

DORNOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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INTRODUCTION

GLACIAL FEATURES

Welcome to the Camore Wood Booklet. This will help you find your way around the wood. It explains glacial features, wildlife, the permanent orienteering course and fitness trail as well as nature, history, forestry along with pictures of the scenery. If you are interested in history, there are burial cairns and hut circles which are 2000 to 3000 years old. A map of Camore Wood is also featured in this booklet. We hope you enjoy your visit to this very interesting wood.

This booklet was researched and compiled by Primary Seven pupils of Dornoch Primary School in 1998

CAMORE WOOD

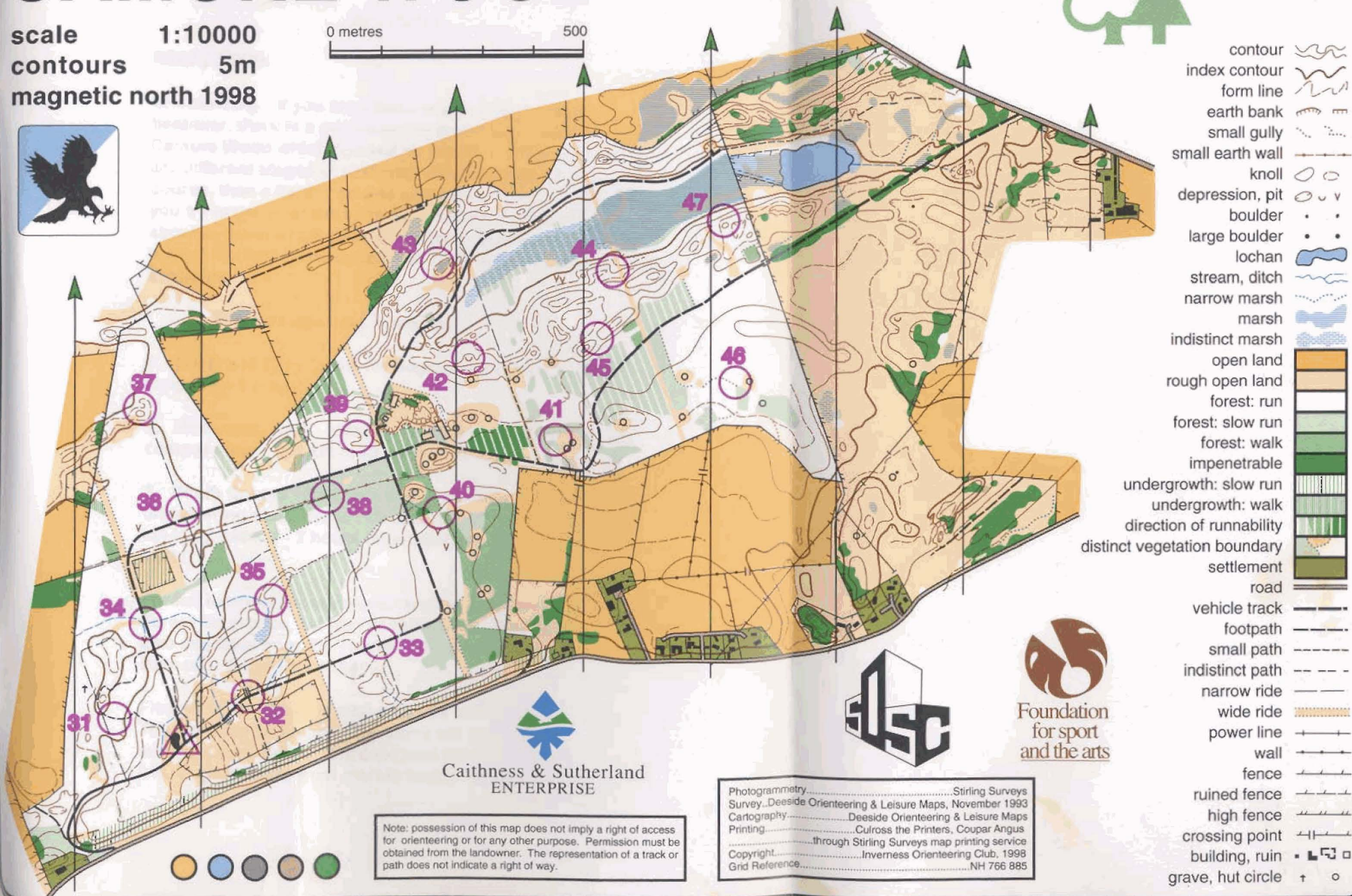
Forest Enterprise

An agency of the Forestry Commission



scale 1:10000
contours 5m
magnetic north 1998

0 metres 500



- contour
- index contour
- form line
- earth bank
- small gully
- small earth wall
- knoll
- depression, pit
- boulder
- large boulder
- lochan
- stream, ditch
- narrow marsh
- marsh
- indistinct marsh
- open land
- rough open land
- forest: run
- forest: slow run
- forest: walk
- impenetrable
- undergrowth: slow run
- undergrowth: walk
- direction of runnability
- distinct vegetation boundary
- settlement
- road
- vehicle track
- footpath
- small path
- indistinct path
- narrow ride
- wide ride
- power line
- wall
- fence
- ruined fence
- high fence
- crossing point
- building, ruin
- grave, hut circle

Caithness & Sutherland
ENTERPRISE



Foundation
for sport
and the arts

Note: possession of this map does not imply a right of access for orienteering or for any other purpose. Permission must be obtained from the landowner. The representation of a track or path does not indicate a right of way.

Photogrammetry.....Stirling Surveys
Survey.....Deeside Orienteering & Leisure Maps, November 1993
Cartography.....Deeside Orienteering & Leisure Maps
Printing.....Culross the Printers, Coupar Angus
.....through Stirling Surveys map printing service
Copyright.....Inverness Orienteering Club, 1998
Grid Reference.....NH 766 885

SECTION ONE

SECTION TWO

GLACIAL FEATURES

Camore Wood is not just a pretty place to walk through. It also has many other facts and features. There are several distinctive steep sided winding mounds in the wood and on the northern edge of the wood which are called **ESKERS**. These were formed by glacial melt waters as the glaciers melted and retreated at the end of the last ice age. Loch-an-treel was also formed by glacial action. However, there are archaeological features, more recent than the esker, such as hut circles and burial mounds. Many of these are shown on the map at the centre of the booklet. These are explained in the next Section.

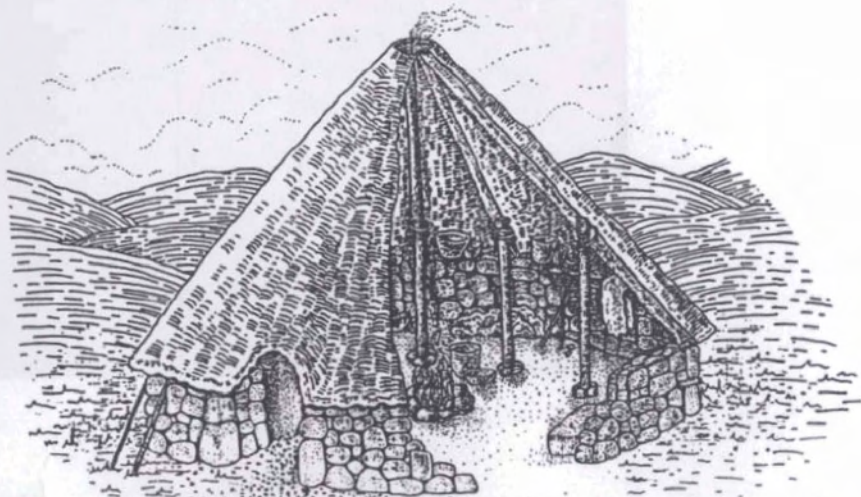


SECTION TWO

HISTORY

If you look at the map in the centre, you will see that there is lots of evidence of people living in the area in prehistoric times.

Hut Circles. There are many hut circles scattered around the wood. These had stone walls with timber roof supports; the roof would have been made from turf and heather. A fire place would have been placed in the centre of the hut with a gap in the roof to let out the smoke. They were about 10 metres in diameter. Each hut would have housed a family and they were built about 2000-3000 years ago. The following picture by Karen Clarke shows what the huts would have looked like:



SECTION 3

SECTION 4 =

FOREST ENTERPRISE

Camore Wood is owned by Forest Enterprise and they have begun an environmentally friendly scheme of forest management. This plan is called a continuous cover system. They will plant new trees to replace ones that have been cut down. If an area of trees has been cut down it will only be a small area. This should lead to a lot of different species of trees being planted throughout the forest along with lots of open spaces. The main species of tree to be found in the forest is the Scots Pine, the oldest and largest trees were planted in 1929.



SECTION 4

WILDLIFE AND NATURE

Camore Wood is quite spectacular. There is an amazing range of wildlife and there are plenty of birds, bugs, plants and trees.

Birds. You are almost guaranteed to see the blue tit with its blue and yellow markings, a truly beautiful bird. Visitors should look on birch trees where blue tits may build their nests. If you look in a nest you would find small white eggs with red-brown spots but please stay away or the mother may abandon the eggs.

Another bird you may see and are sure to hear is the yellowhammer. It sits on top of a gorse bush and sings with a noise like a telephone. Its nest is made of grass and straw. The eggs, usually 3 or 4 are pale in colour with dark spots.

Another resident bird is the buzzard. This bird uses the wood for nesting and can be seen and heard a great deal, especially in the late spring. Do not go near the nest or it will dive at you!

Trees The Scots Pine is one of many trees in the wood. As the lower branches have been cut off, the pine usually has a long trunk with a bushy top and a lovely orange bark. It has a long pine cone and its needles are in pairs and quite often blue in colour. The Norwegian Spruce is another common tree in the wood. This tree is also known as the Christmas Tree. This can be a very tall tree, sometimes reaching 50 metres in height. The roots of the tree do not grow very deeply and its needles are very sharp.



Norwegian Spruce



Scots Pine

Ash Tree. Ash trees grow very quickly and can sometimes reach a height of 40 metres. The Ash is a deciduous tree and grows in nearly all of Europe. The flowers are bunches of stamens which are a purpley colour and will give your fingers a brown stain if you rub them hard.

/Larch

Larch. A lot of birds nest on European Larch which is unique because it is both deciduous and evergreen. In the autumn the needles turn golden and then in the spring the needles turn back to light green.

Alders. Down beside Loch-an-Treel you will find Alders as they grow by water. The leaves are an oval shape and in November very dark leaves still sit on the tree. In the past the wood was used for canal locks, mill cogs and gunpowder charcoal because it was used to wet conditions.

Rowan Tree. The Rowan holds red berries which are eaten by birds in the autumn. This tree is one of the most colourful and beautiful trees in early autumn. It often grows in mountain areas and is often called Mountain Ash.

Douglas Fir. This is a lovely tree. It can sometimes grow up to 90 metres tall and gives a lot of wood for industry. It gives off a fruity smell but is sometimes broken by wind and wet snow.

Beech Trees. You will find several of these beautiful trees amongst the pines. It has triangular leaves and will give you a shady place to sit and rest after a hard days orienteering!

Plants to be seen:

Tormentil. The tormentil is a pretty, delicate yellow flower. It grows in damp soil and it has green leaves like stars. Also growing in the wood is the dog violet. It is a violet colour with a long stem and triangular leaves. It likes sandy soil. The Heath Milkwort is a purple/white colour. It can be blue or white as well. It has a little bunch of leaves at the bottom and then just a thin stem up to the flower. Cowberry is white or pink.

In late summer, early autumn, the brambles will appear. You will find them in Camore Wood and they are very delicious.



Rowan

The flower is white and the stems are very prickly. Do not pick and eat the berries unless you are positive they are brambles.

The Bogbean. This is a plant that used to be used in medicine. It grows in bogs, ditches, ponds and sometimes, shallow water. It is hairy with a light red tint on the flower.

The Dog Rose. This is a pretty little wild flower. It is pinky/white with a yellow centre. It grows in clumps in among the trees, especially deciduous ones.

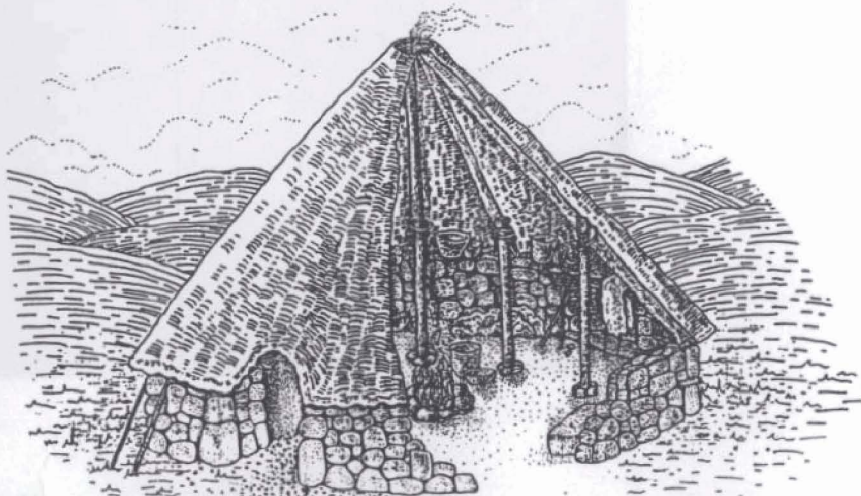
In and around Camore Wood there are three types of heather. The common, bell and crossleaved heather. Cross leaved heather grows in wet places whereas bell heather is green with brown seeds. The common heather is the one you will see most of in the wood.

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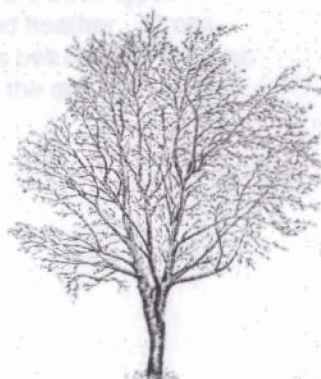
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