81-82). The family of the Shawfield Campbells held on to their Islay estates until the bankruptcy of Walter Frederick Campbell forced the sale of his Islay estate to the wealthy Victorian entrepreneur James Morrison in 1853, who then sold the Kildalton estate to John Ramsey in 1855. Kildalton House and the 16,000 acre estate was then acquired in 1922 by the adventurer John Talbot Clifton and remained with his family until the lease was purchased by the MacTaggart family in 1938. The lands now form part of the Ardtalla estate.



Surveying on Dun Fhinn

3. Dun Fhinn

Scotland's and more specifically Argyll's Iron Age have been recently summarised in the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) and by the Regional Archaeological Framework for Argyll (RARFA) (ScARF 2012, RARFA 2017). These both underline the paucity of knowledge we have from this period in Argyll (c. 800 BC - AD 400) and Islay in particular where virtually nothing is known of its duns and forts through excavation.

Islay contains 92 fortified structures classified as forts and duns, while only one has been identified as a broch. There are 35 sites classified as forts on Islay, these larger than duns although arguably bracket the same period and of these 17 can be found in Kildalton and Oa, with 9 in Kilchoman and 9 in Kilmeny and Kilarrow). The defensive structure at Dun Fhinn is one of 57 such sites categorised as duns on Islay with 23 in the parish of Kildalton and Oa, with 22 in Kilchoman and 12 in Kilarrow and Kilmeny.

The wider survey area that concerns this report includes 5 forts and 9 duns which is one of the highest densities of such structures in Argyll. These perhaps not surprisingly correspond to areas of later cultivation, with a string of 7 fortifications along the coast at the east while a line of 4 fortifications perhaps delineates the western extent with a further 3 lying between these.

Across Argyll few of these sites have been excavated or securely dated as to their construction and use. Those that have indicated that such structures, namely some forts, can date to earlier Iron Age, while most excavated duns indicate these were built before the 1st century AD although of course many of these structures or the original sites on where they once stood were utilised in later periods. On Islay absence of dating is even more acute as no duns or forts have as yet been excavated although the excavation of the crannog on Eilean na Comhairle, Finlagan, suggest the later dun structure was built sometime after the 6th century AD, which if correct suggests this dun was a late exception rather than the rule. Within the survey area the forts at Trudernish along with those at Dun an Rubha Bhuidhe and Dun nan Gall all have traces of vitrification which has, as yet, not been recorded on any of the inland forts and duns within the survey grouping. All are also situated on coastal promontories and this perhaps begs the question whether this coastal group represents a distinct chronological phase in the construction and possible abandonment/destruction of these fortified structures.

Within this broader grouping the fortification of Dun Fhinn occupies the northern end of a prominent SW/NE oriented natural ridge of Leac Eidhe that runs W of the farms of Tallant and Kintour. The alignment of the ridge reflects the geology of the area with similarly aligned ridges or promontories descending to the sea at the SW. Within this broader landscape the dun has extensive views to the north, east and west with more limited views to the south suggesting its position references the lower extent of the Kintour River, rather than what now appears to be the more barren the higher ground to the west and south.

The dun itself has been previously described by the RCAHMS;

'This dun is situated on a rocky knoll in rough moorland 1.6 km WNW of Kintour. The knoll rises 15m above the surrounding ground but has little natural defensive strength. The dun measures 18m by 11m within what was a massive wall varying in thickness from 3.5m on the NE to 2.0m on the WSW. Large inner and outer facing-stones remain in position intermittently, and wall

debris covers the SE flank of the knoll in a scree-like spread. At the SW end there is a particularly heavy spread of jumbled stones, and while without excavation it is not possible to be sure, it seems most likely that, as indicated on the plan, the wall split into two sections; the inner section followed the margin of the summit to complete the dun wall, while the outer section branched down towards the foot of the knoll, through a drop of about 3m, to form a curving outwork. The entrance through the outwork is 2.7m in average width, and a short length of each of the side-walls of the passage is exposed. The entrance through the inner wall is obscured by debris. Within the interior there is a later intrusive enclosure formed by a wall 1m thick with an entrance facing NE' (RCAHMS 1984).

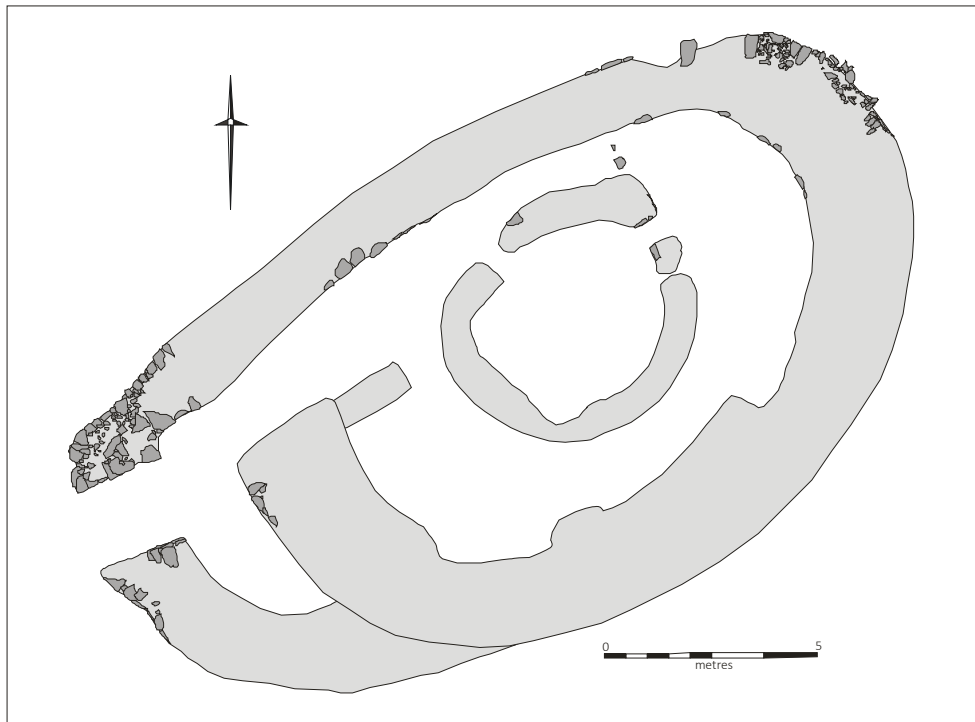


Figure 4: Plan of Dun Fhinn

The topographic survey of Dun Fhinn was conducted using a Leica GS09/CS09 GNSS SmartNet system, which is able to record X, Y, and height (Z) location data to within 2cm accuracy. The system collects satellite data which is corrected in real-time, from a known base station on the mainland via an internet link. The survey took three days, over which 3000 data points were collected within the local landscape of the Dun. This included the survey of the Dun itself, and the surrounding landscape in which it sits. Over and close to the mound of the Dun itself, the spatial resolution of the survey is approximately 2m. The broader landscape survey was surveyed to approximately 10m resolution (Figure 5). A micro-topographical survey across the plateau of the Dun was also undertaken (Figures 6 & 7), with a survey resolution of approximately 0.5m, so that finer detail of the topography and upstanding archaeology within this area could be further understood. The data are downloaded into a GIS package where the data points were converted into surface layers (via a Natural Neighbour interpolation algorithm) and height contours. The data can also be imported and manipulated into a 3D workspace for further analysis and visualisation

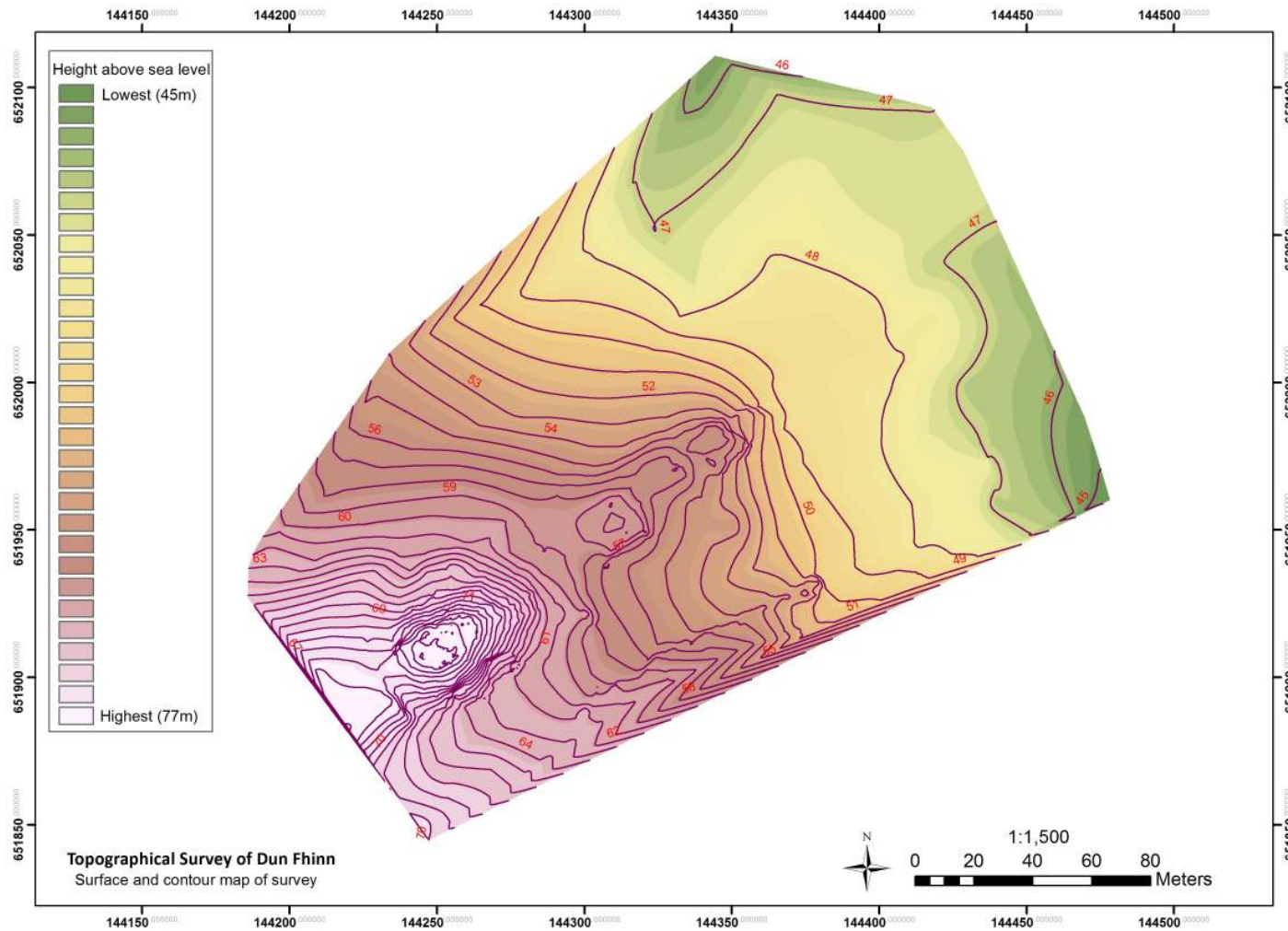


Figure 5: Topographical survey of Dun Fhinn and surrounding area

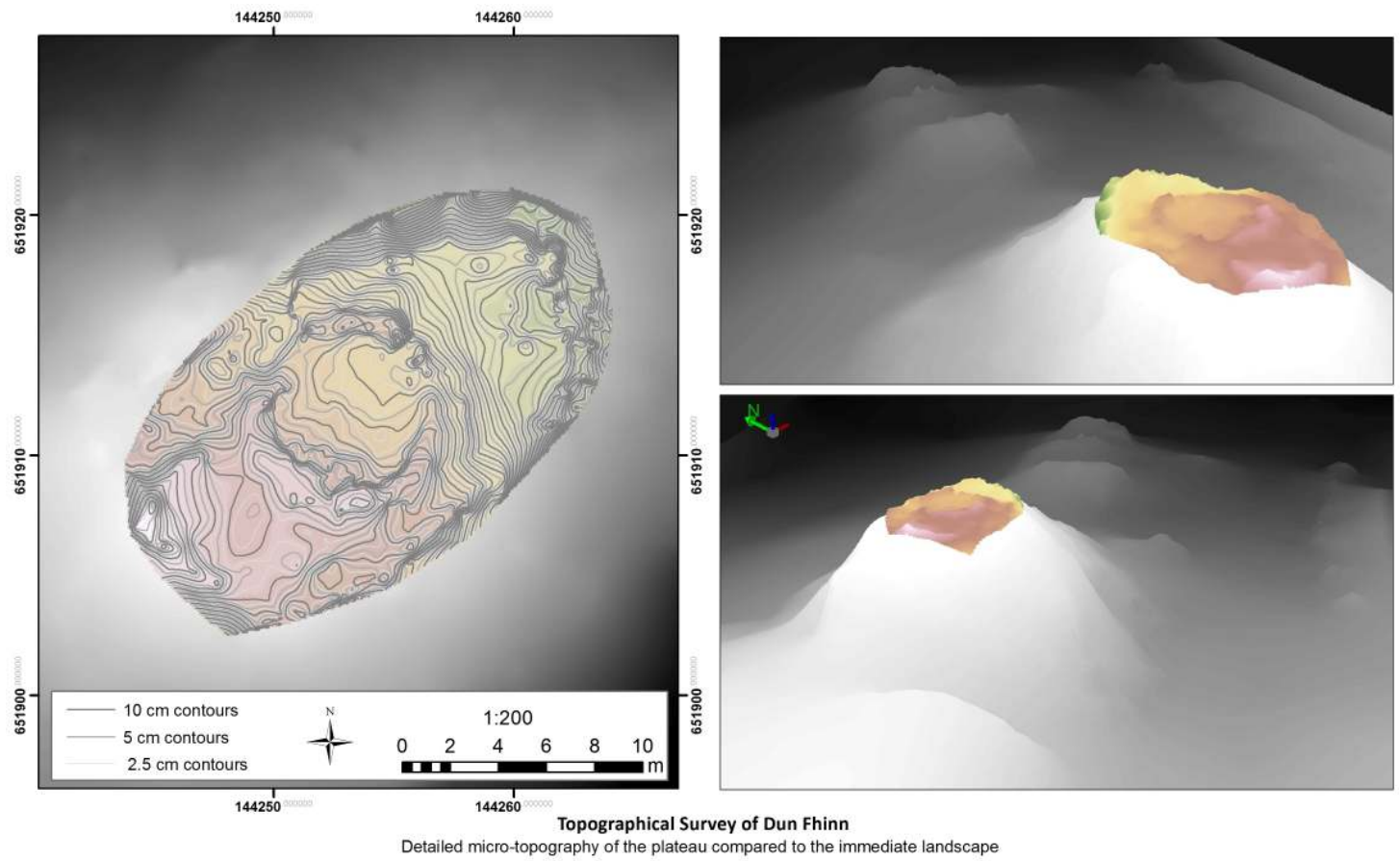


Figure 6: Topographical Survey of Dun Fhinn

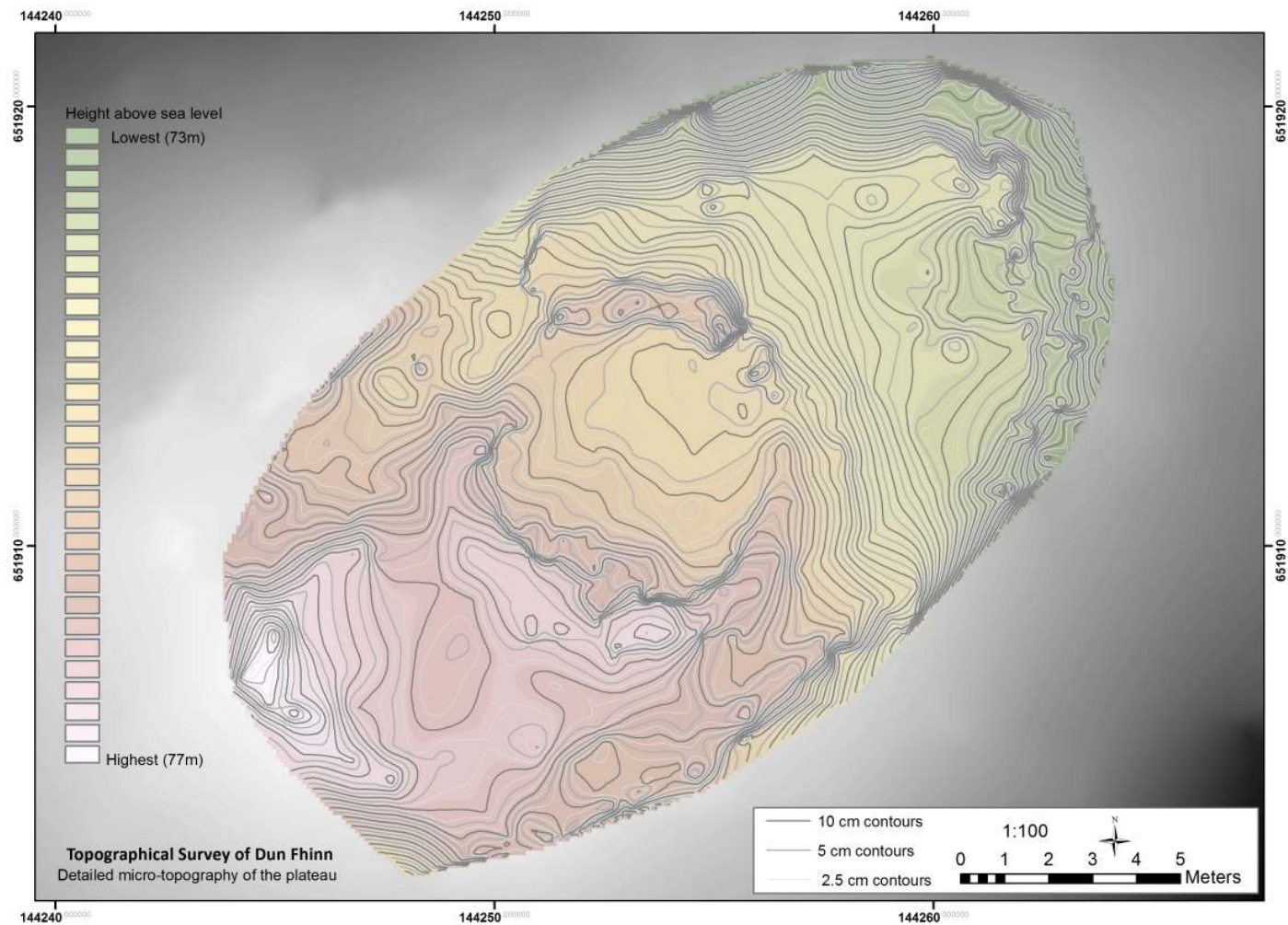


Figure 7: Micro-topography of the Dun plateau

The RCAHMS description still holds although there is possibly evidence of another wall or structure lying to the south of the enclosure and the inner dun wall. As postulated above the wall does indeed bifurcate forming an outwork at the entrance and some sections of facing can be traced of the upper dun wall although this has been much distorted by subsidence/collapse. The outer wall facing is most exposed on the SW and N/NW sides of the dun where it stands up to between 1.10m and 1.80m in height.



The rubble filled lower entrance through the dun outwork



The eastern side of the entrance



Facing stones of the eastern side of the entrance



The lower out-work facing stones with the distorted facing stones of the dun wall above



The facing stones on the NW side of the dun



The facing stones on the SW side of the dun

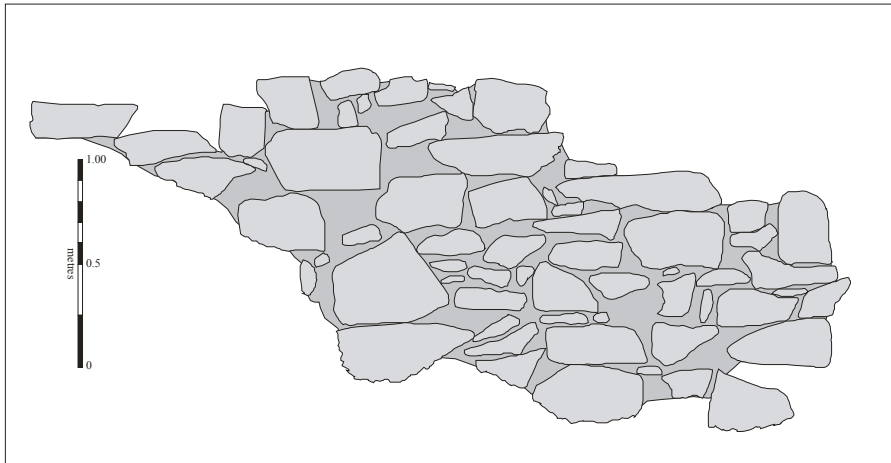


Figure 8: Section of the SW wall

The near circular structure within the dun measures between 6.0-6.40m in internal diameter with walls up to 1.20m thick and standing up to 0.60m above the present ground surface. The RCAHMS entry in the inventory states that this circular enclosure is a later addition to the original dun and while this may be so, elsewhere this structure would have been recorded as a hut circle or 'homestead' and there seems no reason why this is not also the case here. Without the surrounding dun walls this structure is decidedly exposed when compared to other potentially later buildings recorded during the survey such as sheilings which have been constructed in relatively sheltered positions and are smaller than the structure within the dun. Such a structure lies below the dun on the NE side (Site 8 below) and while this might represent a sheiling structure it might also be related to evidence of nearby quarrying. Hollows and uneven ground on the outside the dun entrance on the SW side might also suggest the presence of other structures here. Remnants of a circular or sub circular structures can also be found within the forts of Creagan an Ceardaich Mor, Dun Beag and Loch Nan Clach.



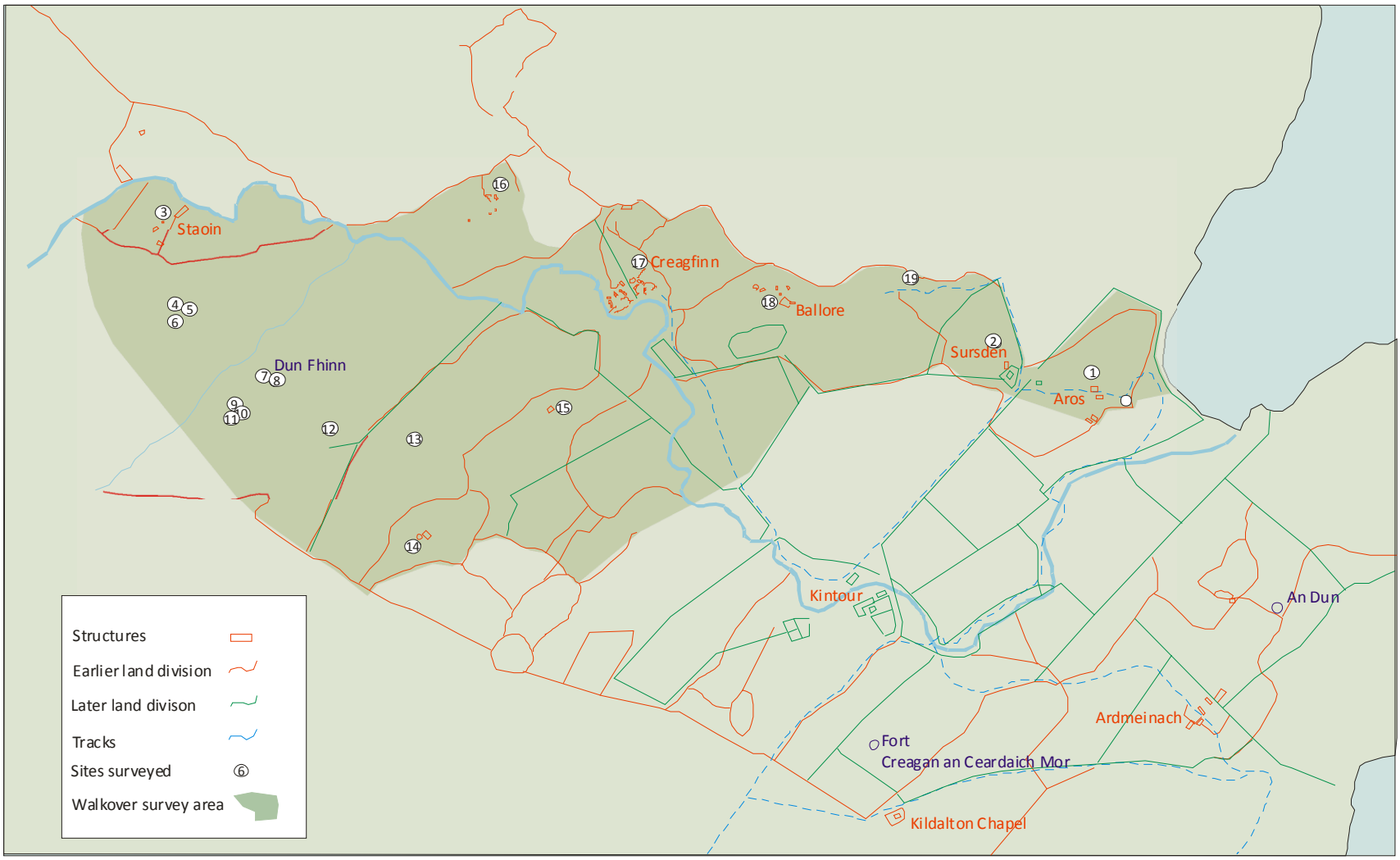


Figure 9: Settlement Layout

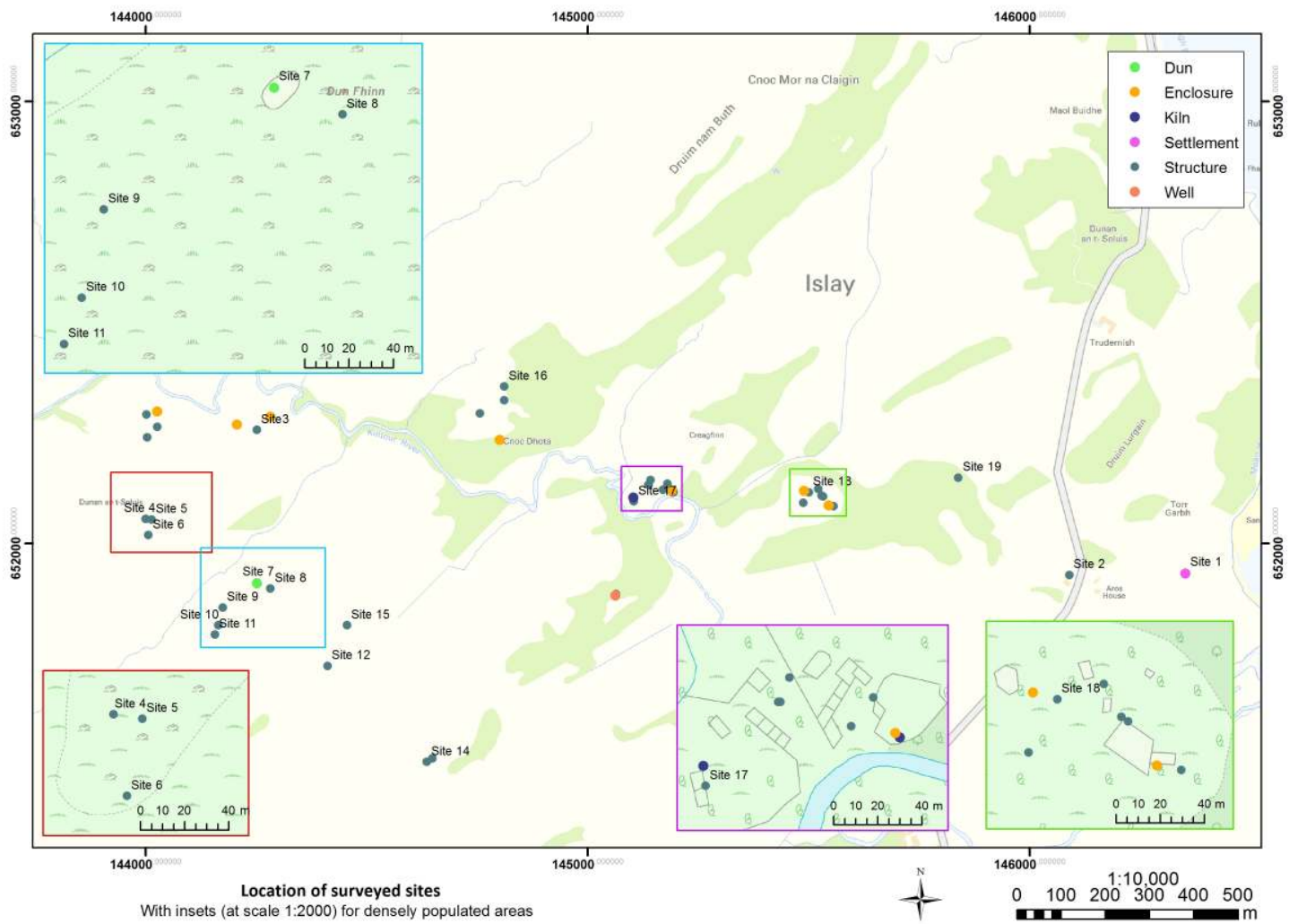


Figure 10: Locations of Surveyed Site

4. Walkover Survey Results

In order to place the Dun Fhinn in a wider landscape framework a walkover survey of the area around the dun was conducted in early April 2017 the area covered shown in Figures 9 and 10.

Site 1. Aros.

Structure. NR 46352 51932

Aros is described in Canmore (Appendix 2, Site 46) and as consisting of 4 structures. All the structures depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, have since been denuded, no doubt by robbing and ploughing, to such an extent that only low scatters of stones now exist to suggest where they once lay. However another structure not depicted on any map was recorded during the survey of the area. The building was a rectilinear rubble structure constructed against a natural rock scarp that forms its SW side. The structure measures 5.40 by 4.60m externally with an entrance on the NW side 0.80m wide. The walls are up to 0.80m wide and stand to a maximum height of 0.40m.

Site 2. Sursden.

Structure. NR 46089 51929

This was the remains of a structure shown roofed on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map and lying adjacent to the school. It is possible since the 1st Edition that the school or the ground were remodelled as the walls of the school grounds cut across the original eastern end of this building. The building was a rectangular rubble built structure oriented NW/SE and measured 16m long and 6.5m wide externally. Divided into three compartments or rooms the southern end disturbed by the construction of later school compound wall. The walls are up to 1.0m wide and stand to a maximum height of 1.15m.



Site 3. Staoin

This settlement had been previously described in Canmore (Appendix 2, Sites 26 & 27). Only the area of south of the Kintour River was surveyed, although the part of the settlement certainly lay north of the river, shown as what may be two unroofed structures one with and attached enclosure.

The area south of the river was bounded by a turf and earthen dyke with some internal divisions. Most of the ear enclosed within the surrounding dyke shows signs of extensive rig and furrow cultivation. The remains of 5 structures were recorded (Structures 1-5) along with three rectilinear enclosures.

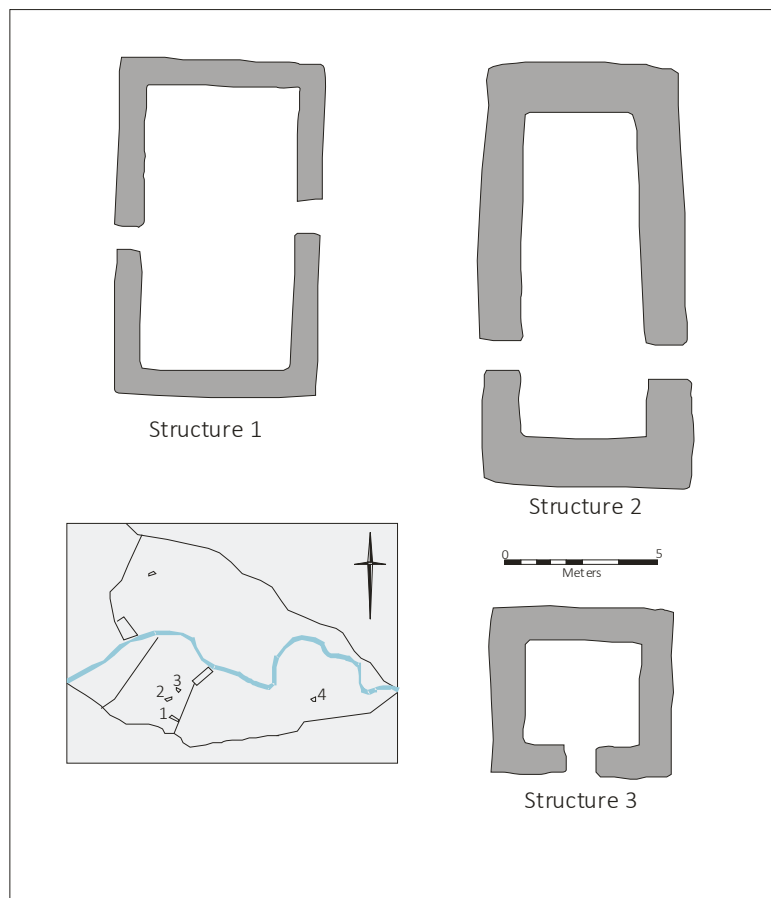


Figure 11: Staoin Structures

Structure 1. NR 44003 52240

Rectangular rubble built structure oriented NS and measuring 10.80m long and 6.6m wide externally. The walls in part stand to probable full height up to 2.1m. The building has two opposed entrances although the one on the side has been blocked. There is evidence of clay and sand mortar/packing within the walls.



Staoin, Structure 1

Structure 2. NR 44003 52240

Rectangular rubble built structure oriented EW and measuring 13.8m long and 7m wide externally. The denuded/robbed walls stand up to 0.60m in height. The building has two opposing entrances within the W end of the structure.



Staoin, Structure 2

Structure 3. NR 44001 52292

Rectangular rubble built structure oriented NW/SE measuring 6.0m long and 5.40m wide externally. The walls stand up to 1.50m in height. The building has an entrance on the SE side. The building appears to have been shortened as footings of what may be an earlier version of the building extend 2m to the NW.



Stoain, Structure 3

Structure 4. NR 44251 52257

Spread of rubble representing remains of oval? structure oriented NW/SE measuring c8.30m by 6.10m.



Stoain, Structure 4

Structure 5. Kiln. NR 44026 52264

Overall the structure measures 7m by 5m but the main oval kiln measures 5m by 4m standing up to 1.30m in height with a flue entrance on the E side. Footings of a sub-square structure or earlier kiln extend to the W and contain a smaller sub square arrangement of stones.



Staoin, Kiln

Enclosure 1. NR 44282 52287

Rectilinear turf walled enclosure measuring 18.10m by 8.40m internally.

Enclosure 2. NR 44206 52269

Rectilinear turf walled enclosure measuring 11.10m by 8.10m internally.

Enclosure 3. NR 44026 52299

Rectangular turf walled enclosure divided into two parts the southern enclosed area measuring 19.10m by 8.0m internally the northern enclosure measuring 17.8m by 8m internally

On a rise to the south of Staoin were three structures or sheilings, Sites 4-6.

Site 4

Structure. NR 44000 52056

Rectilinear turf built structure with rounded ends overall measuring 11.4m by 3.3-4.30m with walls standing 0.40m in height. This may represent two superimposed structures or sheilings, or a longer building with an internal division.

Site 5

Structure? NR 44013 52054

Possible remnants of a small sub-circular turf built structure measuring 2m by 2m.

Site 6

Structure. NR 44006 52019

Sub-circular turf built structure measuring 4.30m by 3.20 externally with walls standing up to 0.40m in height.

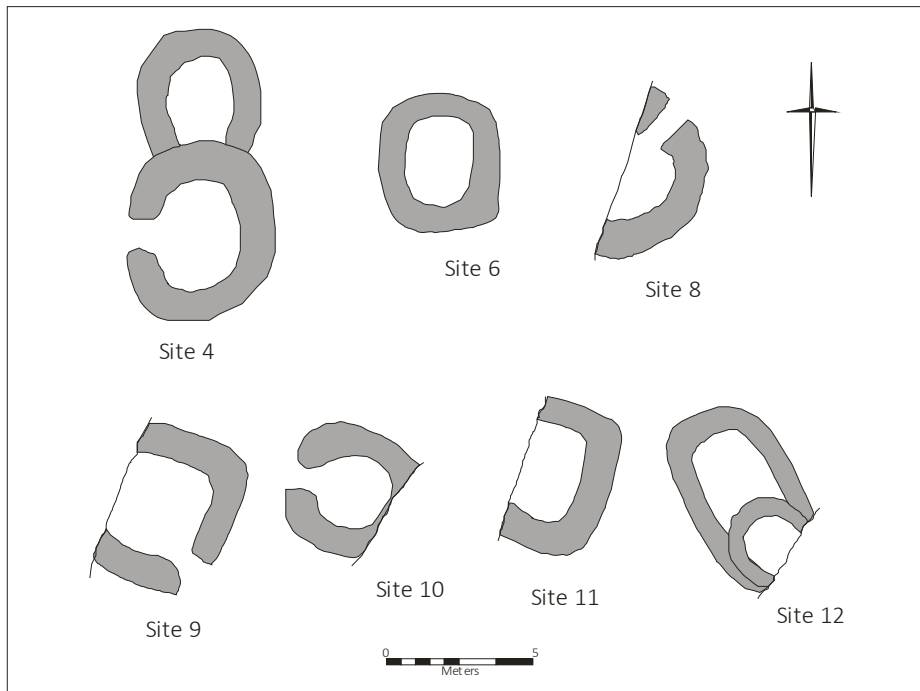


Figure 12: Sheiling Structures

Site 7 Dun Fhinn.

The site was extensively surveyed and the results appear in Section 3 above.

To the SW of Dun Fhinn were several small structures that most likely represent sheilings (Sites 8-12). Structure

Site 8

Structure. NR 44282 51898

Rubble built structure constructed against natural scarp forming its N side. It measures 6.5m long and 3.0m wide externally with an entrance on the W side.

Site 9

Structure. NR 44174 51855

Rubble built structure constructed against natural scarp forming its N side. It measures 5m long and 4.0m wide externally.

Site 10

Structure. NR 44164 51815

A sub circular turf built structure built against a natural rock face measuring 3.60m by 3.20m.

Site 11

Structure. NR 44156 51794

Rubble built structure constructed against natural scarp forming its N side. It measures 5m long and 2.5m wide externally.

Site 12

Structure. NR 44411 51723

Rubble built structure constructed into a natural slope on its SE side. It measures 6m long and 2.5m wide externally. A small twinning pen measuring 1.20m by 1.0m externally has been constructed over its S end.

Site 13

The remains of three possibly 4 hut circles have been noted in this area and are described in Canmore, (Appendix 2, Site 30). However these are now difficult to locate and what may be the site appeared no more than a vague outline of perhaps one building that was located during the survey.

Site 14

The remains of a circular enclosure and the adjacent enclosure had previously been noted in Canmore (Appendix 2, Site 31), but these particularly the rectilinear enclosure are likely part a small enclosed settlement.

Structure 1. NR 44636 51506

Sub circular enclosure or structure measuring 12m by 11m externally with turf covered walls standing up to 0.6m high. The walls appear eroded and vary in width although 1.0m appears to be the most consistent. A gap on the SE east side suggests an entrance.



Site 14, Structure 1

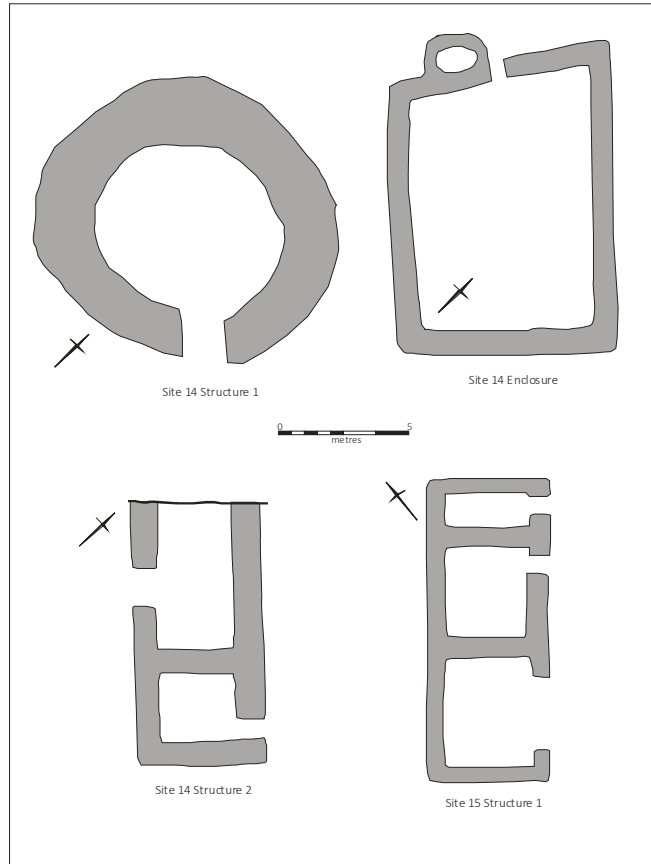


Figure 13: Sites 14 and 15 structures

Structure 2. NR 44648 51514

Sub rectangular enclosure measuring 13m by 8.4m externally with walls generally 0.8m wide and standing up to 0.9m high with an entrance gap on its W side, although this may be due to robbing to construct a small twinning pen at the SW.



Site 14, Structure 2

Structure 3. NR 44120 51538

Rectangular building constructed against a natural scarp which forms its NW side. The structure measures 9.8m by 4m externally with walls up to 1.2m wide and standing up to 1.8m. The building is divided into two parts by a cross wall with entrance gaps in the SW and SE sides.



Site 14, Structure 3

Site 15

Lying to the north east of Site 13 and on the same geological ridge was another small settlement, which has previously been described in Canmore (Appendix 2, Site 29) and consisted of two structures and what is likely an associated well structure these all lying within an enclosed area.



Site 15, Structure 1

Structure 1. NR 44455 51815

Rectangular structure measuring 11.40m by 4.60m wide externally with walls up to 1.10m wide and standing up to 0.50m high. The building is divided into three rooms. Etc etc

Structure 2. NR 45064 51885

Small circular structure measuring 4.20m wide.

Well. NR 45062 51882.

Circular stone lined well structure measuring 2m by 2m externally with walls standing up to 1.60m.



Site 15, Well

Site 16

To the North west of Craighfin were the remains of a small settlement located on the SW facing slopes of Cnoc Dhota, that consisted of 4 possible structures set within a surrounding enclosure that has evidence of rig and furrow cultivation and clearance cairns.

Structure 1. NR 44811 52355.

Turf and stone built structure with rounded ends and divided into two parts by cross wall. Measures 10m by 5m externally with walls standing up to 2m in height.

Structure 2. NR 44756 52294.

Badly disturbed turf and stone built structure with rounded ends. Measures 9m by 3m externally with walls standing up to 2m in height.

Structure? 3 NR 44811 52324.

Possible sub circular structure or recessed platform with one side formed by natural rock with turf and stone walls forming other sides. Measures 4m by 4m internally with walls standing up to 0.7m in height.

Enclosure/structure. NR 44801 52234.

Possible recessed platform or small enclosure with turf and stone walls sides. Measures 7m by 6m internally with walls standing up to 0.4m in height.



Site 16, Structure 1

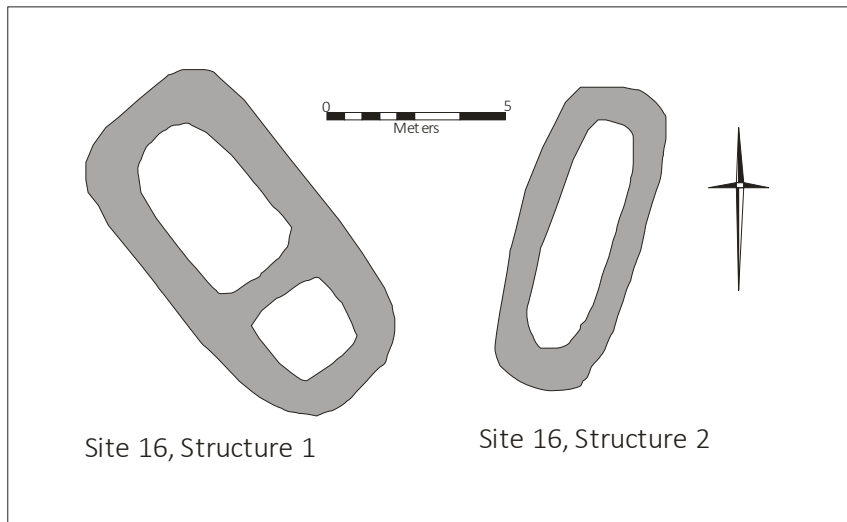


Figure 14: Cnoc Dhota Structure

Site 17 Craighinn

A GNSS survey of the upstanding archaeology at Craighinn was undertaken over a single day (Figure 15). This was conducted using a Leica GS09/CS09 GNSS SmartNet system, which is able to record X, Y, and height (Z) location data to within 2cm accuracy. Where archaeological remains were identified, they were logged within the GNSS system and subsequently plotted within a GIS system to compliment the hand-drawn archaeological record of this site.

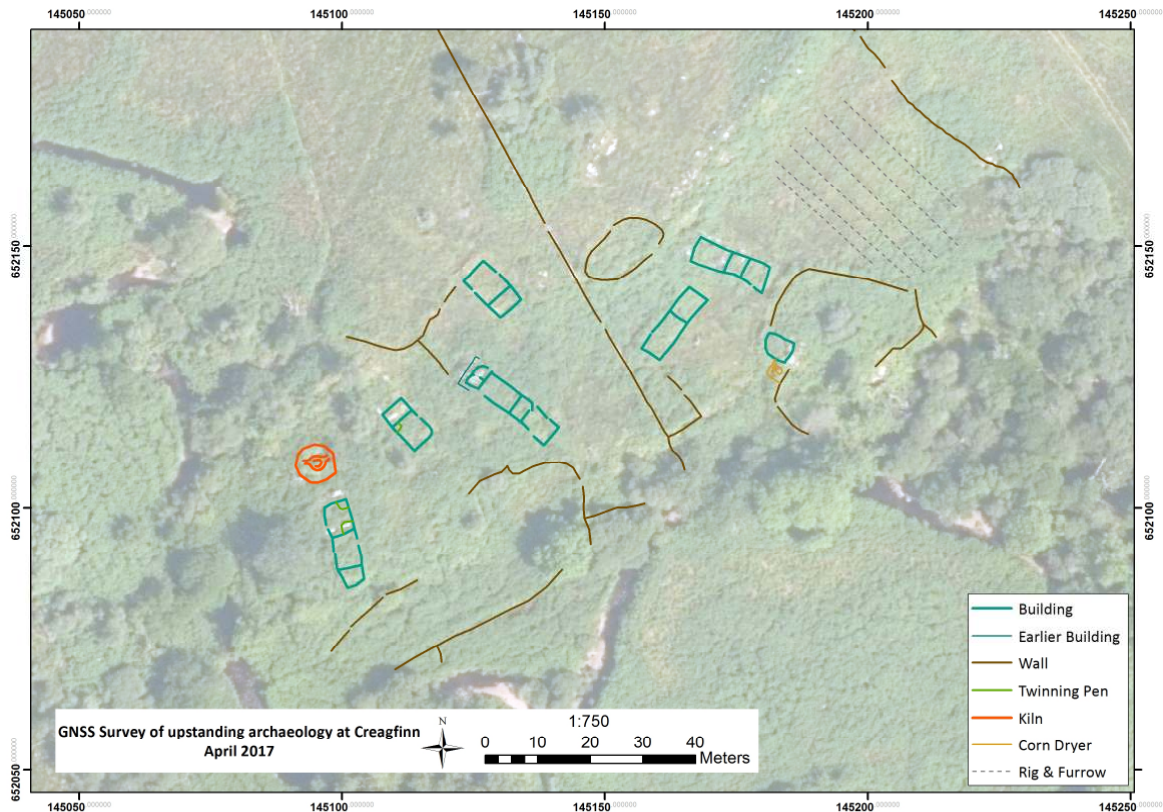


Figure 15: Survey of upstanding structures at Craighinn

The First Edition Ordnance Survey Project described Craighinn as comprising of 'four unroofed buildings, three of which are subdivided, one roofed building, one unroofed structure, three enclosures and a field-system is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx)'. Five of the structures had previously been surveyed (Shanks 1976).

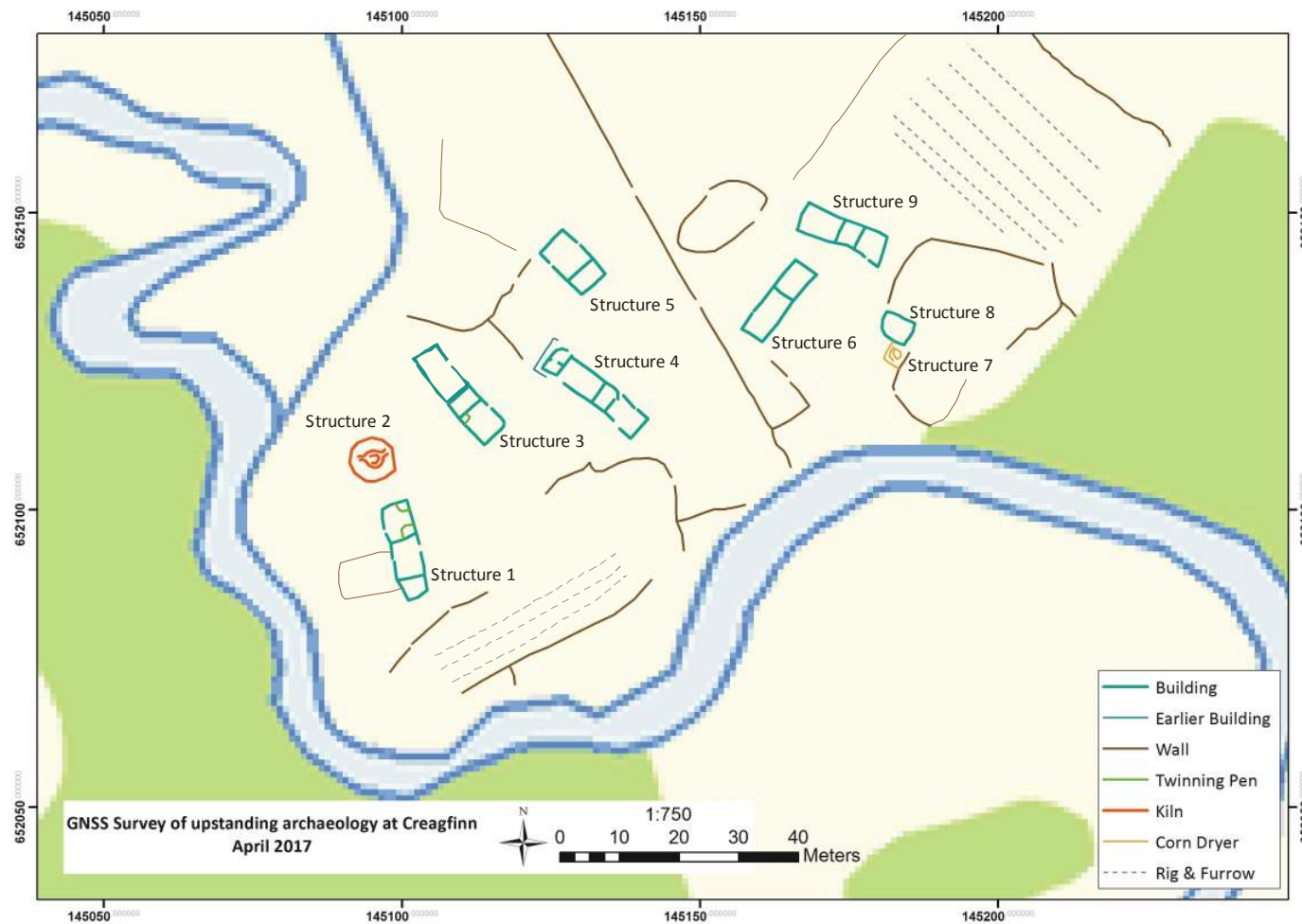


Figure 16: Creagfinn

The settlement consists of 6 rectangular buildings (Figures 16 and 17, Structures 1, 3, 4, 5 and 9) and a seventh irregular building (Structure 8) along with two kilns (Structures 2 and 7). These are situated on a bend in the Kintour River and surrounded by a series of enclosures some of which contain evidence of rig and furrow cultivation. Structure 9 is depicted as roofed on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map suggesting this was the last occupied structure in the settlement.

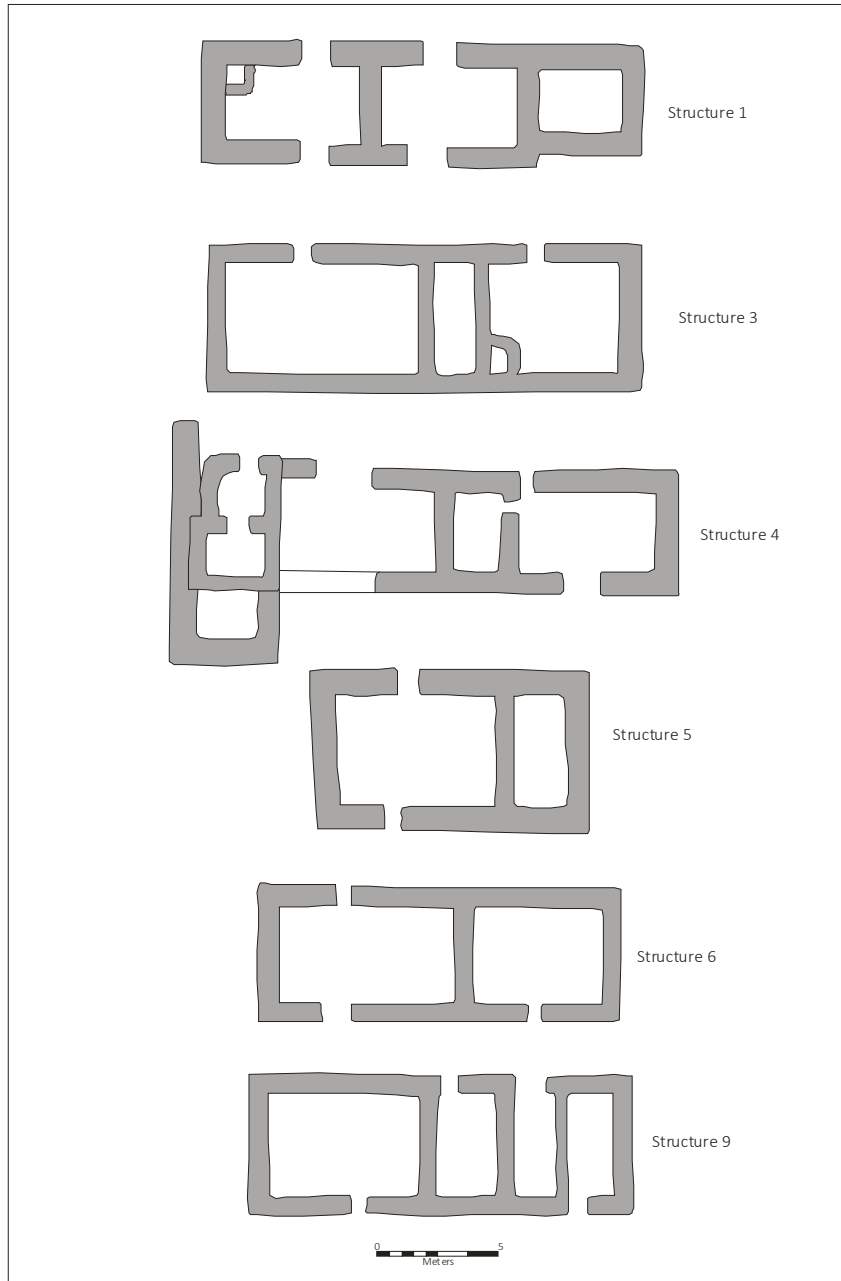


Figure 17: Creagfinn Structures

Structure 1. NR 45104 52095

Rectangular NW/SE oriented rubble built structure and measures 18m long and 6m wide externally with walls 0.60m wide and standing up to 1.7m in height. The building is divided into three parts with opposing entrances in the two northern most divisions. Traces of an attached enclosed area 10m wide lies on the western side of the structure. Two twinning pens have been constructed within the northern room. The northern wall is best preserved and suggests a gable ended building.



Creagfinn, Structure 1

Structure 2. Kiln NR 45103 52104

This kiln structure is sub circular in shape measuring 5.5 by 5m and stands to a height up to 2.40m above present ground level. The walls measured up to 1.40m thick around a central chamber, which was likely accessed on the SW side.



Creagfinn, Structure 2, Kiln lying NE of Structure 1

Structure 3. NR 45137 52133

Rectangular NW/SE oriented rubble built structure measuring long 17.7m in length by and 6m wide externally with walls 0.70m wide standing in 0.70m in height. The building is divide into three parts with two entrances on the NE side. A twinning pen has been constructed in the corner of the southern room.



Creagfinn, Structure 3

Structure 4. NR 45142 52144

This building in its original form may have been T shaped. At the W end are the footings of a SW/NE oriented rectangular building measuring 9.8m by 5.20m externally with walls standing 0.50m high. Over this has been built a smaller structure measuring 5.4m by 3.30m externally with walls up to 1.50m in height. This smaller structure is divided two parts or rooms the northern most with a distinctly curving N wall. To the SE of these is what was likely an attached rectangular range which is oriented NW/SE measuring 16m long by 6.1m wide externally and divided into three parts.



Creagfinn, Structure 4

Structure 5. NR 45138 52133

Rectangular NW/SE oriented rubble built structure measuring long 11.30 long by 6.50m wide with walls 0.70m wide and standing up to 0.80m in height. The building is divided into two parts with opposed entrances in the northern room.



Creagfinn, Structure 5

Structure 6. NR 45170 52122

Rectangular SW/NE oriented rubble built structure measuring 15m long and wide 5.50m wide with walls 0.70m wide and standing in up to 0.60m height. The building is divided into two parts with opposing entrances in the southern room and a single entrance in the SE wall of the northern room.



Creagfinn, Structure 6

Structure 7. NR 45192 52117

This kiln structure was constructed against a natural scarp at the north and a enclosure wall on the east. The structure measured 4.0m by 2.70m with walls measuring 0.80m wide and standing up to 1.00m high.



Creagfinn, Structure 7

Structure 8. NR 45190 52119

This could be the remains of an irregular structure or a small enclosure measuring 10m by 8m with walls 0.60m wide and standing up to 0.45m high.



Creagfinn, Structure 8

Structure 9. NR 45180 52135

Rectangular NW/SE oriented rubble built structure measuring 15.60m long and 5.80m wide externally with walls 0.80m wide and standing up to 1.15m in height. The building is divided into three parts (although what may be the remains of a later wall suggest a fourth division). Two entrances on the south side of the building give access to the eastern and western rooms, while a now blocked entrance on the north side gives access to the central room or bay.



Creagfinn, Structure 9



Rig and furrow cultivation at Creagfinn

Site 18 Ballore

Located east of Creagfinn and located on the next prominent rise were the remains of Ballore, which had previously been described in Canmore (Appendix 2, Site 21). The settlement consisted of five definite structures (and 1 possible) along with two enclosures.

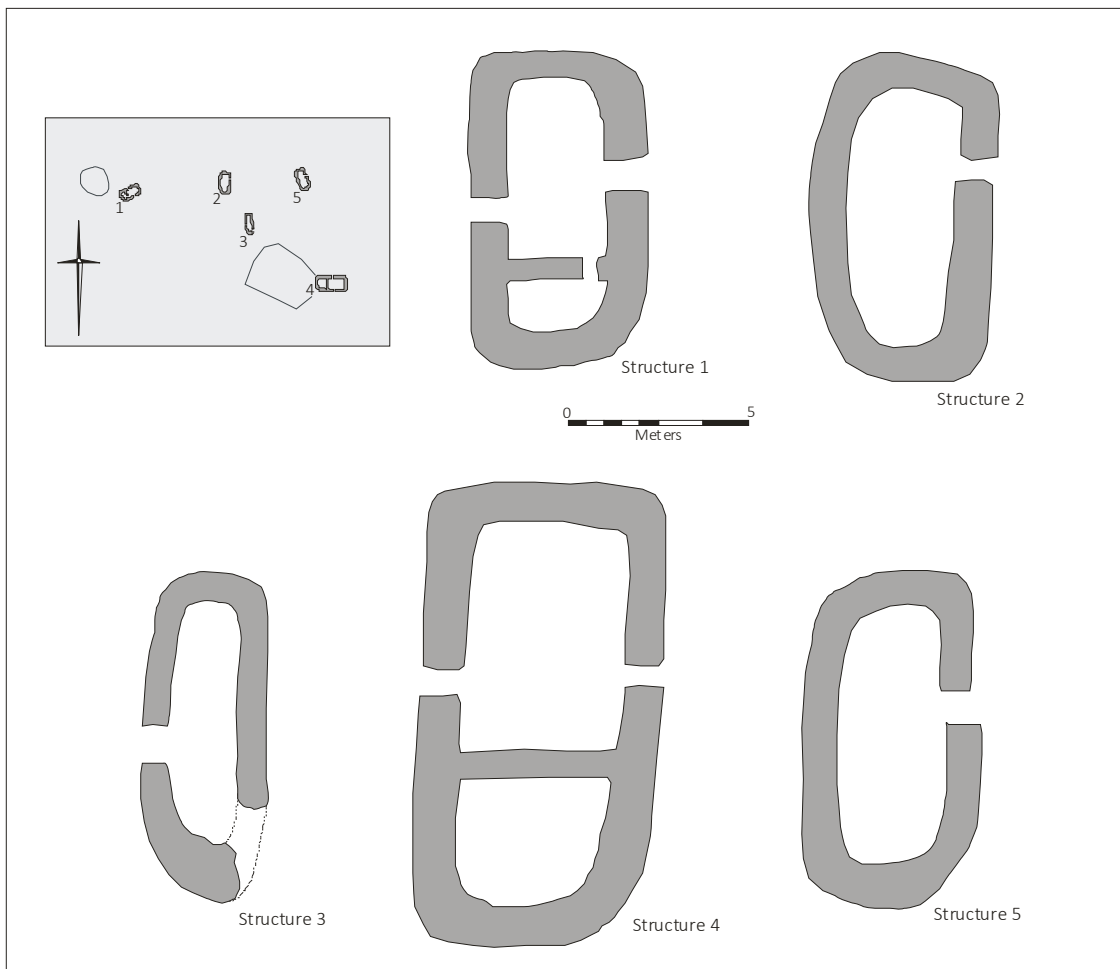


Figure 18: Ballore Structures

Structure 1. NR 45500 52116

Oval E/W oriented rubble built structure with rounded ends measuring 7.80m long by 4.9m wide externally with walls standing up to 1.70m in height. The building has two entrances on either long side and is divided into two parts.



Ballore, Structure 1

Structure 2. NR 45521 52123

Oval SW/NE oriented rubble built structure with rounded ends measuring 8.70m long by 5.0m wide externally with walls standing up to 1.60m in height. The building has an entrance on the SE side.



Ballore, Structure 2

Structure 3. NR 45529 52108

Badly disturbed remains of an oval SW/NE oriented rubble built structure with rounded ends measuring 9.5m long and 3.20m wide externally with walls standing 0.60m in height. The building is with an entrance on the SE side.



Ballore, Structure 3

Structure 4. NR 45556 52084

Oval E/W oriented rubble built structure with rounded ends measuring 12.4m long and 6.7m wide externally with walls standing up to 1.90m in height. The building divided into two parts by a later? cross-wall and has opposed entrances on the long sides.



Ballore, Structure 4

Structure 5. NR 45532 52106

Oval SW/NE oriented rubble built structure with rounded ends measuring 9.0m long by 5.0m wide externally with walls standing up to 1.10m in height. The building has an entrance on the SE side.



Ballore, Structure 5

Structure? 6. NR 45487 52092

Possible badly denuded rubble built structure measuring 7.8m long and 0.60m wide externally.

Enclosure 1. NR 45489 52119

Oval turf and stone enclosure measuring 10.5m by 8.4m externally within walls up to 1.1m wide and standing to a height of 0.8m



Ballore, Enclosure 1

Enclosure 2. NR 45545 52086

Irregularly shaped stone and turf enclosure attached to the end of Structure 4 with evidence of internal rig and furrow cultivation.



Ballore, Enclosure 2

Site 19

The dilapidated remains of a structure, Site 19 was located north west of the old schoolhouse and may be the same remains as previously described in Canmore (Appendix 2, Site 22)

Structure NR 45838 52149

Very dilapidated footings of an oval structure, measuring c7-8m by 6m externally. The possible structure sits within an area of improved ground.



Site 19, Structure

5. Discussion

The fortification at Dun Fhinn, which was the focus of the walkover survey, dominates the surrounding landscape to the west, north and east, which primarily overlooks the course and terraces of the lower Kintor River. If dating to the Iron Age, Dun Fhinn and the relatively high concentration of other defensive structures in the area suggest this area was extensively settled by that period and very likely before, as suggested by probable Bronze Age burials near Kintour. The continued attractiveness of the area is underlined by the development of a series of settlements situated on or near both banks of the river some of which we can trace back to the 15th century from extant historic documents. The survey also suggests that settlement may have been more dispersed at an earlier date given the number of smaller and unnamed settlement sites recorded during the work, with larger concentrations such as the township of Creagfinn perhaps being a later development. However few settlement sites in Argyll have been systematically excavated, therefore the development and understanding of building typologies and chronology remains poorly understood. Even with this in mind one intriguing aspect of the survey was the difference in the nature of the structures recorded at Creagfinn and Ballore. The former nearly all comprised of long rectangular ranges with substantial rubble built walls, which, when they stood to any height, such as Structure 1, indicated buildings with gable ends. At Ballore all the structures had curved or rounded ends (suggesting hipped roofs) and were smaller in size than the buildings at Creagfinn. As current building typologies stand in Argyll the buildings at Creagfinn would suggest a date of the late 18th or early 19th century, with those at Ballore dating before that period. Buildings with rounded ends that have previously been excavated include structures at; Loch Gashan (Fairhurst 1969), MacEwan's Castle (Marshall 1982), Bàrr Mór (James 2009) and Loch Losgunn (Regan & Webb 2006). All apart from Loch Losgunn, which produced no readily datable artefacts, have produced evidence of occupation in the medieval or late medieval period. If the buildings at Ballore are pre-18th century in origin then their good preservation makes them a rare surviving example of a settlement of that date relatively unaltered by later agricultural development.

Possibly representing the earliest upstanding structure revealed during the survey was the potential hut circle recorded at Site 14. Hut circles and recently excavated roundhouses on the Argyll mainland, have shown these date between the Bronze Age to Iron Age periods and may be more common than we think given that many may not have upstanding remains. If the structure at Site 14 is indeed a hut circle then it is a particularly well preserved example and has high potential to illuminate occupation patterns across these periods. The excavation of Dun Fhinn would prove important as it would provide some dating parameters for the development of dun or defensive structures within Islay, which at present is almost completely lacking given any excavation on such sites has been extremely limited and no site on the island has been directly dated. Dun Fhinn also contains an internal structure which under other circumstances would be considered a roundhouse or hut circle. If this structure is later than the surrounding dun wall, as suggested by RCAHMS, then we potentially have evidence of some degree of occupation longevity. Once the internal chronology of the dun was understood then it would be useful to compare it to another dun or fort site in the same landscape and perhaps with one of the vitrified promontory defensive structures lying along the coast, the similarity of these suggesting perhaps some chronological relationship between them. Locating medieval settlement can prove difficult, given that many settlements might be lost under later settlement development. The site and structures at Ballore, however, may be a late survival of a settlement type that reflects earlier patterns and appears to be relatively unaffected by later agrarian

developments. Excavation here would illuminate whether this hypothesis is correct and whether evidence of earlier occupation exists within this small settlement. The results of any excavation at Ballore could also be compared to the occupation evidence produced from the Lordly site at Finlaggan.



Well preserved round-ended structure at Ballore

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Appendix 1: Canmore Extracts.

1. Dun, Dun An Rubha Bhuidhe

Canmore ID 38084, Site Number NR45SE 6, NGR NR 4661 5407

A dun on Rudha Buidhe a coastal promontory. It comprises three walls drawn across the neck of the promontory defending a citadel area some 18.0m E-W, by 16.0m on the highest ground. The seaward sides on the north and east offer easy access but there is no trace of walling; the south is protected by low cliff on the high water line. The main wall, on the height of the promontory, is a tumbled mass of stone up to 1.4m high. No facing stones are exposed, but the true wall width would have been between 3.0m and 4.0m. The entrance position is probably in the north-west. There is some burnt stone in the wall core towards the north. The middle wall, an estimated 2.5m broad, stands to 0.9m maximum height and has an outer face traceable for about 15.0m. There is no sign of an entrance in this wall and passage was most likely round its north end and through a natural gap in the rocks now sealed by an early modern wall. The outermost wall is reduced to a band of rubble core and intermittent outer-facing boulders; a central gap, 5.0m broad may be an entrance. In the enceinte is an appreciable amount of bare stone, a concentration of which, in the south half may have been a navigation cairn.

2. Possible Standing Stone, Claggain Bay

Canmore ID 38060, Site Number NR45SE 2, NGR NR 4618 5372

This massive boulder of irregular shape is situated 80m NNW of the bridge that carries the public road to Ardtalla over the River Claggain. Measuring 1.8m by 0.8m by 1.2m by 0.9m appears to have been deliberately placed in its present position, it is, nevertheless, in both shape and bulk, so uncharacteristic of the other standing stones on Islay that its antiquity is doubtful.

3. Hut (20th Century), Claggain Bay

Canmore ID 205003, Site Number NR45SE 63, NGR NR 4618 5358

This brick and concrete hut is situated on the W side of the road from Kintour to Ardtalla about 70m S of the bridge over the Claggain River. The building consists has two compartments with stepped leading up to a central entrance. The building is almost certainly of military construction, but its purpose and association is unknown.

Information from Defence of Britain Project recording form, N Ruckley, 1998.

4. Enclosure, Cnoc Mor Na Claigin

Canmore ID 38054, Site Number NR45SE 14, NGR NR 459 535

This site was reported as a 'dun or homestead' but was not traced by RCAHMS who thought it may refer to of Cnoc Mor na Claigin (NR45SE 7) at the south.

5. Township, Claggain

Canmore ID 98808, Site Number NR45SE 46, NGR NR 460 533

This township comprising four unroofed buildings, three of which have two compartments and one of these is a long building, and two enclosures is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1881, sheet ccxxi). Four building footings with contemporary enclosures and field walls, and a later shepherd's house surviving to gable height.

6. Burial Ground, Cill An Ailein, Trudernish

Canmore ID 38082, Site Number NR45SE 4, NGR NR 4622 5330

The remains of a sub-circular burial ground measuring 14.0m north-south by 13.0m over crude earth and stone walling spread to 1.5m and surviving to a height of 0.5m.

It is levelled into a very slight east-facing slope and its west side is delimited by a scarp. The cairns noted within have the appearance of dumped stone. There is no trace of a chapel within the enclosure, and neither the name nor the tradition of a burial ground survives locally.

7. Shieling Hut(S)?, Cnoc Mor Na Claigin

Canmore ID 154079, Site Number NR45SE 51, NGR NR 4564 5327

What may be two unroofed shieling-huts are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

8. Structure, Cnoc Mor Na Claigin

Canmore ID 98809, Site Number NR45SE 47, NGR NR 457 531

N of hillock, N of Cill Chuibein. Rectangle E-W. Round end, straight W, walls 0.91m thick, but S wall 1.83m. Entrances at SE to room 2.72m x 1.83m divided from room on W, 1.83m square.

9. Dun, Cill A Chuibein

Canmore ID 38085, Site Number NR45SE 7, NGR NR 4557 5290

This dun occupies the summit of a rocky boss on the SE edge of a broad, sloping shelf about 160m E of the chapel at Cill a' Chuibein and 1.5km N of Kintour farmhouse. To the SE there is a sheer drop of 10m but on the NW and SW the boss rises only 3m above the level of adjacent ground, while to the NE gentle grassy slopes afford easy access. Roughly D-shaped on plan, the dun measures about 20m along the chord by 10m transversely within the ruins of a single drystone wall. Few traces of the wall survive on the edge of the cliffs on the SE, but elsewhere it appears as a partly grass-grown stony scarp, or a low spread of debris not more than 2.5m thick. Several large blocks of stone may be seen at various points in the rubble, some doubtless deriving from the inner or outer wall-face, but only two individual inner facing-stones on the NNW appear to be in their original positions. The location of the entrance is uncertain, for although the amount of wall-debris is appreciably slighter on the NE, where access would have been more convenient, an easily guarded approach exists at the opposite end of the boss, the wall at this point dipping between two adjacent outcrops; however, the line of placed stones that links the outer ends of these outcrops is clearly secondary and probably of recent date. The interior of the dun contains another prominent outcrop, which considerably reduces the amount of ground available for occupation. On level ground at the foot of the boss on the W there are traces of an outer work, at present about 9m long, composed of particularly massive blocks of stone. Since it is clearly intended to provide additional protection on a vulnerable quarter it is presumably contemporary with the dun and may have originally extended further to the S and N. Outworks of similar proportions, and occupying a similar position relative to the main work, have been observed at other prehistoric and later fortified sites in Argyll (see Introduction, RCAHMS 1984). A relatively recent subrectangular enclosure, one of a group situated to the NW of the dun, abuts and partly overlies the N end of the surviving portion of the outer wall.

10. Farmstead, Cnoc Mor Na Claigin

Canmore ID 38080, Site Number NR45SE 38, NGR NR 4555 5291

One unroofed building attached to a field wall is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx). Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates 'Several ruined houses and enclosures near dun'. Corn-drying kiln, 6' diameter within walls, 4' to 6' wide and situated on the edge of a rectangular stone platform which supports a small chamber, 3' in diameter within 3' walls and 3' high,

without entrance. The site lies in open grassy country behind the SW tail of Cnoc na Clagain. To the SW is a stone-lined turf-covered platform 12' by 9'. This, and the one supporting the kiln and small store, may be threshing floors.

11. Standing Stone, Trudernish

Canmore ID 38087, Site Number NR45SE 9, NGR NR 4629 5290

Situated in an arable field 400m NNE of Trudernish, and 20m E of the public road to Ardtalla, there is a standing stone which measures 1.85m in height and 0.62m by 0.34m at the base, with the longer axis aligned roughly E and W. It has almost vertical, rounded sides, relatively smooth faces and a sloping top falling from W to E.

12. Field System, Claggain River

Canmore ID 154093, Site Number NR45SW 21, NGR NR 4465 5325

A field depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx) and on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1981).

13. Chapel, Cill A' Chubein Trudernish,

Canmore ID 38049, Site Number NR45SE 1, NGR NR 4537 5282

The OS publication of a chapel at NR 4540 5290 is incorrectly applied to the turf-covered footings of a small building or bothy situated on a rocky knoll. It measures 4.7m by 2.3m within a wall 1.1m wide. It is indistinguishable from many other such structures of early modern period in the area. The correct position of the chapel as described by Graham (1895), and verified locally, is at NR 4537 5282, on a natural terrace, and within a sub-rectangular, dry-stone enclosure, possibly a burial ground. The chapel is rectangular internally but with its external angles rounded; it measures 6.0m E-W by 2.9m N-S within a wall 1.5m thick and 1.5m high. There is no evidence of mortar in its construction, and the outer face is battered. The altar noted by Graham cannot be identified, and no name is known locally. The surrounding enclosure, about 50.0m by 30.0m, encloses an area containing much rock outcrop. No graveslabs are visible, but some 2.0m from the north-east corner of the chapel is a crude, squarish setting of stones fringing a depression 0.2m deep, purpose unknown. On the east side of the enclosure are some sub-dividing walls, probably later, and on a knoll a modern wooden cross has been affixed to a tree.

14. Hut Circle, Creagfinn

Canmore ID 38090, Site Number NR45SW 11, NGR NR 4498 5282

This turf-covered hut-circle lies on a level grassy terrace overlooking a shallow valley 1.7 km NW of Kintour. Its wall, which survives as a stony bank 1.7m thick standing up to 0.5m above the exterior ground-level, encloses a level and featureless area 6.5m in diameter; several stretches of the outer and the inner face, constructed of large irregularly-set stones, remain. The position of the entrance is uncertain: there is a break in the wall some 3.5m wide on the SW arc and a gap of 1.3m on the NE, with no trace of any entrance structure in either.

15. Farmstead, Cnoc Dhota

Canmore ID 38088, Site Number NR45SW 1, NGR NR 4476 5273

A deserted croft situated on a gentle west-facing slope. The ruined building is 10.0m by 5.0m over turf covered walling 0.9m wide and up to 1.0m high. The surrounding area extending to approximately 2.0 hectares shows evidence of rig and furrow cultivation and is bounded by a turf covered field wall.

16. Shielling Hut, Druim Nan Buth

Canmore ID 154077, Site Number NR45SE 49, NGR NR 4506 5260

What may be one unroofed shielling-hut is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

17. Corn Drying Kiln, Druim Nam Buth

Canmore ID 38081, Site Number NR45SE 39, NGR NR 451 525

At the SW end of the first ridge SE of the tail of Cnoc na Clagain, and immediately NE of a small isolated peak, is a structure 36' long by 15' overall. This comprises an apparent oval hut 12' by 9' internally, entered by a 5' gap in a rounded end with, attached as a build at the opposite squared end, a horseshoe kiln, 4' internally, with the usual overbuilt flue, 6' long passing through a heavily slab built straight fronting wall.

18. Enclosure? Cnoc Mor Na Claigin

Canmore ID 38083, Site Number NR45SE 5, NGR NR 455 526

A reported circular Enclosure on NW end of the ridge SE of Cnoc na Clagain could not be located by RCHAMS.

19. Enclosure, Creagfinn

Canmore ID 38067, Site Number NR45SE 26, NGR NR 454 524

A reported circular foundation within a small wood on the SE flank of the ridge between Cnoe na Clagain, and the SW continuation of Trudernish Ridge could not be located by RCHAMS.

20. Township, Creagfinn

Canmore ID 38075, Site Number NR45SE 33, NGR NR 451 521

A township comprising four unroofed buildings, three of which are subdivided, one roofed building, one unroofed structure, three enclosures and a field-system is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx). Five of the structures had previously been surveyed (Shanks 1976).

21. Farmstead, Ballure

Canmore ID 90294, Site Number NR45SE 41, NGR NR 455 521

A township comprising five unroofed buildings and two enclosures is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx). The five structures had previously been surveyed (Shanks 1976).

22. Structure, Trudernish

Canmore ID 96262, Site Number NR45SE 42, NGR NR 458 522

On the first ridge inland from Kintour School, beyond the ford (SW) at the end of the pathway along the ridges. A rectangle of moss-grown small rounded stones, much overgrown. Internally 4.57m x 2.74m. To S, a second "room" 2.74m x 1.83m markedly rounded (Shanks 1976).

23. Enclosure, Trudernish

Canmore ID 98759, Site Number NR45SE 43, NGR NR 459 521

S edge of peat moss S of Cnoc na Clagain; enclosure recessed into gentle slope. Walls spread 1.83m. Entrance 1m wide, flanked by large stones in SW. Open ended and 8.23m x 2.13m internally.

24. Cinerary Urn, Kintour Old Schoolhouse

Canmore ID 38064, Site Number NR45SE 23, NGR NR c.460 520

A fragment of an urn was found in the gravel bank, opposite side of the road to the schoolhouse at Kintour. Diameter 3 1/2ins by 2 1/2ins (sic). The whole urn is remembered to have been there but portions of it have, from time to time, been carried off by visitors (information from manuscript notes {Mrs L Ramsay, late 19th century}). Possibly this item was at Kildalton House in 1923 when the property was sold (Celoria 1960).

25. Schoolhouse, Kintour

Canmore ID 142112, Site Number NR45SE 60, NGR NR 46086 51910

19th century schoolhouse

26. Farmstead, Abhainn Staoin

Canmore ID 154086, Site Number NR45SW 18, NGR NR 439 525

What may be a farmstead comprising one unroofed building and one enclosure, and three phases of head-dykes are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

27. Farmstead, Staoin,

Canmore ID 154085, Site Number NR45SW 17, NGR NR 440 523

A farmstead comprising two unroofed buildings, one roofed building and one enclosure, and a head-dyke are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

28. Dun, Dun Fhinn

Canmore ID 38091, Site Number NR45SW 2, NGR NR 4425 5191

This dun is situated on a rocky knoll in rough moorland 1.6 km WNW of Kintour. The knoll rises 15m above the surrounding ground but has little natural defensive strength. The dun measures 18m by 11m within what was a massive wall varying in thickness from 3.5m on the NE to 2.0m on the WSW. Large inner and outer facing-stones remain in position intermittently, and wall debris covers the SE flank of the knoll in a scree-like spread. At the SW end there is a particularly heavy spread of jumbled stones, and while without excavation it is not possible to be sure, it seems most likely that, as indicated on the plan, the wall split into two sections; the inner section followed the margin of the summit to complete the dun wall, while the outer section branched down towards the foot of the knoll, through a drop of about 3m, to form a curving outwork. The entrance through the outwork is 2.7m in average width, and a short length of each of the side-walls of the passage is exposed. The entrance through the inner wall is obscured by debris. Within the interior there is a later intrusive enclosure formed by a wall 1m thick with an entrance facing NE.

29. Building, Kintour

Canmore ID 83018, Site Number NR45SW 14, NGR NR 4494 5182

A ruined rectangular building 12m by 5.5m over walling 0.8m wide and 0.6m high.

Probably a deserted croft.

30. Hut Circles, Kintour

Canmore ID 38092, Site Number NR45SW 3, NGR NR 4461 5168

Situated on a slight rise in rough pasture about 1km WNW of Kintour, and 400m SW of Dun Fhinn (RCAHMS 1984 No. 211), there are four hut-circles.

The northernmost (A) is roughly circular measuring 4m in diameter within what is now a stony bank 1m thick and 0.2m high with many of the inner and outer facing-stones visible. The entrance is on the SE, and if the large stones that now flank the gap originally formed the passage, it was splayed and measured 4m at the outer end and 1.8m at the inner end.

Hut-circle B is the largest of the group, measuring about 8m in diameter and survives as a stony bank 2.2m thick and 0.2m high; the entrance is on the SE. Considerable stretches of inner and outer facing-stones are still in position, and on the NE there are four stones of a medial wall-face, probably indicating that, as at NR57SW 1 (RCAHMS 1984, No. 255), the hut-circle is of multi-period construction. The wasted remains of hut-circle C comprise a band of stone about 6m in internal diameter appearing through the turf, with five possible outer facing-stones and one inner visible. The southernmost hut-circle (D) is oval on plan and measures about 6m by 8m within a turf-covered bank 0.2m in maximum height revetted by several inner and two outer facing-stones; the entrance is on the E.

31. Hut circle, Buildings, Enclosures, Kintour River

Canmore ID 38093, Site Number NR45SW 4, NGR NR 4464 5151

Two unroofed buildings (NR 4464 5151 and NR 4499 5137), one circular enclosure and a field-system are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

Adjacent to a recent enclosure and within rig and furrow cultivation is an enclosure, possibly a hut circle, measuring 7.5m in diameter within a wall 2.1m wide and 0.8m maximum height. Inner and outer facing stones are visible intermittently around the periphery, and there is a clubbed entrance in the south-east arc. The interior is occupied by a later shieling bothy. There is no trace of a field system that would be contemporary with the enclosure, but the rig-and-furrow in the vicinity is contemporary with a nearby ruined 18/19th century building. The small cultivated plots may indicate that the enclosure was a hut circle, re-used at a later period.

32. Enclosure, Kintour River

Canmore ID 38062, Site Number NR45SE 21, NGR NR 452 514

There are a number of ruined field walls and enclosures, of 18th-19th century date, in the general area as previously described by Shanks (Shanks 1972).

33. Field System, Enclosure, Sruthan Ruadh

Canmore ID 288050, Site Number NR45SW 22, NGR NR 4487 5125

This field-system and block of rig, which are situated to the NW of the Sruthan Ruadh, have been recorded on oblique aerial photography (RCAHMSAP 2006).

34. Cross, Kintour

Canmore ID 38070, Site Number NR45SE 29, NGR NR 457 513

A damaged medieval cross-head was discovered in 1881 during the demolition of an outbuilding at Kintour farmhouse, about 450m N of Kildalton Church (NR45SE 3), and is now in National Museum of Scotland.

35. Farmhouse, Kintour

Canmore ID 142117, Site Number NR45SE 61, NGR NR 45721 51336

36. Shieling Hut, Leac Eidhne

Canmore ID 154087, Site Number NR45SW 19, NGR NR 4372 5161

What may be one unroofed shieling-hut is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxx).

37. Fort, Trudernish Point

Canmore ID 38050, Site Number NR45SE 10, NGR NR 4679 5264

A vitrified fort on Trudernish Point a coastal promontory. The fort comprises three roughly parallel walls drawn across the neck of the promontory defending a citadel area some 30.0m, NE-SW by 28.0m on the highest ground. Cliff on the NW and SE and slopes on the NE protect the sea-ward sides. The main wall is a tumbled mass of stone standing, from 2.0 to 3.0m high and spread from 4.0 to 6.0m broad, with a centrally placed entrance. Large masses of vitrification are exposed in the core material in three separate places. The Medieval wall, estimated width 2.5 to 3.0m, stands from 1.0 to 2.0m high and exhibits outer facing for much of its course. The entrance opposes the main wall entrance and packed stone between them suggests a causeway. The outermost wall, 1.0m high at best, survives as fragmentary outer facing backed by a rubble spread 1.0 to 2.0m broad; the northerly section of the wall has been incorporated in an early modern drystone wall. No entrance position identified.

38. Enclosure, Trudernish

Canmore ID 90292, Site Number NR45SE 40, NGR NR 464 527

An oval enclosure lies in hazel wood on the W side of Trudernish Field. It measures 12ft by 9ft within an irregular 3ft to 9ft wall, with an entrance in the narrow end. A row of stones crosses the interior, where there also is a circle of stones 3ft in diameter (Shanks 1972).

39. Clearance Cairns Trudernish

Canmore ID 38052, Site Number NR45SE 12, NGR NR 465 525

Within this area are several accumulations of large stones obviously cleared from the field.

40. Clearance Cairns , Trudernish Point

Canmore ID 38051, Site Number NR45SE 11, NGR NR 4659 5245

Three small grass-covered stony mounds fortuitously forming a semi-circle. It is similar to other stony mounds in the area and is probably of 18th-19th century date.

41. Building, Trudernish

Canmore ID 98761, Site Number NR45SE 44, NGR NR 465 524

S side of large field SE of Trudernish Farm, astride the ridge leading to the Trig point. Rectangle, ends rounded. Rooms 6.10m x 2.44m and, less clearly outlined, 4.57m x 2.73m.

42. Clearance Cairns, Trudernish

Canmore ID 38061, Site Number NR45SE 20, NGR NR 465 523

Within the general area are several low scatters of stones occurring near to ruined field walls with which they appear to be contemporary. They are cleared stones and are of a probable 18th-19th century date.

43. Corn Drying Kiln Cross Incised Stone and farmstead, Trudernish

Canmore ID 38059, Site Number NR45SE 19, NGR NR 4609 5252

The early medieval stone (Fisher 2001), now preserved at the Museum of Islay Life, Port Charlotte, was discovered just below turf level in 1975 during the laying of a water-pipe. Within a saddle of rock outcrop about 80m W of Trudernish farm are three rectangular buildings with stone walls, a circular corn-drying kiln (?) and fragmentary lengths of enclosure walls (Booth and Peltenburg 1975).

44. Farmstead, Trudernish

Canmore ID 144478, Site Number NR45SE 62, NGR NR 4617 5250

45. Site, Druim Lurgain

Canmore ID 38058, Site Number NR45SE 18, NGR NR 4617 5231

A low circular grass-covered spread of stones, 7.0m in diameter and up to 8.4m high, situated on the edge of marshy ground. It cannot be identified as either a cairn or hut circle and is probably quite recent.

46. Township, Aros House

Canmore ID 154081, Site Number NR45SE 53, NGR NR 463 518

A township comprising four unroofed buildings and one enclosure is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxi).

47. Clearance Cairns, Cultivation Remains, Mullach Ban

Canmore ID 38069, Site Number NR45SE 28, NGR NR 466 517

Several ruined field walls and a number of large mounds of cleared stones all of a probable 18th-19th century origin.

48. Dun, An Dun, Mullach Ban

Canmore ID 38053, Site Number NR45SE 13, NGR NR 4674 5133

The remains of a dun, (name An Dun verified) situated at the south-west end of a rocky ridge. It measures 22.0m NW-SE by 20.0m, transversely within a rubble wall 3.0m to 4.0m wide; the outer face is traceable for most of the periphery, protruding through the tumble to a maximum height of 0.8m. The inner face is not discernible. There are rubble-filled gaps in the wall in the WSW and ENE, either or both of which could be entrances. The latter is at the easiest means of approach, and corresponds with a gap in an outwork, which extends across the ridge some 10.0m from the dun. This outwork is faced externally with massive blocks similar to the dun, and survives to a maximum height of 1.0m. Towards its south end are traces of a

stabilising wall. To the east of the outwork are vestigial remains of a further wall which apparently crossed the ridge. Little remains of it but the outer face of large stones visible intermittently through the turf. Whether this wall is contemporary with the dun or with nearby later field walls is unclear. Within the dun is a relatively recent marker cairn and further accumulation of stones against the wall.

49. Hut Circle, Ardmore

Canmore ID 38068, Site Number NR45SE 27, NGR NR 4685 5126

In a slight depression on a low rocky ridge, is an oval enclosure, possibly a hut circle. It measures 8.5m WNW-ESE by 7.5m transversely within a wall 0.5m maximum height. Large inner and outer facing slabs are visible intermittently indicating a wall thickness of about 2.0m. There is an entrance 1.9m wide, flanked by slabs on edge, in the ESE arc. Loose stone lies about the interior. Abutting the enclosure are lazy beds, and a sinuous field bank fringing early modern cultivation runs past the south-east arc.

50. Enclosure, Reidh An Dun

Canmore ID 38073, Site Number NR45SE 31, NGR NR 465 513

51. Farmstead, Ardmeanoch, Cnoc Lag Nan Tighean

Canmore ID 38072, Site Number NR45SE 30, NGR NR 4656 5108

A farmstead comprising three unroofed buildings, one of which has two compartments, one partially roofed building, one unroofed circular structure and two enclosures is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1881, sheet ccxxi).

52. Farmstead, Creagan Na Ceardaich Beag

Canmore ID 154080, Site Number NR45SE 52, NGR NR 459 512

A farmstead comprising one unroofed building, one roofed building and one enclosure is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1881, sheet ccxxi).

53. Fort, Creagan Na Ceardaich Moire

Canmore ID 38066, Site Number NR45SE 25, NGR NR 4575 5100

This fort occupies the summit of an elongated rocky ridge situated 180m N of Kildalton Church. On the NW and SE the ground rises steeply from the level of the surrounding fields, while on the NE and SW it slopes gradually over a series of rock scarps and outcrops, allowing relatively easy access to the summit. The wall, whose remains survive on three sides only, probably followed the full extent of the level grass-covered summit to enclose an area not exceeding 38m from NE to SW by 20m transversely. Stretches of the outer face, formed of massive boulders, survive on the NE and E, but elsewhere, along the edge of the steep rock faces on the NW and SE, only an intermittent scatter of grass-covered rubble core material remains, and on the SW no certain traces of walling can be identified. It seems possible, however, that there may have been more than one line of walling on this side, making use of the numerous outcrops of rock to block access from the easiest line of approach. The entrance lies on the NE and measures 1.9m in width. In the interior of the fort a shallow depression, defined partly by low natural outcrops and partly by banks of tumbled stones, may represent the site of a circular house. Outside the fort wall on the NE there are the remains of a subrectangular structure of uncertain date, and a considerable quantity of loose stones can be seen on the NE slope of the ridge.

54. Chapel, Burial ground, Manse, crosses and cross Slabs, Kildalton

Medieval chapel and burial ground

Canmore ID 38071, Site Number NR45SE 3, NGR NR 45804 50830

Kildalton Manse

Canmore ID 141268, Site Number, NR45SE 3.01 NGR NR 4580 5080

Cross

Canmore ID 233550, Site Number NR45SE 3.02

Mediaeval disc type cross outside of Kildalton chapel enclosure wall and burial ground.

Cross

Canmore ID 251204, Site Number NR45SE 3.03, NGR NR 45802 50830

Great Cross early medieval cross in Kildalton chapel burial ground.

Cross Slabs (Early medieval)

Canmore ID 319625, Site Number NR45SE 3.04, NGR NR 45802 50830

Canmore ID 319630, Site Number NR45SE 3.05, NGR NR 45804 50830

Canmore ID 319631, Site Number NR45SE 3.06, NGR NR 45804 50830

Canmore ID 319632, Site Number NR45SE 3.07, NGR NR 45804 50830

Canmore ID 319800, Site Number NR45SE 3.08, NGR NR 45804 50830

55. Country House, Farmstead, Ardmore house
Canmore ID 141467 Site Number NR45SE 57 (farm)
NR45SE 58 (house), NR45SE 58.01 (walled garden), NGR NR 46624 50538

56. Cist and urn, Ardmore

Canmore ID 38086, Site Number NR45SE 8, NGR NR c.466 505

'In a grave when the ground behind the new farm house at Ardmore (NR 4661 5055) was being made level, 23rd January 1880, was found an urn...The whole surface is highly ornamented. The grave was marked out with stones set round the urn'.

57. Enclosure, Ardmore

Canmore ID 38079, Site Number NR45SE 37, NGR NR 4704 5034

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates a rectangular enclosure to the N of the dun on An Dun .

58. Dun, An Dun

Canmore ID 38055, Site Number NR45SE 15, NGR NR 4707 5029

The remains of a dun are situated on a prominent rock stack, which rises from the shore 500m SE of Ardmore. Access to the top of the stack is possible only from the NE, where five boulders were laid in

position to form rough steps (a on RCAHMS plan C) leading up a natural crevice and on to a sloping sheet of rock, which in turn provides the final approach to the summit. The dun wall, which encloses the summit of the stack, is represented by a thin band of rubble with a few outer facing-stones visible round the W half. The interior is so heavily overgrown that it is not possible to estimate the original thickness of the wall. The entrance must have been on the NE, across a natural causeway at the head of a cleft in the rock running in from the SE. Additional protection to cover the approach to the entrance was provided by an outer wall. The best-preserved section of this outwork is on the N, where a length of walling linking two natural rock outcrops survives with its outer face still standing to a height of 1-2m in nine courses; elsewhere, to the NE, it has been reduced to two slight mounds of debris, one on each side of the flight of boulder-steps already mentioned. On the ESE, some 5m below the level of the interior and 2m below the base of the dun wall, another isolated stretch of walling was drawn across a gap between two rock-faces to block a possible line of approach from the sea; at its N end, five courses of the outer face still stand 1m high.

59. Cultivation Remains, Torr A' Mhealain

Canmore ID 38078, Site Number NR45SE 36, NGR NR 466 502

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates 'rigs + field-dykes' across an area of about 8ha on Tor a' Mhealain.

60. Farmstead, Tallant

Canmore ID 154074, Site Number NR45SE 56, NGR NR 452 507

A farmstead comprising two unroofed buildings, one roofed building and three enclosures, two of which are conjoined, is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxxii).

61. Corn Drying Kiln, Dunan Charmaic

Canmore ID 83020, Site Number NR45SW 16, NGR NR 449 504

On a lower terrace at the W end of dun NR45SW 8, a partly natural, partly slab-built wall encloses a roughly rectangular area 29ft across. Thirty yards W of the crag foot is a mound, 28ft by 15ft, containing at the E a hut-circle 10ft across. On the W an entrance 2ft 9in wide extends into a passage 14ft 6in long, widening from 11ft inwards into a slightly wider cell (Newall 1964).

62. Dun, Dunan Charmaic

Canmore ID 38097, Site Number NR45SW 8, NGR NR 4496 5037

This dun stands on a rocky ridge which rises from the NW side of the public road from Port Ellen to Ardtalla, 700m SW of Tallant. The SE flank of the ridge is for the most part a steeply sloping rock-face up to 9.5m high, but the NW flank is only 3.7m in greatest height, and it and the two ends of the ridge offer easy access to the summit. The dun measures 20m by 12m within a wall about 3m thick, in which the substantial lowest course of the outer face can be seen intermittently; only one short stretch of the inner face is exposed. The position of the entrance is uncertain but may be represented by the gap on the wsw to which there is a natural approach between two projecting spines of rock. The level interior is largely overgrown by scrub. Outside the dun wall to the NE there are several loose stones lying on the surface of the ridge. They are heavily overgrown and do not appear to form a structure; they may, however, represent the remains of an outwork.

63. Building cultivation remains, Allt Loch Carn A' Mhaoil

Canmore ID 83019, Site Number NR45SW 15, NGR NR 443 506

One unroofed building with an outshot is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxxii). An area of approximately 1 hectare of rig and furrow cultivation, and recent clearance heaps. At NR 4430 5067 is a ruined sheepfold and nearby a corn-drying kiln.

64. Shieling Huts, An Dun

Canmore ID 83017, Site Number NR45SW 13, NGR NR 435 510

There are at least five rectangular turf and stone walled huts, 12ft by 5ft internally at the foot of the hill NE of An Dun (Newall 1964).

65. Sheiings? An Dun

Canmore ID 83016, Site Number NR45SW 12, NGR NR 433 509

There is a group of circular hollows on a terrace outside the most northerly wall of the 'fort' (Newall 1964).

66. Shieling Huts, An Dun

Canmore ID 38089, Site Number NR45SW 10, NGR NR 432 511A at the foot of a rocky knoll is a group of six shielings.

67. Fort, Loch Nan Clach

Canmore ID 38094, Site Number NR45SW 5, NGR NR 4312 5107

This fort stands on a narrow elongated ridge 500m NE of Loch nan Clach and 200m N of the fort Dun Beag, Kintour. With its longer axis running NE and SW, the ridge rises 18.5m above the surrounding ground to a height of 120m OD, with steep rocky sides but relatively easy access from each end. A broad gully separates the SW end from a smaller rocky knoll, which has no walling on it. The fort wall, which originally enclosed an area measuring about 76m in length by 16m in greatest breadth, is best preserved on the W, where it leaves the summit to include a lower rock terrace. In this arc there are several massive outer facing-stones, and as the wall approaches the entrance, at the SW end, the outer face is up to 1.6m high, and built in many rough courses based here and there on a foundation of substantial boulders. Elsewhere, along the NW side and round the NE end, the wall has been reduced to a light band of rubble core material accompanied by intermittent stretches of the outer face, while along the SE side little more survives than a few isolated outer facing-stones. The entrance is so placed as to make use of a large boss of natural rock, which was incorporated into the masonry forming the NW side-wall. The outer corner on this side has gone but the inner part is still exposed to a height of 1.5m. The block of walling on the SE side of the entrance has largely collapsed, but the two lowest courses of the SE side-wall survive almost complete and show that the passage has an average width of 1.3m and is not checked for a door.

Lying among the debris in the passage there are four long slabs (the largest 2.1m in length and 0.3m in both breadth and thickness), which appear to be dislodged lintels. Immediately W of the inner end of the passage the only remaining stretch of the inner face of the fort wall can be seen riding over the large rock mass and showing that at this point the wall is 2.8m thick. Longitudinal combs of outcrop run the length of the interior, which is otherwise featureless except for the stone foundations of a subcircular enclosure of no great age built on to the inner edge of the fort wall on the SW.

68. Fort, Dun Beag

Canmore ID 38095, Site Number NR45SW 6, NGR NR 4317 5074

This fort occupies the summit and sw shoulder of Dun Beag, an elongated rocky ridge situated about 200m NW of the NW shore of Loch Cam a' Mhaoil and a similar distance S of the fort at Loch nan Clach. On all sides there are steep or precipitous rocky slopes, particularly on the SE, where the ground falls, almost without a break, some 60m to the shore of the loch; on the NW, however, the summit rises to a height of only 12m above the level of the adjacent ground. Irregular on plan, the fort measures about 95m by 50m in greatest breadth within a single stone wall, which, for most of the perimeter, is drawn along the margin of the summit; on the SW, however, it descends a little way to enclose a shelf of lower ground, and on the NE, where no traces survive, it is possible that the strength of the natural defences made a wall unnecessary. For much of the NW portion of its circuit the wall appears as a heavy band of debris, about 2m thick, in which the line of the outer face may be traced unbroken for considerable distances. The survival of several inner facing-stones on each side of the entrance and elsewhere at the SW end of the fort indicates that the original wall-thickness ranged between 1.5m and 2.7m. Where best preserved, in a gully near the N end of the NW side, the outer face stands to a maximum height of 1.7m in ten courses, and a sector of the face immediately to the NE of the entrance is only slightly less impressive. Despite its state of preservation, however, the wall appears to have been constructed with less care, in respect of choice of material and method of construction, than is usually found in drystone fortifications of this kind. There is little evidence, for example, of any attempt at levelling or pinning, or even the selection of suitably regular blocks of stone; moreover, the wall-builders' wish to incorporate projecting outcrops in the fabric has led them to adopt an irregularity of course for the defences which is unusual in a fort of this size. The entrance appears to measure about 2.1m in width, but too little of the passage-walls survives to make it possible to ascertain if they were rebated or not. The interior contains a number of rocky shelves and hollows which could have provided suitable sites for houses, but none displays clear evidence of an artificial origin. Some of the irregular depressions lying immediately within the wall may possibly be the result of quarrying to provide material for the defences. The three sub circular stone-built structures whose ruined foundations can be seen on the lower shelf at the SW end of the fort, to the S of the entrance, appear to be of comparatively recent date.

69. Dun, Druim Arn-ir-ach

Canmore ID 38096, Site Number NR45SW 7, NGR NR 4403 5022

The level summit of an isolated knoll, which forms part of the discontinuous rocky ridge known as Druim Arn-ir-ach, is occupied by the remains of a dun measuring about 16m by 12m over all. The random rubble outer face of the wall, standing to a maximum height of 0.9m, survives round much of the S half of the circuit, but elsewhere little remains except a light spread of core material. Stone-robbing has been especially severe on the NE to provide material for a modern drystone wall which crosses the ridge about 12m away.

70. Buildings, Enclosure, Sliabh A' Mheallaidh, Islay

Canmore ID 154069, Site Number NR44NW 63, NGR NR 4395 4994

Two small unroofed buildings, one of which has an attached enclosure, are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxxii).

71. Hut Circle, Ton Bhan

Canmore ID 37991, Site Number NR44NW 14, NGR NR 442 497

A reported round house occupying a ridge NW of Ton Bhan (Newall 1964) was not located by OS.

72. Enclosure, Ardilistry, Islay

Canmore ID 82547, Site Number NR44NW 52, NGR NR 445 492

Enclosure, probably a pound, about 100ft by 50ft (Newall 1966).

73. Stone Circle, Ardilistry

Canmore ID 38005, Site Number NR44NW 27, NGR NR 4426 4919

This small stone circle stands on poorly-drained level ground 220m NE of Ardilistry. It consists of four stones, each measuring about 0.5m by 0.2m at the base, which have suffered considerable damage; only the N stone, a truncated pyramid 0.4m high, appears to survive to anything approaching its original height. The E, S and W stones are no more than stumps, 0.3m, 0.6m and 0.2m in height respectively.

74. Kiln, Ardilistry

Canmore ID 82545, Site Number NR44NW 50, NGR NR 441 492

Horse-shoe kiln, 12ft diameter with 6ft walls, 3ft NE and SW, mounds 9ft and 24ft by 21ft (Shanks 1968)

75. Farmstead, Ardilistry, Islay

Canmore ID 154072, Site Number NR44NW 66, NGR NR 4414 4904

A farmstead comprising one unroofed building, one partially roofed long building, one roofed T-shaped building and one enclosure is depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxxii).

76. Hut Circles? Ardilistry

Canmore ID 38006, Site Number NR44NW 28, NGR NR 439 491

The Hut circles reported by Mr D MacKechnie 400yds N of Ardilistry Bay (Celoria 1959) were not located by OS.

77. Kiln, Ardilistry

Canmore ID 82546, Site Number NR44NW 51, NGR NR 442 487

Kiln, 4ft by 6ft, with annexed chambers 6ft by 3ft and 6ft by 4ft, on the seaward side of the ridge SW of the elbow of the Ardilidry River (Shanks 1971)

78. Settlement, Ardilistry

Canmore ID 38028, Site Number NR44NW 48, NGR NR 4465 4874

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates '3 ?dwellings/enclosures in wood, 2 enclosures have small buildings in one angle, with orthostats at entrance'.

79. Chapel?, Ardilistry, Chapel

Canmore ID 37986, Site Number NR44NW 1, NGR NR 4476 4852

The remains of this small building, identified by the office of the Ordnance Survey in 1878 as a chapel, are situated on a scrub-covered promontory about 0.8 km SE of Ardilistry cottage and 120m from the nearest inlet of the sea. It occupies a level area bounded to the N, and some 35m to the W, by outcrops of rock, while a lower outcrop forms a natural bank close to the chapel on the S. There is no evidence for an artificial enclosure, the few traces of walls near the site apparently being connected with later agricultural activity.

The building measures about 5.5m from E to W by 31m transversely within walls of drystone rubble about 1m thick which incorporate several orthostatic boulders; no identifiable facing-stones are preserved in situ, except for a short length of the inner face of the E wall, which is noticeably curved. The entrance, about 0.75m wide, is in the W gable wall. There is a small drystone structure, built against a rock face 9.5m N of the chapel and measuring about 3.5m by 3m over all. There are no identifiable funerary monuments.

80. Dun, Ardilistry

Canmore ID 38033, Site Number NR44NW 9, NGR NR 4468 4817

The remains of a dun occupy the level summit of an isolated coastal rock stack about 1km SE of Ardilistry farmhouse. The position is one of considerable natural strength with cliffs rising up to 7.5m from sea-level on three sides and 5m above a mass of boulders on the landward (N) side. The dun wall can be followed round the margin of the summit on three sides, enclosing a roughly oval area measuring at least 18m by 8m: for the most part it survives as a low turf-covered band of core material. On the E side a few outer facing-stones remain in position, but much of the stone from the wall lies scattered down the steep slope below; on the S a line of large irregular boulders forming the outer face of the wall survives together with two inner facing-stones, giving a wall thickness of 2.5m. A line of stones, apparently designed to form a revetment for the upper levels of the wall, was built above a narrow cleft on the NW side of the stack. At the N end, as a result of erosion of the ground-surface, possibly preceded by a rock fall, no trace of facing-stones or core material survives. Access to the summit is possible, though difficult, by way of two rock clefts on the NE, but the original entrance was probably located on the landward (N) side. Just inside the wall on the W there are slight traces of a structure of comparatively recent origin.

81. Cup Marked Rock? basin, Proaig

Canmore ID 38036, Site Number NR45NE 3, NGR NR 4590 5806

No cup marks could be found in the area. The basin noted by the RCAHMS is cut into the flat upper surface of a large boulder. It is obviously artificial, probably recent and measures 0.25m in diameter and 0.15m deep.

82. Cottage and sheepfold Proaig

Canmore ID 38040 and 288051, Site Number NR45NE 7 and NR45 NE 14, NGR NR 45772 57666

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates 'Mid C19 Shepherd's cottage and outbuildings'. Depicted as roofed on 1st ed. OS 6-inch map, Argyllshire, sheet ccix, surveyed 1876.

83. Rig and Furrow, Proaig,

Canmore ID 288052, Site Number NR45NE 15, NGR NR 4565 5757

This block of broad sinuous rig, which is situated to the SW of the remains of Proaig cottage, has been recorded on oblique aerial photography (RCAHMSAP 2006).

84. Shieling Huts, Allt Coire Liundrein

Canmore ID 38048, Site Number NR45NW 8, NGR NR 446 579

On dry ground alongside Allt Coire Liundrein, are at least nine turf-covered shieling footings both oval, and circular, varying in size from 3.0m by 2.5m to 2.0m in diameter. Nearby are two enclosures, one sub-oval the other appears to have been rectangular. The sub-oval enclosure measures 5.0m by 3.0m and the other is approximately 4.5m by 3.0m. They appear to be recent probably a shepherds bothy and trimming pen.

85. Kiln, Aonan Luachrach

Canmore ID 83015, Site Number NR45NE 8, NGR NR 46 56

Kiln, built against a rock face, 6ft internally, with flue passage 5ft by 1ft 6in by 1ft deep beneath a large 'lintel' [grid reference quoted falls in sea] (Shanks 1967).

86. Fort, Dun Nan Gall

Canmore ID 38034, Site Number NR45NE 1, NGR NR 4681 5582

The most northerly of the two vitrified promontory forts and one vitrified dun situated on this 3km stretch of the SE coast of May (see also fort at Trudernish Point and Dun an Rubha Bhuidhe, Islay) occupies a narrow headland 1.3km N of Ardtalla. The flanks and seaward (NE) end of the promontory rise either as sheer or as steeply sloping rock faces to a maximum height of 14m, and three walls drawn across its neck cut off an area measuring about 35m by up to 17m; on the landward (SW) side the ground rises steeply. The innermost wall (A on RCAHMS plan), which was probably at least 3m thick, is so tumbled that no facing-stones can be seen; but the solid rubble core material is still up to 1.6m high and incorporates a few patches of vitrification, of which the largest is shown on the plan, while elsewhere the reddened and cracked appearance of many of the stones indicates that the wall was at some time subjected to intense heat. The position of the entrance is probably represented by the roughly central gap, where the wall debris is markedly reduced. The middle wall (B), which appears to be unfinished, consists of an isolated length of core material, about 2m thick and up to 1m high, with the lowest course of both inner and outer facing-stones still in position. The outer wall (C), like the innermost wall, was a substantial structure, still measuring as much as 2.5m in thickness and 1.2m in height, with an entrance placed towards its NW end. To cover approach over a limited section of the SE side of the promontory, advantage was taken of a small natural shelf to build a wall over a distance of 10m. Although a slight structure compared to the three principal walls already described, it would have supplemented them and rendered.

87. Farmstead, Cnoc Na Binneig

Canmore ID 38038, Site Number NR45NE 5, NGR NR 4660 5515

One unroofed building and one enclosure are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxi). Two ruined buildings, probably deserted crofts situated on level terraces on this south east-facing gentle hillslope. NR 4662 5517: 8.0m by 5.0m over turf-covered walling 0.8m wide and 0.5m high. NR 4677 5535: 7.0m by 5.0m over turf-covered walling 0.7m wide and 0.6m high. There are several field banks visible in the surrounding area and extensive rig and furrow cultivation. The rectangular enclosure at NR 4660 5515 is 19.0m by 10.0m and is probably a ruined sheepfold.

88. Building and enclosure, Cnoc Na Binneig

Canmore ID 154083, Site Number NR45NE 10, NGR NR 4647 5509

One small unroofed building and one enclosure, both attached to a field wall, are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxi),

89. Building and enclosure, Sruthan Bann Na Sgailean

Canmore ID 154084, Site Number NR45SE 55, NGR NR 4638 5497

Two unroofed buildings and one enclosure are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1881, sheet ccxxi).

90. Shieling Huts, Pairc Nan Each

Canmore ID 98762, Site Number NR45SE 45, NGR NR 4597 5487

91. Enclosure, Sruthan Bann Nan Sgailean

Canmore ID 38077, Site Number NR45SE 35, NGR NR 4661 5483

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates 'traces of an enclosure: no definite house-site'.

92. Burial Ground? Borra-chille

Canmore ID 38057, Site Number NR45SE 17, NGR NR 4681 5489

A slight mound, no more than 0.2m high, is visible in pasture some 380m NNE of Ardtalla farmhouse. In 1876 it was reported that the site was that of an ancient burial-ground, and that an enclosing bank had recently been obliterated by ploughing..

93. Enclosure, Creag A' Bhorra - Chille

Canmore ID 38076, Site Number NR45SE 34, NGR NR 4685 5485

Manuscript annotation on RCAHMS working map indicates 'Enclosure 24' NW-SE x 21'; within 2'6" walls'.

94. Farmstead, Ardtalla

Canmore ID 141729, Site Number NR45SE 59, NGR NR 46633 54562

95. Standing stone, Ardtalla

Canmore ID 38056, Site Number NR45SE 16, NGR NR 4657 5456

This standing stone is situated 18m NW of the SW gable of Ardtalla farmhouse. Leaning slightly to the SSE, it measures 0.48m by 0.48m at the base and 1.25m height.

96. Building, enclosures, An Creagan, Islay

Canmore ID 154082, Site Number NR45SE 54, NGR NR 459 545

One small unroofed building (NR 4607 5464), one enclosure (NR 4582 5450) and a field-system are depicted on the OS 1st edition 6-inch map (Argyllshire 1882, sheet ccxxi).

