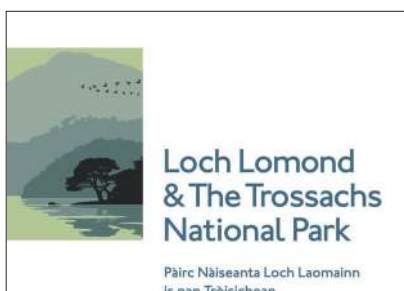


THE HIGH MORLAGGAN PROJECT EXCAVATION DATA STRUCTURE REPORT



February 2010

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Summary

The deserted settlement of High Morlaggan consists of at least four structures surrounded by a series of enclosures. The settlement appears to have been abandoned by the early 20th century. Map and documentary evidence suggests that the site was occupied as early as the 16th century. The excavation shed light on the later stages of the site's history and of those who lived there, while giving us tantalising glimpses of earlier phases of occupation. The excavation concentrated on two structures within the settlement, these assumed to be byre buildings, with people occupying one side of the structure and animals the other. One building (Structure 2) appears to indicate this division, with a floor and possible hearth at one end of the divided structure. The function of the second building (Structure 3) is less clear and more work needs to be done to establish this. The excavation has also shown that these buildings were much altered in the later period, with extensive robbing and internal modification. The relative wealth of artefacts, that appeared to derive from the later occupation of the site, somewhat flies in the face of the perceived image of highlanders living in dire circumstances and relative poverty. Study of the cultural artefacts and comparative analysis may go some way to correcting this generally accepted and perhaps erroneous view.



Structures 2 and 3 prior to Excavation

Acknowledgements

The High Morlaggan Project would like to thank the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority and Scottish Natural Heritage for providing the generous funding for the project and for their help in clearing the site. The Project would also like to thank the Luss Estate for granting permission to undertake the excavation on their land. Special mention must go to the many volunteers, too numerous to list here, who worked through the wettest November on record.

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Project Circumstances

This Data Structure Report (DSR) has been prepared by Kilmartin House Museum with respect to the archaeological excavation undertaken at the deserted settlement site of High Morlaggan, Arrochar Parish, Argyll. The aims of the project are more fully outlined within the Project Design (Regan 2009). Permission to carry out a survey and excavation of the site has been granted by Luss Estates (the current owner). Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority and Scottish Natural Heritage funded the project.

1.2 The High Morlaggan Project: Shadow People – Our Community’s Heritage

The excavation is part of a programme of research of events that seeks to enhance the understanding and promotion of archaeology in the area. The aims of the High Morlaggan Project are more fully outlined in the Project Design and Desk Based Assessment (Regan 2009). The excavation was also an opportunity for the local community to get involved in the archaeological process. Engaging the public will raise awareness and build an appreciation of the area’s archaeology and history. Local societies, such as the Arrochar, Tarbet and Ardlui Heritage Group, the primary school, the Scout group and the broader public will be able to engage with their own history, through participating in the project under the auspices of Kilmartin House Museum’s education service, where work will be linked to existing education programmes. The excavation also afforded opportunities for local volunteers to get involved in excavation and post-excavation work (the latter including finds processing). The project will be presented through an interpretative exhibition, which will be held at the new Three Villages Community Hall, due for completion early in 2010. The project will provide updated reports on Kilmartin House Museum’s web site. Ultimately, the results of the research will be published either as a monograph or within a relevant journal.



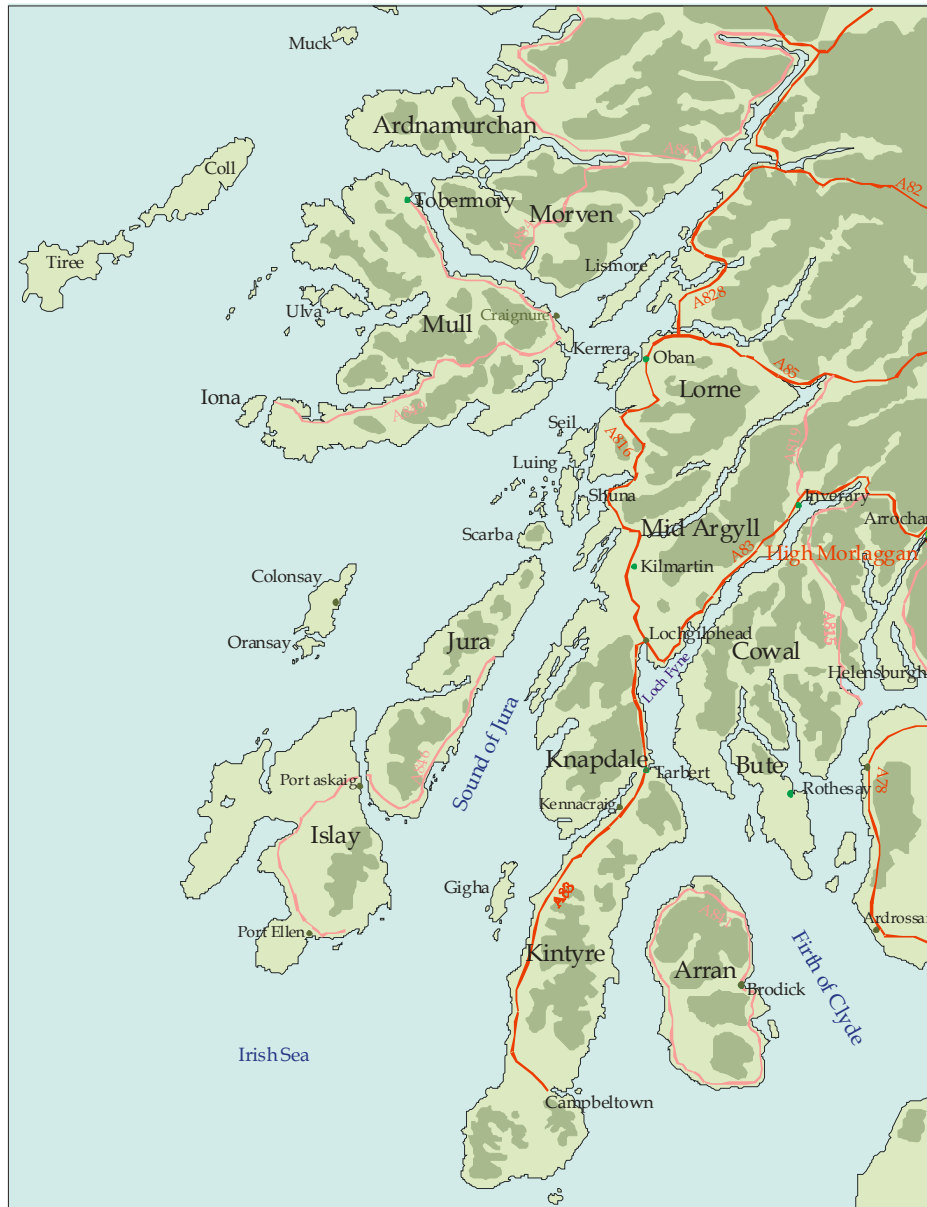


Figure 1: Argyll

2. Site Background

2.1 Location and Topography

The settlement of High Morlaggan (centred NN 27730 01630, Figures 1 & 2), lies within the Parish of Arrochar, Argyll. The settlement is one of several, strung along the eastern side of Loch Long, south of Arrochar village. The underlying geology consists of banded epidote-chlorite schist covered by peat and clay-based soils. The site is located on an elevated terrace, one of a series of terraces lying between steep crags to the east and the shores of Loch Long to the west. The main ground cover is thick bracken with underlying grasses and moss (the former almost totally obscuring the site in the summer months). More established undergrowth of trees and scrub, including rowan, hawthorn and birch, lies within and around some of the buildings.

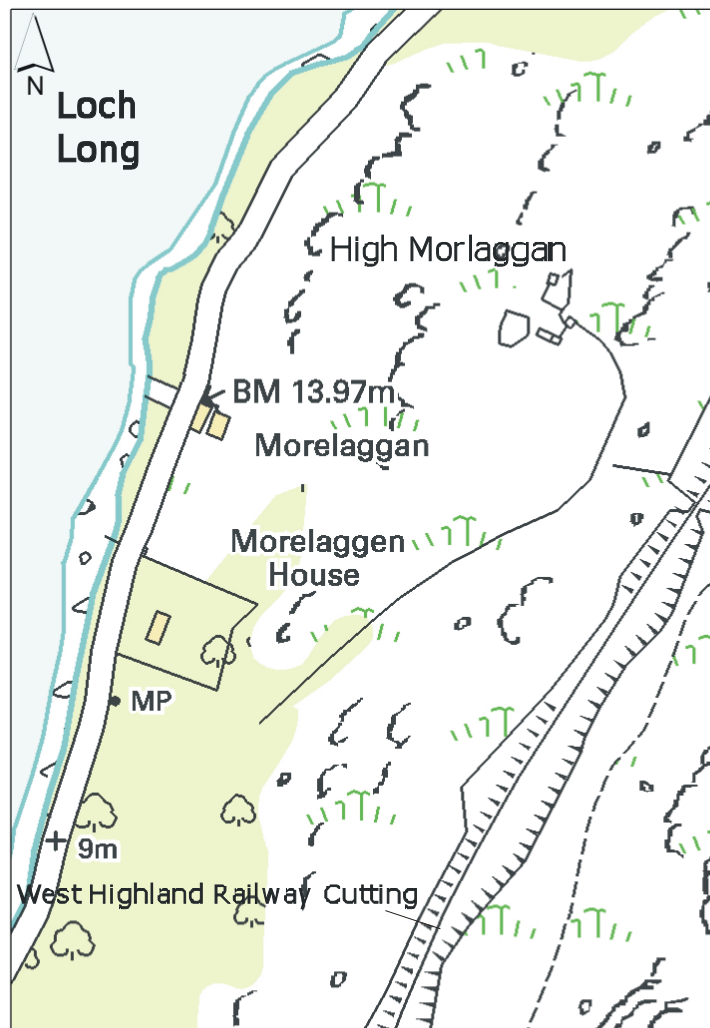


Figure 2: Location of High Morlaggan

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

A field survey, including a photographic record of the site, was undertaken by members of the High Morlaggan Project and the results of this with additions from the current excavation are reproduced in Appendices 4 and 5. Four or five potential structures were identified, all in a ruinous state of preservation (Figure 3). The structures would appear to represent both byres and domestic buildings. It was postulated that Structures 2 and 3 being the longest buildings may represent the main domestic structures, possibly byre buildings. Documentary evidence suggests the site dates back to at least the early 16th Century when it is mentioned in a document relating to a land dispute of 1514. This and the broader history of the settlement were fully outlined in the Project Design (Regan 2009).

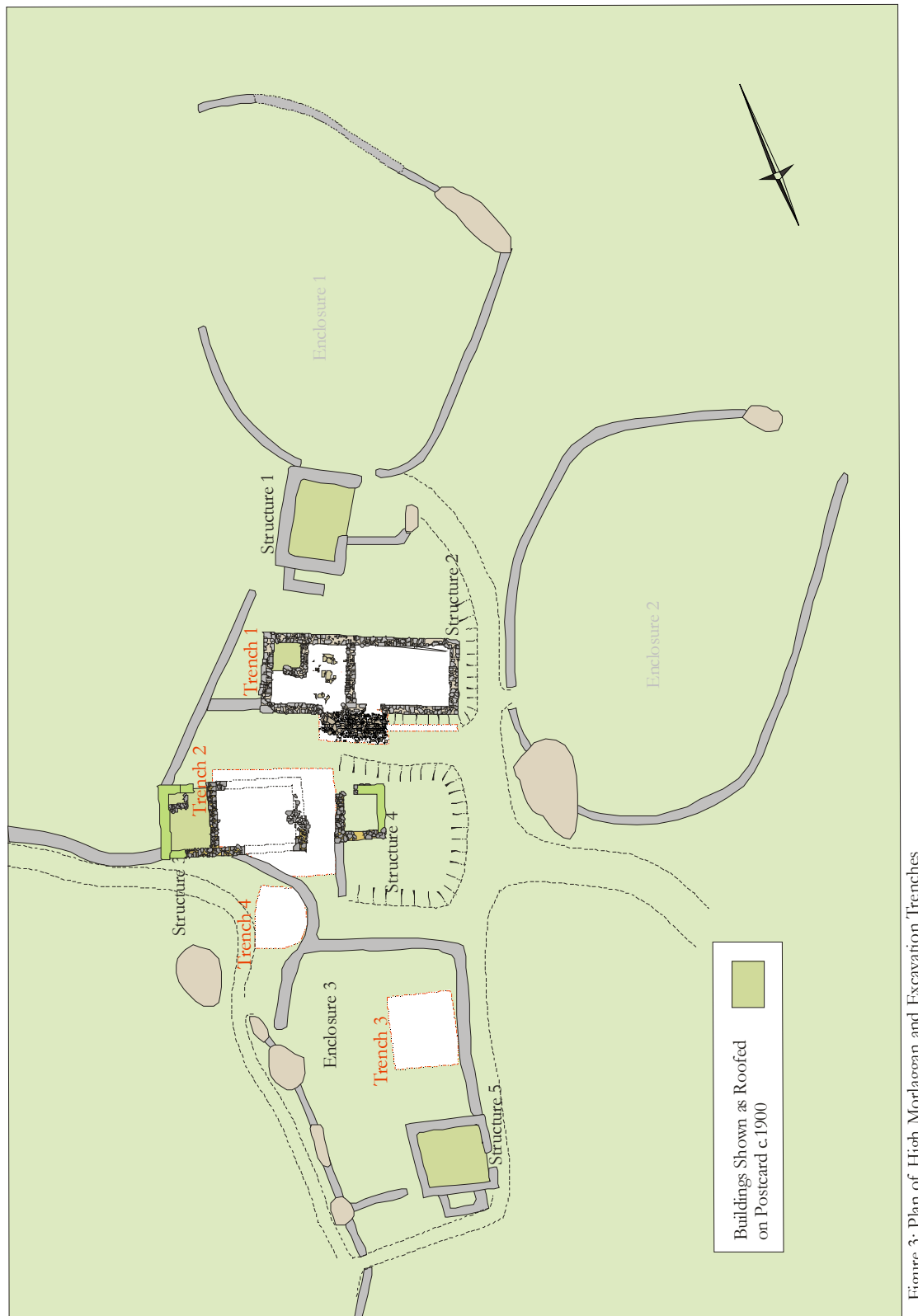


Figure 3: Plan of High Morlaggan and Excavation Trenches

3 Excavation Results

The excavation took place over two weeks in November 2009 and the site code used was MOR 09. The weather conditions merit some mention as the dig coincided with one of the wettest recorded spells in Argyll, basically it rained every day (sometimes all day). This somewhat hampered the on-site excavation process so it is remarkable, and a testament to the keenness of the volunteers, that we managed to excavate as much as we did. A photographic record of the excavation was undertaken and a list of the photographs appears in Appendix 4. An EDM survey was conducted on the main structures and enclosures and the results have been incorporated into Figure 3.

The main excavation concentrated on two areas, Trenches 1 and 2, respectively based around Structures 2 and 3. Topsoil was also investigated in two other areas which formed the basis of the young archaeologist trenches, these numbered Trenches 3 and 4.



Structure 2 after vegetation clearance

Trench 1, Structure 2.

Structure 2 was a rectangular E/W orientated building identified during previous survey work (see Appendix 5 below). The walls [025], [028], [029] and [030], [032] respectively formed the E, N, S and W sides of the building. The building was divided into two rooms by a partition wall [031] (Figure 4). The E room measured 5.8m by 4.4m internally and appeared to have a doorway in its SE corner (this now blocked). Another door is likely to have existed in the N wall but due to later robbing its original dimensions could not now be identified with confidence. The presence of two alcoves, [026] and [027], set within the E gable end of the room also suggests this end of the structure was the principal occupied space in the building. If so it is possible that the larger W room (measuring 7m by 4.5m internally) was a byre. This however still awaits confirmation as the floor within the building was only revealed within a small sondage to the SE of the room (see below).

Only a small part of the original occupation surfaces of the structure were exposed during the excavation. Within the E room a floor level was partially revealed, this consisting of flagstones [033] and mixed gravel and clay [034]. The flags formed a rough rectangular setting and although there was no obvious trace of burning, for example reddening of the upper surface, it is likely they provided the basis for the hearth.



Figure 4: Trench 1 Structure 2

This surface relates to the last use of the building as a dwelling, and shows signs of disturbance and repair, so it is possible earlier phases floor will be revealed below. Within the W room possible floor surfaces were exposed within the entranceway and within a small sondage at the SE of the room indicating a possible much disturbed upper surface. The exposure however was too limited to be sure whether this horizon represented a floor itself or deposits lying directly above a floor. To the N of the structure, a well built external cobbled surface was also partially exposed, the wear on the upper stone surface suggesting long use.

The building would then appear to have gone out of use, the stones from its walls being partially robbed especially along the longer sides and from the internal partition wall, these appearing much reduced from what would have been their original height. The building was then modified with the addition of a small rectangular structure [032] within the original SE corner, the doorway at the SE probably blocked at this time. This building is shown with a sloping thatched roof on an 1890-1900 postcard, although what material was used in the thatch is not clear. It is not yet known what this structure was used for, although a small storehouse or animal pen are likely possibilities. Later additions (after the original building had gone out of use) were a row of coping stones [036] to add height to the (now reduced) dividing wall [031] and large boulders placed along the original N wall of the W room with the same effect of raising its height. Why the walls needed to be raised is not clear, although the area now appears to have been utilised as a midden, given the amount of artefacts recovered from deposits [022] and [005], these midden spreads filling this room/space. The artefacts included pottery, tools, glass vessels and leather objects (old shoes in particular) and these are likely to have come from the inhabitants of Structure 1 at the S, this likely the last occupied building within the settlement. Eventually the settlement was entirely abandoned and the gable ends of the structure and the small rectangular structure were left to decline, the rubble from this later collapse/demolition recorded as [004] at the E and [003] at the W ends of the building.

The building would appear to have gone out of use after 1860 when it was shown as roofed on the Ordnance Survey map and before 1890-1900, when it was photographed in its ruined but modified state. The gable ends of the building would appear to have stood until the 1950's or 60's when the structure was again photographed, this showing the gable ends standing.



Structure 2 Excavated Building



Figure 5: Trench 2, Structures 3 and 4



Trench 3 Excavated building

Trench 2, Structure 3.

Structure 3 was rectangular and similarly orientated E/W as Structure 2 (Figure 5). The walls [010], [011], [012] and [037] respectively formed the E, N, S and W sides of the building.

The W end of the building had been severely robbed in the past and/or had collapsed to the W. Only the basal stones of the NW corner survive and are identifiable at the W of the trench. Beyond it to the W was a compacted layer of rubble [021]. Without further excavation it is difficult to be sure what this rubble represents but may be the original collapse of the W gable end of the structure. No formal floor was identified within the trench although gravel silt deposit [020] may actually represent the original floor surface. If so, and with little trace of a hearth or internal features, this part of the building is unlikely to have been occupied as the living space.

The building appears to have been divided at some later stage by wall [015]. However, without full excavation of the rubble collapse sealing the lower W side of the wall, when this wall was inserted (whether before or after the robbing of the N and S walls) is not clear. The room or space created by the construction of the dividing wall measured 4.3m by 3m internally and had a modified doorway in its S side, with a window on the N side. An aperture was also built into wall [015] and this may represent a drain outlet into the lower W side of the building. If a drain, then its presence possibly suggests a byre building although a relatively small one. As mentioned above the W end of the structure was extensively robbed, only the basal stones of the W gable surviving. A heaped arc of small stones [017] overlay the robbed gable and this likely represents the discard from this robbing process, with only the larger stones taken and reused. If dividing wall [015] proves a later addition then it is possible that the stones were reused in its construction. On a postcard of 1890-1900, this E part of the structure is shown with a pitched thatch roof. After this period the building declined with the partial collapse/demolition of this part of the structure recorded as rubble [013].

The latest addition to the building was a roughly constructed internal partition wall [014] in the SE corner of the structure measuring 1.0m by 1.6 m, this likely a twinning pen..

Excavation of the area between Structure 3 and 4 suggested this area was used as a midden within the later settlement, this recorded as deposit [002].

The plan of Structure 4 and the later E alteration of Structure 3 roughly correspond to the arrangement of buildings depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1860. If this is to be trusted then it suggests the robbed long building predates this depiction and was likely abandoned by this time.

Trench 3

This trench was opened within Enclosure 3 to test the soil accumulation within this presumed 'kailyard'. The Trench unfortunately filled up at an early date with rain water and had to be abandoned. Prior to this we were able to establish that there was an accumulation of up to 15cm of dark grey humic silt [008], containing pottery and glass fragments, suggesting the spreading of midden material over the area. Beneath this however was more compact browner sandy soil, possibly indicating this was once utilised as a surface. Continued water accumulation (rain) however prevented us from testing this hypothesis.

Trench 4

Due to the water problems within Trench 3 the young archaeologists were asked to clear the scrub and topsoil from an area within a dip or sunken area to the SE of Enclosure 3. The 'dip' was also respected by a distinct curve within the enclosure wall circuit, raising the possibility of a well or spring. Removal of the topsoil [006] revealed a spread of rubble, some of which likely derived from the curving enclosure wall. The presence or absence of a well or spring was not established.

4. The Artefacts

A full list of the recovered artefacts is listed within Appendix 3.

The majority of finds recovered from the excavation consisted of pottery and glass fragments, with lesser quantities of metal objects, leather and rare bone.

Pottery

Just over 2,600 sherds of pottery (weighing just under 24.4kgs) were recovered from the excavation. The majority came from midden contexts of material dumped over Structures 2 and 3 after their abandonment (1,122 sherds from context [002], 641 sherds from [005] and 448 from [022]). Various pottery types and forms were present and more work needs to be completed on this relatively large assemblage. Below is a summary of the more ubiquitous fabrics and forms present.

Glazed white earthenware

The majority of the pottery (2,167 sherds) is represented by glazed white earthenware most likely deriving from the Clydeside industrial potteries. The majority of these sherds (1,224) displayed some signs of decoration these mostly sponge decorated or transfer printed wares. Scottish spongeware was a robust, practical pottery made for everyday household use in city homes, farmhouses and crofts and was in common use from the 1850s to the 1920s. Transfer-printed wares had become common by c.1790 and by c.1800 had become relatively inexpensive. In lesser quantities were banded wares and a few fragments of pratt and pearl ware, these possibly dating to the earlier 19th century (George Hagarty, *pers. com.*). Numerous types of vessel appear to be present including plates, dishes, chamber pots, jars, bowls and cups. Few makers' marks or back-stamps were present but those identifiable were 'Cochran & Co' Robert Cochran of Glasgow (c.1846-1921), 'C.P Co' Campbellfield pottery Glasgow (c.1850-1905), 'JB' Bell's Glasgow Pottery (c.1842-1928), and 'I & Co' possibly Millar's North British pottery Glasgow (c.1869-75).

Redware

139 redware sherds were present most with internal and external (lead) glaze and some with internal white slip trail decoration. The horticultural redware comprised of 31 fragments, consisting mainly of flower pots with one drain fragment. Coarse, industrially produced, Scottish redware was produced from c 1750 and later industrial refined redware from c.1775. Both of these were rare at first, but were produced in quantity by 1780 and had fairly widespread distribution. These were especially for kitchen use. Forms include dairy bowls and crocks although a few other forms may be present.

Rockingham glazed sherds

The 167 Rockingham type glazed sherds appear to represent mainly teapots, these with distinctive moulded covers, spouts and handles. Stamps on two teapot bases are from the Belfield pottery of Prestonpans near Edinburgh (c.1835-c.1935).

Salt glazed stoneware

Only 48 fragments of stoneware were recovered and possibly represent storage vessels most probably used for foodstuffs or drinks.

Glass

As with the pottery the bulk of the glass recovered (541 fragments) come from midden deposits and mainly represented bottles and phials, and window and lantern glass. Most of the glass is white or green coloured, with a few vessels of pink, blue and yellow glass.

Iron Objects

All the iron objects recovered were badly corroded making it difficult to identify some of the objects with any degree of certainty. Amongst the immediately identifiable objects were cauldron or iron vessel fragments, a possible cauldron lid, a decorated fire grate, barrel staves, a chain and a complete lock mechanism. Some tools were also identifiable, amongst these were a possible axe head or wedge, a hay fork, a cold chisel and a possible rope hook. Smaller items included nails, a ring and hinges of various sizes.

Copper Alloy Objects

These included the mechanism from an oil or paraffin lamp, part of a serrated wheel from a clock mechanism, a button, a possible bellows end, a small corroded box and a buckle (possibly a horse fitting).

Lead Objects

A piece of folded lead was recovered although its use is as yet unknown.

Bone

Little bone was recovered from the site although the recovery of an unburnt fragment suggests unusual preservation within the generally acidic soils encountered on most Highland sites which tends to degrade any bone or bone objects.

Worked Stone Artefacts

Several worked stone artefacts were recovered from the site. Amongst these were a hone or whetstone, a broken rotary quern and a stone with hollows pecked on two opposing sides, this possibly a pivot stone for a door post. Three worked slate fragments were also recovered. These are likely to be fragments of slate writing tablets, two have bare incised lines while one also has possible scratched practice letters. A fragment of a graphite pencil was also recovered.

One piece of worked flint was recovered. As it does not appear to be a typical strike a light or a gun flint then it may represent earlier activity on the site albeit mixed within later deposits. A second piece of flint was also recovered although this does not appear to have been worked.

Leather

The damp humic soil particularly within structure 2 were obviously conducive to the preservation of leather objects, the majority of these appearing to be the remains of shoes or boots.

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Eleven fragments of clay tobacco pipes were recovered, these representing both stems and bowls, a complete bowl was recovered from [022] this with oak leaved decoration. No makers' stamps were recognisable although places of manufacture were in evidence with 'GLAS..(gow)' and 'GREENOCK' stamps apparent on two of the stems.

Slag

Metal slag had been dumped within midden material [005] suggesting some form of metal working having taken place on site.

5. Conclusion

The excavation at High Morlaggan has shed light on the later stages of the site's history and of those who lived there. The excavation confirmed the presence of two long structures within the settlement. The excavation has also shown that these buildings were much altered in the later period, with extensive robbing and internal modification. One building (Structure 2) appears to be a byre building, with people occupying one side of the structure and animals the other. This is indicated by an internal wall with a floor and possible hearth in one end of the divided structure. Structure 2 is depicted as still roofed in 1890 but may have been abandoned by the early 1900s when it is shown as partially demolished in a photograph of that period. The function of the second excavated building (Structure 3) is less clear and more work needs to be done to establish this. If the First Edition Ordnance Survey is to be taken at face value then it appears that Structure 3 had been abandoned as a long building by 1860 (when the map was surveyed) and modified or reduced in size with a smaller building occupying its eastern end. The bulk of the recovered artefacts appear to belong to the later occupation of the site, most of the pottery dating from around the 1870s onwards. Earlier occupation activity is perhaps seen with the recovery of a few sherds of pottery which may date to the early 19th century. Another indication of the presence of earlier occupation can perhaps be seen to the south of Structure 3. Here there can be discerned a rectangular platform, the south eastern part now occupied by Structure 4, and it's possible this is an earlier building platform. The northern wall of Structure 4 also appears to be of a different build to the rest of the walls and it's possible this also represents an earlier building phase.

6 References

Regan, R. 2009 The High Morlaggan Project, Desk Based Assessment & Excavation Project Design.

Appendix 1: Context Descriptions

[001] Layer. Topsoil within Structure 2, mainly consisting of bracken and fern cover with a dark grey humic silt.

[002] Layer. Topsoil within Structure 3, mainly consisting of bracken and fern cover over collapsed rubble.

[003] Layer. Rubble collapse from small rectangular structure and from collapsed E gable end of Structure 2.



Rubble collapse [002] at east of Structure 2

[004] Layer. Rubble gable end collapse from the W end of Structure 2.

[005] Layer. Dark grey humic silt with frequent bracken roots within W side of Structure 2. This represented mixed degraded vegetation accumulation and midden material.

[006] Layer. Dark grey humic silt with frequent bracken roots covering rubble within 'curve' of wall N of Structure 2.

[007] Layer. Dark grey humic silt and bracken roots lying over cobbled surface N of Structure 2.

[008] Layer. Dark grey humic silt with frequent bracken roots lying within Enclosure 3.

[009] Layer. Dark brown silty clay with moderate roots and smaller stones.

[010] Wall. Partially collapsed gable at E end of Structure 3. The wall measured 1.95m in visible height and was 0.60-0.70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.50m wide and slightly bonded with a light brown silt and shingle 'mortar'. One end appears to abut [011] as it is not keyed in.

[011] Wall. N wall of Structure 3 robbed at its W end. The wall measured 1.20m in visible height and was 0.60-0.70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.60m wide with hearting stones up to 0.16m wide and slightly bonded with a light brown silt and shingle 'mortar'.

[012] Wall. S wall of Structure 3 robbed at its W end. The wall measured 1.40m in visible height and was 0.60m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.40m wide. The wall was slightly keyed into [010] at E.

[013] Layer. Rubble collapse of E end of Structure 3.



Rubble collapse [012]

[014] Wall. Roughly built wall of twinning pen within the SE corner of Structure 3. The wall stands 0.80m in visible height and is 0.40m wide.

[015] Wall. Dividing wall within Structure 3. The wall measured 1.35m in visible height and was 0.60-70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.40m long. The wall abuts [011] at N.



Wall [015]

[016] Layer. Rubble collapse from wall [015].

[017] Layer. Heap of smaller stone lying over robbed out W foundation of Structure 3. The stones measured up to 0.20m in width and were situated in a dark grey silt.



Layer [012]

[018] Wall. Wall forming E side of Structure 4. The wall measured 0.80m in visible height and was 0.55m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble with no visible mortar.

[019] Layer. Dark grey humic silt with frequent bracken roots lying within E end of Structure 2. This represented mixed degraded vegetation accumulation and midden material.

[020] Layer. Possible surface within Structure 3 consisting of dark reddish brown silt and occasional small stones.

[021] Layer. Dark reddish brown silt and rubble. Possible wall collapse or demolition material of W end of Structure 3.

[022] Layer. Mid grey brown sandy clay silt. Included moderate to frequent stone collapse/demolition from Structure 2 especially around walls, mixed with midden material, including pot, glass and iron.

[023] Layer. Demolition collapse and mortar of wall [015] within a gritty brown silt.

[024] Layer. Mid brown gritty silt, including occasional charcoal, lying over floor surface within E room of Structure 2.

[025] Wall. Partially collapsed gable at E end of Structure 2. The wall measured 1.60m in visible height in 13 courses and was 0.60-0.70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.80m x 0.53m x 0.30m and slightly bonded with a orange brown clay silt 'mortar'.

[026] Niche. Alcove constructed in E gable of Structure 2. The niche measured 0.48m high, 0.43m wide and 0.30m deep.

[027] Niche. Alcove constructed in E gable of Structure 2. The niche measured 0.31m high, 0.40m wide and 0.36m deep.



Niches in E wall of Structure 2

[028] Wall. N wall of Structure 2. The wall measured 1.55m in visible height and was 0.63-0.70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.80m x 0.53m x 0.30m and slightly bonded with an orange brown clay silt 'mortar'. The wall probably had two entrances although these were much disturbed by robbing so their original dimensions were difficult to discern.

[029] Wall. S wall of Structure 2. The wall measured 0.65m in visible height and was 0.70m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble slightly bonded with an orange brown clay silt 'mortar'. The wall had a blocked entrance at the E end, this measuring 0.80m wide. A second blocked entrance may still exist at the W but this was hard to discern amongst the collapse at this end.

[030] Wall. Partially collapsed gable at W end of Structure 2. The wall measured 1.32m in visible height in 12 courses and was 0.76m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble the largest block measuring 0.90m x 0.30m x 0.15m and slightly bonded with an orange brown clay silt 'mortar'.

[031] Wall. Dividing wall within Structure 2. The wall measured 0.79m in visible height in 3 courses and was 0.63m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble and appears to have been robbed and then later added to as [036].

[032] Wall. Later addition to the SE corner of Structure 2. This was an 'L' shaped wall that measured 0.90m in visible height in 6 courses and was 0.65m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble and had an entrance (0.80m wide) at the NE.

[033] Floor. Flagstone surface within E room of Structure 2. The largest flag (of chlorite schist) measured 0.70m and 0.40m. The flags partially covered the W side of the room and may have formed a hearth setting, although there was no visible fire reddening on the stones.



Flagstone surface/possible Hearth setting [033]

[034] Floor. Compacted surface within E room of Structure 2. This consisted of an orange/brown silty clay gravel with patches of lighter yellow clay (possible repair).



Floor surface in Structure 2

[035] Surface. Compacted and well laid cobbled surface running down the N side of Structure 2. The surface slopes down to the W and N away from the presumed entrance of the Structure and is mainly comprised of mixed stone type water rolled stones (these possibly collected from the beach or from glacial terraces below the settlement?). The largest exposed stone measured 0.45m by 0.32m and the surface stones show signs of extensive wear.



Cobbled Surface [035]

[036] Wall. A single alignment of coping stones added to the top of wall [031].



Diving wall [031] with added coping stones [036]

[037] Wall. Remains of NW corner of structure forming the footings of the W gable of the building. Largest stone measured 0.6m by 0.50m by 0.9m wide.

Appendix 2: Context List

Context	Type	Trench	Structure
001	layer	1	
002	layer	2	
003	layer	1	
004	layer	1	
005	layer	1	
006	layer	4	
007	layer	3	
008	layer		
009	layer	2	
010	wall	2	3
011	wall	2	3
012	wall	2	3
013	layer	2	3
014	wall	2	3
015	wall	2	3
016	layer	2	3
017	layer	2	
018	wall	2	4
019	layer	2	3
020	layer	2	3
021	layer	1	2
022	layer	1	2
023	layer	2	3
024	layer	1	2
025	wall	1	2
026	niche	1	2
027	niche	1	2
028	wall	1	2
029	wall	1	2
030	wall	1	2
031	wall	1	2
032	wall	1	2
033	floor	1	2
034	floor	1	2
035	cobbled surface	1	
036	wall	1	
037	wall	1	

Appendix 3: Finds List

Context	Type	Number	Weight	Notes
001	glass	1	20	bottle stopper
005	slate	1	15	scored with lettering?
005	slate	1	20	scored
005	pottery	3	40	
002	pottery	74	1125	
002	glass	2	35	
005	pottery	2	110	
005	pottery	5	40	
005	pottery	2	50	
005	pottery	7	105	
005	pottery	2	45	
005	pottery	2	175	
005	pottery	139	1420	
002	glass	18	195	
002	pottery	114	1140	
022	glass	1	5	
022	clay pipe	1	5	stem
022	pottery	2	100	
002	pottery	42	730	
002	pottery	1	10	ball
002	glass	1	80	
002	glass	16	90	
005	pottery	7	720	
002	pottery	16	595	
002	stone	1	535	hone or whetstone
002	pottery	255	910	
002	pottery	206	1800	
005	glass	3	1	
005	copper alloy	6	20	oil lamp mechanism
005	leather	2	1	shoe fragments, lace holes
005	graphite	1	3	pencil
005	glass	15	15	
005	pottery	4	10	
005	slag/burnt clay	5	265	smithing waste
005	pottery	115	1320	
005	pottery	3	95	
007	glass	2	40	
007	pottery	15	145	
007	pottery	30	230	
005	glass	1	15	
005	pottery	2	200	
019	?	1	5	button
019	clay pipe	1	5	stem
019	pottery	10	50	

023	glass	22	500	
023	pottery	132	735	
022	glass	1	15	
022	pottery	36	185	
001	glass	26	1520	
002	pottery	24	115	
005	glass	29	160	
005	pottery	3	10	
005	pottery	39	475	
016	pottery	16	90	
005	glass	54	465	
015	copper alloy	1	15	horse fitting?
005	pottery	68	930	
005	glass	46	750	
005	pottery	68	905	
005	slag	1	15	
008	glass	7	40	
008	pottery	48	255	
022	copper alloy	1	5	button 'rudolf finn'
022	pottery	104	680	
022	glass	30	145	
022	clay pipe	1	5	bowl
005	glass	27	490	
005	pottery	58	470	
019	clay pipe	1	5	stem
019	graphite	1	5	pencil
019	bone	1	5	button
019	pottery	35	230	
022	pottery	22	605	
021	glass	8	105	
021	pottery	32	265	
006	pottery	9	380	
002	glass	10	30	
002	pottery	157	595	
022	glass	19	70	
022	pottery	52	1125	
022	pottery	5	490	
007	pottery	25	135	
002	glass	10	185	
002	pottery	93	650	
022	clay pipe	1	5	stem
022	glass	31	410	
022	pottery	84	915	
023	clay pipe	3	15	stem and bowl fragments
002	glass	11	222	
002	pottery	98	795	
022	clay pipe	1	20	bowl with oak leaves
020	clay pipe	1	5	stem 'GLAS(gow)' CRE--'

005	flint	1	5	
020	flint	1	5	
005	pottery	1	5	
005	bone	2	5	1 burnt
005	pottery	1	65	ointment vessel
022	copper alloy	1		box
005	copper alloy	1		handle or nozzle
019	iron			hay hook, hinge, axe head?
022	iron			rusted shoes, vessel fragments lock
005	iron			barrel staves, chisel, ring, cauldren, lid, chain
007	iron			cauldren, decorated grate
023	copper alloy			clock mechanism
020	copper alloy			strip
016	stone	1		quern
003	stone	1		pivot stone
022	stone	1	10	whetstone
005	lead	1		
001	glass	4	10	
001	pottery	109	45	
009	glass	1	5	
009	pottery	23	190	
005	glass	16	400	
005	pottery	68	815	
005	glass	74	1760	
002	glass	17	110	
002	pottery	42	290	
005	pottery	41	320	
005	clay pipe	1	5	stem 'GREENOCK'
005	slate	1	10	
005	pottery	1	5	
005	glass	1	5	bead
023	glass	1	5	
023	pottery	11	130	
020	pottery	10	55	
020	glass	1	40	
021	glass	1	40	
024	glass	1	5	
007	glass	7	165	
007	pottery	12	130	
006	glass	6	400	
006	pottery	18	120	
002	leather			shoes
022	leather			shoe fragments, soles
019	fabric			cloth with button
022	fabric			shirt?
005	bone	1	5	rib

Appendix 4: Photo List

Site Code	Photo No.	Context	Trench	Structure	Direction	Description
MOR 09	1		1	2	E	E end
MOR 09	2		1	2	E	E end
MOR 09	3		1	2	W	E end
MOR 09	4		1	2	W	E end
MOR 09	5		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	6		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	7		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	8		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	9		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	10		1	2	E	E end
MOR 09	11		1	2	E	E end
MOR 09	12		1	2	W	W end
MOR 09	13		2	3	N	E end
MOR 09	14		2	3	E	E end
MOR 09	15		2	3	E	E end
MOR 09	16		2	3	S	E end
MOR 09	17		2	3	S	E end
MOR 09	18		2	3	N	E end
MOR 09	19		2	3	S	E end
MOR 09	20		2	3	S	E end
MOR 09	21	017	2	3	N	rubble
MOR 09	22	017	2	3	N	rubble
MOR 09	23	017	2	3	N	rubble
MOR 09	24		2	3	W	E end
MOR 09	25		2	3	W	E end
MOR 09	26	017	2	3	E	rubble
MOR 09	27	035			E	cobbled surface
MOR 09	28	035			W	cobbled surface
MOR 09	29	035			E	cobbled surface
MOR 09	30	032	1	2	E	later addition
MOR 09	31	032	1	2	E	later addition
MOR 09	32	027	1	2	E	niche
MOR 09	33	026	1	2	E	niche
MOR 09	34	029	1	2	S	blocked door
MOR 09	35	029	1	2	N	blocked door
MOR 09	36	025	1	2	E	niches
MOR 09	37	035			W	cobbled surface
MOR 09	38	035			E	cobbled surface
MOR 09	39	035			E	cobbled surface
MOR 09	40	035			E	cobbled surface
MOR 09	41	035			S	cobbled surface
MOR 09	42	035			W	cobbled surface
MOR 09	43		1	2	S	W end
MOR 09	44		1	2	S	W end
MOR 09	45		1	2	S	W end
MOR 09	46	030	1	2	W	wall

MOR 09	47	030	1	2	N	collapsed wall
MOR 09	48	030	1	2	N	collapsed wall
MOR 09	49		1	2	W	
MOR 09	50		1	2	W	
MOR 09	51		2	3	E	
MOR 09	52		2	3	E	E end
MOR 09	53		2	3	E	E end
MOR 09	54		2	3	N	W end
MOR 09	55		2	3	E	E end
MOR 09	56		2	3	E	robbed wall
MOR 09	57		2	3	NE	E end
MOR 09	58	033	1	2	N	floor
MOR 09	59	033	1	2	S	flagged floor
MOR 09	60	033	1	2	S	flagged floor
MOR 09	61	033	1	2	S	floor
MOR 09	62	033	1	2	S	floor
MOR 09	63	033	1	2	S	floor
MOR 09	64	031	1	2	W	floor
MOR 09	65	031	1	2	S	partition wall
MOR 09	66	031	1	2	N	partition wall
MOR 09	67			1a	E	structure 1a
MOR 09	68			1a	N	structure 1a
MOR 09	69			1 & 1a	E	
MOR 09	70			1	N	
MOR 09	71					enclosure wall
MOR 09	72					enclosure wall
MOR 09	73			5	E	
MOR 09	74			5	E	
MOR 09	75		1	2	W	
MOR 09	76		1	2	W	
MOR 09	77		1	2	W	
MOR 09	78		1	2	W	
MOR 09	79		1	2	W	cobbled surface
MOR 09	80					covering up
MOR 09	81				W	dip in enclosure wall
MOR 09	82			5a	SE	structure 5a
MOR 09	83				SE	enclosure wall
MOR 09	84				SE	enclosure wall
MOR 09	85					cobbler
MOR 09	86			5	SW	revetted surface
MOR 09	87		1	2	S	
MOR 09	88		2	3	S	
MOR 09	89		1	2	S	
MOR 09	90		1	2	S	
MOR 09	91	029	1	2	N	wall
MOR 09	92	030	1	2	W	wall
MOR 09	93-160					survey photos
MOR 09	161-851					community photos

Appendix 5: Survey Results

The remains of four or five buildings are situated on a WNW facing slope about 200m inland and at an altitude of around 75m above the E shore of Loch Long, about 2.5 km south of the village of Arrochar. They are backed by a row of crags and surrounded by a head dyke. All the buildings are of drystone construction and none have evidence of fireplaces. The remains of virtually all walls are below window height. Three of the buildings are associated with enclosed garden plots, some of which have been terraced. There are numerous clearance cairns and evidence of rig and furrow on the hillside below the buildings, within the head dyke, as well as small, terraced areas at the bottom of the slope, close to the loch. The total area of the terraced areas, (including rig and furrow, and clearance cairns, excluding the garden plots associated with the buildings), is approximately 1 hectare.



Structure 1



Structures 1 and 1a

Structure 1: This building measured 7.2m by 5.0m externally and was orientated SSW-NNE with a doorway facing WNW. There appears to be a cobbled area outside the doorway. Its external walls were about 0.7m thick and there is evidence of cement rendering on the outside of the walls. There is a small rectangular addition, Structure 1a, on the outside of the NNE wall measuring 1.8m by 2.8m. Attached to the SSW wall is an irregular, roughly circular, enclosure that encompasses large natural boulders in its circuit. It encloses a terraced plot measuring 22m-26m in width (approx. 95 sq. m).



Structure 2

Structure 2: This rectangular building measured 14.6m by 5.6m externally and was orientated WNW-ESE, with two possible entrances on the NNE side. The external walls are about 0.8m thick. There is a low, internal partition wall across the width of the building dividing the building into two rooms. The E room measured 5.8m by 4.4m internally and appeared to have a doorway in its SE corner (this now blocked).



Blocked doorway

Another door is likely to have existed in the N wall but due to later robbing its original dimensions could not now be identified with confidence. The presence of two alcoves set within the E gable end of the room also suggests this end of the structure was the principal occupied space in the building. If so it is possible that the larger W room of the structure was a byre. A rectangular later addition had been constructed in the SE corner of Structure 2, the walls of this measuring 0.90m in visible height in 6 courses and was 0.65m wide. It was constructed in drystone rubble and had an entrance (0.80m wide) at the NE. An irregular, roughly circular, terraced plot about 20m-28m diameter surrounded by a low wall is located 3m WNW of the building.

Structure 3: This rectangular structure measured 11.0m by 5.5m externally and is orientated N-S, with a doorway at the SE and a possible window in the NE wall. Its external walls are about 0.80m thick and stood to a visible height of 1.90m. The building has been extensively robbed especially at the W end.



Structure 3 looking east



Structure 3 western modification

The remaining structure at the E end of the original building appears to be a later modification. This room or space measured 4.3m by 3.0m internally and was created by the construction of a dividing wall with a narrowing of the original entrance at the S side. An aperture was built into this dividing wall and this may represent a drain outlet into the lower W side of the building. The latest addition to the building was a roughly constructed internal partition wall in the SE corner of the structure measuring 1.0m by 1.6 m, this likely a twinning pen..

Structure 4: This slightly irregularly shaped building measured 4.0m by 3.8m externally and was orientated N-S. The stone work is of poorer quality, compared with other buildings and the ESE wall is slightly longer than the opposite WNW wall, with corners not at right angles. The walls are about 0.6m thick. There is an entrance in the SSW corner.



Structure 4



Structure 5

Structure 5: This almost square building measured 5.8m by 5.8m externally, and was orientated N-S with an entrance in the W wall and a possible window in the S wall. The external walls are about 0.7m thick. A small rectangular structure, Structure 5a, approx 1.4m by 4.0 m lies outside the N wall. A roughly rectangular plot bordered by a stone wall surrounds the building, joined to the NE and SW corners, with an entrance to the W, adjacent to the building. The plot (including the house) measured about 19m by 14m (approx. 260sqm. and its enclosing wall incorporates some large, natural boulders.

Part of the wall surrounding this plot has a more regular appearance, with a squared corner to the SW, than the other plots and there is evidence of a possibly earlier plot to the N of the building. There is a wall abutting the outside of the building enclosing the area. Part of the wall is straight with right-angled corners; the remainder is curved, and includes large, natural boulders.

Head Dyke: The head dyke runs from NN 2750 0137 to NN 2769 0182 and incorporates numerous natural boulders along the stretch NW of the main group of buildings.

There is no notable water source in the immediate vicinity of the structures. The nearest visible water sources are around 65m NNW or around 80m WNW. Several rows of hawthorns and a pollarded rowan grow close to the buildings. The remains of two further buildings have been identified during the survey, the first located at the SW limit of the head dyke, and the second around 50m W of the main group of buildings, situated between these and the loch.