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EARLY ECCLESIASTICAL SITES

IN THE

NORTHERN ISLES

AND

ISLE OF MAN:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL

FIELD SURVEY

VOLUME 2: GAZETTEER & ILLUSTRATIONS

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Thesis presented by Christopher Edmund Lowe for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the University of Durham.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

November 1987

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All photographs in this study were taken by the author: the author is also responsible for the survey plans and for the production of all the illustrations in this study with the exception of figures 23, 33, 35, 38 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,figs.115-118) and figure 58 (Oliver 1868).

GAZETTEER

PART 1: NOTES ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF ECCLESIASTICAL SITES

(i) Introduction

The problem of identification was briefly considered in Volume 1-Chapter 4 in connexion with the location of Earl Thorfinn's Christchurch. There, however, the problem was largely one of interpreting the historical evidence. This introduction to the gazetteer is concerned with the dual problem of identifying the monuments on the ground and then interpreting the archaeological evidence.

In theory the identification of ecclesiastical sites should be fairly straight-forward. The layout of church sites, for example, is well-known and familiar to all. In practice, however, certain identification of a site as an ecclesiastical site is far more difficult than might at first appear. There are few available guidelines for determining exactly how a site in the field is to be recognized as an ecclesiastical monument. The identification of an ecclesiastical site in the RCAMS records, it would seem, can be made on the basis of an individual field surveyor's opinion although "the value of the assessment of such sites by the field surveyors obviously varies between those who were involved in the work depending upon their degree of interest in the subject" (in litt: D.Murray 2.5.1984). Intuition and ones personal knowledge are therefore important factors in the matter of identification but they can hardly be quantified and tested. In an attempt, therefore, to establish a methodological basis for this study, a variety of evidential bases for determining identification are now considered.



(ii) Problems of Site Identification

The basic problem of identifying a site in ecclesiastical terms is probably best appreciated by reference to an example. At Tenston in Sandwick parish in Orkney, two lengths of turf covered walling set at right angles to oneanother may be identified as the remains of a chapel. A second turf covered ridge, a few metres to the SE and E and roughly parallel to the former, may be identified as part of the enclosure. It is extremely doubtful, however, if this conclusion could have been reached in the absence of any documentary or traditional evidence.

The example of Tenston, and this could be multiplied many times over, illustrates well the kinds of problems faced by the fieldworker. In particular it emphasizes the fact that identification of a site in ecclesiastical terms may often be impossible in the absence of any documentary or traditional record.

The gazetteer and other fieldwork have been based in the first instance on the National Monuments Records held in Edinburgh, Kirkwall, Lerwick and Douglas. Sites omitted or overlooked in the Records but recorded by earlier fieldworkers, such as Fraser and Saxby (see Bibliography), have also been investigated.

Antiquarian writings and 18th and 19th century travellers' accounts have also been found to be useful and full acknowledgement of these will be found in the gazetteer and elsewhere, as appropriate. The Statistical Accounts of 1799 and 1842, which were mostly compiled by the local church ministers,

also often contain a wealth of archaeological information. Early editions of Ordnance Survey maps have also been extensively used. On Man, use has also been made of Philip Kermode's excavation and survey notebooks. The first stage in the preparation of this survey was thus involved with the collation of documentary references to the ecclesiastical sites which form the gazetteer. This study has thus been concerned with a re-examination of known sites and not, on the whole, with the discovery of new, previously unknown sites. The various types of evidence which can assist in the identification of ecclesiastical sites in the field are now briefly reviewed.

(a) Plan and Site Structure

The general plan and composition of the small district chapels of the Northern Isles and Isle of Man are examined in detail in Volume 1-Chapter 5. In summary, it may be said that the chapels are generally of a sub-rectangular form. Those in Man, together with some in Orkney and Shetland, are single chambered structures, whilst others in the Northern Isles have an architecturally distinguished chancel. This latter feature is unique to ecclesiastical buildings in these regions and is thus a clearly identifiable feature. The chapels are small and were clearly not intended for congregational worship. The average internal floor area of a Manx keeill, for example, is just under 18 m2. This and other related dimensional data are set out in fig.54 and are discussed in detail in Chapter 5. The chapels are usually orientated approximately EW along their longer axis. The remains of a small stone built altar may

sometimes be evident against the centre of the E wall. The repertoire of altar forms is examined in Chapter 5. The chapels, meanwhile, are invariably enclosed by a rectilinear or curvilinear stone or earth embankment. Enclosure forms and size are also considered in Chapter 5.

An EW orientation is generally considered to be a necessary feature of church buildings. The reasons given in medieval texts for the adoption of such an orientation have been effectively summarized by Professor Rahtz (1978,4) in an article concerned with grave orientation. Immense variation, both N and S of E, was noted during survey work. A random selection of 27 Manx keeills, for example, indicates that orientation could range from N 60 E to as much as N 128 E (fig.57). This may be related to the solar arc model explored by Rahtz (1978,5-9). This model may also account for the commonly held belief that orientation was linked to the point of sunrise on the feast or day of martyrdom of a patronal saint (Benson 1956). This belief, as Professor Thomas (1981,233) reminds us, has been "long beloved of mathematically-inclined vicars and retired nautical persons" and thus the data have been presented here simply in a factual format (fig.57). It merely remains to be said that the precise location of `East´ is difficult to determine in the absence of modern surveying aids and variation is therefore to be expected. A divergence from a true EW orientation is not considered by this survey to be necessarily antithetical to a site´s status unless the non-ecclesiastical nature of the site can be determined by other means.

(b) Burial Evidence

The presence of burials at a presumed chapel site may be considered as good supportive evidence for the site's status and, being spatially fixed, are excellent indicators of location. However, much must necessarily depend upon the circumstances of the initial discovery and upon the quality of the record.

Burial evidence can be interpreted in a number of ways. For example, in the case of the Kirk of Millyskara at Sandwick (UNST 18), it is suspected that the popular status of the site may have been based upon confused traditional accounts regarding the discovery from time to time of burials in the exposed shoreline. An excavated example has been dated to the Late Iron Age (445 ± 75 AD: GU1291: Bigelow 1984b; 1985,103).

In the Isle of Man several putative keeill sites have been proposed purely on the basis of records which describe the discovery of burials of unspecified age and type. Most of these have been found during ploughing and several of the sites in the inventory could be considered in this context (SANTON 3, 6 & 9). It is very difficult to evaluate this kind of evidence. Inevitably, few details of such burials were recorded and thus their identification as Christian interments can only be considered a possibility. Kermode (1915b,425-426), however, has implied that lintel grave sites were exclusively Christian and were always associated with keeills. Neither point, however, has yet been adequately demonstrated.

Bruce (1968,73-74) has also considered this problem. He has suggested that the discovery of lintel graves in places devoid of any traditional ecclesiastical association might be considered as

medieval or later clandestine burials, undertaken by those who were intent on a `keeill-burial´:

> "I have been credibly informed by an old farmer that, in his grandfather´s day, it was not unknown for the burial party, intent on a `keeill-burial´, to perform their task at any available point `from which they could see the old place´ "
>
> J.R Bruce 1968,73-74

This is an interesting point and one which would be ignored at ones peril when considering Manx ecclesiastical sites.

(c) Sculpture

The presence of sculptured stone at a presumed chapel site is also good supportive evidence for the site´s status and being often immobile (Bailey 1980,22) may be considered as a good locational site indicator. There are, however, some limitations to this type of evidence. Much must necessarily depend upon an analysis of the individual piece or pieces in question and upon the circumstances of their discovery.

The intended function of such pieces must also be considered. Some cross slabs, for example, may be located close to, but not precisely at, well attested chapel sites. These may have functioned as boundary markers of some kind or have marked the site of a wayside shrine or have commemorated some completely archaeologically unknown act. The `Joalfr´ cross slab, 132(105), from Kirk Michael, Isle of Man (Kermode 1907,199-202) and the cross slab from Denshowe in the parish of Evie, Orkney Mainland (RCAMS 1946,ii,86,No.301), for example, were both found within 500 m of their respective parish church sites. Both stones, in other words, may well be associated with those

sites but they are not, in themselves, spatially indicative of the sites to which they may be related.

There are other examples on Man which may have no spatial association at all with an ecclesiastical site. The cross-slab, 65(-), from Middle farm in Braddan, for example, is not known to be associated with any ecclesiastical site, yet an association has been assumed and a lost keeill site postulated (Kermode 1935,19-20,fig.26). It has not been previously recognized, however, that this stone is located at an old boundary between the treens of Medall and those that went to form the estate of the Priory of Douglas (fig.45). The stone, in other words, may possibly be identified as a boundary marker and nothing more. Thwaites (1863,354), meanwhile, has preserved an interesting account of two monumental crosses which formerly stood in the valley to the north of Mount Murray in Santon. Topographically, this description would almost certainly refer to the Crogga Glen, which forms the boundary between the parishes of Santon and Braddan. Another Manx cross-slab, 62(35), is also reported to have been located at one of the old treen boundaries. This is discussed below in connexion with the keeill at Sulbrick (SANTON 8). The whole topic of boundary association is discussed in more detail in Volume 1-Chapter 6. It should be clear, nonetheless that there are certain limitations in using sculptural evidence as prima facie evidence for ecclesiastical sites.

(d) Place Name Evidence

Toponymic evidence may suggest the general location of an ecclesiastical site. In the Northern Isles, the relevant place-

name elements are names such as Kirk or compounds thereof such as Kirbister (ON. Kirkjubólstaðr) and Kirkaby (ON. Kirkjuboer). The chronological implications and significance which have sometimes been claimed for these place-name types are considered in Appendix 5 . The Papa place-names, which form another important group of place-names, are considered in Appendix 4.

The relevant place-name elements on Man are, for the most part, of Gaelic derivation, such as names compounded with keeill (Old Irish: cill) or rhullick (Latin: reliquae). Interestingly, Manx kirk place-names are almost wholly confined to the nomenclature of the parish churches, although these are believed to have replaced an earlier Gaelic formula based on keeill or cill (MacQueen 1956: Megaw 1964,188). One example of a Kirby (ON. Kirkjuboer) place name is known. This name refers to the farm which lies adjacent to the parish church of Kirk Braddan. Meanwhile, the only kirk place-name which seems not to have been associated with a parish church site may be Kyrke Asston which is thought to have referred to the keeill at Knock y Doonee in Andreas (Kneen 1979,597-598). Place names common to both Man and the Northern Isles are those such as `Chapel Field´, `Chapel´ or `Kirk Knowe´ or `Hill´ and names of this kind in which the ecclesiastical element has been employed to qualify the description of a feature of the landscape.

The precision with which an ecclesiastical type place-name can locate the site of an ecclesiastical monument depends greatly upon the accuracy and quality of the information, obtained locally, at the time of the compilation of the earliest maps.

The Original Name Books of the Ordnance Survey, for example, contain a wealth of information in spite of the fact that place-names were frequently anglicised or phonetically rendered. In establishing not only a site's location but also its name, these records, together with the maps, form an important fixed point from which it is possible to evaluate the extent to which recorded ecclesiastical type place-names have remained in association with recorded ecclesiastical sites.

The value of oral tradition or local information is considered below (pp.11-13). Experience, however, has demonstrated that place-names can certainly `move´ and become attached to other, unrelated, sites. This clearly raises the question of the extent to which place-names of this type have remained spatially fixed over the centuries. The example of Kirk Knowe (UNST 17) is a case in point. It is well recorded that this chapel formerly stood in the NE corner of the field close to the Burn of Bighton and that it was finally removed c.1840. Local sources, however, now identify Kirk Knowe with the remains of a ruinous stone shed which is located 60 m to the S of the previously recorded site. St. Mary's chapel in Evie, Orkney Mainland, also known as the Kirk of Norrisdale or Norrensdale (Clouston 1918a,104), is another example. The site is located by Fraser (1929,44) on the S bank of the burn. It is, however, now identified locally (pers.comm R.Jenkins, Savisgarth, Evie:23.3.82) with one of two structures on the N bank, of which one is clearly an example of a small water mill. The other structure may be an old shed. It should be clear that place-names are by no means a necessarily reliable indicator of location.

A similar problem is also evident on Unst where a number of ecclesiastical type names are found in close proximity. In the Underhoull district, the crofts of Kirkamires and Kirk (UNST 15 & 16) are situated within 300 m of oneanother. Similarly, in the adjacent township of Gunnister there are two deserted and ruinous crofts known as Kirk and Kirkhoull (UNST 12 & 13). The location of these four sites is shown in fig.52. The place-name evidence may be taken to indicate the former existence of a chapel of some kind somewhere in the area, perhaps one in either tunship. The precise location of this structure, however, is nowhere indicated by the toponymy. It may be remarked that many problems would arise as a result of an uncritical acceptance of place-name evidence of this kind, were these sites not to be clearly identifiable as crofts. This problem is examined further in connexion with the sites of Kirk-a-rig and Gletna Kirk (UNST 4 & 11). The problem of toponymic evidence and its relevance for the identification of ecclesiastical sites in the field is also considered in connexion with a site at Kirbist (WESTRAY 6).

In summary, it is suggested that place-name evidence may provide a general indication of a site´s location. It should be clear, however, that toponymic evidence may be unreliable as a specific indicator of location. Place-name evidence, in other words, should act as a contributory factor in the process of determining a site´s identification, but it should not form the only evidential base upon which the designation of a site as an ecclesiastical site is made.

(e) Oral Information & Traditional Accounts

It is difficult to quantify the archaeological value of oral tradition. Much locally obtained information, for example, has after all formed a basis of the Ordnance Survey accounts, whose accuracy may be borne out in those instances where identifiable remains survive. There are, however, pitfalls in a too ready acceptance of such information and some of these have been touched on above in connexion with the identification of the sites of Kirk Knowe (UNST 17) and the Kirk of Norrensdale in Evie.

Sometimes traditional accounts can be confirmed. For example, as recently as 1977, the site of a chapel at Chapel Down on St. Martins, Isles of Scilly, first recorded in the 16th century, reappeared as a result of the contraction and splitting of the turf which overlay the site (Thomas 1978,36). Traditional accounts, however, can also be misleading.

On Man, the site of Cronk ny Merriu, a name meaning `the hill of the dead people´ (Kneen 1979,141), was once considered the site of an ancient burial ground (Kermode 1935,24,fn.27). In part this may have been due to the reputed discovery of lintel graves in a nearby field, in part, perhaps, to the place-name and the interpretation of the rampart as a tumulus. Meanwhile, the rectangular structure which lay behind the rampart, could, according to Oswald (1860,51) "only have been used as a religious retreat of no very ostentatious kind, perhaps the cell of a hermit." The ecclesiastical nature of the site was also accepted by Kermode (1935,24-25). Excavations, however, by Peter Gelling (1952) clearly demonstrated that the site belonged to a

class of promontory fort found on the island and the rectangular structure was identified as a domestic building of 10th-12th century date. Coin evidence, discovered later, suggested that activity on the site may have continued into the late 13th century (Dolley 1971). This site is also discussed in the gazetteer (SANTON 9).

Excavations at Gernaness in Orkney in the 1920's at a traditional chapel site also uncovered remains of a distinctly non-ecclesiastical kind (Clouston 1926b). On Unst, a structure at Crusgeo near Crosskirk (UNST 3), Clibberswick is known locally as a chapel although interpretation of the surface remains is difficult. A rectangular structure outside Weems Castle broch (RCAMS 1946,ii,284-285,No.816), approximately 300 m SW of the well attested site of Rood chapel at Mucklehouse, is known locally as Weems chapel (pers.comm. H.Stephens, Mucklehoose: 24.3.82). However, interpretation is again problematical and identification of the remains as those of an ecclesiastical building is difficult.

It is suggested that traditional accounts can be misleading since the processes which must have generated the accounts in the first place are invariably unknown. The desire to provide a rational explanation for recorded observations or beliefs may be considered among the most important of these processes. The example of the Late Iron Age cemetery and the postulated Kirk of Millyskara at Sandwick (UNST 18) is possibly a case in point (see below pp.210-212).

If traditional accounts have either exaggerated the number of sites or have located them incorrectly, it is also instructive to note that the chapel on Eynhallow, which is one of the best preserved Orcadian examples, was, prior to its unroofing in 1851 (Mooney 1976,3) unknown to tradition. The accuracy therefore of traditional accounts varies. Some may locate a site with precision, others perhaps may not. Some may be inventive, others perhaps more in the folk tale genre.

(iii) Conclusions

Certain identification can rarely be made. At many of the sites visited in the period 1981-1983, there were no surface remains extant. At others, sections of the walls of the chapel may have been indicated by a slight turf covered ridge or the course of the enclosure may have been preserved by a later field bank or roadway. The example of the Tenston chapel site (see above p.2) should serve as a fairly good example of the present-day condition of many of the chapels of the Northern Isles and Man. Only two previously unrecorded sites have been discovered during this work and in both these cases the information was obtained from local inhabitants. The site at Crusgeo, near Crosskirk at Clibberswick (UNST 3) is discussed in the gazetteer. The site known as Weems chapel has been mentioned above (p.12). On the other hand, a number of ecclesiastical sites, whose identification has previously been accepted, are discounted by this survey for the reasons given in the respective gazetteer entries. It is, of course, a basic truth of field survey that it is far easier to discredit a known site than it is to identify one which has previously been unrecorded.

It has not been found possible to generalize satisfactorily about the question of site identification since much necessarily depends upon the individual site in question. In effect, one is forced back onto ones knowledge and experience. It should be clear therefore that a rigorous methodological approach cannot be sustained. We cannot, for example, assign a `points system´ to the different evidential bases which we may use and so discover a `threshold´ at which identification can be confirmed or denied. The best that may be hoped for is that the various types of evidence are considered and then that the reasons for ones judgement are made explicit. This is the approach which has been used in this study.

PART 2: NOTES ON SURVEY METHOD

All of the Manx and Orcadian survey plans, together with part of the Shetland survey, were made using a plane-table. Some of the Unst sites, however, were surveyed by triangulation, owing to a combination of equipment and transport problems. Most of the sites were surveyed at a scale of 1:100. In a few cases, where the sites were very extensive, such as at Peterkirk in Evie (fig.21) or Lyking in Sandwick (fig.20), a scale of 1:200 was used. A 1:50 scale was also experimented with in a few instances, such as at Kirkaby (UNST 14) where it was hoped that greater detail might have been achieved. This, however, was not the case and a 1:100 scale would have been perfectly suitable.

The elevations in this study (fig.37) have been reproduced by photomontage technique. A grid was surveyed in around the church and a camera, with tripod, was set up over the baseline, taking

care that the camera was parallel to the wall-face being photographed. The photographs were then taken so as to ensure a considerable amount of overlap, with only approximately the middle third of each photograph being used to reproduce the elevations and thus eliminating the worst of the distortion at the corner of the lens. This is not photogrammetric recording. It is, nevertheless, both quick and cheap and entirely suited to this kind of survey work.

PART 3: NOTE ON GAZETTEER FORMAT

The sites´ gazetteer has been organized to a standardized format. Different aspects of each site are considered under nine headings, which are arranged into four main sections.

Section 1.0 introduces the site´s location, its height above Ordnance Datum and, where applicable, its proximity to any territorial boundaries.

Section 2 refers solely to the fieldwork undertaken by this survey. Survey work in Marown and Santon and on Westray and Unst was undertaken in 1982 and 1983.

Section 2 is intended to present a factual account of the site and its present condition. Section 2 is divided into five subsections. The chapel or keeill is examined in Subsection 2.0. The site enclosure is recorded under Subsection 2.1 and any additional structural features at the site are considered under Subsection 2.2. Pieces of worked stone, including funerary and other stone monuments, and any other small finds are recorded under Subsection 2.3. Features which cannot be readily assigned to any of the above are recorded under Subsection 2.4. This

category may be termed `miscellaneous´.

The results of any previous work are considered in Section 3. The content of Subsection 3.0 will usually take the form of a summary of earlier excavation or survey reports but will usually only consider those features which are no longer extant at the site. Where the sources permit, these earlier accounts will be discussed chronologically so that the more recent history of the site can be better appreciated. It is intended that Section 2, together with Subsection 3.0, should provide a total factual account of each site. It has also been thought useful, for the sake of a comprehensive survey, to include also any relevant information derived from oral or folk tradition. This is recorded separately in Subsection 3.1.

Section 4.0 is intended to contain a short discussion of each site. The evidence upon which such remarks are made will refer back to Sections 2 or 3. Section 4.0 will also contain references to where a fuller discussion of certain points may be found elsewhere in this study. An abbreviated list of references, together with the date of this survey´s visit, concludes each entry in the gazetteer.

This format is now summarized, together with a series of notional headings for each subsection:

1.0	Location
2.0	Chapel / Keeill
2.1	Site Enclosure
2.2	Additional / Related Structural Features
2.3	Worked Stone / Small Finds
2.4	Miscellaneous Features
3.0	Summary of Earlier Records
3.1	Associated Folk Tradition
4.0	Discussion

A GAZETTEER OF CHAPEL SITES

IN MAROWN AND SANTON

ISLE OF MAN

AND ON THE ISLANDS OF

WESTRAY AND PAPA WESTRAY

ORKNEY

AND

UNST

SHETLAND

MAROWN & SANTON, ISLE OF MAN

MAROWN 1: ST. RONAN´S CHURCH SC 3215 7867

(1.0) The old parish church of Marown is located at the boundary between the Bishop´s Barony and the Ballakilley intacks at approximately 100 m above OD. The site lies roughly in the centre of the parish.

(2.0) St. Ronan´s church lies outside the proper scope of this thesis and it was therefore not recorded in detail. There is no trace of a keeill at this site.

The present church is of lime mortared construction and is orientated N 90 E. It measures 10.50 m along its longer axis and 5.75 m transversely within walls 0.75 - 1.10 m wide. It is entered through a doorway in the centre of the W gable. The W third of the present building, however, is later than the masonry to the E. An earlier entrance, at present situated below the third window in the S wall, 7 m from the external SW corner of the church, formerly stood near the SW corner of the earlier building. The W extension of the church can be traced at a point to the E of the second window in the S wall, 4.50 m from the external SW corner of the church. This junction is emphasized by a marked variation in wall thickness, the walling to the W of the joint being only 0.75 m thick. The W part of the building, which included a W gallery, may be attributed to the period around the mid 18th century when the building was extensively restored (Gray undated pamphlet,2). The W gallery was accessed by means of an entrance reached from a double flight of stone stairs, forming a porch against the exterior of the W gable. The dressed stone employed in the construction of the W porch and gallery entrance is reported

to have been brought from St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2) in 1780 (Quine 1915a,335) or 1798 (Gray undated pamphlet,2).

The turf-covered foundations of a series of walls can be traced outside the present E gable of the church. The foundations extend 8.75 m EW in line with the present N and S walls of the church. A semi-circular arched doorway, 1.50 m wide and 2.65 m high, now blocked, is located in the centre of the standing E wall.

(2.1) The church is located towards the SW sector of an irregularly shaped four-sided enclosure which measures approximately 50 m NS and the same EW. The total area thus enclosed is approximately 0.19 ha. The enclosure is formed by a modern drystone wall which encloses a substantially raised area, on the summit of which the church is located. The churchyard is entered at the NE corner.

(2.2) No further structural features are evident at this site.

(2.3) Two early cross-slabs, 50(22) and 81(43), are displayed at the E end of the church, near the reconstructed slate-topped altar. The larger slab, 50(22), measures 1.60 x 0.45 x 0.10-0.15 m. It features on one face a cross, 1 m tall, the head of which is contained within a compressed circle of approximately 0.40 m diameter. Four flat pellets, 60 mm in diameter, are located between each limb of the cross-head. This stone was discovered in 1906 by the then vicar, the Rev. A.E. Clarke whilst excavating around the foundations. It was found 0.45 m below ground level at the external SE corner of the church. Clarke and Kermode (1907,109) believed

it had formed the covering stone of a lintel grave.

The second stone, 81(43), also discovered in 1906, was found serving as a lintel over the W doorway. This doorway was constructed in the mid-late 18th century (Subsection 2.0 above). The stone measures approximately 1.60 x 0.40 x 0.06 m. Only the shaft of a cross, carved in relief on both sides of the stone, can now be discerned.

Two granite fonts, neither of which is provided with an outlet, are located inside the church in the NW corner. The larger font has been ornamented with a series of vertical ribs carved in high relief. The smaller font displays no attempt at ornamentation. The larger of the two fonts has been considered to date to the 12th century (Clarke 1926,18).

(2.4) An ancient fairground site is located above and immediately to the SW of the churchyard (Kneen 1926,60: Mrs.Tere pers.comm). The site is now occupied by a small copse and scrub-land and no archaeological features were noted. (3.0) No controlled excavations have taken place at this site, although the discovery of lintel graves to the NE, on the other side of the road, has been reported by Kermode (1930,3). The church itself, however, has been planned by J.R. Bruce (Gray undated pamphlet,3-4). The E two-thirds of the present structure, together with the turf-covered foundations outside the present E gable (2.0 above), were identified as the earliest identifiable phase of building on the site (Gray undated pamphlet,2). This building would thus have measured approximately 14.90 m EW and 5.75 m NS within walls 1.10 m thick. This building was extended W around the middle of the

18th century and the W gallery, gallery entrance and porch were subsequently added (Subsection 2.0 above). In c.1850 a new parish church was built on the main Douglas to Peel road and at this time the gallery was removed and its entrance blocked up (Gray undated pamphlet,5). At the same time the E part of the church was demolished and the E gable closed by the erection of a light stone wall. This is said to have then been pierced by a central opening through which coffins might be more readily carried (Gray undated pamphlet,5). This E opening (Subsection 2.0 above) is said to have been blocked up in 1906 (Gray undated pamphlet,5).

(3.1) The parish church of Marown is dedicated to the Irish saint, St. Ronan (Kneen 1979,151). St. Ronan's Well, Chibbyr Roney, from which water was traditionally taken for baptisms in this church, is discussed below in connexion with the Rhyne keeill site (MAROWN 3). According to the Manx Traditionary Ballad (cap.XX), saints Lonnan, Connaghan and Ronan himself were buried at this church.

(4.0) The structural development of this church has been outlined above (Subsections 2.0:3.0) and there is consequently little to add here. The church is shown to have been altered during the course of the 18th and 19th centuries. The earlier fabric may be medieval in date although there are no diagnostic features on which this attribution can be reliably based. The dressed stone and granite mouldings at the present W end of the church are said to have been brought from St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2) during the 18th century restorations of the parish

church. This information is recorded by both Quine (1915a,335) and Gray (undated pamphlet,2). Megaw (1949,182), however, was unable to find any reliable authority for this statement. He suggested, therefore, that it was equally possible for the parish church to have been built by the masons engaged in the construction of St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2). Both of these sites lie outside the proper scope of this thesis and it is impossible to comment upon this suggestion without a detailed examination of the fabric and the moulded fragments at both sites. In view of the relatively late date of these structures, this was not attempted on this survey.

A church is first mentioned at the site of St. Ronan's in a late 12th or early 13th century document which describes the donation of both St. Ronan's church and St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2) to the Priory of Whithorn. This document, which is contained in the now lost Whithorn Priory Register, has been preserved in an early 16th century certified transcript (Megaw 1949,175-176). The relationship between these two churches is defined thus: "the church of St. Ninian, which is a chapel, and the church of St. Runan, which is the mother church of the said chapel" (quoted in Megaw 1949,176). Further details of the Barony of St. Trinian's are examined by Quine (1915a) and Megaw (1949).

REFERENCES

Clarke 1926: Gray undated pamphlet: Kermode MM.MSS. K.IX,10,12-14; K.XVIII,65; 1907,109,pl.IX,118,pl.XIII; 1930,3: Kneen 1926,60; 1979,151: Megaw 1949,175-182: OSCI SC37NW11: Quine 1915a.

Visited: 7th April 1983.

MAROWN 2: ST. TRINIAN´S CHAPEL (pl.1) SC 3177 8023

(1.0) St. Trinian´s chapel is situated on Rock quarterland above the main Douglas to Peel road at 45 m above OD. Rock farm lies 125 m to the N of the site whilst the boundary with Ballaglonney quarterland lies 60 m to the SE of the chapel. The Barony of St. Trinian´s, which comprised in this parish the quarterlands of Rock, Ballaglonney, Ballavitchal and Boshen, is considered to have been formed from the lands of Ballacgniba treen (Megaw 1949,180).

(2.0) St. Trinian´s chapel is a large building of probable 14th century date. This building lies outside the scope of this thesis and it was not, therefore, recorded in detail.

The chapel is of lime-mortared stone construction. The masonry is roughly coursed and features a number of blocks of stone set on edge. A number of irregularly shaped boulders and architectural fragments derived from an earlier building have also been utilized in the construction of the entrance and window surrounds, the W belfry and external quoins of the chapel. A number of put-log holes, together with others which do not pierce the fabric, are also evident in the masonry.

The chapel is orientated N 112 E and measures 21.20-21.40 m along its longer axis and 5.75 m transversely within walls 0.90-1.20 m thick. The interior is bisected by a low foundation wall, 0.30 m wide. This footing does not appear to have been bonded with the present side walls of the chapel. The W compartment or nave thus measures 14.85 m EW and 5.75 m NS. The chancel is 6.05 m EW and 5.75 m NS. The nave is entered through a doorway, 1.55 m wide externally, near the W end of the

S wall. The dressed jambs are surmounted by a springing for an arch. A bar-hole, 0.45 m square and 1.05 m long, is constructed within the E jamb. A water stoup is located in the wall to the E of this entrance. The chancel is entered through an arched doorway towards the E end of the N wall. It is 1.15 m wide internally. The remains of the altar are located against the E wall of the chapel. It is preceded by a step, 0.40 m wide, and is raised on a dais which measures overall 4.25 m NS and 1-1.25 m EW. The altar, which is of lime mortared stone construction, measures 2.20 m NS, 1 m EW and stands 0.35-0.40 m above the raised dais. The stones of the pavement immediately to the S of the altar have been arranged into the form of a plain cross within a circle (Kermode 1909,fig.1).

Five original windows remain. One is located in the S wall of the nave. Two are located in either side wall of the chancel and there is one in each gable. * The windows are wider internally and are rebated externally for a wooden frame. The large E window is surmounted by a pointed arch. A double belfry stands above the W gable.

The N wall of the nave has been completely rebuilt and a number of architectural fragments and fittings of Romanesque type have been built into this wall. These include: a two light window whose central column, triangular on plan with a roll moulding at the apex, is surmounted by a carved capital representing two human heads; part of a round arched doorway of two orders with a carved capital at the impost; a semi-circular segmental arch formed of alternating thick and thin stones. Two

round arched windows with splayed jambs and sills have also been reconstructed in this wall. A number of further architectural fragments have been employed as rubble in the construction of the other walls of the chapel.

(2.1) Little trace of an enclosure now remains at this site. Its W boundary, however, would appear to have been formed by a small stream which runs down the hillside to join the Greeba river below and to the S of the site. A line of trees, growing on a slight linear embankment, almost certainly indicate the course of the N sector of the enclosure (pl.1). The enclosure thus defined would be of a rectilinear form and would be orientated NW-SE, on a different alignment to the present chapel.

(2.2) The sites of two lintel graves are marked out inside the chapel. Neither is aligned with the present structure, their axes lying more accurately EW. One, in the present chancel area, is covered by a flat slab on which an incised cross has been carved (2.3 below). The second grave is in the nave area and its corners are now marked by four small pillars, demarcating an area 1.80 m long and 0.30 m wide. A third grave, of which no visible trace now remains, is said to have crossed the foot of this second grave (Kermode 1915c,332).

(2.3) The lintel grave within the chancel area of the chapel is covered by a slab on which an incised cross, 26(-), has been carved. The stone is 0.75 x 0.40 x 0.10 m and features a cross within an oval ring, 0.30-0.40 m in diameter, on its upper face. The horizontal limb of the cross terminates in a small crosslet, below which another has been carved. The stone is much worn and was assumed by the excavator (Kermode 1912,61) to

have once formed part of a pavement. It was discovered 0.90 m below the level of the sill of the N door (Kermode 1912,61).

Two further cross-slabs, 44(-) and 139(111), from the Ballaquinney (MAROWN 7) and Rhyne (MAROWN 3) keeill sites respectively, are mounted on the wall above the altar. (3.0) St. Trinian's chapel was partially excavated in 1908 (Kermode 1909,3-4; 1915c). A drystone wall, 1.20 m thick, was discovered inside the chapel. It lay parallel to and 2.40 m from the S wall of the chapel. The discovery of roofing slates beneath this wall, however, identified it as a relatively modern feature and Kermode (1915c,332) was informed that it was believed to have been built in recent times. No trace of this wall now remains. The lintel graves discovered in the nave area (2.2 above) were uncovered during the excavation of this feature. Further lintel graves are reported to have been found outside the chapel to the N and S during ploughing. One, at the NW corner of St. Trinian's, contained a number of white quartz pebbles (Kermode 1915c,332).

The N wall of the nave had entirely collapsed at the time of Kermode's work at this site in 1908 (1915c,330). It was rebuilt in the period 1908 X 1910 (Kermode 1915c,331). This wall incorporates a number of architectural fragments discovered during these excavations (Kermode 1909,28; 1915c,331: 2.0 above). A decorated stone disc, 45 mm in diameter and 3 mm thick, was also discovered (Kermode 1909,28,fig.26). The decoration comprises a series of finely scratched intercutting loops, on one side contained within an incised circular ring.

The context in which this stone was discovered is not, however, known and it was not traced on this survey. A cresset stone is also included amongst the list of finds made at this site (Kermode 1909,29).

The chapel enclosure is reported to have been of a roughly rectangular form, enclosing an area of approximately 0.40 ha (Kermode 1915c,332). The N and W boundaries were identified as above (Subsection 2.1). The S and E boundaries were indicated by a line left by the plough. Excavation showed the entrance to have been situated in the SE corner of the enclosure. The enclosure bank was formed of earth and stones and was 1.20-1.80 m wide (Kermode 1915c,332).

(3.1) St. Trinian's chapel figures prominently in the folk tradition of the island. The construction of the chapel is said to have never been completed:

> "owing to a mischievous Buggane, who, having no better employment, amused himself with tossing the roof to the ground as often as it was on the eve of being finished".
>
> Thwaites 1863,353

This tale is similar to the one which is related in connexion with Gletna Kirk (UNST 11) in Shetland.

A second tradition is also recorded by Thwaites (1863,352). The chapel is said to have been erected as a result of a vow made by a person at sea who was in imminent danger of ship-wreck. This is the only recorded instance of this tradition on the island and it is particularly curious in view of the chapel's inland location. This tradition is frequently encountered in the Northern Isles and particularly at coastal

sites.

The chapel is dedicated to the early British saint, St. Ninian. This dedication, however, almost certainly dates from the 12th century when the Priory of Whithorn was granted the lands on which this chapel stands.

(4.0) The evidence for an early keeill or burial ground at this site is largely unproven and therefore any discussion is difficult. The present chapel, whose E window is probably indicative of a 14th century date, has almost certainly replaced an earlier Romanesque structure at this site. Megaw (1949,181) believed the present foundation wall between nave and chancel (2.0 above) to be the original E end of the Romanesque chapel. This, however, seems unlikely and this survey would identify this feature as an insertion into the 14th century building, which, as far as could be determined, is of one period of construction.

The cross-slab, 26(-), discovered over the lintel grave in the chancel area of the chapel, is probably the earliest feature to be identified at this site. Kermode (1909,4) has dated it to the 6th or 7th century. However, the dating of these simple cross-slabs is difficult. Nevertheless, the grave, over which the cross-slab was found, is almost certainly earlier than the present building, on account of its different orientation. The cross-slab, however, is not necessarily <u>in situ</u> and the grave could be related to the Romanesque chapel at this site. The cross-slab could therefore have been derived from an earlier cemetery and reutilized in a later burial. The association of quartz pebbles with

ecclesiastical sites is examined in Appendix 6. Historical aspects of the site and the Barony of St. Trinian´s are examined by Quine (1915a), W.Cubbon (1940) and Megaw (1949). The relationship of this chapel to the old parish church of St. Ronan´s is referred to above (MAROWN 1).

REFERENCES

Cubbon,W 1940: Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,11,18,21,24, 40,46; K.IX,3-4,15-16; K.XV,17; K.XVII,11; 1909,3-4,28-29; 1912, 60-61; 1915c; 1930,2-3: Megaw 1949: OSCI SC38SW4: Quine 1915a: Thwaites 1863,352-353.

Visited: 6th April 1983.

MAROWN 3: RHYNE KEEILL SITE SC 3498 8082

(1.0) This keeill site is situated at approximately 125 m above OD, in a cultivated field 100 m N of Rhyne farm. It is difficult to reconstruct the boundaries in this area. The site would appear, however, to lie within 50 m of the boundary with Ballalough quarterland. Both quarterlands form part of the treen of Ballaterson.

(2.0 - 2.1) No trace now remains of either the keeill or its accompanying enclosure, all traces of which have been effectively removed by ploughing. No archaeological features or finds were noted at this site which is now grass-covered.

(2.2) A holy well, known as Chibbyr Roney, is located 200 m S of Rhyne farm at SC 3499 8051. The site is located on the S side of the stream but within the parish of Marown, whose boundary with Braddan parish has been deflected at this point. No artificial construction exist at this location. It is clear,

however, that an underground spring or stream passes through the area before joining with the stream to the N. A number of quartz pebbles were noted at this site during survey. This site is discussed further in Subsection 3.1 below.

(2.3) No items of worked stone were recorded on this survey. An inscribed cross-slab, which is believed to have come from this site, is discussed below (Subsection 3.0).

(3.0) No trace of this site remained at the time of Kermode's survey in 1908 (Kermode 1909,6) and in a later account, Kermode (1930,2) reported that the keeill and burial ground had been levelled c.1860. The OS visit to this site in 1955 (OSCI SC38SW12) recorded that some slight traces of the enclosure remained. This is not, however, now apparent. Some detail, however, was recorded by the OS in 1867. Both the keeill and its enclosure are featured on the 25" OS map (Sheet X,10). The enclosure is shown to have been of a curvilinear form, measuring approximately 30 m in diameter. It would thus have enclosed an area of approximately 0.07 ha. A rectangular area, orientated NW - SE, is shown, in dotted outline, in the NW sector of this enclosure. This rectangular feature, presumably to be identified as the site of the keeill, is shown to have measured approximately 15 m along its longer axis and 6 m transversely. This, however, almost certainly refers to the general site and not the specific size of the keeill. The discovery of a stone cist of unknown type and period has also been recorded 50 m NE of the site (OS 25" map: Sheet X,10).

A cross-slab, 139(111), inscribed with runes, is thought to have come from the Rhyne keeill site. The stone measures 0.55 x 0.25 x 0.08 m and features a runic inscription along the centre of a single dressed face. The inscription reads, after Kermode (1907,208): ThURBIAURN : RISTI : KRUS : ThO.. (Thorbjorn raised this cross....). The characters are 50 mm tall and the lines of the runes are 1.5 mm wide and the same deep. The stone was discovered in 1874 loose in the wall of the stackyard at Rhyne farm (Jenkinson 1874,37) but some doubt has been cast as to the question of the stone's provenance (Page 1980,193: Subsection 4.0 below). The stone is presently displayed above the altar at St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2).

(3.1) The Rhyne keeill site is not featured in the folk tradition of the island and its dedication is unknown. However, the nearby well, Chibbyr Roney, is dedicated to the patron saint of the parish, St. Ronan (Kneen 1979,151,160-161). The water of this well was traditionally held to be good for the eyes and the custom that a round white pebble had first to be deposited in the water before any could be drawn has been recorded (Kermode 1930,4). A manuscript account describes the discovery of "some hundreds of white pebbles" at this site when the well was "cleared out" (W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A). Water from this well was also traditionally used for baptisms at the parish church (Kneen 1979,161).

(4.0) Insufficient evidence exists upon which to base any discussion of the Rhyne keeill site. The discovery of a runic cross-slab at Rhyne farm is certainly interesting but as Page (1980,193) has pointed out, "it is guesswork only that links it

to the nearby chapel and graveyard." Kermode's conclusion, therefore, that this discovery necessarily indicates that the burial ground was still in use as late as the 12th century (Kermode 1909,6) must be considered speculative.

Chibbyr Roney is included in this entry only in view of its spatial proximity to the Rhyne keeill site. It is not suggested that the two sites are necessarily related in any other particular way. The site is considered solely on its own merits. The apparent association of quartz pebbles with ecclesiastical or well sites is examined in Appendix 6.

REFERENCES

W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A: Jenkinson 1874,37: Kermode 1907,208-209,pl.lx; 1909,6; 1930,2,4: OSCI SC38SW8; SC38SW12

Visited: 7th April 1983.

MAROWN 4: KEEILL VREESHY, BALLAYEMMY (pl.2a:fig.2a) SC 3317 8014 (1.0) Keeill Vreeshy is situated on the quarterland of Ballayemmy within the treen of Ballayemman. It lay at approximately 115 m above OD. It is situated in a cultivated field which rises to the NE and is in an area between the quarterlands of Ballaharry to the W and Ballayemmy, now Eyreton, to the S. The farms of Ballaharry and Ballayemmy lay 225 m and 500 m distant, respectively. It is not possible to define with any precision the course of the quarterland boundaries in this area. Nevertheless, it is almost certain that the keeill lay in a peripheral location with regard to the Ballayemmy quarterland.

(2.0) The keeill is of drystone construction and is orientated N 110 E. It measures 4.80 m along its longer axis and 2.60 m transversely within walls 1.10-1.40 m wide. The interior wall-face, which is 1.00-1.30 m upstanding, is well defined and is composed of small to medium sized stones arranged in random courses. The exterior wall-face is largely turf-covered and is obscured by the surrounding embankment. However, where visible, particularly along the S wall, it is shown to have been of a similar construction to the internal wall-face.

The walls of the keeill are surrounded by a substantial earth and stone embankment. This is most pronounced along the S and W walls of the keeill where it is up to 1 m high and 2 m wide. It is less evident to the E of the keeill and along the N wall it merges with and appears to overlie the course of the keeill enclosure. This embankment appears to have been roughly revetted with large stones either side of a passage leading to the entrance of the keeill.

The keeill entrance is located at the W end of the S wall. It is 0.60 m wide externally and 0.55 m wide internally. The threshold is crossed by an edge-set stone located in the centre of the wall and two steps lead down into the keeill interior. No trace now remains of the window openings and altar setting previously recorded (Kermode 1909,5-9: see below Subsection 3.0).

(2.1) The keeill is situated within a raised enclosure of oval form and stands against its N perimeter (fig.2a: pl.2a). The enclosure is orientated, like the keeill, towards the SE. At its maximum extent, it measures 13.10 m along its longer axis and 9.10 m transversely within an externally stone-revetted

bank 1.50-1.75 m in width. It thus encloses an area of approximately 0.01 ha, of which approximately two-thirds are occupied by the keeill and its surrounding embankment. The stones employed in the external revetting of the enclosure bank are large and differ markedly in size from those employed in the construction of the keeill.

The enclosure is raised above the level of the surrounding field. This is most pronounced along the W sector of the enclosure bank which stands 0.90 m high. The N and S sectors are raised approximately 0.70 m whilst the height of the E sector is less pronounced. The field slopes down to the SW and it is clear that the W half of the site, at least, has been artifically raised and levelled.

(2.2) No further features are now evident at this site. No trace now remains of the `holy well´, Chibbyr Vreeshy, which has been recorded nearby (Kermode 1930,4: see below Subsection 3.0).

(2.3) Several items of worked stone, including an incised cross marked stone, 17(-), and several cup and ring marked stones, have been recorded from this site (see below Subsection 3.0). None, however, was recorded on this survey.

(3.0) Keeill Vreeshy was excavated in 1908 by Kermode (1909,5-9). This account includes a number of plans, sections and elevations of the keeill and forms one of the most detailed records within the Manx Archaeological Survey reports. The manuscript notebooks also contain a number of unpublished plans and sketches including a very rough sketch plan of the keeill and its enclosure (MM.MS.K.VIII,9).

Two window openings were revealed during these excavations. The sill of one, towards the E end of the S wall, was discovered 1 m above floor level and 0.40 m from the internal SE corner of the keeill. It was double-splayed and measured 0.40 m wide internally, 0.15-0.20 m at centre and was 0.30 m wide externally. A second window was discovered at a similar height in the centre of the E gable, above the altar setting. This window was 0.45 m wide internally. Insufficient evidence remained, however, to reconstruct this window in its entirety and its external appearance could only be conjectured.

The remains of the altar were located against the centre of the E wall and were indicated by a stony area which extended 1.20 m NS and 0.60 m EW. Part of the N edge was delimited by a single edge-set stone. In the middle of the E wall at floor level, where it would have been hidden by the altar, a single edge-set stone was found to cover a built recess within the wall matrix. This recess was 0.45 m deep, 0.40 m high and 0.30 m wide. No finds are recorded from this feature. Kermode's excavation also showed that the floor of the keeill had been crudely paved.

The present appearance of the keeill walls and surrounding embankment is basically as described by Kermode (1909,8). An interesting feature, no longer evident, was however recorded. Kermode (1909,8) noted that a number of stones had been laid lengthways on the top of the surrounding embankment. These radiated from the keeill wall-head in such a way as to suggest that they had been intended to carry off rain water.

No lintel graves were discovered during these excavations. Kermode (1909,8) was, however, informed that several had been previously found to the NE of the enclosure during ploughing. Traces of burial, without lintel graves, were, however, discovered "against the S wall of the keeill outside the E corner" (Kermode 1909,8). The relationship of this grave to the surrounding keeill embankment is not clear. It was, however, presumably this same trench which also revealed part, at least, of the external S wall-face. Kermode (1909,fig.8) shows a large edge-set boulder, 1 m wide and 0.75 m wide, to have underlain the rough coursing below the exterior sill of the S window of the keeill. This stone is similar in size and form to those found in the enclosure bank (Subsection 2.1 above).

Few finds were made in connexion with these excavations. Kermode (1909,8-9) lists only the discovery inside the keeill of three rounded quartz pebbles and a fragment of a stone, incised with a linear cross with a C-shaped termination (Kermode 1909,fig.9). This stone, 17(-), now believed lost (Kermode 1930,3,5), was found near the altar.

A number of other worked stones, but of prehistoric date, have also been recorded from this site. These have recently been published by R.W.B Morris (1979,184-185). One (Morris 1979,184) was first recorded by Shaw (1877,53) and although no dimensions are given, it is described as a standing stone and is said to have been located in the surrounding wall of the keeill. It is inferred that this refers to the site enclosure, rather than the keeill embankment. The stone is illustrated by Shaw (1877,53: reproduced by Morris 1979,184) and is shown to have

displayed a cup and ring mark design on its broadest face. The design features a cup encircled by two rings, below which three concentric circles have been carved. Shaw (1877,53) remarks that this was but "one of several stones inscribed with various designs and inscriptions" at the site. None of these, however, now remains at the site and Shaw's intriguing reference to inscribed stones is not confirmed by any other writer. Morris (1979,185) has suggested that a second, unprovenanced, cup and ring marked stone, now in the Manx Museum, may have come from this site and may, in fact, even be identical with the stone illustrated by Shaw (1877,53).

No trace now remains of the `holy well', Chibbyr Vreeshy. This was located by Kermode (1930,4) in a field below the keeill and about 90 m to the NE. It is described as a built well, rather than as a pool or spring. The site of this well, however, is in doubt since, as the OS investigator has pointed out (OSCI SC38SW11), the location NE of the keeill would place the site on higher and not lower ground.

(3.1) Keeill Vreeshy is not featured in the folk tradition of the island. The field in which the site is located is variously known as `The Chapel Field', `The Breesh' and `Garey keeill Vreeshy' (Kermode 1909,6), the last meaning `The Garden of Bridget's chapel' (Kneen 1979,165). The keeill is dedicated to the Irish saint, St. Bridget.

(4.0) A chronological sequence may be inferred for the development of this site. Only the relationship of the keeill embankment to the keeill enclosure, however, is

stratigraphically demonstrable. The N sector of the former was shown to merge with and overlie the course of the latter (Subsection 2.0 above). The keeill embankment would thus postdate the construction of the enclosure. This same embankment almost certainly postdates also the construction of the keeill. This is not readily demonstrable and it could, in theory, be argued that an excavation for the keeill had been made into an earlier mound, now represented by what has been termed `the keeill embankment´. The evidence of the external wall-facing (Subsections 2.0:3.0 above), however, and the fact that the embankment overlay the enclosure would suggest that the keeill was already present on the site prior to this development. It seems likely therefore that the keeill embankment is later than both the enclosure and the keeill. The relationship of the keeill to the enclosure is not readily demonstrable. The keeill, however, seems to have been erected over an artificially raised area (Subsection 2.1 above). The following sequence: construction of enclosure; establishment of keeill; erection of keeill embankment; may thus be inferred for the extant physical remains.

It is impossible to properly assess the time interval involved in this sequence. The keeill enclosure, however, is considered by this survey to be of a prehistoric origin. The enclosure is both of an unusual size and form and it is difficult to find a parallel for this feature, as an enclosure, at other ecclesiastical sites, either on Man or elsewhere. The Keeill Vreeshy enclosure is considered to be most similar to the types of keeill embankment which are found at Corrody keeill in

Lezayre, at Cornaa keeill in Maughold and elsewhere (Volume 1: pp.263-266). These embankments are identified as cairns or mounds of prehistoric origin over and into which keeills have been constructed. The Keeill Vreeshy enclosure is tentatively included in this class of site.

The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is discussed in Appendix 6. An analysis of altars and altar forms is made in Chapter 5.

REFERENCES

Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,1a,9,17,19,22,23,26,28,60; K.IX,19,21,22; K.XV,139; 1909,5-9; 1912,59-61; 1930,3-5: Morris, R.W.B.1979,184-185: OSCI SC38SW6; SC38SW11: Shaw 1877,53

Visited: 6th April 1983

MAROWN 5: KEEILL PHERICK, BALLAFREER (pl.3: fig.1) SC 3469 7860 (1.0) Keeill Pherick on the quarterland of Ballafreer is situated in a small plantation at approximately 70 m above OD. It lies 150 m E of Ballafreer and 250 m S of Trollaby. The quarterland of Ballafreer is included by Kermode (1909,6) as part of Trollaby treen. The analysis and reconstruction of the treen and quarterland boundaries, however, would suggest that Ballafreer quarterland lay within the bounds of Glenlough treen. At any event, it is clear that the site lay precisely at, and indeed formed part of, the boundary between the treens of Glenlough and Trollaby.

(2.0) The keeill is of drystone construction and is orientated N 64 E. It measures 4.60 m along its longer axis and 2.60 m transversely within walls 1.35-1.55 m wide. The N wall, however, is up to 2 m wide and shows some evidence of

alteration (see below Subsection 4.0). The present exterior face of this wall is in line with the external NE corner of the keeill but has been stepped into alignment with the external NW corner, thus forming a much rounded external corner in this sector. A second facing was discerned 0.60 m S of the present external N wall-face. This inner wall-face is in a better alignment with the external NW corner of the keeill. This inner wall-face also incorporates a number of white quartz blocks of stone in its construction. This material is only featured elsewhere in one instance in the exterior SW wall-face. The internal and external wall-faces of the keeill are largely turf-covered, although where visible, the masonry has been roughly coursed. The walls stand 0.55-1.20 m high internally and 0.60-0.90 m externally. The external ground level is marginally above the level of the present keeill floor.

The entrance to the keeill is situated in the centre of the W gable. It is 0.80 m wide internally, where the jambs remain, and up to 1.40 m wide externally although the exterior wall-face has been damaged at this point. There is a fall of approximately 0.30 m from the threshold to the present floor of the keeill. The W third of the keeill floor, however, is below the level of the floor to the E and there is a rise, again of approximately 0.30 m, across the full width of the keeill at a point 1.50 m from the entrance. A turf-covered semi-circular mound, 1 m NS, up to 0.45 m EW and standing 0.20 m above the floor, is located against the centre of the E gable. This almost certainly covers the site of the altar. No trace of any

window openings now remains. Nor is there any trace of a surrounding keeill embankment at this site.

(2.1) The keeill is located near the S perimeter of an irregularly shaped seven-sided enclosure (fig.1: pl.3a). The enclosure is orientated NW-SE and measures 32 m along its longer axis and 19-25 m transversely. The enclosure is formed of high field banks of stone and earth, and stone construction. The enclosure boundary is largely turf-covered and no analysis of the fabric was therefore possible. The W half of the enclosure, together with the NE sector, however, has been formed of straight linear banks. The SE and E sectors, by contrast, are differentiated by a series of very wide and curving banks. The curvilinear E sector of the enclosure forms the boundary between the treens of Glenlough to the W and Trollaby to the E, The ground within the enclosure has been raised above the level of the fields outside. This difference in relative ground levels is most pronounced in the S half of the enclosure, nearest the keeill. No certain trace of an ecclesiastical enclosure, however, now remains at this site although the SE sector of the enclosure may be ascribed a degree of antiquity in view of its relationship to a major territorial boundary (see below Subsection 4.0).

(2.2) Outside the present enclosure, to the S, the ground falls away to both E and W. There is, however, a raised area, covered in field clearance, immediately to the S of the enclosure, within the angle formed between the fieldbanks to N and E. This raised area, nevertheless, lies considerably below the level of the ground within the enclosure. This feature may

be related to the course of an earlier enclosure (see below Section 4.0).

(2.3) Two worked stones (pl.3b) are located loose within the keeill. One is 0.30 m square on plan and 0.15 m thick. A hole, 80 mm deep and of the same diameter, has been formed in an upper face. A second stone, 0.75 x 0.60 x 0.25 m, lies adjacent. A shallow sub-circular basin, 0.40 x 0.35 x 0.06 m deep, has been formed in an upper face. The surface of the basin is smooth and this stone may be identified as a quern stone. It is known locally as a `font´.

A modern gravestone, dated 1875 and almost certainly reset, is located 7 m E of the keeill and close to the curvilinear sector of the enclosure bank.

(3.0) Kermode was denied permission to excavate this keeill and thus his account is based only on a cursory inspection of the site in which only the dimensions of the keeill and the location of the entrance are recorded (Kermode 1909,9; MM.MSS.K. VIII,32; K.IX,26). The enclosure, together with the raised area outside the site to the S (Subsection 2.2 above), are recorded in a later account (Kermode 1930,3). Only the larger of the two stones recorded above (Subsection 2.3) is mentioned by Kermode (1909,9). This stone had also been previously recorded by Oliver (1868,83). However, his illustration of this stone is too regular and is thus somewhat inaccurate. Neither this stone, described as a font, nor indeed the site, is referred to or discussed by Oliver (1868). The

most recent survey of this site was that undertaken by the OS in 1955. The second worked stone from within the keeill, together with the modern gravestone, are first recorded in this account (OSCI SC37NW8). There is, however, other than this, no new information forthcoming in this record. The most recent discovery to have been made at this site was the finding of a single sherd of micaceous pottery of medieval type and of probable local origin (Med. Arch 21,1977,216). This was found near the site although its location is not specified. It is, however, almost certainly to be derived from the manuring of the fields and is thus of little relevance to the keeill site.

(3.1) A considerable body of folk-lore surrounds this site. This is first recorded in the 18th century Ballafreer Common-Place Book (see W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A). The keeill is traditionally dedicated to St. Patrick who, it is said, whilst passing this site in the company of St. German, cut his foot upon a thorn (Kermode 1909,9: Kneen 1926,82). The keeill was subsequently founded by the Saint who urged that the nearby fields should never produce grain "that he may be sober to avoid thy briars and to take care to keep his feet from thy dented prickles" (Ballafreer Common-Place Book,90 in Kneen 1926,82). No crops are said to have been taken off the field within living memory (Kneen 1979,166). The so-called `font' is also, perhaps not unexpectedly, said to have been used by St. Patrick for baptisms (W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A).

It is also recorded that the Ascension Fair was formerly held at this site (Kneen 1926,69). It appears that the religious service connected with the former fair was partially

retained down to the 19th century when prayers were still read in the keeill on Ascension Day by the Vicar of Marown. Vicar Duggan (1840-1862) is said to have been the last to have carried out this custom (Kermode 1909,9). However, this almost certainly marks a revival of the custom since the practise is said elsewhere to have been obsolete before 1763 (Ballafreer Common-Place Book,90: W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A: Kneen 1926,82).

(4.0) No proven stratigraphical relationships were noted on this survey. The N wall of the keeill, however, displays a number of irregularities (Subsection 2.0). The inner and outer external faces of this wall may be contemporary, the latter perhaps forming part of a stepped plinth or scarcement. The regularity of the other walls, together with the excessive width of the N wall, would suggest, however, that this double wall-face is more likely to reflect a subsequent thickening of the wall base. The present enclosure is of an unusual form (fig.1). The course of the E and particularly the SE sectors, though not necessarily the bank itself, is assumed to be earlier than the remaining sectors of the enclosure. This assumption is based upon the fact that this E line relates to the boundary between Glenlough and the neighbouring treen of Trollaby. It is also noticeable that the raised area (Subsection 2.2) which lies immediately to the S of the present enclosure is in an alignment with the course of the enclosure to the NE. The S perimeter of the raised area may thus denote the course of an earlier enclosure, perhaps associated with the keeill. There is, however, no trace of a return N sector to this postulated

enclosure, which may have lain in the area between and to the N of profiles 2 and 5 (fig.1). The ground within the present enclosure has clearly been levelled and this operation is likely to have been contemporary with the establishment of the plantation. This may have removed all trace of any earlier N sector. This suggestion receives some support from the fact that the relative differences in external and internal ground levels is most pronounced in the S half of the present enclosure. It is possible, therefore, that this or an earlier keeill was originally sited astride a low mound, perhaps 22 m EW and 18 m NS, whose edge was demarcated by an enclosure of sub-oval form. This suggestion, which is based on the evidence of the curvilinear bank to the E of the keeill, the raised area to the S and the elevation of the keeill above the level of the surrounding fields, is of course speculative and is offered purely on that basis.

Further discussion of boundaries and locational aspects of the keeills is contained in Volume 1-Chapter 6. Altars and altar forms are examined in Chapter 5.

REFERENCES

W.Cubbon MM.MS.1132A: Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,32; K.IX,26; 1909,9; 1930,3: Kneen 1926,69,82; 1979,166: Oliver 1868,83: OSCI SC37NW8

Visited: 7th April 1983

MAROWN 6: CABBAL DRUIAGHT, GLENLOUGH (pl.4a: fig.2b) SC 3412 7811

(1.0) Cabbal Druiaght is situated close to the present farm buildings at Glenlough and is located on the treen of the same name. It is located at approximately 65 m above OD. The main Douglas to Peel road is situated 60 m N of the site. This road almost certainly demarcates the boundary between the quarterlands of Glenlough and Ballafreer to the N.

(2.0) This keeill is in a poor state of repair and is much overgrown with vegetation. It is of drystone construction and is orientated N 90 E. It measures 4.10 m along its longer axis and 2.65 m transversely within walls 1.40-1.50 m wide. The external face of the E wall is difficult to trace but appears to have been only 1 m wide. The masonry of the internal wall-face is poorly defined, though where visible it has been roughly coursed over a basal course of predominantly edge-set blocks of stone. The walls stand up to 0.80 m above the present level of the keeill floor. The external wall-faces are wholly turf-covered and are largely obscured by the substantial earth embankment which surrounds the keeill.

The entrance to the keeill is situated in the centre of the W wall. It is 0.40 m wide internally where the jambs remain and seems to have been a similar width externally, although the N jamb has collapsed at this point. The entrance threshold falls 0.60 m to the present floor of the keeill to the E.

The remains of the altar (pl.4a) are located against the centre of the E wall. It is demarcated by a turf-covered stony area which extends 1 m NS and 0.80 m EW. The NW and SW corners of the altar are marked by two upright pillars which

stand up to 0.50 m above ground level. The altar is preceded, to the W, by a turf-covered step or ledge, 0.50 m wide EW and 1 m long NS.

An upright stone is firmly set within the centre of the E wall, 0.30 m from and parallel to the interior wall-face. It is located directly behind the altar setting. This stone is 0.45 m long, 0.05 m thick and more than 0.20 m deep. A break in the masonry of the interior E wall-face, 0.25 m wide, is situated opposite this stone. The upright stone appears to have defined the E edge of a cavity or recess within the wall, behind the altar. This recess would be approximately 0.25 m wide and 0.30 m deep.

No certain trace now remains of any window openings at this keeill (Subsection 3.0).

(2.1) No certain trace of an enclosure at this site now remains. The keeill is situated on a vague amorphous mound, which is, in part, accentuated by the collapsed surrounding keeill embankment (Subsection 2.0). This mound lacks any definite edges. An enclosure, of roughly circular form, was however recorded by Kermode (1909,11: Subsection 3.0).

(2.2 - 2.4) No further features or items of worked stone are now evident at this site.

(3.0) Cabbal Druiaght was excavated in 1908 by Kermode (1909,9-11). This excavation revealed the form of the keeill and defined a number of features which are no longer evident. Kermode's plan of the keeill (1909,fig.10) is both more detailed and more informative than that achieved by this present survey.

The keeill was shown to have been faced both internally and externally and to have been provided with two windows. One, towards the E end of the S wall, was situated approximately 0.60 m above floor level and 1.20 m from the interior SE corner of the keeill. It was approximately 0.35 m wide internally and fell, largely unsplayed, externally. Indications of a second window, at a similar level, were discovered immediately above the altar setting. Two stones, described as sill stones, are said to have collapsed into a void within the wall matrix at this point. Eighty-one quartz pebbles were recovered from this area where they had been packed into the E gable wall. It is said that they "must have been dropped there since the sills had fallen in" (Kermode 1909,11). A second, manuscript, account (MM.MS.K.IX,24) records that the quartz pebbles were found in the wall behind the altar although their relationship to the stones, identified as sills, is not recorded in this account. In all, approximately 230 white quartz pebbles were recovered during Kermode's excavation of this site (1909,11).

The floor of the keeill was shown to have been paved with small, roughly laid stones, including a number of white quartz pebbles. A central paved area, 0.65 m wide, was raised 90-130 mm above the general floor level forming a path or aisle between the entrance and the altar setting. Two stone steps, up to 0.30 m high, led up to the entrance threshold on the W.

Traces of burial, without lintel graves, were also discovered within the keeill, near the E end. Kermode (1909,11) also reports the discovery, some years previously, of a number of lintel graves. These were found 14 m NW of the keeill and

outside of the enclosure which he also defined.

The keeill was shown to lie in the NE sector of an enclosure of sub-circular form. The enclosure measured 24.70 m in diameter and thus enclosed an area of approximately 0.05 ha. The enclosure was formed of an earthen bank, 2.40-3 m in width and was revetted with stones.

(3.1) No details of any folk traditions connected with this site have been preserved. The present name of the keeill, as Kneen (1979,160) has pointed out, means `the Druid´s chapel´ and it is probably modern. Kneen (1979,160) has suggested, however, that the second element may be a metathetic form of Duthracht, an Irish saint who is mentioned in the Martyrology of Donegal.

(4.0) Discussion of this site is difficult and there is little that can be added to the above description. Attention, however, should be drawn to the altar and the features adjacent to it.

The vertically-set stone behind the altar and within the wall matrix (Subsection 2.0) has not been previously recorded. This stone is firmly embedded within the wall and has clearly not simply slipped into this position. It is located opposite a gap in the internal wall-face (Subsection 2.0) and the whole feature is tentatively identified as a relic cavity or recess. This area, however, was extensively excavated by Kermode (1909,10) and no notice of this feature was noted. It is possible, however, that this cavity is to be identified with the void into which the overlying sill stones collapsed (Kermode 1909,10) and over which a pile of quartz pebbles was

subsequently placed. This void was assumed by Kermode (1909,10) to have been formed by the natural loss of wall-fill or by rodent activity within the wall. The identification of the vertically-set stone as a backplate to the recess or cavity may, however, suggest the feature's deliberate construction.

The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is discussed in Appendix 6. Altars and altar forms are examined in Chapter 5.

REFERENCES

Kermode 1909,9-11; MM.MSS.K.VIII,27,30,31; K.IX,23,24; K.XV,136-138; 1930,3: Kneen 1979,160: OSCI SC37NW

Visited: 10th April 1983

MAROWN 7: BALLAQUINNEY MOAR KEEILL (pls.4b-6: fig.3) SC 3330 7768

(1.0) The keeill at Ballaquinney Moar, on the treen of Sanbrick, is situated in a small plantation known as The Faerie Orchard at approximately 60 m above OD. The site lies 0.50 km SSE of Ballaquinney Moar farm and about the same distance N of Ballaquinney Beg farm and almost certainly lies adjacent to the boundary between these two quarterlands. The River Dhoo lies 250 m below the site to the N and E.

(2.0) The keeill is of drystone construction and is orientated N 80 E. It is of sub-rectangular form with rounded external but square internal corners. The keeill measures, from centre to centre, approximately 5 m along its longer axis and 3.25 m transversely inside walls 1.20-1.80 m wide. The interior wall-face of the keeill is well defined and stands up to 0.90 m high. The masonry is composed of small to medium sized stones

laid in irregular random courses. An exterior wall-face, which is wholly turf-covered, is nowhere defined.

The entrance to the keeill is situated towards the centre of the W wall externally but markedly N of centre internally. The entrance is inwardly splayed, measuring at base 0.30 m externally and 0.60 m wide internally. The entrance jambs are formed by a series of vertically-set stones which, in their present state, are quite markedly inclined (pl.5a). There is no trace of a step into the keeill although the present floor is 0.15 m below the level of the entrance threshold. There is no trace of the S and E windows previously recorded (Kermode 1909,12: Subsection 3.0).

The remains of the altar are located against the E wall of the keeill (pl.4b). A number of protrusive stones delimit an area 1.35 m NS and 1 m EW. Two small vertically-set pillar stones are located within this area to the S and are 0.05 m distant from this stone edge. The socket hole of a third pillar stone, at the NW corner, previously recorded by Kermode (1909,12), can no longer be traced.

Little trace similarly remains of the enclosing embankment feature which was also noted by Kermode (1909,12). Indistinct traces of this feature may be evident along the N wall line of the keeill, although this could equally as well be due to the collapse and consolidation of the structure.

(2.1) The keeill is located within the SE sector of an enclosure of sub-oval form (fig.3). The enclosure, which is orientated NW-SE, measures internally 40 m along its longer axis and up to 25.50 m transversely. It is formed by a single turf-

covered and predominantly earthen-constituted bank 2.30- 5 m wide. This bank thus encloses an area of approximately 0.07 ha. The enclosure bank is 0.40-0.80 m high internally and 0.70-1.20 m high externally. These data are set out below.

	(a)Int.ht.	(b)Ext.ht.	(b - a)
North sector	0.40 m	1.10 m	+0.70 m
South sector	0.80 m	0.70 m	-0.10 m
East sector	0.55 m	0.80 m	+0.25 m
West sector	0.60 m	1.20 m	+0.60 m

Relative internal & external heights of the enclosure bank

The ground within the enclosure is fairly level and thus a comparison of the internal and external heights of the enclosure bank may suggest that whilst the natural slope of the ground has been cut into in the S sector, the enclosure has nonetheless been considerably raised and artificially levelled in the remaining sectors, particularly to the N and W.

There is no definite trace remaining of an entrance into the enclosure, although a gap, 2 m wide, in the bank to the NE of the keeill, may represent the site of an entrance. A modern cart-track pierces the enclosure to the S and E of the keeill and examination of the sections thus exposed clearly suggest that only the interior face of the enclosure bank was stone-revetted (pl.6b). A modern drystone wall impinges upon the SE sector of the enclosure.

(2.2) Five previously unrecorded features were noted on this survey. Four are located inside and one outside the enclosure.

(A) A stone setting, comprising two upright stones set at right angles to one another, is located to the W of the keeill against the interior face of the enclosure bank.

(B) At a point 8 m NW of A the enclosure bank narrows markedly from 4.50 to 2.30 m in width. Against the interior face of the bank at this point there is a narrow platform, 7 m long, 2 m wide and 0.20 m upstanding. The E face of this feature has a marked stone content although only a single upright stone is visible through the turf.

(C) An oval-shaped hollow, measuring 2.70 m EW and 2.20 m NS, is located 13 m N of B and close to the NW sector of the enclosure. A slight bank, 1 m wide and 0.10 m high, skirts the N edge of this feature.

(D) A clearly defined bank, 3 m in length, 1.20 m in width and 0.10-0.20 m in height, is situated 8 m NE of C. This low bank lies parallel to, and is 2.10 m distant from, the enclosure bank. Traces of the E and W lines of a return bank and surface indications of another low bank approaching from the SW were also defined.

(E) Feature E is situated 35 m SW of the keeill and outside the enclosure. The feature is sub-rectangular in form and is orientated N 86 E. It measures 1.60 m along its longer axis, 0.50 m transversely and is approximately 0.25 m deep. The edge of the feature is defined in part by five vertically-set thin slabs. Two flat stones form a capping to this feature at its W end.

Features A, B and D may mark the site or sites of the `cells´ or `enclosures´ recorded by Kermode (1909,13: Subsection 3.0). Feature C appears to be a modern disturbance and has possibly been caused by the uprooting of a tree stump.

Feature E may almost certainly be identified as the remains of a disturbed lintel grave.

(2.3) No items of worked stone were recorded on this survey.

(3.0) Certain aspects of the Ballaquinney Moar keeill were first recorded by Oliver (1868,pl.opp.84,pl.on 86) although the site is nowhere discussed in the text. The figures illustrate an interior view of the entrance and a detail of the masonry of an interior wall-face. Neither, however, provides any new information. In 1873 a plan of the keeill was made by Sir Henry Dryden (Kermode 1907,3). This plan shows the exterior wall lines of the keeill to have been less rounded than they appear at present. Neither the S nor the E window, nor the altar setting, were, however, recorded on this plan.

The keeill was excavated by Kermode (1909,11-14) in 1908. A partially paved and E inclined floor was discovered at a level of approximately 0.25 m above the base of the foundations. Traces of a S window, situated 0.45-0.55 m above floor level, were also recorded. This window was situated approximately 0.75 m from the interior SE corner of the keeill. The window was double-splayed and measured 0.55 m inside, 0.45 m outside and narrowed to a width of 0.25 m at a point two-thirds of the way through the thickness of the wall from the interior wall-face. Traces of an E window were also recorded 0.75 m above floor level. This window was single-splayed, measuring 0.50 m internally and 0.20 m externally. Traces of a cavity were discovered behind the altar. This cavity "passed diagonally upwards through the wall" (Kermode 1909,12-13) and was attributed to excavation or loss of wall-fill. No trace of

these features now remains.

Excavations were also undertaken within the keeill enclosure and reference is made to the discovery of an unspecified number of "semi-circular hollows, marked out by stones, against the inner face of the embankment" (Kermode 1909,13). These features were identified as the sites of cells or small enclosures. Their location, however, is not specified in that account. A manuscript account (MM.MS.K.XV,126), however, does describe a number of excavations which were made against the enclosure bank in the SE-WNW and N-NE sectors, although no `semi-circular hollows´ are referred to in this account. These may be identical to Features A,B, & D recorded above (Subsection 2.2).

The published excavation account (Kermode 1909,13) also refers to the discovery of "traces of burial" outside the entrance to the keeill. These were encountered 0.30 m below the ground surface and the absence of a stone structure to these graves is commented upon. A manuscript account (MM.MS.K.XV,126), however, records the discovery of two lintel graves lying to the S of the keeill. A trench, 3.65 m in length and at least 0.90 m in width, was laid out at right angles to the S wall of the keeill and an unspecified distance W of the S window. A lintel grave, 0.90 x 0.25 x 0.25 m, was discovered 2.75 m from the wall, parallel to it and 0.45 m below ground level. A second grave of similar dimensions, "running SE", was discovered 1.20 m to the S of the first. A quantity of charcoal and fragments of clay were discovered between these two graves at a depth of 0.60 m below ground level (MM.MS.K.XV,126).

A number of small finds were made in connexion with these excavations. Kermode (1909,13) has recorded the discovery of a finely polished flint strike-a-light of triangular form, a perforated flat triangular stone and a fragment of the upper part of a granite quern of radius 180 mm. The precise locations of these pieces were not recorded although a manuscript account (MM.MS.K.XVII,60) reports the latter as having been recovered from within the make-up of the altar base. 150 white quartz pebbles were also recovered during the excavation of the keeill interior and an unspecified number of these were also removed from the matrix of the altar. Fragments of two incised cross-slabs, 44(-) and 45(-), were also discovered within the altar (Kermode 1909,13; 1912,61-63). Both were incised with a cross patee, formed by the arcs of four intersecting circles, and set within an incised circle.

(3.1) The site is not featured in the folk tradition of the island and its dedication name has not been recorded.

(4.0) The enclosure at this site has been shown to have been artificially raised and levelled (Subsection 2.1) and the position of the keeill floor would seem to be stratigraphically high. The present keeill, therefore, may postdate the construction of the surrounding enclosure. The discovery of two cross-slabs within the matrix of the altar, where they appear to have been employed as building rubble, may also suggest a relatively late date for the construction of this feature.

The apparent association of the keeill with a number of possible structures within the enclosure (Subsections 2.2:3.0) is almost certainly significant. On Man this association is

relatively rare and as such this would tend to set this site somewhat apart from others where this degree of possible development is absent. Altars and altar forms are examined in Volume 1-Chapter 5. The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is considered in Appendix 6.

REFERENCES

Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,35; K.XV,126; K.XVII,60; 1907,3,pl.1,fig.2; 1909,11-14; 1912,61-63; 1930,3: Oliver 1868,pl.opp.84,pl.on 86: OSCI SC37NW7

Visited: 7th April 1983

MAROWN 8: KEEILL LINGAN, BALLINGAN (pls.7-8: fig.4) SC 3274 7737

(1.0) Keeill Lingan is situated towards one corner of a cultivated field at approximately 85 m above OD. It lies within the treen of Cardell, whose boundary with Sanbrick treen lies 35 m to the E of the site. The present farm of Ballingan is situated 125 m above and to the S of the keeill.

(2.0) The keeill is of drystone construction and is orientated N 88 E. It measures 3.85 m along its longer axis and 2.90 m transversely within walls 1.30 m wide on the N and E and 1.50-1.60 m wide on the S and W. The interior wall-face of the keeill is well defined and stands 1.20 m high. The split slate and rubble masonry is randomly arranged in courses and along the S and W walls has been laid over a basal skirting of edge-set stones. The exterior wall-face is almost wholly ' turf-covered although traces of a possible external facing were noted at the exterior NE angle of the keeill. The walls of the keeill stand

0.85 m high externally. The present floor of the keeill thus lies up to 0.35 m below the present exterior ground level.

The entrance to the keeill (pl.8a) is situated at the E end of the S wall and is 0.45-0.50 m wide. The entrance jambs have been formed by two large vertically-set stones, 0.90 m high, which, in their present state, are slightly inclined. An edge-set sill stone is situated between the two jambs towards the interior S wall-face and marks a 0.25 m step down to the present keeill floor. No trace of any window openings now remains. Possible traces of a flagged floor were, however, recorded in a confined area near the centre of the E wall-face.

Traces of an earth and stone embankment extend part of the way around the walls of the keeill, particularly in the S, SW and N sectors. This feature is up to 1.50 m in width but of negligible height above the surrounding ground surface.

(2.1) The keeill is situated towards the centre of an enclosure of sub-rectangular form (fig.4). The N, S and E sides of this enclosure are straight whilst the W and particularly the NW sectors are markedly curved. The enclosure, which is orientated approximately NS, measures internally 30 m along its longer axis and 19.50 m transversely and thus encloses an area of 0.06 ha. The enclosure wall is stone-built and is faced externally. An interior face, though for the most part turf-covered, was noted along the S sector of the enclosure wall.

The ground level within the enclosure is, for the most part, artificially raised above the level of the surrounding field, which slopes down to the N and NE. The relative interior and

exterior ground levels can be roughly calculated on the basis of a comparison of the interior and exterior heights of the enclosure wall.

	(a)Int.ht.	(b)Ext.ht.	(b - a)
North sector	0.20 m	1.60 m	+1.40 m
South sector	1.10 m	1.00 m	-0.10 m
East sector	0.20 m	1.40 m	+1.20 m
West sector	0.70 m	1.00 m	+0.30 m

Relative interior & exterior heights of the enclosure wall.

The anomalous figure for the relative ground level in the S sector (-0.10 m) is less likely to refer to any lowering of the interior ground level, but rather to an external build-up of soil. This is likely to have been caused by the gradual displacement of soil from higher up the field during ploughing. This may also have exaggerated the readings taken along the N and E walls of the enclosure. The artificial nature of the raised soil within the enclosure is nevertheless evident.

No trace of an entrance into this enclosure was discerned. It is presently entered over a stile at the SW corner.

(2.2) Two breaks of slope were recorded within the enclosure, either side to N and S of the keeill, thus forming three slight terraces. The N terrace, which is the most clearly defined, measures 14 m NS and 18 m EW. The middle terrace, on which the keeill stands, is 9 m NS and 19.50 m EW whilst the S terrace, which is poorly delimited, measures 6 m NS and 19.50 m EW. Two small amorphous mounds, 1 m in diameter and 0.30 m high, are located against the interior face of the enclosure in the N sector. They seem, however, to have been caused by tree disturbance.

(2.3) A hollowed smooth stone (pl.8b), almost certainly to be identified as a quern, presently stands against the W jamb of the entrance to the keeill. The stone measures 0.60 x 0.35 x 0.20 m. A hollow, 0.50 x 0.20 x 0.05 m, has been carved in an upper face. The stone is known locally as a font (Subsection 3.0).

(2.4) The surrounding field had recently been ploughed at the time of the 1983 visit to this site. No archaeological features were noted in the plough soil adjacent to the enclosure.

(3.0) The earliest recorded survey of this site was reported by Oliver (1868,84-86). This account was not utilized by Kermode (1909,14-15). Oliver's account contains much new information and, in addition, includes a perspective drawing of the site (Oliver 1868,pl.opp.78). The perspective, however, especially with regard to the orientation and form of the keeill, is slightly confusing and inaccurate. Nevertheless, this illustration does depict a possible window in the N or, more likely, the W wall of the keeill. Oliver (1868,85) reported that there had once been a window in the W gable but that it was "now entirely destroyed by visitors using it as a short cut into the church." Two entrances in the W sector of the enclosure wall are also illustrated (Oliver 1868,pl.opp.78). However, neither is referred to in the accompanying text. No trace of any of these features now remains.

A detailed drawing of the keeill entrance is contained in a second illustration (Oliver 1868,85). The masonry of the walls of the keeill is shown to have been faced both internally and externally. This is contrary to Kermode's (1909,14-15) account

which remarked only upon an internal facing. Traces of a possible external facing at the NE corner have been referred to above (Subsection 2.1). The Ballingan `font´ is illustrated in a third drawing (Oliver 1868,84). This drawing, however, is inaccurate insofar as it stresses a regularity of form and cut which is noticeably absent. This stone is reported (Oliver 1868,85) to have been deeply embedded in the ground in the NE angle of the keeill in an area where Kermode (1909,15) was later to discover a number of short cist burials.

Keeill Lingan was partially excavated by Kermode (1909,14-15) in 1908. This excavation disclosed the plan of the keeill although no trace of either an altar or a paved floor was found. Nor, indeed, was the W window, which had been referred to earlier by Oliver (1868,85). Trenches appear to have been cut both within the keeill and outside to the NW (Kermode 1909,fig.14). A number of short cists, containing what Kermode (1909,15) described as charcoal and fragments of cinerary urns, were discovered beneath the floor of the keeill. Further examples were discovered beneath the W wall of the keeill. Three further `urns´ were found outside the NW corner of the keeill (Kermode 1909,fig.14).

A number of small finds were made in connexion with these excavations. Six small quartz and flint pebbles were found inside the keeill. A perforated stone, of triangular section, was found at the E end of the keeill. This stone, which Kermode (1909,15) identified as a cresset stone, measured 165 x 100 x 90 mm and featured a cup hollow, 50 mm in diameter and 25 mm deep, on one face. A further pierced stone, possibly

a door lintel (Kermode 1909,15), was also found. The exact provenance of these stones is not, however, recorded. None of these stones was located on this survey. The Ballingan `font´ was found by Kermode loose within the keeill, presumably having been previously removed by Oliver for his drawing. Kermode´s (1909,fig.15) illustration of this stone is accurate.

(3.1) No details of any folk traditions connected with this site have been recorded. The dedication is believed to have been to St. Fingan or Finnian, abbot of Clonard in Meath (Kneen 1979,157,504-505). A field close to the site of this keeill is known as Bolthaan and Kneen (1926,51) has suggested that this was the site of the May Fair where "the Beltane sports must have been indulged in."

(4.0) The present appearance of the keeill clearly owes much to the consolidation carried out after Kermode´s excavation and traces of disturbance at the exterior NW corner of the keeill can be readily seen. There is no suggestion, however, that the walls of the keeill were themselves in any way dismantled.

The apparent establishment of this keeill over the site of an earlier, pre-Christian, burial ground seems significant and has been commented upon by Charles Thomas (1971a,56). This theme is considered in Volume 1-Chapter 7.

No proven stratigraphical relationships were noted on this survey. It is, however, worth drawing particular attention to the methods employed in the construction of this keeill. The S and W walls are shown above (Subsection 2.0) to have been built to a much wider span than those to the N and E. This is

contrary to Kermode's own observations (Kermode 1909,fig.14) but nonetheless is readily apparent. These same walls, to S and W, are also differentiated by their having been laid over a basal skirting of edge-set stones. These two factors, when taken together, seem significant and may have a bearing on the curious location of the entrance at the SE angle of the keeill. This matter cannot be resolved in the absence of excavation though it is perhaps suggestive of either two phases of construction or of the utilization of earlier walls in the construction of a later building. If any significance can be attached to the question of the location of the keeill entrance, then the S and W walls might be considered earlier than those to the N and E.

There is also some evidence to suggest that the present floor of the keeill, at or below which Kermode (1909,15) discovered the short cists (Subsection 3.0), lies below or at the level of the surrounding field. This suggestion has been made on the basis of an analysis of the comparative heights of the keeill and enclosure walls, the ground between which, in the SW quarter of the site at least, is fairly level. This would be consistent with the sequence proposed by Kermode (1909,15) and Thomas (1971a,56). The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is considered in Appendix 6.

REFERENCES

Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,33-34,45b; K.IX,30; K.XV,144-145; 1909,14-15; 1930,3: Oliver 1868,pl.opp.78,84-85:OSCI SC37SW6

Visited: 8th April 1983.

MAROWN 9: BALLACHRINK (I) KEEILL SITE (pl.9a) SC 3072 7671

(1.0) One of the Ballachrink keeill sites is situated on the crest of a hill at 140 m above OD, above the present farm which lies 225 m to the SW. Ballachrink is situated on the treen of Ballanicholas, whose boundary lies 125 m N of the keeill site. The site is located in the corner of a cultivated field known as the `Chapel Field´. An old road, represented now to the S of the site by a deep hollow-way, formerly passed immediately to the E of this keeill.

(2.0) The site of this keeill may be indicated by an amorphous turf-covered stony mound. The mound is low and extends at most over an area 7.50 m EW and 5 m NS. No structural features, however, are now evident at this site.

(2.1) The keeill has apparently been contained within an enclosure of curvilinear form. Only part of the N sector of this enclosure now remains, having been preserved in the course of a modern field bank (pl.9a). This bank is 1.50 m wide, 1.50 m high, approximately 32 m long and describes an arc of a circle of approximately 13 m radius. The enclosure may have thus enclosed an area of approximately 0.05 ha.

The N sector of this enclosure at present defines the N edge of an uncultivated area 30 m EW and 15 m NS. The stony mound (Subsection 2.0) lies at the S edge of this uncultivated area.

(2.2) A well, known locally as the White Well, is located 150 m N of this keeill site at SC 3065 7695. It was assumed in the 19th century to be a holy or sacred well (Cubbon 1935a,133). It is situated at the boundary of Ballanicholas treen, whose course has been deflected NE at this point. The turf-

covered remains of former crofts lie to the N and S of this well.

The well appears to be a largely turf-covered outcrop of white quartz and measures approximately 3 m EW and 3.25 m NS and 0.60 m high. No water or traces of artificial construction were noted on this survey.

(2.3) No small finds or items of worked stone were recorded on this survey.

(3.0) The keeill site at Ballachrink was excavated in 1908 by Kermode (1909,15-17). An area, approximately 6.40 m EW and 3.95 m NS, was opened up over a slight mound which was located at the S edge of an uncultivated area. This mound is almost certainly to be identified with that recorded above (Subsection 2.0). The walls of the keeill were found to have been removed. However, sufficient traces of what Kermode identified as the surrounding embankment remained to indicate that the keeill had been approximately 4.60 m EW and 2.15 m NS within walls 0.90 m wide. Its entrance apparently lay in the W gable but it was indicated only by a paved area at the W end of the trench. A socket stone was also found in this area. A second, flat, stone, 1.20 x 0.90 m, was found at the E end of the trench. It had been pierced by a hole, 100 mm in diameter, and had been set over a recess in which a very fine soil mixed with ashes and containing apparent traces of burial was found (Kermode 1909,16). A number of small paving stones to the S were believed to have formed, with this stone, the base of an altar. A number of small cists, associated with ashes and clay, perhaps pottery, were also discovered. About a

dozen quartz pebbles were also recovered (Kermode 1909,29). Kermode (1909,17) concluded therefore that a Christian cemetery and chapel had been erected over the site of a prehistoric burial ground. No lintel graves were discovered in this excavation. Their discovery, however, had been reported in an adjoining field, some 20 m to the SE (Kermode 1909,16).

Some further detail of this excavation may be gained from Kermode's manuscript account (MM.MS.K.XVII,64,66). Kermode's published plan of this site (Kermode 1909,fig.16) is essentially the same as that contained in MM.MS.K.XVII,66. A slightly different, and presumably earlier plan, is featured on MM.MS.K.XVII,64. This plan lists the discovery of `pottery and ashes' in the NW and NE corners of the trench and features the cist against the S side of the trench. It omits the paved area and upright stone near the SW corner but, perhaps most significantly, it does not feature the pierced stone and area of paving at the E end of the trench. An area covered in `ashes' is featured at this point on MM.MS.K.XVII,64. It may possibly be inferred therefore that the pierced stone and paving, which Kermode (1909,16) identified as an altar setting, underlay an ashy layer,which elsewhere on the site was found to be associated with short cists and `crushed pottery' (Kermode 1909,16).

No account of the nearby White Well is reported by Kermode (1909,15-17). A 19th century account by Grindley, however, has been recorded by William Cubbon (1935a). The well, built entirely of white quartz blocks, is said to have had an opening on the W, 1.50 m wide. This opening was apparently connected to

the mound proper by what was described as `a retaining wall´, aligned EW. This feature may be identical to the sunken passage described by the OS investigator in 1955 (OSCI SC37NW15). This passage, orientated EW, was 2.50 m long, 0.70 m wide and 1.20 m deep. This channel was lined on its S side with two large quartz blocks. The mound itself is described as a quartz outcrop (OSCI SC37NW15).

Cubbon (1935a,133) believed the site was possibly that of a barrow. Meanwhile, the OS (OSCI SC37NW15) merely stressed, somewhat oddly, that the site bore no resemblance to a hut-circle ! This present survey failed to record any artificial construction at this site (Subsection 2.2) and the sunken channel was not defined.

(3.1) This site is not featured in the folk tradition of the island and its dedication name is unknown.

(4.0) No stratigraphical observations were noted on this survey and there is insufficient evidence on which to base a proper discussion of this site. The ecclesiastical nature of the site is supported only on traditional grounds and is only expressed physically by the possible preservation of the N sector of an ecclesiastical enclosure in the course of a modern fieldbank. The reported discovery nearby of what have been described as lintel graves (Kermode 1909,16: Subsection 3.0) may or may not be related to this site. The structural evidence for the keeill (Kermode 1909,16: Subsection 3.0) is also considered unsatisfactory. No remains of a specifically ecclesiastical nature are described in the excavation

accounts (Kermode 1909,16; MM.MS.K.XVII,64,66) and the data deduced by Kermode with regard to the size and form of this keeill are considered speculative. The relative relationships of the features uncovered in Kermode's excavation are uncertain. The possible relationship of the presumed altar setting to a layer of ashes has been examined above (Subsection 3.0). The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is examined in Appendix 6.

REFERENCES

Cubbon 1935a,133: Kermode MM.MSS.K.XV,146; K.XVII,9,64,66; 1909,15-17; 1930,3: OSCI SC37NW15; SC37NW17

Visited: 8th April 1983

MAROWN 10: BALLACHRINK (II) KEEILL SITE SC 3087 7616

(1.0) A second keeill site is located on a S extension of the Ballachrink quarterland between the quarterlands of Ballanicholas to the W and Ballacallin to the E. The site was formerly located in the NE corner of a small field known as the Chapel Field at approximately 120 m above OD. The site is likely to have been originally sited at the boundary dividing the quarterlands of Ballanicholas and Ballacallin. The present farms of Ballanicholas, Ballacallin moar and Ballachrink lie respectively 350 m to the W, 275 m to the E and 600 m to the N of this site. The quarterland of Ballachrink forms part of the treen of Ballanicholas.

(2.0 - 2.1) No trace of either a keeill or its enclosure now remains at this site. The fieldbank which formerly

delimited the N side of the site has since been removed. The course of this fieldbank, at whose E end the keeill site was situated, is now marked by an abrupt fall in the slope of the field. The Chapel Field thus refers now to only the S half of a much larger field.

(3.0) Kermode (1909,17) did not obtain permission to excavate this site. He has, however, recorded the dimensions of the keeill which is said to have measured only 3.05 m EW and 1.80 m NS internally with an entrance at its W end. No trace of a surrounding enclosure was even then (1909) apparent although Kermode (1909,17) noted that an uncultivated area 18.25 m NE-SW and 9.15 m NW-SE was featured by the OS in 1868 (OS 25" map, sheet XIII,5).

(3.1) This site is not featured in the folk tradition of the island and its dedication name is unknown.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site and it is ironic that this, the smallest of the recorded Manx keeills, should so often be quoted as if it were a typical example of this class of monument (for example Kinvig 1975,47: Volume 1-Chapter 5). In fact in an earlier list of Manx antiquities Kermode (1901a,170) had recorded the dimensions as 3.35 m x 2.15 m. Insufficient data for this site have been recorded.

REFERENCES

Kermode 1901a,170; 1909,17: OSCI SC37NW

Visited: 8th April 1983

SANTON 1: ST. SANCTAIN'S CHURCH SC 3107 7115

(1.0) Santon parish church is situated in the SW quarter of the parish and is located at approximately 70 m above OD. The church lands, on which the church and graveyard stand, are bounded by the treens of Arrogan, Grenwick and Knock Slemyn.

(2.0 - 2.4) No early structural features are evident at this site. The present church was built in 1774 (Cotter 1977,3) and is located towards the centre of an irregularly shaped four-sided enclosure, formed by a modern stone wall. The enclosure measures approximately 70 m NS and 50 m EW. This enclosure, which forms the modern graveyard, together with other fieldbanks and walls to the W, forms a large area of curvilinear form.

A holy well, erroneously dedicated to St. Ann, is located at the S boundary of the churchyard. It was not, however, located on this survey. Meanwhile, a lintel grave, of unknown provenance and possibly a modern reconstruction, has been set in concrete at the NE corner of the churchyard.

An early inscribed stone, 29(34), is displayed inside the church, together with others from Balnahow (SANTON 4) and Ballacorris (see under SANTON 8).

(3.0) No early structural features have been recorded at this site. An early inscribed stone, 29(34), however, is reported to have been found in excavating the foundations for the present church in 1774 (Cotter 1977,3: Kermode 1907,114). The stone measures approximately 1.15 x 0.25 x 0.10 m and is pointed at both ends. The inscription, set vertically but with the characters turned through ninety degrees, is placed towards one end of the stone and has been carved in a mixture of miniscule

and majuscule forms. The inscription reads AVITI MONOMENTI and is considered to date to the late 6th century (Kermode 1911b,443: c.575 ± ?50 Trench-Jellicoe in litt 11.3.86). Other finds from the site include a quernstone (MM.MS.K.XXIII,29), although the context of this discovery is not recorded.

(3.1) The parish church is dedicated to the Irish saint, St. Sanctain (Kneen 1979,133).

(4.0) Insufficient physical evidence exists with which to properly assess this site. However, the form and size of the lands which presently form the glebe and churchyard are, perhaps, suggestive, on current models, of an early ecclesiastical site.

REFERENCES

Cotter 1977: Kermode MM.MS.K.XXIII,29; 1907,114-115,pl.XIV; 1911b,442-443; 1930,68-69; 1935,21,fig.37

Visited: 11th April 1983

SANTON 2: GLENTRAUGH LINTEL GRAVE CEMETERY SC 3118 7095

(1.0) This site on the treen of Arrogan is located 150 m SE of the parish church (SANTON 1) at approximately 75 m above OD. It is situated 150 m SW of the present farm of Cronk and is the same distance NE of the boundary with the quarterland of Ballafurt. The present farm of Glentraugh, on the E side of the river, lies on the neighbouring treen of Grenwick but the site name has been retained for ease of reference.

(2.0 - 2.4) No trace of either a keeill or its enclosure is evident at this site. The site occupies a low knoll in a cultivated field to the S of a stone wall. No archaeological features were recorded on survey.

(3.0) This site was discovered during deep ploughing in 1976 and was partially excavated shortly afterwards by Larch Garrad (1978). Eighteen lintel graves were uncovered in this excavation (Garrad 1978,245,fig.16.1). The graves had been lined with edge-set slate slabs and covered, in a few instances, with a single slate lintel or, more commonly, by six or seven slabs (Garrad 1978,245). A granite quern had been incorporated into the construction of one grave. No grave goods or furnishings were noted. Fifteen of the eighteen graves produced skeletal material. Twelve adults and three children were identified. No teenagers or infants were identified in the skeletal record. Sex was determinable in ten instances and the remains of four males and six females were identified. Osteological analysis also suggested that a genetic relationship existed between certain of the skeletons (Garrad 1978,248).

The graves were orientated slightly N of E with the heads at the W end of the graves. Two female burials were found to have their hands crossed over the pelvis. One male burial had his hands at his sides.

The cemetery appears to have been well ordered into NS aligned rows and no instance of the intercutting of the graves or their structures is recorded in the published account (Garrad 1978). Seventeen of the graves are situated together in a confined area. The eighteenth grave, Grave R, was located in a trial trench N of this concentration.

These lintel graves appear to have formed part of a much larger cemetery since a number of `stone cists´ are reported to

have been found in the 19th century a little to the N of this site at SC 3118 7102 (OSCI SC37SW35). The cemetery, however, cannot be closely dated.

No trace of a keeill or its enclosure was discovered in Garrad's excavation. Garrad (1978,247), however, has suggested that if a keeill had existed here, then:

> "it presumably pre-dates the oldest building on the site of the parish church, itself likely to be early in view of the presence of the probably 6th century Avitus stone."

There is, however, insufficient evidence on which to base this assumption.

(3.1) This site is not featured in the folk tradition of the island and its dedication name is unknown.

(4.0) This site is the most extensive well recorded lintel grave cemetery to have been excavated in the Isle of Man and much information regarding diet, sex and possibly genetic relationships also, has been obtained through the osteological analysis of the skeletal material. One major aspect of the site which deserves particular attention, however, is the high degree of orderliness which it displays. The organization of the cemetery into well defined NS rows, together with the absence of any intercutting graves, would suggest that the graves were once marked above ground in some way. The constant relative alignment of the graves is also notable (Garrad 1978,fig.16.1) and may suggest that the majority of the graves were either aligned on each other or perhaps on some nearby structure. Only Grave K differs markedly from the orientation of the other graves.

The date of this site, either absolute or relative to the date of the parish church, cannot, however, be demonstrated or assumed.

REFERENCES

Garrad 1978: OSCI SC37SW35

Visited: 11th April 1983

SANTON 3: BALLAFURT KEEILL SITE SC 3114 7069

(1.0) This site is situated in the corner of a cultivated field at 70 m above OD. Ballafurt farm lies below and 225 m SE of the keeill site. The site lay at the boundary between the quarterlands of Ballafurt and Ballachrine to the N and within the bounds of Arrogan treen.

(2.0 - 2.4) No trace of a keeill or its enclosure now remains at this site and no archaeological features or finds were recorded during this survey. However, a stone, possibly an altar mensa, has recently been found in the farmyard at Ballafurt (Trench-Jellicoe in litt 15.5.86 & 22.5.86). The stone measures 0.75 x 0.40 m overall and features a square recess, with sides up to 170 mm long and 15-20 mm deep, on an upper face. Meanwhile, a groove on the underside, near the edge of the stone, may have held a supporting side slab. The stone is similar in form to a published medieval example from Whithorn (Thomas 1971a,fig.97, pl.VIII).

(3.0) Kermode (1935,24) was unable to add much to the documentation of this poorly recorded site. In the 19th century, several stone-lined graves, containing human bones, are reported to have been turned up on occasions during ploughing (Kermode

1935,24,fn.26). Little else, however, is known about this site.

(4.0) The site's status as an ecclesiastical site depends in part upon local tradition and the reported discovery of graves, of unknown age and type, nearby. The possible altar mensa, which is supposed to have been taken from the keeill site (Trench-Jellicoe in litt 15.5.86), might confirm these earlier reports. Nonetheless, there is insufficient evidence on which to base any detailed discussion of this site.

REFERENCES

Kermode 1930,68; 1935,24: OSCI SC37SW24: Trench-Jellicoe in litt 15.5.86; 22.5.86

Visited: 12th April 1983

SANTON 4: BALNAHOW KEEILL SITE SC 3337 7191

(1.0) The site lies at 100 m above OD on the crest of a hill, overlooking and 75 m to the N of Balnahow farm. Balnahow forms part of the treen of How. The site is located 80 m E of the boundary between the treens of How and Corbreck.

(2.0 - 2.4) The field in which the site is located had recently been ploughed at the time of this survey. No archaeological features, however, were noted and no trace remains of either the keeill or its enclosure bank.

(3.0) The site appears to have been levelled shortly before Kermode's survey in c.1918 (1935,24). The site, however, is represented on the OS 1:c.2500 (25") map of 1869. An enclosure, of subrectangular form, is shown to have measured approximately 23 m EW and 9 m NS and would thus have enclosed an area of approximately 0.02 ha. The keeill is shown as a mound in the SE sector of this enclosure.

A cross slab, 95(68), is said to have been discovered at this site (Kermode 1935,24). This attribution, however, was not made in Kermode´s (1907) earlier work on the Manx crosses and the provenance of this stone is considered below (Subsection 4.0). Only a fragment of this stone now survives. It displays an encircled cross patee with expanded limbs on one face. An earlier drawing by Oswald (Kermode 1907,fig.56), which was done when the stone was more complete, also shows knotwork below the cross and, below that, a mounted figure with a lance or spear under his right arm. The stone is at present in Santon parish church (SANTON 1).

(4.0) Insufficient evidence is available on which to base discussion of this site. The provenance of the cross slab, 95(68), must, however, be considered.

The stone was discovered by Oswald some time before 1860. He found it on a headland S of Port Soderick, near:

> "a heap of immemorial rubbish called the `Old Chapel´ on the estate of Balnahow...Within living memory it had lain about unappropriated, excepting some years when it was used by a cottager as a domestic sideboard."
>
> Oswald 1860,69-70

It is presumably this reference to the stone´s discovery on Balnahow which led Kermode (1935,24) to attribute it to the Balnahow keeill site. However, Oswald´s topographical description does not satisfactorily relate to the Balnahow keeill site, since it does not, in any proper sense of the word, lie on a headland. It is possible that Oswald may have used the term <Balnahow> to refer to the area which is more properly identified

as How treen, of which Balnahow forms part (fig.45). If so, the only true headlands are in the area of Gob Lhiack, to the E and SE of the Ballacregga keeill site (SANTON 5). The stone might conceivably have come from that site. It is difficult, however, to establish the original provenance of this stone. The record of its prior use as a piece of domestic furniture, for example, clearly suggests that its discovery by Oswald near an old chapel might perhaps have been largely fortuitous. In conclusion, therefore, it is considered that there is insufficient evidence on which to associate this cross slab with the Balnahow keeill site.

REFERENCES

Kermode 1907,139-140,pl.XXVI; 1930,68; 1935,24: OSCI SC37SW19:
Oswald 1860,69-70

Visited: 13th April 1983

SANTON 5: BALLACREGGA KEEILL SITE (pl.9b: fig.5b) SC3432 7216

(1.0) The keeill site at Ballacregga, on the treen of How, is located 75 m SE of the farm buildings at approximately 80 m above OD. The nearest territorial boundary, the Crogga river, which forms the boundary between the parishes of Santon and Braddan, lies approximately 575 m to the E of the site.

(2.0) No trace of a keeill now remains at this site. Its position, however, may be indicated by an amorphous stony mound, 6 m NS, 3.50 m EW and up to 0.30 m high (fig.5b).

(2.1) Only the N sector of an enclosure of curvilinear form now remains (pl.9b). This sector is defined by a turf-covered stony bank, 0.20-0.35 m high. The enclosure, if of a regular form, would have been approximately 18 m in diameter and would thus

have enclosed an area of approximately 0.03 ha.

(2.2 - 2.4) No other features or items of worked stone were recorded on this survey.

(3.0) The discovery of a number of "stone-lined graves containing human bones" was first reported by the OS in the 19th century (Kermode 1935,23,fn.24). Kermode subsequently excavated the site in 1916. A number of trenches were cut at 5.50 m intervals across the site NS. One or two lintel graves were discovered crossing these trenches. together with a handful of quartz pebbles. A stony area, whose location was unspecified in Kermode´s (1935,23) published account, was deemed to mark the site of the keeill.

A further record of these excavations is contained in a manuscript account (MM.MS.K.XXIII,16-17,31). This account also graphically decribes the problems faced by Kermode, whose operations here, undertaken by his foreman, Jim Christian, were apparently carried out covertly because of the opposition of the Ballacregga tenant. The excavation, it would seem, must have been something of a rushed affair. The account describes the discovery of an undisturbed soil at a depth of 0.45-0.60 m. The stony area, which was identified as the site of the keeill, was uncovered towards the N end of Christian´s trench. This would presumably correspond to the area of the stony mound recorded above (Subsection 2.0). However, it might equally represent Kermode´s spoil-heap !

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site. The discovery of quartz pebbles at

ecclesiastical sites is considered in Appendix 6. The possibility that the carved stone, 95(68), may have come from this site has been considered above (SANTON 4).

REFERENCES

Kermode MM.MS.K.XXIII,16-17,31; 1930,68; 1935,23-24: OSCI SC37SW20

Visited: 13th April 1983

SANTON 6: BALLAVALE KEEILL SITE SC 3155 7242

(1.0) The site at Ballavale, on the treen of Grenwick, is situated at 70 m above OD. It is thought to have lain, in part at least, under the present house at Ballavale at SC 3155 7235. The site would have lain approximately 40 m E of the boundary between the treens of Grenwick and Bendoill (fig.45).

(2.0 - 2.4) The site at SC 3155 7242, in the paddock 65 m N of Ballavale House, is marked by a disturbed and partially quarried mound, now grass-covered. No archaeological features were recorded at this site.

(3.0) The traditional site at SC 3155 7242 was excavated by Kermode (1935,23). No archaeological features, however, were traced. It has also been reported that a number of lintel graves were discovered during the construction of the present house and others are said to have been found in the vicinity (Kermode 1935,23,fn.23).

(4.0) Insufficient data exist upon which to base any valid discussion of this site.

REFERENCES

Kermode 1930,68; 1935,23: OSCI SC37SW25

Visited: 13th April 1983

SANTON 7: BALLAVARTIN KEEILL SITE approx SC 323 732

(1.0) Kermode (1935,23) reported that the site lay close to the high road and nearly opposite The Gate at 125 m above OD. These data, if accurate, would place the site in the area SC 323 732. The site would have been up to 50 m distant from the treen boundary to the N and up to 400 m SW of Ballavartin farm. Ballavartin forms part of the treen of Knock y Loughan (fig.45).

(2.0 -2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at this location. The site, which is not known locally, is now grass-covered and no archaeological features or finds were recorded.

(3.0) The site is poorly documented. At the time of Kermode's survey, the site was indicated by a low mound (Kermode 1935,23). In c.1870 the mound was cleared for cultivation, exposing in the process the remains of walling and Kermode (1935,23) reports that this was thought to have been a keeill.

(3.1) The dedication name of this site is unknown. However, on the basis of the farm-name, Kermode (1935,23) has proposed a dedication to St. Martin. The farm-name, however, could equally refer to the name of a past owner and Kermode's suggestion is thus speculative.

(4.0) The identification of this site as a keeill site is poorly established and no specifically ecclesiastical features have been recorded. The site is not listed by the OS.

REFERENCE

Kermode 1935,23

Visited: 13th April 1983

SANTON 8: SULBRICK KEEILL (pls.10-11: fig.5a) SC 3091 7462

(1.0) Sulbrick keeill, on the treen of Sanbrick, is situated in the centre of a cultivated field at approximately 85 m above OD. The field slopes down to the W to the Santon Burn which lies 200 m distant. This river forms the boundary between the parishes of Santon and Malew. Sulbrick farm lies 250 m NE of the keeill. The boundary between the treens of Sanbrick and a detached part of Knock Slemyn is located 25 m S of the keeill (fig.45).

(2.0) The keeill (pl.11a; fig.5a) is of drystone construction and is orientated N 86 E. It measures 5.20 m along its longer axis and 2.50 m transversely within walls up to 1.50 m wide and 1 m upstanding. The entrance, 0.90 m wide externally and 0.60 m wide internally, is situated in the centre of the W wall and is apparently splayed. However, this feature would appear to have been reconstructed. Traces of the altar remain against the centre of the E wall. It is indicated by a turf-covered stony mound, 1 m NS, 0.50 m EW and 0.25 m high, and is delimited on part of its S and W sides by a series of edge-set stones. No trace, however, now remains of the S window and paved floor which were previously recorded by Kermode (1935,22: Subsection 3.0).

A substantial earth and stone embankment partially surrounds the walls of the keeill. This feature is not evident against the N wall of the keeill and is barely traceable outside the W wall. It is, however, particularly pronounced along the S and E walls where it is up to 2 m wide and 0.80 m high. Traces of a dual exterior wall-face, which might possibly be indicative of a refacing of the structure, were also recorded along the S wall.

(2.1) No trace now remains on the ground of an enclosure at this site. However, vague traces of a possible enclosure bank can be seen from the air (pl.10). This has been greatly destroyed by the NS cultivation lines but, nonetheless, can just about be made out. The bank would seem to enclose an area of roughly curvilinear form, with the keeill located towards the E perimeter of this feature. The enclosure, thus defined, would be approximately 45 m EW and 35 m NS and thus enclose an area of approximately 0.12 ha.

(2.2) No other structures are now evident at this site. A `healing well´, which Kermode (1935,23) associated with this site, was not located on this survey.

(2.3) A large granite slab, 0.90 x 0.45 x 0.10 m, lies in the NE corner of the keeill and displays a carved design on an upper face (pl.11b). The design bears a superficial resemblance to a cross and is formed of several obscure rectilinear and curvilinear motifs within a roughly hexagonal ring, 0.35 m in diameter. This stone formerly stood against the front of the altar with the design placed innermost (Megaw 1939a,163: Subsection 3.0).

(3.0) Sulbrick keeill was excavated in the period 1914 X 1918 (Kermode 1935,21-23,figs.35,36) and several features, no longer evident at the site, are recorded in that account. A window, for example, was found towards the E end of the S wall and remains of a paved floor were also traced, below which, near the NW corner, traces of `ashes´ were found. A large stone which was found in front of the altar was thought to have been a cover stone for

that structure. Meanwhile, towards the W end of the S wall, Kermode discovered a stone which projected from the wall face. It measured 180 x 180 x 50 mm and was situated 1.20 m above the floor and Kermode (1935,21) suggested that it had served as a bracket for a lamp.

Thirteen lintel graves were discovered in this excavation. Six of these, together with a simple dug grave, are featured on Kermode's (1935,fig.35) plan. Two lintel graves, discovered 0.30 m below the keeill floor, had been placed side by side in front of the altar and these were considered by Kermode to have been related to the present structure. However, a further five graves, including the single dug grave which was covered with white quartz pebbles, were found to underlie the walls of the present building. Four of these five pre-keeill graves are of a similar orientation to the present building. One, however, which underlies the present threshold and part of the W wall, is aligned NW-SE.

No cross slabs have been found at this site. Kermode (1907,115-116,pl.XII; 1935,2,fig.38), however, believed that cross 62(35) had come from Sulbrick keeill. In c.1864 it had stood by the side of the stream at Ballacorris mill, which lies 600 m SSE of the site. After 1890 the stone was transferred to Andreas and thence to Douglas and was returned to Santon in c.1897 (Kermode 1907,115). It is now displayed in Santon parish church (SANTON 1). The stone's provenance and its association with Sulbrick keeill is considered in Subsection 4.0.

Sulbrick keeill was partially re-excavated in 1937, prior to the placing of a fence around the site by the Manx Museum (Megaw

1939a,163). This excavation revealed once more the granite slab which, although previously recorded on plan (Kermode 1935,fig.35), cannot have been removed. The slab had been built into the front of the altar and, when removed in 1937, disclosed the carved design on its inner face (Subsection 2.3). The stone has been considered as a prehistoric carving (Megaw 1939a,163-164: R.W.B Morris 1979,187).

(3.1) The dedication of the keeill is unknown. Kermode (MM.MS.KXXIII,15), however, has suggested that the quarterland and treen names, Sulbrick and Sanbrick, may reflect a dedication to the Irish saint, St. Bridget. Kneen (1979,147,169), on the other hand, has derived both names from ON. brekka, meaning slope, and, given the topography of the area, this derivation seems the more likely.

(4.0) Kermode's excavation clearly demonstrated that the present keeill postdated an earlier cemetery and this is one of the few instances on Man where this relationship has been observed (Volume 1-Chapter 4,iv). The age of this building cannot be determined. Nevertheless, the possibility that the S wall would seem to have been thickened, perhaps refaced, might indicate that the present building was used for some time.

Some discussion of the cross slab, 62(35), must also be made. The former site of this stone, by the stream at Ballacorris mill (SC 3111 7404), was visited. The site lay in a small densely wooded copse on the S bank of the stream and no ecclesiastical features were noted. The stream, however, forms the boundary between the treens of Knock Slemyn and Bendoill and this site

would seem to be a perfectly satisfactory location for the stone, which may have functioned as a boundary marker. Other possible examples of this phenomenon have been noted above (pp.6-7). In any event, this survey would suggest that there is no evidence to warrant the association of the stone with Sulbrick keeill.

Altars and altar forms are considered in Volume 1-Chapter 5. The discovery of quartz pebbles at ecclesiastical sites is considered in Appendix 6.

REFERENCES

Kermode MM.MSS.K.VIII,41-42; K.IX,6; K.XXIII,15; 1907,115-116,pl.XII; 1930,68-69; 1935,21-23,figs.35,36,38: Megaw 1939a,163-164,pl.172: R.W.B Morris 1979,187: OSCI SC37NW

Visited: 14th April 1983

SANTON 9: CRONK NY MERRIU LINTEL GRAVE SITE SC 3172 7048

(1.0) Cronk ny Merriu, a Manx name meaning `Hill of the Dead´ (Kneen 1979,141), is the site of a promontory fort at Port Grenaugh. The site lies at approximately 30 m above OD and within the bounds of Meary treen.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at or in the vicinity of Cronk ny Merriu.

(3.0) Cronk ny Merriu was excavated by Peter Gelling in the period 1950-1952. A large rectangular structure, which was identified as a domestic building of Viking or Norse date, was shown to have been inserted behind an earlier rampart and ditch (Gelling 1952,313). The site, however, had earlier been interpreted in ecclesiastical terms. Oswald (1860,51), for example, had believed that the rectangular building was a

hermit´s cell. Kermode (1935,24-25) also would seem to have accepted an ecclesiastical interpretation for this site since it is included in his list of the Santon keeill sites. Kermode has also reported the discovery of lintel graves in a nearby field.

(4.0) Gelling´s excavations at Cronk ny Merriu have clearly established the nature and period of this site and any further discussion of this is therefore unnecessary. It is unfortunate that there is no more information regarding the lintel graves. Even so, this survey would suggest that there are insufficient grounds for including this site among the keeill sites of Santon parish.

REERENCES

Kermode 1930,68; 1935,24-25: OSCI SC37SW29: Oswald 1860,51

Visited: 12th April 1983

WESTRAY & PAPA WESTRAY, ORKNEY

WESTRAY 1: LADY KIRK, PIEROWALL (pl.21) HY 4395 4881

(1.0) Lady Kirk, the former parish church of the North parish, is situated towards the N end of Pierowall village and just above the shoreline at 5 m above OD. According to an 18th century estate map (OCL.E29: Chapter 6,fig.49), the church would have lain close to the boundary between the districts of Wa and Rackwick.

(2.0) There is no definite trace of a medieval or earlier church at this site. The present church, which was heavily restored and largely rebuilt in the 17th century, stands outside the scope of this study and was therefore not surveyed. It consists of a large, wide nave with a W gallery and an apartment at the E end which is distinctly canted to the S. There are traces of an earlier fabric in the lower courses of the S wall of the nave but the size, form and date of the building thus represented cannot easily be determined. The building was still in use in the late 18th century (OSA 1799(1978),359) but is now roofless.

(2.1) The present church lies towards the E side of a large, stone-walled rectangular enclosure which is aligned NE-SW (pl.21). The burial ground is still in use and there is a substantially elevated soil around the church. A local tradition suggests that the ground around the church was thrown up in an earthquake (pers.comm propriator of Iphs). This, however, seems unlikely. The elevated soil is more likely to have been augmented by wind-blown sand. This suggestion receives some support from Barry's (1805,59) observation of the state of Pierowall harbour around the turn of the 18th century:

> "from the blowing of the sand, which of late has been very great, the water has become so shallow, that ships...are compelled to anchor...farther out in the harbour."

(2.2 - 2.4) There are no additional structures at this site and no items of worked stone or other finds have been reported.

(3.0) The earliest documentary reference to this site may well be contained in Orkneyinga Saga (cap.LXXII: Taylor 1938,252,386), in its reference to the church in which Earl Rognvald attended Mass in 1136. It is unlikely, however, that any of the extant remains could be assigned to that period. Both the RCAMS (1946,ii,343) and Lamb (1983c,37) have suggested that the present building may have been built on medieval foundations. Ritchie and Ritchie (1978,72) have argued that the oldest fabric dates from the 13th century and that the original church consisted of a nave 14.50 m long and 5.80 m wide, with a chancel at the E end. However, this present study is not aware of any criteria which would substantiate this dating.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site. The site's probable location at an old district boundary may be significant and this is considered in Volume 1-Chapter 6.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,37,No.150: OSCI HY 44NW2: OR 913: Ritchie 1985b,94,No.45: Ritchie & Ritchie 1978,72: RCAMS 1946,ii,343-344,No.1030: Tudor 1883,374

Visited: 22June 1982

WESTRAY 2: NOUP CHAPEL SITE area HY 412 489

(1.0) Noup farm is located approximately 10 m above OD. According to an 18th century estate map (OCL.E29: Chapter 6,

fig.49), Noup would seem to have formed part of the district of Noltland and Dykeside.

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at this location. The tradition of a chapel at Noup is, however, still known to the present propriator.

(2.4) An extremely large mound, possibly of artificial origin but augmented by wind-blown sand, stands between the farm and the shore. Casual excavations on the mound `several years ago´ (pers.comm propriator of Noup) exposed a stone setting with sides 0.40 m and 0.60 m long and 0.40 m deep. No finds, however, were reported.

(3.0) The "obscure ruins" of a chapel at Noup were first reported by Neale (1848,117), although it not clear if he actually had a first-hand knowledge of the site (Neale 1848,vi: see below p.140). Nevertheless, this source has not been credited or utilized by any subsequent survey. A chapel at Noup was also reported by Clouston (1927a,334). The source of his information, however, is unknown. A final reference, which has formed the basis for the OS record and for the most recent survey by Lamb (1983c,37), was provided by the 1928 RCAMS survey which recorded the tradition that the chapel stood close to the farmhouse (RCAMS 1946,ii,359,No.1066).

(4.0) There is insufficient archaeological evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site.

REFERENCES

Clouston 1927a,334: Lamb 1983c,37,No.151: Neale 1848,117: OSCI HY44NW21: OR 902: RCAMS 1946,ii,359,No.1066

Visited: 7th June 1982

WESTRAY 3: NOLTLAND CASTLE CEMETERY SITE HY 4292 4868

(1.0) Noltland castle is situated 24 m above OD and lies 0.75 km W of Pierowall. It is located on the district of Noltland and Dykeside, within the bounds of the North or Lady parish. Furthermore, the site would seem to have been situated at or within 100 m of the boundary between the districts of Noltland & Dykeside and Wa (Chapter 6: fig.49).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at this location.

(3.0) Clouston (1927a,335) has recorded the discovery of a large number of skeletons at this site and he appears to have consequently assumed that a chapel also must once have existed there. Another account appears to describe the same discovery. This is contained in the RCAMS (1946,ii,345) report which recounts the discovery of an "early cemetery" adjoining the W side of the castle. The cemetery had been exposed during excavations which were carried out in conjunction with a programme of repair work, sometime prior to 1928. The site, however, has not since been considered as an ecclesiastical site.

(3.1) There is a vague tradition of a chapel `at Noltland´ (pers.comm propriator of Iphs). The age of this tradition is not known and it has not previously been recorded.

(4.0) The date of this possible cemetery and its extent cannot easily be determined from the meagre references which now exist. However, the RCAMS description of the graves as having formed part of an "early cemetery" would seem to imply that it was understood to be older than the castle. The castle is conventionally dated to c.1560 (RCAMS 1946,ii,345-350,No.1033:

Lamb 1983c,38,No.156) and thus the cemetery would presumably be pre-Reformation in date. The cemetery's extent is less easily determined. However, there is an interesting feature on the OS 1:10560 map (Sheet 54/55) of 1879. The farm enclosure at Noltland farm, which lies adjacent to the castle to the N, is shown to have been oval in form and to have contained within its bounds a second possible curvilinear enclosure, indicated by hachures. This form of farm enclosure is not common in Orkney and it is conceivable that the curvilinear farm enclosure may contain elements of an earlier ecclesiastical boundary. This feature, now altered by modern extensions (OS 1:10000 HY44NW), has not, however, been checked on the ground and this suggestion is only very tentatively advanced as a possible explanation for the pre-1928 discovery of a cemetery at or under Noltland castle. The site's location in the vicinity of the district boundary between Noltland & Dykeside and Wa may be significant and this is considered in Chapter 6.

REFERENCES

Clouston 1927a,335: RCAMS 1946,ii,345,No.1033

Visited: 7th June 1982

WESTRAY 4: CURQUOY/KIRKHOUSE/SAINTEAR CHAPEL SITE — area HY 431 474-area HY 436 480

(1.0) The location of this presumed chapel site is not known. The place-names, Curquoy, Kirkhouse and Saintear, however, may suggest that the site lay somewhere in the area to the W of Loch Saintear. The place-names are considered below (Subsection 3.0). The site would lie within the district of Wa, which forms part of

the North or Lady parish (fig.49).

(2.0 - 2.4) This area, which is now intensively farmed, has not been systematically examined. No trace of an ecclesiastical site, however, has been detected by either this or any previous survey. There is no archaeological evidence for this site.

(3.0) The field-name Curquoy was first reported to this survey in 1982 (pers.comm R.G Lamb). Dr. Lamb has suggested that the field-name may be derived from ON. kirkja and may thus be indicative of a chapel site (Lamb 1983c,37,No.147). Marwick (1947,58; 1952a,39,125), however, seems to have been less than happy with this derivation and has noted that the first element in the field-name could also reflect ON. korki, meaning `oats´. This study is therefore sceptical of the Curquoy field-name as a kirkja place-name. Nonetheless, a chapel site in the area has also been proposed by Marwick (1952a,42) on the basis of the Kirkhouse and Saintear place-names.

(3.1) An ecclesiastical site in the area around Loch Saintear is unknown to the local island tradition. Marwick (1952a,42), however, has commented upon the possible dedication name of the postulated Saintear chapel site. Marwick drew attention to the earlier theories of Scott (1918,136; 1926,52) who believed that church names combining the elements `tayre´, `tears´, `tear´ or `deer´ were indicative of ecclesiastical foundations by, or were associated with, the early saint, St. Drostan. Marwick, however, appears to have shied away from an acceptance of these ideas, preferring instead to conclude that the name Saintear is `origin obscure´.

(4.0) The concentration of place-names with possible ecclesiastical connotations in the area of Loch Saintear may indicate an ecclesiastical site in the vicinity. The problems involved in the interpretation of toponymic evidence, however, will be readily apparent. Kirk and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,37,No.147: Marwick 1952a,39,40,42,sub Curquoy, Haabreck, Saintear: OR 863

Visited: 6th June 1982

WESTRAY 5: CROSSKIRK, TUQUOY (pls.22-26: fig.12) HY 4551 4316

(1.0) Crosskirk lies on the S shore of the Ness of Tuquoy, just above the beach at 5 m above OD (pl.22). Erosion of the shoreline below the site has been quite considerable. In the last century, for example, it is said that there was a meadow on the sea-ward side of the chapel which was large enough to paddock two horses (pers.comm. T. Pottinger). The area immediately adjacent to the chapel on the S is now protected by a substantial sea-wall.

Crosskirk lies within the bounds of the district of Tuquoy and Air (fig.49). In the medieval period it was the parish church of the West or Cross parish.

(2.0) Crosskirk is a large building of nave and chancel form, and is orientated N 82 E. It is built of irregularly coursed rubble laid in lime mortar. Traces of plaster, some of which is pink in hue, still adhere to the walls in the E part of the building. None, however, was traced in the later (see below) W extension to the nave.

The present nave measures up to 14.30 m along its longer axis and 4.25 m transversely within walls 0.80-1.15 m wide. The W half is a later addition to an earlier, shorter nave. The later work is much reduced and stands only up to 0.50 m high. There is a scarcement, 2.60 m long and 0.20 m wide, at the SW exterior corner of the nave (fig.12) and just to the E, the remains of the entrance. This is splayed and has been built with a rebate for a door frame. The W jamb is of carved sandstone, and although much eroded, still displays traces of two roll mouldings. This has been likened to work of the 16th or 17th century (pers.comm. J. Dunbar: Lamb 1983c,37,No.148). Three grave-stones are situated in the W end of the nave. One is dated 1868 and 1903, another 18*0, possibly 1840 and the third is marked by a plain head and foot stone.

The earlier nave lay to the E. This is now represented by a paved area, which was laid in c.1911 by the MOPBW (pl.23a). The original nave was at least 6.50-6.65 m long and 4.15 m wide and the joint between the two fabrics can be traced in both the N and S walls. In the S wall (pl.25a), 6.50 m from the interior SE corner of the nave, the line of the later walling has been set out from that of the earlier masonry, thus forming on plan a sub-triangular recess 0.85 m long and 0.20 m deep. Traces of plaster still adhere to the early masonry at this point but do not continue onto the face of the later walling. Meanwhile, at the butt joint in the N wall, 6.65 m from the interior NE corner of the nave, the lowest course projects up to 0.10 m into the chapel interior (pl.25b). These factors would seem to suggest that the W gable of the earlier chapel formerly stood to the W of the butt

joints. It is also significant, for example, that there is no trace of a scar in the masonry to the E, such as would be expected had the butt joints represented the exterior corners of the W gable. The joints in the masonry therefore represent the interior angles of the earlier nave and indicate that the interior length of the original chapel was about 6.50 m. However, the RCAMS (1946,ii,344-345), believing that the masonry joints represented the exterior corners of the former W gable and presumably allowing for a wall 0.80 m wide, suggested that the earlier nave was only 5.70 m long. This survey would now consider that to be incorrect.

The walls of the original nave and chancel, although consolidated and partially repaired, are well preserved and remain up to 2.25 m upstanding. The nave was entered from the S over a raised threshold and through an unrebated round arched doorway, 0.70 m wide and 1.70 m high (pl.24b). The jambs are parallel and have been built with projecting imposts to carry the temporary centering used in the construction of the arch. Additional support for the centering was also provided by setting the soffit of the arch back from the line of the jambs.

A round arched window lies to the E of the entrance (pl.24b). The daylight measures 0.30 m wide and 0.80 m high, but internally is 0.50 m and 1 m respectively. The window is splayed, has an inclined sill and has been built without rebates.

Between the entrance and the window there is a deliberate void through the S wall (pl.24b). The hole has been built with sides 0.15-0.20 m long and is located 1.30 m above the paved

floor. This feature was first noted by the RCAMS (1946,ii, fig.442) but was not described. It may be a put-log hole or possibly a squint but this seems unlikely. A second possible feature, previously unnoted, was traced in the N wall of the nave, 0.90 m from the interior NE corner (pl.26a). The lower two courses of the wall at this point have been built in line with the N wall-face but the overlying seven courses have been set back up to 0.10 m. The feature is 1.45 m wide internally and 1.25 m wide externally and both sides are set at approximately 45 degrees to the wall-face. This feature may represent a blocked opening of some kind or, perhaps more likely, repair work when the building was consolidated and taken into Guardianship. Nonetheless, the manner in which the upper courses of the masonry are set out of line with the wall-face is curious.

The chancel is entered through an arched doorway, 1.25 m wide and 2.10 m high (pl.24a). The jambs are inclined and the arch has been constructed in the same manner as the original doorway. The chancel measures 2.80 m EW and 2.10 m NS within walls 0.75 m wide on the N and S, 0.90 m wide on the E. It has been ceiled with a barrel-vault (pl.23b), the base of which has been set back at the springing so as to accommodate a temporary wooden centering.

(2.1) The present graveyard, which is roughly sub-rectangular in form, is contained within a drystone wall and measures up to 75 m EW and 40 m NS. There are, however, traces of an earlier sub-rectangular enclosure inside the present graveyard. It is represented by a turf-covered bank, 0.50 m high, over which a number of 19th century burials have been inserted. The bank

defines an area approximately 50 m EW and 25 m NS and thus encloses an area of roughly 0.12 ha. Part of the earlier enclosure may also be indicated by a mounded area which lies to the W of the present graveyard wall. Furthermore, it may be noted that Crosskirk is not aligned with either enclosure (fig.12).

(2.2 - 2.3) There are no additional structures at this site and no items of worked stone, other than the door-jamb, were noted. No trace now remains of the red sandstone gable mount which was recorded by Dryden in 1870 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,126).

(2.4) Recent excavations (Owen 1982;1983) have been carried out 60 m to the W of the churchyard, in an area where extensive settlement remains have been exposed through erosion of the shoreline. The excavations revealed a large hall-like structure and this has been assigned to the 12th century or later on the basis of the contained finds and by analogy with other Late Norse buildings in Orkney. Dr. Lamb (1981), meanwhile, has suggested that the site may have been associated with Haflidi Thorkelsson, one of the leading landowners in Westray in the 12th century.

(3.0) According to one authority (NSA 1842,125), Crosskirk remained in use until c.1777:

> "...originally a place of Roman Catholic worship but latterly of Presbyterian until about 65 years ago it became ruinous and a new church was erected on the other side of the island."

The building, however, was still in use in 1795 (OSA 1799(1978),359) and Lamb (1983c,38,No.154) has noted that the new church was not built until 1823. Crosskirk may thus have been abandoned sometime between these dates.

The first detailed survey of the site was undertaken by Dryden in 1870 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,124-126). The E gable of the chancel had apparently fallen shortly before his visit and Dryden was informed that it had had an E window and that it was similar in form to the one in the S wall of the nave. Dryden's record may also allow us to determine the extent to which the building was later repaired during the consolidation work in 1911. It is extremely difficult to distinguish the modern repair and consolidation work from the in situ fabric since much of the present masonry has been repointed. However, examination of Dryden's drawings and elevations would suggest that much of the NE angle of the nave and possibly part of the original S entrance as well have been rebuilt. The evidence for the latter, however, is less certain. Dryden's text refers to the doorway being "nearly complete" and one of his drawings shows the arch-head to be missing. The elevations, however, depict the entrance as intact (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,125;figs.93-95). The evidence is thus not a little contradictory. This present survey was unable to identify any late work in the construction of the S arched doorway.

The most recent accounts by the RCAMS (1946,ii,344-345, No.1032) and Lamb (1983c,37,No.148) add no new information.

(3.1) The antiquity of the chancel and original nave would seem to have always been recognized locally. According to a tradition recorded by Dryden (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,125), these parts of the building were regarded as "the Danes' work".

(4.0) Crosskirk has been variously regarded by different writers as "by far the neatest in Orkney" (Low 1778 (1915),17) or as "an

unimportant ruin" (Dietrichson & Meyer 1906,44). Lamb (1983c,37,No.148), meanwhile, has described it as "one of the most refined of Orkney´s medieval churches".

Crosskirk is conventionally dated on formal grounds to the 12th century (RCAMS 1946,ii,344: Ritchie & Ritchie 1978,73) and as Lamb (1983c,37) has suggested is almost certainly associated with the adjacent high-status settlement which has formed the focus of Owen´s (1982;1983) recent excavation. The date of the building´s extension, however, is less easily determined.

The extended nave has been considered by several writers as a material expression of the site´s elevation to parochial status (Clouston 1932a,144: Ritchie & Ritchie 1978,73: Lamb 1981) and this seems to be a reasonable interpretation. This process is commonly assumed to have been a feature of the late 12th or 13th century (Clouston 1932a,155-156: Lamb 1981). However, the identification of the later S door jamb as 16th or 17th century work clearly raises a problem. The jamb may represent a later modification to an earlier doorway; on the other hand it may be an original part of the extension. There is, however, insufficient above-ground evidence remaining to decide this question. Nonetheless, the previously held belief that the extended nave could be considered as a reflection of the chapel´s elevation to parochial status is therefore now less certain.

REFERENCES

Clouston 1932a,144: Lamb 1981; 1983c,37,No.148: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,124-126: Marwick 1952b,53-54: NSA 1842,125: OSA 1799(1978),359: OSCI HY44SE1: OR 892: Ritchie & Ritchie 1978,73: RCAMS 1946,ii,344-345,No.1032

Visited: 26th June 1982

WESTRAY 6: KIRBIST CHAPEL SITE (pls.27-28:fig.13) area HY 430 430 (1.0) The farms of West, Mid and East Kirbist, in the West or Cross parish, are located in the SW corner of the island 300 m above the shoreline at 15-30 m above OD.

The place-name Kirbist (ON. kirkju-bólstaðr: Appendix 5) may be indicative of an ecclesiastical site. The location of that site, however,is unknown and Kirbist chapel has been erroneously identified with a site at HY 4308 4295 (Subsection 2.4,i). This site, which may be identified as a prehistoric domestic settlement with an associated field system (Lamb 1983c,31,111) is located 40 m above the shoreline at approximately 10 m above OD. The site is situated on a low crest within a field of poor pasture. The remains of a broch, the Knowe of Burristae (RCAMS 1946,ii,350,No.1034), are located a short distance to the SE.

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at HY 4308 4295 or in the vicinity of the Kirbist farms.

(2.4)

(i) The site at HY 4308 4295 is represented by a low oval-shaped mound. It measures 18.50 m along its longer axis and 8.50 m transversely and stands up to 0.35 m high. A structure is indicated by a series of low turf-covered banks and protrusive edge-set stones (pl.28: fig.13). It appears to comprise two or possibly three adjacent compartments or rooms. The most prominent is that on the N side of the mound (Room `a´). Room `a´ is subrectangular on plan and is orientated N 75 E. It measures internally 5.95 m along its longer axis and 3 m transversely. The N wall, where a basal course of edge-set stones still remains forming an interior and exterior

wall-face, is 1.20 m wide. Both the internal and external corners of this structure are rounded and a possible entrance, 0.50 m wide, is located at the SE corner .

A second compartment (Room `b´) is located immediately to the SE of the possible entrance. This room is also subrectangular on plan and has likewise been constructed with a basal course of edge-set stones. Room `b´ measures 2.20 m along its longer axis and up to 1.50 m transversely within walls 0.75-0.90 m wide. No entrance into this room can be discerned. A low turf-covered bank, 0.20 m high and 0.75 m wide, extends for a distance of 35 m from the E side of this compartment.

A possible third compartment (Room `c´) is only poorly indicated on the ground. A notable concentration of protruding edge-set slabs is located on the S fringe of the low mound. These slabs appear to define the external line of a wall. A break of slope immediately to the N may signify the internal line of the same, of a wall 1.15 m wide. The remaining sectors of this putative room cannot, however, be identified with any degree of certainty. It is conceivable, however, that the centre of this compartment lay to the SW of Room `a´, and that the structure was thus formed of two adjacent, but longitudinally off-set, rooms sharing a common internal supporting wall.

(ii) A series of low turf-covered banks are clearly related to this structure and are almost certainly contemporary with it. One sector extends in an arc from the E side of Room `b´. Other examples can be traced to the S and W of the site. One, for

example, is located about 40 m to the SW of the mound. It extends in a sinuous fashion for a distance of over 100 m in the direction of Muckle Water. This feature survives as a low stone-edged and turf-covered bank, 1 m wide. A number of stone box-like features were also noted in several places abutting this linear bank. Although these low banks can be traced on the ground, they are best seen to effect from the air (pl.27). The long sinuous bank can be seen to join a basically circular enclosure at a point approximately 35 m SW of the settlement focus. This structure thus lies on the N fringe of a curvilinear enclosure. This enclosure also appears to have been bisected NW-SE by a bank and this may represent a continuation of the long linear bank which extends towards Muckle Water. This feature, however, was only detected on colour film. No trace of an E sector to the curvilinear enclosure could be determined, either from the air or on the ground. The general disposition of these boundaries may therefore be likened to a three-pronged fork with the `handle´ being represented by the major linear earthen bank which extends NW-SE across the landscape.

(iii) A third feature, previously unrecorded, is located a few metres above the shore-line and 130 m W of the settlement focus. The feature may be identified as a disturbed cist. It is orientated NS and measures 1.25 m along its longer axis and 1.10 m transversely. It is 0.40 m deep and contains a possible capping stone, now shattered.

(3.0) The site described in Subsection 2.4,i was first recorded in 1928 by the RCAMS (1946,ii,360,No.1070) when it was erroneously identified as a possible site of the Kirbist chapel. The site was subsequently visited in 1970 by the OS (OSCI HY44SW6). This source provides a more detailed account of the structure and is the first to remark upon the low field bank which extends SE towards the Knowe of Burristae. The most recent account (Lamb 1983c,31,No.111) has considered the site as a prehistoric structure with an associated field system.

(4.0) There is clearly nc trace of an ecclesiastical site at HY 4308 4295 and the extant remains, as Lamb (1983c,31,No.111) has pointed out, are almost certainly those of a prehistoric domestic settlement.

REFERENCES

RCAMS Notebook,Orkney,No.2,6th July 1928: RCAMS 1946,ii,360, No.1070: Lamb 1983c,31,No.111,37,No.149: OSCI HY44SW6: OR 722

Visited: 30th May 1982

WESTRAY 7: CLEAT CHAPEL SITE (pl.29) HY 4648 4685

(1.0) Cleat is located on the E coast of Westray, within the bounds of the West or Cross parish (fig.49). The site of the alleged chapel site and burial ground is located immediately adjacent and to the N of the present farm buildings within a modern enclosure at 15 m above OD.

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Cleat and no finds of a specifically Christian nature have been recorded from this area. The site of the alleged chapel and burial ground is described below (Subsection 2.4).

(2.4) The site (pl.29) is represented by a low amorphous turf-covered mound, approximately 50 m in diameter. It has been quarried and a number of erect stones protrude through the turf although they form no coherent plan. The line of a drystone wall of uncertain age is visible at the E edge of the mound, close to the present byre. It stands up to three courses high (0.25-0.40 m) and can be traced for approximately 1.50 m.

(3.0) A chapel site at Cleat was first recorded by Neale (1848,117) who described it as an "obscure ruin". The site was not, however, indicated on the earliest OS 1:10560 map (Sheets 74/75) of 1879. However, the tradition that the ruins of a chapel had once been visible within the enclosure was recorded by the RCAMS (1946,ii,360,No.1068). The site was apparently levelled at some time before 1928 during which operation

> "a great number of human skeletons and a large deposit of kitchen midden refuse were exposed. A typical comb of bone, with dots and circles on the plate, is reported to have been picked up among the debris"
>
> RCAMS 1946,ii,360,No.1068

More recent surveys by the OS in 1970 (OSCI HY44NE7) and Lamb (1983c,36,No.146) have identified the site as a domestic settlement of probable Iron Age date.

(3.1) Several traditions have been connected with this site. In 1928 Corrie (RCAMS Notebook,Orkney,No.2,4th July 1928) recorded the then current tradition that the old house of Cleat, burnt down after the 1745 uprising, had once occupied the site at HY 4648 4685. Current tradition, however, still identifies the site as that of a burial ground and it is connected in the

popular imagination with also having been the site of a battle (pers.comm propriator of Cleat). It is possible that this latter story may allude to Corrie's record of the burning down of the old house. It may have developed, however, simply as a popular explanation for the burial ground whose authenticity otherwise can hardly be doubted.

(4.0) Discussion of this site is difficult since the basic record is incomplete. In particular one would wish to know more about the skeletons which were found in the pre-1928 levelling of the site and their stratigraphic relationship to the middens. Without this basic information it is impossible to say little more than that a possible cemetery of unknown date and a domestic settlement of possibly Iron Age date appear to have been sited in close proximity to oneanother.

It is equally uncertain whether or not Neale's statement regarding the "obscure ruins" of a chapel at Cleat can be confidently relied upon. It is not known if Neale (1848,vi) had a first-hand knowledge of the site but in any case his use of the word `obscure' would imply that there were few, if any, diagnostic features still extant. Furthermore, the possibility that these "obscure ruins" may in fact have been those of the pre-1745 Cleat farmhouse, as recorded by Corrie, further confounds the question of the site's identification.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,36,No.146: Neale 1848,117: OR 704: OSCI HY44NE7: RCAMS Notebook, Orkney,No.2,4th July 1928: RCAMS 1946,ii,360,No.1068

Visited: 8th June 1982

WESTRAY 8: OLD KIRKHOUSE / MOUND OF SKELWICK HY 4892 4524
CHAPEL SITE (pl.30: fig.14)

(1.0) A farmhouse known as Old Kirkhouse formerly stood within an enclosure close to the Mound of Skelwick and a chapel is believed to have once existed near this spot (RCAMS 1946,ii,360, No.1069). The Mound of Skelwick stands immediately above the shoreline at 10 m above OD. Skelwick lay within the bounds of the West or Cross parish (fig.49).

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at this location and no features or finds of a specifically Christian nature have been recorded from this area. Human skeletons, however, are said to have been found during road laying in the years prior to 1928 (RCAMS 1946,ii,359: Subsection 3.0).

(2.4) The Mound of Skelwick is a large amorphous turf-covered mound, now much defaced by quarrying. The mound is oval-shaped on plan and measures roughly 27.50 m EW and 29.50 m NS and stands up to 2 m high (fig.14: pl.30).

Extensive quarrying, up to 1.20 m deep, on the summit of the mound, has revealed traces of stone structures of indeterminate type. These are visible in hollows `a´, `b´ and `d´. However, at the N end of hollow `c´ and at the E side of hollow `e´, there are a series of turf-covered stony banks, up to 0.40 m high and 0.70 m wide. These appear to define the line of the N and E walls of a discrete structure. These stony banks may be the remains of a relatively modern building which has been superimposed over those sectors of walling which are visible in the deeply quarried hollows to the W.

Several other features are located away from the settlement mound. A fragment of drystone walling, 3.20 m long, 0.80 m wide and aligned NE-SW, is situated on the W fringe of the mound. A second wall, 6.60 m long, 0.75 m wide and aligned roughly EW, was traced some 20 m S of the mound. Two small mounds are located to the W and SW of the settlement mound. One is L-shaped on plan and measures roughly 6 m and 3 m long by 1.50 m wide and 0.40 m high. The other measures 7.50 m along its longer axis and 3.30 m transversely and stands 0.50 m high. These features, together with the more structural elements discerned at hollows `c´ and `e´, may represent the foundations of a series of buildings which are shown on the first edition of the OS 1:10560 map (Sheet 76) of 1879. It is suggested that these features may be associated with the farmstead of Netherkirk (Subsection 4.0)

The modern road cuts the mound to the E. A few metres beyond the road, in the exposed cliff section, there are extensive midden deposits of animal bone and shell.

(3.0) Three rectangular structures are shown at this location on the OS 1:10560 map (Sheet 76) of 1879. The site, however, was not regarded as an antiquity site. Old Kirkhouse and the Mound of Skelwick were first recorded in 1928 by the RCAMS (1946,ii,359-360,Nos.1065,1069). This account recorded the tradition of a chapel at the site and also included an account of the discoveries which were made during the road laying work. A large quantity of human and animal bone, including fragments of deer horn, was found within the interior of the mound, together with extensive midden deposits. This account remains the basis for

the subsequent survey visits by the OS in 1970 and Lamb (1983c,32,37,Nos.117,152) in 1981.

(4.0) Discussion of this site, given the absence of any tangible remains of a specifically ecclesiastical kind, is necessarily difficult. It has been suggested (OSCI HY44NE8) that the discovery, before 1928, of human remains in the Mound of Skelwick, may have generated the tradition of a chapel and burial ground at this location and to a certain extent this remains a valid point. However, the place-name evidence for Kirkhouse, which can be traced back to the late 15th century rentals, cannot be dismissed. In the earliest rentals (Marwick 1952a,32), two farms, called Overkirk and Netherkirk, are recorded. Given the topography of the area it would seem logical to identify the present day site of Old Kirkhouse, at the shore, with Netherkirk. Overkirk could thus be identified with the more elevated site of Kirkhouse, which lies approximately 400 m S of the Mound of Skelwick. If it can be accepted that these late medieval farmsteads were named with reference to the now lost chapel site, then the chapel would, most sensibly, have been located somewhere between the two farms, perhaps even over towards the farm of Langskaill which lies 150 m SW of Old Kirkhouse and 300 m NW of Kirkhouse.

The association of chapel sites with prehistoric settlement mounds is examined in Volume 1-Chapter 7 and the siting of a chapel at Old Kirkhouse would correspond well with certain of the locational models which are analysed in this study. However, the toponymic evidence would incline this survey to locate the

Skelwick chapel site further inland, between Kirkhouse and Old Kirkhouse. This land, however, is now intensively cultivated. Kirk and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,32,37,Nos.117,152: OR 716; 717: OSCI HY44NE6; HY44NE8: RCAMS 1946,ii, 359-360,Nos.1065,1069

Visited: 9th June 1982

WESTRAY 9: BU OF RAPNESS CHAPEL SITE HY 5045 4110

(1.0) The Bu of Rapness is located in the SE corner of the island, at approximately 15 m above OD. Rapness lay within the bounds of the West or Cross parish (fig.49).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace or memory of an ecclesiastical site at the Bu of Rapness.

(3.0) An ecclesiastical site at the Bu has not been previously listed in any OS or RCAMS account. Neale (1848,117) may have been referring to the Bu or another site (see WESTRAY 10) when he remarked that there were "some obscure ruins of chapels near Rapness, Cleat and Noup." Aside from this rather obscure reference, however, there is only Clouston's (1927a,335) record of the discovery of a large number of skeletons at the Bu upon which this entry may tentatively be based.

(4.0) Archaeological discussion of this site is not possible. The human remains, for example, may not even be Christian. There are, however, certain historical arguments to consider. In the early 12th century, the Bu of Rapness, an Earldom bu (Orkneyinga Saga cap.XLVIII: Clouston 1927b,41-42), was the seat of Kugi, who was one of the foremost landowners on Westray. Four

characteristic features of the Earldom bus have been discerned by Clouston (1927b,42-43) and one of these is that the estates were usually served by a chapel and that this was frequently sited close to the main farm. Clouston's record of the discovery of human remains at the Bu may thus be related to the `lost' Bu chapel. The evidence, however, is by no means conclusive.

REFERENCES

Clouston 1927a,335; 1927b,42-43: Neale 1848,117

Visited: 29 May 1982

WESTRAY 10: PETERKIRK, RUSLAND (pls.31-33: fig.15) HY 4998 4008

(1.0) Peterkirk is situated immediately above the shoreline at approximately 10 m above OD. The site is located on a broad promontory 300 m W of the farm at Rusland. A lower lying belt of pasture extends between the site and the farm buildings to the E. Rusland lay within the district of Rapness and within the boundaries of the West or Cross parish (fig.49).

(2.0) There are no definite traces of a chapel at this site. One structure which has been considered as a possible ecclesiastical building is considered in Subsection 2.2,b. A second, previously unrecorded, feature, which may alternatively be considered in this context, is also described (Subsection 2.2,c).

(2.1) No certain trace of an ecclesiastical enclosure is now evident at this site. There are, however, traces of a bank (pl.33a) in an exposed cliff-section, approximately 45 m SE of the promontory site. The bank is 1.80 m wide and up to 0.55 m

high in section. It appears to have been of rubble and dumped earth construction. No trace of an interior or exterior facing is evident in the cliff-section. The bank appears to extend only a few metres inland from the cliff-face.

Sectors of a second enclosure bank were noted during a subsequent aerial survey of the site in 1982 (pl.31) when traces of a slight linear bank were seen to extend across the neck of the promontory. Only portions of this boundary could be identified on the ground during a second visit to the site in 1983 and the vegetation cover was such that no accurate measurements were possible. This second bank, however, appears to lie to the NW of that seen in the exposed cliff-section and the two features do not appear to be related.

(2.2)

(a) A large amorphous mound, of artificial construction, dominates the Peterkirk promontory. It measures up to 30 m in diameter and stands 1.50 m high. The mound is almost wholly turf-covered. A length of drystone walling was, however, discerned on a subsequent visit to this site in 1983. It is located at the top edge of the mound, 7.50 m NE of the larger quarried area. At most only two courses of the wall (0.10 m high) are exposed over a distance of 2.50 m. The wall is straight and is aligned approximately NW-SE. The mound has been identified as the site of a possible broch (Lamb 1983c,38,No.153: Subsections 3.0 & 4.0).

There is clear evidence of quarrying at this site (fig.15). One hollow, 6.50 m NW-SE, 3.75 m transversely and 0.50 m deep, is located S of the centre of the mound. A length of walling which is exposed in the NW face of this hollow is discussed below (Subsection 2.2,b). A second, `U´-shaped, hollow, 4 m EW, 3.50 m NS and 0.50 m deep, is located on the NW side of the mound. An arrangement of three thin edge-set slabs is located immediately N of this feature. This stone setting has been described as "a small cist-like box" (Lamb 1983c,38,No.153). It may be significant that there is no S edge to this setting. An exposed rubble spread in the N side of this hollow, immediately adjacent and to the S of the three edge-set slabs, may represent the rubble core of an edge-set faced stone wall, 0.75 m wide and aligned approximately NS. Unfortunately, little of this feature now remains, although a rubble spread and a single edge-set stone 4 m to the S, on the other side of the hollow, may represent the line of an adjoining S wall. There is, however, insufficient evidence to enable the positive identification of this feature.

(b) A length of drystone walling (pl.32a) has been partially exposed by sea-erosion in the W sector of the mound. The wall is orientated roughly NS and can be traced for 3.10 m. It stands 0.40 m high at its N end but only up to 0.20 m high at its S end. There is no indication of a termination to this wall, whose N and S extremities are buried. The upper surface of the wall is still partially turf-covered and there is no visible trace of an opposing E wall-face.

The wall exhibits at least two major phases of construction. These are indicated by a clear butt-joint between stonework of different type and character. The masonry to the S of the joint is composed of large blocks of split flagstone and shore boulders, whilst to the N, and higher up, the blocks of stone are smaller and appear to have been carefully arranged in random courses. There is, however, insufficient evidence to decide which is the earlier piece of walling.

A second length of drystone walling is visible higher up the mound to the NE, in the exposed NW face of the subrectangular quarried hollow. This length of walling stands 0.50 m high, is of indeterminate width and can be traced over a distance of 1.05 m. It is orientated approximately NE-SW.

These two lengths of drystone walling have been previously identified as the possible remains of the N and W walls of the Peterkirk chapel (OSCI HY44SE2: Subsection 3.0). This present survey, however, cannot support this identification (Subsection 4.0).

(c) Slight traces of a small subrectangular structure, previously unrecorded, were detected on a subsequent visit to this site in 1983. This structure was not noted on the 1982 visit and it is therefore not featured on that plane-table survey (fig.15). It is located a few metres NNE of the mound in an area of level ground. The NW and SW exterior corners of this structure lie approximately 7.50 m from the edge-set slab near the centre of the mound and 5.20 m and 4.50 m respectively from the edge-set slab which is located near the top edge of the mound to the NE of the first. The structure is orientated

approximately N 50 E.

The structure is represented by a series of turf-covered banks, 0.50-0.75 m wide and 0.10 m high. These banks define a small subrectangular structure whose maximum external dimensions do not exceed 4 m along its longer axis and 3 m transversely. Traces of stonework were noted in the E bank and at the NW corner of this structure.

(d) A number of edge-set stones protrude through the turf at several points on the mound. Some of these are located in the vicinity of the `U´-shaped hollow. Two others are situated a few metres to the E of this feature. The first measures 0.85 m long and 0.08 m wide and is aligned roughly NW-SE. The second, to the NE of the first, is aligned roughly NE-SW and is 0.30 m long and 0.05 m thick. The former stone has been identified as a possible grave-marker (OSCI HY44SE2: Subsections 3.0 & 4.0).

A previously unrecorded multiple setting of edge-set stones is located on the S fringe of the mound (pl.32b: fig.15). Over 20 in all, several up to 0.75 m long, were traced and plotted. The stones are closely packed together and, with but two exceptions, share a common NW-SE alignment, leaning into the slope of the mound. The possible identification of this feature is considered elsewhere (Subsection 4.0).

(e) Several middens, composed of animal bone and shell, have been identified at this site (OSCI HY44SE2: Lamb 1983c,38,No.153: Subsection 3.0). None, however, was located on this survey.

(2.3) No items of worked stone have been recorded at this site. Fragments of coarse Iron Age type pottery, however, have been recovered (RCAMS 1946,ii,344). A small fragment of the same was also found on this present survey on the rock shelves below the exposed NS aligned drystone wall. The piece is a body sherd (9 mm thick) belonging to a vessel with a buff-brown exterior and dark grey interior fabric.

(2.4) Three structures or features are described under this heading. They are located to the SE of the promontory site and have been exposed in the eroded shoreline.

(a) There are traces of an indeterminate mound or structure 60 m SE of Peterkirk (RCAMS 1946,ii,361,No.1080: OSCI HY54SW6: Lamb 1983c,35,No.136). It was recorded on this present survey and described as `Site 2´ (fig.16).

The mound measures 7.20 m NS and 4.80 m EW and has evidently been scooped out on top, thus leaving, in its remaining sectors, a series of curving banks, 1.45 m wide and 0.25 m high. A second bank, 6 m long and also curving, adjoins this feature on the N. The sides of this second bank are defined in a number of places by a series of edge-set slabs. The mound has been substantially eroded in its W sector (pl.33b). A second mound, which is located a few metres to the S, is almost completely eroded away.

(b) A rectangular slab-formed structure is located 40 m SE of the Peterkirk mound and 2.50 m N of the bank which is exposed in the cliff-section (Subsection 2.1). The feature is composed of three thin edge-set slabs, 20 mm thick, forming the N, S and W sides of a box-like feature or cist. The slabs delimit

an area 0.90 m NS and at least 0.80 m EW. An E side to this feature was not, however, located.

(c) A modern stone field drain was noted to the S of the bank which is exposed in the cliff section (Subsection 2.1).

(3.0) There are few references to Peterkirk in the early literature. A passing reference by Neale (1848,117) to "some obscure ruins" of a chapel near Rapness appears to be the earliest recorded possible mention of either this, or perhaps more likely the Bu site (WESTRAY 9).

The first survey of Peterkirk was undertaken in 1928 by the investigators of the RCAMS (1946,ii,344). The site is included, along with the churches at Pierowall and Tuquoy (WESTRAY 1 & 5), under the section headed `Ecclesiastical Monuments´, as opposed to being considered under the section headed `Sites´ (RCAMS 1946,ii,359-360). The entry, however, is brief and refers only to some "very scanty evidences of Peter Kirk, with its burial ground" (RCAMS 1946,ii,344). This evidence, however, is not described. Sections of drystone walling and fragments of coarse Iron Age type pottery were identified and it was concluded that the chapel had been erected upon the site of a prehistoric structure.

The OS visit in 1970 produced a far more detailed account of this site (OSCI HY44SE2). The quarried hollows and several exposed shell and bone middens are first recorded in this account. An attempt, however, was also made to interpret and identify the physical remains at this site. The exposed length of drystone walling in the W sector of the mound

(Subsection 2.2,b) was suggested, albeit tentatively, as the outer face of the W wall of the chapel. An attempt was made, furthermore, to link this line of masonry with the exposed section in the hollow to the NE and to identify the latter as the interior face of the N wall of the chapel. The OS suggested therefore that the chapel had been at least 5 m wide and, in view of the projected alignments of these two sections of drystone walling, concluded that the chapel had been constructed off-square. Furthermore, a single upright slab, a few metres to the N (Subsection 2.2,d), was identified as a possible grave marker.

The most recent survey of Peterkirk was undertaken by Lamb (1983c,38,No.153) in 1983. Several features identified by this present (1982 & 1983) survey were confirmed and a fresh discussion of the physical evidence was attempted. Lamb's survey identified at least three distinct periods of building in the exposed length of walling in the W sector of the mound (Subsection 2.2,b). The OS interpretation of the drystone masonry as the walls of the Peterkirk chapel, however, was rightly criticized and as Lamb (1983c,38,No.153) has commented, "it is impossible to connect the two or say whether they belong to the church or to the older structure." Exposed midden material, several erect stones, including a cist-like arrangement on the NW side of the mound (Subsection 2.2,a) and a slab-formed structure to the SE of the site (Subsection 2.4,b) are recorded in this account. Lamb's overall assessment, however, concluded that "the site....appears to be a more than usually considerable chapel occupying the site perhaps of a

broch." This analysis is examined below (Subsection 4.0).

(4.0) The identification and interpretation of the physical remains at Peterkirk is difficult and it is impossible to place them convincingly into an ecclesiastical context. Indeed, none of the physical remains at the site needs necessarily be interpreted in an ecclesiastical context and, without the toponymic evidence, it is certain that none of the evidence reviewed above would have ever been so interpreted. The Peterkirk site is clearly a good example of the many problems involved in the identification of ecclesiastical sites in the field. This problem, which is best exemplified in the OS account (OSCI HY44SE2), is not so much concerned with the recording of archaeological features but is rather concerned with the interpretation of those remains.

This present survey can see no justification for the OS identification of the two exposed sections of drystone walling as the N and W walls of a chapel. Clearly, there are insufficient data to enable the positive identification of these remains as a chapel. The NS aligned wall may, for example, extend several metres into the mound, perhaps to both N and S. Furthermore, nothing can be said about the presumed junction between the N and W wall-faces in the absence of excavation. The NS aligned wall may even represent an interior E face of a previously eroded structure. However, even allowing the supposition that it represents an exterior W wall-face, the site plan (fig.15) clearly shows the poor alignment between the supposed N and W wall-faces. Positive evidence for the identification of these

walls as an ecclesiastical structure is clearly lacking. It is not so much the case that this survey has shown this structure to be a non-ecclesiastical building but rather that there are no compelling reasons so to identify it. The OS (OSCI HY44SE2) identification of the upright stone to the N as a possible grave marker must be similarly criticized. The identification of ecclesiastical structures and features at what are believed, or even known, to be ecclesiastical sites cannot be made solely on the assumption that every rectangular structure (even those whose putative corners meet at 120 degrees or so) is necessarily a chapel and any protruding stone is necessarily a grave marker. At a site such as Peterkirk, where there is clear evidence of earlier, non-ecclesiastical, settlement, all possibilities should be tested before an ecclesiastical ascription is made.

The Peterkirk site clearly contains a number of structures which, on the basis of the pottery fragments recovered, might be assigned to an Iron Age horizon. Lamb (1983c,38,No.153) has suggested the mound to be the site perhaps of a broch. This present survey would at least identify the site as a domestic settlement of that period. The multiple stone setting on the S side of the mound (Subsection 2.2,d) might be considered in this context. This feature may derive from the collapse of some earlier structure. Alternatively, these stones may be identified as buttressing, such as is found, for example, in a late phase at the N side of Midhowe broch on Rousay (RCAMS 1946,ii,197, fig.273) and in a similar position at the Broch of Burrian on North Ronaldsay (Traill 1890,342,pl.XLV). If these slabs are to be thus identified, an adjacent structure or wall of some size

could be postulated. The section of walling which was located for 2.50 m on the E side of the mound (Subsection 2.2,a) could be considered as a stone walled perimeter to the site, behind which a number of structures, represented now by the exposed sections of drystone walling (Subsections 2.2,a & 2.2,b), formerly stood. The relationship of the defended domestic settlement thus envisaged to the traces of an outlying enclosure or enclosures (Subsection 2.1) is unclear. The enclosure of the headland, however, could well have preceded the establishment of a domestic settlement upon it.

The identification of the small rectangular structure (Subsection 2.2,c) which lies to the NNE of the mound and the chronological horizon to which it might be assigned are uncertain. The identification of this structure as an ecclesiastical building would be to ignore the strictures and criticisms referred to above in connexion with the OS identification of the walls in the mound as those of a chapel. This latter structure is at least of a rectangular form, although its orientation (approximately N 50 E) is poor. It is also extrememly small, measuring internally at most 3 m x 2 m. There is clearly insufficient evidence to warrant an ecclesiastical identification. The structure could even be modern, perhaps connected with the kelp or fishing industries, perhaps a `look-out´ post. In short, therefore, whilst this structure could be identified as the Peterkirk chapel, there are at the same time no sound reasons for accepting such an identification.

This present survey has failed to identify for certain any ecclesiastical structures at this site. The majority of the features recorded may be quite adequately accommodated within an Iron Age context. The 1928 RCAMS survey concluded that "the church was erected upon the site of a prehistoric structure" (RCAMS 1946,ii,344). This is echoed also by the OS (OSCI HY44SE2). Even Dr. Lamb (1983c,38,No.153), in spite of his criticisms regarding the identification of any of the features as ecclesiastical, nevertheless, appears to say that a "considerable chapel" once stood at the site. This present survey, however, can adduce no evidence to suggest that a chapel, considerable or otherwise, was actually erected over the site of an earlier structure. The chapel may equally well have been established adjacent to or even in the vicinity of the settlement mound and in this context the possible re-use of the headland enclosure in an ecclesiastical context may be significant.

The association of Iron Age and ecclesiastical sites is considered in Volume 1-Chapter 7. The problems of site identification and classification are considered above in the introduction to this volume.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,35,38,Nos.136,153: OR 724; 726: OSCI HY44SE2; HY54SW6: RCAMS 1946,ii,344,No.1031,361,No.1080

Visited: 29th May 1982: 21st June 1983

WESTRAY 11: ST. BONIFACE CHURCH (PAPA WESTRAY) HY 4881 5269
MUNKERHOOSE HY 4876 5283
BINNAS KIRK HY 4883 5275

(pls.35-37,38a)

(1.0) St. Boniface church, the old parish church of Papa Westray, stands above a craggy shoreline at 10 m above OD, in the district of North Yard (fig.49: pl.35a). The sites known as Munkerhoose and Binnas Kirk lie under and to the W, and to the N, of the church respectively. Munkerhoose and Binnas Kirk are considered in Subsection 2.2.

(2.0) St. Boniface church is generally considered to date to the 12th century (RCAMS 1946,ii,179: Lamb 1983c,18) and to have been a church of nave and chancel type. The site of the chancel is now marked by a low wall for a family burial enclosure and the site of the old chancel arch appears to be indicated on the church's E exterior wall-face in outline as a void in the cracked plaster (pl.35b). Closer inspection, however, was unable to verify this. The E part of the present church may represent the original nave. The blocked window towards the E end of the N wall is reported to have had an arched head (RCAMS 1946,ii,179). Local tradition, meanwhile, suggests that this was the site of the `penitence stone' where transgressors would be expected to stand before the congregation (pers.comm Mr. Irvine).

In its present form, St. Boniface church is a large unicameral building, orientated EW and measuring approximately 10 m along its longer axis and 5 m transversely within walls 0.90 m wide. The building is reported to have been extended 2.45 m to the W in 1700 (RCAMS 1946,ii,179,No.518), an event which Marwick (1925,33) has suggested may have been contemporary

with the abandonment of the old chancel and its subsequent utilization as a family burial plot. The square windows in the N and S walls and the crow-stepped gables might also be assigned to this late rebuilding.

(2.1) St. Boniface church lies towards the centre of an irregularly shaped four-sided enclosure (pl.35a), with sides 25-50 m long. The total area enclosed by the old kirkyard is roughly 0.16 ha. A modern extension to the graveyard lies adjacent to the S.

(2.2)

(a) Munkerhoose:· The site of Munkerhoose (ON. munkarhús, monks' house) refers specifically to the area W of St. Boniface church where extensive settlement remains are evident under foot and clearly visible in the eroded cliff section (pl.36a). Bone comb fragments of 7th or 8th century type have been recovered from the eroded cliff section (Arnold 1975).

The indeterminate remains of large drystone structures and a series of midden deposits, the whole up to 3 m deep, are exposed over a total distance of just under 100 m. Structural remains are also known to underlie the churchyard and its S extension and several `cart-loads' of building stone are said to have been removed after digging graves (pers.comm Mr. Irvine). The same source has reported the discovery of sections of drystone walling up to 1.50 m below ground along the line of the present S wall of the churchyard and another feature, described as a `passageway', was encountered during grave-digging in February 1982 in the new extension.

(b) Binnas Kirk: The site of Binnas Kirk (ON. boen-hús, prayer house, chapel) lies just to the N of St. Boniface church. It is represented by a large amorphous turf-covered mound (pl.36b) but there is no visible structural element at this site. The mound is apparently formed of a dark brown loamy earth, as evidenced in the many rabbit burrows on the mound and Lamb (1983c,18) has suggested that the feature is "a typical `farm mound´".

(2.3) A coped stone lies to the E of the modern burial enclosure (pl.38a). It is orientated EW and has a plain upright slab set at its W end. It has been carved from sandstone and measures 1.55 m long, up to 0.40 m wide and 0.20 m thick. A deep channel has been cut along the ridge of the stone, to either side of which are three rows of rectangular tegulae. The stone is considered to be related to the Scottish series of hogback monuments and has been assigned on typological grounds to the 12th century (Lang 1974,220,230).

Two other carved stones are also known from the site. One (RMS.IB 200) was found 0.90 m below ground during grave-digging in 1920 on the N side of St. Boniface church. The stone measures 580 x 320 x 25 mm and displays on one face a cross pattee within a circle of 270 mm diameter. This cross is surmounted by a small incised cross with crescentic terminals and a pedastal base (Kirkness 1921,fig.3). Radford (1962a,169) has suggested that the stone is unlikely to be much later than c.700.

A second cross-inscribed stone was also found on the N side of the church, near the NE corner in 1966 or 1967. The stone was found during grave-digging 0.30 m below ground, near the E end of the grave (pers.comm Mr. Irvine) and is now displayed in

Tankerness House Museum in Kirkwall. The stone is a worn beach boulder and displays on one face a square-armed cross over an encircled cross pattee (pl.37). Faintly incised figures or designs are visible to the left of the square-armed cross. The stone is over 790 mm tall, up to 320 mm wide and 70 mm thick. There is also some carving on the reverse of the stone. This has been described by Lamb (1983c,18) as "a rectilinear pattern apparently representing a standing robed human figure". The stone is considered to be Early Christian in date (Lamb 1983c,18).

(3.0) The earlier accounts of Marwick (1925) and the RCAMS (1946,ii,179-180,184,Nos.518-520,526) have been incorporated into Section 2 above. Further comment is made in Section 4.0 below.

(3.1) Traditions regarding the coped stone and Binnas Kirk are remembered locally and have been recorded by Kirkness (1921) and Marwick (1925). The coped stone is said to have been found, perhaps c.1800, in a small bay near the church and brought to the site to serve as a grave cover (Kirkness 1921,132). It is doubtful, however, if this stone has ever been in the water and the tale has thus generally been discredited (Kirkness 1921,132). Interestingly, however, as Morris (1985,240) has pointed out, the tradition would seem to confirm that the stone was still then perceived as a grave monument.

Two tales have been recorded by Marwick (1925,34) in connexion with the site of Binnas Kirk:

> "An old tradition...had it that the people in St. Boniface one day heard the folks singing in Binnas Kirk a short distance away. And another fragment told how a woman lived there who was so irreverent as to bake bread on Sundays."

Neither tradition was traced by this survey but Lamb (1983c,18) has reported that the tradition of Binnas Kirk as a separate structure from St. Boniface church is still just detectable on the island.

(4.0) St. Boniface church would appear to have been an important early ecclesiastical centre. An argument, based on dedication name evidence, can be developed to suggest that an ecclesiastical settlement was established on the site in the 8th century. Marwick (1925,35-36), for example, has suggested that both St. Boniface church and the nearby St. Tredwell's chapel (WESTRAY 14) may have been founded by Boniface and Triduana, who were possibly members of the 8th century Northumbrian mission to Pictland. Radford (1962a,169), on the other hand, has suggested that Munkerhoose is the site of a Celtic monastery. There is, however, no physical evidence for this, although the place-name and the apparent association of two churches on the site may be suggestive of a monastic establishment. Lamb (1983c,18), meanwhile, has suggested that Munkerhoose represents an extensive Iron Age and Late Iron Age domestic settlement, on which an early ecclesiastical site was later established. The association of Late Iron Age and ecclesiastical settlements is considered in Volume 1-Chapter 7.

REFERENCES

Arnold 1975: Kirkness 1921: Lamb 1983c,18-19,No.29: Lang 1974,220,230: Marwick 1925,32-36; 1951,106-107: OSCI HY45SE17; HY45SE26: OR 847: Radford 1962a,169: RCAMS 1946,ii,179-180,184, Nos.518-520,526

Visited: 11th June 1982

WESTRAY 12: KIRK OF HOWE (PAPA WESTRAY) (pl.34) HY 4933 5306

(1.0) The site of the Kirk of Howe is situated 15 m above OD on the side of a large artificial mound. The site lies approximately 600 m NE of St. Boniface church (WESTRAY 11) and 100 m SE of Howe farm and close to the road, by which it has been slightly cut. The site is situated within the district known as North Yard (fig.49).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical structure or enclosure at this site. No items of worked stone or finds of an ecclesiastical nature have been reported from this area.

The site is represented by a large mound (pl.34), approximately 100 m in diameter, which, although located on rising ground, nevertheless stands up to 3 m above the level of the road to the E. Deep deposits of a dark brown loamy earth have been exposed at several places on the mound as a result of cattle disturbance. Several discrete dense patches of nettles may be indicative of underlying structures or disturbance.

(3.0) The earliest reference to Kirk of Howe is contained in the New Statistical Account of 1842 where it is described as formerly having been a place of Roman Catholic worship:

> "It is situated on a beautiful rising ground and the small cemetery, enclosed by a low stone dyke and covered over with a green sward, still seems to be considered as sacred ground, being allowed to remain in its natural state."
>
> NSA 1842,125-126

The site was later visited by Gorrie (1868,190):

> "In another part of the island a ruin, in an old unused churchyard, marks the site of a second chapel, regarding which tradition is silent."

The chapel, however, appears to have been totally removed soon after 1868 or at least some considerable time before 1921 when Kirkness (1921,131) was writing. Some interesting structural features have been recorded by Marwick (1925,33) who reported the tradition that the chapel was said to have had three entrances, one in each of the N, S and W walls. One or other of these sources has consequently formed the basis for all subsequent surveys by the RCAMS (1946,ii,186,No.540) and OS (OSCI HY45SE15).

The mound, upon which the chapel site was located, has formerly been considered to cover the remains of a broch (Marwick 1925,32: RCAMS 1946,ii,185,No.530). The most recent survey by Lamb (1983c,15,No.17), however, has identified the mound as a farm mound and this interpretation would be consistent with the dark earth deposits which have been recorded by both this and other surveys (OSCI HY45SE15). No structural features, however, have been reported from the interior of the mound.

(3.1) No traditions regarding Kirk of Howe are now remembered. However, an unusual tradition associated with this site has been recorded by Marwick (1925,33):

> "It is also said that there were many divorces in those days and the divorced man had to go out of one door on one side of the church, and the divorced woman on the other."

Marwick (1925,35) speculated that this tradition may have had some foundation in the alleged laxity of matrimonial relationships among the Picts. This, however, seems unlikely and

an alternative view is offered below (Subsection 4.0).

Further oral information regarding this site was also collected by Marwick (1925,33) who was told of a sailing mark known as the Kirk of Mallo or Marro. Further investigation showed that the two names, Kirk of Howe and Kirk of Mallo/Marro, referred to the same spot. Marwick (1925,35-36) consequently believed that this sea-name was a reference to the dedication name of the chapel and an attempt was made to derive the name Mallo from the name of the 6th century saint, St. Molocus (Moluoc, Moluag, Molua, Malew). This saint, according to the Aberdeen Breviary (Marwick 1925,36: Scott 1912), visited Thule and was ultimately buried in 592 at Rosemarkie, a site which was also intimately connected with St. Boniface. This evidence inclined Marwick to the view that the Kirk of Howe chapel was a very early foundation.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence on which to judge either the age or form of the Kirk of Howe chapel site. The probable farm mound, upon which the chapel site appears to have been erected, is however interesting and this factor may be of some relevance to the question of the site's chronology. It may be significant that such radio-carbon dates as exist for the earliest deposits from the Sanday farm mounds would reinforce the notion that these mounds date only from the early Norse period. The sample so far examined, however, is extremely small (Lamb 1983c,7). This would suggest, on present evidence, that the Kirk of Howe chapel was a relatively late, Norse, foundation.

The chapel is said to have had three entrances. This, however, would be an unusual feature. Comparative plan forms of Northern Isles' chapels are presented in figs.63-66. This survey would, therefore, rather interpret one or two of these openings as windows which, because of an elevated cemetery soil, may have appeared to have been situated at ground level. Furthermore, this survey would consider the divorce tradition to be no older than the post Reformation period and to have been based upon this mistaken identification when the chapel was in a ruinous condition.

REFERENCES

Gorrie 1868,190: Kirkness 1921,131: Lamb 1983c,15,No.17: Marwick 1925,32-33,35-36: NSA 1842,125-126: OSCI HY45SE15: OR 812: RCAMS Notebook, Orkney No.2,10th.July 1928: RCAMS 1946,ii,185-186,Nos.530,540

Visited: 11th June 1982.

WESTRAY 13: VIA CHAPEL SITE (PAPA WESTRAY) area HY 498 532

(1.0) The farm of Via is located approximately 10 m above OD. It lies on the E coast of Papa Westray, within the district of North Yard. The exact location of the putative Via chapel site, however, is not known.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace nor local knowledge of an ecclesiastical site at Via.

(3.0) The tradition of a chapel site at Via was first reported by Marwick (1925,33; 1952a,47) who derived the farm name from ON. ve, `sacred spot' or from ON. ve-haugr, `holy mound'. Marwick (1925,33) subsequently speculated that an early chapel had been erected over a site previously associated with pre-Christian worship. This report has consequently formed the

basis for all subsequent survey reports (RCAMS 1946,ii, 186,No.541: Lamb 1983c,18,No.28: OSCI HY45SE16).

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site and indeed Marwick's speculative report should be taken at face value and no more. This present survey can see no evidence at all for an ecclesiastical site at Via.

REFERENCES

Lamb 1983c,18,No.28 (16-17,Nos.22,27): Marwick 1925,33,44, Nos. 182,183; 1952a,47: OSCI HY45SE16: OR 814: RCAMS 1946,ii,186, No.541

Visited: 11th June 1982

WESTRAY 14: ST. TREDWELL'S CHAPEL (PAPA WESTRAY) HY 4964 5088

(pls.38b,39-42: fig.17)

(1.0) St. Tredwell's chapel is located on a small peninsula on the NE side of St. Tredwell's Loch (fig.49). It is situated approximately 5 m above OD.

A broad trackway, 45 m wide, leads down to the peninsula from an ancient settlement mound known as the Knowe of Burland (Lamb 1983c,16,No.19) which lies 250 m ESE of the chapel. This trackway is or is on the site of The Messigate (ON. Messa-gata, "mass road or road to church", Marwick 1925,35). This name is not, however, now remembered locally. Although St. Tredwell's chapel lies to the N of the Gairsty Dyke which formerly divided the island into two, it is said to have lain within the boundaries of the district known as South Yard (Clouston 1918a,238).

(2.0) The chapel (pl.38b) is of lime mortared stone

construction. Shelly mortar deposits are still evident deep within the wall matrix. The masonry consists of local rubble and split flagstone arranged in courses, levelled up with smaller stones. A number of dressed red sandstone blocks have been incorporated into the fabric near the external NW corner of the chapel. The present wall-head, however, consists almost wholly of dumps of loose stones. These may be attributable to fairly recent attempts at rebuilding the structure.

The chapel is orientated N 102 E and measures 6.25 m along its longer axis and 4.20 m transversely within walls 1.45 m wide on the S and W and 1.20 m wide on the N. The exterior face of the E wall has now collapsed and could not be traced. The N and W walls still stand up to 1.70 m high. The S and E walls, however, are now much reduced and stand only 0.25-0.40 m.

The exterior NE corner of the chapel has been partially modified (pl.41a). A section of coursed drystone walling, 1 m long, 1 m wide and 0.60 m high, extends NE and N from the corner of the chapel. This wall, which stands up to eight courses high, is curved on its E face. It has not been previously recorded and probably represents a recent rebuilding of the structure.

The entrance to the chapel is located at the W end of the S wall. It is in a poor state of preservation and both the internal E and external W jambs are now missing. The remains of a rebate, 0.25 m deep, can be traced on the W side of the entrance.

No trace of any window opening is now evident in the fabric of the chapel. Nor was any trace of an altar setting located. The remains of a single possible put-log hole were traced

towards the centre of the W interior wall-face at a point approximately 0.25 m below the present wall-head.

The interior of the chapel is choked with stone debris and nettles and no trace of a floor could be determined. The SW corner and E end of the chapel have been deeply trenched. These trenched areas may be accredited to William Traill's work at this site in 1879 (Subsection 3.0). Stone removed during this excavation has been piled up into two rectangular drystone cairns which lie immediately outside the S wall of the chapel.

The chapel is in an extremely poor state of preservation. It is much overgrown with nettles and mosses. Both the N and W walls of the chapel, which are at present the most upstanding features remaining, display a pronounced outward lean and are in danger of collapse. The stability of the W wall in particular has clearly been undermined by the excavation of the subterranean passage which lies immediately outside the gable (Subsection 2.2,f).

(2.1) A modern drystone wall encircles the site and a marshy area to the S and SE of the mound. However, no certain trace of an ecclesiastical enclosure at this site could be determined.

The chapel is located over, and within the SE sector of, an artificially constructed mound (pls.39,40: fig.17). This mound is approximately 35 m in diameter and stands up to 5 m high. Traces of an apparently constructed stone edge to this mound were located under the turf at several points around the perimeter, particularly in the N and W sectors. This has been

interpreted as the remains of an enclosure wall (Radford 1962a,171: Subsection 4.0).

(2.2)

(a) A slight turf-covered ridge (A on fig.17), roughly 2.50 m wide, 6 m long and at most 0.25 m high, extends NS up the top edge of the mound in the area immediately N of Structure B. Traces of an E return were located at its N end. This feature appears to underlie the N wall of Structure B and possibly also the mound on which that structure is located. In the area immediately NE of Structure B, the ridge becomes difficult to trace and it appears to merge with a break of slope, thereby forming a lower terrace on which Structure C is located (Subsection 2.2,c).

(b) A subrectangular drystone structure (B on fig.17) is located 3.50 m NW of the chapel on the summit of a small conical-shaped mound. The structure measures approximately 3 m EW and 2.80 m NS within walls up to 1.20 m wide. The masonry is crudely laid and now stands only 0.60 m high. It is noticeable, however, that the rough coursing of the exterior N wall-face follows the contour of the adjacent ridge or bank (pl.42a) and thus suggests that this part of the structure, at least, postdates the construction or formation of Feature A. It is also noticeable that Structure B appears to exhibit characteristics of both curvilinear and rectilinear building traditions (fig.17).

This building was entered from the SE. The width of the entrance, however, cannot be ascertained since the E jamb has collapsed. It was, however, not greater than 1.50 m in width. A

straight section of drystone walling, 1.40 m long, 0.65 m wide and 0.40 m upstanding, appears to butt the S wall of Structure B.

(c) A subcircular drystone structure (C on fig.17: pl.42b) is located on the N flank of the mound, below the level of the chapel and Structure B on a lower terrace, which is formed by a break of slope which merges with Feature A to the W. The structure measures approximately 3.10 m EW and 3.40 m NS within walls up to 0.80 m wide and 0.40 m upstanding. An entrance, 0.75 m wide, is located in the S sector of this structure, facing the chapel. An extensive stone spread covers the building and is presumably derived from its collapse.

(d) In the area S of the chapel (D on fig.17), there are a number of amorphous grass-covered mounds, ridges and hollows. No coherent plan of these features could be obtained. These features may have been formed or exposed by uncontrolled quarrying or excavation activity.

(e) Two thin edge-set stones (E on fig.17), 1.70-2 m long and set parallel to one another, 0.45 m apart, are located outside the E wall of the chapel. The present base of this feature is turf-covered and the stones project up to 0.10 m above this. No end stones to this feature were determined. The OS (OSCI HY45SE4) have identified this feature as a grave (Subsection 3.0). It is noticeable that it overlies the projected course of Structure G (Subsection 2.2,g).

(f) Structure F is located immediately outside the W gable of the chapel and has been described as a souterrain (Radford

1962a,171). The present entrance to this passage is choked with rubble and access is difficult. The passage slopes in a N direction and at an angle of approximately 55 degrees for a distance of 2.50-3 m. At the base of this artificial slope there is a compacted earth floor and the passage broadens to approximately 1 m wide and the same high. The walls of the passageway are of drystone construction. The passage turns NW and can be traced for approximately a further 4 m. The masonry has collapsed at a point just before the two circular buildings previously recorded by Traill (1883,137-138: see also RCAMS 1946,ii,fig.267). These buildings would seem to lie directly below Structure B (Subsection 2.2,b).

(g) A section of drystone walling (G on fig.17) demarcates the S perimeter of the mound (pl.41b). It can be traced over a distance of approximately 12.60 m and although portions of the wall-face have collapsed, it nevertheless still stands up to 2 m high. The wall has been built with a pronounced batter and the present top edge is set back approximately 0.50 m from the vertical plane of the bottom edge. This structure has been identified as a "probable broch" (Marwick 1925,34: Radford 1962a,171: RCAMS 1946,ii,181-182). This present survey does not, however, support this identification (Subsection 4.0).

The drystone walling appears to define the SW corner of a large subrectangular building aligned NE-SW. The top edge of the longer SE facing wall underlies Traill´s excavation cairn to the S of the chapel and continues NE of this for a distance of 7.50 m as the line of an abrupt break of slope. This line, if projected any further NE, would underlie Feature E.

The shorter SW facing wall can only be traced for a distance of approximately 2 m from the corner. There is, however, a pronounced re-entrant in the line of the top edge of the mound at a point 8.50-9 m NW of this which may indicate the site of the NW corner of this structure. On the basis of this evidence, it is suggested that Wall G forms part of a substantial rectangular building which would seem to have measured at least 18 m x 11 m externally. The identification of this structure is considered below (Subsection 4.0).

(h) A turf-covered stony bank (H on fig.17), 0.50 m high, up to 1.50 m wide and approximately 11 m long, is located immediately outside the battered drystone wall and is set roughly parallel to it. It has not been previously recorded. A gap, 1.10 m wide, may indicate the site of an entrance. Several upright stones protrude through the turf and seem to define the internal and external facing of a stone wall, approximately 1 m wide. The NE sector of this bank is overlain by the turf-covered collapse of the battered wall. It is also noticeable that the external edge of this bank is in an alignment with the base of the mound to the NW.

(i) On the NW side of the mound, below Structure B, there is a prominent ridge, 2 m wide. It is flanked on either side, to N and S, by two oval shaped hollows (I1,I2 on fig.17), now entirely grass-covered. An extensive scatter of stones is located in Hollow I2 although there is no trace in either of any constructed stone facing. These hollows may represent quarrying activity and are perhaps related to the construction of the

modern drystone wall which now surrounds the site.

(j) A previously recorded midden was not located on this survey. It was discovered by Traill (1883,138) in an area that "showed signs of a building on the south-east side of the mound". These features may have been located in the area to the S of the chapel (D on fig.17).

(k) A modern enclosure, possibly a sheep pen, is located on the SE side of the mound. This structure is first featured on the OS 1:10560 map (Sheet 71) of 1879.

(2.3) Dressed blocks of red sandstone have been incorporated into the walls of the chapel (Subsection 2.0) but aside from these no further items of worked stone were located on this survey. A large stone cross, which is reported to have been seen in the waters of the loch off the SW shore of the peninsula, was not traced on this survey. An attempt to raise the stone in c.1973 failed (OSCI HY45SE4).

(2.4) A marshy reed-covered area extends S from the St. Tredwell's complex. S of this and approximately 30 m SSE of the chapel there is a previously unrecorded mound, now turf-covered. It is of sub-circular form and measures 3.70-4.20 m in diameter and is 0.50 m high. An oval hollow, 1.10-1.30 m in diameter and 0.20 m deep, has been scooped out on the summit of this mound. Other features, recorded by Brand in the 17th century but which are no longer evident at this site, are recorded below (Subsection 3.0).

(3.0) The St. Tredwell's chapel site complex is among the most developed, structurally, of the ecclesiastical sites of the Northern Isles. The site was partially excavated by William

Traill in 1879. Its recorded history, however, extends back to the 16th century when it was first reported by the Orcadian writer `Jo. Ben.´:

> "Lacus est in huius Insula meditullio, et in Lacu Insula in qua capella parvula est."
>
> Mitchell & Clark 1908,305

The site is next mentioned in a number of accounts which were published around 1700 (Rev. J.Wallace 1693,24: J.Wallace 1700,50: Brand 1701,57-59). These describe in detail various aspects of the pilgrimage ritual which were performed at this site and certain folk traditions concerning it (Subsection 3.1). Brand (1701,58), however, also records an arrangement of two standing stones, one of which was perforated, between which was set a recumbent stone hollowed out "in the form of a manger". This feature, of which no trace now remains, was located "at the north-east side of the loch nigh to the Chappel" (Brand 1701,58).

Brand´s account is also important for his remarks concerning the chapel´s condition and setting. Brand undertook his tour of the islands in c.1683. At that time the chapel is described as ruinous and only some of the walls are said to have been then still standing. Of the chapel´s fittings, only the entrance is specifically mentioned. Brand (1701,58) remarks, however, that:

> "the People are so far from suffering (it) to be demolished, that they labour to keep them (the walls) up, and though the Propriator of the ground hath some way enclosed it, yet this proves not effectual to prevent the frequenting thereof."

Brand´s (1701,57) remarks upon the site´s topography are even more illuminating:

> "We saw this Chappel, situated on a small low Rock, within a Loch....to which we passed by stepping stones."

This description suggests that the site was once fully insular and connected by means of a causeway to the shore. It is noticeable that the area S and SE of the mound is today still marshy and reed-covered.

The site is next mentioned in the New Statistical Account of 1842, although again it is only the pilgrimage tradition which is recorded (NSA 1842,117: Subsection 3.1). Six years later in 1848 the Rev. J.M Neale published his Ecclesiological Notes. This account contains a unique reference to the discovery of fragments of tracery at this site (Neale 1848,113). This discovery has not been confirmed by any subsequent survey although this present survey´s record of blocks of dressed sandstone may be related to this issue. It should, however, be realized that Neale´s work on the ecclesiastical sites of Orkney was not entirely based upon his own fieldwork. The chapter on Orkney, for example,

> "is not entirely, like the foregoing, the fruit of personal observation; though I believe that the information collected from others will be found correct."
>
> Neale 1848,vi (my emphasis)

The first detailed survey at St. Tredwell´s was undertaken by Dryden in 1870 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,106-108). However, only the chapel, the length of battered walling to the S and the knoll to the NW of the chapel are located on Dryden´s plan. Some new

information, however, was recorded. Dryden, for example, was informed that the doorway had been flat-headed, that there had been a window in the E gable and that both the S and E walls had been standing within living memory.

St. Tredwell´s chapel was partially excavated a few years after Dryden´s survey, in 1879, by a local antiquarian, William Traill. Traill was the first to comment upon the building´s construction method. Traill (1883,137) stated that the walls were "dry built and joint harled with lime" and this has been repeated in all subsequent accounts of the site (RCAMS 1946,ii,180: Radford 1962a,172). It is clear, however, that the building was certainly lime mortared (Subsection 2.0). Traill (1883,137) also states that a window was located opposite the entrance, presumably in the N wall. This section of walling, towards the NW corner of the chapel, is, however, the most upstanding fragment still remaining and no trace of a window is now evident. This detail seems to be almost certainly in error. Traill (1883,137), however, was the first to record the circular stone structure to the N of the chapel.

Traill´s excavation was primarily concerned with clearing the chapel interior. It was during this that he found 30 copper coins on, what is described as, a floor level (Traill 1883,137). Twenty-one of the coins were of the reign of Charles II (1660-1685), three of George II (1727-1760), two of George III (1760-1820), two were French and one was Dutch (Total 29 !). It was presumably after this discovery that Traill uncovered a section of a subterranean building, "the north wall of which crosses the inside of the south wall of the chapel about the middle, and the

west wall about 3 feet (0.90 m) from the inside of the south" (Traill 1883,137). The line of this and a second trenched area have been recorded above (Subsection 2.0).

It was presumably during this work that Traill broke through into Structure F, outside the W gable of the chapel. Structure F was discovered approximately 0.30 m below the then ground level and was said to cross the first passage "almost at right angles" (Traill 1883,137). The E section of Structure F, below the chapel W gable, where such an intersection might be seen, is unfortunately largely obscured by tumble and undergrowth. The passageway (F on fig.17) is much as was described above (Subsection 2.2,f). It continues N and NW, past several sets of door checks, and was followed for approximately 10 m in all. Two circular corbelled structures were discovered at the end of this passageway (Traill 1883,137-138: RCAMS 1946,ii,fig.267). A number of small finds were recovered from the passage. These included a serpentine stone ball (RMS:AS40), an iron spear-head (RMS:HR193) and a quantity of charred grain. Further small finds, including "fragments of coarse unglazed pottery, plain and ornamented with impressed markings" (RMS:HR196) were recovered from a midden, composed predominantly of shell (Traill 1883,138) which was located on the SE side of the mound. Further small finds, including a bone playing disc and bone ring (RMS:HR194 & 195) are also listed (OSCI HY45SE4). The pottery assemblage (RMS:HR196) is also stated to have included a number of glazed sherds although this could be a misprint (OSCI HY45SE4). Dr. Lamb (1983c,19,No.30) has recently listed

the accession numbers of the complete corpus of artefacts from this site: RMS AS40, HR 193-208, THM 131,177-181.

Subsequent accounts of this site have generally been based on Dryden´s and Traill´s reports. Marwick (1925,34), however, adds an interesting reference to Traill´s discovery of a woman´s skeleton underneath the floor of the chapel. This discovery is not mentioned in any of Traill´s published works although the discovery of `human remains´ at this site in 1879 is recorded by the OS (1:10560 map (Sheet 71) 1879). This is repeated in the latest OS account of 1970 (OSCI HY45SE4). The grave, however, is identified there with a stone built feature outside the E wall of the chapel (Subsection 2.2,e). This feature (E on fig.17) has not been previously recorded in any other account.

The site was next visited in 1930 by the investigators of the RCAMS (1946,ii,180-182). The account, however, provides no new information regarding this site.

This present survey has not been able to find any account earlier than 1962 in which the drystone structure, Structure B (Subsection 2.2,b) is recorded. It was overlooked by Dryden, Traill and the RCAMS and indeed, of these, only Dryden (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,106) has recorded the knoll on which the building stands. Structure B, in fact, is apparently first recorded by Radford (1962a,172) who describes it as a "ruined... building with no recognizable detail".

The most recent accounts of this site (OSCI HY45SE4: Lamb 1983c,19,No.30) reiterate most of the points recorded in this section.

(3.1) St. Tredwell´s chapel is dedicated to the early 8th century saint, St. Triduana. She is classed among MacKinley´s (1914,476) group of `Eastern Saints´, although she is described by Radford (1962a,172) as Pictish. Various spellings of her name have been recorded although Tredwell is the most generally accepted form. Variants include Tredwall (NSA 1842,117: Neale 1848,113) and Tredwin (Neale 1848,113). In Orkneyinga Saga (cap.CXI) she is known as Trollhoena.

A number of legends are connected with this saint. In one version she is said to have accompanied St. Boniface on his mission to Scotland in the early 8th century (MacKinley 1914,476). The suggestion that Boniface and Triduana may have come as part of the Northumbrian mission to the Picts, as recorded by Bede (Historia Ecclesiastica V,2: Colgrave & Mynors 1969,532-553), has been restated by Hugh Marwick (1925,35). At any event her legend is inextricably bound up with the career of the Pictish king, King Nechtan. It is said that Nechtan became deeply enamoured of her and in order to avoid his attentions, Triduana is said to have torn out her eyes and skewered them on a twig in order that he could have the object of his desire. She is said to have then gone to Restalrig, near Edinburgh, where she later died. Her tomb became an important shrine, to which pilgrimages were made throughout the Middle Ages. It was particularly visited by people with diseases of the eye (Anderson 1873,197: Marwick 1925,35).

In a second version of this legend St. Triduana is said to have accompanied St. Regulus to Scotland in the 4th century (Anderson 1873,197: MacKinley 1914,476). In this version she was

solicited by a Gallic prince, although the story has the same bloody ending (Anderson 1873,197). The essential details of the St. Tredwell legend are also found in the account of the Cornish or Irish saint, St. Modwenna (MacKinley 1914,132).

St. Tredwell´s chapel was one of the most renound pilgrimage sites in Orkney in the early modern and possibly in the medieval period also. Possibly the first historically recorded reference to this site is contained in the Orkneyinga Saga account of Bishop Jon´s torture at the hands of Earl Harald Maddadarson. This episode occurred at Scrabster in Caithness and may be dated to c.1201 (Taylor 1938,346). The bishop, having been blinded in both eyes and having had his tongue cut out, is said to have invoked the saint (Orkneyinga Saga, cap.CXI: Taylor 1938,346). This invocation to an otherwise generally obscure saint may be indicative of the local popularity of St. Triduana´s cult at that time. The bishop was later "carried to the place where rests Saint Triduana. There the Bishop was healed both in his speech and his sight" (Orkneyinga Saga, cap.CXI: Taylor 1938,346). It is frequently assumed that Bishop Jon was taken to Restalrig in Lothian (Taylor 1938,410). It is, however, not inconceivable that local tradition, perhaps misunderstood by the Icelandic compiler of Orkneyinga Saga (Taylor 1938,13-16,26-33: Palsson & Edwards 1978,13), may have intended the Papa Westray site as the place to which Bishop Jon was taken. A second site, with which St. Triduana´s name has been associated, is that of the early ecclesiastical site at Dunbeath, 40 km S of Scrabster in southern Caithness (RCAMS 1911,86,No.312: MacDonald & Laing 1968,123-124:

unpublished survey (1982) with author). Either of these sites, purely on geographical grounds, would seem more likely candidates as the place of Bishop Jon´s sojourn in c.1201/1202.

A second saga reference to the Papa Westray site (Orkneyinga Saga cap.XXX: Taylor 1938,185,367) cannot be substantiated on the basis of the evidence available. Taylor´s (1938,367) statement that Earl Rognvald Brusison was buried at St. Tredwell´s is not confirmed by the Orkneyinga Saga (cap.XXX) account which merely records the conveyance of his body to that island for burial. St. Boniface´s church (WESTRAY 11) would be an equally good, if not better, candidate for this event.

The later rituals which were performed at St. Tredwell´s chapel have been recorded in detail, principally by Brand who visited the island in the late 17th century. Brand (1701,57) was told that people, both locals and those from other islands, came to this site in considerable numbers:

> "they use to lay several stones, one above the other, according to the number of vows which they made; some of which heaps we saw in St. Tredwell´s Chappel. And none must go empty handed, but leave something, either a peice (sic) of Money, or of Bread, or a Stone, which they judge will be sufficient"
>
> Brand 1701,59

It is also clear that the sanctity of the site extended to the loch. Brand was informed by the minister that:

> "those who go to the Loch, walk round it as many times as will perfect Cure before they make any use of the water and that without speaking to any, for they believe, that if they speak, this will marr the Cure."
>
> Brand 1701,58

People seeking cure would subsequently wash themselves in the water and items of clothing would be left at the lochside (Brand 1701,59). These references make it clear that the Loch of St. Tredwell must have fulfilled the function more usually associated with Holy or Rag wells. The medicinal quality of the loch water has also been commented upon by two other late 17th century writers. One was the Rev. James Wallace whose Description of Orkney, written in 1688 and published in 1693, was subsequently copied, with some minor alterations, by his son, who was also called James, and republished in 1700. Wallace senior (1693,24) remarked:

> "St. Tredwell´s Loch, they say, is Medicinal and of which it´s said that it will appear like Blood before any disaster befall the Royal Family."

Wallace junior (1700,50) clearly wishing perhaps to avoid a charge of plagiarism, could only remark:

> "St. Tredwell´s Loch, they say, is Medicinal; but for what I know not."

This tradition is also repeated by Neale (1848,113). Certain aspects of these 17th century and later pilgrimages can be verified in the archaeological record (Subsection 4.0).

(4.0) It will be clear that the historical and archaeological evidence for St. Tredwell´s chapel is quite extensive. An attempt at a provisional chronological phasing of the structures and features at this site may therefore be made on the basis of this evidence. The latest features are discussed first.

The massive drystone cairns which lie outside the S wall of the chapel may be confidently dated to c.1879. The size of these cairns (over 20 cubic metres in volume) clearly testify to the

amount of clearance which was done at this site by Traill.

A date prior to 1879 is indicated for the enclosure, possibly a sheep pen (Subsection 2.2,k), which lies to the SE of the chapel and for the low drystone wall which now surrounds the site. Both of these features are recorded on the OS 1:10560 map (Sheet 71) of 1879.

The low enclosure wall, however, may well be considerably older than this since it may be identical to the one recorded by Brand (1701,58) in the late 17th century (Subsection 3.0). The two hollows (I1 & I2), it has been suggested (Subsection 2.2,i), may be associated with the construction of this wall and may thus also be attributed to the late 17th century.

A phase of pilgrimage activity at this site is represented in both the historical and archaeological records. The reference by Brand (1701,59: Subsection 3.1) to the deposition of votive coins at this site has been substantiated by Traill's discovery of coins of the late 17th to possibly early 19th centuries (Traill 1883,137: Subsection 3.0). The section of curved drystone walling at the NE exterior corner of the chapel may also be tentatively ascribed to this period. It may perhaps represent rebuilding of the structure by devout visitors, as recorded by Brand (1701,58: Subsection 3.0).

On the basis of the documentary record, pilgrimage activity at this site would appear to have ceased in the late 18th or early 19th century. In the New Statistical Account of 1842, it is implied that pilgrimages to the site were no longer being undertaken. The Rev. Armit (NSA 1842,117), for example, refers

only to the problems of his predecessors and their attempts to:

> "restrain them, of a Sunday morning, from paying their devotions at this ruin, previous to their attendance on public worship in the reformed church."

Interestingly, the latest coin from this site may also be ascribed to this same period. The recent history of the site is therefore represented in terms of agricultural, archaeological and pilgrimage activity.

The dating of the remaining features at this site, however, is difficult. The earliest identifiable structure is almost certainly represented by the length of battered walling (G). The buildings associated with the now subterranean passage (F) are also likely to be related to this early phase of activity. These structures, whose identification is considered below, may be assigned to an Iron Age horizon. There is, however, little evidence to support Radford's (1962a,171) identification of the passage feature (F) as a souterrain. It is equally likely to have formed part of an originally above ground structure in association with, or possibly forming part of, Structure G.

The chapel clearly postdates the destruction of both these buildings. The chronological place of Structures B and C within this basic framework is more difficult to determine, although as types of building they would appear to be anterior to the chapel (Radford 1962a,172). The dating of the chapel and Structures B and C is considered below (pp.153-154).

The stratigraphical observations recorded on this survey generally bear out this basic scheme although some further detail has been adduced. Structure B (Subsection 2.2,b), for

example, is shown to have been more complex than has been formerly thought and it is shown to have postdated the formation of a bank of indeterminate age (A on fig.17: Subsection 2.2,a). Feature A and Structures B and C, however, clearly postdate the formation of the mound on which they are each sited.

A relative sequence can also be proposed for those features on the S and SE sides of the mound. It is clear that the previously unrecorded bank (H) underlies a mound of material which is likely to have derived from the collapse of Structure G. Furthermore, in view of its proximity to that structure, the bank may be contemporary with or later than it. At any event, it is clear that it predates that wall's collapse and, by implication, predates by some considerable time the insertion of Feature E, which overlies the projected course of this wall. The identification of the bank (H) and the adjacent wall (G) must now be considered.

It is instructive to note the way in which the external face of Bank H follows the arc of the mound to the NW. It was in the N and W sectors of the mound that traces of a stone edge could be determined (Subsection 2.1). It is possible that these features are related and it is not difficult to envisage how the entire mound may once have been wholly enclosed by the course of such a bank. Such an enclosure might conceivably be interpreted in ecclesiastical terms although this is by no means the only interpretation that is possible.

The identification of Structure G requires that an alternative hypothesis be considered. The section of battered walling (G) has been considered, in spite of its predominantly

rectilinear plan, as the base of a "probable broch" (Marwick 1925,34: RCAMS 1946,ii,181-182,No.523: Radford 1962a,171). This present survey, however, has emphasized the basically rectilinear nature of this structure. It has suggested (Subsection 2.2,g) that the re-entrant in the course of the top edge of the mound to the SW of the chapel may be related to the line of the underlying structure. The reconstructed overall dimensions of this building suggest a structure not smaller than approximately 18 m x 11 m. On formal grounds alone this survey cannot support the identification of this structure as a broch. Rather, it is considered that the underlying structures at St. Tredwell's may represent the vestiges of a blockhouse.

The type sites for this class of monument come from Shetland, at Ness of Burgi (RCAMS 1946,iii,34-36), Clickhimin (RCAMS 1946,iii,64-70: Hamilton 1968) and Loch of Huxter (RCAMS 1946,iii,83-84). Several additional examples have been identified by Lamb (1980b,11-42) and Fojut (1981a,33). However, only two Orcadian sites, the Riggan of Kami in Deerness and the Brough of Braebister on Hoy, have previously been considered in this context (Lamb 1980b,33-34).

Certain parallels between St. Tredwell's Structure G and each of the three main Shetland sites may be considered. The Ness of Burgi, Loch of Huxter and Clickhimin blockhouses measure respectively, 22.55 x 5.65-6.40 m, 12.50 x 3.35 m and 12.95 x 3.95 m. The postulated structure at St. Tredwell's, therefore, although large, is nevertheless comparable in terms of size. Excessive overburden may have exaggerated the reconstructed

overall width of St. Tredwell´s Structure G. Furthermore, it is clear that at least two of the Shetland sites (Clickhimin and Loch of Huxter) share, with St. Tredwell´s, a similarity of location. Both are located within lochs on small islands approached by a causeway. In terms, however, of overall site disposition and location, this survey would consider the Loch of Huxter blockhouse to be the closest parallel for that postulated at St. Tredwell´s.

The Loch of Huxter blockhouse is situated towards the landward-facing side of a small island and lies roughly opposite a connecting causeway (RCAMS 1946,iii,fig.601). A drystone wall, 1.20-1.50 m thick, adjoins the blockhouse and encloses a roughly circular area, 21.35 m in diameter. An apparently detached section of walling stands between the blockhouse and the island end of the causeway.

The evidence from Loch of Huxter may reasonably account for certain of the features recorded at St. Tredwell´s. It is conceivable, for example, that the stone edge, which was determined at several points around the N and W sectors of the mound, may be part of an enclosing wall. Meanwhile, the earth and stone bank (Feature H), which was considered above (p.150) to have formed part of an enclosure, may simply represent the line of a detached and freestanding wall. At any event, the St. Tredwell´s enclosure, whether it is represented by the stone edging to the mound and/or the remains of Feature H, is considered by this survey to be attributable to a purely Iron Age horizon. It may, of course, if this analysis can be upheld, have been reutilized at a later period as an ecclesiastical

enclosure. It had, however, presumably lost any such significance or function by the time that Feature E came to be inserted over the line of its course.

The identification of Structure G as a blockhouse assists little with the absolute dating of the other features at St. Tredwell´s. Blockhouses may be ancestral to the brochs or they may simply be adaptations of them to certain specific situations. Fojut (1981a,33), however, has pointed out that the evidence from Clickhimin would suggest an early, pre-broch, date for the forework or blockhouse there. Stevenson´s (1970,123-125: see also Lamb 1980b,15-19) reinterpretation of the Clickhimin stratigraphy, on the other hand, would effectively bring the forework and the broch closer together chronologically.

The difficulty of dating ecclesiastical sites in the Northern Isles has been considered in Chapter 4 (Volume 1). It is sufficient therefore to remark here that basically two divergent chronological schemes have been proposed for the dating of St. Tredwell´s chapel. Dietrichson and Meyer (1906,10) proposed a pre-Norse chronology for this structure. Radford (1962a,172), on the other hand, has assigned this building to the 12th century, on the basis of the structure´s general form and its checked door-jambs.

Radford´s dating seems the more sound. The mortared masonry alone, for example, would suggest that the building is 12th century or later. Meanwhile, the reported discovery of tracery fragments at this site (Neale 1848,113: Subsection 3.0) would suggest that the chapel was at least modified, if not

actually built, in the 13th century or later. Dr Lamb (1983c,19) has recently suggested that the chapel is probably of late medieval date and this would seem to be a reasonable assessment.

The dating of the drystone structures (Structures B & C) to the N of the chapel is necessarily even more problematical. These buildings clearly post-date the abandonment and collapse of the underlying Iron Age structures. Their date, relative to the chapel, however, can only be a matter of guesswork. Radford (1962a,172), for example, believed that Structure B was possibly older than the chapel. Meanwhile, within the context of Thomas' (1971a) developed cemeteries model, Structures B and C could be considered as cells for an associated ecclesiastical settlement. This present survey inclines towards this view, yet at the same time it must be acknowledged that these buildings are as likely to post-date as pre-date the chapel. They might, for example, be associated with pilgrimage activity on the site, possibly even `lepers' cells. On the other hand, they could represent part of an early domestic settlement, postdating the blockhouse but predating an ecclesiastical use of the site. It should be clear that only excavation is likely to provide a solution to this question.

Summary of provisional phasing:

Iron Age	: Blockhouse (G); Passage and buildings (F); external bank (H); stone edge to mound.
Late Iron Age Early Christian Medieval	: ?Structures B & C; ? Bank A; ? Features at D
Medieval Late Medieval	: Chapel; ? Grave E.

Modern (17th-18th century)	:	Votive coins; ? rebuilding of NE corner of chapel; stone wall around peninsula; ? quarried hollows (I1 & I2).
19th century	:	?oval sheep pen enclosure; excavation cairns

REFERENCES

Brand 1701,57-59: Catalogue NMAS 1892,65,251: Clouston 1918a,238: Dietrichson & Meyer 1906,10: Dryden 1870, drawings NMRS: Lamb 1983c,19,22,Nos.30,51: Low 1778(1915),16: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,106-108: MacKinley 1914,476-478: Marwick 1925,34-35: Mitchell & Clark 1908,305,316: Neale 1848,113: NSA 1842,XV,117-118: ONB 26,1879,77: OSCI HY45SE4: OR 850: Radford 1962a,171-172; RCAMS 1946,ii,180-182,Nos.521,523: Traill 1883: Wallace,Rev.J 1693,24: Wallace,J 1700,50

Visited: 10th June 1982; 18th June 1983

WESTRAY 15: HOLM OF AIKERNESS CHAPEL SITE HY 4697 5250

(pls.43-44)

(1.0) The Holm of Aikerness (pl.43) lies near the middle of Papa Sound, some 500 m off the NE coast of Westray, between that island and Papa Westray to the E. Access to the holm is difficult and much of it is covered by the sea at high tide. The chapel site, however, is located on a raised portion which is only approximately 40 m in diameter at high tide. The site is located towards the centre, some 5 m above OD, on the most elevated spot on this low-lying islet.

(2.0 - 2.1) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical structure or enclosure on this holm.

(2.2) A curving line of shore boulders and split flagstone, arranged in a dump construction, extends part of the way, to the S and W, around the standing hut (Subsection 2.4). This line of rubble is located approximately 3 m from the S wall of the hut and approximately 2 m from its W wall. In between this curving

stone feature and the standing building, there are the faint indications of a wall. This possible wall-line, formed of substantial edge-set flagstones, barely protrudes through the turf but it can be traced for about 2.50 m and appears to define the S and part of the E sides of a structure (pl.44b). Examination of the geological formation of the holm would seem to preclude the possibility of this being a natural formation.

A few metres to the S of this possible wall-line and outside the curving line of stones, there are possible traces of what has been described as an eroded shell midden (pers.comm: Mr. J. Scott). This is, however, more likely to be the result of marine deposition.

(2.3) No items of worked stone and no finds of an ecclesiastical type have been reported from the holm.

(2.4) A small rectangular drystone building stands immediately adjacent and to the N of those features described above (Subsection 2.2). It measures 4.65 m EW and 3.70 m NS over walls 0.55 m thick. It is entered through the E wall and there is a window opposite and a fireplace in the N wall. The interior masonry is plastered. Two short lengths of walling, 1.80 m long and aligned EW, have been butted onto the exterior NE and SE corners of the building. The masonry is of a high quality squared and split flagstone (pl.44a) and this may have been derived from the remains of an earlier, perhaps ecclesiastical (Section 3 below), building.

This building is now used as a sheep shelter but it is believed to have been originally built as a temporary lodge for

kelp-burners (pers.comm, Mr.J Scott).

(3.0) The earliest reference to a chapel on the holm is contained in Brand's account of 1701. Brand (1701,51) described that parts of the side walls of the chapel were still then surviving. No details, with regard to either the form or the size of the chapel, however, were reported. Nevertheless, further information, derived locally, was obtained by the RCAMS investigators who were told that the foundations of the chapel, apparently one of nave and chancel type, partially underlay the sheep shelter (RCAMS 1946,ii,360,No.1067). No further information, however, has been gained by more recent surveys (OSCI HY45SE20: Lamb 1983c,41,No.177).

(3.1) 1,51) An interesting account of the Holm of Aikerness chapel site has been recorded by Brand:

> "between it (Papa Westray) and Westra there is an Holm, wherein once there was a little Chappell, whereof some of its side walls are only now standing, in which they say, there were seven sisters buried, who were Nuns, and desired to ly in this Holm, about whose Graves this Chappell was built."
>
> Brand 1701,51

This account, however, is somewhat confusing since the chapel is described as if it both predated and postdated those burials with which it has been traditionally associated. Nevertheless, it seems clear that the island continued to be held in some veneration locally for, in a further story, the mysterious appearance of a group of men, one of whom was "higher and greater than the rest, who sometimes stood and looked into the Chappell" (Brand 1701,51), appears to have presaged a subsequent ship-wreck on the holm.

(4.0) There is insufficient field evidence on which to base an adequate discussion of this site. Nevertheless, the site's location, on a small sea-girt holm, and the traditional account of the site as a `nunnery' would perhaps incline one to include it among the class of monastic and eremitic sites examined by Lamb (1973a; 1973b; 1976). In any event, its location would seem to set it apart from the other ecclesiastical sites which are examined in this gazetteer.

REFERENCES

Brand 1701,39,51: Lamb 1983c,41,No.177: OSCI HY45SE20: OR 760: RCAMS 1946,ii,360, No.1067

Visited: 8th June 1982.

UNST, SHETLAND

UNST 1: ST. JOHN´S CHURCH, NORWICK (pl.50a: fig.23) HP 6516 1411

(1.0) St. John´s church and burial ground are fairly centrally situated in the township of Norwick and on the scattald of the same name (fig.52). The site lies on the S side of the bay and about 250 m inland. Nor Wick is one of the five principal bays on the island (OSA 1799 (1978),498) and the church is thought to have been the head-church of the district (Cant 1975,15). A substantial grass-covered mound is contained within the graveyard and the church itself is located on the summit of this mound at approximately 20 m above OD.

(2.0) The turf-covered foundations of the church (fig.23: pl.50a) are orientated N 85 E and are located N of centre of the burial ground. The building is of bi-cameral form. The nave measures 8.55-9.10 m along its longer axis and 4.25-4.50 m transversely within walls 1 m wide and 0.30 m upstanding. The N and S walls are well defined internally. The W gable, however, is only poorly represented by a low ridge, 0.15 m high and 1.50 m wide. There is no trace of an entrance in the nave.

The entrance to the chancel is represented on its S side by a large upright stone. A second upright stone lies 1.50 m to the E and this effectively marks the E limit to which the S wall of the chancel can be defined. The interior wall line of the chancel on the N side is even less intact and can only be traced for approximately 1.40 m. The E wall of the chancel is missing and the length is consequently indeterminate. The chancel is 2.90 m wide internally. It is inset internally 0.85 m on the S side but only 0.50 m on the N side. The N inset, however, is partially obscured by a considerable bulge in the masonry at this point.

(2.1) The church is set within a sub-rectangular graveyard which has recently been extended at the NE. The cemetery, which is still in use, is orientated NE-SW and measures approximately 40 m along its longer axis and 30 m transversely. The enclosure clearly skirts the mound on its N and W sides. The surface area of the mound and consequently the area of the enclosure as well is approximately 0.12 ha.

(2.2) No other structures are evident at this site.

(2.3) Two carved stone crosses are located to the S of the church. One is 390 mm in maximum width and stands 460 mm above the ground. The other is slightly smaller. The head of the cross is expanded in both cases and neither stone bears any incised or decorative work. The coped graveslabs, noted by Irvine and Dryden in the 1860´s (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,149) and similar to those known from Framgord (UNST 20), were not located on this survey.

(3.0) The earliest significant entry concerning this site is to be found in Low´s Tour of 1774 when the church is said to have been "pretty entire, particularly the altar which is cut asbestos" (Low 1774 (1978),154). A further entry, recorded by Low but compiled by the Rev. William Archibald, Minister of Unst, adds that the church "has been built of firm stone and excellent cement, the altar is as entire as when first built" (Low 1774(1978),163). Irvine (1885,387), meanwhile, has recorded the tradition that Archibald was believed to have actually preached in the church in the late 18th century.

By 1822 the walls of the church had been reduced to 0.60-0.90 m in height (Irvine 1885,387). The chancel arch, however, was certainly still standing at that time (Hibbert 1822,160) and we are told elsewhere that it stood "some 12´ high" (Edmonston 1872,284: 3.65 m). No mention, however, is made of the altar in these later accounts.

Neither arch nor altar was to remain down to the time of the first comprehensive survey by Irvine in 1863 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,148-149). The nave is recorded as having measured 8.10 x 4.10 m within walls 0.70 m wide. The dimensions for the chancel are given as 4.90 x 2.65 m within walls, again, 0.70 m wide. The E end of the nave and the W end of the chancel are shown to have been upstanding at that time. The remaining sectors of the church, however, were presumably grass-covered. The interior insets between nave and chancel were recorded as 0.65 m deep.

Some new information was recorded by Mrs. Saxby, a local antiquarian. A curvilinear foundation, perhaps to be identified with the line of an earlier enclosure, has been noted (Saxby 1905,135; 1932,13). This feature is said to have lain a short distance from the church but no trace of it now remains. She has reported also the discovery of sherds of pottery and burnt bone. These were found "at a great depth below the site of the chapel as well as elsewhere in the enclosure" (Saxby 1905,134-135). No artefacts or occupation material, however, was noted by this survey in the disturbed soil of recently dug graves.

In 1930 the site was visited by the RCAMS (1946,iii,126, No.1536). Saxby´s record was overlooked in this account which

was essentially based on Irvine's 1863 survey. Meanwhile, the OS investigator has suggested that the substantial mound upon which the site is located might be considered to cover the remains of a broch (OSCI HP 61SE1). In part, this suggestion stems from a local tradition about the site (see 3.1 below).

(3.1) The RCAMS (1946,iii,126) has recorded the tradition that St. John's church was built over the site of a broch and the slight bulge in the N wall of the nave of the church is believed to be due to this superimposition.

(4.0) The material remains at this site have been poorly preserved. Nonetheless, the mound on which the church stands, together with the evidence of the stray finds and perhaps the traditional evidence as well, would all seem to suggest that the church has been established on an earlier domestic site. The record of a curvilinear feature on the site might also be significant and it is unfortunate that this cannot now be traced. The association of ecclesiastical and domestic sites, although only a possibility here at Norwick, is examined in Volume 1-Chapter 7.

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,15: Edmonston 1872,284: Hibbert 1822,160: Irvine 1885,387: Low 1774(1978),154-155,162-163: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,148-149: Muir 1885,73,144: OSA 1799(1978),498: OSCI HP 61SE1: RCAMS 1946,iii,126,No.1536: Saxby 1905,134-135; 1932,12-13.

Visited 10th October 1982

UNST 2: BARTLE'S KIRK, NORWICK (pl.50b: fig.24) HP 6488 1463

(1.0) Bartle's kirk, on Norwick scattald (fig.52), is situated on a slope at 10 m above OD, and to the E of a small stream which

runs down from the Ward of Norwick to the N.

(2.0 - 2.1) No trace of Bartle's Kirk or an associated enclosure now remains at this site. According to Saxby (1905,134), the chapel lay "many feet below the present surface" and had been built of undressed sandstone. Moreover, it is implied that the chapel lay to the N of an early domestic site (2.4 below) and at least one informant (M. Peterson pers.comm) believed that the chapel lay under the present Bartle's Kirk Croft. This would agree well with Saxby's topographical description. Meanwhile, according to another record (Douglas-Lamb c.1968,21), Bartle's Kirk was demolished in c.1820 and its stones used in the construction of Bartle's Kirk Croft.

(2.2) Saxby (1905,134) has recorded a holy well at this site. It was situated 18 m below the site of the chapel but was filled in sometime prior to 1905. The well is not now known locally and no trace of it now remains.

(2.3) No funerary monuments are known from this site. Two stone basins, thought to have come from the chapel, have, however, been recorded. One had been built into the yard dyke and was supposed to have been a baptismal font (Saxby 1905,134). The other is supposed to have been a holy water stoup. However, neither stone was traced by this survey.

(2.4) Four orthostats, together with some smaller stones, appear to describe the corners of a sub-rectangular structure, aligned NS. The orthostats, 0.95-1.10 m high, stand in two groups about 5 m apart (fig.24). They appear to be firmly in situ, although the length dimensions of 1.50 m, 2 m and 2.40 m, as given by

Edmonston (1872,284), would seem to indicate that they have been removed at some time.

(3.0) The area around the stone setting appears to have been extensively excavated in the last century. Irvine (1885,386) for example, has recorded the discovery in c.1883 of a small stone-lined cist. The cist had sides a little over 0.60 m long and contained "a thin layer of a brownish stuff resembling ashes" (Irvine 1885,387). The same cist or perhaps another was recorded by Saxby (1905,134) and described as empty, short and deep. She also made the interesting observation that "ashes mixed with fragments of bone were found some years ago below the foundation of the building" (1932,12). Unfortunately, however, it is not clear as to which building was intended; perhaps the Bartles Kirk Croft, perhaps the structure which is represented by the stone setting. It is also not clear as to whether the cists and the bone fragments and ashes were derived from a funerary or a domestic context. Another possible cist was located by Edmonston (1872,284) to the W of the S group of orthostats. None of these cists was located on this survey..

Various artefacts have been recorded from this site. It is difficult, however, to compile a comprehensive list of these finds since one suspects that often the same thing is being described by a different writer in a different way. The finds include various stone tools and vessels, as well as a large number of `urns´ and potsherds and at least one example of a "square clibberstone (steatite) dish, circular inside" (Saxby 1905,134). The many finds have been listed by Edmonston (1872,284), Irvine (1885,386) and Saxby (1905,134; 1932,12).

Saxby (1905,1134) and Irvine (1885,387) have also recorded the discovery of a clay matrix which bore the impressions of two human feet. The feature was located 3.65 m SSW of the cist which had been uncovered in c.1883 (Irvine 1885,387). The clay deposit underlay a flat slab over which had been erected a pillar-like stone, 1.20 m long and 0.20 m broad. Irvine (1885,387) noted that the stone was "standing on its end with its top near the surface". This would imply that the impressed clay was situated about 1.20 m below ground level. The foot-marks were 0.25 m long and "very broad in proportion" (Irvine 1885,387). The local folk, as Saxby (1905,134) has put on record, "surmised they were the foot prints of some holy man."

Neither Irvine´s nor Saxby´s account was utilized in the RCAMS (1946,iii,140-141,No.1577) site survey, which describes only the arrangement of orthostats below Bartles Kirk Croft. Meanwhile, the 1969 OS account has suggested that the stone setting may represent the last vestiges of a Shetland Neolithic/ Bronze Age domestic structure.

(3.1) Very little is known about this site, with the exception of its name which is evidently a dedication to St. Bartholomew. Irvine (1885,387), however, has recorded the local tradition, current around the middle of the 19th century, which supposed that the chapel had been built on the site of a `heathen temple´. The age of this tradition, however, cannot be determined.

(4.0) There is little information available regarding an actual ecclesiastical site at Bartle´s Kirk and the lack of material remains which could be accommodated within a Christian context will be apparent. Discussion is therefore difficult.

The specifically Christian assemblage at Bartle's Kirk is small. The place-name, of course, is suggestive but the supposedly holy-well is as likely to have been a domestic feature as anything else. The impressed clay matrix is interesting and similar features, in stone, are known from other northern chapel sites. One, for example, is known from St. Mary's church at Burwick in South Ronaldsay (RCAMS 1946,ii,fig.250: Windwick 1928) and another has been recorded from the Kirk of Lian at Kirbister in Orphir (Clouston 1918a,101). However, these stones are also found on secular sites. One was found at Clickhimin and others are known from Scotland and Ireland where they are thought to have been associated with pagan ceremonial inauguration rites (Hamilton 1968,151-156,fig.70,pl.XVIIId). There is unlikely, therefore, to be anything that is specifically Christian about these foot-marked objects.

It could, be suggested that Bartle's Kirk was established in the vicinity of a pre-Christian burial ground. The evidential basis for this proposal, however, is poorly founded and depends solely upon whether or not the recorded cists came from a funerary context. It may seem likely that this was so but then one has to face the problem that the artefactual assemblage from the site contains items, such as the stone tools and vessels, which would be more appropriate to a domestic context. The assemblage, in fact, seems typical of prehistoric Shetland settlement sites (Calder 1956: Whittle 1986: Owen & Lowe forthcoming). The orthostatic stone setting, as mentioned above (Subsection 3.0), seems likely to represent the remains of a

typical prehistoric Shetland house. Bartles Kirk and its environs, in other words, might be more properly considered as a multi-period settlement site with possible funerary associations.

REFERENCES

Douglas-Lamb c.1968,21: Edmonston 1872,284-285: Irvine 1885,386-387: OSCI HP 61SW4: RCAMS 1946,iii,140-141,No.1577: Saxby 1905,134; 1932,12.

Visited 10th October 1982

UNST 3: CROSSKIRK, CLIBBERSWICK (pl.51a: fig.25) HP 6503 1211

(1.0) Crosskirk is located 400 m SE of the small township of Clibberswick on the N side of Harold´s Wick which was one of the five principal bays on the island (OSA 1799(1978),498). The site lies close to the shore and approximately 10 m above OD. A narrow promontory, Cross Ness, and a wide geo, Cross Geo, lie to the E of the site. Crosskirk is situated on the scattald of Clibberswick and Papil (fig.52).

(2.0) In its present state, Crosskirk appears to be a bicameral structure of nave and chancel type (fig.25). The building is orientated N 98 E. The nave measures 7.25 m along its longer axis and 4 m transversely inside walls which vary in thickness from 1.20 m on the N, to 1.35 m on the S and W, to 1.75 m at the E. The interior of the nave is filled with a mass of rubble to a depth of 0.90-1.20 m. Four to six courses of the interior wall face, however, are visible in places. The exterior wall face is largely turf-covered and therefore less well defined.

The low foundations of a chancel-like structure, much robbed, extend from the outer face of the E wall of the nave (pl.51a). The walls of this structure are defined by a series of low turf-

covered banks which stand 0.15-0.20 m high. A number of protrusive stones remain to indicate the exterior wall face. The E interior wall face is similarly defined. The structure, thus defined, measures 3.20 m EW and 4.80 m NS overall. The E wall is 0.80 m wide. The widths of the N and S walls could not be determined, but were certainly not greater than 0.85 m at the N and 0.90 m at the S.

The NW and SW sectors of the chancel-like structure, like the E exterior face of the nave, are turf-covered. The E interior wall face of the nave is, however, intact to a height of 1.20 m and shows no evidence of having been blocked. The chancel-like structure would therefore appear to represent a later addition to the main body of the chapel (Subsection 4.0 below).

The fabric of the chapel consists mainly of very large blocks of local split stone arranged in random courses. One, for example, at the exterior NW corner of the nave has dimensions of 1.70 x 0.60 x 0.40 m. Another, in the interior SW corner of the nave, projects up to 0.35 m into the body of the building and thus forms a corner rebate, similar in effect to a feature at Framgord chapel (UNST 20). The masonry is pointed with a rough lime mortar mix. Mica, quartz sandstone aggregates, flecks of iron ore, shell, serpentine and steatite inclusions were recorded in this mix (S.A. Mills pers.comm).

The rubble inside the nave consists, in the main, of stones of massive size. This deposit would seem to have been derived from the inward collapse of the chapel walls. Very little indeed of the wall matrix appears to have collapsed outwardly. The

latest features on the site are represented by two drystone navigation cairns, 1 m in height, which have been built on the NW and SE corners of the nave.

(2.1) The chapel is centrally located within a small rectangular enclosure (fig.25), which measures 26.90 m along its longer axis and 18.30 m transversely over walls 0.90-1.45 m wide. The total area enclosed is approximately 0.04 ha.

The enclosure wall is in a ruinous condition and is partially grass-covered in places. The wall is of drystone construction and incorporated into its basal course are a number of large irregularly shaped and vertically set boulders. The N sector of the enclosure is best preserved and here the wall is up to 1.25 m upstanding. Elsewhere it is only 0.30-0.50 m high and in the SW sector the wall has been largely robbed and only a low turf-covered bank remains to indicate the course of its line. A gap in the W sector, 3.50 m wide, is likely to represent the site of an entrance into the enclosure.

(2.2) A stone kerb, 2.50 m long, 0.30 m wide and protruding roughly 0.05 m above the ground, extends along the N wall of the chapel and roughly parallel to it at a distance of 2-2.20 m. The function of this feature is unknown.

(2.3) There are no gravestones or other funerary devices of any period remaining within or about this site.

(2.4) The turf-covered remains of a structure of sub-rectangular form are located about 100 m NE of Crosskirk, at the shoulder of Cross Ness promontory at HP 6511 1213. The structure is orientated EW and measures 8.90 m along its longer axis and 4.70 m transversely over walls 0.70-0.90 m wide. A number of

facing stones remain in the N and S interior and the S and SW exterior wall faces. The remains of this structure are up to 0.55 m upstanding. The remains of a turf-covered dyke, apparently representing two sides of a rectilinear enclosure, can be traced to the S and W of this structure (Buttler 1983a,fig.2).

The building at Cross Ness is believed locally to be the remains of an earlier chapel, the predecessor to Crosskirk (Mr. Anderson pers.comm). Extractions from the adjacent steatite quarry have now (1982) encroached to within 15 m to the N and W of the structure. No archaeological features, however, were noted in the sections thus exposed.

The amorphous remains of two structures of indeterminate form were recorded on Cross Ness promontory. The landward side is narrow and almost sheer and access is difficult. The remains of a much eroded drystone structure are located at the NW end of the promontory, at the point where the narrow access ledge widens to 3-4 m. The turf-covered remains of a second structure, represented by a hollow, approximately 2.50 m square, are located towards the SE end of the promontory. Other structures are believed to have existed prior to the 1939-1945 war when an errant mine exploded and demolished part of the promontory (Mr. Anderson pers.comm).

Recent excavations at the landward end of the promontory have examined a series of midden deposits (Buttler 1983a). These have been assigned to a Late Iron Age horizon on the basis of the contained finds (Buttler 1983a,15-17) and it is suspected that the structures on the promontory proper might be similarly

assigned.

(3.0) The site was visited by Muir in 1862 (1885,73,143-144) but his account lacks detail. The first recorded survey of Crosskirk was undertaken in 1930 by the RCAMS (1946,iii,126,No.1537). The site today is much as it was then, although their putative W entrance in the nave could not be located on this survey. The RCAMS did not, however, make any use of a number of earlier accounts which tell us much of the site's later history.

The NSA (1842,40) is the first account to mention that Crosskirk was an important pilgrimage site. Occasional pilgrimages were still then being made "by some of the older inhabitants whose minds are not yet emancipated from the Popish superstitions of their ancestors" (NSA 1842,40). The custom seems even to have persisted into the present century since Saxby (1932,14) specifically refers to Crosskirk as a place to which women in particular went "till quite lately" to pray for the safe return of their men from the fishing. These documentary sources may be linked to some of the archaeological evidence from the site. Edmonston (1872,285), for example, has recorded that "old coins have often been found at and about it (the chapel)". This discovery, or perhaps another, is also mentioned by Saxby (1905,135): "coins (were) found quite lately in the wall". Unfortunately, however, no details regarding type, date or precise location were recorded. Nevertheless, these discoveries could well be accommodated within a pilgrimage context.

(3.1) Crosskirk, like many northern ecclesiastical sites, is supposed to have been built by a group of ship-wrecked sailors, although little authority can be attached to this kind of

foundation tale. Edmonston (1872,285) is the only source for this information on Crosskirk:

> "Tradition informs us that once upon a time a ship was labouring in a heavy sea and in imminent peril. The sailors in their extremity vowed to the Almighty that, if safely brought to land, they would build a place of worship as near as possible to the place where they reached the shore. Hence this building formerly called `Santa Cross´".

(4.0) Crosskirk would seem to be of at least two periods of construction. The chancel-like structure which extends from the E end of the nave would seem to represesnt a later addition to an originally unicameral building. The absence of any putative chancel entrance, subsequently blocked, has been noted above (Subsection 2.0), and whilst the chancel may have been entered, in theory, by means of steps, this seems unlikely. A flight of steps in excess of a vertical height of 1 m, on either side of the nave E wall, does not seem a practical arrangement. The absence of collapsed masonry in this area might also suggest that the walls of the structure were insubstantial.

The secondary nature of the E room may also be reflected in the fact that it was built with much thinner walls (0.80 m) than those which form the nave of the chapel (1.20-1.75 m). It is also interesting to note the way in which the nave is centrally located within the rectangular enclosure (fig.25). Although clearly we should not read too much into this, nevertheless it may suggest that the nave and enclosure were laid out at the same time in accordance with some formal principle. Again, this might suggest that the E room is a later addition.

Crosskirk is considered by Cant (1975,23) as a product of the round-arched or `romanesque´ style of architecture, similar in design to churches like St. Magnus´ on Egilsay or St. John´s at Norwick (UNST 1), and as such formally attributable to the 11th or 12th centuries. The secondary nature of Crosskirk´s E room does not, however, appear to have been fully appreciated and the absence of an entrance from the nave must call into question the function of this structure. This cannot be determined without excavation. Nevertheless, it seems clear that this room could not have functioned as a conventional chancel and if this is the case then any formal comparisons with nave and chancel churches should not be pursued. This survey´s own view is that the structure is probably a very late feature on the site and one that might be more properly considered as an open private burial area but this would have to be tested by excavation.

There is little that can be said about the other features at the site. The stone kerb (Subsection 2.2), for example, could be part of a grave monument or a foundation for an earlier building. The small building at the head of Cross Ness promontory (Subsection 2.4) could be an earlier chapel but there are too many uncertainties. Much must necessarily depend upon how much trust one can put on an oral tradition which had gone unrecorded before 1982.

REFERENCES

Buttler 1983a; 1983b: Cant 1975,23: Edmonston 1872,285: Fraser 1909,176-178: Muir 1885,73,143-144: NSA 1842,40: OSCI HP 61SE5; HP 61SE2: RCAMS 1946,iii,126,No.1537: Saxby 1905,135; 1932,14.

Visited 14th October 1982

UNST 4: THE KIRK, BURRAFITH (pl.51b: fig.26) HP 6078 1391

(1.0) The site at Burrafith is known locally as `The Kirk´ (M. Sutherland pers.comm). It is situated on the Links of Burrafirth and within the scattald of the same name (fig.52). The site lies only a few metres above OD.

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site on Burrafirth Links. The structure known as `The Kirk´ is described below (Subsection 2.4).

(2.4) The turf-covered remains of a large bicameral structure of sub-rectangular form, 0.45 m upstanding, form a prominent landmark on the low-lying Links. The structure (fig.26: pl.51b) is orientated NNE - SSW and measures 20.60 m long and is 7.75 m wide at the S end and 6.10 m wide at the N end, over walls 1-1.50 m wide.

The building is divided into two rooms. The S room measures 8.50 m NS and 5.30 m EW internally. An entrance, 0.70 m wide, is located towards the S end of the W wall and there are traces of an internal chamber in the NW corner. The N room measures 7.25 m NS and 3.25 m EW internally. A possible entrance, 1 m wide, is located at the NE corner.

Two cultivation rigs underlie the building. One passes under the W wall of the N room and reappears a few metres to the E. A second one appears to underlie the SE corner of the S room but it is not apparent on the ground immediately to the W.

The rigs are 0.50 m wide, 0.20 m high and, measured from centre to centre, are 13.50 m apart. They are aligned slightly N of E and other rigs (not surveyed) lie unbroken to the N and E of the structure and are set a similar distance apart. The strips

thus formed are of the order of 100-125 m long.

(3.0) This site is not recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS. The only early authority for this site is Saxby (1905,137).

The Burrafith chapel site is located by Cant (1975,49) at HP 615 135 in a field below below Upper Sandfield and close to the road. This site was visited but no features were noted. Mrs. M. Sutherland of Upper Sandfield had no knowledge of a site at this location and instead referred to the Burrafirth Links structure described above (Subsection 2.4). That site was known to her as `The Kirk´, on the basis of information from her late father-in-law.

The authority for Cant´s (1975,49) reference is given simply as `Saxby´. The Burrafirth chapel, known to Saxby as `Kirk-a-rig´ is poorly described and unfortunately is only roughly located: "three or four stones by the roadside mark this spot...On the brow of an adjacent cliff stands the broch of Burrafirth" (Saxby 19905,137).

The site on Burrafirth Links is fairly close to the road. However, Saxby´s description does not adequately describe the very substantial mound which is evident at the site. Nevertheless, the reference to the Broch of Burrafirth is certainly more apposite in the case of the Links site than that at Sandfield. Saxby´s site-name, Kirk-a-rig, is also, of course, particularly apt for the Links site, given the many cultivation rigs which dominate the landscape there. It therefore seems possible that Saxby´s Kirk-a-rig and Mrs. Sutherland´s Kirk refer to one and the same site. However, the material remains at this

site are clearly not ecclesiastical.

(4.0) There are no ecclesiastical features to be seen at this site and the present remains are almost certainly those of an 18th or 19th century croft. This late date is suggested on the basis of the well preserved cultivation rigs which are certainly earlier than the `The Kirk´. The designation `croft´ is suggested on formal grounds. Kirk place-names are discussed elsewhere (Appendix 5).

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,49: Saxby 1905,137

Visited 14th October 1982

UNST 5: ST. MARY´S CHURCH, BOTHEN (pl.52a: fig.27) HP 6357 1270

(1.0) St. Mary´s church is located 80 m W of Bothen farm and 0.50 km N of the harbour at Haroldswick. The site lies at about 10 m above OD and is situated on Haroldswick scattald (fig.52).

(2.0) The turf-covered remains of the church (pl.52a: fig.27), 0.70 m upstanding, are located close to the W wall of the present enclosure. It is orientated N 100 E and measures 15.90 m EW and 8.40 m NS externally, and 12.70 m EW and 4.50 m NS internally. The N, E and W walls are each 1.75 m wide. The S wall is 2.10 m wide at the W end, but at the E end the wall appears to have been set back and is only 1.25 m wide. A similar but less marked narrowing is also apparent at the E end of the N wall opposite. Several facing stones remain to indicate the interior wall faces of the church and the discovery of fragments of mortar in an exposed face would testify to the building´s mode of construction. Meanwhile, the exterior wall face is only

delimited with certainty at the W end of the S wall.

No definite trace of an entrance was located. A stone, located 1.50 m S of the interior NW corner of the building, may, however, be associated with the entrance. It is apparently in situ and bears traces of wall plaster on its S and E faces, and as such may have formed part of the N jamb of the doorway. The width of this putative entrance cannot be ascertained, but a 1.10 m wide void to the S of the plastered stone might represent the maximum width of such a feature.

(2.1) A drystone dyke surrounds the church. The enclosure is roughly square-shaped on plan and has sides up to 30 m long. The walls, 0.75-1 m upstanding, are 0.60 m wide. It must be doubtful, however, if this feature is really the ecclesiastical enclosure. For example, not only does it almost impinge upon the W gable of the church in the area of the presumed entrance (Subsection 2.0), but there is also no significant difference in field levels on either side of it. It is possible that the enclosure may preserve the line of an earlier wall in its other sectors but no positive evidence for an earlier enclosure could be adduced. The wall appears, in fact, to be of no great antiquity.

(2.2 - 2.4) The burial ground is said to have been in use as late as 1905 (Saxby 1905,135). However, only one tombstone now remains at the site. It is badly weathered but is probably of 17th or 18th century date (RCAMS 1946,iii,127). It lies outside the E gable of the church (fig.27).

(3.0) The RCAMS (1946,iii,126-127,No.1538) survey contains the first adequate account of this site. Meanwhile, a recent

illustration of the chapel (Cant 1975,31,fig.6) shows the building with a W entrance but the evidence for this is nowhere discussed.

(4.0) St. Mary's church at Bothen is probably well preserved but there are few visible features which could enable any detailed discussion of the site. Clearly, the building is very large and well above the norm for Shetland chapels (Volume 1-Chapter 5). The building's great size and the discovery of fragments of mortar on the site would suggest that it is not an early structure.

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,31,fig.6: Muir 1885,73,143: OSCI HP61SW3: RCAMS 1946,iii,126-127,No.1538: Saxby 1905,135; 1932,13-14.

Visited 10th October 1982.

UNST 6: ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, BALIASTA HP 6026 0959

(1.0) Baliasta church is situated on Baliasta scattald, the largest of the Unst scattalds (fig.52). It is situated at 20 m above OD and was one of the head-churches of the island (Cant 1975,15).

(2.0) The present building, now in ruins, is a large 18th century structure and measures 19 m along its longer axis and 8 m transversely over walls up to 0.60 m thick. It is said to have been built in 1738 or 1764, repaired in 1789 and abandoned in 1828 (OSA 1799(1978),512: ONB 23,1878,97). Cant (1975,15,39,fn.5) has suggested that the fabric of an earlier, possibly medieval, church has been incorporated into that of the present building. This is possible but no evidence for this could be traced by this present survey.

(2.1) The present churchyard is still in use. It is rectangular on plan and has sides up to 45 m long.

(2.2 - 2.4) There are no additional structures at this site and no funerary monuments other than those of the modern period.

(3.0) No survey of this site has been traced. The site is too modern to have been included in the RCAMS (1946) survey.

(4.0) This survey was unable to determine sufficient evidence for a medieval or pre-Reformation church on this site and further discussion is therefore impossible.

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,15,39,fn.5: Hibbert 1822,157-158: Muir 1885,143: ONB 23,1878,97: OSA 1799(1978),512: Saxby 1905,135.

Visited 21st October 1982

UNST 7: KIRKAMOOL, CLIFF approx. HP 603 115

(1.0) Saxby (1905,137) has located Kirkamool somewhere on the E side of the Loch of Cliff and on the scattald of the same name (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.4) This site was not located by this survey.

(3.0) Kirkamool has not been recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS. Saxby's (1905,137) account does not mention a chapel at this site but it does note that traces of a circular enclosure were found and it is implied that this was Kirkamool. There are no other references to this site.

(4.0) There is clearly insufficient evidence available for any discussion of this site. The circular enclosure may be significant. An ecclesiastical association, however, is, of course, by no means proven.

REFERENCE: Saxby 1905,137

UNST 8: KIRKHOULL, BALTASOUND HP 6197 0867

(1.0) Kirkhoull is situated at the head of Balta Sound and on the scattald of Baliasta (fig.52). The site lies a few metres above OD.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Kirkhoull. The site is now occupied by a modern dwelling.

(3.0) Kirkhoull is not recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS. The only source of information for this site is Saxby (1905,135) and the identification of the site depends solely on the Kirk place-name.

(4.0) Insufficient evidence exists upon which to base any discussion of this site. Kirk- and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCE: Saxby 1905,135

Visited 17th October 1982.

UNST 9: ST. SUNNIVA´S CHAPEL, BALTA HP 6595 0809

(1.0) The site of St. Sunniva´s chapel is traditionally located on the W central part of the island of Balta, facing Balta Sound (fig.52). The site would be located a few metres above OD.

(2.0 - 2.4) This site could not be visited by this survey on account of the adverse tidal and weather conditions. The following account (Subsection 3.0) is based on earlier field work and documentary references.

(3.0) No information on this site is contained in the RCAMS (1946,iii,143) survey. The work of MacDonald and Laing (1968) represents the only comprehensive record of the site.

There is no certain trace of St. Sunniva´s chapel, although a dark rectangular patch of ground at the edge of the shore, orientated EW (MacDonald & Laing 1968,130), may be identical with the grass-covered foundations of the chapel which were seen near the landing place by Tudor (1883,562). The remains of the chapel are also said to have been seen by members of the London Anthropological Society during a visit to Balta in 1865 (Hunt 1866,298).

There is similarly no trace of a specifically ecclesiastical enclosure at the site. The boundary, which was identified by MacDonald and Laing (1968,130) as extending 40 yards (36.60 m) ESE from the N corner of the bay, would seem to be identical with the yard of the fish-curing station, as featured on the OS 1:10560 map of 1902.

Some other structures have also been recorded by MacDonald and Laing. One is apparently represented by a dark rectangular stony patch of ground, some 30 yards (27.40 m) from the shore. Other dark markings in the turf were also recorded nearby.

Many human skeletons are known to have been disturbed when the fishing station was established on the island (Saxby 1932, 18). It is uncertain, however, whether these can be associated with St. Sunniva´s chapel. Saxby, for one, did not think so. The skeletons, for example, are said to have been "flung together anyhow" and they have been identified, in tradition, as the bodies of those who fell in a battle between the Picts and the Vikings (Saxby 1932,18). In another account, they have been identified with a plague stricken ship´s crew who died on Balta in the late 18th century (Saxby 1932,19).

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to develop any further discussion since this survey has no first-hand experience of the site. The various features noted by MacDonald and Laing seem too indefinite for classification. They might be identified with the chapel and other buildings which Tudor (1883,562) thought were the remains of a monastic site. At the same time, however, it must be suspected that some, if not all, of these features may very well be related to the fish curing station and thus of no great antiquity.

REFERENCES

Hunt 1866,298: MacDonald & Laing 1968,130-131: OSCI HP60NE1: RCAMS 1946,iii,143,No.1597: Saxby 1932,18-19: Tudor 1883,562.

UNST 10: ST. OLAF´S CHURCH, LUNDAWICK HP 5668 0412

(pls.52b,53-54,55a: figs.28-30)

(1.0) St. Olaf´s church is located close to the shore of Lunda Wick which is one of the five principal bays on the island (OSA 1799(1978),498). The site is situated 10 m above OD and on the sea-ward side of a gentle slope which, away to the N and W, merges with the promontory of Blue Mull. The deserted farmstead of Vigga, of which only the turf-covered foundations remain, lies a short distance to the NW of the churchyard. The farmsteads of Wick and Lund lie 0.50 km to the S and 0.75 km to the SE respectively. The church is located on Wick scattald (fig.52) and was dismantled in c.1770 (ONB 23,1878,196).

(2.0) In its present form, the church (fig.28) is an oblong unicameral structure. It is orientated N 80 E and measures 14.40 m along its longer axis and 6.80 m transversely over walls

1.10-1.30 m wide. The W gable is almost entire and stands 5.50 m high. The E gable, however, has been reduced to the wall-head and, like the N and S walls, stands only 2-3 m high. The true exterior height of the walls is, however, somewhat minimized since a turf-covered bank extends around the church and up against it. This is most pronounced at the W end of the N wall where the exterior height of the wall is effectively reduced to 1 m or less. Several stones are contained within the matrix of this bank and particularly large stones are visible at each exterior corner of the church. There is, however, nothing to suggest that the bank has covered a plinth. The bank is more likely to represent collapsed masonry on which turf has subsequently developed.

The church is entered through an arched doorway in the centre of the W gable (pl.53a). The arch head springs from projecting imposts which protrude 40-50 mm beyond the line of the rebated jamb. The lower three or four courses of the arch, as counted from the impost, have been laid in a corbel fashion, whilst the head of the arch, to either side of a triangular keystone, has been formed in voussoir technique. The entrance jambs are rebated and slightly inclined. The rebates, which are set on the exterior face of the entrance, are up to 0.30 m thick and 0.15 m deep. The entrance is 1.20 m wide at base and 0.90 m wide at the springing for the arch. It is 2.10 m high at centre. The entrance is plastered throughout and is partially paved at its E end. The paved surface extends just inside the church, albeit at a lower level to that of the entrance way.

Six socket-holes, previously unnoted, are located within the entrance way. Three are located close to the S rebate. Two are located by the N rebate whilst one other passes longitudinally through the thickness of the N rebate. Most of these features have been well constructed with small flat stones and most are plastered throughout. In one, a piece of wood still remains. It is possible that these features were connected with the provision for closing off the entrance. Equally, they may have supported a temporary timber centering.

A second entrance, now partially blocked, is located at the W end of the S wall (pl.54a). Externally, the blocking material merges in with the random rubble construction of the wall itself and thus the exterior face of the entrance is difficult to determine. However, the exterior E jamb is preserved to a certain extent and both the upper and lower four courses, separated by 0.40 m of collapsed masonry, can be traced with some degree of certainty. The line of the W jamb cannot be determined at all. Nevertheless, there is reason to believe that it did not lie more than 0.75 to the W of the E jamb since the fabric of the church at that point does not appear to have been altered.

The S entrance is more easily seen from inside the church. The entrance is 1.75 m high, approximately 1 m wide and was originally capped with a large flat lintel, 1.30 x 0.60 x 0.15 m, now missing. A comparison of the interior and exterior entrance widths at base indicates that the entrance was splayed.

The entrance is heavily plastered, although none was ascertained at those points, externally, where the entrance jambs were seen or believed to lie. The relationship of the W and S

entrances is considered below (Subsection 4.0).

The church is known to have had at least five windows; two in the S wall and one in each of the others. Only three of these were recorded on this survey. The E gable window, which was small and flat-headed, was recorded by Muir (1885,140) in 1862 but had not survived down to the time of the RCAMS survey in 1930. A blocked window in the N wall has been recorded (RCAMS 1946,iii,128) but this could not be distinguished in 1982.

The largest and best preserved of the three surviving windows (Window 1: W1) is high up in the W gable. It has a round arch-head and is similar in form and construction to the entrance arch below. However, the window is flat-headed internally. The jambs appear to be vertical, although the RCAMS (1946,iii,128) have described them as inclined.

A second window (W2) is located towards the W end of the S wall. In its present state, the window is flat-headed and is 0.70 m wide and 0.55 m high internally. Its original form, however, has been concealed by secondary work and alteration. It is clear that the window was originally provided with a round arch (fig.29). The window is double-stepped and strongly splayed and has been fairly heavily plastered throughout and is similar in form to the E window in St. Lua´s church at Killaloe in Clare (Leask 1955,fig.34).

A third window (W3) is situated towards the E end of the S wall. It is flat-headed and measures 0.80 m wide and 1.15 m high internally. The daylight, which is also flat-headed, is 0.20 m wide and 0.30 m high. The window is strongly splayed and single-

stepped and traces of plaster adhere to its inner face. The interior sill is set 0.75 m below that of W2 to the W. The lintel of W3 is formed of a large thin slab, 1.30 x 0.50 x 0.05 m. The lower face of this stone has been worked and this is discussed below (Subsection 2.3).

The fabric of the church is in a very poor state of repair. Much of the walls are covered in lichen and mosses and there is a pronounced lean in the W gable. The masonry is of local rubble and schist set in lime mortar. It is arranged in random courses and the interstices are levelled up and filled with small packing stones. There is a tendency for larger stones to be used in the lower courses of the building and particularly at the corners, which are, on the whole, well constructed. There is also evidence to suggest that at least some of the stones in the S wall have been set on edge.

Three `put-log´ holes were recorded on this survey. Two are located to either side of the window (W1) in the exterior face of the W gable. They appear to measure approximately 0.15 x 0.10 m and do not penetrate the full thickness of the wall. A third `put-log´ is located on the interior face of the W gable and is of a similar character to those outside.

The church is clearly of at least two major periods of construction. The later work forms a very clear butt-joint with the earlier masonry to the W . In the S wall, this point is located 8.75 m from the exterior SW corner of the church. This break in the fabric is also clearly visible inside the church where it lies approximately 0.50 m further E than the exterior break. The butt-joint between the later and earlier fabric in

the N wall is less easily distinguished but lies roughly oppposite the break in the S wall (pl.54b).

A wall line, 2.60 m long, runs parallel to and partially under the present E wall of the church and disappears under the N wall at the interior NE corner of the building. This wall is clearly earlier than any these walls and is likely to be contemporary with the earlier fabric to the W (Subsection 4.0).

(2.1) The graveyard, which is still in use, is basically square on plan and has sides up to 55 m long. This yard dates only from 1878 in its present form (OS 1:10560 map; Sheet VIII,1878). Before 1878 the enclosure was much smaller and traces of it are still evident at the site. This earlier enclosure is, again, roughly square shaped on plan, with sides up to 30 m long. It is best preserved to the W of the church where it takes the form of a low turf-covered bank. The bank stands approximately 0.30 m above the ground to the E but is more or less flush with that to the W and consequently no width measurement could be determined. On the S side of the church, the former enclosure is marked by the line of a gradual slope (pl.52b). The N and E sectors have been preserved in the course of the present churchyard wall. The total area enclosed by this earlier enclosure would be approximately 0.09 ha.

(2.2) The turf-covered remains of an anomalous feature of indeterminate type were recorded to the N and NE of the church (fig.28: pl.53b). The feature is represented by a series of ridges, up to 1.50 m wide and 0.20 m upstanding. It measures 13.70 m along its longer axis and 6 m transversely overall.

There are no gravestones in the immediate vicinity of this feature and its disposition appears too regular for it to have been formed as a result of soil displacement during grave-digging.

A second feature is located at Point b on fig.28. A length of drystone walling, described as curved, was discovered at this point during grave-digging in February 1981 (J. Peterson pers.comm). The walling was located approximately 1.50 m below current ground level but no details of size or direction were recorded.

There is insufficient data to enable the classification of these features.

(2.3) Eight carved stone crosses were recorded by the RCAMS (1946,iii,127-128). Only six, or possibly seven if a crude stone stump can be so identified, now remain at the site. They are all located to the S of the church and within the line of the former enclosure. The stones are presumably on their original sites. Nonetheless, it should be noted that four of them were temporarily removed by the RCAMS for photographing (1946,iii,fig.665). The crosses are worked from the local stone and each is broadly similar in form. They are devoid of any inscription or decoration with the exception of one which has a small incised Latin cross on its E face (pl.55a). Similarly shaped stone crosses are known from Norwick, Framgord, Uyea (UNST 1,20 & 21) and elsewhere. They are not, however, closely datable (RCAMS 1946,i,48).

Two recumbent graveslabs which commemorate two 16th century Bremen merchants are as described by the RCAMS (1946,iii,128).

A third item of worked stone remains to be considered. The lintel of window W3 bears a design on its lower face. This stone was first noted in the 1920's by Peter Moar and Andrew Irvine (A. Irvine pers.comm) but no record of their discovery has been traced in the RCAMS or OS records.

The lintel measures 1.30 m long, 0.50 m wide and is 50 mm thick. The design is placed centrally on the slab in respect of both axes and is approximately 0.70 m long and up to 0.10 m wide. The design is formed of two pecked lines which converge at one end to form a point, which then extends a further 80 mm or so (fig.30). The design, however, is partially obscured at this point where the E side of the window rises up to meet the lintel. The design is described locally as a fish (M. Peterson pers.comm). This stone is discussed in Subsection 4.0.

(3.0) The only comprehensive survey of this site is contained in the RCAMS (1946,iii,127-128,No.1541) inventory. That survey's interpretation of the building differs somewhat from that which has been recently proposed by Cant (1975,24,30-31) and this is examined below (Subsection 4.0)

The graveyard features `a' and `b' have not been previously recorded. Similarly, the slots inside the W entrance, the splayed form of the S entrance, the early E wall line, the lintel of window W3 and the altered form of window W2 have all gone previously unnoted.

(4.0) The present building is clearly of at least two major periods of construction but opinions differ as to the form of the earlier building. The RCAMS (1946,iii,127) believed that the E

portion had been rebuilt upon old foundations and would thus seem to imply that the earlier church was identical in form to the present building. Cant (1975,24,30-31), on the other hand, has suggested that the earlier church was built with an architecturally distinguished chancel. Unfortunately, however, this point is not discussed in Cant´s work.

There is not sufficient visible evidence remaining to settle this point, although on the grounds of likelihood alone, Cant´s suggestion seems more feasible. The low foundation which underlies the N and E walls of the building could be identified as the E wall of the putative chancel. Meanwhile, the ragged joint between the two building fabrics might indicate that the quoins of the former nave were removed and reused in the building of the church in its present form. It is possible, therefore, that the earlier church was built with an architecturally distinguished chancel.

There is no major difference in either construction method or stone type between the E and W portions of the present building. The architectural treatment of the windows, however, does differ and it is tempting to equate the remodelling of window W2 with this major change in the building´s layout. The window types of this later period are flat headed. This is seen in window W3 and in the altered form of window W2. The now lost E window was also flat headed (Muir 1885,141). It is conceivable that the flat headed S entrance was also inserted at this time.

The carved lintel stone is an interesting, if enigmatic, find. It has been described as a representation of a fish but this survey was unable to discern any anatomical detail. It is

similar in general form to the possible Pictish symbol stone from Borthwick Mains in Roxburghshire (Feachem 1950,pl.XXIV). However, it would be premature to thus classify the Lundawick stone. It is poorly lit and viewing is difficult. Future examination under artificial lighting might prove more rewarding.

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,15,24,30 fig.5,31 fig.6,38 fn.52: Muir 1885,141,fig.17: OSA 1799(1978),498: OSCI HP50SE6: ONB 23,1878,196: RCAMS 1946,iii,127-128,No.1541: Saxby 1905,136; 1932,17.

Visited 13th October 1982.

UNST 11: GLETNA KIRK, UYEASOUND (pls.55b,56a:fig.31) HP 5922 0208

(1.0) The site known as a Gletna Kirk, `The Old Kirk´ (ONB 23,1878,251), is situated W of the Uyeasound-Baltasound road and approximately 1 km N of Uyeasound harbour. The site is located on a slight rise in a gently undulating field above a marshy tract of land to the N and W. The site is approximately 15 m above OD. It lies on Sound scattald (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.3) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Gletna Kirk. Structures and features which have previously been described as the remains of the chapel are discussed below (Subsection 2.4).

(2.4)

(a) A large rectangular structure (pl.55b), known locally as Gletna Kirk, is the dominant feature at this site. It is located between two enclosures to the N and S (fig.31). The building is orientated N 100 E and measures 18.95 m along its longer axis and 7.40 m transversely over walls up to 1.10 m thick and 0.40 m

upstanding. It is bisected into two unequal parts by a wall, 1.25 m wide, which crosses the interior obliquely and appears to form a butt joint with the S wall. The E chamber thus created measures 7.25 m EW and 5.50 m NS internally. The W chamber is up to 7.80 m EW and 5.50 m NS.

The building is apparently of drystone construction and its walls are formed, in part, of extremely large boulders. Several others are located around the site, particularly to the S and W of the building, and similar boulders have been employed in the construction of the N circuit of the N enclosure (Subsection 2.4b). A sub-circular enclosure (Subsection 2.4d), which lies to the NW of the site, is also similarly constructed.

(b) The foundations of the N enclosure walls are only partially discernible in their E and W sectors as a low turf-covered bank (fig.31). The N sector is likely to be represented by a number of earth-fast boulders (not surveyed) and would thus demarcate a roughly sub-rectangular area 20 m NS and 16-18 m EW. However, part of the E and NE sectors of this enclosure have been removed by the roadway (see Subsection 3.0).

(c) A second enclosure, again roughly square on plan, lies to the S of the large rectangular building. It is delimited to the S, E and W by a turf-covered bank, 1 m wide and 0.20 m high. A break in the SW sector of the enclosure may indicate the site of an entrance. A bank, close to the S wall of the rectangular building, could represent part of the N sector of this enclosure.

(d) A large sub-circular enclosure (pl.56a) is located 50 m NW of the rectangular building, on the side of a gradual slope above the marshy tract of land which lies between the two sites. It

has been formed of large erect boulders, similar to those found in the building and the N enclosure, and measures approximately 55 m in diameter, thus enclosing an area of approximately 0.16 ha. The boulders stand 0.30-0.80 m high and are set at irregular intervals.

(3.0) The earliest record of this site was collected by the officers of the OS in 1878. The rectangular structure was described as the ruin of an old church, supposedly pre-Reformation in date, which is said to have been repaired on several occasions and latterly used for penning cattle. Meanwhile, the N enclosure was described as a burial ground:

> "A burial ground, considered to be of great antiquity but now disused, lies on the north side of the building and is enclosed by a decayed stone wall."
>
> ONB 23,1878,251

The N enclosure was thus labelled as a burial ground on the first edition OS map of 1878. However, by the time of the second edition 1:10560 map of 1902, this label had shifted to the S enclosure.

Road construction work in the late 19th century would appear to have damaged the site and discoveries made during this work have been recorded in Saxby's account. The finds included "remains of broken urns with ashes and charred bones etc" (1905,136). These were found when the road cut into a feature which is described as a "circle of stones" and this may almost certainly be equated with the now missing NE and E sectors of the N enclosure. Interestingly, Saxby's is the only account which refers to the funerary aspect of these finds. The donation entry

(PSAS 11,1876,471), for example, simply records the finds as a "collection of fragments of unglazed pottery".

In 1930 the site was visited by the RCAMS (1946,iii,127). That survey succeeded in identifying the rectangular building and the N enclosure but failed to locate the one on the S side of the building. No mention was made of the possible burial ground at this site and the RCAMS, evidently unaware of Saxby's earlier work, concluded on the basis of the pottery evidence that the site may have been "domestic in character" (1946,iii,127). The domestic character of the site is considered below in Subsection 4.0. However, it should be clear that the pottery evidence is hardly relevant to that issue.

The 1969 OS report (OSCI HP50SE5) has cast doubt upon the ecclesiastical nature of the site and, on the basis of the attached enclosures and the general form of the building, has suggested that the site is that of a croft. Cant, meanwhile, has accepted an ecclesiastical interpretation for the site, although he has remarked that "the remains of Gletna Kirk indicate a structure...appreciably larger than the Shetland norm" (1975,40,fn.8).

(3.1) A particularly detailed body of folk-lore has become associated with Gletna Kirk. This story, first recorded by Saxby (1905,136; 1932,16), is still current on the island.

> "It was begun to be built but never finished. The Roman Catholics had possessed themselves of a Trow house, had pulled it down, and commenced to build a chapel on the ruins...but what they built one day was thrown down by invisible powers during the night. They persevered for a few days but no-one would venture to keep watch and seize the persons who (the priest said)

> were tricking them. Presently a devoted priest declared he would watch, armed by the saint to whom the kirk was to be dedicated. The poor priest was found dead at his post next morning".

There is clearly a fantasy element in this story and in part it could be considered as an attempt to account for the state of the ruined rectangular building. Yet, such tales are not associated with every abandoned Shetland croft. The description of the site as that of a `Trow house´ could reflect local knowledge of an early burial ground on the site but the age of this traditional story is, of course, the great problem. It is conceivable that such tales could have been generated as a result of the finds from the 19th century road construction work or after earlier, unrecorded, discoveries of a similar kind. The question of whether or not the site was then later used as a Christian burial ground, however, cannot be answered on the basis of the evidence which is presently available. Oral tradition would suggest it was, but archaeological survey cannot determine any physical evidence which could support such an interpretation of the site.

(4.0) There are no obviously ecclesiastical features to be seen at this site and the present remains are almost certainly those of a domestic croft with its associated yards. The place-name cannot, however, be dismissed lightly. Nonetheless, it would be unsound to apply that label, uncritically, to the extant remains at Gletna Kirk. This problem is considered in Appendix 5.

The many large boulders at this site seem significant and there might be grounds for suggesting that the present domestic N enclosure has utilized part of an earlier enclosure, as defined

by the massive boulders in its N sector. It might be suggested further that that enclosure formed part of an earlier pre-Christian burial ground whose walls were robbed for the building of the rectangular building and the other features on the site. The evidence, however, is not unambiguous and this is as far as interpretation should go.

REFERENCES

Cant 1975,15,40,fn.8: OSCI HP50SE5: ONB 23,1878,251: PSAS 11,1876,471: RCAMS 1946,iii,127,No.1540: Saxby 1905,136; 1932,16.

Visited 5th October 1982

UNST 12: KIRK, GUNNISTER HP 5873 0407

(1.0) Kirk, in the township of Gunnister and in the scattald of Wick (fig.52), is situated 150 m NE of Kirkhoull (UNST 13) at approximately 50 m above OD.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Gunnister. The building known as Kirk is a ruined croft.

(3.0) This site has not previously been recorded. There is a vague local tradition of a chapel site at Gunnister (see also UNST 13) and at least one informant (A.Irvine pers.comm) believed that the scallop-edged boulder (RCAMS 1946,iii,140,No.1574, fig.595), which lies 180 m SE of Kirk at HP 5884 0393, had been taken from `the Gunnister chapel´. The stone, however, presumably belongs, broadly, to the series of cup-marked and related stones and any association with the putative Gunnister chapel is unlikely.

(4.0) There is no physical evidence for an ecclesiastical site at this location and discussion is therefore impossible. Kirk place-names are discussed in Appendix 5.

Visited 13th October 1982.

UNST 13: KIRKHOULL, GUNNISTER HP 5858 0400

(1.0) Kirkhoull, in Gunnister township and on Wick scattald (fig.52), is located 150 m SW of Kirk (UNST 12). The site lies at approximately 45 m above OD.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Kirkhoull. The name refers to a ruined croft building.

(3.0) Saxby (1905,136) is the only authority for this site. Her account has recorded a number of circular `steedes´ (foundations) in the vicinity of this site. These, however, were not traced on this survey.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence for an ecclesiastical site at this location and discussion is therefore impossible. Kirk and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCE: Saxby 1905,136.

Visited 13th October 1982.

UNST 14: KIRKABY, WESTING HP 5664 0640

(pls.56b,57,58a: figs.32-33)

(1.0) The chapel site of Kirkaby, on the scattald of Collaster (fig.52), is situated on abruptly rising ground on a low promontory, close to the sea at approximately 10 m above OD. The site is partially overlain by the ruins of a relatively modern sheep pen.

(2.0) The turf-covered remains of a chapel of bicameral form are clearly evident at this site. This building is situated over an artificially raised area and is thus located on the highest point within the enclosure (fig.32). The chapel is orientated N 95 E.

The nave is most clearly defined along its N wall where several internal and external facing stones protrude through the turf. This wall stands 0.40 m and is 1.10 m wide. The interior length of the nave, as measured along this wall line, is 4.65 m. The interior width of the nave, at the W end, appears to be 3.15 m. No other width measurements could be ascertained since the pen wall, which rides over the S walls of the chapel, has obscured all features in that sector. The entrance to the nave could not be determined. There are no certain breaks in the course of the turf-covered W wall which is 1.10 m wide and 0.30 m upstanding.

A previously unrecorded feature was traced inside the nave. At a point 1.40 m from the interior NW corner, a line of five or six stones protrudes through the turf and extends parallel to the N nave wall, and 0.40 m out from it, for a distance of just under 3 m. This feature might reasonably be identified as the base for a bench (pls.56b,57a).

The chancel is best defined by the lines of its exterior wall face. The S exterior angle between nave and chancel is clearly visible (pl.58a) to the S of the pen wall and, like that on the N, is inset approximately 0.60 m. The chancel walls are poorly defined internally. The interior face of the N wall, for example, is only partially defined by two or three stones which protrude through the turf. The N wall, thus defined, is 0.75 m

wide. Meanwhile, the low banks of the S and E walls, approximately 0.85 m wide and 0.20 m upstanding, are partially obscured by the ruined pen wall. The interior dimensions of the chancel are approximately 2.10 m EW and at least 2.30 m NS.

(2.1) The chapel lies approximately in the centre of a curvilinear enclosure (fig.32). The enclosure is represented by a low turf-covered stony bank to the N and W of the chapel. In its present state this bank is 1-1.80 m wide and up to 0.45 m upstanding. Several large stones protrude through the turf and serve to indicate that the enclosure wall was formed of upright slabs with a stone or mixed rubble and earth core. Meanwhile, the S and E sectors of the enclosure are likely to be represented by the course of the modern pen wall which appears to have been built over a low bank. The maximum internal extent of the enclosure, thus defined, is 24.75 m EW and 27.20 m NS. The total area thus enclosed is approximately 0.05 ha.

The site of a possible entrance, 1.90 m wide, is located in the NE sector where the bank turns abruptly E and runs down the side of the knoll for a distance of 2.80 m. It should be added, however, that access to the site from the E is most impractical in terms of convenience.

(2.2)

(a) The turf-covered remains of a sub-circular structure (fig.32; pl.57b) are located outside and about 1 m below the E end of the chapel. This structure has an internal diameter of up to 5.25 m and appears to have been built out from the enclosure bank. The interior W wall face of this structure is clearly

delimited by a dozen or so large stones which protrude through the turf. A clear edge serves to mark the N and E interior faces, but the SE sector is absent and has presumably been robbed or has never existed. The structure is overlain for much of its course by the modern sheep pen and no exterior wall face can be discerned.

(b) The sub-circular structure would appear to be related to a second possible structure which lies to the W, under the chapel. A distinct edge, partly emphasized with protrusive stones, is traceable from the SW corner of the sub-circular structure where it runs for 5 m in a SW direction before turning W and extending a further 10 m (fig.32; pl.58a). The base of this feature lies approximately 0.80-1 m below the level of the chapel and is clearly too regular to be of natural formation. This edge represents the base of the artificially raised area referred to in Subsection 2.0 above.

(c) There is a stony area (not surveyed) immediately to the N of the site. MacDonald and Laing (1968,130,fig.10) have suggested that this might be the site of the cemetery but the surface features form no coherent plan and the remains are really too amorphous to enable classification.

(2.3) No funerary or other stone monuments are known from this site.

(2.4)

(a) A ruinous stone structure of indeterminate age has been built against the N exterior face of the enclosure (fig.32). It is sub-rectangular in form and measures 3.75 m NS and 2.25 m EW inside walls approximately 0.60 m thick. The E wall is best

preserved and is of drystone construction with upright facing slabs. There is no trace of an entrance into this structure.

(b) The ruins of a second structure stand against the interior N side of the enclosure. It measures 3.30 x 2.50 m inside walls 0.50 m thick and has been built with square corners. It does not appear to be of any great antiquity and the initial feeling of this survey was that the building was probably an old lambing shed and perhaps contemporary with the sheep pen. However, this interpretation is not based on any firm stratigraphical or archaeological criteria.

(c) A third building (not surveyed), relatively modern in date and recently re-roofed, stands a few metres to the W of the enclosure. It serves as a lambing shed.

(d) The pen wall is in a ruinous condition and has been breached in several places. It is of drystone construction, roughly coursed and in places, especially to the E of the chapel, this has been laid over a vertically set base. It is built of smoothed beach boulders and split local stone. No worked or free-stone was noted in the wall matrix.

(3.0) Kirkaby was first surveyed by J.T. Irvine in 1863 and subsequently incorporated into Sir Henry's Dryden's work on Orcadian and Shetland chapels (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,147). The site was later visited by Mrs. Saxby but her account adds little new information beyond referring to the circular form of the enclosure (1905,137). The RCAMS (1946,iii,128-129) account merely precis that of Irvine and Dryden and adds no new information. Meanwhile, MacDonald and Laing's (1968,129-130) work

for the Inspectorate on Ancient Monuments (then MOPBW), although inaccurate in a number of respects, nevertheless does bring to light a number of previously unrecorded features. Finally, in 1969, the site was visited by the OS investigator. This account, however, basically precis that of MacDonald and Laing.

MacDonald and Laing's (1968,130,fig.10) sketch-plan of the site is basically in agreement with this survey of 1982. It is, however, inaccurate in four major respects. It is clear, for example, that the chapel is most certainly not apsidal, although it is easy to see, particularly on the N side of the chancel (fig.32), how such a feature could have been misidentified. Secondly, it should be pointed out that the knoll, upon which the site is located, is not as emphasized to the N and W of the enclosure as their sketch would suggest. Finally, it should be clear that neither the possible entrance into the enclosure, nor the putative stone bench, was recorded.

Different problems arise when we come to consider the 19th century survey plan. This has been reproduced here as fig.33 and Irvine's off-set measurements from the chapel to the enclosure bank have been transposed onto the 1982 survey plan (fig.32). It will be apparent that the proportions of Irvine's enclosure have not entirely been drawn to scale and that the NS axis has been somewhat `squashed'. Nonetheless, its true shape can be roughly gauged from the measured off-sets which accompany the plan. The enclosure thus lay 32' (9.75 m) from the N wall of the chapel, 15' (4.60 m) from the W wall and 30' (9.15 m) from the S wall. Each of these figures is in a rough agreement with the present disposition of the chapel and enclosure. However,

this is not the case with Irvine's E off-set, according to which the enclosure lay only 15' (4.60 m) from the E wall of the chapel. The Kirkaby enclosure would thus seem to have been rectilinear in form. It may be seen from the transposed off-set on the 1982 plan that this point would have lain over the SW sector of the sub-circular structure. The distance between the E wall of the chapel and the extant stone-walled enclosure, in fact, is approximately 10.25 m. It is extremely difficult to reconcile these two very different figures (4.60 m : 10.25 m). Some attempt, however, must be made for the simple reason that it must bring into question the accuracy of the 1863 plan. These difficulties, for example, might imply that the course of the pen wall has been altered since Irvine's visit. More importantly, there is the problem of locating the remains of the `brough or other ancient building' which Irvine or Dryden recorded outside the SE sector of the enclosure (fig.33). It will be shown that these two problems are almost certainly linked.

The turf-covered remains of the enclosure bank coincide with the course of the modern pen wall for a distance of 12 m in the S sector and this effectively marks the E limit to which the bank can be objectively recorded. Nevertheless, it is clear that the ground slopes gently down from the chapel to the S and SE and then rises slightly a short distance from the pen wall. This slight elevation is likely to represent the footings of the original enclosure bank. At the same time, it might be added that there is no trace of a bank at the location suggested in Irvine's plan. It is necessary to conclude therefore that it is highly

probable that the course of the modern pen wall has preserved the line of the original enclosure in its SE and E sectors, and that consequently, the original form of the enclosure was indeed curvilinear rather than rectilinear.

A second problem concerns the `ancient remains´ at the site. Dryden´s account, for example, states:

> "By remains outside the south-east part of the wall, it is evident that the church has been built on the ruins of a brough or other ancient building".
>
> MacGibbon & Ross 1896,147

However, this same information is also given on Dryden´s plan (fig.33) in the form of an annotated note, across the SE sector of the Kirkaby enclosure. Examination shows that this note is in Dryden´s handwriting and several lines, perhaps indicating walling, are also evident. These descriptions are clearly contradictory and have led to some confusion in the past. The OS investigator, for example, was forced to conclude that:

> "the alleged remains of an earlier broch to the SE of the enclosure wall are no longer evident."
>
> OSCI HP50NE2

It is clear, however, that such a structure could never have existed at this point, to the SE of the enclosure, where the surface remains are simply those of a naturally formed craggy knoll.

The following reconstruction may provide a likely solution to this problem. Dryden´s comment concerning the `ancient remains´ makes little sense if the phrase -`outside the south-east part of the wall´-is taken to refer to the enclosure. On the contrary,

however, it makes a lot of sense if the chapel itself is taken to be the point of reference. Indeed, this suggestion receives some support from the fact that it was the chapel and not the enclosure which was described in Dryden´s text as having overlain the `ancient remains´. It is suggested therefore that this problem, regarding the location of the `ancient remains´, has been caused by some mistake in the transmission of information between either Irvine and Dryden, or Dryden and the publishers of MacGibbon and Ross´ work. The solution to this problem is likely to also explain the erroneous figure of 15´ (4.60 m) (see above pp.202-203).

The following interpretation rests on the assumption that this figure originally referred not so much to the distance between the chapel and the enclosure, but, rather, to the distance between the chapel and the `ancient building´. If this could be accepted, it would follow that Dryden, believing (wrongly) that this feature lay to the SE of the enclosure, would have been compelled, in effect, to shift the enclosure several metres to the W in accordance with the 15´ (4.60 m) reading. Admittedly, this interpretation necessitates the further assumption that no overall width measurement was recorded. It may, however, have been overlooked by Dryden in his attempt, perhaps, to reconcile what appeared to him to be contradictory statements concerning the relationship of the chapel, the `ancient building´, and the enclosure.

This reconstruction is only an interpretation. Nevertheless, it has the merit of identifying the `brough or other ancient building´ with the sub-circular or indeterminate

features referred to above in Subsections 2.2a and 2.2b. It has already been noted that the sub-circular structure lies some 15´ (4.60 m) from the E end of the chapel. It is also apparent that an indeterminate feature, which is possibly related to the sub-circular structure, lies to the S and SE of the chapel. It is suggested, therefore, that either or both of these features are identical with the ancient remains which Irvine recorded in 1863. (4.0) The site at Kirkaby has been viewed by some writers as an Early Christian foundation (MacDonald & Laing 1968: Thomas 1973a,9), yet the evidence for such an ascription has never really been set out and we can only speculate as to why this site should have been so considered. On the one hand there is the place-name (Appendix 5). Meanwhile, on the other hand, it is clear that the site exhibits some characteristics of a developed cemetery. There is, for example, the curvilinear enclosure. The sub-circular structure, meanwhile, might conceivably be seen as a `cell´ and the other buildings to the N of the chapel might similarly be interpreted. There are, however, problems with this view, not least among which must be counted the extent to which these features are necessarily contemporary and only excavation will decide this for sure. Even so, this survey would suspect that the structures to the N of the chapel could well be modern and perhaps contemporary with the use of the site as a sheep pen. Meanwhile, the sub-circular structure, if associated with the artificially mounded area to the W, would presumably pre-date the chapel. In essence, therefore, the identification of this site as an Early Christian foundation depends really on the enclosure

form and there is no means of knowing at present if the chapel and the enclosure are really contemporary. It is at least conceivable that the enclosure could well be associated with the earlier structural remains which underlie the chapel. Other curvilinear enclosed chapels, which are located at earlier domestic sites, are considered in Volume 1-Chapter 7.

REFERENCES

MacDonald & Laing 1968,129-130: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,147: OSCI HP50NE2: RCAMS 1946,iii,128-129,No.1542: Saxby 1905,137.

Visited: 7th October 1982.

UNST 15: KIRKAMIRES, UNDERHOULL HP 5747 0415

(1.0) Kirkamires is situated 300 m NW of Kirk (UNST 16) at 40 m above OD and on the side of a steep slope which runs down to the sea at Burga Sand. The site is situated on Underhoull scattald (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Kirkamires. The ruined croft, known as Kirkamires or `Kirkamas´ (A.Irvine pers.comm), is said to have been built on the foundations of an earlier chapel (Saxby 1905,136: A.Irvine pers.comm). No features, however, were noted on this survey.

(3.0) This site has not previously been recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS.

(4.0) There is insufficient information available upon which further discussion may be based. Kirk- and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCE: Saxby 1905,136

Visited: 15th October 1982

UNST 16: KIRK, UNDERHOULL HP 5775 0406

(1.0) Kirk is located to the S of Underhoull farm at approximately 45 m above OD. It is situated on Underhoull scattald (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is no trace of an ecclesiastical site at Kirk. This name is applied to a deserted croft.

(3.0) Kirk has not previously been recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS. The site is listed, although not discussed, in Saxby's (1905,136) account of the Unst chapel sites.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site. Kirk- and related place-names are considered in Appendix 5.

REFERENCE: Saxby 1905,136

Visited: 15th October 1982.

UNST 17: KIRK KNOWE, WESTING HP 5720 0567

(1.0) The chapel site of Kirk Knowe is situated 200 m from the beach at Newgarth and 20 m S of the Burn of Bighton in a grassed field at approximately 15 m above OD. It lies approximately 80 m NW of a derelict croft which bears the same name, and just under 1 km SE of Kirkaby (UNST 14). Both sites are within the bounds of the scattald of Collaster (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.4) There is now no trace of an ecclesiastical site at this location and no local knowledge of the site. The chapel, in fact, is now erroneously identified locally with a ruined drystone shed at HP 5726 0562 (A.Irvine pers.comm).

(3.0) Kirk Knowe was omitted from the 1930 RCAMS survey and virtually all the information regarding this site is contained in the 1878 OS notebook (ONB 23, 1878,165). The chapel is said to have been still standing several feet high as late as 1840, when it was subsequently removed as building stone by the owner of Kirk Knowe croft (ONB 23, 1878,165). The same source has also recorded the discovery of human remains at the site, although it could not define any cemetery enclosure on the ground. Interestingly, however, it is possible that the 1878 OS 1:10560 map may have unwittingly represented part of the early enclosure. There is, for example, a distinct bend in the road, now straightened out, to the N and E of the site and this may be significant. Meanwhile, Saxby's (1905,137) account of Kirk Knowe records that traces of the chapel foundations were apparently discovered during cultivation of the field around the turn of the 19th century. She also records that Kirk Knowe was always referred to as the `Boun-hoose', a sea-term or taboo name meaning `church' or `house of prayer' (Fenton 1978,621). No further information, however, is forthcoming.

(4.0) There is insufficient evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site.

REFERENCES

OSCI HP50NE6: ONB 23,1878,165: Saxby 1905,137.

Visited: 7th October 1982.

UNST 18: KIRK OF MILLYSKARA, SANDWICK approx. HP 631 022

(1.0) The site of the Kirk of Millyskara is traditionally located towards the S end of the bay at Sand Wick (Saxby 1905,136) and this general location was confirmed locally (M & J. Peterson pers.comm). Cluness (1951,196), however, has located the site "half a mile out to sea under the waves" but this location, which seems to be identical with that of a partially submerged skerry, known as The Vere, could not be confirmed locally. The site would lie within the bounds of the scattald of Framgord and Sandwick (fig.52) and if correctly located on the beach at Sandwick would be 5 m or less above OD.

(2.0 - 2.4) There is little evidence for an ecclesiastical site at Sandwick. Indeed, one informant described the Kirk of Millyskara as "just a black rock which is covered by the sea at high tide" (J.Peterson pers.comm). A second informant, however, related that his grandfather, as a boy (c.1850), would "go to Millyskara and climb over the west gable looking for birds' nests" (A.Hunter pers.comm: my emphasis). It is possible that this structure may be identical with that described by Saxby (1905,136: see below). Alternatively, however, it might refer to the remains of an eroded structure on the beach at the N end of Sandwick at HP 6174 0251. This site has been designated `Sandwick 2' (Bigelow 1985,fig.16) and lies to the N of the recently excavated Late Norse farmstead. Norse artefacts are reported to have been found in the vicinity of `Sandwick 2' (Bigelow 1985,100: Med.Arch 25,1981,183). However, there are no grounds for suggesting that this structure is an ecclesiastical building. Local tradition, for example, is quite adamant that

Millyskara was situated at the S end of the beach.

This location was visited by this present survey on several occasions and at different states of the tide. No archaeological features which might be associated with an ecclesiastical site were noted.

(3.0) The Kirk of Millyskara has not been recorded by either the RCAMS or the OS and the only authority for the site is Saxby (1905,136; 1932,15). The site lay to the S of the now excavated Late Norse farmstead and traces of the foundation of the reputed chapel, including part of the W end, are said to have been visible. `Ashes' were noted under this building's foundation (1905,136). Traces of a circular enclosure at this site were also reported by Saxby (1932,15). This feature could conceivably be identified with a circular arrangement, possibly of stones, which is featured on the OS 1:10560 map of 1878. No trace of this feature, however, now remains.

The bay at Sand Wick forms an unstable shoreline, which in the past has suffered greatly from erosion by the sea and wind. Interestingly, several simple cist burials have been exposed from time to time in the deflated shoreline (M & J.Peterson pers.comm) and it is possible that these might be roughly contemporary with the kerbed cairn which was excavated by Bigelow. Radiocarbon dating of the human remains under this monument returned a date of 445 $\pm$ 75 AD (GU1291: Bigelow 1984b; 1985,103). It is thus possible that a Late Iron Age cemetery may have existed in the vicinity of the so-called Kirk of Millyskara. It should be added, however, that no identifiably Christian graves have yet

been recorded, although, clearly,identification is necessarily difficult.

(3.1) The dedication of this site is not known. There is, however, an interesting body of folk-lore which associates the site with the nearby St. Mary's chapel at Framgord (UNST 20). Saxby (1905,136) has recorded the tradition that the Kirk of Millyskara "was carried one dark night across the bay to where the later kirk stands".

(4.0) There is insufficient physical evidence upon which to base any discussion of this site and it should be clear that the evidential bases for its identification as an ecclesiastical site rest primarily on the place-name and the local tradition. The physical remains described by Saxby might or might not relate to an ecclesiastical monument. The local tradition, however, is certainly interesting. It is possible, for example, that it may reflect a folk memory of the transference of the burial ground from the, perhaps increasingly unstable, beach area to the higher ground at Framgord, which lies on the N side of the bay. It is impossible, however, to say when this hypothetical move occurred. Framgord could have succeeded an earlier pre-Christian or a mixed pre-Christian and Christian burial ground. On the other hand, of course, the whole story of a `chapel' at Sandwick could have been generated as a result of early, unrecorded, discoveries of burials or cists in the exposed shoreline. Unfortunately, there is insufficient evidence to resolve this issue.

REFERENCES

Bigelow 1985,99-103: Cluness 1951,196: Saxby 1905,136; 1932,15:

Visited: 3rd. 4th. 8th. & 16th October 1982.

UNST 19: ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL, COLVADALE HP 6220 2453

(pls.58b,59a: figs.34,35)

(1.0) The chapel site at Colvadale is located within 200 m of the shore and S of the Burn of Vatsleid and lies at approximately 20 m above OD. The chapel is situated on Colvadale scattald (fig.52).

(2.0) The remains of the chapel are indicated by a rectangular turf-covered mound (fig.34; pl.58b). A modern wall overlies the N walls of the chapel and a ruinous stone wall, in part augmented by field clearance stones, extends around the S and W sides of the chapel. The mound measures 8.25 m EW and 4.50 m NS overall and is up to 0.50 m high. The nave and chancel of the chapel are only partially discernible as two slight hollows on the upper surface of the mound. The larger hollow to the W measures approximately 3.20 m EW and 3.10 m NS, whilst the E hollow is approximately 1.25 m long and 1.80 m wide. The two hollows are separated by a low turf-covered bank.

The wall faces of the chapel are poorly defined. The exterior E wall face of the chancel is indicated by six or seven stones which protrude through the turf. A large roughly shaped block of steatite seems also to have been incorporated into this wall matrix. A few other protrusive stones may indicate the line of the interior N wall of the nave and chancel.

(2.1) The enclosure is partially defined by a turf-covered stony bank (pl.59a), 1.50-2 m wide and 0.30 m upstanding. The enclosure is sub-rectangular in form and measures approximately 30 m EW and 25 m NS. The area thus enclosed is about 0.07 ha.

(2.2 - 2.4) No funerary or other stone monuments are evident at this site. Nor is there any clear evidence for any other structures which might be associated with the chapel.

(3.0) The Colvadale chapel was first surveyed by Irvine in 1863 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,148) when it appears to have been rather more upstanding and less encumbered by the later agricultural steading and field clearance. Irvine's plan (fig.35) clearly shows a bicameral structure of simple nave and chancel type. The dimensions are recorded as 3.65 x 3.35 m and 2.35 x 2.30 m respectively, within walls 0.90 m wide and 0.60 m upstanding. However, little of the chapel would seem to have been seen by the OS investigators at the time of their survey in 1878 when it was reported that the site had been under cultivation since at least the mid 18th century:

> "the foundation stones of the chapel still remain a few inches under the surface and are always laid bare whenever the ground is under process of cultivation".
>
> ONB 23,1878,260

In 1905 Jessica Saxby could remark "Foundation still visible" (1905,136), but by 1930 the RCAMS account simply stated, erroneously, that no remains were traceable (1946,iii,141).

(3.1) The St. John dedication of this chapel would seem to have first been recorded in the 1960's in a local manuscript which was compiled by the then Minister of Unst (Douglas-Lamb c.1968,3). The source of Douglas-Lamb's information is not known and no confirmation for this dedication could be obtained locally. This dedication was not known to either Irvine or Saxby and it should therefore be treated as suspect.

(4.0) The remains of this chapel are too poorly preserved to enable any further discussion.

REFERENCES

Douglas-Lamb c.1968,3: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,148: OSCI HP60SW4: ONB 23,1878,260: RCAMS 1946,iii,141,No.1578: Saxby 1905,136.

Visited: 4th October 1982.

UNST 20: ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, FRAMGORD HP 6191 0293

(pls.60b,61,62a: figs.36,37)

(1.0) St. Mary's chapel is located N of Sand Wick and within 100 m of the shore, opposite Kirkgeo. The site is situated to the N and W of an outcrop of rock at 10 m above OD. This chapel, like the now `lost' Kirk of Millyskara (UNST 18), is situated within the bounds of the scattald of Sandwick and Framgord (fig.52).

(2.0) The chapel is a large rectangular building of drystone construction (pl.60a) and is orientated N 98 E. Externally, the chapel measures 17.25 m along its longer axis and 5.80-7.10 m transversely. Internally, it measures 14.40 m x 3.60 m. The walls are up to 1.75 m upstanding and 1.10-2.25 m wide. The entrance to the chapel is situated in the centre of the W wall and has been built without rebates. The entrance appears to have been splayed and measures 0.80 m wide on the exterior and 1.25 m wide on the interior wall face. It is also set slightly askew. Meanwhile, just inside the chapel, in the SW corner, there is an anomalous feature which, on plan, resembles a double rebate or step (pl.60b; fig.36). This feature extends the full height of the wall in its present state and can be traced over a maximum

distance of 1.05 m. The function or significance of this feature is unclear.

There are some indications that the chapel is of more than one phase of construction. In part, this may be indicated by a variation in wall thickness and changes in fabric composition (fig.37). The W third of the building, for example, is characterized by wide walls, 1.75-2.25 m thick and formed of large subangular stones. The walls of the central third of the chapel are of a similar width but are formed of smaller, medium-sized blocks of stone, of which many are rounded in form (pl.62a). Meanwhile, the E end of the chapel has been constructed with much narrower walls. These are only approximately 1.25 m thick and are formed of both medium and large stones of rounded and subangular form. To some extent, these differences in the wall matrices may be related to several anomalies and possible straight joints in the building's masonry.

There are clear traces of the stub of a cross-wall 7.25 m from the interior W wall of the chapel (fig.36). A second anomaly was noted towards the W end of the N interior wall face. This feature is formed of two large stones which project beyond the line of the overlying courses. The ledge thus formed is 0.30 m wide at the W end and 0.15 m wide at the E end. It is 2.70 m in overall length and stands approximately 0.65 m above the present ground surface. This ledge would seem to represent the foundation of an earlier building and, as supportive evidence for such an assertion, there are traces of a straight joint in the exterior N wall face at the point where, internally, the `ledge´ terminates. It is also noticeable that the masonry to

the W of this joint is of quite a different character to that to the E (pl.62a: A on fig.37).

Other possible straight joints in the wall fabric are also evident. These, however, cannot be traced through the thickness of the wall and therefore may not be of any structural significance. It is, however, conceivable that later thickening of the walls could have masked any corresponding joints. On the other hand, it is equally possible that these features are largely fortuitous and due to the nature of the stone type employed and poor construction technique on the part of the builders. Identification of these joints is difficult and any interpretation is necessarily provisional.

Four possible straight joints were traced by this survey. One (B on fig.37) is situated in the exterior N wall face, 9.60 m from the exterior NE corner of the chapel. Another joint (C on fig.37) is situated 3 m to the E and meanders the full height of the wall. This junction is also marked by a distinct change in fabric type with the masonry to the E being composed of much larger stones than that to the W. A third possible joint (pl.61b) is situated on the interior S wall face, 6.25 m from the interior SW corner of the chapel. This joint is clearly defined from the third course to the present wall-head and may represent one side of an entrance or window which was subsequently blocked. There is, however, no trace of a corresponding jamb, nor any trace of this feature in the exterior wall face, although this is in a semi-collapsed state at this point. A fourth possible joint (D on fig.37) was traced in the exterior S wall face, 6.10 m from

the exterior SW corner of the chapel.

(2.1) The chapel is located towards the NW corner of a modern walled graveyard, which is still in use. The graveyard is entered from the N and is rectangular in form, with sides 30-35 m long. The total area thus enclosed is approximately 0.11 ha.

(2.2) There are no other structural features at this site.

(2.3) Four roughly carved stone crosses with expanded heads, and similar in form to those noted at Norwick, Lundawick, Uyea (UNST 1,10 & 21) and elsewhere, were recorded on this survey. Two (Nos. I & II: fig.36) have been placed against the W wall of the chapel. Stone I is 0.55 m in overall height and 0.30 m in maximum width. Stone II is of similar proportions but lacks one arm. A third stone (Stone III) is located close to the exterior SW corner of the chapel and lies at the W end of a recumbent grave cover. A fourth cross (Stone V) is situated a few metres to the S of the chapel: a small Latin cross has been carved in relief on the E face of this stone (pl.61a).

Several recumbent coped grave-covers, known locally as `keel stanes´, have been reported from this site (Saxby 1932,16). Two of these were recorded by this survey. One is associated with the carved stone cross (Stone III) and measures 1.80 m long. A longitudinally raised rib, 120 mm wide and 60 mm high, is featured centrally on the upper surface of this slab. A second coped slab (Stone IV) is located close to the S wall of the chapel. However, only part of the design, which comprises a bulbous terminal with lateral lobes and a centrally raised rib, could be seen on the upper face of this stone. This stone is almost certainly identical to the one which was recorded and

illustrated by the RCAMS in 1930 (1946,iii,127,fig.649).

(2.4) The turf-covered remains of a large rectangular structure (pl.59b), known locally as `The Priest´s Hoose´, lie approximately 30 m NW of St. Mary´s chapel. The structure is orientated roughly NW-SE, along the slope of the ground, and has a possible entrance in the uphill gable wall. The building measures approximately 25 x 5.50 m overall and there are traces of a cross wall 9 m from the NW end. There are also traces of an annex on the S side of the building.

Trial excavations at this site have recovered loomweights and fragments of pottery and steatite vessels (Bigelow & McGovern 1980: Med. Arch. 25,1981,222). A flat steatite plate or tile was also recorded on this survey from a disturbed area where the S wall had been sectioned.

The Priest´s Hoose has been described as a probable Norse farmstead (OSCI HP60SW24) and certainly the finds and the building´s form could be accommodated within a Late Norse or medieval context (Bigelow 1984a,ch.4). Furthermore, it has also been suggested, by Bigelow (1984a,22-23), that The Priest´s Hoose may have been the `lopt´ or two-storied building in which an important 14th century land transaction took place (Clouston 1914,14-15).

The relationship of this structure to the nearby chapel is not known. However, the finds from the trial excavations have been considered by the excavators as indicative of a high-status residence (Bigelow & McGovern 1980). The chapel, therefore, might well have served, rather than have been served by, the

occupant of this building.

(3.0) Muir (1885,73,142) visted the site in 1862 but his account is brief. The earliest detailed account of St. Mary's chapel is contained in Saxby's (1905,136) paper on the Unst chapel sites. The building was described as narrow and disproportionately long and it was suggested that the structure had been added to on at least two occasions. The E end of the chapel, beyond the partially remaining cross-wall, was considered to have been built as a family burial enclosure. Meanwhile, Saxby (1905,136) has recorded the tradition that the large late 17th or early 18th century armorial stone (RCAMS 1946,iii,127), which is located at the E end of the chapel, was known as `Bruce's tombstone'. The Bruces were the local lairds at nearby Muness castle. The later RCAMS (1946,iii,127) and OS (OSCI HP60SW3) accounts, which were unaware of Saxby's earlier report, add little new information.

(3.1) St. Mary's chapel at Framgord is associated in folk-lore with the now `lost' Kirk of Millyskara (UNST 18) which it is supposed to have replaced. It has been suggested above (p.212) that this tale may reflect a folk memory of the relocation of the chapel, and possibly the settlement as well, from the beach area at Sandwick to the more elevated ground at Framgord.

A second folk tradition concerns the recumbent coped and ribbed slabs from the site. These are known locally as `keel stanes' because the raised rib is considered to resemble the keel of an upturned boat. Perhaps not surprisingly, therefore, tradition states that such covers were only used in the case of those who had been drowned (Saxby 1932,16). These

stones appear to have had a limited distribution. Similar covers, for example, have been reported only from Norwick (UNST 1: MacGibbon & Ross 1896,149: Saxby 1905,136). There are no firm criteria, however, for the dating of these stones.

(4.0) There is some evidence to suggest that St. Mary's chapel is of more than one phase of construction. This evidence has been set out in Subsection 2.0 above. The building's development sequence, however, is less easily determined. It does, however, seem likely that the E end of the chapel, beyond the cross-wall, represents a later addition to the main body of the building. This part of the chapel has been built with narrow walls and it may be significant that these have incorporated both medium and large stones, of rounded and subangular form. It is thus possible that the western two-thirds of the chapel were robbed of their stone for the construction of the present E end. Indeed, the absence of collapsed masonry on the site, such as would be expected from a structure of this size and whose walls would have to be imagined as standing at least another metre on the sides and perhaps as many as 3 or 4 m at the gables, is curious and might be used as negative evidence to substantiate this view. The date and function of the E extension, however, cannot be determined without excavation. There is, nonetheless, the temptation to view it, as Jessica Saxby did, as an enclosed but unroofed burial area. It might perhaps be associated with the late 17th or early 18th century armorial stone, and thus be assignable to the same period. There are, however, no firm dating criteria for the main body of the chapel.

REFERENCES

Muir 1885,73,142: OSCI HP60SW3: RCAMS1946,iii,127,No.1539: Saxby 1905,136; 1932,16

Visited: 3rd. 4th. & 8th. October 1982.

UNST 21: UYEA CHAPEL (fig.38) HU 6082 9854

(1.0) The island of Uyea lies off the S coast of Unst and for taxation purposes was assessed as part of the mainland scattald of Clivocast and Murrister (Johnston 1912,128). The chapel is located towards the E end of the island and lies at approximately 20 m above OD and within 100 m of the shore (fig.52).

(2.0 - 2.4) Uyea chapel could not be visited on this survey on account of adverse weather and tidal conditions. The following account is therefore based on Sir Henry Dryden's survey of 1855 (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,149-151,figs.118,119), Muir's survey of 1862 (1885,144-146,fig.18) and the RCAMS survey of 1930 (1946,iii,143-144,figs.653,667). The imperial measurements which were used in these works have been converted into their metric equivalents in order to standardize the sites' gazetteer. References are only provided in those cases where these authorities differ or where information is unique to a particular source.

(3.0) Uyea chapel is among the most upstanding and complete of the northern chapels and is of a nave and chancel form with an appended structure on the W (fig.38).

The nave, which is constructed of the local schist set in lime mortar, measures 5.10 m along its longer axis and 3.80-4 m transversely within walls 0.70-1.05 m thick and up to 2.30 m

upstanding. An arched entrance, now blocked, is located in the centre of the W wall and has been built without rebates. It is 0.75 m wide and 1.70 m high. The arch head is formed in a corbel fashion and is capped by a small flat lintel. No windows have been identified in this structure and the only internal feature which has been noted is a stone stoup. This was 0.40 m wide and 0.25 m deep and had been built into the S wall of the nave, near the SW corner (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,fig.118). This feature has only been recorded by Dryden and it was thus presumably removed and lost sometime in the period 1855 X 1862, prior to Muir´s visit.

No physical trace of the chancel has been defined and its former existence is only indicated by an arched and unrebated entrance, 0.60 m wide and 1.60 m high, in the E wall of the nave. The arch-head is semi-circular in form and springs from projecting imposts and, like that to the W, has been formed in a corbel fashion. This method of arch construction, thought by Dryden (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,151) to be unique to this site, is also evident in the W entrance at Lundawick (UNST 10). According to Muir (1885,144) and the RCAMS (1946,iii,143-144), the jambs of this archway are inclined. Dryden (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,150), however, describes them as parallel.

A third structure is located against the W wall of the nave, beyond the now blocked nave arch. Dryden (MacGibbon & Ross 1896,117,151) considered this structure to be an original part of the building, possibly a sacristy. His plan shows the N and S walls of this structure to have been inset from the line of the N

and S walls of the nave. Its dimensions are given as 3.05 m EW and 3.10 m NS inside walls 0.70 m thick. Muir also apparently believed that this W apartment was contemporary with the rest of the building. He described it as a chancel and, in his plan of the site (1885,73), the S wall is shown to be in line with that of the nave to the E. The RCAMS (1946,iii,144), however, have identified this structure as a later addition to an originally bicameral structure and have described it as a sacristry or porch. Its walls apparently form a butt joint with the nave and have been constructed with larger stones. According to the RCAMS, this structure measures 3.35 m EW and 5.20 m NS inside walls 0.55-0.70 m thick. It will thus be apparent that none of the three authorities is in agreement with regard to the form, size and disposition of this W apartment. Each, however, noted a blocked doorway, 1.15 m wide, in the N wall and, in addition, the RCAMS (1946,iii,144) has also recorded a single window jamb in the W wall of this building.

The chapel is located within a curvilinear enclosure which measures approximately 45 m EW and 35 m NS. The total area thus enclosed is approximately 0.12 ha. The burial ground remained in use down to the 19th century (NSA 1841,40).

There are two roughly carved stone crosses to the SE of the chapel. These are similar to those from Norwick, Lundawick, Framgord (UNST 1,10 & 20) and elsewhere. Meanwhile, a large grass-grown enclosure, which is attached to the N side of the enclosure, is reported to contain "unintelligible signs of buildings" (OSCI HU69NW5).

(4.0) It should be clear that the three main authorities for this site are, in part, contradictory and thus it is difficult to make any satisfactory assessment. A few points, however, may be made although these are necessarily speculative. The building's apparently tricameral ground plan is unusual and, on the basis of the surviving evidence, this form is not found elsewhere in Shetland. It might, however, be seen as a variant form of the, now demolished, towered churches at Papil, Ireland and Tingwall. The presence of such an apparently sophisticated building on a small island off the coast of Unst might therefore be significant. The curvilinear enclosure could also be significant and might indicate an early foundation but the evidence is far from clear. In this context, the attached enclosure with its possible building remains might be suggestive of a related settlement. This, however, would need to be tested by excavation.

REFERENCES

MacGibbon & Ross 1896,149-151,figs.118,119: Muir 1885,73-74,144-146,fig.18: NSA 1841,40: OSCI HU 69NW5: RCAMS 1946,iii,143-144,No.1598,figs.653,667.

FIGURES

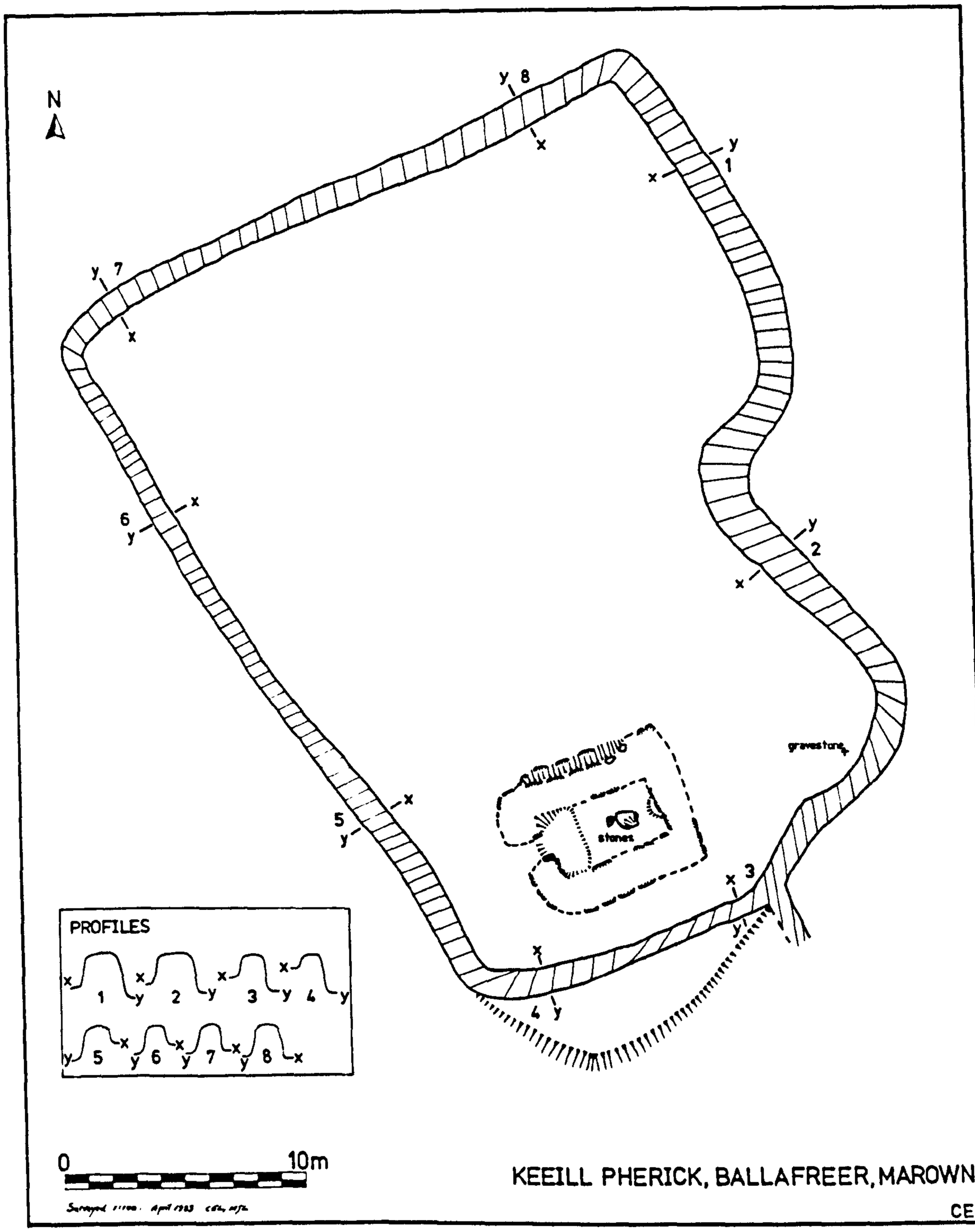
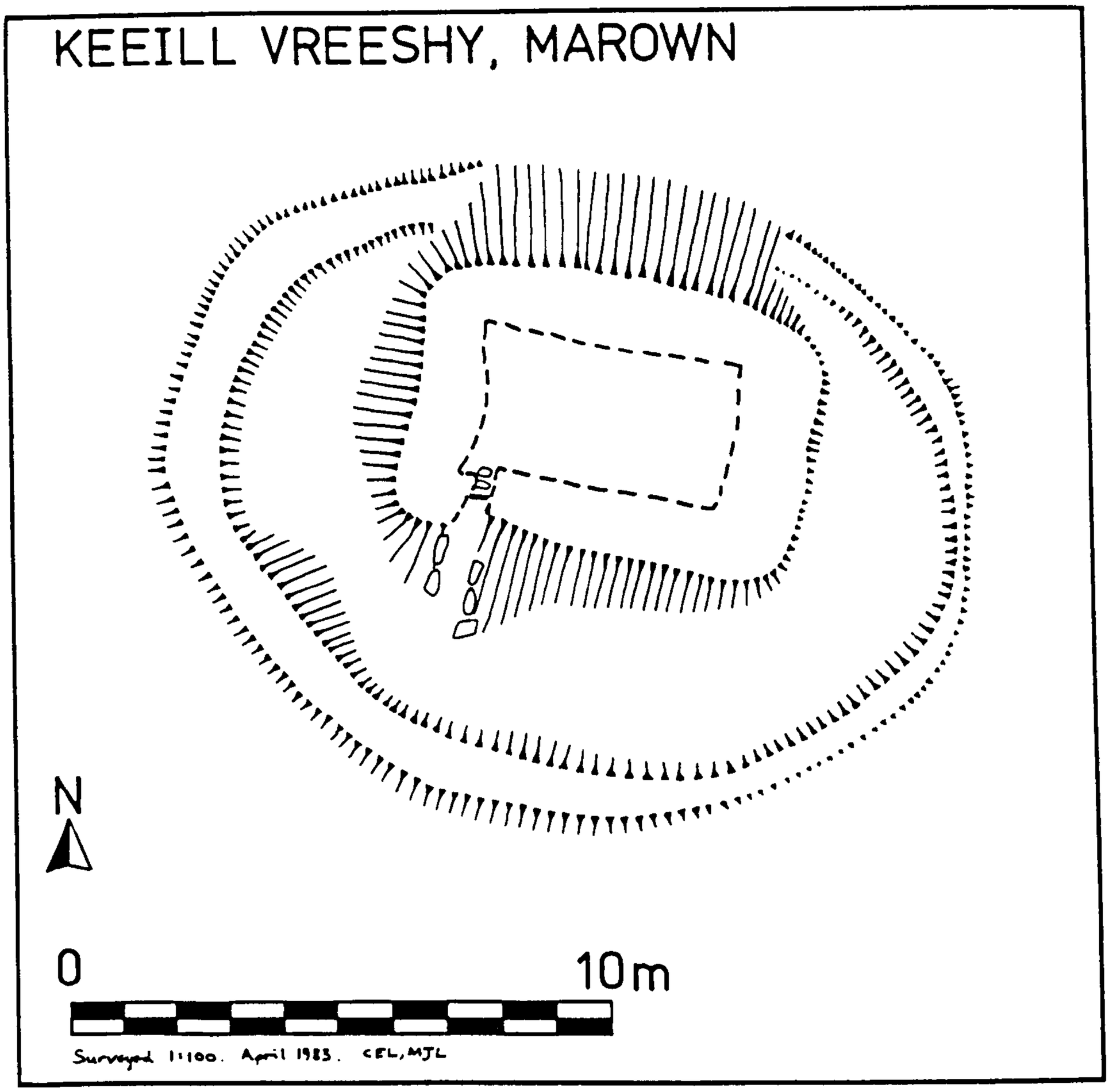


Figure 1: Keeill Pherick, Ballafreer (MAROWN 5)



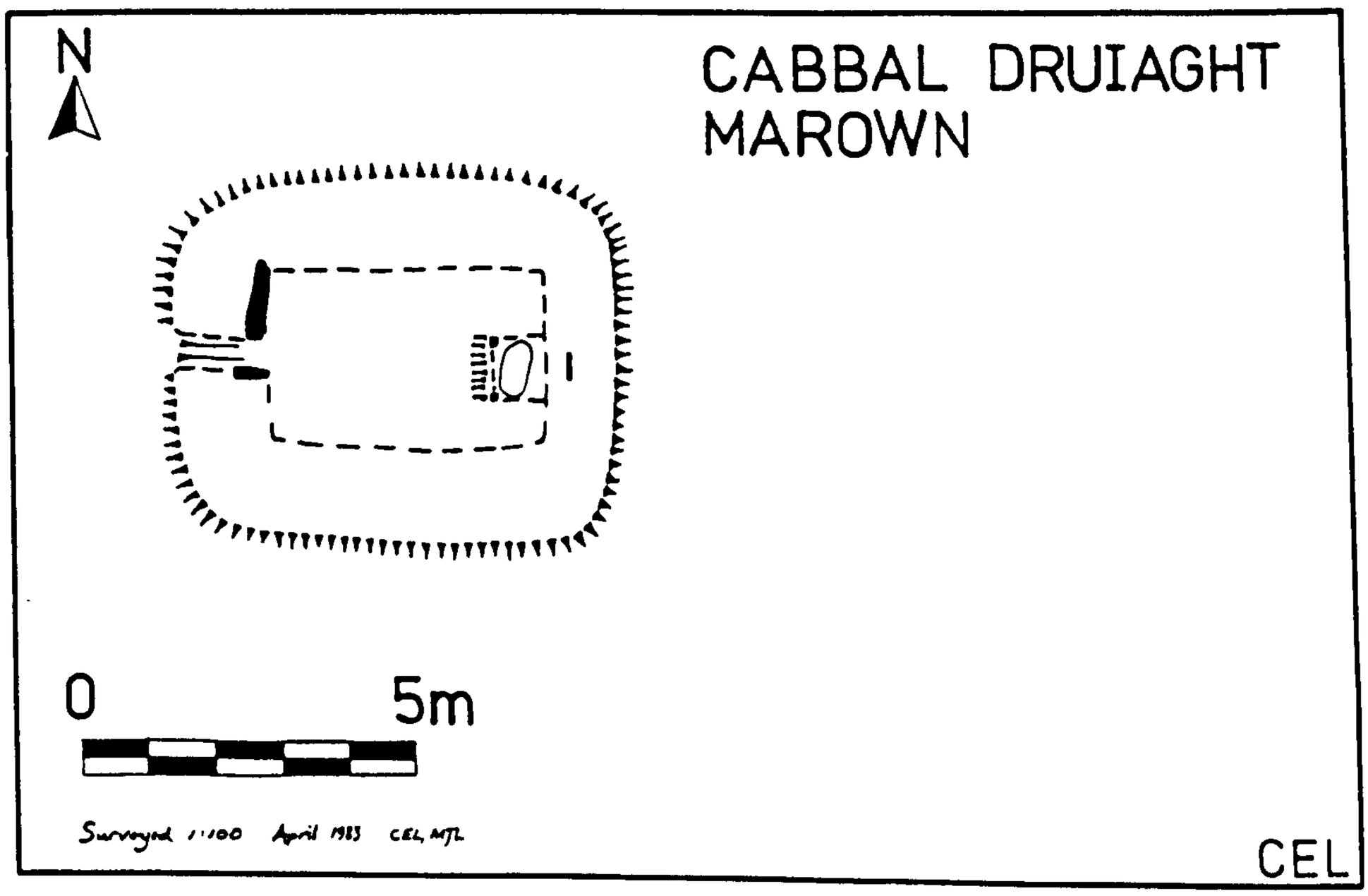


Figure 2a: Keeill Vreeshy, Ballayemmy (MAROWN 4)
Figure 2b: Cabbal Druiaght, Glenlogh (MAROWN 6)

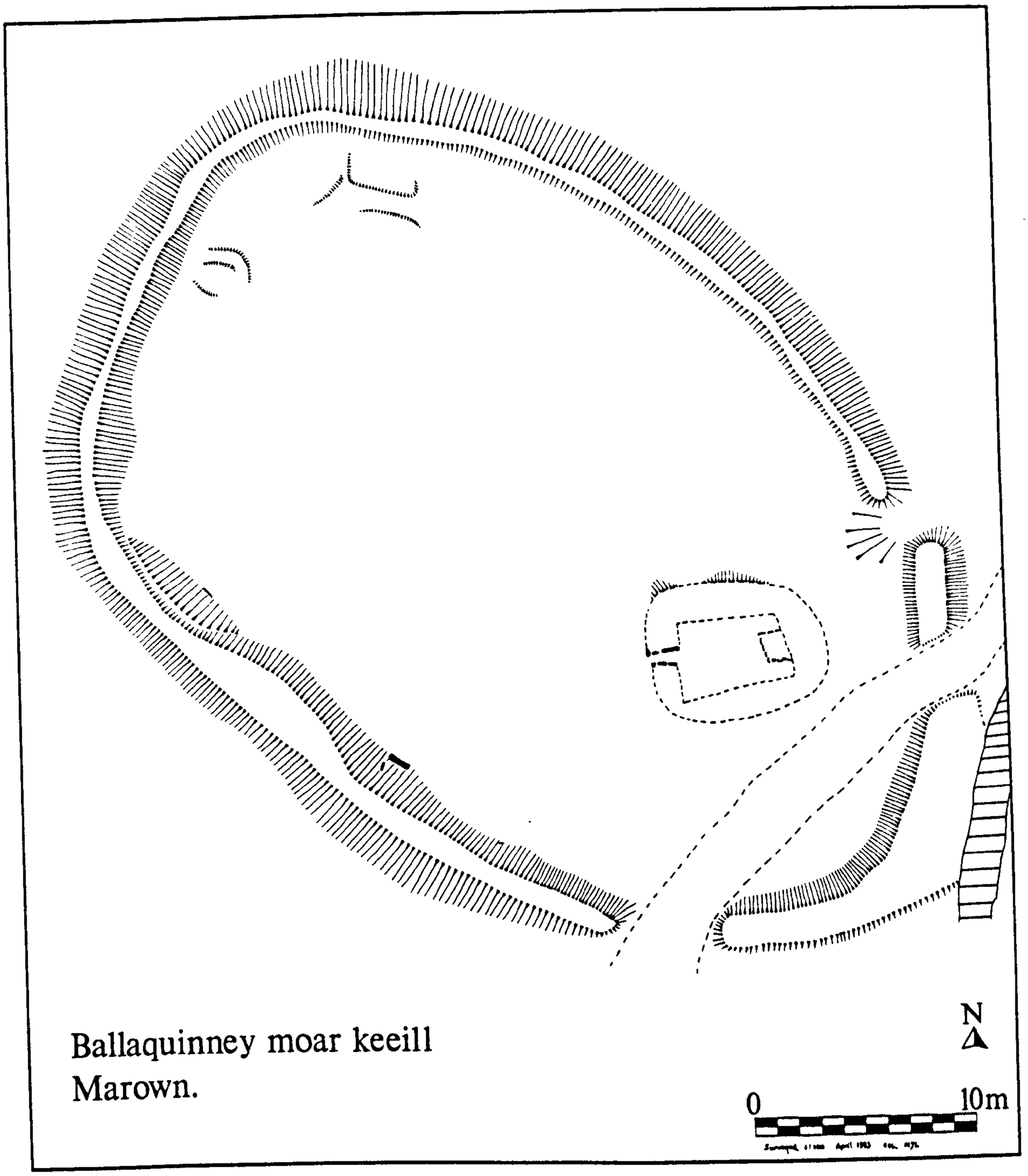


Figure 3: Ballaquinney moar keeill (MAROWN 7)

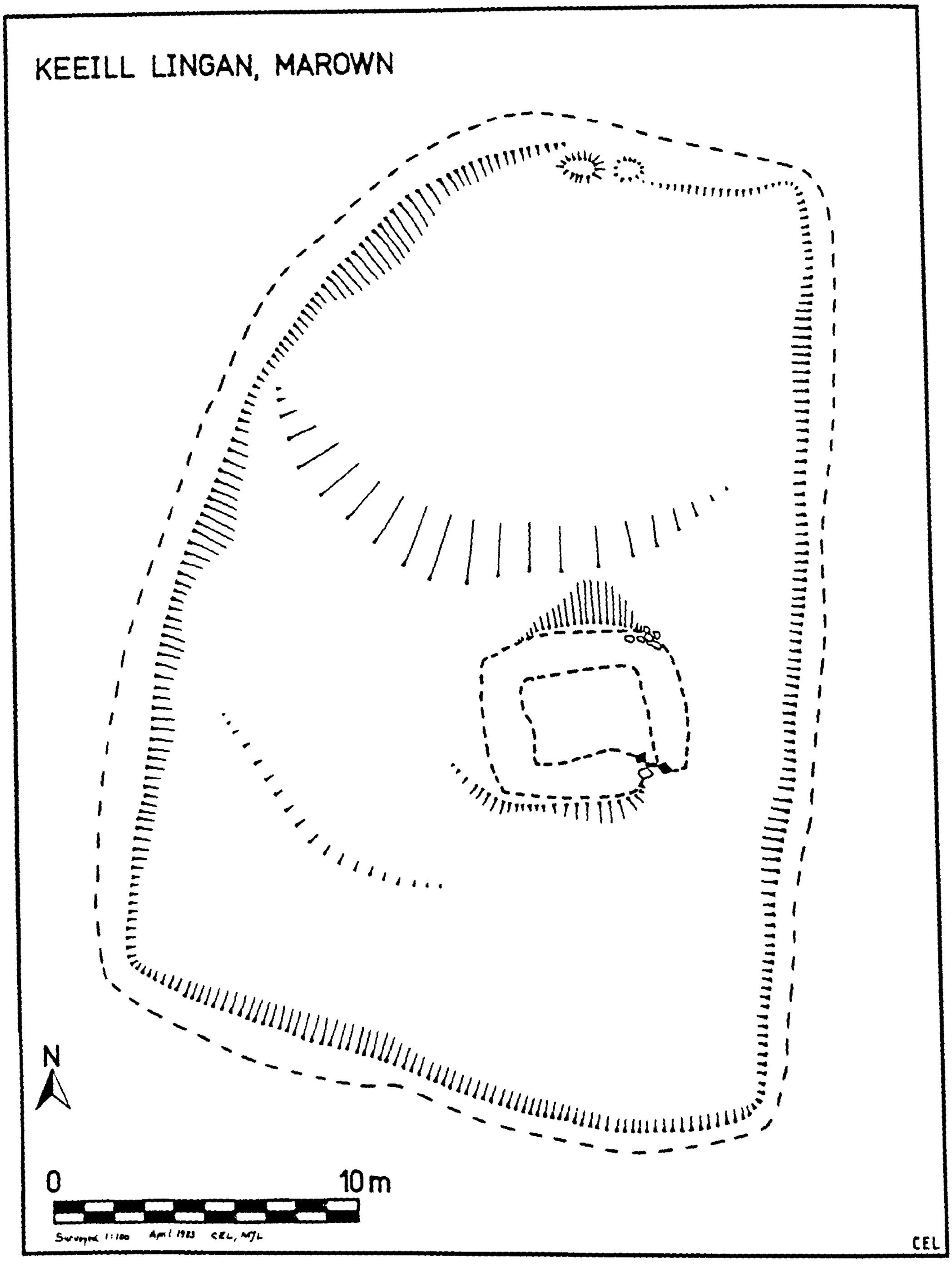


Figure 4: Keeill Lingan, Ballingan (MAROWN 8)

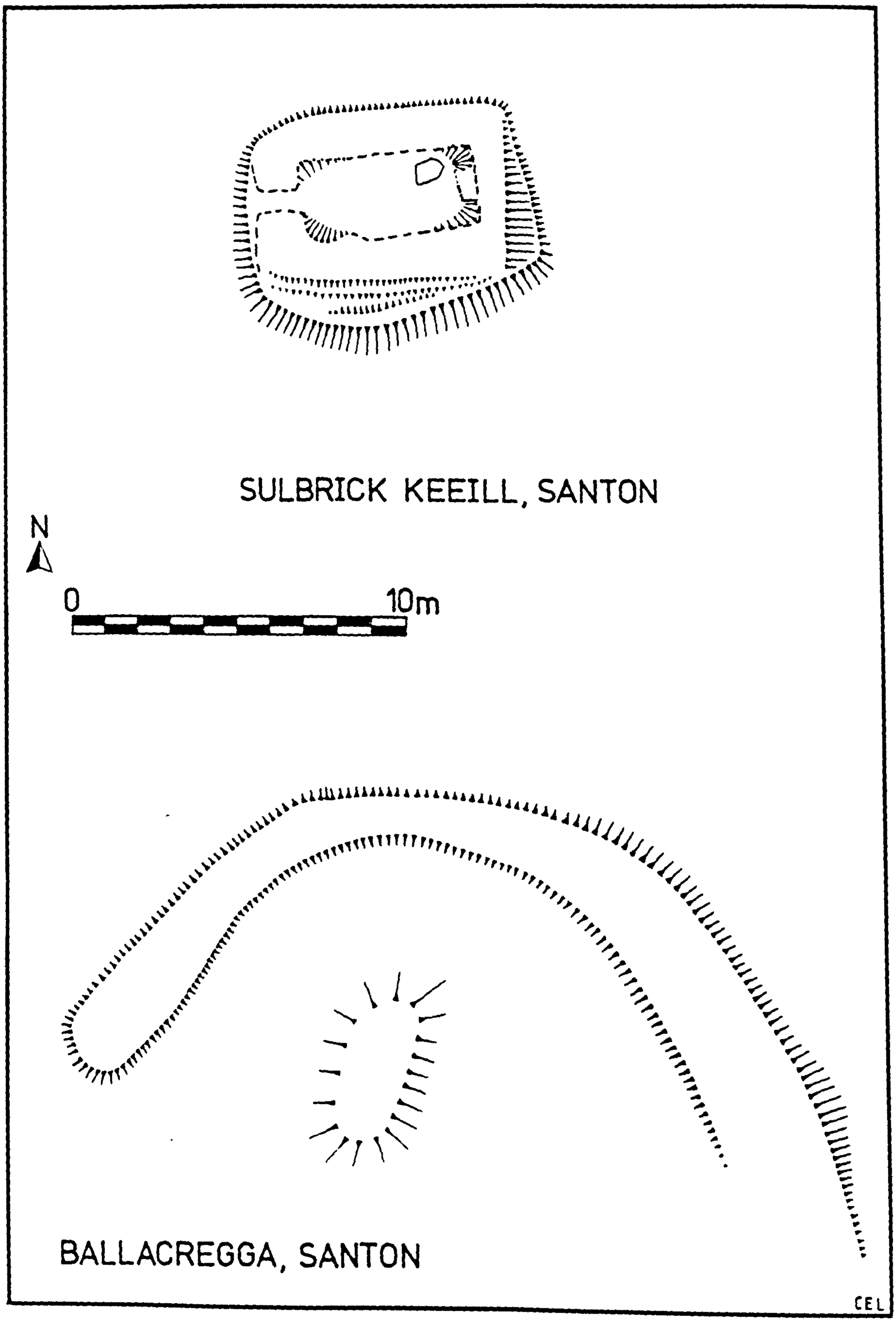


Figure 5a: Sulbrick keeill (SANTON 8)
Figure 5b: Ballacregga enclosure (SANTON 5)

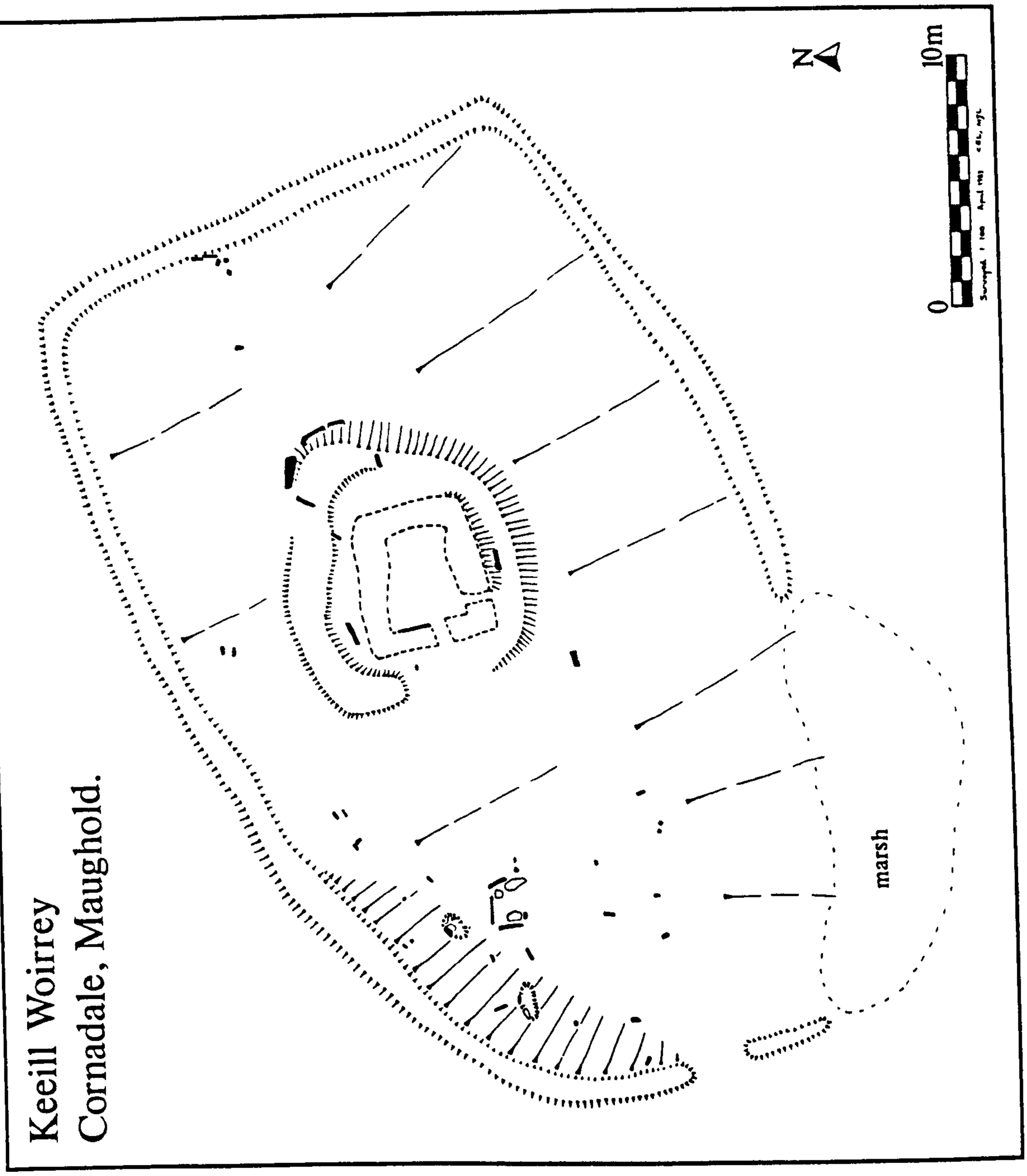


Figure 6: Keeill Woirrey, Cornadale, Maughold

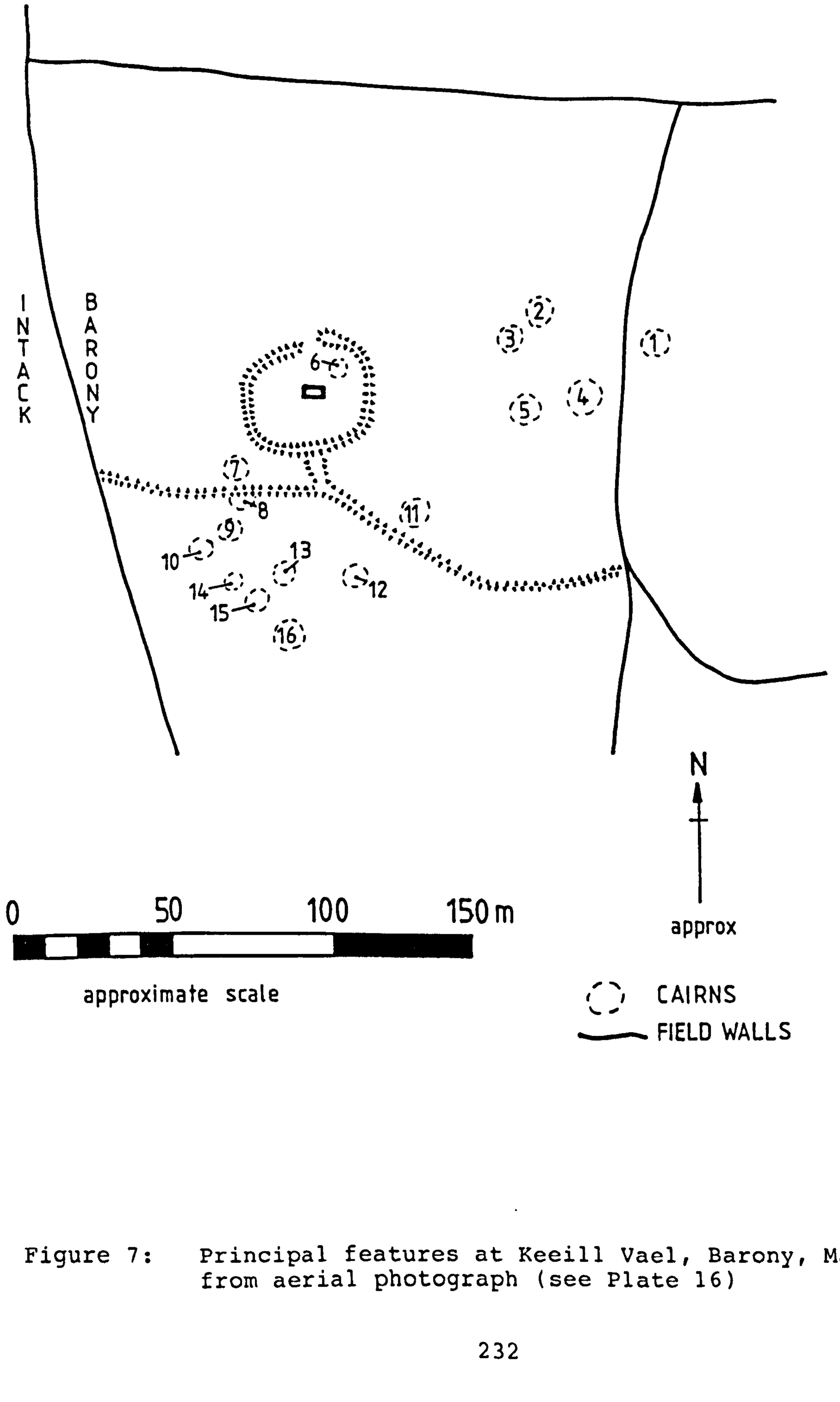


Figure 7: Principal features at Keeill Vael, Barony, Maughold from aerial photograph (see Plate 16)

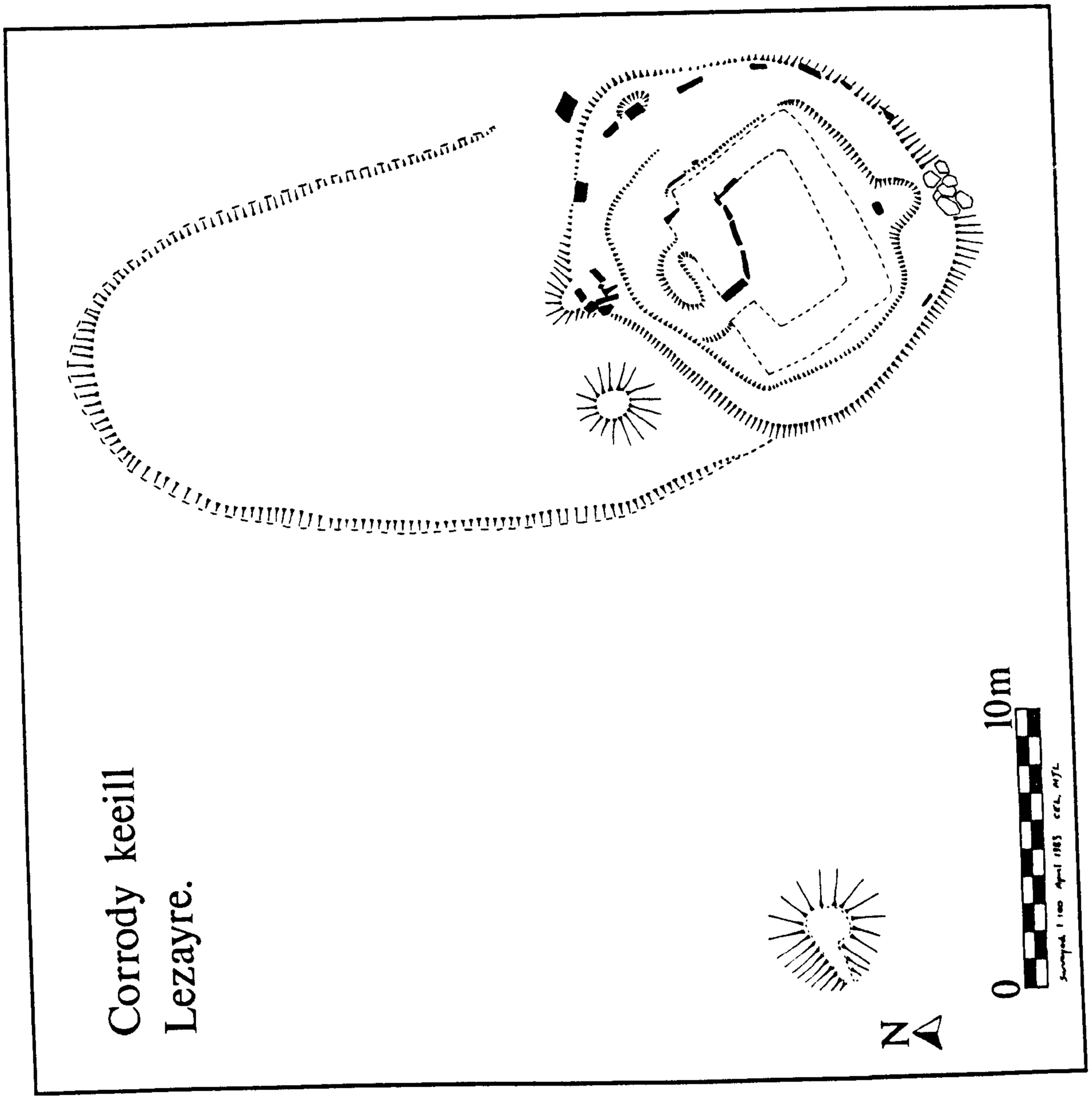


Figure 8: Corrody keeill, Lezayre

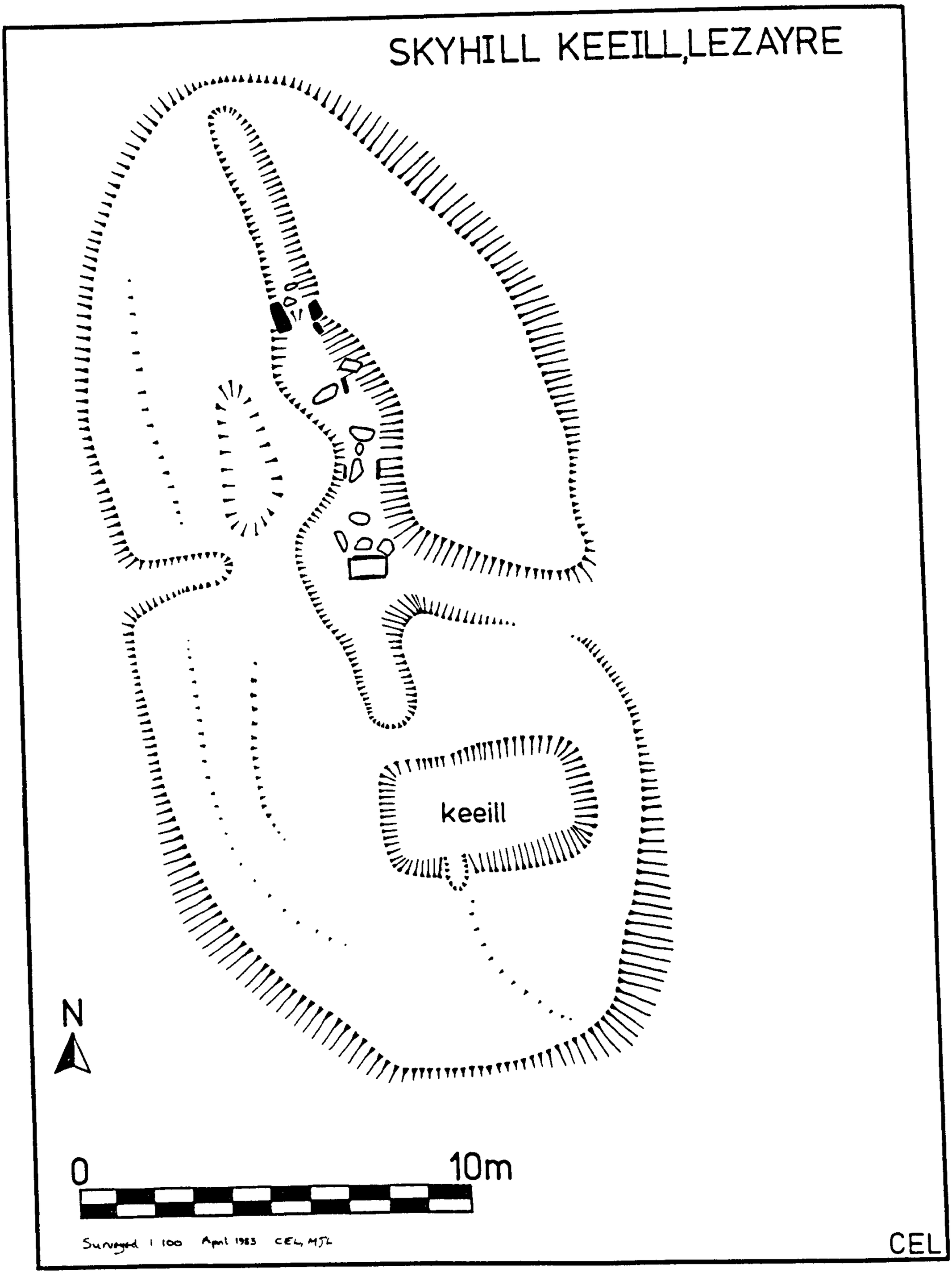


Figure 9: Skyhill keeill, Lezayre

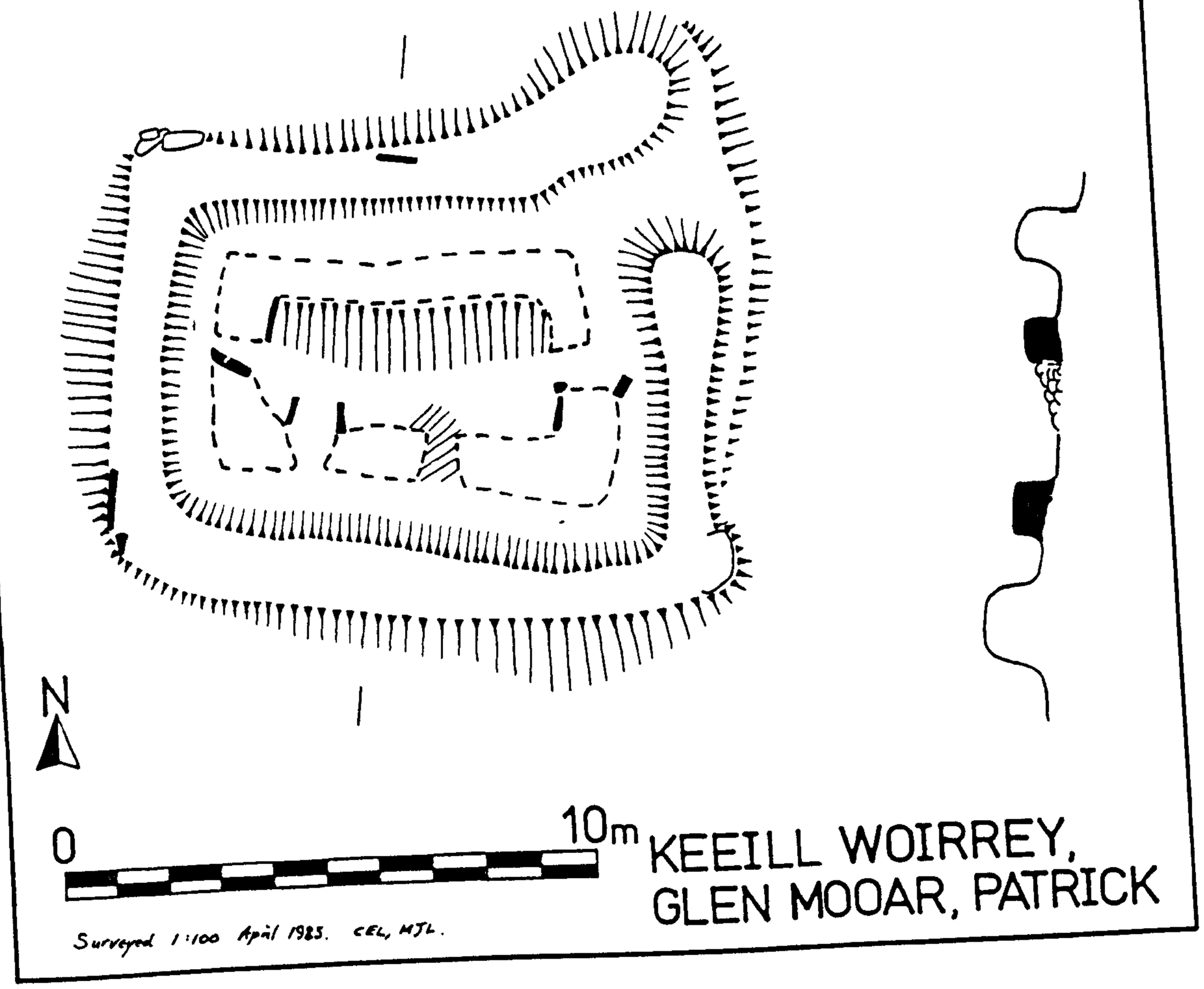


Figure 10: Keeill Woirrey, Glen moar, Patrick

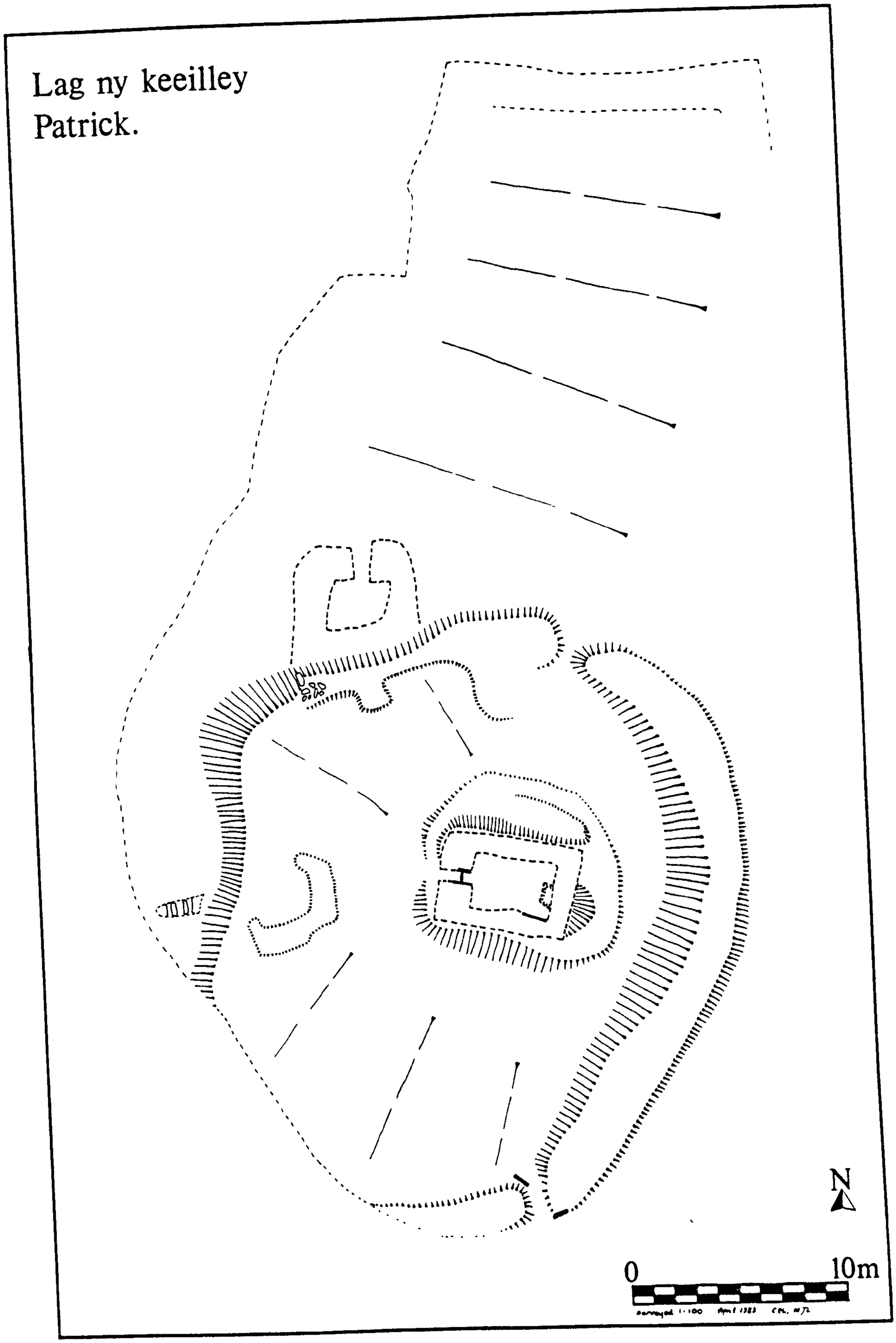


Figure 11: Lag ny keeilley, Patrick

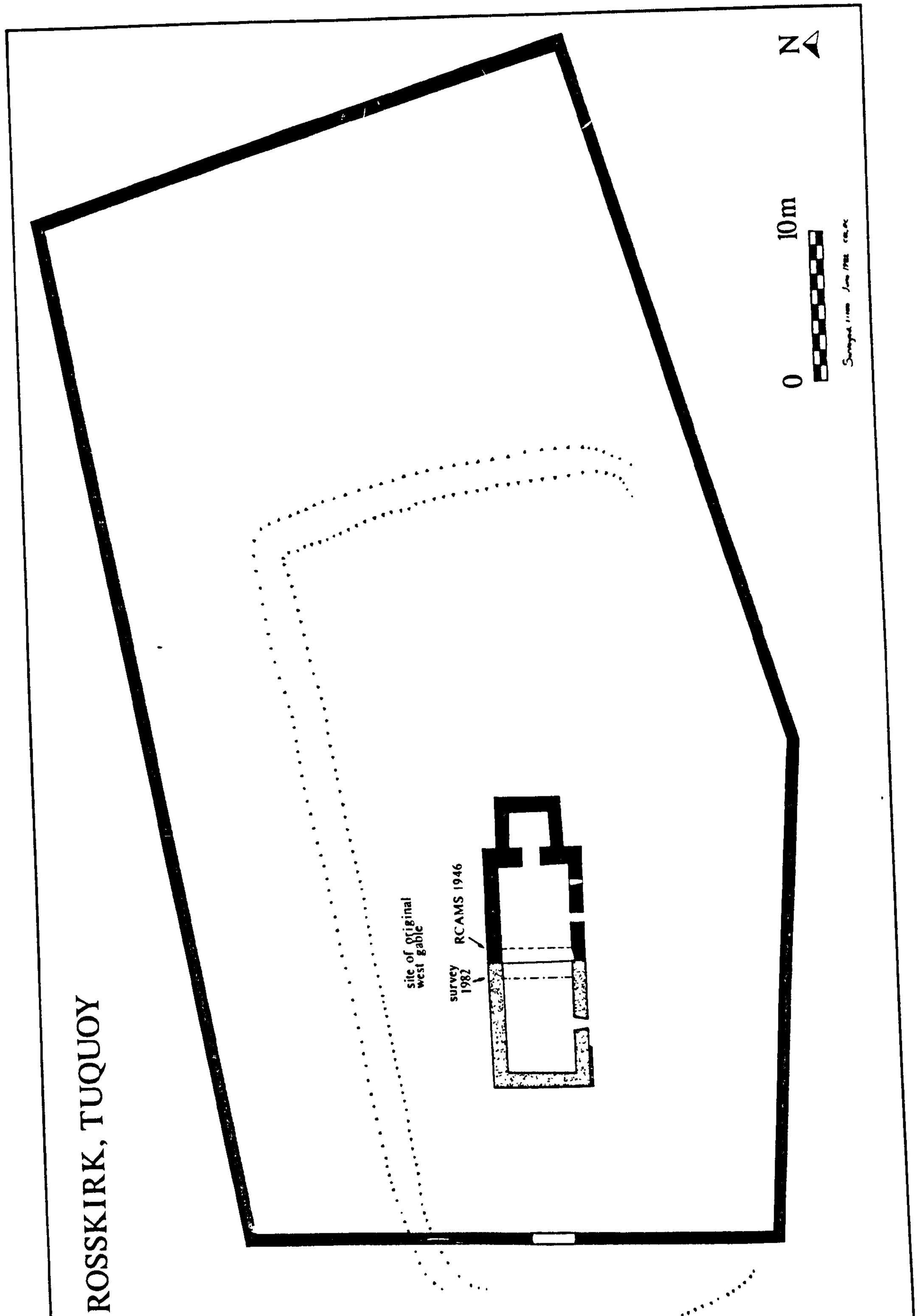


Figure 12: Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5)

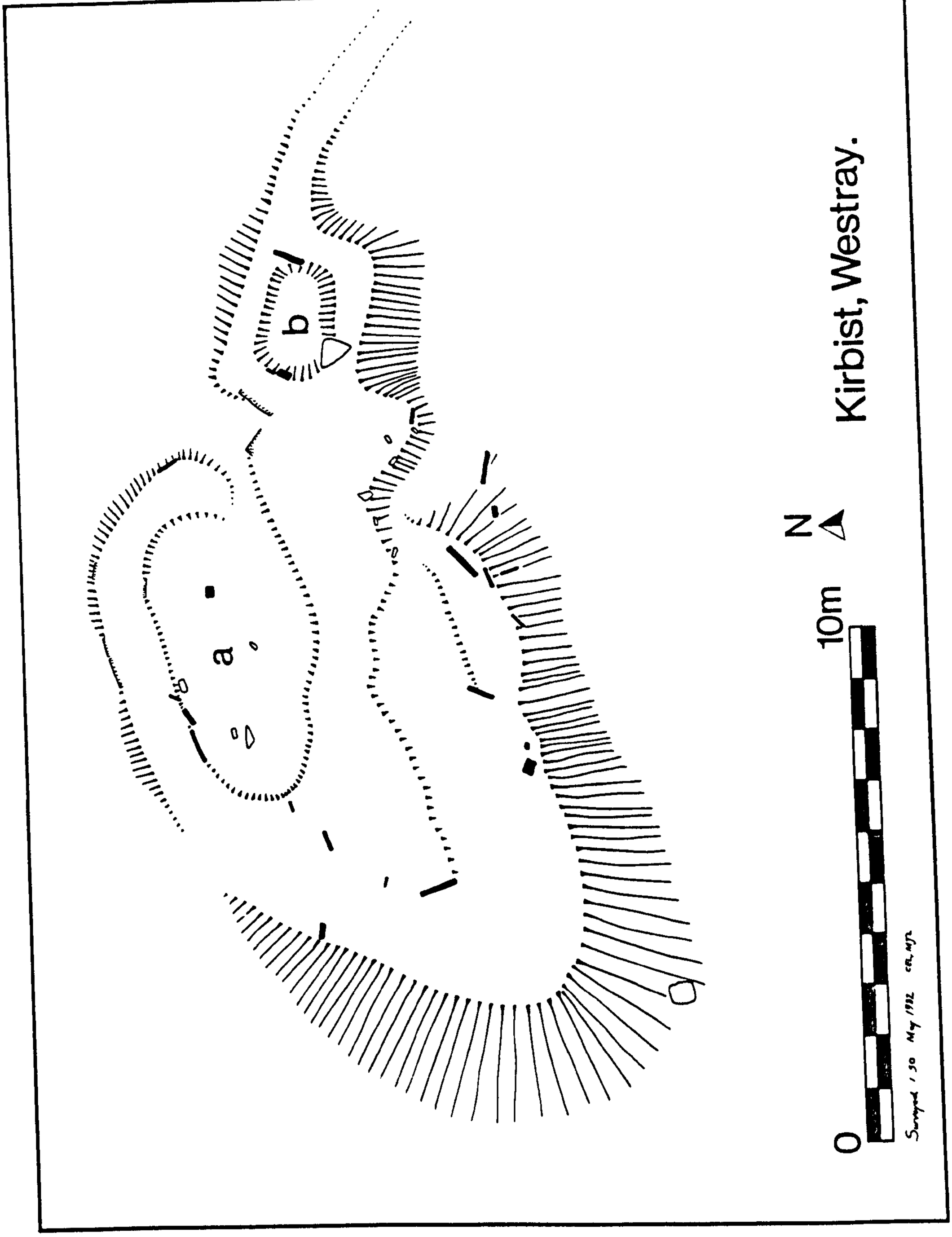


Figure 13: Domestic settlement near Kirbist (WESTRAY 6)

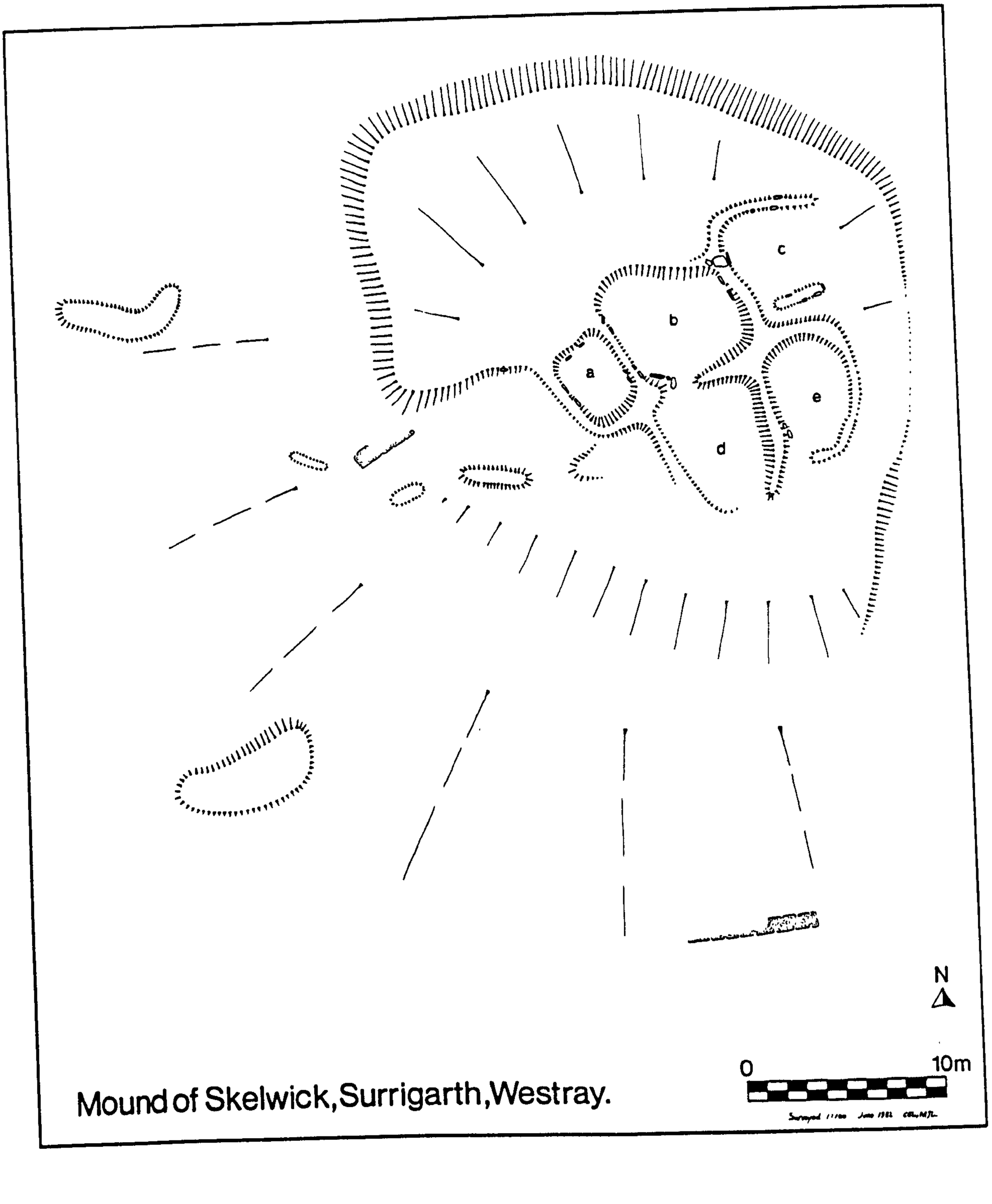


Figure 14: Old Kirkhouse / Mound of Skelwick (WESTRAY 8)

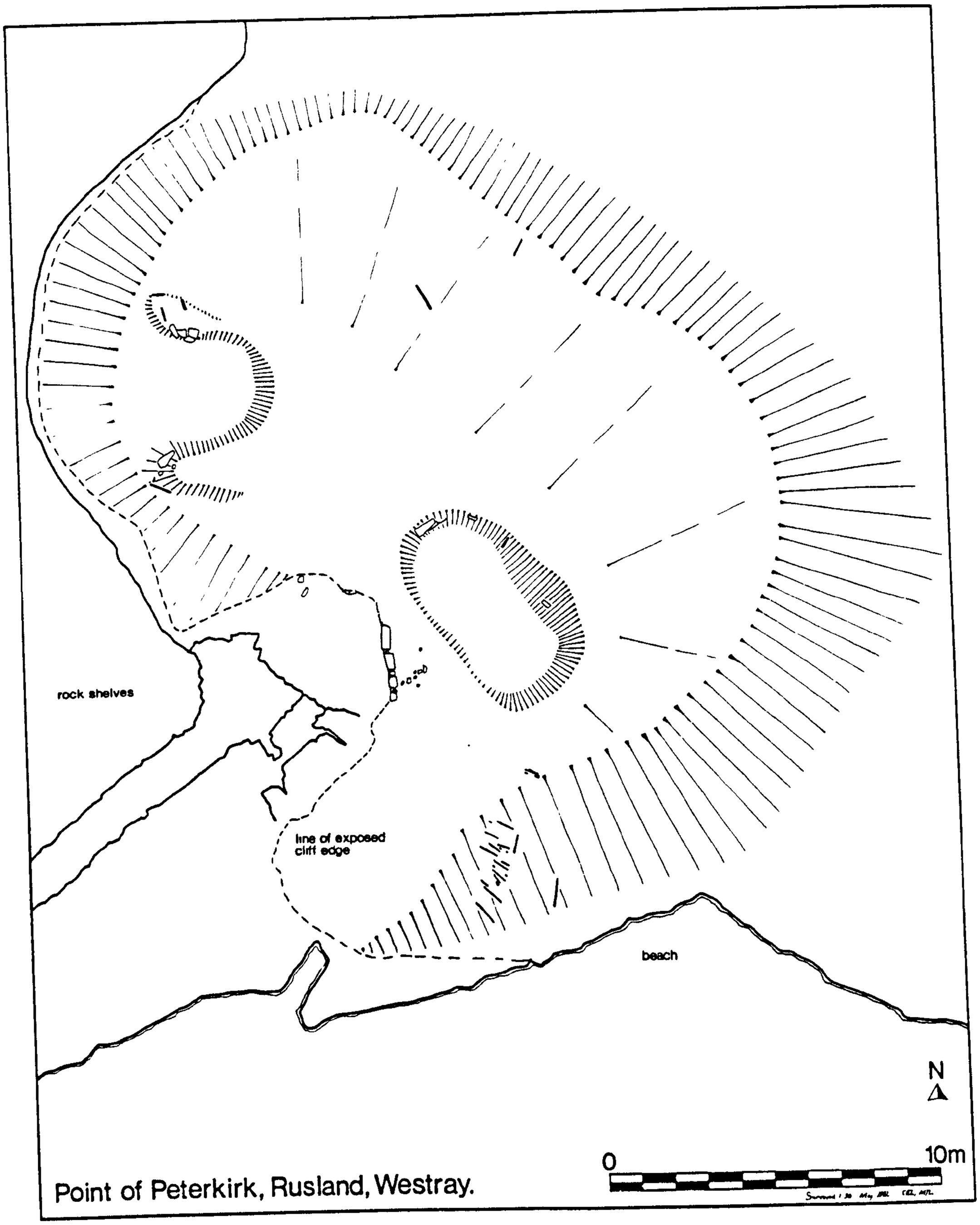


Figure 15: Peterkirk, Rusland (WESTRAY 10)

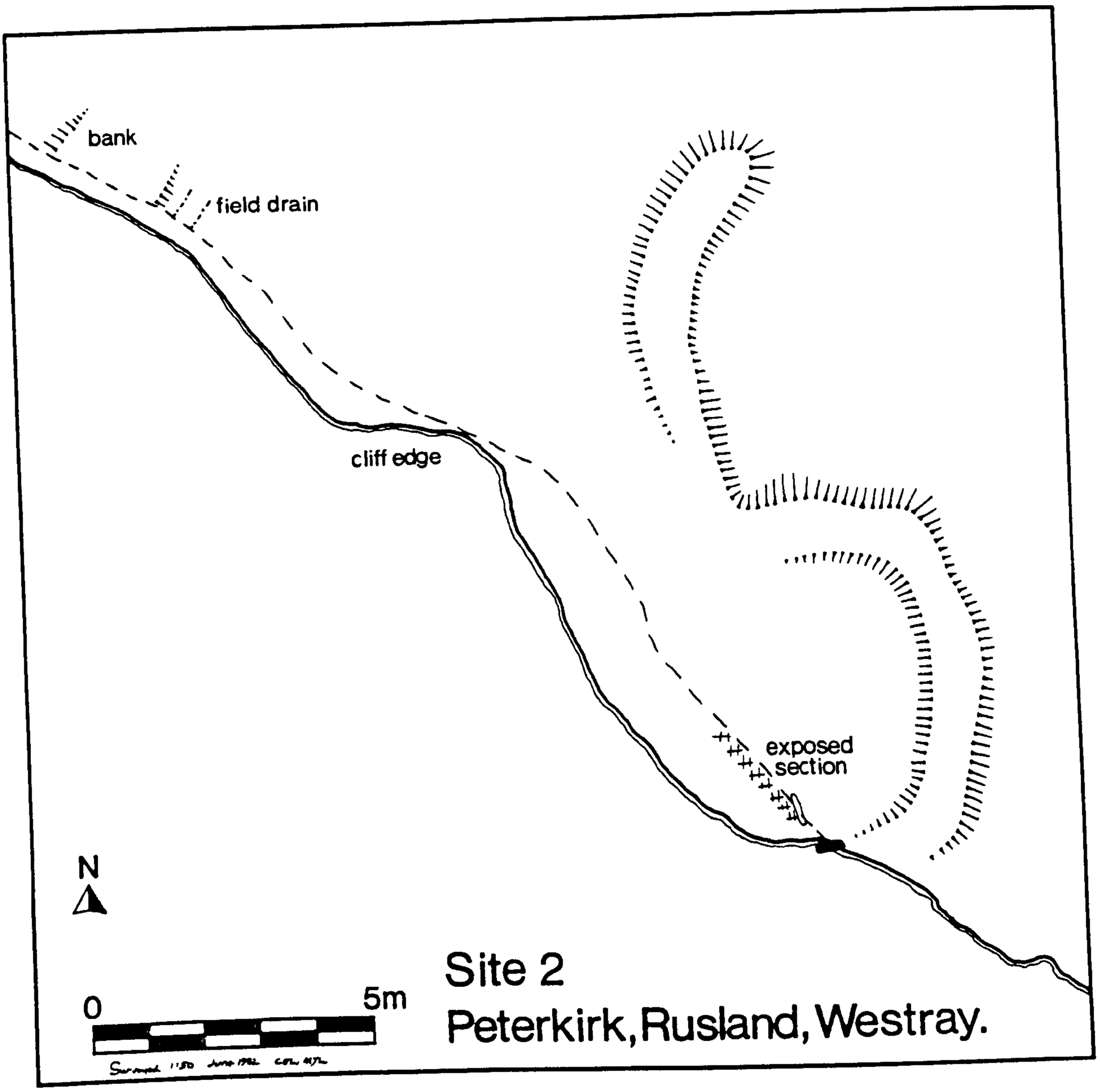


Figure 16: Structure in eroded cliff-section near Peterkirk (see Plate 33b)

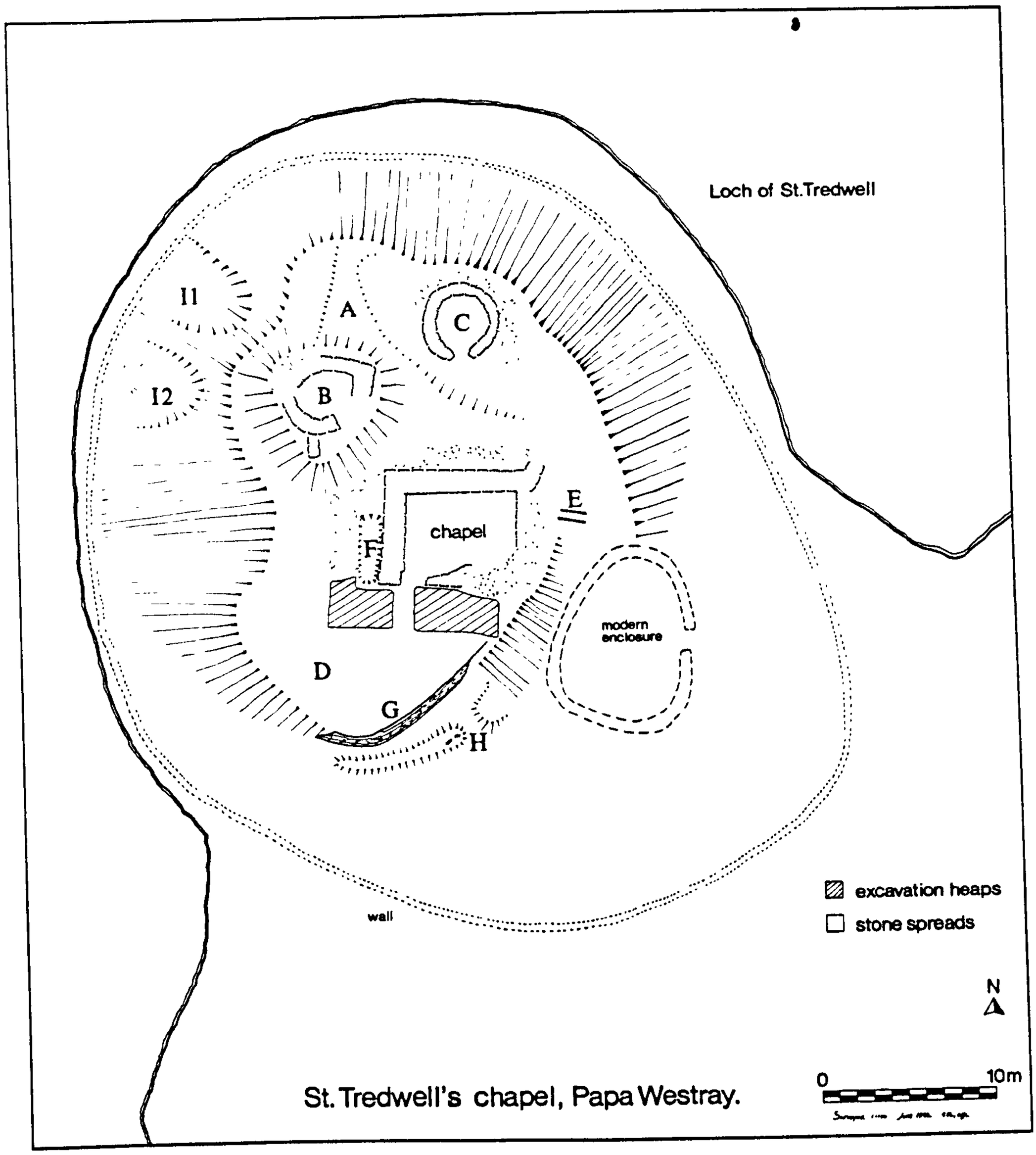


Figure 17: St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14)

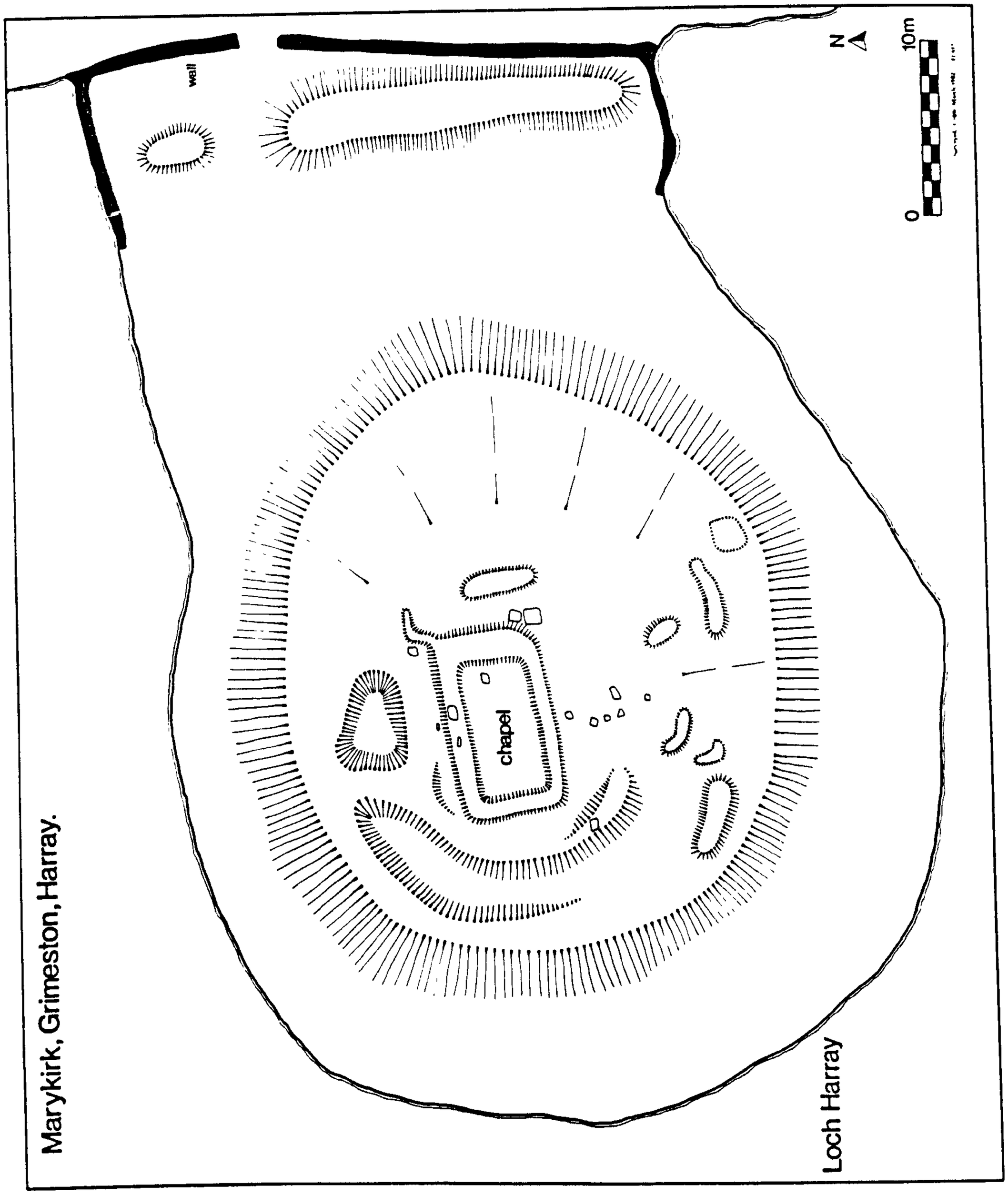


Figure 18: Marykirk, Grimeston, Harray

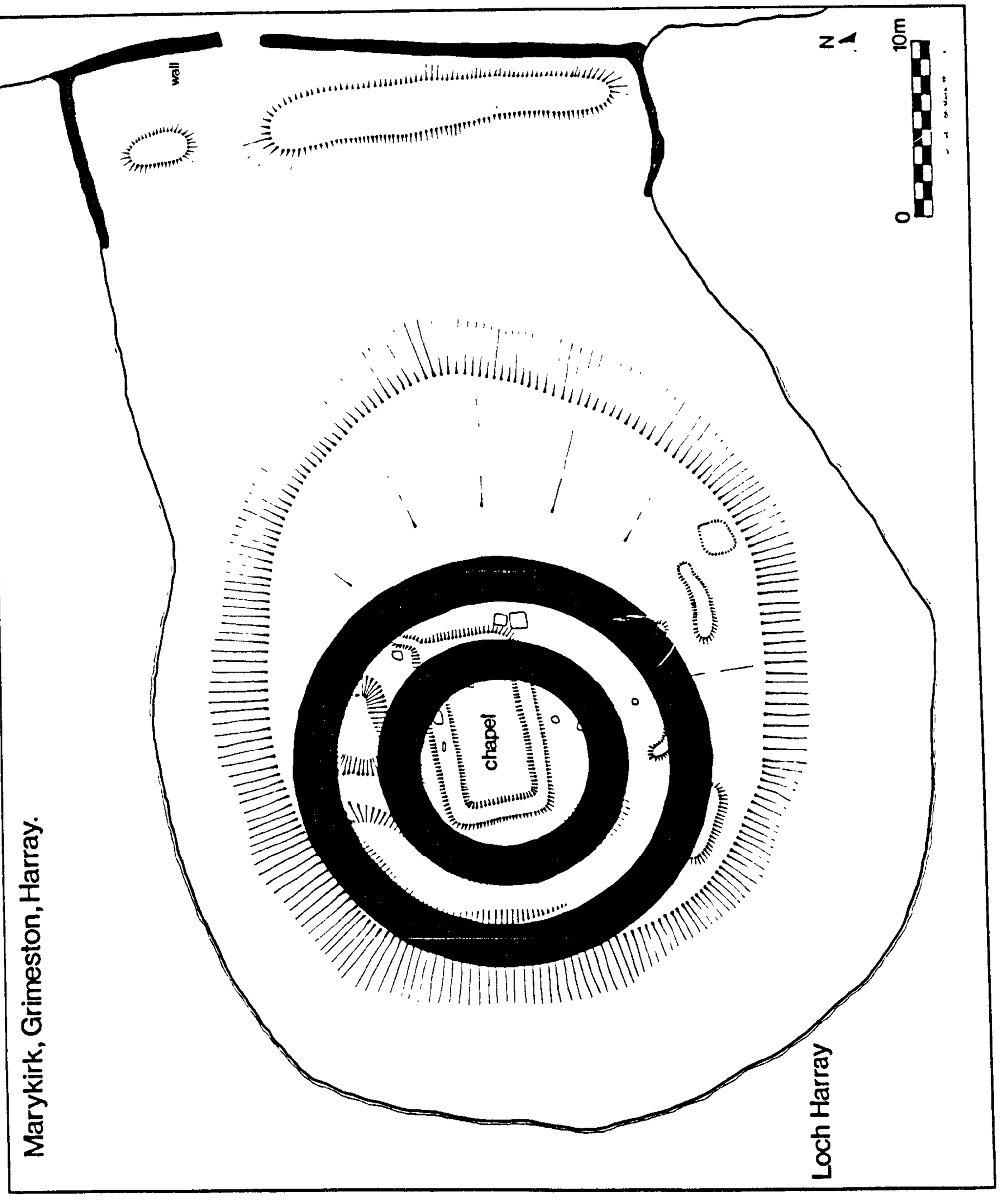


Figure 19: Marykirk ?broch, Grimeston, Harray

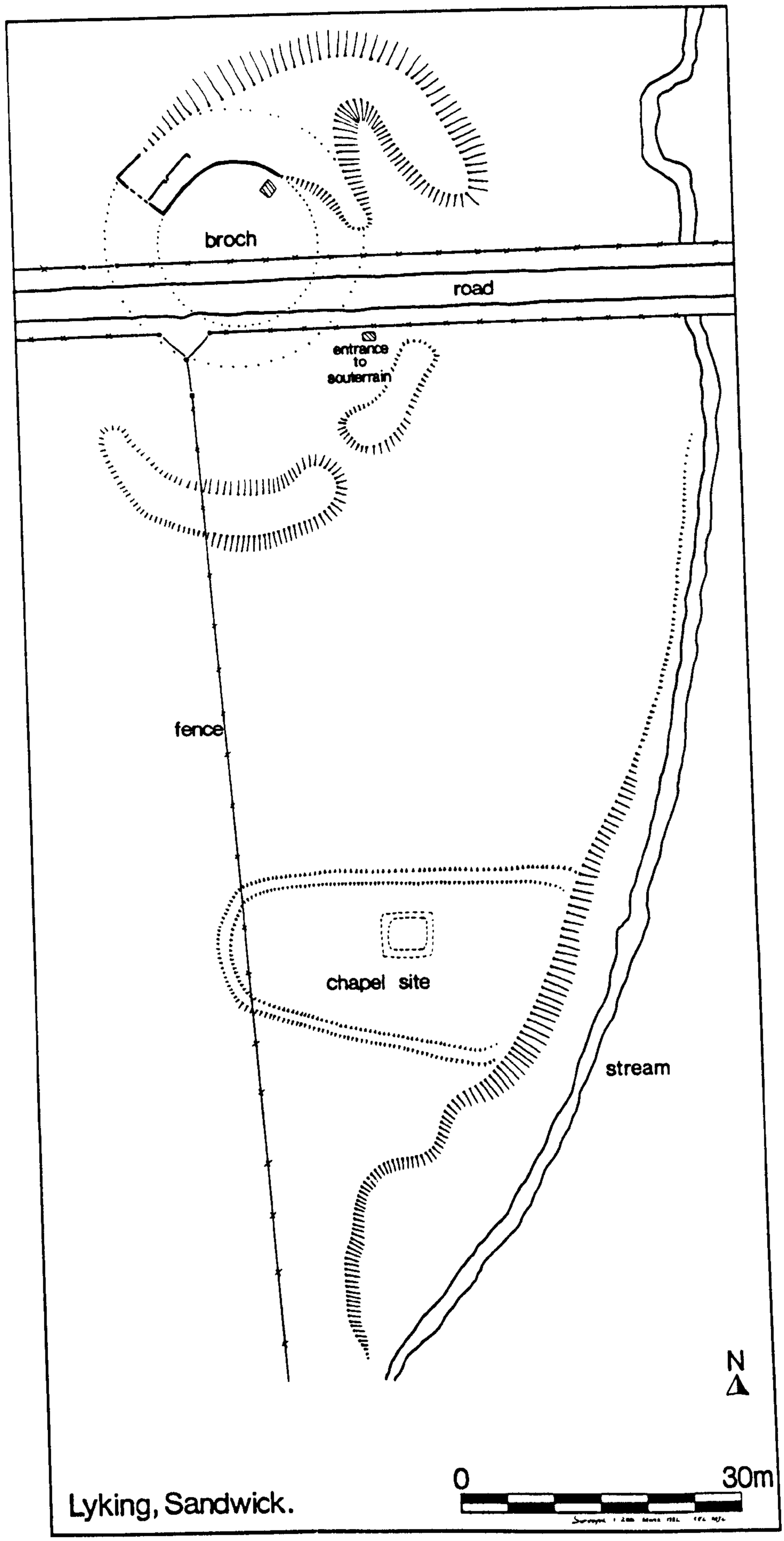


Figure 20: Lyking chapel & Stackrue broch, Sandwick

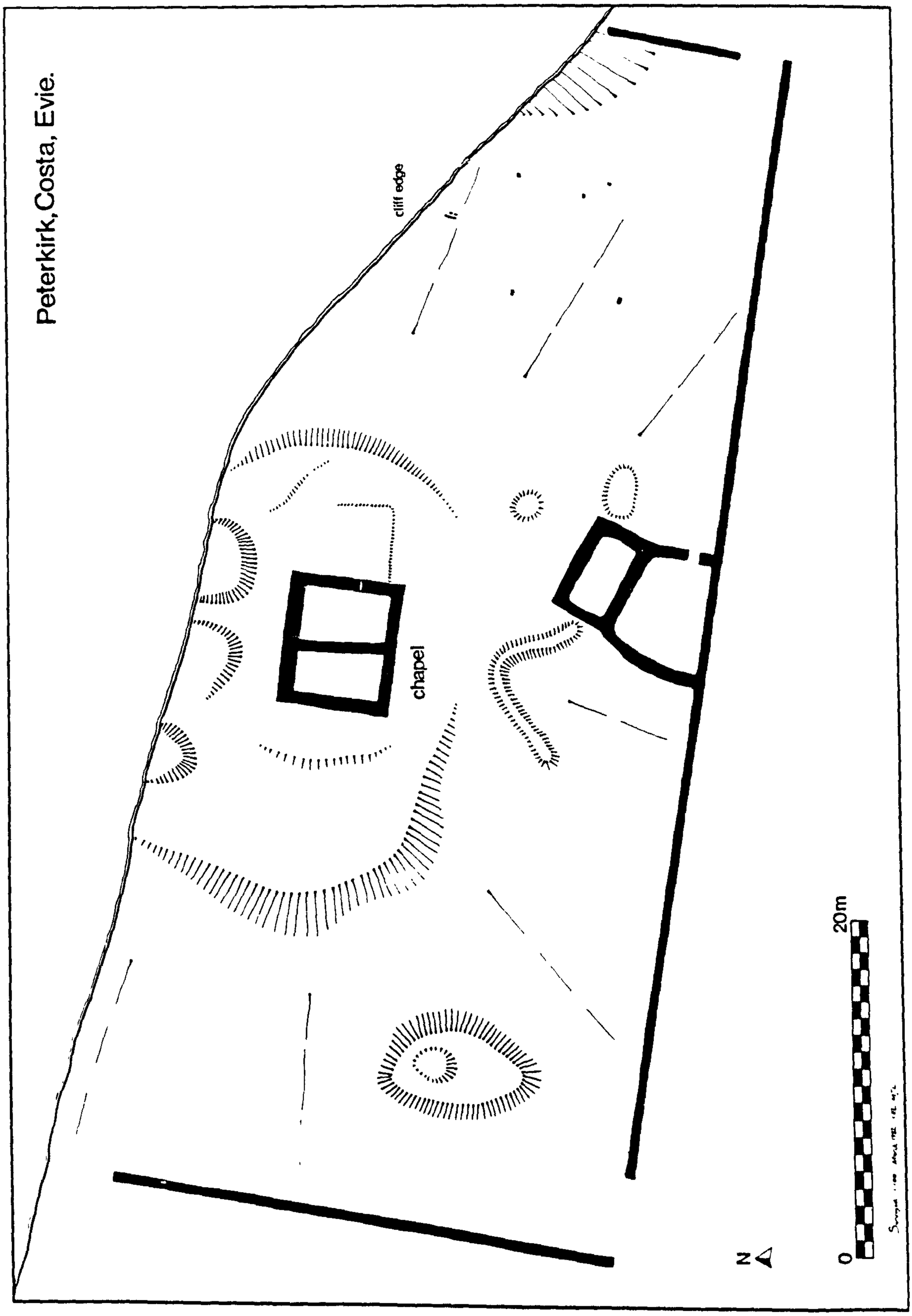


Figure 21: Peterkirk, Evie

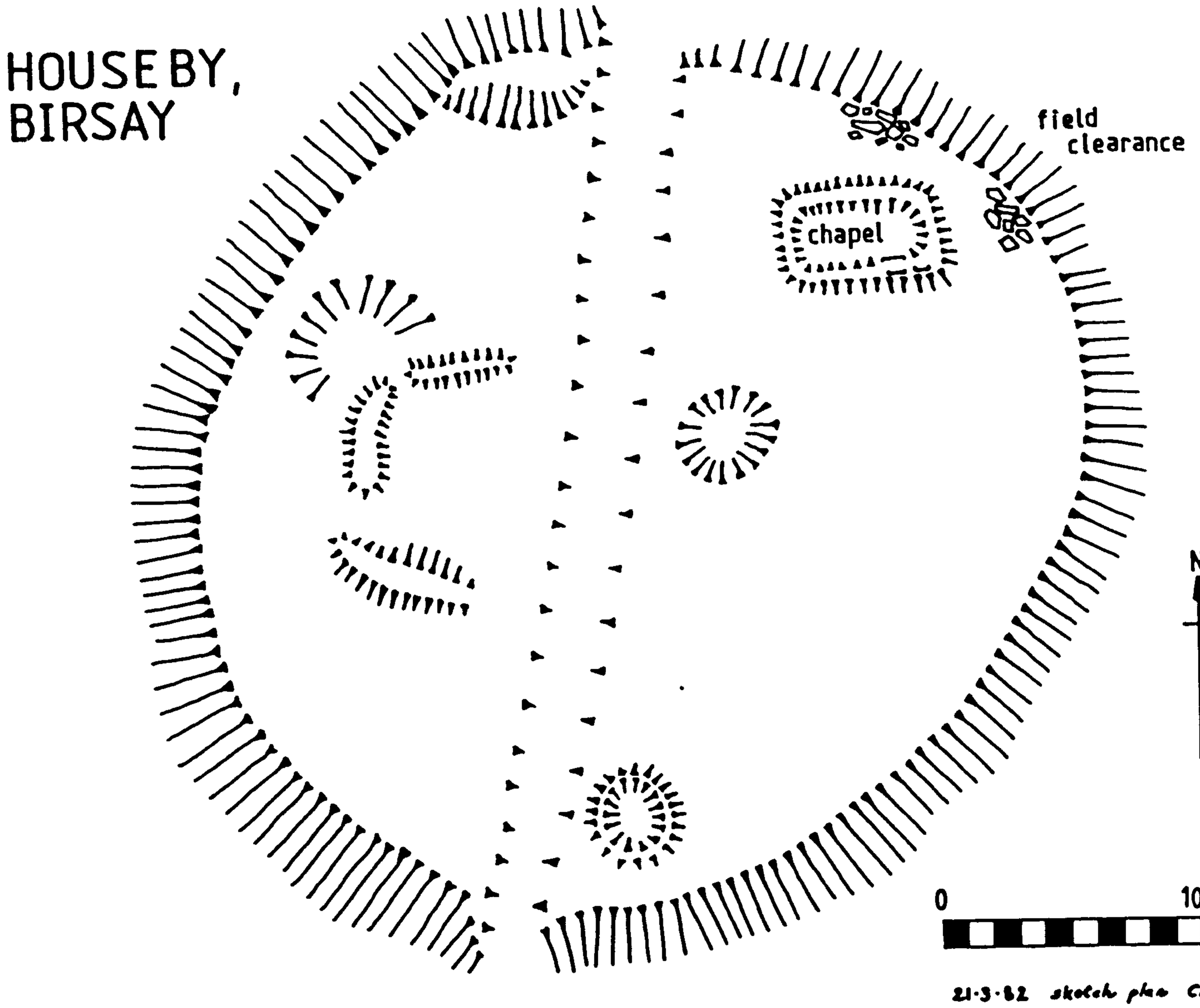


Figure 22: Houseby chapel, Birsay

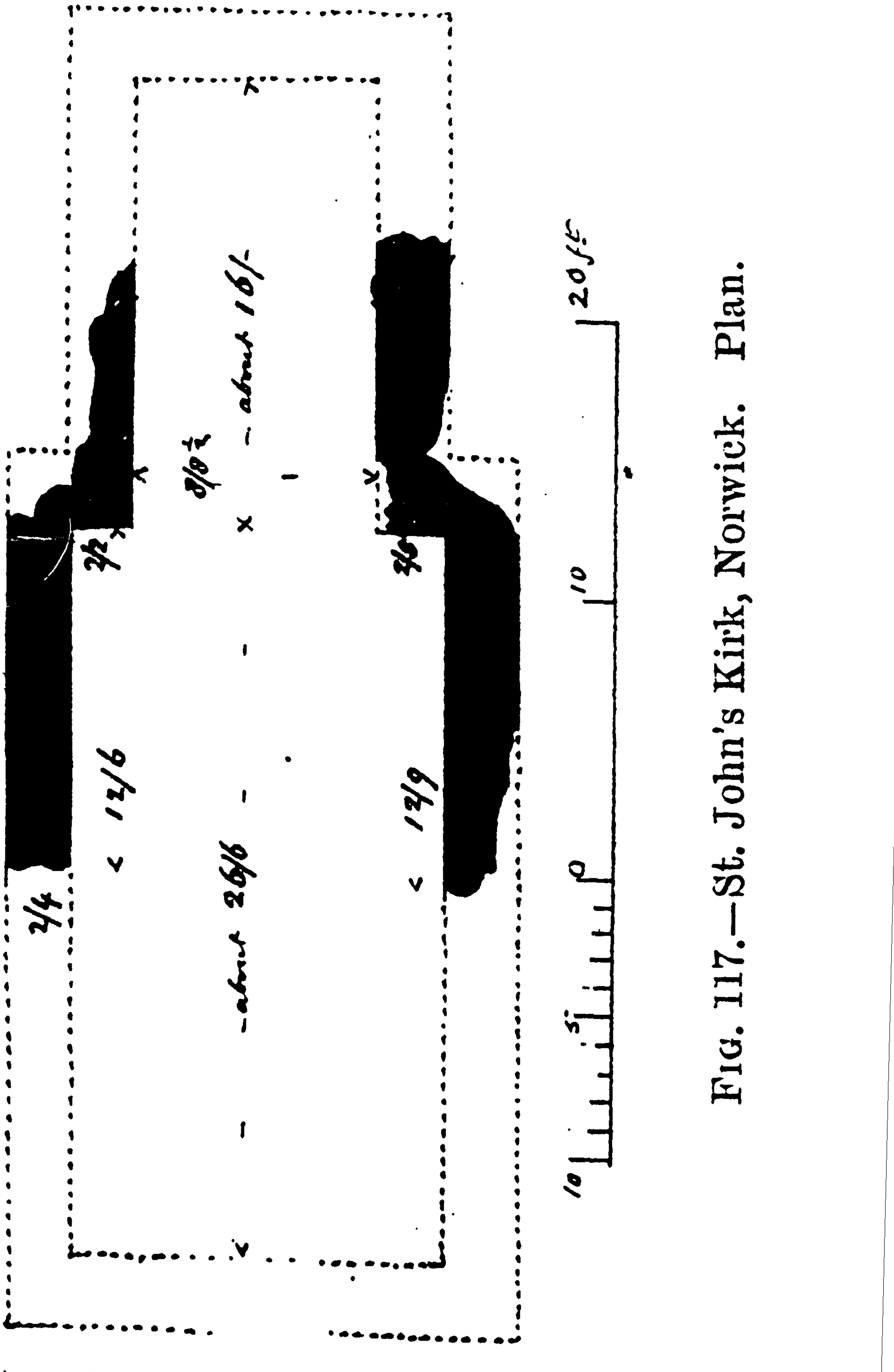


FIG. 117.—St. John's Kirk, Norwick. Plan.

Figure 23: Irvine´s 1863 plan of St. John´s church, Norwic
(UNST 1): after MacGibbon & Ross 1896,fig.117



Figure 24: Stone setting near Bartleskirk (UNST 2)

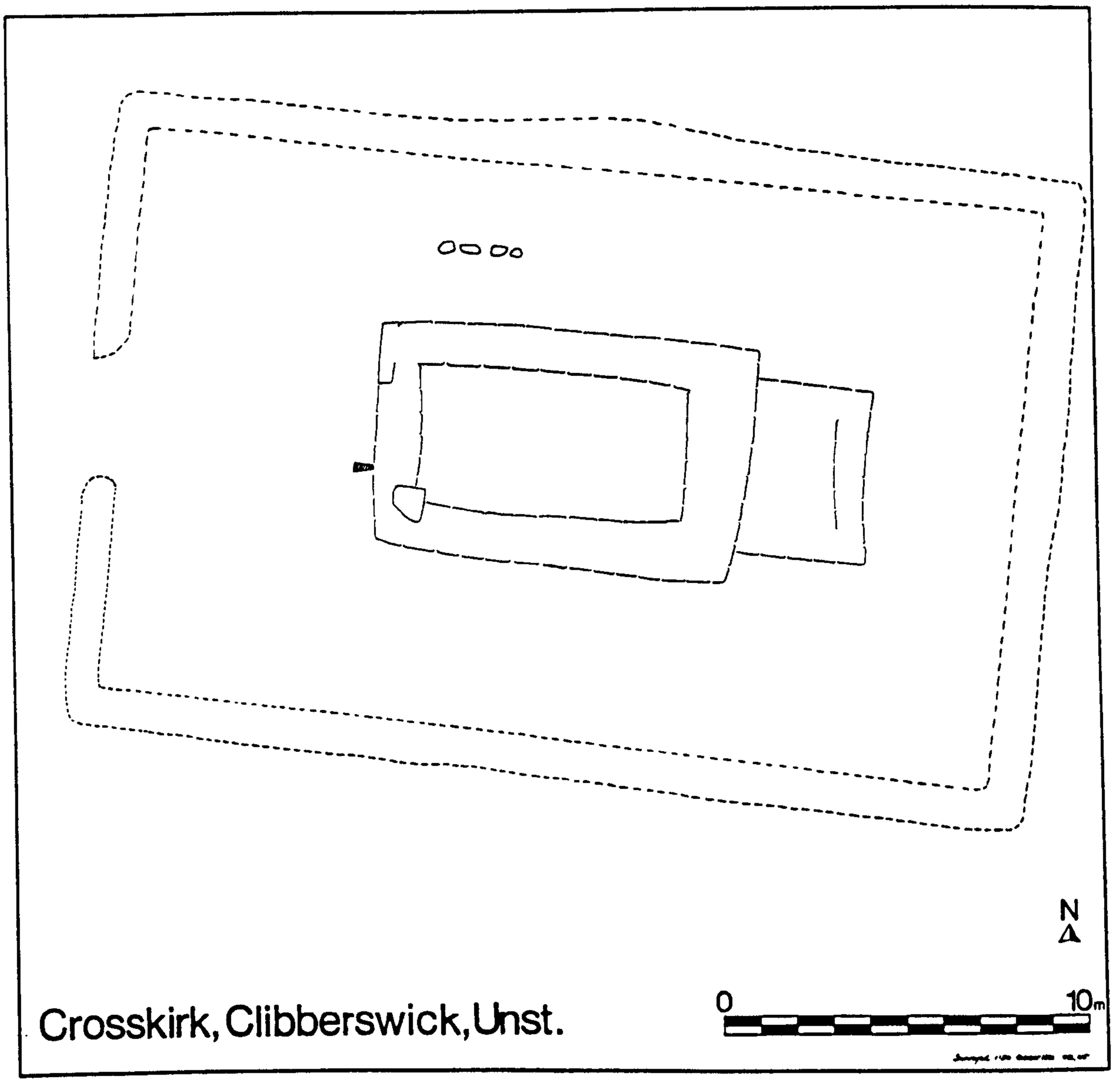


Figure 25: Crosskirk, Clibberswick (UNST 3)

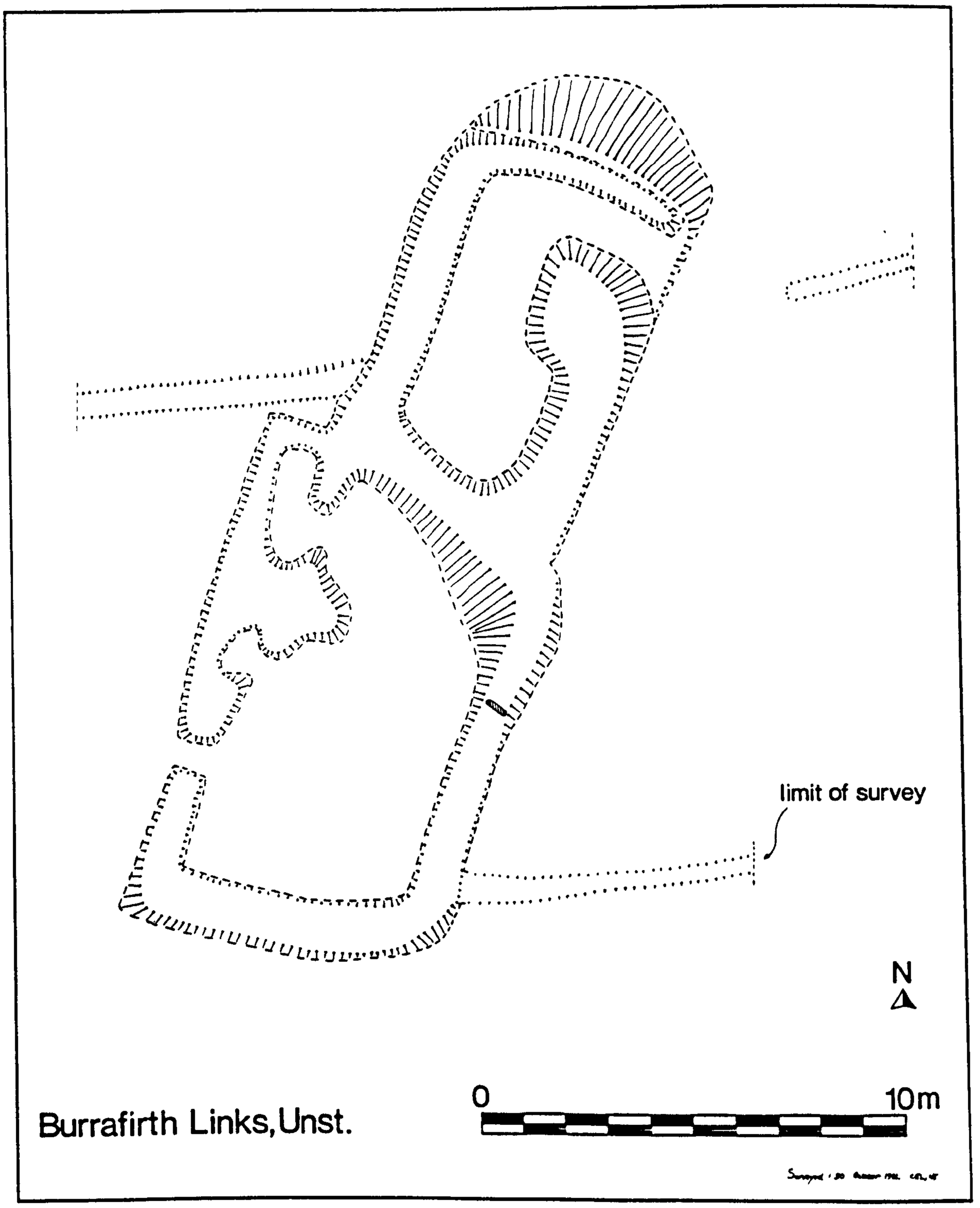


Figure 26: `The Kirk´, Burrafirth (UNST 4)

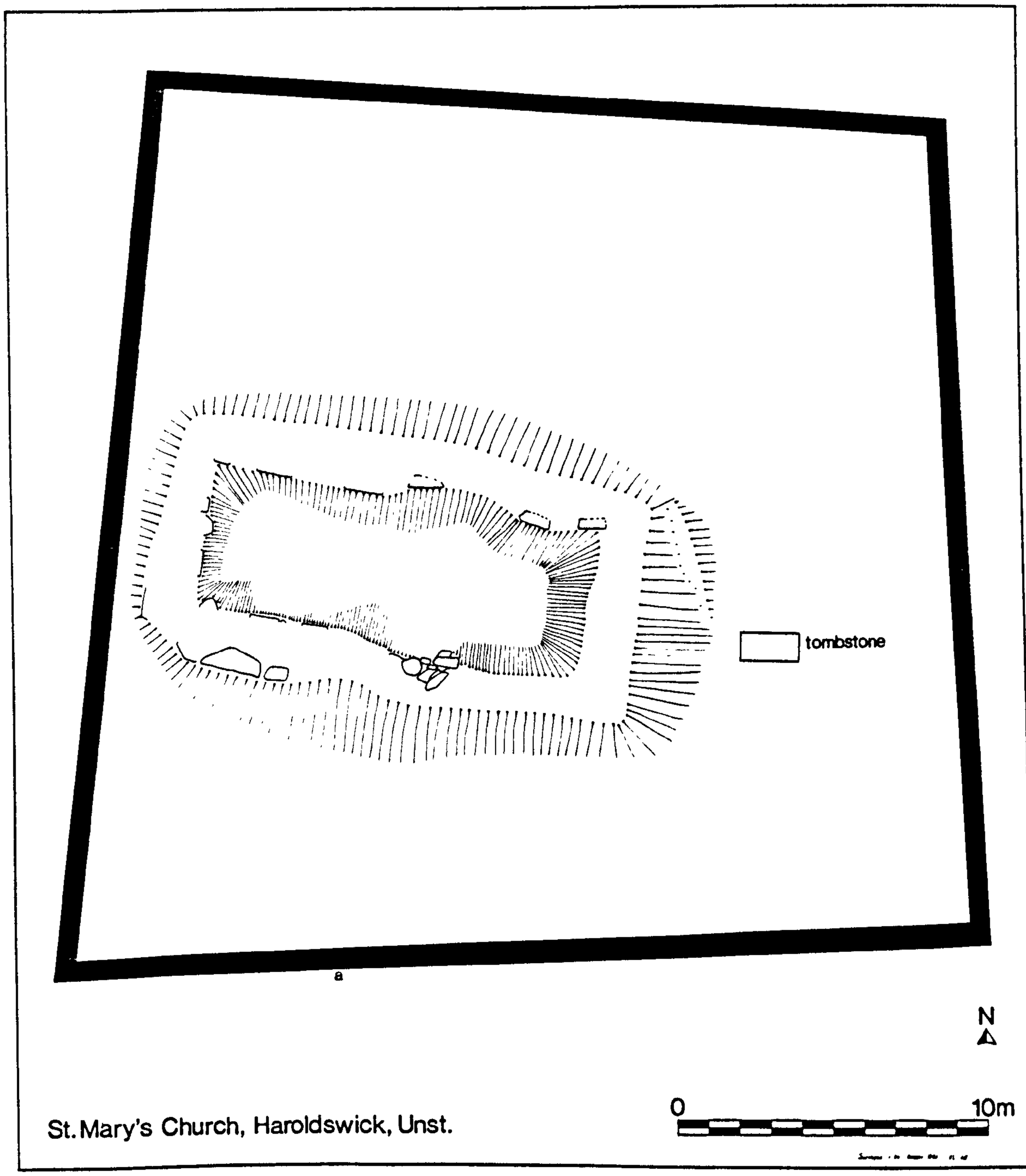


Figure 27: St. Mary's church, Bothen (UNST 5)

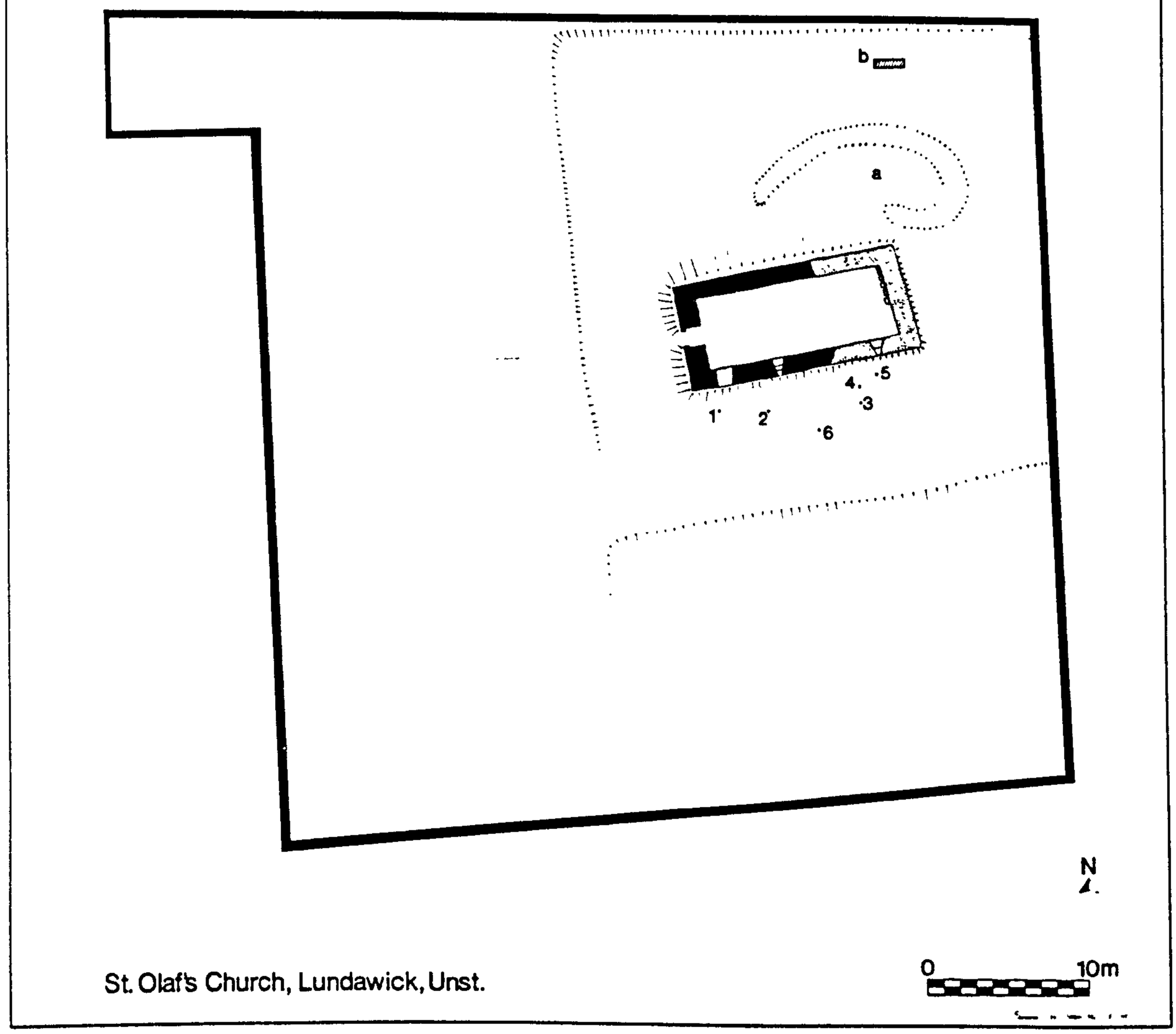


Figure 28: St. Olaf's church, Lundawick (UNST 10)

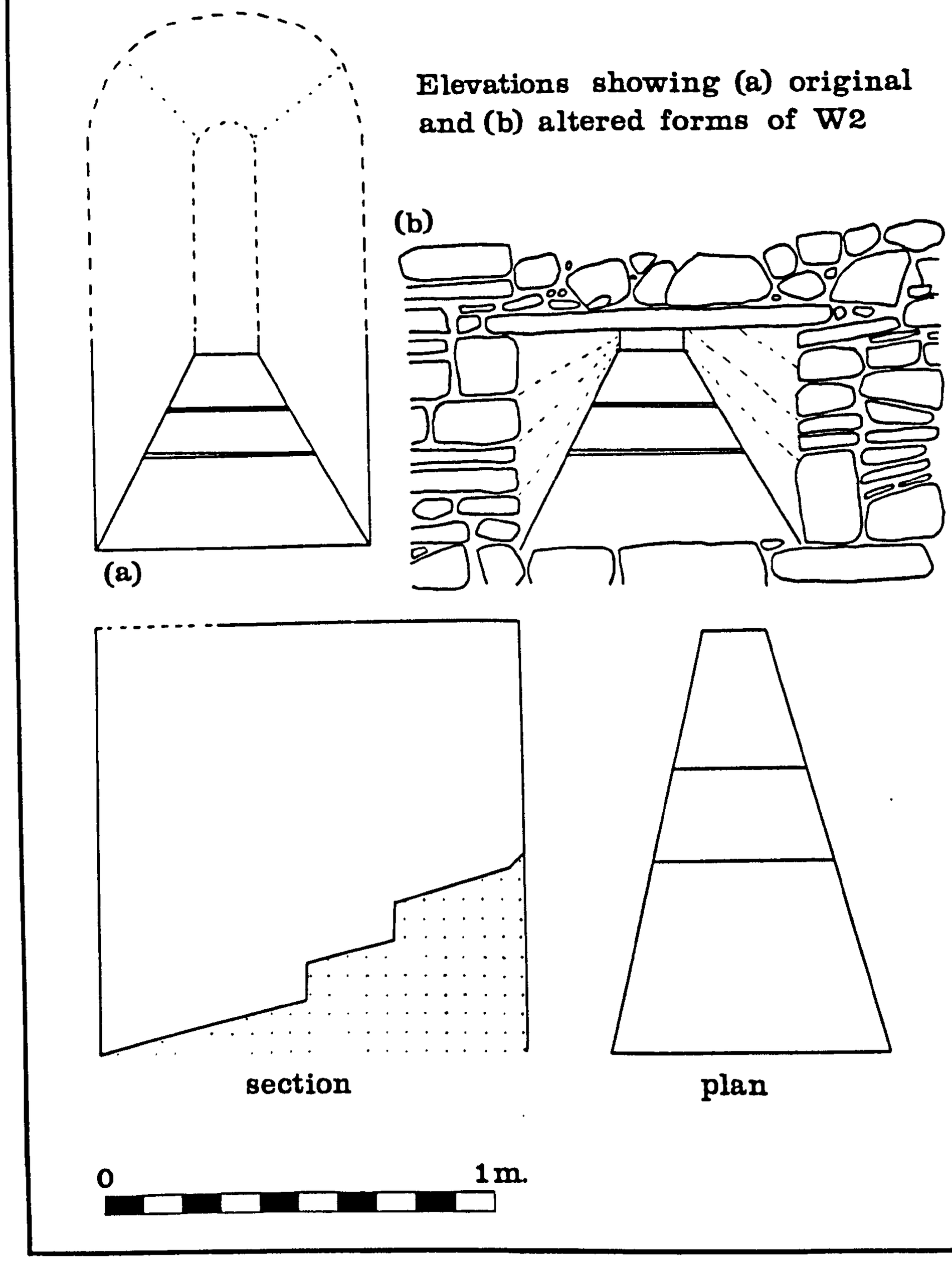


Figure 29: Detail of early S window: St. Olaf´s church, Lundawick (UNST 10)

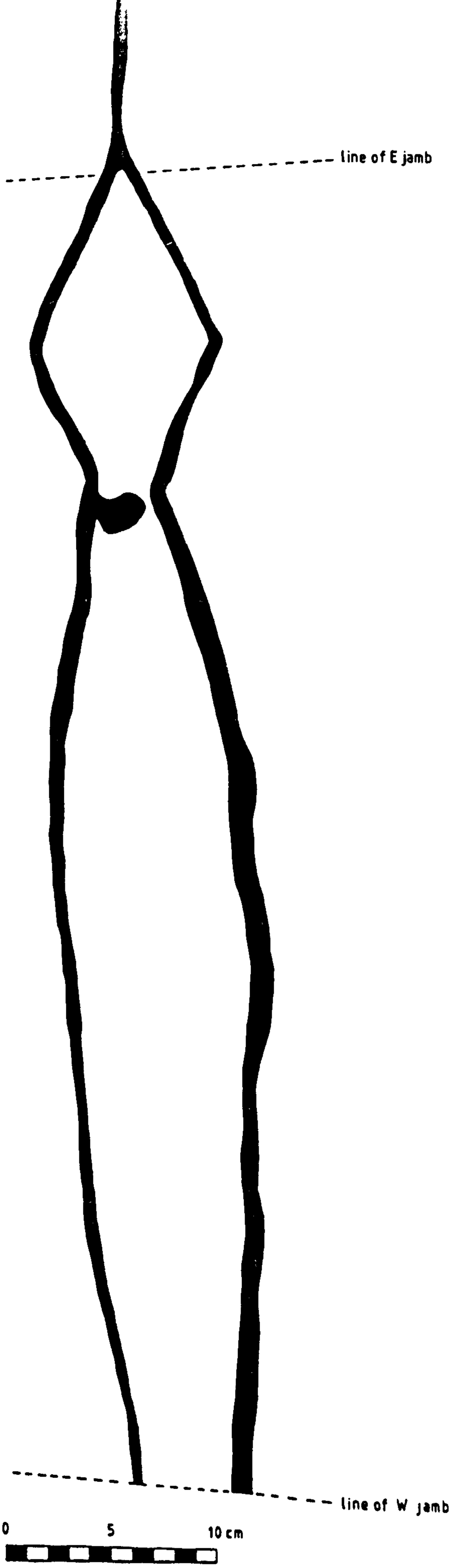


Figure 30: `The Lundawick Fish´: gauged design on window linte at St. Olaf´s church, Lundawick (UNST 10)

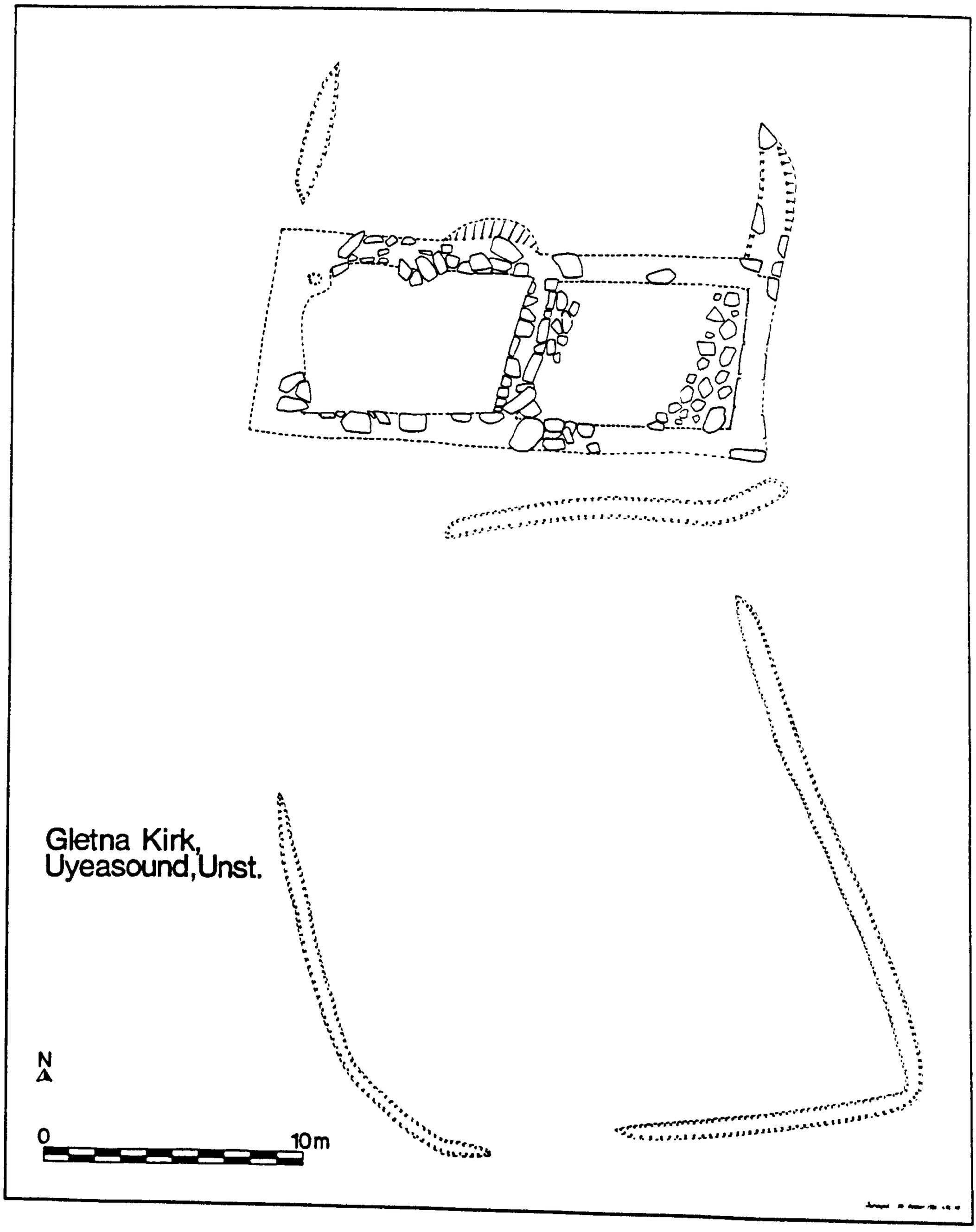


Figure 31: Gletna Kirk, Uyeasound (UNST 11)

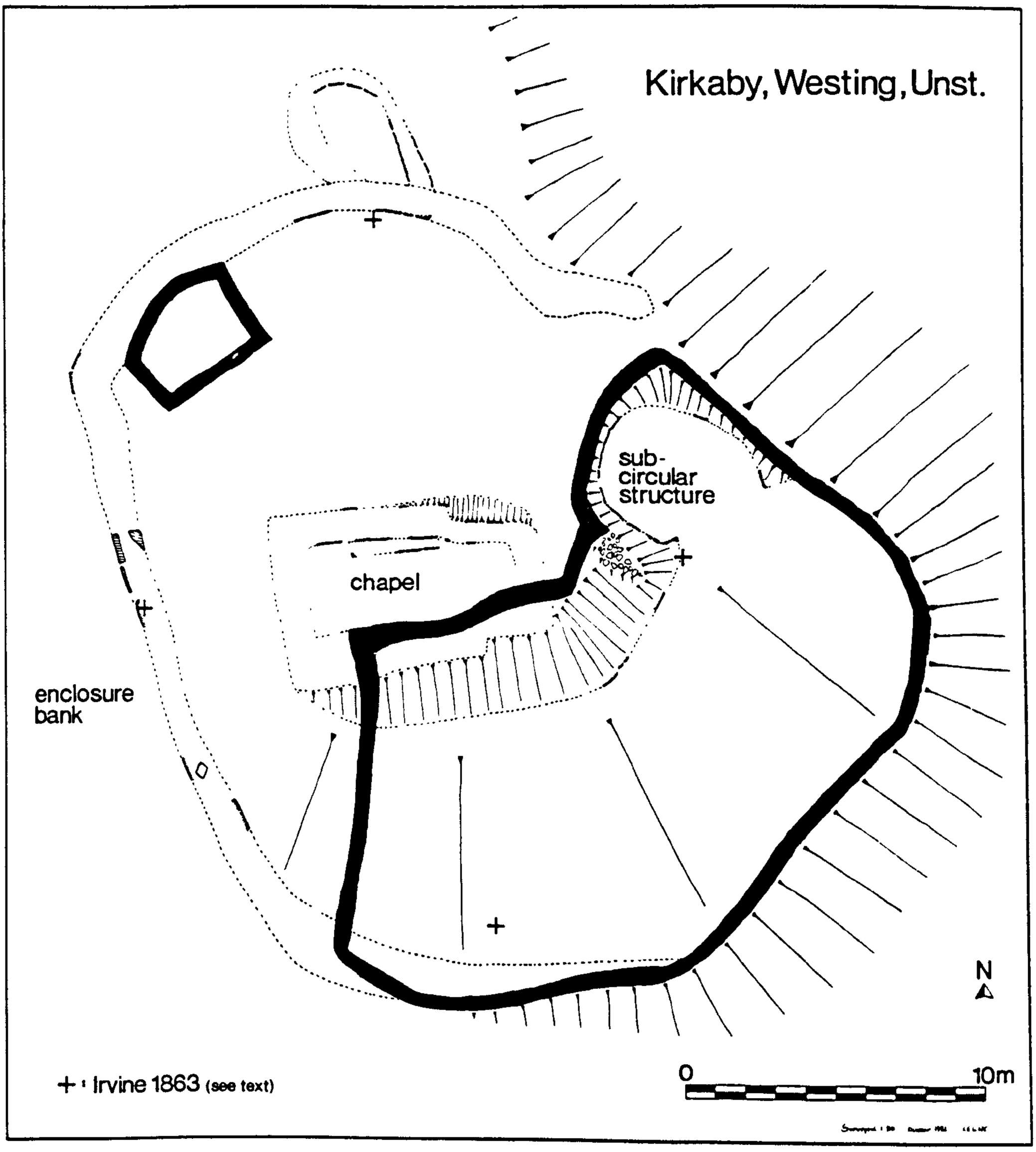


Figure 32: Kirkaby, Westing (UNST 14)

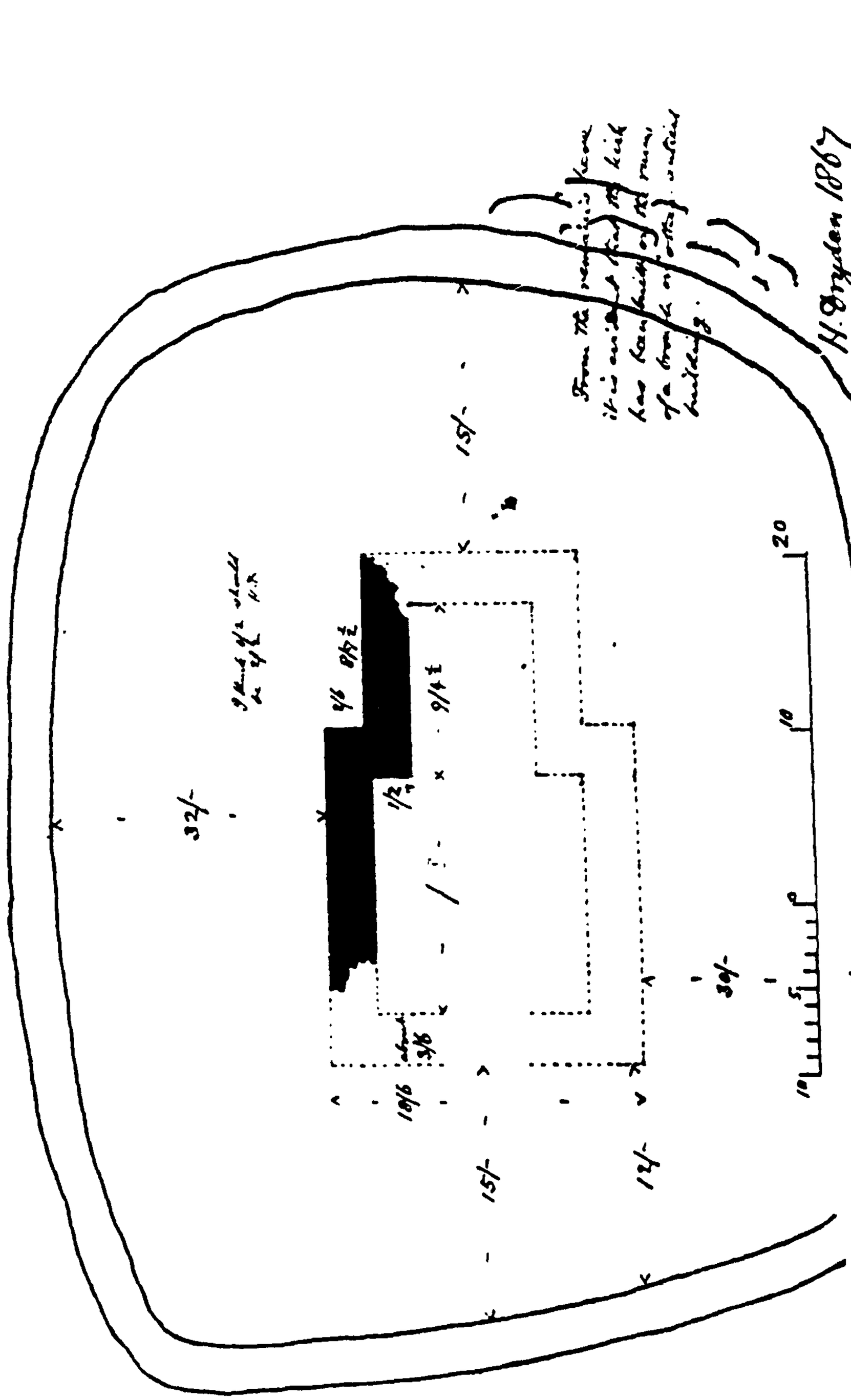


Fig. 115.—Kirkaby, Westing. Plan.

Figure 33: Irvine´s 1863 plan of Kirkaby (UNST 14): after MacGibbon & Ross 1896,fig.115

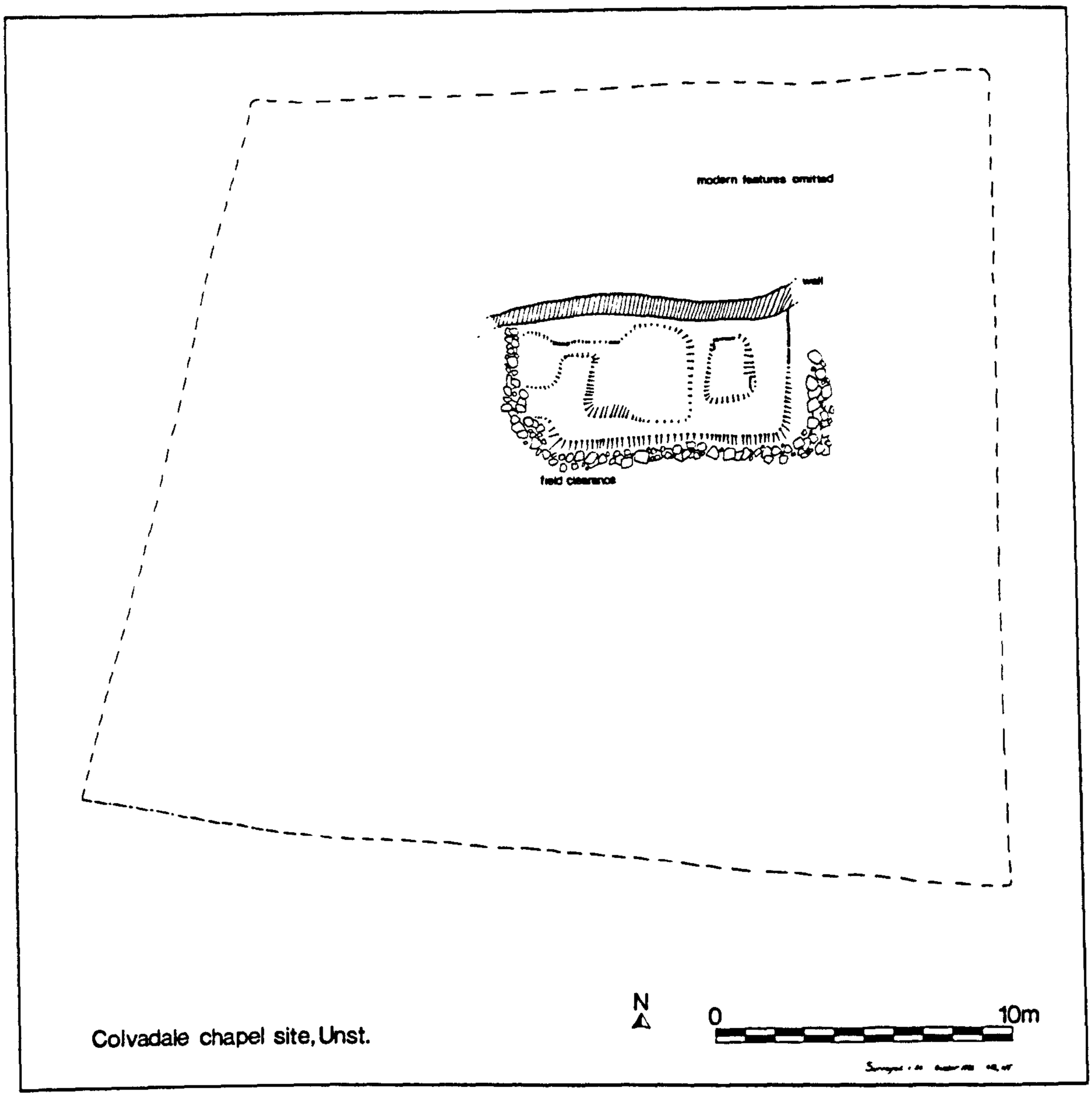


Figure 34: Colvadale chapel (UNST 19)

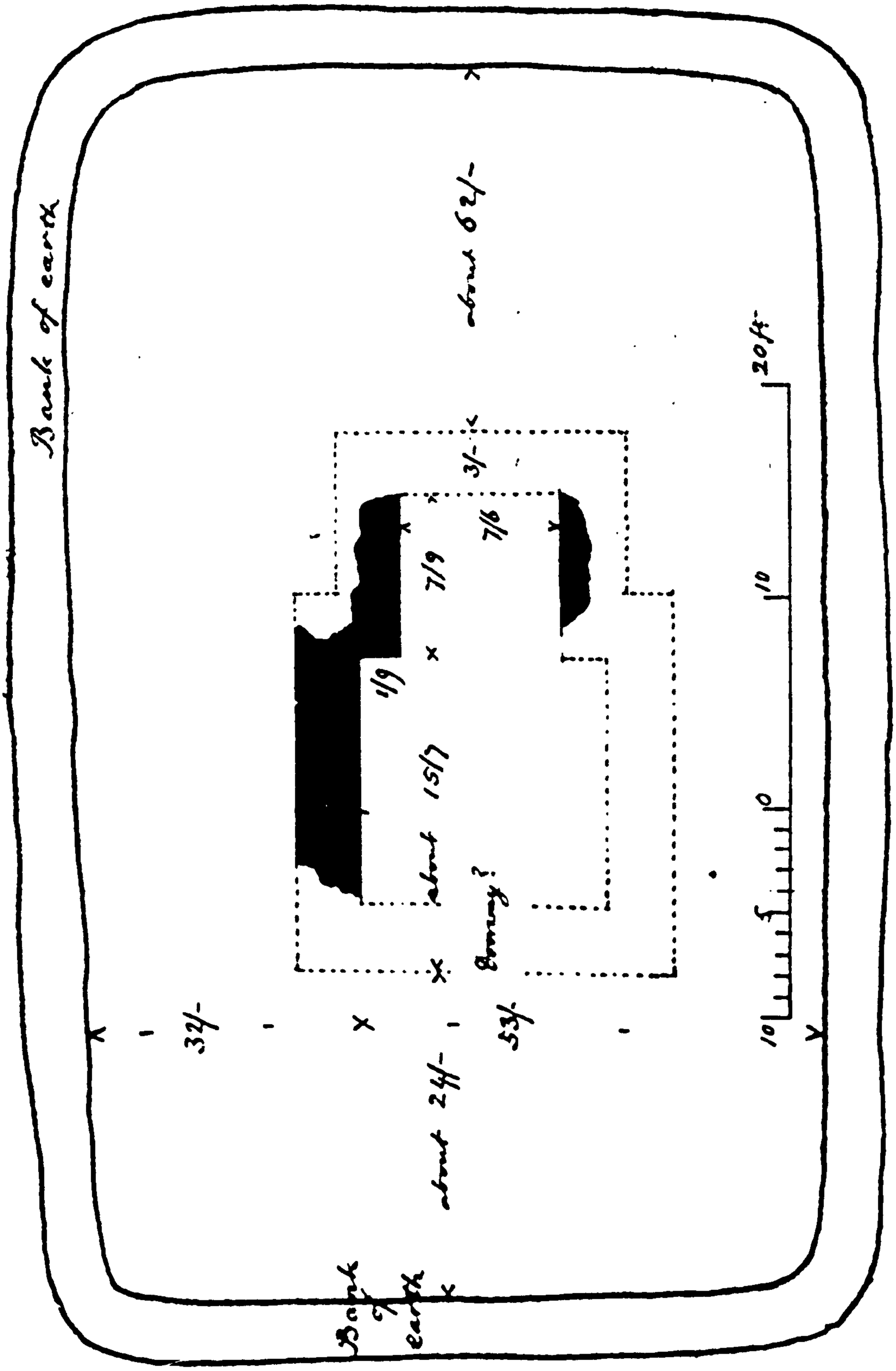


Fig. 116.—Meal Colvidale. Plan.

Figure 35: Irvine's 1863 plan of Colvadale chapel (UNST 19): after MacGibbon & Ross 1896,fig.116

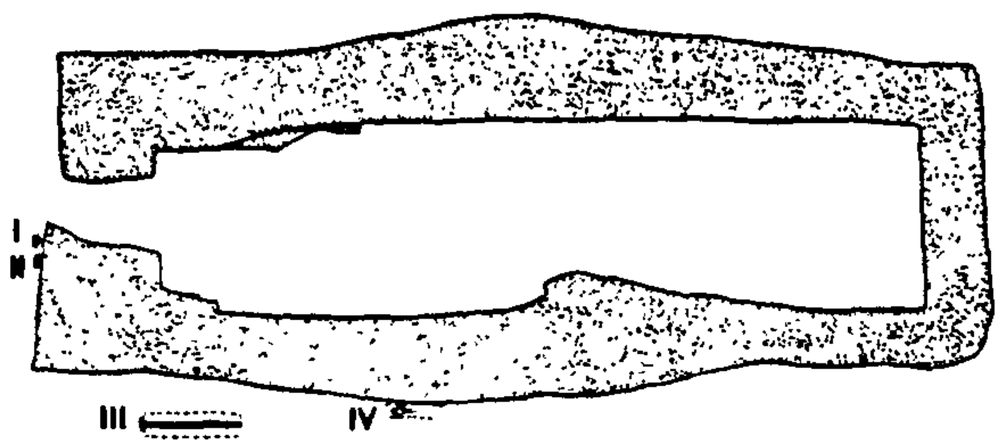


Figure 36: St. Mary´s chapel, Framgord (UNST 20)

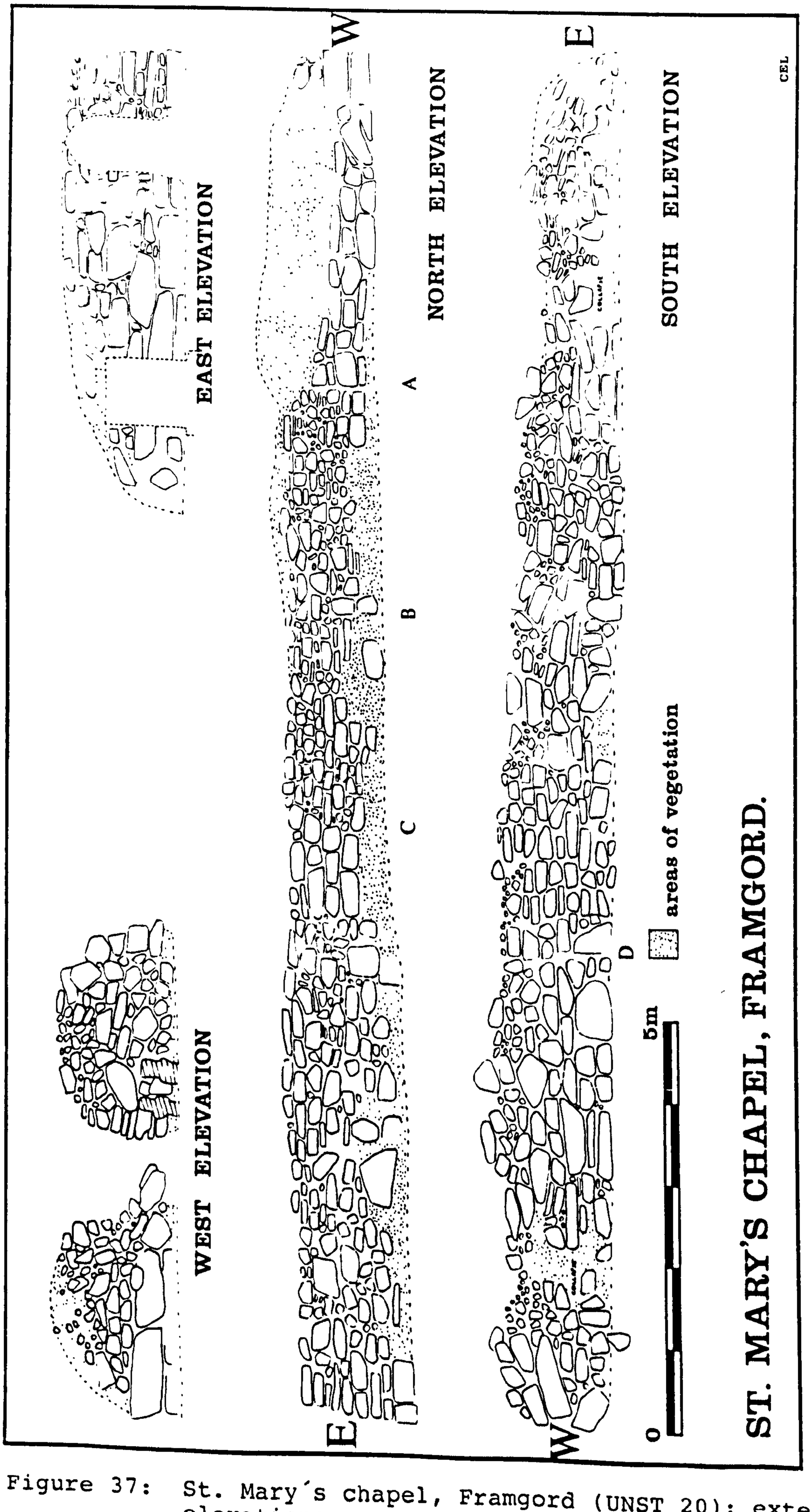


Figure 37: St. Mary´s chapel, Framgord (UNST 20): exterior elevations

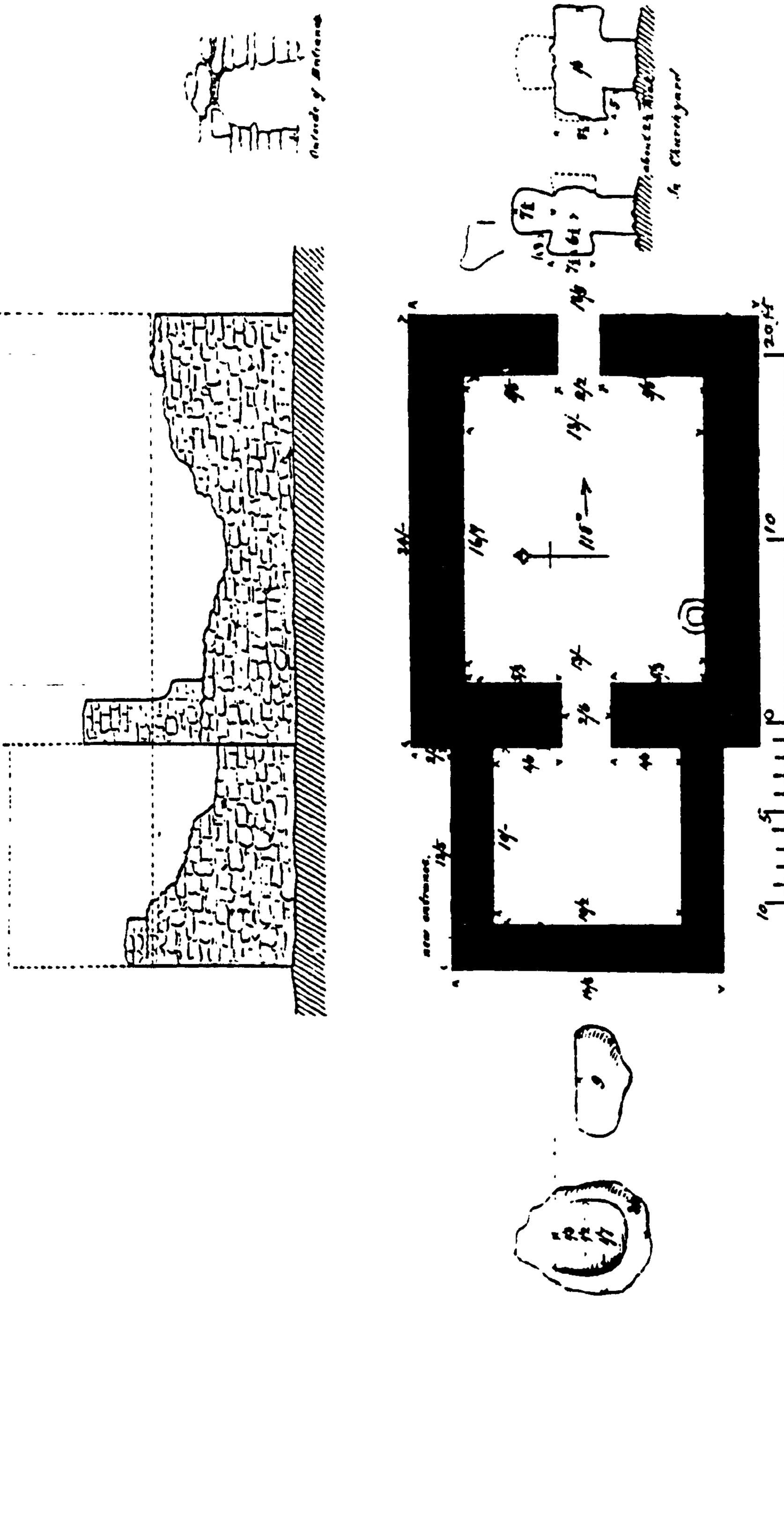


FIG. 118.—Church at Uya. Plan, South Elevation, &c.

Figure 38: Dryden's 1855 plan of Uyea chapel (UNST 21): after MacGibbon & Ross 1896,fig.118

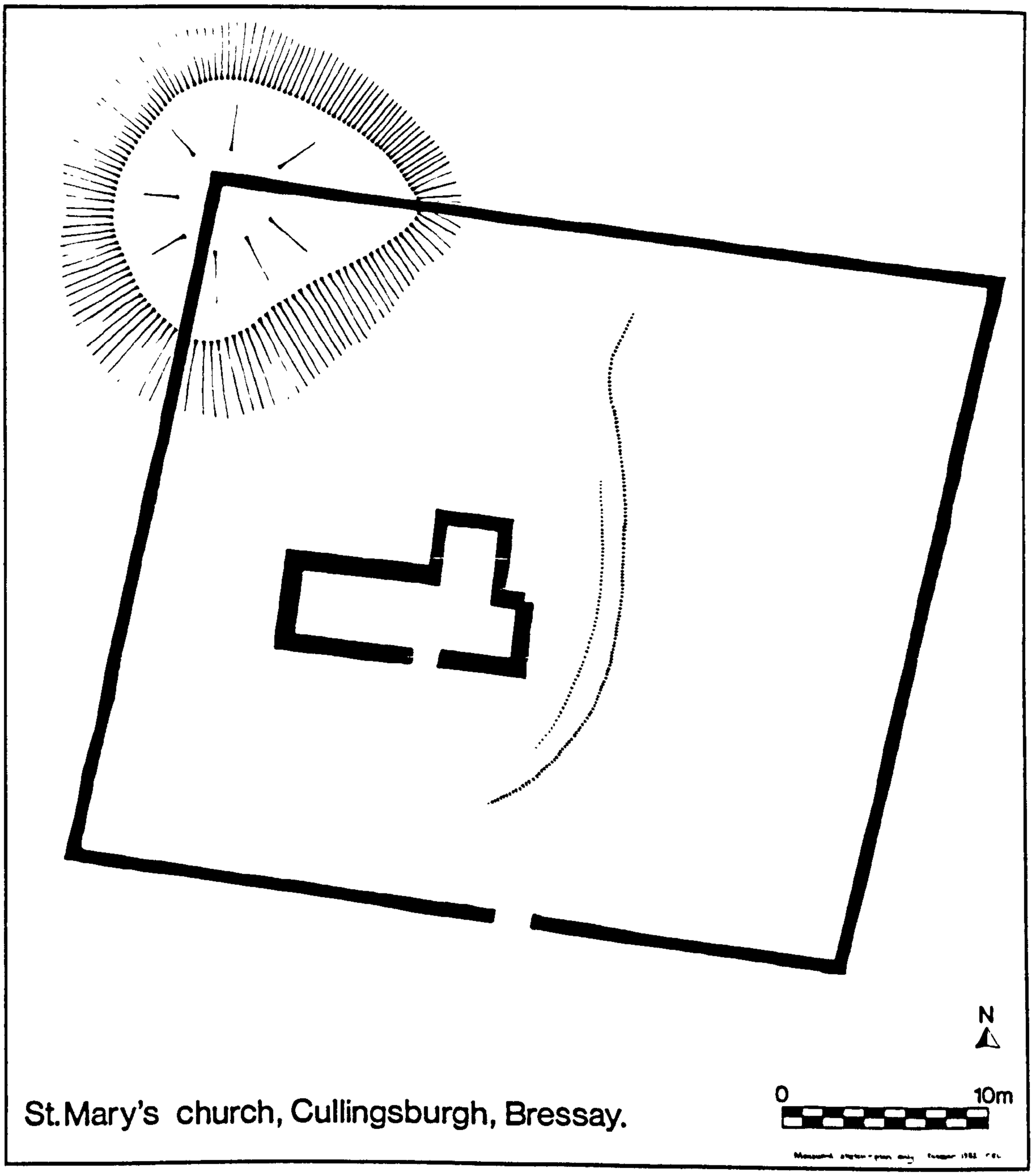


Figure 39: St. Mary's church, Culbinsbrough, Bressay

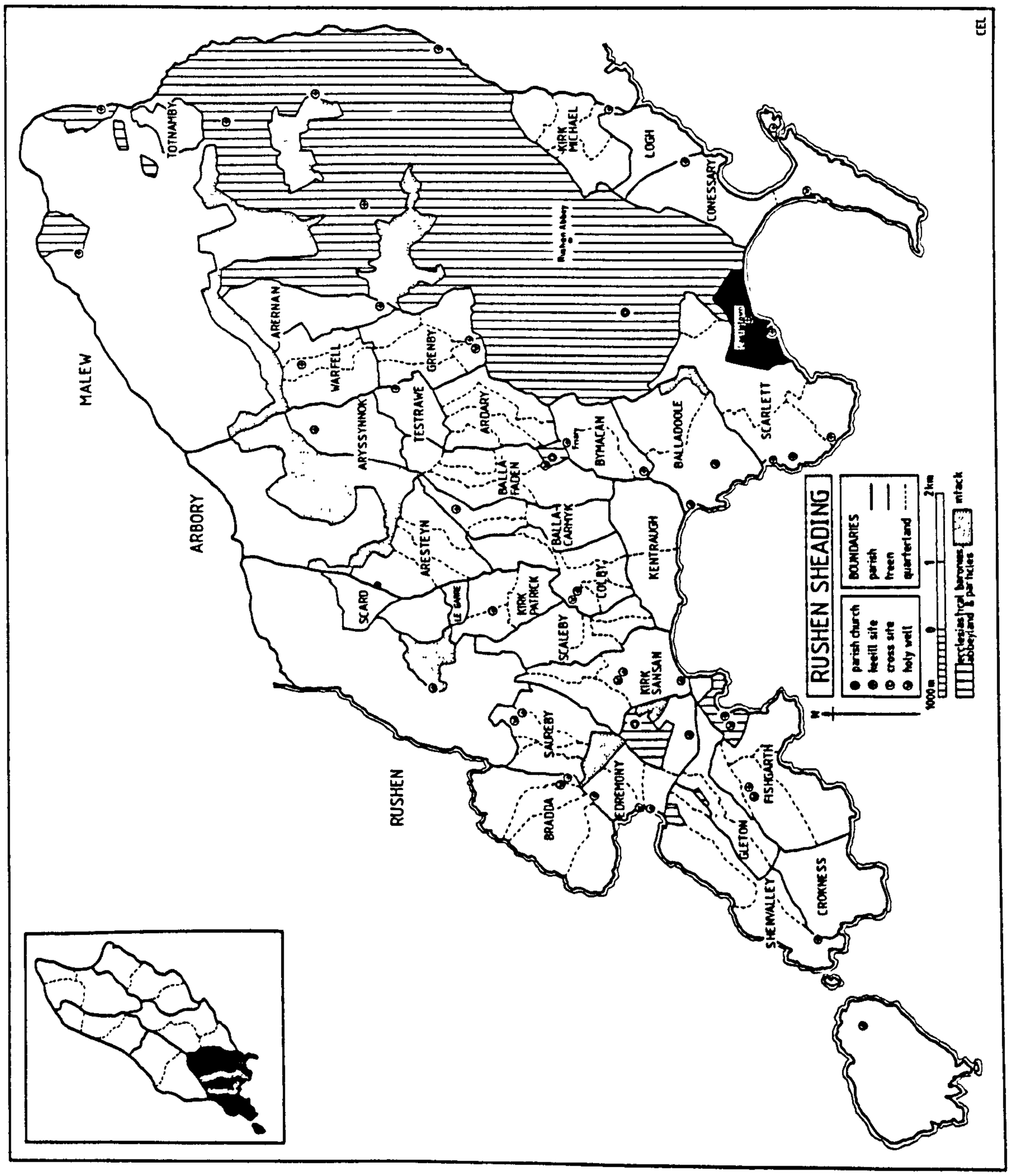


Figure 40: Keeill & Treen: Rushen sheading

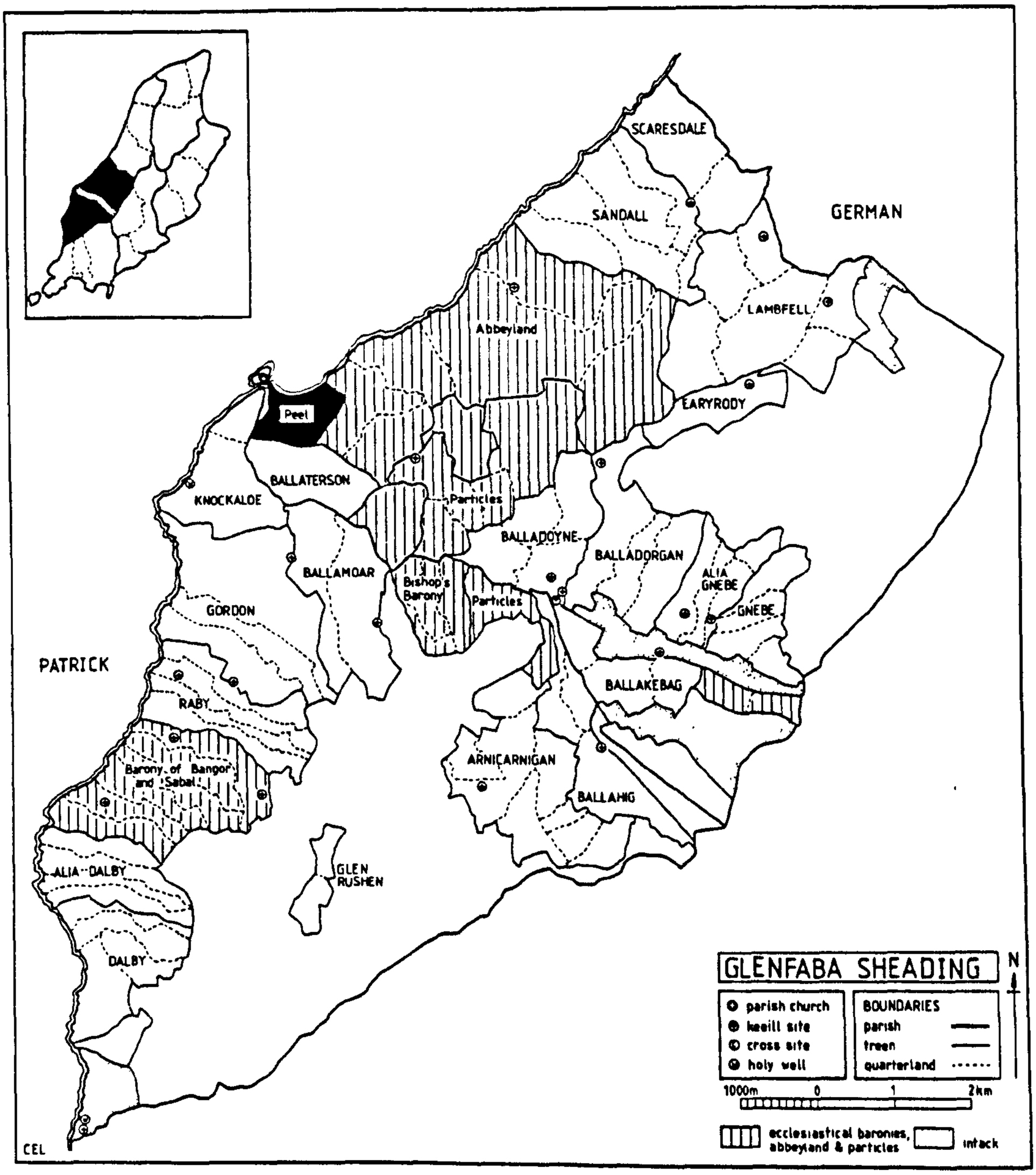


Figure 41: Keeill & Treen: Glenfaba sheading

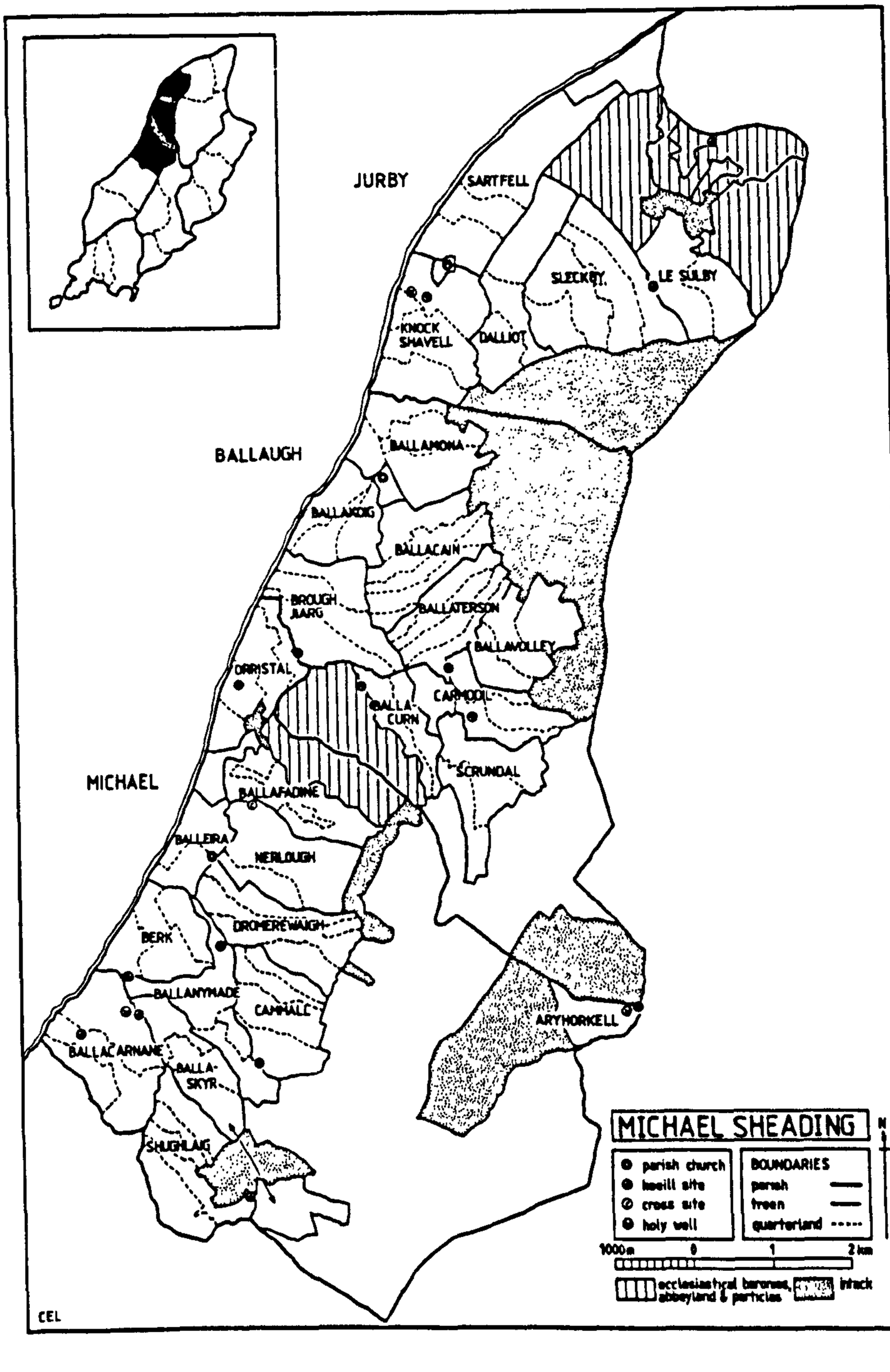


Figure 42: Keeill & Treen: Michael sheading

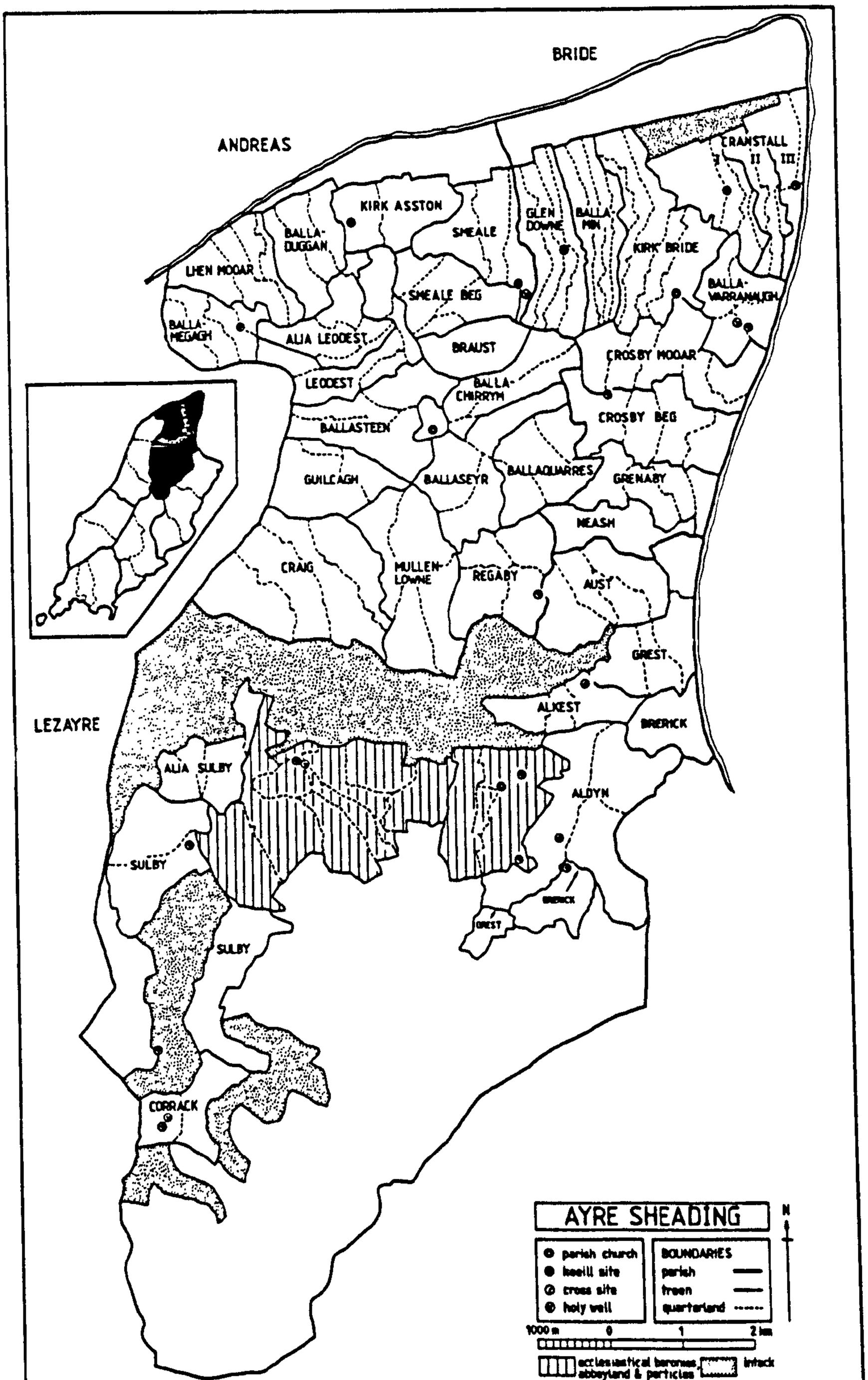


Figure 43: Keeill & Treen: Ayre sheading

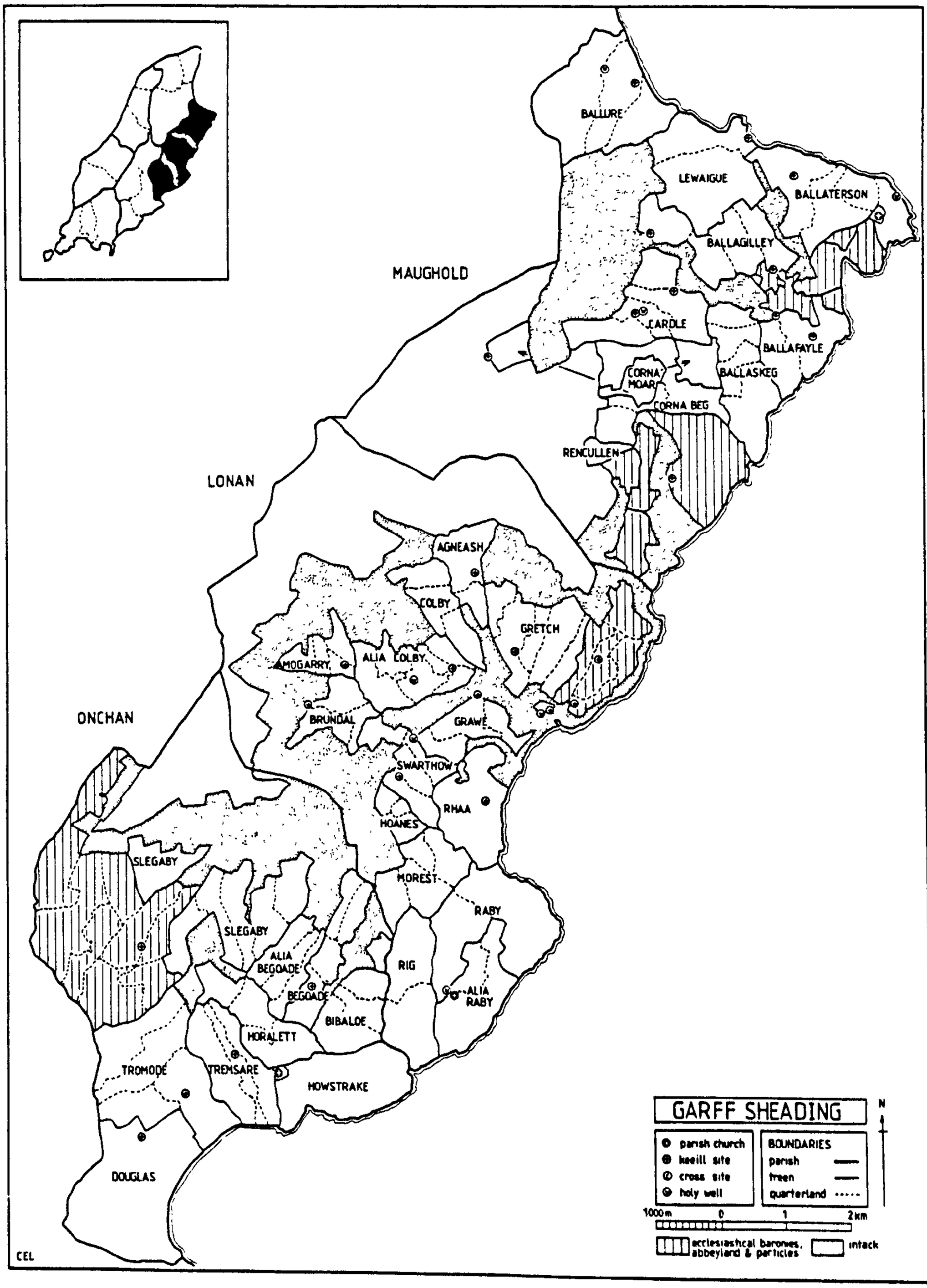


Figure 44: Keeill & Treen: Garff sheading

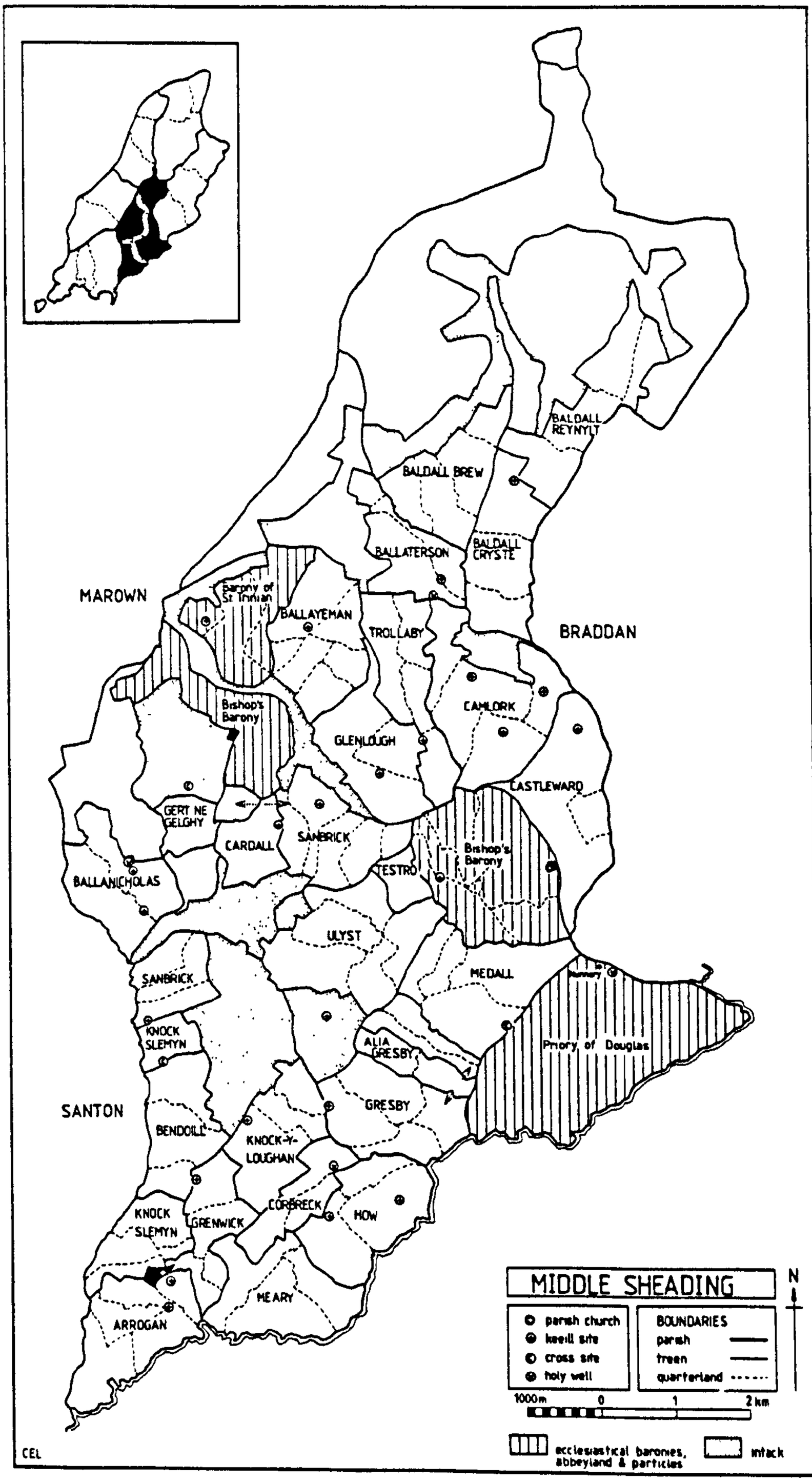


Figure 45: Keeill & Treen: Middle sheading

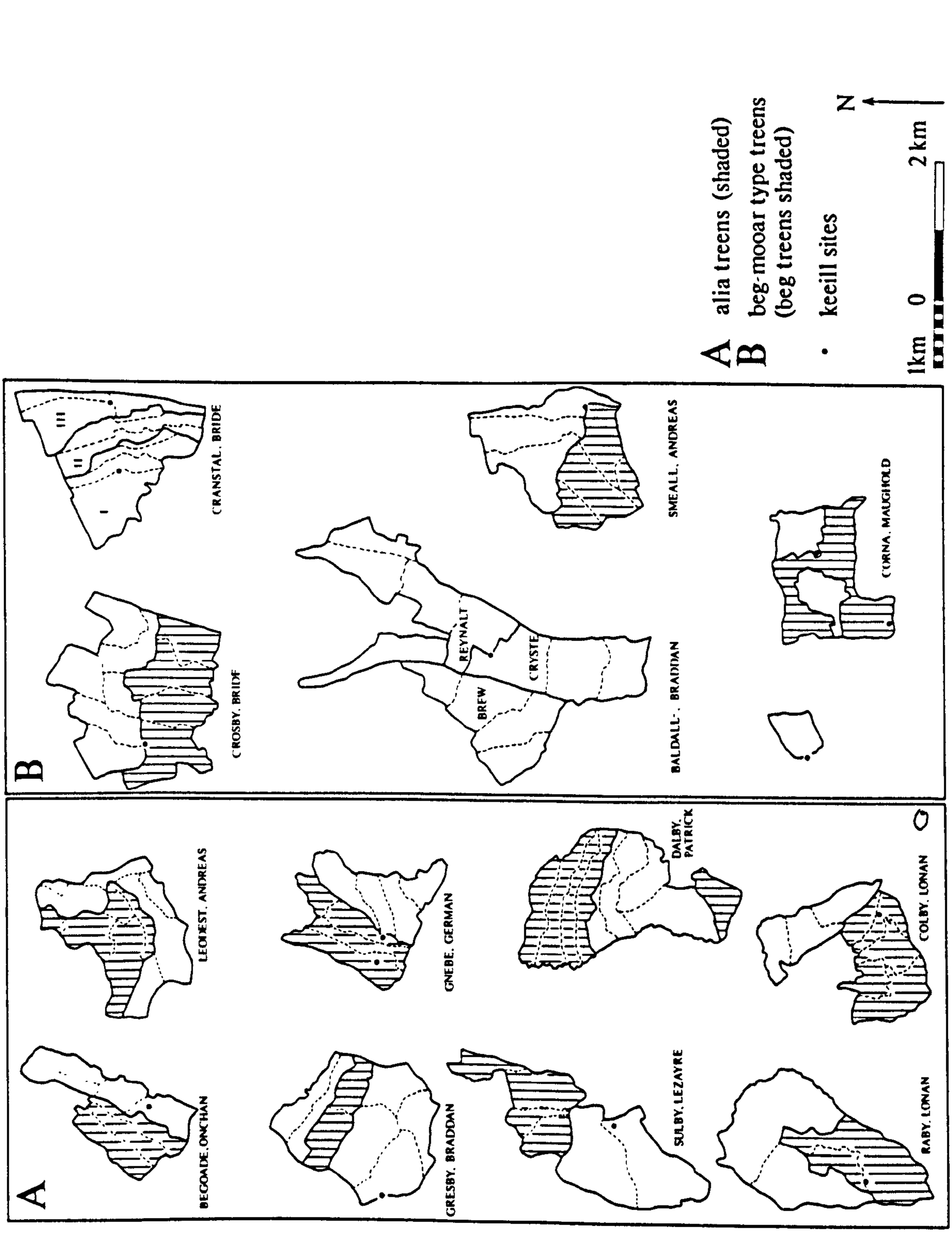


Figure 46: Manx alia & beg-moar type treens

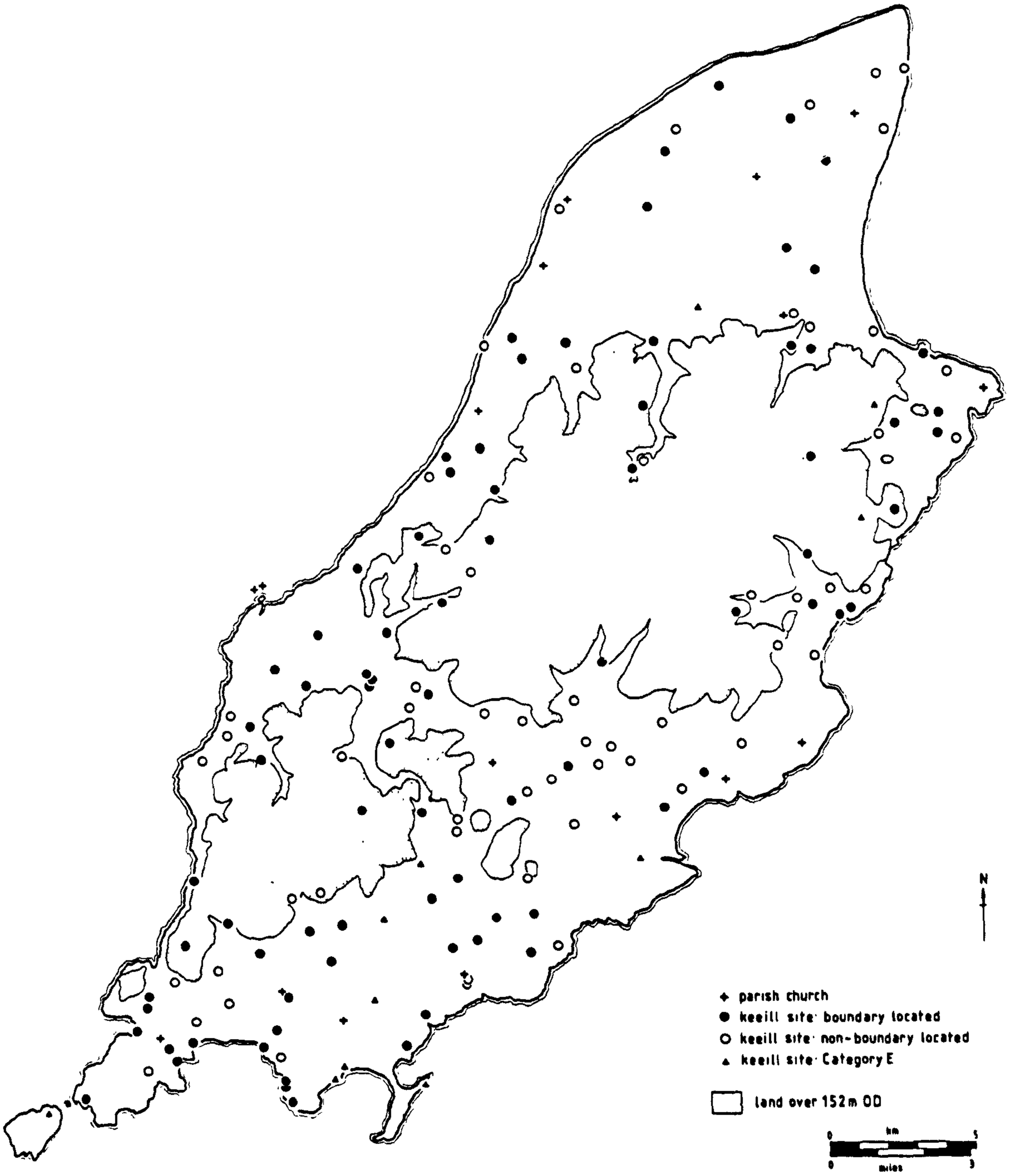


Figure 47: Keeill distribution, Isle of Man; according to boundary status (terms explained in Chapter 6 Note 4)

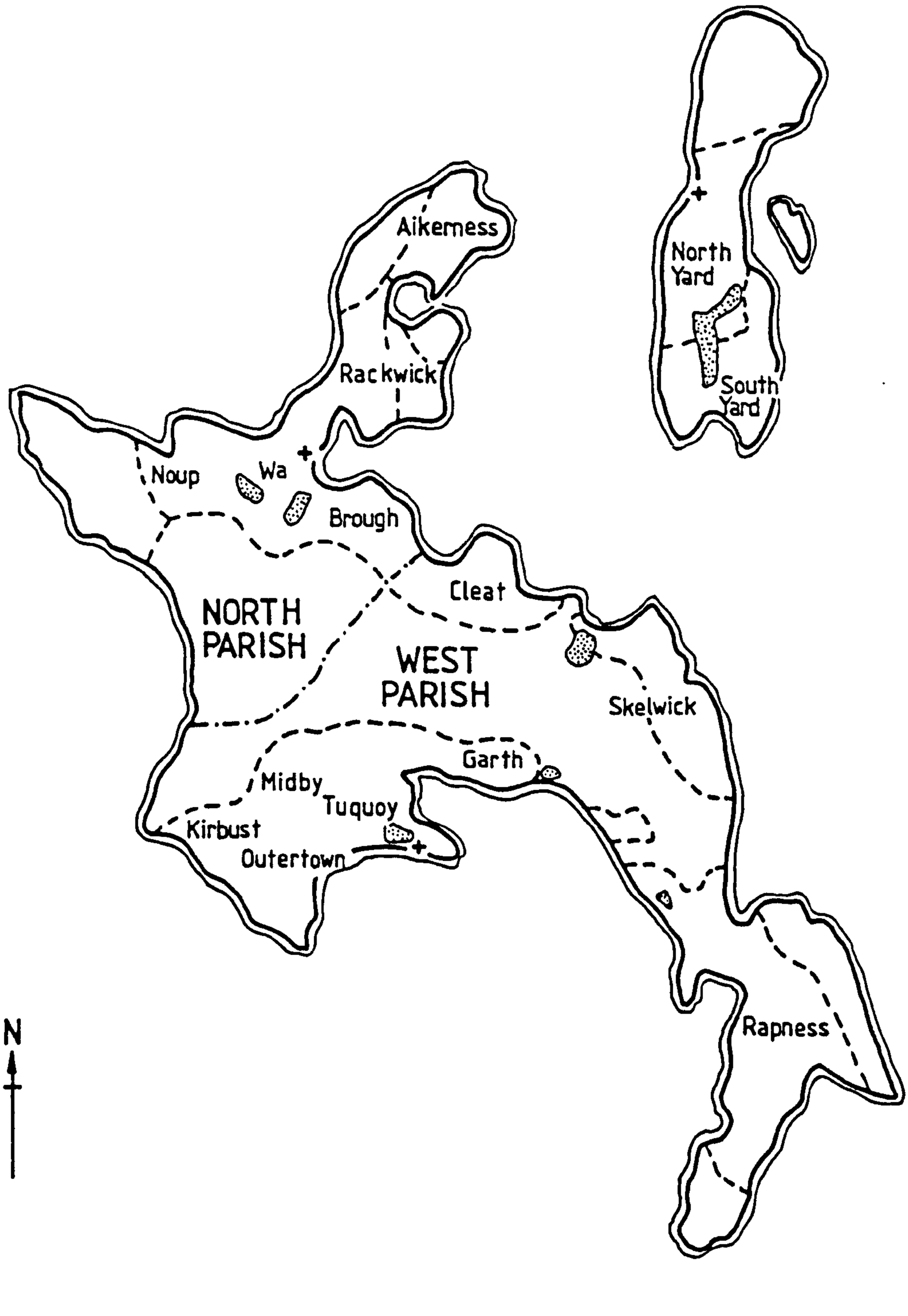


Figure 48: Land Divisions in Westray & Papa Westray (after MacKenzie 1750)

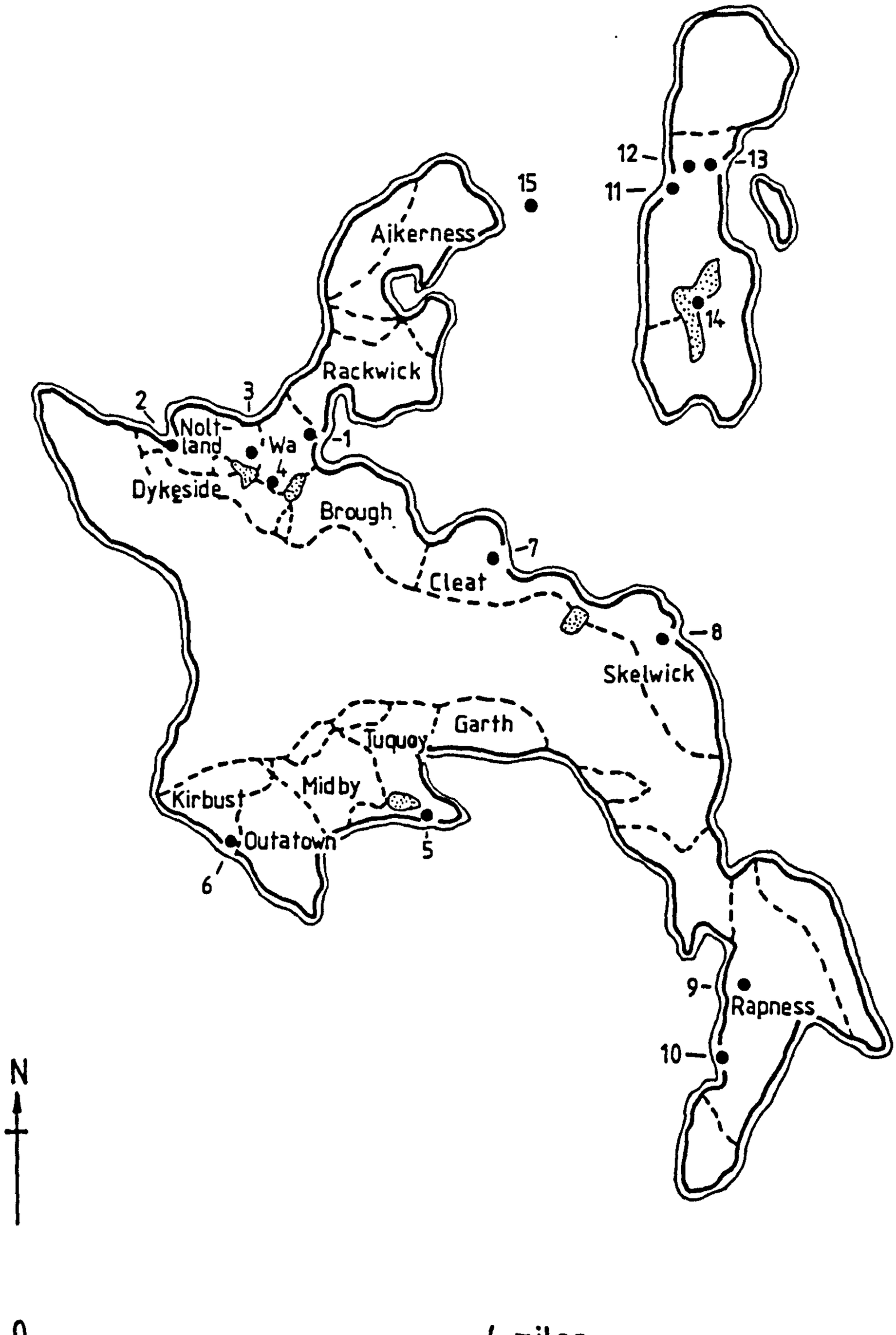


Figure 49: Land Divisions in Westray & Papa Westray (after Aberdeen 1770): numbers refer to WESTRAY sites in gazetteer

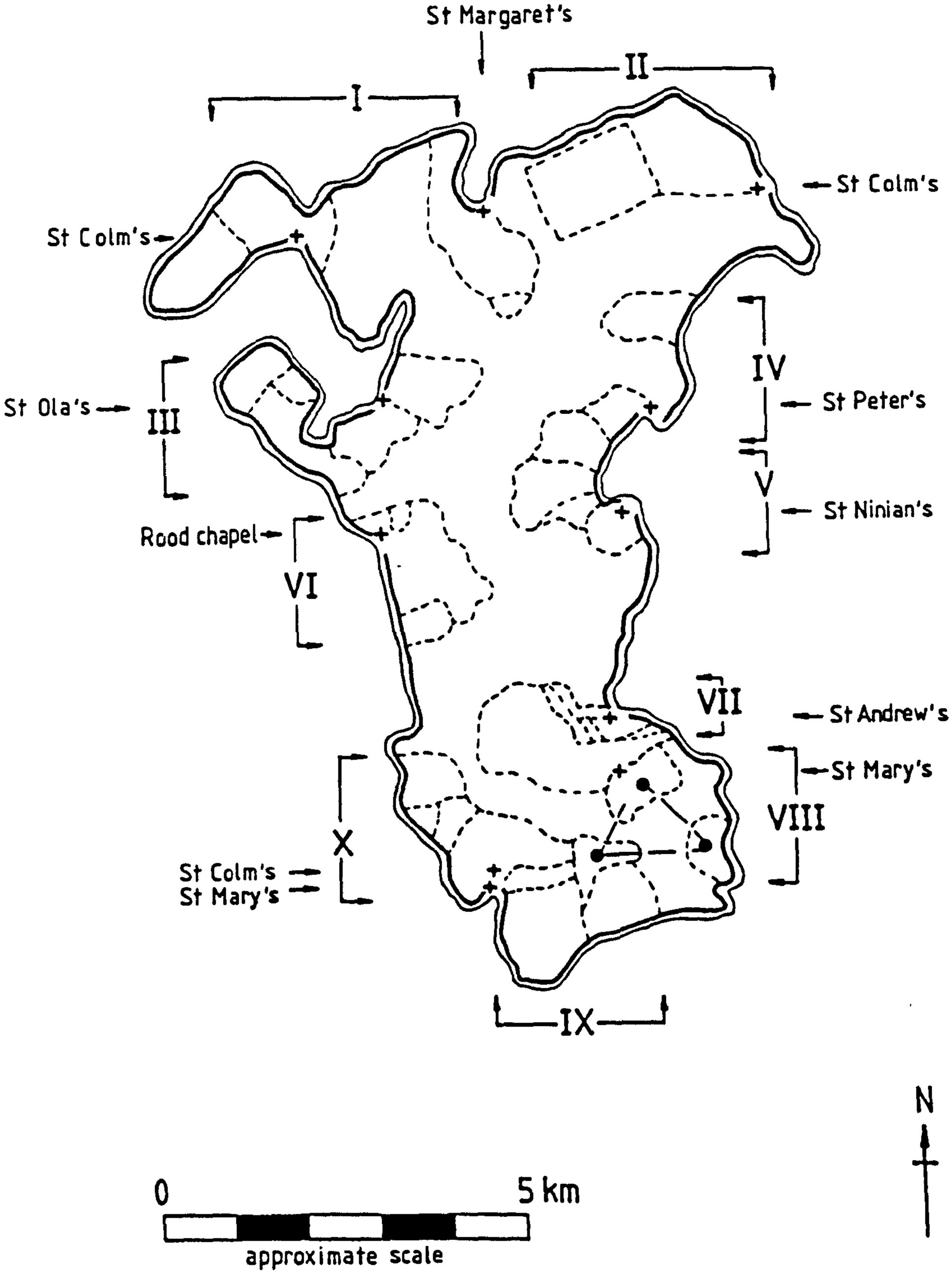


Figure 50: Chapels & Land Divisions in South Ronaldsay: reconstruction of urisland districts (I-X) based on rental and early cartographical evidence

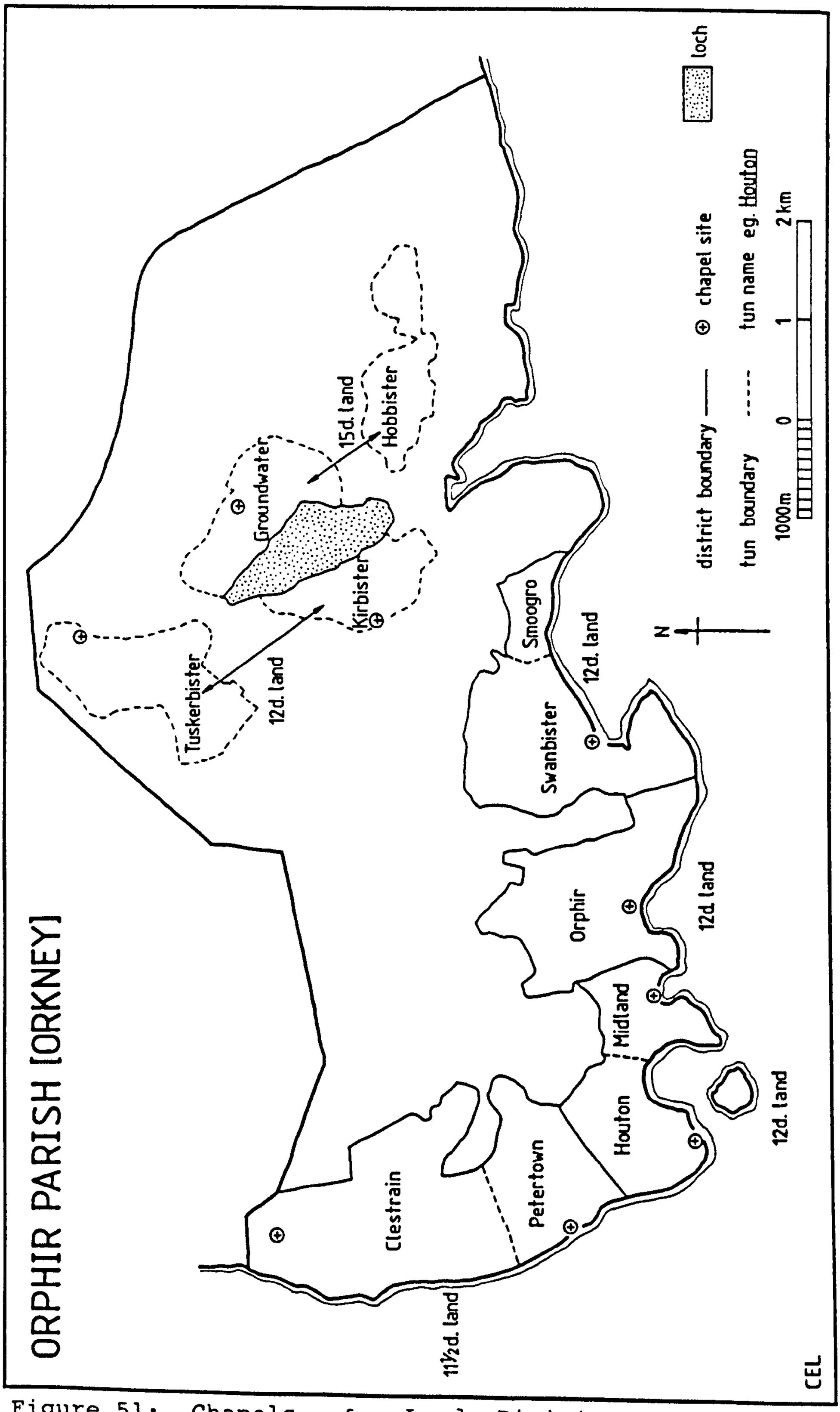


Figure 51: Chapels & Land Divisions in Orphir parish: reconstruction of urisland districts based on rental and early cartographical evidence

UNST

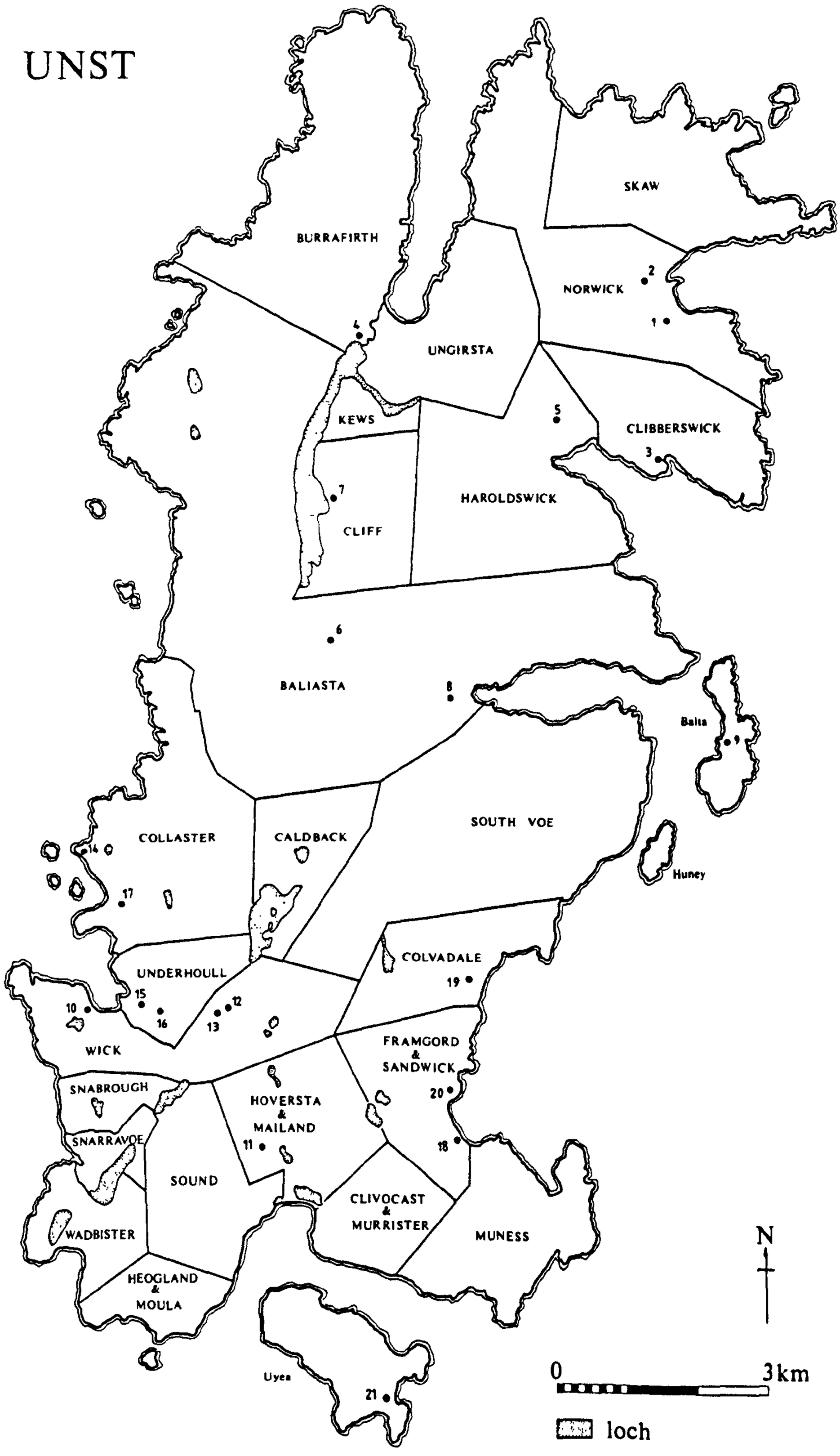


Figure 52: Chapels & Scattald Divisions: Unst (numbers refer to UNST sites in gazetteer)

FETLAR

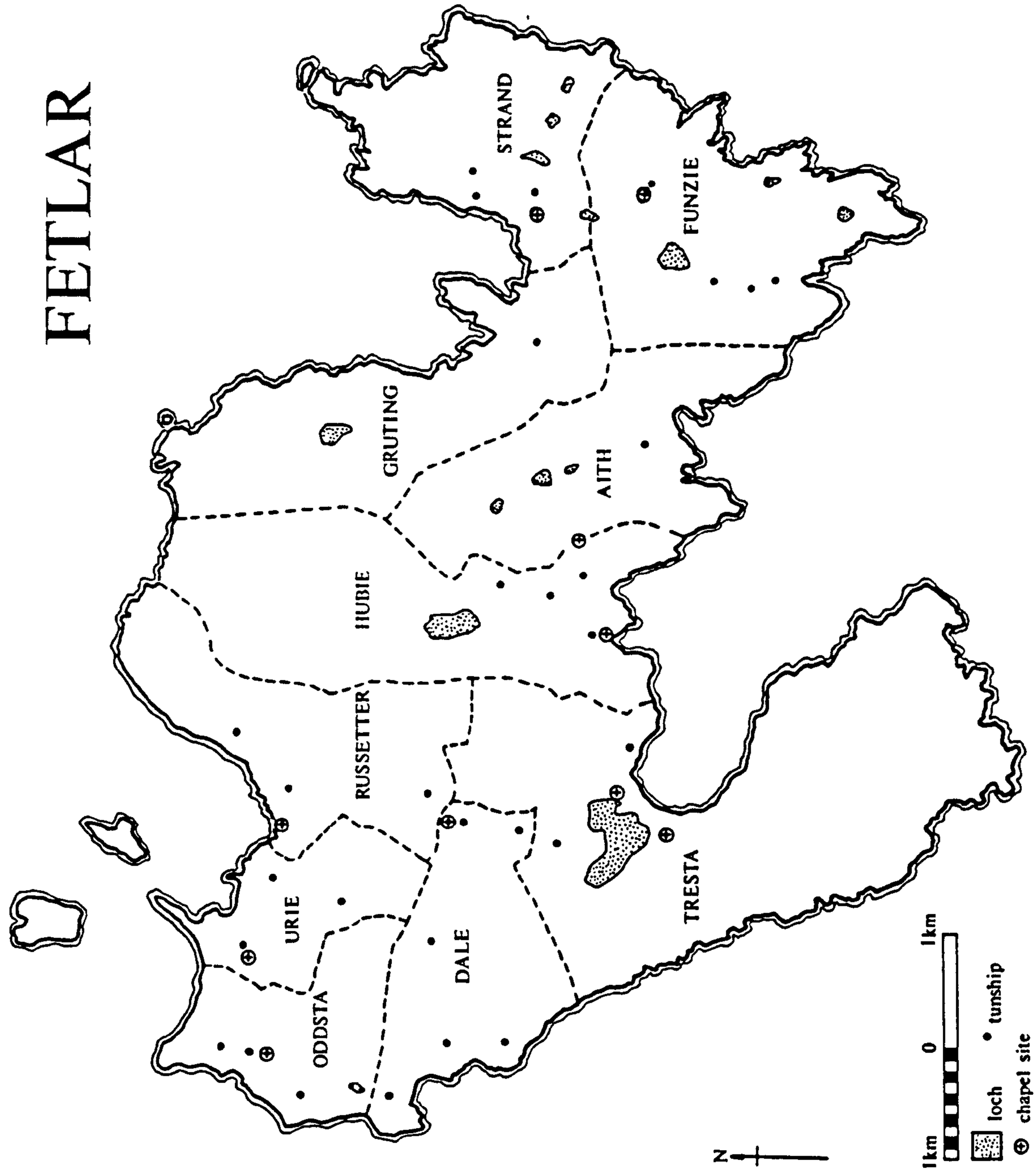


Figure 53: Chapels & Scattald Divisions: Fetlar

INDEX & EXPLANATION TO FIGURES 54-57

The size of the data sets which form the basis for the following graphs naturally varies according to the amount of information which is available. This note sets out those differences and lists cross-references to other indices and figures.

fig.54: Fairly full dimensional data are available for as many as 54 of the Manx keeills and these are illustrated in figures 59-62 and listed in the index on p.285. The size of the data set for the graphs concerning `internal width´ and `internal floor area´ is thus 54. In addition to this, Kermode (1915a,28) has also recorded a figure for the internal length of the keeill at Cardle Veg in Maughold. The size of the data set for the graph showing `internal length´ is thus 55.

fig.55: The size of the data set used for this graph is 33. Orcadian and Shetland unicameral chapels are illustrated in figures 63, 64 and 67 and are listed in the index on p.286.

fig.56: The size of the data set which is used in the graph concerned with the nave dimensions of non-unicameral churches is 22. This refers to the structures which are illustrated in figure 65, the three rectilinear buildings in figure 66 and Structures 9-17 in figures 67 and 68. These sites are also listed in the accompanying index on p.286.
The size of the data set which is used in the graph concerned with the chancel dimensions of non-unicameral churches is 20. This refers to Structures 25-28 and 30-34 in figure 65, the three rectilinear buildings in figure 66 and Structures 9, and 11-17 in figures 67 and 68. These sites are also listed in the accompanying index on p.286.

fig.57: This survey has collected information regarding (magnetic) orientation for 27 of the Manx keeills and this is presented in figure 57. These sites, grouped together in the same blocks as shown in figure 57, are: GERMAN 14 / MAROWN 5, LEZAYRE 10 / ONCHAN 3 / MALEW 18, MAUGHOLD 15, MAUGHOLD 18, GERMAN 10, BRADDAN 4 / MAROWN 7, MICHAEL 5 / LEZAYRE 4 / MAROWN 6, MAROWN 8, SANTON 8, MAUGHOLD 19, ARBORY 10 / MALEW 10 / BRADDAN 5 / PATRICK 10, GERMAN 8 / MAROWN 4, PATRICK 8 / MAUGHOLD 3 / MAUGHOLD 2 / ARBORY 2 / MAUGHOLD 5.

These site names refer to this study´s catalogue of the Manx keeills (Appendix 1: Volume 1,pp.341-345).

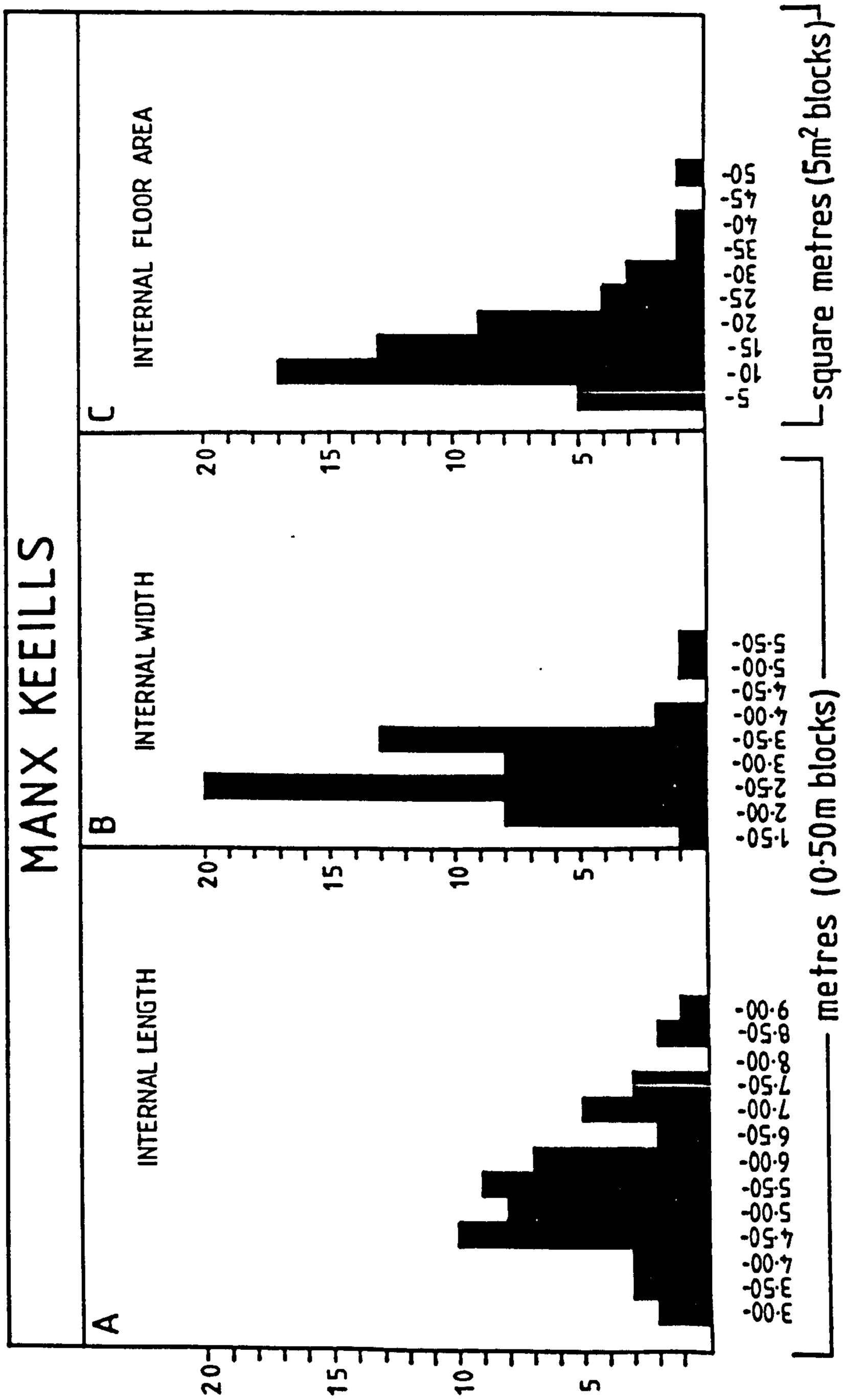


Figure 54: Dimensional data for Manx keeills

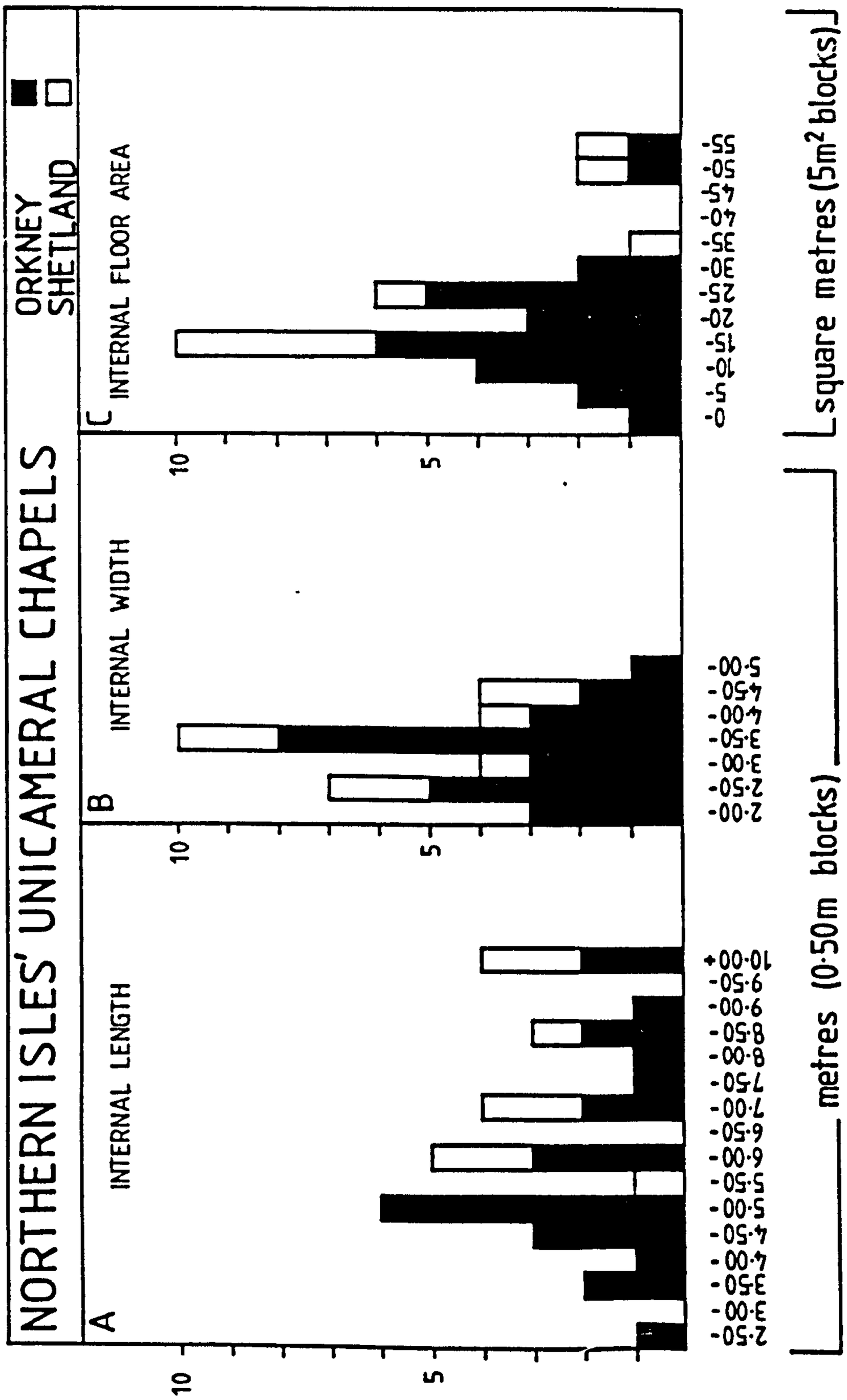


Figure 55: Dimensional data for unicameral chapels in Orkney & Shetland

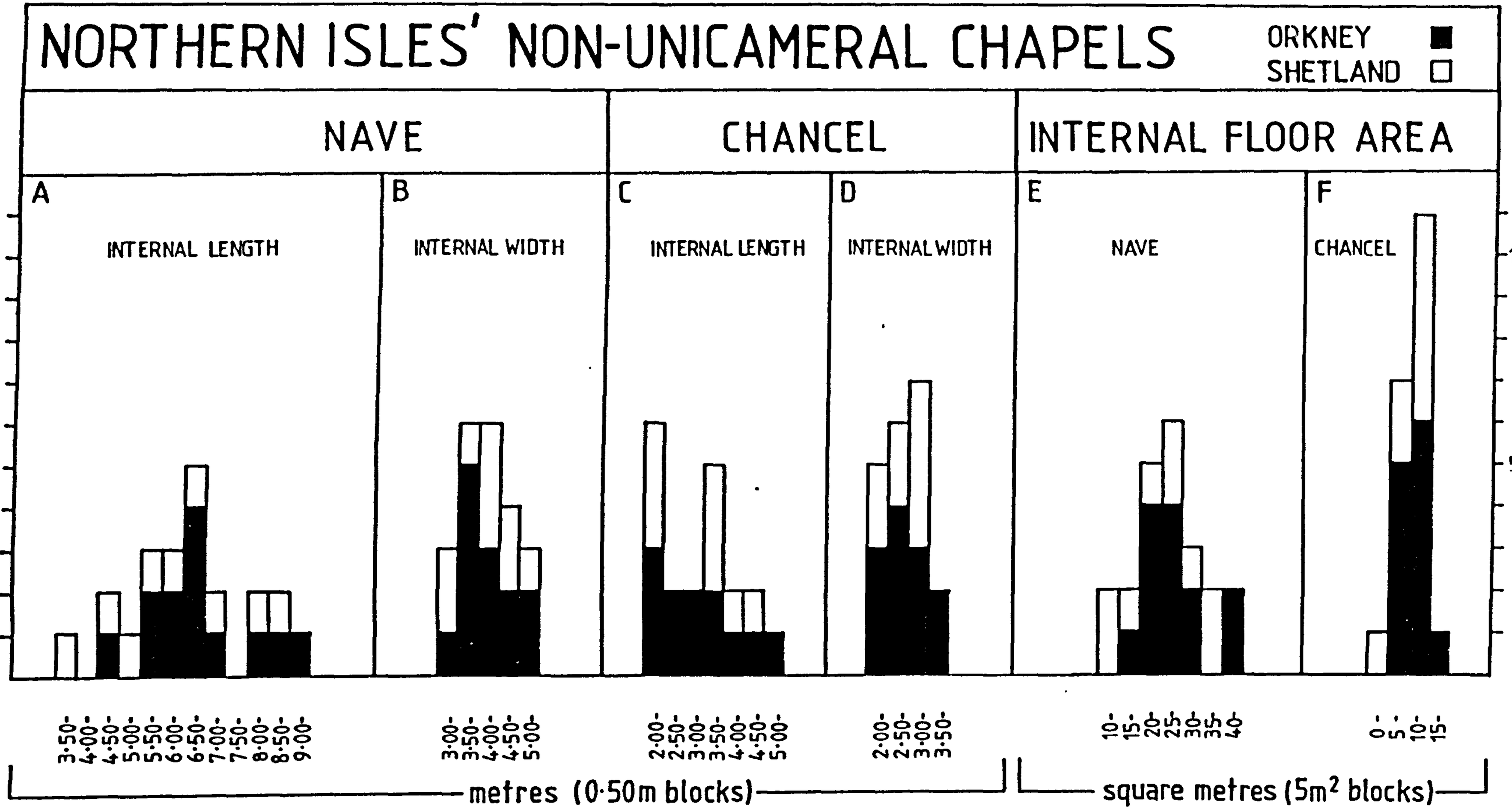


Figure 56: Dimensional data for non-unicameral chapels in Orkney & Shetland

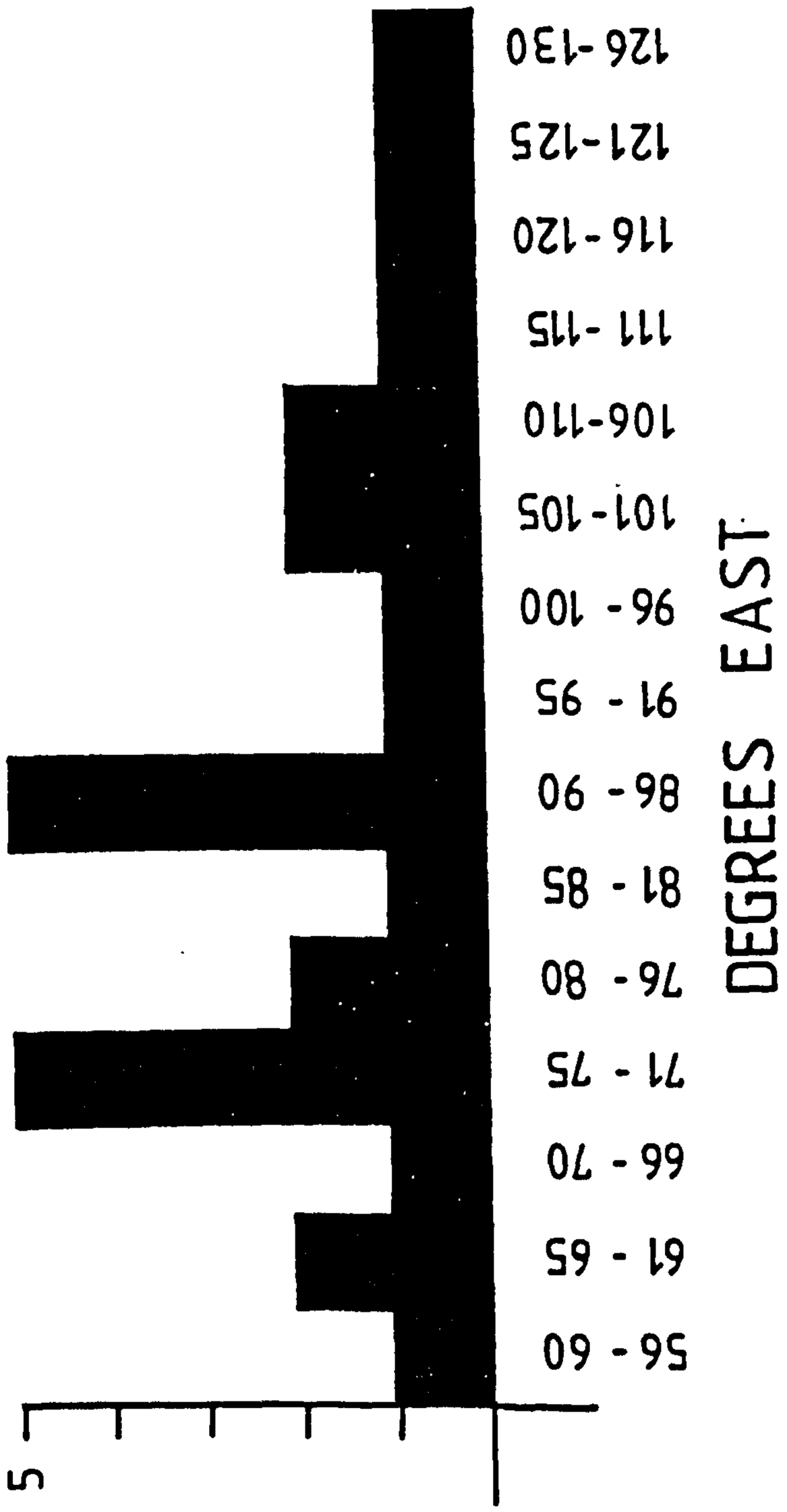
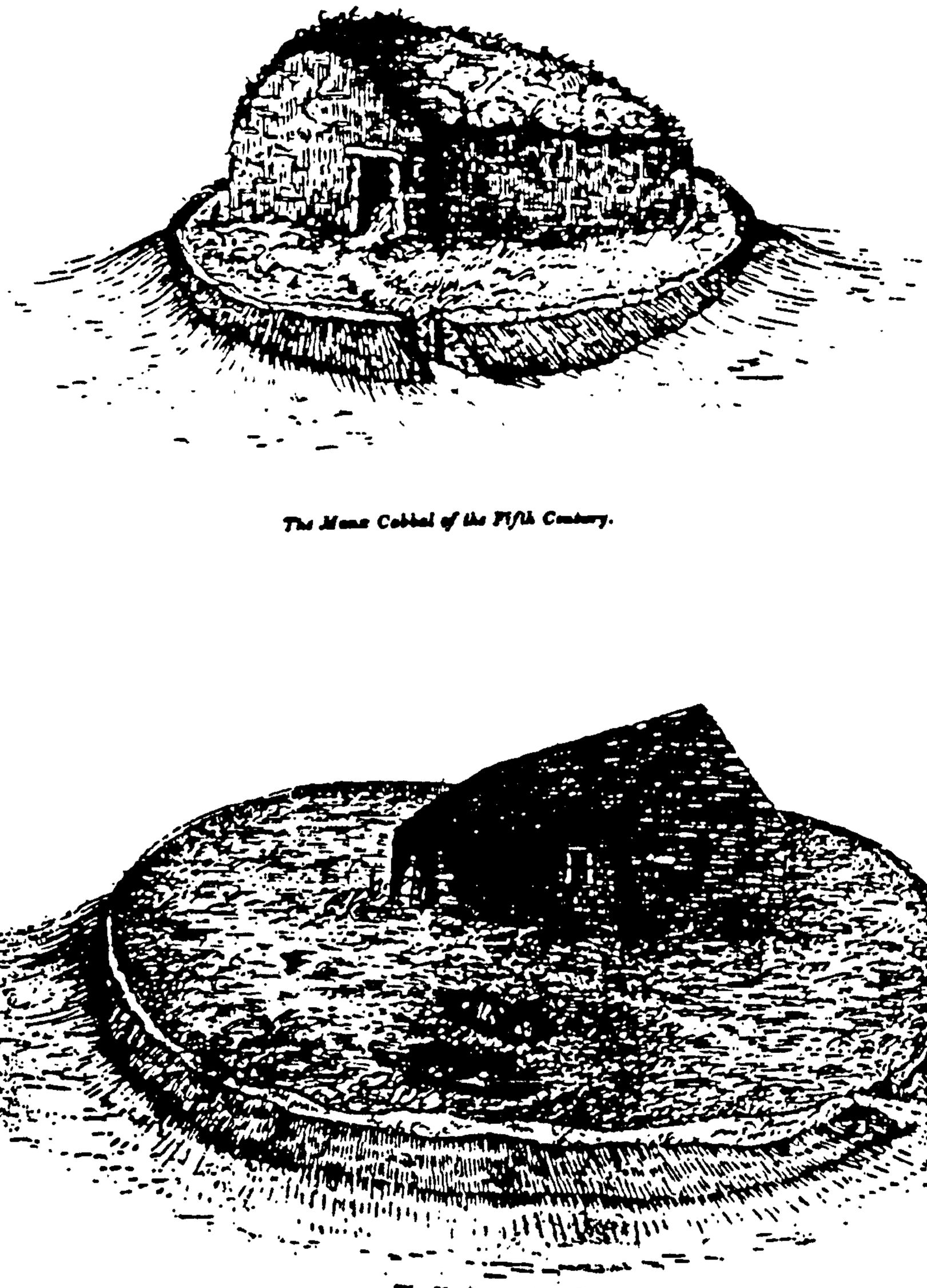


Figure 57: Orientation of selected Manx keeills

Figure 58: Oliver´s 1868 drawings of `cabbals´, `keeills´ and `treen churches´



The Manx Cabbal of the Fifth Century.

The Keeill of the Sixth Century.



The Treen Church of the Eighth Century.

INDEX TO FIGURES 59-61

Structure 1	MAROWN 4
Structure 2	MAROWN 5
Structure 3	MAROWN 6
Structure 4	MAROWN 7
Structure 5	MAROWN 8
Structure 6	MAROWN 9
Structure 7	MAROWN 10
Structure 8	PATRICK 6
Structure 9	PATRICK 12
Structure 10	PATRICK 8
Structure 11	PATRICK 10
Structure 12	PATRICK 13
Structure 13	GERMAN 8
Structure 14	GERMAN 14
Structure 15	GERMAN 2
Structure 16	PATRICK 2
Structure 17	GERMAN 12
Structure 18	GERMAN 10
Structure 19	MICHAEL 5
Structure 20	MICHAEL 6
Structure 21	MICHAEL 9
Structure 22	JURBY 3
Structure 23	JURBY 4
Structure 24	ANDREAS 2
Structure 25	BRIDE 4
Structure 26	BRIDE 6
Structure 27	LEZAYRE 6
Structure 28	LEZAYRE 10
Structure 29	LEZAYRE 2
Structure 30	LEZAYRE 4
Structure 31	LEZAYRE 9
Structure 32	MAUGHOLD 2
Structure 33	MAUGHOLD 3
Structure 34	MAUGHOLD 5
Structure 35	MAUGHOLD 15
Structure 36	MAUGHOLD 18
Structure 37	MAUGHOLD 19
Structure 38	LONAN 6
Structure 39	ONCHAN 3
Structure 40	ONCHAN 2
Structure 41	BRADDAN 5
Structure 42	BRADDAN 4
Structure 43	BRADDAN 2
Structure 44	SANTON 8
Structure 45	MALEW 18
Structure 46	MALEW 14
Structure 47	MALEW 11
Structure 48	MALEW 8
Structure 49	MALEW 10
Structure 50	ARBORY 2
Structure 51	ARBORY 10
Structure 52	ARBORY 4
Structure 53	RUSHEN 9

These site names refer to this study's catalogue of the Manx keeills (Appendix 1: Volume 1,pp.341-345).

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1 Marwick, Birsay
2 Kirbister, Birsay
3 Etheriegeo, Birsay
4 Houseby, Birsay
5 Hillside, Birsay
6 Auskerry, Stronsay
7 Kirk o´ Cletton, Harray
8 Marykirk, Harray
9 Corston, Harray
10 Black chapel, Firth
11 Tenston, Sandwick
12 Lyking, Sandwick
13 Head of Holland, Kirkwall
14>Colliness, Sanday
14>Marykirk, Orphir
15 Myre, Orphir
16 Brough of Deerness
17 Peterkirk, St.Andrews
18 Cornholm, Deerness
19 Rood chapel, S. Ronaldsay
20 Ladykirk, S. Ronaldsay
21 St.Andrew´s chapel, S. Ronaldsay
22 St.Tredwell´s chapel, Papa Westray
23 St.Colm´s chapel, Sanday
24 Brims, Walls
25 St.Bride´s chapel, Sandwick
26 Kirkness, Sandwick
27 Linton, Shapinsay
28 St.Mary´s chapel, Wyre
29 St.Magnus´ church, Birsay
30 Peterkirk, Evie
31 Tammaskirk, Rendall
32 St.Nicholas´ chapel, Papa Stronsay
33 Grimbister, Firth
34 Crosskirk, (early phase), Westray

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1 Gulberwick, Lerwick
2 Chapel Knowe, Lunna, Nesting
3 Halliara kirk, Fetlar
4 Crosskirk, Eshaness, Northmavine
5 Kirkhouse, Fetlar
6 St.Mary´s chapel, Bothen, Unst
7 St.Mary´s chapel, Framgord, Unst
8 Crossgeo, Unst
9 Crosskirk, Clibberswick, Unst
10 Uyea, Unst
11 St.Olaf´s church, Unst
12 St.John´s church, Unst
13 Kirkaby, Unst
14 Colvadale, Unst
15 Noss, Bressay
16 St.Olaf´s chapel, Yell
17 St.Ninian´s Isle chapel, Dunrossness
18 St.Mary´s church, Culbinsbrough, Bressay

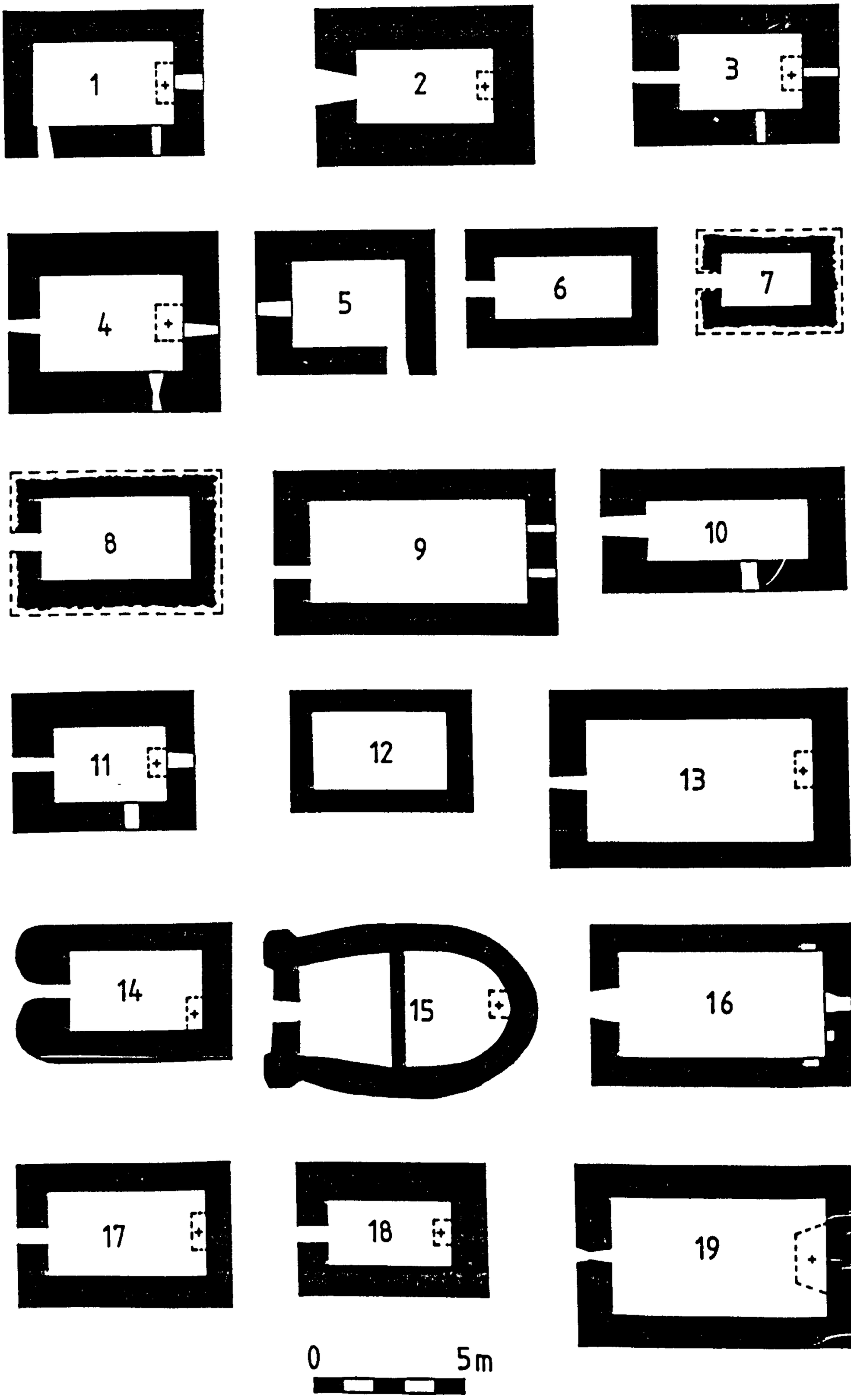


Figure 59: Comparative schematic plans of Manx keeills: part 1

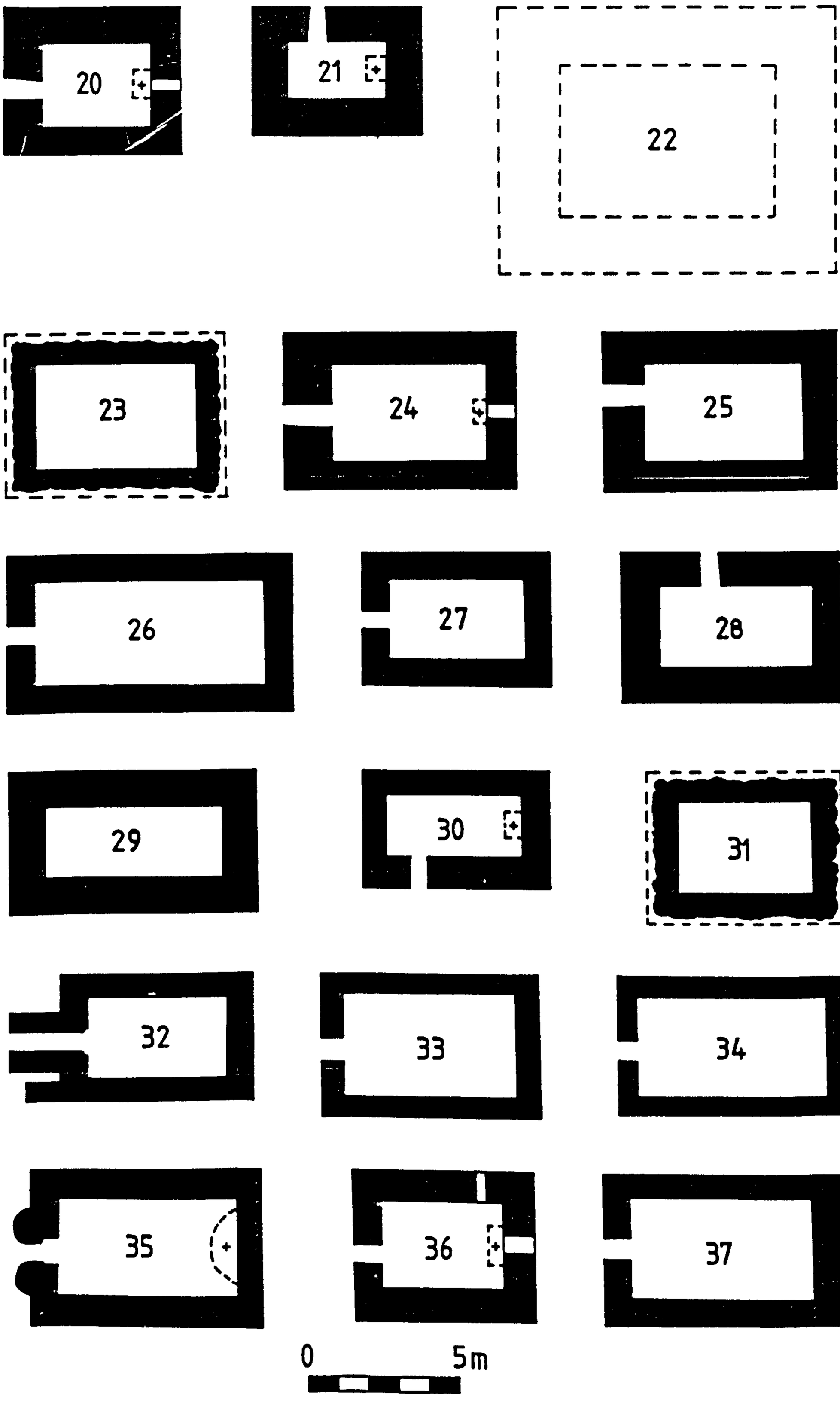


Figure 60: Comparative schematic plans of Manx keeills: part 2

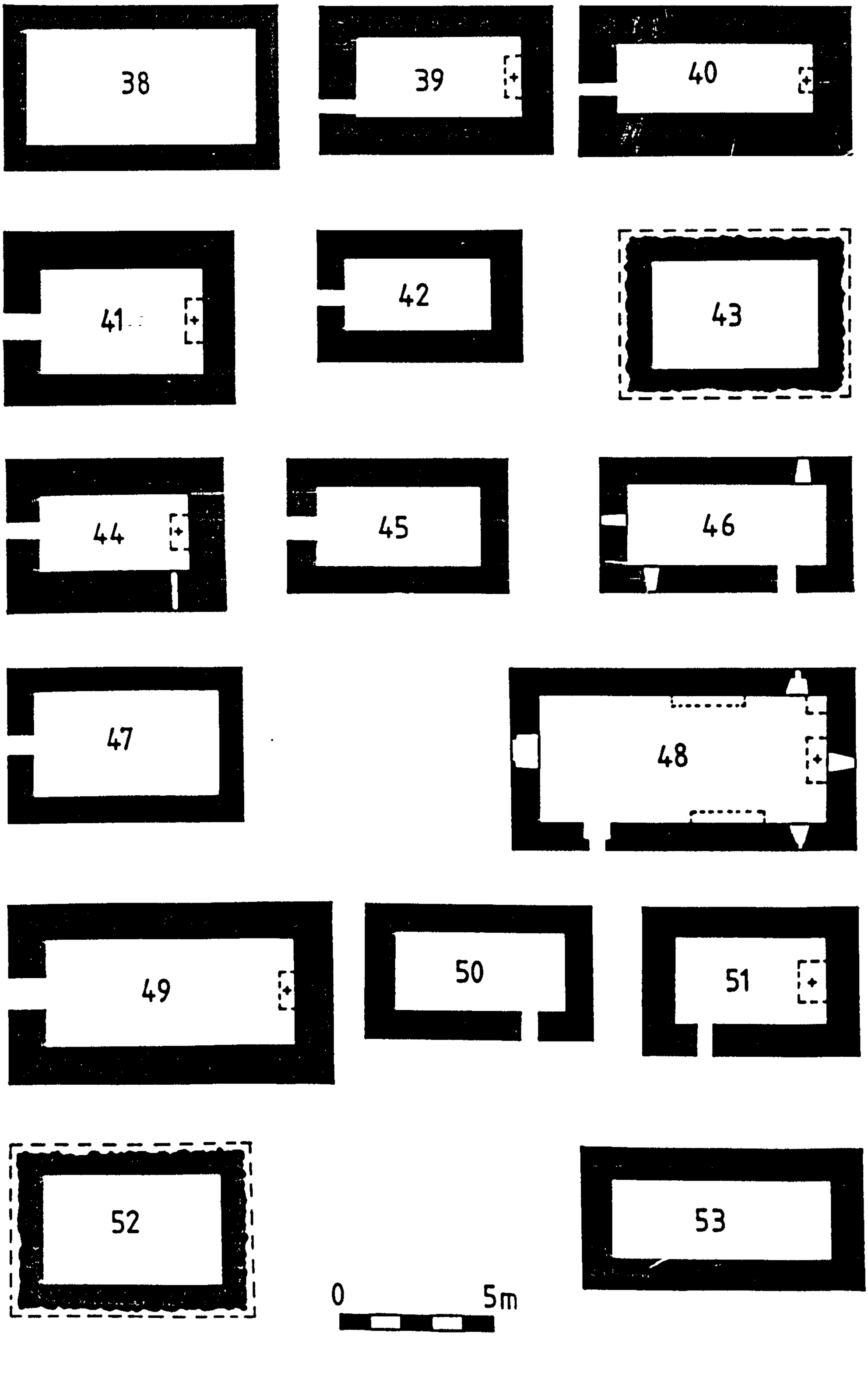


Figure 61: Comparative schematic plans of Manx keeills: part 3

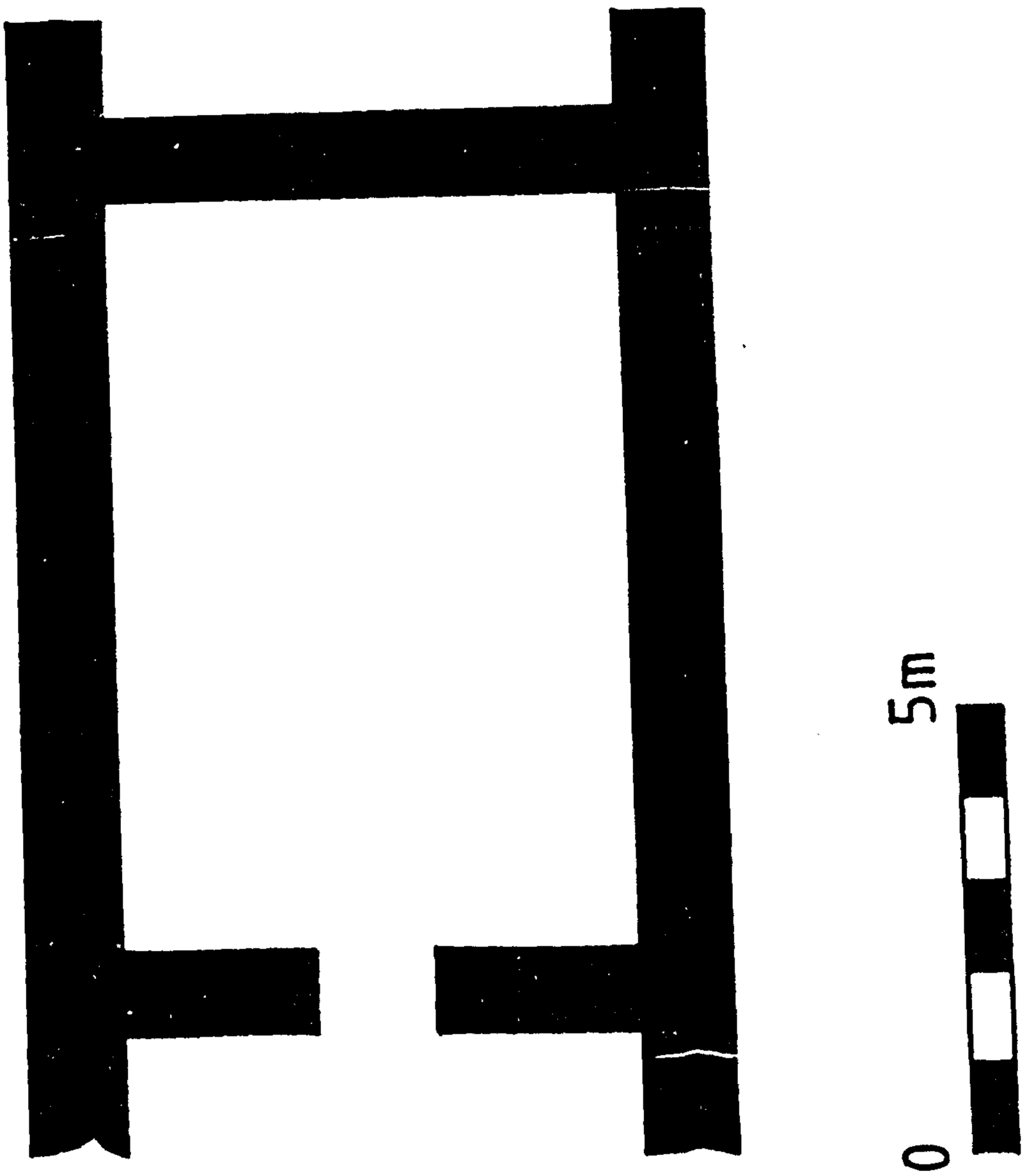


Figure 62: Schematic plan of St. Patrick's church (primary phase), St. Patrick's Isle, Peel, IOM (after Radford in Cubbon 1982,fig.16.7)

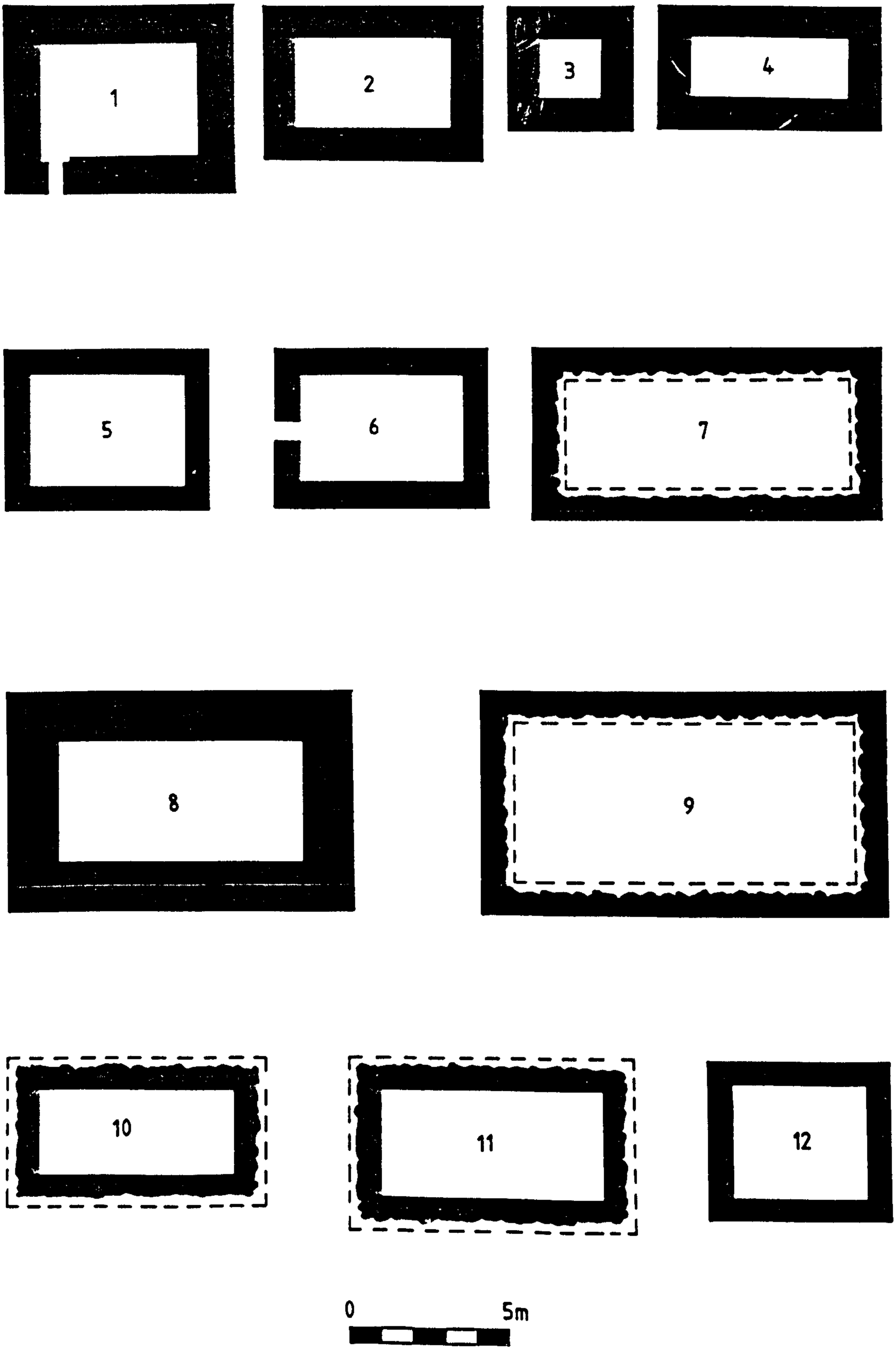


Figure 63: Comparative schematic plans of Orkney chapels: pt 1

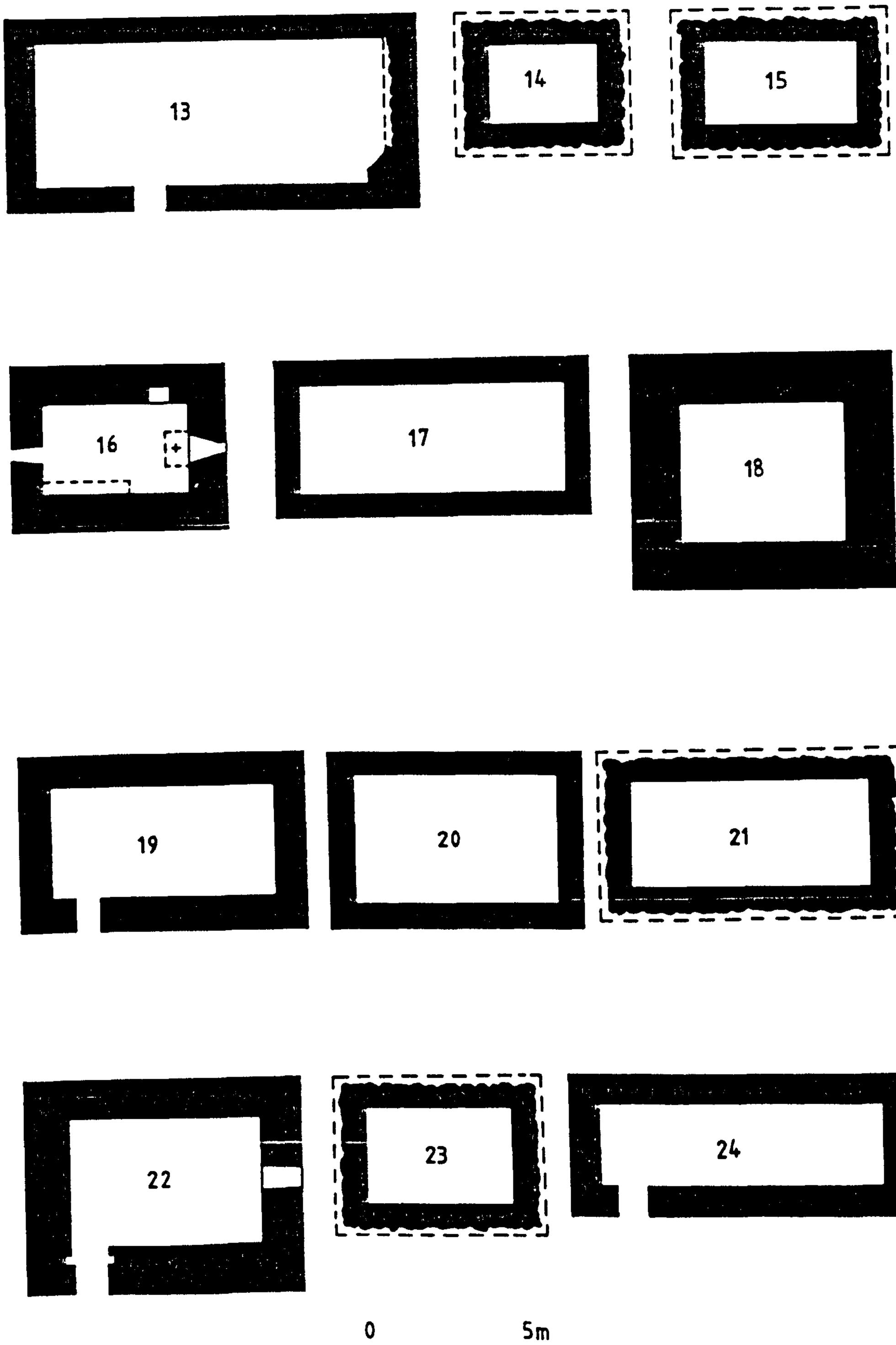


Figure 64: Comparative schematic plans of Orkney chapels: pt 2

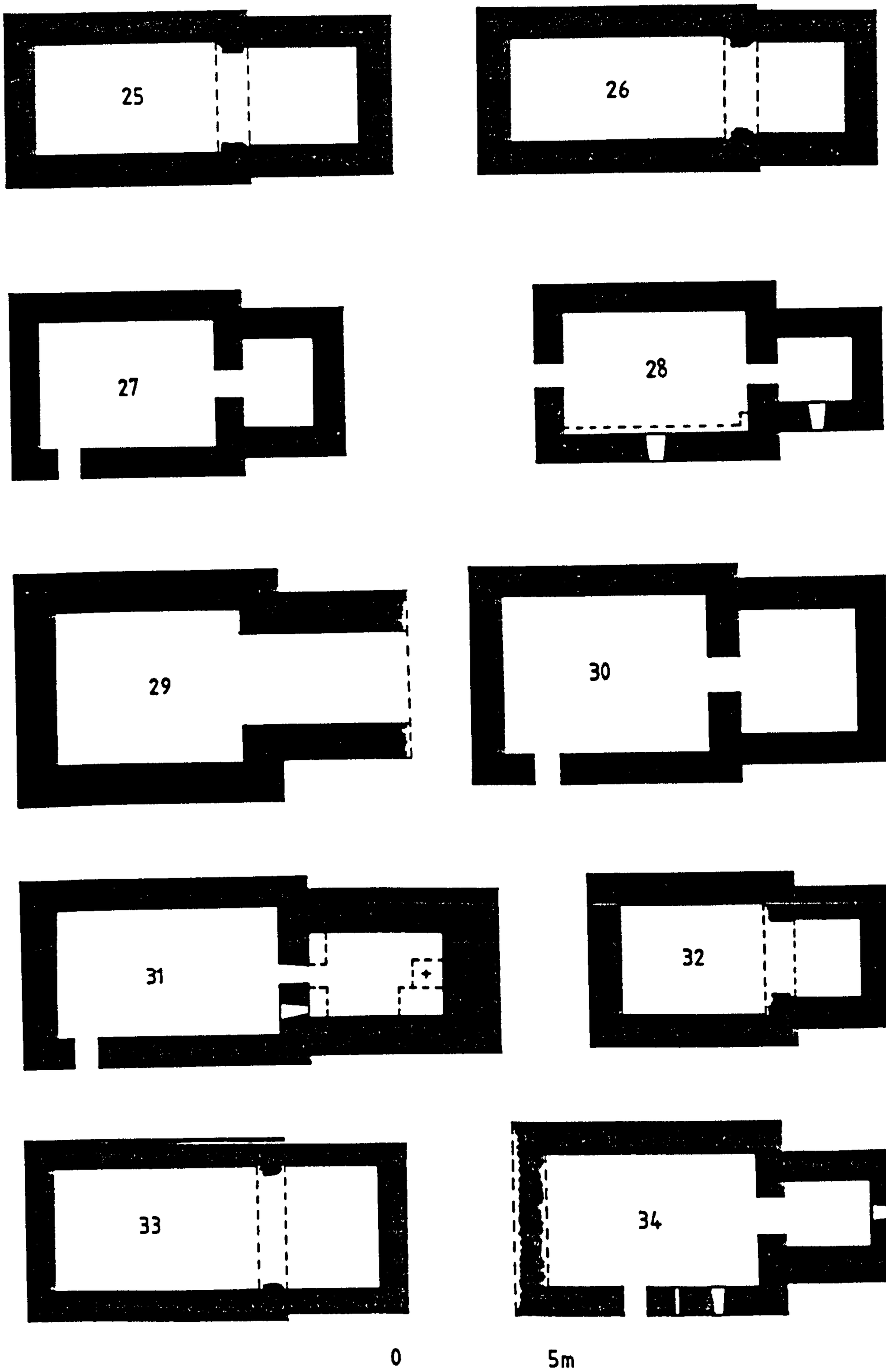
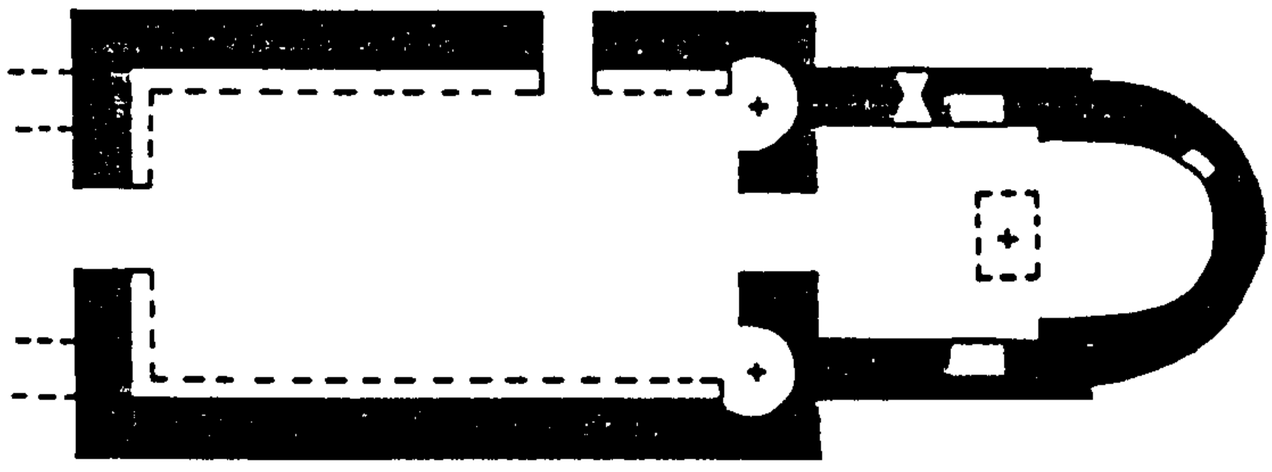
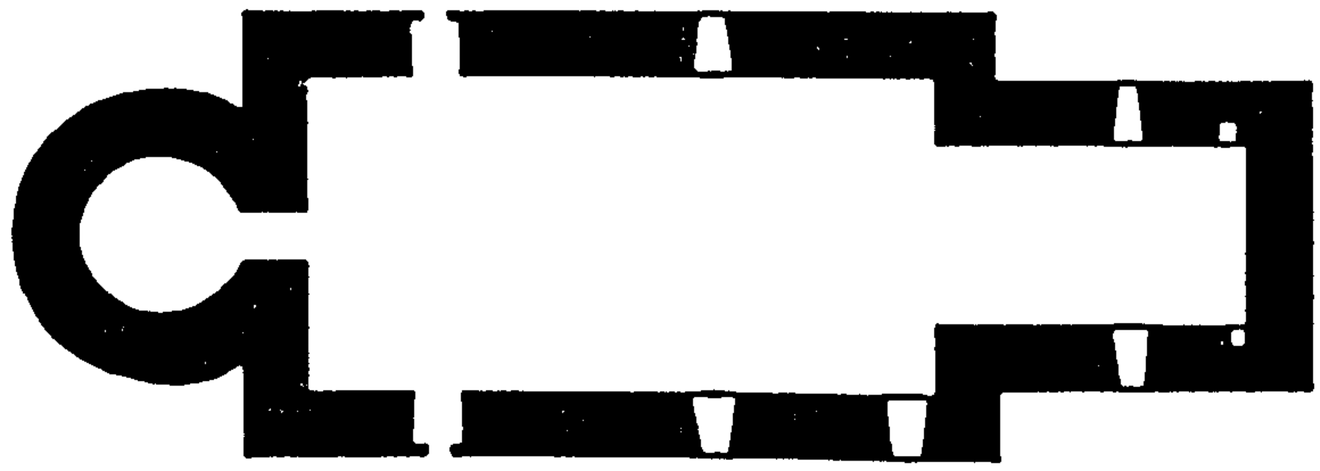


Figure 65: Comparative schematic plans of Orkney chapels: pt 3







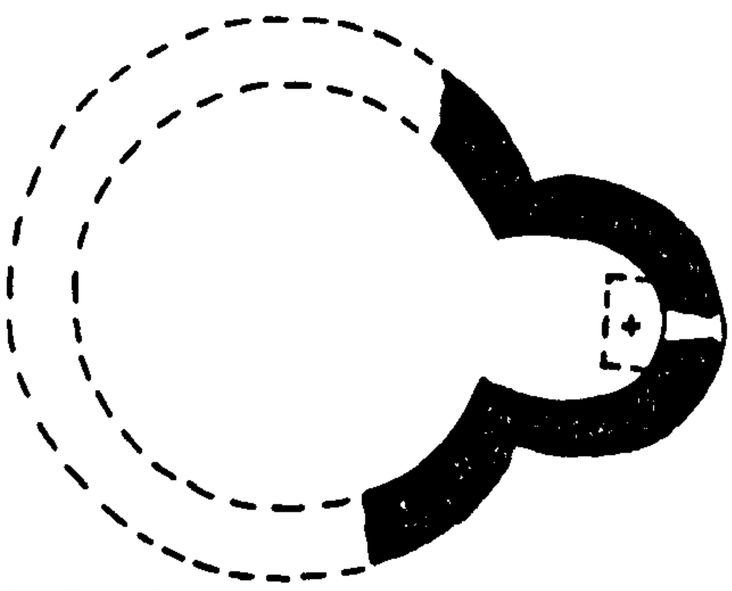




Figure 66: Comparative schematic plans of Orkney chapels: pt 4

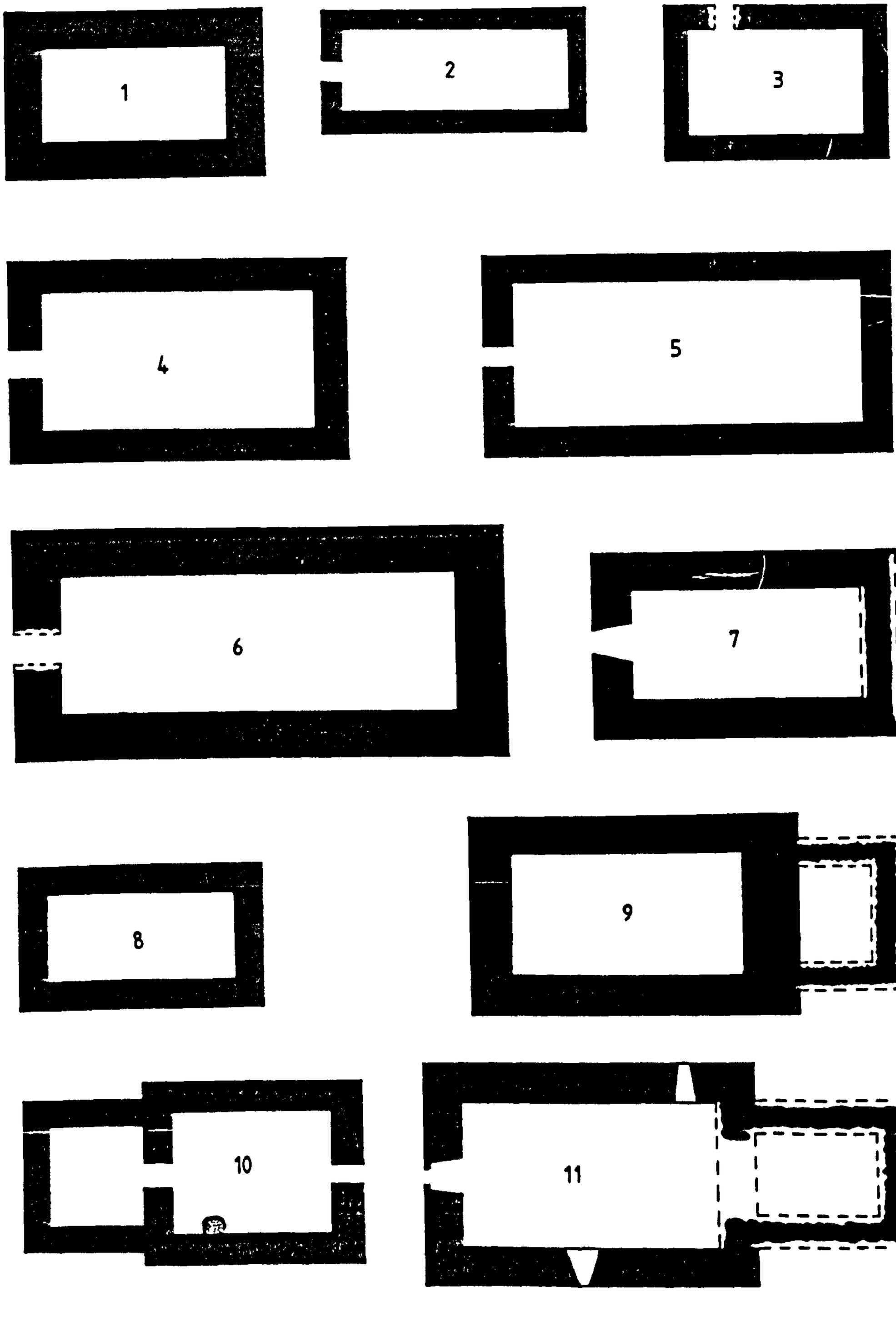


Figure 67: Comparative schematic plans of Shetland chapels: pt

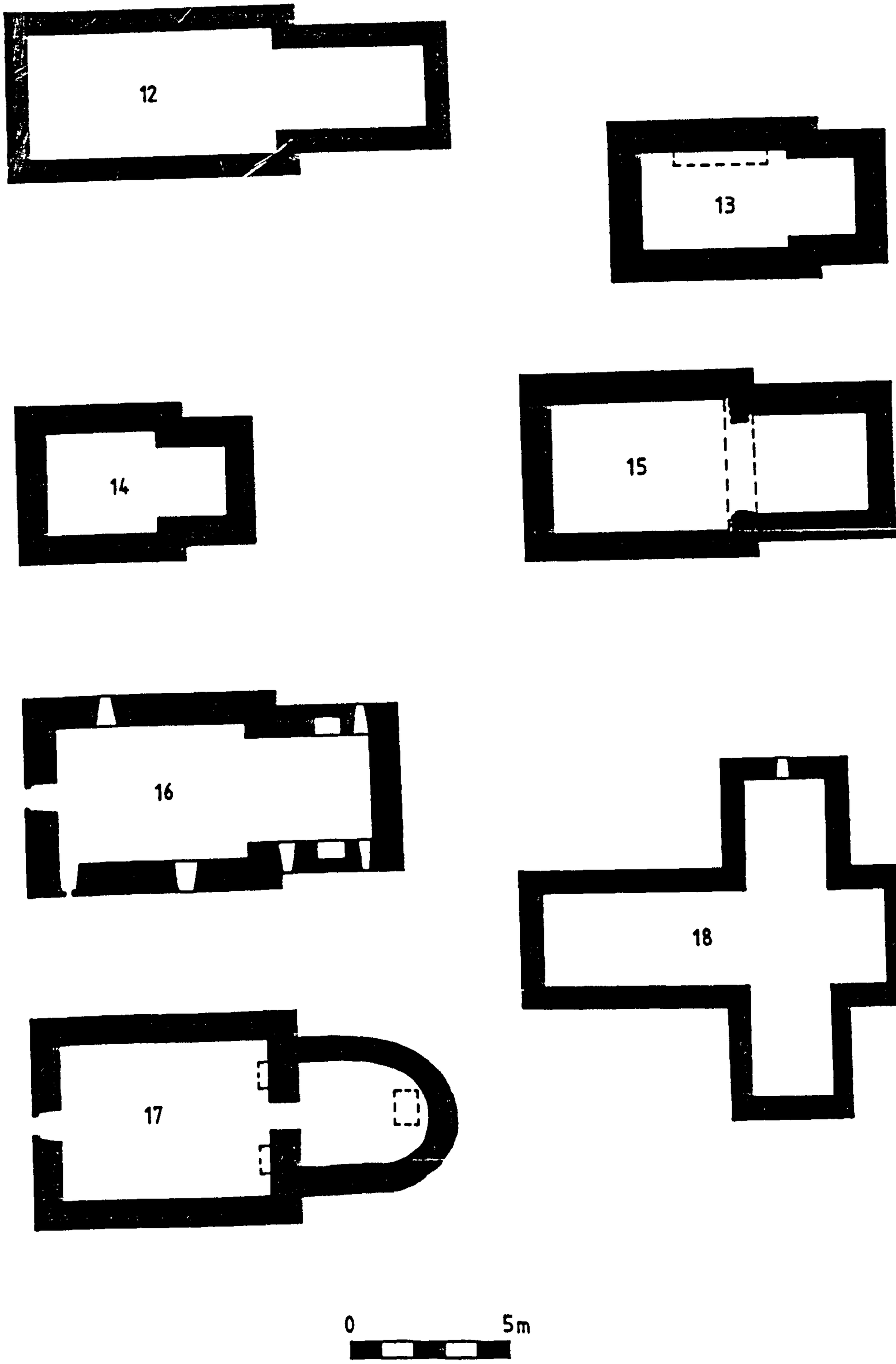
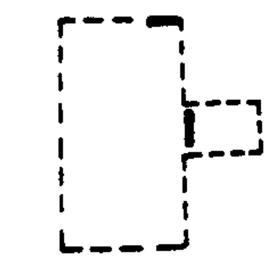


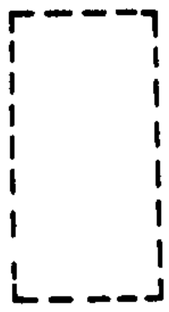
Figure 68: Comparative schematic plans of Shetland chapels: pt 2



Keeill Vreeshy



Sulbrick



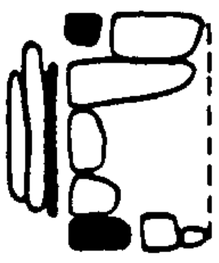
St Michael's Isle



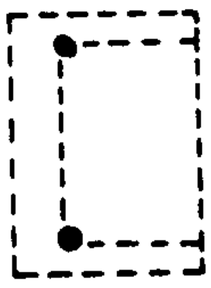
Ballalough



Skyhill



Cabbal Druiaght



Ballaquinney moar



Balladoole



Sulby



Druidale



Ronaldsway I



Ballakilmartin



Eary moar



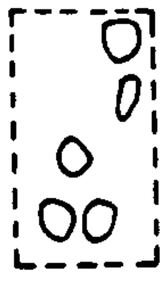
Ballafreer



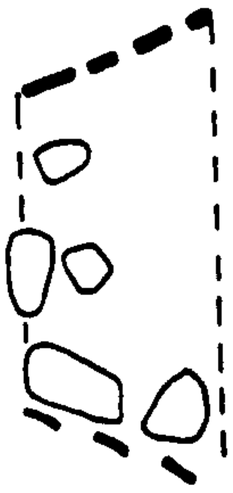
Lag ny keeilley



Cronk Breck

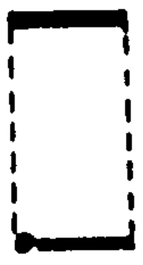


Camlork





Cronk y killey



Corna

Spooyt Vane



Knoc y Doonee



Keeill Pherick-a-dromma







MANX ALTAR FORMS

Figure 69: Comparative schematic plans & elevations of Manx altar forms

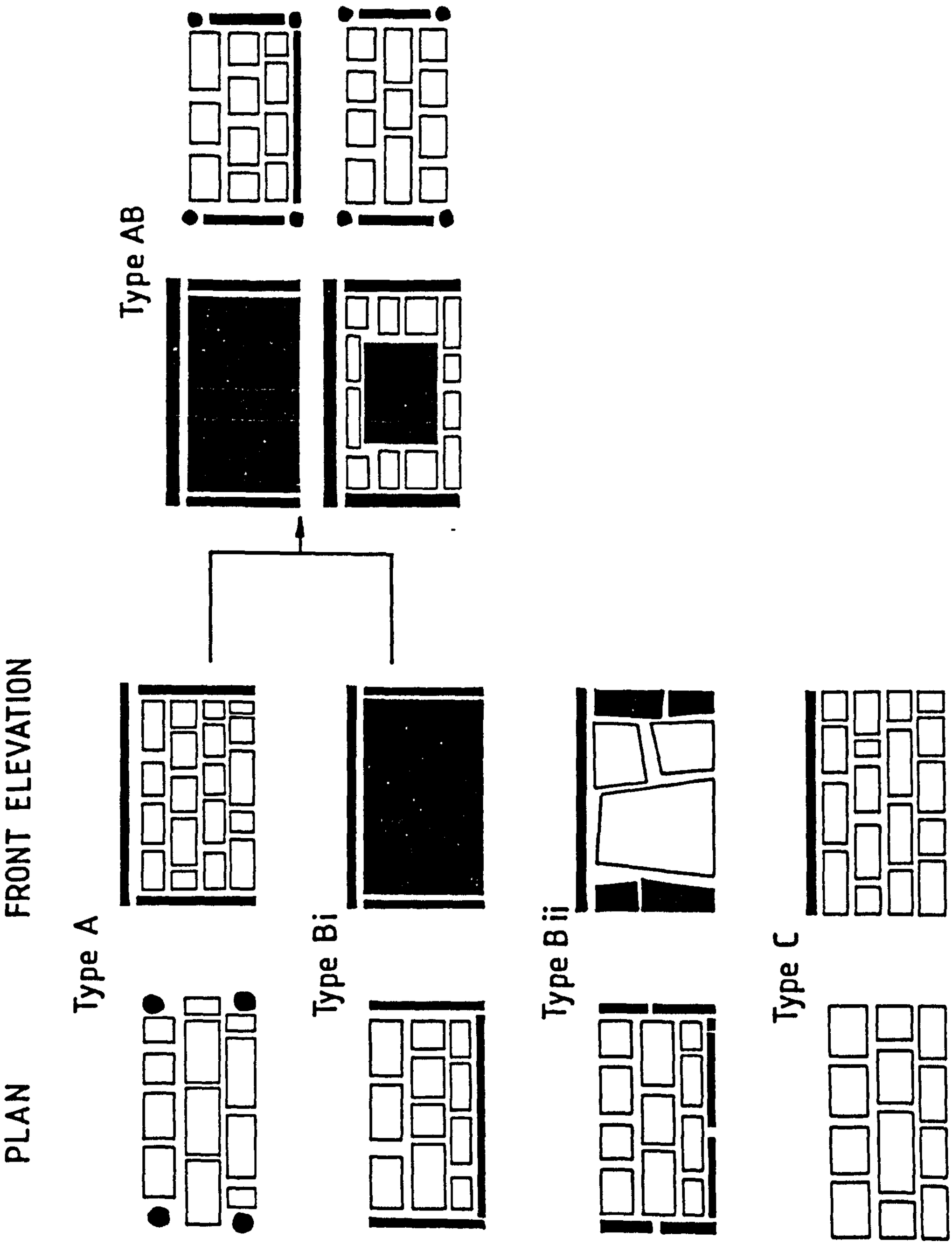


Figure 70: Provisional typology of Manx altar forms

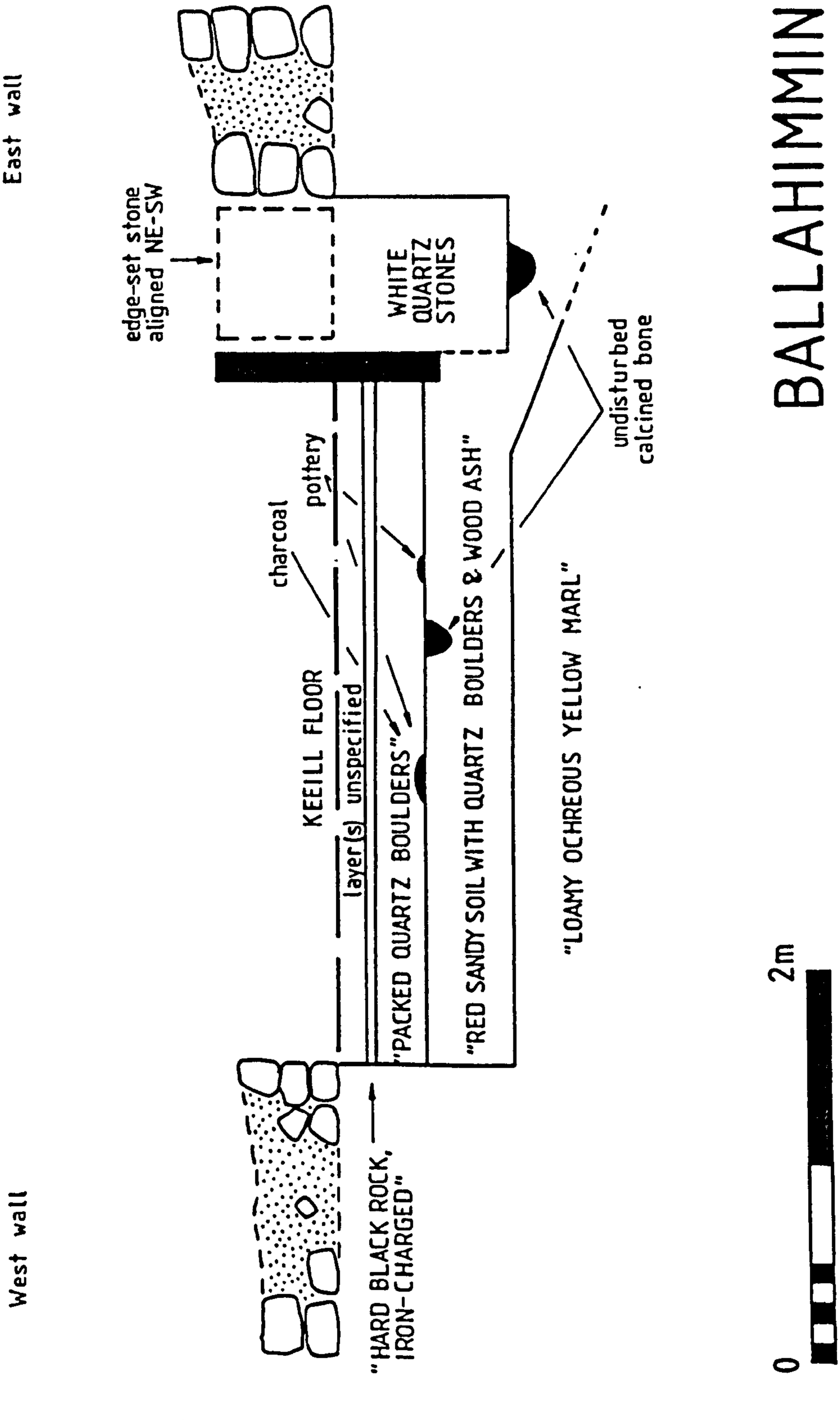


Figure 71: Schematic reconstruction of EW section across Ballahimmin keeill, German, IOM (after Kermode 1910,12-16)

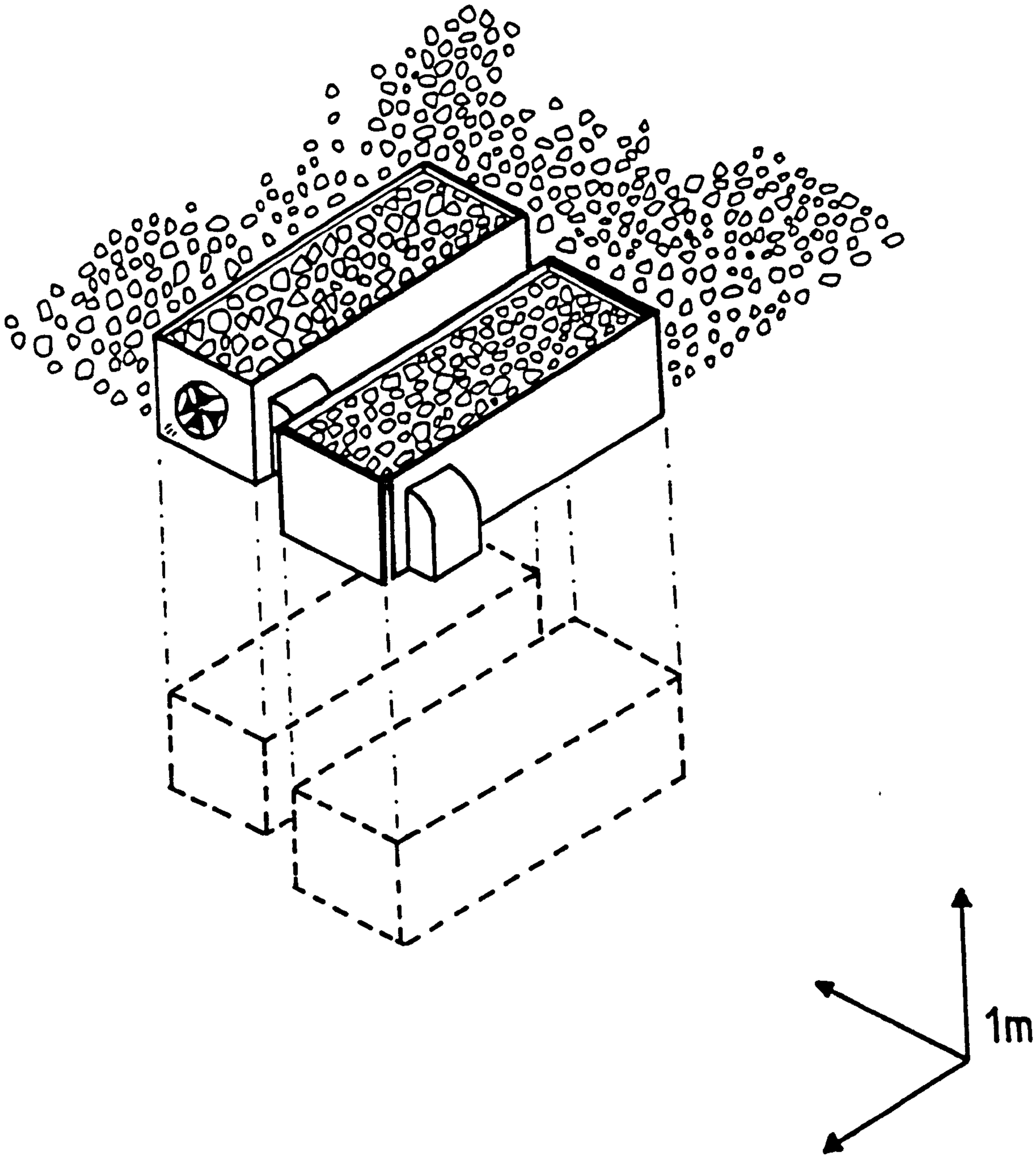


Figure 72: Isometric reconstruction of special graves -leachta- at Ronaldsway cemetery, Malew, IOM (after Cubbon 1935b & Neely 1940)

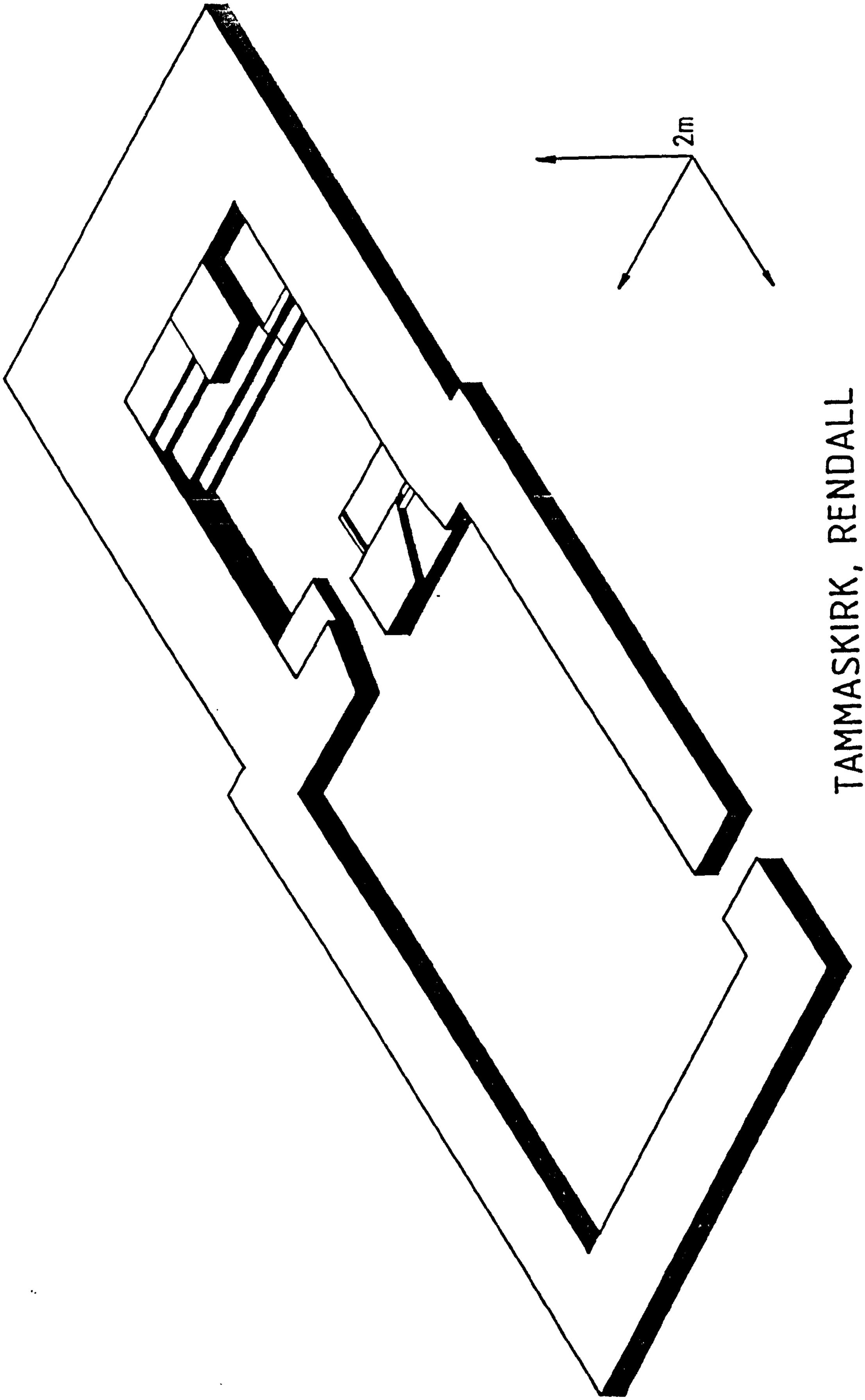


Figure 73: Isometric reconstruction of ground plan of Tammaskirk, Rendall, Orkney (after Clouston 1932b)

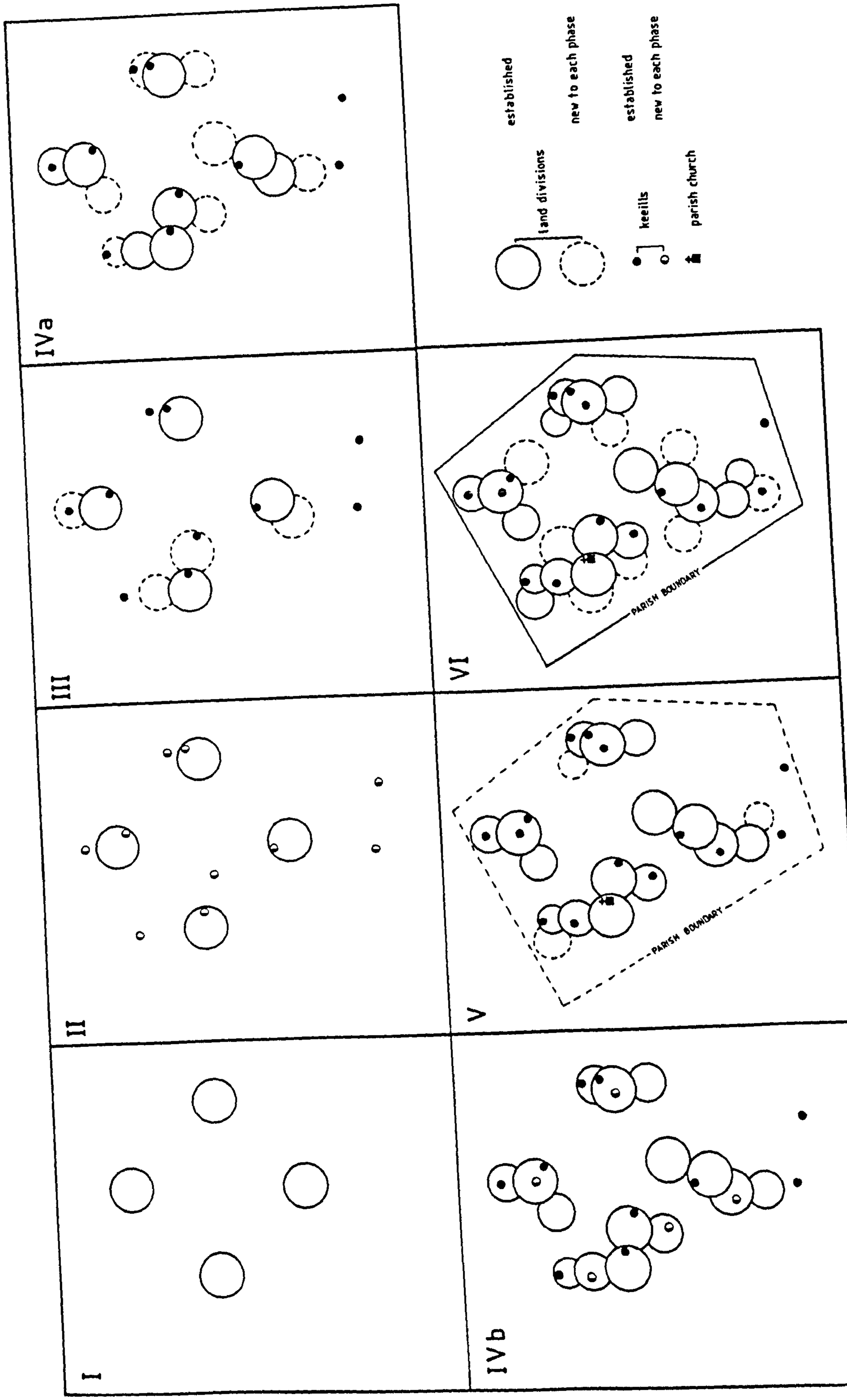
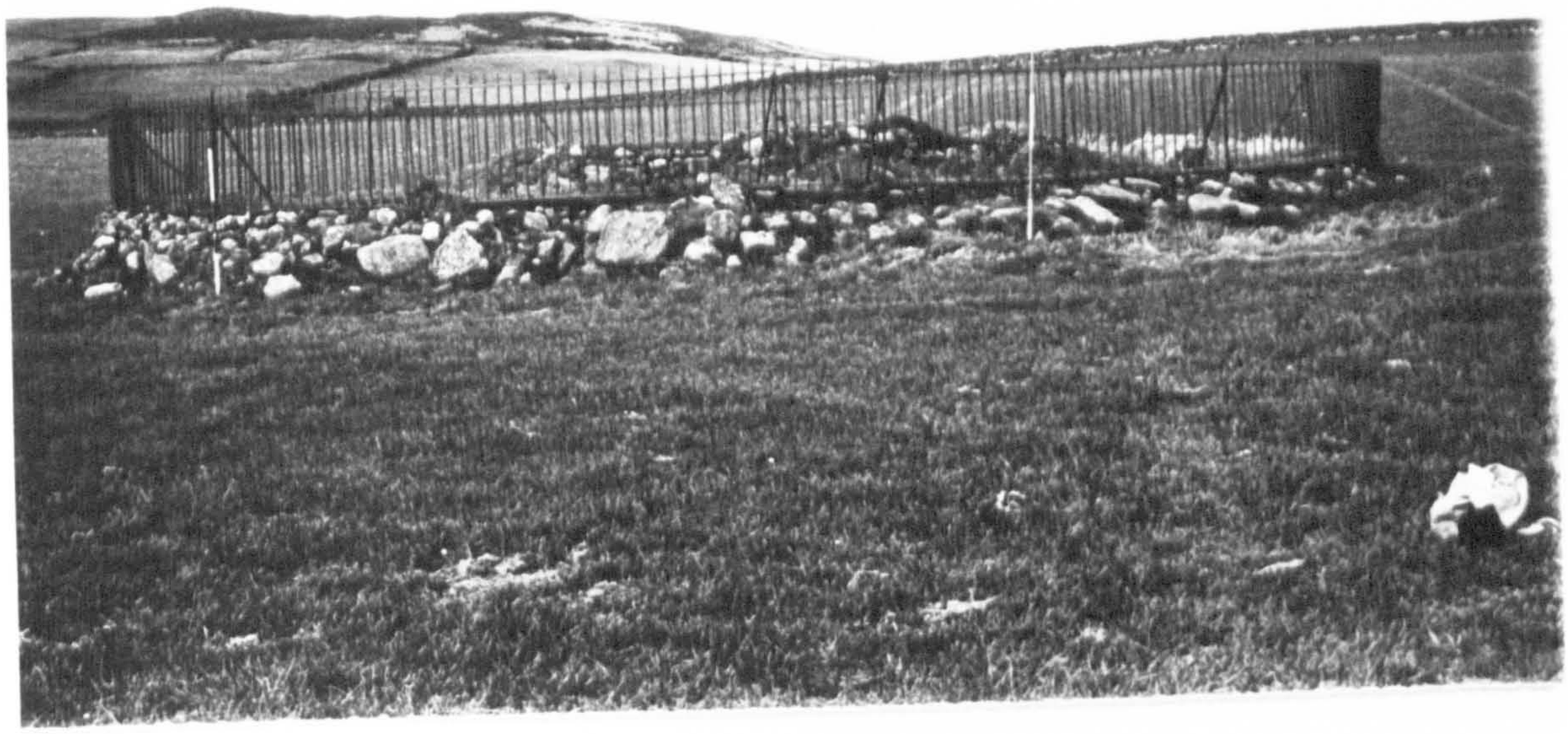


Figure 74: A theoretical model for the development of keeill and treen in the Isle of Man

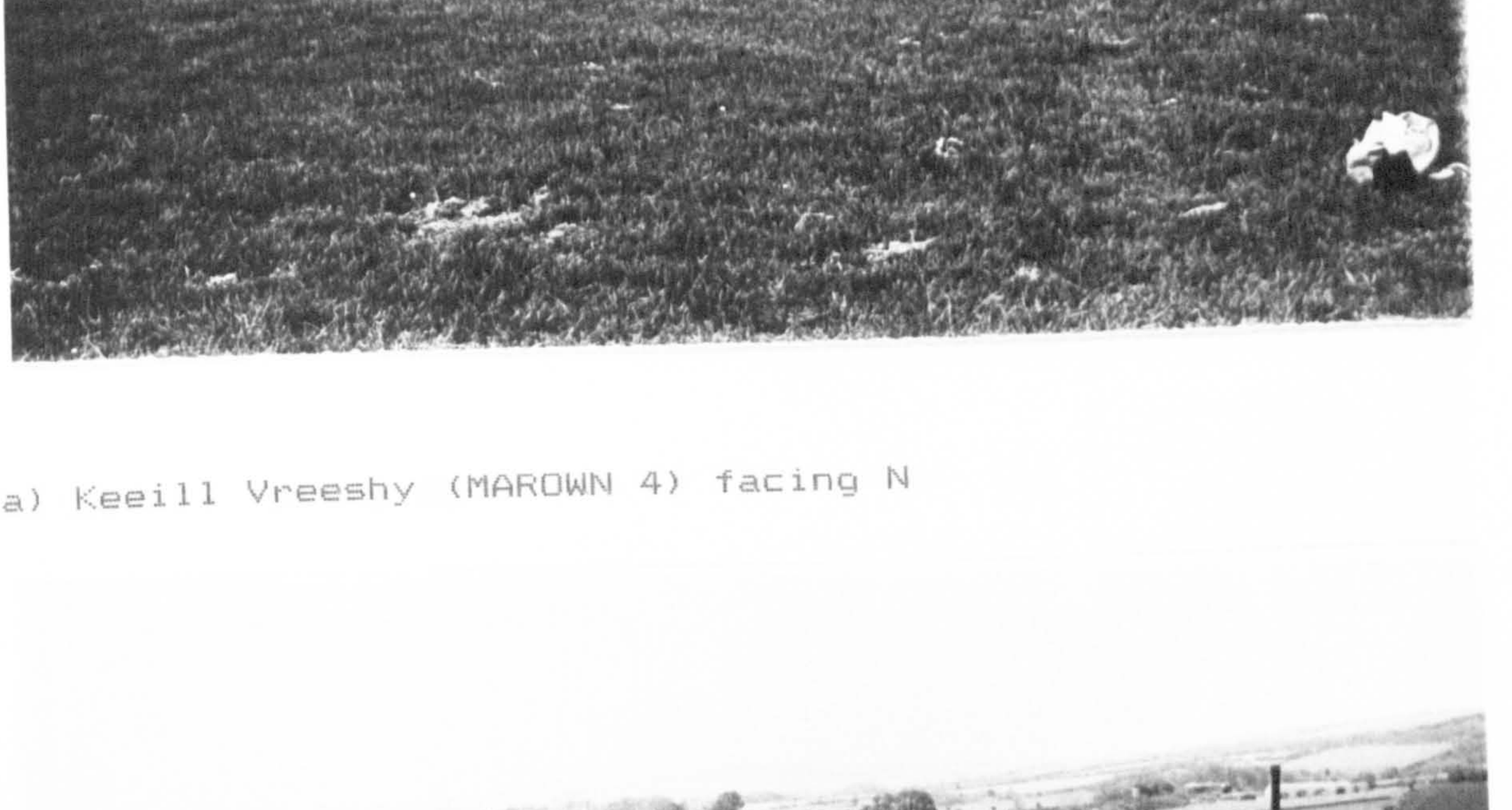
PLATES



Plate 1: Aerial view of St. Trinian's chapel (MAROWN 2) facing NE



a) Keeill Vreeshy (MAROWN 4) facing N



b) St. Patrick's Chair, Marown, facing SE

Plate 2



a) keeill facing SE

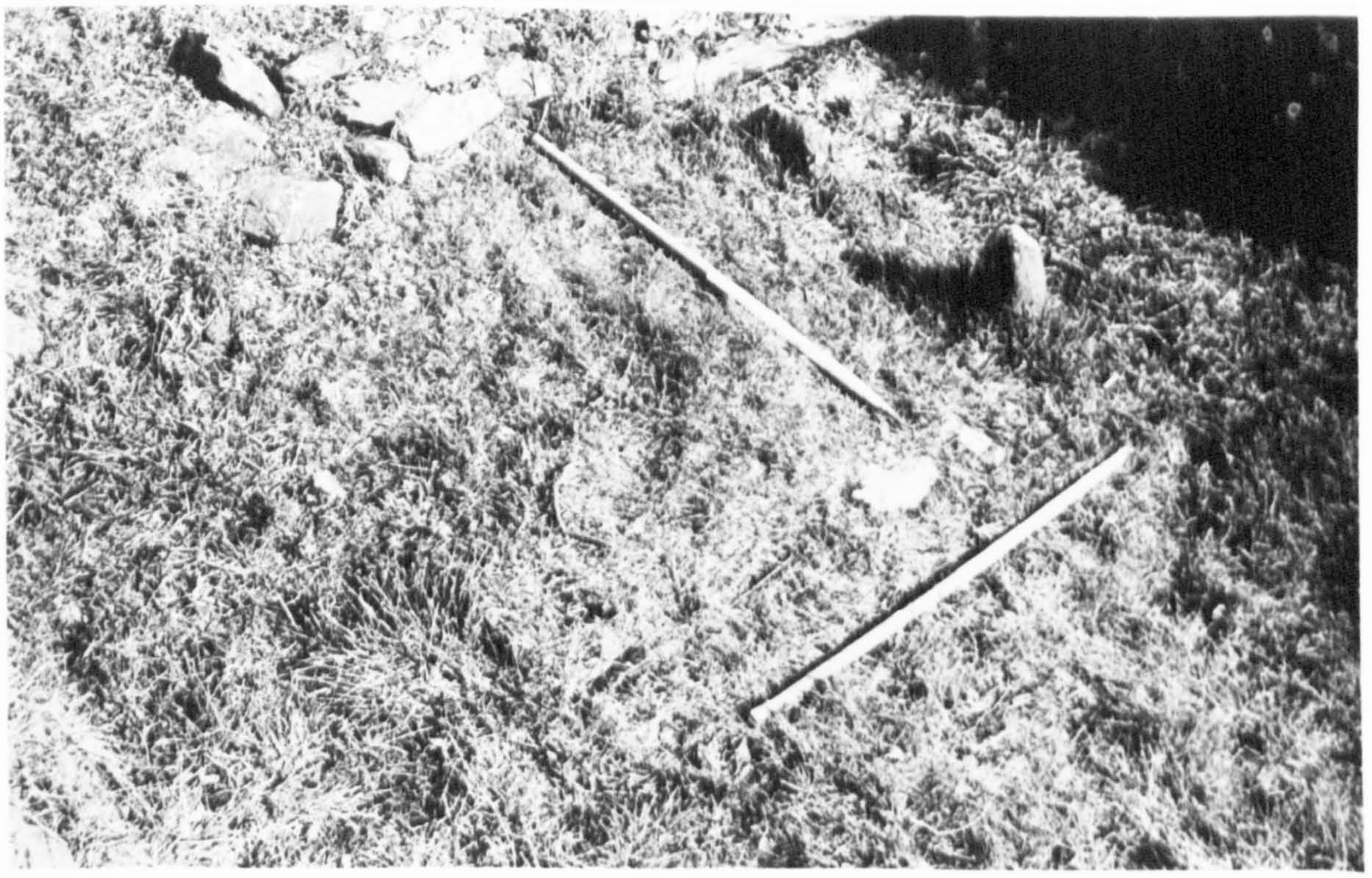


b) ? water-stoup & ? quern

Plate 3: Keeill Pherick (MAROWN 5)

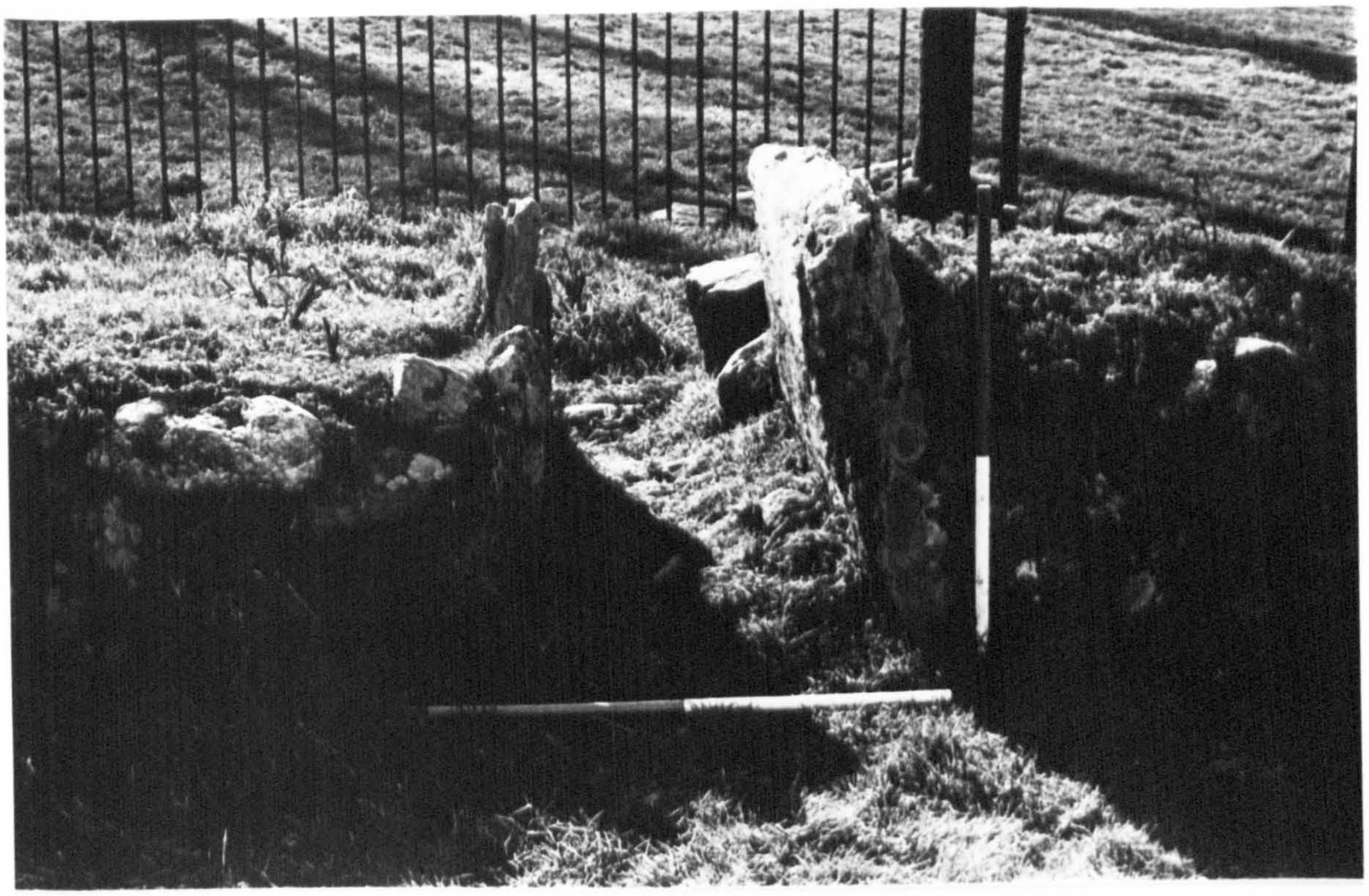


a) Altar: Cabbal Druiaght (MAROWN 6) facing E

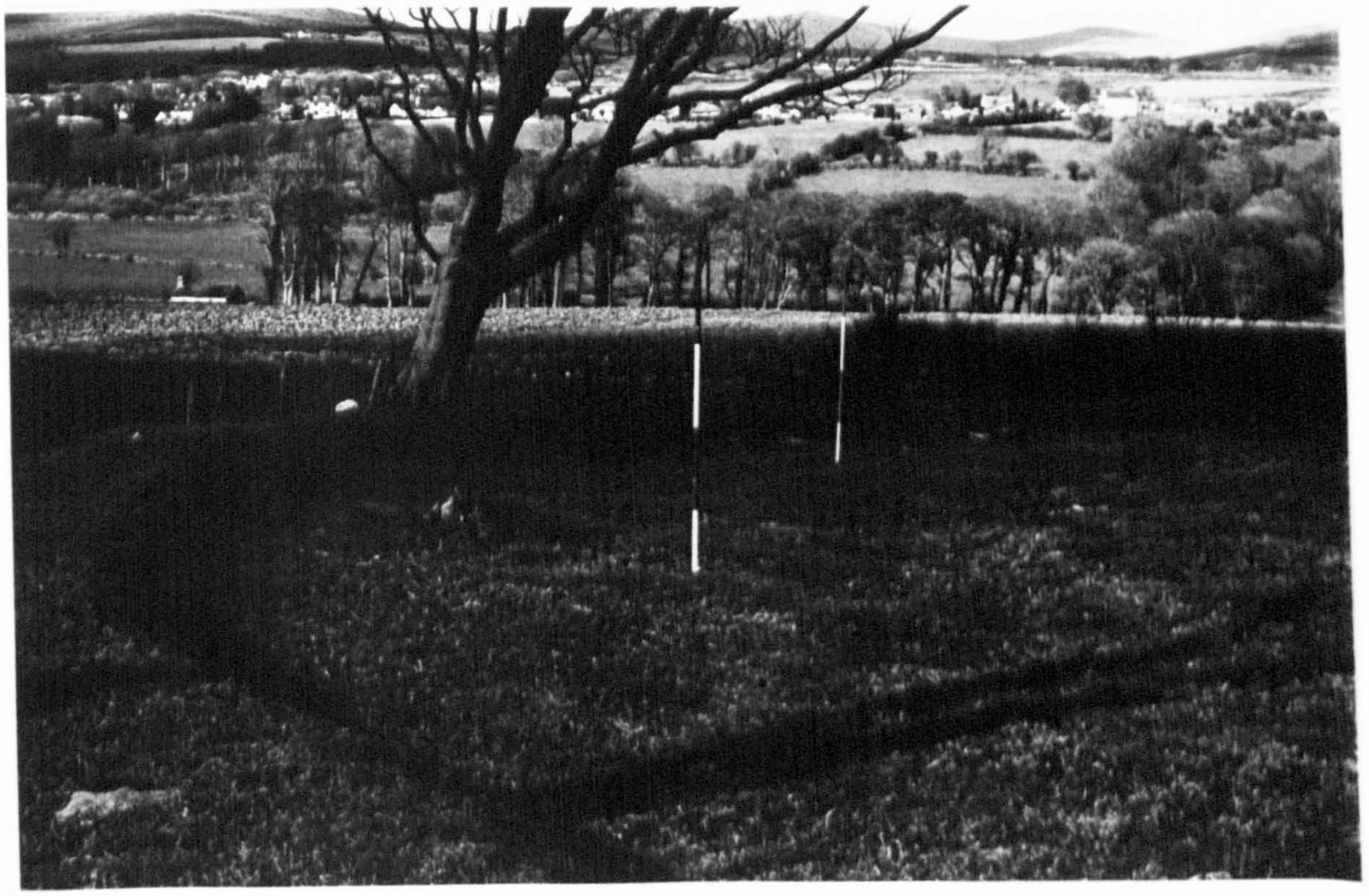


b) Altar: Ballaquinney moar (MAROWN 7) facing SE

Plate 4



a) detail of keeill entrance facing W

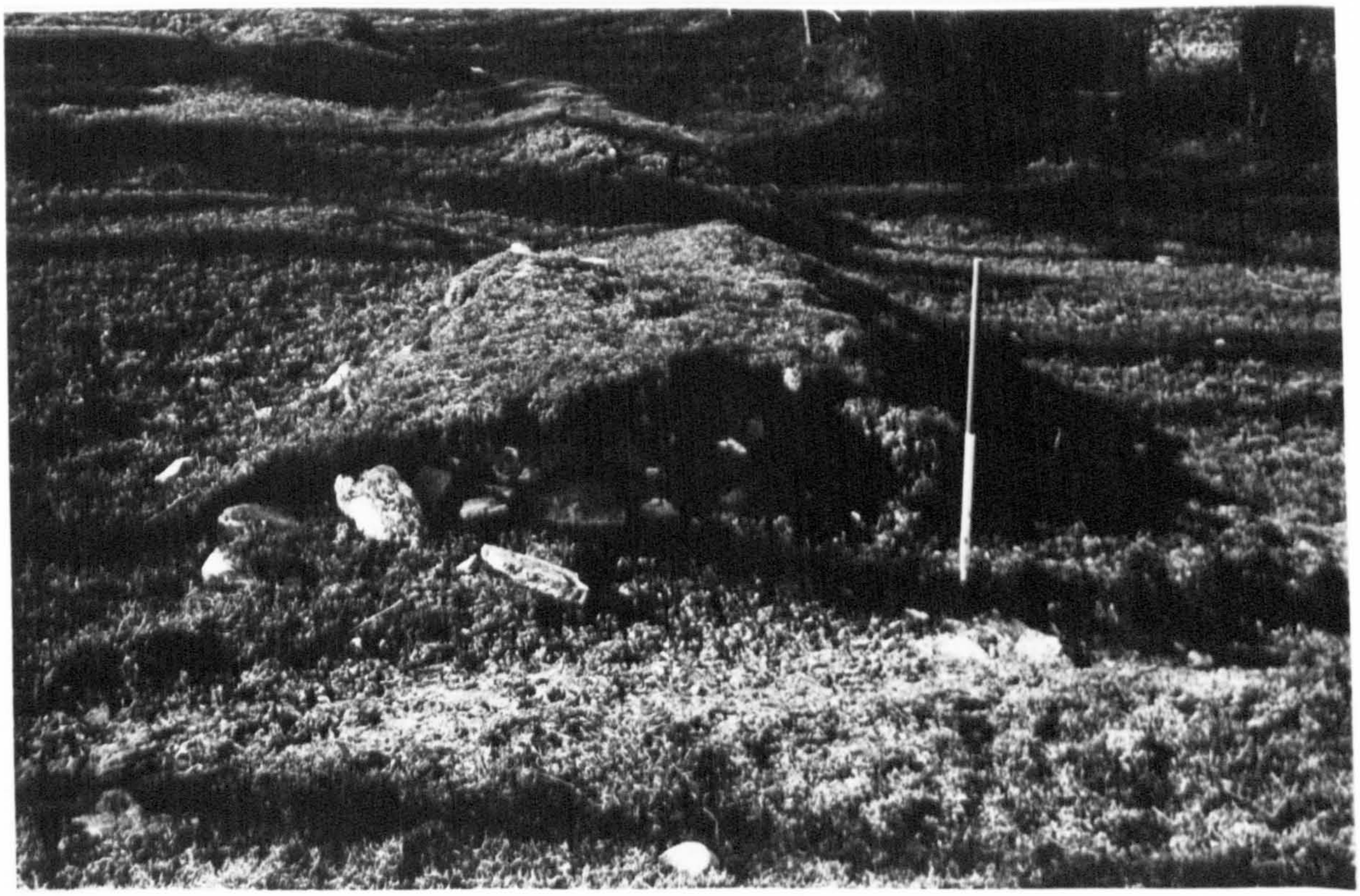


b) detail of W sector of enclosure facing N

Plate 5: Ballaquinney moar keeill (MAROWN 7)



a) detail of N sector of enclosure & ditch facing E



b) detail of section through enclosure bank facing W

Plate 6: Ballaquinney moar keeill (MAROWN 7)

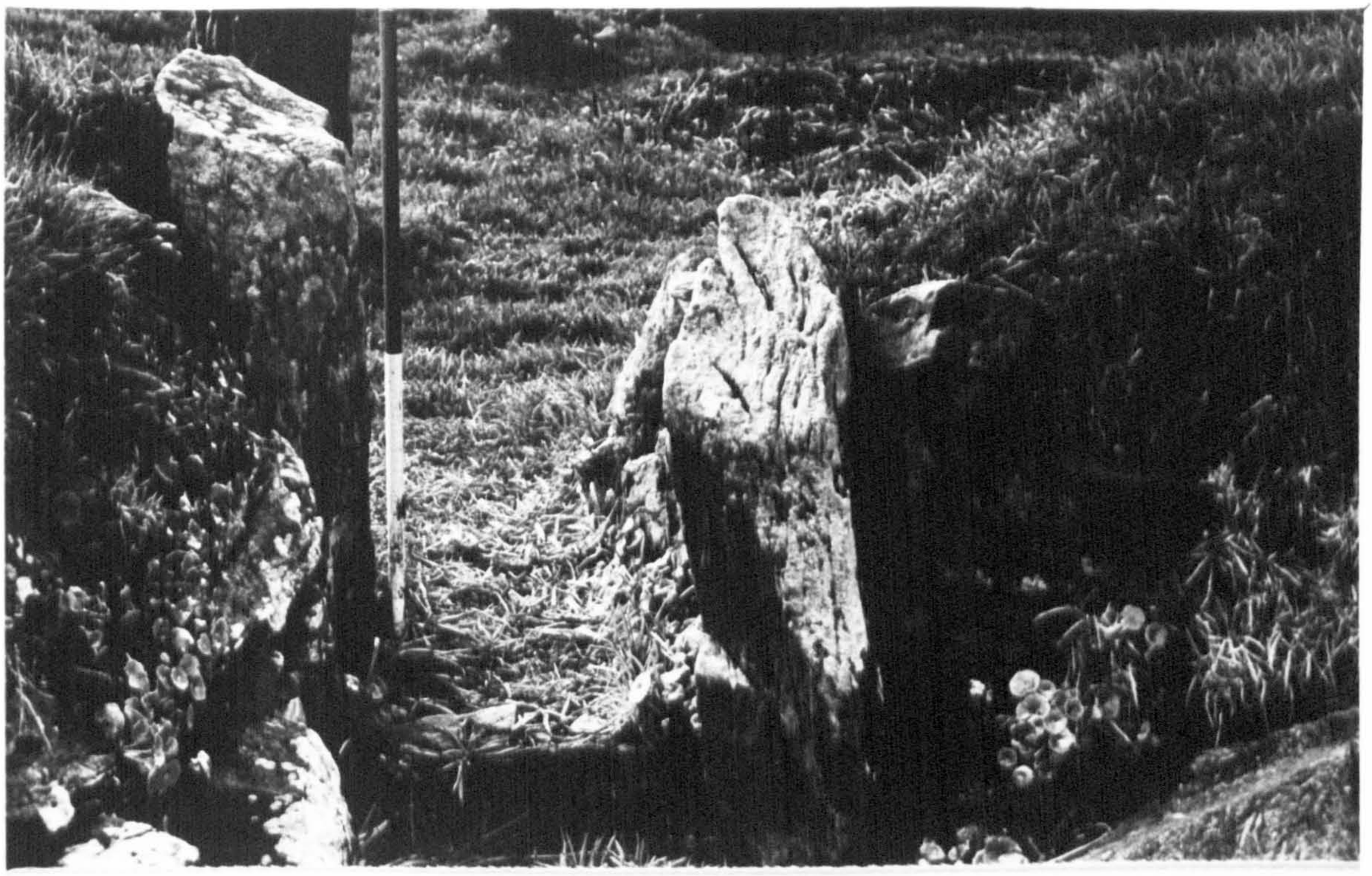


a) keeill facing E

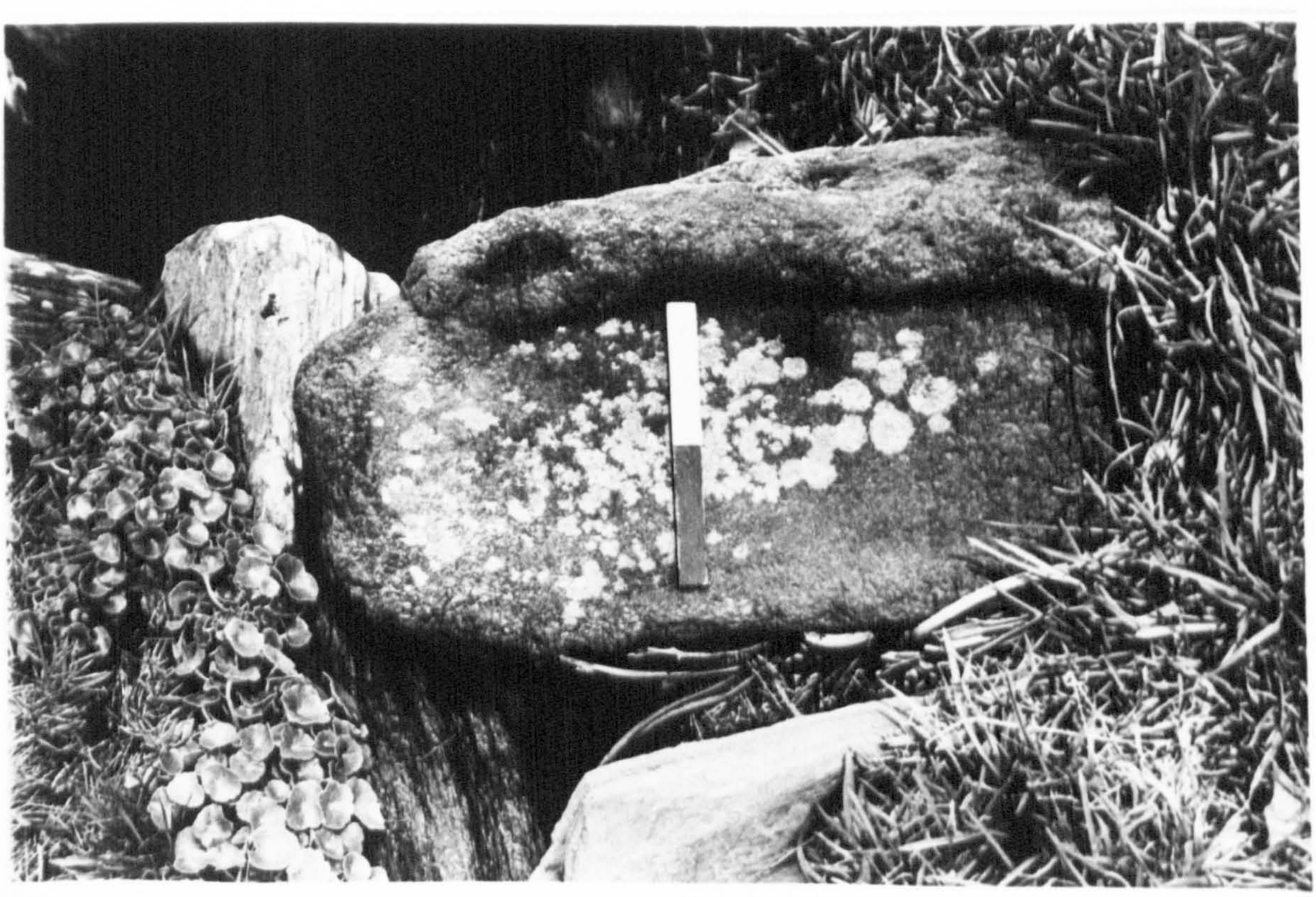


b) detail of enclosure bank facing N

Plate 7: Keeill Lingan (MAROWN 8)

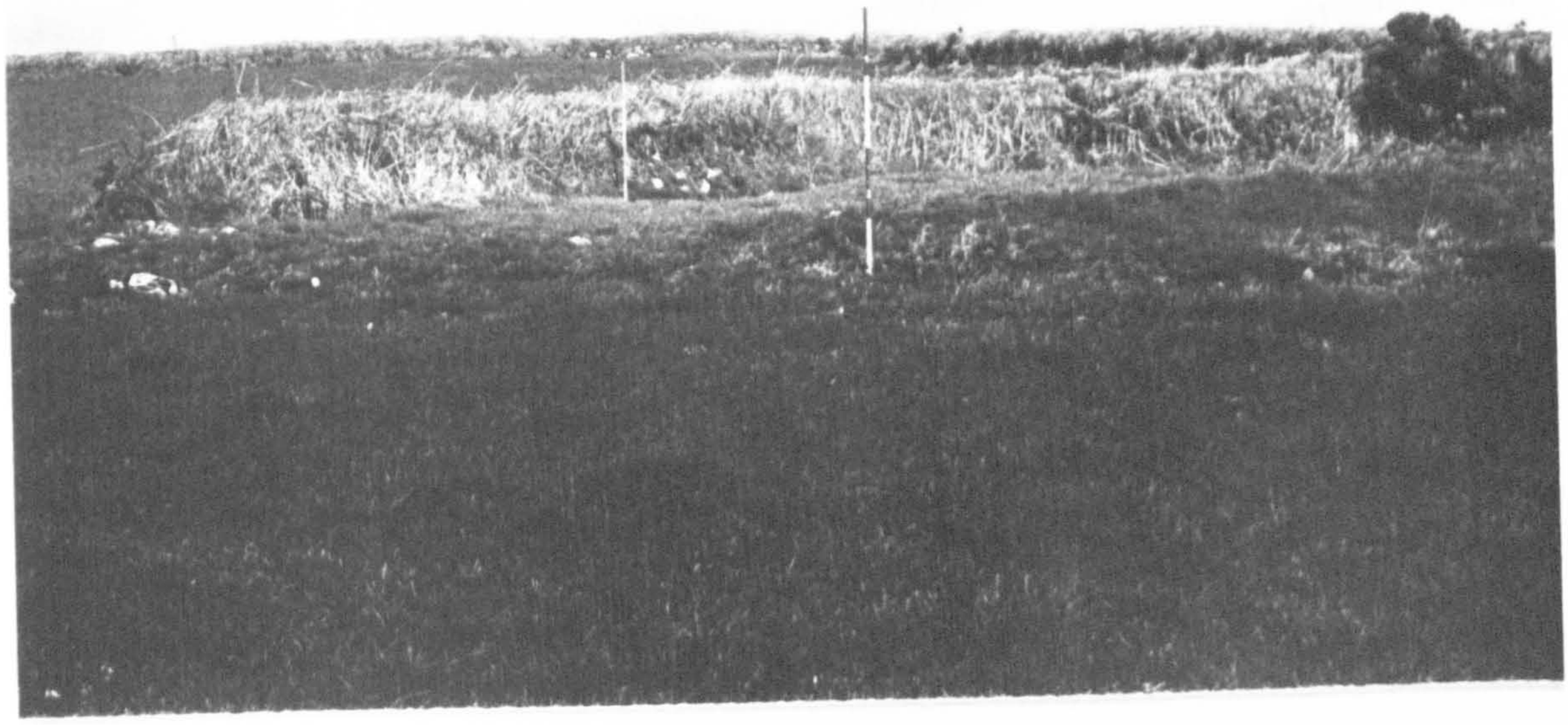


a) detail of keeill entrance facing S



b) quernstone

Plate 8: Keeill Lingan (MAROWN 8)



a) Ballachrink I (MAROWN 9): fieldwall on course of earlier ecclesiastical enclosure ? , facing N



b) enclosure at Ballacregga (SANTON 5) facing NE

Plate 9

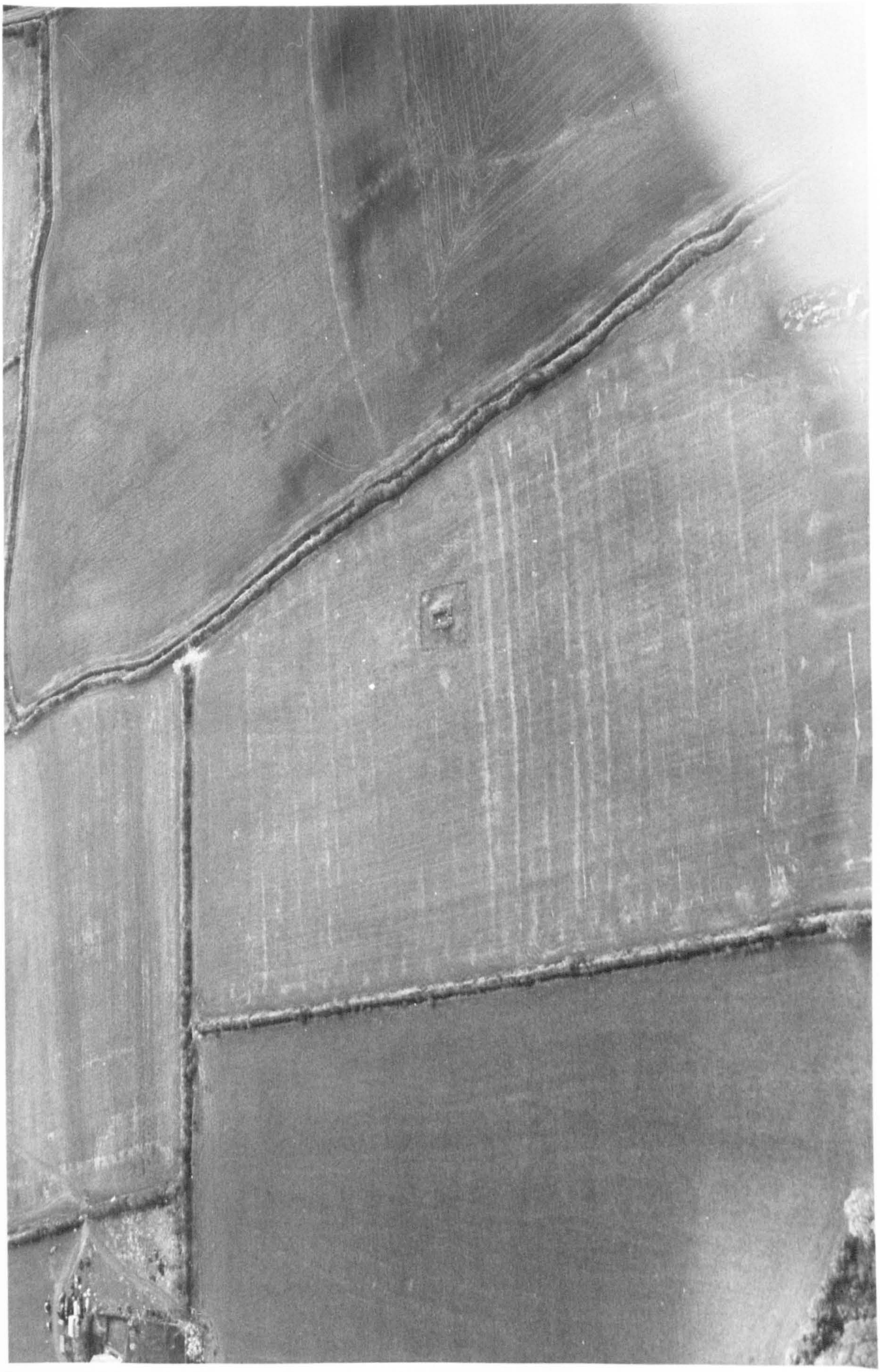
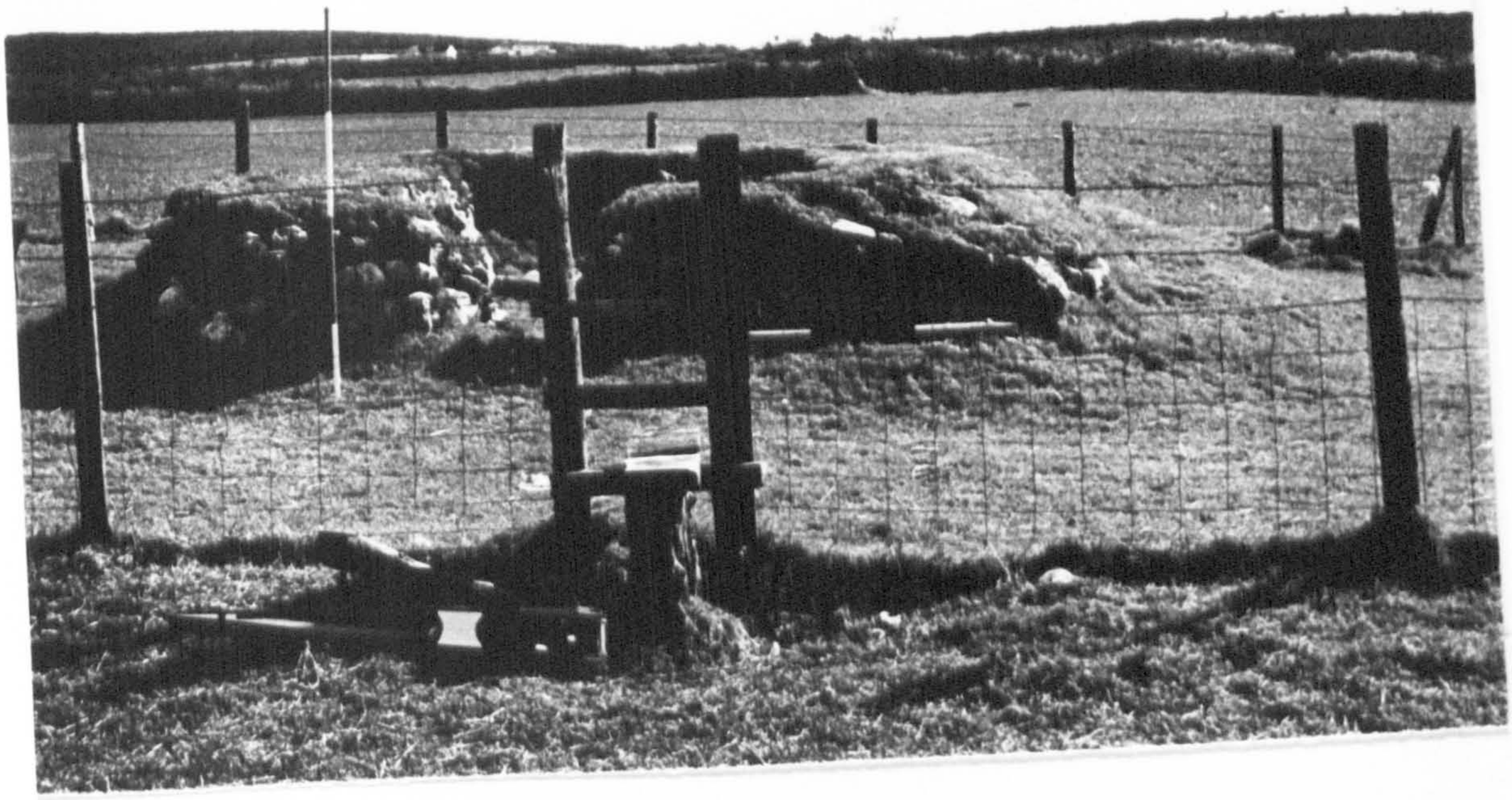
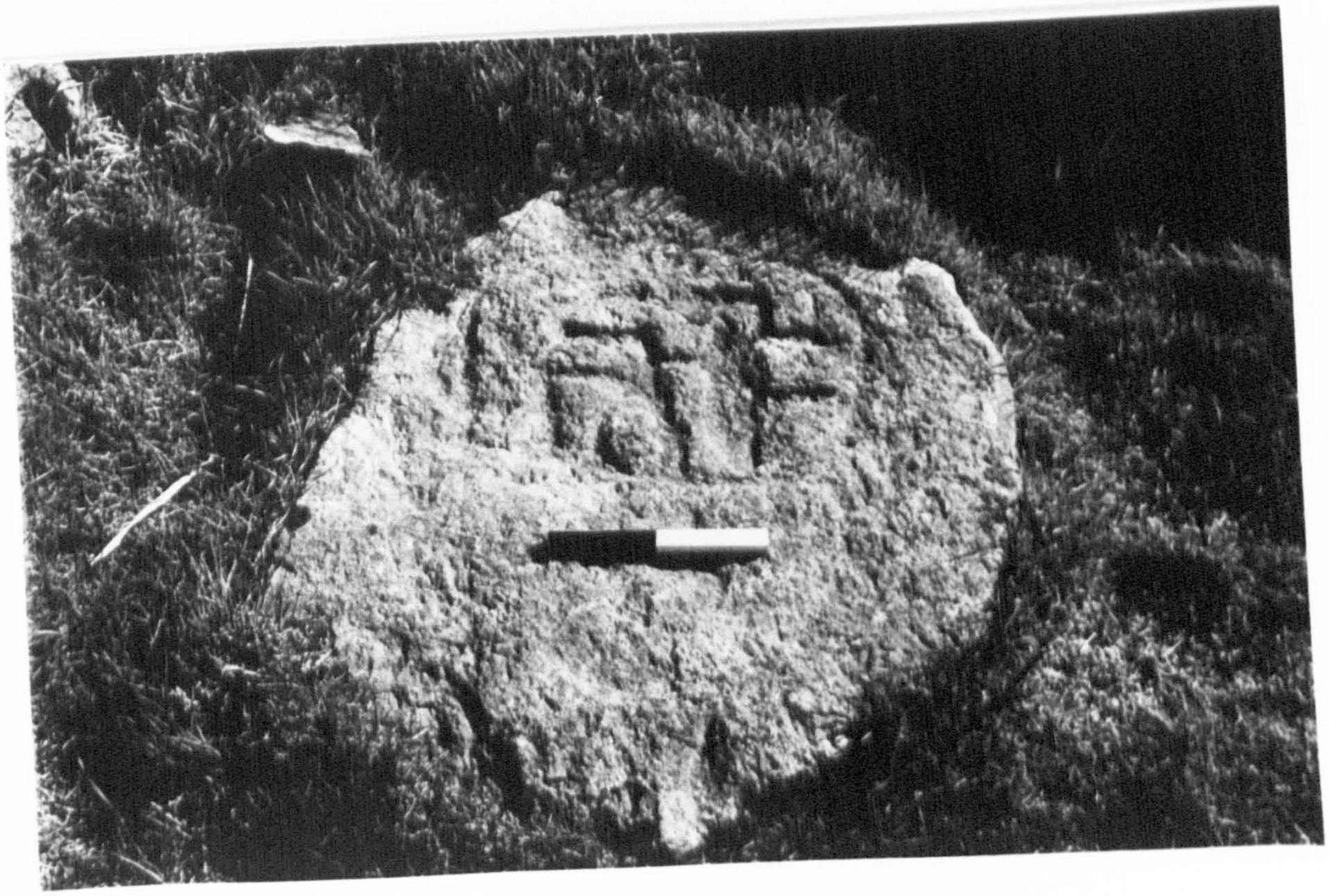


Plate 10: Aerial view of Sulbrick keeill (SANTON 8), facing E

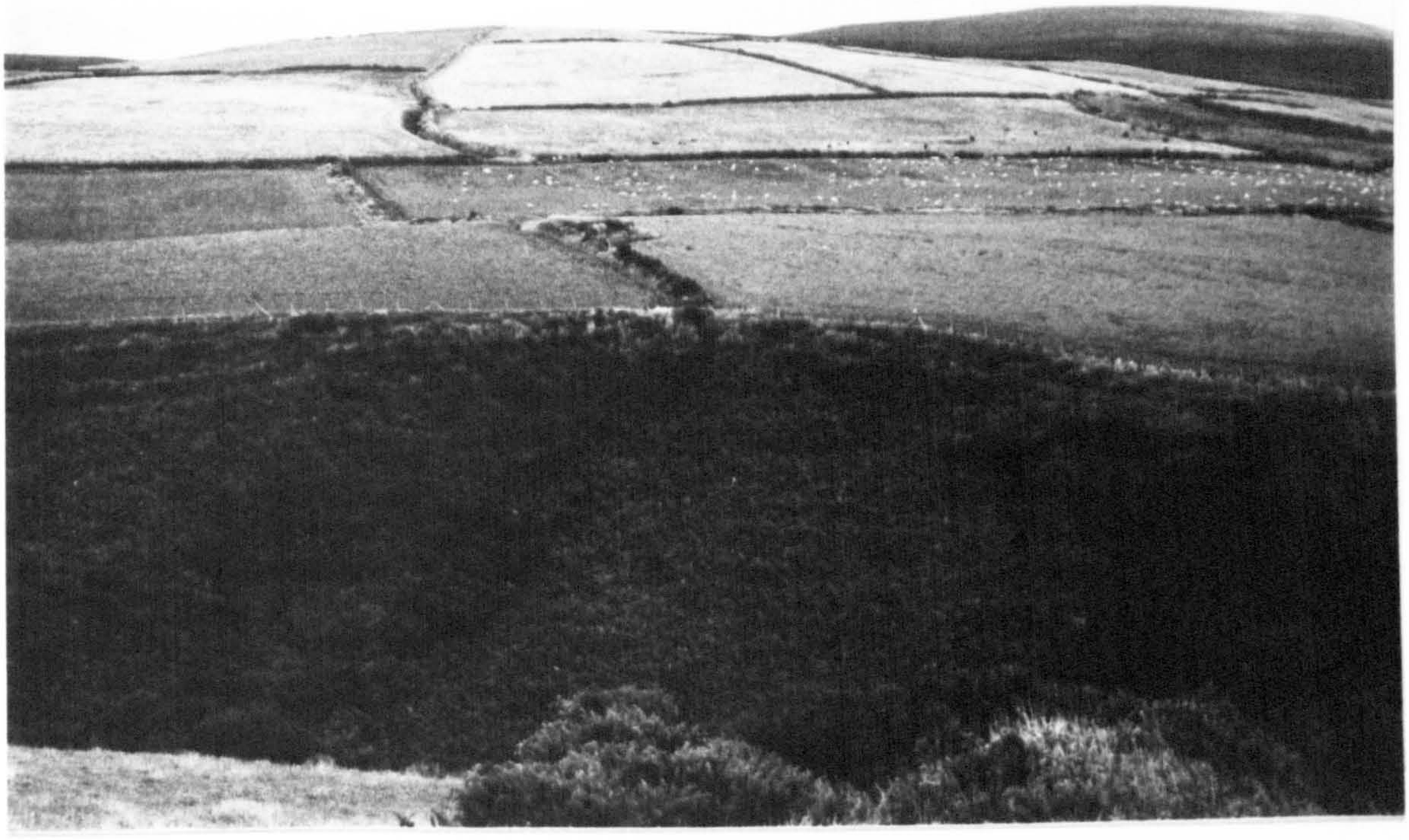


a) keeill facing E



b) carved stone

Plate 11: Sulbrick keeill (SANTON 8)

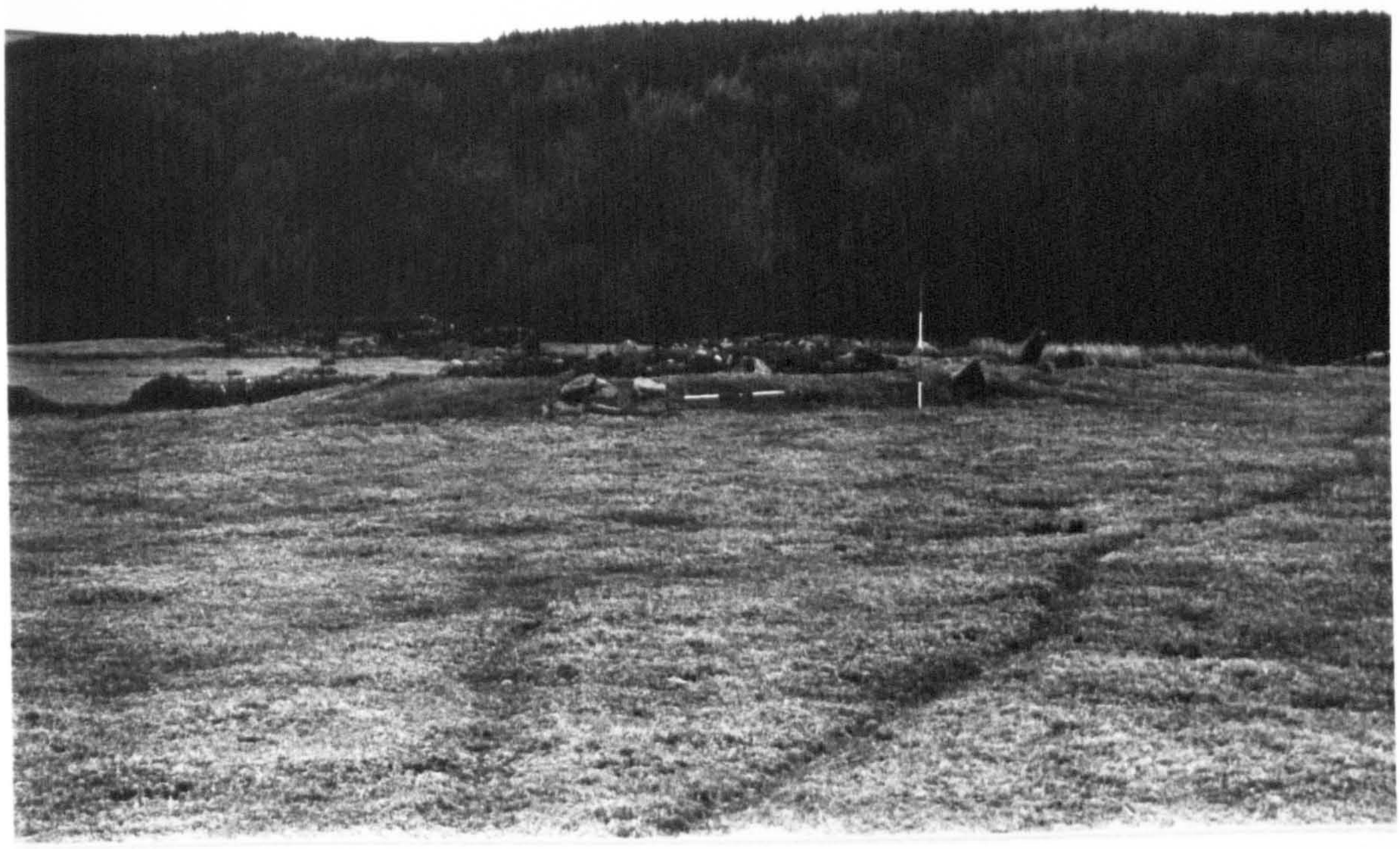


a) Ballahimmin keeill & mound, German: general location view facing E

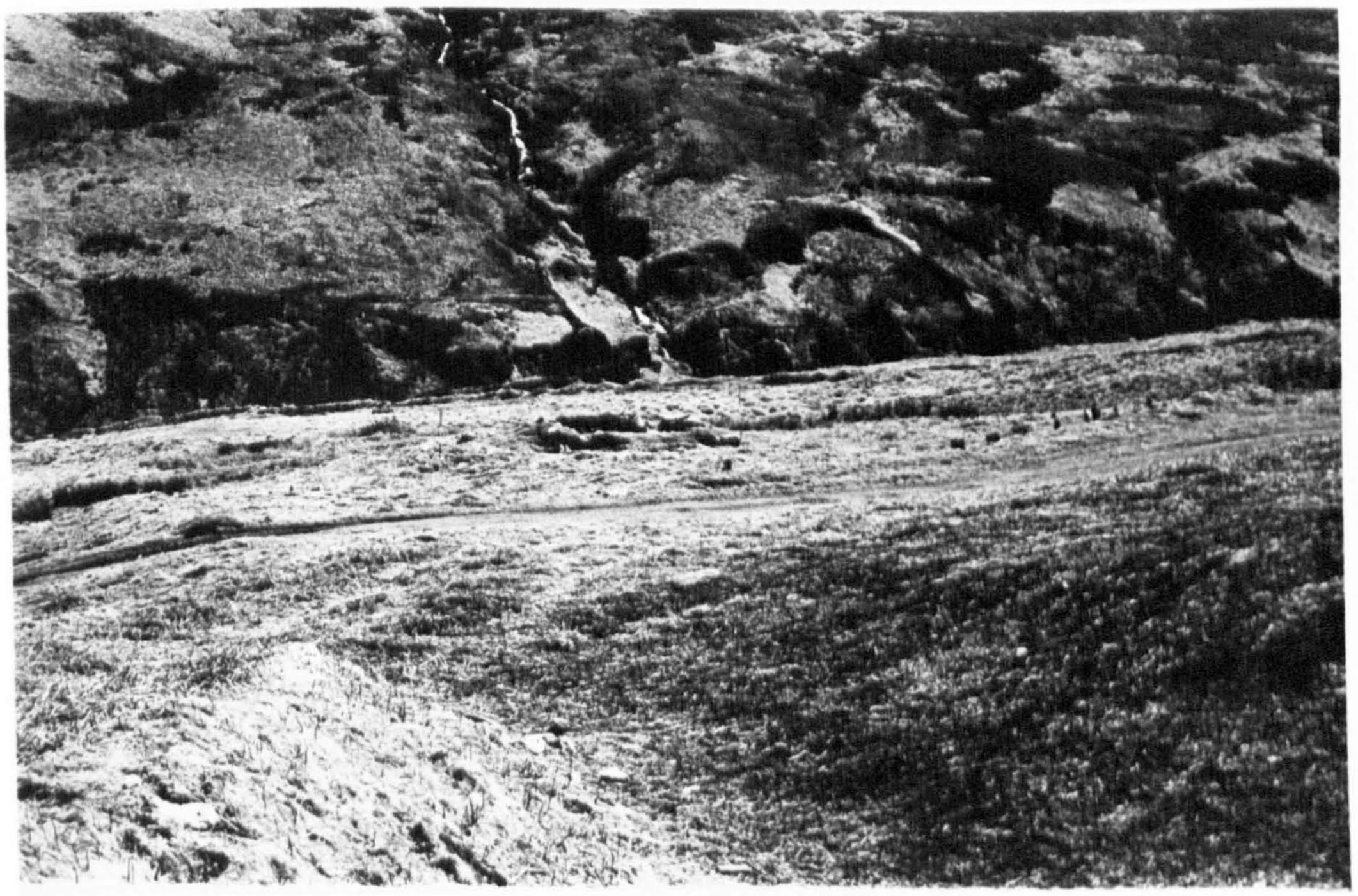


b) Skyhill keeill & mound, Lezayre, facing SE

Plate 12



a) Corrody keeill & ? barrow, Lezayre, facing NW



b) Keeill Woirrey, Cornadale, Maughold: general location view facing S

Plate 13

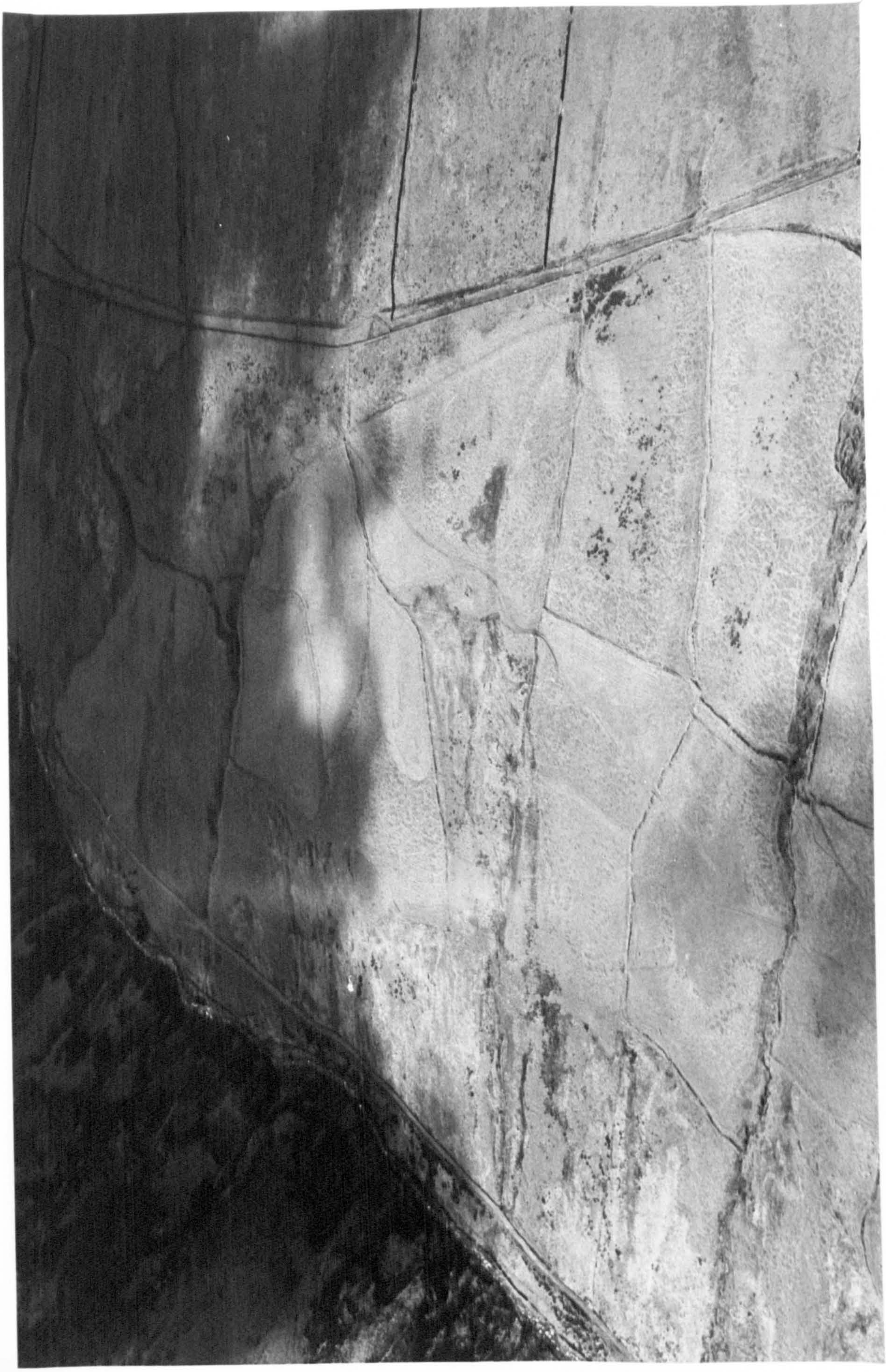
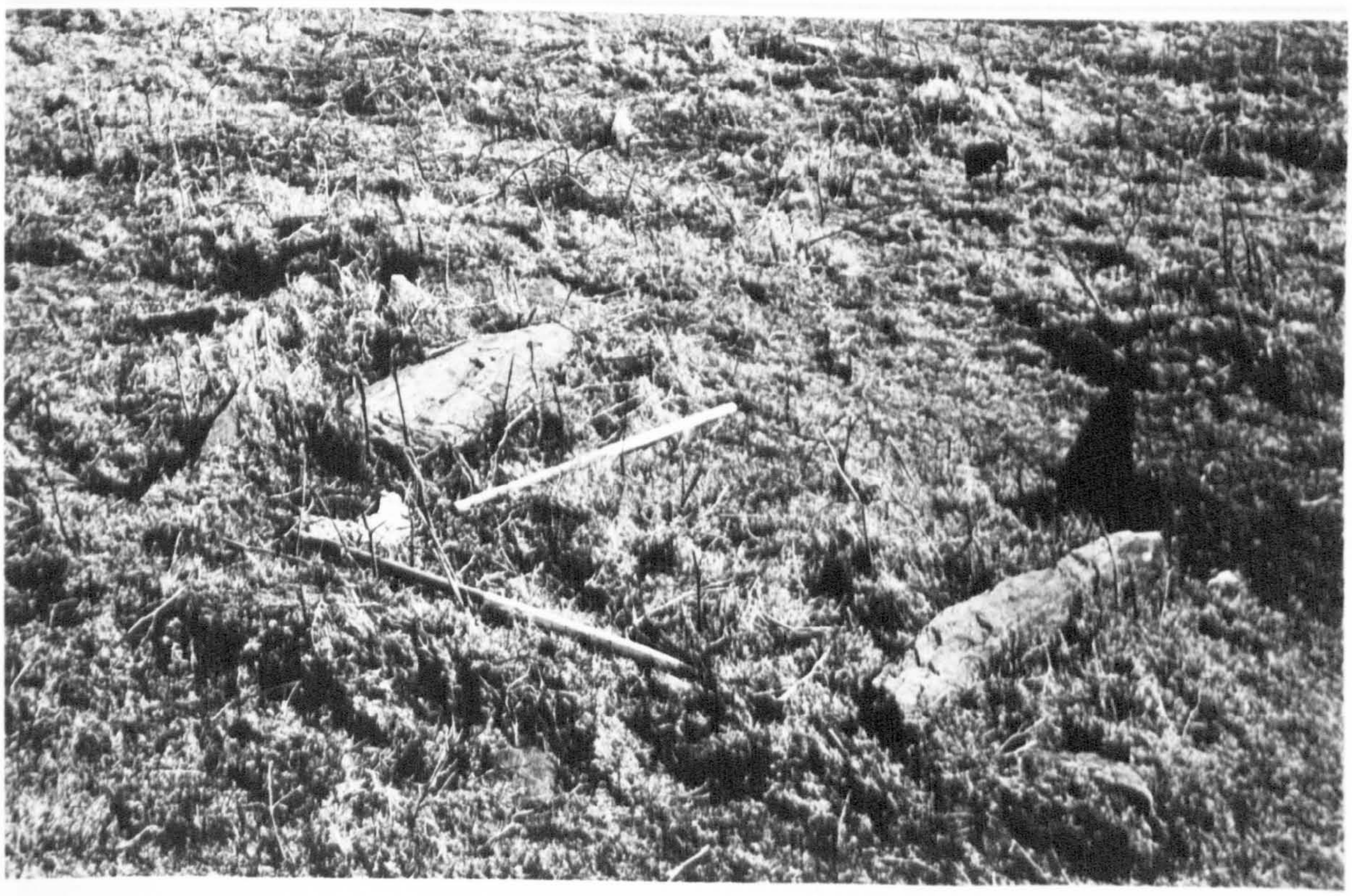


Plate 14: Aerial view of land-divisions & Keeill Woirrey (centre), Cornadale, Maughold facing W



a) keeill facing E



b) multiple stone setting W of keeill facing SE

Plate 15: Keeill Woirrey, Cornadale, Maughold

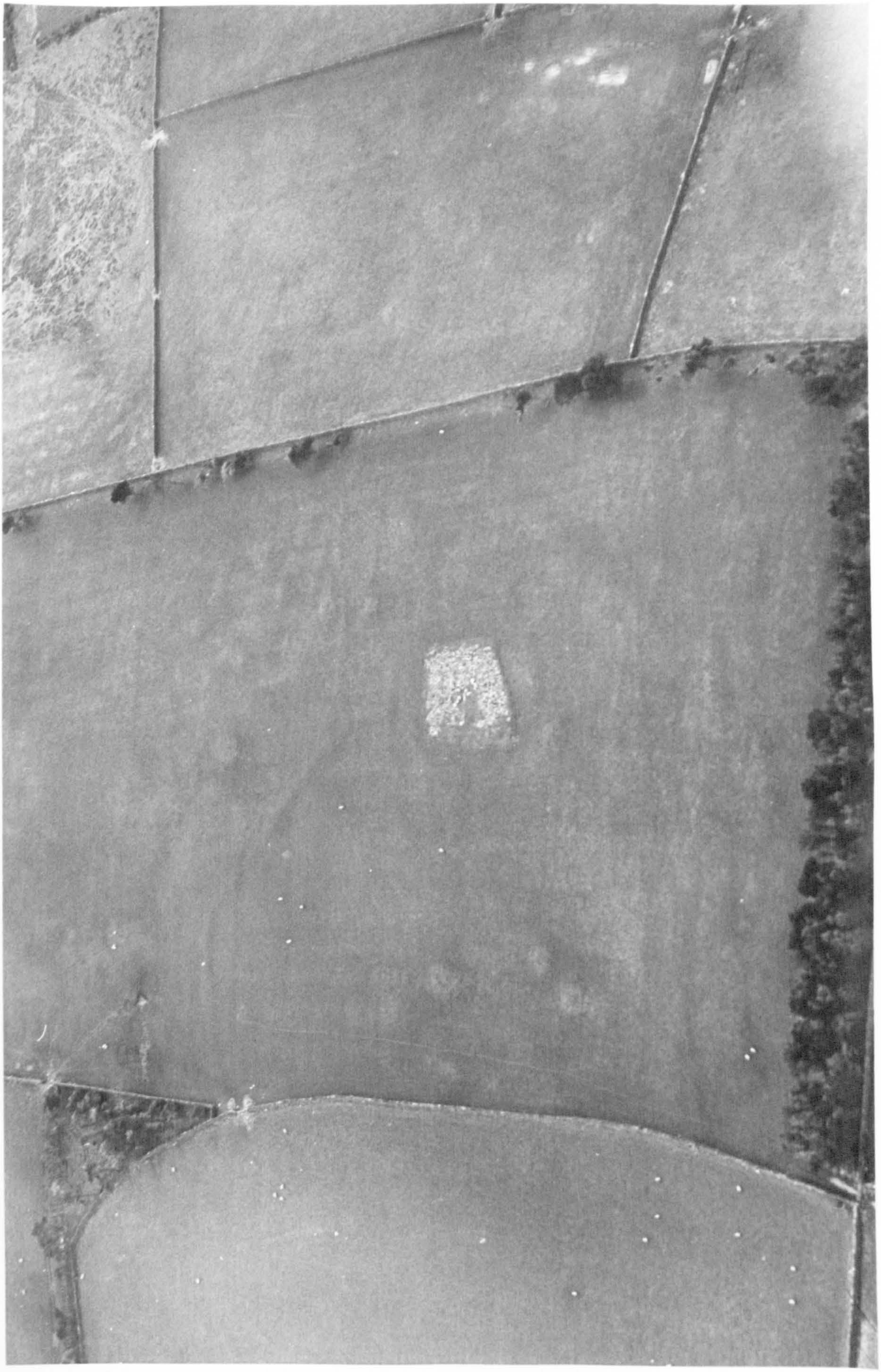
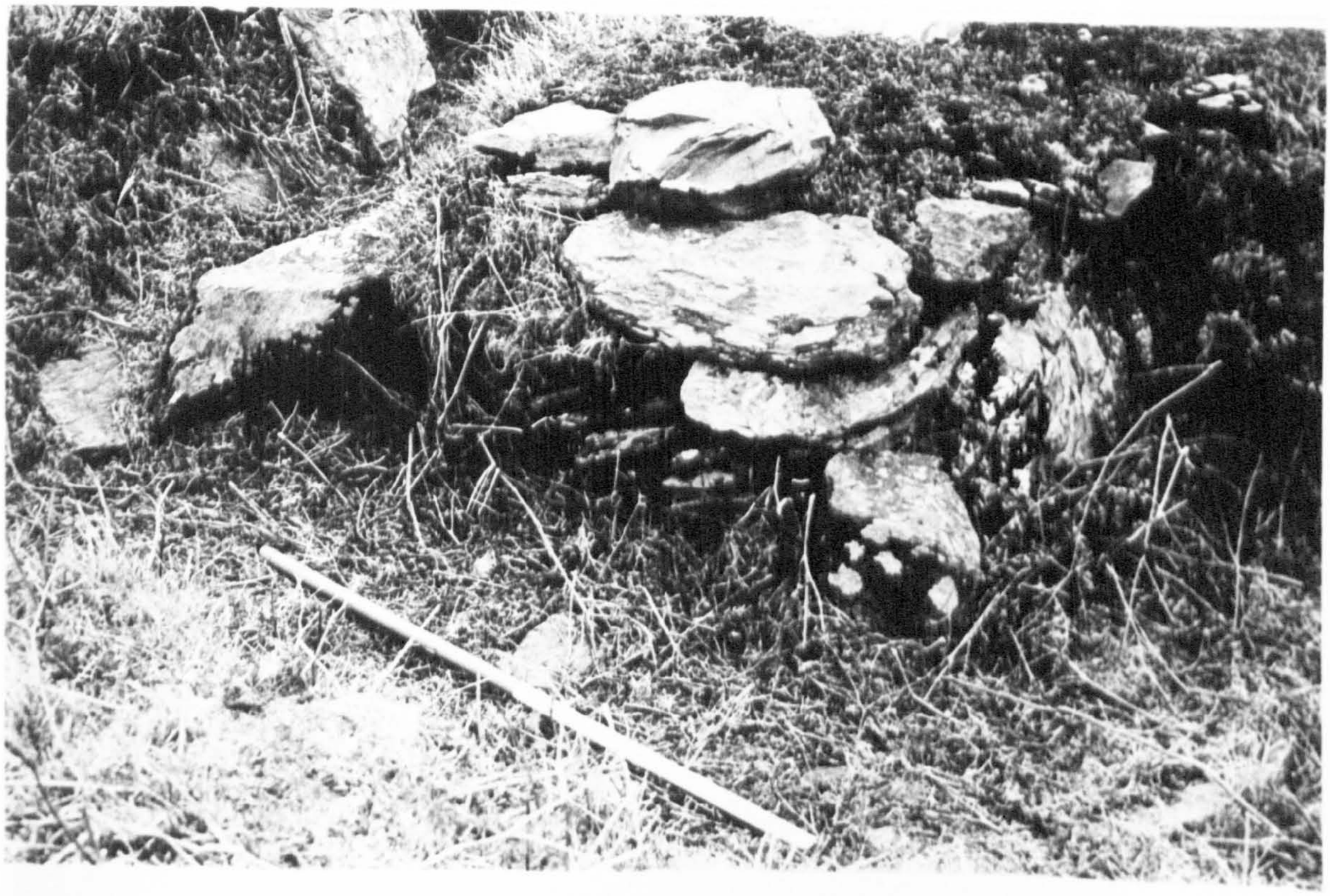


Plate 16: Aerial view of Keeill Vael, Barony, Maughold facing S



a) keeill with surrounding embankment facing N



b) detail of section through E wall of keeill: altar pillar and site of ? relic cavity visible

Plate 17: Keeill Woirrey, Glen moar, Patrick

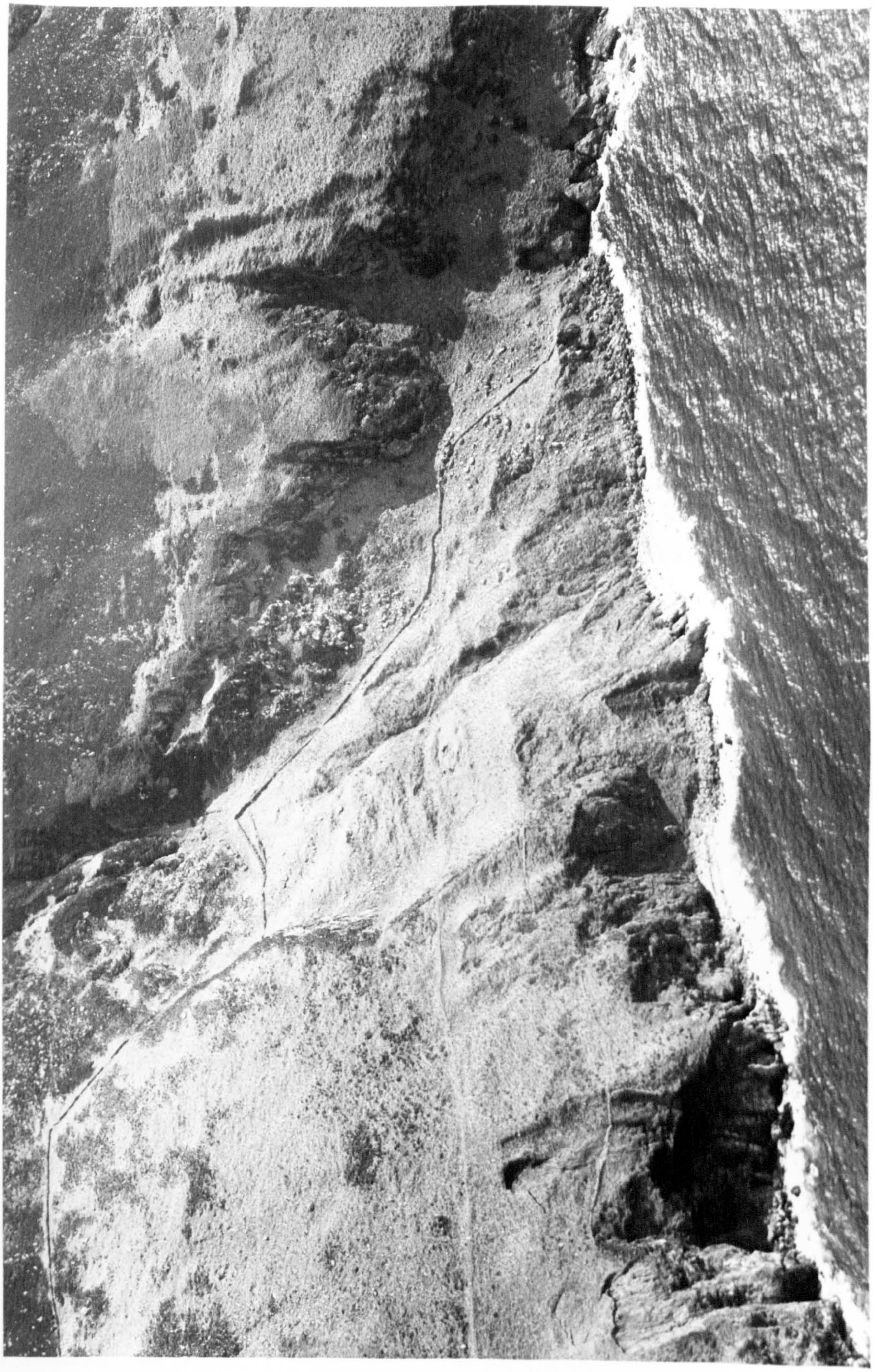
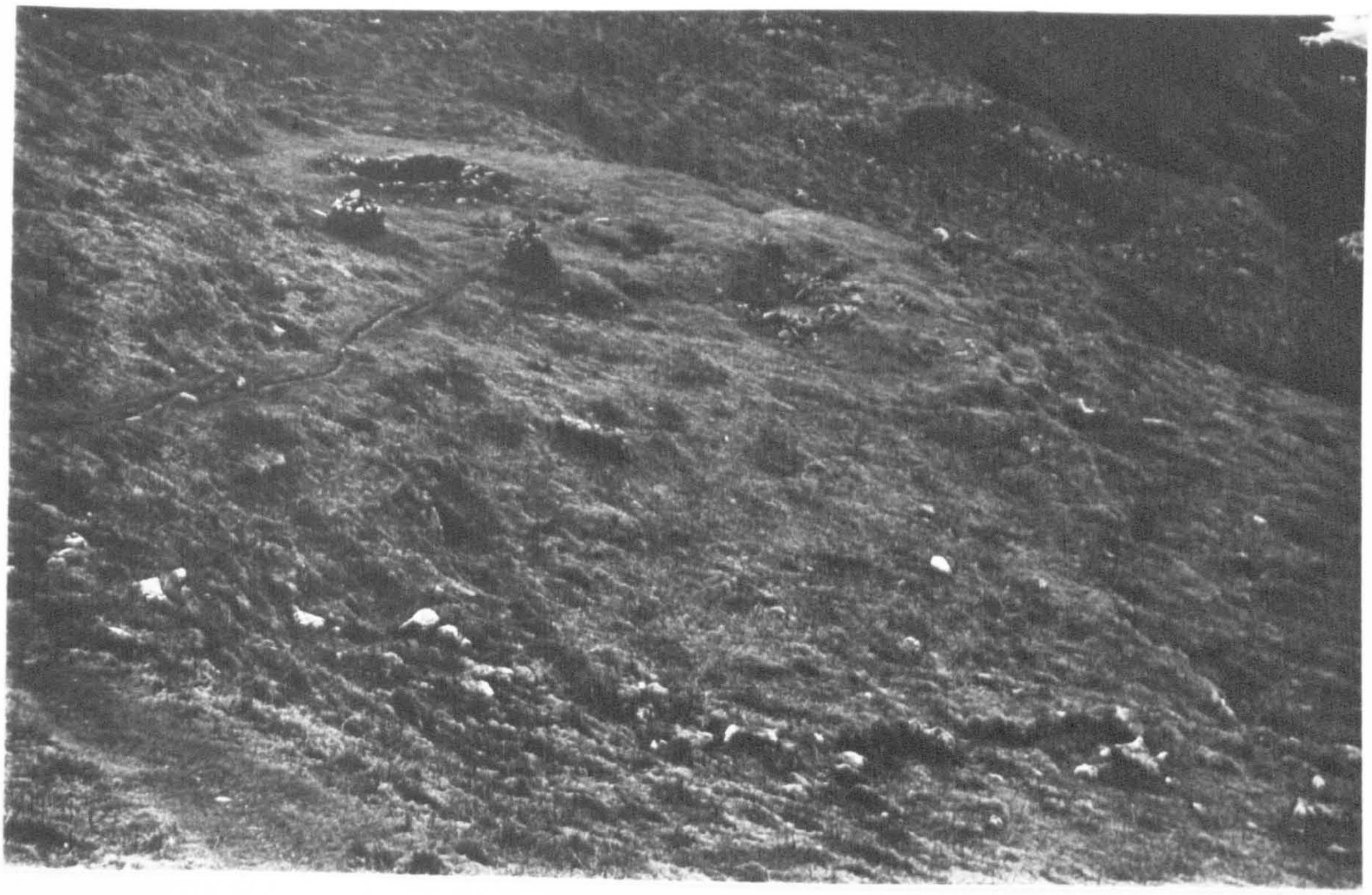


Plate 18: Aerial view of Lag ny keeilley, Patrick facing E



a) general location view facing S: secondary enclosure in foreground



b) keeill facing W

Plate 19: Lag ny keeilley, Patrick



a) revetted bank; SW sector of site facing S



b) stone with D-shaped hollow

Plate 20: Lag ny keeilley, Patrick

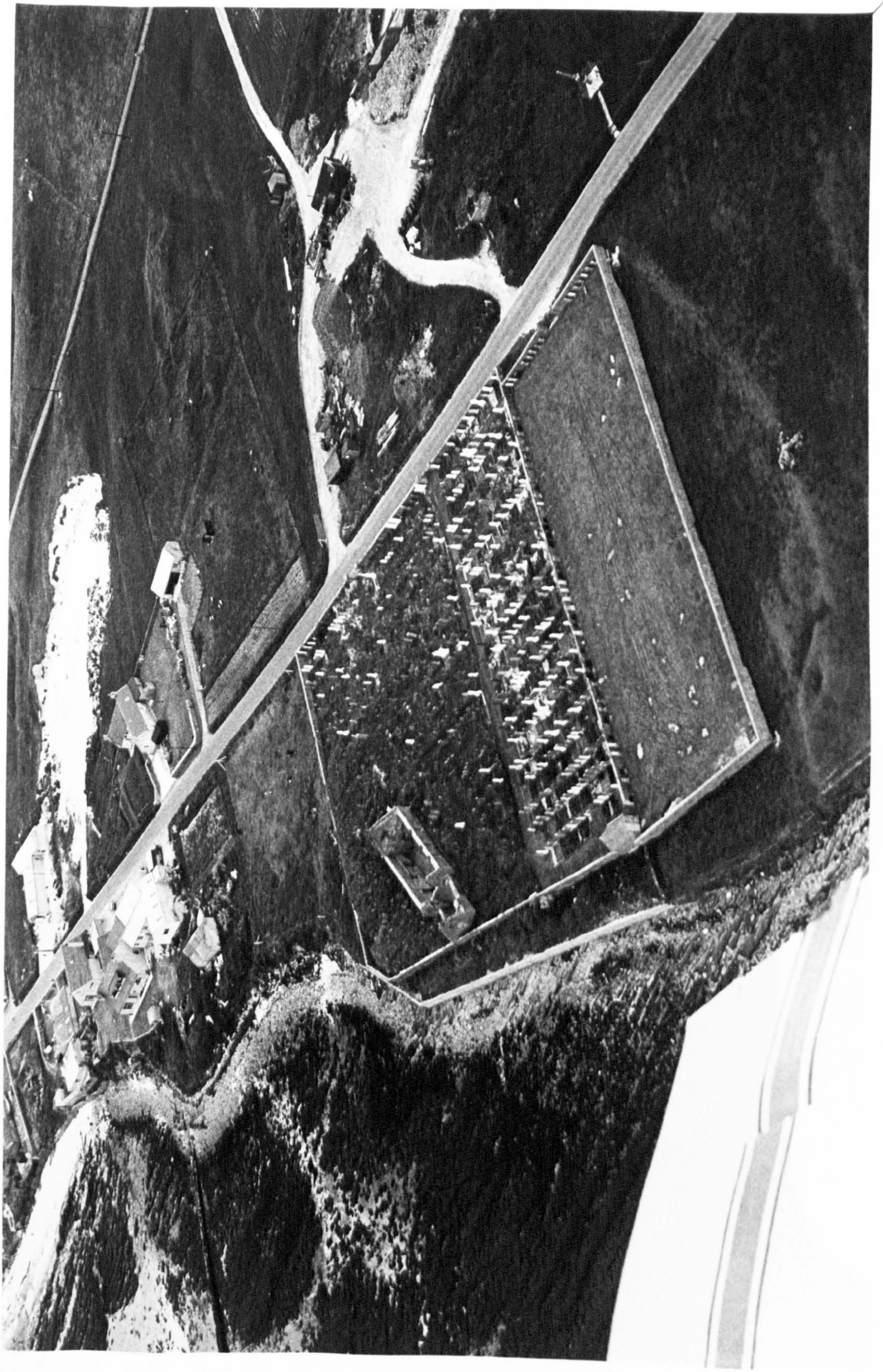


Plate 21: Aerial view of Ladykirk, Pierowall (WESTRAY 1) facing SW

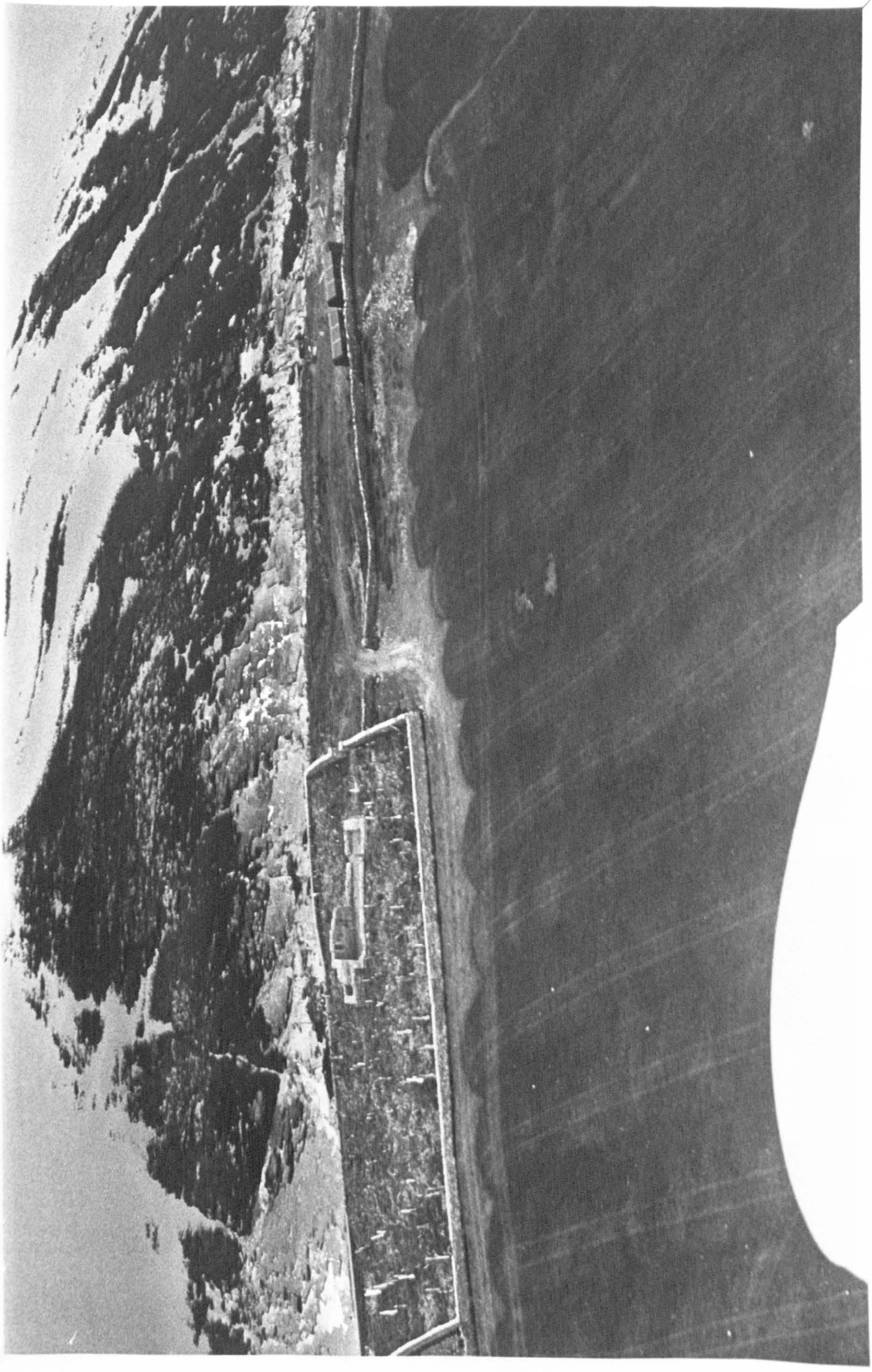
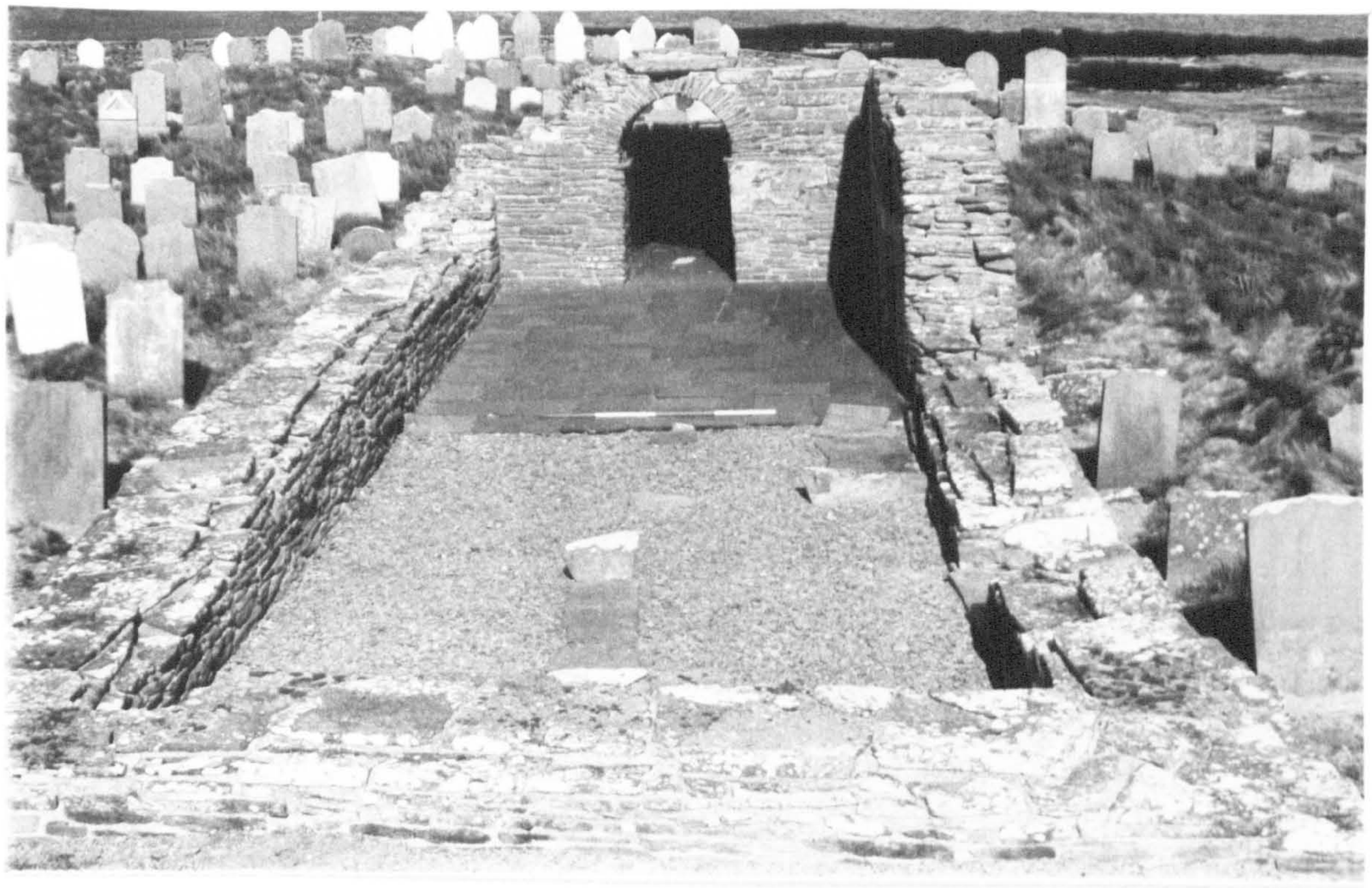


Plate 22: Aerial view of Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5) facing S



a) chapel facing E



b) chapel facing NW: detail of barrel vault over chancel

Plate 23: Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5)



a) chancel arch facing E

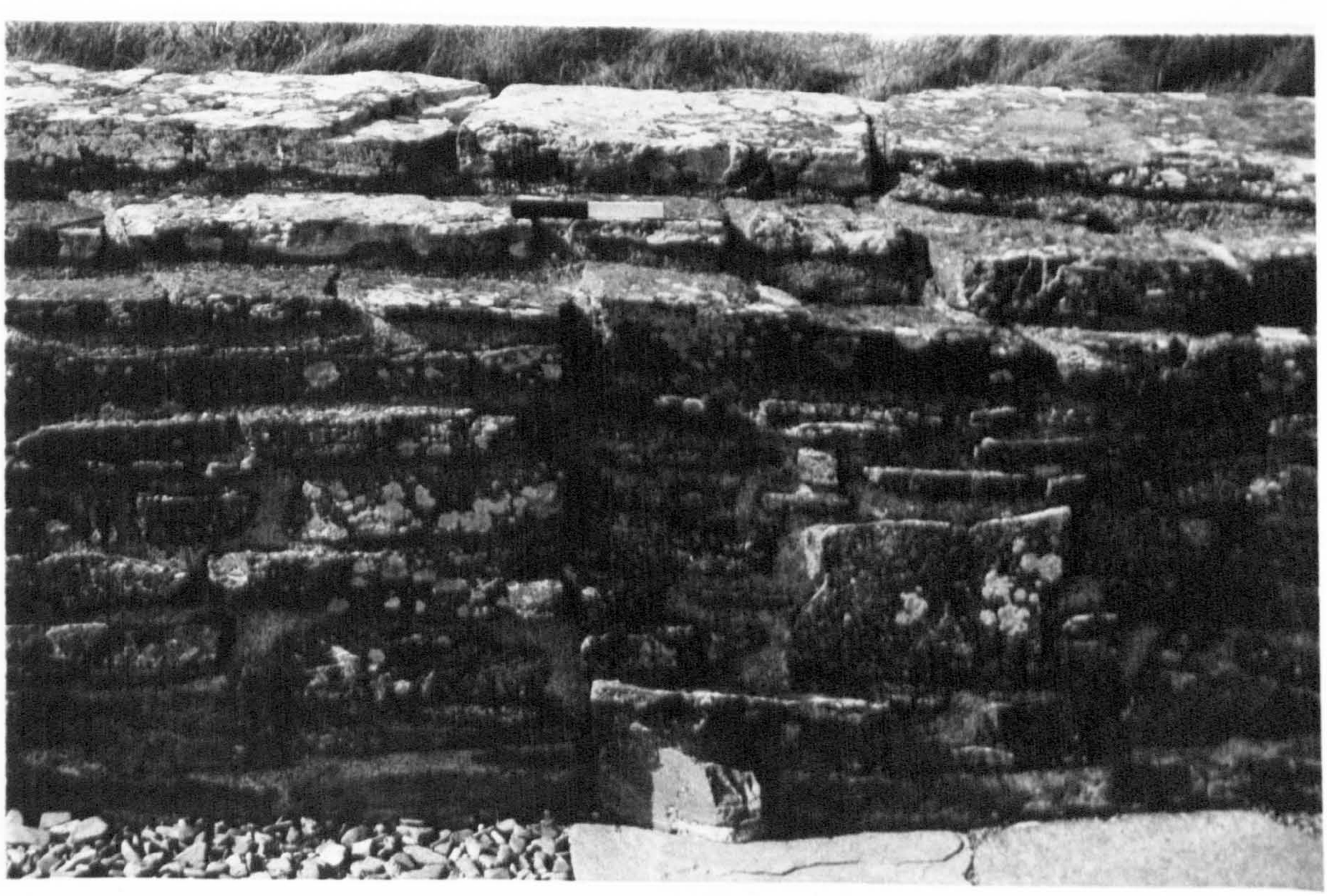


b) detail of exterior S wall-face, facing N

Plate 24: Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5)

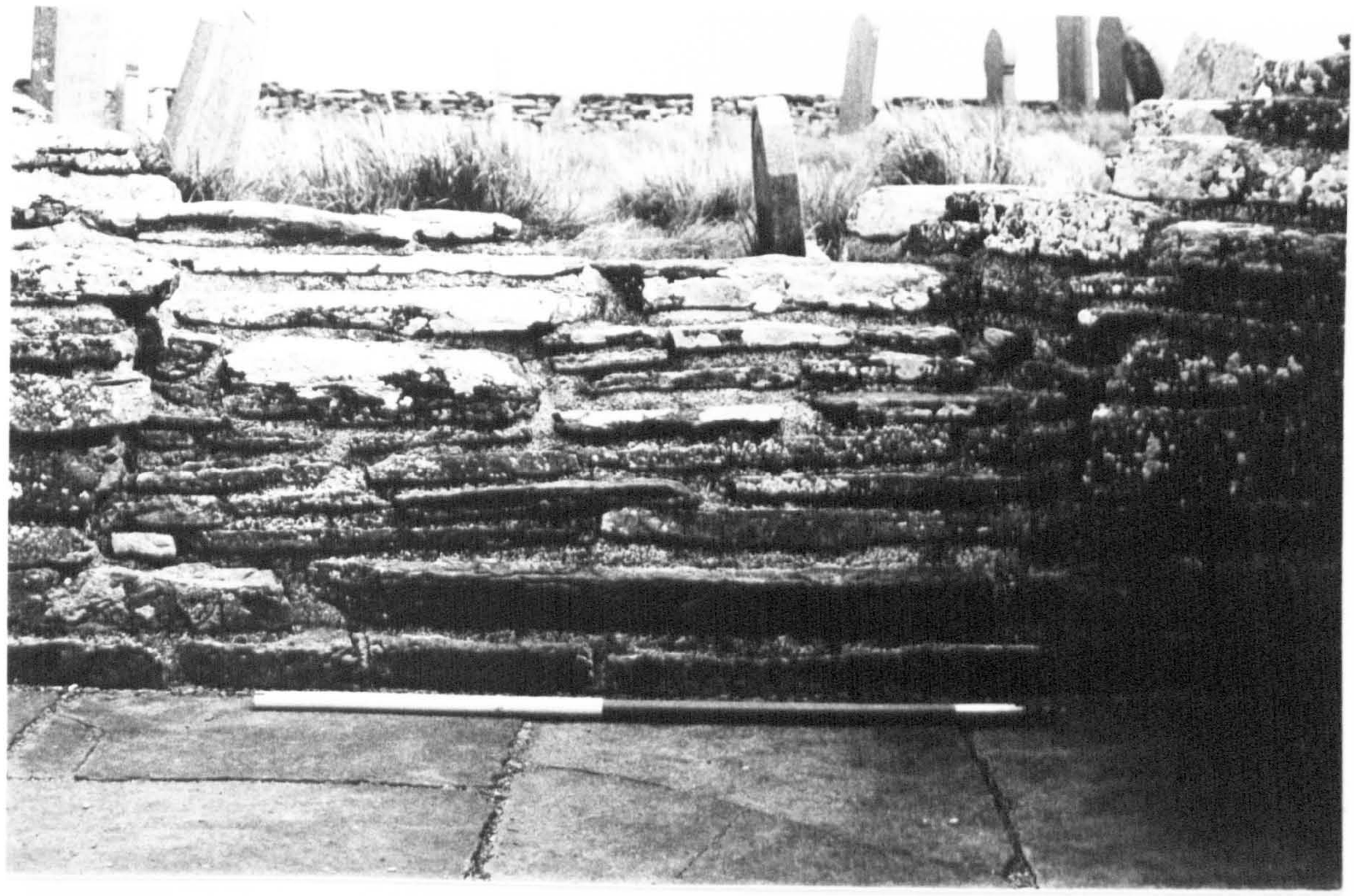


a) detail of butt-joint in S wall, facing S



b) detail of butt-joint in N wall, facing N

Plate 25: Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5)



a) detail of N interior wall-face, facing N



b) detail of secondary S entrance, facing S

Plate 26: Crosskirk, Tuquoy (WESTRAY 5)

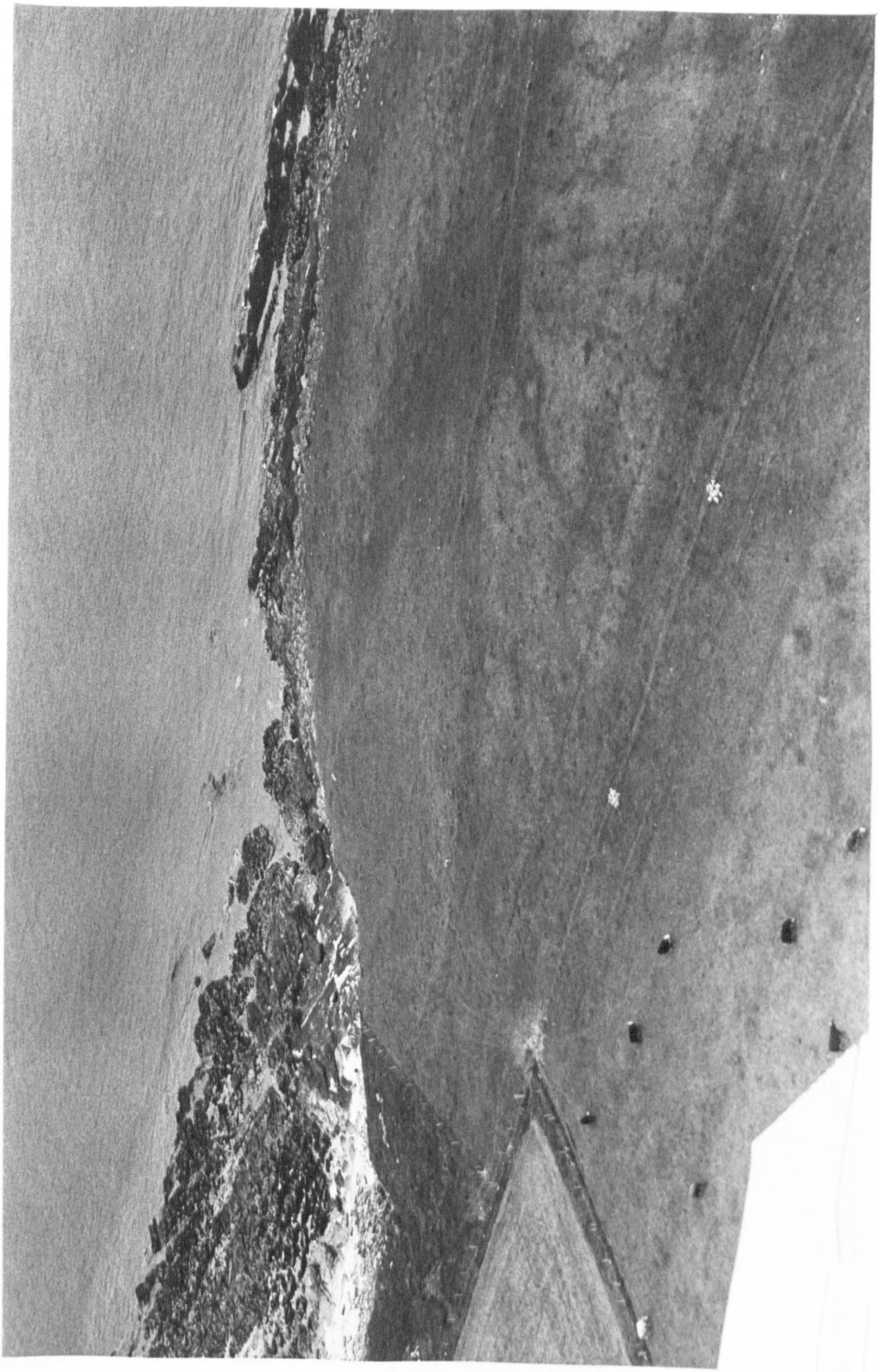


Plate 27: Aerial view of domestic settlement & field system near Kirbist (WESTRAY 6) facing S



a) general view of site facing W, with part of field enclosure visible to E



b) domestic settlement facing SE with Knowe of Burristae in centre ground

Plate 28: Kirbist (WESTRAY 6)

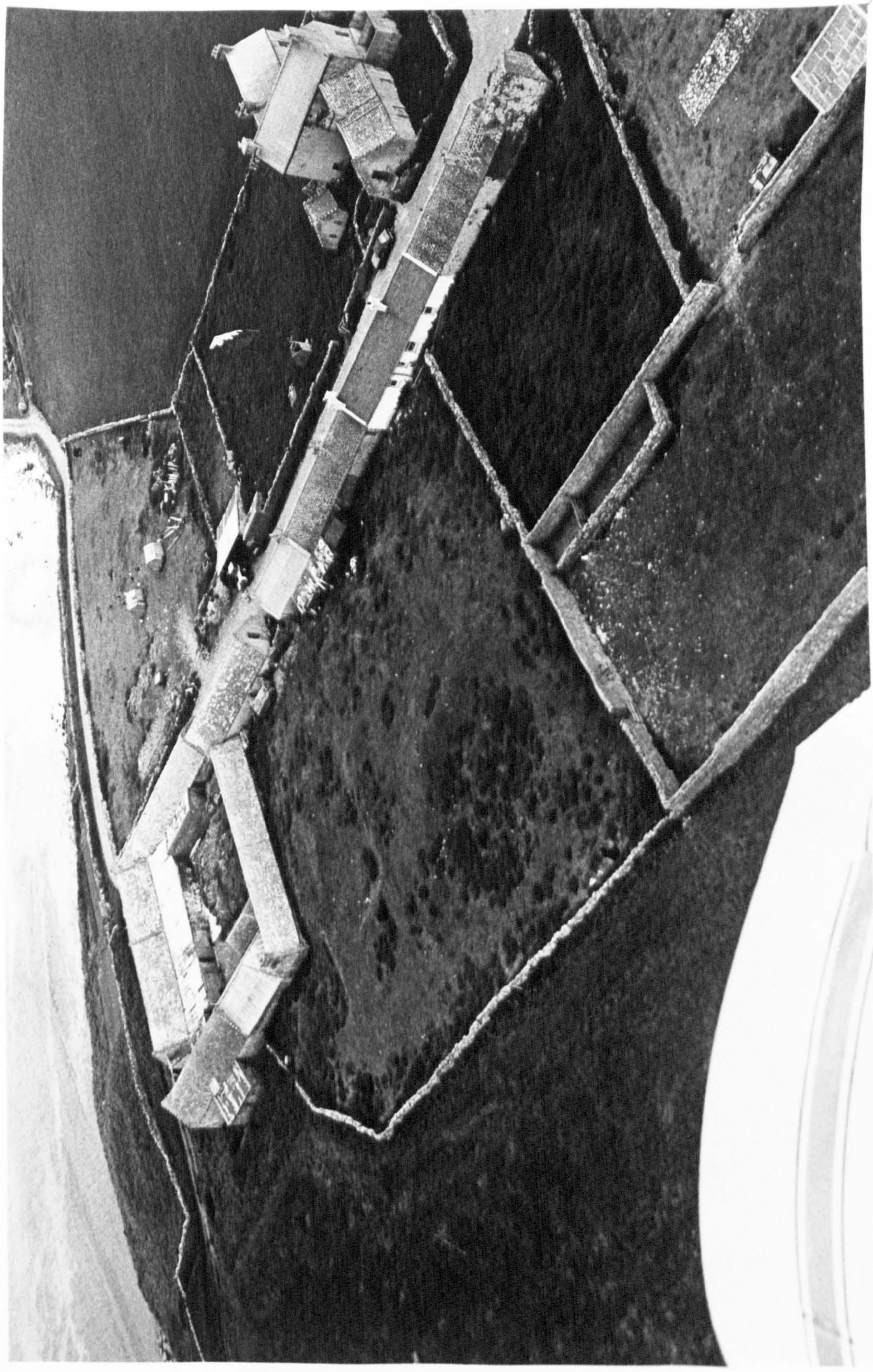


Plate 29: Aerial view of Cleat chapel site & burial ground (WESTRAY 7) facing SE



Plate 30: Aerial view of Mound of Skelwick (WESTRAY 8) facing W



Plate 31: Aerial view of Peterkirk, Rusland (WESTRAY 10) facing SE



a) exposed walls of putative chapel facing NE

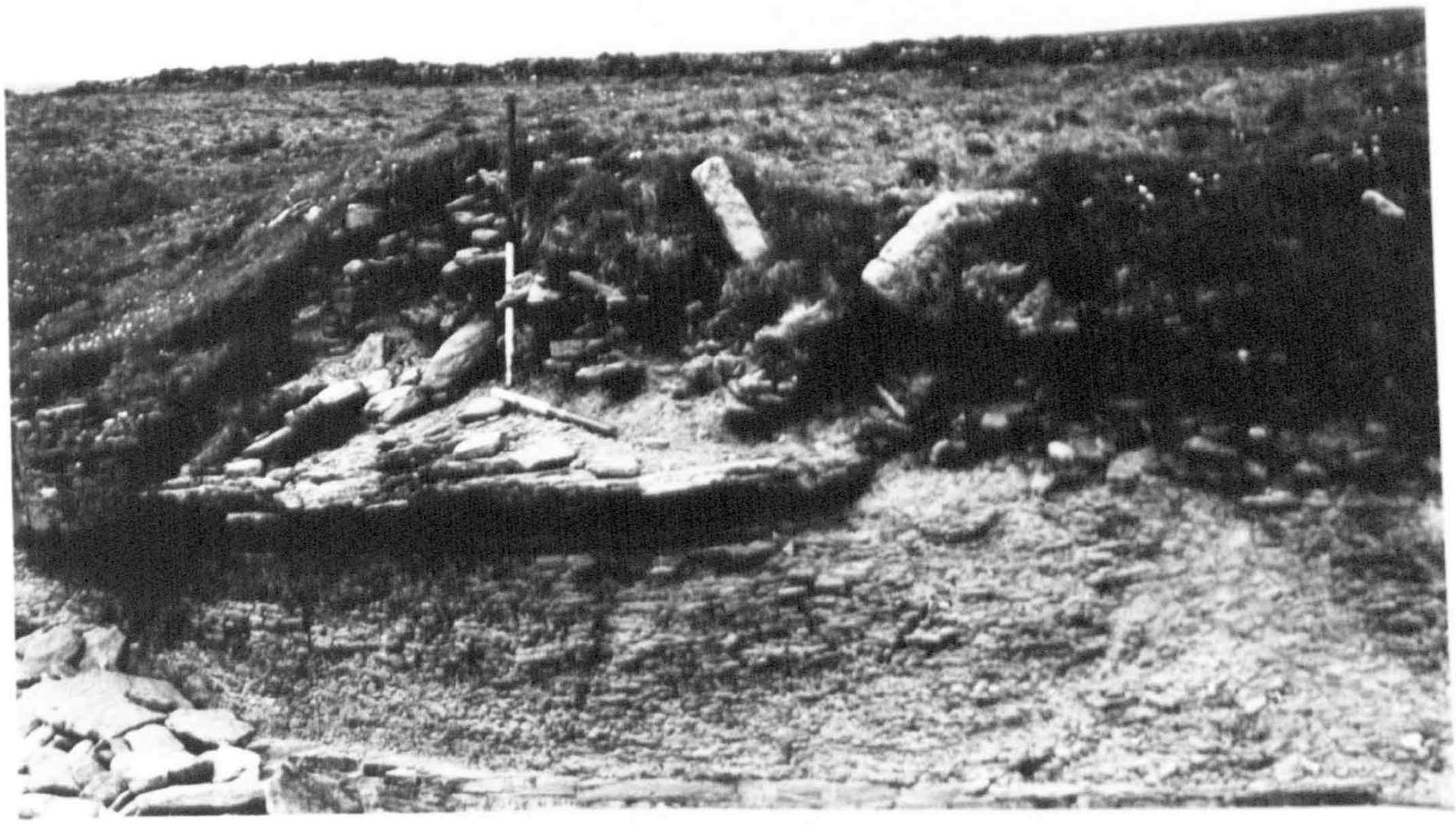


b) stone feature facing NW

Plate 32: Peterkirk, Rusland (WESTRAY 10)



a) stone & earth bank facing NE



b) stony mound facing NE

Plate 33: Features in eroded cliff-section near Peterkirk, Rusland (WESTRAY 10)

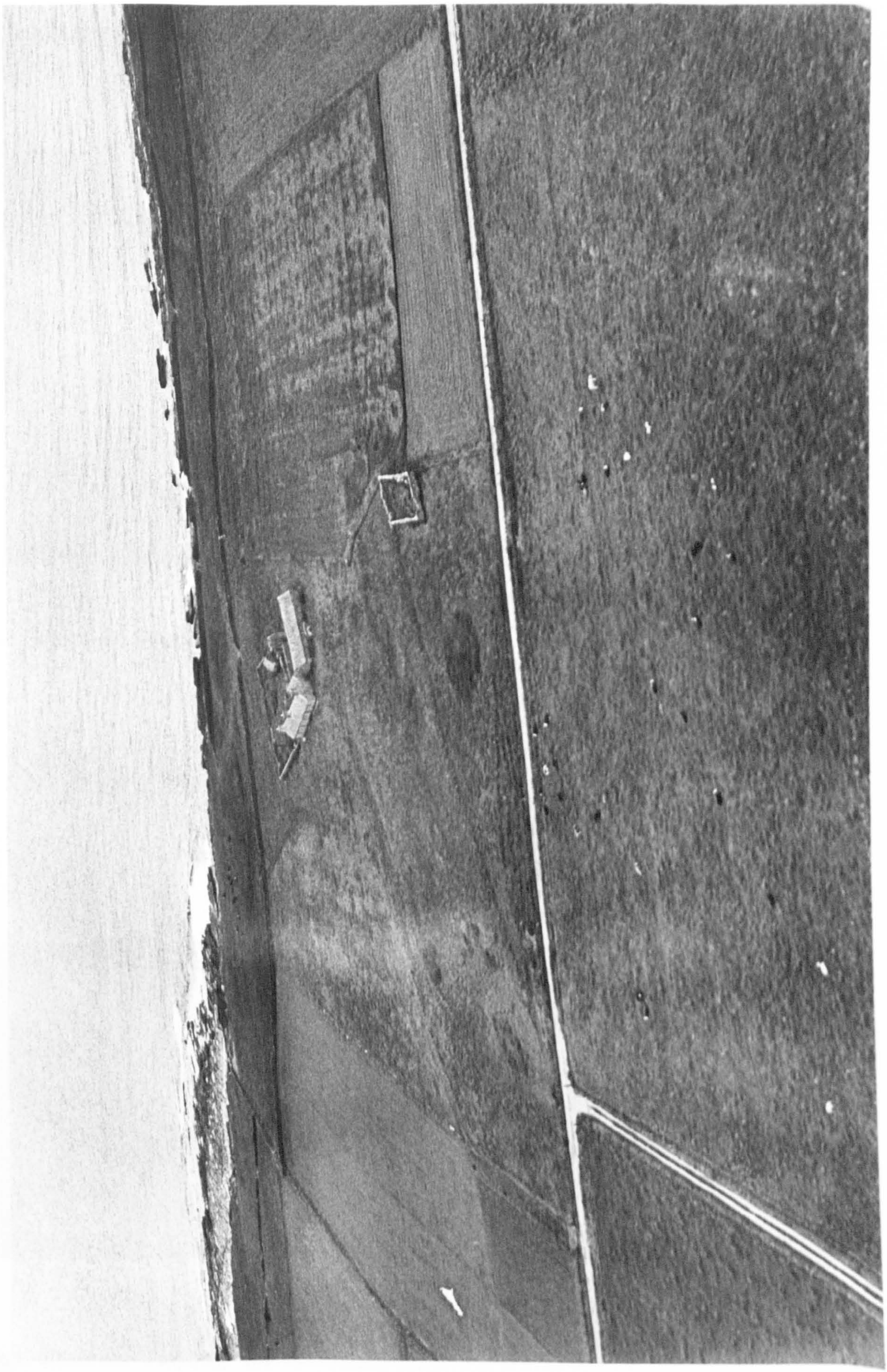
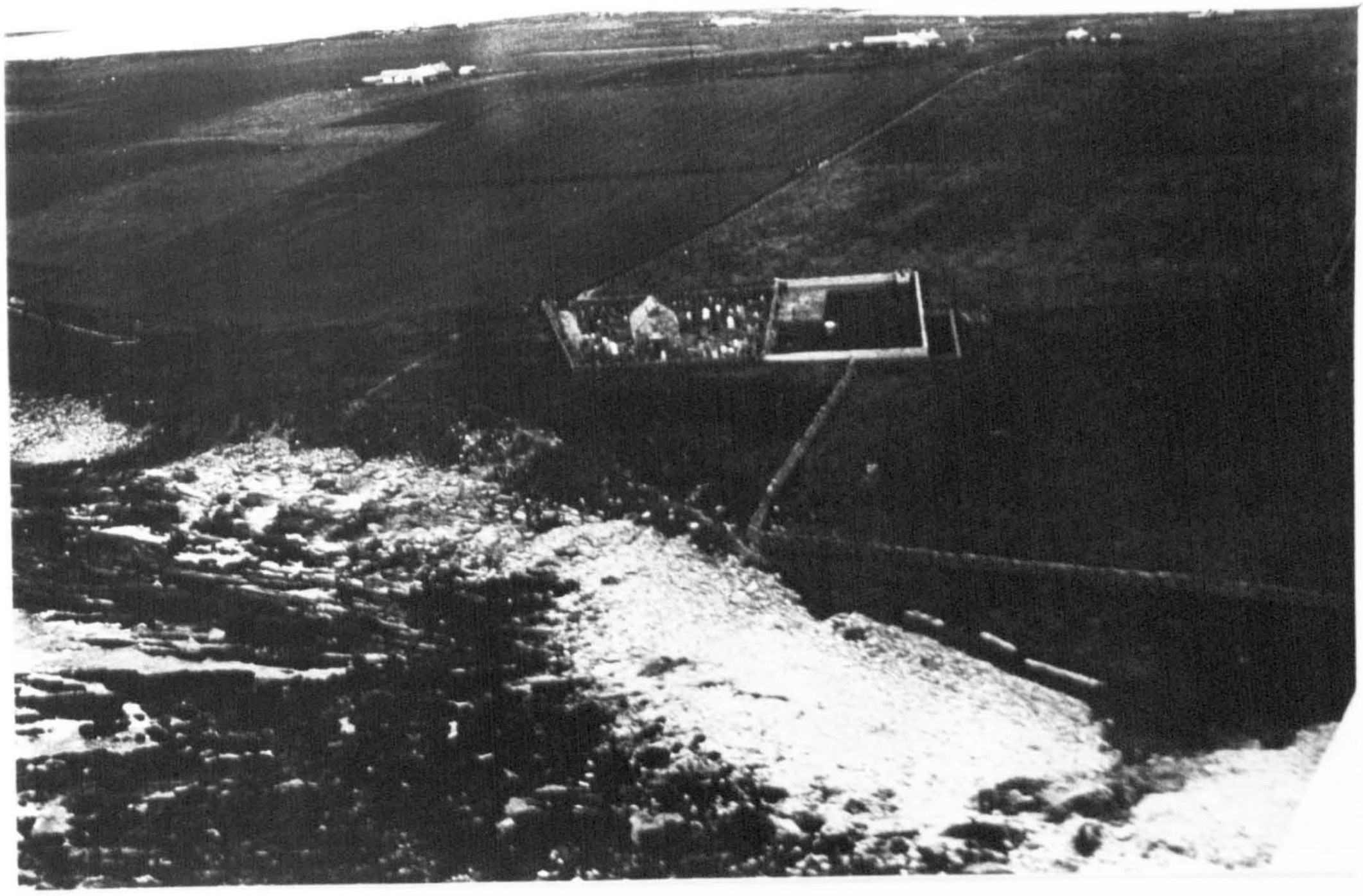


Plate 34: Aerial view of Kirk of Howe, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 12) facing W



a) aerial view facing E



b) church facing SW

Plate 35: St. Boniface' church, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 11)



a) Munkerhoose: eroded cliff-section W of St. Boniface' church, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 11), facing NE

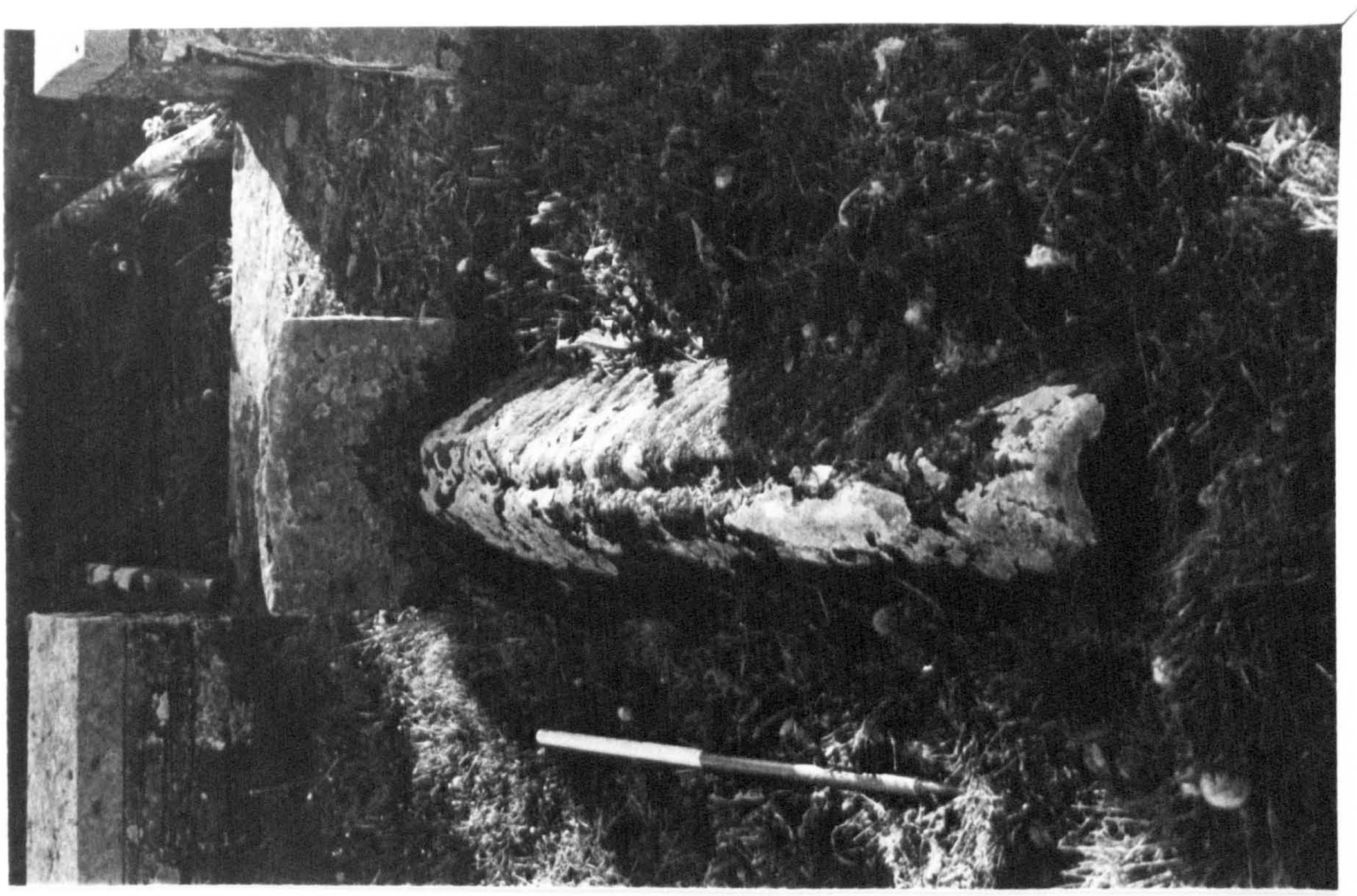


b) Binnaskirk: 'farm-mound' N of St. Boniface' church, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 11), facing N

Plate 36



Plate 37: Cross-inscribed stone from St. Boniface' church, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 11)



a) hogback: St. Boniface' church, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 11), facing W



b) St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14), facing N with Traill's 1879 spoil heaps in foreground

Plate 38



Plate 39: Aerial view of St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14) facing NE



Plate 40: St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14) facing NW



a) chapel facing W: detail of modified external NE corner

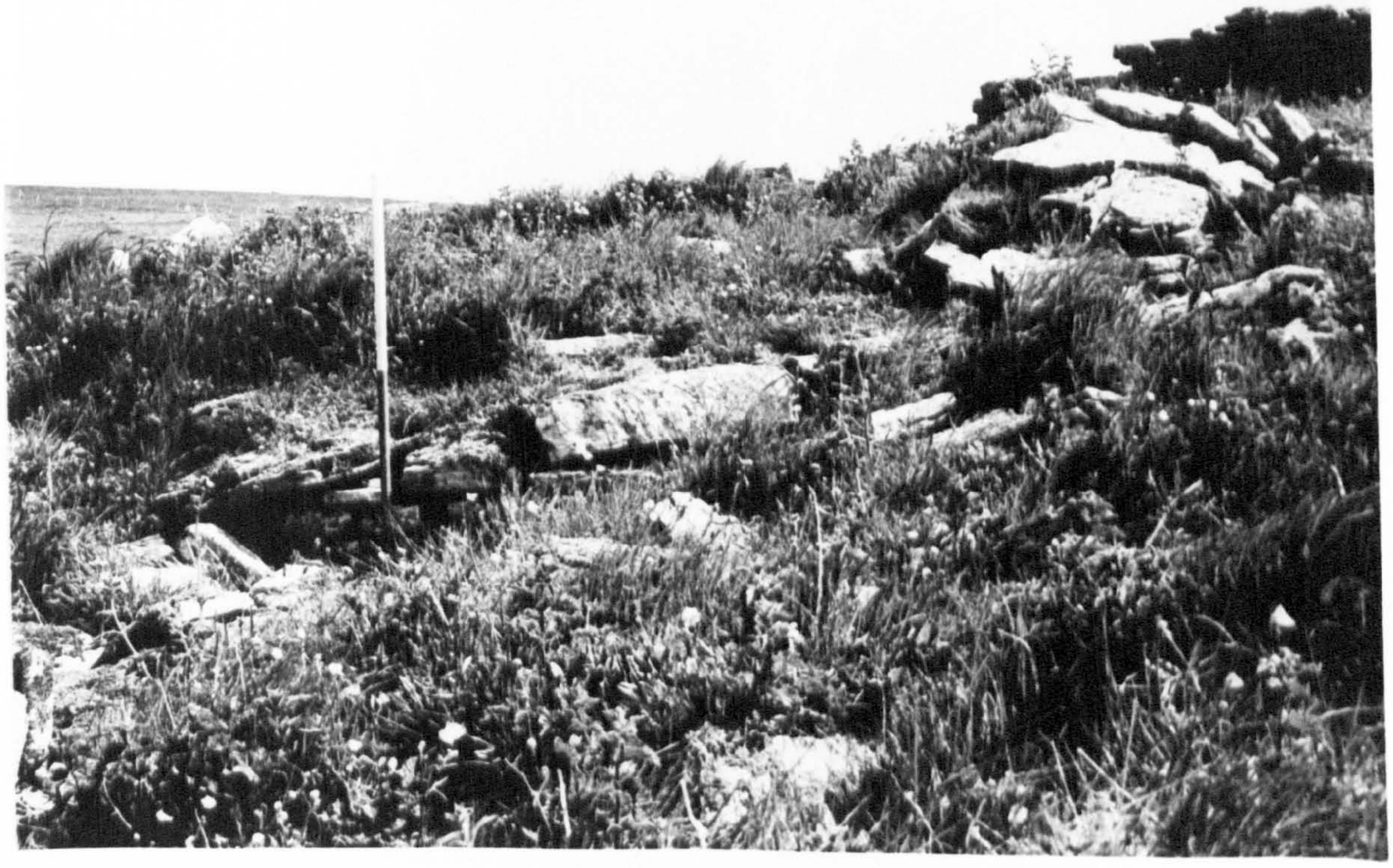


b) battered wall with external bank facing SW

Plate 41: St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14)



a) cell (Feature B) facing S



b) cell (Feature C) facing S

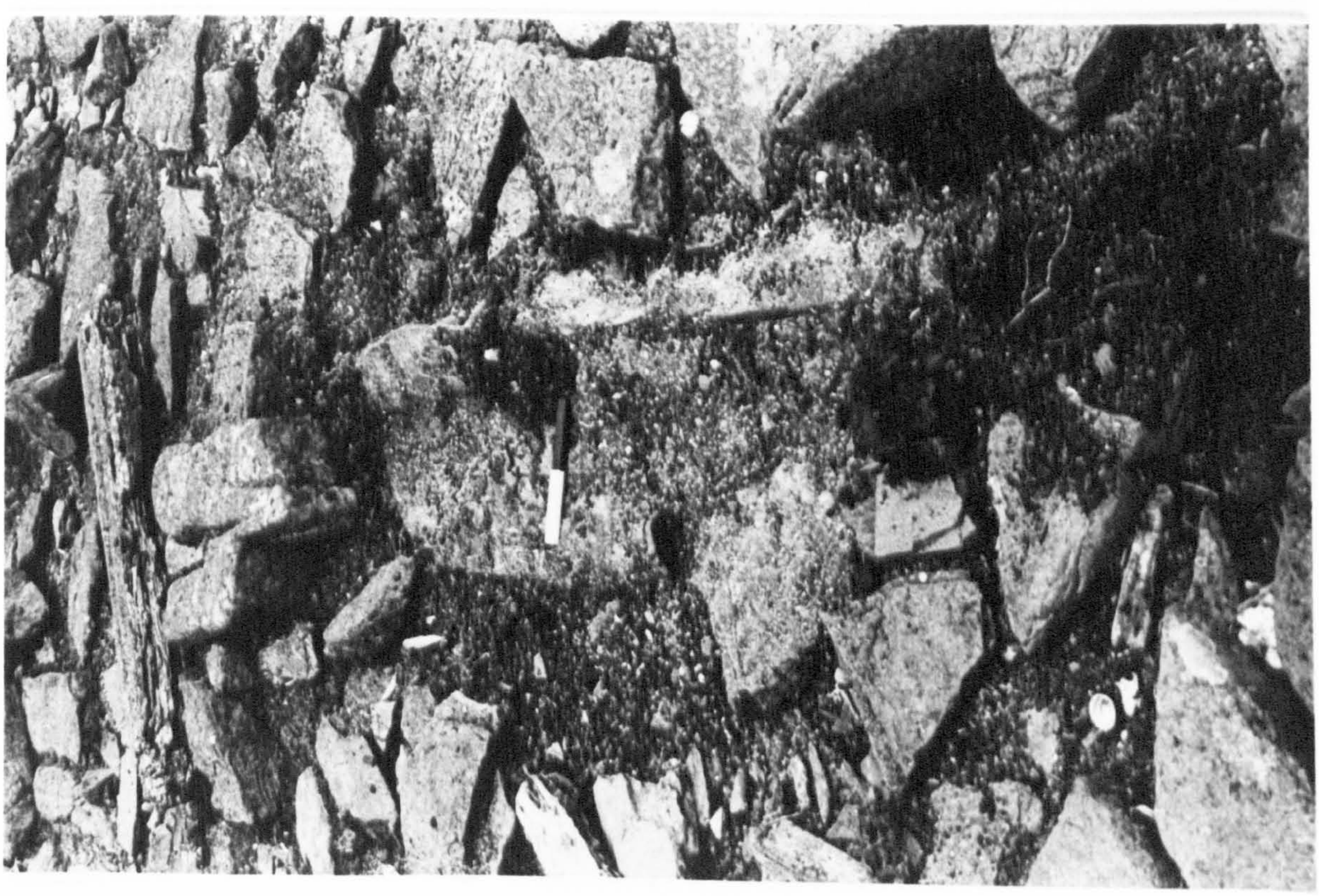
Plate 42: St. Tredwell's chapel, Papa Westray (WESTRAY 14)



Plate 43: Aerial view of Holm of Aikerness (WESTRAY 15) facing NW



a) kelp-burners' hut / sheep shelter facing W



b) possible wall-line facing W

Plate 44: Holm of Aikerness (WESTRAY 15)



a) general view of site facing NW



b) detail of blocked chancel entrance facing SE

Plate 45: Peterkirk, Evie



a) detail of nave entrance facing NW



b) detail of nave interior facing SE: possible wall-bench along S wall

Plate 46: St. Mary's chapel, Wyre



a) Lyking chapel, Sandwick, facing NW: enclosure in centre ground; Stackrue broch on horizon



b) Tammaskirk, Rendall facing N, from broch

Plate 47



a) chapel site, Loch of Wasdale, Firth facing W



b) Kirk of Kirkgoe, Birsay, facing S

Plate 48



a) St. Mary's chapel, Isbister, Rendall, facing S



b) Houseby chapel, Birsay, facing E

Plate 49



a) St. John's church, Norwick (UNST 1), facing NW



b) 'Bartle's Kirk', Norwick (UNST 2), facing N

Plate 50



a) Crosskirk, Clibberswick (UNST 3), facing SW: enclosure in foreground



b) 'The Kirk', Burrafirth Links (UNST 4), facing SE

Plate 51



a) St. Mary's church, Bothen (UNST 5) facing NW

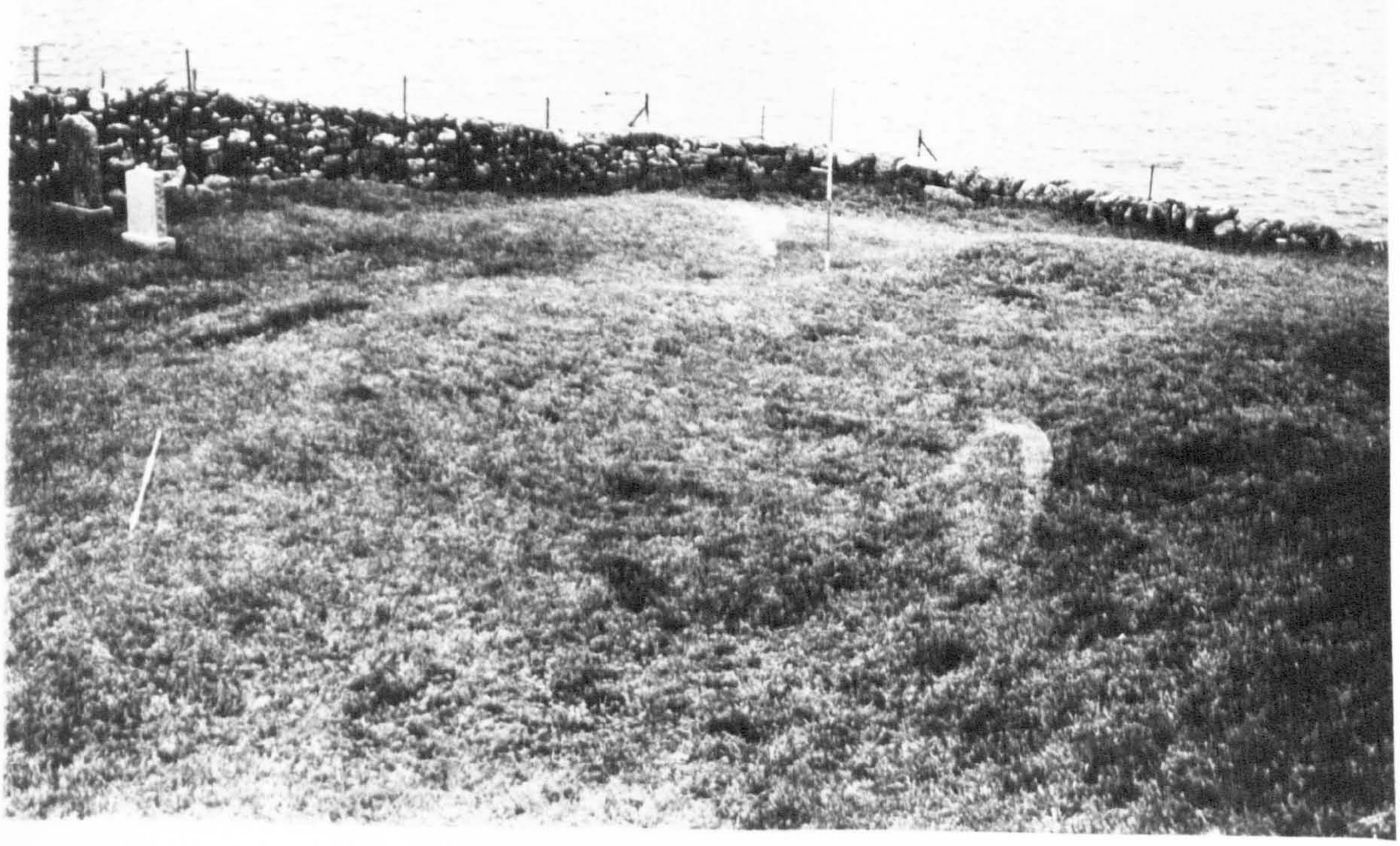


b) St. Olaf's church, Lundawick (UNST 10) facing NE, with detail of early enclosure to S

Plate 52

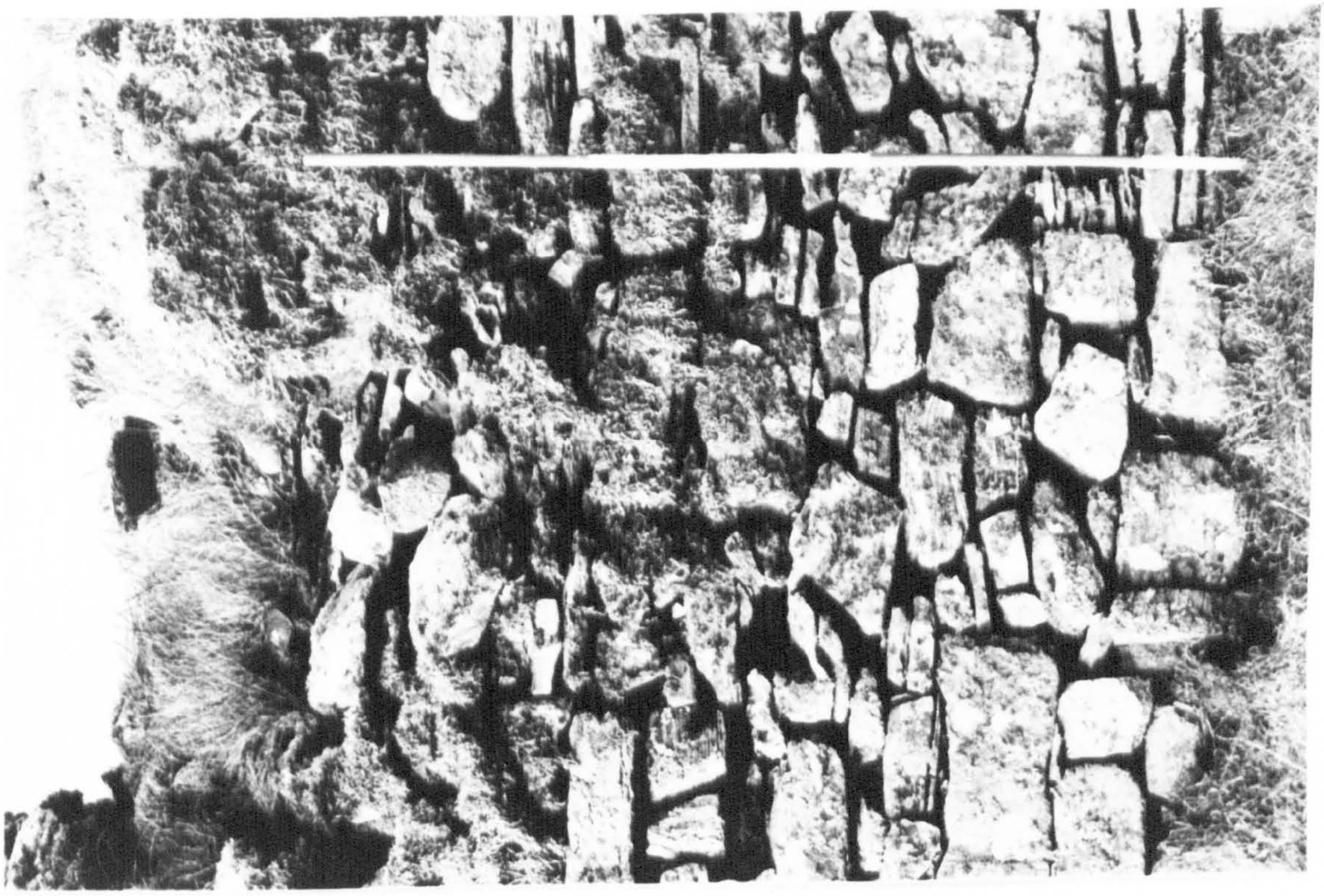


a) church facing E

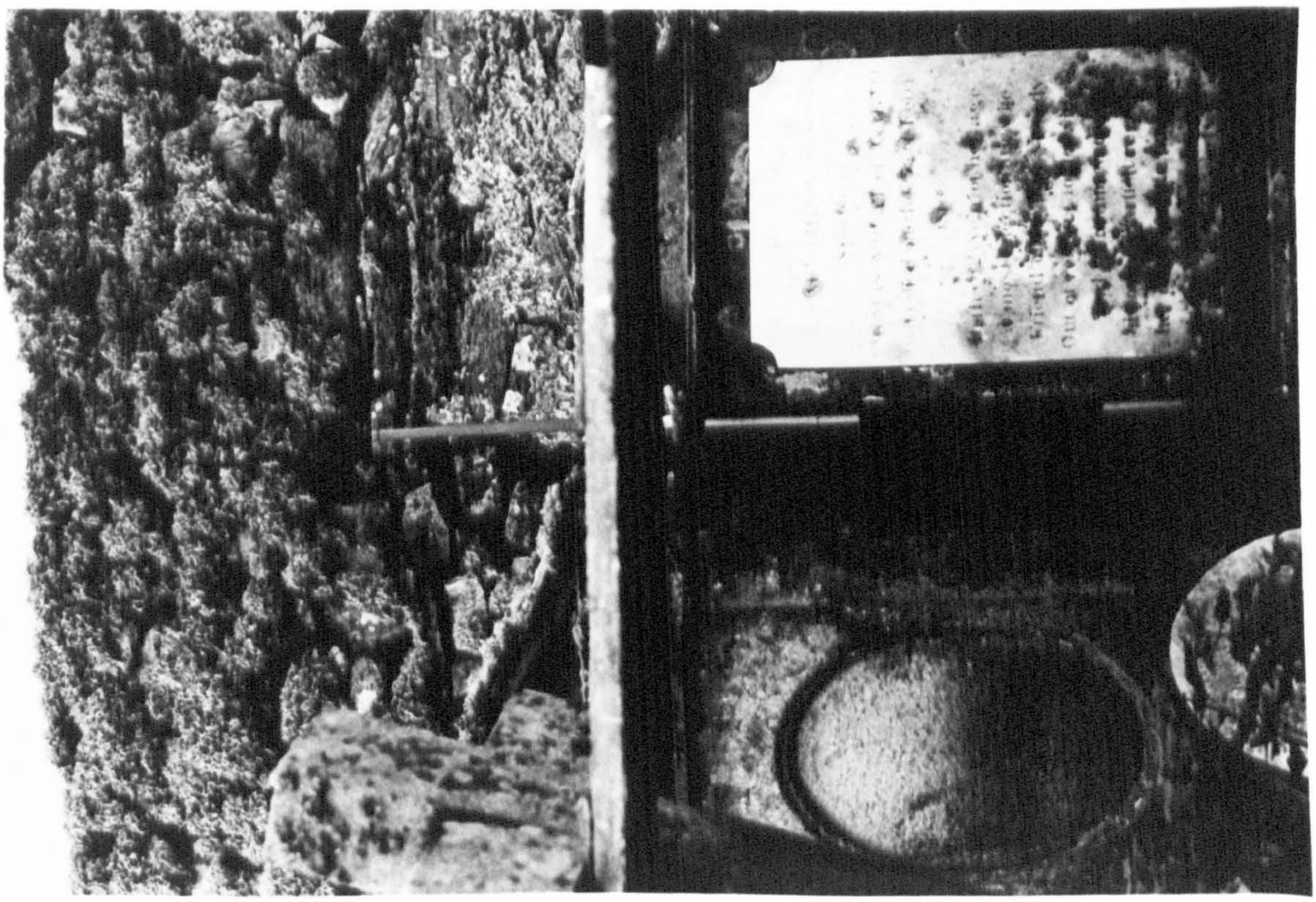


b) feature N of church, facing NE

Plate 53: St. Olaf's church, Lundawick (UNST 10)

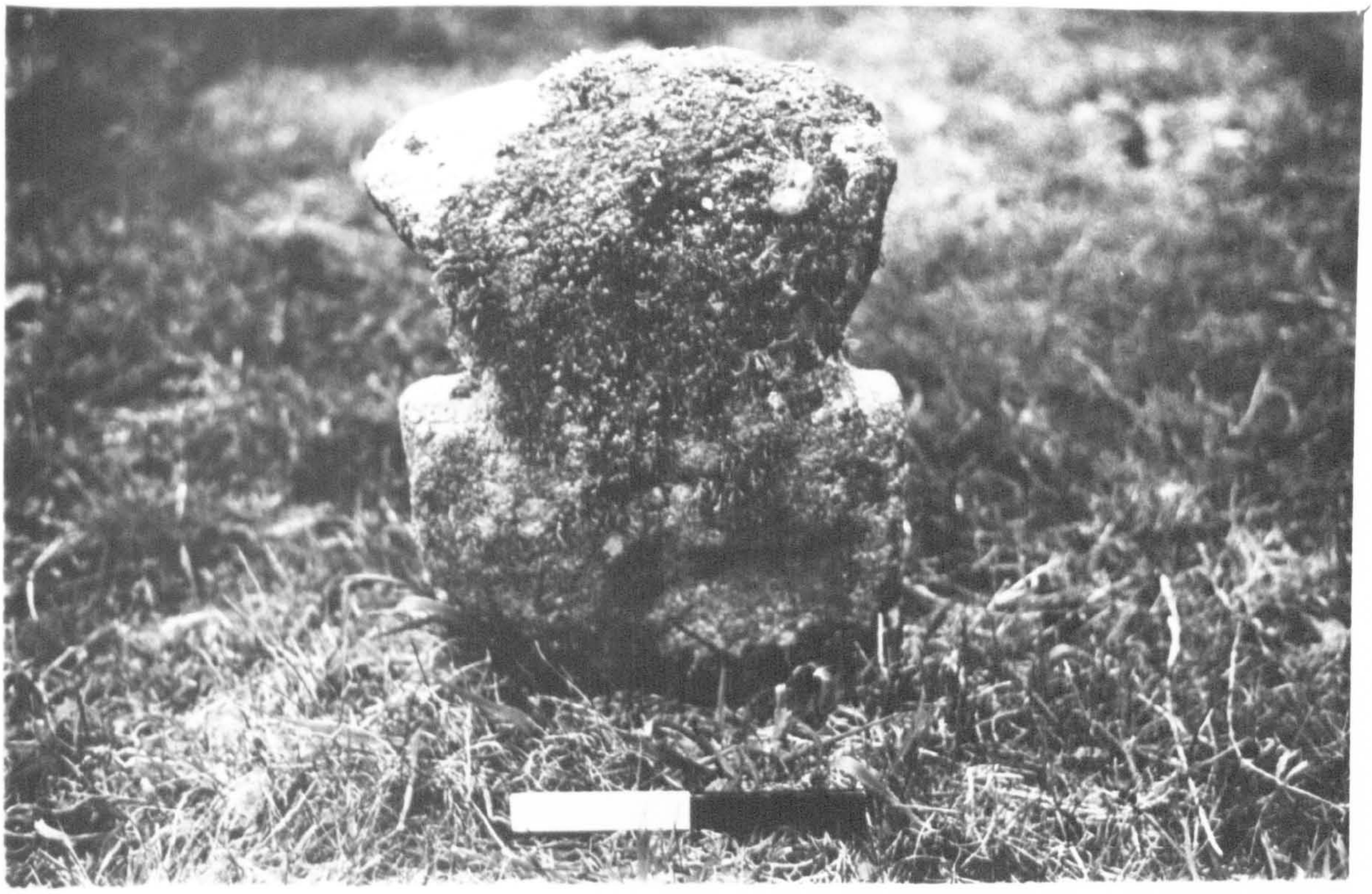


a) exterior view of blocked S entrance, facing N



b) detail of butt-joint in S wall, facing S

Plate 54: St. Olaf's church, Lundawick (UNST 10)

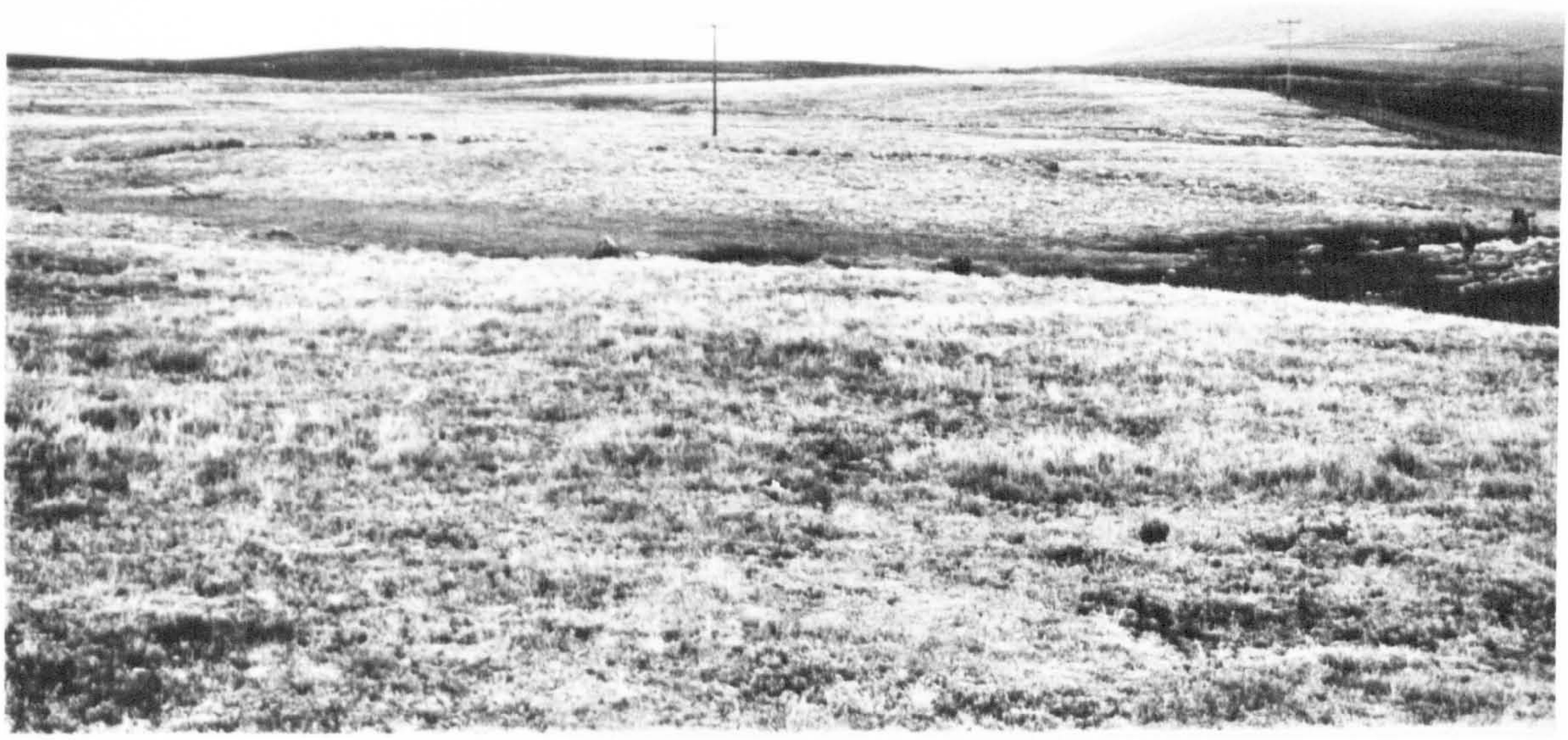


a) stone cross at Lundawick (UNST 10)



b) Gletna Kirk (UNST 11) facing E

Plate 55



a) circular (? field) enclosure near Gletna Kirk (UNST 11) facing N



b) Kirkaby chapel (UNST 14) facing E: foundation of bench visible against N wall of nave; enclosure bank visible in foreground

Plate 56

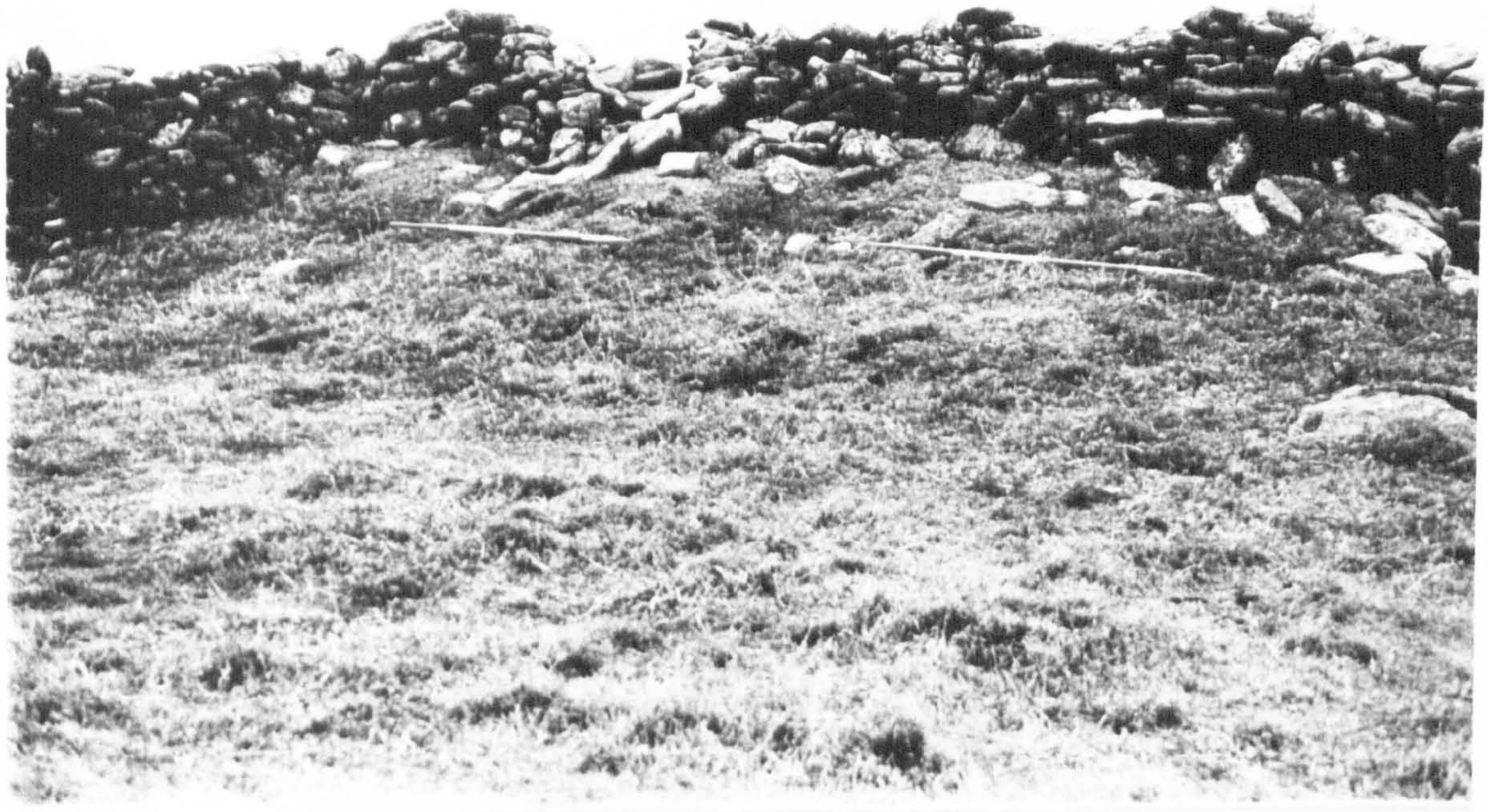


a) chapel facing W

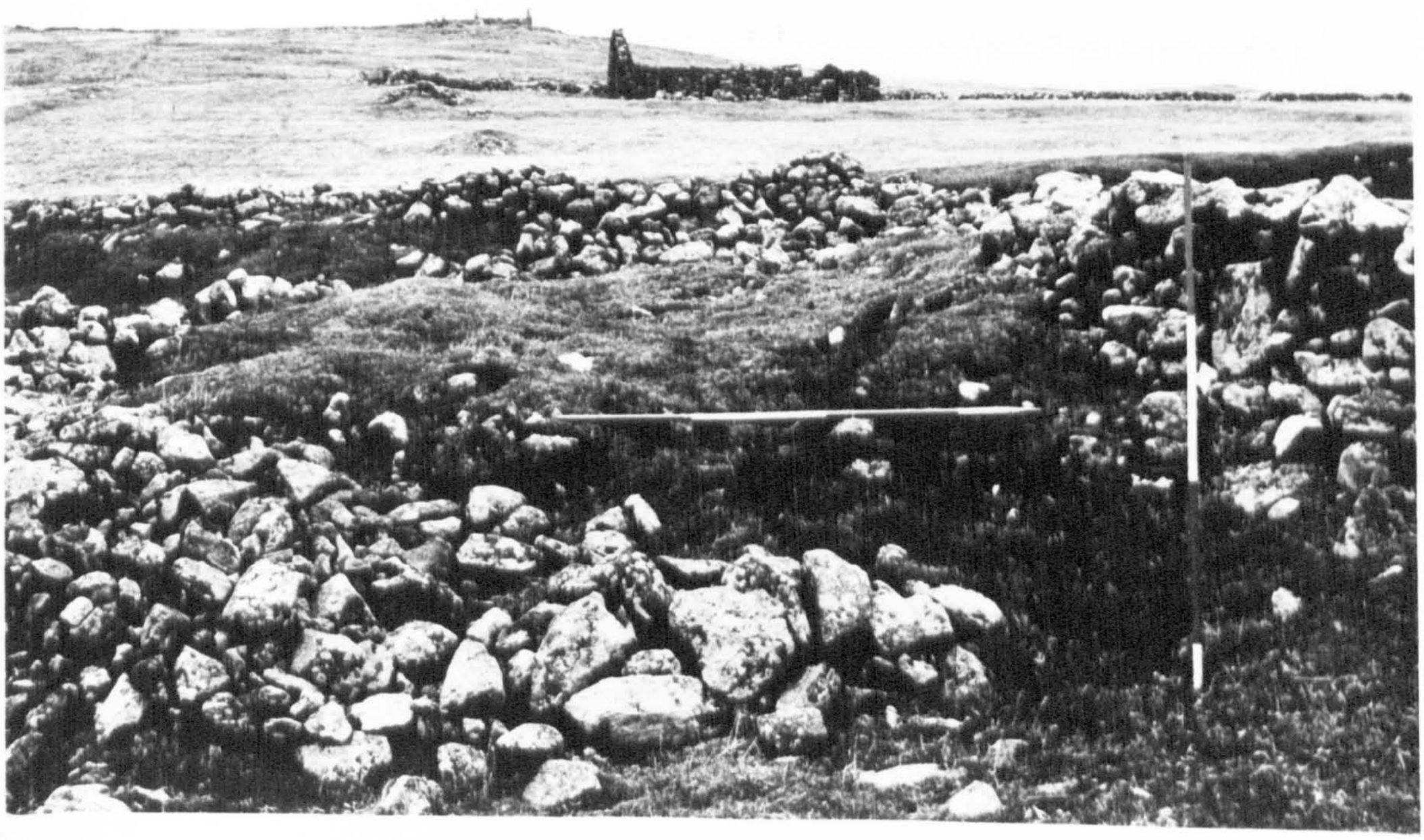


b) detail of sub-circular structure facing NE

Plate 57: Kirkaby (UNST 14)



a) Kirkaby chapel (UNST 14): S wall facing N

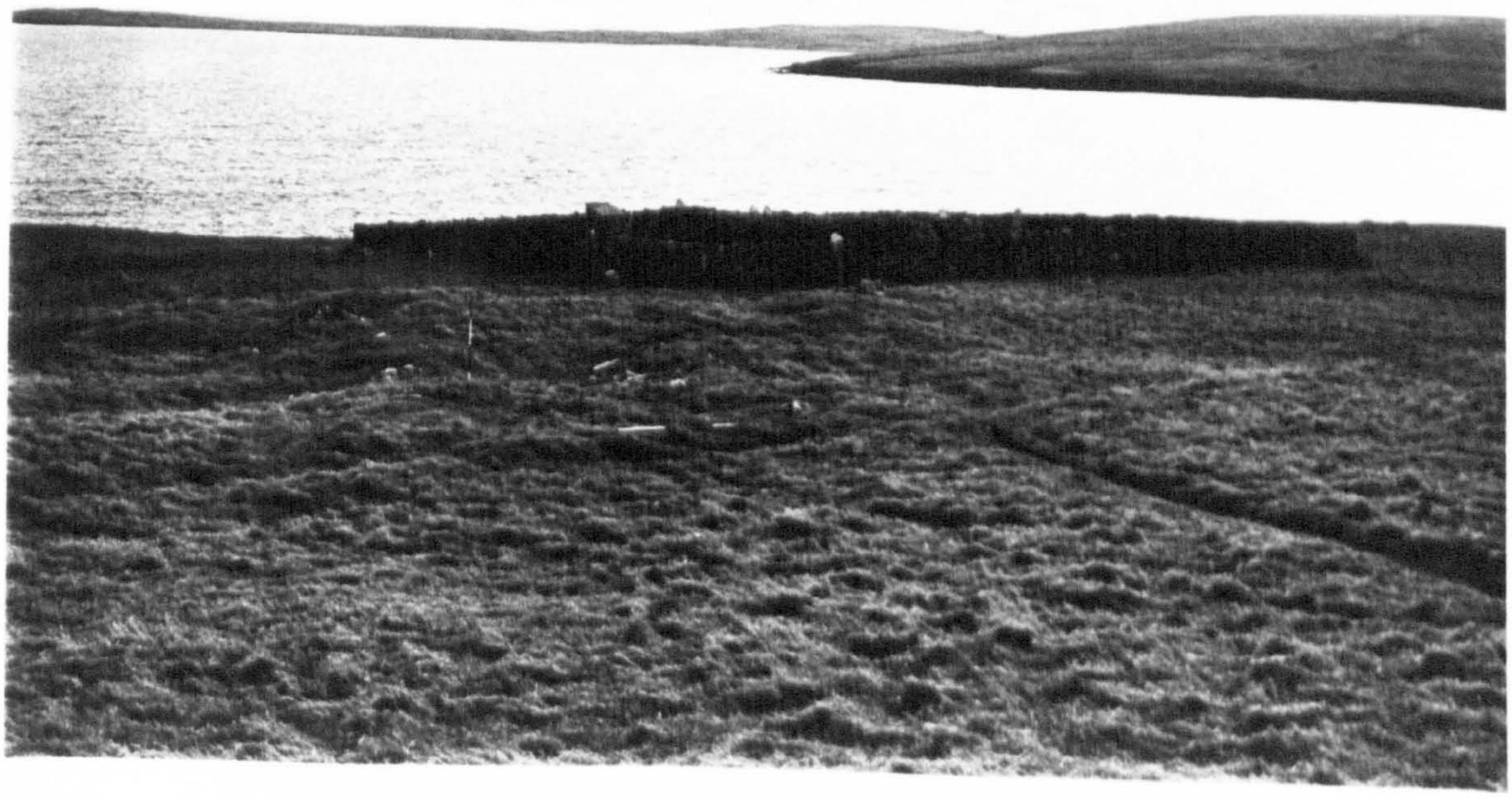


b) Colvadale chapel (UNST 19) facing W

Plate 58

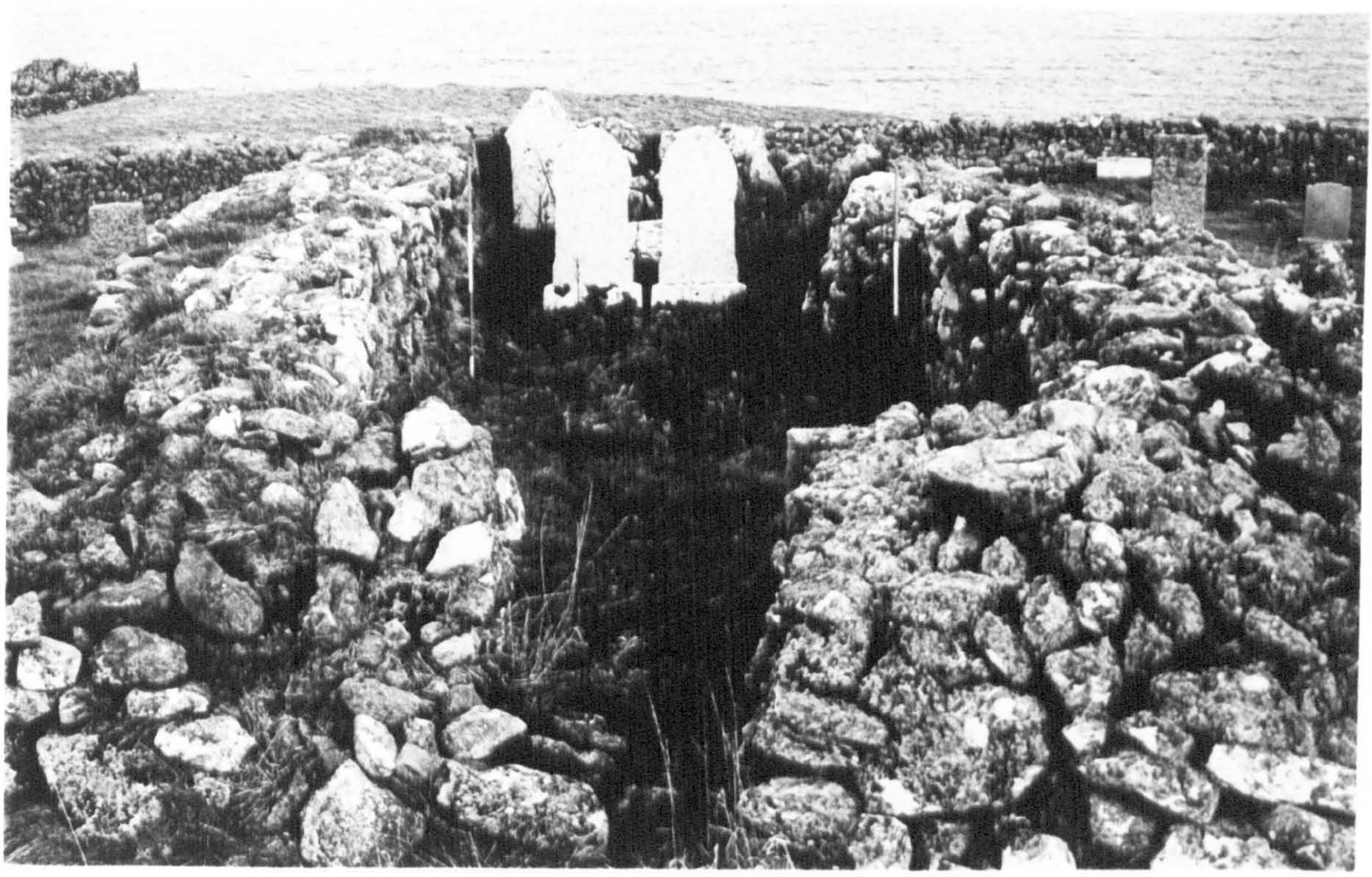


a) Colvadale chapel (UNST 19): detail of NW sector of enclosure facing NE



b) St. Mary's chapel, Framgord (UNST 20), facing SE with "The Priest's Hoose" in foreground

Plate 59

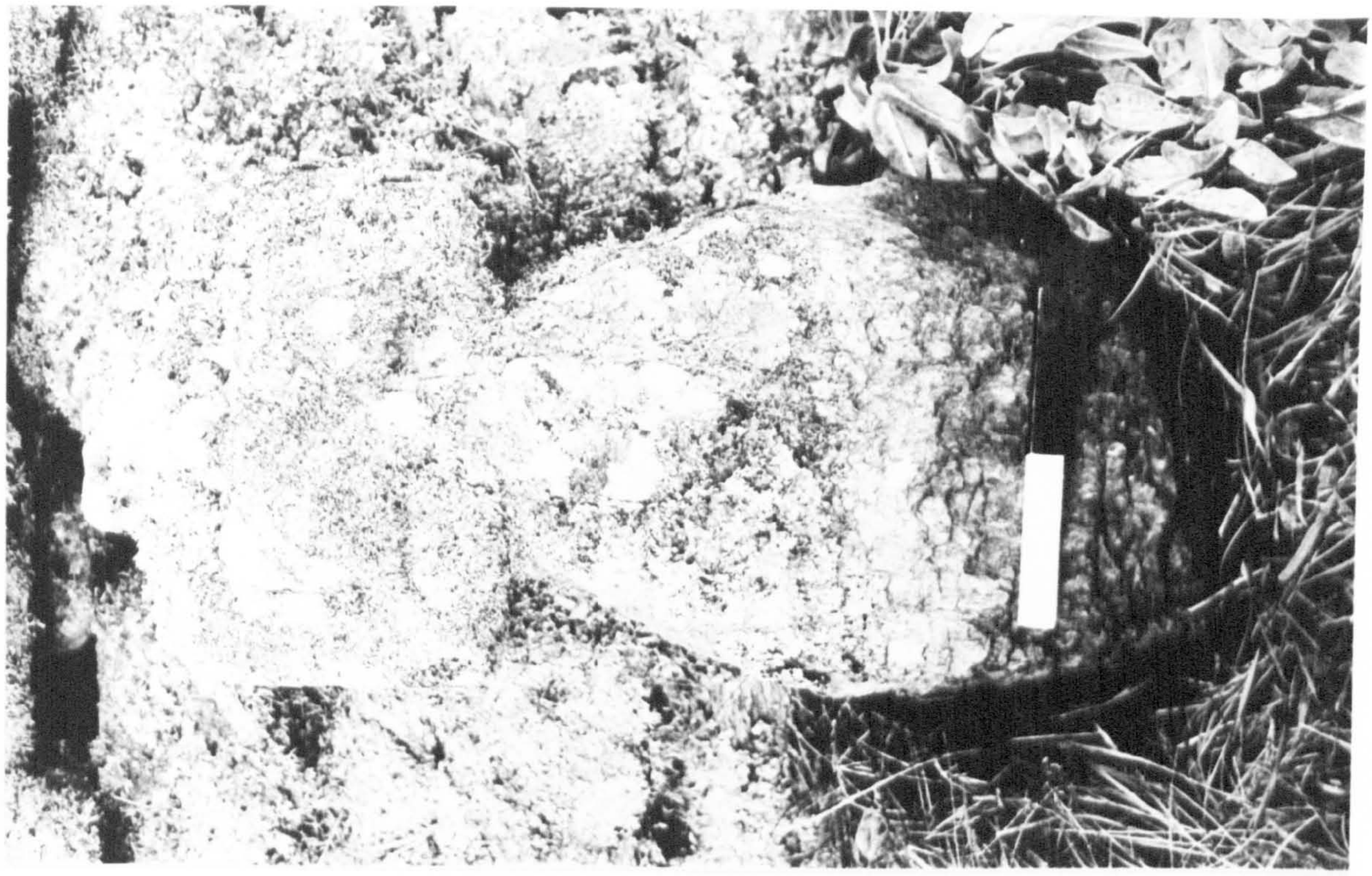


a) chapel facing E

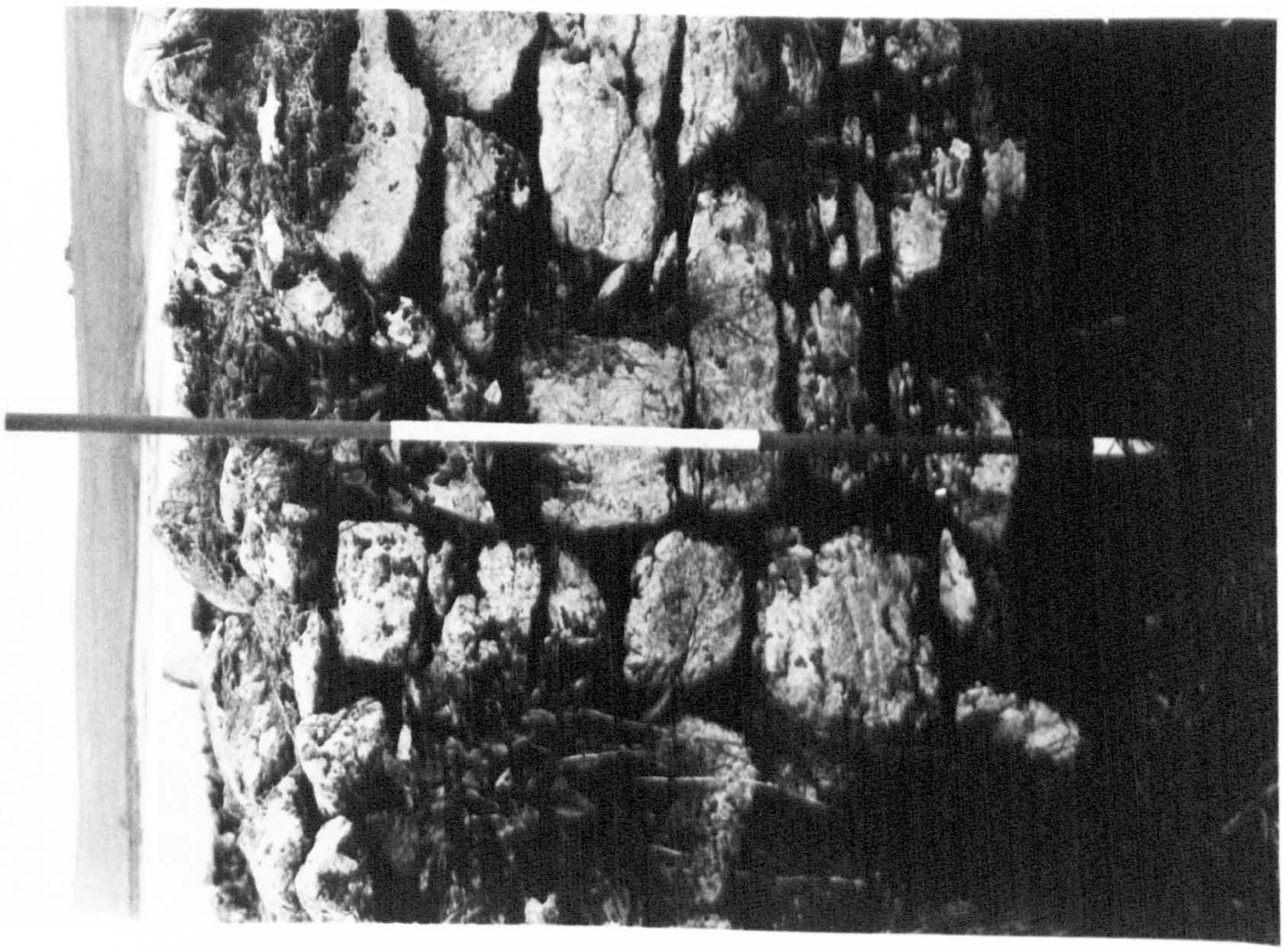


b) detail of interior SW corner of chapel facing SW

Plate 60: St. Mary's chapel, Framgord (UNST 20)



a) stone cross

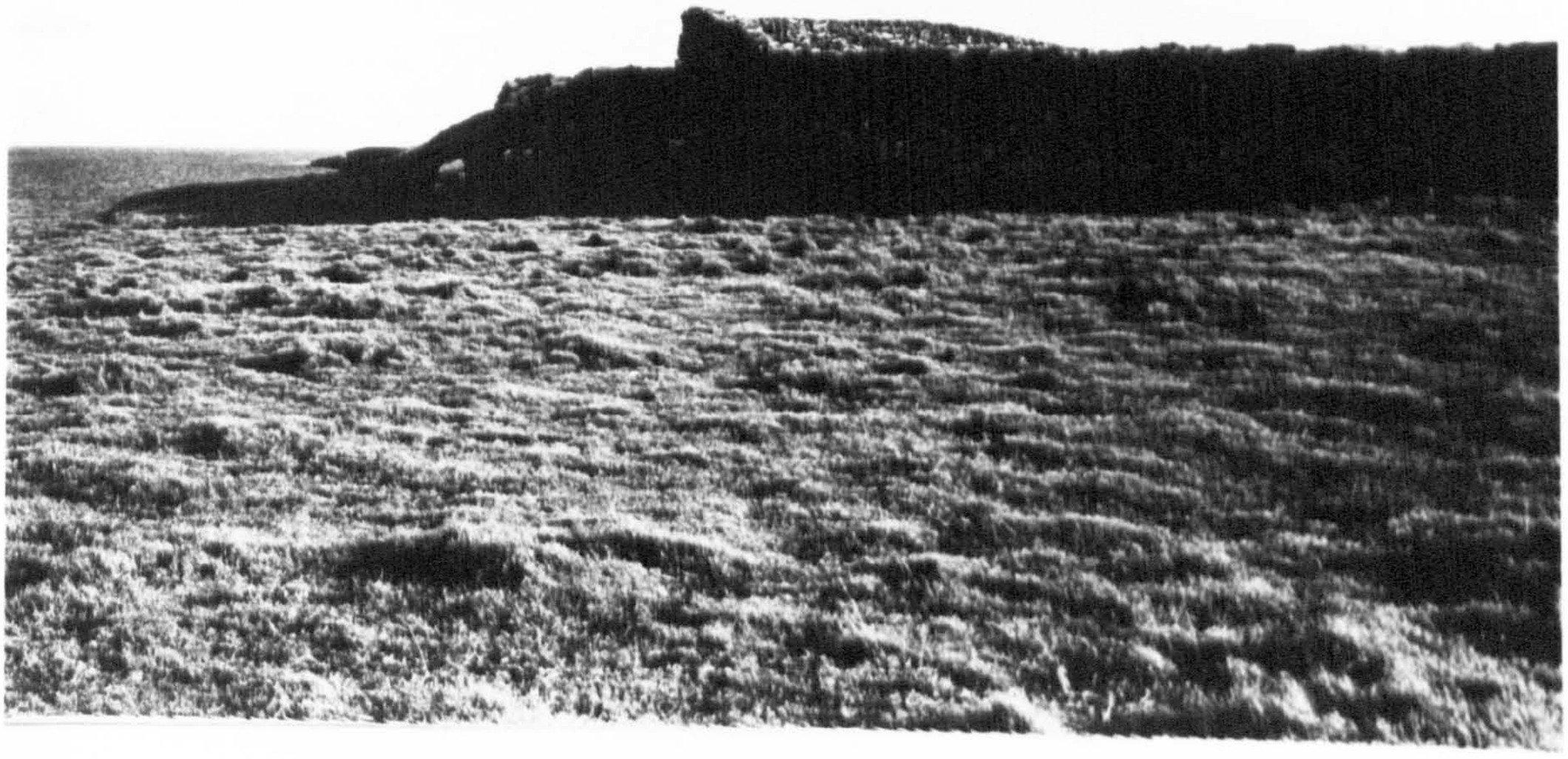


b) detail of possible butt-joint in S interior wall-face, facing S

Plate 61: St. Mary's chapel, Framgord (UNST 20)



a) St. Mary's chapel,Framgord (UNST 20): detail of butt-joint near W end of exterior N wall-face, facing S



b) St. Mary's church, Culbinsbrough, Bressay: broch & kirkyard wall facing NE

Plate 62

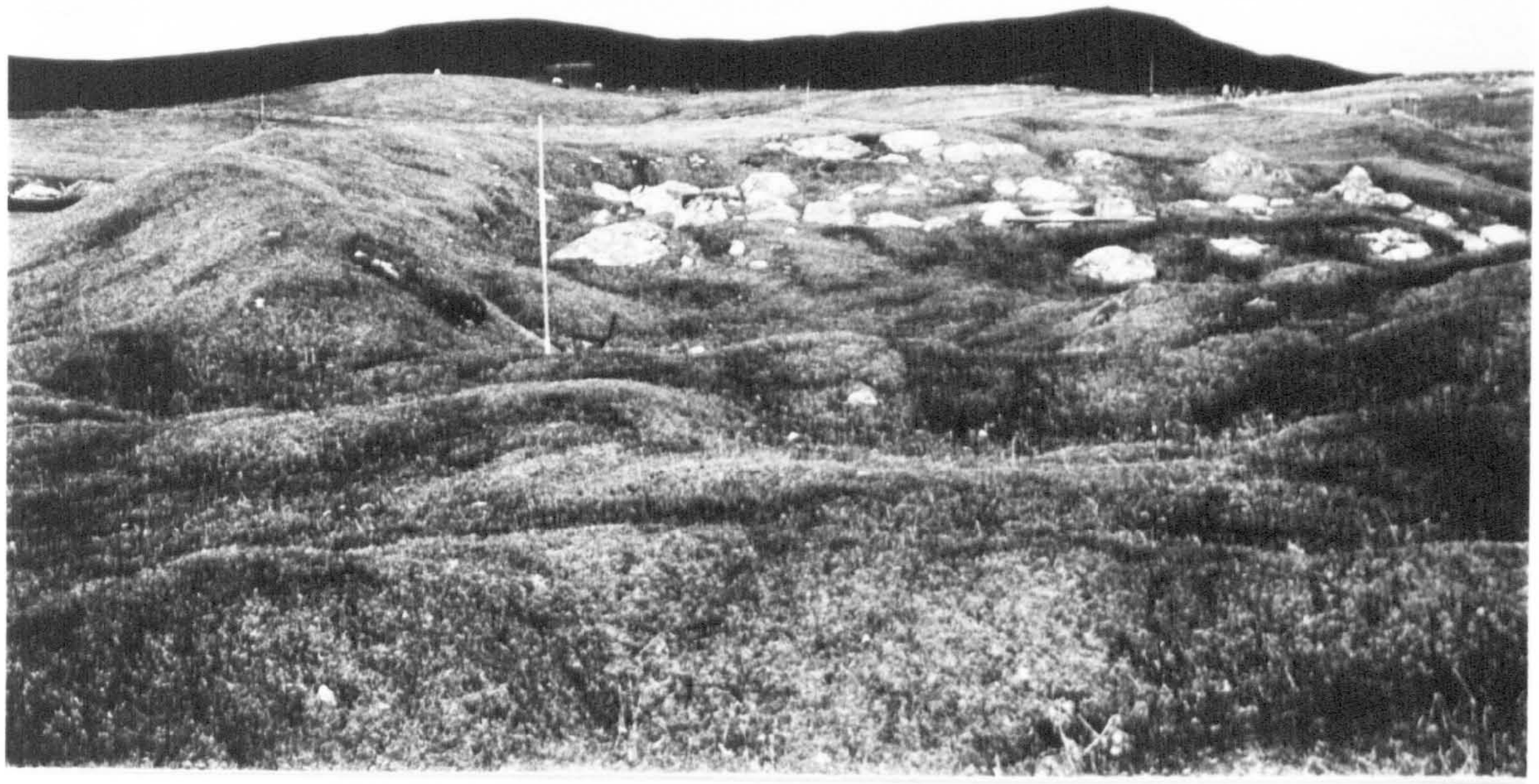


a) church facing E

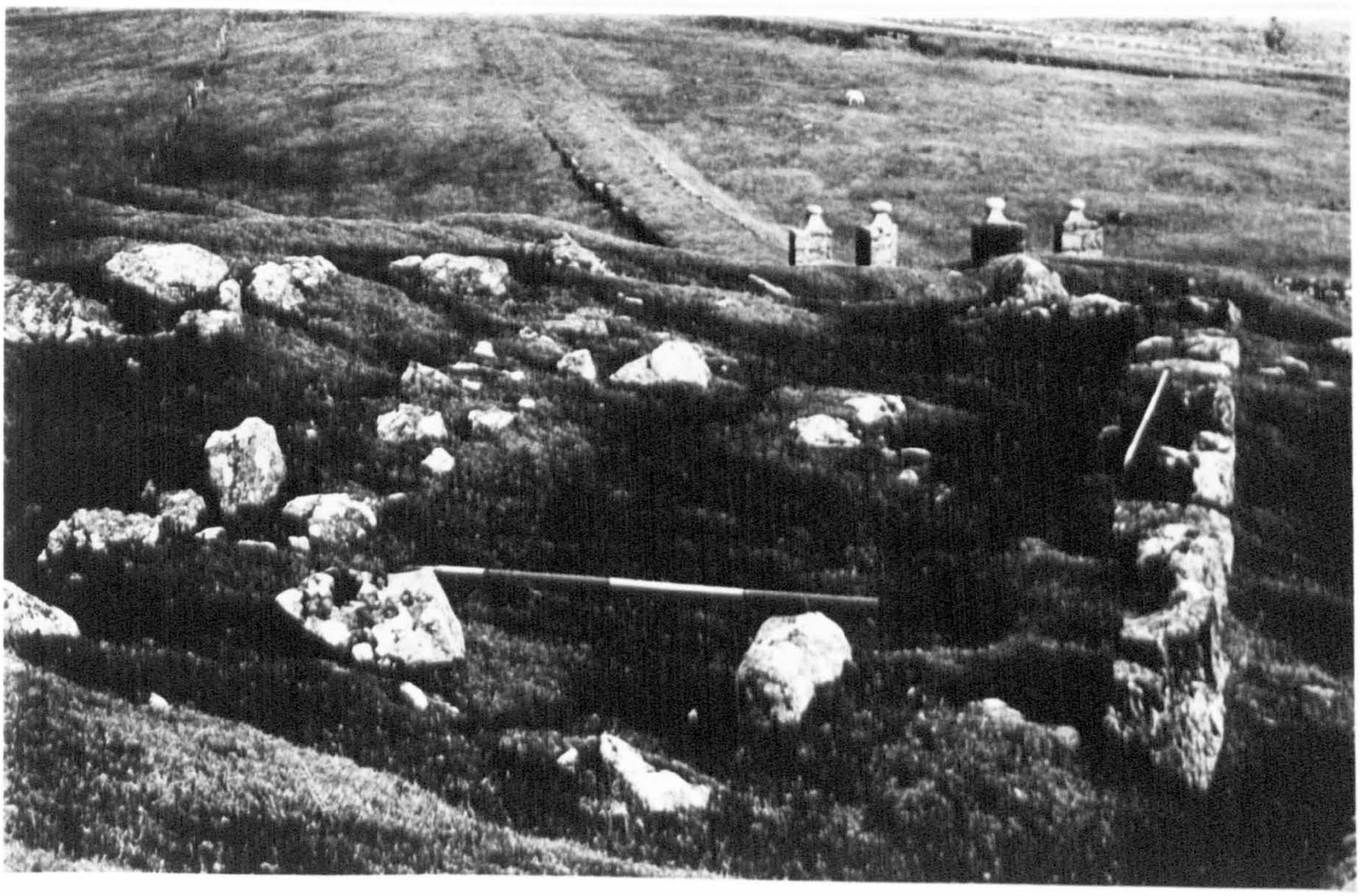


b) detail of early enclosure facing NW

Plate 63: St. Mary's church, Culbinsbrough, Bressay



a) enclosure & chapel facing NE



b) chapel facing E

Plate 64: Kirk Knowe, Lunna, Nesting



a) midden deposits



b) structural remains: ? chapel

Plate 65: Eroded cliff-section near St. Ninian's chapel, Papil, Yell

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