

DISCOVERY  
**and**  
EXCAVATION  
**in**  
SCOTLAND  
  
1975

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**SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP  
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Membership of the Scottish Regional Group is open to archaeological and historical societies and to museums throughout Scotland.

The Group was formed in 1944 to co-ordinate research on Scottish antiquities, to provide Scottish representation on the Council for British Archaeology and to further the cause of archaeology in Scotland.

"Discovery and Excavation in Scotland" has been published annually by the Scottish Regional Group since 1956. Its purpose is to list by counties all discoveries which have taken place in Scotland over the past twelve months.

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Contributions should be sent to :—

**Hon. Advisory Editor :**

**Dr Margaret E. C. Stewart, F.S.A.Scot.,**

**Tempar, 4 Dupplin Terrace, Kinnoull, Perth.**

## EDITORIAL

We are grateful to the readers who wrote to us, in response to our 1974 Editorial, offering us their views on the future of *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. Their opinion was almost unanimously that we should continue to report every discovery of chance finds or definite structures, and that, if necessary, excavation reports should be curtailed to save space. We have tried to follow this policy, although it is very difficult to cut a well-argued excavation report without reducing the useful information in it.

Readers will notice two innovations in our presentation this year. First, chance finds of material without archaeological context have been tabulated and are reported together at the end of the normal county entries. This is principally to save space. Second, with the agreement of the Department of the Environment, we have listed separately those excavations funded by the Department, but the excavation reports are published under the relevant county headings. We hope that this change will help readers to find reports of immediate interest to them rather more easily, while at the same time presenting a true record of the very substantial contribution made by the Department to research and rescue work in Scotland.

There is one innovation we have chosen *not* to make in the 1975 edition. We have retained the division by counties and parishes, rather than changing our classification to conform to the new regions and districts. The archaeologists and historians of some future date will have to wrestle with the problems of relating the new local government areas to the old, but we see no point in inflicting them on our readers or on ourselves prematurely.

As ever, we are pleased that this Editorial offers us an opportunity publicly to thank all the contributors (including those whose reports we have mangled almost beyond recognition!), the staff of the Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey, who checked the grid references, and those whose typing or whose advice has helped us in the production of *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, 1975.

MARGARET E. C. STEWART

December 1975

CHARLOTTE M. LYTHE

The following are known to have undertaken Field Work in Scotland in 1975 but have not submitted reports of their work to *Discovery and Excavation* :—

I. A. Crawford	Site : Udal, North Uist
J. K. St. Joseph	Aerial Surveys
J. Wilkes	Site : Carpow

## ERRATA

### *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1974*

- p. 14 Line 1—for 1610 read 6010.
- p. 63 The entry on this page for Mumrills should be deleted in favour of that on page 65.
- pp. 64 and 65. These entries were erroneously attributed to Mr E. J. Price.

## ABERDEENSHIRE

### BRIDGE OF DON

Scotstoun Housing Development  
SHORT CIST

*Ian Ralston*  
*Kevin Edwards*

NJ 935107. Mechanical scraping of a sand-and-gravel knoll revealed a substantial cist with clay-luted corners and a pebble floor. Contents included an unevenly-preserved inhumation, a complete Beaker, two flint artefacts, a trace of copper and considerable organic material. A report is in preparation. Finds to James Dun's House Museum, Aberdeen.

### FRASERBURGH

Castle Street  
DRAW WELL

*Ian Ralston*

NJ 998672. Demolition work revealed the lower part of a stone-lined draw well; diameter approx. 1m. Now destroyed.

### ABERDEEN

Virginia Street

*J. Colvin Greig*

NJ 946063. During the construction of a dual carriageway at Virginia Street, Aberdeen a number of medieval sherds were recovered. The site lies at the foot of Castle Hill upon which stood Aberdeen Castle and St. Ninians Chapel, archaeological evidence of which had been completely destroyed by development without archaeological investigation.

Due to site restrictions the excavation was confined to a 11m x 2m trench. The lowest horizon revealed the remains of a 13th century road or cart track possibly giving access from the castle gate area to Futtie. Above this level lay a mixed area of rubbish pits, shell middens and sand, from which came a large collection of 14th century pottery (c.f. Broad Street 1973), including a number of parrot beak spouts, a fine skillet handle and numerous animal bones. The top of this mixed horizon appeared to have been levelled and a cobbled roadway laid down somewhere in the 15th century, this roadway most likely being Futtie Wynd, which was destroyed by later development on Castle Hill and its environments.

### 5 Kenfield Crescent

*J. E. Beeley*

NJ 912046. Drain, probably early 19th century, in the garden of a private house.

### NEW MACHAR

Bishops Loch

NJ 912143. Drain, apparently connected to Bishop's Manor, probably early 19th century. Destroyed by quarrying.

NJ 577037. Clearance of the motte top revealed the extent of disturbance in the past. Excavations were conducted here in the middle of the last century and in 1907 and in 1782 a dyke was constructed around the motte edge using stones from buildings still upstanding on the summit of the motte.

**Motte Top.** The excavation of 1907 brought to light the foundations of the manor house (Ha'ton House) which was built in the late 15th century and which brought the military history of the Peel to an end. A small area of this building was investigated in 1975. Only the barest foundation stones survive and the flooring has virtually disappeared.

**Motte Slope.** To investigate the defences of the motte, an area behind the dyke and the slope of the motte below it were studied. A stretch 15.5m wide was opened up. The dyke was demolished in this area and its modern construction demonstrated. A silver penny of Edward I. (1279/80) was found beneath it. Half the height of the motte is natural. A turf bank at the edge of this natural mound made stable the upcast used to heighten the mound. A sherd of green-glazed 13th century pottery was found in the turf, suggesting that this is a Durward stronghold and not a military strongpoint of the 12th century. Only one post hole of a possible palisade was found. Secondary to this appears to be a stone revetting of the mound a little way below the shoulder. Mortar floors behind the dyke reveal the presence of a building.

**Ditch.** A well-laid cobbled causeway across the ditch was excavated in its NE stretch. Four concentrations of large stones close to it may show that a flying bridge was the first means of access to the site.

#### TILLYTARMONT

*Dr A. A. Woodham*

NJ 533472. Three stoney areas in a field in which five class I. Pictish symbol stones and large white quartzite boulders have been found at various times were tested. Two showed no identifiable features. The third was a square cairn of large water worn stones measuring 4.25m by 4.25m and over 0.50m high. Fragments of white quartzite found centrally represent remains of a boulder. The water-rippled underlying sand showed no trace of features. There was no dating evidence. Stoney areas have been marked with iron bars laid flat.

#### KINTORE

##### Midmill

##### LONG CAIRN

NJ 795151. On arable land 320m E of A96 road, a grass-covered cairn 3 to 3½m high and 24.5m wide aligned ESE-WNW and possibly horned at the W end. The E end is badly damaged by quarrying and the surviving W portion is 29.2m long. The original length may have been 65m. The cairn is indicated on the 1:25,000 O.S. Sheet NJ 71 as "tumulus—site of".

A survey was made of three circles, one of which (Berrybrae) was excavated. All three had substantial stoney banks between the standing stones, a local characteristic.

NJ 959471. Aikey Brae. This site stands at the crest of Parkhouse Hill and is an ellipse 16.6 x 12.8m with a bank 2-4m wide. The recumbent at 184°, its E flanker and three circle-stones still stand and four are prostrate. There are signs of very recent digging at the centre of the site.

NJ 962497. Loudon Wood. This stands on a terrace in a Forestry Commission wood, and is a circle 18.5m in diameter. The recumbent at 191°, its W flanker and two stones still stand. The bank is approximately 2-3m wide.

NK 028572. Berrybrae. The ring had been despoiled, and now only the recumbent, its W flanker, and one other stone, still stand but recesses for others were still apparent on the stoney bank against which some of the stones had been propped. In addition to the recumbent there were originally nine stones of local granite around the perimeter of an ellipse 12.8 x 10.8m on a long NNW - SSE axis. The recumbent was placed at 241° with a declination of 15.3°.

The chosen site on a low hillside was on a slight downward slope to the S, but here clay had been heaped up to make a level platform 1.2m high at the S. On this an oval bank, 2m wide, had been constructed of basal stones over which clay had been piled and covered with another layer of small stones. Within the central space, about 9.6 x 7.8m, there were signs of disturbance in the SE quadrant where several large stones, flecks of charcoal and scatters of burnt bones were discovered. Many fragments of quartz were found in the central area. Several small, weathered sherds of probable flat-rimmed ware lay near the recumbent. A charcoal sample has been taken from the prehistoric land surface.

## ANGUS

BRECHIN  
Drumachlie Farm  
SHORT CIST

*Lisbeth M. Thoms*

NO 614596. Discovered during deep ploughing on the crest of a slope overlooking the river South Esk. The cist, oriented E-W, was formed by single large sandstone slabs on its N and W sides and on its S and E sides by, in both cases, one large slab and one smaller "packing" slab. The internal, rectangular dimensions were 0.93m x 0.65m x 0.53m deep. The plough had dislodged a roughly hewn capstone 1.14m x 0.78m. The grave in-fill consisted of c. 0.45m of plough soil, and the bottom of the cist was rep-

resented by the gravel natural subsoil. The cist contained a fairly well preserved inhumation — the skeleton lay with head to the W and facing S. Evidence from the skeletal remains (now in Dundee Museum) reveal the individual was male and not less than 25 years old at death.

MEIGLE

Cardean  
ROMAN FORT

*Prof. Anne S. Robertson*

NO 289460. (See earlier reports in *Discovery and Excavation*, 1968, 2; 1970, 4; 1971, 2; 1972, 2; 1973, 6; 1974, 9.) In 1975, N of the granary found in 1973, and still in the central block of the fort, there was found a barrack-block about 27m long and 4½m wide, of cavalry type with eight undivided *contubernia*, and a narrow verandah (with a hitching-rail?) along the S long side. From this barrack-block there came a silver denarius of Vespasian (of A.D. 77-8), a silvered bronze spoon, and a bronze bust of Minerva, besides other finds of pottery and glass. The presence in the central block of a barrack-building even for prestigious cavalry troops, came as a surprise.

Also surprising was the discovery that the granary located in 1973 had extended to a length of about 30m, instead of 18m as at first thought. It was about 9m wide, and its length was divided up by twenty-one foundation trenches for the parallel dwarf walls which would have supported a raised floor to keep the corn-bins dry. Between four pairs of foundation trenches there were four rows of post-holes about 0.61m across. These were slightly nearer to the front than the back of the granary. A bronze As of Vespasian (of A.D. 77-8) came from the construction level of the granary.

## ARGYLL — ISLANDS

ISLAY

CULTOON STONE CIRCLE

*Euan W. MacKie*

NR 196570. Further work was undertaken. An interim report is available from contributor.

Trudernish

SETTLEMENT AND CROSS SLAB

*C. G. Booth and E. J. Peltenburg*

NR 461525. Within saddle of rock outcrop c. 80m W of Trudernish Farm, three rectangular buildings with stone walls, a circular corn-drying kiln (?) and fragmentary lengths of enclosure walls. Mr Ian Nicholl, during pipe-laying here, uncovered a triangular slab, 1.35m long, incised with a simple outline cross, 0.57 by 0.41m, like that found under nearby Kildalton High Cross (W. D. Lamont, *Ancient and Medieval Sculptured Stones of Islay*, pl. IIb). A built terrace or platform is situated on a rock shelf immediately N.

LISMORE

Achanduin  
CASTLE

D. J. Turner

NM 803392. (See D. and E. 1970-74.) Excavation of the site was completed.

The line of the outer face of the SW wall was confirmed and an area within the hall range was excavated to obtain a further sample of bone from the 14th century occupation layer. Previous tests had shown that the deposits contained no mollusca or palaeobotanical evidence.

The burnt area near the E corner of the courtyard, once thought to be an ore roasting furnace (D. and E., 1972), has been shown not to have had any metallurgical connection. It is now clear that the ash deposit pre-dated the "post-Reformation building" that lay across the NE side of the courtyard, and which can now possibly be seen as late 18th or early 19th century in date.

ORONSAY

SHELL MOUNDS

Dr W. G. Jardine

NR 359879. Caisteal-nan-Gilleann.

NR 373889. Cnoc Sligeach.

Shells of *Patella* spp. collected in 1972 from the raised beach adjacent to Caisteal-nan-Gilleann, after correction for C13 deviation, gave radiocarbon dates as follows : Birm-414, 3990  $\pm$  130 years B.P. (inner fraction); 4080  $\pm$  120 years B.P. (middle fraction); 4110  $\pm$  130 years B.P. (outer fraction). These dates are approximately 3000 years younger than dates obtained by radiocarbon assay of fragments of *Arctica islandica* (Birm-363) from the same horizon (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973). The discrepancy may be due to the effect of isotopic replacement, which probably occurred in the case of both *Arctica* and *Patella* samples, being partially offset in *Arctica* by the hard water effect, whereas in the case of *Patella* the hard water effect was negligible. (Isotopic replacement produces "too young" an age, the hard water effect produces "too old" an age.)

The position of the "Mesolithic" shore-line in the vicinity of Caisteal-nan-Gilleann was located by digging. Further measurement of present tidal ranges and of modern storm beach heights in the vicinity of Cnoc Sligeach, Caisteal-nan-Gilleann and near the S extremity of Oronsay supported the suggestion (*Discovery and Excavation*, 1974) that high water mark of the "Mesolithic" shore-line was at approximately 9m above O.D. and the corresponding mean sea level at approximately 7m above O.D. Samples of peat from the floor of a former lagoon located landwards of a storm beach ridge of the "Mesolithic" shore-line near the southern extremity of Oronsay were collected for botanical analysis and radiocarbon dating.

## ARGYLL — MAINLAND

### CAMPBELTOWN

Balloch  
HILL FORT

*Dr E. J. Peltenburg*

NR 677176. Most of the 1975 season of excavations was devoted to the investigation of three threatened superficial structures and an area near the quarry face where recent erosion was evident. (See *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, pp. 16-17).

All three small structures overlay or were dug into the collapse of the fort's inner rampart. They were irregular in plan with stone rubble foundations. The interior of one of these was divided into three sections, a platform, a cobbled area and a hollow which yielded modern glass. The remaining two showed evidence of re-modelling, one in order to make the structure smaller, the other to provide a large setting for a post. The former initially possessed a central stone-lined hearth, the latter involved substantial robbing of the inner rampart.

Deposits encountered near the quarry face appear to be contemporary with the fort. This was an open area where refuse, including fragments of jet, part of a blue glass bead, pottery and bone, was thrown out. During the earlier stages however, it was associated with iron working, indicated by a pit full of slag and burnt organic material at the end of a straight gully at least 5m long.

Other work on the fort was designed to investigate the ramparts. Results here included the discovery of a third stone rampart outside what had previously been considered the outer rampart; a poor revetting of the inner rampart, near the entrance, which almost doubled its width there; intensive burning midway between the inner and middle ramparts, the latter now diagnosed as consisting of two phases, the earlier being a revetment wall for an earthen bank which was once cobbled; and traces of shallow postholes under the inner rampart.

The most notable find was a double burial sealed by the inner rampart tumble and partly by the rampart itself. The burials were in two oval pots with unfired bases and glutinous clay "covers". Associated grave goods include a biconical pygmy cup with horizontal bands of trapezoids alternately decorated with punctured dots and a cruciform design on its base. This is the first example of such a Middle Bronze Age cup to be found W of the Clyde estuary and it seems likely therefore that the hilltop was already a focus of activity in the second millennium B.C.

### UPPER KILBRIDE GLEN CIRCULAR STONE STRUCTURE

*Mrs A. M. Kahane*

NR 859970. To the E of the NE/SW ridge along which the track runs from Kilbride to Loch Leathan there is a roughly circular stone structure built against the cliff. Most of the construction is of

drystone walling, but on the SW side the wall is formed by the local rock (tilted almost vertical). The walls are a little over a metre wide. The internal diameter varies between 2.10m N/S and 2.24m E/W. The external height on the side opposite the rock face is c. 1.40m.

There is a suggestion of heat cracking on the inside face of the wall in places. Though rather ruinous, there appears to be a vertical line running through the thickness of the wall on the NE side suggesting one side of an entrance. The ground to the E of this structure is marshy.

#### SKIPNESS CASTLE

NR 908577. Prior to consolidating the foundations of the NE tower a narrow trench was excavated at right angles to the wall on each of the E, N and W sides (the latter being in fact the inside face of the E wall of the original hall house).

All three disclosed an extensive platform of level gravel on which the foundations had been laid. These were at a depth below apparent contemporary ground level of 30cms on the E side, about 10cms on the N and at ground level on the W.

The E trench uncovered a gully c. 1m wide and 50 cm deep cutting into natural clay, out from the tower running away southeastwards. The N trench has a wider gully (c. 2m) running obliquely NW/SE to the line of the wall 6m N of the tower and reaching a depth of c. 70cms below the top of the clay.

The W trench exposed rough blocks to a depth of 73cms thought to form the outer structure of the SE corner of the well of the castle.

The E trench produced three unstratified glazed medieval sherds dating from c. 1300 to 1550, and the N trench uncovered traces of an occupation surface on which lay some sherds of unglazed cooking pots of probably Scottish production of the early 13th century.

#### KINTYRE

Ardnacross

CHAMBERED CAIRN, ARG 35

*Mr and Mrs J. G. Scott*

NR 768259. The excavation of the *Clyde* chambered cairn, Ardnacross II, was continued, by prolonging through the forecourt area the section taken through the burial chamber.

Between 3m and 4m N of the burial chamber entrance a hollow in the ground appeared to have been paved with stone slabs, retained by low sill stones at their outer N edge, the sill stones, running E-W, terminating at a large natural boulder. From this boulder a line of large stones ran N, and at right angles to the sill stones, for a further 2m, apparently retaining cairn material. At this point the ground fell away steeply, but a further revetment-like drystone

wall continued to the N for some 3m in the hollow. Charcoal and reddened earth suggested the collapse of a wooden turf-roofed superstructure at the N end. No artefacts were found, and the relationship of this last structure to the cairn remains uncertain.

KILMARTIN  
Temple Wood  
STONE CIRCLE

J. G. Scott

NR 826978. The re-excavation of this site continued to establish the relationship between the standing stones, forming a circle c. 12.2m in diameter, with cairn material, cist and ditch features.

A quadrant to the NW was examined, with sides which intersected in the central cist, 1.4m x 0.8m in size. One section revealed that the N end slab of the cist had a total height of over 1.3m, of which 0.75m lay below the floor of the cist, set into a rather bulbous pit some 0.75m across. The alignment of this slab lay E-W, agreeing closely with the shadow of the sun cast as it set on midsummer day. The other slabs of the cist appear to be more normal size and construction, so that one possibility is that the N end slab had already served some other purpose before becoming part of the cist.

Surrounding the cist was a narrow trench c. 0.35m deep and 0.10 - 0.25m wide, which had contained upright slabs, only one of which, partially shattered, remained. A ring of set boulders was *in situ* immediately beyond the trench, and it is likely that boulders, upright slabs and cist may all originally have been covered by a small cairn. There was much disturbance between the central area and the standing stones, but it seemed unlikely that there had ever been more than a scatter of stones here.

In the quadrant were six of the standing stones, and in the intervals between or beyond them were found four surviving upright slabs, rising only some 0.40m above the original ground surface. Above one of these survived two courses of drystone walling, which proved that the upright slabs had faced inwards. There was some evidence that the standing stones had been dressed, or even partially cut away, so that the interval slabs could be fitted into position. These interval slabs have not previously been recorded.

The purpose of the interval slabs and drystone walling must have been to retain a ring cairn, but because of stone robbery the original height and extent of this are difficult to define, and no outer kerb was traced. To the W a section was extended across a shallow ditch which appeared to run approximately N-S past the edge of the cairn. The ditch proved to have been originally cut in ancient times, and had been recut in recent times, after which a thick filling of black peaty soil had formed in it.

No significant artefacts were recovered, but two previously unrecorded carvings were noted, both on the outer faces of standing stones in the N-NW part of the circle. One consisted of two con-

centric circles, the larger about 0.25m in diameter. The other consisted of a magnificent double, becoming triple, spiral about 0.40m across, carved apparently on a surface at least partially prepared. The triple ends of the spiral eventually reach the edge of the stone, where they are linked with a rather botched spiral, of much inferior workmanship, carved at a higher level on the edge of the stone. This carving was known before the excavation began.

#### CRAIGNISH

Barr Mor, Loch Mhic Mhairtein  
HILL FORT

NM 780034. On a flat-topped rocky outcrop overlooking Loch Mhic Mhairtein, with extensive views to E and W, is an oval enclosure with traces of dry-built walls, some 20m x 12.4m in size, with an entrance some 3m wide at the E end of the longer axis. To the N, at a lower level, there appears to be a crescent-shaped annexe, some 10m wide.

*Cowal Archaeological Society  
per Miss E. Rennie*

Ardnadam  
CHAPEL SITE

NS 163791. Investigation in 1975 was concentrated upon the "large circular structure" (D. and E., 1974, p. 15) now found to be 12m in diameter.

Of the circular structure, 180° of the enclosing curve of post holes and an entrance have been uncovered. On the floor of this enclosure or house, there are at least four later occupations with associated post holes. The lowest is represented by two lines of stake holes 5m and 4m long. The next level is a circle, 6m in diameter, formed by post holes spaced at 1m intervals. On top of the NW arc of this floor is another hut circle, 4.5m in diameter. This top level is probably of two or more periods as the post holes do not form a circle and there are three hearths probably associated with these post holes. All of these occupations apparently ante-date the Early Christian structures reported in previous years.

Another Cross marked stone was found immediately below the turf. The stone is of local schist measuring 540mm by 300mm by 50mm at the widest point. There is an incised cross on front and reverse side, the larger measuring 200mm vertically and 180mm horizontally, with a small cross at each end of the horizontal arms. The smaller cross measures 150mm by 50mm. Defaced Roman letters can be distinguished in the horizontal arms of both crosses.

Below the floor of the 12m circle, there were many sherds of a coarse grained, round-bottomed pot, probably Neolithic. The diameter at its mouth is about 280mm.

TIGHNABRUICH  
Port Avadie  
BRONZE AGE CAIRN

*Cowal Archaeological Society*  
*per D. N. Marshall*

NR 934693. A rescue excavation, in advance of road, was carried out on a cairn 5m in diameter rising to 0.6m above the present turf line. One large irregularly shaped slab had been placed, off centre, on the original ground surface. There was a large block of stone near the centre of the cairn, also on the original ground surface. No cist was found. The cairn was surrounded by a well built kerb, some of the stones being up to 1.5m long. There was an outer kerb of slabs set upright 0.5 - 0.65m from the cairn. The tops of these outer stones were set so that they were below the level of the foot of the kerb wall. The space between was filled with earth. One flint nodule was found. It is hoped to get a C14 date from the material at the foot of the cairn. The cairn is now completely obliterated.

Minard, Loch Fyne

*Col. P. F. F. Gladwin*

NR 976951. On a rock outcrop at the S corner of Brainport Bay are traces of an enclosure. On the landward slope is a circular terrace edged with heavy boulders. An area in the E corner shows a roughly paved floor. On the SW side spaces between natural outcrops have been filled with boulders and slabs of schist. There are indications of a cobbled ramp onto the lower terrace at the SW side.

BENDERLOCH  
Ardchattan and Muckairn  
Moss of Achnacree  
CAIRN

*Achnacree Moss Research Group*  
*per Peter Hill*

NM 923355. A small cairn c. 4m in diameter and 0.80m high situated on drained ground on the SW shore of Lochan nan Rath.

PROBABLE CAIRN

NM 921363. A spread of stone c. 8m in diameter on the surface of the peat c. 50m W of the chambered cairn at Carn Ban. Tentative probing suggests it is a cairn on the old ground surface.

PROBABLE CAIRN

NM 926352. A slightly dished mound of stone c. 3m in diameter and 0.60m high.

PREHISTORIC FIELD BOUNDARIES

NM 925350. Selective probing through c. 2m of peat has added some 700m to the known extent of the prehistoric dykes recorded by Drs Anna and Graham Ritchie in *G.A.J.* 3. A third dyke has been identified and two dyke intersections have been investigated. An interim report is under preparation.

NM 775027, 776028, 777030 (cf. *D. and E.* 1959, p.5; *PSAS* XCV., nos. 197, 198, 199). Revisited July 1975.

No. 197. The carved area occupies the highest part of the ridge by the farm road. At least 49 cups and 15 c-and-rs, one of which has five rings. At least three unringed cups are unusual, being ca. 10cm diameter x 1.5cm deep and straight-sided; the following two sites have at least one each of this form.

No. 198. We did not find any cups "low on E side" (cf. *PSAS* report) but at S end of the outcrop and towards its W side are at least 26 cups, six of them in a row; no rings were found.

No. 199. The heaviest concentration is close to the sheer W edge of the outcrop. There are in all not less than 60 cups, including two rows of six or more each; four sets of cup + one ring, and three doubtful markings (a long oval, and some grooves perhaps partly natural).

SOUTH KNAPDALE  
Doide, Loch Sween

NR 708768. A probable hut-circle on levelled crest of ridge on E of road, overlooking the last habitable house of the old township and approximately on the 150' contour; surface remains consist of a double boulder-ring ca 7.50m diameter with a few stones inside it.

NR 705769. On the NW flank of the ridge on which stands the fort (*PSAS* XCV., no. 353) is a rock-shelter formed by a vertical slab some 2m high x 3m long against a massive horizontal slab projecting from the bank above; the gaps at top and S side have been packed with stones. Access is by a wellmarked track from the N end of the ridge to a small terrace with a mainly natural retaining wall of slabs, among which grow hazels and hawthorns.

NR 703767. Nearly at the S end of the same ridge, facing the sea and immediately N of the long drystone dyke from sea to road shown on 6" OS map, is an abandoned "bluestone" quarry. Tool-marked fragments are present among the debris.

NR 705767. Among the boulders at the N side of the SW group of ruined houses, one large erratic has a flat-based "Mortar" (bullàn) ca 15cm deep x 20cm wide on its sloping upper surface.

#### ST. COLUMBA'S CAVE, ELLARY

NR 751767 (cf *D. and E.*, 1959, 7; 1962, 7; 1973, 11). Work continued. The material removed in the 1870's has now been almost wholly examined and replaced, bringing the level within the larger cave up to its former height and allowing access to the altar shelf without the need for a ladder. Small finds this year include an undecorated rim sherd of Samian ware and a decorated bronze pin ca 10th-14th century A.D., a plack of James IV. and a large range of handmade coarse pottery, bone and antler tools, and a few flints, some retouched. The work was confined to the 10m square already opened on the tip. The wall located in 1973 has been fully traced and a probable entrance with doorstep has been cleared. A thin surface of broken schist covers the areas above and below this wall, and may mark the base of the 19th-c. tip. Iron slag protruding through this surface suggests a post-medieval lay use of the site.

The finds are temporarily at Kilberry, but it is hoped to transfer them all eventually to the National Museum of Antiquities.

### BERWICKSHIRE

*Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society*

Fast Castle

*per E. Robertson*

NT 861710. Excavations at Fast Castle are being centred within the confines of the lower courtyard area and the room adjoining the hall to the NE (for description of castle see *PSAS*, Vol. 55, 1920-1, 56-83).

In the first of these areas excavations revealed a paved area at the SE corner, approx. 2.80m x 1.30m and to the W of it a small section of walling. In the NW corner of the area are remains of an irregular building entered down two steps in the middle of the SW side, with coarse lime rendering on a small section of the inner face of the wall at the S angle.

None of these features are shown on the plan of the castle, dated 1549.

Finds have been coins of the 15th - 17th century (including some forger's blanks possibly for counterfeiting Charles II. Turners); a gold enamel button 16th/17th century; part of the muzzle of an iron gun (calibre 4") 15th/16th century; and fragments of painted glass.

### BUTE

W Clachland Hills

*J. B. McVicar*

GROOVED AND SOCKETED STONE

NS 019334. The largest of the S stones of the small circle which lies just E of the road is composed of hard, coarse granite and is

marked on its summit by two shallow cup-shaped depressions, joined by a short, broad groove 3mm deep and 30mm wide.

NORTH BUTE  
Hilton  
NEOLITHIC CAIRN

*Buteshire Natural History Society*  
*per D. N. Marshall*

NS 067685 (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1972, 73, 74). Further work removed two layers from the Neolithic cairn on the S side of the cairn. Live rock, very near the old land surface, has been adapted in places to the design of the cairn. The cairn stretches 18m down hill to a large boulder, possible ice carried, which has been used to edge it and prevent slip.

KINGARTH  
STANDING STONE

NS 093555. On the left hand side of the road going from the site of Kingarth church to Dunagoil. One of a group of three large standing stones broke at ground level after a gale in 1974. Excavation round it showed that it had been set 0.65m in the ground, its total length being 2.45m. The stone was conglomerate red sandstone. On the side facing the centre of the circle it had been chocked by a large lump of conglomerate and packed on either side were water rolled stones set in clay. There was no packing to the rear of the stone. The foundation trench to the front was clearly seen. It had been filled with earth and stones.

CUMBRAE  
Cumbræ  
RHENISH WINE FLAGON

*John Shearer*  
*Scottish Sub-Aqua Club per D. N. Marshall*

NS 170542. The neck and shoulder of a Rhenish wine flagon was found on the sea bed in 21m of water, 135m - 180m off shore.

SPANISH OLIVE CROCK

NS 145524. The rim with part of shoulder and fragment of base of a large vessel identified as being part of a Spanish olive container was found in 12m of water lying in a jumble of rocks and boulders, about 90m off the shore of Little Cumbræ.

WOODEN AND METAL PULLEY

NS 145503. Taken from the wreck of an iron sailing ship lying 9m deep and about 90m off shore. All in the Bute Museum.

## CAITHNESS

### REAY

Cnoc an Rath

*Ian Ralston*

HILL FORT

ND 053577. Now largely destroyed by afforestation.

## DUMFRIES - SHIRE

### KIRKPATRICK-JUXTA

Beattock Hill

*Robert H. McEwen*

CIRCULAR FUNERARY MONUMENT

NT 062023. On peaty ground in a sheltered hollow 0.4km NW of Beattock Hill Fort. Small concentric circular feature resembling in plan Bronze Age funerary monuments found in Clydesdale. The site, destroyed by pipeline construction, consisted of an internal platform 3m diameter surrounded by a concentric ditch 1m wide. The site, however, was in an area recently used as a military practice area and may have been connected with this activity.

### CLEARANCE CAIRNS

NT 059026 (area of). On an area of ground between 650' and 675' contours, 0.8km NW of Beattock Hill Fort. Number of field clearance cairns approx. 4.0m diameter. Six cairns destroyed by pipeline construction.

Gatet Hill

SUB-RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE

NT 057028. At the bottom of a hollow just S of a steep N-facing slope 1km N of Beattock Hill Fort. Sub-rectangular enclosure of indeterminate age measuring 7.5m N-S by 4.5m E-W, destroyed by pipeline construction. The enclosure was outlined by at least one layer of large stones with the suggestion of an outer wall face on the SW and was apparently free of stone in the interior.

### TUNDERGARTH

Craighousesteads Hill

UNENCLOSED SCOOPED SETTLEMENTS

NY 238857. On the NW facing slope of Craighousesteads Hill 0.5km N of the fort on top of this hill. Two adjacent unenclosed scooped settlements each measuring 9m N-S by 8m E-W, the more N settlement showing signs of an internal ditch around the central platform.

### KIRKMAHOE

Fulton Moor

*M. J. Yates*

NY 000869. Sixteen small cairns 2 - 7m diameter along the ridge of the hill.

## KIRKPATRICK-JUSTA

### Middlegill CAIRNFIELDS

*Angela M. Jackson*

NT 021073. Twenty-five cairns, between 1 and 10m in diameter.

NT 005074. Twenty-two small cairns, between 5 and 8m diameter.

NT 013079. Sixteen small cairns, between 4 and 5m diameter.

NT 019078. Eleven small cairns, between 1 and 3m diameter.

### Kinnelhead

*M. J. Yates and A. M. Jackson*

NT 028007. Fourteen cairns 2 - 4m diameter.

NT 017025. Twenty-five large cairns, several over 7m diameter, and which appear to be linked by cultivation terraces. By Threepen Burn, S of the cairns, are five rectangular structures ruined and grassed over. Their measurements range from 7.5m x 4.5m to 14.5m x 6m.

NT 022025. About 34 small cairns, 4 - 6m diameter, on a steep slope.

NT 020020. Eleven small cairns, some badly robbed.

NT 020022. Thirteen small cairns, 4 - 5m diameter, several disturbed.

NT 023003. Bronze Age cairn? On flat moorland near Lochanhead Farm, 10m E-W x 9.5m N-S and 1.60m high. No sign of a kerb, shallow interference in the centre.

## WANLOCKHEAD

### Meadowfoot POSSIBLE LONG CAIRN

*Thomas C. Welsh*

NS 864136. Aligned NW to SE, partly within cemetery at its NW end. A possible long cairn, broadest at its SE end, 18m by about 2m high, 66m long. The width midway is 13m after which it tapers substantially. The bulk of the cairn is inside the cemetery.

## DUNBARTONSHIRE

### DUMBARTON

#### Castle Rock

*Prof. L. C. Alcock*

NS 400744. A second season of excavation explored rock-cut terraces on each of the twin summits. The W terraces yielded principally recent pottery and appeared to have been garden plots using earlier stone quarries. The E terrace had carried some form of timber buildings, but contained material swept off the summit. This ranged back from building debris of 1939-45, and included fragments of mail; iron tools and arrowheads; a dispersed hoard of

Edwards I. and II.; a few sherds of Saintonge ware and much green-glazed; fragments of probably Merovingian glass; post-Roman import wares of classes Bi, Bii and E; and a very little Roman pottery.

Outside the medieval and later curtain, on the E spur of the Rock, traces were found of a timber-and-rubble rampart which had been burnt and partly vitrified. It is doubtful whether this had formed a continuous enceinte; and the purpose of the defence-work as explored had probably been to control access to the Rock across a tidal isthmus. This work may have been destroyed in A.D. 780 (when *Annals of Ulster* record the burning of Dumbarton) or after a Hiberno-Norse siege in A.D. 871-2. Finds apparently from the destruction of the rampart included a Norse lead weight decorated with a glass bangle fragment of Lagore type, and an iron sword pommel with Irish parallels. The rampart itself probably formed part of Bede's *civitas Brettonum munitissima* (HEi, 1).

#### NEW KILPATRICK

Bearsden

Dr D. J. Breeze

##### ANTONINE WALL ROMAN FORT

NS 545721. In the third season attention was directed to the fort, bath-house and civil settlement. Within the fort it was discovered that one longitudinal row of posts in each barrack-block supported a verandah and did not define a second room. Each *contubernium* therefore measured only about 4m x 3.5m and may not have held the normal eight soldiers. The officers' quarters of the two easterly barrack-blocks were more fully planned. A granary was located lying E-W immediately N of the *via principalis*. The three W ditches of the fort were sectioned, and the E defences of the annexe located. Further work on the bath-house revealed that to the W of the known building lay a timber changing-room. This had been burnt down and replaced during the life of the building. W of the fort, two lengths of cobble foundation, one containing a pivot for a door, presumably were Roman in date and formed part of civil buildings. No trace of the putative fortlet was found and no part of the site revealed evidence for more than one period of occupation.

#### Dullatur, Antonine Wall

L. J. F. Keppie

##### ROMAN CAMPS

NS 746767. Two temporary camps, observed from the air by Prof. J. K. St. Joseph to the S of Dullatur House, were investigated. Three sides of each camp were available for excavation, the fourth lying beneath housing. The smaller camp proved not to lie wholly within the larger (c.f. the OS map of the Antonine Wall), but to be linked to it on the W. Examination of the point of junction indicated that the larger camp was the earlier; when the smaller was constructed its builders utilised part of the existing ditch cir-

cuit, erecting a clay bank to block off the disused portion. The clay bank sealed in a 150mm thick layer of silt. The length of the SE side of the larger camp was c. 213m, of the smaller 140m. The ditches of both camps were c. 2.1m wide and c. 0.9m deep.

#### Westerwood Farm, Antonine Wall

##### ROMAN FORT

NS 761773. Search for traces of an extra-mural settlement S of Westerwood Fort was resumed (*Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, 81). To the SE of the fort further evidence for 16th century occupation was obtained, in the shape of foundations of two cottages. Trenching to the SE had only negative results. The drainage channel observed in 1974 was traced over a distance of 18m, but it seems unlikely that either this channel or the cobbling associated with it can be interpreted as forming part of a loop-road round Westerwood Fort; both are more probably medieval.

#### Kirkintilloch

##### ANTONINE WALL BASE

NS 659742. During construction work at 25 Hillhead Road, on the presumed line of the Antonine Wall, a compact mass of cobbling was observed at a depth of 0.45m. The cobbling may reasonably be identified as part of the rubble core of the Antonine Wall base.

#### Kirkintilloch

##### ROMAN DITCH(?)

NS 650739. During the cutting of foundation trenches for a housing development at 50 Union Street, to the SW of the Peel Park, the lip of a ditch was observed in section, and dark silty soil like ditch-fill was noted at several points, sufficient to suggest a roughly NW-SE alignment. Green-glazed ware was recovered from above the silt. If of Roman rather than medieval date, the ditch could mark the W limit of Kirkintilloch fort or of an Annexe.

#### Croy Hill

##### ANTONINE WALL — ROMAN FORTLET

W. S. Hanson

NS 734764. Excavation by Sir George Macdonald in 1931 defined a small double enclosure bounded by a single ditch or palisade trench lying under the Antonine fort and in the area to the S. The enclosure was then interpreted as one of the *praesidia* which, according to Tacitus, Agricola placed along the Forth-Clyde isthmus. The proposed re-opening of Nethercroy Quarry (some 100m SE of the Wall fort) prompted further excavation in 1975.

An area approximately 80 x 35m was stripped mechanically exposing the S end of the enclosure. The ditch revealed followed the line defined by Macdonald but appeared to have an entrance on the SW side. The dimensions of the ditch varied considerably

(1 - 2.3m wide and 0.3 - 1m deep) but could not be accounted for by different depths of bedrock. There was no evidence of a palisade. The depth of silt indicated that the ditch had remained open to the elements for some time.

Examination of the area within the ditch revealed little, the only features being two small hearths or areas of burning neither of which contained any artefacts. But outside the enclosure just within the S extremity of the excavated area a stretch of road was discovered, running along the edge of the quarry on an alignment which, if extended W would connect with the by-pass road which Macdonald traced branching S off the Military Way about one mile W of the fort. Much of the road survived in excellent condition with a fine surface of compacted small cobbles and occasional wheel ruts. The larger stones of the road kerb were exposed in places on the N side of the road and beyond them a small drainage ditch, but the S side of the road remained undefined. At the SE corner of the enclosure the road forked N surviving only in patches and bounded to the NE by the enclosure ditch which at one point had been overlain with large stones, possibly in order to gain access to the enclosure.

Sufficient coarse pottery was recovered to facilitate dating. Nothing from the site needs be earlier than the early second century, and typical Antonine pottery was recovered from the bottom of both the road drainage ditch and the enclosure ditch. Thus there is no longer a case for a Flavian occupation of the site and this casts doubt on a Flavian date for the similar enclosure at Bar Hill. The absence of internal buildings and the scarcity of pottery would suggest occupation of a temporary nature possibly associated with the building of the Wall itself. On the SE side, however, where the enclosure ditch and the road drainage ditch coincided there were slight indications that the enclosure ditch was the later. Since the by-pass road cannot be earlier than the Wall fort which it is by-passing this would present chronological problems. Unfortunately the point at which the two ditches converged had been disturbed by Macdonald so that their precise relationship must remain in question.

## EAST LOTHIAN

### TORNESS

*R. Mercer*

NT 743748. Parts of a 138 acre site scheduled for major development were excavated to test cropmarks.

The raised shore line was tested by sections and an area excavation. Cropmarks were shown to be of natural origin, and the raised beach deposits were shown to have been re-sorted by wave action up to a recent date. Early remains could thus be discounted. The existence of water meadows — a most unusual occurrence — was shown by excavation and from documentary sources.

Above the shore line three cropmarks were tested. One was of natural origin, one due to World War II. works, and one was shown to be due to a small 18th century building and yard; mesolithic flints were found in the spread from the turf wall of the yard.

Lime working on the site since 1680 was shown from documentary sources; a lime kiln and associated building were recorded and shown to be 19th century.

#### DUNBAR

Eweford Farm  
SHORT CIST

*Miss H. C. Nisbet*

NT 666777. Found by driver of a mechanical digger, on site of new cattle-court in the steading at Eweford Farm. Capstone fell into cist, causing damage. Cist oriented N25°E mag., constructed of single slabs with packing at corners; internal dimensions 1.05m x 0.46m x 0.55m deep. Capstone 1.10m x 0.70m, max. thickness 0.16m. Capstone had been ringed by boulders, one of which bore two shallow cup-marks. Crouched inhumation on left side, head to S; mature adult, sex not yet determined (skull and pelvis smashed). Body lay on clean sand with no infill above. Small flint knife under left shoulder. No pottery.

#### WHITEKIRK AND TYNINGHAME

St. Baldred's Cradle, Whitberry Point  
SITE OF ROUND CAIRN

NT 637812. This cairn was demolished early in the last war, and the round mound now visible covers only the remains of a concrete pill-box. (Information from Mr J. E. Hume, Estate Factor.)

#### SEACLIFF

PAVINGS, KITCHEN MIDDEN, HUMAN REMAINS

NT 612843. (Ref. : Trans S.A.S. 4, 1857, 357-8.) The cliff between 200 and 300m NW of Seacliff Tower was examined following reports of the discovery of "a long cist cemetery" in this area in the early 1960's. The site was pinpointed, now further exposed by erosion. Roughly slabbed or paved areas on surface of raised beach are overlain by a light midden deposit (shells, animal bone). Human bones also occur, but these seem to have been disturbed in antiquity and the existence of long cists was not proved. The deposit is largely covered by blown sand. Similar Iron Age/Post Roman occupations are recorded in the vicinity, and there is a traditional site of a chapel about 300m S of Seacliff Tower.

#### WHITTINGHAME

Johnsleugh  
ENCLOSURE

NT 639655. (Ref. Air Photos — O.S. 66.99.238-9.) Circular earthen or turf-walled enclosure c. 18m in diameter, possible entrance on SW. Probably a sheepfold.

## EDINBURGH

CRAMOND  
ROMAN FORT AND VICUS

*N. M. McQ. Holmes*

Excavations were carried out in three areas near the Roman fort.

NT 191767. Two areas of the S walled garden of the manse were investigated for links with the Roman period civilian settlement further to the N. A quantity of Roman tile, amphora and pottery fragments was recovered, mostly in an abraded condition, and one Roman coin, but there were no identifiable Roman structural remains.

NT 190769. An attempt was made to locate the position of a N ditch to the fort. A narrow trench 30m long was cut N from the line of the N rampart some 30m W of the N gateway, but no trace of the heel of a ditch was found. The only Roman period evidence comprised two amphora sherds.

NT 190770. Part of a Roman building was revealed during ground clearance for construction purposes S of the Cramond Inn. Excavation showed the structure to be extensive. The walls at the W end, protected by the lowest part of a steep slope, survive to a height of over 1.5m from foundation level, but elsewhere some stretches of wall have been completely destroyed in the course of medieval stone-robbing.

The area so far excavated contains the remains of at least two hypocausted rooms, and the enormous number of broken flue-tiles removed suggests that the building was a bath-house, but so far no distinctive features have been discovered. The structural remains are of at least two phases, and the small amount of stratified Roman material so far recovered suggests that these date from the Antonine period only, but one coin from the lowest of the disturbed levels is of Severus.

LEITH  
URBAN SITE

NT 271765. Site of a demolished public house at 50 - 51, The Shore. This site lay within the area known to have constituted the port of Leith as early as the 12th century, but the surroundings of the site allowed investigation only by means of a machine trench 1.5m wide. On breaking through the cellar floor of the recently demolished building, c. 1m below the modern surface, only natural sand was encountered, with the present water table at almost exactly the same level.

## FIFE

PITSCOTTIE  
FORT (PROB. REMAINS OF)

*D. W. Ross*

NO 419145. On conspicuous grass hillock recently felled of trees, measuring approx. 60m N-S by 25m, within denuded wall remains.

On N, consists of tumble under turf and robbing scoops, and on S, two terraces. Possible facing stones visible on SSW near entrance. Interior disturbed.

*The late Mr T. M. Robertson  
and Mr G. H. Williams*

Dunfermline Abbey

NT 089872. Excavation in advance of landscaping within the area of the Pend and Monastery Street exposed the foundations of the gatehouse, frater and palace block with their respective old ground surfaces. The late 14th century gatehouse was found to have replaced an earlier structure contemporary with the frater. A quantity of medieval pottery was recovered.

## GLASGOW

Wester Balmuildy Farm  
ROMAN POTTERY

*L. J. F. Keppie*

NS 581717. Two fragments of samian ware and part of a clay marble were picked up from a field immediately W of Balmuildy fort, and are now in the Hunterian Museum.

Pollokshaws  
MOUND

*Thomas C. Welsh*

NS 551614. S angle of wood, SW of pond, a mound 21m diameter, 1.5m high.

Pollok Grounds  
OLD WALL

NS 552624. Running N-S, a bank in the form of a flattened M emerges on the W side of the ditch which crosses the ridge N-S, W of the 150' contour. The ground E of the ditch has been disturbed.

## INVERNESS-SHIRE — ISLANDS

MUCK  
HUT CIRCLE

*D. W. Ross*

NM 393813. Horse Island: On grass terrace to S of hill. Hut circle, levelled into slope, 5.5m diameter within faced wall on S 1m wide, 0.3m high. Entrance uncertain, and turf covered tumble interior. Enclosure and walls on same terrace to the W.

NORTH UIST  
Carinish, Clett-feora  
BRONZE SPEARHEADS

*Joanna Close-Brooks*

NF 832597. Two boys found hoard of four bronze spearheads protruding from the face of an old peat-cutting near the sea. Three spearheads are leaf-shaped and riveted, 31 to 36cm long, the fourth basal-looped and riveted, 41cm long.

SKYE

Staffin, Valtos

CAIRN?

NG 508645. Six boulders, probably the kerb of a destroyed cairn, are embedded in peat forming an oval 4.65 x 3.75m. In the centre two stones appear to be the ends of a cist 1.40m long overall, while a thin slab between them may be a displaced capstone. No cairn material visible.

## INVERNESS-SHIRE — MAINLAND

DRUMNADROCHIT

*Laurie M. MacLagan Wedderburn*

Garbeg

*and Dorothy M. Grime*

CAIRNS

NH 511319. Further excavation was conducted on this site.

Cairn I. The excavation of this extensively disturbed cairn was completed, confirming the structure already revealed (*Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.39), except that the circular ditch was not complete, a 50cm baulk having been left in the NE quadrant. The burial pit was empty.

Cairn IV. A further cairn extensively eroded by a sheep scrape was examined and proved to be circular, 4m diameter and surrounded by a circular ditch 50cms wide and 16cms deep. The cairn matrix consisted of material upcast from the ditch. Roughly in the centre of the cairn and cut into the old ground surface lay a massive long cist constructed with large glacial boulders. The cist was found to be empty. From the old ground surface under the body of the cairn a fragment of indeterminate 1st millenium B.C. pottery was recovered, together with pieces of charcoal and fragments of calcined bone.

DRUMASHIE

Midtown Farm

HUT CIRCLE

NH 629335. Excavation of this hut circle has commenced. Finds include masses of bloomery slag and one blue glass spiral bead.

STRATHNAIRN

Tordarroch

FORT?

NH 676335. An exploratory excavation was conducted to confirm the presence on the site of a structure. A 1 x 10m trench taken across surface indications of two defensive walls revealed the foundations of an inner wall 25cms in width, consisting of a single line of linear rounded boulders laid end-to-end. 4m downslope from this, clear indications of an outer rampart of much more massive proportions. No indications of occupation were apparent.

## KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE

### CARLOCHAN

#### BRONZE AGE ROUND CAIRN

*L. J. Masters*

NX 758675. A rescue excavation was undertaken at this Bronze Age round cairn (which in 1776 produced a "coffin composed of large flat slabs" and part of a bronze dagger blade) in advance of destruction by the construction of a tank. Before excavation the cairn appeared to be about 26m in diameter, and to survive to a maximum height of 1m. The top of the cairn was covered by a thick layer of silage. Because of the limited time available, a Drott excavator was used to remove a large part of the surviving material on the W and part of the SE quadrant of the cairn. The NE quadrant was excavated by hand.

Excavation revealed that the cairn had been severely robbed, in many places including the basal layer of cairn material, the hollows left by the removal of the basal stones being clearly visible in the glacial till. Only in the NE quadrant did the original cairn material, composed of large boulders of greywacke, survive to any height, though even here the robbing had penetrated to the glacial till in several places. The basal layer was found to lie directly on the glacial till, there being no indications of either an old turf line or buried soil. There was a notable absence of charcoal. Where excavated, it was possible to detect a rough boulder kerb for the cairn. No burials were found either in the surviving cairn material or cut into the glacial till, and there were no traces of the original grave in the middle of the cairn. Apart from a few pieces of flint and chert, no significant finds were made during the excavation. However, the subsequent removal of unexcavated parts of the cairn, in preparation for the construction of the tank, revealed a cordoned urn. The urn had been inverted in a pit immediately behind the kerb in the SE quadrant. The base had been broken by the mechanical excavator, and an incense cup and cremated bone could be seen in the filling of the urn. The urn and cup have been removed for laboratory examination.

The sequence at Carlochan appears to be that the cairn survived until it was robbed in the latter half of the 18th century. The cairn material might have been used to build a substantial enclosure wall, which still survives in foundation around the top of the hill. Subsequently the area of the cairn appears to have been used as a dumping ground for land gathered stones of small size, which somewhat restored the appearance of a low cairn. The area was then used for dumping silage and other farm debris.

### COLVEND AND SOUTHWICK

#### Slewcairn

#### UNCHAMBERED LONG CAIRN

NX 924614 (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, p.31, and 1974, p.43 - 44). Excavation this year has concentrated on the S half of the cairn and the mortuary structure.

The S half of the cairn has now been excavated down to the basal layer of cairn material. A paved area, 2.5m N - S x 1m E - W, has been found on the same axis as the mortuary structure. At its S end it is demarcated by a standing stone and a large recumbent block. The N end is formed by one of the four standing stones in the centre of the cairn and a similar recumbent block. A quantity of undecorated Neolithic pottery has been found among the stones immediately above the paved area and between the paving stones.

The mortuary structure has been partially excavated. At present, its N end appears to be formed by the two central stones of the façade, but further work is needed here before any final conclusion. The S end appears to be formed by a recumbent block immediately N of the central four stone setting. Finds from the mortuary structure include considerable quantities of cremated bone, in a very fragmentary state. Two burnt flint knives were found standing vertically in close proximity to one of the larger bone groups. Large quantities of burnt wood and bark have been found both in the mortuary structure and along the top of the mortuary structure walls.

#### THREAVE CASTLE

*Messrs C. J. Tabraham and G. L. Good*

NX 739622 (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.76). Excavation continued in the area of the harbour and the adjacent curtain wall and ditch.

The N half of the harbour was excavated, though only partially. Silt layers were encountered as in 1974, together with an abundance of organic and other material. Use of the harbour continued until the 17th century. The entire length of the curtain wall was uncovered this year in advance of masonry consolidation. Debris from the demolition of the wall was dated to the 17th century, thereby agreeing with the written record. The foundation-trench of the W curtain wall contained pottery of the early 16th century. Excavation within the SW tower uncovered a clay floor upon which was found a large assemblage of demolition material, including spurs, a horse-shoe and other metal objects. The ditch to the S was rock-cut and produced evidence to suggest that it was cut primarily towards the latter half of the 15th century. It had been recut at least twice during its life. A section across the ditch on the E, adjacent to the entrance, produced little evidence for the working of the draw-bridge. Coin identification has now been ascertained for the earlier buildings to the S of the castle complex. A well-preserved Edward I. penny (minted A.D. 1303) confirms suspicions that the island was occupied before the Douglas era.

#### BORELAND OF SOUTHWICK CAIRNFIELDS (REMAINS OF)

*D. W. Ross*

NX 922608. On SE facing, sloping pasture, between two burns and below sheepfank. Remains of approx. 15 small clearance heaps, some edged with large boulders, but mutilated by rig cultivation and stone robbings. On N of site, possible house platform.

CULTAM HILL  
PROB. CAIRN (REMAINS OF)

NX 763675. On end of cultivated ridge, and denuded by ploughing, grass covered cairn approx. 12m diameter and up to 0.5m high. Small stones visible in turf but no features.

FORREST ESTATE  
CAIRNS

*Angela M. Jackson*

NX 536878. A group of six small cairns, measuring between 1 and 2.5m diameter.

CORSOCK  
Knocklearn Moor  
CAIRNS

NX 755800. A group of 14 small cairns, measuring between 2 and 4m in diameter.

KELLS  
Craigenbay Farm  
CAIRNS

NX 541791. Six small cairns, measuring between 1 and 2.5m diameter.

MINIGAFF  
Bargrennan Burn  
CAIRNS

*M. J. Yates*

NX 335800. Twenty-five cairns with two rickles and a possible hut circle 10.5m overall diameter with its wall 2.5m wide and c. 40cm high. Entrance to SW.

NX 339800. Eight cairns 3 - 4m in diameter in a small natural hollow.

NX 337797. A probable hut circle 10m overall diameter with banks 2m wide and entrance to NE. There is a stoney bank running from its NW side into peat. There are five small cairns 3 - 5m diameter to N, and 12 similar cairns to the S.

KIRKGUNZEON  
Lotus Hill, near Beeswing  
CAIRNS

NX 897663. Twenty-three small cairns and about 10 which could be grass covered outcrop. Several appear to be small ring cairns but are probably robbed cairns.

NX 896676. Ten well preserved small cairns 3 - 4m diameter in rough linear arrangement. Also two more further up the hill.

Glaisters

NX 882660. Forty-nine small cairns mainly quite small 1 - 3m diameter, but some over 4m. They are scattered in three groups all within the same recent field dyke.

## CARSPHAIRN

### Polmaddy

#### DESERTED SETTLEMENT

The Forestry Commission financed the excavation of this "ferm toun" settlement, abandoned in the early 19th century. Work was concentrated on the W end of a long structure 20.5m x 8.9m (outer measurements), and a corn drying kiln. The building proved to have at least two structural phases both belonging to the 18th century, and it is probable that this was one of the last buildings to be occupied. Excavation has not yet revealed full details of the floor area but the abundance of charcoal, and iron slag, and the presence of heavily burnt patches could suggest an industrial function. The kiln is still largely unexcavated, but a kiln barn attached to the back was uncovered and a carefully laid paved floor revealed.

## LANARKSHIRE

### BOTHWELLHAUGH ROMAN BATHHOUSE

*L. J. F. Keppie, J. M. MacKenzie*

NS 729578. The site of the extra-mural bathhouse was excavated because of threatened submersion. The bathhouse was aligned NE-SW and measured 27.1 x 10.7m overall; four courses of the outer walling survived. Two phases of occupation were detected, both of which had ended in destruction.

The Cold Room was entered from the NE and was paved with grey sandstone slabs. Almost in the centre of the paving was a circular drain-cover which took the form of a six-petalled rosette. Opening off the Cold Room was an apsidal Cold Plunge Bath reached by descending a few steps; the bath itself was floored with tightly-fitting sandstone slabs. Immediately above this paving a lead outlet pipe protruded from the stonework.

Adjoining the Cold Room on the W was a sequence of three heated rooms, probably two Warm Rooms and one Hot Room. In the first phase of use all were paved with sandstone slabs resting on monolithic sandstone pillars; heat was supplied by a furnace situated at the W end of the complex. No Hot Dry Room was found. In the second phase, the more easterly Warm Room passed out of use, and an additional furnace was constructed to the S.

A preliminary examination of the small finds indicates that both phases fall within the Antonine Period; among the finds was a fragment of an inscribed stone tablet on which the letters COH and part of a sculptured figure could be discerned. After the second phase of use, the building was occupied by squatters who constructed a stone-lined hearth in the Cold Room, and established their living quarters in the Cold Plunge, a semi-subterranean room which would offer considerable protection against the elements.

The site has been saved from flooding. It is hoped that the bath-house will be consolidated as a permanent attraction for visitors to Strathclyde Country Park.

#### CROOKSTON CASTLE

*E. J. Talbot*

NS 525627. A third season of excavations took place (see *D. and E.*, 1974, pp. 77 - 79).

*The Entrance.* An area of 360m<sup>2</sup> was opened up to the N of the entrance gap within the defences. At the entrance itself, cobbling was removed to find features indicating the nature of the early defences of the castle. The cobbles, however, proved to lie on natural boulder clay. At right angles to the entrance gap a stone building was uncovered. It was set upon the slighted bank of the 12th century ringwork. This bank had been very carefully levelled (probably in the early 15th century when the tower house was constructed) to create a flat platform into which foundations had been cut. It proved impossible to date or to interpret the use to which this building had been put. The wall which ran along the side of the entrance gap had been destroyed at some stage in the modification of the entrance. At its NE corner, two small gaps were found in the N and E walls at foundation level. The function of these holes may have been to take a water supply which could have led downhill from the tower house — channelling outside the walls pointed to this. A further sequence of walling to the N (within the corner of the defences in the NW of the site) had associated stone flagging. This area seemed to indicate a use for farm purposes.

*The Scarp.* In 1974, a cut into the base of the scarped ground at the centre of the site (on which the tower house stands) located a possible barmkin wall. To investigate this further, a cut was made completely through the scarp at its NW corner. This revealed no evidence for a wall returning on the W side of the scarp but the great depth of rubble encountered would seem to suggest a great amount of collapse and robbing. Beneath the rubble, a horizontal layer of occupation (no dating evidence from it) indicated that the tower house must stand upon a pronounced knob of boulder clay for there is a considerable height difference between this level and the level at which natural was located two years ago in a cut only 1m away.

#### LANARK

*Lanark and District Archaeological  
Society per Edward Archer*

#### Castlegate Car Park

NS 881435. Excavations are currently in progress. Two trenches are being worked, one on Castlegate, the other on Broomgate. In the Castlegate trench foundations of a mid 19th century house have been exposed. These are of two rooms, one 4 x 3m, the other 3.3 x 2.5m, separated by a passage giving access to a circular staircase. Underneath the foundations of the first room were found the remains of an 18th century bloomery. Under the second room

a complex draining system was revealed, also belonging to the 18th century. The drainage scheme was laid on carefully prepared clay, which appears to have been laid over some wood work.

The second trench revealed the foundations of a building known as the Weaving Shed. This building is separated from Broomgate by the Puddin Burn which runs along the W edge of the building. The foundations of the weaving shed were 7 x 4m and the walls were on average 55cms across. This building is late 18th - early 19th century in date and was rebuilt on at least one occasion. To its N was a stone lined rubbish pit 1.3m long. Finds of pottery and wine bottles date the use of the rubbish pit to c. 1750 - 1800. The N wall of the weaving shed overlies a well built stone wall about 3m long. Inside the weaving shed there are the foundations of at least two structures. The E structure is of a very jerry built nature. The W structure is well built stone wall 2.75m cut into by a rubbish pit 1 x 0.85m at its N end.

#### BIGGAR

*Biggar High School*

#### Excavation of Boghall Castle

*per Edward Archer*

NT 040369. This report is based on the work undertaken in 1973-75. Four trenches have been dug across the castle. In the most N trench foundations of part of the gatehouse were discovered. From pottery evidence, the gatehouse appears to be 15th century in date. Behind the gatehouse are the foundations of another structure. The second trench, laid out in the centre of the castle area, revealed what may have been the metalling of a courtyard, disturbed by ploughing.

The third trench, dug in the W part of the castle, revealed the foundations of the smaller part of an L-shaped tower house, which from pottery and coin evidence appeared to be late 15th century in date. The foundations formed the walls of a room approximately 2 x 3m containing the foundations of a medieval lavatory. The walls of the tower were 50 - 75cms. in thickness and were clay bonded, and rendered with white plaster. The windows had contained some glass and the roof had been covered with slates nailed down on to a wooden roof, with some lead flashing. The tower was demolished in 1659.

The fourth trench was dug behind the staircase of a house built on the site of Boghall c. 1670. Little was discovered about the actual house apart from one piece of painted masonry, but the foundations of the old circuit wall of the castle were found underneath the demolition rubble of the house.

#### EAST KILBRIDE

#### Harelaw CAIRN

*Thomas C. Welsh*

NS 620468. 70 to 80m from the site of Harelaw Cairn, due NE, 25m W of the dyke which defines the E side of the sub-triangular field, within 10m of dyke, on N. Cairn 13m dia. about 1m high, the outline most distinct on N and S, but poor on E aspect.

## Bankfield

### POSSIBLE ROAD

NS 678474. SW of old coach road between Bankfield and Nolt-lairs - Flakefield road, NE of Rigfoot Moss. Evident for about 200m, a low bank 25 to 28m broad between small ditches. Along this, slightly SW of centre, a slightly raised track 5 to 6m broad. May be continued by a terrace on S bank of burn at NS 675475. It may also relate to the embanked escarpment on the outside of a bend in the present road at NS 660482.

## BELLSHILL

### ORBISTON TOWER

*Motherwell Historical Society  
per Gerald Mortimer*

NS 732580. On behalf of the Strathclyde Park authority excavation of this site was initiated. Four exploratory trenches were dug in the kitchen area and these revealed a stone sink linked to a covered drain on the exterior, several sherds of green glazed pottery, some early pipe bowls and a copious amount of kitchen refuse including many oyster shells. The original floor level was covered with a heavy deposit of charred material.

## MORAYSHIRE

## EDINKILLIE

### DOUNE OF RELUGAS

*Ian Keillar*

NJ 003495. Recent forestry work has uncovered part of the E side of ramparts including area of carbonised earth and many animal bones. Aberdeen University investigating.

## FOCHABERS

### Boghead Mound, Speymouth Forest NEOLITHIC BURIAL AND OCCUPATION SITE

*Aubrey Burl*

NJ 360592. (See *D. and E.* 1974, 84.) It is now possible to supplement the C-14 assays cited there from Miss Henshall's 1972 excavations with others from material obtained by the writer in 1974. The previous determinations were quoted by laboratory sampling numbers and are re-presented here under the publication code for the East Kilbride Research and Reactor Centre.

- A. Beneath the Neolithic Mound.  $2948 \pm 60$  bc (SRR-686), Henshall, 1972, from the basal charcoal layer;  $3009 \pm 110$  bc (SRR-689), *ibid*;  $2996 \pm 175$  bc (SRR-683), Burl, 1974, charcoal in central pit;  $2873 \pm 60$  bc (SRR-684), Burl, 1974, wood from the original land surface;  $3081 \pm 100$  bc (SRR-685), Burl, 1974, charcoal in a working-hollow.
- B. From Other Features.  $2174 \pm 200$  bc (SRR-688), Henshall, 1972, from base of secondary posthole;  $1917 \pm 70$  bc (SRR-687), Henshall, 1972, from a beaker pit.

It can be seen that the first five determinations average 2981 bc and provide some of the earliest dates for agricultural activity in North-East Scotland.

It is hoped to obtain another determination from a cisted cremation on top of the mound.

## ORKNEY

### BROUGH OF BIRSAY

*Messrs C. D. Morris  
and J. R. Hunter*

HY 239285. Further work on the area to the W of the Cathedral involved excavation of House L and an area to the S and W of it. There appear to have been two (or three) structural phases, with a rebuilding of the E wall of the house in the later phase. A drain was found to the W of the building, and a gulley-like feature, possibly connected with the laying-out and construction of the house, was encountered immediately outside the walls. Excavation also began this year on House F, one of a group of buildings on the cliff-edge to the N of the Cathedral, being eroded by natural agencies. Several building phases were apparent in the wall-structure, and industrial activity, with hearths and iron slag, was encountered, along with earlier structural phases not obviously connected to the building. It is clear that this area of the site is complex and relatively undisturbed. Work on the site-survey proceeded, and in addition a fluxgate magnetometer survey was carried out.

### BROUGH OF DEERNES

*C. D. Morris*

HY 596087. The object of excavation was the ruined chapel and surrounding enclosure prior to consolidation. The limits of the enclosure were defined, and the presence of a cist-grave to the S of the chapel suggests that further work may encounter a cemetery. During removal of the mass of rubble, a 17th - 18th century coin-board was found, and also two small sealed groups of pottery above a secondary mortar floor. A raised altar at the E end and a bench along the S wall constitute the fittings discovered so far.

### LIDDLE AND BEAQUOY BURNT MOUNDS

*J. W. Hedges*

ND 464841 and HY 301219. Excavations at both sites were completed this season.

It is apparent that the burnt mounds are middens composed mainly of ash, peat debris and burnt stone, and that adjacent to them are buildings in which facilities for cooking with hot stones are prominent.

The building at Liddle is roughly oval in shape with a maximum length of 6.5m and width of 4m. The wall is 120cm broad at the base and is built as two skins with a rubble infill to a height of

45cm when the inner skip alone is continued to a maximum preserved height of 90cm. Internal features include a large hearth and flag-lined cooking trough, a chute connecting with the outside, stone furniture, and various compartments. Later, a circumambient walk was constructed defined by a thin wall 90cm from the house with a maximum preserved height of 35cm. At a later phase the primary entrance was blocked and a secondary door was constructed facing the mound and connecting with a pathway leading over it.

The building at Beaquoy was found to have been extensively damaged in the 19th century when the area was levelled. What remained of the building was resting on burnt mound and was therefore secondary. It was rectangular in outline with a maximum length of 6.75m and breadth of 3.75m. The long walls were rubble built with a maximum thickness of only 35cm while the end walls were represented by stone packed slots for timber. After the walls had been built, the inside of the house was levelled with burnt mound material and flagged. The only internal feature of note was a cooking trough which was simply a rough pit lined with clay. No hearth was found but this had probably been in the part of the building disturbed to below floor level. A quoyned, well-like structure 85cm in diameter and 60cm deep was situated centrally outside one of the end walls. Near the door, at the opposite end, was a peat stack while stones collected for use in cooking had been piled alongside the building. The primary building at Beaquoy actually lay under the barn for which the site had been levelled. Excavation within the barn revealed the remains of a small building with curvilinear walls, a flagged floor, and a large hearth with a socket each side. Outside was a peat stack and there seems to have been a circumambient walk as at Liddle.

Burnt mounds, which only occur in the extreme north and west of the British Isles, are particularly dense in the Northern Islands. Carbon 14 and thermoluminescence dating for a total of seven sites, including Liddle and Beaquoy, suggests that the Orkney burnt mounds were occupied between approximately 1100 B.C. and 400 B.C. : they appear therefore, to belong to the "middle" and earlier part of the "late Bronze Age" as period for which, hitherto, no sites were known. The inhabitants seem to have been farmers leading a meagre existence, judging by their material culture, on land which must have been marginal at a time of known climatic deterioration.

PAPA WESTRAY  
Knap of Howar

*Dr Anna Ritchie*

HY 483518. During the second and final season of excavation, work was concentrated on the smaller of the two houses and on the problems of the chronological relationship between the houses

and of the extent of the associated midden (*PSAS*, 61 (1936-7), 309-21; *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, 68-9; *Northern Studies*, 3 (1974), 22-5).

House 2 had not been cleared entirely by the original excavators. A depth of up to 18cm of floor deposit remained *in situ*, particularly in the central compartment where two hearths were found; a secondary hearth consisted of a shallow circular hollow in the floor (similar to the hearth found in 1973 in the innermost compartment of House 1), and this was associated with a secondary stone-built workbench against the N wall of the house. The primary hearth was kerbed and paved with stone slabs and contained a flint scraper. Unlike the floor of House 1, which was the surface of the natural clay underlying the site, the original floor of House 2 was a deliberately deposited layer of clay sealing the underlying midden.

House 2 was built later than House 1, though the interval is likely to have been in the order of months rather than years; a minor sandblow occurred during the interval. The two buildings were connected by a side passage which was part of the original design of House 1; little attempt was made to bond the two house-walls on either side of the passage. As first built, this side passage provided the only entry into House 2, but at a later date a second entrance was cut through its W wall, and an outer skin of walling was added in order to lengthen the new entrance-passage. This W entrance apparently proved unsatisfactory and was later blocked, but not before some slumping of the wall to the S of the entrance had occurred.

Parts of the S wall of House 2 and the N wall of House 1 were dismantled and excavated. Both walls had been constructed with inner and outer skins of drystone walling with a midden core.

Trenches outside the N wall of House 2 and the E wall of House 1 were dug, together with 15 test-pits, to establish the extent of the midden. These demonstrated that the midden extended about 4m to the N of House 2 and about 20m to the S of House 1, and only a thin trampled layer of midden was found to the immediate E of the houses (the area to the W has been eroded by the sea). Fragmentary remains of stone-built structures relating to the midden layer pre-dating the surviving houses were uncovered, but they had clearly been dismantled when the latter were built. Outside the midden area, test-pits showed a uniform environmental sequence: a considerable build-up of old land surface contemporary with the archaeological site, followed by a sand-blow, the establishment of a temporary turf-line, another major sand-blow and finally the modern turf-line. A sixteenth test-pit situated some 470m NNE of the site revealed the existence of two peaty layers separated by wind-blown sand, corresponding to the turf-lines and sand-blows found closer to the site.

Reflecting the fact that the Knap of Howar is the first Unstan settlement to be excavated in Orkney as well as the earliest settle-

ment, three entirely new types of artefact were found : bone gouges with a characteristic dimple just above the tip, stone borers and stone grinders. The latter, confined to House 2, are large round pebbles worn to a flat surface on one side with signs of pecking in the centre of the flat surface and hammer-marks on the convex underside. 447 deposits of pottery have been found during the two seasons of excavation, predominantly plain coarse ware but including decorated forms characteristic of Unstan bowls (the beaker sherds mentioned in *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, 69, proved also to be Unstan ware). Apart from pottery, the most frequent types of artefact are bone awls and flints, the latter including scrapers, leaf-shaped points and a plano-convex knife. Some survival of mesolithic traditions of flint-working seems possible. Whalebone was used for mallets, knives, hoe-like implements and a door-pivot. A small polished stone axe was found near the base of the midden to the N of House 2.

The artefact assemblage from both houses and from the midden is culturally uniform, and this uniformity is supported by the six radiocarbon dates obtained from animal bone samples collected during the 1973 season (six more dates will be forthcoming from 1975 material. These dates are: upper midden layer contemporary with House 1, 2501 bc  $\pm$  70 (SRR-344) and 2815 bc  $\pm$  70 (SRR-348); lower midden layer predating House 1, 2472 bc  $\pm$  70 (SRR-349); midden in wall core of House 1, 2131 bc  $\pm$  65 (SRR-452); floor deposit inside House 1, 2582 bc  $\pm$  70 (SRR-346) and 2398 bc  $\pm$  75 (SRR-345).

The animal bones include cattle, sheep, pig, red deer, seal; shellfish include limpets, oysters, scallops, whelks, cockles, razorfish. Wet sieving retrieved fishbones and carbonised grain but these have yet to be identified in detail. Pumice was plentiful and seems likely to have been used primarily for rubbing the dried fat from animal hides and for the initial shaping of awl points — none of the pumice lumps are grooved.

## PEEBLES

LYNE

Meldon Bridge

NEOLITHIC SITE AND ROMAN CAMP

C. Burgess

NT 204404. A strip 260 x 13m was excavated across the W part of the site in advance of a water pipeline. New aerial photographs reveal that the post pits of the Neolithic timber wall appear to extend in an arc for at least 600m between the Lyne Water and the Meldon Burn enclosing a promontory of at least 10ha. At the N end of the excavated area the timber wall was stronger than in the sector uncovered in 1974 (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.86). The post pits were found to be larger, closer together (2m

or less apart), have held more substantial timbers (up to 60cm in diameter) and had ramps to facilitate erecting the timbers.

Within the enclosure a number of "ritual pits" were excavated. Some pits had held posts, others appear to have been dug and filled for no obvious reason, while others contained cremation burials. Of particular interest were two pits with "tunnel cremations", heaps of calcined bone being carefully placed in cavities dug into the pit sides. This appears to be an unusual, perhaps unique, feature in the British Neolithic. Another pit contained apparently unique cremation burials, in this case in two upright, flat-based pots which had been broken when the pit was filled. Other ritual sites included a small cremation pit encircled by a ring of post-holes, and a pit which in turn appears to have held an upright post, a tall stake and finally a stone slab. Cremated bones were found throughout its fill and it was surrounded by a ring of stake holes.

Beside the A72 a Neolithic land surface containing much decorated pottery was preserved. Two Cordoned Urns containing cremations and a cist may have formed part of an Early Bronze Age cemetery.

The defences of the newly discovered Roman marching camp were badly denuded, the ditch being reduced to a depth of 20cm. Within the camp a large shallow pit may have been a cooking hollow.

Meldon Bridge appears to be a site unique in Britain: an extensive promontory settlement and ritual complex protected by a timber barrier and on a monumental scale. Eight radiocarbon dates are now available for the site, seven ranging from c. 2700-2100 bc, with 2300-2100 bc preferred for the period of the site's construction and use. An eighth date of c. 1750 bc comes from the weathering cone of one of the 1974 post pits, providing a *terminus ante quem* for the final decay of the timber barrier.

## PERTSHIRE

### MUTHILL

#### Strageath ROMAN FORT

S. S. Frere

NM 898189. Work was carried out for the Scottish Field School of Archaeology to continue that undertaken on two areas in 1974 (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.50). Examination of the E gate was completed with the excavation of its S half; the site of the headquarters-building (*principia*) was further investigated but not finished.

*E. Gate.* In all three periods there was a single-portalled timber gateway, possibly with a tower above.

(i) In the Flavian period, after a wide area of metalling had been laid down, two trenches 1.22m deep (from the surface of the

metalling), 0.53m wide, 4.57m long and 3.66m apart were dug through it; the bottom of the more southerly trench was covered with flat slabs of stone on which six upright posts were set and packed in with earth. One of the functions of the posts was to retain planks revetting the passage through the turf rampart; but the depth of the foundation-trench suggests larger timbers carried up to form a tower over the gate. Unfortunately the Antonine I. foundation-trenches were in exactly the same positions, and the consequent disturbance made it impossible to obtain precise dimensions for most of the Flavian posts; one appeared to have been 0.23m square. The gate was set flush with the front of the rampart; its position was marked by the shallow slot for a wooden threshold. Transverse timbers were again encountered at the base of the Flavian rampart. At least 3.66m of the rampart overlay the road-metalling, previously spread too widely.

(ii) The Antonine I. foundation-trench was cut to a depth of 0.76m into the Flavian trench (it was 1.02m deep from the Antonine I. road-surface), but failed to bottom it; its base lay 1.02m deep below the Antonine I. road metalling. The posts were packed round very firmly with masses of large stones, after which the road-metal was laid. There were again six posts along the trench, but the gate-position, marked by a threshold-slot, lay c. 0.6m from the front of the passage, which was 3.66m wide.

(iii) The Antonine II. gate lay in front of its predecessors owing to the addition of a new front to the rampart. The gate-passage was 4.27m wide and 2.44m from front to back as defined by two post-holes on each side. The post-holes were shallow (0.38m) and the presence of a tower above is doubtful. Considerable search N of the gate failed to find the end of the Flavian ditch beneath the new front added to the rampart in Antonine II. and seen buried there in 1973 only 12m N. Beneath the rampart-extension some shallow features were, however, revealed, which appeared to be designed to hold obstacles or fences connected with the Flavian defences.

*Principia.* Soil conditions were much more favourable this year for recognising timber features. Work was concentrated towards the front (W end) of the building.

(i) The Flavian *principia* (22.25m x 20.73m), a parallelogram in shape owing to the layout of the fort, had a front wall-trench c. 0.30m deep and 0.41m wide; 1.52m in front was a plank-lined drain (0.30 x 0.15m), filled with burnt daub etc., and sealed by a Flavian demolition deposit through which the Antonine I. wall-trench was dug. The courtyard, unmetalled in this period, measured 10.67 x 4.57m and was surrounded by a narrow portico; in the courtyard was a very large pit which was taken to be a water-tank. This measured 5.49 x 4.88m and was 1.52m deep with almost vertical sides and flat bottom. It must have been timber-lined to

last any time at all in the soft sandy subsoil; on demolition the lining had been removed and the pit filled with a sterile deposit of mixed turf and clay. Its capacity is c. 38,500 litres.

(ii) The Antonine I. *principia* measured 22.86 by 22.25m, again a parallelogram. The trench for its front wall was 0.76m deep and the filling retained the imprint of a timber, 10cm square. Some gravel floors survived in the front range, as in the Flavian front range below; but almost all trace of Antonine I. floors had been ploughed away.

(iii) The Antonine II. *principia* measured 26.21 by 25.60m. Some details of the front range and *armamentaria* were recovered. The internal walls were built in continuous trenches (c.f. the 1974 findings).

A third season still needs to be devoted to the *principia*, if the plans of the building are to be fully understood; at present there is a puzzling lack of symmetry about the axis.

*The Forestry Commission (East Conservancy)*  
per M. E. C. Stewart

ALMONDBANK  
SHORT CIST CEMETERY

NO 054260. An eleventh short cist was found (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, p.40). The long axis of the cist lay 75° N of E. The cist had been filled with gravel in which was found an intact food vessel and a worked flint flake. C14 assessments on two of the ten cists are as follows :—

SRR-590	Cist II.	3556 ± 80
		1606 B.C.
SRR-591	Cist VII.	3517 ± 50
		1567 B.C.

BLAIRGOWRIE

Easter Essendy Farm  
SHORT CIST

*Lisbeth M. Thoms*

NO 156429. Discovered during ploughing on an S facing slope overlooking the site of the cist reported in *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.53. The cist was oriented E-W and consisted of four main sandstone slabs with numerous smaller "packing" stones especially at the E side and SW corner. The capstone lay below a depth of 0.15m of plough soil and measured 1.18m x 0.88m. Examination of the undersurface of the capstone revealed four cup marks. The internal measurements of the cist were 0.95m x 0.67m x 0.62m deep. The infill of the cist was composed of c. 0.50m of sandy loam, below which was c. 0.12m of very sandy subsoil. The bottom of the cist had been lined with a layer of fine pen-gravel. The cist contained remains of a badly decomposed inhumation, part of the skull and the leg bones being slightly better preserved, and a food vessel, the sherds of which have been conserved and reconstructed. The vessel has a diameter of 0.16m

and height of 0.135m. It is decorated on the external surface by five spaced rings of twisted cord impressions, and a ring of the same impressions on the inner surface of the rim. All finds are in Dundee Museum.

#### PERTH

##### St. Ann's Lane MEDIEVAL MIDDEN

NO 119235. A large trial trench, 15 x 4.5m, was opened in St. Ann's Lane to the S of St. John's Church with the aim of assessing the existence and depth of any surviving medieval levels in the area. Rubble overburden to a depth of c. 1m was removed by machine and revealed over much of the trench a very dark coloured deposit — a midden area covering c. 12 x 3m of the trench. A substantial quantity of the midden was removed, yielding an abundance of medieval pottery, animal and fish bones and oyster shells. Other finds included small pieces of leather and cloth, three bone pins, one bronze pin and over 50 small glass beads. Undisturbed natural was revealed at a depth of 3.5m below the present ground surface. In the absence of any evidence of structure dating to the medieval period it is assumed that the site lay open allowing the midden to accumulate. The midden probably covers the late 12th to mid 14th century.

#### *Settlement History Research Project per J. H. Stewart*

##### BALQUHIDDER DESERTED SITES

NN 536209. Field survey recorded 27 deserted sites in Balquhiddier Glen W from the Kirkton of Balquhiddier and in Glen Buckie S from the Kirkton of Balquhiddier. The sites comprised bases of long-houses and ancillary buildings, with garden enclosures, within farm holdings defined by remains of head dykes and/or infield dykes, with occasional evidence of cultivation ridges. A record of distribution is being prepared and a further field survey is envisaged.

The survey included measurement and preparation of site plans for three of the settlements as follows :—

Blaircreich Farm (NN 440179). SE from Blaircreich Farmhouse. Stone wall bases located approximately at NN 443178 comprising one long house, two smaller buildings, a probable small kiln or silage pit, and a roughly circular enclosure. Traces of small cultivated areas exist on the hillside W and S of the buildings. Remains of ancient dyke encloses lower slopes of hill.

Inverenty (NN 455180). Remains of cottage rebuilt after destruction of earlier house in 1746, on levelled top of marginal moraine mound above valley floor E of Inverenty Burn. There is an adjoining rectangular garden enclosure and an overgrown kiln to S. The base of a long house lies W of the cottage mound beside

the burn. The cottage gable and rear wall stands to a height of 2 - 3m. The gable contains a built-in fire-place and flue within the wall thickness, and remains of plaster adhere to the inner face. A further long house base lies W of the burn.

Immereon, Glen Buckie (NN 538173). Remains of large settlement lying between Immereon and the deserted house of Lianach (NN 532172) to the W, across Immereon Burn. Twelve building bases, mostly with clearly visible stonework, three garden enclosures, and five kiln structures. The major groups have been measured. Also adjacent to Immereon Farm, a crucked barn. Traces of iron smelting adjoining the barn.

#### DOUNE

Glenhead

*J. S. Nicoll*

RECTILINEAR DITCHED ENCLOSURE

NN 755003. Continuing investigations tend to confirm medieval date but dry conditions have hindered search for ploughed out traces of post holes.

#### THORNHILL

Brae of Boquhapple

POSSIBLE DUN

NN 659020. Beside and overlooking Burn of Cessintully on rising ground. Approximately circular partly destroyed structure, perhaps 30m in diameter, containing internal mounds of earth and stone, and with external defensive works..

#### CLEAVEN DYKE

*Miss H. C. Adamson*

NO 156408. During pipeline operations a trench was cut across the line of the Cleaven Dyke, near where it emerges from the North Wood, Meikleour. The section revealed a mound c. 12m wide but preserved only to a height of 0.5m. The body of the mound consisted of orange gravel with occasional turves thrown in to provide stability. On either face was a turf revetment, c. 2.5m wide, in which traces of oak have been identified macroscopically. Remains of a brown soil under the mound, although discontinuous, may represent traces of the old land surface. 10m NW was a shallow ditch, 3m wide and 30cm deep. No corresponding ditch could be traced SE of the mound.

Aerial photographs show traces of ditches towards the NW corner of the field. These appear to change direction and a continuation of their line is found to lie 9° W of the line of the visible remains in the wood. This change in direction immediately beyond the North Wood could account for the displacement of the NW ditch and mound in the trench in relationship to the visible remains and for the inability to locate the SE ditch in the restricted area available.

## MUTHILL

### Struthill Farm

*Muthill Civic Trust  
per D. Caraher Manning*

NN 855154. Wedge-shaped stones over finely squared blocks, defining an opening c. 3' 4" square, 3' 10½" deep. Detailed plans have been made. A portion of a chain-link was found beneath one of the slabs. The site may be associated with an 8th century church and well, known to be on the lands of Struthill Farm.

## PERTH

### Bridgend

*Perth High Street Excavations*

#### DOMESTIC DRAW WELL

NO 122237. During demolition of a river-side site, a worked sandstone capstone was dislodged, revealing a well. Its shaft was approx. 10m deep and had a diameter of 1m. It was of drystone construction with sandstone blocks averaging 0.30m x 0.30m x 0.60m. A photographic record was made prior to its destruction. The photographs will be deposited in the Perth Museum.

### High Street

#### RESCUE EXCAVATION

NO 118263. An architectural survey of standing structures commenced November 1975 prior to demolition and excavation. The site includes 75 - 85 High Street, 6 - 10 Mill Street.

## RENFREWSHIRE

## EAGLESHAM

### Carlin Craggs

*J. B. McVicar and G. Chambers*

#### CUP MARKS

NS 547521. To the E of the known cup marks on the Greater Carlin Craggs and on the lower group of erratics, two cup marks were noted. The first is circular, 51mm in diameter by 13mm in depth and the second oval, 80 x 51mm and 51mm deep.

## CLARKSTON

### Overlee Park

*J. B. McVicar*

#### MINE WORKINGS

NS 579575. (See *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, p.45.) The platform discovered in the extreme NE angle of Overlee Park would appear to have industrial origins. The platform may be traced on the Ordnance Survey 25" (1912) map to the original shaft of the Overlee Colliery.

## EAGLESHAM

### Bonnyton Moor

#### ROUND HOUSE

NS 541522. The round house (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, p.55) was probed for traces of ash in what appeared to be

a central hearth feature — nothing was found. However, next to the “stepped” SSW wall a small oval area of light grey clay, at a depth of approximately 1.5 - 2cm from the surface, was discovered. The oval area measured 0.5 x 0.33m and the grey clay which had an average depth of 10mm, may be the saturated and compressed ash from a fire or fires.

#### CLARKSTON

Williamwood  
PLATFORM

*Thomas C. Welsh*

NS 572590. This squarish level mound, about 2m high, 80m square top, between Bogton Burn and the railway line, just S of the remnants of Bogton Loch, suggests use for a house.

#### EAGLESHAM

Blackhouse  
FOUNDATIONS

NS 537527. Terrace above Blackhouse, foundations 9 x 6m, 4 x 5m and 5 x 4m, 5m overall with trace enclosure, walling and runrig plots.

Brownmuir Holding  
BANK AND DITCH

NS 571514. Dividing the summit of this kidney-shaped hill at the narrow waist, a bank 8m broad with traces of an outer ditch on W. It continues faintly N to reappear as a more substantial bank, NS 572515, curving round the perimeter of the larger E portion of the summit.

The Orry  
DAM

NS 572519. The remains of a dam and pond which served a 19th century corn mill which stood at NS 573520.

The Orry  
THE LACE MILL

NS 571518. The mill operated between about 1820 and its destruction by fire in 1876. An examination of the Orry (village green) has produced substantial evidence of the power supply. From a small dam at NS 569517, 88m of lade, with much of the stone facings still intact, now serves as a footpath. This terminates at the foundation of a cistern, 9m square, from which an underground pipe fed the wheel. Other dams at NS 570517, possibly for an auxiliary wheel; NS 568517 and NS 567517, the last with at least 25m of lade diverting water possibly to a domestic cistern.

Ross Mill  
DAM AND LADE

NS 556547. The mill shown on Blaeu's Atlas, 1654, as Rosmil, was located from Wm. Crawford's Plan of the Barony of Eagles-

ham, 1834, where it is last recorded. Two-thirds of a 35m dam av. 4m thick survive above the waterfall, and includes the course of a former meander. Sluiceway still evident 0.75m wide, followed by 63m of the lade as a kerbed terrace. An 8 x 3m rectangular mound between possible continuation of lade and river cliff may mark mill; the buildings shown by Crawford were not located.

#### Greenfield Farm FARMSTEAD COMPLEX

The following items arise from research, chiefly the Eglinton Muniments Farm Plans by John Ainslie, 1789, in West Register House, Edinburgh.

NS 5448. Mediaeval Estate Boundary. Originally the boundary between the Earl of Eglinton's estates and the Montgomery estate of Auchenhood, from the late 18th century until about 1815 divided two feued properties of the Eglinton estates, Bartilands and Denwan, and part of Auchenhood. Through successive amalgamations of farms it declined to farm boundary status and was later divided into field boundaries. Best preserved between NS 548487 and 549484, it is also traceable across the entrance of Dunwan hillfort at NS 546489, and between NS 546491 and 548492.

NS 546489. Lower wall of fort. The remains of a wall, forming a horseshoe round the base of the hill, were recorded by the Ordnance Survey in 1955, but are confused by farmstead walls, and cannot be reliably related to the fort. Foundations on the footings of the N arm of the wall appear on the 1789 Farm Plan for Denwan (No. 66), but the wall is not shown here or on any later map. The more substantial remains on the E of the hill divided arable from pasture according to the Farm Plan, whereas traces of a S arm do not appear. Only the E wall was incorporated in later walls according to subsequent maps. On this evidence the horseshoe wall at least predates the late 18th century.

NS 546491. Wall fragment. Incorporated in the sheepfold, an original fragment of Denwan farmhouse, including two narrow dressed-stone windows.

NS 569497. Foundation. Shown on 2½" O.S. map, this foundation is the original Hol Hall farmhouse, shown on the 1789 Farm Plan (No. 48). A handwritten addition shows the farmhouse which appears on later maps, now a sheepfold at NS 563494.

NS 543484. Farmyard plot. The 1789 Farm Plans show a number of small raised enclosures near the farmhouses, termed arable yard, the best example at Greenfield being here, near the ruins of Blackwoodhill farmhouse. Others occur, such as on either side of the sheepfold at Dunwan NS 546491.

NS 541491. Massive walls. The substantial stone-faced earthen banks on the ridge SW of the ruins of Blackwood farmhouse date only from mid-19th century Improvements. On the 1789 Farm Plan (No. 64) the ridge was mostly pasture; the six rectangular fields formed by the walls may have served as permanent grass. Similar and contemporary fields occur at NS 547482 and 543483, both on 1789 pasture.

NS 554487. 18th century folded arable. Substantial walls here have previously been thought to form an oval enclosure, but are clearly the outer boundaries of folded outfield. The original Denwan Farm (1789 Plan No. 66), had very little arable, but on amalgamation with Braehead (NS 545492) into Dunwan Farm after about 1840, the acquisition of the better Braehead lands probably made the foldland redundant. The Farm Plan shows six fields here. Stereoscopic examination of 8" air photographs clearly shows these fields from the different directions of plough ridges. There is no indication of a complete enclosure being intended.

#### Greenfield Farm

##### SMALL CAIRN

NS 558492. N bank of burn, a cairn 2.7m diameter, 0.5m high.

#### Castlehill

##### FARMSTEAD

NS 556528. 625' contour, 90m from fence. A round-ended foundation 21 x 6m overall, sunken yard, outbuildings, walls and runrig fields on N side of cambered track which follows 625' contour, all remains under grass.

#### MEARNS

##### Mearns Law

##### SHIELINGS

NS 507537. On knoll within 650' contour, inside W angle of intersecting dykes, NNW of summit, SE of Langton. Three ovals overall 4.5 x 3.5, 4 x 3.5 and 4 x 4m. Also on the Law at NS 506535, 4.5 x 5.4m. All over walls about 1m thick.

#### Langrig

##### POSSIBLE GRANGE

NS 532546. In wood at 550' contour, a level rectangular mound (natural), top 27 x 16m, up to 2m high. There are remains of walls marginally, and an incomplete 12m square foundation over 2m thick wall at one end. On the higher side of the mound, exactly midway, small extension 5 x 4m top. The land here belonged to the Templars and later to the Hospitallers.

#### Straun Hill

##### REMAINS

NS 485544. Midway on an N-S ridge, E of the crags which flank the main part of Straun Hill, WSW of High Walton Farm. Sub-

circular mound on slope, about 30 to 40m across, with a horse-shoe of six oval pits around the highest point, resembles robbed *cairn*.

### Mearns Castle

#### CARVED STONE

NS 553554. Below 400' contour, NE of castle, between a well and a quarry on an old farm road. Used as a latch-post of a former gateway, a slender four-sided sandstone post with a simple cord design. On two opposing sides which meet at a curved top, the cords are parallel. There is a worn socket hole in the top. The other two opposing sides have diminishing concentric cord arches.

### Crow Hill

#### ENCLOSURE

NS 498520. On morainic ridge 60m E of S end of wood. A circular enclosure 15m over 2m turf and stone wall.

#### ENCLOSURE

NS 499522. On an eminence within 775' contour, E side of ravine. A circular enclosure 25m over low 3 to 4m wall trace, which skirts a steep slope 4m high on S, E and NE. A possible entry on NW leads into possible oval extension N. A terrace below on S, E and NE is wet except for a raised rim, suggesting ditch and bank. Beyond the extension on N, and a short distance W are steep, craggy slopes.

### Cairn Hill

#### FARMSTEAD REMAINS

NS 485510. Rectilinear outlines, walling, foundations and flaggy masonry indicate dwelling, stackyard and outbuildings of farmstead, above 580' contour, just S of plantation.

#### FIVE-SIDED ENCLOSURE

NS 484509. At SW end of summit ridge, with steep slope on three sides, NE of bend in road and N of ruin on S side of road. A stony area 30m across, incorporating natural outcrops, is occupied by a five-sided enclosure, 30m long SW-NE, 15m wide across SW end, greatest width 26m at fifth angle, entered on E. The sides are slightly bowed.

### Mearns Law

#### POSSIBLE HILLFORT

NS 507534. Across the tapering SW end of Mearns Law, NS 504532, traceable to about 180m length, earthen rampart up to 1.5m high on downslope side. There is an entrance gap 2.5m wide which is continued NE for 150m by a hollow way. The width of the rampart varies from 9 to 12m spread. At NS 506535 and 507535 traces of a wall occur skirting the crags, and about 100m of wall traces follow above the 775' contour at NS 507533. A crop mark visible at a distance appears to link this wall to the SE end of the earth rampart, along the S side of the hill. The area enclosed is approximately 22 acres.

**Barrance Hill**  
REMAINS

NS 511532. On the N part of the summit, traces of an oval earthwork spread over 12m enclosing an area about 65 x 25m, entered by a narrow gap at the E end. Superimposed across the shorter axis is a wall foundation with stone facing on E and possible ditch. At the E end is a circular enclosure, about 11m across within 4m banks, the entry coinciding with the gap in the earthwork to form a narrow defile 15m long.

**Harelelea Hill**  
REMAINS

NS 520534. About 30m SW of trig. station, a low sub-circular outline 17 to 19m across, and other features forming an arc around S side.

**Byreside Hill**  
ENCLOSURES

NS 514526. On a small terrace on the shoulder, below the 700' contour, just S of an unmapped fence before the ground drops steeply N. Two circular enclosures 15m over walls of about 1.5m, but with lobed wall sections up to 2.5m appearing to mark entrances. About 25m uphill on another terrace a faint outline 18m d. At NS 514525, about 650' contour, an oval mound 10 x 7m, and nearby to S, raised, stony subcircular outline 20m across, on slope.

**Maidenhill**

NS 536547. Two sides of this level-topped triangular summit appear steeply scarped; the third side, delimited by a slight step, is extended by a larger sub-rectangular level of similar nature. The trig. station at the SW angle is on an oval, slightly detached from the main by indentations into the sides of the hill.

**Barrance Farm**  
PLATFORM

NS 560555. W of farmhouse, within 400' contour, the angle of a platform, built out from the slope to nearly 2m height at corner, is evident for 110m on NW aspect, and 55m on NE. The farm buildings are built into it, but surface indications suggest a level platform emerging from the slope, about 180m square.

**Faulds**  
REMAINS

NS 508544. On rocky prominence overlooking steep slope, above B769 625' contour, just W of dyke. Vestiges of a wall round the prominence forms an oval overall 18m N-S by 35m. On summit rectangular foundation 7 x 16m.

**OLD ROAD**

A right-of-way follows the mapped portion of this road from Newton Mearns along Langrig to Faside and Maidenhill. A further section has been removed by Pilmuir quarry. From NS 519541 it occurs as a hollow way, occasionally as a terrace, 1.6 to 2.5m wide,

via a ford at NS 519539, rounding W end of morainic ridge at NS 517538. Its course over the golf club is uncertain, but a slight hollow way occurs at NS 514535. It reappears at NS 512535 as an embanked terrace ascending in a curve the W side of an eminence, crossing the summit as a hollow way at NS 511534, and ascending along the W bank of the burn as a kerbed terrace 2m broad, to fade near the 700' contour at NS 508532. A hollow way at NS 503526 follows a morainic ridge, evident within the present Brother Loch as a string of islands, which probably skirted the original shore. It carries the road to NS 499524, from which point the road crosses a tributary and the Brock Burn above their confluence, and turns E to foot of ravine. From here it splits; one branch ascending the ravine to NS 497521 and veering W; the other ascends directly WSW as a broad camber to NS 497522, then follows a SW course as a hollow way. They meet at NS 495521 and appear to continue W. This road and another from Eaglesham presently represented by the Black Loch road, appear to make use of the Eaglesham Moraine as a dry crossing over the Renfrewshire moors.

#### NEILSTON

##### Commore Bridge

###### REMAINS

NS 463542. Tip of promontory, just below 625' contour, on edges of gully of Levern Water, E of Bridge. A circular mound 21m overall diameter, up to 1.5m high, has sub-rectangular hollow within, subdivided, 11 x 6m. A gap on NE of the mound, 3m wide, leads into an extension 12m long, defined by hummocky bank on S, and terminated by an arcuate bank up to 5m broad; the overall extension 17m long, 18m widest. Possible ditch round S.

##### Neilston Pad

###### BANK

NS 4755. Close to the 825' contour, on the SW of the hill, the only aspect not delimited by crags, about 300m of stone-faced bank 2.5 to 4m broad. The bank is indistinct on the upslope, but 0.5 to 0.75m high on the downslope side. Extends from crags at NS 474552 to just within wood at NS 475549. The area of the summit defined by the wall is approximately 26 acres.

##### Dyke Hill

###### CRÁNNOG ?

NS 487560. A loch shown here by Timothy Pont in Blaeu's Atlas, 1654, has been drained. Close to the S shore, at the tip of a promontory, is a natural group of large rocks round which a circular island has been built of stones, 14m across.

###### REMAINS

NS 486560. The W side of the above promontory features a 64 x 35m area defined on two sides by steep crags, which has traces of a wall round, and a rectangular foundation in the NE angle, 10 x 4.5m.

## ROSS AND CROMARTY — ISLANDS

BENBECULA

Rosinish

*Ian A. G. Shepherd*

NF 873537. Excavation concentrated on the eroding beaker midden on the shore (*Discovery and Excavation*, 1974, 38-9). Ten per cent of the midden's c. 300m<sup>2</sup> was sampled by excavating a random series of squares of side 1m, (i) to gain a representative sample of cultural material; (ii) to test the horizontal stratigraphy for specialised activity areas; (iii) to establish the modes of subsistence practised. Over 500 sherds of various beaker types, many belonging to Clarke's early Northern series, were found, along with a large number of quartz flakes and cores, a few flint tools and some pieces of utilised pumice. Activity areas recognised included a large, two-period shell-dump, two hearths and several small pit groups, as well as the truncated remains of a rectangular stone feature (c. 0.5 x 0.4m) which had been set into the top of the midden and in which pottery similar to that found in an adjacent corbelled burial cist (*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, 1964, 33) was discovered. Distinct traces of plough agriculture, represented by criss-cross ard marks, were visible in the old land surface and subsoil beneath the beaker midden. Sieving of samples of all the excavated deposits recovered carbonised cereal grains from over 50% of the excavated squares, as well as some fish bone. The animal bone is in good condition and will, with the other faunal and floral remains, enable a comprehensive account of beaker subsistence techniques in this area to be made.

## ROXBURGHSHIRE

SPROUSTON

Redden Farm

WELL

*Miss Fiona Campbell*

NT 775375. A dry well with drystone walls, some 0.86m diameter and 10.67m deep, was found immediately W of the farm buildings. There are numerous traces of grass-covered stone walls in the field W of the well, according to local tradition the remains of a township.

KELSO  
ABBAY

*Mr C. J. Tabraham and  
the late Mr T. M. Robertson*

NT 729337. (See *Discovery and Excavation*, 1971, p.56). Excavation in advance of redevelopment was carried out in an area of the Glebe situated to the SE of the ruined Abbey kirk. Stripping a large area by machine uncovered a complexity of structures pertaining to the monastery. The principal building discovered was of

great length (over 22m) with an overall width of 16.5m. It was aligned N-S and had a double row of pillars spaced about 5m apart. It would appear to have been the Infirmary, though it had undergone mutation in its later stages, including the introduction of a fireplace and some internal partitioning. Preserved beneath this building was evidence of early monastic industrial activity probably associated with the construction phase of the Abbey kirk and the main conventual buildings. Dumps of mortar and other builders' debris were recorded as well as small furnaces for the smelting of lead in the manufacture of window kams and other items. A quarry pit (overall dimensions as yet unknown) was discovered to the W of the building. It was over 3m in depth and was used most probably as a handy source of gravel for use in the construction of the monastery. It had been backfilled over a very short period of time late in the 13th century. Rapid subsidence would seem to have resulted for a building that had been erected over the pit in the early 14th century had subsided into it causing the truncation of that building. A portion of the monastic great drain was uncovered a little to the NW of the quarry pit.

## S H E T L A N D

*Brian Beveridge*

### PREHISTORIC WORKING SITES

HU 316848 - HU 315838. Situated on a large vein of rhyolitic porphyry which intrudes the Ronas Granite is a series of "working floors", with attendant waste materials, which commences on NW slopes of Mid Field at Grut Wells (900') and phases gradually out on the upper slopes of Roga Field (1,000'). Two main sites are evident which follow the course of the vein, and many "rough-outs" of scrapers, knives, and blades litter the scree slopes. The area lies some three miles due S of the Neolithic axe factory site on the Beorgs of Uyea.

## S T I R L I N G S H I R E

### FALKIRK

*Drs J. Close-Brooks, D. J. Breeze,*

### Camelon

*J. N. G. Ritchie*

### ROMAN BURIAL

NS 860810. This burial was discovered during gravel digging to the W of Camelon N fort. The grave consisted of a cist of large flagstones about 1.6m by 0.8m by 0.5m deep with at least two capstones. It contained parts of two bodies, one a male aged under 18 and the other a male over 18, and iron weapons: a sword of Iron Age type, a shield boss probably of Roman type and two spearheads. Preliminary conclusions are that the men were Roman

soldiers recruited in Britain and buried according to local native traditions outside the fort probably c. A.D. 80-90.

A second sword was found during gravel digging 120m NNW of the cist. This may have accompanied a second burial.

*Dr Valerie A. Maxfield*

#### CAMELON ROMAN FORT

NS 863807. Rescue excavation was carried out in advance of development within the area of the S fort at Camelon, with the permission of Walter Alexander (Coachbuilders) Ltd. The excavation took place in the NE corner of the fort, the only area free from industrial development.

The S fort was founded about 80 A.D. and abandoned about a decade later. Its site was reused in the Antonine period as a fortified annexe to the N fort, and it was on the structures of this mid-second century occupation that work this season was concentrated.

Stratification in the N part of the site was considerably better than in the S where the subsoil lay only a few centimetres below the modern surface and most damage had been done by modern buildings.

A well constructed E-W road which approximately bisected the S fort was located just S of the position projected in the 19th century. It had been resurfaced three times, and its final phase sealed pottery belonging to the mid-second century. There was no evidence to date the earlier surfaces. Immediately S of the road was an area of industrial activity. Four substantial hearths were located. All were constructed of sandstone and clay which had been fired bright red. Two were rectangular, one, the least well preserved, was circular, while the other was of indeterminate shape — its flue projected into the area of the excavation but its chamber lay beyond the land available. A quantity of slag and scraps of iron in the vicinity suggest that one, at least, of the hearths was used for iron-working. The area in which these structures were located contained several pits whose typical content was a few shreds of Antonine pottery and badly corroded iron-work, particularly nails.

Further S was a group of three sub-circular pits. Two were vertical sided, while the other widened out towards its bottom. Each was roughly 1 - 1.5m in diameter, two were just over 1m deep, the third 1.5m. They had evidently been used as rubbish pits and contained much second century pottery, a little first century pottery, lumps of fired daub and large quantities of badly corroded iron, notably boot-studs.

Small finds included two spear heads, the head of an iron mattock, a bronze belt buckle, two silver rings (one with its intaglio depicting a bird still in position) and a complete, though broken, niedermendig lava quernstone reused in the latest road surface.

Below the second century structures were traces of timber construction trenches, presumably belonging to the buildings of the Flavian period. It is hoped to continue the investigation of these next year.

ROUGH CASTLE  
MILITARY WAY

*L. J. F. Keppie*

NS 837798. A Natural Gas pipeline cut through the Military Way W of the cattle grid giving access to the Guardianship Area at Rough Castle, and a partial section was obtained. The Military Way proved to underlie the modern access road, with cobbling forming the lower stratum of the Roman roadway immediately below modern road bottoming. The cobbles rested on a double layer of turf, of which the lower course had been laid grass downwards.

BUCHLYVIE

Fairy Knowe  
DEFENDED IRON-AGE HOMESTEAD

*Mrs Lorna Main*

NS 586943. The site lies about one mile E of the village of Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire, on the S side of the A811. The mound is some 18' high, 120' x 180' long, and is located about 200 yards S of Mains of Buchlyvie Farmhouse.

A trial excavation was carried out in advance of road improvements. Before excavation nothing was visible on the ground apart from a circular depression on the summit and a number of stones protruding through the grass. Excavation has shown that on the mound stand the remains of a defended native Iron-Age Homestead. A 4m long "drain like" feature of dry stone construction, varying in width from about 20cm to  $\frac{1}{2}$ m, and from 1 to 3 courses high, appears in one of the trenches. Finds include several sherds of late 1st/2nd century A.D. Roman amphora, several Roman nails, part of a rotary quern, and a number of iron furnace bottoms. It is intended to continue work in 1976.

GARGUNNOCK  
Peel

*Stirling Field and Archaeological Society  
per Miss D. J. Milne*

NS 717951. Continued investigation of the robbed-out foundation trenches of this site (see *Discovery and Excavation*, 1973, p.52) shows a confused pattern, apparently pointing to the existence of a succession of mediæval buildings covering an area which would require extensive excavation to enable building plans to be unravelled. A defensive ditch 4.11m wide to the E, shows the site to measure over 50m on its longer, E-W axis.

STIRLING  
DITCH

NS 789935. The remains of the formal garden known as The King's Knot, lying S of Stirling Castle, and in Department of the Environment care, has a ditch 8.23m wide running obliquely across

the E approaches to the raised "Knot". This ditch is alien to the rectilinear style of the remainder of the garden, and it was suggested by Crawford that it might be Roman. Excavation in the playing fields to the S, across the road, proved that this ditch does continue. In this particularly wet area the ditch sides had collapsed at least twice, trapping silts containing vegetable matter, which was sampled. Nearby to the W, an extensive series of test pits failed to find the Roman road on the next accessible forward projection from the last reported location in King's Park. It may be that this deviation from an apparently suitable line, leading to two fordable Forth crossings, could have a link with the ditch.

GARGUNNOCK  
LECKIE BROCH AND DUN

*Euan W. MacKie*

NS 693940. Work has continued at this two period site. The small explored areas of the interior occupation deposits yielded, among other things, a complete bronze spiral finger-ring, an iron ring-headed pin with a projecting head, fragments of lead and a piece of a Samian ware cup of the Flavian period (Drag. 37). All these objects were on the top of the broch floor (layer 3B).

CAMPSIE GLEN  
Aldessan Burn  
SHIELINGS

*Thomas C. Welsh*

NS 608800. N of woods, about 650' contour, a number of shielings. A tabular hill in the woods, NS 609798, above 500' contour, has traces of wall round.

FINTRY  
Clachie Burn  
ENCLOSURE

NS 642838. N bank prominence at 950' contour, circular enclosure overall 13m across, internally 6 x 7.5m oval.

Dungoil  
ENCLOSURE

NS 633845. W side of spot height, possible 9m curve of a 3m thick wall base under grass, and other traces indicating an enclosure overall 17m across.

## SUTHERLAND

KILDONAN  
Kinbrace  
STONE ROWS

*L. J. Myatt*

NC 827322. A setting of fan-shaped stone rows consisting of approximately 80 small stones set in 10 rows covering an area of about 12m square. The sector is set out on slightly rising ground to the N with the main axis set NNW.

FARR

Skelpick

STONE ROWS

NC 722574. A ruinous setting of stone rows. Five rows are apparent containing a total of 11 small upright stones visible above the surface. The setting is aligned almost due N-S and covers an area approximately 5m x 10m.

## WIGTOWNSHIRE

The Wren's Egg

BRONZE AGE STANDING STONES

*L. J. Masters*

NX 361420. The visible remains of this site consist of a large erratic boulder (The Wren's Egg) and, at some 17m and 19m to the E, a pair of standing stones. The Wren's Egg is situated on the top of an elongated knoll (main axis N/S) which has a gentle slope down to the S and E, but is steep sided to the W. The N half of the knoll is occupied by trees and is level. It has been suggested that the pair of stones represented the remains of a large double concentric circle, with The Wren's Egg as the centre stone. To test this hypothesis an area 9m by 9m was excavated around the pair of standing stones, and a further area 13m by 6m was investigated to the S of The Wren's Egg. The area around The Wren's Egg was also investigated.

A large pit, found to the SE of The Wren's Egg, was almost certainly underlying it, though this area could not be fully investigated. A few animal bones were found in the pit filling, together with a shirt button, which suggests that the pit is modern. The W standing stone appeared to be in a slight hollow with packing stones around and under its curved base. The E stone was set in a well-defined hole and was packed with boulders and a small slab. No finds were made in the stone holes or in the area between the standing stones, and this was the only area investigated which had escaped disturbance by ploughing. In the other areas investigated, no evidence was found for the existence of any stone circle. Possibly, if stones had been removed, the subsequent deep ploughing could have removed all traces of stone holes or settings. However, if The Wren's Egg was the centre stone of a double concentric stone circle, it would have been impossible to see from the E side to the W and it is strange that only two stones should remain of what could have been a monument of about 140 stones. Some 400m to the SSE of The Wren's Egg there is another pair of standing stones. It would seem best, therefore, to regard the monument as simply a large erratic boulder and a pair of standing stones. Finds, mostly from the plough soil, included a finely worked flint knife, an assortment of scrapers, utilised flakes and unworked pebble flint.

NX 444403. Excavation in advance of redevelopment (since abandoned) uncovered remains of the medieval Premonstratensian priory cloister to the NW of the existing churchyard. These buildings were restricted to the upper part of the field though their functions were uncertain and their date unascertainable through a lack of stratigraphy and finds. Below the scarp numerous out-buildings were identified (including a cow-shed and minor industrial dwellings) dating from the late 16th century to the 19th century.

## Small Finds

Discoveries of small finds have been reported as tabulated below. For further details about the finds, contact the Reporters.

County	Parish	Location	N.G.R.	Object(s)	Reporter(s)	Present Location of Find(s)
Aberdeenshire	Crathes	Nether Mills of Crathes	NO 754962	9,000 flints	J. E. Beeley	Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum
	Leslie	Bin Hill	NJ 595253	2 sherds neolithic pottery, 2 worked flints	I. Ralston	Reporter
	Aberdeen	46 Gordon Road	NJ 914042	Broken flint blade	I. Ralston	Reporter
	Cruden Bay		NK 0936	Eskimo iron harpoon head	I. Ralston	D. Cantlay, Port Erroll School
	Huntly	East Cruichie Farm, Drumblade	NJ 587425	Flat axe mould	M. Greig	Mr R. Johnstone, E. Cruichie Farm
	Kemnay	Mosshead Farm	NJ 743182	Unfinished polished stone mace-head, perforated hone, loom-weight	J. C. Greig	Miss A. R. Cook, 61 Bonnymuir Pl., Aberdeen
	Aberdeen	Virginia Street	NJ 946063	2 medieval bronzes	J. C. Greig	James Dunn House Museum
	<b>Dyce</b>	Lochgreens Farm	NJ 919152	Carved stone ball	J. C. Greig	Ronald Graham, Keith Hall, Inverurie
Argyll (Mainland)	Tarbert	Bagh Mo Thuaidh		3-handled pitcher (1300 AD ?)	F. S. MacKenna	H.M. Receiver of Wrecks, Oban
	Kilwinning		NS 323425	Flint blades and flakes and sherds of medieval pottery	M. Macneill	Reporter

County	Parish	Location	N.G.R.	Object(s)	Reporter(s)	Present Location of Find(s)
Ayrshire (contd.)	Dreghorn		NS 352374	4 flint blades	M. Macneill	Reporter
	Drybridge		NS 349368	40 plus flint blades, scrapers, cores	M. Macneill	Reporter
	Drybridge		NS 355365	1 flint core	M. Macneill	Reporter
	Drybridge		NS 357371	100 plus flint blades, scrapers and cores	M. Macneill	Reporter
	Drybridge		NS 360370	Several hundred flint blades, scrapers and cores	M. Macneill	Reporter
Banffshire Caithness	Girvan		NX 180955	Flint blades and flakes	M. Macneill	Reporter
	Rathven		NJ 409642	Flint arrow head	I. and P. Keiller	Reporter
	Reay		NC 920643	Basal looped bronze spearhead	J. Close-Brooks	Thurso Museum
	Keiss	Green Hill of Clayton	ND 332634	Human skeleton in woollen doublet (1600 AD ?) with length of "simmons"	Mrs H. Bennett	
Dumfriesshire	Wamphray	Leithen Hall	NY 129966	Sandstone quern	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Carsethorn	Beach	NX 988601	Mesolithic flints and chert point	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Dumfries		NX 977755	Perforated slate disc	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Dumfries	E. end Stake Ford	NX 971765	Coin—class X, C - F Sterling of Edward I., London	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Dumfries	Lincluden College	NX 966779	Medieval pottery	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum

County	Parish	Location	N.G.R.	Object(s)	Reporter(s)	Present Location of Find(s)
East Lothian	Dunbar	Lochhouses Farm	NT 610807	Stone axe	J. Close-Brooks	R. Stewart, Seton Mains, Longnidding
	Prestonkirk	Traprain Law	NT 584749	Native and Roman pottery	H. C. Nisbet	National Museum
Glasgow	Broomielaw	James Watt St.	NS 584649	Sherd tip of 18th century delftware	P. C. Denholm	
		W. Balnuldry Farm	NS 581717	2 pieces of Samian, part of a clay marble	L. J. F. Keppie	Hunterian Museum
Inverness-shire (Islands)	Skye	Duntulm		13 coins—Scotland Jas. VI, mark 1601-4; England Jas. VI, 1/-, Chas. I, 5 2/6; 1 1/-, latest date 1645-5; Continent 2 "dollars" and 4 fractions, Basel, Tournais Upper Alsace, West Friesland, 1613-22	R. B. K. Stevenson	
	Vallay		NF 782763	Iron knife, with brass animal pommel (15-16th century); sherds of prehistoric pottery, flat perforated stone disc	D. Caldwell	National Museum
	North Uist	Carinish, Clett-feora	NF 832597	3 leaf-shaped rivetted spear-heads, one basal looped rivetted spear-head	J. Close-Brooks	

County	Parish	Location	N.G.R.	Object(s)	Reporter(s)	Present Location of Find(s)
Inverness-shire (Islands) (contd.)	North Uist	Baleshare, Ceardach, Ruadh	NF 775615	22 sherds of Iron Age pottery, 2 bits of iron slag	A. A. and D. Maclean	Finder
Kincardineshire	Dunottar	Castle	NO 882838	Animal bones, late medieval pottery	J. C. Greig	
Kirkcudbright- shire	Carsphairn	Polmaddie Farm	NX 601883	Mesolithic flints	M. L. Ansell	
	Portling	Victory Cottage	NX 881539	Pieces of grit-stone, some shaped	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Barnbarroch	Damhead Cottage	NX 842568	Stone spindle whorl	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Buittle	Sandpit	NX 818614	Iron bloom	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
	Buittle	Castle	NX 819617	Small lead plumb-bob	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum
Morayshire	Urquhart		NJ 256674	Shell midden	I. Keillar	
	St. Andrews Lhanbryde		NJ 247629	Loose cup-marked stone	I. Keillar	
	Rothies		NJ 308514	About 10 rotary querns	I. Keillar	3 at Collie Farm
Perthshire	Blaigowrie	Meikleour	NO 150399	Leaf-shaped rivetted spear-head	J. Close-Brooks	National Museum (Loan)
	Muthill	Old Parish Church	NN 869170	Piscina	D. C. Manning	In Church
Renfrewshire	Kilmacolm	Auchenfoyle	NS 311713	Stone with cup-mark	G. R. Chambers	
	Eaglesham	Longwood	NS 536527	Cup-marked boulders	J. B. McVicar	
	Mearns	Faulds	NS 513545	Carved stone head	T. C. Welsh	
		Polloktown	NS 520563	Carved stone with tailor's mark (?)	T. C. Welsh	

<i>County</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>N.G.R.</i>	<i>Object(s)</i>	<i>Reporter(s)</i>	<i>Present Location of Find(s)</i>
Renfrewshire (contd.)	Mearns (contd.)	Crook Greenbank House	NS 527537	Lintel 1749	T. C. Welsh	
			NS 561566	Architectural frags., Lintel, 1763	T. C. Welsh	
	Arkleston	Cockles Hill Park	NS 497658	3 billion metal denarii Victorinus (268-270) 4 frag. of 3rd century beakers	D. Cunningham	Hunterian Museum
		Deanside, Old Golf Course	NS 516667	AS of Severus Alex- ander (222-235), sherd of mortarium frags. of terraccotta lamp	D. Cunningham	Hunterian Museum
Ross and Cromarty (Islands) Stirlingshire	Lewis, Uig	Garynahine, Callanish	NB 232327	Iron age pot	J. Close-Brooks	Mr J. Crawford, Garynahine
		Craigarnhall Farm	NS 754982	2 bun shaped rotary quern stones, hour glass perforations	J. S. Nicoll	Craigarnhall Farm
	Inveravon	Roman fort	NS 952797	Lattice-decorated box flue tiles	L. J. F. Keppie	
West Lothian						
Wigtownshire	Mid Gleniron		NX 188610	Finds from Dr Cor- coran's excavations	A. E. Truckell	Dumfries Museum

## *Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey*

Revision and resurvey of antiquities have continued in the counties of Dumfries, East and Mid-Lothian, Inverness, Kirkcudbright, Peebles, Perth, Ross and Cromarty, and Sutherland. Much of the resurvey throughout the year was concentrated in Central Perthshire where many new Iron Age settlements (including Dalruizion-type huts) were discovered.

<i>County</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Antiquity</i>	<i>Nat. Grid Ref.</i>
Inverness	Alvie	Ring Cairn	NH 863098
Perth	Blair Atholl	Hut Circle	NN 817604
		Homestead & Cup-marked Stone	NN 834605
		Field System	NN 838611
		2 Cairns	NN 844629
		Cairn	NN 877620
		Cairn with Cist	NN 877625
		Enclosure	NN 878622
		Hut Circle	NN 878625
		Hut Circle	NN 878628
		Hut Circle	NN 883621
		'Four Poster'	NN 888629
	Blairgowrie	Hut Circle	NO 089511
		Settlement & Field System	NO 110494
		Cairn with Cist	NO 112491
		2 Hut Circles	NO 113490
		Hut Circle	NO 116477
	Clunie	Settlement & Field System	NO 060520
		Hut Circle	NO 060522
		Settlement & Field System	NO 063523
		Hut Circle	NO 066520
		2 Hut Circles	NO 067513
		Settlement & Field System	NO 070515
		Settlement & Field System	NO 072496
		2 Hut Circles	NO 072562
		Settlement & Field System	NO 075475
		Cup-marked Stone	NO 075503
		2 Hut Circles and Cup-marked Stone	NO 076503
		Cup-marked Rock	NO 077480
		Cairn & Field System	NO 077501
		Settlement & Field System	NO 078483
		Settlement	NO 080511
		2 Hut Circles	NO 081477
		2 Hut Circles	NO 082502
		Settlement & Field System	NO 085497
	Dull	Cup-marked Stone	NN 752553
		Hut Circles	NN 776558
		Homestead	NN 777569
		Cup-marked Stone	NN 778566
		Cairn & Field System	NN 782561
		Homestead	NN 785580
		Homestead	NN 785585

<i>County</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Antiquity</i>	<i>Nat. Grid Ref.</i>
Perth	Dull (contd.)	Homestead	NN 787571
		Homestead	NN 790572
		Cup-marked Stone	NN 801485
		Possible Hut Circle	NN 812490
		2 Cup-marked Stones	NN 850466
	Dunkeld & Dowally	Hut Circle	NO 053500
		Field System	NO 060508
	Fortingall	Bloomery	NN 454416
		Hut Circle	NN 724566
		2 Hut Circles & Field System	NN 725568
		Hut Circle	NN 758515
		Cup-marked Stone	NN 760507
		Hut Circle	NN 761518
		Cairn	NN 762571
		Hut Circle & Field System	NN 763513
		Cairn	NN 771532
		2 Hut Circles	NN 774535
		Standing Stone	NN 588347
		Cup-marked Rock	NN 673396
		3 Cup-marked Rocks	NN 725447
		Crannog	NN 759449
		Settlement & Field System	NN 776424
	Kinloch	'Four Poster'	NO 117475
		Cup-marked Rock	NO 125472
		Hut Circle	NO 137488
	Kirkmichael	Settlement & Field System	NO 083545
		Settlement & Field System	NO 086546
		Hut Circle	NO 091543
	Little Dunkeld	2 Hut Circles	NN 929503
		Field System	NN 930487
		2 Hut Circles	NN 931500
		Hut Circle	NN 933507
		Settlement & Field System	NN 934498
		Hut Circle	NN 941496
		Hut Circle & Field System	NN 943497
		Field System	NN 943499
		Hut Circle & Field System	NN 945499
		2 Hut Circles & Field System	NN 946502
		System	NN 946502
	Logierait	Settlement & Field System	NN 917493
		Hut Circle	NN 919491
		Settlement	NN 924488
		Hut Circle	NN 925502
		2 Hut Circles	NN 926486
		Settlement & Field System	NN 926496
		2 Hut Circles	NN 931465
		Settlement	NN 980579
		2 Hut Circles & Enclosure	NN 983570
		Field System	NN 983575
		Hut Circle	NN 994563
		2 Hut Circles & Field System	NN 996567
		Settlement & Field System	NO 000568
		Settlement & Field System	NO 006551
		Cairn	NO 019569

<i>County.</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Antiquity.</i>	<i>Nat. Grid Ref.</i>
Perth.	Monzieward & Strowan	Cup-marked Rock	NN 799250
	Moulin	Hut Circle 2 Hut Circles & Enclosure Settlement Settlement Hut Circle Hut Circle & Field System Settlement Hut Circle & Field System Hut Circle Hut Circle Hut Circle Hut Circle Hut Circle & Enclosure	NN 908646 NN 925625 NN 927635 NN 927639 NN 929630 NN 946611 NN 949609 NN 983592 NN 984587 NN 987587 NN 987591 NO 008586 NO 010589
	Weem	Chambered Cairn & Cairn Motte	NN 872511 NN 880521
Ross & Cromarty	Edderton	2 Hut Circles Hut Circle 2 Hut Circles Hut Circle Hut Circle	NH 645863 NH 673842 NH 680824 NH 682826 NH 685826
Sutherland	Creich	Hut Circle Hut Circle 2 Hut Circles & Field System Hut Circle Settlement 2 Hut Circles Hut Circle Hut Circle Settlement Hut Circle Settlement & Field System Hut Circle & Field System 2 Hut Circles & Enclosure Cairn & Enclosure Settlement & Field System	NH 612954 NH 612958 NH 615952 NH 617960 NH 623966 NH 624960 NH 625969 NH 625982 NH 626963 NH 632995 NH 635966 NH 649963 NH 654962 NH 725931 NH 725935
	Dornoch	Settlement & Field System Settlement Settlement Hut Circle	NH 644987 NH 711945 NH 724943 NH 731933
	Lairg	Settlement & Field System Hut Circle	NC 622030 NC 625029
	Rogart	2 Hut Circles Settlement & Field System Hut Circle Hut Circle Hut Circle	NC 631022 NC 631027 NC 632015 NC 632019 NC 635000

## BRIEF REPORTS ON SOME NEW DISCOVERIES

from Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey.

### PERTHSHIRE

#### DULL

Of five occupation sites discovered in the parish, one (NN 785580) is analogous to the Glen Lyon-type homesteads. Situated on a knoll named Tom Chaiseil, it is circular on plan and measures 25.7m overall. Although almost entirely destroyed by forestry ploughing, the base course of the outer wall face of large blocks is preserved around much of the periphery. In the NNE are four probable inner facing stones, giving a wall thickness of 2.9m. A gap of 3m in the E appears to be recent, but it probably occupies the position of the original entrance. The other four (NN 785585, 787571, 777569, 790572) differ by being oval on plan.

Their size, shape and wall thickness make them comparable with duns, but their relatively poor defensive situations, and proximity to good agricultural land (together with the nearby footings of depopulated settlements, probably for which the walls of these structures were robbed), indicate their domestic, rather than defensive, use. They measure approximately 21m by 16m overall, with walls 3m to 4m thick. Both outer and inner facing stones are evident in places, although all the sites are considerably wasted.

#### WEEM

At NN 880521 is a medieval earthwork, possibly a motte, known locally as "Edradynate Castle". It is a near-rectangular mound 5m high, with a level summit measuring 22m by 6m. At its base is a ditch and outer rampart. In the SE is a second rampart. On the summit are the scant remains of two buildings of indeterminate date.

At NN 872511 is a robbed chambered cairn measuring 18m in diameter and 1.2m high. Protruding through the debris are five upright slabs, three on the E possibly forming part of a facade; one to the W of these, possibly a portal stone, and another to the SW, form a chamber of uncertain plan.

An even more pillaged cairn measuring 17m x 15m, is situated close by on the W. Three protruding slabs may represent the remains of a chamber.

#### BLAIR ATHOLL

Mitchell (a) mentions a stone circle 200 yards above Black Castle of Strathgarry.

This was identified as a "four poster" at NN 888629, formed by a rectangle of four stones measuring 4.2m NNE-SSW by 3m. Three

of the stones are tilted, one attaining a height of almost 1.5m, the fourth being only a stump protruding through the turf.

(a) *Pitlochry & District*, 1923 61 (H. Mitchell).

#### KINLOCH

On rising ground at NO 117475 is a "four poster" formed by a near-square setting of four stones measuring 3m by 3.5m. All the stones are tilted, and are now merely stumps attaining a maximum height of 0.8m.

Details of these, and other, sites can be obtained from Ordnance Survey, 43 Rose Street, Edinburgh EH2 2NL.

## ***Department of the Environment***

*per Dr D. J. Breeze*

The Department of the Environment provided all or part of the financial backing for the following excavations, which are detailed under the appropriate county headings in the main text :

Aberdeenshire	Peel of Lumphanan Tillytarmont
Argyll (Mainland)	Balloch hill fort Skipness Castle Temple Wood
Dunbartonshire	Bearsden Croy Hill Dullatur Westerwood Farm
Edinburgh	Cramond
East Lothian	Torness
Fife	Dunfermline Abbey
Kirkcudbrightshire	Carlochan Cairn Threave Castle
Lanarkshire	Bothwellhaugh Crookston Castle
Orkney	Brough of Birsay Knapp of Howar Liddle and Beaquhoy
Peebleshire	Lyne
Perthshire	Cleaven Dyke Perth, High Street and St. Ann's Lane Strageath
Roxburghshire	Kelso Abbey
Stirlingshire	Camelon Roman buria. Camelon Roman fort Rough Castle
Ross and Cromarty (Islands)	Rosinish, Benbecula
Wigtownshire	Whithorn Priory The Wren's Egg

Finance from the Department was also made available in 1975 for excavations at Carpow Roman fort.

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

## **(INCLUDING THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS RECORD OF SCOTLAND)**

As a contribution to European Architectural Heritage Year 1975, an exhibition *Recording Scotland's Heritage* was mounted by the Commission in conjunction with Edinburgh City Museums Department. Displaying to the public for the first time the full range of the Commission's work of survey and recording, the exhibition enjoyed a highly successful run at the Canongate Tolbooth, Edinburgh, and later at Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum. To coincide with the exhibition, an illustrated booklet was produced, which briefly described the history of the Commission and the nature and extent of its activities.

### **Inventories**

The second volume of the Inventory of Argyll, dealing with monuments in Lorn, and a revised edition of the booklet *The Stirling Heads* (1960) were both published in July 1975; the book *Late Medieval Monumental Sculpture in the West Highlands* is with the printers.

The programme of field work on the islands of Mull, Coll and Tiree is now almost completed, and the survey of the numerous prehistoric and later monuments of Islay and Jura continues to make good progress.

The excavation of a group of kerbed cairns at Claggan in Morvern (*Discovery and Excavation*, 1974. 89) has produced a radiocarbon date of c. 1200 B.C.

### **National Monuments Record of Scotland**

A report on the work of the National Monuments Record during the period 1972-74 has been published and is available from the Commission's Office at 54 Melville Street, Edinburgh, price £1.

### **Emergency Surveys**

The more important architectural surveys undertaken in 1975 have been Inchmarnock Church, Bute, and Dunning Church, Perthshire (both incorporating Romanesque work of the greatest interest); The Lees, Berwickshire (an important neo-Classical mansion about to be demolished); the train-sheds and hotel at St. Enoch's Railway Station, Glasgow (about to be demolished). A reconnaissance survey was also made of small traditional buildings in the

Applecross Peninsula, Wester Ross, under threat of alteration following the opening of new road communications in that area.

In addition, exploratory investigation has begun in selected areas of Arran, Ayrshire and Renfrewshire where there is a risk of widespread destruction of field monuments by afforestation and other development schemes

### *Principal Accessions*

#### ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

1. Drawings of Gasworks in North Berwick, 1903, and Perth, 1864-1902, and at Broughton, 1883, and Calton, 1929, for the Edinburgh and Leith Gas Co. (Scottish Gas Board).
2. Copies of survey drawings of Gallery House, Angus, 1974. (Cunningham, Jack, Fisher, Purdom, St. Andrews).
3. Copy of photogrammetric survey of the Tron Church, Edinburgh, 1974. (Renton, Howard, Wood Associates, Edinburgh).
4. Copy of photogrammetric survey of Hutchisontown-Caledonia Road Church, Glasgow, 1972. (Department of Geography, University of Glasgow).

#### PHOTOGRAPHS, TOPOGRAPHICAL DRAWINGS, ENGRAVINGS, MANUSCRIPT NOTES, ETC.

1. Lithograph of Paisley Abbey, Renfrewshire, by David Allan, 1827. (Purchased).
2. Two gouache drawings of Glencoe and the Falls of Clyde by George Holmes, c. 1800. (Purchased).
3. Ten aquatints by W. D. Danniell, 1821, published as illustrations in *A voyage round the north and north-west coast of Scotland and the adjacent islands*. (Purchased).
4. Watercolour of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, by John Le Conté, c. 1855. (Purchased).
5. An early 20th-century watercolour of Kilgraston House, Perthshire. (Mr I. G. Scott, Edinburgh).
6. Lithograph of a view of Edinburgh from the Nelson Monument, by James Gordon, 1850. (Purchased).
7. *Aquatint of the proposed New College, Edinburgh*, by William Playfair, c. 1846. (Purchased).
8. Lithograph of a view of Edinburgh from the Calton Hill, c. 1840. (Purchased).
9. Late 19th-century photographs by George Washington Wilson of Scottish architecture, including specimen prints. (Mr and Mrs G. Murray, Aberdeen).
10. Negatives by the late Dr O. G. S. Crawford of miscellaneous archaeological and architectural subjects in Scotland taken in the 1930's. (Institute of Archaeology, Oxford).

11. Papers and photographs of the late Mr W. Kirkness, in particular photographs of excavations in Orkney and Knap of Howor. (Mr A. Dutch, Edinburgh).
12. Photographs of archaeological and architectural subjects associated with the work of the late Mrs Alison Young. (Hon. Mrs J. Boyle, Dunkeld).
13. Sketches by Robert Dawson of architectural and landscape subjects in Scotland and Cumberland, 1839. (Mrs Whittaker, Farnham, Surrey, per National Gallery of Scotland).
14. 19th-century plans, photographs and descriptions of archaeological and architectural subjects in Scotland. (Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland).
15. Five lithographs of Glasgow by T. Fairburn. (Purchased).
16. Aquatint view of Edinburgh Castle from the Grassmarket, c. 1810, by F. Nicholson. (Purchased).
17. Watercolour of the Union Bridge, Hutton, Berwickshire, c. 1830. (Purchased).
18. Engraving of Kelso by W. Forrest after Horatio McCulloch. Proof copy. (Purchased).
19. Coloured engraving of a View of the Town and Harbour of Kyleakin, Skye, by James Gillespie (Graham), 1812. (Purchased).
20. Lithograph of the Union Bridge, Aberdeen, by J. W. Allen, lithograph of a panoramic view from Nelson's Monument, Edinburgh, by James Gordon, senr., c. 1850, and a hand-coloured engraving of the New Assembly Hall, Edinburgh, by W. L. Leitch, c. 1854. (Purchased).
21. 19th-century photograph of the lodge at Eildon Hall, Berwickshire. (Mr H. Graham, Edinburgh).
22. Negatives of plans for additions to Coulmony House, Nairnshire, by A. & W. Reid, Elgin, 1856. (The Hon. P. Wills per Mr James Dunbar-Nasmith, Edinburgh).
23. Negatives of Scottish abbeys and castles taken in the 1930's. (Mr St. John Gamlen per NMR, London).
24. Photographs of drawings by J. Slezer, Robert Adam, Alexander Nasmyth and others. (National Gallery of Scotland).

PERMISSION WAS GIVEN TO MAKE PHOTOGRAPHIC COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

1. Measured survey of Easter Coates House, Edinburgh, 1950-51. (Mr Leslie D. Mitchell, Edinburgh).
2. Collection of drawings from Bowhill, Selkirkshire, including plans for lodges at Dalkeith House, Midlothian, by James Adam, 1786, and James Playfair, 1786, an elevation for Dalkeith House by James Smith, c. 1700, and a drawing by John Slezer for laying out the grounds of Brunstane House, Edinburgh, c. 1675. (The Duke of Buccleuch per Scottish Record Office).
3. 19th-century plans for farm buildings on the Culzean and Cassillis Estates, Ayrshire. (The Factor, Maybole Estate Office).

4. 18th-century plans for the Physic Garden, Leith Walk, Edinburgh, by James Nasmyth, Dr John Hope and others, 1763, and drawings for a monument to Sir Charles Linnaeus by James Craig and Robert Adam, 1778. (The Librarian, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh).
5. Miscellaneous collection of 19th-century drawings for Keir House, Stirlingshire, including drawings for alterations by David Hamilton, 1829. (Keir Estates per Dr A. J. Rowan).
6. A design by Sir Robert Lorimer for the house and garden of Woodhill, Barry, Angus. (Mr Stuart Matthew per Dr P. D. Savage).
7. A drawing of the garden as existing at Kellie Castle, Fife, attributed to Sir Robert Lorimer, 1880. (Mr Hew Lorimer per Dr P. D. Savage).
8. Late 19th-century ground-floor plan of Kelly Castle, Angus. (Mrs Kerr Boyle).
9. Plans for additions to Kingcausie House, Kincardineshire, including drawings for additions by David Bryce, 1851, and a 19th-century model of the house showing proposed additions. (Mr Irving Fortescue per Mrs Valerie Fiddes).
10. Drawings and correspondence for alterations to Keithick House, Perthshire, by David Bryce, 1839, and plans for additions by Maclaren, Soutar and Salmond, 1926. (Keithick Estates per Mrs Valerie Fiddes).
11. Plans for additions to Dalquharran Castle, Ayrshire, by Wardrop and Reid, 1880, and an estate plan by Hugh Rodger, 1781. An album of 19th-century photographs, including Dalquharran Castle, Dunure Castle and Dunure Harbour. An inventory of the contents of Dalquharran, 1837, and two letters from Robert Adam concerning Dalquharran Castle and the proposed building for the University of Edinburgh. (Lt. Col. J. K. MacFarlan).
12. 19th-century photographs of New Gala House, Selkirkshire. (Mr and Mrs Scott per Miss Thelma McNairn).
13. Watercolour of Barony House, Lasswade, Midlothian, c. 1800. (Colonel Francis Law per Mr G. Goodfellow).
14. Ink drawing of a "Grand Panoramic View" of Princes Street, Edinburgh, by W. Weber Freeman, 1884. (Mrs Irving Clarence, New South Wales, Australia).
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16. Plans from the office of Peddie and Kinnear, Edinburgh, comprising a design for the Municipal Buildings, Aberdeen, by Peddie and Kinnear, plans for 97 George Street, Edinburgh, by Kinnear and Peddie, 1885-6, and St. George's West Church, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, by David Bryce, 1867. (Dick Peddie and McKay, Edinburgh).
17. Drawings for the addition of a chancel to St. James the Less Episcopal Church, Penicuik, by Kinross and Tarbolton, 1898. (Mrs Turner, Penicuik).
18. Photographs of bridges on the Inverness-Perth Road recording the old bridges and the replacements, 1924-27. (Messrs Sir Owen Williams & Partners, London, per Mr T. Curtis).
19. 19th-century photographs of Old and New Skipness House, Argyll. (Mr G. D. Dunlop).

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22. Designs by Sir Robert Lorimer drawn by J. J. Joass, John Begg and J. F. Matthew of the Colinton Cottages, Eareshall and Wemyss Castle. (Mr Stuart Matthew per Dr P. D. Savage).
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## ADDRESSES OF CONTRIBUTORS

- Miss Helen Adamson, Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow.
- Professor L. C. Alcock, Department of Archaeology, The University, Glasgow.
- Michael L. Ansell, Rannoch, Glenlee, New Galloway, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright.
- Archaeology Division, Ordnance Survey, 43 Rose Street, Edinburgh.
- Edward Archer, 10 Laverockhall, Lint Hill, Lanark.
- J. E. Beeley, Art Gallery and Museum, Schoolhill, Aberdeen.
- Mrs Helen Bennett, National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh.
- Brian Beveridge, 6 Dale View, Headley, Epsom, Surrey.
- Dr David J. Breeze, Department of Environment, Argyle House, Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.
- C. Burgess, Department of Adult Education, The University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Aubrey Burl, Kingston-upon-Hull College of Education, Cottingham Road, Hull.
- David H. Caldwell, National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh.
- Fiona Campbell, Hunthill, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire.
- Miss Marion Campbell, Kilberry, Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll.
- Grant R. Chambers, 7 Knollpark Drive, Clarkston, Glasgow.
- Dr Joanna Close-Brooks, National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh.
- D. A. Cunningham, 12 Hercules Way, Arkleston, Renfrewshire.
- Peter C. Denholm, 10 Madiera Street, Greenock.
- Department of the Environment, Argyle House, 3 Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.
- Kevin Edwards, Department of Geography, The Queen's University, Belfast.
- Professor S. S. Frere, 35 Beaumont Street, Oxford.
- Col. P. F. F. Gladwin, OBE, FSA Scot, Braigh, Varr, Minard, Argyll.
- J. Colvin Greig, 255 Westburn Road, Aberdeen.
- Mrs Moira Greig, 255 Westburn Road, Aberdeen.
- W. S. Hanson, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House, 3 Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.
- J. W. Hedges, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House, 3 Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

Peter Hill, 2 Haddington Place, Edinburgh.

Nicholas McQ. Holmes, Ladystairs House, The Lawnmarket, Edinburgh.

J. R. Hunter, The University, Bradford.

Angela M. Jackson, 2 Haddington Place, Edinburgh.

Dr W. G. Jardine, Department of Geology, The University, Glasgow.

Mrs A. Kahane, Kilchoan Lodge, Poltalloch, by Kilmartin, Argyll.

L. J. F. Keppie, Hunterian Museum, The University, Glasgow.

Ian Keillar, 80 Duncan Drive, Elgin, Morayshire.

Robert H. McEwen, Seaforth, 13 Douglas Terrace, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.

Dr F. Severne MacKenna, Dun Alasdair, Tarbert, Argyll.

Dr Euan MacKie, Hunterian Museum, The University, Glasgow.

Malcolm MacNeill, Ennerdale, Barrmill Road, Beith, Ayrshire.

J. B. McVicar, 638 Clarkston Road, Netherlee, Glasgow.

Mrs Lorna Main, Planning Department, Central Regional Council, Viewforth, Stirling.

Mrs D. C. Manning, Gowanlea, Willoughby Street, Muthill, Perthshire.

Miss D. N. Marshall, Kames Gardens Cottage, Port Bannatyne, Isle of Bute.

L. J. Masters, 8 Lovers' Walk, Dumfries.

Dr Valerie Maxfield, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House, Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

R. Mercer, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House, Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

Miss D. J. Milne, 34 Albert Place, Stirling.

C. D. Morris, Department of Archaeology, The University, Durham.

Gerald Mortimer, Social Studies Department, Hamilton College of Education, Bothwell Road, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

L. J. Myatt, 6 Trostan Road, Thurso, Caithness.

Miss H. C. Nisbet, 23 Polton Cottages, Lasswade, Midlothian.

Dr E. J. Peltenberg, Craigdarroch, Polivinister Road, Oban, Argyll.

Perth High Street Excavations, George Inn Lane, Perth.

Ian Ralston, Department of Geography, The University, Aberdeen.

Elizabeth B. Rennie, Upper Netherby, 46 Hunter Street, Kirn, Dunoon, Argyll.

Dr Anna Ritchie, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House,  
Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

Professor Anne S. Robertson, 60 Cleveden Drive, Glasgow.

E. C. M. Robertson, FSA Scot, 24 Drum Brae Walk, Edinburgh 4.

D. W. Ross, Groom's Cottage, Murieston House, Livingston, West  
Lothian.

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of  
Scotland, 54 Melville Street, Edinburgh.

Mr and Mrs J. G. Scott, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove,  
Glasgow.

Ian A. G. Shepherd, Department of Archaeology, The University,  
Edinburgh.

R. B. K. Stevenson, National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street,  
Edinburgh.

James Stewart, Department of Town and Country Planning, The  
University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Dr M. E. C. Stewart, Tempair, 4 Dupplin Terrace, Kinnoull, Perth.

C. J. Tabraham, Department of Environment, Argyle House, Lady  
Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

E. J. Talbot, Department of Archaeology, The University, Glasgow.

Lisbeth M. Thoms, Art Gallery and Museum, Albert Square,  
Dundee.

A. E. Truckell, MBE, Dumfries Museum, The Observatory,  
Dumfries.

D. J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate, Surrey.

Laurie M. MacLagan Wedderburn, Pearsie, 64 Souter Drive, Holm  
Mains, Inverness.

Thomas C. Welsh, 17 Stamperland Crescent, Clarkston, Glasgow.

G. H. Williams, c/o Department of Environment, Argyle House,  
Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh.

Dr A. A. Woodham, Clava, Cunninghill Road, Inverurie, Aberdeen-  
shire.

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