# PEOPLES AND SETTLEMENT IN NORTH-WEST ROSS

Edited by

John R. Baldwin



Published in Scotland by:
The Scottish Society for Northern Studies
c/o School of Scottish Studies
University of Edinburgh
27 George Square
Edinburgh EH8 9LD

ISBN 0 9505994 8 4

Copyright © 1994. Scottish Society of Northern Studies and individual contributors.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, in any quantity or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the Society and appropriate contributors. Multiple copying of any of the contents of the publication is always illegal.

The Scottish Society for Northern Studies gratefully acknowledges assistance in the publication of this volume from:

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND
NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF SCOTLAND
HISTORIC SCOTLAND
ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC
RJ McLEOD (CONTRACTORS) LTD
KJ MACDONALD ESQ
AM ROSS ESQ (ULLAPOOL ESTATES)
ATF URQUHART (ULLAPOOL) LTD

and from its major sponsors:







# LETTEREWE ESTATE

Text set throughout in 10 on 11 English Times

Printed by: The Galloway Gazette, Newton Stewart, Scotland

# **CONTENTS**

Editor's Preface	vi
INTRODUCTION	
Man and the Land: Physical Environment and Settlement in the North-West Highlands DOUGLAS P. WILLIS	1
THE WIDER CONTEXT: BROCH BUILDERS & NORSEMEN	
Aspects of the Origin of the Brochs of Atlantic Scotland EUAN W. MACKIE	15
Descendants of Norse Bólstaðr?: A Re-Examination of the Lineage of Bost & Co. RICHARD COX	43
GAIRLOCH & LOCHBROOM (with Applecross, Lochcarron, Lochalsh & Kintail)	
What is a Vik?: An Investigation into an Old Norse Coastal Toponym IAN A. FRASER	68
Mackenzie Families of the Barony of Lochbroom MALCOLM BANGOR-JONES	79
The Church in the Western Parishes: Kintail to Lochbroom R.W. MUNRO	118
The Making of the Gairloch Crofting Landscape J.B. CAIRD	136
Building Traditions in Lochbroom and Gairloch Parishes ELIZABETH BEATON	159
COIGACH & LOCHBROOM (with Assynt & Lewis)	
The MacLeods of Lewis and of Assynt, Coigach and Gairloch AUBREY HALFORD-MACLEOD	193

Two Ecclesiastical Sites in the Summer Isles, Wester Ross MARILYN BROWN	214
Early Fishery and Forestry Developments on the Cromartie Estate of Coigach: 1660-1746 MONICA CLOUGH	226
Ullapool and the British Fisheries Society JEAN MUNRO	244
Poverty and Survival in Nineteenth Century Coigach ERIC RICHARDS	270
At the Back of the Great Rock: Crofting and Settlement in Coigach, Lochbroom JOHN R. BALDWIN	290
'Locals' and 'Incomers': Social and Cultural Identity in Late Twentieth Century Coigach ANGUS MACLEOD & GEOFF PAYNE	390

### Illustrations

Cover : Polglass, Coigach, 1993 (RCAHMS).

Inside Cover: Dornie, Kintail, 1962 (RCAHMS).

p. v : Inner Loch Broom, 1992 (RCAHMS).

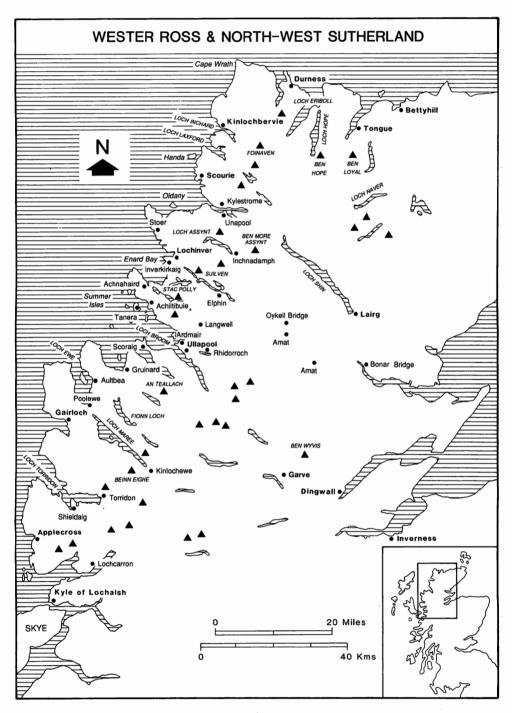
p. 290 : Badenscallie Burial Ground, 1992 (RCAHMS).

p. 390 : Fish farm, Inverpolly, 1993 (J. R. Baldwin).

Inside Cover: Erected 1889 to the memory of Sir John Fowler of Braemore

and family. Quay Street, Ullapool, 1992 (RCAHMS).





## CONTRIBUTORS

- JOHN R. BALDWIN has returned to Lothian Region Education Department and is currently seconded to develop Environmental Education.
- MALCOLM BANGOR-JONES gained his PhD at the University of Dundee and is now a civil servant at the Scottish Office.
- ELIZABETH BEATON has recently retired as an investigator with Historic Scotland and lives in Moray.
- MARILYN BROWN is an investigator with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, Edinburgh.
- J. B. CAIRD has recently retired as Professor of Geography, University of Dundee.
- MONICA CLOUGH formerly lectured at the University of Stirling and now lives in Drumnadrochit, Inverness-shire.
- RICHARD Cox gained his PhD at Glasgow University and now lives at Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire.
- IAN A. FRASER lectures in the School of Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh, and heads the Place-Name Survey.
- AUBREY HALFORD-MACLEOD is retired from the Diplomatic Service and lives in Harris. He is a former Ambassador to Iceland.
- EUAN W. MACKIE is Depute Director of the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow.
- ANGUS MACLEOD gained his PhD at the University of Plymouth and is now living and working back home in Coigach.
- JEAN MUNRO is an independent scholar living in Edinburgh who, as Jean Dunlop, made the definitive study of the British Fisheries Society.
- R. W. Munro is also an independent scholar who, with his wife Jean Munro, has researched widely into West Highland history.
- GEOFF PAYNE is Professor of Sociology at the University of Plymouth.
- ERIC RICHARDS is Professor of History at the Flinders University of South Australia and, with Monica Clough, has carried out substantial research on the Cromartie Papers.
- DOUGLAS P. WILLIS is Principal Teacher of Geography, Fortrose Academy, Easter Ross.