ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND

Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeological Excavation at Achnacreebeag, Argyll & Bute



Achnacreebeag, RCAHMS Excavation 1967 (SC2250587 ©Crown copyright: HES)

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*Adopt-a-Monument

Contents

Archaeology Scotland 3

Acknowledgments 3

Introduction 3

Earliest Megalithic Monuments Project (EMMP) 4

Archaeological Background 5

Previous Archaeological Work 8

Current project at Achnacreebeag (as outlined in the EMMP Project Design) 10

Monument Condition Survey (Aim 3) 10

Photogrammetry Survey (Aim 3) 11

Archaeological Excavation (Aim 2) 11

Aims 11

Methodology 12

General 12

Vegetation clearance 13

Excavation 13

Standard AS operating procedure for archaeological excavation and recording, post-excavation and reporting, and archiving: 14

Operational Factors 18

Project Team, Liaison and Timetable and Facilities 18

Project Team 18

Project Liaison 18

Timetable 18

Facilities 18

Health & Safety 18

Insurance 19

Copyright 19

References 19

Bibliographic Sources 19

Cartographic 20

Websites 20

Images 20

Archaeology Scotland

Archaeology Scotland (AS) runs a nation-wide community archaeology scheme, Adopt-a-Monument (AaM) that provides volunteer groups with the practical advice and training they need to care for and conserve their local heritage. The project encourages groups to get involved in hands-on activities to improve the condition, accessibility and interpretation of their chosen site.

Acknowledgments

AS would very much like to thank our partners, the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland; and funder support, the Audrey Henshall Legacy Grant and Historic Environment Scotland.

Introduction

As part of AS's 'Earliest Megalithic Monuments Project', a project is being undertaken at Achnacreebeag, a Neolithic chambered cairn, located near Ardchatten, to the north-east of Connel and Oban, in Argyll & Bute (Figure 1; NGR NM 9296 3639). The site is a scheduled monument (SM3767; NRHE ID 23253, HER site WoSASpin 1418) and is one of three early megalithic monuments in Scotland to be investigated archaeologically as part of the Earliest Megalithic Monuments Project (EMMP).

This WSI has been produced to detail the proposed archaeological work at Achnacreebeag, and support the associated Scheduled Monument Consent application. It should be read in conjunction with the Earliest Megalithic Monuments Project, Project Design (Macgregor & Richardson, 2025).

The WSI should also be read in conjunction with the EMMP Policy Statement, which details how the proposed archaeological works to the scheduled monument meet HES's Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (specifically HEPS 1, 2 and 5), and HES's Scheduled Monument Consent Policy (specifically SMC 1 and 2 and SMCP 1 and 2), also to support the associated Scheduled Monument Consent application.

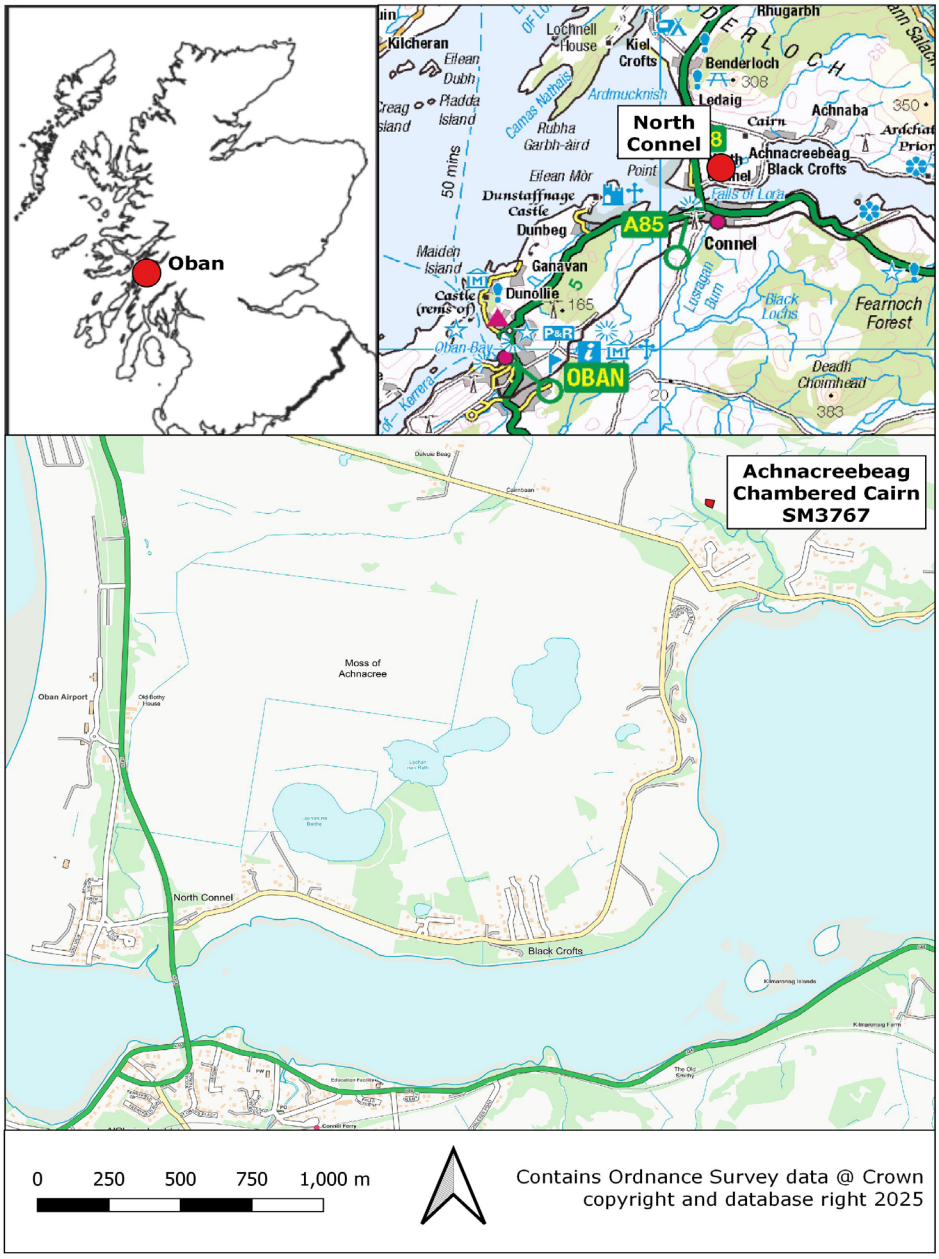


Figure 1: Achnacreebeag Location-red shaded area is the designated scheduled monument

Earliest Megalithic Monuments Project (EMMP)

The EMMP aims to honour, through research on and public engagement with Early Neolithic megalithic monuments, the huge legacy of Audrey Henshall. The project is supported by The Henshall Legacy Grant, administered by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and will celebrate the achievements of Audrey Henshall.

Details of the overall EMMP are contained in the Project Design, but the present work contributes specifically to Aims 2 and 3 and associated objectives of the EMMP:

- **2. Enhance our understanding of when these monuments were constructed**, through small-scale excavation.

    - **Objective 1**: carry out targeted excavations in partnership with local communities.
    - **Objective 2:** undertake post-excavation analysis, publication and archiving of results of excavations.
- **3. Enhance documentation of these monuments** by creating photogrammetric models of all the Scottish examples, and work with colleagues elsewhere in Britain and Ireland to obtain where possible a full set of photogrammetric models.
    - **Objective 1**: undertake site assessments and data capture visits.
    - **Objective 2**: create photogrammetric models.

As well as site specific research questions, the results of the proposed work at Achnacreebeag will also contribute to wider research agendas and sector strategies, including:

The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) Neolithic report:

- Improving the dating of these monuments – not only in Scotland, but throughout their British and Irish distribution –identified as a research priority in ScARF's Neolithic section (2.2.1, https://scarf.scot/national/scarf-neolithic-panel-report/2-the-scottish-neolithic-the-overall-picture/2-2-beginnings/2-2-1-the-atlantic-breton-neolithic/).

- The need to collate all the information about these monuments and make it available in an accessible manner to all, especially the communities for whom these are local sites, -identified as a priority activity (section 7.4.7 Research and methodological issues | The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (scarf.scot).

The Regional Archaeological Research Framework for Argyll (RARFA Regional Archaeological Research Framework for Argyll | The Scottish Archaeological Research Framework ; section 6.2.1.1) and the Boyne to Brodgar research agenda (https://prehistoric-scotland.com/themes/a-boyne-to-brodgar-research-framework/)

The work will also deliver on Scotland's Archaeology Strategy (particularly around Aim 4: Encouraging Greater Engagement) and Scotland's Historic Environment Strategy, Our Past Our Future (particularly around Priority 2: Empowering resilient and inclusive communities and places).

In addition, the work at Achnacreebeag will contribute to AaM's theme for 2025-2026, Prehistoric Pioneers: Women in Archaeology, which seeks to promote the stories of inspiring women in archaeology in the past and present.

Archaeological Background

Roy (1747-55) (Figure 2) doesn't mark the cairn, or the nearby farm of Achnacreebeag, but the general area of the site's location appears to be partly cultivated. The Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 25-inch map (1872) (Figure 3) does mark the monument, as two features annotated '*cromlechs*', shown on the northern edge of the burn terrace and on the edge of an irregular shaped area of unenclosed cultivated land. Two small cottages with associated enclosures are shown to the south, together with the larger steading of '*Achnacreebeag*'. The site and immediate environs are similarly depicted on the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map (1899, Figure 4), but the 'cromlechs' now lie immediately adjacent to and within a formal field boundary.

On the Ordnance Survey 1974 1:2,500 A Edition (Figure 5), the site is annotated as '*chambered cairn (remains of)*' and shown as comprising two chambers set within a sub-circular feature, marking the remains of the cairn's edge. This is shown as partly intersecting with the later 19th century field boundary at the cairn's southern edge, which is shown extending from the field into partly tree-covered ground on the northern edge of the burn. The two chambers are visible today on satellite imagery, located within an improved field on the edge of an area of trees.



Figure 2: Extract from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1747-55).
Reproduced by kind permission of the National Library of Scotland



Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1st Edition Map (1872)
Reproduced by kind permission of the National Library of Scotland

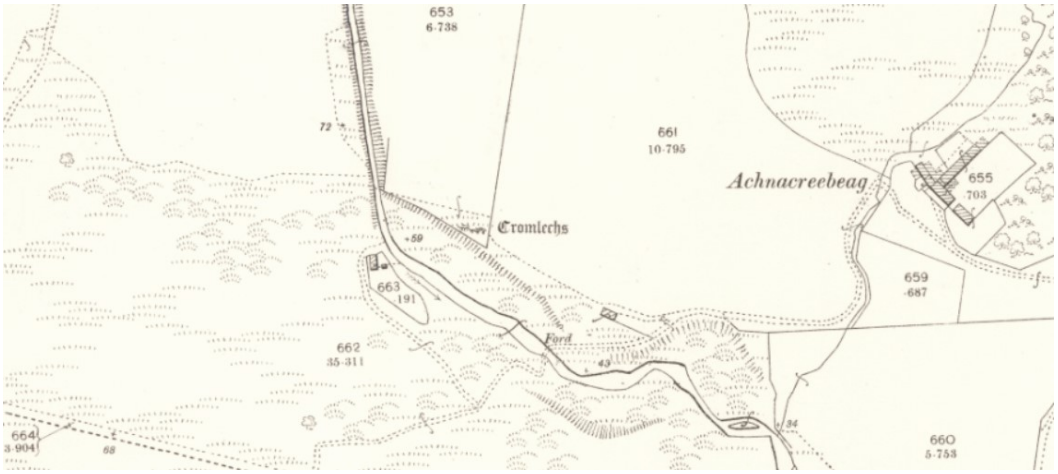


Figure 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition Map (1899).
Reproduced by kind permission of the National Library of Scotland



Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 A Edition (1974).
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Achnacreebeag is first mentioned in the New Statistical Account (NSA, 1845), which describes two small 'stone circles', which had likely been enclosed by a larger circle, since removed- suggesting that the site had already been robbed of much of its stone by this date. Ritchie (1973) notes that by 1869, when Angus Smith first visited the area, the site was virtually in the state in which it was found a century later.

Henshall visited and recorded the cairn in 1962 and included Achnacreebeag in her second volume on the Chambered tombs of Scotland (Henshall, 1972). The Royal Commission (RCAHMS) undertook a

site visit in 1966, recording the site and publishing it in their inventory of monuments for Argyll volume 2 (RCAHMS 1975), and noting that the two burial chambers likely represented two separate phases.

It is likely that the later 19th century field boundary wall partially surrounding the site was constructed using robbed cairn material, as well as potentially the nearby structures shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map.

Previous Archaeological Work

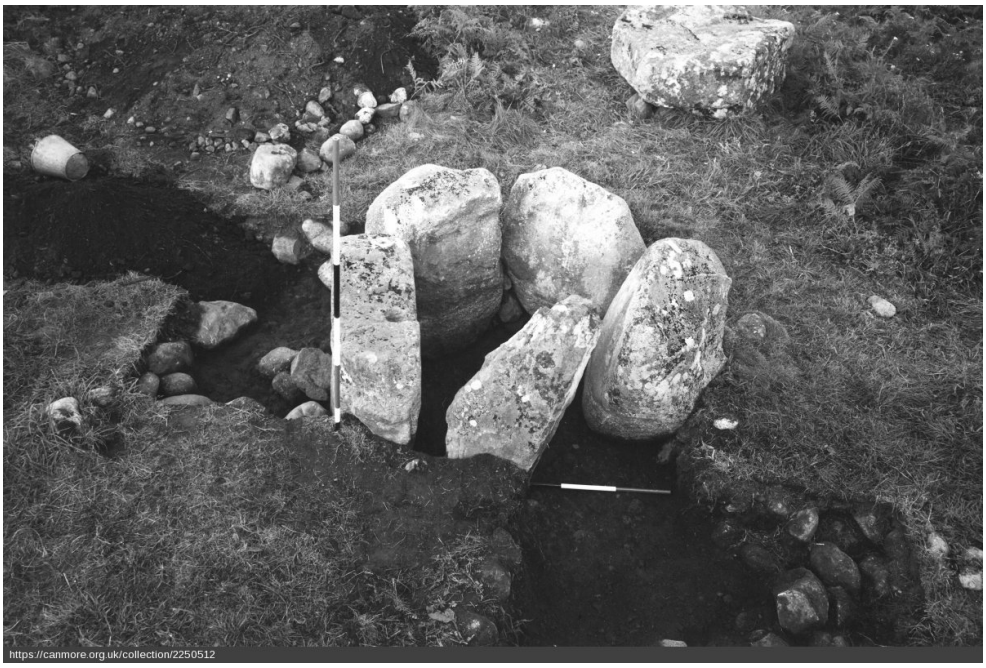
The cairn was excavated by the RCAHMS between 1968 and 1970 (Ritchie *et al*, 1973), through three seasons of fieldwork. The first season identified the extent of the cairn and examined what remained of the cairn's material; in the second season the capstones of the two chambers were removed and the chambers were fully excavated; the final season involved further investigation on the southern edge of the cairn. The results of the excavation in particular confirmed the two phases of construction: the first phase of the monument comprised a round cairn c.18m in diameter, with evidence of kerbing in two locations. This cairn covered a single chamber; the second phase comprised the subsequent addition of a small passage grave to the south-east edge of the cairn, and an extension to the length of the cairn to 20.7m to cover the passage grave, creating the oval/sub-circular shape visible today.



Achnacreebeag general excavation shot, RCAHMS Excavation 1969
(SC2250518 ©Crown copyright: HES)

The original chamber to the north-west measures 0.9m by 1.25m by 1m high, enclosed by five upright boulders, with a small gap indicating the entrance. The excavators note that this entrance must have been completely sealed once the cairn was fully constructed, as there was no passage found to the chamber. The later chamber was entered through a passage 1.4m by 1.1m by 0.9m high, enclosed

by seven large boulders with dry-stone walling between them. Two capstones survive, one in its original position.



Achnacreebeag NW chamber after excavation, RCAHMS Excavation 1969
(SC2250512 ©Crown copyright: HES)

Sections through the cairn revealed a sequence of topsoil overlying a layer of dark brown soil with some quartzite grits, small, and sometimes fragmentary, stones and cairn boulders, interpreted as a result of robbing the cairn; a basal layer of cairn material represented by medium-sized rounded boulders with a packing of yellow sandy loam and stone depressions where cairn material had previously been; and finally a layer of iron panning with charcoal patches which overlay natural yellow gravel.

Some evidence for potential pre-cairn activity was identified. This includes a spread of charcoal-blackened soil at the base of the original chamber, just above the natural gravel subsoil on which the cairn had been constructed. Ritchie notes that the charcoal may be associated with an initial clearance of the site or a burial deposit. Two areas of burning, identified as charcoal spreads, were found outside the chamber, one of which was to the south-west of stone 3. This deposit lay on what may be an Old Ground Surfaces (OGS)), and was sealed beneath surviving basal cairn material and ran under the 'chocking stones' for Stone 3 (Ritchie *et al* 1973, 34).

Artefacts recovered from the excavation came predominantly from the second chamber, including early Neolithic pottery (which were reported on by Audrey Henshall), a plano-convex flint knife from the lower fill, and later deposits contained beaker pottery, worked flints and jet disc beads. A chip of flint (SF12) was found from the charcoal deposit running under stone 3, and two other tiny flint chips (SF32) were also found from this early phase of activity, but no dating material.

Modern field-drainage channels spaced 2-3m apart were found to the north and north-east, running up to the edge of the cairn.



Achnacreebeag cairn and drainage channels, RCAHMS Excavation 1968
(SC2250501 ©Crown copyright: HES)

In 2011, Scotia Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of a cable trench and new pole linking the power house for a new hydro-electric scheme, to an existing overhead line. The new pole was located approximately 40m to the north-east of the chambered cairn. The pole trench and much of the cable trench were under water during this operation, no features or artefacts were noted in the spoil removed, but when visible, topsoil was recorded as being 0.3m of dark, grey-brown loam with gravel and boulders, overlying glacial till of orange gravel and boulders.

Current project at Achnacreebeag (as outlined in the EMMP Project Design)

To meet Aims 2 and 3 and the associated objectives of the EMMP, three archaeological activities are proposed at Achnacreebeag as part of the current AaM project.

Monument Condition Survey (Aim 3)

Prior to any intrusive work taking place, a Monument Condition Survey will be carried out to record the current condition of the site. This will both aid to update records and support the identification and evaluation of any conservation management issues and recommendations for future work that may need to be proposed.

The condition survey will also have a particular focus on identifying issues relating to responsible archaeo-tourism and climate vulnerability.

A short report will be produced summarising insights and as appropriate providing suggestions for future action. This will be circulated to landowners and Historic Environment Scotland for information and comment before finalising.

Photogrammetry Survey (Aim 3)

The monument will also be recorded digitally by photogrammetry using iPad LiDAR scanning to create an accurate 3D model of the site prior to archaeological works taking place.

Archaeological Excavation (Aim 2)

Two trenches, Trench 1 and Trench 2 are proposed to be excavated at Achnacreebeag (Figure 6). The trenches have been positioned in order to answer key research questions, and maximise data capture for increasing knowledge and understanding about the site, with as minimal intervention as possible. Only Trench 1 is proposed to be located within the scheduled area.

Key research questions include establishing the chronology of the earliest phase of monument building and the character of activities in this phase, and any evidence for pre-monument activity, as well as evidence for how the monument may have been used and modified through time.

Aims

The specific aims of the archaeological works are:

- To create an up-to-date, accessible and accurate record of Achnacreebeag for future conservation management, research and interpretation.
- Provide recommendations for the future conservation management of the site to stakeholders as appropriate.
- To provide heritage skills training and engagement opportunities with these early monuments for local volunteers involved in the archaeological field work.
- To contribute to national and regional research agendas regarding chambered tombs, specifically regarding their chronology and earliest phases of use and activity.
- To establish the extent and nature of the charcoal deposit, potentially one of the earliest deposits at the site, and to obtained suitable samples for dating and other environmental analysis.
- To establish if a cut for stone 3 comprising part of the earliest chamber at Achnacreebeag is present, partially excavate and retrieve suitable dating material.
- To re-examine previous excavation sections, identify any evidence for potential for phases of mound construction.
- To identify evidence for any pre-cairn activity, or activity related to the cairn's use and development, or post-dating the monument.

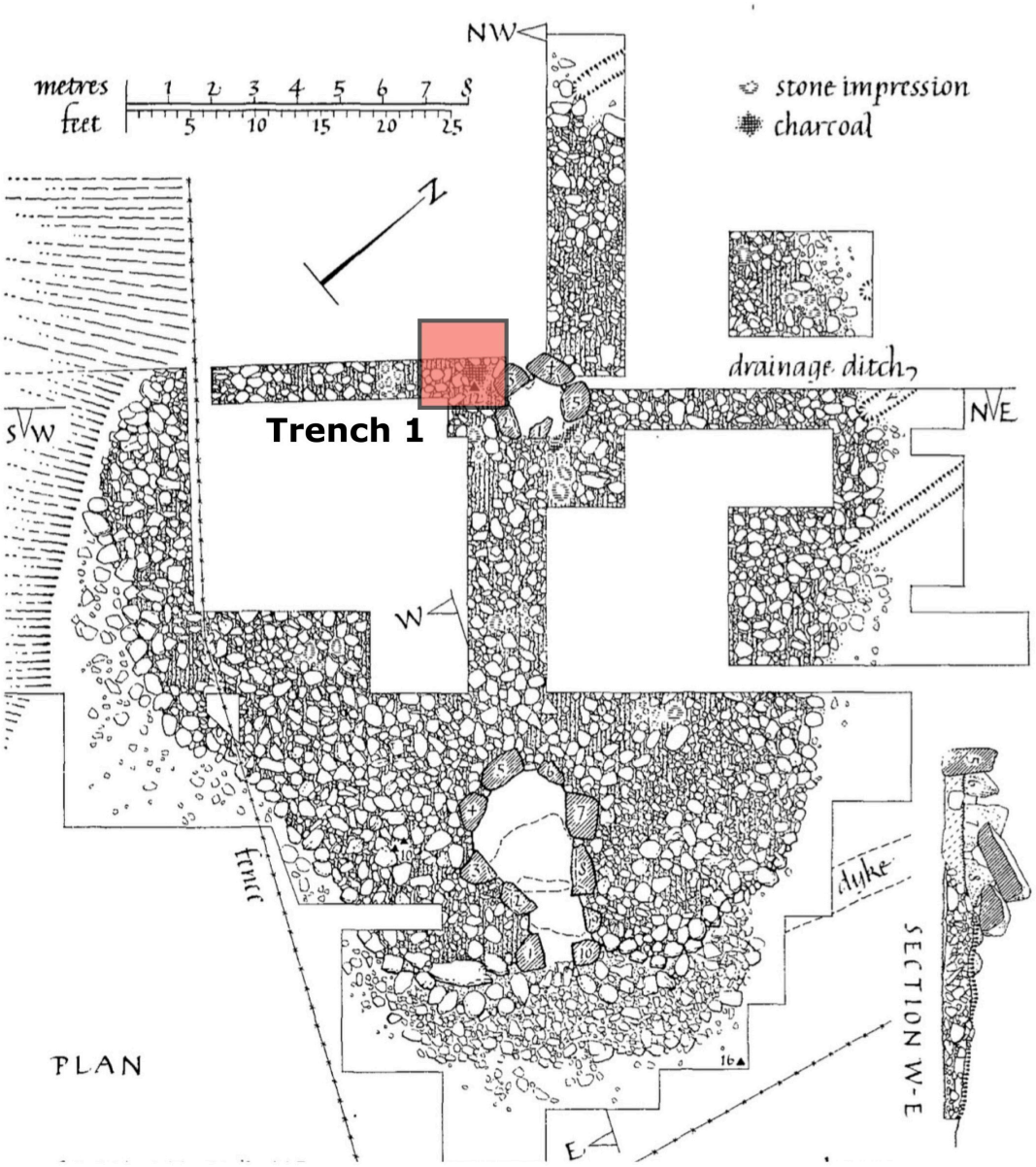


Figure 6: Trench 1 at Achnacreebeag *(after Ritchie et al, 1973)*

Methodology

General

All archaeological work will be undertaken to AS's standard operating procedure for archaeological excavation, recording, post-excavation and reporting, and archiving (see detail below), and will be conducted in keeping with the current Code of Conduct and guidelines published by CIfA as appropriate (CIfA Codes, regulations and Standards, and guidance | CIfA) and with other relevant best practice guidelines.

All work will be undertaken by hand and supervised and led by qualified AS staff. Volunteers from the local community will also carry out the archaeological work.

Vegetation clearance

Depending on the state of the vegetation cover at the site prior to the archaeological works taking place, sensitive vegetation clearance will be undertaken to facilitate accurate recording and provide a clear working area and access to the small chamber and trench locations. Cut vegetation will be removed from the scheduled area.

Hand-cleaning of any upright chamber stones within Trench 1, using appropriate non-abrasive hand tools (such as plastic trowels) will then be undertaken. This will be limited to the surface of the stone and will not involve removing vegetation from between or behind chamber stones that may otherwise destabilise the structure. Vegetation in these locations will be cut back down to the level of the chamber surface.

Excavation

Following vegetation clearance, a pre-excavation photo and photogrammetry will be undertaken of the site.

Trenches will be laid out by hand using string and survey pegs, their locations and extents identified on the ground using surveying equipment.

Following initial turf and topsoil removal, and the first archaeological horizon has been reached, trenches will be cleaned and recorded in plan digitally using photogrammetry, and via AS's standard operating procedure for archaeological excavation and recording (see below).

Excavation and recording will proceed within each trench via single context recording as above, until the natural subsoil is reached and/or the aims of the excavation have been met or, following consultation with HES, excavation is ceased due to the significance of the archaeological remains identified.

All excavated material from archaeological contexts will be dry-sieved on site for artefact retrieval. In the case of Achnacreebeag, this includes sieving the backfill removed from the 1970's excavation.

Bulk soil samples will be collected for all archaeological contexts.

In the unlikely event that excavation trenches become unstable and unsafe, it will be necessary to step the trench sides to prevent sections from exceeding safe limits and potentially collapsing. Excavations will be stepped or battered back depending on the nature of the underlying material.

Each trench will be enclosed by temporary fencing or hazard tape, which will be secured at the end of each working day, with appropriate safety notices relating to deep excavations and site health and safety displayed clearly.

Excavated turf, soil and stones will be stored separately to aid reinstatement. Excavated material will be stored beyond the scheduled area on tarpaulin and trenches will be reinstated to their pre-excavation condition by hand following the completion of archaeological work. A post-excavation record will be created of the site using digital photography and photogrammetry.

At the close of the excavations, terram will be placed over archaeological deposits and any features not excavated, to protect any unexcavated archaeological deposits during the backfilling and reinstatement process.

Trench 1

Measuring 2m by 2m, Trench 1 will comprise reopening part of the 1970's excavation trench where concentrations of charcoal were exposed during the previous excavation, and extending 1m further west and north. The backfill of the previous trench will be re-excavated and the portion of the old trench opened first, to allow the trench sections to be re-examined and sampled as appropriate, before extending into the unexcavated portions of the monument within Trench 1.

In the extension, the main aim would be to establish the extent and character of the concentration of charcoal previously identified. The extension will also take in the rear of stone 3, to potentially allow for the cut of the stone to be identified and partially excavated, and enable recovery and sampling for dateable materials. The cut for stone 3 will only be excavated if it is identified in the previously excavated portion of the trench.

Trench 1 will allow opportunities to sample for carbonised remains (including charcoal and other potential macro plant which may be suitable for radiocarbon dating) and it may prove possible to insert kubiena tins for micromorphological and other soil sampling (including bulk samples for macroplants). This approach will minimise investigations of in-situ archaeological deposits but maximise opportunities for providing insights into the chronology of the earliest phase of the monument.

Trench 2

Measuring 2m by 2m, Trench 2 will be located beyond the Scheduled Area, it would provide an opportunity to contextualise the monument, establishing if archaeologically visible activity predating, relating to, or post-dating the monument is present in its vicinity.

Standard AS operating procedure for archaeological excavation and recording, post-excavation and reporting, and archiving:

Excavation and Recording

All excavation will be by hand and will follow the single context recording system, as set out by MOLAS (1994). All contexts identified as deposits, fills, cuts and masonry/stone will be recorded as separate contexts and given unique identifying numbers. Relationships will be ascertained and recorded between contexts and a Harris matrix maintained for each excavation area.

All contexts will be recorded through drawing (at an appropriate scale; usually 1:10 for sections and 1:20 for plans), photography (SLR digital/iPad with appropriate resolution camera), and by completing standard AS recording forms (digital and/or paper), and marked on appropriate plans and sections.

All trench edges and other excavation sections will be recorded. Any sub-surface features identified (such as pits, post-holes, other chambers etc) will be recorded in plan prior to further excavation (usually by half or quarter section as appropriate). Features will be fully excavated unless otherwise agreed with HES.

A digital photographic record will be maintained throughout the fieldwork, including pre-excavation photographs, images to record individual features at different stages of excavation, photographs of

cleaned sections, post-excavation photographs of features and general working and landscape images.

Photogrammetric recording of each trench will take place at pre-excavation and at intervals, to be determined during the excavation, in order to accurately record each feature and element of the trench.

Spot heights will be taken at appropriate points to record differences in level above Ordnance Datum between archaeological features.

Industry standard surveying equipment (Total Station and/or photogrammetry) will be used to survey in any excavation areas and drawing points. Surveys will be geographically located relative to the Ordnance Survey map.

Finds Collection

Artefacts recovered from secure contexts will be individually bagged and their locations recorded by context or in three dimensions, as appropriate. Artefacts from topsoil will be bagged by context and excavation area.

Bulk samples and artefacts will be given unique numbers and recorded on pro forma record sheets.

All identified artefacts will be collected, bagged and labelled, and retained.

Any artefacts to be discarded would be undertaken following discussion and agreement with HES and the local authority archaeologist, and the original volume of material would be recorded prior to discard.

All finds will be packed and stored in standard finds boxes at Archaeology Scotland upon completion of the archaeological work.

Any artefacts requiring conservation will be prioritised for post excavation analysis and preservation.

Additional advice on exposing, retrieving storing and conserving sensitive material (such as leather, wood, jet, metal objects, burial urns) will be sought from HES and appropriate specialists.

All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place and suitable security measures taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.

During the course of any programme of archaeological fieldwork, all finds, environmental material and human remains will be treated in accordance with guidelines published by the United Kingdom's Institute for Conservation (UKIC) Archaeology Section (see References Section).

Environmental Samples

Bulk samples of any feature or deposit of archaeological interest will be taken in order to establish their likely date, nature, extent and condition. All such sample excavation will be conducted by hand. Bulk samples will consist of a minimum of 50% of the feature/deposit to be sampled for features such as post-holes and pits. At least 10% of any linear features will be sampled, although a higher percentage sample may be taken upon agreement with HES. Any sample processing and analysis to

be undertaken will be carried out under an appropriate Post-excavation Research Design (see Post-excavation and Reporting below).

Treatment of Human Remains

In the event that any human remains are encountered during the course of any intrusive archaeological work, they will be treated in accordance with Scots Law, relevant guidance published by HES (Historic Scotland, 1997), and standard AS operating procedure.

The remains will be left in situ, covered and protected and the local police will be informed. Police approval will be required if removal of the human remains is essential or required. This will be undertaken in compliance with HES guidelines, and following discussion and agreement for their removal and archaeological recording with HES the local authority archaeologist.

Post-excavation and Reporting

A Data Structure Report (DSR) describing the results of the archaeological work will be produced in accordance with guidance produced by HES (Historic Scotland, 1996). The report will contain the following elements:

- an executive summary;
- an introduction, outlining the nature of the work undertaken and the circumstances / background of the project and any acknowledgments ;
- a description of the Site / Study Area and its location within Scotland;
- the aims and methodology of the programme of archaeological work;
- a discussion of any previous archaeological work undertaken at the Site / within the Study Area and any pertinent historical background information;
- the results of the work, including digital photographs and other relevant graphic material, and any finds or environmental analysis;
- a discussion of the results, placing the Site / Study Area into context and including a assessment of the archaeological potential of the Site / Study Area and its significance, and with reference to national and regional research frameworks;
- a conclusion summarising the results and discussion of the programme of archaeological work and highlighting potential avenues for future work;
- Recommendations for future work, as appropriate, including any proposed post-excavation analyses;
- A list of references;
- Appropriate appendices including site registers (e.g. photograph lists, context registers, trench registers); and,
- Geo-referenced Figures showing the Site / Study Area location, the sites/ features/trenches etc identified within the Study Area, and any other graphic/map material as appropriate. All

plans and figures will be labelled, and will contain a scale, a north arrow (as appropriate), and a note of the illustrator, and will be accompanied by relevant descriptive text within the report.

Following all on-site work, post-excavation processing and general analyses and cataloguing of recovered artefactual material will be undertaken.

Artefacts and environmental remains will be assessed by an appropriate specialist to inform recommendations about their further analysis and conservation requirements, to be presented in a Post-excavation Research Design (PERD).

HES and the Local Authority Archaeologist will be consulted as to the scope of works for the PERD.

Archiving

The archive will be created and prepared in accordance with the requirements of HES, and standard good practice as set out by Brown (2011) on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF), the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) Good Practice Guides, and in accordance with CIfA standards and guidance.

The project archive comprises all records made during the Programme of Archaeological Work, including those in hard copy and digital form.

Digital security copies of all paper documents associated with, and generated by, the project, will be created and stored on AS's secure digital project filing system at Archaeology Scotland. AS has a consistent file-naming and structure system in use for the creation and storage of all digital material. All data stored on Archaeology Scotland's servers is routinely backed up.

A digital copy of the final DSR, a georeferenced plan of the location and extent of the archaeological works and a selection of digital photos will be sent to the relevant Local Authority for inclusion within their HER.

A summary report on the works will be entered into the on-line OASIS V reporting facility and submitted to Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES).

The paper and digital archive together with the DSR and any publications will be deposited with HES upon completion of all field work and any other post-excavation analysis.

If there is no demonstrable heir (*bona vacantia*), all archaeological artefacts recovered belong to the Crown and its disposal is administered by the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer via the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel (SAFAP), facilitated by the Treasure Trove Unit (TTU). For projects funded directly by HES, disposal of finds is managed by the Finds Disposal Panel.

Environmental material, un-worked human and animal bone does not fall under Treasure Trove, but usually the TTU will endeavour to facilitate the transfer of such site archive material to the appropriate museum.

In some instances, re-burial of late medieval, post-medieval or modern human remains which have established and demonstrable affiliations with contemporary religious groups, may be considered appropriate if a specific request is made. Such re-burial will be considered on a case by case basis, in

conjunction with the local authority archaeologist / HES, and will only occur once these relevant bodies are satisfied that all appropriate post-excavation work (analyses and reporting) has been completed to meet the aims of the project.

Operational Factors

Project Team, Liaison and Timetable and Facilities

Project Team

Project Management will be undertaken by Phil Richardson, AS's senior Project Manager, who has over 20 years professional heritage experience. Other AS members of staff may undertake task-specific work in relation to the overall aims of the project. CV's can be provided upon request.

Other members of the team will include the Lorn Archaeology and Historical Society and Archaeology Scotland Staff

Project Liaison

Project liaison will be undertaken with HES, and the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS), and landowners as appropriate. All stakeholders will be updated during the course of the archaeological works and following their cessation.

Timetable

Depending upon consents and permissions, the proposed Archaeological Work is intended to take place in the summer of 2025.

Facilities

All finds, human remains and environmental samples will be stored securely at AS offices until such time as they are allocated to an appropriate museum. Basic post-excavation work to meet the aims of the project and required reporting will also be undertaken at AS.

Health & Safety

All relevant Health and Safety legislation, Regulations, Guidelines and Codes of Practice will be followed.

A Risk Assessment (RA) will be completed for the proposed archaeological work and approved and signed by AS's qualified Health & Safety officer. The RA will be sent to relevant parties as required for review, and all members of the project team will be made aware of the RA prior to undertaking the archaeological work.

All members of AS staff and participants will follow the Archaeology Scotland Covid-19 Outdoor Working Protocols, Guidance. The Protocols are incorporated into any RA produced as appropriate.

Any onsite work will include a health and safety briefing and review of the RA.

At least one qualified First Aider will be on each site throughout all AS project work. All staff and participants will have appropriate PPE for undertaking the proposed archaeological work; and contractors will be expected to provide their own PPE and have appropriate RA's and safe systems of work in place. Work may be suspended for a period in the event of unsafe weather conditions.

Onsite facilities will be provided near to the on-site work.

Insurance

Archaeology Scotland is covered by £5 million public liability insurance and £20 million employer's liability insurance. Details can be provided on request.

Copyright

Under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, the organisation or person undertaking fieldwork and reporting work retains the copyright to the written and graphic material, unless this has been varied in the contracts for the work.

AS shall retain full copyright of any reports, WSI's, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved.

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Images

Catalogue Number	Title	Date	Collection
SC2250587	Excavation RCAHMS 1967-1969	1967	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SC2250501	Excavation RCAHMS	1968	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SC2250512	Excavation RCAHMS	1969	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SC2250518	Excavation RCAHMS	1969	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland