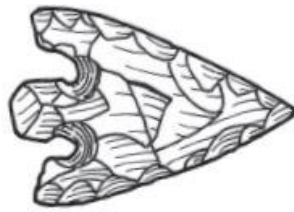


# RoCAS



ROSS & CROMARTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

## Trial Trenching near Applecross Broch in June 2012



## Data Structure Report

National Grid Reference

**NG 71166 44333**

Site Code

**APL12 (June)**

RoCAS Report

**2012-16/APL12 (June)**

OASIS No.

**rosscrom1-133201**

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Date

**29-8-2012**

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*Cover photo: Aerial image of Applecross campsite, showing the location of the 2012 investigations, 2005 geophysical survey results and broch location*

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## **Summary**

*This report presents the results of a community project aimed at instructing members of the community on the fundamentals of setting out, excavating and recording archaeological trial trenches or test pits.*

*Members of the local and regional community, led by professional archaeologists, excavated two trenches on 16-17 June located on the northwest side of the Iron Age site of Applecross Broch, excavated in 2006-2010. The trenches targeted two features: 1) a previously identified upright, 'pillar' stone, similar to one excavated during the broch excavations in 2008 and 2) the continuation of a ditch excavated in 2010 at Applecross Broch.*

*One trench revealed two features: the 'pillar' stone with an associated pit / ditch lined with upright slabs and another linear cut for a possible ditch. A second trench revealed a sequence of stone and boulder deposits to a depth of 80cm overlying a large, recumbent sandstone slab, which may be a capstone for a ditch or other feature. Both trenches contained numerous fragments of iron slag and other metal-working debris, two possible hammerstones and one iron dagger fragment.*

## **2 Introduction**

### **2.1 General information**

The trial trenching exercise was one of the 2012 weekend community archaeology events planned under the Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme (ALPS), aimed at engaging the community and its visitors with the heritage of Applecross and at providing training in archaeological techniques.

The location of the trial trenches was selected based on the results of the 2006-2010 archaeological excavations of Applecross Broch. One trench targeted an upright, 'pillar' stone standing above the turf level, which had been noticed during the broch fieldwork. It bore a striking resemblance to another prominent pillar stone, excavated during the 2006-2010 project, which was found lining the side of a ditch, possibly marking a cist structure. The second trench targeted the potential continuation of that ditch.

### **2.2 Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank the following funders who provided financial support for the fieldwork and reporting: LEADER, the Scottish Government, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

We would also like to thank the volunteers who participated in the fieldwork, the Applecross Campsite for its hospitality and Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme (ALPS) and Catherine Dagg for commissioning the work. Fieldwork was led by Mary Peteranna and assisted by Steven Birch.

Mapping was reproduced courtesy of Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services, ProMap License No. LIG1044 and ESRI licensing.



### 3 Site location and background

#### 3.1 Site location and geology

The village of Applecross is located on the western coast of the Applecross Peninsula in the northwest Highlands of Scotland (Figure 1). The small residential community is situated next to a natural harbour that opens into the Inner Sound of Skye and faces the Isle of Raasay and Isle of Skye to the west. The Sound of Skye borders Applecross to the north and west, and although Applecross is isolated from the adjoining mainland by mountainous terrain to east and southeast, its situation places it ideally along prehistoric sea routes.

The investigation focused on an area 5-10m northwest of Applecross Broch, centred on Ordnance Survey NGR NG 71166 44333. The trial trenching site was located 8m west of where the 2010 excavations stopped, on the southeastern end of a low ridge of glacially-formed material situated on the raised beach site of Applecross Campsite. The site is located at approximately 40m OD, less than 200m from the present coastline. Its location gives it an outstanding vantage point with a continuous viewshed arcing from southwest to northeast (Figure 2).



Figure 1 Landscape situation of Applecross<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Contains Ordnance Survey data Crown copyright and database rights (2012)

Trial Trenching near Applecross Broch: June 2012  
APL12 (June)

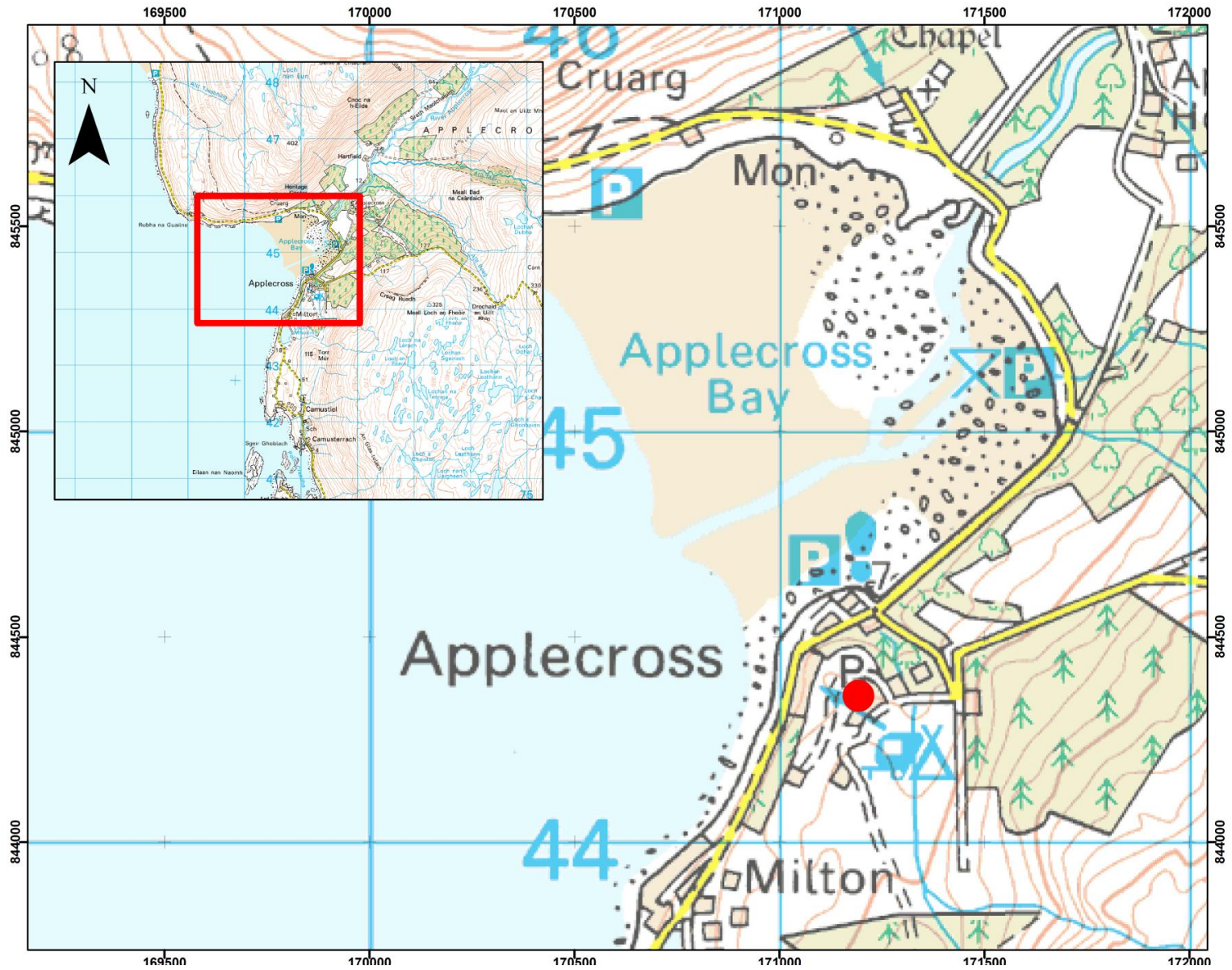


Figure 2 Location of Applecross Broch

### 3.2 Archaeological and historical background

- 3.2.1 Applecross, in Gaelic, *Abercrossan* - mouth of the River Crossan, has another ancient name, *Comrich* or *Comaraich*—a Gaelic derivation meaning protection (MacQueen, 1792 and McRae, 1836). Applecross is well-known as being the centre for the foundation of an early Christian community in the early Medieval Period. In 673 AD, St. Maelrubha is believed to have founded a monastery (NMRS #NG74NW1) at the eastern end of Applecross Bay. It was later reported to have been raided by Vikings.
- 3.2.2 Recent excavations (2006-2010) at Applecross Broch (Highland HER<sup>2</sup> No. MHG7680), located 40m southeast of the trial trenching investigation, have uncovered a complex multi-period Iron Age site. The main structure, built over and incorporating at least two earlier roundhouse-type buildings, was in use by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century with a final period of occupation sometime in the mid-4<sup>th</sup> to mid-6<sup>th</sup> centuries. The site was also built over an earlier stone-walled underground passage and a lintel-covered ditch passage attached to the southeast side of the building. A series of ditches and other features, including a metal-working hearth, a cist, postholes and pits were uncovered northwest of the main structure.

In the *Old Statistical Account of 1791-99 (Vol. 3, 378-9)*, Rev. MacQueen may have described part of the site:

In the district of Applecross are the remains of a subterraneous house, of which there is still a part entire. It was of considerable length, four feet wide, and four feet deep, regularly faced with stone and covered with flags, which were overlaid with turf, so as to be on a level with the surrounding ground. The passage was at one of the ends, which, if covered with a turf or a bundle of heather, would elude all search. From the construction of these houses, it is more likely, that they were the receptacles of plunder, and the fences of real property, than the habitations of men. Near the house are the ruins of a Danish dun. All of the same description along the coast, served as so many centinels to the Western Isles, who, by the signal of a torch, could give an early intimation to their nearer insular friends, of any approaching danger, which being in like manner communicated from one Dun to another, the alarm would in a moment become general (MacQueen, 1792: 378-9).

At the time of the *OSA*, the site location was known as ‘Borrodale’, a Norse derivation for ‘stronghold valley (Watson 1904).’

- 3.2.3 On the northwest side of Applecross Bay, a possible roundhouse settlement (Rubha na Guailne, HHER No. MHG7689) is located south of the rock shelter at Sand, which had been occupied from the Mesolithic through later prehistoric periods.

In the wider landscape, several rock shelters along the west coast of the Applecross peninsula, the islands to the south and Isle of Raasay to west contained occupation material dating throughout the Iron Age period (Hardy and Wickham-Jones, 2007). Dun Borrodale, an oval-shaped broch ruin, located on the western side of the south end of Raasay, is a close neighbour to Applecross across the Inner Sound of Skye.

- 3.2.4 The First Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map does not depict the broch site, but does show a track and boundary dyke running across the centre of the broch ridge, connecting the Mains of Applecross to the village on the shoreline.

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<sup>2</sup> Historic Environment Record



## 4 Objectives

4.1 The overall aims of the archaeology programme were:

- To provide an opportunity for local people to experience and obtain training in archaeological techniques and gain an understanding of their local heritage
- To encourage the widest possible inclusion of local people in the educational and practical benefits of the project

4.2 The specific objectives were:

- To investigate an upright stone noticed during previous ground survey of the area and to investigate the continuation of a ditch feature uncovered during the 2010 excavations at Applecross Broch
- To provide training to volunteers in test pitting / trial trenching procedures, including: setting-out trenches, excavating, completing site records, recording techniques (photography, GPS, plan and section drawing), handling/recording of finds and sampling



**Figure 3** Location of trenches excavated in June 2012 in relationship to the broch walls and 2005 geophysical survey results



## **5 Methodology**

### **5.1 Site visit and previous walkover survey**

The area selected for trial trenching was identified during fieldwork in May 2012. An upright, or 'pillar' stone, was identified standing above the level of the turf by Nick Goldthorpe. This was a similar feature to another 'pillar' stone investigated during past years' excavations at Applecross Broch and provided an intriguing location to target. A second trench was planned to be in close proximity to this feature, in order to investigate for the continuation of the ditch features that were previously identified on the northwest side of the broch.

Aerial imagery, historical mapping and the 2005 geophysical survey results of the trial trenching location (Figure 3) were also consulted prior to fieldwork. They did not reveal any noticeable sites or features.

### **5.2 Trial trenching**

Two trenches were excavated between 16-17 June 2012 during the investigation (Figures 3 and 4): Trench 1 (3m NW-SE by 1m) and Trench 2 (3m WNW-ESE by 1m). Trench 1 was extended by 1m to the northeast and 0.5m to the southeast on the southeast end of the trench. Turf and topsoil was removed by spade and drawhoe and trench excavation completed by hand trowel.

Recording was undertaken using standard recording sheets, plan / section drawings, GPS and digital photography<sup>3</sup>. Volunteers assisted in all aspects of the fieldwork, including setting-out of trenches, excavation, completion of recording sheets, plan/section drawing, digital photography, sampling and finds processing.

All work was conducted in accordance with the *Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct* (IfA, 2010).

### **5.3 Sampling and finds processing**

All finds and samples were recorded by trench number, context number and feature number.

Artefacts were cleaned (when possible) and indexed following the fieldwork. Specialists from National Museums Scotland (NMS) identified the iron objects recovered and analysed and conserved one special find, an iron dagger fragment.

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<sup>3</sup> The site photographs were lost as a result of an external hard drive failure.

**Trial Trenching near Applecross Broch: June 2012**  
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**Figure 4** Plan of the Applecross Broch excavations showing locations of the June 2012 trenches

## **6 Results**

*Note: The letter "C" in front of a number indicates a Context Number, for example C101 = Context 101, and the letters "SF" in front of a number indicates a Find Number, SF001 = Find 001.*

### **6.1 Trench 1**

Trench 1, originally 3m NW-SE by 1m, was extended by 1m to the southeast and 1m to the northeast at the southeast end of the trench in order to investigate the area around the upright 'pillar' stone (Feature 2).

The topsoil, which contained fire-cracked stones, a hammerstone, a whetstone fragment, a pig tooth and several lumps of iron slag, measured 15-20cm deep. The trench sloped downhill gently from southeast to northwest.

#### **6.1.1 Deposits in the trench**

A general spread of small stone fragments, mostly fire-cracked stone, within charcoal-flecked soil (C102) covered the majority of the trench below the topsoil layer (Figure 5). The amount of fire-cracked stone, several pieces of iron slag and one degraded pot sherd recovered from Context 102, along with the finds recovered from the topsoil, provided good indications of the potential for archaeological remains in the area.

Two features, Features 1 and 2, were identified during the excavation of Trench 1 within Context 102, which was left mostly *in situ*. Two sections were dug at opposite ends of the trench to uncover and identify the features (Figure 5). Following the excavation, the trench was covered in terram and backfilled over.

#### **6.1.2 Feature 1**

A section was excavated at the northwest end of Trench 1 to investigate several upright slabs within a potentially significant archaeological deposit (C103) containing fire-cracked stone and charcoal flecks (similar to C102). A fragment of an iron furnace base (SF011) was also recovered from Context 103.

Excavation of Context 103 revealed a layer of dark brown silty soil with charcoal flecks (C104) overlying an angled stone and soil fill (C105) inside a linear cut through a white sand layer (C106). The cut, aligned NW-SE, continued outside of the excavated area at both ends of the section and was interpreted as a possible ditch cut (Figures 5-7). Due to time constraints, the feature was not further investigated nor was the fill half-sectioned. It was recorded and backfilled over for future archaeological investigations.

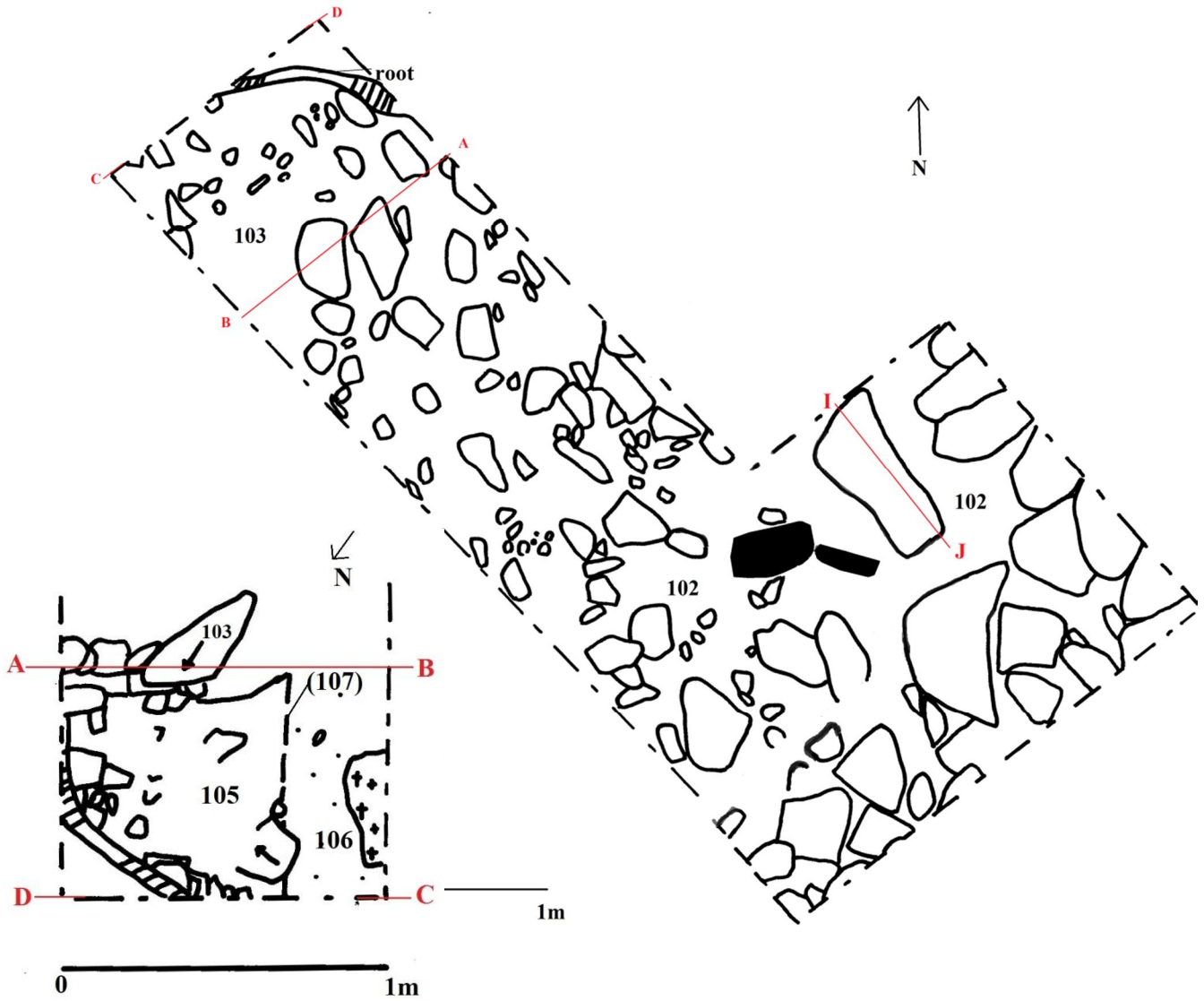


Figure 5 Trench 1, post-excitation, showing section lines; inset: plan of NW end of Trench 1 after sectioning

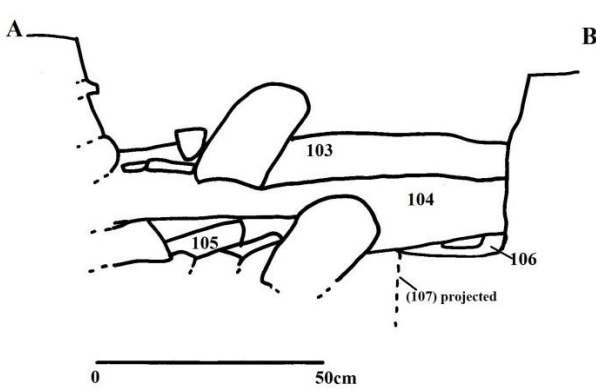


Figure 6 NW-facing section of NW end of Tr. 1, showing Feature 1 (C107)

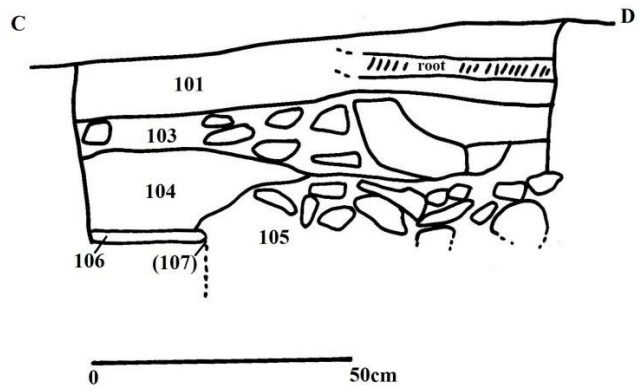


Figure 7 SE-facing section of NW end of Tr. 1, showing Feature 1 cut (C107)



### 6.1.3 Feature 2

The area around the upright 'pillar' stone was excavated to uncover the possible feature identified during initial clean-back of the trench, which had revealed the top of an upright stone on one side of the pillar (Figure 5).

Further excavation revealed other small upright stones (in black, Figures 5 and 8), a context change and possible cut edge, which appeared to be suboval in shape (Figure 8). The 'pillar' stone appeared to mark the southwest side of the feature. Although the trench edges caused some constraint, the possible pit was half-sectioned to a depth of at 40cm below the top of the fill. The fill (C108) comprised a mixed pale orange sand with dark brown soil containing charcoal flecks, small limestone / sandstone fragments and fire-cracked stone.

Although only one small section was excavated, it exposed further upright stones lining the cut edge, suggesting the feature was a pit or ditch-like structure. It appeared similar to features identified approximately 8m to the east during the Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project (Peteranna, 2012).

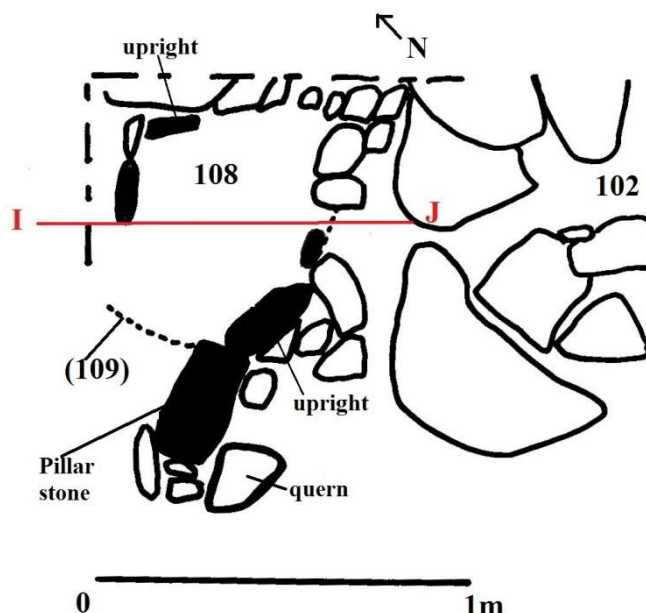


Figure 8 SW end of Trench 1: Feature 2, after half-sectioning, showing the cut edge and upright slabs (blackened)

## 6.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 3m WNW-ESE by 1m. The topsoil layer, which contained several fragments of burnt and unburnt bone and one piece of iron slag, measured 15-20cm deep. Underlying the topsoil was a significant amount of archaeological deposits rich in fire-cracked stone, small stones and large boulders, which continued below a depth of 80cm.

### 6.2.1 Deposits in the trench

Similar to Trench 1, there was a spread of fire-cracked stone and small stones (C202) immediately below the topsoil. Numerous pieces of iron slag, ferrous lumps (SF006-bog

iron?), some burnt bone and an iron dagger fragment (SF016-see Section 6.2.2) were recovered from this context, interpreted loosely as a spread of redeposited material. A possible structural boulder alignment (C203) was recorded within the spread of small stone (Figure 9), although this interpretation remains inconclusive.

At the WNW end of Trench 3, a 1m-wide section revealed a compact layer of very large stones and boulders (C204, Figure 10) underlying the layer of small stone. The boulder layer contained a significant amount of fire-cracked stone and appeared non-structural, and has also been loosely interpreted as a backfill layer.

One feature was recorded in Trench 2, Feature 3.

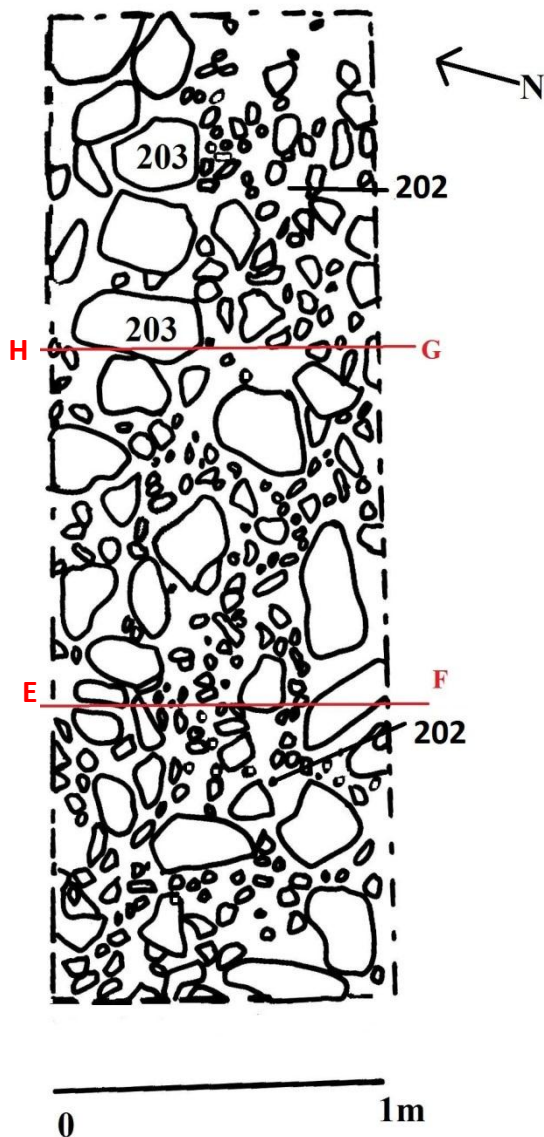


Figure 9 Trench 1, post-excavation

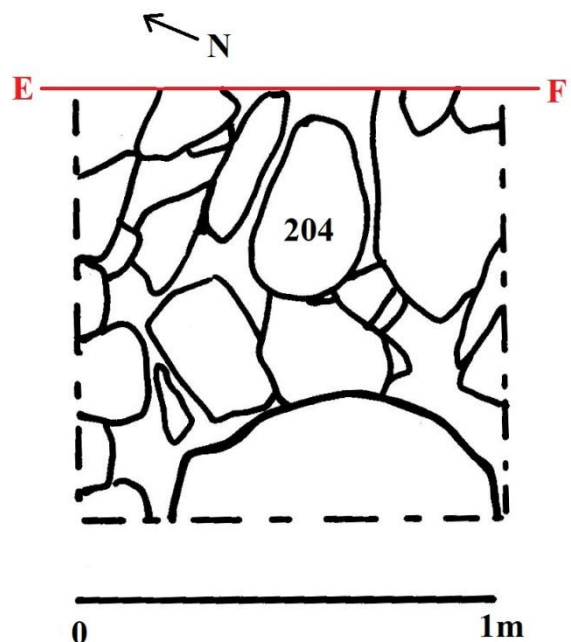


Figure 10 WNW end of Trench 2 after sectioning

### 6.2.2 Feature 3

A second, 1m-wide section was excavated at the ESE end of Trench 2, to further assess the significance of the stone spread and boulder layers. It revealed that the deposits in the trench continued to well below 80cm deep. At the base of the section, a large, recumbent sandstone slab (C205), measuring at least 90cm across and 10cm deep, was uncovered (Figure 11, Plate 1). It extended beyond the trench and section edges. It has been loosely interpreted as a lintel stone, possibly covering a ditch.

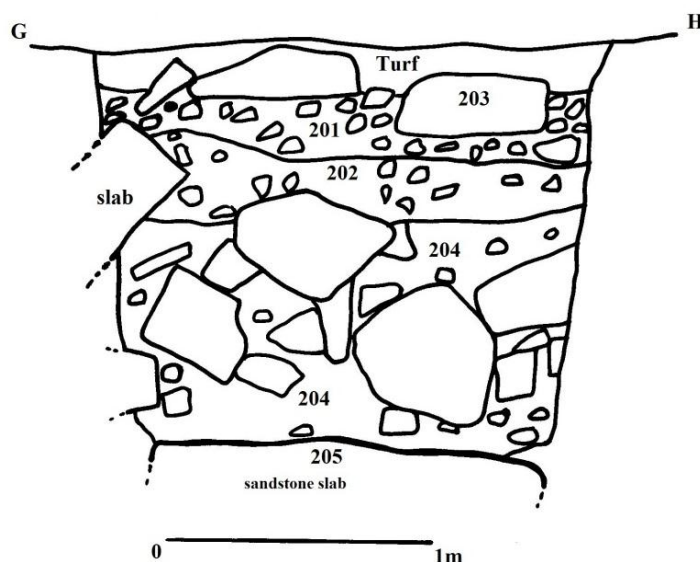


Figure 11 ESE-facing section at ESE end of Trench 2, showing Feature 3 slab at the base of the trench



Plate 1 Large sandstone slab at the base of ESE end of Trench 2, facing SW



### 6.3 The finds

The finds recovered during the investigation are good indicators of the continued spread of archaeological material from the broch site and are similar in type to those recovered from the 'Industrial Area' excavated in 2010 northwest of broch (Peteranna, 2012), only 6-8 metres east of the 2012 investigation.

#### 6.3.1 Metal-working debris

The majority of the finds are iron objects, mostly metal-working debris, and are consistent with the metal-working residues recovered during the broch excavations (Cruickshanks, pers comm). Although recovered from what appears to be a spread of redeposited contexts, the finds associated with metal-working, such as the iron dagger fragment (SF016), the whetstone (SF009), the fragment of a furnace base (SF011) and the iron slag (Plates 2-5) support the conclusions from the broch excavations that the area northwest of the broch was used for local iron-working industry.

The other scattered finds recovered from the investigation include burnt and unburnt bone fragments and two possible hammerstones.



Plate 2 SF016: fragment of an iron dagger fragment



Plate 3 SF009, fragment of a whetstone



Plate 4 SF011: fragment of a furnace base



Plate 5 SF022: iron slag from Context 202



### **6.3.2 Iron dagger fragment, SF016**

The iron dagger fragment (Plate 2) recovered from the upper deposit (C202) in Trench 2 contained corrosion, possibly from an organic material which may have been the remains of a leather sheath. It was recovered with a small iron object, possibly part of a nail shank (Cruikshanks, 2012). Further information about the objects is in the report in Appendix 1.

## **7 Discussion**

The aim of the investigation was to provide training in archaeological trial trenching. The specific goal was to identify the presence of or lack of archaeological features associated with the ‘pillar’ stone and to assess the potential for the continuation of the ditch uncovered in previous fieldwork (Figure 4).

- 7.1** Feature 1, located at the northwest end of Trench 1, was cut through a pale white-grey sand layer (C106) that appeared identical to a white-grey sand layer uncovered during the Applecross Broch excavations (Peteranna, 2012). The sequence of a dark brown-black silty soil layer over a white sand layer (as recorded at the northwest end of Trench 1, Figures 6-7) had been uncovered repeatedly below structural walling and outside of the main broch structure during the 2008-2010 seasons of fieldwork (Peteranna, 2012). This suggests that the area northwest of the broch contains further extensive archaeological remains associated at least with the Iron Age occupation of the site.
- 7.2** The stone slab-lined pit or ditch, Feature 2, uncovered northeast of the ‘pillar’ stone appeared very similar to Feature 22, as first uncovered in 2008 (see Plate 6). The function of Feature 2 remains inconclusive, although the evidence suggests it is likely to bear some relationship to the structures investigated in 2010.
- 7.3** The depth and density of stone and boulder deposits recorded in Trench 2 are also similar to those contexts recorded during the Applecross Broch excavations in 2008. As shown in Plate 7, a trench excavated in 2008 that was located approximately 4m south of Trench 2 (Figure 4), contained deep stone and boulder deposits and a possible boulder wall. The similarity to the 2012 investigations in Trench 2 is further evidence to show that there was a deep build-up of archaeological material across the area, possibly occurring from an episode of levelling the ground surface in later years.



**Plate 6** Feature 22, slab-lined ditch, uncovered in 2008 during the broch excavations



**Plate 7** Feature 70, possible section of walling, from the 2008 excavation of Trench 5

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- 7.4 The sandstone slab uncovered at the base of the ESE end of Trench 2, although inconclusive, is intriguing and led the excavators to suggest the possibility of it being a capstone. Although this is a loose interpretation, the significant depth of archaeological deposits in this part of the site could still be covering a negative structure such as a ditch.
- 7.5 The archaeological features and deposits uncovered during the June 2012 trial trenching are limited in terms of concluding the exact nature of the structural remains surviving further outside of the northwest side of the broch. However, the investigation was successful as the results were extremely useful in terms of providing evidence that significant and extensive archaeological structures survive in this area and are probably related to the Iron Age occupation of the site. The recovery of an iron dagger fragment, combined with the finding of two other dagger fragments during the broch excavations is also notable (Cruickshanks, 2012).

## **8 Archiving and Finds Disposal**

- 8.1 The paper digital files relating to the trial trenching investigation are currently being held by *Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services*. A copy of all digital files will be left with Applecross Heritage Centre. The paper archive will eventually be deposited with RCAHMS.
- 8.2 Finds reporting will be conducted in accordance with Scottish Treasure Trove procedures.

## **9 Reporting**

- 9.1 Copyright of this report is held jointly by *Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services* and *Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme*.
- 9.2 The results of the fieldwork have been reported on *OASIS* and a report on the results will be made to the annual *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES)*.
- 9.3 A presentation of the results to the local community has been planned for October 2012.

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## Appendix 1 Iron Objects from Applecross 2012 Trench 2

Gemma Cruickshanks

### Discussion

Two iron objects were recovered from Trench 2, approximately 5m from the western broch wall. Neither of the objects is chronologically distinctive, as is often the case for iron objects; they could be Iron Age, medieval or later. Their age is not clarified by their context (c.202), which is late in the stratigraphic sequence (just under topsoil with a considerable depth of deposits below).

It is difficult to place the objects within a wider context without knowing their age, but two daggers of probable Iron Age date were recovered from excavation of the adjacent broch (Cruickshanks in prep), also with traces of preserved organics and wear/ sharpening. Weaponry, in general, is relatively rare on Scottish Iron Age sites thus the group of daggers from Applecross is a significant find. As a group, they are discussed more fully in the iron object report for Applecross Broch (ibid).

### Catalogue

(Measurements in millimetres; L length, W width, T thickness, H height)

SF.016 a: Dagger fragment. Tip is missing, as is most of the oval-sectioned tang. The double-edged blade has a thin, lentoid section, lacking any pronounced midrib and the shoulders are slightly rounded, only marginally wider than the tang. The surviving edges are roughly parallel with slight asymmetry likely to have been caused by differential use/ sharpening during its life. Mineralised organics in the corrosion around the blade are possibly the remains of a leather sheath. L 56.5; Blade H 20, T 3; Tang H 16, T 5. C.202: soil and fire-cracked stone below topsoil.

SF.016 b: Small tapering strip, broken at both ends, possibly part of a nail shank. L15.5, W 4, T 2. C.202: soil and fire-cracked stone below topsoil.

### References

Cruickshanks, G in prep 'The Iron' in *Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project: Data Structure Report on the 2006-2010 Excavations*



## Appendix 2 List of Contexts

No.	Type	Description	Over	Under	Fill of	Filled by	Cut by	Finds	Feature	Interpretation
101	Deposit	Dark brown, dry, gritty silty soil with 20% small stones and fire-cracked stone throughout and some iron slag, and a possible whetstone	102	Turf				001-004, 007, 009	-	Topsoil, same as C201
102	Deposit	Dark brown-black silty soil with small charcoal flecks and 10% small stone fragments / fire-cracked stone throughout	108	101				008, 010, 012, 019, 021, 024	-	Slopewash?
103	Deposit	Dark brown silty soil with some small charcoal flecks and small stones / large slabs, some fire-cracked stone	104, 105	101				011	-	Deposit at NW end of Trench 1
104	Deposit	Very fine dark brown-black silty soil with small charcoal flecks and a slight ashy layer; some large stones	105, 106, 107	103				-	-	Deposit at NW end of Trench 1
105	Deposit	Loosely compact mid-dark brown sandy soil with fire-cracked stone, stone fragments and slabs-angled fill of cut	107	103, 104	107			-	1	Fill of cut in NW end of Trench 1
106	Deposit	Pale grey-white sand, lightly compact with scattered, small dark brown soil patches and small charcoal flecks		103, 104			107	020	-	Possibly natural white sand layer (same as seen during broch excavations)
107	Cut	Linear cut through the white sand at NW end of Trench 1		104, 105		105		-	1	Ditch?
108	Deposit	Mixed pale orange sand mixed with dark brown organic soil and degraded limestone/sandstone flecks; some fire-cracked stone and charcoal flecks	109	102	109			-	2	Fill of stone-lined pit structure
109	Cut	Part of suboval (?) cut through compact dark brown stony soil at SE end of Trench 1		102, 108		108		-	2	Possible oval, stone-lined pit (cut only partially uncovered)

**Trial Trenching near Applecross Broch: June 2012**  
**APL12 (June)**

No.	Type	Description	Over	Under	Fill of	Filled by	Cut by	Findings	Feature	Interpretation
201	Deposit	Mid-dark brown-grey gritty soil with small stone fragments and large stones and a lot of fire-cracked cobbles	202	Turf				013-014	-	Topsoil, same as C101
202	Deposit	Mid brown silty loam with dense fire-cracked stone, small amount of burnt bone, charcoal fragments	204	201				006, 015-018, 022	-	Redeposited material-backfill to level landscape
203	Deposit	Deposit of large boulders, possibly forming an alignment	204	201				-	-	Possible structure, but undetermined
204	Deposit	Mid brown gritty loam containing 75% large sandstone boulders, large stones and fire-cracked stone (compact below deep layer of small stones)	205	202				023	-	Redeposited, chaotic stone soil, possible backfill
205	Structure (?)	Large recumbent sandstone slab at base of Trench 2		204				-	3	Lintel slab for a structure?

**Appendix 3 List of Features**

Feature No.	Type	Description	Location	Dimensions (m)	Plans	Contexts	Findings
1	Ditch	NW edge of a linear cut through the pale grey-white sand layer at NW end of Trench 1; a layer of small stones and large slabs (C105), angled infill, was visible in the trench edges; the cut edge may be lined with upright slabs; aligned NW-SE	Trench 1	Not fully uncovered and not sectioned	1, S3	105, 107	-
2	Structure	SW end of a possible pit or cellular structure, lined with upright slabs and filled with a mixed orange sand dark brown soil; possibly marked by large rectangular upright stone	Trench 1	not fully uncovered, sectioned to 0.39 deep	6	108, 109	-
3	Possible Structure	Large sandstone slab located the E end of Trench 2 was located 0.80m below the present ground surface; uncovered below layers of large stones and boulders and set into moderately compact dark brown soil	Trench 2	0.90 across, 0.10 deep	S4	205	-

## Appendix 4 List of Finds

Find No.	Context No.	Material	Description	Feature	Approx. dating	Initials	Date
001	101	Stone	Hammerstone	-	Prehistoric	NG	20/05/2012
002	101	Slag	1 x lump of iron slag	-	Prehistoric	NG	20/05/2012
003	101	Possible Fe	Unknown ferrous object, appears rolled at centre	-	Unknown	LF	20/05/2012
004	101	Fired clay	Fired clay/ceramic	-	Prehistoric	NG	20/05/2012
005	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL
006	202	Fe	2 x lumps of slag, and 4 x large lumps of Fe material (probable bog iron)	-	Iron Age	AJG	16/06/2012
007	101	Slag	1 x small slag lump	-	Iron Age	NG	16/06/2012
008	102	Bone	1 x small piece of burnt bone	-	Unknown	NG	16/06/2012
009	101	Stone	1 x possible whetstone	-	Prehistoric	NG	16/06/2012
010	102	Tooth	1 x pig/boar tooth	-	Unknown	NG	16/06/2012
011	103	Fe	Bowl-shaped fragment of Fe slag adhering to stone, furnace base	-	Iron Age	TH	16/06/2012
012	102	Ceramic	1 x fragment of degraded pottery	-	Prehistoric	NG	16/06/2012
013	201	Slag	1 x fragment of slag	-	Iron Age	LH	16/06/2012
014	201	Bone	Several fragments of burnt and unburnt bone	-	Unknown	SB	16/06/2012
015	202	Slag	2 x lumps of slag	-	Iron Age	SB	16/06/2012
016	202	Fe	2 x ferrous objects: dagger blade and possible small nail	-	Prehistoric	SB	16/06/2012
017	202	Bone	3 x fragments of burnt/unburnt bone	-	Unknown	SB	16/06/2012
018	202	Stone	Possible hammerstone	-	Prehistoric	AJG	16/06/2012
019	102	Stone	1 x possible vitrified stone lump	-	Iron Age	AN	17/06/2012
020	106	Stone	1 x stone lump, agate?	-	Nil	MKP	17/06/2012
021	102	Slag	2 x lumps of slag	-	Iron Age	OK	17/06/2012
022	202	Slag	4 x lumps of slag	-	Iron Age	NG	17/06/2012
023	204	Bone	5 x fragments of burnt bone, 1 x fragment of unburnt bone	-	Unknown	NG	17/06/2012
024	102	Stone?	1 x lump of vitrified material	-	Iron Age	AN	16/06/2012

## Appendix 5 List of Drawings

Plan No.	Section No.	Direction facing	Scale	Description	Contexts	Feature	Drawn By	Date
1	-	-	1:20	Trench 1 aligned NW-SE; after initial clean-back	102	-	TH	16/06/2012
2	-	-	1:20	Trench 2, aligned WNW-ESE, after initial clean-back	201	-	LH	16/06/2012
-	1	NW	1:10	NW-facing section A-B at NW end of Trench 1	103	-	TH	16/06/2012
3	-	-	1:20	NW end of Trench 1 mid-excavation	104, 105	-	MKP	17/06/2012
4	-	-	1:20	NW end of Trench 1, showing Feature 1	105-107	1	MKP	17/06/2012
-	2	NW	1:10	NW-facing section of Trench 1 NW end, A-B	103-105	-	MKP	17/06/2012
-	3	SE	1:10	SE-facing section of Trench 1 NW end, C-D	103-106	1	MKP	17/06/2012
-	4	ESE	1:10	ESE-facing section of E end of Trench 2, E-F	202, 204	3	SB	17/06/2012
5	-	-	1:20	WNW end of Trench 2	204	-	NG	17/06/2012
6	-	-	1:20	SE corner of Trench 1, after half-sectioning of Feature 2	108	2	MKP	17/06/2012

## Appendix 6 List of Samples

Sample No.	Context	Feature	Volume	Sample justification	Initials	Date
01	104	-	Grab	Charcoal-rich layer below slab	AJG	16/06/2012
02	102	-	s.e.	Large charcoal fragment from below squared slab	AN	17/06/2012



## **Appendix 7 List of Photographs**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Direction Facing</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Taken By</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	SW	102	NW end of Trench 1, after initial opening during fieldwork in May 2012; showing first context (C102) below turf/topsoil	MS	20/05/2012
2	SE	102	NW end of Trench 1, after initial opening during fieldwork in May 2012; showing first context (C102) below turf/topsoil	MS	20/05/2012
3	SW	204, 205	Sandstone slab (C205) at the base of SE end of Trench 2 below deep layers of deposits	MKP	27/06/2012
4	W	-	View across the Applecross Peninsula over the Inner Sound of Skye and Scalpay (Raasay to right), with Isle of Skye in background	MKP	18/05/2012
5	E	-	Previously excavated trench (Trench 5 from the 2008 field season of Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project) located 2m south of APL12 Trench 2; image shows the section through W end of trench and depth of stone/boulder deposits overlying further deposits	MKP	19/07/2008
6	NE	-	Pre-excavation image of ditch (Feature 22) from 2008 field season of Applecross Broch Community Project; showing slab-lined cut adjacent to prominent upright stone (top right of photo); this upright stone was located 8m to the east of APL12 Feature 2 upright stone	MKP	19/07/2008
7	SSW	-	Image of ditch (Feature 22), from 2008 field season of Applecross Broch Community Project; showing slab-lined cut adjacent to prominent upright stone (centre left of photo) and showing ditch continues outside of trench; cist (Feature 11) is behind prominent upright, extending out of trench	MKP	20/07/2008
8	E	-	E end of previously excavated trench (Trench 5 from the 2008 field season of Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project) located 2m south of APL12 Trench 2; image shows the E end trench profile and a possible boulder wall (Feature 70) below a soily stone layer	MKP	19/07/2008
9	-	202	SF006: ferrous lumps, possible bog iron from C202 in Tr. 2	MKP	27/08/2012
10	-	102	SF024: ferrous lump with glassy appearance; metal-working debris	MKP	27/08/2012
11	-	102	SF012: degraded ceramic fragment, 1 face pale brown-orange and second face blackened-brown	MKP	27/08/2012
12	-	102	SF012: degraded ceramic fragment, 1 face pale brown-orange and second face blackened-brown	MKP	27/08/2012
13	-	101	SF009: Fragment of a whetstone	MKP	27/08/2012
14	-	103	SF011: Fragment of an iron-working furnace with stone adhering	MKP	27/08/2012
15	-	103	SF011: Fragment of an iron-working furnace with stone adhering	MKP	27/08/2012
16	-	202	SF022: Iron slag debris from C202	MKP	18/08/2012
17	-	202	SF015: Iron slag debris from C202	MKP	18/08/2012
18	-	101	Pebble tool-probable hammerstone (SF001), possibly a composite tool	LF	27/08/2012
19	-	101	Lump of iron slag (SF002)	LF	27/08/2012
20	-	101	Unknown ferrous object (SF003), appears rolled (iron-working debris)	LF	27/08/2012
21	-	101	Fragments of fired clay/ceramic (SF004)	LF	27/08/2012