Wedig Project 2012

A Study of West Coast Circular Structures Through Landscape Survey, Site Survey and Excavation



Viveca Port

A Community Archaeological Project

Funded by

Heritage Lottery Fund, The Highland Council, Lochbroom Field Club Mr & Mrs P Rex, Drs B & M Dumughn,

Data Structure Report

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Data Structure Report

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1. Primary Funder Logo

Wedig Project 2012

A Study of West Coast Circular Structures

Through Landscape Survey, Site Survey and Excavation

Summary

This report presents the initial results of a community archaeological project carried out between March 2012 and November 2012. The aim of the project was the gathering of information and samples to allow a better understanding of Circular Structures (Round houses/Hut circles/Enclosures) on the west coast of Scotland, specifically Wester Ross. Six sites were chosen for study. Excavation has produced interesting results regarding building styles and use. It is hoped that these 6 sites, added to a similar study of 29 sites on the Isle of Skye (Birch and Wildgoose, Forthcoming) will throw a little light into a relatively dark corner of Scottish archaeology.

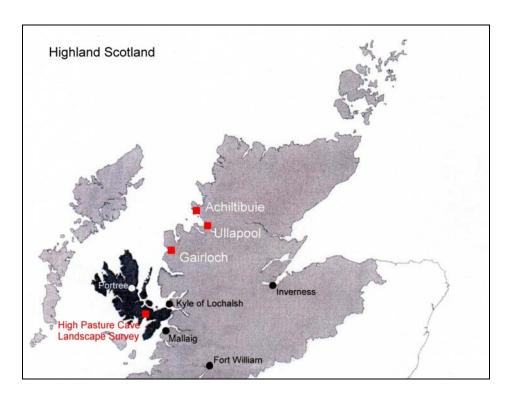
1. Introduction

1.1

In 2009 Anna Welti, a member of the Lochbroom Field Club, initiated a campaign of fieldwork which was to gain her a Diploma in Archaeology from the distance learning arm of Aberdeen University. During 3 years of highly intensive landscape study Anna located and recorded a total of over 300 circular structures (tentatively assigned to the Bronze and Iron Ages) across a variety of west coast landscapes from Achiltibuie to the north of Ullapool as far as the Isle of Skye some 100 km to the south west, (Welti, 2011).

1.2

An obvious extension of this fieldwork was to investigate, by excavation, a number of these recorded sites in an attempt to build a typology and establish a function and date for each site. Initially 12 sites were chosen for excavation, however grant aid could not be found for a project of this size and the number was reduced to 6 spread between 3 areas of Wester Ross – 2 at Achiltibuie, 2 by Ullapool and 2 at Gairloch. A week was assigned to each excavation with laying out of the trenches to take place on the Sunday with completion by the following Saturday. Excavation was to be carried out by volunteers under the guidance of a professional local archaeologist with experience of similar work elsewhere on the West Coast of Scotland. Funding was gained from the Heritage Lottery Fund (Primary Funder), The Highland Council, The Lochbroom Field Club, Drs B & M Dumughn and Mr & Mrs P Rex.



Illus. 1: Highland Scotland showing the location of the 3 study areas plus the location of the High Pasture Cave Landscape Survey on Skye.

2. Project Design

2.1 Archaeological aims

The primary aim of the project was to gather, by survey and excavation, sufficient information and samples from each site to allow six lines of investigation to be fulfilled:-

- 1. A detailed pre-excavation plan of the site leading to a site typology
- 2. The creation of a coherent wall typology
- 3. A suggestion of function in relation to wall typology
- 4. Dates for the occupation or use of the structures
- 5. Reconstruction of the surrounding floral landscape
- 6. Factors which governed the choice of site for each structure

Each of the above 6 aims was designed to clarify future work on similar sites located across the west coasts varied landscapes.

Any small finds recovered would be a bonus.

2.2 Methodology

To the above ends a total of 3 excavation trenches would be excavated on each of the 6 sites.

- A 1 meter square test pit in the centre to locate any hearth and charcoal samples for dating.
- A trench across a well preserved section of outer wall of sufficient length to recover a portion of the interior occupation horizons, the full width of the wall to characterize wall construction and a portion of the exterior ground surface.
- A 1 meter square test pit away from the site to allow recording of natural soil horizons and recovery of soil samples for analysis of pollens, pH, electrical conductivity and organic content.

Excavation proceeded according to standard stratigraphic principles, all artefactual material was collected, and appropriate samples of ecofacts and soils taken. Recording on site followed standard archaeological methods and included record taking by context and feature sheets supported by detailed scale drawing and photography.

Additionally magnetic susceptibility survey/sampling was attempted to assess the possibility of locating activity areas prior to excavation, and soil core samples were gathered as an additional aid to reconstructing the environmental landscape.

Additionally the role of cake in the running of a successful project was also considered.

On occasion this strategy was not absolutely adhered to, as the following will show.

2.3 The 6 Chosen sites

| a) | Wedig 1. | Loch Raa Hut Circle, Achiltibuie. | OS grid ref. NC 0213 1188 |
|----|----------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| b) | Wedig 2. | Rhue Hut Circle, Ullapool . | OS grid ref. NH 1057 9689 |
| c) | Wedig 3. | Auchtercairn 1 Hut Circle, Gairloch. | OS grid ref. NG 8055 7713 |
| d) | Wedig 4. | Achnahaird Hut Circle, Achiltibuie | OS grid ref. NC 0230 1265 |
| e) | Wedig 5. | Strathain Hut Circle, Ullapool | OS grid ref. NH 1269 9728 |
| f) | Wedig 6. | Auchtercairn 2 Hut Circle, Gairloch | OS grid ref. NG 8077 7693 |

2.4 Community involvement

It was decided before applying for funding that the local community would play a major role in the project. To this end all local schools were invited to take part in the project. School involvement would include training in excavation techniques, site survey, photography and the use of GPS location for recording of sites in the landscape. Schools taking up the invitation were: Achiltibuie Primary (3 visits), Ullapool primary (1 visit), Ullapool High School (1Visit), Gairloch Primary (2 Visits), Gairloch High School (2 visits), Shieldaig primary (1 Visit) and Kinlochewe Primary (1 Visit). The excavations were advertised widely, both locally and on the web, in the hope that interested individuals would volunteer for the excavations.



Photo 2: Gairloch Primary pupils studying the use of GPS and OS Maps in Archaeology.

2.5 Web Site

A web site, with an introduction to the project and excavation sites, dig diary and a results section was also designed to keep interested parties up to date with events as they occurred. (www.wedigs.co.uk) The website would be updated as post excavation analysis progressed. Interested parties were also able to follow the project on **facebook**.

3. The Excavations (By study area)

3.1 Achiltibuie

3.1.1

Wedig 1, Loch Raa Hut Circle. OS Grid ref. NC 0213 1188 HER ref. MHG9126

The Loch Raa Hut circle lies close to the eastern shore of the loch, immediately by the eastern side of the community road. The remains consist of a rather chaotic, bracken covered, circle of boulders and stones some 12 meters in overall diameter. A possible entrance faces approximately to the south-east. The site lies on a gently sloping hillside which falls away to the loch some 30 meters to the west. An upslope ditch carried water around the round house. A second, less well defined, hut circle lies some 40 meters upslope to the east. There are fragments of possibly contemporary enclosure boundaries around the site. Three trenches were excavated two in the hut circle and a soil trench close by.

Trench 1 was laid out just off the centre of the structure producing a stack of 3 hearths with associated ash and charcoal deposits. The earliest hearth a shallow pit cut into the natural with a flat slab at its base also had an associated stone lined tank – a small, well preserved feature – by its north side.

Trench 2 was placed across a well preserved section of enclosure in the south-western arc of the round house. A well built stone wall was revealed some two meters thick, constructed with inner and outer faces consisting of well laid coursed stonework retaining an earth and rubble core A single post hole complete with packing stones was located 1.20 meters in from the inside face of the wall.

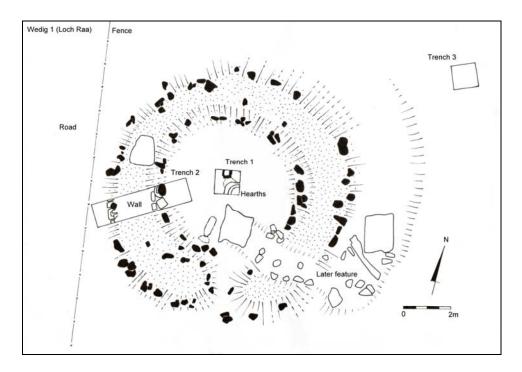
There were few small finds other than nice examples of fragmented pot-boilers, a possible flaked quartz tool and two small fragments of soapstone bowl. A small number of water worn beach pebbles were also recovered.

Trench 3 was positioned some 6 meters to the north of the round house. A well defined sequence of soil horizons was recorded.

Charcoal samples were collected from all contexts for C14 dating and soil samples were collected for environmental analysis.



Photo.3: Loch Raa, Trench 1. The stack of 3 hearths (pit hearth (Feature 1.5) sectioned) and adjacent water tank/cooking trough. Scale = 50cm



Illus. 2: Plan of the Loch Raa round house showing the location of the trenches.

3.1.2

Wedig 4, Achnahaird Hut Circle, OS Grid ref. NC 0230 1265 HER ref. MHG45594

The Achnahaird Hut Circle lies close to the shore at the southern tidal limit of Achnahaird Bay. The site is surrounded by lazy-bed cultivation ridges and heavily overgrown with bracken. Latterly the interior has been used as a feeding stance for livestock. The remains consist of a well defined earth ring-bank with occasional glimpses of stone wall-facing, some 10 meters in overall diameter. A possible entrance faces to the west. A second, less well preserved hut circle lies by the shore approximately 150 meters to the north.

Trench 1 was laid out just off centre and revealed a quadrant of a rubble-stone hearth with much heat reddened stone surrounded by areas of char and ash. The rake-out from the fire spread across a compacted sandy earth floor forming a well defined occupation horizon. Below this occupation was a layer of clean sand (abandonment) which sealed an earlier, and similar, occupation horizon which lay directly on the levelled summit of a sand dune.



Photo. 4: Volunteers considering the importance of cake in Archaeology

Trench 2 was placed across a well preserved section of stone wall, revealing an inner face built of laid boulders and slabs and a boulder outer face some 2 meters to the north. The later phase of occupation butted up to the internal foot of this wall. The earlier phase of occupation however ran under this wall to butt up to the remains of an earlier wall, consisting of orthostatic facing stones with a rubble fill. The later phase round house wall was built within the earlier phase utilizing the earlier wall in its construction (see illus. 3 below).

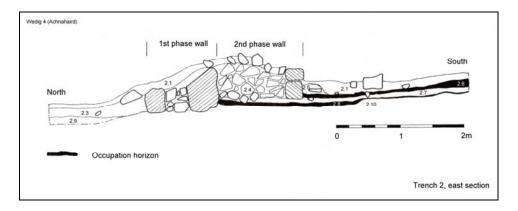
Trench 3 A soil profile trench outwith the round-house amongst lazy-bed cultivation provided a profile of the post glacial soils and an old ground surface sealed below the lazy-bed cultivation.

Trench 4 was placed across what appeared to be the west facing entrance to the later phase house. This proved to be a recent break in the perimeter to allow access to a feeding stance. It did however reveal a truncated post hole, complete with packing stones, which could be shown to belong to the initial phase of occupation.

Trench 5 was placed across a related boundary wall which appeared to form an enclosure around the site. No dating evidence was recovered. The wall was shown to have no organized structure, but to be more a linear gathering of boulders and stones from the surrounding landscape.

Small finds included several pebble hammers and many fragments of pebble potboilers.

Charcoal samples were taken for C.14 dating and soil samples for environmental analysis.



Illus. 3: Achnahaird, Trench 2, eastern section, demonstrating the 2 phases of occupation.

3.2 Ullapool

3.2.1

Wedig 2. Rhue Hut Circle OS Grid ref. NC 1057 9689

The Rhue Hut Circle lies some 200 meters up the slope from both the community road and a more substantial hut circle by the roadside (HER ref. MHG7820). The chosen site consists of a heather covered ring-bank some 10 meters in overall diameter with an extended entrance facing to the south-east. The surrounding area, although heather covered, showed considerable evidence for cultivation with numerous clearance cairns protruding through the peat overburden.

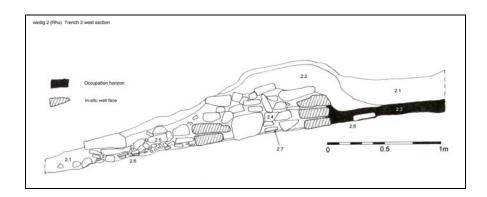
Trench 1 which was placed just off centre within the structure revealed a large stone slab set directly on the natural sub-soil. This slab, which had been leveled with stone wedges, showed no indication of heat and was surrounded and part overrun by a black, occupation horizon.

Trench 2 was placed across a well preserved section of turf bank just to the west of the extended entrance. Excavations revealing a tumbled stone wall with the inner face surviving 4 courses high. The outer face had tumbled down the slope. The occupation horizon revealed in trench 1 was seen to butt up to the foot of the inner face of the hut wall.

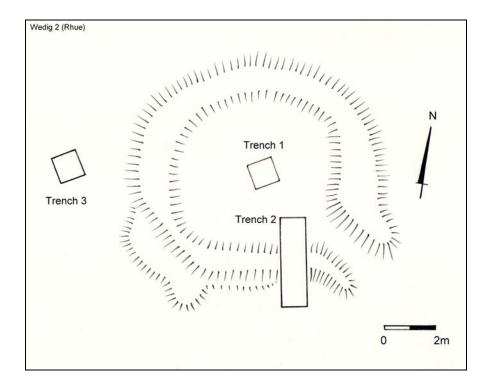
Trench 3, a soil trench (sample collection) was placed some 3 meters to the west of the site.

Small finds included a nice pebble polisher from the occupation horizon and a pebble hammer and much used pebble anvil from the tumbled wall core. The last two perhaps indicating earlier occupation close by.

Charcoal samples were taken for C.14 dating and soil samples for environmental analysis.



Illus. 4: Rhue, Trench 2, west section, showing relationship of occupation to in-situ wall.



Illus. 5: Plan of the Rhue hut circle showing location of trenches.

3.2.2

Wedig 5 (Srathain Hut Circles 1 & 2) OS Grid ref. NH 1269 9728

The Srathain hut circles are part of an unrecorded site lying on a steep south facing hillside recently cleared of vegetation by a woodland fire. The site overlooks An Strathan and a small burn, (Allt an Srathan) running along the floor of the strath. The remains consist of roughly circular rubble ring-banks set on platforms cut into the hillslope at the back and built out at the front – effectively a platform settlement. (Often referred to as charcoal burners platforms) Two of the platforms were trenched.



Photo. 5: Strathain 1 prior to excavation.

Srathain 1

Trench 1 placed just off centre within the structure revealed a shallow and very greasy black horizon lying immediately below a peaty turf and resting on the local clay natural. There were no features, (other than a small arc of stones), or finds, associated with this horizon. Several small, water worn, white quartz pebbles were associated with the black horizon.

Trench 2 was placed on the east side of the circle across what appeared to be the collapsed wall. This proved to be a random pile of stone which overlay the greasy black context and therefore post dated it. A random collection of flat slabs lay at the western end of the trench. There were no finds at all. Once again white quartz pebbles were found in the black horizon.

Two further trenches were excavated during the work on Site SRA1.

Trench 3: A 1m square soil profile trench some 10m to the SW the platform.

Trench 4: A second soil profile trench some 15m to the W of the platform.

Trenches 3 & 4. The soil profiles of trenches 3 and 4 almost exactly matched that of trench 1 with a shallow, greasy, black horizon lying immediately below the turf and directly on the natural.

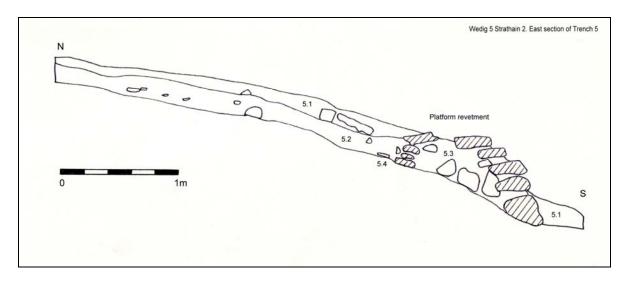
Srathain 2

Srathain 2 lay some 100m to the north and upslope of SRA 1 and appeared to be identical to SRA1. A single trench was excavated from just outwith the front of the platform to the centre.

Trench 5 demonstrated that the platform had been revetted at the front with a five course wall behind which was a fill of small stones. A cut had then been made into the hill slope to create the platform. The greasy black horizon was again present but once again, other than the black horizon, there was no evidence of occupation. At some point after the abandonment of the platform (a layer of peaty soil had formed) a small peat fire had been built at the centre of the platform.

There were no small finds associated with either platform.

Soil samples were taken for later analysis. No charcoal samples were recovered.



Illus. 6: Srathain 2, east section of trench 5

3.3 Gairloch

3.3.1

Wedig 3 (Achtercairn 1 Hut Circle) OS grid ref. NG 8059 7713 HER ref. MHG7523

This site, which sits on a natural level platform on the south-west slope of Torr na h-Ulaidhe, is somewhat exposed to poor weather but has spectacular views over Gairloch and the sea beyond. The remains consist of a boulder faced wall some 2 meters wide around a level interior space 12 meters in diameter. A small rectangular ruin lies in the north-east quadrant of the interior with a second similar structure lying just outwith the wall to the east. Early boulder alignment field boundaries lie across the landscape all around the site.



Photo 6: Looking NE across Achtercairn 1.

Trench 1, placed just to the south-east of the centre of the site revealed 3 levels of activity. Removal of the turf exposed an area of well laid, stone slab, paving possibly related to the remains of the small (shieling type) structure lying immediately to the north of the trench. Sealed beneath this paving was an area of burning so intense that the underlying natural had been reddened to a considerable depth with closely related stones also heavily reddened. Removal of the burnt level revealed a quadrant (in the NE corner of the trench) of a shallow scoop in the natural subsoil containing a dark char rich earth and burnt stones.

There were no associated finds. Soil and charcoal samples were taken from all levels.

Trench 2, placed across a well preserved section of wall on the southern side of the site revealed the monumental foundations of a 2 meter wide wall consisting of massive boulder faces with a rubble and soil core. This wall, judging by the amount of collapsed rubble removed would have stood circa 1.5 meters high. Trench 2 extended some 2 meters towards the centre of the site and at no point was an occupation surface or any evidence of activity encountered.

A single find (a pebble hammer/rubber) was recovered from the rubble fill of the wall perhaps indicating the presence of an earlier site close by. Soil and charcoal samples were again taken from all levels. A series of core samples were also taken from within and around the site for magnetic susceptibility and phosphate analysis.

Trench 3: A 1m square soil profile trench some 10m to the SW the platform.

Charcoal samples were taken for C.14 dating and soil samples for environmental analysis. A grid based set of soil samples was also taken for magnetic susceptibility analysis.

3.3.2

Wedig 6 (Achtercairn 2 & 3 Hut Circles) OS grid ref. NG 8077 7693

A previously unrecorded hut circle. This site lies amongst deep heather at the foot of a prominent north-west facing slope known locally as Meall na h-Iolaire. The visible remains consist of a low heather covered ring bank some 10 meters in overall diameter with a possible entrance facing to the south-east. The site was cleared of heather prior to excavation. A second ring of boulders lies 40 meters to the north-east. This site (Achtercairn 3) consists of a ring of boulders just 6 meters in overall diameter which appears to be sitting directly on the surface.

A total of four trenches were excavated; A single trench across Achtercairn 2, two soil trenches and a small test trench within Achtercairn 3 some 40 meters to the north-east.



Photo 7: Achtercairn 3, Trench 4 – detailed surface recording.

Trench 1 was placed across Achtercairn 2 on a roughly north to south alignment revealing a fine orthostat faced wall, with a boulder fill, on the north and south sides. A well built buttress supported the downhill north wall. A compacted clay floor butted up to the inner face of the walls. An oval hearth area, (char filled black earth), lay roughly central to the interior space. A second hearth, constructed of stone, which post dated the clay floor lay against the inner face of the northern wall. Lifting of the clay floor revealed a truncated posthole which still retained its post pad some 1.25m in from the southern inner wall face. A second truncated post hole was found 1.25 inside the northern inner wall face. Removal of the wall stones showed that the stone wall was a secondary feature and that an earth walled round house pre- dated the stone structure.

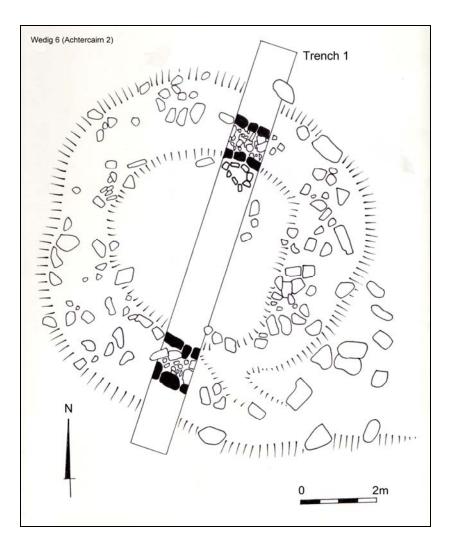
Finds included a broken sandstone rubber which had been used as a pot boiler, a pebble hammer and a quartz flake.

Trench 2: A 1m square soil profile trench some 10m to the NE the round-house, (abandoned due to geological difficulties)

Trench 3: A second soil profile trench some 10m to the W of the round-house.

Trench 4 was placed within a circular stone setting (Achtercairn 3) some 40m down slope of the round-house. Excavation showed that the stone setting was not a structured wall but a surface setting of boulders encircling an area of red loamy soil. Within the stone setting was a small cobbled area, which showed no signs of burning, but was associated with well defined areas of charcoal and many chunky quartz fragments.

Soil samples were taken for later analysis. Charcoals were collected for C.14 dating.



Illus. 7: Achtercairn 2. Plan and location of Trench 1 showing the second phase structure and position of the post occupation hearth .

4. Initial results

4.1 Loch Raa (see 3.1.1 above)

The Loch Raa structure was built as a habitation, with a central hearth and related cooking trough. The single post hole found, although evidence for an internal upright post may at 1.20 meters be too close to the wall to have supported roof timbers and may represent the position of an internal partition. Occupation of the site continued for a sufficient length of time to allow 2 further hearths to be constructed over the first and for related occupation debris to accumulate to a depth of some 300mm. No pottery was recovered from the site.

4.2 Rhue (see 3.2.1 Above)

The Rhue site, a stone walled round house, would appear to have been built as a habitation. The centrally placed hearth slab was buried beneath a 100mm layer of black, char rich soil suggesting that occupation may have been short lived and that clearance or replacement of the hearth slab was not thought worthwhile. No Pottery was recovered from the site.

4.3 Achtercairn 1 (see 3.3.1 above)

A massive circular enclosure, (17 meters in overall diameter) in a spectacular position, with open views over Loch Gairloch. The entrance, which faces to the south-west appears to be circa 2.5 meters wide – an unusual width for a house. Apart from the evidence of intensive burning in the centre of the site there was a total absence of occupation debris or occupation horizons. Once again no pottery was recovered during the excavations.

The absence of occupation evidence although not conclusive, and the massive area of burning in the centre, raises the possibility that this site was not a round house, but may have served some other purpose – perhaps as an enclosure for a beacon or as the focus of seasonal ceremonial activities.

Note. When standing in the centre of the circle the mid-winter sun (21st Dec. solstice) currently sets exactly in the centre of the door opening. (December 2012)

4.4 Achnahaird (see 3.1.2 above)

The enclosure at Achnahaird was built as a habitation on a virgin site in the dunes on the south-east shore of Achnahaird bay. The site started life as an orthostat walled structure some 10 meters in diameter with a wall only 1 meter thick. The position of the door opening was unclear. A centrally placed hearth lay directly on a compacted sand floor. The single post hole recovered during the excavations was circa 1.60 meters in from the inner face of the 1st phase wall and may be one of a ring of posts supporting the roof trusses. Evidence for a second period of occupation, after a period of abandonment, and a remodeling of the structure was represented by a reduction of the interior space from 8 meters to 5.50 meters associated with a contemporary floor level. No pottery was recovered from the site. A buried soil horizon was recognized below lazy-bed cultivation in Trench 3 and samples were taken for later analysis.

4.5 Srathain (see 3.2.2 above)

The Srathain site consists of 3 revetted platforms cut into a steep hillslope. A type of site which in Argyll would be categorized as an unenclosed platform settlement and for long has been thought to be the work-place of charcoal burners. Recent work (*Jobey, 1981*) & (*Rennie, 1997*) however has shown that some of these sites include prehistoric round houses amongst their numbers. At Srathain two of the platforms were tested and neither produced evidence for structure or occupation. The only horizon of any interest was a thick layer of greasy black soil which was present on both platforms and in the case of Strathain 1 pre-dated what was thought to be the round house wall. The soil trenches at Srathain 1 also demonstrated that the black layer was present around the platform for a considerable distance. The post excavation results from the soil samples should prove interesting.

4.6 Achtercairn 2 (see 3.3.2 above)

The Achtercairn 2 enclosure started life as an earth banked round-house with a ring of posts some 1.5m inside the bank possibly supporting a ring beam as part of the roof structure. This earth structure was then replaced with a stone walled round-house, a new floor was inserted (sealing the earlier post holes) and a central hearth built. No evidence for a ring of posts was found within the trench for this secondary structure. At some point after the abandonment of the stone-built house a hearth was built and used within the structure. The position of this late feature indicates that there was probably no longer a roof on the round-house.

5. Bracken – A very real problem (Partially taken from Birch & Wildgoose forthcoming)

Of the 6 sites investigated 4, (Wedig 1, 3, 4, 5) were heavily infested with Bracken, (Pteridium aquilinum) and its associated sub-surface rhizomes. Wedig 2 & 6 had a lesser infestation due to an overgrowth of dense heather. The bracken rhizomes, when unrestricted by solid features, had spread throughout all contexts to a depth of circa 200mm. In some cases a compacted earth floor or a solid cobble or paved floor impeded their spread, with a rhizome matt forming on the surface of these features. In all cases where bracken rhizomes had spread into or passed through occupation horizons the finer detail of occupation sequences had been lost leaving only a single homogeneous context. It is likely however that, in general, small finds and datable materials had not moved far within contexts and that, except at context boundaries, careful excavation allowed much evidence to be recovered. To this end bracken rhizomes were cut off when exposed and not pulled as was the temptation.

It would appear that it is already too late to save the finer detail of the occupation sequences of the majority of sites (of all periods) heavily infested with bracken. The Wedig Project has however shown that it is still possible to recover evidence of sequential occupation, and that it will always be possible to recover detailed plans of the more substantial features such as walls, hearths, floors and post holes.

Perhaps the small minority of potential prehistoric sites which survive bracken free should be treated as a finite resource, and some attempt made to ensure that they remain bracken free in order to preserve any surviving stratigraphic evidence.

6. Initial conclusions

- **a.**) The initial results of the Wedig Project, together with those from the study on Skye (*Birch and Wildgoose Forthcoming*) have demonstrated that the terms Hut Circle and Round House, both implying living accommodation, are perhaps misnomers as it would appear that not all of these circular features are lived in. Better perhaps to call them circular structures as this removes the suggestion of residence and allows for multiplicity of function.
- **b.)** The total absence of ceramic finds raises interesting questions regarding the use and/or availability of pottery in the area considering that a similar study on Skye produced pottery sherds from 16 of the 29 sites excavated, (*Birch and Wildgoose forthcoming*).
- c.) Of the 6 Round houses studied the 4 which appear to have been habitations all (apart from Achnahaird) had entrances which faced to the south-east regardless of local terrain or aspect, (Loch Raa, Rhue and Achtercairn 2). The position of the entrance at Achnahaird, the only other inhabited structure, could not be positively identified. The only other structure where the entrance could be positively identified (Achtercairn 1) had an unusually wide entrance which faced to the south-west. The work on this site suggested that it had not been constructed as a habitation but perhaps served some other purpose. This result is similar to that from the work carried out on Skye during the Landscape Analysis at High Pasture Cave (Birch and Wildgoose forthcoming) where all structures with entrances facing other than to the south-east showed no evidence of occupation and appeared to have served some other function.
- **d.**) The excavation of these structures has highlighted the fact that bracken is a major current and future threat to the archaeology of Scotland.
- **e.)** The provision of plentiful amounts of cake is essential for the running of a happy and successful excavation project.

7. Post excavation analysis

The finds, charcoal samples and soil samples have all been handed over to AOC Archaeology who have agreed a timetable and costing for the post excavation analysis. Results should be available by the late summer of 2013. Post excavation results will be made available on the Project Web site as they become available.

8. Dissemination of results

The project website (www.wedigs.co.uk) will continue to be updated as and when results become available. A presentation will be given at the Highland Archaeology Fortnight (HAF) in October 2013. It is anticipated that the final report will become available during 2014. The Wedig Project Round House Exhibition will be at various venues throughout 2013 – locations and dates will be shown on the web site in the events section.

9. References

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10. Acknowledgements

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Our thanks must also go to all those volunteers (see 10.1 below) who travelled far and repeatedly braved either cold or midges to assist in the project.

Especial thanks must also go the providers of cake without which the excavations would have been much less agreeable.

10.1

The Excavation Team

Kirsty Adam, Dave Allen, Beth Blackburn, Irene Brandt, Jim Buchanan, Nigel Buxton, Cara Collingham, Megan Collingham & Rob Collingham, Ann Coombs, Sophie Curran, Chas Curtis & Di Curtis, Terry Doe, John Dransfield, Barry Dumughn & Marnie Dumughn, Jeremy Fenton, Liz Gotch, Andrew Graymuir, Alex Graymuir, David Green, Joni Guest, Vanessa hallhead, Bruce Ing & Ellie Ing,gerry Kelly, Doug Kippen, Naomi Lloyd, Maria MacDonald, Arren MacDonald, Anne Macinnes, Jackie MacKenzie, Sarah MacKenzie, Ali Beag Macleod, Malcolm MacLeod, Cathy MacNeilage, Don Matthews, Caitlin Mitchel, Ian Muir, Lesley Muir, Jenny Nichols, Viveca Port, Lindsay Purves, Richard Rafe, Mrs Rex, William Ritchie, Steve Scott, Gordon Sleight, Rooland Spencer-Jones, Rachel Thomas, Ann Wakeling, Pauline Ward, Janet Whittington and John Wombel.



Photo. 8: Achiltibuie Primary children on a day visit to the Achnahaird excavation.

APPENDIX

Complete Listing of Excavation Registers for the Wedig Project by Site over the page.

Wedig 1 (Loch Raa, Achiltibuie 1)

Trench 1 Contexts

| Context No. | Description | |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| Ctx 1.1 | A dark brown fibrous peaty soil supporting the turf. | 80% stone |
| | Overlies Ctx 1.2 and Feature 1.1. Same as Ctx 2.1 | |
| Ctx 1.2 | A patchy black and brown greasy soil with areas of fire asl | n. 5% stone |
| | Overlies Ctx 1.3. Same as Ctx 2.4. Seals Features 1.3 and | 1.4 |
| Ctx 1.3 | A black and orange greasy ash with little stone present. | -5% stone |
| | Overlies Ctx 1.4. Seals Features 1.4 and 1.5 | |
| Ctx 1.4 | Orange gritty clay with some stone inclusions. | Local natural |
| | Cut by Features 1.4 and 1.5 | |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and Related Context |
|-------------|--|
| F. 1.1 | Part of a slab hearth exposed in the east corner of the trench. Lies under Ctx |
| | 1.1 and seals feature 1.3 |
| F. 1.2 | A defined area of orange ash. Underlies Ctx 1.2. Contemporary with Feature |
| | 1.3 |
| F. 1.3 | Part of a slab hearth exposed in the east corner of the trench. Underlies Ctx |
| | 1.2 and contemporary with Feature 1.2 |
| F. 1.4 | A stone lined pit cut into Ctx 1.4. filled with Ctx 1.3 Contemporary with |
| | Feature 1.5 |
| F. 1.5 | A shallow pit cut into Ctx 1.4 with a flat slab in the bottom (pit hearth). |
| | Filled with Ctx 1.3 |

Finds

| No. | Context | Description |
|-------|---------|---------------------|
| LR 02 | Ctx 1.2 | Pot-boiler fragment |
| LR 04 | Ctx 1.2 | Pot-boiler fragment |
| LR 06 | Ctx 1.2 | Pot-boiler fragment |
| LR 07 | Ctx 1.2 | Pot-boiler fragment |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| LR 1 | Ctx 1.2 | Soil (1 litre) | Environmental |
| LR 2 | Ctx 1.2 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| LR 3 | Ctx 1.2 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| LR 4 | Ctx 1.2 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| LR 5 | Feature 3 | Ash | Identify activity |

| LR 6 | Ctx 1.3 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
|--------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| LR 7 | Ctx 1.3 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| LR 8 | Ctx 1.3 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| Sample K.Tin | Ctx's 1.2/3 | Soil | Environmental |

Trench 2

Contexts

| Context No. | Description | |
|-------------|---|--|
| Ctx 2.1 | A dark brown fibrous peaty soil supporting the turf . 25% stone | |
| | Overlies Ctx 2.2 and Ctx 2.4 | |
| Ctx 2.2 | Brown silty soil and large stones. (Core of round house wall) | |
| | Seals Ctx 2.5 | |
| Ctx 2.3 | A red/brown loamy soil outside round house wall | |
| Ctx 2.4 | A black and orange friable loam (occupation horizon inside round house) | |
| | Overlies Ctx 2.6 | |
| Ctx 2.5 | A compacted dark brown soil under round house wall. OGS | |
| | Sealed by Ctx 2.2 Overlies Ctx 2.6 | |
| Ctx 2.6 | Orange, gritty, sandy clay. Local natural (within roundhouse) | |
| Ctx 2.7 | Orange sandy clay with some gritty inclusions. Local natural | |
| | (Outwith roundhouse) | |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related Ctx | |
|-------------|--|--|
| F.2.1 | Small post hole with associated packing slabs. Cuts Ctx 2.4 | |
| F. 2.2 | Well built stone wall with rubble and earth core. Overlies Ctx 2.5 | |

Finds

| No. | Context | Description | |
|-------|---------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| LR 01 | Ctx 2.1 | Round beach pebble | |
| LR 03 | Ctx 2.1 | 2 x small beach pebbles | |
| LR 05 | Ctx 2.1 | Soapstone fragment (?bowl) | |
| LR 08 | Ctx 2.1 | Soapstone fragment (?bowl) | |
| LR 09 | Ctx 2.1 | Pot-boiler fragment | |
| LR 10 | Ctx 2.1 | General collection of charcoal | |
| LR 11 | Ctx 2.2 | Quartz flake | |
| LR 12 | Ctx 2.2 | Small beach pebble | |
| LR 14 | Ctx 2.4 | Lump of ? (soil) | Discarded |
| LR 15 | Ctx 2.4 | General collection of charcoal | |
| LR 16 | Ctx 2.4 | Fragment of a flat sandstone slab. | |
| LR 17 | Ctx 2.4 | 2 x small beach pebbles | |

| LR 18 | Ctx 2.4 | Round object of unknown type and material |
|-------|---------|---|
| LR 19 | Ctx 2.4 | Quartz flake |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|----------------|-------------------------|
| LR 9 | Ctx 2.5 | Bulk soil. OGS | Environmental (Pollens) |

Trench 3 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| Ctx 3.1 | A black/brown fibrous humus supporting the turf 5% small stones |
| Ctx 3.2 | A brown fibrous humus with no stones |
| Ctx 3.3 | A dark brown very sticky soil with no stones |
| Ctx 3.4 | Orange sandy clay with some gritty inclusions. Local natural |

Features

| No features present |
|---------------------|
|---------------------|

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|--------------------|
| LR 13 | Ctx 3.2 | Small beach pebble |

Samples

Kubiana tin across the junction of Ctx 3.2/3

Field Drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description | |
|------|-------|-------|--------------|---|--|
| LR 1 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Trench 1. Surface after removal of Ctx 01 | |
| LR 2 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Plan Trench 2. Surface after part removal of Ctx 01 | |
| LR 3 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | As LR 1 but tidied up | |
| LR 4 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 2.2 | |
| LR 5 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.2 | |
| LR 6 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.3 With Feature 1.1 and 1.3 | |
| LR 7 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.4 and Feature 1.5 | |
| LR 8 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | Relationship of Features 2.1 and 2.2 | |

| LR 9 | 3 | 1:10 | Section Section A – B trench LR 1 | | |
|-------|---|-------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| LR 10 | 3 | 1:20 | Plan Location of Features LR 5 and LR6 | | |
| LR 11 | 3 | 1:10 | Section Section C – D trench LR 1 | | |
| LR 12 | 3 | 1:10 | Section | Section Section A – B trench LR 2 | |
| LR13 | 4 | 1:10 | Section Trench LR 3 | | |
| LR 14 | 5 | 1:100 | Plan Location of Soil Trench LR 3 | | |
| LR 15 | 6 | 1:100 | Plan Plane table survey of Loch Raa 1 with trenchs | | |
| LR 16 | 7 | 1:100 | Plan Plane table survey of Loch Raa 2 | | |
| LR 17 | 8 | 1:100 | Plan Detailed drawing of Loch Raa 1 plus trenches | | |
| LR 18 | 9 | 1:100 | Plan | Detailed drawing of Loch Raa 2 | |

Digital Photographs

Unless otherwise stated all scales are 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions.

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| LR 0666 | T.1, Ctx. 1.1 | Pouring with rain |
| LR 0667 | T.2, Ctx 2.1 | Pouring with rain |
| LR 0668 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Revealing rubble |
| LR 0669 | T. 2 Ctx 2.1 | Revealing stone rubble |
| LR 0670 | T. 2 Ctx 2.2 | Core of round house wall |
| LR 0671 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Surface of Ctx 1.1 Pouring with rain |
| LR 0672 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 (a) | Pouring with rain |
| LR 0673 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 (b) | Pouring with rain |
| LR 0674 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 (a) | From the north. Rain |
| LR 0675 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 (b) | From the north. Rain |
| LR0676 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 (c) | From the north. Rain |
| LR 0677 | T.2 Ctx 2.3 (d) | From the north. Rain |
| LR 0680 | T.1 Ctx 1.2 Surface of | With hearth Feature 1.1 |
| LR 0681 | T.1 Ctx 1.2 Ditto | Ditto |
| LR 0682 | - LR 0688 | Achiltibuie school visit + diggers |
| LR 0689 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | From north end |
| LR 0690 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | From west |
| LR 0691 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | Posthole (feature 2.1) from the north |
| LR 0692 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | Posthole (feature 2.1) from the north |
| LR 0693 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | Posthole (feature 2.1) from the west |
| LR 0694 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 | Posthole (feature 2.1) from the west (close up) |
| LR 0695 | | Primary school children |
| LR 0696 | | Primary school children (Deleted) |
| LR 0697 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Ashy mound on surface of Ctx 1.3 |
| LR 0698 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Sunny with shadows |
| LR 0699 | T.2 | Outer face of house wall from the west |
| LR 0700 | T.2 | Ditto with packing stones under |
| LR 0701 | T.2 | Ditto from south |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| LR 0702 | T.2 | Ditto from south showing wall face and core |
| LR 0703 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | Showing post hole |
| LR 0704 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | Section 'b' of trench |
| LR 0705 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | Section 'c' of trench |
| LR 0706 | T.2 | Outer face of house wall |
| LR 0707 | T.1 Ctx's 1.4 & 1.3 | Taken from the west |
| LR 0708 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 & F. 1.6 | General picture with Martin |
| LR 0709 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 & F. 1.6 | Under excavation by Martin (good for press) |
| LR 0710 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 & F. 1.6 | As above |
| LR 0711 | T.2 Ctx 2.5 | Top of natural |
| LR0712 | T.1 Ctx 1.5 | Features 1.5 and F. 1.6 |
| LR 0713 | T.1 Ctx 1.5 | Features 1.5 and 1.6 from west |
| LR 0714 | T.1 Ctx 1.5 | Features 1.5 and 1.6 from west |
| LR 0715 | T.1 | Features 1.1, 1.4 & 1.6 (stack of hearths) from north |
| LR 0716 | T.1 | Features 1.1, 1.4 & 1.6 (stack of hearths) from above |
| LR 0717 | T.1 | Features 1.1, 1.4 & 1.6 (stack of hearths) From above |
| LR 0718 | T.1 | Features 1.1, 1.4 & 1.6 (stack of hearths) From above |
| LR 0719 | General view of site | Pauline in T.2 (a) |
| LR 0720 | General view of site | Pauline in T.2 (a) |
| LR 0721 | General view of site | Pauline in T.2 (a) |
| LR 0722 | General view of site | Martin Recording |
| LR 0723 | General view of site | Cathy drawing section T.1 |
| LR 0724 | General view of site | Di, Jonie and Gabby at T.3 |
| LR 0725 | General view of site | Ditto |
| LR 0726 | T.1 | Location of Kubiena tin sample |
| LR 0727 | T.3 | Location of Kubiena tin sample in north section |
| LR 0728 | T.3 | Location of Kubiena tin sample |
| LR 0729 | T.3 | Location of Kubiena tin sample |
| LR 0730 | T.3 | As above but further away to south |
| LR 0731 | T.2 | Inner wall face Sunny from east |
| LR 0732 | T.2 | Inner wall face Sunny from east |
| LR 0733 | T.2 | Looking south |
| LR 0734 | T.2 | Rubble fill of wall from west |
| LR 0735 | T.2 | Underlying bedrock |
| LR 0736 | General view of site | With school children |
| LR 0737 | Calum taking photo's | School visit |
| LR 0738 | Interesting stone with | |
| | striations | |

Wedig 2 (Rhue, Ullapool 1)

Trench 1 Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| Ctx 1.1 | A dark brown rooty soil supporting the turf. Same as Ctx 2.1 |
| Ctx 1.2 | A rich brown gritty soil with no stones |
| Ctx 1.3 | Black to brown greasy soil with no stones, Seals Feature1.1 |
| Ctx 1.4 | A compacted gritty grey clay (local natural) |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts | |
|-------------|--|--|
| F 1.1 | A slab hearth supported on small levelling stones. Lies on Ctx 1.4 | |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------|
| R 05 | Ctx 1.3 | General collection of charcoal |

Samples

| Sample no. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| R 02 | Ctx 2/3 | Root mat | Discarded |
| R 03 | Ctx 1.3 | Soil | Environmental |
| R 05 | Ctx1.2/1.3 | (Boundary) Soil | Environmental |
| R 06 | Ctx1.4 | Under Feature 1.1 | Environmental |
| R07 | Ctx's 2/3 | Kubiena Tin | Environmental |

Trench 2

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| Ctx 2.1 | A dark brown rooty soil supporting the turf. Same as Ctx 1.1 |
| Ctx 2.2 | Black fibrous soil lying over a jumble of large stones. Overlies Feature 2.1 |
| Ctx 2.3 | Silty black greasy soil no stones. Charcoal derived soil. Underlies Ctx 2.2 |
| | and overlies Ctx 2.6 |
| Ctx 2.4 | Faced rubble wall with some fine brown soil between stones. Overlies Ctx |
| | 2.7 |
| Ctx 2.5 | A wedge of small rubble abutting outer face of RH wall. Overlies Ctx 2.6 |
| Ctx 2.6 | A grey sandy clay (local natural) inside house |
| Ctx 2.7 | Fine black silt underlying house wall (has percolated through from Ctx 2.3 |

Features

| Feature No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| F 2.1 | A well built rough faced stone wall 1.20 meters in width. Overlies Ctx 2.6 |
| | and 2.7 |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description | |
|----------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| R.02 | Ctx 2.2 | Quartz flake | |
| R. 03 | Ctx 2.2 | Mouldy soil | Discarded |
| R. 04 | Ctx 2.3 | Charcoal fragments C.14 | |
| R. 06 | Ctx 2.3 | Possible stone tool | |
| R. 08 | Ctx 2.4 | In wall core. Large pebble anvil | |
| R. 09 | Ctx 2.4 | Pebble hammer (sandstone) | |

Samples

| Sample no. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|------|---------------|
| R. 01 | Ctx 2.2 | Soil | Environmental |
| R.04 | Ctx 2.3 | Soil | Environmental |

Trench 3 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| Ctx 3.1 | Brown uncompacted fibrous peat |
| Ctx 3.2 | Pale brown compacted peat |
| Ctx 3.3 | A compacted gritty grey clay (local natural) |

Features

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description | |
|----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| R.01 | Ctx 3.2 | Small square stone | Natural, discarded |
| R.07 | Ctx 3/2 | Metal stud | Modern, discarded |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| R. 3.1 | Ctx 3.2 | Kubiena tin | Environmental |

Field drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description |
|------|-------|-------|--------------|---|
| R.1 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.2 Ctx 2.3 with house wall (F. 2.1) |
| R.2 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Ctx 1.4 with hearth slab (F.1.1) |
| R.3 | 1 | 1:10 | Section | NW side of T. 1 with location of Kubiana tin |
| R.4 | 1 | 1:10 | Section | NE side of T.1 |
| R.5 | 2 | 1:10 | Section | W side of T.2 |
| R.6 | 2 | 1:10 | Section | E side of T.2 |
| R.7 | 3 | 1:10 | Section | N side of T.3 |
| R.8 | 3 | 1:10 | Section | E side of T.3 |
| R.9 | 4 | 1;100 | Plan | Clearance cairns to west of Round house |
| R.10 | 5 | 1:100 | Plan | Clearance cairns to south west of Round house |
| R.11 | 6 | 1:100 | Plan | Plane table survey of Round house |
| R.12 | 7 | 1:100 | Profile | North to south across round house |

Digital Photographs

Unless otherwise stated all scales are a 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| R.0001 | Setting up the dig | Gale force winds |
| R.0002 | Setting up the dig | Gale force winds |
| R.0003 | Lottery poster up | Gale force winds |
| R.0004 | Getting organised | Gale force winds |
| R.0005 | Deturfing | Gale force winds |
| R.0006 | Deturfing | Gale force winds |
| R.0008 | Coffee break | Gale force winds |
| R.0009 | T.2 Ctx 2 | From South |
| R.0010 | T.2 Ctx 2 | Outer wall face from south |
| R.0011 | T.2 Ctx 2 | From the north |
| R.0012 | T.3 | A very muddy trench |
| R.0013 | T.2 | General view with diggers |
| R.0014 | T.1 Ctx 2 | Digger (DC) |
| R.0015 | T.2 | From south |
| R.0016 | T.2 | from the south Windy |
| R.0017 | | UPS measuring Fine and windy |
| R.0018 | Deleted | |
| R.0019 | | UPS measuring |
| R.0020 | | UPS measuring |
| R.0021 | | UPS recording |
| R.0022 | T.2 | Diggers |
| R.0023 | T.2 | Diggers |
| R.0024 | T.1 | General |
| R.0025 | T.1 Ctx 3 | Ditto |
| | | |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------|--|
| R.0026 | T.2 Ctx 3 | Area a & b from the west |
| R.0027 | T.2 Ctx 3 | Round house wall from the west |
| R.0028 | T.2 | Wall and wall tumble from west no scale |
| R.0029 | T.2 | From the west no scale |
| R.0029 | T.2 areas c & d | From the west |
| R.0030 | T.2 area c | Outer wall face from the west |
| R.0031 | T.1 Ctx 3 | Hearth slab (Feature 1.1) from the north |
| R.0032 | T.1 Ctx 3 | Close up of the hearth slab (feature 1.1) from the north |
| R.0033 | 1.1 Ctx 5 | Find 09 Possible rubber |
| R.0034 | T.2 | Inner wall face from the west Dry and sunny |
| R.0035 | T.2 | Close up of above |
| R.0030 | T.2 | Probable outer face of wall from the south |
| R.0037 | T.2 | Ditto |
| R.0038 | T.1 | |
| | | Soil horizons and hearth slab (Feature 1.1) |
| R.0040 | T.1 | Soil horizons and position of Kubiena Tin Sunny |
| R.0041 | T.2 | Work in progress |
| R.0042 | T.2 | Work in progress |
| R.0043 | T.3 | Soil horizons east face of trench |
| R.0044 | T.3 | Soil horizons north face of trench |
| R.0045 | T.3 | Position of Kubiena tin in west face of trench |
| R.0046 | T.2 | Group of quartz stones |
| R.0047 | T.2 | Ditto |
| R.0048 | T.2 | Ditto |
| R.0049 | T.2 | Close up of quartz stones |
| R.0050 | T.2 | From the west |
| R.0051 | T.2 area 'a' | Inner wall face of R. house |
| R.0052 | T.2 area 'a' & 'b' | Inner wall face. |
| R.0053 | | Cairn close to site (clearance?) |
| R.0054 | | Close up of above showing vertical stone slabs |
| R.0055 | | Another cairn close to site (clearance?) |
| R.0056 | T.2 Ctx 7 | Wall section from the west |
| R.0057 | T.2 Ctx 7 | Wall section from the east |
| R.0058 | T.2 Ctx 7 | Wall section from the west |
| R.0059 | T.2 Ctx 7 | General view from the east Cloudy |
| R.0060 | T.2 areas 'c' & 'd' | Small stones in bank from the west |
| R.0061 | T.2 | Ditto |
| R.0062 | T.2 | Ditto from the east |
| R.0063 | T.2 | Wall section |
| R.0064 | | Dog (Joe) lying out of the wind |
| R.0065 | | Children in the soil trench Very cold and windy |
| R.0066 | | Videoing school children |
| R.0067 | | Children |
| R.0068 | | Children by soil trench |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|--------------------|--|
| R.0069 | | Plain table survey of the cairn field |
| R.0070 | | Ditto |
| R.0071 | | Ditto |
| R.0072 | | Reliable distance measuring (not) |
| R.0073 | Deleted | |
| R.0074 | T.2 | Section drawing |
| R.0075 | T.3 | Section drawing of east face of trench |
| R.0076 | Deleted | |
| R.0077 | T.3 | Section drawing east face of trench |
| R.0078 | T.2 | Section drawing of east face of trench |
| R.0079 | T.2 | Ditto |

Wedig 3 (Achtercairn, Gairloch 1)

Trench 1 Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 1.1 | An orange/brown light, rooty soil with bracken matt and 20% stone. |
| | Context supports turf and overlies slab paving (Ctx 1.2) |
| 1.2 | Area of level slab paving (Feature G.1.1) with a black loamy soil in voids |
| 1.3 | Context is a mixed red and brown ashy soil with much heat affected stone |
| 1.4 | Context is a black to brown ashy soil with char pieces lying in a hollow cut |
| | into Ctx G.1.5. Sealed by Ctx G.1.4 (Fill of Feature 1.2) |
| 1.5 | A compacted orange clay with some small stone. Local natural. Cut by |
| | Feature 1.2 |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts | |
|-------------|---|--|
| F.1.1 | An area of slab paving over all trench. May relate to shieling to north | |
| F.1.2 | Feature is a shallow hollow cut into Ctx 1.5 and sealed by Ctx 1.3. Context | |
| | contains an ashy soil with char pieces (Ctx 1.4) | |

Finds

| No finds recovered |
|--------------------|
|--------------------|

Samples

| Sample no. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|
| S.1.1 | 1.1 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| S.1.2 | 1.3 | Bulk Soil | Environmental |
| S.1.3 | 1.3 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| S.1.4 | 1.5 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| S.1.5 | 1.4 | Bulk Soil | Environmental |
| S.1.7 | 1.4 | Charcoal | C14 and species |
| S.1.8 | 1.2/3 | Kubiena tin/soil | Environmental |

Trench 2

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 2.1 | A light brown friable soil which supports turf. Overlies all. |
| 2.2 | A fine orange/brown gritty soil with 60% stone. (Collapse of round house |
| | wall within structure) Same as Ctx 2.3) Overlies Ctx 2.5 |
| 2.3 | A fine orange/brown gritty soil with 60% stone. Overlies Ctx 2.5 (Collapse |
| | of round house wall outwith structure) |
| 2.4 | A 90% stone content with a fine brown silty soil in voids. (Core of wall) |
| | Lies directly on Ctx 2.5 |
| 2.5 | An orange, very gritty, glacial till. Local natural |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts | |
|-------------|---|--|
| F.2.1 | A well built double faced wall some 2 meters wide | |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description | |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| G.001 | 2.1 | Fragment of stone | Discarded |
| G.002 | 2.1 | Fragment of stone | Discarded |
| G.003 | 2.1 | Pottery sherd | Stone - Discarded |
| G.004 | 2.1 | Quartz flake | Natural chunk -Discarded |
| G.005 | 2.1 | Possible stone tool | Discarded |
| G.006 | 2.1 | Fragment of a smoothing pebble | |
| G.007 | 2.4 | Hammer pebble (in wall core) | |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|
| S.1.6 | Ctx 2.2 | Charcoal | C14 and Environmental |

Field Drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description |
|-----|-------|-------|--------------|---|
| G.1 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx's 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 |
| G.2 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.2 |
| G.3 | 2 | 1:10 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.3 |
| G.4 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 1.4 |
| G.5 | 1 | 1:20 | Section | West side of T.2 |
| G.6 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.2 after removal of Ctx's 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 |
| G.7 | 3 | 1:10 | Section 'A' | North side of T.1 Showing position of K.tin |
| G.8 | 3 | 1:10 | Section 'B' | East side of T.1 |

Digital PhotographsUnless otherwise stated all scales are a 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions

| No. | Trench and Context | rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm Comments | II divisions |
|------|----------------------|---|--------------|
| 0125 | Trenen una context | Plane table up plus Sophie auguring | |
| 0126 | | Plane table survey | |
| 0127 | | Discussion at soil trench (T.3) | |
| 0128 | | Lottery poster | |
| 0129 | | Trench plan | |
| 0130 | | Taking levels | |
| 0131 | | Ditto | |
| 0132 | | Auguring | |
| 0133 | | Deturfing soil trench (T.3) | |
| 0134 | T.1 | Deturfing Deturfing | |
| 0135 | T.1 | Deturfing | |
| 0136 | T.1 | Deturing | |
| 0137 | T.2 Ctx 2.1 area 'e' | View from the south | |
| 0137 | 1.2 CtA 2.1 area c | Midge proof digger | |
| 0139 | | Sophie – midge proof | |
| 0140 | | Ditto | |
| 0141 | | Midge proof | |
| 0142 | T.2 area 'a' | From the west | |
| 0143 | T.2 area 'e' | From the west | |
| 0144 | T.2 area 'c' | 1 Tom the west | |
| 0145 | T.3 | Soil trench. West face S | unny |
| 0146 | T.3 | West face | unny |
| 0147 | T.2 (south end) | From the east | |
| 0148 | T.2 area 'b' | From the east | |
| 0149 | T.2 area 'c' | From the east | |
| 0150 | T.2 area 'd' | From the east | |
| 0151 | T.2 area 'e' | From the east | |
| 0152 | T.1 | After Deturfing | |
| 0153 | T.3 | Soil trench | |
| 0154 | T.3 | Position of kubiena tin soil sample | |
| 0155 | T.2 | Large boulder | |
| 0156 | T.2 area 'a' | Sunny and breezy | |
| 0157 | T.1 Ctx 1.2 | Surface of slab paving | |
| 0158 | T.1 Ctx 1.2 | 0157 | |
| 0159 | T.2 areas 'e'& 'd' | Cleaning back surface | |
| 0160 | T.2 ditto | 0159 | |
| 0161 | | Shifting boulder | |
| 0162 | T.1 | Surface of Ctx 13 | |
| 0163 | T.1 | As 0162 | |
| 0164 | T.1 | | Sunny |
| 0165 | T.1 | Close up of hearth area from west | |
| 0166 | T.1 | As 0164 | |

| No. | Trench and Context | Comments |
|-----------|--------------------|--|
| 0167 | T.2 | Cleaned after removal of Ctx 2.1. From south |
| 0168 | T.2 | Ditto |
| 0169 | T.1 | Surface of Ctx 1.3. From east. Drizzle, very midgy |
| 0170 | T.1 | Surface of Ctx 1.3. from north |
| 0171 | | General site photo |
| 0172 | T.2 | West section from the NE |
| 0173 | T.2 | West section from the NE |
| 0174 | T.1 Ctx 1.4 | Top of possible hearth (Feature 1.2) |
| 0175 | T.1 Ctx 1.4 | Top of possible hearth |
| 0176 | T.1 Ctx 1.2/3 | Location of Kubiena tin soil sample (Sample 1.8) |
| 0177 | T.1 Ctx 1.2/3 | Ditto |
| 0178 | T.2 | Ctx sequence in section from the east |
| 0179 | T.2 | Inner wall face |
| 0180 | T.2 | Outer wall face |
| 0181 | T.2 | Outer wall face |
| 0182 | T.2 | Outer wall face |
| 0183 | T.2 | Wall core (Ctx 2.4) from above |
| 0184 | T.2 | Ditto |
| 0185 | Find G.007 | Hammer pebble found in wall core (Ctx 2.4) |
| 0186-0188 | Find G.007 | Photographed indoors |

Wedig 4 (Achnahaird, Achiltibuie 2)

Trench 1

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 1.1 | A mix of fine wind-blown sand and dry fibrous peat. Some bracken roots |
| 1.2 | Fine black sand (char dust) with some small stones. |
| | Occupation horizon. Same as Ctx 2.6. |
| 1.3 | Fine wind-blown yellow sand. No stones or charcoal discolouration. |
| | (Abandonment phase) |
| 1.4 | Compacted dirty black/brown sand with charcoal pieces and flecks. |
| | Occupation horizon. Same as Ctx 2.8. Within Feature 22 |
| 1.5 | Compact orange sand. Very clean. No stone. Local natural. |

Features

No features present

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 10 | 1.2 | General collection of charcoal |
| 20 | 1.2 | General collection of charcoal |

Samples

Kubiena tin soil sample across boundary of Ctx's 1.2/4 for environmental analysis

Trench 2

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 2.1 | A mix of fine wind-blown sand and dry fibrous peat. Some bracken roots |
| 2.2 | Fine sand stained black Lying amongst collapse of round house wall |
| | outwith the structure. 40% stone. Underlies Ctx 2.1 |
| 2.3 | A fawn coloured clean wind-blown sand with no stones. Same as Ctx 1.3 |
| 2.4 | A brown sandy soil filling gaps in stones of the wall core. Underlies Ctx |
| | 2.1. Seals Ctx 2.8 |
| 2.5 | Context is a heap of collapsed wall stone lying against inner wall face. |
| | Matrix is a fine brown sand |

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 2.6 | Fine black/brown sand containing much charcoal material. Underlies Ctx |
| | 2.1 and 2.5. Occupation horizon. Same as Ctx 1.3. Abuts Feature 2.1 |
| 2.7 | Fine wind-blown yellow sand. No stones or charcoal discolouration. |
| | (Abandonment phase) |
| 2.8 | Compacted, dirty black/brown sand containing charcoal fragments and |
| | dust. Underlies Ctx 2.7 Occupation horizon. Abuts Feature 2.2 |
| 2.9 | Fine wind-blown sand lying on bedrock outwith the structure. Natural. |
| | Underlies Ctx 2.3. |
| 2.10 | Fine wind-blown sand lying on bedrock inside the structure. Natural. |
| | Underlies Ctx 2.8 |

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts |
|-------------|--|
| 2.1 | A rubble built wall against and within Feature 2.2. Overlies Ctx 2.7/8 |
| | Second period wall contemporary with Ctx 2.6 and 1.2 occupation. |
| 2.2 | An orthostat faced wall lying outwith and somewhat under Feature 2.1 |
| | First period wall contemporary with Ctx 2.7/8 and 1.4 occupation. |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 01 | 2.1 | Possible whetstone |
| 02 | 2.1 | Pot boiler |
| 03 | 2.2 | Stone with a smooth face |
| 04 | 2.4 | 2 x pot boilers |
| 05 | 2.2 | General charcoal collection |
| 06 | 2.2 | Stone with a smooth surface |
| 07 | 2.3 | Pot boiler |
| 08 | 2.5 | Several pot boilers |
| 09 | 2.5 | Stone with wear on one face |
| 11 | 2.4 | Smooth stone |
| 12 | 2.4 | Pot boiler fragment |
| 13 | 2.4 | Possible hammer stone |
| 14 | 2.4 | Fragment of pot boiler |
| 15 | 2.4 | Possible hammer stone |
| 16 | 2.4 | Pot boiler fragment |
| 17 | 2.6 | General collection of charcoal |
| 18 | 2.7 | Charcoal |
| 19 | 2.6 | Charcoal |
| 22 | 2.6 | Charcoal |
| 23 | 2.6 | Small piece of plastic sheet |
| 25 | 2.8 | Worked stone |
| 26 | 2.9 | Frag of iron pan (discarded) |

| 27 | 2.8 | Worked stone |
|----------|---------|---|
| Find No. | Context | Description |
| 28 | 2.3 | Charcoals |
| 30 | 2.5 | Pot boiler |
| 34 | 2.1 | Piece of shaped stone with neck at one end. (?Thatch anchor.) |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| 01 | 2.8 | Bulk Soil | Environmental |
| 02 | 2.6/7 | Kubiena tin | Environmental |

Trench 3 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3.1 | A fibrous organic loam |
| 3.2 | Compacted fibrous organic loam |
| 3.3 | Silty sandy loam |
| 3.4 | Dark silty loam |
| 3.5 | Light sandy loam |
| 3.6 | Compacted sandy loam |
| 3.7 | Clean sand |
| 3.8 | Compacted orange clay with stones |

Features

| l | |
|------------------------|--|
| No Features present | |
| I NO realilles diesem | |
| 1 to 1 catalog propert | |

Finds

No finds

Samples

Kubiena tin sample across boundary Ctx's 3.4/5

Trench 4

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 4.1 | A light, open peaty earth |
| 4.2 | A fawn coloured wind-blown sand |

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 4.3 | An accumulation of more compact wind-blown sand |
| 4.4 | Fine black/brown sand containing much charcoal material. Abuts Feature |
| | 4.2. Same as Ctx 2.6 |
| 4.5 | An accumulation of wind-blown sand |
| 4.6 | Fine wind-blown yellow sand. No stones or charcoal discolouration. |
| | (Abandonment phase) Same as Ctx 2.7 |
| 4.7 | Compacted, dirty black/brown sand containing charcoal fragments and |
| | dust. Underlies Ctx 4.6 Occupation horizon. Abuts Feature 4.2 |
| 4.8 | A brown sandy soil filling gaps in stones of the wall core. Same as Ctx 2.4 |
| 4.9 | A wedge of small stones abutting outer face of wall. (?buttress) |
| 4.10 | Fine wind-blown sand lying on bedrock inside the structure. Natural. Same |
| | as Ctx 2.10 |
| 4.11 | Brown sand. Fill of Feature 4.1 |

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 4.1 | Post hole with packing stones. Contemporary with earliest phase of | |
| | occupation. Filled by Ctx 4.11 | |
| 4.2 | Stone-built wall, Matrix is Ctx 4.8 | |

Finds

| Find no. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|-----------------------|
| 21 | 4.2 | Possible hammer stone |
| 33 | 4.2 | Possible hammer stone |

Samples

| No samp | oles taken | | |
|---------|------------|--|--|

Trench 5 (Field wall)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 5.1 | Very wet fibrous peat | |
| 5.2 | Stony orange clay. Local natural | |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 5.1 | A disorganized line of small to large boulders. (collapsed land division) | |

Finds

No related finds

Samples

No samples taken

Field Drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description |
|-----|-------|-------|--------------|---|
| 1 | 1 | 1.20 | Plan | T.1 Surface of Ctx 1.2 |
| 2 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Surface of Ctx 1.5 |
| 3 | 1 | 1:20 | Section | T.1 East section |
| 4 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.4 Post hole (Feature 4.1) in surface of Ctx 4.7 |
| 5 | 1 | 1:10 | Section | T.4 Post hole (Feature 4.1) |
| 6 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | T.2 after removal of Ctx 2.1 |
| 7 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | T.2 Relationship of Ctx 2.8 to Feature 2.2 |
| 8 | 3 | 1:20 | Section | T.2 East section A – B |
| 9 | 3 | 1:20 | Section | T.4 North section |
| 10 | 4 | 1:20 | Plan | T.4 After removal of Ctx 4.1 |
| 11 | 5 | 1:20 | Section | T.3 South section |
| 12 | 6 | 1:20 | Plan | T.5 Field wall before excavation |
| 13 | 7 | 1:10 | Sections | Shovel pits. Sketch only not to scale |
| 14 | 5 | 1:20 | Section | T.3 South section redrawn |
| 15 | 8 | 1;100 | Plan | Whole site |
| 16 | 9 | 1:100 | Plan | Land division |

Digital photographsUnless otherwise stated all scales are a 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments | |
|----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 151-0001 | Preparation for the dig | Sunny | |
| 151-0002 | As 0001 | Sunny | |
| 151-0003 | T.1 Stripping the turf | Sunny | |
| 151-0004 | 0003 | Sunny | |
| 151-0005 | T.2 Deturfing | Sunny | |
| 151-0006 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Decayed bracken layer | |
| 151-0007 | T.2 & T.4 | Diggers at work | |
| 151-0008 | As 0007 | Ditto | |
| 151-0009 | T.2 area 'E' | Remains of Ctx 2.1Outwith the wall | |
| 151-0010 | T.2 area to south of E | Remains of Ctx 2.1 | Windy |
| 151-0011 | T.2 south again of E | Remains of Ctx 2.1 | |
| 151-0012 | T.2 Top of RH wall | Remains of Ctx 2.1 | · |
| 151-0013 | T.2 Outwith RH wall | Remains of Ctx 2.1 | <u>-</u> |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 151-0014 | Discarded | |
| 151-0015 | T.2 Wall line visible | Remains of Ctx 2.1 Windy |
| 151-0016 | T.2 Ctx's 2.2 & 2.3 | From the north (Over RH wall) |
| 151-0017 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | From the south |
| 151-0018 | T.1 Ctx 1.2 | |
| 151-0019 | T.2 Ctx 2.5 | Wall collapse |
| 151-0020 | T.2 Ctx 2.5 | Collapsed wall |
| 151-0021 | T.4 Surface of Ctx 4.2 | Facing west |
| 151-0022 | T.4 East end Ctx 4.2 | From above |
| 151-0023 | T.2 West end Ctx 4.2 | From above |
| 151-0024 | T.2 Ctx 2.4 | Before sectioning |
| 151-0025 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Surface of |
| 151-0026 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Detail of above |
| 151-0027 | T.2 Ctx 4 | North end showing phallic stone |
| 151-0028 | Discarded | |
| 151-0029 | T.2 Ctx 2.4 | Surface up to wall face |
| 151-0030 | T.2 Ctx 2.4 | As above with char patches on surface |
| 0031 | T.2 Ctx 2.4 | Wall core from above |
| 0032 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | Possible wall buttress viewed from the north |
| 0033 | T.2 Ctx 2.2 | As above |
| 0034 | School children | Gathered around round house |
| 0035 | School children | As above |
| 0036 | Discarded | |
| 0037 | T.1 Ctx 2 | Possible position of hearth |
| 0038 | T.2 Surface of Ctx 2.7 | Area 'A' within RH wall |
| 0039 | T.2 Ctx 2.10 | Taken from the north Wet and windy |
| 0040 | T.2 Ctx 2.8 | Relationship to Ctx's 7/8 |
| 0041 | T.2 Ctx 2.8 | Ditto |
| 0042 | Empty site at lunch | Lunch break |
| 0043 | Happy diggers enjoy | lunch |
| 0044 | As 0043 | |
| 0045 | Primary children look | At the finds |
| 0046 | T.4 | From the south. Damp and midgy |
| 0047 | T.4 | As above but closer |
| 0048 | T.3 Soil trench | South section. |
| 0049 | T.3 Ctx's 3.4/5 | South section position of Kubiena tin sample |
| 0050 | T.2 Ctx's 2.6/7 | East section showing position of Kubiena tin sample |
| 0051 | T.1 Ctx's 1.2/4 | East section Showing location of Kubiena tin sample |
| 0052 | T.5 (Field wall) | Taken from the west |
| 0053 | T.5 | Taken from the east |
| 0054 | T.5 | Taken from the north |
| 0055 | Last day of dig | Back-filling |
| 0056 | Jonie and Cathy | Working hard |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| 0057 | Jonie and Cathy | Working hard |
| 0058 | T.3 west face | Spade for scale. Showing OGS and iron pan level |
| 0059 | As 0058 | |
| 0060 | As 0058 | |

Wedig 5 (Strathain 1. Rhue 2)

Trench 1

Contexts

| Context No. | Description | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1.1 | A friable brown peaty soil overlying random stone slabs. Same as Ctx 2.1 | |
| 1.2 | A black greasy soil with charcoal flecks which lies between and under | |
| | slabs mentioned above. | |
| 1.3 | A buff to brown gritty compacted clay 60% small stones. Local natural | |

Features

| No Features recorded | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| | | |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|---|
| 04 | 1.2 | 3 x small water worn white quartz pebbles |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| 01 | 1.2 | Bulk Soil | Environmental |
| 02 | 1.1/2 | Kubiena tin | Environmental |

Trench 2

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 2.1 | A friable brown peaty soil overlying random stone slabs. Same as Ctx 1.1 |
| 2.2 | A black greasy soil with char flecks which lies within line of rubble bank |
| | (Feature 2.1) of round house. Same as Ctx 2.3 Ctx's 2.2/3 lie on Ctx 2.6 |
| 2.3 | A black greasy soil with char flecks which lies outwith line of rubble bank |
| | (feature 2.1) of round house. Same as Ctx 2.2. Runs under Ctx 2.4 |
| 2.4 | Unstructured rubble bank with friable brown soil between stones. Seals Ctx |
| | 2.2/3 where it passes under it. |
| 2.5 | A gathering of stones at the west end of T.2 Lies on Ctx 2.6 under Ctx 2.2/3 |
| 2.6 | Buff brown gritty clay with much rolled stone. Very compact. Local natural |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts |
|-------------|--|
| 1.1 | Low heap/ring of small to large stones forming circle of house. Circa 2m |
| | wide |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2.4 | Large quartz flake |
| 2 | 2.4 | Small quartz flake |
| 3 | 2.5 | 3 water worn beach pebbles |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|
| 05 | 2.2/3 | Bulk soil | Environmental. Pollens |

Trench 3 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 3.1 | A friable brown peaty soil overlying random stone slabs. Same as Ctx 1.1 |
| 3.2 | A black greasy soil with char flecks Similar to Ctx's 1.2 & 2.2/3 |
| 3.3 | Buff brown gritty clay with much rolled stone. Very compact. Local natural |

Features

| ! |
|---|
| |

Finds

| No Finds present |
|------------------|
|------------------|

Samples

No Samples taken

Trench 4 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 4.1 | A loose friable peaty soil overlying random stones |
| 4.2 | A black greasy soil lying amongst stones mentioned above Lies on Ctx 4.3 |
| 4.3 | Buff brown gritty clay with much rolled stone. Very compact. Local |
| | natural |

Features

No Features present

Finds

No finds present

Samples

No Samples taken

Trench 5 (Strathain 2, Rhue 3)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 5.1 | A light sandy peat with bracken roots |
| 5.2 | A black greasy soil lying over and amongst small stones. Lies on Ctx 5.4 |
| 5.3 | Stone revetment of the platform with matrix of loose brown soil. Lies on |
| | Ctx 5.4 |
| 5.4 | Mixed clay moraine. Local Natural |

| Feature No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 5.1 | Revetment to platform consisting of a faced rubble bank on down slope |
| | side of platform |

Finds

| No finds present | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| I NO IIIIGS DIESEIII | | |
| 1 10 111100 0100110 | | |

Samples

| No Samples taken | |
|------------------|--|
| 1 10 20111212 | |

Field Drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description |
|-----|-------|-------|--------------|--|
| 1 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Surface of Ctx 1.2 |
| 1.2 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Surface of Ctx 1.2 after removal of 2 slabs |
| 2 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | T.2 Surface of Ctx's 2.2, 2.3 & 2.4 |
| 3 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Cleaned surface of Ctx 1.2 |
| 4 | 1 | 1:20 | Section | T.1 West face of trench |
| 5 | 2 | 1:20 | Section | T.2 South face of trench |
| 6 | 3 | 1:20 | Plan | T.5 Surface of Ctx 5.2 |
| 7 | 3 | 1:20 | Section | T.5 East face of trench |
| 8 | 4 | 1:100 | Plan | Strathain 2. Site plan & position of T.5 |
| 9 | 5 | 1:100 | Plan | Strathain 1. Site plan & position of trenchs $1-4$ |
| 10 | 6 | 1:100 | Plan | Strathain 3. Site plan |

Digital photographsUnless otherwise stated all scales are a 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|----------|-----------------------|--|
| 151-0099 | Taking initial levels | Windy with drizzle |
| 151-0100 | As 0099 | |
| 0101 | T.1 from south | General view |
| 0102 | T.1 from west | |
| 0103 | T.2 from east | Surface of Ctx 2.2 |
| 0104 | T.2 from north | Surface of Ctx 2.2 1 st meter from west end |
| 0105 | As 0104 | Ditto 2 nd meter from west end |
| 0106 | As 0104 | Ditto 3 rd meter from west end |
| 0107 | As 0104 | Ditto 4 th meter from west end (E. end) |
| 0108 | T.1 from the north | |
| 0109 | T.1 | Detail of quartz pebbles |
| 0110 | As 0109 | |
| 0111 | T.1 | Quartz pebbles |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 151-0112 | T.1 | Close-up of quartz pebble |
| 0113 | T.1 | Close-up of 2 quartz pebbles |
| 0114 | T.1 from the north | |
| 0115 | T.1 west face | Location of Kubiena tin sample |
| 0116 | As 0115 | |
| 0117 | T.5 | General of diggers |
| 0118 | T.4 west face | Close-up of quartz pebble |
| 0119 | T.4 | Kubiena tin |
| 0120 | T.5 General view | Looking up revetment from the south |
| 0121 | T.5 | South end of trench looking east |
| 0122 | T.5 Ctx 5.2 | Looking south |
| 0123 | T.5 | Possible post hole |
| 0124 | As 0123 | Ditto |
| 0125 | As0123 | Ditto |
| 0126 | T.5 | Extended north end |
| 0127 | T.5 | Flat stones at north end of trench |
| 0128 | T.2 | Diggers |
| 0129 | T.2 | Small west extension |
| 0130 | As 0129 | Ditto |
| 0131 | T.1 | Martin drawing |
| 0132 | Sites 1 – 3 | General view |
| 0133 | Sites 1 & 2 | General view |
| 0134 | Site SRA 3 | Plane table survey |
| 0135 | As 0134 | As above |
| 0136 | Dave plane tabling | |
| 0137 | As 0137 | |
| 0138 | Joe | |
| 0139 | Three monkeys | |

Wedig 6 (Achtercairn, Gairloch 2)

Trench 1

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 1.1 | Dark brown crumbly peat which overlies all contexts No stone |
| 1.2 | Light brown compacted peat 5% stone content. Seals Ctx 1.16 &1.17 at |
| | north end of trench. Same as Ctx 1.3 |
| 1.3 | Light brown compacted peat 5% stone content. Seals Ctx 1.7 and 1.19 at |
| | south end of trench. Same as Ctx 1.2 |
| 1.4 | A black/brown crumbly soil lying between stone in core of hut wall at |
| | south end of trench. Same as Ctx 1.5 60% stone |
| 1.5 | A black/brown crumbly soil lying between stone in core of hut wall at |
| | north end of trench. Same as Ctx 1.4 60% stone |
| 1.6 | Buff brown greasy soil with 30% stone content amongst wall collapse |
| | within Hut circle |
| 1.7 | A yellow/orange compacted glacial till. Underlies all of site. Local natural |
| 1.8 | A black and orange fine silty ash. No stone. Lies within a kerbed hearth |
| | (Feature 1.1) set against wall face at east end of interior of hut circle. |
| 1.0 | Overlies Ctx 1.11 |
| 1.9 | A red and orange gritty clay contemporary with Ctx 1.10. |
| 1.10 | Grey gritty clay with 50% small stone content. Cut by Ctx 1.11 |
| 1.11 | A compacted black greasy soil containing many charcoal lumps and flecks. Surrounded by Ctx 1.10. Lies under Ctx 1.6 |
| 1.12 | An orange and black gritty clay with 20% small stone content. Fill of |
| 1.12 | feature 1.3. Underlies Ctx 1.10. Appears to be redeposited Ctx 1.13 |
| 1.13 | Red to orange stony (50%) glacial till. Inside hut circle. Underlies Ctx's |
| 1.13 | 1.9 – 1.11. Cut by Features 1.3 & 1.4 |
| 1.14 | South end of trench. A red silty soil (clay derived) with no stone at all. |
| 1.17 | Forms a circular bank under the stone wall of the hut circle |
| 1.15 | North end of trench. A red silty soil (clay derived) with no stone at all. |
| | Forms a circular bank under the stone wall of the hut circle. |
| 1.16 | A patch of greasy grey clay against foot of outer face of wall at north end. |
| | Underlies Ctx 1.2 Overlies Ctx 1.15 |
| 1.17 | Greasy grey clay with 10% very small stone. Underlies Context 1.2 |
| | Overlies Ctx 1.18 (bedrock). Same as Ctx 1.16 |
| 1.18 | Black to dark brown, compacted gritty clay (decayed bedrock) 60% stone. |
| | Local natural. |
| 1.19 | Clean grey clay similar to Ctx 1.17 Fills small depression in natural surface |
| | underlies Ctx 1.3, overlies Ctx 1.7 |

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts |
|-------------|---|
| 1.1 | An oval setting of stones set on edge with a cobbled floor within. Set |
| | against inner face of hut wall Under Ctx 1.1 and over Ctx 1.6 (Kerbed |
| | hearth) Contains Ctx 1.8 |
| 1.2 | A circular setting of small stones Lying just outside the hut wall. Under Ctx |
| | 1.1 and on Ctx 1.2. Possible post hole with packing (no mw) |
| 1.3 | A small pit or hollow with a flat beach pebble in the bottom. Filled with |
| | Ctx 1.12.(Truncated Post hole with post pad at base) 1.25 meters in from |
| | current inner side of earth bank Ctx 1.14. |
| 1.4 | A small pit or hollow with a large beach pebble in the bottom. Filled with |
| | Redeposited Ctx 1.13.(Truncated Post hole with post pad at base) 1.20 |
| | meters in from current inner side of earth bank Ctx 1.15. |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|--|
| 1.1 | 1.3 | Small beach pebble |
| 1.2 | 1.6 | Pot boiler fragment (Joins to Find 1.3) |
| 1.3 | 1.6 | Pot boiler fragment (Joins to Find 1.2) |
| 1.4 | 1.6 | Quartz flake |
| 1.5 | 1.10 | Hammer pebble showing light wear on one end |
| 1.6 | 1.12 | Pebble post pad (Did this have a former use) |
| 1.7 | 1.13 | Pebble post pad (not kept) |

Samples

| Sample No. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1.1 | 1.6 | Charcoal | C14 dating |
| 1.2 | 1.8 | Ash from Feat. 1.1 | Analysis |
| 1.3 | 1.11 | Bulk Soil 1 of 2 | Analysis and Pollens |
| 1.4 | 1.11 | Bulk Soil 2 of 2 | Analysis and Pollens |
| 1.5 | 1.10 | Charcoal | C14 dating |
| 1.6 | 1.11 | Charcoal | C14 dating |

Trench 2 (Soil trench)

| Trench 2 abandoned due to geological difficulties | |
|---|--|
| | |

Trench 3 (Soil trench)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 3.1 | A black/brown peaty soil with dense root matt |
| 3.2 | A black clay like peaty soil with fibrous roots |
| 3.3 | A brown clay like peaty soil |
| 3.4 | A compacted grey clay |
| 3.5 | Local bedrock |
| Kubiena tin | Sample taken across the Context 3 / Context 4 boundary |

Trench 4 (Achtercairn, Gairloch 3)

Contexts

| Context No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 4.1 | Fine grained brown soil, very loose and only occurs within ring of stones. |
| 4.2 | Brown to yellow crumbly soil with 10% small stone content. Lies above |
| | and around a small cobbled area (Feature 4.1) at east end of trench and over |
| | Ctx 4.3 |
| 4.3 | Black, fine charcoal silt with char lumps contained within a loose kerb of |
| | small boulders. Context lies within Ctx 4.2 |
| 4.4 | Black to dark brown, compacted gritty clay (decayed bedrock) 60% stone. |
| | Local natural. |

Features

| Feature No. | Description and related contexts |
|-------------|--|
| 4.1 | A compact, level cobbled area/surface Lying on Ctx 4.2 edged by flat |
| | upright slabs of stone on its NW side. (?earth) |
| 4.2 | A loose setting of small boulders retaining a small area of dense charcoal |
| | ash. Lies within Ctx 4.2. (Ctx 4.2 above and below it) |

Finds

| Find No. | Context | Description |
|----------|---------|----------------------------|
| 4.1 | 4.2/3 | 57 flakes of struck quartz |
| 4.2 | 4.2 | Pieces of bog iron |
| 4.3 | 4.2 | Quartz chunk |
| 4.4 | 4.2/3 | Quartz chunks |
| 4.5 | 4.3 | Beach pebble |

Samples

| Sample no. | Context | Type | Reason |
|------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|
| 4.1 | 4.2 | Charcoal | C14 dating |
| 4.2 | 4.3 | Charcoal | C14 dating |
| 4.3 | 4.2 | Bulk soil | Environmental analysis |
| 4.4 | 4.3 | Bulk soil | Analysis |
| 4.5 | 4.3 | Soil | Analysis |
| 4.6 | 4.3 | Charcoal | C14 dating |
| 4.7 | 4.3 | Soil | Analysis |

Field drawings

| No. | Sheet | Scale | Section/Plan | Description |
|-----|-------|-------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 after removal of Ctx 1.1 |
| 2 | 1 | 1:20 | Plan | T.1 Feature 1.1 (hearth) |
| 3 | 2 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx's 4, 5, 7, 9 & 10 |
| 4 | 3 | 1:20 | Section | West face of Trench 1 |
| 5 | 4 | 1:20 | Plan | Ctx 4.2 with Feature 4.1 |
| 6 | 4 | 1:20 | Plan | Surface of Ctx 4.3 |
| 7 | 5 | 1:20 | Plan | Ctx 4.3 |
| 8 | 6 | 1:20 | Plan | Boulders in Ctx 4.3 |
| 9 | 6 | 1:20 | Section | East face of trench 4 |
| 10 | 7 | 1:100 | Plan | Plane Table plan of Gairloch 2 |

Digital photographsUnless otherwise stated all scales are a 50cm rod in 10cm divisions and/or a 2 meter pole in 50cm divisions

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| 0152 | Equipment | Sunny |
| 0153 | Ready to transport | |
| 0154 | As 0154 | |
| 0155 | Carrying to site | |
| 0156 | As 0156 | |
| 0157 | View from boulder | |
| 0158 | Nondescript view | |
| 0159 | Achtercairn 2 & 3 | 2 round houses from above |
| 0160 | Achtercairn 3 | From above |
| 0161 | As 0160 | |
| 0162 | Achtercairn 2 & 3 | From above |
| 0163 | Achtercairn 2 | From above showing location of trench 1 |
| 0164 | Sunset | |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0165 | Gairloch sunset | Wow |
| 0166 | Sunset | |
| 0167 | Sunset | |
| 0168 | Sunset | |
| 0169 | Sunset | |
| 0170 | Sunset beam across | the water |
| 0171 | As 0170 | |
| 0172 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | From the east |
| 0173 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Section 'K' |
| 0174 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Section 'J' |
| 0175 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Section 'I' |
| 0176 | T.1 Ctx 1.1 | Section 'H' |
| 0177 | Tea-break | |
| 0178 | A sign ? | |
| 0179 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Section 'A' from the north |
| 0180 | 'B' sign | |
| 0181 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Section 'B' from the north |
| 0182 | C sign | |
| 0183 | T.1 Ctx 1.3 | Section 'C' from the north |
| 0184 | Diggers in Trench 1 | |
| 0185 | T.4 (Achtercairn 3) | From the north |
| 0186 | Digger in T.4 | |
| 0187 | Ready to plan T.4 | |
| 0188 | T.1 | Distant workers |
| 0189 | T.1 | From the west |
| 0190 | Important decisions | |
| 0191 | Diggers in T.1 | |
| 0192 | 'I' sign | |
| 0193 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'I' from the north |
| 0194 | 'J' sign | |
| 0195 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'J' from the north |
| 0196 | 'H' sign | |
| 0197 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'H' from the north |
| 0198 | Sunset again | |
| 0199 | Joe (Anna's dog) | |
| 0200 | Joe | |
| 0201 | Joe | |
| 0202 | Joe | |
| 0203 | Joe | |
| 0204 | Sunset | |
| 0205 | Sunset | |
| 0206 | Sunset | |
| 0207 | T.1 Ct 1.6 | Section 'G' from the south |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|--|
| 0208 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'F' from the south |
| 0209 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'E' from the south |
| 0210 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'D' from the south |
| 0211 | T.1 Feature 1.1 | From the south |
| 0212 | As 0211 | |
| 0213 | As 0211 | |
| 0214 | As 0211 | |
| 0215 | T.3 Kubiena tin | Position in north face of trench |
| 0216 | T.3 | Soil horizons marked in north face of trench |
| 0217 | Kinlochewe school | Primary children |
| 0218 | As 0217 | , |
| 0219 | Sunset | |
| 0220 | Sunset | |
| 0221 | Sunset | |
| 0222 | Sunset | |
| 0223 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'K' from the south |
| 0224 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'J' from the south |
| 0225 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'I' from the south |
| 0226 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'H' with hearth (Feature 1.1) |
| 0227 | As 0226 | |
| 0228 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'G' from the south |
| 0229 | Big thumb in shot | |
| 0230 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'F' from the south |
| 0231 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'E' from the south |
| 0232 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'D' from the south |
| 0233 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'C' from the south |
| 0234 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'B' from the south |
| 0235 | T.1 Ctx 1.6 | Section 'A' from the south |
| 0236 | Visiting Children | |
| 0237 | As 0236 | |
| 0238 | T.1 Diggers | |
| 0239 | T.1 Feature 1.3 | Post pad in base of Feature |
| 0240 | As 0239 | Taken from the east |
| 0241 | As 0239 | With inner wall face. Taken from north end of trench |
| 0242 | T.4 Top of Ctx 4.2 | Random boulders |
| 0243 | T.1 Ctx's 1.6/10 | Location of kubiena tin sample across boundary Ctx |
| 0244 | As 0243 | 1.6/1.7 in south face of trench |
| 0245 | T.4 Ctx 4.2 | Showing Feature 4.1 (Cobbled surface) |
| 0246 | T.1 Section | North face of trench (section pics follow from E - W |
| 0247 | T.1 Section | Section J - G |
| 0248 | T.1 Section | Section G - E |
| 0249 | T.1 Section | Section E - C |
| 0250 | T.1 Section | Section C - A |

| Number | Trench and Context | Comments |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| 0251 | Tea break | Gairloch High children Very cold wind |
| 0252 | As 0251 | |
| 0253 | T.4 Ctx 4.2 | North section of dog-leg from the north |
| 0254 | As 0253 | North section of dog-leg from the east |
| 0255 | T.4 Ctx 4.2 | North section of dog-leg from the South |
| 0256 | T.4 Ctx 4.2 | North section of dog-leg from the west |
| 0257 | T.4 Ctx 4.2 | North end of Dog-leg, 1 st section |
| 0258 | T.1 | Back-filling |
| 0259 | T.4 Find 4.1 | Quartz assemblage |
| 0260 | T.4 Find 4.2 | Concretion of iron |
| 0261 | T.1 Finds 1.2 & 1.3 | Two halves of pot boiler that fit together |
| 0262 | T.1 Find 1.6 | Pebble post pad |
| 0263 | As 0262 | |
| 0264 | As 0262 | |
| 0265 | As 0262 | |
| 0266 | T.1 Find 1.5 | Hammer pebble |
| 0267 | As 0166 | |
| 0268 | As 0167 | Detail |
| 0269 | As 0167 | Detail |
| 0270 | As 0167 | Detail |
| 0271 | As 0167 | Showing abrasion |
| 0272 | T.4 Ctx 4.3 | First sight. Under grid on right |
| 0273 | T.4 Ctx 4.3 | In section |
| 0274 | T.4 Ctx 4.3 | Better, from a distance |
| 0275 | T.1 Find 1.2 & 3 | Two halves of a pot boiler. Scale= 50p |
| 0276 | T.1 Find 1.5 | Pebble hammer. Scale = 50p |
| 0277 | T.1 Find 1.5 | Pebble hammer showing wear. Scale = 50p |
| 0278 | T.1 Find 1.5 | Pebble hammer, Close up. Showing end damage |
| 0279 | T.4 Find 4.1 | Quartz assemblage. Scale = 50p & 30cm ruler |
| 0280 | T.1 Find 1.2/3 | Pot boiler later used as a rubber. No scale |
| 0281 | T.4 Find 4.2 | Iron concretion Close up No scale |
| 0282 | T.1 Find 1.6 | Pebble post pad. Scale = 50p |

End

Anna Welti & Martin Wildgoose, January 2013