

Inner Sound

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The following sites were recorded in April and May 2001 as part of the Scotland's First Settlers project. A full report has been lodged with the National Monuments Record for Scotland.

Portree Parish

GRID REF.	SFS NO.	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE
NG62 NW			
NG 6333 2883	SFS 118	Scalpay House	Lithic scatter
NG 53 SE			
NG 5613 3382	SFS 119	Rubha na Cloiche	Cave
NG 5727 3401	SFS 120	Eyre	Rockshelter
NG 53 NE			
NG 5994 3804	SFS 121	Rubha na Leac 1	Rockshelter
NG 5994 3818	SFS 122	Rubha na Leac 2	Cave
NG 5986 3816	SFS 123	Rubha na Leac 3	Rockshelter
NG 55 SE			
NG 5875 5173	SFS 124	Uamh nan Daoine	Cave
NG 54 NE			
NG 5955 4709	SFS 125	Creag Ban	Rockshelter
NG 5844 4788	SFS 126	Tairbeart 1	Rockshelter
NG 5839 4781	SFS 127	Tairbeart 2	Rockshelter
NG 5814 4547	SFS 128	Brochel Forest	Pebble beach
NG 54 SE			
NG 5845 4385	SFS 129	Eaglais Breige	Rockshelter *
NG 5855 4334	SFS 130		Rockshelter
NG 5858 4315	SFS 131		Rockshelter
NG 5862 4292	SFS 132		Rockshelter
NG 5862 4290	SFS 133		Rockshelter *
NG 5863 4283	SFS 47		Rockshelter *
NG 5866 4110	SFS 134		Rockshelters
NG 5863 4019	SFS 135		Boulder shelter
NG 5868 4007	SFS 136		Rockshelter *
NG 5502 4447	SFS 138	Doire Domnain	Rockshelter
NG 5512 4073	SFS 143	Carn Dearg	2 Rockshelters
NG 54 NE			
NG 5550 4626	SFS 139		Cave
NG 5579 4668	SFS 140		Old sea cave
NG 5577 4675	SFS 141		Cave *
NG 53 NE			
NG 5876 3978	SFS 137		Boulder Shelter
NG 5942 3756	SFS 48		Cave

NG 53 NW			
NG 5481 3997	SFS 142	Holoman Island	Rockshelter
NG 5441 3640	SFS 144	Clachan, Old Harbour	Lithic scatter
NG 65 SW			
NG 6046 5110	SFS 145		Rockshelter
NG 6022 5412	SFS 147	Eilean Tigh	Rockshelter

Note 1: * = rockshelter containing visible midden

Note 2: SFS 144, Clachan, Old Harbour, Island of Raasay, is a peat exposure with submerged tree remains, lying in an intertidal zone within the Old Harbour. One baked mudstone flake was found within the peat deposit.

Note 3: SFS 47 has previously been recorded (RCAHMS 1991, NMRS MS530). In 2001 a previously unrecorded limpet midden was visible.

Staffin Bay

Fieldwalking at Staffin bay found that the previously recorded area of lithic sites to the west of An Corran (Finlayson *et al.* 1999) comprises an almost continuous lithic scatter within an area of turf on the shore for an area for approximately 8000 sq.m. This scatter is interesting because it comprises little culturally specific material from either the Mesolithic or the Neolithic, both of which are present nearby at An Corran (Hardy *et al.* forthcoming). It is likely to have derived from several prehistoric sites which may still be in situ (though eroding) and it is possible that some of the sites may date to the later Mesolithic (a period which has so far proved elusive among the microlith assemblages examined by SFS).

Samples of baked mudstone and chalcedonic silica were collected from the foreshore below An Corran and to the west into Staffin bay. The course of the Suarbie burn was walked and samples of chalcedony collected from both till and gravels along its length.

Worked lithics were also found at two locations inland along the Suarbie burn. (NG4825 6565; and NG 4855 6590).

Throughout 2001 a preliminary programme of post-excavation analysis on SFS material has taken place. This has comprised the sorting of all excavated residues into constituent parts and the sorting of all flotation samples below spit 4 (in an attempt to avoid contamination in the upper layers). A wide range of material has now been separated out so that a post-excavation plan may be drawn up.

References

Finlayson B., Hardy K., Wickham-Jones C., 1999 Inner Sound. In *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. CSA. Edinburgh.

Hardy K., Miket R. & Saville A. Forthcoming *An Corran, Staffin, Skye: a rockshelter with Mesolithic and later occupation.*

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