

ACHNABRECK III, ROCK ART EXCAVATION



DATA STRUCTURE REPORT

JUNE 2008

**Roderick Regan, Sharon Webb
& Blaze O'Connor**

Kilmartin House Museum
Argyll, PA31 8RQ
Tel: 01546 510 278
museum@kilmartin.org
Scottish Charity SC022744

Summary

The work has revealed an elaborate panel of rock art and it is probable that more motifs lie under the extensive overburden at the SE of the site beyond the excavated area. The decorated rock panel adds to the extraordinary concentration of rock art in the Achnabreck vicinity, and perhaps re-emphasises its importance as a site in the Neolithic period. The revealed motifs bear similarities to those on the other previously recorded Achnabreck panels. The largest motif (Motif 1) is likely to be one of the largest in Scotland, while the rough circle of cup-marks contained within the motif is unusual but has some similarities to a partial arc of cups seen within the concentric rings of a motif on Achnabreck 1 (lower group E sheet). There is also a parallel with the juxtaposition of Motifs 1 and 2 seen within Achnabreck 1 (upper group N end). The concentric rings within Motif 5 appear to have deliberately incorporated some of the cups lying within their circuits, and this is again paralleled within motifs previously seen at Achnabreck 2. The line of cups and rings seen within Motifs 6-8 are not seen within previously uncovered panels at Achnabreck, although similar motifs are to be found at Achanarich on the Craignish peninsula and at Baluacraig near Dunchraigaig. In this sense the majority of the Motifs have local or area parallels. In particular the larger Motifs are strikingly similar to those on other Achnabreck panels suggesting some relationship or shared knowledge between the creators of this important rock-art panel.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

Contents	page
1. Introduction	1
2. Location and Topography	2
3. Methodology	3
4. Excavation Results	5
5. Watching Brief Results	10
6. Rock Art Condition	11
7. Recommendations	11
8. Conclusion	13
9. References	13
Appendix 1: Context Descriptions	
Appendix 2: Rock Art Recording Sheet	
Appendix 3: Photographic List	

1. Introduction

The rock art panel at Achnabreck (NR 85566 90814) was first discovered in January 2008 when severe storms blew over a number of trees in the area. In this case, the storms had blown over a mature sitka which also lifted the root plates of at least three other previously felled trees.

The site was first reported to Kilmartin House Museum by Sally Wilkin, when the discovery was reported to the Forestry Commission, and subsequently by Steve Thompson who recorded notes and also informed Historic Scotland. The site was also visited in May 2008 by rock art specialist Stan Beckensall who took notes and made drawings.

The site lay approx 1m away from the Forestry Commission mountain biking track and was therefore vulnerable to cycle traffic. A further ring mark was discovered actually on the cycle track near the first panel in May 2008. The track has been closed since January and was re-located in early June. The aims and objectives of the project were outlined in the *Project Design* (Regan and Webb 2008). In summary, the proposed archaeological investigation, commissioned by the Forestry Commission, comprised the hand-cleaning of organic detritus from the newly discovered rock art exposures and the hand-excavation of the sloping ground abutting the base of the exposure. The aims of this project were to identify the extent of the site and explore the nature and character of any activities associated with the construction and use of the site, and recover any material which might be used to date the construction and/or use of the rock art. The excavation was undertaken by Kilmartin House Museum between 28th May and 30th May 2008 and the Site Code was ACB 08. In addition, an archaeological watching brief was conducted during the installation of the re-routed cycle track on 3rd June 2008, the results are included below.

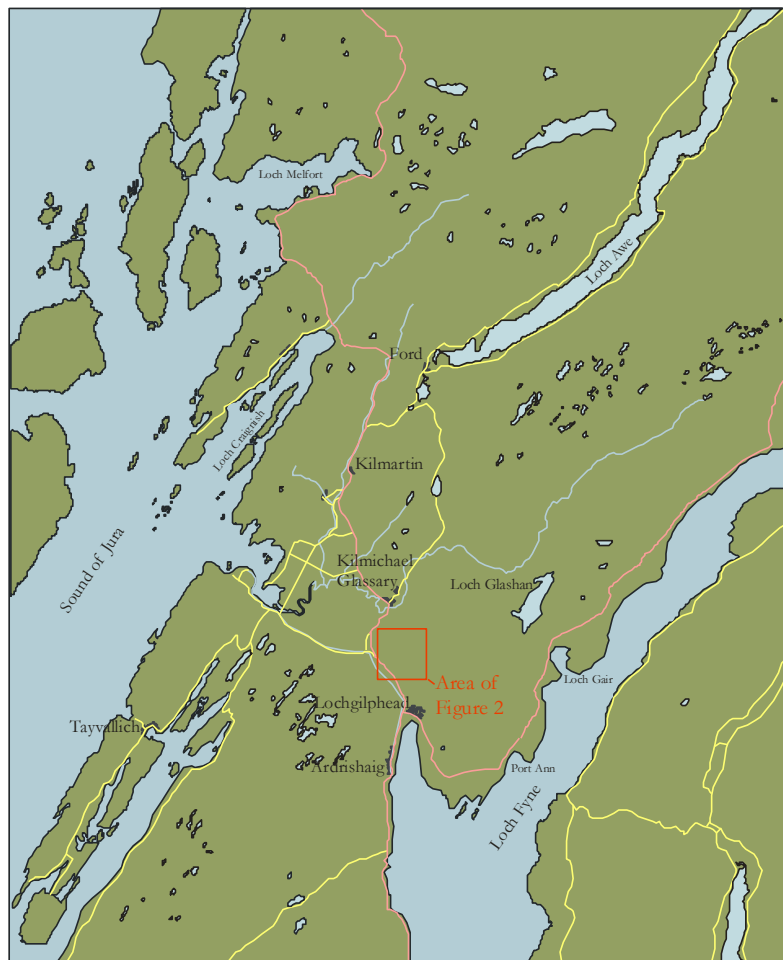


Figure 1: Location of Site

2. Location and Topography

Grid Reference NR 85566 90814 (GPS Accuracy 7m) 81m AOD

The site is located within Kilmichael Forest and approximately 420m NE of Achnabreck farmhouse and lies within sight of and c150m N of the fenced enclosure surrounding Achnabreck (I) NM 8557 9069. (NMRS NR89SE 2, Scheduled Ancient Monument and Property in Care). The site lies adjacent (S) of a cycle path and is situated amongst open/thinned woodland that consists of mature sitka and scots pine. The new panel lies on the undulating surface of a rounded outcrop of chlorite-schist. The markings are located at the NE end of a raised ridge of the NE/SW oriented domed outcrop which is c.12m wide at its NE end. The edges of the outcrop slope off sharply at the N and S but more gently at the SW. A sharp edge bounds the decorated panel at the NE and beyond it, also at the NE, the outcrop is skirted by an old track and associated dyke. The rock surface is naturally cracked and ice scoured with a fine line of quartz running through it.

The outcrop is one of many in the area that occupy the natural slope of the hill that continues to rise at the north and west of the site. While not occupying the highest point in the vicinity, the site would have, in the absence of trees, enjoyed extensive views to Lochgilphead and the sea to the S and towards Cairnbaan to the W. The position of the site is interesting as it offers views towards Cairnbaan, which are not afforded from Achnabreck (I).

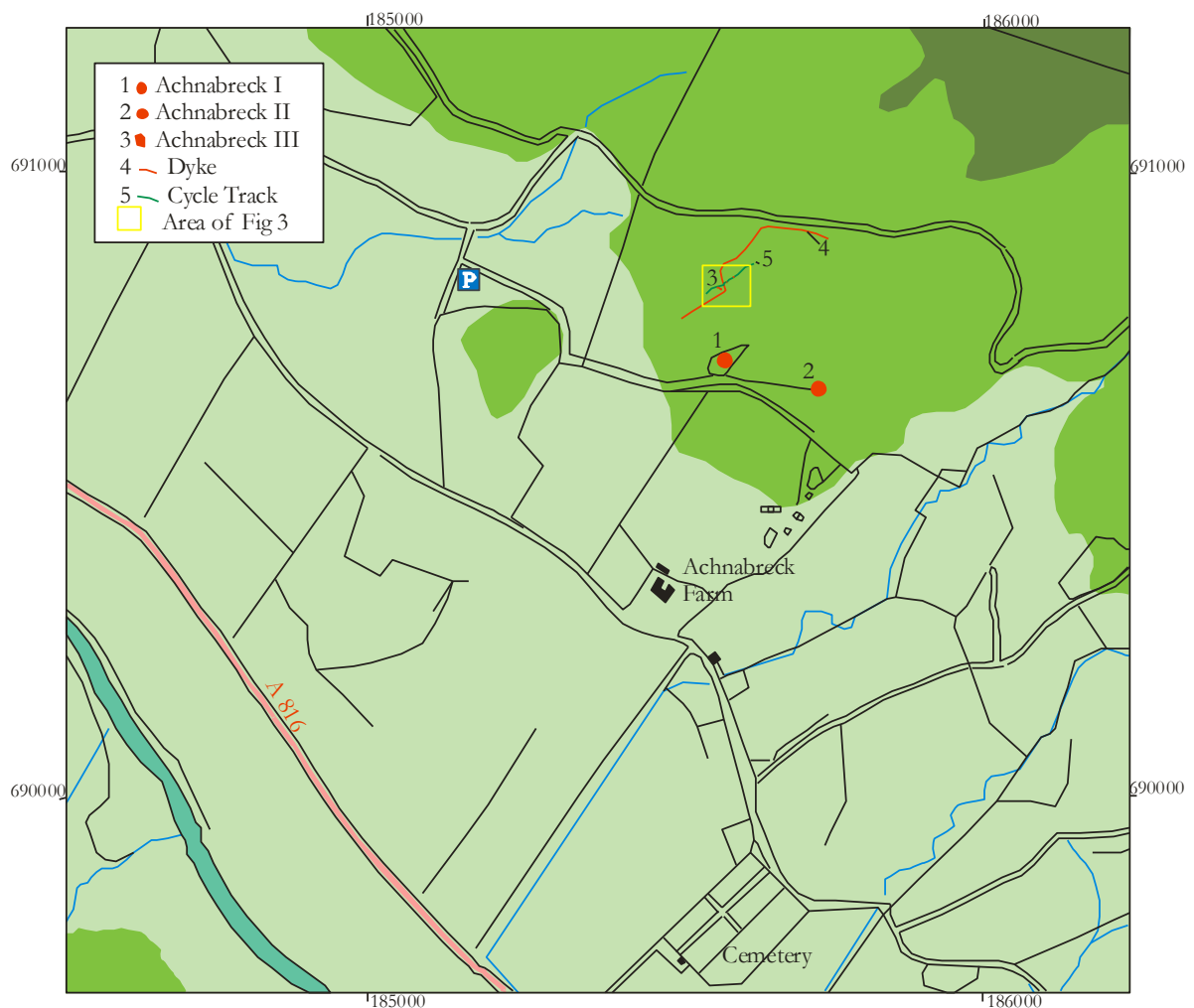


Figure 2: Location of Rock Art

3. Methodology

The rock art exposed by the January storms had been briefly recorded by Kilmartin House Museum after the site had been made safe by the Forestry Commission (the overhanging root plate was considered a danger to the site and any visitors to the site). The site was cleared of turf and soil overburden by hand down to the decorated rock surface. A grid was located over the site and from this a plan of the rock panel was drawn. The main panel, and the associated rock art found to the north, were surveyed using an EDM and tied into the fenced rock art site of Achnabreck I. All symbols, cup, ring, groove etc were given an individual Context Number and described as an individual entity on a Rock Art Record Sheet (See Appendix 1 and Appendix 2). Contexts were then grouped by a Motif Number, for example Motif 11 consisted of central cup [064], rings [065], [066], [067] and radial groove [068]. All motifs were individually photographed (Appendix 5 Photographic List).

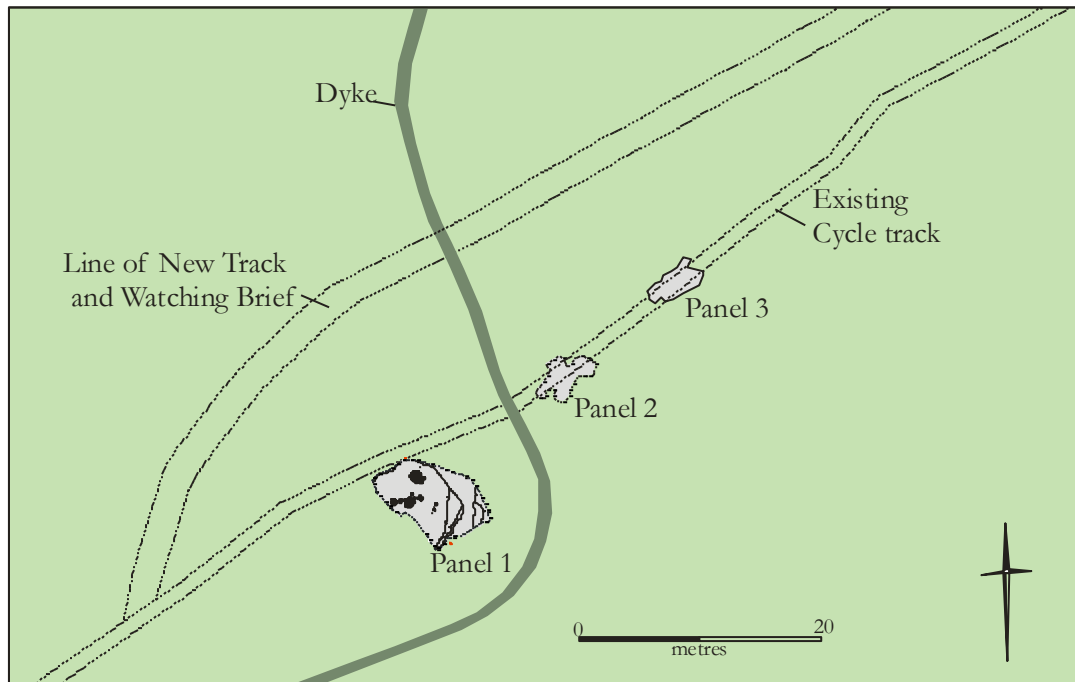


Figure 3: Location of Panels



Rock Panel 1, Looking Towards Achnabreck I

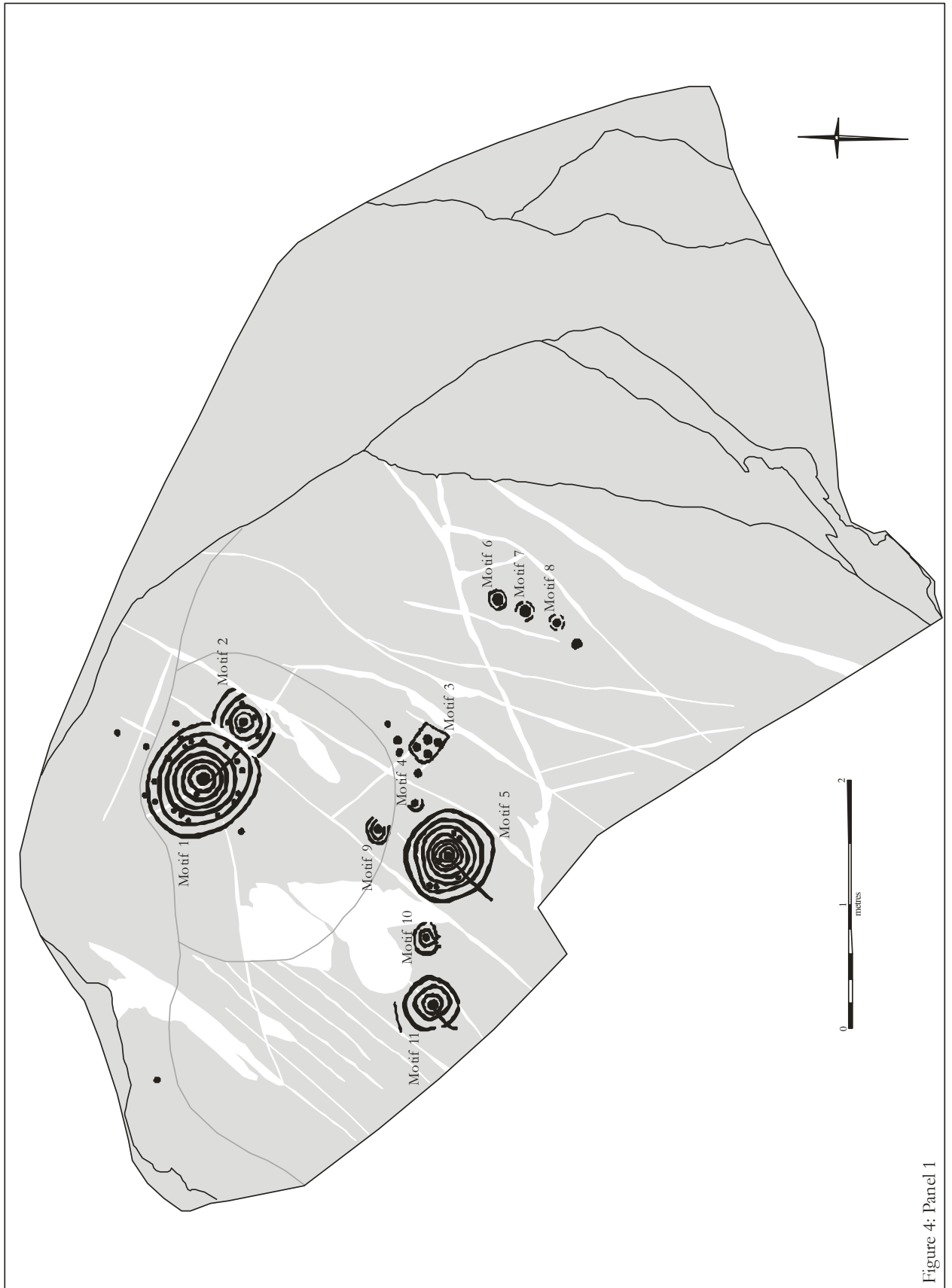


Figure 4: Panel 1

4. Excavation Results

Three areas of rock had associated markings (Panel 1-3, Figure 3). Much of the main panel (Panel 1) had already been cleared of topsoil (most of the overburden actually coming away with the uplifted tree plate). The majority of soil stripping was undertaken at the east of the site where topsoil [070] and underlying subsoil [071] were removed to reveal the underlying rock surface. The panel at this eastern side continued to slope down towards the SE. Here the overburden was as much as 0.49.m deep and the presence of tree roots mitigated against the continuation of the trench, although it is likely more rock art would be present. 11 main motifs with associated or surrounding cup-marks were recorded at the site. Although a systematic survey of the exposed outcrops in the area was beyond the scope of the work detailed here, a further ring motif and a line of three cups were recorded to the NW of the main panel (Panel 2, Motif 12) and a three cups (one with a radial groove) on another rock outcrop to the N of that (Panel 3).

Panel 1.

Motif 1.

[001]-[009]

This was the largest exposed motif and consisted of a large cup surrounded by 6 concentric oval rings (the largest 0.94m by 0.86m) with possible radial grooves leading from the central cup to the NW and SE. The motif occupied the highest point on the outcrop which was relatively flat. The surface and the motif appeared badly worn and has been machine scraped during construction of the adjacent cycle track. At least nine plain cups lie within the ring pattern and some of these appear as later additions within the main motif. At least 16 plain cups lay within the circumference of the rings, most of these forming a rough 'circular' pattern, a variation on a 'rosette' motif, between the 4th and 5th rings of the motif, respectively [003] and [002].



Motif 1, from NE

Motif 2.

[010]-[014]

At the SE of Motif 1 and adjoining or cut by it, was a smaller Motif consisting of 4 rings surrounding a central cup. The rings were badly eroded but suggest an overall width of 0.53m. The relationship of Motif 1 and 2 remains unclear given their eroded nature and their junction is further obscured by a crack in the rock surface. The rings of Motif 2 however could not be traced within the SE eastern side of Motif 1, suggesting Motif 2 was a later addition. 4 plain cups lie within the rings.



Motif 2 from N

Motif 3.

[015]-[019]

To the E of Motif 3 is a grouping of four cups surrounded by a sub rectangular cartouche-like form that has enhanced natural depressions/cracks in the rock surface. The 'cartouche' measured 0.26m by 0.23m. Four plain cups ([031]-[034]) lie close by at the N and are of similar size to those within the cartouche.



Motif 3 from east

Motif 4.

[021]-[022]

This was a cup surrounded by an eroded ring.



Motif 4 from north east

Motif 5

[022]-[027], [069], [073] and [074]

This motif lay to the S of Motifs 1 and 2 and occupied a sloping surface facing SE, the angle of the surface between 25°-30°. Overall the outer ring of this motif measured 0.78m by 0.68 and consisted of 7 concentric rings surrounding a central cup with a possible radial groove. The radial groove may have utilised natural crack/fissure within the natural rock. Six cup marks lay within the ring circuits. Two sets of cups, [036]/[037] at the S and [089]/[090] at the N and a single cup [038] appear to have been avoided by the rings, suggesting these were earlier and incorporated in the motif. The sixth cup [035] may be a later addition to this motif.



Motif 5 from north east

Motif 6.

[051]-[052]

This was a cup surrounded by an eroded ring.



Motifs 6 and 7 from east

Motif 7.

[053]-[054]

This was a cup surrounded by an eroded ring.

Motif 8.

[055]-[056]

This was a cup surrounded by an eroded ring.

Motif 9.

[057]-[059]

This was a single cup surrounded by two concentric rings, incised on a slightly sloping surface (15°) that faced SE.



Motif 9 from north east

Motif 10.

[060]-[063]

This was a single cup surrounded by an inner and outer 'keyhole' ring. The eastern side was less clear due to the proximity of a fissure on that side.



Motif 10 from east

Motif 11.

[064]-[067]

This motif was located on a sloping surface (30°) and consisted of a central cup surrounded by 3 rings with angular sides, the outer ring measuring 0.44m by 0.43m in width. A natural crack in the rock appears to have been utilised as a radial groove. The outer ring also does not appear to form a complete circuit, the terminals slightly offset from each other at the west. Another groove [091] at the north does not appear natural and may have been the start of another ring?



Motif 11 from south west

Cup-marks

42 plain cups were recorded, most of these lying within or close by the main motifs. The majority of cups were associated with Motifs 1 and 2, many of these incorporated into or added to the main rings of the motifs. This is particularly apparent within Motif 1 where the layout of the cups suggest a rough circular pattern. Within Motif 5 two pairs of cups appear to have been deliberately incorporated within the rings, the rings skirting round the cups, suggesting the cups were earlier or were an integral part of the original design. Cups [032]-[034] are situated near to and are possibly associated with, the cups in Motif 3. Another cup [088] lay to the south of Motif 8 and may have originally had a surrounding ring, this subsequently eroded.

Panel 2

Motif 12

[092], [093]

A much eroded ring had been pecked on a sloping rock panel to the NW of the main site, Panel 1. The exposed rock panel was formerly on the cycle track and lay on a 15° S facing slope. The oval shaped ring measured 0.195m by 0.17m and possibly has the remnants of a barely discernable inner ring (approx 0.09m in diameter).

The panel also features a line of three cup-marks on the north facing side [095]-[097].



Motif 12

Panel 3

[098]-[101]

This lay NE of Panel 2 and had one probable cup-mark with a radial groove two possible other cup marks on the N facing slope of the outcrop.

5. Watching Brief Results

A watching brief was conducted on the installation of the re-routed cycle track on 3rd June 2008. A 113m length of 2m wide track area was machine stripped (Figure 3). The new track diverged from the existing cycle track c.20m SW of the rock art panel, running past the lower ground some 13m W of the rock art and rejoined the track 50m to the N of the panel. Several natural rock outcrops were exposed along the route but none bore any evidence of rock carving. At the north and south, within the higher areas of the machine stripped area, a natural red brown silty sand [103] lay below the turf and between the natural rock outcrops. Within the central and lower area there was an accumulation of mid brown humic silt [102], which overlay the natural

rock and subsoil. The raised dyke that ran to the north of the rock art panel was sectioned by the machine, revealing a turf and stone constructed dyke measuring 0.75m by 0.80m high [101]. The stones used in the construction were mostly large rounded cobbles, the largest measuring 0.45m by 0.37m.

6. Rock Art Condition

The newly exposed rock surface was soft and in parts was easily removed even with the use of wooden tools (up to depth of 0.5mm). The softness of the rock surface had allowed small roots to penetrate the surface – some of these had worked their way along natural fissures causing further damage. Some of the deeper fissures within the rock surface (the deepest 0.22m) appeared to post date the rock art as some of the Motifs were truncated by the fissure edges. The cause of these cracks is not yet clear, but may have been caused by past root action (not necessarily modern forestry plantation). There has been some recent damage to the rock art, by a machine which has left scrape marks. These marks are particularly apparent over Motif 1. This damage probably occurred during the construction of the adjacent cycle track.

A vein of quartz running across the rock panel stood 2mm above the rest of the rock surface indicating the relatively faster erosion of the surrounding rock surface. If the panel had been carved when the surface was level with the quartz band then this indicates the degree of subsequent erosion and the possibly ‘worn’ appearance of many of the motifs.



Root damage to rock surface

7. Recommendations

Long and Short Term Management

The short and long term management of the site should be considered and this report makes the following recommendations:

- the site is kept clear of vegetation by regular strimming
- surrounding trees are assessed for stability and felled if necessary
- no further planting within at least 20 metres of the site

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

- the site is checked regularly for moss and other vegetation growth and this cleaned under archaeological supervision if necessary

Interpretation & public access

Sensitive public access could be provided and the site is worthy of interpretive information.

Controlled access to the site for members of the public could be encouraged and an access path from Achnabreck main panels is probably the best option.

Some form of interpretation would be useful, but since there is already interpretation at the main panels, it might be desirable to also interpret this site from there. The site is quite small, and the placing of a large interpretive panel in close proximity may serve to overwhelm the archaeological site itself. It may however, be appropriate to remind visitors not to walk on the panel, but this could perhaps be done with a small, relatively discrete sign.

The options should be considered and this aspect could be incorporated into the Dalriada Interpretation Project, especially if the interpretation of the main panels at Achnabreck was being considered for renewal.

The impact of visitors on the site should be monitored.

Academic publication and presentation

It is proposed that the results of the excavation will be published in a suitable journal. A copy of this report will be made available on the Kilmartin House Museum web site, and in the Marion Campbell Library at Kilmartin.

The three panels identified suggest that further undiscovered panels are highly likely to be present in the immediate area. A systematic survey of the exposed outcrops in the area, and in particular those situated between these panels and the previously known panels would allow the extent of this important concentration of carvings to be established.

The extent of the main panel detailed here remains unknown and defining this would require further excavation. The work completed at the site is unlikely to have revealed any archaeological features or material that may be present, since work in Scotland and Ireland has demonstrated that such evidence tends to lie adjacent to or just beyond the carved panels (O'Connor 2003, Jones and O'Connor 2007, O'Connor et al forthcoming, Bradley pers.comm.).

Recording work using photogrammetric methods combined with interpretive onsite survey is recommended in order to bring the level of detail of the records for these panels up to and beyond the standard attained for the previously known panels, which were recorded by the RCAHMS. This would allow the site as a whole to be presented in a consistent manner, and would facilitate the comparison of the panels across the site.

Scheduling

The site is of great local and national importance and as such should be recommended for scheduling.

8. Conclusion

The work has revealed an elaborate panel of rock art and it is probable that more motifs lie under the extensive overburden at the SE of the site beyond the excavated area. The decorated rock panel adds to the extraordinary concentration of rock art in the Achnabreck vicinity, and perhaps re-emphasises its importance as a site in the Neolithic/Bronze Age period.

The revealed motifs bear similarities to those on the other Achnabreck panels. Motif 1, located at the highest part of the panel is likely to be one of the largest in Scotland, and is comparable with the large motifs on Achnabreck I. Inclusion of a rough circle of cup-marks or rosette contained within the motif is unusual but has some similarities to a partial arc of cups seen within the concentric rings of a motif on Achnabreck I (lower group E sheet). There is also a parallel with the juxtaposition of Motifs 1 and 2 seen within Achnabreck 1 (upper group N end). Here the smaller group of concentric rings have been interpreted as being possibly earlier than the larger grouping. In this case, however, neither of the ring groups could be demonstrated to be definitely earlier or later than the other and it may be Motif 2 deliberately abuts Motif 1.

The concentric rings within Motif 5 appear to have deliberately incorporated some of the cups lying within their circuits, and this is again paralleled within motifs previously seen at Achnabreck 2. The line of cups and rings seen within Motifs 6-8 are not seen within previously uncovered panels at Achnabreck, although similar motifs are to be found at Achanarich 1 on the Craignish peninsula and at Baluacraig near Dunchraigaig. In this sense the majority of the Motifs have local or area parallels. In particular the larger Motifs are strikingly similar to those on other Achnabreck panels suggesting some relationship or shared knowledge between the creators.

Looking further afield, the rosette-like circle of cups and cartouche-like motifs resemble designs on insitu rock art panels in parts of Ireland, with the latter frequent in the north-east, notably in Donegal, and the former featuring at sites across the country, for example in Kerry and Monaghan (O'Connor in prep). These similarities echo the wider evidence for connections between communities on both sides of the Irish Sea during the later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age.

9. References

- Beckensall, S. 2005 *The Prehistoric Rock Art of Kilmartin*. Pp 24-33. Kilmartin House Trust, Kilmartin.
- Jones, A., and O'Connor, B. 2007 'Excavating Art: recent excavations at the rock art sites at Torbhlaren, near Kilmartin, Mid-Argyll, Scotland'. *PAST*: 1-3
- AOC 1995 'Achnabreck Cup & Ring Markings' Excavation Report.
- Morris, R. W. B. 1974 'The petroglyphs at Achnabreck, Argyll' *PSAS* 103, 33-56.
- Morris, R. W. B. 1977 *The Prehistoric Rock Art of Argyll*, Poole, Pp 29-43, No. ARG 3-5.
- O'Connor, B. 2003 'Recent excavations in a rock art landscape'. *Archaeology Ireland* 17(4): 14-16
- O'Connor, B. (in prep.) *Inscribed Landscapes. Contextualising Atlantic Rock Art*. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- O'Connor, B. A. Jones, R. Bradley, and A. Watson, (forthcoming) 'Drumirril, Torbhlaren and Ben Lawers: three recent excavations around Irish and Scottish rock art sites' *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*
- Regan, R. and S. Webb. 2008 Achnabreck Rock Art, Excavation Project Design. Kilmartin House Museum.
- RCAHMS 1988 *The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Argyll: an Inventory of the Monuments: Argyll, Volume 6: Mid-Argyll and Cowal, Prehistoric and Early Historic Monuments*. Edinburgh. No. 113, pp 87-97.

Appendix 1: Context Descriptions

[001] Outer ring part of Motif 1. Concentric outer ring around central cup 6th in sequence. Oval in shape measures 0.92m N/S and 0.85m E/W. The ring groove is up to 28mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[002] Ring part of Motif 1. Concentric ring around central cup 5th in sequence. Oval in shape measures 0.74m N/S and 0.69m E/W. The ring groove is up to 25mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[003] Ring part of Motif 1. Concentric ring around central cup 4th in sequence. Sub circular in shape measures 0.56m N/S and 0.56m E/W. The ring groove is up to 30mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[004] Ring part of Motif 1. Concentric ring around central cup 3rd in sequence. Sub circular in shape measures 0.45m N/S and 0.45m E/W. The ring groove is up to 29mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[005] Ring part of Motif 1. Concentric ring around central cup 2nd in sequence. Oval in shape measures 0.36m N/S and 0.30m E/W. The ring groove is up to 32mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[006] Inner ring part of Motif 1. Concentric outer ring around central cup 1st in sequence. Oval in shape measures 0.23m N/S and 0.20m E/W. The ring groove is up to 26mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[007] Central cup of Motif 1. Circular in shape the cup measured 90mm in diameter and was 12mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[008] Possible radial groove accentuating a natural fissure/crack in the rock surface. The groove runs SE from the N (where it becomes [009]) running just W of the central cup [007]. It measured 0.70m long and up to 25mm in width and 2mm in depth.

[009] Possible radial groove accentuating a natural fissure/crack in the rock surface. The groove runs NW from the S (where it becomes [008]) running just W of the central cup [007]. It measured 0.52m long and up to 24mm in width and 2mm in depth.

[010] Outer ring part of Motif 2. Eroded oval? concentric outer ring around central cup 4th in sequence. Oval in shape measures 0.53m wide. The ring groove is up to 24mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[011] Ring part of Motif 2. Eroded concentric oval? ring around central cup 3rd in sequence. Measures 0.32m wide. The ring groove is up to 26mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[012] Ring part of Motif 2. Oval concentric ring around central cup 2nd in sequence. Measures 0.36m wide. The ring groove is up to 25mm in width and 2mm in depth.

[013] Inner ring part of Motif 2. Circular concentric outer ring around central cup 1st in sequence. Measures 0.15m I diameter. The ring groove is up to 26mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[014] Central cup of Motif 2. Oval in shape the cup measured 65mm by 60mm and was 11mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[015] Surrounding Groove of Motif 3. Sub-rectangular groove forming a cartouche around a group of four plain cups ([016]-[019]). The groove appears to have utilised natural cracks around

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

the cups these appearing widened or accentuated by pecking. Three almost straight grooves form the E, W and S sides the N side more curved. Overall the motif measures 0.26m by 0.23m, the surrounding groove up to 30mm wide and 4mm deep.

[016] NE cup part of Motif 3. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 70mm in diameter and was 12.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[017] NW cup part of Motif 3. Oval in shape the cup measured 50mm by 45mm in width and was 9mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[018] SW cup part of Motif 3. Oval in shape the cup measured 75mm by 55mm in width and was 12mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[019] SE cup part of Motif 3. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 39mm by 35mm in width and was 12.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[020] Outer ring part of Motif 4. Eroded ring around central cup [021]. Barely traceable on its NE side, the ring was sub-circular measuring 110mm in diameter, 29mm in width and 2.5mm deep.

[021] Central cup part of Motif 4. The cup was circular and measured 40mm in diameter and 4.5mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[022] Ring part of Motif 5. Concentric oval ring around central cup, 5th in sequence. Measures 0.48m by 0.46m wide. The ring groove is up to 25mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[023] Ring part of Motif 5. Concentric oval ring around central cup, 4th in sequence. Measures 0.35m by 0.33m wide. The ring groove is up to 24mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[024] Ring part of Motif 5. Concentric oval ring around central cup, 3rd in sequence. Measures 0.28m by 0.26m wide. The ring groove is up to 25mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[025] Ring part of Motif 5. Concentric oval ring around central cup, 2nd in sequence. Measures 0.22m by 0.18m wide. The ring groove is up to 23mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[026] Ring part of Motif 5. Inner concentric sub circular ring around central cup, 1st in sequence. Measures 0.11m in diameter. The ring groove is up to 23mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[027] Central cup part of Motif 5. The cup was oval and measured 70mm by 65mm in depth and 6mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[028] Cup-mark. Circular in shape the cup measured 45mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[029] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 45mm by 40mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[030] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 55mm by 50mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[031] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 60mm by 55mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[032] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 45mm by 40mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

[033] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 60mm by 55mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[034] Cup-mark. Circular in shape the cup measured 40mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[035] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 38mm by 35mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[036] Cup-mark. Circular in shape the cup measured 26mm in diameter and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[037] Cup-mark. Circular in shape the cup measured 40mm in diameter and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[038] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 35mm by 32mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[039] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[040] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 35mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[041] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[042] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[043] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[044] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 35mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[045] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[046] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 33mm by 32mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[047] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 30mm by 28mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[048] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[049] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 50mm by 45mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[050] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 35mm by 32mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[051] Central cup part of Motif 6. The cup was oval and measured 80mm by 75mm in width and 11.5mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

[052] Outer ring part of Motif 6. Eroded oval ring around central cup [051]. It measured 160mm by 170mm in width, the groove 25mm in width and 3mm deep.

[053] Central cup part of Motif 7. The cup was oval and measured 65mm by 60mm in width and 14mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[054] Outer ring part of Motif 7. Eroded ring around central cup [053]. Barely traceable on its NE side, the ring was oval measuring 140mm by 125mm, the groove 15mm in width and 2mm deep.

[055] Central cup part of Motif 8. The cup was sub-circular and measured 50mm in diameter and 11mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[056] Outer ring part of Motif 8. Eroded ring around central cup [055]. Barely traceable on its S side, the ring was sub circular measuring 150mm by 140mm in width, the groove 20mm in width and 3mm deep.

[057] Central cup part of Motif 9. The cup was oval and measured 80mm by 70mm and 11.5mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[058] Ring part of Motif 9. Inner ring around central cup [057]. The ring was oval and measured 0.16m in width, the groove was 25mm in width and up to 3mm in depth.

[059] Ring part of Motif 9. Outer ring around central cup [057]. The ring was oval and measured 0.25m by 0.235m in width, the groove was in 22mm in width and up to 3mm in depth.

[060] Central cup part of Motif 10. The cup was circular and measured 60mm in diameter 16mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[061] Ring part of Motif 10. Inner 'keyhole' ring around central cup [060]. The ring was oval and measured 0.19m by 0.18m in width, the groove was 25mm in width and up to 2mm in depth.

[062] Ring part of Motif 10. Outer 'keyhole' ring around central cup [060]. The ring was oval and measured 0.30m by 0.26m in width, the groove was in 27mm in width and up to 3mm in depth.

[063] Cup-mark. Possible cup situated on the N facing slope of an exposed outcrop to the north of [091]. The circular cup measured 40mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[064] Central cup part of Motif 11. The cup was circular and measured 66mm in diameter 4mm in depth with concave sides and rounded base.

[065] Ring part of Motif 11. Outer ring around central cup [064]. The ring was oval with angular sides and measured 0.44m by 0.43m in width, the groove was in 27mm in width and up to 3mm in depth.

[066] Ring part of Motif 11. Concentric ring around central cup [064]. The ring was oval with angular sides and measured 0.28m by 0.24mm wide, the groove was up to 25mm in width and 4mm in depth.

[067] Ring part of Motif 11. Inner ring around central cup [064]. The ring was sub-circular and measured 0.16m in diameter, the groove was 24mm in width and up to 2mm in depth.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

[068] Radial groove part of Motif 11. Possible accentuated natural crack fissure utilised as a radial groove running SE from central cup [065]. The groove measured 0.24m in length, 22mm wide and 3.5mm deep.

[069] Ring part of Motif 5. Concentric oval ring around central cup 6th in sequence. Measures 0.62m by 0.58m wide. The ring groove is up to 27mm in width and 3mm in depth.

[070] Layer. Topsoil and scrub covering rock panel. The topsoil was a dark brown humic silt (peaty) with frequent degraded branches and twigs (from previous forest harvesting). This was up to 0.30m at the SE of the site. The overlying scrub consisted of grass and moss.

[071] Layer. Subsoil seen within the deeper rock fissures and sealing the rock surface to the SE where it was up to 0.19m in depth. The subsoil consisted of mid red brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles.

[072] Natural rock surface. The rock exposed rock consisted of an undulating surface highest at the NW of the trench and sloping away on all sides from the highest point. Large fissures or crevices were in the upper surface and given the juxtaposition of the rock art, these may have happened later, possibly by tree action. The rock was naturally fissured at the NW and SE and the rock art occurs on the smoother areas away from these badly fissured areas. This said some large cracks occur through the rock art.

[073] Ring part of Motif 5. Outer concentric oval ring around central cup 7th in sequence. Measures 0.78m by 0.68m wide. The ring groove is up to 26mm in width and 4mm in depth.

[074] Radial Groove part of Motif 5. Possible accentuated natural fissure utilised as a radial groove. The groove runs SE from the central cup for 0.53m and is 28mm wide and 3mm deep.

[075] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[076] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 30mm by 28mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[077] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[078] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 45mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[079] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 30mm by 28mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[080] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[081] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[082] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 30mm by 28mm in width and was 1.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[083] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 35mm by 32mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

[084] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 34mm by 32mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[085] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 32mm by 30mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[086] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 32mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[087] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 28mm in diameter and was 1.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[088] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 48mm by 46mm in width and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[089] Cup-mark. Oval in shape the cup measured 40mm by 35mm in width and was 3mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[090] Cup-mark. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 35mm in diameter and was 2.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[091] Possible artificial groove to the west of Motif 11.

[092] Ring, part of Motif 12. A much eroded ring pecked on a sloping rock panel to the NW of the main site. The exposed rock panel lay on 15° S facing slope. The oval shaped ring measured 0.195m by 0.17m and possibly has the remnants of a barely discernable inner ring ([093] approx 0.09m in diameter).

[093] Ring?, part of Motif 12. Possibly the badly eroded inner ring of [091]. Oval in shape the putative ring measured 0.09m in diameter.

[094] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 25mm in diameter and was 1.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[095] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 26mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[096] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[097] Groove? Possible radial groove associated with cup mark [094].

[098] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 28mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[099] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 30mm in diameter and was 2.5mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[100] Cup-mark?. Sub circular in shape the cup measured 35mm in diameter and was 2mm deep with concave sides and rounded base.

[101] Wall. Stone and turf dyke running north south. The dyke runs along the upper edge of a natural ridge, the wall measuring 0.80m high and 0.75m wide. The stones within the dyke comprised of water rounded cobbles/boulders the largest measuring 0.45m by 0.37m.

[102] Layer. Subsoil of dark brown humic silt.

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

[103] Layer. Natural subsoil comprising of a light orange brown silty sand.

Appendix 2: Rock Art Recording Sheet

ROCK ART RECORDING SHEET

KHM	SITE CODE:	ENTRY NUMBER:
SYMBOL TYPE:		GRID LOCATION:
PANEL NUMBER:		MOTIF NO:
DESCRIPTION:		
Use Other Side		
Shape:	Length:	Width:
Depth:	Sides:	Base:
Cut by:	Cuts:	Part of:
PHOTO No's:	PLAN NO'S:	SKETCH: <input type="checkbox"/>
Direction Facing	MATRIX: 	
Angle of Surface		
Preservation		
Peck Marks Visible		
Related Symbols		
SKETCH		
INTERPRETATION:		
PHASE	Initials/ Date:	

Kilmartin House Museum

Appendix 3: Photo List

Photo No.	Motif	Contexts	Direction From	Notes
1				pre x working
2				pre x working
3				pre x working
4				pre x working
5				pre x
6				working
7				working
8				working
9				working
10				working
11				working
12				working
13	11		E	
14	10		E	
15	5		E	
16				working
17				root damage
18				root damage
19				root damage
20				root damage
21				working
22				working
23				working
24				root plate
25	11		SW	
26	11		SW	
27	11		SW	
28	11		SW	
29	11		SW	
30	11		SW	
31	11		SW	
32	11		SW	
33	11		SW	
34	11		SW	
35	10		W	
36	10		W	
37	10		E	
38	10		E	
39	10		E	
40	5		SW	
41	5		SE	
42	5		SE	
43	5		SW	
44	5		SW	

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

45	5		NE	
46	5		NE	
47	5		NE	
48				working
49	5		SE	motif 5 and panel
50	4 & 9		NE	
51	9		NE	
52	9		W	
53	4 & 9		NE	
54	4		NE	
55	4		NE	
56	9		N	
57	4, 5 & 9		NE	
58	4, 5 & 9		NE	
59	3		E	
60	3		E	
61	3		E	
62	3		E	
63	3		E	
64	6		E	
65	7		S	
66	6 & 7		E	
67	7		E	
68	6		E	
69	6 & 7		E	
70	6		E	
71	1 & 2		E	
72	1 & 2		E	
73	1 & 2		E	
74			N	panel
75			N	panel
76	1		NW	
77	1 & 2		SE	
78	1 & 2		SE	
79	2		N	
80	2		N	
81	1		NE	
82	1		NE	
83	1		NE	
84	1		NW	
85	1		SW	
86	1		SW	
87			SW	Trench
88				panel looking towards Achnabreck 1
89			W	Trench
90			NE	Trench

Achnabreck, Rock Art, Excavation Data Structure Report

91			NE	Trench
92			NE	Trench
93			NE	Trench
94	12			
95	12			
96	12			
97	12			
98	12			working
99		063		cup-mark
100		063		cup-mark
101		063		cup-mark
102		063		cup-mark
103		063		cup-mark
104				panel pre x
105				panel pre x
106				panel pre x
107				panel pre x
108				panel pre x
109				panel pre x
110				working
111			SW	panel
112			SW	panel
113	11		SW	
114	5		SW	
115	11		SW	
116	11		SW	
117	10		SW	
118	3		E	
119	5		E	
120	9		E	
121	6 & 7		N	
122	1		NW	
123	5		SE	
124	5		SE	
125	11		SW	
126	10			
127	5		E	
128	3		SE	
129	9		E	
130	1 & 2		SE	
131	1		NE	