

DISCOVERY  
AND  
EXCAVATION

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SCOTLAND  
1962

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP  
COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

*Price 2/6*

Contributions for "Discovery and Excavation 1963"  
should be sent before November 15th 1963, to either

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The University,  
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or to the Hon. Editor

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## ABERDEENSHIRE

### LOCH KINORD

*From Dr A. A. Woodham,  
The Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen*

NO/455997. In his book "Loch Kinord" (1910), the Rev. J. G. Michie mentions a sunken canoe full of stones which had been observed on the loch bottom about 30 yds. SE. of a crannog in 1875. In May 1962, divers of the Aberdeen Sub Aqua Club located this boat and brought it ashore. The fragment found measured 12 ft. in length by 2 ft. 4 ins. wide and is a portion of an oak dug-out, the stern being pierced by a worn 3 ins. diameter hole. Pending a decision regarding its future by the owner Sir Malcolm Barclay-Harvey, by whose courtesy the exploration was made, the boat has been returned to the loch.

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## ANGUS

### DUNDEE

*From Mr I. H. Longworth,  
National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh*

Mr Daniel Henderson has collected a large quantity of mediaeval and later material from the Overgate during the redevelopment of this site. This includes a large sample of glazed and unglazed wares. The presence of possible 'wasters' would suggest the presence of local kilns. Amongst the more interesting items from the site are fragments of two figured mediaeval tiles. Other material includes whetstones, roofing slates, spindle whorls, glass, leather, fragments of iron, bronze and lead, clay pipes, various objects of bone and a series of internally glazed water-pipes.

Grid. Ref. 262503. A small cup marked stone was found near the top on the SW. side of Barry Hill Fort, Vale of Strathmore, by members of the Perthshire Society of Natural Science, June 1962.

### ABERLEMNO

*From J. D. Boyd,  
Director of Museums and Art Galleries, Dundee*

NO/556524. A Pictish Sculptured Stone, Class I, was discovered at the North side of the Mill dam at Flemington Farm. The stone had been removed from the nearby ploughed field in the Autumn of 1961. The stone is five feet high; it has a maximum width of one foot nine inches and a maximum thickness of one foot. The stone has only two symbols inscribed upon one face. Underneath a "horseshoe" with internal scrolls is the familiar "elephant" symbol.

The stone is now on view to the public in the Dundee Museum.

## INVERKEILOR

NO/638491. During sand quarrying operations in progress in a field on Hodgeton Farm, Inverkeilor, during 1962, one short cist and four long cist burials were uncovered. The short cist, disturbed by digging operations, contained a skeleton, but no pottery. The long cist burials were discovered later, and were examined and excavated by Messrs D. B. Taylor, John Wilson, D. Alastair Gardner and J. D. Boyd. Skeletons were found in each case and reports on all these finds are in preparation. The skeletons are in Dundee Museum.

## HURLY HAWKIN, LIFF AND BENVIE

*From D. B. Taylor*

NO/333328. A further season of excavation on this site confirmed the existence of the small rectangular huts in the interior mentioned in *Discovery and Excavation, 1961*. Finds included a number of articles of bone and stone. An area of paving between the inner and outer faces of the surrounding wall raises the possibility of a wall chamber and this will be investigated next summer.

A section across the souterrain revealed its entrance to be of the usual type. Beneath the paved floor of the souterrain was found about four feet of clay and broken slabs used as filling for the lower part of the surrounding ditch, the existence of which can now be confirmed. Finds from the souterrain included fragments of a broken pot and a well made, highly polished whetstone (*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p5.*).

## ELSMONECHTIE, MONIFIETH

*From R. Crerar*

While searching for further mesolithic traces in the valley of the Dighty, on a knoll steeply overlooking the river the scattered remains of a large number of human skeletons, much disturbed by ploughing, were found. The teeth of these skeletons were remarkable in that dental attrition was confined not to the molars but to the incisors and canines, and these were worn to gum level.

Elsmonechtie is by legend the site of an early Christian cell.

## LAWS FARM, MONIFIETH

*From R. Crerar*

From a limited area in a field NGR/498352 on Laws Farm came a number of flint blades and scrapers together with a large plano-convex knife of finely chipped red Buchan flint.

## WEST MAINS OF ETHIE, INVERKEILOR

*From the Abertay Historical Society,  
Archaeological Section, per Mr and Mrs J. Wilson*

NO/693460. This promontory, fortified with three ditches and ramparts, was first mentioned in *Discovery and Excavation, 1960, page 5*. In July and August this year excavation of this site

was begun by the above Section under the leadership of Mr and Mrs J. Wilson. A section across the inner ditch revealed a V-shaped, stone-lined ditch, while in the interior of the fortification traces of rough paving and post-holes were found, indicating some sort of structure. At this stage it is not possible to suggest any date for the site. It is hoped to continue the work next year.

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## ARGYLLSHIRE

### DUNADD

*From Dr Mair Livingstone*

In August 1961, I met Mr William Crow of Islay. He told me that about thirty years ago his father, the late J. Hewat Crow, took him to Dunadd and showed him rock inscriptions. One of these was a "wee dog with a tail like a fir tree" incised on a vertical cliff face on the way up from the well to the summit and on the left hand side.

I found the design just as he had described, though much obscured by lichen, on 9th September 1961, and took tracings and photographs. I wrote to Dr James Richardson, whom I gathered had been concerned with the discovery of "the wee dog." He told me, that together with Mr Hewat Crow, he had examined the natural rock face, scraped off the lichen, traced the design and made a full scale drawing.

When I examined "the wee dog" it was hard to find under the lichen. The whole design was contained in an area 7 inches by 5 inches. Possibly relevant to this "wee dog" are:—(1) a "dog" inscribed on rock caves at Wemyss, Fife (a cast at the Museum of Scottish Antiquities in Edinburgh), and (2) references to a "fir tree" motif in Scandinavian rock inscriptions.

### ACHNABREAC

On 7th September 1961, I visited the Bronze Age Inscribed Rock at Achhabreac, above Lochgilphead. I counted *nine* clear rings around one of the cups, although the Ministry of Works Guide to Ancient Monuments, Vol. 6, Scotland, 1959, says on page 7, "A cup-like depression surrounded by one to *seven* concentric circles."

The diameter of the outer ring was 35 inches. The central cup, a small ( $\frac{3}{4}$  ins.) one, contained a metallic looking substance. I removed a loose fragment of this and sent it to Mr Beik, Room 025, Ministry of Works, S.E.1. (Ancient Monuments Laboratory). He told me that the substance is iron pyrites.

**CRARAE, LOCH FYNE**

*From Miss K. M. Dickie, F.S.A.Scot.*

I would now like to report that an old stone about 3 feet high and 9-10 inches wide in the N. wall of the graveyard at Crarae, Loch Fyne, has turned out to be a Sheela-na-Gig.

**STRACHUR**

*From Cowal Archaeological Society,  
Sent by Mrs G. Christian and Miss E. B. Rennie*

NS/09850452. On the south slope of the hill known as Tom nan Clach, about 75 yards from the top on a slab of living rock are a group of cup and ring marks. One pair of cups has double rings around them and the others have single rings. The cups are all about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. diameter and 1 in. deep. The rock is very much weathered.

**AIRIDH A' GOBHAINN**

NS/09920485. This 19th century village overlies an earlier settlement. A knocking stone, the cup measuring 12 ins. diameter and 8 ins. deep is lying to the NW. of the village.

**LOCHGOILHEAD**

NS/16509950. About  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile South of where the burn runs out of Curra Lochan just above the big waterfall is a group of possibly three or four summer shielings. Two have round cleits attached, one of which is still covered by a large flat stone. There are also, a 4 ft. square building, a semi circular building using a large rock across the arc, and two other unattached circular buildings 6 ft. in diameter.

**STRATHLACHLAN**

NS/02909655. A large flat faced boulder lying in a wood above the road and known locally as MacGregor's Cap has a very deeply incised ring on it 18 ins. in diameter. In the centre is a shallow cup about 2 ins. across and a shallow channel runs out from the edge of the ring.

**LUING**

NR/750108. In the South entrance of the South fort on one of the portal stones are a series of possible cup marks. There are 13 circular depressions  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. deep and 2 ins. diameter. The portal stone is of a different type of stone from those around it.

**BERENICE**

NS/12359170. At the end of the forestry road on the SE. of the river junction there is an early settlement, consisting of circular and semi-rectangular buildings. Three are approximately

12 ft. diameter and one is about 20 ft. by 12 ft. with walls 4 ft. thick. There is also a possible cairn 20 ft. diameter.

Mounds of slag iron have been located at Strathlachlan—NS/03259720 and NS/03489695, also just North of Dunoon—NS/16607873 and NS/16657793.

#### **RAHOY, MORVERN**

*From Miss A. S. Henshall, F.S.A.Scot.*

NM/644560. In a list of chambered cairns (P.P.S. 1951, 67) the late Sir Lindsay Scott mentions one near Rahoy house. This was recently identified. The cairn has a diameter of about 65 feet, and stands to a maximum of about 6 feet high. To the E. of the centre there remains the inner end of a chamber consisting of four orthosts bearing a capstone. The entrance has evidently been from the E. side.

#### **ALLT AN DUBHAIR**

*From Miss Campbell of Kilberry, F.S.A.Scot.*

NR/948974. A small crag at the east end of a ridge falls steeply to a little tributary of the Allt an Dubhair, and slopes to marshy ground on N. and S. An outer wall of boulders crosses the ridge and inside it is a contour fort, oval, with a dip in the spread walling suggesting a gate at the NW. near the edge of the crag. Nearby true wall face can be found, giving a wall thickness of 6 ft. at this point. Small rounded huts and possibly an inner citadel are also traceable inside the upper wall. Total extent of upper area is approximately 200 ft. x 100 ft. There are two or more oval hut-ruins at the base of crag on the SE. side. Extensive rigs and more huts are traceable between this site and Feorlin farm to E.

#### **ARDCASTLE WOOD, ASKNISH FOREST**

NR/950915. Forestry Commission workers recovered both parts of a broken upper quernstone during Spring work, near the shore of Loch Fyne. The site is a small oval platform, possibly connected with charcoal-burning but mainly natural, about 30 ft. x 20 ft., on a steep slope 20 ft. above the loch and overlooking a small bay.

The quern has been presented to the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland by the Commission, and this note is merely to record the find-spot. The quern is decorated with an incised line forming three lobes, each containing a small hollow, perhaps a handle-hole.

#### **ARDIFUIR, LOCH CRINAN**

NR/789970. The ridge of rock extending from the field-dyke N. of the "broch" towards the small fort at NR/790972 proves to be extensively cupmarked for about 500 ft. North-

Easterly up the slope. There are a few cups-and-rings but plain cups predominate. A small boulder in the field nearer the "broch" has two faint small cupmarks.

#### CARNASSERIE MILL (*opposite*)

NM/844013. A sheet of rock (topped by a small erratic) close on E. of the Oban-Kilmartin road was first recorded by E. R. Cregeen. On further stripping, it shows carvings extending over at least 18 ft. x 9 ft. of the flat upper surface of the sheet and including two possible footprints, one partially-ringed cup and about 58 other cups from 2 ins. to 3 ins. diameter. At the NE. end of the rock a system of grooves forms an irregular network resembling a degenerate diamond pattern.

#### FORD LOCH AWE

NM/866038. In an angle of the drove road which runs from Ford to Salachary, a sheet of rock bears cupmarks and grooves over an area 5 ft. x 3 ft. (part of the flat surface being unmarked). Three adjacent cups have single rings tangential to each other; there is one oval 4 ins. x 2 ins. The grooves form a separate group and suggest a formalised animal, stag or ox. Ten feet uphill on the summit of the small crag are two more cups. From this site the cupmarks already recorded (*Discovery and Excavation, 1960*) are seen.

A larger crag overhangs the drove road on the S.; at NM/865038 a boulder on the West slope of the crag, measuring 3 ft. 4 ins. x 2 ft. 8 ins., has at least 12 plain cups on its flat surface.

(Another cupmarked boulder nearby, *Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p.7*).

#### LOCH GAIR

NR/920916. Between the Hydro-Electric Board road to the Loch Glashan Tunnel and Loch Glashan itself is a ruined farm (shown on 6 in. map). Immediately S. of this, in old cultivations, is an irregularly-shaped boulder 5 ft. 8 ins. x 4 ft. x 2 ft. 6 ins. bearing 27 or 28 cups and a small oval. One group forms a ring of small cups round one 2 ins. in diameter. The largest cup on the boulder is 3 ins. in diameter. There are no rings or gutters.

#### LOCH GAIR

NR/920914. Over a rise to SSW. of the last site is a stony mound crossed by a straggling dyke and topped by a small oval hut or possibly a shooting butt. The mound shows kerbing, is at least 10 ft. high, and measures 100 ft. x 75 ft. or more, suggesting a relatively undisturbed large cairn.



## ST. COLUMBA'S CAVE, ELLARY

NR/752767. *The Natural History and Antiquarian Society* of Mid Argyll has continued excavations in and under the mound of material removed from the cave in the 19th century. Finds of bone tools and flints continue, and antler pins in various stages of manufacture have been found.

A long section into the underlying bank is revealing a midden extending at least 50 ft. out from the cave-mouth. The upper layers of this consist (so far) of iron slag, glazed hearth material, broken moulds etc., with some thin wheel-turned pottery provisionally dated to 12th-14th century, the whole sealed by a layer of stones placed in position some time before the clearance of the cave. Weather was unfavourable for work this year, but it is intended to continue the section in the hope of reaching earlier material and dating the wealth of objects recovered from the spoil-tip.

Clearance of the mediaeval chapel ruin has continued under the direction of the proprietors of the site, and has revealed a paved east end (apparently without graves) and a cobbled western end. The altar-base, a very large slab of stone, has been cleared and shows the lowest course of the altar cemented to it. Fragments of cream sandstone mouldings, and the footings of the door, have also been revealed.

## SALACHARY, KINTRAW

NM/839040. A chance sighting led to the discovery of a group of three monoliths, one erect, one sloping and one prostrate, on the West side of a wide glen leading S. from the upper part of the Bealach Mòr: the site commands a fine view into the northern hills. The spot is about 550 ft. above sea level and this is therefore the highest group of standing stones so far recorded in the area.

The erect stone is 8 ft. 4 ins. x 2 ft. x 1 ft., lozenge-shaped in section, with a pointed top. The leaning stone, also lozenge-shaped, is 10 ft. x 1 ft. 8 ins. x 1 ft., and pointed. The fallen stone is over 11 ft. x 2 ft. wide, too deeply buried in turf for the thickness to be measured. The stones appear to have stood in line, the nearest points of the first and third stones 9 ft. apart and the line joining them running north and south.

Along a ridge running S. behind the stones are a number of small ruins, oval and rectangular, in old cultivations. No surviving placename has been recovered for the site so far.

## TOM AN DUNAICHE

NR/944975. A low flat-topped hillock overlooking the wide plain running from Knockalva to Carron has a faint wall on a

foundation of boulders enclosing an irregular oval about 200 ft. x 70 ft. and containing traces of small huts (not measured as the site was under summer bracken). A short distance to NE. is a very clear "stock enclosure" or large round hut 25 ft. in diameter, with a small pile of stones at its centre. Its walls are formed of a double row of stones.

From these sites the fort above Loch Glashan (NR/924930) and the site recorded above, Allt an Dubhair, are in view.

#### TORRAN, FORD

NM/874045. *PSAS XVIII*, p.207, records a find of two bronze spears and a gouge at "Craig Beoch," by boys digging out a lost ferret. Enquiry revealed that the site was known locally and we arranged to visit it with a guide, Mr A. Carmichael. The area is now afforested with fine mature timber, and it was consequently not expected that the exact spot could be identified. After some search, Mr Carmichael pointed out a huge boulder, evidently fallen from the cliff above and resting, with many others, on a steep slope (about 1 in 2 gradient). While we were searching for any signs of rock-shelters among the rocks, Mr Carmichael noticed a metal ring lying exposed under the boulder on the surface of the pine-needles. Further investigation produced a larger ring, three looped and socketed axes, a socketed knife, and two small unidentifiable fragments of bronze. All these lay within or above the humus layer and appeared to have slid out from under the boulder (which is far too large to be moved). Every effort was made to excavate under the rock, within the limits of safety, and it is felt unlikely that any more finds exist. Most probably the cache has come gradually into view after the removal of blocking stones in the original digging for the ferret.

The Forestry Commission has placed the finds in the National Museum of Antiquities, where they join the gouge and one of the spears (the other spear is now lost, having remained in private hands). Preliminary examination suggests that all the objects are of Irish provenance.

The Forestry Commission very kindly gave every facility for the examination of the site, but it cannot be stressed too strongly that this is mature forest, almost ready for felling, and therefore no unauthorised visit to the site should be attempted, in view of the risk of fire or other damage. The site is steep and very difficult of access and a guide would be essential if the right spot was to be found. Nothing now remains to be seen on the spot, the earth etc. having been excavated as far as we could reach under the poised rocks.

The correct placename is given locally as "Creag Beathach," Crag of the Bears or Wild Beasts, suggesting that some cave or den may have existed at one time below the cliff, but has since collapsed.

## CLACHBRECK, LOCH CAOLISPORT

NR/765759. At a site where the 6 inch OS map marks "cists found hereabouts," the manager and his farm workers found flat stones in ploughed land. Very careful deep ploughing by Mr I. MacDougall has aided the location of six cists within an area of 50 ft. x 35 ft., with a ruined outlier 45 ft. to the NE. Two cists had massive cover slabs, and both contained inhumations, one accompanied by sherds. Of the others, 3 had either broken covers or merely a sealing layer of pebbles (including many quartz pebbles). One of these cists contained a mass of cremated bone, representing at least two individuals, and a burnt flint scraper; another had a fine tripartite Food Vessel with decorated rim, and accompanied by traces of inhumation; the third had a red pot, possibly a Beaker/Food Vessel hybrid, with elaborate decoration, it was accompanied by slight traces of charcoal but no bone. The sixth cist is still being excavated. Its capstone has fallen in, due to the decay of a side slab, but Food Vessel sherds and fragments of inhumed bone have been found. The outlier was located after Mr MacDougall had found a black decorated Food Vessel sherd lying on the surface. A burnt flint flake was found near but outside the ruined cist, from which all the slabs have apparently been removed.

At the edge of the field a fine thumbnail scraper was found at a depth of 1 ft. 6 ins., immediately above the subsoil which here is river gravel. A retouched flake was picked up on the surface at some distance from the cists.

A microlithic blade, two heavily patinated micro-scrappers, and a larger flint also of Mesolithic affinities, have been recovered from the soil.

It is hoped that more cists may be found as the ploughing continues over the field.

The proprietor, Sir William Lithgow, Bart., has arranged for the pottery and some bones to receive expert treatment in the Glasgow Museum and Art Gallery, Kelvingrove.

## POLTALLOCH

*From E. R. Cregeen*

NR/821972. The excavations at the gravel-pit at Poltalloch, reported in *Discovery and Excavation* in 1960 and 1961, were concluded this year, aided by a research grant from the University of Glasgow and with largely unpaid volunteer assistance. The site has since been partly demolished by the contractors in levelling operations. A trench dug across the ditch system at the standing stone established that the settlement had been enclosed by an arc-shaped defence, consisting of an inner and an outer ditch, with bank between, which ran across the terrace to isolate the natural promontory to the south of it. It is likely to be of Iron Age date. When partially silted up, the ditches were lined

with low walls and re-used. A hearth containing iron waste, charcoal, and burnt barley was found in the trench at a level suggesting that it was contemporary with the low walls. The upper level of the ditches appeared to have been artificially filled. The standing stone (which was squared and dressed) was proved to have been erected in the fill of the ditch, and is probably mediaeval or post-mediaeval. It was surrounded by a cobbled pavement which extended about eight feet on all sides. The function of the stone remains unexplained.

Within the settlement area, roughly sixty post-holes remaining in the gravel, many of them more than a foot wide and equally deep, were excavated. Study of their construction and plan shows there to have been two round houses, one of 25 feet and another of 35 feet diameter, which were of different periods and overlapped. The larger house (partly destroyed by the contractor's access road in 1959) appeared earlier and probably contemporary with the original defences. The post-holes were flat-bottomed, had vertical sides and were chocked with large stones. The smaller house was complete in plan, and had apparently been burnt down. Three burnt posts remained in situ. The post-holes were bowl-shaped and chocked with flat pieces of stone, and usually contained a great deal of charcoal. Dating evidence was inconclusive, but a date late in the Dark Ages or early in the mediaeval period seems probable for the destruction of the smaller house.

Five oval hollows, measuring between two and five feet across and between four and thirteen inches in depth, were found excavated in hard gravel just outside the smaller house. Another large oval hollow, measuring over nine feet in length, four in breadth, and two in depth, was probably a cooking-pit. Its sides were almost vertical, and the floor was thickly covered with charcoal. It had later been paved with large rounded stones as a hearth or kiln.

A later, mediaeval settlement, with stone foundations and pottery both glazed and unglazed, lay nearby. Paving with similar unglazed pottery occurred over the fill of the ditch in its immediate neighbourhood, indicating that the mediaeval settlement expanded beyond the confines of the Iron Age fort.

## IONA

*From Mr A. C. Thomas*

The preparations for the fourteenth centenary of St. Columba's landing on Iona in 563 A.D. were designed to include exposure of the mediaeval Street of the Dead (*Discovery and Excavation, 1960*, page 11). The work was undertaken by staff and members of the Iona Community, and Mr Richard Reece of Cirencester, who was with the 1959 excavation party, kindly undertook to act as archaeological supervisor for the Russell Trust and to record any discoveries.

Exposure of this roadway, constructed of granite boulders and in parts with a kerb, involved the removal of a thin layer of soil and turf, which was scarped back on either side. The putative southern end investigated in 1959, where the Street enters the enceinte of the Releig Orain, was shown to be somewhat east of its assumed line, and what was in 1959 taken to be the Street at this point may eventually prove to be a post-mediaeval structure. At the northern end, where the Street enters the (buried) gateway of the Benedictine precinct, possibly of the 13th century A.D., Mr Reece recorded putative land-surface and occupation of the Columban period comparatively close to the present surface. This is of some importance, since in previous seasons it was found that anywhere nearer the Abbey, this early level was invariably cloaked by some feet of rubble referable to the 1900 reconstructions, and its exposure was physically a matter of time and difficulty. Mr Reece noted at least two periods of road construction by the gateway, and below these, the presence of post-holes or sockets, some of which indicate shaped timbers.

At the Releig Orain end, close to the road, and so short a distance below the turf as to suggest that it was thrown out there from the graveyard in the last century and a half, Mr Reece noted a new recumbent cross-slab, of which he has provided rubbings and photographs. The slab is broken longitudinally, and is some 3 feet long. The central cross possesses expanded semi-circular terminals, and a broad interlace. The unbroken margin contains a long band bearing a Runic inscription: a preliminary reading by Mr Alexander Fenton of the National Museum of Antiquities is KALI B (or O?) ULUIS SUNR LATHI STAN THINSI UBIR FUKL BRUTHUR SIN — Kali, Buluis son, laid this stone over Fukl his brother. The style of the cross, the historical circumstances, and the form of runic script used suggest a date centred on 1000 A.D. Expert comment is being sought on the linguistic forms involved. A Norse runic inscription of this length is a rare and welcome discovery in western Scotland.

#### PORT OF THE BIG MOUTH—S.W. *From Miss E. B. Rennie and Mrs Christian*

A well constructed rectangular cavity was found among the large pebbles on the storm beach. Dimensions were  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ft. x 2 ft. The cavity is lined with large sea-washed boulders which at the top form a margin about 1 ft. wide. From the top outside edge of these stones the shore slopes gradually up for another 2 ft. all round, to the actual shore level.

On the direct line between Cobhain Cuidich and Geodha Cnoc a' Chròtha and about 200 yds. from high tide mark is a circular foundation 21 ft. in diameter, with walls 3 ft. 6 ins. broad and a depression 4 ft. diameter in the middle.

In a glen lying about 900 ft. to the SW. of Dun Manamin is a circle 16 ft. in diameter. The breadth of the walls cannot be defined.

To the north of the marble quarries and over the headland into the next dip (above Port Carnan a' Ghille) is an enclosure 80 ft. x 60 ft.

#### ISLAY

*From Mr Frank Newall*

Mesolithic Occupation of Gleann Mor and the Port Charlotte area. Bolsay Farm. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p. 17*). During spring sowing Mr Donald McFadyen collected some 160 flints from his cornfield NR/225572. With his permission a survey of the neighbouring field NR/224573 was made, and the total was increased to 380. Inspection of trampled ground at the W. limit of cultivation showed that the Mesolithic occupation surface continues for some distance into the moor beyond under peat of increasing depth. This area has now proved to have been occupied fairly intensively over some 60 acres, and it is known that fields farther S. have yielded flints. One micro-burin and several notched blades are among the artifacts collected.

#### KILCHIARAIN ROAD STONE QUARRY (Site B)

NR/233585. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1960, p. 15*). This site has been proved to continue N. for some 100 yards, in the direction of the site A extension reported last year (*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p. 17*), while site A has been extended E. in the direction of site C, NR/235582. It appears probable that these are aspects of a continuous occupation area similar to that at Bolsay, and covering, as at present limited, some 25 acres.

#### KILCHIARAIN ROAD (Site D)

NR/23955825. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1960, p. 16*). Ernest Newall has recovered flint blades along the North side of the road to NR/243583. This is a possible continuation Eastward of site D, while the site itself has been found to extend N. for some 120 yds. Mr Duncan McFadyen says that flints may be found in the upper fields of Octomore, between Octomore and Lorgbaw NR/252595. Here, at the side of Manse Road, several struck flakes were noted in 1961. Provision has been made for inspection of this area during harrowing.

#### CILL MHCHEIL AREA

(*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p. 17*). George Newall and Alec Turnbull have shown that flints of Mesolithic character occur sporadically in this area from NR/243569 to NR/23955640, either in a very thin spread of sand beneath peat, or on the

surface of the clay normally underlying the sand. The correlation indeed, is such as to suggest that the sandy layer resulted from, rather than induced, occupation.

#### TRAIGH AN LUIG

NR/287636. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1960*, p. 17). Mr W. O. Black has noted a fourth, and the second largest hollow, represented by a surviving segment, cut by the gravel quarry E. of the branch road to Gruinart. The section shows that the bank encircling the "hollow" rises 2 ft. above the original surface and was formed of the few inches of top gravel removed to secure a hard flat sandy floor within the circular bank. There was no trace of an occupation floor either in the section, or on the floor, of the quarry. No traces of revetment, stone or timber, could be observed on either face of the gravel bank.

The following sites were located, or visited, with Captain Graham Donald, Ernest and Frank Newall, jnr.

NR/1915575. Here the complete plan of a Baile has been recovered, occupying a low rise some 119 ft. by 100 ft., and in part artificially raised. The NE. side and part of the NW. side are strictly linear, being regulated by the main building, which measures some 100 ft. by 22 ft. and is divided into three apartments, the largest of which is 42 ft. long. Two smaller attachments at the SE. end are possibly byres or milking sheds. Facing this across the enclosed yard, and backed against a more dilapidated curvilinear wall are the less regular outlines of store sheds and other offices. At the extreme Western end this wall sweeps round to enclose at a lower level, a yard 86 ft. by 50 ft. All around are the turf dykes of associated fields, while 100 ft. S. is a complex of two separate rectangular, round cornered buildings, only 2 ft. apart, end to end, and enclosed by a low turf wall only 2 ft. from them. A socketed stone at the W. end points to a gate. The buildings, which measure 33 ft. by 21 ft., and 27 ft. by 18 ft., were possibly corn sheds. A smaller structure 12 ft. by 6 ft. lies 60 ft. to the E. (This site is apparently earlier than a superficially similar arrangement at Cnoc na Geoidh, NR/201552 where croft ruins surround a yard on three sides.)

To the W. two adjacent stone walled yards undoubtedly belonging to the farm outlined above, are possibly cattle pounds. Just N. of these is a standing stone 5 ft. 2 ins. high by 2 ft. 7 ins. by 1 ft. 11 ins. (NR/190557). A crescentic hollow in the top surface is due to erosion along fissures. This standing stone and the adjacent enclosures were noted by Mr John M. Paterson. The stone is unmapped but the major items are shown on the 6 inch O.S. map as enclosures without trace of building. All lie to the N. of the Ballimony road. To the S. are further turf dykes and several small patches of lazy beds.

## CARN MOR AREA

Creag an Tairbh. NR/21456085. In a natural green flat area, some 400 ft. long from North-South between parallel outcrop ridges is a remarkable assemblage of structures. At the extreme N. end, on the crest of a scarp falling steeply N. is a low up-pointed standing stone about 2 ft. high. Fifty-two feet S. is a low circular mound of stones of indeterminate significance but certainly artificial. Fifty-four feet S. of this is a heel-shaped cairn 18 ft. 6 ins. long and with a broad 17 ft. 6 ins. end facing S. A very large slab against the outcrop scarp a few yards to the W. may have been removed from this. Two flankers are in situ at the SE. and SW. corners, and the outline of a rectangular cell or cist, at least 4 ft. wide, is discernible extending inwards some 8 ft. from the S. end. An exactly similar but apparently intact cairn lies 176 ft. S. of the first. These and the standing stone are in strict alignment.

The southern cairn which also faces S. is 18 ft. long, only 15 ft. 6 ins. across the broad S.-facing end, and little over 2 ft. high. A remarkable feature is a long blocking slab, set on edge centrally, in the broad end between the heavy stone flankers. In front of this and driven much deeper into the earth is a second slab. Each is about 5 ft. long and contiguous. Even more remarkable is the presence of further cairns in corresponding juxtaposition to the heel-shaped cairns.

East-South-East of the southern cairn an intact round cairn is piled against the face of the E. outcrop scarp. It is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in diameter and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high.

East-South-East of the northern cairn is a structure of similar diameter which has been disturbed. Cairn material survives at the S. end. The outline is continued by a low circular stone kerb which is interrupted, just before it ceases against the outcrop face, by a northern entrance 14 ins. wide. This is marked by slabs set on end and facing each other. There is no trace of any internal structure above ground.

A large cairn-like knoll to the S. of this area is possibly Carn Mor. In view of the Island respect for the dead it is possible that clearance of the above area ceased when the purpose of the cairns became apparent.

Beyond the W. outcrop ridge, and a second parallel to it, and some 200 yards W. of the southern cairn is a subrectangular mound some 4 ft. high and about 20 ft. by 15 ft. with loose stones throughout.

About 200 ft. W. of the standing stone is a two chambered stone structure 20 ft. overall North-South by 12 ft. overall East-West, with a rounded N. end and containing two chambers  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ft. by 7 ft., and 3 ft. by 7 ft. in the N. and S. ends respectively.



Some 400 yards to the NW., in the valley bottom near a ruined croft, is a low hillock with sloping top surrounded by an oval turf grown wall (cf. Upper Killeyan, *Discovery and Excavation*, 1960, p. 18).

The following sites were located by Mr Donald McFadyen of Bolsay.

#### BEINN TART A MHILL, NORTH FACE

NR/217572. On a small sheltered plateau, on the N. face of the Beinn and flanked on the W. by the outcrop scarp which descends almost to the bottom of the hill, is a group of green turf grown mounds with very little stone showing. These appear to be early huts of some permanence. The most obvious lies to the W., near the scarp. It is 2 ft. high and 15 ft. by 12 ft. with a slightly lower attachment on the E. increasing the length to 22 ft. In the S. wall of the main hut is a small circular hollow about 4 ft. in diameter. Between this and the scarp is a small triangular enclosure, 12 ft. North-South by 14 ft. East-West, the scarp forming the third side. Fifty feet to the E. is a second mound 23 ft. East-West by 11 ft. North-South, with slightly higher build 15 ft. East-West at the eastern end. Between the two long mounds is a lower but more circular mound. A short distance to the S. a fifth structure with a few stones showing through the turf is recessed into the rising slope of the hill, while 120 yards S. of the most westerly mound, and built against the scarp is a small hut 19 ft. by 13 ft. The east and west walls have 4 slabs set on their long edge and placed centrally in the wall. In the centre a large flat topped stone partly protrudes from the turf.

All lie some 200 to 250 yards W. of the highest obvious hill farm ruins, and are much more substantial than the low turf-outlined rectangular foundations of what may have been duck shooters' huts, located by Mr McFadyen along the burnside at NR/22755685, NR/227567, and NR/22555662.

NR/215573. At the entrance to the Glen on the W. of Beinn Tart à Mhill the path begins to round the shoulder from the N. face and then descends to pass through a turf head dyke. At this point enclosed in a small area, outlined by the head dyke, and by a curving stretch of dyke which swings S. from it to end against the crag face which marks the W. face of the Beinn proper, Mr Donald McFadyen has located a small burial mound 7 ft. East-West by 5 ft. at base North-South and 3 ft. high at the broadest E. End. Probing the N. side near the broad end showed that the upper 2 ft. of the mound consists of loose stones, laid on upcast subsoil which overlies and passes down between slabs laid NS. across the mound. The probable base dimensions beneath the mound are 6 ft. by 3-3½ ft.

The following were recorded with Mr Donald McFadyen.

A group of small dilapidated stone walled structures among scree at the bottom of the W. face of Beinn Tart à Mhill are probably lambing pens, but may be earlier buildings. Two lie at NR/213573 on the E. side of the burn flowing through the glen. On the W. side a semicircular high, heavy walled structure, overlaps a slightly longer build (NR/212573), while to the W. on open moor (NR/212574), a similar structure is so tumbled as to suggest a hut circle. All are from 10 ft. to 15 ft. across.

To the SE. of Cnoc Mor, NR/20655725—shown as a series of enclosures of varying size and outline on the 6 inch O.S. map—is an early settlement of some 15 structures, rectangular, semicircular, and subrectangular. Two obviously later buildings, though reduced and overgrown, overlie earlier spread tumble. One rectangular build appears to lie within what at one time may have been a continuous circular turf wall, of which only the N. and E. arcs may now be traced, though tumbled stone continues the arc round the SE.

On the SW. slope of Beinn Tart à Mhill, near the foot of the hill, NR/205570, are several small round accumulations of loose stones, 2 ft. - 3 ft. high and 6 ft. - 8 ft. across.

#### TRAIGH MACHIR—KILCHIARAIN—KILCHOMAN

The following were located with Captain Graham Donald, Mr H. E. Newall, Ernest and George Newall.

NR/202613. Previously located by Captain Donald, this site is overlooked by the bluff of Granny's Rock, and lies immediately below the path as it swings round the face of the Rock. Despite the indefensive site a roughly rectangular enclosure 151 ft. East-West by 62 ft. - 65 ft. North-South has a 6 ft. - 8 ft. wide wall. At the West end the wall expands to 43 ft. to enclose a circular cell 21 ft. internally, with a rather irregular passage. At the NE. end the wall expands to 22 ft. In the centre of the remaining internal rectangle is a circular structure resembling a small galleried dun. The central area is 15 ft. in diameter. A cell opens in the E. wall. In the W. wall is an independent cell about 5 ft. wide, while a further small circular enclosure is contained in the NE. wall. The wall, which is 15 ft. thick except on the N. where it is reduced to 7 ft., expands towards the S. to join the outer wall of the enclosure, attaining a maximum thickness of 26 ft. At the W. end the enclosure wall sends off a spur from the NW. corner to enclose a small annexe 18 ft. wide at the open S. end. The amount of tumble of the inner structures and the present height of the debris point to walls of some considerable height. A wet hollow in the SW corner of the enclosure may indicate a well.

To the S. of this small fort, George Newall noted a low standing slab, 120 ft. from the cliff edge, and 4 ft. high by 1 ft. by 2 ins. - 3 ins. At the foot of the cliff there is another low slab, 2 ft. high, set on edge and leaning forward. These slabs may represent tumble. A short distance to the S. the cliff is split from top to bottom by a vertical crack, the only significant feature in the entire face. It may merit record that a line drawn from this crack over the top of the standing slab clears the reef which prevents a straight run into Traigh Machir from the S.

#### DUN CHROISPRIG

NGR-NR/20756175. (P.S.A.S., LXIX, p. 84; LXXX, pp. 101-2). The NGR is not provided in the reports cited. It should be repeated that this broch does not lie on the hill ridge proper, but on a spur near the foot, and rising from the 25 ft. beach.

#### DUN NEADEAN

(Reported by Prof. Piggott, P.S.A.S., LXXX, p. 102). This galleried dun site, No. 26 in the P.S.A.S. paper quoted above is known to local fishermen as Ton Neadean or Dun Neadean--The fort of the nests. It appears also to have been referred to simply as An Faing, the neighbouring inlet being described as Buin na Faing. The NGR is NR/205621. The place name was given by Mrs Duncan McFadyen and Peter McLellan.

About 200 yds. SW. of Dun Chroisprig is the passage grave located by Prof. Piggott (P.S.A.S., LXXX, pp. 99-100, fig. 9). NR/20556170. To the WNW. of Dun Chroisprig, at the edge of the raised beach, NR/205618 is an apparently disturbed cairn of somewhat unusual appearance. A low circular mound 40 ft. overall North-South by 36 ft. East-West is edged round the Southern arc by some 9 or 10 stones rising from the turf. The ground rises gently inwards for some 6 ft.-13 ft., the distance increasing from North to South, to a distinctly higher "central" mound about 20 ft. in diameter and edged with larger stones. On the E. the lower mound sends out two spurs to enclose a deep U-shaped area 17 ft. wide at extreme E. and probably originally 26 ft. wide. This expands to enclose, within a scatter of turf covered stones, a hollow some 10 ft. in diameter. The "forecourt" between the two spurs is about 28 ft. deep from East-West. Within the higher central mound near the W. side is a cell 2 ft. deep and 8 ft. long from North-South by 4 ft. 10 ins. East-West, being set at right angles to the "forecourt." A line of stones running out towards the centre of the "forecourt" from the SE. quarter of the small chamber may indicate an eccentrically placed entrance passage.

The site was planned with the assistance of George Newall.

NR/208619. To the N. of Dun Chroisprig and concealed from it by a hill spur, and to the N. of the Kilchiarain boundary fence are the foundations of a small galleried dun. This is built on a low outcropping ledge which runs out W. from the foot of the precipitous hill. It is circular, 38 ft. - 40 ft. overall diameter and surrounded by a wall 11 ft. - 12 ft. wide on the West which is the seaward face, and by double walling, 4 ft. by 4 ft., with a 4 ft. gap between, on the E. side. At one point, where it adapts itself to outcrop, the wall is three courses high, but the entire structure is much reduced.

Between the fort and a ruined cottage to the N. are three rectangular foundations, while 176 yards W. of the fort is a less regular foundation, roughly rectangular but with a rounded E. end and with the W. end not truly aligned. This opens on the North into a rectangular yard; just outside the NW. corner of which a barrel shaped boulder 4 ft. 8 ins. by 3 ft. 6 ins., by some 9 ins. high contains a chipped out cup 7 ins. wide and 4½ ins. deep. (A somewhat larger earthenware quern or mortar was located in 1961 by Mr H. E. Newall at Upper Killevan, just E. of the farm NR/281419. There the cup was 1 ft. wide and 6 ins. deep). Eighty yards farther WNW., near the edge of the raised beach is another rectangular foundation. All the foundations are possibly of the same period and appear to be of an early croftinø era. If the fort acted as the quarry for these houses it would have stood almost 10 ft. high to allow an estimated 5000 cubic feet of stone to be removed.

The fort was located and planned with George Newall.

Beside and E. of the path just N. of Granny's Rock, about NR/204615, Messrs H. E. Newall and Ernest Newall located a small structure about 8 ft. overall, rising 1 ft. above ground and with a central hollow over 3 ft. deep. A moveable slab lay beside the entrance. This is possibly a kiln.

The following were located with Messrs Peter McLellan, Dugald Grant, and H. E. Newall.

#### MULLACH DUBH

NR/400639. On the E. side of the Bridgend-Ballygrant Glen Road, some 400 yards SW. of a mapped standing stone, and within 200 yards of the road Mr H. E. Newall noted stones in alignment. A brief investigation revealed two large houses of the circular An Sithean type (*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p. 19*), with associated rectangular structures. The smaller house covers 36 ft. overall diameter, with a rectangular attachment on the N. The larger, to the N., is only partly traceable in a broken land surface among the countless outcropping stones among which are several smaller structures. Old turf field dykes extend for some distance to N. and S. on both sides of the road.

Further S., NR/395617,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile N. of Barr and 120 ft. from the E. side of the road is a rectangular mass of outcropping rock. A quartzite hammer stone-rubber, broken about the centre was found at the edge of the rock. The surviving half of the implement is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  ins. long, ovate in section,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ins. by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ins. across the fracture, slightly polished on the flatter broader side, and pitted by percussion along the slightly ridged opposite side. The end bears the typical abrasion scar of the hammer stone, here 1 inch in diameter.

The stone is in the possession of the Islay Natural History and Antiquarian Society.

#### ARDNAHOE

NR/424715. Between Ardnahoe Farm and Loch, and close to the shore of the Loch is a turf and stone walled circle.

#### KINTRA

*From Dr Mair Livingstone*

Walking South along the seaward side of the drystone field wall at Kintra farm, about halfway (say 50 yards) between the farm and an empty cottage to the South of it, I observed a stone basin lying in the grass at the foot of the wall. I sketched this and James Livingstone photographed it. We reported it to R. Hodgkinson of Bowmore, Islay, the Secretary of the Islay Natural History and Antiquarian Society, who told us that it was not already known or recorded. This was on 2nd September 1962.

The basin appears to be a font hewn from grey stone. The round water bowl is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep and nearly 11 inches in diameter. The outline of the font is triangular, with broken corners. Probably the three sides were about 2 feet long each. This may be a Trinity Font taken from an early church.

#### KILDALTON AREA

*From W. D. Lamont*

NR/466553. For the note under this reference on p. 12 of *Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1959*, substitute the following: On the SE. slope of Maol Ardtalla, at Cnoc na Rinneig (6 inch map), is a conspicuous, flat-topped boulder with at least one cup depression.

Immediately below and to the NE. of the rock are two or three terrace plots.

A short distance (perhaps 100 yards) further NE. is a typical chapel site. The chapel is about  $15 \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  ft. (though the interior is divided by later walling), and the enclosure — a broad oval — has a long axis of about 40 ft.

NR/406456. About 60 yards from Dunnyveg, on a line between the castle and manager's house is an irregular block of stone with a depression about 10 ins. deep and 1 ft. in diameter at the top. The stone has also a small cup.

NR/408459. ENE. of Lagavulin, and immediately inside the large iron gate (on right of road) after the gate leading to Dunnyveg, is a group of stones said to mark the grave of a MacKay slain by the MacDonalds of Dunnyveg. The position of some of the stones suggests a Clyde-Carlingford site.

#### THE OA

NR/313480. At the N. side of Port Alsaig is a rock fort with an internal diameter of about 21 ft. The walls are partly natural, partly artificial. This is probably the *Dun a' Chail* of the 6 inch map, though the type should be Gothic, not italic.

On a pointed hillock some 20 yards to the S. there has been another, much smaller fortification.

NR/295479. Ard Fhroach. In a note on this site in *Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1959*, p. 16, I said that it, like Dun Aidh (NR/285408), must have been a refuge for the local population, being quite inappropriate as a base for seafarers. This is a serious error so far as Ard Fhroach is concerned. Port a Bhata (NR/297481) provides excellent landing and beaching facilities. I have probably also underestimated the extent to which use would be made of the beaches near Dun Aidh.

NR/310476. Lying beside the cairn on the summit of Cnoc Mor Ghrasdail is a roughly pointed slab of phyllite with numerous cups. This is a curious position in which to find such a stone, and it may have been carried up the hill to grace an earlier, larger cairn.

The following are all in or near Tokamol, Oa :

NR/300473. Boulder with deep cut at main Tokamol ruins. This group of ruins is bounded on the S. by a burn. Nearest the burn are some lines of walling, and immediately N. of them is a line of ruins consisting of three blocks of buildings. The N. wall of the middle block is built over a large boulder which projects some 3 ft. from the wall. In this boulder, close to the wall, is a cone-shaped depression about 3 ins. deep and 5-6 ins. in diameter at the mouth.

NR/293475. About half a mile W. of the main ruins is another group. Roughly 150 yards WNW. of this latter group, and approximately 25 yards N. of an old turf-and-stone wall, are the remains of an oval structure 18 x 9 ft. Whether it was a cairn or dwelling I cannot guess.

NR/306469. Cup marked stone. Up the burn at the southern side of the main ruins, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from those ruins and a few yards on the N. side of the burn, is an outcrop of phyllite with several small cups. The western, vertical face of the rock is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high, and the horizontal, cup-marked face has an exposed area of about 9 x 3 ft.

This is *not* the stone already reported in *Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1959*, p. 16 (NR/301473)—the correct dimensions of which, incidentally, are 7 x 4 ft.

NR/305468. (a) On the southern side of the burn mentioned in the preceding item, and some 50 yards SW. of the stone NR/306469, is a puzzling structure. There are the remains of a wall 30 to 40 ft. in diameter. Within this, and using part of the original wall, a smaller enclosure 11 ft. in diameter has been built.

(b) Farther up the hillside (about 70 yards WSW) are some fairly conspicuous stones forming a rough circle 4-5 ft. in diameter, one of the stones resting on its edge.

### TIREE

#### DUN MOR VAUL

*From E. W. MacKie*

NM/04204925. Excavations were carried out for four weeks in August on Dun Mor under the auspices of the Hunterian Museum, with the aid of a grant from Glasgow University and with the assistance of an average of about twenty volunteers, mostly from England.

The site, which Beveridge (1) described as a semi-broch, consists of a circular fort of dry-stone masonry with an external diameter of from 55 to 60 feet and an internal one of from 31 to 33 feet. It is surrounded by an outwork wall of similar masonry which is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick at one point and the whole occupies a rocky knoll overlooking the sea. The central dun possesses several broch-like features including an entrance passage with door-checks, pivot stone, one bar-hole and a guard cell opening off it, a scarcement ledge about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the floor, a battered exterior wall-face and a continuous mural chamber running round the structure at ground level, entered by two doorways from the interior and containing a staircase.

A secondary wall had been built against the interior face of the dun wall and it seems probable that an aisled wheelhouse had been constructed inside. Large quantities of pottery and artefacts analogous to those recovered from the Clettraval wheelhouse in N. Uist (2) were found. A short account of the work has appeared elsewhere.

Work will be resumed next summer.

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(1) Erskine Beveridge, "Coll and Tiree," pp. 76-8 (1903).

(2) Sir Lindsay Scott, "Gallo British Colonies . . . . .", *Proc. Preh. Soc.*, vol. 14, (1948), pp. 46-95.

## HEANISH

*From Mr C. F. Tebbutt*

NM/038435. Inland of Heanish Bay, Isle of Tiree, about 80 yards from the shore is a circular grass covered mound about 100 feet across and 5 feet high. Part of the centre of the mound has been wind eroded to the depth of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet exposing the underlying sand. Protruding slightly above the sand surface is an irregular semi-circle of large stones which appear to form part of a circle 30 feet in diameter the remainder of which is still covered by the uneroded part of the mound. After cleaning up the vertical face of the eroded area it was found that below the present surface of the mound an old turf line rose to the top of the stone circle but that the mound had been raised upon, and the stones dug into, an older shell midden layer. About 6 square yards of this midden, outside the stone circle, was cleared down to clean sand and found to contain animal bones (cow and sheep or goat have been identified) 3 finely worked flint thumb-nail scrapers, wood ash, and many pottery sherds. The pottery comes from shouldered hand made vessels in thick (c.  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.) coarse red, brown and black ware, probably of the Bronze Age. Much of it is decorated with wide horizontal or diagonal grooves on and below the shoulder and repeated on the rim. They will be placed in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh. It is hoped to investigate the site further.

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## AYRSHIRE

### WEST KILBRIDE AND DARVEL

*From T. A. Hendry*

In late March and May, 1962, members of two University of Glasgow Extra-Mural Classes in Archaeology (with the kind permission of Mr Auld, Glenhead Farm and Mr Lang, Bankhead Farm) surveyed and made preliminary examinations of two sites:—

### WEST KILBRIDE

NS/215454. The site, lying above the coast road at Glenfoot Lodge, 2 miles SSE. of West Kilbride, occupies the summit of a section of the 100 ft. raised beach. Its steep sides fall down to the gully of the Gourock Burn on the S. and E., while to the N. the site is detached from the raised beach by a vast ditch, probably mostly natural, over 30 ft. deep. The top of the hillock is divided into two sections (hence the name, "Glenhead Double Fort") by another ditch, 18 ft. deep, measured from the fort (dun) on the N. side.

A trench on the N. fort revealed that the rampart, which, on the N. side, stands 5 ft. above the level of the interior of the fort, was approximately 12 ft. thick and consisted of very tough pink



clay with a quantity of loose rubble on top. No traces of any facing to the rampart were found. Beneath the rubble within the fort three post-holes of timber uprights were found. On the S. side only a small part of the rampart remained. At the point examined, it consisted of a mixture of clay, earth and stones, probably upcast material from the ditch. Finds were limited to a few unidentifiable bone fragments.

The second 'fort' lies 12 ft. below the level of the dun. A trench here showed that the rampart-like feature was composed of stones, clay and earth, thrown up from the ditch. Within this there was found no evidence of occupation.

#### DARVEL

NS/573388. The Bankhead 'fort' (O.S. "Castle Hill", local tradition "Castle Lowrie") is situated  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles NE. of Darvel, on the E. side of the valley of the Glen Water. Its sides fall sharply into deep gullies on N. and S. and over 80 ft. on the W. to the river. The site, of an irregular circular plan, 70 ft. by 60 ft., is detached from the field on the E. side by a ditch, 54 ft. wide and 8 ft. deep, measured from top of the fort rampart. The strategic value of the position is lessened by the fact that the field level is 9 ft. above that of the fort.

In the trenches cut, several facts were ascertained. Around the perimeter ran a rampart, now very badly eroded, consisting of stones, gravel and earth. Behind this lay, all round the site, a shallow depression 6 ft. wide and 1 ft. deep. The original ground surface was of hard-packed clay and gravel. Post-holes gave evidence of timber structure(s). Stratification and condition of site would indicate a very short occupation and frequent signs of burning would suggest a possible reason. Unfortunately no dateable evidence has as yet been found, but it is quite clear that the tradition of a stone and lime castle on the site is completely erroneous.

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#### BANFFSHIRE

##### KNOCK FARM

*From Mr Alan Small,  
Department of Geography, Old Aberdeen*

Detailed excavation has commenced on an underground dwelling at Knock Farm. It is too early to make a detailed report at this stage but it appears that the entrance passage has been interrupted by the intrusion of later structures.

##### THE ENZIE

*From Iain C. Walker*

In the *Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club* II (1880-3) 284, there is a reference to a "very fine" spearhead found some years previously in The Enzie, and in the

Collection of Canon John James Kyles of Preshome, Clochan, in The Enzie, near Buckie, Banffshire. Later there is a reference in *PSAS XXXIII* (1898-9) 56, to what must be the same spearhead, "a spear of bronze," in this Collection.

This spearhead is at present in St. Mary's College, Blairs, Aberdeen, and I am grateful to Father James Robertson of Preshome for information which led to the tracking down of this spearhead. I have been unable to visit St. Mary's College, but the Rector, Father F. Thomson, very kindly sent me drawings of the spearhead. It is at present labelled "Roman spearhead—found in the Enzie."

Its present state is rather less than "very fine," and the entire shaft below the blade is missing, as is part of the shaft inside the blade, especially on one face. It is probably of Greenwell and Brewis' Class V. Its surviving length is approximately  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ins., and the surviving maximum width of the blade is 2 ins. or thereby. The bronze socketed axe mentioned in the *PSAS* reference above does not seem to be at Blairs, though there are there four or five stone axes.

The Enzie is the name of a district, and also a quoad sacra parish, both of which lie across the present Moray-Banffshire border. Prior to 1890, however, the quoad sacra parish lay entirely in Banffshire.

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## BUTESHIRE

*From Miss Isabel Milligan*

Just outside the cashel wall surrounding the monastic settlement of St. Blane (O.S. 095534) lies a kiln. With the help of pupils of Rothesay Academy this was excavated and planned. Three sherds of Mediaeval green glazed ware were found. Pottery of the same hard, gritty ware was found in the Longhouses at Little Dunagoil. Mr Stevenson, National Museum of Antiquities, dates this to 12th or 13th Century and considers it to have a west coast distribution. While no vegetable remains were found it is likely that it was a corn drying kiln.

A survey of kilns on the Island of Bute is being carried out.

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## CAITHNESS

DALMORE, HALKIRK

*From Mr Robert E. MacCallum*

ND/135492. In July, 1960, mechanical excavations disturbed a short cist which was found to contain a skeleton, flint arrowhead (leaf-shaped), and food vessel. Further excavations revealed three more cists some fifty yards distant, all containing the parts of skeletons. All these objects are in the museum of Marischal College, Aberdeen.

## DUNNET BAY, CASTLETOWN

ND/204682. Sand quarrying among the dunes in April, 1961, revealed a cist containing a male skeleton extended north and south. Close by the extended burial of a female and a quern were disturbed; some time later another female skeleton was revealed by quarrying. The contents of the first two cists were removed to Marischal College.

## BALLACHLY, DUNBEATH

ND/157304. A decorated whorl, dating from the late middle ages to the 18th century, was found during ploughing.

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## DUMFRIES - SHIRE

### BIRRENS

*From Miss Anne S. Robertson, Hunterian Museum*

NY/218753. In June-July, 1962, the first of five projected seasons of excavation was carried out on the site of the Roman fort at Birrens, Dumfries-shire, where a training school in excavation has now been established by the Scottish Field School of Archaeology, under the auspices of the four Scottish Universities. Over 30 students attended, from all four Scottish Universities, from Jordanhill Training College, and from the Universities of Cambridge, Durham, Exeter and London. There were also several "adult" students, who had received information about the training school through the Scottish Regional Group, C.B.A.

Since the Birrens school was primarily designed to provide practical and theoretical instruction in the various aspects of excavation work, the progress of the actual excavation would, it was expected, be subservient to this aim, and consequently very slow. In the event the archaeological results proved to be of considerable importance, and the harvest of finds unexpectedly plentiful.

A trench, 200 ft. long and 4 ft. wide, was cut from the west ditch of the fort through the west rampart and across the interior as far as the central road. This trench alone provided evidence for the presence of a Flavian (late 1st century A.D.) fort, whose turf rampart had later been demolished to make way for a 2nd century (probably Antonine) fort whose rampart had been set on an 18 ft. wide stone base. The 2nd century fort had been laid out by legionaries and subsequently repaired by auxiliaries.

Within the fort were identified the remains of timber buildings of the Flavian period, and remains of stone buildings belonging to two successive 2nd century building periods.

In addition to the main section, shorter sections were cut on the three surviving sides of the fort site, to establish the exact line of the 2nd century rampart. The few coins and the great mass of pottery recovered were all of 1st or 2nd century date.

#### **BECKTON**

*From Mr A. E. Truckell, Dumfries Burgh Museum*

On the farm of Beckton a gravelly hill at point NY/130822 was removed for bottoming. As the topsoil was stripped, Mr W. F. Cormack of Lockerbie noticed that palisade trenches were being revealed, and was able to plan the enclosure before destruction. Circular and 50 yards in diameter it was subdivided by an internal palisade into an inner crescent shaped area and an outer gibbous shaped area. The entrance being similar to the enclosure at Shoulderhill No. 670 of the Roxburghshire Inventory. A substantial portion of one pottery vessel was recovered and a few sherds of two other vessels, also a few flints. The pottery appears to belong to the Early Iron Age.

#### **BROOMHOUSES**

*Per Mr W. F. Cormack*

A few hundred yards north of the above site on a gravelly hill at point NY/132825 on the farm of Broomhouses, as the topsoil was being removed, a second and somewhat larger palisaded enclosure was noticed. Rapidity of destruction on this occasion resulted in a disappointing and incomplete plan showing, however, several occupations on the same site. Portions of this site survive on both sides of the dual carriageway, and so are available for future investigation.

#### **CAMP HILL, TROHOUGHTON**

*Per Mr W. F. Cormack*

NY/997727. Two more seasons of excavation have been carried out at this site this year, yielding many more oriented burials and many more post holes and pits. Several phases of the entrance at the East side of the fort have been disclosed. All work here, as in previous seasons, has been carried out under the direction of General Scott-Elliott.

#### **BROOMHOLMSHIEL, LANGHOLM**

Mr Charles Daniel and his team carried out their second season of work at the Roman sites here, finding more evidence of native occupation immediately before and after the Roman occupation.

#### **FINDS**

All now in Dumfries Burgh Museum.

#### **REDKIRK POINT**

NY/302651. Several flints, numerous sherds of mediaeval pottery, one or two lead rivets, and part of a pilgrim cap badge

of lead, were brought in to the Museum. Geologists from Glasgow University have been studying the peat deposits occurring beneath and in the cliffs of carse clay, which are here being rapidly eroded by the sea.

#### KIRKPATRICK FLEMING

NY/276700. A field on the farm of Kirkpatrick ploughed for the first time for many years has yielded from a few square feet 50 lbs. or so in weight of iron blooms—several yards away a fragment of fine quality painted mediaeval pottery was picked up.

#### LOCKERBIE

NY/133814. Work on the by pass yielded in a peatty morass a slightly damaged bronze mediaeval skillet 10 ins. in diameter and 12 ins. high.

NY/133813. One hundred yards north of the foregoing was found at the bottom of 10 feet of peat and resting on grey marly silt a well preserved skull of *bos taurus primigenius*—nearby was found part of a second skull and several ribs.

#### SHUTTLEFIELD, LOCKERBIE

A flint scraper was found on the surface of the field by Mr W. F. Cormack.

#### ROMAN FORT, MILTON, ANNANDALE

A handsome blue ribbed bead in vitreous paste was brought in from the North Fort Field.

#### STARRIEHEUGH, TERREGLES PARISH

A small neat stone macehead which had been ploughed up on this farm many years ago was brought in to the Museum.

#### LOCHSIDE, DUMFRIES

A large steep edge scraper in pale flint was picked up by a school boy.

#### NEWBRIDGE, DUMFRIES

A small, neat flint scraper was found in exposed earth on the bank of the Cairn at the north end of Newbridge bridge.

#### SHILLAHILL

Mr Robert Little, while carting gravel from the gravel bed in the river Annan just downstream of the sharp bend of the river a little above Shillahill Bridge on the main Dumfries/Lockerbie Road, found a well preserved piece of Roman mortarius, which he has presented to the Museum.

## DAM FARM, DRYFESDALE

In March, 1962, Neil Sutherland of Hillview Street, Lockerbie, with some other boys, found a long double cross sterling of Henry III of England between two stones on the bank of the River Dryfe, near Dam Farm. On the obverse is the King's head facing, without sceptre, and the inscription HENRICUS REX TERCI. The reverse inscription is NICOLE ON LUND. It therefore falls into Group II of Brooke and may be dated to the year 1248. Reported by Mr W. F. Cormack.

## CAPEL RIG, CLOSEBURN

This site, which has yielded a Viking-type domestic axe, possibly 10th century, and a horse-shoe of 12th-13th century type, has now yielded an iron bloom.

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## DUNBARTONSHIRE

### COCHNO LOCH

*From Mr J. G. Scott*

NS/489760. Mr R. A. Nicol, of Glasgow, discovered on the SW. shore of Cochno Loch, during a period when the water was low, a stone axehead and a flint flake. The axehead is probably of grano-diorite, greenish-grey in colour, originally polished, but now with a granulated and pitted surface. It is  $4\frac{3}{8}$  ins. long and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ins. wide. The flake,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  x 1 in. in size, is of yellow flint, triangular in shape; it is unworked. Both axehead and flake are now in Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum.

### KIRKINTILLOCH

*From Miss H. C. Adamson, Hunterian Museum*

NS/643736. During June, 1962, Messrs Whatling & Co. laid a water pipe in the field immediately to the south of the A.803 from Glasgow and, in so doing, probably cut across the line of the Antonine Wall and Ditch. Unfortunately, information regarding the cutting of this trench arrived so late that the investigation of any possible structural remains of either the Wall or Ditch was made impossible by the rapid filling of the trench once the pipe was laid.

### CUMBERNAULD

*From Cumbernauld Historical Society*

This new society has made test digs in the grounds of Cumbernauld House (NS/772760), in an attempt to find the site of the mediaeval castle at Cumbernauld.

Mr J. G. Scott of the Department of Archaeology of Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum dates some of the potsherds found as 14th century.

## MILNGAVIE

*Euan W. MacKie,  
The Hunterian Museum, Glasgow University*

NS/55337449. In June, 1961, workmen undertaking alterations to the Black Bull Hotel, Milngavie, uncovered an old well of dry stone masonry 20 ins. below the concrete paving of the courtyard. At this depth was a large, rectangular stone slab, 52 x 25 x 6 ins. thick, covering the well which contained a considerable quantity of bricks and mortar, presumably the debris of the superstructure. The water level stood at 4 ft. 6 ins. below the slab and the debris at 11 ft. 9 ins. A lead pipe, with two visible soldered joints, emerged from between the stones of the side above the water and descended into the debris. At least three cross beams of wood, D-shaped in section, were fixed across one side of the well to form a crude ladder. A little of the debris was cleared out one afternoon by local volunteers but most remains. The well has been preserved and can be seen in the new entrance hall of the Hotel.

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## EAST LOTHIAN

*From Mr I. H. Longworth,  
National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh*

### DUNBAR

36/681776. A large cist was excavated by the staff of the National Museum of Antiquities and helpers, on the Lochend Estate inland from Dunbar Church. It was a composite structure; large irregular sandstone slabs set on end with drystone packing formed the sides, while on them stood carefully coursed drystone walling. One of the three original capstones was in situ. The plan was boat-shaped, being internally 6½ feet long, 36 inches and 22 inches wide at the ends, and some 33 inches deep. The floor was unpaved.

Bones were packed up to the base of the remaining capstone. A provisional skull count suggests at least 14 individuals but in only two cases could the original deposition be established. One, an adult, lay on its side in a fully contracted position transversely at the widest end, while near the floor lay the remains of a child, lying on its back with its legs doubled up beneath it. The remaining bones lay in confusion with the occasional leg, arm or pelvis still in articulation. Mr D. R. Brothwell of the British Museum (Natural History) is making a detailed analysis.

Three fragments of iron, found at depths of 12 inches below the base of the capstone, were the only grave goods recovered. On cleaning, these proved to be over half a pennanular brooch, a portion probably from a second and the ornamented head of an iron dress-fastener (?) carrying traces of bronze and enamel. (Report for P.S.A.S.)

## EDINBURGH

### CRAMOND

*From Mr and Mrs Alan Rae*

Excavation was continued by the Moray House Archaeological Society on the site of the Antonine-Severan Fort. In the central section, a major building has been found which was probably the Commandant's house: The western half of the Praetentura was sampled for the first time: a hypocaust and paved area suggest a bath-house.

An exhibition of major finds, plans and photographs was mounted between January and June 1962, by the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland in the Museum Gallery, Shandwick Place. This, with additions, is now on permanent exhibition in the (municipal) Huntly House Museum, Edinburgh. Work to prepare part of the site as a monument open to the public is going forward, and is expected to be completed by the summer of 1963.

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## FIFE

### HUT CIRCLES, DRUMCARRO CRAIG

*From Mr Gordon S. Maxwell*

NGR. NO/454133. The best preserved of three (or perhaps four) hut circles, discovered on the crest of a ridge about 500 yds. west of the summit of the Craig by Dr K. A. Steer, was examined by a team of excavators drawn largely from the staff and pupils of Madras College, St. Andrews. The hut circle, itself apparently the largest of the group, measures from 24 ft. to 28 ft. in internal diameter; in this excavation only the northern half of the hut was examined. The walls were in general 6 ft. thick consisting of a rubble core between a double line of large facing stones, standing one course high. The entrance, which was 5½ ft. wide faces east, away from the prevailing wind, and is flanked by two massive portal stones. A rectilinear structure of slight construction was, apparently built against the outer wall just north of the entrance while on the south, the down-hill side, a revetment of boulders was discovered. Finds were few, but included among ten fragments of coarse, brownish-red native ware was a plain rim, slightly everted, to which no accurate dating could be assigned. A rough paving existed over a small area of the floor but no post holes have as yet been found. Further excavation is planned to investigate the relationship of this hut to its fellows.

### BRACKMONT FARM, Nr. LEUCHARS

*From Mr I. H. Longworth*

37/436224. Mr David Henderson has collected a rich surface scatter of Mediaeval and Prehistoric pottery from the surface of a field north of the road from Brackmont Mill to Brackmont Farm.



The prehistoric pottery includes Corded Bell, Comb-decorated and undecorated Beakers, together with sherds of plain and cord-decorated Cordoned vessels. The presence of cremated bones turned up by the plough strongly suggests that these last named sherds belong to urns, and that the urn cemeteries recovered from Brackmont Mill Sand pit (P.S.A.S., 1936-7, 252-78; 1940-41, 205-7; 1941-42, 84-93; and 1948-49, 224-9) may well extend in this direction. The variety of Beaker sherds is indicative of an occupation site in the near vicinity.

*From Mr William Hood, Curator of*  
*Kirkcaldy Art Galleries and Museum*

**WEMYSS CAVES, EAST WEMYSS**

When the gasometer was removed from the area near the "Gasworks Cave," East Wemyss, a cave entrance which had been sealed up when the gasometer was built (about 100 years ago) was revealed. Some attempt has been made to find out if one of the walls would show further carvings, but till present, nothing of interest has come to light.

#### **CHAPEL, KIRKCALDY**

While ploughing a field at Dothan Farm, near Chapel, Kirkcaldy, on 17th April 1962, part of a quartzite axe was found by W. Drysdale. It is now in Kirkcaldy Museum.

#### **SOUTHFIELD FARM by LEUCHARS**

*From Mr R. Crerar*

The excavation of a late Bronze Age urnfield on Southfield farm was carried out during the winter months of 1961-62. With the kind co-operation of the farmer, Mr Douglas, the cremated remains of 49 individuals were recovered; 40 of these were urn burials, the remainder merely loose pockets of bones in the soil. Two food vessels, one decorated very finely, were found and 5 of the urns contained bronze daggers while another held a faience bead much like a spindle whorl in appearance.

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#### **INVERNESS - SHIRE**

##### **DRUMASHIE**

*From Mr Alan Small,*  
*Department of Geography, Old Aberdeen*

638379. A short stone cist containing bones and a beaker was uncovered by a bulldozer. Two small flints were also found in the cist. A full report will appear in Proc. Soc. Antiquaries Scotland.

**NORTH UIST — LOCH AN DUIN**

*From Mr I. H. Longworth,  
National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh*

08/885737. Mr Archibald Macdonald of Trumisgarry unearthed a large vessel of late 'Wheelhouse' type (now in National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh) together with a wooden ladle while cutting peats at a point 150 yards west of the dun at Loch an Duin. They lay at a depth of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 ft. in a pit  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in diameter which had apparently been covered over with turves.

*From Dr A. A. Woodham,*

**UPPER STRATHNAIRN**

*The Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen*

This area is well known for the concentrations of cup-marked stones and cairns of Clava type which have been recorded there. It is however extremely rich in other remains, notably hut circle-cairnfield complexes and miscellaneous isolated cairns. A survey was commenced this year in which a number of hitherto unrecorded sites were examined and these will be reported on after a further year's work when it is hoped that some pattern will emerge.

**SOLLAS, N. UIST**

*From Mr R. Crerar*

NGR/825774. Sand dunes at Sollas N. Uist were found to be rich in remains of broch pottery. Sherds decorated with the imprints of an  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. diameter tube were found near the probable remains of two wheelhouses.

**ISLE OF BARRA**

NGR/657029. Sand dunes at Alasdale were found to contain the remains of a circular stone built structure lying 15 ft. below present ground level. There was a kitchen midden in association with this. From around the midden came many sherds of broch type pottery. It is probable that the site is that of a wheelhouse. A short distance away another midden was found at a depth of 20 ft. below ground level. From this came sherds of thicker coarser ware along with some bone tools and a bone toggle. Several pieces of flaked flint were also found.

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**KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE**

*From Mr A. E. Truckell,*

**McCULLOCH'S CASTLE, ARBIGLAND**

*Dumfries Burgh Museum*

NY/996577. Two seasons of excavation have been carried out at this site during the year, and half its area exposed. The rampart appears to have been timber-revetted internally. A complex pattern of postholes has been found in the interior, with a

palisade along the cliffward edge of the site, which perches at the top of the raised-beach cliff and commands a wide seaward view. The ditch which cuts off the site from the mainland is of horse-shoe form steep sided, 12 feet deep, 34 feet wide from rim to rim with a flat bottom 7 feet wide. The site seems to be mainly of early mediaeval date: it is to be hoped that next season's work, exposing the rest of the area, will yield a closer dating. This excavation has been initiated and directed by General Scott-Elliott.

## FINDS

### COWCARSE, SOUTHWICK PARISH

Master James Kirkpatrick picked up in the plough a particularly fine barbed and tanged flint arrowhead and brought it to Dumfries Burgh Museum.

### GATEHOUSE SCHOOL

NY/596563. In March, Dr Bishop of the Department of Geology at Glasgow University examined and took samples from a fine section of estuarine silt underlaid by peat and that again underlaid by thirty-odd feet of estuarine silt. It is hoped that radiocarbon dates will be obtained for this site as at Redkirk Point. Some dates have already been obtained for that site, for the carse clays under the Lochar Moss, and for the peat at Brighthouse Bay.

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## LANARKSHIRE

### CRAWFORD

*From Mr Gordon S. Maxwell*

NGR: NS/954214. The second season of excavation in the Roman fort at Crawford was arranged for a short period in July, with much help in organisation from Messrs Gray and Craig of Lanarkshire Education Authority. The excavation team consisted of senior pupils from schools in the county. The purpose of this season's digging was to determine more precisely the composition of the rampart and its relationship to the "berm" ditch (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1961) while inside the fort further dimensions and the state of preservation of the two stone built structures were to be ascertained. Although the rampart was seen to be built of turf and clay it is not known definitely whether this shows two periods of occupation, or merely simultaneous bipartite construction. Beneath the rampart, demonstrably earlier than it and possibly to be associated with the berm ditch, lay three pits about 2 ft. deep, one of them containing the impression of an 11 ins. wide post surrounded by packing stones. Whether these represent some temporary structure (e.g. derrick holes) or permanent feature (e.g. gate tower) cannot yet be proved.

The intervallum road when sectioned was seen to consist of two levels, on the surface of the lower of which pottery (including a ring-necked flagon of early 2nd century type) was discovered.

In the interior of the fort the east wall of the eastern building mentioned in last year's report was discovered, 2 ft. 6 ins. wide, one course high, and in good state of repair. Immediately to the east of this again was a well preserved road pointing towards a dip in the fence which straddles the south rampart of the fort; the position of this dip suggests that it marks the gateway of the *via principalis*. Beneath the stone walls of the last period buildings deeper digging produced the sleeper trenches of an earlier timber building c21 ft. broad on the same alignment. This lower level was completely covered by a dense layer of burnt material, and seemed to be immediately on top of the natural subsoil. Complete absence of any Flavian material suggests that these buildings, timbered and stone, must be assigned by the Antonine periods. From the upper levels came a glass bangle (Kilbride-Jones III F) whose contexts in other sites are all mid-2nd century. It is hoped to continue excavation in 1963.

#### GARTCOSH by COATBRIDGE

*From Mr John White, Coatbridge*

NS/687664. The site of the medieval country house or castle of the Bishop of Glasgow, on the south side of Bishop's Loch, Gartcosh about seven miles from Glasgow, has been unknown for many years. An effort was made in the early summer to locate the foundations of the old castle.

There are various extant charters issued by Bishops of Glasgow when in residence at their country house in Lochwood. It is mentioned also in a curious instrument of protest, taken during the episcopate of Bishop Lindsay, concerning the Bishop's seal which had been lost and restored to him by James of Irwyn, a monk of Paiselet (Paisley). We also have an interesting account of how Bishop Cameron died there on Christmas Eve 1442.

The castle was destroyed by Robert Boyd, laird of Badenheath in January 1579 "the schlaite ruife, tymmer, and yron work" being taken by Boyd to his tower at Badenheath about five miles away.

Investigations were commenced by the examination of all the old stone walls enclosing the nearby fields, but only one stone was found which might have been part of the old building. In the area north of Lochwood farm steading is a meadow with a prominent mound at its north end, and here have been found a large number of slates and small stones on the surface.

Some of these slates were shaped in a fashion necessary for a turret roof; the others each had a large hole in them, which led us to believe that they had been attached to the roof by wooden pegs.

Having obtained permission to excavate, John Flaherty, James Greer, David Sharp, his young son, and myself opened up the surface at various points in and around the mound. On the south side part of an old foundation twelve to eighteen inches below the surface was uncovered. A section seven feet by four feet was opened and revealed a low wall of undressed sandstone founded on the clay, and bound together with mortar. The wall was in parts about three feet thick, and an abundance of slates and a piece of medieval pottery was found.

It was therefore concluded that here was the site of the old palace of the Bishops of Glasgow, and next year we hope to continue our investigations.

*From Mrs A. Hallifax Crawford*

A sundial and an 18th century corner stone with a head decoration were removed from a shooting lodge at Crawfordjohn to Clarkston. These have now been presented to the National Trust's Weaver's Cottage, at Kilbarchan.

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## MIDLOTHIAN

*From Mr I. H. Longworth,*

### LASSWADE

*National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh*

36/295673. A further long cist was examined lying high on the edge of the Parkburn Sand pit at a point in the area marked "wood and dump" in fig. 3 of the original report (P.S.A.S., 1955-6, 252-83). As the grave lay under  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet of deposit, mainly modern dump, no attempt was made to excavate fully.

The cist was well made, orientated 60 E. of N., about 6 feet long and measuring  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ins. x 18 ins, internally. Its sides and accessible end were formed by mason-dressed sandstone blocks, a unique feature. They averaged  $17\frac{3}{4}$  ins. x  $12\frac{1}{4}$  ins. x  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Of the five examined in detail, two showed unmistakable features of previous use. The floor was roughly paved with thin undressed (non-sandstone) slabs and roofed by similar but larger slabs. The cist was filled with a fairly compact deposit of sand and humus and amongst this lay a small fragment of abraded pottery. A poorly preserved skeleton lay extended, the skull at the western end.

## NAIRNSHIRE

### NAIRN

*From Iain C. Walker*

Crichton Mitchell in her survey of Scottish Beakers (*PSAS* LXVIII (1933-4) 132-89) listed two Beakers (her numbers 128 and 238) whose decoration was identical, save that the latter had a zone of sloping line decoration immediately beneath the rim. This latter example is Abercromby number 266, and from his illustration the correctness of Crichton Mitchell's sketch can be seen. Abercromby's information was that it came from Nairn and was in the possession of a Mr Young of Tortola, Nairn. Crichton Mitchell listed its then whereabouts as unknown.

The other Beaker was first noted by Crichton Mitchell, and was then in the British Museum, catalogued 1911, 7-19, 3. Its provenance was given as Nether Buckie, Banff, and the Museum had purchased it from Wm. Taylor of Lhanbryd, Moray, it having come from the Collection of Hugh W. Young of Burghead. Since Crichton Mitchell's survey, however, this Beaker has most regrettably been lost. Recent investigation has shown that the Young of Nairn mentioned as the possessor of the second Beaker, was in fact Hugh Young of Burghead, and it seems almost certain that these two Beakers were one and the same—Abercromby noted the height of the Beaker he illustrated as 7 ins., and the British Museum give 7.1/10 ins. as the height of their now lost Beaker.

As to the find spot of this Beaker, one must assume that as Young was alive when Abercromby compiled his corpus, the find spot of Nairn has first claim; however, as the British Museum is known to have bought other Beakers from Taylor, who in turn had bought them from Young, it is quite possible that a now lost or mis-labelled Beaker did come from Nether Buckie.

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## PERTHSHIRE

### FAIRYGREEN COLLAGE

*From Mr Alan Small,*

*Department of Geography, Old Aberdeen*

37/23212328. A small sandstone slab bearing Pictish symbols was recovered while ploughing. The clear, incised symbols include, the mirror and comb, the bear and an ornamental rectangle. A full account will be prepared for the Proc. Soc. Antiquaries, Scotland.

37/23207333. A small stone cup was recovered while ploughing. The cup is hollowed out of a water rounded dolerite pebble measuring 4 ins. x 3 ins. x 2 ins. external dimensions. The maximum interior dimensions of the cup are 2.1 ins. x 2.3 ins. and depth 0.9 in.

*From J. D. Boyd,*

**RATTRAY**

*Director of Museums and Art Galleries, Dundee*

NO/470232. A short-cist burial chamber was discovered and excavated in a field at Greymount Farm. The chamber contained a skeleton, but no grave goods. The skeleton is being stored, prior to detailed examination, in the Dundee Museum.

*From Mr J. C. L. Lyddieth, Assistant Arch. Sec., Perth,*

**LOCHLANDS FARM, Nr. BLAIRGOWRIE** *Art Gallery and Museum, Perth*

Grid. Ref. 212455. In May 1962, Mr R. Strachan discovered a Bronze Age short-cist when ploughing north of Lochlands Farm. It was excavated by Mr W. G. Aitken of Perth. The rectangular cist of sandstone slabs lay on the average 14 ins. below the surface of the soil in clean, sandy subsoil. There were slabs of sandstone covering the cist but its bottom was of sand. It contained the crouched skeleton of a woman about 40 years old. No pottery was discovered. The cist has been presented to Perth Museum. Museum No. 9/1962.

**FINDS**

Grid. Ref. 131097. A denarius of Trajan A.D.98-117 was found by Mr J. C. Barlas at Hilton of Duncruevie Farm, Glenfarg.

Grid. Ref. 112256. A barbed and tanged chert arrow-head was found in a field adjacent to the North Inch Golf Course, Perth, not far from the river bank.

Sherds of pottery dating back to the Middle Ages and human skulls were found on the site of the old graveyard of St. John's Kirk, to the north of the kirk, at a shop in St. John's Street, Perth.

**CARPOW**

*From Mr R. E. Birley*

In due course a full report of the year's excavations at Carpow will be offered to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, but in the meanwhile reference will have to be made to the *Journal of Roman Studies* 1962 and 1963.

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**RENFREWSHIRE**

*From Mrs A. Hallifax Crawford*

1. While Kilallan manse was being enlarged this year the following stones from the adjacent church were found:—about one-third of a pillar in good preservation; a small column about 18 ins. high with acanthus decoration; and many other stones but

not as spectacular. These recently discovered stones are in the care of Major Crichton Maitland to whom the manse now belongs.

The manse of Kilallan was sold by Public Roup at the Kirk of Kilallan on the 30th of October 1771, after the church had been annexed to Houston.

2. When Mrs Park was working in Kilallan churchyard recently she unearthed a 13th century tombstone with a sword and cross on it.

#### KNAPPS HOMESTEAD, HOUSTON

*From Mr Frank Newall*

NS/36936885. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1961, p. 43*). The complete plans of the mediaeval and prehistoric homesteads have now been recovered.

The mediaeval adaptation of the site has removed primary occupation earth from most of the central area, but sufficient survives on the North and East to establish a stratigraphical sequence. It would appear that the primary hut reported last year and a second hut close to it, though pre-palisade in date are contemporary with all the other pre-mediaeval structures. The palisade trench which was dug after the main units were constructed outlined an area measuring 78 ft. x 70 ft. in the centre of which was an oval house with a porch entrance, 32 ft. East-West, excluding the entrance, by 29 ft. North-South. Against the inner side of the palisade and N. of the East entrance were two small "huts," similar to those outside the palisade. All cooking appears to have been done in these structures and they may have been screened-off kitchens. No trace of cooking was found in the central fire-pits of the main building. All buildings are rectangular. Apart from these buildings, pits and external hearths were included in the enclosure.

The palisade itself was constructed of heavy timbers set at intervals, especially at the many sharper bends in the circuit, with smaller posts between, set irregularly.

The Mediaeval homestead had a field on the N., which may have contained other structures. It lay adjacent to a branch from the main Paisley-Johnstone-Duchal mediaeval highway.

The homestead was divided by a North-South stone wall and an East-West fence, into a lower cobbled yard and a slightly elevated terrace in the north and west quarters. This was in turn further divided by a central East-West fence. To the North lay a stalled byre entered through a gap in the North-South yard wall, and with through passage to the farm house. To the South at the East end of a central strip was a granary 15 ft. E.-W. by 8 ft. wide fronted by a 7 ft. square threshing floor of laid flags.



A small triangular structure with carefully flagged floor, may have been a store for milled corn. It lay to the South of the granary and produced a broken rotary quern and pounder.

Facing these, at the W. end of the central strip was a rectangular building 24 ft. North-South by 11 ft., backed by a massive stone wall, but with slight wing walls and apparently open on the East. No trace of occupation was found and the association with the other units suggests that this was a barn.

In the yard, a heavily cobbled long building may have housed animals.

A final short 17th century occupation may be related to the slighting of the surrounding and cross walls, when St. Fillan's manse was being reconstructed in the 1630's. Tradition of this operation is so strong that the homestead itself is referred to as the Auld Kirkstead. A full report is in preparation and will be published by Paisley Museum.

#### AUCHENCLOICH

NS/365638. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1959, p. 31*). The polished stone axe found here has been presented by Alexander McIntyre to Paisley Museum.

#### GARSHANGAN BURN

*Located with W. O. Black*

NS/283713. (*Discovery and Excavation, 1955, p. 26*). Heather burning has revealed that the 31 ft. turf circle has vestiges of an outer bank round the NE. quarter. One hundred and fifty feet to the north what was presumed to be tumbled walling can now be seen to be a rectangular build of heavy blocks. It is possible that this is a cairn, though the very heavy build is unusual.

#### EAST GREEN

NS/339689. Another hammer stone-rubber of close grained sandstone has been found by Mr W. O. Black. The ends are of the cottage roof type, formed by attrition rather than pounding.

#### LADYMUIR

NS/34636454. Mr W. O. Black has recovered from the edge of the moor a finely trimmed brown flint point, in shape a lop-sided arrowhead, but trimmed as a knife along one edge. This is the first flint from this area.

#### LANGSTILLY FARM, LOCHWINNOCH

NS/32855715. In October 1962, William Inglis discovered an early rhomboid form of Late Bronze Age spear, in which the central rib is continued as a tang ending at a rivet hole. (cf.

Muirkirk, Ayrshire; Childe, *Prehistory of Scotland*, p. 145, fig. 38, 1). The total length is 7.15 ins, of which 4.5 ins. is blade. The tang is broken across the rivet hole, and the tip is bulbous and rounded. The flanges are distinguished by slight grooves along the edges of the central rib, and are 0.25 in. wide at their maximum, the blade being 1.35 in. wide. The site of the find lies almost midway between Gavemoss, which has produced 2 flat bronze axes and a dagger (P.S.A.S. LVII, 1922-3, 127-9, 134) and Ladyland, Ayrshire, from which has come at least one, and very possibly two flanged bronze axes. (P.S.A.S. XIII, 1878-9, 96; XX, 1885-6, 314. Smith, *Prehistoric Man in Ayrshire*, 77).

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## ROXBURGHSHIRE

*From Hawick Archaeological Society,*

CRUMHAUGH TOWER, *Inventory of Roxburghshire* 246 *per Mr G. Wood*

485138. The Field Section of Hawick Archaeological Society have commenced excavating this site, which occupies the saucer-shaped top of a low hill on the south side of the Hawick-Carlisle road at Parkdaill. In the NE. section of the site, where an area some 40 by 8 yards showed low ridges, as of building remains, the bottom courses of several sections of wall have been exposed. These are well built of dry stone with some clay filling, and vary from 2 ft. 6 ins. to 3 ft. 6 ins. Sections of flooring exposed in the trenches are either roughly flagged with undressed stone, or cobbled.

A quantity of broken bottle glass, some shards of pottery and china, fragments of iron, and part of a round honing stone comprise the finds, which all come from the areas of spill close to the walls.

It is intended to continue work in 1963, and a full report will be given in the *Transactions of the Hawick Archaeological Society*, when the excavation is completed.

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## SELKIRKSHIRE

*From the Selkirkshire Antiquarian Society,  
per Mrs E. H. Duff, F.S.A.Scot.*

HANGINGSHAW, YARROW

GR: 403300. The Field Section of the Selkirkshire Antiquarian Society, under the direction of Miss D. M. Marshall, F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot., carried out an excavation during September on an earthwork on the Hangingshaw Estate, Yarrow. The earthwork is 500 yards ESE. of Hangingshaw House, near the edge of a level shelf on the left bank of the river Yarrow.

It consists of a rectangular central mound measuring 30 ft. in either direction, and is surrounded by a narrow ditch, outside which is a stony, low bank 8 ft. wide. An entrance 5 ft. wide is in the middle of the northern side.

The finds, which were few, consisted of two copper rings, and one fragment of coarse pottery. As the finds and the report are still being examined neither the purpose nor the date of the structure can be determined at present. It is hoped that a more detailed report will be published in *Discovery and Excavation* next year.

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## S H E T L A N D

### NISTHUS, ISBISTER, WHALSEY

*From Mr John Stewart,  
per I. H. Longworth*

N/41/580642. While making an extension to his house, Mr Hector Simpson of Nisthus found traces of early occupation including surviving timber work. Amongst the objects recovered were steatite bowls, two spindle whorls, one of which was conical, and a perforated loom weight. These suggest that the site dates from Viking times.

### WESTING, UNST

*From Mr Alan Small,  
Department of Geography, Old Aberdeen*

HP/574044. A small area excavation has been started on an unrecorded site 150 yards west south west of the Broch of Underholl with the co-operation of Aberdeen University Extra-Mural Department and R.A.F. Saxa Vord. The excavation has so far revealed evidence of settlement dating from the broch period and later structures in an upper horizon as yet not accurately dated. The Broch horizon has yielded extensive pottery fragments, fragments of stone vessels and implements, and shows evidence of iron smelting. A preliminary report will be published in *Aberdeen University Review* and work will be resumed next season.

### EASTING, UNST

HP/618024. A bone needle was recovered from the sand dunes on the west of Sand Wick. Viking relics have previously been recovered from this site.

### EOTHEN, HAROLDWICK, UNST

HP/636127. A collection of eleven net weights in soapstone were recovered in the excavation of foundations for a new building.

## HESTENSGOT

Excavation was continued on behalf of the Moray House Archaeological Society. Occupation was found to have been prolonged, slight modifications of the internal structures of this Bronze Age house taking place during it. Over a hundred sherds were recovered; Mr R. B. K. Stevenson has suggested that the parallels for all phases of the occupation are Scarborough Castle Hill, West Harling, and Jarlshof (especially Hut VI). It is hoped that this work will be completed during 1963.

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## STIRLINGSHIRE

*From Mr and Mrs J. G. Scott*

NS/586943. A small sherd of mediaeval ware of thin dark grey fabric, with an olive green glaze, was picked up in October in a field about 20 yards to the S. of the A.811 road from Drymen to Stirling on Claymires Farm. The find may relate to a flat-topped mound in the corner of the field about 40 yards to the W., just opposite the branch road to Easter Mye Farm. The mound would appear to be a mote-hill.

### STONEYACRE, BALFRON STATION

*From Mr J. G. Scott*

NS/536922. Mr Thos. Myers, of Stoneyacre Farm, whilst digging a hole for a fence post on sloping ground discovered at a depth of c.15 ins., in stiff clay soil, a looped palstave, in good condition and slightly patinated. This palstave is 6 7/16 ins. long.

### ST. NINIANS

*From Mr Thomas Hamavy, M.A., F.S.A.Scot.*

St. Modan's High School is situated, on rising ground, south-west of the village of St. Ninians and, according to earlier editions of the Ordnance Survey Map, the Roman road from Camelon to Stirling passes through the school grounds. The previously accepted route of this road, however, has now been challenged and a new route suggested via the now demolished Main Street of St. Ninians village. Extensive excavations were commenced early in the year in preparing the foundations of extensions to the school. These were in the very area through which the road was supposed to run, and this gave our small archaeology group in the school an opportunity for some exploratory work. There is, by the way, amongst the older inhabitants of the village, a strongly persistent claim that an old right of way traversed the area, and

this was thought to be significant. Unfortunately we were unable to uncover anything definite, but our own digging, plus the very deep trenching of mechanical shovels, produced some interesting results.

The present school was built in 1933 and a level site was obtained by digging into the slope and throwing earth and subsoil forward. The result was that the hockey field in front of the school (where building is now proceeding) was covered to a depth of from four to six feet in boulder clay, etc. This was clearly shown in the sections of trenches dug by the excavators, and it was from this that we got our first hint of previous occupation of the site. One of the trenches clearly showed a *course of rough stones at a depth of about five feet* (i.e. three feet of boulder clay on top of two feet of the original black soil of the field). At this depth the stone appeared to be well laid and closely packed. Initial probing with a trowel produced fragments of pottery, lying on top of the stones. The pottery appeared to be late medieval or 16th century.

We began a four foot trench at right angles to the cutting (NW.) and uncovered a continuous area of cobbling. Probes in several areas suggested that this is quite extensive. The direction taken by this does not suggest a road, as we had hoped, though it may well be. Rather it suggests a cobbled area, perhaps an old farm steading, village settlement or domestic industrial site.

Many fragments of pottery were found but these seem to bear little relation to one another. They appeared to be all of the same age group, but were obviously from different sources. It was quite impossible to fit any pieces together and they remain a mystery. One interesting feature, however, was present. The whole cobbled area uncovered (approximately 4 feet by sixteen feet) was covered to a depth of from nine inches to twelve inches in black slag and hard-packed dross, suggesting coal dust with a mixture of iron. At this stage the assistance of Miss D. M. Hunter of Dollar Park Museum, Falkirk was obtained. Samples of the slag were taken away for analysis which produced the following report from the analyst:—

“Powdered sample contained a considerable amount of oxidised iron, part of which was magnetic. There were present also some harder particles with a slag like appearance . . . The relationship between lime and silica does not suggest a modern slag, unless we admit the presence of only a small amount of slag with a large amount of silica.” (Proportion of silica was 33%.

We spent three weeks during June-July on the dig. No definite pattern presented itself though we had reached what

appeared to be a thrown down wall or similar tumble, when the weather broke and the whole area was completely flooded, making further work impossible. This state continued throughout the rest of the "summer," until the builders decided that the site must be filled in. Our problem, therefore, remains unanswered.

The essential facts ascertained are these: that an extensive area of cobbling seems to exist at a depth of from five to six feet (i.e. including the clay dumped from the building in 1933. Prior to this, the cobbling lay at a depth of two to three feet); that immediately on top of the cobble, and in the packed slag covering it, there is a sizeable quantity of broken pottery, (late medieval probably) and that the cobble is more or less uniformly covered with the closely packed layer of coal dross and slag containing oxidised iron to a depth of from nine to twelve inches.

There are, I think, three possible answers to this:

- (1) We may have discovered an old mineral road from the coal workings at Pirnhall, and/or neighbouring iron deposits, to the domestic nail industry which flourished in the St. Ninians area till this century. Hence the coal dust and slag.
- (2) The site may have been an old steading on which has been dumped slag and rubbish (including broken pottery) brought in from another area.
- (3) The site may have been that of one of the domestic nail works associated with the district. This might explain the slag, but not the pottery.

Unfortunately the site is now inaccessible. Perhaps, after the completion of building, further exploration of the surrounding area may be possible.

#### CAMELON, Nr. FALKIRK

*From Dr N. McCord*

GR: NS/864810. Quarrying operations will in the near future destroy the greater part of the area of the northern annexe to the Antonine fort at Camelon: this excavation for the Ministry of Public Building and Works, which continued work begun on a smaller scale in 1961, took place in an attempt to try to find out as much as possible about the annexe before the destruction takes place.

Last year the defences were sectioned and a beginning made on work inside the annexe. This year some additions were made to our knowledge of the defences, but the main task was to strip as large a part of the interior of the annexe as possible in order to determine whether or not it had contained buildings or whether it had in fact served as an open

space to be used as a waggon park or something of that nature. This year some 7000 square feet of the interior were cleared. However, the resulting evidence is disappointing, primarily because the annexe area seems to have been levelled at some time, perhaps as a result of agricultural use which the fort itself has escaped because of the great quantity of stone in it. In the annexe very little datable material was found in association with the structures, and the remains of the structures themselves are so fragmentary that no complete plans could be recovered.

Some conclusions could however be drawn. In the first instance the discovery of two hut circles demonstrates that the native, presumably pre-Roman, occupation of the site extended beyond the known promontory settlement at the north east of the area which was excavated a few years ago.

It is also clear that in the Roman period much of the area of the annexe was in fact occupied by wooden buildings, and there is also some evidence to suggest that at one time at least part of the annexe may have been divided by fences or palisades. Very little datable material came from the remains of the structures, but from their appearance it seems that they were not in fact standard Roman military buildings, but structures of much less regular form and in some cases of slight construction. The only stratified pottery from these structures is a group of fragments of an Antonine cooking pot recovered from one construction trench, but it would be unsafe to conclude from this that all the buildings of which traces were found are in fact Antonine. Slight traces of structures occur on the spit of ground between the two ditches at the northern side of the Antonine fort, between fort and annexe, and some other construction trenches are so close to the Antonine defences as to suggest that they may be earlier.

The main conclusion is that the area of the annexe contained timber buildings of non-military types, some of which are Antonine, but some of which may be pre-Antonine, and that the most reasonable explanation of the use of the annexe is that it represents a defended area of civil settlement associated with the fort. The scarcity of the evidence from the site must however at this time preclude certainty. Perhaps at some future date excavation around the north western corner of the fort, not at present in danger from the quarry, may provide more conclusive evidence.

**STENHOUSE**      *From Miss D. M. Hunter, Curator, Dollar Park Museum*  
**SAND QUARRY 879832**

A pottery kiln, Site J, was excavated in May, 1962. It resembled Kiln D, excavated on this site in 1959, but was rougher in construction and more ruinous. The 'arch' at each

end had collapsed in antiquity—the stones of only the northern remained—and sill-stones had never been present. The sides stood to a maximum of four courses, and the dimensions were 6 ft. (approx.) by 5 ft. 4 ins. Several lumps of iron slag in the upper filling were at first considered to be bloomery waste. This is now thought unlikely.

Close to the kiln on its east side there was a nearly rectangular pit 4 ft. 6 in. long, the bottom of which showed regular dark marks as though of slats or wooden lining. This pit is probably mediaeval, though not necessarily of the same date as the kiln; other pits and hollows excavated showed no evidence of date or purpose.

Immediately before the excavation, sand quarrying revealed and destroyed several large round pits, approximately 12 ft. diameter and 12 ft. deep. Their fill was earthy, and at least one had a "lining" of light-coloured, clayey earth.

#### **BUILDING SITE**

Preparation of the ground south of Stenhouse Castle discovered a number of stones unlikely to have come from 'Forge Row,' the cottages which once stood near at hand. Three of them—two 2 ft. 6 ins. cubes, a third slightly irregular—are unlikely to have come from any building in the vicinity but Arthur's O'on.

Metalling was seen in the cutting that ran up the slope to the north. This confirms O. G. S. Crawford's suggestion (*Topography of Roman Scotland*, p. 150) that this was a former road, though it is unlikely to have been (as he suggests) the main Falkirk-Stirling road at any time.

A small amount of mediaeval pottery was found, but no other trace of occupation.

#### **SEABEGS**

815793. The military way was exposed in a cutting in Seabegs Wood. The surface is here in good condition, resembling that shown in Plate XI of "The Roman Wall in Scotland." The width at the point exposed was 23 ft. The crown of the road was 14 ft. from its northern edge. Surface indications elsewhere in the wood nowhere gave a width of more than 24 ft., however, and it seems likely that either reinforcement or 'creep' has been occasioned by a slight hollow on the north side. There were no distinct kerb stones.

#### **ST. NINIANS**

798915. A denarius of Hadrian was found during site preparation for new houses on the slope east of the church at a depth which precludes recent loss. The coin is now in Falkirk Museum.



## SUTHERLAND

ROSAL, STRATH NAVER

*From Dr H. Fairhurst*

NC/688416. Rosal is the site of an old township from which the inhabitants were cleared in the period 1814-8 as part of the mass evictions on the Sutherland estates. Since that time, the ground has lain undisturbed as sheepwalk, but recently it has been acquired by the Forestry Commission and the details of the old settlement will be largely obscured when planting takes place. Operations have in fact been delayed until an investigation could be made of Rosal which provides an excellent example of this type of site. The work was undertaken at the suggestion of the *Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments and the Archaeology Section* of the Ordnance Survey in Scotland; financial help was provided both by the Ministry of Public Building and Works and the Court of Glasgow University. The survey of the extensive site and the study and excavation of the ruins were undertaken by staff and students from the Archaeology and Geography Departments at Glasgow. The excavation of an Earth House of Iron Age date, which lies in the centre of the township, is described separately by Dr Corcoran.

The old arable lands of Rosal extend over an area of about 60 acres and were surrounded by a dry stone dyke; the old plough riggs are beautifully preserved within this green island in the rough moor around. About 70 ruined structures have been recognised, grouped into three loose clusters. Of these buildings, some 15-18 were rectangular long-houses, with the living quarters and byre under one long roof; the remainder were barns, which usually had one rectangular and one rounded end, outhouses, stackyards and corn drying kilns. Normally each long-house had a complex of structures associated with it to form the characteristic farm buildings of the period; in some cases, the long-house formed the nucleus, but in others, possibly representing an older tradition, a yard was the central feature.

Excavation showed that the walls of these various buildings consisted of dry stone work up to a height of two to three feet, forming presumably the base of a turf wall above; the roof was supported on couples which arose from ground level. Selective excavation was undertaken on a typical complex consisting of a long-house, barn, stackyard, outhouse and corn kiln. The long-house was built on a slope with first a small room at the upper end, then the main living quarters around a central hearth, and finally the long byre, giving an overall length of 85 ft. There was no sign of destruction by fire and the dwelling had obviously been carefully dismantled when it was abandoned.

Although Rosal as a place name dates back to as early as 1269, the domestic occupation revealed by the excavations was all of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, judging by the fine china sherds found in the living quarters; one Mediaeval

sherd had been carried in with a turf used in wall construction. As at Lix, in Perthshire, efforts to locate the house sites earlier than the very last phase of Rosal's occupation, proved quite fruitless and for the same reason. The buildings were constructed without any foundation trenches and were almost certainly abandoned and the building stones used over again at relatively short intervals. This is borne out on the whole by the documentary evidence of the period.

A plan of Rosal in 1811 is preserved in Dunrobin Castle amongst a number of others which seem to have been drawn just before the evictions by an enigmatic surveyor "B.M."

#### SOUTERRAIN ("Earth House")

*From Dr J. X. W. P. Corcoran*

NC/68854167. In the centre of the old township of Rosal were the remains of an *earth house* or souterrain which were examined as part of the survey and excavation described by Dr Fairhurst. The souterrain had been much disturbed in the past and only four roofing stones remained *in situ*. After the debris had been removed it was seen that the structure was built in a trench, which had been cut into a natural mound, and lined with dry-stone walling. The sides were approximately straight in plan and were joined at the inner end by an apse-like termination. The walls had a slight outward batter and the roofing stones rested directly on their upper surfaces. Access was by a sloping ramp cut into the sub-soil and was without trace of stone steps. There was, similarly, no evidence of paving. At approximately half-way along the western side there was a small semicircular "alcove" which had been lined with stone but subsequently blocked with debris and the side wall of the souterrain proper built across it.

The souterrain was approximately 41 feet long, its average width was two feet and six inches and the average height approximately four feet and six inches. Apart from a few artifacts of recent date the only find of value was part of a handle of a Late Mediaeval green-glazed pitcher. This was found near to the entrance, immediately behind the stone lining of the souterrain. Trial cuttings were made over some considerable area in the hope of finding evidence of an associated structure. Although no unambiguous structure was found, traces of what may have been a much ruined circular hut were located but without any artifacts.

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## WIGTOWNSHIRE

### FINDS

#### LUCE SANDS

*From Mr A. E. Truckell, Dumfries Burgh Museum*

NX/140555. Searches by permission of O.C. Royal Aircraft Establishment, West Freugh, and the Conservator, Forestry Commission, Dumfries, have produced a further large quantity

of material from this rich site. Flints include microliths, arrow-heads leaf shaped, lopsided and barbed and tanged, blades, knives, saws, scrapers, borers, etc. Only one or two of the flints might be considered Larnian. A large number of pitchstone blades, cores and flakes have been collected, also flakes of at least two stone axes, and the core of one such axe. Flakes of jasper occur. Pottery sherds include Neolithic A Peterborough ware, Beaker both fine and coarse, coarse thick pottery with a large grit possibly Early Iron Age, and a few Mediaeval sherds. Of jet there are portions of arm bands and small ornaments. One bronze pin is of a type known from this site and well represented in Stranraer Museum, also a portion of a finger size grey shale ring. Iron blooms were found associated with baked clay. Anglo-Saxon times are represented by two Sceatta of the Northumbrian King Eanred. Apart from one pot which is in the National Museum, this new material has been added to the collections in Dumfries Museum.

#### AUCHENMALG

NX/235519. A surface collection of heavily patinated flints apparently Larnian from the raised beach here have been added to the Dumfries Burgh Museum, as have also the following finds:—

#### SHADDOCK

NX/477397. The raised beach here also has yielded a number of patinated flints.

A small promontory fort is situated immediately to the south of the "geo" at this map reference.

#### ISLE FARM

NX/484372. A few flints, some patinated, have been collected from fields along the cliff tops.

#### BLAIRBUY

NX/363418. Searching over the fields of this farm yielded a leaf shaped arrowhead, a hammerstone, a portion of a fairly rough grained stone axe, some flint scrapers and several flakes, some patinated. The proprietor, Mr McMaster, added a small perforated "sinker" to this collection.

#### CULKAE, SORBIE

A tabular flake of brown, mottled flint which was picked up many years ago on this farm has now come in to the Dumfries Museum.

## ***Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey***

*From A. L. F. Rivet, Assistant Archaeology Officer*

During the year archaeological revision has been carried out for the Large Scale Maps (25ins. and 50ins.) in the counties of Aberdeen, Ayr, Banff, Berwick, Lanark and Roxburgh, in and around the towns of Inverness, Nairn, Thurso and Wick, and across the border in Northumberland; and for the Medium Scale Maps (6ins.) in Sutherland, Caithness, Wester Ross, Perthshire, Argyll and Peeblesshire. Amendments have been made at reprint to the following sheets of the Seventh Series One-Inch Map: 13, 24, 25, 42, 44, 45, 46, 48, 51, 53, 56, 60, 63, 67, 70, 71, 78 and 79. The new (Fifth Series) Quarter-Inch Map is now complete over the whole country and one sheet (sheet 8) has already been revised.

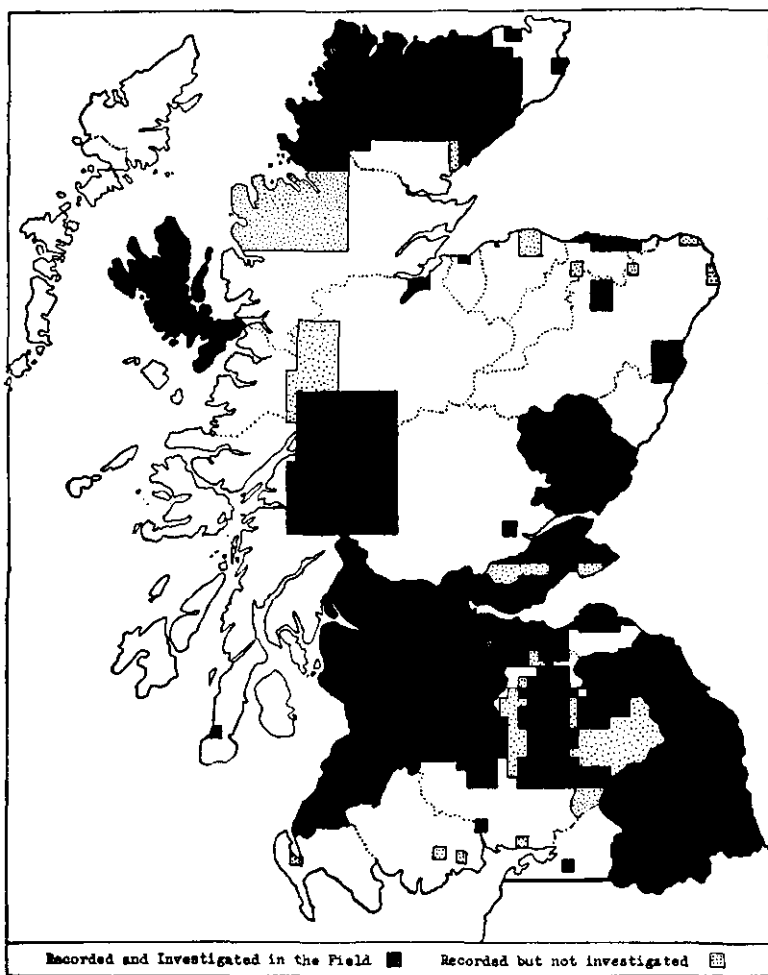
New discoveries have again been most numerous in the 6-Inch areas. In the main they have consisted of undistinguished enclosures hut-circles, depopulated settlements and shielings, but an item especially worthy of note is a chambered cairn west of Ledbeg, Sutherland, at NC/235131. This is quite well preserved and there is another cairn, less certainly chambered, nearby. The site is actually visible from the road, A.837 (when you know where to look).

As before, two sections were working on the 6-Inch resurvey during the year and a further intensification of this activity may be expected as a result of modifications to the Survey's programme. Approximately 100 new 6-Inch sheets have so far been published of Sutherland and Caithness.

The map shows the present state of our archaeological records over the whole country; they are reasonably complete in the stippled areas and even in the white areas a good deal of random information has accrued. These records are available for consultation by bona fide students on application to 43, Rose Street, Edinburgh 2.

The Ordnance Survey Map of Southern Britain in the Iron Age was published in August and is obtainable from Ordnance Survey Agents or from any bookseller, price folded with text 17/6d, paper flat 7/6d, text only 8/- ('Southern Britain' extends to Scarborough and the Isle of Man). A map of Hadrian's Wall at a scale of 2 inches to the mile is now in course of production.

We should again like to thank our correspondents for their assistance during the year.



Recording state, Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey  
 (No work has yet been done in Orkney or Shetland)

## ***Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland***

*From Dr K. A. Steer, Secretary*

The two-volume Inventory of Stirlingshire will be published in January, 1963, and further progress has been made during the year with the surveys of monuments in Peeblesshire and Argyll. Miscellaneous activities include a detailed photographic survey of Alexander MacLeod's tomb in St. Clement's Church, Rodil; an emergency survey of the well-known prehistoric houses and cairns at Dalrulzion, Perthshire; and a re-survey of the important Early Iron Age fort on The Dunion, Roxburghshire.

Details of excavations carried out by the Commission's staff are given below.

### **SKIRLING CASTLE, PEEBLESSHIRE**

NT/073389. Excavations at Skirling Castle were undertaken by Messrs J. G. Dunbar and A. C. S. Dixon. A section was cut across the outer perimeter of the earthwork that now marks the site of the castle. The defences appear to have comprised an upcast mound, a wet ditch 30 ft. in width and 5 ft. in depth, an outer wall having a thickness of 4 ft. 6 in. and an inner wall having a thickness of 7 ft. The finds included objects of glass and leather, as well as pottery; a "Crossraguel penny" found at the bottom of the ditch suggests that the castle may have been erected in the second half of the 15th century. It is hoped that further excavation in 1963 will throw light on the main internal buildings of the castle.

### **HELM END, PEEBLESSHIRE**

NT/110354. The investigation of house-types was carried one stage further by the excavation of a stone-walled house in a secondary settlement in Helm End hill-fort, Broughton, undertaken by Mr and Mrs R. W. Feachem. The structural details of the house were revealed together with a wall connecting it to that of the settlement.

### **BROUGHTON KNOWE, PEEBLESSHIRE**

NT/098396. A small bowl-cairn and an adjacent circular enclosure bounded by two low concentric turf banks were excavated by Messrs MacLaren and Scott. The cairn was found to contain a cremation burial together with a few fragments of pottery and flint implements. The enclosure revealed no evidence of any internal structures, but yielded a miniature stone axe, two flint knives, several scrapers and a considerable quantity of wasters.

# **Scottish National Buildings Record**

(MINISTRY OF PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS)

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

*From Miss C. H. Cruft, Officer in Charge*

The photographic collection of the Scottish National Buildings Record has been increased this year by the addition of 3,600 photographs comprising the following items.

### **Large surveys carried out were :—**

Barra Castle, Aberdeenshire  
Braemar Castle, Aberdeenshire  
Duff House, Banffshire  
Haddo House, Aberdeenshire  
Hopetoun House, West Lothian  
Inveraray Castle, Argyll

### **Surveys of uninhabited castles include :—**

Balquhain Castle, Aberdeenshire  
Corse Castle, Aberdeenshire  
Elphinstone Tower, East Lothian  
Harthill Castle, Aberdeenshire  
Terpersie Castle, Aberdeenshire

### **Smaller properties photographed include :—**

Abercorn Church and Hopetoun Retiring Rooms, West Lothian  
Bourtie House, Aberdeenshire  
Clermiston House, Edinburgh (future in doubt)  
Cramond Brig, Edinburgh (to be demolished)  
Dalserf House, Lanarkshire (to be demolished)  
Eden Castle, Aberdeenshire (to be demolished)  
Kirkwall Cathedral, Orkney  
Music Hall and Crimonmogate House, Aberdeen (possible demolition)  
Netherbyres Mill, Berwickshire  
Royal Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh  
St. Andrew's Church, Dunmore, Stirlingshire (to be demolished)

The Scottish Development Department continue to notify us of impending demolitions: there are too many to mention individually but they have all been systematically covered. Photography of the following provisional lists have been completed: Duns Burgh, Inveraray Burgh and Parish, Rothesay Burgh and Whithorn Burgh. The investigator for Argyll has been photographing items he is listing in that county. These are now in our collection.

A Cambridge Post-graduate writing a thesis on the castle style has permitted us to have copies made of all his photographs of Scottish subjects, almost every private house or institution of note in the castle style.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland made available copies of photographs of Barbreck House, Argyll.

In continuing the programme of photography of dovecots, all those in Kirkcudbrightshire and Wigtonshire have been photographed and Dumfriesshire practically completed.

We have been presented with a large number of glass negatives dating from 1870-90 from the Erskine Beveridge collection in Dunfermline; these include a valuable collection of photographs of the Hebrides, both ecclesiastical and domestic and a good collection of Fife tombstones and churchyard monuments.

#### LIBRARY

We have been fortunate this year in receiving a large number of presentations; included amongst them are the following:—

- Castles and Mansions of Ayrshire by A. H. Millar
- Dumbartonshire, Civil and Ecclesiastical by Irving
- The Book of Dumbartonshire by Irving
- Rural Architecture by John White
- 19th Century Mansions in Dundee by David Walker  
(presented by the Author)
- Views in Scotland by John Clerk

Books and periodicals have been presented by Miss Rollo from the collection of her brother, Mr Andrew Rollo, including a useful collection of Glasgow items.

New books purchased for the library include:—

- Portrait of Edinburgh by Kersting and Moncrieff
- New Ways through the Glens by A. R. B. Haldane
- Robert Adam and His Circle by John Fleming

#### RESEARCH

The Scottish National Buildings Record was notified of the existence of original drawings by "Mr Adam" of Moffat House, also of plans held by the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, of designs for a new library for the College by James Byers and the drawings by James Craig of the original Physicians Hall in George Street; all were photographed.

Sir John Muirhead of Stirling presented the Record with the 1917 Macgregor Chalmers plans of the Nunnery at Iona; copies made from the tracings will be available to the public.



## ***The Ministry of Public Building and Works***

### **CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE, DUMFRIESSHIRE**

GR: NY/026657. The wet moat of Caerlaverock Castle is surrounded by a high grassy bank, identified at an earlier stage of the present series of excavations (carried on concurrently with the consolidation of the fabric) as a 16th century heightening of the mediaeval bank as a continuous *courre-face* to provide a defence beyond the mediaeval curtain against artillery. Projecting from the rampart to east and west are low flat mounds which—before the excavations were begun—were thought to be dumps of rubbish cleared from the moat. Preliminary excavation of the east mound in July 1962 showed that part of it was a modern dump but the rest of the mound seems to be a *caponier* with turf-faced parapets projecting at right angles from the rampart and designed to give low-level flanking protection to the rampart face and the ditch. This interesting feature has been slighted, but it is hoped that enough remains to permit the complete definition of its design in further excavation planned for 1963.

### **PRESTON GRANGE, EAST LOTHIAN**

GR: NT/379737. The demolition of a partition has revealed a painted ceiling dated 1581 on the first floor. This is the earliest dated example so far known. The ceiling is intact, in fair condition and with hitherto unrecorded features.

### **MIDHOPE, WEST LOTHIAN**

GR: NT/073787. Damage to the ceiling on the first floor has revealed painted beams behind the plasterwork. Fragmentary evidence of painted decoration survives on the walls. The original painted ceiling boards appear to have been replaced.

### **THE ABBOT'S HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE, FIFE**

GR: NT/090874. Painted decoration on the walls of the principal first floor apartment has been uncovered during renovation. Although poorly preserved reconstruction of the general scheme should be possible. The existing ceiling is modern.

### **KILWINNING ABBEY, AYRSHIRE**

GR: NS/304433. Excavation in 1962 south of the abbey church has revealed parts of the foundation of the cloister arcade, and a section of the footings of the 12th-13th century south range. The abbey church itself was excavated and

planned by William Galloway in 1878, and at the conclusion of the present series of excavations it is hoped that the plan of the greater part of the abbey buildings will be recovered. Although there is little promise of anything more than wall foundations these discoveries exceed expectations, for in the area all mediaeval levels have been removed by disturbance in the secular occupation of the site which continued until recent years.

#### THE DUNION, JEDBURGH. ROX.

*Mrs Edwina V. W. Proudfoot*

GR: NT/191625. A second season of excavation was carried out in July, 1962, for the Ministry of Public Building and Works on the fort at the Dunion, already largely destroyed by roadstone quarrying and further threatened. Work was concentrated on a single subcircular hut (Hut 2) adjacent to the hut (Hut 1) excavated in 1961. The hut was entered from the south by a roughly paved opening with an internal threshold. The paving, far inferior to the overall paving of hut 1, continued inside for a short distance, though most of the interior had an earthen floor, bedded in which there were fragments of pottery and bone with many minute flecks of charcoal. At the centre a broken sandstone block with some burnt material round it was presumably a hearth. There were no post-holes; the walls varied in thickness from approximately 3-5 feet, and were probably built from the foundations of an earth core with stone facings.

The finds were more numerous than those from Hut 1. Fragments of pottery were found among the debris of the wall opposite the entrance as well as in the hut floor. The pottery was extremely thick with large grits and superficially compares with the pottery of the later prehistoric period in Southern Scotland rather than with the ware of the post-Roman period. Other finds were few.

Hut 2 was undoubtedly a house, and there is the possibility that Hut 1 was a byre or storage hut, since its floor in particular showed none of the traces of habitation observed in Hut 2.

#### HILL FORT, CAIRN PAT, NEAR LOCHANS, WIGTOWNSHIRE

NX/044563. Watch was kept on an excavation on the site of a new wireless station. Only a thin cover of soil over the rock was found.

#### WHITHORN PRIORY, WIGTOWNSHIRE

NX/444404. Work continued beside the crypt underlying the east end of the church. Part of a cemetery was found underlying the earliest medieval structures on the site. The

burials, twelve feet below the present surface of the ground, are oriented roughly east/west. An earlier cremation had been disturbed and disseminated in the soil by the users of this cemetery.

#### **TORR HILL, ABERFELDY**

*Mrs Margaret E. C. Stewart*

NN/854487. Torr Hill is a natural mound whose summit lies approximately 100 ft. above the flood plain of Strathtay on the southern outskirts of the town of Aberfeldy. The summit, which measures 162 ft. from N. to S. and 130 ft. from E. to W. has been levelled and along the southern perimeter a bank of earth 2 ft. 3 ins. in height and 15 ft. in width at the base extends for a distance of 32 yards. On the northern perimeter the slope is longer and steeper and 12 ft. below the summit a terrace 14 ft. wide has been cut for a distance of approximately 85 yards. On the western face this terrace divides, one branch continuing southward but at a decreasing level, the other, not so wide and ill defined, just below the summit, ends at a point where the private road to Duntaylor cuts round the back of Torr Hill from a junction with the road to Urlar.

On the Ordnance Survey 6 ins. sheet XLIXS.W. Torr Hill is marked as a "fort" and prior to planning permission being granted for building a limited trial excavation was carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Public Building and Works. Because of a mature and extensive oak plantation all over the mound areas examined had to be chosen not so much for their archaeological potential as for absence of tree roots and standing timber.

Two 15 ft. squares with an intervening 8 ft. baulk were opened in the central area. There was no more than 6 ins. of soil on top of rock here and the only archaeological material was a quantity of small pieces of iron slag scattered over the greater part of Square I. The slag was admixed with a good deal of stone and there was a complete absence of charcoal.

Two further 15 ft. squares were deturfed in the SW. quadrant but were not proceeded with when no apparent foundations were disclosed.

A section 6 ft. wide was cut across the earth bank on the southern perimeter. Below turf level the bank was found to consist of a tumbled wall of loose stone set on the edge of the slope of the mound. There had been an inner face of a single row of large boulders and beyond this a hard packed core of small stones on the outer edge of which there had been a wooden fence or palisade held in position by flattish stones laid on the outward slope of the mound. The fence had been burnt as large pieces of carbonised wood lay in earth reddened

by heat. The wall could never have risen to an appreciable height judging by the relatively small amount of collapsed stone material. It was probably never more than 3½ ft. high.

A trial section was cut across the terrace on the northern slope with a view to ascertaining whether this marked a silted ditch or a palisaded bank. There was no indication of either feature.

Members of the Archaeological Section of the Perthshire Society of Natural Science helped with the work of excavation.

#### **BIRSAY, ORKNEY**

The season's work under the direction of Mr C. A. Raleigh Radford was spoilt by bad weather. Some further exposure and consolidation of an early eleventh-century Norse house was achieved.

# *A Scottish Bibliography for 1962*

This section has been compiled by Mr R. B. K. STEVENSON

The following abbreviations are used :

- PSAS* Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.  
*TDGAS* Transactions of the Dumfriesshire & Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society.

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| J. Foster                      | The Ballantrae Cross  | Ays. Coll. 1958-60         |
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|----------------------------------|---|--|
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| N. Tranter                       | Fortified Houses, I   | Cunningham, Alva<br>(1962) 30/-                            |
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| E. A. Urquhart                   | Seventeenth Century Ice-Houses at Castle Huntly, near Longforgan, Perthshire and Glamis Castle, Angus | PSAS 1959-60   |
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| J. Fleming                       | Robert Adam & his Circle in Edinburgh & Rome  | Murray (1962) 40/-   |
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J. Hayward	The Art of the Gunmaker I 1500-1660	Barry & Rockcliffe 1962 70/-
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# INDEX

[excluding official or departmental Reports]

*E* — Excavated Site

## MESOLITHIC

- Finds* Auchenmalg, Wigtownshire, Larnian flints p. 49  
Clachbreck, Loch Caolisport, microliths p. 9  
Gleann Mor and Port Charlotte, Islay microliths p. 12
- Sites* Cill Mhicheil, Islay p. 12  
Kilchiarain Road, Islay p. 12

## NEOLITHIC

- Sites* Carn Mor, Islay, Heelshaped and other cairns p. 14  
Dun Chroisprig, Islay, Passage Graves p. 17  
Lagavulin, Islay, Possible Cylde/Carlingford site p. 20  
Rahoy, Morvern, Chambered Cairn p. 5

## BRONZE AGE

- Finds* Brackmont Farm, Leuchars, Pottery p. 30  
Barry Hill Fort, Strathmore, Cupmarked stone p. 1  
Cnoc Mor Ghrasdail, Islay, Cupmarked stone p. 20  
Cowcarse, Southwick, barbed and tanged flint arrowhead p. 33  
Dunyvog, Islay, Cupmarked stone p. 20  
Kindalton, Islay, Cupmarked stone p. 19  
Langstilly Farm, Lochwinnoch, bronze spear head p. 39  
Loch Gair, Cupmarked stone p. 6  
Luing, Cupmarked stone p. 4  
Nairn, Beaker p. 36  
Perth, barbed and tanged chert arrowhead p. 37  
Stoneyacre, Balfron, looped bronze palstave p. 42  
Strathlaclulan, Cupmarked stone p. 4  
The Enzie, bronze spear head p. 23  
Torrans, Ford, Late Bronze Age Hoard p. 8
- Sites* Achnabreac, cup and ring marks p. 3  
Ardifuir, Loch Crinan, cup marks and cup and ring marks p. 5  
Carnasserie Mill, rock sculptures and cup marks p. 6
- E.* Dalmore, Halkirk, cist with food vessel p. 24  
Drumashie, cist with beaker p. 31  
Ford, Loch Awe, Cup marks etc. p. 6
- E.* Heanish, Tiree, Stone Circle and Midden p. 22
- E.* Hestensgot, Shetland, Late Bronze Age House site p. 42
- E.* Loch Caolisport, short cists p. 9
- E.* Southfield Farm, Leuchars, cemetery p. 31  
Strachur, cup and ring marks p. 4  
Tokamol, Oa, Islay, cup marked outcrop p. 21

## IRON AGE, VIKING, EARLY CHRISTIAN

- Finds* Aberlemno, Pictish Sculptured Stone p. 1  
Alasdale, Barra, Broch-type pottery p. 32  
Capel Rig, Closeburn, Viking axe p. 28  
Fairrygreen, Collace, Pictish Sculptured Stone p. 36  
Iona, Cross Slab p. 11  
Kinlia, Islay, Stone Fort p. 19  
Loch an Duin, North Uist, Pot and ladle p. 32  
Sollas, North Uist, Broch pottery p. 32
- Sites* Alasdale, Barra, Wheelhouse p. 32
- E.* Beckton, circular, enclosure p. 26  
Dun Chroisprig, Islay, Broch p. 17  
Dun Chroisprig, Islay, Galleried Dun p. 18
- E.* Dun Mor Vault, Tiree, Broch and wheelhouse p. 21  
Dun Neadean, Islay, Galleried Dun p. 17
- E.* Dunhar, communal grave p. 29
- E.* Hurley Hawkin p. 2
- E.* Iona, Street of the Dead p. 11  
Kindalton, Islay, Chapel p. 19
- E.* Nisthus Isbister, Viking domestic site p. 41
- E.* Portalloch p. 9
- E.* Rosal, Strathnaver, Souterrain p. 48  
Sollas, North Uist, two wheelhouses p. 32
- E.* Westing, Unst, broch period settlement p. 41

## ROMAN

- Finds* Duncreevie Farm, Glenfarg, Denarius of Trajan p. 37  
St. Ninian's, Denarius of Hadrian p. 46  
Shillahill, pottery p. 27
- Sites*
- E.* Birrens, Flavian occupation p. 25
- E.* Broomholmshiel, Langholm, Roman and native occupation p. 26
- E.* Camelon, civil settlement p. 44
- E.* Carpow p. 37
- E.* Cramond, Antonine/Severan fort p. 30
- E.* Crawford, Antonine occupation p. 33  
Kirkintilloch, Antonine Wall p. 28
- E.* Seabegs, Roman Road p. 46  
Stenhouse, Roman Road and Arthur's O'on p. 46

## MEDIEVAL

- Finds* Ballachly, Dunheath, Whorl p. 25  
Brackmont Farm, Leuchars, pottery p. 30  
Capel Rig, Closeburn, horseshoe p. 28  
Claymires Farm, pottery p. 42  
Dam Farm, Dryfesdale, coin p. 28

## MEDIEVAL (contd.)

- Kilallan Churchyard, 13th C. tombstone p. 38
- Kirkpatrick Fleming, iron blooms and pottery p. 27
- Lockerbie, bronze skillet p. 27
- Overgate, Dundee, pottery, tiles etc. p. 1
- Redkirk Point, pottery etc. p. 26
- Stenhouse, pottery p. 46

- Sites*
- Ballimony Road, Islay, Baile p. 13
  - E.* Cumbernauld, Site of castle p. 28
  - E.* Gartcosh, site of House of Bishops of Glasgow p. 34
  - E.* Knapps Homestead p. 38
  - E.* McCulloch's Castle, Arbigland, fortified site p. 32
  - E.* Portalloch p. 10
  - E.* Rosal, Strathnaver, Settlement p. 47
  - E.* St. Blane's Chapel, Bute, Kiln p. 24
  - E.* St. Columba's Cave, Ellary p. 7
  - E.* St. Ninian's p. 42

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Finds*
- Asknish Forest, Ardcastle Wood, quern p. 5
  - Auchencloich, stone axe p. 39
  - Barr, Islay, Quartzite stone rubber p. 19
  - Blairbuy, stone artifacts p. 49
  - Bothen, Haroldwick, net weights p. 41
  - Chapel, Kirkcaldy, quartzite axe p. 31
  - Cochno Loch, stone axe and flint p. 28
  - Crarae, Loch Fyne, Sheela-na-Gig p. 4
  - Crawfordjohn, sundial p. 35
  - Culkae Sorbie, flint flake p. 49
  - East Green, hammerstone p. 39
  - Easting Unst, bone needle p. 41
  - Elsmonechtie, Monifieth, skeletons p. 2
  - Fairygreen, Collace, stone cup p. 36
  - Isle Farm, patinated flints p. 49
  - Kilallan, sculptured stone fragments n. 37-38
  - Ladymuir, lopsided flint arrowhead p. 39
  - Laws Farm, Monifieth, flints p. 2
  - Loch Kinord, canoe p. 1
  - Lochside, Dumfries, flint scraper p. 27
  - Lockerbie, skull of *bos primigenius* p. 27
  - Luce Bay, wide variety of finds p. 48-49
  - Milton, Annandale, blue ribbed bead p. 27
  - Newbridge, Dumfries, flint p. 27
  - Shaddock, patinated flints p. 49
  - Shuttlefield, Lockerbie, flint p. 27
  - Starriclieugh Terregles, stone macehead p. 27

## MISCELLANEOUS (contd.)

- Sites* Airidh a' Gobhaiun, village p. 4  
Allt an Dubhair, fort p. 5  
Ard Fhroach, Islay, fort p. 20  
Ardnahoe, Islay, circular foundation p. 19  
Ballimony Road, Islay, standing stone p. 13  
Beinn Tart à Mhill, Islay, Settlement sites and burial mound  
p. 15-16  
Berenice, settlement site p. 4  
Broomhouses, circular enclosure p. 26
- E.* Camphill Trohoughton, fort with burials p. 26  
Cnoc Mor, Islay, settlement site p. 16
- E.* Crumhaugh Tower p. 40
- E.* Darvel, fort p. 23
- E.* Drumcarro Craig, hut circles p. 30  
Dun Chroisprig, Islay, rectangular foundations p. 18  
Dunadd, rock sculptures p. 3  
Dunnet Bay, Long cists p. 25  
Garshangan Burn, foundations p. 39  
Gatehouse, radiocarbon dating p. 33
- E.* Hangingshaw, Yarrow p. 40
- E.* Inverkeilor, long and short cists p. 2  
Iona, circular foundations p. 11-12  
Kindalton, Islay, Terrace plots p. 19  
Kintraw, standing stones p. 7
- E.* Knock Farm, underground structure p. 23
- E.* Lasswade, long cist p. 35  
Loch Gair, cairn p. 6  
Lochgoilhead, summer sheiling p. 4
- E.* Lochlands Farm, Blairgowrie, short cist p. 3  
Milngavie, well p. 29  
Mullach Dubh, Islay, house sites p. 18  
Port Alsaig, Islay, fortifications p. 20
- E.* Rattray, short cist p. 37  
Shaddock, promontory fort p. 49
- E.* Stenhouse, kiln and pits p. 45  
Tokamol Oa, Islay, settlement sites, etc. p. 20-21  
Tom na Dunaiche, settlement site p. 7  
Traigh an Luig, Islay, circular foundation p. 13  
Traigh Machir, Islay, fortified site p. 16  
Traigh Machir, Islay, possible kiln p. 18  
Upper Strathnairn, survey p. 32  
Wemyss, cave p. 31
- E.* West Mains of Ethie, fort p. 2