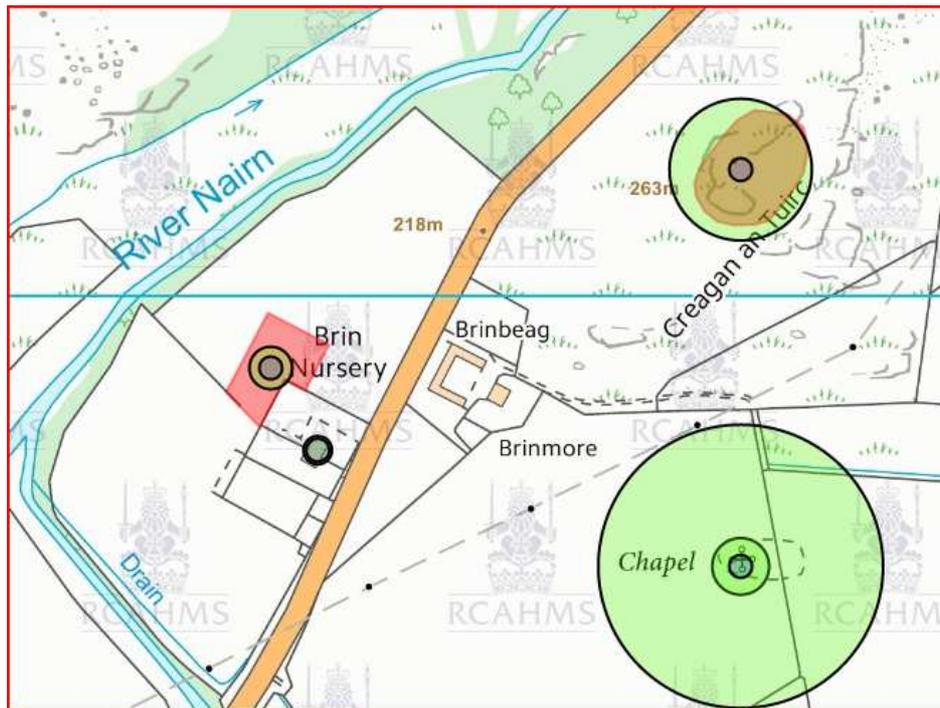


Brin Pictish Cemetery NH 6630 2895



On a low gravel ridge in improved pasture above the E bank of the River Nairn, there is a group of ditched barrows, with a length of bank immediately to the SW. The site has suffered considerable disturbance: it has been ploughed over, holes have been dug in some of the barrows, and a trackway, which is marked on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Inverness-shire 1874, sheet xxxi), has run through it from NE to SW. Nevertheless, at least five mounds can be identified. Probing suggests that they are composed of a mixture of earth and stone, but they do not appear to be markedly more stony than the ground around them. Four of the mounds (USN93 200, 202-4) are oval or sub-circular, ranging from 5m to 10m in length and from 4.2m to 8.6m in breadth, and standing up to 0.6m high. The fifth (USN93 201) is rectangular, measuring 8m in length by 4.8m in breadth and 0.75m in height; this is much disturbed, but there is a suggestion that it may consist of two contiguous square mounds, that to the NE being later. With the exception of one barrow which is practically circular (USN93 204), the longer axis in every case lies NE-SW. All but one of the barrows have traces of an enclosing ditch, up to 0.15m in depth; that around the rectangular mound is broken by a causeway at three of its corners, and those around at least two of the oval mounds are also interrupted by causeways.

The bank lies just below the SW end of the ridge, running SE-NW for about 22m; there are traces of a ditch on its NE side and it turns to the SW at either end, suggesting that it formed the NE end of a rectangular enclosure.

(USN93 200-4) Visited by RCAHMS (SDB) 21 October 1992.

CREAGAN AN TUIRC NH 6663 2909 (*to visit if time allows*)



This fort occupies the summit of Creagan an Tuirc, an isolated outcrop rising from the valley floor on the SE side of the River Nairn to the ENE of Brinmore farmsteading. The enclosed area measures 66m from NE to SW by 36m transversely, with an entrance 2m wide on the SSW. The wall is composed of large blocks and measures 3m in thickness and stands between 0.3m and 1m in height, being generally higher on the outside than on the interior. The wall has been placed to accentuate natural lines of defence, and there is a gap in the NE where the circuit is continued by a vertical rock face. (USN93 20) Visited by RCAHMS (DCC) 6 November 1992.

CHAPEL NH 6663 2881 (*for reference only*)

At this location there is a mound, possibly natural, aligned from ENE to WSW, along which there are sub-rectangular depressions and a few boulders. There was no trace of a building or any burials. The E end was under crop at the date of visit and the mound has been heavily disturbed by rabbit-burrowing. (USN93 21) Visited by RCAHMS (DCC) 8 October 1992.