

DALRIADA PROJECT
Archaeological Evaluation Report



Data Structure Report
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Summary

The main aim of the project was to evaluate a number of known archaeological sites as to their potential to provide the basis for a community archaeology programme to better understand and promote the archaeology of Mid Argyll. One rock art site at Dounie has now been fully recorded while another possible site, also at Dounie, has been proved to be of natural, but intriguing, origin. The possible 'cairn' at Barr Ban has proved to be a more complicated structure than a simple stone cairn and possible cist. Indeed this may be a previously unrecognised type of funerary monument for this area. The two dun sites at Branangad and Balure have been confirmed as types of defensive enclosures. While the site at Balure might be seen as a 'typical' dun, the site at Barnagad has no direct comparisons within Mid Argyll, with its apparently open/undefended northern side. The other evaluated sites relate to later settlement activity as represented by deserted/abandoned structures and settlements. The evaluation at Lagan pinpointed earlier structures that underlay later buildings, as did the survey at Kilmory Oib. However, dating these earlier phases of activity by building typology or recovered artefacts remained a problem. The recovery of a gunflint from the site of Loch Losgunn certainly suggested that at least this building dated to later than the 18th century. However, without this one single find the date of this structure would have remained open to question. Apart from the gunflint all recovered datable artefacts at Loch Losgunn, Lagan and Robber's Den, the related to post occupation or abandonment phases. This said however, the evaluations have shown a great deal of information about the morphology of a site and its structures can be gathered in short space of time.

Further archaeological work would be merited at a number of the evaluated sites and would add considerably to the body of knowledge we have from excavated sites in the area. As part of community based projects several of the sites would produce exciting survey and excavation programmes; Barr Ban (cairn), Balure (dun) and Kilmory Oib (settlement) alongside work undertaken at Barrendaimph (kiln) and Achadah na Cille (burial ground). The above sites encompass a broad range of archaeological features and represent landscape use of different periods from the Neolithic/Bronze Age through to the post-medieval period. As such the sites offer a unique opportunity for the local community to gain an insight into the past of their landscape and the people who lived within it.

Acknowledgements

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1.Introduction

This report is an assessment of the preliminary results of a series of archaeological evaluations undertaken on behalf of the Dalriada Project: (2.1b Examining and Understanding the Archaeological Landscape (excavation)).

The aim of the Dalriada Project is to promote a better understanding of the local historic landscape, concentrating on the archaeological remains within the parishes of Kilmartin, Kilmichael Glassary and Knapdale.

This preliminary phase of the Dalriada Project will lead to opportunities for the local community to get involved in the archaeological process. In doing so project aims to engage the public in a way that will raise awareness and build an appreciation of the area's archaeology and landscape, which will ultimately aid its protection and presentation. Local societies and individuals will be encouraged to participate in future survey and excavation work. Schools and the broader public will be able to engage with the project through open days and presentations under the auspices of Kilmartin House Museum's education service, where work will be linked to existing education programmes. Results from the work of the project will be presented through an interpretative exhibition, which will be held at Kilmartin House Museum. The project will have updated reports on Kilmartin House Museum's web site.

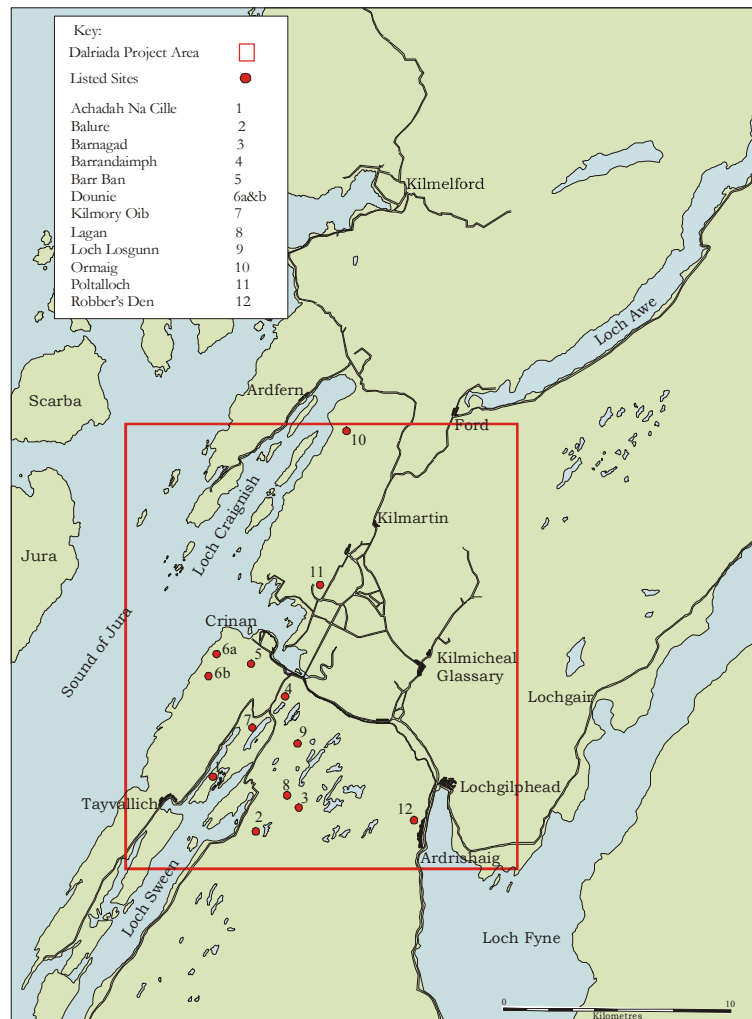
The Project, under the auspices of Kilmartin House Museum and following a consultative phase with the project partners and Historic Scotland, selected 36 archaeological sites that had potential to be presented to the public. The sites were selected using a series of set criteria. These included whether the sites could add to the body of existing archaeological knowledge and fit into research agendas already established by Kilmartin House Museum and other researchers working in the area. The selection process also considered whether the sites had previously been presented to the public and with that in mind whether sites were near to accessible route-ways. The sites selected also reflected the range of monument site types found within the Dalriada area representing various archaeological periods. From these sites and following an initial desk based study, 13 sites were short-listed on which to conduct archaeological evaluation in the Development Year of the Project (Regan & Webb 2006c, 2006d)

These were:

- Achadah Na Cille, Oib, Burial Ground
- Balure, Dun
- Barnagad, Dun
- Barrandaimph, Kiln
- Barr Ban, Burial Cairn
- Dounie, Rock Art Site A
- Dounie, Rock Art Site B (Creag Mhos)
- Kilmory Oib, Settlement
- Lagan, Settlement
- Loch Losgunn, Settlement
- Ormaig, Rock Art
- Poltalloch, Rock Art
- Robbers Den, Fortified Site

(see Figure 1 for locations)

Figure 1: The Dalriada Project area and site locations



Permission to carry out the evaluations was granted by the Forestry Commission, on who's land the majority of the sites lie and by the Friends of Robber's Den.

2. Aims and Objectives

The evaluation of the two dun sites at Balure and Barnagad will add considerably to the knowledge of this type of defended site in Argyll and will enhance the programme of research currently undertaken by Kilmartin House Museum at Barnlusagan dun (Regan & Webb 2006b). The survey of two potential rock art sites will add to the increasing picture of rock art within the Kilmartin area. This follows on from recent rock art studies in the area by Stan Beckensall and work currently being undertaken by a team led by Dr Andrew Jones of Southampton University in the Kilmartin Rock Art and Landscape Project (Beckensall 2005, Jones 2003). The two main listed rock-art sites at Ormaig and Poltalloch are not included in this evaluation report as the sites will become part of Dr Jones research programme. Examination of the settlement sites at Kilmory Oib, Lagan and Loch Losgunn will also enhance the picture of abandoned settlement in the area and whether these can be quickly evaluated as to date and form. This will complement excavation and survey work recently undertaken by Heather James within the Mid Argyll Medieval Rural Settlement Project, (James 2003, 2004 & 2006) and current survey work being undertaken by Kilmartin House Museum for the Forestry Commission on their forests in Mid Argyll (Regan & Webb 2004, 2005a-c & 2006a) Within

this broader research framework the evaluation work was intended to highlight specific archaeological aims:

- to define and characterise the selected sites.
- to determine the extent, survival, character and date of the archaeological deposits and features present within the evaluation areas.
- to excavate strategic trenches within the selected sites therefore establishing the stratigraphic sequence.
- to attempt to establish the date sequence within the selected sites from artefactual, scientific, and stratigraphic analysis.
- to follow up recommendations of further survey on recently uncovered sites
- to establish whether the chronological sequence of sites could be quickly assessed by small evaluative projects, this especially relevant within abandoned settlements.

3. Evaluation Methodology

The project was designed to evaluate each site over three days, although some flexibility was allowed depending on the complexity of the archaeology needing to be recorded.

The work principally involved the removing of topsoil cover and excavation within strategic trenches in order to gain an understanding of the underlying stratigraphic sequence and overall preservation of the sites. All overburden (topsoil and vegetation) within the evaluation trenches was stripped by hand, as was the removal of any underlying depositional sequence.

Scale plans were drawn of all evaluation trenches and sections drawn where it was deemed appropriate. The sites and evaluation trenches were located using a hand held GPS.

Recording of features and deposits was carried out using standard KHM recording sheets with recording based on an amended version of the Museum of London system (Spence 1990), which is single context recording, supplemented by section information.

A photographic record was maintained using a digital camera, the record list appears in Appendix 3.

Each recorded site received its own site code:

Site	Site Code	Site	Site Code
Balure	BAL 06	Kilmory Oib	KMO 06
Bar Bann	BAB 06	Lagan	LAG 06
Barnagad (Cruach nan Cuilean)	CRC 06	Loch Losgunn	LOS 06
Dounie	DON 06	Robber's Den	ROB 06

4. Report Layout

The report is arranged by site, which are listed alphabetically. Following presentation of the site information there is a summary of results followed by a description of the site, its history and the evaluation work. Appendix 1 lists the recorded contexts allocated to each site during the evaluation work. Appendix 2 is a catalogue of the recovered finds while Appendix 3 lists the photographic record.

5. The Sites

Achadah Na Cille, Oib

Alternative Names: Oibmore; Rubha Na Sgarbh

Type: Burial Ground	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: SAM	Grid Ref: NR761880
Location: on a peninsula east of Caol Scotnish – close to Ardnoe and Faery Isles cycle route	FC No.: 19
NMRS: NR78NE 1.00	WOSASPIN: 3658
RCAHMS Inventory: Argyll 7 No.2	Campbell & Sandeman: 413

Summary

This Scheduled ancient burial ground was included within the programme as its layout was poorly understood and presently remains partially hidden beneath undergrowth. A site visit confirmed the extent of vegetation regeneration, but at present little other work could be undertaken at the site without a detailed project design submitted to Historic Scotland to obtain Scheduled Ancient Monument consent. However, it has been recognised by both the Forestry Commission and Historic Scotland that work should be undertaken in scrub and tree clearance at a future date along with the detailed recording of any uncovered features. As such the site presents an excellent opportunity for a community project involving clearing away the undergrowth and properly surveying the site.

Location and Topography

This former burial ground is situated on one of the heavily indented peninsulas at the head of Loch Sween, 1.1km NNE of Rubh' an Oib ('the Point of Oib') and situated approximately 300m from Caol Scotnish on the west and 200m from a sheltered inlet on the east shore of the peninsula, that harbours the Faery Isles. Lying at 41m AOD the burial ground is placed at the southern end of a narrow glen where the glen opens up to overlook lower terraces to the south. The sides of the glen contain mature native trees, while the burial ground lies in more open ground recently cleared of trees. This ground is now heavily covered by marsh grass and some bracken with alder and birch regeneration apparent over much of the site.

Archaeological Background

The burial ground and the associated marker stones have been recorded at various times in the past. (White 1875, Lacaille 1925; Campbell and Sandeman 1964, RCHAMS 1992 & Fisher 2001). Only three carved stones remain within the enclosure, the rest have been were moved to other locations and can be seen at Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow, Kilmartin House Museum and St Columba's Episcopal Church, Poltalloch. Only the southern arc of a possible enclosure wall is discernible amongst the undergrowth of reeds and scrub, with no sign of a possible chapel or well mentioned in earlier descriptions. The later, however, probably refers to a spring now running to the east of the complex in the lower boggy ground.

Balure

Type: Dun	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR7827 0 85750
Location: East of Kilmichael of Inverlussa	FC No.: 485

Summary

This site was recently discovered during forestry operations and trial work was designed to confirm the status and preservation of the site as a dun fortification along with further survey of any other previously unnoticed features. Trial excavation, within five trenches across the site, established the position of wall lines and the entranceway to this interesting dun structure, while further survey work brought to light a series of outworks and enclosures to the south of the central/upper enclosure, with further outworks to the north. While the structure had possibly been robbed in the past, with further damage caused by recent forestry, the evaluation work indicated the preservation of internal surfaces and deposits. Given this and its relatively accessible nature the dun presents a good research excavation opportunity within the Dalriada Project that would considerably add to the existing body of knowledge of this type of structure in Argyll.

Archaeological and Historical Background.

The site was previously unknown until quite recently when it was uncovered and noted as an enclosure and cairn within the Forestry Commission's Heritage database. The site was surveyed in 2004 as part of an archaeological survey of North Knapdale Forest undertaken by Kilmartin House Museum which confirmed its status as a dun structure (Regan and Webb 2005a).

Location and Topography

The dun is located on a steep rocky escarpment situated about 500m south of the deserted settlement of Balure and 300m west of Loch Laraiche (142m AOD). Approach from the north is relatively easy along a natural ridge lying above wet and marshy ground at the east. The site has a good vantage point with fine views west and south over Loch Sween towards Jura. The site has recently been cleared of trees and this appears to have caused some damage to the structure as many stones in the eastern wall circuit appeared loose and displaced. Some immature Sitka, as well as some re-established native species are growing within the dun although the majority of current vegetation cover consists of less damaging grass, bracken, heather and moss.

Evaluation Results.

The evaluation trenches confirmed the extent and orientation of the main wall alignments within the dun complex, which appears to consist of an upper enclosure, Enclosure 1, with two further enclosures to the south, Enclosures 2 and 3. The walls were all constructed in dry stone rubble construction with larger stones generally utilised on the inner and outer faces with smaller stones used as levelling and packing between the larger blocks.

In total 5 trenches were opened across the site (Figure 2). Trenches 1 and 2 were placed over the eastern wall of Enclosure 1 with Trench 3 placed over the line of the western wall. Trench 4 was opened across the presumed entrance into Enclosure 1. The wall of Enclosure 2 to the south of the upper enclosure was investigated with Trench 5.

Enclosure 1

This enclosure internally measured 11-11.5m E/W and 9-9.5m N/S and consisted of an enclosing arc of tumbled walls that abutted a steep rock ridge at the north. The ridge that fell away steeply on the north side negated the need for a wall on this side. On the south side the ridge was less steep and required a wall to provide adequate defence on this side, although much of this was tumbled or had been robbed (there is a post medieval estate wall c.150m to the south).

Trenches 1 and 2

Many stones could be seen through the vegetation cover with some stones appearing to have been recently displaced or scattered, given their loose nature and lack of soil build up in and around them. The wall on this side was partially covered in bracken, moss and heather within a thin dark grey humic topsoil. The eastern wall of the upper enclosure [002] was between 1.85m-2.30m wide and stood 0.70 high in at least three courses. The wall on this eastern side was aligned north south and was fairly straight. At its southern end, within Trench 2, the wall was more tumbled and an internal edge was less easy to determine, beyond the trench to the south the wall turned sharply to the east along a steep ridge where the footings of the wall could be discerned. These footings were constructed over/along a natural rock ledge on this side lying some way down the slope of the ridge, perhaps suggesting the wall was originally battered and built up against the natural slope on this side. The enclosure wall again turns sharply and climbs the ridge to the north where it runs across the top of the ridge towards another natural outcrop and the original entrance.



Trench 1: Enclosure wall [002] looking south

Trench 3

The wall on this western side of the enclosure was covered by a moss, grass and bracken within a dark grey peaty soil. Within the trench the wall, [003], measured 1.80m width and stood up to 0.64m high. A line of stones seen within the core of the uncovered wall suggested that the wall had been thickened or rebuilt along this side. To the north of Trench 3 the wall line incorporated a natural rock ridge against which was built the southern side of the entrance way. Some stones appeared randomly heaped along the upper extent of this natural outcrop and appear to be the disturbed remnants of walling, although whether these lie near to their original position was more difficult to ascertain without further work



Trench 3: Enclosure wall [003] looking north

Trench 4

The entrance was located at the north west of the enclosure and lay between a steep natural scarp on the north and a natural outcrop on the south. The gap between these two outcrops had been narrowed by rubble walling [006], with three aligned stones forming the possible facing of southern side of the entrance. Much of the entrance was filled with collapsed rubble and further disturbed by tree roots. Although not terribly clear, the entrance may have originally been up to 1.30-1.40m wide.



Trench 4: Entrance looking north

Enclosure 2

This consisted of an arc of rubble springing west and then north from the south west circuit of the upper enclosure, creating an internal space 7-10m E/W by 8m N/S. A gap in the walls north eastern extent probably indicated the original access/entrance that appeared to have an original facing stone on its northern side built up against a natural outcrop.

Trench 5

The ruined nature of the walls meant it was difficult at this evaluation stage to ascertain the original width of the wall [004] but it probably ranged between 1.80m and 1.90m in width. A small extent of a possible clay and cobbled surface, [005] was also revealed within Trench 4, suggesting relatively good preservation across some areas of the site.



Trench 5: Enclosure wall [004]

Enclosure 3

The slight remnants of a wall [007] lay 7m to the west of Enclosure 2, indicating further defensive works enclosing this lower access to the dun. Only the foundations of this wall survived and these stood up to 0.35m high.

A brief investigation of the area to the east of Enclosure 1 revealed the remains of a tumbled enclosing wall on this side [008], lying approximately 11m east and down slope from the upper enclosure. Further investigation may reveal more defensive works on this side.

Barnagad

Type: Dun	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR 79866 86794
Location: South east of Achnamara	FC No.: 766

Summary:

The evaluation work was intended to establish the extent and preservation of this recently uncovered site. The trial trenches showed that this enclosure was defensive in nature and confirmed the position of an original entrance way. The work also showed that the walls of the enclosure, while collapsed, were substantial in nature and confirmed the existence of an outwork to the south of the main enclosure circuit. Clearance of rubble from around the wall indicated the presence of internal surfaces and possible structures while a trench against the external face of the main circuit revealed what may be the remains of midden/hearth deposits. Further excavation work within the site would be merited given the relatively well preserved nature of the site and its unusual 'open' apparently undefended northern side. The site however is relatively inaccessible surrounded by forest and on top of a steep summit.

Archaeological and Historical Background

This site has only recently been recognised by the Forestry Commission and was visited and briefly surveyed in 2004 as part of an archaeological survey of North Knapdale forest undertaken by Kilmartin House Museum (Regan and Webb 2005).

Location and Topography

The site was situated on the southern most promontory of a series rocky escarpments which run south west from Cruach nan Cuilen and lay approximately 400m north east above the deserted settlement of Laganeure. The walls of the dun enclose a natural plateau lying at the southern end of the ridge, with steep drops protecting both the eastern and western sides.

Evaluation Results

The walls of the enclosure form an oval arc enclosing an irregular internal space of 18m N/S by 11-13m E/W (Figure 3). The sheer drop on the southern side of the enclosure meant no wall was necessary on this side. No walls could be seen closing off the north eastern side of the ridge, although these, if they exist, could be hidden in undergrowth. The tumbled walls mainly consisted of scattered linear bands of rubble ranging between 2.0m and 3.5m wide standing up to 1.0m high above the present ground surface. An outer face was apparent on a short wall length on the north western side and an entrance was suggested on the southern side which could be approached up a steep slope from the south.

Four areas were opened, with Trench 1 positioned up against the internal face of the southern enclosure wall while Trench 2 lay against its internal face. Trench 3 investigated whether any wall existed at the east of the enclosure and whether any internal features lay this side. Within Trench 4 the undergrowth was cleared from around the presumed entrance.



Eastern enclosure wall looking north

Trench 1

Removal of the topsoil and scrub, [001], revealed a dark grey silt, [002], this sealing an extensive rubble spread [005] which was removed from around the inner wall-face area. The rubble lay in and sealed a pinkish grey silt [003]. Beneath this was what may be the remains of an internal wall division, [006] and a possible laid surfaces or rubble spreads [007] and [014] although more would have to be revealed and excavated to confirm this hypothesis. Enclosure wall [004] consisted of undressed roughly coursed drystone rubble 2.2m wide standing at least 0.78m high in two observed courses with stones up to 1.10m in size. The wall was much thicker to the west of the entranceway and the reason for this was not apparent during the evaluation. It may be the wall was thickened on this side for some reason, although it equally may be this represents the original build.



Trench 1: Internal wall? [006]

Trench 2

Beneath the scrub cover and soil [009] lay a collapse of rubble, [008], although this was less extensive than that encountered on the interior. The rubble sealed a band of possible dumped midden/hearth material [010] which in turn lay over burnt material [011] which may have derived from burning [012]. This activity was located on a ledge lying to the south of the main enclosure wall [004]. The ledge slopes down gradually to the south for up to 2.5m in part before dropping away more steeply for a further 2.5m where there is evidence of a wall along the top of a steep scarp [020]. This area outside the main enclosure may have seen occupation activity as the deposits encountered in Trench 2 could have developed in situ.



Trench 2: External wall-face [004] and 'midden' deposits to south

Trench 3

No wall was seen within the trench, and there seemed no need for one given the vertical cliff lying just beyond the trench to the east, although some loose stone blocks were seen in the dark grey humic silt [016] that lay below the topsoil cover. The dark silt in much of the trench would appear to lie directly over natural bedrock which slopes down from the east to the west. The exception to this was at the west of the Trench where deposit [016] was deeper and overlay rubble [017], the top of which was seen in a small excavated sondage.

Trench 4

Beneath the topsoil and scrub cover was a mass of collapsed rubble, [015], within much of the presumed entrance way. Despite this facing stones could be discerned on both the western and eastern sides, although this was less well defined on the east. Up to three courses of facing could be seen on the west consisting of a series of horizontally placed long stones although even these were partially displaced. Only one possible facing stone could be seen on the eastern side although the way other stones had collapsed around it, suggested this was the original line of the entrance, which would have given an entrance width of 1.10-1.20m. An arc of wall, [019], and associated rubble continued to the east of the entrance built around and no doubt accentuating a natural outcrop on this side.



Trench 4: Entrance from south



Trench 4: Western face of entrance looking west

Barrandaimph

Alternative Names: AGWA Site, Barnlusgan

Type: Settlement	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR797918
Location: Barnluasgan Caledonian Forest Reserve	FC No.: 444

Summary:

No evaluation work was undertaken on the site at this time as it was thought it would be an ideal site with which to train volunteers in excavation and recording techniques given its apparently robust, discrete and likely late (post medieval) nature.

Barr Ban

Type: Burial Cairn	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR 78245 93085
Location: North Knapdale Forest – reached by track NNW of Leach na Ban Farm	
FC No.: 417	

Summary

Trial work at this site was designed to establish the nature of this possible cairn site. The evaluation work revealed that the site was not a cairn as previously thought but appears to represent a ring or berm of mounded rubble set around a central pit, the latter possibly capped with a large placed stone. What was thought to be cairn material around the lower slopes of the ‘mound’ would appear to be an artificially enhanced natural ridge, this consisting of a mixture of stones and up-cast material. This interesting monument warrants further investigation to more fully understand what may be an unusual or previously unrecognised type of prehistoric burial monument for this area.

Location and Topography

The site is located on a raised terrace below the western slopes of Bar Bann. While the site is located a clearing dense forestry plantation it would probably have had good views to the north east over the Add basin.

Evaluation Results

The monument consisted of oval mound material measuring 12m EW by 11.20m NS although a tree partially obscures the eastern circuit (Figure 4). The mound stands to a height of between 1.0-1.70m, dipping towards the centre of the monument from a raised edge or berm to a large recumbent oval stone block or ‘capstone’.

Three trenches were placed over the site. Trench 1 was placed from the centre of the monument from the ‘capstone’ to the edge on the enclosing berm at the south. Trench 2 ran from the southern edge of the enclosing ridge down-slope to the west. Trench 3 was a small exploration trench to the north of Trench 2 on the western side of monument.



Mound looking south

Trench 1

The covering vegetation (as in Trenches 2 and 3) was bracken, moss and grass with some heather, this within a dark grey humic silt, [001]. This lay over a mixed silty peat deposit [004] that covered most of the trench and in part sealed 'berm' material at the south. The enclosing berm of the monument consisted of a reddy brown silty peat with frequent stones, [003], this was removed to reveal another stony deposit [007] within a lighter yellow matrix and this in turn sealed [008]. Stony deposit [008] possibly represents the core of the berm material and consisted of loosely packed stones within a mixed yellow brown silty sand matrix. Removal of layer [004] at the north of the trench revealed the edge of a possible cut [006], which contained the 'capstone' lying over/within fill [005] a yellow orange silt.



Trench 1: 'Capstone' looking south

Trench 2

Removal of the topsoil revealed a buried soil [002] consisting of light to mid grey sandy silt that sealed the underlying deposits within the whole trench. When this was removed from the upper part of the trench it revealed the western edge of the stone berm, [014], and what may be bands of revetting stones on this side. At the lower part of the trench these underlying stones were sealed by a dark grey silty clay deposit [011] possibly representing a peat/marsh accumulation within this lower area of the site. The stones that possibly represent revetting and artificial modelling on this side sat within a mid grey brown silty clay, some of this possibly re-deposited turf [012].



Trench 2: Berm looking north

Trench 3

This small sondage was cut to the north of Trench 2 to examine whether the deposits within the two trenches matched. This proved not to be the case as a thick layer of reddish brown silt; [010] was revealed below the topsoil. While this deposit contained some stones it mainly appeared to be re-deposited soil heaped along this side of the monument.

Dounie Rock Art A

Type: Cup-marked Rock	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR 76391 92882
Location: North Knapdale Forest, near the coast	FC No.: 468

Summary:

Work at this recently discovered rock art site concentrated on photography and illustration of the site with view to opening the site to public display. Clearance of moss cover from this large flat topped glacially deposited rock revealed up to 30 cups pecked into its upper surface with a further single cup pecked into its western vertical side. This site is close to the Crinan cycle-way and would make an interesting site for the public to visit.

Location and Topography

The site lies approximately 100m east of the present forestry track that forms part of the Crinan cycle-way running down the western side of Dounie ridge. The rock would appear to be a glacial erratic left at the southern end of a natural rock ridge, which although now surrounded by sitka plantation, would have enjoyed good views to the south.



South west face of cup marked boulder

Evaluation Results

The site consisted of a large flat-topped boulder triangular in plan (Figure 5). The boulder stood 1.90m high with the upper face measuring 2.80m by 1.50m. On the upper face of the boulder are incised a group of 30 recognisable cup markings, with the cups measuring up to 0.10m in diameter and were up to 3cm deep. A single cup was also incised into the lower section of the south western vertical face of the rock. Six narrow linear grooves lie along the upper NW edge of the rock although these are probably natural in origin. A second large boulder lay close by to the north but no markings were detected on its upper exposed surface.



Dounie Rock Art A: South east surface



North west surface

Dounie Rock Art B (Creag Mhos)

Alternative Name: Castle Dounie

Type: Cup and Ring Markings	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR766934
Location: North Knapdale Forest, near the coast	NMRS: NR79SE 9
FC No.: 458	Morris: ARG 27
WoSASPIN: 3787	

Summary:

Work at this site hoped to establish whether this site was a rock art site and is so it could be opened to public display. The natural rock panel on which these figures, mainly sunken rings, was entirely cleared of moss and pin needle litter cover. A total of 14 'rings' along with a series of 'cups' or depressions were recorded. Close examination of the rock surface revealed more partially weathered 'rings' and 'ovals' suggesting that these were indeed of natural origin and a geologist may be able to identify what process caused them. Even if natural the unusual nature of the rock markings would make a point of public interest on the nearby Crinan cycle-way.

Kilmory Oib

Alternative Name: Loch Coille-Bharr

Type: Cross-Slab, Well and settlement	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: SAM	FC No.: 32
Location: North Knapdale Forest	NMRS: NR79SE 7, NR79SE 40
Grid Ref: NR78080 90245	RCAHMS Inventory: Argyll 7 No. 78
WoSASPIN: 3785, 13712	Campbell & Sandeman: 462
James No.: 78	

Summary

This scheduled site while maintained by the Forestry Commission and open to the public, had never been properly recorded prior to this project. The aim of the work was partially to redress this situation. The settlement buildings were photographed and recorded in detail along with measured sketch plans drawn, to give an overview of archaeological potential of the site. 17 potential structures were identified, these in various states of preservation. The structures would appear to represent both byres and domestic buildings while two 'sub-circular' mounds of rubble possibly represent corn dryers. At least two buildings had been partially demolished with surviving sides incorporated into a later sheep fank structure. The survey would also appear to show buildings superimposed over earlier structures. Further excavation of this relatively discrete settlement would elucidate its development from its possible medieval foundation to its ultimate conversion to a sheepfank and final abandonment. With its possible links to the burial ground at Achadah Na Cille (dating to at least the 9th century) a project on this site could provide the local community with an exciting window into Argyll's poorly understood medieval landscape and its people.

Location and Topography

The settlement is located 400m along a forestry track which is accessed from a sharp bend of the B 8025 road between Tayvallich and Bellanoch. The site lies about 40m west of the forest track on natural terrace above the NW shore of Loch Coille-Bharr, and 1.5km from the head of Loch Sween. The main arrangement of building is located along the foot of an east-facing ridge that delineates the eastern side of the settlement.

The settlement contains an Early Christian cross-slab which stands upright on the western edge of a flagstone slab lined well. The eighth or ninth century cross-marked stone at the west of the well has been described on previous occasions (White 1875, Christieson 1904, Campbell and Sandeman 1964, RCAHMS 1992, Fisher 2001).

Archaeological and Historical Background

This site is shown as about seven unroofed structures and two enclosures on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (Argyllshire CLX, Figure 6). The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, (Argyllshire CLX SW), however, shows one of the buildings roofed and a track running to the east of the settlement. Three unroofed buildings and one enclosure are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1979).

On Bleau's map of Knapdale (1663), there is a settlement site and a site marked by a cross, presumably signifying a chapel or church. The name 'Oib' is depicted which could be referring to either, or both of the sites.

Langlands map of 1801 depicts two sites on the west shore of Loch Coille-Bharr, one could be Kilmory Oib while the other could be the Mill site. The name 'Oib Campbell' is depicted beneath Loch Coille-Bharr and could be referring to a site further down the peninsular or the general vicinity.

Another site called Kilmory in south Knapdale is depicted as 'Kilmore' on Bleau's map of Knapdale (1663) (James 2003).

The date of the site has been discussed in various publications, much of this deriving from speculation as to the date of the cross-marked stone that stands near the 'Holy well'. Map evidence (see above) although not conclusive suggests that the site at least dates from the late 16th century, while an earlier date can not be ruled out.

Evaluation Results

A total of 14 definite buildings were recorded as belonging to the settlement with the possibility of possible three others, these now represented by more amorphous piles of rubble (Figure 7). The structures at the centre and north of the settlement are grouped around two enclosures, with Structure 2 of the northern group and perhaps Structure 6 of the central group representing barns. Structure 11 may also represent a barn, which along with Structures 12 and 13 lie north of another possible 'infield' area located on relatively level ground in between two steep ridges. Some building remains suggest earlier construction phase, for example Structure 7 that runs under the west wall of Structure 8. Indeed Structure 7 and 9 may be the opposite gable ends of the same building with Structure 8 a later conversion. This picture is somewhat confirmed within the map evidence that shows a smaller roofed structure within the Second Edition Ordnance Survey replacing a longer unroofed structure that is depicted within the First edition map. Structure 1 might also be earlier than Structure 2 as it appears wider in build as well as being in a more denuded state. If better preservation is an indication of relative age then Structures 3 and 13 may also represent earlier buildings, given their relatively ruined nature. The settlement has obviously been converted to house sheep at a later date, with many of the original doors and windows blocked. This re-use of the buildings is most readily apparent within Structures 4-6, where sheep crawls have been inserted into Structures 4b and 5. Here extra walling has also been provided creating an enclosed space, possibly reusing the material from the presumably demolished west wall of Structure 6. The style of drystone walling used in the construction of the sheep fank suggests this was built by the Paltalloch Estate, the 'cock and hen' capping technique used within many other Estate structures. Its possible the construction of the sheep fank dates to the same period or just after the construction of the track that runs to the east of the site, this now the main access road used now used by the Forestry Commission. As the track does not appear on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey is represented on the 2nd Edition it must be assumed it was constructed in the years between 1873 and 1900.

Structure 1- A square shaped structure measuring 5.5m externally within walls 0.5m high and 0.5m in width. An entrance lay along the eastern side measuring 1.40m wide.

Structure 2- A rectangular structure oriented N/S measuring 12.2m by 6.10m externally. The walls were up to 0.80m in width and stood to the greatest height within the southern gable which stood 3.10m high. A blocked doorway was evident within the eastern wall, this 1.10m wide. Four through-stones protruded from the southern gable which also had a ventilation triangle built within its rubble construction.

Structure 3- This was a rectangular shaped structure and was oriented E/W and measured 9.3m by 5.5m externally. The walls were up to 0.75m wide and stood to a height of 1.70m at the western gable end. The relative absence of walling/rubble along the southern wall could suggest the presence of an entrance, although this was far from conclusive.

Structure 4a- A rectangular structure oriented E/W and measuring 8.5m by 6m externally. The walls were up to 0.70m thick and stood up to 2.90m at the gable ends. A centrally placed blocked door, 0.90m wide, lay along the southern side of the building with two blocked windows lying either side. The western gable end had two rows of three protruding thatch pegs.

Structure 4b- This was an eastern extension to structure 4a sharing its eastern gable end. The building measured 8m (including the gable of 4a) by 6m externally, within walls 0.70m thick. The building had two doorways, one 0.83m wide, in the northern wall and the second blocked at the south west. The remains of a blocked window could also be discerned within the southern wall lying to the east of the door door. The eastern gable had 3 protruding stone thatch pegs. A sheep crawl had been knocked through the southern wall.

Structure 5- A rectangular (?) Structure oriented E/W measuring 6m by 4m externally. The walls were up to 0.85m in width and stood to a height of 1.30m. An entrance, 0.77m wide, lay to the west of the northern wall and had been converted into a sheep crawl.

Structure 6- Only the eastern and southern walls of this structure survived incorporated into a later sheep fank. The building was rectangular in shape and oriented N/S measuring 6.20m by 6.70m (or 8.5m) in length. The walls stand to a maximum height of 2.00m and are up to 0.80m wide. A blocked doorway, 0.90m wide, and a blocked window 0.50m wide exist along the south wall, respectively situated to the south and centre of the wall. The possible discrepancy in length arises from whether a filled gap at the north end of the eastern wall represents a blocked entranceway or a later blocking between the northern gable of this structure and Structure 5. Three rows of thatch pegs protrude from the external southern gable, with one at the apex and three constituting the bottom row, with two others placed in the row between. The stones of the basal row also protrude internally and may have formed the opposing support for a ledge or scarcement on the northern internal gable, these perhaps suggesting the presence of a suspended floor?

Structure 7- The building measured 4.2m in length by 4.0m externally, with walls 0.5m in width and standing 0.30m in height. The building appears to run under Structure 8 to the south and may be the northern extent of the same range as Structure 9.

Structure 8- This was a well preserved rectangular structure oriented N/S. Externally the building measured 5.40m in length and 4.40m in width, with walls up to 0.8m wide. The walls at the gable ends stood 3.20m in height. An unblocked door lay within the southern wall at the north measuring 0.80m in width and standing 1.35m high. A possible blocked window lay on the western side.

Structure 9 - Possibly the southern gable end of Structure 7. Oriented N/S the building measured 7m long externally by 5.8m with the walls standing 0.60m in height. The walls were mostly scrub covered but appeared to measure 0.60m wide. No features were evident.

Structure 10- Rectangular in shape and oriented N/S this building measured 4.5m by 4.1m externally with either a robbed or open end at the north. The walls were 0.75m wide and stood to a height of 1.10m.

Structure 11- A rectangular structure oriented N/s measuring 17.2m by 6m externally, with within walls 0.65m in width. The gable ends of this structure were better preserved than the rest of the building particularly the southern gable which stood to a height of 3.50m. Three thatch pegs protruded from the external gable end.

Structure 12- Rectangular in shape and oriented E/W this building measured 9.2m by 6m externally, within walls 0.7m wide and standing to a height of 2.20m. A door 1.10m wide lay on the southern side with a possible opposing door (0.80m wide) on the opposite side, this however is more likely a

gap caused by wall collapse on this side. What appears to be a cruck slot is located to the east of the door along the south wall, any opposing cruck slot in the opposite wall has been obscured by collapse.

Structure 13- Rectangular N/S oriented building measuring up to 15.8m by 6.20m externally. The walls are no more than a low turf covered ridge that survived best at the north being up to 0.6m wide and standing to a height of 0.80m.

Structure 14- Accumulation of rubble lying to the east of the main building group possibly representing a rectangular structure. This lay within dense bracken at time of visit, so no accurate measurement could be obtained.

Structure 15- Semi-circular accumulation of rubble barely discernable in dense bracken undergrowth but appeared to measure 5.5m N/S by 4m E/W and standing to a height of 0.30m.

Structure 16- Possibly partially built into a the steep ridge to the west of Structure 11 was ‘cone-shaped’ rubble mound measuring up to 4.2m in width.

Lagan

Type: Settlement	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR 79600 87140
Location: West of Achnamara, reached by forest track	FC No.: 493
NMRS: NR78NE 24	WoSASPIN: 44993
James No.: 152, 153	

Summary

Work within this abandoned settlement, one of hundreds in Argyll, was designed to establish whether trial trench work could quickly establish a date for this type of site and if an earlier archaeological sequence could be discerned. Trial work at Lagan showed that while the settlement was at least partially occupied by the late 19th early 20th century, and one building possibly used as a foresters bothy until quite recently, the potential for earlier structures exists. This was shown by the presence of floors and walls predating a later upstanding excavated structure. The earlier building/s however, was poorly dated given the paucity of artefacts recovered from the evaluation trenches. While further excavation work would no doubt enhance the picture of settlement development, the complicated nature of the archaeology and the sheer logistical problems of removing later deposits to access earlier levels perhaps makes this beyond the scope of the proposed excavation programmes.

Location and Topography

This site lies on the north side of an SW/NE running glen overlooked by Cruach nan Cuilen on the east. A burn runs to the east of the settlement which stands within open ground, this surrounded by plantation. The site is reached from the present forestry track that runs above and west of the settlement. A large sheep fank has been constructed to the south west of the main building group and a lime kiln is located within dense plantation to the south.

Archaeological and Historical background

The site of 'Laggan' is shown on George Langlands' map of Argyllshire 1802 and is depicted on the 1873 1st Edition OS 6-inch map as two unroofed long structures, a sheep fold and an enclosure (Argyllshire CLXX, Figure 8). Three unroofed buildings are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1980). An 'Old Limekiln' is also depicted on the 1st Edition OS map lying to the SE of the main settlement.

The site was surveyed by Heather James in 2003 and her descriptions of the structures are reproduced below with the layout of the settlement shown in Figure 9.

A - This long structure measured 39.2 m by 4.7 m internally with walls 0.7 m wide and 2.1 m high. The gables were up to 2.3 m high. There were three rooms of unequal size. The northern room was 5.5 m long and had a doorway and a window in the south-east wall with an inserted fireplace and two protruding stones in the north-east gable. This was presumably a dwelling. The middle room is 12.6 m long with a wide doorway in the north-west wall and a lambing pen in the south-west corner. The third room was 19.7 m long with a possible window in the north-west wall. These two rooms were presumably animal byres. There was some corrugated iron sheets outside Structure A, suggesting this was the roofing material. A sheep fank abuts Structure A.

B - This long structure was in poorer condition. It measured 19.2 m long and 3.9 m wide with walls 0.7 m wide and up to 1.1 m high and gables up to 1.5 m high. It was divided into three rooms. The most northerly was 7.3 m long, the middle one 5.0 m and the southerly one 5.5 m long. The southerly room had a doorway in the north-west wall and possibly an opposing door in the south-east wall.

C - This structure is not depicted on the 1st edition map. It is rectangular and measured 5.2 m by 4.0 m internally, with walls 0.7 m wide and 0.3 m high all round. Only large boulders of the foundations survived, perhaps the rest of the walls were robbed for the other structures. There was possibly a wide door in the south-west wall.

The circular limekiln is a horseshoe-shaped mound, measuring 6.2 m overall. The bowl has a diameter of 2.5 m. It is constructed of rounded boulders on a steep slope. The flue is on the downward, west facing side. (James 2003)

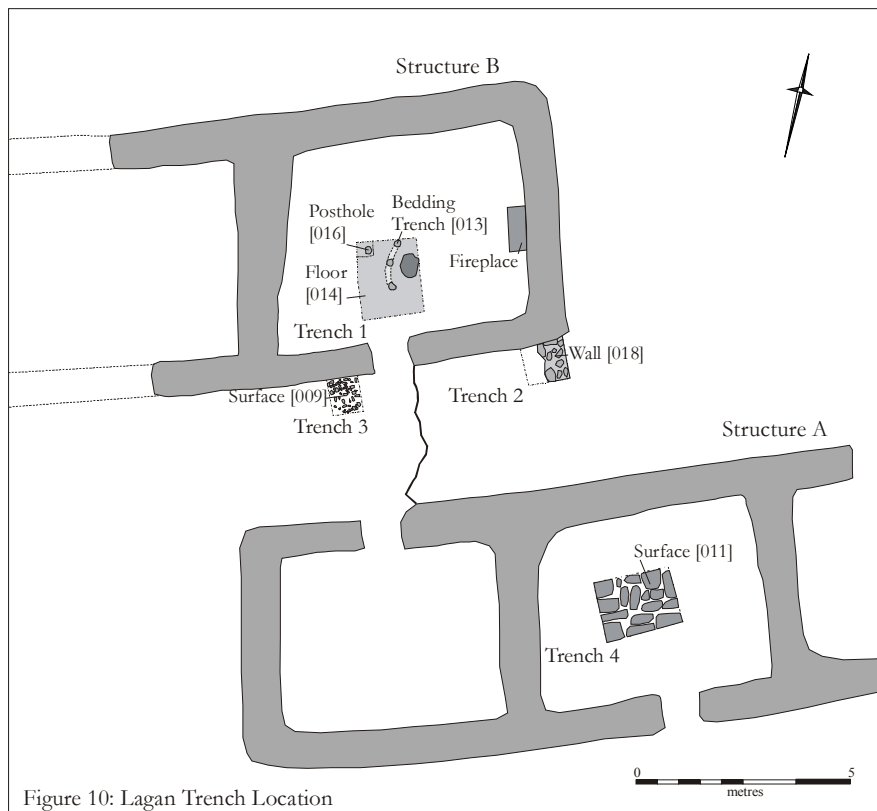
Two other partially robbed structures were located during the evaluation work, Structures D and E. Both of these buildings consisted of the southern ends of truncated structures the northern extents presumably robbed/demolished during the construction of the large sheepfank to the north.

Structure D. This was once presumably a rectangular structure, its southern end measuring 6.5m externally within walls 0.85m wide and standing 0.65m high.

Structure E. A rectangular (?) structure measuring 7m wide externally within walls 0.90m wide and standing up to 0.80m high. The remnants of an enclosure wall runs from the south east corner of the building to the south.

To the south west of structure E are what appears to be the rubble footings for a bridge over the burn, possibly to connect the settlement to the previously mentioned limekiln.

Evaluation Results



In total four small trenches were hand excavated, Trenches 1-4 (Figure 10). Trench 1 was placed inside the upstanding north end of Structure A positioned immediately in front of the entrance. Trenches 2 and 3 were cut against the eastern wall of this structure were designed to test the apparent height discrepancy on this side of the building, as the ground at the northern end of the building standing significantly higher than that at the south. Trench 4 was placed within the central room/building of the range of Structure B this lying to the east of Structure A.

Structure A

Trench 1

The upper deposit [012] within the building consisted of vegetation (mainly nettles) and dumped rubbish within dark grey silt. Plastic found within the dump along with barrel hoops suggest the building may have been used as a dump for some time. [012] directly sealed an orange silt clay floor [014]. Within the floor was a semi-circular bedding trench containing the remains of at least three post settings, [013]. This may have acted as a baffle to the outside elements, protecting the area around the inserted fireplace constructed against the northern wall of the building. That these may have been contemporary is suggested by the presence of concrete within the build of the fireplace and within the fill of one the post settings [015]. A small sondage was cut through floor [014] to reveal a sealed post setting [016], suggesting the presence of an earlier phase of construction/occupation.



Structure B looking west



Trench 1: Foundation slot [013] and posthole [016]

Trench 2

Vegetation cover [001] was removed to reveal a dark grey cess-like material [002]. This in turn sealed a dark red brown sandy silt, [003], that may have been the remnants of a garden soil. Beneath this lay a loose deposit of rubble, [004], that suggested a rough surface and or a levelling deposit, which, as it lay against the east wall of Structure A, was later then the construction of the upstanding building. The rubble sealed a thick deposit of mid red brown loam, [005], which appeared to be another developed soil, possibly from horticultural use. This lay partially over the remnants of an E/W aligned wall foundation, [018] that ran under the north gable of Structure A.



Trench 2: wall [018] looking west

Trench 3

The topsoil in this trench sealed a dark brown silty clay similar to [003] within Trench 2. Also similar was a sequence of loose rubble, [007], sealing a red brown silt deposit, which may be contemporary with deposits [004] and [005] in Trench 1. These sealed a gravel/mortar surface that ran under the eastern wall of Structure A. The surface was relatively fragile which suggested it may represent an internal surface, rather than an external surface or a surface intended for animal use.

Structure B

Trench 4

Vegetation and dark grey topsoil within this trench sealed a roughly lain cobble/flag surface, [009] possibly indicating this building was not for domestic use but was for storage/processing for animals.



Trench 4: Cobbled surface [011]

Loch Losgunn

Type: Settlement	Owner: Forestry Commission
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR79725 89744
Location: North Knapdale Forest, close to Lochan Buic cycle route	FC No.: 496
NMRS: NR78NE 29	WoSASPIN: 44987
James Number: 162	

Summary

As with the abandoned settlement at Lagan work was intended to establish a date for the establishment of this unnamed settlement near Loch Losgunn. Three buildings had been identified within a previous survey. Of particular interest was a building not depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance survey that appeared to have rounded corners and thus potentially ‘early’ in date. The trial work, however, failed to recover any associated artefacts from this building, although gun-flint recovered from the plough/till soil over which this building was constructed suggests it dates to no earlier than the 18th century. A larger structure to south of this was also investigated and while a scorched/burnt clay floor was noted within the building no artefacts were recovered from its surface. Fragments of glass were recovered from the sealing layer above this floor these from a bottle, a wine cup base and possible lantern glass suggest a late 18th-early 19th Century date for this deposit. The evaluation has shown that these buildings were established in the post medieval period and further archaeological investigation would be of moderate value.

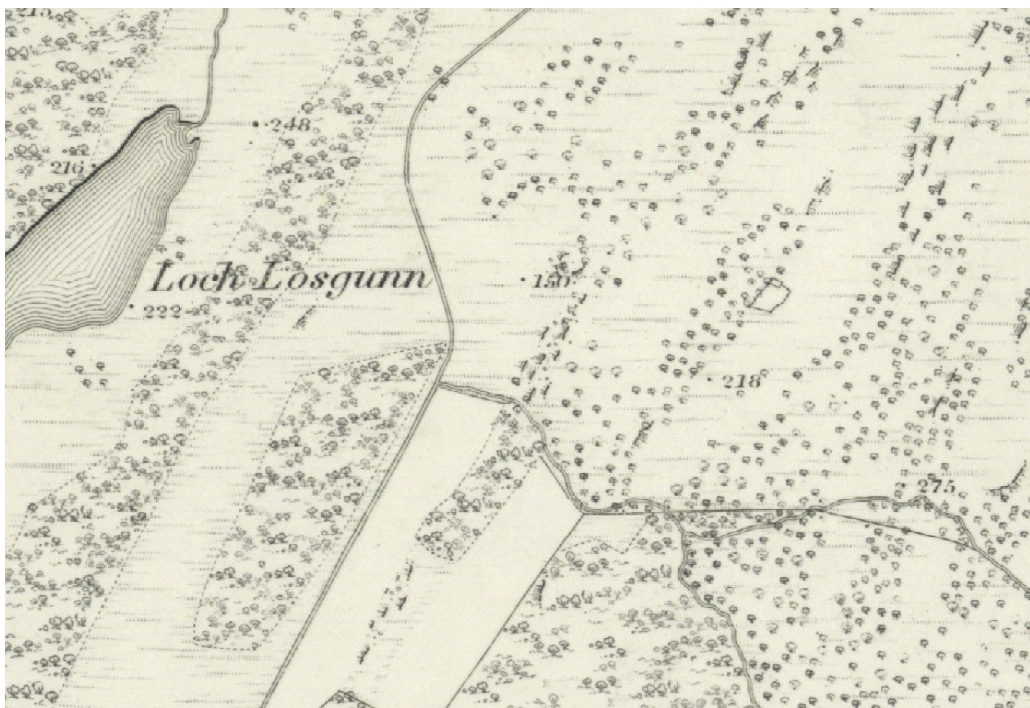


Figure 11: First Edition Ordnance Survey

Location and Topography

The site is situated against the western slope of an NE/SW oriented terrace of Gleann na Beiste between Loch Losgunn to the west and Lochan Duin to the east. At present the site is within a clearing of young conifer plantation. The vegetation cover is grass, rushes and fern with some natural regeneration inside some of the structures. There is a conifer tree within Structure A and old tree stumps within structures B and C. The enclosure to the south of A has been partially planted over.

Archaeological and Historical Background

The site consists of three structures and an enclosure. It had previously been recorded by Heather James in a survey of deserted settlements within North Knapdale; her report is repeated below. This unnamed settlement is depicted as one unroofed structure with an enclosure on the 1st edition OS map (Argyllshire CLX, Figure 11).

A - This rectangular structure measures 5.7 m by 2.9 m internally with drystone walls up to 0.8 m high. The gables are up to 1 m high. The south-west end has slightly battered, square corners both internally and externally, but the north-east end has rounded external corners with square internal corners. No other architectural features are discernible.

B - This rectangular structure measures 10.3 m by 3.8 m internally with drystone walls 0.9 m wide and up to 0.9 m high. (GPS 79692 89748). Like Structure A, the east end has rounded external corners. There is a doorway in the north-east wall. This is the structure shown on the 1st edition OS map with the attached enclosure wall.

C - This rectangular structure measures 4.2 m by 2.5 m internally with drystone walls 0.6 m wide and up to 0.4 m high. The walls were heavily collapsed and overgrown with vegetation. The external corner in the south-east side was rounded. There is a possible doorway in the south wall.

D - This is a slightly curving wall to the north-east of Structure C. It is 1.0 m wide and could be seen for c 5 m aligned north-west-south-east. (GPS 79710 89779). This could be part of an outer enclosure wall or another robbed structure.' (James 2003)

Structure B and its attached enclosure would appear to be the building depicted on the 1873 1st Edition Ordnance Survey and by the time of the 2nd Edition in 1900 a second building is depicted lying to the SE of Structure B, this presumably Structure A. Structure C is not depicted on either map. Curiously all buildings appear unroofed in both Editions, suggesting either Structure A was added after the main structure (Structure B) had been abandoned or it was not depicted on the earlier map. If the former then Structure A may never have been roofed and may represent a pen or stock enclosure.

James had also indicated that the relatively rounded corners of Structure C could indicate an early date for the building. James also suggested that these structures might relate to a 'Barloisken' depicted on the Blaeu Atlas of 1663, however this depiction is more likely to relate to the existing settlement of Barnluasgan lying to west of this site.



Structure C with Trench 1

Evaluation Results

Two evaluation trenches, Trenches 1 and 2, were opened across and against the walls of Structure C in order to test the age and function of this potentially early building, (Figure 12). Trench 1 was laid over the eastern wall of the structure, covering the wall structure itself and part of the internal and external areas of the building. Trench 2 was positioned against the south east corner of the building in order to test this lower area of site.

Trench 3 was placed across what was the presumed threshold/entrance into Structure B this again covering an internal an external area of the building. A small sondage was also cut against the south eastern corner of Structure A.

Structure C

Trench 1

Once the vegetation cover and thin topsoil had been removed [001], Trench 1 revealed the collapse tumble, [002], lying either side of the remaining in situ east wall of the building [005]. The collapse spread 1.10m to the north and 0.85m to the south and was no more than one or two stones in depth (c. 30cm). If the collapse represented all of the collapsed wall and no stone robbing/reuse had taken place, then the wall would not have stood very high in its original form certainly no more than 1.5m. The collapse lay partially within and partially on top of a dark red brown humic silty clay [003]. This suggested the soil had formed during the decay of the building after it had gone out of use. No artefacts were recovered from this horizon. Beneath the collapse and [003] no definite floor or surface horizons could be detected either internally or externally, possibly suggesting any floor material was organic and had become indistinguishable from the [003]. The east wall [005] measured up to 0.63m wide and stood to a height of 0.75m but only 0.37m within the trench. The roughly coursed wall was constructed of two outer rows of large stones forming the inner and outer spaces with smaller stones infilling the gaps in the face and the central levelling core of the wall. The wall lay over a relatively deep deposit of plough/agricultural soil [004] from which a gun flint was recovered.



Trench 1: East wall of Structure C [005]



Trench 1: South facing section showing 'plough soil' [004]

Trench 2

Beneath the topsoil was some rubble collapse, which lay up against the eastern wall of the building, [008]. This rubble was removed to reveal the foot of the wall which lay over a second rubble deposit [006]. The ground drops off on the east down towards more boggy ground, as attested by peaty deposit [007] that partially sealed [006]. This lower rubble deposit may represent 'cleared' and collected stone material which was then dumped to provide a stable construction platform for Structure C on this side.



Trench 3: Burnt floor [013] of Structure B with cobbled surface [012]
To the east

Structure B

Trench 3

Within the trench rubble collapse [009], lay either side of the entrance through the northern wall of the building. Within the rubble was an upturned door lintel that had incised two slots for door posts and a circular hinge groove for the door itself. The northern wall of the building within the trench stood up to 0.80m and were 0.80m wide at the base, the doorway measuring 0.70m across. The rubble lay over a dark grey humic silt [010], that covered the internal area of the building and spread partially over the external area. It is possible that this deposit was the remnants of a collapsed roofing material given its organic nature. Beneath the possible roof material lay a yellow orange clay floor, [013] covering the interior of the building and a rough cobbled surface [012], lying on the on the outside. The interior clay surface also displayed distinct signs of burning or scorching, the even distribution of the heat reddened areas suggesting it was not associated with hearth activity.

Structure A

Trench 4

Vegetation cover was cleared back on the over the south east corner of the building to reveal that the structure was constructed directly over a natural ridge.

Structure D

Rather than a building this walling would appear to be the northern revetting of a track leading down into the settlement from the west and not the suggested remnants of another building.

Robber's Den

Alternative Name: Kilduskland

Type: Defended Settlement	Owner: Friends of Robbers Den
Status: USAM	Grid Ref: NR 848 865
Location: near Ardrishaig	NMRS: NR88NW 3
Campbell and Sandeman: 382	WoSASPIN: 4003

Summary:

Evaluation work was undertaken on the two known structures within the site and within the 'ditch' lying to their west. Despite the evaluation work, the date and function of the buildings on the site remains elusive. The only recovered artefacts came from post abandonment deposits, these being a piece of late 19th century pottery, a clay pipe bowl and a piece of unidentifiable iron. Beyond this the larger of the two structures appeared to be substantial in construction, suggesting a use or function beyond the typical domestic unit. This building had at some stage been deliberately demolished given the amount of 'clean' masonry material within the building itself suggesting rapid decline. Lime mortar had also been used within a possible drain in the northern wall, this suggesting a building of status if of early date or alternatively and more likely a later alteration. The work seemed to indicate that the 'ditch' while 'rock-cut' would appear to be a strip quarry possibly utilising and accentuating a natural depression. The similarity of the natural rock into which the ditch was cut and that material utilised within the structures strongly suggests a relationship between the two. Folklore and previous work on Robber's Den has suggested various forms and functions for this site from an Iron Age fort, a medieval defence or the hideout for a cattle thief hence its name. While an Iron Age date can perhaps be ruled out, further excavation work may shed some light on these enigmatic structures. However, within the larger of the two structures excavation would mainly involve massive rubble clearance with the added problems of storage, consolidation and re-establishment within this naturally constrained site.

Location and Topography

The site lies near the eastern end of a steep-sided promontory formed by two branches of the Kirkduskland Burn, that runs into Loch Gilp at the north end of Ardrishaig. The burns form deep gorges to the north and south. The site is most easily accessed from a footpath that runs from Ardrishaig and follows the southern branches of the Kirkduskland burn up to the higher ground at the west. At present the site is within mature mixed woodland, with a ground cover of grass, moss and bracken.

Archaeological and Historical Background

Little is known about the site which consists of two structures lying to the west of a 'rock cut' enclosure ditch. The ditch has been interpreted as belonging to the Iron Age and or Medieval periods. The two structures appear on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey as unroofed and are labelled 'Robber's Den', however, no enclosure ditch is depicted on the map (Argylshire sheet CLXX, Figure 13). The tradition is that "a robber" lived here is expanded by Leitch, stating that it was occupied by 'a MacVicar after the battle at Carse', which in itself is unhelpful given that the time and site of this battle are open to question (Leitch 1904, Campbell and Sandeman 1964, RCAHMS 1992).

Evaluation Results

Two structures occupy the interior of the site, Structures 1 and 2, while at the west, a ditch runs between the two gorges with a 'causeway' lying at its southern end (Figure 14)

6 trenches were excavated during the evaluation. Trenches 1, 5 and 6 were placed in and around the larger of the two buildings, Structure 1. Trenches 3 and 4 were placed over Structure 2, while Trench 2 lay within the 'ditch' to the west of the buildings.

Structure 1

This rectangular building was oriented N/S and measured 16m by 6.60m externally (Figure 15). A smaller rubble filled room 4.40m wide appears to exist at the northern end. The rubble built walls are roughly coursed and stand to a height of 1.40m and are up to 0.80m wide. The building appears rubble filled and is covered with woodland undergrowth including several immature trees.

Trench 1

The trench was cut placed over the eastern wall of the building. The topsoil consisted grass, bracken and moss within of a dark grey humic loam [008]. A second, earlier dark grey soil, [009] lay beneath, this sealing a mass of collapsed/demolished walling in a green/yellow clay mortar [010]. A similar sequence was encountered on the western side of the wall although here the amount of collapse/demolition material [012]/[013] was more substantial. Within the trench the rubble of the interior appeared to lie directly on natural [014] with no evidence of a floor surface below the collapse.



Trench 1: East wall of Structure 1

Trench 5

This was a small trench placed within the interior of the building where the mounded rubble collapse was shallowest. The removal of the topsoil revealed a distinct charcoal layer [022] that would appear to derive from the burning of fairly recently cleared brush. The burnt material lay over what

appeared to be a buried soil deposit [023], which in turn sealed a dark brown clay silt, [024] which possibly represented the floor of the structure.

Trench 6

This involved the removal of scrub and topsoil from around an area of relatively low walling along the northern wall (which the present-day path crosses) perhaps suggesting the presence of an entrance to the building. Clearance of a dark grey subsoil [025] showed that the wall was continuous and there was no evidence of a door.

Undergrowth was also cleared from around what appeared to be the mouth of a drain in the north gable of the building. Here the original wall [028] built of large irregular blocks had been modified with thinner schist slabs set into a white mortar, these positioned around an opening in the wall measuring 0.39m by 0.52m.

Structure 2

This rectangular building was oriented E/W and measured 7.50m by 5.5m externally (Figure 16). The exposed walls measured up to 0.64m wide and stood to a height of 0.44m. A mature beech tree stands within the N/E of the building with a semi mature oak growing on the east wall.



Trench 3: West wall of Structure 2

Trench 3

This was placed over the west wall of the building and took in the internal space of the structure. The topsoil cover [001] consisted of a moss, shrub, bracken and leaf cover over a dark grey loam. The topsoil lay over stone rubble within a light yellow clay silt, [016] which represented the collapsed wall of the structure. The collapse sealed a brown clay deposit that sloped off to the east from the west. An oval red/orange patch or burning/scorching would seem to indicate the presence of a raised hearth and would indicate this was a floor surface. A second more patchy surface of more mixed yellow brown material was revealed within a small sondage, this deposit contained several fragments of charcoal. This basal floor deposit lay over clean natural soil.



Trench 3: Burnt floor [017]

Trench 4

This trench was placed over a dip in the south wall that suggested an entrance, however removal of topsoil/vegetation cover and post demolition soil deposit [020] revealed a continuous wall line with no apparent entrance suggested within the rubble alignment of the wall [021].

The Enclosure Ditch

Trench 2

This trench was placed on the west side of the ditch and located 3m from the northern edge of the causeway that crosses over the ditch at the south and 8.30m from the steep drop at the northern end of the ditch.



Trench 2: Trench location on western ditch edge

The upper profile [001] consisted of leaf and moss cover over a dark grey humic loam. Under this was a very dark grey ash deposit [002] that suggested burning of wood within the upper ditch (Figure 17). This sealed deposit [003] which consisted of stone rubble within a mid grey loam. Another rubble fill was sealed beneath [004] which was more compact and within a cleaner light yellow brown matrix. A similar light yellow sandy deposit was encountered towards the ditch sides although this was almost devoid of stones [005]. The basal layer consisted of a dark brown silt with frequent rock fragments that appeared to be trampled [006]. The cut of the ditch was steep on the southern side breaking at a sharp angle at the base. The irregular angular nature of the base and sides suggest that natural rock slabs had been removed to form this cut.



Trench 2: North facing ditch profile

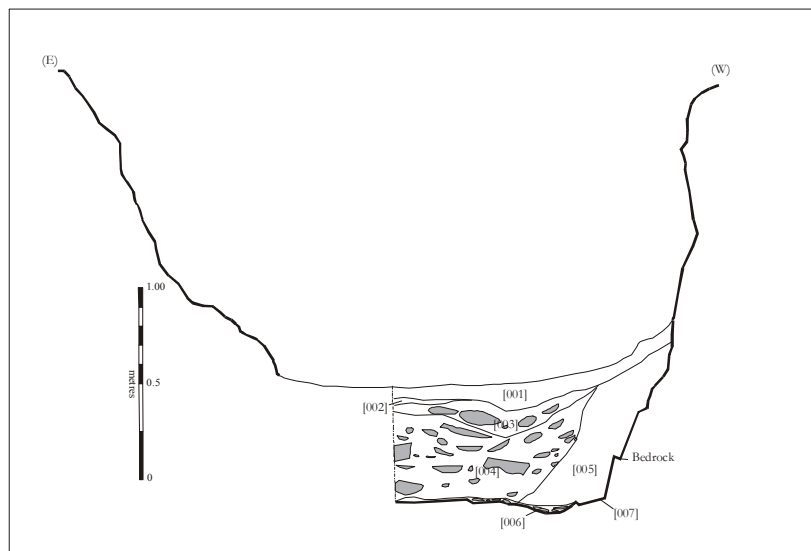


Figure 17: Trench 2 ditch section

6. Discussion

Part of the aim of the project was to attempt to quickly establish the type, age and archaeological potential of the listed sites. As is perhaps to be expected, on such a variety of sites the results of the evaluations have been mixed. One rock art site at Dounie has now been fully recorded while another possible site, also at Dounie, has been proved to be of natural, but intriguing, origin. The possible 'cairn' at Barr Ban has proved to be a more complicated structure than a simple stone cairn and possible cist. Indeed this may be a previously unrecognised type of funerary monument for this area. The two dun sites at Branangad and Balure have been confirmed as defensive enclosures. While the site at Balure might be seen as a 'typical' dun, the site at Barnagad has no direct comparisons within Mid Argyll, with its apparently open/undefended northern side.

Deserted settlements are a common enough feature of the Highland archaeological landscape, however, cartographic evidence along with ground survey can only hint at an earlier pre-19th century evolution. The survey at Kilmory Oib has certainly pinpointed earlier structures that underlie later ones. However, allocating a date to any of these buildings on typological grounds remains a problem. Excavation then would seem to offer an answer and one of the aims of the project was to determine if this type of site could be quickly evaluated in these terms. The recovery of a gunflint from the site of Loch Losgunn certainly suggests that at least this building dated to later than the 18th century, however, without this one single find the date of this structure would have remained open to question. At Lagan earlier phases of building were apparent but as with all the other evaluated settlement structures at Loch Losgunn, Lagan and Robber's Den, the recovered datable artefacts relate to post-occupation or abandonment phases. Dating of settlements then, remains problematical given the paucity of finds encountered and casts doubt on the effectiveness of this evaluation technique as being able to adequately resolve dating problems. The technique however does have its merits, in that a great deal of information about the morphology of a site and its structures can be gathered in short space of time. This is the case even if 'excavation' is limited to the removal of topsoil/vegetation, this often providing a more informed framework within which to progress.

Further Work

Further archaeological work would be merited at a number of the evaluated sites and would add considerably to the body of knowledge we have from excavated sites in the area. As part of community based projects several of the evaluated sites, as listed below, would produce exciting survey and excavation programmes.

- Barr Ban (cairn)
- Balure (dun)
- Kilmory Oib (settlement)
- Achadah na Cille (burial ground).
-

This work would be complemented by excavation programmes undertaken at Ormaig (rock-art) and Barrendaimph (kiln). The above sites encompass a broad range of archaeological features and represent landscape use of different periods from the Neolithic/Bronze Age through to the Post-Medieval period. As such, excavation at these sites along with survey work at Carnassarie, Kilbride and Barnakill, offer a unique opportunity for the local community to gain an insight into the heritage of their landscape and the people who lived within it.

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Appendix 1: Context descriptions

Balure, BAL 06

[001] Layer. Topsoil cover within all trenches, consisting of bracken, heather, moss and grass cover, including occasional birch and rowan saplings. The soil was a dark grey peaty silt with frequent degraded brash fragments.

[002] Wall. N/S aligned wall closing off the eastern side of the ridge. 1.85m in width within excavated trench but possibly as much as 2.30m at south where it turns west along steep ridge. The wall is constructed of massive stones used along the outer faces with smaller stones used in the inner packing/levelling (maximum size 0.8m x 0.5m x 0.42m). The wall stands to a height of 0.70m with as many as three courses revealed. The loose and displaced nature of many of the upper stones suggest recent disturbance, possibly during recent felling when the site came to light.

[003] Wall. N/S aligned western wall circuit of the upper enclosure of the Dun complex. The wall measured 1.80m in width within the excavated trench and stands up to 0.64m in height. Larger stones have been used on the inner and outer faces (maximum size 1.00m x 0.40m x 0.27m) with smaller stones used as infill (some of these possibly burnt). A line of stones apparently set on edge lie 0.60m from the western wall face and possibly indicate an earlier build, the wall thickened at some later date.

[004] Wall. Southern and western circuit of secondary? enclosure. This measured 1.90m wide although edges were difficult to discern amongst rubble collapse which was not removed.

[005] Layer. Possible cobble and clay surface lying internally (east of) wall [004]. The clay was mid grey in colour into which was pressed rounded cobbles (maximum size 0.15m x 0.10m x 0.03m).

[006] Wall. Possible entrance into the upper enclosure of the Dun structure. Defined by two long stones (upper 0.75m x 0.40m) forming an edge against a natural outcrop to the south. Northern side defined by another natural outcrop and a possible rubble core that has been much disturbed by tree roots.

[007] Wall. This stretch of walling lay 7m to the west of enclosure wall [004] closing off this relatively easy access up this part of the ridge. The wall was not fully revealed but stood 0.35m high in at least two courses.

[008] Wall. This was a undergrowth covered stretch of rubble walling only partially revealed lying on the eastern side of the ridge some 12m down slope from the upper enclosure wall [002].

Barnagad (Cruach nan Cuilean), CRC 06

[001] Layer. Topsoil dark brown silt loam including grass, heather and bracken, up to 0.08m in depth.

[002] Layer. Grey silt loam disturbed by bracken roots, up to 0.12m in depth.

[003] Layer. Pinkish grey silt with high organic content, full depth not ascertained.

[004] Wall. Drystone enclosure wall consisting of undressed roughly coursed rubble 2.2m wide standing at least 0.78m high in two observed courses with stones up to 1.10m in size. Wall curves

from east to west with a possible original face observed 0.60m from outer edge. The wall becomes thicker towards the entrance at the east.

[005] Layer. Rubble collapse/spread lying on internal side of wall [004]. Consists of stones up to 0.60m in size spreading 1.20m from internal face of wall. Loosely packed with not much soil between the stones.

[006] Wall? Possible alignment of rubble up to 0.55m in length appearing to have been placed rather than representing collapse, 0.92m in width and possibly extending eastwards towards entrance (although full length not ascertained). A couple of stones are set on edge while others lay parallel to each other. Located 1.30m from inner edge of [004].

[007] Layer. Rubble up to 0.30m in size lying north of [006] full extent not ascertained.

[008] Layer. Rubble collapse on the south side of enclosure wall [004], stones up to 0.60m in size with much of the rubble angled down slope to the south and loosely packed.

[009] Layer. Dark brown to black silt loam with colour due to high organic content, full extent not revealed but thins down slope.

[010] Layer. Black slightly sticky silt loam with rare patches of clay sandy silt and roots. Includes very degraded charcoal.

[011] Layer. Compact Mixed yellowish to reddish brown grit with some silt and degraded/disseminated charcoal and stones.

[012] Layer. Red brown clay silt with blocky appearance with occasional charcoal, possibly heat affected, distinct edge with [011] suggesting possible cut although this could represent differential dumping.

[013] Layer. Mixed silt, some yellow or reddish brown only seen in small area.

[014] Layer. Mixture of stone blocks 0.2-0.65m in size set into [003].

Barr Ban, BAB 06

[001] Layer. Topsoil and vegetation cover consisting of bracken, moss, grass and heather in a dark grey clay silt with occasional quartz fragments. Up to 0.10m in depth.

[002] Layer. Light to mid grey silty clay loam (leached peat?), includes occasional quartz fragment and stone. Up to 0.12m deep at western end of trench.

[003] Layer. Mid reddish brown silt with stones up to 0.15m.

[004] Layer. Very mixed silty peat, pale olive green and bright reddish brown with some iron panning. Includes stones up to 0.15m in size. Up to 0.20m deep.

[005] Fill. Yellow-orange silt with occasional bracken root and stones up to 0.15m in width.

[006] Cut. Possible oval cut? Although form and depth not ascertained.

[007] Layer. Yellow brown silt with occasional stones and bracken roots, not fully excavated.

[008] Layer. Stone berm on southern side of monument. Consists of loosely packed angular and rounded cobbles up to 0.30m in size. Frequent voids are between the stones with some of [003] washed the cobbles.

[009] Cut?. Cut? boundary between [007] and [008] not excavated.

[010] Layer. Reddish brown silt with occasional degraded stones and quartz fragment, up to 0.17m in depth.

[011] Layer. Dark grey/blue silty clay, up to 0.07m thick.

[012] Layer. Mid grey brown silty clay, up to 0.12m thick.

[013] Natural. Dark orange brown sandy silt and cobbles.

[014] Layer. Stone berm on east side of monument. Consists of packed angular and rounded cobbles up to 0.40m in size set within a mid red brown clayey silt.

Lagan, LAG 06

[001] Layer. Grass, moss and bracken in a dark grey clay peaty silt.

[002] Layer. Dark grey humic silt cess like.

[003] Layer. Dark grey sandy clay silt.

[004] Layer. Loose 'surface' of stones, possibly used to raise area around structure.

[005] Layer. Mid red brown silty clay sand, includes occasional charcoal, glass, schist and slate fragments.

[006] Layer. Dark brown peaty silt clay, includes occasional glass, pot and quern stone fragments.

[007] Layer. Loose 'surface' of cobbles, levelling deposit consisting of heap of rounded fragments of limestone and schist.

[008] Layer. Mid red brown silty clay sand, includes occasional pebbles glass and pot.

[009] Surface. Gravel and mortar surface, upper surface is made up from small to medium pebbles pressed into mixture of lime mortar and re-deposited natural clay sand. Mortar light yellow grey in colour and compact in places.

[010] Layer. Dark grey silty clay loam (peaty) includes occasional pot fragments.

[011] Surface. Fairly uneven surface of large limestone blocks, largest 0.30m by 0.35m

[012] Layer. Dumped rubbish/topsoil and rubble collapse from building, includes bottles, iron rings and barrel hoops and plastic.

[013] Cut. Beam-slot or bedding trench and three post holes. Postholes have vertical sides and slightly rounded bases. Western side of trench has straight/vertical sides, eastern side less well defined and undulating profile. Maximum width 0.29m depth 0.20m.

[014] Floor. Mixed orange silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and rare small stones with evidence of darker grey trample. Floor more compact at the east end of the trench.

[015] Fill. Mixed grey brown silt with clay with occasional degraded wood fragments, iron nails and concrete fragment.

[016] Cut Sub circular posthole with flat base and vertical sides with stone packing around edges. Measures 0.23m by 0.20m wide and is 0.10m in depth.

[017] Fill. Loose dark grey silty clay.

[018] Wall. Southern edge of E/W aligned wall. Roughly coursed in construction standing 0.24m in height, larger stones utilised along southern edging with smaller stones making up a fairly compact core.

[019] Natural. yellow red fine sand and silt.

Loch Losgunn, LOS 06

[001] Vegetation and topsoil cover. Moss, grass and bracken within a dark grey brown silty clay loam (peaty in parts) includes occasional decayed wood fragments.

[002] Layer. Mid red brown silty clay loam, includes quartz charcoal and roots.

[003] Layer. Rubble collapse of north wall of structure, lying both sides of wall. Spreads 1.10m at north and 0.85m internally, largest stone measures 0.53m x 0.53m x 0.23m.

[004] Layer. Mid yellow brown clay silt loam, includes occasional quartz, charcoal and slate fragments. 0.33-0.35m deep.

[005] Wall. North wall of structure aligned E/W measuring 0.63m in width and 0.75m in height. consists of inner and outer 'skin' of large roughly coursed stones. These are mainly limestone blocks with occasional quartz and schist blocks. Smaller stones are used in packing levelling between larger stones.

[006] Layer. Rubble spread lying under wall [008] mostly rounded burn or glacial cobbles, possibly cleared stones from fields or collected from nearby burn.

[007] Layer. Light to mid grey sandy silt clay.

[008] Wall. Eastern corner of structure measures 0.80m² wide and stands 0.70m in height.

[009] Layer. Rubble collapse around north wall and threshold of building.

[010] Layer. Dark grey silty loam, includes occasional charcoal, quartz and glass fragments.

[011] Wall. Northern wall and threshold of structure. Comprises of large angular stones set on edge framing the doorway which measures 0.72m wide. Walls stand up to 0.80m high and 0.80m thick at base.

[012] Layer. Large worn stones outside the north wall of structure forming rough cobbled surface, maximum size of stones 1.05m x 0.90m.

[013] Floor. Light yellow brown clay silt. Compact and scorched (reddened) in places, includes occasional fragments of charcoal.

Robber's Den, ROB 06

[001] Layer. Dark grey brown humic silt with leaf litter and moss cover.

[002] Fill. Dark grey ash charcoal.

[003] Fill. Mid grey brown silty clay with frequent stones.

[004] Fill. Yellow brown sandy silt clay with frequent stones and stone fragments.

[005] Fill. Light yellow brown sandy silt clay.

[006] Fill. Dark grey brown silt with frequent stone fragments.

[007] Cut. Linear quarry? Cut aligned east west. Measures 3.2m wide and is 2.20m deep with steep sides and flat or uneven base.

[008] Layer. Dark brown to black topsoil of humic silt loam with frequent roots, up to 0.17m deep.

[009] Layer. Black organic silt loam, up to 0.02m thick.

[010] Layer. Grey green to yellow brown silt, up to 0.05m thick.

[011] Wall. Eastern wall of N/S oriented rectangular building. Consists of large undressed blocks of limestone (maximum 0.9m in size) laid in rough horizontal courses with smaller stones used as infill levelling. Stands up to 1.40m high in 4 to 8 courses, with a width of 0.9m. The wall is bonded with a yellow clay silt.

[012] Layer. Yellow/orange silty clay with frequent rubble/stones. Very clean suggesting deliberate demolition.

[013] Layer. Large rubble blocks with no yellow clay, blocks up to 0.55m in length, probably represents upper collapse of wall.

[014] Natural. Slightly slatey schist with orange clay matrix.

[015] Layer. Topsoil cover consisting of moss, bracken and blueberry undergrowth in a dark grey brown humic silt.

[016] Layer. Light yellow brown sandy clay silt that includes moderate large collapsed/demolished stones (maximum size (0.40m x 0.20m x 0.13m))

[017] Layer. Mid to dark brown silty clay including occasional charcoal fragments with an area of reddened burning/scorching, up to 0.08m thick.

[018] Layer. Mixed yellow brown to grey brown clayey silt, with occasional charcoal fragments and stones, up to 0.03m deep.

[019] Wall. Western wall of structure. Aligned N/S the wall stood 0.44m high and 0.64m in width constructed in rubble masonry and bonded with a light yellow brown silty clay (maximum size of block 0.35m x 0.28m x 0.14m).

[020] Layer. Dark grey humic silt.

[021] Wall. South wall of structure. Aligned E/W the rubble spread of this wall was not excavated and while the northern edge of the wall could be discerned the southern edge was less obvious. The rubble stood to and excavated height of 0.21m.

[022] Layer. Charcoal layer being 0.15m in depth.

[023] Layer. Grey brown clayey silt becoming more brown and silty with depth, up to 0.15m deep.

[024] Layer. Dark reddish brown silt.

[025] Layer. Dark grey humic silt, including occasional pot and stones.

[026] Wall. Western wall of structure, consists of rubble built wall set in a bonding matrix of light yellow brown sandy clay. Edges of wall not clearly defined but wall more than 0.85m wide.

[027] Layer. Dark brown coarse sandy silt including frequent limestone/schist fragments.

[028] Wall. North wall of structure with possible inserted or remodelled drain. The wall itself consists of large randomly coursed limestone blocks standing 0.91m above present ground surface. The 'drain' mouth measures 0.52m at widest point and 0.39m in height. Around the base and sides the drain has been refaced with flatter thinner limestone slabs bonded with a moderately compact off white mortar.

Appendix 2: Finds List

Site Code	Context No.	Material	No.	Weight gr.	Notes
BAB 06	001	quartz	4	5	
BAB 06	010	quartz	1	<1	
BAB 06	004	quartz	6	40	
BAB 06	004	quartz	5	88	
BAB 06	003	quartz	8	43	
BAB 06	002	quartz	7	50	
LAG 06	003	pot	5	5g	3 blue and white decorated, 2 plain
LAG 06	012	iron	1	159	knife blade and handle
LAG 06	015	concrete	1	85	
LAG 06	015	iron	10	151	fragments of nails and fittings
LAG 06	015	pot	5	13	1 polychrome, 2 red earthenware with cream and dark brown glaze, 1 plain, 1 tile/pipe fragment
LAG 06	014	iron	1	13	degraded iron object
LAG 06	014	glass	1	3	green bottle
LAG 06	006	pot	6	53	2 blue and white, 2 red earthenware with cream and dark brown glaze
LAG 06	006	glass	2	10	window glass
LAG 06	012	pot	1	3	red earthenware with cream and dark brown glaze
LAG 06	002	pot	1	4	blue and white
LAG 06	002	glass	9	65	green bottle
LAG 06	008	pot	2	25	1 salt glaze, 1 blue and white
LAG 06	008	glass	4	5	window glass
LAG 06	010	pot	20	223	small bowl with applied light brown decoration
LOS 06	010	glass	5	25	3 lantern? Glass, 1 green bottle frag, 1 base of wine vessel
LOS 06	004	flint	1	3	gun flint
ROB 06	018	charcoal	8	12	
ROB 06	003	cu Alloy	1	5	flat irregular object, possibly worn coin
ROB 06	020	tobacco pipe	11+	10	
ROB 06	025	pot	1	4	plain undecorated

Appendix 3: Photographic List

Site	Photo No.	Site Code	Context	location	Description	Direction from
Balure	1	BAL 06	003	trench 3	rubble	w
Balure	2	BAL 06	003	trench 3	rubble	w
Balure	3	BAL 06	008	sondage	wall rubble	e
Balure	4	BAL 06	008	sondage	wall rubble	e
Balure	5	BAL 06	008	sondage	wall rubble	e
Balure	6	BAL 06	006	trench 4	entrance	se
Balure	7	BAL 06		trench 4	pre ex	e
Balure	8	BAL 06			working	e
Balure	9	BAL 06	005	trench 4	entrance rubble	
Balure	10	BAL 06			general	nw
Balure	11	BAL 06			general	nw
Balure	12	BAL 06	002	trench 1	east face	nw
Balure	13	BAL 06	002	trench 1	east face	nw
Balure	14	BAL 06	002	trench 2	wall rubble	n
Balure	15	BAL 06	002	trench 1	west face	n
Balure	16	BAL 06	002	trench 1	wall	n
Balure	17	BAL 06	003	trench 3	wall	s
Balure	18	BAL 06	003	trench 3	wall	s
Balure	19	BAL 06	003	trench 3	wall	e
Balure	20	BAL 06	003	trench 3	west face	w
Balure	21	BAL 06	003	trench 3	west face	w
Balure	22	BAL 06	004	trench 5	west face	sw
Balure	23	BAL 06	004	trench 5	wall	e
Balure	24	BAL 06	004	trench 5	wall	e
Balure	25	BAL 06			working	nw
Barnagad	1	CRC 06			western enclosure wall	s
Barnagad	2	CRC 06			eastern cliff	n
Barnagad	3	CRC 06			general	n
Barnagad	4	CRC 06			eastern cliff	n
Barnagad	5	CRC 06			general	n
Barnagad	6	CRC 06			general	n
Barnagad	7	CRC 06			general	n
Barnagad	8	CRC 06	020		outer wall	n
Barnagad	9	CRC 06	020		outer wall	n
Barnagad	10	CRC 06	020		outer wall	s
Barnagad	11	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	e
Barnagad	12	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	e
Barnagad	13	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	e
Barnagad	14	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	n
Barnagad	15	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	n
Barnagad	16	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	w
Barnagad	17	CRC 06	006	trench 1	internal walling?	w
Barnagad	18	CRC 06	005	trench 1	rubble	n
Barnagad	19	CRC 06	006	trench 1	walling	s
Barnagad	20	CRC 06		trench 1	working	n

Barnagad	21	CRC 06	008	trench 2	rubble	s
Barnagad	22	CRC 06	008	trench 2	rubble	s
Barnagad	23	CRC 06	004/008	trench 2	wall and rubble	s
Barnagad	24	CRC 06	011	trench 2	midden	n
Barnagad	25	CRC 06	011	trench 2	midden	n
Barnagad	26	CRC 06	011	trench 2	midden	s
Barnagad	27	CRC 06	011	trench 2	midden	s
Barnagad	28	CRC 06	011	trench 2	midden	s
Barnagad	29	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	n
Barnagad	30	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	s
Barnagad	31	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance west side	e
Barnagad	32	CRC 06	004	trench 2	external wall face	s
Barnagad	33	CRC 06	004	trench 2	external wall face	s
Barnagad	34	CRC 06	004	trench 2	external wall face	s
Barnagad	35	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	n
Barnagad	36	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	s
Barnagad	37	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	n
Barnagad	38	CRC 06	004/014	trench 4	entrance west side	e
Barnagad	39	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	n
Barnagad	40	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	s
Barnagad	41	CRC 06	004/014	trench 4	entrance west side	s
Barnagad	42	CRC 06	004/014	trench 4	entrance west side	s
Barnagad	43	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	s
Barnagad	44	CRC 06	004/014	trench 4	entrance west side	s
Barnagad	45	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	e
Barnagad	46	CRC 06	014	trench 4	entrance rubble	n
Barnagad	47	CRC 06	019	trench 4	external wall face	s
Barnagad	48	CRC 06	016	trench 3		
Barnagad	49	CRC 06	016	trench 3		
Barnagad	50	CRC 06			working	
Barnagad	51	CRC 06			working	
Barr Ban	1	BAB 06	014	trench 2	berm	s
Barr Ban	2	BAB 06		trench 1	capstone	w
Barr Ban	3	BAB 06			capstone pre ex	w
Barr Ban	4	BAB 06			mound pre ex	n
Barr Ban	5	BAB 06		trench 1	capstone	n
Barr Ban	6	BAB 06	005	trench 1	capstone	w
Barr Ban	7	BAB 06	003	trench 1	berm layer	s
Barr Ban	8	BAB 06	006	trench 1	capstone	n
Barr Ban	9	BAB 06	007	trench 1	layer	n
Barr Ban	10	BAB 06	003	trench 1	berm	n
Barr Ban	11	BAB 06	008	trench 1	berm core	s
Barr Ban	12	BAB 06	003	trench 1	berm	n
Barr Ban	13	BAB 06	006	trench 1	cut	n
Barr Ban	14	BAB 06	006	trench 1	cut	s

Barr Ban	15	BAB 06	006	trench 1	cut	w
Barr Ban	16	BAB 06	004	trench 1	layer	n
Barr Ban	17	BAB 06	004	trench 1	layer	s
Barr Ban	18	BAB 06	004	trench 1	layer	n
Barr Ban	19	BAB 06	007	trench 1	layer	n
Barr Ban	20	BAB 06	007	trench 1	layer	n
Barr Ban	21	BAB 06	006	trench 1	cut	e
Barr Ban	22	BAB 06		trench 2	west end	s
Barr Ban	23	BAB 06		trench 2	west end	s
Barr Ban	24	BAB 06	014	trench 2	berm	e
Barr Ban	25	BAB 06	014	trench 2	berm	s
Barr Ban	26	BAB 06		trench 2	middle	s
Barr Ban	27	BAB 06		trench 2	middle	s
Barr Ban	28	BAB 06		trench 2	east end	s
Barr Ban	29	BAB 06		trench 2		e
Barr Ban	30	BAB 06		trench 2	section	n
Barr Ban	31	BAB 06		trench 2		w
Barr Ban	32	BAB 06		trench 2		e
Barr Ban	33	BAB 06		trench 2		s
Barr Ban	34	BAB 06		trench 3		n
Barr Ban	35	BAB 06		trench 3		w
Barr Ban	36	BAB 06			working	
Barr Ban	37	BAB 06			working	
Dounie	1	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	2	DON 06			cup NW face	se
Dounie	3	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	4	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	5	DON 06			cups	s
Dounie	6	DON 06			cups	w
Dounie	7	DON 06			cups	w
Dounie	8	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	9	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	10	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	11	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	12	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	13	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	14	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	15	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	16	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	17	DON 06			cups	n
Dounie	18	DON 06			lines	ne
Dounie	19	DON 06			rock	n
Dounie	20	DON 06			rock	ne
Dounie	21	DON 06			rock	se
Dounie	22	DON 06			rock	nw
Kilmory Oib	1	KIL 06			general	se
Kilmory Oib	2	KIL 06			general	sw
Kilmory Oib	3	KIL 06		structure 16	possible corn dryer	e
Kilmory Oib	4	KIL 06			Sheepfank	w

Kilmory Oib	5	KIL 06		structre 2	barn	nw
Kilmory Oib	6	KIL 06		structre 2	internal	nw
Kilmory Oib	7	KIL 06		structre 2	south gable internal	s
Kilmory Oib	8	KIL 06		structre 2	south gable external	nw
Kilmory Oib	9	KIL 06		structre 2	ventilation slot	s
Kilmory Oib	10	KIL 06		structure 3	west gable external	w
Kilmory Oib	11	KIL 06		structure 3	west gable internal	w
Kilmory Oib	12	KIL 06		structure 4a	blocked door	s
Kilmory Oib	13	KIL 06		structure 4a	general	nw
Kilmory Oib	14	KIL 06		structure 4a	general	sw
Kilmory Oib	15	KIL 06		structure 4a	mid gable internal	w
Kilmory Oib	16	KIL 06		structure 4a	east window	s
Kilmory Oib	17	KIL 06		structure 4a	west gable external	w
Kilmory Oib	18	KIL 06		structure 4a	west gable internal	e
Kilmory Oib	19	KIL 06		structure 4a	west window	s
Kilmory Oib	20	KIL 06		structure 4b	blocked NE door	n
Kilmory Oib	21	KIL 06		structure 4b	blocked door SW	s
Kilmory Oib	22	KIL 06		structure 4b	blocked window external	s
Kilmory Oib	23	KIL 06		structure 4b	blocked window internal	n
Kilmory Oib	24	KIL 06		structure 4b	east gable external	e
Kilmory Oib	25	KIL 06		structure 4b	east gable internal	w
Kilmory Oib	26	KIL 06		structure 4b	from north	n
Kilmory Oib	27	KIL 06		structure 4b	mid gable internal	e
Kilmory Oib	28	KIL 06		structure 4b	sheep crawl internal	n
Kilmory Oib	29	KIL 06		structure 4b	sheep crawl external	s
Kilmory Oib	30	KIL 06		structures 5-6	general	e
Kilmory Oib	31	KIL 06		structure 5	blocked door/sheep crawl	n
Kilmory Oib	32	KIL 06		structure 5	north wall	n
Kilmory Oib	33	KIL 06		structure 5	west wall	w
Kilmory Oib	34	KIL 06		structure 5	north gable end-sheep fank	e
Kilmory Oib	35	KIL 06		structure 5	east wall	e
Kilmory Oib	36	KIL 06		structure 6	blocked door internal	w
Kilmory Oib	37	KIL 06		structure 6	blocked door external	w
Kilmory Oib	38	KIL 06		structure 6	blocked window external	e
Kilmory Oib	39	KIL 06		structure 6	blocking external	e
Kilmory Oib	40	KIL 06		structure 6	blocking external	e
Kilmory Oib	41	KIL 06		structure 6	blocking internal	w
Kilmory Oib	42	KIL 06		structure 6	south gable internal	n
Kilmory Oib	43	KIL 06		structure 6	south gable external	s
Kilmory Oib	44	KIL 06		structure 8	blocking	w
Kilmory Oib	45	KIL 06		structure 8	blocked window internal	e
Kilmory Oib	46	KIL 06		structure 8	general	e
Kilmory Oib	47	KIL 06		structure 8	general	w
Kilmory Oib	48	KIL 06		structure 8	north gable	n
Kilmory Oib	49	KIL 06		structure 8	north gable internal	s
Kilmory Oib	50	KIL 06		structure 8	scarcement north gable	w
Kilmory Oib	51	KIL 06		structure 8	thatch pegs south gable	w

Kilmory Oib	52	KIL 06		structure 8	south gable	s
Kilmory Oib	53	KIL 06		structure 8	south gable internal	n
Kilmory Oib	54	KIL 06		structure 8	blocking?	e
Kilmory Oib	55	KIL 06		structure 11	general	sw
Kilmory Oib	56	KIL 06		structure 11	north gable external	ne
Kilmory Oib	57	KIL 06		structure 11	north gable internal	sw
Kilmory Oib	58	KIL 06		structure 11	south gable external	s
Kilmory Oib	59	KIL 06		structure 11	south gable internal	n
Kilmory Oib	60	KIL 06		structure 11	south gable thatch pegs	e
Kilmory Oib	61	KIL 06		structure 12	cruck slot south wall	n
Kilmory Oib	62	KIL 06		structure 12	cruck slot south wall	n
Kilmory Oib	63	KIL 06		structure 12	east gable internal	w
Kilmory Oib	64	KIL 06		structure 12	north wall internal	s
Kilmory Oib	65	KIL 06		structure 12	west gable external	w
Kilmory Oib	66	KIL 06		structure 12	west gable internal	e
Lagan	1	LAG 06			bridge footings	w
Lagan	2	LAG 06			bridge footings	s
Lagan	3	LAG 06			general	ne
Lagan	4	LAG 06			general	ne
Lagan	5	LAG 06			kiln	s
Lagan	6	LAG 06			kiln	s
Lagan	7	LAG 06			kiln	e
Lagan	8	LAG 06			kiln	e
Lagan	9	LAG 06			kiln	e
Lagan	10	LAG 06		structure A	north gable north house	e
Lagan	11	LAG 06		structure A	middle structure	s
Lagan	12	LAG 06		structure A	north house	e
Lagan	13	LAG 06			sheepfank	w
Lagan	14	LAG 06			sheepfank	w
Lagan	15	LAG 06	013/016	trench 1	postholes	w
Lagan	16	LAG 06	013/016	trench 1	postholes	w
Lagan	17	LAG 06	016	trench 1	posthole	w
Lagan	18	LAG 06	013	trench 1	postholes	w
Lagan	19	LAG 06	013	trench 1	postholes	n
Lagan	20	LAG 06	012	trench 1	iron rubbish	w
Lagan	21	LAG 06	012	trench 1	iron rubbish	w
Lagan	22	LAG 06	016	trench 2	wall	e
Lagan	23	LAG 06	003	trench 2	rubble	e
Lagan	24	LAG 06	018	trench 2	wall	e
Lagan	25	LAG 06	018	trench 2	wall	e
Lagan	26	LAG 06	018	trench 2	wall	e
Lagan	27	LAG 06	018	trench 2	wall	n
Lagan	28	LAG 06	007	trench 3	rubble	n
Lagan	29	LAG 06	007	trench 3	rubble	e
Lagan	30	LAG 06	007	trench 3	rubble	e
Lagan	31	LAG 06	007	trench 3	rubble	e
Lagan	32	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	n

Lagan	33	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	s
Lagan	34	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	s
Lagan	35	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	e
Lagan	36	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	e
Lagan	37	LAG 06	009	trench 3	surface	e
Lagan	38	LAG 06	011	trench 4	surface	w
Lagan	39	LAG 06	011	trench 4	surface	n
Lagan	40	LAG 06			working	
Lagan	41	LAG 06			working	
Loch Losgunn	1	LOS 06		structure C	building	w
Loch Losgunn	2	LOS 06		structure B	building	w
Loch Losgunn	3	LOS 06		structure A	building	s
Loch Losgunn	4	LOS 06		structure A	building	s
Loch Losgunn	5	LOS 06		structure A	building	n
Loch Losgunn	6	LOS 06		structure A	building	n
Loch Losgunn	7	LOS 06		structure A	building	nw
Loch Losgunn	8	LOS 06		structure C	building	w
Loch Losgunn	9	LOS 06	005	trench 1	wall	e
Loch Losgunn	10	LOS 06		trench 1	section	e
Loch Losgunn	11	LOS 06		trench 1	section	e
Loch Losgunn	12	LOS 06		trench 1	section	n
Loch Losgunn	13	LOS 06		trench 1	section	n
Loch Losgunn	14	LOS 06		trench 1	section	s
Loch Losgunn	15	LOS 06		trench 1	section	s
Loch Losgunn	16	LOS 06	003	trench 1	rubble	n
Loch Losgunn	17	LOS 06	003	trench 1	rubble	s
Loch Losgunn	18	LOS 06		trench 1	section	w
Loch Losgunn	19	LOS 06	008	trench 2	wall	e
Loch Losgunn	20	LOS 06	005	trench 1	wall	s
Loch Losgunn	21	LOS 06	008	trench 2	wall	e
Loch Losgunn	22	LOS 06	008	trench 2	wall	e
Loch Losgunn	23	LOS 06	005	trench 1	wall	3
Loch Losgunn	24	LOS 06	005	trench 1	wall	s
Loch Losgunn	25	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	s
Loch Losgunn	26	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	s
Loch Losgunn	27	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface and threshold	e
Loch Losgunn	28	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	w
Loch Losgunn	29	LOS 06		trench 3	lintel	n
Loch Losgunn	30	LOS 06		trench 3	lintel	n
Loch Losgunn	31	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	s
Loch Losgunn	32	LOS 06		trench 3	rubble and lintel	e
Loch Losgunn	33	LOS 06		trench 3	rubble	e
Loch Losgunn	34	LOS 06		trench 3	rubble	e
Loch Losgunn	35	LOS 06		trench 3	rubble	n
Loch Losgunn	36	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	e
Loch Losgunn	37	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	w
Loch Losgunn	38	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface	w
Loch Losgunn	39	LOS 06	012	trench 3	cobbles	e
Loch Losgunn	40	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface and threshold	s

Loch Losgunn	41	LOS 06	013	trench 3	surface and threshold	
Loch Losgunn	42	LOS 06		trench 2	wall	e
Loch Losgunn	43	LOS 06		trench 4	wall	s
Loch Losgunn	44	LOS 06		trench 1		s
Loch Losgunn	45	LOS 06			track revetting	n
Loch Losgunn	46	LOS 06			track revetting	e
Robber's Den	1	ROB 06			ditch	w
Robber's Den	2	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	n
Robber's Den	3	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	
Robber's Den	4	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	
Robber's Den	5	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	n
Robber's Den	6	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	s
Robber's Den	7	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	n
Robber's Den	8	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	s
Robber's Den	9	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	s
Robber's Den	10	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	s
Robber's Den	11	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	e
Robber's Den	12	ROB 06	011	trench 1	wall	s
Robber's Den	13	ROB 06		trench 2	section	e
Robber's Den	14	ROB 06		trench 2	section	w
Robber's Den	15	ROB 06		trench 2	section	e
Robber's Den	16	ROB 06		trench 2	section	s
Robber's Den	17	ROB 06		trench 2	section	s
Robber's Den	18	ROB 06		trench 2	section	w
Robber's Den	19	ROB 06	016	trench 3	rubble	s
Robber's Den	20	ROB 06	017	trench 3	burnt area	s
Robber's Den	21	ROB 06	017	trench 3	floor	s
Robber's Den	22	ROB 06		trench 3	location	s
Robber's Den	23	ROB 06	019	trench 3	wall	n
Robber's Den	24	ROB 06	019	trench 3	wall	w
Robber's Den	25	ROB 06		trench 4	rubble/wall	w
Robber's Den	26	ROB 06	023	trench 5	layer	w
Robber's Den	27	ROB 06	024	trench 5	rubble	w
Robber's Den	28	ROB 06	028	trench 6	drain	w
Robber's Den	29	ROB 06		trench 2	rubble/wall	w

