



Fig 7. Culscadden 1A. Looking west (NX 4713 4849).

Culscadden 2 (Sorbie parish) M van Hoek
 NX 4682 4836 Large field-clearance boulder showing a deep and large cup-shaped depression of 10cm in diameter.

Culnoag 1D (Sorbie parish)
 NX 4175 4695 NE of the previously reported engravings is a smooth outcrop with two solo cups; one long curved groove; one certain cup with three rings and one cup with possibly three rings and a runner-cup in the third (?) ring. Badly weathered.

FIFE REGION

DUNFERMLINE DISTRICT

Couston Castle (Aberdour parish) P Yeoman
 Tower House
 NT 168 851 A watching brief was carried out by the Fife Archaeological Service in advance of construction of a garage, on the S side of Couston Castle. Nothing of interest was found, and this area may have already been affected by past restoration works. Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

Preston Island (Culross parish) G Ewart
 18th/19th-century industrial complex
 NT 007 852 A watching brief was maintained on the second phase of restoration and consolidation on elements of the combined

salt pan and coal mine complex. During the course of this work, a fifth salt pan was discovered immediately adjacent to the accommodation block.
 Sponsors: Scottish Power and Fife Region.

Culross sea wall (Culross parish) R Murdoch
 NS 988 858 Several exploratory trenches were opened by Scotia Archaeology Limited in an attempt to establish the course of the former sea wall at the W end of the village of Culross. Although the wall itself was not located, its course was evident at a depth of 0.9m as a sharply defined boundary between buried garden soil and deposits of poor quality coal and ash, these latter materials having been deposited when the shore was reclaimed earlier this century.
 Sponsor: Fife Enterprise.

Culross Palace (Culross parish) R Murdoch, J Lewis
 NS 985 859 Excavations were carried out within the ground floor of the building known as Bessie Barr Hall and in the precinct between the hall and the W range of Culross Palace. This work was carried out in advance of development of Bessie Barr Hall for public facilities.

A series of surfaces, of various composition, were uncovered within the building, virtually all containing a range of finds indicating redeposition. A cross 'wall' feature predated the hall itself and the original ground contours had led to the depth of the wall foundations of the building varying from virtually nil at the N end to substantial construction on the S and E.

Excavation in the precinct revealed a complex of drains and cobbled surfaces. The area was split into three by two fireclay drain trenches, probably laid down earlier this century. This truncation made surface relationships more difficult to assess across the site. Part of the drainage was related to the overflow from the Bessie Barr Well, located in a covered recess in the wall bounding the N end of the site. Cobbling varied from functional to cosmetic in quality and none thought to be contemporary with the surrounding buildings of c 1600.

A large, well-constructed, sandstone tank (3m long, surviving to 0.3m high) at the N end of the site probably indicates some light industrial activity in the late 18th/early 19th century. The excavated depth on site was restricted and only in the NW corner did contexts uncontaminated by Georgian/Victorian/later material appear.
 Sponsor: National Trust for Scotland.

Culross Palace (Culross parish) J Lewis
 NS 985 859 Excavations by Scotia Archaeology Limited of the 'palace' courtyard, which measures 23m N-S by 17m E-W, revealed structures and other features dating from the 18th (and perhaps the 17th) to the 19th century.

In the SE corner and towards the NE corner of the area were the well-constructed cobbled floors of two chambers which may have formed elements of a range of buildings along the E side of the courtyard. Much of the remaining area was covered with a rude metallised surface, consisting of small stones and flags set into thick clay. Although not physically linked to the putative E range, the two features are thought to have been contemporary and perhaps dating to the 18th century. Overlying the metallised surface were the remnants of a substantial, kerbed path which led from an entrance in the S wall of the courtyard to the main buildings on its W and N sides.


There was considerable evidence of 19th-century occupation towards the NE corner of the area – paths, drains, pits and the remains of a small building which overlay one of the earlier cobbled floors.

Excavation is still under way.
 Sponsor: National Trust for Scotland.

Low Causeway, Culross (Culross parish) D Hall (SUAT)
Watching brief

NS 990 859 A watching brief was carried out on the building of an access road for a new car park. Machine excavation and removal of tree trunks revealed large shaped sandstone blocks at 0.80m below modern ground level. This stonework extended approximately 1.4m to the S of Low Causeway. From this point onwards layers of loose gravel and sand were laid against the face of the stonework. A single base sherd of pottery of late 17th/early 18th-century date was recovered from within the stonework. The stones may represent the foundation base for the post-medieval road. The land to the S appears to be all reclaimed from the Forth.
Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

Low Causeway/Binnies Lane, Culross (Culross parish)
Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NS 987 858 Trial trench assessment was undertaken in advance of a private housing development, on a site extending to 1355m², on the immediate eastern side of a 17th-century house known as The Haven. Three trenches were machine excavated and hand cleaned. The trenches were aligned E to W and situated at 25m (Trench A), 15m (Trench B), and 2m (Trench C) to the S of the street frontage. A similar sequence of tip spreads of coal, ash, sand and gravels, to a depth of c 1.5m, was found in all three trenches, indicating that the land has been reclaimed, possibly during the 18th century. In Trench C, occasional loose massive sandstone blocks were found amongst the tip deposits, possibly representing the displaced remnants of the sea defence wall.
Sponsor: HS 

St Catherines Wynd/Kirkgate, Dunfermline
(Dunfermline parish) D Hall, R Coleman, J Mackenzie,
Watching brief R Cachart (SUAT)

NT 089 874 Monitoring of new water pipe trenches located surviving deposits at the Maygate/Kirkgate junction, of earlier metalised surfaces and a stone culvert. Nearer to the High Street extensive 19th-century building work had damaged deposits.
Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

St Catherines Wynd, Dunfermline (Dunfermline parish)
Watching brief D Hall, D Webber (SUAT)

NT 089 873 Monitoring of contractors' excavations for new gas pipes located wall fragments. Part of a stone culvert was also recorded possibly relating to the Watergate that formerly stood across the Wynd. The wall fragments may be related to the western precinct line of Dunfermline Abbey.
Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

Maygate, Dunfermline (Dunfermline parish) D Hall (SUAT)
Watching brief

NT 090 873 Monitoring of a Scottish Power trench outside the Abbots House revealed archaeological deposits at c 0.70m below road level. The continuation of two stone wall lines previously located inside the Abbots House was also located.
Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

Lauder Technical College, New Row, Dunfermline J Lewis
(Dunfermline parish)

NT 093 872 Excavation was carried out by Scotia Archaeology Ltd over a three-month period in advance of a major programme of development within the grounds of the former college. Of the twenty trenches opened, five were excavated by hand, the remainder being machine-dug while a watching brief was kept.


In two trenches, at the E end of the site, were found the lower courses of a N/S stretch of the precinct wall of Dunfermline Abbey. Extending eastwards from this wall were the remnants of what are

thought to be backland divisions, probably associated with late 15th-century occupation on New Row. Within one of these backlands and directly abutting the precinct wall was a masonry structure, measuring 7.0m by 2.0m internally and divided into two unequal chambers, each floored with sandstone flags: its walls were very fragmentary. Artefactual evidence suggests a date within the 16th or 17th century. The structure may have been associated with the tanning or textile industry, perhaps as a soaking tank.


To the E of the 'tank', but earlier than it, was a corn-drying kiln from which were recovered seeds of barley and oats.

To the immediate W of the precinct wall and parallel to it was a ditch, about 1m deep. The ditch had been infilled deliberately, evidently just prior to the construction of the wall.

In the extreme NW corner of the site were the fragmentary remains of a two-phase building of probable abbey construction although it was not possible to ascertain its function. Most of the remainder of the site, which measured up to 145m by 53m, appeared to be devoid of structural remains.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council, Fife Enterprise, HS , Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.

Dunfermline Palace (Dunfermline parish) R Murdoch

NT 089 872 Prior to the installation of a new drainage system, a watching brief was carried out by Scotia Archaeology Limited to assess the nature and extent of archaeological deposits outside the S wall of the S range of the palace during the excavation of six trenches by HS' DEL squad. The depth of deposits below the topsoil increased towards the W of the area where possible midden materials were encountered. These deposits are not threatened by the proposed developments and hence were not excavated.
Sponsor: HS 

Roman Road/Hill Street, Inverkeithing (Inverkeithing parish)
Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NT 128 828 Trial trench assessment was undertaken in advance of the development of shop units and amenity flats located in close proximity to the medieval West Port.

Four trenches were machine excavated and hand cleaned. The trenches were located to investigate the possibility of features relating to the medieval burgh defences surviving on the site and possible evidence for medieval backland activity.


Archaeological deposits were identified in the NE corner of the site only. This was in the form of a single orange-brown sandy clay layer, 0.3m thick; three sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered. The layer was sealed below 0.5m of modern make up and tarmac hardstanding, and overlay natural weathered bedrock. No evidence relating to the burgh defences was encountered.
Sponsor: Link Homes.

Helen Place (Inverkeithing parish)

Urban medieval

NT 132 804 Trial trenching was undertaken in advance of a private housing development, located in close proximity to the ruined medieval chapel of St James.

It was apparent that the ground level of the site had been reduced by c 0.7m during recent groundworks. Excavation revealed a remaining grey brown, sandy loam topsoil depth of 0.15m. Below the topsoil was c 0.2m of a dark grey-brown, slightly silty, sandy loam which contained a large percentage of oyster shell fragments and charcoal flecks. Below this layer was a substantial deposit of mid-brown, sandy loam garden soil, c 1.2m in thickness. Sherds of post-medieval pottery and a small quantity of butchered cattle bone fragments were recovered. Natural grey-orange sand was encountered at 1.15m below ground surface.

Sponsor: HS 

FIFE

KIRKCALDY DISTRICT


The Promenade, Kinghorn (Kinghorn parish)

Medieval inhumation J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NT 270 868 A second phase of investigation was initiated in May 1994, following the discovery of exposed human bone fragments by a local resident (see *DES* 1993, 28, for first phase).

Investigation revealed that subsequent contractors' groundworks had resulted in the complete disturbance of the remainder of the inhumation left *in situ* in 1993. Additional human bone fragments were recovered indicating the possibility of more than one burial in the area. Several sherds of pottery, all pre-16th century fabrics were also recovered. The evidence of a possible pre-16th century burial ground supports the supposed nearby location of the 15th-century hospital.

Monitoring of additional contractors' groundworks revealed no further archaeological remains.

Sponsor: HS 

Oswald's Wynd, Kirkcaldy (Kirkcaldy & Dysart parish)

Assessment D Hall (SUAT)

NT 281 917 An assessment in advance of a sheltered housing development located garden soil overlying natural sand. One sherd of late medieval pottery was recovered from this soil. There was no trace of occupation related to the medieval burgh implying this site lay outside the burgh limits.


Sponsor: Alex Penman (Builders) Ltd.

91 High Street, Dysart (Kirkcaldy & Dysart parish)

Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NT 304 932 A watching brief was conducted during large scale groundworks in advance of a substantial housing development.

Extensive disturbance to underlying deposits as a result of 19th/20th-century activity was noted. Mineworkings occupied the northern half of the site and modern demolition debris, 1.5m in thickness, overlay natural sand and gravels across the remainder of the development area.

Sponsor: HS 

15 The Esplanade, Kirkcaldy (Kirkcaldy & Dysart parish)

Medieval urban R Cachart (SUAT)

NT 282 916 The Trust machine-excavated one archaeological trial trench in the rear of the former garage that occupies the southern half of 15 The Esplanade. This was the third phase of archaeological assessment on the site (see *DES* 1993, 28).

The excavation revealed that below the garage concrete floor were archaeological remains in the form of a possible boundary feature, garden/horticultural beds and a pit. One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. The deposits and features were considered to be associated with horticultural activity. The evidence indicates that at least part of the backlands of properties running to the sea from High Street were used for horticultural purposes, probably from the medieval period up until modern times.

Sponsor: Kingdom Housing Association.

Christ's Kirk on the Green, Leslie (Leslie parish) C Falconer, A Cox (SUAT)

NO 255 020 An excavation was undertaken in advance of the conversion of the interior of the church into flats. An initial assessment in 1993 suggested graveyard soil containing undisturbed burials lay within the church walls; this was confirmed by a series of small test pits. This trial work also established the southern limit of the 1820 church, and the southern limit of the graveyard soil. The graveyard soil within the church was excavated in March and April 1994, primarily to record and remove human remains.

Five dwarf walls, regularly spaced, ran from E to W across the

church, acting as supports for the wooden floor. These were founded 0.30m–0.40m deep in the graveyard soil, and disturbed many burials near the surface.

Forty-one complete and incomplete articulated skeletons were recovered from the graveyard soil. These fell into three distinct groups: 19 simple shroud burials aligned E to W, twelve coffin burials aligned E to W, and a further ten coffin burials aligned NW to SE. All the coffin burials were located at a greater depth than the poorly-preserved, simple shroud burials.

The excavations produced an artefact assemblage directly associated with the burials. This includes copper alloy pins, a majority of which appear to have functioned as shroud pins, iron coffin nails and handles. Small quantities of glass and pottery were recovered from the graveyard soil.

Sponsor: Fraser Gray Contracts Ltd.

Foreshore, East Wemyss (Wemyss parish)

Watching brief D Hall, R Coleman (SUAT)

NT 342 969 Monitoring of contractors' excavations for new coastal defences in the vicinity of Court Cave located recent dumped landfill comprised of coal-mine waste. No archaeological deposits were located.

Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

NORTH EAST FIFE DISTRICT

Isle of May Environmental Interpretation Project H James, P Yeoman (Anstruther Wester parish)

Monastery, burials
NT 6585 9901 Excavations at St Adrian's Priory on the Isle of May continued for a third season (*DES* 1992, 34; *DES* 1993, 29–30). Attention was focused on the Chapter House and the Cemetery. The Chapter House was a rectangular structure with walls c1.10m wide, measuring 14.80m long and 5.20m wide internally. Two drum-shaped column bases of probable late 12th-century date were still *in situ* in the centre of the building. These were surrounded by demolition debris which contained whole roof tiles, window glass, lead comes and other architectural fragments. The floor level of the Chapter House was not reached.

The Chapter House, like the church, had been re-modelled probably in the 16th century when the W range was converted into a secular residence. A range of outhouses/workshops were built partly re-using the monastic walls. A small bowl furnace also dates from this period.

The cemetery N of the church was examined. The top 1m of soil was removed by machine. Twenty-four extended inhumations were investigated, some of these were disturbed and therefore no longer articulated. Several pockets of disarticulated bones and individually buried skulls were also found.

There were two groups of burials. Those in the S, nearest the church, were aligned between 70–90 degrees from magnetic N, on much the same alignment as the 12th-century church. These had probably been buried within wooden coffins. These graves were cut into, and some were also covered over by, large beach cobbles and angular stones forming a cairn, in places over 1m in depth. At the W edge, the burial cairn appeared to be sealed by late medieval paving, which incorporated the upper half of a rotary quern.

The second group of burials were found in long cists, associated with white quartz pebbles. The graves were cut into the raised beach deposit and lined with orthostats. There were three lines of burials suggesting that the cemetery was originally well laid out. The alignment of these burials were between 60–70 degrees from the magnetic N. The burials were covered with a layer of shell sand and periwinkles. Only three burials had cover slabs surviving. The best

preserved long cist contained at least four successive burials. The pockets of disarticulated bones were possibly caused by the re-use of cists but may also have been burials of defleshed bones, perhaps of people who had died elsewhere, and were brought to the island for burial.

NT 658 991 A trench was opened on Kettle Hill overlooking the harbour where there was a low oval-shaped mound. The spoil from numerous rabbit burrows had produced midden and medieval pottery. Bedrock was found at a depth of 0.30m. More medieval pottery, mortar and midden was found within the loose topsoil, but no structures or features were seen. This suggests that any structure which once stood here had been completely destroyed.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling by Dr R Tipping of a peat deposit has produced a C14 date of the 11th/12th century (GU 3886 930±50bp, cal AD 1024–1166δc13–28.1%), probably identifying changes in vegetation and land-use associated with the incoming Benedictine monks. The programme of pollen analysis will continue in 1995.

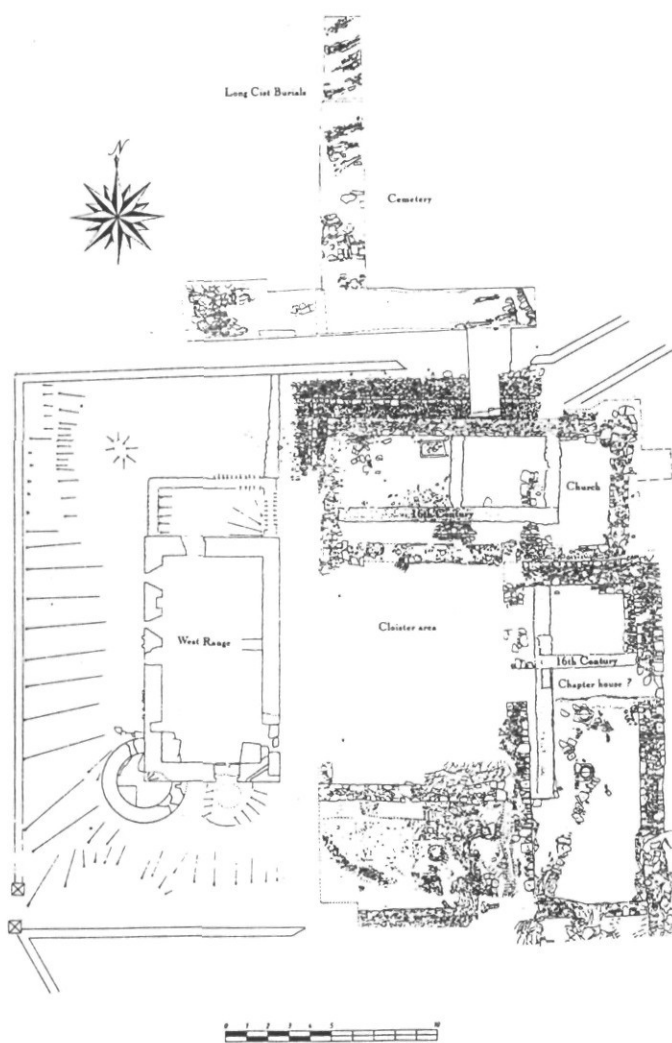


Fig 8. Isle of May excavations (1994).

The project is jointly led by Fife Regional Council and Scottish Natural Heritage. The archaeological team and post-excavation facilities are provided by Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, North East Fife District Council, HS [logo], The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, The Russell Trust, The Hunter Archaeological Trust and Briggs Marine Contractors Ltd.

Back Dykes, Auchtermuchty (Auchtermuchty parish)

Roman marching camp

J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NO 2405 1176 Monitoring of contractors' foundation trenches, excavated to a depth of 0.4m, revealed a dark grey brown, sandy clay loam garden soil. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were present.

Sponsor: HS [logo].

Balcaskie House (Cambee parish)

P Yeoman

Rig and furrow

NO 525 032 Area of rig reported by Anne-Marie Smout, February 1994.

Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

Tarvit Farm, Cupar (Cupar parish)

NMS

Pitchstone core

NO 388 135 Surface find from ploughed field in 1990.

Daybook no: DB 1994/77.

Hill of Tarvit Mansionhouse (Cupar parish)

R Turner

Stone water tank

NO 3790 1190 With the help of NTS Conservation Volunteers, fieldwork was undertaken to determine the nature of a curious bump in the otherwise well-designed walled garden area to the NW of the house. The bump was found to conceal a fine stone water tank which presumably supplied Wemyss Hall, the predecessor of the current house. In view of its historical significance to the property, the tank is to be retained in its present location and condition.

Sponsor: NTS.

Hill of Tarvit Mansionhouse (Cupar parish)

20th-century water garden

NO 3806 1193 Mr Hugh Sharp is known to have developed an ornamental water garden at Hill of Tarvit Mansionhouse during the 1920s and 30s. Fragments of the garden were still to be seen, but an assessment of the survival, condition and potential of the remains was required. Various areas were cleared with the aid of NTS Conservation Volunteers, and a basic record made of the extant features. Two ornamental bridges were located, and the extent of an ornamental pond was in part discerned. The work showed that the site has the potential to be partially reconstructed, but the restoration may have to be put off until funds are available both for the initial work and for the continued maintenance of the feature.

Sponsor: NTS.

Falkland Castle (Falkland parish)

Medieval castle

NO 2538 0756 Falkland Palace developed from a pre-existing castle which may have its roots in the 12th or 13th century. Two towers of the castle had been adversely affected by root action, and steps were needed to halt this process. Vegetation has now been removed from both towers, and one, the keep or well tower, has been further investigated with the aid of NTS Conservation Volunteers. The tower was found to have been dismantled and entirely restored by Lord Bute during his excavations at Falkland in the 1890s; a well head, perhaps of 17th or 18th-century design, was also introduced. Lord Bute reused stonework from adjacent medieval buildings to make up a level surface which will now be consolidated and used in the visitor interpretation of the castle. The second, smaller tower is due to be investigated in 1995.

Sponsor: NTS.

Ballo Burn (Falkland parish)

P Yeoman

Multi-period farming landscape (Fig 9)

NO 212 059 Extensive remains of a multi-period agricultural landscape showed up during an aerial sortie around West Lomond

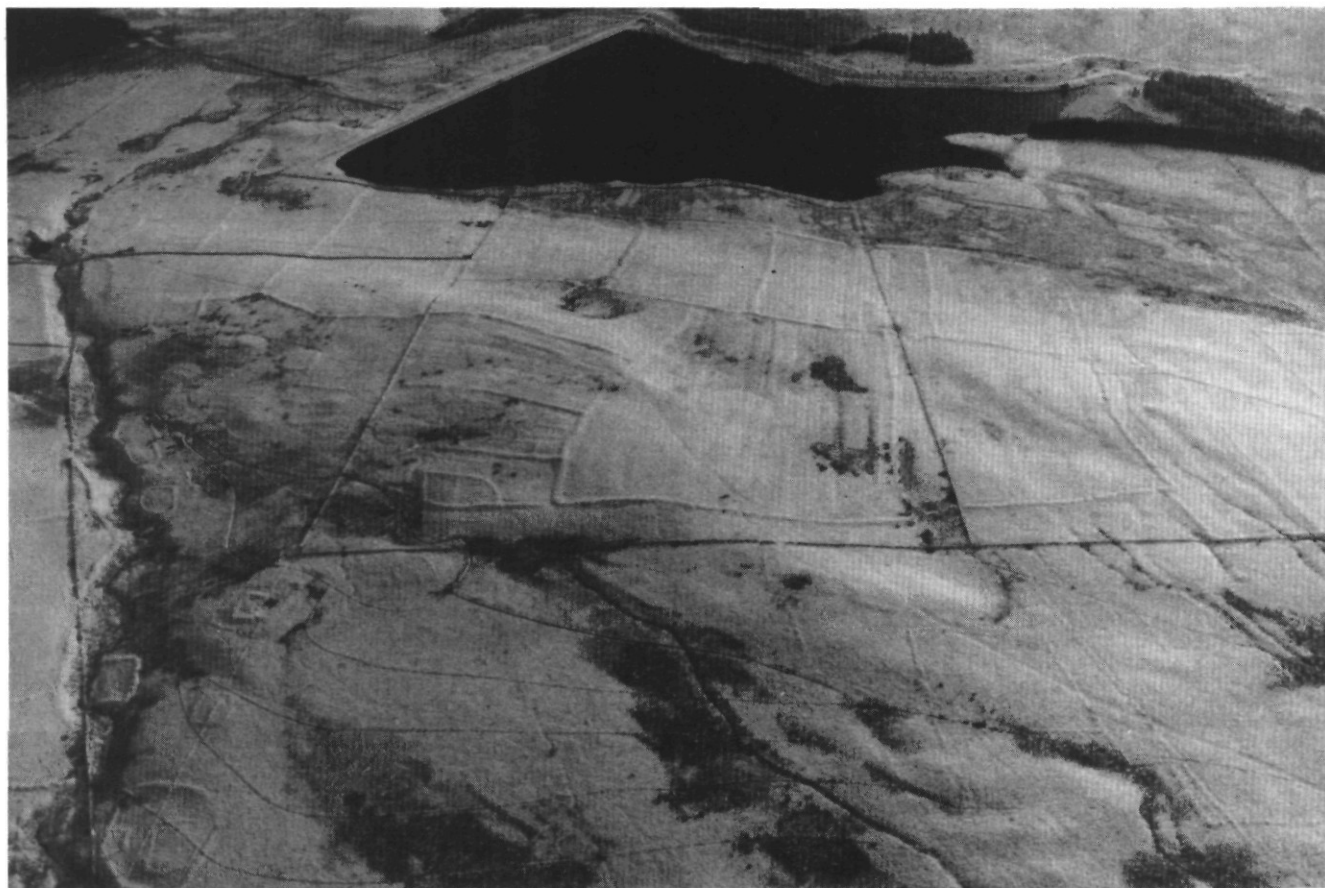


Fig 9. Ballo Burn, W Lomond. Multi-period farming landscape.

Hill in November 1993, under a covering of light snow. This includes various enclosures, rig systems, kailyards and house sites. Some of these were previously recorded by RCAHMS.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council and Scottish Archaeology Air Photography Committee.

St Michael's Golf Course (Leuchars parish)

Cropmarked area J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NO 442 218 SUAT was commissioned to monitor excavations occasioned by the need to erect a fresh property division, which was to cross a multi-period Scheduled Area (the monument known as Southfield).

Fourteen 1m² pits were excavated to the surface of the natural subsoil before strainer posts were erected. A uniform dark grey-brown, slightly silty, sandy loam topsoil, with an average depth of 0.34m, was removed and found to directly overlie fluvio-glacial mid-orange coarse sand and gravels. One single ploughmark, aligned NW to SE was found cut into the natural sand and gravels in one pit. No direct dating evidence was recovered. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered in the remaining pits.

Sponsor: St Michael's Golf Club.

16 Main Street, Leuchars (Leuchars parish)

Urban medieval

NO 455 213 SUAT was commissioned to carry out a trial trenching investigation in advance of a sheltered housing development, situated in close proximity to the parish church of St Athenes.

Four trenches were excavated by machine and hand cleaned. The investigation revealed 0.4m of mid-grey brown, clay sand topsoil overlying 1.1m of mid-brown silty sand garden soil. This deposit in turn overlies the remains of a possible fossilised beach.

The considerable depth of garden soil can be attributed to a market garden known to have existed on the site during the late 19th/early 20th century. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered.

Sponsor: Servite Housing Association.

10-11 Cove Wynd (Pittenweem parish)

R Cachart (SUAT)

Medieval urban

NO 549 025 A watching brief was undertaken on road and path improvements in the centre of the town. On the E side toward the bottom of Cove Wynd is St Fillan's Cave and Well. A watching brief at the above house on the W side of the wynd revealed a passage-way on the N side of the house that ran below an extension to the side of the steps in Cove Wynd. The passage was 1.08m high, 0.80m wide and 6.80m in length. The original purpose of the passage was for drainage around the house and down Cove Wynd.

On the same property a burial stone incorporated in a garden wall was recorded. It was rectangular and measured 0.25m by 0.25m by 0.54m. On it were carved the initials CHC and the date 1856.

Sponsor: Fife Regional Council.

St Andrews Interceptor Sewer Pipeline

E Proudfoot

(St Andrews & St Leonards parish)

Agricultural remains, wall fragment

NO 506 153 to NO 516 155 to NO 519 159 A watching brief was carried out on behalf of Fife Regional Council between March and June 1994 along the line of the St Andrews Interceptor Sewer Pipeline, from Pipeland Cottage to St Nicholas Farm. This was thought necessary because of a number of casual finds from the S of St Andrews, including several stone axes and a bronze hoard.

No archaeological remains were noted along the length of the pipeline, apart from numerous field drains, including one stone-lined

field drain, possibly of 18th-century date, when the fields were enclosed.

Sherds, glass, pipe stems and a small number of other fragments were collected from fieldwalking the pipeline route. Relatively few medieval sherds were identified; this has been attributed at least partially to the site being at some distance from St Andrews.

Report available from St Andrews Heritage Services.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council, St Andrews Heritage Services.

St Nicholas Farm (St Andrews & St Leonards parish)

Agricultural remains, wall fragment

NO 519 159 A watching brief and small excavation were carried out on behalf of Fife Regional Council between March and June 1994 along the line of the St Andrews Interceptor Sewer Pipeline at St Nicholas Farm. Medieval remains were anticipated as SUAT had found such remains in the vicinity in 1993 (DES 1993, 31). Two trenches were excavated by machine.

In Trench 1 several stones, animal bone fragments and a medieval sherd could have been from the vicinity of the precinct E wall. In Trench 2 field drains of various types, probably of 19th-century date were noted. A fragment of wall at the E end of the trench, possibly the S precinct wall, had been broken through and largely destroyed when a man-hole was dug for the pipeline.

Report available from St Andrews Heritage Services.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council, St Andrews Heritage Services.

13–15 South Street, St Andrews

J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

(St Andrews & St Leonards parish)

Urban medieval

NO 512 166 Monitoring of contractors' foundation trenches revealed a quantity of probable 19th-century imported garden soil. Sealed below was an E to W aligned, random coursed, clay bonded stone wall. This wall appears to represent the base of a garden retaining wall or property division, also of modern date.

Sponsor: HS

St Monans Salt pans (St Monance parish)

R Murdoch

NO 533 018 Excavation by Scotia Archaeology Limited within a field lying between the windmill (DES 1990) and the St Monans to Pittenweem coastal path revealed an extensive array of structures associated with the 18th/19th-century saltworks. These included: the forehouse of one of the salterns; two stretches of channel that may have been associated in some way with the transfer of seawater to the pans; part of a stone and brick building (perhaps a store); and a section of the wagonway that connected the saltworks with the coal pits further N.

The forehouse: Within a trench measuring 15m by 15m and below recently deposited rubble and other debris up to 2m deep, were the remains of a roughly rectangular building, 9.1m E–W by more than 5m N–S. Its sandstone walls were 0.60m thick and stood to a maximum height of 1.5m. Projecting from the N wall was a coal chute with a sloping back wall and a deposit of small coal at its base. The floor of the main chamber comprised sandstone flags and bedrock, both of which were covered with ash. There were doorways in the W and E walls, the latter deliberately blocked. This building was not fully exposed and its link with the nearby panhouse was not established.

The channel and associated features: Extending northwards from the outer face of the E wall of the forehouse was a rock-cut, stone-lined channel, 0.90m wide, its base lined along part of its length with heavy, yellow clay. This channel continued as far as the base of the cliff upon which the windmill stands. The precise function of this channel and its relationship with the salterns, the seawater reservoirs and the windmill are far from clear although the latter appeared to be connected with the channel via what may have been two beam pits cut into the cliff. To the W of the channel, at the base

of the cliff, were the partially excavated remains of a masonry structure whose overall dimensions and function remain unresolved.

The foreshore: A rock-cut channel had carried seawater from an outer bucket pot (or perhaps settling pond) to a smaller, inner pot/pond, now barely discernible in the bedrock. From this point another channel extended 14m northwards where its course continued into a tunnel. Within this channel were two jointed wood pipes, 0.17m internal bore, one of which was built into a cross bulkhead. Raggles were cut into the side walls of the channel at three points, probably to accommodate wooden sluice gates.

The store/gimel: Exploratory trenching some 60m E of the excavated forehouse revealed the remains of two walls of what may have been a store, or gimel. The walls, which stood to less than 0.5m in height, appeared to have been of brick construction on foundations of sandstone masonry. Within the interior of the building were two rows of unbonded bricks, forming what may have been a raised platform, which perhaps allowed air to circulate below any materials which may have been stored therein.

The wagonway: A trench, measuring approximately 5m N–S by 2m wide, was cut across the presumed wagonway that climbed up the raised beach at the E end of the site. Below topsoil were two somewhat indistinct linear features, 0.20m wide and 1.0m apart, perhaps the impressions made by tram lines.

Sponsors: Fife Regional Council, North East Fife District Council.

Devil's Burdens, West Lomond Hill (Strathmiglo parish)

Battle-axe

D Greenhorn, A Saville, P Yeoman

NO 193 062 Small (length 96.5mm) Bronze Age battle-axe of vesicular volcanic lava found on surface in 1994 after heavy rain.

NMS Daybook no: DB 1994/56/1.

GRAMPIAN REGION

Aberdeenshire

NMS

MBA bronze flanged axehead

An MBA flanged axehead, purchased at a farm sale in Aberdeenshire some ten years ago, has been reported to NMS and claimed as Treasure Trove. Its provenance is most likely Aberdeenshire. No further details are recorded.

Daybook no: DB 1994/20.

CITY OF ABERDEEN DISTRICT

The Green (Aberdeen parish)

A Cameron, D I Harding

Carmelite friary

NJ 941 060 Further excavation of the Carmelite friary, founded c 1273 took place this year (see Soc Antiq Scot Monograph no 6 for previous work in the area). The NW corner of the church was excavated, including two chamfered sandstone buttress bases and a doorway in the N wall with some surviving mouldings. The church may date to the 14th century. Inside the church nearly 60 skeletons, mainly in grave cuts, were cut through various floor levels. Outside the church to the N, cobbled surfaces were cut through by several burials and by a lead pipe which ran through the church walls and along the length of the domestic building. Pre-friary plough marks in this area were the first identified on an urban site in Aberdeen. A line of large post holes running parallel to the N wall of the church, belong to an earlier wooden building, possibly an earlier church.

S of the church, a long stone building 24m long and 7m wide may

GRAMPIAN

have been the remains of the W range of the cloister. It was divided into four rooms, one of which was probably a kitchen with a fireplace and drain. The building was dated to the 15th century by a coin found in a wall foundation. Two slightly later coins were found in the demolition rubble, which contained hundreds of painted and stained window glass fragments and lead window comes, as well as a tap or spigot, and fragments of two others. Adjacent to and earlier than this building were three burials and an oven or kiln.

Sponsor: Stewart Milne Group.

Castle Street (Aberdeen parish)

Medieval walls/steps

NJ 945 063 The development of the S side of Castle Street/ Castle Terrace has enabled an assessment to be carried out on the steep slopes extending southwards down to Virginia Street.

Excavation in the E part of the site below Castle Terrace revealed evidence of considerable 18th to 19th-century terracing and build-up of garden soil layers, but no medieval structures or medieval deposits *in situ*.

Excavation in the W part of the site behind Castle Street revealed virtually complete destruction of medieval levels on the frontage, where the natural subsoil was at present ground level, suggesting that the area had been scarped prior to the buildings being constructed.

Lower down the slope, however, medieval levels did survive below recent buildings. Extensive excavation into the natural sands seems to have taken place, associated with the building of a substantial clay-bonded retaining wall. This was followed in the 13th–14th centuries by backfilling, mainly with sands and gravels but also with some rubbish, including two broken but virtually complete decorated vessels.

In the 14th–15th centuries a cobbled stepped lane was constructed, associated with two clay-bonded walls, all running N–S down the hillside. In an area between these walls a large quantity of burned daub was recovered, and also burned wood and twigs associated with a large shallow rectangular depression, perhaps the remains of a building which had burned down.

The lowermost part of the hillside along Virginia Street was known to have been completely excavated for warehouse developments in the 19th century and current developments have shown that no medieval deposits remain.

Sponsors: Barratt (Scotland) Ltd, Aberdeen City Centre Project.

52 Green (Aberdeen parish)

Service trench

NJ 940 061 During redevelopment, a small trench was excavated under the floor of this property on the N side of the Green. No archaeological deposits were found.

Sponsor: City of Aberdeen.

65 Spital (Aberdeen parish)

Garden soil/subsoil levels

NJ 940 075 During the construction of an extension to the rear of the above property, 18th to 19th-century finds were recovered from a garden soil layer. The natural subsoil was revealed suggesting that the top of the area called 'The Spittal Hill' on the map drawn by Parson James Gordon of Rothiemay in 1661, had been scarped for the building of the property.

Sponsor: City of Aberdeen.

King's Crescent (Aberdeen parish)

J A Stones

Leper hospital

NJ 940 072 Observation during construction work provided no evidence of the medieval leper hospital, thought to be located nearby.

Sponsor: City of Aberdeen.

59 High Street (Aberdeen parish)

Natural levels

NJ 939 083 Observation during shop re-furbishment indicated the presence of natural sand levels c0.3m below modern ground surface.

Sponsor: City of Aberdeen.

Mill of Dyce Quarry (Dyce parish)

CFA

Watching brief

NJ 870 151 The first of four planned watching briefs was carried out at Mill of Dyce Quarry in February to March 1994, in advance of sand and gravel extraction. The extraction site, an extension of an existing quarry, covers a total area of c6 hectares. It comprises the remaining portion of a sand and gravel ridge which originally ran NE–SW adjacent to the S bank of the River Don. A monument to Duncan Liddell, a celebrated 17th-century doctor and mathematician at NJ 8692 1519, is located on the summit of the ridge, within the quarry zone, and will not be disturbed by extraction. The first phase of monitoring concentrated on the SE quadrant of the assessment area.

The density of features was low; only five features were encountered on the low-lying terrace S of the ridge. A pair of inter-cutting pits, each with a diameter of c0.4m, was identified c120m to the SE of Liddell's monument (NJ 8700 1511). These contained a small sherd of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age impressed pottery, a chert reducing flake, and several fragments of hazelnut shell and charcoal within a humic primary fill. A second pair of adjoining oval pits, measuring c0.55m and c0.35m across, was discovered close to the S boundary of the site, c130m SE of Liddell's monument (NJ 8697 1508). These were also isolated and contained no datable artefacts.

A large, circular, hearth-type feature was identified c100m SE of Liddell's monument (NJ 8696 1510). It consisted of a wide, shallow cut, c1.2m in diameter, lined with medium-sized stones and filled with a charcoal-rich deposit. The contained stones were fire-cracked. A secondary, bowl-shaped arrangement of stones, c0.45m in diameter, had been placed within the surface of this fill, and had itself been filled by a light-brown sand. No artefacts or diagnostic residues were recovered from this feature and its function remains unknown.

Extraction from the remaining three quadrants is scheduled to occur over a two-year period.

Full report deposited with NMRS.

Sponsor: John Fyfe Limited.

BANFF & BUCHAN DISTRICT

Hillhead of Glasslaw (Aberdour parish)

N Curtis

Flints

NJ 874 597 Collection of 229 flints found before 1930 by farmer. Includes 34 leaf-shaped arrowheads (1 unfinished), 19 barbed & tanged arrowheads (3 unfinished), 27 button scrapers and other flake tools. Donated to Marischal Museum by Miss M Scott.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Kiln Den (Aberdour parish)

M Greig

NJ 831 607 Longhouses and enclosure.

Long Glen (Aberdour parish)

NJ 841 611 Hut circle.

Sponsors: GRC, RCAHMS.

Leitchestown (Deskford parish)

F Hunter

Find-spot of LIA carnyx; LBA/IA settlement; MBA burials

NJ 520 634 As part of the ongoing research into the LIA war trumpet (carnyx) from Deskford, a two-week excavation was undertaken around the find-spot. This had been recorded with surprising accuracy. The purposes of the excavation were threefold:

1. To investigate the circumstances of deposition – specifically to assess whether the carnyx was a votive deposit, and look for any evidence of other ritual activities.
2. To establish whether the organic deposits mentioned in the original accounts still survived.
3. To look for contemporary settlement in the vicinity – study of Iron Age votive deposits in the NE indicates that they are often closely linked to settlement sites.

The carnyx was deposited in a hollow (NJ 5212 6347) where the E side of the Deskford valley meets a prominent fluvio-glacial ridge (Fig 10). The excavation strategy involved the cutting of a trench (A) across the base of the hollow; and investigation of the neighbouring ridge through a series of trial trenches (B–M), some of which were expanded into larger trenches (H, M). Three additional larger trenches (N, O, P) were also excavated on the ridge. The area was fieldwalked before excavation, revealing a scatter of lithics concentrated on the E flank of the ridge.

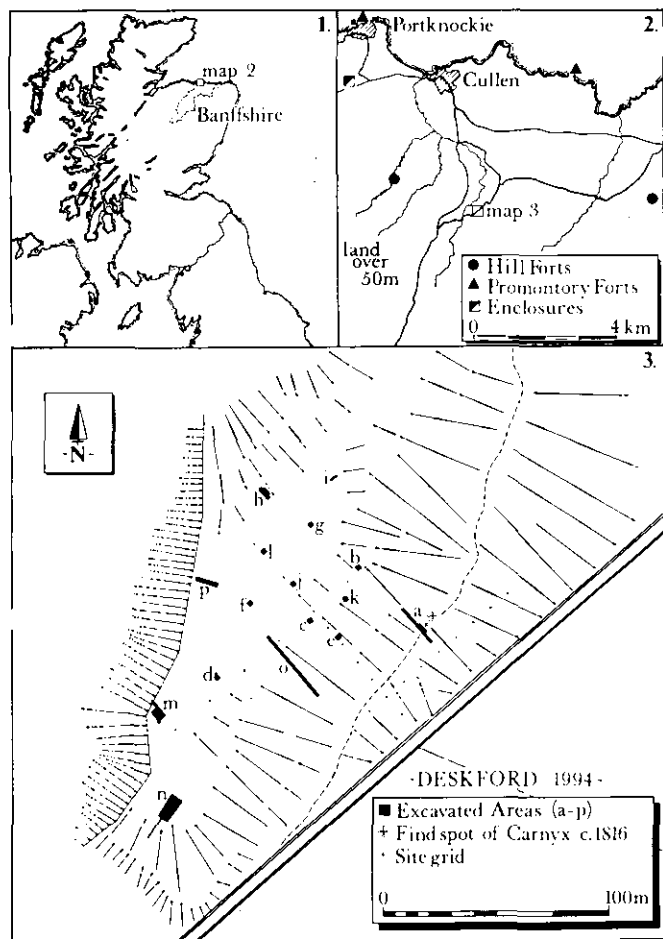


Fig 10. Deskford location map.

The find-spot: A trench 20m long by 0.5m–1m wide was excavated across the base of the hollow. This revealed a well-preserved peat deposit underlying up to 0.8m of ploughsoil. The peat deposit, some 8m wide and up to 0.6m deep, filled the base of the hollow, and had been cut by two drains running near its edges. The early drains were stone-built channels backfilled with rubble: it was probably while digging these that the carnyx was discovered.

They were later replaced by modern ceramic drains. Organic preservation was good, with twigs, roots, bark and hazelnuts surviving. Artefacts were also recovered – fragments of a birch bark container, and a substantial portion of a large pot with a thick, inturned rim, provisionally dated as LBA/IA. The relative narrowness of the peat band suggests it formed over a restricted timescale, and its inception may be linked to human impact on the landscape. Initial palaeoenvironmental observations by Dr Richard Tipping suggest that the hollow never supported a running stream, and conditions would have been more marsh-like.

At the W end of the trench a number of cross-ploughed ard-marks were recorded.

No clear evidence of the nature of the deposition was recovered, but the vessel remains could be interpreted as votive offerings of foodstuffs.

The ridge: A series of trial trenches were placed across the ridge, where ploughing has truncated the remains extensively, and trenches G and I–L produced nothing of archaeological interest. However trench D revealed two possible truncated features and two possible stakeholes, while seven stakeholes, interpreted as a fence-line, were located in trench F. Fieldwalking towards the N end revealed a sherd of possible cinerary urn, and trench B in this area produced a few small fragments of burnt bone, suggesting the presence of a disturbed MBA burial in the area. Two possible ard-marks were noted in trench C.

Area N: This area of 12m by 6m at the S end of the ridge revealed a complex sequence of intercutting negative features, including a large ditch surviving 1.8m wide and 1.1m deep, curving southwards. The section showed evidence of deliberate infilling in the base to provide support for a vertical edge, interpreted as a planked revetment against the N face of the ditch. It is most plausible that the large ditch with a revetted face is a defensive/boundary ditch, curving towards a terminus at a gateway: topographically this is the easiest part of the ridge to approach.

Area M: On the W side, scarping of the natural in area M may represent the remains of a bank. In the lee of this 'bank' archaeological deposits were well preserved. These layers contained considerable quantities of fire-cracked stone and pottery and charcoal. The pottery comes from large, thick-walled vessels, with a range of flattened and expanded rims; these have general LBA/IA parallels. A ?meso scraper was also found. These deposits are likely to be the remains of cooking activities. They were cut by a curvilinear square-sectioned slot. The charcoal covered a small pit, and another small pit was also located in the S of the trench.

The charcoal may once have covered a larger area, and been destroyed by ploughing: a thinner charcoal spread in the SE corner may have been part of the deposit. This overlay a partly-disturbed cremation in a shallow scoop. The cremation was that of an adult female, and was accompanied by a perforated bone mount, parallels for which are MBA.

Area P: Further N along the W edge, area P revealed a steep-sided slot, perhaps a wall-trench or palisade, running roughly parallel to the edge, which came to a rounded end at the N edge of the trench.

Area H: A small trench at the N end (trench H) revealed part of a substantial ditch with a complex infill sequence. Time did not permit fuller investigation of this.

Areas E and O: Trenches on the E side of the ridge revealed a surprising complexity of deposits. Area E, a small 2m by 2m trench, had been heavily disturbed by burrows, but produced a sequence starting with a basal ploughsoil capped by an old land surface. This was cut by a ?linear feature heading downslope, which in turn had a pit cut in its base. A layer of hillwash from 0.1m to 0.3m thick was deposited before the formation of another ploughsoil, truncated by modern ploughing.

Finds were sparse, but both ploughsoils included lithic production

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debris, while the lower one also produced a Neo/BA scraper, and the upper one included a potsherd of probable later BA/IA date.

Following these results, a longer trench (O) was excavated down the E side of the hill to assess the further extent of these ploughsoils and look for any boundary ditches. The upper ploughsoil was located in the lower part of the trench, with the hillwash layer showing in places under it. These deposits were not excavated. At the uphill end of these deposits were the highly truncated remains of a ditch, perhaps a boundary ditch between the settlement and the fields. No features were recorded upslope of this ditch, where truncation was more severe.

The results from excavations on the ridge clearly indicate that the hill was certainly used for burial in the MBA and was in occupation in the LBA/IA. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the ditches, it is most plausible to interpret them as part of a LBA/IA enclosed site. The formation of the upper ploughsoil on the E side may be linked to this, with cultivation of the strip of land between the settlement and the marsh. The earlier ploughsoil may be earlier prehistoric: no structural remains can yet be attributed to this date.

In terms of understanding the camyx, this suggests that this valued instrument may indeed have been deposited beside a contemporary settlement site, as with other LIA metalwork in the area.

Grateful thanks are due to Seafeld Estates for granting permission to excavate, and to Len Hall. Illustrations by Alan Braby.
Sponsor: NMS Dept of Archaeology.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Highfield (Fordyce parish) M Greig

NJ 567 642 Two adjoining circular cropmarks.
Sponsors: GRC, RCM.

Fyvie Castle Estate (Fyvie parish) R Turner
Late 18th-century home farm

NJ 766 392 Old Home Farm is thought to have been built around 1777, and is an extensive group of sheds, stores and working areas surrounding two courtyards. These listed buildings had been allowed to fall into serious disrepair, but the NTS as their new owners now plan to restore their part of the complex. NTS Conservation Volunteers assisted in a two-day exercise to evaluate the survival and composition of the internal and courtyard floors of the complex. These were found to vary from beaten earth to concrete, and from gravel to fine cobbling. Following these positive results, the remaining areas are due to be cleared by a team of professional archaeologists as the first step in the restoration process.
Sponsor: NTS.

Fyvie Castle (Fyvie parish)
Late 18th-century earth closet

NJ 762 393 As a preliminary to restoration work, the interior of the earth closet in the grounds of Fyvie Castle was cleared, and the former means of access was investigated. The interior of the structure, thought to have been built around 1777, was found to have been cleared out within the past 10 or 20 years, but constructional details were nevertheless recorded. Access was found to have been via a fairly slight gravel path. The route of the path is to be further established, with the intention of restoring this for public access to the building.
Sponsor: NTS.

Skelmuir Hill (Old Deer parish) A Saville
Flint extraction site

NJ 986 414 Archaeological and geological research excavations were undertaken for three weeks in July 1994 in a field currently under pasture. The two areas investigated by G S Graham-Smith in 1918 were re-excavated in order to reassess the previous work and

its findings. This was accompanied by more extensive trial-trenching and subsequent excavation of selected features.

It is now apparent that pits were dug across the whole hilltop to extract flint pebbles from the Buchan Ridge Gravel, which immediately underlies the topsoil. Sampled pits varied from 2m to 3m in depth. Primary knapping debris and the characteristic quartzite cobble anvils were abundant, but no finished implements were located.

Geological work allowed the flint-bearing deposits to be characterized and provided new information on the origin of the Gravel. It is now almost certain that the Buchan Ridge Gravel is of marine beach origin.

Sponsor: NMS.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Castle Hill, Maud (Old Deer parish) M Greig

NJ 944 465 Rig and turren.

Sponsors: GRC, RCM.

Fish House, Peterhead (Peterhead parish) J Wordsworth
Medieval agriculture

NK 1221 4730 Assessment work adjacent to existing 16th-century Fish House revealed a series of post holes probably to hold posts for net drying. Dating of these was uncertain. To the S of this was a group of broad shallow gullies with medieval pottery in association. They were interpreted as the remains of medieval broad rig cultivation.

Sponsor: Grampian Regional Council.

32 Broad Street (Peterhead parish) R Cachart (SUAT)
Medieval urban

NK 1349 4607 A watching brief was carried out on the rear and W side of the property during development.

Three phases of garden soil with a combined thickness of 0.95m were recorded. Part of a former courtyard surface of river cobbles was recorded at the S end of the site below a demolished outbuilding. No dating evidence was retrieved from either the garden soil or the cobbled surface.

Sponsor: Bank of Scotland.

Ravensraig Castle, Inverugie (Peterhead parish) NMS
Flint scatter

NK 096 487 Multi-period surface scatter, including two barbed-and-tanged arrowheads, collected 1990–94 by Mr A Dunlop.
Daybook no: DB 1994/76.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Middletack (Rathen parish) M Greig

NJ 997 604 Large double enclosure.

Middletack (Rathen parish)

NJ 995 602 Circular enclosure.

Middletack (Rathen parish)

NJ 994 603 Overlapping circular cropmarks.

Inverugie (St Fergus parish)

NK 100 486 Sub-oval cropmark with internal feature.

Sponsors: GRC, RCM.

GORDON DISTRICT

Kirkton of Bourtie (Bourtie parish) W J Howard
Flint scraper

NJ 7972 2484 Isolated find during fieldwalking. Confirmed by Marischal Museum, Aberdeen as flint scraper (see Fig 11).



Fig 11. Kirkton of Bourtie (NJ 7972 2484). Flint scraper. (see p 24)

Kirkton of Bourtie (Bourtie parish)

Flint scatter

NJ 802 248 Localised scatter of struck flints found during field-walking. Several cores and about five dozen flakes of assorted sizes.

Kirkton of Bourtie (Bourtie parish)

Flint scatter

NJ 803 246 Small, localised flint scatter found during field-walking. One core and about one dozen flakes, one possibly showing secondary working.

Tipperty (Logie-Buchan parish)

R J Cruse

Two EBA arrowheads

NJ 9727 Two barbed-and-tanged arrowheads were found between 1925–1935 during ploughing at one of the above farms by George Silver. By Green's typology, one is Ballyclare, subdivision 9, and the other is Conygar Hill, type e. With finder's family, (details with Grampian Regional Council Archaeological Site Index).

Blackhouse Farm (Methlick parish)

NMS

Jadeite axehead

NJ 8663 4442 Surface find (see Fig 12) some years ago by Mr G Cruickshank. Now in the Marischal Museum, Aberdeen, following a Treasure Trove enquiry. Crown Office TT no: 492.

Daybook no: DB 1994/13/1.

Blackhouse Farm (Methlick parish)

Lithic scatter

NJ 867 450 Stone axehead fragment and 15 flint artefacts, including three leaf-shaped and three barbed-and-tanged arrowheads, collected as surface finds over a number of years by Mr G Cruickshank. Now in the Marischal Museum, Aberdeen, following a Treasure Trove enquiry. Crown Office TT no: 492.

Daybook no: DB 1994/13/2–17.

Berry Hill (Oyne parish)

I Cullen

NJ 669 256 It is proposed that a Gordon Archaeology Centre be built at Berry Hill, Oyne. A scheduled enclosure, containing two possible longhouses, together with a single hut circle situated outside the enclosure wall are located in the field adjoining the proposed site. A survey of the enclosure and its associated field monuments, and trial excavation of the field proposed as the immediate location of the centre were carried out in March 1994 by GUARD. Plans of the enclosure were produced at scales of 1:500 and 1:2500. The trial trenching produced no artefactual material and insubstantial archaeological remains.

Sponsor: Gordon District Council.

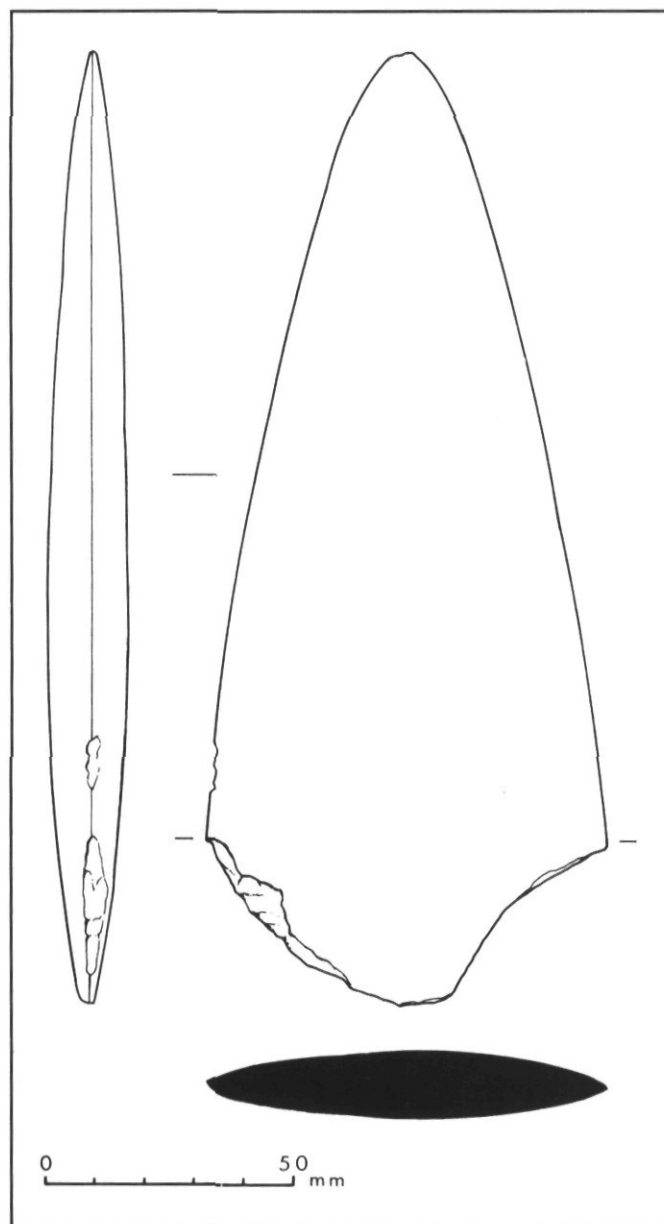


Fig 12. Jadeite axehead from Blackhouse Farm, Gordon.

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Garlogie Wood (Skene parish)
Forestry survey

J O'Sullivan

NJ 790 060 Archaeological survey of Garlogie Wood was conducted by AOC (Scotland) Ltd in advance of proposed thinning of the forestry plantation by the owners, Dunecht Estate. The survey recorded thirty-six sites which include hut circles, rectangular structures, enclosures and other dykes, cultivation ridges and cairns. These principally appear to represent activity in two periods: late prehistoric (hut circles, enclosures and possibly cairns) and modern or early modern (cultivation ridges and possibly cairns). In view of the large number of cairns and their extensive distribution, it is possible that they represent more than one period and may include funerary as well as clearance cairns. Two rectangular structures were also recorded but cannot be ascribed a date or function on present evidence. The land has been under forestry plantation more or less continuously since the middle of the last century.

List of Sites Recorded

1 NJ 7918 0553	Hut circle.
2 NJ 7912 0554	Rectangular structure.
3 NJ 7912 0557	Cairn.
4 NJ 7912 0556 to NJ 7916 0562	Terrace.
5 NJ 7917 0563	Hut circle.
6 NJ 7922 0564	Cairn.
7 NJ 7925 0565	Rectangular structure.
8 NJ 7904 0568 to NJ 7919 0576	Enclosure.
9 NJ 7919 0572 to NJ 7922 0573	Dyke.
10 NJ 7913 0574	Possible structure/cairn.
11 NJ 7915 0576	Possible structure/cairn.
12 NJ 7917 0574	Possible structure/cairn.
13 NJ 7911 0576	Structure/dyke.
14 NJ 7908 0560	Hut circle.
15 NJ 7904 0563	Hut circle.
16 NJ 7903 0562	Hut circle.
17 NJ 7896 0562 to NJ 7902 0564	Dyke.
18 NJ 7907 0564	Dyke/cairn.
19 NJ 7906 0574	Dyke.
20 NJ 7906 0572 to NJ 7907 0570	Dyke.
21 NJ 7899 0569 to NJ 7905 0575	Enclosure.
22 NJ 7898 0577 to NJ 7901 0578	Dyke.
23 NJ 7904 0578 to NJ 7904 0577	Dyke.
24 NJ 7904 0579	Hut circle.
25 NJ 7902 0579	Hut circle.
26 NJ 7901 0579	Hut circle.
27 NJ 7908 0577	Possible hut circle.
28 NJ 7903 0586	Hut circle.
29 NJ 7912 0580	Hut circle.
30 NJ 7911 0578	Hut circle.
31 NJ 7915 0591 to NJ 7915 0579	Enclosure.
32 NJ 7921 0581 to NJ 7920 0586	Enclosure.
33 NJ 7920 0586 to NJ 7923 0586	Dyke.
34 NJ 7906 0603 to NJ 7910 0603	Dyke.
35	Cairns.
36	Cultivation ridges.

Sponsor: HS 

Sands of Forvie (Slains parish)
Prehistoric land surface/worked flints

E & N Curtis

NK 010 251 An area of 120m by 60m of an exposed land surface in the dunes near the mouth of the River Ythan was studied. Scatters of flint knapping debris were recorded and collected (including an anvil stone), while a date was implied by the discovery of a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead.

Sponsor: Marischal Museum Young Archaeologists.

The following sites have been identified as the result of an aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

- Delachuper** (Strathdon parish) M Greig
NJ 272 075 Remains of farmstead and longhouses.
- Tom Ban** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 270 080 Remains of longhouses.
- Tom Ban** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 269 080 Remains of longhouses.
- Tom Ban** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 269 081 Remains of farmstead/houses.
- Burnside** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 281 090 Rig and furrow with possible circular enclosure.
- Burnside** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 283 088 Longhouses/rigs.
- Burnside** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 283 089 Lime kiln.
- Fleuchats** (Strathdon parish)
NJ 336 088 Sub-circular ditched enclosure.
- Cairnbeg Hill** (Towie parish)
NJ 402 131 Longhouses.
- Corbanchory** (Leochel-Cushnie parish)
NJ 486 151 Sinuous bank across slope of hill.
- Corbanchory** (Leochel-Cushnie parish)
NJ 485 150 Semi-circular bank of double ditched enclosure.
- Mill of Brux** (Towie parish)
NJ 480 146 Possible ring ditch (CM).
- Cairnbeg Hill** (Towie parish)
NJ 401 130 Remains of sub-rectangular enclosure.
- Govals** (Auchindoir & Kearn parish)
NJ 470 234 Sub-rectangular enclosure with traces of rig and furrow.
- Rhynie** (Rhynie parish)
NJ 499 268 Two square enclosures (CM) with possible internal features.
- Cairnballoch** (Alford parish)
NJ 565 140 Rig and furrow.
- North Nib** (Alford parish)
NJ 559 134 Rig and furrow.
- Berrybrae** (Kennethmont parish)
NJ 567 295 Rig and furrow.
- Bridge of Keig** (Keig parish)
NJ 620 186 Rig and furrow (CM).
- Dunnideer** (Insch parish)
NJ 614 282 Rig and furrow.
- Upperton** (Oyne parish)
NJ 661 254 Circular banked enclosure.
- Priestwells** (Insch parish)
NJ 610 263 Ring ditch (CM).
- Dunnydeer House** (Insch parish)
NJ 619 277 Ring ditch (CM).
- Conglas** (Inverurie parish)
NJ 762 232 Rig and furrow.
- Mill of Fintray** (Fintray parish)
NJ 834 165 Thin trace of rectilinear enclosure (CM).
- Blackdog** (Belhelvie parish)
NJ 962 152 Rig and furrow.
Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.
- The following sites were found during tree-felling operations and reported to Grampian Regional Council by Richard Cunningham. Full information is held in GRC SMR.
- Woods of Cairnie** (Skene parish) R Cunningham, M Greig
NJ 803 047 Large cairn.

Woods of Cairnie (Skene parish)
NJ 804 045 Hut circle.

Woods of Cairnie (Skene parish)
NJ 804 048 Large cairn.

The following sites were found during tree-felling operations and have been reported to GRC by Brian Stagner of the Forestry Authority. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Tonley Wood (Tough parish) B Stagner, M Greig
NJ 630 131 Possible crannog.

Mains of Afforsk (Oyne parish)
NJ 695 208 Large granite boulder with cross-incised on it.

Woodend (Chapel of Garioch parish)
NJ 699 210 Hut circle and remains of field system.

Woodend (Chapel of Garioch parish)
NJ 699 211 Hut circle.

KINCARDINE & DEESIDE DISTRICT

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Mains of Aboyne (Aboyne & Glentanar parish) M Greig
NO 523 991 Ring ditches and souterrains.

The following cropmark sites have been identified as the result of aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Crathes (Banchory-Ternan parish)
NO 741 970 Semi-circular cropmark.

Crathes (Banchory-Ternan parish)
NO 741 969 Indeterminate cropmarks/possible post pits.
Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

Crathes Castle (Banchory-Ternan parish) R Turner
Castle

NO 7341 9680 The removal of a false floor in a recess on the first floor of Crathes Castle revealed a blocked staircase leading down to the kitchen area. Debris had built up at the bottom of the stairs, against the masonry blocking. This material was excavated by hand and was all coarse sieved, leading to the recovery of a small but varied assemblage of material provisionally dated to the beginning of the 19th century. The material is of special value as it relates very specifically to the use of the castle which is now open to the public.
Sponsor: NTS.

The following cropmark sites have been identified as the result of aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Sillyflat (Bervie parish) M Greig
NO 829 718 Circular enclosure and other cropmarks adjoining.

Nether Birnie (Benholm parish)
NO 803 683 Ring ditch and other indeterminate cropmarks.
Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

Damside (Benholm parish) I Cruickshank
NO 785 702 Flint debitage found while rotovating garden.
Reported to Grampian SMR.

Craig Dhu (Coull parish) K Cooper
NJ 487 015 Possible clearance cairns, on northern spur of hill.
Reported to Grampian SMR.

The following cropmark sites have been identified as the result of an aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Roslynfield (Dunnottar parish) M Greig
NO 875 806 Possible souterrain.

Uras (Dunnottar parish)
NO 867 820 Thin linear and rectangular cropmarks.

Easterside (Dunnottar parish)
NO 870 829 Circular enclosure and other cropmarks.

Easterside (Dunnottar parish)
NO 870 829 Faint trace of a ring-ditch.

Uras (Dunnottar parish)
NO 874 815 Two possible ring ditches.

Uras (Dunnottar parish)
NO 875 811 Indeterminate cropmarks.

Wine Cove (Dunnottar parish)
NO 880 818 Indeterminate cropmarks.

Nether Balfour (Durriss parish)
NO 781 968 Circular enclosure with possible trace of second to N.

The Ord (Durriss parish)
NO 744 913 Rig and furrow.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Gallow Hill (Durriss parish)
NO 804 977 Faint cropmark of rectilinear enclosure partly overlying a second enclosure.

Park Quarry (Durriss parish) Mr Kirk
NO 801 980 A beaker fell out of quarry face while removing sand and gravel. No evidence of cist but possible ring ditch showing in section near top of quarry face. Beaker a step 3 N/NR, slightly abraded with cord and comb decoration.
Reported to Grampian SMR.

Matthew's Top (Fettercairn parish) J O'Sullivan
Forestry survey

NO c620 765 Archaeological survey at Matthew's Top was commissioned by Historic Scotland and was conducted by AOC (Scotland) Ltd in advance of proposed forestry development by Fasque Estates.

The survey area is c6.5km² in extent, located in upland terrain in the eastern foothills of the Grampians. The survey area itself comprises several low, rounded hills or spurs, c320m to 420m OD, with steep sides descending to the deeply gullied stream courses which traverse the area from NW to SE. The survey area is currently maintained by Fasque Estates as a shooting moor and supports controlled populations of grouse and deer.


Early Modern and Modern settlement occurs on the lower slopes outwith the survey area and probably perpetuates a long-standing pattern in which the survey area itself was a marginal area, seldom or thinly populated.

In general, the number of recorded archaeological features is low in proportion to the size of the area surveyed. This may be explained, in part, with reference to high altitude, poor soils and rugged terrain, but may also reflect the unfavourable conditions which prevailed at the time of survey, notably, strongly established heather and bracken.

Recorded Sites

- 1 NO 6313 7763 Deer dyke (NO 67 NW 1).
- 2 NO 6320 7785 Abandoned farmstead (NO 67 NW 12).
- 3 NO 627 770 Enclosure.
- 4 NO 620 760 Earthwork.
- 5 NO 617 762 Hut circles & cultivation remnant (NO 67 NW 2).

GRAMPIAN

- 6 NO 6033 7695 Enclosure (cultivation plot?).
 7 NO 6035 7665 Burnt mound (possible).
 8 NO 6033 7585 Abandoned farmstead (NO 67 NW 7),
 ?Pitcarmick type house.
 9 NO 6068 7625 Cairns.
 Sponsor: HS 

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Bogmuir (Fettercairn parish) M Greig
 NO 655 708 Circle of post pits.

Spurryhillock (Fetteresso parish) CFA
 Mesolithic pit and Neolithic pit with pottery

NO 852 861 Trial trenching, excavation and a watching brief were undertaken in advance of the proposed realignment of an unclassified road at Spurryhillock Junction, joining the A92 Aberdeen to Stonehaven Trunk Road. The proposed road line ran close to a suite of scheduled cropmarks at Farrochie (NMRS Ref: NO 88 NE 39) and the former site of a cropmark enclosure (NMRS Ref: NO 88 NE 58), identified by Grampian Regional Council's archaeologist, on Beattie's Hill.

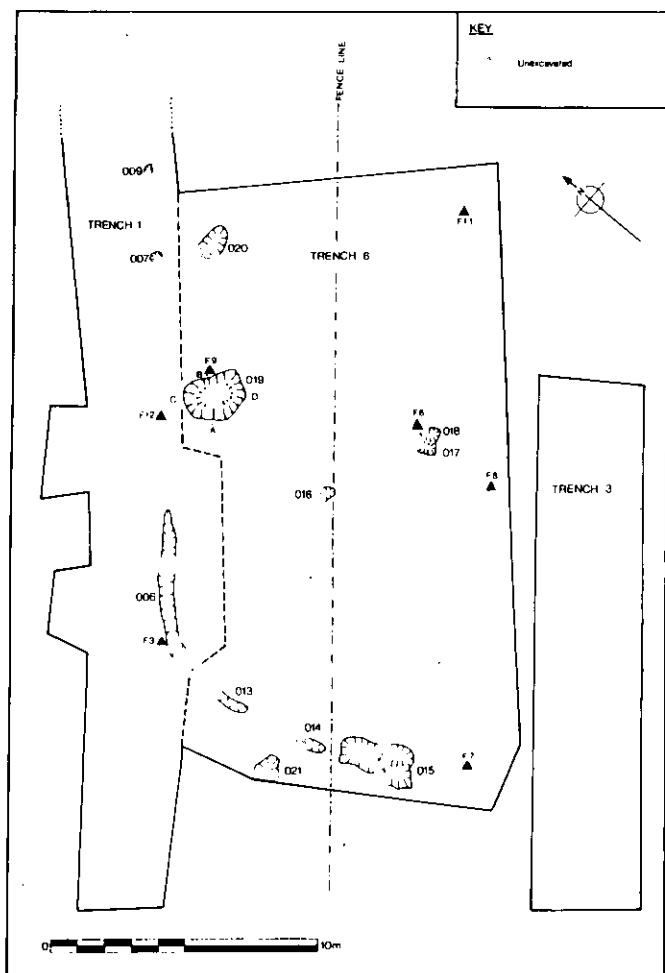


Fig 13. Spurryhillock.

In total six trenches were excavated along the line of the proposed road. Numbers in brackets refer to those given on Fig 13. To the SE of the cropmark site of Farrochie, in Trenches 1 and 6, the remains of a shallow curvilinear ditch (006, 013, 014) and eight pits were recovered. The relationships between these features is unknown. One pit (007) included Neolithic Unstan Ware pottery, whilst another larger pit (019) contained a series of charcoal deposits and

a flake of flint. Other finds, from the interface between the topsoil and subsoil, included flint blades, suggesting a possible Mesolithic presence on the site. Two radiocarbon dates confirmed that the lower fill of the large pit (019) was of late Mesolithic date. On Beattie's Hill five further pits of differing character were recorded; however, the lack of artefacts prevented any attribution of date to them.

A programme of environmental analyses of the pit fills is currently under way. Assistance provided by the Regional Archaeologist for Grampian Region was gratefully received. Detailed report deposited with NMRS.

Sponsor: Grampian Regional Council Roads Department.

Auchenblae (Fordoun parish) D Wiseman
 NO 727 787 A circular well found when area of garden cleared; set into a square stone surround.

Reported to Grampian SMR.

The following sites have been identified as a result of an aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

East Cairnbeg (Fordoun parish) M Greig
 NO 700 775 Rectilinear enclosure.

Paldyfair Wood (Fordoun parish)

NO 733 811 Linear banks.

Cowden (Glenbervie parish)
 NO 747 824 Semi-circular bank.

White Hill (Glenbervie parish)
 NO 749 826 Remains of longhouses.

Droop Hill (Glenbervie parish)

NO 760 814 Rig and furrow.

Droop Hill (Glenbervie parish)

NO 754 812 Rig and furrow.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

The Crannach Hill (Glenmuick, Tullich & Glengairn parish) I Shepherd

A number of features have been found while walking over an area of hill belonging to the Crannoch Management Group. Full information is held in GRC SMR. They are as follows:

NJ 381 015 A square stone-walled hut 3m by 3m.

NJ 388 007 Small rectangular structure 3.5m by 5m.

NO 390 990 Small cairn and remains of possible field system.

NO 390 990 Remains of a longhouse underlying a bothy.

NO 393 994 Remains of a possible whisky still.

NO 390 990 Remains of a possible kerb cairn approximately 2m in diameter and c.0.3m high.

NO 391 990 Remains of a longhouse.

NO 390 990 Remains of informal tracks.

NO 393 984 Extensive area of surface quarrying.

Baltdory (Glenmuick, Tullich & Glengairn parish) J Cruse

NO 415 958 Remains of a depopulated settlement with longhouses and enclosures with an area of clearance cairns centred at NO 412 957.

Creag Mullach (Glenmuick, Tullich & Glengairn parish)

? hut circle/field system

NO 412 952 A series of clearance cairns with the remains of a small circular structure.

Reported to Grampian SMR.

Stranduff (Kincardine O'Neil parish) L Smith

NJ 596 015 Remains of possible round-ended houses now grass-covered. Also grass-covered stone clearance heaps. All sit on a slight shelf defined by a raised bank. Further up slope near top of ridge is the possible remains of a cairn.

Reported to Grampian SMR.

The following cropmark sites have been identified as the result of an aerial reconnaissance programme. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Crowhillock (Kinneff parish) M Greig
NO 850 746 Linear cropmarks, some forming small rectangular enclosures.

Roadside of Catterline (Kinneff parish)
NO 861 791 Sub-circular enclosure.

Roadside of Catterline (Kinneff parish)
NO 862 792 Faint trace of possible ring ditch.

Denhead (Kinneff parish)
NO 865 797 Thin trace of a rectangular enclosure.

Denhead (Kinneff parish)
NO 863 799 Sub-rectangular enclosure with other linear cropmarks.

Upperton (Laurencekirk parish)
NO 740 730 Thin trace of rectilinear enclosure with rounded corners.

Upperton (Laurencekirk parish)
NO 741 732 Circular enclosure.

City Hillock (Logie-Coldstone parish)
NJ 397 092 Field banks.

Bogston (Logie-Coldstone parish)
NJ 397 096 Remains of farmstead, small enclosure with rigs to S.

Cairnmude (Lumphanan parish)
NJ 583 031 Clearance cairns.

Minew (Lumphanan parish)
NJ 594 024 Remains of a field system.

Hilton (Lumphanan parish)
NJ 586 034 Curvilinear bank.

Balmakewan (Marykirk parish)
NO 671 665 Faint trace of circular enclosure.

Balmakewan (Marykirk parish)
NO 672 666 Rig and furrow.

Millbank (Maryculter parish)
NO 858 998 Circular enclosure with internal features. Other cropmarks in same field.

Lauriston Den (St Cyrus parish)
NO 762 662 Circular banked enclosure.

Lauriston (St Cyrus parish)
NO 762 668 Thin trace of large arc.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Maryculter Home Farm (Maryculter parish)
NJ 845 001 Possible oval enclosure with internal feature.

Aulton Farm (Strachan parish)
NO 695 950 Two possible souterrains.

Fountainhead (Strachan parish)
NO 696 948 Faint cropmark of rectilinear enclosure.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

Capo Quarry, near Edzell (Marykirk parish) I Cullen
Watching brief

NO 627 675 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by GUARD during topsoil stripping at Capo Quarry, near Edzell, Kincardineshire in early December 1993. A number of features were recorded including a probable corn-drying kiln built into the side of a slope and a linear ditch possibly associated with the kiln. The flue of the kiln was visible and stone walling survived where protected by the hillslope. Also present were eleven small pits or post holes which formed no recognisable pattern and three larger, irregularly-shaped pits. A circular pit was a probable WWII bomb crater.

Sponsor: Tilcon Limited.

Glen Dye (Strachan parish) CFA
Post-medieval settlement (see Fig 14, p 30)

NO 62 83 An archaeological survey was undertaken on the abandoned rural settlement of Waterhead (NMRS No NO 68 SW 8) on the Water of Dye, Strachan, in July 1994, in advance of a proposed reservoir construction. The survey was designed to assess the archaeological potential of the development area, through the examination of documentary sources, aerial photography and fieldwalking. A total of twenty-two sites was located within the survey area (and on its boundary). While the existing NMRS plan of the area is more or less accurate with regard to the extent of the settlement, the survey has produced more detail of the abandoned settlement area, and identified additional structures associated with the depopulated Waterhead settlement. None of the sites encroached on the proposed reservoir location, and no sites were identified within the survey area to the S of the Water of Dye. It is probable that a further survey, conducted when the bracken is dormant, would reveal further structures.

Detailed report to be lodged with NMRS.

Sponsor: Grampian Regional Council.

St Cyrus (St Cyrus parish) R Benvie
Ship's signal gun

NO 745 648 The iron ship's signal gun was dug up at Mayfield Road, St Cyrus (previously Pensioner's Lodge, where sailors used to gather). Size: 28.5cm (length) by 10.5cm (width) by 5cm (depth).

To be passed to the North East of Scotland Museums Service.

DBM 1560.

Sponsor: Angus District Museums.

MORAY DISTRICT

The following sites have been identified while checking maps held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Shank (Aberlour parish) M Greig
NJ 244 335 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Newtown (Aberlour parish)
NJ 249 329 Remains of farmstead.

The following sites have been identified as the result of aerial reconnaissance. Full information is held by GRC SMR.

Craighead Brae (Bellie parish)

NJ 379 637 Cropmark showing three sides of a sub-rectangular enclosure.

Knockomie (Forres parish)
NJ 026 573 Cropmark of a circular enclosure.

Knockomie (Forres parish)
NJ 026 574 Linear cropmarks and possible square enclosure.

Sanquhar Mains (Forres parish)
NJ 040 568 Discontinuous cropmark resembling a spiral.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

88-94 High Street, Forres (Forres parish) R Cachart,
Medieval urban D W Hall (SUAT)

NJ 037 589 This was the last phase of trial work in advance of development on the site of the recently demolished *Smokers* building at 88-94 High Street. Previous trial work in 1993 identified

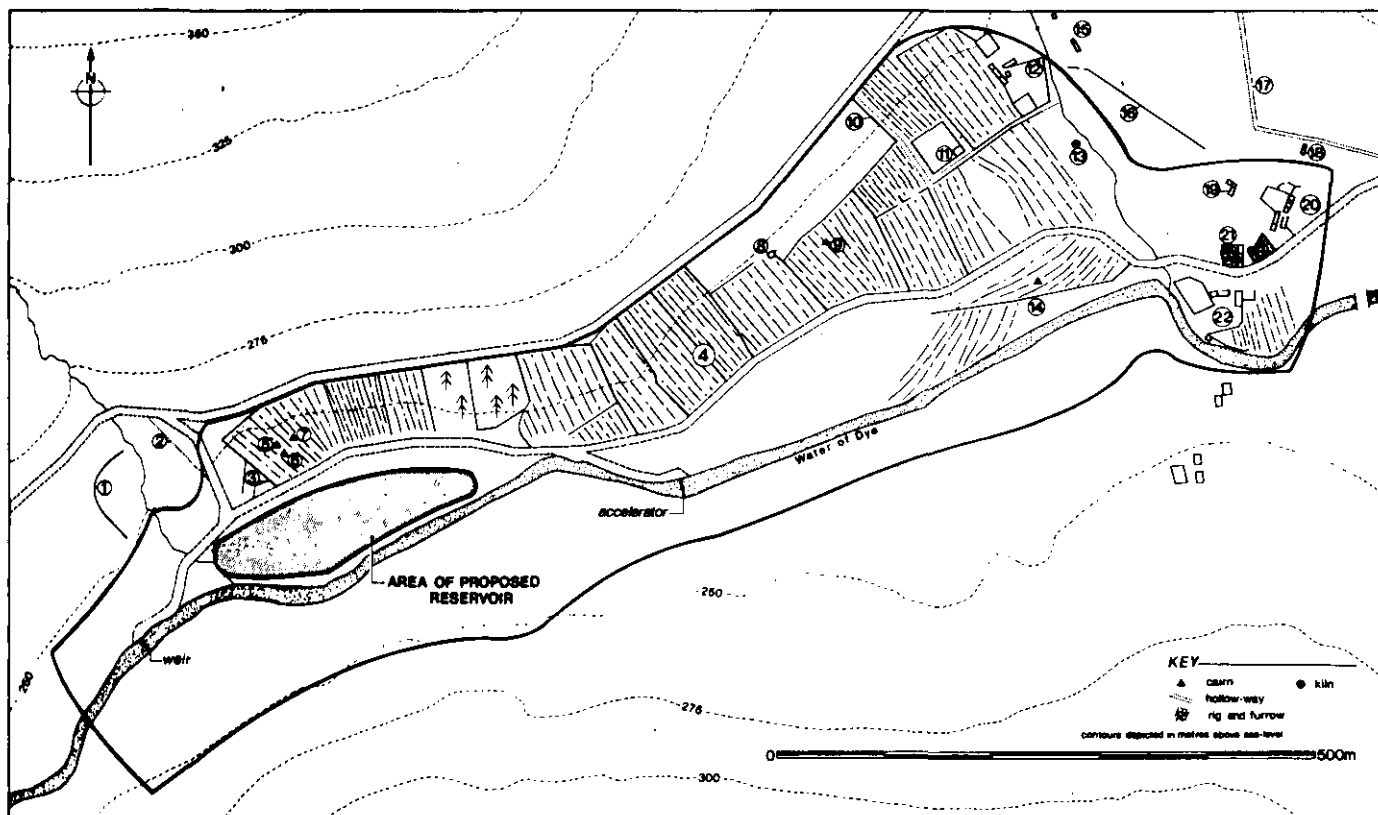


Fig 14. Glen Dye (see p 29).

a medieval pit or ditch feature in the northern vennel (DES 1993, 40). Further work in this vennel extended the pit feature previously identified and found that it was cut by a much smaller pit.

Only the NE part of the earlier pit was revealed. The southern edge had been cut by the services running through the middle of the vennel and its western side had been archaeologically excavated and backfilled during previous trial work. All that remained was a curved butt end to the E and part of the almost vertical N and E side. The pit bottom was fairly flat, and it contained medieval pottery. Five stake holes against the northern edge of the pit were recorded.

The purpose of the later pit with pebble fill is uncertain; it may have been structural, perhaps serving as a post pad, or functional, serving as a soakaway. The pottery and wattle lining of the larger earlier pit would date this feature to the medieval period. The water-laid deposits of silt and charcoal inclusions suggests an industrial function, perhaps a quenching pit.

The medieval pottery: The two phases of excavations produced a very small assemblage of 17 medieval pottery sherds. This material was a mixture of a potential local Redware fabric, sherds from a glazed fine ware import and two bodysherds of East Coast White Gritty ware.

The imported fabric is probably from a water jug, glazed a lustrous green and may be a product of the Yorkshire ware kilns. The discovery of this pottery is very important as it represents the first stratified group of material from the medieval burgh of Forres.

Sponsor: First Samurai Investments.

Batchen Street/High Street, Forres (Forres parish)

Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NJ 0386 5906 In advance of a housing development on a site extending to 1,875m², the Trust was commissioned to carry out a trial trenching investigation. Natural sand was revealed underneath modern demolition rubble at only 0.2m below ground surface across the entire site. No deposits, features or artefacts were discovered.

Sponsor: Tulloch Homes Ltd.

The Glenlivet Old Distillery Site (Inveravon parish) CFA
Desk-based assessment and field survey

NJ 187 283 A survey was conducted in March 1994 at the Glenlivet Old Distillery site. This was the first distillery site to be licensed in Scotland under the Distillery Act of 1823, although it is presumed that distilling took place here prior to this date. The site went out of use in 1858. Fig 15 (p 31) shows the surveyed components of the distillery site, and the numbers in the following descriptions refer to this plan.

- (1) Heather Cottage: derelict but still roofed building. The original structure on this site may have been the home of George Smith, the founder, and the distillery offices.
- (2) Collapsed drystone wall.
- (3) Level platform, representing the limit of previous construction around Heather Cottage.
- (4) Rectangular mound, possibly the foundations of a building.
- (5) Scarp possibly related to terrace (3).
- (6) Water channels once feeding dams (7) and (8), recently recut by machine.
- (7) Disused and drained higher dam, possibly used as a water source for soaking the barley and the distilling process itself.
- (8) Lower dam, still operational, possibly used for collecting waste water and powering a water mill to its NE.
- (9) Four mounds, possibly peat stacks.
- (10) Level platform, probably a building foundation; a monument on this platform commemorates the foundation of the distillery.
- (11) Rectangular platform; probably the remains of the malting floors or warehouse facility.
- (12) Chimney forming part of the malt-drying kiln or the still furnace; the latter is a more likely explanation, as the chimney appears to have been located at the gable end of a structure, whereas malt kilns were usually located in the centre of a building.
- (13) Two irregular mounds, possibly representing the remains of a water mill.
- (14) Length of field bank.
- (15) Mound, possibly a ramp.

- (16) Track, probably post-dating the use of the distillery.
 (17) Track, present on first edition OS map coverage of 1869.
 NJ 187 285 The foundations of a building, yard and enclosure lie c 100m N of the distillery site.
 Assistance provided by the Regional Archaeologist for Grampian Region was gratefully received. A full report is lodged with the NMRS.
 Sponsor: The Chivas and Glenlivet Group.

The following sites have been notified to GRC by W Anderson, Head Forester, Crown Estates, Tomintoul.

The Bochel (Inveravon parish) W Anderson
 NJ 223 231 Inscribed stone – carved with date 1710 and the letters WG.

Suie (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 276 248 Mile-stone; sits by side of old road called 'Morton's Way' inscribed 'Glenfiddich 6 1/2' with letters 'JM' and 'CN' below.

The following sites have been identified while checking maps held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Parkhead Crofts (Inveravon parish) M Greig
 NJ 196 365 Longhouses/enclosures.

Peterfair (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 193 372 Longhouses.

Coldwells (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 196 390 Remains of houses.

Coldwells (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 198 392 Remains of farmstead and enclosures.

Shenval (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 175 309 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Tomnabrilach (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 172 311 Remains of farmstead.

Milltown Burn (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 172 332 Remains of longhouses.

Milltown Burn (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 171 330 Remains of longhouses.

Sliaghmagairn (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 177 330 Remains of farmstead.

Craig Balnafuaran (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 175 322 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Allanreid (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 233 250 Remains of farmstead enclosures and longhouses.

Easter Claggan (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 221 259 Remains of farmstead.

Struan (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 219 258 Remains of longhouses.

Nevie Hill (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 219 263 Remains of houses and enclosures.

Wester Claggan (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 216 266 Remains of farmstead.

Hilltown (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 217 321 Remains of farmstead and enclosure.

Morinsh (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 229 318 Remains of farmstead.

Morinsh (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 233 319 Remains of farmstead and part of an enclosure.

Tomachar (Inveravon parish)
 NJ 246 323 Dis-used lime kiln.

The following sites have been identified as the result of aerial reconnaissance. Full information is held by GRC SMR.

Croughly (Kirkmichael parish)
 NJ 176 206 Remains of farmstead and row of longhouses.

Lynachork (Kirkmichael parish)
 NJ 157 199 Remains of farmstead and longhouses.

Lag na Cuillonn (Kirkmichael parish)
 NJ 165 199 Remains of farmstead and longhouses.

The following sites have been identified while checking maps held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Croftintaggart (Knockando parish)
 NJ 154 378 Remains of longhouses.

Glen Gheallaidh (Knockando parish)
 NJ 156 383 Remains of small enclosures.

Glen Gheallaidh (Knockando parish)
 NJ 157 386 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Glen Gheallaidh (Knockando parish)
 NJ 158 388 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Glen Gheallaidh (Knockando parish)
 NJ 161 385 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Glen Gheallaidh (Knockando parish)
 NJ 163 385 Remains of longhouses and small enclosures.

Achbreck (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 296 338 Dis-used lime kiln.

Achbreck (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 296 339 Remains of farmstead and enclosures.

Bellandy (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 292 332 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Tomnagylloch (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 280 329 Remains of farmstead, longhouses and enclosures.

Gallow Hill (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 275 319 Remains of longhouses and small enclosures.

Corryhabbie (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 280 317 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Burn of Altavallie (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 285 317 Remains of farmstead, longhouses and enclosures.

Folds of Corhabbie (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 277 314 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Gallow Hill (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 274 315 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

Corryhabbie (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 277 311 Remains of longhouses, enclosure and sheep stell.

Gallow Hill (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 274 317 Remains of longhouses.

Burn of Corrieour (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 284 315 Remains of longhouses.

Restocknach (Mortlach parish)
 NJ 255 316 Remains of longhouses and enclosures.

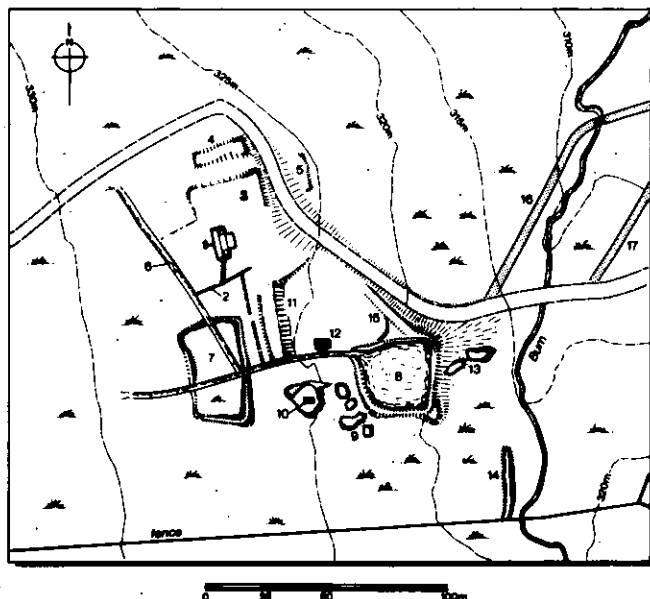


Fig 15. Glenlivet Old Distillery (see p 30).

GRAMPIAN/HIGHLAND

The following sites have been identified while checking aerial photographs held by GRC. Full information is held in GRC SMR.

Lochyhill (Rafford parish)

NJ 054 592 Cropmark of an enclosure.

Cassleford (Rafford parish)

NJ 055 599 Thin trace of large oval cropmark.

Tarras (Rafford parish)

NJ 066 597 Cropmark of a rectangular structure.

Sunnybrae (Rathven parish)

NJ 466 674 Possible oval enclosure with long curved cropmark adjoining to N.

Hillhead of Portknockie (Rathven parish)

NJ 481 680 Thin trace of three sides of a rectangular enclosure with possible internal features.


Sponsors: RCAHMS, GRC.

Spynie Palace (Spynie parish)

D Reed

NJ 228 658 A small (4m by 3m) trench was excavated by Scotia Archaeology Limited in the NW corner of the palace enclosure adjacent to the NW (doocot) tower. The area was partially investigated in 1990 (DES 1990): the imminent construction of a new spiral stair to allow access to the tower required the complete excavation of one of the kilns that had been identified in that year. The kiln bowl measured 1.80m in diameter within clay bonded, rubble walls, 0.60m wide; the flue extended eastwards beyond the trench edge. To the NE of the kiln, and pre-dating it, was a large pit, partially infilled with large boulders and humic material containing very few artefacts or bones.

What appeared to be a pit was partially revealed just outside the W curtain wall during the excavation of an electricity supply trench linking the SW and NW towers. The machine-excavation of the foundations of a new sales point, located 18m SW of the palace, revealed nothing of archaeological interest.

Sponsor: HS 

Lhanbryde (St Andrews-Lhanbryd parish)

CFA

Mill lades, pits and medieval coin

NJ 264 612 – NJ 275 610 Trial trenching, excavation and a watching brief were undertaken in advance of the proposed A96 Lhanbryde Bypass.

NJ 2723 6101 – NJ 2726 6104 A series of ditches running SW–NE was revealed for a distance of c32m. The ditches lay beneath a buried ploughsoil which contained two sherds of possibly 14th-century glazed pottery and a silver coin, provisionally identified as a 12th–13th-century short-cross penny. Further excavation identified the ditch system possibly to be the remains of an early mill lade. This consisted of two shallow ditches which ran into two wider ditches. These appear to have combined to form one large ditch, 4m–7m wide and up to 1.3m deep. The NE end of this ditch contained the remains of a grain-drying kiln (NJ 2726 6104). It had a clay-lined base which was covered in a layer of charred seeds, provisionally identified as oats. The layer of burnt seeds was sealed by a deposit of burnt wattle and daub, possibly the collapsed kiln super-structure. The wattle and daub also sealed a sherd of 13th-century pottery. Into this feature two pits containing large stones had been cut subsequently. One of these stones had a cylindrical hole 0.15m in diameter and 0.2m deep cut into its upper surface, possibly indicating its use as a pivot stone.

NJ 2763 6102 Five spreads of charcoal-rich sand in shallow depressions were uncovered. These varied from 2m–10m long and 0.1m–0.3m deep. One contained three sherds of medieval pottery, possibly 15th century in date. The largest spread sealed a round shallow pit, whilst another two shallow pits were also located in the vicinity of these spreads. The function of the pits and spreads is unclear.

NJ 2658 6122 A large sand-filled pit 4.9m long, 3.8m wide and

0.7m deep was located. Approximately 20m NW of this large pit there was another smaller pit 2.9m long, 32.4m wide and 0.4m deep. This pit was filled with a deposit of charcoal-rich sand and stones. Two possibly worked flakes of quartz were recovered from this pit. The watching brief recorded another shallow pit 18m E of the large pit.

NJ 2668 6117 Three small, scattered pits c 1.0m in diameter and between 0.2m–0.3m deep were located during trial trenching and another was found 14m to the SW during the watching brief. No artefacts were recovered.

NJ 2715 6105 A section was excavated across the position of a mill sluice marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" map. This proved to be an unrevetted ditch at least 2.5m wide and 1.5m deep. It had been recut, and finally filled with modern rubbish.

A detailed report is lodged with the NMRS.

Sponsors: Scottish Office Industry Department Roads Directorate,

HS 

HIGHLAND REGION

CAITHNESS DISTRICT

West Garty Burn (Loth parish)

J Wordsworth

Post-medieval settlement

NC 983 135 Survey work revealed the remains of at least four rectangular stone-walled structures, the largest measuring 13.5m by 2.5m. Lack of stone tumble suggested the buildings were originally turf walled, the surviving stones merely being footings. All the buildings were obscured by a dense growth of heather.

Sponsor: Farm Power.

John O'Groats Hotel (Canisbay parish)

R James

ND 379 733 GUARD was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the area immediately surrounding the John O'Groats Hotel prior to a proposed extension scheme.

Geophysical survey was followed by trial trenching. This involved surveying the area with electrical resistivity and a fluxgate gradiometer. The results were treated in the field with the conventional dot-density package GEOPLOT. A number of anomalies were detected, and the ensuing test-pitting programme set out to investigate these. The test-pits were also located on the S side of the proposed development area to see whether archaeological features seen in the development of the HADB industrial unit extended this far N (*Glasgow Arch J* 16, 29–37).

The anomalies investigated proved to be non-archaeological, being either artificial (i.e. pipes), or geologically derived.

The backgarden area appears to have been landscaped, probably at the time of the building of the Hotel.

Pit 2 contained some large unshaped stones and boulders, but no finds or evidence of structures was found. The geophysical data also produced no evidence for a stone built structure. This pit was the nearest to the hotel, and the large stones may be associated with clearance work during the construction of the hotel.

There are no apparent archaeological structures within the area of the proposed extension scheme of the John O'Groats Hotel.

Sponsor: Lands End and John O'Groats Ltd.

'Halmie' (Latheron parish)

A Morrison, T Pollard

Prehistoric cairn

ND 1171 3345 Excavations of the prehistoric site at 'Halmie' (DB18/22g) continued. Cairn and chamber now seem to belong to one phase, and probably a late phase of the site. The massive revetment or kerb can now be traced for most of the circumference of

the site and probably existed separate from, and earlier than, the central cairn and 'chamber'. The area between this massive kerb and the inner cairn and 'chamber' had been packed with brown soil, clay, ash and charcoal, dumped there from another source, possibly a domestic area. Apart from the many small patches of charcoal, there are large concentrations of burnt wood in and under this area of dumped-in material, suggesting quite large fires *in situ*.

Under this filled-in material a number of stake holes have been uncovered. These penetrate down into the old land surface under the site. They were first recorded on the northern, slightly uphill, side of the site, but they have now been traced elsewhere around the area between the massive kerb and the inner cairn. They appear to form a pattern of lines, like spokes of a wheel, radiating out from the inner cairn to the edge of the massive kerb. They did not have to be dug out, as they had no infill. This suggests that the posts or stakes had been withdrawn from their sockets before the soil, clay, etc was dumped in and that this infill was already so compacted that it did not trickle into the holes.

The ard marks previously noted (DES 1993, 43) to the SE of the entrance have also been discovered on the other, NE, side of the entrance and in the area between the kerb and the inner cairn. This suggests either that the land in this area had been tilled before any structures were built or that turf had been stripped to prepare the site for building. Large samples of all materials including most of the charcoal have been taken for processing, environmental analysis and dating.

Pottery includes an undistinguished poorly-made form with flat rim resembling late Bronze Age types, and a much shallower, bowl-like form with heavy, thick rim and a great deal of mica-schist in its backing. Lithics include large quantities of quartz flakes and partly-worked pieces, but also a few flint artefacts including a finely-worked knife and a scraper which both appear to be of a much earlier period than some of the pottery and the lignite armlet found in a previous season.

Sponsors: Mr R S Avery/Dunbeath Preservation Trust.

Borlum (Reay parish) Stone rows

L J Myatt

NH 977 634 Approximately 52 small stones set in about 8 fan-shaped rows converge towards a small mound of stones at the narrow end of the fan and some 12.5m distant. Overall widths of rows 11m and 19m at narrow and wide ends of the fan respectively. Central alignment of rows approximately 318° true. Ground slopes upwards slightly towards the mound from the base of the rows. Length of rows 25.5m

INVERNESS DISTRICT

Fort George (Ardersier parish) 18th-century fort

G Ewart

NH 759 567 An extended programme of excavation, watching brief and survey was completed on the Point Battery (the western extremity of the fort). In order to waterproof the three vaulted structures buried within the thickness of the main rampart, the earthwork itself was removed over the buildings.

After trial excavations in November 1993 and a watching brief in January 1994, the main programme of work carried on until May 1994 with intermittent archaeological input. This entailed the recording of all elements of those gun platforms, revetting wall, flues, drains, as well as the earthworks themselves (parapet, firing step and main rampart), which had to be removed in advance of the repair work.

Evidence was discovered of the Point 'Pepper Pot' and associated passage which was damaged by a 19th-century gun setting along with detailed information of the construction of other parts of the 18th-century layout. The primary gun platforms were of slab stone construction over sloping mortar footings. The brick-faced parapet was built directly on to the wide stone wall which forms the outer face of the main rampart. The firing step and main fill of the rampart behind these revetting elements, was of extremely solid construction, comprising a series of rolled gravels and sand deposits to a depth of over 6m. The tops of the vaults themselves were in turn found to be sealed by a combined deposit of clay and pitch soaked gravelly sand forming a waterproof layer of a high quality only breached by later drainage features.

Sponsor: HS

Cam Dubh (Kirkhill parish) Intertidal crannog

A G C Hale

NH 617 473 Previous investigation of the site began in 1909 when the Reverend Odo Blundell discovered a number of substantial timbers on the surface and running under the boulders (PSAS 44, 16–18). In 1936, members of the Inverness Field Club and Scientific Society excavated on the SW edge of the site to corroborate Blundell's work. The excavation revealed a substantial pile showing original cut-marks surrounded by smaller timbers, organic remains, shells, brushwood and a possible whetstone (INVMG 1936). The site was scheduled in 1971.

The site is over 70m in length and 45m wide. The oval plan consists of a central circular mass, an eastern crescent and a western margin of boulders. Some areas within the site consist of estuarine sands and silts in contrast to the upstanding areas of boulders, cobbles, pebbles and interstitial sediments.

Amongst the consolidated areas of the site substantial horizontal and vertical timbers are well preserved. Three timbers sampled were identified as *Quercus* sp, two of which had been noted and photographed by Blundell in 1909.

A random sample of the upper 30cm of sediments revealed brushwood, shells, and other organic remains. The organics are well preserved due to the waterlogged environment and the site's submergence at every high tide.

Sponsors: HS, The Russell Trust, University of Edinburgh.

Knocknagael Boarstone (Inverness & Bona parish) HRC Pictish symbol stone

NH 6567 4134 Excavation was undertaken around the stone prior to its removal to its new protected location in the foyer of Highland Regional Council Chambers, Inverness. The work was limited to the small Guardianship area, and was further reduced by the immense disturbance caused by the fence foundations. Guardianship gravel overlay a layer of blackened cobbles which dipped below the stone itself. Both were rich in glass and pottery fragments of recent date, and probably derived from the local pastime of hurling bottles at the stone from passing cars. Beneath this was natural gravel sub-soil, and it was clear that the stone was not on its original site. Two finds of interest, both unstratified, were noted. These consisted of a small, unretouched and undiagnostic flint flake; and a broken glass bead of recent date. Neither relate to the stone.

Kilmartin Farm (Urquhart & Glenmoriston parish) Cist

J Wordsworth, J Harden

NH 4233 3075 A short cist was exposed on a low hillock at c 198m OD overlooking Loch Meikle. The cist was almost totally destroyed with only one slab surviving. It measured c 1m long by 0.5m wide aligned E/W. No finds were associated with it. Narrow rig cultivation is evident in the vicinity.

HIGHLAND

Castle Heather Farm (Inverness & Bona parish) J Wordsworth
Prehistoric pits, castle (site of)

NH 520 420 (centred) An archaeological assessment was carried out here prior to the granting of planning consent for building construction. No archaeological remains were noted.

NH 6778 4260 Castle Heather, previously identified as a probable medieval monument (NMRS No NH 64 SE 3) and severely damaged in 1990, was examined by means of eight machine trenches. Two undated post holes were recorded. No trace of defensive ditches was found and the monument is now so truncated as to be considered destroyed.

NH 666 423 The construction of a golf course on this farm involved removing topsoil for the Tees and Greens. A partial watching brief on this development revealed a group of charcoal-rich post holes. One was sampled and produced pre-medieval pottery.

Sponsor: M J Mackenzie.

Beechwood Park (Inverness & Bona parish)
Nil site

NH 690 446 A watching brief carried out during ground preparation work revealed no archaeological remains.
Sponsor: Morrison Construction.

Balnuaran of Clava (Croy & Dalcross parish) R Bradley
Megolithic cemetery (Fig 16)

NH 756 443 (SW cairn) and NH 757 444 (central cairn) The 1994 excavation at Balnuaran of Clava had three main aims. First, it sought to identify how far the site has changed its appearance as a result of modern restoration of the monument. A main focus was the largely unpublished excavation of 1930–31. Two of these trenches were reopened and other work was carried out on the SW passage grave. This showed that the chamber 'floor' identified in that work was in fact the old land surface beneath the monument. Both there and at the central ring cairn excavation had extended into

Ring Cairn

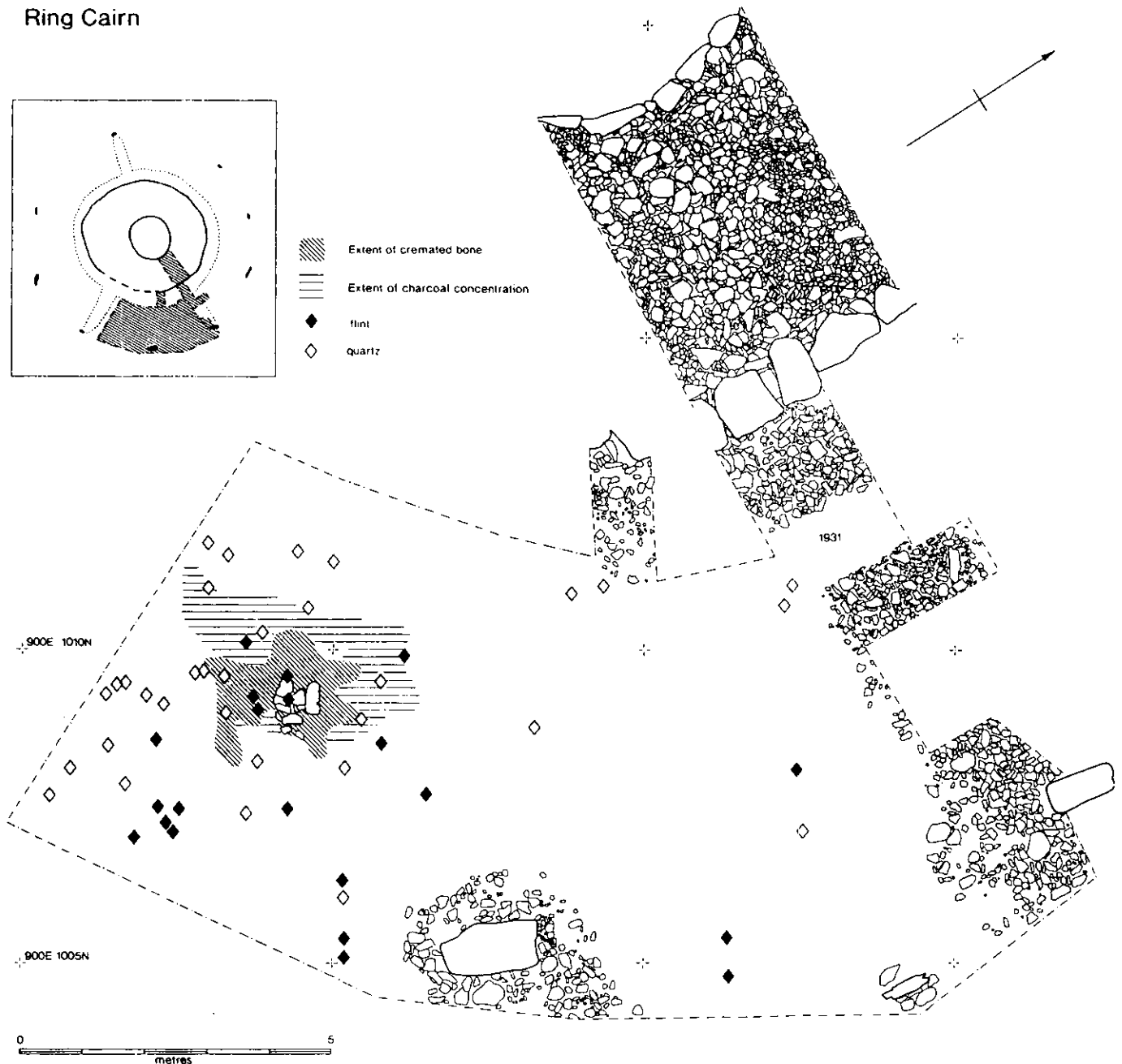


Fig 16. The central ring cairn, showing the extent of excavation before the stone structure was dismantled.

the natural fluvio-glacial gravel. In the case of the central ring cairn unrecorded excavation around the end of the last century had resulted in the clearance of the interior. The rubble removed from that part of the site was added to the material of the cairn.

Second, it sought to resolve the structural sequence at both monuments. At the SW cairn the external ramp was of a single phase. It had been built simultaneously with the kerbstones, which lacked any sockets. At the central ring cairn, there is evidence that the cairn, the stone circle and the external rays which connect these features together were all built at the same time. The line of at least one of the rays seems to have perpetuated division in the internal construction of the ring cairn. In between its kerb and the circle of monoliths was a setting of flat slabs overlying an unaccompanied cremation. This formed the focus for a distribution of pieces of worked flint and quartz.

Third, it aimed to obtain radiocarbon samples. Four such samples were collected, from the old land surfaces beneath each of the cairns, from the cremation outside the central ring cairn and from the socket of one of the monoliths enclosing that site.

Sponsors: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, British Academy, Society of Antiquaries of London, with considerable help in kind from HS [redacted], Highland Regional Council and Reading University.

Culloden Battlefield

R Turner

(Daviot & Dunlichty and Croy & Dalcross parish)

18th–19th-century dykes

NH 741 447 The NTS have worked steadily on the restoration of Culloden Battlefield towards how it would have looked at the time of the battle. After an analysis of contemporary plans of the battlefield, an attempt was made to locate a small polygonal enclosure in which the English dead are said to have been buried, and to assess whether any of the surviving enclosures could date from the time of the battle. All of the current drystone enclosures seem to date from around 1845, but to some extent follow the approximate lines of the larger enclosure shown on plans of 1746. As anticipated, no trace of the turf dyke could be found. However, a geophysical survey of the field is now planned, in the hope of locating the English graves and from there surmising the position of the turf dyke: the polygonal parish boundary, which seems to mimic the dyke, should provide supporting evidence if the geophysical survey is successful.

Sponsor: NTS.

Scottish Tourist Board Office, Beechwood

J Wordsworth

(Inverness & Bona parish)

Nil site

NH 689 448 A watching brief carried out during the topsoil strip for the new Tourist Board Offices revealed no significant archaeological deposits.

Sponsor: Scottish Tourist Board.

26–30 High Street, Inverness (Inverness & Bona parish)

Medieval urban

NH 6673 4524 A watching brief was carried out when foundation pits were dug for a new building. A buried soil was noted possibly contemporary with the Mesolithic horizon from the Castle Street excavations in 1979. 1.5m of medieval deposits were also recorded. These were backland midden-type deposits suggesting the present High Street frontage was not established until the end of the 15th century or later.

Sponsor: R H Edmondson Ltd.

Raining's Stairs, Inverness (Inverness & Bona parish)

Medieval building

R G Hanley

NH 6676 4516 Rescue excavation in advance of building development on steep slope adjacent to Raining's Stairs to E of

Castle Street Medieval street frontage (PSAS 112, 322–391) was undertaken. This produced evidence for a timber building terraced into the slope of Barn Hill, of a single phase of construction founded on re-deposited gravels. This was destroyed by burning, with charcoal-rich deposits associated with spread of charred oak planking, indicating probable plank wall in sill beam construction.

Building sealed by redeposited gravels, a probable cultivation soil and deep hillwash deposits.

Associated pottery (currently under study) suggests a 14th to 15th-century date for the building construction.

Site probably represents 'backlands' development to E of main Castle Street frontage.

Watching brief ongoing.

Sponsor: Inverness District Council.

Kerrow Farm (Kilmorack parish)

LBA socketed axe

NH 323 303 A LBA bronze socketed axe was found as a stray find by Mr J Noble in a washed-out bank of the River Glass. The find-spot was subsequently investigated, but no further finds were made.

The axehead socket contained a fragment of wooden haft. A C14 date is anticipated.

The axehead was designated as Treasure Trove and allocated to Inverness Museum & Art Gallery (INVMG 1994.038). Length: 90mm; blade width (max): 48mm.

Sponsor: Inverness District Council.

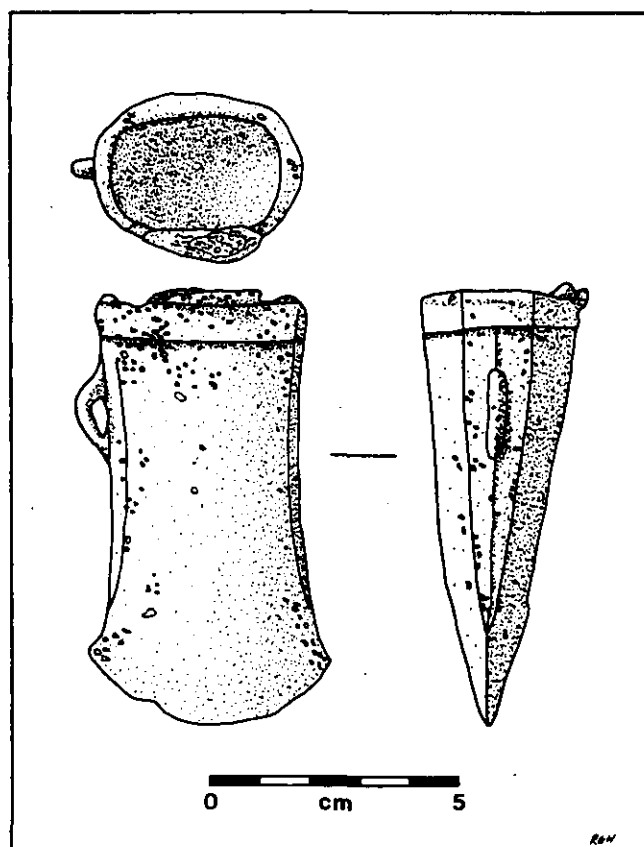


Fig 17. Kerrow Farm. LBA socketed axe.

Phopachy (Kirkhill parish)


A G C Hale

Intertidal crannog

NH 602 467 250m from the southern shore, Phopachy is situated on an intertidal sand bank. The oval-shaped site measures 28m long by 25m wide and the highest part of the site is 1.72m above the surrounding sand bank.

HIGHLAND

The site is covered with boulders colonised by seaweed, beneath which are cobbles, pebbles and interstitial estuarine sediments. Sampling to a depth of 40cm revealed brushwood, well-preserved substantial timbers, leaves, shells and other organic remains.

Three horizontal alder timbers were found lying parallel to one another and their upper surfaces showed signs of wear and structural compression. Pressure exerted from above may have caused the structural changes in the three timbers. Two were radiocarbon dated and have given uncalibrated dates of: 1940 ± 60 bp (Beta 48765) and 2030 ± 60 bp (Beta 48766).
Sponsors: HS  The Russell Trust, University of Edinburgh.

LOCHABER DISTRICT

Gleann Sron a'Chreagain (Ardgour parish) R J Mainland
Recessed platforms

NM 045 735 On the W shore of Loch Linnhe in the area of Gleann Sron a'Chreagain, nearly 2 miles in from the Loch side (between an altitude of 200m and 300m), 19 recessed platforms have been found. They are cut into steep heather and rough-grass covered terrain; the highest being below a rock face and under scree. All are stone built and range in size from 7.3m (24ft) to 9.1m (30ft). A smaller group of five platforms is on the S side of the glen on lower ground between the 100m and 150m contour.
Sponsor: Lochaber Local History Society.

Cona Glen (Ardgour parish)
Recessed platforms

NM 005 703 Three miles N of Ardgour on the W shore of Loch Linnhe, Cona Glen runs westwards for 16 miles nearly reaching to the shores of Loch Sheil. On the northern side of the glen over 100 recessed platforms have been recorded. These are cut into an area stretching for over a mile starting about a mile from the shore of Loch Linnhe. They lie between the 50m and the 250m contour in both oak woodland and on bare hillside. Neither the range of size nor the type of construction has been recorded.
Sponsor: Lochaber Local History Society.

Glen Tarbert (Ardnamurchan parish) J E Kirby
Shieling

NM 884 605 On the N side of the Carnoch River is a small group of shieling huts, one in turf and stone at 5.0m by 2.5m and another in turf, 4.0m by 3.0m. Some 100m to the E is another, more obscure group of turf structures, one at 4.0m by 2.5m and a second one 3.0m square, with the possibility of others in the vicinity.

Ceann Traigh Breige (Ardnamurchan parish)
Tidal fish trap

NM 746 616 The mouth of the inlet is partially blocked by a small rocky islet. The northern channel is sealed by a drystone wall 20m long and 1.55m thick at its maximum height of 0.9m. The southern channel has silted up but a few stones may mark the course of an eroded or buried barrier.

Achnalea (Ardnamurchan parish)
Shielings

NM 862 628 At an elevation of about 300m, the Allt Coire na Creiche takes a right angle bend to the NE. In the angle of the burn is a small group of shieling huts, the most prominent being of drystone work and approximately 3.4m square, with walls to 0.7m high and 0.9m thick with an entrance in the NW side; and possibly overlying other, much denuded buildings of turf. Nearby are two low foundations, mainly of turf, measuring approximately 4.3m by 2.5m.

Risga (Ardnamurchan parish) T Pollard, J Atkinson, I Banks
Shell midden

NM 611 599 Excavation followed the survey and assessment of the site which took place last year (DES 1993, 45). The recovery of lithics from test pits located to the N and E of the midden suggested that prehistoric activity was not confined to the area defined by it. One of the main aims of excavation this year was to further examine the nature and extent of this activity. The main excavation trench, some 5m by 5m, was located over the area of densest lithic concentration, immediately to the N of the shell midden mound. Large quantities of lithics, mostly quartz, were encountered immediately on the removal of the turf. A number of archaeological features were identified which included a hearth, pits and stone-packed sub-circular foundation trenches. The latter appear to relate to small structures, which require further excavation.

Some 5,000 lithics were recovered, with the assemblage dominated by waste pieces. Although quartz was dominant, flint and bloodstone were also present; flakes and blades, some of them snapped, and several retouched microliths were noted. A finely worked leaf-shaped arrowhead of bloodstone was recovered from the northern portion of the trench. This assemblage is currently undergoing analysis and its character compared to that previously recovered from the excavation of the shell midden in the early 1920s. The implication is clearly that the shell midden represents only one aspect of depositional activity on the island, with areas of settlement and lithic manufacture located away from the midden.

Limited excavation of the midden deposits established that much of the mound had been disturbed by earlier excavation but did suggest that the deposit may overlie earlier structures; again further work will be required. Excavation is planned in 1995 and an interim report will be produced following that. A paper on this site will also be appearing in the published proceedings of the Mesolithic Conference recently held in Glasgow.

Sponsors: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Ardnamurchan Survey Project.

Sunart and Glen Hurich Forest Areas, Lochaber Forest District (Ardnamurchan, Arisaig & Moidart parish) J E Kirby
Survey of Forestry Commission Ground

The preliminary archaeological survey continued and details of the following sites may be obtained by contacting the Forest District Manager, Lochaber Forest District, Torlundy, Fort William.

- NM 783 691 Depopulated settlement.
- NM 805 679 Lambing pens (2).
- NM 849 701 Enclosure.
- NM 883 714 Sheepfank (circular) and possible shieling.
- NM 872 691 Recessed platform (1).
- NM 821 675 Rectangular building and runrig.
- NM 826 673 Recessed platform (1).
- NM 816 669 Hut foundations.
- NM 769 683 Lambing pen.
- NM 764 687 Recessed platforms (2) hut foundation (2) marker stone.
- NM 758 677 Charcoal burners stances.
- NM 766 672 Recessed platforms (4) and shieling.
- NM 701 641 Bait mortar.
- NM 773 606 Recessed platforms (9).
- NM 689 655 Recessed platforms (15).
- NM 732 631 Recessed platforms (9) hut foundation.
- NM 763 609 Quamies for Parliamentary Bridge of c 1815.
- NM 719 713 House foundation.
- NM 671 622 Depopulated settlement 'Camus Torsa'.
- NM 700 641 Recessed platforms (6).
- NM 769 609 Recessed platforms (additional 14).

NM 831 636 Charcoal pit?
 NM 860 655 Shielings.
 NM 719 713 Depopulated settlement.
 NM 831 608 Hut foundation and enclosure.

Head of Loch Sunart (Ardnamurchan & Morvern parishes)

Tidal fish trap

NM 831 607 to NM 833 603 Low wall footings and boulders below the high water line mark the two ends of a tidal fish trap which once extended across the head of Loch Sunart, a distance in excess of 500m. Changes in the course of the River Carnoch, which enters the loch here, have obliterated the rest of the barrier, which would probably have been of wickerwork.

Robert Cameron, Dalbeag, Strontian, recalls that many years ago the older men with whom he went fishing here, referred to the area as the 'Carraidh' (i.e. fish trap or weir in Gaelic).

Gleann Suileag (Kilmallie parish)

R J Mainland

Recessed platforms

NN 028 824 Gleann Suileag runs N from Fassfern on the shore of Loch Eil about 5 miles W of Corpach. Two miles up the glen from Loch Eil at an altitude of between 200m and 350m, 14 recessed platforms have been discovered and recorded. They are stone built and the diameters range from between 8.2m (27ft) and 11.8m (39ft). These platforms are all beyond the limit of a forestry plantation but it is possible that more may be hidden within the trees. The surrounding terrain is heather moorland rising steeply to the summits at 630m.

Sponsor: Lochaber Local History Society.

Inverlochy Castle (Kilmonivaig parish)

J Lewis

NN 120 754 The wallhead of the E section of the S curtain was cleared of debris by Scotia Archaeology Limited prior to the consolidation of its masonry. Midway along this stretch of wall, below a thin skim of loose debris, was a block of compact, well-mortared rubble, almost 4m long and covering the width of the wall to a height of 0.8m. Although there were no visible surviving impressions of treads or risers within this rubble, this material is tentatively interpreted as the base for a short flight of steps which perhaps led into an upper storey of a building set against the inside face of the curtain wall.

Sponsor: HS

An Torr (Lismore & Appin parish)

NN 123 565 An exploratory excavation was carried out by Scotia Archaeology Limited on what was thought to be a crudely-built cottage or croft within forested land some 3km SE of the village of Glencoe. The structure measured 4.7m E/W by 3.5m wide internally within walls of drystone rubble construction and, in places, outcrops of bedrock. These walls were up to 3m wide at their bases. It is unclear how the building was roofed although most likely it had been cruck-framed.

There was no trace of a floor surface or any debris of occupation either within or near this structure. A marked N to S slope inside it suggested that this was unlikely to be residential, but conceivably that it had been a store of some kind; although there was no artefactual evidence to support this view or to date its usage.

Sponsor: The National Trust for Scotland.

Sgorr Dhonuill (Lismore & Appin parish)

P Topping

Wall

NN 0300 5557 A c 50m length of boulder wall was discovered on the W flanks of Sgorr Dhonuill immediately above Coire Dearg at roughly 780m OD. It survives mainly as a single course, is continuous and heavily overgrown with lichen and moss, and has been constructed lying across the contours. Time did not permit a search for associated structures.

An-t-Sron (Lismore & Appin parish)

Shieling

NN 1263 5623 This site is located upon a prominent well-drained knoll lying at the foot of An-t-Sron at 90m OD. The site is surrounded by bog, and the E and W sides are skirted by streams.

The site comprises a rectangular building situated on the summit of the knoll with a crude sub-circular structure some 11m to its SE. The rectangular building is roughly 7.0m long E-W, by 3.5m overall. The walls are constructed of roughly coursed stone, double faced, and up to 1m wide at their base. It has slightly bowed gables, and an entrance 1m wide in the S wall. The interior is partly filled with tumble, particularly adjacent to the gables.

The sub-circular structure has an overall diameter of 4.5m, is built of stone and boulder walls up to 1m wide, and has no obvious entrance. The interior is featureless.

A spring on the NE edge of the knoll is truncated by a single course wall c 7m long laid across the spring head. The basin of the spring has been filled with stones.

Papadil, Rum (Small Isles parish) C R Wickham-Jones, D Millar
 Shell midden

NM 365 923 An extensive shell midden site has been located c 200m due N of the loch at Papadil, Rum at c 50m OD. The site is situated among the boulders of the scree slope at the back of the Papadil glen.

The scree slope includes many very large boulders, with voids between them. The midden lies under one of these boulders in a natural cave and extends outside for c 4m. It is difficult to estimate size, but it must cover a minimum area of at least 8m by 8m. When visited, the site was under bracken and there were few clear exposures of midden on the surface, but it was clearly visible between and under the stones. The cave mouth faces S; it is c 1m high, by about 2m by 1.5m inside and it is currently used by goats.

The midden is dark in colour and of a rich organic texture, it contains large quantities of shells, including limpets, and a few bones. In 1993 five small sherds of coarse pottery were collected from the cave area, together with a fragment of copper alloy (?vessel). In 1994 a larger portion of a small round bottomed pit with an everted rim and impressed decoration was recovered from the surface of the midden between two stones inside the cave. It is difficult to find parallels for this vessel, but it would seem to be of Iron Age or later date.

Sponsor: SNH.

Canna and Sanday (Small Isles parish)

J R Hunter

NG 2500 0600 (centred) Following the survey work undertaken by RCAHMS and subsequent evaluation by NTS, detailed topographic survey, geophysical survey and trial excavation began in 1994.

Survey of several sites, involving the detailed record and analysis of a series of settlement foundations abandoned in the Clearances at the site of Greod. Seven structural bases of differing character were recorded, with clear evidence of earlier terracing, related features and wider landscape association. A further post-medieval site was explored at Cnoc Bhrostan where an elevated plateau contains nine shieling foundations mostly enclosed by an earthen dyke. A detailed survey plan was undertaken together with a preliminary assessment of associated earthworks located to the N and W. This will provide the basis for exploratory excavation in 1995 in order to access their nature and date more accurately. Recent work on the nearby island of Skye has identified medieval origins for similar shieling sites.

Detailed topographical survey also took place on a prehistoric settlement complex located above the southern cliffs on Canna, as well as on selected examples of a group of monuments reputed to represent Viking burials. The main survey effort, however, was

HIGHLAND

placed in the vicinity of the standing cross at A'Chill located on the S-facing lower ground towards E of the island.

The area of A'Chill is of prime importance for the spread of early Christianity, both on the island and in the region. The location is known to have housed a former chapel dedicated to St Columba and may also have supported a monastic community. Later settlement became focused in the area before being cleared mid-19th century. Investigation took the form of systematic geophysical survey (resistivity), topographical survey, and detailed planning of the surrounding fields and boundaries followed by selective trial trenching.

Sponsors: NTS and Highland Regional Council.

ROSS & CROMARTY DISTRICT

Garabil, Glen Glass (Alness parish)
Settlement

M Macdonald

ce NH 561 690 This site consists of the footings of five features, of drystone construction, overgrown with gorse and is now in very boggy ground of bog myrtle and juniper.

The name appears on the first edition 6" OS map with one ruin and has an entry in the OS name book, but local and estate enquiries have turned up no further information.

(1) Turf-covered footings measuring 4.5m by 3m; walls are 1m thick. (2) Enclosure measuring 13m by 7.5m. (3) Footings measuring 6m by 3m, with a large pile of stones at one end. (4) Thick-walled feature, very overgrown with whins, measuring 12m by 3m. (5) An enclosure measuring c 6m by 6m.

In the field to the N/W are large clearance heaps. The site may be Norse in origin.

Sockach, Glen Glass (Alness parish)
Previous settlement

NH 571 683 At the edge of hand-planted forestry lie the drystone footings of a thick-walled (3/4m) building, overgrown with moss and covered by leafmould. It is a tripartite structure, with the long axis pointing downslope, and a short length of dyke extending a further 10m. The main compartment is c 12.5m by 4m, with smaller compartments at either end. Several names in this area appear on *Gen Roy's Military Survey*, one being 'Tochy' which would be how a non-Gaelic speaker would hear (an) t-Socach.

Allt nan Corp/Airigh Riabhaich, Loch Torridon
(Applecross parish)

Shieling

NG 903 539 and NG 900 538 This shieling site is now overgrown with ungrazed heather, but two level grassy areas are evident beside the burn. (NG 903 539) Outline of stones through the vegetation, 2m diameter. (NG 900 538) Outline of a two-compartment bothy, c 5.4m by 3.0m.

Airigh nam Bard, Annat, Loch Torridon (Applecross parish)
Shieling

NG 884 537 Two drystone structures near to the burn of the same name form the remains of this shieling, as well as a distinct area of *Deschampsia caespitosa*. This rank grass seems to be an indicator of previous improved pasture in this area. Over-planted by larch, with some self-seeded old Caledonian Pine, the larger feature measures internally 4m by 3m, and has at one end a D-shaped attachment, which was possibly for the storage of the dairy produce. It is revetted into the hillside, incorporating large boulders into the wall. 20m uphill is a small D-shaped enclosure, backing onto large boulders, with an internal diameter of 1.5m.

Airigh nan Druidhneach, Annat, Loch Torridon
(Applecross parish)

Shieling

NG 877 542/NG 876 538 This shieling is situated by Allt a'Ghiubhais, above the old track. The uppermost feature consists of an outline of stones amid an area of Old Caledonian Pines and measures c 1.5m by 2.5m. The lower feature is on a small knoll on the W side of the burn and measures c 1.5m diameter. There is an area of improved pasture adjacent to these. Between the two, on a small flat area close to the burn, were the remains of a bothy which was very likely a 'tigh dubh' for an illicit still.

Airigh a'Chnuic, Loch Torridon (Applecross parish)
Shieling

NG 868 542 and NG 867 542 A small shieling site, now overgrown with ungrazed heather. Two features are discernible: (NG 868 542) Footings of a small circular bothy, 1.2m internal diameter, beside the burn. (NG 867 542) A small grassy patch amidst the heather, with an outline of stones c 3.5m by 2.6m.

Allt Loch Meall nam Feadan, Toscaig (Applecross parish)
Shieling with evidence of cultivation

NG 718 368 This area has been noted on the 6" OS as a shieling site (NMRS No NG 73 NW 1), but no detail recorded. A field c 1 acre is located next to the burn and is surrounded by a wall. Within this field of improved pasture are six large clearance heaps, over 2m diameter. However, outwith this are areas of broad cultivation terraces, largely invaded by heather. Two bothies are built on to the southern wall of the field, c 2.5m by 1.5m internally.

Along the coast towards Uags, at Allt Clais nam Feadan are areas of rig and cultivation, beside the burn, now overgrown with bracken and heather. Nearer Toscaig, at NG 713 375 are more cultivation rigs, known as Achadh Ur a Bhorraich.

A890 Luib-Achnasheen (Contin parish) J R Mackenzie (SUAT)
Evaluation

Excavations were carried out during July 1994 in advance of an extensive road development. Three identified areas of archaeological potential were assessed.

Area 1: NH 144 559 Two possible hut circles were found to be borrow pits relating to the construction of the nearby road, probably during the early 19th century.

Area 2: NH 152 566 An area of improved ground was surveyed and slot trenches were cut through a retaining stone dyke. No dating evidence was recovered.

Area 3: NH 0972 5312 Trial trenches were excavated across the remnants of a rectangular stone-built structure. The structure was found to be of a single phase of construction dating from no earlier than the late 18th century.

Sponsor: Highland Region Roads Department.

Creagan Astle (Creich parish)
Lithics scatter

TAG

NH 73 92 Scatter of retouched and waste flint, quartz and chert pieces, including a number of chert cores.

Finds included probable blade flakes in quartz (a) and chert (b), a flint scraper (c) and a chert bladelet core (d) of possible Mesolithic date (see Fig 18, p 39).

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

65 Gordons Lane, Cromarty (Cromarty parish)

Possible medieval ruin

J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NH 790 674 Monitoring of developer's foundation trenches was conducted across the remains of a house or byre of possible medieval origin. Two trenches, both 0.6m in width were hand excavated.

The first trench was located in an area already reduced to the natural coarse sand. The second trench revealed, below 0.2m of topsoil, the western foundation wall of the structure and part of a possible earthen floor. This deposit may also represent a bedding layer for a paved floor surface. Pottery found in association with the foundation wall indicates a construction dated of no earlier than the 18th century.

Sponsor: HS [6]

Upper Bogrow Farm, Edderton (Edderton parish)

Hut-circle

NH 708 817 In response to accidental damage caused to a portion of the scheduled monument known as *Upper Bogrow settlement and field system*, SUAT was commissioned to record and carefully reinstate the damaged area.

The northern third of a circular hut-circle, c13m in diameter, had been entirely displaced by contractors' groundworks. From the sections the structure appeared to have been constructed on a slightly flattened platform stance with randomly uncoursed water-borne cobbles and angular stone fragments. Overlying this walling was the possible leached remnants of turf walling. The structure was sealed by a layer of black peat which in turn had been truncated by modern plough action. The spoil from the damaged area was reinstated by hand and sizeable quantities of charcoal were noted to have been displaced. No artefacts were discovered. The boundary of the scheduled monument was surveyed and clearly demarcated.

Sponsor: Highland Region Water & Sewerage Department.

Coille Mhor (Edderton parish)

TAG

Post-medieval settlement site

NH 662 869 Large longhouse with two partitions. Attached ?kaie yard and large stone-walled enclosure.

Site lies within area of improved ground with traces of associated dyke systems.

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

Dun Alascaig (Edderton parish)

Hut circles and clearance cairns

NH 66 87 Group of six hut circles with associated clearance cairns located in woodland on N-facing slope overlooking the Dornoch Firth.

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

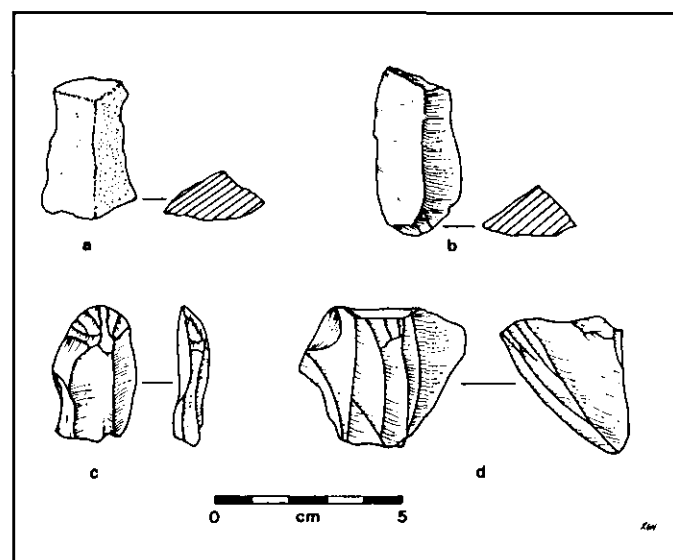


Fig 18. Creagan Astle. Lithics scatter (see p 38).

Tollie-Inverasdale Water Pipeline (Gairloch parish)

Settlement and cultivation

J Wordsworth

Survey work in advance of the proposed route of this pipeline revealed extensive remains of earlier settlement, particularly of cultivation rigs and enclosures of the post-medieval period. A full report is stored with HRC Sites & Monuments Record.

NG 823 841 3 two-celled shielings c3m by 2m.

NG 8333 8265 A circular stone walled enclosure c10m to 12m in diameter and part sunk in peat may be a roundhouse.

Sponsor: HRC Water & Sewerage.

Am Sean Inbhir, Cove (Gairloch parish)

M Macdonald

ce NG 785 923 (Rigs at NG 792 922) On the flat grassy area just above the high-tide level, are the scattered footings of at least ten drystone structures, oval or sub-rectangular in outline, and 3m to 4m long. On the next level up, at the W corner of the bay, amid dense bracken, are the remains of at least two bothies.

A short distance inland, to the E, is a large area of abandoned rigs.

Inverewe Estate (Gairloch parish)

R Turner

Flint blade

NG 8741 8338 A broken flint blade was recovered by RCAHMS surveyors as a casual find from a newly-discovered burnt mound. The site was one of several recorded by the Afforestation Land Survey team of the RCAHMS, as part of a broader survey of the area.

Sponsors: RCAHMS, NTS.

Redcastle (Killeaman parish)

A G C Hale

Intertidal crannog

NH 585 489 Situated 300m from the N shoreline on an intertidal mud flat, at low tide the uncovered oval mass of boulders measures max 40m by 25m. The site is uncovered for between 4 and 6 hours at each low tide. The site's maximum absolute height above the surrounding mud flats is 1.85m.

Surface covering consists of boulders beneath which are cobbles, pebbles; intestinal estuarine sediments, substantial timbers and other well-preserved organic remains. Preliminary excavation revealed three phases of timber construction. A foundation of wattle-lined pits lined with clay and packing stones underlies a horizontal rectangular framework of worked alder timbers. The framework consists of four alder timbers held in place with oak piles driven through square cut slots and a substantial corner cross-piece.

Above the framework are the remains of a superstructure including wattling, timbers, organic remains and sedimentary deposits of sand and clay. Amongst these sediments were found seeds, cherry pips, shells, beech nuts, brushwood and animal and fish bones.

The timber remains are dominated by *Alnus* sp with some *Quercus* sp and the wattling consists of *Salix* sp and *Corylus* sp. Uncalibrated radiocarbon dates from two subsurface timbers were: 2150 ± 60 bp (Beta 48763) and 1750 ± 90 bp (Beta 48764).

Sponsors: HS [6], The Russell Trust, University of Edinburgh.

Coulmore (Killeaman parish)

Intertidal crannog

NH 610 476 The site is situated on a sub-tidal sandbank and when exposed at low tide is 1m above local datum. The smallest site in the Beaully Firth group, it measures 25m long and 18m wide. The oval mound consists of seaweed-covered boulders beneath which are pebbles and estuarine sediments.

Random sampling produced shells, wood fragments and brushwood remains, however, no timbers have been found.

Sponsors: HS [6], The Russell Trust, University of Edinburgh.

HIGHLAND

Ardullie (Kiltearn parish)
Counterfeit coin mould

M Macdonald, R G Hanley

NH 588 637 Shallow cut ?mudstone mould found during field-walking. Mould would produce crude reverse of Charles I copper Turner (c 1642–50) with LACESSET legend. Some lettering not cut in mirror image.

Coille Bhreac, Glen Carron (Lochcarron parish) M Macdonald
Shieling

ce NH 083 527 The footings of the shieling bothy are on a grassy knoll, and consist of two compartments of drystone construction. The present ground level of the small D-shaped compartment is lower than the living area and was probably the 'dairy'. They measure 5.5m by 2.5m and c 2.0m internally. A neighbouring grassy knoll to the W has stones showing through the vegetation, but no obvious outline.

20m downhill is another grassy knoll with an oval outline of stones, measuring 3.5m by 2.3m.

10m uphill from the shieling to the NE, on the lower edge of a heather-covered knoll, is a semi-circular outline of large stones, c 3.5m diameter.

Further uphill to the W is a circular area of grass, edged by heather, through which stones are evident; size is c 3.5m.

Further uphill to the NW is a flattened, grassy area, with moss-covered stones visible through the turf, possibly circular.

Loch Bharranch, Glen Torridon (Lochcarron parish)
Shieling

NG 976 572 Visible from the Torridon/Kinlochewe road is a short wall above Loch Bharranch, a small enclosure measuring 7.5m by 6m and up to 4 courses high. Its back and E wall were revetted into the hillside. The pen was at the top edge of an area of *Deschampsia caespitosa*, which stretched down to the loch. No shieling bothy was immediately obvious, although the site was typical of other shielings in the area. Downslope (30m) from the enclosure was a noticeable hump with an oval arrangement of stones covered by vegetation, probably the remains of the bothy.

Strome Castle (Lochcarron parish) S Driscoll, R Will, I Cullen

NG 8623 3542 In order to examine the archaeological potential of Strome Castle, Loch Carron, destroyed in a siege in c 1602, a short programme of trial excavations was carried out in early September 1994. Considerable evidence of several distinct phases of construction was observed in the hall elements. Structural remains of a tower, buried beneath the rubble at the castle's E end were uncovered. A collapsed sandstone arch from around a blocked doorway was present in the tower's W wall. In addition a rock-cut well was located to the W of the tower mound and partially excavated. A trench located inside the main hall uncovered rubble representing levelling material laid down after construction of the S wall. A flint flake and fragments of vitrified rock were recovered from this trench although no further evidence was found of a prehistoric structure.

A detailed plane table survey at a scale of 1:100 was carried out of the castle ruins, the rubble mound containing the tower, the rocky outcrop they sit upon and the substantial lumps of masonry and general collapse in the surrounding area.

Sponsors: NTS and Highland Regional Council.

Ness of Portnaculter (Tain parish)
Lithics scatter

TAG

NH 745 847 Scatter of flint and chert debitage. Single piece of chert with edge retouch.

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

Portmahomack (Tarbat parish)
Early historic settlement

M Carver, J Garner-Lahire

NH 915 839 The settlement is contained by a ditched enclosure discovered in 1984 (Jones & Keillar) and dated by C14 from a sample excavation by Jill Harden in 1991 to the early first millennium AD. The enclosure contains Tarbat Old Church, at which site several fragments of carved stones (8th–9th century) have been discovered including the famous Tarbat inscription (PSAS 112, 300–21). Evaluation took place in two seasons in 1994 and included contour and geophysical survey and the initial mapping of three sample areas each 8m by 32m. In the southernmost area were defined a circular building and an oven, which are expected to be contemporary with the enclosure, while adjacent to the church the sequence continues into later historic times with iron working and other activities. The evaluation is being used in the composition of a research strategy for the site and its region.

Sponsors: Tarbat Historic Trust, Ross and Cromarty District, Ross and Cromarty Enterprise, Highland Region, University of York.

SKYE & LOCHALSH DISTRICT

Dun Colbost (Duirinish parish)
Broch

A MacSween, D Reed

NG 205 494 Excavations continued at Dun Colbost broch in autumn 1993 (see *DES* 1989, 35; 1990, 28). The main trench was extended to further examine the wall surrounding the broch. Excavation of the area between the broch entrance and the surrounding wall revealed stone paving, covered drains and a hearth. Coarse pottery and worked stone were recovered.

Sponsor: Russell Trust.

Carn-gorm, Strath Croe (Glenshiel parish)
Corn-drying kiln

J Wordsworth

NG 9560 2072 A possible corn-drying kiln was identified here adjacent to broad rig cultivation.

An Corran, Staffin, Skye (Kilmuir parish)
Rock-shelter

A Saville, R Miket

NG 491 684 Salvage investigation took place during December 1993/January 1994 of a ledge at the base of E-facing cliffs in advance of rock-blasting for road works. Disturbed upper levels contained the remains of numerous hearths and fires but the only datable finds were a mid-19th-century glass bottle and a bronze pin of Early Iron Age type.



Fig 19. An Corran rock-shelter from S during excavation of the upper levels.
Photo: Roger Miket/NMS.

An underlying shell midden contained a very important Mesolithic assemblage of bone and lithic tools, as well as abundant faunal remains. A radiocarbon determination of 7590 ± 90 BP (OxA-4994) has been obtained on one of the bevel-ended tools, made on a red deer bone. The lithic industry, using locally available silicious and basaltic materials, included the manufacture of micro-liths by microburin technique.

About one-fifth of the rock-shelter deposits were examined, but the ledge itself has been preserved despite removal of the cliff.

Sponsors: Skye & Lochalsh District Council Museums Service, Highland Region Roads Department, NMS.

Balmacara Estate (Lochalsh parish) Landscape survey

Dualchas

The following sites were recorded in June 1994 during a comprehensive survey of the NTS estate. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

NG 72 NE

- NG 7712 2983 Shieling.
- NG 7705 2985 Hut circle.
- NG 7714 2993 Concrete post.
- NG 7735 2982 Stone pen.
- NG 7751 2985 Twinning pens.
- NG 7760 2980 Lazy bed cultivation.
- NG 7780 2952 Peat cuttings.
- NG 7775 2973 Scooped platforms.
- NG 7751 2977 Peat cuttings.
- NG 7715 2965 Clearance cairns.
- NG 7717 2960 Twinning pen.
- NG 7729 2956 Twinning pen.
- NG 7748 2963 Stone pen.
- NG 7748 2963 Clearance cairns.
- NG 7808 2897 Peat cuttings.
- NG 7706 2870 Bank and ditch.
- NG 7778 2862 Quarry.
- NG 7768 2810 Boulder boundary.
- NG 7785 2813 Shieling.
- NG 7792 2800 Stone dyke.
- NG 7799 2810 Pen.
- NG 7798 2820 Cairns.
- NG 7801 2824 Water tank and filter.

NG 73 SE

- NG 7752 3202 Pen.
- NG 7755 3221 Byre.
- NG 7760 3216 Ruinous houses.
- NG 7762 3218 Ruinous house and byre.
- NG 7767 3210 Ruinous house and byre.
- NG 7799 3198 Ruinous house.
- NG 7800 3186 Ruinous house and byre.
- NG 7800 3183 Ruinous houses and byres.
- NG 7777 3094 Pen and bothy.
- NG 7726 3073 Cairn.
- NG 7745 3112 Ruinous byre.
- NG 7758 3098 Ruinous byre.

NG 82 NW

- NG 8008 2924 Shieling.
- NG 8020 2919 Shieling.
- NG 8058 2910 Hut circle.
- NG 8090 2918 Terraced trackway.
- NG 8190 2902 Green mound.
- NG 8068 2945 Hut circle.
- NG 8061 2946 Stone setting.
- NG 8058 2950 Boundary.

NG 83 SW

- NG 8091 3043 Pen.
- NG 8083 3062 Boulder boundary.

Sponsor: NTS.

Brochel Forest, Raasay (Portree parish)

Pre-felling survey

The following sites were recorded during May 1993 ahead of felling mature trees. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

- NG 5806 4588 Farmstead.
- NG 5807 4558 Longhouse.
- NG 5802 4540 Bridge abutments.
- NG 5801 4530 Bridge abutments.
- NG 5801 4470 Bridge abutments.
- NG 5832 4607 Farmstead.
- NG 5830 4595 Longhouse.
- NG 5826 4567 Hut circles?
- NG 5786 4560 Farmstead.
- NG 5796 4561 Enclosure.
- NG 5807 4547 Hut circle.

Sponsor: Forest Enterprise.

Inverarish, Raasay (Portree parish)

Pre-felling survey

The following sites were recorded during May 1993 ahead of felling mature trees. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

- NG 5547 3635 Farmstead.
- NG 5568 3660 Cairn.
- NG 5590 3668 Standing stone.
- NG 5617 3671 Farmstead.
- NG 5605 3693 Shieling.
- NG 5492 3687 Cairn.
- NG 5478 3676 Cross base.
- NG 5509 3685 Farmstead.
- NG 5505 3660 Boat-shaped stone setting.
- NG 5517 3688 Hut circle.
- NG 5530 3690 Farmstead.
- NG 5627 3645 Hut circle.
- NG 5575 3642 Dam wall.
- NG 5612 3633 Hut circle.
- NG 5619 3640 Hut circle.
- NG 5624 3609 Hut circle.
- NG 6530 3704 Shieling.
- NG 5615 3645 Hut circle.

Sponsor: Forest Enterprise.

Glen Meadhonach (Sleat parish)

Landscape survey

The following sites were recorded in February 1994 within the glen known as Meadhonach or Dalavil. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

NG 50 NE

- 4 NG 5850 0550 Depopulated township.
- 5 NG 5780 0515 Depopulated township.
- 7 NG 5832 0680 Shieling hut.
- 11 NG 5845 0572 Rectangular structure.
- 13 NG 5873 0623 Rectangular structure.
- 14 NG 5980 0515 Shieling huts (5).
- 15 NG 5949 0509 Twinning pen.
- 16 NG 5940 0515 Hut circle?
- 17 NG 5935 0518 Shieling huts (2).
- 18 NG 5928 0520 Shieling hut.
- 19 NG 5921 0504 Shieling hut.
- 20 NG 5915 0510 Shieling huts? (2).
- 21 NG 5909 0512 Shieling huts (2).
- 22 NG 5900 0515 Enclosed stack base.
- 23 NG 5876 0520 Clearance cairns.
- 24 NG 5845 0515 Rectangular structure.
- 25 NG 5830 0510 Shieling hut?

HIGHLAND

- 26 NG 5822 0512 Depopulated township.
- 27 NG 5795 0506 Oval structure.
- 28 NG 5780 0505 Sub-rectangular structure.
- 29 NG 5723 0510 Enclosure.
- 30 NG 5702 0500 Enclosure.
- 31 NG 5790 0538 Rectangular structure.
- 32 NG 5791 0532 Rectangular structures.
- 33 NG 5750 0524 Homestead.
- 34 NG 5735 0525 Homestead.
- 35 NG 5734 0566 Pen and boat noost.
- 36 NG 5739 0576 Enclosures.
- 37 NG 5732 0585 Sub-rectangular structures.
- 38 NG 5730 0595 Pen.
- 39 NG 5730 0605 Pen.
- 40 NG 5730 0618 Enclosure and pens.
- 41 NG 5770 0652 Shieling mound.
- 42 NG 5780 0656 Shieling hut.
- 43 NG 5870 0673 Shieling huts (4).
- 44 NG 5899 0580 Rectangular structure.
- 45 NG 5890 0591 Rectangular structure.
- 46 NG 5991 0610 Hut circle. Shieling hut.
- 47 NG 5861 0560 Homestead.
- 48 NG 5851 0595 Enclosure and lazy beds.
- 49 NG 5841 0595 Shieling hut.
- 50 NG 5840 0605 Shieling hut.
- 51 NG 5838 0572 Pen.

NG 50 SE

- 1 NG 5675 0480 Dun Geilbt.
- 3 NG 5690 0460 Depopulated township (Caradal).
- 5 NG 5716 0442 House and byre.
- 6 NG 5723 0446 House and byre.
- 7 NG 5733 0452 Shieling huts (2).
- 8 NG 5732 0460 Hut circle.
- 9 NG 5730 0466 Hut circle.
- 10 NG 5770 0470 Shieling huts (3).
- 11 NG 5770 0485 Shieling huts (2).
- 12 NG 5793 0470 Shieling huts (13).
- 13 NG 5800 0485 Shieling hut.
- 14 NG 5831 0442 Shieling hut.
- 15 NG 5855 0491 Rock shelters (3).
- 16 NG 5845 0498 Shieling hut.
- 17 NG 5860 0490 Shieling huts.
- 18 NG 5924 0494 Homestead.
- 19 NG 5930 0490 Oval structure and enclosure.
- 20 NG 5936 0478 Shieling huts (6).
- 21 NG 5934 0444 Shieling huts (3).
- 22 NG 5921 0462 Shieling huts (2).
- 23 NG 5765 0497 Shieling huts (2).

NG 60 NW

- 4 NG 6103 0580 Homestead.
- 5 NG 6082 0588 Shieling hut.
- 6 NG 6070 0591 Ancient wall.
- 7 NG 6065 0575 Enclosure, shielings.
- 8 NG 6052 0608 Hut circle.
- 9 NG 6060 0568 Turf fank.
- 10 NG 6047 0571 Shieling hut.
- 11 NG 6035 0556 Stone fank and cottage.
- 12 NG 6037 0570 Bow-sided structure.
- 13 NG 6031 0568 Enclosure.
- 14 NG 6000 0570 Homestead.
- 15 NG 6030 0592 Bow-sided structure.
- 16 NG 6054 0580 Homestead.
- 17 NG 6045 0589 Bothy (ruinous).
- 18 NG 6056 0575 Rectangular structure.
- 19 NG 6052 0582 Enclosure.
- 20 NG 6110 0540 Shieling huts (4).

- 21 NG 6102 0537 Shieling huts (11).
 - 22 NG 6089 0507 Pen.
 - 23 NG 6080 0510 Shieling huts (5).
 - 24 NG 6083 0517 Shieling huts (6).
 - 25 NG 6090 0522 Shieling huts (3).
 - 26 NG 6076 0522 Shieling huts (3).
 - 27 NG 6068 0520 Shieling huts (2).
 - 28 NG 6063 0517 Shieling huts (3).
 - 29 NG 6059 0512 Shieling huts (5).
 - 30 NG 6051 0518 Shieling huts (9).
 - 31 NG 6042 0520 Shieling huts (4).
 - 32 NG 6035 0520 Shieling huts (20).
 - 33 NG 6025 0515 Shieling huts (5).
 - 34 NG 6020 0510 Shieling huts (2).
 - 35 NG 6038 0530 Shieling huts (10).
 - 36 NG 6090 0535 Shieling huts (10).
 - 37 NG 6005 0610 Bow-sided structure.
 - 38 NG 6044 0580 Bothy (ruined).
- Sponsor: Clan Donald Lands' Trust.

Ostaig (Sleat parish)

Pre-development survey

The following sites were recorded during August 1993 prior to development of the area around Sabhal Mor Ostaig Gaelic College. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

- NG 6434 0648 Turf-built structure, enclosure.
- NG 6469 0646 Turf and stone-built farmstead.
- NG 6542 0673 Ruinous stone house, turf pens.
- NG 6534 0666 Pen.
- NG 6519 0666 Ruinous turf house.
- NG 6522 0676 Ruinous stone house, turf pen.
- NG 6508 0652 Degraded turf house and pen.
- NG 6489 0653 Degraded longhouses (turf).
- NG 6497 0656 Ruinous turf and stone house, enclosure.
- NG 6512 0650 Degraded turf house and pen.

Ord 1 (Sleat parish)

M Wildgoose, C Burney, R Miket

Hut circle

NG 628 133 Excavation began at Easter on a hut circle at Coille nan Groban. Poor weather resulted in recovery of only the latest phases of activity. Work will continue next season.

Details lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

Sponsors: Skye & Lochalsh District Council, Manchester University.

Coille A'Ghasgain (Sleat parish)

Hut circle (excavation)

NG 644 122 In April 1993, excavation of a stone-walled hut circle was undertaken. One period of settlement activity was identified within which only minor structural modifications occurred.

The hut walls were raised on a gentle S-facing slope, with a single SSE-facing entrance. Roughly-faced drystone walling was bonded with a core of similar but smaller material.

A little over 1m from the inner wall face, and concentric with it, lay a ring of eight post pits. Each contained a post-pipe indicating that it formerly contained a single timber upright 0.15m in diameter. This circular arrangement was broken by a gap of 2.25m in line with the entrance. At this point two flanking posts were inset within the area enclosed by the posts, in effect producing a short passage to a centrally-placed hearth, made of well-laid sandstone slabs. This lies within a low, circular setting of small stones, 2m in diameter.

Lying to the SW of the hearth was a small cobbled area measuring 0.80m by 1m which overlay the filling of three of the post pits, butting up against their timber uprights. All the pottery fragments

and a total of 5kg of pot-boilers were recovered from or close to the edges of this feature.

A radiocarbon date was obtained from hazel charcoal. This produced a calibrated date of 2370 ± 190 bc BP (centroid at 469 BC at 95%). [Beta 66137]

Interim report, *Manchester Archaeological Bulletin* Vol 8, 1993, pp 5–10.

Details of excavation lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

Sponsors: Skye & Lochalsh District Council, Manchester University.

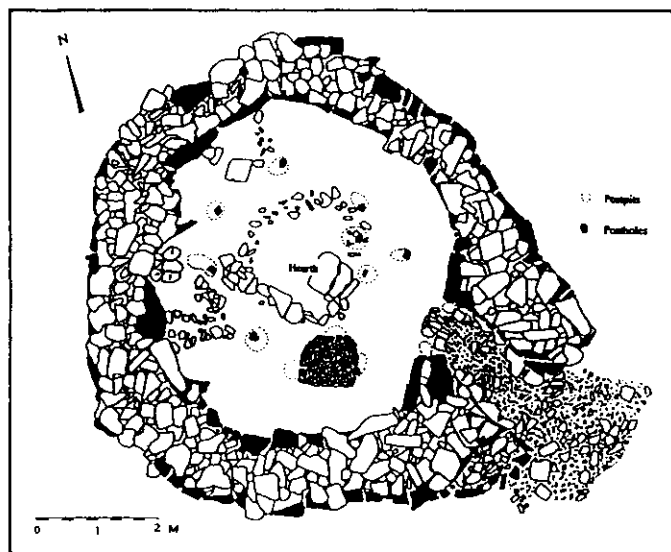


Fig 20. Coille A'Ghasgain, Isle of Skye, 1993. Site A – NG 644 122.

Storr Woodland (West) (Snizort parish) Dualchas Survey

The following sites were recorded in July 1994 within the 1 square kilometre area of a proposed tourist development. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

NG 55 SW

- NG 5045 5338 Dun.
- NG 5045 5338 Shieling.
- NG 5050 5338 Boat-shaped structure.
- NG 5004 5363 Shieling.
- NG 5012 5292 Shieling.
- NG 5064 5276 Degraded turf and stone house.
- NG 5057 5270 Degraded turf and stone house.
- NG 5046 5293 Twinning pen.

Sponsor: Skye & Lochalsh District Council.

Ashaig (Strath parish)

Strap-end

NG 687 242 A finely decorated bronze strap-end was found by Martin Wildgoose, Dunan, in a rabbit scrape in the churchyard at Ashaig. The strap-end is elaborately decorated on both sides with pellet, interlace and foliate based designs, suggesting an 11th century AD date (see Fig 21, p 44).

The strap-end is deposited with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service. Accn No: 1994.1.

Sponsors: Dualchas, Skye & Lochalsh District Council & Museums Service, National Museum of Antiquities.

Water Main Survey (Strath & Bracadale parish)

Survey

The following sites were recorded in February 1994 on the proposed line of a new water main. Full details are lodged with Dualchas, Skye and Lochalsh Museums Service.

- NG 3128 4145 Degraded stone bothy.
- NG 3304 3938 Shieling.
- NG 3370 3848 Farmstead.
- NG 6557 1851 Shielings.
- NG 6514 1810 Hut circles and enclosures.
- NG 6608 1970 Chalybeate well.

Sponsor: Highland Regional Council.

SUTHERLAND DISTRICT

Inverkirkaig (Assynt parish)

M Bangor-Jones

- NC 090 196 Hut circle c 12.5m diameter.
- NC 090 196 Hut circle c 6.5m diameter.

The surrounding area has been used for shieling/grazing activity.

Cnocnaneach (Assynt parish)

NC 106 206 Hut circle c 12.5m diameter. Lies within a detached enclosure (formerly a shieling) which belonged to the cleared settlement of Cnocnaneach.

Dubh Chlais (Assynt parish)

- NC 118 229 Hut circle c 13m diameter.
- NC 120 231 Hut circle?

Lie within the cleared settlement of Dubh Chlais.

Eilean an Tighe, Cam Loch (Assynt parish)

Fortified island

NC 220 125 The remains of a low drystone wall, about 1.60m to 1.75m thick, surround the island and enclose a vegetation-filled interior of about 11.3m by 18.3m. There is a landing place on the NE side of the island near to a probable entrance.

Various traditional accounts recorded in the 19th century – partly supported by documentary evidence – suggest that Eilean an Tighe should be associated with one John MacLeod, who was a younger brother of Neil MacLeod of Assynt and who possessed nearby lands in the second half of the 17th century.

Creagan Asdale (Dornoch parish)

TAG

Leaf-shaped arrowhead

NH 726 924 Broken leaf-shaped arrowhead in red-brown flint found in area of forestry ploughing on E slopes of Creagan Asdale.

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

Cuthill Links Survey (Stage 2) (Dornoch parish)

Lithics scatters and midden deposits

The following is a list of sites investigated by TAG during the second stage of a study of the Cuthill Links post-glacial shingle bar and dune complex on the N side of the Dornoch Firth.

Gridded collections were made on a series of transects across the Links. These indicated the presence of distinct working areas associated with the working of quartz, quartzite, chert, and flint, related to a series of eroding midden deposits.

NH 743 871 Gridded surface collection over area 18m by 8m across face of eroding midden. The collection produced 43 large flaked quartz chunks, 55 pieces of quartz debitage, 24 pieces of chert debitage, 3 chert cores, 1 retouched chert piece and 1 retouched flint piece.

NH 743 873 A 10m by 10m box transect laid out over 70m across exposed gravels to N of main dune/midden systems. Surface collection indicated a general light background scatter of lithics. A concentration of material was noted in one box, possibly indicating the location of a working area. This box produced 64 pieces of quartz debitage, 2 pieces of chert debitage and a flake of ?pitchstone.

HIGHLAND

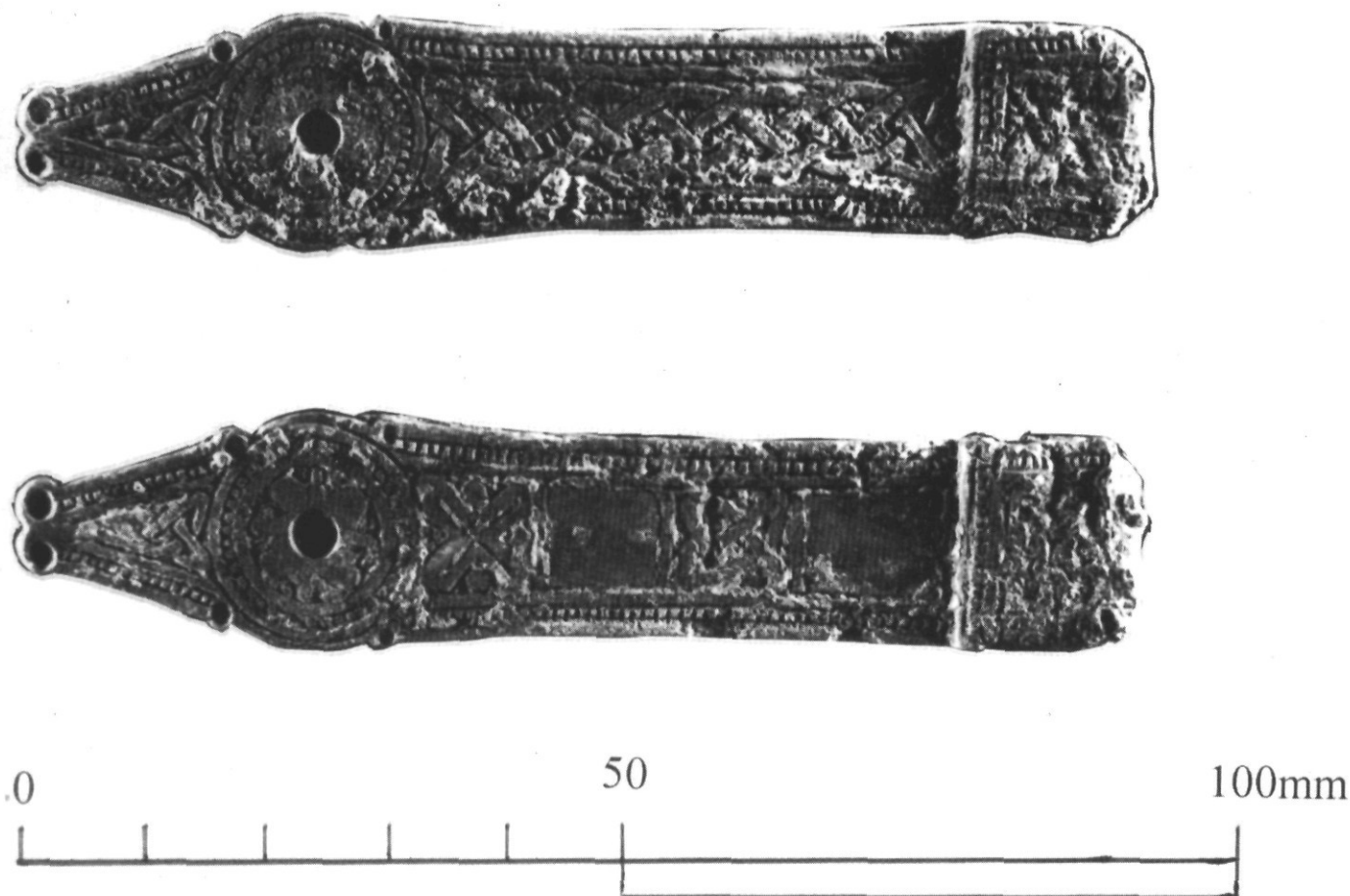


Fig 21. Ashaig. Strap-end (see p 43).

NH 745 873 A 10m by 10m box transect laid out over 80m of exposed gravels to N of main dune/midden systems. Surface collection indicated the existence of a light background scatter of quartz and flint. Two leaf-shaped chert arrowheads and a quartz ?blade flake were found.

NH 749 869 Stray find of chert leaf-shaped arrowhead.

NH 744 873 Stray find of flint flake scraper.

Sponsor: Tain Archaeology Group.

Armadale (Farr parish)

J O'Sullivan

Survey: hut circles, dykes, cairns, tracks

Archaeological survey on the route of the A836 road from Lednagualin to Ben Ainnie was commissioned by Highland Regional Council and conducted by AOC (Scotland) Ltd in advance of proposed upgrading of the road. The survey area is located 1km SE of Armadale Bay within a deep U-bend on the existing A836 road. A previous survey by Roger Mercer had identified hut circles, dykes, cairns and rectangular and circular enclosures in the area (*Archaeological Field Survey in Northern Scotland*, Univ Edinburgh, vol 2, 37-41; NMRS and HRC.SMR NC 76 SE 001). The present survey confirmed that the hut circle recorded by Mercer as Site 146 and the dykes recorded as Sites No 144, No 145 and No 147 lay within the projected road corridor. New sites identified included remnant trackways, part of the earlier coast road, designed by Thomas Telford in 1803 and a small, circular structure, possibly a shieling. The complete list of sites within the survey area is as follows:

No 1 NC 7991 6401 Cairns.

No 2 NC 7986 6397 Trackway.

No 3 NC 7983 6393 Hut circle.

No 4 NC 7985 6393 Dyke.

No 5 NC 7980 6391 Circular structure.

No 6 NC 7978 6391 Dyke.

No 7 NC 7974 6395 Trackways.

No 8 NC 7967 6392 Trackway.

No 9 NC 7971 6394 Cultivation terrace.

No 10 NC 7971 7387 Old road.

No 11 NC 7974 6388 Peat basin.

No 12 NC 7989 6392 Peat basin.

No 13 NC 7991 6404 Dyke.

No 14 NC 7989 6400 Trackway.

Sponsor: Highland Regional Council.

Bridge of Horn, Dunrobin Glen (Golspie parish) M Macdonald Settlement

ce NC 794 050 The footings of a house, enclosures, a corn-drying kiln, numerous clearance heaps and a possible hut circle are on this SW-facing hillside, within a still evident head dyke and foot dyke. There are also signs of rig cultivation, but the site is infested with bracken and heather, making mapping of the features impossible until early spring.

Carn Liath (Golspie parish)

NMS

Worked shale fragment

NC 870 013 A fragment of an unfinished ring or bangle was found in a mole-hill SE of the entrance to Carn Liath broch, and legally donated to NMS. There is already extensive shale-working evidence from this site.

Daybook no: DB 1994/69.

LOTHIAN REGION

EAST LOTHIAN DISTRICT

The Manse, Bayswell Road, Dunbar (Dunbar parish)
Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NT 676 791 In advance of a housing development in the grounds of the parish church manse, located in close proximity to Castle Park, SUAT was commissioned to carry out investigation.

Two hand-excavated trenches, both measuring 1m by 2m were opened. Below 0.3m of dark grey-brown, clay topsoil, a substantial quantity of mid-grey-brown sandy clay garden soil was encountered, 0.8m in thickness. Sherds of white china pottery were recovered indicating a probable 19th-century date contemporary with the building of the Manse. Natural pinkish-brown clay was encountered at 1.1m below ground surface. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were discovered.

Sponsor: HS

2 & 2A Westgate, Dunbar (Dunbar parish)

Urban medieval

NT 6778 7913 A development in close proximity to the known location of an early medieval long cist cemetery was monitored. Observation of contractors' foundation trenches revealed a substantial quantity of mid-grey-brown, sandy garden soil, c0.6m in thickness, directly overlying natural pinkish-brown clay. The garden soil contained mostly 19th/early 20th-century finds with occasional residual late medieval pottery sherds. A sump and associated box drain, also of modern date, were revealed cut into the natural subsoil. No evidence of the long cist cemetery was found.

Sponsor: HS

King's Meadow Primary School, Haddington

(Haddington parish)

Medieval town defences

NT 513 736 In advance of the development of a new teaching block, SUAT was commissioned to conduct a trial-trenching investigation. Five trenches were machine excavated and hand cleaned.

An upstanding bank thought to represent the line of the 16th-century defences was found to be a 20th-century feature. A variety of modern levelling deposits, average depth of 0.6m, were encountered throughout the remainder of the site. These deposits directly overlay natural flood plain, soft yellow clay with grey clay inclusions.

Sponsor: Lothian Regional Council.

Haddington (45 Artillery Park) (Haddington parish) NMS
Leaf-shaped arrowhead, chert

NT 5171 7439 Found in garden soil; soil may have been imported, but not from far. Legally retained by finder, Mr D Haire.

Sponsor: NMS.

A1 Cement Works to Innerwick (Innerwick parish) CFA
Archaeological assessment

NT 69 76 to NT 72 74 An archaeological assessment was carried out in March 1994 along a 500m wide survey corridor, in advance of the improvement of a c2km stretch of the A1. This involved a desk-based survey, field survey, detailed fieldwalking of a limited area, geophysical survey, and trial-trenching within land parcels to the N of the A1. Particular attention was paid to the area around the Skateraw Bronze Age burial (NMRS: NT 77 NW 6) which was discovered in 1939. A total of fifty trenches was excavated, covering an area of 780 square metres.

Field survey located only one previously unknown site, at Tun

Law (NT 7128 7516). This circular feature measures c 40m across, and, although it appeared to consist of a mound on vertical aerial photograph coverage taken in 1975, it is now visible only as a slight bank and ditch. Geophysical survey was carried out, but no distinctive features were detected there or at the Skateraw site. A total of 9,900 square metres were surveyed by this method.

NT 7215 7501 Trial trenching around the area of the Skateraw burial identified a long cist burial below c 0.4m of topsoil, close to the deserted Innerwick Church and Manse. The cist was aligned E-W, measured c 1.8m by c 0.6m with a depth of c 0.35m, and comprised two end slabs and four side slabs of flaky, yellow sandstone. These had fractured *in situ*. The skeletal remains were poorly preserved, probably as a result of ground disturbance which had fractured and displaced the cover stone, but suggested a supine, extended burial with the head at the W end of the cist. It was ascertained that the burial comprised a small and slender female aged between 17 and 25 at death. No artefacts were recovered from the burial. The surrounding organic fill was extensively sampled for palaeo-environmental analysis. The skeletal material was also collected for analysis, but the stone cist was left *in situ*. A sample of the bones has been sent for C14 dating and the results will be published subsequently.

An isolated, circular feature was located c 140m E of Innerwick Manse (NT 7225 7498). It measured c 1.2m in diameter by c 0.2m deep, and the fill consisted of a large quantity of densely-packed, rounded stones within a humic sandy silt. No associated features were found, and no datable evidence was recovered.

Evidence was found for modern borrow pits and the remains of concrete hard-standings within land parcels S of the Cement Works. One pit measuring c 20m across had been back-filled with re-deposited sand, humic soil and modern building waste (NT 7026 7615). A second pit contained hardened concrete and was situated in an area which contained several similar features (NT 7043 7601). It is presumed that these are the remains of hard standings which would have supported temporary structures during the building of the nearby Cement Works. A report detailing these findings will be deposited with the NMRS.

Sponsors: Scottish Office Industry Department Roads Directorate, HS

Eskgrove, Inveresk (Inveresk parish)

Segmented ditch and pits

NT 348 721 Excavation of a trench 360m² was carried out in advance of the proposed construction of a house at Eskgrove within the scheduled area of the civilian settlement and field systems to the E of Inveresk fort, under the provisions of a scheduled monument consent. The trench was located c 70m E of the excavations reported previously (DES 1993, 56).

A number of archaeological features cut into the subsoil were recorded. Context numbers in brackets refer to those on the accompanying plan (Fig 22, p 46). Three lengths of segmented ditch were located by the excavation running from E to W diagonally across the trench for a distance of c 24m. Only a short section, c 4.0m long, 1.2m wide and 0.7m deep, of the western ditch (027) was available for examination, before it ran beyond the southern limit of the trench. All of the central ditch section (024, 042) was revealed. It measured 13.0m long, 1.3m–2.0m wide and 0.7m–0.8m deep. The upper fill of this ditch contained sherds of both medieval and possibly Roman pottery. At its eastern end this middle ditch truncated a narrow slot (043, 044), the northern end of which contained a rim sherd of a Roman mortarium vessel. The eastern ditch segment (053) measured c 8.0m long, 1.2m wide and 0.5m–0.6m deep. It continued eastwards beyond the limit of the excavation. Sixteen pits were also located, the majority of which were concentrated in the western end of the excavated area. One pit (035) contained sherds of Roman Samian and Grey Ware along

LOTHIAN

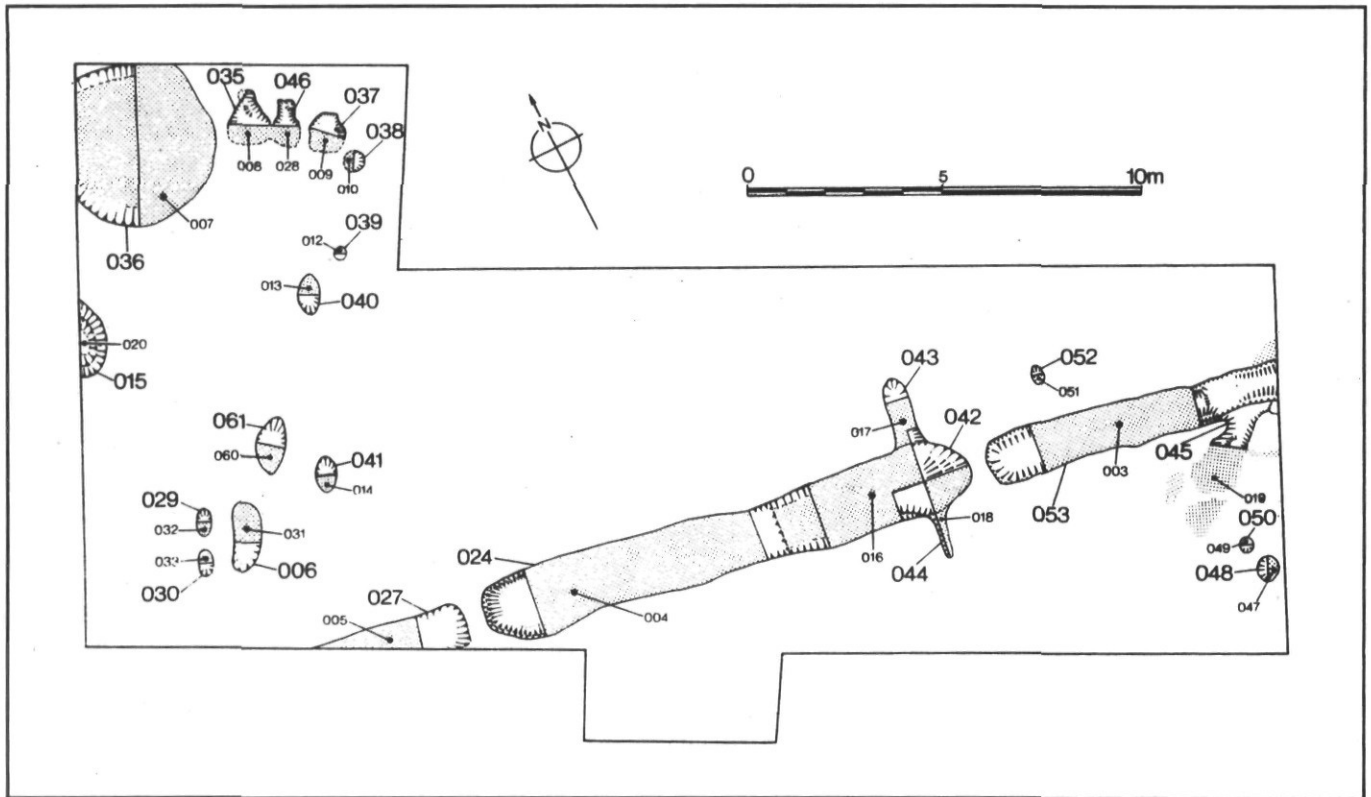


Fig 22. Eskgrove, Inveresk. Segmented ditch and pits.

with some large stones, one of which was dressed. Another pit (037) contained a number of sherds of later prehistoric pottery.

A report detailing the results of this project will be lodged with the NMRS.

Sponsor: Mr & Mrs J Jordan.

High Street/Pinkie Road, Musselburgh (Inveresk parish)

Urban medieval assessment D Hall (SUAT)

NT 350 725 Observation of test trenches for site investigation located natural sand at c.0.40m below modern ground level at the southern end of this site. At closest point to the High Street natural sand was at c.1.80m below ground level. No medieval deposits were identified in any of these trenches.

Sponsor: A B Hamilton Ltd.

172–180 High Street, Musselburgh (Inveresk parish)

Urban medieval J R Mackenzie (SUAT)

NT 343 726 Prior to extensive redevelopment of a 2,500m² site, located within the historic core of the medieval burgh, four trial trenches were hand excavated, one close to the frontage, one across an adjoining vennel and two to the rear of the site. The area was found to be extensively disturbed as a result of 20th-century construction and demolition activity. Demolition debris and modern make up deposits were found across the entire site. Natural coarse orange sand was encountered at c.0.8m below ground surface. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were discovered.

Sponsor: Aulay Estates Ltd.

Quality Street, North Berwick (North Berwick parish)

Urban medieval

NT 5544 8531 Monitoring of contractors' groundworks during the erection of a public toilet block revealed 0.7m of an imported brown clay sand garden soil, below tarmac hardstanding. Modern china ware pottery sherds and residual clay pipe fragments were recovered. A well, of probable modern date, was reported to have been found close to the street frontage. The well was c.1m in

diameter and was constructed of roughly faced, rectangular, pink sandstone blocks, bonded with a lime mortar.

Sponsor: East Lothian District Council.

St Andrew's Churchyard, North Berwick

NMS

(North Berwick parish)

Norse comb, medieval ?midden material

NT 553 852 In the course of a road-widening scheme along Kirk Ports, North Berwick, part of the old churchyard of St Andrew's was levelled, with the spare soil being sold. While spreading this soil, the purchaser discovered a Norse decorated single-sided antler comb, broken into several pieces. All the teeth were missing, apparently broken off before deposition. Scandinavian parallels suggest a date of c.850–950 AD.

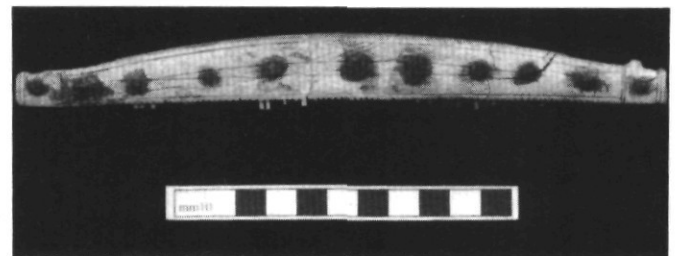


Fig 23. Norse decorated single-sided antler comb.

Subsequently, a team from NMS and the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society sieved the surrounding spoilheaps. No further material of this date was recovered but, apart from the extensive disarticulated remains of post-medieval burials, animal bone and a scatter of pottery spanning the medieval period was recovered. Examination of the area revealed only coffin fittings and two post-medieval coins. The low density of finds suggests derivation from rubbish spread on fields rather than primary midden.

The comb was claimed as Treasure Trove and acquired by NMS, (reg no IL 969), with the finder being rewarded.

Seton Mains (Tranent parish)

CFA

Later prehistoric enclosure

NT 424 753 A topographic survey of the area around this cropmark enclosure was undertaken prior to scheduling. In addition a rectified plot of the enclosure was produced. Eight pieces of chipped stone, including a scraper, were recovered during the survey of the site. These were mainly located to the N of the enclosure.

Sponsor: HS

Fishgate Road West Enclosure (Tranent parish) R McCullagh
Ditched, rectilinear enclosure

NT 406 752 Excavation by AOC (Scotland) Ltd in May and June 1994, of a cropmark revealed a sub-rectangular enclosure measuring approximately 3.5ha at its maximum extent. The limits of the enclosure were defined by a sequence of ditches. Throughout this sequence the enclosure was aligned approximately E to W, with access to the interior via causeways from both the eastern and western approaches. Within the ditch stratigraphy five phases of site activity were identified.

In general the site was truncated to such an extent that little evidence of sequence survived. Within the primary feature of the cropmark, the enclosing ditch, five phases of activity are apparent:

Phase 1: The earliest ditch line only survived on the SW corner of the site where it was clearly truncated by the line of the Phase 2 ditch.

Phase 2: A second shallow and much truncated ditch was detected in almost all ditch trenches. The shallowness of this feature in many areas of the site indicates either that the site suffered a considerable phase of erosion prior to Phase 3, or that it was never more than a shallow boundary marker.

Phase 3: After the Phase 2 ditch had infilled, a new enclosure was constructed with, in some areas, a steep-sided V-shaped profile. This ditch enclosed an area of approximately 2.8ha.

Phase 4: The final phase of the enclosure saw the rapid and probably planned infilling of the eastern line of the Phase 3 cut and its replacement by a new ditch further to the E. The area of the new, enlarged enclosure totalled approximately 3.3ha. For the first time in the archaeological investigation there was clear evidence for an internal rampart.

Phase 5: If Phase 4 can be extended to cover the period in which the form of the ditch and any complementary perimeter features were well maintained then the subsequent phase is characterised by a cessation of care and maintenance and the deposition of midden refuse into the ditch. It is perhaps into this phase that most of the surviving structures must be placed.

Away from the ditch stratigraphy, some sequence can be observed, but generally the sub-soil surface has been so extensively truncated by both on-site activities and subsequent agriculture that much of the complete site sequence has been lost. From the fieldwork it was not possible to directly correlate the fragmentary interior sequences to any part of ditch sequence, but it is probable that some of the structures, for instance Structure 4, did post-date the abandonment of the earthworks as an effective boundary to the site. It remains uncertain how many of the shallow linear features – provisionally interpreted as fence slots – correlate either to the ditch sequence or to the settlement evidence.

The ground plan of the site and the artefact assemblage appear to be broadly comparable to nearby site at St Germain's and parallels can be also be drawn with the ceramic assemblage from Broxmouth Hill, near Dunbar. The Fishgate Road W enclosure is therefore provisionally dated to the late 1st millennium BC or early 1st millennium AD.

A full programme of post-excavation analysis is currently under development. It is hoped that the site sequence will be augmented by radiocarbon dates and that waterlogged macroplant remains will offer insights into the economy and environment of the site.

Sponsor: HS

Longyester, Gifford (Yester parish)

CFA

Desk-based survey and field inspection

The following new sites and monuments were recorded in a desk-based survey and field inspection in the area of a proposed sand and gravel extraction site. Details of sites already recorded in the NMRS are not included here unless new features were identified.

NT 5285 6424 Grassed depression 17m long E–W, 15m wide and 4m–5m deep; probably the remains of a quarry.

NT 5285 6429 Quarry pits for gravel extraction, covering an area c 75m NW–SE by c 25m.

NT 521 645 Field bank running for c 180m across the neck of a promontory NW of The Castles fort. The bank is heavily denuded, being c 1m wide and 0.1m high.

NT 5284 6416 Small circular trace, c 5m in diameter, visible on vertical aerial photographs; not located by field inspection.

NT 5243 6373 Area of low banks visible on vertical aerial photographs (541A/485, 24 June 49, 3029–30). Area now under conifer plantation, which has removed any surface traces of the banks.

A report detailing the methods and results of the project is lodged with the NMRS.

Sponsor: John Fyfe Limited.

CITY OF EDINBURGH DISTRICT

Cramond Roman Fort (City parish of Edinburgh)

V E Dean

Building remains, entrance path

NT 1899 7698 Northward extension of the exploratory trench between the Roman fort and bathhouse revealed a possible entranceway to the W side of the mid-19th-century kennels building of Cramond House. The building has been cut into the edge of the 15m raised beach, necessitating steeply ramped access routes to the S and W. The above path consisted of a compacted surface of mortar and sandstone chips overlying steep tips of mortar and stones, not yet bottomed. This was bounded on the N by a length of curved walling and parallel drain, which overlay a very substantial clay-bonded wall, 1.1m wide, running E–W, whose large, squared, re-used stones bore traces of mortar. North of this, another wall, running N–S, and consisting of at least three courses of mortared stones of assorted shapes, appeared to have been deliberately collapsed to the E into a trench dug, through the clay-bonded wall, to receive it. This building had an outer rendering of ochre-yellow mortar, with an inner blue-painted plastered wall. No dating for these walls is yet available.

Sponsors: City of Edinburgh District Council, Archaeology Service; Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society.

1–6 Coalhill, Leith (City parish of Edinburgh)

M A Collard

Evaluation

NT 2694 7638 Trial trenching demonstrated that no archaeological deposits survived on the site. Natural deposits lay immediately below modern ground surface over the entire site.

Sponsor: Wimpey Homes.

Kincaid Court/Guthrie Street/Cowgate, Edinburgh

(City parish of Edinburgh)

Evaluation

NT 2582 7346 Five trial trenches were excavated in advance of development to further explore the site previously investigated in 1977 (*DES* 1977). No archaeological deposits had survived; bedrock/boulder clay lay immediately below modern ground level.

Sponsor: Peaston & Co Ltd.

LOTHIAN

Coburg Street/East Cromwell Street (City parish of Edinburgh) Urban medieval/watching brief M A Collard, J A Lawson

NT 2669 7651 Observation of engineering test pits over the site demonstrated the existence of a large linear feature running NW–SE across the site, 3.50m deep and at least 10m wide. The E edge of the feature lay within the site but its W limit was beyond the site boundary. Cut into boulder clay, the feature was filled with water-borne silts; mortared rubble was revealed at the base of the feature, apparently *in situ*.

The alignment and position of the feature suggest that it is probably the defensive ditch of the French fortifications erected around Leith in the 1550s.

Sponsor: City of Edinburgh District Council.

Burgess Street/Water Street/Shore Place, Leith (City parish of Edinburgh) M A Collard, D Reed Prehistoric artefacts/urban medieval/post-medieval settlement

NT 2706 7639 (centre) Large scale excavation of the site was carried out from June to November 1994 prior to development. Four trenches were excavated; located over the areas of substantial archaeological deposits and structures previously identified (DES 1993, 58–9). A survey was also carried out of the upstanding structures within the development area.

Trench A: The earliest features were cross-cutting cultivation marks in the natural sand. These were overlain by substantial middens; preliminary dating of the pottery suggests the middens date from the 12th to the 13th century. A 12th/13th-century oven was located on the S edge of Trench A and a hearth found on the E side of the trench may be contemporary.

The foundations of a mid to late medieval structure of mortared rubble construction were located on the W side of the trench. The structure was orientated E–W with a horseshoe-shaped, stone-lined tank on its NE external corner. To the E of this structure were the foundations of a second stone building, apparently of similar age, with a large fireplace in its N wall, its base formed from yellow glazed tiles. A sandstone-lined well, probably post-medieval, located near the centre, remained unexcavated below water level. Adjacent to the well was a stone-built tank with flagstone floor and infilled with early 19th-century debris.

Trench B: This area had been at both the N and S ends disturbed by modern landscaping. The S end of the trench was truncated to the level of 12th/13th-century middens overlying natural beach sand. In the centre of the trench were the stone foundations of a medieval structure consisting of a substantial curving wall with five sleeper walls projecting radially from its outer face, creating discrete areas with central areas of burning. Provisional dating suggests this structure dates to the 14th/15th centuries. The foundations of a substantial mid-17th-century stone building, fronting onto Water Street, overlay this structure on the E side.

Trench E/I: This area contained a complex sequence of medieval midden spreads, dating from the 12th century overlying natural beach sand. The middens were cut by various later medieval and post-medieval pits. The foundations of a large E–W orientated post-medieval building overlay the middens.

Trench E/II: This represented the main area of excavation and was totally excavated, to a depth of up to 2.3m of archaeological deposits. Within this area several residual prehistoric flint artefacts were recovered although no pre-medieval contexts were identified.

The initial phase of occupation was represented by five double-flued bowl furnaces associated with a complex array of post holes and stake holes representing timber structures. This industrial activity was separated by a fence-line from an adjacent plot which was in use for cultivation, demonstrated by the presence of plough and spade marks within the primary soil deposits. Post dating the furnaces were the clay-cored stone foundations of two N–S orientated buildings (provisionally dated to the mid–late 12th century).

The northern building appeared to have had an earlier purely timber phase. A large rectangular clay-built cistern was situated to the N of the buildings with associated alignments of post holes which may also represent further timber buildings associated with this phase of activity. To the E, above the earlier cultivation, rich and extensive midden deposits were found, containing particularly dense accumulations of oyster shells. The next phase of the building at the N end of the trench incorporated a line of three bread ovens within its W wall.

Following the disuse of the ovens a complex sequence of building from the 13th century to the late medieval period was revealed with continual re-use of pre-existing walls, all walls being of clay-cored rubble construction. Towards the later medieval period this area displayed evidence of cultivation with the accumulation of soil deposits over earlier structures. The N–S aligned property boundaries established in the earliest phase were maintained throughout this period.

The character of the occupation apparently changed in the mid-17th century with the construction of substantial mortar-bonded stone buildings apparently for industrial purposes, were constructed across much of the site, with subsequent rebuilding and structural alterations.

Sponsors: Port of Leith Housing Association (on behalf of Scottish Homes) and City of Edinburgh District Council.

Brown's Close, Canongate, Edinburgh J A Lawson (City parish of Edinburgh)

Watching brief

NT 2662 7387 A watching brief was carried out during installation of drains, immediately adjacent to the medieval street frontage. A layer of mixed Victorian midden deposits 0.25m thick directly overlay bedrock.

Sponsor: City of Edinburgh District Council.

30–40 West Port, Edinburgh (City parish of Edinburgh) Urban field evaluation

NT 2522 7323 Trial trenching in advance of development showed that modern landscaping had removed all archaeological deposits with the exception of small areas of post-medieval structures.

Sponsor: Muir Homes.

Pleasance (City parish of Edinburgh)

Watching brief

NT 2628 7345 A watching brief carried out on two service trenches, each 2m square in plan, along the medieval road line leading S from the Cowgate Port showed that no archaeological deposits survived, as the bedrock in this area directly underlies the modern road make-up.

Sponsor: City of Edinburgh District Council.

MIDLOTHIAN DISTRICT

Pathhead to Gladsmuir Gas Transmission Pipeline I Cullen

NT 395 645 to NT 434 687 A programme of documentary research and fieldwalking was carried out prior to the construction of the first phase of a gas pipeline to run between Pathhead and Gladsmuir in Lothian. The first phase was concerned with the western half, between Pathhead and Pencaitland. The research and fieldwalking was carried out in February to March 1994. No evidence of any new sites was recorded.

Sponsor: British Gas.

Dalhousie Mains (Cockpen parish) S Carter
Rectilinear enclosure

NT 318 645 A field evaluation was carried out by AOC (Scotland) Ltd on the site of a rectilinear cropmark previously recorded as NMRS site NT 36 SW 13. The cropmark was shown to be caused by the ditch of a rectilinear enclosure measuring roughly 40m by 40m internally. The ditch is up to 7m wide and survives 0.8m deep. No internal features were identified and no dating evidence was obtained. Sponsor: Walker Group (Scotland) Ltd.

Little Law, Soutra (Fala & Soutra parish) NMS
Blue glass bead

NT 451 604 A blue glass bead of Iron Age date was found casually in a field SW of Little Law. It has been legally donated to NMS. Daybook no: DB 1994/45.

Toxside, Roseberry Estate (Temple parish) J O'Sullivan
Forestry survey

Archaeological survey at Toxside was conducted by AOC (Scotland) Ltd in advance of proposed forestry development by Roseberry Estate. The survey area is c 2.2km² in extent and is centred at NT 275 545 (OS 1:10,000 Sheets NT 25 SE & NT 25 NE). It lies N of the Moorfoot Hills and SE of the town of Penicuik.

Two archaeological sites were previously known to exist in the survey area, in the vicinity of Toxside Quarry. These are recorded by the NMRS as (NT 25 SE 3) a cinerary urn and bronze object and (NT 25 SE 13) a ring enclosure, possibly a barrow. Thirteen other archaeological features or groups of features were recorded by the survey. These included a hut circle with associated enclosures, an abandoned modern building and enclosures, possible burnt mounds, a dyke, rig and furrow cultivation remnants, part of a (possible) droveway, several early quarries and a 19th-century bridge.

The hut circle and enclosures had survived within the confines of Stell Plantation, but elsewhere, post-medieval and modern tillage have evidently destroyed most other significant remnants of earlier landscapes. However, given the incidence of an urned cremation (NT 25 SE 3) and a possible barrow (NT 25 SE 13) at nearby Toxside Wood, as well as burnt mounds near Salterford, there would appear to have been a well-established late prehistoric presence in the area.

East of the survey area, there has been a farmstead at Toxside since at least the 18th century. 'Toxside Hole' appears on early maps by Laurie (1763), by Knox (1812) and by Sharp, Greenwood and Fowler (1828). The ruined building and enclosures at Salterford (variously 'Salterford' and 'Saturfoord') appear only on later maps and are absent from Laurie's *Plan of the County of Midlothian* (1763). This map represents the survey area as rough or waste. Though this does not necessarily mean that there was no habitation of any sort within the survey area in the mid-18th century, it is possible that Salterford was first established in the late 18th or early 19th century as a specialised site, with byres and pens, relating to live-stock management.

- NT 269 555 Quarries (gravel).
- NT 266 551 Quarries (gravel).
- NT 2684 5517 Circular enclosure (site of).
- NT 2712 5504 Bridge.
- NT 2797 5445 Ring-enclosure (NMR NT SE 13).
- NT 2706 5422 Cinerary urn; bronze object (NMR NT 25 SE 3).
- NT 2706 5422 Quarry.
- NT 2727 5436 Hut circle; enclosures.
- NT 2838 5480 Quarry.
- NT 2738 5407 Abandoned building; enclosures.
- NT 2747 5405 Possible burnt mounds.
- NT 2747 5405 Dyke.
- NT 2835 5490 Cultivation remnants.

NT 2815 5477 Droveway (possible).
NT 2835 5490 Cultivation remnants.
Sponsor: HS

WEST LOTHIAN DISTRICT

Kettlestoun Mains (Linlithgow parish) CFA
Watching brief

NS 977 764 In the second year of a six-year programme of gravel extraction, an area approximately 120m long by 80m wide was stripped of topsoil. This was located to the NE of the more extensive area which had been stripped during 1993 where a grain-drying kiln and a mill lade were recorded (*DES* 1993, 62-63). The region was inspected after it had been stripped of topsoil down to gravel subsoil but no new archaeological features were evident. The line of the mill lade had been recorded the previous year was visible running through the stripped area. Full report with the NMRS. Sponsor: RMC Technical Services Ltd.

Graves Knowes/Adam Brae, Livingston (Mid Calder parish)
Cist burials R Cachart (SUAT)

NT 040 665 and NT 045 665 Three phases of trial work have been carried out in advance of large scale development on supposed cist burial grounds at Adam Brae and Graves Knowes.

Trial work was undertaken on the Wellmore Homes development site to the NW of Graves Knowes. Three trenches were excavated and recorded in an area believed to have formed part of the Graves Knowes cist cemetery. The trenches revealed plough soil with an average depth of 0.4m, below which were glacial sands and gravels containing cobbles and boulders.

Only one archaeological feature was identified. A hearth-like feature was found in the southern end of the western trench, cut into natural sands and gravels, at about 0.5m below the surface. It measured 2m in length, 1.2m in width and was formed by a flat setting of large stone slabs and cobbles. The slabs had been formed by splitting a large boulder. Associated with this arrangement was a disturbed rectangular sandstone slab which may have derived from a cist. The feature contained burnt sand with charcoal, but no artefactual dating evidence.

Much of the Wellmore Homes site has been affected by deep ploughing, however, the hearth does indicate that archaeological features can survive on the site and that other remains may survive in the vicinity.

Another phase of trial work was conducted on the northern edges of Adam Brae and to the W and NE of Graves Knowes. In this phase, nine trenches were excavated and recorded. No archaeological features relating to cist burials were encountered.

The last phase of trial work took place on the fields recently under cultivation at Adam Brae, Graves Knowes and a field to the NE of Graves Knowes. These areas are believed to be the focus of the cist cemeteries.

At Adam Brae twelve trial trenches were excavated which produced nothing of archaeological interest. At Graves Knowes a further nine trenches were excavated one of which produced the base of a medieval jug but nothing relating to cist burials was found.

In the field adjacent to Graves Knowes eleven trial trenches were cut. On a knoll at the E end of the field below the plough soil and cut into the natural a rectangular feature was found and partially excavated. It was aligned N to S and measured 2m by 0.70m. The cut was approximately 0.08m deep with vertical sides and a flat but even bottom. It had a fill of dark, silty sand. This feature was interpreted as the remains of a robbed and ploughed out long cist. No other features associated with cist burials were found in the remaining trenches.

Sponsor: Livingston Development Corporation.