

# Coastal Assessment Survey Ullapool to Lochinver

# October 1996

# Volume 2



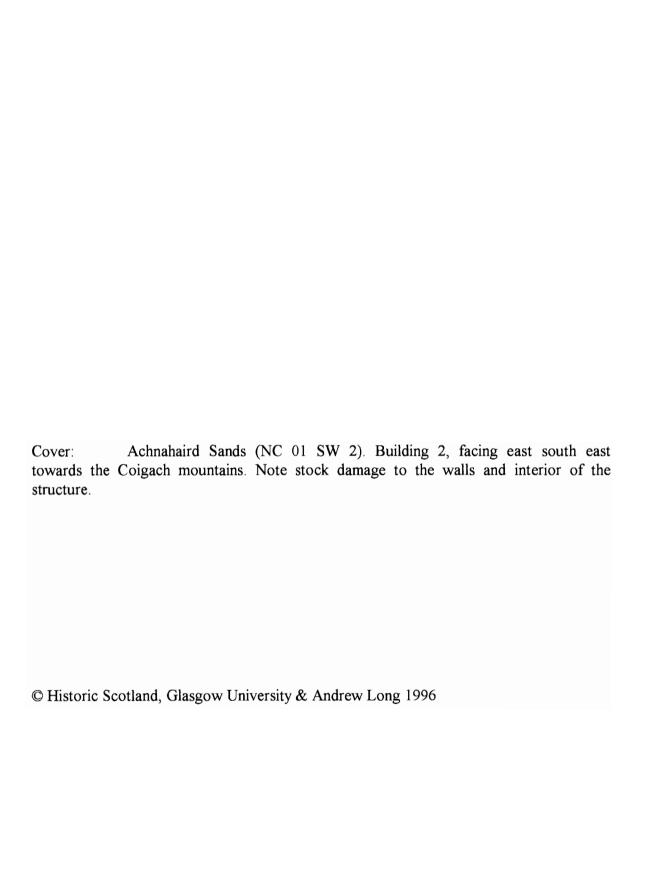
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by



in association with





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Volume 2

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#### **Abstract**

In August 1996 a coastal assessment survey was conducted along a 115 km stretch of the north western coastline of mainland Scotland between the towns of Ullapool and Lochinver. The principal aims of the survey were to document the archaeology of the coastal zone and assess the impact of coastal related processes on the cultural environment. The survey involved an inspection of both the intertidal zone and a 50m wide coastal strip above the high water mark.

In summary 192 sites were inspected, of which 136 were new recordings. The sites primarily consisted of structures and field systems associated with 18th-19th century crofting townships, however several structures and deposits dating back to the prehistoric and medieval periods were also recorded. A total of 5 sites were considered to be actively eroding, including the most significant site recorded, the multi-period structural complex and midden deposits at Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2).

Overall the coastline was considered to eroding, though generally at a rate negligible for the purposes of cultural resource management. It was noted that a significant proportion of the recorded sites exist in exposed and low lying positions and are thus highly vulnerable to marine transgression or erosion under extreme conditions.

This is Volume 2 of the report, which contains a site gazetteer, glossary of definitions, list of sources, organisations and individuals consulted and a list of previously unrecorded sites. A selection of sketch plans and colour plates have been appended to the rear of the report.

#### **Abbreviations**

ALS: Afforestable Land Survey

APU: Aerial Photograph Unit, RCAHMS

ASL: Above Sea Level

E: East

GUAD: Glasgow University Archaeology Department

GUDGTS: Glasgow University Department of Geography

& Topographic Science

HS: Historic Scotland
HWM: High Water Mark (mean)
LWM: Low Water Mark (mean)

MOLARS: Medieval or Later Rural Settlement

N: North

NMAS: National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland NMRS: National Monuments Record of Scotland

RCAHMS:Royal Commission on the Ancient &

Historical Monuments of Scotland South

SIMS: Scottish Institute of Maritime Studies

SNH: Scottish Natural Heritage

SSS: School of Scottish Studies, Edinburgh

University

W: West

S:

# **CONTENTS**

# Volume 1:

1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 BACKGROUND	1
1.2 Project Aims	1
1.3 REPORT FORMAT	2
1.4 THE STUDY AREA	2
1.4.1 Introduction	2
1.4.2 Extent and Dimensions.	2
1.4.3 Description	4
1.5 Previous Archaeological Research	6
2. METHODOLOGY	8
2.1 Introduction	8
2,2 Background Research	
2.3 FIELDWORK	
2.3.1 Field Techniques	
2.3.2 Recording Criteria	
2.3.3 Survey Conditions	
2.3.4 Survey Coverage and Effectiveness	
3. STUDY RESULTS	. 12
3.1 Ullapool to Ardmair	. 15
3.1.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	. 16
3.1.2 Erosion Class	. 21
3.1.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	. 23
3.2 ARDMAIR TO CAMAS BEAG	. 26
3.2.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	. 27
3.2.2 Erosion Class	. 29
3.2.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	. 31
3.3 CAMAS BEAG TO GEODHA MÓR	. 34
3.3.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	. 35
3.3.2 Erosion Class	. 37
3.3.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	
3.4 GEODHA MÓR TO BADENSCALLIE	
3.4.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	
3.4.2 Erosion Class	
3.4.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	
3.5 BADENSCALLIE TO POLBAIN	
3.5.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	
3.5.2 Erosion Class	
3.5.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	
3.6 POLBAIN TO REIFF BAY	
3.6.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	
3.6.2 Erosion Class	
3.6.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	
3.7 REIFF TO RUBHA DUBH	
3.7.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	
3.7.2 Erosion Class	
3.7.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	
3.8 CAMASCOILLE TO GARVIE BAY	
3.8.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	
3.8.2 Erosion Class	
3.0.3 Dulk Helitage and Alchaeology	. 17

3.9 GARVIE BAY TO LOCHAN SÀL	82		
3.9.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology	83		
3.9.2 Erosion Class	85		
3.9.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	87		
3.10 LOCHAN SÀL TO LOCH KIRKAIG			
3.10.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology			
3.10.2 Erosion Class			
3.10.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology			
3.11 LOCH KIRKAIG TO LOCHINVER			
3.11.1 Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology			
3.11.2 Erosion Class			
3.11.3 Built Heritage and Archaeology	103		
4. ANALYSIS	106		
4.1 Introduction	106		
4.2 EROSIONAL CONDITION			
4.2.1 Survey Results			
4.2.2 Potential Impact on the Built Environment			
4.2.3 Discussion			
4.3 ARCHAEOLOGY			
4.3.1 Introduction			
4.3.2 Prehistoric Sites.			
4.3.3 Pre-Improvement Sites			
4.3.4 Post-Improvement Sites			
4.3.5 Intertidal and Marine Zone Sites			
5. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS			
5.1 SITE EROSION	121		
5.2 DEVELOPMENTAL IMPACTS	123		
5.3 GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS	123		
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY	125		
Volume 2:			
Volume 2.			
Preface to Volume 2	vii		
APPENDIX 1: SITE GAZETTEER			
SURVEY MAP 1: ULLAPOOL TO ARDMAIR			
SURVEY MAP 2: ARDMAIR BAY TO CAMAS BEAG			
SURVEY MAP 3: CAMAS BEAG TO GEODHA MÓR			
SURVEY MAP 4: GEODHA MÓR TO BADENSCALLIE			
SURVEY MAP 5: BADENSCALLIE TO POLBAIN			
SURVEY MAP 6: POLBAIN TO REIFF BAY			
SURVEY MAP 7: REIFF TO RUBHA DUBH			
SURVEY MAP 8: RUBHA DUBH TO GARVIE BAY			
SURVEY MAP 9:: GARVIE BAY TO LOCHAN SÀL			
SURVEY MAP 10: LOCHAN SÀL TO LOCH KIRKAIG			
SURVEY MAP 11: LOCH KIRKAIG TO LOCHINVER			
APPENDIX 2: GLOSSARY - DEFINITION OF TERMS			
APPENDIX 3: LIST OF SOURCES, ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED			
APPENDIX 4: LIST OF PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED SITES			
APPENDIX 5: SKETCH PLANS	LXXVII		
COLOUR PLATES	VCV		
COLOUR I LATES			

		,
	SURVEY MAPS	
Volume 1:	Map 1: Ullapool to Ardmair	17-2
	Map 2: Ardmair Bay to Camas Beag	25-29
	Map 3: Camas Beag to Geodha Mór	33-3
	Map 4: Geodha Mór to Badenscallie	41-4:
	Map 5: Badenscallie to Polbain	49-53
	Map 6: Polbain to Reiff Bay	57-6
	Map 7: Reiff to Rubha Dubh	65-69
	Map 8: Rubha Dubh to Garvie Bay	73-77
	Map 9: Garvie Bay to Lochan Sàl	81-83
	Map 10: Lochan Sàl to Loch Kirkaig	89-93
	Map 11: Loch Kirkaig to Lochinver	97-10
	FIGURES	
Volume 1:	Figure 1: Study Area Location, showing Key to Maps 1-11.	3
	Figure 2: Distribution of Prehistoric Sites in the Study Area.	111
	Figure 3: Distribution of Pre-improvement Sites in the Study Area.	113
	Figure 4: Distribution of Post-improvement Sites in the Study Area.	115
	Figure 5: Distribution of Shipwrecks and Hulks in the Study Area.	117
	Figure 6: Distribution of eroding Sites and the Impact of Recent Developments in the Study Area.	119
Volume 2:	Figure 7: Survey Plan of Structural Complex at Old Dorney Bay (NB 1984 9115).	XXIX
	Figure 8: Survey Plan of Structural Complex at Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2).	XLII
	TABLES	
Volume 1:	Table 1: Analysis of Erosional Character by Survey Map.	103
	Table 2: Prehistoric Sites recorded in the Study Area.	110
	Table 3: Pre-improvement Sites recorded in the Study Area.	112
	Table 4: Post-improvement Sites recorded in the Study Area.	114
	Table 5: Intertidal and Marine Zone Sites recorded in the Study Area.	116
	Table 6: Eroding Sites recorded in the Study Area.	118

Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996

# **PLATES**

Volume 1:	pp. 124-126	
Cover:	View of Camas Beag, looking south east towards Dun Canna (NC 10 SW 1). This sheltered inlet is enclosed by a fish trap (NC 2111 9009), just visible at centre left (compare with Figure 12).	
Plate 1:	A typical stretch of 'skerry' coastline, looking north west to Rubha na Brèige from Rubh' a' Brochaire (Map 10).	
Plate 2:	Storm bar composed of massive boulders, defining the head of Loch of Reiff (Map 7).	
Plate 3:	The sheltered harbour of Old Dornie Bay (NB 1985 9113), with several slipways and a boat naust visible in the foreground. Looking towards Isle Ristol.	
Plate 4:	Subcircular structure near Alltan Dubh, (NB 1975 9131) revealed through peat cutting.	
Plate 5:	Remains of circular kelp kiln at Rubh' a' Choin (NC 2033 9148); note heat shattered rocks inside boulder arrangement on storm beach	
Plate 6:	Enclosure composed of piled boulders on a storm beach, Garvie Bay (NC 2038 9141).	
Plate 7:	Abandoned croft at Badenscallie (NC 00 NW 56). Reputedly built below HWM to avoid eviction, this building was flooded several times while in occupation.	
Plate 8:	Hulk stranded in a tidal stretch of the Ullapool River (NH 2123 8947).	
Plate 9:	Evidence of wave erosion to a structure at Achiltibuie (NC 2019 9090). Achiltibuie Mill (NC 00 NW 27) is in the background	
Plate 10:	Evidence of wave erosion at the edge of a historic midden at Port na Bà, Inverkirkaig (NC 2074 9198)	
Plate 11:	Stone and turf dyke on the west side of Achnahaird Bay (NC 2018 9127); note erosion caused by tidal inundation	
Volume 2:	pp. XCV-XCIX	
Cover:	Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2). Building 2, facing east south east towards the Coigach mountains. Note damage to the walls and interior of the structure caused by livestock.	
Plate 12:	Camas Beag fish trap (NC 2111 9009) exposed at low tide, looking north west along an extremely precipitous stretch of coastline towards the Summer Isles.	
Plate 13:	Old Dorney Bay (NB 1984 9115). View of the curved west end of structure 1, shell midden and cairn field. Facing south south east.	
Plate 14:	View of Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2) from the south east. Note an expanse of salt marsh in the middle distance, and the line of a dyke (part of NC 2018 9127) affected by tidal inundation in the foreground. Zones D, E & F are in the eroding area on the left.	
Plate 15:	Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2). General view of Zone D, showing the residual form of an eroding dune mesa which previously protected this area, flanked by buildings 1 (left) and 2 (right). An exposure of shell midden (Zone F) is in the background.	
Plate 16:	Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2). Building 2 facing west. Note eroding edge of machair behind the structure. Achnahaird House (NC 01 SW 34) is in the background.	
Plate 17:	Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2), Zone E. Eroding section, facing south west, showing <i>in situ</i> shell deposit, buried land surface and underlying palaeosol. Note rabbit activity at the base of the section. This land surface has been revealed through the loss of sand dune cover and approximately 1m of machair soil.	

#### PREFACE TO VOLUME 2

This document comprises Volume 2 of a coastal assessment survey conducted in August 1996 between the towns of Ullapool and Lochinver on the north west mainland coast of Scotland. This part contains supplemental information to the main report (Volume 1), and includes detailed site information in a site gazetteer (Appendix 1), a glossary (Appendix 2), a list of parties consulted (Appendix 3) and a separate list of previously undocumented sites (Appendix 4).

At the request of the project sponsors (Historic Scotland) the initial emphasis was placed on the production of Volume 1, which contains the basic survey data, maps, analysis and recommendations. Since the production of the 2 volumes comprising this report has occurred in two stages, it is inevitable that there have been both minor revisions to the contents of Volume 1 and additions to the planned contents of Volume 2. These changes are listed below:

Occasional minor reassessment has been made to site interpretation and recommendations which
generally do not effect the overall results of this study. In case of doubt, Volume 2 should be
considered the more up to date source of information. It is not considered warranted to list each
minor correction, except in the case of recommendations. The following additional sites require
occasional monitoring:

a)	Achduart	Settlement
<i>b)</i>	Camas a' Bhothain	Settlement
c)	Loch Kirkaig	Standing stone (?)

In other cases where only minor erosion is evident and no immediate action is required, a note has been appended to the condition section of each site entry.

- Additional references not contained within the Volume 1 Bibliography (Section 6) have been inserted in the form of footnotes. While not judged the best editorial style, for consistency with Volume 1 the Harvard system is still used for works already cited.
- A selection of measured sketch plans have been included at the back of the volume, generally for sites with a high degree of complexity not adequately illustrated elsewhere. These are duplications of the original survey sketch plans with only occasional annotation (e.g. site reference numbers). It is hoped that the interpretational value of these useful illustrations will outweigh their rough presentation.

A site numbering system has been used throughout this volume which cross-references with the site lists and survey maps in Volume 1 (e.g. 5/3.1.2 = survey map 1, site 3, element 1, building 2). In instances where sites are referred to in the text this system is consistently employed, except in the case of sites located outside the study area when NMRS nos. are used. An ALS number has been included if a site had previously been recorded as part of the RCAHMS Achiltibuie Afforestable Land Survey (e.g. ALS 247).

The Site Gazetteer (Appendix 1) contains an expanded version of the data contained in the site lists of Volume 1. Many of the site dimension measurements have been gained from the previous ALS survey records. Two variations in survey methodology should be noted here. Firstly, in some cases the ALS measured internal, rather than external dimensions of buildings. Secondly, the maximum height of wall measurements taken by the ALS generally excluded the additional height of a gable. Unless stated otherwise, all measurements in this study are external dimensions, and include the gable height.

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Finally, the successful execution of the fieldwork has only been possible through the untiring efforts of the project team who daily faced the trials of toiling through wet, tick-infested 'vertical heather' along some sections of very rugged and inaccessible coastline. I would like to thank Jenny Lee, Fred Stevenson, Vanessa Edmonds and Harvey Johnston for their eager participation and high standard of recording under difficult work conditions.

The project owes its existence to the hard work, enthusiasm and faith of Maree Lee Smith, who helped enormously in the early stages of project design. I would like to extend a particular thank you to her.

The photographs, maps and plans used in the report were produced by Jenny Lee, Fred Stevenson and Andrew Long. Any errors, opinions and misinterpretations contained within this report are the sole responsibility of the author.

# **APPENDIX 1:**

# SITE GAZETTEER

# Survey Map 1

1. MOREFIELD COTTAGE G/R: NH 2124 8947

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM.1:10,000 Map:NH 19 SWSite Type:BuildingDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A bipartite rectangular building (23 m x 6m NW-SE) with square corners situated on a revetted terrace on the W bank of Ullapool River (Sketch Plan 1). The faced rubble walls are much reduced and obscured by bracken (0.5 m high x < lm thick). A mounded area of tumble and occasional timber fragments at the W end indicated a possible 3rd partition or outbuilding. There are indications of similarly reduced stone enclosures or field boundaries surrounding the structure, including a revetment wall 5m to the S. This building is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

2. ULLAPOOL RIVER

Location: Intertidal Zone
Site Type: Hulk

G/R: NH 2123 8947

1:10,000 Map: NH 19 SW

Date: 19th-20th Century

**Description:** A wooden hull (12m x 3m x 1.2m high) (Plate 8), consisting of the keel, ribs and an iron ballast block (1m x 0.2m x 0.15m) stranded on the edge of the W bank of the Ullapool River (Sketch Plan 1). The construction includes wooden pegs, iron clench pins, screws and strakes. The remains of a small fishing vessel, possibly a rowing boat.

**Condition:** Poor. **Recommendation:** Survey. The remaining timber is in an advanced state of decay. The vessel should be fully researched, assessed and recorded by a specialist maritime archaeologist.

3. GOB AN T-SEID

Location: Intertidal Zone & Hinterland

Site Type: Field systems, posts

G/R: NH 2122 8948

1:10,000 Map: NH 19 SW

Date: 18th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex consisting of abandoned drystone field boundaries and vague stone heaps or arrangements situated on and around a raised beach terrace between the Ullapool River and Allt na Beiste (total extent 520m x 300m NW-SE) (Sketch Plan 1). On the W bank of the Ullapool River there is an arrangement of 4 isolated timber posts situated below LWM. Peter May (1756) notes the existence of cultivation and salmon fishing here in the mid 18th century;

"This river is called Ullapool at the mouth of which is a salmond stale fishings. It is thought improvable and may be extended on both sides of the river, where the coast is smooth and nets can be haulled where the salmon are observed to run (sic.)." (SRO/RHP 85395).

It is possible the residual posts and some shoreline stone arrangements may relate to fishing activities.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Survey. Urban development on the outskirts of Ullapool is encroaching on this area. During the survey the excavation of trenches for structural foundations was begun in the fields between Allt na Beiste and the modern Morefield estate. It is recommended that the area be fully assessed and further development monitored.

**4. GOB AN T-SEID G/R:** NH 2120 8949 **Location:** Hinterland, 45m from HWM **1:10.000 Map:** NH 19 SW

Location:Hinterland, 45m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NH 19 SWSite Type:Circular stone features (?)Date:Pre-modernDescription:2 x flat, circular spreads of stone (ea. 20m approx. dia.) situated on the edge of a

raised beach terrace (Sketch Plan 1). These features could simply be the result of field clearance, however the size and flattened nature of the spreads is considered unusual. It is possible that they are highly reduced structures, though no definite kerbing was observed on initial inspection.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Survey.

Urban development on the outskirts of Ullapool is encroaching on this area. During the survey the excavation of trenches for structural foundations was begun in the fields between Allt na Beiste and the modern Morefield estate. It is recommended that the features be fully assessed and further development monitored.

**5. MOREFIELD G/R:** NH 2117 8952

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM.1:10,000 Map:NH 19 NWSite Type:HulksDate:20th Century

**Description:** 3 x mid-late 20th century wooden vessels stranded above HWM in a field at the base of a raised beach terrace. The boats were probably abandoned within the last 30 years.

1. Fishing boat with half canopy at stern (12m x 2.5m x 2m high).

2. Open, motorised fishing boat ( $11m \times 3m \times 1.7m \text{ high}$ ).

3. Small, open rowing boat (4m x 1.5m x 0.5m high).

**Condition:** Good. **Recommendation:** Nil. The vessels are substantially intact, though visibly deteriorating. There is minor erosion occurring along the adjacent coast edge, but no cultural elements are affected at this stage.

6. MOREFIELDG/R:NH 2116 8953Location:Intertidal zone / Coast edge1:10,000 Map:NH 19 NWSite Type:HulksDate:20th CenturyDescription:2 x mid-late 20th century wooden vessels situated in the intertidal zone close to the coast edge.

- 1. Small trawler ("UL.27") with a cabin in the centre of the deck (13m x 3.5m x 4.5m high) abandoned on shingle bank.
- 2. Small, open rowing boat (3.8m x 1.2m x 0.6m high) situated at the base of eroding section of coast edge.

Vessel 2 has probably been deliberately positioned to protect the coast edge from erosion occurring as a result of the interruption to long shore drift caused by vessel 1. Both appear to have been recently abandoned.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil. Vessel 1 is substantially intact, though visibly deteriorating. Vessel 2 has been crushed by a concrete block. There is minor erosion occurring along the coast edge at this point, but as yet no cultural elements are directly affected.

NMRS No.:

NH 19 NW 5

### 7. MOREFIELD TOWNSHIP

**Site Type:** Buildings, field systems **Date:** 16th-20th Century **Description:** A largely deserted 18th-19th century crofting township situated on a raised beach terrace and adjoining hill slopes NW of Ullapool, principally consisting of abandoned buildings along a main street (100-200m from HWM), drystone walls defining narrow, parallel fields and clearance heaps (max. extent 1.2km x 0.5km NW-SE). Peter May (1756) depicted cultivation plots here in the mid 18th century (SRO/RHP 85395). A field at the north end of the settlement adjacent to the coast edge (NH 2111 8957) contains several vague stone heaps and arrangements which may prove to be the remains of earlier structures. The RCAHMS has registered this site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

7.1 Building & boat naust G/R: NH 2103 8955

Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW

These isolated structures are situated on an artificial terrace at the NW end of a low raised beach close

These isolated structures are situated on an artificial terrace at the NW end of a low raised beach close to the coast edge. The structures are described from SE to NW.

- 1. Rectangular gabled building (19.6m x 5.7m NW-SE) with square corners terraced into the raised beach slope. The faced rubble and sandstone slab walls are generally heavily reduced, though well preserved at the gabled W end (4m high x 0.6m thick), where a lintelled fireplace is located. A crudely built outbuilding constructed from beach cobbles is attached to the E end.
- 2. U-shaped earth-cut boat naust (7.3m x 5m NE-SW) excavated out of the raised beach slope (0.7m deep) 20m WNW of building 1. The E side of the structure has been disturbed by a recent drain.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

A U-shaped boat naust (9.8m x 7.8m NE-SW) defined by 2 low, concentric earth banks is situated on a 30° slope on a rocky shelf at the coast edge. The interior is filled with a substantial quantity of rubble, indicating the possible existence of a stone superstructure or revetment wall.

8. CNOC NA MOINE

G/R: NH 2108 8960

Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW Site Type: Ouarry Date: 19th-20th Century

Description: A small sandstone quarry (26m x 21m NE-SW) situated on the edge of a low clifftop at the base of the steep, rocky slopes of Cnoc na Moine. The quarry consists of a main bay with 2 worked faces, and a smaller bay located beyond an extensive spread of rubble to the S. The presence of boreholes in the worked faces indicates a late 19th or 20th century use of the site. The quarry is in an isolated situation, and probably accessible only by boat.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 9. RHUE TOWNSHIP

NH 19 NW 8 NMRS No.: Site Type: Buildings, field systems, cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century **Description:** An 18th-19th century crofting township situated on a raised beach and rocky shelf on the N side of the entrance to Loch Broom. The township principally consists of renovated buildings along a metalled access road (100-200m from HWM), drystone field boundaries & clearance heaps. Lazy bed cultivation plots situated around the back of an exposed bay to the NW and a turf/stone dyke at the S end of the township are evidence of pre-improvement settlement at the site. Recent land use practices have largely obscured traces of earlier occupation in the majority of the township. The RCAHMS has registered this site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

9.1 Building complex G/R: NH 2102 8966 Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW A structural complex of 3 buildings and associated field boundaries situated on a raised beach near the outlet of the Allt an t-Srathan (Sketch Plan 2). Buildings 1 & 2 are in parallel positions; while building 3 is situated at the E end of building 2 at a 45° orientation to the main axis of the structures.

- 1. Rectangular, gabled bipartite building (21m x 5m E-W) with side entrance, window, internal doorway later buttressed outbuildings at each end. The walls are constructed of faced rubble in various states of preservation (2.5m high x 0.75m thick). A ruinous E-W stone boundary wall and heavily reduced (0.5m high) 3rd outbuilding is attached to the SE corner. The building is the result of several phases of construction activity.
- 2. Small rectangular building (7.3m x 3.8m E-W) with square heavily reduced faced rubble walls (0.4m high x 0.5m thick). A collapsed N-S stone boundary wall is attached to the NW corner.
- 3. Rectangular building (11.5m x 5.2m NW-SE) with faced rubble walls (1m x 0.75m thick) and single side entrance. A highly reduced outbuilding is attached to the SE wall.

The structures are still in occasional use as temporary sheep pens, and have been extensively rebuilt in places.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. RUBHA CADAIL

G/R: NH 2092 8974 Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 09 NE Site Type: Lighthouse Date: 20th Century A small, octagonal concrete lighthouse (4m dia x 10m high approx.) situated on a Description:

small rocky promontory on the north side of the entrance to Loch Broom. The lighthouse is automated and in current use.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

11. MEALL GARBH

G/R: NH 2097 8978 Location: Hinterland, 15m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 09 NE Site Type: Peat cuttings Date: 19th-20th Century Description: 3 x small rectangular peat cuttings situated along a wide shelf on the NW side of

Meall Garbh (total extent 450m x 30 E-W) at the top of steep clifftops.

12. MEALL BEAG G/R: NH 2103 8979

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NH 19 NWSite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th CenturyDescription:A small set of rectangular peat cuttings situated along a wide shelf on the N side of

Meall Beag (total extent 40m x 40 N-S) at the top of steep clifftops.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

13. ACHANA BADA DARACH G/R: NH 2106 8977

Location:Hinterland, 30m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NH 19 NWSite Type:CultivationDate:16th-19th Century

**Description:** A small area of lazy bedding on the SE side of a minor, steep sided valley on the S of Ardmair Bay. The site has an undetermined extent, however an inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicates the presence of additional plots further upstream on the NW side of the valley (max. extent 250m x 170m NE-SW).

# Survey Map 2

1. ARDMAIR TOWNSHIP

**G/R:** NH 2110 8983

**Site Type:** Buildings, field systems & harbour **Date:** 18th-20th Century **Description:** An 18th-19th century township situated on a raised beach terrace on the S shore of Loch Kanaird (max. extent 750m x 550m NE-SW). Many of the original buildings have been renovated and are currently occupied. They are located in three clusters; a linear strip along the W facing coast (Cul a' Bhoga) (1.1 & 1.2), at the end of a small spit (Aird na h-Eighe) (1.3) and on an alluvial fan at the landward side of the terrace (not inspected). Peter May (1756) depicted buildings, cultivation plots and a harbour here in the mid 18th century (SRO/RHP 85395). There is no evidence of the original fields or field boundaries, probably due to intensive 19th / 20th century land practices and recent developments.

1.1 Building complex

**G/R:** NH 2108 8979

**NH 19 NW** 

1:10,000 Map:

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM

A linear arrangement of 3 buildings and associated field boundaries situated on an artificial terrace dug into the rear of a storm beach (Sketch Plan 3). A road embankment now follows the top of the storm beach. The buildings are described from S to N;

- 1. Rectangular, gabled building (8.1m x 4.3m N-S) with square corners and a corrugated iron roof. The walls are constructed of mortared rubble rendered with harling (approx. 3m high x 0.75m thick). Plasterboard and electrical fittings indicate that the structure was occupied at least into the 1950s. A drystone enclosure is attached to the N & E sides of this structure.
- 2. Rectangular, gabled building (22.03m x 4.4m N-S) with square corners, side doorway and windows, fireplaces, chimneys and gables. The walls are constructed of faced rubble standing to gable height (approx. 4.5m high x 0.8m thick).
- 3. Rectangular, bipartite building (9.9m x 3.8m N-S x 3.5m high) with square corners abutting the N end of building 2. The walls are constructed of faced rubble (approx. 3.5m high x 0.75m thick). Each compartment has a single doorway, and the main S section is intact with gables, a corrugated iron roof and external buttress on the NE corner. The N compartment is ruinous.

There have been numerous repairs to the fabric of both buildings.

caravan park and a road embankment immediately behind buildings.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

1.2 Building complex

G/R: NH 2108 8982 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW A linear arrangement of 2 19th century buildings situated on a storm beach on the W side of the raised beach. The structures have been extended, substantially renovated and are currently inhabited. The site environs have been modified through the construction of outbuildings, a 20th century house, adjoining

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

1.3 Building complex, boat naust & harbour G/R: NH 2108 8985

Location: Intertidal zone / coast edge / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW

A structural complex consisting of a mortared, dressed stone house and outbuildings, a stone jetty and adjacent drystone revetted boast naust (3.5m x 2m x 0.75m deep) situated on the end of a peninsula projecting into Loch Kanaird. The boat naust has been terraced into the front of a storm beach 3m from HWM. The house has been substantially renovated and extended, and is currently inhabited. The other buildings and jetty are also in use, but the boast naust has been abandoned. A short revetment wall defines the coast edge around the N side of the peninsula, and a line of boulders projecting 30m into the intertidal zone at the NW point of the peninsula is probably the remains of an abandoned slipway. The remainder of the peninsula has been recently developed as a caravan, camping and chalet park. Peter May (1756) depicted buildings and jetty at this location in the mid 18th century (SRO/RHP 85395), which were associated with a mid-18th century herring fishing station on Isle Martin, 1km W of the site across Loch Kanaird (NH 09 NE 2).

Location:

2. POLL A' CHREADHA

READHA G/R: NH 2115 8987
Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW
Cultivation & clientary

Cultivation & clientary

Continued to the co

NMRS No.:

NH 19 NW 9

**Site Type:** Cultivation & slipway **Date:** 16th-20th Century **Description:** A small area of lazy bedding on a raised beach and adjoining steep slopes around a small bay at the mouth of a small rocky valley (Allt Garbh) on the E side of Loch Kanaird. The site has

small bay at the mouth of a small rocky valley (Allt Garbh) on the E side of Loch Kanaird. The site has an undetermined extent, however an inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicates a crescent formation of rigs around the bay. Parallel lines of boulders in the intertidal zone at this point probably represent abandoned slipways. A large salmon farm depot comprising prefabricated sheds, concrete jetties and revetment walls, and a modern road embankment have probably disturbed most of the S side of the site.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 3. BUAILE GHLAS TOWNSHIP

**Site Type:** Buildings, cultivation, peat cuttings & field systems **Date:** 16th-19th Century **Description:** A small, largely deserted township situated on a raised beach terrace at the mouth of Allt Glutton. A small complex of abandoned buildings (3.1), an occupied house and drystone boundaries are located along the coast on the valley floor, and peat cuttings and lazy bed cultivation plots are located on adjacent steep, rocky hillsides (max. extent 550m x 300m NE-SW). The RCAHMS has registered this site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

3.1 Building complex

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM

A complex of 2 adjacent rectilinear buildings situated on a terrace on the S bank of the stream. The buildings are heavily reduced and consist of little more than foundations and spreads of rubble. An isolated section of faced rubble wall defining the edge of a shallow depression (possible 3rd building

site) is located 15m SE to the complex.

1. Rectangular, bipartite (12m x 4m NE-SW) with square corners. The walls are constructed of faced rubble (0.3m high x 0.5m wide).

2. Rectangular (7m x 4m NE-SW) with a rounded SW end located parallel to building 1, 2.5m to N. The walls are represented by stony banks with no facings visible (approx. 0.3m high x 0.5m wide).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4. BUAILE GHLAS

NMRS No.: NH 19 NW 1

Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM

G/R: NH 2120 8993

Site Type: Rock shelter Date: Pre-modern

Pescription: A NW facing sandstone overhang (14m x 3m NF-SW x 3 5m high) situated on the

**Description:** A NW facing sandstone overhang (14m x 3m NE-SW x 3.5m high), situated on the N side of a small rocky headland immediately adjacent to the coast edge. The shelter contains a deposit (2m+ depth) consisting of rubble, dark grey soil and a variety of shellfish remains including Common European Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Common European Limpet (*Patella vulgata*), Common European Cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*), Common Periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*) and Common Blue Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*). A putative worked ring of *Patella vulgata* shell was collected (donated to NMAS). In the absence of diagnostic dating evidence it is impossible to assign a particular date bracket to this site, however it may potentially be Mesolithic in age. Other rock shelters in the region are known to contain late medieval or post-medieval deposits (e.g. Ty-tal-vine-na-druinich, near Clachtoll, NC 02 NE 1 and Uisge Làidir, site 4/1). However, Shellfish remains have also been observed in 19th century midden deposits (e.g. Port na Bà, site 11/1.3).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Monitor. The deposit has been truncated by a road cutting on the NW side and a telephone cable has been laid across the ground surface at the rear of the shelter. There was also extensive evidence of rabbit burrowing. The significance and management requirements of the shelter should be fully assessed and further disturbance prevented.

#### 5. SOUTH KEANCHULISH

G/R: NH 2120 8995 Date: 16th-20th Century Site Type: Settlement, field systems & slipways A small township situated on a raised beach terrace at the mouth of the Glac Chaol, **Description:** consisting of an inhabited house (5.1), heavily reduced sections of turf/stone dyke boundaries and a slipway (max. extent 480m x 280m N-S). Most of the original field boundaries have been replaced by modern fencelines. This settlement is depicted on the 1st ed. OS Map of the area.

5.1 Building complex

Location:

NH 2120 8996 Hinterland, 30m from HWM. 1:10,000 Map: **NH 19 NW** 

A large estate house (80m x 40m E-W) comprised of an amalgamation of separate 18th-19th century structures (allegedly crofts) integrated into a single building complex with white painted harling walls. The complex contains various 1950s extensions and additions, including double dormer windows sashed with glazing bars and a mock baronial tower. A revetted track leads from the house to the beach.

Recommendation: Nil. Condition: Fair.

6. RIVER KANAIRD G/R: NH 2120 8998 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW Coast edge Location: Site Type: Hulk Date: 20th Century

**Description:** A small, wooden boat with a shallow draft (5m x 1.5m x 0.5m high) situated on the edge of a raised beach terrace on the E side of the Kanaird estuary. The boat has been upturned with the stern facing the beach, giving the impression it has been beached., The timber (pine?) contains copper rivets, and has been repaired with lead sheeting and zinc tacks.

Condition: Recommendation:

The fabric of the boat is starting to deteriorate. There is minor erosion at the adjacent coast edge.

7. RIVER KANAIRD

G/R: NC 2112 9003 Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 10 SW Location: Site Type: Cultivation & peat cuttings Date: 16th-19th Century An extensive linear strip of lazy bedding along the edge of a raised beach terrace on

**Description:** the E shore of the Kanaird estuary. Several small, rectangular peat cuttings are located on adjacent rocky shelves. The site has an undetermined extent, however an inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicates that lazy bedding extended in a narrow strip N from South Keanchulish to the head of the tidal reach of the river (max. extent 700m x 80m N-S).

Condition: Recommendation: Nil.

8. RIVER KANAIRD

G/R: NC 2123 9007 Location: Intertidal zone / Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: **NC 10 SW** Site Type: Date: 19th Century A ford (90m x 10m E-W) crossing the River Kanaird obliquely at the head of its tidal Description:

reach, consisting of opposed cuttings leading down to the water on either side of the river. This river crossing is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area, but is no longer in use.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9. NORTH KEANCHULISH

NC 2119 9004 G/R: 1:10,000 Map: Hinterland, 20m from HWM NC 10 SW Location: Date: 19th-20th Century Site Type: Building complex & field systems

**Description:** An inhabited farm complex comprising 2 rectangular buildings and a complex of drystone sheep pens (90m x 40m NW-SE), situated at the edge of a raised beach terrace on the W side of the Kanaird estuary. The main house is harling rendered, and was not inspected in detail. A revetted bank defines the S side of the complex adjacent to the river. This settlement is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil. 10. RIVER KANAIRD

G/R: NH 2117 8999 1:10,000 Map: Intertidal zone / Coast edge **NH 19 NW** 

Location: Site Type: Boat naust & slipway Date: 19th-20th Century

A U-shaped boat naust (7m x 4m NE-SW) excavated out of the edge of a raised Description: beach terrace, on the W side of the Kanaird estuary. A series of cemented parallel lines of boulders overlain by an arrangement of logs and a parallel iron rail, and an associated iron winding mechanism represent the remains of a modern slipway leading into the naust.

Condition: Nil. Recommendation:

There was some erosion to the edges of the naust, possibly caused by wave action at high tide.

#### 11. RUBHA MEALLAIN BHUIDHE

G/R: NH 2115 8995 Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NH 19 NW Location: Site Type: Cultivation & peat cuttings Date: 16th-19th Century An area of steep, rocky hillside on the S side of a headland at the mouth of the Description: Kanaird estuary, containing occasional lazy bed cultivation plots and several small, rectangular peat cuttings on rocky shelves. The site has an as undetermined inland extent, but extends for 900m along the coast to Meallan Buidhe.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

12. CAMAS MÓR G/R: NC 2113 9005 1:10,000 Map: Hinterland, 5m from HWM **NC 10 SW** Location: Site Type: Peat cuttings & field systems Date: 19th-20th Century

An area of extensive rectangular peat cuttings on the NW side of a headland and on a Description: wide area of adjacent raised beach. Much of this activity has been recently conducted on a commercial scale. The site has an as undetermined inland extent, but extends for 1km along the coast from Camas an Lochain to Dun Canna. Occasional lengths of drystone wall and revetted bank are located along this stretch of coast indicating the existence of earlier field systems, now highly disturbed.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

13. DUN CANNA G/R: NC 2112 9008

**Protected Ancient Monument** 

Hinterland, 5m from HWM NMRS No.: NC 10 SW 1 Location: Site Type: Dun & later building complex Date: Late prehistoric / early modern

A complex consisting of a solid-walled dun (13.1), later rectilinear building (13.2) **Description:** and various isolated sections of later drystone walling situated on a narrow flat topped promontory at the N end of Camas Mór (Dagg 1990, 20-21)<sup>1</sup>.

- 1. A subrectangular fort with massive drystone walls, and an irregular, possibly later annexe enclosing the landward side of the peninsula (110m x 55m E-W) (Cover, Vol. 1). The walls mostly consist of tumble, much of which is located on the steep slopes above the coast edge (Cover, Vol. 1). Only in the SW corner of the inner are traces of the original walling visible (approx. 3m thick), and an entrance is situated at the E end. The entrance to the outer enclosure is represented by an arrangement of offset walls in the NE corner. There is no diagnostic dating evidence, however the fort is likely to date to the Iron Age (ca. 2000 BP).
- 2. An L-shaped building (10m x 6.5m x 1m high), possibly with curved corners, has been constructed out of tumble from the fort rampart at the NE corner of the annexe (Sketch Plan 4). An adjacent gap in the fort ramparts is the result of clearance for a modern fenceline. The structure has 3 possible compartments with 1m thick drystone walls. The walls have a vertical internal face and a tapering external face. This structure is probably post-medieval, but may be earlier in date.

To the S of the later building are 2 isolated sections of drystone walling, possibly recent shelters. The relationship between these structures and the adjacent fish trap (2/14) and lazy bed cultivation (2/15) is uncertain at this stage.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

Although situated very close to the clifftop these structures are not affected by coastal erosion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See also Calder, C. & Steer, K. (1949) 'Dun Lagaidh and Four Other Prehistoric Monuments near Ullapool, Ross and Cromarty', in Proceedings of the Society of Antiquities of Scotland 83, 68-76, pp. 74-76.

**14. CAMAS BEAG** G/R: NC 2111 9009

Location: Intertidal zone 1:10,000 Map: NC 10 SW Site Type: Fish trap & slipway Date: Pre-modern

**Description:** A crescent shaped arrangement of piled boulders enclosing the mouth of a narrow inlet (50m x 40m E-W), on the N side of Dun Canna. The boulders are only fully exposed at low tide (Cover, Vol. 1; Plate 12), when they effectively impound a shallow pool. The boulders have clearly been disturbed by wave action, and currently stand to a height of only 0.5m. The date of the fish trap and its association with Dun Canna are as yet unknown. It is however comparable to other fish traps situated at the head of Loch Broom (Bathgate 1949), which are considered pre-improvement in origin. A possible slipway defined by an alignment of boulders (15m x 2m NW-SE) is situated in the SE corner of the inlet

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

14. CAMAS BEAGG/R:NC 2113 9009Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 10 SWSite Type:CultivationDate:16th-19th Century

**Description:** A small area of lazy bed cultivation plots (120m x 30m E-W) located at the base of steep, rocky slopes at the head of a narrow inlet (Camas Beag). The area to the S has been disturbed by deep peat cuttings, and may originally have contained additional plots. The cultivation is potentially associated with the later L-shaped building (site 2/13.2) attached to Dun Canna (site 2/13.1).

# Survey Map 3

1. CREAG DEARG G/R: NC 2099 9011

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:CultivationDate:18th-19th CenturyDescription:A small area of lazy bed cultivation plots (200m x 160m N-S) in an isolated situation

on peat covered shelves at the base of steep, rocky slopes and cliffs.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

2. CREAG AN AIRGID (EAST) G/R: NC 2095 9011

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:CultivationDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A small area of lazy bed cultivation plots (160m x 60m E-W) in an isolated situation on peat covered shelves at the base of steep, rocky slopes on the E side of Allt Slac a' Bhuilg Mór.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

3. CREAG AN AIRGID (WEST) G/R: NC 2093 9012

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:Buildings, cultivation & peat cuttingsDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** An area of lazy bed cultivation plots in an isolated situation on a large shelf near the base of steep, rocky slopes on the W side of Allt Slac a' Bhuilg Mór. On the summit of a low hill to the W are situated a rectangular area of peat cuttings and a small marker cairn. Two rectilinear buildings are located further inland beyond the coastal zone (not inspected). The total site extent is 400m x 120m NW-SE.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4. GEODHA MÓR G/R: NC 2082 9026

Location:Hinterland, 35m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:FordDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** An alignment of large boulders by which the 'Postmans path' crosses Allt a' Choire Mhóir, situated at a point where the stream abraides above the cobble beach in Geodha Mór. A small weir composed of smaller rocks was located approx. 15m upstream. The ford appeared to have no distinct structure and may be a natural or highly eroded cultural feature.

# Survey Map 4

 1. UISGE LÀIDIR
 G/R:
 NC 2074 9029

 Location:
 Hinterland, 10m from HWM
 1:10,000 Map:
 NC 00 SE

Site Type: Cave Date: 19th-20th Century

Personiation: A. S. feeing reak shelter (6m x 2m N.S. x 1.8m high) situated at the base of an

**Description:** A S facing rock shelter (6m x 2m N-S x 1.8m high) situated at the base of an overhanging cliff face 1km SE of Culnacraig. A low drystone wall partially blocked the entrance, while the interior contained a possible hearth, wooden barrel and store of driftwood, indicating a recent use of the shelter. The floor deposits consist of dry peaty soil, with a layer of Common limpet (*Patella vulgata*) shells located approx. 5cm below the surface. This 'cave' was reputedly occupied by an evicted family for a year in the 19th century (Baldwin 1994, 305-306).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

The lower 0.4m of the shelter walls appear to be waterworn, indicating that the shelter is flooded on an intermittent basis. There was no evidence of erosion to the cultural remains.

**2. ALLT NAN COSICHE** G/R: NC 2069 9031

Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 SE
Site Type: Circular structures Date: 16th-19th Century

Pescription: A complex comprising 3 identical circular structures situated in an area of abraided

**Description:** A complex comprising 3 identical circular structures situated in an area of abraided stream channels (60m x 10m NW-SE) near the mouth of the Allt nan Cosiche, 0.5km S of Culnacraig. The buildings were located in dense bracken and other unrecorded structures may also be present. Each structure measured approx. 4m dia. with 1m thick walls (max. 0.8m high) and had a small E facing entrance (0.6m wide). The walls had a vertical internal face and a tapering external face, consisting of uneven courses of large beach cobbles. The westernmost structure abutted a reduced section of drystone wall leading to the SW (7m x 0.5m x 0.3m high). These structures were interpreted as sheiling huts in a previous study (Baldwin 1994, 345-346, 351).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

3. CULNACRAIGG/R:NC 2066 9032Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:Cultivation & peat cuttingsDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A small area of lazy bed cultivation plots and various rectangular peat cuttings located on raised beach and alluvial deposits at the mouth of Allt na Glaic-rainich, S of Culnacraig. The total site extent is undetermined, but the peat cuttings extend intermittently for 450m along the coast.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4. CULNACRAIG G/R: NC 2065 9031

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:Building & slipwayDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A square building (8m x 8m E-W) with square corners is situated close to the coast edge on a rocky shelf adjacent to a raised beach. A shelf in the bedrock along the N side creates a split level within the structure, and defines an annex (6m x 1.5m E-W) with a possible porch entrance to the NW. The walls are constructed of faced rubble (1.5m high x 0.8m thick), with the external face tapering in from the foundation. Other features include a small window on the S side, a blocked entrance to the E and possible partition slot in the main compartment. A slipway (15m x 7m N-S) is located 20m E of the building. In a previous study this building was interpreted as a fishermans bothy associated with the settlement of Culnacraig (Baldwin 1994, 301).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**5. CULNACRAIG G/R:** NC 2059 9032

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM
1:10,000 Map: NC 00 SE
Site Type: Peat cuttings
Description: A small rectangular peat cutting (approx. 30m x 10m NW-SE) is located on a slight

rocky headland 1km SW of Culnacraig.

**6. ACHDUART G/R:** NC 2055 9035

Location:Hinterland, 50m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SESite Type:BuildingDate:18th-20th Century

**Description:** A rectangular E-W orientated building was depicted on a rocky shelf at the edge of a raised beach and Achduart township on the 1st ed. OS map of the area (1881). The structure was not located due to dense bracken cover.

Condition: Unknown Recommendation: Nil.

NMRS No.:

NC 00 SE 5

#### 7. ACHDUART TOWNSHIP

**Site Type:** Buildings, field systems, cultivation & boat nausts **Date:** 18th-20th Century **Description:** A small township situated on a raised beach terrace and adjacent rocky shelves on the S side of a steep, rocky hill (Meall Dubh Ard), consisting of an inhabited 18th-19th century farm complex, drystone field boundaries, revetted banks, field clearance heaps with a small lazy bed plot surviving at the E end of the settlement (max. extent 750m x 250m E-W). An abandoned building (7.1), a nest of 2 boat nausts (8m x 8m E-W) sharing a common slipway, a separate roofed boat naust with winding gear (currently in use) and various drystone boundaries are situated in the coastal zone. The RCAHMS has registered this site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The settlement has also been the subject of a earlier historical and ethnographic study (Baldwin 1994).

7.1 Building G/R: NH 2052 9035

Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 SE

A rectangular bipartite building (10m x 4.5m NE-SW) situated on a sloping shelf at the head of a small

rocky promontory. The faced rubble walls are heavily reduced (0.4m high x 0.7m thick) and obscured by bracken.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

8. ACHDUART NMRS No.: NC 00 SW 5
Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland G/R: NH 2046 9036
Site Type: Building complex & hulk Date: 18th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex of 3 rectangular buildings with square corners situated on a sloping shelf at the head of a small bay (max. extent 100m x 50m E-W). Buildings 1 & 2 are located on either side of a small burn and survive only as low stony banks. Building 3 is in better condition and consists of a larger faced rubble building (1.5m max. height) with 2 compartments situated further E. The buildings are depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area. A slipway (50m x 3m NW-SE) is located in the intertidal zone below the buildings. A scatter of iron poles and girders at LWM indicates the presence of the disturbed remains of a hulk or shipwreck. The RCAHMS has registered this site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series; and has also been the subject of a historical and ethnographic study (Baldwin 1994). The registration of this site has duplicated (also registered as NC 00 SW 7) owing to an independent desk survey of the RCAHMS architectural photograph collection. The site was not recorded in detail.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Monitor. Although no physical component of the site is actively eroding, peat and soil deposits at the top of a smooth, sloping slab of bedrock are being washed at HWM. This process may affect the site in the future, in particular building 1 which is situated <10m from the coast edge.

9. RUBHA DUBH ARD G/R: NC 2045 9035

Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 SW Site Type: Peat cuttings Date: 18th-20th Century

**Description:** A wide area containing extensive rectangular peat cuttings & stacks situated on rocky shelves along the S side of an exposed headland (Rubha Dubh Ard). The total site extent is undetermined, but the peat cuttings extend for 550m along the coast WNW of Achduart.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. RUBHA DUBH ARD G/R: NC 2043 9038

Location:Hinterland, 40m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SWSite Type:Trigonometric cairnDate:19th CenturyDescription:A small cairn (2m dia. x 1m high) situated on a rocky shelf on an exposed headland

(Rubha Dubh Ard). The structure appears to have been substantially rebuilt in recent years, however an

overgrown spread of stones at the base of the cairn (0.2m high) is probably original. The feature is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area as a trig, point.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

11. RUBHA DUBH ARD G/R: NC 2043 9039

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SWSite Type:CultivationDate:16th-20th CenturyDescription:A small, isolated lazy bed plot (30m x 30m N-S) situated on sloping raised beach

deposits at the back of a small bay on the NW side of an exposed headland (Rubha Dubh Ard).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

12. RUBHA DUBH ARD G/R: NC 2044 9042

Location:Intertidal zone / Hinterland1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SWSite Type:Building, field systems, boat naust & slipwayDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A rectangular building (7.6m x 4m E-W) with square corners situated on a low shelf of smooth bedrock on the S side of a broad bay N of an exposed headland (Rubha Dubh Ard). The walls consist of uneven courses of faced rubble (1.5m high x 0.8m thick). A crude enclosure consisting of roughly placed boulders adjoins the E side of the building. An earth-cut, U-shaped boat naust (7m x 7m N-S) and slipway (50m x 13m N-S max.) are situated at the rear of a small bay 30m to the E.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

13. RUBHA DUBH ARD G/R: NC 2045 9042

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SWSite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A wide area containing extensive rectangular peat cuttings & mounds situated on rocky shelves along the N side of an exposed headland (Rubha Dubh Ard). The total site extent is undetermined, but the peat cuttings extend for 550m along the coast SW of Achnacarinan.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

14. RUBHA DUBH ARD NMRS No.: NC 00 SW 3

Location:Hinterland, 30m from HWMG/R:NC 2045 9043Site Type:Hut CircleDate:Late PrehistoricDescription:A small hut circle (5.5m dia.) situated on a sloping shelf 0.5km S of Achnacarinan.The drystone wall (1m high x 1.4m thick) has a well preserved internal kerb with an entrance to the S.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**15. ACHNACARINAN G/R:** NC 2046 9044

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 SWSite Type:BuildingDate:18th-19th Century

**Description:** A small rectangular building (3.5 m x 3.2 m E-W) with square corners situated on a shelf at the confluence of 2 small burns, 100 m S of Achnacarinan Township. The drystone walls (1m high x 0.5m thick) have been eroded to the S & E by an adjacent stream. A recent fire place has been constructed in the SE corner.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

## 16. ACHNACARINAN TOWNSHIP G/R: NC 2046 9047

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, cultivation & boat nausts Date: 18th-20th Century Description: A small township situated on a raised beach terrace and adjacent rocky shelves on the NW side of a steep, rocky hill (Meall Dubh Ard), consisting of an inhabited 18th-19th century farm complex and drystone field boundaries (max. extent 600m x 220m N-S). A structure, slipway and boat naust complex (16.1), various drystone boundaries and a possible lazy bed plot / peat cutting are situated in the coastal zone. This township has been the subject of a earlier historical and ethnographic study (Baldwin 1994).

16.1 Structure, slipways, boat nausts (?) & hulk G/R: NH 2052 9035

Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 SW

A small square structure (1.2m x 1.2m x 1.6m high) open on the S side with a sloping asbestos roof situated on a sloping shelf at the back of a small bay. The walls are constructed of cement bonded

rubble (0.7m thick) with an external face. A small section of walling (1.4m x 0.6m N-S x 1.8m high) constructed from cemented beach pebbles and an abandoned wooden boat (approx. 4m in length) are situated in front of the shelter. The wall acts as a support for iron winding gear, below which a slipway (3m wide) follows a cleared path through the boulder beach to the open sea. At HWM to the NW of the shelter a series of boulder arrangements appear to define minor slipways, boat nausts and possible work areas and / or shelters. A hollow way approaches the site from the E.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

17. ACHNACARINAN (Clachan na Bidach)

Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM

Site Type: Hut Circle

Description: A hut circle (11.5m dia. x 0.6m high) situated on an artificial terrace set on a raised

beach the later township of Achnacarinan. The structure consists of a thick bank of rubble (4.5m max. thick) with an entrance to the SE marked by an upright stone ("the Dirk Stone"). The wall has been extensively robbed. Traces of partition walling occur in the interior of the hut circle, which has allegedly been excavated. There are no known records of the results of this informal investigation (NMRS).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

18. ACHENINVERNMRS No.:NC 00 NW 22Location:Hinterland, 15m from HWMG/R:NC 2046 9048

Date: Site Type: Structures & field systems Pre-improvement An isolated section of curving drystone wall (1.5m x 0.3m NE-SW x 0.7m high max. **Description:** visible extent) exposed in the edge of a recent sand extraction trench. The wall was located near a fence running along the crest of a highly overgrown sand ridge at the back of a bay on the S side of Allt ach a' Bhraighe. The wall was constructed out of beach cobbles, were also visible elsewhere in the sand deposit. A partially buried, highly reduced drystone wall (15+m NW-SE) was located immediately above HWM. An earlier field inspection (R. Gourlay, August 1988) indicated the presence of a number of structures and a cairn in the same vicinity. A further walled structure with a 'backsloping wall' was allegedly located adjacent to the beach fence, which may equate with the recorded section of wall (NMRS). On the basis of these descriptions, the observed remains and its geomorphological context is it possible the site may be medieval in origin. The ALS team did not locate any cultural remains in this area.

Condition: Poor. Recommendation: Survey. The wall and an extensive area behind the sand ridge have been disturbed by recent sand excavation. No other cultural material was observed, though ground surface visibility was very poor due to dense bracken cover. On the balance of available evidence it appears the wall is an artificial construct. A full assessment of the condition and significance of the remains is required, preferably employing subsurface testing, particularly if sand excavation is resumed.

19. ACHENINVER G/R: NC 2040 9054 Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW 19th-20th Century Site Type: Sheep pen complex Date: A drystone sheep pen complex (22m x 13.5m WNW-ESE) located on a revetted **Description:** terrace on the N side of Allt ach a' Bhraighe, immediately above HWM. The complex consists of 3 compartments including a cement rendered sheep dip tank. One compartment has a cobbled floor. The walls (1.5m high) appear to have been rebuilt on different occasions, and the complex is apparently still in use. The site layout is morphologically similar to another sheep pen complex at Port na Bo

Ruisteal (site 5/11.9).

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

 20. ACHENINVER
 G/R:
 NC 2039 9054

 Location:
 Coast edge
 1:10,000 Map:
 NC 00 NW

 Site Type:
 Boat naust
 Date:
 18th-19th Century

**Description:** A nest of 2 small U-shaped, earth-cut boat nausts (7.4m x 6m N-S) located on the S side of a headland on the N side of Allt ach a' Bhraighe. The nausts were dug into a bank at the coast edge, immediately above a sloping rock platform which provides an effective natural slipway.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

**21. CNOCNA MOINE** G/R: NC 2039 9056

Location:Hinterland, 50m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 NWSite Type:HutDate:16th-19th Century

**Description:** A small subrectangular structure (hut?) (4.7m x 3.3m N-S) situated on a rocky, peat covered shelf. The walls are constructed using *in situ* boulders interspersed with coursed rubble (0.6m high x 0.8m thick) and feature a side entrance in the W wall The structure was previously recorded as part of the ALS (site 161), but was not relocated during the current survey due to dense bracken cover.

Condition: Unknown Recommendation: Nil

**22. CNOCNA MOINE** G/R: NC 2038 9057

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 NWSite Type:Cultivation & field systemsDate:16th-19th CenturyDescription:A extensive area of lazy bed cultivation plots defined by turf/stone dykes (max.extent 360m x 80m N-S) situated along the edge of sloping, peat covered shelves 0.5km S of

Badenscallie.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**23. CNOCNA MOINE Coast edge**G/R: NC 2038 9059

Location: Coast edge

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW

Site Type: Boat naust & slipway Date: 19th-20th Century

**Description:** A subrectangular earth-cut boat naust (7.3m x 3.5m E-W) situated at the base of a steep slope 200m S of Badenscallie burial ground, with a slipway (33+m long) to the W defining a passage through a boulder strewn beach. The sloping floor in the interior of the naust contains an arrangement of flat stones which may be the remnants of a paved surface or the supports for an internal structure / boat. The naust is respected by a wire fenceline, which follows the backslope of the feature, indicating that the feature was still in use when the fence was erected, probably in the mid-late 20th century.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Monitor.

Although there is no evidence of major erosion, this site is in a highly exposed situation at the coast edge and the soil is being washed off a sloping rock surface at HWM. A minor drainage channel is also

eroding a small gully along the N side of the feature.

24. CNOCNA MOINENMRS No.:NC 00 NW 55Location:Hinterland, 50m from HWMG/R:NC 2038 9059Site Type:Building complexDate:19th Century

**Description:** A croft complex comprising 2 buildings set within a drystone wall enclosure, situated on a high peat covered shelf, 200m S of Badenscallie burial ground. The complex has been entered onto the NMRS on the basis of a survey of the RCAHMS architectural photograph collection. The complex was recorded in the field as part of the ALS (sites 61 & 62).

- 1. Large rectangular bipartite, gabled building (12.7m x 5.3m NNE-SSW) with square corners terraced into the slope at the E end of the complex. Two outbuildings (ea. 4m x 3m NNE-SSW) adjoin the NNE end of the structure. The faced rubble walls were bonded with clay (3.5m high x 0.7m thick). The S end had been rebuilt (ALS 61).
- 2. Small rectangular gabled building (2.7m x 1.7m N-S) with square corners. The walls were constructed with faced rubble (2.3m high x 0.5m thick). The W door had been blocked and a small window installed (ALS 62).

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

Both buildings were well preserved with gables, a fireplace, lintelled doorways and windows extant.

## Survey Map 5

1. BADENSCALLIE G/R: NC 2037 9060

Location:Coast edge1:10,000 Map:NC 00 NWSite Type:Boat naust & hulksDate:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex of at least 3 small U-shaped, earth-cut boat nausts situated at the edge of a raised beach in Badenscallie Bay 30m S of Badenscallie burial ground (site 5/2). It is possible that several additional nausts exist in long grass in the field E of the beach. Two of the nausts are occupied by small fishing boats and 4 other small boats are beached above HWM around the bay. Most of these appear to be abandoned, and probably qualify as hulks, though others are probably still in use. The total site area is 100m x 5m N-S.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

2. BADENSCALLIE NMRS No.: NC 00 NW 1 Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM G/R: NC 2038 9059

**Site Type:** Burial Ground **Date:** 18th-20th Century **Description:** A rectangular burial ground enclosed within a well maintained drystone wall (75m x 40m NW-SE) situated on a raised beach in Badenscallie Bay. Two drystone enclosures and a large number of gravestones (1778-1988) are located in the plot. A fenced annex to the NW contains additional 20th century graves. Various 19th century sources describe a ruined chapel in this location however there are no surface indications of this structure (NMRS). The lawn and structures within the burial ground are well maintained.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

G/R:

NC 2036 9067

## 3. BADENSCALLIE & POLGLASS TOWNSHIPS

Site Type: Buildings, field systems & slipway Date: 16th-20th Century Description: These 2 adjoining townships comprise the S end of an extended linear coastal settlement stretching in a continuous line of crofts & field systems from Badenscallie Bay to the N end of Achiltibuie at Allt a' Ruisteal. For the purposes of this survey the settlement is divided at a point level with the settlement of Achlochan, where the coast edge follows an exposed headland (Rubha Dùnan) to the W away from the fertile shelf which forms the focus of occupation in the area (max. extent 1.8 km x 0.7 km NW-SE). The majority of buildings are located along a road 300-500m inland from the coast edge, however a number of buildings and structures (sites 3/3.1-3/3.3), drystone field boundaries, field clearance heaps and an isolated lazy bed plot are located within the coastal zone. The majority of the 19th century and earlier remains have been disturbed or disguised by more recent intensive land practices, including ploughing and the modern use of wire fences as field boundaries. Peter May (1756) depicted cultivation in this area in the mid 18th century (SRO/RHP85395).

3.1 Buildings NMRS No.:: NC 00 NW 56
Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM G/R: NC 2036 9062
This site consists of 2 separate buildings located close to the coast edge, 60m apart along the S side of a low headland defining the N side of Badenscallie Burn.

- 1. Rectangular, gabled building (10.6m x 5.3m E-W), with faced rubble walls (2.6m high x 0.7m thick), square corners, fireplace & window, situated on an artificial terrace near the outlet of Badenscallie Burn (ALS 53).
- Well preserved rectangular, gabled building (7.4m x 4.1m NE-SW), with mortared rubble walls (3.5m high x 0.6m thick), chimney, fireplace & window (Plate 7). This structure was allegedly built below HWM to avoid eviction from the estate, and was consequently flooded on several occasions (William Maclean pers. comm. 1996). Currently it is situated on an artificial terrace just above HWM near the end of the headland, but may be inundated at very high tides or under stormy conditions (ALS 52).

Both buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 52 & 53). Building 2 has been entered onto the NMRS on the basis of a survey of the RCAHMS architectural photograph collection as NC 00 NW 56.

3.2 G/R: NC 2034 9067 Building

Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location: A rectangular, gabled building (10.3m x 4.7m NW-SE) located close to the coast edge, at the base of raised beach deposits on the S side of a minor burn flowing into Badenscallie Bay. The walls were constructed of faced rubble (3.2 high x 0.6m thick) with an extant window and fireplace. The building

Nil. Condition: Fair. Recommendation:

G/R: NC 2031 9070 3.3 Structures, boat naust (?), slipway Intertidal Zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location:

A complex of interconnected structures or compartments (16m x 5.3m NW-SE), located at the E end of a large, rectangular enclosure with an open wall on the SW (seaward) side. This structure is situated on a sloping terrace at the edge of a raised beach, and is respected by a modern fenceline, which is indented around the NE side of this enclosure. The structures are defined by crude alignments of boulders (0.8m high x 1.5m thick) and pebble spreads which were hard to interpret with certainty, however they may include the remains of a boat naust (SE end) and a highly reduced rectangular building (NW end). A large boulder lined slipway (30+m long) was located in the intertidal zone S of the structural complex.

Nil. Condition: Fair. Recommendation:

#### 4. LOCH POLL AN DÙNAIN G/R: NC 2030 9080

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Hinterland, 10m from HWM Location: Date: 18th-19th Century Site Type: Footbridge

A small footbridge consisting of faced rubble abutments linked by roughly placed **Description:** wooden planks (3m x 2m E-W x 1.5m high), situated across the outlet to Loch Poll an Dùnain at the E end of storm bar. The bridge is not currently in use, and is probably a component of a 19th century trackway linking Polglass with Achlochan.

**Condition:** Good. Recommendation: Nil.

## 5. LOCH POLL AN DÙNAIN

were recorded as part of the ALS (site 69).

G/R: NC 2030 9069 Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Date: Site Type: Kelp kilns 18th-19th Century

A complex of 7 circular kelp kilns (27.4 x 4.4m E-W) dug into the S side of a storm **Description:** bar blocking the mouth of Loch Poll an Dùnain. Each kiln is revetted with faced rubble and measures approx. 3m dia. x 1m deep, with an entrance facing SE. The interiors are partially infilled and overgrown. These structures are interpreted as late 18th / early 19th century kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other circular kilns in the vicinity (site 5/7) are more formally constructed than other putative kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Garvie Bay, site 8/11). The kilns were recorded as part of the ALS (site 79).

Condition: Nil. Fair. Recommendation:

6. ACHLOCHAN NMRS No.: NC 00 NW 3 NC 2029 9069 Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM G/R: 1st-19th Century Site Type: Broch, later buildings & boat naust Date:

A complex consisting of a ruined broch (5/6.1) (Dagg 1990, 25) and 3 well preserved **Description:** 18th-19th century buildings (5/6.2-5/6.4) built on an artificial mound, with a separate boat naust situated at the coast edge S of the complex. The later buildings are depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area. These features were recorded and planned as part of the ALS (sites 74-77 & 80).

1. Broch (16m approx. dia.) set on an artificial mound (2.8m high) located on a storm bar impounding a marshy loch (Loch Poll an Dùnain). The internal diameter of the structure is 8.6m. The faced rubble walls (1.2m high x 4.5m thick) have been heavily reduced and obscured by rubble, however sections of an inner face, outer face and 2 possible internal galleries are visible. A 'D-shaped' outwork is attached to the N & W sides of the mound. The geomorphological context of the mound is unclear. It is possible the structure is situated on an earlier island or promontory which has been superimposed by the storm bar, and thus the structure may actually predate the storm bar. This relationship could be crucial in dating the period of storm bar development in the region (ALS 74).

- 2. Rectangular, gabled bipartite building (8.0m x 3.9m NNW-SSE) with square corners terraced into the W side of the broch mound. The ENE wall of the S compartment abuts the adjacent broch wall. The walls are constructed from faced rubble (approx, 3.5m high x 0.6m thick), with 2 side doorways into each compartment, a blocked doorway into the S end and a gable at the N end. The S compartment has been rebuilt with narrower dimensions (ALS 75).
- 3. Rectangular, gabled bipartite building (11.8m x 5.7m NNW-SSE) with square corners located 2m W of building 5/6.2. The walls are constructed from faced rubble (approx. 4m high x 0.7m thick). with 2 opposed side doorways, windows and a fireplace at the N end. Both gables of the N compartment are extant. A yard (pen ?) is situated to the W, partly formed by a section of the broch outwork wall (ALS 76).
- 4. Rectangular, gabled building (8.5m x 5m ESE-WNW) with square corners situated on the SE side of the broch mound. The walls are constructed from mortared rubble (approx. 4m high x 0.6m thick), with side doorway, windows, fireplace, chimney and gables are extant.(ALS 77).
- 5. Subrectangular boat naust (8.4m x 4.5m N-S) with revetted with faced rubble walls (0.4m high x 0.9m thick) has been dug into the base of the storm bar S of the broch, immediately above HWM. The relationship between the naust and the surrounding structures is unclear, however this feature is likely to be 18th-19th century in date (ALS 80).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Although situated relatively distant from HWM the site complex is in a highly exposed position, and will be susceptible to erosion in the event of a rise in sea level and /or worsening in climatic conditions.

7. ACHLOCHAN G/R: NC 2028 9068 Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Site Type: Kelp kilns, boat nausts, hut (?) & enclosure Date: 18th-19th Century A complex of various structures situated on a storm bar immediately W of **Description:** Achlochan Broch (site 5/6), including 5 possible circular kelp kilns (5/7.1), 2 boat nausts (1 with boat in situ) & associated slipway (5/7.2) and a hut (5/7.3). The maximum extent of the remains is 90m x 80m NE-SW. These features were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 81-83).

- 1. A row of 5 circular depressions with faced rubble revetments arranged in a shallow arc (25.5m in length) across the seaward side of the storm bar, each opening to the SSE. The kilns are relatively small (approx. 1m dia.) and shallow (0.3m deep). These structures are interpreted as late 18th / early 19th century kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other circular kilns in the vicinity (site 5/5).are more formally constructed than other putative kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Garvie Bay, site 8/11). It is possible that some of these features may actually be boat nausts. (ALS 81)
- 2. Subrectangular, earth-cut boat naust (2.7m x 2.2m NW-SE) with a rounded end and revetted with faced rubble walls (1.2m high) dug into the base of the storm beach immediately above HWM. A boulder lined slipway (30+m NW-SE) follows a cleared passage through the intertidal zone to the open sea. A further boat naust orientated SW-NE (with boat in situ) has been dug into the middle of the storm bar to the NE of the structure (ALS 82).
- 3. Subrectangular structure (hut ?) (3.2m x 1.9m E-W) comprising a depression revetted with faced rubble walls (0.5m high) dug into the N side of the bar with a side entrance on the N wall. An attached enclosure is situated on the top of the storm bar to the S (ALS 83).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 8. ACHLOCHAN TOWNSHIP

G/R: NC 2027 9068 Hinterland, 5m from HWM Location: 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Site Type: Field systems & cultivation Date: 16th-19th Century

A small, largely deserted 18th-19th century township situated on raised beach Description: deposits to the W of Loch Poll an Dùnain, consisting of rectangular stone buildings and drystone field boundaries (max. extent 550m x 250m NNW-SSE). The site was not assessed in detail, however a narrow coastal frontage (150m wide) containing lazy bed cultivation plots and isolated sections of drystone walling was inspected. Peter May (1756) depicts cultivation in this area in the mid-18th century (SRO/RHP85395). The ALS has documented the remaining components of the site complex which are not described in this report.

9. ACHLOCHAN G/R: NC 2025 9068

Location: Hinterland, 15m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Site Type: Structures Date: 19th-20th Century

Description: A revetment wall (30+m long E-W) hidden in dense bracken at the base of a palaeocliff set behind a boulder foreshore. The wall was abutted by the ruins of 2 small rectangular shelters (ea. 3.7m x 3.2m NS) constructed with drystone walls (ea. 0.5m high x 0.3m thick), situated 15m apart. Each shelter was open on the S side. Given the dense bracken cover it is possible that other structural remains are located in the vicinity.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. RUBHA DÙNAN G/R: NC 2020 9071

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location: Hinterland, 15m from HWM Peat cuttings & cultivation Date: 16th-19th Century Site Type:

Description: A wide area containing extensive evidence of peat cuttings and small lazy bed cultivation plots situated on peat covered shelves and occasional raised beach deposits around the exposed headland of Rubha Dùnan. The inland extent of the features was undetermined, however the coastal frontage was 800m in length.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 11. ACHILTIBUIE TOWNSHIP

G/R: NC 2022 9081 Buildings, field systems & cultivation Site Type: Date: 16th-20th Century This township comprises the N end of an extended linear coastal settlement Description: stretching in a continuous line of crofts & field systems from Badenscallie Bay in the S to the N end of Achiltibuie at Allt a' Ruisteal. For the purposes of this survey the settlement is divided at a point level with the settlement of Achlochan, where the coast edge follows an exposed headland (Rubha Dùnan) to the W away from the fertile shelf which forms the focus of occupation in the area (max. extent 2 km x 0.7 km NW-SE). The majority of buildings associated with the township are located along a road 300-500m inland from the coast edge, however a number of buildings and structures (3/1.1-3/1.10), drystone field boundaries, field clearance heaps and isolated lazy bed cultivation plots are located within the coastal zone. The majority of the 19th century and earlier remains have been disturbed or disguised by more recent intensive land practices, including ploughing and the use of wire fences as field boundaries. Lazy bedding survives most commonly on the steep slopes at the edge of the coastal shelf, which have generally not been incorporated into the modern field systems. Peter May (1756) depicted extensive settlement in this area in the mid 18th century (SRO/RHP85395).

Boat naust, slipway, hulk fragment 11.1 G/R: NC 2024 9076 Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW

This site consists of a shallow U-shaped earth-cut boat naust (5m x 3m E-W x <0.5m deep) and associated slipway defined by an L-shape boulder alignment (28+m x 5m E-W). A hull fragment from a small wooden vessel is situated immediately adjacent to the naust.

Condition: Recommendation: Nil.

11.2 Track, historic midden NC 2023 9078 G/R:

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location: Coast edge

A Midden deposit consisting of an ash and charcoal rich layer (0.4m thick) is exposed in a cutting along the E side of a farm track descending a steep bank down to the shoreline (max. extent 10m x 5m N-S). The layer contains 19th-early 20th century glass, ceramics and metalwork. Some of the glass had been melted, indicating that the deposits probably represent either an in situ rubbish dump or the redeposited remains of such material.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

11.3 Boat nausts & slipway G/R: NC 2022 9079

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Intertidal zone / Coast edge Location:

A nest of 6 U-shaped earth-cut boat nausts (ea. 3-4.5m x 1.5-2.5m N-S) sharing a common slipway, situated in the sheltered N corner of an open bay. (max. extent 50m x 30m N-S). The nausts vary in construction, some being merely hollowed out of bank, while others are lined with boulders (1m max. depth). Some metal fixtures (e.g. posts and winding gear) indicate the complex was in use into the 20th century.

**Condition:** Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

11.4 Structure & rectilinear kelp kiln G/R: NC 2022 9082

NC 00 NW

1:10,000 Map: Location: Coast edge

A rough structure (11.4.1) and adjacent linear trench (11.4.2) situated on a flat shelf of bedrock at the NE edge of a minor promontory. Various field clearance activity in the form of small cairns and ruinous drystone field boundaries are evident in the vicinity.

- 1. Subrectangular structure (6.3 m x 5.3 m NE-SW) constructed on an outcrop of bedrock close to the coast edge (Sketch Plan 5). The walls consist of crudely arranged lines of boulders and spreads of rubble (0.6m high x 0.7m thick), with a reduced drystone field boundary abutting the NE corner.
- 2. A narrow trench (18m x 1m NNE-SSW x 0.25m deep) situated 20m S of the structure. This is interpreted as a late 18th / early 19th century kelp kiln on the basis of its morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). Its rectilinear form is comparable to site (Polbain, site 6/1.2), while possible kilns of a more common circular form have been recorded in storm beach situations throughout the study area (cf. Loch Poll an Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7).

Condition: Poor. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 11.5 Boat nausts, hulk & slipway

Location: Intertidal zone / coast edge G/R: NC 2023 9084

1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW A U-shaped earth-cut boat naust (7.7m x 3.5m NE-SW x 0.4m deep) situated in front of a low boatshaped building (6.4m x 2.4m NE-SW) with faced rubble walls (1.3m high x 0.8m thick) and a side entrance in the S wall. These structures were located on the N side of the outlet of a minor stream (Alltan a' Choin). Another possible naust is located immediately N of these features. The 3 structures

share a common slipway (43+m x 2.5m NE-SW) which follows a cleared passage defined by a line of boulders through the intertidal zone. A small, badly weathered wooden boat rested upturned over the boat shed. These features were recorded as part of the ALS (site 247).

Condition: Recommendation: Although there is no evidence of major erosion, this site is in a highly exposed situation at the coast edge and the soil is being eroded at HWM.

11.6 Boat nausts G/R:

NMRS No.:

NC 2020 9086

NC 00 NW 50

Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW

A complex of 3 U-shaped earth-cut boat nausts (a. 5m x 3.2m, b. 5.5m x 3m & c. 4.5m x 2.6m, all NE-SW) situated on the base of a bank at the coast edge at Sgeir na h-Airighe. Each structure was defined by stony bank and rubble partition walls (0.2-0.4m high). The nausts share a common slipway which follows a cleared passage defined by a line of boulders through the intertidal zone. These structures were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 249, 300-301).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

NC 2019 9090 11.7 Mill G/R: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location:

A rectangular bipartite building (11.6m x 3.1m NNW-SSE) situated close to the coast edge on a terraced slope at the edge of a raised beach on the S side of a minor drainage gully. The walls are constructed of faced rubble (1.5m high x 0.6m thick). A side entrance leads onto a revetted platform attached to the W side of the building. A lade connected with an adjacent stream runs into the structure from the E and a later subdivision has been constructed in the NNW compartment. This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 314).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 11.8 Free Church of Coigach

Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM

An early 20th century church building (currently in use) situated on a high coastal shelf on the S side of Allt a' Ruisteal. The exterior walls have been rendered with harling and painted white. The interior was not inspected. A rectangular drystone churchyard surrounding the building contained 2 gravestones dated 1903 & 1944.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

11.9 Sheep pen complex (Buildings?) G/R: NC 2019 9090

Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW

A 20th century sheep dipping complex (22m x 7m N-S), potentially consisting of the ruins of earlier buildings. The structures are terraced into a steep slope at the edge of a raised beach on the S side of Allt a' Ruisteal (Sketch Plan 6). The 2 main buildings are connected by later sections of walling, defining a central compartment which contains a sheep dip track and concrete floor. It is possible that the structures simply comprise well built sheep pen complex (cf. Acheninver, site 4/19), though the well built faced and mortared walls are more indicative of building construction.

- 1. Rectangular (14.6m x 4m NS) with rounded corners, cobble floor and entrance in N wall. The walls are constructed of faced, mortared rubble (1.2m high x 0.5m thick). An artefactually rich layer (e.g. metalwork- horseshoe) is exposed below floor level, indicating an earlier phase of use at the site.
- 2. Rectangular (57m x 3.2m NNE-SSW) with rounded SSW end, concrete floor and entrance in NE wall. The faced rubble walls (1.3m high x 0.5m thick) are cement rendered on the internal face.

**Condition:** Fair. **Recommendation:** Monitor The W side of the complex is being eroded by wave action at HWM, leaving an unstable scarp (1.5m high) of exposed soil and cultural deposits (Plate 9). The presumed W wall of structure 1 has already collapsed. It is not considered necessary to immediately intervene to prevent further erosion as the remains are not of high significance, however the rate of regression and ongoing affects should be monitored.

11.10 Mill NMRS No.: NC 00 NW 27

Category C (s) Listed Building

**Location:** Hinterland, 10m from HWM G/R: NC 2019 9091

A 19th century rectangular mill building situated close to the coast edge on the S side of the mouth of Allt a' Ruisteal. This well preserved building has 3 stories, coursed rubble walls, slate roof and an associated lade. The wheel has been removed and the building is currently in use as dwelling. The building has been renovated internally and has some modern additions (e.g. projecting porches)<sup>2</sup>.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

**12. CREAG RUADH** G/R: NC 2017 9092

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Site Type: Peat cuttings Date: 19th-20th Century

**Description:** A linear strip of intermittent rectangular peat cuttings situated across a flat shelf N of Allt a' Ruisteal. The inland extent of the cuttings was undetermined, but the coastal frontage was 350m in length.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

13. AILTE NA H'UARDIGHEAN NMRS No.: NC 00 NW 5

Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM G/R: NC 2017 9093
Site Type: Meeting place Date: 18th-19th Century

Description: An amphitheatre (40m x 30m NW-SE x 4.5m deep) situated in a natural hollow on

flat, coastal shelf. A curved bank (0.9m high) has been constructed around the open SW end, and the modern road into Achiltibuie partially overlies the NE side. The site was reputedly used as a place of worship when the local population was at its highest (NMRS).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

14. BADENTARBAT G/R: NC 2015 9095

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 00 NWSite Type:StructuresDate:16th-19th Century

**Description:** A linear arrangement comprising 2 buildings situated on a low terrace close to HWM (Sketch Plan 7). The site is located within the head dyke of Badentarbat township, however its association with the main settlement is unclear and is therefore described separately. Building 1 was previously recorded as part of the ALS (site 423).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See also Hume, J (1977) The Industrial Archaeology of Scotland, ii, 291.

- 1. Subrectangular, bipartite (?) building (30m x 4.2m NW-SE) with square corners. The highly reduced walls (0.4m high x 1.4m thick) were constructed of faced rubble. A possible earlier structure with a curved wall foundation (0.5m thick) or drain was located at the NW end of the structure.
- 2. Rectangular building (15m x 4m NW-SE) with square corners situated 8m S of building 1. The highly reduced walls (0.3m high x 0.7m thick) were constructed of faced rubble.

Condition: Recommendation: Nil.

G/R:

NC 2013 9096

#### 15. BADENTARBAT TOWNSHIP

Site Type: Field systems, cultivation & peat cuttings Date: 16th-20th Century **Description:** This deserted township is located at the head of Badentarbat Bay in a valley (Allt an Fhealing) situated behind a prominent storm bar. The main settlement itself is situated 400m upstream, however a sheepfold (15.1), lazy bed cultivation plots, sections of turf/stone dyke and rectangular peat cuttings occur within the coastal zone (max. coastal frontage 700m). The lazy bed cultivation plots are located within the township dyke system, however the peat cuttings occur in an outfield context. The aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicate that lazy bedding occupied the entire valley floor within the dyke system, and this distribution has been corroborated through the results of the ALS survey. A detailed analysis of the environmental context and morphology of elements of the dyke system indicates a use of the site dating from ca. 3000 BC to the 19th century AD (MacCullagh 1995).

15.1 NC 2012 9097 Sheepfold G/R: Hinterland, 40m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: Location: NC 00 NW

A sheepfold complex (approx. 35m x 30m NW-SE) situated on an overgrown storm bar. The drystone walls have been rebuilt in recent years, and the complex currently houses a caravan. This is a postimprovement feature associated with the pastoral use of the estate.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

16. BADENTARBAT G/R: NC 2010 9097

Intertidal zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW Location: Site Type: Salmon fishing station Date: 18th-20th Century

A dispersed settlement of consisting of 5 stone buildings and other structures situated Description: on a shelf on the W side of Allt an Fhealing. The structures are located within the boundaries of Badentarbat township (site 5/15), however they relate to a separate, generally later phase of occupation. The buildings consist of (from W to E) a boat house, icehouse (recently converted to a dwelling), large house, croft and store, all which are currently in use. Most of the buildings probably date to the Late 18th / 19th centuries, though several 20th century additions to individual structures were evident. Other features include various drystone field boundaries, 2 stone footbridges, a modern timber pier and 3 boulder lined slipways. The settlement was established as a salmon fishing station in the late 18th / early 19th century (Baldwin 1994, 189).

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

17. MOL A' BHLAIR

G/R: NC 2006 9095 1:10,000 Map: Location: Coast edge NC 00 NW Site Type: Cultivation & field systems Date: 16th-20th Century

A wide peat covered shelf located between Badentarbat and Polbain townships **Description:** containing intermittent evidence of lazy bed cultivation plots. In particular these occur on steep slopes at the edge of the shelf immediately above HWM. The area is divided by a recently rebuilt N-S oriented drystone wall. The site has an undetermined extent, however an inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicate that the lazy bedding extended for a considerable distance inland across gently sloping land below the 90m contour (max. extent 1000m x 500m E-W). The evidence suggests extensive pre-clearance outfield cultivation, later subdivided into large areas of grazing land.

18. MOL A' BHLAIR G/R: Location:

NC 2004 9095 Coast edge /Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 00 NW

Site Type: **Buildings** Date: 16th-19th Century Description:

Two small buildings located to the W of a minor stream flowing into a small bay on a wide peat covered shelf along the N side of Badentarbat Bay. These buildings was recorded as part of the ALS (sites 270-271).

1. Rectangular building (6m x 3.9m ENE-WSW) with square corners situated at the base of a low terrace immediately above HWM. The highly reduced walls (0.3m high x 0.6m thick) were constructed of faced rubble.

2. Rectangular building (8m x 4.6m N-S) with square corners situated at the rear of the terrace 50m NW of building 1. The highly reduced walls (0.3m high x 0.7m thick) were constructed of faced rubble.

## Survey Map 6

1. POLBAIN & DORNIE TOWNSHIPS

G/R: NB 1995 9099 Buildings, field systems & cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century Site Type: An extensive area of settlement and field systems consisting of the adjoining 18th-Description: 19th century townships of Polbain and Dornie (max, extent 1.6km x 0.5km NW-SE), Polbain is the larger settlement, situated on a low peat covered shelf on the N side of Badentarbat Bay. Dornie is a small township located in a dry valley at the base of the steep slopes of Meall Dearg, 500m W of Polbain. The townships are separated by a rocky spur, but the field systems are connected by a continuous network of drystone walling. The focus of the settlements is a modern road situated 300-500m inland from the coast edge, however a number of buildings and structures (1.1-1.3), drystone walls & revetments, field clearance heaps and isolated lazy bed cultivation plots are located within the coastal zone. The landscape is dominated by post-improvement field systems defined by drystone walling across the coastal shelves dominate the landscape. The occasional occurrence of lazy bed cultivation plots indicates a pre-improvement use of the area (e.g. around a small bay at Dornie), as depicted by Peter May in 1756 (SRO/RHP85395).

NB 1997 9096 1.1 Structures G/R: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: **NB 90 NE** Location: A complex of 2 adjacent rectangular depressions (a. 18m x 10m, b. 15m x 10m NNW-SSE, ea. 0.3m deep) situated on a small raised beach at the edge of a cobble storm beach at Rubhan na Baile. A partially exposed revetment wall was located along the base of a slope to the SE. The max, extent of the remains was 40m x 20m NW-SE. The depressions may represent building platforms.

1.2 Rectilinear kelp kiln

Fair.

Hinterland, 5m from HWM

**Condition:** 

Location:

NB 1995 9097 G/R: 1:10,000 Map: NB 90 NE A narrow, rectilinear trench (6.4m x 0.7m NW-SE) with sides carefully revetted with cobble walls (0.8m deep), situated at the rear of a storm beach at the base of a palaeocliff. This structure is interpreted as a late 18th / early 19th century kelp kiln on the basis of its morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). Its rectilinear form is comparable to a similar trench at Achiltibuie (site 5/11.4). Possible kilns of a more common circular form have been recorded in storm beach situations throughout the study area (cf. Loch Poll an

Nil.

Recommendation:

Condition: Fair. Nil. Recommendation:

1.3

Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7).

NB 1991 9010 Building complex G/R: NB 90 NE Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map:

An 18th-19th century farm complex comprising a number of rectangular stone buildings, sheds and drystone walls situated on a rocky slope near the head of a small promontory (Fear Bhreug) at the SW end of Polbain (max. extent 80m x 60m WNW-ESE). The buildings were not recorded in detail, but basically consist of;

- 1. Late 19th century gabled house (currently inhabited) with dressed, squared and coursed sandstone walls, dormer windows, slate roof and 2 adjacent sheds. This building is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map as a post office.
- 2. 2 well maintained, rectangular outbuildings with faced rubble walls and corrugated iron walls situated to the S & SW of the main building. These buildings were probably crofts that pre-date the main house. An additional building depicted on the 1st ed. OS map SW of the main house was not identified in the field.

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 2. RUBH A' MHADAIDH-RUAIDH

NB 1984 9101 G/R: Buildings, field systems, cultivation & slipways Site Type: Date: 16th-19th Century **Description:** A small deserted settlement situated 0.5km W of Dornie township on a low, isolated tombolo (Rubh' a' Mhadaidh-ruaidh), comprising 2 separate buildings (2.1 & 2.2) with associated turf/stone field boundaries, lazy bed cultivation and slipway.

**2.1** Building **G/R:** NB 1982 9100

Location: Hinterland, 25m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

A rectangular, gabled building with square corners (6.1m x 3.7m E-W) situated on a small raised beach deposit near the end of the peninsula. The walls were constructed of faced rubble (0.7m high x 0.5m thick). A side entrance, fireplace, drain, blocked window and enclosure adjoining the E side were present. A small lazy bed plot was situated to the W. This structure was recorded as part of the ALS (site 25).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

No coastal erosion was evident, but the ruins have been partially dismantled by visitors to construct seats and fireplaces.

**2.2** Building & pen **G/R:** NB 1983 9101

**Location:** Hinterland, 20m from HWM
1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE
A subrectangular building (12.5m x 7m NW-SE) situated on a raised beach behind a west facing storm
bar defining the neck of the peninsula. The structure was defined by a low stony bank (0.8m high x
2.7m thick) with some facing stones visible. The building featured a side entrance with a small
drystone pen in the NW end. Lazy bed cultivation plots and field clearance heaps were located approx.
30m to NE. The building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 26), but not relocated during the current
survey due to high bracken.

Condition: Unknown. Recommendation: Nil.

**3. MOL MÓR Location:** Hinterland, 50m from HWM **G/R:** NB 1984 9102 **1:10,000 Map:** NB 91 SE

Site Type: Burial cairn (?) Pre-modern

**Description:** A circular cairn (12m dia. x 0.6m high) situated on a raised beach behind a west facing storm bar defining the neck of the peninsula. The interior was robbed and some kerbing was visible. This structure was recorded as part of the ALS (site 27)), but not relocated during the current survey due to high bracken.

Condition: Unknown. Recommendation: Nil.

4. MOL MÓR
Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM
Site Type: Pen (?), pit, cultivation & peat cuttings

G/R: NB 1982 9104

1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

Date: 16th-19th Century

**Site Type:** Pen (?), pit, cultivation & peat cuttings **Date:** 16th-19th Century **Description:** A subrectangular structure (5.4m x 3.3m N-S) with drystone rubble walls and adjacent oval pit (2.7m x 2.5m NNW-SSE) with a drainage channel leading SSE (possible kelp storage pit?). Both structures were situated on a steep, bracken covered rocky slope next to the edge of a low cliff on the N side of an isolated bay (Mol Mór). In a minor valley to the N and along the coast edge to the SE are located extensive peat cuttings and a single lazy bed cultivation plot (max. extent 300m x 150m NW-SE). These structures were recorded as part of the ALS and interpreted as a pen (site 295) and compost pit (site 296). Due to dense bracken it was not possible to fully assess this site, and the

pen (ALS 295) was not relocated.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

5. CAOLAS EILEAN RISTOL G/R: NB 1982 9104

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NB 91 SESite Type:Field systems, cultivation & peat cuttingsDate:16th-19th CenturyDescription:A concentration of lazy bed cultivation plots and outlying peat cuttings situated on a

small promontory 400m S of Old Dorney Bay, overlooking a narrow channel towards Isle Ristol. A section of NW-SE oriented drystone wall intersects the coast edge 150m to the S of the cultivation. The inland extent is undetermined. The max. determined extent of the remains is 350m x 150m N-S.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

6. OLD DORNEY BAY G/R: NB 1982 9113

Location:Coast edge1:10,000 Map:NB 91 SESite Type:Structure & slipwayDate:Pre-modern

**Description:** A heavily reduced subrectangular building (10m x 5m NW-SE) defined by low stony banks (0.2m high x 0.7m thick) and occasional kerb stones situated at the E end of a small island at the

entrance to Old Dorney Bay. This island (max. extent 80m x 20m NW-SE) is linked to the mainland at low tide. A short boulder slipway (approx. 10m x 3m NE-SW) adjoins the SE end of the island.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

7. OLD DORNEY BAY

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM

Site Type: Building complex & midden

Date: Pre-modern

Perception: A complex consisting of 5 highly reduced subrectongular buildings on associated

**Description:** A complex consisting of 5 highly reduced subrectangular buildings, an associated shell midden & other structures (max. extent 45m x 20m E-W) located on the narrow neck of a small peninsula on the N side of Old Dorney Bay (Figure 8). The structures are situated in the lee of a boulder / cobble storm beach overlooking the head of the bay. Although the site aspect is easterly, the structures are situated in an exposed position with the open sea only 30m to the W. A series of small beehive-shaped cairns were superimposed directly over some of the buildings. Some of the structures were recorded by the ALS (sites 287-289). The buildings consist of:

- 1. Subrectangular, bipartite building (10m x 4.75m E-W).with faced rubble walls (0.2m high x 0.8m thick) and possible annexe / earlier structure adjoining a rounded W end (ALS 287). The building was superimposed by a cairn, and a dense concentration of shellfish remains composed primarily of Common Periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*) and Common European Cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) was located at the W end of the structure (Plate 13).
- 2. Subrectangular building (8m+ x 5.0m WNW-ESE) defined by low stony banks with occasional kerb stones (0.1m high x 0.6m thick) (ALS 288). This partially exposed building was superimposed by a large cairn.
- 3. Subrectangular building (8m+ x 4.75m WNW-ESE) defined by low stony banks and occasional kerb stones (0.1m high x 0.6m thick). This partially exposed building was superimposed by a cairn.
- 4. Subcircular structure (5.5m x 4m WNW-ESE) constructed from piled beach cobbles (0.7m high). An entrance / flue is situated in the NW corner. This is possibly a later kiln constructed out of a cairn similar to the others located in the vicinity.
- 5. Subrectangular building (8.m x 6.5m WNW-ESE) with thick, faced rubble walls defined by kerb stones (0.2m high x 1.5m thick) with distinct rounded corners (ALS 289). The building was superimposed by a cairn.

A section of enclosure wall constructed of piled up boulders and an adjacent hollow (1m dia.), possibly a small circular kelp kiln were situated on the storm beach to the NNW. A shell midden composed principally of Common Periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*) and Common European Cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) was distributed along the edge of the storm beach, with a particular concentration at the W end of building 1. A sherd of a steatite vessel featuring a lug was collected from the same location (donated to NMAS), and a sample of Fe slag from building 3 was also collected for analysis.

These heavily reduced structures were partially obscured by bracken, and were probably only visible as a result of annual vegetation reduction in the vicinity (Frances Ross, pers comm. 1996). It is possible that other unrecorded structures exist in the dense surrounding bracken.

At this stage the date of these structures is uncertain. Given the building morphology, artefacts, and the heavily reduced condition of the structures they are certainly pre-improvement in origin. The concentration of structures in such a small area and the apparent phasing suggests a lengthy period of occupation for the site, potentially with a Norse or medieval origin. In many respects the remains at this site are comparable to the more extensive and conclusive structures and deposits exposed at Achnahaird Sands (site 8/5), 4.5km to the NE, which appear to have been occupied throughout the medieval and early post-medieval period.

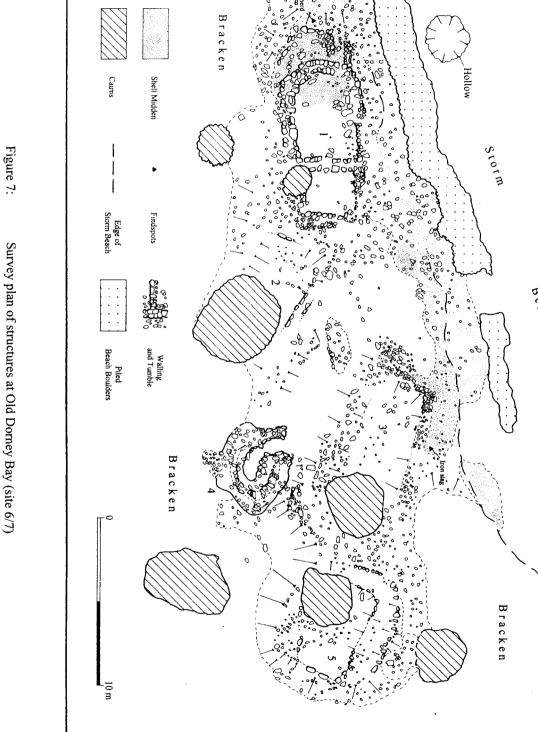
Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

8. OLD DORNIE TOWNSHIP G/R: NB 1985 9113

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, boat nausts, slipways, hulks

& cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A small, largely deserted 18th-19th century township situated on sheltered raised beach deposits and adjacent peat covered shelves across the N & E sides of Old Dorney Bay (max. extent 0.8km x 0.6km N-S). This bay was one of the 3 major harbours of the Coigach peninsula area during the 19th century, the others being the Loch of Reiff and The Anchorage on Tanera More (Baldwin 1994). A complex of 3 ruinous buildings (8.1), lazy bed cultivation plots, drystone field



boundaries, enclosures & field clearance heaps relating to the township are situated in the coastal zone. Today only a small cluster of 19th century buildings and associated field system (located 100-150m inland) are currently in use. Currently the primary function of the bay is its use a harbour facility for small vessels. Approximately 20 boulder slipways, 30 boat nausts (many still in use), a jetty and numerous abandoned fishing vessels testify to this use (Plate 3). An extensive area of lazy bed plots is situated on raised beach deposits around the S side of the bay and 2 structural complexes (sites 6/6 & 6/7) are good evidence for a pre-improvement occupation of the area. This area is very complex and would warrant further survey, particularly given the proportion of features located within the intertidal zone and at the coast edge.

8.1 Building complex

C/R: NB 1984 9116

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM

1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

A complex of 3 rectangular buildings, drystone walls and field clearance heaps (max. extent 50m x 50m) situated on raised beach deposits around the N side of Old Dorney Bay at the start of a narrow neck separating the bay from the open sea. The buildings represent the W side of Old Dornie township. A long slipway leads SE from the complex to the main part of the Bay. These buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 284-286), and comprise:

- 1. Subrectangular building (7.9m x 4.8m N-S) with faced rubble walls (0.8m high x 0.8m thick) and round corners. An outbuilding (4.4m x 3.2m) adjoins the S end of the structure (ALS 284).
- 2. Rectangular building (7.1m x 4.2m NNE-SSW) with faced rubble walls (1m high x 0.6m thick) and square corners (ALS 285).
- 3. Rectangular building (6.4m x 4.4m NE-SW) with faced rubble walls (0.3m high x 0.7m thick) and square corners (ALS 286).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 9. ALLTAN DUBH TOWNSHIP

occupied by the post-improvement field systems.

Site Type:

Buildings, field systems, peat cuttings, slipways,

**G/R:** NB 1985 9125

hulks, trackway & cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century A predominantly post-improvement township situated on a low peat covered shelf **Description:** and intermittent raised beach deposits overlooking Loch an Alltain Duibh. (max. extent 2.2km x 0.4km NW-SE). The modern township is superimposed over the 19th century settlement pattern and several stone buildings are still inhabited. The majority of buildings are located along a road 50-200m inland from the coast edge, however a few structures (9.1-9.3), extensive drystone field boundaries & enclosures, field clearance heaps, a disused 19th century trackway, peat cuttings, slipways and 2 hulks are located within the coastal zone. The hulk of a late 20th century fishing boat ("UL 47") was located at HWM adjacent to a large slipway in Mol Camas an Fhéidh at NB 1987 9122, and a fragment of a large wooden vessel was located in a geo at NB 1981 9128. Occasional sections of turf/stone dyke and a possible lazy bed plot W of Allt an Leathaid are the only apparent indications of the preimprovement settlement depicted by Peter May in 1756 (SRO/RHP85395). An inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicates that lazy bedding extended further inland than the

9.1 Mill (?)
Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM
1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE
A small, subrectangular platform (8.8m x 6.5m ESE-WNW) situated on the S bank of Allt a' Mhuilinn, at a point where the stream runs into the cobble beach. The feature is defined by a depression hollowed out of beach cobbles. A system of low banks adjacent to the stream to the E may be the remains of a lade (10m long). This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 97).

current settlement. Intensive land use practices have obliterated evidence of this practice in the area

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9.2 Structure G/R: NB 1984 9125

Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

A small, L-shaped shelter (4m x 2m N-S) abutting a low rock outcrop situated close to HWM in Port an Alltain Duibh. The rough, drystone walls (1m high x 0.5m thick) are constructed from beach cobbles and flat shale-like rocks. A small entrance (0.6m wide) is situated in the E wall. The upper courses of the shelter appear to have been recently rebuilt, while the lower courses have a thick lichen cover indicating comparative age.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9.3 Building complex

G/R: NB 1978 9131 Hinterland, 50m from HWM Location: 1:10,000 Map: **NB91SE** 

A 19th century partially inhabited farm complex comprising 7 rectangular stone buildings and various drystone field boundaries and enclosures (max. extent 100m x 60m N-S) situated on a high, peat covered shelf 100m W of Allt an Leathaid. The ruined buildings are constructed from faced rubble and are of various sizes (max. 8.2 x 4.3m) and orientations. The occupied buildings comprise a late 19th century harling rendered house and 2 mortared rubble outbuildings. Four ruinous buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 178-181).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. ALLTAN DUBH NB 1975 9131 G/R:

Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE Location: Site Type: Hut circle (?) Date: Pre-modern

Description: A small, subcircular structure (6.5m x 4.5m NW-SE) situated on a high, rocky shelf 500 W of Alltan Dubh Township (Plate 4, Sketch Plan 8). The drystone walls largely consist of rubble heaps (0.6m high x 1.5m thick) though a few potentially in situ kerb stones are visible on the N and S sides. A possible entrance is situated at the W end. The structure is tentatively interpreted as a hut circle.

Condition: Fair / poor. Recommendation: The walls and interior have been disturbed by shallow peat cuttings, particularly at the E end. It is probable that the structure is only visible owing to exposure caused by this activity.

## 11. GEODHA NA GLAIC BÀINE

G/R: NB 1970 9138 Site Type: Structures, cultivation, field systems & trackway Date: 16th-19th Century A complex of kelp storage pits, a mill (11.1) and intensive lazy bed cultivation plots **Description:** situated in a hanging valley at the head of a network of deep, steep-sided geos (Sketch Plan 9). The valley floor is filled with peat deposits, and small, isolated pockets of raised beach material are located along the coast edge. A possible burial cairn (12) is situated immediately adjacent to the kelp storage pits on a narrow promontory between the geos. A disused trackway defined by a revetted bank (N-S) is evident at the S side of the site, and a steep, winding path leads from the neck of the peninsula between the storage pits into the N geo (Geodha na Glaic Bàine). The lazy beds are generally orientated downslope and terminate at the edge of the clifftops.

11.1 Mill (?) & kelp storage pits

G/R: NB 1970 9138 Hinterland, 20m from HWM Location: 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 SE** An indistinct rectangular building (6.9m x 4.5m N-S) situated on the S side of a minor stream draining into Geodha an Uisge, at the centre of the cultivated area. The faced rubble walls are heavily reduced (0.6m high) with a few facings visible. An old stream channel running through the structure represents a possible lade. On the neck of the promontory are situated 3 circular structures (3.3-4m dia.), each defined by low stony banks (0.5m av. high). These are probably kelp storage pits associated with the use of kelp as manure in the 19th century (NMRS), particularly in lazy bed cultivation. In the centre of the promontory are located 2 conjoining pits (1 & 2) which abut the remains of a cairn (site 6/12). Each pit has a small drain flowing into a geo to the S. Pit 3 is situated at start of the promontory and abuts adjacent lazy bedding. A small drain flows out to the SW. These structures were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 30-32 & 198).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

There is no active erosion affecting this site, though there are many vulnerable features situated very close to eroding slopes. In the vicinity there are signs of active rock fall, mechanical wave erosion, peat deflation and small scale mass movement in the form of terracettes and minor slumping in surficial till deposits.

12. GEODHA NA GLAIC BÀINE NMRS No.: NB 91 SE 2 NB 1969 9138 Location: Coast edge G/RBurial cairn & modern burial Site Type: Date: Pre-modern / modern Description: A roughly oval mound of stones (11.5m x 8m NW-SE x 0.8m high) situated on a

small raised beach deposit at the end of a narrow promontory between deep geos (Sketch Plan 9). The

mound is constructed of rounded cobbles, probably derived from the adjacent pebble beach and localised raised beach deposits on the promontory and adjacent clifftops. The cairn has been the subject of 2 undocumented excavations, which have disturbed the form of the mound. No associated burial has been reported, though in 1914-18 a sailor is alleged to have been buried at an undisclosed location on a separate spur N of the cairn (NMRS).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil. There is no active erosion affecting this site, though it is highly vulnerable given its situation on a steep, narrow promontory. In the vicinity there are signs of active rock fall, mechanical wave erosion, peat deflation and small scale mass movement in the form of terracettes and minor slumping in surficial till deposits.

## Survey Map 7

The buildings comprise (from S-N);

**1. REIFF TOWNSHIP** G/R: NB 1966 9145

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, boat nausts, slipways,

kelp kilns, storage pit & cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** An 18th-19th century township situated on a low peat covered shelf and raised beach deposits on the E side of both Reiff Bay and the Loch of Reiff (max, extent 1.5km x 0.9km NW-SE) (Sketch Plan 10). The modern township is superimposed over the 19th century settlement pattern and some renovated stone buildings are still inhabited. In contrast to the majority of townships in the region, the focus of the settlement is located close to the coast edge with many buildings clustered around Reiff Bay and at the outlet of the Loch of Reiff. This loch was one of the 3 major harbours of the Coigach peninsula area during the 19th century, the others being Old Dorney bay and The Anchorage on Tanera More (Baldwin 1994). The channel between the loch and Reiff Bay is artificial, presumably dating to the 19th century. Numerous lazy bed cultivation plots, drystone field boundaries, revetment walls, shelters, enclosures, field clearance heaps, peat cuttings, boat nausts, slipways and other structures are located within the coastal zone (1.1-1.10). A post-improvement field system complex defined by drystone walling located E of the Loch of Reiff dominates the landscape, however, extensive lazy bedding and various rough boulder walls W of the loch comprise a well preserved example of a pre-improvement land use system. This was land use was depicted by Peter May in 1756 (SRO/RHP85395). The township has been redeveloped in recent years and several modern bungalows and outbuildings have been built amongst the ruins of former dwellings and fields.

1.1 Buildings & kiln (?)

Location: Hinterland, 15m from HWM

A series of structures situated on a rocky shelf overlooking the SE side of Reiff Bay. The structures comprise (from S-N);

- 1. Oval kiln or storage pit (?) (4m x 3.5m E-W), defined by a low stony bank and kerb of stones (0.2m high). Probably associated with kelp processing, though it is uncertain at this stage whether is a kiln or a pit for the production of kelp manure.
- Rough, rectilinear building (4.5m x 4m NE-SW) constructed between low rock outcrops; defined
  by a low stony bank (0.2m high) and drystone revetment walls. The structure is linked to a drystone
  revetment wall which runs N along the base of the rock knoll, possibly defining the edge of a
  cultivated plot.
- 3. Small rectangular, gabled building (7.2m x 4.8m N-S), probably dating to the 18th-19th century, with mortared rubble walls (4.5m high x 0.6m thick) and square corners situated at the base of a low rocky knoll. A doorway, window, chimney and fireplace are extant. A small drystone pen and boundary wall are attached to N end. This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 192).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

1.2 Buildings & boat naust G/R: NB 1966 9144

Location: Coast edge / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

An arc of 18th-19th century buildings and other structures situated on a raised beach around the NE side of Reiff Bay. Some of these buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 189-190). The buildings are arranged end onto the bay and would have comprised part of the nucleus of the township.

- 1. Irregular shaped earth-cut boat naust (4.9m x 3m E-W x 0.5m deep) situated on the edge of raised beach deposits at HWM and associated slipway. The naust is defined on the N & E sides by a low stony bank, but is otherwise open to the sea. The feature is still in use, and contains functional winding gear.
- 2. Renovated, rectangular, gabled building (orientated NE-SW) currently in use as a dwelling (not measured or inspected in detail), with mortared rubble walls and square corners. The building was situated inside a drystone enclosure, and has been substantially extended in the late 20th century.
- 3. Rectangular, bipartite building (10.6m x 4.85m NE-SW) with heavily reduced faced rubble walls (0.3m high x 0.7m thick) and square corners. A drystone enclosure defines a small cultivated area between the building and an adjacent house (1.2.1). (ALS 190).

4. Rectangular, bipartite building (13.8m x 5.4m NNE-SSW) with heavily reduced faced rubble walls (0.4m high x 0.7m thick) and square corners situated at the base of a rocky knoll. A small drystone enclosure or pen abuts a low rock outcrop at the S corner of the building (ALS 189).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

1.3 Buildings & boat naust G/R: NB 1965 9145 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE

Location: Coast edge / Hinterland A cluster of 18th-19th century buildings and other structures situated on a raised beach on the E side of the channel between the Loch of Reiff and Reiff Bay. These structures represent the W end of Reiff township. Some of these structures were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 188, 196-197). The structures comprise (from SE-NW);

- 1. Rectangular building (11m x 5.7m NNE-SSW) with coursed rubble walls (1.8m high) and square corners, situated in a complex of drystone enclosures at the base of a rocky knoll. A demolished (unbuilt?) 20th century brick structure with a concrete slab floor abuts the NE end of the building, and a stone outbuilding abuts the SW end (ALS 188).
- 2. A complex of 2 small, heavily reduced rectangular buildings (a. 5.5m x 4.6m NNE-SSW (ALS 196), b 4.9m x 4.65m N-S (ALS 197)) with faced rubble walls and square corners situated in a rebuilt drystone enclosure. A modern bungalow and garden has been constructed at the centre of building complex.
- 3. U-shaped, revetted boat naust (4m x 3.5m NNW-SSE) excavated from cobble / boulder deposits at HWM on the E edge of the Loch of Reiff. The naust is set into a revetted bank defining the edge of the loch adjacent to the township.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 1.4 Buildings & boat naust

Location: Coast edge / Hinterland

NB 1966 9146 G/R:

1:10,000 Map: NB 91 SE A cluster of buildings and other structures situated on a raised beach along a track on the E side of the Loch of Reiff. Some of these buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 184-185). The structures comprise (from S-N);

- 1. Small, subrectangular building or hut (6.35m x 4.4m ESE-WNW) with heavily reduced, faced rubble walls (0.2m high) and rounded corners (ALS 185). The structure is potentially preimprovement in date.
- 2. Well preserved rectangular gabled building (11.1m x 5.7m NNE-SSW) with coursed rubble walls (3.6m high x 0.7m thick) and square corners (ALS 184). A doorway, 3 windows, chimney and fireplace are extant, and a small outbuilding (3.9m x 3.4m) is attached to the N end. The building is known locally as a 'cottars house'.
- 3. Small, U-shaped boat naust (2m x 1.5m NNW-SSE) at HWM on the E edge of the Loch of Reiff W of building 2. The naust is defined by low drystone walls (0.5m high) constructed from cobbles. An upright stone at the head of the feature was probably used as a mooring to secure boats. A possible work area and landing stage defined by boulders is located adjacent to the naust. The structure is currently fully exposed only at low tide, and is potentially evidence for fluctuation in the tidal levels of this artificial estuarine environment.
- 4. Wide, U-shaped earth-cut boat naust (7m x 4m NNW-SSE) situated in a hollowed depression terraced into raised beach deposits at HWM on the E edge of the Loch of Reiff. The edge of the structure is defined by a low stony bank.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil. A modern house & shed has been built adjacent to building 2, and building 1 has been slightly disturbed by a cable trench on the loch side.

1.5 Buildings G/R: NB 1966 9147

1:10,000 Map: Hinterland, 5m from HWM Location: NB 91 SE An outlying structural complex consisting of a renovated, rectangular 19th century croft and stone outbuilding situated in a drystone enclosure adjacent to a track on the E side of the Loch of Reiff at the N end of the township (max. extant 50m x 40m NE-SW). Both structures are currently in use, and were not inspected in detail. This croft was allegedly the last surviving turf roofed structure on the Coigach peninsula. It was renovated during the 1980s (Baldwin 1994).

Condition: Recommendation: Nil. Fair.

NB 1967 9151

1.6 Boat nausts, slipway & hut

Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 NE** 

G/R:

At the N end of Loch of Reiff is a small complex of discrete structures situated on a cobble / boulder storm bar and adjacent raised beach (max. extent 85m x 60m E-W). Two of the structures were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 33-34). In addition various drystone field boundaries have been constructed across the neck of the tombolo and other vague features (e.g. possible circular kelp kilns & heaped boulder alignments) are located in the vicinity. The principal structures comprise;

- 1. Subrectangular building or hut (5.6m x 3.3m E-W), constructed with faced rubble walls (0.7m high). A plinth is located at the W end of the structure, and a boulder slipway is located in the loch 10m to the S.(ALS 33).
- 2. Small oval pen (5.2m x 5m ESE-WNW) with drystone walls (0.3m high) situated 10m N of structure 1 (ALS 34).
- 3. Large V-shaped boat naust (17m x 6.5m N-S) situated on HWM at the head of the Loch of Reiff. The sides are revetted by large boulders (0.7m high). The massive scale of this structure is unique for the region.
- 4. U-shaped boat naust (5m x 5m N-S) with revetted cobble walls situated below HWM 5m E of the other naust.

The nausts are currently fully exposed only at low tide, and supporting evidence for fluctuations in the tidal range of this artificial estuarine environment. Structure 4 in particular is fully submerged at high tide.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 1.7 Boat naust & hut

Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland G/R: NB 1964 9148

1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 SE** 

On the W side of the Loch of Reiff are located 2 small rough structures situated 70m apart on low angle peat covered shelves. One structure was recorded as part of the ALS (site 194). These comprise;

- 1. Small U-shaped boat naust (4m x 2m E-W) with crude, drystone boulder walls (0.7m high) and Lshaped boulder revetment wall adjoining the NE side. The structure is currently situated below HWM. The naust is fully exposed only at low tide, and is supporting evidence for fluctuations in the tidal range of this artificial estuarine environment.
- 2. Small rectangular hut (3m x 2.4m WNW-ESE) with faced rubble walls (1m high x 0.5m thick) and square corners terraced into a slope on the N side of a narrow tidal inlet. Fragments of roof timber are located inside the structure (ALS 194).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 1.8 Kelp storage pit (?)

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM G/R: NB 1964 9144

1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 SE** A circular depression (4.5m dia.) defined by a low stony bank (0.2m high x 0.3m thick) situated on a raised beach located on the W side of the artificial channel between the Loch of Reiff and Reiff Bay. A low grassy bank (17m long N-S) adjoins the W side of the feature, and a small gap in the N side marks a possible drain or flue. There are close parallels with other circular structures in the region (cf. Geodha na Glaic Bàine, site 6/11.1), which are tentatively interpreted as pits used for rotting kelp prior to its application as manure in the mid 19th century.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 1.9 Kelp kiln complex

Hinterland, 30m from HWM Location:

G/R: NB 1963 9144 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 SE** 

A linear arrangement of at least 16 crudely constructed hollows situated on an extensive storm beach / wave modified boulder moraine overlooking rock platforms on the exposed coast W of the Loch of Reiff (max. extent 60m x 20m NW-SE). The hollows are subcircular (3m to 5.5m dia.) and defined by low rings of piled boulders (0.4m to 0.7m deep). They frequently contain small, heat shattered fragments of rock. The presence of occasional fragments of shattered rock located outside the kilns suggest that on occasion they were cleared out and rebuilt. This is supported by the apparent superimposition of 2 or more hollows. These rough structures are interpreted as late 18th / early 19th century kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other

Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996

rough boulder constructions (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Garvie Bay, site 8/11) are less formal in structure than other circular kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Loch Poll an Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7). **Condition:** Fair. **Recommendation:** Nil.

1.10 Pen
Location: Hinterland, 35m from HWM
A small subrectangular pen (4m x 3.5m E-W) adjoining the base of a low rock outcrop at the N end of the massive boulder storm bar defining the N end of the Loch of Reiff (Plate 2). The walls were constructed from drystone rubble (0.7m high). This structure was recorded as part of the ALS (site 35).

Condition: Fair.

Recommendation: Nil.

2. LOCH OF REIFF

Location: Coast edge
Site Type: Enclosures

Date: Pre-modern

Pre-modern

**Description:** A crude arrangement of low boulder walls defining a narrow, low lying channel (5m wide) between lazy bed cultivation plots with a number of vague enclosures or pens attached to the exterior (max. extent approx. 100m x 30m NNW-SSE). The walls are constructed of roughly positioned boulders (0.5m high) derived from an adjacent storm beach / boulder moraine field. The feature effectively divides the narrow strip of land on the W side of Roinn a' Mhill into two equal halves along a natural drainage line. It is interpreted as a pre-improvement field boundary system associated with the well preserved lazy bed cultivation plots in this area, this area appears to have been excluded from process of land improvement evident in the field systems on the E side of Reiff township.

Condition: Fair . Recommendation: Nil.

3. ROINN A' MHILL

Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM

Site Type: Structure (Bothy?)

Date: 18th-20th Century

Description: A small rectangular structure (5m x 3m NE-SW) with faced rubble walls (1.6m high x 0.5m thick) situated on a flat peet covered cliffton (Roinn a' Mhill) located on the NW side of the

x 0.5m thick) situated on a flat, peat covered clifftop (Roinn a' Mhill) located on the NW side of the Loch of Reiff. This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 195).

Condition: Fair . Recommendation: Nil.

### 4. CAMAS EILEAN GHLAIS TOWNSHIP G/R: NB 1968 9155

**Site Type:** Buildings, field systems & cultivation **Date:** 16th-20th Century **Description:** A small, deserted 18th-19th township located on a peat covered shelf interspersed with isolated raised beach deposits situated at the head of an exposed bay (Camas Eilean Ghlais), 0.7km N of Reiff township (max. extent 450m x 350m N-S). The nucleus of the township principally consists of abandoned buildings, an enclosing dyke system and lazy bed cultivation plots sheltered behind a series of rocky knolls (100-200m from HWM). A single structural complex (4.1), pen (4.2), occasional sections of turf/stone dykes and lazy bed cultivation plots are situated in the coastal zone. Peter May (1756) depicted the settlement in the mid 18th century as a cultivated area without associated buildings, presumably a satellite of Reiff township (SRO/RHP 85395). Most of the extant remains have been recorded by the ALS.

4.1 Kelp storage pit (?), boat naust & pens G/R: NB 1969 9154 Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 NE** A complex comprising a probable boat naust (10m x 5m E-W) adjoining 2 small pens and a stretch of drying walling situated at the rear of a cobble beach. The walls of this complex were constructed from beach cobbles (approx. 1m high x 0.6m thick). A subrectangular structure (4.3m x 2.3m ESE-WNW) defined by a low stony bank (0.1m high x 0.5m thick) is located to the NE on the S bank of a minor stream gully through the edge of a raised beach. At the base of the raised beach the stream appears to be contained within an artificial channel. This structure is tentatively interpreted as a kelp storage pit on the basis of parallels with similar constructions in the region (e.g. Geodha na Glaic Bàine, site 6/11.1). Alternatively given its association with the stream it is possible that this structure was a mill

6/11.1). Alternatively given its association with the stream it is possible that this structure was a mill (cf. Faochag, site 7/9.1). A track leads E from the rear of beach structure onto the surface of the raised beach. The total extent of these features was 50m x 15m N-S. These structures were previously recorded as part of the ALS (sites 36-37).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4.2 Structure (pen?)

NB 1967 9157 G/R:

Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 NE** A small subrectangular structure (3.5m x 2.5m N-S) with heavily reduced, rough boulder walls (0.2m high x 0.3m thick) located at the edge of a cobble beach. The feature is situated on a moderately steep slope in a small cove enclosed by steep slopes and cliffs. Only the N & W sides of the structure are

evident. It is possible the remainder of the structure has been covered by course beach material thrown up under storm conditions.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

5. CAOLAS NA SGEIRE

NB 91 NE

NB 1967 9162 G/R: Hinterland, 50m from HWM Location: 1:10,000 Map: Site Type: Shelters / circular kelp kilns (?) Date: 16th-20th Century

A complex of at least 4 crude structures situated on the landward side of a wave **Description:** modified boulder moraine, located 0.5km NW of Camas Eilean Ghlais township (max. extent 15m x 10m N-S). The features are generally subcircular hollows (2m to 4m dia.), defined by partially collapsed boulder revetments (<1m deep). Two of these rough structures are tentatively interpreted as late 18th / early 19th century kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing techniques (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The remaining structures consist of adjoining horseshoe-shaped cells situated on the edge of the moraine, with open sides facing N (cf. Rubha Min, site 7/8). They superficially resemble periglacial features (e.g. stone polygons; Price 1983); however, similar rough constructions have been interpreted in the Outer Hebrides as shepherds shelters<sup>3</sup>.

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Nil.

#### 6. GLAC AIRIGH GIORSALL

G/R: NB 1969 9164 1:10,000 Map: Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM NB 91 NE Site Type: Peat cuttings Date: 19th-20th Century

A cluster of small, rectangular peat cuttings (approx. 10m x 30m ea., max. extent **Description:** 80m x 40m NE-SW) situated in a hollow at the base of a rocky knoll overlooking the mouth of a broad valley (Allt nan Clàr-Lochan).

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Nil.

#### 7. ALLT NAN CLÀR-LOCHAN

NB 1971 9168 G/R: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: Location: **NB 91 NE** Site Type: Click-mill 18th-19th Century Date:

Description: A subrectangular building (7.3m x 3.7m NNW-SSE) located on the S side of Allt nan Clàr-lochan at its outlet into an exposed bay. The site is situated at the foot of a raised beach deposit on a shelf adjacent to the coast edge. The walls are constructed from faced rubble (0.6m high x 0.9m thick) which have badly collapsed. An intact millstone (1.1m dia.) is located in the interior of the structure. A lade (0.9m wide) and a series of collapsed drystone walls adjoin the E side of the structure. The lade forms an extensive side branch of the stream, and bypasses 3 small weirs in the main channel, one of which contains a millstone fragment in its construction. A possible outlet channel from the mill is situated to the W in the form of a natural runnel skirting the edge of a bedrock shelf. The total extent of all features associated with the site was 60m x 20m NE-SW. This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 1).

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Nil.

8. RUBHA MIN

NB 1971 9172

G/R: Location: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NB 91 NE Site Type: Date: 16th-19th Century

Description: A complex of 2 adjoining cellular structures (4.5m x 3m NE-SW) with crude boulder rubble walls (0.6m high x 1m thick) situated on a rocky shelf at the edge of an exposed headland defining the S side of Faochag Bay. The cells (2-3m dia.) share a common partition wall and appear to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Branigan, K. & Foster, P. (1995) Barra: Archaeological Investigations on Ben Tangaval. Sheffield Environmental and Archaeological Research Campaign in the Hebrides, vol. 1. Sheffield Academic Press.

be open on the SE side (cf. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/6). Superficially they resemble periglacial features (e.g. stone polygons; Price 1983), however similar rough structures have been interpreted in the Outer Hebrides as shepherds shelters 4.

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Nil.

#### 9. FAOCHAG TOWNSHIP

NB 1979 9175 G/R: Buildings, field systems, peat cuttings & cultivation Date: 16th-19th Century Site Type: A small, deserted 18th-19th township located in an isolated position near the N end **Description:** of Rubha Còigeach (max. extent 800m x 250m NE-SW). The township principally consists of abandoned buildings, dyke system, peat cuttings, lazy bed cultivation plots and field clearance heaps located in a sheltered, peat filled hollow situated between a group of small lochs (200-500m from HWM). An indistinct structure (9.1) and occasional sections of turf/stone dykes are situated in the coastal zone. Peter May (1756) depicted the settlement in the mid 18th century as a recently cultivated sheiling site (SRO/RHP 85395). Only 2 buildings are depicted as roofed on the 1st ed. OS map (1881). The extant remains have been recorded by the ALS.

9.1 Structure (mill?)

Location:

G/R: NB 1976 9171 1:10,000 Map: **NB 91 NE** A small, artificial platform (5.5m x 5m ESE-WSW) defined by a low grassy bank (0.3m high x 1.2m thick) situated above rock platforms adjacent to a minor stream channel flowing into Faochag Bay, 400m S of the centre of Faochag township. A section of turf/stone dyke (WNW-ESE) (possible enclosure) and shallow, eroded channel (possible lade) to the S separates the structure from the stream. The site location at the base of a raised beach by the foreshore and the form of the site are suggestive

Nil.

of a mill (cf. Allt nan Clàr-Lochan, site 7/7). This structure was recorded by the ALS as a hut (site 2). Condition: Fair / poor. Recommendation: The remains of the structure are heavily reduced and a stream gully is eroding the S side of the site.

Hinterland, 15m from HWM

There are no indications of active coastal erosion, though the seaward sides of the structure are very indistinct.

10. GEODHA NA PLOYTACH MÓR

G/R: NB 1985 9177 Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: Location: **NB 91 NE** Site Type: Peat cuttings Date: 19th-20th Century

A series of large, rectangular peat cuttings situated on a shelf covered with deep peat Description: deposits on the exposed N side of Rubha Còigeach. The inland extent is undetermined, however the

coastal frontage is approx. 100m.

Condition: Fair Recommendation:

The peat in the general vicinity of the cliff top is deflating and is being further eroded by gullying.

There is no impact on cultural features.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Branigan, K. & Foster, P. (1995) Barra: Archaeological Investigations on Ben Tangaval. Sheffield Environmental and Archaeological Research Campaign in the Hebrides, vol. 1. Sheffield Academic Press.

## Survey Map 8

1. CAMASCOILLE TOWNSHIP G/R: NB 2004 9158

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, trackway & cultivation

Date: 16th-20th Century

Description: A small, largely deserted 18th-19th township located in an isolated position on the NW side of Achnahaird bay (max. extent 500m x 420m N-S). The township principally consists of various ruinous and seasonally occupied rectangular stone buildings (150-450m from HWM) and extensive lazy bed cultivation plots enclosed by a dyke system. The township is situated on a high, peat

various ruinous and seasonally occupied rectangular stone buildings (150-450m from HWM) and extensive lazy bed cultivation plots enclosed by a dyke system. The township is situated on a high, peat covered shelf above a boulder & cobble beach. Peter May (1756) depicted the settlement in the mid 18th century as a sheiling (SRO/RHP 85395). A number of small lazy bed cultivation plots are located on steep slopes adjacent to a revetted trackway winding down to the beach are the only cultural remains situated in the coastal zone. The extant remains of the wider township have been recorded by the ALS.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

2. RUBHA A' CHÀIRN NMRS No.: NC 01 NW 1

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWMG/R: NB 2008 9159Site Type:Cairn (?) - NaturalDate:N/A

**Description:** This site was registered on the basis that the Gaelic place name means 'Point of the Cairn' (NMRS). There are no indications of a cultural feature, though a heap of glacial boulders on the promontory superficially resembles a cairn.

Condition: Non-site Recommendation: Nil.

### 3. ACHNAHAIRD TOWNSHIP G/R: NC 2015 9131

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, peat cuttings, boat naust,

weirs, earthworks & cultivation Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex cultural landscape consisting of a 19th century crofting township, 18th century tacksman's house (Achnahaird House; NC 01 SW 34) and post-improvement field system situated along a modern road (400m-800m from HWM) on a wide shelf on the W side of Achnahaird Bay. This settlement defines the W side of an extensive pre-improvement field system encircling Achnahaird beach, consisting of lazy bed cultivation plots and a turf/stone dyke network (max. extent 2.2km x 1.2km NNW-SSE). A number of buildings and structures (3.1-3.4), approx. 9 small weirs, an L-shaped ditch feature (54m x 40m NW-SE, ditch = 3m wide x 0.5m deep) & field system elements relating to the township are located within the coastal zone. In addition 3 prehistoric structures and a structural complex with associated midden deposits were located within this general area (8/4, 8/5, 8/6 & 8/7). These latter sites have been described separately for the purposes of this report. The pre-improvement settlement was depicted by Peter May in 1756 (SRO/RHP85395) and later by John Morrison immediately before the start of estate improvements (SRO). The pre-improvement settlement pattern and the archaeological deposits exposed in Achnahaird Sands (site 8/4) are the subject of a more detailed study (Long. in prep.).

Condition: Fair / poor. Recommendation: Nil. Various stretches of turf/stone dyke have been inundated by the sea on both the W and E sides of the bay, indicating a rising HWM or fluctuating tidal range in this estuarine environment (Plate 11).

**3.1** Boat house **G/R:** NC 2016 9141

Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW Small rectangular building (5m extant x 2.8m NNE-SSW) with faced rubble walls (1.1m high x 0.7m thick) and square corners, situated on a rocky outcrop immediately above HWM at the edge of a peat covered shelf on the W side of Achnahaird Bay. The upper courses of the walls have been recently rebuilt. A modern bulldozed track and stone revetted ramp and slipway are situated 30m to the S. The structure is labelled 'Boat House' on the current 1:10,000 OS map.

Condition: Fair / poor. Recommendation: Nil.

The S end of the structure has been removed, though the N end is relatively well preserved. A modern fireplace is located in the centre of the structure.

**3.2** Buildings G/R: NC 2023 9129

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW

A complex comprising 2 adjacent structures enclosed situated on a wide peat covered shelf on the E side of Achnahaird Sands (Max. extent 30m x 10m N-S). A head dyke defining the E side of the field systems associated with Achnahaird township is situated immediately E of the structures. Both Peter May (RHP85395) and John Morrison depicted cultivation on the E side of Achnahaird Bay in the mid 18th century (SRO). The buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 460 & 461), and comprise:

- 1. Round-ended building or hut (5.4m x 3.4m E-W) with reduced faced rubble walls (0.4m high x 0.6m thick) (ALS 460).
- 2. Rectangular building (8.1m x 5.1m E-W) with reduced faced rubble walls (0.5m high x 0.7m thick), square corners and entrance (1m wide) in S wall. A low revetment wall 1m W of the structure defines a possible earlier phase to the construction (ALS 461).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**3.3** Building **G/R:** NC 2023 9132

Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW

Rectangular building or hut (5.7 m x 3.8 m NE-SW) with reduced faced rubble walls (0.7 m high x 0.6 m) thick), square corners and entrance in NW wall, situated atop a low, rocky knoll located on a low peat covered shelf between a small lochan (Dubh Lochan) and the E side of Achnahaird Sands. Both Peter May and John Morrison depicted cultivation on the E side of Achnahaird Bay in the mid 18th century (SRO). This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 462).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**3.4** Boat naust **G/R:** NC 2022 9133

Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW

Large subrectangular boat naust (8.7m x 7.1m NE-SW) with 2 compartments defined by low stony banks (0.4m high x 0.6m thick), situated at the edge of a raised beach adjacent to Allt Loch Raa on the E side of Achnahaird Sands. The structure was reputedly last used in 1940, when a boat left for Dunkirk. This structure was recorded as part of the ALS (site 463)

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4. ACHNAHAIRD NMRS No.: NC 01 SW 3
Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM G/R: NC 2017 9138

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWMG/R: NC 2017 9138Site Type:DunDate:Late Prehistoric

**Description:** A small, subrectangular structure (18.1m x 5.4m NE-SW) occupying a narrow, steep sided promontory on the W side of Achnahaird Bay. The 'dun' consists of a central square compartment (5m x 5m) with thick (3m) walls situated across the promontory neck, a small annex adjoining the SW side and a drystone wall (1m thick) enclosing the tip of the point. The heavily reduced walls (0.9m high) are constructed from boulders (3 courses extant) placed on the edge of the low cliffs defining the promontory. Earlier records suggest that the structure was previously filled with sand which has since been dug away, disturbing the walls in the process (NMRS). This structure was recorded and planned as part of the ALS (site 470).

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Monitor

Although the structure is mostly intact, there are clear indications that the site condition is deteriorating. The walls are located on the edge of cliffs, and are being destabilised by minor rockfall, human erosion (e.g. bicycles) and rabbit burrowing, particularly on the SE & SW sides of the central structure where the face of the wall has fallen away to reveal an earth wall fill. The site vicinity receives a high rate of visitation owing to its proximity to Achnahaird beach and caravan park. The condition has noticeably deteriorated since a previous inspection was made in 1989 (personal observation). The RCAHMS have already planned the structure at a scale of 1:100, though it will also be advisable to conduct a small excavation to investigate the construction, contents and context of the site within the next 5-10 years (2001-2006) before major disturbance occurs. This site is possibly associated with the adjacent midden site at Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2, 8/5), is relatively unusual in the region.

5. ACHNAHAIRD SANDS

Location:

IRD SANDSNMRS No.:NC 01 SW 2Hinterland, 70m from HWMG/R :NC 2017 9132Building complex, cairn & middenDate:5th-19th Century

- 1. Large subrectangular, bipartite building (16.6m x 7.2m WNW-ESE) with thick, coursed rubble walls (0.6m high x 1.3m thick), with both inner and outer faces and rounded corners. At least 5 courses are visible at the W end. At the SE corner the structure intersects with the enclosure wall complex and another low stub of walling abuts the S wall. The N side of the structure is buried beneath a residual dune, and the E end is eroding as a sand slope retreats westwards, thus threatening the integrity of the entire structure (ALS 477).
- 2. Subrectangular building (12.4m x 7m WNW-ESE) with rubble walls (0.3m high x 0.4m thick), with bowed walls, a rounded W end, squared off E end and entrance at NE corner, defined by a possible wall return (Cover, Vol. 2 & Plate 16). At least 2 courses are visible on the SSE end. A short section of wall allegedly abuts the SSW side (ALS), however this was no longer visible at the time of inspection. The outline of the building was fully exposed through the retreat of a stable machair surface (1-2m higher than the structure) and the subsequent deflation of surrounding sand, though some depth of associated deposits may survive both inside and around the structure. The building is at immediate risk from continued deflation and damage from livestock (ALS 478).
- 3. A cairn (4m x 4m N-S x 1m high) with a square base, composed of piled boulders situated 30m NE of the enclosure. The structure is likely to collapse as a result of the deflation of surrounding deposits. It has been reported that the remains of the feature have been modified by visitors to the dunes, and that the feature originally resembled a building (William Maclean pers. comm. 1996). This implies that associated structural remains and deposits may still survive in surrounding deposits (ALS 479).

The site is scattered with both extensive artefactual and ecofactual material which has attracted the attention of both local and visiting enthusiasts, resulting in a number of valuable collections. The artefact assemblage recorded to date consists of handmade pottery sherds, occasional wheelmade sherds, iron, lead & copper alloy artefacts (e.g. nails, knives & brooches), coins (16th-17th century), lithics, steatite & other worked stone, and metal working waste (iron slag, copper alloy offcuts & casting moulds). The ecofact assemblage principally consists of macro shellfish remains (e.g. Common European Limpet (Patella vulgata), Common Periwinkle (Littorina littorea) and Common European Cockle (Cerastoderma edule)) and various unidentified animal bone, some displaying butchering marks; shell and bone both occur in burnt and unburnt contexts. Many of the exposed deposits have a visible organic component with high potential for environmental sampling (Diane Alldritt pers. comm. 1996). The artefacts suggest a late prehistoric to post-medieval occupation with a putative Norse origin, as suggested by comparisons in the assemblage with Freswick Links and the presence of a copper alloy strip with a derivative ring twist interlace motif (NMAS). The industrial and economic character of the site (cf. iron, copper and stone working waste, coins and a small bronze 'cup' weight) are considered highly significant given the current poor understanding of settlement and economy in the Highlands during this period.

Condition: Poor Recommendation: Survey. The site has experienced steady erosion over a period of 30 years<sup>5</sup> and recent sand movement has uncovered features not previously exposed, such as building 2, the hearths and paving. The S end of the sand dune complex in particular has been highly denuded through a combination of point erosion, rabbit burrowing and stock grazing. A stock track crossing the site on a SE-NW axis has created a zone

See reports by various correspondants in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* 1969, 1974, 1976 & 1985.

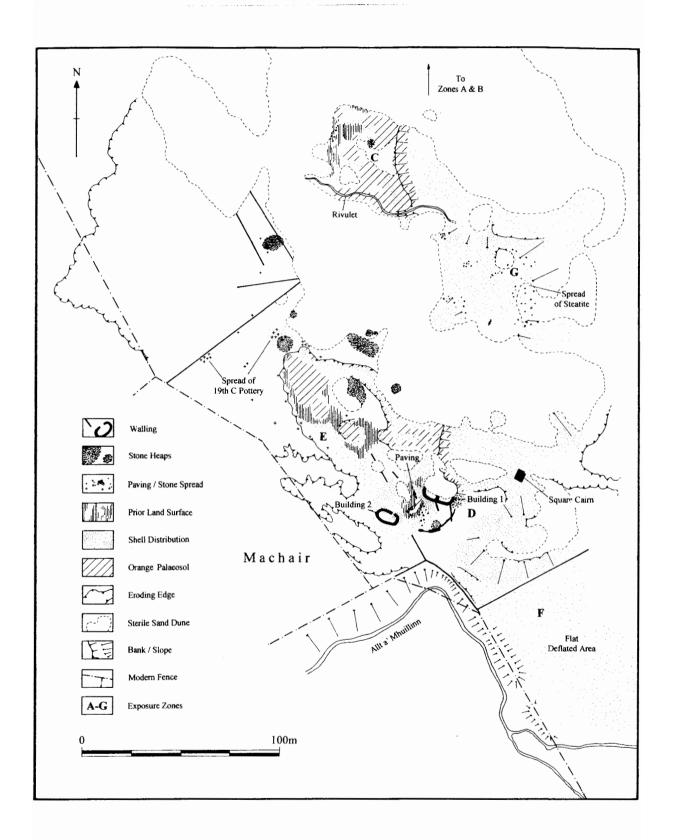


Figure 8: Survey plan of structures and deposits at Achnahaird Sands (site 8/5)

of considerable erosion (D-F), exposing and disturbing cultural deposits to the level of an underlying palaeosol (Figure 8). This area contains the majority of evidence for pre-19th century occupation in the dune system. The process of denudation is steadily progressing to the N & W, as indicated by erosion to adjacent machair deposits (Plate 16). It is considered probable that additional deposits and structures will continue to be exposed and destroyed through this process. There are still intact archaeological deposits located at the site (Plate 17) which should be systematically investigated through a programme of survey, surface collection, environmental sampling and excavation within the next 5 years (2001).

6. ALLT LOCH RAA NC 2023 9127 G/R: Hinterland, 25m from HWM Location: 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW Site Type: Hut circle Date: Late prehistoric **Description:** A subcircular hut circle (9.6m dia.) situated on a wide peat covered shelf on the E side of Achnahaird Sands. The rubble walls (0.7m high x 1.1m thick) have a well preserved inner face, but few outer kerb stones were visible. A few potentially in situ kerb stones are visible on the N and S sides. The entrance is situated at the W end. This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 458) Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

7. ALLT LOCH RAA

Location:
Hinterland, 30m from HWM
1:10,000 Map:
NC 01 SW
Site Type:
Hut circle & enclosures
Date:
Late prehistoric
Description:
An oval hut circle (9.1m x 8.1m N-S) situated on a wide peat covered shelf on the E
side of Achnahaird Sands. The rubble walls (0.4m high x 0.9m thick) were terraced on the W side, with

a ramped entrance to the SW and adjoining sections of stony bank dyke (0.65m wide) to the NE & SE (max. extent approx. 20m x 20m N-S). This building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 459)

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

8. CAMAS A' BHOTHAIN G/R: NC 2028 9146
Location: Intertidal / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW

Site Type: Buildings, cultivation, boat naust, slipways &

marker cairn Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A rectangular, gabled bipartite building (6.4m x 3.7m ENE-WSW) situated on a small raised beach at the head of an enclosed tidal inlet on the S side of Camas a' Bhothain, 400m E of Achnahaird Bay. The walls were constructed from mortared rubble (3m high x 0.7m thick), with a fireplace, windows and doors extant. Various artefacts scattered around the building suggest that the site was occupied into the early 20th century. Local knowledge states that in later years the building was associated with commercial salmon fishing (Mike Kelly pers. comm. 1996). Other features include intensive lazy bedding across the raised beach, 2 boulder lined slipways, 2 possible earth-cut boat nausts, a collapsed late 20th century timber shed and various heavily reduced stone alignments. A small marker cairn & occasional rectangular peat cuttings are situated on low, rocky knolls surrounding the inlet and raised beach. The stone building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 182)

Condition: Good. Recommendation: Nil.

9. RUBH' A' CHOING/R:NC 2033 9148Location:Coast edge1:10,000 Map:NC 01 SWSite Type:Kelp kilns (?) and structuresDate:18th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex of at least 9 rough circular depressions (1.5-2.5m dia) defined by rings of piled boulders / cobbles and stone revetting situated on a storm bar linking a small island (Rubh' a' Choin) with the mainland (max. extent 150m x 50m NNW-SSE). Generally the features are very shallow (<0.2m deep), however some are very deep (1.5m deep). Many of the features contain fire shattered stone (Plate 5) and some clearly show signs of recent use as fireplaces. However, others are highly lichenous and appear to be quite old. Isolated sections of rough stone walling indicate the presence of other disturbed structures in the vicinity. Some of these structures are probably kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing processes (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other rough boulder constructions (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Garvie Bay, site 8/11) are less formal in structure than other circular kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Loch Poll an Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

 10. CREAG A' CHOIN MHÓIR
 G/R: NC 2037 9143

 Location: Coast edge
 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW

 Site Type: Kelp kiln (?)
 Date: 18th-19th Century

**Description:** A rough circular depression (6m dia. x 1.2m deep) defined by a ring of piled beach cobbles situated on a storm bar which impounds a small swamp on the W side of Garvie Bay. This structure is tentatively interpreted as a kelp kiln on the basis of its morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing processes (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other rough boulder constructions (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Rubh' a' Choin, site 8/9) are less formal in structure than other circular kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Loch Poll an Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

# 11. GARVIE BAY G/R: NC 2038 9141

Location: Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW
Site Type: Enclosure, structures & /or kelp kilns (?)
Date: 18th-19th Century

**Description:** A complex consisting of an oval enclosure (10.7m x 5.4m NW-SE) with an entrance at the elongated S end ('teardrop-shaped') (Plate 6) and line of small rough, circular structures (1-2m dia.) situated on the summit of an overgrown boulder storm beach on the W side of Garvie Bay (max. extent 90m x 15m NNW-SE). These structures have been hollowed out from the storm beach and are defined by piled beach boulders (1m max. high). The circular structures are tentatively interpreted as kelp kilns on the basis of their morphology, situation and accounts of kelp manufacturing processes (Hunter 1976, 17; Macinnes 1988, 76-77, 85). The shape is substantially different from kilns described in these accounts, which suggest the use of a rectilinear kiln or trench. These and other rough boulder constructions (e.g. Caolas na Sgeire, site 7/5 & Rubh' a' Choin, site 8/9) are less formal in structure than other circular kilns recorded in the study area (e.g. Loch Poll an Dùnain, sites 5/5 & 5/7). The enclosure has been recorded as part of the ALS (site 467).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

12. GARVIE BAYG/R:NC 2039 9137Location:Hinterland, 50m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 SWSite Type:Building, hut circle & cultivationDate:Late prehistoric / 19th Century

**Description:** A complex comprising 2 adjoining structures and adjacent lazy bed cultivation plots situated on the SW side of Garvie Bay, adjacent to Loch Garvie (max. extent 150m x 80m NNW-SSE). Both structures were obscured by dense bracken, and were not fully inspected. These buildings were recorded as part of the ALS (sites 460-461), and comprise:

- 1. Rectangular building (7.4m x 4.2m NNW-SSE) with reduced faced rubble walls (0.5m high x 0.6m thick), square corners and possible side entrance. A low stony mound underlies the NE corner indicating a terrace or possible earlier phase to the construction (ALS 466).
- 2. Subcircular hut circle (13.6m x 12.6m NE-SW) defined by a low stony bank with occasional kerb stones (0.6m high x 1.6m thick). The structure underlay the S end of building 1, indicating that it is earlier in both construction and occupation date (ALS 465).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

 13. GARVIE BAY
 G/R:
 NC 2041 9136

 Location:
 Coast edge
 1:10,000 Map:
 NC 01 SW

Site Type: Structures (kelp kilns?), peat cutting &

'salmon creave' (weir) Date: 18th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex comprising a group of structures situated around the mouth of the River Garvie, including 2 rough shelters on the crest of an overgrown storm bar impounding Loch Garvie, an adjacent weir and peat cuttings on the E side of the outlet stream (max. extent 60m x 50m E-W). There is a high probability that other structures exist in the vicinity. The principal structures comprise:

1. Circular structure (3m dia) situated N of the point where the River Garvie issues from Loch Garvie. The walls are constructed from highly lichenous, piled beach cobbles (0.65m high x 0.85m thick). The S side is partially obscured by a peat layer.

- 2. Square structure (3.4m x 3.3m N-S) with rounded corners, situated near the E end of the storm bar. The walls appear to be recently constructed from flat beach cobbles (0.7m high x 1m thick). The walls have collapsed owing to the instability of the building material.
- 3. 'S-shaped' weir (20m x 2m NW-SE) constructed from beach cobbles spanning the width of the River Garvie at its point of outlet from the loch. Peter May notes the existence of a 'salmon creave' in this location in 1756 (SRO/RHP 85395) (cf. Polly Bay 9/5.1).

The structures are tentatively interpreted as rough shelters, though they also share parallels with circular kelp kilns recorded in the area. Structure 2 is clearly more recent than structure 1. This location is also the alleged site of a skirmish between Torquil Dow and Torquil Macleod of Coigach in 1596 (Earl of Cromartie 1979, 174).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

## Survey Map 9

1. RUBHA LAG NA SAILLE G/R: NC 2048 9135

Intertidal zone / Hinterland Location: 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SW Site Type: Building, cultivation, peat cuttings & slipway Date: 16th-20th Century **Description:** A rectangular, gabled building (6m x 3.5m NNE-SSW) situated on a raised beach on the W side of a wide, enclosed bay. A boulder lined slipway, lazy bed cultivation plots, extensive rectangular peat cuttings and adjacent peat stacks (max. extent 250m x 150m NE-SW) surround the bay behind the building. The walls were constructed from faced rubble (1.6m high x 0.6m thick). The

building was recorded as part of the ALS (site 78)

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

The gables of the building have recently collapsed due to natural deterioration.

#### 2. CAMAS A' BHOTHAIN

NMRS No.: NC 01 SE 7 Site Type: Buildings, cultivation & peat cuttings Date: Early modern **Description:** A small deserted settlement situated at the base of a raised beach terrace at the mouth of a minor stream draining into Enard Bay. A small complex of 2 abandoned rectangular buildings and a potentially earlier subcircular structure (2.1) are located on either side of the stream channel, and peat cuttings and extensive lazy bed cultivation plots are located across shelves on adjacent steep, rocky hillsides (max. extent 630m x 180m E-W). The RCAHMS has registered the rectangular buildings on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

2.1 Buildings & subcircular structure G/R: NC 2054 9131 Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 SE A complex of 2 adjacent rectilinear buildings (probably 18th-19th century) and a highly reduced subcircular structure situated at the mouth of the stream, at the base of a raised beach terrace (Sketch Plan 11). All structures were partially obscured by bracken at the time of the survey.

- 1. Rectangular, single compartment with rounded corners (12m x 3.6m E-W). The walls were constructed of beach cobbles (1.2m high x 0.8m thick) with external faces sloping inwards. Located on the W side of the stream outlet immediately behind the storm beach.
- 2. Rectangular, bipartite with square corners and an annex abutting the W side of the structure (10.5m x 4.2m E-W). The walls were constructed of beach cobbles (0.7m high x 0.7m thick). The annex was covered with turf and may been abandoned earlier than the main structure. Located on the E side of the stream outlet immediately behind the storm beach.
- 3. Rough, subcircular bipartite structure (9m x 7.5m NE-SW) situated on a small flat topped spur on the E bank of the stream 20m to the S of building 1 (Sketch Plan 12). The walls consisted of curving alignments of boulders up to 2 courses (0.5m high x 0.5m thick) with some internal and external kerbing visible. A highly reduced cobble extension wall adjoins the NW side of the structure, adjacent to a possible entrance. In the W compartment 2 shallow depressions (ea. 2m dia.) adjoined the SW face, indicating the potential existence of internal features. The walls and interior of the structure were not entirely exposed due to dense bracken cover, and may have been eroded by the stream channel on the NW side in the past. It is difficult to ascribe a firm interpretation to this structure on the basis of this short inspection, though it is possibly the remains of a hut circle with a wall dividing the internal space into separate compartments. There is no evidence to directly associate this structure with the other buildings, and it was not depicted on the 1st ed. OS map.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Note although there are no indications of coastal erosion affecting these structures, the stream channel has in the past cut into the NW side of the subcircular structure. Active erosion scars were situated on the gully sides further downstream from the structure, indicating that this process may resume at a later stage.

**3. POLLY BAY** G/R: NC 2064 9139

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 SESite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A basin containing 2 small rectangular peat cuttings (max. extent 80m x 50m N-S) on the E side of a minor stream (Allt Rubha na Mòine) flowing into the SE side of Polly Bay. The cuttings are situated 100m S of the Inverpolly township field systems (site 9/5).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 4. "GOTFREDE"

Approximate Co-ordinates: Decca lat. 5804.00 N

 Location:
 Marine Zone
 Decca long.
 0517.00 W

 Lite Type:
 Shipwreck
 1:10,000 Map:
 NC 01 SE

 Date:
 1882

**Description:** A Danish wooden steamship (116 tonnes gross) lying in as yet an undetermined position close to the shore near Inverpolly, probably in Polly Bay. The vessel ran aground while 'standing at Inverpolly in a Force 6 south-westerly' on 6/10/1882. There are no survey or inspection records for the vessel (Baird 1994, 264).

Condition: Unknown. Recommendation: Survey.

5. INVERPOLLY NMRS No.: NC 01 SE 1

**Site Type:** Buildings, field systems, cultivation, trackway,

weirs, footbridge & milestones (?)

Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A largely deserted 18th-19th century township situated on a shelf overlooking the lower floodplain of Strath Polly (max. extent 800m x 800m NE-SW). The township principally consists of a nucleus of abandoned buildings (600m from HWM) with an associated dyke system and extensive lazy bed cultivation situated in the valley floor between Polly Bay and the adjoining township of Dealpolly, located 1km to the SE. Peter May (1756) depicted these townships in the mid 18th century and noted the existence of a 'salmon creave' at the mouth of the River Polly (SRO/RHP 85395) (cf. Garvie Bay 8/13). An isolated building (5.1) situated behind a substantial storm beach, pair of standing stones (milestones?), a complex of concrete weirs and a footbridge associated with the current estate are the only extant structures in the coastal zone. A trackway following the top of the storm beach is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map. The RCAHMS has registered the rectangular building (5.1) as a separate site on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. This structure has not been previously field inspected.

5.1 Building NMRS No.: NC 01 SE 8
Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM G/R: NC 2068 9141

A bipartite, rectangular building (13m x 4.5m NE-SW) with square corners situated in the lee of a high, overgrown storm beach on the flat floor of an alluvial valley, on the S side of the River Polly. The mortared rubble walls are reduced in height (1m) and obscured by bracken. Extensive lazy bedding and a dyke system extending 1km inland is situated immediately E of the structure. A pair of small standing stones (1.6m max. high) flank the narrow summit of the storm beach, probably defining the course of a 19th century trackway.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

6. MEALL AN IARUINN NMRS No.: NC 01 NE 1

Location:Hinterland, 15m from HWMG/R: NC 2066 9155Site Type:Vitrified fortDate:Late Prehistoric

**Description:** A circular fort (18m dia) situated in a defensive position at the end of a small promontory separated from the mainland by a narrow isthmus. An annex and outwork blocking the neck of the isthmus are located adjacent to the main fort (max. extent of remains 80m x 60m N-S). The reduced walls (1.5m high x 5m thick) are composed of heaps of variably vitrified stone and associated scree slopes (Dagg 1990, 19-20).

Condition: Fair Recommendation: Nil.

**7. LOCHAN SÀL** G/R: NC 2068 9151

Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE
Site Type: Building, dam & slipway Date: 19th-20th Century

**Description:** A 19th century rectangular building (13m x 5.5m NNE-SSW) with mortared, coursed rubble walls situated on the S side of a fjord, adjacent to the outlet of Lochan Sàl. The building was depicted on the 1st ed. OS map of the area and is currently in use as a salmon farm depot. The structure and the immediate vicinity have been substantially disturbed through the addition of a second storey (8m high), slate roof, large square windows, doorways and concrete access road. The walls have been recently repointed. An associated concrete slipway is situated on the edge of the fjord to the NW and a possible 19th century mortared stone dam is positioned at HWM across the lochan outlet to the NE.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**8. LOCHAN SÀL** G/R: NC 2070 9153

Location:Intertidal zone / Hinterland1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Building, cultivation, boat nausts & slipwayDate:16th-19th CenturyDescription:A rectangular bipartite building (12m x 4m ENE-WSW) with heavily reduced faced

rubble walls (0.5m high x 0.8m thick) and square corners, situated on a small raised beach / storm beach impounding Lochan Sàl at the head of an un-named fjord (Sketch Plan 13). A large annex (6m x 5m NNW-SSE) abuts the SSE side of the building. A nest of 5 boat nausts (20.5m x 6m NNE-SSW) defined by boulder alignments, stony banks (0.7m deep) and a stone revetment wall were located along the coast edge to the W. Each naust measured approx. 5.6m long x 2m wide x 0.7m deep. These features share a common boulder slipway. A small lazy bed cultivation plot is located immediately E of the structure, probably part of a wider cultivation system in Gleann Lochan Sàl visible on aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU). The features were obscured by dense bracken, and the site was not inspected in detail. The max. site extent was 80m x 60m E-W.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

NC 2075 9172

# Survey Map 10

NC 2072 9161 1. POLL LOISGANN G/R: Hinterland, 20m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE Location: Site Type: Cultivation Date: 16th-19th Century A series of small lazy bed cultivation plots (max. extent 120m x 60m NW-SE) **Description:** situated across small shelves interspersed between rocky knolls at the head of an isolated fjord (Poll

Loisgann). A disused path crossing rugged terrain between the settlements of Inverpolly and Loch an

Eisg-Brachaidh is located at the E side of the site.

**Condition:** Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

#### 2. RUBH' A' BROCHAIRE

NC 2073 9172 G/R: 1:10,000 Map: Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM NC 01 NE Site Type: Enclosed peninsula & marker cairn Date: 19th-20th Century A rugged promontory on the S side of Loch an Eisg-Brachaidh separated from the **Description:** 

mainland at high tide (450m x 350m ENE-WSW) (Sketch Plan 14). A short stretch of maintained drystone wall (60m N-S) is positioned across the narrow neck of the peninsula, effectively creating a large enclosure which is presumably associated with post-improvement stock management. A small marker cairn is situated on the highest point of the promontory.

Condition: Recommendation: Nil. Fair.

#### 3. LOCH AN EISG-BRACHAIDH

of the outlet stream.

G/R:

Buildings, structures, slipways, boat nausts (?) Site Type:

& weirs Date: 16th-19th Century **Description:** A complex of various rough structures (3.1), 3 18th-19th century rectangular buildings (3.2), 2 boat nausts, 6 slipways and weir system situated at the mouth of Allt Gleann an t-

Srathain (max. extent 250m x 130m E-W) (Sketch Plans 14-15). It is uncertain whether these elements are contemporaneous or indicate different phases of occupation. The boat nausts consist of small, Ushaped earth-cut hollows (a. 4m x 2m NE-SW, b. 4m x 3m NW-SE) situated on the edge of a raised beach and at the neck of an adjacent promontory (Rubh' a' Brochaire). The 2 nausts are associated with slipways, while 4 further slipways (<100m long) define cleared passages across an extensive cobble / boulder intertidal zone below the raised beach with no associated boat structure or mooring. The weir system consist of a complex of 2 substantial mortared rubble revetment walls (approx. 20m long) defining a large freshwater pool (probable fish trap), with various minor arrangements of cobbles and boulders forming small weirs within the complex. The stream flows out of the pool via a modern channel faced with stone & concrete blocks, indicating a 20th century use of the site. The pool is now largely dry, and a ford crosses the pool immediately below the upper weir. A boulder revetment wall defining the W bank of the river adjoins the S end of a long boulder slipway, situated immediately W

NC 2075 9172 3.1 Circular structures & cairns G/R: Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE

A series of rough structures & cairns distributed across a small raised beach on the W side of Allt Gleann an t-Srathain. It is uncertain whether these structures are associated with the rectangular buildings (3.2) situated on the E side of the river. Given the highly reduced state of the structures it is probable that they are pre-improvement in origin. It is interesting that there are no indications of either lazy bed cultivation or more substantial buildings at this location, which represents the best building site and cultivatible land along this stretch of coast. The structures were highly lichenous and obscured by dense bracken. They consist of:

- 1. Low section of curved drystone wall (5m E-W x 1m thick) constructed from beach boulders (0.5m high) situated close to the coast edge. Possibly defines the edge of a circular or horseshoe-shaped
- 2. Small circular spread of cobbles (3m dia.) with possible internal kerbing visible on S side, located 33m SSW of structure 1 on the W side of the raised beach.
- 3. Horseshoe-shaped structure (9m x 5m N-S) with heavily reduced boulder walls (0.5m high x 1m thick), situated 10m S of structure. The open end faces W.
- 4. Small cairn (3m dia. x 0.7m high) situated 7m S of structure 3.

5. Large, horseshoe-shaped structure (15m max. dimension) with heavily reduced curving cobble / boulder wall (0.3m high x 1m thick) situated below the edge of a sloping terrace, 50m SE of structure 1.

Morphologically these features are comparable to various hut circles (e.g. Allt Loch Raa, sites 8/6 & 8/7) or shelling-type shelters (e.g. Culnacraig, site 4/2) recorded elsewhere in the study area.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

3.2 Buildings
Hinterland, 10m from HWM
G/R:
NC 2076 9172
A complex of 2 small rectangular buildings (a. 4m x 3.25m NNE-SSW, b. 7.5m x 6m WNW-ESE) with highly reduced boulder rubble walls (0.3m high) situated in dense bracken on the E side of Allt Gleann an t-Srathain. The RCAHMS has registered these buildings on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected. A 3rd building depicted on the map was not conclusively identified, but may be defined by a slight depression and rough boulder alignment (11m x 4m N-S) on the W side of the modern road.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**4. POLLY MORE Cocation:** Intertidal zone / Hinterland **G/R:** NC 2075 9176 **1:10,000 Map:** NC 01 NE

**Site Type:** Building, slipway (?), field systems, track

& footbridge Date: 18th-19th Century

**Description:** A subrectangular bipartite building (13m x 5m E-W) situated on the S side of a minor stream flowing into the W side of Loch an Eisg-Brachaidh (Sketch Plan 16). The west side of the building consists of highly reduced curving rubble walls (0.3m high), with a low stony bank annex in the E. A modern timber shed is superimposed over the W end of the structure. A vague boulder slipway is situated in the intertidal zone of the bay W of the building. A cobbled pathway with a simple lintelled stone bridge (3.3m x 1.5m NW-SE) leads from the bay to the building. The modern road following the coastline crosses the stream via a similar lintelled bridge and narrow stone revetment wall / embankment, indicating that this route probably follows the course of an earlier packhorse track. A highly lichenous and mossy drystone wall follows the N side of the stream for an undetermined distance. The maximum defined extent of the remains was 150m x 70m E-W.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**5. PORT NA BÒ RUAIDHE G/R:** NC 2071 9179

Location: Intertidal zone / Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE Site Type: Boat nausts (?), slipways & weir Date: 19th-20th Century Description: A complex of 2 adjacent U-shaped boat nausts (a. 6m x 4m NE-SW, b. 2m x 2m NE-SW) and shared slipway (19m NE-SW) situated on the E side of a narrow tidal inlet (Port na Bò Ruaidhe More). The presence of ropes and wooden mooring posts indicate that the features are still in use. A further 2 slipways and various disused iron fittings indicate the existence of further moorings (possible nausts) in the vicinity on both sides of the inlet (max. extent 200m x 130m N-S). The W side of the inlet has been heavily disturbed by the construction of a modern house (early 1970s), revetment wall, weir and access bridge.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**6. RUBHA AN T-SALAINN G/R:** NC 2069 9177

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A small rectangular peat cutting (approx. 20m x 10m NNW-SSE) situated on the S side of a rocky headland defining the NW edge of Loch an Eisg-Brachaidh.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**7. CAIS-BHAIGH** G/R: NC 2065 9179

Location:Hinterland, 20m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th CenturyDescription:A small rectangular peat cutting (approx. 30m x 10m E-W) situated on a small rocky

headland defining the SE edge of rocky inlet (Cais-Bhaigh).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**8. CAIS-BHAIGH** G/R: NC 2068 9184

Location:Hinterland, 10m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Cultivation & peat cuttingsDate:16th-20th Century

**Description:** A series of lazy bed cultivation plots and occasional peat cuttings situated on isolated peat covered shelves on the SE side of a narrow inlet (Cais-Bhaigh) (max. extent 250m x 70m NW-SE).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9. CAIS-BHAIGH G/R: NC 2069 9186
Location: Intertidal zone / Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE

Location:Intertidal zone / Coast edge1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Oyster farmDate:20th Century

**Description:** This complex consist of a bank of boulders placed across a tidal channel between the mainland and a small island, various stone platforms defining possible work areas, oyster beds & associated midden, boulder lined slipway and dumps of nets situated around a tidal inlet (max. extent 120m x 100m NW-SE). The oyster species cultivated is probably the Portuguese Oyster (*Crassostrea angulata*). There is no definite evidence for occupation predating the 20th century, and it is possible the site may still be in use.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. BEALACH MÓR G/R: NC 2064 9193

Location:Hinterland, 40m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:Peat cuttings (?)Date:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A peat filed basin containing 3 vague peat cuttings (approx. 60m x 50m E-W)

situated in an isolated location at the rear of a minor inlet on the S side of Loch Inver.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**11. LOCH KIRKAIG** G/R: NC 2073 9195

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 01 NESite Type:CultivationDate:16th-19th Century

**Description:** A complex of lazy bed cultivation plots situated in an isolated location on a sloping spur on the S side of Loch Inver. The extent of the cultivation was not fully determined in the field, however an inspection of aerial photographs taken in the 1950s (APU) indicated that the complex

extended inland to the NW side of a minor stream gully (100m NW x 60m NW-SE).

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

## Survey Map 11

1. INVERKIRKAIG NC 01 NE 2 NMRS No.:

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, cultivation & boat nausts Date: 16th-20th Century Description: An 18th-19th century crofting township situated on a raised beach and adjacent peat covered shelves at the head of Loch Kirkaig (max, extent 1.2km x 0.4m NW-SE). The township principally consists of scattered rectangular stone buildings, drystone field boundaries & enclosures, stone revetment walls, boat nausts and field clearance heaps. Occasional lazy bed cultivation plots and elements of a dyke system situated outside the 19th century township are the only surviving evidence of a pre-improvement occupation of this location. The Norse derivation of the place-name (ON kirk-=church, -vik =bay or haven) and various 16th century map references to the site (Long in prep.) imply a medieval settlement in the vicinity, though this has not been located to date. A number of structural nuclei each consisting of buildings and other features (1.1-1.3) and an enclosure complex (1.4) are located in the coastal zone. The township has been substantially altered both in the late 19th century and in recent years by the construction of several new houses & chalets. The only extant historic buildings are relatively well built late 19th century houses which have been substantially renovated and extended. The RCAHMS have registered this township on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

1.1 Building complex & boat naust (?) NC 2079 9196 Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE A late 19th century house (inhabited) and associated sheds situated at the S end of the township. A steep sided depression (5m x 4m E-W x 2m) dug into a bank on the E side of the road 20m to the S may be the remains of a boat naust / slipway. The complex is situated on a partially revetted terrace adjacent to a modern house. The maximum extent of the remains was approx. 100m x 60m N-S. The remains were not inspected in detail.

Condition: Fair. Nil. Recommendation:

1.2 Building complex

Location: Hinterland, 30m from HWM

1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE A late 19th century house (inhabited) situated at the N end of the raised beach. The partially demolished remains of a croft building and drystone enclosure have been incorporated into the

NC 2078 9199

G/R:

boundary wall of the property. A further ruin (not examined) was located E of the house, and a 'Gilbert Scott' telephone box & a modern house were situated to the S. Another late 19th century house was situated adjacent to a modern chalet complex 100m to the WNW. The maximum extent of the remains was approx. 250m x 80m E-W. The complex was not inspected in detail.

Condition: Recommendation: Nil.

1.3 Building, boat naust, enclosures & historic midden NC 2074 9198 G/R: Location: Coast edge / Hinterland 1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE

A late 19th century house (inhabited) with 20th century additions situated on a partially revetted terrace around a small bay (Port na Bà) at the W edge of the township. The house is adjacent to a disused complex of field clearance heaps, drystone enclosures and pens. A small boat naust / slipway with extant winding gear is located S of the house and 19th / early 20th century midden deposits are situated below grass in a 100m coastal frontage around the building. Glass, ceramics and shellfish remains (e.g. Common Blue Mussel (Mytilus edulis), Common European Limpet (Patella vulgata) and Common Periwinkle (Littorina littorea)) in a buried ash layer are exposed in a small eroding scarp at the coast edge. The maximum extent of the remains was approx. 150m x 30m E-W.

Condition: Fair / Poor. Recommendation:

The coast edge around this building is being affected by minor wave action at HWM, resulting in an eroding soil profile exposing midden deposits (Plate 10). Boulders have been placed around the coast edge at various points as a makeshift sea defence. At high tide waves are clearly inundating larger areas of land, as indicated by the position of strand lines. This is a similar situation to other estuarine environments (e.g. Achnahaird Bay & the Kanaird estuary), which are also experiencing a higher tidal range than in previous years. The site should be monitored to ascertain the ongoing affects of this process to the edge of archaeologically sensitive raised beach deposits around the head of the loch.

**1.4** Enclosures & track **G/R:** NC 2073 9199

Location: Hinterland, 10m from HWM

1:10,000 Map: NC 01 NE

An isolated complex of 2-3 adjoining enclosures located on steep, rocky slopes situated on the N side
of a minor stream flowing into Loch Kirkaig at the W boundary of Inverkirkaig township. The
enclosures are largely obscured by dense bracken, but it is clear they were constructed from a
combination of drystone revetments and boulder walls. A 20th century faced rubble abutment wall
incorporating asbestos sheeting (3.2m long x 1.5m high) is situated at the base of the slope. The
features are located adjacent to a coastal trackway, and on the S side of a complex of lazy bed
cultivation plots and a dyke system in the valley basin 75m to the N. The maximum extent of the

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

remains was 50m x 20m N-S.

stone to collapse.

**2. LOCH KIRKAIG C/R:**NC 2068 9199 **Location:**Hinterland, 10m from HWM

1:10,000 Map:
NC 01 NE/

NC 02 SE

Site Type: Cultivation & peat cuttings Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A complex of scattered rectangular peat cuttings and vague lazy bed cultivation plots situated across a wide peat covered shelf and rocky slopes on N side of Loch Kirkaig, 0.5km W of Inverkirkaig township (max. determined extent 550m x 200m WNW-ESE). The inland extent of the site complex is conjectural at this stage.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil. The site complex has been affected by gullying, which has made some of these features relatively indistinct.

3. LOCH KIRKAIG G/R: NC 2065 9205 1:10,000 Map: Location: Hinterland, 5m from HWM NC 02 SE Site Type: Enclosure Date: 19th-20th Century A rectangular enclosure (12.7m x 6m NNE-SSW) with drystone walls (1m high) **Description:** abutting the SE side of a low rocky knoll situated behind a storm beach in a small inlet on the W side of Kirkaig Point. The structure has a rounded SSW end with a stub of drystone walling extending to the NNE. A pair of later sections of drystone wall stubs abut the rock wall inside the structure, and a possibly earlier section of heavily reduced walling (12.7m long) is located to the E. Although the structure is located above HWM, it is in a very exposed position. Various flotsam and driftwood were scattered across the entire site area, indicating the deep extent of storm wave activity.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

4. LOCH KIRKAIG G/R: NC 2065 9206 Location: Hinterland, 50m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE Site Type: Standing stone (?) Date: Pre-modern A Torridonian sandstone (basal conglomerate) erratic (1.5m x 0.65m x 1.4m high) **Description:** wedged in an upright position by 5-6 smaller packing stones, situated in an isolated position on a peat covered ridge with glacially striated outcrops on the W side of Kirkaig Point. A prone erratic 30m to the W could be the remains of another standing stone, now in a recumbent position. The interpretation

and date of this site is largely conjectural, and could range from a prehistoric monument to a 19th century marker stone.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Monitor.

Sheep have eroded the peat deposits at the base of the stone. Stock erosion may eventually cause the

5. LOCH KIRKAIGG/R:NC 2065 9207Location:Hinterland, 40m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 02 SESite Type:Peat cuttingDate:19th-20th CenturyDescription:A large rectangular peat cutting (approx. 50m x 20m ENE-WSW) situated in an

isolated position on a rocky slope, located on the W side of Kirkaig Point.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

Location:

6. POLL NA CREIGE RUAIDHE

G/R: NC 2063 9210 Hinterland, 40m from HWM 1:10.000 Map: NC 02 SE Cultivation Date: 16th-19th Century

Site Type: Description: A small lazy bed cultivation plot (approx. 40m x 30m ENE-WSW) situated in an isolated position on a rocky slope overlooking a small inlet (Poll na Creige Ruaidhe), located on the W side of Kirkaig Point.

Condition: Recommendation: Nil.

#### 7. "LOCH ERISORT"

**Approximate Co-ordinates:** Decca lat. 5808.20 N

Decca long. 0518.00 W Marine Zone 1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE / SW Location: Site Type: Shipwreck Date:

**Description:** A wooden trawler (37 tonnes gross, 57' long) situated upside down in 10m of water approx. 1.6km W of Kirkaig Point. The vessel ran aground off Soyea Island before sinking in this position on 27/03/1981. There are no survey or inspection records for the vessel (Baird 1994, 264-5).

Condition: Unknown. Recommendation: Nil.

NC 2061 9213

#### 8. KIRKAIG POINT G/R:

Site Type: Enclosed peninsula, building & peat cuttings Date: 18th-20th Century Description: A rugged promontory on the S side of Loch Inver (850m x 350m ENE-WSW). separated from the mainland by 2 parallel drystone walls (380m ENE-WSW) aligned along a gully (natural dyke?) linking 2 narrow inlets. This wall effectively creates a large enclosure, presumably associated with post-improvement stock management. An 18th-19th century building (8.1) is situated at the sheltered E end of the promontory, and occasional small rectangular peat cuttings were distributed across shelves on the steep N side.

8.1 Building & quarry (?) G/R: NC 2067 9213 Location: Hinterland, 15m from HWM 1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE A rectangular building (8.2m x 5m NE-SW) with mortared, faced rubble walls (2m high) and square corners situated on a peat covered shelf adjacent to a minor inlet (Poll nan Gobhar) on the E side of the promontory. The NE end of the structure has been rebuilt with drystone walling to create a partition or pen. A rectangular depression (13m x 10m E-W x 0.4m deep) located on the crest of an adjacent ridge 70m to the N is possibly the site of a quarry associated with the construction of the building..

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9. BADNABAN NMRS No.: NC 02 SE 19

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, cultivation, weirs,

> boat naust (?), slipway, trackway Date: 16th-20th Century

**Description:** A dispersed 18th-19th century crofting township situated in a narrow valley (Allt a' Mhuilinn) and across an adjacent rock headland on the S side of Loch Inver (max. extent 1.35km x 0.6m NW-SE). The nucleus of the settlement is located 250m inland on a rocky spur, however a number of field system elements, drystone field boundaries & enclosures, stone revetment walls, clearance heaps, a disused trackway, possible boat nausts and slipways are located in the coastal zone. Occasional lazy bed cultivation plots are the only apparent evidence of pre-improvement settlement surviving in this location. A weir complex (9.1) and building complex (9.2) are described separately. The township has been substantially altered in recent years through the construction of various modern buildings & chalets, and only a few heavily modified 19th century buildings are currently inhabited. The RCAHMS have registered this township on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

9.1 NC 2078 9212 G/R: Weir system 1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE Location: Coast edge

A complex of small rubble weirs and lateral revetment walls (60m x 6m N-S) forming a chain of 3 shallow ponds at the outlet of a minor stream on the N side of Badnaban township. A modern fence overlying an earlier dyke defines the E side of the complex. Various elements of the complex appear to have been constructed recently (e.g. the weir at the N end of the complex). The weirs were probably used as a fish trap system in the 18th-19th century.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

9.2 Building (occupied), boat naust (?) & slipway

Location: Intertidal zone / Hinterland

G/R: NC 2082 9211

1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE

An inhabited late 19th century building (harling rendered) situated in a minor valley at the NE corner of the township adjacent to a sheltered bay. A drystone revetted slipway (40m NNE-SSW) and associated square, rock cut naust (3m x 3m x 1.5m deep) are situated at the coast edge 45m N of the building. The max. extent of the remains are 100m x 30m N-S.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

10. STRATHAN NMRS No.: NC 02 SE 18

Site Type: Buildings, field systems, cultivation & peat cuttings Date: 16th-20th Century Description: A dispersed 18th-19th century crofting township situated in a narrow valley (Allt an t-Strathain) and across adjacent rocky slopes on the S side of Loch Inver (max. extent 1km x 0.5m NW-SE). The nucleus of the settlement is located 250m inland along the side of the valley. The coastal frontage is very narrow, though an isolated building complex (10.1) is located in the coastal zone. The township has been substantially altered in recent years through the construction of various modern buildings & chalets, and only a few heavily modified 19th century buildings are currently inhabited. The RCAHMS have registered this township on the basis of a desktop survey of the 1st ed. OS map series. The material remains have not been previously field inspected.

**10.1** Buildings **G/R:** NC 2083 9213

**Location:** Hinterland, 10m from HWM

1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE

A building complex comprising an inhabited 18th-19th century house (croft) and associated boat shed
(both harling rendered) situated on a small raised beach in a sheltered bay. A small rectangular peat
cutting (20m x 10m N-S) is situated on a small island in the centre of the bay, linked to the mainland at
low tide. A lazy bed cultivation plot is situated on the N side of the settlement. The max. extent of the

remains is 200m x 100m NW-SE.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

A complex of modern Scandinavian-style chalets and a new house have been constructed S and E of the buildings. The affect of this development on the site is unknown at this stage.

11. MEALLAN A' BHUIC G/R: NC 2081 9217

Location:Hinterland, 30m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 02 SESite Type:Peat cuttingsDate:19th-20th CenturyDescription:A small rectangular peat cutting (30m x 10m NE-SW) situated on a shelf on the N

side of a rocky promontory, 0.4m N of Strathan township.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

**12. RUBHA NAM FIADHAG** G/R: NC 2086 9216

Site Type: Fishing complex & field systems Date: 19th-20th Century Description: A complex of drystone field boundaries situated across steep, wooded hills to the SW of Lady Constance Bay, featuring a structure, boast nausts and associated slipways (12.1). The

drystone field boundaries extend across a coastal frontage measuring 300m E-W and have an undetermined inland extent. The field systems are situated between the townships of Strathan and Culag and are probably post-improvement in date.

catag and are productly post improvement in date.

12.1 Structure, boat nausts & slipways G/R: NC 2084 9216

Location: Intertidal zone / Coast edge 1:10,000 Map: NC 02 SE

A rectilinear shelter or pen (7m x 4m N-S) defined by drystone walls (1.2m high) constructed with large angular blocks / boulders, and featuring an entrance at the S end. The structure abuts a low rock wall to the W. At the S end are situated 2 rock-cut boat nausts (ea. 4-5m long) connected with a boulder slipway and an artificial terrace (0.7m high) consisting of a small inlet filled with angular rubble at HWM, representing a possible work platform or mooring.

Condition: Fair. Recommendation: Nil.

13. AIRD GHLAS G/R: NC 2090 9222

Location:Hinterland, 5m from HWM1:10,000 Map:NC 02 SESite Type:Enclosed peninsulaDate:19th-20th Century

**Description:** A small promontory on the S side of Loch Inver, defining the W side of Lochinver harbour (400m x 200m WNW-ESE). A circuitous drystone wall (200m ENE-WSW) divides the end of the peninsula, effectively creating a large enclosure which was presumably associated with post-improvement stock management.

Condition: Poor. Recommendation: Nil.

The area has been heavily disturbed by intensive quarrying activities and the recent expansion of Lochinver harbour, including the construction of a new pier, harbour walls and access road.

14. CULAG HOTEL NMRS No.: NC 02 SE 3 Hinterland, 20m from HWM NC 2092 9222 Location: G/R: Site Type: Building complex & gardens Date: 18th-20th Century Description: The site of an 18th century country house, now occupied by a Victorian baronial hotel complex featuring many 20th century extensions (total area 130m x 100m NNE-SSW). It is unknown whether elements of the original structure have been incorporated into the complex. A formal garden arrangement adjoining the S side the current building is depicted on the 1st ed. OS map (1878). This is now overlain by a lorry park.

**Condition:** Fair / Poor. **Recommendation:** Nil. The main building is still in use as a hotel, however the periphery has been heavily disturbed by recent developments, including the construction of a new harbour complex, lorry park and quarrying.

# **APPENDIX 2:**

# **GLOSSARY**

# **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

LVIII			
Coastal Assessment Survey, U	711	1000	

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The following glossary attempts to define the majority of terms used throughout this study. This is principally intended to make the report accessible to non-specialists, but also to introduce a greater degree of comparability between the various coastal assessments commissioned by Historic Scotland. Occasionally terminology appears in the text, the use of which is not supported by this study. Generally these are definitions of structural type or function coined in earlier studies (e.g. hut, bothy or sheiling), which have ambiguous connotations. These are hard to apply with certainty during a brief assessment of this nature without supporting documentary or comparative evidence. The use of the broader terms 'building' or 'structure' is preferred, however in some cases the former terms are retained to indicate independent interpretations of particular sites or structures.

The terms are listed according to the categories used throughout the study, and generally follow the guidelines established by Historic Scotland (1996). The exceptions to these are highlighted in Vol. 1 (Section 3). Terms which are defined elsewhere in the glossary appear in *italics*.

#### 2. HINTERLAND GEOLOGY AND COASTAL GEOMORPHOLOGY

#### 2.1 Categories

#### **Hinterland Geology**

**Peat/soil over bedrock** An area of coastal hinterland characterised by a hard bedrock overlain by negligible or shallow (<2m thick) deposits, such as peat, soil or glacial till.

**Raised beach and marine deposits** A coastal hinterland landform consisting of uplifted beach and sea floor sediments created by *marine emergence*.

**Blown sand** Any coastal landform characterised by sand-sized sediments transported and deposited by aeolian processes. Also known as coastal dune systems.

Alluvial deposits Deposits of any grade that have been laid down by fluvial processes. The distribution of these deposits is generally restricted to river floodplains and terraces.

#### Coast Edge

Low edge (<5m) A low relief coast edge consisting of small rock outcrops and / or low angle slopes (<45°).

Cliff (>5m) A high relief coast edge consisting of physically upstanding rock outcrops, steep exposures of drift deposits and / or high angle vegetated slopes (>45°).

Man made barrier Any human construction forming an artificial barrier to coastal processes (e.g. harbour walls, revetments, gabions and embankments).

**Storm beach** A ridge of coarse beach material generally situated above *HWM* created during a past episode of exceptionally high energy wave activity. Storm beaches are generally fossil features and are frequently colonised by stable vegetation communities.

**Human disturbance** Any section of *coast edge* that has been substantially modified by human activity (e.g. intertidal reclamation or quarrying).

### Coastal Geomorphology

Sediment size was generally determined by a rapid qualitative judgement in the field, and approximates to the Udden-Wentworth grain-size scale<sup>6</sup>.

Mainly rock platform/boulders An intertidal zone dominated by wave washed, low angle rock outcrops and frequently scattered with wave washed boulders derived from local rock fall and / or mechanically removed blocks weathered in situ. This category includes both wave cut platforms and low coast edge shelving indicative of recent marine transgression.

Mainly shingle/cobbles/boulders An intertidal zone dominated by coarse beach material varying in grade from fine pebbles (granules >2mm dia.) to large water rolled boulders.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Lewis, D. (1984) *Practical Sedimentology*. Hutchinson Ross, p.59.

Mainly sand An intertidal zone dominated by medium grade beach material (particles 0.006-2mm dia.)

Marsh A well vegetated area of fine sediments (<0.06mm dia.) occupying the upper tidal flat which undergoes frequent cycles of submergence and exposure. Occurs only in low energy coastal environments (e.g. estuaries) (Hansom 1988, 67). In the study area occasional deposits of medium grade sediments (0.06-2mm dia.) could also be classified as marsh (e.g. at the southern end of Achnahaird Bay). Also known as salt marsh.

#### 2.2 Other Terms

**Boulders** Very coarse rock particles (>260mm dia.). These include both water rolled boulders that can be transported by high energy wave action (e.g. storm waves) and *in situ* wave washed boulders resulting from rock fall.

Coast edge A line defining the inland limit of wave activity along the coast. This zone varies in location and extent depending on local topography, tidal range, exposure to high energy wave activity and other geomorphological, marine and climatic factors. For the purposes of this study the coast edge is defined as the coastal hinterland less than 5m from HWM.

Coastal Hinterland The non-tidal land surface situated adjacent to the coast edge. Under normal conditions this zone is unaffected by coastal processes. This area is often restricted to the extent of a particular land form (e.g. raised beach), but may extend further inland depending on the scope of the study.

Coastal Strip A composite zone consisting of the intertidal zone, coast edge and the area of coastal hinterland less than 50m from HWM. Also known as coastal zone.

Cobbles Coarse water rolled rock particles (65-260mm dia.).

Glacial Till Any unsorted, glacially deposited sediments. Also known as drift, boulder clay or moraine.

**Intertidal Zone** The zone located between LWM and HWM that is subject to a continuous cycle of submergence and exposure associated with tidal influence.

Marine Zone The area of sea floor continuously covered by water under normal circumstances.

**Mud** Very fine grade sediments (<0.06mm dia.) characterised by alluvial silts and clays. A common constituent of the *intertidal zone* in estuarine environments.

**Pebbles** A generic term describing any form of medium-coarse beach material, consisting of shingle, cobbles and boulders (>2mm dia.). Equates to 'gravel' in the Udden-Wentworth grain-size scale<sup>7</sup>.

**Sand** Medium grade beach material, generally composed of small particles of rock, shell or coral (0.06-2mm dia.).

**Shingle** Moderately coarse water rolled rock particles (5-100mm dia.). Equates to 'pebble' and 'granule' in the Udden-Wentworth grain-size scale.

Wave-cut platform A flat rock platform situated in the intertidal zone which has been created through the mechanical effects of wave action.

## 3. EROSION CLASS

#### 3.1 Categories

The following categories are loosely based on Valentin's classification of coasts<sup>8</sup>.

**Definitely accreting** A section of *coast edge* showing indications of active, continuous progradation through the accumulation of water and / or wind-borne sediments. A coastline in this state will be characterised by extensive offshore depositional features (e.g. sand bars and spits) and will have a documented history of land reclamation. Hinterland vegetation communities will be poorly established, with a predominance of saline tolerant grasses and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Also compares to both 'shingle' and 'gravel' in the British Standard grain-size scale (see Holmes, A. (1965) *Principles of Physical Geology*, Nelson. p. 811).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ibid., pp. 830-839. See also Valentin, H. (1952) 'Die Küste der Erde', Petermanns Geographische Mitteilungen Ergänzsungheft 246.

shrubs. Note, for the purposes of this study this category also includes coasts effected by marine emergence, where identifiable.

- Accreting or stable A section of coast edge showing indications of slow or intermittent progradation through the accumulation of water and / or wind-borne sediments or marine emergence. A coastline in this state will be characterised by minor depositional features (e.g. alluvial spits or deltas). Hinterland vegetation communities will be moderately well established, however there will only be limited development of slow growing species and woodland.
- Stable A section of coast edge with no indications of either active erosion or progradation. Minor deposition or erosion may still occur under these conditions, however the net result will be inconsequential. For example, longshore drift may both deposit and remove sediments from a stretch of coastline resulting in an unchanged situation. A coastline in this state will be characterised by well developed vegetation communities. In the future the coast could either prograde or erode depending on geomorphological, marine, climatic or human factors.
- Froding or stable

  A section of coast edge showing indications of slow or intermittent regression, as determined by the presence of occasional erosional landforms (e.g. rock platforms & low cliffs) or marine transgression (e.g. the limited development of salt marsh or the drowning of cultural features). The erosion may be a result of sub-aerial processes, wave action, or a combination of influences. Hinterland vegetation communities will be well developed and visible erosion scars or cliffs may be well colonised by lichen or moss species. This category also includes coast sections with evidence of surficial erosion only (e.g. minor slumps and terracettes). The rate of regression is likely to be negligible under these circumstances.
- Definitely eroding

  A section of coast edge showing indications of active retreat, as determined by the presence of frequent, well developed erosional landforms (e.g. wide wave-cut platforms, high cliffs, caves, geos, rockfalls and sea stacks) or marine transgression (e.g. the extensive development of salt marsh or the drowning of cultural landscapes). Hinterland vegetation communities will be well developed, however visible erosion scars or cliffs will be fresh, with little or no colonisation by lichen or moss. The rate of regression depends on the degree of exposure to high energy wave activity and bedrock resistance, and can vary considerably from place to place. In some situations the sub-aerial weathering of overlying drift deposits may be a more significant threat than the mechanical erosion of the bedrock.
- Both accreting and eroding

  A section of coast edge showing active indications of both progradation and erosion, generally restricted to complex locations exposed to the influence of a variety of processes (e.g. long shore wave activity, fluvial deposition and / or aeolian processes). In specific reference to this study, this condition generally applied to estuarine environments, notably Achnahaird Bay, the Kanaird estuary and Loch Kirkaig. A coastline in this state will be characterised by either erosion and accretion occurring in tandem (e.g. coastal dune systems) or separately (e.g. variations in fluvial deposition / erosion along a tidal river stretch). The various effects of these processes have been described above (see other the categories in this section).
- **Land below 10m** Any area of *coastal hinterland* situated below the 10m contour. This zone frequently extends outside the *coastal strip*.

#### 3.2 Other Terms

- Eustatic sea-level change Fluctuations in the height of relative sea level resulting from the addition/removal of water in the world's oceans often caused by the formation or melting of ice sheets. The resulting change causes marine emergence and marine transgression.
- **HWM** Mean high water mark, as depicted on the current 1:10,000 OS map series. Under certain conditions (e.g. storm conditions) or along coasts with a high tidal range (e.g. narrow estuaries), tides may reach a much higher level.
- Isostatic sea-level change Fluctuations in the height of relative sea level caused by the addition/removal of weight on a land surface through the growth or retreat of ice sheets. The resulting uplift or depression causes marine emergence and marine transgression. Also influenced to a lesser degree by water loading / unloading on ocean plates.

- **LWM** Mean low water mark, as depicted on the current 1:10,000 OS map series. Under certain conditions tides may retreat to a much lower level, revealing a wider area of *marine zone* floor.
- Marine emergence The emergence of a marine surface caused by a drop in relative sea level.
- **Marine transgression** The drowning of an area of coastal hinterland caused by a rise in relative sea level. Also known as marine inundation.
- **Mechanical wave action** The process causing coastal erosion resulting from the direct impact of waves and water-borne sediments (e.g. boulders).
- Rate of regression The pace at which the coast edge retreats inland as a result of a combination of mechanical wave action, water layer weathering and sub-aerial processes. This process should be more properly term 'rate of retreat' and should not to be confused with marine regression, which relates to the combined effects of accretion and relative sea level fall.
- **Sub-aerial processes** The normal processes of weathering that loosen & transport sediment to the base of a cliff or slope under the influence of gravity, irrespective of proximity to the coast. These processes include water runoff, freeze-thaw and the effects of plant root systems.
- **Tidal range** Fluctuations in the height of tidal waves depending on seasonal, climatic and topographic factors. A high tidal range (e.g. in a shallow estuarine setting) can create difficulty in defining the position and extent of the *coast edge*.
- Water layer weathering The process of erosion to the coast edge resulting from the continuous process of wetting and drying of exposed rock. This is a mechanical process that can affect cliff faces outside of the normal tidal range through the action of spray and salt crystallisation in cracks (Hansom 1988, 31).

## 4. BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

### 4.1 Categories

- Protected Ancient Monument

  Any scheduled monument and any monument under the ownership of the Secretary of State or a local authority by virtue of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 [Section 28 (3)]. A scheduled monument is defined in this Act as any monument which is for the time being included in the Schedule [Section 1 (11)]. The latter is a schedule compiled and maintained by the Secretary of State (in such form as he thinks fit) for the purposes of this Act.
- Listed Historic Building Under section 52(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972 the Secretary of State complies or approves lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. The term 'building' is defined in the Act as including any structure or erection, and any part of a building. Section 52(7) of the 1972 Act as amended by Schedule 9, Paragraph 13 to the Housing and Planning Act 1986 provides that any object or structure fixed to a building or falls within the curtilage of the building and has formed part of the land since before 1st July 1948 shall be treated as a part of the building.
- Other known ancient monument Any ancient monument or building not currently defined as a Protected Ancient Monument or Listed Historic Building.
- Undesignated wreck Any shipwreck or hulk recorded in the study area. No shipwrecks or hulks recorded in the study area are currently classified as Protected Ancient Monuments.
- Site complex A site comprising a number of separate, but associated elements that are described individually in Section 3 (Vol. 1) and Appendix 1 (Vol. 2).
- Undetermined boundary The boundary of a site complex which is located outside the coastal strip, and currently undetermined by either field survey, documentary research or an examination of aerial photographs.

### 4.2 Site Types

**Boat naust** A hollow or shelter used to store or moor a boat at or above *HWM*, distributed throughout Northern Scotland, the Isles and Scandinavia. These structures usually constitute a simple U-shaped depression, although a variety of forms defined by revetment walls, boulder alignments and boat-shaped buildings constructed with well-built drystone walls have been recorded in the study area. This site type has its origins in the Late Norse Period, however

most boat nausts recorded in the study area are thought to date to the *Early Modern* Period, particularly the 18th & 19th centuries <sup>9</sup>.

Broch A type of circular stone fort distributed throughout Northern Scotland and the Isles dating to the late prehistoric period. Brochs generally measure up to 20m diameter with massive drystone walls (approx. 5m thick at the base) containing chambers, stairways and galleries (e.g. Mousa and Jarlshof in Shetland, or Dun Carlaway on the Isle of Lewis). The open interior of these structures may contain lean-to structures, and brochs frequently formed a focus for either contemporary or later settlement. Brochs are considered a development of duns and most were probably built in the 1st-2nd centuries BC/AD.

**Cairn** A heap of stones resulting from a variety of activities, including construction of funerary monuments, field clearance and landscape delineation.

Dun Term used for stone-built fortified settlement in Northern and Western Scotland and Ireland, encompassing a variety of settlement types from individual structures, small ring and promontory forts to larger walled settlements. Structurally duns are characterised by very thick stone walls, sometimes timber laced (see Vitrified forts), defining a series of internal rooms or galleries, and associated annexes. Duns typically date to the Late Iron Age (late prehistoric period), though they are also known to be occupied into the medieval period (cf. Dun Lagaidh, Loch Broom).

Field systems A network of field boundaries and clearance heaps defining a cultivated area or pasture. Agriculture in the region probably originated the late prehistoric period, and traces of these field systems are observable, particularly in upland environments. Owing to the affects of subsequent land practices the majority of field system remains in the coastal study area probably date to early modern period. During the pre-improvement period, field systems comprised a series of cellular divisions defined by turf/stone dykes situated around settlements. It is possible this system originates in the late prehistoric period, however the exact connection is as yet undetermined. The survival of pre-improvement field systems is determined by the degree and distribution of post-improvement land practices, and elements can still be observed within the extent of modern settlements. This system was reorganised during the post-improvement period resulting in a more regular pattern defined by drystone walls. In some intensively occupied areas the use of stone walls was been discontinued earlier in the 20th century in favour of wire fencelines.

Hulks The hull of an unseaworthy or wrecked vessel, usually stripped of all fittings. These sites are generally situated at or near the coast edge. A hulk may be located in the marine zone, intertidal zone or on the coastal hinterland in the case of beached vessels or salvaged wrecks. All demonstrably abandoned, undocumented vessels recorded during the field survey have been classified as hulks for the purposes of this study. See also shipwreck.

Hut Circle A circular or oval depression, wall or ring of boulders defining the footings of a building usually dating to the *late prehistoric* period. This site type is common throughout highland Britain. The superstructure may have been constructed from a variety of perishable materials, including turf, peat, timber or thatch. These structures are often associated with upland *field systems*, however they are also situated in coastal environments.

Kelp kiln

A hollow or construction used for the manufacture of kelp, an alkaline seaweed extract used by the soap and glass industries in the mid 18th and early 19th centuries. Contemporary accounts indicate that the kilns were long, low constructions of stone (Hunter 1976, 17), however it is probable that a variety of other structural types were in common usage, particularly circular, revetted depressions hollowed from storm bars close to the kelping grounds.

Kelp storage pit After the decline of kelp as a commercial commodity seaweed was used locally as a manure. The process involved initially rotting the kelp in open pits. Local information (see NB 91 SE 2) suggests that this activity was conducted in circular depressions defined by low stony banks and short associated drainage channels. Kelp manure was commonly used as component of lazy bed cultivation rigs (Macinnes 1988, 86).

Lazy bed cultivation Plots of narrow, parallel beds or rigs consisting of heaped soil and seaweed, used for the cultivation of potatoes, vegetables and other crops in environments marginal for agriculture. Lazy bed cultivation was an ongoing process throughout the post-medieval period

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Hunter, J. (1991) 'The Multi-Period Landscape', in Hanson, W. & Slater, E. (eds) *Scottish Archaeology: New Perceptions*, Aberdeen University Press, pp. 178-195.

(ca. 16th-19th century) which ceased as an extensive activity as a result of the highland improvements. The practice was continued to a lesser degree by crofting communities into the 20th century.

**Midden** Any deposit (heap or stratum) of domestic or kitchen refuse (e.g. shell, bone, ceramics, glass and other ecofacts or discarded artefacts). This definition applies to both the cultural debris and its surrounding soil matrix.

Mill Throughout Northern Scotland mills are characteristically water driven, consisting of a building or structure located adjacent to a permanent stream or watercourse, usually at the base of a steep bank or slope. Mills are frequently situated at the base of a raised beach adjacent to the coast edge, where water velocity is at its highest.. They take a variety of forms, including both horizontal and click mill types 10. An artificial channel or lade diverts water from the stream into the structure to power the millstone. This technology has its origins in the Late Norse Period, however most mills recorded in the study area are thought to date to the Early Modern Period, particularly the 18th & 19th centuries.

**Peat cuttings** Trenches dug into peat deposits for the extraction of peat bricks for use as fuel, construction or soil material. The practice of peat extraction is likely to have a very wide time span, from the postulated use of peat as a building material in the prehistoric and medieval periods, to roofing material and fuel in the *early modern* period, and the recent commercial exploitation as a soil additive in horticulture. Given the sedimentary history of the region it is probable the majority of peat cuttings date to the 19th and 20th centuries. An associated feature are peat mounds, where the bricks have been stacked for drying.

Shipwreck The site of a vessel that has been accidentally wrecked as a result of climatic conditions, navigational errors or hostile action, or is the result of deliberate sinking. A shipwreck will generally only occur in the marine and intertidal zones, and can potentially be located in a considerable depth of water in offshore positions. This category defines both the physical remains of a wrecked vessel (e.g. hulk) and the underwater archaeological deposits associated with the wreck (e.g. scattered debris or cargo). Given that this study did not include marine zone survey, only known (documented) shipwrecks have been listed in the site gazetteer.

Slipway A ramp used for launching or beaching small boats. In the study area slipways generally consisted of passages cleared through boulder-strewn beaches defined by boulder revetments or sloping rock shelves. Slipways are commonly associated with individual or nests of boat nausts. Post-improvement slipways associated with harbours were constructed from mortared rubble or concrete.

**Township** For the purposes of this study a township is defined as a settlement complex consisting of associated or contemporaneous buildings set in a wider landscape context of cultivation plots, *field systems* and any other cultural features connected to the community (e.g. weirs and boat nausts).

Vitrified fort Term given to a dun or other late Iron Age fort where timber laced stone ramparts have been significantly vitrified through intense burning. This may have occurred as a result of either accidental or hostile action.

## 4.3 Periods

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As a result of the general lack of substantive dating evidence, it has been difficult to ascribe a precise date to the construction or occupation in the case of most sites in the study area. Certain periods (e.g. the Middle Ages) are as yet inadequately represented in the archaeological record of the Highlands, and as a result cannot be considered a distinct period at this stage. Furthermore, there was insufficient evidence identified in the study area to conclusively identify occupation originating in earlier prehistory, that is the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods (ca. 4000-2000 BC) and consequently a separate category has not been used for this phase. This is not to say that Mesolithic or Neolithic sites do not exist in the study area, or that sites recorded in this study do not have phases contemporaneous with these periods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Hunter, J. (1991) 'The Multi-Period Landscape', in Hanson, W. & Slater, E. (eds) Scottish Archaeology: New Perceptions, Aberdeen University Press, pp. 178-195.

The following broad terms are based on the visual characteristics of each site, previous documentation and comparative data sets from other parts of Northern and Western Scotland:

- Early modern Post-medieval period (ca. 1500-1900). No diagnostic features associated with the construction or occupation of the site are discernible during a rapid assessment of this nature. However, it is considered likely that sites in this category are post-medieval in origin, given their structural form and sedimentary context.
- Late prehistoric Bronze to late Iron Age (ca. 2000 BC-500 AD), as demonstrated by the occurrence of diagnostic structural or artefactual elements, and/or previous scientific dating evidence.
- **Pre-improvement** Post-medieval period prior to improvement (ca. 1500-1820 AD), as demonstrated by the occurrence of diagnostic structural (e.g. turf/stone dykes, lazy bed cultivation) or artefactual elements, previous scientific dating evidence and/or historical documentation.
- **Post-improvement** Post-medieval period after improvement (ca. 1820-present day), as demonstrated by the occurrence of diagnostic structural (e.g. drystone field systems) or artefactual elements, previous scientific dating evidence and/or historical documentation.
- **Pre-modern** Prehistoric to early post-medieval period (ca. 3000 BC-1500 AD). No diagnostic features associated with the construction or occupation of the site are discernible during a rapid assessment of this nature. However, it is considered likely that sites in this category are medieval or earlier in origin, given their structural form and sedimentary context.

### 4.4 Condition

Site condition was assessed from the perspective of overall site integrity, considering both structural preservation and archaeological potential. Sites with high structural preservation, but disturbed site context (e.g. occupied building complexes) were assigned correspondingly lower condition ratings. Sites with highly reduced structural remains, but intact site environment were assigned correspondingly higher condition ratings. Each site condition report was a preliminary assessment based solely on a brief visual inspection and review of previous documentation. Further studies using more detailed forms of investigation (e.g. systematic sub-surface testing and architectural recording) may alter these assessments considerably.

- **Good** A site with well preserved structural remains and/or archaeological deposits. Generally there will be limited ground surface disturbance, structural alteration and modern development in the locale.
- Fair A site with extant structural remains and/or potential for archaeological deposits. Generally there will minor levels of ground surface disturbance, structural deterioration / alteration and modern development of the locale.
- **Poor** A site with limited preservation of structural remains and high localised disturbance indicating poor or limited archaeological potential. Sites in this category may be exposed to chronic erosional problems affecting parts of the site, while other areas may be comparatively well preserved. Consequently inclusion of a site in this category does not necessarily indicate a lack of research potential. If the site is considered well represented in the region and of low significance, there is not necessarily any urgency to implement mitigation strategies.

### 4.5 Recommended Actions

- **Nil** No immediate action is required until the next scheduled assessment is conducted. This action is recommended in situations where there is no apparent erosional or developmental threat to the site. Occasionally specific aspects of the site condition or active geomorphological processes are highlighted for later revaluation.
- **Monitor** The site should be monitored on a regular basis to reassess its ongoing condition. This action is recommended in situations where either the site has overall low significance, or if the erosional threat is either unclear or slow.
- **Survey** The site should be the subject of a detailed archaeological investigation, involving systematic survey, sub-surface testing and / or excavation. This action is recommended where sites of potentially high significance are affected by an immediate or chronic erosional threat of a serious nature.

LXVI
Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996

## **APPENDIX 3:**

# LIST OF SOURCES, ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED DURING THE STUDY

Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996

LXVIII				
Coastal Assessi	ment Survey, Ullapool i	to Lochinver 199	6	 

The following is a comprehensive list of organisations, individuals and information sources consulted concerning various aspects of this study and associated research.

Alldritt, D Department of Environmental & Evolutionary Biology, Glasgow University Archaeology (Dept. of), Glasgow University Theses Ashmore. P Senior Inspector, Coastal erosion, HS MOLARS, Department of Archaeology Atkinson, J Glasgow University Baird, B Shipwrecks of the West of Scotland, Nekton Books, 1994 Baldwin, J Peoples and Settlement in North West Ross. Scottish Society for Northern Studies, 1994 MOLARS, Department of Archaeology Banks, I Glasgow University Bangor-Jones, M Regional historian Numismatist, Hunterian Museum Bateson, D Batev. C Curator, Kelvingrove Museum British Geological Survey 1:10,000 Drift Geology Map coverage (1912) Curator, Dept. of History & Applied Art, NMAS Caldwell, D Campbell, E Pottery specialist, Department of Archaeology Glasgow University Cowie, T **NMAS** Dagg, C Ullapool Field Club Dunwell, A CFA, Edinburgh University Dixon, P Director, Achiltibuie ALS, RCAHMS Ferguson, L Archival section, RCAHMS Fraser, I School of Scottish Studies, Edinburgh University Groom. D Scottish Institute of Maritime Studies Hall. D Inspector, Highland, HS Hanlev, R Inverness Museum Hansom, J Department of Geography & Topographic Science, Glasgow University Haynes, N Inspector, Historic Buildings, HS Hingley, R Inspector, Highland, HS Historic Scotland Register of Listed Buildings Register of Scheduled Monuments Holmes, N Numismatist, NMAS Hunterian Museum Collections Inverness Museum Collections Project Officer, GUARD James, H Kelvingrove Museum Collections Informants, Achnahaird Sands Kirby, J & R Leask, C Coastal Erosion Information abstracted from the Old & New Statistical Accounts. Historic Scotland, 1996 Lees. G Scottish Natural Heritage McCullagh, R AOC (Scotland) Ltd Maclean, W & M Informants, Achnahaird Sands Morris, C Department of Archaeology Glasgow University Department of Archaeology Morrison, A Glasgow University Newell. F Informant, Achnahaird Sands 1st ed. OS map series (1875-81) National Map Library of Scotland Murdoch Mackenzie's coastal charts of NW Scotland (ca. 1750)

Roy's Map of Scotland (1747-55)

Various early maps & charts of NW Scotland

(ca. 1540-1850)

**NMAS** 

Oxley, I

Paisley Museum

Photos-Jones, E

Poor, R

**RCAHMS** 

Rees. J Rex, P

Ross, F

Saville, A

Scottish History (Dept. of)

Glasgow University Scottish Natural Heritage Scottish Records Office (SRO)

Stone, J Tipping, R

Ullapool Field Club Ullapool Museum

Webb, J Will, B

Wood, J

Collections

Scottish Institute of Maritime Studies Collections

Metallurgist, Department of Archaeology

Glasgow University

Chairman of the Trustees, Ullapool Museum National Monuments Register of Scotland (NMRS)

Architectural Photographic Record

Shipwrecks database

Aerial Photograph Library (APU) Curator, Ullapool Museum Owner, Badentarbat Estate

Local resident

Artefact Research Unit, NMAS

Theses Library

Cromartie Muniments (GD305)

Peter May's Map of the Barony of Coigach (RHP85395) John Morrison's township plans of the Barony of Coigach

Department of Geography, Aberdeen University

Department of Environmental Science, Stirling University

Local archaeology enthusiasts organisation

Collections

Department of Geology, La Trobe University, Melbourne

Pottery specialist, Department of Archaeology

Glasgow University

Archaeologist, Highland Council

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# APPENDIX 4: LIST OF PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED SITES

Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996

LXXII	
Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 1996	

## APPENDIX 4: LIST OF PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED SITES

The following list does not include structures or site complexes recorded as part of the RCAHMS Achiltibuie Afforestable Land Survey (ALS), or previous NMRS registrations which were reinspected as part of this survey. NMRS nos. in parentheses indicate elements of townships and farmsteads identified from the 1st edition O.S. 6½":1 mile map series, but not previously inspected in the field.

G.R	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE
NH 2124 8947	Morefield Cottage	Rectangular Building
NH 2123 8947	Ullapool River	Hulk
NH 2122 8948	Gob an t-Seid	Field systems
NH 2122 8948	Gob an t-Seid	Circular stone spreads
NH 2117 8952	Morefield	Hulks
NH 2104 8955	Morefield	Rectangular building, boat naust (NH 19 NW 5)
NH 2112 8956	Morefield	Boat naust, stone field boundaries, cairns (NH 19 NW 5)
NH 2108 8960	Cnoc na Moine	Quarry
NH 2102 8966	An Srathan	Rectangular building complex (NH 19 NW 8)
NH 2092 8974	Rubha Cadail	Lighthouse (operational)
NH 2097 8978	Meall Garbh	Peat cuttings
NH 2103 8979	Meall Beag	Peat cuttings
NH 2106 8977	Achana Bada Darach	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NH 2108 8979	Ardmair	Rectangular building complex
NH 2108 8982	Ardmair	Rectangular building complex (occupied)
NH 2108 8985	Ardmair	Rectangular buildings (occupied), boat naust, harbour
		wall
NH 2115 8987	Poll a' Chreada	Lazy bed cultivation plots, slipway
NH 2119 8992	Buaile Ghlas	Rectangular buildings, lazy bed cultivation plots
		(NH 19 NW 9)
NH 2120 8996	South Keanchulish	Rectangular building (occupied), slipways
NH 2119 8998	River Kanaird	Hulk
NC 2112 9003	River Kanaird	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2123 9007	River Kanaird	Ford
NC 2119 9004	North Keanchulish	Rectangular building complex (occupied), enclosures
NH 2117 8999	River Kanaird	Boat naust, slipway
NH 2115 8995	Rubha Meallain Bhuidhe	Peat cuttings, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2113 9005	Camas Mór	Stone field boundaries
NC 2111 9009	Camas Beag	Fish trap
NC 2113 9009	Camas Beag	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2099 9011	Creag Dearg	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2095 9011	Creag an Airgid	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2093 9012	Creag an Airgid	Rectangular buildings, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2082 9026	Geodha Mór	Ford
NC 2074 9029	Uisge Làidir	Historic midden and walling in cave
NC 2069 9031	Allt nan Cosiche	Circular sheilings
NC 2066 9032	Culnacraig	Peat cuttings, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2065 9031	Culnacraig	Rectangular building (fishermans bothy), slipway
NC 2065 9031	Culnacraig	Peat cuttings
NC 2052 9035	Achduart	Rectangular building, stone field boundaries, slipway (NC 00 SE 5 / NC 00 SE 7)
NC 2047 9036	Achduart	Rectangular buildings, peat cuttings, slipway, boat remains (NC 00 SW 5)
NC 2045 9035	Rubha Dubh Ard	Peat cuttings
NC 2043 9038	Rubha Dubh Ard	Trigonometric cairn (1st ed. O.S.)
NC 2043 9039	Rubha Dubh Ard	Lazy bed cultivation plots

G.R	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE
NC 2044 9042	Rubha Dubh Ard	Rectangular building, boat naust, slipway
NC 2045 9042	Rubha Dubh Ard	Peat cuttings
NC 2046 9044	Achnacarinan	Square structure
NC 2046 9047	Achnacarinan	Township, slipways, boat naust, hulk
NC 2040 9054	Acheninver	Sheep pen complex
NC 2039 9054	Acheninver	Boat naust
NC 2038 9059	Cnocna Moine	Boat naust, slipway
NC 2037 9060	Badenscallie Beach	Boat naust cluster, hulks
NC 2031 9070	Polglass	Structures (inc. boat naust), slipway
NC 2030 9080	Loch Poll an Dùnain	Footbridge
NC 2025 9068	Achlochan	Rectilinear structures
NC 2020 9071	Rubha Dùnan	Peat cuttings, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2024 9076	Achiltibuie	Boat naust, slipway, boat remains
NC 2023 9078	Achiltibuie	Track, historic midden deposits
NC 2022 9079	Achiltibuie	Boat naust cluster, slipway
NC 2022 9082	Achiltibuie	Subrectangular structure, rectilinear kelp kiln
NC 2019 9090	Port Allt a' Ruisteal	Rectangular structures converted to sheep pen complex
NC 2017 9092	Creag Ruadh Badentarbat	Peat cuttings
NC 2012 9097 NC 2010 9097	Badentarbat	Sheep fold
NC 2006 9095	Mol a' Bhlair	Salmon fishing station Lazy bed cultivation, stone field boundaries
NB 1997 9096	Polbain	Rectilinear structures
NB 1995 9097	Polbain	Rectilinear kelp kiln
NB 1991 9010	Dornie	Rectangular building complex (partially occupied)
NB 1988 9012	Dornie	Lazy bed cultivation plots, stone field boundaries
NB 1984 9101	Dornie	Slipway
NB 1985 9113	Old Dorney Bay	Extensive boat naust / slipway complex, with numerous
	<b>,,</b>	hulks, lazy bed cultivation plots, stone field boundaries
		and clearance cairns
NB 1982 9113	Old Dorney Bay	Subrectangular structure, slipway
NB 1984 9125	Port an Alltain Duibh	Rough rectangular structure
NB 1985 9125	Alltan Dubh	Slipways, hulks, stone field boundaries, clearance cairns
NB 1978 9131	Alltan Dubh	Rectangular building complex (partially occupied)
NB 1975 9131	Alltan Dubh	Subcircular structure (poss. hut circle)
NB 1968 9139	Geodha na Glaic Bàine	Rough shelter, peat cutting
NB 1967 9142	Reiff	Circular kelp kiln (?), lazy bed cultivation plot
NB 1966 9142	Reiff	Rectilinear structure, stone revetment wall
NB 1967 9143	Reiff	Boat naust
NB 1966 9144	Reiff	Rectangular building (occupied)
NB 1964 9145 NB 1965 9146	Loch of Reiff Loch of Reiff	Boat naust Boat nausts, revetment wall
NB 1966 9147	Loch of Reiff	Rectangular buildings (occupied)
NB 1966 9150	Loch of Reiff	Boat nausts, slipway
NB 1964 9148	Loch of Reiff	Boat naust, revetment wall
NB 1964 9144	Loch of Reiff	Kelp storage pit
NB 1963 9144	Loch of Reiff	Circular kelp kilns
NB 1967 9157	Cnoc Airigh Giorsail	Subrectangular structure
NB 1967 9162	Caolas na Sgeire	Circular kelp kilns / bipartite shelter
NB 1969 9164	Glac Airigh Giorsail	Peat cuttings
NB 1971 9172	Rubha Min	Bipartite shelter
NB 1985 9177	Geodha na Ploytach Mór	Peat cuttings
NC 2016 9141	Achnahaird Bay	Boat house
NC 2018 9129	Allt a' Mhuilinn	'L-shaped' ditch alignment
NC 2022 9130	Allt Loch Raa	Weirs / fish traps
NC 2033 9146	Rubh' a' Choin	Circular kelp kilns
NC 2037 9143	Creag a' Choin Mhóir	Circular kelp kiln

G.R	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE
NC 2038 9141	Garvie Bay	Circular kelp kilns
NC 2039 9137	Loch Garvie	Circular kelp kiln, structure, weir
NC 2048 9135	Rubha Lag na Saille	Lazy bed cultivation plots, peat
110 20 10 9 100	ruona zag na omno	cuttings, slipway
NC 2054 9131	Camas a Bhothain	Rectangular buildings, bipartite subcircular structure, lazy bed cultivation plots, peat cuttings (NC 01 SE 7)
NC 2064 9139	Polly Bay	Peat cuttings
NC 2068 9041	Polly Bay	Rectangular building, weirs, lazy bed cultivation plots, trackway, footbridge (NC 01 SE 8)
NC 2068 9151	Lochan Sàl	Rectangular building (occupied), weir, slipway
NC 2070 9153	Lochan Sàl	Rectangular building, boat naust cluster, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2072 9161	Poll Loisgann	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2073 9172	Rubh' a' Brochaire	Stone boundary wall, marker cairn
NC 2075 9172	Loch an Eisg-Brachaidh	Circular structures, cairns, slipways
NC 2076 9172	Loch an Eisg-Brachaidh	Rectangular structures, weirs (NC 01 NE 5)
NC 2075 9176	Polly More	Rectangular building, stone field boundary, footbridge, slipway
NC 2071 9179	Port na Bò Ruaidhe	Boat nausts, slipways, weirs
NC 2069 9177	Rubha an t-Salainn	Peat cuttings
NC 2065 9179	Cais-Bhaigh	Peat cuttings
NC 2068 9184	Cais-Bhaigh	Peat cuttings, lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2069 9186	Cais-Bhaigh	Oyster farm
NC 2064 9193	Bealach Mór	Peat cuttings (?)
NC 2072 9195	Loch Kirkaig	Lazy bed cultivation plots
(NC 01 NE 2)	Inverkirkaig	Township
	79 9196	Rectangular building (occupied), boat naust (?)
	78 9199	Rectangular building (occupied)
	74 9198	Rectangular building (occupied), boat naust, enclosures, historic midden
	73 9199	Enclosures, trackway
NC 2065 9199	Loch Kirkaig	Lazy bed cultivation plots, peat cuttings
NC 2068 9199	Loch Kirkaig	Enclosure
NC 2065 9206	Loch Kirkaig	Standing stone
NC 2065 9207	Loch Kirkaig	Peat cuttings
NC 2063 9210	Poll na Creige Ruaidhe	Lazy bed cultivation plots
NC 2061 9213	Kirkaig Point	Rectangular building, quarry (?), stone boundary wall, peat cuttings
(NC 02 SE 19)		Township
NC 207		Lazy bed cultivation plots, trackway, slipway, stone boundary walls
NC 207		Weirs
	79 9212	Dam
NC 208		Rectangular building (occupied), boat naust, slipway
NC 2083 9213	Strathan	Rectangular building (occupied), peat cuttings (NC 02 SE 18)
NC 2081 9217	Meallan a' Bhuic	Peat cuttings
NC 2084 9216	Rubha nam Fiadhag	Rectangular structure, boat nausts, slipway
NC 2086 9216	Lady Constance Bay	Stone field boundaries
NC 2090 9222	Aird Ghlas	Stone field boundary

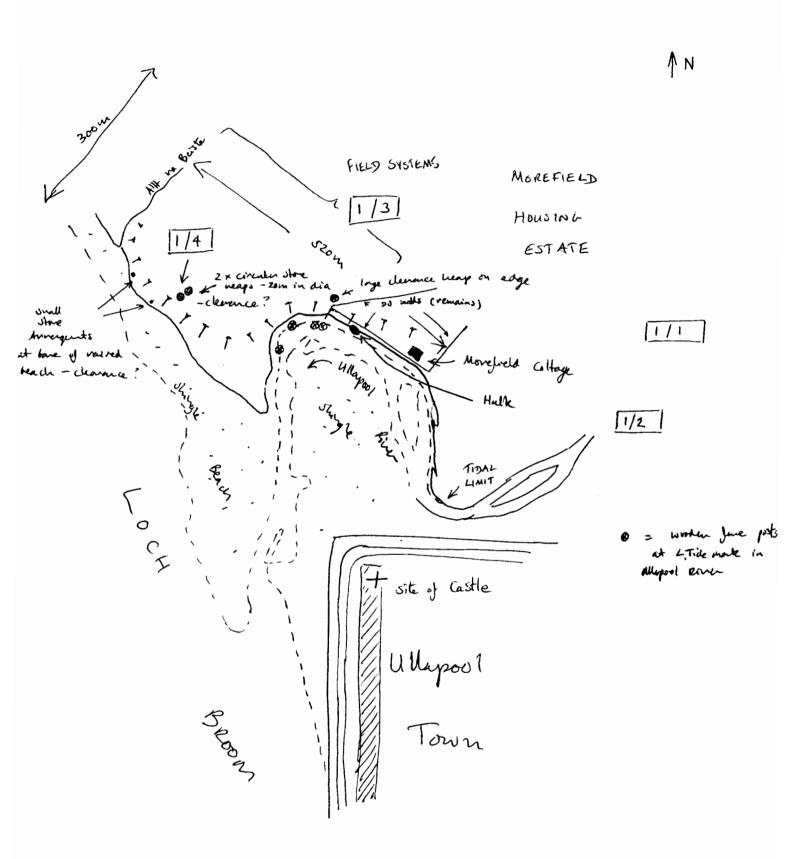
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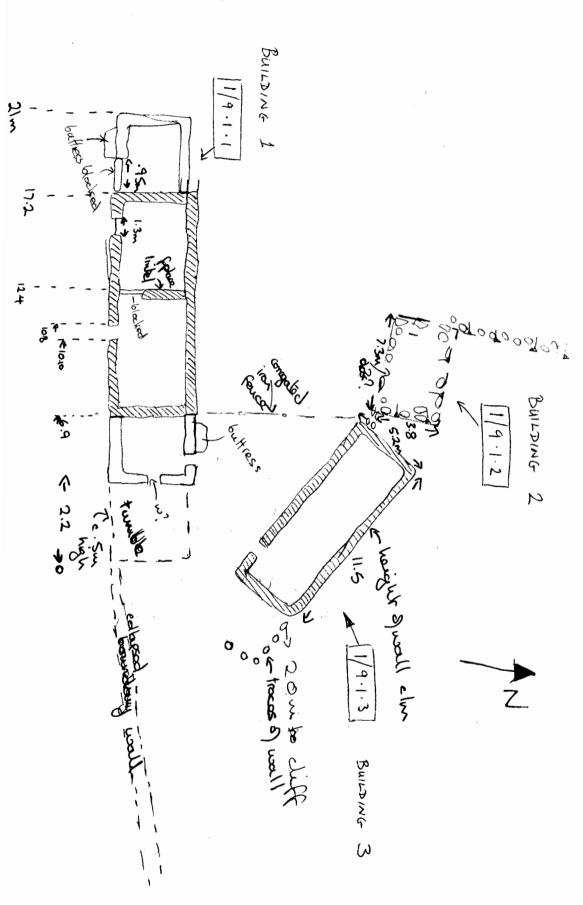
# **APPENDIX 5:**

# **SKETCH PLANS**

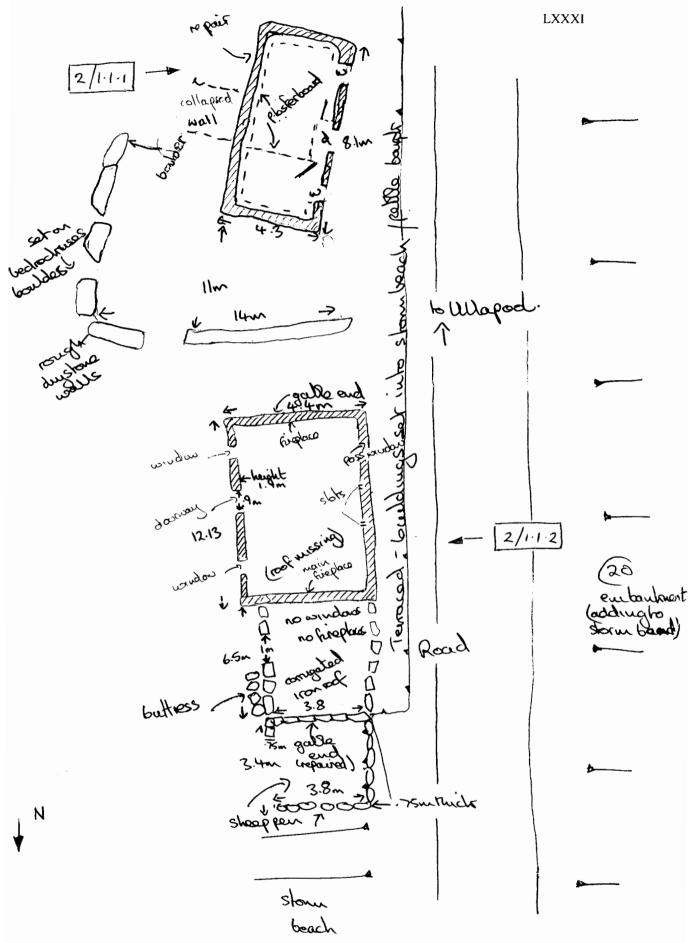
LXXVIII	
Coastal Assessment Survey, Ullapool to Lochinver 19	96



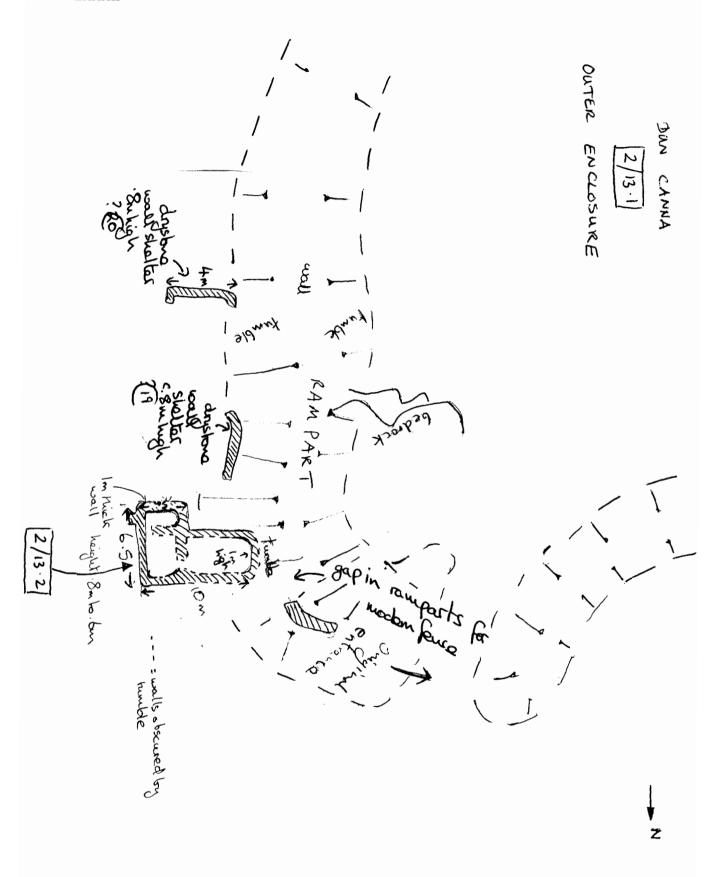
Plan 1: The mouth of the Ullapool River, showing relative locations of sites 1/1 (Morefield Cottage), 1/2 (Ullapool River, hulk), 1/3 (Gob an t-Seid, field systems) and 1/4 (Gob an t-Seid, stone arrangements).



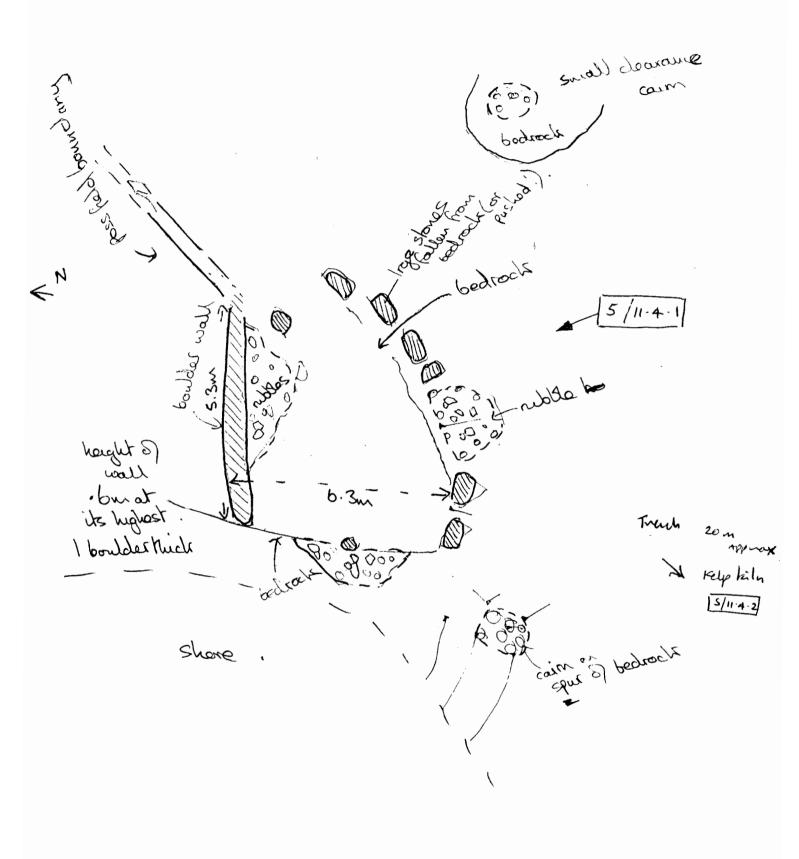
Plan 2: Rhue Township, building complex (1/9.1).



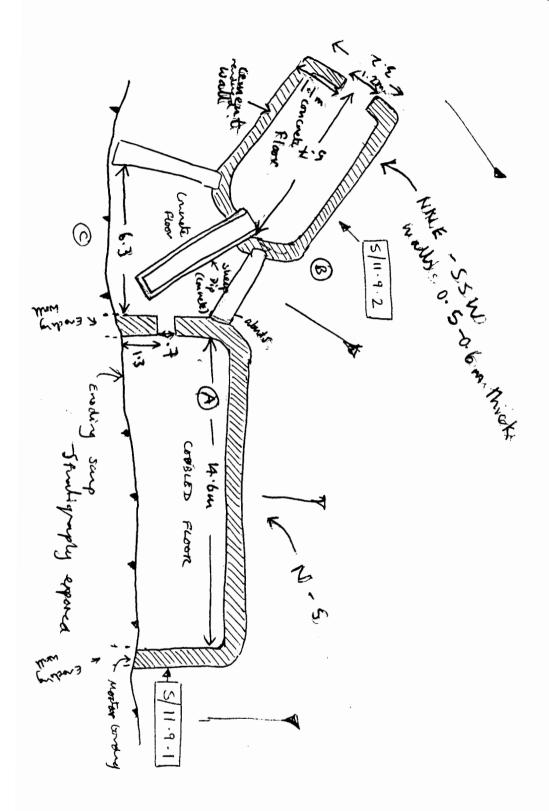
Plan 3: Ardmair Township, building complex (2/1.1).



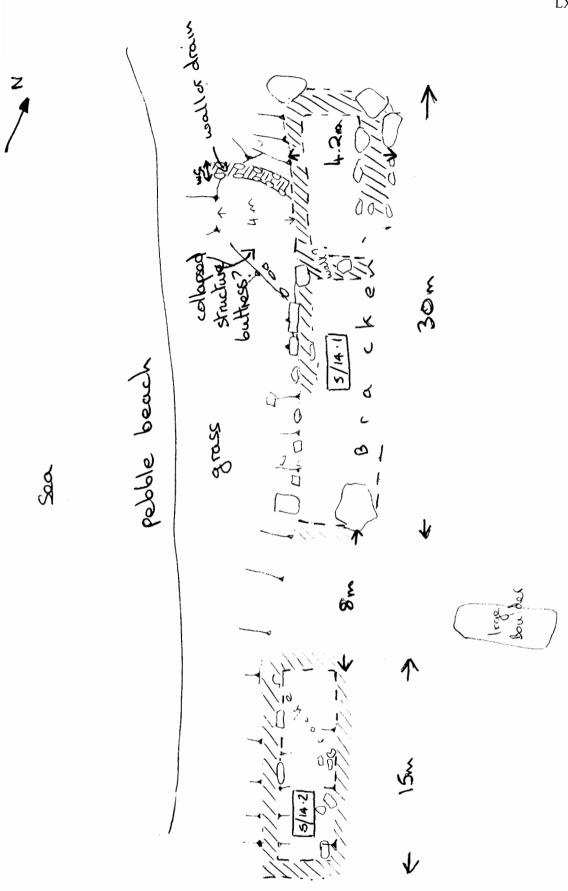
Plan 4: Dun Canna, later building (2/13.2).



Plan 5: Achiltibuie Township, structure (5/11.4).

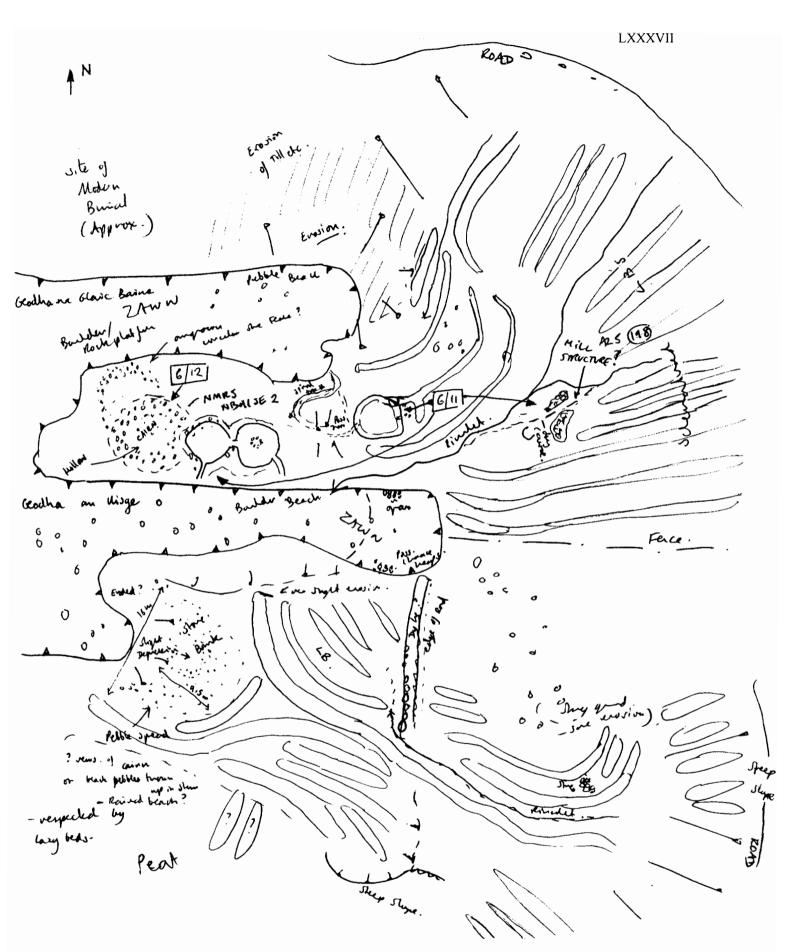


Plan 6: Achiltibuie Township, buildings ? (5/11.9).

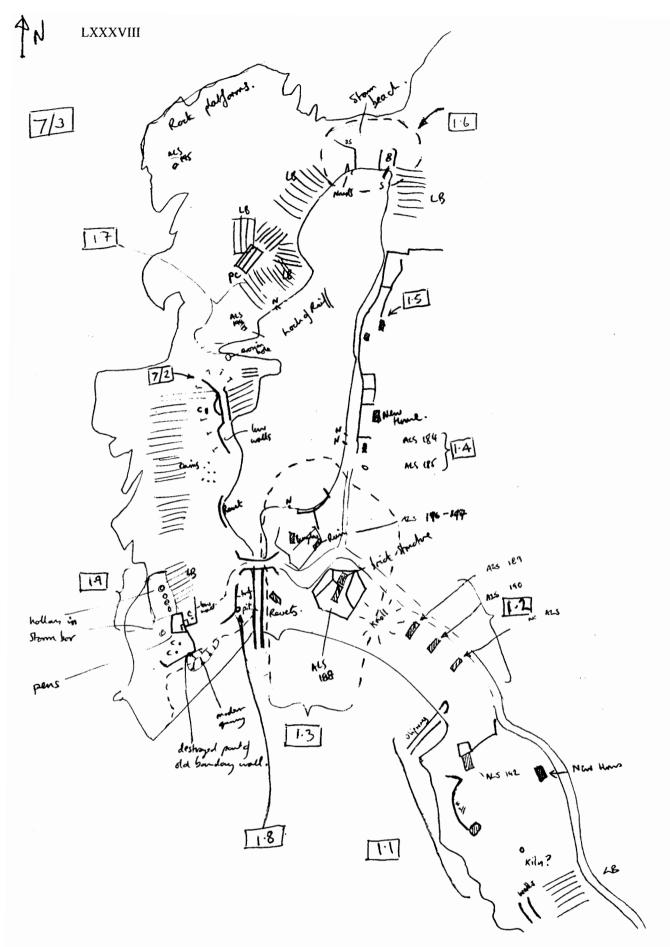


Plan 7: Badentarbat, structures (5/14).

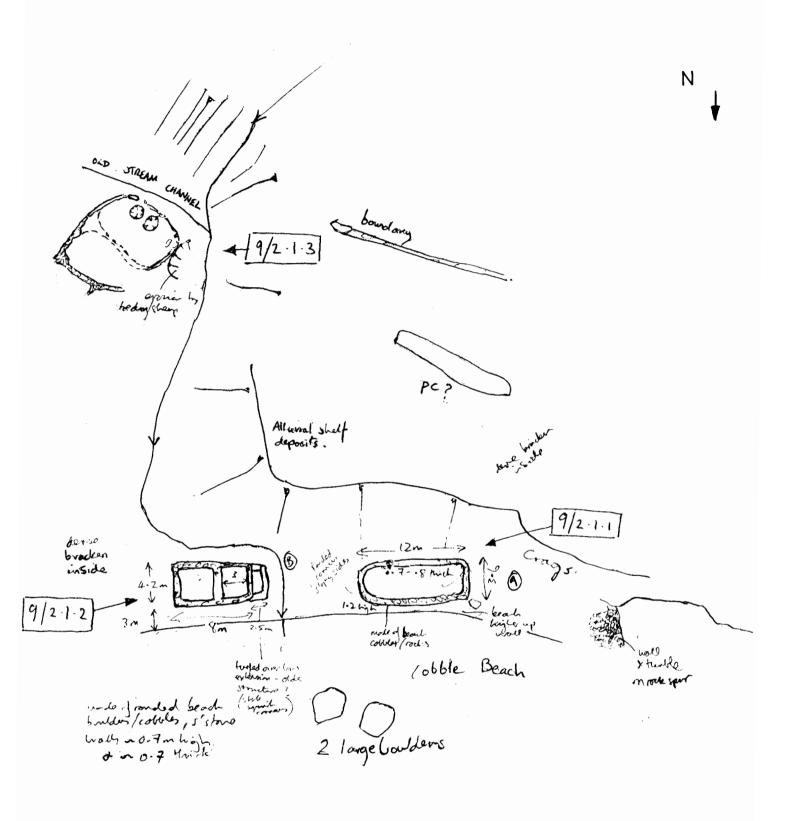
Plan 8: Alltan Dubh, hut circle ? (6/10).



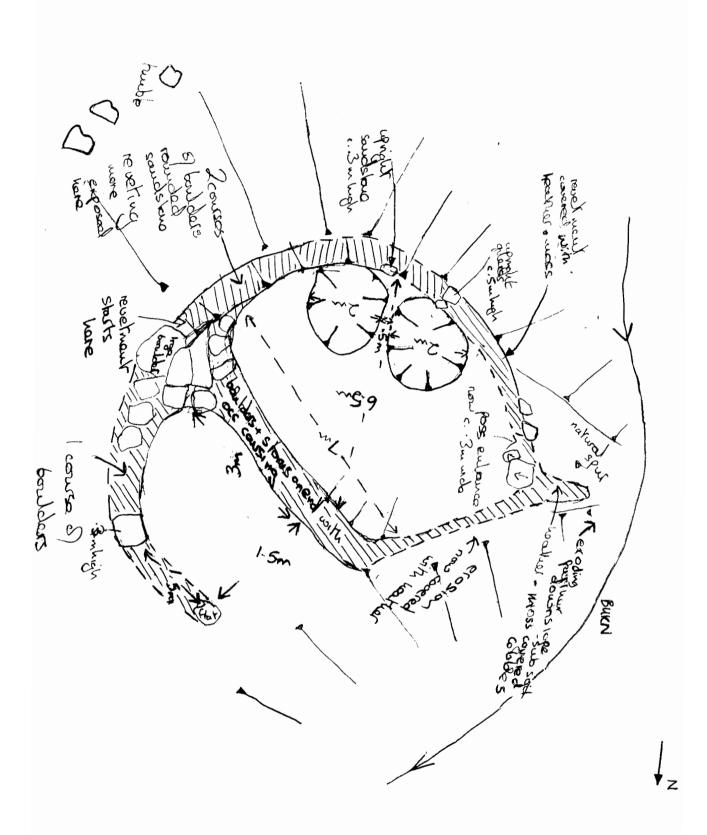
Plan 9: Location plan of Geodha na Glaic Bàine site complex, showing lazy bed cultivation, kelp storage pits & mill (6/11), and burial cairn (6/12).



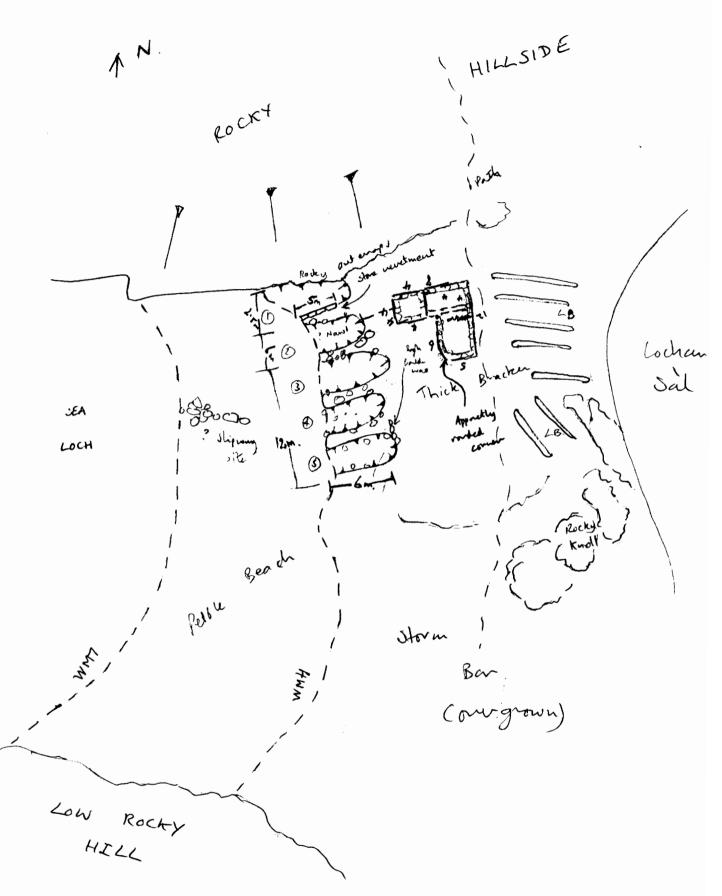
Plan 10: General plan of Reiff Township, showing buildings, structures landscape elements surrounding the Loch of Reiff (7/1.1-9, 7/2 & 7/3).



Plan 11: Camas a' Bhothain, showing rectangular buildings (9/2.1.1-2) and subcircular structure (9/2.1.3).

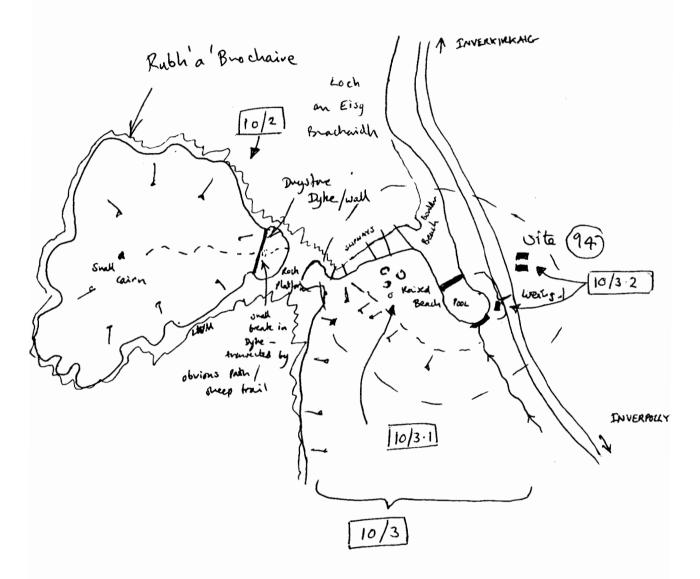


Plan 12: Camas a' Bhothain, plan of subcircular structure (9/2.1.3).

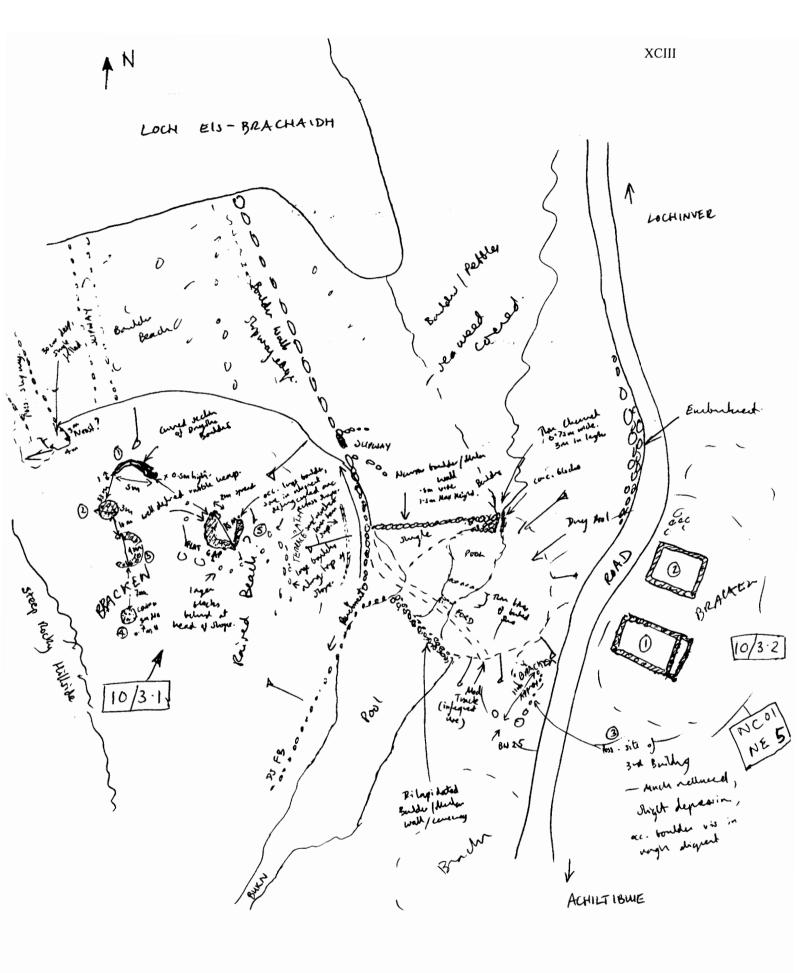


Plan 13: Lochan Sàl, plan of site complex (9/8).

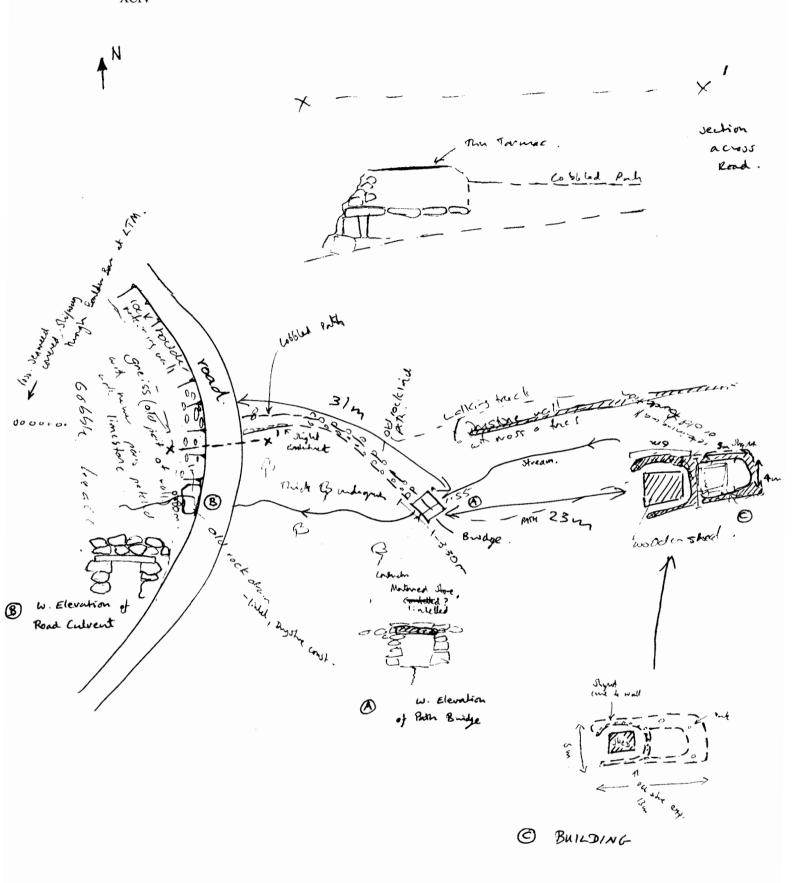
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Plan 14: Location plan showing Rubh' a' Brochaire (10/2) and Loch an Eisg Brachaidh (10/3).



Plan 15: General plan of Loch an Eisg Brachaidh, showing circular structures (10/3.1), rectangular buildings (10/3.2), slipways, weirs and boast nausts..



Plan 16: Polly More (10/4), showing building, bridges and drystone walls..

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# **COLOUR PLATES**

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Plate 12: Camas Beag Fish Trap (NC 2111 9009) exposed at low tide, looking north west along an extremely precipitous stretch of coastline towards the Summer Isles.



Plate 13: Old Dorney Bay (NB 1984 9115). View of the curved west end of structure 1, shell midden and cairn field. Facing SSE.



Plate 14: View of Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2) from the south east. Note an expanse of salt marsh in the mid distance, and the line of a dyke (part of NC 2018 9127) affected by tidal inundation in the foreground. Zones D, E & F are in the eroding area on the left.



Plate 15: Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2). General view of Zone D, showing the residual form of an eroding dune mesa which previously protected this area, flanked by buildings 1 (left) and 2 (right). An exposure of shell midden (Zone F) is in the background.



Plate 16: Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2). Building 2 facing west. Note eroding edge of machair behind the structure. Achnahaird House (NC 01 SW 34) is in the background.



Plate 17: Achnahaird Sands (NC 01 SW 2), Zone E. Eroding section, facing south west, showing in situ shell deposit, buried land surface and underlying palaeosol. Note rabbit activity at the base of the section. This land surface has been revealed through the loss of sand dune cover and approximately 1m of machair soil.